

Marcus Belgrave Headlines Festival

The Festival of the Forks is pleased to announce that the Marcus Belgrave Octet with vocalist Joan Bow will be the Saturday night headliner on Saturday, September 20 at 8 p.m. at the Victory Park band shell.

Belgrave, trumpeter, composer, arranger, educator, recording artist, and producer was born in Chester, Pennsylvania June 12 1936.

He began playing the trumpet at age six and professionally at age twelve. Mr. Belgrave describes himself as "born into bebop." An early inspiration and mentor was Clifford Brown. At age eighteen, Marcus earned his initial reputation joining the *Ray Charles Orchestra*. His solo on *Alexander's Ragtime Band* from the album *The Genius of Ray Charles* put him on the map. He toured for five years and is heard on such Charles hits as *Night Time is the Right Time*, *What'd I Say*, *You are My Sunshine*, *Margie*, *Ruby* and *Stella* by *Starlight*.

In the early 60's he worked and recorded in the bands of leading innovators of post-bop modern jazz: Max Roach, Charles Mingus and Eric Dolphy. In 1963 Marcus settled in Detroit, becoming one of the prominent studio musicians with *Motown Records*. He is heard on many Motown hit recordings including *Dancing in the Street*,



Think Music. Think Albion.

The Way You Do the Things You Do, and *My Girl*. His distinguished career as a player includes performances with legendary stars from both the pop music and jazz world: Ella Fitzgerald, Bud Powell, Tony Bennett, Aretha Franklin, Sammy Davis Jr., Wynton Marsalis, Lena Horn, Liza Minnelli, Doc Cheatham, Sarah Vaughn, Dizzy Gillespie, Billy Eckstein, Gene Krupa (with whom he recorded)

and many others.

As an original member, starting in 1988 he toured with the *Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra*, appearing on national television and recording for *CBS/Sony*. Marcus Belgrave's own recordings began in 1974 with the release of his self-

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Marcus Belgrave (continued) Friday Kick Off

produced album *Gemini II*, showcasing a collective of Detroit jazz artists, which he led. This record was the first to garner the attention of the international jazz press, about new “cutting edge” jazz activity emanating from that famous music city. Belgrave’s recordings from the 1980’s and ‘90’s include the critically acclaimed *Detroit Piano Legacy* with Tommy Flanagan and Geri Allen and *Working Together*, Marcus’ collaboration with composer/drummer Lawrence Williams. Recording more traditional jazz material in this period, Marcus co-lead on albums with several of the last surviving “pioneers” of the pre-bebop era including saxophonist Franz Jackson (*Live at Windsor Jazz Festival III*) and pianist Art Hodes (*Hot ‘n Cool Blues*). Critical accolades for these releases are cited in *The Biographical Encyclopedia of Jazz*, *The Rolling Stone Guide to Jazz and Blues on CD*, other jazz reference books, and major news publications.

Since 2001 Marcus Belgrave has led his *Tribute to Louis Armstrong* octet, appearing in thirty states, Canada and Puerto Rico and playing Armstrong’s music in pops programs with the *Detroit Symphony* and other US orchestras. As a soloist, Marcus continues to travel the US for appearances at jazz festivals, night clubs and concert hall performances. In January 2006 he was featured on three concerts at *Jazz at Lincoln Center’s* presentation *Detroit: Motor City Jazz*, later broadcast on *National Public Radio*.

Mr. Belgrave is internationally known for his dedication to educational endeavors. He is founder of Detroit’s Jazz Development Work-



shop and co-founder of the Jazz Studies Program at the Detroit Metro Arts Complex (recognized with grants from federal and state levels). He was also an original faculty member with the Oakland University Jazz Studies Program and in 2003 became the first Chair of Jazz Education and Programming for the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. Beneficiaries of his musical tutelage include leading names of today’s jazz scene: pianist Geri Allen, bassist Robert Hurst, saxophonist Kenny Garrett, violinist Regina Carter and bassist Rodney Whitaker. The past five years Marcus has served as Professor of Jazz Trumpet at Oberlin University in Ohio.

