

Bay Side entertainment's cool music lineup

Once again, the shores of Grand Traverse Bay is the place to look for family entertainment during the National Cherry Festival.

Mike Jones worked with Meridian Entertainment Group to book the bands that will grace the Pepsi - Kentucky Fried Chicken Bay Side Stage this year. He said his goal in arranging the shows was to offer a variety of music, something different every day. The entire week is presented by Blue Cross/Blue Shield/Blue Care Network of Michigan, Charter Digital Cable and TV 7&4.

"We're not looking necessarily to appeal to different demographics, just for different styles of music," he said. "We need to mix it up a bit."

Jones offered Wednesday's entertainment, 1964 The Tribute, as an example of what the organizers looked for in a band.

"You see kids who know every word, and grandmas who know every word — they're all excited to be there," he said. "That's what we're trying to do every night."

The National Cherry Festival will kick off an eight-day entertainment schedule with Loverboy taking the stage on Saturday, July 5 presented by Labatt Blue, in cooperation with WKLT.

Loverboy was one of the most popular rock bands in America and on MTV during the 1980's, and count four multi-platinum albums and numerous international gold albums to their name. Their hit singles went on to become the anthems and party songs of an entire generation of rock concert going fans. Loverboy's red leather pants, bandannas and big rock sound defined the band's image and live show. Loverboy will entertain Festival-goers with hit singles like "Working For The Weekend," "Take Me To The Top," "Only The Lucky Ones," and "Jump," all notably from the multi-platinum selling album "Get Lucky".

On Sunday evening, Chateau Grand Traverse sponsors an evening of Festival Wine

Tasting complemented by Three Men and a Tenor on stage. This night of acapella will be perfect for the entire family to enjoy on the shores of West Grand Traverse Bay.

Monday night, July 7 is neX2Y Night sponsored by Mountain Dew in cooperation with The Peak - an event bringing together two generations of young adults. The afternoon and evening event features bands from the region. Indulge will be on hand performing a blend of their soul and hard hitting rock and roll. A Festival Lip Synch Contest and loads of non-stop, on-stage entertainment will kick off at 4:00 p.m. near the Bay Side Entertainment Stage.

Salmon of the Brook will lead the evening of music, beginning at 4 p.m. The Bihlman Brothers will take center stage the final two hours.

Country music takes center stage on Tuesday, July 8, with rising star

Blake Shelton. Shelton's show is produced in cooperation with WTCM, following the AAA Michigan Heritage Parade.

Shelton, a country music singer/songwriter, moved to Nashville only two weeks out of high school five years ago and began to carve out a place in country music. Shelton's single "The Baby" recently went to #1 on Billboard's Country Singles Chart, and stayed there for three weeks, in addition to being #1 on the rock and roll chart.

Opening for Blake is Chealsee Oaks and Her Band.

For an evening packed with fun for the entire family, 1964 The Tribute will perform tunes from the Beatles era on Wednesday evening, July 9 produced in cooperation with



Clockwise, from top right: Country star Blake Shelton, funk rock band War, rock singer Eddie Money and rock n' roll band Loverboy are all part of this year's NCF Bayside Entertainment lineup.

WCCW.

Thursday, July 10, rock and roll icon Eddie Money takes the stage with all-time hits like "Two Tickets To Paradise" and "Baby Hold On To Me" in cooperation with The Bear. Known as one of the hardest working men in rock and roll, Money has recorded over a dozen albums. He is also involved in numerous projects in television and film, including his work on theme songs for Major League baseball, "The Drew Carey Show" and the film "Joe Dirt." An accomplished musician, he sings and writes, and plays the saxophone, harmonica and piano.

Friday evening will feature an evening of Bay Side Blues

Wine spectacular Sunday, July 6

MELANIE TACOMA

Record-Eagle staff writer

For those Festival-goers who may be ready for a break from pit-spitting and pie-eating, Chateau Grand Traverse and the National Cherry Festival offer a refined evening of wine tasting.

The event will take place from 4 to 11 p.m. under a tent in the Festival Open Space, and includes a variety of area wines for sampling. Performances by Three Men and a Tenor and the Shussycats at the Pepsi - Kentucky Fried Chicken Bayside Entertainment Stage will compliment the winetasting.

"We have great wines, and are featuring the Cherry Festival wine," said event director Kay Wertman. "There's foodtasting too, so it's really a great time."

In addition to the National Cherry Festival wine, there will be other local wines, all provided by Chateau Grand Traverse.

Admission is \$12.50 for two wine tastes and 1 food ticket, plus a commemorative wine glass. Attendees must be at least 21 years old.