

Riverview concert series moves, runs nine Fridays

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The rendezvous won't take place at Riverview this year, but the neighborhood-organized summer music festival will return and is moving only a few blocks.

Reconstruction of the Birdland levee will keep the Rendezvous on Riverview concert series off the Kiwanis Riverview Nature Island this year. The Friday concerts will be held at the former Clarkson school lot at Sixth and Boston avenues.

"We wanted to keep it as close to Riverview as possible," said Ed Linebach, president of the Kiwanis Riverview Nature Island board.

The free concert series will be held on nine Fridays in June and July, starting June 4.

The event is put on by the area's neighborhood associations - Union Park, Highland Park and Oak Park - with the help of local businesses, the city, the Kiwanis Club and the Polk County Board of Supervisors, which approved almost \$15,000 in grants to support the event.

"It's good, clean fun," said Trudy McCormick, president of the Highland Park Neighborhood Association. "It's an asset to the three neighborhoods."

The summer series will feature more than twice as many bands as performed during the inaugural year. The series featured only four performances last year because of two rainouts. This year, organizers have secured a rainy-day venue: the New York Avenue Events Center, 516 New York Ave.

"After the events last year, even though we had the rain that put a damper on things, we knew that there was a need and a want for this type of event," Linebach said. Each concert is expected to draw 500 to 600 people compared to the 200 to 300 who came out last year, he said.

The series will feature live music from some of central Iowa's best bands, as well as lots of food and beverage options. **North High School alumnus Richie Lee kicks off the series this year.**

Organizers also hope to bring back fireworks for the Fourth of July weekend show.

Drink tickets are \$3 each. All proceeds will go back into the Parks Area Foundation for revitalization of the participating neighborhoods.

Plans are to continue to grow the event in the future, Linebach said.

It will be moved back to the nature island once the construction on the levee is complete. Plans include building a permanent amphitheater on the island where the concerts can be held.

"This is kind of a payback for the neighborhoods sticking together after the floods," Linebach said.

"It's a thank you for banding together and helping to restore our neighborhoods," he said.

Schedule

Rendezvous on Riverview concerts will be held at 5 p.m. each Friday in June and July at the corner of Sixth and Boston avenues. Admission is free and drink tickets are \$3 each.

Here's the 2010 concert lineup:

**June 4: Richie Lee & the Fabulous 50's,
North High graduate**

June 11: 35 South

June 18: Gimmik

June 25: Matt Woods & the Thunderbolts

July 2: Spam (fireworks show)

July 9: The Melody Profit Band

July 16: Flipside

July 23: Brother Trucker

July 30: Hold On

For more information, visit the Rendezvous on Riverview website at www.rordsm.com.