

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

Sound Waves

Volume 16
Issue 12
September 2006

An
Interview
with

CLUB LISTINGS
RESTAURANTS
FOXWOODS
CONCERT INFO
BAND LISTINGS
REVIEWS & MORE

SEAN PAUL

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Leading Entertainment & Dining Guide



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19 SUGAR FREE	21	22 DARIK & THE FUNBAGS	23 WAR PIGS
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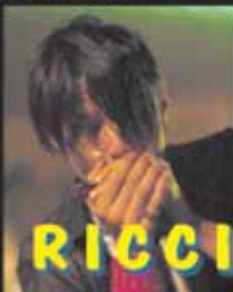


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²¹ PETER PERRI (piano) & HEIDI HARGER (vocals)	²² THE PURE JOY BAND	²³ HIGH TIMES	²⁴ STORY & CLARK
²⁸ PETER PERRI (piano) & HEIDI HARGER (vocals)	²⁹ GREG ABATE Jazz / Sax	³⁰ ADAGIO ALL STARS	Proper Attire Strictly Enforced <i>DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE</i>

DRESS TO IMPRESS

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INSIDE THE WAVE

Concert Dates	pg. 7
Music Notes	pg. 11
Band Dates	pg. 14
Cover Story	pg. 18
Hearing Aid	pg. 20,21
Record Review	
Going for a Cruise	pg. 22
Rant of the Month	pg. 24
Classifieds	pg. 26



MAILBAG

Dear Readers,

I'm back! I was surprised at the amount of readers that asked were this mailbag section was for the summer. Let's say it was my summer vacation, but in reality it was space and layout needs for the magazine. The press runs in increments of 4. After getting all the ads, I then layout the magazine. I try to fit it all in the allotted pages, if there are enough supporters (ads) then I increase another 4 pages. As it turned out this summer, it was just right without my mailbag column. So I had a little vacation :) And BTW check out the "Rant of the Month"!

This summer did seem to go by too fast. I hope everyone enjoyed the time and got out there to appreciate all this area has to offer. September is no exception though, there are many great events going on this month. And for me I consider this time of the year the best. Just right weather day and night. And the local traffic is alot easier to handle. There was a great bumper sticker I saw this past summer - "There's Deer Season and Tourist Season...So why can't we shoot Tourist too!" There were many times I related to that bumper sticker this summer. But the truth is this area is a major tourist spot, and many businesses survive because of this. So with every good comes alittle discomfort. And after so many years here you would think I would have adapted by now. Not!

Well enjoy this issue and check out all the great stuff happening this month. Also remember to tell the advertisers you see within these pages that you saw their ad in Sound Waves Magazine. It's because of them that this publication has stayed free for the last 16 years!

Till Next Month
David L. Pottie
Editor/Publisher

IT'S A LABOR OF LOVE



DESIGNATE A DRIVER

If you plan to include
alcohol in your
Celebrations, please
make sure to design-
ate a Driver before
the party starts. Let's
work together to keep
our roads safe.

Sound Waves

September 2006
VOLUME 16, NUMBER 12

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SOUND WAVES is a
monthly publication
Send all inquires, editorial
submissions and subscrip-
tion request to
**SOUND WAVES
MAGAZINE
P.O. Box 710
Old Mystic, CT 06372
Yearly Mailed
Subscription price
\$25/year.**

Telephone:
860-572-5738

CONCERT DATES

Alan Jackson

21 - MassMutual Center, Springfield, MA

Aerosmith / Motley Crue

7 - Dodge Music Center, Hartford, CT

"American Idols Live"

22 - Civic Center, Providence, RI

23 - Harbor Yard, Bridgeport, CT

Asia

3 - Foxwoods Casino, Mashantucket, CT

Aztec Two-Step

17 - Arts Festival, Pawtucket, RI

The Black Crowes

12 - Lupo's, Providence, RI

Chicago

12 - Perf. Arts Ctr., Providence, RI

David Lee Roth

16 - Foxwoods Casino, Mashantucket, CT

Def Leppard / Journey

19 - Mohegan Sun, Uncasville, CT

Fleshtones

19 - Foxwoods Casino, Mashantucket, CT

Janis Ian

15 - Strawberry Park, Preston, CT

16 - Carol Autorino Center, W. Hartford, CT

Popa Chubby

8 - Chan's, Woonsocket, RI

16 - Theodore's, Springfield, MA

The Rolling Stones

20 - Gillette Stadium, Foxboro, MA

Santana

20 - Mohegan Sun, Uncasville, CT

22 - Chevrolet Theatre, Wallingford, CT

Shakira

4 - Mohegan Sun, Uncasville, CT

Sugarland

9 - Dodge Music Center, Hartford, CT

Tower Of Power

29 - Toad's Place, New Haven, CT

Widespread Panic

23 - Chevrolet Theatre, Wallingford, CT

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Fri. 8th - **LUCKY
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Sat. 9th - **LUCY BONILLA**



Fri. 15th - **GAMMA RAYS** w/Guest

Fri. 16th - **FLESHAMMER**

Fri. 22nd - **CAR BOMB** w/Guest

Sat. 23rd - **SASQUATCH &
THE SICK-A-BILLYS**

Fri. 29th - **WAR PIGS - HELLBORN
WHAT WOULD LEMMY DO?**

Sat. 30th - **KEN ATKINS** w/Guest

Fri. Oct. 6th - **MUNSELL BROTHERS**

Fri. Oct. 7th - **TODD WOLFE**

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Thursdays is Thirsty Thursdays!
with \$2 Pints & LIVE Music with

