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POPS GOES THE SEASON

HOLIDAY POPS

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SAME TIME NEXT YEAR — ENTERTAINMENT CALENDARS
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Pops Goes the Season

By Dana Berkes

Each holiday season brings the warmth and comfort of tradition. Begin with the feasts and family of Thanksgiving, then onto the madness of Black Friday crowds. Sprinkle in a dash of holiday festivals and the increasing likelihood that the weather prediction will include snowflakes, and the recipe for holiday cheer is almost complete.

But, stop for a moment and think about the one constant that pops up in each and every piece of the holiday season. It's the holiday music and impromptu sing-alongs that are arguably the best part of every holiday task and treat.

Once the tree and hearth have been decorated and the gifts of the season wrapped, it's time to plan for a little family holiday entertainment. Enter the Fort Wayne Philharmonic's beloved Holiday Pops shows, which have been bringing holiday cheer for decades to nearly 8,000 northeast Indiana residents each year. What keeps those families and friends coming back year after year to The Phil holiday shows?

"We have crowd favorites and Fort Wayne traditions balanced by new additions to the show," said J.L. Nave, president and CEO of The Fort Wayne Philharmonic. "I can't imagine the concert not having 'Sleigh Ride' or the Christmas sing-along." That balance of fresh and new with traditional favorites must be the secret recipe to the Holiday Pops success.

Joining the show for 2013 will be the Philharmonic's associate conductor, Sameer Patel, in his third season with Fort Wayne's orchestra. The Phil Chorus and Fort Wayne Children's Choir also will squeeze onto the Embassy's Broadway-scaled stage to help make holiday memories for every audience member, young and old alike.

Returning for 2013, Kelsey Crimson, Nathaniel Irvin, Blaine Krauss and Christine Cornish Smith, all vocalists and performers from the Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music will again join the Fort Wayne Philharmonic's holiday show.

When asked why bring the same performers back for a second year in a row, Nave said, "The Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music has the top musical theater program in the country. Many of the 'kids' we include in our show can be found on the Broadway stage just a few years later. They



HOLIDAY POPS

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8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 13 & 20

2 & 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14 & 21

Embassy Theatre

125 W. Jefferson Blvd., Fort Wayne

Tix: \$28-\$70 thru Philharmonic box office, 260-481-0777 or fwphil.org

bring such energy and talent to the singing/dancing/acting part of our show."

Of course, it isn't a holiday concert without a full range of beloved holiday music, and this year's show is no different. Musical selections for Holiday Pops include favorites like "Let It Snow," "Baby It's Cold Outside" and "O, Come All Ye Faithful." The concert also will feature "The Prayer" from the major motion picture *The Polar Express* and the "Hallelujah Chorus" from Handel's *Messiah*.

"Each year we add in something we've never done before or haven't included in several years. Because we have built up a trust with our audience over the last several years, people know they will see an incredible, quality and fun holiday program every time they come," said Nave.

The Phil will feature six concerts in the 2013 holiday performance schedule at the Embassy Theatre.

"Several years ago, we added a fifth per-

formance and saw our overall attendance increase for Holiday Pops," said Nave. "We are adding a sixth show (a Saturday matinee) to give even more opportunities for people to experience Holiday Pops this year."

Most of the cost for Holiday Pops is in the production and rehearsal, so adding the sixth performance is only a little bit more expensive, but it gives several thousand additional people the opportunity to experience the magic of Holiday Pops.

Although there will be six opportunities to attend Holiday Pops, the Fort Wayne Ballet will only be seen at performances on the weekend of Dec. 20 and 21. Fort Wayne's pointy-toed dancers will bring the beauty of artistic dance to selections of Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker*. The Phil also performs concerts in seven communities throughout the region in a tireless effort to meet its continuing mission to inspire and foster a lifelong love of classical music through performance and education.

Thinking about going to the show? Be sure to get tickets early for great seats. So, press your Christmas best, shine those shoes and practice caroling with the neighbors before attending one of the six Fort Wayne Philharmonic Holiday Pops performances. Regardless of whether you're an alto or soprano, this year's show is sure to be a holiday treat come true.

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Steven Anselm, life in the South Dec 05



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As anyone who has lost anyone knows, the holidays can be bittersweet. We have much to be thankful for, most of us, and much to celebrate during a season that promises good tidings and joy. At the same time, this is a time of year when we most feel – most of us – those holes in our hearts that were once occupied by loved ones.

This week's whatzup offers a little bit of both ends of this emotional spectrum. We start with this week's cover story, Fort Wayne Philharmonic's Holiday Pops, an event made even more celebratory by the fact that it's a tradition that might not have happened this Christmas but for a last-minute labor agreement that saved the Phil's 2013-14 season. The story is an added bonus for us and our readers in that it marks the whatzup feature writing debut of Dana Berkes who until a few months ago was the Embassy Theatre's director of marketing.

On the heartbreak side of things, we have Ashley Motia's feature on the late J. Robert Shimer II whose artwork is featured in Artlink's Expressions of Love and Loss exhibition this month. Ashley's story is on page 4.

We also feature guitarist Gary Hoey, playing C2G Music Hall December 14, and jazz saxophonist Dave Koz, playing Van Wert's Niswonger Performing Arts Center December 10. Evan Gillespie's features are on pages 5 and 6. And here's another newbie: our very first review of an Arena Dinner Theatre show, something we've been waiting 17 years for. Jen Poiry-Prough's review is on page 19

There is, of course, more – much, much more in fact. So read on, make your plans and go out and have some fun this holiday season. Just remember to tell everyone you meet and greet that whatzup sent you.

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Missed Like a Heart Attack

By Ashley Motia

As the sun was setting on downtown Fort Wayne on December 31, 2012, J. Robert Shimer II – known to most as simply J.R. – was murdered while working at Antiques on Broadway. It's theorized that Shimer was the victim of a robbery gone bad. What's certain is that the local artist's life was snuffed out prematurely.

Shimer had made a name for himself over the decades as an artist whose talent spanned multiple mediums from mirrors to paintings to his famed envelopes. More than 100 of these envelopes will be part of Artlink's exhibition *Expressions of Love and Loss*, opening December 13. The exhibit features artwork by 17 artists using various media including mixed media, jewelry, watercolor, photography and oil painting. The theme, of course, is commemorating a lost loved one.

The *Love and Loss* exhibition will be displayed in one part of the Artlink gallery. Another part of the gallery will show the *Winners from the 9th Regional* exhibit which features the photography work of Steven Anselm, printmaking work by Art Cislo and ceramic works by Kimberly Rorick. The Betty Fishman Gallery hosts the third exhibit which features abstract works by Linda Binek who will give demonstrations at the opening reception.

The *Love and Loss* exhibition is the first time Shimer's work will be on display in an organized gallery setting, thanks in large part to Vicky Hamilton, Shimer's long-time friend. Hamilton grew up in the Fort Wayne area, working for Apple Records and Three Rivers Review, writing concert and album reviews. She met Shimer in art school and formed a bond that transcended the decades and geography. This exhibit will be the first time she has visited Fort Wayne in 15 years.

"I met J.R. when I was 17 or 18, so I knew him almost all my life. He had a way with words that was incredible. In my party days, there was no one I'd rather party with than J.R. He influenced me art-wise and in my young music life," recalled Hamilton. "I didn't even know who Andy Warhol was until I met J.R. Andy Warhol is who I kind of aspire to be now, as a rock manager and artist."

