

Sound Waves

Volume 28
Issue 5
May 2018

**WILLIE NELSON
DANA FUCHS
SONDRA LEVINE
ERIC CORNE
DON IMUS
RESTAURANTS
CONCERT INFO
BAND LISTINGS
REVIEWS
& MORE**

**An
Interview
with**

**Stelth
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**A Southern New England
Entertainment & Dining Guide Since 1990**



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Tuesday Mornings
9am-noon



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Sound Waves

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MADD
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The I-Man Go-eth: Don Imus In the Extremis, An Appreciation (Sort of)

By Mark T. Gould

Call it the bumper-to-bumper yuck fest.

I was, as usual, stuck in seemingly immovable traffic, traveling southbound on I-95 traveling from my office in New Haven to court in Stamford.

I had the radio on for distraction. Over and over, as I sat there fuming in the fumes, I laughed out loud. Not mere chuckling, you understand, but belly-hurting, major-league guffaws.

As I caught myself doing it, I somewhat self-consciously glanced around at my fellow frustrated commuters sitting in their cars. Most of them were laughing, too, just like I was.

It was then it hit me. They were listening to the same radio program as me.



"Imus in the Morning," hosted by the irascible, invincible, yet always hilarious Don Imus, who retired last month, finally hanging up his headphones after an insane, immoral and incandescent ride of a half a century on America's airwaves.

John Donald Imus. Imus in the Morning. The I-Man. Call him what you want, or what he wants you to call him, but call him one thing: the original, one-

of-a-kind, original shock jock.

Were there no Imus, there'd be no Howard Stern, there'd be no Opie and Andy, and there'd arguably be very little, if any, talk radio as we cringingly know it today.

John Donald Imus. It could all be fake news, but most I-Man historians seem to agree that he was born in Riverside, California, and raised on a sprawling cattle ranch near Kingman, Arizona.

Imus was a brakeman on the Southern Pacific Railroad, but, after winning a talent contest at R&B legend Johnny Otis's nightclub, he began working as a singer/songwriter, managed by Otis. Soon after, he heard a morning disc-jockey on the radio, and probably thinking he could do better, he went to the nearby radio station and persuaded the owner to hire him.

That ever so Imus-ly brazen act (of which so many would follow) in June 1968 started his career as a radio disc jockey, at KUTY in Palmdale, California. He stayed at the station for about a year, then left for a job at KJOY, a small radio station in Stockton, California. He was later fired for saying "hell" on air. (Not having learned his lesson, much worse, discussed below, would follow). He was then hired at KXOA in Sacramento, where his on-air shenanigans, such as calling up a restaurant and ordering 1200 hamburgers to go, made his show immensely popular and boosted ratings.

It wouldn't be the last time that happened, either.

After a stint at WGAR (AM) radio in Cleveland, Ohio, Imus moved to New York City and WNBC radio, in December 1971. "Imus...In The Morning... In The Evening" aired nationally in the fall of 1973, part of NBC Radio's

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attempt to revive Monitor, its long-running weekend magazine. The Saturday night segment rotated popular hosts Imus, Wolfman Jack, and Robert W. Morgan, the latter two radio icons who were inspirations for Imus.

He was fired from WNBC in August 1977 along with several of the station's other personalities, in an effort to revamp the station's sound and boost ratings. A year later, he returned to Cleveland radio as afternoon drive host on WHK. He kept his presence, and his mouth, in the Big Apple, though, as he commuted between Cleveland and New York to tape a TV talk show, "Imus Plus" at WNEW-TV.

In 1979, Imus was rehired by WNBC in September 1979, and revived his morning drive show. From 1982 to 1985, the station also employed Stern, and WNBC heavily promoted the pair in print and television ads, which often featured the slogan "If We Weren't So Bad, We Wouldn't Be So Good." Although Stern's show aired later in the day, Imus and Stern often made brief appearances on each other's shows, giving the audience an occasional glimpse of the genesis of an on-and-off-air rivalry that continued, not always good naturedly, for many years.

During that time, Imus was probably best known for the character 'Billy Sol Hargis,' a quasi-fictional radio evangelist whose name was a cross between infamous real-life radio and television preacher Billy James Hargis and equally real-life Texas fertilizer swindler Billie Sol Estes.

As Hargis, Imus touted on-air the merits of the "First Church of the Goopy Death and Discount House of Worship." In one classic skit, the "Reverend Hargis," riffing off the historical fact that Jesus was a carpenter, tried hawking "The Holy Furniture, made by the Lord His Ownself."

In 1981, Imus published the best-selling novel "God's Other Son," which further immortalized "Hargis'" life story. The novel was republished in 1994, and spent seven weeks on the New York Times bestseller list.

Other regular Imus characters at that time included the supposed general manager "Geraldo Santana Banana" (played by doo-wop singer Larry Chance), and "Moby Worm," a monstrous creature who devoured local schools (which was dutifully reported on the show's "breaking news updates").

Imus was also the utility announcer for Geraldo Rivera's monthly TV series "Good Night, America," which aired as a recurring segment of ABC's Wide World of Entertainment program, and he was one of the inaugural video jockeys for the launch of the VH-1 cable network in 1985.

In 1988, WNBC radio was sold to Emmis Broadcasting and permanently signed off the air, with Emmis' WFAN was moving from its 1050 AM slot on the radio dial to WNBC's former spot, at 660 AM.

"Imus in the Morning," as he called his show, remained at 660 AM as a powerful, ratings-grabbing lead in to WFAN's sports programs. The program coupled his music and comedy bits as the staples of the program, amid sprinklings of a political forum for which his show was known in its later years. The radio show became nationally syndicated in 1993, and began simulcasting on MSNBC in 1996.

The I-Man's listenership exploded. With each show, he could be crude, he could be lewd, and he certainly could be rude.

On the air, he called Rush Limbaugh "a fat, pill-popping loser," and a "drug-addled gas bag"; Peabody Award-winning journalist Gwen Ifill a "cleaning lady;" and CBS correspondent Lesley Stahl a "gutless, lying weasel."

His comedic exchange of quips ("fat pig") regarding his show's former news reader, Contessa Brewer, made news, as did Brewer's response ("cantankerous old fool"—the truth, I guess, being her defense). When Tucker Carlson brought up Brewer on the program in 2005, Imus hung up on him, calling Carlson "a bowtie-wearing little pussy."

There were many others who felt his wrath during his on-air tirades, far

Continues Page 9

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MUSIC NOTES



“Three-Way Street”

By Mark T. Gould

It may be the new math, but sometimes three does go into four.

At least it does when the three are Mark Mirando, Gary Burr and Mark Hudson, and the four are David Crosby, Stephen Stills, Graham Nash and Neil Young.

We know the latter, of course, as CSNY, and, thanks to an informal album listening session, we now know the former as “Laurel Canyon,” a group made up of two Connecticut-

native musicians and Hudson, a Grammy-award winning record producer who met the other two when they all sang and played on a solo project by former Beatle Ringo Starr.

As a result, next month the three will play a tribute concert to the four.

“Hudson was listening to CSN’s debut album, and started thinking about the harmonies that the three of us have made together,” Mirando, who is from Hamden, recalled. “(From that), we came up with the idea of us doing a show playing that first album in its entirety, and a few other songs. That then morphed into the show we’re doing.”

They dubbed themselves “Laurel Canyon,” after the mythical area outside Los Angeles that housed so many great artists and bands back in the Sixties. Their show will be an acoustic tribute to CSNY on May 9 at the appropriately-named Triad Theatre in New York City.

“We were trying to find a CSNY-related name, and the good ones were taken,” Mirando said about the friends’ efforts to name their band. “Hudson came up with ‘Laurel Canyon.’ I like it because we can branch out to sing other Laurel Canyon-based bands’ songs if we keep doing it.”

