

event spotlight

Hudson slated to perform Sunday for Concerts in the Park

By Justin Bailey

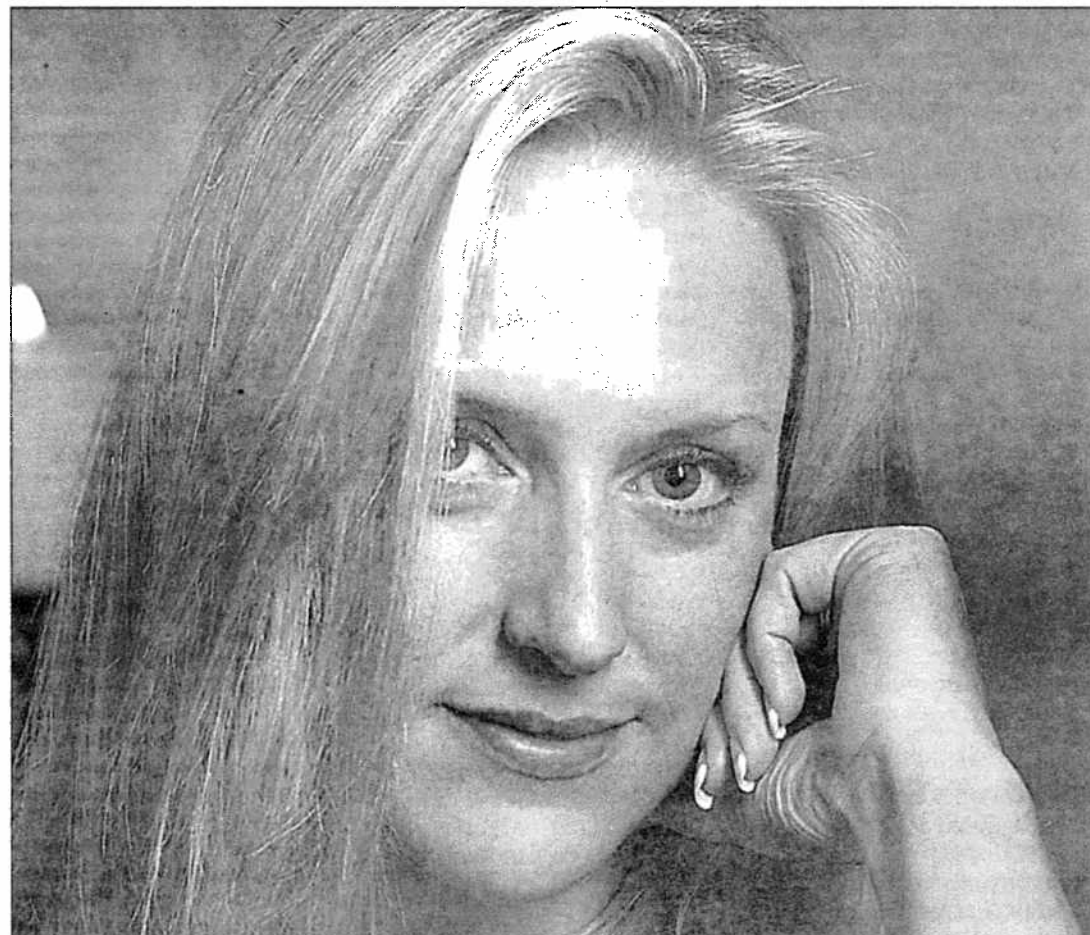
Morning News

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Darlington native and current Florence resident Lesa Hudson will get some help from her friends so she can showcase her musical talents as the featured performer for the Florence Regional Arts Alliance's Honda of South Carolina Inc. Concerts in the Park Series at 3 p.m. Sunday at the Timrod Park Amphitheatre in Florence.

