

February 2021 Volume 29 Issue 11

Art | Music | Dining | Recreation

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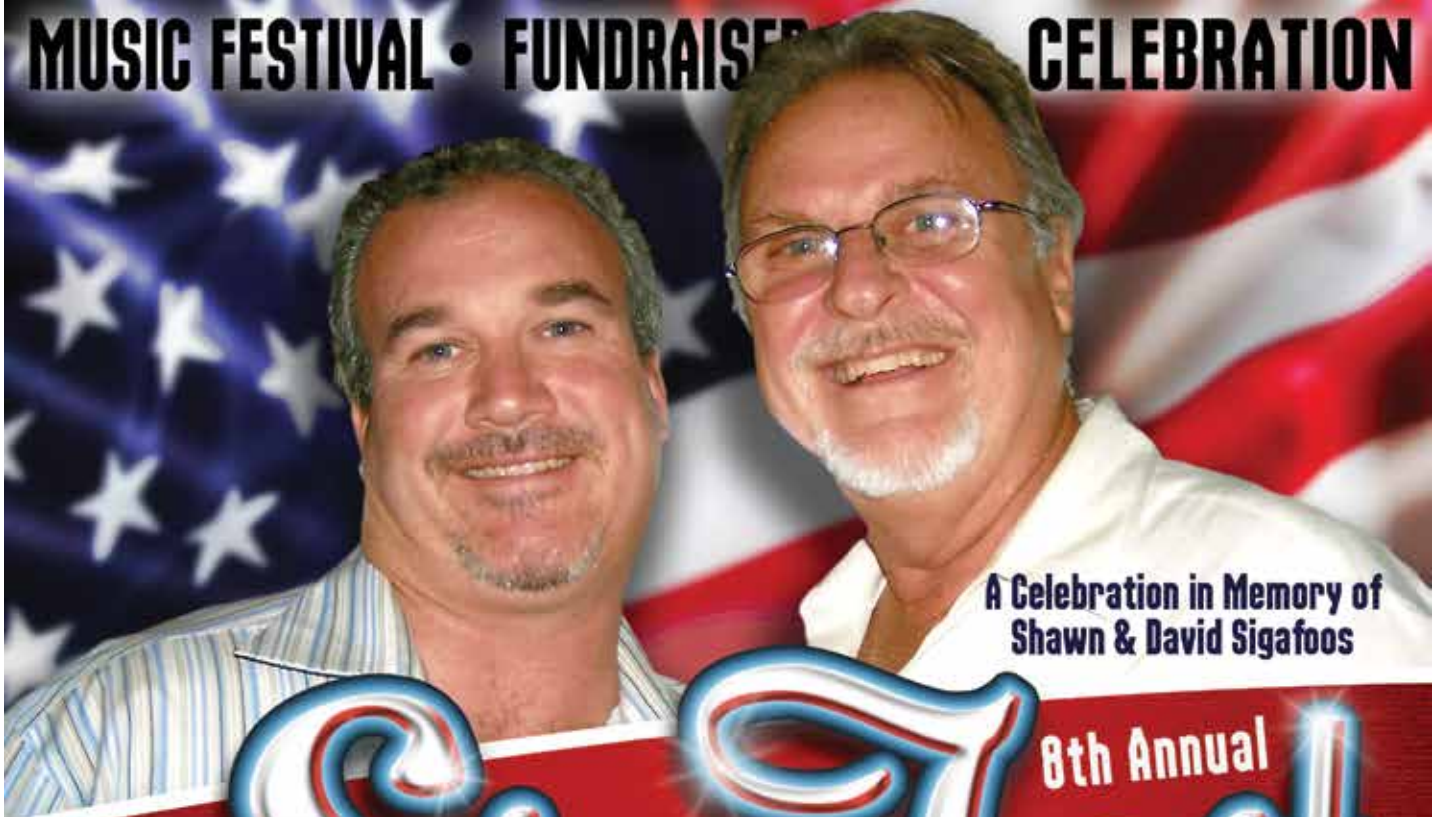
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# February 2021

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### NEW YORK BEE GEES

The New York Bee Gees Tribute Show is comprised of some of Long Island New York's most versatile and exceptionally talented players. They are the most authentic BeeGee's tribute band around with no lip syncing or pre-recorded music. Find out why they are No 1!

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### BISCUIT MILLER

Biscuit Miller is an electric blues bassist, singer and songwriter. He writes most of his own material, and has released three albums to date. In 2012 and 2017, Miller won a Blues Music Award in the 'Instrumentalist - Bass' category.

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### SANITY JEWELRY

5 years ago, in February 2016, Sanity Jewelry opened its shop in Grant. They were selling biker jewelry made of stainless steel designed by Mark Hinds aka Sanity and Kerilyn O'Hagan. It has been a success story ever since.

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### WE REMEMBER MIKE GATTIKER

Mike Gattiker, talented vocalist, and long time guitar player for Brevard County based rock band SPANKS, passed away at the age of 67 in December 2020. His friend and fan Wayne Sherwood remembers him.

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### 8TH ANNUAL SIGFEST

Sigfest honors two men - Shawn and his father David Sigafos - for their commitment to support local musicians and charities. It is an all day all night event with lots of live music.

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Tuesday 7pm:

Trivia

HAPPY

HOUR

11AM-7PM

5: ELW

6: Heatstroke

12: Dave Thrift Band

13: Jeff Bynum

19: Danny Morris Band

20: Rock Fisch

26: Lil Lin Band

27: Matt Rosman

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After a chaotic 2020, the return of Robot Love was a welcome diversion. Now showing at the Foosaner until February 27th, the multi format presentation has something for everybody. Go to Robot Love on Facebook and Instagram for details and to truly prove you are human.  
*Photos by Chuck Van Riper*





Saturday, February 13, 8pm, King Center

# Be My Salentine!

Interview By Matthew Bretz

Sal “The Voice” Valentinetti is a man of large stature that is only out matched by his incredible voice. But, to speak with him it’s easy to see that his heart is the biggest part about him. Sal’s first gig singing in front of people was at a little restaurant in NYC. Less than two years later he found himself onstage as a finalist on the television show *America’s Got Talent*. Since then, his life has changed completely. He’s put out multiple albums to critical acclaim, rubbed elbows with some of the world’s top stars and played to sold out audiences around the globe. We call him “The Voice,” but to his family and loved ones, whom he holds close to his heart, he’s still just Sal. Not long ago I spoke with the man himself to learn about where he started, how he got to where he is now, and some of special people that helped him get there.

*So, where are you at while were talking this evening? I’m guessing either L.A. or Brooklyn.*

SV: Actually I’m in my new apartment in Miami working on a project from IKEA - some shelves for my closet.

*What sparked the move to Miami?*

SV: You know, I love my family so much and I miss them every day, but right now New York is so shut down and depressing I just had to do something else and you can’t beat this weather. Every morning I get up, make some coffee, sit on my balcony in this beautiful weather, and I call home and talk to my friends and family. So, every morning I get the best of both worlds.

*Sounds pretty great. How do like Florida so far?*

SV: I love it. I absolutely love it. One thing I can’t stand about Miami though...the traffic. It seems like Miami is full of uninsured motorists with a death wish. We were out running errands a few days ago and I looked at my girl and said “honey take out your phone right now and look up if it’s illegal to use your turn signal in Dade County.” The way people drive here just boggles the mind. I follow this thread about things that happen in Dade County and I swear there is a car fire somewhere in Miami daily. And I’m telling you this as someone that grew up driving in New York City.

*Miami is kind of known for the traffic. And then you get to Brevard and it’s a lot of retirees on the road.*

SV: Oh, believe me brother, every year when I play the King Center and I get to drive in Brevard County it feels like a treat.

*Did you move to Florida alone?*

SV: No, I’m here with my beautiful girlfriend and our little dog we got recently.

*What kind of dog did you get?*

SV: Well, we adopted a little yorkey named Figgie. I needed a little dog so it could travel with us on the road and we came across this little guy. He was too young to be away from his mother yet, so we had to bottle feed him and everything, but now we can’t imagine life without him.

*I love that. Where did the name Figgie come from?*

SV: It’s actually part of why I love Florida. I used to vacation in Delray Beach every year when I was younger. Delray might not be where you would think a 22 year old would vacation, but I love the beach and Delray is a beautiful area. On one of our trips there my dad and I became friends with this gentleman named Albie. He’s like half a wise guy from Massachusetts, but with a heart of gold. Anyway, Albie and I became good friends and my dad became best friends with him. He just became one of those people you meet that’s like family and teaches you things about life and the world. Well, about two years ago Albie was diagnosed with cancer and he decided to move back up north to spend his time with his family. Just after we got the dog I went to visit Albie and I said “hey, look at this little guy I got.” He says, “oh



my God I love this dog!” I told him I wanted to name the dog after him as kind of a tribute to him. When Albie was a young guy, hanging out in the neighborhood, all the wise guys knew him as Figgie and that’s what everyone called him. So, I named the dog Figgie and it made Albie really happy. It felt good to make such a good guy that happy.

*Now you can think of him every time you see your dog.*  
SV: That’s right!

*Let’s talk about America’s Got Talent. You were on American Idol first and made it all the way until before the live shows. And then you were again on America’s Got Talent and Heidi Klum gave you the golden buzzer right away. Tell me what that was like.*

SV: Are you kidding? It was one of the most life affirming moments I’ve ever had. You have to understand that I hadn’t been performing in front of people very long at that point. When I was a teenager I was into sports and felt really shy about singing in front of anyone. And after high school I was delivering pizzas out of my cousin’s pizzeria... cliché Italian thing to do I know (*laughs*). I was delivering pizzas in a Cadillac, which is about the most counterproductive thing you can do by the way, and my Uncle Joe, who is one of my best friends in the world, called me up one day and says he got me a gig singing at a little restaurant. I was immediately nervous, but Uncle Joe believed in me and was always pushing me, so I decided to trust him and do it. The place was pretty full and I was really nervous, but I just went for it and when I was done everyone applauded. That’s all it took and I was hooked. I knew right then and there that singing was what I wanted to do for the rest of my life.

*Is that what made you audition for American Idol?*

SV: Kind of. I had a great time at my gigs, but when it was over I went back to normal life and thought it wouldn’t go much further. Then again, my Uncle Joe hears *American Idol* is coming to town and talks me into going to the auditions. So, I do. Everything was great, and I made it pretty far, but one day it was just over. I called Uncle Joe and told him it was done and he could tell I was disappointed. He says “Don’t be upset. Do realize how many people you beat out to get as far as you did...people that have been doing this their whole lives and you just got started.”

*Uncle Joe sounds like a great guy. How did you end up on AGT?*

SV: He really is. A producer called me out of the blue one day and told me about the show and that they liked me and wanted me to be a part of it. So, I decided this time I would go full force and do it right. I got a vocal coach, I started hitting the gym. I was all in.

*And it seems like it paid off.*

SV: I think so too. One day I’m a pizza delivery boy and the next I get the golden buzzer from Miss Klum, and I’m on the finals of the biggest talent show in the world with 18 million people watching me. It was mind blowing. Everything in show business was still so new to me...like being on camera. Some of the other contestants were already well known performers and they knew about being on camera. I knew singing and doing my thing and that was it, so the choreography of being in front of multiple cameras was hard to get used to...look over there at that camera, then look at that one for a close up...it was difficult to keep track while I was singing. Well, Heidi pulls me aside one day and said “looks like you’re having a little trouble.” I agreed and she told me not to worry about it. She said, “All these people have jobs to do and they will take care of it. Your job is to use that huge voice of yours and show the world what you’ve got...so just do that.” She was right, and it calmed me down, and I did what she told me to do.