Hamilton now lives in Los Angeles where she manages several bands and artists and continues to write. She notably managed



pened to him anyway in Fort Wayne," lamented Hamilton.

Rob Pargeon, another lifelong friend of Shimer's, was also shocked to learn of the murder.

"It was like getting hit in the stomach. It was New Year's Eve, and I was thinking about what I was going to do for the night when I turned on the news and found out what happened," Pargeon remembered. "We met as juniors in high school, and we were always on the same wavelength — even from the beginning. He was the best man in my wedding. I could read every expression on his face; I knew him that well. We had our own unique culture. So to lose a friend of 42 years with whom you've shared most of your life experiences, that leaves a significant hole in your life."

He told me about how they would go to a Hall's restaurant and drink coffee into the wee hours of the morning. As they sat and chatted, Par-

Below: J.R. Shimer II with Vicky Hamilton



EXPRESSIONS OF LOVE AND LOSS, AWARD WINNERS FROM THE 9TH REGIONAL & ARTWORK BY LINDA BINEK
Tuesday-Sunday, Dec. 13-Jan. 15
Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery
300 E. Main St., Fort Wayne
\$2 donation, 260-424-7195

the early careers of Guns N' Roses, Poison and Faster Pussycat, in addition to serving as a management consultant for Mötley Crüe and Stryper.

"J.R. opened my eyes to a culture that I didn't even know existed outside of Fort Wayne, which inspired me to reach for more. He was a one-of-a-kind type guy, and he didn't get the attention he deserved while he was alive. I tried to get him to move to L.A., but he said he'd either get addicted to drugs or get murdered. I'm shocked that that hap-

geon said Shimer would draw on napkins. This was around the time Shimer was enrolled in art school with Hamilton.

"J.R. kind of got into envelopes from drawing on those napkins — and those envelopes were his thing for the past 35 years or so. He could sit down and work on an envelope for a couple of days. Some of them are really good. Some of them aren't so good," Pargeon laughed. He described Shimer's

Continued on page 22

HOLIDAY POPS 2013

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The Axeman of the Season

By Evan Gillespie

Gary Hoey knows a few things about being persistent. No one handed him a two-decade-plus-long music career as a gift, and in fact, there were plenty of obstacles standing in the way of his success as a guitarist. But now, more than 25 years after he got the professional music ball rolling, Hoey is still here, still playing and working hard.

In the beginning, though, it was all about being stubborn. As a teenager in Boston, Hoey was stubbornly dedicated to music, even if it meant diverting his attention from everything else. He'd spend his time practicing instead of going to class, giving guitar lessons and playing in clubs instead of getting a non-musical job.

But although he wasn't academically focused, he understood the value of an education — at least when it came to music. One of the most respected music schools in the country, the Berklee College of Music, was right in his backyard, and if he wasn't destined to be a student there, he could at least try to benefit from the local talent in some other way — so he hung around the school, making connections and trying to get lessons from Berklee-caliber guitarists.

His persistence paid off in 1987, although the break he got probably didn't seem like all that much of a break at first glance. Ozzy Osbourne was in town, looking for a new guitarist, and Hoey managed to get his demo tape into Ozzy's hands. Ozzy was impressed enough to fly Hoey to L.A. for an audition. Unfortunately for Hoey, Zakk Wylde also sent Ozzy a demo, and Wylde got the gig. It was a break that started Wylde on a big-time career track, and it could have been a dispiriting brick wall for Hoey.

But Ozzy liked Hoey's style a lot, and he encouraged Hoey to move to L.A. and pursue a career there. Hoey packed up all his stuff, scraped together all the money he'd saved from his teaching gigs and headed to California. At the time it seemed like being a virtuoso rock guitarist in California was a great position to be in; Steve Vai was getting headlines and radio hits for his work with David Lee Roth, and Joe Satriani was getting on the charts with his album *Surfing with the Alien*. Hoey came into this musical environment in the late 80s, and the future looked potentially rosy.

And then Nirvana happened. Suddenly grunge was the name of the game, and grun-

ge fans weren't particularly interested in technically proficient guitarists. Hoey's first album, 1992's *Heavy Bones*, was released by Warner Bros., and it left Hoey and the label a million dollars in debt. Not to be deterred, of

dear to my heart. I have so much respect for it. When I'm recording a blues song, it's a five-minute journey, and you can't take a breath; you can't keep punching in the recording button to fix stuff or it loses the vibe."

He's also been giving back some of what his perseverance has earned him. He's been involved with the Rock and Roll Fantasy Camp, a project designed to encourage aspiring guitarists; at this year's camp, Hoey played alongside Johnny Winter, Leslie West, Robben Ford and Yngwie Malmsteen, among others.

And when he can, he uses his music to help others persevere. When a tornado struck Washington, Illinois, early in November, Hoey decided to take advantage of an upcoming concert in St. Charles to bring some Boston Strong-style resilience to Illinois.

"That night we're going to be collecting donations," he says. "I'm also going to be putting up some of my equipment that I can get rid of, and we're gonna sell some stuff and give some of that money. And also, a portion of our merchandise that night we're also gonna donate. You never know who could be devastated in this world. It could be you, it could be me, so we gotta help these people out."

Don't get the impression, however, that Hoey is always somber; at times, he can be downright festive. When you've got a name like Hoey, you're almost required to have a Christmas tour, and in this respect Hoey doesn't disappoint. For years he's been making annual tours of radio stations, bringing holiday cheer, and so far he's produced three *Ho! Ho! Hoey!* Christmas albums along with two best-of compilations. His latest holiday single, "Still Got the Blues for Christmas" combines his current appreciation for the blues with his yuletide tradition, and his holiday shows bring all the festivities to the stage.

After the holidays, Hoey will no doubt get straight back to work because that's what he does. A recent interview with *Guitar World* magazine in reference to his work producing an album for Lita Ford goes a long way toward summing up Hoey's approach to his entire career.

"It was definitely an emotional ride working on this album," he says, "but we always kept our noses to the grindstone and didn't get caught up in the emotion. We just focused on the work. But there was some blood, sweat and tears for sure."



GARY HOEY

8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14

C2G Music Hall

323 W. Baker St., Fort Wayne

Tix: \$15 adv., \$20 d.o.s., \$25

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course, Hoey talked the label into letting him do a second album on a shoestring budget, and 1993's *Animal Instinct* produced a Top 5 hit, a cover of Focus' "Hocus Pocus."

From there Hoey has surged onward. Nineteen albums later he's still rocking, but he's also branching out a little. His latest album, *Deja Blues*, is, as the title suggests, a departure from the styles — rock and surf, primarily — that he has been pursuing to this point.

"This is an album of original blues songs I've wanted to record for a long time," he says. "The blues has always been near and

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Jazzing Up the Holidays

By Evan Gillespie

Dave Koz didn't become one of the biggest names in smooth jazz on purpose, but now that he's there he is extremely purposeful in the way that he uses his position. Sure, he plays his music, and he does it well, but more than that, he's focused on things outside the music – and outside himself – in a way that probably never even occurs as a possibility in the heads of most successful musicians.

