

 **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Press contacts:
Jay Kelly, LCWA Jim Jarvis, Paramount Theatre
jkelly@lcwa.comor312.565.4623 jimj@paramountarts.com or 630.723.2474

**CLASSIC MUSIC FANS, REJOICE! THE HAPPY TOGETHER TOUR, FEATURING
THE BEST MUSIC OF THE 60s AND 70s PERFORMED BY THE ORIGINAL ARTISTS, RETURNS TO AURORA’S PARAMOUNT THEATRE ON AUGUST 22**

****

**ONE NIGHT ONLY! (from left) THE TURTLES FEATURING FLO & EDDIE, CHUCK NEGRON formerly of
Three Dog Night, MARK FARNER formerly of Grand Funk Railroad,
GARY LEWIS & THE PLAYBOYS and MITCH RYDER & THE DETROIT WHEELS**

AURORA, IL, July 18, 2014 – Back by popular demand, **The Happy Together Tour 2014 – this year** starring **The Turtles featuring Flo & Eddie, Chuck Negron of Three Dog Night, Mark Farner of Grand Funk Railroad, Gary Lewis & The Playboys** and **Mitch Ryder & The Detroit Wheels –** makes its fourth annual Chicago-area stop, one-night-only, Friday, August 22 at 8 p.m. at the Paramount Theatre, 23 E. Galena Blvd. in downtown Aurora. Tickets are $59.50. For tickets and information, visit [**ParamountAurora.com**](http://www.paramountaurora.com/), call the Paramount box office at **(630) 896-6666**, or purchase in person at the Paramount Theatre box office, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Saturday.

Be there, preferably in full tie-dye, when **Flo & Eddie** sing all of their great Turtles classics including, of course, the tour’s title song “Happy Together.” Don’t miss **Chuck Negron** belt out “Joy to the World” and other rockin’ hits by Three Dog Night. **Mark Farner** will be “Your Captain” through the Grand Funk Railroad set. There’s **Gary Lewis & The Playboys** with their “Diamond Ring,” and no rock-n-roll show would be complete without **Mitch Ryder & The Detroit Wheels** cranking “Devil With the Blue Dress On.”

Happy Together audiences truly feel and see the soundtrack of their youth as they’re transported back in time, jamming to hit-after-classic-hit such as “We’re An American Band,” “Some Kind of Wonderful,” “Good Golly Miss Molly,” “Mama Told Me Not To Come” and many more. Multi–media highlights are woven throughout the show to reference the era of the music, the best pop rock of the 60s and 70s.

**Get happy before the show at Paramount’s Season Kick Off Party**

The 2014-15 season is Paramount’s biggest in its 83-year history, with more than 300,000 patrons expected to pass through the theater’s Grand Gallery lobby on their way to enjoying nearly 300 performances. So Paramount plans to kick off its new season with a big Season **Kick Off Party** from 5 to 7 p.m. Your $10 ticket, purchased separately, includes samples of amazing cuisine from area restaurants. Paramount’s biggest fans will browse awesome silent auctions items, including several behind-the-scene packages. Cash bar available.

The **Season Kick Off Party** and **Happy Together Tour** at Paramount are sponsored by **CBK Global Enterprises**.

 -more-

Paramount presents The Happy Together Tour 8.22 – pg 2 of 3

**More about The Happy Together Tour 2014**

According to Mark Farner, formerly of Grand Funk Railroad, “I am proud to be suckin’ air and still able to do what I love doing. Rock has a grip on my soul and our fans rally to the call and bring it out of our innermost being time after time. DAMN that’s GOOD! I know for a fact that Mitch Ryder, Gary Lewis, Chuck Negron, Flo and Eddie and myself will certainly be Happy Together this summer!”

Mark Volman of The Turtles featuring Flo and Eddie, added “This Happy Together Tour is the strongest and most rocking summer we’ve had so far. The artists who are with us make us excited to get started and the audience is in for a great night of music and memories.”

