

Sound

Magazine

**Volume 30
Issue 5
May 2020**

COVID-19 SURVIVAL GUIDE

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Assistance
for Artists
- Farm
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& More**

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A Tribute to JOHN PRINE

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- Kenn Morr Band
- Val Starr
& The Blues Rocket
- Ryan Perry
- Victor Wainwright
& The Train



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Dear Readers,

So here we are, another month of Sound Waves Magazine being online only. These are unique times that we live in. The world is at a standstill. At times I have to think about what day it is. My hair is getting back to my 1970's era (just a little grayer and missing in some areas). And I think my trash guy left me a pamphlet for AA when he picked up my recyclables!

We need to smile and laugh more during these stressful times. We need to relax if we can. We need warm weather so we can get outside a lot more! One big factor that helps me relax is MUSIC. We need to support the music community now more than ever. Buy their music, watch and donate to their online live performances. Encourage a musician in their efforts. This crisis is hurting the Music & Arts community especially hard. Music is good for our soul. Feed your soul.

The Sound Waves family wishes everyone a safe journey through this crisis. Practice social distancing and good recommended hygiene. Reach out to your family and friends. Many are having a difficult time with what is going on. And remember we are community. Together we will get thru this.

Peace
David Pottie
 Publisher

“Music was my refuge. I could crawl into the space between the notes and curl my back to loneliness.” — Maya Angelou

“Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination and life to everything.” – Plato
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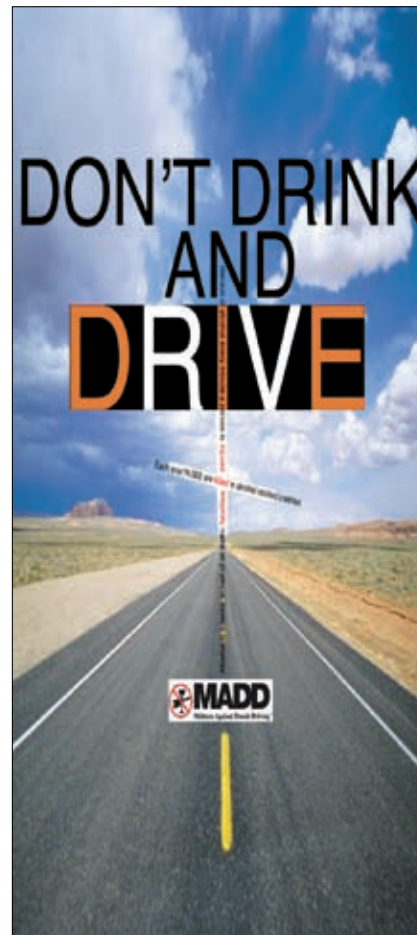
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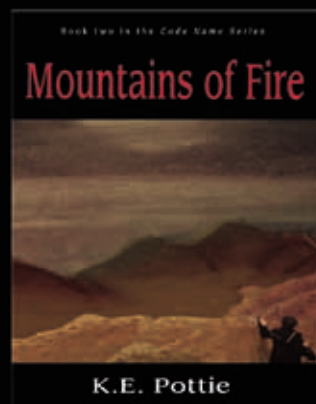
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"The books, engrossing spy thrillers, masterfully interweave past and present with the story of "Sonny" who idealistically joins up in 1944." - By Stacy Trevenon; Half Moon Bay Review.

Ken is the award winning author of The Code Name Series of books. The series is based on his father's experiences behind enemy lines in World War II. He has won awards in the Readers' Favorite contest, The NABE Pinnacle Awards in Military Fiction, and Hollywood, Paris, and New York Book Festivals.

Author Kenneth Pottie

MUSIC NOTES

"You Never Forget Your First Time"

By Mark T. Gould

*"Kids, planes, runway strikes
Flashy pimps and family fights
Spotted dogs, blood-shot eyes
Our space captain laughs and
tries"*

42 people, Four drummers, four guitarists, three percussionists, three kids, one pregnant dog, a 11-person space choir of backup singers, mayhem on the stage, craziness off it, a vain glorious, insane, messy, chaotic, yet ultimately beautiful, decadent, and ultimately irresistible musical and spiritual tour de force.

With me, an impressionable 14 year old, gob smacked in the middle of it, at my very first concert.

Joe Cocker, Mad Dogs & Englishmen (with a nod to Noel Coward), a



hastily-organized rock and roll tour, which spanned 48 nights in 52 cities in early 1970, overseen by the Master of Space and Time, a glorious mess rocking big and brashly like there was no tomorrow.

I don't recall when and where I first heard about the tour, but I think it might have been in Rolling Stone magazine, which I recall ran a full-page ad for it. I do remember not-

ing that was one show scheduled for May 10 in Keaney Gym at the University of Rhode Island in Kingston, a mere half an hour or so from my home in Mystic.

The ticket price was \$5.50, which, looking back, ain't half bad considering the band included Cocker, Leon Russell (the aforementioned Master), Jim Keltner, Rita Coolidge, Carl Radle, Jim Price, Bobby Keys, Jim Gordon, Chris Stainton, Chuck Blackwell, and Claudia Lennear, among a host of others. Amazingly, my parents said I could go. A couple years short of my driver's license, my Mom (God bless her and rest her) agreed to chauffeur me, waiting

in the car and reading by the dashboard light as I indulged my rock and roll fantasies for the very first time.

To this day, I am still a bit mystified, if not downright embarrassed, about my wardrobe. I wore blue and red striped bell bottom pants (I kid you not, they were from Chess King in the Warwick, RI Mall), Earth shoes (from Keat's Krafts in Mystic), a blue jean vest (probably also from Chess King), all topped off by an ecru (I didn't know that color then, but I know it now) open-collar dress shirt.

Yeah, a dress shirt. Kind of a weird mish-mash, but I remember that it felt surprisingly good.

I got there just as the doors were opening, and it being general admission like most shows in those days, I scrambled through the scrum and found a seat in the side balcony, overlooking stage right (the same general location I would occupy to further my erstwhile musical education studying Greg and the Groupe at the old "Como" in Stonington).

A short time later, the enormous band took the stage, the maestro Russell counted off what sounded like a New Orleans riff, and he announced "Ze Mad Dogs, ze Englishmen, and Joe Coc-ker (accent on the second syllable)."

And, with that, they, and I, were off.

And, bless me, what a stunner of a set list!!

Cocker was not a writer, but he could put his personal Sheffield soul interpretation on the phone book.

"Honky Tonk Women," "Girl From the North Country," "The Letter," "Let It Be," "Feelin' Alright," "Something," a slew of Ray Charles and Otis Redding classics, and, of course, the encore of his classic version of "A Little Help From My Friends."

It was truly a rock and roll circus, and my barely teenage self ate it up.

