



Interfaith Center for Peace & Justice

NEWSLETTER

“...and they shall beat their swords into plowshares.”

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2015

Heritage Festival: Focus on Local Music This Year

By Janet M. Powers

If you're looking for great music, free admission and entertainment, fabulous children's activities, and delicious ethnic food, you can't do better than to attend the 24th Annual Adams County Heritage Festival on Sunday, September 20, from noon to 5 p.m., at the Gettysburg Area Recreation Park on Long Lane. The Festival will start off with the traditional strains of Rodney Yeaple's bagpipe as well as proclamations from local officials. Next, we'll hear a great Celtic trio, The Knotwork Band, followed by haunting melodies of the Native American Flute Circle, seven players accompanied by drummers and representing the first nations to occupy our shores.

In addition to a huge children's activity booth, we always try to present something special for children on the main stage. At 2 p.m., Slim Harrison and the Sunnyland Band will offer a participatory program for children, all of whom will get to play a musical instrument. In fact, those kids ARE the Sunnyland Band, so it's essential that they be there!

We've really tried to go local this year with our music and hope that you'll agree that we've chosen the best of what Adams County has to offer in the way of bands. For our Latino offering, we're presenting Los Beny Boys, based in Abbottstown and playing some amazingly good Mexican music. According to Paul Austerlitz, ethnomusicologist at Gettysburg College, they play authentic songs, rooted in
(continued on page 2)

Heritage Festival in Motion-Festival de la Herencia en Movimiento: Walk and Bike Parade

By Tom Jolin

The 2015 Adams County Heritage Festival will offer both a Kids Bicycle Parade and a Community Walk on the Biser

Heritage Festival

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central Mexico where most of the band members grew up. Our Festival offers an opportunity to introduce this local treasure to those in the community who may not have heard them. Rounding out the day at 4 p.m. will be a group that many Adams Countians have heard of and won't want to miss: Black Hand. Their acoustic music has a dedicated following, and their Festival performance will surely add to that crowd.

The Native American theme will be carried out in the Children's Area, which will center on the making of artistic dolls, puzzles and masks to accompany three Native American stories told orally. In keeping with the idea that we are all part of the Poem of Mother Earth, young people can also identify the great waters on beach ball globes and recognize the significance of indigenous peoples everywhere. Children will also enjoy decorating their bicycles starting at 12:15 behind the stage and participating in a bicycle parade on the Biser Trail beginning at 1 p.m. and ending in time for the Sunnyland Band.

Many of us look forward to the Festival for exceptional ethnic food and

Trail at the Rec Park. The entire day is loaded with great entertainment and wonderful food. It makes a terrific, fun filled, community unity event. The bike and walk portions are called *Heritage Festival in Motion-Festival de la Herencia en Movimiento*.

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even take home some for supper or a quick week-night dinner. Much of our food this year will be Hispanic in origin, including Mexican, Colombian, and Venezuelan (the Ugly Mug), but just in case your tastes tend toward Asian, we'll also have Chinese food from Li's Buffet and Indian cuisine from the Taj Palace. Snacks will be provided by the Pretzel Lady (she has hot dogs too for the kids) and superb ice cream by Antietam Dairy. Don't miss the Bosnian baklava this year as well as the chance to take home loaves of exceptional Balkan bread. So why do we do this? Why do we roust ourselves out of bed early on Sunday morning to set up tents, move tables and chairs and put up banner for one afternoon of family entertainment and festivity? Signs posted around the Festival are a clue. We appreciate the music, food and art of Adams County because we believe that celebrating unity in our community is one way of learning to appreciate each other, even though we bring with us differences in heritage, skin color and language. Don't forget to put a pin in the Festival map to show where your ancestors came from! And if you can help us set up and/or tear down, we would certainly appreciate the help.

Janet M. Powers is a long-time member of ICPJ and Professor Emerita at Gettysburg College.

Festival in Motion

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The Bike Parade is coordinated by Maribel Gonzalez. The children bicycle riders will gather behind the stage about 12:30 to decorate their bicycles with the help of St. James Boy Scout Troop #79. Or

The festival will be set up over the trail by the playground, so walk your bicycle in that area.

