

NEW LONDON COUNTY - WINDHAM - HARTFORD - MYSTIC - RHODE ISLAND

Sound Waves

Volume 15
Issue 9
June 2005

**CLUB LISTINGS
RESTAURANTS
CONCERT INFO
BAND LISTINGS
REVIEWS
& MORE**

**An
Interview
With**

THE KILLERS

**Southern New England's
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7 MIGGs		9 FRANK N' BEANS	10 INNUENDO	11 LEAVING EDEN
14 JENNIFER TAYLOR		16 FULL DEMPSEY	17 RHYTHM METHOD	18 BELIEVER
21 SUGAR FREE		23 RYAN HARTT & THE BLUE HEARTS	24 ROCK & SOUL REVUE	25 THE SUGAR DADDY BAND
28 T-RAY	High School Faculty 7pm DINNER SHOW	30 KEVIN CRANDALL BAND		SHOWTIMES: Tue. 8:30-11:30 Thurs 9pm Fri. & Sat. 10pm

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SATURDAY 4th

**GIRL
GONE BAD**

TUESDAY 7th

MIGGS



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Touring Act

SATURDAY 11th

**LEAVING
EDEN**

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& Cover Rock

SATURDAY 18th

BELIEVER



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THE ADVENTURES

12:30pm

3:45pm

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MAILBAG



Dear Readers,

I love this time of the year! Great weather and some great events make this area a great place to be. There are the numerous outdoor festivals, great concerts and my favorite - the Free "Esquer Point Beach Sound Wave's Concerts" in Groton Long Point. The first of these is June 23rd with Eight to the Bar. Followed by High Times on the 30th with shows every Thursday for the summer starting at 6pm. Maybe I'm just partial to the name, but they are a lot of fun.

On another note. How many of you were disappointed that Bo didn't win American Idol? I know I was. It would of been great to see a rocker win the title. But something of interest. The Idol Tour hits Hartford on July 29th with the 28th being an off day. On the 28th Lynard Skynard plays Foxwoods. Think Bo will be a guest performer?

As most of you know. Sound Waves Magazine is in its 15th year of publication! We are trying to put together a special event of 2 to celebrate this milestone. Hopefully by the next issue we will have more information for you on this. During these past 15 years, Sound Waves has remained a free publication because of you the readers. You have made this possible by patronizing the advertisers within these pages. Keep up the support and Thank you!

Till Next Month

David L. Pottie
editor/publisher

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Summertime means
sun and fun. Before
you include alcohol in
your plans, please
designate a driver -- it
may save your summer
and your life

Sound Waves

June 2005
VOLUME 15, NUMBER 9

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Sat. 4th - **DURANT & DARULA**

Fri. 10th - **MEG HACKETT**

Sat. 11th - **SHOOTING STAR DUO**

Fri. 17th - **TIME BETWEEN US**

Sat. 18th - **DON CASH DUO**

Fri. 24th

WORLD'S SMALLEST QUARTET

Sat. 25th - **THE BOOMERS**

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June Happenings

Luv-N-Country

Thursday, June 2 • 7:00 PM

John Speziale

Thursday, June 9 • 7:00 PM

Karaoke

Thursday, June 16 • 7:00 PM

Common Ground

Thursday, June 23 • 7:00 PM

Time Between Us

Thursday, June 30 • 7:00 PM

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SUMMER ENTERTAINMENT AT AMERICUS!

Friday, June 17th
A tribute to Rod Stewart

ROD LARRIMORE



Friday, June 24th

**STEVE SMITH
& THE NAKEDS**

Friday, July 1st
Fireworks Night!

SOULED OUT

8:30-12:30

Saturday, July 2nd

GUILTY PLEASURE

Saturday, July 4th

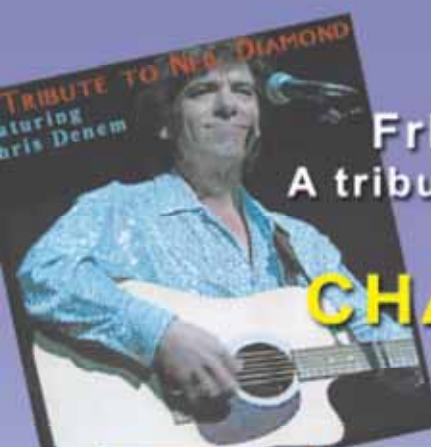
Live Dixieland Music 1:30-5pm

ALABAMA JUBALEE



Friday, July 8th
A tribute to Neil Diamond
featuring

CHAD DENEM



Friday, August 19th

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August 28th

**DAN
STEVENS**



Friday, July 29th

SOULED OUT

Friday, September 2nd

GUILTY PLEASURE

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CONCERT DATES

THE BLACK CROWES

24 - Meadows Music, Hartford, CT

BOB DYLAN/WILLIE NELSON

21 - Dodd Stadium, Norwich, CT

23 - Wahconah Park, Pittsfield, MA

DAVE MATTHEWS BAND

18,19 - Meadows Music, Hartford, CT

DIONNE WARWICK

29 - Sunset Festival, Newport, RI

DONNY OSMOND

11 - Foxwoods, Mashantucket, CT

INGRAM HILL

13 - Oakdale Theatre, Wallingford, CT

JAMES TAYLOR

17 - Meadows Music, Hartford, CT

JEFFREY GAINES

9 - Toad's Place, New Haven, CT

10 - The Call, Providence, RI

JIMMY BUFFETT

17 - Mohegan Sun, Uncasville, CT

JUDAS PRIEST/QUEENSRYCHE

11 - Mohegan Sun, Uncasville, CT

THE KILLERS

6 - Lupo's, Providence, RI

SANTANA/LOS LONELY BOYS

19 - Oakdale Theatre, Wallingford, CT

LYNYRD SKYNYRD

22 - Oakdale Theatre, Wallingford, CT

28 - Ryan Center, Kingston, RI

ROBERT PLANT

15 - Perf. Arts Ctr., Providence, RI

SEAL

20 - Foxwoods, Mashantucket, CT

STEVE MILLER BAND

17 - Foxwoods, Mashantucket, CT

STEVE WINWOOD

24 - Foxwoods, Mashantucket, CT

THE YARDBIRDS

21 - Oakdale Theatre, Wallingford, CT

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10th

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17th - FAT BETTY

24th - MIKE LAW
& THE PLAYBOYS

SATURDAY NIGHTS

4th

SUPERBALD
w/ GUEST

11th - ERIK NARWHAL
& The Blue Manatees

18th - MUNSELL
BROTHERS

25th - BLUE SUEDE
BLUES with
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24 FRANK N' BEANS	25 KEVIN CRANDALL BAND
1 ALTER EGO	2 STONE WALL