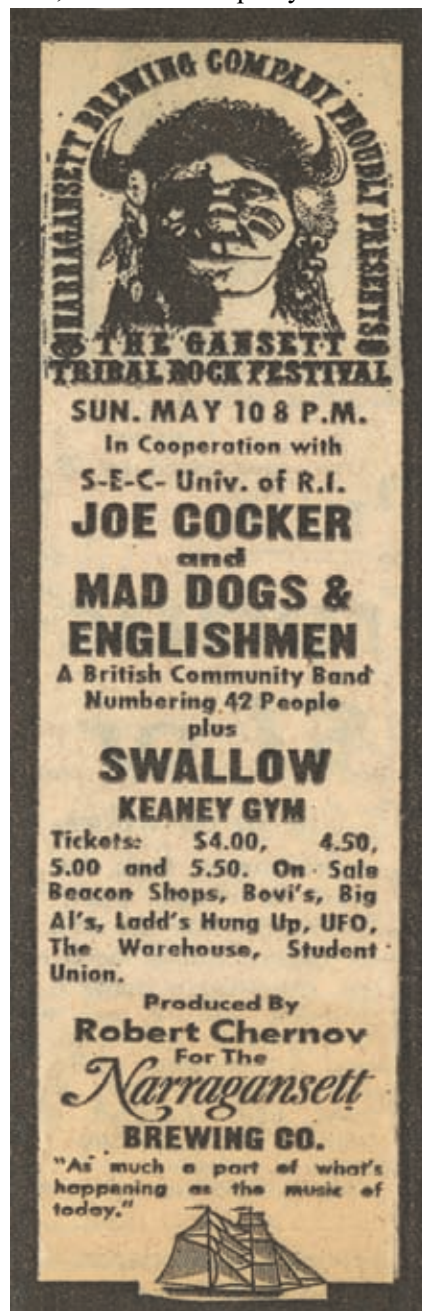
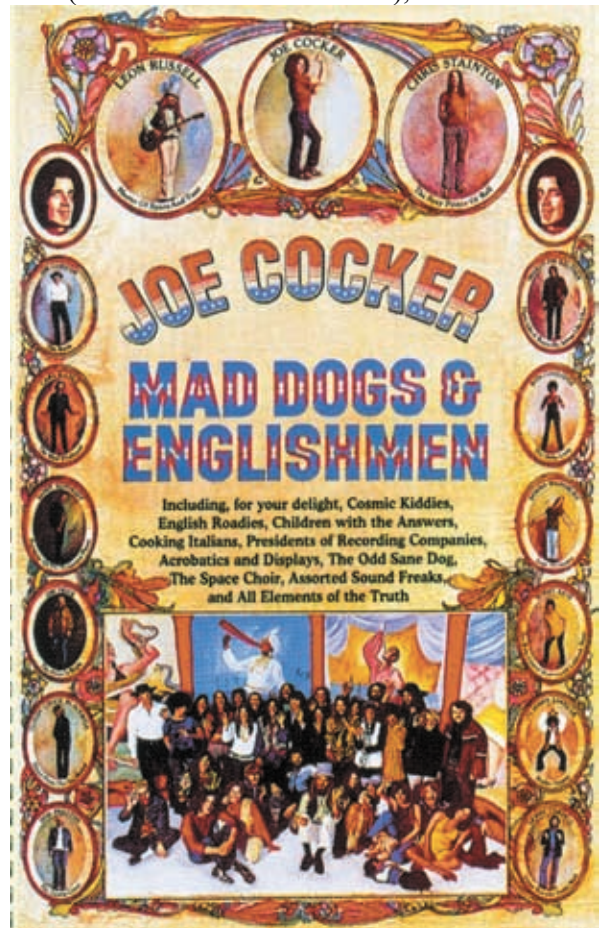
That show was 50 years, my God half a century, ago, this month. As a result of it, I began a lifelong infatuation with live concerts, and, conservatively, I've probably been to over 500 of them.

While you clearly never forget your first, a literal half century of memories can fade. Thankfully, they're cascading back to me in a torrent now, thanks to a rousing yet poignant new photographic tome about this legendary tour.

The book, "Tribute: Cocker Power (which was the slogan eminently displayed throughout the tour sojourn)," is the epic, elegant work of noted photographer Linda Wolf, whose projects usually focuses on women and indigenous cultures.

As luck with have it, this is no long-range, "as told to," book.

Thankfully for her readers, Wolf was actually there, both for that tour, and for the equally incredible



Tedeschi Trucks Band Mad Dogs & Englishmen tribute concert held five years ago at the Lockn' Festival in Arrington, Virginia, which is also featured in her book.

Her awe-inspiring work brings it all back into focus in personal, frequently intimate black and white photographs, each of which details the emotion, magic, passion, love, and excitement clearly evident in both the original tour and the tribute show.

And, if that weren't enough, she also provides personal commentary, an historical timeline for the original tour, as well as interviews and recollections with many of the participants of both events.

Take it from me, "Tribute: Cocker Power" is a truly a once-in-a-lifetime journey through a once-in-a-lifetime experience, and triggered powerful memories of a seminal night in my life.

*"Teachers, learners,
incense burners
Religious leaders and
chronic bleeders*

*Thieves and pirates on a ride
It's a hippie commune
bonified"*

*--Leon Russell, the Master of
Space and Time, "Ballad of
Mad Dogs & Englishmen"*

Including one utterly-amazed 14-year-old kid at his first show. Trust me, you had to be there.



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SCHOOL OF FINE ARTS

SOUND WAVES 5

All The World's a Stage

"Dried Up"

By Sue Menhart

I popped open my green bottle of CoverGirl Clump Crusher mascara for the first time in 48 days just to see how she was doing and as expected, she was all dried up. Desiccated. Dehydrated. Juiceless. Useless. Every day for my entire life since I was about 13 I had covered my eyelashes with the gooey stuff (for reasons decidedly unknown) in order to face the world. It's a thing we girls do. But during a global pandemic with stay-at-home orders and such, who cares about our eyelashes? There's no one to show them off to. Why did we ever care so much about our eyelashes anyway?

I pondered adding new makeup to my ever-growing Amazon cart or risking life and limb with a trip to the petri dish of the local CVS. But just for a moment. IT JUST DIDN'T MATTER. Not one iota.

That's the thing with this virus. Some things just no longer matter. The clothes you wear, the condition of your hair, the over-priced makeup. I imagine that some people may be struggling with the lack of opportunities to show off their impeccable taste and finesse with garnering a well-put-together outward appearance, but alas, nobody's looking at anybody. We're barely looking each other in the eye as we slither past six feet apart. Who cares if it's day three of the same yoga pants? We're alive. So far.

The reason I bring up the dried-up mascara is tragically because I too am dried up. Musically that is. I just can't seem to find the joy in any of it. It just makes me sad.

During a global pandemic it's common knowledge, because we're all such experts now, that humans are expected to do all the things
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they've always wanted to. Take the time and really appreciate the little things. Learn to cook. Learn to garden. Read books. Enjoy your family. Listen to music.

I haven't done a freakin' thing. I've picked up my guitar maybe twice. I'm so joyful-music-deprived that when I drove to the Kentucky Fried Chicken drive-through to get the biggest bucket of finger-lickin' goop they had, when the radio played NSYNC's "Bye Bye Bye" I cranked it up as high as it would go and bopped and danced in my car like a freakin' lunatic. But it only lasted three minutes. Then I was in face-masked and hand sanitizer mode to complete the transaction through the window and the joy went "Bye Bye Bye."

Times are tough people.

I think the earth is just rebooting. Remember those butter commercials "It's Not Nice to Fool Mother Nature?" She is in charge whether we want to believe it or not. She's not out to kill the seven billion that we are, but she appears to be very interested in cleaning up the pollution. Look at the scenes from big cities and



the views they have now. India can now see Mount Everest for the first time in 30 years. There aren't many cars around and not many mascara bottles clogging up the dumps. Or maybe she does want the animals to rule again so we become one big happy animal planet. Have you seen the wild animals roaming the streets? That brings a tad of joy. Like the cops who had to chase a wild pig through a neighborhood. That's funny stuff right there!

I suppose we'll eventually get back to normal, get over all the sadness and come back more appreciative, less worried about how we look, and care more about how we treat our fellow humans. And the music will play on. Because in the end, in the immortal words of AC/DC, "Rock and Roll Ain't Noise Pollution."

So rock on, stay safe and healthy, we'll get back at it soon.

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





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National Resources for Musicians During the Coronavirus Pandemic

American Association of Independent Music

A2IM is surveying indie music companies about how the coronavirus pandemic is disrupting their businesses. The results will inform the organization's discussions with the New York Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment, as well as its investigations of federal assistance programs.

American Federation of Musicians

The AFM is calling on Congress to provide immediate economic relief on behalf of musicians and other working people in the midst of the crisis, including expanded unemployment benefits and a moratorium on evictions, foreclosures and utility shut-offs. The organization has a resource page providing more information. Additionally, disabled AFM members can apply for financial aid through its longstanding Petrillo Memorial Fund.

