November 2020 Volume 29 Issue 8

Art | Music | Dining

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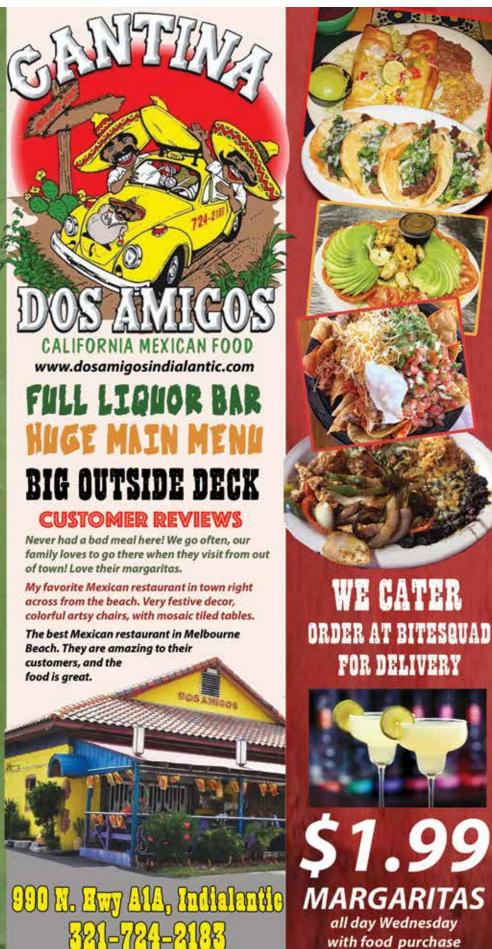
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This month the fair is in town - at the Space Coast Daily Park in Viera. There are several safety measures in place, and you can read them at <a href="https://www.SpaceCoast-StateFair.com">www.SpaceCoast-StateFair.com</a>. The fair will be closed on Mondays for deep cleaning.

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#### FRANK BANG

First he worked at Buddy Guy's Legends club, then he became Buddy Guy's touring guitar player for five years. He toured the world and shared the stage with the likes of Robert Plant, The Rolling Stones, and Eric Clapton.

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#### **WE REMEMBER BILLY LEE**

Billy Lee was a beloved vocalist on our music scene for two decades. After a short battle with cancer he passed away last month.

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Matt Bretz set out to attend the 2020 MIFF called *The Film-Demic*. Nobody really knew what to expect but it turned out to be one of the most memorable events and a magical weekend.

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#### **SAVVY VINYL RECORDS**

Brevard has had quite the history of record buying. "This year has been a milestone for vinyl by outselling CD's for the first time since 1986! I'm happy to be a part of it," says Michelle Pessaro who recently opened Savvy Vinyl Records.

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#### **EDDIE VAN HALEN AND ME**

Just about anyone has a Van Halen story - and a lot of them were posted on social media after Eddie passed away. But John Leach has one of the best, and you can read it on....

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# **AWARD-WINNING SPIRITS**

OVER 5 AWARDS

#### **BREVARD LIVE**

The largest and most popular free entertainment magazine on the Space Coast and beyond for 29 years.

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#### **COMMENTS & LETTERS**

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#### **BREVARD LATELY**



Saturday, October 17, 2020: Jason Noon has been a known promoter, organizer, producer, musician, band leader and just a popular person in our music scene for many years. One thing you could always say about Jason - he has always been diplomatic. His goal is to bring people together. But just like many of us, he strongly dislikes the division politics has created. Time for a Unity Gathering, and Jason heard his calling. He rented the Eau Gallie Square, worked together with Rez Pro sound company, asked his musician friends to perform, a food truck was there and t-shirts were for sale with his message: "Defund Politics with I .Term Limits I I. Separation of Corporarion & State." "These are the issues that all sides can agree on," he told *Brevard Live*. We ALL agreed that it was a nice community event.



**October 15-17, 2020:** In years prior, the MIFF had been held inside the Oaks 10 theaters. The pandemic had organizers re-think their presentation, and they invited the audience to an old fasioned drive-in. More on page 14... *Photos (2) by Chuck Van Riper* 

#### **Brevard Live**



November 14 & 15, 11am-5pm

## 12th Native Rhythms Festival and First Ever Virtual Event

Acelebration in nonion of American Heritage Month, the celebration in honor of Native Native Heritage Gathering, Inc., along with the Indian River Flute Circle, and the River-Wind Flute Circle will host a virtual event incorporating as many of the elements of the traditional Native Rhythms Festival as possible. The Performers, craftsmanship, art, workshops and cultural experiences will be broadcasted to the public free of charge on the Native Rhythms YouTube channel and on the NRF Facebook page. The festival has been held at Wickham Park before, and this will be the 12th annual event.

Multiple award-winning musicians from across the United States will perform throughout the two-day event that also hosts a variety of workshops that focus on flute, arts and crafts as well as culture. In addition, you will find a virtual Vendor Village where shoppers can visit the websites where native flutes, art and crafts will be available for purchase. The entire educational programming this year is especially important as a learning tool for all students and educators.

The Virtual Festival is intended and designed to be family-friendly, free of admissions, and appropriate for all ages, and, thanks to technology, is available to all people. A full description of the festival, including a list of performers, educators, and Vendor Village as well as Broadcast schedule, may be found at www.nativerhythms-festival.com.



Nov 6-22, SCD Park, Viera

#### **Space Coast State Fair**

The Space Coast State Fair is Bre- ■ vard's largest and most popular annual family event. Located at the Space Coast Daily Park in the middle of Brevard and easily accessible from Interstate-95, the Space Coast State Fair is a short ride from all areas of the Space Coast. The fair offers a Pay-One-Price value every day and night (pay just \$15 Mondays – Thursdays or \$20 Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays) at the gate and all the rides and shows are included from open to close. A special VIP FAST-PASS will be available for \$10 more, which allows the VIP to enter rides at the FAST-PASS avoiding the lines at the rides.

A lot of entertainment and shows are scheduled every day. Saturday, November 7th you can see the Black Moon Syndicates in concert followed by a Bless America Fireworks. Other attractions are Professional Bull Riding on Friday, Nov. 13, Saturday, Nov. 14 at 7 pm, and Sunday, Nov. 15 at 3 pm. There will be daily performances by the Urias Family Circus, Wolves Of The World Show, The Plant Guy who always appears when you least expect it. Enjoy the Butterfly Encounter and the Magic Mike Shows. The Globe of Death Show and a Banana Derby Shows are daily events. On the last day of the fair you can meet Santa & Rudolph. The fair is closed on Mondays for extra cleaning. Face masks are recommended.

For a detailed listing about daily entertainment schedule visit the website at www.SpaceCoastStateFair.com



Nov 1, Earl's Hideaway, Sebastian

#### **Frank Bang**

Born as Frank Blinkal into two generations of Chicago police officers and a mother that often worked three jobs, Frank learned at an early age about the grit and sometimes stark reality of the world he was born into and turned that into his own brand of the blues – weaned from years of trying to learn everything he could by putting himself into the middle of the Chicago music scene.

In his twenties, Frank found himself working at *Buddy Guy's Legends* club, while making a name for himself fronting bands of his own. He was soaking up invaluable knowledge from the clientele and getting an education that not many have a chance to experience. Numerous touring bands came through the club, but amongst the club's regulars were Junior Wells, Otis Rush, and Lonnie Brooks.

And then he became Buddy Guy's touring guitar player for five years. You have to work your ass off, which Frank did as an employee of Legends. With Buddy, he toured the world and shared the stage with the likes of Robert Plant, The Rolling Stones, and Eric Clapton.

As a solo artist, Frank has released four critically acclaimed albums under the names Frank Bang and the Secret Stash and Frank Bang and the Cook County Kings. He currently has 14 songs in regular rotation on *B.B. King's Bluesville Station* on *Sirius/XM*.







Billy Lee was an entertainer with a lot of class. His talent as vocalist, song writer, and arranger went hand-in-hand with his strict protocol of etiquette and dress code. "Image is everything!" wasn't just something he believed in - he lived it.

"Image Is Everything!" - We Remember

# **BILLY LEE**

By Heike Clarke

or almost 2 decades Billy Lee was a beloved and respected pillar of our music scene. He appeared on our scene in 2001 at a jam session at the That's It Antique Bar, a popular hangout for locals with live music. Brevard County had discovered the powerful and soulful voice of Billy Lee, and musicians as well as music fans wanted to hear more, and they did - the Billy Lee Soul Revue was formed almost immediately, a big 8-piece-show band that went on to perform all over Central Florida in big venues like Lou's Blues, at festivals, convention centers, vacation resorts. His success was topped in 2013 when he fronted the house band at BB King's Blues Club in Orlando. On October 2nd the unforgettable Billy Lee passed away at age 64 with his wife and soul-mate Liz by his side after a short battle with cancer. A Memorial Concert is planned for October 2021 because Billy Lee wanted a "BIG P-A-R-T-A-Y" without social distancing.

When Billy moved to Melbourne in 2001 to join his love Liz Osborne, he already had left an entire music career behind. "He had told me a few times that he can sing, but I was not aware of his talent at all," remembers Liz. "Then one night at a party he grabbed the microphone and dazzled the crowd. That's when I got hooked and wanted to hear him again and again."

Like so many black musicians, Billy Lee had his first encounter with music by singing the gospel in church every Sunday. That was in Pleasantville, New Jersey, where he was born and raised. As a teenager he and his brother Jeffrey along with two friends formed an a cappella gospel group known as *The Kings of Faith* and began to perform in churches throughout the Tri-State area - Delaware, Pennsylvania and New Jersey. Later on he joined the *Goodwill Gospelaiers*, Billy singing and playing the bass which he was self taught. Then when the Gospelaires had an issue keeping a good guitar player, Billy picked up the guitar. Congregations flocked to hear them perform and Billy became well known for his guitar playing as well as his vocals. This was what Billy calls "the cornerstone of his career."

