

Issue 294

The Publication of the Linn County Blues Society - lcbs.org

March 2019



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LCBS Mardi Gras Party & Charity Fundraiser!



Henry Davison, founder of the LCBS & H.D. Youth Center. 1926-2019

FLEX

Danielle Nicole Played to a sold out crowd!



article & photos by Phil Smith

he Famous Mockingbird was the place to be for two stellar sets of blues on Friday, February 15. It was a sold-out show, and the excitement was surely in the air to see Danielle Nicole, who was a 2019 Grammy Nominee for Best Contemporary Blues Album. Her band consisted of drummer Ralph Forrest, and guitarist Brandon Miller, who will be return-



ing to Famous Mockingbird with his band in the near future.

The show led off with the smooth and buttery "Hot Spell" from her latest album, Cry No More. Her luscious vocals and thumping bass sounded absolutely fabulous. Other amazing cuts from that album which landed in the first set were, "Lord, I Can't Keep From Crying", "Pusher Man", "Burning For You", and "My Heart Just Remains". I loved her cover of Willie Dixon's, "I Just Want to Make Love to You", and Howlin' Wolf's, "Spoonful". She soulfully covered Lukas Nelson's "Find Yourself", and closed the show with "Save Me", chockful of heavy riffs, and wonderful guitar shredding from Miller. It was a splendid show indeed!



Danielle Nicole along with Brandon Miller on guitar and drummer, Ralph Forrest.

The Linn County Blues Society is a way cool, non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of Blues music in Eastern Iowa as well as to provide charitable contributions to other community organizations. LCBS is an Affiliated Organization in the Blues Foundation's international network. The BLUESPAPER is a monthly publication of the LCBS. Website: Icbs.org

LCBS Officers

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Membership

To learn more about the Linn County Blues Society or to join, see the membership form in this Bluespaper or the LCBS website. Your membership includes;

- Discount admissions to many local Blues activities.
- Monthly LCBS Bluespaper.
- Voting rights in the LCBS elections.
- Being a part of the groove!

Bluespaper Contact information

Send news, band or club live entertainment schedules, advertising, donuts, Oreos®, or Bailey's® to: Evan Vulich at: evulich@mchsi.com.

Bluespaper Ad Rates

\$15.00 - Business card size - 2" x 3.5" \$35.00 - Quarter page ad - 3.5" x 4.75" \$60.00 - Half page ad - 4.75" x 7.25" \$75.00 - 2 colums (2/3) - 4.75" x 9.75" \$100.00 - Full page - 7.5" x 9.75""

Submission Requirements- All ads, photos or scanned images, either color or black/white, need to be 300ppi. Native Adobe Illustrator, Photoshop, JPG, TIFF, EPS, PDF, BMP accepted. Ads created in MS Word may cause dimentia, severe cramping or diarrhea. Deadline for submissions is the 20th of the month.

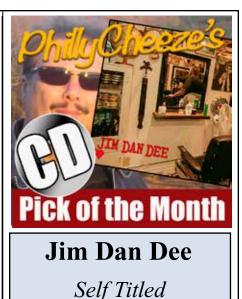
Moving? Send your new address to; LCBS, PO Box 2672, Cedar Rapids, IA 52406-2672 so you won't miss a single issue of your Bluespaper.

More Chili photos Fun for all!



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2018 Jim Dan Dee

Jim Dan Dee, the debut self-titled album from Toronto-based Jim Dan Dee is a high-energy and bluesy listen. The band name itself stems from the expression, "Everything is just Jim Dandy", and defines the essence of their music. The phrase also defines the front-man singer/ guitarist Jim Stefanuk aka Jim Dan Dee. Along with Stefanuk, the rest of the band is comprised of bassist Brian McCarthy, saxophonist Jason "Bobby" Sewerynek, and drummer Shawn Royal.

