



Linn County Blues Society  
 PO Box 2672  
 Cedar Rapids, IA  
 52406-2672



scan for LCBS web info

MAR2015



Issue 246

The Publication of the Linn County Blues Society - lcbs.org

March 2015



**Inside this March 2015 issue —**

- Tommy Castro & The Painkillers coming to Val Air Ballroom
- Brass Transit Authority (BTA) at CR Library
- Philly Cheeze reviews: Josh Hoyer & The Shadowboxers
- Shaun Murphy review, Loretta, by Peter "Blewzzman" Lauro
- 2015 Chili Challenge, March 8.
- Josh Hoyer & The Shadowboxers at Amana (see ad)
- Local LIVE music schedules

**Blues & Buffett Chili Challenge 2015**

**Smiling Bob Approved!**

**Current list of members of the IBHOF**

- |                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Big Mike Edwards    | James Kinds        |
| Billylee Janey      | Jim DeKoster       |
| Bo Ramsey           | Jimmy Pryor        |
| Bob DeForest        | Joanne Jackson     |
| Bob Dorr            | Joe Price          |
| Bob Pace            | Louis McTizic      |
| Bruce McCabe        | Mel Harper         |
| Catfish Keith       | Patrick Hazell     |
| Chicago Rick Lussie | Perry Welsh        |
| Craig Erickson      | Richie Hayward     |
| Darrell Leonard     | Rico Cicalo        |
| Dartanyan Brown     | Ron DeWitte        |
| Del Saxman Jones    | Ron McClain        |
| Dennis McMurrin     | Ronnie Brewer      |
| Eddie Haywood       | Rose Marie Webster |
| Ella Ruth Piggee    | Sam Salomone       |
| Elvin Bishop        | Scott Cochran      |
| Ernie Peniston      | Sid Wingfield      |
| Eugene Jackson      | Speck Redd         |
| Fred Walk           | Stephen Miller     |
| Gary Gibson         | Steve George       |
| Gary Jackson        | Steve Hayes        |
| George Davis        | Tom Giblin         |
| Gilbert Davis       | Willis Dobbins     |
| Grant Townsell      |                    |
| Harlan Thomas       |                    |
| Hawkeye Herman      |                    |



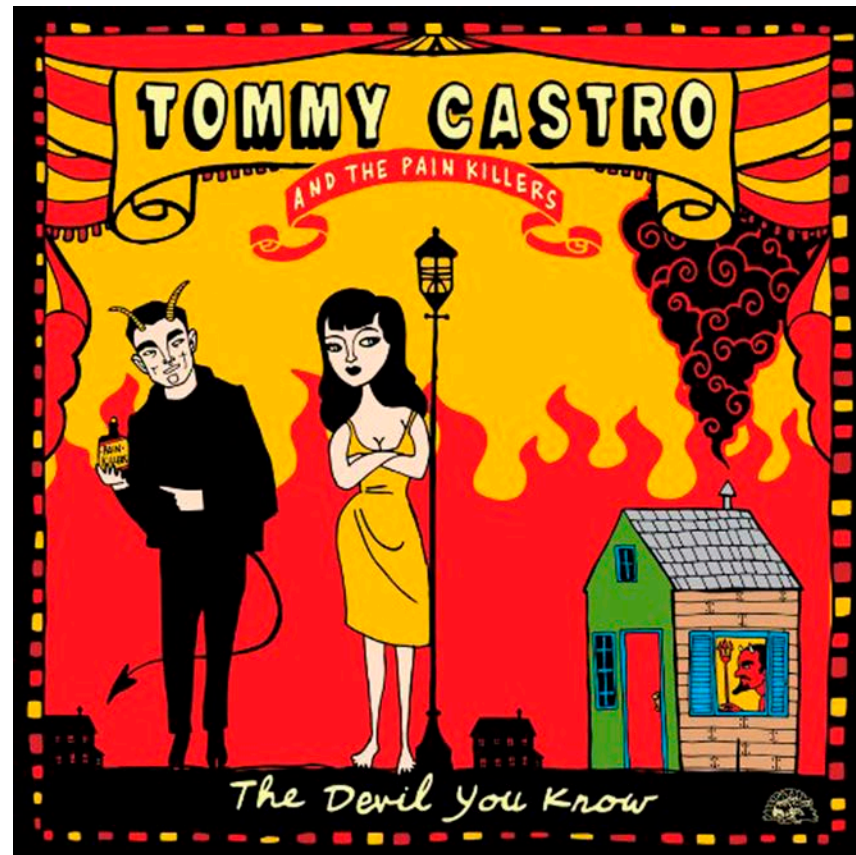
- Friday Blues-**
- 6-10 PM - The Big Mo Blues Show
  - 10-11 PM - Backstage Blues
  - 11 PM to midnight - Kcck Jams
  - Midnight Blues CD
- Saturday Blues -**
- 6-10 PM - Da Blues with Bobby D
  - 10-11 PM - The Crawfish Circuit
  - 11 PM -midnight - The Melting Pot
  - Midnight Blues CD