After several years on the road out west, Billy Lee was looking for a different gig and found it in Fort Lauderdale where his mother and sisters lived. "*Phantasy*" was the name of the number one show band in South Florida at the time and Billy joined them for the following three years per-

forming hits from artists such as Michael Jackson, Lionel Ritchie and Cameo to Luther Vandross, Paul McCartney and the ABC Band. As a show band, Phantasy incorporated not only the music but dancing, costume and attitude as part of the performance. Billy Lee was a natural. Then he met Bernhard Purdie, a member of *The World Famous Platters*, who now had his own band on the road, *The New Century Platters*. After auditioning for the front man position Billy was hired on the spot to leave with the band the next day. What followed was an eight year stint with this group. Under the tutelage of Bernard Purdie, Billy Lee discovered that he was truly an entertainer.

Taking another break from the road, Billy Lee pulled together a band in the Portsmouth, New Hampshire area and began playing local clubs, ski resorts, and private parties. After more than a few long winters in New England, Billy Lee headed south to Florida in 2000. In search of a new project, Billy Lee found himself in Melbourne at an open mic night. That's when *The Billy Lee Soul Revue* was formed in central Florida and Billy introduced his brand of funk and soul to a whole new audience. But in 2011 Billy had to disband his 8-piece-show-band due to a tough economy and club /resort closures. The following years he spend performing mostly solo gigs singing his classic soul, R&B, Motown, and Stax tunes. Indeed, Billy Lee could fill a room just with his solo performance.

In November 2013 Billy Lee auditioned as the lead vocalist in the house band at B.B. King's in Orlando and was immediately offered the job. Whoever has worked with soul man and show man Billy Lee knows his amazing talent. "It's a musician's dream job performing four nights a week at the prestigious BB King's Club," Billy Lee told *Brevard Live* back then. But a year later, in 2014, his dream job ended when the venue had to tighten their budget - also due to the ongoing tough economy.

Not one to sit around, Billy started working in the trucking industry. It was good money, health insurance and job stability - something he enjoyed after years in the unstable show business. "He was on the road 5-6 weeks, then spent a week at home," recalls Liz. There were comfortable evenings with just the two of them. Sometimes the couple would go to music venues and Billy Lee got invited to the stage. In July, Liz noticed that Billy Lee was unusually tired. He thought that the road and getting older was getting to him, so he asked for some time off. Then came the doctor visit on August 11th and the diagnosis - terminal cancer. "He wasn't ready to leave, but he never complained," says Liz, his soulmate for 19 years. They got married on September 15th. His Memorial Concert is a year out due to Covid 19. "Billy did not want to jeopardize anyone's health," says Liz. "And he wanted a big party!"

He will get one!





# The Piller of th



Photos by Matt Bretz

# The Melbourne Independent Filmmakers Festival Was A Weekend of Magic

By Matt Bretz

The times we are going through have been so up and down, so undefined as to how to act and where to be. Some of us have decide, to barricade themselves into their little corner and wait out the storm. Others have gotten frustrated and have decided that it is more important to just go on with their normal lives. A small group, however, has decided to put in the effort to bridge both worlds and offer up something outside of our "new normal" that we can all get together, safely, and celebrate. One of those people is Terry Cronin and this year he put together, and pulled off, one of the most polished and surprising Melbourne Independent Filmmakers Festivals yet.

The first night of the festival started the whole weekend off right. It is hard to really give you the right feel of what went on because it was so unique, but that's exactly my job right now so I'll try.

First, the films were not inside the theater. Yes...that is the normal habitat for a healthy movie to live in, but on this night a select few got to be outside with everyone else enjoying the cool breeze under a starry sky. A 16 foot screen was put up for the films to hang out on and suddenly Oaks 10 was a drive-in theater with sounds from the films being broadcast across FM radio. And if you got thirsty there was locally made craft beer on hand to sample. It was pretty friggin' magical!

The next day got things going pretty early, but if you are serious about films like Cronin is, there is no such thing as too early to watch movies. All day long movies played and the audiences ate it up - every tear drop, every shared laugh. It was an adventure we could all take part in without worry of Covid 19.

My favorite film of the day was a documentary titled *Porter*. Basically, a young American man in his twenties decides he wants to learn about and experience Nepalese life. So, in order to do so he picks the hardest, worst paying job one can have in Nepal and does that. Over the course of the film he make his plans, gets all his ducks in a row, and

somehow learns to speak Nepalese fluently and then does it. He hooks up with a company that sets up tours to climb Mount Everest. The clients come in to climb and they are given Sherpas (guides) and porters (human mules) to help get them up the mountain. It's incredibly interesting to see how different the porters are treated, even in such a peaceful and accepting culture. The film did a great job of hitting on some societal hot spots that easily translate to anywhere else.

When I came out of that particular film I was surprised to find the theater lobby booming with loud hip hop and a DJ set up in the corner of the room. Another Cronin surprise was about to take place with a performance by rap artist P.U.R.E.. P.U.R.E. hit the stage with all the pro swagger of sold out club show and killed it. I had never heard of him, and I had never heard his music before - but I will be sure to keep an eye on him in the coming future to see what he's up to. By his own account he is currently holed up in the studio trying to finish his latest project.

Next up was the famous MIFF red carpet reception. This one part of the festival seems to be a favorite for nearly everyone involved. Actors, producers, directors, extras, even sometimes random people off the street dress up in their best and often times most creative outfits to walk the carpet and have their picture taken in front of the MIFF back drop. It really is a point of glamour and a beloved tradition of not only the MIFF, but also of the movie world itself.

The festival wrapped up Saturday night with everyone taking a short walk down the path to Hemingway's restaurant. Hemingway's has been taking some time during the pandemic to renovate their already beautiful establishment, and they weren't quite open for business yet, but they still accommodated everyone with outside seating and complimentary brews. Even more entertainment was provided by an up and coming country singer named Chase Ryland who, together with his band, pulled off a solid show for the crowd in attendance. Chase is another one we'll be watching for a while to come.

All in all the MIFF was truly excellent this year and easily one of my favorites. Aside from the incredible PT Barnum Cronin has become in putting this annual event together, the films have gotten so good. The writing, the film work...everything really has just become so polished and professional. Terry Cronin has definitely founded and developed a true festival for filmmakers to submit to and proudly carry the credentials of an award if they are lucky enough to receive any. Mr. Cronin - thank you again for a magical weekend.



#### **Brevard Live**



# Savvy Vinyl Records Is A Dream Come True

By Steve Keller

Venturing out of the house can be a rare event these past few months. Finding a diamond in the ruff is an even bigger treat. Savvy Vinyl Records is just the treat you never knew you were looking for. "If life has taught me nothing else it's that I love a good challenge," said owner and operator Michelle Pessaro. "I've moved my house, opened a business during a pandemic, and my car caught on fire this year."

Brevard has had quite the history of record buying. Vinyl Request Records was a mainstay for many years despite changing locations frequently. The store, owned and operated by **Chris Lanza**, also housed local original bands as a concert venue a few nights a week. The entire music scene and record buying public suffered a great loss when Lanza died of a heart attack in his sleep in July 2019. "I carry the torch for what Chris worked so hard to build," Pessaro, a former Lanza employee and protégé, admits. She kept part of the name as a tribute and still gets loyal customers and

curious *Google* searchers asking of his whereabouts. She specializes in rarities and local bands including **Positive Chaos**' newest release. Sometimes magic happens and she explains buying a **The Who** album in a private sale. An autographed Polaroid of drummer **Keith Moon** fell out from between the vinyl and the liner notes. "I could get it authenticated but for now I'll keep it as a good luck charm."

So more good luck will come in the form of a special *Black Friday* edition of **Record Store Day** later this month. This previous bonus event follows the unprecedented three separate RSD days of August 29th, September 26th and October 24th. Not only were they spread out to assist the slumped economy affecting all retail, but also to manage the crowds that gather in anticipation of the commemorative vinyl releases along with all the re-releases of classics that have been out of print. In addition to vinyl, record stores have various merchandise available and famous "ambassadors" giving their stamp of approval on the yearly event. 2020's official ambassador was singer/songwriter **Brandi Carlile** joining alumni **Pearl Jam, Iggy Pop** and **Metallica** in recent years.

Even a pandemic can't stifle Pessaro's attitude of a bright future. "Being closed for three months helped me focus on my online sales," she said. "This year has been a milestone for vinyl by outselling CD's for the first time since 1986! I'm happy to be a part of it." Familiar faces stop by as well. "Oh, I knew about it from the start," said Casey Gardner, another former Lanza employee and guitarist for Fields Of Saturn, Nostromo and Ektogasm. "I helped her pack the U-Haul and unload it into the storage unit." Pessaro struck gold finding her location off of US 1, behind Del's Freeze. "It took about a month of scouting to find the right space for the right price. I had to look past a lot and just tried to envision the potential of the space."

Savvy Vinyl Records has taken full advantage of social media; continuing the legacy Pessaro started at Vinyl Request Records with the frequent "From The Couch" videos she would post. Personal videos followed, including the night she was driving on the highway and her car started smoking. Quick thinking prevailed as she pulled off to the side of the road, and walked far enough away to escape injury as well as capture it on video.

This latest endeavor allows her to enjoy her passion for music as well as make a living. "New customers come in every week and I love to educate them with some of my vinyl knowledge," she confirmed. "I also learn from my customers what's new and what they enjoy! It's a wonderful community to be a part of. Plus I don't want to get a real job."

