



News at N4Cs

Northern Columbia Community and Cultural Center

Fishing Creek Heritage Days

A Happening!

Mark your calendars. You don't want to miss the Second Annual Fishing Creek Heritage Days celebration. This year's festivities will take place on Saturday and Sunday, July 24 (9am-8pm) and 25 (11am-6pm). Admission to the event is free.

Fishing Creek Heritage Days is a family-oriented program that lets participants relive important, authentic Civil War events. To date, activities include: Civil War reenactments; a theatrical production by Fishing Creek Players; artillery demonstrations; discussion by George Turner of the 1910 fire in Benton; authentic period music and food; and much more. Call 570-925-0163 for more details.

This year's dramatic production, *Damaged Trust*, written by M.R.

Daniels, is a sequel to her 2009 play, *The Dividing Line*. The new one-act play continues the story of some of those characters. It deals with a young couple, several weeks

will serve as artistic director and will design the set and costumes. The production will take place on the stage of the Benton High School. Auditions for the play will be held in



after the arrest and imprisonment of the Benton townspeople. This couple finds themselves highly affected by the betrayal of their neighbors, and learns the value of trust. *Damaged Trust* will be directed by Brandon Hartman; M.R. Daniels

el May. In addition to actors, Fishing Creek Players needs sound and lighting technicians, seamstresses, prop people, and crew. If you are interested please contact M.R. Daniels at mrdan@epix.net.

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Inside this issue:

<i>Fishing Creek Heritage Days</i>	1
<i>Rob's Corner</i>	2
<i>Volunteer of the Quarter</i>	3
<i>Antique Show and Appraisal</i>	4
<i>Jam Sessions Galore</i>	5
<i>Village Sampler and Fun Auction</i>	6
<i>Events Calendar</i>	6

Special Interest

- Tryouts for the *Damaged Trust* play for Heritage Days in May
- Larry Paul Volunteer of the Quarter
- Village Sampler and Fun Auction nets \$13,000
- Watch for auditions for *Dracula*
- Antique Show brings in several thousand dollars
- Concert May 23

Rob's Corner

The Benefits of Play



*Summer Youth
Activities to include
Special Events and
Field Trips*

*Play offers children
a means of learning*

Starting June 7th, many of the children in our service area will begin invading the Center on a daily basis, as part of our Summer Youth Activities program. We have planned exciting Special Events and Field Trips for the children; we also welcome adults to come along as chaperones on the Field Trips.

To a child, play is like work to an adult. It contributes to a child's physical, cognitive and social development. Through play, a child can learn everything he or she needs to know to function in the world—good relationships, reasoning skills, and more. It is also an essential link in developing positive relationships be-

tween parent and child, and between a child and her/his friends. .

Play, together with natural curiosity, offer a child a means of learning. Even when children misbehave, they probably are trying to learn something. The foundation of all learning in math and reading comes from play. Play requires finding how and what things fit together—translates to building math skills. Toys that require learning the cause and effect of how things work, teach thinking skills that can lead to better academic development. Active, physical play also helps prevent obesity.

The benefits gained from play will help a child become a successful adult. So our Summer Youth Program is not just fun and games, but will also be an excellent learning experience.

On a note related to our upcoming Summer Youth Program, everyone should realize that the Center itself does not have the facilities to handle both summer child drop-ins and a Summer Day Camp. If we tried to hold a Day Camp here and continued to have drop-ins, there is no way to physically separate the two completely different types of programs. The children who drop-in during the summer still must be supervised, and need to access the facility and the activities. If the members would like us to have a Summer Day Camp, we have to find a place off-site with adequate facilities to run such a program.

I hope that everyone here at the Center, including our Volunteers, Members, and Staff will help make this summer a memorable one for our children.

Volunteer of the Quarter: Larry Paul

Larry Paul was named Volunteer of the Quarter at N4Cs for the months January-March. Larry has been an active participant at the Center since its inception. He became interested in the idea of the Community Center because of its inclusion of the Library. He is a strong advocate of Dr. Frank Laubach's "Each One Teach One" philosophy and believed a Library in Benton would provide a good means to support that cause.

He serves on both the Library/Museum and Building and Grounds committees, is active in N4Cs' Fishing Creek Players acting troupe (remember the ever-patient husband Glenn Cooper?), and serves in many other helping capacities whenever an extra pair of hands is needed. As a result of the work in his greenhouse, Larry has also supplied some of the perennials and many of the annual flowers on display at the Center's garden; he also devoted many hours preparing the planting beds when the Center opened.

Typically, Larry begins his volunteer day at the Center at 6AM greeting early morning arrivals with coffee and a welcoming hello. When Larry is not at N4Cs he is doting over his eight grandchildren, reading, or tending to his own garden. Larry summed up his experience

at the Center by saying that "I have met a lot of great people." A lot of people would say that they had the opportunity to meet a great guy like Larry Paul.

Larry and his wife, Judy, moved to Benton from the Allentown area in July 1978 when he was transferred to the PPL Susquehanna power plant. He began his career as a draftsman, but retired as a computer analyst in 2001, after taking computer-related courses.

Congratulations to Larry for his dedicated service. Without volunteers like him N4Cs could not function as smoothly as it does.



Larry Paul at his home away from home—behind the front desk at N4Cs

Larry Paul, a supporter of Dr. Frank Laubach's "Each One Teach One" philosophy

Through the Center I have met a lot of great people.

2020 Plant A Row Program

- Help make the 2010 Plant A Row Program for the Benton Food Bank more successful than last year's introduction.
- Bring fresh product and eggs donations to the Food Bank the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month between 8am and 9am.

Antique Show: A Great Success!