Of course, one of the most challenging aspects of putting together such a show is choosing the right, and the best, songs from the vast CSNY, CSN and solo careers catalog of arguably the most important and influential American singer-songwriters of our generation.

“We went back and forth with suggestions, until we were all happy,” Mirando said. “We also decided to make it more of a show, so we’re doing pre-CSNY songs from each member. It went smoothly.

“Hudson had suggestions on lead singers. He also had the idea that I’d be Crosby, Gary would be Stills and he’d be Nash,” he added. All three musicians play guitar, and Mirando and Hudson play keyboards, as well.

There were some challenges, he said.

“Since we didn’t know how it was going to go, we left out the more difficult songs like ‘Guinevere’ and ‘Déjà vu,’ (but) if we continue, they will make it to the set,” Mirando added.

Mirando has a long-lasting personal and professional relationship with both Burr, who’s from Meriden, and Hudson, which, he said, makes the project work more smoothly.

“Mark and Gary are brilliant musicians, and I love working with them,” he said. “It’s hard to single out their contributions, since they’re good at a few of the same things, such as harmonies.

“Gary likes to zero in on something that needs to be fixed, get it, and move on. Hudson hears every vocal glitch (even when I don’t) so that is a lesson

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for me as we get into fixing the problem,” he observed. “Besides the music, they make me laugh all the time!”

“We’ve done one day of rehearsals together so far, at Smash Studios in NYC,” he said. “We have two more days of rehearsals booked the week of the show. The rehearsal went better than we expected since we had done all the preparations separately.

As a long-time fan, although he admits he has never seen CSNY together in concert, Mirando also has some interesting observations about them, collectively and individually, from both a fan and a musician’s point of view.

“They are four different styles that meshed together and struck a chord,” he said. “They wrote songs that their audience related to, whether they were political songs or love songs. Great writing and the sound they made together had so much to do with it.

“I love Crosby’s songs. His writing style is different from the other three,” he added. “He likes odd tunings, and he writes in unorthodox song forms (no chorus, maybe no bridge, one verse and then a completely new part that could be a different song if he wanted to save it!) He writes gorgeous melodies, and I love his voice.

“Stills writes the best three-part harmony songs. I love his acoustic guitar playing and how he and Neil play electric guitars off each other.

“Nash is a great pop writer, and a master ballad writer as well. He’s also got a voice I love.

“Neil is Neil,” Mirando said. “A great album followed by a questionable one. I may not like the finished product, but I admire how he dives into a project and follows his heart.

“Neil’s been an inspiration to me since the beginning. I wanted to be him in my early days. He would write and sing a piano ballad and the rock out on the next song. He could do it all. I wish he took as much care on his newer material. It’s been hit or miss for a while.



When asked if he has a favorite among the four, Mirando said “it goes back and forth with my mood. I obsess on one of them all the time. Right now it’s Crosby. I love his new album and I’ve also been playing his first album, which is brilliant and an inspiration even after all these years.

“Fabulous songs, and wonderful instrumentation. You can also feel the camaraderie between the musicians. That doesn’t happen much anymore. All those ingredients created a timeless work.”

And, Mirando said, it’s that timelessness that continues to strike a chord with fans and inspires musicians like Burr, Hudson and him to work on a

project like “Laurel Canyon.”

“The legacy is the songs,” he said. “They wrote, and write, great songs. They are dedicated to connecting to their audience who have grown with them.

“Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young are still writing about the struggles of their love life and what’s going on in the world. They still move and inspire me whether it’s their classic songs or new material.”

So, I asked Mirando, given his, and his colleagues, admiration for CSNY, is this a one-off, or a project that might keep going on?

“We’ve invited other promoters to the show, so we’ll see,” he said. “We’d like to do more.”



Sunset Ribs Reboot

Sean Gauthier is a man on a mission.

In his fifth year as Operations Manager for Sunset Ribs in Waterford, he is overseeing their very special 25th anniversary by upping their game with recently completed, physical improvements to the restaurant as well as taking responsibility for booking this season to bring the best variety of local music to their outdoor stage.

Guests will recognize the first floor with it's large bar and smaller indoor stage. With wonderfully creative photographs of the stunning views from years past, that have been hung in custom frames and backlit so it really looks like a true sunset. Don't miss the local vintage yearbook shots that line the stairwell.

Upstairs wowed me with it's new beachy themed art and fresh nautical blue paint. The booths looked inviting and there is plenty of space to move around. You can still venture out onto the upper deck to enjoy the band below, and of course catch stunning sunsets from the perfect perch with the backdrop of their 4 live palm trees. The upstairs is also available for private events, if you book yours on a night that has a band, voila! Your event now has live music included!



You might be hard pressed to find a night without a live band. Sean has filled the entire calendar, through mid October and added a very innovative Thursday "Country Music Night", which will run all season. In addition to the regularly scheduled entertainment, Sunset Ribs will also offer earlier music on Sunday's from 4 - 8pm, which tends to lend itself to a more family friendly vibe.

Two festivals, Solchella and Sunstock, are slated for July and September, respectively. The music, performed on parallel stages, will run continuously and tends to organically inspire collaborations between



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bands. The festivals will have vendors set up on premise for browsing and as always you will find easy, free parking.

While Sunset Ribs has a name that implies BBQ, they seem to be heading into their next quarter century by expanding their appeal to folks that want seafood when they come to the

shore and their menu makes it easy to please anyone you might be with.

Sunset Ribs has become an institution for residents and visitors alike, this season they are poised to provide an updated experience you will want to share with your friends...and their friends. Cheers to your anniversary and all the memories yet to be made!

For all the details on the full calendar, menu, specials and how to contact directly, please visit Sunsetribs.com

- Ali Kaufman



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10 Country Night Tat Holler Duo 6-10pm	11 Ethan Cash 6-10 pm	12 Matt Vizzo 6-10pm	13 Desiree 6-10pm
17 Country Night Anna & Emma 6-10pm	18 Tony Marshall 6-10pm	19 Majestic Fuzz 6-10pm	20 Meleana 4-8pm
24 Country Night Tat Holler Duo 6-10pm	25 Matt Vizzo 6-10pm	26 Ben Charles Band 6-10pm	27 Pop Rocks 7-11pm
31 Country Night Kate Perkins Trio 6-10pm	1 Steve Dunn 6-10pm		



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All The World's a Stage



“Opening Acts”

By Sue Menhart

As an unknown Indie band, opening for a national act can gain you tons of potential new fans, super bragging rights, and you can write “Shared the Stage With....” on your web site so people think you’re even more awesome than even you think you are.

When you’re on a “bill” at a venue, the first name on the list is the “headliner”, and all the names below it are the “openers.” We were asked to be on the bill at a prestigious venue in New Haven, Connecticut and we jumped at the chance. We got to the place, loaded our stuff in, and got a sound check, which is a rare event for an opener. When we first arrived we were last on the bill, but after impressing the electronic poster people with our awesome sound check, we were magically moved up on the list. The closer you are to the headliner in line, the better you are, I guess. We even had a dressing room, which smelled like Mick Jagger. This place had hosted all kinds of national acts, but had never been cleaned.

Another important factor for determining how far you move up the bill is how well you bark. How well you bark also determines how much money you get in an envelope after your set. Barking is the time-honored and highly-skilled activity, made famous in New York City and Las Vegas, of handing out pieces of paper to people walking by. You hand out pieces of paper to people around the venue in the hopes that they will read your piece of paper, digest what you yelled, i.e., “barked,” into their face, and show up to the venue with the piece of paper.

Our pieces of paper were pink so the more people who showed up with pink pieces of paper, the more money we got and the later we played. We spied most of our pink pieces of paper in garbage bins up and down the street, but we never let it sway us. This is just the way of the world people!