Visit Savvy Vinyl Records in person at 28 Laurie Street in Melbourne, online at Facebook and at their online store www.discogs.com/user/Savvy-Vinyl-Records







## The Column

**By Chuck Van Riper** 

#### Foreign Interference? Part 1

The following diatribe is a based on ancient texts. It is not meant to be offensive to any religious or theocratic organization. I am just relaying the story as translated and presented from the texts.

The Sumerian culture dates back to about 4500 BC. It  $oldsymbol{1}$  is one of the earliest known civilizations. They lived in southern Mesopotamia, what is now known as southern Iraq. It is known as the cradle of civilization. They were said to have invented the wheel, plow, levees and incredibly accurate calendars based on astronomy. The earliest writing also came from the Sumerians. Their writing was called cuneiform and was developed around 3200 BC. It consisted of a series of wedge-shaped indentations on clay tablets. It was used for calculations, dates, etc. Thousands of these tablets have been found over the years. In 1976 (AD) Zecharia Sitchin, after translating some ancient Sumerian tablets, recounts this story of the beginning of the human race according to Sumerian folklore. Also taken in to account are the writings of Mauro Biglino, who equates these mythologies with the literal translation of the Bible. His viewpoint is that the text of the original Hebrew Bible corroborates the Sumerian texts, but were changed over time to control the masses. Books were left out, mistranslated or misinterpreted to fit the ideology of the religious leaders of the time. They would adapt their stories to control the people so as to hang unto power. I think, perhaps, the Council of Nicea may be an example of this. In his comparison, he uses the literal translation of the first translation of the Hebrew Bible. He asks the question what if the God of the Bible wasn't a transcendent being but an actual physical being from another planet. Here is how the story goes.

The Twelfth Planet – The planet Nibiru is a large planet whose orbit is just outside our solar system. It's orbit is oblong and retrograde, in other words, it crosses the ellipse in the opposite direction travelled by the other planets. It's orbit takes 3,600 earth years. According to the Sumerians, the planet wasn't created with the rest of our solar system, but was "sucked in" by the gravitational pull. It is posited that a satellite of Nibiru may have collided with earth and created the crater that became the Pacific

Ocean. It may have also created the moon. This theory, being almost 6000 years old, has been recently confirmed. While observing Haley's comet and 82 others in 1999, astronomer Mario Di Martino, noticing the variation in their orbits. He concluded that it was caused by a planet with a retrograde orbit. There have been other such findings, but this was the latest as of the writing of Biglino's book. So that's kind of amazing. How could the Sumerians have known that? The inhabitants, again according to the Sumerians, of this planet were known as the Anunnaki, meaning "those who from heaven to earth came". There is a biblical reference to "Aniqim" which parallels this story. The reason the Annunaki came to earth was to mine gold. Apparently their planet was going into a cooling phase. They wanted to pulverize the gold and release it into their atmosphere to slow the process down. There are references to the "Golden Age", where the "gods used to live among us". Could this be a reference to this time period? The Annunaki were large creatures, about 9 feet tall. They lived for thousands of earth years. This is similar to the description of giants in the book of Genesis, don't you think? About 450,000 years ago 5 groups of 12 Anunnaki came to the southern part of Messopotamia to build their structures. The great planes afforded them an excellent place to build landing strips. The planet Nibiru was ruled by Anu. Anu sent his son Enki to oversee the gold production in Mesopotamia. He was eventually replaced by his brother Enlil. This was so Enki could oversee operations in southern Africa, the area now known as Zimbabwe.

Now the Anunnaki were getting tired of working in the mines. After all, they had been doing this for tens of thousands of years. The south African mine became known as "the Abyss" named after Absu, the lord of the "lower parts". This area also became known as the "underworld". So Enki's mom tried to encourage him to create other beings that could take the place of the Anunnaki workers. At this time in Earth's history, early hominids were roaming the planet. The Anunnaki decided to attempt to make a hybrid being by splicing a section of their own DNA with the hominids. This would give them just enough intelligence to be told what to do in the mines. The Anunnaki had a "creation room" where they would experiment with these things. After many failed attempts, they finally succeeded. They called the new creature "Lulu", meaning "the blended one". They also called him "Adama", or as the Bible says "Adam". So the Anunnaki had created the first Homo Sapiens using their advanced knowledge of genetics. They created a whole race of workers whose job was to follow their god's every order. The Bible says we were created to love and serve God. This puts that into a whole new perspective, doesn't it? "And on the 7th day they rested". Remember, the Anunnaki day is 3,600 years. To be continued....







#### November 2020

#### **Entertainment Calendar**

#### 1 - SUNDAY

**BONEFISH WILLY'S RIVERFRONT GRILLE:** 

4pm Reggae Juice

EARL'S HIDEAWAY: 2pm

Frank Bang 3

FRESH SCRATCH

**BISTRO:** 4pm Good Vibes

**HEIDI'S JAZZ CLUB:** 

7-11pm Jazz Jam Session

HILTON CB/

LONGBOARDS: 1-4pm

Jason Domulot

LOU'S BLUES: 3:30pm

Heatstroke

MATT'S CASBAH: 11-3pm

Clint Steward

**SANDBAR:** 10pm SIN with

DJ Cerino

#### 2 - MONDAY

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

Bingo

#### 3 - TUESDAY

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

Trivia

MONKEY BAR: 6:30pm

Acoustic

SANDBAR: 5pm Vince

Cranford

#### 4 - WEDNESDAY

FRESH SCRATCH

**BISTRO:** 6pm Char Good **HEIDI'S JAZZ CLUB:** 

6-10pm Chief Cherry Quintet

LOU'S BLUES: 7:30pm Rock-Star Karaoke

MONKEY BAR: 8pm Music

Bingo

**SANDBAR:** 6pm Big Daddy

Karaoke

#### 5 - THURSDAY

FRESH SCRATCH

**BISTRO:** 6pm Joel Thomas **GOOMBAYS:** 6:30pm Joshua

**HEIDI'S JAZZ CLUB:** 7pm

Sybil Gage

LOU'S BLUES: 7:30pm Unit

MONKEY BAR: 9pm DJ

Ducati

SLOW & LOW CB: 7pm

Matt Riley

**SOCIAL DISTANCE:** 

8:30pm Chris Edwards & **Emily Pitiz** 

**BONEFISH WILLY'S** RIVERFRONT GRILLE:

6pm Matt Adkins

FLORIDA BEER TAP

**ROOM:** 6pm Syd Taylor

FRESH SCRATCH

**BISTRO:** 6pm Sarah D **GOOMBAY'S:** 7pm Billy

Chapman

**HEIDI'S JAZZ CLUB:** 

6-9pm Steve Kirsner & Friends

HILTON CB/

LONGBOARDS: 6-9pm Rick

& Tino

**KEY WEST BAR:** 9pm Pay

Back

LOU'S BLUES: 5:30pm

Karaoke w/ Bob Neal, 9:30pm DJ Joe Redmond

MATT'S CASBAH: 6:30pm

John McDonald

**SANDBAR:** 6pm Dub Masters

SLOW & LOW CB: 7pm

Andy Harrington **SLOW & LOW Viera:** 7pm

Tim England

**SOCIAL DISTANCE:** 8:30pm Dirty Power

WHISKEY BEACH: 8pm Dub 321

7 - SATURDAY

**BONEFISH WILLY'S RIVERFRONT GRILLE:** 

6pm Rick Cupoli

EARL'S HIDEAWAY: 2pm Nasty Habits; 8:30pm Galaxy

FLORIDA BEER TAP

**ROOM:** 6pm Lowell Everly

FRESH SCRATCH **BISTRO:** 6pm Tom Parks

**GOOMBAY'S:** 7pm Andrew Walker

**HEIDI'S JAZZ CLUB:** 

7-11pm Hella Ayelet Gal with Ron Teixeira Trio

HILTON CB/

LONGBOARDS: 6-9pm Alex

Rodriguez KEY WEST BAR: 9pm Unkle

Dirty & Lil Lin

LOU'S BLUES: 5:30pm Karaoke w/ Cindy; 9:30pm

Luna Pearl

MATT'S CASBAH: 6:30pm Jake Salter

**SANDBAR:** 6pm Hot Pink SLOW & LOW CB: 7pm

Dave Myers SLOW & LOW Viera: 7pm

Frank Rios

**SOCIAL DISTANCE:** 

8:30pm Rockfish

WHISKEY BEACH: 8pm Eric Lee Webb

8 - SUNDAY

**BONEFISH WILLY'S** RIVERFRONT GRILLE:

4pm Big Jim Adams

EARL'S HIDEAWAY: 2pm Big Al & The Heavyweights

FRESH SCRATCH BISTRO: 4pm Good Vibes Sunday

**HEIDI'S JAZZ CLUB:** 

7-11pm Jazz Jam Session HILTON CB/

LONGBOARDS: 1-4pm TA

Williams

LOU'S BLUES: 3:30pm Tru

MATT'S CASBAH: 11-3pm

Sunnyland Steve

**SANDBAR:** 10pm SIN with

DJ Cerino

#### 9 - MONDAY

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

#### 10 - TUESDAY

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

Trivia MONKEY BAR: 6:30pm

Acoustic **SANDBAR:** 5pm Scott Baker

#### 11 - WEDNESDAY

FRESH SCRATCH **BISTRO:** 6pm Denise Turner **HEIDI'S JAZZ CLUB:** 

6-10pm Chief Cherry Quintet

LOU'S BLUES: 7:30pm Rock-Star Karaoke

MONKEY BAR: 8pm Music

**SANDBAR:** 6pm Big Daddy Karaoke

#### 12 - THURSDAY

FRESH SCRATCH **BISTRO:** 6pm Mike Murphy GOOMBAYS: 6:30pm Joshua

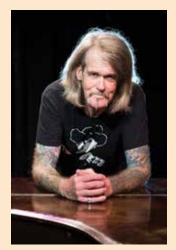
Keels **HEIDI'S JAZZ CLUB:** 7pm

Sybil Gage LOU'S BLUES: 7:30pm

Whiskey Trio MONKEY BAR: 9pm DJ

Ducati SLOW & LOW CB: 7pm Matt Riley

**SOCIAL DISTANCE:** 



November 20, 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 Nighthawks 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.

