

PRESS RELEASE

For more information, please contact:
Shelley Johansson, Marketing Manager
Johnstown Area Heritage Association
P. O. Box 1889
Johnstown, PA 15907
(814) 539-1889 x 308
sjohansson@jaha.org

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey® to offer children's outreach programs at the Heritage Discovery Center

Two free programs to be presented on Thurs., Sept. 25

JOHNSTOWN, Pa. –*Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey®* presents BOOM A RING is coming to town – and kids who want an up-close look at the circus will soon have the opportunity. The Ambassadors of Laughter, clowns Dave & Cherie Gregg, will visit the Heritage Discovery Center on Thurs., Sept. 25, to present two programs: “If I Ran The Circus,” which is appropriate for preschool through Grade 3, at 1:30 p.m.; and “Science of the Circus,” which is designed for Grades 3-6, at 7:00 p.m. Both are FREE 45 minute programs to be presented in the Heritage Discovery Center’s new fifth floor galleries.

“As we continue working on the Johnstown Children’s Museum, we will begin offering more workshops and programming for children,” said Francis Fregly, JAHA museum education director. “So we’re delighted to be able to host Ringling Bros. for these exciting programs.”

“If I Ran The Circus” (1:30 p.m.) is for preschool through third grade, and will be presented at 1:30 pm. Circus clowns Dave and Cherie Gregg will do an interactive presentation of the Dr. Seuss classic “If I Ran The Circus.” The program will include traditional circus clown skills, animated movement and a great deal of interaction with the children.

“Science of the Circus” (7:00 p.m.) is for children in grades 3-6, although it may also be appropriate for some older and younger children. In this interactive program, clowns Dave and Cherie use balancing objects, plate spinning, acrobatic pyramids, and juggling to help show the children how science is used in the circus. Children are called up on stage to try their hand at balancing peacock feathers, then show the whole group how the same concepts that help them balance a feather help Dave balance his spinning plate as high as the ceiling. The clowns then show the kids how circus performers use counterbalance by demonstrating some acrobatic pyramids and then talk about Newton’s law of gravity. They

show how jugglers start with the light scarves then move up to balls, juggling clubs, then passing and stealing clubs with a partner.

| The programs are presented in advance of the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey performance at the Cambria County War Memorial on October 15.

Both programs are free and open to the public, but RSVPs are encouraged – please call JAHA at 814-539-1889. For more information on the workshops, visit www.jaha.org and click on “News & Special Events,” or contact JAHA’s museum educator, Francis Fregly, at 814-539-1889 x305.

The Johnstown Area Heritage Association is a non-profit, membership-based organization dedicated to preserving and showcasing Johnstown’s unique history to the nation through high-quality educational, cultural and recreational experiences. In addition to the Johnstown Flood Museum, the Frank & Sylvia Pasquerilla Heritage Discovery Center, and the Wagner-Ritter House & Garden, JAHA produces the AmeriServ Johnstown FolkFest, a 3-day free music festival held annually over Labor Day weekend; flood commemoration events; and a wide variety of additional cultural programming. The Johnstown Children’s Museum will open later this fall. For more information on JAHA programs, museums and events, visit www.jaha.org.

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey present BOOM A RING for ONE performance only at Johnstown Cambria County War Memorial Wednesday, October 15 – 7pm

Tickets are \$10 and \$18 with a limited number of VIP floor seats also available. All seats are reserved and available at <http://www.Ringling.com>, Back Street Records in Indiana, Barnesboro Music Mart in Barnesboro, Ebensburg Music Mart in Ebensburg, Fishers Pharmacy in Everett, Mary Lee Travel in Bedford, McCahan Pharmacy in Latrobe, Ricchies Music Store in Altoona, by phone at 814-536-5156 or the Cambria County War Memorial Box Office.