

Guests enjoy 'Sinatra' and 'Monroe'

Vegas-style night at senior center raises more than \$2,500

The Times-Gazette

A packed house at the senior citizens center took a trip through time Saturday night and was serenaded by the smooth tunes of "Frank Sinatra" and the over-the-top antics of "Marilyn Monroe."

Nearly 180 attendees enjoyed a "Rat Pack" atmosphere at the center, which was elaborately decorated to resemble a Las Vegas nightclub.

"The Cincinnati Sinatra," Matt Snow, and his

wife, Patti Warner Snow, wowed the guests with Sinatra standards covering the "Chairman of the Board's" entire career, along with Monroe's famous "Happy Birthday, Mr. President" routine.

Mechell Frost, director of the center, said the event raised more than \$2,500 for the organization. She thanked the night's sponsors, which included Merchants National Bank, Weastec, Hearth & Care Rehabilitation and Nursing, and the Harsha Monument

Company.

Frost also thanked those who donated door prizes, the volunteers, board members, center members and the Mission Possible Youth Group for helping make the evening a success.

Matt Snow is the country's longest consecutively-performing Frank Sinatra tribute artist, having performed live every month since June 1971. His repertoire includes more than 300 songs, and he makes more than 200 appearances each year.

Saturday night's crowd at the Morgan-Bodenhamer Senior Citizens Center on Muntz Street clearly appreciated the show, with many singing along to the familiar tunes, interacting with the performers, and even dancing before the night was done.

"Marilyn" entertained in familiar fashion, breathily singing "Happy Birthday, Mr. President" to Gary Abernathy, president of the senior center board,

and to Hillsboro council member Bill Alexander, who is a cousin of Snow's. Snow fondly recalled his visits to his relatives in Hillsboro over the years.

In addition to portraying Sinatra with a spot-on tribute in both voice and phrasing, Snow also emceed the proceedings, and interacted with the audience in a comfortable and relaxed manner during a program that began at around 6:30 Saturday evening and lasted until about 9 p.m.

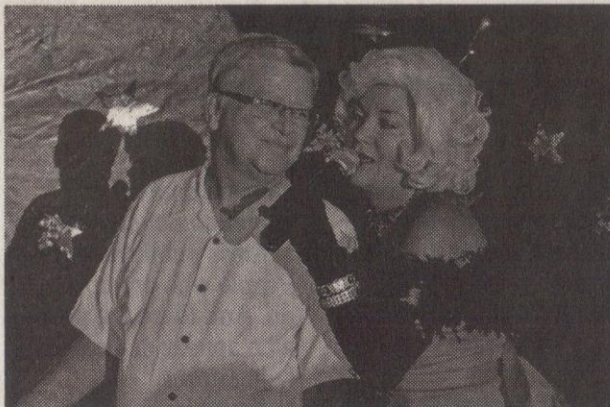
He joked often with audience members, singing directly to several of the women, and teasing sheriff-elect Donnie Barrera, who was dressed in a full tuxedo as a volunteer server.

Prior to the show, guests enjoyed a meal organized by food director Rhonda Purdin that started with a "Mashed Potato Bar" martini and ended with a pasta dish and dessert.



Submitted photos

Gary Abernathy, president of the senior center board, is serenaded Saturday with "Happy Birthday, Mr. President" from Patti Warner Snow, aka "Marilyn Monroe," as "Frank Sinatra" looks on.



Hillsboro council member Bill Alexander enjoys the attention from "Marilyn Monroe" during Saturday night's gala at the senior center.



Matt Snow as "Frank Sinatra" entertained nearly 180 guests at the senior citizens center in Hillsboro on Saturday night, performing hits from throughout Sinatra's career.