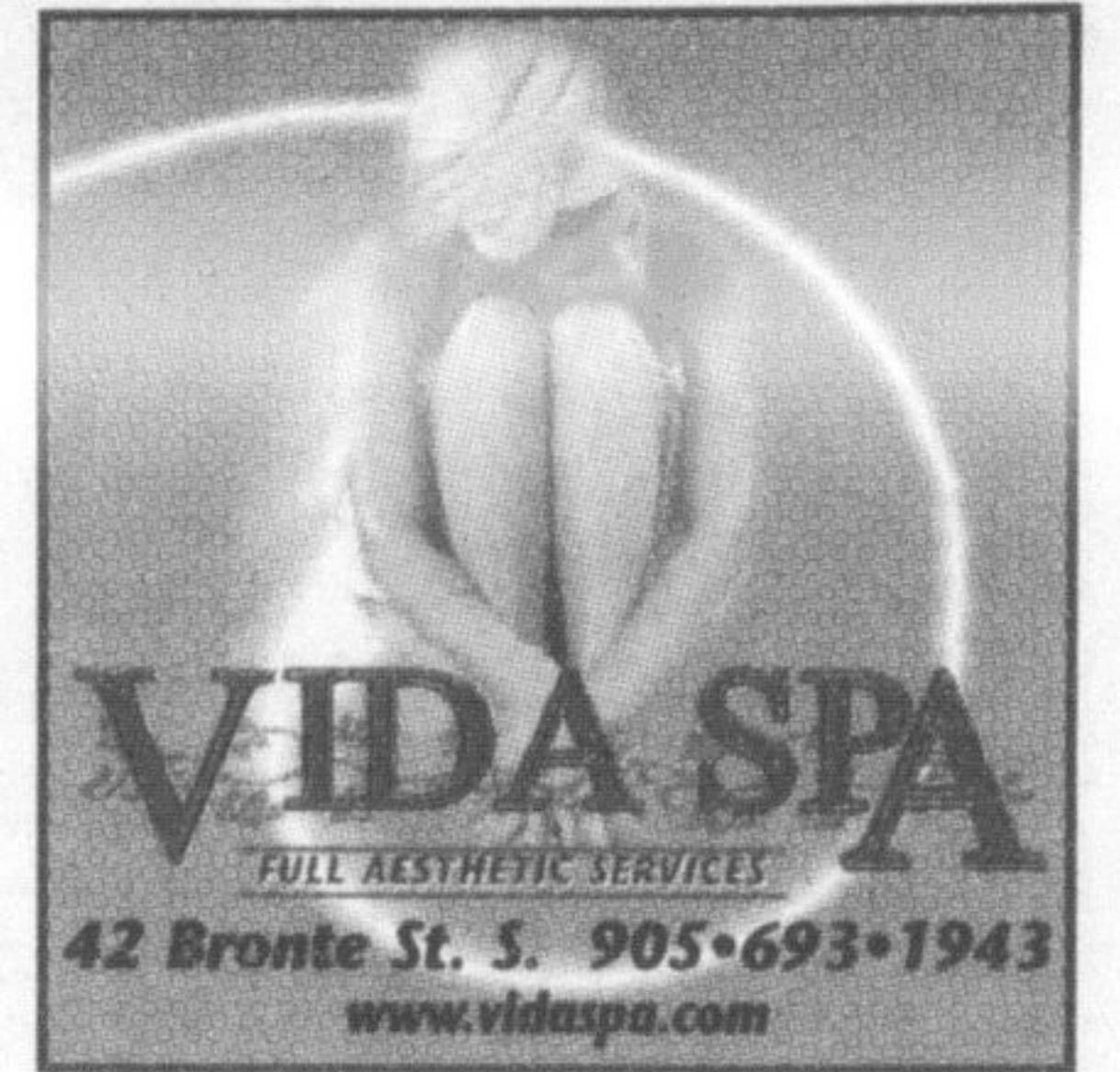


Arts & Entertainment



'60s revisited with Eric Burdon and the Animals

Hardball Café owner says upcoming concert among biggest he's ever had

By **STEPHANIE THIESSEN**
The Champion

Some things never go out of style, while others — think wine and cheese — seem to get better with each passing year.