# Tommy Castro & The Painkillers

**Val Air Ballroom, West Des Moines, March 18!**

press release- Alligator Records

Tommy Castro and The Painkillers, touring in support of their latest Alligator Records album, THE DEVIL YOU KNOW, will perform at the Val Air Ballroom in West Des Moines on Wednesday, March 18. Award-winning guitarist/vocalist/songwriter Castro is famed for his signature brand of tough, rocking rhythm and blues, thrilling fans around the world with his incendiary live performances. With his eyes and ears firmly on the future, Castro, along with The Painkillers -- original Tommy Castro Band bassist Randy McDonald, Bowen Brown on drums and James Pace on keyboards -- has stripped his music down to its raw essence as he rockets into the next phase of his storied career. Castro and The Painkillers received a 2014 Blues Blast Music Award for Rock Blues Album Of The Year for The Devil You Know.



Wednesday, March 18, 2015  
 2015 Blues Series  
 Val Air Ballroom  
 301 Ashworth Road  
 West Des Moines, IA  
 515-223-6152

Showtime: 8:00pm  
 Ticket price: \$10 advance / \$15 day of show  
[valairballroom.com](http://valairballroom.com)

The Linn County Blues Society is a way cool, non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of Blues music in Eastern Iowa as well as to provide charitable contributions to other community organizations. LCBS is an Affiliated Organization in the Blues Foundation's international network. The BLUESPAPER is a monthly publication of the LCBS. Website: [lcbs.org](http://lcbs.org)

#### LCBS Officers

President - Frank Wilson  
 Vice President - Janet Evans  
 Secretary - Stephanie West  
 Treasurer - Bill Graham



#### Directors at Large

Bill Meeks, Bob DeForest, Steve Miller

#### Committee Chairs

Education: John 'Big Mo' Heim  
 Entertainment - Greg West  
 Membership - Kevin Cutsforth  
 Merchandise - Phil Smith

#### The Bluespaper & LCBS folks

Bluespaper Editor - Evan Vulich  
 Photographers - see bylines  
 Staff Writers - see bylines  
 Distribution - Kevin Cutsforth  
 Parliamentarian - Bill Meeks  
 Web Administrator: Open  
 Public Relations-Open

#### Membership

To learn more about the Linn County Blues Society or to join, see the membership form in this Bluespaper or the LCBS website. Your membership includes;

- Discount admissions to many local Blues activities.
- Monthly LCBS Bluespaper.
- Voting rights in the LCBS elections.
- Being a part of the groove!

#### Bluespaper Contact information

Send news, band or club live entertainment schedules, advertising, donuts, cookies, or pie to:  
 Evan Vulich at: [evulich@mchsi.com](mailto:evulich@mchsi.com).

#### Bluespaper Ad Rates

\$15.00 - Business card size - 2" x 3.5"  
 \$25.00 - Quarter page ad - 3.5" x 4.75"  
 \$50.00 - Half page ad - 4.75" x 7.25"  
 \$100.00 - Full page - 7.5" x 10"

**Submission Requirements-** All ads, photos or scanned images, either color or black/white, need to be 300ppi. Native Adobe Illustrator, Photoshop, JPG, TIFF, EPS, PDF, BMP accepted. Ads created in Word may cause dementia, severe cramping and diarrhea. **Deadline for submissions is the 19<sup>th</sup> of the month.**

**Moving?** Send your new address to; LCBS, PO Box 2672, Cedar Rapids, IA 52406-2672 so you won't miss a single issue of your Bluespaper.

