

THE ROAMIN' TATTLER

!~*~ A Guide to the Happening Local Events and the Eventful Local Happenings ~*~!

Issue 2

Catskills Edition

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Always Free

EXTRA! EXTRA! READ ALL ABOUT IT! THE RETURN OF THE PINBALL WIZARD!



As any fan of The Who worth their salt will tell you, Elton John was not the champion in question. He was, in fact, The Local Lad who famously lost his Bally Table crown to that deaf, dumb and blind kid who sure played a mean pinball...Tommy: The Pinball Wizard.

The Who played the Woodstock Festival in August of 1969 during the tour behind a new, long playing, double album: *Tommy*. It was considered by many to be the first ever example of what would come to be known as "Rock Opera." (note: the many would be incorrect. Please see The Pretty Things' *S.F. Sorrow*, released December 1968.)

Though the Who tour in 1969 was exhaustive (with multiple stops in the UK, Europe and the United States - 125 dates in total), they did not begin to play a nightly set list that included an almost complete reading of *Tommy* until later in the fall of that year. One such date (13, November) took place at the Elting Gym, State University of New York at New Paltz, marking the second, and last time that The Who would play the Catskills region as a proper four man band.

There would be other near returns of the Pinball Wizard, of course. The Editor, recalls quite fondly, when he was a mere schoolboy, watching Ken Russell's film version of *Tommy*, on the big screen in the Callicoon Theater during the late spring of 1975. (Note: to this day, forty three years later, he cannot eat even a single Heinz Baked Bean without having rather disturbing visions of actress Ann-Margret swim through his head.)

In 1989, The Who revisited *Tommy* several times on their Kids Are Alright 25th Anniversary Tour, but would only come as close to the Catskills as the lengthy and legendary open "dress rehearsal" warm-up show at the Glens Falls Civic Center in NY's Capital Region. The late, great bassist for the band, John Entwistle, would return to the eastern Catskills with some regularity, playing famed venues in Ulster County: the Chance Theater in Poughkeepsie, and the town of Woodstock's Joyous Lake to name but a few.

The last time that a member of the group would return to play the hallowed Woodstock Festival ground in Bethel NY, was twenty years ago this summer. In 1998, the Bethel Woods complex was still just a twinkle in the eye of new property owner Alan Gerry, when he decided to celebrate his purchase in a big way. A three day weekend festival, dubbed *A Day In The Garden* was announced, and an enormous, temporary stage was erected on the site of the 1969 concert. The show would feature Woodstock alumni and some of the biggest names in music, along with several hot, new acts of the time.

The Saturday lineup was the most spectacular. That day featured returning performers Melanie and Richie Havens. Veteran cosmic rocker Donovan rounded out the early afternoon's performances. Next up was New York's own Lou Reed, and singer songwriter Joni Mitchell, who would finally perform her song "Woodstock" (made famous by super group CSNY in 1970) on the very same field that inspired her composition. The final set of the afternoon was a rare one-off performance by Who guitarist and songwriter Pete Townshend and his band (he was not in the US for a full tour, and only three dates were played in total in the states). The encore of his long set, naturally, was See Me, Feel Me, the finale of his masterwork, *Tommy*, featuring a full gospel choir, bussed in from Newburgh NY, especially for the evening's performance.

Now, twenty years later, and one year shy of the 50th anniversary of the original Woodstock Music and Art Fair (as the festival was officially known), Who lead singer Roger Daltrey returns to the stage he stalked as a young man for the opening night of Bethel Woods' 2018 season. When the world saw him in 1970's *Woodstock* movie, all leather fringe and golden locks, silhouetted in the new morning sunrise, he virtually came to embody the Tommy character for many. If that wasn't enough, his titular role in the *Tommy* film five years later, sealed the deal. Welcome back to Sullivan County, Roger Daltrey. Welcome back to Woodstock, Pinball Wizard...welcome home, Tommy.

Who: Roger Daltrey

What: "Tommy", performed in its entirety with members of The Who band, and the Hudson Valley Philharmonic

Where: Bethel Woods Center for the Arts

When: Friday, June 8th. Tickets on sale now!