**“Happy Together” by The Turtles hit #1 on the charts in 1967 (displacing the Beatles’ “Penny Lane”) and remains a staple on classic rock radio to this day. Although their biggest hit and signature song, it’s just one of their nine Top 40 singles, which includes such popular songs as “She'd Rather Be With Me,” “Elenore,” “You Showed Me” and “It Ain’t Me Babe.” For more information, visit** [theturtles.com](http://www.theturtles.com).

**Chuck Negron co-founded the hugely popular, multi-platinum band Three Dog Night in 1967. The group went on to become one of the most successful bands of the late 60s and early 70s with 21 Top 40 hits and three number one songs including “Joy to the World,” “Black and White” and “Mama Told Me (Not to Come).” The band's first gold record was “One,” which featured Negron on lead vocals as did “Joy to the World” and many other of the band’s biggest hits including “Old Fashioned Love Song.”** [chucknegron.com](http://www.chucknegron.com/)

**Mark Farner** originally from Flint Michigan and of Cherokee ancestry, is best known as the lead singer and lead guitarist for Grand Funk Railroad, as well as the songwriter for most of their material. His best-known composition is the 1970 epic “I’m Your Captain (Closer to Home).” Grand Funk’s “We're An American Band” reached No. 1 on the Hot 100 on Farner’s 25th birthday on September 29, 1973. Farner also played on such Grand Funk hits as “Some Kind of Wonderful” and “The Loco-motion,” toured with Ringo Starr’s Allstars in the 90s, and later established himself as a contemporary Christian musician. [markfarner.com](http://www.markfarner.com/)

**It was 1964 when Gary Lewis & The Playboys were discovered by producer Snuff Garrett. By the following year, they had a song go straight to the top of the charts called “This Diamond Ring.” After their second hit “Count Me In” went to number two, the band followed with more Top 10 songs like “Save Your Heart for Me,” “Everybody Loves A Clown,” “She's Just My Style” and “Sure Gonna Miss Her.” In 1965, Lewis was *Cash Box* magazine's “Male Vocalist of the Year” and the first and only artist during the 60s to have his first seven releases reach Billboard Top 10 on the Hot 100 chart.** [garylewisandtheplayboys.com](http://www.garylewisandtheplayboys.com/)**.**

High octane, turbo, high performance, super charged **Mitch Ryder & The Detroit Wheels** didn’t need to hail from the Motor City for those adjectives to be tossed their way, but it was Mitch and The Wheels who served as the musical bridge between the Motown soul factory and the high energy, take no prisoners rock ‘n’ roll that would roar out of Detroit. The band recorded several hit records  in the mid to late 60s, most notably “Devil with the Blue Dress On,” their highest-charting single at number 4, as well as “Sock It to Me-Baby!,” a number 6 hit in 1967, and “Jenny Take a Ride!”, which reached number 10 in 1965. [mitchryder.net](http://www.mitchryder.net/)

**Also on stage in 2014-15 at the Paramount**
Following **The Happy Together Tour**, Paramount’s 2014-15 season continues (in chronological order) with 11-year-old rap phenom **Matty B** (Aug. 23), **Donny & Marie** (7 shows, Aug. 27-31), ***Cats*** (Sept. 10-Oct. 12), **Penn & Teller** (Oct. 17), **Jim Brickman: Celebrating 20 Years** (Oct. 18), **Home Free,** winners of*NBC-TV’s* *The Sing-Off* (Oct. 19), **Spank! The Fifty Shades Parody** (Oct. 24), **Jerry Lewis** (Oct. 26), **Recycled Percussion** (Nov. 1), **Brooks & Wine** featuring country star Kix Brooks paired with a private wine tasting (Nov. 8), **Under the Streetlamp,** Chicago’s favorite former Jersey Boys (Nov. 9), **Ballet Folklorico Quetzalcoatl** (Nov. 14), the **Chicago Comedy Tour with** *WGN Morning News’* **Ana Belaval, Pat Tomasulo and Mike Toomey** (Nov. 22, in