*Heidi Klum is a smart lady.*

SV: A lovelier, kinder and smarter woman there never was.

*Word on the street is that you have a new album coming out the day after you perform at the King Center.*

SV: That’s right! I took the band to L.A. to *East West Recording Studios* and put together a new album I’m calling *Little Valentine*, that’s what my last name means in Italian, and it comes out on Valentine’s day, February 14th, and I’m really excited about it. We were lucky enough to have Glen Mars do all the arrangements and we recorded in the same room that Sinatra recorded “My Way.” It’s really something special.

*Can we expect to hear some of the new stuff at your show in Melbourne?*

SV: Absolutely! I’m so excited to show everybody what I’ve been up to. One of wildest things we did is a version of “Beautiful Girls” by Van Halen. Obviously we did it a little differently than Van Halen, but it came out great.

*So, you have a new album, you have a new place in Miami...things seems pretty good.*

SV: Things are great and only getting better. I thank God every day to be so blessed to do what I love, which is bring joy to people the best way I know how. Sometimes I want to pinch myself, I can’t believe how lucky I am. It blows my mind that people will come from Vero, from Orlando, from the safety of their homes to come out and share an evening with me. And believe me the first thing on my mind is safety. My goal is to provide a night for people to share what I love and get away from everything that’s been going on in this

continue next page



## INTERVIEW Sal Valentinetti continued

crazy world, but it has to be safe...and all my people are dedicated to that.

*You've played shows all over the world now. What show stands out as your favorite?*

SV: Are you kidding me? My favorite show every year is at the King Center in Melbourne. It truly is. The theater is beautiful and the crowd is always wonderful. I love it every year and I'm not just saying that. I'm very honest and truthful with people about the way I feel...I think it's important to live a life of integrity on your own terms. You know I always put "My Way" in my set and it's not just because it's a great song. The lyrics mean a lot to me and they are words I feel very strongly about, especially the last verse. It goes like this "For what is a man, what has he got? If not himself, than he has naught. To say the things he truly feels, and not the words of one who kneels. The record shows I took the blows and did it my way."

Sal Valentinetti didn't follow a formula or the footsteps of those before him to get where he is today. He didn't have anyone to show him how to do what he does. He figured it out on his own. While most performers trying to get ahead, follow fads and trends, and try to be who others want them to be, Sal didn't follow any templates or well-worn paths. He truly did, and continues to, do it His Way.

For ticket information go to [www.kingcenter.com](http://www.kingcenter.com) or call the office at 321-242-2214. The King Center for the Performing Arts recently opened with new health and safety procedures in place. You can find an entire list on the website. This show is brought to you by *LocalBeat Productions*.



Saturday, February 12, 8 pm  
King Center, Melbourne

## New York Bee Gees

Based in New York, the show has played to sell out shows at The Paramount Theater and BB King NYC. B.B. King NYC wrote, "The NY Bee Gees Tribute Show presents the most extravagant Bee Gees show a fan can experience. The band offers all of the classic 70's disco hits from *Stayin' Alive* to *Night Fever* while embracing their early works such as, *To Love Somebody*, *I've Got To Get A Message To You* and *Massachusetts*. The New York Bee Gees delivers songs from every decade of the Bee Gees catalog with a stunning production, powerful vocals and the professional stage presence to fill any club or casino."

The New York Bee Gees Tribute Show is comprised of some of Long Island New York's most versatile and exceptionally talented players. The band includes present or former members of well known, world renown acts including The Alan Parsons Project, Happy Together Tour, Meatloaf, Queen, Blue Oyster Cult, Riot, Herman's Hermits, Enrique Iglesias, The Rippingtons and more. The New York Bee Gee's are the most authentic Bee-Gee's tribute band around with no lip syncing or pre-recorded music. Find out why they are No 1!

*This event is being done under current social distancing procedure.*



Sunday, February 14, 2 pm  
Earl's Hideaway, Sebastian

## Biscuit Miller

Biscuit Miller is an electric blues bassist, singer and songwriter. He writes most of his own material, and has released three albums to date. In 2012 and 2017, Miller won a Blues Music Award in the 'Instrumentalist - Bass' category.

His best known songs include "Lay It On Down," "Bottle of Whiskey Bottle of Wine," "Going Home," "One More Mile," "Monday Morning Blues," and "Wishbone." *Down Beat Magazine* described him as "a real crowd-pleaser."

Miller discovered the blues via his connection to Willie Dixon. "I went to school with Willie's kids," Miller said, "and Willie did one of the first blues programs in Chicago. Once, he brought in this little kid named Lucky Peterson," and Miller noted, "hearing the band play excited me and made me want to play music." Miller formed his first band named *Clever* with his cousin, Ivan Wallace, and they jointly relocated to Minneapolis in 1982.

His most recent recording was *Wishbone* (2016), where the title track was inspired by Miller's two grandsons being excited about making a wish on the turkey wishbone during their Thanksgiving dinner. In May 2017, Miller won his second Blues Music Award. He's a favorite performer at Earl's Hideaway.



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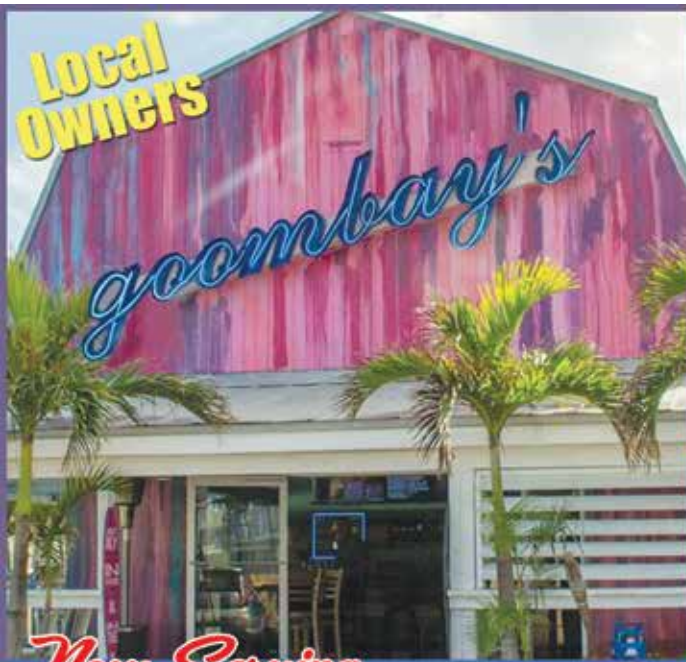


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# LIFE IS GOOD WITH SANITY

5 years ago, February 2016, Sanity Jewelry opened its shop in Grant. They were selling biker jewelry made of stainless steel and designed by Mark Hinds aka Sanity and his then-girlfriend Kerilyn O'Hagan. They were hopeful but had no idea where this ride would take them. The response was overwhelming. Soon, Kerilyn had to give up her successful job as regional sales manager for a restaurant chain to take care of the demand. Fast forward 5 years - and Sanity Jewelry has been a dream come true for both creators. Mark had to quit his career as well - and they took their show on the road. "We now have a 38-ft Allegro RV that pulls our motorcycles and kayaks when we travel to about 22 motorcycle events per year," says Kerilyn. "We work the festival circuit, enjoy the traveling. We fly in our employees, it's work and vacation at the same time." Even during the pandemic business flourished. "We only did 10 shows in 2020 in states that were open, but our mail orders tripled and sales are up by 50 percent."

Sanity Jewelry is a success story, even in a tough time when private business took a tumble. Kerilyn remembers last year: "At 10:44 pm, on March 13th, 2020 I was standing in our booth in Daytona Beach Bike Week and read on the internet "the Mayor of Daytona Beach is pulling all permits for outside vendors at 2am." Our booth was pumping. We were about to break an all time sales record. Our staff was on point, the booth never looked so good, our customers were never so happy to be there. Mark and I met privately behind Afflictions building and said "oh my god, what are we going to do if this year gets cancelled?" We went back to the booth to be met with police and ATF standing waiting for us. We were told if we reopened the next day we would never be allowed to pull another permit within Daytona Beach ever again. So we stayed open till 2am. Then we woke up the next day and the world changed. Our road shows were cancelled & our store closed!"

They decided to pay the entire staff because "these are the people who made us successful, we win or lose as a team, as a Sanity Family." The end? No it was the beginning of a year of insane Internet sales. Kerily: "We suddenly found all of our faithful customers were shopping online. We rented a warehouse. Suddenly we were packing 25 orders a day, then 50, then 75...a day." Then the road shows started again in July. Kerilyn and Mark worked Myrtle Beach, Sturgis, Mil-



waukee, Lake of the Ozarks, and finally returned to Florida for Daytona Biketoberfest, at their temporary new location, Bruce Rossmayer's Harley Davidson. Then the Holiday Season came in full force online and in store. Mark: "We survived 2020 and never had to lay off one employee, in fact we've gained a few more." They are grateful for all their loyal customers and the ones they have not met yet.

The secret to their success is their "niche" - quality biker jewelry with a hand-drawn designs and an ever-changing decor. Mark and Kerilyn enjoy riding together and attending bike festivals all over the United States. Kerilyn, who had a degree in fashion design, noticed that "there were hardly any jewelry vendors and the items offered were rather light and whimsy." She talked to Mark about it and he was ready to invest into this project. Now five year later, they are glad they did. Both love what they do, and two years ago Kerilyn became Mrs O'Hagan Hinds. Life is good.

Besides offering new jewelry designs, Mark expanded his ideas and designed his original hand forged knives which were an instant success. They are made with handles of buffalo or camel horn, elk antler, and they are affordable. Check it out for yourself at [www.SanityJewelry.com](http://www.SanityJewelry.com) or enjoy a ride along the beautiful Indian River to Grant. They are located just off US 1 in front of The Fish House Restaurant. It's worth it.



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# We Remember Local Music Icon Mike Gattiker

By Wayne Sherwood

Repeat after me.... "The year 2020 sucked". Who would not agree? The 365 days we just lived through were chaotically surreal, and forever tattooed in our minds. Just hours away from waving this unimaginable, horrific year goodbye, a final blow was being dealt to the heart of the Space Coast area music community. December 31, 2020, we lost another local music icon. Mike Gattiker, talented vocalist, and long time guitar player for Brevard County based rock band SPANKS, passed away at the age of 67.

While we were out celebrating the arrival of a new year, watching live music on stage, blowing our horns, laughing and cutting up together, our beloved Friend Mike was in clinical distress and fighting for his life. Cancer is the enemy he was fighting. It was a battle he was determined to win. That night, approximately 7 pm, turned out to be Mike's final stand. This saddening news brought devastating closure, to the worst year of my life.

Friday morning, the first day of 2021, I opened my eyes, reached for my iPad, and fired up the screen. As I scrolled off to my social media site, the first visual I came upon was a post that read "RIP, Mike Gattiker". I had not been awake five minutes, before reading those shocking words. I mean.... My Friend Mike, who I admired very much, who I had not seen in nine months, who I knew was sick with some sort of Cancer, had just died. The news was heartbreaking. Immediate thoughts and memories began spinning through my head... mentally reliving some of the more epic moments we shared together. A man who I hung out with most every weekend for 12 years, is now gone forever. I never got to say goodbye.

My introduction to Mike Gattiker took place in the summer of 2009. My wife Sharon and I were invited to a party that a friend was throwing for her husband's 50th birthday. This



same friend told us beforehand that she was having live music, and that a local band called Spanks was going to play. I had been away from the local music scene for a number of years, so the band's name wasn't familiar to me.

