

Trailers on Bricks

The Damn Shames' first album performed at the Grove-KY

By **Allyson Dix**
Jobe Publishing, Inc.

"It's reckless in the right ways, steady where it counts, and never short on soul."

These are the words of Candace Barbee on the debut album Trailers On Bricks by The Damn Shames. Barbee is the marketing director for The Grove-KY in Glasgow, where The Damn Shames were special guests last Saturday night.

The band is a self-proclaimed "unapologetic set of true rockers who have turned more inward to their country and wooded upbringing". The band consists of Clayton Crowder (lead vocals/guitar), Trevor Smith (lead guitar/background vocals), Andrew Hopper (bass/background vocals), Zach Coffey (drums), and the band's newest, all-around musician: Shepherd Hieb.

The band brings classic southern swagger mixed with country flavors, giving extra pop to honest, heartfelt lyrics.

While all the band members are from Kentucky, two are a bit more local. Crowder is from Morgantown and Smith's roots are in Burkesville. The band met and formed in Bowling Green and played one of their first ever shows at The Grove.

Now, two years later, their first full-length album was released on June 20, one that the band worked with Gem City Studios out of Jellico, Tennessee, to produce.

"When we started forming this band in 2022, I had a small collection of songs I had already written that we worked up together as a band and we wrote the rest of the record together," Crowder said. "We've been chipping away at it slowly for the better part of two years now."

Crowder is the front-and-center songwriter for the group, but others pitch in on composition as well as Bowling Green native Kyle Daniels.

Crowder said he draws his inspiration for song lyrics from not only personal experiences, but also the same of others close to him. He keeps a running record of interesting things he picks up through conversations with others, so he's not just



▲ PHOTO | COURTESY | ROB TABER
Frontman Clayton Crowder, at right, and Trevor Smith with The Damn Shames perform songs from their debut full-length album on June 21 at The Grove-KY venue in Glasgow. The band was a special guest on Saturday night alongside Them Dirty Roses.

writing stories about his life, but also the lives and experiences of others. He said the songs are about the everyday lives of Kentuckians with some lyrics only local folks can relate to.

The Damn Shames is an inquisitive band name and to put the question to rest, the *Barren County Progress* asked Crowder how the clever name came about.

"We were recording as a part of a different band at an earlier time and we all went back to this crummy, junk roach motel in Jellico," Crowder explained. "We realized none of us really liked the songs we were recording at the time and we made the decision to start a new band."

The group stayed up into the early morning hours combing, more or less, for a new direction and a new path. In Crowder's records on his phone where he takes note of inspirational titles and phrases, they came across one he had written down in the past: The Damn Shames.

"We had us a good old laugh for a long time because that explains all of us to a T—we couldn't win for losing," Crowder said. "If it wasn't for bad luck, we wouldn't have any at all so we thought that fit perfectly and it has stuck ever since."

The band ultimately kicked off back in 2022 at The Grove and came full circle with the June 21 performance of songs from the new album, a day after its release.

"The Grove is probably

our absolute favorite venue in the vicinity," Crowder said. "This past Saturday was a big deal for us with a lot of important people there to come see us and we worked on the set for this past weekend for months and months in advance to get it tight and tied down real well."

To his surprise, over 500 people came out to Glasgow's show Saturday night.

The band hopes to see this album take off, especially with all the pride and hard work they've invested into it, with little rest in between juggling their day jobs and their passion for music.

"We hope this album takes us to a position where we can do this full time, and in order to do what we love to do, we hope to get to that place where we can solely focus on creating music," Crowder said. "As confident and proud as we are of this record lasting a long time, we are going to start on album #2 very soon."

Barbee says the new album is the musical equivalent of a dusty backroad drive a little over the speed limit.

"It's a sound that's all their own, yet warmly familiar, with Eagles-style harmonies, Tom Petty guitar tones, all while borrowing a lyrical roadmap sketched out by frontman Clayton Crowder," Barbee said. "Their sonic fingerprint is distinct, grounded in strong songwriting and an obvious love for the roots they're expanding upon."

It would be a shame to miss out on The Damn Shames because they can be found on many

streaming platforms including Apple Music and Spotify. Give it a listen!

The Damn Shames have upcoming shows through October in Kentucky and Tennessee, keeping true to their roots.

The next show is August 6 in Somerset.

To learn more about show dates, visit thedamnshamesofficial.com. Also on the website, links to The Damn Shames' YouTube channel is accessible and has music videos and live performances.

•SCHOLARSHIPS

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- Dylan Wright, son of Chris and Michelle Wright of Munfordville.
- Emma-Kate Smith, daughter of Brent and Julie Smith of Glasgow.
- Logan Boone, son of Anthony and Christina Boone of Magnolia.
- Tinsley Neagle, daughter of Troy and Amy Neagle of Glasgow.

