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SUNNY

SUNNY TAYLOR / PAGE 4

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THEATRE REVIEWS: A TUNA CHRISTMAS,
AN AMERICAN CHRISTMAS CAROL
+ PURELY DANCE 2011

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ART + ENTERTAINMENT CALENDARS

ROAD NOTEZ THE NAKED VINE

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FT WAYNE YOUTHEATRE'S
A CHRISTMAS CAROL

PAGE 5



FIVE FINGER
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Lots of us in the Fort Wayne area – particularly we whatzup readers – appreciate Sunny Taylor, she of the “wall of Whammys” who has graced the Fort Wayne music scene with her stunningly beautiful voice and graceful stage presence since she was a teenager (and this publication was a newborn infant). Recently, the whatzup household had family visiting from California, and during that visit we happened to have Sunny’s new EP blaring from an iPod dock a time or two. When visiting family member asked, “Who is that you’re playing? Her voice is just beautiful!,” we knew that the above-mentioned appreciation is far too confined, being limited to northeast Indiana. Accordingly, we decided to make her our cover this week. Maybe someone who can launch a music career will notice. That would be nice, don’t you think?

There is, of course, plenty more in this issue of whatzup. Kathleen Christian previews Fort Wayne Youtheatre’s production of A Christmas Carol and Ryan Smith profiles rockers Five Finger Death Punch, both on page 5.

We also have a bunch of theater reviews, starting on page 24, our usual brilliant columnists and, of course, the very best and most inclusive art and entertainment calendars you’re going to find in print (or anywhere else, for that matter).

So read this baby cover to cover and make some plans to get out of the house and have yourself some fun, and please tell one and all that whatzup sent you!

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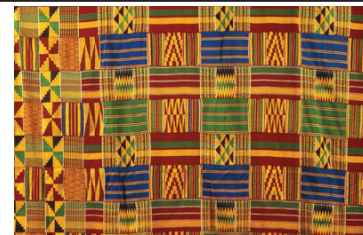
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The Forecast is Sunny

By Deborah Kennedy

When I first called Sunny Taylor to talk to her about her new EP and her CD release party at C2G Music Hall, she was in the Target dressing room, trying on tops.

"It's a tradition," she said. "A new CD, a big show, a new shirt."

Anyone lucky enough to have been in the audience at C2G the night Taylor and her band – Ben Porter (electric guitar), Dan Willig (drums) and Pete Jacobs (bass) – treated fans to her newest songs can tell you that Taylor has excellent fashion sense. They can also tell you that Taylor's self-titled, four-song EP is exactly what followers of this 32-year-old singer-songwriter and Fort Wayne native have been craving since her last full-length, *Lock the Door and Leave*, came out four years ago: emotionally complex tracks that explore every facet of human relationships, from the ties that bind us together to the betrayals that break us apart.

Taylor said she feels like her new songs are more mature and less self-centered than those found on *Lock the Door and Leave* and her two live albums. And while it's clear that her fans have not tired of her older hits – the woman has more than 25 Whammys to her credit – she sometimes has a hard time listening to the songs she wrote when she was just starting out (which, for anyone who's been asleep for the late-90s and the early aughts, was as a precocious high schooler – name a coffee shop in Fort Wayne and Taylor was there, transforming a simple caffeine-pushing venue into a place of intimacy and warmth).

"I feel like with a lot of those songs I was focusing on a particular situation and how it affected me instead of taking into account everyone else and their perspectives. It was like I had one of two feelings. I was either happy or sad, and usually the sad songs were 'this boy doesn't like me' kind of stuff. I'm much more interested in other people now,

in turning my focus outward."

And the great news is that she has enough material to record another full-length album. The EP, which includes the tracks "Trucker," "Highview Drive," "Paper Tiger (Getting Over It)" and "Break My Heart Please," was produced by the respected and accomplished Mark Hornsby in his Java Jive studio in Nashville. Mike Ross, vice president of sales and marketing for Sweetwater Sound, put Taylor in touch with Hornsby – "Mike helped me out a lot on *Lock the Door and Leave* ... and last winter I called him up, said 'Hey, let's make another album' – and Taylor is working on raising enough money to partner with him again.

How does a mother of three and guitar teacher living and working in a relatively unknown town plan to get her hands on the

cash required to record a professional, studio album? Through a series of in-home concerts and intimate shows. Basically, if you weren't lucky enough to attend the CD release party, don't fret. You can hire Taylor to perform for you and your friends in the comfort of your own home or business, and for a little extra you can have the whole band bring the house down.

It's an innovative approach to record-making and one that Taylor hopes succeeds, because the time she spent recording the EP was not only productive but inspiring.

"On one of my trips down to Nashville I took my good friend Meghan King and we talked about how we were in heaven, surrounded by all these people who get what we



Continued on page 6

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Dickens With a Twist

By Kathleen Christian

Fort Wayne is undoubtedly a great city to live in during the holidays. I can't step a foot out of my door without hearing of more fun holiday attractions and activities. I can go skating at Headwaters Park, escape to the History Center and see fantastical gingerbread creations, then catch some tunes at the Embassy while ogling the spectacle of trees. There are some holiday traditions however, that are nothing short of mandatory. A *Christmas Carol* is one of those.

For some, *It's a Wonderful Life* is their sign that the holidays are here, but for me, I can't wrap a single pair of pink bunny slippers until I've seen that crotchety old man's heart turn to melted butter. Whether it's the old 1930's version in black and white, or *A Muppet Christmas Carol*, it's magical. This year, the Fort Wayne Youtheatre will be performing *A Christmas Carol* on stage just for me. And also for the rest of Fort Wayne.

This is Christmas with a twist though, as Harvey Cox has taken Dickens' beloved tale and put his own special spin on it for the Youtheatre audience. The idea to change up the traditional play came far back in the summer, Cox says.

"I was talking to some kids ... and I asked what they would think if we did *A Christmas Carol*. Oh, it's a frightening thing, they told me to a couple adults, and they're frightened too," Cox said. So he began work on rewriting the story to fit the spirit of Youtheatre and its bright-eyed volunteers. The resulting script was still the story of Ebenezer Scrooge as envisioned by Charles Dickens, but, says Cox, "I have added comedy to it. It's a version for young people and adults."

With an injection of light-heartedness and laughter, Scrooge finds himself in some slapstick-type situations trying to fight his way out of the midst of happy carolers played by members of the Fort Wayne Children's Choir and the Memorial Park Choir. In addition, the ghosts are all referred to as spirits, and even the frightening spectre that shows Ebenezer the wake of his death has been changed to a charming flower girl.

Like most Christmas traditions, this show is a family affair with on-the-set families who are off-the-set families as well. The cast is still largely supported by youth, though, despite some adult involvement, so Cox still needed to make changes to accommodate his young actors. His rewrites to the original play don't diminish the parts played

by youth but rather explain why youngsters are playing some adult roles.

The show will open up with a sparse stage and a family desperately fighting to find set-pieces to put on a showing of *A Christmas Carol* after their stage coach has veered off the road on its way to the theater. Before the audience's eyes, the set will be scavenged and put together, then played by



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many members of the traveling company's junior members. Cox couldn't say enough about the talent of his young cast playing adult parts,

such as the ghost of Jacob Marley, played by the 14-year-old Andrew Bower. Cox said of Bower, "He's marvelous. He does a better job than what an adult might have done in his place."

Cox admits his background in theater, having spent his entire life on or around stages and many years on Broadway, lends to the Vaudevillian feel of elements of this show. But it's his experience that helped him muddle through the murky waters of writing and directing a script, which is a tricky business.

"Having been on stage in New York and done original plays, writers sit there in the front row and defy you to change a word of their masterpiece. Sometimes when you're writing you have visions, and you have to erase all those when you start directing a play," Cox explained.

More than simply the director of this play, Cox is the artistic director of the entire Youtheatre program and has been with them for 33 years, having garnered his love of leading youth as a young man from reading to orphans in poverty-stricken areas. Now he has put all of his passion, talent and experience into writing and directing this exciting family show.

Between the original story, the young talent and the children's choirs performing in this holiday piece, seeing *A Christmas Carol* tops my list of things to do in December. Right after buying more bunny slippers.



Feature • Five Finger Death Punch

They're an American Band

By Ryan Smith

Five Finger Death Punch are one of those bands that were either going to hit paydirt or be a yawn-inducing disappointment. Fortunately for them, the former was true and not the latter. When the band formed in Los Angeles in 2005, its members brought with them some weighty credentials that started a near-immediate buzz that has continued to surround them to this day.

Lead vocalist Ivan Moody was perhaps the most high-profile member, having performed as the frontman of Motogratr from 2002-2005. Guitarist Zoltan Bathory had formerly played bass in U.P.O., and now-former guitarist Darrell Roberts had played in W.A.S.P. (he was replaced by Jason Hook in 2009). The band has been productive and has ascended relatively quickly, delivering three albums and playing on two Rockstar Energy Mayhem Festivals, in 2008 and 2010. While their first album, 2007's *The Way of the Fist*, made dents mostly in heavy metal circles, the band began to break into the mainstream with 2009's *War is the Answer*. Two singles from the album, "Walk Away," and a cover of Bad Company's song "Bad Company," received a decent amount of airplay on rock radio.

The band will be playing at Piere's on

Saturday December 17 along with fellow bludgeon-meisters Hatebreed and All That Remains. Tickets are \$33 in advance and \$36 same day.

As one would expect from a band named Five Finger Death Punch, the majority of their music is fast, aggressive, and hard-hitting. Taking their name from classic martial arts cinema and taking many of their cues from the martial arts, as well as the military, the band's hard-hitting sound very quickly established itself as a force to be reckoned with within the heavy metal

community. That doesn't mean, however, that they shy away from including a sense of melody and the occasional slow song to mix things up a bit, which may explain why the band has also become something of a target for online haters.

Some of the haters decry them for being too serious about their tough-guy image; others from the metal-can-only-be-underground variety decry them for writing songs with melodies and having radio hits. Others seem to just take any cheap pot shot they can at the band – seemingly par for the course for musicians or anyone else in public view.

"People always get on us about the whole "tough-guy" image, but they don't

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Continued on page 13

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SUNNY TAYLOR - From Page 4

do," she said. "We immediately felt right at home. Everyone had a great sense of humor and it was clear immediately that these were our kind of people. It's not that I haven't felt that here with my friends and family. I have, but there's just something to being in a studio, working with people who want to help you bring your songs to life."

And while for her EP Hornsby brought in a handful of award-winning Nashville session players – Tom Hemby on electric guitar, Phil Naish on grand piano and keyboards, Scott Williamson on drums, Dirk Darken on percussion and Brian Beller on bass – Taylor said she owes a great debt to her band whose feedback and support have made her new batch of songs possible.

"They helped me develop the new songs. I've never felt more comfortable bringing songs to the table than I do with these guys," she said. "It feels like exactly the right combination. I love my bandmates."

Many who have heard the new EP are predicting great things for Taylor. They're seeing visions of music videos and radio play and world tours, but Taylor's ambitions are more modest and, like her winning, funny personality, more down to earth.

"I'm not going to turn down any great opportunity, whether it's opening for a big act or playing for a big audience, but I'm not going to do anything that would be detrimental to my family and home life," said the married mother of three. "That's my sanity. That's my sanctuary. I don't want to get lost on the road somewhere, but playing regionally will be nice, and if the chance comes to play some national shows I'll do it. I'm

willing to stretch myself this time."

When she says her home life is her sanity, she's referring to the time she spends with husband, Jason Berry, and their three daughters: Josie, 3; Myra, 5; and Jayna, 6. The girls are all very different but get along well, and together they have their mother laughing constantly.

"Josie, she's my wild one. I was eight months pregnant with her when I performed at the Whammys after *Lock the Door and Leave* came out. My hands were so swollen I couldn't hold a guitar pick. And Myra, she's mischievous but also very genuine and scientific. She'd rather pulverize and study her dinner than eat it. Jayna is very artistic, very sensitive. She's like a little mommy. Her teacher told me that if someone gets hurt on the playground, Jayna's there, nursing them. She's super sweet and very emotional. I don't know where she gets it."

Taylor has come a long way since she lit up such local haunts as Toast and Jam and Higher Grounds as a teenager. Gradually she earned a loyal local fanbase through her live performances, charming onstage persona and proven talent as a guitarist, singer and writer. And, for the last half-decade, she's managed to balance life as a passionate musician with that of a devoted wife and mother. It's no wonder that she considers her new material to be her best yet, strengthened as it is by the wisdom of experience. Taylor said she's particularly happy with how one song on the EP, "Highview Drive" came out. Based on Taylor's childhood and her parents' divorce, the song eluded her for years. Then, when she sat down to write it last winter, it came

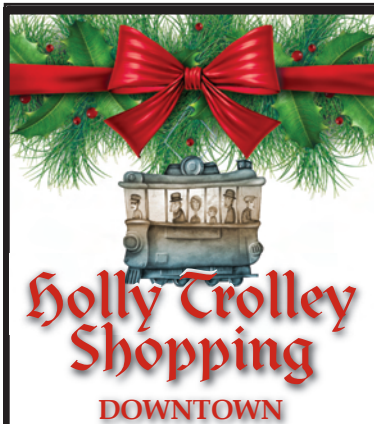
out in a rush.

"All the memories came back piece by piece," she said. "It was a song I'd always wanted to write but didn't think I could, and then I sat down and it came to me in 10 minutes."

"I can barely perform the song without breaking down," she continued. "I can't think about what it's about. It hits me like no song ever has, and it seems to get the audience too. When I was singing it with Mark Hornsby I actually started crying. I felt like such an idiot. He probably couldn't use anything from that take, but later, when I heard what he'd done with the song, how it sounded on the final version, I was thrilled. It sounded exactly how I wanted it to, how it sounded in my head."

Taylor says many of her songs are therapeutic, that the act of writing down her feelings and setting them to music has helped her get over and beyond some of her life's most trying times. She's glad that she's provided that same experience for her fans who have a habit of taking her aside after her shows and telling her that a certain song made them cry or even just see things a little differently. She knows she's loved in this town, so even if this EP marks the beginning of the big time for Sunny Taylor, she's not about to forget where she came from.

"I'm ridiculously grateful for the amount of support I've gotten. I have the best family and friends anybody could have. They're amazing to me. And then there's my Come 2 Go church family and all the wonderful people who come to my shows. It's been so humbling. I've been spoiled."



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Sonata Arctica

Live in Finland

Could anything more Nordic exist than a live album by a band called Sonata Arctica that was recorded in Finland? The answer is a resounding probably not. The Finnish band, which has been plying its trade of epic sweep and bombast from those arctic shores since 1996, is proving that if it's worth doing, it's worth overdoing on its latest live recording, aptly titled *Live in Finland*.

If there's one thing you can't accuse Sonata of, it's understatement. Everything about the recording is grandiose, from its running length (22 tracks and almost two hours), to its song titles ("As if the World Wasn't Ending," "Last Amazing Grays"), to the instrumentation (which includes keyboards and horns along with a traditional power metal attack). You also can't fault the band for its musicianship or obvious passion; the songs are all solidly constructed and delivered with skill and feeling.

Their style may not be for all metal fans (their romantic leanings will likely be scoffed at by fans of more dour genres) but fans of bands like Europe, the Scorpions, and Dragonforce will likely find much in which to delight on *Live in Finland*. The main problem with the band is that, while the songs are all well put together, they never quite reach the originality or iconic heights of the bands Sonata Arctica emulates. In fact, in "Replica" lead singer Tony Kokko wails "I'm a replica! I'm a replica," which may be an unintentional admission of the band's primary sin.

Still, *Live in Finland* works exceptionally well as a live document for fans of the band and can be an engaging listen for newcomers. The wealth of material offered here is appealing enough at first listen but also offers enough depth to reward repeat listenings. If you're in the market for some rousing tunes to inspire you to get out there and protect your village by fending off that orc horde or slay that dragon to save the king's daughter, Sonata Arctica's *Live in Finland* just might do the trick. (Ryan Smith)

M83

Hurry Up, We're Dreaming

Ahh yes, the everlasting rock 'n' roll romance of the double album. Most bloated, few worthwhile, all ambitious. When I think back to high school, *Mellon Collie and the Infinite Sadness*, the 1995 double album by The Smashing Pumpkins, comes to mind. When I think of college, it's *Godspeed You Black Emperor's Lift Yr. Skinny Fists Like Antennas to Heaven!* and my late finding of Wilco's *Being There*. And then there's Ryan Adams' sprawling breakup record, *Cold Roses*, and what are easily three of my all-time favorite records: The Beatles' *White Album*, The Rolling Stones' *Exile on Main St.* and The Clash's *London Calling*. Now those seven double records, all of 'em, *deserved* their format. Most other double albums through time (not counting, you know, *Bitches Brew*, Bob Dylan, The Who and stuff like that)? Not the case. Nearly all of them, I'd argue, could be whittled down to a single album or even an EP. So when M83 main man Anthony Gonzalez announced last year that he was working on an "epic double album," I started to worry. I'd only just become a big fan with the release of the last M83 album, 2008's great *Saturdays = Youth*, and now the guy was going to chase me off? Ugh.

Regardless, I skipped happily to the record store on release day, excited at the possibility of hearing a "new classic" for the first time. About halfway through the record's first proper song (and current single), "Midnight City," I nearly wet my cargo shorts. What a huge, epic, inventive and addictive track! And, gulp, *sexy!* What is that hook? An animal? *Animals?* A final plea? Didn't matter. I was suddenly filled with the kind of excitement that's hard to find once you turn 30. I thought for sure that I was in the middle of a new memory. One to keep forever and hold onto when the world is ugly, like the first time I heard *White Blood Cells* or *OK Computer*. Gonzalez had quickly made one thing clear: he had a whole lot of weird, ambitious ideas.

Then the record played on. Clearly, I realized, Gonzalez is still



BACKTRACKS

Journey

Infinity (1978)

This was the fourth record from the San Francisco band Journey, the first with Steve Perry. Journey were basically scraps from an earlier version of Santana that parted company with the guitarist in the early 70s. Perry took the progressive rock band into a different direction and fronted the band for the next 10 years.

The album opens with "Lights," a beautiful homage to San Francisco (one of the greatest cities in the world). It's a staple at the San Francisco Giants baseball games.

Next up is the "Feeling That Way/Anytime" where keyboardist Gregg Rolie opens with the vocals until Perry takes over for "Anytime." Neal Schon played a nasty progressive-pop guitar throughout the band's history, and this album may be one of his best. "La Do Da" keeps the Schon/Perry combination rocking along until side one almost grinds to a halt with the super-ballad, "Patiently".

Side two opens with the familiar "Wheel In The Sky" and chugs along with the whiney "Somethin' To Hide." The latter was one of those songs that can sort of deflate an album.

I always liked "Can Do." It's a little short, but you can tell that this band had some hard rock capabilities. On the other hand, had Journey committed to this sound, they probably wouldn't have been as successful. "Opened The Door" closes an album that has five great rock songs and five "high school make-out" songs.

Perry went on to record six more Journey records and has had moderate success as a solo artist. The band split up briefly in 1987. Journey went through several lead singers (and had about a dozen or so band members) before finding a pretty decent vocalist in Arnel Pineda back in 2007.

Fun Fact: Neal Schon has played on every Journey album since 1975. (Dennis Donahue)



deeply obsessed with the sound of 80s pop music. That, and youth: the two themes prevalent throughout *Saturdays*. Luckily, he approaches neither from the slant of an ironic nostalgic, but, rather, as a cinematic nostalgic attempting to soundtrack both the daydreams of hip adults and the nighttime adventures of those still young enough to regularly indulge in such things. And he does so with lush, expansive arrangements, each of which holds tight to the record's cohesive sound while still managing to offer new ideas left and right. No doubt, Gonzalez took the Double Album Challenge because he knew he was at the peak of his powers. We hear that peak, absolutely, on tracks like "Wait," "Midnight City" and "The Bright Flash" – and that's just the first disc. Big, fancy, extensively ornamented songs whose appeal just grows and grows with the familiarity of the listener.

And while this 80s space rock journey through dreams and childhood is most definitely a hell of an impressive piece of work, I'm not sure that the kind of music M83 make is conducive to the the double album format. I mean, yeah, Soft Machine made *Third*, and Miles Davis made *Bitches Brew*, and others have made double albums that aren't full of pop songs all through the history of recorded music. But if I'm being completely honest, I do kinda/sorta feel like *Hurry Up, We're Dreaming* might have been better off as a single album. Rather than two 11-song discs stuffed full of big ideas, how about the best 14 songs on one disc, followed by a really great seven-song EP? It'd be a "classic," right? All the songs here are worth releasing, and I guess that's the point. When you're in the kind of zone Gonzalez is in, you kind of just want to brag about it and document it. You want to step up, and step past, the others. I get it – the drive of the human. On record.

Next topic: greatest triple albums of all time. *Have One on Me*, *Sandinista* and *69 Love Songs* all come to mind. Hopefully Gonzalez doesn't take the challenge. In fact, despite the impressive accomplishment that is *Hurry Up*, he'd most definitely be better releasing single albums from here forward. (Greg W. Locke)

Send new CD releases to 2305 E. Esterline Rd., Columbia City, IN 46725. It is also helpful to send bio information, publicity photos and previous releases, if available. Sorry, but whatzup will review only full-length, professionally produced CDs.

Wooden Nickel CD of the Week

Mike Conley & Friends
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It's a Conley Christmas

This 2009 release by Fort Wayne's Mike Conley has become something of a Christmas tradition in northeast Indiana. Backed by artists ranging from Duane Eby, Chris Dodds, Tim Bushong and Patrick Borton to Fort Wayne Philharmonic cellist Jane Heald, Conley 11 traditional carols as well as a bouncy original tune, "Bad Boy Christmas." Hear some of the best northeast Indiana has to offer by picking up *It's a Conley Christmas* at any Wooden Nickel Music Store for just \$9.99.

TOP SELLERS @

WOODEN NICKEL

(Week ending 12/4/2011)

TW	LW	ARTIST/Album
1	-	BOB & TOM <i>Somewhere Over the Radio</i>
2	-	THE BLACK KEYS <i>Camino</i>
3	4	ADELE <i>21 (CD & LP)</i>
4	2	NICKELBACK <i>Here & Now</i>
5	-	THE ROOTS <i>Undun</i>
6	-	WARREN HAYNES <i>The Benefit Concert Vol. 4</i>
7	6	TOM WAITS <i>Bad As Me (CD & LP)</i>
8	-	T-PAIN <i>Revolver</i>
9	1	FIVE FINGER DEATH PUNCH <i>American Capitalist (CD & LP)</i>
10	-	KORN <i>Path of Totality</i>

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EXPECT: The eclectic madness of the original combined with hand-crafted Mad Anthony ales and lagers. **EATS:** The same 4-1/2 star menu, including one of the best pizzas in America and a large vegetarian menu. **GETTING THERE:** Take I-69 to State Rd. 8 (Auburn exit); downtown, just north of courthouse. **HOURS:** 11 a.m.-12 a.m. Sun.-Thurs.; 11 a.m.-2 a.m. Fri.-Sat. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc

CHURUBUSCO

LUCKY LADY

Pub/Tavern • 103 N. Main St., Churubusco • 260-693-0311

EXPECT: Hottest bar in northern Indiana. No cover ever! Great food and drink specials, pool, games, live bands and karaoke. **EATS:** Comfort-style, high-quality food at a fair price. Homemade specials daily. **GETTING THERE:** 3 miles north of Carroll Road at the corner of U.S. 33 and State Rd. 205 in Churubusco. **HOURS:** 11 a.m.-3 a.m. Mon.-Sat., 12 noon-1 a.m. Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, Amex

FORT WAYNE

4D'S BAR & GRILL

Tavern/Sports Bar • 1820 W. Dupont Rd., Fort Wayne • 260-490-6488

EXPECT: Live music Saturdays, no cover; Thirsty Thursday party; daily specials - \$2 longnecks every day; Sunday-Monday, 40¢ wings; Wednesday, live music with Kimmy Dean & Paul and 25¢ wings; Thursday, \$1 sliders; Friday-Saturday, \$3 16-oz. imports and make your drink a double for \$1 more. **EATS:** Daily food specials, \$1 tacos on Monday, \$7 pizza on Sunday. **GETTING THERE:** NW corner of Dupont & Lima. **HOURS:** Mon.-Fri. 3 p.m.-3 a.m.; Sat.-Sun., noon-3 a.m. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc

AFTER DARK

Dance Club • 1601 S. Harrison St., Fort Wayne • 260-456-6235

EXPECT: Mon. drink specials & karaoke; Tues. male dancers; Wed. karaoke; Thurs., Fri. & Sat. Vegas-style drag show (female impersonators); dancing w/Sizzling Sonny. Outdoor patio. Sunday karaoke & video dance party. **GETTING THERE:** Downtown Fort Wayne, 1 block south of Powers Hamburgers. **HOURS:** 12 noon-3 a.m. Mon.-Sat., 6 p.m.-3 a.m. Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** Cash only, ATM available

ALLEY SPORTS BAR

Sports Bar • 1455 Goshen Rd., Fort Wayne • 260-483-4421

EXPECT: 45¢ wings Sunday, Monday and Tuesday; On Key Karaoke Thursday and Friday starting at 9 p.m.; live bands Saturday, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover. **EATS:** Sandwiches, Ft. Wayne's best tenderloin, pizzas, salads, soups, fish & chips. Now serving lunch every day starting at 11 a.m. **GETTING THERE:** Inside Pro Bowl West, Gateway Plaza on Goshen Rd. **HOURS:** 11 a.m.-midnight Mon.-Thurs., 11 a.m.-3 a.m. Fri.-Sat.; 11 a.m.-12 a.m. Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc

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Dance Club • 112 E. Masterson, Fort Wayne • 260-247-5062

EXPECT: Two unique bars in one historic building. Fridays & Saturdays DJ Blazin' Brandon. Come shake it up in our dance cage. Outdoor patio. Ask for nightly specials. **GETTING THERE:** Three blocks south of the Downtown Hilton on Calhoun St., then left on Masterson. Catty-corner from the Oyster Bar. **HOURS:** 6 p.m.-3 a.m. Fri.-Sat. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** Cash only, ATM available