LADIES All Male Review

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L	Fri. 3rd - DURANT & DARULA	L
i	Thurs. 9th - JAMES HARRIS	i
v	Fri. 10th - TIME BETWEEN US	v
e	Thurs. 16th - BAREFOOT	e
M	Fri. 17th - FRANK N' BEANS	M
u	Thurs. 23rd - SUGAR FREE	u
s	Fri. 24th - KURT VOLAND	s
i	Thurs. 30th - 2 CAT ZOO	i
c	Fri. July 1st - DAN STEVENS	c

LIVE MUSIC EVERY TUESDAY

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KARAOKE EVERY SATURDAY NIGHT

12th - Patio Party w/ Sugar Free 4-8

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Every Other Saturday ~ Live Bands

Sundays ~ Bands 2-6 RJ the DJ 9-1

4th of July Weekend

Friday ~ Live band Saturday ~ HOT 107.7

Sunday ~ Pig Roast & Live Music



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FREE Buffet ~ Karaoke ~ Raffles & More!



June is Tribute Band Month!

3rd - **MORRISON'S METAL MADNESS**

10th - **DIRTY DEEDS**
AC/DC Tribute

17th - **PARANOID** Ozzy Tribute

24th - **CRUSH** Bon Jovi Tribute

July 1st - **MERGE RIGHT**

Saturday Night is Our Brookside Beach Party

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Trivia Challenge & Karaoke 9-1

TUESDAY

Coors Light Industry Night

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WEDNESDAY

Oldies Night

Guest DJ from WBLQ

THURSDAY

Heineken Lobster Mania

Steamed Lobster Dinner - \$15
Featuring LIVE BANDS

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

DJ Dance Party

DJ & Dancing 9-1
Frozen Drink Specials

SUNDAY

Martini Mania

DJ On the Ocean Patio 1-5

**DECK PARTIES 1-5
EVERY SATURDAY & SUNDAY
SUNDAY - OPEN MIC NIGHT**

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At The Andrea!*



Friday 17th

**AL
COPLEY**

Thursday 23rd

SKINNY MULLIGAN

Thursday 30th

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BAND DATES

DAN STEVENS

- 1 - Library, Westerly, RI 6:00
- 3 - River Run, Northford, CT 8:00
- 4 - Fairgrounds, E. Berlin, CT 1-9
- 5 - Edwards Vineyard, N. Stonington, CT 12-3
- 6,13,20 - Jib 88, Old Lyme, CT 5-9
- 7,14,21 - Hideaway, Old Lyme, CT 6-9
- 9 - Bidwell Tavern, Coventry, CT 7:30
- 10 - G.W. Tavern, Washington Depot, CT
- 11 - Perks & Corks, Westerly, RI
- 15 - Sage On The Waterfall, Chester, CT 7:00
- 16,30 - Stone House, Guilford, CT
- 17 - Brewhouse, South Norwalk, CT
- 18 - Sessions Woods, Burlington, CT
- 24 - Leadbetter's, Baltimore, MD
- 27,28 - Champlin's, B. I., RI 1-6 8:30-12:30

THE DEGENERATES

- 3 - 125 Riverside Dr., E. Hartford, CT
- 4 - Murphy & Scarlett's, Farmington, CT
- 10 - Bourbon St., Hartford, CT
- 17 - Geraldine's, W. Springfield, MA
- 19 - The Pavilion, Old Lyme, CT
- 25 - Bourbon St., Hartford, CT
- 30 - Rookies, Cromwell, CT

DIRTY DEEDS

- 3 - Johnny Mac's, Attleboro, Ma
- 4 - Ball's, Cranston, RI
- 10 - Brookside Cafe, Ledyard, CT
- 17 - Hard Rock Cafe, Mashentucket, CT
- 24 - Music Lady, Cental Village, CT
- 25 - Gillary's Tavern, Bristol, RI

EIGHT TO THE BAR

- 3 - Peckham Park, Middlefield, CT 7:30-10
- 4 - Berlin Blues Fest, Berlin, CT (day)
- 4 - Bonvue, Narragansett, RI
- 8 - Log Cabin, Holyoke, MA 1:30-2:45PM

12 SOUND WAVES

- 9 - Chowder Pot, Branford, CT
- 10 - Maple Tree, Simsbury, CT
- 17 - Contrassegno, Hamden, CT
- 22 - Wadsworth Mansion, Middletown, CT 6:30-8:30PM
- 23 - Esker Point Beach, Groton, CT 6-8PM
- 24 - Barry's, Warwick, RI
- 26 - Pleasant View Café, Somers, CT 3-5 PM
- 28 - Training School, Southbury, CT 6:30-8:30
- 29 - Endicott College, Beverly, MA
- 30 - "The Towers", Narragansett, RI 7-10PM

FAT BETTY BAND

- 4 - C.C. O'Brien's, Pawcatuck CT
- 11 - Christopher's Cafe, Groton CT
- 17 - Bank Street Cafe, New London CT

