



Inclusive - a newsletter for the Prairie Crossroads Blues Society

May 2012

First Friday Continues to Showcase Superb Talent By Bob Paleczny



Gerome Durham

Photo from Gerome Durham website

The May 4th First Friday show continues the trend of bringing in an out-of-town band that is new to the C-U blues scene as a headlining act, and matching them with a local opening act. Mississippi Blues man, Gerome Durham, <http://www.geromedurham.com/> as a young boy picked cotton and plowed fields in Durant, MS. He later moved to North Carolina, back to Jackson, MS and in 1965 moved to Milwaukee, WI. In Milwaukee, he met Johnny Rawls and started his music career. Johnny took him under his wing, and began taking him on the road with him.

Gerome's music career has spanned 20 years. He has released 4 previous CD's titled; "Walk In", "Stepping Out", "Gerome Durham" and "Blues After Dark". Gerome's recent performances include: 930 Blues Club in Jackson, MS; Morgan Freeman's Ground Zero Blues Club in Clarksdale, MS; Starlight's Lounge in Sterling, IN; Buddy Guy's Legends in Chicago, IL; Edge of Town in New Albany; Checker's in Cedar Rapids IA; and the Pomeroy Blues Festival in Pomeroy, OH.

Gerome will play live on WEFT's Blues Live program at 8:00 for about 30 minutes and then conduct a short radio (Continued in next column)

interview. Gerome and his band are expected to take the stage at Memphis on Main about 10:00. Opening for Gerome will be local band, and newest PCBS member band, Jr. & the Blues Rockers. Fronted by James "Junior" Angel on vocals and guitar, this 3 piece band will get the Memphis on Main crowd warmed up with a set from 8:30 to 9:30. Junior led the Champaign band Unfinished Business several years ago.

April First Friday is a Stunner By Bob Paleczny



Smilin' Bobby at WEFT Studio

Photo courtesy of Bob Paleczny

The April First Friday show continued the recent history of bringing superb talent to Champaign-Urbana area blues fans. Through most of the second set Smilin' Bobby Smith was joined by Josh Spence, front man of the local opening act, The Sugar Prophets. With Bobby playing his fiery guitar licks and Josh adding great harp work and his strong voice to the vocal mix, they played some classic blues tunes. On songs such as "The Thrill is Gone" you had the great combination of a veteran Chicago blues guitar player with the youthful enthusiasm of the local harpmaster. Though Bobby has played on the Chicago blues scene since the late 50's, playing mostly in small west and south side clubs, this was his first appearance in Champaign. The smiles on the faces of the musicians (Continued on next page)

showed just how much fun the artists had playing together. Their mutual respect was evident in their actions and their comments. When Bobby and the band started into the Junior Wells classic "Messin' With The Kid" Josh rejoined the band onstage for some more exceptional music. It was hard to tell who was having more fun -- the performers or the audience who was treated to such a great show.

Prairie Crossroads Blues Society was thrilled that photographer Brian Gannon chose to come to Memphis on Main to enjoy the show. With all the shows in the Chicago area that evening Brian made the trip to Champaign to experience the First Friday excitement first hand. You can read Brian's great comments about the road trip at his North American Blues blog; http://www.northamericanblues.com/bluesScene_home.html, and you can see some of Brian's great photos from the Memphis on Main show here; <http://www.nabluesphotos.com/Recent>. Thanks for sharing.

