

EVENTS

Clapton reveals effects of nerve damage

BY TRAVIS M. ANDREWS
THE WASHINGTON POST

Eric Clapton has long been considered one of rock's best guitarists. On its 2015 list of the 100 greatest of all time, Rolling Stone ranked him second, behind only Jimi Hendrix.

Writing for the magazine, fellow rock star Eddie Van Halen called Clapton "basically the only guitar player who influenced me" and added that he considers Clapton's style "the core of modern rock guitar." Known for blues licks and emotional, melodic solos, Clapton's career is unprecedented — he holds 17 Grammy Awards and is the only musician to be inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame three times.

That career also might be coming to an end.

In an interview with Classic Rock magazine, the 71-year-old musician revealed that he was diagnosed with peripheral neuropathy in 2013 and that playing guitar, which once came so easy to him, is now "hard work."

In a 2014 interview with Uncut magazine, the rock guitarist had said he was "looking at retirement" and that touring had become "unbearable," Rolling Stone reported. In that same interview, he hinted at his condition — when asked if he would stop playing guitar, he said, "Maybe. It might be that I can't, if it hurts too much. I have odd ailments." But this weekend's interview is the first time he's named it.

According to the Mayo Clinic, peripheral neurop



Eric Clapton performs during the "12-12-12" benefit concert for victims of Superstorm Sandy at Madison Square Garden in New York in 2012.

thy refers to damage in one's peripheral nerves and often results in stabbing, burning or tingling pain the arms and legs. For Clapton, the pain came in the form of "electric shocks."

The symptoms often "appear suddenly, progress rapidly, and resolve slowly," according to the National Institute of Neurological

Disorders and Stroke, which also noted that it can be debilitating but is seldom fatal.

"I've had quite a lot of pain over the last year," Clapton told Classic Rock magazine. "It started with lower back pain and turned into what they call peripheral neuropathy, which is where you feel like you have electric shocks going down your leg. And

I've had to figure out how to deal with some other things from getting old."

Treatments mostly focus on pain management and include pain relievers, anti-seizure medications and various therapies. Some patients are able to manage their pain, but some live with it for life.

"One thing I had to realize was that this particular con

dition I'm living with isn't necessarily going to get better," Clapton said. "Like sometimes things do — you might catch something, and it will get better. Not this."

Still, he seemed to be in high spirits in the interview, saying he's simply happy to be alive and healthy. One of the possible causes of peripheral neurop

athy is alcoholism, according to the Mayo Clinic, and Clapton is a recovering heroin addict — which likely also bars him from being prescribed many effective pain killers — and alcoholic. In 1998, after going through rehab himself, he founded the Crossroads Centre rehabilitation clinic in Antigua, an island in the Caribbean Sea, Rolling Stone reported.

"Because I'm in recovery from alcoholism and addiction to substances, I consider it a great thing to be alive at all," he said. "By rights I should have kicked the bucket a long time ago. For some reason I was plucked from the jaws of hell and given another chance."

In the interview, he expounded on just how close to death he came, citing a particular instance in the 1970s when he was rushed to a hospital on his deathbed:

"I don't know how I survived, the seventies especially. There was one point there where they were flying me to hospital in St. Paul [Minnesota] and I was dying, apparently — I had three ulcers and one of them was bleeding. I was drinking three bottles of brandy and taking handfuls of codeine and I was close to checking out. And I don't even remember. It's amazing that I'm still here, really."

The news comes on the heels of the release of Clapton's 23rd studio album, titled "I Still Do," which was released May 20. He did not mention if he plans to release more music, though he said he still loves playing guitar, difficult as it is.

Things to Do

BANGOR — Exhibit of Maine landscape and other paintings in acrylics and watercolors by Martin Gallant, through June 16, Husson University.

BANGOR — Contradance with music by Heidi Daub, Bill Schubeck, Carl Karush and Geoff Warner with John McIntire calling, Friday, June 17, Unitarian Universalist Church, 120 Park St. Beginner session, 7:30 p.m.; dance, 8 p.m. \$8 per person. 941-9727, bangorcontra.org or bangorcontra@gmail.com.

BAR HARBOR — "Ready, Set ... Read" summer reading program kickoff with singer and storyteller Jennifer Armstrong, 10:30 a.m. Thursday, June 16, Jesup Memorial Library. Singalong songs, folk tales and movement games. 288-4245 or mcorrion@jesuplibrary.org.

BELFAST — Film and panel discussion, "A New England Story for Sustaining the Sea," 6:30-8 p.m. Thursday, June 16, Abbott Room, Belfast Free Library, 106 High St. Panel discussion with Rebecca Clark from Island Institute and Richard Nelson, local lobster fisherman and active member of the Surfrider Foundation. Sponsored by Belfast Bay Watershed Coalition.

