

Concerts feature Roger Whittaker

Established as one of the most popular entertainers in international show business, Kenyan-born British singer/songwriter Roger Whittaker has crossed his way into the hearts of millions for more than three decades.

Roger Whittaker will perform 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, July 9 and July 10 at the Meadow Brook Summer Music Festival on the grounds of Oakland University in Rochester.

Tickets are priced at \$27.50 and \$15. Tickets may be purchased at the Meadow Brook Music Festival Box Office, or at any Ticketmaster outlet including Hudson's and Harmony House. To change by phone call 646-6666. For more information anytime call 396-7600.

With hits like "If I Were a Rich Man," "Durham Town" and "Mexican Whistler," Whittaker's career has made him an international superstar. Through this 55-year-old entertainer has recorded over 400 songs - 194 of which have turned platinum, silver or gold. It is without a doubt that Roger Whittaker's most celebrated song is "The Last Farewell."

Summer festival schedule

- Here's a list of upcoming concerts at Meadow Brook Music Festival. Doors open at 6 p.m., concerts begin 8 p.m.
- July 16-18 - "Michigan's Beat Menu," a Taste of Michigan's Finest Foods.
- July 23 - Electric Light Orchestra.
- July 24 - Michael Franks.
- Aug. 6 - The Everly Brothers and Dion.

- Aug. 7 - Natalie Cole.
- Aug. 13 - Dwight Yoakam with special guest Suzy Bogguss.
- Aug. 14 - WDET Summer-Fest, Nanci Griffith with special guest John Prime.
- Aug. 15 - Shari Lewis.
- Aug. 20 - Peter, Paul & Mary.
- Aug. 27-28 - Laser Spectacular featuring themes from Broadway blockbusters.



Meadow Brook: Singer/songwriter Roger Whittaker will perform at the Meadow Brook Music Festival on July 9 and July 10.

Selling more than 11 million copies worldwide, the "Last Farewell" is considered to be Whittaker's signature song. In addition to singing, Roger Whittaker entertains audiences during his concerts with "African" whistling and yodeling.

Though his music is often pegged as "country pop," Whittaker has expanded his vocal style to accommodate everything from classical to calypso. Because this smooth ballader tours on an ever-growing international circuit, Whittaker records his songs in several different languages in-

cluding English, German, French, and Swahili. Despite a hectic travel schedule, and several major projects on the horizon, Whittaker stresses his role as a husband and father. Now residing in London, England, Whittaker and his wife Natalie work side-by-side managing his career. Roger enjoys several hobbies including squash, flying, and salmon fishing. An avid humanitarian, Whittaker supports many non-profit organizations. Preservation of the environment has always been an underlying theme of Whittaker's

Enjoy music under the stars

Dust off your lawn chairs, and reserve these dates to enjoy music under the stars at these free concerts in Observer & Eccentric communities.

Southfield's Summer Concert Series, including the Gazebo Concerts on Wednesday nights and Concerts in the Park on Sundays run through Sunday, Aug. 29.

The Gazebo Concerts take place 7 p.m. Wednesdays at the historic Burg Site at Civic Center Drive and Berg Road in Southfield. This year's program enters to a full range of tastes - from Big Band to Jazz, Dixieland to Country.

In addition to the Wednesday concerts at the Gazebo for adults, a series of free, supervised activities for children will be provided. Also, a picnic supper will be served each night for a low cost 6-7:30 p.m. Bring lawn chairs.

- Here's the Wednesday concert schedule:
- July 14 - Detroit Brass Society, varied.
 - July 21 - Tommy Saunders Dixieland Band.
 - July 28 - Baldock Mountain Ramblers, country.
 - Aug. 4 - Larry Nazero, jazz.
 - Aug. 11 - Mariachi Zapapan, Mexican/Latin.
 - Aug. 18 - Bob Durant Dixieland Band.
 - Aug. 25 - Emil Moro Big Band.

ture a blend of different styles as well, offering something for everyone's musical tastes. For more information, call 354-4717.

Here's the Sunday concert schedule:

- July 11 - Montage, classical folk, jazz and new age.
- July 18 - Mike Karoub and His Dixie Syncopators, Dixieland and jazz.
- July 25 - Johnny Trudell's Big Band, 1940s and 1950s music.
- Aug. 1 - Tallgate Ramblers, Dixieland.
- Aug. 8 - Nick Ferraro and His Gypsy Orchestra - show tunes and Romanian folk.
- Aug. 15 - Cosmopolitan, 1940s big band.
- Aug. 22 - The Dick Morrow Band, big band.
- Aug. 29 - Steve King and the Dixitiles, 1950s and 1960s oldies.