Gladys Kile, and the Antique Show Committee (Madeleine Chiolan, Rob Hutchison, Bob Parks, Russ Seward, and John Shuman) began working about five months before the Center's Third Annual Antique Show and Appraisal. They planned every detail to ensure that the whole process would run smoothly. They

more. Hundreds of attendees visited, some from as far away as New Jersey. Demonstrations on the fine art of lace making was provided by five women from the Montoursville guild on both show days. Jim Cromus showed how to cane chairs; and player piano demonstrations, by Lyle Turner, were very popular among guests both days.

Once again, two well-respected appraisers shared their talents at the show. John A. Shuman III appraised furniture and other types of antiques. Mr. Shuman, who is the author of nine collector books and an appraiser certified by the Antique Appraisers Association of America, has developed quite a devoted following among antique enthusiasts. Sue Pembleton, a 1995 DeBeers' award winner for jewelry design and a member of the Gemology Institute of America, appraised jewelry and gemstones. As a result of the hard work from all of these people, N4Cs earned several thousand dollars from the Antique Show.



Shoppers and browsers at the Antique Show and Appraisal

contacted vendors—many of them in person—to guarantee that quality antiques were available; they lined up appraisers—which have been a big hit with attendees over the years; they planned demonstrations; they ordered tables and planned for food sales; they created promotional materials; and they rounded up volunteers to help with other myriad tasks—like parking attendants, night guards, and more.

The hard work paid off. The show boasted quality antiques, such as Roseville pottery, Riviera china, and fine glassware, among much



Gladys Kile at N4Cs' Third Annual Antique Show and Appraisal

Five women from the Montoursville Guild demonstrated lace making

Jam Sessions Galore

For the past several months the Center has held either weekly bluegrass jam sessions or concerts. Each has been very successful, well attended, and a showcase for local talent. On the third Friday of January, February and March a group of bluegrass afi-



Musicians: Mark Doncheski, Kevin Conrad, Doug Ward, Ray Stackhouse, Jim Bilger, Pat Hess, Bill Bailey, and Loraine Feola (top of head).

cionados gathered at the Center to share favorite tunes and good spirit. Craig Merluzzi and Joe Feola organized the evenings and welcomed seasoned bluegrass players, amateurs and listeners. By all accounts, everyone experienced a fun evening no matter what their musical experience.

On Wednesday, April 7, the Center hosted bluegrass musicians and singers R.B. Powell and Bridget Al-

len for an evening concert. The husband and wife duo entertained a large crowd with bluegrass favorites, humor, and a beautiful song written by Bridget. R.B. played harmonica, banjo, acoustic guitar and sang; Bridget played acoustic guitar and sang.

Continuing the concert series, Deborah and Jonathan Hutchison will bring their musical talents to N4Cs on May 23 at 2PM. The couple's music ranges from rock to classical, with folk, jazz, R&B and gospel in between. Each genre incorporates their trademark vocal harmonies. The Hutchison's music of hope and celebration, uplifts the spirit and helps listeners rejoice in life.



Bridget Allen and R.B. Powell

Deborah and Jonathan Hutchison concert: May 23 at 2PM

(Continued from page 6)

Village Sampler

Special thanks goes to the local restaurants that provided tasty samples:

- Bissinger's Catering
- Creekside Family Restaurant
- Henny Penny
- Hoboken Sub Shop
- Lion's Club of Benton

- The Inn at Turkey Hill
- The Old Filling Station Restaurant
- Quaker State and Lube
- Strevig's Family Restaurant

The Benton Women's Club provided the beverages; and Stoney Acres beautified the event with centerpieces for all of the tables.

Thanks to all who made this special fund raiser very memorable.

Northern Columbia
Community and Cultural
Center

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**Become Part of
Our Family**

Visit...

Enjoy...

Join!

N4Cs provides social services, cultural and educational opportunities, sports programs, and health and wellness activities for people of all ages. Thanks to the dedication of our founders, donors, staff, and volunteers, the greater Northern Columbia County and surrounding municipalities have become a better place to live and raise our families.

Village Sample and Fun Auction:

A Labor of Love

Of all the activities put on by N4Cs, it seems that the Village Sampler and Fun Auction boasts the most community involvement. Where else do so many neighbors come together to share a meal—donated by local restaurants? Then those same neighbors stay after the meal for an auction, for which area residents donate items. On top of that, the whole day is choreographed by volunteers. A true labor of love!

The plans for this year's Seventh Annual Village Sampler and Fun Auction were ably managed by Katie Knorr, with a wide range of assistance from members such as Ellen Hall, Jackie Malhoyt, and Jack Wainwright, among many, many others. They orchestrated the feeding of nearly 200 people, and the sale of more than 100 auction items—all with an atmosphere of fun, enthusiasm, and good cheer.

Both the live and silent

auctions had a wealth of interesting and valued merchandise. Some representative items included: sporting event tickets, jewelry, furniture, quilts, artwork, books, vacation destinations, and a wide variety of baked goodies (a traditional favorite). Once again, Jim Vance, with able assistance from his son John, brought expertise and humor to the auction. As a result of the entire event, the Center netted \$13,000—a great help with operating expenses.



Katie Knorr at the Auction; Jim Vance, auctioneer, in the background.

Mark Your Calendars

- **5K Walk/Run:** May 22
- **Deborah and Jonathan Hutchison Concert:** May 23
- **Community Yard Sale:** May 29 and 30
- **Summer Youth Activities Program** June 7
- **Horseshoe Pitching 101 for Youth:** June 7
- **Fishing Creek Heritage Festival:** July 24 and 25
- **Fishing Creek Players Perform "Damaged Trust":** July 24 and 25
- **2010 Anniversary Celebration:** October 22