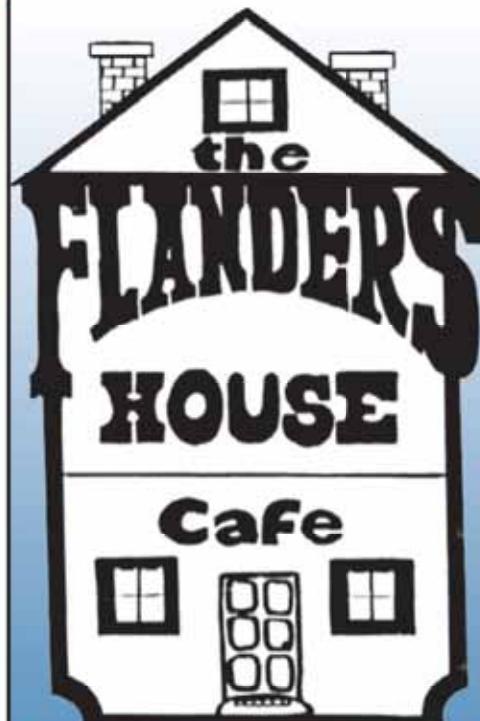
7th - **CHRIS SIMONDS**
14th - **CHRISTOPHER JOHN**
21st - **FRANK & JERRY**
28th - **CHRIS SIMONDS**
Oct. 5th - **CHRISTOPHER JOHN**

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Must have an APA 8 or 9 ball Handicap



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MUSIC NOTES

By Mark T. Gould

Where It All Began.....And Continues

If you don't think the Lord bestows incredible blessings, then you haven't met, or listened to, the amazing, humble, and forever young Richie Furay.

Furay, founder of not one, but two, seminal rock bands, Buffalo Springfield and Poco, and a member of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame for the former (and, if there's any justice in the world, someday, with his fellow band mates, for the latter), has been a mainstay of popular music for, oh, only about 40 years. Couple with that the fact he's a full-time, practicing minister in Boulder, Colorado, and a born-again Christian since 1974, and you've got, well, in Furay's own words, quite "a good feelin' to know."

When you meet Richie Furay, be it for the first time or even for the first time in a while, as I did just recently, you are overcome by his genuineness, his concern for others and his just downright goodness. Putting it simply, he just sincerely cares about other people. I know that, personally, since, just days after 9/11, as we were all still reeling around in stunned disbelief at the attack, he called me from his home in Boulder, just to make sure that my family was all right, and to offer some soothing words of comfort. He clearly didn't need to do that, but then again, knowing the kind of person Richie Furay is, maybe he did. He's that giving.

And, judging by his recent performance before a standing room only crowd at the Turning Point club in Piermont, New York, time continues to be very good to him.

Surrounded by his acoustic band, as he calls it, consisting of his drop dead gorgeous and extremely talented (chip off the old block?) daughter and harmony singer Jesse Furay Lynch (the youngest of his four daughters from his 39-year marriage to his wife, Nancy, which, amazing as that is in his business, should somehow get him still another plaque in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame) and the uber talented, multi-instrumentalist, co-songwriter and long time friend Scott Sellen, Furay, looking 20 years younger than his actual age of 62, took an adoring crowd for a joyous journey through his now four-decades career as a musician and pastor, playing songs like Poco chestnuts "Just In Case It Happens, Yes Indeed," "Hurry Up," "And Settlin' Down," "Let's Dance Tonight," and "C'mon," along with Springfield rarities like a medley of "Flying On the Ground is Wrong/Do I Have to Come Right Out and Say It/Nowadays Clancy Can't Even Sing," "Sad Memory," and "Go and Say Goodbye (actually recorded by both bands)," new songs like "Forever With You" and "Heartbeat of Love," and the inspirational (as if the others aren't) "Wake Up My Soul," and "So Far To Go."

www.Swaves.com

Throughout the show, he kept a rapt audience entertained by interspersing the songs of his life with poignant, funny, heartfelt stories, all the time, as he always seems to do, transferring his serenity and ever-present smile and good will to his audience. Every song, every story, every joy he possesses brings a smile to the face and a happy tear to the eye of his listeners.

"I almost gave this up," he said at one point during the show. "Never in my dreams did I think that I would still be up here, on stage, playing these songs so many years later."

Thankfully, for us, he is still up there, and that gorgeous voice hasn't lost a bit of the highs and none of the texture and emotion that is immediately recognizable in a Richie Furay song.

Despite the daily demands of his family and his ministry, Furay has also found the time to release the second part of his amazing life story, "Pickin' Up the Pieces," co-written with Michael Roberts and available from Waterbrook Press. The first part, a history of his Buffalo Springfield days, co-written with noted Canadian rock historian John Einarson, was released in 1997.

In addition, he has just released a new collection of songs, "The Heartbeat of Love," (see review elsewhere in this issue), a strong collection of love songs, with guests that span the years of his amazing career, including Rusty Young, Paul Cotton and Timothy B. Schmit from Poco, Stephen Stills and Neil Young from Buffalo Springfield, Kenny Loggins, Jeff Hanna of the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, Turtle and longtime Furay friend Mark Volman, steel player Dan Dugmore, fiddler Sam Bush, the multi-faceted Al Perkins, Willie Nelson harmonica player Mickey Raphael, and sax player Jim Horn, testimony to the camaraderie and love these musicians have for their old friend (Furay will still sit in on occasion with Poco, usually at Colorado shows and other western dates).

And, if that's not enough, it appears that Furay is gearing up for a Midwest and Eastern tour with his electric band in mid to late October, the continuation of an early summer tour that took him to California, where he opened shows for Linda Ronstadt and America, in addition to headlining some venues.

As Furay aptly put it from the Turning Point stage, "I write love songs, that's what I do best." Yes, he does. Love songs about his family, love songs about his music, love songs about his relationship with the Lord ("I've accepted Him and been studying Him for 32 years," he said at the concert, "and I've still got a very long way to go.") and love songs about his incredible life's journey, which, if the Turning Point show was any indication, is still going strongly.

Many years ago, on a Poco live recording, right after a performance of what may be his signature song, "Kind Woman," a band member summed it up best, saying to a crowd exploding in applause for Furay's abundant gifts:

"That's Richie."

Amen.



