



September 10, 2009

## Alumni being honored at music gala

*Submitted story*

The Fremont Ross Music Alumni Foundation will hold its 12th annual Music Hall of Fame Gala Sept. 19, at the Fremont Moose Lodge, West Hayes Avenue, Fremont. Social hour will begin at 5:30 p.m., dinner at 6:30 p.m., inductions at 7:30 p.m., followed by dancing to the music of Dana Dorsey and the Blue Notes.

There will be an ongoing silent auction throughout the evening, and anyone wishing to donate an item for the auction is asked to contact Barb Haynes at 419-332-2707.

This annual affair is the only fund raiser for the Foundation, which offers scholarships to Ross High seniors planning to continue their music education into college. The ticket donation is \$25 per person, and tickets are available at DaVinci's Coffee House, Croghan Colonial Bank Main Office, both located in downtown Fremont, and Stotz Music Store, West State Street, Fremont, or by calling Don Harlan at 419-332-2132.

As well as the four inductees being honored, there will be two former board members honored: Jan Burkett (posthumously) for her years of service to the board; and Millie Gavitt for her continued service to the board and her generosity to the organization. Millie has also been voted the position of Board Member Emeritus, and is encouraged to continue to present her views to the FROMALUMs.

**Don Sheely:** Sheely graduated from Fremont Ross High School in 1947 after playing several years in the concert band and marching band. After graduation, Sheely studied engineering at Ohio State University and Toledo University and served two years with the United States Army in Korea (1950-1952). In 1955, he married his wife, Anne (McCandlish), and headed west to start a business.

**Donna J. (Sheely) Swinghammer:** Swinghammer played flute and piccolo throughout her years in the Ross High Band. She also played piano for several years in the dance band, as well as accompanying soloists and ensembles for contests, which she continued doing following her graduation in 1950. During the next several years she played organ and piano at several local Fremont churches, including the East Side Presbyterian Church and the Memorial Methodist Church, and presented an organ recital at Saint Joseph Catholic Church, shortly after they had redone their Tracker Action Organ.

**Helen (Pasch) Cox:** Inducted posthumously (1912-1998), Cox graduated from Fremont High School in 1930 after being the accompanist of the Girls Glee Club for three years (1928, 1929 and 1930) during which time she studied with Miss Lucy Garvin. She continued her studies for the next three years at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music, majoring in piano performance. She returned to Fremont, and began giving private piano lessons and continued being the accompanist for a young bass/baritone singer.

**Barbara M. Ziebold:** Barbara M. Ziebold is a 1970 graduate of Ross High School, where she was the first female student to receive the John Philip Sousa Award and the first student conductor of the Ross Orchestra. She entered Bowling Green State University, where she was a member of the Symphony & Chamber Orchestras.

**Ellen DeFrance:** She received the scholarship presented by the Fromalums in the amount of \$1,000. Ellen plans to enter the Miami University in Oxford, Ohio.

**Brittney Gnepper:** She received the Audre Brawley-Smith Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000, and will be attending Bowling Green State University in Bowling Green.

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