8:30pm Denise Turner

#### 13 - FRIDAY

**BONEFISH WILLY'S RIVERFRONT GRILLE:** 

6pm Matt Adkins

FLORIDA BEER TAP **ROOM:** 6pm Mud Rooster FRESH SCRATCH

BISTRO: 6pm Irena Freckle **GOOMBAYS:** 7pm Billy

Chapman

#### **HEIDI'S JAZZ CLUB:**

5-8pm Steve Kirsner & Friends; 8:30pm The Liquid Groove Project

HILTON CB/

LONGBOARDS: 6-9pm Rick and Tino

**KEY WEST BAR:** 9pm Heatstroke

LOU'S BLUES: 5:30pm Karaoke w/ Bob Neal; 9:30pm

Band TBA MATT'S CASBAH: 6:30pm

Joe Calautti

**SANDBAR:** 6pm Musical Seduction

SLOW & LOW CB: 7pm

Pompano Pete SLOW & LOW Viera: 7pm

Dave Myers

**SOCIAL DISTANCE:** 8:30pm Love Valley

WHISKEY BEACH: 8pm Vintage

#### 14 - SATURDAY

**BONEFISH WILLY'S RIVERFRONT GRILLE:** 

6pm John McDonald

**EARL'S HIDEAWAY:** 2pm Joey Tenuto; 8:30pm Johnny & The Blaze

FLORIDA BEER TAP **ROOM:** 6pm Simone & The

Supercats

FRESH SCRATCH BISTRO: 6pm Bill Hamilton **GOOMBAYS:** 7pm SEED **HEIDI'S JAZZ CLUB:** 

7-11pm Ron Teixeira Trio

HILTON CB/

LONGBOARDS: 6-9pm Alex Rodrigues

**KEY WEST BAR:** 9pm Jeff Bynum

LOU'S BLUES: 5:30pm Karaoke w/ Cindy; 9:30pm

Switch

MONKEY BAR: 7pm

**Dueling Pianos** 

MATT'S CASBAH: 6:30pm

Joel Thomas

**SANDBAR:** 6pm Love Valley SLOW & LOW CB: Buck Barefoot

**SLOW & LOW Viera:** 7pm T.A. William

**SOCIAL DISTANCE:** 8:30pm 106 South Band

WHISKEY BEACH: 8pm Aquinas

#### 15 - SUNDAY

**BONEFISH WILLY'S RIVERFRONT GRILLE:** 

4pm Reggae Juice

EARL'S HIDEAWAY: 2pm SoFlo Smooth Groove w/JP Soars & Terry Hanck

FLORIDA BEER TAP

ROOM: 1-7pm "Paint the Taproom Purple" Pancreatic Cancer Fundraiser

FRESH SCRATCH BISTRO:

4pm Good Vibes Sunday **HEIDI'S JAZZ CLUB:** 

7-11pm Jazz Jam Session

HILTON CB/

LONGBOARDS: 1-4pm Jason Domulot

LOU'S BLUES: 3:30pm Love Valley

MATT'S CASBAH: 11-3pm Client Steward

SANDBAR: 10pm SIN with DJ Cerino

#### 16 - MONDAY

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

#### 17 - TUESDAY

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

MONKEY BAR: 6:30pm

Acoustic

**SANDBAR:** 5pm Teddy V

#### 18 - WEDNESDAY

FRESH SCRATCH BISTRO:

6pm Sarah D **HEIDI'S JAZZ CLUB:** 

6-10pm Chief Cherry Ouintet LOU'S BLUES: 7:30pm Rock-Star Karaoke

**MONKEY BAR:** 8pm Music Bingo

**SANDBAR:** 6pm Big Daddy Karaoke

#### 19 - THURSDAY

FRESH SCRATCH BISTRO: 6pm Jerry Z

GOOMBAYS: 6:30pm Joshua Keels

**HEIDI'S JAZZ CLUB: 7pm** 

Sybil Gage LOU'S BLUES: 7:30pm

**Drifting Roots** 

MONKEY BAR: 9pm DJ

Ducati

SLOW & LOW CB: 7pm Matt Riley

**SOCIAL DISTANCE:** 8:30pm U & I Duo

#### 20 - FRIDAY

BONEFISH WILLY'S **RIVERFRONT GRILLE:** 

6pm Matt Adkins

FLORIDA BEER TAP **ROOM:** 6pm Open Mic w/

Steve Hodak FRESH SCRATCH

BISTRO: 6pm Irena Freckle **GOOMBAYS:** 7pm Billy Chapman

HEIDI'S JAZZ CLUB:

5-8pm Steve Kirsner & Friends; 8:30pm Rev. Billy C. Wirtz

HILTON CB/

LONGBOARDS: 6-9pm Rick

**KEY WEST BAR:** 9pm Riptide

LOU'S BLUES: 5:30pm Karaoke w/ Bob Neal; 9:30pm Black Moon Syndicate

MATT'S CASBAH: 6:30pm Frank Rios

SANDBAR: 6pm Dub 321

SLOW & LOW CB: 7pm Joshua Keels

SLOW & LOW Viera: 7pm Mark Soroka

**SOCIAL DISTANCE:** 8:30pm Ruckus

WHISKEY BEACH: 8pm The IntraCoastals1

#### 21 - SATURDAY

**BONEFISH WILLY'S RIVERFRONT GRILLE:** 

6pm Stay Tuned

EARL'S HIDEAWAY: 2pm TBA; 8:30 Wicked Garden Gnomes

FLORIDA BEER TAP **ROOM:** 6pm Lowell Everly FRESH SCRATCH

**BISTRO:** 6pm Mike Murphy **GOOMBAYS:** 7pm Andrew Walker

**HEIDI'S JAZZ CLUB:** 

7-11pm Hella Ayelet Gal with Ron Teixeira Trio

HILTON CB/

LONGBOARDS: 6-9pm Alex

Rodriguez

KEY WEST BAR: 9pm TBA LOU'S BLUES: 5:30pm Karaoke w/ Cindy; 9:30pm Rocket City

MATT'S CASBAH: 6:30pm Shain & Alanna Duo

**SANDBAR:** 6pm Dirty Power SLOW & LOW CB: 7pm

Corey Yentz

**SLOW & LOW Viera:** 7pm

Andy Harrington

**SOCIAL DISTANCE:** 8:30pm

Donegal Hill

WHISKEY BEACH: 8pm TBA

#### 22 - SUNDAY

**BONEFISH WILLY'S RIVERFRONT GRILLE:** 

4pm Rick Cupoli

EARL'S HIDEAWAY: 2pm Jose Ramirez

FRESH SCRATCH BISTRO:

4pm Good Vibes Sunday

**HEIDI'S JAZZ CLUB:** 7-11pm Jazz Jam Session

HILTON CB/

LONGBOARDS: 1-4pm TA Williams

LOU'S BLUES: 3:30pm Vince Reed MATT'S CASBAH: 11-3pm

The Tommy Mitchell Show **SANDBAR:** 10pm SIN with DJ Cerino

#### 23 - MONDAY

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

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

Trivia MONKEY BAR: 6:30pm

Acoustic **SANDBAR:** 5pm Miles from **DUB 321** 

#### 25 - WEDNESDAY

FRESH SCRATCH BISTRO: 6pm Denise Turner **HEIDI'S JAZZ CLUB:** 6-10pm Chief Cherry Quintet LOU'S BLUES: 7:30pm

Rock-Star Karaoke MONKEY BAR: 8pm Music

Bingo

**SANDBAR:** 6pm Big Daddy Karaoke **SOCIAL DISTANCE:** 8:30pm Jeff Bynum & Berry

#### THANKSGIVING 26 - THURSDAY

FRESH SCRATCH
BISTRO: 6pm Chuck Van
Riper
GOOMBAY'S: 6:30pm
Joshua Keels
HEIDI'S JAZZ CLUB:
7-10pm Sybil Gage
LOU'S BLUES: closed
MONKEY BAR: 9pm DJ
Ducati
SLOW & LOW CB: 7pm
Matt Riley
SOCIAL DISTANCE:
8:30pm Jeff Bynum

#### **27 - FRIDAY**BONEFISH WILLY'S

RIVERFRONT GRILLE:
6pm Matt Adkins
FLORIDA BEER TAP
ROOM: 6pm Steve Hodak
FRESH SCRATCH
BISTRO: 6pm Irena Freckle
GOOMBAY'S: 7pm Billy
Chapman

HEIDI'S JAZZ CLUB: 6-9pm Steve Kirsner & Friends HILTON CB/

LONGBOARDS: 6-9pm Alex Rodrigues

**KEY WEST BAR:** 9pm ELW Band

LOU'S BLUES: 5:30pm Karaoke w/ Bob Neal; 9:30pm Syndicate

MATT'S CASBAH: 6:30pm Galaxy Duo

**SANDBAR:** 6pm 506 Crew Duo

**SLOW & LOW CB:** 7pm Bo & Kenny

**SLOW & LOW Viera:** 7pm Buck Barefoot

**SOCIAL DISTANCE:** 8:30pm BJ's Duo

WHISKEY BEACH: 8pm TBA

### **28 - SATURDAY** BONEFISH WILLY'S

RIVERFRONT GRILLE: 6pm Rich Brown EARL'S HIDEAWAY: 2pm Dave Scott & Tumbleweed; 8:30pm Heartland

