



Let's see: A beautiful, cozy park, a sparkling fountain, a comfortable seat (as long as you bring it with you) and a concert. What better way to spend a Sunday evening this summer? Oh, and did I mention it's free and in the Village?

The German Village Garten Club is getting ready to launch the latest season of what has become a summer tradition for the club: Third Sunday Concerts. Jim Chakeres, president of the club, says the concerts provide an excellent opportunity to draw people into Frank Fetch Park, which serves as one of the many showcases for the gardening efforts of the club. #UrbanRanch (Brian and Crystal Santin's homestead on the corner of Fifth and Beck streets) sponsors these events.

Before each concert, Villagers (and others) tote in their chairs and refreshments, gather around the park's pergola, greeting friends and neighbors along the way, then settle in for a 90-minute concert.

And the music? It's fabulous and diverse, thanks to the Garden Club's vice president, Ashleigh Lemon. She works year-round vetting groups to perform in the park.

For a sample of her picks, check out this year's schedule:

First up, at 7 p.m. on Sunday, June 16, will be the Knot Brothers. This Columbus-based sextet creates a truly American sound, blending elements that include bluegrass, rock & roll and blues.

Next, at 7 p.m. on Sunday, July 21, Tinashe Makura, an Afro-pop singer/songwriter from Zimbabwe, performs. He has performed at festivals, Formula 1 shows and even to an audience of the Malaysian royal family.

Then, at 7 p.m. on Sunday, August 18, Kinfolk will perform. This jazz/blues group is composed of talented musicians who not only cover a wide range of popular music but also write their own music. Each member of Kinfolk is a respected musician on the Columbus music scene.

Finally, on Sunday, September 15 at 6:30 p.m. (note the time change), the Col-in Lazarski NOLA Quintet performs. This group focuses on the music of New Orleans, paying tribute to such artists as Louis Armstrong, Sidney Bechet and The Dukes of Dixieland. The band is composed of some of Columbus' finest and busiest musicians, all of whom share a deep appreciation for the birthplace of American music.

So, get your calendars out and mark the dates for the Third Sunday Concerts. They're a relaxing and enjoyable way to spend a Sunday evening.

For more information, go to: GermanVillageGartenClub.com.



Tinashe Makura of Zimbabwe performs in Fetch Park on Sunday, July 21.



The Columbus-based Knot Brothers band kicks off the Third Sunday concert series on Sunday, June 16.



Kinfolk, a jazz/blues band, performs Sunday, August 18.



The Columbus-based NOLA Quintet brings its New Orleans-style jazz to Fetch Park on Sunday, September 15.



garden of the month
By Carol Mullinax, resident contributor



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