After we had had enough barking, we went back to the venue and hoped for the best. We had to wait in line for our turn on the left side of the stage, with our amps and drum set and guitars, so that when it was our turn, we could get our butts up there real quick like. We got up there, plugged in, tuned, and stopped hyperventilating. The band before us thought it was real cute to climb on top of the house speakers and spew beer from their heavy metal mouths. A lot of beer. So we were sticking to the floor, and I don’t even want to know what kind of gunk got on my purse, and we attempted to put on an energizing and unforgettable show. It was very hard to jump around with all the stickiness, so we just sort of stood there.

We did our thing to a packed crowd, and exited stage right. A couple more bands played and then the main attraction took the stage. These dudes didn’t have to load a thing up there, because their stuff was already magically there. We had been playing in front of “their” Marshall stacks, mic stands, and drum set. They took the stage and we humbly sat with expectation to see who had been bestowed this great honor. To our horror, the main event, the headliner, the big kahuna, was a Van Halen cover band! We

8 SOUND WAVES

had waited twelve hours, and so had the rest of the crowd, for a Van Halen cover band! And since Van Halen did a lot of covers in their day, we were actually opening for a cover band covering a cover band?

Disillusioned, and rather pissed off, we just shook our heads and said, “Well, that’s Connecticut for ya. The Land of the Cover Bands.”

We got some good video footage, a tic on our resume, and zero dollars.

Not enough pink pieces of paper they said.

Back when I was still in a cover band, we did ‘50s/’60s music and were “popular.” Some college in Massachusetts thought it was a good idea for us to open for that fictional band from “Animal House” - Otis Day and the Knights.

Because we were such professionals, on our tech rider (that’s the contract where you write things like green M&Ms), we requested water bottles and cut-up fruit. This was living the dream man! The organizers actually delivered, and we were just ecstatic. We got through sound check and the crowd started arriving.

In togas.

Yes, people wrapped in sheets.

Apparently, we were in for some kind of a fabricated “Animal House” reunion. With trepidation, we did our thing, and the crowd loved it. Well, they were already quite drunk and actually couldn’t care less who we were or what we played. With the guys in the band trying to focus on the songs, instead of watching all the sheets fall off all the girls, we ended to thunderous applause.

Otis and his band hit the stage, and well, all hell broke loose. By this time, we were really wishing we brought togas, because we looked completely out of place. Otis and company took a break and the crowd started chanting, “Fan-ta-sy, Fan-ta-sy,” (the name of our band) just like “toga, toga, toga, toga....”

I think we got up there and did some more songs to placate the situation, and we were soon told to get the hell off the stage so the “real” band could get back up there. It was all good fun. We got paid, but never saw those people, or that band, or that college, again.

I haven’t figured out how to best word these experiences on the web site yet...

Peruse more cautionary tales, rants and raves over on my blog “Menhart Musings” at www.suemenhart.wordpress.com.



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Don Imus Continued

too many to list herein. Suffice it to say, he stretched the bounds, if not broke them altogether, on pretty much a daily basis.

Many times, he went too far. In April 2007, he was fired after an on-air discussion in which characterized the Rutgers University women's basketball team players as "rough girls," commenting on their tattoos, later calling the women "nappy-headed hoers." He returned to the air later that year. Although cantankerous, crotchety, and seemingly having no filter, Imus did have a deep charitable side to him.

He was instrumental in raising over \$60 million for the Center for the Intrepid, a Texas rehabilitation facility for soldiers wounded in the Iraq War. The largest technological center of its kind in the country, it is designed to help treat disabled veterans and help them with their transition back into the community. Imus has also taken on the cause of the living conditions at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C..

In 1999, Imus and his wife, Deirdre, founded the Imus Ranch, a working 4,000-acre cattle ranch near Ribera, New Mexico, for children with cancer and siblings of SIDS victims. Until its closing in 2014, the Imus family volunteered their time at the ranch between Memorial Day and Labor Day each year. During those months, Imus continued his broadcasts from a studio there, while the rest of his on-air gang continued to broadcast from New York.

Another brilliant side of Imus often got lost in those battles of outrage, blasphemy and incoherence. Having started his radio career as a disk jockey, he developed an indelible ear for great music, and, over the years, promoted the careers of Dwight Yoakam, Emmylou Harris, Delbert McClinton (his personal favorite), and his long-time friend Kinky Friedman, among countless others who often performed live on his show.

At one point, the immortal Levon Helm and his musicians were the virtual

house band for "Imus in the Morning," appearing on countless occasions.

Imus won four Marconi Radio Awards, three for Major Market Personality of the Year, and he was named one of the 25 Most Influential People in America in Time Magazine in 1997. He was inducted into the National Radio Hall of Fame in 1989. In 2002, Talkers magazine ranked Imus as one of the 25 greatest radio talk show hosts of all time.

He was controversial. He was a maverick. And, yes, he was original.

The original.

Say what you want about him, but, between his biting and scathing comments and descriptions, the I-Man made me, and countless others, laugh every weekday morning for a very long time, making many interminable rush hours that much easier to bear.

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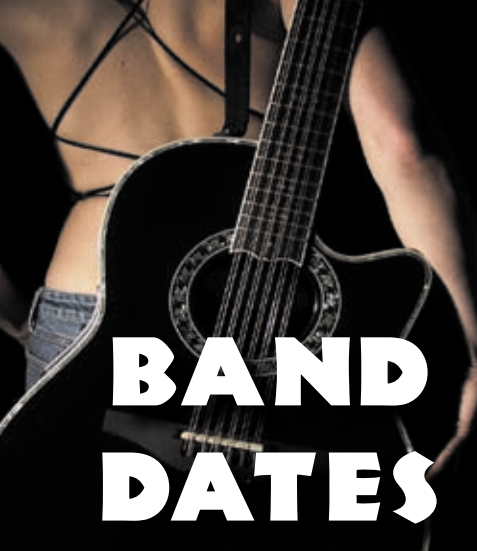
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17 Izzy Malek	18 Ground Control	19 Kevin & Heather	20 Greg Sherrod
24 Andy Chaney	25 Dan Watson & Tom Coon	26 Ben Freiert	27 Phil Adams
31 Marc Philip	 		



BAND DATES

ANDY CHANEY & FRIENDS

3,17 - The Irons, Mystic, CT 5pm
4 - Friar Tucks, Mystic, CT 10pm
8 - Angies Pizza, Mystic, CT 5pm
18 - Maugle Sierra, Ledyard, CT 6pm
21 - Daniel Packer, Mystic, CT
23 - Mystic Pizza 2, N. Stonington, CT 7:30pm
24 - Friar Tucks, Mystic, CT 8pm
25,26 - Shipyard Tavern, Mystic, CT 7pm
31 - Breachway, Charlestown, RI 7pm

APRIL MARIE & PETER EMANUEL DUO

4,5 - Cedars, Mashantucket, CT 6-10pm
18 - Harbour House, Mytic, CT 7-10pm

ATLANTIC AVE BAND

11 - Atrium, Mashentucket, CT
28 - The Andrea, Misquamicut, RI

AZALEA DRIVE

11 - Black Sheep, Niantic, CT
18 - On The Waterfront, New London, CT 6:30pm
25 - Harbour House, Mystic, CT 7pm

BEBOBALOUBOB

8 - Toyo, Colchester, CT 8:30-11:30
25 - Angelico's, E. Hampton, CT 6-10pm

THE BEN CHARLES BAND

6 - Speedbowl, Waterford, CT 11am
26 - Sunset Ribs, Waterford, CT 6-10pm

BLUE RHYTHM SANDWICH

5 - Tequila's, Old Saybrook, CT 5-11pm

THE CARTELLS

3,10,17,24 - Norwich Inn, Norwich, CT 6:30pm
4 - Community Dance, W. Hartford, CT 8:30pm
9 - Knickerbocker, Westerly, RI 7:30pm
13,27 - Maugle Sierra, Ledyard, CT 3pm
26 - Bill's Seafood, Westbrook, CT 7:30pm
28 - Point Inn, Old Saybrook, CT 12pm