The Farmington Community Band consisting of 60 musicians from 20 communities in the area will present a band concert, 8 p.m. Thursday, July 22 at Heritage Park on Farmington Road between 10 and 11 Mile roads. For more information, call 476-5014 or 480-3412.

Rochester's Kiwanis Club is hosting the 13th annual Summer Music in the Park Concert Series at Rochester Municipal Park, off Sixth Street near Walton and Pine. Concerts begin 7:30 p.m. Thursdays and conclude at 9 p.m. or dusk.

In the event of rain or inclement weather, concerts will be at Rochester High School, 180 S. Livonia, in the auditorium or mall. The high school Key Clubs will sell refreshments.

Variety of music at outdoor concerts in Livonia

BY LINDA ANN CHOMEN SPECIAL WRITER

If you've ever wondered how an orchestra's brass section sounds live under the stars, here's your chance to hear firsthand.

The Livonia Arts Commission and Parks and Recreation Department in cooperation with Detroit Federation of Musicians Local 5 presents "Music Under the Stars 1993."

The nine concert series runs 7:30-9 p.m. every Thursday through Aug. 26 at two locations - Civic Center Park, and Wilson Barn at Middlebelt and West Chicago. In case of rain, all events but the Aug. 19 Livonia Symphony Orchestra concert are cancelled.

For more information about Music Under the Stars 1993 call 421-2000 Ext. 351, or the Arts Hotline at 425-2326.

Note upcoming concerts

- Here's the schedule of upcoming concerts:
- July 8 Giuseppe Meranda Saxophone Quartet deliver their unique style and sound in Civic Center Park.
 - July 15 listen to big band favorites by the Heritage Concert Band in Civic Center Park.
 - July 22 the Tallgate Ramblers perform foot stomping melodies in the Wilson Barn.
 - July 29 Folk music in Civic Center Park by One Flight Up.
 - Aug. 5 Grosse Pointe Music Makers play favorite oldies in Civic Center Park.
 - Aug. 12 Panchito presents

- ethnic music and dance in Civic Center Park.
- Aug. 19 the Livonia Symphony Orchestra performs all time favorites in Civic Center Park. In case of rain, the concert will be held in the Activities Building on the campus of Madonna University, Schoolcraft and Levan.
- Aug. 26 From Peiting, Germany, the Bavarian Band and Folkdance Group, Knappschafts Und Trachtenkappelle, sponsored by the Livonia Rotary Club in Wilson Barn.

"The intent of Music Under the Stars is to entertain the community, so they can come as a family,

a couple or by themselves. They can drive or ride their bikes, bring their strollers, their children, re-

lax and enjoy the music," said arts commission president, Betty Newton.

"Seniors and the physically impaired come and sit in their cars with the windows down. It's so accessible to everyone. It's not like an auditorium. You can sleep in or out anytime. If you work late don't finish supper until 7:30 p.m., you can still come."

Newton encourages you bring your own lawn chairs or blankets because the park fills quickly.

"We've got something for everyone, a diversity of music from big band to Panchito who is going to bring youngsters that do a Mexican dance. We have scheduled programs like the Tallgate Ramblers in keeping with the setting of the barn. I encourage people to support the series by coming," said Clayton Evenden, arts commission chair for the event.

WHAT'S COOKING

Send items to be considered for publication in What's Cooking to: Teely Wygonik, Taste/Entertainment editor, the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150. Our fax number is 591-7279.

THE LARK
Mexican Fiesta 7 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, July 26 and July 27

at the Lark, 6430 Farmington West in Bloomfield. Cost \$67.50 per person. Call 661-4466 for reservations. Last day to cancel without charge is July 16. A small Mariachi group will entertain with festive as well as roman-

tic Latin music
CAFE CORINA
The courtyard is now open for lunches Tuesday through Friday. Also, every Sunday through September, the chef will be grilling entrees such as veal chops, filet

mignon, scampi, tuna, salmon, swordfish and other summer delights on the patio creating a genuine Italian ambience. Call 474-3033 for reservations, the restaurant is at 30715 W. 10 Mile, Farmington Hills.

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