BEAMER'S SPORTS GRILL

Sports/Music/Variety • W. County Line Rd. & Highway 30 • 260-625-1002

EXPECT: Friendliest bar in Allen County. Big Ten, NASCAR, NFL on 12 big screen, hi-def TVs. **EATS:** Complete menu featuring homemade pizza, Beamer's Burger Bar, killer Philly steak sandwiches, juicy sirloins, great salads, fish on Fridays. **ACTIVITIES:** Pool, darts, cornhole. Live bands on weekends, no cover. Smoking allowed, four state-of-the-art smoke eaters. **GETTING THERE:** A quick 10 minutes west of Coliseum on U.S. 30. **HOURS:** Open daily at 11 a.m., noon on Sunday. **PMT:** MC, Visa, Amex, Disc

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----- Calendar • Live Music & Comedy -----

Thursday, Dec. 8

AL GOODWIN, CHIRS DUBAIL — Comedy at Snickerz Comedy Bar, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m., \$8, 486-0216

CAB'N JOE — Acoustic at Beamer's Sports Grill, Allen County, 7-9 p.m., no cover, 625-1002

CHRIS & PAUL — Rat pack at Covington Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 432-6660

DAN SMYTH — Acoustic at Lake George Retreat, Fremont, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 833-2266

DAVE LATCHAW — Jazz at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 6:30-9:30 p.m., no cover, 426-3442

JASON PAUL — Rock variety at Skully's Boneyard (formerly Duty's Uptown Bar), Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 637-0198

JEFF McDONALD — 60s-70s acoustic at Don Hall's Guesthouse, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 489-2524

JOE JUSTICE — Variety at the Trolley Bar, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 490-4322

JOSH AND THE EMPTY POCKETS — Magic at Woodland Lounge, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., no cover, 490-6836

OPEN MIC HOSTED BY MIKE CONLEY — At Mad Anthony Brewing Company, Fort Wayne, 8:30 p.m., no cover, 426-2537

PART II — Acoustic at VIP Lounge, Fort Wayne, 7-11 p.m., no cover, 387-7960

TIM SNYDER — Acoustic at 4D's Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 7-9 p.m., no cover, 490-6488

Friday, Dec. 9

AL GOODWIN, CHIRS DUBAIL — Comedy at Snickerz Comedy Bar, Fort Wayne, 7:30 & 9:45 p.m., \$9, 486-0216

ANDY RICE — Bassist singer at Firefly Coffee House, Fort Wayne, 6-7:30 p.m., no cover, 373-0505

BORROWED TIME — Classic rock at Lucky Lady, Churubusco, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 693-0311

CHRIS DODDS AND ADAM STRACK — Acoustic at Columbia Street West, Fort Wayne, 5-7 p.m., no cover, 422-5055

CHRIS WORTH AND COMPANY — Variety at Gin Mill Lounge, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 484-5561

COLIN MOCHRIE & BRAD SHERWOOD — Comedy at the Honeywell Center, Wabash, 7:30 p.m., \$19-\$75, 563-1102

COUGAR HUNTER — 80's glam rock at Latch String Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 483-5526

DAVE AND RAE BAND — Rock at Piere's, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-2:30 a.m., \$5, 486-1979

DON'T LOOK DOWN — Pop punk at O'Sullivan's Italian Irish Pub, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 422-5896

EMILY ANNE GUFFY — Country at Rusty Spur Saloon, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., \$5, 755-3465

FM 90 — Rock at Skip's Party Place, Angola, 9:30 p.m.-2 a.m., \$3 after 8 p.m., 665-3922

FORT WAYNE PHILHARMONIC FEAT. MIKE CONLEY AND FORT WAYNE CHILDREN'S CHORUS — Holiday Pops at Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., \$25-\$65, 481-0777

GERMAN CHRISTMAS SHOW — Christmas concert at the Fort Wayne Sport Club, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m., \$20, 244-6964

GRACE COOK — Acoustic at Brew'ha, Columbia City, 7-9 p.m., no cover, 248-4111

JARON CLARK — Acoustic at Beamer's Sports Grill, Allen County, 6-8 p.m., no cover, 625-1002

JOE STABELLI — Jazz guitar at Hall's Old Gas House, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m., no cover, 426-3411

JOEL YOUNG BAND — Country classic rock at North Star Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 471-3798

KILL THE RABBIT — Hard rock at Jill's Pub, New Haven, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., \$2, 749-8116

MARK GARR — Acoustic rock blues at the Eagles, Garrett, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 357-4295

MUTTS w/THE INNOCENT BOYS AND THUNDERHAWK — Rock at the Brass Rail, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., cover, 422-0881

PICK SLIDE — Rock variety at Checkerz Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 489-0286

ROD BOWERS — Classic rock country at Don Hall's Guesthouse, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 489-2524

SHADE JONZE AND SHANNON PERSINGER — Variety at the Venice Restaurant, Fort Wayne, 6:30-9:30 p.m., no cover, 482-1618

TODD HARROLD TRIO — R&B jazz at the Dash-In, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., cover, 423-3595

THE TWANG GANG — Country rock at Neon Armadillo, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., \$5, ladies in free, 490-5060

UNWRAPPED — Classic rock at Beamer's Sports Grill, Allen County, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., no cover, 625-1002

WAYNE "THE TRAIN" HANCOCK w/JAKE ORVIS AND THE BROKEN BAND, DAG AND THE BULLEIT BOYS AND JAMES HUNNICUTT — Blues swing at the Army Navy Club, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m., \$10, \$8 with canned food, 459-6820

WEST CENTRAL QUARTET — Jazz at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m., no cover, 426-3442

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MINDS EYE



WHAT SHE SAID — Rock Variety at Duty's Buckets Sports Pub & Grub, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., no cover, 459-1352

YELLOW DEAD BETTYS — Rock original at the Tilted Kilt Pub & Eatery, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 459-3985

Saturday, Dec. 10

AL GOODWIN, CHIRS DUBAIL — Comedy at Snickerz Comedy Bar, Fort Wayne, 7:30 & 9:45 p.m., \$9, 486-0216

APRIL'S ALIBI — Rock variety at North Star Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 471-3798

BACKWATER — Country rock at the Alley Sports Bar, Pro Bowl West, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 482-4889

BRETT DETAR w/FRANK SCHWEIKHARDT, BRO. STEPHEN, SUPPORT THE TROOPZ, CLOSE ONLY COUNTS, THE F'ING PANTHERS, DEAD HORSE, LOVE OF EVERYTHING, METAVARI, FRONTIER(S), SAINTHOOD REPS, FRESH BEN & KYLE GEIGER COLLABORATIVE SET, SHIVA & JAY — Variety at Neat, Neat, Neat Records and Music, Fort Wayne, 2-4 p.m., no cover, 241-3956

BRETT DETAR w/FRANK SCHWEIKHARDT, BRO. STEPHEN, SUPPORT THE TROOPZ, CLOSE ONLY COUNTS, THE F'ING PANTHERS, DEAD HORSE, LOVE OF EVERYTHING, METAVARI, FRONTIER(S), SAINTHOOD REPS, FRESH BEN & KYLE GEIGER COLLABORATIVE SET, SHIVA & JAY — Variety at Calhoun Street Soup, Salads and Spirits, Fort Wayne, 4 p.m.-3 a.m. p.m., all ages until 10 p.m., \$8 adv., \$10 d.o.s., 456-7005

CADILLAC RANCH — Classic rock at Spudz, New Haven, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 493-7292

COUGAR HUNTER — 80's glam rock at Piere's, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2:30 a.m., \$5, 486-1979

EXTERMINATE ALL RATIONAL THOUGHT — Rock at O'Sullivan's Italian Irish Pub, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 422-5896

FM 90 — Rock at Skip's Party Place, Angola, 9:30 p.m.-2 a.m., \$3 after 8 p.m., 665-3922

FORT WAYNE PHILHARMONIC FEAT. MIKE CONLEY AND FORT WAYNE CHILDREN'S CHORUS — Holiday Pops at Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., \$25-\$65, 481-0777

FRANKLY SCARLET — Classic rock at Beamer's Sports Grill, Allen County, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., no cover, 625-1002

G-MONEY AND THE FABULOUS RHYTHM — Blues at Mad Anthony Brewing Company, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 426-2537

GRATEFUL GROOVE — Jam at 4D's Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 490-6488

HUBIE ASHCRAFT — Acoustic at Shady Nook, Hudson, 10 p.m., no cover, 351-2401

JAMIE SIMON TRIO — Jazz blues at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m., no cover, 426-3442

JESSIE BROWN — Country at Rusty Spur Saloon, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., \$5, 755-3465

JOE FIVE — Rock at Lucky Lady, Churubusco, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 693-0311

JOE STABELLI — Jazz guitar at Hall's Old Gas House, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m., no cover, 426-3411

KENNY WAYNE SHEPHERD w/MARTIN BROTHERS BLUES BAND — Blues rock at Piere's, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., \$23 adv., \$26 d.o.s. thru Ticketmaster or Piere's box office, 486-1979

MARK GARR — Acoustic rock blues at Green Frog Inn, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 426-1088

MINDS EYE — Rock at Columbia Street West, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., \$5, 422-5055

MP LITE — Classic rock at Deer Park Pub, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m., no cover, 432-8966

NORTHERN LIGHTS — Variety at Hook & Ladder, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 747-5652

RAY HARRIS — Variety at Don Hall's Guesthouse, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 489-2524

RBNB w/D-RAYS AND PUH-LEEZE — Rock at the Brass Rail, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., cover, 422-0881

SAVANNAH — Classic rock at Duty's Buckets Sports Pub & Grub, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., no cover, 459-1352

THE SKAGGS FAMILY — Christmas at the Honeywell Center, Wabash, 7:30 p.m., \$25-\$75, 563-1102

SUNNY TAYLOR — Rock at Wooden Nickel, N. Anthony, Fort Wayne, 2 p.m., no cover, all ages, 484-3635

TALIA SEGAL — Acoustic pop folk at Firefly Coffee House, Fort Wayne, 6-7:30 p.m., no cover, 373-0505

TEASER — Rock at Checkerz Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 489-0286

TODD HARROLD BAND — R&B jazz at American Legion Post 148, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m., no cover, 432-4751

UNLIKELY ALIBI — Reggae at Gin Mill Lounge, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 484-5561

URBAN LEGEND — Rock and soul at the Tilted Kilt Pub & Eatery, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 459-3985

WALKIN' PAPERS — Rock n' roll at Paul's Pub, Kendallville, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 242-1204

WORLD FAMOUS DUELING PIANOS — Variety at Rum Runners, Marriott, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m., cover, 484-9380

Sunday, Dec. 11

CONCORDIA LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL — Christmas Concert at the Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, 4 p.m., \$6-\$12, 483-1102

HEARTLAND SINGS — Holiday concert at First Wayne Street United Methodist Church, Fort Wayne, 4 p.m., \$20, 436-8080

MEMORIES OF THE KING FEAT. BRENT COOPER — Elvis tribute at Turners, Fort Wayne, 3-5:30 p.m., \$10, 471-8876

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Slip Kitty..... 260-701-0484

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ROCK SHOW

Dash Rip Rock Band..... 260-432-0988

TRIBUTES

Pink Droyd..... 260-414-8818

VARIETY

The Freak Brothers martin1976@verizon.net

Joe Justice..... 260-486-7238

Paul New Stewart (Chris & Paul, Brian & JJ) 260-485-5600



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Music • 323 W. Baker St., Fort Wayne • 260-426-6464

EXPECT: Great live music on one of Fort Wayne's best stages. Diverse musical genres from local, regional and national performers, all in a comfortable, all-ages, family-friendly, intimate atmosphere. Excellent venue for shows, events, presentations, meetings and gatherings. **EATS:** Local vendors may cater during shows. **GETTING THERE:** Downtown on Baker between Ewing and Harrison, just south of Parkview Field. **HOURS:** Shows typically start at 8 p.m.; doors open an hour earlier. **ALCOHOL:** Beer & wine during shows only; **PMT:** Cash, check

CALHOUN STREET SOUPS, SALADS & SPIRITS "CS3"

Music/Variety • 1915 S. Calhoun St., Fort Wayne • 260-456-7005

EXPECT: Great atmosphere, jazz DJ Friday night, live shows, weekly drink specials, private outdoor patio seating. **EATS:** Daily specials, full menu of sandwiches, soups, salads, weekend dinner specials and appetizers. **GETTING THERE:** Corner of South Calhoun Street and Masterson; ample parking on street and lot behind building. **HOURS:** 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Mon.-Wed.; 11 a.m.-midnight or later, Thurs.-Sat. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, Amex

CHAMPIONS SPORTS BAR

Sports Bar • 1150 S. Harrison St., Fort Wayne • 260-467-1638

EXPECT: High-action sports watching experience featuring 30 HD TVs, state-of-the-art sound systems and booths with private flat screen TVs. Wine about Wednesday every Wed. 5-9 p.m. (cash only); Live Music every Wed. 6-9 p.m. **EATS:** Varied menu to suit any palate. **GETTING THERE:** Corner of Jefferson Blvd. and S. Harrison St., inside Courtyard by Marriott. **HOURS:** 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Sun.-Thurs., 11 a.m.-12 a.m. Fri.-Sat. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Amex, Disc, ATM

CHECKERZ BAR & GRILL

Pub/Tavern • 1706 W. Till Rd., Fort Wayne • 260-489-0286

EXPECT: Newly remodeled, 10 TVs to watch all your favorite sports, pool table and games. Live rock Fridays & Saturdays. **EATS:** Kitchen open all day w/full menu & the best wings in town. Daily home-cooked lunch specials. **GETTING THERE:** On the corner of Lima and Till roads. **HOURS:** Open 11 a.m.-3 a.m. Mon.-Fri., noon-3 a.m. Sat., noon-midnight Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, ATM available

CLUB V

Hip-Hop • Piere's, 5629 St. Joe Rd., Fort Wayne • 260-486-1979

EXPECT: The best in hip-hop dance music, with two dance cages, two full-service bars and multiple VIP areas to make your night stand out. VIP bottle service available. Party with Wild 96.3 every Friday. **EATS:** Sandwiches and appetizers always available. **GETTING THERE:** Marketplace of Canterbury, 3 mi. east of Exit 112A off I-69. **HOURS:** Open 9 p.m.-3 a.m. Thurs.-Sat. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, Amex

COLUMBIA STREET WEST

Rock • 135 W. Columbia St., Fort Wayne • 260-422-5055

EXPECT: The Fort's No. 1 rock club — Live bands every Saturday. DJ Night every Friday w/ladies in free. **EATS:** Wide variety featuring salads, sandwiches, pizzas, grinders, Southwestern and daily specials. **GETTING THERE:** Downtown on The Landing. **HOURS:** Open 4 p.m.-3 a.m. Mon.-Sat. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, Amex

CROONERS

Karaoke • Piere's, 5629 St. Joe Rd., Fort Wayne • 260-486-1979

EXPECT: Fort Wayne's top karaoke club with over 17,500 selections and 100 varieties of beer. **EATS:** Sandwiches and appetizers always available. **GETTING THERE:** Marketplace of Canterbury, 3 mi. east of Exit 112A off I-69. **HOURS:** Open 9 p.m.-3 a.m. daily **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, Amex

DEER PARK PUB

Eclectic • 1530 Leesburg Rd. Rd., Fort Wayne • 260-432-8966

EXPECT: Home to Dancioke, 52 imported beers, assorted wines, St. Pat's Parade, Irish snug, Irish blarney and USF students. **EATS:** Specials every Monday, taco Tuesdays, Friday/Saturday live music, holiday specials. Outdoor beer garden. www.deerparkpub.com. Wi-Fi hotspot. **GETTING THERE:** Corner of Leesburg and Spring, across from UFS. **HOURS:** 2 p.m.-1 a.m. Mon.-Thurs., noon-3 a.m. Fri.-Sat., 1-9 p.m. Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Beer & Wine; **PMT:** MC, Visa

DICKY'S WILD HARE

Pub/Tavern • 2910 Maplecrest, Fort Wayne • 260-486-0590

EXPECT: Live bands Saturday nights; Family-friendly, laid back atmosphere; Large selection of beers. **EATS:** An amazing array of sandwiches & munchies; Chuck Wagon BBQ, seafood entrees and pizza. **GETTING THERE:** 2 blocks north of State St. on Maplecrest at Georgetown. **HOURS:** 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Mon.-Thurs., 11 a.m.-12 a.m. Fri.-Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Amex, Visa, Disc

DON HALL'S FACTORY PRIME RIB

Dining/Music • 5811 Coldwater Rd., Fort Wayne • 260-484-8693
EXPECT: Private rooms for rehearsal, birthday, anniversary celebrations. **EATS:** Fort Wayne's best prime rib, steaks, chops, seafood & BBQ. **GETTING THERE:** North on Coldwater to Washington Center, 1/4 mi. from I-69, Exit 112A. **HOURS:** 11 a.m.-10:00 p.m. Mon.-Thurs.; 11 a.m.-11:30 p.m. Fri.-Sat.; 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** Checks, MC, Visa, Disc, Amex, DC

DON HALL'S TRIANGLE PARK BAR & GRILLE

Dining/Music • 3010 Trier Rd., Fort Wayne • 260-482-4343
EXPECT: Great Prime Rib, Steak, Chops and excellent Seafood menu, along with sandwiches, snacks and big salads. Very relaxing atmosphere, with a huge sundeck overlooking a pond. Daily dinner and drink specials, live music every Wednesday and Saturday night, and kids love us too! More online at www.donhalls.com. **GETTING THERE:** Two miles east of Glenbrook Square, on Trier Road between Hobson and Coliseum Blvd. **HOURS:** Open daily at 11 a.m. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** Checks, MC, Visa, Disc, Amex

EARLY BIRD'S

Dancing/Music • Behind Evans Toyota, Fort Wayne • 260-483-1979
EXPECT: Fort Wayne's home to a whole new level of sophisticated nightlife. Offering amenities such as exclusive V.I.P. rooms, bottle service, a martini bar and party deck. Ladies always in free. **EATS:** Free pizza. **GETTING THERE:** Behind Evans Toyota at Coliseum Blvd. and Lima Rd. **HOURS:** 9 p.m.-3 a.m. Fri.-Sat. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, Amex

FIREFLY COFFEE HOUSE

Coffeehouse • 3523 N. Anthony Blvd., Fort Wayne • 260-373-0505
EXPECT: Peaceful, comfortable atmosphere; live music on Friday & Saturday, 5-6:30 p.m.; local artists featured monthly; outdoor seating. (www.fireflycoffeehousefw.com). Free wireless Internet. **EATS:** Great coffee, teas, smoothies; fresh-baked items; light lunches and soups. **GETTING THERE:** Corner of North Anthony Blvd. and St. Joe River Drive. **HOURS:** 6:30 a.m.-8 p.m. Mon.-Fri.; 7 a.m.-8 p.m. Sat.; 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Sun. **ALCOHOL:** None; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, Amex

FLASHBACK ON THE LANDING

Retro Dance Music • 118 W. Columbia St., Fort Wayne • 260-422-5292
EXPECT: Fort Wayne's only retro dance club spinning the best of the 70s, 80s and 90s. Lighted dance floors and multiple disco balls take you back in the day. VIP bottle service available. **EATS:** Free pizza. **GETTING THERE:** Downtown on The Landing. **HOURS:** 9 p.m.-3 a.m. Fri.-Sat. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, Amex

THE GIN MILL LOUNGE

Sports Bar • 3005 E. State, Fort Wayne • 260-484-5561
EXPECT: Smoker-friendly beer garden, great atmosphere, 12 TVs, including 110" HDTV. Darts, boxing machine. Karaoke Thursdays at 9 p.m.-1 a.m. Live bands on Monday thru Wednesday and Friday-Saturday. Open at 5 p.m. on Sundays. Great drink specials. **EATS:** Full menu; lunch and dinner specials. **GETTING THERE:** Corner of East State and Santa Rosa. **HOURS:** Open 11 a.m.-3 a.m. Mon.-Sat., 5 p.m.-3 a.m. Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, Amex

KAYSAN'S 5TH DOWN BAR & GRILL

Sports Bar • 5830 Challenger Parkway, Fort Wayne • 260-490-4447
EXPECT: NFL, NBA, MLB, NHL and NCAA tickets on our high-definition plasma and projection TVs, pool tables, Golden Tee and PGA. Live music. Daily drink specials. Check out the clean, roomy atmosphere and our family room. **EATS:** Famous menu including Mexican, American and Asian cuisine. **GETTING THERE:** Located at the southwest corner of Lima and Washington Center roads, next to Cracker Barrel. **HOURS:** Open 11 a.m.-2:30 a.m. Mon.-Sat., 11 a.m.-1 a.m. Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, Amex

LATCH STRING BAR & GRILL

Pubs & Taverns • 3221 N. Clinton, Fort Wayne • 260-483-5526
EXPECT: Fun, friendly, rustic atmosphere. Daily drink specials. Music entertainment every night. No cover. Tues. Deuce & \$2.50 imports; Thurs. DJ Spot & \$1.50 longnecks; Sun. \$3.50 Long Islands; Mon., Wed. & Sat. Ambitious Blondes Karaoke. **GETTING THERE:** On point where Clinton and Lima roads meet, next to Budget Rental. **HOURS:** Open Mon.-Sat., 11 a.m.-3 a.m. Sun., noon-12:30 a.m. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa

MAD ANTHONY BREWING COMPANY

Brew Pub/Micro Brewery • 2002 S. Broadway, Fort Wayne • 260-426-2537
EXPECT: Ten beers freshly hand-crafted on premises and the eclectic madness of Munchie Emporium. **EATS:** 4-1/2 star menus, 'One of the best pizzas in America,' large vegetarian menu. **GETTING THERE:** Just southwest of downtown Fort Wayne at Taylor & Broadway. **HOURS:** Usually 11 a.m.-1 a.m. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc

SUMMIT CITY SINGERS w/ THE FESTIVAL CHOIR, THE ST. JOHN CHOIR, ST. JOHN HANDBELLS, FORT WAYNE FLUTES, THE CHRISTMAS ENSEMBLE, MARTIN GIGLER AND BARB KRICK — Christmas concert at St. John Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne, 4 p.m., free will offering, 249-8229

Monday, Dec. 12

JIM BRICKMAN w/BEN UTECH, ANNE COCHRAN AND TRACY SILVERMAN — Christmas concert at Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m., \$25-\$65 thru Ticketmaster or Embassy box office, 424-5665
MIKE BEIBER — Acoustic rock at Deer Park Pub, Fort Wayne, 6:30-8 p.m., no cover, 432-8966
TODD HARROLD BAND — Rock variety at Gin Mill Lounge, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 484-5561

Tuesday, Dec. 13

ADAM STRACK — Acoustic jam at Duty's Buckets Sports Pub & Grub, Fort Wayne, 7-11 p.m., no cover, 459-1352
ALLEY KATS — Rockabilly, oldies at Amvets Post 33, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m. no cover, 478-4114
DEUCE FEAT. KENNY TAYLOR AND PATRICK BORTON — Rockabilly at Latch String Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 483-5526
OPEN JAM HOSTED BY JON ROSS — At O'Sullivan's Italian Irish Pub, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 422-5896
OPEN MIC AND TALENT SEARCH — At Deer Park Pub, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m., no cover, 432-8966

Wednesday, Dec. 14

AFRO DISIACS — World jazz funk at the Tilted Kilt Pub & Eatery, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 459-3985
CHRIS WORTH — Motown at Skully's Boneyard (formerly Duty's Uptown Bar), Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 637-0198
FRANCIE ZUCCO — Jazz at Hall's Triangle Park, Fort Wayne, 7-9 p.m., no cover, 482-4342
HUBIE ASHCRAFT — Acoustic at Woodland Lounge, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., no cover, 490-6836
JOHN DURNELL — Acoustic variety at 469 Sports & Spirits, New Haven, 7-11 p.m., no cover, 749-7207
MARK GARR — Acoustic rock blues at Paula's on Main, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 424-2300
OPEN MIC AND TALENT SEARCH HOSTED BY MIKE MOWRY — At Beamer's Sports Grill, Allen County, 7 p.m., no cover, 625-1002
PAUL NEW STEWART AND BRIAN FRUSHOUR — Variety at 4D's Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 490-6488
TODD HARROLD TRIO — R&B jazz at Gin Mill Lounge, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 484-5561

Thursday, Dec. 15

ADAM STRACK — Rock variety at Checkerz Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 7:30-9:30 p.m., no cover, 489-0286
ANGIE BAKER AND TAMARA BROWN — Christmas at Busy Brush Cafe and Ice Cream Parlor, Auburn, 6-8 p.m., donation, 927-2233

ANNIE MOSES BAND — Contemporary Christian Christmas at First Assembly of God, Fort Wayne \$5-\$30, 800-965-9324
CHRIS WORTH — Variety at Jilli's Pub, New Haven, 8:30-11:30 p.m., no cover, 749-8116
DAN HEATH AND FRIENDS — Acoustic oldies & standards at Hall's Triangle Park, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m., no cover, 482-4342
DRAGON WAGON w/END TIMES SPASM BAND AND HOPE ARTHUR — Bluegrass folk rock at the Brass Rail, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., cover, 422-0881
FORT WAYNE PHILHARMONIC — Handel's *Messiah*, presented by the Fort Wayne Philharmonic Chorus, at Auer Performance Hall, IPFW, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m., \$18, 481-0777
LEFT LANE CRUISER — Punk blues at Latch String Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 483-5526
MIKE MOWREY — Acoustic at Beamer's Sports Grill, Allen County, 7-9 p.m., no cover, 625-1002
OPEN MIC HOSTED BY MIKE CONLEY — At Mad Anthony Brewing Company, Fort Wayne, 8:30 p.m., no cover, 426-2537
PHIL SCHURGER — Acoustic at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 6:30-9:30 p.m., no cover, 426-3442
TIM SNYDER — Acoustic at 4D's Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 7-9 p.m., no cover, 490-6488

Friday, Dec. 16

4TH DAY ECHO — Rock at Piere's, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-2:30 a.m., \$5, 486-1979
APRIL'S ALIBI — Classic rock at Beamer's Sports Grill, Allen County, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., no cover, 625-1002

Dupont Hot Spot Gets a Makeover

A Dupont hot spot is undergoing a huge transformation. Duty's Uptown Bar & Grill, which has been a destination for many the past few years, is now under new ownership and known as Skully's Boneyard.

"The bar is nothing like it used to be," manager Kevin Pio expressed to me in a recent conversation. "You definitely won't recognize the place." According to Pio, Skully's Boneyard will be more of a 70s, 80s and 90s rock club. I've also been told from another source that it will be the Hard Rock for Fort Wayne. Besides the redecorating, the establishment will feature daily food and drink specials, karaoke, a jazz/blues night, acoustic night and, of course, live rock. Plus, the serving of New York delicatessen style sandwiches from the menu will set them apart from the average bar food providers. That, my friend, will be a must for anyone with a hearty appetite.