GOPHERBROKE

- 2,16 - River Walk, Mystic, CT
- 3 - School Street Bistro, Westfield, MA
- 4,18 - Frankie's, Westbrook, CT 7-10
- 8 - Greeley Park, Nashua, NH 7-8:30
- 10 - Rathskeller Lounge, Southbury, CT
- 17 - Nora's, Southwick, MA
- 24 - Doody's Totoket Inn, No. Branford, CT
- 25 - Bidwell Tavern, Coventry, CT
- 30 - Town Green, Deep River, CT 6:30-8

INNUENDO

- 3 - Christopher's, Groton, CT
- 9 - Sacred Heart Festival, Groton, CT
- 10 - Stash's Cafe, New London, CT
- 12-16 - Atrium Lounge, Foxwoods, CT

INSIDE OUT

- 4 - Uncle Kranky's, Jewett City, CT
- 18 - Christopher's Cafe, Groton, CT
- 25 - Rick's Billiards, Putnam, CT

JAMES HARRIS

- 1,8,15,22,29 - Daniel Packer, Mystic, CT
- 23 - Lighthouse Inne, New London, CT 7pm
- 3,10,17 - Riverwalk Restaurant, Mystic, CT
- 9 - Voodoo Grille, Mystic, CT
- 28 - Stash's, New London, CT

KICK

- 3 - Murphy & Scarlett's, Farmington, CT
- 10 - Red Door, Watertown, CT
- 11 - King Neptune's, Lake George, NY
- 18 - Paddy's, Misquamicut Beach, RI
- 19 - The Brass Rail, Southwick, MA
- 24 - Rookies, Cromwell, CT
- 25 - 125 Riverside Drive, E. Hartford, CT

MIKE SAVINO/THE SONS

- 2,23 - Little Stone House, Guilford, CT 6pm
- 2,16,30 - Ivoryton Tavern, Ivoryton, CT
- 3 - JRoo's, North Haven, CT
- 10 - Oliver's Taverne, Essex, CT
- 11 - St. Anthony's Fest., New Haven, CT 7pm
- 12 - Driftwood, Clinton, CT 7pm
- 17 - Donovan's Reef, Branford, CT

- 24 - The Corner Cafe, Naugatuck, CT 8:30pm
- 25 - Cugino's, Cheshire, CT 8pm
- 26 - St. Andrew's Fest, New Haven, CT 7pm

NO SHAME

- 11 - Rick's Billiards, Putnum, CT
- 18 - Brown Derby Lounge, Montville, CT

PETE SERGE

- 11 - Seasons Café, S. Windsor, CT 7:30pm
- 17 - Jitters, Southington, CT

33Hz

- 17 - Burke's Tavern, Niantic, CT
- 25 - Uncle Kranky's, Jewett City, CT

2 CAT ZOO

- 30 - Voodoo Grille, Mystic, CT

WICKED PEACH

- 3 - Steel Horse, Portsmouth, RI
- 11 - Rookie's, Cromwell, CT
- 17 - Jr's, Cranston, RI
- 18 - Reggatta, Fall River, MA
- 24 - Burke's Tavern, Niantic, CT
- 25 - Music Lady, Plainfield, CT

WORLD'S SMALLEST QUARTET

- 3 - Oliver's Tavern, Essex, CT
- 4 - Bidwell Tavern, Coventry, CT
- 5 - Cady's Tavern, Chepachet, RI (day)
- 6,27 - Glock Grill, Higganum, CT
- 10 - Main Street Tavern, Old Saybrook, CT
- 11 - Tedore's, Wales, MA
- 12 - Glock Grill, Higganum, CT (day)
- 17 - Main Street Tavern, Old Saybrook, CT
- 18 - Seaport Campground, Mystic, CT
- 19 - Cady's Tavern, Chepachet, RI (day)
- 24 - Schooners, New London, CT
- 25 - Billy Wilson's, Norwich, CT

Any bands wishing to be listed for the month, **MUST** have their dates into **SOUND WAVES** by the **LAST FRIDAY** of every month. **NO** listings will be taken over the telephone. These listings are **FREE!** Mail Listings to the magazine or

FAX them to:

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STRAIGHT UP



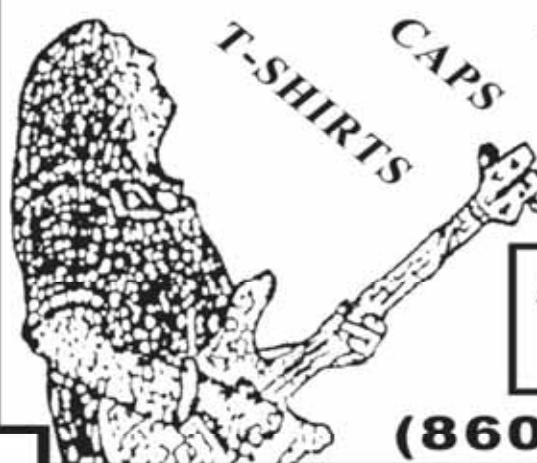
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...SAT JUNE 18 BROWN DERBY

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4th - **FAT BETTY**

11th - **KEVIN CRANDALL BAND**

18th - **COMMON GROUND**

25th - **MIND SET**

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14 SOUND WAVES

MUSIC NOTES

By Mark T. Gould

A Rock 'n' Roll Dream Come True

It was the rock and roll fantasy that dreams are, truly, made of.

"I woke up one morning, two weeks before my 50th birthday last December, with the words 'rock and roll fantasy,' not the song, just the words, in my head," recalled Gary Hofstetter, president of New Boston Management Services, a commercial and residential real estate management company. "I went over to 'Yahoo' or 'Google,' and typed in 'rock and roll fantasy,' and this camp comes up. So, it comes from a dream."

"I knew about baseball fantasy camps," he said, "but I never knew there was anything like this. It was truly the experience of a lifetime."

