



STAR/photo KAY DAWSON

Above: Loy adds some percussion to his guitar program. A native of Lewisburg, Loy has performed for 48 years. His program featured everything from Bach to the Beatles, including "The Fishing Hole," the theme from "The Andy Griffith Show," played on a six-string guitar or the harp guitar.

Eric Loy keeps library patrons entertained

By KAY DAWSON
Star Contributing Writer

BROOKVILLE — If some patrons of the Brookville library thought they heard "Silent Night" on Feb. 9, they weren't dreaming.

The Christmas carol, arranged for a 24-string harp guitar, was one of the tunes guitarist Eric Loy played during the 90-minute program he presented.

"That's the second CD of Christmas music I've recorded. So, of course its title is 'The Second Noël,'" said Loy.

A Lewisburg native who has played professionally for 48 years, Loy kept toes tapping with his 6-string guitar and his 24-string harp guitar. (According to the Web site www.harp guitars.net/, a harp guitar is "A guitar, in any of its accepted forms, with any number of additional 'floating' unstopped strings that can

accommodate individual plucking.")

He played Bach, the Beatles, hard rock, movie themes and a guitar arrangement of "Stars and Stripes Forever." He ended with a medley of television themes, while the adults smiled in recognition at various oldies and snapped their fingers to the theme from "The Addams Family."

Some members of the audience wandered in, attracted by the sound. Others had come specifically to hear Loy. Sherri Powell of Lewisburg is a friend of the family and came by to say hello.

"He such a fine Christian gentleman," she said.

Loy also has recorded a CD of hymns.

Karen Mullins, also of Lewisburg, had brought her granddaughter, Lana Mullins, from Centerville. The two had come early to get a seat in the front row.

"We heard part of his program last Monday at the

Centerville library," Karen Mullins said. "But we got there late because Lana had basketball practice, and we had to leave before it ended because it was a school night. So I told her we'd come today."

"Besides," she added, "her younger sister was with us. She liked the 'Kiddie-jazz-garten' he played, but when he played Bach, she announced, 'I'm done,' and started to walk out."

The sister wasn't at Brookville. No one left

when Loy played selection from one of Bach's Lute Suites this time.

Loy told the audience, in some bewilderment, "I have a young pupil, and he's also taken piano for a few years, and he had never heard of Johann Sebastian Bach!"

As Loy stopped to tune up his instrument, he named the note and joked, "Notes are like vitamins. They've got the same names, and they're all good!"