EXPLORE CRYSTAL LAKE

Visitors to Sullivan County have always had a robust relationship with the Delaware River. They enjoy all of the activities that the river affords the outdoor lifestyle of those who love her.

The road less travelled, however, leads those with a taste for exploration to the upper western corner of Sullivan County and to the wild frontiers of Fremont Township.

There, their wanderlust will be satisfied with the unspoiled beauty that is the 497 acres of woodland of Crystal Lake Wild Forest. At the heart of this state protected park is the 32 acre lake that is pure, clean, and crystal clear: perfect for swimming, canoeing and fishing. Nearly one and a half miles of the lake's shoreline is incorporated into a well marked hiking trail.

The surrounding area is loaded with blueberry bushes, wild leeks and Jack-in-the-pulpits. The sprawling, wooded habitat is also home to all manner of animals. Each Spring the hundreds of enormous bullfrog tadpoles that swim in the shallows are a sight to behold!

Crystal Lake Parking Lot: From Route 97, take County Road 94 (becomes 93) to County Road 96 (Tennanah Lake Road) to Crystal Lake Road, the entrance to the property, lake and parking area. (41.869924°N, 75.019553°W)



Peter Max: Early Paintings

The Museum at Bethel Woods
April 30 - September 3, 7 days
a week 10 am - 7 pm. The
Max exhibit is included with
general museum admission
(\$15 adults, \$13 seniors, \$11
youth 8 - 17, \$6 Children 3-7,
children under 3 free). Special
exhibition only: \$5

*Remember: When they
ask you where you heard
it, tell 'em "I read it in
The Tattler!"*

LOCAL EVENTS CALENDAR

COUNTRY JAMBOREE

Live Music, Swap Meet, Chili Cook-off. FREE ADMISSION!

Saturday May 26 (rain date May 27). 461 Cooley Road Parksville NY 631-350-7188

www.arrowheadranch.org

Site of Bill Graham Presents concerts in the early 1990's, and birthplace of the H.O.R.D.E. festival, Sullivan County's legendary Arrowhead Ranch is back!

Callicoon Tractor Parade

The Tractor Parade, with its beginnings in the mid 1990's, has become a beloved favorite for local folks and visiting tourists alike. The day begins with breakfast at the Callicoon Fire Hall. It finishes with a tasty barbeque at the Delaware Youth Center. In between, starting at noon, it's a cavalcade of hundreds of tractors: old & new, antique & modern sleek. Find a spot on Main Street, settle in, and prepare to spend the next few hours enjoying the perennial must-see event of the Summer season!



Sunday, June 10 ~ tractor@callicoonyouthcenter.org



KAUNEONGA BLOCK PARTY



Now in its third year, the Kauneonga Block Party draws thousands of block-partiers of all ages to this family friendly event!

Free admission! More than 40 vendors! Musical Performances! Eclectic Foods! Dancing! Artists! Lakefront Events! Kids Activities! Unique Crafts! Forestburgh Playhouse Performs!

June 17, Kauneonga Lake NY ~ 908-202-6033

HONESDALE ROOTS & RHYTHM FESTIVAL

Direct from Toronto!

★ ★ THE SADIES ★ ★

And Featuring

SOUR BRIDGES THE WHISKEY KILLERS

Bobby Kyle and the Administrators

...with local acts to be announced...

June 16 2018

Northeastern Pennsylvania's Homegrown Free Music and Arts Festival!
Festivities start with local bands at 10:30 am on Honesdale's Main Street and will move to Church Street's Central Park as the day progresses.

**CALICOOON
THEATER**

⇒ **Solo: a Star Wars Story** (PG 13)

MAY Fri. 25 - Thurs. 31, JUNE Fri. 1 - Thurs. 7, Fri. 8 - Thurs 14 / Fri. 7:30, Sat. & Sun. 2 & 7:30, Mon., 7:30 thru Thurs.

Adults: \$10 ~ Mondays & Matinees: Adults \$8 ~ Children \$7.

Coming Friday JUNE 15: **The Incredibles 2** (PG)