The experience, called Rock and Roll Fantasy Camp, is the brainchild of longtime promoter David Fishof. According to its web site, rockandrollfantasycamp.com, fans and erstwhile musicians pay approximately \$8,000 for five days and nights of rehearsing and jamming in Los Angeles with actual rock stars like Roger Daltrey, Nils Lofgren, Dicky Betts and a host of others, culminating in playing two songs, live on stage before an audience of 1200 people, at the House of Blues in Hollywood. Some of the money raised, Hofstetter said, goes to charities and organizations, like research for cures for children's cancer.

For someone like Hofstetter, a longtime resident of Natick, Massachusetts, who grew up in upstate New York listening to the Beatles, Cream, the Byrds, and Dave Mason, among others, it was the birthday present of a lifetime.

"We had gone to France, all of us, for my wife's 50th, but I wanted to do something different," Hofstetter, whose family also includes his son Dylan, named after you know who. "We actually go away over Presidents Day weekend, when the camp is held, every year, but this year my son had switched schools, so I was free to do it. This was so serendipitous, it was beautiful."

Hofstetter then called the number on the web site and actually ended up speaking directly to Fishof, who has produced tours for the Monkees and Ringo Starr, among others. They hit it off, and, as Hofstetter said, "all the dots were connecting, so I knew that I had to go."

Hofstetter played folk guitar about 30 years ago, but clearly knew that he needed a tune-up to make his fantasy work.

"After I decided to go, I saw my son, who plays the saxophone, in a recital one week, and there was another teacher there who played guitar," he said. "I had gotten a list of some songs to know for the audition at the camp, and he gave me lessons to get my chords back, and we went over a couple of Who songs, stuff that I could play."

"I still didn't think that I knew what I was doing," he remembered, "but when would I ever have a chance like this again? And, I'm in a suit and tie business, so it was a blast to be able to wear blue jeans and tee shirts for a week."

www.Swaves.com

The campers met at SIR Studios in Los Angeles, where they underwent band tryouts. Hofstetter played rhythm guitar in a band put together and mentored by Elliot Easton, of the Cars. Rehearsals took place for six to eight hours throughout each day, with seminars in the afternoon about equipment, the rock lifestyle and other topics. The camp provided all of the musical equipment and instruments, but as Hofstetter said, "you just couldn't take them home with you, you had to give them back."

Each band had to learn two songs, one picked by the band members, and one Who song that was selected by random, out of a hat, the latter of which was "Pinball Wizard," which Hofstetter's band, which included a stockbroker, a neurosurgeon, and a lawyer among others, rehearsed with Who lead singer Roger Daltrey. The other song, he said, was "Wild Thing." The band then performed the two songs, along with Daltrey on "Pinball Wizard," at the House of Blues gig.

"I speak in front of many groups of people, but this was a whole lot different," Hofstetter said. "First, you're already toasted, even before you get up on stage, because you've been working hard, and playing hard, all week. We lived half of the life of a rock star, because we could party at night, but we had to get up early to practice."

"My feet were six inches off the ground," he said about performing with Daltrey. "We practiced attitude there, too, and I was the quiet guy, with my shades on, in my zone. I get excited all over again every time I talk about it."

"This was serious dough to pay for this, but it was a highlight of my life," he said. "But, this fantasy's done, and now I'm off to this next one."

All he needs for that is another dream.



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The Killers

By: Nicole Roberge

The Las Vegas-based band known as The Killers have made their mark on modern music with such rock-infused songs as “Somebody Told Me” and “Mr. Brightside.” The band, consisting of Brandon Flowers (vocals, keyboards), David Keuning (guitars), Mark Stoermer (bass) and Ronnie Vannucci (drums), formed after Flowers read Keuning’s ad in a local paper seeking to start a band. As Flowers had recently been kicked out of his former band for refusing to move to Los Angeles, he decided to respond to the ad. The first song they wrote together was the current hit “Mr. Brightside,” and from then on they knew they were a perfect match. Eventually, Stoermer and Vannucci were added to the equation and since then the Killers have been taking the world over with their debut album, “Hot Fuss.”

The album consists of songs ranging from upbeat melodies with jabbing lyrics to more subdued and prolific gems of reflection. The Killers initially garnered quite a following with their dynamic live shows and stage presence, but aside from their stunning demeanor, the band is far more notable lyrically. Young Mr. Flowers is a mere 24, yet writes well beyond his years, and to him the concept of songwriting is quite simple. “To have a beginning and an end...a lot people don’t,” he says, of how he composes a song, which is one of the most basic ways yet many songwriters don’t seem to follow it. “For the most part, finish the whole story,” he adds, and that is exactly what he does on “Hot Fuss.” Each song is its own entity—an entire story in the span of three minutes. The band weaves a tale and through the lyrics and the music, they take you with them. It’s hard not to immerse yourself in one of their songs and become completely captivated by it, only to come out at the end wondering what kind of ride they just put you on. But no matter how crazy it got, you still loved every second of it.

The Killers make an effort in every aspect of their job to entertain. Besides striking lyrics and incredible musician-

ship, the band can be truly noted as entertainers. “It’s a little bit of theatre,” Flowers says of their live show. “I never did it in school or anything but I just try and use my body the best I can to convey what’s going on in the song. It’s fun for people to watch and it helps for me pass the time on stage,” he says with a laugh. “But really, I think that people can grab on to it a little bit more when it’s exciting. Those types of shows really had an effect on me growing up.”

As a kid, Flowers was always into music and played piano, but did not see himself pursuing it as a profession until after a high school relationship ended. “I was in a relationship with someone and it was too full on a relationship so I didn’t have time for music. The first love is always a suffocating thing, but basically when that girl left me, I was free. I was devastated of course. I thought it was the worst thing that’s ever happened to me, but it ended up giving me the freedom of playing music and that be-

came what I wanted to do. That’s what I devoted my time to and it just grew in leaps and bounds. Every time I wrote anything it just got better and better, and it’s still like that,” he says, but even after high school, he still wasn’t completely engaged.