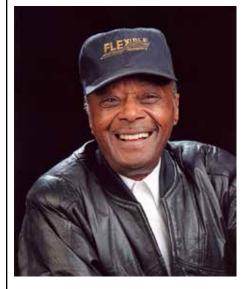
With Royal and McCarthy dishing out a heart-pounding pulse, Stefanuk drives "Save My Soul" with a fearless hard-driving fashion, filling the song with catchyas-hell riffs. I love the sax accompaniment, and the angelic backing vocals from "Sweet" Jules Cordosa. "Payday" packs quite a wallop too. A fistful of swagger and Jim's gravelly take-charge voice take this song to the next level. "When You Move Like That" shines with the spirit of John Lee Hooker as it races through the speakers. The jam on this is very nice indeed, filled with backing keys played by Jesse Karwat and blasts of sax to punch it up. Jim Dan Dee takes a suave yet ominous approach with "Killer". This is such a fabulously composed song, and Jim's guitar prowess is styleful and captivating. Stefanuk confronts Old Scratch himself in "Walking Shoes", as he closes the album out with a little bit of grease and shaker full of psychedelia. It's terrific!

Bulletproof and dripping with cool, Jim Dan Dee has surely been one my favorite surprises this year. It's quite the album.

- by Phil Smith

icbs.org

Henry Davison Founder of the LCBS & H.D. Youth Center; A Man with a Vision!



enry Davison, founder of the Linn County Blues Society, died Saturday, February 9 at 92. Henry was born on November 3, 1926 in Jackson, Mississippi. He spent his young years living with various relatives.

He lived in Chicago for a time then moved back to Mississippi. He was drafted at 18, served in Korea and various other duty stations, retired from the army as a Sergeant First Class and moved back to Mississippi.

He heard jobs were available at Rockwell Goss and moved to Cedar Rapids. He retired from Rockwell and remained in Cedar Rapids until he passed away last Saturday. I personally spent a lot of time talking with Henry and I often quizzed him about his youth, growing up in the South during the late 1920s and 1930s, living with his grandfather who was a former slave and having neighbors who were members of the KKK. I consider having these opportunities to talk with Henry a true blessing. Anyone can read about this dark chapter in history, but you can't ask books questions. I quizzed Henry relentlessly and we had many interesting conversations about his past, present and future.

Henry saw a need for young people to have safe haven after school so he started the HD Youth Center on third street in Cedar Rapids. His Center was flooded in 2008 and closed, but that didn't stop Henry. He re-located on Mt. Vernon Road and his Youth Center is still operating.

The "Back Pack" program in Cedar Rapids is an expansion of the original back pack program that Henry started at his Youth Center on 3rd street. Henry received donations from local businesses and gave school supplies to any student in Cedar Rapids in need.

Henry felt a need to feed the needy so he organized Christmas and Thanksgiving dinners that were open to the public and, again, supported by donations and Henry's hard work and dedication.

Another of Henry's many accomplishments in Cedar Rapids was the Linn County Blues Society. I first met Henry at "Al and Irene's" at a LCBS meeting where my son and I joined that organization. He started this Society with nothing but an idea. He was convinced the community needed to be more appreciative of the Blues style of music and understand that it is an American music style originated by African Americans of the South. His mission was to "Keep the Blues Alive". His LCBS continued to prosper and eventually produced the "Buesmore" event at Brucemore and many Blues productions at 3rd Street Live. The LCBS also produced a "Blues In The School" program. This program consisted of a blues band made up of a group of high school friends and played blues music to middle school students, nursing homes and even one presentation at the Correctional Center in Coralville.

At present, the LCBS is still keeping

article by Steve Springer



the Blues Alive by producing musical events in Czech Village and making donations to various local non-profits. Henry was very proud of the Linn County Blues Society and cherished his relationship with local musicians. He was really honored when he was recognized in public and given credit for originating the Blues Society.

Henry was a driven person with a purpose and a huge contributor to the community. It is amazing that he managed to accomplish all he did, but the real miracle is that he made it happen with nothing to start with but an idea and a purpose. I guess when you're as dedicated as Henry, you become a pretty good salesman. Henry and I didn't always agree on everything, but I guess when you respect each other you don't have to. He will be missed and remembered by everyone.

You can get his book, "Henry Davison: You Can Be What You Want To Be", at Barnes and Noble or Amazon, and read about his life.