We arrived to the party early. We then went outdoors to watch the band set up. The plan was for the group to perform in a corner, alongside the pool. As I watched the guys set up their gear, I could not help noticing that these men were more mature, and up there in age. I was amazed how well they worked together, loading all their gear into that tiny space. They brought a huge sound system, colorful stage lights, flaming table lamps, and a huge lighted sign that advertised their name in scripted letters. Drummer Tim Snell, who has since become my closest friend, assembled a wooden drum riser for his kit. I thought to myself..."who brings a drum riser to a pool party?". The bass player, my good friend Christopher Pearson, wore a 6 string Yamaha strapped to his body. "Hmm, this going to be interesting". The guitar player really held my attention. His name was Mike Gattiker. He seemed to be the methodical one. I no-

ticed how thorough he was arranging all the gear and equipment. It was obvious he was in charge of the sound, too. I watched with amazement as this tall, curly-haired man did some practice finger rolls with his volume turned off. The man's digits were all over the place. I could tell he was a master of his craft. Seeing this, made me believe I was in for a really cool show.

I grabbed my drink, took a seat, and readied myself for the official party kick-off. Anticipation set in. And then, it hit me like a brick!! Boom!! The Spanks band opened their show with a hard edged intro to the song "Harder to Breathe", by Maroon 5. I was speechless. In an instant, things went from quiet, to bombastic. I was smiling from ear to ear. The rest of the night was spent in complete awe. These guys were great! They really rocked! Sharon and I became instant fans. So much so, that we went to see them perform the very next night at the Broken Barrel. We were hooked, and took every opportunity to see the band again, and again.

As the years went by, we became a family. After all, we were the real fans that followed the guys around from venue to venue. The band even gave us names. The men were called Spanksters, and the women were known as Spankettes.

When the band finished their sets, the guys would always make their way over to our table. Conversations were shared during each and every break. When Mike and I would chat, we usually talked about vintage Rock groups and Classic Rock bands that we each loved and admired. I soon discovered that Mike, as old as he was, had never seen a lot of the true guitar greats. As I threw a bunch of popular names at him, and he would say "no" to just about every one. I felt his regret. It mad me sad. Taking mental notes, I made it my mission to arrange the occasional outing with Mike and the guys to see some of those guitar legends as they passed through. In the years to follow, with me by his side, Mike's eyes witnessed performances by Dweezil Zappa, Zakk Wylde, Dave Mustaine, Mato Nanji, Kenny Wayne Shepherd, Billy Cox, Ronnie Montrose, Robin Trower, Ana Popavic, Joe Satriani, Johnny Lang, Eric Johnson. Not one of these people, had he seen before.

Speaking of Eric Johnson... Eric's song 'Cliffs of Dover' was one of the two signature tunes that Mike would consistently perform on stage. When He played "Cliffs", the crowd would move in close so they can see his magic fingers slide up and down the fretted neck of his Jackson guitar. The other song Mike was known to play, is Gary Moore's "I Still Have The Blues For You". Both of these songs were crowd favorites, and both are loaded with amazing guitar solos. As Tim would often say, "At no time did Mike's fingers leave his hand". Another composition the band added to their setlist was "Electric Worry", by the band Clutch. Mike and Tim

shared the vocals on this one. The song immediately became a fan favorite, and went on to become our nightly anthem. The very moment you heard Mike sing words..."Well You Make Me Weak", the entire crowd (well, those in the know) would get up out of their seat and converge around the stage. It was our unwritten duty to participate. We would shake the band's tambourine, sing the invited parts..."Bang!, Bang!, Bang!, Bang!", while raising our clenched fists in the air to each "Bang!" the band would shout out. For us, it was a four minute pep rally...always being the highlight of the night.

The most single cherished memory I had with Mike, along with Tim and Chris, took place on August 8, 2011. It was a Monday night. The Gleason Auditorium was hosting the Brevard Live Music Awards. The entire Spanks family was in attendance. Not an empty seat in the place. We were there to support our friends, and celebrate any achievements they might win. Finally, the votes were tallied, and the envelopes stuffed, and sealed. When the moment came, we anxiously, waited for the presenter to make the announcement. "The 2011 Entertainer of the Year award goes to.... Spanks!". Woohoo, we did it. The Spanks band was selected by the fans, and honored with the grand prize. I was so proud of the boys.



In 2017, vocalist Candi Marie joined the band. Her singing and stage presence were welcomed additions. Bassist Steve Caroppoli came on board shortly thereafter, adding his own personal touch to the low end. Mike got along great with both of them. The group tightened up, shined like never before. Their solid core line-up continued to perform a full schedule, until the attack of the covid-19 virus. The ensuing pandemic instantly shut down live music as we know it. The venues went dark, and the scene went blank. My passion was gone! My band was gone! And now, my friend is gone.

As of this writing, there are no confirmed plans to celebrate Mike's life. I am sure he will be properly eulogized, and recognized. Mike's fan base is large, and his achievements, many. Please take a moment to flash back, and recall all the amazing moments that Mike has touched your life. He spent his entire adult life entertaining people. We are those people. Mike is survived by his Son, Miles.



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## The Column

By **Chuck Van Riper**

### Coffee

From a very early age, my brother Billy and I have loved coffee. We loved the smell, the flavor, everything about coffee. When we were young, the family would gather for holidays and such. After dinner, Grandma would put on the coffee. It was one of those percolator types. The fancy silver one with the fancy engravings on top. It took a half an hour to percolate a pot. I can still smell that aroma wafting through the house. It was almost as good a smell as the lasagna and Italian sausage that preceded it. The kids were always dispatched to the basement to play after dinner. Mom would always come down to check on us. We would plead for coffee! She would put a sugar cube on a spoon and dip it in some of her coffee with cream and give us each one. That was what heaven must taste like.

Growing up, Billy and I shared a room with twin beds separated by our always on stereo/radio/8-Track player. One night, we were laying there restlessly. We must have been about 10. I said "Sure would like some coffee right now". "Yea!", Billy replied. "I can smell it now. Sure would taste good." I said, continuing "Can't you smell it? Can't you taste it?" Billy said "Shut up! You're going to make me want some!" I kept it up, "Coffee, coffee, smell it...". In unison: Mommm! Mom came in. "What's the matter?" "Can we have a cup of coffee?" we inquired. After much debate, Mom told us she would makes us a cup of coffee if we went right to sleep afterwards. Deal! So she made us each a cup of coffee in styrofoam cups with a lot of sugar and mostly milk. That night, I had never had a cup of coffee that tasted so good. As agreed upon, we went right to sleep after that. We appreciated mom a little more after that night.

By the time we got to high school, every day after school started with at least one cup of joe. Nescafe instant was the coffee-de-jour, with 3 sugars and milk. Our house was kind of the hang out for after school. We would sit around drinking our coffee concoctions, solving all the world's problems, playing board games, telling jokes, the usual after school stuff, but with coffee, It was during these formative years when I went to a friend's house and in their kitchen was a coffee pot sitting in some thingamabob that looked like a space ship control panel. I was fascinated. "That's a Mr. Coffee. Haven't you seen one?", she replied. She explained it was a "drip machine" that

could make a whole pot of coffee in less than 10 minutes. No way! "Let's try it!", I blurted out. Sure enough, within minutes, there was coffee! I can't remember her name, what she looked like, or where she lived, but if I saw her today, I would have to thank her for the profound influence she had on my life. In all my travels, from that moment on, I always had a Mr. Coffee machine. Now there are more types of coffee machines than you can count, but a good old simple Mr. Coffee has become a staple in my life.

Actually, there was one time I didn't have one. I was living in a boarding house down on the Jersey shore. Belmar was the town next to Asbury Park. I had 2 cats that were brothers. They looked exactly alike. They would never leave my side. When we went for a walk, there was one on one side of me and one on the other, never more than a foot away. For my musical friends, one was Bb and the other was A#, that were their names, flat and sharp. There was a place by the beach where I would get my coffee every morning. I, flat and sharp would go there. They had their spot on the windowsill. I would get my coffee and maybe breakfast, and they would get a saucer of milk. When I was done, I would tell them it's time to go and they would hop down, one on each side, never more than a foot away. The coffee was pretty bad at that place.

All through the 70's we were playing coffee houses. That's where I really learned to appreciate coffees from around the world. One coffee house in Denver had the best Hawaiian coffee, no additives, just pure coffee from Hawaii. Being the clutz that I am, they would give me my coffee cup with a sponge because they knew I would drip somewhere. In Seattle, I used to play at the very first Starbucks. We would play for sandwiches and tips. The coffee was worth it. It's not the same now.

When we moved to Florida, I would buy all these exotic bean coffees and grind them. Some were quite good, others tasted just like big name brands. It was during this part of my coffee evolution that Billy wrote "The Coffee Song". I remember sitting at the old Wine Gallery putting on the horn section. If you notice, the first licks in the tune are a variation of the *Maxwell House* theme song, and the second part is the *Chock Full of Nuts* theme. So Billy shows me the words. I said "how did you write this?" He told me he had a dream about it. So we put it all together and I'm thinking "This is the stupidest song I ever heard. While I appreciate the sentiment, nobody is going to like it." I was wrong, very wrong. You can still call up WFIT and request it sometime.

So, yea, coffee has been a big part of our lives from very early on. I still love a really good cup of coffee from one of the many great coffee places found locally. At home, I'm back to Folgers and a trusty Mr. Coffee. As a matter of fact, it's almost time for bed. Better brew a cup.

**Sal the Voice**  
*Be My Valentine!*

**SATURDAY**  
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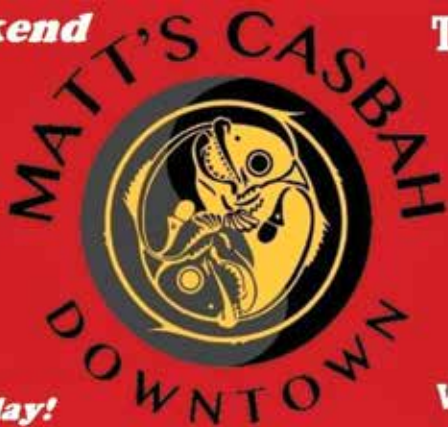
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## Entertainment Calendar

### 1 - MONDAY

**GOOMBAYS:** 7pm Open Mic w/ Andrew Walker  
**LOU'S BLUES:** 7pm Dirty Bingo

### 2 - TUESDAY

**GOOMBAYS:** 5-7pm Dudley Quest; 6:30pm Trivia  
**LOU'S BLUES:** 6:30pm Trivia  
**SANDBAR:** 9pm DJ Goldfinga

### 3 - WEDNESDAY

**FRESH SCRATCH BISTRO:** 6pm Char Good  
**HEIDI'S JAZZ CLUB:** 6pm The Chief Cherry Quintet  
**LOU'S BLUES:** 7:30pm Rock-Star Karaoke  
**MONKEY BAR:** 8pm Music Bingo  
**SANDBAR:** 8pm Sasha Webster  
**TOPICAL ROOTS EXTERIOR:** 6:30pm Jam in the Garden

### 4 - THURSDAY

**FRESH SCRATCH BISTRO:** 6pm Joel Cooks  
**GOOMBAYS:** 6:30pm Joshua Dean Wagers  
**HEIDI'S JAZZ CLUB:** 7pm Sybil Gage  
**LOU'S BLUES:** 7:30pm Unit 5  
**MATT'S CASBAH:** 5pm Adam Sean  
**MONKEY BAR:** 9pm DJ Ducati  
**SLOW & LOW CB:** 7pm Matt Riley  
**SOCIAL DISTANCE:** 8:30pm BJ's Duo w/ Jeff Bynum & Barry Canfield