If you want to check out the joint for yourself, be to sure to attend the grand opening on Saturday, December 10 which will include a variety of specials and live music from The Joneses. This location has always seemed to be a destination for people with a good time in mind, and I'm sure Skully's won't be any different.

Soon it will be 2012, which means another year has passed without any type of Pink Floyd tour. At this point in the game it's highly unlikely a tour of some sort would ever happen. Come to think of it, I'm not sure what would come first: a Pink Floyd tour, Coney Island accepting credit cards or the Colts winning a game.

Anyway, even though the members did regroup in 2005 to perform at Live 8, and in May of this year David Gilmour and Nick Mason joined Roger Waters on stage for a show in London, it doesn't appear they



Out and About

NICK BRAUN

want to do anything more than occasional one-offs. One positive note is that the members still like to tour — just not together, at least for the time being. As a matter of fact, next year Roger Waters will be hitting the road for his The Wall Live tour where he'll perform the complete album amongst other faves. If you've seen him do the *Dark Side of the Moon* on a recent tour then you know what you're in for. The tour will make a stop at Indianapolis' Conseco Fieldhouse on Monday, June 11. If you're interested in catching this once in a lifetime performance, tickets are on sale now, or you can take advantage of an amazing deal from Rock 104: for \$140 you can enjoy a ticket to the show, transportation, food and a koozie. More information can be found on their website. You don't want to miss possibly the best chance you'll get for live Floyd.

Fort Wayne's Wooden Nickel Music Stores will be celebrating the holiday season with their last in-store performance of the year on Wednesday, December 21. At 6 p.m. the North Anthony Boulevard location will be filtered with the Christmas spirit, as Mike Conley and Hannah Bushong will be performing Christmas songs from their locally produced CD's. While soaking in the tunes and browsing through the immense amount of vinyl and CD's, there will also be hot cider and homemade cookies to indulge in. As always, this all-ages event is free.

niknui76@yahoo.com

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BAR & GRILL

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EXCLUSIVE BROADCAST ONLY AT WRIGLEY FIELD
KOMETES @ BLOOMINGTON

SATURDAY, DEC. 10
DJ TEDDY BEAR

SUNDAY, DEC. 11
KARAOKE WITH CALLA

MONDAY, DEC. 12 • 7:30PM
SOUND OFF WITH THE KOMETS
KOMETES LEGENDS & OLD TIMERS APPEARING

RUSTY SPUR SALOON

LIVE MUSIC

Friday, December 9

EMILY ANNE GUFFY

Saturday, December 10

JESSIE BROWN

DJ JESSE WED. & THURS.

New Year's Eve Tickets
Now On Sale • Just \$10

BROTHER / ALLAN & ASHCRAFT

DRINK SPECIALS

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25¢ LONGNECKS, \$3.50 BOMBS & 40¢ WINGS

Thursdays

\$2.50 YOU-CALL-ITS

Fridays

\$1 WELLS & \$3.50 BOMBS

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NIGHTLIFE

NORTH STAR BAR & GRILL

Pubs & Taverns • 2915 E. State Blvd, Fort Wayne • 260-471-3798

EXPECT: Daily food and drink specials. Sunday NFL package. Thurs. Karaoke w/Mike Campbell. Fri. & Sat. Live Bands. Sun. & Mon. \$1 drafts. Tues. & Thurs. \$1.75 domestic longnecks, Wed. \$2 well drinks and \$1 DeKuyper, Fri. beer specials. **EATS:** Full menu feat. burgers, pizza, grinders and our famous North Star fries. **GETTING THERE:** State Blvd. at Beacon St. **HOURS:** 3 p.m.-1 a.m. Mon.-Thurs., 3p.m.-3 a.m. Fri.; 1 p.m.-3 a.m. Sat.; noon-midnight Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc

O'SULLIVAN'S ITALIAN IRISH PUB

Pub/Tavern • 1808 W. Main St., Fort Wayne • 260-422-5896

EXPECT: A Fort Wayne tradition of good times, good food & great drinks! Darts, foosball & entertainment. Tuesday karaoke. **EATS:** O's famous pizza every day. Italian dinners every Wednesday, 5:30-9:30 p.m. Reservations accepted. **GETTING THERE:** West of downtown at the corner of Main and Runnion. **HOURS:** 4 p.m.-3:30 a.m. Mon.-Fri., noon-3:30 a.m. Sat., noon-12:30 a.m. Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc

----- Calendar • Live Music & Comedy -----

B. C. FUZZ — Groove at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m., no cover, 426-3442

BIFF AND THE CRUISERS — Rock n' roll at American Legion Post 47, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 485-6938

BORROWED TIME — Classic rock at Covington Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 432-6660

BROTHER — Classic rock at Checkerz Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 489-0286

CADILLAC RANCH — Classic rock variety at North Star Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 471-3798

CHRIS DODDS AND ADAM STRACK — Acoustic at Columbia Street West, Fort Wayne, 5-7 p.m., no cover, 422-5055

CHRIS WORTH AND COMPANY — Variety at Lucky Lady, Churubusco, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 693-0311

COUGAR HUNTER — Rock at the Tilted Kilt Pub & Eatery, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 459-3985

FORT WAYNE PHILHARMONIC FEAT. MIKE CONLEY AND FORT WAYNE CHILDREN'S CHORUS — Holiday Pops at Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., \$25 and up, 481-0777

GUNTER AND COMPANY — Country at Rusty Spur Saloon, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., \$5, 755-3465

THE J TAYLORS — Rockin' Christmas show at American Legion Post 253, North Webster, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 574-834-4297

JOE STABELLI — Jazz guitar at Hall's Old Gas House, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m., no cover, 426-3411

JOEL YOUNG BAND — Classic rock & country at American Legion Post 241, Fort Wayne, 8:30-11:30 p.m., no cover, 747-7851

JOHN DURNELL — Acoustic at Beamer's Sports Grill, Allen County, 6-8 p.m., no cover, 625-1002

JOHNNY B. SUTTON — Motown at Don Hall's Guesthouse, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 489-2524

JOHNNY SPROCKET — Rock at Skip's Party Place, Angola, 9:30 p.m.-2 a.m., \$3 after 8 p.m., 665-3922

KYLE JOHNSON — Acoustic Beatles tribute at Brew'ha, Columbia City, 7-9 p.m., no cover, 248-4111

MARK GARR — Acoustic rock blues at Paula's on Main, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 424-2300

MARK LINEHAM — Acoustic 12 string at Firefly Coffee House, Fort Wayne, 6-7:30 p.m., no cover, 373-0505

MINDS EYE — Rock at Duty's Buckets Sports Pub & Grub, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., no cover, 459-1352

MR. HIPSTER W/DEAD GIRL SORRY AND INTENTIONS TO BREAK — Country punk rock at the Brass Rail, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., cover, 422-0881

A NEW VICE — Rock at Jill's Pub, New Haven, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., \$2, 749-8116

POSSUM TROT ORCHESTRA — Americana at Mad Anthony Brewing Company, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 426-2537

SHANNON PERSINGER AND ERIC CLANCY — Christmas carols at the Venice Restaurant, Fort Wayne, 6:30-9:30 p.m., no cover, 482-1618

SLIP KITTY — Rock at Gin Mill Lounge, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 484-5561

SUGAR SHOT — Country rock at Neon Armadillo, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., \$5, 490-5060

TODD HARROLD TRIO — R&B jazz at O'Sullivan's Italian Irish Pub, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 422-5896

Saturday, Dec. 17

4TH DAY ECHO — Rock at Piere's, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-2:30 a.m., \$5, 486-1979

ALLAN AND ASHCRAFT — Country at Rusty Spur Saloon, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., \$5, 755-3465

BACKWATER — Country rock at Neon Armadillo, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m., \$5, 490-5060

BROTHER — Classic rock at Checkerz Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 489-0286

CODA — Rock at Ramada Plaza Hotel, Warsaw, 8 p.m., no cover, 574-269-2323

DAN SMYTH — Acoustic at Green Frog Inn, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m., no cover, 426-1088

DASH RIP ROCK — Rock at Jill's Pub, New Haven, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., \$2, 749-8116

DAVE LATCHAW TRIO — Jazz fusion at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m., no cover, 426-3442

ELLE/THE REMNANT — Folk at Firefly Coffee House, Fort Wayne, 6-7:30 p.m., no cover, 373-0505

FIVE FINGER DEATH PUNCH W/ALL THAT REMAINS, HATEBREED AND RAINS — Rock at Piere's, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m., \$33 adv., \$36 d.o.s. thru Ticketmaster or Piere's box office, 486-1979

FORT WAYNE PHILHARMONIC FEAT. MIKE CONLEY AND FORT WAYNE CHILDREN'S CHORUS — Holiday Pops at Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, 2 & 8 p.m., \$25 and up, 481-0777

GOOD NIGHT GRACIE — Rock at Columbia Street West, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., \$5, 422-5055

GROOVE CARAVAN — Funk blues jazz at Deer Park Pub, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 432-8966

PEANUTS FOOD & SPIRITS

Rock • 5731 St. Joe Rd., Fort Wayne • 260-486-2822

EXPECT: New food menu; daily drink specials; 3 pool tables; darts; no cover. **EATS:** Burgers; 35¢ wings & 39¢ boneless wings on Tuesdays and Thursdays (no carryouts). **GETTING THERE:** Marketplace of Canterbury, 3 mi. east of Exit 112A off I-69. **HOURS:** 2 p.m.-3 a.m. Mon.-Sat.; noon-12:30 a.m. Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Amex

THE PHILMORE ON BROADWAY

Jazz & Blues • 2441 Broadway, Fort Wayne • 260-745-1000

EXPECT: Built in 1923 and conveniently located minutes from downtown, this Fort Wayne landmark hosts regional and national jazz and blues acts in a one-of-a-kind venue offering upscale historical charm and style. Holiday and themed events as well. Call the ticket office for details on corporate packages. **EATS:** Varied appetizer menu. **GETTING THERE:** Broadway Ave., one mile south of downtown. **HOURS:** Varies, check website for event schedule: <http://www.philmoreonbroadway.com>. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Amex, Disc

PIERE'S

Rock • 5629 St. Joe Rd., Fort Wayne • 260-486-1979

EXPECT: Multi-level nightclub featuring a \$1 million sound and light show with top regional & national bands appearing weekly. **EATS:** Sandwiches and appetizers always available. **GETTING THERE:** Marketplace of Canterbury, 2.5 miles east of Exit 112A off I-69. **HOURS:** Open 9 p.m.-3 a.m. Thurs.-Sat. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, Amex

RUSTY SPUR SALOON

Music/Country • 10350 Leo Rd., Fort Wayne • 260-755-3465

Expect: Wednesday and Thursday DJ, Friday and Saturday live bands; local, regional and national acts. **EATS:** Full kitchen with new menu; food you have to taste to believe. **Getting There:** Located in Leo Crossing at the intersection of Dupont, Clinton and Tonkel roads. **HOURS:** 5 p.m.-3 a.m. Wed.-Sat. **Alcohol:** Full Service **Pmt.:** MC, Visa, Disc, Amex

SHOWGIRL III

Adult Entertainment • 930 E. Coliseum Blvd., Fort Wayne • 260-483-8843

EXPECT: Gentlemen's Club voted among the Top 10 in the U.S. Four stages, two bars, five big screens. 24-hour limousine service, VIP room, champagne room and free buffet served 4-7 p.m. Lingerie Shows Tuesdays, Amateur Contest with cash and prizes Wednesdays. Menage-a-trois wine now being served. **EATS:** Full kitchen available daily till close. **GETTING THERE:** Coliseum Blvd. next to Hooters. **HOURS:** 2 p.m.-3 a.m. Mon.-Thurs., 12 p.m.-3 a.m. Fri.-Sat., 3 p.m.-1 a.m. Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT.:** MC, Visa, Disc., Amex

SKULLY'S BONEYARD

Music/Variety • 415 E. Dupont Rd., Fort Wayne • 260-637-0198

EXPECT: Daily drink specials. Karaoke Tuesdays, Jazz or Motown Wednesdays, Acoustic Thursdays and live bands Fridays and Saturdays. 17 TVs, 2 lounge areas and covered smoking patio. **EATS:** Full menu available featuring our New York Deli Style sandwiches, pizza, wings and daily food specials. **GETTING THERE:** 1/4 mile west of Coldwater Rd. on Dupont Rd. On north side of road. **HOURS:** 3 p.m.-3 a.m. Mon.-Fri.; 12 p.m.-3 a.m. Sat.; 12 p.m.-12 a.m. Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, Amex, JCB

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 AWS FOUNDATION

NIGHTLIFE

SNICKERZ COMEDY BAR

Comedy • 5535 St. Joe Rd., Fort Wayne • 260-486-0216

EXPECT: See the brightest comics in America every Thurs. thru Sat. night. **EATS:** Sandwiches, chicken strips, fish planks, nachos, wings & more. **GETTING THERE:** In front of Piere's. 2.5 miles east of Exit 112A off I-69. **HOURS:** Showtimes are 7:30 p.m. Thurs. & 7:30 & 9:45 p.m. Fri. and Sat. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, Amex

STADIUM BAR & GRILL

Pub/Tavern • 2607 Goshen Rd., Fort Wayne • 260-471-0172

EXPECT: Mon. night: weekly drawing; Wed.: 30¢ jumbo wings and \$1 draft; Fri.: karaoke w/Ambient Noise and Rooster and \$2 wells & longnecks; Saturday: karaoke w/Hector & Moe; Sun.: 40¢ jumbo wings, \$5 large pitchers! Friendly atmosphere and "the Best" smoking room in town. **EATS:** Burgers, pastas, pizzas, subs, chicken, Mexican and daily homemade lunch specials. **GETTING THERE:** 1/4 mile south of Coliseum on Goshen Rd. **HOURS:** 11 a.m.-3 a.m. Mon.-Sat.; noon-3 a.m. Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc

STATE GRILL

Pub/Tavern • 1210 E. State Blvd., Fort Wayne • 260-483-5618

EXPECT: The most historic bar in Fort Wayne. A great pour for a low price. Belly up to the bar with the friendly Lakeside folk. Great beer selection and the world's most dangerous jukebox. **GETTING THERE:** Corner of State Blvd. and Crescent Ave., across from The Rib Room. **HOURS:** 6 p.m.-3 a.m. Mon., 1 p.m.-3 a.m. Tues.-Fri., 12 p.m.-3 a.m. Sat., 12 p.m.-12 a.m. Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** ATM on site

WOODLAND LOUNGE

Pub/Tavern • 918 Woodland Plaza Run, Fort Wayne • 260-490-6836

EXPECT: Martini Mondays, Karaoke Tuesdays, Acoustic Wednesdays, Old Skool Thursdays and live DJ Fridays and Saturdays. Lounge atmosphere with an intimate setting. Large wine and martini list. Large family or banquet room available. **EATS:** Full menu and dinner specials. **GETTING THERE:** Corner of Coldwater & Dupont Rds., behind Chase Bank. **HOURS:** Open at 3 p.m. Mon.-Sat.; closed Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc., Amex

WRIGLEY FIELD BAR & GRILL

Sports Bar • 6527 E. State Blvd., Fort Wayne • 260-485-1038

EXPECT: DJ or bands Thurs.-Sat. 50+ TVs, 12 big screens, 3 pool tables, hard & soft tip darts, Golden Tee, Buck Hunter. Heated outdoor patio/smoking room w/big screen TV. **EATS:** Full menu feat. lunch buffet Mon-Thurs. 11 a.m.-9 p.m. 40¢ wings Tues. & Thurs., 40¢ boneless wings on Wed. **GETTING THERE:** At State & Maplecrest, across from Georgetown Square. **HOURS:** Open 11 a.m.-3 a.m. Mon.-Sat.; noon-12:30 a.m. Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, Amex

THE ZONE

Dancing • Piere's, 5629 St. Joe Rd., Fort Wayne • 260-486-1979

EXPECT: Enter the 5th dimension of entertainment, a brave new world of sight, sound and stimulation. The hottest dance music with state-of-the-art light and sound show. Featuring 2 giant video screens and 12-foot high dance cage. **EATS:** Sandwiches, appetizers always available. **GETTING THERE:** Marketplace of Canterbury, 3 mi. east of Exit 112A off I-69. **HOURS:** Open 9 p.m.-3 a.m. Fri.-Sat. **Alcohol:** Full Service; **Pmt:** MC, Visa, Disc, Amex

KENDALLVILLE

CLUB PATRON

Pub/Tavern • 903 W. North St., Kendallville • 260-347-1999

EXPECT: Fun-filled party atmosphere; DJs playing today's hottest music Fridays; live music Saturdays; three pool tables; food and drink specials. **GETTING THERE:** Next to El Patron Mexican Grill on U.S. 6 in Kendallville. **HOURS:** Open at 9 p.m. Fri.-Sat. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa

ST. JOE

OASIS BAR

Pub/Tavern • 90 Washington St., St. Joe • 260-337-5690

EXPECT: Low beer and liquor prices. Internet jukebox, pool tables and shuffleboard. NASCAR on the TVs. **EATS:** Great food, specializing in ribs, subs and pizza. You won't believe how good they are. **GETTING THERE:** State Rd. 1 to north end of St. Joe. **HOURS:** Open 7 a.m.-3 a.m. Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-3 a.m. Sat. and 12 p.m.-12 a.m. Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, ATM

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**622 E. Dupont Rd.
Fort Wayne • 490.5765**

**10337 Illinois Rd., Fort Wayne
260.625.5600**

----- Calendar • Live Music & Comedy -----

Tuesday, Dec. 20

HUBIE ASHCRAFT — Acoustic jam at Duty's Buckets Sports Pub & Grub, Fort Wayne, 7-11 p.m., no cover, 459-1352

KENNY TAYLOR ALLSTARS w/ PAUL NEW STEWART — Elvis tribute at Latch String Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m., no cover, 483-5526

OPEN MIC AND TALENT SEARCH — At Deer Park Pub, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m., no cover, 432-8966

THE OAK RIDGE BOYS — Christmas show at the Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m., \$29.75-\$46.25 thru Ticketmaster or Embassy Theatre box office, 424-5665

Wednesday, Dec. 21

CHRIS WORTH — Motown at Skully's Boneyard (formerly Duty's Uptown Bar), Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 637-0198

FORT WAYNE PHILHARMONIC — Holiday pops at the Honeywell Center, Wabash, 7:30 p.m., \$15, 563-1102

HUBIE ASHCRAFT — Acoustic at Rusty Spur Saloon, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., \$5, 755-3465

KENNY TAYLOR — Rockabilly at the Tilted Kilt Pub & Eatery, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 459-3985

LOOSE CHANGE — Classic rock at Gin Mill Lounge, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 484-5561

MARK GARR — Acoustic rock blues at Paula's on Main, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 424-2300

MIKE CONLEY & HANNAH BUSHONG — Christmas at Wooden Nickel, N. Anthony, Fort Wayne, 6 p.m., no cover, all ages, 484-3635

OPEN MIC AND TALENT SEARCH HOSTED BY MIKE MOWRY — At Beamer's Sports Grill, Allen County, 7 p.m., no cover, 625-1002

PART II — Acoustic at Woodland Lounge, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 490-6836

THE J TAYLORS — Rockin' Christmas show at Pie Eyed Petey's, Syracuse, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 574-457-3912

JESTER KINGS — Rock at the Tilted Kilt Pub & Eatery, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 459-3985

JOE STABELLI — Jazz guitar at Hall's Old Gas House, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m., no cover, 426-3411

JOHN TWO HAWKS — Native American flute at C2G Music Hall, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., \$15 adv, \$20 d.o.s., thru brownpapertickets.com, Wooden Nickel and Neat Neat Neat, 426-6464

JOHNNY SPROCKET — Rock at Skip's Party Place, Angola, 9:30 p.m.-2 a.m., \$3 after 8 p.m., 665-3922

JUKE JOINT JIVE — Classic funky rock at The Legion, Avilla, 8-11:30 p.m., no cover, 636-2226

LEFT LANE CRUISER — Punk blues at O'Sullivan's Italian Irish Pub, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 422-5896

PARADISE — Variety at Lucky Lady, Churubusco, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 693-0311

PAUL NEW STEWART AND KIMMY DEAN — Variety at Don Hall's Guesthouse, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 489-2524

PETER GIBBONS BAND — Classic rock at North Star Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 471-3798

RANDY KIMBALL BLUES BAND — Blues rock at Mad Anthony Tap Room, Auburn, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 927-0500

SYNERGY — Rock at Duty's Buckets Sports Pub & Grub, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m., no cover, 459-1352

TEASER — Rock at Gin Mill Lounge, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 484-5561

TOM MCSOD w/LEE MILES AND END TIMES SPASM BAND — Tribute to Billy Bragg at the Brass Rail, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., cover, 422-0881

TRIP WIRE — Rock at Beamer's Sports Grill, Allen County, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., no cover, 625-1002

URBAN LEGEND — Rock and soul at the Covington Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 432-6660

VELVET SOUL — Rock at 4D's Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 490-6488

WORLD FAMOUS DUELING PIANOS — Variety at Rum Runners, Marriott, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m., cover, 484-9380

Sunday, Dec. 18

FORT WAYNE MAENNERCHOR/DAMENCHOR — German Christmas concert at St. Peter's Catholic Church, Fort Wayne, 4 p.m., free will offering, 459-2225

HEARTLAND SINGS — Holiday concert at Grace Episcopal Church, Fort Wayne, 4 p.m., \$20, 436-8080

THE J TAYLORS — Rockin' Christmas show at the Christ Child Festival, Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, 2:30-3:30 p.m., 482-9502

JOHN TWO HAWKS — Native American flute at C2G Music Hall, Fort Wayne, 2 p.m., \$15 adv, \$20 d.o.s., 426-6464

YO GOTTI w/PHYSIKAL — Rap at Piere's, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., \$27 adv., \$30 d.o.s. thru Ticketmaster or Piere's box office, 486-1979

Monday, Dec. 19

CATHY SERRANO — Blues at Deer Park Pub, Fort Wayne, 6:30-8 p.m., no cover, 432-8966

OLD CROWN BRASS BAND w/DEKALB HIGH SCHOOL OCTET AND ERICA MCINTIRE — Christmas concert at Dean V. Druse Foundation and Museum, Auburn, 7 p.m., \$5, 927-9144

MIKE CONLEY — Christmas at Mad Anthony Brewing Company, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 426-2537

THUNDERHAWK — Indie rock at Gin Mill Lounge, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 484-5561

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8
Jason Paul
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9
DJ TJ

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13
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realize that it's totally tongue in cheek with us," commented bassist Chris Kael in a recent interview with the website the Great Southern Brainfart. "It's really crazy. I can see how some people would get upset about it, but we really don't at all ... we are completely laid back and we absolutely love it. It keeps me entertained out here on the road."

Evidence of the band's oft-overlooked sense of humor can be found in their disc track to their haters, their recent single "Over and Under," which features lead singer Ivan Moody sarcastically rehashing a laundry list of accusations the band has presumably heard before kissing them off in a scathing chorus. The video is just as humorous, with the band hamming it up and embodying every rock n' roll cliché they've presumably been accused of.

While some of the band's tough-guy style and image might include some elements of humor, their origins aren't necessarily a joke. For example, Bathory has been training in martial arts since childhood and is a "self-proclaimed ambassador" for the Gracie Jiu-Jitsu Academy. Last year he even suffered a rib injury from sparring while on tour with Godsmack, making his typically high-energy stage performances difficult.

Yet no amount of tough-guy cred or poking fun at said tough-guy cred is likely to silence their haters or please media critics. To understand why that is, it is essential to recognize that they're a populist band in the truest sense of the word: they genuinely reflect the values and desires of average Americans.

If you mention the working class or poor people in rock n' roll music, what generally comes to mind is the tradition of protest songs. Woody Guthrie is generally considered the founder of the tradition of protest songs, and Bob Dylan, Bruce Springsteen and Rage Against the Machine are three artists that fit into that in that mode. Bands with protest leanings tend to be critics' darlings and are often considered almost sacrosanct in terms of criticism.

Then there are the populist bands, bands that actually reflect the values and ideas of the working class without actually being about them. They can be a little bit more difficult to define and aren't necessarily overtly political, but they are generally blues-derived. Examples include early rockabilly, Creedence Clearwater Revival and Grand Funk Railroad. They can be

recognized by their broad working class appeal and generalized disdain from critics.

Five Finger Death Punch are obviously a populist band, not a protest-style band. Fittingly, their album *American Capitalist* was released not long after the Occupy Wall Street protests got into full swing. The attitudes contained in the album and the protests couldn't be more opposite.

When asked about his take on the protests in relation to their album in a recent interview with examiner.com, guitarist Jason Hook commented, "I don't think that corporations or corporate America is a bad thing. I think that corporate America is a wonderful thing. Big business is exciting, big business is born out of passion and desire and people that are successful put themselves there."

Hook went on to say, "And they put themselves there by pushing themselves, and taking risks, learning, asking questions, education, desire, work ethic. To me, that's all good stuff. Somebody that just doesn't take risks and plays it safe and is lazy, unmotivated, those people who are going, 'Help me, help me, help me ...' And so for me, personally, I don't have a lot of compassion for that."

Of course, their position as a populist band continues to result in the band making decisions that can become easy fodder for their critics. For example, just over a month after *American Capitalist* came out, the band announced that it was going to re-release the album with different artwork. The move prompted a harsh response from critics, one of whom took the opportunity to dismiss both the band and their fans by saying, "I actually applaud Five Finger Death Punch, for having the gall ... to sell their fans the same record twice ... but I guess they know their fans are dumb enough to fall for it."

Despite the cries of rip-off and insults to their fans, however, Bathory, who is known for actually being a really nice guy, explained the band's decision in a simple and straightforward manner. "We are the people's band, and a lot of fans really liked this alternative artwork we had on the tour posters," he said. "So many times we heard, 'that should be the album cover,' so we figured we'd make it happen. If you like the original cover, that's cool too. I guess the original will be somewhat of a limited item from now on, so there you go."

