

Iron Maiden drummer hosts fundraising event



Nicko McBrain performs during the HomeSafe fundraiser at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino in Hollywood.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

BY MARY THURMAN YUHAS
Special Correspondent

When Iron Maiden drummer **Nicko McBrain** isn't on the road, he calls Boca Raton home.

About eight years ago, through friends at a golf tournament, he was introduced to HomeSafe, a Lake Worth-based nonprofit that helps victims of child abuse and domestic violence.

"I fell in love with the whole organization," McBrain said. "I had a wonderful childhood growing up in North London, and I think every child deserves to have caring people around them to nurture

their abilities and help them go out and have a fulfilled life."

McBrain hosted HomeSafe's recent Classic Rock & Roll Party fundraiser at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino in Hollywood. About 375 people attended, and the event raised more than \$340,000.

"We only hold two fundraisers a year, and this fundraiser is extremely unique," said **Matthew Ladika**, HomeSafe's CEO. "It's a jam session and a rock party that breaks out into a fundraiser."

Elliot Loewenstern, of Boca Raton, has volunteered for HomeSafe the past two years. He became

acquainted with the charity after his son, **Brett**, made it to the top 24 on "American Idol" in 2011 and was invited to perform at HomeSafe's fundraiser that year.

"HomeSafe really is what their name is — a safe home," Elliot Loewenstern said. "We're going out to the Lake Worth facility and sing for them and talk to them. It makes you feel lucky when you see things you take for granted, and unfortunately, some of those kids don't have that luck."

The event also featured performances by the Sugarhill Gang, **Sam Moore**, **Bev Rohlehr** and Brett Loewenstern, as well as dinner and live and silent auctions.

McBrain doesn't limit his volunteering to fundraisers. He also visits the young residents at HomeSafe's residential campuses, and he recently donated drum sets, guitars, amplifiers, speakers and more to its music room.

"Music is very therapeutic and can help heal all kinds of ailments," McBrain said. "When I sit and talk to the kids, they ask what it's like playing on the road and how I deal with missing my family. They're very sweet and endearing and quite enthralled to know what life is like on a touring band."

For more information, call 561-383-9800 or visit www.helphomesafe.org.

HOW TO REACH US

CUSTOMER SERVICE

1-800-548-6397

EDITORS

RUBEN CUETO	COMMUNITY NEWS MANAGING EDITOR	954-574-5330
KYARA LOMER-CAMARENA	ASSISTANT COMMUNITY NEWS EDITOR	954-596-5607
JENNIFER BOEHM	DESIGNER	954-574-5378
RICK MENNING	COMMUNITY SPORTS COORDINATOR	954-574-5323
BETH BLACK	PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR	954-574-5327
LAURA KOKUS	CALENDAR EDITOR	954-574-5358

NEWSROOM STAFF

JONATHAN MARCUS	GENERAL ASSIGNMENT	954-574-5372
SERGY ODIDURO	MOBILE JOURNALIST	954-574-5330
CHRIS GUANCHE	MOBILE JOURNALIST	954-574-5330

ADVERTISING

SUSAN BONK	ADVERTISING SALES MANAGER FOR PALM BEACH COUNTY	561-243-6600
------------	---	--------------