

SUMMER ENTERTAINMENT

Area stages welcome summer acts

BY TOM CARR

Record-Eagle staff writer

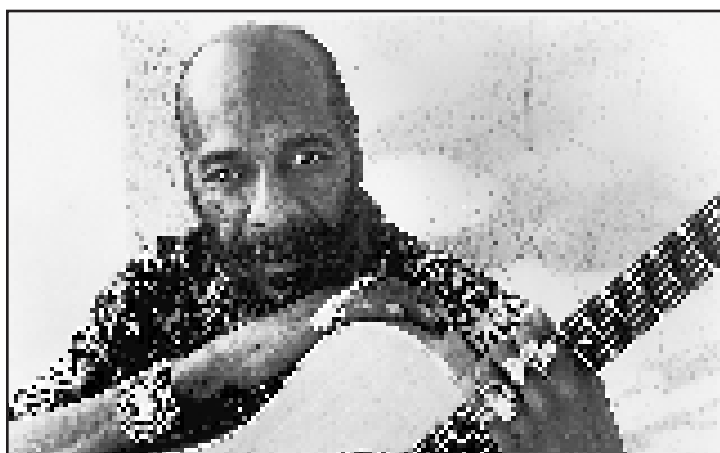
TRAVERSE CITY — Sounds of summer here go beyond the waves lapping on the beach or the breeze through the pines.

The warm months are also a busy season for musical acts on area concert stages, at nightclubs and music festivals. And they should satisfy many tastes, from classical to jazz; country to blues; nostalgia to newer rock.

The Interlochen Arts Festival is one of the busiest venues, with 30 guest artist performances. They start on June 16 and run until Aug. 23.



Josh Groban will perform on July 20 at Interlochen.



Richie Havens is in concert in Cadillac June 11 courtesy of the Gopherwood Music Series.

Shows will include Interlochen Arts Camp alumnus Josh Groban July 20; blues (Taj Mahal, Keb Mo); rock (Joan Osborne); country (the Grand Ol' Opry Road Show); jazz (Cassandra Wilson, Dave Koz); and orchestral (Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra).

Others defy categorization, like the Fred Garbo Inflatable Theatre, described as a fast-paced physical comedy with dance and juggling with original creative inflatable inventions.

The National Cherry Festival will offer a week of free entertainment during its July 3-10 run.

Acts will include classic rocker Eddie Money,

Beatles impersonators 1964 The Tribute, the New Orleans sounds of Big Bad Voo Doo Daddy, Tex-Mex country band Asleep at the Wheel, the United States Air Force Band, some local musical acts and a lip synch contest.

The area also has several festivals at which music is the main event.

Pianist Marian McPartland, known for her National Public Radio program "Marian McPartland's Piano Jazz," will headline the 12th Annual Suttons Bay JazzFest on July 24.

The festival will also include Marcus Belgrave's "Louis Armstrong Tribute Band" and The Harry Goldson Quintet.

For an eclectic blend of folk and roots music genres

in a rural setting, Blissfest is scheduled for July 9-11 near Cross Village. This year's program features Acadian, bluegrass, blues, Cajun, Celtic, folk, jazz, Latin, ethnic and roots music.

The village of Cedar will roll out the barrel for the 23rd year for the Cedar Polka Fest July 1-4. The festival features plenty of dancing late into the night, as well as food and drink.

Marion Fair, the small-town fair that brings in big country music acts, will feature a concert by Blake Shelton on June 16.

Shelton is best known for his hit, "Austin," released

in 2001.

Summer's also a busy time for area nightclubs and casinos to bring in acts.

Leelanau Sands Casino will offer live oldies and rockabilly from Bill Haley's Comets, Teen Angels and Johnny Apollo & The Saturn Seven.

Turtle Creek Casino will schedule comedy routines.

Victories Casino and Hotel in Petoskey also has a full summer entertainment lineup, which includes the blues and rock of The Heaters Classic Soul All Stars, Rich Eddy's Rockin' Oldies, Soul Xpress, Boogie Fever with Walt Wise, and the Jelly Roll Blues Band.

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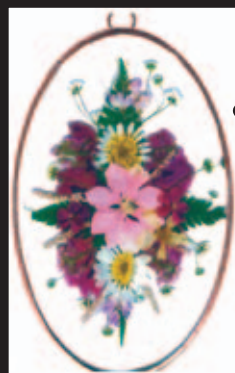
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