Twilight Concert Series

VFTH

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This summer marks the 25th season for the Twilight Concert Series featuring the Southern Kentucky Concert Band.

It brings together musicians of all ages as Amy Bingham shows us in this week’s View from the Hill.

It doesn’t matter if you’re seventeen or seventy, if you enjoy playing an instrument, the Southern Kentucky Concert Band would welcome you with open arms.

It’s a Thursday night summer tradition dating back to 1994 when John Carmichael was WKU’s director of bands.

 “He came here from Furman University in South Carolina and they had done something along these lines down there and they called it the Twilight Concert Series.”

The musicians come together from across the community.

“You can come this week but not that week and then come the week after? That’s fine.”

 “ It’s never quite the same band two weeks in a row.”

They rehearse on Tuesday nights and perform on Thursday nights during the month of June.

 “With it being upper level high school students and more experienced folks beyond that, there’s a lot of musicality, musicianship in there. “

Rick White gave up playing trombone in the tenth grade so he could play football. He picked it back up thirty years later and hasn’t missed a beat.

 “I haven’t missed a Thursday night concert in five years. It’s just a lot of fun. I really enjoy it. Joe does a good job. We play really good music.”

WKU senior Molly Bell says a community band is a dream come true for musicians.

 “It’s really cool to see people continuing to play because that’s really what you want as a music educator, someday that’s what I want is to see my students as adults, even if they haven’t pulled out their horn, they find a community band and just do it, go for it.”

A chance to continue a hobby you may have thought you had to give up.

 “One day might not be able to swim or play ball, you might hurt yourself but you can never really stop playing or enjoying music.”

You may remember the twilight concert series being held at the amphitheater in Basil Griffin Park for years. Flooding forced the concerts to be moved to the Ivan Wilson Fine Arts Center amphitheater but this summer they have moved again.

Tonight and next Thursday the concert will be held inside Music Hall and on June 28th it will be back outside at Guthrie Bell Tower. The concerts begin at 7.

With this week’s View from the Hill, I’m Amy Bingham.

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