

# Goffin and Sons Will Rock the Fourth

By LAURIE ROSENTHAL  
Staff Writer

When a well-known musician reads a local paper, you never know what will happen.

Louise Goffin recently opened an issue of *Palisades News* for the first time and came upon a small article about the Fourth of July concert and fireworks show held every year at Palisades High School.

Organizer Keith Turner was looking for local musicians to perform. So Goffin, a 14-year resident of Pacific Palisades, answered the ad, explaining that she and her sons, Elijah Wells, 15, and Hayden Wells, 12, were musicians and would like to participate.

Coincidentally, Turner had seen Goffin “perform a few weeks before she contacted me, at a party at the recording studio owned by Rami [Jaffee], the Foo Fighters’ keyboardist. Rami was part of the band that played in last year’s Palisades Rocks the Fourth concert,” Turner says.

“Louise was so good. But I had no idea she lived in the Palisades. I was blown away when she contacted me in response to the article in the *Palisades News*. I am really excited to have her performing at this year’s concert.”

Although the set list was not finalized by press time, Goffin told the *News* that she



Louise Goffin will be performing at this year’s Palisades Rocks the Fourth concert.

Photo: Ruel Lee Photography

and her sons would “keep it somewhat up-tempo, and do one American song.” They will play four songs in 15 minutes on the main stage.

This will be the first time the three have played together. Goffin will sing, play guitar and possibly ukulele, Elijah will play bass and Hayden will be on drums.

Goffin was born into a legendary musical family, and began her training at a young age. Her mother is singer/songwriter Carole King, and her late father was producer/songwriter Gerry Goffin.

Over the past several decades, Goffin has written songs for *Fast Times at Ridgemont High* and *Gilmore Girls*, as well as releasing

her own albums. Her most recent effort is the EP *Appleonfire*, which she began working on after the June 2014 death of her father.

As for her sons, “They literally came out born musicians, really fine ones,” she says.

A typical Fourth of July for Goffin is similar to that of many Palisadians. “We’ve been to the parade almost every single year we’ve lived here. We sit in chairs, try to get shade, hang out with other families and bring a cooler of cold drinks and snacks.”

“We love the drummers from different high schools,” she adds.

And like a rite of passage that many Palisadian parents go through on the Fourth, the time comes when the kids do their own thing. “Last year, my kids were nowhere to be found. They were off somewhere else,” Goffin says. This year, she looks forward to being on stage with them.

Playing live in her adopted hometown will be a new experience for Goffin. “I’ve toured a lot,” and have played to many large crowds, she says.

“Pacific Palisades is where I like to wear comfortable clothes and ride my bike anonymously.”

On July 5, she may not be as anonymous here as she is today.

For more about Goffin visit: [louisehoffin.com](http://louisehoffin.com). For concert information visit: [palisadesrocksthefourth.com](http://palisadesrocksthefourth.com).

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*This illustration originally appeared on the cover of the July 1956 issue of Tracks magazine, courtesy of Peter Kreitler (See story, page 12). It has been slightly modified to fit our cover.*

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