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Friday's Best Bet: The Ebony Hillbillies in concert

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Mark Bialczak/The Post-Standard
By



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Courtesy of Weston Wellis

The Ebony Hillbillies play Friday at May Memorial and Saturday at the Southwest Community Center.

A living history lesson from Brooklyn

The Ebony Hillbillies are keeping the tradition of black string band music alive.

When Henrique Prince, Norris Bennett, William "Salty Bill" Salter, Newman Taylor Baker and Gloria Thomas Gassaway play, they play with the passion of a grass-roots folk style that lies at the roots of American jazz, blues, bluegrass, country and rock.

In addition to the Folkus Project finales Friday at May Memorial, the band will also play at 2 p.m. Saturday at the Southwest Community Center, 401 South Ave. That will be a free show, with donations accepted.

Gregg Tripoli, executive director of the Onondaga County Historical Association, constructed an

exhibit about the history of Syracuse black music for display at both shows.

THE DETAILS

WHAT: The Ebony Hillbillies in concert.

WHEN: 8 p.m. Friday.

WHERE: May Memorial, 3800 E. Genesee St., Syracuse.

TICKETS: \$15.

MORE INFORMATION: ebonyhillbillies.com, folkus.org.

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