In recognition of his outstanding artistry, vision, and life-long achievement in jazz education, Marcus Belgrave is the recipient of numerous honors including the Arts Midwest Jazz Master Award, the Michigan Governor’s Arts Award, and the Louis Armstrong Award.

Mr. Belgrave’s appearance is sponsored by **Oaklawn Hospital** and funded in part by Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and Michigan Humanities Council.

Kicking off the 42nd annual Festival of the Forks on Friday, September 19 will be the Reunion Cruise— In featuring lots of gorgeous classic cars and LEGEND The Band performing live 50's, 60's & 70's music in their own exciting style. The band specializes in Oldies rock and roll music. Do-wop harmonies, Motown, hard driving rock and roll and soulful ballads is what the band is all about!

While home base is near Detroit, this Oldies cover band performs throughout Michigan, have audiences dancing in Indiana and Ohio and will travel wherever their music takes them.

What better way to remember your first kiss in the back seat of a Ford Fairlane? Your cruising days in a '57 Chevy? Your first date at a drive-in movie? Sock hops and TV dance shows?

The rock and roll music of the era was many a teenagers' anthem! Join us - fast dance to a solid backbeat or slow dance to terrific ballads while holding your sweetheart close and remember when.....

Member Happenings

The Greater Albion Chamber of Commerce encourages all members to do business with each other. The companies and individuals listed below have recently made an important investment in their business by joining or renewing their membership in the Chamber. We hope that you will consider doing business with them.

10 years

Tomac Woods Golf Course

20 years

Albion Medical Associates, P.C.

85 Years

**Consumers Energy
Homestead Savings Bank
Parks Drug Store
SEMCO Energy Gas Co.**

Other Renewals

Albion Historical Society
Carr Brothers & Sons, Inc.
DW Blake Corporation
Five Points Veterinary Hospital
Foundation for Behavioral Resources—Work First
Gordon Martin Builder, Inc.
Guardian Industries
J. Kevin Tidd Funeral Home
One Hour Martinizing
Rotary Club of Albion
Starr Commonwealth

Connections Lawn service is a part of **Summit Pointe** and employs and supervises Albion residents that have a challenge finding steady work. They have worked hard developing a reputation of excellence in the Albion and Marshall areas. Services include all landscape needs. They also have certification in pesticides and fertilizer application.

Last month no one from The Anderson's to get caught reading the Greater Albion Business News, so this month the first person from The Anderson's to get caught reading the newsletter and to call the Chamber will receive \$20 in *AlbionMoney*.

Don't forget to send us your Member Happenings!

Consumers Energy's new economic development web page is up and includes a special series, *Strategies for Sustainable Small Town and Rural Development*.

The series features specific concepts and strategies written especially for Michigan by nationally recognized experts. The web page is at <http://www.consumersenergy.com/econdev>. Copies of each of these reports in the series are also available from **Consumers Energy**.

For additional assistance, contact Bill Mabin at 269-969-8511

Last month's trivia question was what is the largest village in Michigan? Diane Housely (**Edward Jones**) was the first person to call with the correct answer which was "Caro". She received \$10 in *AlbionMoney*.

The new restaurant at the **Best Western Albion Inn** is now open. "Britons" will serve dinners only with extraordinary dining from 5 p.m.—10 p.m. Monday through Saturday with dinner brunch from 3—8 p.m. on Sundays. Sunday is bike day—any kind of bikes. Saturday nights feature comedy shows at 8 p.m. for \$8 per person. For more information, call Shawn Ruddock at 517-629-9411

A message from Georgia Fojta-sek, CEO, Allegiance Health:

As one of our valued business partners, I am pleased to introduce to you, **Allegiance Health**. Although our prior name, **Foote Health System**, served us well in the past, our new name reflects our renewed commitment to the communities we serve and our pledge to the community to provide excellent care as a locally-owned and operated health system.

