



### PERFORMING ARTIST BIOS:

#### **THE TWIN SINNERS:**

**Allan Combs II** and **Stacia Abernatha** are working musicians in Central Pennsylvania. Some of their combined musical influences include The Beatles, Susan Tedeschi, and Robert Johnson, plus both are devoted songwriters. Allan hails from Bloomsburg, PA and loves his life as a full time musician, playing over one hundred gigs in the last year! His first solo album, *I Get My Kicks For Free*, was released this summer, and he's currently recording his sophomore album. Stacia, a Williamsport native, has been performing as a singer, dancer and multi-instrumentalist since early childhood. She is currently involved in multiple local recording and live performance projects. The Twin Sinners are excited about their upcoming trip to Memphis, they are currently working out their performance repertoire. The Twin Sinners are sure to get noticed with their combined powerful vocals, their instrumentation prowess which in concert sounds like a full orchestra, and their superior harmonies.

#### **The 3<sup>rd</sup> STREET BLUES BAND:**

The Uptown Music Collective's blues community performance group, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Street Blues Band, brings their collective talents together serving up their own renditions of classic hits by top female blues artists from the 1960's intermixed with modern day, blues and r&b by great artists such as Bonnie Raitt, Susan Tedeschi, Etta James, Janis Joplin and more. Ranging in ages from 15-17 this 6-piece band hits the stage running with power, energy and instrumental and vocal finesse many older musicians only dream about. Alexis Carnavale on vocals, Cade Palmatier and Justin Warrender on guitar, Shayne Williams on vocals and bass, Izzy Brumbaugh on piano, and Tate Berkey on drums will make Billtown proud as they travel to Memphis in January to participate in the International Blues Challenge Youth Showcase.

## **MYSTERY TRAYNE**

Mystery Trayne is a new acoustic trio in the Williamsport area but two of the trio's members, Cheryl, "Miz Ida" Miller and Jay "Bone" Short, have been fixtures of the area blues scene for decades. Cheryl's rich sultry voice has long been heard throughout the Susquehanna Valley, first as a member of Mo' Blues then Blues and Gasoline and most recently fronting Miz Ida & the All-Nightas. Jay's soulful vocals and slicing slide guitar are well known too, having been an integral part of bands such as Blue Willie and the Billtown Jukes, Blues and Gasoline and many others. When it comes to the blues they are the real deal. They've lived it and played it and share a rich history of making music together since the early days of the burgeoning Billtown blues scene. They are joined by Jack Reed, a Liberty based multi instrumentalist, songwriter and recording engineer. Jack who has a quirky sense of humor and a friendly demeanor has a lot of road miles under his belt having traveled with various show bands for years. You will normally find him perched behind his upright bass or guitar adding just the right amount of harmony vocals at just the right time or singing a song about drinking moonshine and howling at the moon. Together their music is a gumbo of Delta blues, twang and swing. Cheryl has her own name for it however....FUN!! "We really enjoy playing together," she said. " I think that's obvious to people who come to our shows. They have a good time because we are having a good time".

## **JEFF FETTERMAN**

Bradford native, blues-rocker, Jeff Fetterman plays with an aggressive style while at the same time capable of delivering a unique sensitivity and heart-felt passion when needed. Jeff attacks every note played with purpose. Jeff's vocals are solid and serve his songs with honest intention. Jeff has worked all angles of the music business with major league endorsements, publishing deals, film and television placements, and supporting roles with notables such as Kenny Wayne Shepard, Anthony Gomes, Gary Moore, and Van Morrison to mention a few. National awards have followed such as *Best Up and Coming Blues Artist* by Ohio radio station WREO, and capturing a studio awards scholarship from ASCAP. Armed with unrelenting determination Jeff and his band mates John McQuire and Ralph Reitinger III, after three years of auditioning for the Billtown Blues Association membership judges, finally broke through and are headed to the International Blues Challenge in the Billtown Blues Band category.

## **VANESSA COLLIER, featuring Doug McMinn and the Billtown Blues All Stars**

If anyone ever wonders what all the fuss is about, winning the annual Billtown Blues Audition concert and traveling to Memphis TN to participate in the International Blues Challenge, ask Vanessa Collier. Vanessa submitted an application to the BBA in 2015, and came to Billtown a total unknown. Her audition performance showcasing her impeccable talents on alto sax, vocals, and songwriting, were highlighted even more by her crowd-pleasing entertainment skills and non-stop energy. While in Memphis Vanessa advanced to the semi-finals - the town "was a buzzin'" – new-made fans, fellow musicians, and important industry personnel to "check her out" packed the room. Fast forward a year later Vanessa lands a recording contract with well-known indie label Ruf Records, is now touring the world, and having the time of her life. At the time of this writing Vanessa is in Sweden, on to Brazil, then the Legendary Rhythm and Blues Cruise, before hustling to Billtown for a gratis concert to help others on their opportunity in Memphis. Backing Vanessa's performance will be the Susquehanna's most senior musicians lead by Doug McMinn on horns and guitar, Sean Farley on guitar, Greg Burgess on piano, and the dynamo rhythm section of veterans Joel Vincent and Bill Stetz. You will not want to miss this sure to be memorable set!