Koz underplays the sequence of events that made him into one of the most commercially successful jazz saxophonists alive today. He first picked up the saxophone when he was a kid in Encino, California, he says, as a way to squeeze his way into his big brother's band; it was a social move more than a musical one. He played in the jazz band in high school, but when he went off to college at UCLA, he majored in mass communications, not music. The way he tells the story, his decision to become a professional musician after he graduated from college was a whim that paid off in a big way.

Almost immediately after he jumped into the industry, Koz was an in-demand touring player and session musician. Throughout the late 80s he toured with singer Bobby Caldwell, keyboardist Jeff Lorber, and pop star Richard Marx. At the beginning of the 90s, Koz, always looking for the next move, decided it was time for a solo career, and he signed with Capitol Records; he got his first Grammy nomination for his third solo album.

But it was perhaps his training in mass communications that really sent his career into the stratosphere. Early on, he learned how to get himself and his music in front of a large audience. He played in the house band on Pat Sajak's talk show on CBS, and later he led the house band on Emeril Lagasse's show. He started hosting his own radio show in 1994, a move that eventually led to a syndicated show that is currently in its 18th year on the air.

Koz has always been a relentless entrepreneur – he came up with his Dave Koz & Friends at Sea series of musical cruises, for example, as a way to create unique, memorable and marketable experiences for his fans – but he has also been devoted to turning his entrepreneurial spirit toward good causes. Most visibly, he's worked hard for the Starlight Children's Foundation, an organization that provides support for seriously ill



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<http://npacvw.org>

children and their families. For Koz, his involvement with Starlight was a no-brainer.

"Once I saw what Starlight does, in the hospital, on the ground, with kids, I immediately was hooked. I just saw the smiles on these kids' faces, even if it's just for five minutes forgetting where they are and whatever affliction they're having to deal with."

Koz has acted as a spokesperson for the organization, but he's also come up with innovative business projects that benefit the foundation, such as Koz brand wine, proceeds from the sale of which go to Starlight. The reason he does it is, to him, simple: he does it because he can.

"I'm deeply humbled by the fact that what I do on the concert stage or in records has allowed me to do things that in my wildest dreams I never thought would be possible," he says. "Having a wine with my name on it is one of those things – and the fact that it has a social and philanthropic component that can really help kids in the real world."

He never forgets, however, that it's the music that got him in the position to help, and he still plays and records, making music that makes people happy. His most recent album, *Summer Horns*, was released last summer, and it was all about setting a seasonal mood. He was joined on the album by fellow saxophonists Gerald Allbright, Richard Elliot and Mindi Abair, and the quartet set about trying to recreate the sound of the big pop and R&B horn sections of the 60s and 70s.

"The first album I ever bought was *Back to Oakland*, the 1974 recording by Tower of Power," says Koz. "I've always been fasci-

nated with that sound. There are few things in music that are as exciting as the energy that comes from a really tight horn section. Over the years, that sound has graced some of the greatest records of all time by bands like Sly & the Family Stone, Earth Wind & Fire, and so many others."

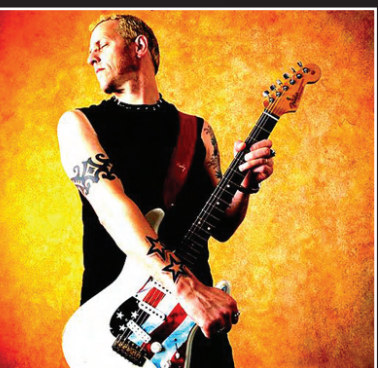
The result was brass infused covers of songs such as Sly's "Hot Fun in the Summertime," the Beatles' "Got to Get You into My Life" as filtered through Earth Wind & Fire, and Chicago's "25 or 6 to 4."

"These are songs of a certain era, and if you are of a certain age, you're going to listen to them and immediately recognize them," Koz says. "It's meant to remind you of a time when that sound was everywhere. This was our chance to honor that era of great horn sections with a big tip of our hat and say 'thank you' to those who were responsible for it. I hope people feel the reverence that we all have for this music and the great bands that made it."

But that was two seasons ago, and Koz is currently off in a different direction. The day after Thanksgiving, he began his 16th Christmas tour, a holiday tradition in which he brings together a stage full of guest artists for an evening of jazzy arrangements of traditional holiday tunes, augmented by a list of non-holiday (but seasonally appropriate) songs. This year, Koz's guests include singer Oleta Adams, pianist Keiko Matsui and South African guitarist Jonathan Butler.

Through it all, Koz never stops moving, never stops looking for the next big thing he can do. As he rehearsed for the Christmas tour, he tweeted to his fans a synopsis of his philosophy, a 140-character summary of his promise to always innovate and always deliver everything he has to give.

"Every day we show up and give our best," he wrote, "and, in each and every moment, our best changes."



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Sebadoh

Defend Yourself

Between his work over the last 30 years in Dinosaur Jr., Sebadoh, Sentridoh and Folk Implosion (not to mention a handful of solid solo records), singer/songwriter Lou Barlow has little left to prove. He's an indie rock legend, a lo-fi god-father and one of the sweetest singers in all of rock n' roll. In this writer's opinion, at this point in his career Barlow shouldn't feel the need to put out anything other than solo records. That said, life is expensive these days, and Barlow's last two namesake releases haven't exactly been blockbusters (I'm also not so sure he's getting a whole lot of the Dinosaur Jr. reunion cash). And so we now have *Defend Yourself*, the first Sebadoh record since 1999's underrated – though also uncharacteristic – *The Sebadoh*.

Where the band's most signature work was purposefully rough, ragged, spontaneous and often unfinished, *Defend Yourself* feels more complete. Rather than embracing a DIY garage sound, the 13 tracks on this record feel largely off-the-cuff, as if they were recorded in a take or two, live in a proper studio. So while the classic DIY sound of a record like *The Freed Weed* or even *III* isn't exactly present here, that old Sebadoh spirit (i.e. guys in a room having fun, playing imperfect beauty) still lingers. Along for Barlow's latest ride is Jason Loewenstein, who has gone from the role of Screaming Drummer to multi-instrumentalist and sometimes songwriter. Gone are co-founder Eric Gaffney (who toured with the band on their 2007 reunion tour), Bob Fay and Russell Pollard and in is drummer Bob D'Amico. Mostly, this is Barlow doing Sebadoh – or, that is, Barlow doing something that resembles Sebadoh.

Several of the tracks employ that sludge-y 90s grunge sound too much for my taste, the best tracks being the ones where Barlow is writing melodic pop or soulful ballads. "Oxygen," an almost-bouncy rock tune, is a standout that will certainly remind longtime fans of what the band once did best, while "Love You Here" sounds like a leftover from either of Barlow's last two solo records. Opener "I Will" is one of *Defend Yourself*'s best offerings, sounding like a lost 90s college radio track. Barlow's voice sounds as sweet and familiar as ever on this song, almost single-handedly warranting the price of *Defend Yourself*, if only for the sake of nostalgia. "State of Mind," a deceptively simple rocker, sees Barlow doing what he does most naturally, playing simple riffs while weaving his hummy rasp through a series of one liners. The surprisingly twangy "Can't Depend," another major standout (and perhaps the record's best offering), reminds of Wilco and Ryan Adams, two artists Barlow has become a fan of over the last few years.