When it comes to people — especially those in the music industry — the ability to transcend the decades is highly coveted, and just as elusive.

But to fans of Eric Burdon, the 64-year-old musician has managed to do just that.

"Some (music) never seems to age. The artist does, but the songs don't," said promoter Dave Rose, who works with the British musician.

He added the radio stations seem to agree.

"A lot of the radio stations still play the songs that made him (Mr. Burdon) popular in the first place," he said.

On May 12 at the Hardball Café on Regional Road 25 — a few kilometres north of Hwy. 401 — Eric Burdon and the Animals will be performing new and old hits for new and old fans. Tickets cost \$42.

"It's going to be a phenomenal show," Mr. Rose said. "Anyone who's seen him (Mr. Burdon) knows he's a real showman and a well-seasoned musician after the many years he's been (performing)."

If anyone's excited, it's Carlo Giangrande, owner of Hardball, who said Eric Burdon is the biggest act he's brought in since Vince Neil of Motley Crue.

"Brian Jones from the Rolling Stones said he's one of the best blues singers ever," Mr. Giangrande enthused, adding the concert will appeal to anyone looking for some good music.

The fact that Mr. Burdon has had a host



of top-40 hits throughout the years and left an indelible mark in rock history will likely mean a sold-out evening, Mr. Giangrande predicted, adding he remembers listening to Mr. Burdon's songs growing up.

The Animals — an R&B group — was formed in the early '60s by members Mr. Burdon, Bryan 'Chas' Chandler, Alan Price, John Steel and Hilton Valentine.

It didn't take long for the world to take notice of the group, particularly in the United States and The United Kingdom. Some of their ensuing top hits included House of the Rising Sun, We've Gotta Get Out of This Place, It's My Life, I Put a Spell On You, Don't Stop the Carnival and The Jarrow Song.

The original Animals split in 1965, after which Mr. Burdon formed another band deemed the New Animals, known for hits including San Franciscan Nights and Colored Rain.

In 1975, the original Animals reunited for another album, and in 1983 they embarked on a reunion tour.

In between the original and new Animals, Mr. Burdon was at the forefront of a number of emerging music scenes, and fronted the band WAR, called one of the biggest funk bands of the 1970s.

For the next couple of decades, he worked on numerous collaborations and solo efforts, and appeared in a number of films and television soundtracks.

He and the original Animals were inducted into Cleveland's Rock 'n Roll Hall of Fame in the mid-1990s. Recently, he's been touring and recording and editing various projects.

Tickets for the concert can be purchased at the door or by phone by calling the Hardball Café at (905) 876-2582.

Stephanie Thiessen can be reached at sthiessen@miltoncanadianchampion.com.

Eric Burdon and the Animals are set to perform at Hardball Café May 12.

