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By Georgette Braun

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Rockford Lutheran Academy to present 'Hometown History'

Are you smarter than a Rockford School District third-grader — or fourth- and fifth-grade students of Rockford Lutheran Academy — when it comes to local history?

Editor's note: This story was edited to fix a statement about reservations. They are not required. Also, tickets are available at coronadopac.org.

Are you smarter than a Rockford School District third-grader — or fourth- and fifth-grade students of Rockford Lutheran Academy — when it comes to local history?

There won't be a competition or test, but rather a play on May 1 where you can judge your own smartness. The play is open to the public and lays out tidbits about Native Americans, fur trader Stephen Mack of Rockton, slave Lewis Lemon (who settled in Rockford), the Rockford Peaches and many more people and places.

The "Hometown History" presentation is at the Coronado Performing Arts Center and stars Rockford Lutheran Academy fourth- and fifth-graders.

The private school students also are presenting the play to more than 2,200 Rockford School District third-graders at the Coronado May 1 and 2. Throughout the school year, those third-graders have learned about local history, partly based on the play written and directed by Darcy Hill of Rockford Lutheran School.

About $20,000 was raised for the "Hometown History" project through local and state grants and local businesses.

The May 1 public performance is at 6:30 p.m. Cost is $10. Of that amount, $9 will be returned to the local participating nonprofit groups.

Along with the play, performances will be by Irish, Italian and German dancers as well as a Rockford School District rap group. Reservations are not required. For tickets, go to coronadopac.org.

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Sabrina Meng and her fourth grade classmates rehearse for "Hometown History" Friday, April 13, 2012, at Rockford Lutheran Academy.