The biggest issue here is, as expected, Loewenstein's offerings, which haven't been too worthwhile since 1996's spectacular *Har-macy*. It's a shame to hear his tracks intertwined with what is an otherwise strong set of Barlow tunes. All that said, Barlow's tunes aren't always worthy of the Sebadoh name either. *Defend Yourself* isn't a bad album, but it's also nowhere near the heroic Dinosaur Jr.-like return Sebadoh fans were hoping for. Now let's all hold our collective college rock breath until The Folk Implosion make up and record a new record. (Greg W. Locke)

MGMT

MGMT

Ben Goldwasser and Andrew VanWyngarden, the two skinny Brooklyn nerds behind MGMT, had it all. With their debut record, 2008's breakout hit, *Oracular Spectacular*, they were suddenly the most promising new indie rock band on the planet. Their album was cool and popular, and they were somehow on a major label yet were embraced by just about every pretentious rock critic in the industry. Admirably, they had a disco hit, a prog-rock hit, an indie rock hit and a pop-rock hit. They befriended other bands and, eventually, went to work on their sophomore record with legendary producer Sonic Boom, best known for his work with Spacemen 3.



Spins

BACKTRACKS

John Lennon

Imagine (1971)

John Lennon's second solo album was released a week after my sixth birthday. The former Beatle's masterpiece, recorded at his home in England and at The Record Plant in Hell's Kitchen in New York City, took a different direction than his solo debut and solidified Lennon's status as both a songwriter and a producer.

It opens with the title track, Lennon's plea for world peace. Words can't describe this wonderful ballad, but you know it; and it could be one of the greatest songs he ever wrote. "Crippled Inside" features former bandmate George Harrison (who plays on four other tracks), and "Jealous Guy" was covered successfully by Roxy Music six months after Lennon died. "It's So Hard" is driven by a nice saxophone from King Curtis who was killed just weeks after this recording. Curtis also played on the song "I Don't Want to Be a Soldier."

Side two, though not as good as side one, features "How Do You Sleep," a song that was said to have been written about Paul McCartney. Lennon was upset with some of the lyrics that he perceived were written about him on McCartney's *Ram* album. This is said to be the point where a Beatles reunion would never happen – and, sadly, it was true.

"How" is another hidden gem in Lennon's songbook, and it fits perfectly on the release. "Oh Yoko!" is a love song for his wife, Yoko Ono, one of many he wrote during his recording career.

Lennon was shot and killed December 8, 1980, outside of his residence in New York. My wife and I visited this spot last month, as well as Strawberry Fields in Central Park. If you are ever in New York, this – as heartbreaking as it is – is a must see. (Dennis Donahue)



That second record, 2010's ambitious *Congratulations*, felt like the work of a band who'd been given the keys to the castle. The productions were all big and trippy, and the songs were mostly not accessible to the general population. It was a spit-shined psychedelic record that I think will, with time, reveal itself to be something of a beloved record, or at least one worthy of a cult following. While *Congratulations* didn't exactly fail, it also wasn't the hit record that *Oracular* was. And so now we have the band's quietly released third release, a supposed comeback record called *MGMT*.

The nerds have again tapped a legendary producer, this time giving the nod to Flaming Lips and Mercury Rev producer Dave Fridmann (who produced the big-sounding *Oracular*). We hear Fridmann's thick, juicy production style instantly: his epic, distorted drum sound; his swirling, gooey mix; his fuzzy bass sound; his exaggerated psychedelia. It's not a bad sound, but the Fridmann schtick feels more over-the-top here than it has elsewhere. "Alien Days" opens up the record pleasantly, feeling like something of a pop/program mash-up, Goldwasser and VanWyngarden returning more to their *Oracular* sound, incorporating a clear hook and a wholly pleasant arrangement. It's the most accessible track we've heard from the nerds in some time. Too bad that approach doesn't hold up.

The problem with *MGMT* reveals itself before the end of track two, titled "Cool Song No. 2." The issue is this: MGMT want to make big, weird, inventive records that are also widely accessible. And they want to do it on a major label and tour the country and sell enough albums that they can put out more and more records. While they pulled off that trick to some degree with their debut, the plan fell flat on *Congratulations* and, if I had to guess, will fall flat with *MGMT*. It's a tall task to be simultaneously inventive and accessible – one that few bands have been able to pull off over the course of the last decade or so. *MGMT*, a record that sounds pretty much how you'd expect (somewhere between their first two album, but run through the Fridmann filter and with almost no real regard for accessibility), probably isn't going to take Goldwasser and VanWyngarden into the future. I wouldn't be a bit surprised if Columbia Records drops them and they put out a couple of albums on an indie label – never returning to their former glory – before breaking up and

Continued on page 13

Wooden Nickel CD of the Week



PITBULL

Global Warming

Some say global warming is an invention of the left. Others insist it will bring about end times on a Biblical scale. For Cuban-American rapper Pitbull, *Global Warming* is simply the title of his seventh album which features the singles "Back in Time," "Get it Started" and "Don't Stop the Party." Why not heed his advice? Head to any Wooden Nickel Music store and pick up your copy for the low price of \$11.99.

TOP SELLERS @

WOODEN NICKEL

(Week ending 11/24/13)

TW	LW	ARTIST/Album
1	1	EMINEM The Marshall Mathers LP 2
2	4	ARCADE FIRE Reflektor
3	5	A PERFECT CIRCLE Three Sixty
4	2	FIVE FINGER DEATH PUNCH The Wrong Side of ..., Vol. 2
5	6	DAUGHTRY Baptized
6	10	STRYPER No More Hell To Pay
7	-	SAXON Unplugged and Strung Up
8	-	BILLIE JOE & NORAH JONES Foreverly
9	-	PUSCIFIER What Is ...
10	-	DEICIDE In the Minds of Evil

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EXPECT: Twelve handcrafted beers on tap; also featuring Indiana craft beers and local wines. Patio with seating for 100; 7 dock slips; 150-seat banquet facility. **EATS:** 4-1/2 star menu, including famous gourmet pizza, unique eats and vegetarian fare. **GETTING THERE:** Located on beautiful Lake James above Bledsoe's Beach. **HOURS:** 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Sun.-Thurs.; 11 a.m.-midnight or later Fri.-Sat. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc

AUBURN

MAD ANTHONY TAP ROOM

Music/Rock • 114 N. Main St., Auburn • 260-927-0500

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

FORT WAYNE

4D'S BAR & GRILL

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

EXPECT: Join us daily for great food and drink specials and fabulous entertainment; featuring daily \$2 drink specials, 39¢ wings on Wednesday, \$1.50 domestic longnecks and Shut Up & Sing Karaoke with Mike Campbell at 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Paul & Brian at 7 p.m. Wednesday; and live entertainment with various bands every Friday and Saturday. We'll see U @ The D's! **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: Saturday bands 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover; Sports on 21 big screen TVs all week. **EATS:** Sandwiches, Fort Wayne's best breaded tenderloin, pizzas, soups and salads. **GETTING THERE:** Inside Pro Bowl West, Gateway Plaza on Goshen Road. **HOURS:** 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Sunday-Wednesday, 9 a.m.-12 a.m. Thursday and 11 a.m.-3 a.m. Friday-Saturday. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, Amex