FLORIDA BEER TAP ROOM: 6pm Cherry Down FRESH SCRATCH BISTRO: 6pm Steve Hodak

GOOMBAYS: 7pm Andrew

**HEIDI'S JAZZ CLUB:** 

7-11pm Ron Teixeira Trio **HILTON CB**/

**LONGBOARDS:** 6-9pm Jason Domulot

**KEY WEST BAR:** 9pm Loaded Dice

LOU'S BLUES: 5:30pm Karaoke w/ Cindy; 9:30pm KBK

MATTS CASBAH: 6:30pm Anja & Gayle

SANDBAR: 6pm Rios Rock

SLOW & LOW CB: 7pm Open Mic

SLOW & LOW Viera: 7pm Pompano Pete

8:30pm Luna Pearl WHISKEY BEACH: 8pm

Billy Chapman Band

#### 29 - SUNDAY

BONEFISH WILLY'S
RIVERFRONT GRILLE:
4pm Sat Tuned

**EARL'S HIDEAWAY:** 2pm Mike Zito Trio

FRESH SCRATCH
BISTRO: 4pm Good Vibes
Sunday

**HEIDI'S JAZZ CLUB:** 7-11pm Jazz Jam Session

HILTON CB/ LONGBOARDS: 1-4pm

Miranda Realino LOU'S BLUES: 3:30pm

Coolers

MATT'S CASBAH: 11-3pm Clint Steward

**SANDBAR:** 10pm SIN with DJ Cerino

#### 30 - 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

Thru Nov 8: Grease, Henegar Center, Downtown Melbourne, 321-723-8698 Thru Nov 8: The Prisoner of Second Avenue, Melbourne Civic Theatre, Downtown Melbourne, 321-723-6935 Nov 6-15: A Gentleman and a Scoundrel, Surfside Players, Cocoa Beach, 321-783-3127

**Nov 6-22:** Space Coast State Fair, Space Coast Daily Park, Viera, SpaceCoastStateFair. com

**Nov 7:** Brevard Symphony Orchestra Concert: Sibelius & Brahms – A Virtual Concert, 321-242-2219

**Nov 8:** Music at the Watering Hole – A Virtual Concert, Space Coast Symphony, 855-252-7276

**Nov 13 – Dec 6:** Annie, Titusville Playhouse, 321-268-1125

**Nov 14 & 15:** 12th Annual Native Rhythms Festival 2020 – A Virtual Festival, 321-452-1671

Nov 14 & 15: Veterans Day Weekend Open House, Valiant Air Command Warbird Museum, Space Coast Regional Airport, Titusville, 321-268-1941

**Nov 20 – Dec 6:** Little Women: The Musical, Historic Cocoa Village Playhouse, 321-636-5050

**Nov 21:** Diva! Opera's Greatest Hits – A Drive-In Concert, Space Coast Symphony, The Avenue Viera, 855-252-7276

Nov 27 – Dec 20: Elf, Henegar Center, Downtown Melbourne, 321-723-8698, Henegar.org

The Comminity Calendar has been submitted by Brevard Cultural Alliance.



November 22, 2pm Earl's Hideaway Sebastian

#### Jose Ramirez

At 32 years old, Jose Ramirez is Costa Rica's premier blues artist and has played with some of the biggest names in the blues industry. These artists include Buddy Guy, Anson Funderburgh, Janiva Magness, Mark Hummel and Bryan Lee, to name a few.

The Jose Ramirez Band recently won second place at The Blues Foundation 2020 International Blues Challenge in Memphis. The band performed in the finals at the Orpheum Theater in Memphis after advancing to the quarter and semi-finals against over 230 bands from around the world.

In the past couple of years, Jose has traveled the world playing the blues. His two European tours included more than 45 concerts in England, Spain, the Netherlands and Belgium. His U.S.A. tour included shows around the Midwest and the South. Highlights included shows at legendary clubs such as Buddy Guy's Legends and The House of Blues in Chicago.







#### Native Rhythms Festival

First Virtual Event November 14th & 15th, 2020

FREE Admission - Family Friendly Event www.facebook.com/Native.Rhythms.Festival







Nov. 29, 2pm, Earl's Hideaway, Sebastian Mike Zito

He may be one of the most lauded artists in the contemporary blues arena today, and rightfully so, but for Mike Zito, the thing that counts the most is maintaining his honesty, authenticity and integrity. Those are the qualities that have steered Zito's career since the beginning and continue to define every effort he's offered since.

"I have nothing to hide; it seems my honesty is what people relate to most," he once told Vintage Guitar magazine. "Anders (Osborne) told me early on, 'If you don't believe what you're singing, you'll never be a good singer.' I try not to write fluff; I try to make every word count."

That point became convincingly clear with his last record 2018's *First Class Life*, a collection of songs that detailed his journey from addiction to sobriety and the subsequent success he achieved through his award-winning body of work. A multiple award winner and nominee, Zito has built his career on an ability to tap into tradition while maintaining contemporary credence all at the same time.

Zito's upcoming album - his 16th - due this November on Ruf Records and descriptively titled *Rock N Roll: A Tribute to Chuck Berry*, finds him broadening his boundaries still further even as it marks a return to his roots. The album consists of 20 Chuck Berry classics performed by Zito and an impressive array of 21 guest guitarists, among them Joe Bonamassa, Walter Trout, Eric Gales, Robben Ford, Sonny Landreth, Luther Dickinson, Albert Castiglia, Anders Osborne and, significantly, Chuck's grandson, Charles Berry III.

Produced by Zito himself, the album was recorded at his own Marz Studios and mixed and mastered by David Farrell. "We recorded the basic tracks and then sent them to each guest musician," Zito recalls. "They added their contributions and then sent the files back to us. The process took a year to complete."





#### **Brevard Live**



# LOCAL LOWDOWN

By Steve Keller

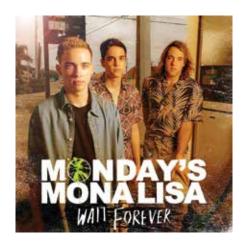
Here we are; a November to remember...like much of this year and just the way that publishing works; I have no idea how November finds you. As always, I wish all of us peace and health. We have some catching up to do; lots of new artists and music to share, as well as a couple of goodbyes and tributes. Here we go...

We say goodbye to two larger than life musicians that left us way too soon last month. You can read about Billy Lee elsewhere in this issue but I wanted to pay my respects. Although I had only met him in person once at an Original Music Series gig at Lou's Blues, we had occasionally talked online. In fact, in checking my messages, Billy invited me and my family as his guests to a gig many years ago in Orlando. I know our scene has lost 2 pillars of the community with Paul Chapman and now Mr. Lee. Their music lives on, and we all have our fond memories to share. Rock on Billy, you were an inspiration.

Another legend's passing occurred in October as **Eddie Van Halen** succumbed to cancer at the age of 65. We all have our stories and special moments that are burned in our minds of his influence and Van Halen's music.

For me it was The Monsters of Rock Tour; Dokken, Metallica among others headlined by Van Halen. I was in 8th grade and rode in the bed of a pickup truck to and from the show in Buffalo, NY (about a 40 minute drive each way). The show was held in the Bills' football stadium and blew me away. It was also on a Sunday which meant I had school the next day. Morning came early as I woke up dehydrated and sunburned. This particular school day also had an English final exam on the docket. All in all I wouldn't have traded it for anything. Music fans and guitar players around the world last month mourned the loss of EVH; considered the greatest guitarist of all time. Mark Moses of local radio station The Rocket as well as the host of the Mark Moses Show on Sports Radio 1560 The Fan told The Lowdown; "The news of Eddie Van Halen passing away is just shocking. I consider him the greatest guitarist of all time. and he will be missed by millions. He makes me think of my youth, when I would watch MTV with my sister and their videos would come on the TV. He will always be a rock legend in my eyes. RIP Eddie!" Guitarist/keyboardist Jay Gonzalez of Drive By Truckers told me: "Of course, I love early Van Halen and he made me wanna play guitar just like pretty much every musically minded kid of my generation, but to be able to play those ornate outer space solos AND write monolithic number one hit riffs like "Jump" is what's making me marvel this morning as I crank "1984" into "Jump" and try not to tear up as I drink my coffee. RIP EVH, thank you." Local singer/songwriter Denise Turner said: "As a fan. someone whose sound was a backdrop to my youth, memories of note for note guitar solos! As a guitarist, he was the epitome of discipline; a master!" 2020 has been a monumental year for all the wrong reasons.

Some good news for 2020 comes in the form of **Monday's Mona Lisa**. The



Brevard trio is back earlier this summer with the release of their new single "Wait Forever." Lead singer/guitarist Austin Forcier checked in regarding the band's adjustment to Covid-life. "Our summer had been slow, but we've been prepping this release behind the scenes since before it kicked off, so it didn't hurt us much," he said. "All it did was slow release by a few weeks while our team in the UK was more strictly locked down than we were here." Since its release in September, the song has been streamed more than 50,000 times! "We've been quiet for a while but fully intend for this track to be the re-birth of our band and to start experimenting with our creative process and the sounds we would typically go for," he continued. "Dustin and I hit 10 years playing together in March, with Wyatt joining and us forming Monday's Mona Lisa about eight years ago in February of 2012." My favorite memory of them is teaching them about the music and swagger of Tom Waits in my kitchen after they dropped off their debut CD.