American Guild of Musical Artists Relief Fund

Any AGMA member in good standing is invited to apply for financial assistance under the AGMA Relief Fund, which has temporarily doubled the amount of assistance available to those in need during the coronavirus pandemic.

Backline

Backline was established to connect music industry professionals and their families with mental health and wellness providers. In the wake of the coronavirus pandemic, the organization has established a virtual support group that plans to meet regularly via the Zoom app.

Blues Foundation HART Fund

The HART Fund helps underinsured or uninsured blues musicians and their families in financial need due to a range of health concerns.

COVID-19 Music Production Response Group

A Facebook group meant as an "open forum for constructive debate about the effects of COVID-19 on music production industry professionals," according to administrators. Its nearly 4,000 members (as of March 18) are sharing news updates, suggested actions, job opportunities and other resources.

COVID-19 Mutual Aid Fund for LGBTQI+ BIPOC Folks (GoFundMe)

This more than \$70,000 fund prioritizes LGBTQI+, non-binary, gender fluid and gender non-conforming people of color whose livelihoods have been affected by the coronavirus pandemic. The first round of funding closed on March 17, but organizers say they plan to continue to raise funds through mid-April.

Equal Sound Corona Relief Fund

This organization strives to break down traditional genre boundaries through events and advocacy, is inviting musicians who have lost income due to the pandemic to apply for funds. Applicants must provide proof they had a confirmed concert canceled over the coronavirus to receive the money.

Facebook Small Business Grants Program

In response to the pandemic, Facebook is offering \$100 million in cash

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grants and ad credits for up to 30,000 eligible small businesses around the world, including music and live events businesses. More details to come (you can sign up for updates here). Facebook also has a new Business Resource Hub to help small businesses prepare for and manage disruptions like COVID-19.

Freelance Coop Emergency Fund

The Freelance Coop, which connects creative freelancers with business resources, created an emergency fund for freelancers adversely affected by the pandemic. Examples of funding usage are unexpected childcare costs due to school closures, client cancellations, and medical expenses due to the virus itself. As of March 18, the fund had \$35,279 in requests and \$5,299.69 raised, and is continuing to call for donations to keep up with demand.

Gospel Music Trust Fund

Individuals working in the gospel music field can submit a request for financial assistance to the Gospel Music Trust Fund, which grants funding in the event "of an emergency or major catastrophe, terminal or severe illness," according to their website.

International Bluegrass Music Association's BlueGrass Trust Fund

Current or former bluegrass music professionals can apply here for financial grants and loans, which are generally between \$500 and \$5,000. The association has also created a coronavirus-specific resource page.

Jazz Foundation of America Musicians' Emergency Fund

This fund offers financial support, housing assistance and pro bono medical care for musicians who have made a living playing blues, jazz, and roots music.

Leveler.info

The "peer-to-peer wealth distribution" service is a tool for salaried workers to donate funds across a database of freelancers, service industry and gig economy workers who are impacted by coronavirus health and safety restrictions.

Missed Tour

Artists and bands who have been displaced from touring due to the pandemic can list their merchandise on this site to help offset lost revenue — with zero charges or fees. Apply to be added to the site here.

MusiCares

The Recording Academy and its charitable foundation MusiCares have committed \$2 million in total to a COVID-19 Relief Fund, established to assist those in the music community who have been affected by the pandemic. People can donate and apply for assistance by navigating to the fund's official web page.

Music Health Alliance

The Nashville-based Music Health Alliance provides healthcare support services to uninsured members of the music industry.

Music Maker Relief Foundation

The foundation, which provides ongoing support to American artists 55 and older who live in chronic poverty, also gives out emergency grants to artists in crisis. It is now soliciting donations to ensure the stability of vulnerable elderly musicians during the pandemic.

NOMAD Fundraiser for the Touring Crew (GoFundMe)

Touring manager Frank Fanelli is aiming to raise \$20,000 for touring crew members and roadies who have lost income due to gig cancellations and postponements. Donations close at the end of March.

Pinetop Perkins Foundation's Assistance League

PAL provides financial assistance to elderly musicians for medical and living expenses. Preference is given to blues artists, though musicians in other genres may be eligible depending on available funds.

SAG-AFTRA COVID-19 Disaster Fund

SAG-AFTRA members who are in an emergency financial crisis related to coronavirus may request assistance to cover basic expenses like rent, mortgage, utilities and medical bills. To apply to the fund, members must have paid their dues through October 2019.

Small Business Administration Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program

The Small Business Administration has designated COVID-19 as a qualifying event for economic injury disaster loans. However, you must be located in a "declared disaster area" to apply for assistance. Check if your state qualifies here.

Sound Royalties

In light of the crisis, music finance firm Sound Royalties is allocating \$20 million to offer a no-cost royalty advance funding option through April 16. Songwriters, performing artists, producers and other creators with royalty income can apply for cash advances on a one-year repayment schedule, cost-free.

Sweet Relief COVID-19 Fund

Sweet Relief has established a donor-directed fund to be used specifically for musicians and music industry workers affected by the coronavirus. Funds will go towards medical expenses, lodging, clothing, food and other vital living expenses for those who get sick or lose work due to the pandemic.

Tour Support

Tour Support, a mental health nonprofit for the live music industry, is offering independent touring contractors whose tours have been postponed or cancelled one month of free online therapy through Better Help (apply here). In addition, Shading the Limelight is offering the Tour Support community two free weeks (March 17–28) of emotional wellness coaching (email shajjar@shadingthelimeight.com for an appointment). Check the Tour Support Twitter for more updates to come.

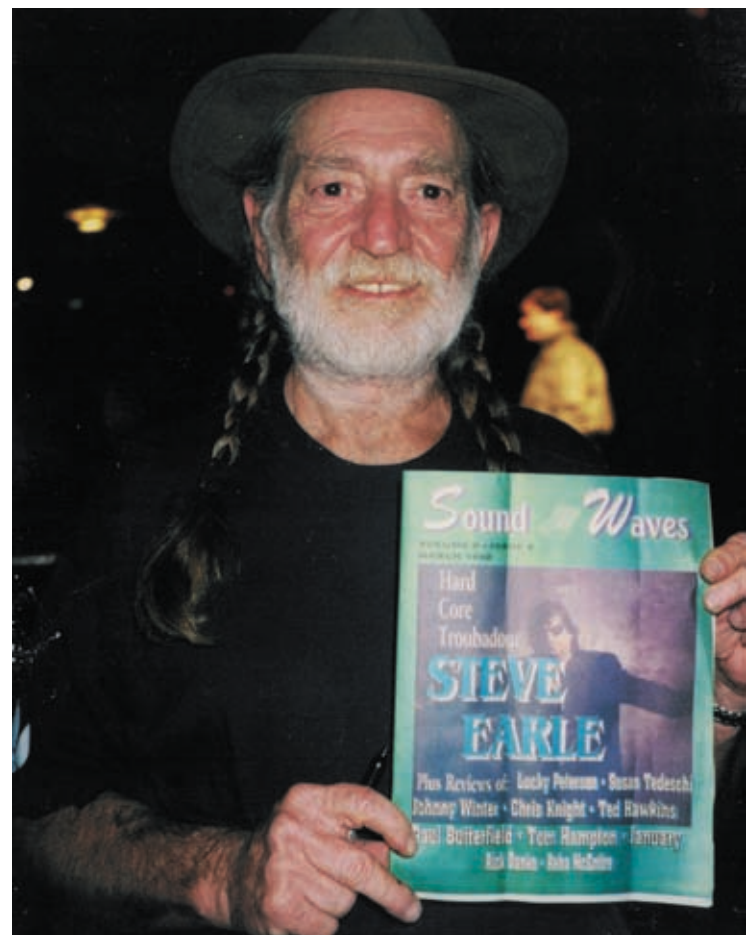
Viral Music — Because Kindness is Contagious

Independent musicians are invited to use this more than 21,000-member Facebook support group to connect with music fans. "Use this joint to post links to your merch store, online shows, Patreon, or online music lessons," organizers write. "If you've had a gig canceled, post the city and your Venmo/PayPal — many of us would love to pass along our ticket refunds to you."