NIGHTLIFE

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Thursday, Dec. 8

ALLEN COUNTY
 The Rusty Spur Saloon — DJ Jesse, 10 p.m.
ANGOLA
 Club Paradise — American Idol Karaoke, 9:30 p.m.
 Piggy's Brew Pub — DJ Lucky, 9 p.m.
 Skip's Party Place — Rainbow You Karaoke, 8 p.m.
AUBURN
 4 Crowns — Shotgun Prod. Karaoke, 10 p.m.
FORT WAYNE
 4D's Bar & Grill — DJ Trend, 10 p.m.
 Arena Bar & Grill — American Idol Karaoke w/Jay, 8 p.m.
 Club V — House DJ, 9 p.m.
 Columbia Street West — American Idol Karaoke, 9 p.m.
 Crooners Karaoke Bar — House KJ, 9 p.m.
 Deer Park Irish Pub — Bucca Karaoke w/Bucca, 10 p.m.
 Foster's Pub — Shooting Star Prod. w/Stu, 9:30 p.m.
 Gin Mill Lounge — Terryoke, 9 p.m.
 Latch String Bar & Grill — DJ Spot, 10 p.m.
 North Star Bar — Karaoke w/Mike Campbell, 8 p.m.
 O'Sullivan's Pub — Tronic, 10 p.m.
 PJ's Sports Pub — Shooting Star Prod. w/Nacho, 10 p.m.
 Piere's — House DJ, 9 p.m.
NEW HAVEN
 East Haven Tavern — Flashback Karaoke, 9 p.m.
 Jill's Pub — Mantra Karaoke w/Jake, 9 p.m.
 Rack & Helen's — American Idol Karaoke w/TJ, 10 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 9

ANGOLA
 Club Paradise — American Idol Karaoke, 8:30 p.m.
 Piggy's Brew Pub — DJ Lucky, 9 p.m.
AUBURN
 4 Crowns — Shotgun Prod. Karaoke, 10 p.m.
 Meteor Bar & Grill — Classic City Karaoke, 9 p.m.
CHURUBUSCO
 Area 33 Lounge — Karaoke w/DJ Doug, 10 p.m.
FORT WAYNE
 4D's Bar & Grill — DJ Trend, 10 p.m.
 Alley Sports Bar — On Key Karaoke, 9 p.m.
 Babylon — DJ Blazin' Brandon, 10:30 p.m.
 Chevvy's — Karaoke w/Total Spectrum, 10 p.m.
 Club V — House DJ, 9 p.m.
 Columbia Street West — DJ Fusion, 10 p.m.
 Crooners Karaoke Bar — KJ Jessica, 9 p.m.
 Elks — Shooting Star Prod. w/Dusty, 10 p.m.
 Flashback — House DJ, 9 p.m.
 Green Frog — American Idol Karaoke w/Jesse, 9:30 p.m.
 Hook & Ladder — Shooting Star Prod. w/Stu, 9 p.m.
 Office Tavern — Swing Time Karaoke, 9 p.m.
 Peanuts Food and Spirits — Ambitious Blondes Ent., 9 p.m.
 Piere's — House DJ, 9 p.m.
 Quaker Steak and Lube — American Idol Karaoke, 9 p.m.
 Rum Runners — DJ dance party w/Gunn Sho, 8:30 p.m.
 Skully's Boneyard — American Idol w/DJ TJ, 9 p.m.
 Stadium Bar & Grill — Karaoke and DJ w/Rooster, 9 p.m.
 Tower Bar & Grill — Bucca Karaoke w/Bucca, 10 p.m.
 Uncle Lou's Steel Mill — Shooting Star Prod. w/Barbie, 10 p.m.
 Wrigley Field Bar & Grill — Karaoke & DJ Teddy Bear, 8 p.m.
 The Zone — House DJ, 9 p.m.
HAMILTON
 Club Rio — Classic City Karaoke w/Juice, 9 p.m.
LAOTTO
 Sit n' Bull — Classic City Karaoke w/Melissa, 9 p.m.
LEO
 J.R.'s Pub — American Idol Karaoke w/Doug, 9 p.m.
NEW HAVEN
 Rack & Helen's — American Idol Karaoke, 10 p.m.
 Spudz Bar — Bucca Karaoke w/Bucca, 9 p.m.
WOLCOTTVILLE
 Coody Brown's USA — American Idol Karaoke w/Matt, 9 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 10

ANGOLA
 Club Paradise — DJ Sockwater, 9:30 p.m.
AUBURN
 Meteor Bar & Grill — Classic City Karaoke, 9 p.m.
COLUMBIA CITY
 Lake Shore Tavern — American Idol Karaoke, 9 p.m.
FORT WAYNE
 A.J.'s Bar & Grill — Karaoke w/Wendy KQ, 8 p.m.
 American Legion Post 47 — American Idol Karaoke, 8 p.m.
 Babylon — Plush, 10 p.m.
 Chevvy's — Karaoke w/Total Spectrum, 10 p.m.
 Club V — House DJ, 9 p.m.
 Crooners Karaoke Bar — House KJ, 9:30 p.m.
 Duty's Buckets Sports Pub — DJ, 9 p.m.
 Flashback — House DJ, 9 p.m.
 Jag's Bar & Grill — American Idol Karaoke w/TJ, 9 p.m.
 Latch String Bar & Grill — Ambitious Blondes Ent., 10 p.m.
 Piere's — House DJ, 9 p.m.
 Pike's Pub — Shooting Star Prod. w/Stu, 10 p.m.
 Pine Valley Bar — American Idol Karaoke w/Jesse, 9:30 p.m.
 Stadium Bar & Grill — Karaoke with Hector and Moe, 9:30 p.m.
 Tower Bar & Grill — Bucca Karaoke w/Bucca, 10 p.m.

Calendar • Karaoke & DJs

Uncle Lou's Steel Mill — Shooting Star Prod. w/Barbie, 10 p.m.
 VFW 8147 — Come Sing Witt Us Karaoke w/Steve, 9 p.m.
 Wrigley Field Bar & Grill — DJ Teddy Bear, 10 p.m.
 The Zone — House DJ, 9 p.m.
HAMILTON
 Hamilton House — Jammin' Jan Karaoke, 10 p.m.
HOAGLAND
 Hoagland Pizza — Shooting Star Prod. w/Terry, 10 p.m.
HUNTERTOWN
 Pepperchini's — American Idol Karaoke, 9 p.m.
NEW HAVEN
 Jill's Pub — Mantra Karaoke w/Jake, 9 p.m.
POE
 Hi Ho Again — Shooting Star Prod. w/Nacho, 10 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 11

FORT WAYNE
 After Dark — Dance videos & karaoke, 9:30 p.m.
 Crooners Karaoke Bar — House KJ, 9 p.m.
 Foster's Sports Pub — Shooting Star Prod. w/Stu, 9:30 p.m.
 Gin Mill Lounge — American Idol Karaoke w/Jay, 8:30 p.m.
 Wrigley Field Bar & Grill — Karaoke w/Calla, 8 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 12

FORT WAYNE
 After Dark — Karaoke, 10:30 p.m.
 Arena Bar & Grill — American Idol Karaoke, 8 p.m.
 Latch String Bar & Grill — Ambitious Blondes Ent., 10 p.m.
 Office Tavern — Swing Time Karaoke, 7 p.m.
 Wrigley Field Bar & Grill — Karaoke w/Carma, 10 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 13

FORT WAYNE
 Crooners Karaoke Bar — House KJ, 9 p.m.
 Skully's Boneyard — American Idol Karaoke w/Matt, 9 p.m.
 Wrigley Field Bar & Grill — Karaoke, 10 p.m.
GARRETT
 CJ's Canteena — Classic City Karaoke, 9 p.m.
NEW HAVEN
 Rack & Helen's — American Idol Karaoke w/TJ, 9:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 14

ALLEN COUNTY
 Rusty Spur Saloon — DJ Jesse, 10 p.m.
ANGOLA
 Piggy's Brew Pub — Karaoke w/DJ Lucky, 9 p.m.
FORT WAYNE
 After Dark — Karaoke, 10:30 p.m.
 A.J.'s Bar & Grill — Karaoke w/Wendy KQ, 8 p.m.
 Berlin Music Pub — Shooting Star Productions w/Barbie, 10 p.m.
 Chevvy's Pizza & Sports Bar — American Idol Karaoke, 10 p.m.
 Crazy Pinz — Swing Time Karaoke, 7 p.m.
 Crooners Karaoke Bar — House KJ, 9 p.m.
 Latch String Bar & Grill — Ambitious Blondes Ent., 10 p.m.
 Office Tavern — Shooting Star Productions w/Stu, 8 p.m.
 Rum Runners — Ambient Noise Karaoke w/Rooster, 8 p.m.
 Wrigley Field Bar & Grill — Karaoke, 10 p.m.
GARRETT
 Martin's Tavern — WiseGuy Entertainment w/Juice, 10 p.m.
HUNTERTOWN
 The Willows — Karaoke, 7 p.m.
NEW HAVEN
 Jill's Pub — Terryoke Prod., 8 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 15

ALLEN COUNTY
 The Rusty Spur Saloon — DJ Jesse, 10 p.m.
ANGOLA
 Club Paradise — American Idol Karaoke, 9:30 p.m.
 Piggy's Brew Pub — DJ Lucky, 9 p.m.
 Skip's Party Place — Rainbow You Karaoke, 8 p.m.
AUBURN
 4 Crowns — Shotgun Prod. Karaoke, 10 p.m.
FORT WAYNE
 4D's Bar & Grill — DJ Trend, 10 p.m.
 Arena Bar & Grill — American Idol Karaoke w/Jay, 8 p.m.
 Club V — House DJ, 9 p.m.
 Columbia Street West — American Idol Karaoke, 9 p.m.
 Crooners Karaoke Bar — House KJ, 9 p.m.
 Deer Park Irish Pub — Bucca Karaoke w/Bucca, 10 p.m.
 Foster's Pub — Shooting Star Prod. w/Stu, 9:30 p.m.
 Gin Mill Lounge — Terryoke, 9 p.m.
 Latch String Bar & Grill — DJ Spot, 10 p.m.
 North Star Bar — Karaoke w/Mike Campbell, 8 p.m.
 O'Sullivan's Pub — Tronic, 10 p.m.
 PJ's Sports Pub — Shooting Star Prod. w/Nacho, 10 p.m.
 Piere's — House DJ, 9 p.m.
NEW HAVEN
 East Haven Tavern — Flashback Karaoke, 9 p.m.
 Jill's Pub — Mantra Karaoke w/Jake, 9 p.m.
 Rack & Helen's — American Idol Karaoke w/TJ, 10 p.m.

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1964 The Tribute	Feb. 11	State Theatre	Kalamazoo
Aaron Lewis	Jan. 8	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
AI Goodwin w/Chris Dubail (\$8-\$9)	Dec. 8-10	Snickerz Comedy Bar	Fort Wayne
Alice Cooper	Dec. 9	Star Plaza Theatre	Merrillville
Alice Cooper	Dec. 12	Taft Theatre	Cincinnati
Allstar Weekend	Feb. 24	House of Blues	Cleveland
Allstar Weekend	Feb. 25	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
Allstar Weekend	Feb. 26	House of Blues	Chicago
Annie Moses Band (\$5-\$20)	Dec. 15	First Assembly of God	Fort Wayne
August Burns Red w/Silverstein & Texas in July	Feb. 18	House of Blues	Chicago
August Burns Red w/Silverstein & Texas in July	Feb. 21	Bogart's	Cincinnati
August Burns Red w/Silverstein & Texas in July	Feb. 22	House of Blues	Cleveland
August Burns Red w/Silverstein & Texas in July	Feb. 23	Saint Andrews Hall	Detroit
Augustana	Jan. 30	Blind Pig	Ann Arbor
Badfish-A Tribute to Sublime (\$53-\$75)	Feb. 4	House of Blues	Chicago
Barry Manilow	Feb. 2-4	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Bernadette Peters w/Fort Wayne Philharmonic	Feb. 4	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Big Gigantic	Dec. 31	The Vic Theatre	Chicago
Big Head Todd and the Monsters	Dec. 31	House of Blues	Chicago
Big Time Rush (\$20-\$45)	Feb. 25	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Bill Engvall	Jan. 28	The Palace of Auburn Hills	Auburn Hills, MI
Brad Paisley w/The Band Perry (\$25-\$59.75)	Jan. 12	Van Andel Arena	Grand Rapids
Brad Paisley w/The Band Perry and Scotty McCreery	Feb. 24	i wireless Center	Chicago
Brendan Bayliss and Jake Cinninger	Dec. 10	Park West	Chicago
Brian Johnson of AC/DC	Feb. 18	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
Brian Johnson of AC/DC	Feb. 19	The Filmore	Detroit
Brubeck Brothers Quartet	Jan. 21	Old Town School of Folk Music	Chicago
Bryan Adams (\$35-\$75)	Jan. 17	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
The Buckinghams w/Grass Roots and Herman's Hermits	Feb. 3	Star Plaza Theatre	Merrillville
C. J. Chenier and the Red Hot Louisiana Band	Feb. 2	P.J.'s	Ann Arbor
Cage the Elephant	Dec. 31	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
California Guitar Trio	Feb. 25	Radio Radio	Indianapolis
Carrie Rodriguez w/Kelly Jo Phelps and Erin McKeown (\$20)	Jan. 24	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Celtic Thunder	Dec. 10	Rosemont Theatre	Rosemont, IL
Charles Bradley & the Extraordinaires (\$18)	Feb. 12	Magic Bag	Ferdale, MI
Cheryl Wheeler	Jan. 28	Canal Street Tavern	Dayton
Cheryl Wheeler (\$25)	Feb. 3	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Chimaira Christmas 12 w/Skeletonwitch, Salt the Wound, The World We Knew (\$12-\$50)	Dec. 30	House of Blues	Cleveland
Chris Botti	Feb. 26	Cincinnati Music Hall	Cincinnati
Chris Isaak	Dec. 9	The Palladium	Carmel

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Christian McBride	Jan. 18-20	Columbia College	Chicago
City & Colour w/The Low Anthem	Feb. 8	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Coco Montoya (\$30-\$35)	Feb. 29	C2G Music Hall	Fort Wayne
Colin Mochrie & Brad Sherwood (\$19-\$75)	Dec. 9	Honeywell Center	Wabash
The Commander Cody Band	Dec. 9	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Corey Smith	Jan. 19	Bogart's	Cincinnati
Cowboy Mouth	Feb. 10	House of Blues	Chicago
Damon Williams	Dec. 31	Star Plaza Theatre	Merrillville
The Dan Band	Dec. 9	House of Blues	Chicago
Dark Star Orchestra	Feb. 4	The Vic Theatre	Chicago
Dark Star Orchestra	Feb. 10	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
Dark Star Orchestra	Feb. 18	Bogart's	Cincinnati
David Garrett	Jan. 28	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Davy Jones	Jan. 28	Star Plaza Theatre	Merrillville
Deanna Bogart	Jan. 27	Callahan's Music Hall	Auburn Hills, MI
Dee Dee Bridgewater	Jan. 13	Orchestra Hall	Chicago
Del Barber w/Jimmy Webb	Jan. 20	Old Town School of Folk Music	Chicago
Delbert McClinton (sold out)	Dec. 14	The Ark	Ann Arbor
The Devil Wears Prada	Dec. 18	Bogart's	Cincinnati
Die Antwoord	Feb. 15	The Metro	Chicago
Dir En Grey w/the Birthday Massacre	Dec. 18	House of Blues	Chicago
Donna The Buffalo	Dec. 8	The Blind Pig	Ann Arbor
Donna The Buffalo	Dec. 9	The Intersection	Grand Rapids
Dr. Dog	Feb. 18	The Vic Theatre	Chicago
Dropkick Murphys	Feb. 23	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
Eddie Griffin	Dec. 29	Cincinnati Music Hall	Cincinnati
Eddie Money w/Lou Gramm and Mickey Thomas (\$39-\$43)	Dec. 11	Sound Board	Detroit
Eilen Jewell	Feb. 23	The Bishop	Bloomington
Ekoostik Hookah (\$15)	Feb. 17	Magic Bag	Ferdale, MI
Electric Six	Dec. 23	Saint Andrews Hall	Detroit
Emilie Autumn	Feb. 25	House of Blues	Chicago
Emmylou Harris w/Glen Campbell, Nancy Griffith, Joe Henry, Sarah Jarosz, Caravan of	Jan. 28	Hill Auditorium	Ann Arbor
Thieves, Seth Giler and Heywood Banks (\$47.50-\$160)	Dec. 8	Sound Board	Detroit
En Vogue (\$36-\$38)	Feb. 25	Memorial Coliseum	Fort Wayne
Eric Church w/Brantley Gilbert (\$34.75-\$42.50)	Jan. 11	Magic Bag	Ferdale, MI
Eric Johnson Band (\$25)	Jan. 12	House of Blues	Chicago
Eric Johnson w/Andy McKee	Dec. 22	Saint Andrews Hall	Detroit
Every Avenue	Dec. 17	Piere's	Fort Wayne
Five Finger Death Punch w/Hatebreed, All That Remains & Rains (\$33 adv., \$36 d.o.s.)	Dec. 18	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Five Finger Death Punch w/Hatebreed, All That Remains & Rev Theory	Feb. 17	The Fillmore	Detroit
Flogging Molly	Feb. 18	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Flogging Molly	Feb. 19	House of Blues	Cleveland
Foreigner	Jan. 19	House of Blues	Chicago
Foreigner	Jan. 22	Michigan Theatre	Detroit
Foreigner	Jan. 24	House of Blues	Cleveland
Foreigner (\$27-\$200)	Jan. 26	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Foreigner	Jan. 27	Taft Theatre	Cincinnati
Frankie Ballard (\$15-\$18)	Dec. 17	State Theatre	Kalamazoo
The Fred Eaglesmith Traveling Show (\$27.50)	Dec. 31	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Fred Hammond (\$47.50 adv., \$55 d.o.s.)	Dec. 30	DeVos Performance Hall	Grand Rapids
Gabriel Iglesias	Mar. 8	Veterans Memorial Auditorium	Columbus, OH
Gaelic Storm	Feb. 22	C2G Music Hall	Fort Wayne
Gaelic Storm	Feb. 22	C2G Music Hall	Fort Wayne
Gaelic Storm	Feb. 25	House of Blues	Cleveland
Gaelic Storm	Mar. 16	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Gaither Homecoming (\$29-\$39)	Dec. 9	Van Andel Arena	Grand Rapids
Galactic	Mar. 2	Park West	Chicago
Ghost	Jan. 24	Bottom Lounge	Chicago
Girlyman	Feb. 7	Irving Theatre	Indianapolis
Girlyman (\$22.50)	Feb. 8	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Girlyman	Feb. 9	Old Town School of Folk Music	Chicago
Glen Campbell	Dec. 16	French Lick Resort	Fench Lick
Grand Funk Railroad (\$41-\$43)	Mar. 29	Sound Board	Detroit
Guns N' Roses (\$30-\$75)	Dec. 8	Conseco Fieldhouse	Indianapolis
Halestorm w/Adelitas Way, Black Tide, Ghosts of August and Second Season (\$17)	Dec. 10	Club Fever	South Bend
Hayes Caril w/Caitlin Rose	Dec. 29	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
Henry Rollins (\$25-\$30)	Mar. 21	State Theatre	Kalamazoo
Herman's Hermits feat. Peter Noone	Jan. 14	Stranahan Theater	Toledo
HoneyHoney	Dec. 27	House of Blues	Cleveland
Hot Tuna	Mar. 6	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Hot Tuna	Mar. 15	20th Century Theatre	Cincinnati
In Flames w/Trivium, Veil of Maya and Kyrng	Feb. 21	House of Blues	Chicago
JJ Grey & Motro w/JC Brooks & Uptown Sound (\$20)	Jan. 16	Magic Bag	Ferdale, MI
Jack's Mannequin w/Jukebox The Ghost and Allen Stone	Jan. 24-25	House of Blues	Chicago
Jack's Mannequin w/Jukebox The Ghost and Allen Stone	Jan. 27	Bogart's	Cincinnati
Jack's Mannequin	Jan. 28	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
Jake Owen	Jan. 18-19	Joe's Bar	Chicago
Jason Aldean and Luke Bryan	Feb. 4	Assembly Hall	Chicago
Jeff Foxworthy w/Bill Engvall and Larry the Cable Guy	Jan. 28	The Palace of Auburn Hills	Auburn Hills, MI
Jeffery Ross (\$28)	Jan. 14	Magic Bag	Ferdale, MI
Jim Brickman w/Ben Utech, Anne Cochran and Tracy Silverman (\$25-\$65)	Dec. 12	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne

Fort Wayne favorite **Ryan McCombs** has left **Drowning Pool**. The third singer for the band, McCombs had been a member since 2006 when he replaced **Jason "Gong" Jones**. No statement has been made by McCombs, but **C.J. Pierce** from Drowning Pool recently said, "We have always been a band who has gained success despite having multiple singers ... maybe we suffer from reverse 'lead singer's disease. Changing things up has not always been easy, but the band has become re-energized time and time again. We are looking to find a new singer who will give both us and, most importantly, our fans the new adrenaline shot they deserve." He went on to say, "We do wish Ryan great success in his future endeavors." Those future endeavors may include McCombs reuniting with his old band, **Soil**, after Soil themselves parted ways with their vocalist **A.J. Cavalier** earlier this year.

Ryan Adams has added some more 2012 dates and it looks like you should have ample opportunity to see him. The iconic indie rock musician visits Cleveland January 25, Ann Arbor January 27 and Cleveland January 28. The January 27 appearance is at the Ann Arbor Folk Festival, a two-day celebration of the best in folk music at the Hill Auditorium. Other artists set to appear are **Devotchka**, **Dawes**, **Carbon Leaf**, **Joe Henry** and **Glen Campbell**. Heywood Banks will emcee both nights.

Trans-Siberian Orchestra left Fort Wayne off of their annual Christmas tour this year, but we will get our first chance to experience the band's non-Christmas material when they bring their Beethoven's Last Night Tour to the Memorial Coliseum April 25. The band promises to bring all of their laser lights and pyrotechnics along with them, so this is one show you won't want to miss. Tickets go on sale December 9. Dates in Battle Creek, Michigan and Hammond, Illinois have also been scheduled.

Mötley Crüe are taking up residency at the Hard Rock Hotel in Las Vegas during February. The band just announced they will play 12 shows February 3-19 at the hotel's music venue called The Joint. The band said during the announcement that the production would involve other entertainers including dancers in various stages of undress. Tickets are \$85 and up.

Grand Rapids, Michigan will host Laughfest, a 10-day comedy spectacular March 8-18. Headliners include **Whoopi Goldberg**, **Kevin Nealon** and **Martin Short** from Saturday Night Live, **Rodney Carrington** and **Jim Gaffigan** as well as about 60 other comedians. Tickets are available and range from \$7-\$77. No word yet on whether Goldberg will actually be funny or entertaining, but if you like Gaffigan, he will also hit the stage at The Embassy Theatre in Fort Wayne March 24.

chris.whatzup@gmail.com

Jim Brickman	Dec. 28	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Jim Gaffigan	Mar. 17	Rialto Square Theatre	Chicago
Jim Gaffigan (\$39.75-\$49.75)	Mar. 24	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
John Primer	Dec. 10	Key Palace Theatre	Reckey
John Two Hawks (\$15 adv., \$20 d.o.s.)	Dec. 17-18	C2G Music Hall	Fort Wayne
The Joy Formidable	Dec. 14	The Metro	Chicago
Kate Clinton (\$30)	Feb. 19	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Kathleen Edwards w/Hannah Georgas	Jan. 26	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
Kathy Griffin	Jan. 20-21	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Kelly Richey	Jan. 27	The Redmoor	Cincinnati
Kenny Wayne Shepherd (\$23 adv., \$26 d.o.s.)	Dec. 10	Piere's	Fort Wayne
Kenny Wayne Shepherd	Dec. 11	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
Kenny Wayne Shepherd	Dec. 15	House of Blues	Chicago
The Kills w/Jeff the Brotherhood and the Hunters	Jan. 20	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
The Kinsey Report (\$10-\$15)	Dec. 9	State Theatre	Kalamazoo
Lady Antebellum w/Darius Rucker and Thompson Square	Feb. 25	Palace of Auburn Hills	Auburn Hills, MI
Lady Antebellum w/Darius Rucker and Thompson Square	Mar. 9	Allstate Arena	Chicago
Led Zepplin 2	Jan. 13	House of Blues	Chicago
The Lemonheads	Jan. 20	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Lewis Black	Dec. 21-23	Hilarities	Cleveland
Lewis Black	Feb. 4	Taft Theatre	Cincinnati
Lisa Lampanelli	Mar. 9	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
Live Lava Live w/Meekakitty, Nanalew and Friends	Jan. 25	Saint Andrews Hall	Detroit
The Lost Trailers w/The Twang Gang (\$5 adv., \$7 d.o.s.)	Dec. 31	Neon Armadillo	Fort Wayne
Lovehammers	Mar. 10	House of Blues	Chicago
Machine Head w/Suicide Silence, Darkest Hour & Rise to Remain	Jan. 22	House of Blues	Chicago
Machine Head	Jan. 24	Newport Music Hall	Columbus, OH
Manhattan Transfer (\$33-\$36)	Feb. 16	Sound Board	Detroit
Mannheim Steamroller (\$30-\$85)	Dec. 10	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Mannheim Steamroller	Dec. 19	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Mark Lowry (\$18-\$45)	Feb. 25	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Martin Sexton (\$40)	Jan. 19	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Martin Sexton	Jan. 20	Park West	Chicago
Megadeth and Motorhead w/Volbeat and Lacuna Coil	Feb. 10	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Melissa Ferrick (\$20)	Dec. 8	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Mike Doughty (\$22.50)	Feb. 21	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Mindless Self Indulgence	Mar. 15	House of Blues	Chicago
Mindless Self Indulgence	Mar. 16	The Fillmore	Detroit
Moe	Feb. 18	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Mountain Heart (\$30)	Jan. 13	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Mustard's Retreat (\$15)	Feb. 11	The Ark	Ann Arbor



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Dec 17th	Jester Kings
Dec 21st	Kenny Taylor
Dec 23rd	Allan and Ashcraft
Dec 28th	Afro Disiacs
Dec 30th	What She Said

Jan 4th
Jan 6th
Jan 7th
Jan 11th
Jan 13th
Jan 14th
Jan 18th
Jan 20th
Jan 21st
Jan 25th
Jan 28th