Kilborn Alley's 12th Anniversary
By Bob Paleczny



Kilborn Alley's 12th Anniversary Show

Photo courtesy of Bob Paleczny

Champaign-Urbana is lucky to have one of the world's best blues bands right in our back yard. On Sunday April 29, at Mike 'n' Molly's, The Kilborn Alley Blues Band played and celebrated their 12th Anniversary, having played their first show on April 29, 2000 at the old Neil Street Pub. I'm fortunate to have seen these guys many times over those years, yet their talents never cease to amaze me. Their current lineup features Ed O'Hara on drums and three of the original members -- Josh Stimmel on guitar, Chris Breen on bass, and all held together by the talents of front man Andrew Duncanson on vocals and guitar. Along with featured vocalist Abraham Johnson they put on an anniversary party for fans and family. (Continued in next column)

Kilborn Alley has been to the United Kingdom twice, as well as the Netherlands. They've also played in Alaska, Alabama, Georgia, Indiana, Kansas, Mississippi, South Carolina and Tennessee, to name only a few locations. They've played the Chicago Blues Fest several times in recent years and will again this June. In July they will play the prestigious Waterfront Blues Fest in Portland, OR. Kilborn Alley has been nominated for three Blues Music Awards in 2007, 2008, and in 2011 for Best Band. The BMA's, were formerly known as the W.C. Handy Awards, and are the most prestigious awards in Blues music.

They've also been nominated for 5 Blues Blast Awards, winning the Sean Costello Rising Star Award in 2009, and in 2010 for "Better Off Now" as Song of the Year. Their most recent CD release "Four" hit #1 on the Living Blues Magazine's Radio Chart in December.



Kilborn Alley and Friends

Photo courtesy of Bob Paleczny

Get out and see these guys! They're great and you Really won't see a better band playing anywhere in the world right now. <http://kilbornalley.com/>

Out & About!
By Rich Cibelli

When I heard that long-time area performer Billy Galt was going to be part of this year's Boneyard Arts Festival, I just had to find out where. I made it a point not to miss this activity on Sunday the 22nd.

Galt, who hails from the Monticello area, seems to be playing everywhere these days. For example, in The Blues Deacons you will find Galt handling vocals and guitar. This blues band formed back in 1990 also features two other familiar names -- Beau "Blind Dog" Renshaw on bass and Andy Burnett on drums.

(Continued on next page)

An experienced musician who's been playing professionally now for more than three decades, Galt learned the trade while playing alongside some great blues legends including Maxwell Street Jimmy, Sonny Boy Williamson Jr. and Homesick James. He even did a stint with blues singer Shirley King as well.

If you can't tell by now, Galt is a real supporter of blues music in our area and loves what the Prairie Crossroads Blues Society is doing to spread blues to all in our community and beyond.

When not playing with his blues band, you can catch Galt handling bass guitar duties with the multi-talented group The Surreal Deal. This band plays a mix reminiscent of the Allman Brothers, Cream, and Steely Dan and can be found many Sunday nights holding court at the Rose Bowl Tavern in Urbana.

Joining Galt in The Surreal Deal are Jeff Kerr on guitar, Josh Quirk on drums and Jessie Brown on keyboards. As I mentioned, Galt seems to be playing a lot, but he even finds time to fill a few dates as a duo with the already mentioned guitarist Jeff Kerr.

This day however found Galt performing solo with his acoustic guitar at The Museum of the Grand Prairie in Mahomet as his host. Who could ask for more? From 1-3 pm Galt performed a variety of classic rock, blues and 70's hits. He even stuck in one of my favorite Allman Brothers songs "Melissa," soon after I arrived.



Billy Galt at Museum of the Grand Prairie

Photo courtesy of Rich Cibelli

Like me, Galt is an avid fan of the Allman Brothers. Back in the day, our usual conversation tended to be when we (Continued in next column)

were going to our next brothers show. Galt cites the late Duane Allman as his inspiration and one of his favorites. He also likes the sound of the older delta players too. I first meet Galt some years ago when he and longtime friend Andy Burnett were holding down the rhythm section in the Keith Harden Band. Now a few years later and many shows under his belt, Galt still has the desire to play and a passion about the music he loves to perform. If you're like me you'll be amazed at this guy's singing and playing ability.

So do yourself a favor and make some time to go see Galt either doing his solo show or with one of the many bands he plays with from time to time. You can check out <http://www.prairiecrossroadsblues.org/pcbscal.html> for more information.

