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# NASHVILLE MUSIC GUIDE

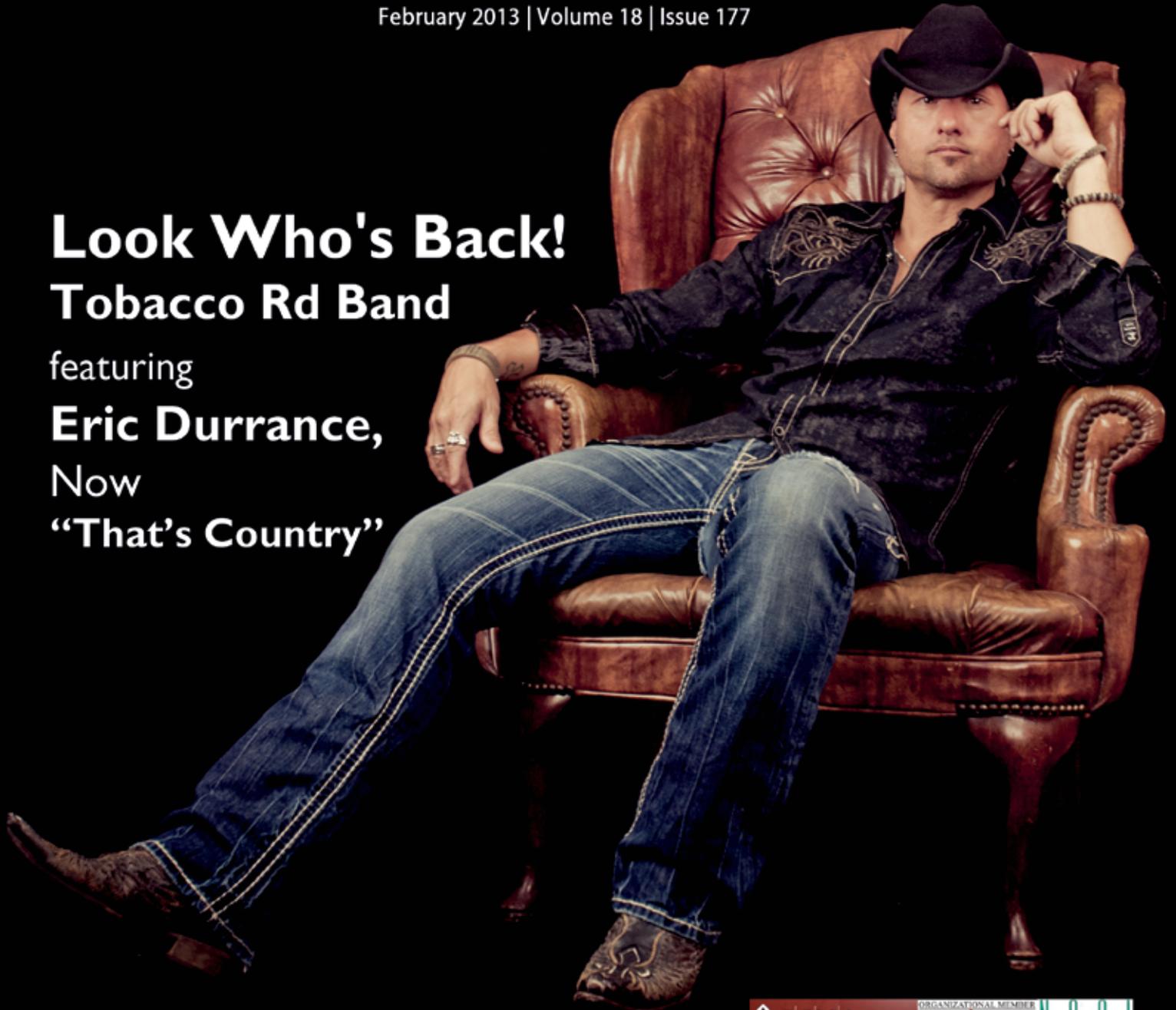
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February 2013 | Volume 18 | Issue 177

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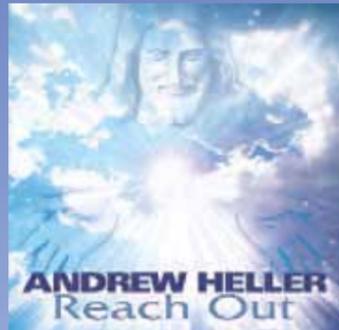
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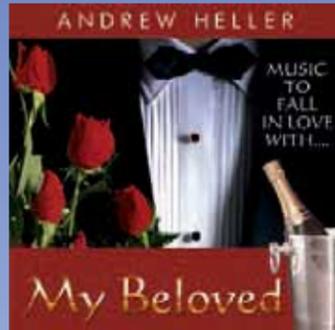
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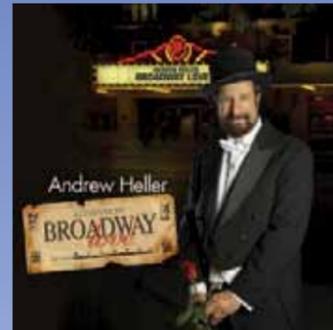
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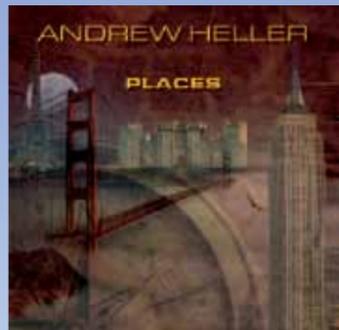
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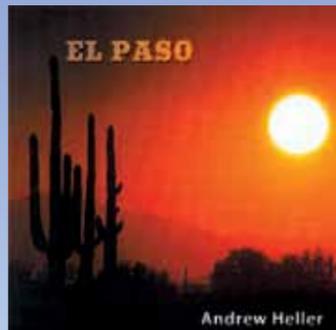
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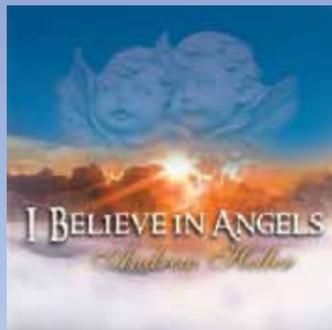
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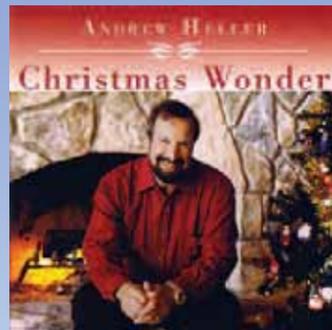
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- Wednesday, February 27: Roosters BBQ
  - 8:30PM Scarletta
- Thursday, February 28: Whiskey Bent
  - 6-10PM Michael Scott & Friends
  - 10-2PM Sid Yochim Band
- Friday, February 29: Tequila Cowboy  
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CALLING ALL ARTISTS: During CRS February 27, 28, and 29 come to the REVEILLE Room to tape video shout-outs to the Troops and join us to stuff Troop Aid Care Packages. Visit [www.operationtroopaid.org](http://www.operationtroopaid.org) to see event updates

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# Letter from the Editor

Last year, when we decided to cease printing of the Nashville Music Guide it was with a very heavy heart. The thought of not seeing NMG in the local music industry hangouts and the honky-tonks was disheartening. We knew it was for the best and that what we had in store for NMG in 2013 would be well worth it.

We are back on Music Row - being back in the middle of the excitement and rush of the music industry scene in Nashville has been a huge. We are loving our new home thanks to Donna Lee and everyone at the Buddy Lee Attractions building.

As for content, still expect the same quality but more of it with our online presence growing. We are not pulling out all the strings at first, expect a few surprises from us as the year goes on - we are big fans of surprises.

Nashville Music Guide wouldn't be what it is today without it's loyal supporters and fans - the talent, the sponsors, the partners, the readers, and most

importantly all of our staff and volunteers.

We have partnered with Krys Midgett, formerly of Strum Magazine, with her new project Give A Little Nashville this year. We will be supporting numerous charity events throughout the year. Give A Little Nashville has a special section in the Nashville Music Guide about artists giving back and music-related charity events. That section will provide a sample of a few of the articles that their website includes, along with a QR Code to go directly to the site.

Before Christmas, we worked with Glenn Douglas Tubb and several others to organize a Christmas party in Nashville, complete with presents, a tree, Santa and Mrs. Claus, songwriters, you name it. Several families from shelters were invited. The smiles on those children's faces as they opened presents, it was heart-warming. These little girls got up on stage with some of the songwriters and sang Christmas carols. That

memory will be with those kids and their moms forever. Do something to make someone's day and it will likely make yours.

GAL and NMG are very excited to be working together on this new venture. Be looking for some very big things to be happening in the future.

Also, we are implementing a new business strategy that gives a percentage of our profits to local Middle Tennessee charities.

We chose CRS as our re-launch issue because it is one of the busiest times in the music industry in Nashville and brings music industry professionals out. We want to be in front of as many people as possible. Our goal is to let everyone know we are here to stay and make our mark as leaders in publicizing the Nashville music scene.

Amanda Andrews



**Publisher & CEO** Randy Matthews  
editor@nashvillemusicguide.com

**Editor** Amanda Andrews  
akandrews@nashvillemusicguide.com

**Associate Editor** Krys Midgett  
krys@nashvillemusicguide.com

**Accounts** Rhonda Smith  
records@nashvillemusicguide.com

**Contributors** Phil Sweetland, Preshias Harris, Andrew Miller, Leslie Armstong, Jessica Northey, Rick Amburgey, Sherryl Craig, Nicole Valdivieso, Deborah Bishop, Coy Poole, Angie Ruetten, Lynette Lorenz, Sydney Robinson

**Photography** Bob Coan, Jerry Overcast, Stacy Scruggs, Randi Radcliff

**Founder** Dan Wunsch

**HOW TO REACH NMG**  
**Press releases, CD Reviews**  
editor@nashvillemusicguide.com

**Advertisement/Rates**  
ads@nashvillemusicguide.com

**Event Submissions**  
events@nashvillemusicguide.com

**General Info**  
info@nashvillemusicguide.com

**NMGRadio.com**  
playlist@nmgradio.com

**NMG Radio Delivery Service**  
rds@nashvillemusicguide.com

Nashville Music Guide  
38 Music Sq E, Suite 112, 1st Floor  
Nashville, TN 37203

**Office** 615.244.5673 **Fax** 615.244.8568

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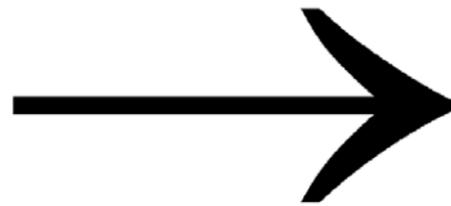
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# New Beginnings for NMG,

# While Carrying on Proud Traditions

It's fitting that the history of the Nashville Music Guide began in a Nashville honky-tonk, and that its comeback would begin in the Oklahoma oil fields.

Much of the proud legacy of country music has come from the blue-collar musical magic, hopes, dreams, real-life stories and heartbreak of America's oil fields and honky-tonks.

Since 1995, when Dan Wunsch and the late Brad Fisher came up with the idea for a magazine to support Nashville singers, musicians, and writers, the Nashville Music Guide has done just that. That 18-year legacy has been guided in recent years by the Oklahoma native and business visionary Randy Matthews, who once again is putting his money where his mouth is as the NMG's print edition returns stronger than ever with this Country Radio Seminar edition.

Eighteen years.

In the music business, that's more like 18 centuries. Think of all the Country labels that have come and gone in that span, and of all the superstar artists and writers who have dropped off the Billboard charts and been replaced with younger, newer faces.

Wunsch was a computer whiz and Fisher an award-winning advertising copywriter in 1995 when they sat in a nearly empty club and heard a country artist sing his tunes. After he got off the stage, the artist told them, "I'm here performing and don't have time to network on Music Row, and no one is giving me publicity."

Fisher and Wunsch decided that the folks playing the clubs every night and the power brokers on Music Row made up two very different worlds, even though they were physically separated by just a mile or two.

"We need a publication to bridge the gap," Wunsch said. "At the time, the only music category in the Nashville Scene was classical. We founded the NMG with the principle of supporting the independent, performing artists and songwriters by giving them a voice. One thing that surprised us was that it became both an industry paper and a tourist paper, making the tourists feel like insiders."

Some of the first stories ever published on artists like Keith Urban, the Lynns, and the Warren Brothers appeared in the NMG.

"I'm real proud that it has survived," Wunsch says.

Even after Fisher passed on a few years ago, Wunsch kept the NMG going before selling it to Matthews and moving to Los Angeles, where he lives on a boat, writing and selling his screenplays.

"The moment I met Randy Matthews, I knew he had the same vision to carry on Dan's dream," says, popular columnist of NMG's Inside Track, Preshias. "That magazine was part of Dan, his vision."

Matthews continued his highly successful oil and gas business in the Sooner State, but also opened a Nashville office for his new purchase, the Nashville Music Guide.

At first, Randy's nephew Big Joe Matthews was the Editor, a position that is now held by the more than capable, Amanda Andrews. While, Rhonda Smith does wonderful work running the Oklahoma office.

Faced with a brutal recession, Randy Matthews made the

difficult decision in late 2012 to make the NMG an online magazine and end the print edition. But armed with a new business plan, a revamped look, and his characteristic courage and passion, Matthews and Andrews have proudly brought back the print edition beginning with this issue.

Andrews stated that over the last few months "We have cleaned house, set a new foundation, and re-launched our branding campaign," and that the magazine is returning to its practice of mailing copies to Music Row offices -- part of Wunsch's original vision.

The Guide has also partnered with an online music charity magazine started by Krys Midgett this year called *Give A Little Nashville*.

"Musicians, no matter if they are up and coming or have sold millions of albums, are very charitable. More passion comes from asking about charity involvement than any other interview question. Most articles focus on the music and the artist's background, awards, favorite quotes and if they like chocolate or peanut butter. Charity involvement is usually just a little mention toward the bottom of the article. With GAL, I have decided to focus on how they give back. Of course, their new music will be included, but the primary goal is to let the fans know what the artist supports and how they can lend a hand," says Midgett.

She added, "I love music and this industry and giving back has always been my passion. These things go hand in hand. What better way to get the best of both worlds than by using my talent

to help others. Artists donate their time and talent more often than most people realize. On any given night, there is likely to be a benefit show, with hit songwriters and/or the stars of today, tomorrow and yesterday. Say for example, it is not unlikely to see Darryl Worley, Lee Brice, Glenn Tubb, Brice Long and Suzi Oravec on one stage, raising money for charities such as

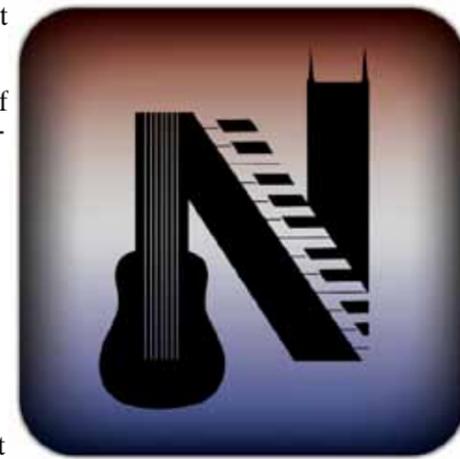
Operation Troop Aid or raising awareness for Childhood Cancer. On our website, we will have a calendar of charity events. Organizers are welcome to submit their events for inclusion. A list of charities, their websites and events will be included. We will also post new music videos."

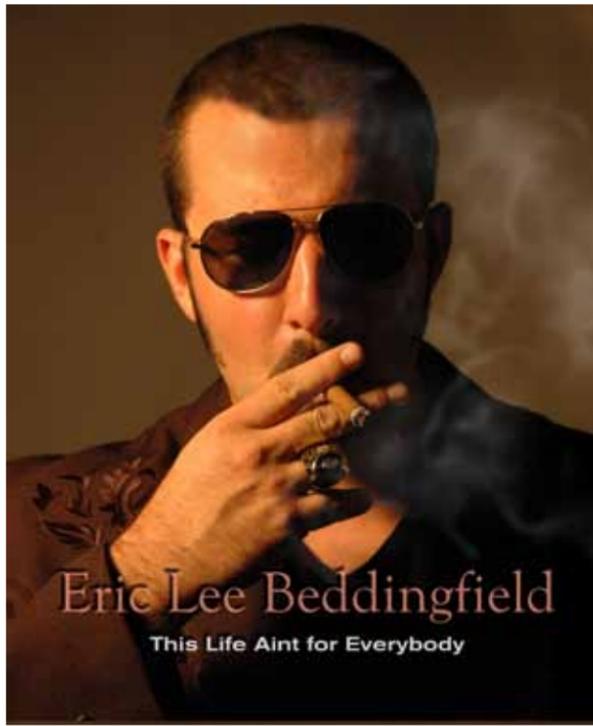
Anne Frank is quoted as saying 'No one has ever become poor by giving.' We encourage you to 'Give Back' daily. Be it a smile to a stranger, a hug to a friend or donating to a cause of your choice, it may not seem like a lot to you but you could make a difference in someone's life.

The Country Radio Seminar launch for the reborn NMG was timed for a reason. "It is one of the busiest times in the music industry in Nashville," Andrews says. "We want to be in front of as many people as possible and let everyone know we are here to stay, and make our mark as leaders in publicizing the Nashville music scene."

Nashville Music Guide is a tradition that started in 1995, and is proudly being carried on today.

Story By Phil Sweetland





## Eric Lee Beddingfield Up Close and Personal

and Eric learned the guitar didn't fall far from the stage when it came to the family's love of music.

When asked about plans for a new album, Eric commented it was already in the works with a possible release date of sometime in early spring of 2013.

I wondered what the difference is between Eric the performer and Eric the entertainer. He said complete opposites. When he's on tour and on stage he's more rebel-

lious and rowdy. He said he feels like a proud peacock strutting his feathers. He loves to entertain the fans and be able to just be himself on stage, play his kind of music and play it his way. But when he's home he's more grounded and tries to keep family life for his two boys as normal as possible - with family closeness and outings like hunting and fishing. One of Eric's favorite past times is spending hours with his kids and watching the History channel.

As we talked about music and personal interests I asked what artists I might be surprised to find in his own music collection and he said people might be surprised to know that he enjoys listening to legends such as Joe Cocker, Otis Redding, and James Brown.

We talked about which songs might be more special to him than others, he said that no matter how many songs he records "The Gospel According to Jones" will always be his favorite. His relationship with

George and his wife, Nancy, has grown into a close and special friendship and this song will be a life-long favorite.

The life of an entertainer can be very demanding and the long hours of recording and the days, weeks, and sometimes months away from home can be unforgiving. I asked Eric if he had any regrets about going into this career.

"Absolutely not," Eric stated, "There are down sides to any career. This isn't just a job or a career it's a lifestyle and to be honest if I wasn't doing this I would be miserable."

As our conversation began to wind down, I asked Eric on a lighter note what would he do if he walked into an elevator and there stood Hank Williams Sr.? What would he do to start a conversation? He said he would have to ask him to have a drink.

"Having a drink with the great Hank Williams Sr. would be like having a smoke with Willie, you just wouldn't be able to pass that up," said Eric. "They are infamous and what a memory that would make."

Find all the latest updates on Eric and his upcoming tour, album, and more at [www.elbrocks.com](http://www.elbrocks.com)

Story by Sherryl Craig

Country music artist Eric Lee Beddingfield is one of the industry's fastest rising artist's and 2012 was just the beginning. The new year looks to be even better and that is very apparent with Eric's album "This Life Ain't for Everybody" producing not one, but four chart making songs. Three of those songs hitting in the top twenty of the Music Row Charts and giving Eric the opportunity to walk the CMA Red Carpet this past year.

A Georgia boy, born and bred, Eric is no stranger to hard work and dedication whether it be to his career or to his family. He believes in solid family values and keeping the bonds strong through all generations.

Sidelined from a career in football during his days at Georgia Southern University, Eric already had music in his blood and he took up the guitar and placed the football on the shelf. His heart still belongs to his alma mater and he visits as often as he can. He was spotted with his family last Fall at the SEC Alabama-Georgia game.

Eric grew up on the music of the rebels and outlaws of Country music such as Waylon Jennings, George Jones, and Johnny Cash. His Dad was a musician

### SONGWRITERS' NIGHTS AND OPEN MICs

#### downtown

**HotelIndigo**  
301 Union St.  
[www.writeartist.com/indigo](http://www.writeartist.com/indigo)  
TyBrando's Songwriters Night  
Sunday Nights 6-10 pm  
Bookings: [tytubes@comcast.net](mailto:tytubes@comcast.net)

**Jack Scott Songwriters Night**  
Mon, Tues, and Thurs Nights  
Bookings: [mail@writeartist.com](mailto:mail@writeartist.com)

**Rooster's Barbeque**  
12th Ave N.  
Songwriters Night  
Sundays 6-9pm  
Host: Kelly Ann Hodkots

Mon-Tues 7-10pm  
Host: Lorna Flowers

Scheduled Rounds Only.  
Bookings: Contact Kelly or Lorna via Facebook, initially.

#### west end

**HotelIndigo**  
1719 West End Ave  
Lee Rascone Songwriters Night  
Wed, Thurs, and Fri 7pm  
Bookings: Drop by Venue and bring a CD

**Springwater**  
115 27th Ave N  
Bookings: 615-329-0345  
[springwaterbooking@gmail.com](mailto:springwaterbooking@gmail.com)

**Commodorebarandgrill**  
Debi Champion's Songwriter Nights  
Tues, Wed, Thurs, and Sun nights  
Writers Round at 6pm

Open Mic at 10:30pm  
Sign-up by 9pm  
Bookings: [championdebi@hotmail.com](mailto:championdebi@hotmail.com)

**Rick and Tammy's Songwriters night**  
Fri and Sat 6:30pm  
Bookings: Drop by Venue, bring CD

#### green hills

**BluebirdCafe**  
4104 Hillsboro Rd.  
Open Mic, Mondays 6-9pm  
Sign-up by 5:30pm

Writers Night, Sundays 8pm  
Schedule by audition only  
Early shows, Tuesday - Saturday  
By Audition  
Late Shows - Featured writers  
Bookings:  
[earlyshowbookings@bluebirdcafe.com](mailto:earlyshowbookings@bluebirdcafe.com)

#### eastnashville

**TheFamilyWash**  
[booking@familywash.com](mailto:booking@familywash.com)  
Tues-Sat 6pm-12am

**TheSSpot**  
1006 Forrest Ave  
[the5spotnashville@gmail.com](mailto:the5spotnashville@gmail.com)  
Tues, Thurs, Fri-Sunday

#### hermitage

**RustyNail**  
4054 Andrew Jackson Way  
Terri Jo Box Songwriters Night  
Tuesday 7-10pm  
Bookings: [tjbox@hotmail.com](mailto:tjbox@hotmail.com)

**Legendsbar&grill**  
3436 Lebanon Pk.  
Hit Song Casa Writers Night  
Tuesdays 7-9pm, Open Mic  
Host: Joyce Medlock

#### midtown

**BlueBar**  
1911 Broadway  
Sing For Your Supper  
Hosted by Bobby Pinson  
Wednesday Nights  
Booking: Terri  
[singforyoursupper@gmail.com](mailto:singforyoursupper@gmail.com)

**Alabama Line Songwriters Night**  
Tuesday Nights  
Contact: Ray Smitherman

#### madsen

**SamAshMusic**  
Writers Night/Open Mic  
Every Wed Night 7-8:30pm  
615-860-7475

#### demonbruen

**RedRooster**  
Songwriters Night  
Wed, 7-11pm  
Open Mic 10pm  
Sign up with host by 9pm  
**DanMcGuiness**  
1538 Demonbreun  
Terri Jo Box Girl's Night  
Mondays 7:30pm-Close  
Booking: [tjbox@hotmail.com](mailto:tjbox@hotmail.com)

#### ellistonplace

**CafeCoco**  
210 Louse Ave  
Tuesday, 7pm Open Mic  
**Exit/In**  
2209 Elliston Place  
Booking: Mail Press Kit or email  
<http://www.exitin.com/contact>

#### 8thavenuesouth

**TheBasement**  
[www.thebasementnashville.com](http://www.thebasementnashville.com)  
Booking: Mike Grimes  
[mike@slowbar.com](mailto:mike@slowbar.com)

**DouglasCorner**  
2106 8th Ave  
Rick Cambell Songwriters Night  
Open-Mic, Tuesday Nights  
8pm-close

Sign Up 1-6pm on Tues  
Call: 615-292-2530

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Mon-Sat 6pm, 8pm, and 10pm  
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# ARTISTS ON THE RISE

Scan the QR Code with your Smartphone to Learn More About What These Rising Artists Have To Offer.



## CP Kelley

The Life and Death struggle for Country Music Recording Artist CP Kelley as he releases his first single "A New Way to Fly".



## Liz Moriondo

Check out the, above all, authentic Liz Moriondo. She is a former college basketball player who gave up a scholarship to move to Nashville.



## Lance Chandler

Lance Chandler is *The Black Collar Outlaw*. You've never seen an outlaw quite like this! The BCO is coming and bringing a new style!



## Justin McBride

Check out Justin McBride's new album *Everybody Loves a Cowboy* and join his fan club today stay updated on everything Justin,



## Kassie Jordan

Kassie Jordan's debut album is rockin out independent radio with "I'll Show You Crazy" and "Timing," available on iTunes now!



## Josey Milner

New teen artist, Josey Milner's debut single, "Not Pretty Enough" is helping raise awareness for the anti-bullying cause. Take a listen!



## Celeste Kellogg

Meet 19 year old Singer/Songwriter/Actress Celeste Kellogg & download her new single "Broken Record" written by Celeste <http://celestekellogg.com>



## HanaLena

For a FREE download of a one of HanaLena's new songs, "Kiss Me in Mississippi," go to <http://www.hanalena.com>



## Cale Tyson

Cale Tyson stays true to his Texas roots with his classic country style. Look for his first full length album to be released in April 2013.



## Stephanie Layne

Receive a FREE download of singer/songwriter Stephanie Layne's newly released self-titled album produced by Nick Hoffman of The Farm.



## Tim Scott

With art and honesty, Tim Scott puts feelings into words & emotion into music. As a fiery performer, he serves up a dose of hell yeah and a real good ride.



## Richie Scholl

Richie Scholl's single, "Good Goodbye's" video, produced by Yoshie Lewis, is now available on YouTube. Check it out now!



## Billy Brown

Billy is a versatile musician who can play a variety of music styles from country to classical and everything in between.



## Savannah Lynne

Fourteen year-old Singer/Songwriter Savannah Lynne's latest hit single "In Disarray" now available for FREE. Scan the code for yours today.



## Steve Rivers

*Temptations* is the brand new album by Canadian recording artist, Steve Rivers. His new single "Mess It Up" is now available on iTunes.



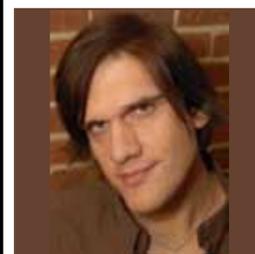
## Smoke 'n Guns

Check out the high-energy duo Smoke 'n Guns taking the country by storm with their powerful vocals and a live show you won't forget!



## DeWayne House

Check out singer/songwriter Dewayne House as he writes music straight from the heart and releases his new single "Product of A Working Man"



## Myron Todd

Check out this up and coming artist -Voice, Heart & Passion. Those are the three things you hear and feel from Myron's music.



## Danielle Peck

Check out Danielle Peck's latest video for the single "Impossible Dreams" and join her fan club today and stay updated.



## Jessica Ridley

Make no mistake about it – this girl is ready to roll into your town and leave a permanent mark on your heart! Ready or not – here she comes!



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- Get more and better gigs
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- ONLINE LIBRARY OF PRE-RECORDED WORKSHOPS
- HOW-TO ARTICLES, & PODCASTS
- INDUSTRY DISCOUNTS

**Indie Connect**

Since 2008, fans of live and original tunes in Nashville have taken comfort in knowing they could go to the Listening Room Cafe in Cummins Station to enjoy great food, drinks, and some of the best live music in town. However, the past few months that fix of good music had to be found at other venues. Founder and Owner of The Listening Room, Chris Blair, decided to close the doors at their 10th Avenue location in an effort to grow the business.

“The [Cummins Station] location was too big for just acoustic music, and too small for full bands,” said Chris Blair. “Cummins was great, but it was off the beaten path, we were kind of like the best kept secret in Nashville.”

Curious about the mastermind behind this great venue, I got the chance to have a one-on-one with Chris on the week of The Listening Room’s opening of their new location downtown. Chris moved to Nashville about ten years ago with the dream to pursue a career in singing and songwriting. While many people move to Nashville to aspire this dream, Chris was at an advantage because he was given an offer to move here. At the time, Chris was an artist with three songs already on the charts and getting radio airplay.

“I moved to Nashville, and fell in love with the songwriting aspect of the Nashville music scene,” stated Chris. In his time here, he had plenty of time to pay his dues and play the numerous acoustic venues around town. While heading back from a gig in Florida, Chris was thinking about this and his inability to choose one as a favorite. The reality of this contemplation was the opening of his own venue; The Listening Room.

“I did not want to be in the restaurant business. I wanted a good place for my friends to play. And there is no other place downtown for people to come and hear original music,” explained Chris.

Though the venue did not move very far from its old location, there is high expectations for success on Second Avenue. It would make it one of the few places downtown that has live music that is not predominantly cover tunes.



## A MUSIC VENUE Re-Opens at Its New SoBro Location

and other social media outlets; posting a new picture every week sharing the progress. It was a great way to create excitement and anticipation for the re-opening.

Opening night, The Listening Room entertained a packed house with talent ranging from up-and-comers to hit songwriters. Some of the performers that evening included, songwriter, Phil Barton (“A Woman Like You”, Lee Brice) and Jason Matthews (“Must Be Doing Something Right”, Billy Currington).

One favorite of many about The Listening Room, past and present, is the fact that it’s audiences always stay true to the name.

It’s a listening room and they come to listen. There is always such an amount of respect from the audience when someone is on stage performing -- whether its a seasoned songwriter or a young artists first time on stage. Downtown Nashville now has a new place for music lovers to enjoy a glass of wine and inhale the music.

The best kept secret of The Listening Room, won’t be secret for long.

The Listening Room is open 7 nights a week with live music scheduled every night and a kitchen with a Chef who prepares the best Contemporary Asian cuisine around.

Story By Sydney Robinson

“Eight blocks makes all the difference in the world,” said Chris, “About 90 percent of our audience at the old location was locals, and we want to expand that audience.”

Chris has an obviously passion for music, a good business mind set, and a heart for Nashville.

“I have hopes to keep the locals, but also bring the tourists to a nice place where they can eat, drink, and hear the greatest songwriters in the world.”

The new Listening Room Cafe kicked off its opening night Wednesday, January 23 opening their doors at 5:30pm. The venue has done a great job keeping its fans up-to-date on construction and the reopening plans on their Facebook page



# Producer Spotlight **Brandon Metcalf**

**Q:** How did you begin your producing career and what is the most important factor that got you where you are today?

*It’s so funny to think about how it all started! I’ve always loved all types of music but I was really big on underground hip-hop as a kid. My favorite was a group called Jurassic 5. I found them on the internet when they just had an EP out. I remember telling my mom and all my friends about them and wanted to scratch records like their DJ’s (Cut Chemist and NuMark). It wasn’t long after that they ended up getting a deal and had a single that went to radio. I loved trying to pick out what acts I thought would end up making it, and actually ended up finding a bunch online before they had singles on radio. This was back in the days of mp3.com which was an awesome place to discover new music. I had used savings from working my paper route to buy turntables and I’d get my mom to drive me to the record store so I could try to dig through crates and find cool underground records. I spent a couple years just practicing scratching, doing some competitions, then I started DJ’ing school dances, clubs, and weddings (which paid the best). I kept saving as much money as I could from DJ gigs, and eventually started investing in studio gear. I had no idea what I was doing, no formal training or anything, but I tried to read books and articles about microphone techniques, pro tools, etc and just started recording local acoustic projects at my parents house when I was 16. From there I ended up being able to sell off my DJ company and bought a house to build a new studio at. I just tried to keep learning and getting better and got to work with lots of awesome local/regional bands over a few years. When I felt like I was starting to plateau, I knew I wanted to make a change and start a new adventure, so I packed up the studio, left Seattle and headed to Nashville.*

**Q:** Why did you choose Nashville?

*I had the opportunity to work out here a few years ago and really fell in love with the music community and the way records are made here. I’ve been here for a couple months now and it’s been such an amazing opportunity for me to be surrounded by tons of people who are WAY more talented than me, it is ridiculous. It’s really helped me to keep learning and pushing to get better every single day. It also makes my job so much more fun to be surrounded by such amazing musicians, writ-*

*ers, and artists. There are all kinds of music here, not just country, and I love being able to switch it up and work in different genres all the time to keep things fresh. In addition to all that Nashville has to offer, it’s also just such a centrally located city, and since I do a lot of records for bands from all over the country, Nashville is pretty easy to get to from anywhere.*

**Q:** What other producers, songwriters and/or artists do you see as your primary inspirations?

*There are so many! It really varies depending on what genre I’m working in. When I was doing mostly Rock records I loved guys like Aaron Sprinkle, John Feldmann, Mark Trombino, Howard Benson, Chris Lorg Alge, etc. When it comes to Country, there are just so many great people but I’m definitely a big fan of Dann Huff.*

**Q:** Do you have a favorite musical project that you’ve worked on?

*I’m currently working with an artist called Secondhand Serenade and I’m really stoked with how this record is turning out. Other than that, there was a band I produced a few years ago that never got big, but that was probably my favorite album I’ve ever worked on. I thought they were gonna be huge, put my heart into that project, and then it just never really happened for them. It was a heartbreak, but I’ve learned it’s also part of the job.*

**Q:** What do you think is the biggest struggle as a producer?

*Balance. Being a Producer is so much more than just vibe, inspiration, and creativity. You have to work when it comes. That often means long hours, late nights, and other things in life getting kind of neglected. Thankfully I don’t have a family yet, or else I’d be a major deadbeat, but I’d love to have a family when the time is right. I can just see that it’s going to be a challenge to balance everything. I already struggle with it. I really don’t have much of a social life, and don’t care to at this point, because I’d rather be working in the studio than doing anything else. It’s fun to me. I also enjoy the business side of the industry, scouting new bands, doing artist development projects, keeping in touch with industry people – sometimes it’s hard to stay on*

*top of all that stuff when you’re really deep into different projects.*

**Q:** Is there an artist you want to work with that you have not yet had the opportunity to work with?

*Keith Urban! THAT would be awesome. Or Carrie Underwood, but I’d have a hard time focusing on work while I’m falling in love with her. Ha.*

**Q:** Do you have any advice for others who want to become music producers?

*Work hard. Be comfortable being uncomfortable. It’s really hard to make it these days, for everyone in the business - studios, bands, industry people, etc. Be willing to make sacrifices when you’re just starting out. Work a full time job to pay your bills and intern full time at the best company you can find. Be prepared to pay your dues and work for free. Those who are smart, who are willing to put in the hard work, and who make good decisions are the ones who will make it. And “making it” doesn’t necessarily mean being rich and famous. To me, if I can pay my bills and eventually provide for a family doing what I love.. well I think that’s successful in my book!*

**Q:** What do you like to do for fun outside of working on music?

*I love hanging out with family back in Seattle, watching movies, and wakeboarding.*

**Q:** If you had to pick one phrase/saying/lyric/idea that would define you, what would it be?

*“Be willing to be uncomfortable. Be comfortable being uncomfortable. It may get tough, but it’s a small price to pay for living a dream.”*

[www.brandonmetcalf.com](http://www.brandonmetcalf.com)



# Gone, But Not Forgotten

In March of 1963, the world lost Grand Ole Opry greats Cowboy Copas, Patsy Cline, and Hawkshaw Hawkins, along with their pilot, Randy Hughes. [Photos in order, top to bottom.]

Some of Country's biggest stars are coming out to honor three music icons who helped shape their careers, as well as numerous others, and who brought country music to mainstream America. Bill Anderson, Jean Shepard, Mandy Barnett, The Grascals and The American Three are among the celebrities set to perform at Gone But Not Forgotten Commemorative 50th Anniversary event to be held in Camden, Tenn.

"Patsy, Cowboy, and Hawkshaw were at the height of their careers when they died," says Mandy Barnett, who in addition to recording her own hits like, "Now That's Alright with Me," played Patsy Cline in the highly-acclaimed musical, "Always, Patsy Cline." "The 50th anniversary of that plane crash is the last significant milestone their families, friends and fans will have to honor them. We want to make this a very special occasion for them."

"That plane crash – 50 years ago – had a huge impact on the people of Camden," says Bill Kee, who heads up Benton County's Chamber of Commerce and is helping organize the event. "Nashville is only 95 miles from downtown Camden. People here feel like they lost their neighbors in the crash and we understand the significance of these artists to the history of American music."

Gone But Not Forgotten is a three-day event that kicks off Thursday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, in Camden, Ten-

nessee and runs through Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>. In addition to star-studded performances each night, it will also feature a museum-quality exhibit of historical artifacts, a celebrity panel that will reminisce about the lives and careers of Cline, Hawkins, and Copas, and a candlelight vigil to honor the memory of the four souls lost that tragic day in 1963.

The event will also honor Randy Hughes, the fourth person killed in the crash. Hughes was the pilot and Cline's manager. He was married to Kathy Copas, the daughter of Cowboy Copas.

The crash happened early on the morning of March 5, 1963. Cline, Hawkins, Copas and Hughes were flying home from Kansas City, where they had performed at a benefit concert. An investigation later determined that severe weather contributed to the crash.

All three artists were members of the Grand Ole Opry. Hawkshaw Hawkins is perhaps best known for the now country classic, "Lonesome 7-7203." He was married to fellow Opry member Jean Shepard at the time of his death. The couple had one son and Jean gave birth to their second son, Harold "Hawkshaw" Hawkins Jr., one month after the crash. Shepard will be part of the celebrity panel, discussing the lives and careers of her late husband, and the others who died with him. Their two sons are to be in attendance as well.

Cowboy Copas is revered for hits like "Alabam," "Tis Sweet to Be Remembered," and "I'm Waltzing with Tears in My Eyes."

Patsy Cline's more cosmopolitan sound brought her hits like "Crazy," "Walking After Midnight," and "I Fall to Pieces." She is also a member of the Country Music Hall of Fame.

In addition to managing Cline, Randy Hughes was a highly sought after recording session guitarist.

A Facebook page has been set up for fans at [www.facebook.com/remember1963](http://www.facebook.com/remember1963).

For a complete list of Gone But Not Forgotten performers and events, or to purchase tickets, visit <https://bentoncountycamden.com>

Photo Credit: Grand Ole Opry Archives  
Story By Claire Ratliff



## What does it mean to be an independent success story?

By dictionary definition, independence is seen as freedom from dependence on, or control by, another person, organization or state.

This is all well and good when you are ready to leave home and strike out on your own as an adult. However, as independent you'd like to think you are being out in the big wide world, living up to your obligations (hopefully), but it would appear that when it comes to attaining

success independence gives way to codependence all too often.

Codependency by dictionary definition is explained as the dependence of two people, groups or organisms, on each other, especially when this reinforces mutually harmful behavior patterns. Simply put; A needs B in order to function and the need runs so deep it actually doesn't allow things to function properly.

I'm sure you have heard the stories about an artist being discovered working in the mail room, or the hit song that was written on a napkin. Leaving your talent out in the cold hoping someone else will invite it in and warm it up is codependency in it's own right. If you had a big box beautifully wrapped and gifted to you would you leave it waiting in the corner hoping that one day someone would come in and open it up for you?

Whether you are a recording artist, a songwriter, a producer, an engineer, an entrepreneur or a visionary, if you are not claiming your talent and taking ownership -- doing what it takes to have a career; doing what you love because you believe someone else has to give you permission, or give you your big break -- you have given away your power and are leaving that big beautifully wrapped box in the corner.

The reality is, when you want to live outside the box you can't wait for someone else to offer you a better box; you have to take charge and actually follow through -- if it's in your heart to do so.

Having talent does not always mean having desire. Having desire does not always mean having talent. Loving what you do and being willing to show up makes the difference between the most gratifying life/career and just a hobby. Hobbies can be safe, but they are also expensive.

The most important part of the puzzle when it comes to being an independent success is that you are connected, motivated and inspired by your path. Don't settle for less than this or you'll never get close to your dreams.

One rule to remember: never compete with passion, even if they are less talented, educated or otherwise prepared. Passion will always win, so don't waste time doing what you think you are supposed to. It's better to find your passion and go for it.

Don't kid yourself by swearing you are passionate about your career and are willing to do what it takes and then rest your laurels with the excuse that you haven't gotten your big break yet. That is being codependent. You are depending on someone else, or an organization to make your dreams happen. It's a very dysfunctional state of being because you have surrendered to the whim of an industry that can't see the forest for the trees most of the time. If you aren't willing to stand out you will just be another tree.

Being an independent success story isn't easy. If it were, everybody would be doing it. There is more opportunity today than there ever has been for independent artists, entrepreneurs, visionaries and so on. With the global marketplace, the playing field is open to anyone who wants a piece of it and your dreams can be shared with the world in one simple click, if you dare.

The most beautiful thing about being an independent success story is that you can transform yourself as many times as you would like. You can pick your path, see where you end up and change your mind if you want to. True independence is living a life on your terms. It's your choice. That big beautifully wrapped box is waiting. What are you waiting for?

Just a thought...

Story By Deborah Bishop | Personal Development Performance Artist  
Inner Image Expert, Career Strategist | <http://www.deborahbishop.com>  
Nashville Chapter Coordinator | <http://www.songsalive.org>

# WE WERE COUNTRY, WHEN COUNTRY WASN'T COOL

The secret is out. Nashville is hip now. I know that because my television told me so. But to me, Nashville has always been cool. It's where I was born and raised. Where I spent my days and nights listening to music.

As a teenager we'd snag tickets and drive to Antioch to see the big names that rolled through Starwood Amphitheater and then sneak in a few nights later at The Bluebird for songwriter's night. Now, The Bluebird is hidden in the shadow of an Anthropologie and Fresh Market and Starwood was demolished in 2007. They claimed it was a 1st generation music venue. It was too old school, I guess. Nashville was where I'd spend many nights as a child with my family hearing bluegrass at The Station Inn, listening with leisure to Del McCoury or Alison Krauss and Union Station. Now, I'm not sure if I could even find its seedy brick building in the ramble of The Gulch, a colony of overpriced condos and country chic boutiques.

I remember a different Nashville. A place where, in high school, we would all flock to the riverfront to see the free summer concerts at Dancing in the District. We'd hardly give any mention that most of the bands and musicians serving backdrop for our typical Saturday night had sold out high price tickets in arenas and on tours in any other city. For us it was just another night listening to music. It was expected. It was Nashville. No band or singer intimidated any of us. They were our neighbors, our musical comrades. I mean, this isn't California, a true Nashvillian would never ask someone for an autograph (they'd just send their four year old daughter over for it). We were of a different breed, the personification of music snobbery. It wasn't on purpose but that's what happens when your friends after school garage band lands a record deal, or when you grow up spending summers swimming in a legendary guitar shaped pool. We could spot a fake country accent just about as quick as we could a Vince Gill harmony. Our music was better and we were in on the secret.

It seems now that Nashville is everywhere, in every magazine or as the new mailing address for a load of movie stars. Everyone is jumping on the Nashville tour bus so to speak, but those that were lucky enough to grow up here have always been Music City groupies. We've been there watching and listening. Just as we've watched waves of new residents come and go making the great music migration only to return home again heartbroken, we've watched our city's reputation grow from being just a corny place where country music is made, Nashvegas to Nashville and we've nodded and said "told you so!"

Our city has always been everywhere, just not the network television version. At least, it's always been everywhere for me. Its music would sneak up and surprise me from sea to shining sea. Even when I studied abroad in Florence, Italy my junior year of college, it was there with me. I'd walk the streets wearing my headphones and listen to my sister's latest mixed tape. A casserole, she'd call it, the classics mixed in with some fabulous undiscovered local band. When I'd cross the Ponte Vecchio, the familiar twangy intro of a Diamond Rio song would ring through my ears. I'd pause for a moment in the middle of the jewelry merchants and tourists, close my eyes and feel it. Nashville. Home.

As an 18 year old about to leave and run off to college out of state, I took a quick look below at the round bit of floor cut out from The Ryman, the mother church, as I walked across the stage of the Grand Ole Opry to receive my high school diploma. I glanced down and felt for just a moment the songs that reverberated the floorboards. No big deal, I'd be back soon, I thought. No need to be sad, Nashville would be here in four years when I returned. Not knowing that within three months I'd meet the man I would eventually marry, a Mississippi boy, and he'd somehow convince me to move further and further south. Not knowing that twenty-dollar covers would become normal downtown and that the meat and

three boardrooms dotting its streets would be replaced with Walgreens and Starbucks. If I had known that twelve years later I'd still be waiting for that magical bus to take me some four hundred miles back home, I would have gotten on my hands and knees and kissed the floor of that Opry stage.

Growing up, the Batman building was our compass. We were never lost with its giant spires guiding us north and south. Now I can hardly see it over the mass of the new Music City Center. Maybe that's why I don't rejoice in Nashville finally getting the recognition that it deserves. I'm like Starwood; at the age of thirty I'm too old school. Mostly it's because I don't want my hometown polished and shined, I want it worn in and scuffed up. I don't want its authenticity to be strangled by some ugly hipster bow tie with a matching cardigan or its soul to be squashed by a \$5,000 pair of cowboy boots bought in New York. It was amazing before Rolling Stone or Nicole Kidman, or GQ said it was. And when all the wannabees who can't even tune a D or pick a string move on to some other place in America, I know Nashville will still be here, cranking out dreams and heartbreak quicker than songs, just like it always has.

Until then, I'm a little comforted knowing that when I hear music, even the crappy kind, I can close my eyes and feel Starwood's steep grassy hill at my back, or smell popcorn and beer from a back table at The Station Inn, or feel the wind whipping off the Cumberland River downtown. I'll smile and thank my fairy godmothers Tammy and Patsy for filling every turn and corner of my life with music. And when I'm homesick, I won't turn on the TV or grab the latest issue of Rolling Stone. I'll listen to some Loretta or Merle and smile, knowing that I'm still in on the secret and feel it again. Home. Nashville.

Story by Sarah Stanton Smith  
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My father, Merle Kilgore, was a singer-songwriter and a member of the Songwriter's Hall of Fame. Dad wrote hundreds of songs; 11 of his songs sold over a million copies – one song was "Ring of Fire." He wrote the song with June Carter.

Merle also wrote a few songs for Lorne Greene of *Bonanza* fame. He wrote a number one song for Lorne called "The Man," which was recorded on the *Ringo* album. Dad and Lorne became good friends and Lorne asked dad to appear on his TV show, *Bonanza*.

Merle went on to do eight different *Bonanza* episodes. One day dad had Lorne Greene call our house from the set and I got to talk to him. I kept calling him 'Paw' like his boys would do on the show – dad got the biggest kick out of that. I also got to talk to Dan Blocker (Hoss Cartwright).

The next day I went to school and I told my Third Grade class that I had talked with the Cartwrights from *Bonanza*. My school teacher sent my mother a note home with me that day that said 'Her son had a big imagination.' Mother went to my teacher and told her that I was telling the truth – I guess in the 1960's it was just unheard of to speak with someone that famous in Hollywood on the phone in such a casual manner.

One Saturday morning we were watching TV and a Kentucky Fried Chicken commercial came on. In the commercial our Dad suddenly appeared and drove up in a beautiful brand new red Cadillac convertible with his 'Hollywood wife and three children' in the back seat. Colonel Sander's reached out of the drive through window and gave my dad a bucket of chicken, this was the first time the Colonel had introduced the Drive through Window for KFC. We didn't know what to think about our Dad with another family on screen buying chicken from the Colonel. As a kid we wondered why we weren't the family with Dad.

So many people would call our house to speak with my father, as kids when the phone rang our parents would always have us ask who was calling. I remember one phone call in particular...

"Hey dad," I said. "Some guy named Elvis wants to talk to you!"

From 1980 to 1986, I worked as a Magician for Rev. Jimmy Rogers Snow at the Grand Ole Opry every Friday night. Between the acts – usually the main Opry show and the Grand Ole Gospel



show - I would go out in front of the curtain and do about five minutes of magic and comedy for the audience. The best part of that gig was that I got to meet so many great Country stars like Roy Acuff and Minnie Pearl. Back stage there was always a party going on. It's not the same anymore; the stars get off the stage, head out to their tour bus, and are off to do another show.

I remember when I was a young boy going with my dad to the old Ryman Auditorium. Mr. Bell would tell me to watch out for the rats. I think he was amused by the look that it would bring to my face as I would keep my eyes peeled for them sneaking around. Mr. Bell said, "They like to eat the bubble gum under the seats at night." I never saw a rat, but I was always on the lookout. My dad managed Hank Williams Jr. for 38 years and they had a father-son/ best friend type of relationship.

It had been a few years since Hank Williams Jr. had played the Grand Ole Opry. I was there as Hank's guest and I remember what Roy Acuff said as Hank walked out on stage. "Hank, I worked with your daddy many years ago right here on this stage and seeing you here brings back a feeling I can't describe. Hank, do you still sing any of your dad's old songs?" Bocephus replied, "Yes I do but I've written a song that kind of explains it all." Roy asked him what the name of the song was and Hank went right into "Family Tradition." Hank got a standing ovation that night at the Opry.

My dad not only wrote, sang and performed but he loved to act. Merle did one of the very first Country Music videos; it was called "Five Card Stud." Look it up on YouTube. It's was filmed in the early sixties and it's very cool. Merle played in many movies including *WW* and the *Dixie Dance Queens*, (Burt Reynolds) "Nashville," and "Coal Miner's Daughter." Merle also played himself in the made for TV movie "Living Proof, The Hank Williams Jr. Story." In that movie - which is considered a cult classic that has been seen over and over by millions - Dad portrayed his life with Hank Jr. as they soared to the top in the Music Business.

Merle Kilgore had a wonderful career and is laid to rest next to his dear friend Johnny Cash at Memorial Gardens in Hendersonville, TN. To this day hundreds of friends, fans and tourist visit their grave sites each year. Looking back on our lives, nothing was normal. We lived from mountain tops to valley lows, but when I think about it, all I can say is "Growing up Kilgore" was a wonderful gift from God and I would not trade it for anything in the world.

Story By Stephen Merle Kilgore  
(SteveKilgoreNashville@yahoo.com)



# Courageous Preshias Truly Precious to Music Row

Preshias' story is a profile in Courage.

Preshias comes from the small town of Brownsville, Kentucky northeast of Bowling Green, and grew up in a musical family. A young Preshias, frequented Music Row with her mother often, testing the waters for what would be the beginning of a long journey.

Preshias went to Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green, where she won the university's History Department Prize. Despite this she ended up in a career that involved writing even though, as Preshias admits, grammar was never her strong suit.

"I love people so much, I didn't care if it was good grammar, I liked to write anyways" she says, smiling. None of her readers care either.

Preshias, whose full name is Preshias Tomes Harris, began her Nashville career as an intern with Jim Della Croce at BNA Records in the early 1990s.

She religiously studied Music Row's In Charge cover to cover - one of Preshias' great strengths is an unquenchable thirst for knowledge. One day Della Croce told her that a couple of RCA executives from New York -- Joe Galante and Randy Goodman -- were coming for a visit. That's when all of the hours of Preshias' studying paid off. She gave Della Croce remarkably, detailed profiles of both executives off the top of her head.

She also interned with Clint Higham, now the President of Morris Entertainment Group, whose clients include Kenny Chesney, Jake Owen and Martina McBride.

Preshias' monthly NMG column "Inside Track On Music Row" is one of the longest running columns in music city - at eighteen years this year - and has kept everyone from superstar artists to the most recent arrivals with a country dream informed and ahead of the game.

"Early in my career, Daryle Singletary was singing for tips," she recalls, "and a

core group of us kids in town, including Kenny Chesney, Big Kenny, Eric Heatherly, Tracy Lawrence, Darryl Worley, and Mindy McCready were running around to places like Barbara's, Broken Spoke and Silverado's -- I think the best part of interviewing is when you get them early in their careers, and get to watch them grow."

One of the most popular sections of Preshias's "Inside Track On Music Row" column is the section called "Who's Looking - Who's Cutting."

"I always tell the songwriters to do it correctly; ask permission to submit if that's required first," she says. "And I remind them to never put more than two songs on a CD." Less is More.

One time, former NMG editor Dan Wunsch cut the "Who's Looking - Who's Cutting" section of the column for space reasons. Preshias says that there was such a backlash from readers that it was never omitted again.

Among some of her favorite interviewees were Billy Don Burns, Mark Chesnutt, and Stella Parton.

Aside from her great accomplishments in the Music Industry, Preshias has battled cancer and numerous other medical hardships throughout her life.

A kidney transplant from her little sister Tishia in 1987 saved Preshias's life, but as a 2007 story in Y'all Magazine noted, that was only part of the story. After Preshias was on the ground doing CPR for 18 minutes trying to revive a man in full cardiac arrest, who had been involved in an critical health emergency on a rain-slicked Interstate-440 in 2003: "... It struck her: the gift of her sister's kidney had not only saved her life, it had saved the life of Gene Poston, the man who lay dying on that Interstate highway. It was a selfless act that later resulted in Preshias being awarded a US medal by the American Heart Association."

"I've had right at 70 surgeries," she said in an interview in mid-January. "What's kept me going, honestly, is Music Row - the people, the songwriters, all the folks that I work with."

And Music Row wouldn't be the same without her.

Some of Music Row's biggest names have gone out of their way to accommodate her. Randy Boudreaux, Wayne Perry, Longhorn waitresses and Erv Woolsey, raised enough money to build a wheelchair ramp so that during times when she was recovering from surgeries, she could still get around. Other had helped with house payments for Preshias during hard times, because of the overwhelming medical bill expenses. She truly is precious to everyone on Music Row - an establishment all her own full of strength and courage.



Clint Higham and Preshias at NATD 2012 Gala awards, Clint was honored for contribution to the Nashville Entertainment industry. Dale Morris took the stage to recall offering Clint Higham \$70 a week and a tank of gas when he first began work at Morris Artist Management. Higham, now President, oversees the roster including Kenny Chesney, Martina McBride, and Jake Owen. "All I ever wanted to do was work in the industry, I don't know how to do anything else," said Higham, who corrected Morris, saying his starting compensation was only a tank of gas.



## Kindred Spirits Living on the Edge Eden's Edge Gives Credit to NSAI



When it comes to making great music, kindred spirits somehow seem to find each other and such is the case with Edens Edge. Three talented young musicians from Arkansas -- Hannah Blaylock, Dean Berner, and Cherrill Green -- make their debut on Big Machine Records with a vibrant sound that honors country music's roots while creatively pushing the envelope with their seasoned musicianship, dazzling harmonies and insightful songwriting.

With one listen to Edens Edge, it's obvious the trio has forged a unique sound shaped by their individual influences and anchored in their own distinctive gifts. Each grew up in rural Arkansas where farming, faith and family provided a firm foundation and offered a springboard for their musical aspirations.

"I had grown up singing in church and school talent shows," says lead vocalist Hannah. "I'd always known that I wanted to be a singer. I didn't know exactly how to go about making that happen, but my parents always knew that that was my true passion and they wanted to nurture that as much as possible."

By the time she was in her teens, Hannah was singing in a band with her family and Steve Smith, a local financial planner with a penchant for writing songs. It was Smith who recruited Dean to join the group. "He taught me my first chords on guitar and he was also my soccer coach when I was seven," says Dean, who plays guitar, dobro and contributes harmony vocals. "I grew up listening to a pretty eclectic mix of music from Johnny Cash to Crystal Gayle. My dad was a fan of Crystal and he had her tapes in the car. I also listened to the Beatles and other great songwriters like Billy Joel, Paul Simon and The Eagles. Then I got into rock music when I was a teenager and listened to Led Zeppelin and Jimi Hendrix. I was learning to play guitar, so that was a big thing for me just listening to great guitar

players. Eric Clapton was also another big influence."

Dean and Cherrill had played music together a few times during their college days, and a month after Dean joined Hannah's group, they recruited Cherrill. "We needed another mandolin player and singer so we found Cherrill," says Hannah. "She is just amazing. She's this incredible instrumentalist and she could follow me like crazy with harmonies because she'd grown up her whole life singing in a family bluegrass band."

Cherrill recalls listening to some classic country and a little Beatles growing up, but her world was dominated by bluegrass. "I listened to Alison Krauss, Tony Rice and Flatt and Scruggs, but then my mom listened to a lot of The Judds, Reba, George Strait, Dolly Parton and Loretta Lynn," says Cherrill, who sings and plays mandolin, banjo and guitar. "We played a lot of festivals. At bluegrass festivals you just play all the time. We'd jam till really late at night and we were constantly around so many good musicians. When you are at those things, especially as a kid, musicians want to show you stuff so you are constantly learning. It's basically like taking lessons from professionals all the time."

After Cherrill, Dean and Hannah joined to form Edens Edge, the group steadily gained popularity, touring extensively around the region and winning area talent competitions. An entry in the 2006 CMT/NSAI Songwriter's contest caught the attention of Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame member Kye Fleming, known for penning such classic hits as Barbara Mandrell's "I Was Country When Country Wasn't Cool," Sylvia's "Nobody," Ronnie Milsap's "Smoky Mountain Rain." "Kye contacted us and found out that we were 40 miles down the road from where she grew up in Fort Smith," Hannah says of their Arkansas connection. She encouraged the young trio to move to Nashville. They made the leap in 2007 and began working with Fleming to hone their unique sound.

When Fleming was inducted into the Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame last year, Edens Edge was asked to perform a

medley of her hits at the induction ceremony. Toby Keith, Taylor Swift and the late Tammy Wynette were among the other honorees during the gala and the room was filled with Music City's most powerful movers and shakers. "That night we got a record deal offer from Big Machine," says Hannah.

Working with producer Mark Bright (Carrie Underwood, Rascal Flatts) the trio crafted a stellar debut that showcases their strengths as musicians as well as their compelling vocal blend. "The cool thing about the three of us is Cherrill has a classic country along with bluegrass background. Dean has the rock, blues and country background and then I have more the folk/americana/ country background," Hannah says. "We've all kind of taken our favorite sounds from every genre and just kind of come up with our own formula."

Cherrill, the Magazine, AR native, says Bright immediately caught their vision for the Edens Edge sound. "We felt he would bring creatively to the table what we wanted," she says. "It's a real challenge to take what we do acoustically as a trio, to add a band to it and yet keep the band from overpowering the acoustic instruments and vocal blend. It's unique, and we needed a producer that understood our vision for the sound and could help us achieve that."

They also flex their muscles as songwriters, co-writing with such proven hitmakers as Vince Melamed, Catt Gravitt and Danny Myrick. Hannah co-wrote the trio's first single, "Amen" drawing from her rural experiences. "We all grew up in small towns and in Arkansas there is a church on every corner," Hannah says. "Amen" is a fresh depiction of a small town love story. Everybody knows everybody else and gossip gets around and it paints a picture of that small town where two people fall in love."

To Read The Full Article Visit  
NashvilleMusicGuide.com's  
NSAI Feature Section

**About NSAI:** The Nashville Songwriters Association International (NSAI) is the world's largest non-for-profit songwriters trade organizations. Established in 1967, the membership of more than 5,000 spans the United States and five foreign countries. For more than 40 years, NSAI has been dedicated to protecting the rights of and serving aspiring and professional songwriters in all genres of music. For more information, visit [nashvillesongwriters.com](http://nashvillesongwriters.com)

# INSIDE TRACK ON MUSIC ROW

BY PRESHIAS HARRIS

*If I am Chasing Your Dream Faster Than You,  
Then I Am In The Wrong Dream!*

## ARTIST NEWS:

Tim McGraw and Faith Hill are continuing their show, "Soul-2Soul," at The Venetian in Las Vegas through April 2013. Speaking of another "Country Couple," Country star Brantley Gilbert received the best gift ever in the form of an enthusiastic "Yes!" when girlfriend, One Tree Hill actress and country singer Jana Kramer, accepted his proposal of marriage in Nashville on Sunday, his 28th birthday. The couple, who are both nominated in the best new vocalist categories at this year's ACM awards have been dating about a year. Gilbert proposed in Nashville at the historic Ryman Auditorium Theater, which he rented out for the day. It is also the site of the former Grand Ole Opry stage, where iconic country couple Johnny Cash and June Carter met... On February 5th, Tim McGraw will release his first album on Big Machine Records, TWO LANES OF FREEDOM. The album follows his record-shattering career, selling over 40 million albums and dominating the charts with 32 No. one singles. Since the release of his debut album in 1993, he has won three GRAMMY's, 14 ACM Awards, 12 CMA Awards, and 10 AMA's, while simultaneously maintaining a parallel career as a successful actor in such films as the Oscar nominated The Blind Side, Country Strong and Friday Night Lights—as well as hosting Saturday Night Live, a rare honor for a singer in any genre.

## BOOKING NEWS:

Amber Hayes has signed as exclusively represented by The Songwriter Agency for Casinos, Fairs, Festivals, Private/Corporate, PAC's, tour support. Here's a quote from Billboard about Amber Hayes: "Few country newcomers have as much reverence for the format's past - as well as an optimistic eye to the future as Hayes. Her latest EP, "Any Day Is A Good Day," shows tremendous growth as not only an artist, but as a writer as well. Look for big things from this Oklahoma native in 2013." [thesongwriteragency.com](http://thesongwriteragency.com).

## CD NEWS & RELEASES:

The Mavericks have moved the release of IN TIME, their first studio album in ten years, to February 26, 2013. The Grammy-winning group recently returned from performing on the Sandy Beaches Cruise for a show at The Grand Ole Opry before heading overseas to perform in Glasgow, Scotland. A pre-release

concert is set for February 25 at the Bowery Ballroom in New York City. More at [themavericksband.com](http://themavericksband.com).

## CHARITY NEWS:

RCA's Miranda Lambert has joined the Pedigree Feeding Project to help supply 100 percent of the dog food needs for select shelters. The project runs now through Feb. 28 and asks people to nominate their local shelter via Facebook. [mirandalambert.com](http://mirandalambert.com)

## CRACKER BARREL NEWS:

Cracker Barrel Old Country Store® celebrated a No. 1 Billboard debut with their exclusive music program's latest release, Timeless Hits From The Past Bluegrass, recorded by legendary bluegrass band, Russell Moore & IIIrd Tyme Out. The album, made up of classic country hits re-recorded in the band's signature bluegrass style, gives a modern flare to the popular music originally recorded by Elvis, Merle Haggard, Willie Nelson, and Tammy Wynette, among others. The classic CD is available now at all Cracker Barrel Old Country Store locations as well as [crackerbarrel.com](http://crackerbarrel.com), iTunes and Amazon.com. The album debuted atop Billboard Top Current Bluegrass Albums chart. Info on Timeless Hits From The Past Bluegrass and other music releases from Cracker Barrel Old Country Store, visit [www.crackerbarrel.com](http://www.crackerbarrel.com).

## CRS NEWS:

Bob Romeo has been selected as the 2013 CRS President's Award recipient. "Bob Romeo truly represents the spirit of the President's Award," says CRS President Mike Culotta. Culotta will present the award to Romeo during the Country Radio Hall of Fame Dinner and Awards ceremony Tuesday, February 27 at the Nashville Convention Center. Country Radio Seminar is schedule for Feb 27, 28 and March 1st. Visit [www.crb.org](http://www.crb.org).

## INDUSTRY NEWS:

Country Aircheck VP/Editorial Chuck Aly has been elevated to the newly created post of VP/GM for the Country radio and music industry trade publication. "Chuck has been my right hand since joining me at Radio & Records in 2003, and has certainly contributed heavily to the success of Country Aircheck," says Publisher/CEO Lon Helton. Along with Helton and former VP/Sales & Marketing Mary Forest Findley, Aly helped launch the company in August 2006. Prior to Country Aircheck, Aly spent three years at R&R and has previous stops at Music Row and Shock Ink/Force.

## LABEL NEWS:

**Capitol Records** - GRAMMY winning trio Lady Antebellum is hitting the street with "Downtown" today, the lead single off their upcoming fourth studio album. The album's first track is available now via Play MPE. "There's some sass to this track that makes it really fun to sing...it's definitely a roll down the windows and bob your head kind of thing," said Lady A's Hillary Scott. The group also announced this week that they will collaborate with Fleetwood Mac's Stevie Nicks for an all new CMT CROSSROADS episode set to tape next week in Los Angeles and air later this year. Lady A's previous three studio

albums have paved the way for "Downtown," which follows over 11 million album sales, six career No. one hits and seven GRAMMY awards. Last year alone, more than one million fans in over 11 countries welcomed the ACM and CMA award-winning trio on their headlining tour. Info on new music and additional upcoming performances, at [ladyantebellum.com](http://ladyantebellum.com)

**Curb Records** - Lee Brice has received a nomination for "New Male Vocalist" by The Academy of Country Music. For the fifth year in a row, fans can voice their choice at [VoteACM.com](http://VoteACM.com) or [GACTV.com/ACM](http://GACTV.com/ACM). Lee's current single, "I Drive Your Truck," is his fastest charting single to date, landing in Billboard's Top 30 after only two weeks of airplay. Lee's brother, Lewis, plays the lead role in the video for the song. The single follows his two consecutive platinum number one hits, "A Woman Like You" and "Hard 2 Love", both of which are included on his current sophomore release HARD 2 LOVE. More info at [www.leebrice.com](http://www.leebrice.com)

**Stoney Creek Records** - Randy Houser reached a new career high with his current single, "How Country Feels," as it claimed the No. 1 spot on the Mediabase/Country Aircheck/USA Today and BDS/Billboard country singles charts the same week his third studio album hit shelves. The single was featured as the first song to be played on New York City's newest country music station, Nash FM 94-7, which gave New Yorkers their first taste of terrestrial country radio in 17 years. Houser's first album on his new label, Stoney Creek Records, is titled 'HOW COUNTRY FEELS.' Please visit [randyhouser.com](http://randyhouser.com) and follow Houser on Twitter and Facebook.

## MEDIA NEWS:

As anticipation builds for their Republic Nashville release on April 2, The Band Perry reaches two major RIAA sales accolades. The sophomore project's lead single, "Better Dig Two," has been certified GOLD – selling over 700,000 – and marks their fastest-rising single to date at Country radio, Top 10-and-climbing. Additionally, "You Lie" – from their platinum-plus-selling, self-titled debut album – has now sold over one million copies, achieving PLATINUM status. Throughout the spring, the family band will perform as special guests on Rascal Flatts' CHANGED TOUR. Siblings Kimberly, Reid and Neil Perry quickly catapulted into the mainstream with the success of their Quadruple-Platinum, breakout hit "If I Die Young." For more on The Band Perry, visit [thebandperry.com](http://thebandperry.com) and "join the family" at [thefansperry.com](http://thefansperry.com).

## MUSIC NEWS:

Can we say Red & White and platinum all over again like "Four Times?" The RIAA has issued quadruple platinum certification for Taylor Swift's RED. She is the first artist since the Beatles to spend six or more weeks at No. 1 on the overall albums chart with three consecutive releases.

## NASHVILLE SONGWRITERS ASSOCIATION NEWS (NSAI):

NSAI's 21st Annual Tin Pan South Songwriters Festival will be April 2-6, 2013, Nashville, TN. Also remember to sign up for SPRING TRAINING 2013! April 5-6 at the Scarritt Bennett Center, in Nashville. This 2-day interactive seminar combines the best of large and small group settings. Professional songwriter panels, powerhouse educational segments – not to mention the ever-popular publisher break-out sessions – are all designed to give you a crash course in the craft and business of songwriting. More info at [nashvillesongwriters.com](http://nashvillesongwriters.com). PS: The 2013 festival schedule will be released on Tuesday, March 5th 2013.

## TOUR NEWS:

Jason Aldean added Madison Square Garden to the list of iconic venues to sell out in just minutes on his 2013 NIGHT TRAIN Tour. Every ticket to his first-ever show at the New York City staple was picked up in ten minutes for the March 2 stop. Jake Owen and Thomas Rhett will open the tour which also includes sold out shows at the University of Georgia's Sanford Stadium on April 13th. Additionally, Aldean has received platinum certification for his number one single "Take A Little Ride," the first single off the NIGHT TRAIN album. For a list of appearances visit [jasonaldean.com](http://jasonaldean.com)... After more than 50 years on the road, George Jones will stage his final tour next year. "It is tough to stop doing what I love, but the time has come," he says. The Hall of Famer has decided he is ready to slow down and spend more time with his family. Titled The Grand Tour, the trek will hit approximately 60 cities for 2013... Capitol's Luke Bryan has sold out the first leg of his Dirt Road Diaries Tour and will add a second leg beginning May 17 in Virginia Beach, VA. The tour will continue with support from Republic Nashville's Florida Georgia Line and Stoney Creek's Thompson Square.

## TV NEWS:

Congrats to my friend Michael Ray, on his win on The Next. Michael was John Rich's contestant. The show followed Rich, Joe Jonas, Gloria Estefan and Nelly as they lived with a local artist for 72 hours and developed their talent for a showcase at the House of Blues. Rich helped Ray work up Eric Church's "Springsteen." Michael has inked his first record deal and is "song" writing his little behind off!

## WWWESITES TO CHECK OUT

[www.morganhillmusic.com](http://www.morganhillmusic.com)  
[www.jeremyparsonsmusic.com](http://www.jeremyparsonsmusic.com) | [www.crb.org](http://www.crb.org)  
[www.borrowedbluemusic.com](http://www.borrowedbluemusic.com) | [www.pollstar.com](http://www.pollstar.com)  
[www.nashvillemusicguide.com](http://www.nashvillemusicguide.com)

## WHO'S LOOKING \* WHO'S CUTTING

Alabama, Lindsey Harding, Danica Honeycutt, Kelli Pickler and Craig Morgan.

# Parmalee Keeps On Pluggin'

written by Kryz Midgett

"Keep on pluggin'! That's what my dad used to say. And that is one thing we always did. We kept pluggin'. We have been through so much in the past eleven years with each other and stuck it out. We never stopped and we have all had this direction. He would always say 'Just keep doin' what you are doin' and keep on pluggin'! So we keep on that path," says Matt Thomas of Parmalee.

Parmalee has been 'doin' what they are doin' together since 2001. Matt plays guitar and sings lead vocals, his brother Scott Thomas, plays drums, their cousin, Barry Knox plays bass and sings backing vocals and their longtime friend, Josh McSwain plays guitar and keyboard.

His dad (Jerry Thomas) would be proud to see where that advice has taken them. Despite the many setbacks, loss and a near-fatal shooting, Parmalee has kept

moving forward and is stronger than ever.

'Musta Had A Good Time' was their first single on the Stoney Creek Records label. It was a huge success and garnered the attention of Sirius XM. They released the second single 'Carolina' on February 4th and promoted it by doing three shows coast to coast in one day, broadcast by The Highway on Sirius XM.

On January 25th, the band flew into Raleigh, North Carolina and performed a show at 12:05 am, then flew to New York City to do a show at 10:00 am at Sirius XM's Studio, followed by a flight to San Jose, California for a show at 10:30 pm. They flew 3500 miles in 24 hours.

"It was a great weekend all the way around. There was so much interaction with our fans, The Highway broadcast all three shows, Storme Warren went with

us. We had a sound crew, and a team filming the whole thing. It was great, we were blessed with good weather, easy flights, no delays, no lay-overs. There were 14 people with us the whole time, they did a great job organizing this whole thing. It ran smoothly," says Matt.

'Carolina' was written in 2007. It is about home, relationships and how your loved ones make you feel when you are with them. They are all from Carolina and so that is 'home'. Matt says, "It is a good representation all the way around, of the band and of us, as people."

'Carolina' has a completely different feel than their first release. "Musta Had A Good Time' is a feel-good party song that many people can relate to, even if they won't admit it.

For more on Parmalee, go to [www.parmalee.com](http://www.parmalee.com).



According to Lynch, it was about a five-hour co-write. "We knew we had a really special song." 'Cowboys and Angels' debuted high in the charts and hit Number 1. Since the release, Lynch has sold nearly one million downloads of the debut single and has over 5 million views on YouTube and VEVO. Plus, it was named as one

## Does Dustin Lynch Crank Your Tractor?

written by Rick Amburgey and Kryz Midgett

Dustin Lynch knows country music is all about great songs. When he moved to Nashville in 2003, he started going to as many songwriter's nights as he could and listened intently to the stories.

He spent a lot of time at the legendary Bluebird Café and "studied" the works of great songwriters such as Don Schlitz and Paul Overstreet. Given his love for songwriters, it isn't particularly surprising that he considers himself a songwriter first.

Now, Lynch is an artist on Broken Bow Records and co-wrote his first hit single, "Cowboys and Angels."

His second song from the debut album is 'She Cranks My Tractor.' It is quickly rising on the charts.

He said 'Cowboys and Angels' was his first co-write with Tim Nichols and Josh Leo. Lynch admitted that he was "freaked out to get to meet them."

Songwriters often take ideas to a writer's meeting and share those ideas with co-writers to try to get a song started. Ironically, both Lynch and Nichols had written down the same idea – "Cowboys and Angels" – and Lynch says both men had been holding on to the idea for a while. He saw that as a sign that the song needed to be written.

of Billboard's Top 5 Country Songs of 2012. Lynch was named one of Billboard's "Most Anticipated Debuts of 2012," People Country's "Fresh Faces," Country Weekly's "Ones to Watch in 2012," he has been profiled as a USA Today "On the Verge" artist, and was the only solo male artist on Nashville Lifestyles' 2012 "Hot List."

People magazine recently called Lynch's #1 self-titled album "one of the year's best debuts." Lynch is the only new male Country artist to earn a #1 debut album in 2012.

Lynch was influenced by Alan Jackson, Garth Brooks and Clint Black and that can be heard in his older Country sound. He is a Tennessee boy, born and raised in Tullahoma. His music has deep, emotional vocals, and the lyrics that are expected of growing up in his small hometown.

As far as charity involvement, he, along with many artists in Country music, works with St. Jude's Children's Hospital.

Lynch said he had the opportunity to participate in St. Jude's Country Cares. "That was an awesome experience and something I want to continue to be a part of," he said.

For more information on Dustin Lynch, visit: [www.dustinlynchmusic.com](http://www.dustinlynchmusic.com)

## Tobacco Rd Band featuring Eric Durrance, Now “That’s Country”

Parties, bonfires and hanging in the country; that is what teenagers would do on Tobacco Road in Tallahassee, Florida. Who knew it would be an inspiration to musicians down the road?

Not only is said road mentioned in the hit song performed by Jake Owen; namely, “Eight Second Ride,” but a Tallahassee-based band goes by the same name. The members of Tobacco Rd Band spent their teen years at those bonfires and parties on that road.

Eric Durrance, who penned “Eight Second Ride” with Owen, formed his Tobacco Rd Band with Lax Vance just three years ago. TRB’s creation came after Durrance had his promising solo career take a downturn for reasons outside his control. In response, he returned home, to Florida, from Nashville.

“After the CMT Tour in 2008, the label that I was with kinda dissolved, like a lot of labels have been doing lately. When that happened, I was kinda stuck making a big decision – whether I would stay in Nashville and start all over or come back home, take a break, try to get back to my roots, think about everything and chill out,” Durrance said. “I had been on that label for 10 years. It was a whirlwind of career changes, style changes, growing myself as a songwriter. It was a very educational 10 years and it was tough.”

As for his decision to stay or go, “My gut told me to go home,” Durrance continued. “I did, and literally the next day, I ran into Lax Vance. He was shocked to

see me back in Tallahassee. We got to talking and he told me he hadn’t played his guitar in over two years. He was always one of the guys that I looked up to when I was just getting started. He was the best guitar player in town. I couldn’t believe that he hadn’t played in two years, so I automatically invited him to come jam. So a week later, we had the acoustics out and were writing songs for the Tobacco Rd Band. That is how that was born.”

Durrance and Vance became an acoustic duet, then added Aaron Halford on bass and Joe Markham on drums. Durrance described the first time they played together as the perfect fit. He said the quartet automatically connected and had a chemistry that fans gravitate toward. Having grown up together, they had watched each other perform in different bands and had a mutual respect for one another’s talents. This band, Durrance said, has brought his career full circle.

Recently, TRB released, to radio and on iTunes, the band’s newest single, “That’s Country.” The single is a collaboration with Average Joes Entertainment artist Colt Ford. The inspiration for the song came from an event called a *mudbog*, where Tobacco Rd Band performed.

“We had never played mudbogs before. We were blown away with the thousands of people with trucks who were out doing this mudbog all weekend long,” Durrance said. “So we played a show there and it inspired me to write ‘That’s Coun-

try.’ We came home and I sat down to write that song. This just fits these people and they’ve had us back twice.

“Colt did the ‘Muddy Christmas’ song, we were thinking if we could get Colt to sing on this, it will be amazing,” he added. “It fit like a glove. We sent the song to Average Joes thinking we’d never hear back, and they emailed us back and loved it.”

From there, Durrance was asked to come to the studio and cut his vocals with Ford, who had written his portion, and Durrance described it as “amazing.”

Coming from a musical family, it is no surprise the direction that Durrance’s life is taking him. His grandfather sang gospel and the traditional Hank Sr.-style country. And although he passed away last year, Durrance said he got a lot of his musical influences from both his late grandfather and from his own mother.

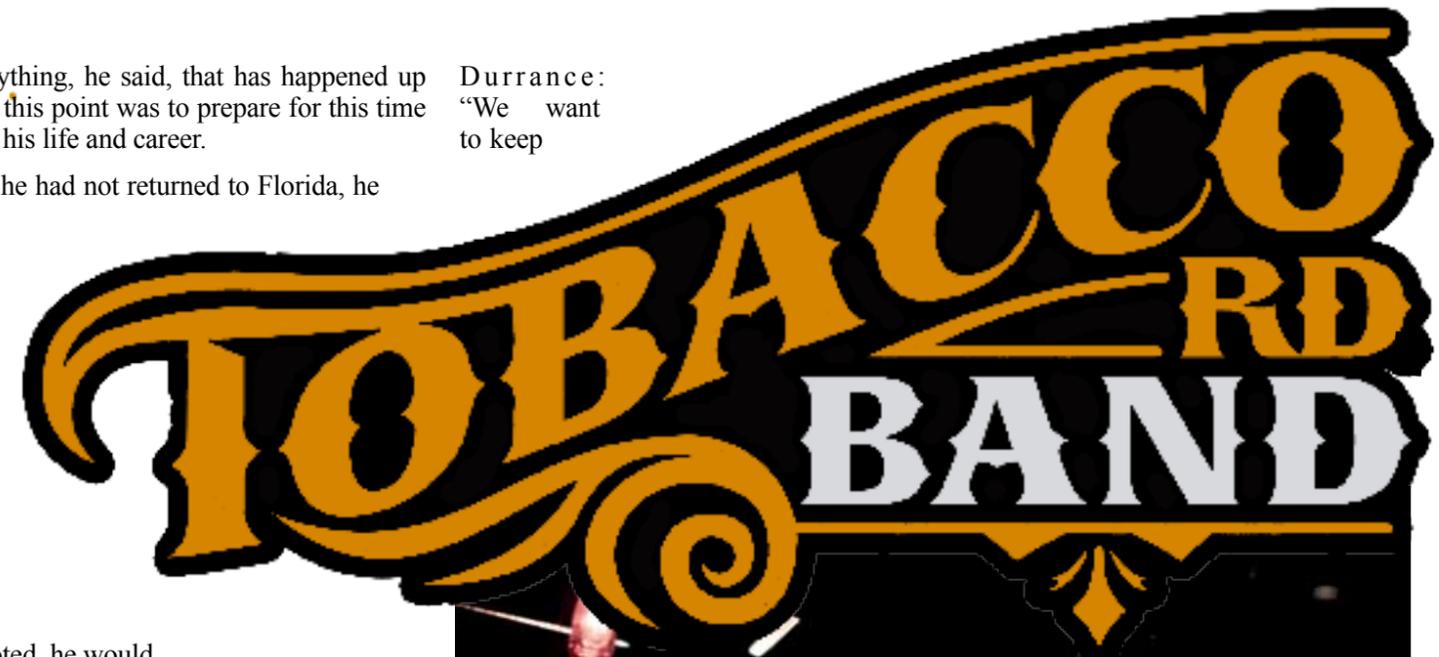
As for how Durrance met hit-maker Jake Owen, in 2005 he was just off of a tour and heard Owen singing cover songs in a bar in Tallahassee. He approached Jake and said that he liked his voice, and that he was welcome to come to his studio. Owen took him up on that and they started writing together. Just before Owen moved to Nashville, they wrote “Eight Second Ride.”

These days, being back in Tallahassee, with this TRB and their newly released “That’s Country” song is exactly where Durrance feels he is supposed to be. Ev-

erything, he said, that has happened up to this point was to prepare for this time in his life and career.

If he had not returned to Florida, he

Durrance: “We want to keep



noted, he would not have reconciled with a previous girlfriend, who is now his wife, and together they are parents to a daughter, who is nearly 2 and the inspiration for many songs he has written.

Durrance’s wife is also credited for inspiring Tobacco Rd’s most-requested and most-downloaded song, “BOOM.”

“I wrote ‘BOOM’ for my wife before we got married. I kept writing a lot of ballads and she came home one day and said, ‘You need to write something upbeat because I am tired of all these slow sad songs.’ Later that night, I wrote that song, put a demo together and she loved it. It is the No. 1 most-requested song we play. Now she says she doesn’t want to hear another song about tailgates and trucks,” Durrance said, laughing.

Beyond, singing and writing, Durrance is also producing other bands on the TRB’s new label, Big Southern Entertainment. They keep everything in-house and have released “That’s Country” on their own, with Larry Pareigis and Nine North Records overseeing radio promotion.

“Be sure to request it on your local stations,” Durrance said. “We are already on a few stations, including The Twister/106.1-FM in Tulsa and The Wolf/103.1 FM in Tallahassee,” the latter of which “was the first station to play us a couple years ago.”

“Simple Man” is the song that would describe Tobacco Rd Band best. They play that song at the end of every show. Says



this generation listening to those lyrics. Several of the kids have never heard that song. They hear it and then they get it and we can pass along the message.”

The charities TRB supports the most are Children’s Miracle Network, H2 Outdoors (their goal is to get kids who are less fortunate outdoors, fishing, etc.) and Wounded Warriors. Plus, they will soon start working with Operation Troop Aid.

For more information on Durrance and Tobacco Rd Band, including show dates and music updates, please visit the act’s official website at [www.tobaccordband.com](http://www.tobaccordband.com).

Story By Kryss Midgett

Photo Credit: Missy Briggs / Brainchild Fotografi





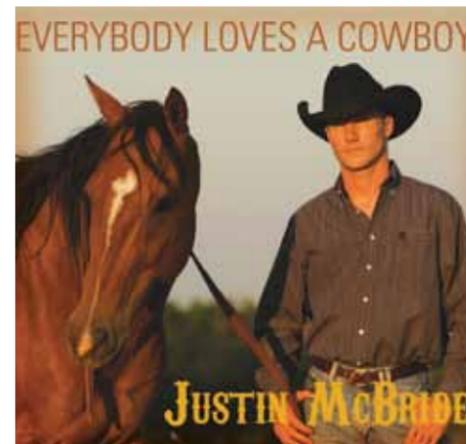
## VOLUME TWO IS HERE!

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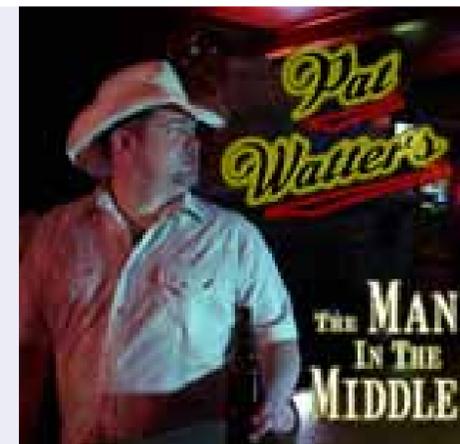


**Artist:** Justin McBride  
**Song:** Everybody Loves a Cowboy  
**Time:** 3:26  
**Label:** Big Buck Records  
**MGMT:** Patterson Management

Writers: Phil O'Donnell, Jeremy Spillman & Ash Bowers  
Publishers: HoriPro Entertainment Group  
Producer: Tim and Darla Patterson

Justin McBride is a former professional bull rider on the PBR's Built Ford Tough Series Tour. He is a two-time PBR World Champion (2005 and 2007), has a record 32 career wins, and was the first professional bull rider to earn more than \$5 million in the course of his career. He is a Country music singer and is also one of the color commentators of the Built Ford Tough Series telecasts on CBS Sports Network and NBC Sports Network. In 2007, McBride started a career as a Country music singer. Just a week before the 2007 PBR Finals, he released his debut album, *Don't Let Go*. On August 14, 2009, he performed at the Grand Ole Opry. On October 19, 2010, McBride released his first live CD/DVD, *Live at Billy Bob's Texas*, which included the single "Tonight Ain't the Day". In October 2012, McBride released his second studio album, *Everybody Loves a Cowboy* with Big Buck Records. "Everybody Loves a Cowboy" is also the first single to be released to radio.

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.Youtube.com/channel/HC1z2d1vRg1GU



**Artist:** The Pat Watters Band  
**Song:** All Night, One Day  
**Time:** 3:22  
**Label:** Independent  
**MGMT:** Pat Watters

Writers: Pat Watters (BMI)  
Producer: Billy Hurst and Pat Watters

Five uniquely individual musicians, hell bent on carrying the flag together for a cause they believe in; the Wisconsin Country Music Movement. They aren't waiting to be discovered. They aren't trying to copy a sound; and they aren't trying to be anyone else. They're paving their own way and making their own mark on a mission to develop and amplify a new voice in Country music. A voice that represents the Wisconsin lifestyle. Since 2008, they've taken that mission on the road throughout the state- developing their sound, building their audience, and spreading their message. Blending real life-inspired original songs with their own take on cover tunes from country legends and newcomers alike, the PWB has developed a high-energy, audience-driven live show experience unlike any other. And they've developed something else along the way- a faithful Wisconsin fan base that believes in their mission as much as they do. The Pat Watters Band were the Wisconsin Area Music Industry People's Choice Award Winners. - 2010, 2011, and 2012.

www.patwattersband.com  
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Twitter.com/thepwb  
Youtube.com/patwattersmusic

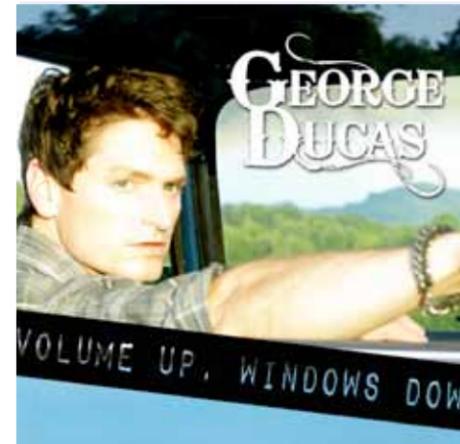


**Artist:** Stephanie Layne  
**Song:** Can't Quit You  
**Time:** 3:31  
**Label:** Independent  
**MGMT:** Glory Layne Music

Writers: Stephanie Layne (BMI) & Scott Southworth (SESAC)  
Publishers: Glory Layne Music (BMI) & Scott Likes Pie Music (SESAC)  
Producers: Nick Hoffman

Singer-songwriter Stephanie Layne's newly released self-titled album single "Can't Quit You", is a sultry country blues song co-written with Scott Southworth, of "The Music Row Show-WSM". Recorded at Nashville's Blackbird Studios and on the Kenny Chesney tour, produced by Nick Hoffman of The Farm. Stephanie has graced the stage of Nashville's most famous venues including The Bluebird Café, World Famous Tootsie's Orchid Lounge, The Wildhorse Saloon, and the Ernest Tubb Midnight Jamboree radio show. Layne's guitar and colorful custom cowgirl boots are covered with the dust of western stages such as Denver's Grizzly Rose, Amarillo's World Championship Ranch Rodeo Finals, Cheyenne Frontier Days, and many other venues where she has opened shows for fellow artists such as Terri Clark, Sawyer Brown, and Earl Thomas Conley. The album is available at www.stephanielayne.com, CD Baby, the Country Music Hall of Fame® and Museum gift shop, and Grimey's New & Preloved Music, America's top record store according to Rolling Stone magazine.

www.stephanielayne.com  
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# NMG CAM

Grammy Nomination Ceremony in Nashville, TN  
Photos by Randi Radcliff



**Artist: Glenn Douglas Tubb**  
**Song: The Blues as Big as Texas**  
**Time: 2:45**  
**Label: Porter Street Records**  
**MGMT: Johnny Mack Music**

**Artist: HanaLena**  
**Song: Hey Hey Love**  
**Time: 4:21**  
**Label: Independent**  
**MGMT: Cindy Melby**

**Artist: Jackson Delaney**  
**Song: Shotgun Wedding**  
**Time: 4:52**  
**Label: Junebug Records**

**Artist: George Ducas**  
**Song: Cowtown**  
**Time: 2:57**  
**Label: Propel Music**

Writers: Glenn Douglas Tubb (ASCAP)  
Publisher: Porter Street Music (ASCAP)  
Producer: Goose Gossett

Writers: Lorna Flowers (SESAC) & Mark Lonsway (BMI)  
Publisher: Lucky Beach & Big Twin Music (BMI)  
Producer: Bil VornDick

Writers: Gary Hannan, Eddie Montgomery, Phil O'Donnel (BMI)  
PR: Grassroots Promotions  
Producers: Gary Hannan

Writers: George Ducas & Jim Beavers (BMI)  
Publishers: Loud Farm Music, Propel Music Publishing, & Sony/ATV/Tree (BMI)  
Producers: Matt McClure / George Ducas

Glenn Douglas is quite the prolific songwriter, penning hits for Johnny Cash ("Home of the Blues," is just one), George and Tammy ("Two Story House"), and a host of others. Not content to stay firmly within the boundaries of "unadulterated" country music, Tubb flirts with rockabilly on the toe-tapping "Annie Don't Work No More," written by Ronnie Wade, another relative. He is the nephew of Ernest Tubb. He is a Grammy Nominated Artist/Singer/Songwriter. Like Uncle Ernest Tubb, he was born in Texas and grew up in the same house as Ernest. He followed him into performing Country music first in Texas then onto Nashville. Glenn wrote a Hit Song for Ernest in 1954, then went on to write over 50 Hit Songs for 24 different Country, Rock, and Gospel Music Super Stars. Glenn is best known for his Grammy Nominated song "Skip A Rope", a multi platinum record.

HanaLena is a touring sister-duo comprised of Hannah and Caroline Melby, based in Nashville, TN. Growing up in Mississippi, the Melbys were heavily influenced by the blues, bluegrass, and roots music that surrounded them. The sisters and their band have been touring the country for almost twelve years now under their former name, Nash Street. HanaLena just put out their first recording since their name change. This 5-song EP was recorded in Nashville by Grammy award winning producer, Bil VornDick. The song featured on this CD is a number sung by big sister, Hannah. "Hey, Hey Love" is a perfect blend of the bluegrass instrumentation with a country flare. This single is a perfect tease for the rest of the album, which can be found on iTunes. To find out more about HanaLena, visit [www.hanalena.com](http://www.hanalena.com), as well as [Facebook.com/HanaLenaBand](https://www.facebook.com/HanaLenaBand) and [Twitter.com/HanaLenaBand](https://twitter.com/HanaLenaBand). Check their website for HanaLena's touring schedule and updates from the band.

As a mainstay entertainer seated smack dab amidst the neon colors that light up the nights in downtown Nashville, Jackson Delaney's baritone vocals echo in the lanes between the historic Ryman Auditorium and the Cumberland River like a haunting trail left behind by Waylon and Willie. Dubbed the "epitome of the real deal," this Ohio-bred singer/songwriter is one of Music City's most promising up-and-comers. His style is soaked in the sounds of the founding fathers of Outlaw Country (evident in every live performance and is most apparent in the release of his debut, self-titled album). With his distinctive voice and honest delivery, with every resonating lyric and note, Delaney encompasses the rare ability to authenticate and translate music into stories... to break your heart, swoon in love, rev up the truck or chug a beer. Delaney makes introductions official in April 2013 with the release of his self-titled CD release and debut single (entitled "Shotgun Wedding"/Junebug Records) in the country music format.

Ducas has spent the last several years writing and creating a family. He is married to his college sweetheart, Caroline, and now has two beautiful children, Grace (5) and William (3). While concentrating on writing, George has written hits for the likes of the Dixie Chicks, Garth Brooks, George Jones, Sara Evans, Tricia Yearwood, Gary Allan, and the Randy Rogers Band, among others. Now, Ducas' latest single, the summer stomper "CowTown", recently hit the Top 10 on the Texas charts, putting the final exclamation mark on his most recent release. Since first emerging as a deep-rooted country artist with contemporary appeal in the mid-to-late 1990s, he has enjoyed hits as both a Nashville major label artist and songwriter. But his musical heart and soul reside in the honky-tonks, roadhouses and dancehalls of his native Lone Star State. He's back in the recording studio and working with producer Matt McClure, who has most recently worked with country performer Lee Brice ("A Woman Like You"). Ducas says he is working on a release date somewhere in the first quarter of next year.

[www.glenndouglastubb.com](http://www.glenndouglastubb.com)  
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Alabama Shakes



Hunter Hayes



Ne-Yo



Janelle Monae

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[www.jacksondelaney.com](http://www.jacksondelaney.com)

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# Give A Little Nashville



Charity Spotlight:  
Operation Troop Aid

# Charlie Daniels

Giving From The Heart

# MyTwoCents

by Krys Midgett

Welcome to the first issue of Give A Little – Nashville. The goal of this magazine is to publicize charity events, profile specific charities and spotlight how celebrities ‘give back’.

In the past six years, I have done hundreds of interviews with musicians. One of the biggest similarities, with the celebrities, has been their involvement with causes. It doesn’t matter which genre of music, which profession they are in..... Every time I asked the question about their charity of choice, their answer usually ends up in a touching story about the cause. It is obvious which artists are involved for publicity-sake and which ones really have a passion for it. Many of the stories have me and the artist in tears before the end of it. The LoCash Cowboys have told me more than one story that had me crying like a baby. I’m such a girl.

Most of the time, the artists donate their talent to multiple causes. Take Darryl Worley for example, he donates his time, talent and money to help with many worthy benefits. I have been involved in many a benefit where he performed. Our featured artist, Charlie Daniels, has been known, throughout his whole career, for being one

of the most generous men in country music. His work with the military has been huge. During the Christmas season, he sponsors Christmas 4 Kids. It is a program for underprivileged in Sumner and Wilson County.

We are excited to be included in the print version of Nashville Music Guide and offer these pages as an introduction to our website and what is to come. Go to [www.givealittlenashville.com](http://www.givealittlenashville.com) to read more articles and learn how you can get involved. Also, we will have a calendar of events. To have your charity event included, just email me at [givealittlenashville@gmail.com](mailto:givealittlenashville@gmail.com).

Well, my passion has always been helping others. This is an avenue for me to help several at once. I have a degree in Journalism, a love for writing and am fortunate enough to have a supportive husband as I put my passion to print. Join me in helping make the world a better place. Leave your mark and try to Give A Little everyday.

for more of Give A Little - Nashville scan the code or go to [www.givealittlenashville.com](http://www.givealittlenashville.com)



## Hello Darlin’ Style Continuing Education

written by Rick Amburgey



photo by Sandi Register

One of the first country music artists I can remember listening to is Conway Twitty. My parents – especially my mom – was a huge Twitty fan and it was easy to see why.

Even as a child, I loved listening to him sing. My first concert was a Conway Twitty show and

I still regard that concert as one of my favorite music moments in my life. His live show was amazing. He has a way of captivating his audience and make you think he was singing the song just for you. I am thankful I had the opportunity to see him live. I wish I had been able to see him live more than once.

for more of this article scan the code or go to [www.givealittlenashville.com](http://www.givealittlenashville.com)



## Tim McDonald Ticks the Ivories For Charity

written by Rick Amburgey

While Nashville is sometimes considered a guitar town, Tim McDonald and his keyboard have developed quite a following.

He’d often be requested to play some of his originals such “Beer’s Good Food” and “Every Song Sounds The Same.”



He recently released his “Livin’ Breathin’ Havin Fun” CD that contains those two tracks, along with eight other great songs. The CD is available at McDonald’s web site, [www.ivorytickler.com](http://www.ivorytickler.com).

for more of this article scan the code or go to [www.givealittlenashville.com](http://www.givealittlenashville.com)



## MAKING THE ‘MISSION POSSIBLE’

written by Krys Midgett & Rick Amburgey



photo by Karen Hampton

For the past seven years, Celebrities have been getting together, right before Thanksgiving, at the Nashville Rescue Mission and frying hundreds of turkeys.

The event, ‘Mission Possible’ is a benefit started by Tracy Lawrence. It is to help feed the homeless community and the less fortunate.

Celebrities who are almost always in attendance include artists such as Brad Arnold (3 Doors Down), Bucky Covington, Restless Heart and Keith Anderson. Many other big names in Country and Rock come

spend the day helping. Lawrence began this project because he saw a need to do something ‘a little different’ for the Rescue Mission. The Mission serves thousands of Thanksgiving meals every year.

for more of this article scan the code or go to [www.givealittlenashville.com](http://www.givealittlenashville.com)



## Operation Troop Aid: For The Troops, By The Troops

Operation Troop Aid is a non-profit organization created by Mark Woods. It has been in operation since 2003. The motto is ‘For The Troops, By The Troops and Nothing But The Troops’.

The founder, Mark Woods, is a veteran of the United States Navy. Woods was inspired to take on this project after the 9-11 attacks of the World Trade Center in 2001. Garth Brooks volunteered to put on a concert aboard their ship and televise it nationwide. Woods was the assistant coordinator and showed Garth around the ship. The experience with meeting him was enlightening and brought about the inspiration for Woods to work with music and entertainment to help charities.

Woods said, ‘Upon transferring from that command to shore duty in 2003, I began to coordinate benefits for Toys

for Tots and Military Appreciation on my off time. Then, one night I had a dream and woke up and searched the internet for the name “OPERATION TROOP AID”. Finding it not used, I retained a lawyer to get incorporated and submit the IRS Non-Profit 501c3 paperwork, to which I was granted incorporation and charity status in the great state of Tennessee and was then awarded IRS 501c3 status. I later transferred to the great state of Virginia and continued the TROOP AID® vision.”

written by Krys Midgett

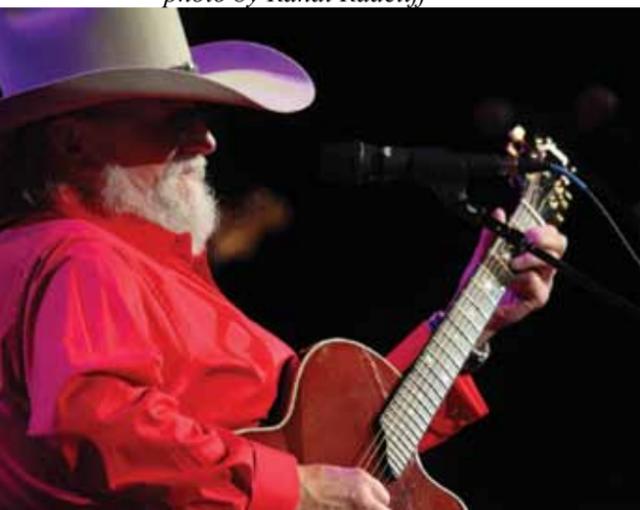


## Charlie Daniels Gives From The Heart

written by Amanda Andrews

Charlie Daniels has been performing and writing songs for five decades. He is known for many things - the Famed Fiddler, a multi-platinum recording artist with the number one hit “The Devil Went Down to Georgia”, a Grand Ole Opry member, a Musicians Hall of Famer, a CMA, ACM, GMA, & Grammy® award winner, a BMI Icon - he is the epitome of

photo by Randi Radcliff



a Country music legend. Despite all of these awards and achievements, beyond the legend there is a man with a charitable heart.

At the Leadership Music Dale Franklin Awards in October 2012, where Charlie was recognized for his humanitarian efforts and leadership by example along with Randy Owen and Vince Gill.

Charlie remarked, “I am just so honored to be thought of in the same sentence with these other two guys. I don’t do charitable things to be recognized but it’s still nice when that happens.”

While he does not boast his humanitarian efforts, Charlie’s heart for giving back includes organizations such

as; Stars for Stripes, Sentinels of Freedom, Boot Campaign, St. Jude’s Children & Research Hospital, T.J. Martell, Foundation, Charlie Daniels Scholarship for Heroes, The Angelus, Christmas 4 Kids, the Armed Services YMCA’s (ASYMCA) Operation Outdoors and many others. Most of Charlie’s giving is focused on children and the U.S. Military.

“You can’t work with everybody, if I could do every charitable event I was asked to do, I would. Every artist has to pick a couple causes that they are dedicated to.” Charlie stated.

for more of this article scan the code or go to [www.givealittlenashville.com](http://www.givealittlenashville.com)



# Take Me To Nashville

By Coy Poole

In the summer of 2011, I was sitting on the balcony of a hotel in Isle of the Palms overlooking the South Carolina Coast, writing the lyrics to "TAKE ME TO NASHVILLE." Little did I know that a year later, I would be living in Nashville recording that song on a demo album with some of Nashville's greatest musicians. It was during that same summer that I had made some pretty major changes in my life and leaped into the unknown that would later catapult me to Nashville. My wife and I were living sort of like a couple of gypsies on the S.C. coast doing a lot of beach-bumming. We were riding my motorcycle up and down the coast line, spending a lot of time watching the dolphins from the top of Red's Ice House and following Darius Rucker's bus around town trying to get him to listen to some of my songs. Something inside me kept telling me to take a chance... and so I did. I quit my job, packed my old guitar and with my last \$200 dollars, headed to Nashville. All I knew about Nashville was that there was a place called music row where all the important people that I needed to talk to were. So, my wife and I went from door to door up and down music row with lyric sheets and a handful of CD's we had burned before we set off for our journey. But all we discovered were a lot of closed doors and folks unwilling to accept unsolicited material from an unknown songwriter. My wife, Joelle did manage to walk into a few offices that were not occupied and leave some of my material on the desks of people we didn't know, but I'm sure it only made it as far as the trash

can. As we coasted back home towards Raleigh, NC on gas fumes and a little change in the ashtray, we discovered that about half the CDs we had burned were blank. I felt like all my dreams were on hold, but I knew... somehow, someway, someday, we'd be back! A few years earlier I met hit songwriter, Dan Demay at a songwriters showcase in Fayetteville, NC. It was he and a few of the songwriters with him that told me if I ever wanted to get my songs heard to move to Nashville and meet the folks that could make it all possible. Once I was financially able to make the move, I got in touch with Dan on Facebook and he guided me to the right places... probably the single most important place he sent me was Nashville Demo Studio. This place is sort of like a songwriter's dream come true. The studio musicians they use have worked for the industries top recording artists; folks like Garth Brooks, Clint Black, Kellie Pickler, Bon Jovi and many others. They are also connected to many of the VIPs on music row and can open many of the doors that could otherwise be closed. Residing in Nashville, I am currently working out of country as a private contractor for the government, to be able to pursue my dream of having my songs on the radio. Every few months, I return home to co-write, pitch, network and go into the studio. In between, my wife pitches on-line and runs the business end of my songwriting. Nashville Demo Studio is a state of the art studio that allows me to sit on the other side of the world and live stream and Skype with

them as my songs are being recorded... I can listen in while music tracks and vocal tracks are being recorded from my work tapes. If anything needs to be changed or corrected, I can do it live just as if I were in the studio. After recording my first demo album and upon returning home recently, I pitched a number of my songs to publishers from BIG TRACTOR, OLE, and RCA. These are the guys who take songs to some of the industries biggest acts. Even though I didn't get a bite on anything I presented, I got an opportunity to network, get some great pointers and advice and an open invitation to submit material in the future. Now back in the studio working on a second demo album, I have been co-writing with several HIT songwriters that I have admired for years... In closing, my advice to anyone heading to Nashville is to get connected to a studio like Nashville Demo Studio so you can network, join a songwriters association like NSAI and get connected to TAXI. Yes, it takes money to make all these things happen, there is no way around it. How do you make that happen? I don't know, a loan, a credit card, a great paying job... your imagination is your only limitation. But, remember, a year ago I came into town with my last \$200 dollars, didn't know a soul and left after giving out a handful of blank Cds to a few people that wouldn't have listened anyway. Don't let your dreams get away... If I can do it, you can too.

<http://nashvilledemostudio.com>  
<http://www.reverbNation.com/coypoole>

**Gloriana** is very involved in working with Saint Jude's, they played the Music City Marathon in 2012. Plus, they donate items for various charity auctions. "We also play a lot of military bases and do a lot of charity events for Wounded Warriors," says Tom Gossin.  
 request their new single: 'Can't Shake You'  
[www.gloriana.com](http://www.gloriana.com)



**Colt Ford** is a former Professional Golfer on the PSA Tour. So what better way for him to give back, than through a Golf Tournament. September of 2012 marked the First Annual Colt Ford & Friends Celebrity Golf Classic. Proceeds went to the St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital.  
 request his new single (feat. Jake Owen): 'Back'  
[www.coltford.com](http://www.coltford.com)



**Julie Ingram** is very involved with Patriot Path. She holds the Julie Ingram Celebrity Shoot to benefit them. Supporting the troops has always been very important to her. As a matter of fact, the first song she wrote was about her two uncles who were in Vietnam. She was only 10 years old and wrote 'My Brother'.  
[www.julieingram.com](http://www.julieingram.com)  
[www.patriotpath.org](http://www.patriotpath.org)



**Brantley Gilbert** does a lot for charity. In fact, from February 5th until the 15th, he is auctioning off his own personal Ram Truck for Ram Jam (sponsored by Ram Trucks). Five artists are donating and auctioning their trucks (at different dates) and the proceeds go to the charity of their choice. Gilbert chose Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America (IAVA) as his charity.  
[www.brantleygilbert.com](http://www.brantleygilbert.com)  
[http://www.ramtrucks.com/en/road\\_to\\_ram\\_jam/](http://www.ramtrucks.com/en/road_to_ram_jam/)



**Glenn Douglas Tubb** is a legendary songwriter. He also is all heart. Besides playing benefits, he and his wife Dottie, play Santa and Mrs. Claus every year. Last Christmas, they got together with friends and local businesses to put on a concert and Christmas party for the families in Nashville Shelters and on the streets. Every child got to sit on Santa's lap and got a present. It will be a yearly event.  
[www.glenndouglastubb.com](http://www.glenndouglastubb.com)



Jeff Bates always gives back. Last June, he headlined a Conway Twitty Tribute show that raised money for the MTSU Conway Twitty Music Scholarship. He will be releasing an album called 'Me and Conway'. It will feature six Conway songs and six of his songs. He also has Jeff Bates Ministries.  
[www.jeffbatesministries.com/](http://www.jeffbatesministries.com/)  
[www.jeffbates.net](http://www.jeffbates.net)



**Craig Campbell** "My dad died with colon cancer. I would love to be a part of something that would raise awareness for cancer prevention." He works a lot with St. Jude, donates his time to various charities and is working with TJ Martell Foundation.  
 request his new single 'Outta My Head'  
[www.craigcampbell.tv](http://www.craigcampbell.tv)





NMG looked up some of the exciting events that will be happening at the Country Radio Seminar this year that we considered part of a list of events that you do not want to miss. We call it the "Must-Do's" List. Check out the following and make sure to fit them in your schedule!

### CRS 2013 New Faces of Country Music Show Lineup

Country Radio Seminar has announced that Easton Corbin, Florida Georgia Line, Brantley Gilbert, Jana Kramer and Kip Moore are the CRS 2013 New Faces of Country Music Show® performers.

The 2013 New Faces of Country Music Show will be held Friday, March 1, 2013, at Country Radio Seminar inside the downtown Nashville Convention Center. Co-sponsored by the Academy of Country Music and Muscular Dystrophy Association, the annual new artist showcase event officially closes out the three-day seminar and remains one of the most anticipated performances each year at CRS. The New Faces show has sold out well in advance the past two years.

"The response we received from Country radio during the voting process this year was superb," says CRS Board President Mike Culotta. "The five acts chosen finished extremely strong in the voting and are certainly deserving of an appearance on our New Faces lineup. We're looking forward to another dynamite evening of entertainment at Country Radio Seminar from these up and coming stars."

Each New Faces artist will receive a custom-made pair of Lucchese boots. Lucchese is the official boot sponsor of the 2013 New Faces of Country Music Show.

### Black River Entertainment Line-Up for Friday Luncheon at CRS 2013

The Black River Entertainment luncheon is set to have performers including Craig Morgan, Kellie Pickler and Sarah Darling. Hosted by Black River Entertainment's CEO Gordon Kerr, the luncheon is scheduled for Friday, March 1, 2013.

"We are excited to have the opportunity to partner with CRS in presenting this exciting, fast paced show featuring Craig Morgan, Sarah Darling and Black River Entertainment's debut of Kellie Pickler," said Black River's VP of Promotion, Bill Macky. "Country Radio will be the first to hear some of

this amazing new music. We've also got a few surprises planned too, so do not miss this show."

"The talent lineup for CRS 2013 is extraordinary," said CRS Executive Director Bill Mayne. "The addition of Black River Entertainment to the Friday Luncheon and this great group of artists will make for another terrific event showcasing music to come in 2013!"

The Black River Entertainment luncheon will be held inside the Performance Hall at the Nashville Convention Center from 12:00 – 1:50 p.m.

### Congratulations to Country Radio Hall of Fame Inductees

Gaylon Christie is the Radio category inductee, and Dr. Don Carpenter, Crook & Chase, Eddie Edwards and Bill "Dex" Poindexter are the On-Air category inductees. The class of 2013 will be officially inducted at a dinner ceremony on Tuesday, Feb. 26, 2013, at 6 p.m. CST at the Nashville Convention Center. The Country Radio Hall of Fame dinner and induction ceremony unofficially kicks off Country Radio Seminar each year. CRS 2013 is held Feb. 27-March 1, 2013.

The Country Radio Hall of Fame is dedicated to the recognition of those individuals who have made significant contributions to the radio industry over a 20-year period, 15 of which must be in the Country format.

"Induction into the Country Radio Hall of Fame signifies a lifetime of excellence and achievement, and this year's class of inductees personifies those qualities at the highest level," said CRS Hall of Fame Committee Chairman Charlie Morgan. New York City's Carnegie Hall and the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C.

### Grand Ole Opry To Make Debut At CRS 2013

The Grand Ole Opry, will kick-off CRS 2013 on Wednesday, February 27, 2013. The event will be held inside the Performance Hall at the Nashville Convention Center.

Artists confirmed to perform are Grand Ole Opry members Brad Paisley, Darius Rucker and Vince Gill along with Dustin Lynch and Scotty McCreery. Additional performers will be released in the coming weeks. The two-hour event will commence at 7 p.m., immediately following the annual CRS Artist/Attendee Welcome Reception. All CRS attendees can attend.

"Every week, the Grand Ole Opry showcases an unforgettable, one-of-a-kind mix of country music's new stars, superstars, and legends for country music fans from around the world. We're excited to deliver a special show featuring some of radio's biggest current hit-makers who are also some of the most popular artists who visit our stage for all our friends in country radio when CRS returns to town next month," said Opry Vice President and General Manager Pete Fisher.

The Opry, radio's longest-running program, has only rarely staged shows outside its regular program schedule and its permanent home (the Grand Ole Opry House) or its winter residence (Ryman Auditorium). Past Opry performances played outside the show's home venues include performances staged at prestigious theaters such as

The show is sponsored by Humana's My Well-Being. Bill Mayne, CRS Executive Director, notes "This marks the first time in the history of the seminar, which is over 40 years, that we welcome the Grand Ole Opry to our stage. It has been a long time coming, but will be well worth the wait," adding, "My thanks to Pete Fisher and the Opry staff for allowing me to present this show on the opening night of CRS 2013, as both events are such a great fit for each other."



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# NASHVILLE MUSIC GUIDE'S SOUNDING BOARD

Reviews are rated on 6-categories; Maximum of 6 points per category.

## HanaLena by HanaLena



*"Declared as the best new act in country music at the 2008 Colgate Country Showdown, HanaLena -- formerly known as Nash Street. A dynamic sister duo, featuring Hannah and Caroline Melby, whose roots run deep.*

*From their home State of Mississippi, they have engaged their audience across the country with a masterful blend of Bluegrass, Pop and Country -- the mixture of these genres is considered "grassroots country."*

*Engaging vocals and uplifting lyrics, these ladies have mastered the ability to transport you right into the song. One of my favorite songs is the "Bible Belt." A well written song from the heart about never forgetting where you come from -- it's a song I feel everyone can relate to.*

*As HanaLena continues to tour the country, they embrace their gift of music. It can be seen clearly in each of their original tunes. I would say that this duo is well on their way to the top. From the harmonica to the banjo these girls are talented and no doubt about it sooner or later everyone will know who HanaLena is."*

- Review By Lynette Lorenz

**Vocals-6 | Production-6 | Musicianship-6 | Lyrics-6 | Melody-6 | Originality-6**

## Stephanie Layne By Stephanie Layne



*"Very few artists have the ability to transform so much energy into an album as this. Stephanie Layne, a Minnesota native, has found her niche -- bringing classic Country back to life.*

*This seven song EP was recorded at Blackbird Studio Nashville*

*(owned by John and Martina McBride) and also with musicians from Kenny Chesney's tour. It is amazing in so many areas, from her very soulful "Can't Quit You" to "Ain't No Neighbors." Powerful vocals and a vibrant voice that will have you listening to the songs over and over again.*

*Stephanie often talks about her focus of writing being the ability of making something out of nothing and discovering God's purpose. Somewhere along the walk of life, Stephanie has found a way to interpret her life through the songs she writes and sings each one resembling something or someone she has had a relationship with. Absolutely brilliant in all areas, a voice that is mesmerizing, excellent instrumentation. Job well done and I look forward to hearing this soulful voice on the airwaves."*

- Review By Lynette Lorenz

**Vocals-6 | Production-6 | Musicianship-6 | Lyrics-6  
Melody-6 | Originality-5**

## Livin By LiveWire



*"Take classic Country, mix in some southern Rock and you have the perfect blend of LiveWire's new album Livin'.*

*The album is packed with a very powerful mix of songs about living, loving and heartache. I don't think LiveWire could have followed up their debut album any better than this.*

*Well written lyrics, strong vocals and catchy songs that each seems to tell their own story, from "Livin'" -- a song about being young and in love, growing together though life and settling down; to "Lies," a song that has you memorizing every word and singing it over and over again because it's ability for many to relate about the break-up experience.*

*LiveWire has often been referred to as one of the best live bands in the circuit, they have received airplay on CMT pure, finalists in the 2009 Colgate Country Showdown and have graced the stage of the Ryman Auditorium in Nashville. After a brief break, LiveWire came back with a new vision, energized and ready to merge to the top. There is no doubt that this a band to watch closely, Country Music at it's finest, I definitely see this band well on their way to much deserved success."*

- Review By Lynette Lorenz

**Vocals-6 | Production-6 | Musicianship-6 | Lyrics-5 | Melody-5 | Originality-5**

## Kid Face by Samantha Crain



*"Samantha Crain isn't a singer. She's not a guitar player. She's not a writer. She's an artist. Behind her stage and beneath her melodies is a story. And it's not your story. It's a tale all her own. It's about the places she has seen, the people she has met, and the lessons she has learned.*

*On her soon-to-be-released indie album Kid Face, Crain begins a conversation. A self-professed world traveler, she warms you with an invitation to hear her stories, her experiences on the road. She paints pictures of the emotional landscapes that connect her past to her present.*

*Since her debut album, Songs in the Night, in 2009, her music has been a continuation of her personal evolution. Of the title track, "Kid Face," Crain says, "[I was] all the while thinking about the asymmetries between the age I look, the age I am, and the age I feel." Behind her guitar, she sings, "Slow life, the idleness of old minds/Oh I still got a lot of fight before I settle down."*

*Written like poetry, her words are simple yet complex. Her sound is raw, like a round at the Bluebird; her performance is flawless.*

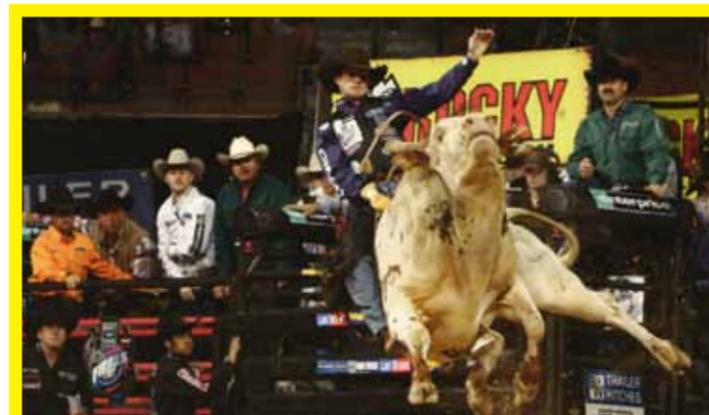
*Although her overall sound isn't groundbreaking, she doesn't live in the shadows of anyone else. Her stories are unique and personal to her life, and she is willing to share with anyone. The first listen may not get to you, but you won't forget what she's told you when you leave.*

*Just a day after the release of her album on February 19, Samantha will play at Music City Roots. She is sure to be a crowd pleaser, with her music reminiscent of Nashville favorites such as Amy Stroup, Trent Dabbs, and Matthew Perryman Jones.*

*If you're looking for the next Taylor Swift, you haven't found her. Samantha Crain's music isn't full of simple, catchy tunes. But if you're looking for a storyteller with a raw honesty and more than breakups to talk about, you're soon to make a new friend."*

-Review by Angie Ruetten

**VOCALS: 5 | PRODUCTION: 6 | MUSICIANSHIP: 6 | LYRICS: 5 | MELODY: 4 | ORIGINALITY: 6**



BY PHIL SWEETLAND

America loves a comeback story, such as the one about a former grocery bagger and Arena Football League quarterback named Kurt Warner who won a Super Bowl.

Musical comebacks can also be paved in gold. Just ask Darius Rucker, who as the front man in Hootie & the Blowfish saw that rock band's debut album "Cracked Rear View" sell more than 16 Million copies in 1995, but five years later couldn't even crack the Top 50.

Now, as a solo country artist, Rucker was a surprise hit from the start for Capitol Nashville with his debut Row single "Don't Think I Don't Think About It" reaching No. 1 on Billboard's country singles listing. Same artist, very different music.

Couples who get engaged after their first marriages ended in divorce often find that the second time around, they know both themselves and their spouses far better and these second marriages may well last much longer and be far happier.

The same thing can happen with corporations. Internet pioneer America Online, AOL, was one of the two hottest stocks of the 1990s, one financial trade paper reported. The second was another company well known along Music Row, Clear Channel. Since then, CC has shed many of the radio stations it once owned and seen its corporate structure changed radically with the departure of the founding Mays family.

AOL, however, is enjoying a resurgence after several shrewd moves, including the purchase of the Huffington Post, Buysight, and Hipster Web sites. AOL saw its share price double in 2012, while the far happier Internet site Google's stock rose less than 15 percent over the same period.

America's Big Three automakers were also on the ropes

during the Great Recession, just a few years ago. But under the too big to fail principle, companies like GM and Ford with hundreds of thousands of employees in the United States received \$15 Billion in government loans and stayed afloat.

In January, both automakers made big news about the Detroit Auto Show. Chevy even introduced the first new Corvette in years.

Another wonderful comeback is contained in the pages of this very magazine, the Nashville Music Guide, thanks to the biz savvy, courage, and love for Country music of owner Randy Matthews and editor Amanda Andrews.

After shifting NMG temporarily to an online edition only in the fall of 2012, Matthews decided he wanted to revive the print publication he loved so well early in the New Year. Like many successful comeback stories, the new Nashville Music Guide came with a slightly different business model.

To begin with, the NMG moved back to Music Row from Hayes Street. The magazine's new office space is in the legendary Buddy Lee Attractions Building, the booking agency which has been around since the late 1960s and currently handles artists such as Jason Aldean and Florida Georgia Line.

"Randy Matthews is a very good business head," says Preshias, whose "Inside Track On Music Row" has been one of the NMG's most popular features since Dan Wunsch and Brad Fisher co-founded the magazine in the mid-1990s. "Randy really listens to the staff, to the freelancers, and to Music Row."

Another crucial part of the rebranding of the Nashville Music Guide is the new artwork and logo. The logo now features a stylized "N" with a guitar, a keyboard, and the BellSouth Tower representing the three lines of the "N."

And the key members of the NMG are back in place for the company's rebirth. Managing editor Amanda Andrews will continue to do her outstanding work running the Nashville operation with the help of Give A Little Nashville's Krys Midgett, while accounts wizard Rhonda Smith does likewise at the office in Oklahoma, Randy Matthews' home state.

So in business and in life, all's well that ends well. Just like with AOL and Darius Rucker, the new and improved Nashville Music Guide figures to be better than ever.

## Biz Comebacks, from GM to AOL to NMG

Reviews by Jackie Rippee & Robbie Huff

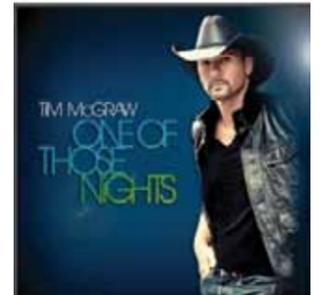
### "Down By The River" (D. Vincent Williams) Bigger Picture

Williams' new album begins with his debut single "Down by the River." "Down by the River" is a hit with its particular old school country twang and upbeat swagger. It is a song about having good old fashioned fun with a lover. The lyrics, "Baby, what do you say we go down by the river—down by the river—under that moon? Spend all night down by the river, you lovin' on me, me lovin' on you," are bound to get feet tapping and dancing. The next track "Seventeen" is a slower tune that looks at the past reflections of one's life. Remember trying to get alcohol as an underage kid? Remember riding around in your first beat up Chevy? Williams remembers and he captures it with witty lyrics and a slow piano melody.



### "One Of Those Nights" (Tim McGraw) Big Machine Records

Tim McGraw is no stranger to releasing big country ballads that tug at the heart. Unfortunately, McGraw's new single "One Of Those Nights," written by Luke Laird, Rodney Clawson and Chris Tompkins, doesn't quite live up to some of his former hits. "One Of Those Nights" tells, or rather sings, the story of a couple gearing up for a night that they will remember forever. But the lyrics fall short of telling that story, or setting the tone for a truly memorable night. The lyrics at times seemed rushed a bit and not particularly catchy. Still McGraw's voice sounds as good as ever, but the lyrics just don't seem as engaging as the voice that's singing them.



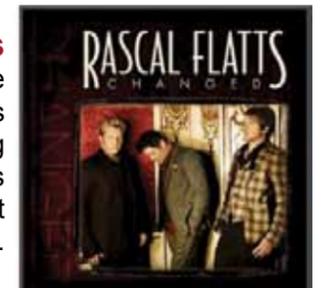
### "Get Your Shine On" (Florida Georgia Line) Republic Nashville

"Get Your Shine On" is the latest single released by Florida Georgia Line off of their album "Here To The Good Times." "Get Your Shine On" brings across the same good time feel as their last hit "Cruise." "Get Your Shine On" is a party song and the lyrics are all about good times. There are some particularly witty lines throughout the verses and the chorus is fun to sing along.



### "Changed" (Rascal Flatts) Big Machine Records

Rascal Flatts new single "Changed" is a song of forgiveness and redemption that more than lives up to any of the bands' former hits. "Changed," also the title of the album, is an emotional ballad with lyrics that can hit home for anyone who has had a life changing moment or experience that brought them peace or happiness. Whether it be a religious experience, or simply a moment of clarity, "Changed" can make you revisit that moment and leave you misty eyed.



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