Get back Loretta. Your mother's waiting for you - wearing her high-heel shoes and her low-neck sweater



**Sunday  
 March 8  
 4-8PM**



Amana Colonies Golf Club & Event Center presents  
 2014 Blues Blast Music Awards Nominee

# JOSH HOYER & THE SHADOW BOXERS

**Saturday March 28! 8PM**

Josh has played & toured with Magic Slim & E.C. Scott

Doors open at 7:00pm  
 \$20 Advance/ \$25 Door

Tickets available at 319 - 622- 6222 or (877) 777-8758  
 email: [lois13@southslope.net](mailto:lois13@southslope.net)

Amana Colonies Golf and Event Center • 451 27th Ave., Amana, IA 52203



[jhoyerandshadowboxers.com](http://jhoyerandshadowboxers.com)

Amana Colonies Golf Club & Event Center opened in 1989, and has been masterfully designed to preserve the features of the land. The 18-hole championship course is located on 600 acres of stately white oak trees and forest. The Club has a PGA golf professional on staff, pro shop, driving range, golf carts with GPS, stay and play packages with condos next door all with reasonable green fees. There are also accommodations for wedding receptions, private parties, family and school reunions. Food and beverages are always available! [www.amanagolfcourse.com](http://www.amanagolfcourse.com)

# Local Music 2015

## March Blues Calendar

Sun. 1	Mahoney's Irish Pub Parlor City Pub	Slewgrass, 6PM Brainchild, 4-8PM
Tue. 3	Parlor City Pub QDogs BBQ Co.	Tony Brown hosts jam, 7-10PM Kevin Burt, 11:30AM & 5:30PM
Wed. 4	QDogs BBQ Co.	Bryce Janey, 7PM
Thur. 5	J.M. O'Malley's QDogs BBQ Co.	Bryce Janey Group w/ Dan Johnson, 8-12 BF Burt, 8PM
Fri. 6	QDogs BBQ Co. Cedar River Landing Cedar Ridge Winery	BF Burt, 8PM Brass Transit Authority (BTA) 9-1 Ducey & Johnson Trio, 6-9PM
Sat. 7	QDogs BBQ Co. Village Meat Market	Craig Erickson solo, 8-11PM Tony Brown & Dan Johnson, 11-2PM
Sun. 8 ★	Mahoney's Irish Pub Parlor City Pub <b>Chili Challenge</b>	Natural Oil, 6PM Chris Duarte Group, 4-8PM Dan Johnson as a judge, 1-4PM
Tue. 10	Parlor City Pub	Johnny Kilowatt hosts jam, 7-10PM
Wed. 11	QDogs BBQ Co.	Bryce Janey & Dan Johnson, 7PM
Thur. 12	J.M. O'Malley's QDogs BBQ Co. Parlor City Pub	Gibby jams with friends, 8-12 BF Burt, 8PM McMurrin & Johnson, 7-10PM
Fri. 13	Leo's Gen. Lounge QDogs BBQ Co.	Mark Moss, acoustic, 8PM Zachory Freed, 8PM
Sat. 14	QDogs BBQ Co. Village Meat Market	Craig Erickson solo, 8-11PM Kevin Burt & Dan Johnson, 11-2PM
Sun. 15	Beaver Creek Mahoney's Irish Pub Parlor City Pub	Skeeter Louis jams with friends 4-8PM Marbin, 6PM Local On The 8s, 4-8PM
Tue. 17	QDogs BBQ Co. Ernie's Parlor City Pub	Zachory Freed, 3PM McMurrin & Johnson, 3-6PM St. Pat's Day Ryan Phelan hosts jam, 7-10PM
Wed. 18 ★	QDogs BBQ Co. Val Air Ballroom (ad)	BillyLee Janey & friends, 7PM Tommy Castro & Painkillers, W. DesMoines
Thur. 19	J.M. O'Malley's Parlor City Pub	Craig Erickson Intergalactic Groove, 8-12 McMurrin & Johnson, 7-10PM
Fri. 20	QDogs BBQ Co.	Bryce Janey & friends, 8PM
Sat. 21	QDogs BBQ Co. Leo's Gen. Lounge Village Meat Market Ernie's Parlor City Pub	Kevin Burt, 7PM The Ramblers, 8PM Bryce Janey & Dan Johnson, 11-2PM McMurrin & Johnson, 3-6PM St. Joe's Day Craig Erickson Excursion, 8-12
Sun. 22	Mahoney's Irish Pub Parlor City Pub	Ben Schmidt Band, 6PM Candymakers, 4-8PM
Tue. 24	Parlor City Pub	Matt Panek hosts jam, 7-10PM
Wed. 25	QDogs BBQ Co.	Billy Lee Janey & friends, 7PM
Thur. 26	J.M. O'Malley's QDogs BBQ Co. Parlor City Pub	Gibby jams with friends, 8-12 BF Burt, 6PM McMurrin & Johnson, 7-10PM
Fri. 27	QDogs BBQ Co.	Bryce Janey, 8PM
Sat. 28 ★	Amana Golf Center QDogs BBQ Co. Village Meat Market	Josh Hoyer & Shadowboxers, 8PM (see ad) Kevin Burt, 7PM Ducey & Johnson, 11-2PM
Sun. 29	Mahoney's Irish Pub Parlor City Pub Spicoloi's, Waterloo	James Kennedy & Friends, 6PM Mighty Shade, 4-8PM Blue Band, 6-9PM
Tue. 31	Parlor City Pub	Bryce Janey hosts jam, 7-10PM