He began playing music more often and took a couple classes in college, but it was nothing that really thrilled him. He played around with a couple different bands, most notably one where they played synthesizer music, but never any gigs, he says. They eventually kicked him out and then the Killers came to be. “This is my first band really, and that was the first time I sang,” he said of the bands beginnings. The outcome is a pretty remarkable feat for a songwriter who had never sang before. “We just didn’t have a singer and I just tried it. I wanted to write the lyrics to the songs so I figured I should sing it.”

It was from the first meetings of the band that Flowers knew everything would come together, and though this was his real first taste of working in music, his talents were always just waiting to come out. “I’ve always felt that it was in us. Even when I was young, I felt like I understood it more than the people around me understood it. I don’t know if my mentality was different when I listened to good music or a song or performance. There was always a bit of me that thought I could do it. So when we first started, of course we weren’t that great. ‘Mr. Brightside’ was one of the first songs we finished. So I don’t want to say it came easy...we worked hard but we’ve always had this bigness...it’s the Las Vegas type bigness about us...the knack for writing songs,” he says.

It’s that Las Vegas attitude, combined with succulent melodies and innovative lyrics, that had the band’s album certified gold, while gathering three Grammy nominations and even an opening slot for U2. And as exciting as that all is, Flowers is most excited about the trend in today’s music with a focus on quality bands and musicians, as opposed to

teen pop sensations. "It's heading in a more positive direction. People are embracing it because it's real. We don't look like somebody put some jeans and a tank top on us and highlighted our hair. I think people get it because it's real and they want that. It's a good thing and we're really happy to be a part of what's going on right now in music. It's an honor. The radio's changing and to be one of the bands that's helping do that will forever be something we're proud of. Even if it just lasts a while," he says, adding that though the musical landscape is changing, it is still as uncertain as ever. "It's hard right now because some rock stations are shutting down and we're lucky because we've crossed over to some pop stations. But it's gonna be difficult for new rock bands."

With the rise in singer-songwriters and rock bands, it now seems as if younger kids are getting into more quality music, as opposed to whatever is thrown at them on the radio. Whereas the later is often the case, now it seems as if kids don't have to search as much to hear good music, it is more accessible, and that is something that Flowers also embraces. "It's great and I'm really happy about it. I'm not being cocky when I say this, but I think kids will be smarter. If it's more tasteful music, it's gonna be better for the kids. Without this type of music, I wouldn't be the same person I am now. I started when I was 12 or 13 listening to The Cars and The Cure and I'm so happy that I did," he says, adding, "I just really attached myself to these older bands because they were better musicians and the songs were better. I just feel like it was more of what I wanted."

As a band, that is exactly how they want to be viewed—as a group of musicians and songwriters putting out real, quality music, and it seems as if the band has already accomplished that. And they have done so without worrying too much about the mechanics of it, and instead just doing what comes natural. "I don't put too much thought into it, it takes the fun out of it," he says of creating and listening to music. "If it's a good song, it's a good song. A lot of people pick things apart, but if it's catchy, that's a great thing. And if the lyrics are great, then that's even better. There's people that worry and want to know exactly where the bass should be in the mix and if the drums are lined up and if that all technically sounds great. No, it's, 'does it sound good or doesn't it?' The other stuff doesn't matter," he says, and it seems as if that method is working quite well for the band.

Even outside of the musical aspect, Flowers tries not to keep a formula. Onstage, fans have seen the energetic lead singer transform into an actor of his music, but while he claims he does whatever comes natural with the song, he does sincerely want to reach out to the audience. "I really am paying attention to the audience and really trying to get to as many people as I can. I actually do make an effort of that; I want to make a connection with people. Sometimes it becomes run of the mill because we do it so much and I'll find myself thinking about what shoes I'm wearing or something," he says with a laugh. "It's really weird because we're so used to playing that I won't even

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THE SOUTHLAND

"The Influence of Geography"

Ruffworld

As one of the new bands on the emerging independent Ruffworld label, at first glance you would suppose that The Southland is another in the growing line of "The" bands, but their debut CD offers a unique twist from these current slew of post punk, post grunge, avant-garde bands. While they are certainly in the alternative rock genre, The Southland is more subdued and melodic. A California band, they consist of founding members Jed Tucker Whedon (rhythm guitar and vocals) and Nicholas Kryl Gusikoff (lead guitar and backing vocals), and subsequent additions Ethan M. Phillips (bass), Daniel Clark Chaimson (keyboards and backing vocals) and Andrew Crane Cosby (drums). "The Influence of Geography," set for general release at the end of June, originated from a Whedon and Gusikoff homemade rock demo cut in late 2001 and evolved over for the next couple years. The CD, spanning a healthy 58 minutes, was completed in November 2004.

The 13-track set of originals, sans one oddly placed remake of The Flamingos' "I Only Have Eyes (for you)," is a sincere effort, yet often has an overwhelming lightness. Initially, we hear a bit of a throwback to the distinctive late - 70's sound of the Alan Parsons Project, but with more lyrical direction. As the tracks move on, one can sense a space jam, even parrot-head, influence in the guitar progressions, and even some of the cerebral Fripp-Eno and emotional-sentimental Gifford and Tillbrook aura mixed in. However, one can't overlook the modern sensibility at its foundation. Intermixed with all this is an inspirational, and generally true to form, rendition of The Flamingos "I Only Have Eyes (For You)"

All in all, The Southland is a solid, spirited, and soulful group. What makes them unique is a combination of the incisive, light and airy, funky and fun, melodic riffs combined with the modern angst of this confounded and confused society. Though not a head-bangers dream, they certainly are a party band that I'm sure would be even more magnetic and magical in a live venue. And of all coincidences, you can see them live with Pep-

per and O.A.R at the Oakdale on July 29.

*** 1/2

- David Geller

Aztec Two-Step

"Days of Horses"

Red Engine Records

For those of us in southern New England, Aztec Two-Step has been a harmonious, folksy friend for so many, many years that they feel like part of our collective family. Now, with the release of "Days of Horses," the recording heritage of singer-songwriters Rex Fowler and Neal Shulman mightily continues, some 33 years after they first treated their fans to their recorded prowess.

