

this WEEK FOCUS ON NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE

Niagara-on-the-Lake reporter Eddie Chau 905-688-2444 ext. 316

NOTL rockin' in 2007 Hundreds party with Niagara Rhythm Section at The Anchorage to welcome the new year

BY EDDIE CHAU
THIS WEEK

NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE — While most people were counting down the minutes until 2007 in Niagara Falls or from the comforts of their homes, for about 300 Niagara-on-the-Lake residents, The Anchorage was the place to be Sunday night.

Outside as the rain poured not a soul stirred the streets, inside the hotel and popular eatery; patrons were rocking the night away as the Niagara Rhythm Section performed to cheering crowds and dancing couples decked out in party hats and noisemakers. As band members Dave Norris, Penner MacKay, Steve Goldberger and other guest musicians performed R&B and some good ol' fashion rock and roll to pump up the crowd as midnight loomed around the corner.

Since forming in 2003, the Niagara Rhythm Section has been a regular fixture at The Anchorage every Saturday night. New Year's Eve was not only their first Sunday performance, but also the first time they've performed on Dec. 31.

The performance, known as the Niagara Rhythm Section Extravaganza, featured performances by the trio along with guest musicians Ed Kopala, Denis Kedic and Steve Grisbrook. For Goldberger, New Year's Eve had a different vibe compared to their usual weekend gigs.

"There's a different energy showing from this crowd," Goldberger told *This Week* during the band's intermission. "There's six of us on the floor at once and we each have a lot to offer. There was a lot of improvising out there. We did an impromptu tribute to (the late) James Brown."

"It's all about entertaining the crowd, giving them a good time and sending them home happy in the New Year."

Percussionist MacKay agreed with Goldberger and said it's satisfying to see saw a few dozen heads bob their heads to the beats of their songs.

"It's a lively crowd," he said. "And I loved every moment of it. It's all about good music, you know?"

CONTINUED ON 13

SHOP. BID. BUY.

www.niagarathisweekauction.com

Thorold
Community
Credit Union



63 Front Street, S., Thorold • 905-227-1106
www.thoroldcu.com



EDDIE CHAU/THIS WEEK

Drummer Dave Norris of the Niagara Rhythm Section warms up the crowd for the new year Sunday night by entertaining patrons at the Anchorage with some good old fashion rock and roll. About 350 people packed the popular eatery to welcome 2007 at midnight.

NOTL ...

CONTINUED FROM 12

Sandra Marynissen is a regular at The Anchorage on Saturday nights. She said she couldn't help but get up from the bar where she sipped a beverage to strut her stuff on the dance floor.

A makeshift clock tower was constructed atop The Anchorage's roof for the countdown to midnight. A few minutes before 12 a.m., about two dozen people braved the wet weather to gather outside.

"Happy New Year!" they screamed with streamers and noisemakers in hand. Resident Susan Ferrier-MacKay said she's hoping this will become an annual tradition at The Anchorage.

"This was fun," she said. "We should do this again next year."

JOHN M

Please call for

- Federal
- Income security pr
Em
- Commemorative

50 Divi

50 Ch

Po

92 Charlo