### 5 - FRIDAY

**BONEFISH WILLY'S RIVERFRONT GRILLE:** 6pm Matt Adkins  
**FRESH SCRATCH BISTRO:** 6pm Sarah Dent  
**GOOMBAYS:** 7pm Billy Chapman  
**HEIDI'S JAZZ CLUB:** 6-9pm Steve Kirsner & Friends  
**HILTON CB/ LONGBOARDS:** 6-9pm Jason Domulot  
**KEY WEST BAR:** 9pm ELW Band  
**LOU'S BLUES:** 5:30pm Karaoke w/ Bob Neal; 9:30pm Trippside  
**MATT'S CASBAH:** 6:30pm Highway 1 Duo

**SANDBAR:** 4pm Evan The Steel Pan Man; 9pm Musical Seduction  
**SLOW & LOW CB:** 7pm Panama 3  
**SLOW & LOW Viera:** 7pm Pompano Pete  
**SOCIAL DISTANCE:** 8:30pm Radar Red

### 6 - SATURDAY

**BONEFISH WILLY'S RIVERFRONT GRILLE:** 6pm Sam Sims  
**EARL'S HIDEAWAY:** 2pm The Lost arts; 8:30pm Crashrocket  
**FRESH SCRATCH BISTRO:** 6pm Tom Parks  
**GOOMBAYS:** 7pm Angrew Walker  
**HEIDI'S JAZZ CLUB:** 7-11pm Valerie Gillespie w/ Ron Teixeira Trio  
**HILTON CB/ LONGBOARDS:** 6-9pm Jonathan Honeycutt  
**KEY WEST BAR:** 9pm Heatstroke  
**LOU'S BLUES:** 1pm Ana & Dave; 5:30pm Karaoke w/ Cindy; 9:30pm Angry Bob Project  
**MATT'S CASBAH:** 6:30pm Anja  
**SANDBAR:** 6pm Whiskey JuJu  
**SLOW & LOW Viera:** 7pm Andy Harrington  
**SOCIAL DISTANCE:** 8:30pm Twisted Minds  
**TOPICAL ROOTS EXTERIOR:** 2pm Lights Out Project; Farmers Market

### 7 - SUNDAY

**BONEFISH WILLY'S RIVERFRONT GRILLE:** 4pm Andrew Walker  
**EARL'S HIDEAWAY:** 2-5pm Switch N' Whiskey  
**FRESH SCRATCH BISTRO:** 4pm Good Vibes Sunday w/ Mike Murphy  
**HEIDI'S JAZZ CLUB:** closed for Super Bowl  
**HILTON CB/ LONGBOARDS:** 1-4pm Miranda Realino  
**LOU'S BLUES:** 3:30pm John McDonald & The Mango Men  
**SANDBAR:** 5pm Super Bowl King of the Couch Party

### 8 - MONDAY

**GOOMBAYS:** Open Mic w/

Andrew Walker  
**LOU'S BLUES:** 7pm Dirty Bingo

### 9 - TUESDAY

**GOOMBAYS:** 5-7pm Dudley Quest; 6:30pm Trivia  
**LOU'S BLUES:** 6:30pm Trivia  
**SANDBAR:** 9pm DJ Goldfinga

### 10 - WEDNESDAY

**FRESH SCRATCH BISTRO:** 6pm Denise Turner  
**HEIDI'S JAZZ CLUB:** 6:30pm Char & The Goods  
**KELLY'S:** 6pm Penny Creek Band  
**LOU'S BLUES:** 7:30pm Rock-Star Karaoke  
**MONKEY BAR:** 8pm Music Bingo  
**SANDBAR:** 6pm Vince from Love Valey  
**TOPICAL ROOTS EXTERIOR:** 6:30pm Jam in the Garden

### 11 - THURSDAY

**FRESH SCRATCH BISTRO:** 6pm Bill Hamilton  
**GOOMBAYS:** 6:30pm Joshua Dean Wagers  
**HEIDI'S JAZZ CLUB:** 7pm Sybil Gage  
**LOU'S BLUES:** 7:30pm Modoc River  
**MATT'S CASBAH:** 5pm Clint Stewart  
**MONKEY BAR:** 9pm DJ Ducati  
**SLOW & LOW CB:** 7pm Matt Riley  
**SOCIAL DISTANCE:** 8:30pm Denise Turner

### 12 - FRIDAY

**BONEFISH WILLY'S RIVERFRONT GRILLE:** 6pm Matt Adkins  
**FRESH SCRATCH BISTRO:** 6pm Sarah Dent  
**GOOMBAYS:** 7pm Billy Chapman  
**HEIDI'S JAZZ CLUB:** 6pm Steve Kirsner & Friends  
**HILTON CB/ LONGBOARDS:** 6-9pm Jonathan Honeycutt  
**KEY WEST BAR:** 9pm Dave Thrift Band  
**LOU'S BLUES:** 5:30pm Karaoke w/ Bob Neal; 9:30pm Picture Show  
**MATT'S CASBAH:** 6:30pm Joe Calautti  
**SANDBAR:** 4pm Bullet



Thursday,  
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**Allman Betts Band**

The sons of Gregg Allman (Devon Allman) and Dickey Betts (Duane Betts) have joined forces to form The Allman Betts Band. The show features new music, songs from their solo projects and classic Allman Brothers and Gregg Allman tunes in honor of the 50th Anniversary of The Allman Brothers Band.

Their debut album, released on June 28, 2019, was recorded at the legendary *Muscle Shoals Sound Studios* and produced by Matt Ross-Spang (Jason Isbell, Margo Price, John Prine and Elvis Presley). Former Allman Brothers Band keyboardist and current Rolling Stones keyboardist, Chuck Leveall, and former Greg Allman Band Hammond B3 player, Peter Levin, both guested on the record.

The Allman Betts Band includes Devon Allman, Duane Betts, Berry Oakley Jr. (son of original Allman Brothers Band bassist Berry Oakley), Johnny Stachela on slide guitar, John Ginty on Hammond B3 (Robert Randolph/Dixie Chicks) and Devon Allman Project percussionists R. Scott Bryan (Sheryl Crow) and John Lum.



# Entertainment Calendar

Dodgers; Dub Masters  
**SLOW & LOW CB:** 7pm  
Buck Barefoot  
**SLOW & LOW Viera:** 7pm  
Bo & Kenny  
**SOCIAL DISTANCE:** 8:30pm  
Liz & The Inviz

## 13 - SATURDAY

**BONEFISH WILLY'S  
RIVERFRONT GRILLE:**  
6pm John McDonald  
**EARL'S HIDEAWAY:** 2pm  
Sundown Band; 8:30 Jakson  
County  
**FRESH SCRATCH BISTRO:**  
6pm Bill Hamilton  
**GOOMBAYS:** 7pm Corey and  
Daniel Forte  
**HEIDI'S JAZZ CLUB:**  
7-11pm Hella Ayelet Gal w/  
Ron Teixeira Trio  
**HILTON CB/  
LONGBOARDS:** 6-9pm Rick  
& Tino  
**KEY WEST BAR:** 9pm Jeff  
Bynum  
**LOU'S BLUES:** 1pm Denise  
Turner; 5:30pm Karaoke w/  
Cindy; 9:30pm Switch  
**MATT'S CASBAH:** 6:30pm  
Bobby Sax  
**RUBIX:** 9pm DJ Virgo  
**SANDBAR:** 6pm The  
Syndicate  
**SLOW & LOW Viera:** 7pm  
Buck Barefoot  
**SOCIAL DISTANCE:** 8:30pm  
106 South

## 14 - SUNDAY VALENTINE'S DAY

**BONEFISH WILLY'S  
RIVERFRONT GRILLE:**  
4pm Matt Adkins  
**EARL'S HIDEAWAY:** 2pm  
Biscuit Miller  
**FRESH SCRATCH BISTRO:**  
4pm Good Vibes Sunday w/  
Mike Murphy  
**HEIDI'S JAZZ CLUB:**  
7-11pm Jazz Jam Session  
**HILTON CB/  
LONGBOARDS:** 1-4pm  
Miranda Realino  
**LOU'S BLUES:** 3:30pm Love  
Valley  
**RUBIX:** 7pm DL Serios  
**SANDBAR:** 4-8pm U & I Duo

## 15 - MONDAY

**GOOMBAYS:** 7pm Open Mic  
w/ Andrew Walker  
**LOU'S BLUES:** 7pm Dirty  
Bingo

## 16 - TUESDAY

**GOOMBAYS:** 5-7pm Dudley  
Quest; 7:30pm Trivia  
**LOU'S BLUES:** 6:30pm Trivia  
**SANDBAR:** 9pm DJ Goldfinga

## 17 - WEDNESDAY

**FRESH SCRATCH BISTRO:**  
6pm Sarah Dent  
**HEIDI'S JAZZ CLUB:**  
6:30pm Char & The Goods  
**LOU'S BLUES:** 7:30pm Rock-  
Star Karaoke  
**MONKEY BAR:** 8pm Music  
Bingo  
**SANDBAR:** 6pm Teddy Time  
**TOPICAL ROOTS  
EXTERIOR:** 6:30pm Jam in  
the Garden

## 18 - THURSDAY

**FRESH SCRATCH BISTRO:**  
6pm Jerry Z  
**GOOMBAY'S:** 6:30pm Joshua  
Dean Wagers  
**HEIDI'S JAZZ CLUB:** 7pm  
Sybil Gage  
**LOU'S BLUES:** 7:30pm Dirty  
30s  
**MATT'S CASBAH:** 5pm Guy  
Lee  
**MONKEY BAR:** 9pm DJ  
Ducati  
**SANDBAR:** 8pm Karaoke  
**SLOW & LOW CB:** 7pm Matt  
Riley  
**SOCIAL DISTANCE:** 8:30pm  
Will Purdy

## 19 - FRIDAY

**BONEFISH WILLY'S  
RIVERFRONT GRILLE:**  
6pm Matt Adkins  
**FRESH SCRATCH BISTRO:**  
6pm Sarah Dent  
**GOOMBAY'S:** 7pm Billy  
Chapman  
**HEIDI'S JAZZ CLUB:** 5-8pm  
Steve Kirsner & Friends;  
8:30pm Rev. Billy C. Wirtz  
**HILTON CB/  
LONGBOARDS:** 6-9pm  
Jonathan Honeycutt  
**KEY WEST BAR:** 9pm Danny  
Morris Band  
**LOU'S BLUES:** 5:30pm  
Karaoke w/ Bob Neal; 9:30pm  
Soul Time  
**MATT'S CASBAH:** 6:30pm  
Frank Rios  
**SANDBAR:** 4pm Bullet  
Dodgers; 9pm 506 Crew Band  
**SLOW & LOW CB:** 7pm  
Andy Harrington  
**SLOW & LOW Viera:** 7pm  
Buck Barefoot

**SOCIAL DISTANCE:** 8:30pm  
Speak Easy Band

## 20 - SATURDAY

**BONEFISH WILLY'S  
RIVERFRONT GRILLE:**  
6pm The Fog  
**EARL'S HIDEAWAY:** 2pm  
Alita Davis; 8:30pm Galaxy  
Band  
**FRESH SCRATCH BISTRO:**  
6pm Char Good  
**GOOMBAYS:** 7pm Andrew  
Walker  
**HEIDI'S JAZZ CLUB:**  
7-11pm Ron Teixeira Trio  
**HILTON CB/  
LONGBOARDS:** 6-9pm Rick  
& Tino  
**KEY WEST BAR:** 9pm  
Rockfish  
**LOU'S BLUES:** 1pm John  
McDonalds; 5:30pm Karaoke w/  
Cindy; 9:30pm Rocket City  
**MATT'S CASBAH:** 6:30pm  
David Thane  
**SANDBAR:** Anniversary Party  
4pm Tommy Mitchell Trio; 9pm  
Love Valley  
**SLOW & LOW CB:** Jam w/  
Bo & Friends  
**SLOW & LOW Viera:** 7pm  
Dave Myers  
**SOCIAL DISTANCE:** 8:30pm  
Guilty Pleasure