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Sept. 16 - **C.C. O'Brien's**, Pawcatuck, CT

Sept. 29 - **Christophers**, Groton, CT

Oct. 7th - **Music Lady**, Central Village, CT

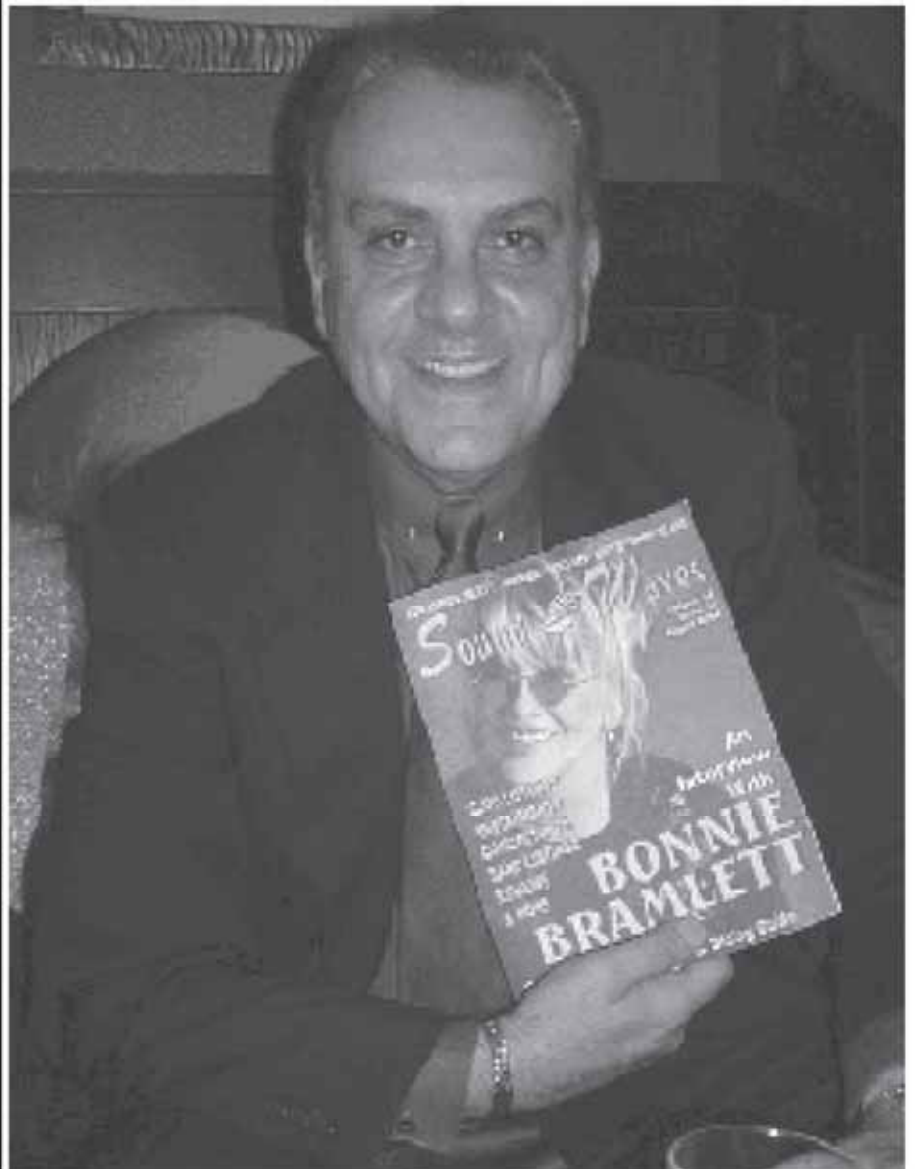
Oct. 13th - **Sneakers**, Groton, CT

Oct. 20th - **Lighthouse Inn**, New London, CT

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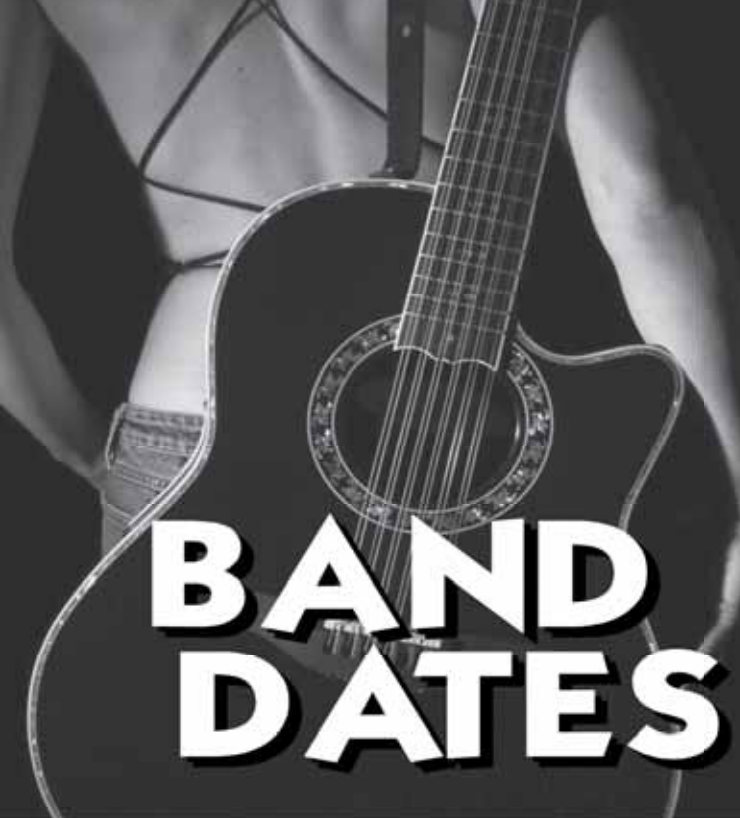
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Fri. 15th - **ROB N' IAN**
Thurs. 21st - **CUCUMBER JONES**
Fri. 22nd - **PROFESSOR HARP**
Thurs. 28th - **JAMES HARRIS**
Fri. 29th - **ROB N' IAN**