**Through These Eyes
Circa: Friday the 13th.
By Rich Cibelli**

Through the years, I've heard that strange things are supposed to occur on Friday the 13th. Some folks even think the day brings bad luck. But what if the day with the supposed curse turned out to be the exact opposite and one you'd like to relive again?

For me, April 13, 2012 will go down in history as just that kind of a day. If you bear with me, I'd like to try and explain.

My Friday the 13th began like most days here at the Cibelli house. So, after enjoying my morning breakfast I ventured back to my study to turn on my computer. I wanted to check in with the world.

While surfing the web, I noticed that the staff over at WCIA Channel 3 had posted a story on their web site about our brand new Blues in The Schools program. It's the one we just started at Wiley School in Urbana. Drew Wilder, one of the hosts of CI Living, produced the story. If you have not seen the story yet, you should take the time to do so. Here is the link:

http://illinoishomepage.net/fulltext?nxd_id=358942

More importantly however, as a member of PCBS you should pat yourself on the back and take pride in the fact that you belong to an organization that is really starting to turn some heads here in our community. Additionally, as a member of Prairie Crossroads Blues Society your hard work and energy is really starting to pay off. How (Continued on next page)

can you not feel good about volunteering your time doing something you enjoy?

You're not alone either. You see, besides being the president of our blues society for almost two years now I also devote much of my free time to other causes in our community. In particular, I help with backstage security at the Virginia Theater.

While what I do really isn't that hard, it sometimes requires me to spend many long hours standing or sitting. However, I really enjoy my time working back stage and meeting all the performers, stagehands, promoters and tour managers.

So what does Friday the 13th have to do with all this you may ask...

Simply put, I'm a volunteer just like you who wants to do what I can to help others succeed. So on this Friday the 13th I decided that I wasn't going to let some old wives' tale get in the way of my day. Moreover, I was going to do the best job I could and be proud that I was a volunteer.

This is really important because in the weeks ahead our organization will be participating in several events. For example, our entertainment committee is busy putting together our next series of First Friday shows at Memphis on Main.

In late June the Champaign Blues Brews and BBQ Festival will take place. It's worth mentioning that PCBS has agreed to take on an additional role at the festival. In addition to our informational tent we will also be presenting Blues in the Schools programming at the Orpheum Children's Museum. This is a great opportunity to reach many more in our community and beyond and spread our wings even farther.

Both the First Friday Shows and The Champaign Blues Festival will require an extra volunteer effort. My hope is that you will decide to commit to spending a few hours with some of your fellow blues society members by helping out.

As I mentioned before there is no greater feeling than being a volunteer and knowing that the time you devote will help the organization's future.

As for that Friday the 13th thing I mentioned earlier -- well just forget about it for now. We won't see another until July so you have plenty of time to prepare.

Curtis Salgado "Soul Shot"

Reviewed by Rich Cibelli



If you'd like to find out why award-winning performer Curtis Salgado is so proud of his latest music endeavor, then check out "Soul Shot," his brand new release on Alligator Records.

From the opening notes of "What You Gonna Do?" the first song on Salgado's eighth release, you hear a man who's ready to deliver the best performance he can. Add in a great sax solo courtesy of Joe Sublett and you've got yourself a no holds barred sound.

On "Love Comfort Zone," Salgado demonstrates his awesome vocal abilities. This is just one reason why he received a Blues Music Award in 2010 for "Soul Blues Artist of the Year." For Salgado, years of fronting his own bands and working with others had finally paid off and garnered the accolade.

Born in 1954, Salgado gravitated to music at an early age as his parents filled their Oregon home with sounds that quickly captured his attention. He was destined to be a star and at the age of 16 began performing professionally.

Since then Salgado would make a name for himself as an accomplished harmonica player and singer serving stints with such big name artists as Room Full of Blues, The Robert Cray Band and even Carlos Santana.