## 21 - SUNDAY

**BONEFISH WILLY'S  
RIVERFRONT GRILLE:**  
4pm Bob Willis  
**EARL'S HIDEAWAY:** 2pm  
Jeremiah Johnson Band  
**FRESH SCRATCH BISTRO:**  
4pm Good Vibes Sunday w/  
Mike Murphy  
**HEIDI'S JAZZ CLUB:**  
7-11pm Jazz Jam Session  
**HILTON CB/  
LONGBOARDS:** 1-4pm Jason  
Dumolot  
**LOU'S BLUES:** 3:30pm Vince  
Reed Band  
**SANDBAR:** 4pm Saltwater  
Hippie Band

## 22 - MONDAY

**GOOMBAYS:** 7pm Open Mic  
w/ Andrew Walker  
**LOU'S BLUES:** 7pm Dirty  
Bingo  
**SANDBAR:** 9pm Jam Band

## 23 - TUESDAY

**GOOMBAY'S:** 5-7pm Dudley  
Quest; 7:30pm Trivia  
**LOU'S BLUES:** 6:30pm Trivia

**SANDBAR:** 9pm DJ Goldfinga

## 24 - WEDNESDAY

**FRESH SCRATCH BISTRO:**  
6pm Denise Turner  
**HEIDI'S JAZZ CLUB:**  
6:30pm Char & The Goods  
**LOU'S BLUES:** 7:30pm Rock-  
Star Karaoke  
**MONKEY BAR:** 8pm Music  
Bingo  
**SANDBAR:** 8pm Corey Yentz  
**TOPICAL ROOTS  
EXTERIOR:** 6:30pm Jam in  
the Garden

## 25 - THURSDAY

**FRESH SCRATCH BISTRO:**  
6pm Chuck Van Riper  
**GOOMBAYS:** 6:30pm Joshua  
Dean Wagners  
**HEIDI'S JAZZ CLUB:**  
7-10pm Sybil Gage  
**LOU'S BLUES:** 7:30pm Joe  
Calautti  
**MATT'S CASBAH:** 5pm Clint  
Stewart  
**MONKEY BAR:** 9pm DJ  
Ducati  
**SANDBAR:** 8pm Karaoke  
**SLOW & LOW CB:** 7pm Matt  
Riley  
**SOCIAL DISTANCE:** 8:30pm  
Jake Salter

## 26 - FRIDAY

**BONEFISH WILLY'S  
RIVERFRONT GRILLE:**  
6pm Matt Adkins  
**FRESH SCRATCH BISTRO:**  
6pm Sarah Dent  
**GOOMBAY'S:** 7pm Billy  
Chapman  
**HEIDI'S JAZZ CLUB:** 6-9pm  
Steve Kirsner & Friends  
**HILTON CB/  
LONGBOARDS:** 6-9pm Aaron  
Rhoades  
**KEY WEST BAR:** 9pm Lil Lin  
Band  
**LOU'S BLUES:** 5:30pm  
Karaoke w/ Bob Neal; 9:30pm  
Kings County  
**MATT'S CASBAH:** 6:30pm  
Galaxy Duo  
**SANDBAR:** 4pm Jeff Marquis;  
9pm 506 Crew Duo  
**SLOW & LOW CB:** 7pm Dave  
Myers  
**SLOW & LOW Viera:** 7pm  
Mark Sokora  
**SOCIAL DISTANCE:** 8:30pm  
Love Valley

## 27 - SATURDAY

**BONEFISH WILLY'S**



**RIVERFRONT GRILLE:**

6pm Guy Lee

**EARL'S HIDEAWAY:** 2pm St

John's Wood; 8:30pm Ruckus

**FRESH SCRATCH BISTRO:**

6pm Tom Parks

**GOOMBAYS:** 7pm David

Southwood Smith

**HEIDI'S JAZZ CLUB:**

7-11pm Hella Ayelet Gal w/

Ron Teixeira Trio

**HILTON CB/****LONGBOARDS:** 6-9pm Rick

&amp; Tino

**KEY WEST BAR:** 9pm Matt

Rosman

**LOU'S BLUES:** 1pm Acoustic;

5:30pm Karaoke w/ Cindy;

9:30pm Luna Pearl

**MATTS CASBAH:** 6:30pm

John McDonald Duo

**RUBIX:** 9pm DJ Virgo**SANDBAR:** 4pm Radar Red;

9pm Wicked Garden Gnomes

**SIGGY'S:** 1pm 8th Annual

Sigfest featuring DJ Chris

Long, Burnt Toast, Jacksonville

Slim &amp; Express Train, Last

Call, Blue Diamond Band,

Top Hill Crew, Bullet Theory,

Shovelhed

**SHOW & LOW Viera:** 7pm

Pompano Pete

**SOCIAL DISTANCE:** 8:30pm

Rocket City

**28 - SUNDAY****BONEFISH WILLY'S****RIVERFRONT GRILLE:**

4pm Big Jim Adams

**EARL'S HIDEAWAY:** 2pm

Skyla Burrell Band featuring

Mark Tomlinson

**FRESH SCRATCH BISTRO:**

4pm Good Vibes Sunday w/

Mike Murphy

**HEIDI'S JAZZ CLUB:**

7-11pm Jazz Jam Session

**HILTON CB/****LONGBOARDS:** 1-4pm

Jonathan Honeycutt

**LOU'S BLUES:** 3:30pm

Coolers

**SANDBAR:** 4pm Adam Sean**29 - MONDAY****GOOMBAYS:** 7pm Open Mic

w/ Andrew Walker

**LOU'S BLUES:** 7pm Dirty

Bingo

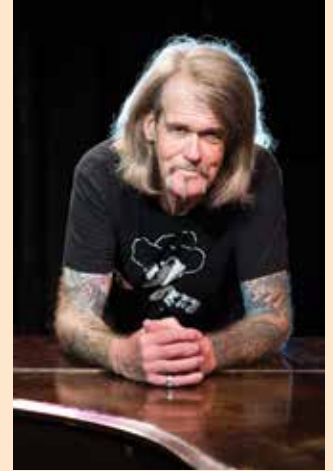
All calendar listings are subject to change without notice. Please confirm.

**COMMUNITY CALENDAR****Jan 15 - Feb 7:** Ghost, The Musical, Titusville Playhouse, 321-268-1125**Jan 29 - Feb 14:** Newsies, Historic Cocoa Village Playhouse, 321-636-5050**Jan 15 - Feb 21:** Educating Rita, Melbourne Civic Theatre, Downtown Melbourne, 321-723-6935**Jan 15 - Feb 27:** Robot Love V, Foosaner Art Museum, Eau Gallie Arts District, 321-674-8916**Feb 5:** Opening Reception: Open for Interpretation, Fifth Avenue Art Gallery, Eau Gallie Arts District, 321-259-8261**Feb 6:** Brevard Symphony Orchestra: The Belle of Broadway Concert, King Center, Melbourne, 321-242-2219**Feb 6 & 7:** A Night & Day of Sinatra with Rich DiMare, Surfside Players, Cocoa Beach, 321-783-3127**Feb 6 & 7:** Brevard Renaissance Fair, Wickham Park Amphitheater, Melbourne, 321-458-3515**Feb 11:** The Allman Betts Band, King Center, Melbourne, 321-242-2219**Feb 12:** New York Bee Gees, King Center, Melbourne, 321-242-2219**Feb 13:** 2nd Annual Cocoa Village Brewer's Bash, Riverfront Park, Historic Cocoa Village, 321-301-4306**Feb 13:** The Great American Songbook Concert, Space Coast Symphony, Scott Center Auditorium at Holy Trinity, Suntree, 855-252-7276**Feb 13:** Sal "The Voice" Valentinetti, King Center, Melbourne, 321-242-2219**Feb 17:** Carolina Blue: Bluegrass Concert, Faith City Church, Titusville, 321-222-7797**Feb 18:** ABBA MANIA, King Center, Melbourne, 321-242-2219**Feb 19 - Mar 7:** Once on the Island, The Musical, Henegar

Center, Downtown Melbourne, 321-723-8698

**Feb 19 - Mar 14:** The Wild Party, Titusville Playhouse, 321-268-1125**Feb 20:** Brevard Symphony Orchestra: Heroic Beethoven Concert, King Center, Melbourne, 321-242-2219**Feb 26:** Silent Film: Safety Last! (1923), Historic Cocoa Village Playhouse, 321-636-5050**Feb 26-28:** 2021 Florida Gourd Society Festival: An Ocean of Gourds, Azan Shrine Center, Melbourne, 904-240-1399**Feb 27:** Symphonic Dances Concert, Scott Center Auditorium at Holy Trinity, Suntree, Space Coast Symphony, 855-252-7276

The Community Calendar has been submitted by Brevard Cultural Alliance.

**RECREATION CALENDAR****February 6th:** 11am-2pm Lunch with a Sea Captain. FREE Lunch with local salt discussing Techniques for Traversing the Sebastian and Ft. Pierce Inlets with different types of boats weather changes and how to 'Manage and Time'; at Top Notch Marine**February 13:** 11am-2pm The All American Band in Concert. BBQ and presentation of Sea Born boat line. FREE BEER; at Top Notch Marine**February 20:** 11am-2pm Learn how to Read a Chart. TNM Captains talk objectively about getting this tool to work for you. FREE LUNCH at Noon; at Top Notch Marine**February 27:** 11am-2pm Docktail Rendezvous Party. Last Saturday of each month to network at a local area restaurant. All are welcome to attend, with the first round of libation courtesy of Top Notch Marine. Call Bishop at 321-286-3106 to register.

February 19, 8:30pm  
Heidi's Jazz Club  
Cocoa Beach

**Rev Billy C. Wirtz**

Though many have tried, none have yet been able to define who, or what, Rev. Billy C. Wirtz really is. He's been called a comedian, a music historian, a piano player, a Polyester Prophet ... and the list goes on. There's not enough room in this magazine to try and paint a full picture of the ineffable Rev. Billy C. Wirtz. His material consists of irreverent comedy routines set to music. He is also a historian, researching the evolution of Black popular music after WW2. Rev Billy has played all over the world, opening for Bob Dylan, ZZ Top and dozens more.

He's recorded 12 albums, even wrote a book, toured with The Night-hawks for a while, and is legendary for his hilarious live performances. Like an itinerant revivalist in a carnival tent, he'll begin slowly and gradually build to a rapid fire torrent, as if he were whipping the congregation/audience into a frenzy. Every time - in normal times anyway.