BREWER — Bangor Singles Club dances, 8 p.m.-midnight Fridays, Brewer Eagles Club, 22 Atlantic Ave.: Wild Horse, June 17; Steve and the Good Old Boys, June 24. Marilyn, 827-5751.

CASTINE — Castine Historical Society's Castine House and Garden Tour, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Wednesday, July 13, not June 13 as BDN erroneously listed Monday. Thirteen homes and four gardens. Tickets purchased by Friday, July 1, are \$35, \$40 after that date. Special luncheon \$25 at The Manor Inn. castinehistoricalsociety.org or call 326-4118.

EASTPORT — The Eastport Moonlight Movies, 8 p.m. Fridays, Sutherland Amphitheater, 80 Water St.: June 17, "A Night at the Museum"; June 24, "Penguins of Madagas-

car." 214-0040 or lolly@sweetiesdowneast.com.

ELLSWORTH — Hancock County Parkinson's Support Group, 2-4 p.m. Wednesday, June 15, Moore Community Center. Machele Latteyn, physical fitness trainer, yoga instructor and life coach, demonstrating basic stretches and exercises. Group meets third Wednesdays. Anne, 667-3166.

ELLSWORTH — Phil Lapsley, "Exploding The Phone," 5-7 p.m. Friday, June 17, Telephone Museum, 166 Winkumpough Road. Meet Lapsley, enjoy appetizers and beverages with museum volunteers and board members. Reservations requested. \$20. 667-9491, 978-973-0356 or switchboard@downeast.net.

ELLSWORTH — Six-wicket golf croquet, 2-4 p.m. Tuesdays, June-October, Woodlawn Museum, Gardens & Park, 19 Black House Drive, Route 172. \$10 per week for noncroquet members. Equipment provided if needed. No experience necessary. 667-8671 or woodlawnmuseum.com.

HANCOCK — Pierre Montoux School and Music Festival Open House, 4-6 p.m. Friday, June 17, Devenish Hall, 13 Melody Lane. Snacks and beverages provided. Open to all. 460-0313 or pierre-montouxschool@gmail.com.

MACHIAS — Machias Bay Chamber of Commerce offers free outdoor movies, sunset every other Saturday, beginning June 18, box car next to Station 1898, across from Helen's Restaurant. "Minions," June 18; "The Good Dinosaur," July 2; "HOME," July 16; "Mr. Peabody and Sherman," July 30; "Pan," Aug. 13; "Zootopia," Aug. 27. 255-4402.

NORTHEAST HARBOR — Ereelance writer Laurie Schreiber signing books, 5:30-7 p.m. Wednesday, June 15, Northeast Harbor Library. 276-3333.

OLD ORCHARD BEACH — The Sounds of Hope, A Keeping Kids Safe Community Concert with Fifth Freedom, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, June 18, The Ballpark. Includes meet and greet and special performance by

Steve Azar of The Sky is Falling; also Kenny Grimsley Band, Crash the Owl Party, Captain Ray and the Castaways and Sugarbox. Advance tickets \$25, \$10 children 17 and under. keeping-kidssafe.us or OOB365.com. Tickets day of event, \$35, \$15 for children 17 and under.

ORONO — Second International Conference of the Sustainable Consumption Research and Action Initiative, Wednesday through Friday, June 15-17, Wells Conference Center. Free and open to all. "To Transform Consumption, Throw Out the Modernist Concept of Human Nature" by John Ehrenfeld, editor of the Journal of Industrial Ecology, 1 p.m. Wednesday, June 15; "Political Ecological Economics" by Giorgos Kallis, ecological economist, political ecologist and professor at the Institute of Environmental Science and Technology in Barcelona, Spain, 9 a.m. Thursday, June 16; "Getting Serious About Urban Sustainability" by William Rees, bio-ecologist, ecological economist and professor emeritus, University of British Columbia School of Community and Regional Planning, 1:30 p.m. Thursday, June 16; "Implementing Sustainable Consumption: The Science Policy Interface" by Lucia Reich, professor of consumer behavior and policy at the Copenhagen Business School, editor of Journal of Consumer Policy; member of the German Council for Sustainable Development, consulting the German Chancellor, and chair of the National Council of Advisors on Consumer Issues; 9 a.m. Friday, June 17. Cindy Isenhour, assistant professor of anthropology, Cynthia. isenhour@maine.edu.

SEARSPORT — Searsport Historical Society meeting, 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 14, Curtis Hall Vestry, Searsport Congregational Church. Town Historian Charlene Knox Farris talking about "The Poor Farm and the Pest House."

SKOWHEGAN — Taco night, 5-6:30 p.m. Friday, June 17, New Horizons Community Church, 31 East Madison Road. \$5, \$15 family. Benefit student ministry. 474-2957.

