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BALTIMORE JAMAICAN SKA AT SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

BERKELEY SPRINGS, WV—The Players Band performs at Berkeley Springs State Park on Saturday, July 13, for this summer's Concerts in the Park series from the Morgan Arts Council.

An American nine-piece ska band formed in Baltimore in 1999, the Players big band musical style combines Jamaican ska, reggae and rock characterized by upbeat horns and percussion including trombone, sax and trumpet. They have released four albums to date.

The Players Band came into fruition when drummer Andy Schneider decided to form a new skainfluenced group to replace his recently disbanded one. Performing more than 500 live shows since their founding in 1999, The Players Band continues to deliver sweet sounds to festival, club, and private parties across the Mid-Atlantic. The band has opened for Rock and Roll Hall of Fame's The Isley Brothers and Joe Strummer, Grammy Award Winners Toots & the Maytals and Rebirth Brass Band, as well as The B-52s and many others. They have headlined Baltimore's Inner Harbor New Year's Eve Spectacular and First Night Annapolis and played major venues throughout the region.

The Baltimore Sun, described the Players Band as "pioneers of an innovative style...focused on fanning the soul flame that ignited ska."

All concerts start at 5:30 p.m. The Ice House, corner of Independence and Mercer, two blocks north of the park, serves as the rain location. Sponsors for the series are River Bend Family Medicine, SureStay Plus Berkeley Springs Inn, Heath Studio Gallery, Lot 12 Public House and The Naked Olive, with additional funding from the WV Department of Arts, Culture and History, and the National Endowment for the Arts, with approval from the WV Commission on the Arts, and local hotel/motel taxes.

For detailed information on the concert series and participating performers, visit macicehouse.org or call 304-258-2300.