Hudson is expected to produce a varied program that will feature contemporary Christian rock, pop, country, mainstream rock and a touch of blues. Hudson will perform selections from her latest CD, "Not Me." Two of the CD's singles, the title track and "Step Out in Faith," have become major Internet radio hits. Both have topped or climbed near the Christian Country radio charts. Power-source Magazine named Hudson an "Artist to Watch in 2007" based on her "Not Me" CD, which was released in 2006. Mainstream radio stations are beginning to pick up her music across the country now.

Though Hudson is categorized as a contemporary Christian artist because a message about God and her faith is her musical focal point, the "Not Me" CD contains musical elements that reflect all of her influences. Hudson is a big fan of female country artists such as Wynonna Judd, Shania Twain, Tanya Tucker, Trisha Yearwood, Patsy Cline and Martina McBride; female pop rockers such as Sheryl Crow; blues-



CONTRIBUTED

based artists such as Bonnie Raitt; and classic rock bands such as the Doobie Brothers, Journey and Bon Jovi.

"Sharing my love for God and telling the good news of his amazing grace will always be the center point of my music and concerts, but I'll also perform some of my favorite country songs and rock classics," Hudson said. "I am so blessed to have strong support from my

family, friends, church and community. It's just a joy to see people, young and old, smile and have fun at the concerts. When I perform here at home, it's my chance to say, 'Thanks again' for your love and support and for being there."

Hudson has been garnering acclaim for her solo work in recent times, but she is also a member of the popular local contemporary Christian vocal

trio N'Accord and of the Christian rock band Souls of Silas. Fellow N'Accord members, Debbie Anderson and Heather Anderson, will join Hudson on stage Sunday to sing several of the group's songs. Her Souls of Silas bandmates, guitarist Brian Rhodes, bassist Wade Fryer, keyboardist Ken McRae and drummer Scott Fryer, will back Hudson up on her solo songs and will perform several Souls of

Darlington native Lesa Hudson will take the stage at Timrod Park Sunday as the featured performer for the Florence Regional Arts Alliance's Honda of South Carolina Inc. Concerts in the Park Series. She is expected to produce a varied program that will feature contemporary Christian rock, pop, country, mainstream rock and a touch of blues.

IF YOU'RE GOING

WHAT: Florence Regional Arts Alliance's Honda of South Carolina Inc. presents Lesa Hudson & Friends

WHEN: 3 p.m. Sunday

WHERE: Timrod Park Amphitheatre, Florence

COST: Free

INFO: (843) 665-2787

ON THE WEB: www.lesahudson.com

Silas songs with her, too.

"These are my friends — my brothers and sisters — and what we have is something very unique and special," Hudson said. "It's very rare that you find people who get along as well as we do, work as hard as we do and have the same musical dreams and aspirations. I'm having the time of my life doing what I passionately love to do, and with the people I love to do it with!"

Lowcountry to showcase shrimp at annual festival

From staff reports

The 31st Annual Lowcountry Shrimp Festival will set out to prove it isn't a shrimp when it comes to big-time entertainment when it overtakes the Robert E. Ashley Landing from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday in McClellanville.

Located about 20 miles south of Georgetown and 35 miles north of Charleston, the historic village

IF YOU'RE GOING

WHAT: 31st Annual Lowcountry Shrimp Festival

WHEN: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday

WHERE: Robert E. Ashley Landing, located off of Highway 17, McClellanville

COST: Free

INFO: (843) 887-3323

ON THE WEB: www.lowcountryshrimpfestival.com

pennants, navigated Jeremy Creek to receive the prayers and blessings from local clergy to ensure a safe and bountiful season, according to festival literature. The festival will begin with the blessing of this year's shrimping boat fleet, and a floral wreath will be laid upon the waters as a memorial to those who have been lost at sea.

Then, the fun begins.

The festival events will include

Motown to contemporary dance to Southern rock to country.

The festival will feature a silent auction, raffles, door prizes, arts and crafts vendors, exhibitors and a large children's play area.

And, it wouldn't be the Lowcountry Shrimp Festival without shrimp. There will be plenty of fresh, local seafood dishes, such as fish stew, clam chowder, boiled shrimp and fried shrimp. Barbe-