19th Annual Chili Challenge *Sunday, February 10!*

photos by Phil Smith

Jeff Coil gQDog's BBQ



LCBS kingpin, David Antin, along with Matt Heck

Ryan Phelan playing his Gibson 335

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Jam session with Academy musicians, Jeremiah Murphy (bass), Naomi Hulteng, Eric Madison joined by rock band students Aidan Gray and Emily Kelly.







Keith Wright, from Isle of Iowa Parrothead Club and David Antin, LCBS 'Top Dog', holding the overall winner's check at the 2019 Chili Challenge.

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Local Music 2 19

March 2019 Blues Calendar

Sat. 2	Longbranch Village Market QDogs BBQ The Cornerstone	LCBS Fundraiser. 2 great bands! 7PM \$15.00 Dan Johnson & special guest, 11-2PM McMurrin & Johnson, , 6-9PM, Marion Johnny Kilowatt. 7:30-11:30PM Galena, IL
Sun. 3	Baxa's - blues fest	The Tornadoes w/ Robert 1Man Johnson. 4-7PM
Tue. 5	Parlor City Pub	Brook Hoover hosts jam, 7-10PM
Wed. 6	QDogs BBQ	Skeeter Louis Trio, 6-9PM, Marion
Thur. 7	J.M. O'Malley's Parlor City Pub Lark Brewing QDogs BBQ	Rush Cleveland, 8-midnight McMurrin & Johnson, 7-10PM Limestoners Blues Jam. 7-10PM Cedar Falls BillyLee Janey, 6-9PM Marion
Fri. 8	Cedar Ridge Distillery QDogs BBQ Bo Mac's	The Invisible Band, 6-9PM Swisher Tom Buckmiller, 6-9PM Marion Craig Erickson, "Onemanjamband" 8-11PM
Sat. 9	Village Market QDogs BBQ	One Man Johnson & Johnson, 11-2PM Rob Lumbard, 6-9PM Marion
Tue. 12	Parlor City Pub	Matt Panek hosts jam, 7-10PM
Wed. 13	QDogs BBQ	Bryce Janey, 6-9PM, Marion
Thur. 14	J.M. O'Malley's Parlor City Pub Lark Brewing QDogs BBQ	Charlie Morgan, 8-midnight McMurrin & Johnson, 7-10PM Limestoner Blues Jam. 7-10PM Cedar Falls Robert 1 Man Johnson, 6-9PM Marion
Fri. 15	QDogs BBQ	Jason Christensen & DJ, 6-9PM, Marion
Sat. 16	Cedar Ridge Distillery Bo Mac's Pizza Village Market QDogs BBQ	The FunkDaddies, 6-10PM. Tix \$20. Cocktails + Jeff Craft, 7-11PM Jason Christensen & Dan Johnson, 11-2PM Adam Yarger, 6-9PM Marion
Sun. 17	Old Neighborhood Pub	McMurrin, Johnson & The Gov. 5-7PM
Tue. 19	Parlor City Pub	Doug Ducey hosts jam, 7-10PM
Wed. 20	QDogs BBQ	Skeeter Louis Trio, 6-9PM, Marion
Thur. 21	J.M. O'Malley's Parlor City Pub Lark's Restaurant QDogs BBQ	Matt Panek, 8-midnight McMurrin & Johnson, 7-10PM Limestoners Blues Jam. 7-10PM Cedar Falls BillyLee Janey, 6-9PM Marion
Fri. 22	The Sanctuary J&A Tap. N. Liberty Hy-Vee Market	Mike Maas & Carlis Faurot, 8-10PM Iowa City Brook Hoover's Flaming Camaros, 9PM Craig Erickson, "Onemanjamband" 6-9PM
Sat. 23	Lincoln Wine Bar Village Market QDogs BBQ	Mike Maas Trio, 7-9PM Mt. Vernon Nate Hines & Dan Johnson Duo, 11-2PM Doug Ducey & Dan Johnson Duo, 6-9PM, Marion
Sun. 24	Indian Creek Center	Indian Creek Jazz Band, Maple Syrup. 8-10AM
Tue. 26	Parlor City Pub	Bob Dorr & Jeff Petersen host jam, 7-10PM
Wed. 27	QDogs BBQ	Bryce Janey, 6-9PM Marion
Thur. 28	J.M. O'Malley's Parlor City Pub Lark Brewing QDogs BBQ	Craig Erickson, 8-midnight McMurrin & Johnson, 7-10PM Limestoners Blues Jam. 7-10PM Cedar Falls Robert 1 Man Johnson, 6-9PM Marion
Fri. 29	QDogs BBQ	Mike Maas & Carlis Faurot, 6-9PM Marion
Sat. 30	J.M. O'Malley's Village Market	DDOG & BBITS Sat. Matinee Reunion. 5-8:30PM Doug Ducey & Dan Johnson Duo, 11-2PM
Sun. 31	Old Neighborhood Pub	Bryce Janey Trio w/ Dan Johnson. 5-7PM
I only ho	ppe that one day. Americ	a will recognize what the rest of the world already