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EXPECT: Fort Wayne's newest nightlife experience. Great food, martini/wine bar and dancing in a Chicago-style atmosphere. Live performances from the area's finest jazz musicians every Wed.-Sat. **EATS:** Calamari, crab cakes, shrimp cocktail and more for appetizers; entrees include fresh fish, steaks, pasta dishes and chicken. **GETTING THERE:** Located in Covington Plaza (formerly Covington Bar & Grill); front and rear parking available. **HOURS:** 3 p.m.-12 a.m. Mon.-Fri., 5 p.m.-1 a.m. Sat. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, Amex

BABYLON

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

EXPECT: Two unique bars in one historic building. DJ Tabatha on Fridays and Plush DJs on Saturdays. DJ TAB and karaoke in the Bears Den Fridays. 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:** 8 p.m.-3 a.m. Fri.-Sat. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** Cash only, ATM available

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

Wednesday, December 4

DAVID WOLFE ACOUSTIC SHOW — Country rock at Sit 'n Bull, LaOtto, 6:30 p.m., no cover, 897-3052

HUBIE ASHCRAFT — Acoustic at Acme Bar and Grill, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 480-2263

IPFW GUITAR STUDIO SHOWCASE — Guitar at Rhinehart Recital Hall, IPFW, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m., \$4-\$7, 481-6555

JAMIE SIMON TRIO — Jazz at Phoenix, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m., no cover, 387-6571

OPEN MIC AND TALENT SEARCH HOSTED BY MIKE MOWREY — Variety at Beamer's Sports Grill, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m., no cover, 625-1002

RICHE WOLFE — Jazz/variety at All That Jazz, Fort Wayne, 6:30-9:30 p.m., no cover, 203-5971

Thursday, December 5

2 HEADED CHICKEN — Rock at Skully's Boneyard, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 637-0198

ADAM STRACK — Acoustic at Beamer's Sports Grill, Fort Wayne, 7-9 p.m., no cover, 625-1002

CHRIS WORTH — R&B/soul at Club Paradise, Angola, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 833-7082

D. FERREN — Acoustic at Phoenix, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m., no cover, 387-6571

HUBIE ASHCRAFT — Acoustic at Draft Horse Saloon, Orland, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 829-6465

IPFW COMPOSITION SHOWCASE — Variety at Rhinehart Recital Hall, IPFW, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m., \$4-\$7, 481-6555

THE J TAYLORS — Variety at Don Hall's Triangle Park Bar & Grille, Fort Wayne, 7-9 p.m., no cover, 482-4342

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

JOE JUSTICE — Variety at Adams Lake Pub, Wolcottville, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 854-3463

LARRY REEB w/CHRIS DuBAIL — Comedy at Snickerz Comedy Bar, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m., \$8, 486-0216

LEE LEWIS w/PARTS UNKNOWN — Blues at Alley Sports Bar, Pro Bowl West, Fort Wayne, 8:30-11 p.m., no cover, 483-4421

OPEN STAGE JAM HOSTED BY POP'N'FRESH — Blues/variety at Office Tavern, Fort Wayne, 8:30-12:30 a.m., no cover, 478-5827

ROBBIE V AND HEIDI DUO — Variety at American Legion Post 409, Fort Wayne, 6:30-9:30 p.m., no cover, 627-2628

RON RUMBAUGH — Jazz/variety at All That Jazz, Fort Wayne, 6:30-9:30 a.m., no cover, 203-5971

Rocking Out the Embassy Theatre

I have to admit I was a little stoked the other day when I caught a piece for the upcoming Down the Line: Hard Chord on the local news. First, it was cool to see the local music event getting coverage; even cooler was the sight of a band braving the cold and performing atop the Embassy Theatre marquee to help promote the event. That's something you might see during an MTV music awards promo but not while driving down Jefferson Boulevard.

High fives to the Sweetwater Sound Academy of Music band, Built for Blame, for performing that awesome feat. I'm glad I tuned into the news that day because, to be honest, it had slipped my mind that one of the biggest local shows of the year was coming up so soon. There has never been a non-memorable Down the Line event, and the one coming up on Saturday, December 28 is especially noteworthy. I just hope the Embassy can withstand all the metal the evening promises.

If you've never attended a Down the Line show, there's a good chance something's wrong with you. This is the opportunity to witness some of our elite talent paying homage to their influences. For the Hard Chord event Cougar Hunter will be performing the tunes of Mötley Crüe, RP Wigs doing Rage Against the Machine, The Lurking Corpses belting out Judas Priest and Big Money and the Spare Change getting down to Nirvana. There's talk of another band being added, so stay tuned for updates.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are only \$10 in advance and \$12 day of and can be purchased at the Embassy box office and Ticketmaster. Proceeds from



Out and About NICK BRAUN

the event benefit the Embassy.

Downstait paid homage to the almighty Kiss at last year's Down the Line: Hard Chord and have been flexing their muscle on the scene for a number of years. It now looks like they'll be taking an extensive break, as vocalist Daren "Zach" Call is entering the National Guard. Yeah, I know it sucks that we won't be seeing the boys performing here anytime soon, but let's hope they'll be back together in the near future. Downstait did perform a farewell show for its fans last week at the Drunken Monkey. For now, good luck, Daren. We'll see you soon.

Next time you have a minute, hop onto the Freak Brothers' website or Facebook page and check out their first music video. The fine piece of work is for their top-notch tune "Mr. Fantastic." In other news, the guys will be performing the Freakdown to 2014 this New Year's Eve at Ceruti's Banquet & Event Center on Illinois Road. The evening will include hors d'oeuvres, midnight champagne toast, balloon drop, party favors, cash bar service, giveaways and the Freak Bros. Tickets for the event are only \$20.

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Calendar • Live Music & Comedy

SMOOTH EDGE 2 — A capella jazz at Calhoun Street Soups, Salads & Spirits, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m., \$5, all ages., 456-7005

Friday, December 6

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

AMARILLO — Country at Neon Armadillo, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., \$5, 490-5060

BROTHER — Rock at Dupont Bar, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m., cover, 483-1311

CADILLAC RANCH — Classic rock at Draft Horse Saloon, Orland, 9 p.m., no cover, 829-6465

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

CLUSTERFOLK — Neo folk at Friendly Fox, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m., no cover, all ages., 745-3369

DAG AND THE BULLEIT BOYS — Classic country at North Star Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 471-3798

DAN SMYTH — Variety at Acme Bar and Grill, Fort Wayne, 9-11:30 p.m., no cover, 480-2263

GUNSLINGER — Country/classic rock at Lucky Lady, Churubusco, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 693-0311

HEADY TIMES — Rock at 4D's Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 490-6488

IPFW BRASS QUINTET RECITAL — Brass at Rhinehart Recital Hall, IPFW, Fort Wayne, 5 p.m., \$4-\$7, 481-6555

IPFW HOLIDAY JAZZ/SWING — Jazz/swing at Rhinehart Recital Hall, IPFW, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m., \$4-\$7, 481-6555

THE J TAYLORS — Variety at The Cottage Event Center, Roanoke, 7:30 p.m., \$15, 414-2015

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

LARRY REEB w/CHRIS DuBAIL — Comedy at Snickerz Comedy Bar, Fort Wayne, 7:30 & 9:45 p.m., \$9.50, 486-0216