Wed. 6th - **THE YANKEE DOGS**
Wed. 27th - **GREG SHERROD**



BAND DATES

DAN STEVENS

1 - Jonathan Edwards, N. Stonington, CT 7:00
 2 - Stone House Guilford, CT 1-3
 2 - Maritime Grille, Guilford, CT 7-11
 4 - Red Lion, Stockbridge, MA
 8 - Penny Lane, Old Saybrook, CT 7:30
 10 - Old Mistick Village, Mystic, CT 2-4
 13 - Dolphin Striker, Portsmouth, NH
 14 - King Eider Pub, Damariscotta, ME 7
 15 - York Harbor Inn, York Harbor, ME
 16 - Suds Pub, Bethel, ME
 17 - WCCC, Hartford, CT 9:30 PM
 9,21,22 - RiverWalk, Mystic, CT
 23 - The Big E, West Springfield, MA 2-4
 23 - Whigville Grange, Burlington, CT 7:30
 24 - Sam the Clam's, Southington, CT 4-8
 29 - Dreamaway Lodge, Becket, MA
 30 - G. W. Tavern, Washington Depot, CT 11:30-2:30pm

DAVE LOUDON BAND

2 - Del Aire, Tolland, CT
 8,9 - Lakeside Cafe, Coventry, CT
 13 - Riverwalk, Mystic, CT
 16 - Angelico's, E. Hampton, CT
 22 - Wales Lounge, Wales, MA

EIGHT TO THE BAR

1 - Oceanmist, Matunuck, RI
 4 - Captains Cove, Bridgeport, CT 3:30-7pm
 8 - Maple Tree, Simsbury, CT
 10 - Taste of Mystic, Mystic, CT 1:30
 14 - Wadsworth, Middletown, CT 6-9:30
 15 - Contrassegno, Hamden, CT
 16 - Corn Fest, Old Wethersfield, CT 2-4
 16 - Bird Sanctuary, Litchfield, CT 7:45
 22 - German Club, Pawcatuck, RI 8:30-12
 23 - Memories, Johnston, RI
 29 - Roma's, New Britain, CT
 30 - Parade Grounds, Wallingford, CT noon-2pm

FAT CATS

2 - Brown Derby, Uncasville, CT
14 SOUND WAVES

8 - Fat Cats, Westchester, CT
 22 - Burke's Tavern, Niantic, CT
 29 - Stash's Cafe, New London, CT

FRANK & JERRY

1 - Harp & Dragon, Norwich, CT
 2 - Glock Grille, Higganum, CT
 8 - La Vita Gustosa, E. Haddam, CT
 15 - Main Street Tavern, Old Saybrook, CT
 16 - Ivoryton Tavern, Ivoryton, CT
 21 - David's Cafe, Preston, CT
 22 - Ivory Restaurant, Deep River, CT
 23 - Billy Wilson's, Norwich, CT
 30 - Knuckleheads, Moodus, CT

FIVE FINGER DISCOUNT

15 - Knuckleheads, Moodus, CT
 29 - Jenn's Jetty, Westbrook, CT

GENERATIONS

9 - East End Of London Pub, Putnam, CT
 16 - The Music Lady, Moosup, CT
 22 - Knuckleheads, Moodus, CT
 23 - Our Place, Brooklyn, CT
 29 - Sneakers, Ashford, CT
 30 - C.C. O'Briens, Pawcatuck, CT

THE GOAT ROPERS

8,9 - V.F.W., Taunton, MA 8-12
 23 - Circle 9 Ranch, Epsom, NH 8-12
 30 - Oak Hill Tavern, Wickford, RI

GOPHERBROKE

1 - School St. Bistro, Westfield, MA 7pm
 2 - Main & Hopewell, Glastonbury, CT 7pm
 7 - Elizur's Pub, Holyoke, MA
 8 - Whip City, Westfield, MA 5:30-8:30
 12 - Red Lion Inn, Stockbridge, MA
 14,28 - Riverwalk Rest., Mystic, CT 8-11
 15 - Tuscany Grill, Middletown, CT
 22 - Doody's Totoket Inn, N. Branford, CT
 23 - Bidwell Tavern, Coventry, CT
 29 - Farmers Market, Franklin, MA 1-4pm

GREEN TEA

1 - Sham Rocks, Wakefield, RI
 3 - Sandy's, Misquamicut Beach, RI
 30 - Stash's Cafe, New London, CT

JAMES HARRIS

1,15,29 - Riverwalk, Mystic, CT 8pm
 5 - Stash's Cafe, New London, CT 8pm
 6,13,20,26,27 - Daniel Packer, Mystic, CT
 28 - Voodoo Grille, Mystic, CT

KEVIN CRANDALL BAND

9 - Taste of Mystic, Mystic, CT 1pm
 9 - C.C.O' Brian's, Pawcatuck, CT

LIVINTRUST

3 - University of New Haven, CT 10pm
 8 - Toads Place, New Haven, CT 7pm
 9 - Pianos, NYC, NY

15 - Up or On the Rocks, Hartford, CT

Ms. MARCI & THE LOVESICK HOUNDS

16 - St. Mary's Church, Putnam, CT 5- 7pm
 17 - Victory Lane, Dayville, CT 3-7pm
 21 - Street Fest, Willimantic, CT 7:45-9pm
 30 - J.J.'s, Worcester, MA

MIKE SAVINO / THE SONS

1,30 - Oliver's Taverne, Essex, CT 8pm
 2 - Marinelli's, Burlington, CT 8:30pm
 7,21,23 - Ivoryton Tavern, Ivoryton, CT
 8 - J-Roo's, North Haven, CT
 9 - La Luna Branford, CT
 10,24 - Driftwood Cafe, Clinton, CT 8:30pm
 14 - Tuscanny, Middletown, CT 8:30pm
 16 - Italian Fest, West Haven, CT, 5:30pm
 22 - Old Corner, Naugatuck, CT, 8:30pm
 28 - Baci Grille, Cromwell, CT 7pm

