

# 'Blues Brothers Revue' set to roll into Shuler Theater

By Tim Keller  
The Chronicle-News

RATON — The Official Blues Brothers Revue rolls into the Shuler Theater Wednesday evening for a high-powered night of theatrical rhythm and blues. Just as John Belushi and Dan Aykroyd struck paydirt creating a fictional band for their movie "The Blues Brothers," this ensemble has been touring for years after being assembled by John Belushi's widow and approved by Dan Aykroyd.

Judith Belushi, a long-time producer, auditioned more than 400 singers before choosing Wayne Catania and Kieron Lafferty to resurrect the roles of Jake Blues and Elwood Blues. Accompanied by a crack six-piece band of blues musicians and a backup singer, the stars work the stage in a show based on the famed performances of Aykroyd and Belushi.

The show faithfully recreates the music, comic antics, and affectionate character quirks that made the Blues Brothers a huge hit in the 1970s and '80s. Aykroyd and Belushi released five albums of their patented brand of R&B. Wednesday night's Shuler show will include such classics as "She Caught the Katy," "Shake a Tail Feather," "Messin' with the Kid," "Soul Man," and "I Can't Turn You Lose."

The band includes saxophone, drums, bass, guitar, electric bass, keyboards, and trumpet. In addition to the nine musicians on stage, the show's production



staff numbers 14 including a stage director, music director, choreographer, costume designer, lighting designer, set designer, and sound engineer. It's a big loud show, as much a big professional entertainment as a rhythm & blues revue.

Showtime Wednesday night is 7 p.m. General admission tickets are available at the Shuler Theater box office at \$25 for the main floor and \$20 in the balcony.

The theater's two opera boxes, hanging right over the stage, are each available with four seats for \$125. The show is sponsored by Shuler Restoration.



Tim Keller/Special to The Chronicle-News

The Official Blues Brothers Revue rolls into the Shuler Theater Wednesday night for a high-energy rocking rhythm & blues show.

## LET'S TALK HEALTH

# Early diagnosis, treatment has cut cervical cancer death rate for women

By Kim Lucero

If you are a woman between 35 and 55 years of age, you're at the prime time to develop cervical cancer.

Once a major cause of death for women in their child-bearing years cervical cancer deaths have decreased significantly with early diagnosis and treatment.

January marks Cervical Health Awareness Month, to educate women about early detection and the virus that causes this disease.

"About 12,000 women are diagnosed with cervical cancer annually," says Dr. Andrea Doeden, Gynecologist at Mt. San Rafael Hospital.

"Although cervical cancer is one of the easiest gynecological cancers to detect, the mortality rate is still high with more than 4,000 deaths each year. Getting regular exams is imperative to protect yourself against this disease."

The cervix is the lower, narrow end of the uterus. It connects the vagina — or birth canal — to the upper part of the uterus — or womb — where a baby grows during pregnancy. Cancer can occur in any of these areas. Abnormal bleeding and discharge is the primary symptom of cervical cancer, which is the 14th most frequent cancer among American women, according to the National Cancer Institute at the National Institutes of Health.

The test used to screen for cervical cancer and suspicious changes in cervical cells is called a Pap smear or Pap test, named for Dr. George Papanicolaou, who first proposed using this simple yet effective screening procedure.

The National Cervical Cancer Coalition credits the test with reducing the death rate from cervical cancer by 70 percent since the 1940s.

The advocacy group calls the Pap test the "single most effective cancer screen in the history of medicine." Medical organizations recommend pap tests be done

but there are a few different screening protocols.

Dr. Doeden recommends screening as suggested by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

According to the new ACOG guidelines released in 2009, women aged 21 to 30 years should be screened every 2 years using either the standard Pap test or liquid-based cytology.

Women 30 years and older who have had three consecutive negative (i.e., normal) cervical cytology test results may be screened once every 3 years with either screening test.

Women older than 30 years can also be co-screened with a combination of the Pap test and an HPV test; if they receive negative results on both tests they do not need to be rescreened for at least 3 years.

The ACOG guidelines also note that women with certain risk factors may need more frequent screening. These risk factors include being infected with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), being immunosuppressed, having been exposed to diethylstilbestrol before birth, and having been treated for certain cervical abnormalities or cancer.

Women aged 65 to 70 years who have had at least three normal Pap tests and no abnormal Pap tests in the last 10 years may decide, after talking with their doctor, to stop having Pap tests. Women who have had a hysterectomy (surgery to remove the uterus and cervix) do not need to have a Pap test, unless the surgery was done as a treatment for a precancerous condition or cancer.

The human papillomavirus, or HPV, is a confirmed culprit in causing the majority of all cervical cancers.

Dr. Doeden may suggest that you have an HPV test to detect the virus, which can cause precancerous cell changes and cervical cancer. The test also is used to follow up on unclear Pap results.