By investing in the future of local students, Farmers RECC aims to not only support individual members, but also strengthen the communities it serves.

Scholarships are awarded without regard to race, creed, religion, gender, disability, or national origin.

Farmers RECC is a not-for-profit electric cooperative, serving more than 27,000 services across eleven Kentucky counties, with a mission to provide reliable, competitively-priced energy that will enhance the quality of life for our members and communities.

Cosby named to Dean's Lists at Freed-Hardeman University

FHU has released the names of students who made the President's and Dean's lists for the Spring 2025 semester.

To be on the President's List, a student must be full-time and have a 4.0 grade point average. Students on the Dean's List have earned a minimum 3.4 grade point average for the semester.

This year there were more than 600 students who received this academic honor, including Sarah Cosby, a senior from Munfordville. Cosby is studying Communication Sciences & Disorders.

The mission of Freed-Hardeman University is to help students develop their God-given talents for His glory by empowering them with an education that integrates Christian faith, scholarship and service.

With locations in Henderson and Memphis, FHU offers associate, bachelor's, master's, specialist's and doctoral degrees. More information is available at fhu.edu.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Notice is hereby given that the Caveland Environmental Authority, hereinafter referred to as the Owner, will receive sealed bid packets for the following project:

HORSE CAVE EFFLUENT PUMPS MATERIAL SUPPLY AND DELIVER ONLY PROJECT

Sealed bids will be received by the Caveland Environmental Authority at their office located at 508 South Dixi Highway, Cave City, Ky 42127, no later than **10:00 a.m. (Local Time) on July 24, 2025**. Bids received after such hour will be returned unopened. Bids received prior to this time shall be opened and publicly read aloud. All interested citizens are invited to attend.

The project generally consists of the following:

- Supply, Deliver and Startup three (3) Vertical Turbine Pumps to the Horse Cave City Water Reclamation Facility Including Associated Equipment, Delivery and Startup
- Supply, Deliver and Startup one (1) Set of Controls Including Variable Frequency Drives for Each Pump, a Central Process Logic Controller, and Pressure Transducers to Control the Operation and Sequencing of the Pumps.

Contract Documents for the Project are on file and may be examined at the following locations:

1. Caveland Environmental Authority, 508 South Dixi Highway, Cave City Ky 42127, (270) 773-2887

Copies of the Plans and Specifications for the project may be obtained from **Engineered Water, LLC, 3248 Ky Highway 55 Carrollton, Ky, 41008**. Electronic copies of the Contract Documents are available at no cost, by emailing their request to David Eberenz at dave@engh2o.org. All Bidders shall be registered as Plan Holders with the Engineer (Engineered Water, LLC) for their Bid to be considered responsive.

The work to be performed and the bid to be submitted shall include sufficient and proper sums for the fabrication, assembly, delivery and startup of the equipment to be supplied including incidental to and required for the fabrication, delivery and startup of the equipment to be supplied.

Each bid must be enclosed in a sealed envelope bearing the title of the Project and the name and address of Bidder. All bids must be submitted on the bid forms as identified in the Contract Documents.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any bid, or all bids, or to accept any bid or bids, or to make such combination of bids as may seem desirable, and to waive any and all informalities in bidding. Any bid may be withdrawn prior to the above scheduled time for the opening of bids or authorized postponement thereof. Any bid received after the time and date specified shall not be considered. No bid may be withdrawn after the scheduled closing time for receipt of bids for at least sixty (60) days.

A conditional or qualified Bid will not be accepted. Award will be made to the lowest, responsive, responsible bidder.

All applicable laws, ordinances, and the rules and regulations of all authorities having jurisdiction over fabrication, assembly, delivery and startup of the equipment shall apply to the project throughout.

Bids shall be properly and completely executed on bid forms included in the Contract Documents.

The Owner may make such investigations as deemed necessary to determine the ability of the Bidder to perform the work and the Bidder shall furnish to the Owner all such information and data for this purpose as the Owner may request. The Owner reserves the right to reject any bid if the evidence submitted by, or investigation of, such Bidder fails to satisfy the Owner that such Bidder is properly qualified to carry out the obligations of the Agreement and to complete the work contemplated therein.

Each Bidder is responsible for inspecting the Project site(s) and for reading and being thoroughly familiar with the Contract Documents. The failure or omission of any Bidder to do any of the foregoing shall in no way relieve any Bidder from any obligation with respect to its Bid.

July 3, 2025

David Peterson, CEO
Caveland Environmental Authority
508 South Dixi Highway
Cave City, KY 42127



▲ PHOTO | COURTESY | ROB TABER
The Damn Shames play songs from their debut album, Trailers on Bricks, on Saturday in Glasgow at The Grove-KY with over 500 patrons present. The band is comprised of, from left, Adrian Heil, Trevor Smith, Zach Coffey on drums, Clayton Crowder, Andrew Hopper, and Shepherd Hieb.