THE NEW INERTIA

1 - David Daniels, Middletown, CT
 16 - Ferro Velho, New Britain, CT
 21 - Webster Underground, Hartford, CT

NEVER ENUFF

3,8,22,30 - Sandys, Misquamicut, RI
 16 - Christophers, Groton, CT

PHANTOMS

3 - Fuji Gardens, Pawcatuck, CT 3:30-5:30
 16 - C.C. O'brien's, Pawcatuck, CT
 29 - Christophers, Groton, CT

SANTA MAMBA

2,3 - Captain Nicks, Block Island, RI
 9 - Outdoor festival, Laconia, NH 6pm
 10 - Hyde Square, Jamacia Plains, NY 1pm
 22 - Water Street Cafe, Fall River, MA
 24 - Hyatt Hotel, Newport, RI 2-6
 25 - Convention Cnt, Providence, RI 7-10:30
 27 - Wolf's Den, Uncasville, CT 7-11pm

WAR PIGS

23 - Stash's Cafe, New London, CT
 29 - Bank Street Cafe, New London, CT

WICKED PEACH

1 - Paddy's Beach, Westerly, RI
 2 - Regatta, Fall River MA
 15 - Gillery's, Bristol, RI
 16 - Stash's Cafe, New London, CT
 22 - One Pelham East, Newport, RI
 23 - Rick's Billiards, Putnam, CT
 29 - Rocky Point Pub, Warwick, RI
 29 - Copperfields, Boston, MA

WORLD'S SMALLEST QUARTET

1 - McKinnon's Irish Pub, Hartford, CT
 2 - State Line Campground, E. Killingly, CT

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2,15 - Oliver's Taverne, Essex, CT
 4 - Elks Club, E. Hartford, CT
 8 - Main Street Tavern, Old Saybrook, CT
 9 - Meadows State Park, Haddam, CT (day)
 9,11 - Glock Grill, Higganum, CT
 10 - Riverside, Danielson, CT
 16 - Brialee Campground, Ashford, CT
 21 - Angelico's, E. Hampton, CT
 29 - Bidwell Tavern, Coventry, CT
 30 - 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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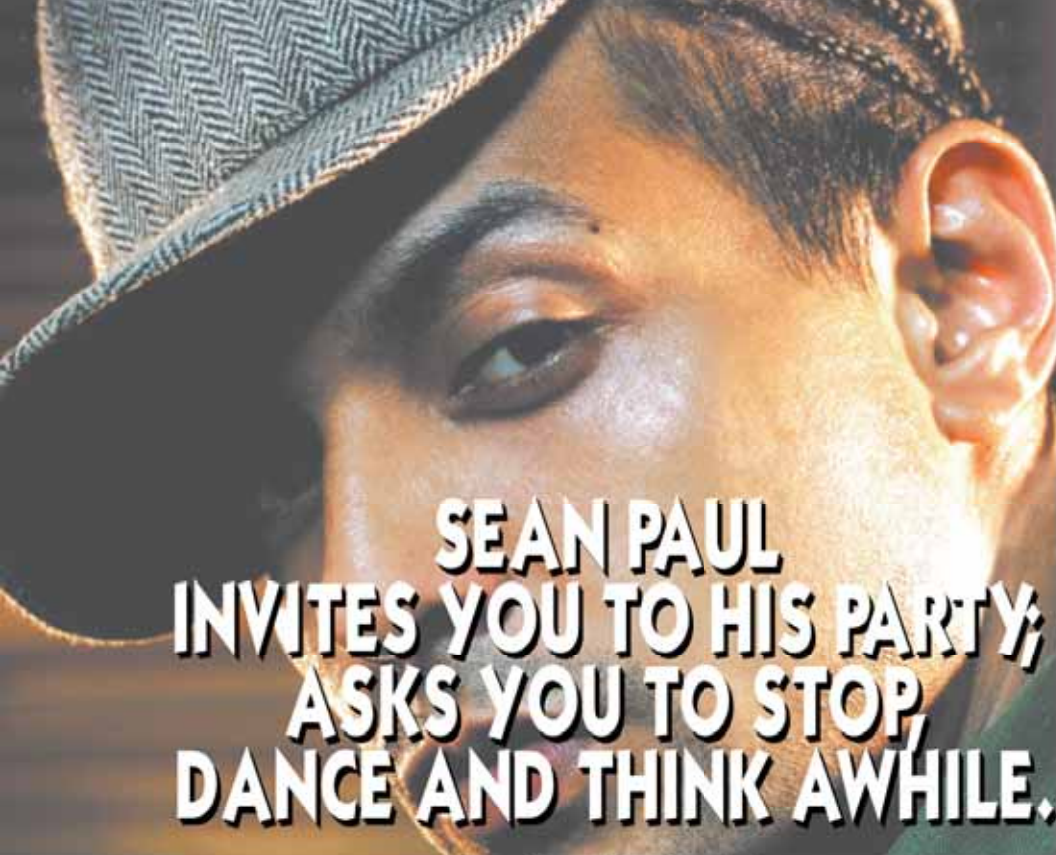
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SEAN PAUL INVITES YOU TO HIS PARTY; ASKS YOU TO STOP DANCE AND THINK AWHILE.

By Rex Rutkoski

When he considers the enormity of the accomplishment, all Sean Paul can do is shake his head and smile.

In his country's long and rich musical tradition, the storied names that it has produced, he finds himself the most successful Jamaican artist ever on the U.S. charts.

The natural assumption is that surely it was Bob Marley or the Wailers, perhaps Jimmy Cliff, Peter Tosh or Toots and the Maytals? But, no, it is this reggae and dancehall star whose artistry has been embraced, not just by America, but the world.

"I have to give thanks everyday for the life I am able to live as a musician and represent my culture at this level throughout the world," he says, humbly, from his hotel room, where he is just a few hours into a new day. The names that he finds himself above on the sales charts were and are some of his heroes, he says.

He hopes they view him as a worthy representative as he spreads his own good vibrations, a heady blend that also includes hip-rock.

If acceptance can be equated in numbers, it is an impressive embrace.