CHESTNUT MARE

11 - Steak Loft, Mystic, CT 7pm

10 SOUND WAVES

18 - Amigo's, Westerly, RI 7:30pm

CRAZY ANTS

5 - Cleats, Westerly, RI

DAN WATSON

1,15,29 - Daniel Packer, Mystic, CT
3,17,27 - Ancient Mariner, Mystic, CT
4,26 - Harp n Hound, Mystic, CT
5 - The Irons, Mystic, CT
9 - Tipping Chair, Southington, CT
10,25 - Friar Tucks, Mystic, CT
11 - Breachway, Charlestown, RI
12 - Dog Watch, Stonington, CT
13 - Vineyards, Stonington, CT
16 - Steakloft, Mystic, CT
18 - Sneakers, Groton, CT
19 - Harbor House, Mystic, CT
24 - Dog Watch, Mystic, CT

DARIK & THE FUNBAGS

5 - Brown Derby, Uncasville, CT
11 - Club One, Feeding Hills, MA
12 - American Pie, Seymour, CT
18 - Shamrock, Waterbury, CT
19 - Nanola, Malta, NY
26 - Newport Blues, Newport, RI
27 - Blu on the Water, E. Greenwich, RI 8p
28 - Louie Bs, Southwick, MA 4p

DESIREE

13 - Sunset Ribs, Waterford, CT
19 - Lionheart Tavern, Niantic, CT

THE DRAWBRIDGE BAND

5 - Latitude 41, Mystic, CT 7-10pm

THE FAKE EXPERIENCE

19 - Sneakers, Groton, CT 8:30-11:30

THE FAKE EXPERIENCE DUO/TRIO

5 - Friar Tucks, Mystic, CT 10-1am
25 - Ridge Vineyard, Preston, CT

FRANKENPHIL

2 - Steak Loft, Mystic, CT 7pm
11 - McBrides, Providence, RI 7pm
18 - Ridge Vineyard, Preston, CT 5:30pm
19 - Mariner Grille, Narragansett, RI 7:30pm
26 - Penny Lane, Old Saybrook, CT 7:30pm
27 - Ridge Vineyard, Preston, CT 12pm

GREEN TEA

4 - Pump House, Wakefield, RI 7pm
18 - Daniel Packer, Mystic, CT
19 - Wood River Inn, Richmond, RI

GREEN TEA LIGHT

10 - The Irons, Mystic, CT 5:30pm

HIT PLAY

4 - Atrium, Mashentucket, CT

11 - Springfest, Misquamicut, RI

IZZY MALEK

3,17 - Friar Tucks, Mystic, CT 8pm
4 - Amigos, Westerly, RI 7:30pm
8,22 - Daniel Packer, Mystic, CT
13 - The Pub, Matunuck, RI 3pm
30 - Steak Loft, Mystic, CT 7pm

KATE CALLAHAN

/KRISTEN GRAVES

4 - All Souls, New London, CT

KATE CALLAHAN

12 - Vanilla Bean, Pomfret, CT

KEEP IT ROLLING BAND

5 - Hideaway, Colchester, CT

KEN SERIO JAZZ TRIO

6 - Perks & Corks, Westerly, RI

THE KOSMIK KATZ

19 - C.C. Obriens, Pawcatuck, CT

THE LOCOMOTIVES

4 - Adams Mill, Manchester, CT
5 - Ray of Light, E. Haddam, CT
19 - Steady Habit, Haddam, CT

NAKED SUNDAY

19 - Brown Derby, Montville, CT

THE PIRANHA BROTHERS

5 - Carmines, E. Hartford, CT 8:30-12:30
26 - The Diamond, Glastonbury, CT 8-11

PIRATES FOR PEACE

12 - Octane, New London, CT
18 - Tamarack Lodge, Voluntown, CT
19 - Turning Tide, New London, CT

POSITIVE NRG

11 - Lakeview, Coventry, CT
19 - Octane, New London, CT

RAMBLIN' DAN STEVENS

1,8,22,29 - www.icrvradio.com 4pm
1,8,22,29 - Nightingale's, Old Lyme, CT 6pm
3 - Gritty McDuff's, Auburn, ME
5 - Gritty's, Freeport, ME
6 - Andy's Old Port, Portland, ME
10 - Fort Hill Brewery, Easthampton, MA 5pm
11 - Old Orchard Farm, E. Lyme, CT 7pm
12 - House Concert, Burlington, CT 7pm
15 - Red Lion Inn, Stockbridge, MA 8pm
16 - Note Kitchen, Bethel, CT 8pm
17 - Tapped Apple, Westerly, RI 8pm
18 - Chamard Vineyards, Clinton, CT 5pm
19 - Daniel Packer Inn, Mystic, CT, 10pm
20 - Ridge Vineyard, Preston, CT 12pm
23 - Bee & Thistle, Old Lyme, CT 6pm
24 - Public House, Old Lyme, CT 6pm
25 - Smokin' With Chris, Southington, CT 6pm
26 - Perks & Corks, Westerly, RI
27 - Bill's Seafood, Westbrook, CT 3:30pm
28 - Vineyards, Stonington, CT, 2pm
30 - Old Lyme Inn, Old Lyme, CT 6pm
31 - Hideout, Hallowell, ME

STYFF KITTY

5 - C.C. Obriens, Pawcatuck, CT

SUGAR

11 - Velvet Mill, Stonington, CT 7pm
27 - Tamarac, Voluntown, CT 4pm

SUNDAY GRAVY

5 - Dan's Place, W. Greenwich, RI
20 - Back Porch, Old Saybrook, CT 3-7

2 CAT ZOO

31 - The Irons, Mystic, CT

VINCE THOMPSON & THE NEXT FUN THING

5,19 - Bill's Seafood, Westbrook, CT 7-10pm
26 - Knickerbocker, Westerly, RI 8-12pm
31 - Sneakers, Groton, CT 7:30-11pm

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CONCERT DATES

Bon Jovi

5 - Mohegan Sun, Uncasville, CT

Def Leppard/ Journey

21 - XL Center, Hartford, CT

Indigo Girls

11 - Garde Arts, New London, CT

23 - The Strand, Providence, RI

Jackson Browne

9 - Perf. Arts Ctr., Providence, RI

Jason Aldean

25 - Xfinity Theatre, Hartford, CT

26 - Xfinity Center, Mansfield, MA

John Fogerty/ ZZ Top

27 - Mohegan Sun, Uncasville, CT

Keb' Mo'

26 - Infinity Hall, Hartford, CT

Kim Simmonds

And Savoy Brown

13 - Wolf Den, Uncasville, CT

Lake Street Dive

9 - College St. Hall, New Haven, CT

Lipbone Redding

19 - Carol Autorino Center, W. Hartford, CT

Lucky Peterson

10,11 - Daddy Jacks, New London, CT

Rhonda Vincent

31 - Strawberry Park, Preston, CT

Rick Springfield

11 - Shubert Theater, New Haven, CT

12 - Twin Rivers, Lincoln, RI

Ronnie Earl

& The Broadcasters

25 - Kate Center, Old Saybrook, CT

Rosanne Cash

12 - Shubert Theater, New Haven, CT

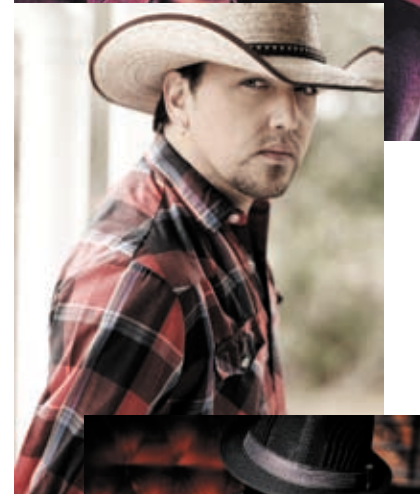
Ruben Studdard

4 - Mohegan Sun, Uncasville, CT

The Yardbirds

11 - Bridge St. Live, Collinsville, CT

12 - Mohegan Sun, Uncasville, CT



SOUND WAVES 11

LOCAL BEAT



“ROCKING WITH REHAB’S RED”

