

By Carolyn Lee

The Imperial Republican

March is "Music in Our Schools" month, and Chase County Schools is enthusiastically celebrating.

There are two concerts, one concert contest and one "sing thru" scheduled during March at CCS.

The first is the grade 5-12 band concert March 4 at 7 p.m. in the school auditorium.

Instrumental teacher Agnes Strand said a variety of songs will be performed that evening. The fifth grade band will perform, and the sixth grade band is experimenting with different rhythms.

The junior high jazz band will not perform, but the junior high band will play selections from its SPVA performance.

Strand said the high school band will perform "old chestnuts" like those from Music Man for the concert, while the senior high jazz band will play Disney selections such as "Color of the Wind."

Vocal concert

The next music night is the grade 3-6 vocal concert March 11 at 6 p.m. in the auditorium.

Elementary vocal teacher Jodi Liess said there is "a whole mix of music" involved, including selections using wind chimes on loan to the school.

The third grade will perform "I've Been Working on the Railroad," "Appalachian Dances" and "Everybody Needs a Friend."

The fourth grade will play their recorders, and sing "Why We Sing" and "John Henry Boogie."

The fifth grade will perform "Seize the Day," "When the Saints Come Marching In" and "Mozart Mania."

The sixth grade will sing "Cripple Creek," "Power of Music" and "Stars and Stripes."

SPVA

The high school vocal and instrumental annual SPVA conference contest will be held in Hershey March 19. About 38 vocalists and almost the entire band will compete in solos, ensembles, and in the jazz band and show choir. The chorus and band as a whole are not involved in this contest.

Secondary vocal teacher Randy Hayes has scheduled a "sing thru" for March 18 at about 5:45 p.m. in his music room at the school, during which SPVA contest students will "go through the entries until we're done," Hayes said

The public is welcome to attend the rehearsal.

Music in Our Schools

Music in Our Schools is a month-long event that aims to draw attention to the significance of music education in our schools and community.

This year's theme is "Music Lasts a Lifetime." The National Association for Music education sponsors and coordinates the event.

The goal is to stress the importance of quality music education in our schools and to enlist the support of teachers, students, parents, members of the community, organizations and individuals to become advocates of music education.