AudioAssemble.com

AudioAssemble.com has put together a list of online remote opportunities for musicians that are available for U.S.-based musicians during the COVID-19 outbreak. Their financial resources page has short-term and long-term job opportunities, as well as governmental resources to help musicians generate revenue.

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John Prine

We Need Him Now, More Than Ever

By Rex Rutkoski

It was Nov. 4, 2003 when Kris Kristofferson stepped to the microphone to induct John Prine into the Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame.

Looking out at the crowd, Kristofferson, who followed his friend's entire career, suggested, "If God's got a favorite songwriter, I think it's John Prine."

Today, those of a spiritual bent, perhaps Kristofferson himself, might muse about the possibility of some interesting musical interaction going on in heaven.

It was only two April's ago when Prine, who had survived two serious bouts of cancer in 1998 and 2013, playfully wrote in "When I Get to Heaven" of what it might be like when he danced through those Pearly Gates:

*"When I get to heaven, I'm gonna shake God's hand/
Thank him for more blessings than one man can stand/
Then I'm gonna get a guitar and start a rock-n-roll band"*

Who wouldn't love to believe that's exactly what is going on up there now?

Thunder?

Hell..oops, heck, that's only John and his boys swinging into action!

"Heaven" was one of the delightful songs on what sadly has become Prine's 18th and final studio album, 2013's critically acclaimed, "The Tree of Forgiveness."

On April 7, at the age of 73, just a few short weeks ago, we lost Johnny in the Covid war and we still don't know what for, but for damn sure it will matter forever more.

He battled, that sweet spirit battled hard, but this was a final hurdle that

he could not overcome.

Now, with the horribly abandoning speed of the sound of loneliness, we are left without him at a time when we needed him the most.

RETAINING HIS HUMOR

He seemed to always maintain his sense of humor through the bad times, through the challenges. That was developed at an early age, he explained, trying to avoid being beat up as a kid. "It's really hard for a guy to punch you if he is laughing," he reasoned.

Dylan Johnson, an ardent fan, posted this on YouTube after his death:

"I don't know the meaning of life but I'm pretty sure it's in a John Prine song.

He got old, but he never got old. RIP to the only songwriter that's inspired me and got me through as much as Bob Dylan. John Prine has been my beacon of hope through this virus, living in New York, California and just most of the last two decades. He was the one musician who felt like they were there with me through the best and worst moments of my life. No one else could singularly personify the joys and pain of life in so few words."

A SPECIAL FEELING

Prine once told me he considered it special when something he had put in a song caused listeners to say, "That's exactly how I feel."

"Sometimes," he added, "It's not always real evident it will be that way. Sometimes it seems really odd that a thought you are writing about (will touch a universal nerve). When you find out a lot of people feel that (same)

way, it makes you feel like you have more friends than you thought.”

John Prine never felt he was making music for a particular age group.

“Music shouldn’t have an age thing on it,” said the beloved singer-songwriter, praised as an “American storyteller” and “American treasure,” writing and singing some of our most articulate and moving popular music.

There are powerful portraits such as “Angel from Montgomery,” “Sam Stone,” “Hello in There” and “Unwed Fathers” and irreverent social commentary of the likes of “Blow up Your TV” and “Your Flag Decal Won’t Get You into Heaven Anymore.”

MAKING A CONNECTION

Prine may have downplayed the accolades he received, but he did have a strong sense of how deeply his expression resonated with people.

All of which returns to the subject of not trying to target a particular age group.

“You are making music for people’s ears,” he explained. “You shouldn’t make them feel they are too old or young to listen.”

After his death, I asked Prine’s longtime friend (she considered him “like an uncle”), highly respected music industry veteran Holly Gleason, Nashville-based writer, editor, reviewer and artist development consultant, if she were introducing a person to Prine’s music for the first time, what song, what lyric she would choose.

“I think probably ‘Souvenirs,’ though it’s not one of the hits, but it does contain the line ‘Broken Hearts & Dirty Windows,’ the title of the 2010 homage album by various artists,” Gleason said:

*“Broken hearts and dirty windows
Make life difficult to see
That’s why last night and this mornin’
Always look the same to me.”
And there’s the unforgettable lines:
“I hate graveyards and old pawn shops
For they always bring me tears
I can’t forgive the way they rob me
Of my childhood souvenirs”*

Check it out on YouTube and the comments section has this offering by fan Michael Mueller: “Rest in Peace, John. You were the most modest and beautiful of giants. John wrote songs that captured the genuine, broken beauty of humanity. Leonard Cohen once noted that the cracks in everything are how the lights get in. John Prine was the light.”

Another fan offered: “My kids love John. My work here is done.”

DOING HIS BEST

Of his writing, Prine has explained, “I kind of leave a song up to what listeners want to think about it. But it seems to me still most of them are self-explanatory. I’m saying what I say as good as I can.”

Prine said that people thought he had written the songs for his celebrated 1971 debut album, “John Prine,” over a long period of time. “But all the songs were written in 12 months, some in three days...I look at everything as a continuing saga. It’s all mine and all part of something.”

When I reminded him that many people thought of that first album as one of the all-time best debuts in music, he acknowledged, “It’s painted a real special color for me.”

He said the glowing reviews from critics did not place any additional pressure on him because, “I didn’t know anything. I didn’t know that not everybody gets that.” In 2012, Rolling Stone magazine named it to its list of “500 Greatest Albums of All-Time.”

OUR GREATEST SONGWRITER

In 2018, veteran national observer of the music scene, writer-editor Mike Greenblatt, did not hold back on his praise for Prine in Goldmine, the mu-

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sic collector’s magazine, writing, “Bob Dylan, Paul Simon, Willie Nelson, Randy Newman and Kris Kristofferson are all in the conversation, but John Prine is America’s greatest living songwriter. Period.”

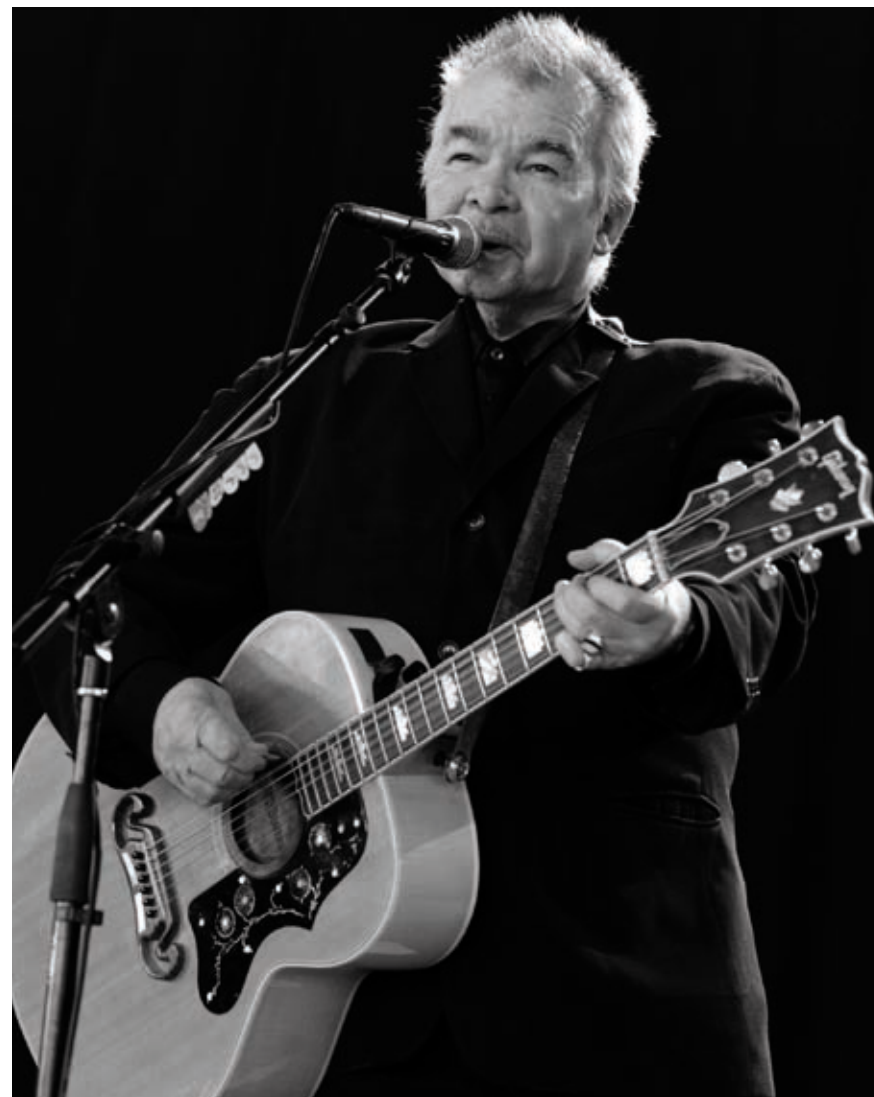
Prine told me he hoped his classic “Hello In There,” his touching composition about loneliness and growing old in America, would live on for future generations.