The Walk starts about 2:10 and is coordinated by Colleen Umbenhouer of the Physical Fitness Task Force. Folks should gather by the stage about 1:50. Newcomers are encouraged to give it a try.

The Honorary Walk and Bike Marshals will be Lefty Biser, Dr. Rukhsana Rahman and Arturo Sanjuan.

Lefty was a long time Athletic Trainer and then Chair of the Health and Exercise Science Department at Gettysburg College. The Biser Fitness Trail was donated to the Gettysburg Recreation Park by the Biser Family in memory of their sons, Chris and Kyle. The trail provides for a leisurely walk, run or bicycle ride and includes 10 fitness stations. From 1959 to 1970 Lefty was the evening Recreation Park Supervisor. His children came to the park nearly every day. He says, "The Biser Trail is an opportunity for our family and the community to remember our sons' love of the fitness activities where they played as young boys." His hope is that families enjoy fitness together.

decorate at home. The ride kicks off about 1:10 on the Biser Trail. It is geared to kids and families, but all are welcome to join in to show support for a bicycle friendly community.

Helmets are required. Folks are encouraged to bicycle or walk to the festival if possible. Anyone wearing a bike helmet gets a free can of apple juice (at HABPI table), courtesy of Knouse Foods.

Dr. Rukhsana Rahman is a Radiologist at Wellspan Gettysburg Hospital. She graduated from The University of Zambia Medical School and did residencies in New York, including Methodist Hospital, Brooklyn. She devotes considerable time volunteering for several community efforts. She is a Board Member for the YWCA of Gettysburg-Adams County. She and her husband, Athar, enjoy walking for health and relaxation near the historic Sachs Covered Bridge.

Arturo Sanjuan teaches Spanish and Physical Education at VIDA in Gettysburg. He attended Penn State and studied abroad at the University of Seville in Spain. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science in World Languages Education, Spanish Option. The popular teacher loves running, biking, cooking, soccer and was an Adams County winner during the 2014 Bike to Work Week.

Parents often teach their children how to bicycle using the safe Biser Trail. Training wheels are a common sight.

HABPI is grateful for the opportunity to partner with the Heritage Festival and the

Physical Fitness Task Force. Bicyclists, don't forget to wear your bike helmets.

Tom Jolin is a member of HABPI and can be reached at 642-8053.

Peace Camp 2015: Zoo Pals

By Mary Gemmill

The Bethel Mennonite Church filled with music June 15-19 as the Peace

The favorite cooperative games were the "snake" and the "spider web." There were many creations in the arts and craft room and stories every day. Guided meditation sessions provided the students time to reflect to all that they had learned and how to create a safe environment. The baby rabbits taught lessons of gentleness and compassion, thanks to the Kellett family.

Ray Owen's performance of "Animal Odyssey" showcased the hidden talents of our storytellers and karaoke singers. The Four H group demonstrated the workings of the Seeing Eye Dog Training and how children can impact the community. The highlight of the last day was the elaborate face paintings of all sorts of exotic animals.

Many thanks are given to all the volunteers who made Zoo Pals possible.

Mary Gemmill is an ICPJ board member and Peace Camp committee member.

Books Ordered for Adams County Library in Honor of Peacemaker Award Winners

Campers learned lots of new songs. Some were about animals and some were old time peace songs. Under the direction of Ricky Czar, they learned how to play various instruments, too. The drums were the favorite (sorry, Pastor Bob).

The bug lady brought lots of fun and books for everyone. The owl lady turned the students into scientists with the dissection of owl pellets.

