

29th Chenango Blues Fest On Its Way

Norwich, N.Y. – (July 29, 2022) – The annual Chenango Blues Fest, sponsored by Norwich Rehabilitation and Nursing Center, is less than a month away and the volunteers who present it are shifting in to high gear. This year's event will be headlined by Blues Hall of Fame inductee and multiple Grammy winning guitarist Jimmie Vaughan, and he is eager to make up for last year's unfortunate cancellation.

The Chenango Blues Fest is a family friendly event at the County Fairgrounds and it kicks off on Friday, August 19th with a free admission show sponsored by New York Central Mutual. Headlining will be blues rocker Popa Chubby and he never fails to entertain. There will be plenty of food vendors on hand and the on-site camping is a great way to settle in and enjoy the whole weekend. Also performing Friday will be Angel Forrest coming in from Canada and the Hi-Jivers from Nashville. The parking gate opens at 4 and the festival gate at 5 with music starting at 5:30.

Saturday is a day-long affair with festival gates open at 11:00 A.M. and Misty Blues kicking things off on the Oliver's Campers Infield Stage at 11:30. You really should arrive early because at 12:30 Annika Chambers band will be performing. She was recently given the Blues Foundation Soul Blues Artist of the Year Award and it was well deserved. Altered Five will follow and fest favorite Nick Moss will lead in to Jimmie Vaughan's set. Saturday will also have a full slate of food and craft vendors and a children's activity area sponsored by BuildBlock CNY. The Flanagan Law Office, Grouse Ridge Realty, and Southern Tier Pet Tent Stage also has a stellar lineup on Saturday. The first act up is a not to be missed pairing of Corey Harris and Cajun fiddler Cedric Watson. They will be followed by the EG Kight Trio, and coming in from the west coast for a special show will be Teresa James and the Rhythm Tramps. The tent stage, and the festival, will be closed out in style by Southern Avenue. Since their last appearance at the Chenango Blues Fest, they have toured the world and are now a much sought-after live show.

Tickets for the Saturday event can be purchased on the Chenango Blues Festival website. They are a bargain because the event is organized and run entirely by volunteers and they receive significant financial support from festival naming sponsor Norwich Rehabilitation and Nursing Center and other Sponsoring Donors including Loral Management, Southern Tier Pet Nutrition/Bright Pet, Oliver's Campers, Raymond Foundation, BuildBlock CNY, Flanagan Law Office/Grouse Ridge Realty, Morrisville State College-Norwich, New York Central Mutual, Pennysaver/Evening Sun, Rentals to Go and Walking Ridge Development. Additional significant support is provided by Benefactors Syracuse/Albany Blues Peeps, ACCO Brands, Assemblyman Joe Angelino, Bill Rapp Subaru, Trip & Missy DeCordova, Kerry Inc., Cristi Larsen, John & Cheryl Mitchell, Mirabito Energy Products, Norwich Tire, Rita's Tavern, Savurn Memorials, and Wells Fargo Advisors. The show is also made possible, in part, with public funds from the Decentralization Program, a regrant program of the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature, and administered by The Earlville Opera House. Festival organizers would also like to gratefully acknowledge the support of the Greater Norwich Foundation, given in honor of Dr. Thomas Flanagan, and the R. C. Smith Foundation. If you are looking to upgrade your festival experience there is a VIP area sponsored by Morrisville State College Norwich Branch. Sales of these tickets help support the nonprofit festival.

The Chenango Blues Association also presents a series of free shows in East Park every Thursday in July and August. Sponsored by NBT Bank and supported by local foundations, the series will feature the Mike Zito Big Band on August 18th. This show is the unofficial kickoff to Blues Fest weekend and many attendees roll in to town early for this special show. It's an opportunity to spend the day Friday exploring Norwich's newly renovated Museum District or the developing trail system of the Greenway Conservancy before heading to the fairgrounds for the evenings shows. Local clubs will also have performances from Thursday through Saturday evenings after the festival shows.

For further information on tickets, camping, vendors and artists you can visit the Chenango Blues Fest website at www.chenangobluesfest.org. ➡