“It doesn’t even have to represent me,” he said. “I’d just like to have the song go on. If people are around in a couple of thousand years, there’s got to be old people. I get letters all the time (about the song’s impact). I always hope people do not take it too literally and stick their head in the door and say, ‘Hello in There.’ They could get punched in the nose.”

I asked for his definition of success, and he responded, “Success is working your way toward trying to be a fairly happy person, have peace of mind and, monetarily, helping someone else out.”

I always remember just getting back from my year in Vietnam in the Army and receiving one of my first record company review albums (I was freelancing for the Yuma Daily Sun in my final year in the military in Arizona) and here was a strange cover of a guy sitting on a bale of hay: John Prine’s debut. What a way to start a career in writing about music!

(Rex Rutkoski is a regional, national and international freelance writer based in the Pittsburgh suburbs, of Freeport, Pa. He can be reached at rexrutkoski@gmail.com)



LOCAL FARMER STANDS

New London County

- **Cato Corner Farm** fine farmstead cheeses from our Jersey girls' milk. Fri-Sun, 10-4, 178 Cato Corner Rd, Colchester

- **Campbell's Farm Stand** We're open Saturday and Sunday with local beef, pork, honey, and maple syrup. 1 Campbell Rd, Jewett City

- **Brush Hill Dairy LLC** bottled raw cow's milk, meats, eggs, 9-6 daily, 87 Brush Hill Rd, Bozrah

- **Buttercup Farm + Wildowski Dairy** ! OPEN EVERYDAY! All day till we leave around 5! Milks, meats, eggs and ice cream! Thanks for supporting your local farmers!! 20 Nygren rd. Lisbon

- **FireFly Farms**, 96 Button Road, N. Stonington, CT. Tuesday through Saturday 7:30 until 2:30. Other times by appointment. We have heritage SOY FREE, Certified Humane Randall Beef and Veal, Mulefoot Pork, 5 types of Chicken (three heritage), Turkeys and Muscovy Duck eggs. Please phone or text 860.912.2553. or email info@fireflyfarmsllc.com Shipping is easy and cheap within a 300 radius of the farm via UPS. We ship on Tuesdays.

- **Hillandale Farms**, N. Franklin, Westerly RI hillandalefarms.com

- **Hunts Brook Farm**, Waterford www.huntsbrookfarmct.com

- **Sweet Grass Creamery** We are fully stocked with our Jersey cream-line milk, yogurt, cheese, icecream, local beef, pork, chicken, eggs, baked goods, and more. 51 Mattern Road, Preston. Open daily 9 - 6pm.

- **Kindred Crossings Farm LLC**, Franklin. Grass fed beef, non-GMO lamb & pork. Daily pickups by appointment only. PM your order and we'll have it ready to go for you!

- **Four Mile River Farm** frozen beef cuts, ground beef, eggs, and some of Irene's hand hooked rugs, 124 Four Mile River Road, Old Lyme, 8-6 daily.

- **Scarpa Ledge Farm**, Beef, pork, Lamb, chicken, goat and other cuts, Colchester

- **Stone Acres Farm**, Stonington Summer, Fall, and Egg Share options <https://www.stoneacresfarm.com/>

- **Sun Stone Farm**, Pawcatuck Meat, Vegetable, and Flower share options <https://www.sunstonefarmct.com/shop-products>

- **Cold Spring Farm**, Eggs; Meats: beef, pork, chicken, lamb; Produce & Greens; Fresh & Dried Herbs; Canned Goods; Cow & Goat Milk; Butter; Honey; Maple Syrup; Oils & Balsamics; Breads; More! 46 Town Road, Colchester. Open Every Day from Dawn 'til Dusk.

- **The Landing Strip Farm**, grass finished ground beef, eggs, and goat milk. Th 3-5, Fri 5-6, 133 East Hebron Turnpike, Lebanon



- **Broad Brook Acres**, chicken, pork and beef, Old Jewett City Rd, Preston, pm or text your order to 860-389-2323 and we will have it ready for you for pick up!

Windham County

- **Ekonk Hill Turkey Farm** homemade turkey pot pies, pasture raised meats including own turkey, chicken, beef, pork, goat and lamb; ice cream, farm bakery, and other local products, daily, 11-7, 227 Ekonk Hill Rd, Moosup

- **Dove Hill Farm LLC**, fresh duck and chicken eggs, roadside, from 7 am- 4 pm daily, 110 Plainfield Rd, Moosup

- **Pinecroft Farms**, LLC We have beef, chicken, eggs, seasonings, cheese, soaps, syrup, honey. 159 Butts Rd, Woodstock Open 9-6p daily.

- **Farm To Table Market** our own (Elm Farm) milk and meats. Bread, pastry, Tulmeadow Farm ice cream and Cabot Cheese. 324 Woodstock Rd, Woodstock, 10-6:30 daily.

- **Horse Listeners Orchard** We are open Saturday and Sunday 10am-4pm. Fully stocked farm store with apples, veggies, maple syrup, honey, eggs, butter, cheese, fresh cut lettuce, kale and more! 317 Bebbington Rd, Ashford

- **Woodstock Creamery** at Valleyside Farm creamline milk, Skyr style yogurt, Labneh cheeses, traditional yogurt, dips, drinkable yogurts & our various flavored milks. 210 Child Hill Rd, Woodstock, 9-6 M-Sat, 10-6 Sun

- **Our Kids Farm, LLC** local meats, cheeses, milk, canned items 357 Barstow Road Canterbury, Thursday-Sat 10-5, Sunday 10-4

- **Westview Farm Farm**, grass fed & grass finished beef and chicken & duck eggs. Open Fridays 4-6 or by appointment! Call ((860) 928-7491), email (westview.farm@outlook.com) or message us on Facebook. 209 Prospect St, East Woodstock.

- **Granpa K Farm Eggs**, beef, lamb, by appointment only in Brooklyn, email greenwoodlabs@hotmail.com

- **Stone Hill Farm** CT Grassfed, pasture-raised beef, eggs, 265 Gendron Road Plainfield, Open by appointment, call 860-884-6629
Bad Toad Farm, eggs and meats. Cornell Road, Plainfield, By appointment, please call or text 860-334-1138.

- **Swampy Acres Farm** beef, lamb, pork, chicken and turkey. Open on weekends (not sure on hours) and by appointment. 350 Lisbon Road, Canterbury (860) 617-9012

Tolland County

- **Bluebird Farm** pasture raised eggs and meats, preserves, jams, salts, and seasoned rubs, local handcrafts 8-6 daily, 211 Jared Sparks Rd, Willington

- **Stearns Farm Stand** We are stocked with fresh Mountain Dairy milk, eggs, pies and homemade ice cream. Come on over this weekend at 483 Browns rd., Storrs. Open 10-5.