## Be sure to check this out!

**EVERY** Sat. - Dan Johnson Blues Duo, Village Meat Market  
Sun. - Beaver Creek - Skeeter Louis Jams 4-8PM  
Sun. - Rumors Popcorn Jam, 4-7PM **NEW!**  
Sun. - Cooter's. Jam w/ Slide Williams. 4-9PM **NEW!**  
Tues. - The Famous Parlor City Jam. 7-10PM  
Thur. - J.M.O'Malley's, T-Bone Giblin Jams, 8PM  
Thur. - Dennis "Daddy-0" McMurrin at Parlor City 7-10PM



Local favorite for family dining since 1968. Nightly we feature mid western USDA choice steaks, slow cooked & tender prime rib of beef (Friday & Saturday nights), award winning "falling off the bone" Bar-B-Q pork ribs, Gulf shrimp, blackened red snapper, honey mustard chicken breast, king crab legs and many other entrees, salads and pastas to choose from. Most meals include a trip to our deluxe salad bar, a choice of potato, and fresh baked bread.

The LCBS meets on the 1st Monday of each month!  
See you at the Longbranch on March 2, 6:30PM  
for the LCBS general meeting. Guests are welcome!  
90 Twixt Town Rd., Cedar Rapids • 377-6386.

## Tomaso's Pizza

364-4313



3234 Center Point Rd.

A very special THANK YOU to these businesses who have signed up to help us Keep the Blues Alive!

- C.R. Bank & Trust
- Chappy's Safari
- Chrome Horse Saloon
- The Longbranch
- Dudley Bros. Const.
- Ron Schantz Const.
- J.M. O'Malley's
- Village Meat Market
- 16th Avenue Prod.
- KCCCK 88.3
- Checkers Tavern
- Home Town Restyling
- Next Door
- Tomaso's Pizza
- Mahoney's Irish Pub
- Sports Clips

## BTA at the CR Library

Free concert on a very cold night!

Evan Vulich, LCBS editor

If you liked BS&T and CTA, you'll love BTA. BS&T, of course, is Blood, Sweat & Tears and CTA was Chicago Transit Authority later to be shortened to simply Chicago.



BTA is Brass Transit Authority. A local group of some of the area's most accomplished musicians who know their audience knows the music they play. Everyone there grew up on it and that audience knew every note, every word, all the intros, breaks, turn arounds, bridges and endings. BTA didn't disappoint on a very cold Thursday evening at the Cedar Rapids Public Library for a free concert. As soon as BTA kicked off the night, instantly, the enthusiastic crowd fell in to it right away.

BTA is like a time machine. They take you back to when this music was fresh and new. I still remember when the first Blood, Sweat & Tears album came out. Stunningly creative, jazzy arrangements and musical prowess that staggered us young and upcoming musicians. I had to keep setting the needle back (on the record player to those under 30) to hear a bass line by BS&T's, Jim Fielder, to try to grasp what he was playing. BTA's bassman, Christopher Bird, floated effortlessly over those lines that undergirded the band's driving performance.

Denny Redmond on keyboard played signature riffs while the tight horn section didn't drop a note. You gotta hear Pat Smith play the guitar on these tunes. You'd almost think the late Terry Kath was up there playing again.

Rob Wallace, BTA's lead singer, has a clear and wide vocal range that handles this music very well. Of course, Dennis McPartland on the drums, effortlessly holding it all together.

BTA's music is tight and quite technical. Their repertoire is not an easy song list to play but these guys handled it with ease. You'd be hard pressed to hear this band play a simple I, IV, V.

You need to visit BTACR.com to get the complete lowdown on these musicians' credentials and accomplishments over the years to get a real appreciation for what they're bringing to the area music scene.