MIKE MOWREY — Acoustic at Beamer's Sports Grill, Fort Wayne, 6-8 p.m., no cover, 625-1002

PICK SLIDE — Classic rock at Beamer's Sports Grill, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., no cover, 625-1002

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BERLIN MUSIC PUB

Music • 1201 W. Main St., Fort Wayne • 260-580-1120
EXPECT: The region's premier underground/D.I.Y. music venue featuring genres such as metal, punk, Americana, indie pop, etc. Karaoke Wednesdays, bluegrass jam hosted by Old and Dirty on Thursdays, live music on Fridays and Saturdays, \$1 drink specials on Thursdays and Sundays. Free WIFI. **EATS:** Pizzas and sandwiches. **GETTING THERE:** Corner of West Main and Cherry. **HOURS:** 3 p.m.-3 a.m. Monday-Saturday, noon-3 a.m. Sunday. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** Visa, MC, Disc, ATM available

C2G MUSIC HALL

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, 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.-11 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 11 a.m.-midnight or later Friday-Saturday; closed Sunday. **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. Karaoke Thursday nights. UFC Fight Nights. Great drink specials. **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: Free WIFI, all sports networks on 10 TVs, 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

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

CRAZY PINZ

Games/Music • 1414 Northland Blvd., Fort Wayne • 260-490-2695
EXPECT: American Idol Karaoke every Friday, 9 p.m.-midnight; DJ Phil Austin ever Saturday, 9 p.m.-midnight. Expansive arcade, glow-in-the-dark golf, bowling and entertainment specials. **EATS:** Daily food and drink specials, full menu including pizza, sandwiches, salads, appetizers and snacks. **GETTING THERE:** Behind Hires on North Lima Rd. **HOURS:** 10 a.m.-11 p.m. Mon.-Wed.; 10 a.m.-midnight Thurs.; 10 a.m.-1 a.m. Fri.-Sat.; noon-10 p.m. Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, Amex

PRIME TIME — Variety at Don Hall's Guesthouse, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12:30 a.m., no cover, 489-2524

RICHIE WOLFE — Jazz/variety at All That Jazz, Fort Wayne, 8:30-11:30 p.m., no cover, 203-5971

SHELLY DIXON & JEFF McRAE — Acoustic rock at Duty's Buckets Sports Pub, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 459-3595

SUGAR SHOT — Country rock at Skully's Boneyard, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., no cover, 637-0198

TODD HARROLD BAND — R&B/blues at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m., no cover, 426-3442

TRIVIUM W/DEVILDRIVER, AFTER THE BURIAL, THY WILL BE DONE — Rock/metal at Piere's Entertainment Center, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., \$20 adv., \$23 d.o.s. thru Ticketmaster or box office, 486-1979

Saturday, December 7

AP-Jazz 4 — Jazz at All That Jazz, Fort Wayne, 8:30-11:30 p.m., no cover, 203-5971

BACKWATER — Country rock at Paul's Pub, Kendallville, 9:30 p.m., no cover, 343-0233

BONAFIDE — Variety at Fatboyz Bar & Grill, Ligonier, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 894-4640

BROTHER — Rock at Dupont Bar, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m., cover, 483-1311

CADILLAC RANCH — Classic rock at Navy Club, Ship 245, New Haven, 7 p.m., no cover, 493-4044

CHRIS WORTH — R&B/soul at American Legion Post 296, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m.-12 a.m., \$5, 456-2988

CLUSTERFOLK — Neo folk at Deer Park Irish Pub, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 432-8966

DAN SMYTH TRIO — Variety at Lake George Retreat, Fremont, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 833-2266

DESERT TRAIN — Variety at Deer Park Irish Pub, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 432-8966

ELEMENTS OF COSMOS — Rock at O'Sullivan's Italian Irish Pub, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 422-5896

G-MONEY & FABULOUS RHYTHM — Blues/rock at Draft Horse Saloon, Orland, 8 p.m.-midnight, no cover, 829-6465

G-MONEY & FABULOUS RHYTHM — Blues/rock at American Legion Post 241, Fort Wayne, 8:30-11:30 p.m., no cover, 747-7851

HALESTORM W/REDLIGHT KING, STARS IN STEREO — Rock at Piere's Entertainment Center, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., \$25 adv., \$28 d.o.s. thru Ticketmaster or box office, 486-1979

HIP-O-FONIC — Rock at Skully's Boneyard, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., no cover, 637-0198

HOPE ARTHUR — Acoustic at Acme Bar and Grill, Fort Wayne, 9-11 p.m., no cover, 480-2263

INFLUX — Rock at 4D's Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., \$5, 490-6488

THE J TAYLORS — Variety at Wood's Too, Hudson, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 351-2967

JOE FIVE — Rock at Columbia Street West, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., cover, 422-5055

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

KILL THE RABBIT — Rock at Checkerz Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 489-0286

LARRY REEB W/CHRIS DuBAIL — Comedy at Snickerz Comedy Bar, Fort Wayne, 7:30 & 9:45 p.m., \$9.50, 486-0216

MARSHALL LAW — Country rock at Beamer's Sports Grill, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m., no cover, 625-1002

PRIME TIME — Variety at Don Hall's Guesthouse, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12:30 a.m., no cover, 489-2524

SHELLY DIXON & JEFF McRAE — Acoustic rock at Dicky's Wild Hare, Fort Wayne, 9-11 p.m., no cover, 486-0595

TEEN ROCK NIGHT — Rock at C2G Music Hall, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., \$3, all ages, 426-6434

TESTED ON ANIMALS — Rock at Lucky Lady, Churubusco, 10 p.m., no cover, 693-0311

TODD HARROLD BAND — R&B/blues at American Legion Post 148, Fort Wayne, 6:30-9:30 p.m., no cover, 423-4751

TONY ORLANDO — Christmas concert at Niswonger Performing Arts Center, Van Wert, Ohio, 7:30 p.m., \$27-\$52, 419-238-6722

WHAT SHE SAID — Rock/variety at Rack & Helen's, New Haven, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 749-5396

Sunday, December 8

DAN SMYTH — Variety at Country Heritage Winery, LaOtto, 5-8 p.m., no cover, 637-2980

DAVID WOLFE ACOUSTIC SHOW — Country rock at Wolf Lake Bar and Grill, Wolf Lake, 5 p.m., no cover, 635-8249

HEARTLAND CHAMBER CHORALE — The Messiah at University of St. Francis Performing Arts Center, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m., \$20, all ages., 436-8080

TAJ MAHOLICS — Blues variety at Latch String Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 483-5526

Monday, December 9

G-MONEY & FABULOUS RHYTHM — Open jam at Dash-In, Fort Wayne, 8-10 p.m., no cover, 423-3595

HEARTLAND CHAMBER CHORALE — The Messiah at Dekalb High School Auditorium, Dekalb, 7 p.m., \$20, all ages., 436-8080

IPFW HOLIDAY CONCERT — Holiday music at Rhinehart Recital Hall, IPFW, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m., \$4-\$7, 481-6555

SCRATCH N SNIFF LITE — Acoustic at Deer Park Irish Pub, Fort Wayne, 6:30 p.m., no cover, 432-8966

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Dirty Comp'ny..... 260-431-5048