By Andrew Kerbs

Looking for good music this Spring? Look no further than “Red on Red,” Bedroom Rehab Corporation’s latest release Red Over Red. The band consists of die hard rock drummer veteran Meg Killimade , and bassist wiz Adam Wujtewicz who has an uncanny ability to make his bass sound like a guitar. Not as straight ahead as Eye of the Storm,

fans of ambient rock will enjoy Rehab’s foray into experimental bass sounds and seafaring lyrics.

The album opens with “Low Tide,” featuring a phaser laced 90s-sounding bass strum and weird psychedelic radio sounds like Floyd’s Piper at the Gates of Dawn. Then, the album launches into Meg’s thundering and thudding drums amidst Adam’s singing about the holes in sailor’s lives lost after drowning after a shipwreck. Although there’s plenty of whiskey, there’s not a drop of (salt) water to drink. The song also speaks of themes of alienation where there’s “nothing left to live for:” a point driven home by the compressed distortion on Adam’s dirge-like basslines. Like Don Henley of 70s Eagles fame, the singer also “can’t kill the beast” on Basilosaurus.

Next, SOS (Son of a Siren) is a grungy song about a child in the middle of heaven “lending the singer a hand to escape his life.” The walking bassline and lyrics are haunting, reminding the listener that seductive sirens are often blue-lipped Lucifers in disguise, regardless of how trustworthy they may seem on the surface. The song crawls to a stop before leading into “All Hands:” a flangy metal instrumental with heavy sustain guitar riffs.

Although “Captain Dammit” and “Gone by the Boards” have lyrics that are either so echoey or hardcore as to be indecipherable, the former sounds like Marilyn Manson in all but lyrics. Meanwhile, Boards starts slow and sparingly (with clean sounding guitar) before expanding into a barrage of loud guitar and snarky vocals (like Lee-Roth meets STP). “No Payment for the Boatman” seems to mean punishment for someone else’s crimes and features short staccato bursts crunchy guitar rather than long sustained power chords.

Furthermore, the garage thud of Meg’s drum’s lay the foundation for the tubular sound effects of Adam’s bass strumming on “Pilot Fish.” This song tells the familiar story of the macho moratorium of young adulthood (“You need it. I got it.”), including relationship ambivalence when being a “fool for bigger fish against the tide” instead of settling for the fish you’re with. This is also a time when young singers learn to discriminate their true friends from their enemies (“sharks”) as Meg’s drums accelerate until the end (only to slow to a crawl once again).

Finally, “Caught in the Bite” features Meg’s Grohl-sounding drum beat counterpointing Adam’s dark bass note triads. His soft vocals steadily ascending into a gothic screech as he sings about captains dying at the hands of some monster at the eye of the storm flinging freezing surf spray onto their sinking ship as it runs aground. Red sky at morning means sailors take warning.

Few Eastern CT bands have as much staying power as this couple whose

hard rock drive has been central to the New London county’s rock scene. Buy Red Over Red from the Telegraph music store one of these weekends as the weather warms and the rock scene starts simmering up . .



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8	FORREST GUMP
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22	BETLEJUICE
28	THE PRINCESS BRIDE
29	THE GOONIES
30	ROGUE ONE

JULY	
5	KONG: SKULL ISLAND
6	JAWS
7	JAWS 2
12	GREASE
13	ET: THE EXTRA TERRESTRIAL
14	DIRTY DANCING
19	BACK TO THE FUTURE
20	BACK TO THE FUTURE 2
21	BACK TO THE FUTURE 3
26	GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY
27	STAR WARS
28	BEAUTY & THE BEAST

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By Ali Kaufman

Stelth Ulvang has a lot of irons in the fire, touring the world with the Lumineers for the last 7 years while simultaneously growing his solo career and releasing a 3 part project called American Boredom in early April. Clearly this is a man that doesn't have time to get bored, currently playing a run of solo dates with the band Wild Child supporting.

This month the Knickerbocker will host another installment of Westerly Sound Concerts, the innovative music series created by Sean Spellman of Quiet Life. Stelth will be the featured artist on May 11th with Y La Bamba opening this last show of the run. I asked Stelth about agreeing to be a part of this event and he was as generous in his praise for the series as he was for Sean, whom he described as a musician's musician, and gladly signed on. Stelth also noted prior performer in the lineup, Josiah Johnson from the Head and the Heart, saying that they had collaborated before and he hoped they will play again in the future. After hearing Stelth's good word, I checked back with Sean Spellman and he describes his vision this way, "My goal with Westerly Sound is to continually bring quality cultural events to not just Westerly proper, but to the entire Westerly area. Many of these are music-centric but this summer I'm excited to add food, film and other events. My hopes are that what Westerly Sound does is bring more creative folks to see and be a part of these things, while helping to expand the area's artistic community." This will be an ongoing series and the summer/fall events will be announced by June 1. Sean mentioned that he is on the look out for unique spaces to have these shows and is encouraging people to reach out to him if they have a great suggestion.

There is something endearing about people that share genuine appreciation for others so sincerely and that is something Stelth did several times during our conversation. Of note was the credit given to Dorota Szuta, his partner on and off stage. As well as creating the new album art for this cycle, Dorta plays every instrument that Stelth plays. The instruments Stelth

most favors on stage now are piano and guitar, but there is accordion, mandolin, banjo and bass in the repertoire as well. He plays just about all with the Lumineers and seemed unfazed by huge success of the Colorado band as he spoke about the many facets of his life. I asked about being starstruck at all, knowing the band has shared stages with some of the biggest acts out there and his thoughtful answer was, "not in the typical sense, it was the people that I had spent time listening to, they had an influence, you feel invested in them somehow, it feels personal, meeting and getting to play with Andrew Bird was one of those times." Currently the band, that has hit it so big with immediately recognizable songs like Hey Ho and Stubborn Love, is working on songs for the highly anticipated third full length album so no tour dates are scheduled as of this writing....but you know they are coming!

Stelth's writing efforts are channeled towards solo projects, the new American Boredom has 10 originals. "St. Peter" is a song that was born in the Sistine Chapel at the Vatican. While visiting the indescribable holy place, the inspiration for the song struck, but no way to save it to a phone as they are banned from use. At that point the choice is to exit and get down what you can on the phone or sit down in a pew and actually memorize the song that's germinating, Stelth chose the latter. Later back at the hotel, he put the call out to social media for a piano and got a response from a fan who welcomed him into their recording studio where he captured the sixth cut on the new album. "It all speaks to inspiration hitting and finding a way to harness it before the moment has passed." Stelth concluded.

