Jefferson Starship set to headline Seneca Fest

Event headed back to downtown

BY CHRISTINA CLEVELAND
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SENECA — A psychedelic pop-rock group will have locals taking a step back in time at the City of Seneca's annual Seneca Fest this Memorial Day weekend.

City officials have confirmed the band Jefferson Starship will headline the event scheduled for May downtown this year.

Jefferson Starship formed in the mid-1960s, according to its website, and has reformed with varying lineups and group titles over its 40-year history.

Today, it is a six-member band of instrumentalists and singers. One of the band's most popular songs is "We Built This City (On Rock 'n' Roll)," which was recorded when [illegible] der the name "Starship."

"If you listened to it in the '70s and '80s, they played it," Seneca events coordinator Riley Johnson said.

Johnson and other officials met to discuss the musical acts and festivities for this year's Seneca Fest at a committee meeting Thursday. The event will return to Norton Thompson Park downtown this year.

Johnson said Seneca previously moved the event to Gignilliat Field to accommodate larger crowds for then-headliner Charlie Daniels.

That event also acted as a ticketed benefit for the Wounded Warrior Project, but Johnson said this year's Seneca Fest concert will be free, and he is excited to bring it back to the park and involve downtown merchants.

This year's event will

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Seneca Fest attendees check out classic cars during the event's car show at Norton Thompson Park in 2013. After being held at Gignilliat Park over the last two years, the festival's concert will return to Norton Thompson this year.