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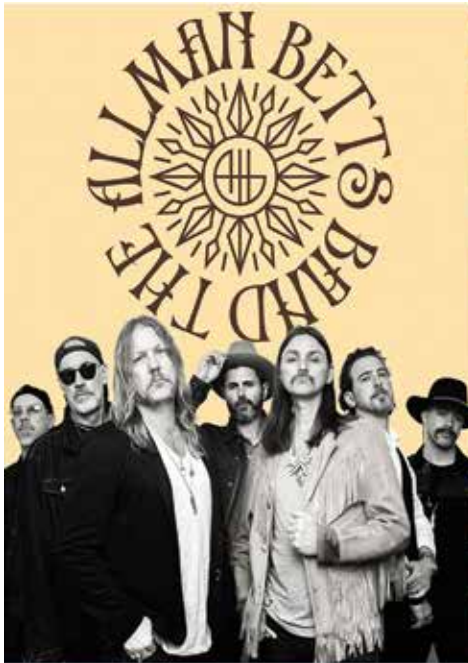
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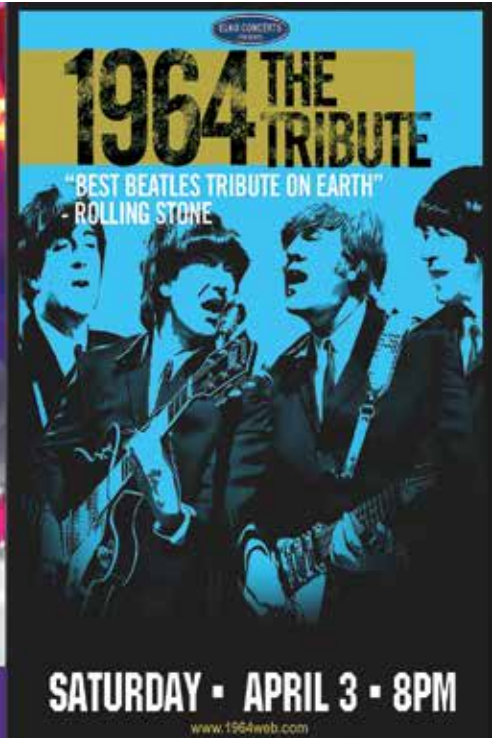




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THURSDAY · FEBRUARY 18 · 8PM



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Thursday, February 18, 7:30pm  
King Center, Melbourne

## ABBA MANIA

It has now been 31 years since Abba last toured and, as you can imagine, in 1979 requests for tickets far outstripped availability with two Royal Albert Hall performances receiving 2 million requests for tickets, with only 5000 available. In short, it was the hottest ticket in town. Even today ABBA MANIA continues to grip the nation with countless tributes on television, radio and of course with the hugely popular stage hit "Mamma Mia," now a feature film, so there are no signs that this popularity is slowing down!

ABBA MANIA the tribute takes you back in time by recreating one of the world's finest pop groups in a live stage performance. This highly polished and professional production was created in 1999 and played its first shows in 2000. In 2003 the show was presented with a prestigious *Radio Regenbogen* award for the best musical of 2002. Fellow winners that year were Tom Jones and Meatloaf. In the same year, ABBA MANIA toured extensively throughout Europe selling out theatres wherever they performed.

ABBA MANIA has continued to tour the globe, enjoying great success, with ticket sales for most venues selling out. The show has toured internationally in Venezuela, North America, Tahiti, Mexico, Germany, France, Switzerland, Austria, Holland, Denmark, Sweden, Luxembourg, and many more.



Feb 20, Sandbar, Cocoa Beach

## 17<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY

February is birthday month for the infamous Sandbar Sports Grill in Cocoa Beach. This year on Saturday, the 20th, they will celebrate their 17th anniversary with an all day party, drink specials, give aways, and lots of live music with rock and dance band Tommy Mitchel Trio starting at 4 pm. Then at 9 pm Love Valley takes the stage for some rock and blues party music.

Whatever the Sandbar does, they do it longer, harder, louder, and that's just what made them the number one party scene in Cocoa Beach with a restaurant in the front that rescues people from ordinary food every day. It's the renowned home of the fish taco, fun pizzas, big ass burgers, and a huge selection of menu items from wings to crab legs served till midnight. The back bar that opens to the Atlantic Ocean beach serves infamous hurricanes - yes, they "don't run from them, they drink um." They also come in different categories.

Sports events are always celebrated, and on Super Bowl Sunday someone wins the title "King of the Couch" which means they don't just watch the game from the best seat in the house, they can also keep the couch. The contest entry is free. UCF fights are shown and customers do not pay an admission charge. You get the idea!

Go celebrate their birthday, after all - you're only 17 once.



Sat, February 27, 1pm-close  
Siggy's American Bar, Palm Bay

## SIGFEST

The event was created by musicians to honor David & Shawn Sigafos for their commitment to support local musicians and charities. David's legacy started in 1979 with the opening of The Holiday Inn Oceanfront, now Crowne Plaza. David was committed to book the highest levels of live entertainment and brought in name acts with Ray Charles, Jan & Dean, Spiro Gyra & more. Siggy's American Bar opened in 1990 and has been Palm Bay's "family affair" where many local bands had their start.

Amy Sigafos took charge of the family business after the sudden passing of her husband David and her son Shawn almost a decade ago. She says: "I'm honored to keep their legacy alive with the celebration of live music and SIGFEST. Many people are involved. The entertainment is planned by Merissa Rudkin and Sammy Hill. DJ Chris keeps the music on schedule and Bill Bailey cooks his famous BBQ, there are raffles and auction prizes. Customers and staff come together for a celebration of life of two great men."

This year's entertainment is provided by Burnt Toast, Jacksonville Slim & Express Train, Last Call, Blue Diamond Band, Top Hill Crew, Bullet Theory and Shovelhead. The charity event benefits James Garris who had suffered a stroke and works his way to recovery, along with The Genesis House, Brevard Music Aid, and Homeless Veterans in Brevard (NVHS).



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# LOCAL LOWDOWN

By Steve Keller

Here we are now, again. Welcome to February 2021. The month of love. The month of grammar confusion. As we tip toe into the new year, we have a lot to cover in the world of Brevard original music. Some familiar names, some not so well known. After all, we are the land of opportunity in these very pages, so let's not waste another minute of it.



I get excited when I hear about musical projects that are outside of the box. Throw in the fact that **Kristen Warren** is one of our greatest musical exports and we have an automatic classic. A two minute video teaser released a while back explained it all, "I've decided to sing some of my favorite songs in front of my favorite murals." Filmed

beautifully by Eric Castillo, the series at least for now is dubbed *Mural Series* on Facebook. The initial episode takes place in EGAD. Great idea on paper, looks amazing too. No brainer. Check it out on social media and you best be sure that we will be sharing it as well to reach the masses.

Another new local idea to be applauded is from our good friend **Mac Ro**. The Brevard rapper spent some time on the West Coast late last year before returning home energized. The resulting project; 52 songs in 52 weeks collaborating with 52 artists in 52 "States" (all 50 in the Union plus DC and Puerto Rico). "I've got my work cut out for me, that's for sure," he tells me. Check out the revolving content each week on Mac Ro's social media platforms.

The new year brings new musical additions to established bands. I was delighted to see that **Tank Top** and its core line up of **Jacie Madison** and **Chris Walker** have added **Ramon Molledo** on drums and **Dave Clark** on guitar. The two new guys bring a lot of promise to a band that already had a lot going for them. For those of you keeping score, Dave's two for two in 2021 with no sign of slowing down. His "other" band **Slow Machines** will be putting out new music very soon. Nothing soft about it...

The foursome known as **Hot Mess** checks in with *The Lowdown* this month. "We have survived the pandemic and we're going to be recording some tracks real soon with Andrew Walker," explains bassist RJ Bowen. "We likely will focus on 5 of our 10 originals for this round. They are "Baby Daddy #5", "Zero 2 Sex", "Undercover Player", "Uh-Oh", and "Scooter Guy". We plan to get them on *Spotify*. Hott Mess are solid in their delivery and hold nothing back. Looking forward to hearing the finished product.

Another artist on the preferred listen-

ing list is **Frank Rios**. Frank leads his Rios Rock Band in multi hour sets of covers. What not everyone knows is his love for songwriting. He released a new single last month called "Damaged By Design". Pretty intense lyrics on this one. "I played everything except the drums," he shares with us, noting he collaborated with RRB drummer Jeff Barnes. "I recorded it in my home studio. I wrote the song in about 20 minutes. I was just putting myself in a friend's shoes who is going through a divorce. A lot of people, including my mom, reached out after I posted it because they were concerned. I write what I channel. I hate to shatter the troubled musician image but life is good for me currently." I for one would love to see an all originals set from Frank and co. Consider this an invitation for **Best Fest** once everything is back up and running. To check out the new single and everything Frank Rios go to *Facebook*.

I'll be honest, **Wisney Fernandez** is a name I'd heard of but knew nothing about. I stumbled on a social media post featuring his rap skills and was really impressed. Allow me to bring our readers up to speed on this true talent in our area. "I was in a band called **Made In China** (M.I.C.) With David Pastorius on bass, Alex Petrosky on drums and Rich Jaxin on guitar and myself and Dylan Forsythe on vocals," he explains ringing more than a few bells for me and others. "I opened for Bubba Sparxxx once." He continues to stay in contact with the members of the band. "I'm currently on David Pastorius' bass solo album called *Radio Gold* (on the song Fake News.)" Fernandez's clever rhymes and hypnotic flow fit perfectly with the bass on the track. "I started a *YouTube* channel under *Rap Signal*: an idea I had almost like the bat signal going up but it's the Rap Signal. It features a lot of the Made In China live videos and other artists I've filmed over the years. Lately I've been making short videos on *Tik Tok* to



build up a fan base and organizing my music more so I can have a more consistent library all in one place instead of featuring mostly on other people's projects. My goal is to pass positive messages and hope to the masses and restore humanity and confidence that wonderful people still exist, and I try my best to surround myself with those wonderful people. My dream would be to grab my favorite musicians around town and lock ourselves in a studio and create together in a musical collective of heart and soul." Sign me up!



You've read about **Dirty Power** and their dynamic leader **Alanna Chuyan** in this fine publication before. This is one determined chick who knows what she wants. It has been really cool watching her evolve from the covers circuit and dive head first into original music. "My cover band had our last gig together last month," she explained. "I decided I need to focus more on myself solo singing and I'll be branching out with new stuff in general this year, hoping things keep going well. Mostly I'm trying to go for the online market actually. I'm not the best at being glued to my phone or computer to market and promote like a lot of others do. I'm always looking to collaborate. I want it to be a mix of covers & originals, so I'm going to work on quality over quantity first. Really search for the

band mates that want to stick around and will do the work. I'll hopefully be working more with *Classic Albums Live* (with beau Shain Honkonen), but for now it's not that much. I feel like my duo is doing pretty well and I'll be booking us out a lot more without the band for now." Find Alanna online and on a radio someday soon...



The Lowdown checked in with our good friend **Georgia Randall**. As usual she is hard at work writing, recording and performing her original songs. "There is much going on in my world. In November I relocated to a quaint little historic town in southwestern Virginia. However, I have a manager now, who is based in Florida so I will be performing in Florida and the other southeast states. Looking forward to it. I released my 3rd album, *Help Wanted*, in January 2020 and it continues to chart on the Roots Music Report Top 50 Blues/Rock Albums. It was #32 in the Top 200 Blues/Rock albums for the year and continues to get airplay around the world. Very excited about that. I am also very excited to be releasing album #4, *Hound Dog*, very soon and am already writing new songs for album #5. This lady is not stopping anytime soon." It should be noted that what she does she is immersed in music and is finding success later in life. *HouseofProg.com* named "HelpWanted" as the DJ's choice of Album of the year in 2020.