While you will find his music often categorized as folk, this Fort Collins, Colorado native is a fan of switching it up with songs like the physically demanding "Clock Tower" then completely shifting gears for the light and fizzy "Springtime". Stelth admitted that one of his favorite things is going back and forth between the two. Also satisfying is when a person comes to a show and experiences that whole other side to his performances, and digs it. Conversely, not as much when some well intentioned fans are insistent that he should stay in one lane...don't see that happening. Trusting his gut and the drive to experiment is what I see as the reason most artists create, and the way they express it must please themselves or it ends up pleasing nobody. One experiment that has been pleasing many is the live recording he made while on the road with The Lumineers. Ulvang captured it on his cell phone and made it available on cassette tape, which has been thrilling those still with the means to play it! It is only available at the shows and if there are any left they will be at the performance on May 11th. Also look for the Hi-Fi recording and other merch.

Stelth Ulvang is a name you don't come across everyday, but like the talented musician that bears the moniker, quite unforgettable. For all the details on what's up next for Stelth, video and links you can visit stelthulvang.com or Facebook



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BAR FLY JOURNALS



By Stephanie Shawn

Hello, my Sweet BarFlies..Spring has definitely Sprung and what better way to celebrate than to join us for our 4th ANNUAL PESKY POKER RUN on May 27 coming out of the HANDLEBAR CAFE! With all the usual suspects in attendance : KRIS PESCATELLO SLOCUM, KEVIN SLOCUM, LISA CYR, BRIAN REID, MIKE HURD, LUCKY HURD and KENNY PETE STEVENS, along with me (BAR FLY), sis ELIZABETH MITCHELL CIPRIANO, CHRIS CIP, PETE and WHITNEY STAMM, ANDRE and CHERYL COMEAU, JANINE MARIE, MARK VICTORIA, PAM ROSETTA, DINO COZZOLINO,

MONIQUE, BOBBY DEMING, BAAAAAFATHA, DEAN ROCHA, JEFF MILLER, LINA and RONNIE WOYCIK, COLIN DONAHUE, BILL MITCHELL, KIM HANDLEY, TOM ARRUDA, RANDI SELVADIO, ANDY CRIDER, JAMIE QUATTROMANI, DAN CABRAL, JOAN DEFANTI, JJ JOHNSON, GARY ROY, TERRY, VERMONT KEN, MARCUS SMINKEY, LAURIE and RICHARD ELVIN, BARBETTE PETTINI, DAVID DANIEL, JOHN GAVITT, HEATHER and BILL SOARES, LISA SHAW, ROCCO, TINA and PETE PLENNINGER, WAYNE and SAM BYZDLO, WADE ROBBINS, ARNOLD BELLAMY, JULI KATHERINE and JIMMY CUNIAN, KATHI MURPHY, KEVIN EVERETT, DOT SANDERS, ED ALLORE, SAMANTHA, SALINA, HUNTER, BRUCE MEARNES, POOKIE, CHUCK FELLOWS, CHERYL VARS, STAN MITCHELL, SLIM BRENNAN, DAVE and SUE DONOVAN, BOZ, BRUCE and JANIE, TAMI ALGIERE, MICHELLE BABCOCK, HEIDI HOLT KERFUS, STEVE CLYNE, KATHLEEN, ARTHUR WEYANT, MIKE NOLAN, SCOTT COOK, CORINNE, STEVE ROBINSON, TDOG PEABODY, PETE, DJ Dave CHRISTINA, AL DROUIN, ROD ACKLEY, Editor DAVE POTTIE and God knows I forgot some of you, but we will all be there to support the PESKY FAMILY, take



a beautiful New England Ride and then enjoy some eats and dance to the music of CHRIS MCKAY AND THE TONESHIFTERS! And don't forget the SWAP MEET @ the BAR on the 20th.

Went to a fabulous event recently at the HARBOUR HOUSE (Hi



16 SOUND WAVES

Tom!) in Mystic showcasing many local artists including beautiful and talented KATE CAREB, SHARON WHITE, LAURIE JOHNSTONE, TOD JOHNSTONE, KIMBERLY PALMER and BOBBY & KIT ALLEN. Ever busy KATE, has joined the OZ/MONTE TEAM running for Governor and Lt.Governor respectively, in Nov. 2018. A force to be reckoned with, OZ GRIEBEL and MONTE FRANK'S platform of No Politics. No Parties. Just Solutions may help bring a bit of sanity back into the political world, or the world in general. Join us for a convention on May 15 at the XFINITY MUSIC HALL in Hartford!



SO, so much going on this month in our little corner of the world! FUSION at the VELVET MILL on May 11, with beautiful body painted people, as well as Trashion Fashion ladies, including TINAMARIE PLENNINGER and music with SUGAR, and the MISQUAMICUT SPRING-FEST is that same weekend! CAR and BIKE CRUISE NIGHTS are back at the new BONEYARD GRILL (OLD PAVILION) in Ashaway on Friday night's starting at 4! Good to see a family fun night coming back!

ERNIE SMITH'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR WITH SOULSHOT on the 19TH @ THE KNICK, CREEDENCE CLEARWATER REVIVAL NIGHT @ STRANGE BREW PUB on the 25th, and don't forget the BLAST OFF 2018 PIT PARTY @ WATERFORD SPEEDBOWL on May 6!! Gonna be a Banner Year for the Racers!

Friends of JEN BOGUE and her family are invited to her late brother, Gary Gidman's Celebration of Life at the KNICKERBOCKER CAFE on May 20. with the entire GIDMAN/BOGUE Crew on hand, as well as his many friends and fans of the TIREBITERS BAND from over the years. BLUE MONDAYS at the MYSTIC RIVER PARK starting on July 2 with SUGAR RAY & THE BLUETONES.

Can't wait to go with the ladies to watch CHRISTINA OHLMAN and REBEL MONTEZ, along with many other artists at the NEW LONDON BREWS AND BLUES FESTIVAL on June 2 and 3. At the HYGENIC ART PARK. May 27th the 6th Annual SPRING FESTIVAL at HOLMBERG ORCHARDS and ESKER POINT and SOUND WAVES SUMMER CONCERT SERIES on Thursdays starting July 5 with WILL EVANS!! Whoot! Lots goin' on, my peeps!



Happy Mother's Day to my mom DAWN MERSHON, MICHELE, HEATHER and all the other wonderful Mother's in my life! Romper Stomped Birthday Babies! I see MIKE GARDNER, WADE ROBBINS, ANABEL COLLADO MONTALBANO, JEFF MCCABE, BRIAN GAUDET, MICHAEL CHICORIA,

JOHN FRIES, JEREMY URBANIK, BILL SEYLER, DEAN SCHLAIS, MARSHALL MAC, ERNIE LOPES, CAN CAREB, LINDA TURNER WHYTE, CATHY SIMMS, TOM SANTOS, JOHN GAVITT, BRIAN BRADLEY, TIM BREAUULT, LEE OLIVER, JAY MINICUCCI, LESLIE KING, KRIS STARKS, GREG PICCOLO, SABBY CONTINO, ROXANNE FERRARO, ROBIN BENTZ, JOANNE HOLLY, CHARLINE EITEL, JOE GAFFNEY, BOB GLADUE, BILLY PEARSTON, MICHELLE JAMES,

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So another month in the books, heading to BIKE WEEK in Myrtle Beach with TAMI..should be amazing! My first BIKE WEEK in that town! Heading out tonight to the STEAK LOFT in Mystic to see FRANKENPHIL..And by the time you are reading this I will have zipped my way to glory on the FOXWOODS ZIPLINE for the OCEAN COMMUNITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE! Pix to follow! Should be an interesting month!

Love ya long time!

