

# Camp Peabody's USO Show brings live music, WWII memorabilia, nostalgia to North

By David Purvis-Fenker  
News Editor

Tunes from the World War II era drifted over North Manchester Saturday evening as the third annual Camp Peabody's USO Show took place.

Peabody Retirement Community was treated to Glen Miller hits such as "A String of Pearls," "In the Mood," "Chatanooga Choo Choo" and "Pennsylvania 6-5000" by The Tom Daugherty Orchestra, a nationally touring show and dance orchestra performing their USO Show musical tribute.

"It keeps getting better each year," said Stan Williams, Director of Development for Peabody Home Foundation.

"This was the year beyond all expectations, and next year promises to be better."

Bringing a new sound to the an-

nual event, the 3rd Annual Camp Peabody's USO Show featured Michael Sonata, a nationally known Frank Sinatra tribute artist who sang Sinatra tunes such as "I've Got You Under My Skin" and "You Make Me Feel So Young."

A number of residents left their seats and took to the dance floor for many of the songs. Peabody staff joined them, dancing with residents who needed a partner.

Williams said The Tom Daugherty Orchestra and Frank Sinatra should be returning next year, with a Bob Hope impersonator potentially emceeding.

Dinner was served starting at 5 p.m., and consisted of Peabody's homemade lasagna, a salad, garlic bread and a cupcake. During dinner, Peabody staff passed out a Hersey bar as Williams explained the history



*The Tom Daugherty Orchestra performed a variety of Glen Miller hits, as well as other popular songs from the '30s, '40s and '50s at Camp Peabody's USO Show Saturday, Aug. 27. (Photo by David Purvis-Fenker)*

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of Hershey and World War II.

"The bars were a collaboration between Hershey and the Department of Defense to give the soldiers something that would melt so easily in the South Pacific," he said.

Cards at the tables provided additional details about rations in the war, accompanied by table decorations made to look like field ration cans.

The Indianapolis Metro Military Honor Guard provided the color guard for the festivities. After the dinner, the color guard explained the significance of the 13 folds used to properly store the American flag. They reminded the audience that the folds do not represent the 13 original colonies; the folds symbolize a variety of subjects, including life, faith in God, and sacrifice.

Peabody resident Jean Hatch returned again to play prelude piano.

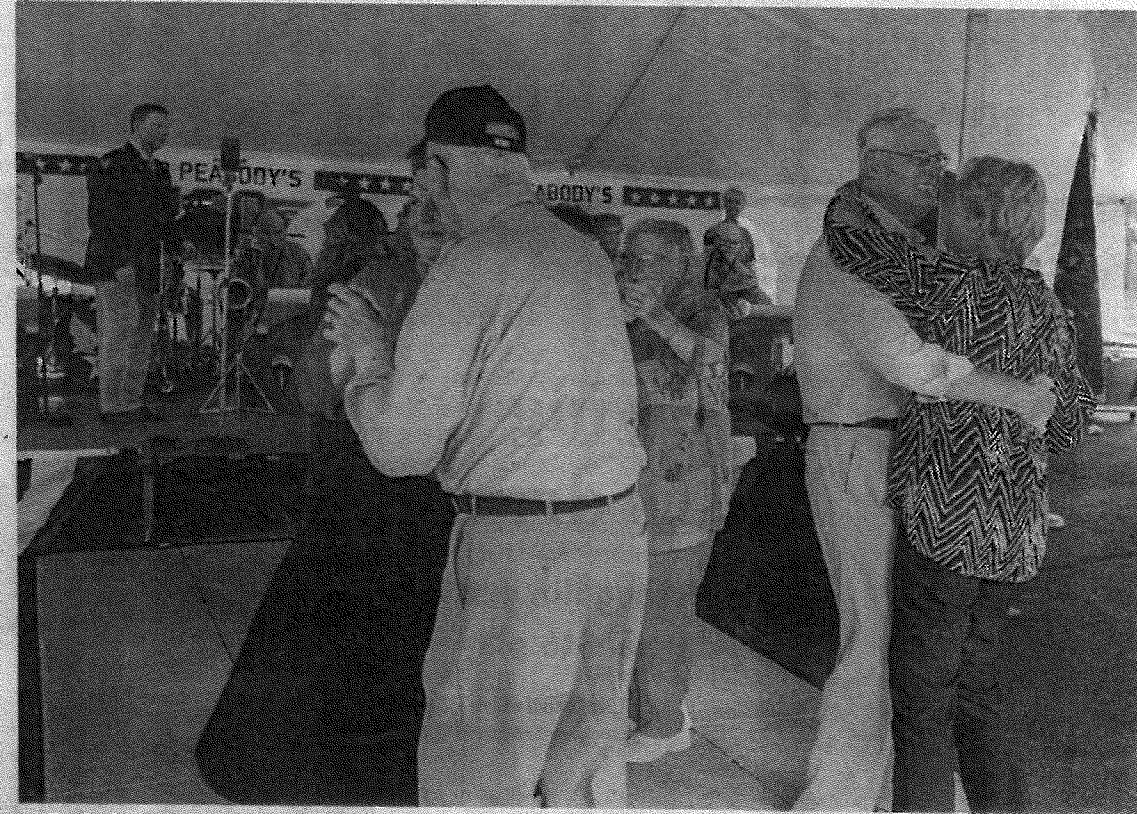
"I don't use music - I can read it, but I don't use it - I play it all by ear," she said before taking the stage.

World War II reenactor "Chaplain" Thomas Romine, of Coldwater, Mich., returned to North Manchester with his 1945 Willys MB and accompanying trailer, along with one of four authentic WWII 16' Pyramidal tents left in the US. Romine was accompanied by Andy Cabela, also of Michigan, who brought his '43 Ford GPW (a Ford Motor Company-produced version of the Willys design) and a munitions display.

Romine also brought a variety of authentic WWII artifacts, including uniforms, a cot and footlocker, and a 1946 bicycle he recently purchased.

Those seeking relief from the heat were invited into the Strauss Center to purchase The Tom Daugherty Orchestra merchandise and speak with Carl Huber, president and CEO of USO Indiana. Additionally, guests and residents could watch a video of Peabody residents sharing memories from their time in the service.

Williams noted that the USO Show would not be possible without the George and Margaret Leonhard Entertainment Endowment Fund of the Peabody Home Foundation and the show's corporate sponsors: Roger and Judy Moore and The Hardware of North Manchester, The News-Journal, The Paper of Wabash County, First Financial Bank, Lake City Bank, MKM Design of Fort Wayne and Scheerer McCulloch Auctioneers.



Peabody residents and staff dance at Camp Peabody's USO Show Saturday, Aug. 27. (Photo by David Purvis-Fenker)

# McLaughlin signs...

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had a host family, so I talking to anybody, but week, so I knew I was still