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## The Lewisburg Arts Festival

38 years strong ...

LEWISBURG — Kick off spring with the 38th annual Lewisburg Arts Festival. This year's festival will run for two weeks, beginning Friday and running through May 12.

The highlight of the event is the Market Street Festival on Saturday, with over 100 juried artists displaying their works throughout Lewisburg.

There also will be performances on every corner, juried art and photography exhibits and hands-on art opportunities for children and adults in Soldier's Park.

Throughout the two weeks there will be arts workshops, live music and the Theatreworks USA production of "Junie B. Jones."

This year's featured artist is Eileen Keefer, a ceramic artist whose whimsical creations are inspired by her surroundings and her home on the river.

The Arts Festival kicks off with three exhibits. This year is the 26th year of the annual Indoor Art Exhibit, a juried show for adult artists from the central Susquehanna Valley. It will be held at the Packwood House Museum, 15 N. Water St., from Saturday through May 5.

An awards reception on Friday is open to the public. Last year, over 70 artists exhibited 125 works in the museum's Kelly Gallery.

Running simultaneously in the museum's upstairs gallery is its 29th annual Scholastic Arts Exhibit, a juried exhibit of two- and three-dimensional artwork from 20 area high schools. Last year, over 120 students exhibited more than 130 pieces.

The third exhibit is a photography exhibit at the Lewisburg Studio; an opening reception is slated for Friday.

Several workshops will be held throughout the period, and the festival ends with two big programs on two consecutive Saturdays: "Lewisburg Live!" on May 5 will feature live music in downtown venues throughout the evening and May 12 will feature the children's show, "Junie B. Jones: The Musical."

Shuttle bus transportation to the downtown area will be available all day.

The Lewisburg Arts Festival is sponsored by the Lewisburg Arts Council. Details are available at its Web site, [www.lewisburgartscouncil.com](http://www.lewisburgartscouncil.com).

Eileen Keefer chosen as  
festival's featured artist

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**GRIT**



LEWISBURG —The Lewisburg Arts Council is delighted to announce that clay artist Eileen Keefer of Milton has been chosen as the 2007 featured artist at the Lewisburg Arts Festival. Keefer has a close relationship with her medium, and that is clear in the pieces that she creates.

“When I put my hands in clay, I become a part of a deep and ancient connection, at one with the earth and myself,” she said. “A creative energy seems to expand as I explore the inner ‘lay of the land.’ My greatest desire is to allow my feelings to take expression in form, to express the beauty and humor of life. The elements of nature are my inspiration. Surprisingly, from this earth arises a whimsical mix of animal and human figures, all sorts of vessels: huge resplendent bowls, leaf prints framed with pine needles, vases and beaded wall pouches. Awakening from the lump of clay comes a parade of thick-skinned elephants and rhinos, a lean and wary otter, large-footed birds, a munching donkey and a reposing buffalo of piercing horn.”

That “lean and wary otter,” now nicknamed “Louis,” can be seen on the posters for this year’s Arts Festival. Keefer has created a sister otter, “Louise,” that will be raffled off during the two-week festival. Details and a photograph of “Louise” can be found in the printed festival program and on the Arts Council’s Web site, [www.lewisburgartscouncil.com](http://www.lewisburgartscouncil.com).

Keefer’s training comes from a variety of sources, including building construction classes, Buddhist retreat centers and travel in Europe, Mexico, India and Central America. It also comes from eight years studying ceramics in California. Her home studio is at 330 N. Front St. in Milton. She offers private classes, and has a display room called “Wild Things” that is open by appointment or chance by calling 713-1477.

Keefer will have a booth at the Market Street Arts Show on Saturday, along with over 100 additional juried artists and craftspeople. The day-long festival runs from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and also will feature entertainment, children’s activities and food.

The Lewisburg Arts Festival is a two-week celebration of the arts sponsored by the Lewisburg Arts Council.

This year it will be held Friday through May 12.

Lewisburg Arts Festival workshops announced

LEWISBURG — The 38th annual Lewisburg Arts Festival includes a week of art workshops open to the public.

All four workshops are free, but space is limited, so registration is required. To register, call 524-5221. The four workshops are:

- Culinary Workshop: Austrian Desserts, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Monday — This workshop is tour of Austrian desserts at Herwig’s Austrian Cuisine, 406 Market St. Learn about the history and controversy surrounding several famous pastries. Samples included.

- Visual Arts Workshop: “Letting Your Hands Talk,” 7 to 9 p.m. May 3 — The workshop is a “free-for-all” hands-in-clay session with hand-builder and featured artist, Eileen Keefer. Those who attend will explore the texture and pattern in making leaf-print clay dishes and pendants. The workshop is for beginners ages 10 and older and will be held at the Area Agency on Aging, 116 N. Second St.

- Performing Arts Workshop: Belly Dancing, 7 to 9 p.m. May 7 — An introduction to the exciting world of Middle Eastern (Belly) Dance. Participants will learn a number of body-friendly movements and put them together to form a fun choreography. A sense of fun and good humor is all that is required. All ages, shapes and sizes are welcome. The workshop will be held at the Area Agency on Aging.



• Gardening Workshop: "Incredible Container Gardening," 6 to 7:30 p.m. May 10 — Keith Phelps, manager at Country Farm and Home Gift and Garden Center, Mifflinburg, and featured guest on WNEP's "Home and Backyard," will take participants from start to finish in creating and maintaining container gardens for porches, decks, patios and gardens.

Included will be time-saving products and soil amendments, the newest plants for container gardening, and the latest containers. The workshop will be held at the Area Agency on Aging.



The Lewisburg Arts Festival, held this year from April 27 through May 12, is sponsored by the Lewisburg Arts Council.

Details are available at the council's Web site, [www.lewisburgartscouncil.com](http://www.lewisburgartscouncil.com).



Wildfire Designs to debut



new line of jewelry at festival

LEWISBURG — Wildfire Designs' new line of jewelry will debut from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the 38th annual Juried Lewisburg Arts Festival. The business will be on display at Booth 30N on Market Street.



Print Article

On display will be an array of one-of-a-kind and limited edition jewelry designs by artist Corey Irwin, designer of Wildfire Designs and the Ferlanti Collections.



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Many of these works will be displayed and sold exclusively for the festival.

For more information, visit <http://wildfiredesigns.com> and <http://ferlanti.com>.



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Admission is free.

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