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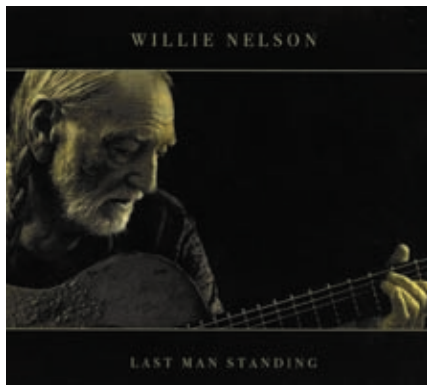
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HEARING AID



Willie Nelson "Last Man Standing" Legacy Recordings

There are certain voices in Americana that just soothe with originality, style and magic. Voices like Louis Armstrong, Ray Charles, and Frank Sinatra have this instantaneous way of pulling you back to a timeless place, where the world was sparkling with excitement and promise. Willie Nelson has one of those voices. Within seconds, the listener knows who is singing and is transported to a far off place where life is beautiful.

Willie keeps writing and recording great music and has just released another new album entitled "Last Man Standing". It's the title track of the album and is a tongue in cheek reference to his growing old and losing good friends. He addresses the end of life in many of his themes throughout the album, but does it in a lighthearted way with warmth and care.

He follows it up with an upbeat blues shuffle number called "Don't Tell Noah". It's full of tongue in cheek references to people who speak more than they know. Willie's strong sense of humor is a common thread in his songwriting, and he is able to put a light touch on any subject.

His run on the comedy tour continues in the next track, "Bad Breath". It has a strong outlaw country vibe as he jokes "Bad breath is better than no breath at all". It's full of one-liners about halitosis - "Don't get too near me if you don't want to fall". Even with his dad-joke sense of humor, he will make it hard for you not to smile.

There are some ballady numbers on
18 SOUND WAVES

here too, as to be expected. "Something You Get Through" is one of them, with light brush work on the drums and Willie's sentimental crooning about losing people you love: "It's not something you get over, it's something you get through". "I'll Try To Do Better Next Time" is another sentimental ballad with a nice touch.

In general though, "Last Man Standing" is upbeat and will put a skip in your step. There's lots of blues/country shuffle feel throughout the album, the guitar work is nice, and Willie's special touch colors everything with a sense of the sacred past and warm American culture. There's a place in my heart for the music and personalities of our roots, and Willie Nelson does a great job of keeping his flame of creativity alive and burning to share his light with the rest of us.

- Tom Matthew
Two Ton Music



Dana Fuchs "Love Lives On" Get Along Records

American Soul artist and songwriter Dana Fuchs started her musical career at the age of nineteen in the tough and gritty New York City music scene at venues like Arlene's Grocery, The Mercury Lounge and B.B. King's Blues Club, and she packed them in. She released her first album in 2003 but her career really took off when she won the role of a lifetime playing Janis Joplin in "Love, Janis," an off-Broadway musical tribute. She then won the role of Sexy Sadie in the 2007 film "Across The Universe," featuring Beatles mu-

sic. The movie was nominated for Best Picture at the Golden Globe Awards.

Fuchs' Ruf Records albums Bliss Avenue (2013) and Songs from the Road (2014) reached the Top 10 on the Blues Album Chart of Billboard Magazine. She will release her second album on her own label, "Get Along Records," on May 18. The album, "Love Lives On," is all about hope and redemption in these politically charged times. On a personal level, she has lost several family members in a very short time (three of her five siblings and both parents) and she's also a new mother. "Love Lives On" was produced, engineered and mixed at Ward Archer Studios in Memphis in eleven days and features eleven new originals and two covers, backed by top-notch studio musicians.

The album kicks off with the horn-laden, big production number "Backstreet Baby." With a pop focus, it's catchy, tight and focused with Fuchs' signature gravel voice leading the charge. And she is in charge, there is no doubt. She sounds like the female version of Delbert McClinton on the funky Otis Redding cover of "Nobody's Fault But Mine." "Callin' Angels" is Memphis soul at its finest as she fondly remembers her family members that have passed on. "Sittin' On" is reflective and controlled while the title track "Love Lives On" is a McClinton-like power ballad. "Sad Solution" is funky with authority while "Faithful Sinner" is Gospel-like with prominent organ and is heart-wrenching again dealing with the loss of her loved ones. "Sedative" is seductive and fun while "Ready to Rise" is defiant and confident. My favorite tune on the album also signifies a shift in the direction of the CD as the music turns more inward to an acoustic and country rock feel with mandolin, pedal steel, harmonica and minimal instrumentation as a whole. The song, "Fight My Way," is the most interesting song on the album. It is well-written and you can really hear the nuances in Fuchs' vocals. Here you realize there's more to this blues rocker than you thought. Fuchs' vocals are up front and center again on the inspirational "Battle Lines" as she declares: "My eyes are tired of seeing it all, but the battle lines remain." On the bouncy and light "Same Sunlight" Fuchs sounds like Mavis Staples with longer, self-assured and improvised vocal lines.

The final tune is a tribute to her father who loved Johnny Cash: "Ring of Fire." It's a slow, loving version with

pedal and lap steel as she claims this song as her own. There's more than meets the eye to Ms. Fuchs as this album proves. Looking forward to what's to come. Her web site is: <http://www.danafuchs.com>.

Upcoming Shows:

May 18 – Warehouse, Fairfield, CT

May 20 – Brooklyn Bowl, Brooklyn, NY

May 24 – Sellersville Theatre, Sellersville, PA

May 25 – Darryl's House, Pawling, NY

- Sue Menhart



Sondra Levine "Walking on Water" Independent

Connecticut singer-songwriter Sondra Levine is an accomplished pianist, guitar player and vocalist. Her current album, "Walking on Water," was produced and recorded by Eric Lichter and mixed and mastered by Steve Wytas, both from Dirt Floor Recording Studios in Haddam, Connecticut. Levine provides vocals, guitar, piano, and wrote all the songs. Lichter adds guitar, bass, drums, pedal steel, Hammond B3 organ, piano, mellotron, and harmonies. James Maple plays drums on one song and MorganEve Swain provides viola and fiddle. The musicianship on the album is top-notch and features precision, expert production. Levine's pleasing vocals remind me of Karen Carpenter with shades of Joan Baez. The harmony-laden songs are chock-full of clever and intellectual lyrics.

The opening tune, "Walking on Water," is uplifting and feel-good, setting the tone for the album. "Too Early To Go To Bed" is a throw-back, nostalgic tune, sexy and cool with unique instrumentation, lulling you in, so to speak. "Stay" is a soothing down-by-the-river kind of song with calming instrumentation while "Big Fish" features more wistful sounds from the production

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team. With songwriting reminiscent of Jackson Browne, "Gone Too Soon" looks back on an entire lifetime and is filled with imagery. "Razor Wire Up In Flames" features mesmerizing guitar and more great songwriting. The haunting and alluring speak-easy-type tune "Obsession" is a fun listen with layers of sound and violin mingling with the tinkling of piano in a brilliant and beautiful way.

The country-tinged "Colors" pulls you in with Levine's lingering and climbing vocal lines and Lichter's pedal steel and is brimming with more creative imagery. I did not want this song to end. The Americana styled "Always Leaving" is grittier than the other tracks while the closer is the vulnerable and alluring "Broken Hearted and Brave." You can catch Levine performing throughout the local area in various acoustic settings and listening rooms.

Link:

<https://www.sondralevinemusic.com/>

Upcoming Show:

May 30 – Bee & Thistle Inn and Spa, Old Lyme, CT

- Sue Menhart



Eric Corne

"Happy Songs To The Apocalypse"

Forty Below Records

It should come as no surprise that Los Angeles based artist Eric Corne has released an album noteworthy for, among other things, a high level of production value: he is, after all, an award winning record producer with his own company, Forty Below Records. His client list is a who's who of blues and popular music, having now produced four albums for the Godfather of British Blues, John Mayall. Also on this list are Joe Walsh and Joe Bonamassa, Nancy Wilson, Edgar Winters, and Walter Trout.

