

Press release: Contact person Barb McKeever 646-2321

Concerts on the Waterfront

**Presented by the Sackets Harbor Historical Society every summer Sunday afternoon
at the Battlefield State Park in Sackets Harbor**

Note - For 26 years, the Sackets Harbor Historical Society has presented the Concerts on the Waterfront series in Sackets Harbor. In honor of the thousands who have attended over the years, we have brought back audience favorites this year, plus new groups that are sure to become favorites.



The Mario de Santis Orchestra – September 5, 2010

Sackets Harbor Historical Society's Concerts on the Waterfront conclude their 26th anniversary year as they have for the past seven years: the **Mario de Santis Orchestra** will perform with its signature big band sound and fabulous vocals from daughter Maria de Santis, Keith Condon and blues artist Israel Hagan. This is the orchestra's 62nd year performing in and around Syracuse. They have opened for many big name performers and are well known for their memorable performances at festivals, black tie galas and Syracuse's many concert series.

The orchestra gave its first performance at Lincoln Auditorium in Syracuse on May 22, 1947, and continues with its repertoire of jazz to contemporary music. It features special arrangements of big band, swing, 60's and 70's, jazz and current selections that are custom written each year by Jay Owen and Joe Riposo.

The deSantis Orchestra has provided 25 to 36 piece backups for national artists such as Marvin Hamlisch, Bernadette Peters, Natalie Cole and Little Anthony.

Joining pianist-conductor Mario de Santis, who has earned a Syracuse area music award for lifetime achievement, are vocalist Keith Condon; Maria deSantis, 2005 SAMMY hall of fame winner; multiple SAMMY winner Israel Hagan; SAMMY winning guitarist Mark Copani; bassist Dave Welch and Sammy winner Jimmy Johns. The sax section features SAMMY hall of famer Joe Riposo, Brian Scherer, Dick Simiele, and Paul Dipastena. Trumpeteers include Steve Carney, Bull Crist and Tony Godaoy. The trombonist is Bill Palange; stage manager and sound engineer is Rob Cleland.

The Concerts on the Waterfront is a free program of the Sackets Harbor Historical Society. Major sponsors for the series are the Watertown Savings Bank, the village of Sackets Harbor and the Town of Hounsfield Committee for the Advancement of Tourism. This event is made possible, in part, by the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) Decentralization program, administered in Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence Counties by the St Lawrence County Council on the Arts. Additional support is provided from businesses and organizations throughout the North Country, and our tradition of "Pass the Hat".

All concerts are held from three to five o'clock on Sunday afternoons at the Battlefield. Bring a blanket or lawn chair, picnics welcomed. Rain site is the United Presbyterian Church.