

City of Bristol Tennessee

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Steele Creek Concert Series Kicking-Off with Rising Star Ashton Shepherd

Ashton Shepherd knows where “Country Grows” and she is about to find out where it was born.

Ashton Shepherd, a new and rising country music star will be appearing in the birthplace of country music - Bristol, Tennessee. Her appearance will be at Steele Creek Park at the Pavilion by the Lake on Wednesday, May 11, 2011 at 7:00 P.M.



For those NASCAR lovers you will remember Shepherd as being the singer of the National Anthem before the recent Talladega Race. Shepherd’s sophomore album “Where Country Grows” is being touted as one of the best releases of 2011. Her debut album “Sounds So Good” was named by the Washington Post as one of the best albums of 2008 of all genres, calling Ashton, “the real deal....brimming with personality.” The Wall Street Journal said she was “a potential Loretta Lynn for a new generation.”

Entertainment Weekly said the album “is the best mainstream country debut since Taylor Swift’s.”

You will find her deep country roots, earthy personality, feelings, humor, and wisdom in every note of her new MCA Nashville album “Where Country Grows.”

Darlene Cole, Venue Manager for the city says, “We are super delighted to be hosting another of country’s rising stars. Just last year we hosted Jerrod Niemann in the park and he has risen to new found fame with two gold records and CMT nominations. We also hosted Easton Corbin at the Paramount who now has two number one songs out and a third song that is quickly going to number one.” Cole jokingly continued, “It just seems once that visit the true birthplace of country music, Bristol, Tennessee, their stars just rise that much quicker.”

Bill Hagy of WXBQ radio plays a large part in bringing these rising young stars to Bristol. “Bill has always been so supportive of country music in general, but especially here in Bristol in all our venues. This partnership began early-on in the main venue, Viking Hall Civic Center, over 30 years ago and spread to our smaller outdoor venues just a few years ago,” stated Terrie Talbert, Director of Community Relations for the city. “Bill brought in a little known name at the time and we put him on the Downtown Center stage a few years ago. That same artist came back to play the stage at Viking Hall to a sold-out

crowd months later- his name was Jason Aldean. Aldean now has five #1 songs under his belt and is selling out venues around the world.”

So come out and visit the park and listen to the music of the rising stars of country music. Later you can always say, “I saw them when.....”

Concerts in the park are always free to the public. Shuttle buses will be operating, food and drink will be available.

For more information please contact, Darlene Cole at 423-764-4171 or e-mail her at dcole@bristoltn.org.

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