If you haven't heard BTA yet, you're missing a real treat into the past. They bring this music back with a vengeance and almost force you to relive those years when when all you had to worry about was making it through high school and having enough money for gas.



Left to right; Dennis McPartland, Dennis Pedde, Greg Young, Denny Redmond, Rob Wallace, Pat Smith, Chris Bird, Peter Hart, and Matt Driscoll.



Pick of the Month

Josh Hoyer  
& The Shadowboxers  
Silver Street Records 2015  
Release Date: 2014

### Living By The Minute

One might think this has to be a Detroit or Memphis band upon first listen, but Josh Hoyer and the Shadowboxers actually are from Lincoln Nebraska. This is where the members of the band met and began creating some of the coolest and funkier sounds being made today. Living by the Minute, Hoyer's electric sophomore album, is one big bowl of fun. With Hoyer holding down the B2 and lead vocals, the Shadowboxers consist of guitarist Benny Kushner, drummer Justin G. Jones, and bassist Josh Bargar, along with Mike Dee on saxophone and Tommy Van Den Berg on trombone.

Hoyer suavely attacks the soulful "Blood and Bone" much like James Brown would've back at the Apollo, tossing out little growls like vocal grenades. A funky bassline from Bargar leads Hoyer and company through the Isaac Hayes influenced "Misfit Children". This is definitely one of my favorites. Pure energy seems to emit from the pulsating, dance-friendly "Real Time". I could very well see Sharon Jones covering this one. Backing vocalists Hanna Bendler, Kim Moser, and Megan Spain are a lovely addition to the stand-out track, "A Man Who Believes His Own Lies". This song is the pocket Aces on the album.

Living by the Minute is pure satisfaction. It doesn't get much better than this.

— by Phillip Smith

"You'll end up living in a van down by the river"

# Shaun Murphy

## "Loretta"

Peter "Blewzzman" Lauro



Vision Wall Records

Prior to doing sitting down to write a review, I like to give the CD another listen so that I can make notes as to which songs I may want to address in the review. So with a pen nearby and a sticky note on the cover of the disc, I gave it a listen. When I saw that I was on track six and the sticky note had 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 written on it, I chuckled and asked myself "What the heck you I doing, Pete? This is Shaun Murphy!" That's just the way it is with her. Song after song, CD after CD, regardless if it's an original or a cover, regardless of the song style and regardless of the music's genre - the woman never sounds anything less than great. As a matter of fact, while reviewing her last release, I do recall saying that "I'd enjoy hearing Shaun Murphy sing nursery rhymes". Amen!

On her newest release - "Loretta" - Shaun Murphy, lead vocalist extraordinaire, is joined by some very recognizable performers; Randy Coleman on bass; George Lilly on drums; Kenneth Michael Kramer on rhythm guitar; Jack Pearson, Jimi Fiano and Rob McNelley on lead guitar; Mark T. Jordan and Larry Van Loon on keyboards; and along with Shaun herself, Randy Coleman and Matt Workman provide the background vocals. The CD contains twelve tracks of which seven are Shaun Murphy originals.

Having worked with many of the masters in the world of rock, Shaun's ability to blow the roof off with a smoker is second to none. Making an awesome first impression, she opens with an aggressive original titled "Don't Lie To Me". Randy and George are fueling this powerful production with some relentless rhythm

and it's got Jack jammin' out savage guitar licks.

With lyrics containing phrases such as "Kiss me like whiskey, leave a taste on my tongue...." / "Leave your fire with me....make it strong, sweet and slow...." / "....I need you, gotta have you....drown me in tenderness one more time", one would tend to think "Kiss Me Like Whiskey" is somewhat of a seductive song. Then you listen to Shaun sing it, accompanied by Jack's stinging guitar leads and you'll know just how right you were. Wow!

The discs title track, "Loretta", is another of Shaun's originals and with it's runaway train type rhythm, and more of Jack's unrestrained guitar leads it's another of it's rockers as well. Loretta, be her real or fictitious, is the kind of woman every man likes to meet but no man wants to marry. That's because all of her sneaking around and cheating ways are sure to give you a fatal case of the blues - or as Shaun refers to it - "dead man's blues". Musically, this one rocks, but lyrically - in the hands of a Carrie Underwood or a Miranda Lambert - it's a country hit.

