



Virg Bernero, Mayor

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## Downtown Lansing: Alive After Five!

### *Mayor Bernero, PSD and WMMQ 94.9 FM Announce “Blues on the Square” – A Free Summer Concert Series*

(LANSING) – Mayor Virg Bernero today joined Citadel Broadcasting’s WMMQ 94.9 FM and Lansing’s Principal Shopping District (PSD) to announce **Blues on the Square**, a free summer concert series to be held Thursday nights on the 200 block of South Washington Square in downtown Lansing.

“Downtown Lansing is indeed alive after five!” proclaimed Mayor Virg Bernero. “**Blues on the Square** will be a sensational event that draws thousands of people into our downtown all summer long, proving yet again that downtown Lansing is on the move. Not only are we the State Capitol, Lansing is fast becoming the entertainment capital for the entire mid-Michigan region.”

The **Blues on the Square** concerts are scheduled from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. on seven Thursday evenings this summer. Concerts will not be held on Thursday, July 5<sup>th</sup> or during the Common Ground Music Festival July 8 – 15, 2007. Nationally known blues artists will be featured, including:

- Thursday, June 14: Scott Holt [www.scottholt.com](http://www.scottholt.com)
- Thursday, June 21: Ronnie Baker Brooks - <http://www.ronniebakerbrooks.com/>
- Thursday, June 28: Ana Popovic - [http://www.anapopovic.com/ index.php](http://www.anapopovic.com/index.php)
- Thursday July 19: Tab Benoit - <http://www.tabbenoit.com/>
- Thursday, July 26: Anthony Gomes - <http://www.anthonygomes.com/>
- Thursday, August 2 Laith Al Saadi - <http://www.cdbaby.com/cd/laithalsaadi>
- Thursday, August 9 Larry McCray at <http://larry.abcwd.com/index.htm>.

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“WMMQ is very excited to bring **Blues on the Square** to Lansing,” stated Brent Alberts, Director of Rock Programming for Citadel Broadcasting. “The city has shown a lot of support for local music events and **Blues on the Square** will give people of all ages a diverse lineup of some of the finest blues players in the country.”

**Blues on the Square** is modeled after Grand Rapid’s successful 15-year “Blues on the Mall” series that draws thousands of spectators weekly. WMMQ’s sister radio station WLAV produces “Blues on the Mall.” Lansing-based WMMQ will produce **Blues on the Square**.

Principal Shopping District Executive Director Kevin Green said he is optimistic that **Blues on the Square** will become a thriving family event for music lovers and a lucrative event for downtown businesses. “We see this concert series as a win-win situation,” explained Green. “We are happy to help bring an incredible concert venue to mid-Michigan and our businesses will benefit from the increase in evening traffic.”

The 200 block of South Washington Square was chosen to house the concert series because it is the longest block downtown and features multiple restaurants, bars and retailers. In addition, over 2,800 public parking spaces are located within two blocks of the concert site.

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