Hampshire in 1856. She was a student in the Freeport high school when Mr. Hopkins was superintendent assisted by Miss Noble. The county superintendent of schools Hon. H. C. Burchard gave Mrs. Brace her teacher's certificate in 1860 and Mrs. Brace followed this profession for many years.

(There is some disagreement on the dates involving Julia. Mary Lynn Bryan in “The Selected Papers of Jane Addams” published in 2003 wrote that Julia came to Cedarville in 1860 at the age of 14 and attended Mrs. Forbes school with Mary Addams. If true, this would have made it difficult for Julia to get her certificate in 1860. Perhaps she attended Freeport High School after her Cedarville schooling and got her certificate after 1860 and then taught school. Horatio Chapin Burchard was an attorney who came to Freeport as a principal in 1854. He later held several state and U.S. elected offices and various appointed federal positions. Freeport has Burchard Avenue.)

Mrs. Brace’s father, E. M. Eastman, was present at the Lincoln-Douglas debate in 1858 and in the fall of 1864 Mrs. Henney, Mrs. Brace and Miss Doubler represented the colors of Old Glory in costume and rode horseback at the head of the procession preceded by the Goddess of Liberty — Captain Reel’s only daughter being the goddess. This was at the time of the political rally of 1864 when Lincoln was re-elected. The procession was two and a half miles long.

Captain Joseph Reel, Company G, 93rd Illinois Volunteer Infantry Regiment in the Civil War

(Miss Doubler was probably Mary, 10, oldest daughter of John and Caroline Clingman Doubler. Their other four daughters would have been too young or not yet born. Joseph Reel was believed to have lived at 270 Mill St. in the early 1850s. He served in the Civil War as an infantry company captain in the 93rd Illinois Regiment. In 1877 he and A. J. Seyler invented and successfully sold a machine that turned wheat middlings into graham flour.)

“And now as these ladies are finishing this fabric of life, with the vision of the great pattern before them, may their shuttles move to and fro with pure thought and kindly deeds and the pattern, completed, please Him who gave to all the pattern of life to weave.”

(Agnes Bennethum Henney died in 1942 at the age of 97. The date of Julia Eastman Brace’s death is unknown, but obviously she was more than 84 when interviewed in 1929.)

Friday Night Free Museum Movies To Feature Four Comedies, Musical

Four classic comedies from the 1930s and 1950s and a 1953 musical have been lined up for the July Friday night free outdoor movie schedule at the Cedarville Museum.

The shows go on at dusk regardless of the weather with inside viewing in the event of rain. Pop corn, candy, soft drinks and coffee are available at any time at 1950 prices.

Bud Abbott and Lou Costello open the month’s schedule on July 2 in “Foreign Legion.” This film was released in 1950. It also features Patricia Medina in one of her first movie roles.

Bud Abbott and Lou Costello open the month’s schedule on July 2 in “Foreign Legion.” This film was released in 1950. It also features Patricia Medina in one of her first movie roles.

On July 9 the film will be the 1939 Bob Hope classic “Never Say Die.” In this film Hope is a multi-millionaire hypochondriac who is told he has only one month to live. His co-stars are comic stalwarts Martha Raye, Alan Mowbray, Andy Devine and Gale Sondergaard. Naturally, the ending is funny and happy.

On July 16 it’s back to Bud Abbott and Lou Costello in the 1951 “Comin’ Round the Mountain.” Co-starring is songstress Dorothy Shay, better known at New York nightclubs as “The Manhattan Hillbilly.”

You don’t want to miss the July 23 film “You Can’t Take It With You.” This comedy winner of two Academy Awards in 1938 stars Jean Arthur, James Stewart, Edward Arnold and Mary Forbes. It’s the tale of a relatively normal member of an eccentric family.

The 2010 free Friday night film season closes on July 30 with “Calamity Jane”, a western musical comedy with Doris Day, Howard Keel and Gale Robbins. This movie was released in 1953 and won an Academy Award for the best original song — “Secret Love.”

The two-month free movie program is under the direction of Steve Myers, a CAHS board member, and his wife, Sue.
Almost a dozen descendents of the Clingman, Sigfried and Angle families held a four-hour reunion in Cedarville last month. They traced their background to Sophia Clingman and her husband, Luther Angle, her brother William Clingman and his wife Mary Siegfried. Included were Nancy Strnad and Lucy Guercio (great granddaughters of William and Mary), Sarah McNeil (daughter of Nancy) and her brother, Kati Martin (daughter of Lucy), Bill Angle (grandson of Sophia and Luther) and Edward (son of Bill). Part of the visit included a tour of the Clingman homestead on Rt. 26 north of Cedarville.

Both Mrs. Henney and Mrs. Brace attended the private school taught by Mrs. Laura Jane Forbes. This school was founded by Hon. J. H. Addams and was called Cedarville Seminary. Miss Jane Addams was named for Mrs. Forbes.

(Jane Addams full name was Laura Jane Addams, but she was usually known as “Jennie.” Mrs. Forbes was married to Henry J. Forbes, a Union cavalry officer during the Civil War. The private school was often called an “academy” and operated on the school’s second floor for a half dozen years.)