If you enjoy acoustic music and harmony, you will be overjoyed with "Horses." What really stands out here, as usual with these two extremely talented musicians, is the songwriting. The title track, "Horses," is a wistful look at the history of the automobile, while "Stargazers" is such a beautiful look at warm summer nights under the stars that it will literally transport you from winter into summer. "Scotty Moore, Bill Black and Elvis" may be one of the great novel travelogues about those seminal early rock performers. "Tonight I Wish I Was in Texas" is so full of longing about the Lone Star State that it makes the listener want to run out and buy a ten-gallon hat.

When all the pretenders are gone, and the dust clears, it remains a joy that Aztec Two-Step is still giving us great music.

**** - Mark T. Gould

AMOS LEE

Blue Note Records

There is nothing more exhilarating in music than when you first see or hear an act, and say yes, snapping your fingers that you've found someone with breathtaking talent. And, that's just the reaction you'll have to seeing, and hearing, the gifted Amos Lee.

Listeners probably first caught up to Lee as the opening, albeit too short, act on the recent Bob Dylan/Merle Haggard tour, unless they go far enough back to remember him opening for Norah Jones last year. Fitting in snugly in among the Dylan fanatics, Lee's amazingly unique voice and the stellar, yet spare, presentation of his songs and music showcase a major talent. Thankfully,

his first release, on the legendary Blue Note label, is just as strong.

There is no way, really, to compare Lee's unique voice to anyone else in popular music. At times, he sounds like Al Green. Moments later, like early Smokey Robinson. Whatever, and whomever, the Philadelphia native has talent, in spades. He's equal parts serious, playful, soulful and funky in a folksy way. This album, produced by Jones' bassist Lee Alexander, is, much like his recent live shows, a jaw-dropping debut.

**** 1/2 - Mark T. Gould

LITTLE MILTON

"Think Of Me"

Telarc Records

Influenced early on by the likes of blues legends B.B. King, T-Bone Walker, and Big Joe Turner, the days of Milton Campbell's youth were spent in the deep South ingesting a healthy dose of gospel, country & western, and delta blues music. After years of paying his dues in the blues joints of the deep South, "Little" Milton churned out a ton of tunes that performed well on the R&B charts during the 1960's and 70's. Now with over 50 years of music experience under his belt, it would almost be forgiven to find Milton resting on his accomplishments and re-hashing some old hits from his extensive catalog. Instead, Milton demonstrates that he still has plenty new to offer with the release of "Think Of Me" on the Telarc label.

Although Little Milton may not be a household musical name, serious blues fans know of Milton and his trademark soulful vocals and smooth guitar accompaniment. Often compared to blues legends B.B. King and Bobby "Blue" Bland, Milton's sound is easily recognizable and has progressed over the course of his career from his early delta sound to a more mature and polished offering of strings and horns. Despite an offering of strong tunes throughout his career, Milton suffered the misfortune of multiple music labels facing bankruptcy (Checker, Stax, TK/Glades), all of which often left Milton's career in limbo until the mid 80's. He would later return strong to earn the W.C. Handy Award for Blues Entertainer of the Year in 1988, a Grammy nomination in 2000, and an induction into the Blues Hall of Fame.

Now the 71-year-old blues legend has teamed with producer/guitarist John Tiven to compose "Think Of Me", which features

a dozen brand new original songs with a straight-ahead blues sound stripped of the horns and strings of past Milton recordings. Sprinkled with doses of blues, gospel, R&B, and soul, "Think Of Me" demonstrates Milton's musical skills with a refreshing and gritty blast of melodic blues. The opening track, "Gonna Find Me Somebody to Love" delivers a mid-tempo Rolling Stones feel with a bluesy edge. Milton's fluent guitar voicing can especially be appreciated on tracks "Let Your Love Rain Down On Me" and "That's Where It's At". "Next to You" finds Milton offering a hearty dose of funk, complete with plenty of wah-wah pedal and a smoky vocal accompaniment. Milton can do it all, and he does a nice job throughout of keeping things refreshing and interesting on "Think Of Me".

Little Milton avoids the common trend of re-recording selection from the past and instead chooses to deliver new music that stands up to today's best blues offerings. Listeners new to the musical catalog of Little Milton, as well as long-time listeners wondering where Milton had disappeared to during the past years, will find "Think Of Me" a refreshing and inspiring return of a blues legend who still has plenty more to contribute.

**** - Don Sikorski

LORETTA LYNN

"Van Lear Rose"

Interscope

GRETCHEN WILSON

"Here For the Party"

Sony

MASON JENNINGS

"Use Your Voice"

Bar None Records

It's not a stretch to say that the greatest country music records, regardless of who is releasing them and how long the artists have been in the business, result from a combination of great songs, great singing and great production. These three releases, stretching from the ageless Loretta Lynn to relative newcomers Gretchen Wilson and Mason Jennings, show just how true that remains today.

Lynn's album is a real stunner. Produced and nurtured by uber fan Jack White of the White Stripes, it's an incredible tour de force of all original songs, written by Lynn,

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miss a beat. I'll be thinking about something totally different and I don't miss a word. But it's just from muscle memory. Normally, I'm really trying to connect with people," he added. And Flowers has such an endearing earnestness about him that it is hard to not to believe him when he says it, and even harder not to notice it when he performs.

So what else could a band want that has already accomplished so much? "To write a song with Otis Redding...about the fourth of July," Flowers claims. That may not be something he can accomplish, but he'll be busy enough with other plans. The Killers are currently on a headlining tour before they meet up overseas with the boys of U2. They have also already begun writing songs for the follow-up to "Hot Fuss." With a full plate, Flowers says the band is happy and excited about everything that's still filling up their agenda. One of the things that keeps them going is their song "All These Things That I've Done," which they play every night. "It is just powerful," says Flowers. "We could play the worst show in the world and finish with 'All These Things That I've Done' and leave happy." I'd guess that their fans would leave happy too, and that for all those things they've done, they're a band that is planning on doing a whole lot more.