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Legend has it that Salgado even befriended a young John Belushi, who happened to be filming the classic movie "Animal House" out in Oregon back in 1977. What we know now is that Belushi was so inspired by Salgado during their time together that it led the actor to create "The Blues Brothers."

Unfortunately some difficult circumstances have also surrounded Salgado, especially around 2006. It's during this time period that he dealt with some major health issues including undergoing a liver transplant. He was also diagnosed sometime later with lung cancer.

Now some six years later and with his serious illnesses behind him, Salgado is at the top of his game and "Soul Shot," is proof that there is much ahead for this great performer.

Moreover the 11 songs including "Let Me Make Love to You," is another example of just how passionate Salgado is about his music and why he believes this might be his best work as an artist to date.

On "He Played His Harmonica," Salgado not only gets a chance to tell a story but also delivers a great harp solo. He's a master player who has honed his craft over the years through hard work and determination.

On "Strung Out," Salgado lets guitarist Franck Goldwasser set the pace of this one time "Johnny Guitar Watson," R&B classic. Once again we get to hear Salgado in perfect vocal form.

When it comes to "A Woman Or the Blues," the CD's last song, Salgado, his band and background singers put everything together to produce what was really my favorite song of the project.

At the end of the day, "Soul Shot" is a CD full of passion and energy fused together with a great combination of musicians that will garner much respect and attention. Bravo to Curtis Salgado and his fine production team for making a believer out of me.

Enter the contest to
design a new PCBS T-shirt!!

http://www.prairiecrossroadsblues.org/tshirt_redesign.html

May 4 deadline

Corporate Sponsorships

We greatly appreciate our Corporate Sponsors for supporting the PCBS with their funds and their missions.

Memphis on Main regularly brings impressive Blues talent to Champaign.

Fluid Events brings the Champaign Blues, Brews, and BBQs festival to town this summer, along with other Blues music events throughout the year.

Skins-N-Tins Drum Shop provided a drum set for use in the Prairie Crossroads Blues Society IBC challenge.

Donors

We are grateful to the following individuals and businesses that have provided donations to support the work of the Prairie Crossroads Blues Society.

Cody Sokolski and Marci Dodds
One Main Development, LLC
Samuel Music
Slumberland Furniture
SuperValu

Band Memberships

Alex Jenkins & The Bombers are playing at Gino's Place in Danville, IL on May 12 and at the High St. Bar & Grill in Wingate, IN on May 26. They will be one of the bands featured at the Champaign Blues, Brews and BBQs this year on June 29.

Black Magic Johnson is one of our newest member bands. This month you can catch them on the 5th at Lock, Stock & Barrel in Decatur, on the 12th at the Blue Sky Winery in Makanda, on the 19th at the Walnut St. Winery in Rochester, and on the 25th at Kuhl Times in Jacksonville. We welcome them to the PCBS!

The Diva and The Dude are playing at The Clark Bar on May 27 and at the Jeleniz Martini Bar in Mattoon on May 28. They will be one of the bands featured at the Champaign Blues, Brews and BBQs this year on June 30.

Full Throttle Band is playing on May 5 at the Wayside Inn in Pesotum. Check them out!

Hurricane Ruth is playing in the Springfield Pride Fest on May 19. This band will be staying downstate during the Chicago Blues Fest, so if you will be here too you can find them at Crows Mill Pub in Springfield on June 8 and Memphis on Main on the 9th. They will also be one of the bands featured at the Champaign Blues, Brews and BBQs on June 30.

The Kilborn Alley Blues Band is back home for a while, and can be found this month at D.R. Digger's on the 2nd, Jon EBs on the 4th, Pana Moose Lodge on the 5th, and Bradley-Bourbonnais Sportsmen's Club on the 8th. If you go to the Chicago Blues Festival, be sure to look for them along with Deak Harp on June 10!

King's Highway is playing at Winner's Lounge in Bloomington on May 26, June 30, and July 28.