The Kingston, Jamaica-born artist's latest album, "Trinity," is the follow-up to his six-million selling, Grammy-winning breakthrough CD, "Dutty Rock."

"Trinity" has enjoyed 21 weeks at number one on Billboard's Top Reggae Albums chart, and as of July sold 1.2 million copies overseas, certified platinum in Canada, France and the Gulf States, and gold in Belgium, Hong Kong, Ireland, Switzerland, Japan and the United Kingdom.

So far in his career, which began professionally in 1995, he has three number one singles on the U.S. charts ("Temperature," "Get Busy" and "Baby Boy"), five Top Ten hits (including "We Be Burnin'" and "Gimme The Light") and eight chart entries over two worldwide multi-platinum albums.

He demonstrated his versatility in duets with Beyonce (on "Baby Boy") and Sasha ("I'm Still In Love With You"), and Mariah Carey has asked him to tour with her, opening her "The Adventures of Mimi: The Voice, The Hits, The Tour," her first trek in more than three years.

He is said to have redefined the reggae category when he won the Grammy, the music industry's highest honor, for best reggae album. He also is recipient of MTV Europe's best new artist award, as well as the International Reggae and World Music Awards.

It all offers many more reasons to be grateful, Paul said. "I just give thanks that people do relate to it. I don't have a certain formula. It is a mixture of a lot of different things," he says.

He tries to stay alert to new trends in pop culture. "So people can understand my work, I need to talk about certain things that are familiar to them. When you make music, it's supposed to be a joyful thing and bring people together. They are supposed to gravitate to it."

He works to be that magnet by concentrating on all aspects of a song, from lyrics to melody.

He believes he brings "a different type of voice" to dancehall music, concentrating on pronunciation and clarity. "A lot of ladies say, 'I love your voice,'" he says, laughing. He tries to incorporate a lot of different types of hip-hop and popular dancehall elements into his show and music. "It's very urban," Paul says.

If you plan to sit and watch his show, think again, says Paul. He's not happy until he has everyone up and dancing.

"I like people to get involved. I was at a jazz festival and I ran up on stage and everyone was sitting down. I said, 'No way! Get up, this is dancehall music. You have to dance to it.' I make sure people feel they are also on the stage. I want people to feel I am in a party with them, feel a good vibe, free themselves up, sweat a lot and go home tired as hell, and maybe a little bit deaf." He laughs again.

There's no feeling like connecting with an audience, he says. "You can speak to people what you feel," he says.

In the beginning, it was different for him. "I was scared of the crowd," he admits. "I'm a very good people person but was shy of the crowd. Then the ladies tried to empower me by screaming."

That did the trick! He became popular in Jamaica. "It gave me a confidence, a fire that won't let go," Paul explains.

As much as he loves live performance now, he says his favorite aspect of the music business is writing songs and being in the studio, "where I get to create what happens on stage."

He is enjoying touring with Mariah Carey. "She is an excellent artist who showed her talent from year to year. That's not very easy to do," he says. "I have a very good appreciation of people who stay in the business for more than five years. She has been an inspiration to me, not just because she can sing, but because of her staying power."

He hopes his own expression will enjoy such longevity. "My music, up to this point, is being about partying and having a good time. My influence to do this type of music comes straight from the reggae dance hall and hip-hop," he says. "It comes from a feeling I had as a kid, a youngster, and thinking about the world, growing up without my pops, who went to prison when I was a teenager. I wondered what the world had in store for me."

What used to help him was to go out and socialize with his friends, he says. "That's the feeling I put into my music, reggae dancehall and hip-hop, wanting a break from the whole feeling of doing so much studies and worrying about what you want to grow up to be." He attempted to give people a break from their own worries, he says.

While that remains his goal, he says that lately he has been writing a lot more "social conscience songs." "We'll see where it takes me from there," he says.

"Time Rolls On," for example, pointedly asks, "Why can't we stop killing each other my sons?" "I'll Take You There" seeks another peaceful place. "Never Gonna Be The Same" is Paul's tribute to a friend gunned down on the streets of Kingston.

Music remains a powerful force with which to communicate, he says.

"It has brought people together over thousands of years. Many different cultures make different types of music. These things came together in modern society and we call it various genres. But, really, it's (still) these tribes who have come together musically over the years and had no way of recording," he says. "Music was meant to be blended, which is why I can do a song with an R&B artist like Beyonce and it works, and I could do one with a rock band and it probably would work."

So many people of all ages and backgrounds can relate to reggae because of the many cultures from which it draws, he theorizes. "Jamaica is a small country, but we have been blessed with many different types of diverse cultures being there, 400 years of African, European, Asian and other influences. It makes our work in general very vibrant. The food and music and dance are very vibrant. We understand different cultures of the world."

With his latest CD, "Trinity," he wanted people to have a better appreciation of the talent that is in his country. "I wanted to prove to people that Jamaican producers are good enough on the world level," he says. "It was all done right here in the Third World."

Jamaica offers the "real reggae," the "real dancehall," which is the roots of hip-hop, he says.

He sees the thematic message of the album being that even in the darkest times, people have to find a way to enjoy their lives. "The important thing is to make the most of the time we have without taking away from anybody else," he adds.

The album's title suggests a spiritual context, as well as references the fact he devoted three years to completing this, his third album, and the fact that there are three key elements to his music in reggae, dancehall and hip-hop/R&B.

He views himself as very much of a spiritual person, and feels a sense of responsibility in remembering that in his creative expression. "I always have a feeling of unity in the songs," he says. "I want to provide a very different type of music for the world, something fresh. It is very urban and called dancehall music. I want it to be more socially conscious. My music has already brought joy with its crazy vibes in clubs and people's cars and homes. Now I would love to say something to people."