“Those days in the 60’s, when so many brave sons obeyed their country’s call, were days of intense interest when everyone waited anxiously for news from the war. Through the courtesy of Hon. J. A. Addams, a copy of the list of those who were wounded, taken prisoners or had made the supreme sacrifice was sent to Cedarville and this copy was read at the Seminary. A copy was also left at the post office where all had access to it. These lists were printed by the Freeport Journal.”

Mrs. Henney and Mrs. Brace recall scraping old linen with a silver knife to procure the fluffy lint needed for dressing wounds. Mrs. Forbes would often excuse her recitations and all the pupils would busy themselves in this good work. Boxes were filled with pillows, hose, lint and other useful articles by the students, who felt certain that the boxes would reach their destination as Mr. Forbes was a Colonel in the army.

“The ‘Lutheran church” basement used in 1853-54 as a school was the Lutheran and Reformed Church on Cedar Street. It later became the community center and was torn down in the 1960s and the site is now a parking lot for the Emmanuel Evangelical Church. The “business street” was Mill Street where most of the village’s businesses were located. The bricks were used for the 1855 school, not the 1889 building. Mary Addams was the same age as Agnes Bennethum Henney. Miss Addams married the Rev. John Linn in 1871 and had six children.”

Mrs. Brace came to Freeport from New
81-Year-Old Newspaper Story Sheds Light on Cedarville in 19th Century

By Jim Bade, President
Cedarville Area Historical Society

Thanks to the sharp eye and generosity of Alvera Luetig, a volunteer in the local history room of the Freeport City Library, I received a copy of an interview of Mrs. J. W. Henney and Mrs. Julia Brace that appeared in the Freeport Journal-Standard on July 8, 1929. The interview, filled with 19th Cedarville history, follows with my annotations in italics. J. B.

Mrs. John W. Henney, South Carroll avenue, has had as her guest the past week, a childhood friend Mrs. Julia F. Brace of Alyann, Ia., who, like Mrs. Henney, formerly lived in Cedarville, and one of their greatest pleasures has been their reminiscences of incidents that took place sixty years ago, when both were instructors at the Cedarville school. (Mrs. Henney, formerly Agnes Bennethum, is better known as the wife of John Henney, head of the Henney Buggy Co. that started in Cedarville in the later part of the 19th century and then moved to Freeport. Julia Brace, formerly Julia Eastman, in 1865 was Jane Addams first teacher. The 20-year-old Agnes was Julia’s assistant. The school was in the 1855 building that was replaced in 1889 and is now the Cedarville museum.)

Mrs. Henney recalls attending school in the basement of the Lutheran church before the brick school, back of the business street, was built. C. C. Snyder and J. W. Henney, when lads, carried bricks as their share in the building of this school. C. C. Snyder in later years was superintendent of the school he helped to build, coming to Freeport after a period of work in Cedarville, and holding the position of superintendent for many years.

J. W. Henney’s part in the business world of Freeport is too well known to need repeating.

Mary Addams, older sister of Miss Jane Addams, owned the first sewing machine in Cedarville and made Mrs. Henney’s

Museum Research Center Purchases Book on Freeport’s Civil War General

The Cedarville Area Historical Society has added a new book describing the romance and marriage of Freeport’s Civil War Gen. Smith Atkins and the daughter of a prominent southern family.

Written by Suzy Barile, the book is titled “Undaunted Heart: The True Story of a Southern Belle & a Yankee General.”

Pardon the Mistake!

In last month’s issue of the historical society newsletter there was an error.

The article stated that Cyrus Kryder, the carpenter who was in charge of the October 28, 1911, mounting of the slate blackboards in the north and south second floor rooms of the 1889 Cedarville School (now the Cedarville Museum) lived on what is now Illinois Route 26 where Dan and Bobbie Edler live. In reality Kryder lived two houses south of the present Edler house.

The editor regrets the error which was first discovered by Dan Edler. Sorry, Dan!

Now the good news: Writing found on the wall under the 1911 blackboards indicates students on Friday, October 27, were diagramming sentences. So what’s new?
Good Weather or Bad
The Show Must Go On

Despite torrential rain eighteen people turned out at the museum Friday night, June 18, for the free indoor showing of “The Egg and I”. The following Friday night a crowd of more than seventy camped on the museum’s north lawn to chuckle over Don Knotts in “The Ghost and Mr. Chicken”. Both nights the viewers consumed a lot of pop corn, candy and soft drinks at 1950 prices.

Left: Jacob and Tommy, more members of the Freeport Priewe family, settle in for “The Egg and I.” Right: Rain or moon, Narcissa Engle makes the show, turning up for both the June 18 and June 25 movies. Narcissa is vice president of the Cedarville Area Historical Society.

Here, right and below: Part of the 70 plus people who attended the June 25 showing of “The Ghost and Mr. Chicken” with Don Knotts. Many children were there to see their Andy Griffith TV show hero.

Above: While the rest of the family enjoys the films, Kelly Priewe gets the popcorn machine ready. Left: Alas, Bonnie Bade discovers that the morning after the party the popcorn machine must be cleaned for next week’s performance.