WINSLOW — Family dance with DJ Larry Thibodeau spinning classics of the 1950s and 1960s, 6:30-8 p.m. Thursday, June 16, Winslow Public Library, 136 Halifax St. Punch and cookies served. Pin the hair on the Elvis and paper skate decorating area. Sign up for summer reading program. 872-1978 or scote@winslow-me.gov.

WINSLOW — Teen Summer Reading Program launch, 4-6:30 p.m. Friday, June 17, Winslow Public Library. Features pizza, popcorn and watching "Catching Fire." Open to those in grades six through 12. 872-1978 or scote@winslow-me.gov.

WISCASSET — Castle Tucker Tours, 10-11:30 a.m. Friday, June 17;

Saturday, July 9; and Friday, Sept. 9, 2 Lee St. Registration required. Space limited. Admission \$10 members Historic New England, \$15 others. 882-7169 or historicnewengland.org/events-programs.

For a complete listing of calendar items or to submit your event, visit www.bangordailynews.com.

Tuesday prime time

	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM
BROADCAST	2 NBC 207 Inside Ed. America's Got Talent (N) (HD)						Maya & Marty (N) (HD)	News	
	4 CBC Rick Mercer 22 Minutes Standing Baroness The National (N)						CBC Coronation	Blackstone	
	5 CBS Big Bang Broke Girl NCIS (HD)					NCIS: New Orleans	Person of Interest (N)	News	
	52 CW Family Guy Family Guy The Flash (HD)					Containment (N) (HD)	News Seinfeld	Cougar	
	6 NBC 207 Inside Ed. America's Got Talent (N) (HD)						Maya & Marty (N) (HD)	News	
	7 ABC Wheel Jeopardy!					Uncle Buck (N) (HD)	To Tell the Truth (N)	News	
	9 WAGM FOX The Insider Ent. Tonight Hotel Hell (N)					Coupled (N) (HD)	News Big Bang	Big Bang	
	8 ABC Wheel Jeopardy!					Uncle Buck (N) (HD)	To Tell the Truth (N)	News	
	MPBN PBS PBS NewsHour (N) (HD)					Genealogy Roadshow	The Life-Margaret Chase Smith	Colonial C. Rose	
	9 IND Person of Interest (N)					O.J.: Made in America (N) (HD)	News-Lisa CTV News	Daily Show	
	18 CBS Ent. Tonight The Insider NCIS (HD)					NCIS: New Orleans	Person of Interest (N)	News	
	22 FOX Mod Fam Mod Fam Hotel Hell (N)					Coupled (N) (HD)	FOX 22 News at 10 (N)	Walk-Dead	
KIDS	9 IND M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Happy Days	Gilligan Isle	Hogan Hero	Hogan Hero	C. Burnett
	38 IND Big Bang Big Bang The Walking Dead				The Walking Dead		WBZ News (N) (HD)	Seinfeld	
	NICK The Thundermans	Nicky, Ricky	Kingdom		Full House	Full House	Full House	Full House	Friends
	DISN Ice Age	(:40) ** Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs (2009)				Liv-Mad.	K.C. Under	Girl Meets	Stuck
	FREE Catch Fire				*** Grease (1978, Musical)	John Travolta. (PG)			700 Club
	HIST Cnt. Cars Cnt. Cars Cnt. Cars Cars Top Gear (N)						Cnt. Cars Cnt. Cars	Car Hunters	
	DISC Deadliest Catch				Deadliest Catch: On Deck	Deadliest Catch (N)	(:04) Dark Woods Justice	Catch	
	TLC Little People, Big World				Little People, Big World		(:01) My Giant Life (N)	Little People	
	A&E The First 48				*** Gladiator (2000, Historical Drama)	Russell Crowe, Joaquin Phoenix. (R)		The First 48	
	ANPL Devoured: Super Snake	Weird, True			(:01) Yeti or Not Dr. Mark Evans explains the "Yeti"			Killer Crocs	
	CSNE SportsNet Early				English Premier League Soccer From Aug. 22, 2015.		Sports	SportsNet	Sports
SPORTS	ESPN O.J.: Made in America (Part 1 of 5)				O.J.: Made in America (N) (Part 2 of 5)				SportCtr
	ESPN2 SportsCenter (N) (L)				WNBA Basketball Indiana Fever at Minnesota Lynx.		NFL Live		O.J.
	NBCSP World Series of Fighting 30 From Las Vegas.				World Series of Fighting 29		From Greeley, Colo.	World- 25	
	NESN MLB Baseball Baltimore Orioles at Boston Red Sox. (N) (L)						Extra Red Sox	Sports	
	CNBC West Texas				Shark Tank			Shark Tank	