Matthew Curry & The Fury is playing at the Castle Theater on May 8, at Winner's Lounge on the 11th, at Heyworth Hey Days on the 18th, at Long Creek Vineyards on the 20th, at Goodfella's on the 25th, and at Mackinaw Valley Vineyards on the 26th.

The Painkillers are playing at the Iron Post on May 12th. This band will be staying downstate during the Chicago Blues Fest, so if you are too you can find them at The Iron Post on June 9.

The Sugar Prophets play a regular blues jams at Cowboy Monkey on the first Thursday of the month! This month you can also find them on May 4th at Uncle Buck's, on May 5 at the Decatur AIW Hall and later at Mike 'n' Molly's, on May 12 at Alto Vineyards, on May 19 at the Smokin'Blues & BBQ Festival in Long Creek Vineyards of Decatur, and on May 24 at Doherty's.

The Sweet Wood Band is one of our newer member bands. Check them out on Facebook.

Timmy D & Blind Justice is a member band based in Champaign. Check them out on Facebook.

Tombstone Bullet is one of our newest member bands. They will be playing at the Capital City Bar & Grill in Springfield, IL on May 26. We welcome them to the PCBS!

Prairie Crossroads Board of Directors

President	Rich Cibelli
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PCBS Business

The next Prairie Crossroads Blues Society Meeting is scheduled for 7:30 pm on May 16 in room 215 of the Champaign Public Library.

Inclusive, a newsletter of the PCBS, is always looking for new contributors and submissions of finished or unfinished content. Deadline for the next newsletter is May 27. Please submit articles, ideas, or comments to smhannum@gmail.com.

Inclusive Staff

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It may be time to renew your membership in the PCBS! Check the date on your membership card. You can renew online using PayPal.

Mt. Bluesmore



You know, Muddy. I've got to agree with Rich that 13 is not a bad thing.

How's that, Sonny?

Prairie Crossroads has 13 member bands. That's a good thing!

Yeah! And Kilborn Alley just celebrated 12 years together... You know what that means.

Heh heh. That's right! And year 13 is lookin' better than ever.

EVENTS

- May 1** – Billy Galt & Jeff Kerr – El Toro Bravo – Champaign – 6:30 pm
May 2 – Kilborn Alley Blues Band – D.R. Digger's – Champaign – 9 pm
May 3 – Susan Williams Band – American Legion – Danville, IL – 7 pm
 The Sugar Prophets – Blues Jam – Cowboy Monkey – Champaign – 9:30 pm
May 4 – Big Creek Guitar Band – The Pink House – Ogden, IL – 5 pm

- PCBS First Friday Blues – Gerome Durham w/opening act Jr. & The Blues Rockers – WEFT and Memphis on Main – Champaign – 8 pm
 Billy Galt & Jeff Kerr – Huber's – Champaign – 8 pm
 The Blues Deacons – The Travel Lodge – Springfield, IL – 8 pm
 Kilborn Alley Blues Band – Jon EBs – Champaign – 9 pm
 The Sugar Prophets – Uncle Buck's Sports Bar & Grill – Mahomet, IL – 9 pm
May 5 – Billy Galt & Jeff Kerr – El Toro 2 – Champaign – 3 pm
 Candy Foster & The Shades of Blue – Derby Day Party – Boomerang's – Urbana – 3 pm
 The Sugar Prophets – A.I.W. Hall – Decatur, IL – 3 pm
 The Blues Deacons – El Toro Bravo – Champaign – 7 pm
 Kilborn Alley Blues Band – Pana Moose Lodge – Pana, IL – 8 pm
 The Sugar Prophets – Mike 'n' Molly's – Champaign – 8 pm
 Black Magic Johnson – Lock, Stock & Barrel – Decatur, IL – 8:30 pm
 Full Throttle – Wayside Inn – Pesotum, IL – 8:30 pm
 Susan Williams w/Crazy Johnny Band – The Pink House – Ogden, IL – 8:30 pm
May 7 – Susan Williams Band – WEFT live – WEFT 90.1 FM – 10 pm
May 8 – Billy Galt & Jeff Kerr – El Toro Bravo – Champaign – 6:30 pm
 Kilborn Alley Blues Band – Bradley Bourbonnais Sportsmen's Club – Bourbonnais, IL – 7 pm
 Joe Bonamassa – Sangamon Auditorium UIS – Springfield, IL – 8 pm
 Matthew Curry & The Fury – The Castle Theatre – Bloomington, IL – 8 pm
May 9 – Matt Hill – Goodfellas's Pub & Pizza – Pekin, IL – 7 pm
May 10 – Susan Williams Band – American Legion – Danville, IL – 7 pm
May 11 – Big Creek Guitar Band – Fairmount Lounge – Fairmount, IL – 8 pm
 Billy Galt – Katz – Decatur, IL – 8 pm
 Matthew Curry & The Fury – Winner's Lounge – Bloomington, IL – 8 pm
May 12 – Black Magic Johnson – Blue Sky Winery – Makanda, IL – 12:30 pm
 The Sugar Prophets – Alto Vineyards – Champaign – 3 pm
 The Painkillers – The Iron Post – Urbana – 6 pm
 Diddle Squat – Shady Nook – Saybrook, IL – 8 pm
 Alex Jenkins & The Bombers – Gino's Place – Danville, IL – 9 pm
 Candy Foster & The Shades of Blue – Cowboy Monkey – Champaign – 9 pm

