# New Albnay to celebrate Founders Day on May 18

By LORI WINCE
THISWEEKNEWS.COM

The New Albany Founders Day celebration Saturday, May 18, will feature historical displays from the 1800s, a tribute to the city's founding in 1837 by Noble Landon and William Yantis.

"We're just trying to showcase some of the historical attributes; which is obviously why we celebrate Founders Day," said Stacy Adkins, one of the celebration organizers.

Founders Day will begin with a parade at 11 a.m. that starts at the New Albany Church of the Resurrection, 6300 Dublin-Granville Road, and concludes at the 2-5 elementary building, 87 N. High St. The festivities will be from noon to 5 p.m. in the 2-5 gymnasium and on the building grounds.

The Founders Day committee invited members of the New Albany-Plain Township Historical Society to display historical records and memorabilia in the gym.

"We'll have our quilt, which is like a map of old Plain Township in the mid-19th century, with the streets and streams and old houses appliqued on the streets where they were located," said Marilyn Saveson, a historical society member.

Society members also will display old maps and photographs, including photographs of the Plain Township picnic from as far back as 1910.

Saveson said the township picnic was an annual tradition.

Dennis Keesee, a historical society member and owner of Eagle's Villa Pizza, also will set up a display of booth of his own Civil War memorabilia.

The parade will feature some newer elements along with traces of the past, Adkins said.

This year's grand marshal will be Virginia McVay, 84, who has lived in Plain Township for 56 years.

McVay said she grew up in the Linden area in Columbus and moved to Plain Township when she and her husband Richard "Richie" McVay built a house on land owned by her parents, John and Adel Barker.

Richard McVay coached Little League baseball and worked as a college sports referee so many people knew him, McVay said. He died in 1982.

The couple was married 34 years.

McVay said her three children graduated from New Albany schools.

Her daughter, Sherry Weersing, now lives in Washington state with her three children. Her two sons are a little closer to home: Richard lives in Pickerington and Kirk lives in Dublin. Both sons also have three children and McVay said she has 16 great-grandchildren.

McVay said she was a stay-at-home mom until 1966 when she started working with the Justine Swim Club and helped manage the club's pool for five years starting in 1967.

She is a member of the Franklin United Brethren Church in Christ on Bevelhymer Road, and has helped with the church's annual turkey dinner and Easter egg project.

"On big jobs, you have to have a lot of help and there's a lot of help in New Albany," she said.

This year's Founders Day Community Connection Award, which recognizes a nonprofit organization that makes contributions to the local community, was given to the New Albany Arts Council, which is celebrating its 20th anniversary.

"What an honor," said Kathy Mayhorn, arts council president. "It just happens to coincide with our 20th anniversary. We were founded in 1993."

The New Albany Arts Council supports a junior theater production and several concerts in the city throughout the year.

Admission is free and parking is available in the high and middle school lots.

For more information, visit newalbanyfoundersday.com.

Upcoming Events at the Davis-Shai House

International Romance Date Night Dinner Series
"Mexican Fiesta"
May 16th, 6:30 PM $50 per couple (includes tax)
Entertainment: Paul Gregory - Solo Guitar

Afternoon "Butterfly Garden Tea"
May 7th and 21st, 1:00 PM $16 per person (includes tax)

Mother/Daughter Hat Tea and Style Show
May 11th at 1:00 PM $20 a person (includes tax)

Art, Wine & Cheese
(meet local artists & wineries)
May 17th at 6:30 PM
$15 a person (includes tax)

Reservations are required for all events in the form of cash or check.

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# City Council limits nonprofit grants to $10K per event

By LORI WINCE
THISWEEKNEWS.COM

New Albany City Council on Feb. 5 allocated most of the money budgeted for nonprofit grants and asked a new grant applicant to make a presentation at the Feb. 19 meeting.

City Council allocated $97,000 for nonprofit grants in the 2013 budget and limited the grants this year to $10,000 per event, said city spokesman Scott McAfee.

The newest grant applicant is the New Albany-Plain Local School District, which applied for $10,000 to host its annual Peace Week celebration and organize another Challenge Day next year.

District officials said students and local donors helped to hold Challenge Day for eighth-graders this year for the first time. Challenge Day is a national program that encourages students to learn more about their peers, promoting acceptance and compassion.

McAfee said City Council tentatively set aside $6,500 for the program.

"They're going to come to the Feb. 19 meeting to give a presentation since it's their first time and explain what their goals were and what they want to do with the money," McAfee said.

Seven other organizations filed for grants.

The New Albany Community Events board, which organizes the city's spring fling Easter egg hunt, the Fourth of July celebration and a fall festival, will receive up to $38,000, depending on the number of events hosted this year.

The Founders Day committee, which organizes the city's founding celebration in the spring, will receive $10,000, as will the New Albany Symphony Orchestra and the New Albany-Plain Township Historical Society.

The Pelotonia fundraiser will receive $8,000; the New Albany Arts Council will receive $5,500; the New Albany Chamber of Commerce will receive $5,000 to host the annual Taste of New Albany; and the New Albany Walking Classic will receive $4,000.

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## In brief

### Gonzales plans constituent hours

State Rep. Anne Gonzales (R-Westerville) will host district office hours at 4 p.m. Monday, Feb. 18, at the New Albany Public Library, 200 Market St.

Residents of the 19th Ohio House District are invited to share views and concerns. No appointment is necessary.

The district includes portions of Blendon Township, Columbus, Gahanna, Jefferson Township, Mifflin Township, Minerva Park, New Albany, Plain Township, Sharon Township and Westerville.

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