Society Music Program Series Opens On July 30 with Early American Jazz

The Freeport Historical Jazz Band, led by Freeport High School Band Director Bill Petersen, on July 30 will open the 2013 “Sounds of America” series of three live music and history programs sponsored by the Cedarville Area Historical Society and Kent Bank of Freeport.

The August 27 program will feature guitarist and folk song singer Dan Baldwin of Brodhead, Wi. The September 24 program will highlight the talents of sixteen members of the River City Sound Chorus, a Rockford women’s barbershop harmony group.

A ticket for the series is $22 and can be obtained by calling Jim Bade at 815-563-4485. No single tickets will be sold. Only 21 of the available 80 tickets remained unsold as of June 28.

Each 45 minute performance will include historical comments about the music. All three programs are on a Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in the LeRoy Wilson Theater, second floor of the museum. An elevator is available for the use of physically handicapped visitors. Free refreshments follow each program.

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“Sounds of America”  
(from page 1)

The July 30 jazz program will concentrate on jazz of the first three decades of the twentieth century. The musicians will be Bill Peterson, trombone; Gary Besley, clarinet; Chris Kort, trumpet; Aleisha Leeper, tenor sax; Rick Andrews, bass; John Hartman, banjo and Marley Van Raashee, drums.

Peterson earned his bachelor’s degree in music education from Eastern Illinois University and his master’s degree in conducting from Michigan State University. He is the Instructional Leader for K–12 Music in School District 145 and band director at Freeport High School.

At the August 27 program, Dan Baldwin will perform many songs recorded or written by John Denver, James Taylor, Jim Croce, Simon and Garfunkel, Don McLean, and Peter Paul and Mary. Baldwin said he really enjoys doing songs from the 1950s and 1960s, often called the “protest” period.

Rockford’s River City Sound Chorus is an outstanding group of 47 women who are well-known for their blending of voices in barbershop harmony. Sixteen members will perform in Cedarville.

Joan Boutiller, director of River City Sound, earned her degree in music education from the University of New Mexico. She sings with the Four Betrys, the 2006 Sweet Adeline International Quartet Champions. She recently joined the International Board of Directors of Sweet Adelines International.

What’s this construction at the Cedarville Cemetery? It’s a joint project by the cemetery board and Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Leverington to improve drainage on adjoining properties by directing surface storm water underground to Cedar Creek. The cost is being shared by the Leveringtons and the board. With this work the cemetery will gain 72 additional burial sites, according to Cemetery Sexton Bill Pick.
Don, Vickie Franz, Civil War Night Complete with Stories, Music, Food

A Cedarville Museum audience was treated June 23 to a pleasant mixture of American Civil War stories and fife music by the husband and wife team of Don and Vickie Franz and rich pastries by historical society members.

The evening was the second and final program in this year’s visit to the great American conflict that shaped the future of the country.

Left: Board member Steve Myers prepares to record the entire program for an audio-visual DVD to be released in a week. Right: Judy and Harlen Corrie discuss the Franz program with Paul Fry while enjoying a soft drink and one of the many rich treats prepared for the occasion.

Above: Don Franz and Vickie exchange views with Nathan Myers, his father, Steve and Gail Bertram, historical society treasurer. Nathan is a Virginia Military Institute student. Right: CAHS vice president Narcissa Engle and Carole Bertram were caught off guard when the camera appeared.

Left: Rick and Nan Mosher, Freeport, and their granddaughter Katie, 9, Marietta, Ga., purchase tickets for the program from Bonnie Bade, wife of Jim Bade, historical society president. Right: Don Franz was always in motion as he explained the lives of Civil War soldiers.
Joseph von Allmen
Dies at Age of 87


Mr. von Allmen was a member of the Cedarville Area Historical Society and a brother to Narcissa Engle, Cedarville, historical society vice president.

He was born September 3, 1925, in Dodgeville, Wis., the son of Mr. and Mrs. John "Hans" Robert von Allmen, both of Switzerland.

In 1952 Joseph married Kathryn Kampfner. The couple had four children. His wife died in 1999.

After attending school in Lena, Ill., he graduated in 1941 from Beaver Dam (WI) High School. He followed in his father's footsteps and became a master cheese maker. Joseph served in the U.S. Army from July 1944 to August 1945 and received a purple heart for burn wounds suffered in Germany. After his marriage, he worked for Singer Sewing Centers in Wisconsin.


DVD of Dammann's
Antietem Talk Ready

An audio-visual DVD of Gordon Dammann's May 14 slide presentation of the Civil War battle at Antietem is available.

The DVD contains the complete talk of Dammann at the Cedarville Museum.

The recording of the program was made under the direction of Steve Myers, a member of the board of the Cedarville Area Historical Society. A DVD of the June 25 Don Franz Civil War talk will be available by the middle of July.

Here Is Good News for Genealogists

The following publications for family research are now available in the Freeport Public Library local history room:

- Early Settlers of Scioto County, Ohio
- History of Tama County, Iowa
- The Osterman Families of German Valley, Ill.
- Leut River's Yesterdays: Map Guide to German Parish Registers, Kingdom of Prussia, Province of Westphalia, and Principalities of Lippe and Schaumburg-Lippe
- Probate and Orphans Court Records of Snyder County, Pa. (1772-1855)

Also, recently added to the library are histories on the following families, many of them found in Stephenson County:

- Addams
- Aurandt
- Dickman
- Gill Grimes
- Haldeman-Julius
- Hildreth
- Kueper
- Laborde
- Lauer
- Loewe
- Lower
- Moore
- Reed
- Servatus

These family histories range from a few typed pages to an 800 page book, according to Karen Hutmacher, Stephenson County Genealogy Society.
July Friday Night Movies a Laugh-in

If you are looking for a chuckle or a belly laugh, try one or all of the free outdoor Friday night movies this month at the Cedarville Museum.

The month opens on July 5 with *Murder He Says* with Fred MacMurray, Marjorie Main and Helen Walker. Yes, we know this night is the day after a national holiday.

On July 12 the 1968 film *Yours, Mine and Ours* with Lucille Ball and Henry Fonda will be shown on the museum’s north wall screen made of four queen size sheets sown together. It’s hard to imagine zany Lucille and somber Henry in the same film, but it’s true.


The month — and this year’s film series — closes on July 26 with *Rock-A-By Baby*, a 1959 presentation with Jerry Lewis and Marilyn Maxwell.

Show starts at dusk. Bring your lawn chair or blanket. Seating is free. All refreshments are 50 cents. Inside viewing in the event of rain.

No Cancellation Means No Cancellation, Period

On Friday night, June 21, more than 40 people were in their lawn chairs on the north lawn of the Cedarville Museum munching popcorn and enjoying the classic comedy “No Time for Sergeants” starring Andy Griffith and Don Knotts.

Two thirds through the movie thunder, lightning and rain interrupted the show and people picked up chairs and scattered for their cars. A few left; others scurried into the museum.

Within 15 minutes the crew of Steve Myers and Dale Priewe reassembled the equipment in the second floor program room and the show went on. Well done!