



STORY AND PHOTOS BY DR. JOHN T. WHITING AND BUFFY WHITING

The HVC-Outkast Sports Rock to Skate Benefit Show band members.

# Hidden Valley concert rocks out

**VERNON** — “I love it. It’s great and it gives kids a place to go and something to do,” was how band member parent and Sussex Tech teacher Jocelyne Kumetz described the Rock to Skate Benefit Show held at the Hidden Valley Club on in August. The event was developed by the owners of Outkast Sports and the Hidden Valley Club Food and Beverage Director Cary Goldberg to help generate funds for the Vernon Skatepark Memorial Organization to build a skatepark honoring skateboarder Chris Tyler, on land donated by the town of Vernon.

The event was attended by more than 200 young people ranging in ages from 14 to 25 who enjoyed and rocked to the music provided by local bands Enemy Inferis, Captives, My Only Escape, The Title and The

Flow. The 200-plus supporters and music lovers sang along with their favorite band, ate food from the Hickory Sticks Grill and sat around a campfire at the club site.

Outkast Sports owner Kevin Whitehead said, “The event is to raise money to build the Chris Tyler Memorial Vernon Skatepark to honor a friend, and our way to remember him by giving kids a fun place where they can have fun and stay out of trouble.” Tyler’s brother Pat said, “The Vernon Skatepark will be free and will be open to kids throughout Sussex County to enjoy.” “It will be a great tribute to the memory of my brother Chris.”

One hundred percent of the ticket sales went to support the construction to the Vernon Skatepark with the Hidden Valley Club adding 15

percent of food and drink sales for the evening. Sufficient money was raised to help support the construction of the skateboard park.

The Rock to Skate Benefit Show kicked off August with a special event and its success would suggest that the upcoming Hidden Valley Club Peach Jam Music Festival scheduled to run for four days over the Labor Day weekend will be an even bigger success. The Peach Jam Music Festival combines continuous music from 15 bands playing everything from 70s rock, to country to reggae music, carnival amusements and inflatable rides.

For more information about the Vernon Skatepark Memorial Organization or to make a contribution, visit [www.vernonskatepark.org](http://www.vernonskatepark.org).