	CNN Erin Burnett OutFront (N)				Anderson Cooper 360			CNN Tonight	Tonight
	FNC Greta Van Susteren				The O'Reilly Factor (N)			Hannity (N)	O'Reilly
	MSNBC Hardball Chris Matthews				All In With Chris Hayes			Rachel Maddow Show	All In With
	AMC ** Man on Fire (2004, Crime Drama)				Denzel Washington, Dakota Fanning. (R)			Feed the Beast (N)	Feed the
	BRV Below Deck				Below Deck			Below Deck	Happens
	CMT Last Man Last Man Last Man Last Man				*** The Parent Trap (1998, Comedy)			Lindsay Lohan. (PG)	
	COM Futurama	Futurama	Tosh.0	(:24) Tosh.0	Tosh.0	(:28) Tosh.0	Tosh.0 (N)	Not Safe	Daily Show
NEWS	E! News (N)				Botched (N)			Famously Single (N)	E! News
	FOOD Chopped				Chopped Junior (N)			Chopped (N)	Chopped
	FX (5:30) * Identity Thief (R)				** Ride Along (2014, Comedy)			Ice Cube. (PG-13)	** Ride Along (2014) Ice Cube.
	GAC Log Cabin Log Cabin Log Cabin Log Cabin				Log Cabin Log Cabin			Log Cabin Log Cabin	Log Cabin
	HALL Last Man Last Man Last Man Last Man				Log Cabin Log Cabin			The Middle The Middle	Golden Girls
	HGTV Fixer Upper				Fixer Upper			Fixer Upper	Fixer Upper
	LIFE Celebrity Wife Swap				Celebrity Wife Swap			Celebrity Wife Swap	Wife Swap
	MTV Are You the One?				* How High (2001, Comedy)			Method Man. (R)	* How High (2001) Method Man. (R)
	OXY ** The Princess Diaries 2: Royal Engagement (G)				Virtually in Love (N)			Princess Diaries 2: Royal Engagement	
	SPIKE Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops
	SYFY (6:30) ** Blade (1998, Horror)				Wesley Snipes. (R)			** Watchmen (2009, Action)	Billy Crudup, Malin Akerman. (R)
	TBN Supernat. Potters Joyce Everyday Prince				Cornelius			Praise the Lord	
VARIETY	TBS Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang		Wrecked	Wrecked
	TCM (4:45) **** Gandhi				**** The Treasure of the Sierra Madre (1948)			(:15) **** The Graduate (1967)	
	TCM (6:15) Daddy's Little Girls				** The Mirror Has Two Faces (1996) (PG-13)			(:10) ** The Royal Tenenbaums (R)	
	TNT (6:30) ** We're the Millers (2013)				Jennifer Aniston. Animal Kingdom (N)			(:04) Animal Kingdom	Animal King
	TRAVEL Bizarre Foods America				Bert the Conqueror (N)			Bizarre Foods/Zimmer	Bizarre
	TRU Imp. Jokers Imp. Jokers Imp. Jokers Imp. Jokers				Imp. Jokers			Hack Hack	Hack
	TVL Andy Griffith Andy Griffith				(:12) George Lopez			George Raymond	Raymond
	USA Mod Fam Mod Fam Mod Fam Mod Fam				Mod Fam Mod Fam			Chrisley Impressions	Mod Fam
	VH1 Love & Hip Hop: Atlanta				** Above the Rim (1994, Drama)			Duane Martin. (R)	** Gridiron Gang (2006) The Rock.
	WGN-A ** U.S. Marshals (1998, Action)				Tommy Lee Jones, Wesley Snipes. (PG-13)			How I Met	How I Met
								How I Met	How I Met
PREMIUM	HBO (5:15) All the Way (2016)				Game of Thrones Jaime weighs his options.			*** The Martian (2015, Science Fiction)	(ESP) Matt Damon, Kristen Wiig. A stranded astronaut tries to survive on Mars. (PG-13)
	MAX (5:15) American Sniper				*** Gone Girl (2014, Mystery)			(ESP) Ben Affleck, Rosamund Pike. A woman disappears on her fifth wedding anniversary. (R)	* Hitman: Agent 47 (2015, Action) (ESP) Rupert Friend, Hannah Ware. (R)
	SHOW (:15) ** Miami Vice (2006, Crime Drama)				(ESP) Colin Farrell. Detectives Crockett and Tubbs take on drug lords in South Florida. (R)			House of Lies (ESP)	Penny Dreadful
	STARZ (5:10) ** Pearl Harbor (2001) Ben Affleck. (R)				Girlfriend Expr. (R)			(:45) ** Mad Money (2008) Diane Keaton. Three women plan to steal cash that is due for destruction. (R)	All Access: Stanley Cup
	STZENC (6:10) ** Regarding Henry (1991) (PG-13)				** The Quick and the Dead (1995, Western)			(ESP) Sharon Stone, Gene Hackman, Russell Crowe. (R)	(9:50) *** Far and Away (1992, Drama) (ESP) Tom Cruise. (PG-13)