



THE CHRONICLE

Charity rock concert returns

[Anthony Abbondanza](#)

Published on November 25, 2013

**Eighth annual ‘Bands for Baskets’ set for
Dec. 1**

For Peter Angrove, the holiday season is the time to spread Christmas cheer –especially to the underprivileged.

That’s why for the last eight years, the West Island native has devoted his Christmas holidays to helping others through his annual ‘Bands for Baskets’ concerts, which raises money and in turn, is directed to the Lakeshore Kiwanis Foundation’s (LKF) yearly food baskets campaign.

“It’s about helping people who aren’t as fortunate as others,” said Angrove.

On Dec. 1, ‘Bands for Baskets’ will celebrate its eighth annual show at Calistoga Grill in Pointe Claire, from 3-11 p.m. Eight bands will rock the stage, most notably Roxfield Point, Moonlights, Three Guys Abroad, and Angrove’s personal favourite, Echo Hunters.

All proceeds benefit the LKF.

Since its rocky start in 2005 due to a nationwide recession, Angrove has witnessed his annual show turn into a West Island Christmas staple.

“I’ve been fortunate through my life to be associated with a lot of musical people and the media. With that in mind I said ‘what can I do to help the community to help people down and out,’” he said.

The marriage between his need to help needy families and his love for music was a no brainer.

“I said ‘hey’ I’ll spend a little money and put together a nice show with a multitude of artists,’” said Angrove, a semi-retired man.

Not too long after, the LKF – a West Island staple in its own right – got involved, handing a cheque for \$1000 to Angrove for his work. “I told them, ‘don’t you guys do this kind of work?’ I said ‘you’re going to get your money back in full,’” he said.

Angrove made good on his promise –and more.

After seven year’s worth of ‘Bands for Baskets’ concerts, Angrove has raised nearly \$40,000 to benefit the LKF and its food basket campaign.

And there have been some personal gains, too.

“One time, I personally delivered a Christmas basket to a family in need, wearing a red winter coat and I had a grey beard. I brought six boxes, including food and gifts, inside the home where there were nine kids, one of which had

a broken arm. As I was heading out the driveway, one kid pops his head out the window and says ‘thank you Santa.’ I almost cried all the way home,” Angrove recounted.

Back to reality, Angrove is looking to up the ante –producing more T-shirts and calendars for sale as well as raise awareness about ‘Bands for Baskets’ –after last year’s disappointing year, where the initiative only generated \$3,500.

But whatever the outcome, Angrove is at peace with all he’s accomplished.

Doors open at 2 p.m. Calistoga Grill is located at 235 St. John’s Blvd., Pointe Claire. For more information, visit www.bandsforbaskets.com.

@AAbbondanza1