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with her still amazing voice pushing through the pain, glee and emotion that typifies the best of country music.

Wilson and Jennings, on the other hand, are now where Lynn was at the start of her career so many years ago. Wilson's is the more "pop" of the two, but she can still get down and grind it as well as any real country artist today. Her anthem, "Redneck Woman," stands for the proposition that, thankfully, not all country music is mass-produced by the marketing department, and is, most clearly, instead the result of damn fine songs, and the singing of them. Jennings may have one of the most pure country voices since George Jones and most certainly the early days of Randy Travis. The brilliance of his record is that the production lays bare his voice, all the better to project the songs and their meaning.

It's an absolutely stunning performance by all three of these artists, who perform real country music, as it's meant to be.

- Mark T. Gould

Lynn: ★★★★★ 1/2

Wilson: ★★★★★

Jennings: ★★★★★



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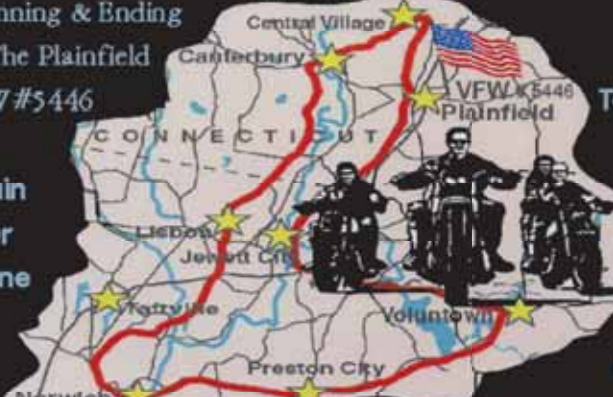
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IN CONCERT

SAMMY AND THE WABORITAS

Fox Theatre
Foxwoods Resort/Casino
Saturday, May 7th, 2005

The David Lee Roth versus Sammy Hagar argument will forever exist amongst the Van Halen faithful, but one thing is for certain: Sammy is one busy man. Whether it be rocking out with his road band The Waboritas, promoting sales for his tequila line "Cabo Wabo", or touring with his "other band" and he humorously referred to the brothers Van Halen, Sammy Hagar does everything with a healthy dose of enthusiasm. And the Fox Theatre audience was treated to an enthusiastic rock show courtesy of the Red Rocker.

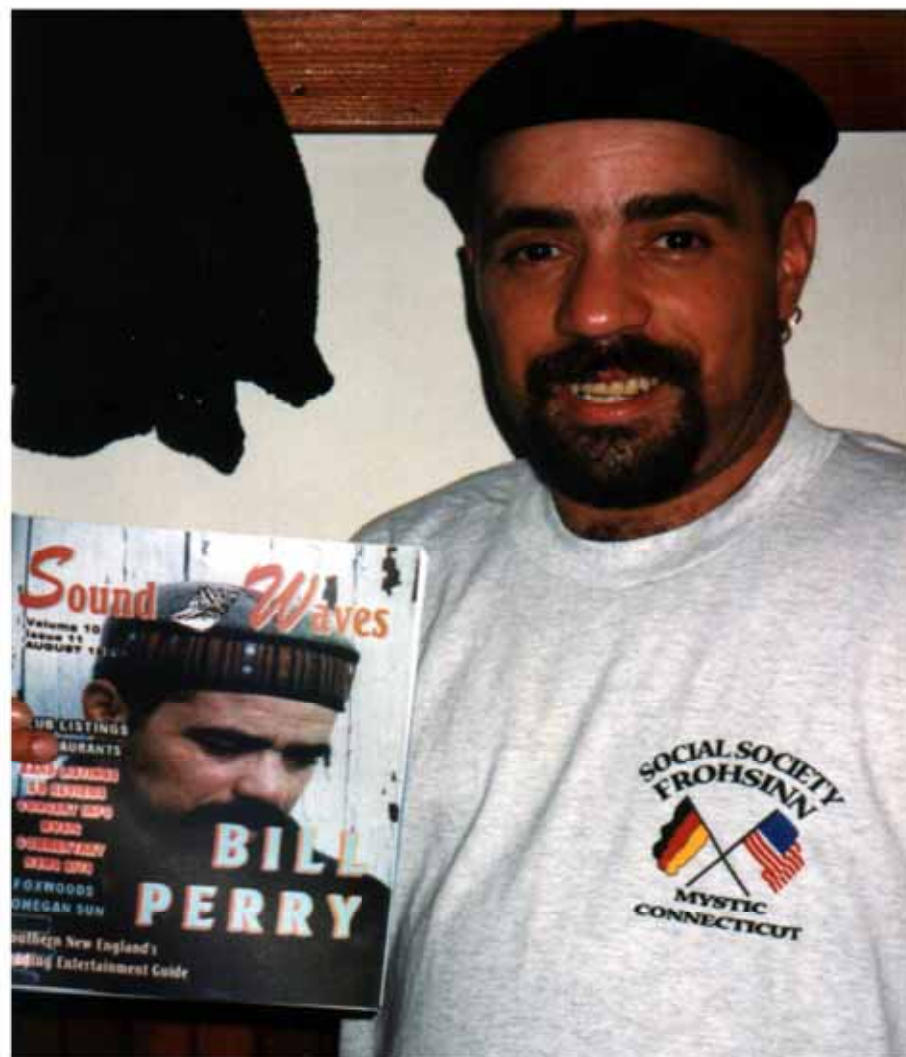
A pre-curtain introduction of Mexican music drew some curious looks, until a stage setup compete with full tequila bar and a crowd of lucky fans set up in the set's second tier and armed with long neck drinking glasses was revealed. The power chords of the opening number "Shaka Doobie" soon followed, and Sammy and his crew (Vic Johnson—guitar, Mona—bass, and David Lauser—drums, Jesse Harms—percussion) were well on their way to an extended celebration of Cinco de Mayo. Dressed in his traditional red t-shirt, red pants, and bright yellow hi-top Keds, Hagar and the band tore through more classic rock tunes that included "One Way To Rock", a high-charged cover of Rainy Day Women #12 & 35" (often referred to as "Everybody Must Get Stoned" by those less familiar with the Dylan catalog), the semi-acoustic "Things Have Changed", and Hagar's signature tune "I Can't Drive 55". But it was the emergence of friend and fellow bandmate Michael Anthony, drink in hand, that drew the loudest response from the fired up audience. Actually, Anthony drew the second best response; each appearance of the scantily clad swimsuit models delivering drinks to Hagar and Anthony between songs drew hearty amounts of applause). Mona was gracious enough to relinquish bass duties to Anthony for about a half hour, just enough time to run through another few tunes including a terrific, stripped down version of "Right Here" and two more from the Van Halen catalog, "Best Of Both Worlds" and "Top Of The World", which saw Sammy join his audience in back of the tequila bar for an extended chorus. Hagar and company continually interacted with the audience, signing anything that was offered up on stage and sharing the remainder of their drinks with a few lucky fans up front. Expressing his rationale to forego the customary pre-encore exit, Hagar was content to stay put and deliver a tongue in cheek version of Toby Keith's "I Love This Bar" and a melodic cover of the Staple Singers "I'll Take You There" (reworked to be "Let Me Take You There") to close the show. Hagar proudly announced that it was the 568th show for the Waboritas; quite

