

Rock 'n' roller stops by The Birk

BIRKENFELD — The small Birk roadhouse — located between Jewell and Mist in rural Columbia County — will host a big talent this weekend.

Buck Johnson, the keyboardist and backing vocalist in Aerosmith's tour band, will perform with his own The Buck Johnson Band at 7 p.m. Saturday, March 11. The Birk is located at 11139 Highway 202. Tickets are \$20 and are available at tickettomato.com. For more information, call The Birk at 503-755-2722.

As a member of Aerosmith's tour band, Johnson has traveled the world and performed with some of the best in the business to huge crowds. Starting in May, he'll embark with Steven Tyler on Aerosmith's farewell tour across Europe.

"You will see some surprises and extremely entertaining performances on this tour from Aerosmith, they don't do anything halfway at all," Johnson says. "I know the band is really looking forward to it and looking forward to seeing the fans around the world."

"I can't describe with only words what level of energy and creativity that this band and its members can capture and maintain after all these decades," he continues. "Performing and touring with Aerosmith is beyond my comprehension to relate and convey — sometimes I almost pinch myself to make sure it is not a fantasy or a day-dream. This has been one of my biggest achievements in my life and I shall never forget how The Bad Boys from Boston have treated me over the years. I'm very lucky indeed."

But before the big farewell tour, Johnson is doing a tour of his own. With the release of his debut album "Enjoying the Ride" this



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Buck Johnson a keyboardist and backing vocalist in Aerosmith's tour band, will perform at The Birk on March 11.

year from Spectra Music Group, Johnson is hitting the road across the West Coast, including the stop at The Birk.

The album showcases songs that reflect his life's journey with all its ups and downs. It also includes guest appearances from notable musicians like Kenny Aronoff on drums, Waddy Wachtel on guitar and Stuart Duncan on fiddle.

"My new album 'Enjoying the Ride' from Spectra Music Group couldn't be better titled— from the lyrics reflecting on my own life, the peaks and valleys of performing and living on the road, to my marriage with my incredibly supportive wife Kym and my mentor and co-writing pillar Charlie Midnight," Johnson says. "At the end of the day, I'm just a mirrored reflection from some of the wonderful people in my life."

All the songs were written by the writing team of Johnson and producer/songwriter Charlie Midnight (James Brown, Joe Cocker, The Doobie Brothers, Joni Mitchell, Jamie Johnson, Hillary Duff), with collaborations on

"Enjoying The Ride" and "Live For The Song" with hit Nashville songwriter James Hicks.

Johnson hails from the back roads of Shady Grove, Alabama, just outside Birmingham, where he grew up singing Gospel throughout the South with his musical family. Since then he has performed in churches, bars, festivals and concert halls throughout the world. He has also toured and recorded with such notable artists as The Doobie Brothers, Tal Bachman, John Waite, Shawn Mullins, Matthew Sweet, Timothy B. Schmit of the Eagles and many more.

As a songwriter, Johnson has been influenced by the music he grew up with. In 2005, he co-wrote the international hit single "Just Feel Better" for Carlos Santana featuring Steven Tyler from Aerosmith. He was a member and one of the primary songwriters in the country band Whiskey Falls, which had two Top 40 country singles released from their self-titled 2007 album. Johnson also has had numerous songs in TV shows and in major film releases.

PROVIDENCE
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5:30 – 8 p.m.



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We are excited to partner with **Cherilyn Frei**, Director of Mission Integration & Spiritual Care, and her husband, **David Frei**, who created the Angel on a Leash therapy dog program and its implementation to several clinical settings across the United States.

The event is free. Please call 503-717-7171 for more information.



David Frei, founder and author, *Angel on a Leash*, with Angel, therapy dog.

Books will be available for signing by David after the formal presentation.



Therapy dogs,
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