- **Brookside Garden Center** beef, pork, honey and eggs, 46 Hartford Turnpike, Tolland, CT Monday through Saturday 8 to 4

- **Taylor Spring Farm**, chicken, beef, pork, eggs, soap, 558 Buckley Hwy (Rt. 190) Union CT. Sat-Sun 9-2 or by appointment. 860 949-2575.

- **Yankee Chicken Company** natural pasture raised chickens, 8-6 daily, 40, Seckar Road, Willington

- **Fish Family Farm Creamery & Dairy**, eggs, bottled milk and ice cream, M-S, 8-7, 20 Dimock Ln, Bolton

- **Copper Hill Farm** Pork, turkey including ground turkey and lots of delicious eggs. 144 Hall Hill Rd, Somers, Tues + Thurs 4-6, Sun 10-4.

Hartford County

- **Sub Edge Farm** every day, 10-6. 199 Town Farm Rd., Farmington. We have our eggs, lots of pork, honey and some other local products like cheese and pickles.

- **Hastings Farm** open Monday through Saturday 9 am to 6 pm no matter what! We have milk, yogurt, beef, honey, etc. 472 Hill St, Suffield

- **Easy Pickin's Orchard** fresh produce including baby kale mix & spinach both fresh-cut, cabbages / carrots / potatoes / onions, frozen blue- & rasp-berries, and lots of apples. Saturday 9am to 1pm, 46 Bailey Rd, Enfield

- **Killam & Bassette Farmstead**, LLC 14 Tryon Street, South Glastonbury, honor system open 9:00-6:30 every day - free range eggs, farm raised, USDA pork, USDA chicken backs (great for soups & stocks), jams, relishes, pickles, apple sauces, & chow. Meat pick up by appt - 860-833-0095. All non-gmo, nitrate & steroid free. No growth hormones either!

- **Smyths Trinity Farm** their own milk, yogurt, cream, butter, eggs. 4 Oliver Rd, Enfield. M-F: 6-6, Sat: 6-4.

- **Maple View Farm** has beef and pork, eggs and milk from Sweet Pea Cheese. Open everyday 8am-8pm cash check PayPal or Venmo. 192 Salmon Brook St, Granby.

- **Hayes Farm 1868** has milk, yogurt, ice cream, fresh eggs, grass fed beef, farm raised pork, chicken, and goat meat. Honey, marinara sauce, www.Swaves.com

jams / jellies, maple syrup etc. Open Mon-Fri 3pm-6pm, Sat-Sun 10am-6pm, 269 Hayes Rd, Rocky Hill

- **Lost Acres Orchard** In addition to an extensive selection of soups, breads and dinner options (pot pies, quiche, meatballs, mac & cheese, etc) in our freezer, this week we are also making Moroccan Lentil Soup, Chicken Butternut Quinoa Soup (both gluten and dairy free), Pasta e Fagioli, Rosemary Flatbread, a new Apple Spice Granola, Cranberry Pecan Chicken Salad and Roasted Carrot Hummus. 130 Lost Acres Rd, North Granby, Weds-Sun, 9-5

Middlesex County

- **Penfield Farm** Free-range, Grass-fed, meats raised without hormones and antibiotics. We offer Aged Black Angus Beef, Berkshire Pork, Lamb, Chicken, Duck, Emu. Sat 9-3, 51 Ames Hollow Road, Portland.

Litchfield County

- **Why Not Farm**, Angus beef, contact to arrange pickup or delivery, Whynotfarmangus@gmail.com, 203-509-6325, or 203-685-767393 Kasson Rd, Bethlehem

- **Freund's Farm Market & Bakery** bakery, prepared foods, meats, veggies, eggs, 324 Norfolk Rd, East Canaan, 9-5 daily

- **Barden Farm Market** Meats, Eggs, Greens, Bread + scratch made soup, granola, milk, 510 Main Street, New Hartford, 7 days a week

Fairfield County

- **Stone Gardens Farm** corned beef brisket and other locally grown fresh and frozen meats, fresh produce, eggs, and prepared foods and soups, 10-5 daily, 83 Saw Mill City Rd, Shelton



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HEARING AID



The Kenn Morr Band

“Open Field”

Kenn Morr and his band's latest release features ten original songs, all written by the band's leader, which embody a nice folk/country/rock feel throughout the album. Shuffle beats and easy rhythms underline an array of instruments, many played by Tom Hagymasi, providing a rich musical environment for the laid back vocals of Kenn Morr. The result is a relaxed yet intricately entertaining experience for the listener.

Kenn Morr approaches his songwriting with an emphasis on well crafted lyrics set to melodies that draw one into the song. The easy flow of words is a mark of talent and practiced skill and, presumably, the invested effort which all seemingly simple things require. Each song offers its own distinct sound and feel even when styles draw from similar roots. Verses sung in Morr's soloing voice meld with tight, complementing harmonies. Bursts of fiddle or harmonica add color without displacing the song's flow. It is the mark of a band that has played together for a long time.

Now based in Connecticut, the Kenn Morr Band performs regularly at coffee houses and outdoor festivals, bringing their blend of vocals and instrumental sounds to share with their audiences.

The new album, *Open Field*, was recorded at Sandy Brook Studios in Colebrook CT. Tracks include the opening *Strong Again*, a strong beginning for Kenn Morr's lyrics with streams of lines like "I've got a broken wheel and a rusted gun," leading to the chorus of

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"*Strong Again*, strong enough to know every sail needs a little wind to blow." *Morning Light* entices with "Light shines through the window, let it lead you to the door." The lyrics are consistent in their creative turns of phrase and even syllable count, while maintaining the cohesiveness of a complete story. Presented with the gentle voice of Kenn Morr and supporting harmonies, backed and highlighted by the band's multi-talented instrumentalists, this is a pleasing and refreshing set of songs.

More info may be found at kennmorr.com, or email kennmorr@kennmorr.com.

- Jon Persson



Victor Wainwright and The Train

“Memphis Loud”

Ruff Records

Victor Wainwright hails from Savannah GA and born into a "Blues" family where his father and grandfather were professional blues musicians. He is noted as being a piano prodigy playing Beethoven by age 10.

He went to college in Daytona, FL and studied Air Traffic Control Mgmt. He did work as an air traffic controller for a time at Memphis Intl Airport but the music bug took hold and off, he went to start his musical career. In 2005 he co-wrote and published his first debut album, "*Piana From Savanah*". By 2009 Wainwright not only formed a band called Victor Wainwright & the WildRoots but created his own recording label called "WildRoots Records" where he recorded "*Beale Street to the Bayou*". The album was praised by crit-

ics and placed on the "Top 50 Blues," list and also had praised acclaim from Europe's Collectif des Radio Blues Charts. In 2012 he was nominated for the first time by the prestigious Blues Music Awards.

American Blues Scene magazine labeled him as "honky-tonk and boogie, with a dose of rolling thunder. But I think it was more accurate when *Living Blues* magazine noted that "Wainwright serves as an electrifying guide to a good time. I find his new CD "Victor Wainwright and The Train" to be highly entertaining and addictive. All tracks were written and arranged by Victor Wainwright and each is a stand-alone gem. I felt like a kid with a box of Cracker Jacks and finding a nice surprise prize in every box. Actually, this compilation of great tunes was recorded in 2018 at Ardent Studios in Memphis and rereleased with the same name in 2020.

Wainwright kept longtime bandmates Billy Dean on drums and Terrence Grayson on bass. For guitar, Wainwright added Pat Harrington. He also added the horn players Doug Wolverton and Mark Earley. This album also features many guest performers each adding their own spice and too many to list but the cd album jacket lists all his featured guests and which tracks they are on.