a feat considered how much partying took place without ever leaving the stage.

The only disappointment in seeing an artist who possesses extensive amounts of material is realizing what you don't get to hear. And while I would have liked to see the Waboritas deal up more Hagar classics like "Heavy Metal" and "Three Lock Box" or a few more tunes from the VH catalog, the band did a terrific job of changing things up and incorporating material from all sources of Hagar's lengthy career. Johnson admirably tackled Eddie's guitar work with flair and pizzazz, and Michael Anthony was extremely entertaining and seemed to enjoy himself and his choice of employment more than anyone I can imagine. I left thinking that Sammy Hagar could possibly be considered the world's oldest teenager; he has been truly blessed with the ability to maintain a youthful edge despite a lengthy career that spans back to the Montrose days of the early seventies, and he was able to deliver a full blown, two hour rock show that was energetic and entertaining from start to finish.

SET LIST: "Shaka Doobie (The Limit)", "One Way To Rock", "Sympathy For The Human", "Rainy Day Women #12 & 35", "Serious Ju Ju", "When The Hammer Falls Down", "Give To Live", "Tropic of Capricorn", "Things've Changed/Night Moves", "Deeper Kinda Love", "Red", "Drum Solo", "I Can't Drive 55", "Up For Breakfast", "Right Now", "Best Of Both Worlds", "Top Of The World", "Mas Tequila" Encore: "I Love This Bar", "Let Me Take You There"

- Don Sikorski



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5 til 9 - **SPECIAL 20**

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Band Starts at 6:00 pm

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\$5 Cover

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**MUST BE 21
& OVER**

**Refreshments
& Food**

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Thursday ~ 5pm-10pm Fri./Sat ~ 12pm-11pm Sun ~ 10am-4pm

June 2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th

**Rhonda Vincent
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The Gibson Brothers
Kenny & Amanda Smith

Amy Gallatin & Stillwaters

Larry Sparks & The Lonesome Ramblers

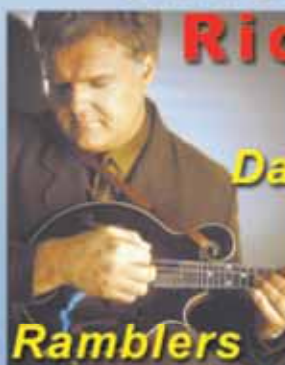
April Verch ~ The Whites ~ Caroline Herring ~ Tim O'Brien ~ King Wilkie

The Kruger Brothers ~ Phil Rosenthal

Mountain Heart

Our Sunday morning Gospel Hour hosted by **Dry Branch Fire Squad**

Pete Wernick's Jam Camp (Sun. June 5th through Tues. June 7th)



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Sierra Hull & Highway 111

Dale Ann Bradley & Coon Creek

The Kruger Brothers

Adrienne Young

Perfect Strangers

True Grass



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Chris Ardoine -n- NuStep ~ Curley Taylor & Zydeco Trouble

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Thurs. 9th - SUGAR FREE

Fri. 10th - AMERICAN MADE

Sat. 11th - MUNSELL BROS.

Fri. 17th - **33Hz**

Sat. 18th - BREEZE

Fri. 24th - **WICKED PEACH**

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Sat. 25th - **LEAVING EDEN**

Sat. July 2nd - UHF

Thurs. 7th - SUGAR FREE

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June's Live Music Schedule

Fri. 3rd - "MASS-CONN FUSION"

Sat. 4th - 3rd ANNUAL SUN FESTIVAL
"UNCLE EVERETT"

Fri. 10th - "HARD KNOXX"

Sat. 11th - 2nd Annual Pimp & Ho Ball
"Prizes for Best Pimp & Best Ho Costume"

"DARIK & THE FUNBAGS"

Fri. 17th - "SUGAR DADDY"

Sat. 18th - "KICK"

Fri. 24th - "BRASS ATTACK"

Sat. 25th - "CONCRETE JUNGLE"

Thurs. 30th - COMEDY NITE 8:30pm

4TH OF JULY WEEKEND

1st - "ZOOM"

2nd - "DARIK &
THE FUNBAGS"

3rd - "WICKED PEACH"

4th - Independence Bash
"UNCLE EVERETT"

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AT 9:00!!

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