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SOUND WAVES 19

HEARING AID

ALBERT CUMMINGS

"Working Man" Blind Pig Records

Albert Cummings is a true working man, taking time off from building custom homes only to take the stage by night and crank out some of the most intense blues you've ever heard. A former bluegrass-influenced banjo picker from the early age of 12, Cummings switched to guitar as a teenager, inspired by the early work of the late, great Stevie Ray Vaughan. But trade school, the National Guard, marriage, and the blue collar working life were to become the chosen path for Cummings, who didn't resurface with his six string in tow until many years later. Yet Cummings carries the sound of an experienced blues veteran with him.

Albert Cummings aptly titled new release, "Working Man", is his sophomore effort on the Blind Pig label. Producer Jim Gaines (Santana, Stevie Ray Vaughan, Luther Allison, Albert Collins) again handles the production chores with skill and precision. A cover of Merle Haggard's "Workin' Man Blues" opens the disc in fine fashion, providing a framework for what is to follow. Another dozen original compositions find Cummings dealing out an enthusiastic offering of straightforward rock and roll ("Say You Love Me", "Party Right Here") and uptempo, foot tapping shuffles ("I'm Free", "Please"). But as sharp as Cummings' blues-based compositions are, it's the intensity in which he delivers the slow blues number that separates him from the pretenders. "Let Me Be", with Cummings' soulful vocals and authentic axe work, is the best example on this effort. "Last Dance" also displays Cummings' ability to close the show with a meaningful, moving moment. Bassist Dave Smith and Drummer Steve Potts deliver an inspired performance throughout, making "Working Man" a solid effort from start to finish.

Albert Cummings is a talented singer, songwriter, and guitarist that continues to earn the accolades of his musical peers. "Working Man" is a positive step forward for Cummings, who seems to have mastered the art of bringing his life experiences to his audience through song.

**** - Don Sikorski
1/2

IDLEWHEEL

Stone Barn/Dogpile Records

One of the absolute treats of being a music fan is listening to two artists at the very top of their game, yet in a casual, friendly atmosphere of just great songs and performances that just breeds a naturalness all its own.

Such is "Idlewheel," a joint project of Nashville-based songwriters Craig Bickhardt and Jack Sundrud. The pedigree of both of these remarkable songwriters is well known, having written, separately and together, an armful of top hits for Nashville country artists. Yet, it is such a pleasure to hear the two of them, in this collection of songs they co-wrote as Nashville staff writers, sharing stories, vignettes and life observations, with simple yet effective instrumentation, acoustic and electric guitars, mandolin and bass, the spare drum and the occasional steel guitar, framing those two glorious voices. Their creative juices flow over every track and their synergy and imagination is evident from the very first note of "Georgia Burning," the opening track, to "Howl Like a Lonesome Wind," the far-too-soon finale.

For my mind (and for my money, and, believe me, for yours,) there aren't two better songwriters and performers in and around Nashville these days than Bickhardt and Sundrud. You want a glorious pleasure that will put a permanent smile on your face and make just about any day a happy one? Then, pick up this gem of an album.

"Idlewheel" is available from either craigbickhardt.com or jacksundrud.com

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

VAN MORRISON

"Pay The Devil" Lost Highway

Does it surprise anyone that the "Belfast Cowboy" has finally made a country and western record?

Much like one of his idols, Ray Charles, Morrison brings his soulful, R&B vocal chops to an eclectic collection of inspired cover songs and a handful of originals, all, naturally for him, recorded and presented in such a natural state that listeners will think they've channeled George Jones, albeit with a Celtic influence and accent.

Morrison's absolute command of any song he embraces stands out on the country standards he's chosen, including Hank Williams'

"Your Cheatin' Heart," Webb Pierce's "There Stands the Glass," and Conway Twitty's "What Am I Living For." If you think you've heard these chestnuts just one time too many, Morrison's way with each song, as it is for him with just about any song, will make you think you're hearing them for the first time. Add to that his country take on Sam the Sham & The Pharoahs' "Big Blue Diamonds," Big Joe Turner's "Don't You Make Me High," and Rodney Crowell's "Til I Gain Control Again," and it's clear that Morrison can make any tune his own.

Likewise, his originals for this project stand just as tall. "Playhouse," "This Has Got to Stop," and the title track coming out sounding like future country standards.

In another milestone of his more than four decades career, "Pay The Devil" shows that Van remains The Man.

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

WALTER TROUT AND FRIENDS

"Full Circle" Ruf Records

Walter Trout decided to throw himself a little "35 years in the music business" party and see who would show up. One by one they filed into the studio; names like John Mayall, Jeff Healey, Coco Montoya, Junior Watson, Bernard Allison, Joe Bonamassa, and plenty of others, all anxious to contribute to "Full Circle", Trout and friends' most recent studio offering on Ruf Records.

"Full Circle" encompasses Walter Trout's musical journey with an effort that was recorded live in the studio, creating an authentic jam session with some of the most talented blues musicians today. Trout himself once provided six string support for John Lee Hooker, Canned Heat, and John Mayall's Bluesbreakers prior to embarking on a successful solo career, so it's no surprise that plenty of the biggest names in blues would be anxious to contribute to Trout's recording effort.

"Full Circle" offers plenty of musical highlights, and much like Carlos Santana's recent collaborations, each track creatively blends just the right dosages of host and guest performer. Right off the bat, "She Takes More Than She Gives" is an intense, fire-filled slow blues number that features Mayall's fine vocal and piano work. Changing gears, Junior Watson's sharp guitar work

and Johnny Ray Bartel's jumping stand-up bass lines provide a healthy dose of rockabilly to Watson's "Slap Happy". Trout and Coco Montoya, who also served as a former Mayall sideman in the Bluesbreakers, mesh perfectly together on "Who's Listenin' In". And listening to high-octane tracks like "Workin' Overtime" (with Jeff Healey), "Clouds on the Horizon" (co-written by Trout and Joe Bonamassa), or Luther Allison's "When Will It Ever Change" (featuring Bernard Allison), all serve as fine examples that hard and heavy blues rock remain Walter Trout's forte.