I use this space sometimes to ask for help. The music scene and Brevard County in general have always rose to the occasion to help someone in need both with our talents and our pocket-books. Both are requested on Saturday March 6th outside of Just One More in Melbourne. **Jesse Hebb** current JOM bartender and longtime Lou's Blues manager is needing shoulder surgery after a bike crash. She doesn't have insurance, and will be out for at least 3 months so every dollar helps. A GoFundMe and Facebook event page has been put up online. There should also be a weekly streaming concert series on FB every Wednesday night this month leading up to the live outdoor event.



We have come to the end of another column and the beginning of another month of another year. At press time, Robot Love was gearing up to kick off its 5th installment. I am honored to even be a small part of the festivities and planning. As I look at our diverse lineup of artists and musicians participating, I'm amazed at the range of talent. Even in any given month of the magazine, we are Brevard. Sometimes it's easy to forget that or to dismiss it as 'trying' too hard. But I assure you we are merely a mirror reflecting all the chocolaty goodness this area has to offer. Thank you to all involved and especially YOU the readers for making this possible. Questions/comments/concerns/recipes (I'm cooking for my kid now quite often), let me know; [Keller5@hotmail.com](mailto:Keller5@hotmail.com). Until next time Brevard.



Heidelberg Restaurant & Heidi's Jazz Club  
**A Destination for Fine Dining & Jazz Music**

Located in the middle of Cocoa Beach on A1A and corner Minutemen Causeway is a restaurant that serves the finest dishes from the Old World, and Meisterchef Edmund from Austria welcomes you to the coziest and most luxurious place in Brevard County. It has been a local favorite since 1986, and tourists come back year after year. The venue features a classy dining room serving lunch and dinner along with Mark Hubrouck on piano from 6-9pm Wednesday through Sunday. Next door is the world famous Heidi's Jazz Club - as voted by Downbeat Magazine - where you enjoy an artsy atmosphere and the sounds of the best jazz performers around and special shows with national and international artists.

The jazz club opened its doors in 1992 by Eddie and his wife Heidi who was a jazz lover and a celebrity among jazz performers. Not only did she bring big names to Cocoa Beach but she gave new talent and rising artists a chance. When she passed away last year on January 18th, a big celebration New Orleans style was planned for March 22nd with a parade through Cocoa Beach. Covid 19 canceled these plans. Instead, Heidelberg and Heidi's Jazz Club had to close until May 5th when Eddie re-opened according to CDC guidelines. "Cleanliness is a big part of German culture," says Eddie. "We always wash our hands, bleach the floors every day, change air filters etc., but we have always done that even before the pandemic." In his kitchen this master-chef

**Valentines Day Menu**

**4 Course Dinner • \$65 per person**

**FIRST COURSE**

Jumbo Shrimp, French Brie, Carpaccio of Beef Tenderloin

**SECOND COURSE**

Lobster Bisque, Beef Consomme Celestine, Chilled Cucumber Soup, 4 Season Salad, Caesar Salad

**THIRD COURSE**

Angus Filet Steak, Norwegian Salmon, Wiener Schnitzel, Sauerbraten, Chicken Rahm Schnitzel, Jaeger Schnitzel

**FOURTH COURSE**

German Chocolate Truffle Torte in a Walnut Crust, Vienna Apple Strudel

Mark Hubrouck (piano) in Dining Room  
 House Trio in Jazz Club



is focused on - what else - food. No cell phones allowed. And since he has worked in a kitchen since he was 12 years old, Eddie knows what it takes. "I've always known what I wanted to be. A kitchen is like music," he laughs, "it takes knowledge, practice, a good bandleader/chef to make it work, and you get better the more you do it." There is a sparkle in his eyes while talking about it.

Heidi's passing has left a void. "We were 38 years together, best friends, soulmates, and we have known for three years that she had cancer. We talked about it, made a game plan, and we will still have a public celebration of life for her. Just not until the pandemic is over." For some years Eddie has been running the operation behind the curtains. Now he's doing the public relations too. "That was Heidi's job. She loved people, and they loved her."

Despite the hardship that most venues experienced last year, both Heidelberg and Heidi's Jazz Club remain the same: lunch, dinner, menu, jazz music, concerts - "I haven't changed a thing," says Eddie. He is focused on his customers' needs. "We have less tables in the restaurant to keep patrons apart. The older customers need to feel safe. The jazz club crowd has a different attitude but we still see to it that there is plenty of space. We do not operate at full capacity, most places do not. The latest addition of the outside patio has been quite popular. It seats 40 people and it has kept us alive." Just like Heidi, Eddie will tell you the truth.

The Heidelberg is quality rated by *Zagat* and *Mobil Guide* and has won the readers choice award of Best of Brevard more than twelve years in a row. It was rated 5 Palms by *Florida Today* and is a proud member of *La Chaine des Rottisseurs*, the world's oldest, largest and most prestigious food and wine society. Everything is first class from the dishes to the service and an exclusive menu serving Germany specialties like Schnitzel, Sauerbraten, Brat- and Knackwurst along with Pork Chops, Gulyash, Filet Steak, Fish and more. All menu items are creations, this is "Haute Cuisine." There are monthly specials and exclusive holiday menus.

The atmosphere in both places is unique with an old world flair, and while you're there check out the wall at the jazz club with autographed photos of the internationally famous artists and legends that have performed there. The main entrance has automatic doors, another unique feature that you don't see everywhere.

You can find the menu with photos on the website [www.heidelbergcocoabeach.com](http://www.heidelbergcocoabeach.com). That's the best way to get your mouth watering. If you like a sneak peak of Heidi's Jazz Club go to [www.heidisjazzclub.com](http://www.heidisjazzclub.com) where you will also find a calendar with the artists that perform here regularly and the special concerts. You can make reservation via website or by calling 321-783-6806.



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## I AM NOMAD

### LIVING LIFE ON THE "B" SIDE

By Bill Stanley

Back in the day music was recorded on vinyl records. The record had an "A" side and a "B" side. Producers placed the songs they believed would get the most air play on the "A" side of the record. Their less than favorite or the songs they believed would be less significant on the album were placed on the "B" side. Many great songs were "B" side recordings. Songs including, "Penny Lane" by the Beatles, "Maggie" by Rod Stewart, "Go Your Own Way" by Fleetwood Mac, and one of my personal favorites "Yellow Ledbetter" by Pearl Jam. I'd argue it is Pearl Jam's best song. I don't know what is in store for your 2021, but I'd encourage you to grab your favorite record and long play the heck out of it.

#### Push Pause Then Play

Boomers know what I'm talking about. That would be cassettes for us Gen-X-er's and CDs for the elder Millennial out there; although I know CDs don't have sides. Although it's fun to spin vinyl, I'm not suggesting you go out and buy a turntable. Grab any listening device, but listen to a whole album. Don't just purchase one song; stream the whole album. Find your own fortress of solitude and meditate on every lyric of every song. Turn off the distractions and just listen. Turn off the news, the noise and that "sky is falling" rhetoric and be inspired. I bet there is a song on a "B" side somewhere we have yet to discover.

We have lost the art of listening deeply as a society, and I believe it shows. Not just to music, but to each other. I think a way to get this back is to turn off the phone and listen. Many of our favorite artists have struggled the way we struggle. They have overcome, and their lyrics are homage to these things. I want you to hear that lyric and think hard on what it means to you and consider how it can motivate positive change in your life. In December of 2020 the L.A. Times quoted Pauline Oliveros by encouraging us to get back to "radical attentiveness." Staff writer Randall Roberts further explained Oliveros by saying, "It is learning to differentiate listening from hearing. To hear is the physical means that enables perception. To listen is to give attention to what is perceived both acoustically and psychologically."



### The “B” Side of Your Life

Many of the songs found on the “B” side of records were the songs the producer thought people wouldn’t pay as much attention to. They were wrong. When it comes to listening, people got lost in the moment and many hit songs were found. It’s hard to believe, “Where the Streets Have No Name” by U2 and “We Are The Champions” by Queen was on the “B” side. These songs became famous because they were great songs, but the masses wouldn’t have heard them if it wasn’t for people listening to the entire record, finding a song they liked, and then asking radio stations to play it. The bottom line is, the listener prioritized these songs more than the producers.

I’m hoping that as you long play your favorite album you’ll be inspired to take care of some things you’ve needed to prioritize. Procrastinating things because we don’t think they are as important is like putting songs you consider insignificant on the “B” side of record. We are too distracted with the way we live our lives thus causing the struggle to define our priorities. When we can’t define our priorities, we create impossible situations. As time goes on and things are further procrastinated making the “I should do” things eventually turns into “I must do things.” When we fail to prioritize the right thing, important things like family, health or finances get placed on the “B” side.

When you prioritize the correct things, you provide margin for life. Consider how many things you say “Yes” to? Every time you say Yes to that thing, you are saying No to something else. When you say no to priorities, you are placing those “songs” on the “B” side. Stop the noise, turn off the devices and spend some quality time with yourself or your friends listening to an entire music album. Then after you’re done, take that inspiration and prioritize the things that should matter the most. Start with the important things and move the urgent things to the “B” side. When the important stuff is done, then tackle the urgent. Also, don’t forget to, along the way, take a time-out and long play that favorite album, over and over and over again.



*I AM NOMAD is a column for all rebels, wanderers, artists, lovers and anyone who looks at life outside the box. Bill Stanley is an iconoclast, mystic, activist and speaker and coach known for his work in social justice and spirituality. He speaks to thousands annually as a keynote speaker in business events, conferences, church retreats and social justice projects. You can connect with Bill on LinkedIn, Facebook and Twitter.*

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## Plan & Proceed

*“What if it doesn’t work?”- anonymous client*

If it doesn’t work then you adjust the plan and do it again. There are so many people frozen from making a decision on getting clean and sober right now. In their mind they have a plan. Only that same mind tells them that it’s not the right time. That certain conditions must be met first for it to work. That tomorrow is better than today. The same mind that suffocates them with self defeating thoughts and convinces them that using is a solution.

The perfect time, perfect conditions, and perfect moment to act almost never appear. You don’t need a burning bush for the miracle to happen. You can take a small ember, nurture it, feed it, and make a forest fire of new life.

A plan is an action word. Don’t treat it like a dream.

If you already know the destination you want, then you can begin by mapping out the barriers on the way to that vision. List them. Break them down and list measurable actions that have been known by others to work. Treat it like science. You know the sum of what you want, so the equation must exist.

Let’s think of it more simply though. Imagine wanting to go from Melbourne, FL to Santa Monica, CA. In today’s world you simply put the destination in your navigation app and ask it to provide you a route. Then it provides you multiple route options based on fastest travel, with tolls, without tolls, and shortest mileage. These routes are equivalent to quick fixes, some that may involve treatment, may involve medication, and may involve some serious changes to your work and living situation.

Back to the analogy. You review the routes and let’s say you picked I-95 North to I-10 West. That’s the easiest and most travelled route to that particular destination I would imagine. But wait, that’s if you want to drive it. You can fly, take a bus, or take a train. Each of those options come with options even. If you don’t have a car or any money, you can quickly start talking yourself out of even going to California and just give up. You think that you’ll go one day but life gets in the way and it remains a dream.

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Let's go deeper into the analogy. We know that our destination is over 2,600 miles away. After much consideration you have chosen to drive. To do this you will need a vehicle that can make the trip. To get that vehicle you will have to pay for it. To pay for it you will have to save money. To save money you will have to have employment. You will also have to reduce non-essential spending.

These are basics that you can list, map out, and break down even further. You can even have a specific amount of money already written so that you know daily how much closer you are to that goal. All of these smaller goals get met before you even spend too much time on the exact route.

Once you have the car, you calculate travel money. Then you calculate what you need when you get there. You will need shelter, food, and a new method to keep all of your expenses paid. I know it sounds like a lot, but the more you plan and prepare for, the least amount of surprises that undoubtedly always present themselves.

