

## **CELEBRATE SPRING! CONCERT**

With Rhode Islands' high-energy bluegrass super-group

# **THE PEGHEADS**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 6. 7:30 PM. \$15.00.**

**Hampton Community Center**

**178 Main Street, Hampton, CT 06247**

**The Pegheads**, who have been called a “*Rhode Island bluegrass super-group*,” draw on a wide repertoire of bluegrass standards, obscure and familiar mountain tunes, laments, and traditional songs, presenting them all with the stunning instrumental skill and tight vocal harmonies that make bluegrass what it is. This fine ensemble features 17-year Northern Lights veteran **Mike Kropp** (banjo), multi-instrumentalist blues/folk artist **Martin Grosswendt** (guitar), former Neon Valley Boys and Northern Lights member **Jeff Horton** (bass), former “Neon” **Karl Dennis** (fiddle), and wunderkind **Ben Pearce** (mandolin).

Doors open at 7:00 PM. The hall will be set up cabaret-style for our trademark “folk-tailgating.” Feel free to BYO-whatever!

Tickets are \$15 for adults; accompanied children are free. Reservations are strongly recommended. Send your check and request for seats to:

Hampton Recreation and Community Activities Commission

Box 143

Hampton CT 06247.

For more information: 860-455-2056



**The Pegheads**

**Mike Kropp** is one of the country's premier three-finger-style banjoists. A member of Northern Lights for 17 years, he recorded CDs for Flying Fish, Red House Records and Prime CD. Since the 1960s he has performed and recorded with artists ranging from Vassar Clements and Peter Rowan to Don MacLean and Jonathan Edwards. Mike is fluent in all styles of five-string banjo playing, including traditional Scruggs picking and modern new-grass, as well as folk, old time and classical. Mike has taught banjo and participated in workshops at festivals throughout the US.

**Martin Grosswendt**, once described by U. Utah Phillips as "a rumor in his own time," has been a presence on the folk and traditional music scene for nearly three decades. A musician's musician and singer, he plays guitar, five-string banjo, mandolin, fiddle, bass and dobro. Martin began his career at 17 as a session musician for Philo Records and established a solo career playing at festivals and coffeehouses across the country. In recent years he has pursued his obsession with Cajun and old time music as the bassist with Magnolia and guitarist with the Pegheads.

**Jeff Horton** has been playing and singing bluegrass for over thirty years, his vocal range and power earning him the nickname "Hurricane" Horton. He was a founding member of the Neon Valley Boys, once Rhode Island's premiere bluegrass band. From 1990 he played with Northern Lights for six years, touring nationally and recording three CDs. Jeff has performed with Jonathan Edwards, Peter Rowan and fiddle legend Vassar Clements. He also plays with an Irish band and the Mary Maguire Band and in the past few years has booked a few well-attended reunion concerts with the Neon Valley Boys.

**Karl Dennis** has long been a fixture in Rhode Island folk and bluegrass circles. Karl was a founding member of the Neon Valley Boys and has performed with a number of other bands through the years, including Cheap Music and The Lost Melody Ramblers. A fine singer and instrumentalist, he is known for his fiddle playing but is also proficient on guitar and banjo, as well as mandolin and any other instrument he picks up. Karl is also known for his quick wit and his ability to repair anything with his pocketknife.

**Ben Pearce** was originally a marginal concert pianist, and now makes his musical magic on an F-5 mandolin and finds transporting his instrument from gig to gig much easier. Recently relocated from our nation's capitol, where he spent his time out from behind the mandolin in and out of culinary institutions, he is a long-time student of bluegrass music and a sharp dresser. Ben has established a reputation as one of New England's top mandolin builders with his work at Outlier Workshop.

So what brought these five together? A love of traditional bluegrass; respect for each other's musicianship; . . . and besides, no one else would put up with them. Join **The Pegheads** at Hampton's Little River Series for a great evening of bluegrass the way it's supposed to be played.