This year we will celebrate 90 years of providing health care services to our community. As we enter our 10th decade, we find that we have proudly grown into a fully integrated health care system serving portions of seven counties in our region, having remained independent, and focused on our mission to lead our community to better health and well-being through every stage of life.

As of Monday, June 23, 2008, **W.A. Foote Memorial Hospital** will begin doing business as **Allegiance Health**. However, this will not in anyway change our relationship with your business. There has been no change in ownership, governance or control as a result of these name changes. Current contractual arrangements made and checks issued in the name of **W.A. Foote Memorial Hospital** remain in full force and effect.

Our recent recognition as one of Thomson's 100 Top Hospitals reaffirms our commitment to
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Member Happenings

quality, efficiency and providing and exceptional patient experience. We have an unwavering dedication to our region, and it is this commitment that will forever drive us to improve our capabilities and services. As we look to the future, our focus at **Allegiance Health** is to both anticipate and address our region's emerging healthcare needs. To that end, we have recently added a new Heart Center and are developing a unique patient-focused facility for patients suffer with head, neck and joint problems.

Thank you for the support you've given over the years. **Allegiance Health** is truly excited about our renewed commitment to the communities we serve, and looks forward to our many future successes as we strive to serve the health care needs of our region for years to come.

Caster Concepts To Sponsor Swingin' at the Shell

The Greater Albion Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce that Caster Concepts will sponsor four concerts in the Swingin' in the Shell series it initiated four years ago.

First up will be The Jim Cummings Band on Sunday, July 20 at 7 p.m. at the Victory Park band shell.

There are two things that set "The Jim Cummings Band" apart from other great bands. The first is, every member of JCB is a true master of his instrument. From a technical, pure musicianship point of view, each member is the definition of a musician's musician.

The Jim Cummings Band is led by no other than - Jim Cummings! His

soaring blues-edged vocals, in the groove bass lines, and band leader, make this an exceptional band to listen to. His years of experience include working with bands such as The Beach Boys, The Tubes, Edgar Winter, Gregg Allman, Brian Auger, Alice Cooper and many more.

Jim also has appeared on countless national recording sessions, film scores and starred in touring productions of Jesus Christ Superstar as Jesus, and The Little Shop of Horrors as the Plant, Miss Saigon as the Pimp, My Favorite Year as Alan Swann and more.

The concert on Sunday, August 10 at 7 p.m. at the band shell will feature "The Fabulous Oldies But Goodies" a six piece authentic 50's and 60's show band based in Lansing, MI. They have appeared with such national acts as The Platters; Dennis Yost and the Classics IV; Yesterday-A Beatles Tribute Band; John Muller Show-A Buddy Holly, Big Bopper, Ritchie Valens Tribute Show; Bill Haley's Comets with Al Rappa, Chuck Berry, Danny And The Juniors, and most recently with The Marcells! If you are looking for a band to transport you back to the early days of Rock and Roll look no further!

"Pete and the Parrot Heads" will be front and center on Sunday, August 17, again at 7 p.m. in Victory Park in a tribute to Jimmy Buffet.

And last, but not least, back by popular demand will be "Bill Haley's Comets" with Al Rippa on Sunday, August 24. All concerts are free and open to the public.

The second annual Fete de la Musique sponsored by the Albion District Library, the DDA, and The Chamber on Saturday June 21 in downtown Albion. Approximately 12 bands or groups took part and the spectators were numerous. Thanks to Lee Schultheiss a number of photos were shown on the international website!