Fast forwarding a bit. In the end you would have calculated the exact drive, each city you pass, where you will rest, and eventually arrive exactly to where you want to be. This equals every journey we wish to have. And many of us know that journey well.

I wanted peace and control over my life. I knew I couldn't get it the way I was doing it. So I picked a destination where I thought I could get that peace and went there with a plan. I checked off each accomplishment and fought through every annoying emotion sober. It sucked horribly sometimes, but in the end I arrived here. Married 27 years, two adult daughters, a rewarding career of service, and sober 32 years.

I did that road trip in 1988. Only it was from El Paso, TX to LA then from LA to FL. I didn't know that this was the destination but life has a way of changing what you want and as long as it's all good, who cares.

I couldn't imagine life being any other way right now. Wouldn't want it any other way right now. I thank that kid I was at 19 who made that plan and more importantly acted upon it. He gave me all that I am thru his sacrifice. I will forever look at him not in shame or regret, but in gratitude and appreciation. He is my hero. I know it sounds corny when people say to be your own hero, but it's not corny for me anymore. I get it. More importantly, I recommend it.

Good luck on your own journey. Mine isn't done yet...  
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Artist and Architect

# Shawn Creel

By Steve Keller

At first glance, local artist Shawn Creel could be mistaken as an accountant, possibly an architect (spoiler alert, he is). In this day of social distancing, with everyone wearing a mask, and the fact that he is wearing a suit coat, he doesn't fit the artistic type, no disrespect intended. The fact is, it is opening night of Robot Love; and someone is actually wearing silver paint, glitter and a dog



cage. Creel may look over dressed. But don't judge a book by, in this case, a very well dressed cover. His paintings accepted into the event ('Wendy' and 'The Letter') fit right in. Talent runs in the family as daughter Alyssa has a piece in the show entitled 'Abandoned'. For the elder Creel, a Brevard by way of Alabama resident for most of his adult life, art has shown up at various times in his life right when he needed it.

"I was born 30 miles north of Birmingham Alabama and moved to Melbourne in December of '93," he explained. "I always drew and sculpted since I can remember. My first memory of art was at 4. In school I used to get in trouble for drawing and always heard you will starve as an artist. When we moved to Florida I first went to Edgewood Junior High, then to DeLaura and graduated from Satellite High. Once down here, the schools not only accepted my passion for art but encouraged me. The resources were amazing."

It was that acceptance that led Creel to bigger and better things. "At Satellite High, I had a sculpture compete at Downtown Disney West Side where I won best three dimensional and was sent off to MOMA for national display." This praise and recognition for his work continued into college, where Creel took classes at Brevard Community College. "After studying under Nancy Dillen and Bob Coon at BCC, I went to work with Gary Propper.

Propper was many things in addition to being Creel's

mentor: Surf legend, music and entertainment booker/manager. With all of his accomplishments, he may be best known in the mainstream as a the man who negotiated the rights to The Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles comic characters, bringing them to Hollywood. In 2019, Propper died in his sleep unexpectedly at the age of 72.

"He was the most mellow and down to earth guy I knew," he remembers. "I remember sitting in his house near the inlet working on promo poster concepts for comedian Brad Garret. Gary had been working in his dining room that morning for rock band Velvet Revolver I believe. Then I hear him from the kitchen asking if I was hungry. He had cooked fish that had been caught that morning. Nothing fancy just a nice simple meal. Later that day we were on the phone with Brad. Sounds simple but as a 21 year old, I learned a lot about being humble day. Gary had this huge career history but it never went to his head."

Creel's son David was born while working with Propper. "My mindset changed from personal to family so I began focusing on a more stable career," he revealed. "Within 2 years I was raising 2 babies on my own so the art pretty much took a back seat for a while." Creel pursued his parallel passion in the world of architecture. Working his way up he began managing the East Coast Division of a well-respected firm. "I still did private works and commissions over the years until about 2 years ago my daughter began showing interest in art. She really was the inspiration to get out there publicly again. She and I are always critiquing each other, tossing around concepts. It's great seeing her mature."

The revival of Robot Love this year brought together artists of all disciplines and experience levels. "I worked in an office above co-creator Derek Gores' studio. I reached out to him recently about getting back out there. I had volunteered a bit with a few past show installations. It has been a learning experience and helped me get my feet wet again. Watching Derek pull together this event with so many different artists has been incredible."

This show and this interview had conjured up memoirs for Creel: "I'm reminded of the day Gary introduced me to Derek Gores," he stated. "He was excited about the art show and eager to show me Derek's work. I guess the only negative thing I ever heard Gary say was the one thing I needed to hear the most. As we stood there looking at Derek's work he said to me, "This is what you should be doing. I thought you would have been a successful, famous artist by now." At the time, it took me down a notch. But that statement has been with me ever since."

The present day paintings and sculptures created by Shawn Creel are extraordinary. The two selections in Robot Love (Foosaner Art Museum in EGAD until February 27th) are great examples of this. "About a year ago I was inspired by a trip to New York and painted *Wendy* (see photo right)



and *The Letter*. The paintings show the stark contrast between the high tech and sometimes glamorous NYC and the very real issue of homelessness there and everywhere. "I painted them with the intentions to sell prints to help out others that need what we take for granted. Soon they made it into the Upside Gallery in downtown Melbourne for their 'The Art of Healing' exhibit. All proceeds raised by the sale of the prints are being donated *The Daily Bread*."

With art front in center in Creel's life once again, he appears content. "I plan on continuing to work in architecture but focus most of my free time to pursuing art. Not really sure what the future holds but perhaps one day I will get to the point where art is my only career. I am currently working on an exhibit with a new spin on *Alice in Wonderland*. Tossing away everything Disney has done to the story, it will focus on Charles Dodgeson aka Lewis Carroll and Alice Liddell, the real life inspiration for the main character. I haven't settled on the name yet but it will either be called "Be Alice" or "Being Alice Liddell".

Creel has lived quite a life thus far. His advice: "Be true to yourself. Everyone has a story, a thought or a feeling to express and that is what art is. Art is about the you that is you. Never stop learning and growing but always stay true to your passion that drove you to art to begin with."



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## Rigg's Outpost FISHING REPORT FEB FORECAST

by Pompano Rich



**B**revard fishing in February is dictated by the weather. Winter time in Florida means it will be hard to find calm days. Therefore offshore fishing will require larger boats to chase the great winter lineup of species. Two miles offshore on the shallower reefs the porgys and mangrove snapper fishing should be outstanding. The safest approach would be on the large party boats. The mates will bait up and unhook your fish. The anglers will be assigned a fish ID to tag their fish in the huge cooler. When back at the marina the mates will clean your fish. Please tip the mate for his mariner skills.

The "Best Fishing" will be off the beaches from Melbourne thru Sebastian. Take mental notes on the water clarity. The main species will be pompano and Spanish mackerel. They don't like sand in their gills and will move to clearer water. Strong winds and large waves will create shades of ocean that fluctuate constantly. Our resident pompano anglers (the ones with the longer poles) will dot the productive beaches. They know how to read the water clarity. Making a few new friends could be instrumental in your success..

Now it's back to Rigg's Outpost to fill your bucket list. Don't forget to buy a bucket and sandspikes. This whole process will be very clear because you have done the research. You acknowledge which baits they were catching fish on. I always suggest sand fleas and brined clams. Scented bait strips will chum fish quickly to your baits. One strip I highly recommend is FishGum. Google FishGum and watch the videos. It's an amazing product and you will catch fish! At Rigg's the staff will help you make a wise choice on which pompano rig to purchase. Remember the shades of the ocean? Pompano rig packaging are colored in three different shades to point you in the right direction.. I should know because I make them...

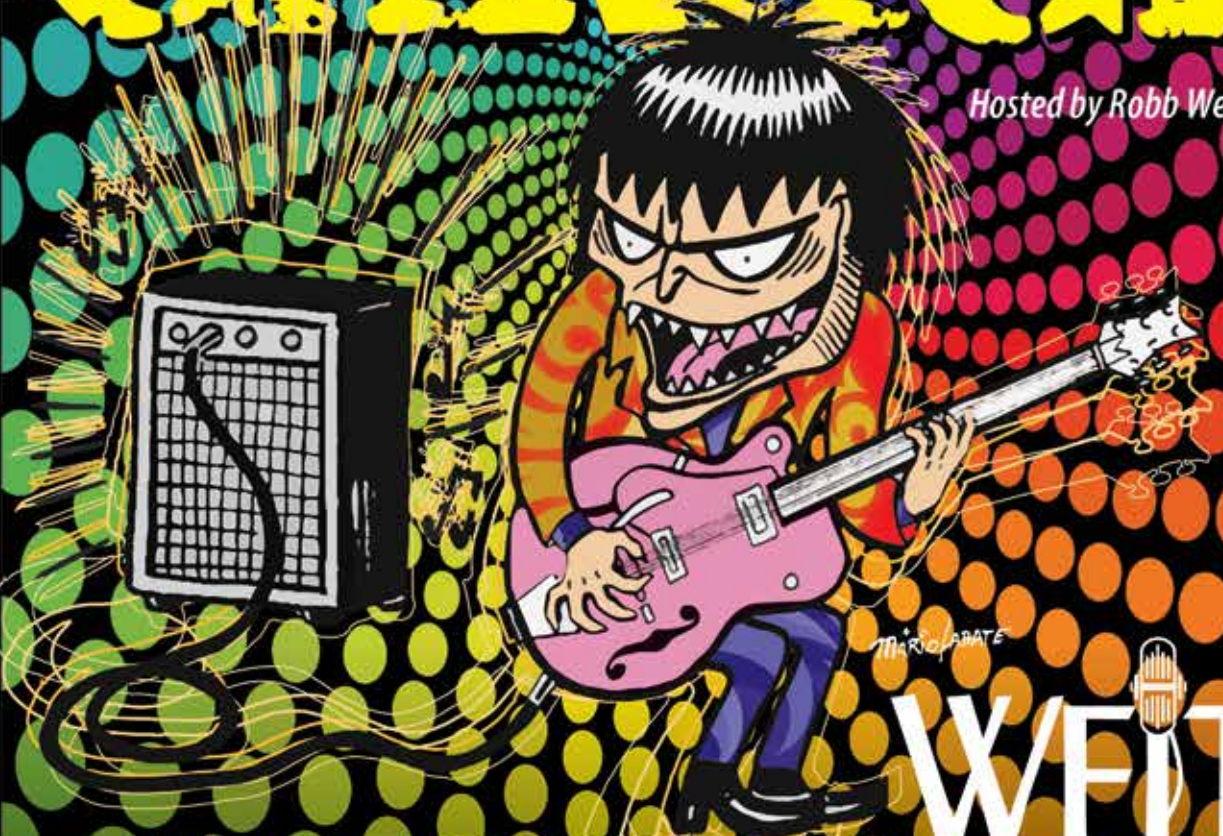
In the estuary., the Melbourne Lagoon, the Sebastian Clam Preserves the easy fishing lifestyle will flourish! Rent a vacation vessel from the Rigg's Outpost and enjoy the marine life. Menhaden and silver mullet are on the run from tarpon and porpoises. Good size bull sharks will be feasting on the scraps. Pre-book a pontoon boat and the Outpost Cast will have it spotless and gassed up waiting for you. Rent some rods and load up with fresh bait, beverages and sandwiches. Simply sit back and watch your bobber disappear with a nice trout or black drum on it. Kinda a Mark Twain Adventure ! February in Brevard is a phenomenal choice.



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