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Calendar • On The Road			
Mute Math	Feb. 17	House of Blues	Chicago
Mute Math	Mar. 1	The Intersection	Grand Rapids
Mute Math	Mar. 2	St. Andrews Hall	Detroit
Mute Math	Mar. 3	Newport Music Hall	Columbus, OH
Mute Math	Mar. 4	House of Blues	Cleveland
New Edition feat. Bobby Brown and Johnny Gill w/K-Ci & JoJo (\$49-\$150)	Dec. 31	Fox Theatre	Detroit
O.A.R.	Feb. 9	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Oak Ridge Boys (\$39)	Dec. 11	Star Plaza Theatre	Merrillville
Oak Ridge Boys	Dec. 19	Stranahan Theater	Toledo
The Oak Ridge Boys (\$29.75-\$46.25)	Dec. 20	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Over the Rhine	Dec. 9	Covenant Fine Arts Center	Grand Rapids
Patti Austin	Jan. 14	The Palladium	Indianapolis
Patti LaBelle (\$48-\$65)	Jan. 26	Sound Board	Detroit
Paul Cebal Tomorrow Sound (\$15)	Jan. 11	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Paul Fyrewether	Jan. 13	House of Blues	Cleveland
Peabo Bryson w/Jennifer Holiday, Lea Salonga and Ben Vereen	Dec. 18	Star Plaza Theatre	Merrillville
Peter Frampton (\$33.50-\$76)	Feb. 22	Akron Civic Theatre	Akron, OH
Peter Frampton	Feb. 25	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Peter Frampton	Mar. 1	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Pierce the Veil and Miss May I	Dec. 8	Saint Andrews Hall	Detroit
Playing For Change (\$35)	Feb. 22	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Playing For Change (\$35)	Feb. 24	Clowes Memorial Hall	Indianapolis
Puddle of Mudd w/ Pop Evil w/ Lansdowne	Dec. 10	Bogart's	Cincinnati
Punch Brothers	Mar. 1	Park West	Chicago
Rachelle Ferrell (\$39-\$41)	Mar. 1	Sound Board	Detroit
Railroad Earth	Jan. 28	House of Blues	Chicago
Rascal Flatts	Jan. 21	Nationwide Arena	Columbus, OH
Raul Malo (\$40)	Dec. 12	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Rebution w/The Green and Pep Love	Mar. 27	Saint Andrews Hall	Detroit
Red Wanting Blue	Jan. 13	Rathskeller	Indianapolis
Red Wanting Blue	Feb. 4	House of Blues	Cleveland
Remedy Drie w/Thousand Foot Crutch	Mar. 10	Worthen Arena	Muncie
Restless Heart (\$16-\$31)	Feb. 11	Niswonger Performing Arts Center	Van Wert
Ricky Skaggs (\$25-\$75)	Dec. 10	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Ricky Skaggs	Dec. 11	Niswonger Performing Arts Center	Van Wert
Rise Against w/Taking Back Sunday and Awolnation	Dec. 17	The Filmore	Detroit
Robert Gordon (\$20)	Jan. 27	The Magic Bag	Ferdale, MI
Ryan Adams w/Jessica Lea Mayfield	Dec. 11	Cadillac Palace Theatre	Chicago
Ryan Adams w/Dawes, DeVotchKa, Carbon Leaf, Elephant Revival, Sunny War, David Wax Museum & Heywood Banks (\$47.50-\$160)	Jan. 27	Hill Auditorium	Ann Arbor
The Saw Doctors	Mar. 23	House of Blues	Cleveland
The Saw Doctors	Mar. 24	The Vic Theatre	Chicago
Shelby Lynne (\$25)	Jan. 16	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Simon Armitage	Feb. 21	Clowes Memorial Hall	Indianapolis
Sister Hazel	Dec. 16-17	House of Blues	Chicago
Solas (\$17.50)	Feb. 14	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Southside Johnny and the Asbury Jukes	Mar. 2	House of Blues	Cleveland
Southside Johnny and the Asbury Jukes	Mar. 3	House of Blues	Chicago

Road Tripz

Black Cat Mambo	Dec. 10Fair Park Centennial Hall, Dallas
Mar. 31Melody Inn, Indianapolis	Dec. 13The Triple Rock, Minneapolis, MN
BackWater	Dec. 14The Vaudeville Mews, Des Moines, IA
Jan. 14Backstage Bar, Elwood, IN	Dec. 15Reggie's Rock Club, Chicago
Jan. 28The Buckhorn, Windfall, IN	Dec. 16The Emerson Theatre, Indianapolis
Kill The Rabbit	Dec. 17The House Cafe, Dekalb, IL
Dec. 10American Legion, Van Wert	Fort Wayne Area Performers: To get your gigs on
Dec. 17McSober's, Coldwater, OH	this list, give us a call at 691-3188, fax your info to
Dec. 31Shooterz, Celina, OH	691-3191, e-mail info. whatzup@gmail.com or mail
The Ready Set	to whatzup, 2305 E. Esterline Rd., Columbia City,
Dec. 9Diamond Ballroom, Oklahoma City, OK	IN 46725.

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Southside Johnny and the Asbury Jukes (\$25)	Mar. 4	Magic Bag	Ferdale, MI
Staind	Dec. 12	House of Blues	Chicago
Steel Magnolia (\$20-\$40)	Jan. 6	Niswonger Performing Arts Center	Van Wert
Steel Panther	Dec. 28	House of Blues	Cleveland
Steel Panther	Dec. 29	House of Blues	Chicago
Street Drum Corps	Jan. 20	Clowes Memorial Hall	Indianapolis
String Cheese Incident	Dec. 8-10	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
STS9	Jan. 20-21	Congress Theater	Chicago
Super Diamond	Jan. 20-21	House of Blues	Chicago
Susan Werner (\$20)	Feb. 25	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Tea Leaf Green w/Ha Ha Tonka	Jan. 20	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
Tori Amos	Dec. 10	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Trans-Siberian Orchestra (\$32-\$62)	Dec. 16	Van Andel Arena	Grand Rapids
Trans-Siberian Orchestra	Dec. 17	Palace of Auburn Hills	Auburn Hills, MI
Trans-Siberian Orchestra	Dec. 18	Nationwide Arena	Columbus, OH
Trans-Siberian Orchestra	Dec. 30	Quicken Loans Arena	Cleveland
Tripping Billies	Jan. 7	House of Blues	Chicago
Umphrey's McGee	Feb. 18	The Fillmore	Detroit
Vance Gilbert	Jan. 15	Old Town School of Folk Music	Chicago
The Verve Pipe (\$20)	Dec. 16	Magic Bag	Ferdale, MI
The Verve Pipe	Dec. 23	The Intersection	Grand Rapids
Vince Gill and Amy Grant	Dec. 17	Emens Auditorium	Muncie
Vince Neil (\$25-\$75)	Jan. 14	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Wayne "The Train" Hancock w/Jake Orvis and the Broken Band, Dag and the Bulleit Boys and James Hunnicutt (\$9-\$10)	Dec. 9	Amy Navy Club	Fort Wayne
The Whispers (\$41-\$43)	Feb. 9	Sound Board	Detroit
Who's Bad - The Ultimate Michael Jackson Tribute Band (\$15)	Jan. 20	The Magic Bag	Ferdale, MI
Who's Bad - The Ultimate Michael Jackson Tribute Band	Jan. 27	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Wilco	Dec. 10	The Fillmore	Detroit
Wilco	Dec. 12	Civic Opera House	Chicago
Wilco	Dec. 13	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Wilco	Dec. 16	The Metro	Chicago
Wilco	Dec. 18	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
Winter Jam Tour feat. Skillet, Sanctus Real, Peter Furler, Kari Jobe, Building 429 (\$10)	Jan. 22	Memorial Coliseum	Fort Wayne
Winter Jam Tour feat. Skillet, Sanctus Real, Peter Furler, Kari Jobe, Building 429 (\$10)	Jan. 28	Schottenstein Center	Columbus, OH
Winter Jam Tour feat. Skillet, Sanctus Real, Peter Furler, Kari Jobe, Building 429 (\$10)	Mar. 17	U.S. Bank Arena	Cincinnati
Wynlon Marsalis	Feb. 22	Hill Auditorium	Ann Arbor
Yo Gotti w/Physikal (\$27 adv., \$30 d.o.s.)	Dec. 18	Piere's	Fort Wayne
Young The Giant	Feb. 23	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Young Jeezy w/Travis Porter and 2 Chainz (\$59-\$89)	Jan. 14	Fox Theatre	Detroit

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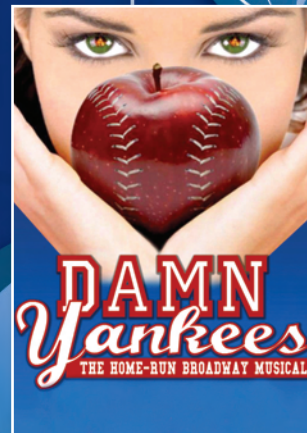
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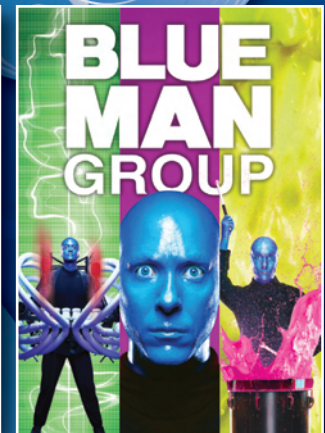
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'Tis the Season for Red

Fall and winter are red wine season. I personally go through a lot more white wine in the spring and summer, but when the leaves start to change, I load up on the rouge.

Recently, my wine-pal Danny and I led a wine tasting. Since autumn was descending at the time, and many stores were already hanging their seasonal decorations, we thought we'd get a jump on the holiday season and do a full spread of red. We wanted to provide a few suggestions for the upcoming dinner party (and party in general) season.

Whether you're stocking the cellar or stuffing the stockings, snagging a case of most of the wines we poured wouldn't set you back too far. All of them fall squarely into the "flexible food wine" or "slurpable party wine" categories (with one deliciously notable exception). Have at 'em:

Vina Borgia 2008 Garnacha – I've long been a big fan of this wine. It's one of my go-to inexpensive bottles. It's 100 percent Garnacha (or Grenache, if you prefer) from the Aragon region of Spain. You won't find anything overly complicated here. You'll pay six or seven dollars for a bottle and be rewarded with a nice nose of blackberries and spice, a body that's medium weight with a good balance of dark fruit and pepper, along with a nice firm finish. For the price, it's one of the best balanced reds out there. It's perfectly drinkable on its own or a good accompaniment with flavors from chicken to grilled meat. I think it's great wine choice for a holiday table when you're buying in bulk. The Vina Borgia is also available in a 1.5 liter bottle for around \$12 or a 3 liter box for \$18. Can't beat it.

Vinterra 2010 Pinot Noir – One of the things I love about pinot noir is that the grape has a real sense of "place." If you pour a California pinot, you'll usually get bigger fruit flavors and higher levels of alcohol. Burgundies will be lighter and earthier tasting. New Zealand pinots, like this Vinterra, tend to be light, delicate critters. It's a very pretty smelling wine; flowers, cherries and strawberries are prominent. The body is extremely light for a pinot. By way of comparison, I'd put it at the same weight as a Beaujolais. This is another wine with very nice balance, giving you flavors of strawberry and cherry cola. The finish is gentle, drifting away on a mist of cherries. Like most pinot noirs, this wine basically goes with any food, and it's a great wine to pull out if you have someone around who "doesn't like red wine." It's almost impossible to find pinot noir this good at \$15, but here you have it.

Ocaso 2008 Malbec – I wouldn't want to write a column that extended through football season and the requisite manly grilling without throwing a masculine malbec in there. As I always say about malbec, anything you can drag across fire –veggie burgers to grilled mushrooms to a big ol' ribeye – will snuggle right up to a tasty malbec. Argentinean wines remain some of the best values out there. As Danny said, "Take most wine from Argentina and double the price.



The Naked Vine
MIKE ROSENBERG

That's what you'll pay for a comparable red from France or California." Blackberries and coffee were my first thought when I got a slug of this one. It's tannic, but not overly so, and it's nice and muscular if you're in the mood for something along those lines. I've read that it actually goes well with vegetables too, but that wouldn't be my first choice. You can find this for around \$10-12. Ocaso also makes a malbec rosé that I poured next to the aforementioned Vinterra. The rosé (\$8) is actually heavier, believe it or not.

Elvio Cagno 2007 Dolcetto D'Alba –

If you're looking to step outside the Chianti world for a relatively light Italian red, Dolcetto is a very nice alternative. Dolcetto translates as "little sweet one," although this is hardly a sweet wine. I thought this was a wine that was basically built to be passed around a dinner table, like most good Italian wines are. It's got a fair amount of acidity which allows the flavor to cut through almost anything with a red sauce, be it pasta, chicken Parmesan or brasciole. I recently poured this next to a roasted eggplant-and-red-pepper soup and it was simply divine. If you don't like the "chalky" flavor that Chianti sometimes has, but you like the acidity and the full fruit flavors, this is a great choice. It's around \$15 and worth every penny if you're cobbling together a little feast for friends.

Chateau de Bel 2009 Bordeaux – Bordeaux is one of the more vintage-dependent wines out there. Bordeaux from an "off year" can be overpriced and uninteresting. The 2009 vintage, however, apparently has the potential to be one of the great vintages in Bordeaux (and in much of the rest of France as well). The quality even trickles down to the more inexpensive bottles, like this one from Chateau de Bel. This 90/10 merlot/cabernet blend is an impressive bottle, especially for \$15 – intense fruits and a nice dose of the "old world funk" that I like so much in Bordeaux. A little tannic, a little oaky, it's just a very solid all-around wine. For the Francophiles out there, consider squirreling away a few bottles for five years or so. I'm very interested to see how this one develops over time. Or just lay out some rich cheeses, grilled pork chops or some good stew. You'll thank me later.

Domaine La Roquette 2007 Chateauf-neuf-de-Pape – Danny couldn't resist being a show-off. He pulled this little gem to put the rest of our selections to shame. He said that if he were forced to only drink one kind of wine for the rest of his life, he'd choose Chateauf-neuf-de-Pape, a predominantly Grenache/Syrah blend from the town of the same name in the Rhone valley. This is one damned delicious wine. You



Continued on page 23

Super 8

Kids today (you know you're getting old when you start a sentence with the words "kids today") can't appreciate how difficult it once was to see any movie not currently playing at the theater. Before the age of affordable VCRs, before HBO, before cable TV, you could either see it at the cinema, or you could see it if it happened to be playing on one of the four TV channels you got. Otherwise, you were, as the saying goes, screwed.

Every movie lover of a certain age (you also know you're getting old when you use the phrase "a certain age") to describe your generation can probably think of at least one movie they would literally have sold their most prized possession to see, just once. For me, that movie was *2001: A Space Odyssey*. I don't think I'll ever completely forgive my mom for making me go clothes shopping with her at Sears on the one night it aired on television, in the late 70s. No, I didn't get to see *2001* until I was in high school, by which time there's no way it could've lived up to my expectations of it. (And yet somehow it did, and still does, but that's another story.)

This is the world explored in writer/director J.J. Abrams' nostalgia-infused labor of love, *Super 8*. I was, like the main characters *Super 8*, in middle school in 1979. This is my world: the world of the suburbs, of monster-movie geekdom, of Spielberg idolization. I loved ELO and got a thrill from the vaguely naughty lyrics of "My Sharona." I had to hear from those older than me how cool *Alien* was on the big-screen. I saw *Star Wars* half a dozen times, and nearly every frame of *Close Encounters* became hard-wired into my visual DNA. Like *Super 8*'s Joe Lamb (Joel Courtney), I had a *Dawn of the Dead* poster hanging on my wall, though I was still too young to be allowed to see it. You just know poor Joe hasn't seen *Dawn of the Dead* yet, either, and will likely not get a chance to see it until he's in high school.

Unlike Joe Lamb and his pals, though, I didn't have access to a Super-8 film camera, and so I could only dream of making my own homemade horror movies. The first part of *Super 8* is highly autobiographical for Abrams; home movie-making is exactly what he and his friends did, in lieu of being able to watch the real thing. There's something truly thrilling about seeing these geeky, resourceful, enthusiastic kids doing something that I could only have fantasized about doing. (And if you don't see the sweet poignancy of a kid in braces playing a brain-chomping zombie, I pity you.) All this makes me wonder, would an entire generation of J.J. Abramases (or even Spielbergs) have ever mastered the craft if they'd had the easy access to every movie that today's kids do? Time will tell how today's high-bandwidth Internet age will influence future filmmakers.

So, yeah, *Super 8* sets all the nostalgia receptors in my brain alight, not unlike the prominent bluish lens flares we see in so many of the movie's nighttime scenes. (Even Abrams, in interviews, admits he may have overdone the flaring effect, a direct cinematographic nod to 70s-era Spielberg.) From the ultra-grainy film stock, to the naturalistic set design, to the realistic portrayal of young kids as self-consciously foul-mouthed, talking-over-each-other excited and tentatively rebellious, the movie gets all the details exactly right, and nobody between the



On Video

DEREK NEFF

ages of, say, 35 to 50 will be able to resist smilingly widely almost nonstop during the movie's first hour or so.

But Joe and his friends encounter a monster in real life one night, while filming a scene for their zombie movie at an old train station. A pickup truck comes out of the darkness and rams right into a train, causing a massive derailment and a series of explosions. One damaged boxcar seems to contain something alive, trying to get out ...

The kids barely escape alive. And in the days that follow, it becomes clear their small, rusted-out Ohio steel town will never be the same again. I'll avoid mentioning in detail what exactly it is that this boxcar contains, both because I don't want to spoil it and because I don't think it's all that remarkable. Frankly, the creature that begins wreaking havoc on the town is disappointingly pedestrian in appearance, motive and action. The movie takes a decisive narrative misstep at this point. More than excitement, wonder or fear, I felt a nagging sense of disappointment. I never cared about where the creature came from, what he wanted or where he'd go afterward. I just wanted to hang out with these kids another hour or two, free of the strictures of the monster movie genre.

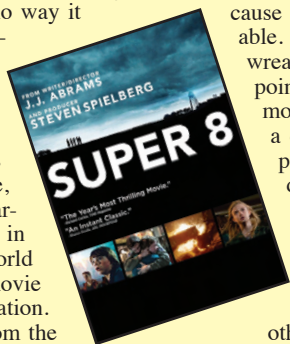
One thing *Super 8* gets exactly right is the painful puppy love Joe feels for the slightly older Alice, a girl who is miraculously talked into playing the leading role in their nerdish little movie production. It certainly doesn't hurt that Alice is played by the preternaturally talented actress Elle Fanning. Fanning knocked me out in her role as the ice-skating daughter in Sophia Coppola's *Somewhere* last year, and here she's every bit as good. But Abrams has also written some great scenes for Joe and Alice, and this more than makes the entire movie worth watching, nostalgia or not.

The sci-fi angle seems tacked-on, almost as an afterthought. In interviews, Abrams more or less confirms this, if you read between the lines: the project started as a 70s period piece, a poignant character study about grief, adolescence and the making of a cheesy no-budget zombie movie, but then gradually became a high-concept creature feature once the financiers (among them, Steven Spielberg himself) arrived.

There is a fine line between homage and outright imitation, and during too many of the scenes late in the movie I felt things slipping further and further into a semi-pandering, over-plotted mire of cliché. (If you want an example of a movie that gets the homage element exactly right, and goes one step further by becoming something you've never quite seen before, you need look no further than *Cloverfield*, which was produced by none other than Abrams.)

As a result, *Super 8* never really rises above being an exercise — a superlative exercise, but an exercise nonetheless — in nostalgia, a facile search-for-the-not-so-subtle-movie-references bit of gamesmanship, when with a bit more loving care in the second half it could have been the same kind of timeless classic it's too slavishly trying to emulate.

derekneff1@yahoo.com



Treasures Among the Trash

American Pickers Guide to Picking, by Libby Callaway, Hyperion, 2011

From what I see on cable TV, there are two activities that Americans are really interested in right now: finding old things and selling them for a lot of money, and shooting guns.

I'm not sure how to explain the fascination with guns, except that Americans have always been fascinated with guns, but it seems pretty clear why the idea of finding hidden treasures and getting rich from them is appealing these days. After all, you can't necessarily count on having a job anymore, so an alternative source of income, particularly a source that produces money with little effort, is a good thing to think about. One of the most entertaining treasure-hunting shows on cable these days is the History Channel's *American Pickers*, the adventures of antique buyers Mike Wolfe, Frank Fritz and Danielle Colby, and this book is an attempt to translate the show's formula to the printed page.

Wolfe and Fritz are pickers (Colby is their office manager), and pickers are buyers who scour the countryside in search of caches of junk that they can buy and resell at a profit. *American Pickers* documents Fritz and Wolfe's road trips, during which they seek out great rusting piles of old stuff in front yards, basements, attics, barns and other dusty, overgrown locations. They pick out items that most people wouldn't look twice at — old signs, cans, rusty bicycles — and spot items that they can resell for a surprising amount of money. Wolfe and Fritz are charismatic and fun to watch, and Colby adds some quirky charm to the show.

The book version of *American Pickers* could be simply a print reproduction of the show, with entertaining stories about the duo's encounters with eccentric collectors and unexpected finds, and it is almost that. But the hook here is different. The book claims to be a guide to picking, an informative volume that will give you tips on how to become a picker like Wolfe and Fritz. Most of the tips will be familiar to regular viewers of the show, so those viewers shouldn't expect any fortune-making revelations.

Much of the advice is geared toward teaching you where to look for the best junk. Your goal here is to find people who have accumulated lots of old stuff but who either don't know or don't care



On Books

EVAN GILLESPIE

how much any of it is worth. If they know what their junk is worth and are intent on getting full value for it, you're not going to be able to buy it at a low enough price to be able to resell it at a profit. What you need to find is someone who collects things for reasons other than their monetary value — because they simply love collecting things. What you're looking for is a certain disorganization, a lack of collecting focus. You're looking for untended piles of things, where it's likely that the collector doesn't remember what's at the bottom of the pile.

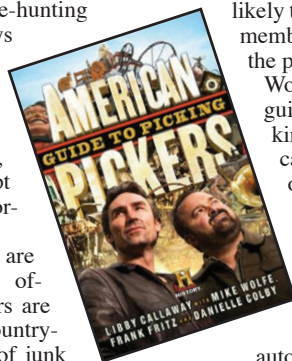
Wolfe and Fritz have some guidelines for finding these kinds of collections. Rusting cars in the front yard, piles of items visible through windows, an abundance of outbuildings — all of these things indicate a potential gold mine. Above-ground pools and kids' toys in the driveway

automatically rule out a property as a possible picking ground (the former indicates too much willingness to spend money on the property; the latter suggests that the inhabitants are too young to have accumulated any really good stuff).

The book also contains advice on how to determine the value of the things you find and how to resell it once you've bought it. All the advice is illustrated and augmented with stories from the pickers' personal exploits, and the stories are almost as fun to read as they are to watch on the show.