Getting into content specifics I would say that the first thing that hits you is Wainwright's melodic, raspy voice. The kind you can listen to endlessly. Right from the first track "*Mississippi*" the vocals blend nicely with guitar & horns. Wainwright strategically lays out the album tracks to keep you hooked. One energetic, upbeat song like "*My Dog Riley*" with honkytonk piano and great accompanying horn section that makes you want to grab someone and start dancing to "*Reconcile*" a smokey, bluesy crooners dream with great vocals and amazing vintage tube guitar tones and horns. This track gave me another one of my smokey Kentucky Bourbon and Cigar moments. "*Memphis Loud*" shows how amazingly tight this band is and highlights Billy Dean on drums. As a former drummer playing in several garage bands growing up, when I heard this track, I said one word to myself... Nice!! When you listen to track 4 "*Sing*" it's very clear that you are in the presence of an artist who is very gifted with a great imagination and not afraid to show it. The first half of this track is recorded dry making you feel like you're in a Saloon, and in the second half his genius to add heavy Re-

verb which takes you from the Saloon into a Carnival funhouse, and the last quarter takes you to a Roaring 20's Cotton Club theme with blaring horns and dancing girls. Listen to it for yourself and you will see what I mean. Overall, I highly suggest this album to anyone who can appreciate something a little different but still well within the realm of blues. Victor Wainwright and The Train available as a MP3 download or CD on Amazon Music. The latest version will be available after May 22.

Thanks for visiting us at swaves.com.

- Adrian Webb



Val Starr & The Blues Rocket

“Lighter Side Of The Blues”

To the many roots of the blues may be added a flowering stem that reaches for and celebrates the light of sunny days and the simple joys of living. Val Starr & the Blues Rocket call it the California Blues, a mix of styles played with skill, intensity, and mostly, good fun for good times. The effect goes well beyond traditions of venting and commiserating, more of a look back on the hard times from a distance and place of comfort and resolution.

This is accomplished with the backing of a band and guest musicians accomplished in the distinct art of the blues, played with feeling though the feeling is often happiness. Even on the deeper tracks there is obvious joy in the art, the melodies and rhythms, the interplay of band and singer.

Val Starr leads with her voice, expressive yet concise, far from the whiskey and tobacco strains of the Delta bluesmen. Hers is a big band sound, with energy and tempo. Under the vocals and instruments, carrying all forward in their orderly improvisation, is the bass player, always at the heart of every blues band. And in this case, of Val Starr, as husband John Ellis sets the

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pace and beat. Tribute is given to him and all bass players on Mister Bassman, complete with melodic bass lines showcasing Ellis's skills.

The album opens with the brightly energized Say Goodbye To The Blues Like You Mean It, a full ensemble piece setting an upbeat mood for the album. This carries into the title track, Lighter Side Of The Blues, a story of hard beginnings overcome by a well adjusted singer who imparts "Let me sing you a song about The Lighter Side Of The Blues." Big Boss Man (#Me Too) is a triumphant piece with the lines "Big Boss Man keep your big hands off of me" and "I'm not afraid of you and I'm not afraid to talk."

Throughout this album there are melodic and soaring guitar solos, keyboards, harmonica, horns and sax. In all it is a fun collection that makes some strong, timely, and enlightened statements set to good music.

More info may be found at: valstarandthebluesrocket.com, and on Facebook under the same tagline.

- Jon Persson



RYAN PERRY

*"High Risk,
Low Reward"*

Ruff Records

Ryan Perry originally from Mississippi has been playing professionally for over 13 yrs. He made his debut onto the performing stage in a Jamz Blues Band with his brother on bass and sister on drums. They took second place in the 23rd International Blues Challenge. One of his more recent notable contributions is being invited to play as one of the featured guest artists with Mike Zito on his "Tribute to Chuck Berry" album. As a matter of I reviewed Mike Zito's album a few months ago and gave it two thumbs up.

"High Risk, Low Reward" is Perry's

first solo endeavor and highlights his vocals and excellent guitar abilities.

Right out of the gate on Track 1 – "Aint Afraid to Eat Alone" It's easy to hear that this man's got game, however as I listen to this album I see he has a format where he is mostly playing rhythm guitar for the first part of a song and his excellent guitar playing only comes into play towards the end. Track 1, and 9 are the exception. Another characteristic of this album I noticed is although Perry considers himself a blues-man, I find he also proudly delves into the Funk genre, almost as if this is a transition album from Blues into Funk. Perry making a statement? Maybe. Either way no one can take away his proven vocal and guitar talents.

The band sounds tight and a good pairing for backing Perry. Everyone melds together well. I personally felt there was room in the compositions for each member of the band to give that little bit extra, and for Perry to show off more of his great guitar talent but perhaps the direction was to keep it tight, solid and simple. Hard driving tracks that really stood out for me and made you "move" are track 1) Aint Afraid to Eat Alone - track 6) One Thing's for Certain - track 7) High Risk, Low Reward – track 9) Oh No – and track 11) Hard Times.

The band consists of: Ryan Perry – guitar & vocals, Roger Iniss – bass, Lucy Piper – drums, Jeff Staten & Stephanie Bechtold – backup vocals. The album has a total of 11 tracks and can be bought at CDUNIVERSE.COM. I hope you enjoy Ryan Perry's first solo album as much as I enjoyed reviewing it. On behalf of all the staff here at Sound Waves we wish that you and yours to stay safe and healthy.

Thanks for visiting us at swaves.com.

- Adrian Webb



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COOKING WITH THE BLUES

By Jack Chaplin

First, Happy Birthday To My Sister Heidi! When I see May on the horizon, the first thing that comes to mind is Heidi's Birthday, May 1st. It's been that way as long as I can remember. Maybe because my birthday is next in the family lineup, July 8th. May always reminds me of nice weather ahead, coming out of the winter doldrums, and this year is no exception. There wasn't any snow except a dusting that would have melted away by itself, but we decided to put the shovel to use, a thin layer of slush! May's the awakening of life from months-long hibernation. Time to do all the yard cleanup that we didn't do in the Fall. Mow the overgrown lawn that we let slide till spring, the leaves that we didn't pick up, and all the twigs and branches that came down with the wind, snow and, rain. May is one of my favorite months of the year. The sun feels amazing; we see our neighbors, we wave to the ones we know and/or like. People are out walking with their dogs, running, riding their bikes, trying to work on the excess lbs. that snuck upon us! I live on a cove, and it makes my day to see wildlife emerge, where have they been and how far have they traveled these past months? How did they decide to come here and how many generations have done the same. I am so thankful to have settled here. Having traveled all over the country, there is no place I'd rather be, especially this time of the year and in these crazy times.

I'm not even sure how long we have been in lockdown with this COVID-19, but it seems like a lifetime. I don't even remember my old daily routine with the restaurant, but I have to say it's been great except for business! I have the days to myself that I haven't had in a long while. I have no urgent agenda when I wake up, many early enough to see



the beautiful sunrise. There were days years ago when I use to hear the birds start singing on the other side of the clock, when I had stayed up all night, what a lousy feeling! These days I sometimes lie in bed and see the light of the new day slowly brighten the room and hear the first sweet songs of the "Early Birds" outside my window. On the porch, a pair is building a nest, and I am amazed how hard they work, now that's an ethic we should all have. Sun up to sun down, they are hard at it. This time of the year, I love to see the first Robin Red Breast and then hundreds across in the field eating all the nasty bugs, I hope there are some ticks in the mix!

I stopped over to see my friends Teresa and Digga at Huntsbrook Farm the other day and took a tour of the new addition to their greenhouse. It was amazing to see all the seedlings and plantings that are started and will be transferred into the fields where they will yield huge amounts of produce throughout the coming months. I felt so special to sit with Teresa in that splendor, naturally warm from the sun, so warm in fact that they had to open a door

in the back to let some of the heat out. I had thought they had the heat on; it was so warm! I am so blessed to have Huntsbrook so close to my house; they have the best produce and farm stand in the world, in my opinion, right at my fingertips, a stone's throw away. Digga and Teresa always make me feel so special, and as I was leaving, Teresa gave me a bag of the most amazing salad greens, that is the good life!

