

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**July 2009**

**EVENT DATE: AUGUST 13-16, 2009**

**Dan Emmett Music & Arts Festival**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

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**For Detailed Up-to-Date Festival Information, Visit [www.DanEmmettFestival.org](http://www.DanEmmettFestival.org)**

## **The Dan Emmett Festival will present KnoxSquares - A Tribute to Paul Lynde**

MOUNT VERNON – What do the movie Bye-Bye Birdie, the Osmonds, and Hollywood Squares have in common? Mount Vernon’s own Paul Lynde! Paul grew up in Knox County, graduated from Mount Vernon High School and went on to star in several major motion pictures, was a regular in many national TV series and variety shows, and sat in the center square of the ever popular Hollywood Squares game show for many years.

Pat Crow, director of the Dan Emmett Music & Arts Festival has announced the show “KnoxSquares – A Tribute to Paul Lynde” will be held at the Festival on Friday, August 14<sup>th</sup> on the Main Stage. The guest host will be the talented Mark Jordan, known in theatrical circles as a witty and funny guy. The format of the show will resemble the Hollywood Squares theme, and will feature nine local and talented guest personalities in a fun filled version of Knox County tic-tac-toe.

Contestants will be selected by drawing from the audience. When a question is asked by the host, the contestant will decide whether the answers given by the guest personalities are correct. A “True” or “False” answer will be given by the contestant, and if correctly answered, the tic-tac-toe square will be given to that contestant and marked with an “X” or an “O”. If incorrectly answered, the square will be given to the opponent, unless that will win the game – a contestant must earn the winning space on their own. As in the usual tic-tac-toe game, the first contestant to line up three squares is the winner.

Your host Mark Jordan will pay tribute to Paul Lynde throughout the program by reading snippets about Lynde’s life in Mount Vernon and career in show business. Questions and answers for the program were compiled by Mike Petee with assistance from Jim Gibson and Janet Wacker.

The program will begin at 7:00 p.m. The KnoxSquares program is sponsored by the Knox Partnership for Arts & Culture (KPAC) and the Knox County Convention & Visitors Bureau. Admission to the Festival and the KnoxSquares program is free. This is the second presentation for the KnoxSquares program, back by popular demand from the 2008 Knox Bicentennial production.

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Adults (at least 18 yrs old) interested in being selected as a contestant should contact the Festival offices at 107 South Main St., Mount Vernon, (740) 392-3378 or email at [director@DanEmmettFestival.org](mailto:director@DanEmmettFestival.org). If you want to be included in the drawing for contestant selection, you must pre-register before the event.

Highlights of this year's Festival will include performances by Sonny Geraci and The Outsiders, Phil Dirt & The Dozers, a wide variety of local musicians such as Kokosing River Surf Club, Autumn Daze, Mount Vernon Heritage Singers, Knox Idol, as well as the popular Chautauqua program, a new motorcycle show, the antique & classic car show, all with a wide variety of delicious foods for your tasting pleasure.

The 2009 Dan Emmett Music & Arts Festival runs August 13<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> in Downtown Mount Vernon with various activities each day. The 2009 Festival is made possible through the contributions of Ariel, First-Knox National Bank, Time Warner Cable, WMVO, Eagle 93, WNZR, I-Conn Video Productions, Mount Vernon News, the Knox Partnership for Arts & Culture, and the Knox County Convention & Visitors Bureau. For additional information, contact the Festival at (740) 392-FEST (3378) or email at [director@DanEmmettFestival.org](mailto:director@DanEmmettFestival.org).

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