If you have dreams of making a living as a picker, though, you should carefully consider the odds of being able to do it. Wolfe and Fritz stress how much time and energy they put into their picking, and if you pay careful attention to the deals they make on their show, you'll see that the profit they make on most of the items they find is not huge, especially given all the driving and hunting they do. They're making money, but they're not getting rich. Watching them do their job is good TV, but following in their footsteps would not be easy. It's probably best that you keep your day job, if you have one.

evan.whatzup@gmail.com



THE NAKED VINE - From Page 22

may have heard wines described as "elegant." This one falls squarely into that category. It's a deeply layered wine. As you take successive sips, you'll find different flavors emerging: currants, cherry, nutmeg, blackberry and a backbone of nice earthiness. Chateaufort-de-Pape is an expensive wine. You'll often see this

wine start at around \$50-60 and go up from there. This one was under \$40, and for my money — if you want to impress — this is a nice selection to have in your arsenal. Or have this one the day after your dinner party as you're relaxing the next evening. Be selfish. You deserve it.

thenakedvine@yahoo.com

Current Exhibits

AWARD WINNERS FROM THE 8TH ARTLINK REGIONAL EXHIBITION — The work of Justin Johnson, George Morrison and Jake Saunders at Artlink, Inc., Auer Center for Arts and Culture, Fort Wayne, **Tuesday-Sunday, Dec. 9-Jan. 11** (reception 6-9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 9), 424-7195, www.artlinkfw.com

ELIZABETH BALZER & BRANDON ZSOLNAY — Digital art at 3R Gallery, Three Rivers East apartment complex, Fort Wayne, **Friday-Sunday thru Jan. 1**, www.3rgallery.com

FALL 2011 BFA EXHIBITION — IPFW senior BFA candidates display an exhibit at the Fort Wayne Museum of Art, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Dec. 20**, 422-6467 or www.fwmoa.org

FORT WAYNE PHOTOGRAPHERS CLUB — Photography at the Feature Gallery of the Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, **Tuesday-Sunday, Dec. 9-Jan. 11**, 424-7195, www.artlinkfw.com

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE UNIVERSITY COLLECTION: CONTEMPORARY CERAMICS AND PAINTINGS — Highlights from the university collection will be on display with recent acquisitions at the Lupke Gallery, North Campus of the University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne, **daily thru Dec. 22 and Jan. 2-27**, 399-7700, www.sf.edu/art/

HOLIDAY SHOW — Nationally recognized artists featured at the Castle Gallery, Fort Wayne, **Tuesday-Saturday thru Jan. 31**, 426-6568, www.castlegallery.com

JANICE FURTHNER — Paper cutting collage and woodworking friends at First Presbyterian Church Art Gallery, **Monday-Friday thru Jan. 1**, 426-7421, www.firstpres-fw.org/the_arts_gallery

LIGO: ASTRONOMY'S NEW MESSENGERS — A traveling astronomy exhibit at Science Central, Fort Wayne, **daily thru Jan. 8, 2012**, 424-2400, www.sciencecentral.org

MATERIAL WORLD: CROSS-CULTURAL TEXTILES FROM THE COLLECTION — Textiles, fiber art and clothing at the Fort Wayne Museum of Art, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Dec. 11**, 422-6467 or www.fwmoa.org

NATHAN TAVES: CURVED WORLD — All media show offering drawings, paintings and works in clay at the Potter's Wife Gallery, Fort Wayne, **Tuesday-Saturday thru Jan. 21**, 420-8300, www.delaneys-1421broadway.com

NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS — A year end Christmas exhibit with scenes from the famous poem "A visit from Saint Nicholas" at the Botanical Conservatory, Fort Wayne, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Jan. 8**, \$5, 427-6440, http://www.botanicalconservatory.org/

ORNAMENTS & NATIVITIES — Ornaments and nativities made from clay, glass, wood, fiber and more at the Orchard Gallery, Fort Wayne, **Monday-Saturday thru Dec. 30**, 436-0927, www.theorchardgallery.com

REBECCA STOCKERT AND PAUL DEMAREE — Hand pulled prints and oil paintings at Firefly Coffee House, Fort Wayne, **daily thru Dec. 31**, 373-0505, www.fireflycoffeehousefw.com

SAINT FRANCIS ALUMNI/FACULTY EXHIBITION — New works by alumni of the School of Creative Arts at the John P. Weatherhead Gallery, University of St. Francis, Fort Wayne, **daily thru Dec. 22 and Jan. 2-15**, 399-7700 ext. 8001, www.sf.edu/art/

WRAPPED IN PRIDE: GHANAIA KENTE AND AFRICAN-AMERICAN IDENTITY — African textiles at the Fort Wayne Museum of Art, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Jan. 8**, 422-6467, www.fwmoa.org

XUZHENG HE — Watercolor paintings at the Continuum Art Gallery, IPFW, Fort Wayne, **Wednesday-Saturday thru Dec. 10**, 399-3843

Artifacts

ART EVENT

THE ART FARM ANNUAL HOLIDAY STUDIO SHOW — 10 artist booths at the Art Farm, Spencerville, **12-6 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday thru Dec. 31**, 238-4755, www.artfarm.shutterfly.com

CASH & CARRY HOLIDAY EXHIBIT — At Clark Gallery, the Honeywell Center, Wabash, **daily thru Jan. 3**, 563-1102 ext. 501

THE DEAD OF WINTER ART SHOW & SILENT AUCTION — 6x3 inch coffins for display and purchase, all proceeds will be used to purchase toys for the Toys for Tots program, at the Conspiracy Boutique, Fort Wayne, **12-10 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10**, 744-1666

LOCAL POTTERS 1ST ANNUAL HOLIDAY SHOW — Pottery at The Bagel Station, Fort Wayne, **10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11**, 471-2272, www.thebagelstation.com

CALLS FOR ENTRIES

ARTLINK'S 32ND NATIONAL PRINT EXHIBITION (APR. 13-MAY 23) — 3 images may be submitted, all artists at least 18 years of age residing in the United States are eligible to exhibit, original, hand-pulled printmaking techniques are eligible, photographic computer generated or digitally altered prints will be accepted. Artists must complete an entry form and enclose an entry fee of \$25 by **Jan. 11, 2012**, 424-7195, www.artlinkfw.com

INSTRUCTION

FIGURE DRAWING SESSIONS — Artlink will supply chairs, drawing boards, easels and a model, artist must bring their choice of art supplies to the figure drawing studio at the Artlink Gallery, Auer Center for Arts and Culture, **6:30-9:30 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays**, \$3, 424-7195, www.artlinkfw.com

Coming Exhibits

JANUARY 2012

MARTHA TRENKER PHOTOGRAPHY — Photography at the Orchard Gallery, Fort Wayne, **Monday-Saturday, Jan. 3-31**, 436-0927, www.theorchardgallery.com

JEFFERY BAUMGARTNER — Oil Paintings at First Presbyterian Church Art Gallery, **Monday-Friday, Jan. 6-Feb. 12** (artist reception 5-7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 6), 426-7421, www.firstpres-fw.org/the_arts_gallery

TREASURE! — Exhibit exploring the history of treasures and treasure hunting at Science Central, Fort Wayne, **daily, Jan. 14-May 30**, 424-2400, ext. 411, www.xsnrg.com/treasure/index2.html

MEMORIAL PARK STUDENT WORK — At the Feature Gallery of the Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, **Tuesday-Sunday, Jan. 20-Feb. 22**, 424-7195, www.artlinkfw.com

SELF PORTRAIT EXHIBIT — Self portraits at Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, **Tuesday-Sunday, Jan. 20-Feb. 22**, 424-7195, www.artlinkfw.com

CARRIE LONGLEY & ERIN HOLSCHER ALMAZAN — Ceramics and prints at the John P. Weatherhead Gallery, University of St. Francis, Fort Wayne, **daily, Jan. 21-Feb. 26** (reception 7-9 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 21), 399-7700 ext. 8001

JACK EARL — Sculptures at The Robert E. Wilson Gallery located in the Merillat Center for the Arts, Huntington, **Monday-Friday, Jan. 26-Feb. 16** (artist reception 6-7:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 3), 426-7421, www.huntington.edu/mca/wilson-gallery/robert-e-wilson-gallery/

FEBRUARY 2012

PAINTINGS BY BETH ALBRIGHT — Paintings at the Orchard Gallery, Fort Wayne, **Monday-Saturday, Feb. 2-28**, 436-0927, www.theorchardgallery.com

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE UNIVERSITY COLLECTION: CONTEMPORARY CERAMICS AND WORKS ON PAPER — Highlights from the university collection will be on display with recent acquisitions at the Lupke Gallery, North Campus of the University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne, **Monday-Friday, Feb. 6-Mar. 30**, 399-7700

JUSTIN JOHNSON AND TIM MCINTYRE — Paintings, woodturnings and sculpture at First Presbyterian Church Art Gallery, **Monday-Friday, Feb. 17-Apr. 8** (artist reception 5-7 p.m. Friday, Mar. 2), 426-7421, www.firstpres-fw.org/the_arts_gallery

7TH ANNUAL HUNTINGTON UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL ART EXHIBIT — Juried invitational featuring works of art from regional high school students at The Robert E. Wilson Gallery located in the Merillat Center for the Arts, Huntington, **Monday-Friday, Feb. 23-Mar. 8** (awards reception 6-7:30 p.m. Saturday, Mar. 3), 426-7421, www.huntington.edu/mca/wilson-gallery/robert-e-wilson-gallery/

MARCH 2012

IN THE GARDEN — A themed exhibition with works by many artists at the Orchard Gallery, Fort Wayne, **Monday-Saturday, Mar. 2-31** (reception 12-5 p.m. Saturday, March 3), 436-0927, www.theorchardgallery.com

36 ANNUAL HIGH SCHOOL EXHIBITION — The very best by high school students around the region at the John P. Weatherhead Gallery, University of St. Francis, Fort Wayne, **daily, Mar. 4-28** (reception 1-3 p.m. Sunday, Mar. 4), 399-7700 ext. 8001

WATERMEDIA ON PAPER — Midwest juried exhibit at Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, **Tuesday-Sunday, Mar. 9-Apr. 4**, 424-7195, www.artlinkfw.com

22ND ANNUAL JURIED STUDENT ART EXHIBIT — Juried exhibit of works created by Huntington University visual art students during this academic year at The Robert E. Wilson Gallery located in the Merillat Center for the Arts, Huntington, **Monday-Friday, Mar. 26-Apr. 5** (awards reception 6-7:30 p.m. Saturday, Mar. 31), 426-7421, www.huntington.edu/mca/wilson-gallery/robert-e-wilson-gallery/

APRIL 2012

KIMBERLY RORICK AND SUSAN KLINE — Painted furniture by Kimberly Rorick and whimsical mixed media paintings by Susan Kline at the Orchard Gallery, Fort Wayne, **Monday-Saturday, Apr. 3-30**, 436-0927, www.theorchardgallery.com

DIGITAL MEDIA ARTS MAJORS EXHIBIT — Works by Huntington University graduating digital media arts majors at The Robert E. Wilson Gallery located in the Merillat Center for the Arts, Huntington, **Monday-Friday, Apr. 12-20** (artist reception 6-7:30 p.m. Saturday, Apr. 14), 426-7421, www.huntington.edu/mca/wilson-gallery/robert-e-wilson-gallery/

32ND ANNUAL NATIONAL PRINT EXHIBITION — National juried show of the latest in printmaking at Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, **Tuesday-Sunday, Apr. 13-May 23**, 424-7195, www.artlinkfw.com

A Dose of Cowboy

Walking into *A Tuna Christmas* I had no idea what I was in for. My only clue was that the program listed only two actors for the show with 11 parts each. What unveiled itself was the wittiest romp through Christmas I've ever seen.

The two incredibly talented actors that compose the 22 part show are Nick Tash and Michael Bartkiewicz, both of whom have experience in different Fort Wayne theaters but are new to Civic's Off Main stage at the main branch of the Allen Co. Public Library. Tash, who was seen as Romeo in *Romeo and Juliet*, takes a big step out of the realm of Shakespeare to don a wig, heels and sometimes a cowboy hat. Bartkiewicz was last seen on the Civic's main stage in *Hairspray*, another outlandish comedy. Both of these young actors portray a range of characters that span the gamut from sassy young waitresses, to jokester radio personalities, to crusty old women in this tour of Tuna, Texas.

A Tuna Christmas is a close-up of small town Texas and the folks who are just trying to have the best Christmas they can there. But amidst the witticisms and one-liners there is insight into the pains of the everyday life.

Tash and Bartkiewicz play four of the five members of the Bumiller



Curtain Call

KATHLEEN CHRISTIAN

A TUNA CHRISTMAS
Friday-Saturday, Dec. 9-10 & 16-17 • 8 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 11 & 18 • 2 p.m.
Arts United Center
303 E. Main St. • Fort Wayne
Tix.: \$11-\$16 thru box office,
260-424-5220

Continued on page 31

A Carol for Our Times

As I tried to process my thoughts about what to say in the review of First Presbyterian Theater's *An American Christmas Carol*, I realized that I have never begun a *whatup* review with a disclaimer. Doing so this time, however, is probably necessary. So I'll just say that the views expressed here are mine and mine alone, although I'm sure many seeing this production would agree with my interpretation.

The reason I think I need to include that statement is that *An American Christmas Carol*, by William A. Reilly with lyrics by Gary Lamb, can, without much of a stretch at all, be viewed (as I viewed it) as a fairly political retelling of the Christmas classic by Dickens. FPT has described it as a "musical retelling of a holiday classic ... set in the 1906 Chicago world that Upton Sinclair wrote about in his novel *The Jungle*." This is an accurate description. With Scrooge and the other Dickens characters switching to Americanized plots and a city as close to us as Chicago is, it seems to speak more directly to the audience. This play feels modern in ways that *A Christmas Carol* does not, even though its plot takes place a century ago. As I thought about news headlines I've been seeing lately, those about corporate greed, a supposed "war" on Christmas and inane statements about the poor from those who compete to represent us, I saw more and more from *An American Christmas Carol* that could just as easily have been set in 2011.

While both Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* and another of our most beloved Christmas stories, *It's a Wonderful Life*, show the importance



Curtain Call

KEVIN SMITH

AN AMERICAN CHRISTMAS CAROL
Friday-Saturday, 9-10 & 16-17 • 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 11 & 18 • 2 p.m.
First Presbyterian Theater
300 W. Wayne St. • Fort Wayne
Tix.: \$10-\$24, 260-422-6329

Continued on page 31

Now Playing

AN AMERICAN CHRISTMAS CAROL — A musical adaptation of the Charles Dickens' classic set in turn of the century Chicago at First Presbyterian Theater, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m. **Friday-Saturday, Dec. 9-10; 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11; 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 16-17; and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 18**, \$10-\$24, 422-6329, www.firstpres-fw.org/the_arts/theater

AWAY IN THE BASEMENT — A Christmas story set in 1959 at Honeywell Center, Wabash, 3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. **Wednesday, Dec. 14**, \$12-\$25, 563-1102, www.honeywellcenter.org

CHRISTMAS CAROL — Charles Dickens' classic presented at The Round Barn Theatre, Amish Acres, Nappanee, 2 & 8 p.m. **thru Dec. 31 (call for dates)**, \$27.95 (dinner theatre packages available), 800-800-4942

A CHRISTMAS CRUISE — A hilarious audience participation mystery at the Courtyard by Marriott, Fort Wayne, 6:15 appetizers and champagne, 7 p.m. dinner, 8 p.m. mystery show, **Thursday-Friday, Dec. 8-9**, \$39.59, 579-9226, www.bowernorth.com

MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET, THE MUSICAL — A musical version of the timeless Christmas classic at The Wagon Wheel Theatre, 8 p.m. **Friday-Saturday Dec. 9-10; 2:00 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11; 3 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 15; 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 16-17; 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 18**, \$30, wagonwheeltheatre.org

THE NUTCRACKER — The Fort Wayne Ballet presents the Nutcracker at the Arts United Center, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m. **Friday, Dec. 9; 2:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10; 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11**, \$13-\$28, 484-9646, www.fortwayneballet.org/nutcracker.htm

PURELY DANCE 2011 — New works of choreography by the faculty and alumni of the Department of Theatre dance minor program at Williams Theatre, IPFW, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m. **Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 8-10; 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11**, \$5-\$14, IPFW students w/ID free, 481-6555, <http://new.ipfw.edu/theatre>

TIS THE SEASON — A Christmas show filled with favorite characters the whole family will enjoy at The Round Barn Theatre, Amish Acres, Nappanee, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. **thru Dec. 29 (call for dates)**, \$27.95 (dinner theatre packages available), 800-800-4942

TRUE LIFE CHRISTMAS DISASTERS — A holiday comedy at Arena Dinner Theatre, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m. dinner, 8 p.m. curtain, **Friday-Saturday, Dec. 9-10; 1 p.m. lunch, 2 p.m. curtain, Sunday, Dec. 11; and 7 p.m. dinner, 8 p.m. curtain, Friday-Saturday, Dec. 16-17**, \$35, 424-5622

A TUNA CHRISTMAS — A holiday comedy about Christmas time in the smallest town in Texas. Presented by Civic Theatre at the Allen County Public Library Auditorium, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m. **Friday-Saturday, Dec. 9-10; 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11; 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 16-17; 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 18**, \$11-\$16, 424-5220, www.fwcivic.org

Asides

AUDITIONS

YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU (MAR. 1-17, 2012) — 12 men ages 16-80 and 7 women ages 16-70 needed for this comedy production, auditions at the First Presbyterian Theater, Fort Wayne, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. **Saturday, Dec. 10**, 422-6329, www.firstpres-fw.org/the_arts/theater

GYPSY (MAR. 3-18, 2012) — Auditions for the Civic Theatre's production of Gypsy will be held at the Arts United Center, Fort Wayne, 6 p.m. **Sunday, Dec. 11 and 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 12**, 422-8641, www.fwcivic.org/PgAuditions.html

THE WIZARD OF OZ (MAR. 1-4, 2012) — Actors ages 5-75 needed for a Ecstatic Theatrics Video & Stage Performing Troupe production, bring a list of schedule conflicts to Meeting Room A of the Main Library, Fort Wayne, 2-4 p.m. **Thursday, Dec. 29 and Saturday, Dec. 31 and 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 3**, 484-5946, www.ecstatic-theatrics.com

THE FARNSWORTH INVENTION (MAR. 30-APR. 15, 2012) — Auditions for the Civic Theatre's production will be held at the Arts United Center, Fort Wayne, 2 p.m. **Sunday, Feb. 12**, 422-8641, www.fwcivic.org/PgAuditions.html

WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF (MAY 3-20, 2012) — 1 man age 25-30 and 2 women ages 22-25 and 50ish needed, auditions at the First Presbyterian Theater, Fort Wayne, 1 p.m., **Saturday, Feb. 18**, 422-6329, www.firstpres-fw.org/the_arts/theater

SEX PLEASE WE'RE SIXTY (APRIL 20, 2012-MAY 5, 2012) — Auditions at the Arena Theatre Rehearsal Studio, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m. **Sunday-Monday, March 4-5, 2012**, 424-5622

RIP VAN WINKLE (APRIL 20-22, 2012) — Actors needed for the Fort Wayne Youtheatre production, auditions at Arts United Center, Fort Wayne, 4-6 p.m. **Tuesday-Wednesday, March 13-14, 2012**, 422-6900, www.fortwayneyoutheatre.org

ALIVE AND DEAD IN INDIANA (JUNE 1-10, 2012) — Auditions for the Civic Theatre's production will be held at the Arts United Center, Fort Wayne, 5 p.m. **Sunday, Apr. 15, 2012**, 422-8641, www.fwcivic.org/PgAuditions.html

THE MARRIAGE GO ROUND (JUNE 8-23, 2012) — Auditions at the Arena Theatre Rehearsal Studio, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m. **Sunday-Monday, April 22-23, 2012**, 424-5622

INSTRUCTION

YOUTHEATRE HOLIDAY CAMP — A fun day of all things theatre, each session is different at The Fort Wayne Youtheatre, 10 a.m. -2 p.m. **Thursday-Friday, Dec. 28-29**, 422-6900, www.fortwayneyoutheatre.org

Fort Wayne Dance Collective presents:

Nuts & Crackers

AN ALTERNATIVE HOLIDAY PERFORMANCE

Sun. Dec. 18 @ 2 pm

Tickets: \$12 adults, \$10 children

Call **424-6574** for tickets today!

Southside High School Auditorium
3601 South Calhoun Street
Fort Wayne, IN 46807



IPFW Dancers Show Maturity

Watching the six original dance pieces that comprise this year's eighth annual evening of dance, *Purely Dance 2011*, it's clear that the IPFW Dance program is maturing. The dancers' strength, conditioning and ability to execute the moves with accuracy and fluidity continue to improve. This skill in turn allows their expressiveness — the heart of this most ephemeral of all the arts — to shine through.

Purely Dance 2011 is just what the name suggests: all dance. It gives the dance minors in the Department of Theatre and the choreographers, who include faculty and community dance professionals, their own opportunity to show us their best moves. According to *Purely Dance 2011*'s artistic director, Brittney Tyler Coughlin, the program currently has about three dozen enrolled, so the 16-dancer ensemble represents a substantial portion of the students in the program.

The program's strong orientation to modern dance in its various versions is evident throughout the evening. To the earlier styles of Graham, Dunham, Horton, Ailey, Taylor, Jones and Battle this year's choreographers have added influences from street styles, color guard patterns, hip-hop moves, jazz hands and other eclectic elements. That puts it in tune with trends being pursued by the professional companies in New York, Los Angeles and regional companies that some of these students may soon hope to join.

The evening opens with a playful piece called "Arrive, Play, Depart," by choreographer Elizabeth Mikautadze using music by David Mikautadze. The dancers were Emily Craig, Gregg Lothamer, Allison Thomas, Cory Waite and Erlinda Wall. Craig's arm motions, and the men scrambling about on all fours, gave the piece some interesting imagery, al-



Curtain Call
SUSAN BURNS

PURELY DANCE 2011
Thursday, Dec. 8 &
Friday-Saturday, Dec. 9-10 • 8 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 11 • 2 p.m.
Williams Theatre, IPFW
2101 E. Coliseum Blvd. • Fort Wayne
Tix.: \$5-\$14 thru box office,
260-481-6555

most a primitive, human evolution type of imagery. The bouncy balls highlighted the playfulness and the lighting by Natasha Firestone added to the minimalist mood.

Next up is a piece by Jonathan Meador, titled "These Walls That I've Built." Meador's dancers — Danielle Burgett, Cecily Sue Dubbeld, Nina Shaw and Stephanie Skembos — move through an intricate series of forms, sometimes in a square, sometimes a diamond or skewed lines, all the while following sequential series of actions. The costumes by Jeanne Pendleton included eye-catching bands of black on the women's legs. The effect is that of a Busby Berkeley mini-chorus line of strong, modern, self-aware women. I know

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Fort Wayne Youtheatre Presents

"A CHRISTMAS CAROL"

The holiday classic
newly adapted by Harvey Cox

December 16 @ 7:00
December 17 & 18 @ 2:00
Arts United Center

Starring Larry Bower as Scrooge!
Featuring the Memorial
Middle School
and Fort Wayne
Children's Choirs

422-6900

Lincoln Financial Group

Regional Arts Partner
IAC
Indiana Arts Commission

ARTS UNITED

Youtheatre Holiday Camp!

December 28 & 29, 10-2

Cure the winter break blahs! A fun day of all things theatre. Each session is different.
Do one or both!
\$50 includes pizza lunch & T-shirt!

This Week

COOKING DEMO — At Three Rivers Co-op, Fort Wayne, walnut layer cookies at **1 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 8**; holiday stress relief foods, herbs and supplements at **1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10**; gluten free holiday cookies at **11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 17**; spinach artichoke puffs at **1 p.m. Monday, Dec. 26**, free, 424-8812, www.3riversfood.coop

FANTASY OF LIGHTS — More than 75 holiday light displays with proceeds benefiting the AWS Foundation at Franke Park, Fort Wayne, **6-9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 8**; **6-10 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 9-10**; **6-9 p.m. Sunday-Thursday, Dec. 11-15**; **6-10 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 16-17**; **6-9 p.m. Sunday-Thursday, Dec. 18-22**; **6-10 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 23-24**; **6-9 p.m. Sunday-Thursday, Dec. 25-29**; **6-10 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 30-31**, \$5 per car, \$10 limo or passenger van, \$25 bus or trolley, 744-6145, <http://awsfantasyoflights.com/>

FESTIVAL OF GINGERBREAD — Over 100 gingerbread houses and holiday items from Fort Wayne's history as well as various events throughout the festival, Fort Wayne, **10 a.m.-5 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Dec. 8-9**; **10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10**; and **12-5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11**, prices vary, 426-2882 ext. 306, www.fwhistorycenter.com

A COUNTRY CHRISTMAS — Enjoy festive lights, horse-drawn carriage rides, a nativity scene and a chili supper at the Allen County Fairgrounds **6-9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 9-10**, free with a goodwill donation, 693-9526, 637-5312

HORSE DRAWN WAGON RIDES — Ride around downtown Angola, **5-8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 9** and **16**, free, www.goangolain.com

STAR OF BETHLEHEM 2011 — Follow the star of the Wise Men at the Schouweiler Planetarium, Achatz Hall of Science, University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne, **7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 9**; **3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10**; **5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11**; **7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 16**; **3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 17**; **5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 18**, \$3-\$4, 399-7700, www.sf.edu

VIVA LE NOEL — Enjoy a festive night of appetizers and wine provided by local restaurants while donating non-perishable food items and toiletries to the AIDS Task Force at Neuhaus Garden & Gifts, Fort Wayne, **5-9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 9**, donations, www.neuhaus.com

CHRISTMAS IN THE CASTLE — Rooms on all three floors of the mansion will be decked out in holiday splendor by decorators from the Fort Wayne community at the University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne, **12-6 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 10-11**, \$5, www.sf.edu

A CHRISTMAS IN WAYNE DALE — A Christmas tree lighting ceremony, caroling, trolley rides and Santa and Mrs. Claus will be at the corner of Bluffton and Lower Huntington Roads, Waynedale, **4-6 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 10-11**, free, 747-6305

HOLLY TROLLEY SHOPPING — Ride the trolley between more than 30 gift shops in downtown Fort Wayne, **11 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10**, free, holidayfestdowntown.com

SANTA & THE REINDEER — Santa and two of his reindeer will be on site at the Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory, Fort Wayne, **12-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10** and **17**, \$3-5, 427-6440, <http://www.botanicalconservatory.org/>

Authors, Readings, Poetry

PEGGY GRIGOWSKI — Book signing by the author of the children's book "The Sock Stealer" at Firefly Coffee House, Fort Wayne, **5-7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 8**, free, 373-0505, www.fireflycoffeehousefw.com

BOOKWORMS BOOK CLUB — At Firefly Coffee House, Fort Wayne, **6:45-8 p.m. Monday, Dec. 19**, free, 373-0505, www.fireflycoffeehousefw.com

MEETUP BOOK CLUB — At Firefly Coffee House, Fort Wayne, **6:45-8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 22**, free, 373-0505, www.fireflycoffeehousefw.com

PRIDE: A POETRY READING — Readings by local poets who have been invited to create personal interpretations of the theme of "pride" and its meaning in their lives at the Fort Wayne Museum of Art, Fort Wayne, **6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 12**, free, 422-6467, www.fwmoa.org

BARNES & NOBLE WRITING GROUP AND BOOK LOVERS BOOK GROUP — Weekly writing group with New York Times bestselling author Shirley Jump at Barnes & Noble-Jefferson Pointe, Fort Wayne, **every third Tuesday at 7 p.m.**, and book discussion club, **every third Thursday at 7 p.m.**, 432-3343

NO FENCES ALOUD — An open mic night for writers, particularly in the genres of short stories and poetry at the Peace Frog Coffee House, Fort Wayne, **every first Thursday at 7 p.m.**, free, 755-5527

Lectures, Discussions, Films

SAIL AWAY — A 25-minute drama created by Huntington University film students premiering at Cinema Center, downtown Fort Wayne, showings at **7 p.m., 8 p.m. and 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 9**, free, www.huntington.edu/news, www.cinemacenter.org/

EXAMINING IMMIGRATION THROUGH FAITH & POLITICS — A symposium in celebration of The Universal Declaration Human Rights at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Fort Wayne, **8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10**, \$10 includes lunch, 744-1867

PANEL DISCUSSIONS ON POLITICAL PARTICIPATION STRATEGIES — An opportunity for the community to learn effective political participation strategies in the Liberal Arts Building, Room 159, IPFW, Fort Wayne, **1:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10**, free, 481-6364

THE PEOPLE OF WEST AFRICA: A FESTIVAL OF FILM — Explore West Africa through the films "Emmanuel's Gift," "Ghana, Coffins to Order," "African Dance: Sand, Drums, and Shostakovich" and "Dollars & Dreams: West Africans in America" at the Fort Wayne Museum of Art, Fort Wayne, **1-7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10**, 422-6467, www.fwmoa.org

WHERE DO BUGS GO IN WINTER — Jordan Marshall, assistant professor of biology, speaks as part of Science Central's Lunch with an IPFW Scientist at Science Central, Fort Wayne, **11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10**, \$10 members, \$16 non-members, 481-6808

PATIENT-SPECIFIC SIMULATION THROUGH MEDICAL IMAGING TECHNOLOGY — David Chen Ph.D. speaks as part of the Distinguished Lecture Series in Walb Union, Room G-08, IPFW, Fort Wayne, **10 a.m.-12 noon Monday, Dec. 12**, free, 481-6803

Storytimes

BARNES & NOBLE STORY TIMES — Storytime and crafts **Mondays and Thursdays** at 10 a.m., Barnes & Noble-Jefferson Pointe, Fort Wayne, 432-3343

BARNES & NOBLE STORY TIMES — Weekly storytime **Wednesdays and Fridays** at 10 a.m., Barnes & Noble-Glenbrook, Fort Wayne, 482-3720

HUNTINGTON CITY-TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY STORY TIME SESSIONS — Stories and activities for children birth through seven years at the Main Library at the Huntington City-Township Main Library, Huntington, **Tuesdays and Wednesdays** for children two through seven years at the Markle Branch **Thursdays**, free (registration required), 356-2900 or 758-3332

STORY TIMES, ACTIVITIES AND CRAFTS AT ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY: **ABOITE BRANCH** — Born to Read Storytime, **10:30 a.m. Mondays**, Smart Start Storytime, **10:30 a.m. Tuesdays**, Baby Steps, **10:30 a.m. Wednesdays**, 421-1320

DOWNTOWN BRANCH — Storytime for preschools, daycares and other groups, **9:30 a.m. Wednesdays**; Smart Start Storytime for ages 3-6, **10:30 a.m. Wednesdays**; PAWS to Read, **6:30 p.m. Thursdays**, Babies and Books, **10 a.m. Fridays**; Toddler Time: stories, songs and activities for toddlers, **10:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Fridays**, (must pre-register for all storytelling activities), 421-1220

DUPONT BRANCH — Smart Start Storytime for ages 3-5, **1:30 p.m. Tuesdays & 10:30 a.m. Thursdays**, PAWS to Read, **4:30 p.m. Wednesdays**, 421-1315

GEORGETOWN BRANCH — Born to Read Storytime, **10:15 a.m. and 11 a.m. Mondays**, Baby Steps, **10:15 a.m. and 11 a.m. Tuesdays**, PAWS to Read, **4 p.m. Tuesdays**, Smart Start Storytime, **10:15 a.m. and 11 a.m. Thursdays**, 421-1320

GRABILL BRANCH — Born to Read, **10:30 a.m. Tuesdays**, Smart Start Storytime, **10:30 a.m. Wednesdays**, 421-1325

HESSEN CASSEL BRANCH — Stories, songs and fingerplays for the whole family, **6:30 p.m. Tuesdays**, 421-1330

LITTLE TURTLE BRANCH — Storytime for preschoolers, **10:30 a.m. Mondays and Tuesdays**, PAWS to read, **6 p.m. Mondays**, 421-1335

NEW HAVEN BRANCH — Babies and books for kids birth to age 2, **10:30 a.m. Thursdays**, 421-1345

PONTIAC BRANCH — Teen cafe, **4 p.m. Tuesdays**, PAWS to Read **5 p.m. Thursdays**, Smart Star Storytime for preschoolers, **10:30 a.m. Fridays**, 421-1350

TECUMSEH BRANCH — PAWS to Read, **6:30 p.m. Mondays**, Smart Start Storytime for kids age 3-6, **10:30 a.m. Tuesdays**, YA Day for teens, **3:30 p.m. Wednesdays**, Wonderdolls reading for ages 1-3, **10:30 a.m. Thursdays**, 421-1360

SHAWNEE BRANCH — Born to Read for babies and toddlers, **10:30 a.m. Thursdays**, Smart Start Storytime for preschoolers, **11 a.m. Thursdays**, 421-1355



Purely Dance 2011

Dec. 2 - 11, 2011 ▼ Williams Theatre

Watch the truest expression of our dance minor program unfold again this year during *Purely Dance 2011*. The evening will feature fresh, new and exciting choreography including tap and modern dance.