One man who has never been in my kitchen but is always welcome to stop by is **Joel Thomas**. A Brevard Live *Entertainer of the Year* and leader of **Highway 1** has been doing solo gigs this year to adjust to the state and federal restrictions on live entertainment. "Going from 20-25 shows a month all around the state to 3-5 hasn't been fun," he admits. "Things seem to be

#### **Brevard Live**



coming back slowly. I've been doing more solo shows than I've done in over ten years." Thomas credits his loyal friends and fans for coming out and safely sharing the music. "We call our followers 'The Road Crew' and are fortunate to have these folks because we couldn't do what we do without them." He invites everyone to check the band out online as well as www. Highwaylfun.com where they can view their upcoming gig calendar.

Best wishes and a speedy recovery to singer/songwriter Michael Stone. He gives us an update on the medical events that have occurred throughout the last few months. "I had some sort of a seizure or stroke. They really can't tell me but they kept me in there almost a week. In fact, I believe they probably released me a bit too early as it took quite a while for me to even begin to recover. I have not been able to work on my music. Because I can barely even sit up in a chair upright, I have to be laid down most of the time. All of that along with covid-19 being locked down for the last eight nine months it's been quite the deal as you can imagine." Special shout to Michael's parents who are also experiencing health issues...I got to catch up via satellite with drummer extraordinaire Steven Caglianone. Best Supporting Actor had the honor of opening two shows for **Jewop** in Brevard many years ago. He currently travels quite a bit for his job but tells me that his plan is to move back to FL very soon. He also reunited with SEED to play some shows last

month. Great to have him back in the fold...

As many of our readers already know. *Studio 101* founder/producer **Brendon Paredes** is a major player in our scene. It didn't dawn on me until I was putting this month's column together that three of our artist spotlights are all friends/clients of his. The following just goes to show you how talented and diverse he is in his commitment in working with great players. I give you; *THE BRENDON PAREDES LOVE FEST*....

First up is NDGO BLAQ. "Brendon likes to brag about how there really isn't anyone that has my sound," said the Palm Bay hip hop artist born Ivan Troche. "Well, to be honest, it's definitely an amalgamation of many different sub genres of hip hop. I often describe myself as an eclectic enigma. My brother likes to say that I'm like the Janelle Monae of hip hop. But all in all, it's raw and honest. I speak from the heart and, I'm not sure if you've noticed, but I do not use any profanity whatsoever. I try to inspire and that includes the youth as well. I basically make music that can move me as well as my seven-year-old son without having to lower the volume during certain portions of any given song." Blaq himself began writing music at the early age of 9 after his father passed away. "He would force me to listen to doo wop, r&b, and soul music every Sunday as he played his records," he recalled. "His death inspired the awakening of my own appreciation for music. I then began to rap when I heard A Tribe Called Quest and Rakim for the very first time. I used to write down their lyrics and repeat them as they rapped on my cassette recorder. I became good enough to perform at the Nuyorican Poets Cafe in the lower east side of Manhattan and continued to do so when I moved to Palm Bay at the age of 25. It was David Pastorius and Local 518 that really gave me the chance and confidence that I needed



to evolve musically (He appears on the track 'Got It Good' on Pastorius' solo debut Radio Gold.) "I believe the world is looking for something fresh. I know that my music can and will provide this. Check out NDGO BLAG online at www.blag-music.com.

"I actually moved here a week before Hurricane Irma made landfall which was an interesting time. I lived in Kissimmee for a while, but fell in love with Brevard the first time I came out here," so says singer/songwriter Will Purdy. "I love the music scene here in Brevard. There are some serious players here, but you'd never know it. They're all so down to earth, and just cool! For years, I was recording on GarageBand, until I came into contact with Brendon at Studio 101. Super chill guy, boatloads of knowledge, and the equipment to boot. He is an absolute pleasure to work with, and SUPER knowledgeable about the process, and the biz as a whole. After a stint backing up Lucy Iris, Purdy concentrated on his own songs. I try to write stories from a perspective that I just kind of put my imagination into, and go from there. I just let it run, and see what happens. I'll share one. The first song I recorded at Studio 101, called "Things Will Never." It's a first-

continued page 28

#### **CD** Review

# **CD** review



By Rob Pedrick



#### Never Ender Long Shot

Aquick note. The Holiday season is fast approaching. Be good, be kind, be safe and take care.

This month we feature "Never Ender" and their CD "Long Shot". This is the third time I've reviewed this band and in my opinion this is their best effort. Never Ender is a Central Florida based Punk/Rock band. Formed in 2018 they have opened for many national acts and took the stage at the 2018 Warped Tour. Never Ender just recently joined the Havoc Underground Indie record label. Which focuses on the underground punk scene. Never Ender is Kevin (guitars, vocals), Matt (bass, vocals), and Billy (drums). Yes, third review and I still don't know their last names! The album was produced by Matt Goings and Never Ender. Recorded at Killian Studios in Daytona Florida, mixed/mastered by Matt Goings.

The first tune "Less Talk, More Shots" starts with a cool intro. Alarm clock maybe? Slick little phrase at 00:40. Tasteful guitar at 01:25 and solid ending. Song two, "Downfall" has a nice drum break at 00:54 and some more smooth guitar at 01:15 and 01:45. "That's Two Thus Far, Shooter" has some powerful change ups at 00:36 and 01:16. A cool interlude at 01:30 begins and at 01:36 a snare roll from hell brings the band back in. A well timed guitar dive bomb occurs at 01:54 and another great outro ending!

"Relapser" really shows off Never Ender's song writing ability. All instruments are just smoking!

The last tune on the album, "If I Said I Was Ok, I'd Be Lying", is the crème de la crème of a well produced, well written and instrumentally performed tune. Definitely my favorite song on the CD! IMHO this tune takes the Punk rock genre to another level. It's as solid as it gets.

If you are into Punk Rock or just like great music you will love "Long Shot". Powerful vocals and harmonies. Well written lyrics, tight as can be rhythm section (bass, drums). The absolute correct genre tone on guitar! There's not a bad song on this CD! Never Ender hit this one out of the park!

Check Never Ender out at Facebook. com/Neverenderflorida and Instagram. com/Neverenderflorida. You can reach the band at *NeverEnderFlorida@gmail.com* 

If you like to get your CD reviewed by Rob Pedrick, please mail a respectable copy to Brevard Live Magazine P.O.Box 1452, Melbourne, FL 32902.



#### **LOCAL LOWDOWN**

continued

person narrative of a man whose wife works at night and dies on the way to work, and how he tries to cope with his loss." Citing influences as Pink Floyd, Genesis and Collective Soul. "Lyrically it's a mix between some of the progressive bands I like mixed with some of the 90's. Check Will Purdy's music out for yourself online with live dates hopefully happening soon.

Last but certainly not least in the world of Paredes is the genre bending, never duplicating Lydia Can't Breathe. The Brevard quintet have worked very hard in becoming a traveling band that has played in almost every state in the land. Covid has put an end to that at least for this year. Lead singer/mastermind Kyle Bolduc filled us in on the latest LCB news and how the band cannot not be creative with their longtime associates. "We never stopped working during the pandemic and have more new music than we have ever recorded and are working on more," he said. We also have a new music video coming out this month." The single is called "Sheep." It's one we shot in Orlando and Melbourne. It was done by Marlon Sorintino and Brendon Paredes . It is the first single we will be releasing of the new material with the all new Lydia sound. Different than anything we've done before. 2021 ain't ready for us," Bolduc promises.

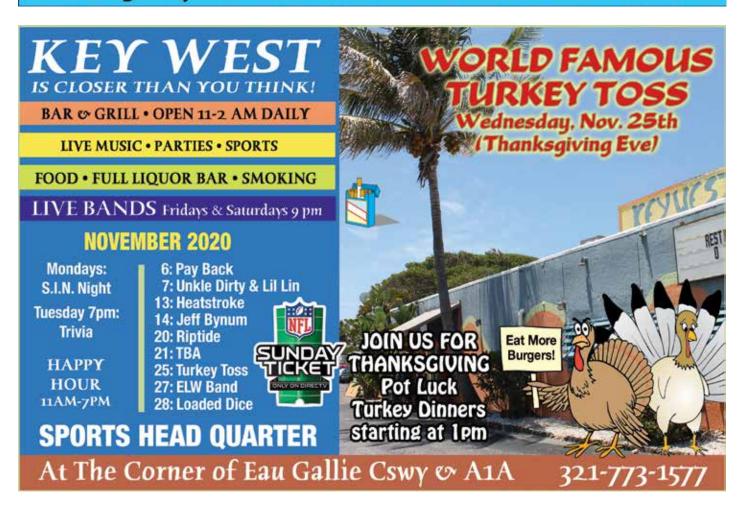
So here it is, one month closer to the end of 2020. I'm sure that most, if not all of us, are wishing for that ball to drop at the end of next month and put all of this behind us. Hopefully the trials and tribulations have taught us, or at least future generations, of what to do and what not to do. All I know as I can see age 50 up ahead is to be prepared and take what life has for you. Be safe, and be well. As always, *keller5@ hotmail.com* is where you will find me. Till next month, Brevard...



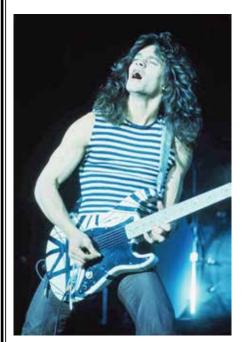
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#### **Brevard Live**



Eddie Van Halen at the New Haven Coliseum.

# Eddie Van Halen and Me

By John Leach

Tn 1985, the L.A. portion of the 2nd Annual MTV Music Awards were held at the Santa Monica Civic Center in Santa Monica, California. The after party was held at The Santa Monica Bowl directly across the street. Bruce Springsteen won the Best Male Video Award for "I'm On Fire", Tina Turner won Best Female Video with "What's Love Got To Do With It" and though he was nominated in eight categories, David Lee Roth walked out empty handed (his hands were certainly full at the after party). I worked on a balloon decorating team and was there all day transforming the bowling alley into a gaudy Tinseltown award show fantasy.