Being a scorching ballad, "Strange Life" is obviously my personal favorite of the bunch. I'm just a sucker for a slow blues song being belted out by a woman with an emotional and powerful voice....enter Shaun Murphy. I know I said earlier that I could listen to this lady sing anything, and I can. With that said, should she ever ask me, I'd be happy to tell Shaun I'd love nothing better than to hear a CD full of these. Musically it's spot on as well. Randy, George and Larry have the rhythm right where it should be and

Jimi's at disc's best with his ferocious guitar leads. The songs about to end and I'm about to hit replay....again. Great song, greatly done.

The title of this original track includes words that I get to say twice and year, and I wish it were more - "24 Hours From Memphis". As Shaun sings about returning home, part of her emotional lyrics include words that anyone who has ever been there can relate to - "All the music you can feel is right down on Beale.....". George leads this tracks funky rhythm with brilliant drum work and it's Jack making the joyful noise on the lead guitar.

Other tracks on "Loretta" - Shaun Murphy's sixth solo release - include: "I Pity The Fool", "Hard Working Man", "Big Train Stops At Memphis", "Should Be Hard To Love You", "Careful They Say", "Go Away" and "How Strong Is A Woman".

She may not be known as the queen of the blues but as far as this listener is concerned, Shaun Murphy is the "Queen of Music". Check her out at [www.shaunmurphyband.com](http://www.shaunmurphyband.com) or if Bob Seger happens to be playing in a city near you, check her out as part of The Silver Bullet Band. Of course, you will tell her the Blewzzman sent you.

I knew you'd love me as long as you wanted and then someday, you'd leave me for somebody new.

# 2015 Blues 'N' Buffett Chili Challenge!

## Sunday, March 8 - Save the date!



Steve Springer

Won't be long now, the 15th annual Blues 'N' Buffett Chili Challenge is just around the corner. Date is Sunday, March 8th from 1 to 4 PM at the Cedar Rapids Marriott (1200 Collins Rd NE, Cedar Rapids). Tickets are \$8 in advance and \$10 at the door, seniors \$5 (65 and over). Taste over 20 chili recipes which includes least 6 professional entries along with another great silent auction. There will be celebrity judges, including local television and radio personalities who will taste and vote on the Overall Best Chili as well as Best Chili in one of four categories. (Understand however, there are no "losers", all the competitors from both clubs are real winners and the Committee appreciates their loyalty, dedication and support). We have couple more slot to fill so if you know of anyone that would like to enter their chili on behalf of the LCBS, please contact Steve Springer at [steves@mchsi.com](mailto:steves@mchsi.com).

Tickets are available on line. Just "Google Blues and Buffett Chili Challenge".

A big part of the Chili Challenge has always been the terrific silent auction. We have been able to accumulate many unique and one of a kind items which has helped boost donations to our charities. If you have any new or collectable you would like to contribute, contact Steve Springer at [steves@mchsi.com](mailto:steves@mchsi.com) or call 319-395-9516. A few articles that we have to sell so far include many Hawkeye, Cyclone, Panthers, Zach Johnson, Packers, Cubs and Bears items that are signed, tickets to a Cardinal game, Casino overnight stays, numerous food gift cards, hotel rooms with food cards.

All proceed go to the HD Youth Center and the Community Health Free Clinic of Cedar Rapids. The first year for this event was 2001 and that year the profit divided between the charities was \$537. To date, this event has donated over \$75,000. Please attend and help us make this another record year. Again, all profits go to the charities and the charities are located right here in Cedar Rapids. Please attend the event and help us support our community.

The HD Youth Center, a non-profit organization in Cedar Rapids, designed to get young people off the street by encouraging a positive attitude, academic progress and promote a drug-free environment. It was founded by Henry Davison in 1997. Proceeds from the Chili event are used to provide school supplies to needy children, daily hot meal and youth programs at the Youth Center

Community Health Free Clinic of Cedar Rapids: Mission is to provide medical, dental and prescription care for the uninsured and underserved population of Eastern Iowa through the model community partnerships.

It takes a lot of help to support this event, so if you would like to volunteer time on the day of the event, please contact Steve Springer at 319-395-9516 or email at [steves@mchsi.com](mailto:steves@mchsi.com).



### Linn County Blues Society Membership Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 e-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Membership Dues - \$20  Blues Booster/Corporate Sponsor - \$100

Check below if you would like to share your talents with the LCBS in one or more of these areas:

Membership  Bluespaper  Bluesmore  Merchandise  Public Relations  Other

Please mail application and check to: Linn County Blues Society, PO Box 2672, Cedar Rapids, IA 52406-2672. Contact us on the web at [lcb.org](http://lcb.org). Thank you for helping to keep the Blues Alive!