I only hope that one day, America will recognize what the rest of the world already has known, that our indigenous music—gospel, blues, jazz and R&B—is the heart and soul of all popular music; and that we cannot afford to let this legacy slip into obscurity, I'm telling you. —Quincy Jones

Be sure to CHECK this out!

Sat The Village Market w/ Dan Johnson 11-2PM
Sun The Rumors Jam, 4-7PM
Tues The Famous Parlor City Jam. 7-10PM
Wed 5th Wednesday B. Dorr, Skeeter & DJ @ QDogs BBQ
Thur Lark's Restaurant & Brewery, Limestoners, 7-10PM
Thur J.M.O'Malley's, Tom T-Bone Giblin Jams, 8-midnight
Thur CR VFW, Wild Bill & Pony Express, 5-9PM
Thur Dennis "Dadddy-O" McMurrin at Parlor City 7-10PM
Fri Checkers Tavern & Asian Massage, LIVE MUSIC! 7P



Local favorite for dining since 1968, now also featuring our new Huston Rogers Steakhouse. Nightly we feature mid-western USDA choice steaks, award winning BBQ pork ribs, slow cooked tender prime rib of beef (Friday & Saturday nights), and seafood. We also offer delicious sandwiches, burgers, pizza, and much more. You can also join us for our popular full lunch buffet with deluxe salad and soup bar Monday-Friday 11am-2pm.

The LCBS meets on the 1st Monday of each month at The Longbranch! See you on March 4, 6:00PM for a soft-start. General meeting begins at 6:30PM. Guests are always welcome! 90 Twixt Town Rd., Cedar Rapids • 377-6386.

A very special THANK YOU to these businesses who Keep the Blues Alive!

- The Longbranch
- KCCK 88.3
- Village Meat Market
- J.M. O'Malley's
- Checkers Tavern
- Dudley Bros. Const.
- Chappy's Safari
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- Dr. Ronald W. Miller
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Notice: Sometimes there just isn't enough room for all the submitted schedules in the Blues Calendar. Please be sure to check the EVERY MONTH box above to see regularly scheduled gigs that are always on for each day of the week. We certainly don't want to exclude anyone from our schedule. Thanks!

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Avey/Grouws Band & Matt Panek's Electric Koolaid Trio **LCBS Fundraiser March 2**

itting hard with a soul for Blues, Rock & Americana, Avey/Grouws Band takes charge and audiences are taking note! Winners of the 2017 Iowa Blues Challenge. Semifinalists at the International Blues Challenge in Memphis.

Forming in January of 2017, the Avey/Grouws Band has started a buzz with memorable performances at The Prairie Dog Blues Fest, The Mississippi Valley Blues Fest, Smokin' In Steele BBQ & Blues, and by winning the 2017 Iowa Blues Challenge and advancing to the Semi Finals at the International Blues Challenge in Memphis.

