

# Southern belles remembered at museum

By Severo Avila  
Staff

There are countless stories of life during the Civil War. The generals and the soldiers have their tales, as do the fathers and brothers and sons affected by the great war.

But the women of the South have their stories to tell as well. And the accounts of the mothers and daughters, of the wives and girlfriends, are no less important than the very generals who commanded the armies of the North and the South.

So when Cathy Kaemmerlen comes to the Rome Area History Museum today, she will do her best to make sure those women and their stories are not forgotten. And she plans to use her unique gifts to make that happen.

"Cathy is first and foremost a storyteller," said Museum

Educator Dustin Neighbors. "So her presentation will be historical storytelling. She has collected all these stories and compiled them into a book from which she'll act out passages."

Kaemmerlen is the author of "General Sherman and the Georgia Belles: Tales from Women Left Behind." She holds a Bachelor of Arts degrees in English and elementary education as well as a Master of Fine Arts degrees in dance and performance. Her background in each field led her to write the book about the effects of Sherman's march through Georgia and the effects of war on women and the home front.

"She's going to act out many of the passages in the book," Neighbors said. "It's an interesting way for people to see history come alive. And she'll be dealing with history that relates directly to this area."

Neighbors said Kaemmerlen's unique presentation, with its historical basis and interactive presentation, should appeal to an even broader range of museum visitors.

"Obviously this will appeal to Civil War enthusiasts," he said. "But we think families will enjoy it as well as professors and teachers and of course students."

Cathy Kaemmerlen's presentation of "General Sherman and the Georgia Belles: Tales from Women Left Behind" takes place today at 5:30 p.m. at the Rome Area History museum, 305 Broad St.

Admission is \$3 for adults, \$2 for seniors, \$1.50 for students and free for museum members.

Copies of the "General Sherman and the Georgia Belles" will be available for purchase. Kaemmerlen will also be on hand to sign copies of the book.



## At a Glance:

**Who:** Cathy Kaemmerlen  
**What:** "General Sherman and the Georgia Belles: Tales from Women Left Behind"  
**Where:** Rome Area History Museum, 305 Broad St.  
**When:** Today, 5:30 p.m.  
**How much:** \$3 adults; \$2 seniors; \$1.50 students, free for museum members

Contributed photo

Cathy Kaemmerlen will include some acting in her presentation of "General Sherman and the Georgia Belles."

# Buffalo Bill Cody and Annie Oakley to visit Broad Street

By Severo Avila  
Staff

Buffalo Bill Cody would be proud of the Wild West show that will parade down Broad Street Saturday.

The horses, cowboys and wagons planned for the event are as close to Cody's famous Wild West show as many Romans will get, and it's only the opening act for an even more spectacular production.

As a pre-show for Rome Little Theatre's production of the musical "Annie Get Your Gun," the organization is hosting Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show and Parade on Saturday from noon to 4 p.m. at the DeSoto Theater.

"Annie Get Your Gun" runs March 23-25 and March 30-April 1 at the DeSoto Theater. Tickets are \$12 for reserved seating and \$10 for general admission for the show.

"The show's director, Don Rusaw, envisioned Buffalo Bill and Annie (Oakley) riding down Broad Street on horseback and leading a Wild West parade," said Jim Powell, vice president of publicity for Rome Little Theatre. "It's just been a part of what he imagined this whole thing would look like."

Beginning at noon, a variety show of events including cowboy skill demonstrations, Western music performances, Western art displays and food vendors, takes place in front of the theater.

At 2 p.m., Powell said, parade participants will begin their march from Sun Trust Bank on East First Avenue down Broad Street and end at East Sixth Avenue.

## At a Glance:

**Who:** Rome Little Theatre  
**What:** Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show and Parade  
**When:** Saturday, noon to 4 p.m., parade starts at 2 p.m.  
**Where:** DeSoto Theater

"We're inviting all our citizens, especially horse enthusiasts, to come and ride in the parade," Powell said.

There will be numerous cast members from "Annie Get Your Gun" in the parade, as well as musicians from the show playing live music.

Music and food vendors will be set up at the DeSoto Theater on Saturday to offer community residents the chance to relax on Broad Street while watching the parade.

Powell said the theater will be open for visitors to take tours as well as visit a Western art display. In addition, cast members from the show will be offering short performances.

All interested parade entrants must register prior to the event and can obtain a registration form online at [www.romelittletheatre.com](http://www.romelittletheatre.com) or by calling at the Rome Little Theatre box office at 706-295-7171.

Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show and Parade, presented by Rome Little Theatre, takes place Saturday from noon to 4 p.m. at the DeSoto Theater on Broad Street.

The parade starts 2 p.m. beginning at East First Avenue and ending at East Sixth Avenue.



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