

July 16, 2014

Frantic Antics Reach Longtime Dream

Since its inception, a band's eyes have been set firmly on the Northwoods Rock Rally. Now, less than two years after their humble August 2012 beginnings, Frantic Antics will finally realize this long-time dream, bringing their unique sounds and electrifying energy to the outdoor concert festival that features only the most talented in the region.

While the original membership has undergone some dynamic-changing reconstruction, the local cover band's tight chemistry has allowed them to be just as firm in their mission as before. The four-piece crew comprises of lead guitarist Brandon Burkart, 18, of Chippewa Falls; guitarist, vocalist, and drummer Christopher McIntyre, 18, of Bloomer, bass player and vocalist Emma West, 17, of Bruce; and drummer Jackson Kleingartner, 16, of Bloomer. The group's success equally depends upon their two sound engineers, Kennedy Kleingartner, 18, and Austin Koehler, 16, Bloomer natives responsible for the young band's particularly professional sound and image.

From Metallica to Miranda Lambert to everything in between, Frantic Antics performs an eclectic scope of music, both light and heavy, with favorites classic and fresh. Though the group's primary focus lies in performing renditions of already-existing songs, they have also begun composing several originals and plan to incorporate even more.

When asked what has been their greatest motivator, sound technician Kennedy put simply that it's all about the enjoyment of music-making and exploring the diverse preferences of all the members.

"The basic inspiration is creating music and having fun in doing so," said Kleingartner. "Our influences are widespread, and each of the members has distinct and unique tastes in music."

Both unwavering dedication and ceaseless passion have led to the band's rapid success and growing popularity. Since their 2012 debut, Frantic Antics have been invited to perform at countless venues, bars, festivals, and private events both locally and statewide. They maintain a busy schedule year-round, which becomes increasingly packed as their reputation continues to swell. Last summer, the cover band's image was further magnified when they were selected winners of Eau Claire's 92.9 Rock the Ark contest, which landed them a spot among seven other bands in the state privileged to perform at Noah's Ark in Wisconsin Dells.

Apart from the band's appearance at the Rock Rally, Frantic Antics' eventful summer continues with a variety of benefit shows. One, Saturday, August 2, will take place at Reich's Roadhouse in Sheldon, the proceeds of which will be used to aid and promote the music programs in Bloomer and surrounding communities.

The Northwood Rock Rally will be held August 14-16 in Glen Flora, and The Frantic Antics will take the stage at 12:30 p.m. on August 15. The complete lineup and more details regarding the Rally can be found at northwoodsrockrally.com.

The next goal in sight for the Frantic Antics? Hopefully, Rockfest. Because for this fun, fresh, and passion-filled cover band, the bar will never fail to be raised one step higher.

For additional information on Frantic Antics and upcoming shows, refer to their website at thefranticanticsband.com.