Likewise, while our Sizzling Summer Sidewalk Art Camp got off to a slow start, many people did learn the basics of street painting and are ready to participate in the chalking which will take place at the Festival. Artist Lee Jones did a great portrait of Cher in front of **Cascarelli's**. The Sizzling Summer Sidewalk Art Camp was made possible through a grant from the **Albion Community Foundation** and the participation of The Chamber, the Albion District Library, the Albion Recreation Department and Starr Commonwealth. You can see the creations of some of the camp participants in front of **AVSO** and **Homestead**, as well.

Chalk Challenge WhizBang! Tips Sue's Corner

Sidewalk chalk artist Lee Jones will return to Albion for the Festival of the Forks thanks to the generous sponsorship of **Homestead Savings Bank**. Lee and our budding street painters will create their works of art on South Superior Street and namely in front of **Homestead**.

In the meantime, The Chamber **challenges** downtown businesses as well as others who would like to take a square on Superior Street to try their hands at "street painting". If you don't have someone to do it, we can provide you with the names of some local budding artists who would be glad to volunteer to create a work of art in practice for the Festival. Chalk and other necessities are available at The Chamber, 416 S. Superior Street. Albion is one of the few communities in Michigan to participate in this art form which is very attractive to visitors of which we will have many this summer. And there will be prizes!!!



Jim Cascarelli admires chalk artist Lee Jones' portrait of Cher in front of his restaurant.

POST 'EM AND KEEP 'EM
Your store hours should service the needs of your customers, not the needs of your schedule. You need to make it easy for your customers to shop with you. The Internet does, catalogs do, the big box stores do, and so should you. And, once you post them, you must keep them. Opening at 10 a.m. means 10, not 10:15. Closing at 8 p.m. means 8, not 7:55. I know all too well the temptation to slide out 10 minutes early when nobody has been in your store for the last hour or two. But, keeping the hours you post is a basic customer service standard that should never be violated.

Here's the something extra that is very customer focused. When you are posting your store hours and telephone information,, think about posting an emergency contact number, too. Not only is it great service, but one of our Summit attendees wished they'd done just that when an employee forgot to lock their store one night. Luckily one of their good customers discovered it and waited until help arrived!

GIVE 'EM THE BEST SPOT
Dorothy Dickerson,, owner of Books and More in Albion wrote: **You and your employees must park at the back of the lot or down the road. The prime parking places are for your customers.** It's natural to take the front space when you are the first person too the store, but that does not make it the right thing to do. Your job is to make shopping with you as easy and pleasant as humanly possible for your customers.

Bob and Susan Negen
WhizBang! Training

Despite these trying economic times, once again the Albion community has come together to support the fireworks, the Festival of the Forks and many other worthy causes. Once again, The Chamber would like to thank all of the businesses and individuals who have given of their time and money to make these things happen.

The fireworks were great and attracted people from throughout the region, and the Festival promises to be outstanding again thanks to all who have stepped up to the plate.

We will still gladly accept sponsorships at all levels, but particularly at the parade and community booster levels. Please call the Chamber for further information.

And as former Chairman of the Board Jim Clark said during the economic turndown in the 80s..."now more than ever, we need to support our local businesses and programs, shop locally first. Now, more than ever, in these difficult times, your Chamber membership, which costs much less than a cup of coffee a day, is well worth the investment."

And if you don't go away on vacation, there are plenty of things to do right here in Albion during your "staycation" - learn to play disc golf, attend all of the great concerts, walk the riverwalk trail, paint the streets, and discover some of the hidden treasures in downtown Albion. No crowds, no unnecessary gas expenses, great eats.....



