

[Strong lineup of local music for Canada Day](#)[Local Content](#)

Written by Reporter

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There is also a show at Henderson Lake. Who's Yer Daddy plays at 1 p.m. Mahoney plays Canada Day at the Blarney Stone. A new open mic begins this Thursday (July 1) The Owl Acoustic Lounge will be holding an early Thursday night open mic. The signup begins at 7:30. It competes with existing open mics at the Good Earth Coffee House and Beaches on Thursdays

Classic rockers have a busy couple of days this week. The Headpins are playing Coyote Joes, July 2 and Harlequin will be there the next night.

It is going to be an exciting July 4 as well, with a Rockabilly Riot at the Geomatic Attic Parking Lot. Bent 8 open things up at 4 p.m. followed by Eve Hell and the Razors at 5 p.m., Hurricane Felix and the Southern Twisters at 6 p.m. and Cousin Harley with Paul Pigat at 7 p.m. Later that night, be at the 1010 Pub for the last show with Shaela Miller in a few months as she is going on maternity leave. The Shaela Miller Threesome will be playing beginning at about 8. So it will be an early night.

The Roger Marin Band introduced about a dozen people to their brand new CD "Silvertown," and a lot of old favourites, at the Slice, June 27.

He played all of the country-style tracks on the new CD. I arrived in the middle of one of the highlights, "Long Way Down," and really enjoyed the descending guitar riff on "Whiskey Take Me Down."

Marin was an affable performer as always, telling stories about following Winnipeg musician Scott Nolan and pestering him to play his song "Rosie," and then deciding to write his own "Rosie." He also told stories about writing "I Ain't Crazy, I'm Just A little Insane," with his sister, Kori Heppner, who is Fred Eaglesmith's drummer. He also let bassist Phil Bosley, who sounded a little like Travis Tritt, take a turn on lead vocals as well as drummer Mat Keighan, who sported a CKXU T-shirt. One of my favourite songs, "Blondie and Dagwood," was a highlight of Marin's first set, as was all of the new material. Old favourite "Broken Hearts and Busted Songs" was a highlight thanks to excellent vocal harmonies and a harmonized guitar outro.

The second set started with a bang and "High Roads," followed by a repeat version of the title track of the new CD "Silvertown."

He wound down his show with his cover of "49 Tonnes" and "The Way I Am."

Dragon boat rock

As per usual, the ATB Financial Lethbridge Rotary Dragon Boat Festival booked a solid three days of local entertainment and a lot of familiar faces to keep the people entertained between races. And did so June 25-27. They also had a little something for all tastes.

Some of the highlights this year included an acoustic pop set Saturday afternoon with local pop singer Kelliane and her band. Also it was great to see Pow Navarro back on the stage playing his unique brand of funky acoustic pop music.

The Ben Brown trio blew away a few eardrums with thunderous bass playing which sounded off.

Sunday started off on a couple religious notes with a couple of really good Christian rock bands — Michelle Treleaven followed by Shine, which also featured Ben Brown on guitar. It was impressive; if you weren't listening to the lyrics, you would have probably missed the fact that you were getting religion. You were just listening to upbeat, pop/rock music.

Matt Robinson had an excellent solo set of upbeat folk and blues, tapping away on his suitcase for rhythm.

For something a little louder, Double Jack brought the grunge, playing a variety of grunge-era hits by the likes of Pearl Jam, a few detuned grunge influenced originals, including their dragon song and an impressively detuned Queen number "Fat Bottomed Girls" as well as Ram Jam's "Black Betty."

For something that was the complete opposite, right after that the Desert Wind Belly Dancers performed several dances to a variety of music including Dolly Parton's "Nine To Five," grinning ear to ear all the way through.

And dragon boat festival regular Trevor Panczac sported a grin as big as Texas while he played country music including

covers of James Taylor and Restless Heart, Steve Earle's "Guitar Town," as well as several of his own including a couple tracks from his upcoming CD "Another Day, Another Dollar." He played a pair of radio-friendly modern country songs including the title track and another called "Borderline," which sounds similar to Paul Brandt's "Alberta Bound."

