

Brookhaven To Host Benefit Concert for Veterans of Iraq & Afghanistan

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FARMINGVILLE, NY - Supervisor Mark Lesko, Councilwoman Kathleen Walsh and members of the Town Council today announced that the Town of Brookhaven will be hosting a fundraising concert for Iraq and Afghanistan war veterans during a press conference.

The Vets Rock!, will be held on Sunday, October 4, 2009 at the Brookhaven Amphitheater in Farmingville, and will be a concert and family event, with vendors, children's entertainment, and video tributes to fallen soldiers. Featured performers include **John Kay & Steppenwolf, Foghat** and **Molly Hatchet**. Tickets for the concert will go on sale Tuesday, September 8.

"We felt it was important in the Town of Brookhaven to honor our veterans, particularly our newer veterans who served and sacrificed for our country in Iraq and Afghanistan," said Supervisor Lesko. "The 'Vets Rock!' concert will not only be a tribute to these heroes, but also be a benefit concert for some local veterans organizations who work everyday to assist veterans and their families. We hope you will join us in honoring our vets and enjoy some great music!"

The Town is underwriting all costs to the concert, and the organizations will keep all profits. Proceeds from the Vets Rock! Concert will benefit three local veterans organizations: the Suffolk County Police Veterans Association; Suffolk County Homefront, Inc.; and 9-1-1 Veterans.

"The Vets Rock! concert is a great way for our residents and their families to say thank you to the veterans who have served and sacrificed so much for us, and to enjoy an evening of great music and fun events," said Councilwoman Walsh.

Tickets for this benefit concert will be priced at \$25, \$35 and \$45 and are available by calling the Brookhaven Amphitheater box office at 451-8010 or Ticketmaster at 888-9000, or online at www.brookhavenamphitheater.com .

"We can never fully repay the debt we incur to our veterans, who sacrifice so much for us and our families. This concert is the least we can do, to raise funds for these local veterans organizations, and help to support the men and women who have served overseas in the military," said Councilman Steve Fiore-Rosenfeld.

"Our amphitheater is the perfect location for this concert - a world class venue in the shadow of the Suffolk County Vietnam Veterans monument," said Councilwoman Jane Bonner. "This concert will be a wonderful evening of great music that will support these organizations who make sure that our veterans who return from hostile areas - and their families - are taken care of."

"Anytime the Town of Brookhaven can provide a benefit to our veterans, we should work together to support that effort," said Councilwoman Constance Kepert. "I am thrilled that so many organizations are coming together for such a good cause."

"This concert will be an opportunity for our residents to enjoy an evening of great music for all ages while supporting our veterans," said Councilman Timothy Mazzei. "I'm proud to be a part of this benefit for our veterans, and urge our residents to make time on October 4 to join us for this event."

"Every day, our men and women in uniform place themselves in harms way, and risk their lives to protect our freedom. When their service is over, it's our duty as a community to provide them and their families with the help and support they need," said Councilman Keith Romaine. "I urge all of our residents to support the veterans in our community, and join us at this special concert to benefit these veterans organizations.""

ABOUT THE ORGANIZATIONS:

The Suffolk Police Veterans Association provides support and assistance to Veterans and Veterans' Organizations through various community service projects. The Suffolk Police Veterans Association has the mission of fostering fraternity between all members of law enforcement who work or reside in Suffolk County and have served in the United States Armed Forces. The Suffolk Police Veterans Association also provides support and assistance to Veterans and Veterans' Organizations through various community service projects.

Suffolk County Homefront, Inc is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting military personnel or units from Suffolk County deployed to hostile zones. Their primary mission is to purchase equipment and morale items for resident service members. In addition to supporting deployed residents and units within Suffolk County, the organization is seeking to establish a means of welcoming returning troops, aiding those who have been injured and honoring those who have died. Suffolk County Homefront also believes in, and is committed to, acknowledging and supporting the veterans within our community from all generations who have also proudly served our country.