Although special invitations were needed for the celebrities, industry types and scantily clad hangers on to attend the after party, the set-up staff informed me that when the show was over they expected to get slammed all at once with a mob of hyped up highend people in tuxedos and party dress-

es. Realizing I too owned a tuxedo I dashed across town, grabbed it, put it on, returned to the bowling alley and waited in my beat up Mazda pickup truck for the beautiful people to arrive. As the rich and famous spilled across the street and into the open doors of the bowling center, I jumped into the flow like I'd been there my whole life and made my way to the bar with the best of them.

What a star studded night to remember! I told bad jokes to Thomas Dolby, danced on the alleyways with Weird Al Yankovic, did shots with Quiet Riot and high-fived David Lee Roth as he pranced around with multiple women hanging off him like cheap jewelry at Mardi Gras. The best however, was yet to come.

The night wore on, the place thinned out, and I decided to use the restroom before making the drive back to the downtrodden storefront I was 'living' in. I was all alone in the large echoing space, doing my business at the urinal when the door boisterously slammed open and three men - two very large, one very small - careened in.

Two big goons - black suits, bad attitudes, the works - carried an extremely drunk Eddie Van Halen. Feet not touching the floor, head swinging from side to side, Eddie was in an elevated mood and giddily chatted away to himself.

The trio stood right behind me. Goon #1 croaked "Let's hurry it up buddy", Goon #2 something like "Move it pal". As I looked over my shoulder, still dealing with the business in hand, Eddie lifted his head, looked me straight in the eye, and laughed out a big, warm "Hey Man!"

"Hey Eddie, how's it goin' man?" (What else is there to say?)

He continued. "I'm having' a great time man. Are you having' a great time man?"

"Oh yeah Eddie, I'm havin' a great time."

The thugs were boring New Jersey

Daggers into me but I planned on being there for awhile, long after I was pee free. A rock and roll urinal moment like this comes only once in a lifetime.

"That's great man, y'know why? 'Cause in this life ya gotta do what ya wanna do, 'cause if you don't do what ya wanna do, then you ain't doin' what ya wanna do, ya know man?"

"I sure do Eddie, I'm with ya on that."

"That's it man, that's what it is, ya gotta do what you wanna do because that's what ya wanna do and if you don't do that then you ain't doin' what ya wanna do man!"

"I will Eddie, I'm gonna do what I wanna do."

"You do that man, do what ya wanna do, 'cause that's what ya gotta do".

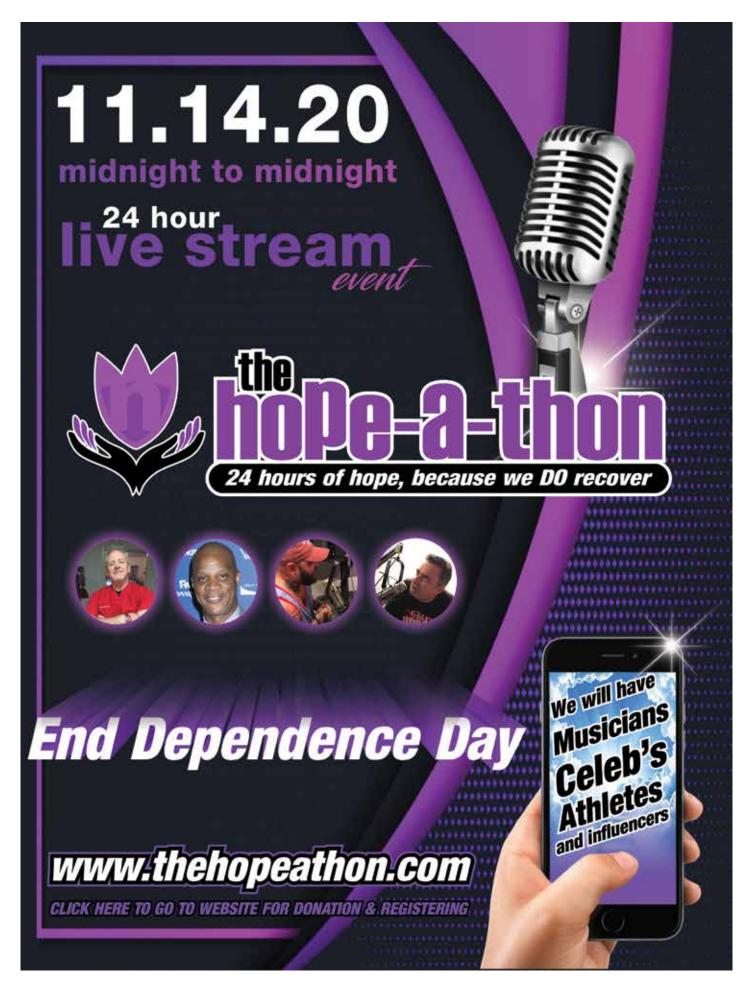
His feet were still not touching the floor.

A few extra shakes for good measure, knowing head nods between my new life coach and his Soprano styled minders, and I strolled out into the bold, bright, L.A. night.

After that brief exchange between Eddie Van Halen and me I still take stock of new choices, new directions in life. Before any big decisions I pause and ask myself "Is this what I wanna do?"



John Leach - right place, right time...







#### I AM NOMAD

## VAN HALEN'S GREATEST HIT

By Bill Stanley

#### **EXPERIENCE THE POWER OF FORGIVENESS**

Irecently viewed a clip from the Howard Stern Show featuring Sammy Hagar. The interview occurred a day or so after the passing of Eddie Van Halen, Sammy's former band mate from Van Halen. During the interview Sammy mentioned he and Eddie had started texting sometime around the beginning of 2020. Sammy seemed to insinuate they had kind of patched things up. "Eddie and I had been texting, and it's been a love fest since we started communicating earlier this year," Hagar wrote. "We both agreed not to tell anyone, because of all the rumors it would stir up about a reunion, etc., and we both knew that wasn't gonna happen. But he also didn't want anyone to know about his health."

As a huge Van Halen fan (specifically the Sammy years,) I certainly hope what he is saying is true. I have no reason to doubt him, especially since he said, he and Eddie agreed to keep it a secret. They believed that if everyone knew they were talking again, it would conjure up rumors of Van Halen reunion tour, among other things. Regardless of motives or the exact details of the encounters, I hope it is true because I know all too well the importance of making things right with others, before they die. If what Hagar is saying is true, then this story could actually be Van Halen's greatest hit. That is saying something when you consider the enormous catalogue they have put together since 1978.

#### **MAKE THE CALL**

If you are reading this and like Sammy and Eddie, you've got unanswered questions or unfinished business with a friend or family member, I encourage you to make the call. If you did something to hurt another person, it is never too late to make that call. Well, of course, until, it is actually too late. One of the best things, my parents instilled in me, especially toward my two brothers, was to never let the sun go down on your anger. The reason for this is it just becomes way too easy to let another calendar day pass without asking forgiveness. I speak a lot about shame in this column and one of the things that keep us from making that much needed call is shame. We are embarrassed things went down the way they did or ashamed I allowed myself to get so angry. The reality is, we all

make mistakes. Don't allow the mistake to last through eternity because you didn't get a chance to say, "Please forgive me."

#### **KNOW THE SITUATION**

I fully believe we all should make the call, but it is so vitally important, to make sure we understand the situation. I believe for some, the call is not possible or even appropriate. If your "Eddie Van Halen" has already passed and you didn't get a chance to make the call, then it isn't possible anymore to do so. Know the situation and allow yourself to be forgiven. In a crazy, way death has a way of bringing closure even when we didn't expect it. There are so many things we wish we could have said, if we had five more minutes to do so. Understand the person is no longer carrying that grudge and if you are someone who believes in an afterlife, know they have a better grasp on the situation than we do. They know, you are sorry, and they themselves would probably say the same thing, if they could.

For others, it might not be appropriate to contact someone who has hurt you or you have hurt. Several ideas that come to mind include parents who put kids up for adoption, someone who has caused unspeakable hurt or abuse toward you, or someone who might be in prison because of the mistakes they made. For example, it would not be appropriate for a victim to contact the perpetrator of their abuse. Neither would it be appropriate for the perpetrator to contact the victim. By the way, that would be a crime, so totally not appropriate to "make the call" in that situation. I want you to make the call, but you have to know the situation is safe and inviting to do so.

#### **FORGIVENESS HEALS**

I'm going to talk more about this in next month's column, but for now, I'll say, "Forgiveness does heal." It might not heal right away, but it does heal. Not everyone heals the same way, but we do heal. There can be hope through forgiveness, if we will allow it. As I said, it might not be appropriate to contact the person you have hurt, or who has hurt you, but we can learn to forgive. Forgiveness doesn't excuse what has been done, it doesn't take away the scars, but it does help us release the weight we are carrying mentally and spiritually. Unforgiveness on the other hand is carrying the burden of what someone else has done to you, while knowing they don't care you are carrying it. So put the weight down. Imagine un-forgiveness is like a heavy box of your friends belongings. You can carry it for a time, but no matter how strong you are you can't carry it forever. When you help a friend move, that box gets heavy while you're going up to the third

continued page 35











#### THE DOPE DOCTOR

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#### The Obstacles Within

"I'm not going to be controlled"- anonymous client

Self-esteem is a big obstacle to the treatment of substance use disorders. A low self-esteem can prevent you from reaching out for help. You may not feel deserving of help. People also sometimes feel that they got themselves into a situation so they are the only ones that can get themselves out of it.