May 14 – Diddley Squat – The Alamo – Springfield, IL – 8:30 pm
May 15 – Billy Galt & Jeff Kerr – El Toro Bravo – Champaign – 6:30 pm
May 16 – Susan Williams Band – The Clark Bar – Champaign – 6:30 pm
May 17 – Billy Galt – Baxter’s – Bloomington, IL – 6 pm
Reverend Raven & the Chain Smokin’ Altar Boys – Kankakee Valley Boat Club – Kankakee, IL – 7 pm
Susan Williams Band – American Legion – Danville, IL – 7 pm
May 18 – Billy Galt – Silvercreek – Urbana – 5:30 pm
Matthew Curry & The Fury – Heyworth Hey Days – Heyworth, IL – 7:30 pm
Susan Williams Band – Huber’s – Champaign – 8 pm
May 19 – Hurricane Ruth – Springfield Pride 2012 Pride Fest – Springfield, IL – 12 pm
Smokin’ Blues & BBQ Festival – Long Creek Vineyards – Decatur, IL – 12 pm
The Sugar Prophets – Long Creek Vineyards – Decatur, IL – 3 pm
Black Magic Johnson – Walnut Street Winery – Rochester, IL – 7 pm
The Blues Deacons – Alto Vineyards – Champaign – 7:30 pm
Big Creek Guitar Band – Huber’s – Champaign – 8 pm
May 20 – Smokin’ Blues & BBQ Festival – Long Creek Vineyards – Decatur, IL – 12 pm
Matthew Curry & The Fury – Long Creek Vineyards – Decatur, IL – 5:30 pm
May 22 – Billy Galt & Jeff Kerr – El Toro Bravo – Champaign – 6:30 pm
May 23 – Billy Galt – Lock, Stock & Barrel – Decatur, IL – 7 pm
May 24 – Billy Galt & Jeff Kerr – El Toro 2 – Champaign – 6:30 pm
Susan Williams Band – American Legion – Danville, IL – 7 pm
The Sugar Prophets – Doherty’s – Decatur, IL – 7:30 pm
May 25 – Matthew Curry & The Fury – Goodfella’s Pub & Pizza – Pekin, IL – 7:30 pm
Billy Galt – Katz – Decatur, IL – 8 pm
Black Magic Johnson – Kuhl Times – Jacksonville, IL – 8:30 pm
Susan Williams Band – Jim & Jo’s – Danville, IL – 9 pm
May 26 – Susan Williams w/Crazy Johnny Band – Bunny’s – Urbana – 7 pm
Alex Jenkins & The Bombers – High Street Bar & Grill – Wingate, IN – 8 pm
Billy Galt – Snapper’s – Danville, IL – 8 pm
Matthew Curry & The Fury – Mackinaw Valley Vineyards – Mackinaw, IL – 8 pm

