



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Cuyahoga Valley
National Park

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Cuyahoga Valley National Park News Release

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Two-time Grammy Nominee Brings Cajun Flavor to Cuyahoga Valley

Brecksville, Ohio - On Saturday, November 21, 2009 the Louisiana-based, Cajun sextet, the *Pine Leaf Boys* will perform at Happy Days Lodge in Cuyahoga Valley National Park as part of the Cuyahoga Valley Heritage Series. The concert begins at 8 p.m., doors open at 7 p.m. The Cuyahoga Valley Heritage Series, presented by the National Park Service and Cuyahoga Valley National Park Association (CVNPA), celebrates the cultural legacy of the Cuyahoga Valley. The series is sponsored by Akron Community Foundation, Cable 9, Residence Inn by Marriott, Ohio Arts Council, WKSU 89.7 FM, and the Lloyd L. and Louise K. Smith Foundation.

Admission unless otherwise noted: \$15 adults, \$10 CVNPA members, and \$5 children ages 3 -12. General seating. Advance sales are available until 3 p.m. on Friday for that weekend's show; call (330) 657-2909 or stop by Park Place in Peninsula.

Louisiana's finest, the *Pine Leaf Boys* have made a name by presenting their own brand of Cajun music with youthful exuberance. Known for their wild shows and thoughtful arrangements, they have breathed new life into Cajun music. Being described as, "... the link that connects the young and the old generations," and, "the best new, energetic, and fun Cajun band in a very long time," the *Pine Leaf Boys* play the old fashion dance hall standards while making a priority to bring many of the more obscure songs of past masters into their repertoire. The variety and energy they release evolves through their shows, bringing multi-faceted angles to Cajun, Creole, and Zydeco music. Their mission is to present the awesome music of their ancestors and prove that it is still thriving and full of life.

Steeped in music since children, and hailing from farms and towns in Cajun country, the *Pine Leaf Boys* have preserved the traditional Cajun sound. Band members include Wilson Savoy on the Cajun accordion and vocals, Courtney Granger on fiddle and vocals, Drew Simon on drums and vocals, Jon Bertrand on guitars, and Thomas David on bass.

A digital image of the *Pine Leaf Boys* is online at www.nps.gov/cuva/parknews/newsreleases.htm.

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The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

Other Series Performers

Friday, December 4

The Sweetback Sisters

Like their pseudo-sister role models, the *Davis Sisters*, *The Sweetback Sisters* sing country, honky-tonk, and swing songs in close, surrogate-sister harmony, and matching dresses. Their repertoire combines several of the Sisters' passions—country music from before they were born and new interpretations of those traditions—to create a fresh take on what it means to be country. *The Sweetback Sisters* line-up features the lavish voices of Zara Bode and Emily Miller joined by an all-star cast of instrumentalists including: West Virginian triple threat Jesse Milnes; Stefan Amidon on drums; Philly's stringed slayer Ross Bellenoit on rippin' Telecaster, and the newest *Sweetback Sister*, Bridget Kearney on bass.

Note: The band previously schedule for December 4, The Belleville Outfit, had to cancel their upcoming tour. They have been rescheduled as part of the Cuyahoga Valley Heritage Concert Series on Saturday, April 10, 2010.

Happy Days Lodge, located at 500 West Streetsboro Road (State Route 303) in Peninsula, 1 mile west of State Route 8, is a restored Civilian Conservation Corps structure that provides a rustic ambiance for folk and traditional concerts, theater, lectures, and special event rentals. For more information on rentals, call CVNPA at (330) 657-2909 ext. 119.

CVNPA is a nonprofit organization created to engage public support for the park and provide services to enhance public use and enjoyment of the park. For more information about CVNPA and its membership program, visit www.cvnpa.org or call (330) 657-2909.

CVNP encompasses 33,000 acres along the Cuyahoga River between Cleveland and Akron. Managed by the National Park Service, CVNP combines cultural, historical, recreational, and natural activities in one setting. For more information about the park, visit www.nps.gov/cuva/ or www.dayinthevalley.com/ or call (216) 524-1497 or (800) 445-9667.

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