 -more-

Paramount presents The Happy Together Tour 8.22 – pg 3 of 3

the Copley Theatre), ***Mary Poppins*** (Nov. 26, 2014-Jan. 4), **The Second City Dysfunctional Holiday Revue** (Dec. 5-21, in the Copley Theatre), ***The Who’s Tommy*** (Jan. 14-Feb. 15), **Vicki Lawrence & Mama: A Two Woman Show** (Feb. 22), Tony, Emmy and Golden Globe winner **John Lithgow** in his one-man show ***Stories by Heart*** (Mar. 7), **Defending the Caveman** (Mar. 13-29, in the Copley Theatre), ***Les Miserables*** (Mar. 18-Apr. 26), **An Evening with David Sedaris**, one of the top humorists of our time (Apr. 28), the internationally acclaimed, shape-shifting dance troupe **Pilobolus** (Apr. 30), and gal pal favorite **Menopause the Musical** (May 6-Jun. 28, in the Copley Theatre). Also back in 2014-15, Paramount’s popular $1 Classic Movie Mondays series, presenting everyone’s favorite flicks in one of Chicago’s top former movie palaces for just $1, and a line-up of children’s shows designed to entertain while they educate.

In addition to the lowest major theater subscription prices anywhere in Illinois, subscriber benefits at the Paramount have never been better. Purchase four or more shows and you automatically reap many benefits as a season subscriber, including the best seats in the house, easy ticket exchange privileges, and first notice of added shows and special subscriber events. Subscriber discounts range from 5% to 15% off single ticket prices, depending on how many shows you buy. To become a subscriber or to purchase single tickets to individual shows, please call the box office at **(630) 896-6666**, stop by in person at 23 E. Galena Blvd. in Aurora, or go online at [**ParamountAurora.com**](http://www.paramountaurora.com/).

**About The Paramount Theatre**

The Paramount Theatre is the center for performing arts, entertainment and arts education in Aurora, the second largest city in Illinois. Named "One of Chicago's Top 10 Attended Theatres" by the League of Chicago Theatres, the 1,888-seat Paramount Theatre, located in the heart of downtown Aurora at 23 E. Galena Blvd., is nationally renowned for the quality and caliber of its presentations, superb acoustics and historic beauty.

The Paramount Theatre opened on September 3, 1931. Designed by nationally renowned theater architects C.W. and George L. Rapp, the theater captures a unique Venetian setting portrayed in the art deco influence of the 1930s. The first air-conditioned building outside of Chicago, the Paramount offered the public a variety of entertainment, including "talking pictures," vaudeville, concerts and circus performances for more than 40 years.  In 1976, Aurora Civic Center Authority purchased the Paramount and closed the theater for restoration. The $1.5 million project restored the Paramount to its original grandeur. On April 29, 1978, the Paramount Arts Center opened, offering a variety of theatrical, musical, comedy, dance and family programming. In 2006, a 12,000-square-foot, two-story Grand Gallery lobby was added, with a new, state-of-the-art box office, café and art gallery.

Today, the Paramount produces its own Broadway Musical series, presents an eclectic array of comedy, music, dance and family shows, and on most Mondays, screens a classic movie. For tickets and information, go to [**ParamountAurora.com**](http://www.paramountaurora.com/) or call **(630) 896-6666**.

The Paramount Theatre is one of three live performance venues programmed and managed by the Aurora Civic Center Authority (ACCA). ACCA also oversees the Paramount’s “sister” stage, the intimate, 216-seat Copley Theatre located directly across the street from the Paramount at 8 E. Galena Blvd., as well as RiverEdge Park, downtown Aurora’s new summer outdoor concert venue.

The Paramount Theatre continues to expand its artistic and institutional boundaries under the guidance of **Tim Rater**, President and CEO, Aurora Civic Center Authority; **Jim Corti**, Artistic Director, Paramount Theatre; a dedicated Board of Trustees and a devoted staff of live theater and music professionals.

Paramount’s 2014-15 Broadway Series is sponsored by the **Dunham Fund**, **BMO Harris Bank** and **PACE** (**Paramount Arts Centre Endowment**). For more information, visit [**ParamountAurora.com**](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?e=001FViLyPbJ7QBxzfvP97vDAifWr34TfzGJUywYg43tecB0gjsnZQGugQyiT16hqygPS40wQCw5SdddFEd22VMh0wZF0rExueIznz_vwSHONEQ4LMfrMvhFQA==).

  # # #