This may sound like ego but its often fed by low selfesteem and insecurity. After all, who has failed you more than yourself and that is a hard reality to accept.

The ego getting involved is a big killer. Things like grinning and bearing it, manning up, and all those things that you have been raised hearing can start working against you. The internal thoughts that say you haven't been strong enough, smart enough, or capable enough can and will work strongly against you as well.

Remember, addiction is a brain disease. This brain disease goes deep inside your psyche and uses all of your fears and insecurities against you. That's how it stays strong. It keeps you psychologically questioning yourself and doubting yourself, and then you stay reliant on something that feels so decisive, like drugs and alcohol, because those substances make decisions easy for you.

Oftentimes people sit back and do whatever the drug tells them to do. If the drug says sleep, they sleep. If it tells them to run around the neighborhood until four o'clock in the morning, they run around the neighborhood until four o'clock in the morning. If they want to do something that's a criminal activity or morally wrong, they allow the substance to say it's not. Everyone does it, so who cares? That's a judgment.

If it's something that is against your faith/religion and your God, the drugs tell you, "Do it anyway." The drugs tell you that to control you. They tell you things like, "You're going to let other people control you? You know religion is used as a form of control." So they respond, "Oh, no, I'm not going to be a sheep. I'm not going to be controlled." No matter what the question is, drugs say you

can put everything off until tomorrow. That's comfortable for a lot of personalities.

At one time, you could control it. You picked it up, put it down, and you didn't use it again. Because of that, you tend to always have that in your memory. You believe you can put it down any time. Many addicts have a period of being clean at least for a day or two, a week, a month or whatever. They feel they have done it before so they can do it again.

Addicts think, I know what I need to do. I just need to do it. However, since it hasn't happened yet, you can only call that a theory. You have to allow yourself to understand that most of the ideas you have are actually a theory. Just because it feels and sounds like a fact, doesn't make it a fact.

Our own personal bias is also a huge obstacle. We all have a level of biased thinking. This can complicate our recovery because it makes it more difficult to listen and learn from others with different opinions or observations. Just like me being a Mexican-Puerto Rican influences what boxers I like, what music hits the heart strings, and what foods I prefer. I am biased.

When an individual is biased toward what they think works for them, what methodology is more comfortable for help, and what recovery program they prefer, it puts them at a disadvantage to listen to options that may be life saving.

Bottom line is to be teachable and open to any and all options. The next one you choose may be the ONE.

#### I AM NOMAD continued

floor apartment. It is so nice when you can reach the destination and put the weight down. I believe forgiveness is very similar to this. Put the weight down and allow the weight of the burden to be released from your life.

I realize as you read this month's column it might sound contradictory, but I assure you it is not. I do believe we should all make the call, but only if we understand the specific situation, and if it is appropriate to do so. If not, you can still find healing through forgiveness and maybe someday, if it is possible, and if the moment presents itself you can "make the call." Until then, and especially if you are still suffering greatly from the hurt, simply learn to forgive and take small steps toward reconciliation. If anything else, take some time over the next few weeks and inventory the relationships in your life. Figure out where you can improve and whatever you do, let your greatest hit in life be the one where you reconcile with those you have hurt. Find the healing that can be found when you experience true forgiveness.





When Art Meets Commerce

# OLIVIA BROOM

By Steve Keller

Art and commerce have a love/hate relationship. How do you set yourself a part in today's aesthetically dominated world? With a good marketing plan and design, of course! For graphic design artist and Brevard Resident Olivia Broom, it has been her life's work in bridging the art/commerce gap.

"I started my graphic design career right out of high school and have a degree in Graphic Design Technology," she recalls of her early beginnings. "I have always gravitated towards the arts, and in the early 2000's, graphic design was just getting started." Broom decided to branch out on her own, spending the last 17 years working for *Carroll Distributors* and namely *Budweiser*, and launched *Olivia Designs* earlier this year. "My entire career has been in the graphic design industry, and have been designing freelance for many years."

"I enjoy all kinds of creative outlets like painting, guitar, interior design. I even had my tattoo license for 2 years. I just need to be doing something creative. When I was young, I would paint seashells and "sell" them to my neighbors," she remembers.

Launching a new endeavor in 2020 has had its share of challenges. "I design logos, websites, t-shirts, and much more, mostly for new and small businesses. My favorite part of the design process is taking someone's idea and turning it into a design they love." All designs can be done via email/text/cell unless a client feels the need to meet with me in person," she continues. "What I like to do is gather as much information that a client has to offer about design preferences like style, fonts, colors, likes/dislikes, and use that information along with my own knowledge of design and create 4-5 different designs (usually for logos) for them to view. From there they can make any changes to any of them they'd like to see, and then we kind of go from there until we narrow it down to one design they really love!"

Broom knows firsthand how competitive business can be. "I really like designing logos because the clients are so pumped and excited to get their businesses off the ground," she says. "A good logo is one of the first things a business needs to get out into the world. Visual design is extremely important to marketing a business. I want my clients to be 100% happy with their designs. I always hand over full rights to their designs and multiple different file formats for them to use their designs however they wish. Some clients know exactly what they want and some have no idea, the process works the same either way. I always tell clients that have no creative ideas that it's totally okay, that's my job!"

The Oliva Designs logo itself, with its Audrey Hepburn simplicity, attracts a client to at least know more, wherever they may be located. "Because my work is virtual, I've done work for clients all over the country," she says. "I will say that I offer something more personal and custom than these "create a logo" apps out there, I have a lot of people come from *Fiverr* or *Canva* and they've not been able to get something done that really speaks to them or represents them personally. I think that's very important in good design."

In this crowded field of Social Media, one might ask if a website is really needed for commerce? "You know, I did a poll, on Facebook, (*laughs*) asking my friends and cli-

ents about this very thing," she responds. "If you were researching a company and went online, would use go to their Facebook page or their website. 100% of them said they would go to the company website. I always tell potential clients never use Facebook as your website. It may be free, but it's not viewed as very professional and most people still want to go to a website for information."

After a lifelong career in the industry, Bloom is willing to share her knowledge. "For someone just starting out, I'd suggest getting in with a small print shop or design agency, so you can really get a feel for the professional process, and working directly with clients. Listening to clients and being able to put their ideas in a visual design is the most important part of graphic design. Oh and practice, practice! don't get stuck in one specific style, artists need to be flexible and able to design all kinds of styles."

Bloom and Olivia Designs, like so many of us, are trying to do something that she loves while being able to earn an income from it. "I started my business earlier this year, and with so many people losing their jobs and needing to get creative with income, I was designing like crazy for start-ups. Things have slowed down a bit since then, but I think I jumped into it at the right time. I price my work lower than a design agency would, and it has really helped out new businesses owners to get started. I plan to stay with Budweiser as long as they'll keep me but I design strictly for the beer business. Having my own design company allows me to flex my own creative muscles." Check out her art work at at <a href="https://www.oliviadesignsonline.com">www.oliviadesignsonline.com</a> or email her at <a href="https://oliviadesignsonline@gmail.com">oliviadesignsonline@gmail.com</a>.









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#### Rigg's Outpost FISHING REPORT NOV FORECAST



by Pompano Rich

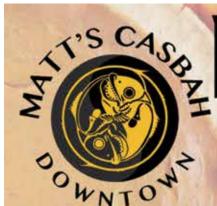
November fishing in Brevard is as enjoyable as the Fall weather in Florida. With cold fronts stacking up fish will be moving north from the south and vice versa. Oh colder air in Florida is only 75 to 82 degrees. So you out of state folks bring your tees and shorts.

The most sought after Florida gamefish cruising from the south are our snook. We call them "Linesiders" for their black lateral line that helps them find bait. Cooler surf temps will drive them into the Sebastian River where they will crash schools of silver mullet. These fish will bite early am and late afternoon everyday. They range from five to thirty pounds. This silvery large scaled will be our other spectacular gamefish in the mix, tarpon. This universally sought muscular leaping beautiful fish is worth all the hype.

For both these cool dudes live bait will be king. Whether it's pogies, croakers, pinfish and finger mullet there are very few that have even one of those in stock. Except for the Riggs Outpost! If you are excited by this rare opportunity to catch these gamefish this is your "One Stop Shop". Plus they have the lures you need. D.O.A. Shrimp, Terror-Eyz and Mirro-lure catch 2000 jr. plugs are excellent...

For those easy family times catching a fish every cast I would encourage you all to rent a boat and the gear in advance at Riggs Outpost; a bucket of live shrimp, some cut mullet and a few gold spoons and your ready to adventure the Indian River Lagoon. Heres the line up: Bluefish, jacks, trout, flounder and the ever popular pompano. These are all northern species that are here every November. A lot of great eating! Bring an ultra lite setup and be ready to spot some silvery pompano jumping the wake of the boat. The perfect time to pull the pomp jig and quill deadly duo out. Ask for the popular Pomp Catchers at the Outpost.

This is a seriously cool month to fish the beaches. Floods of Spanish mackerel will be driving sardines and glass minnows right up on the beach. Mixed with the hard fighting northern bluefish it should be fishy enough to get any angler to the beaches. The invasion will be heavily complemented with schools of the silvery wave runners. Pompano! The macks will take anything shiny... Gotchas and Gator spoons on medium weight spinning outfits. Blues will chase the same but prefer blowing up on a top water chugger! The absolute foolproof blue catcher is a chunk of mullet and/or sardine. The macks are great eating on the grill fresh the first day. Not the type of fish that freezes well.



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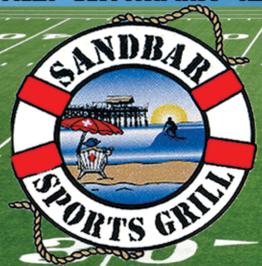








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