

“Concert in the Park” series continues September 9 with Detroiters David Shelby

The “David Shelby Band” kicks off the second half of the “Concert in the Park” series on Wednesday, September 9, as the series continues into September for the first time in its 17-year history. The concert, which starts at 7:00 pm, will take place in the William E. Tennant Performance Shell at the St. Johns City Park, and will feature the multi-talented Detroit country singer, David Shelby with his 4-piece band.

“David Shelby is a true Detroit musician,” states Bill Tennant, concert coordinator. “The multi-cultural influences of the Motor City music scene, combined with the Nashville sound, makes his country sound unique amongst bands. He is a finely-tuned talent who delivers a fresh dose of delicious sounds that will have a long-lasting impression on our concert goers.”

As David puts it, his “introduction to music was as ordinary and customary as a serving of peanut butter and jelly on Wonder Bread, with my creative palate refined over time. A simply elementary pastime became a teenage essential; the art of performing became more than ‘child play,’ it was a ‘life calling.’”

“When you’re born into a proud Polish-Russian family,” he continues, “you’re given two things as ‘standard issue,’ an accordion and a bowling ball... and I’ve put them both to good use. It’s easier to pick up a split with an accordion!”

A scholar of music and a well-rounded instrumentalist, David is proficient on the accordion, trumpet, piano and guitar. As an ace trumpeter, he toured internationally with award-winning recording artists such as The Glenn Miller Orchestra, The Turtles, Little Anthony & The Imperials, Stevie Wonder and Davy Jones of The Monkees.

Other members of the “David Shelby Band” include:

Justin Deason: Originally from, and currently resides in Lansing. He plays lead guitar and is very active in the local Blues scene, having been a veteran of the Lansing music scene for over 10 years. Justin has played in the band for over 3 years.

Joey Lindstrom: Originally from Lansing, he currently resides in Columbus, Ohio. Known as an amazing technical musician, Joey plays bass. He teaches in the “School of Rock” in Columbus and is the newest member of the band.

Duane Dawkins: Originally from Benton Harbor, he currently resides in Detroit. He is not only big in country music, but also is one of the most sought-after Drummers in the Gospel community. Duane has been in the band the longest going on 5 years.

The weekly concerts are being presented under strict safety guidelines that have been established by the State of Michigan, the City of St. Johns and the “Concert in the Park” Committee. During these unprecedented times, the guidelines must be followed if the series is to be continued each week.

Wearing of Masks and Social Distancing are both required this year.

A decision will be made each week on whether the next concert can take place. Please check the Performance Shell Facebook Page or the Clinton County Arts Council’s Website at www.clintoncountyarts.org before coming each week. Also, please note that the Lions Club Food Trailer will not be at the concerts this fall. Concerts will be held each Wednesday evening, rain or shine, through the month of September.

“Concert in the Park” is sponsored by the Clinton County Arts Council and the City of St. Johns. The Clinton County Arts Council receives support from the Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs and the National Endowment for the Arts.