Jeni Grouws met Chris Avey and Bryan West at a blues jam in the Quad Cities in 2015, and later that year, The Avey Grouws Duo was formed. After throwing in a handful of well-received full band gigs in 2016, in 2017 the duo finally called up Bryan West to officially form the Avey/Grouws Band. Chris Avey, formerly of The Avey Brothers and former lead guitarist for blues icon Big Pete Pearson, has been called a "younger, more fiery Coco Montoya mixed with a dash of Tab Benoit". Avey and drummer Bryan West, came in 3rd in the International Blues Challenge in Memphis in 2009

as The Avey Brothers. The strength and grit of Avey's guitar and vocals are beautifully matched by the sheer power and nuance of Grouws' unmistakable voice. She's been called "a choir full of angels on a runaway train!" Gary Eckhart of Blue Monday Monthly saw their first performance in 2017 called Grouws "a rising star" and said, "It was their first show and they are already ready for festivals!" And ready they were. AGB wowed audiences at Mississippi Valley Blues Fest, Prairie Dog Blues Fest, Nordic Fest and Smokin' In Steele BBQ & Blues Fest. With the release of their EP "Road to Memphis" in May of 2018, Avey/Grouws Band is marking their spot on the music scene. And though their musicianship is stellar, there is simply something about how the band communicates with an audience. An evening with the Avey/ Grouws Band is playful, raucous and rooted in the moment and you won't want it to end!

The Avey Grouws Band is Chris Avey, Jeni Grouws, Bryan West, Randy Leasman and Ian Farmer.

"Avey/Grouws Band resides on the Iowa edge of the Driftless and deep in the heart of the Blues" -Tim Eddy

The Electric Koolaid Trio was formed in 2010 as an offshoot of BF Burt and the Instigators. Featuring three of the original members of the iconic eastern Iowa Blues band, they have expanded their repertoire to include more rock and Jam Band influences while still staying rooted in classic electric blues and soul. After a couple of years of honing their live shows they went into the studio released their self titled CD in 2012. Featuring a mix of original music with covers of Otis Rush, Los Lobos, The Grateful Dead and others, the record was well received and played regularly on local blues radio shows.

In 2015, Matt took a gig as the rhythm guitar player in the Grateful Dead tribute band, Winterland, where he met Josh Weiner. Shortly thereafter, Josh was added to the lineup. Frequently the trio performs with Iowa Blues Hall of Fame member, Tommy T-bone Giblin on keyboards. While not an officialmember of the group, he joins in when he is available and he is featured on a handful of track on the CD.



🗶 Linn County Blues Society Membership Application _____ Phone _____ / _____ Name (Please Print) _____ City/State/ZIP _____ Street Email (Please Print Clearly) **Annual Membership Levels** \$20 Member Please mail form & check to: Linn County Blues Society, \$100 Blues Booster/ Corporate Sponsor P.O. Box 2672, Cedar Rapids, IA 52406-2672. **\$250** Blues Contributor

- \$500 Friend of the Blues
- \$1000 Sustaining Member

We at the LCBS thank you for pledging your support for LIVE music in the Linn County area.

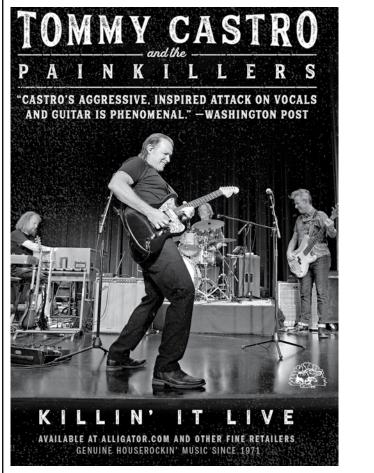




Linn County Blues Society PO Box 2672 Cedar Rapids, IA 52406-2672



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- 6-10 PM The Big Mo Blues Show
- 10-11 PM Backstage Blues
- 11 PM to midnight KCCK Jams
- Midnight Blues CD
- Saturday Blues -
- 6-10 PM Da Blues with Bobby D
- 10-11 PM The Crawfish Circuit
- 11 PM -midnight The Melting Pot
- Midnight Blues CD

March 2019 ~ Linn County Blues Society Bluespaper