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Black Cat Mambo..... 260-705-5868

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Urban Legend..... 260-312-1657

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Paul New Stewart & Brian Freshour/

The Dueling Keyboard Boys..... 260-440-9918



Sponsored in part by:

Tuesday, December 10

ADAM STRACK — Acoustic at Duty's Buckets Sports Pub, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m., no cover, 459-1352
DAN SMYTH — Acoustic at O'Reillys Irish Bar & Restaurant, Fort Wayne, 9-11 p.m., no cover, 267-9679
DAVE KOZ & FRIENDS — Christmas jazz at Niswonger Performing Arts Center, Van Wert, Ohio, 7:30 p.m., \$29-\$45, 419-238-6722
KT & THE SWINGSET QUARTET — Jump blues swing at Latch String Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 483-5526
OPEN MIC AND TALENT SEARCH — Variety at Deer Park Irish Pub, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m., no cover, 432-8966

Wednesday, December 11

DANA CHRISTY TRIO — Jazz/variety at All That Jazz, Fort Wayne, 6:30-9:30 p.m., no cover, 203-5971
DAVID WOLFE ACOUSTIC SHOW — Country rock at Sit 'n Bull, LaOtto, 6:30 p.m., no cover, 897-3052
DUELING KEYBOARD BOYS — Variety at 4D's Bar, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 490-6488
HUBIE ASHCRAFT — Acoustic at 469 Sports & Spirits, New Haven, 7-11 p.m., no cover, 749-7864
JAMIE SIMON TRIO — Jazz at Phoenix, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m., no cover, 387-6571
KYLE JACKSON — Acoustic at Acme Bar and Grill, Fort Wayne, 7-9:30 p.m., no cover, 480-2263
OPEN MIC AND TALENT SEARCH HOSTED BY MIKE MOWREY — Variety at Beamer's Sports Grill, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m., no cover, 625-1002

Thursday, December 12

ADAM STRACKS — Acoustic at Skully's Boneyard, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 637-0198
BEKAH BRADLEY — Acoustic at Triangle Park, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m., no cover, 482-4342
CHRIS WORTH — R&B/soul at AJ's Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 434-1980
DAN SMYTH — Variety at The Nauti Turtle, Angola, 7-11 p.m., no cover, 577-5061
ELIOT CHANG w/SPENCER JAMES — Comedy at Snickerz Comedy Bar, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m., \$8, 486-0216
JEFF McDONALD — Acoustic oldies at Don Hall's Guesthouse, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 489-2524
JON DURNELL — Acoustic at Beamer's Sports Grill, Fort Wayne, 7-9 p.m., no cover, 625-1002
L'ANGELUS — Country/folk at Sweetwater Sound Performance Theatre, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m., no cover, all ages, 432-8176
LEE LEWIS w/PARTS UNKNOWN — Blues at Alley Sports Bar, Pro Bowl West, Fort Wayne, 8:30-11 p.m., no cover, 483-4421
OPEN STAGE JAM HOSTED BY POP'N'FRESH — Blues variety at Office Tavern, Fort Wayne, 8:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m., no cover, 478-5827
RICHEL WOLFE — Jazz/variety at All That Jazz, Fort Wayne, 6:30-9:30 p.m., no cover, 203-5971
ROBBIE V AND HEIDI DUO — Variety at Draft Horse Saloon, Orland, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 829-6465
YELLOW DEAD BETTYS — Rock at Snickerz Comedy Bar, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m., \$8, 486-0216

Friday, December 13

BEKAH BRADLEY — Acoustic at Beamer's Sports Grill, Fort Wayne, 6 p.m., no cover, 625-1002
BEKAH BRADLEY — Country at Yo Yo's, Avilla, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 385-5118
BIG CADDY DADDY — Rock at Dupont Bar, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m., cover, 483-1311
CATBOX — Progressive at BrewHa Coffee House, Columbia City, 7-10 p.m., 1 bag of kitty litter, 244-4111
COLIN MOCHRIE & BRAD SHERWOOD — Comedy at Honeywell Center, Wabash, 7:30 p.m., \$19-\$75, all ages, 563-1102
THE CONTINUUM — Jazz funk at Deer Park Irish Pub, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 432-8966
COUGAR HUNTER — 80s glam rock at Beamer's Sports Grill, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., no cover, 625-1002
DAN SMYTH — Variety at Mulligan's Restaurant & Pub, Angola, 6-10 p.m., no cover, 833-8899
DEE BEES — Variety at Don Hall's Guesthouse, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 489-2524
THE ELECTRIC PANDA — Rock at O'Sullivan's Italian Irish Pub, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 422-5896
ELEKTRIK FEAT. DJ COUBLE K — Electro at The Chameleon, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., \$10, 446-8108
ELIOT CHANG w/SPENCER JAMES — Comedy at Snickerz Comedy Bar, Fort Wayne, 7:30 & 9:45 p.m., \$9.50, 486-0216
FORT WAYNE PHILHARMONIC w/THE PHIL CHORUS, FORT WAYNE CHILDRENS CHOIR — Holiday Pops at Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., \$28-\$70, 481-0777

NIGHTLIFE

DEER PARK PUB

Eclectic • 1530 Leesburg Rd. Rd., Fort Wayne • 260-432-8966
EXPECT: Home to Dancioke, 12 craft beer lines, 75 domestic and imported beers, assorted wines, St. Pat's Parade, keg toss, Irish snug and USF students. Friday/Saturday live music, holiday specials. Outdoor beer garden. www.deerparkpub.com. Wi-Fi hotspot. **EATS:** Finger food, tacos every Tuesday. **GETTING THERE:** Corner of Leesburg and Spring, across from UFS. **HOURS:** 2 p.m.-1 a.m. Mon.-Thurs., noon-2 a.m. Fri.-Sat., 1-10 p.m. Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Beer & Wine; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc

DICKY'S WILD HARE

Pub/Tavern • 2910 Maplecrest Rd., 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 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

DUPONT BAR & GRILL

Sports Bar • 10336 Leo Rd., Fort Wayne • 260-483-1311

EXPECT: Great daily drink specials. Every Wednesday at 6 p.m., Scott Fredricks on the patio. Shut Up and Sing Karaoke w/Mike Campbell at 8 p.m.; live music Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays. **EATS:** \$6.99 daily lunch specials; 50¢ wings all day on Wednesdays. **GETTING THERE:** North of Fort Wayne at Leo Crossing (Dupont & Clinton). **HOURS:** 11 a.m.-3 a.m. Mon.-Sat.; 11 a.m.-12 midnight Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, 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

LATCH STRING BAR & GRILL

Pubs & Taverns • 3221 N. Clinton St., Fort Wayne • 260-483-5526

EXPECT: Fun, friendly, rustic atmosphere. Daily drink specials. Music entertainment every night. No cover. Tuesdays, Rockabilly w/Kenny Taylor & \$2.50 imports; Thursdays, \$1.50 longnecks; Sundays, \$3.50 Long Islands; Mondays, Thursdays & Saturdays, 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

