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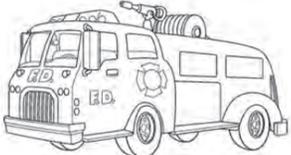
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Party with a Purpose

Saturday, April 18, from 11 a.m. to midnight the annual Chilton Fire Department brat fry is featuring great food, great music and chances to win prizes. But we all know the point of the party is to raise funds for the brave men and women who keep us safe. First Assistant Fire Chief, Ben Schoenborn gave us the run-down on what this year's fund-raising would go toward.

Schoenborn: For the 2015 Brat Fry we're raising money for some jaws equipment. We're really in need of replacing our hydraulic cutters. There's more of what are considered hybrid metals in [modern] vehicle construction for passenger safety. Older cutters were designed to cut and work on older vehicles, not these hybrid metals that are out there now. Technology has advanced. Cutters are being improved to accommodate use on newer vehicles constructed with hybrid metals built into their structure. We need to update so we can stay current with what's on the roads.

CTJ: How are the cutters attached to the vehicle? Are they a standalone unit?

Schoenborn: They're on hydraulic hose reels. There's the Jaws of Life which is the actual hydraulic spreaders, but then there's hydraulic cutters that actually cut the roof off the car, cut at the front back and middle post. That's how we remove the roof off a vehicle and that's where a lot of the challenges come in. When it comes to the



Jaws of Life, that definitely is a life-safety issue. In our business life-safety is where the rubber meets the road.

CTJ: How many pairs are you trying to replace?

Schoenborn: Just one. We actu-

ally have two cutters. One's an original from when we first did our first fund-raiser in the early 1990's. The other one was a replacement and upgrade as car construction improved throughout the years. Now we need to update again.

Ask Your Mother

The Jerry Schneider Band will be rocking from 1 to 5 p.m. Saturday, but Fox Valley Locals, Ask Your Mother, will be taking over as night falls. We spoke to lead singer and guitarist, Tim Morey, for a preview on what we'll see as the group takes the stage at 7:30 p.m.

CTJ: How did Ask Your Mother come about? Was it something that you'd been considering for a long time? Was the latest project in a series of bands for most of you?

Tim: You are exactly right. We all came from different bands throughout the Fox Valley, even up to Northland. We live in Waupaca. But the band is from all over: Oshkosh, Neenah, Appleton, Twinsville, and Waupaca.

CTJ: How long have you been playing for?

Tim: I've been playing close to 25 years. The other guys vary in age. I'm the senior member of the band. We also have a guy that's 27 years old. But all of us have years of experience.

CTJ: You've probably played in a couple other bands before. Has everyone in Ask Your Mother? Or is anyone new and this is their first go?

Tim: We actually picked the singer up from a karaoke outfit. He was the leader, and we loved his vocals. He's a good guy, very high energy. His name is Eric, but everybody knows him as Stretch, [he's] 6'5", [with a] very commanding presence.

CTJ: Where did the name Ask Your Mother come from?

Tim: We get asked that all the time. It's not very mysterious. When we were forming the band it was out of the ashes of other bands, just like a lot of bands start. We were rehearsing and we really enjoyed what we were doing and said, "Hey let's get this thing going."

And of course, what's the name? A week prior to that we had all been joking because at the time, seven years ago, a lot of our kids were very little. And because we're all male members we were joking about how many times a day we'd say, "I don't know. "Go ask your mother." You know you get inundated with questions from your kids and certainly many times the response is, "Ask your mother." And all a sudden somebody said maybe that's what we should call the band. We all laughed and thought, hey, that's not really a bad name. We've built up a pretty strong following in the Fox Valley that we affectionately call "Mother Lovers."

CTJ: So what's your usual repertoire? I see some classic rock on your standard play-list, but otherwise it's hard to tell. How would



you describe the band's musical preferences?

Tim: You are right. We're unique in the fact it's an incredible variety. When you live in Central Wisconsin you don't know who you are going to be performing for. So we may throw jokes, "If you don't like this song, you're going to like the next one."

We do some classic rock, so the old rocker's going to love it. But maybe a younger person is going to love it because we play the Foo Fighters. Maybe another person is not much of a rock fan, and they're a little bit older. Well we've played some John Denver or Johnny Cash in the country genre. Or we might switch gears and do something from Tom Cochrane or maybe Luke Bryant. We do some modern country as well. We do some funk stuff, Stevie Wonder maybe on the set that night. We do Bruno Mars for [the teenyboppers]. When you're playing a cover band you might as well do all of them.

CTJ: What instrumentation does the band usually run for a set?

Tim: We have a guitar, base and drums, then acoustic guitar. We also have A. F. Kraus. And he is what we call, in the baseball world, a utility infielder. He plays a harmonica, a lot of keyboards, he's an excellent guitar player and he sings. That's another thing that's unique about Ask Your Mother. In our former bands we were all the lead singer.

CTJ: That probably does wonders for your stage presence. Is there anything else we should know before Saturday's brat fry?

Tim: We're really excited to play over there. We have some gigs that we've played on that particular weekend over the years, but we looked at this as a great opportunity to get into that area and play for some new people that maybe haven't seen us before. The exciting part about a band such as ours is to continually build that following,

get fans all over and increase that footprint. So we're really excited to be in that market.

BAND INFORMATION

Band Name: Ask Your Mother
Musical Style/Genre: A mix of classic and contemporary rock sounds with a splash of rap, hip-hop, pop, metal, modern and classic country.

City of Origin: Staged out of the Fox Cities area but members hail from all across the state of Wisconsin.

Band members:

Eric "Stretch" Rathack: Lead Vocals

Tim Morey: Lead / Rhythm Guitar / Vocals

Adam Kraus: Lead / Rhythm Guitar / Keyboards / Vocals

Kevin Schabo: Bass / Vocals

Joe Nemeth: Percussion / Vocals

Key Points of Interest: Tim: Established in 2008 2x WAMI Peoples Choice Awards Finalist Genre-spanning setlists cover the musical spectrum Noteworthy appearances include: Summerfest (Briggs and Stratton Big Backyard stage) ROCK USA Greenville Catfish Races Leach Amphitheater Menominee Waterfront Festival Sawdust Days (Oshkosh) Corn on the Curb (Stevens Point) (numerous County Fairs, Firemans picnics, and club shows)

Performed with / opened for: Cheap Trick Pat Benatar Cowboy Mouth O.A.R. Hinder

Additional Data: Over 3,200 "likes" on facebook band page

Travels with professional production crew

Perform approximately 50 shows a year

Featured on WakeUp Fox 6 News Milwaukeee Appearances on K107.1 FM Fond du Lac

For more information: Tim Morey 1-715-513-0475 tim@askyourmotherband.com