Greenfield buys stage for events, rentals

By ANITA FRITZ
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GREENFIELD — Two years ago, when Greenfield officials discussed ways to make the town's parks safer, especially Hillside Park, which was having problems with illegal activities, someone suggested that Greenfield have more events in them, like concerts and with that suggestion came another — the town should buy a stage.

The $105,406 mobile stage from Century Industries in Indiana will be used on Sunday during the town's Independence Day Celebration.

Recreation Department Director Christy Moore said most of the money for the stage came out of this year's capital budget, and the rest came from Friends of the Recreation Department and the department's yearly operating budget.

"The first time we used it was last Friday for our Movie in the Park event," said Moore. "It's a really nice stage."

Moore said the next Movie in the Park, which will be "Back to the Future," will be held July 24 at dusk at the Green River Swimming and Recreation Area on Nashs Mill Road.

She said the cost for adults is $2.

"You can't do better than that," said Moore. "We just barely cover our costs by charging twilight rates."

Moore said the department also had to buy an outdoor projector, which cost it $4,700.

She said the stage will be used for all types of town events, including its Independence Day Celebration, Riverside Blues, Brews & BBQ and more.

"We'll be using it at many of our events in time," said Moore.

Mayor William Martin has also talked about renting the stage, but the town probably won't start that until next year, when it becomes more familiar and comfortable with it.

Martin said the town would most likely rent within a radius of 30 miles or so.

"We have to come up with a policy and have it vetted by the town attorney," said Moore.

Martin said the idea is to rent the stage so that it pays for itself within a few years.

Submitted photo
Greenfield's recently purchased stage, which the town plans to use for its own events and rent to others.