"Full Circle" works so well as a musical offering because of the "one take live in the studio" feel void of any guitar overdubs or polished over-productions. Instead we hear a celebration of honest blues music the way it was meant to be played. Walter Trout is the real deal, passionate about his music and true to his roots. "Full Circle" delivers an enthusiastic offering of the blues the way Walter Trout and his musical friends should be heard.

***** 1/2 - Don Sikorski

RICHIE FURAY

"The Heartbeat of Love"

Is there anyone who can make a love song sound so carefree, yet vital, as Richie Furay?

Still possessed of a golden voice after some 40 years in the business, Furay, the founding member of Buffalo Springfield and Poco, imbibes this new collection with his usual great taste, enthusiasm, happiness, and, yes, well, love.

Augmented by his daughter Jesse Furay Lynch, longtime friend and co-writer and player Scott Sellen, and a host of friends and former band members, including Neil Young, Stephen Stills, Rusty Young, Paul Cotton, Timothy B. Schmit, and Kenny Loggins, among others, "Heartbeat" contains some of the absolute best of Furay's great career, happy, inspiring songs that will put a smile on your face and an ease in your soul.

It's a glorious ride, from the opening track, "Forever With You," written by Furay and Sellen for Furay's daughter's wedding; the reworking of his classic "Kind Woman," with Neil Young on guitar and Neil Young and Loggins on background vocals; the Poco rarity "Let's Dance Tonight," with spare fiddle and mandolin accompaniment from the remarkable Sam Bush; the hilarious "Dean's Barbecue," with backing from Willie Nelson harmonica player Mickey Raphael, Rusty

Young, Al Perkins, Bush and Jim Horn, complete with a name check of fellow Poco co-founder Jimmy Messina in the lyrics; and the beautiful title track. All are testament to Furay's amazing way with a song, the way his gorgeous voice just wraps around a lyric and reveals the song's joy to the listener.

Want to hear some beautiful, inspiring love songs? Then, pick up Furay's "The Heartbeat of Love" as soon as you can.

"The Heartbeat of Love" is available from www.richiefuray.com.

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

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RANT OF THE MONTH **The World Today**

It's been awhile since I let some steam off, but the events in the world today are getting too much, even too scary. So much so that this column can't hold all the ranting, but let's get the basics anyway.

First of all, the fight on Terrorism. This month marks the anniversary of the tragedy of 911. Were are we now? Afganistan was a good idea. On Iraq, we were mislead if not lied to, and now we are in a quagmire in a country we never should have invaded. In reality Saddam was a major deterrent on terrorism as it related to Al Quada. Because of our invasion, we have re-enforced the Terrorist beliefs and recruitment. Instead of Iraq it should of been Iran or Somalia. Places we know that support terrorist. Because of this administration's path we now have a major growing problem in Iran.

Then there is our country's position on Israel. This is a nation that deals with bombing and terrorist threats every day of their lives. Most people there have never seen peace. And what did our country do when the latest fighting break out? We told Israel to have restraint! If this administration was governing Israel, we would have invaded the Gaza, Lebanon, Syria and Iran! It's okay for us to say terrorism must be eliminated and for us to invade other countries, but not okay for other countries that have been dealing with terrorist alot longer than us to protect themselves. When the majority of the world was against us invading Iraq we ignored them. Israel should do the same. In my opinion they have a more legitimate right to do so.

Now lets move on to a sort of related topic....Religion. To me this is the most dangerous thing in the world. People will kill others in the name of there religious beliefs. They will treat fellow humans with contempt. Even ones of there same beliefs. Just look how women are treating in the Muslim and even Catholic faiths. Just recently here in the U.S. a woman who had taught Sunday school for over 30 years, was fired because a "woman should be seen and not heard" according to the Bible. And this is a mild treatment when you see how woman are treated in the Muslim faith. These woman face death in many circumstances. I find it scary that people will die or kill for words that were written by man. Oh...you say they are words of God that he communicated through man. Well tell me. Why are the only writings over thousands of year old and there are none since then? Why are all peoples not treated equally? If there is a God (and it would be funny if God were a woman) I would think the best way to honor Him/Her is in how you treat His/Her Creations. So as I said in the beginning, I think structured religion is the most dangerous aspect in the world today. Think about it. How much of the world's problems are because of someone's beliefs? Greed, power and oil are a close 2nd though.

Sigh....running out of space! No matter, it's time for me to go to the supermarket. I'm just trying to figure my budget right now. Let me see...fill the gas tank now or buy what I need to eat.

- David L. Pottie editor/publisher



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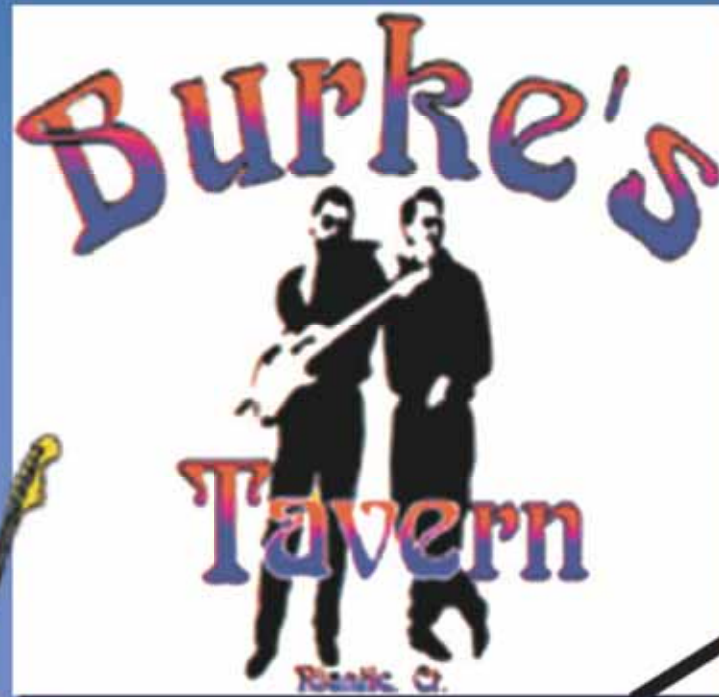
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