The following books were ordered through ICPJ's donation of \$300 to the Adams County Library in honor of Dick and Elizabeth Wood, Lifetime of Peacemaking Award winners:

David Hartsough, with Joyce Hollyday,
Waging Peace: Global Adventures of a Lifelong Activist
Rufus Jones: Essential Writings (Modern Spiritual Masters Series), edited by Kerry Walters
Ghada Karmi, *In Search of Fatima: A Palestinian Story*
Miko Peled, *The General's Son: Journey of an Israeli in Palestine*
Jean Zaru, *Occupied with Nonviolence: A Palestinian Woman Speaks.*

The following books were ordered in honor of the Adams County Chapter of the Pennsylvania Prison Society, winner of the Peacemaker of the Year Award:

Michelle Alexander, *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Color Blindness*
Angela Davis, *Are Prisons Obsolete?*

Marie Gottschalk, *Caught: The Prison State and the Lockdown of American Politics*

Johann Hari, *Chasing the Scream: The First and Last Days of the War on Drugs*.

Thank You!

ICPJ wishes to thank the following persons for donations made since the last issue of this newsletter. Thanks also to all who made cash

Norman and Carolyn Nunamaker
Noel and Betty Stookey
Annual Giving Spree 2014

Adams County Community Foundation
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Peace Camp

Home Association of McSherrystown
McSherrystown Moose Lodge 720
Notre Dame Club of Gettysburg
Gettysburg Friends Meeting

Heritage Festival

Open Minds

donations. Send donations to P.O. Box 3134, Gettysburg, PA 17325.

Annual Fund 2014-15

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Alexander Payne, who came to the Gettysburg Seminary from Charleston, S.C. in the 1830s after the education of blacks was banned in his home state. Payne became the first African American to receive a theological education at a Lutheran seminary in the U.S. and later became a bishop in the African Methodist Episcopal Church. Participants are invited to explore the Seminary Ridge Museum following the walk.

The walk is free and open to the public. Registered participants will receive an event t-shirt. Groups will depart the museum at 5:30, 5:45, and 6 p.m. For information or to register, email aahayes@ywcagettysburg.org or call 717-334-9171, ext. 113.

YWCA, Museum to Host Unity Walk

By Ashley Andyshak Hayes

The YWCA Gettysburg & Adams County and the Seminary Ridge Museum will host the 8th annual Unity Walk Friday, Sept. 25, beginning at 5:30 p.m.

The walk will begin at the Seminary Ridge Museum and will travel the Seminary's 1-mile historic walking trail. Guides will focus on the story of Daniel

Prayers for Peace September 21

On Monday evening, September 21, at 7 p.m., there will be an interfaith prayer service open to anyone who believes that peace within and between people is desirable and possible in our communities and our world. September 21 is the UN International Day of Peace as well as the World Council of Churches Day of Prayer for Peace.

Prayers will be offered during the one hour service by people representing several faith traditions. There will also be time for silent, personal prayer and meditation as well as an opportunity for those attending to highlight specific areas where prayers for peace are needed.

The service is open to the public and will take place at the Gettysburg Presbyterian Church, corner of Baltimore and High Streets. Parking is available in the church lot on High Street.

Interfaith Center for Peace and Justice
P.O. Box 3134
Gettysburg, PA 17325
717-334-0752
www.icpj-gettysburg.org

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Community Calendar

Sunday, September 20, Adams County Heritage Festival, June 15-19, 12 noon-5 p.m., Gettysburg Area Recreation Park.
Tuesday, October 6, ICPJ Board meeting, 7 p.m., Room 222, Valentine Hall, Gettysburg Lutheran Seminary.
Thursday, October 22, Annual Latino Community Forum, 8:30 a.m.- 2:30 p.m., Robert C. Hoffman Community Room, HACC Gettysburg Campus. Information: ygagliardi@wellspan.org.
Tuesday, November 10, Annual Giving Spree, sponsored by Adams County Community Foundation, 4-7 p.m., Gettysburg Area Middle School.
Saturday, March 19, 2016, Let It Begin with Me program at Gettysburg Lutheran Seminary. Watch for more information.

**Adams County Heritage Festival
Sunday, September 20, 2015**

Schedule of Performances

12 noon Bagpiper Rodney Yeaple, Opening Invocation (Rev. Nelson Strobert), Proclamations by County Commissioners and Mayor
12:15 p.m. The Knotwork Band (Celtic)
1:10 Pennsylvania Native American Flute Circle
2:10 Slim Harrison (folk performance for children)
3:10 Los Beny Boys (Mexican)
4:10 Black Hand (folk rock)