Such associations also allow for

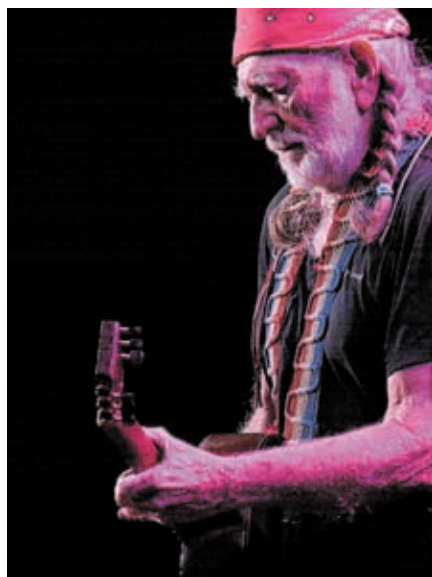
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the gathering of a long list of collaborators on his own album, twenty-three or so playing guitar, drums, sax, bass, pedal steel, and more. Yet for all the talent and experience gathered on this title, there is an unpretentious devotion to the basics of blues, rock, folk, and country, presenting songs which carry a theme announced in the album title: Happy Songs For The Apocalypse. This is a record in the tradition of the 60's, a commentary on the course which humanity has set itself upon, starting with the opening song, Mad World. "The future's uncertain, aint that the way its always been," sings Eric Corne over a slow paced acoustic guitar backed by the pedal steel. "Its a Mad World after all," he concludes, rather than a small world.

The Guilded Age takes on the excesses of our materialism, warning there's "too much pressure in this diamond mind," and "be careful what you find". Short Wave Preacher takes on politicians with an 80's rock feel carried on vocal harmonies, while Locomotion observes that "you can't stand still on a wave." Ashen Heart, meanwhile, returns to the roots of the slow blues, opening with "take this Ashen Heart and throw it to the wind, I know it will never beat again."

With Happy Songs For The Apocalypse, Eric Corne steps out from behind the mixing board to present his own view on the state of music and the world, stepping back to add his considerable production skills to the mix. This is a good listen and an album well worth adding to any blues and rock collection. Information on ordering, and sampling, may be found at www.ericcornemusic.com.

- Jon Persson



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COOKING WITH THE BLUES

By Jack Chaplin

Well, I guess my prediction of a late snow storm into April and continued cold weather isn't too far off. I'm getting close to this Friday's deadline to submit my article to our Peerless Leader Dave Pottie. I just stepped outside to see if a package was left on my front porch and it is raining, cold and dreary, not at all what late April usually brings. I'm just starting to see the Yellows and Greens and bright Colorful Flowers not far behind. I went to start my tractor that I bought used last year and it would not kick over! It was running fine when I cut the grass late last October and parked it. It wasn't getting gas, I put a small amount down into the carburetor



not wanting to blow the lid off the engine. It would fire up but then die out. What little I know about engine repairs had no positive results and I did a good job of wearing the battery down. I put a slow charge on it and called My Friend Casey McGrath. Casey has a small museum of John Deere lawn tractors, some very old and some fairly new. I envy his ability to take someones throwaway and repair it, buying new parts that are needed. What do you do when your equipment breaks? Usually you have to have it picked up or call a friend with a trailer or pickup truck, load it up and drop it off at say Bozrah Hardware. They are so backlogged with people's machines that are in the same boat as you but realized it a few weeks or days earlier. Your grass is starting to get over grown. With the rain and increasing sunshine you will be lucky to get it back within two or three weeks. By then the local blight enforcer is cruising by daily and jotting something down in his log book and your neighbors yard is looking pristine! Thanks to my friend Casey, he came over the next day. It was for him a simple fix, the fuel these days gummed up the works and a needle was stuck not letting gas in. What a lifesaver, I highly recommend that if you are in need of Casey's services inbox him on Facebook and see if he can help You out. I mowed the lawn yesterday afternoon and the yard looks clean, like someone looks after a fresh haircut. Having lived all across the U.S. it seems New Englanders spend a lot more time working in their yards and take greater pride in their landscape, spring is their time to shine.

I finally got over to RD86 in the old El N' Gee building at 86 Golden St, here in New London. Robert Ramsey has taken it over from Sparks Maker Space and what a nice job remodeling he has done. Robert has made headlines with his Montauk House sandwich shop on Montauk Ave. and has brought his creativity to downtown. His hours at the moment are limited, Friday Night dinners and Sat. Sun. Brunch, 10 am - 3 pm. They have family style seating with long tables and benches with a few smaller tables for two. It is an open kitchen concept and entertaining to watch. Our friend Ben ordered the Creme Brûlée French Toast w/ Applewood Smoked Bacon and a Berry Compote. LaKisha had the Shrimp and Grits, I had the Corned

Beef Hash w/ Poached Eggs. We ordered the Buckwheat Pancakes w/ bacon honey butter, and real maple syrup for the table. This is not your typical bacon and egg joint! This is just what an urban, up and coming city needs. Robert told me they had done 75 dinners the previous night just by word of mouth, Facebook, and other social media. Everything was excellent except the potatoes in the hash were on the al dente side, a very minor point. They are using local farmers and growers, Digga and Teresa over at Huntsbrook Farm being one. Downtown locals have found it already and I see it becoming a social mecca. The menus change weekly and they are keeping it FRESH! In the back is a creator kitchen where people can block out time and have access to their commercial kitchen to cook out of and they offer classes where you can get certified as a food handler, to cook and sell your goods. I know a caterer who works out of there and others are making some food products and canned goods. RD86, A Welcome Addition To Downtown New London!

Other restaurant news: Dev's is moving into the old Hannifin's space on State St., Pier 74 is changing hands and probably a name change as well. Stone fleet, next to the train station, will have a new tenant and maybe a name change also. Pequot Hibachi and BBQ opened in the old Rib and Claw next to Fred's Shanty. My old Chaplin's space at 165 Bank has become a Thai fusion concept called Noodles and Rice which just opened and they have done a beautiful makeover, except they painted over some great murals that a local artist did. Osimino's is moving into the old Bank St. Cafe. There are new tenants remodeling and opening soon in the old Ernie's location after extensive work. Berries Ice Cream didn't open because they are moving a few doors down into the old Robert's Audio Building and Advanced Improvements is doing the buildout. Target opening date is early June, I'll be ready for Laura to make me a Banana Split by then! Bream Cove has opened at 345 Bank St. and Anthony D. has opened up Tony D's Niantic in the old Frosty Treats spot. I did get to try their Clam Chowder, Amazing! A thin flavorful broth finished with cream, flecked with fresh herbs, redolent of fresh clams. It was loaded with smoked bacon, small diced carrots, celery, Yukon Gold potatoes and abundant chopped fresh clams. Maybe Anthony "Hooked A Brother Up"! I also detected some white wine, chablis possibly? It is well worth the drive from anywhere just for the chowder! And finally The Waterfront has finished their remodel and makeover, what a difference a few \$\$\$\$, well not a few but a lot of \$\$\$\$\$! What a job they did and under two weeks, ready for the next 25 years! I wish every one of these entrepreneur well, it does take guts and hard work to venture out on your own. Support them when your next looking to go out to eat. Chain restaurants are ok but the little independent operators are dependent on your patronage!

I want to give a shout out to Cory Wasniewski, Daddy Jack's own, for being voted Best Bartender in the 2018 Day Best Of For Southeastern CT.



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Lucky Peterson will be doing an acoustic set Thur. May 10th and playing May 11th with his full band. We will charge a small cover charge but free if you know the password, "Dave Pottie".

I want to wish My Sister, Heidi, a Happy Birthday on May 1st. I Love You Sissy!

Finally I want to wish all our Mothers a Happy Mother's Day, We wouldn't be without You!

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Jack



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**Chris
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**LUCKY
PETERSON**

12

**Dave
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