### PREVENTIVE INFO

The Centers for Disease Control links the following preventable behaviors to contracting HPV and increasing the risk of developing cervical cancer:

- Starting sexual relations at an early age
  - Having multiple sexual partners, or sex with people who have had multiple partners
  - Smoking
  - Contracting HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, or similar conditions that hamper the body's ability to overcome health problems
- Even if women receive the HPV vaccine at an early age, they still

need regular Pap tests and HPV screening as recommended by their physicians once they become sexually active. The vaccine is not effective against all types of HPV viruses, so the Pap test is needed to detect and treat cell changes caused by those before they develop into cervical cancer.

For more information about Cervical Health Awareness Month, go to [www.nccc-online.org](http://www.nccc-online.org) or [www.acog.org](http://www.acog.org).

This article courtesy of Mt. San Rafael Hospital.

HPV is passed from person to person during genital contact and occurs in 80 percent of women by age 50, the NCCC says. However, it's reassuring to know that most women infected with HPV will not go on to develop cervical cancer and in the majority of women, the virus will be cleared by the immune system.

"The human papillomavirus is the most common sexually transmitted infection in the country," notes Donna Wood, Practice Leader of Clinical Operations at Quorum Health Resources (QHR).

"While most women will suffer no ill effects from an HPV virus, it can lead to cervical cancer.

Death rates associated with HPV have declined 2.7 percent annually from 1998 to 2007 in the United States but the toll worldwide is still very high. It's the second most frequent cause of female death, killing about 300,000 each year."

The CDC says that most men who get HPV will never develop symptoms or health issues, however; some types of HPV can cause genital warts and cancers. About 2,000 men develop HPV-related cancers each year in the U.S.

Currently there are not

any HPV tests recommended for men but there are ways to treat the health problems caused by HPV in men.

Boys 26 years or younger can get the three series vaccination, Gardasil, that can help protect against the types of HPV that cause problems in men.

In 2006 the U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved a three-shot vaccination that protects against the two types of HPV causing about 70 percent of cervical cancers.

The vaccine is targeted primarily to females who have not yet been exposed to HPV through sexual contact, specifically those aged 9 through 26 but any female is a candidate to receive this vaccine. Vaccinating females against a sexually transmitted infection at an early age has caused controversy among some parents and family values groups, and some side effects have been reported although these are usually very minor and common to vaccines.

The CDC recommends the vaccine, and it's now also approved for boys age 9 through 18 to reduce their chance of acquiring genital warts.

## LETTERS

Dear Editor:

### Reader upset by attorney's comment

Attorney Joe Koncilja is on record in an article in the Jan. 12 Chronicle-News and Pueblo Chieftan as saying that comments to police officers come with the territory.

As an officer of the court, the attorney should know better. Now that he has gone on record that the comments attributed to his defendant were indeed spoken, I encourage the district attorney in his prosecution since threats to police officers are not idle chatter. Police officers are servants of the people who act on behalf of all of us.

When an officer's job, safety, or reputation is threatened in a way that is intended to sway his or her enforcement action the risk of corruption threatens every citizen. We expect our law officers to enforce the law with no respect to a person's position of power or standing.

This is not an issue of who is bigger or what color underwear is being worn as Mr. Koncilja would like to trivialize it. I hope that the citizens of Trinidad will respect and support their police department and discourage the kind of low-down personal attacks resorted to by Mr. Koncilja.

**Dr. Joel Shults**  
Executive Director  
National Center for  
Police Advocacy

### Reader thankful for angels among us

Dear editor,

A companion, protector, and a close friend. One who loves you unconditionally, who will protect you with their life.

Who could ask for a more loyal, devoted, gentle spirit? When you're sick they're right there to comfort you. When you're sad, they'll mop up your tears.

What better company when you're lonely or afraid. Yes, angels do walk among us and some of them have four legs.

These created furry creatures were put on this earth, and all deserving of our love and devotion. No animal should be treated with neglect and cruelty.

When the unspeakable

act of evil are committed to these animals, that person or persons of interest should be prosecuted to the full extent. Speak up and help these poor defenseless animals. Your rewards will be great and you'll feel better about yourself, knowing you did the right thing.

**Grace Monarco**  
Trinidad

### Reader thanks holiday program helpers

Dear editor,

Thanks to the generous efforts of Trinidad residents, thousands of hurting children worldwide will have the opportunity to experience the joy of Christmas. Trinidad and the greater Pueblo area residents joined Operation Christmas Child, the world's largest Christmas project of its kind, to pack 9,700 shoeboxes with toys, school supplies and necessities items.

These gift-filled shoeboxes are making their way, or have already made their way, into the hands of needy children in 100 receiving countries.

On behalf of our community, I would like to thank the volunteers at local collection sites and everyone who packed an Operation Christmas Child shoebox gift.

For many of the children receiving these boxes, the simple shoebox will be the first gift they have ever received.

Although the Trinidad drop-off locations are closed until November 2012, gifts are received throughout the year at Samaritan's Purse, 801 Bamboo Road, Boone, NC 28607.

If you would like to get involved year-round in helping children in need through Operation Christmas Child, go online to [www.samaritanspurse.org](http://www.samaritanspurse.org) /occ or call 719-647-9192.

Thanks again to everyone who participated in this project. A simple gift, packed with love, can communicate love and transform the lives of children worldwide.

**Juleen Edward**  
Pueblo area coordinator  
Operation Christmas  
Child