LEGENDS SPORTS BAR

Sports Bar/Rock • 4104 N. Clinton St., Fort Wayne • 260-310-0973

EXPECT: Sports bar with pool tables and games. Live music & 98¢ pitchers Fridays and Saturdays. Karaoke w/Justin Sundays. DJ Beach and \$1 You Call Its Thursdays. **EATS:** Full-service menu w/tacos, quesadillas, burgers and Fort Wayne's favorite chicken wings ... all served nightly till close. **GETTING THERE:** Off Coliseum toward downtown on Clinton, behind Scott's. **HOURS:** Open 6 p.m.-3 a.m. Thursday-Sunday. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, Amex

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

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SKULLY'S BONEYARD

WEDNESDAY KARAOKE • 8PM

American Idol Karaoke

ACOUSTIC THURSDAY
 DECEMBER 5 • 8PM

2 Headed Chicken

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6 • 9:30PM

Sugar Shot

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7 • 9:30PM

Hip-o-Fonic

ACOUSTIC THURSDAY
 DECEMBER 12 • 8PM

Adam Strack

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NORTH STAR BAR & GRILL

Pubs & Taverns • 2915 E. State Blvd., Fort Wayne • 260-471-3798
EXPECT: Daily food and drink specials. Karaoke w/Mike Campbell Thursday. Live bands Friday-Saturday. Blue Light Monday w/\$1 drinks, \$1 beers & DJ Spin Live playing your favorites. \$1.75 domestic longnecks Tuesday & Thursday, \$2 wells & \$1 DeKuyper Wednesday. Beer specials Friday. **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'REILLY'S IRISH BAR AND RESTAURANT

Pub/Tavern • 301 W. Jefferson Blvd., Fort Wayne • 260-267-9679
EXPECT: Daily lunch specials and drink specials. Fun, friendly and fast service in the heart of downtown Fort Wayne. **EATS:** Freshly prepared soups, salads and sandwiches as well as some of the best traditional Irish fare in the city. **GETTING THERE:** Located in the Harrison Building at Parkview Field. **HOURS:** 11 a.m.-3 a.m. daily **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 & great drinks! Darts, foosball, live entertainment. Karaoke Tuesday nights. **EATS:** O's famous pizza every day. Italian dinners 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 a.m. Mon.-Sat., 12 noon-1 a.m. Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc

PIERE'S

Multiplex • 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. Something for everyone. **EATS:** Sandwiches and appetizers always available. **GETTING THERE:** Marketplace of Canterbury, 2.5 miles east of Exit 112A off I-69 **HOURS:** **HOURS:** Open 9 p.m. daily. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, Amex

SKULLY'S BONEYARD

Music/Variety • 415 E. Dupont Rd., Fort Wayne • 260-637-0198
EXPECT: Daily features Mon.-Fri.; Variety music Wed.; Acoustic Thurs.; Jazz Fri.; Rock n' roll Sat. Lounge boasts an upscale rock n' roll theme with comfortable seating, including booths and separated lounge areas; 15 TVs; covered smoking patio. **EATS:** Full menu includ- ing steaks, seafood, burgers, deli sandwiches, our famous homemade pizza & grilled wings. **GETTING THERE:** Behind Casa's on Dupont. **HOURS:** 3 p.m.-12 a.m. Tuesday-Wednesday, 3 p.m.-1 a.m. Thursday and 3 p.m.-3 a.m. Friday and Saturday. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, Amex

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

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

WARSAW

MAD ANTHONY LAKE CITY TAP HOUSE

Music/Rock • 113 E. Center St., Warsaw • 574-268-2537
EXPECT: The eclectic madness of the original plus 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. Carry-out handcrafted brews available. Live music on Saturdays. **GETTING THERE:** From U.S. 30, turn southwest on E. Center St.; go 2 miles. **HOURS:** 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Mon.-Thurs.; 11 a.m.-12:30 a.m. Fri.-Sat.; 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full-Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc

Thursday, December 5

ANGOLA
Club Paradise — Karaoke & DJ Rockin' Rob, 8:30 p.m.
Piggy's — Karaoke w/DJ Shaun Marcus, 10 p.m.
AUBURN
4 Crowns — Shotgun Prod. Karaoke, 10 p.m.
Mimi's Retreat — Karaoke, 8 p.m.
FORT WAYNE
Arena Bar & Grill — American Idol Karaoke w/Jay, 8 p.m.
Columbia Street West — American Idol Karaoke w/Josh, 9:30 p.m.
Crooners Karaoke Bar — House KJ, 9 p.m.
Deer Park Irish Pub — Bucca Karaoke w/Bucca, 10 p.m.
Fosters Sports Pub — Shooting Star Productions w/Nacho, 9:30 p.m.
Latch String Bar & Grill — American Idol Karaoke, 10:30 p.m.
North Star Bar & Grill — Karaoke w/Michael Campbell, 8 p.m.
O'Sullivan's Italian Irish Pub — Tronic, 10 p.m.
Piere's — House DJ, 9 p.m.
NEW HAVEN
East Haven — Flashback Karaoke, 8 p.m.
Rack & Helen's — American Idol Karaoke w/TJ, 9:30 p.m.

Friday, December 6

ANGOLA
Club Paradise — Karaoke & DJ Rockin' Rob, 9 p.m.
Piggy's — Karaoke w/DJ Shaun Marcus, 7 p.m.
Piggy's — DJ. 10 p.m.
AUBURN
4 Crowns — Shotgun Prod. Karaoke, 10 p.m.
Meteor Bar & Grill — Classic City Karaoke, 9 p.m.
CHURUBUSCO
DW Bar & Grill — Karaoke w/DJ Chuck, 10 p.m.
FORT WAYNE
Babylon — DJ Tabatha, 10:30 p.m.
Babylon, Bears Den — DJ TAB & karaoke w/Steve Jones, 10:30 p.m.
Columbia Street West — Dance Party w/DJ Rich, 10 p.m.
Crooners Karaoke Bar — KJ Jessica, 9 p.m.
Early Bird's — House DJ, 9 p.m.
Flashback — House DJ, 9 p.m.
Green Frog — American Idol Karaoke w/TJ, 9:30 p.m.
Hook & Ladder — Shooting Star Prod. w/Stu, 9 p.m.
Office Tavern — Swing Time Karaoke, 10 p.m.
Peanuts Food & Spirits — DJ Beach, 10 p.m.
Piere's — House DJ, 9 p.m.
Pine Valley Bar & Grill — American Idol Karaoke w/Jesse, 9:30 p.m.
Quaker Steak and Lube — American Idol Karaoke w/Jay, 9:30 p.m.
Rum Runners — DJ dance party, 8:30 p.m.
Tower Bar & Grill — Bucca Karaoke w/Ashley, 10 p.m.
Tycoon's Cabaret Bar & Grill — Shooting Star Productions w/ Nacho, 9 p.m.
Uncle Lou's Steel Mill — Shooting Star Prod. w/Barbie, 10 p.m.
Woodland Lounge — DJ Randy Alomar, 9 p.m.
LAOTTO
Sit n' Bull — Classic City Karaoke, 9 p.m.
LEO
American Legion Post 409 — Flashback Karaoke, 7:30 p.m.
JR's Pub — American Idol Karaoke w/Doug P, 9 p.m.
NEW HAVEN
Canal Tap Haus — Flashback Karaoke, 9 p.m.
Spudz Bar — Bucca Karaoke w/Bucca, 9 p.m.

Saturday, December 7

ANGOLA
Club Paradise — