



LEHIGH VALLEY **npr**® 93.9 FM Easton/Phillipsburg
COMMUNITY PUBLIC RADIO 93.7 FM Fogelsville/Trexlerstown

301 Broadway, Bethlehem Pa 18015 610-694-8100 fax 610-954-9474 www.wdiy.org

PRESS RELEASE
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“Heart of the Valley” Antiques Show Celebrates its Ninth Anniversary; Benefit for WDIY

Bethlehem, PA – The Ninth Annual “Heart of the Valley Antiques Show,” a fundraiser for WDIY, 88.1FM, will take place on April 4th and 5th at the Charles Brown Ice House, 56 River St., Bethlehem. Hours on Saturday are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The radio station and Anne M Bedics, Board President, are proud to announce that the principal sponsor for the show is The City of Bethlehem. “We couldn’t be more pleased and grateful,” said Bedics. “The City of Bethlehem, particularly the Bureau of Parks and Recreation, has always been most gracious and helpful in their involvement with this event. This year they have gone a step further by becoming the major sponsor!”

Held in the “heart” of the historic district in the Icehouse, this show has become a favorite of many collectors and dealers, as well as history buffs. Once a year, the 25 exhibitors transform the historic building set on the banks of the Lehigh River into an amazing paradise of quilts and textiles, stoneware, early glassware, and painted, country and formal furniture. In addition, the shopper will find folk art, redware, holiday and children’s foibles and much more. The Show offers an impressive array of 18th, 19th and early 20th C decorative, country and formal antiques.

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The show has gained a large and loyal following of American Country Enthusiasts who are drawn to it by the quality and diversity of the merchandise being offered as well as the knowledge and friendliness of the dealers. Anne observes, "There are two components that make this show the successful fundraiser that it is: First, the dealers who possess a keen knowledge of what they sell and are adept at the task of artful display. The other is the dedication of the volunteers and staff that help to run the show. It is because of the willingness to go the extra mile, on both their parts, that the show is the successful event that it is. I receive compliments on them wherever I go throughout the year." "Let me add also that, from the staff, volunteers' and dealers' perspectives, it is the customers (both returning and new) who make the show a delight to do. We have a loyal following and they need to be saluted as well."

But let's not forget about the music! After all, this is a benefit for the local community public radio station: WDIY 88.1FM. Part of the charm of the show is that customers can stroll the aisles while listening to a well-produced mix of familiar tunes that range in style from Ella Fitzgerald to the Beatles. If you listen closely, you may even catch a patron humming or singing along.

Among the returning exhibitors, **Ruth Rogers of School House Farm Antiques** always pleases with her offerings of stoneware, redware and coverlets. **Hand Picked of Stowe Vermont** has a nice selection of country farmhouse antiques. **Lisa Breish** finds wonderful early holiday items and smalls that she saves just for the show. **Lynne Oppenheimer of Ivy Hill Primitives** fills her booth with painted furniture and complimentary smalls while **Sharon & Ron Pittenger of Dark Moon Antiques** specialize in early iron, military items and American Country Furniture. New to the show this year are: **Leisa Kirtley and Trudy Nelson of The Sampler, Canfield, OH; Andrea Hollenbaugh Antiques of East Berlin, PA; River Country of Piermont, New York** and returning after several years' absence is **Wendy J. Christie of Stephens, PA.**

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Other dealers include: Frank Renner and Richard Adams of RFD Antiques; Robert and Patsy Hassert of American Memories Antiques; Ken and Jan Silveri Antiques; Linda Grier Antiques; Marsha and Carl Batts of Distant Past Antiques to name but a few. **For a complete dealer listing and photos, log on to www.wdiy.org/HOV2009.htm**

Known for her famous comfort food, Nicoletta Falcone of Confetti Café will be returning to provide the show-goer with her scrumptious soups, sandwiches and other delights.

The Charles Brown Ice House, on Sand Island, at 56 River Street, Bethlehem, PA is located on the banks of the Lehigh River under the Hill to Hill and New Street Bridges. There is easy access to the city via several highways, and there is ample parking provided in the lots surrounding and adjacent to the site. Because it is located in the “heart of historic Bethlehem” plan to spend the day or a week-end discovering the area with its small museums, quaint shops and boutiques, and fabulous restaurants. Historic Bethlehem is one of our event partners, and will be holding a “preview” weekend in conjunction with the show.

All gate proceeds from the show will go directly to support programming and operations on WDIY 88.1FM, Community Public Radio, the NPR member station for the greater Lehigh Valley area.

For more information, call 610-694-8100, or **www.wdiy.org**.

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