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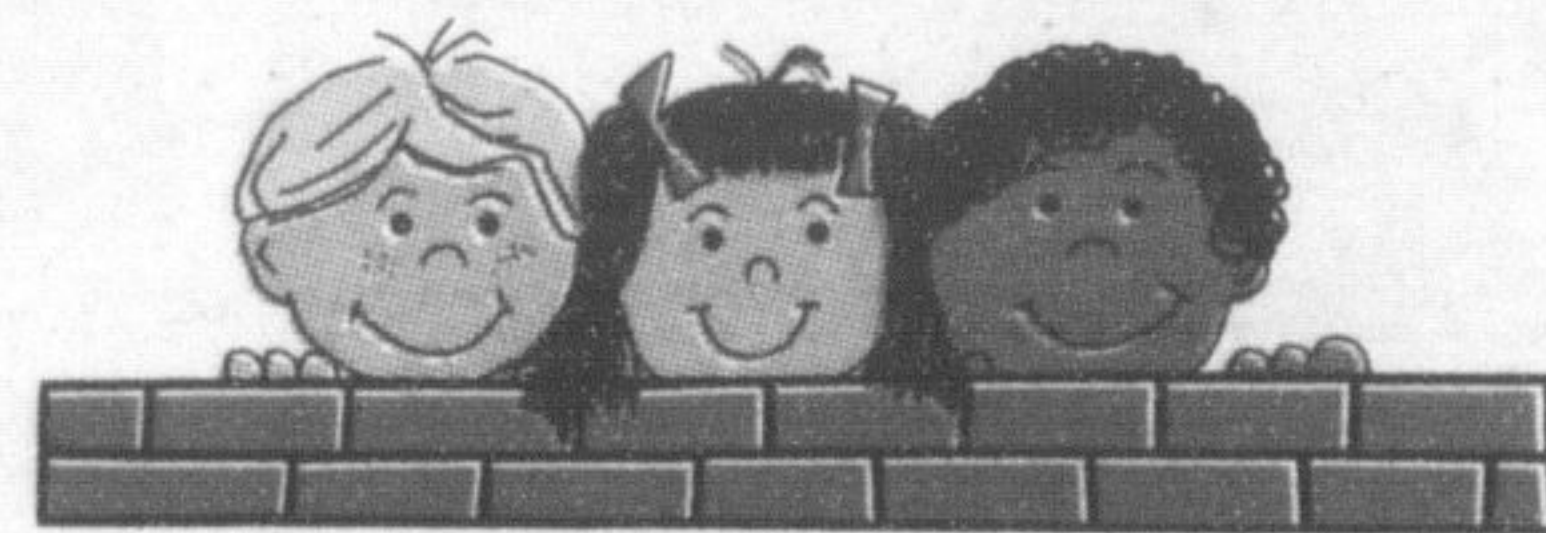
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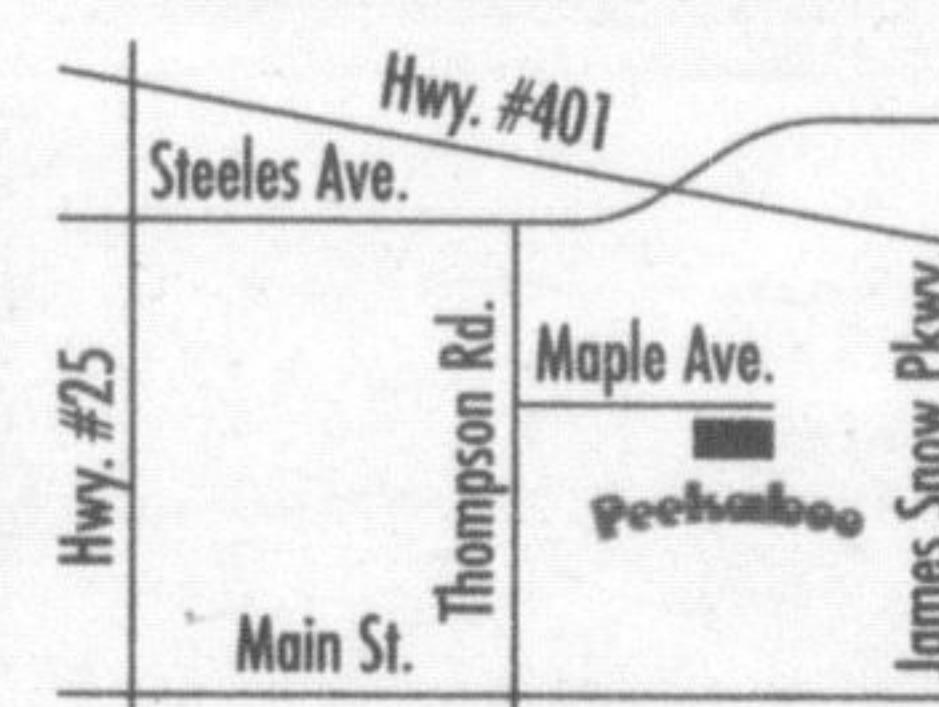
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