

# MUSIC LISTINGS

## THURSDAY 7/14

**5TH ST. PUBLIC MARKET** Taste—6pm; n/c

**AXE & FIDDLE** The Pearls, Chad Bault—8:30pm; n/c

**B&B LOUNGE** Karaoke—9:30pm

**BARN LIGHT** Karaoke w/Bre—9pm; n/c

**BEERGARDEN** Shreve, Jones & Shreve Experiment—7:30pm; n/c

**BLACK FOREST** Four Score Hero, Mackin Carroll—10pm; n/c

**BLAIRALLY** DJ Crown—10pm; Hip hop, \$3

**THE BOREAL** Embodied Torment, Face of Oblivion—7pm; \$5

**THE COOLER** Karaoke w/Cammi—10pm

**COWFISH** Purrsday w/Kitty Trap—9pm; Hip hop, trap, edm, n/c

**CUSH** Guitar Club Open Mic—8pm; Originals only, n/c

**CUTHBERT AMPHITHEATER** Die Antwoord—7pm; \$38-\$43

**DEXTER LAKE CLUB** Karaoke—7pm; n/c

**DRIFTWOOD** Karaoke w/Slick Nick—9pm; n/c

**EL TAPATIO CANTINA** Karaoke—8pm; n/c

**GREEN ROOM** Open Mic Comedy—9pm; n/c

**GROWLER UNDERGROUND** Acoustic Underground Open Mic—8pm; n/c

**HAPPY HOURS** Crystal Harmony Karaoke—8:30pm; n/c

**HI-FI** Jonathan Warren & The Billy Goats—9pm; \$5

**ISLAND HUT** Karaoke—6pm; n/c

**JAZZ STATION** Jesse Cloninger Quartet—7:30pm; \$7-\$10

**LUCKEY'S** Grateful Dead Jam—10pm; \$2

**MAC'S** Peter Giri & Lloyd Tolbert—6pm; n/c

**MAX'S** DJ Victor—10pm; n/c

**OLD NICK'S** Green Jelly, Headless Pez, Wade Graham & Deathbed Confessions—8pm; \$10

**THE OLD PAD** Karaoke—9pm; n/c

**OVERTIME TAVERN** West Side Blues Jam—8:30pm; Open jam, n/c

**REALITY KITCHEN** Acoustic Reality—5pm; Open mic, n/c

**RESTOBAR** Steven McVay—5pm

**SAM BOND'S GARAGE** Sage Gentle Wing, Grant Sabin—9pm; \$5

**TERRITORIAL VINEYARDS** Olum & Friends—7pm; n/c

**VANILLA JILL'S** Honey Mountain Do Dos—8:30pm; Sillycana, \$1-\$5

**WANDERING GOAT** /root\_Dir, Teeph, Entrail, Facing Extinction—8pm; \$5

**WHITEAKER COMMUNITY MARKET** Open Mic w/Honey Mountain Do Dos—4pm; n/c

## FRIDAY 7/15

**5TH ST. CORNUCOPIA** Cardboard Caravan—9:30pm; n/c

**16 TONS CAFE** The Traceys—6pm; n/c

**AXE & FIDDLE** Sara Tone—8:30pm; n/c

**BILLY MAC'S** Christie & McCallum—7:30pm; n/c

**BLACK FOREST** Fortune's Folly w/The Resinators & Finally North—9pm; n/c

**BLAIRALLY ARCADE** '80's Night w/Chris, Jen & John—9pm; \$3

**THE BLIND PIG** Karaoke w/Jim Jim—9pm, n/c

**BREWSTATION** 3 Man Slam—7:30pm; n/c

**COWFISH** Freek-Nite w/SPOC-3PO—9pm; Hip hop, juke house, \$3

**D'S DINER** Karaoke—9pm; n/c

**THE DAVIS** DJ Crown—10pm; Hip hop, dance, \$5

**DOC'S PAD** Karaoke w/KJ Mike—9pm; n/c

**DRIFTWOOD** Karaoke w/Slick Nick—9pm; n/c

**EL TAPATIO CANTINA** Karaoke w/KJ Rick—9pm; n/c

**HI-FI** Tripolee & Lawrence—10pm; \$7

**HILTON HOTEL** Aftermath—7pm; Jazz, n/c

**GROWLER UNDERGROUND** Sarah Burkhardt Trio—8:30pm; n/c

**JAZZ STATION** Alvin & The Chipfunks—7:30pm; \$7-\$10

**JERSEY'S** Karaoke Contest—9pm; n/c

**THE KEG** Karaoke w/Cammi—9pm; n/c

**LEVEL UP** DJ food stamp—9pm; Rap, breaks, soul, n/c

**MAC'S** The Hank Shreve Band—8pm; Blues, \$8

**MATTHEW KNIGHT ARENA** James Taylor—8pm; Yogurt rock, \$68-\$88

**MOHAWK** Parish Gap—9pm; n/c

**O BAR** Karaoke w/Jared—9pm; n/c

**O'DONNELL'S** Karaoke—9pm

**OLD NICK'S** Holy Grail, Exmortus, Spellcaster, Sanctifyre, Toxic Witch—7:30pm; \$12-\$15

**PORKY'S PALACE** Karaoke—8pm

**SAGINAW VINEYARD** The Huckleberrys—6pm; n/c

**SAM BOND'S GARAGE** Paula Boggs Band, T-Bone Weldon & The Prime Cut Band—9:30pm; \$5

**SCOBERT PARK** Geo 4—7pm; n/c

**TAYLOR'S** DJ Victor—10pm; Hip hop, dance, n/c

**TERRITORIAL VINEYARDS** Bill Beach Duo—7pm; n/c

**TRACKSTIRS** Karaoke w/James—9pm; n/c

**VANILLA JILL'S** Tangor, Katie & Nirmala Supreme—8pm; \$2-\$5

**WHITE HORSE SALOON** Karaoke w/Ted—9pm; n/c

## SATURDAY 7/16

**5TH ST. CORNUCOPIA** Gumbo Groove—10pm; n/c

**ATRIUM BUILDING** Theo Czuk—2pm; n/c

**AXE & FIDDLE** Jake McNeillie & Co.—8:30pm; n/c

**B&B LOUNGE** Karaoke—9:30pm

**BEERGARDEN** Peter Giri & Lloyd Tolbert—7:30pm; n/c

**BLACK FOREST** Davy Jones Locker Combo, The Von Howlers, Sacred Trees—10pm; n/c

**BREWSTATION** Jeri James—7:30pm; n/c

**CITY NIGHTCLUB** Crystal Harmony Karaoke—9pm; n/c

**COWFISH** Sup! w/Michael Human—9pm; Hip hop, edm, \$3

**CUTHBERT** Eugene Symphonic Band—6:30pm; n/c

**DOC'S PAD** Evolve Saturdays—9pm; EDM, hip hop, n/c

## MUSIC

# THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE NOODLY

Two music writers sound off on the legacy of James Taylor