Vancouver singer-songwriter Hannah Georgas made her long-awaited return to Lethbridge, June 26 at the Slice. She played music from her new CD "This Is Good," as well as several older tracks and even a newer one inspired by her bassist/professional dancer called "Shorty." The red-headed fireball began her set with one of my favourite tracks from the latest CD "Bang Bang You're Dead," and took off from there. She eventually got quite a few people on the floor dancing. She did an excellent job of another one of my favourite tracks, "Chit Chat," but there wasn't much chit chat coming from the stage, as she preferred to let her music do the talking for her and her tight band, which included a keyboardist, lead guitarist, drummer and bassist. Another highlight was "Thick Skin" which was suitably tortured and featured Georgas whistling a solo. She sounded like No Doubt with more of a jazz pop feel.

After a lot of cheering, just before midnight, she played an encore of "Ode To My Mother," which she sent out to her dad who passed away.

Saturday, June 26, featured a couple big shows, not the least of which was the long-awaited opening of the Owl Acoustic Lounge with special guests Hank and Lily, who performed an acoustic set on a brand new upraised stage in the corner, which was drowned out by the chattering crowd. Here's hoping they work out the bugs of their sound system. The show started early, which was great, opening with local singer-songwriter Jared Klok at 7 p.m. to a standing-room-only crowd who made themselves right at home, feeling the spirit of Henotic in the air, surrounded by walls adorned with local artwork. Hank and Lily's unique brand of vaudeville inspired folk weirdness are an acquired taste, so if you don't know what to expect, they raise a few eyebrows. As per usual, Hank Pine was dressed like a character from the movie Road Warrior and Lily Fawn, dressed as a woodland creature replete in antlers, played the saw hooked up to a rack full of guitar effects. As a special treat, she picked up the ukulele for several upbeat numbers as her ethereal high-pitched helium voice pieced the chatter with haunting melodies.

They had the audience singing along to a couple of numbers including "Don't Be Afraid."

For something a little different, Jolene Draper and her band Dalliance Elixir with bassist Bruce Roome, guitarist Murray Nelson and drummer Brad Brouwer played Beaches Pub and Grill, June 26, for approximately 25 people. Draper carried beautiful melodies with her Macy Grey meets Norah Jones jazz/pop voices. Though she was holding back. She did an excellent job of several covers including the Beatles' "Blackbird" and Fleetwood Mac's "Rhiannon" as well as showed a few country chops which definitely show potential though she does need to project more.

New Brunswick blues rocker Ross Neilsen showed he is not only a wicked guitarist, but a fine vocalist as well, during his June 23 show at the Slice.

Neilsen and his band, the Sufferin' Bastards, started a little slow just after 10 p.m., but picked up the tempo almost immediately.

Their first set included mostly older rocking material, as well as a new slower song, called "For the Last Time," which was recorded for his latest CD "Redemption" but didn't make the cut.

Neilsen's playing is all the more impressive, once you realize all of the power is coming directly through his fingers, without a pick of any sort. He was using his thumb and forefinger mostly, adding a few extra up tempo textures with his other fingers. He ended his first set with "Jelly Bean" and flipped up his guitar, which had "Thanks Eh" painted on the back. His second set was worth staying around for though as he donned a beautiful old Resophonic guitar and nailed some sweet slide leads with it beginning with blues classic "Yonder Wall," then several tracks off of "Redemption," including a couple of my favourites "Afflicted" and "Hot Little Pistol," and a slower song called "Devil Knows," but what blew me away, bearing in mind he is only finger-picking, was a scorching version of AC DC's "Whole Lotta Rosie." Impressive.

Variety was the spice of life at the Blarney Stone for Sleeping With Tuesday's CD release party, Friday, June 25.

Most of the Ghostwood Records lineup were on the bill beginning with Jesse And the Dandelions, who played a brief but energetic set which ended with the audience singing along to their van song.

