

Friday May 26

Magician John Weaver will perform in the Children's Entertainment Tent at 3:30, 4:30, 5:30 and 6:30 PM. John comes to us from Olathe, KS where he is an elementary teacher and magician.

John was voted the Best Kid's Party Magician in 2016 by the *Kansas City 435 Magazine*. He does children's birthday parties, special events, family reunions, and school functions. John is a member of the International Brotherhood of Magicians and Kansas City IBM Ring 129. Check out his website: johnweaver.com

Saturday May 27

Ventriloquist Kevin Horner will perform at 11:00 AM, 12:30 and 1:45 PM. Kevin has been working with children and students for the last 20 years. He has been an illusionist and ventriloquist for over 17 years and is a 3 time People's Choice Award Winner for the art of ventriloquism. He uses a combination of illusion, comedy, ventriloquism and stand up in his programs. Both kids and adults will have lots to laugh at as Kevin introduces them to the wacky world he creates with his friends. Good times are guaranteed!

Saturday May 27

We will have two special presentations by **Kitty Frank, a Professional Historical Performer**. Kitty will be performing as NELL DONNELLY-REED at 11:45 AM and 2:30 PM.

Nell grew up in Parsons, Kansas where she taught herself to design and make pretty dresses from the hand me downs she inherited from her four older sisters. When she became a young woman, she moved to Kansas City, Missouri to learn stenography. Her neighbors were fascinated by her pretty house frocks as they were wearing dull, shapeless "Mother Hubbard" dresses in their daily housework. Nell believed a woman could be a wife, but she certainly didn't have to look like one! She began making dresses for others and by the age of 27, she was the second self-made woman millionaire in America with her design line- Nelly Don. The Donnelly Company was a cornerstone and the largest employer in what later became known as the Kansas City Garment District.

Nell's father and brothers worked for the KATY railway and her philanthropy towards her own employees might have grown from her family's experiences and hardship during that time.

During World War II, Nell reorganized her seamstresses to produce millions of pairs of boxer shorts for the military while refusing to profit from the contracts. Her zero defect rate landed her in a congressional committee examination.

But, of course, that's only part of Nell's story. She became a mother under mysterious

circumstances. Her kidnapping and ransom were national news stories. And she was rescued from her kidnappers by none other than Johnny Liazio of the Kansas City mob! Nell later married the controversial attorney and retired U.S. Senator, James A. Reed.

Kitty Frank lives near Allen, Kansas and is a juried member of the Kansas Alliance of Professional Historical Performers. She performs three stories from our past using first person narrative style including Kittie Hays, daughter of Santa Fe Trail trader Seth Hays of Council Grove; Grandma Curtis to the boy who later became Vice President Charles Curtis; and Boys of Bushong, the story of four friends and classmates who were killed on D-Day at Normandy Beach. Kitty holds an Economics degree from Emporia State University.