James Taylor is still going strong 46 years after he released the single “Fire and Rain.” In fact, it wasn’t until 2015 that a Taylor album placed number one on the Billboard 200 chart with *Before This World*. He’s one of the world’s top-selling musicians, but that doesn’t mean he’s got a friend in everyone. On the eve of his show Friday, July 15, at Matthew Knight Arena (it will cost you: \$68-\$88), music writers Andy Valentine and William Kennedy expound on the soft-rock guru.

### SWEET BABY JAMES

If storied careers are your bag, you’re already a James Taylor fan.

When the single “Fire and Rain” dropped in 1970, it is possible that nobody understood what the Boston-born singer-songwriter and multi-platinum artist was alluding to. After all, a human who writes his first song at 14 is a natural chaser of stories, and Taylor’s tale — through depression, self-help, institutions and modesty — is one for the ages.

Of course, that introspective, noodling classic begat a sensation, but does anyone know the real James Taylor? Can we ever truly admit to ourselves that heartbreak, loss, peril and denial belong in this world alongside success? Have we seen fire? Have we seen rain? More importantly, have we ever stopped to consider the meaning?

In the year 2000, Taylor was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. In the year 2016, he is blessing Eugene with his presence. If you bleed red blood, this is not a show you’ll want to miss. — *Andy Valentine*

### HOW SWEET IT ISN'T

I’m sure you spent many lovely evenings, reclined on the hood of your Dodge Dart, smoking joints and listening to James Taylor, wondering what 1980

was going to look like. You go ahead and cherish those memories. You go right ahead.

I’m not here to stand in judgment of those who have sentimental attachments to James Taylor. I’m sure I have sentimental attachments to bad things, too. I just can’t think of any right now.

All this being said, James Taylor is perfectly pleasant, and I suppose he deserves some credit for longevity and having an impact on those who find him meaningful.

It’s just that in the ’70s era of safe, tapioca pudding-voiced singer-songwriters, James Taylor is the puddin’-est. He bleaches out all of ’60s-era folk and country-rock’s danger and excitement.

Like a sexless marriage or a shopping mall, the ’70s gave us punk rock, but they also gave us James Taylor. Give me Cat Stevens. Give me Paul Simon. Hell, in a pinch give me Gordon Lightfoot or John Denver.

But halt, you say. This is just another hipster poo-pooing an artist from before his time.

“With a slight shift in the breeze,” you exclaim, “Taylor’s sound could return to vogue like Townes Van Zandt or Kris Kristofferson, and this bespectacled phony will clutch onto his vinyl copy of *Mud Slide Slim and The Blue Horizon* like it’s gold.”

On the contrary! Most mainstream music I hear these days (that bothers with a guitar) sounds just like James Taylor: Jason Mraz, Cody Simpson and Mat Kearney, to name a few. Taylor’s sound never went out of style; it became *the* style for a lot of dopey guys with guitars, and it never went away. Tune into NPR at any point, and you’ll hear a long succession of James Taylor sound-a-likes.

Led Zeppelin has many moments of beastly greatness and maybe James Taylor does, too. But Led Zeppelin also inspired Winger. And yes, I do hold Zep personally responsible for that. So listen up, James: Jack Johnson is your fault, and I’m not letting you off the hook so easily. — *William Kennedy*

