

# Danville TIMES

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## Five questions for Sandi and Stevie

*Danville has a giant insect problem, and no one is complaining — least of all the pint-sized fans of up-and-coming children's entertainers Sandi Hunt and Stevie Morgan, aka "Sandi and Stevie."*

*For five years Hunt, a Vallejo native and Morgan, a Welsh-born former computer consultant, have been marketing their unique collection of ditties about bugs to schools, museums and birthday parties. Though they may never sell out a concert or record a platinum album, the Danville couple says they are earning a living doing what they love best — writing and performing music.*

*To local children, they are the crowd-pleasing equivalents of SpongeBob and Sandy Cheeks, with their glittery body-suits, antennae and fitted bumble-bee wings. A mere mention of their names and kids swarm faster than Stevie can sing "The Running Cockroach" song.*

*Most recently, Hunt and Morgan released a second CD about sea life.*

### **How did you get started?**

Stevie: "I've been writing songs since I was a teenager in

Wales. I've written hundreds of soft-rock songs and I also record soft-rock music, and that leads into a friend of mine who owns a graphic design company in Tucson calling me out of the blue one day and asking if we'd write an album of 'insect songs' for a new online division of his company. I said sure. That was our first foray into children's music ... We did it on the side and all of a sudden people loved our shows so much that we decided to do it full time."

Sandi: "(Stevie and I) met 14 years ago at a graduation party in San Francisco. It was love at first sight (laughing)."

### **What was your inspiration for the songs?**

Sandi: "We have a wild, English-style garden with lots and lots of bugs and things. That was sort of our laboratory."

Stevie: "If you told me to write a song about a bottle of ketchup I could do that. You can write a song about anything, really. It's actually easier with for insect songs, because you can pick an insect ... and tell a story."

### **How is it working together?**

Stevie: "Actually because we're

both excited about it and motivated to do it, all the tension that goes along with it we manage it. Fortunately my strengths are Sandi's weaknesses and Sandi's strengths are my weaknesses, so I do all the taxes and computer stuff and Sandi does all the marketing."

Sandi: "It is hard because it's not a 9-to-5 job you can leave at the end of the day. It's around-the-clock."

### **How is it financially? What's the most rewarding part?**

Sandi: "We don't eat at Strizzi's anymore (laughing). No more cleaning ladies, so the house is messy because he won't clean it and I won't ... Our busiest time is in the spring and summer when kids are learning about bugs, and we might do up to four shows a day."

Stevie: "It's been a financial sacrifice, but it's been rewarding. Personally, for me it means I can



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be in a business that I love, which is songwriting. Music is very special in my life."

Sandi: "My reward is what we give to the children. The interaction is incredible, the way they get captured by our performance. I don't have any children; to be able to work with them so closely is nice. Kids are very honest."

### **What are your future goals?**

Sandi: "We have aspirations to do bigger shows, but we'd have to be sponsored for that. Right

now it wouldn't be cost effective for us to go outside the Bay Area. I'd like to do a television show for children — something intelligent, not junky. Something warm."

Stevie: "That would be our dream goal, but if you don't want to look that far ahead — to be successful and known as really worthwhile children's entertainers, where we're respected by both the children and the parents for what we do."

— Jeanine Benca