

June 7, 2000

## PRESS RELEASE

The Guilderland Town Band will open their 2000 summer series of free band concerts Thursday June 29, at 7:30 PM in the Guilderland Performing Arts Center, in Tawasentha Park, Guilderland. The band will dedicate the concert in memory of Betty Lou Schiff, a member of the band for many years, who passed away this past March. Betty was a percussionist with many area community bands and orchestras, a former member of the Schenectady Symphony, and a Schenectady native who taught music in the Niskayuna Schools for many years.

The band will open with John Erickson's arrangement of the "Prelude to Act III" from Richard Wagner's opera "Lohengrin". The band will remember Betty Schiff with a performance of Larry Daehn's beautiful new work, "With Quiet Courage". In a lighter mood, the band will perform "Highlights from 'Ragtime'", featuring Ray Kim on piano and Ray Biedron on banjo. The percussion section will be featured in an arrangement of George Gershwin's old standard, "I've Got Rhythm". Several marches, works by Beethoven, William Walton, Gordon Jacob, and Puccini will round out the program. The concert will conclude with Leonard Bernstein's exciting "Overture to Candide".

The band will be under the direction of Don Webster. Guilderland Town Band performs each summer under the auspices of the Town of Guilderland Parks and Recreation Program. The concert is free and open to the public. The Guilderland Performing Arts Center is located in Carl Walters Tawasentha Park on Route 146 ¼ mile south of Route 20 in Guilderland. Parking is free and refreshments are available at the concession stand. The public is encouraged to bring a blanket or lawn chair. There is no rain date planned for this concert. Information on cancellations and other GPAC concerts may be had by calling the GPAC telephone number 456-8604.