

For Immediate Release, Friday 2/17 at 5PM



High Noon Saloon to be Sold, Success to Continue

After nearly twenty-three years of success and leadership in the Madison music scene, Cathy Dethmers is pleased to announce her plans to sell the High Noon Saloon to Frank Productions. Cathy has devoted her career to creating and running first-rate venues for local and regional artists to share their music, starting in 1994 at O'Cayz Corral. After the devastating loss of O'Cayz in a New Year's Day fire in 2001, Cathy opened the High Noon Saloon in 2004. Cathy and her team have grown the High Noon into a premier and award-winning stage for live music.

"It has been a difficult and emotional decision for me to give up the High Noon, but after more than 20 years in the business, and with two young sons at home, the time is right for me to make a change. I'm proud that the High Noon has become such an integral part of the community, and a well-loved hangout for so many loyal and supportive musicians and fans. So it is crucial to me that the High Noon continues to play its unique role in the music scene, and carries on as a welcoming venue for all types of bands and community events. I knew I wanted to find a buyer as dedicated to music in Madison as I am. Given my longstanding business relationship with Frank Productions, the Franks were an obvious choice for running the High Noon, and I'm confident they will maintain the legacy I've built there. I'm really happy they were so receptive to that idea."

Started in 1964, Frank Productions is a third-generation Madison company that has grown to become the largest independent concert promoter in the country. The Franks are about to break ground on The Sylvee, a state-of-the-art, 2,500 capacity venue on East Washington Avenue named after Sylvia Frank, the matriarch of the family and the mother of current owners Larry and Fred. Expected to open in 2018, The Sylvee will be a strong and complimentary partner to the High Noon Saloon, ensuring fans access to local, regional, national and international artists of every size and style.

"We have enjoyed a strong relationship with Cathy and her staff over the years, from booking shows and building events like FRZN Fest through our affiliate Tag Evers at True Endeavors, we have worked in close partnership with the High Noon Saloon to strengthen and support the Madison music scene," said Larry Frank, who owns Frank Productions with his brother, Fred. "We have happily watched Cathy's success and were humbled when she asked us to consider buying the High Noon," added Fred Frank. "The relationship that already exists between our companies is going to make this a smooth transition, and we are excited to continue operating the High Noon as Cathy has built it."

Frank Productions will soon be applying for the necessary licenses from the City of Madison and the sale is expected to be completed in early May. The High Noon Saloon will continue to operate during the transition.

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