Artistic Director Brittney Coughlin



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PURELY DANCE - From Page 25

it sounds odd, but it was fun to watch and suggested some thoughts about conformity and relationship.

Alison Gerardot's piece, "Les vies d'autres gens: Nous sommes tous les gens (Other people's lives: We are all people)" concluded the first act with a dance that brought more of a narrative style than the two early pieces. Brennan Stillman's elegant and delicate ballet was in contrast to the modern, emotion-flavored moves of the people who pass by Brennan's park bench, beginning with Gregg Lothamer's frustrated beau, and a jazzy romantic duo of Marisol Sharpe and Abraham Gutierrez, and interludes by Hailey Bandt, Allison Thomas, Ashley Zumstein and Emily Keisler. Adam Fletcher was the piece's lighting designer and Craig Humphrey designed the street-clothes costumes.

Brittney Coughlin's opener for the second half is titled "The Tie That B(l)inds" and features effective use of a long, dramatic red cloth, enhanced by lighting designer Mark Ridgeway. After some light frolics by the dancers — Amber Clark, Emily Kiesler, April Kuhn and Erlinda Wall — to the Phish tune "Birds of a Feather," the mood turns more somber. The red cloth provides the dancers with what could be described as almost a flowing landscape of emotion in the context of the songs "My Weakness" by Moby and "Self-fulfilling Prophecy" by Scala and Kolacny Brothers. This piece, to some viewers, suggests some religious

musings, especially connected to the use of the chair draped with the cloth that is deftly delivered to the stage by stage manager Brogan Stillman's team.

Choreographer Kelly Holt, lighting designer Corey Lee and costumer Amber Klinker set about to tell the story of a love in the piece "Seasons of Us" and succeed very well. Dancers Abe Gutierrez and Marisol Sharpe deftly move through the four seasons of a couple's life together. From the young lovers' ballroom dance and modern flirtations, through middle age with its struggles that at times almost reached some Apache intensities, to old age and its burdens on the body's ability to move, Abe and Sharpe are a delight to watch — easy in a Fred & Ginger kind of Gutierrez.

The 90-minute show concludes with a bang — actually a bunch of carefully coordinated clacks by a group of five smiling women who definitely know their way around syncopation and fancy footwork. Choreographer Nicole Prichard's "Hanuman" is a complex celebration of rhythms. The dancers — Amber Clark, April Kuhn, Kristen Weimer, Courtney White and Ashley Zumstein — look like they are having a ball. Craig Humphries has given each a black sleeveless suit and the red rose in each one's hair reminds one of the Flamenco. Melanie Lubs did the lighting for this finale of sorts.

susanburns.whatzup@gmail.com

WAYNEDEALE BRANCH — Smart Start Storytime, **10:30 a.m. Mondays** and **Tuesdays**, Born to Read Storytime for babies and toddlers, **10:15 a.m. Tuesdays**, PAWS to Read, **4:30 p.m. first and third Wednesdays**; 421-1365
WOODBURN BRANCH — Smart Start Storytime, **10:30 a.m. Fridays**, 421-1370

SCIENCE CENTRAL WINTER CAMP — Campers ages 3-13 can spend winter break having fun with hands-on learning at Science Central, Fort Wayne, times vary, **Monday-Friday, Dec. 22-Jan. 2**, \$17-\$100, 424-2400

Dance

OPEN DANCES

AMERICAN STYLE BALLROOM — Open dance at American Style Ballroom, Fort Wayne, group lesson **8 p.m.**, open dancing **8:30-10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 9**; **2-4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11**; group lesson **8 p.m.**, open dancing **8:30-10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 16**; **7-9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 17**; group lesson **8 p.m.**, open dancing **8:30-10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 30**, \$5-\$6, 480-7070

CHRISTMAS DANCE PARTY — Participatory dance at The Dance Company, Fort Wayne, **8-11 p.m. Friday, Dec. 9**, \$5 with a non-perishable food item, 760-0746

DANCE OF UNIVERSAL PEACE — Participatory circle dancing of meditation, joy, community and creating a peaceful world at Fort Wayne Dance Collective, **7-10 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10, Jan. 14, Feb. 11 and Mar. 10**, fragrance-free, \$7, 424-6574 or 749-8090, www.fwdc.org/dup

A NIGHT OF THE CLASSICS — Open dance at American Style Ballroom, Fort Wayne, **7-9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10**, \$6, 480-7070

CONTRA DANCE — Dance to live, old-time string band music at the University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne, lessons are provided at **7:30 p.m.**, dancing is from **8-11 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 17**, \$5-\$8, 224-1905, web.me.com/contrafortwayne

AMERICAN STYLE BALLROOM CHRISTMAS PARTY — Open dance at American Style Ballroom, Fort Wayne, **8-10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 23**, \$5, 480-7070

DANCE INSTRUCTION

BALLROOM SOCIAL — Open dance and lessons at International Dance Arts Studio, Fort Wayne, **6-8 p.m. Fridays** (followed by social dancing until 10 p.m.), \$5, 416-7733

LINE DANCING — Dance instruction, Neon Armadillo, Fort Wayne, **6-9 p.m. Thursdays**, \$4, 490-5060

SALSA LOCAL — Group salsa lesson at 816 Pint & Slice, Fort Wayne, **8-8:30 p.m. Saturdays** (followed by social dancing until 10 p.m.) \$5, 416-7733

SALSA LOCAL — Group salsa lesson at International Dance Arts Studio, Fort Wayne, **7-9 p.m. Saturdays** (followed by social dancing until 11 p.m.) \$5, 416-7733

SALSA SUNDAYS — Group salsa lesson followed by open dance at K. Monique's Studio of Dance, Fort Wayne, **4:30-6:30 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. Sundays** \$5, 624-7009

Instruction

LEARN TO CURL — A educational session involving 30 minutes of classroom instruction, two hours of on the ice learning and a curling game at Lutheran Health Sports Center, Fort Wayne, **5:30-8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10**, \$20-\$25, 438-0689, fortwaynecurling.com/default.aspx

YOGA & ART COMBO CLASS — Parents are invited to take a yoga class while their children are creating art at Artlink, Auer Center for Arts and Culture, Fort Wayne, **6-7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 30 and December 14, and 28**, kids \$12-\$20, adults \$8-\$12, 424-7195, www.artlinkfw.com

SWEETWATER ACADEMY OF MUSIC — Private lessons for a variety of instruments in rock, jazz, country and classical are available from a variety of professional instructors, **ongoing weekly lessons**, \$100 per month, 432-8176 ext. 1960, http://academy.sweetwater.com

Spectator Sports

BASKETBALL

MAD ANTS — Upcoming home games at the Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne
FRIDAY, DEC. 09 vs. Springfield, 7:30 p.m.
FRIDAY, DEC. 16 vs. Iowa, 7:30 p.m.
SUNDAY, DEC. 18 vs. Springfield, 6 p.m.
THURSDAY, DEC. 22 vs. Sioux Falls, 7 p.m.
FRIDAY, DEC. 23 vs. Austin, 7:30 p.m.
FRIDAY, DEC. 30 vs. Los Angeles, 7:30 p.m.

HOCKEY

KOMETES — Upcoming home games at the Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne
SATURDAY, DEC. 10 vs. Evansville, 7:30 p.m.
SUNDAY, DEC. 11 vs. Dayton, 5 p.m.
SATURDAY, DEC. 17 vs. Evansville, 7:30 p.m.
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 21 vs. Texas, 7:30 p.m.
TUESDAY, DEC. 27 vs. Bloomington, 7:30 p.m.
THURSDAY, DEC. 29 vs. Missouri, 7:30 p.m.
SATURDAY, DEC. 31 vs. Bloomington, 7:30 p.m.

RACING

RUMBLE IN FORT WAYNE — Full midget racing shows at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, **7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 30**, **6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 31**, \$19.50-55, 483-1111, www.rumbleseries.com

Sports & Recreation

GINGERBREAD PURSUIT 4-MILER — A holiday road race through historic downtown at the Botanical Conservatory, Fort Wayne, **8:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 10**, \$18, http://www.veepraces.com/?races=gingerbread-pursuit-2

Tours & Trips

JAMAICA — An all inclusive trip to the Riu Resort in Negril, Jamaica with Doc West and Rock 104, **Feb. 11-18**, \$1900, 747-1511, www.rock104radio.com

December

COUNTDOWN TO NOON — Multiple activity tables and demonstrations all centered around New Year's Eve at Science Central, Fort Wayne, **10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 31**, \$8, 424-2400, www.sciencecentral.org

MASQUERADE BALL — Masquerade Ball for ages 21 and over at Parkview Field Suite Level Lounge, Fort Wayne, **9 p.m.-2 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 31**, \$40, ylni.org/

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February 11-18, 2012
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All inclusive Riu Resort
 For more information, call Beth
 at Travel Leaders, 260.747.1511
 or go to www.rock104radio.com

BILL ENGVALL

Sat. March 17
6 pm & 9 pm

Bill Engvall was a founding member of the comedy revolution known as the Blue Collar Comedy Tour.

Now, a decade later, Engvall continues to enjoy unyielding success with TV shows, game shows, and live tours that all stem from the popularity of 3 small words...
 "Here's your sign!"

\$27, \$37, \$47, \$75



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OPENING THIS WEEK

The Descendants (R)
Like Crazy (R)
Mozart's Sister (NR)
New Year's Eve (PG13)
Sail Away (NR)
The Sitter (R)

50/50 (R) — Fifty percent comedy, fifty percent drama and starring Seth Rogan and Joseph Gordon-Levitt as two friends, one of whom has cancer.
• COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE
Daily: 12:10, 2:25, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15

ARTHUR CHRISTMAS (PG) — A wannabe Christmas classic about Santa's dysfunctional family and the high-tech equipment they use to deliver presents.

• CARMIKE 18, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 1:20, 2:00 (3D), 3:40, 4:40 (3D), 6:00, 7:40 (3D), 8:20
Fri.-Wed.: 1:40, 2:20 (3D), 4:10, 4:50 (3D), 6:30, 7:20 (3D), 8:50
• COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 1:35 (3D), 4:15 (3D), 4:45, 6:55 (3D), 9:25 (3D), 10:30
Fri.-Wed.: 1:10 (3D), 2:00, 3:50 (3D), 6:35 (3D), 7:15, 9:15 (3D)
• HUNTINGTON 7, HUNTINGTON
Thurs.: 11:15 (3D), 1:40, 4:25 (3D), 6:40 (3D), 9:00
Fri.-Wed.: 11:45, 2:00 (3D), 4:25, 6:40, 9:00 (3D)
• JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE

Thurs.: 12:40, 1:05 (3D), 3:45, 4:00 (3D), 6:50, 7:25 (3D), 9:55, 10:10 (3D)
Fri.: 12:30 (3D), 3:45, 7:40, 10:25
Sat.-Sun.: 11:50, 2:40 (3D), 5:10, 7:40, 10:25
Mon.-Wed.: 12:30 (3D), 3:45, 7:15, 9:55
• NORTH POINTE 9, WARSAW
Thurs.: 4:45 (3D), 7:00
Fri.: 4:45 (3D), 7:00, 9:15 (3D)
Sat.: 12:00 (3D), 2:30, 4:45 (3D), 7:00, 9:15 (3D)
Sun.: 12:00 (3D), 2:30, 4:45 (3D), 7:00
Mon.-Wed.: 4:45 (3D), 7:00
• NORTHWOOD CINEMA GRILL, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 6:30
Fri.: 4:00, 6:30
Sat.-Sun.: 1:30, 3:45, 6:15
Mon.-Wed.: 6:30
• STRAND THEATRE, KENDALLVILLE
Thurs.-Fri.: 7:15
Sat.-Sun.: 2:00, 7:15
Thurs.: 7:15

THE BIG YEAR (PG) — Steve Martin, Jack Black and Owen Wilson star in this comedy directed by David Frankel (*Marley & Me*).

• COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE
Daily: 12:05, 2:30, 4:55
CONTAGION (PG13) — An all-star cast (Matt Damon, Jude Law, Kate Winslet, Gwyneth Paltrow) star in this taut, scary bio-thriller directed by Steven Soderbergh (*Traffic*, *Erin Brockovich*).
• COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE
Daily: 12:25, 2:45, 5:05, 7:30, 9:50

COURAGEOUS (PG13) — Alex Kendrick (*Fireproof*, *Facing the Giants*) directs this Christian-based drama about cops and family life.

• CARMIKE 18, FORT WAYNE
Daily: 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00

COWBOYS & ALIENS (PG13) — Daniel Craig, Harrison Ford and Olivia Wilde star in this highly anticipated action flick about, well, cowboys and aliens. Jon Favreau (*Iron Man*) directs.
• COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE
Daily: 1:00, 4:00, 6:45, 9:20

THE DESCENDANTS (R) — Alexander Payne (*Sideways*, *About Schmidt*) directs George Clooney in this dramatic, sometimes tragic comedy about an indifferent father and husband whose wife dies in a boating accident.

• COLDWATER CROSSING 18, FORT WAYNE
Starts Friday, Dec. 9
Fri.-Wed.: 1:50, 4:30, 7:30, 10:05
• JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE
Starts Friday, Dec. 9
Fri.: 12:40, 3:30, 6:15, 7:15, 9:15, 10:15
Sat.-Sun.: 12:15, 3:15, 6:15, 7:15, 9:15, 10:15
Mon.-Wed.: 12:40, 4:10, 7:00, 8:00, 9:45

DOLPHIN TALE (PG) — Feel-good family fare starring Harry Connick Jr., Ashley Judd and Morgan Freeman.
• COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE
Daily: 12:55, 4:05, 6:55, 9:25

FOOTLOOSE (PG) — An update on the 1984 classic from writer/director Craig Brewer (*Hustle & Flow*). Kenny Wormald, Andie MacDowell, Julianne Hough and Dennis Quaid star.

• COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE
Daily: 1:05, 3:45, 7:05, 9:35

HAPPY FEET TWO (PG) — A second dose of the singing and dancing penguins featuring the voices of Elija Wood, Robin Williams, Pink and Common.

• CARMIKE 18, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 1:40 (3D), 1:50, 4:20, 4:30 (3D), 6:50, 9:20
Fri.-Wed.: 1:45, 4:10, 6:40, 9:20
• COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 1:20, 2:00 (3D), 3:50, 4:30 (3D), 6:30, 7:10 (3D), 9:30 (3D)
Fri.-Wed.: 1:35, 4:05 (3D), 6:50, 9:25 (3D)
• HUNTINGTON 7, HUNTINGTON
Starts Thursday, Dec. 8
Thurs.: 11:10, 1:45 (3D), 4:00, 6:30, 9:05 (3D)
• JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 12:45 (IMAX 3D), 1:00, 1:25 (3D), 3:40 (IMAX 3D), 3:55, 4:20 (3D), 6:45 (IMAX 3D), 7:05, 7:35 (3D), 9:50 (IMAX 3D), 10:05
Fri.: 12:40 (3D), 1:15, 3:30 (3D), 4:00, 6:40 (3D), 8:25, 9:40 (3D), 10:55
Sat.: 11:35, 12:40 (3D), 2:05, 3:40 (3D), 4:40, 6:40 (3D), 8:25, 9:40 (3D), 10:55
Sun.: 11:35, 12:40 (3D), 2:05, 3:40 (3D), 4:40, 6:40 (3D), 8:25, 9:40 (3D)
Mon.-Wed.: 12:40 (3D), 1:15, 3:30 (3D), 4:00, 6:35 (3D), 7:10, 9:30 (3D), 10:05
• NORTH POINTE 9, WARSAW
Thurs.: 4:30 (3D), 6:45
Fri.: 4:30 (3D), 6:45, 9:00 (3D)
Sat.: 12:00 (3D), 2:15, 4:30 (3D), 6:45, 9:00 (3D)
Sun.: 12:00 (3D), 2:15, 4:30 (3D), 6:45
Mon.-Wed.: 4:30 (3D), 6:45
• NORTHWOOD CINEMA GRILL, FORT WAYNE
Starts Thursday, Dec. 8
Thurs.: 6:45
• SILVER SCREEN CINEMA, GARRETT
Starts Thursday, Dec. 8

Thurs.: 7:00

THE HELP (PG13) — The celebrated novel about race and sisterhood in 1960s Mississippi is brought to the big screen by Director Tate Taylor.

• COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE
Daily: 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30

HUGO (PG) — Martin Scorsese's highly anticipated adaptation of the Brian Selznick novel, *The Invention of Hugo Cabret*, stars Ben Kingsley, Sacha Baron Cohen and Asa Butterfield.

• CARMIKE 18, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 1:20 (3D), 2:20, 4:20 (3D), 5:20, 7:20 (3D), 8:30
Fri.-Wed.: 1:30, 2:40 (3D), 4:20, 5:30 (3D), 7:10, 8:20 (3D)
• COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 1:05 (3D), 1:50, 3:55 (3D), 6:45 (3D), 7:35, 9:45 (3D)
Fri.-Wed.: 1:05 (3D), 3:55 (3D), 4:25, 6:45 (3D), 9:35 (3D), 10:10
• JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 12:40, 1:10 (3D), 4:05 (3D), 5:05, 7:00 (3D), 8:05 (3D), 10:00 (3D)
Fri.: 12:35, 1:05 (3D), 4:00 (3D), 7:35 (3D), 10:35 (3D)
Sat.: 12:25, 1:00 (3D), 4:05 (3D), 7:35 (3D), 10:35 (3D)
Sun.: 12:25, 1:00 (3D), 4:05 (3D), 7:35 (3D), 10:30 (3D)
Mon.-Wed.: 12:35, 1:05 (3D), 4:00 (3D), 6:55 (3D), 9:50 (3D)
• HUNTINGTON 7, HUNTINGTON
Starts Friday, Dec. 9
Fri.-Wed.: 11:00, 1:40 (3D), 4:20, (3D), 7:05 (3D), 9:45 (3D)
• NORTH POINTE 9, WARSAW
Thurs.: 4:45, 6:00 (3D)

Money for Nothing: J.C. Chandor's Look Back at 2008

"Speak to me as if you might to a young child — or a golden retriever," says the chairman of the board to the young analyst who has discovered that the trading practices of the firm have left the company with significantly more debt than assets. *Margin Call* is a gripping and gloomy account of a day and a half, perhaps the last day and a half, in a fictional financial management company in 2008. Though not as informative or infuriating as Charles Ferguson's brilliant documentary *Inside Job*, *Margin Call* is by far the best feature film to dissect the sorry, arrogant, greedy and corrupt state of the financial sector.

Margin Call unwinds like a thriller, a whodunit and a heist caper all rolled into one. It has a share of black humor and natural but sharp dialogue (Mamet minus steroids); it also manages to convey the motivations and personalities of a healthy number of characters. This is the feature debut of writer/director J.C. Chandor who handles both duties fluidly and has worked making commercials and music videos for years. The stellar cast is all working in top form. The film is beautifully shot (Frank DeMarco) and wonderfully scored by (Jason Larson) as well.

None of this means *Margin Call* is easy to "enjoy" in the usual trip-to-the-movies way. We know how this ends: very badly for everyone but the few people we meet on screen. Amazingly, though sympathy might be too strong a word, we do share in the strange combination of emotions experienced by the players. I left the theater with the same mood of grim resignation that overcomes the few characters who don't seem to be completely without souls.

Margin Call begins with an *Up in the Air*

scenario. A team of folks arrive to terminate a large percentage of the workforce, including many members of the risk assessment team. Eric Dale (Stanley Tucci) handles his dismissal with a dignity that masks his natural anger and resentment.

Dale had been working on a new model to update the risk projections for the bundled mortgage "products" that had been earning the company so much money. On his way out the door he hands a small drive to a young trader, Peter Sullivan (Zachary Quinto) with the ominous warning to take a look at it but to "be careful."

Peter, who is genuinely sorry to see Eric go, stays late to continue Eric's work. After adding a few bits of data Eric hadn't gotten to, he becomes so alarmed at what he has discovered that he calls his friend and suggests that he and their boss get back to the office quickly.

What Peter has discovered is that the company is in serious trouble. Peter becomes our tour guide through the ranks of bosses inside the company. A running joke in the film is that each boss is perfectly content to be ignorant of how their business actually works.

"Speak to me in English," says Will Emerson when Peter speaks to him. "You know I don't understand this stuff," Sam Rogers (Kevin Spacey) says when learning of the looming disaster.

Jared Cohen (Simon Baker) and Sarah Robertson (Demi Moore) are silent as the projections are brought to them. They aren't saying anything they don't have to say, but it is clear they aren't completely surprised. They had been warned by Eric Dale, whom they now cannot find because they cut off his



Flix
CATHERINE LEE

phone service the minute they fired him.

Finally, they must call in the chairman and the board to decide what to do. John Tuld arrives by helicopter and, in a board room filled with very scared people, asks Peter to explain — as if to a child or a golden retriever. Tuld is played with oozing charm by Jeremy Irons who I don't believe has been this silky and sinister since playing Claus Von Bulow.

The exchange between Peter and John helped me understand the crisis. I'm somewhere between a child and a golden retriever when it comes to financial instruments, but every time I hear the cause of the crisis described, I do have the sense to know the "products" may have legal, but the supposed value of the "products" always had a very "emperor's new clothes" vibe.

Tuld tells the assembled folks what he has said since day one: to survive in this business you have to be first, be smarter or cheat. Of course, technically, they haven't been cheating, and he is adamant that he doesn't cheat. They can't smart their way out of this. So, they must be first. They must in one day liquidate the debt, even if it means, as it almost certainly will, the demise of many businesses, including their own.

They spend the night making the plan to make this happen and getting the personalities aligned to toe the line. This may not sound like the stuff of thrillers, and I'm sure there are some for whom the subject is too depressing to endure. I'm thinking of the

homeless, those without retirement accounts or the jobless people left that way by the actions of guys like this.

What I found fascinating is the way the different characters justify their actions and resign themselves to their fate. "We really have no choice" is a sentiment that is expressed in various ways to describe the actions taken at several steps of the crisis by most of the players. And in each case you can see how the individual came to the conclusion to take a specific action.

In all situations posed, though, the right answer is the answer that will get them money. They talk a lot about what is right, but for them right is determined by what will gain them money and power.

J. C. Chandor's father worked for Merrill Lynch for about the same amount of time as Kevin Spacey's character, nearly 40 years. I'm sure that experience informs *Margin Call*. At one point, Peter tells Sam, "I think I know your son. Not well, but he always seemed like a nice guy."

Sam responds with a cynical smirk, "Ya, he is. I guess there are worse things to be called."

Sam is the most distraught by what is happening, but he goes along. He has no choice. My guess is that Chandor's father is relieved his son hasn't followed in his footsteps, that he's made a different choice. He must be beaming with pride at his son's feature debut.

Catherine Lee is the executive director of Fort Wayne Cinema Center, the only independently operated movie theater in Fort Wayne, specializing in independent, foreign, documentary, specialty and classic films.

