

Thousands enjoy Rock the Valley festival in Ansonia

Photos by: City of Ansonia, Nancy Marini, Rich DiCarlo and Patricia Villers



ANSONIA - For the fourth time in five years, spacious Nolan Field was home to thousands of visitors Saturday at Rock the Valley 2019.

Under the bluest skies of a beautiful day, attendees enjoyed a fabulous array of musical acts, great cuisine and quality vendors at an event that culminated in a vibrant fireworks display.

This year's festival was hosted by the Ansonia Cultural Commission (see box), whose members overcame the varied challenges in making this day so special.

And this year, the Ansonia Youth Sports leagues volunteers - parents and players - participated in Rock the Valley by building interest, taking care of the gate admissions and general logistical support.

The sports teams will benefit by sharing the proceeds from the admission fees.

The music of course was the main draw, headlined by the Boston-based Aerosmith tribute band Draw the Line.

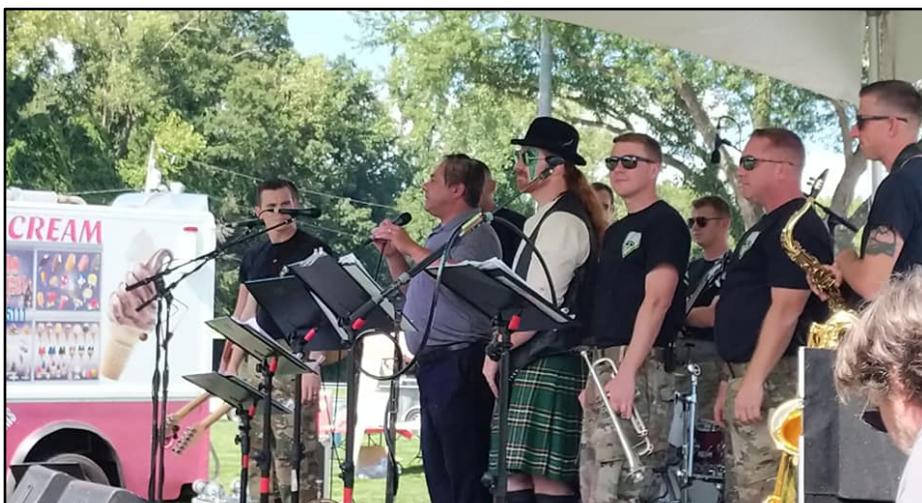
The audience was further treated by the Jimi Hendrix tribute Electric Lady Band, XYZ, an '80s rock band, and the energetic sound of RipChord, the 102D Army reserve band.

Daniel Greenwolf, the kilt clad, fire-eating Celtic magician was emcee.

Great events like Rock the Valley do not exist in a vacuum. So thanks go to the following for making this day possible:

- The Ansonia Police Department for maintaining an orderly presence on a fun day.
- Mike Ehman and the Fire Department for assistance in making the fabulous fireworks display possible
- A.R.M.S. under the leadership of Jared Heon, for ensuring the safety of all on the field and
- Sean Rowley, Mike D'Alessio, and the rest of Ansonia Public Works for getting Nolan field in beautiful shape for Rock the Valley.

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City events coordinator Rich DiCarlo summed up the process of hosting an event of this magnitude. "It builds like a song that begins slowly and develops towards its crescendo. It's a living, breathing thing."

Mayor David S. Cassetti said, "I want to thank every member of our Cultural Commission for working tirelessly to bring one of the best Rock the Valley events to Ansonia.

"Not only did everyone thoroughly enjoy themselves, but our Youth Sports leagues will benefit from the proceeds and Cultural Commission will be able to do more great things for our community."

"Thank you to all of our city departments. This event lived up to its billing! It really was a premier festival. Stay tuned. More exciting events around the corner!"

The hard work of the Ansonia Cultural Commission made this fun event possible:



- Irene Krom-Kirby
- Renee Simpson
- George Pudimat
- Kayleigh Mihalko
- Stephanie Musleh
- Rich DiCarlo
- Ralph Villers