Events for July 2008

Week of 7 - 13th:

8th - DDA Board of Directors - 7:30 am - EDC Conference Room

13th - Community Band Concert - 7 pm - Victory Park Band Shell

Week of 14-20th:

14th - Albion City Council - 7 pm - Albion City Hall

15th - Chamber Board of Directors Meeting - 11:45 am - EDC

20th - "Swingin' at the Shell" - 7 pm - Victory Park Band Shell - Jim Cummings Band

Week of 21 - 27th:

27th - Community Band Concert - 7 pm - Victory Park Band Shell

Week of 28-30th:

28th - Albion City Council - 7 pm - Albion City Hall

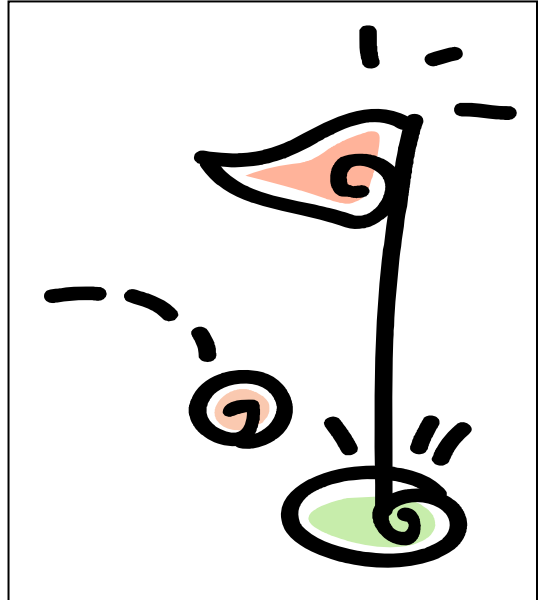
Fun !!! 4 person scramble Fun!!! 50/50 Drawings
 Fun !!! Great Prizes Fun!!!

38th Annual Greater Albion Chamber of Commerce Golf Challenge

Register quickly as only the
 first 36 paid teams play!

Tuesday, August 19, 2008
 Duck Lake Country Club
 Shotgun Start at 12:30
 (lunches will be ready at 11:30 a.m.)

\$90 gets you golf, cart,
 lunch and prime rib dinner!
 (\$75 with your own cart)
 Dinner only-\$25 (Dinner at 6 p.m.)
 Please indicate any special dietary needs.



 Please return this form along with your check by August 8th, 2008
 To the Greater Albion Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 238, Albion, MI 49224
 (checks payable to Greater Albion Chamber of Commerce) FAX: 517-629-4284

<u>Golf & Dinner</u>	<u>Handicap or Average Score</u>	<u>Dinner only</u>
1. _____	_____	1. _____
2. _____	_____	2. _____
3. _____	_____	3. _____
4. _____	_____	4. _____

Type of foursome: _____ mixed _____ women _____ men

Enclosed is my check for \$_____.

Please bill my _____ Visa _____ MasterCard # _____
 Expiration date _____

PLEASE POST!



***SUNDAY NIGHTS AT 7 P.M.
AT THE VICTORY PARK BANDSHELL***

***Caster Concepts, Inc.
proudly presents***

July 20—The Jim Cummings Band

***August 10— The Fabulous Oldies But
Goodies***

August 17—Pete and the Parrot Heads

August 24—Bill Haley's Comets

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

Refreshments available.

For further information, call The Chamber at

517-629-5533 or visit our website

www.greateralbionchamber.org

Member Happenings

Is there a special event that has taken place or will be taking place in your business?

Have you reached a significant milestone or received a special recognition?

Have you added a new product or service, changed the name of your business, changed store hours, moved or opened another operation?

If so, we would like to share this information with other Chamber members by printing you "special News" in our monthly newsletter, the Greater Albion Business News.

Briefly give us the details by completing this form and mail or fax or e-mail the information to the Chamber office (please complete all information).

DATE: _____

COMPANY NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY / STATE: _____

CONTACT NAME: _____ TELEPHONE _____

YOUR NEWS: _____

Mail or Fax to:
Greater Albion Chamber of Commerce
416 S. Superior St. / P.O. Box 238
Albion, MI 49224
Fax: 517-629-4284
E-Mail: sue@greateralbionchamber.org

PLEASE GET INFORMATION TO CHAMBER OFFICE BY THE 20TH OF THE PREVIOUS
MONTH