9-1-1 Veterans is a small non-profit organization dedicated to assisting Long Island's veterans. They provide financial assistance to those who have served in - or are still serving in - the military. The organization's current emphasis has been on those service men and women who participated in the global war on terrorism. The transition period from military to civilian is a critical time psychologically and

financially. Some are going through the lengthy process of applying for a service-connected disability and have no other means of support. 9-1-1 Veterans supports the concept of communities taking ownership of "their veterans" by providing any needed support. The group has no paid employees which has, to date, allows them to give 100% of donated funds to this worthy cause.

ABOUT THE ACTS:

John Kay and Steppenwolf

In the chaotic world of rock 'n' roll, in which the lifespan of most bands can be measured in terms of a few years or a few months, John Kay and Steppenwolf have emerged as one of rock's most enduring and respected bands, delivering hard-hitting, personally-charged music for more than three decades.

In the late 1960s, Steppenwolf embodied that era's social, political and philosophical restlessness, building an impressive body of edgy, uncompromising rock 'n' roll that retains its emotional resonance more than three decades after the band's formation. Such Steppenwolf standards as "Born to Be Wild," "Magic Carpet Ride," "Rock Me" and "Monster" stand amongst Rock's most indelible anthems.

At last count, the band's worldwide record sales exceed 25 million units. Its songs remain fixtures on classic-rock radio, and have been licensed for use in approximately 50 motion pictures and an even greater number of television programs. And, in addition to being the first band to use the term "heavy metal" in a song (in "Born to Be Wild"), Steppenwolf's punchy style helped to establish the fundamentals of the hard-rock sound that would flourish in the 1970s.

Foghat

Foghat began their career in 1971 as a bunch of young Brits with an affection for American blues and '50s rock 'n' roll. By the middle of the decade, they had evolved into a major touring and recording act, playing a pumped-up brand of boogie-rock to arena-size audiences. Their looks grew flashier, their sound fattened and filled out, yet the roots-rock core of the band remained ever-present under the surface.

From the viewpoint of certain critics, Foghat unduly compromised their early blues-based approach in order to reap commercial rewards. Certainly, their mid-'70s hits ("Slow Ride," "Drivin' Wheel," "Stone Blue") were not aimed at the rock purists of the world. But it's also true that they continued to record traditional blues and R&B material throughout their years with Bearsville Records. In fact, Foghat's final albums on Bearsville reaffirmed their love for unadulterated, primal American music. Among their many hits were "Fool for the City" and "Slow Ride."

Foghat had a recording studio in Brookhaven Town at the height of their popularity. Originally conceived as a private recording studio for the band and dubbed 'The Boogie Motel' (taken from one of their album titles), the studio grew to be a live-in commercial studio in 1980, under the name Boogie Hotel. Located in a Victorian mansion originally built in 1751 with a wrap-around porch and large theater attached to the hidden Northeast corner, it was located on Main Street in Port Jefferson. The building was originally The Slavic Cultural Center. It became The Boogie Motel in 1976 and was upgraded to a commercial live-in recording studio called The Boogie Hotel in 1980.

Molly Hatchet

Molly Hatchet was formed in the early 1970s in Jacksonville Florida as part of the "Southern Rock" movement that included such bands as Lynyrd Skynyrd and the Allman Brothers.

Their self-titled debut album, which included Danny Joe Brown, Dave Hlubek, Duane Roland, Steve Holland, Banner Thomas and Bruce Crump in the lineup, was released on Epic records in 1978 and reached multi-platinum status as the band established their reputation of working hard, playing tough and living fast through intense touring with such bands as Aerosmith, Bob Seger, the Rolling Stones and many more. In 1979, "Flirtin' With Disaster" was released. The band continued touring on the road with an average of 250 live shows per year, and like the first album it also achieved multi-platinum status.

Division of Public Information * Office of the Town Council

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