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Contact: Burnside Plantation 610-691-6055 www.historicbethlehem.org

LATZGO STROLLS and SERENADES at BLUEBERRY FEST

Roger Latzgo (vocals and guitar) will be a strolling minstrel at Burnside Plantation, Bethlehem PA, for Blueberry Festival 2015. He will meander, sing and play from 1 PM to 5PM on Saturday, July 18.

Roger began his history as a strolling musician at ethnic events in the Lehigh Valley. His repertoire has fuelled various musical tours to Europe. His music ranges from American ballads and drinking songs to more contemporary fare. Burnside specialties include *Anachreon's Song*, whose melody later would serve as the U.S. national anthem. "One of the reasons I love the Blueberry Festival is the chance to interact with festival-goers in a historic setting", says the Pennsylvania native.

Dr. Latzgo has been performing since 1968 on stages throughout the US and Europe. Singing tenor in the *Rutgers Glee Club* initiated him to international touring and historic American repertoire. Since then he has composed songs chronicling Pennsylvania's fascinating history, including many dealing with Lehigh Valley industry and agriculture.

"In my original compositions, I use metaphors such as wine, dance, nature and heroism that appear in the folk music of my ancestors who arrived in the Lehigh Valley about 100 years ago" says the Germansville resident. Staying focused on these traditions is the unifying thread of Latzgo's music. "But I do the older songs with a jazzy twist. My musical mentor, David Amram, called me an *ethnofunkologist* when he heard my stuff, and I try to live up to his high expectations."

When not performing at festivals, Dr. Latzgo is an avid cyclist and occasional open-water swimmer. In 2010 he swam the Hellespont, the legendary strait separating Europe from Asia. To accompany his musical interests, he is also an amateur vintner and beer-maker. He grows his vines and resides in Heidelberg Township with his spouse Rachel Roland and their daughter Roxan. Dr. Latzgo designed and built their residence from recycled vintage materials. Currently he is at work on a project based on his travels in Turkey and Greece entitled *Reflections In the Wine Dark Sea*.

Blueberry time is more fun than ever at Burnside! Celebrate the season and Pennsylvania heritage. Join us at The Burnside Plantation, 1461 Schoenersville Road, Bethlehem, PA 18018.

For festival info and tickets:

www.historicbethlehem.org or call 610-691-6055