Local hard rock band the Living Luca were on fire with a short, tight almost possessed set, featuring singer Bridgette Yarwood unleashing her inner beast on stage.

Mutant blues rock duo Smokestack Jacks also had a solid set with deadly slide guitar. They began with 'Fat Ass,' off their new self-titled CD.

Steven Foord, coming straight from a special sneak preview of his new place the Owl Acoustic lounge, looked a little tired, but sounded like Rob Thomas as he took the stage like a pro to lead the Necessities through a strong set of folk style rock. He had the crowd shouting along to the chorus "Death To The Sun," of the "Cricket Song." They ended with 'The Carnival Song,' which had Thomas Woodman playing a kazoo solo.

Headliners Sleeping With Tuesday began what turned into an energetic three-hour set, and included lots of new music from their new CD "Shuffle," including "our radio song 'Fa Fa Phone,'" which brought their '80s new-wave influences right home. They had the audience singing along "oh, oh oh," throughout several catchy choruses in several Cars and Elvis Costello influenced numbers. A reggae groove kept them all dancing in other places.

Singer/ guitarist Johnpaul Smith played a brief acoustic set then brought the band back for a punk cover of "Land Down Under," after which they played a couple older numbers a than some very cool punkish covers of Ray Parker Jr.'s "Ghostbusters," and then were called back for encores with included "Clocks," The Cars' "Just What I Needed," and even the Ramones' "Blitzkrieg Bop."

June 30

Mojoes Pub — Suite 33

Bar One — Open mic with Salem Abraha 8:30-12

Sound Garden — Billie Vegas

Slice — Berserker with Lustre Creame

July 1

Henderson lake Park — Who's Yer Daddy

Galt Gardens — 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Local bands and tons of fun!

10:15 Vercitile; 11:00 Shine; 11:50 Treeline; 12:45 Alyssa Mcquaid; 1 p.m. Ben Brown; 1:45 Carol Arber; 2 p.m. Suite 33;

2:45 Matt Robinson; 3 p.m. Doublejack; 3:50 Stan Ashbee; 4:05 The Living Luca

Mocha Cabana — Brad James 12:30-1:30 p.m., Herb Hicks Jazz Quartet 2-5 p.m.

Blarney Stone — Canada Day Party with Mahoney

Good Earth Coffee House — open mic

Beaches Pub — open mic

Coyote Joes — live karaoke and open jam with Paul Kype

July 2

Coyote Joes — The Headpins

Slice — Pure Bad with Deathspot Radio and The Rock and Roll Rats

Mocha Cabana — Herb Hicks Jazz Quartet

Casino Lethbridge — Billy Jive

Owl

July 3

Slice — Shawna Romolliwa band

Coyote Joes — Harlequin

Twin Butte General Store — Treeline

Mocha Cabana — Herb Hicks Jazz Quartet

Casino Lethbridge — Billy Jive

July 4

Geomatic Attic — Rockabilly with Eve Hell and the Razors, Hurricane Felix and the Southern Twisters with Cousin Harley featuring Paul Pigat

1010 Pub — Shaela Miller Threesome

July 5

1010 Pub — open mic

July 6

Slice — open mic

July 7

Slice — Andrea Ramolo

Bar One — Ben Brown hosts open mic

July 8

Good Earth Coffee House — open mic

Beaches Pub — open mic

Coyote Joes — live karaoke and open jam with Paul Kype

Slice — Treeline and Forestry

July 9

Blarney Stone — Mudmen

1010 Pub — Who's Yer Daddy

Mocha Cabana — Dessert Fundraiser with Stan Ashbee

Casino Lethbridge — Duüs Blues Band

Slice — Record Holder, John GreenshieldsFred Penner Revival Band

Backstreet South — Fast Times

July 10

Backstreet South — Fast Times

Slice — Guerrista, Planet Telex

Casino Lethbridge — Duüs Blues Band