Tombstone Bullet – Capital City Bar & Grill – Springfield, IL – 8 pm
King’s Highway – Winner’s Lounge – Bloomington, IL – 9 pm
May 27 – The Diva & The Dude – The Clark Bar – Champaign – 5 pm
May 28 – The Diva & The Dude – Jeleniz Martini Bar – Mattoon, IL – 8 pm
May 29 – Billy Galt & Jeff Kerr – El Toro Bravo – Champaign – 6:30 pm
May 30 – Billy Galt – Lock, Stock & Barrel – Decatur, IL – 7 pm
May 31 – Susan Williams Band – American Legion – Danville, IL – 7 pm

Jun 1 – Big Creek Guitar Band – The Pink House – Ogden, IL – 5 pm
Hurricane Ruth – Walker’s Bluff Winery – Cartersville, IL – 7 pm
Jun 2 – Matthew Curry & The Fury – Eagles Club – Bloomington, IL – 7 pm
The Sugar Prophets – Alto Vineyards – Champaign – 7:30 pm
Candy Foster & The Shades of Blue – Boomerang’s – Urbana – 9 pm
Jun 6 – Kilborn Alley Blues Band – D.R. Digger’s – Champaign – 9 pm
Jun 7 – Susan Williams Band – American Legion – Danville, IL – 7 pm
The Sugar Prophets – Blues Jam – Cowboy Monkey – Champaign – 9:30 pm
Jun 8 – Chicago Blues Festival – Grant Park – Chicago – 11 am
Big Creek Guitar Band – Fairmount Lounge – Fairmount, IL – 8 pm
Hurricane Ruth – Crows Mill Pub – Springfield, IL – 8:30 pm
Jun 9 – Chicago Blues Festival – Grant Park – Chicago – 11 am
Matthew Curry & The Fury – WGLT Summer Concert – Bloomington, IL – 5 pm
The Painkillers – The Iron Post – Urbana – 6 pm
Hurricane Ruth – Memphis on Main – Champaign – 7 pm
The Blues Deacons – Alto Vineyards – Champaign – 7:30 pm
Jun 10 – Chicago Blues Festival – Grant Park – Chicago – 11 am
Kilborn Alley blues Band w/ Deak Harp – Chicago Blues Festival – Chicago – 5 pm
Jun 14 – Susan Williams Band – American Legion – Danville, IL – 7 pm

Jun 15 – Candy Foster & The Shades of Blue – Daily Bread Soup Kitchen Annual Fundraiser – Alto Vineyards – 6 pm
Hurricane Ruth – The Curve Inn – Springfield, IL – 6 pm
Big Creek Guitar Band – Huber’s – Champaign – 8 pm
Jun 19 – Sugar Ray Norcia & The Bluetones – Kankakee Valley Boat Club – Kankakee, IL – 7 pm
Jun 20 – Keith Harden – Blair Park – Urbana – 6:30 pm
Jun 21 – Susan Williams Band – American Legion – Danville, IL – 7 pm
Jun 22 – Lionel Young w/opening act The Governor – Goodfella’s Pub & Pizza – Pekin, IL – 7 pm
Keith Harden w/Kathy Harden & Andy Baylor – Alto Vineyards – Champaign – 7:30 pm
Jun 23 – Keith Harden Band Reunion – The Iron Post – Urbana – 7:30 pm
Jun 24 – Keith Harden – Writers in the Round – Mike ‘n’ Molly’s – Champaign – 7 pm
Jun 26 – The Oakwood Boys – Kickapoo Landing – Oakwood, IL – 5:30 pm
Tom Holland & The Shuffle Kings – Bradley Bourbonnais Sportsmen’s Club – Bourbonnais, IL – 7 pm
Jun 29 – Champaign Blues, Brews & BBQ – 4:30 pm
Alex Jenkins & The Bombers - Champaign Blues, Brews & BBQ – 5pm
Mississippi Valley Blues Fest – Davenport, IA – 5:30 pm
Matthew Curry & The Fury – Mississippi Valley Blues Fest – Davenport, IA – 6:30 pm
The Sugar Prophets – Cowboy Monkey – Champaign – 9 pm
Jun 30 – Champaign Blues, Brews & BBQ – 12 pm
Mississippi Valley Blues Fest – Davenport, IA – 12:30 pm
The Diva & The Dude – Champaign Blues, Brews & BBQ – 1:30 pm
Candy Foster & The Shades of Blue – Champaign Blues, Brews & BBQ – 3:30 pm
Hurricane Ruth – Champaign Blues, Brews & BBQ – 5 pm
King’s Highway – Winner’s Lounge – Bloomington, IL – 9 pm
The Blues Deacons – The Trading Post – Springfield, IL – 9 pm