I have been doing my videos on YouTube these days from home. I was use to doing them at Daddy Jack's, and as things wound down, it was decided to social distance from my daily interactions with my fellow humans at the restaurant weeks before our Governor chose to pull the plug. At the restaurant, if I didn't have a game plan on what recipes I wanted to do, I could wing it and do a mystery basket kind of thing, create by combing the far reaches of the reach-ins. I could have thousands of possibilities, literally! What's cool these days is I get to decide what sounds good for breakfast, lunch, or dinner and voila an inspiration for a video. My YouTube friends often comment on how it must be hard to cook on an electric stove compared to the instant high heat from the gas stove at the restaurant. Having grown up with an electric range and having had many apartments and homes with one, I almost like it better. I often wonder how cooking with gas all these years may have been detrimental to my health, breathing the superheated fumes of the oils and gas, something that I've never discussed with other chefs.

I remember years ago having gone out to eat at The Golden Lamb Buttery in Brooklyn, CT, for a special dinner. They were well known and had a beautiful restaurant that had been built in a converted barn. When you arrived, they would give you a glass of wine, load you up into a hay wagon, and give you a sunset tour of the North Forty. The Buttery had been a working farm raising sheep and was known for years for the wool they had produced on that beautiful piece of land! Being a chef, I was curious how they put out such great food, and they were

kind enough to give me the nickel tour of the kitchen and back of the house. I was amazed to find they were putting out this greatness on a four-burner electric range! They closed after 55 years in business having earned international acclaim. If electric was good enough for them, I guess I can cook a few meals on my electric! It reminds me of reading about these great hole in the wall restaurants in NYC where chefs are working on one or two portable butane or electric burners turning our 5-star dishes in a basement where the dinners have to be walked up two flights of stairs to the dining room.

It's been great to see some sunny and warm days recently; it eases the cabin fever somewhat. The hardest part of all this self-distancing is not being able to hug and kiss my daughters, family, and friends. I think we all need the affection that that yields, but our safety is of utmost concern, this virus is no joke. People have different opinions about all this distancing and the severity of COVID-19. I guess the adage, "People Are Entitled To Their Own Opinion" is ok, but I wish we in this country could all be on the same page. I hear people close to me saying, "Let's Get The F%\$@ Back To Work" I think personally it's a pretty ignorant statement considering the sacrifices and loss of lives we've seen close to us in New York, Boston, here in CT, around the country and the world. It seems to be political in some people's minds. I've heard "It's All Bull Shit," "It's a Hoax," and even "It's a Democratic Thing." I always think, what if it was one of your own if it was your Mother, Father, Sister, Brother, or one of your Children. Maybe it's hard to relate if the shoe's on the other foot, but when I hear this nonsense, it shows how desensitized we have become to other people's misery. When people ask me how things are going, I now say, "The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly," but the great thing is we are still here to enjoy another day on this glorious earth, and we should appreciate that to the fullest, tomorrow isn't guaranteed!

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Business is pretty much non-existent and has been for a long while. I see local restaurants serving four dinners for under \$40.00; I guess they have their reasons, but it doesn't work for us. We open sporadically for take out pizzas, and we are doing some charity giveaways of "Take and Bake Pizza Kits," we've donated 200 to Chef Tomm and his New London High School Culinary Program, some to the Homeless Hospitality Center, left some out front for people to take and a few concerned landlords have bought some for their tenants. We have received so many generous donations from wonderful people near and far. Thank You To Pastor Jack Madry and Madry Temple Of New London, The Geoff Smith Family, Steven and Jean Leisey, Garbati Builders, Rich's Heating and Cooling, Lonnie and Allenette in Wetherford, Texas, Donna and Gabe Delos Santos Family, Josh De Los Santos and Many More. Thank You To B. For Preparing The Kits, God Bless!

Last week our Peerless Leader Dave Pottie was contacted by Sarah Walters w/ RMD Advertising Agency to see if we could talk with Yavonne Sarber, she owns four restaurants called Agave and Rye. Three in Kentucky and 1 in Ohio. I was informed that she was still open for business at two of the locations and doing very well, that got my attention. Yavonne was nice enough to talk with me even though I am sure she is one busy lady. It was an uplifting conversation from one owner to the other. Yavonne had owned Denovo Bistro and Vonn Jazz in Columbus since 2011, fell on hard times, and closed down for business in 2018. That same year they moved to Lexington, Kentucky, with \$1200 to their name. In February 2018, they opened the first Agave and Rye, a higher-end Taco concept featuring Tequila, Bourbon, and Rye! In October of 2018, they were approached by a silent investor, and today, in 2020, they have added three more locations. It is a hot concept, and they want to open 100 locations in the future, my hats off to them! When this crisis hit, they

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closed for two weeks and lost over \$52,000 in perishable food that they donated to local food banks; they don't have freezers in their stores. They retooled for take out and set up curbside pick up and signed up delivery services. They are doing brisk business and holding it together. They can pay rent (\$7,200) a month and keep key employees working. One great thing is they can sell liquor and mixed drinks, which is essential to make the numbers work. The original location was on target to do \$3,500,000 this year before this all hit. That's a Lot Of Tacos! I wish Yavonne and Her staff much success and good health. I admire her drive and dedication to her business. I use to have it, but these days I'm on the glide path to retirement. I still want to keep my foot in the door, but don't want the day to day responsibility of running a business. The silver lining in this Coronavirus crisis personally, it has given me time to reflect and to map out plans. The direction of the restaurant business, in general, is like



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THANK YOU to all our wonderful customers who have been so kind & thoughtful during this trying time! We appreciate each and everyone of you the incredible show of support. We are here for you!

Cooking with the Blues Continued

sailing through uncharted waters. We are taking our lead from Governor Lamont, locally from our Mayor Passero, and at the end of the day, we owners have to make the final decisions on how we move forward. We casually discussed shutting down Bank Street, setting up tables, serving a limited menu, and be allowed to sell mixed drinks.

In the meantime, make the most out of each day, call the ones you love and tell them so. Help out when you can and give someone in need a helping hand, random acts of kindness will lift your spirits. Get out in nature, turn off the news and electronics,

Be Safe, Stay Healthy, and Enjoy Life.
Jack

Just Under The Wire

We felt like some ribs last night so we decided to order out to Texas Roadhouse, the first time to get takeout or to eat out in general. We ordered two full slabs, a loaded bake potato, sides of corn and green beans, it all came with those delicious sweet rolls with cinnamon butter. We didn't want delivery so we decided to pick it up. They had a great system, numbered spaces where you pull up and they bring your order right to the car. It all was great, packaged nicely, the potato was piping hot and fresh. Only hiccup was one of the slabs was overcooked and dry but it did have great flavor. If they had provided some BBQ sauce it would have been ok. The total bill was over \$50.00 with tax and tip so I felt I had to let them know. I called and they put me in touch with Becky the General Manager and I relayed my displeasure. No questions asked she offered to send me a voucher for \$15.00, the max they could send or I could pick up a fresh order of ribs that night, on my way. I had to move fast, they closed in 10 min, I was told to ask for Alex. Sure enough he was right on time, I said how happy I was the way Becky handled the situation and made it right. I told Alex that I was going to write it up in Sound Waves. Alex lit up and said that he reads SW every month, his friend was the other Dave Pottie, the chef/ guitar player and our leader Dave's nephew. Small world and I didn't know that Dave played the guitar, another example of "Cooking With The Blues"! It was a pleasure to see a customer's complaint handled in such a proper manner, no questions asked. If You do order take out from Texas Roadhouse, please ask for Becky and Alex, give them my best, Jack



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