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Having attended St. Joseph's School from Kindergarten to eight grades, I was lucky enough to take part in the Parish Shows that were held every year. The parish shows were made up of children and adults of all ages. The show was put on about 3 times during one weekend and it took numerous hours of practicing to make them a success. I enjoyed the time with friends, the singing, dancing and acting. When I think of the parish shows or when I see an old picture it just makes me smile. It is the reason that I have been looking into the different options for drama and music classes for my children. I hope they get to experience what I was lucky enough to growing up.

I voted to approve the \$10,000.00 allocation for the Medford Arts Council in the 2015 budget. I also was one of three City Councilors to move that the line item be tripled in the 2016 budget. I do believe that not only should there be a line item in the City budget, but also that the City should support and work to help the arts council with their positive enhancements to the arts in our community.

I do believe that there should be a home for the arts. I believe that the discussion on a city master plan and a city capital improvement plan should begin between the new City Council and new Mayor in 2017. The home for the arts should be on that list for discussion as well as the Chevalier theatre. I have heard and like the idea of something within the heart of Medford in Medford Square. Putting a second floor on the Library and making part of that a "Home for the Arts" sounds like a great idea. I think the City needs to invest in the Library, Chevalier and a potential home for the arts and I also believe the supporters of the arts, Chevalier and the Library with the City's help should work on different fundraising possibilities.

I think the three best steps to improve the Chevalier are air conditioning, a Marque, and more support from the City.

I would be very interested in hearing more about temporary and permanent public art in Medford's parks, playgrounds and open spaces.