Jul 1 - Mississippi Valley Blues Fest – Davenport, IA – 12 pm
Hurricane Ruth – Just One More – Decatur, IL – 5 pm
Jul 4 – Kilborn Alley Blues Band – D.R.Digger’s – Champaign – 9 pm
Jul 5 – The Sugar Prophets – Wild Dog Saloon – Decatur, IL – 9 pm
Jul 6 – Big Creek Guitar Band – The Pink House – Ogden, IL – 5 pm
Jul 7 – Hurricane Ruth – Walker’s Bluff Winery – Cartersville, IL – 7 pm

The Sugar Prophets – Alto Vineyards – Champaign – 7:30 pm
Jul 12 – The Sugar Prophets – Doherty’s – Decatur, IL – 7:30 pm
Jul 13 – Big Creek Guitar Band – Kickapoo Landing – Oakwood, IL – 5:30 pm
Matthew Curry & The Fury – Mustang Sally’s – LeRoy, IL – 7:30 pm
Jul 14 – The Painkillers – The Iron Post – Urbana – 6 pm
Matthew Curry & The Fury – Kicks – Towanda, IL – 8 pm
Jul 18 – The Blues Deacons – Crestview Park – Urbana – 6:30 pm
Jul 20 – Ain’t Nothin’ But the Blues Festival – Bloomington, IL – 5 pm
Matthew Curry & The Fury – Live at the 5 Spot! – Peoria, IL – 5:30 pm
Hurricane Ruth – Ain’t Nothin’ But the Blues Festival – Bloomington, IL – 6 pm
Big Creek Guitar Band – Huber’s – Champaign – 8 pm
Jul 21 – Ain’t Nothin’ But the Blues Festival – Bloomington, IL – 12 pm
Alex Jenkins & The Bombers – Ain’t Nothin’ But the Blues Festival – Bloomington, IL – 12 pm
Kilborn Alley Blues Band - Ain’t Nothin’ But the Blues Festival – Bloomington, IL – 5:30 pm
The Blues Deacons – Baxter’s Bar & Grill – Bloomington, IL – 6 pm
Hurricane Ruth – Chatham Sweetcorn Festival – Chatham, IL – 6 pm
Jul 24 – Laurie Morvan Band – Bradley Bourbonnais Sportsmen’s Club – Bourbonnais, IL – 7 pm
Jul 25 – Big Creek Guitar Band – Wheatfield Park – Urbana – 6:30 pm
Jul 27 – Prairie Dog Blues Festival – St. Feriole Island – Prairie du Chien, WI – 5 pm
Matthew Curry & The Fury – Prairie Dog Blues Festival – St. Feriole Island – Prairie du Chien, WI – 6:30 pm
Jul 28 - Prairie Dog Blues Festival – St. Feriole Island – Prairie du Chien, WI – 12 pm
King’s Highway – Winner’s Lounge – Bloomington, IL – 9 pm