

It's a treat to beat your feet to sweet 'Delicious'

Band name: Delicious.

Members: Rich Martin, 35, guitar/vocals. Cindy Shedd, 38, lead vocals/keyboard. Danielle Santose, 36, drums/percussion. Zachary Russick, 23, bass guitar/backup vocals. Jeffrey Baird, 44, saxophone/keyboards.

Story behind the name: One member put it out there. They all liked it. "Delicious" was born.

Signature song: Their own funky spin on the Maxwell piece "Animal." You may recognize the Nine-Inch Nails version.

Web site:
www.DeliciousBand.com.

Now appearing: April 8 and 9 at the Lakeshore Tavern. April 16 and 30 at the Rosebud in Grand Haven. April 29 at Cuti's in Muskegon.

Influences: Jazz to Justin Timberlake ... and their students.

Overview: Everyone needs an escape once in a while. Some people paint, some hike, some chase shots of Nyquil with tequila. The band Delicious plays music.

They are parents, students, teachers and spouses who just like to have fun and watch others let loose on the dance floor.

"Delicious is a creative escape for all of us," says drummer Danielle Santose, "There is a magic in the band — it's something that we value very much."

The "magic" comes from some of West Michigan's most talented and well-known musicians. Santose is the daughter of the 2004 West Michigan Jazz Society's Musician of the Year, Tim Froncek.

"He's my biggest influence," she says. And she's taken her lineage seriously by teaching many of the drummers around town, and influencing others.

Vocalist Cindy Shedd has been doing her thing for over 20 years. She's released a CD with former

band, Invisible Lisa.

Rich Martin owned and operated his own music store, released an original CD with alternative rock band, Plunk, was featured on compilation CDs for radio stations WGRD and KLQ, and his guitar chops can be heard on Sony's 2003 video game "NHL Face-off."

Bassist Zach Russick placed in Showcase three times, earning the Showstopper Award in 1999, and has taught many musicians.

The band recently acquired a horn section with the addition of saxophone and keyboard player Jeff Baird. Baird traveled with the Air Force band for 20 years, and is now the regional on-call saxophonist for the "Dennis Edwards Temptations Review."

It was Baird who approached the band. "I was drawn to Delicious because of all the things they are — talented musicians all of them — who happen to be fun to be around. They also work a lot, so I like that they are in demand."

But most Delicious followers aren't worried about the band's resume, they're in it for the music. Delicious concentrates on music patrons will recognize with the goal of packing the dance floor. Russick describes the music as "a blend of dance, funk and pop from the '70s to present ... bottom line ... anything that is dance-able."

"I go out there every night and do the best I can," says Martin, "and hopefully every one has a good time."

Whatever the reason, people seem to find an escape in Delicious.

And the best part of it for the band?

As Santose puts it, "We have such a love for what we do. To have people appreciate it, that is our biggest reward."

— Kimberly Harsch,
Chronicle special writer