SCREENS

Fri.: 5:15 (3D), 7:00, 8:45 (3D)
Sat.: 12:15 (3D), 1:00, 3:15 (3D), 6:00 (3D), 7:00, 8:45 (3D)
Sun.: 12:15 (3D), 1:00, 3:15 (3D), 6:00 (3D), 7:00
Mon.-Wed.: 6:00 (3D), 7:00

THE IDES OF MARCH (R) — A George Clooney-directed political drama featuring an all-star cast: Clooney, Ryan Gosling, Phillip Seymour Hoffman, Paul Giamatti, Marisa Tomei and Evan Rachel Wood.
• COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE
Daily: 12:40, 2:55, 5:10, 7:35, 9:55
• COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE
Ends Thursday, Dec. 8
Double feature with Moneyball
Thurs.: 1:25, 6:50
• JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE
Ends Thursday, Dec. 8
Thurs.: 3:45, 9:55

IMMORTALS (R) — From the production team behind *300*, this fantasy drama pits Theseus (Henry Cavill) against the bloodthirsty tyrant King Hyperion (Mickey Rourke)
• CARMIKE 18, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 7:20 (3D), 9:45, 10:10 (3D)
Fri.-Wed.: 2:40, 5:15, 7:50, 9:40
• COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE
All showings in 3D
Thurs.: 1:45, 4:25, 7:20, 9:50
Fri.-Wed.: 2:05, 4:40, 7:35, 10:00
• HUNTINGTON 7, HUNTINGTON
Ends Thursday, Dec. 8
Thurs.: 6:35, 9:15
• JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 12:50, 4:30, 7:30, 10:10
Fri.: 12:45, 4:05
Sat.-Sun.: 12:45, 3:35
Mon.-Wed.: 12:45, 4:05

IN TIME (PG13) — Justin Timberlake, Cillian Murphy and Amanda Seyfried star in this sci-fi murder mystery directed by Andrew Niccol (*Gattaca*, *Lord of War*).
• COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE
Daily: 12:35, 2:55, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00

J. EDGAR (R) — Clint Eastwood directs this bio-pick featuring Leonardo DiCaprio as the controversial head of the F.B.I. Naomi Watts, Judi Dench and Armie Hammer co-star.
• CARMIKE 18, FORT WAYNE
Daily: 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00
• COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 1:00, 4:05, 7:05, 10:05
Fri.-Wed.: 7:25, 10:15
• JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 12:35, 3:50, 6:55, 10:05
Fri.: 3:35, 7:20, 10:30
Sat.-Sun.: 3:30, 7:20, 10:30
Mon.-Wed.: 3:35, 6:40, 9:50

JACK & JILL (PG) — An Adam Sandler comedy (directed by Dennis Dugan) about an ad executive (Sandler) who dreads the annual Thanksgiving visit by his sister (also Sandler). Katie Holmes co-stars.
• CARMIKE 18, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 1:30, 2:40, 4:10, 5:00, 6:40, 7:30, 9:15
Fri.-Mon.: 1:15, 2:15, 3:30, 4:30, 5:45, 6:50, 8:10, 9:10
Tues.: 1:15, 2:15, 3:30, 4:30, 8:10
Wed.: 1:15, 2:15, 3:30, 4:30, 5:45, 6:50, 8:10, 9:10
• COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 1:15, 3:20, 5:30, 7:55, 10:10
Fri.-Wed.: 1:15, 3:25, 5:35, 7:45, 9:55
• HUNTINGTON 7, HUNTINGTON
Thurs.: 12:10, 2:20, 4:35, 7:00, 9:10, 11:30
Sun.-Wed.: 12:10, 2:20, 4:35, 7:00, 9:10
• JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 1:20, 4:25, 7:40, 10:10
Fri.: 1:10, 4:20, 8:00, 10:40
Sat.: 12:35, 3:05, 5:40, 8:00, 10:40
Sun.: 12:35, 3:05, 5:40, 8:00, 10:20
Mon.-Wed.: 1:10, 4:20, 7:35, 10:15
• NORTH POINTE 9, WARSAW
Thurs.: 5:10, 7:10
Fri.: 5:10, 7:10, 9:10
Sat.: 12:30, 3:00, 5:10, 7:10, 9:10
Sun.: 12:30, 3:00, 5:10, 7:10
Mon.-Wed.: 5:10, 7:10
• NORTHWOOD CINEMA GRILL, FORT WAYNE
Starts Friday, Dec. 9

Fri.: 4:15, 7:15
Sat.: 1:45, 4:15, 7:00
Sun.: 1:45, 4:15, 6:30
Mon.-Wed.: 6:45

LIKE CRAZY (PG13) — Felicity Jones and Anton Yelchin star in Drake Doremus' heartwrenching romantic drama.
• JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE
Starts Friday, Dec. 9
Fri.: 1:00, 4:15, 7:30, 10:00
Sat.-Sun.: 12:05, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
Mon.-Wed.: 1:00, 4:15, 7:25, 10:00

MARGIN CALL (R) — Kevin Spacey leads an all-star cast in this financial drama involving an investment firm during the early stages of the 2008 financial crisis.
• CINEMA CENTER DOWNTOWN, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 6:30
Sat.: 4:15, 8:30
Sun.: 4:15
Mon.: 6:30
Tues.: 8:30
Wed.: 9:00

THE MILL AND THE CROSS (Not Rated) — Director Lech Majewski brings combines art, history and religion in this innovative film about Pieter Bruegel's masterpiece, *The Way to Calvary*. Rutger Hauer stars as the Flemish artist.
• CINEMA CENTER DOWNTOWN, FORT WAYNE
Ends Thursday, Dec. 8
Thurs.: 8:30
• CINEMA CENTER AT INDIANA TECH, FORT WAYNE
Starts Friday, Dec. 9
Fri.: 6:30
Sat.: 2:00, 8:30
Sun.: 4:15
Mon.: 6:30

MIDNIGHT IN PARIS (PG13) — Owen Wilson and Rachel McAdams star in Woody Allen's latest comedy about a man who gets a glimpse of the Paris of yore when the clock strikes midnight.
• COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE
Starts Friday, Dec. 9
Fri.-Wed.: 12:00, 2:20, 4:30, 7:15, 9:40

MONEYBALL (PG13) — Brad Pitt plays Billy Beane, the general manager of the Oakland A's, a small-market baseball team if there ever was one.
• COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE
Ends Thursday, Dec. 8
Double feature with The Ides of March
Thurs.: 1:25, 6:50
• JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE
Ends Thursday, Dec. 8
Thurs.: 12:40, 6:50

MOZART'S SISTER (Not Rated) — Rene Féré's speculative and heartbreaking account of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's equally talented older sister, reduced to playing "second fiddle" once her prodigy brother arrives on the scene.
• CINEMA CENTER DOWNTOWN, FORT WAYNE
Starts Saturday, Dec. 10
Sat.: 2:00, 6:15
Sun.: 2:00
Mon.: 8:30
Tues.: 6:15

THE MUPPETS (PG) — The Muppets are back to once again save the puppet theater from those who seek to destroy it. Jason Segel, Amy Adams, and Chris Cooper star.
• CARMIKE 18, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 1:10, 2:30, 3:50, 5:10, 6:30, 7:50, 9:10
Fri.-Wed.: 1:10, 2:00, 3:50, 4:40, 6:30, 7:20, 9:15
• COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 1:40, 2:40, 4:10, 5:10, 6:40, 7:50, 9:20
Fri.-Wed.: 1:20, 2:20, 4:00, 5:00, 6:30, 9:10
• HUNTINGTON 7, HUNTINGTON
Thurs.: 11:05, 1:30, 4:15, 6:50, 9:25
Fri.-Sat.: 11:05, 1:30, 4:15, 6:50, 9:25, 11:50
Sun.-Wed.: 11:05, 1:30, 4:15, 6:50, 9:25
• JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 12:45, 1:35, 3:40, 4:15, 6:45, 7:20, 9:45, 10:15
Fri.: 12:50, 1:45, 3:50, 4:40, 7:25, 10:05
Sat.-Sun.: 12:10, 1:10, 3:50, 4:45, 7:25, 10:05
Mon.-Wed.: 12:50, 1:45, 3:50, 4:40, 7:20,

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 Jefferson Pointe 18, 260-432-1732
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WARSAW
 North Pointe 9, 574-267-1985

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10:00
• NORTH POINTE 9, WARSAW
Thurs.: 4:30, 6:45
Fri.: 4:30, 6:45, 8:50
Sat.: 12:00, 2:15, 4:30, 6:45, 8:50
Sun.: 12:00, 2:15, 4:30, 6:45
Mon.-Wed.: 4:30, 6:45

NEW YEAR'S EVE (PG13) — Garry Marshall redoes his critically panned *Valentine's Day* from 2010, changing the name and many of the faces (Hilary Swank, Ashton Kutcher, Jessica Biel, Ludacris, Halle Berry, Robert DeNiro, etc. etc.)
• CARMIKE 18, FORT WAYNE
Starts Friday, Dec. 9
Fri.-Wed.: 1:50, 3:10, 4:30, 5:50, 7:10, 8:30, 9:50
• COLDWATER CROSSING 18, FORT WAYNE
Starts Friday, Dec. 9
Fri.-Wed.: 1:40, 2:10, 4:20, 4:50, 7:00, 7:40, 9:40, 10:20
• JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE
Starts Friday, Dec. 9
Fri.: 12:40, 1:40, 3:30, 4:30, 6:50, 7:50, 9:50, 10:50
Sat.: 11:55, 12:50, 3:00, 4:00, 6:50, 7:50, 9:50, 10:50
Sun.: 11:55, 12:50, 3:00, 4:00, 6:50, 7:50, 9:50
Mon.-Wed.: 12:40, 1:40, 3:30, 4:30, 7:20, 8:20, 10:10
• HUNTINGTON 7, HUNTINGTON
Starts Friday, Dec. 9
Fri.-Sat.: 11:10, 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:55, 11:15
Sun.-Wed.: 11:10, 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:55
• NORTH POINTE 9, WARSAW
Starts Friday, Dec. 9
Fri.: 4:35, 7:00, 9:15
Sat.: 12:00, 2:15, 4:35, 7:00, 9:15
Sun.: 12:00, 2:15, 4:35, 7:00
Mon.-Wed.: 4:35, 7:00
• STRAND THEATRE, KENDALLVILLE
Starts Friday, Dec. 9
Fri.: 7:00, 9:00
Sat.: 2:00, 7:00, 9:00
Sun.: 2:00, 7:00
Mon.-Wed.: 7:00

PARANORMAL ACTIVITY 3 (R) — Early reviews say this is one scary movie. Directed by Henry Joost and Ariel Schulman (*Catfish*).
• COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE
Daily: 12:15, 2:15, 4:40, 7:10, 9:10

PUSS IN BOOTS (G) — Antonio Banderas reprises his character from the *Shrek* franchise in this Dreamworks animated film. Salma Hayek, Amy Sedaris and Zach Galifianakis co-star.
• CARMIKE 18, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 1:40 (3D), 2:00, 4:40 (3D), 4:50, 8:00
Fri.-Wed.: 2:00, 4:20, 6:40
• COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 1:10, 3:15, 5:25, 7:45, 10:00
Fri.: 1:45, 4:15
Sun.-Mon.: 1:45, 4:15
Tues.: 1:45
Wed.: 1:45, 4:15
• HUNTINGTON 7, HUNTINGTON
Ends Thursday, Dec. 8
Thurs.: 11:30, 2:00, 4:20

• JEFFERSON 18, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 1:20, 4:25, 7:45, 10:10
Fri.: 1:10, 4:20, 7:00, 9:25
Sat.-Sun.: 11:30, 2:00, 4:35, 7:00, 9:25
Mon.-Wed.: 1:10, 4:20, 7:35, 9:55
• NORTH POINTE 9, WARSAW
Thurs.: 4:30, 6:45
Fri.-Sat.: 4:45, 9:15
Sun.-Wed.: 4:45

REAL STEEL (PG13) — A down-on-his-luck dad (Hugh Jackman) brings a human element to this CG-riddled Disney film about fighting robots that aren't Transformers. Seriously.
• CARMIKE 18, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 7:10, 10:00
Fri.-Wed.: 9:30

RISE OF THE PLANETS OF THE APES (PG13) — James Franco stars in this revival of *The Planet of the Apes* franchise, with WETA Digital (*Avatar*, *LOTR*) behind the special effects and a relatively unknown director, Rupert Wyatt, at the helm.
• COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE
Daily: 12:30, 2:50, 5:15, 7:45, 10:05

THE RUM DIARY (R) — Bruce Robinson (*Withnail and I*) directs this adaptation of Hunter S. Thompson's first novel, with Johnny Depp again playing Thompson's protagonist, a journalist in Puerto Rico. Richard Jenkins, Aaron Eckhart and Amber Heard co-star.
• COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE
Ends Thursday, Dec. 8
Thurs.: 1:00, 3:45, 6:55, 9:30

SAIL AWAY (Not Rated) — The premier of a short film written, filmed and edited by Huntington University film students, this 25-minute drama tells the story of two very different people unexpectedly brought together by a model ship.
• CINEMA CENTER DOWNTOWN, FORT WAYNE
Friday, Dec. 9 only
Fri.: 7:00, 8:00, 9:00

THE SITTER (R) — Jonah Hill continues his quest to become this millennium's Peter Lorre in this twisted comedy from David Gordon Green (*Pineapple Express*).
• CARMIKE 18, FORT WAYNE
Starts Friday, Dec. 9
Fri.-Wed.: 1:30, 2:30, 3:40, 4:40, 5:45, 6:50, 8:00, 9:00, 10:10
• COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE
Starts Friday, Dec. 9
Fri.-Wed.: 1:00, 3:05, 5:10, 7:20, 9:30
• HUNTINGTON 7, HUNTINGTON
Starts Friday, Dec. 9
Fri.-Sat.: 11:15, 1:15, 3:15, 5:15, 7:15, 9:15, 11:10
Sun.-Wed.: 11:15, 1:15, 3:15, 5:15, 7:15, 9:15
• JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE
Starts Friday, Dec. 9
Fri.: 12:55, 1:50, 3:40, 4:35, 7:05, 8:05, 9:20, 10:20
Sat.-Sun.: 12:00, 1:05, 2:15, 3:20, 4:30, 5:35, 7:05, 8:05, 9:20, 10:20
Mon.-Wed.: 12:55, 1:50, 3:40, 4:35, 7:30, 8:25, 9:45
• NORTH POINTE 9, WARSAW
Starts Friday, Dec. 9
Fri.: 4:30, 6:45, 9:00
Sat.: 12:00, 2:15, 4:30, 6:45, 9:00
Sun.: 12:00, 2:15, 4:30, 6:45
Mon.-Wed.: 4:30, 6:45

THE SMURFS (PG) — The blue crew get animated for the big screen in this film by Director Raja Gosnell (*Beverly Hills Chihuahua*).
• COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE
Daily: 12:20, 2:40, 5:00, 7:25, 9:50

THE THREE MUSKETEERS (PG13) — Logan Lerman (*Percy Jackson*) stars as D'Artagnan in this poorly reviewed update of the Dumas classic. Paul W.S. Anderson (*Death Race*, *Resident Evil*) directs.
• COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE
Daily: 7:20, 9:45

TOWER HEIST (PG13) — Ben Stiller, Eddie Murphy, Casey Affleck and Ferris Bueller team up in this timely comedy caper about exacting revenge on a Wall Street swindler.

• CARMIKE 18, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 1:10, 3:45, 6:20, 9:00, 10:10
Fri.-Wed.: 1:20, 3:45, 6:15, 8:45, 10:10
• JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 1:25, 4:20, 7:05, 10:05
Fri.: 1:05, 4:00, 8:10, 10:45
Sat.: 11:40, 2:20, 5:15, 8:10, 10:45
Sun.: 11:40, 2:20, 5:15, 8:10
Mon.-Wed.: 1:05, 4:00, 7:10, 9:50
• NORTH POINTE 9, WARSAW
Ends Thursday, Dec. 8
Thurs.: 7:15

TUCKER & DALE VS. EVIL (R) — Tucker & Dale are on vacation at their dilapidated mountain cabin when they are attacked by a group of preppy college kids in this horror comedy by Eli Craig.
• CINEMA CENTER DOWNTOWN, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 8:30

THE TWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN PART 1 (PG13) — Bella and Edward tie the knot, settle down, have a kid, and then all hell breaks loose. Kristen Stewart, Robert Pattinson and Taylor Lautner star.
• CARMIKE 18, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 1:30, 2:10, 2:50, 3:30, 4:10, 4:50, 5:30, 6:10, 6:50, 7:30, 8:10, 8:50, 9:30, 10:10
Fri.-Wed.: 2:10, 3:20, 4:50, 6:00, 7:30, 8:40, 10:10
• COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 1:30, 2:30, 4:00, 5:00, 7:00, 7:40, 9:10, 9:40, 10:20
Fri.-Mon.: 1:30, 4:10, 6:40, 7:10, 9:20, 9:50
Tues.: 1:30, 4:10, 7:10, 9:20, 9:50
Wed.: 1:30, 4:10, 6:40, 7:10, 9:20, 9:50
• HUNTINGTON 7, HUNTINGTON
Thurs.: 11:00, 11:20, 1:35, 1:55, 4:10, 4:30, 6:45, 7:05, 9:20, 9:40
Fri.-Sat.: 11:00, 1:35, 4:10, 6:45, 9:20, 11:55
Sun.-Wed.: 11:00, 1:35, 4:10, 6:45, 9:20
• JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 12:30, 1:15, 2:00, 3:30, 4:15, 5:00, 6:30, 7:15, 8:00, 9:40, 10:15
Fri.: 2:30, 3:45, 6:45, 8:15, 9:30, 11:00
Sat.: 11:45, 2:35, 5:20, 6:45, 8:15, 9:30, 11:00
Sun.: 5:20, 6:45, 8:15, 9:30
Mon.-Wed.: 12:30, 3:45, 7:05, 8:05, 9:55
• NORTH POINTE 9, WARSAW
Thurs.: 5:15, 6:15
Fri.: 5:15, 8:15
Sat.: 12:00, 2:30, 5:15, 8:15
Sun.: 12:00, 2:30, 5:15
Mon.-Wed.: 6:15
• SILVER SCREEN CINEMA, GARRETT
Starts Friday, Dec. 9
Fri.: 7:00
Sat.-Sun.: 2:00, 7:00
Mon.-Wed.: 7:00
• STRAND THEATRE, KENDALLVILLE
Ends Thursday, Dec. 8
Thurs.: 7:00

A VERY HAROLD & KUMAR CHRISTMAS (R) — John Cho and Kal Penn take their stoner franchise into the holiday season. Neil Patrick Harris and Patton Oswalt co-star.
• COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE
Ends Thursday, Dec. 8
Thurs.: 10:25 p.m.

THE WAY (PG13) — Emilio Estevez' inspirational story of a father (Martin Sheen) who travels to France to pick up the remains of his deceased son (Estevez) then decides to complete his pilgrimage.
• CINEMA CENTER AT INDIANA TECH, FORT WAYNE
Fri.: 8:15
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The Not Quite Top 20



ScreenTime
GREG W. LOCKE

I went to the new *Twilight* movie tonight, no joke. Not because I was excited to see a vampire baby or ol' MegaN-
eck's abs, but because I try to watch everything – or as close to everything as I can manage, given availability and time constraints. Last year I saw 117 titles released in 2010, including *Sex and the City 2*, *Eat, Pray, Love*, *Cop Out*, *The Last Airbender*, *Dear John* and, of course, *Twilight: Eclipse*. Loved 28 of 'em and liked another 50 or so. Not bad. This year, so far, I've seen 68 titles released in 2011, and I have a list of 45 more I plan to see once they are released and/or become available. Some of the stinkers I've seen this year: *Stay Cool*, *Drive Angry*, *Thor*, *Prom*, *Mr. Popper's Penguins*, *Scream 4* and many more. So far I've really enjoyed 23 films and found another 20 or so totally worthwhile.

So then, why watch the "trash" flicks, right? Well, for starters, there's that whole "understanding the worst makes the best seem even better" thing. But there's more. Here's the thing: it's not easy to get a feature film into theaters. Not at all easy. Yeah, there's usually one or two or three people who determine the overall aesthetic, style and, well, *quality* of any given film, but there are dozens, or even hundreds, of people working on each film. Sometimes thousands. And getting a job on a movie, even a bad movie, is not an easy thing to do. Getting an influential job on a movie is not unlike climbing a mountain. And so I watch just about any film I can get my hands on because, well, there's always something to appreciate about every film – even the biggest stinkers. Maybe it's a single performance or even just some locations. Often, especially these days, you can almost always appreciate the cinematography in any major film. Sure, I get annoyed, very often, by the bad movies – but it's true, they make the good ones seem that much better. And, well, it's fun to pick things apart now, isn't it? But mostly, it's fun to challenge myself to understand why this or that "bad" movie got made or has the appeal that it does.

That rant in mind, I figured we'd take this week's edition of ScreenTime to get the Year End fun started. Our "Favorite Films of 2011" won't run until January 5 (and we'll do a follow-up column a couple months later, after we've actually seen everything), but this we thought it might be fun this week to look at some of the worthwhile films from 2011 that weren't quiet good enough to crack our Top 20 or so but were far better than we expected. Call it the

"For Your Consideration" edition of ScreenTime.

Drama: Richard J. Lewis' *Barney's Version* was initially meant to be an Oscar season release in 2010, but the studio decided at the last minute that the film wasn't quite worthy and pushed the release to 2011. Fine with us, as it was the first good movie of 2011. Another Giamatti flick, *Win Win*, directed by Thomas McCarthy, was fun and memorable, even if it lacked the style of McCarthy's other works. Three other dramas – George Clooney's *The Ides of March*, Miranda July's *The Future* and Kelly Reichardt's *Meek's Cutoff* – are all also very much worth checking out. And, for the cinephile who has seen everything, we'd also recommend Jordan Scott's *Cracks* and John Wells' *The Company Men*.

Romance: Look, unless you're Wong Kar Wai, making a good romantic film is a damn hard thing to do. We won't get too deep into the romance flick talk because that's totally boring, but this year was an especially decent year for the genre. Here's a ranked list of our five favorites (not counting the three that made it into our Top 20): 1. *Like Crazy*; 2. *Beginners*; 3. *Daydream Nation*; 4. *One Day*; 5. *Chalet Girl*. No vampire love in sight, though one romance film did make it into our Top 20. Can you guess which one?

Comedy: This year was, if nothing else, The Year of the Almost Amazing Comedy. In fact, as it stands, there's not one straight comedy in our Top 10 for 2011. That said, we laughed a whole lot in 2011. Here's a ranked list of our 10 favorite comedies of 2011: 1. *Bad Teacher*; 2. *Your Highness*; 3. *Friends With Benefits*; 4. *Our Idiot Brother*; 5. *Everything Must Go*; 6. *Hesher*; 7. *Paul*; 8. *The Change-Up*; 9. *The Hangover Part 2*; 10. *30 Minutes or Less*. None great, but all funny. *Bad Teacher*, we thought, was especially hilarious.

Action: *Limitless*, *In Time*, *Attack the Block*, *The Adjustment Bureau*, *Rise of the Planet of the Apes* and a fight-filled documentary called *Knuckle* are all worth checking out, especially *Apes*, which damn near made our Top 20. We're hoping that a second viewing of *In Time* will make us appreciate it more. And yes, before you think it: there are some action flicks in our Top 20. Quite a few, even.

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CIVIC THEATRE - From Page 24

family, the fifth being a disappointment of a husband. We watch Bertha Bumiller as she struggles with her absentee husband and juvenile children, all while trying to provide them with a good Christmas.

There are spotlights also on the lives of a weak man and his shrewish wife, two old codgers who have never outgrown their troublemaking, an overly dramatic theatrical director, a lonely divorcee and the town princess and her dysfunctional family.

Guest director Jane Frazier clearly had a vision for the show she was directing. It is no easy task to give direction to a cast with more personalities than fingers. Beyond her actors, this show about small town Texas has the feel of a large-scale production, even on the smaller, Off Main stage. It clearly took great skill to coordinate the huge set changes along with the constant, fast-paced costume and makeup changes the show goes through. All of these changes were undoubtedly aided by stage manager Clarence Tennis and assistant stage manager Bill Wunderlin, who both have many years of theater experience.

A *Tuna Christmas* is a hilarious, fresh story to enjoy this Christmas and the perfect way to kick off the holiday season with a dose of cowboy.

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AMERICAN CAROL - From Page 24

of generosity and building community, they also make clear that greed represents a clear failure to follow the ways of Christ, who many argue is too removed from the holiday season.

The Scrooge we see here seemed a blend of the Dickensian Scrooge and Mr. Potter from *It's a Wonderful Life*. He has grown increasingly rich by raising rents and fees on his tenants, most of whom seem to work for him. One of the first scenes shows police officers, clearly pretty tightly under Scrooge's control, evicting tenants who are unable to pay their rents. We see prostitutes trying to steal the few remaining possessions of mother and daughter Maria and Christina Jessup.

Tim (formerly "Tiny Tim") Cratchit has become a grown-up rabble-rouser who fights for the "little guys." He is trying to find help for Maria and Christina before they freeze on the street, which figures into the plot of Scrooge's visit by the spirits of past, present and future. This Scrooge, it seems, isn't just a miser; he's a pretty mean guy as well.

We see the choices he has made, just as we do in the original version by Dickens, but in this update there is a bit more violence. Tim is beaten severely in a vision of Christmas Present. There is freezing in the street. What we see of Isabella Fezziwig, the love of Scrooge's life, is also heart-breaking.

I liked this retelling of the original. It is fresh. It is entertaining. But until he experiences his revelation that he can keep the Christmas spirit in his heart throughout the year, it is also probably much darker than Dickens' tale. My only real complaint about the play is that a little more development of the changes in Scrooge was possible. This is not a short play, but the time devoted to cleaning up after his greed and mean ways seemed a bit too brief. There was a scene with him lowering tenant rents and increasing salaries of his workers dramatically. He also made heartfelt apologies to those he had hurt, including his nephew Freddy, the only person who had refused to give up on him.

The production, directed by FPT's Thom Hofrichter, is good. I went for a preview performance, and I'm sure a few minor rough spots were worked through by opening night. The cast, especially Scott Ramage as Scrooge, does well with the script.

Since the reminders that Christmas is upon us come earlier each year, and, to be frank, some of the traditions are just plain ol' silly, it's good to take an evening to be reminded that the real spirit of this holiday is generosity.

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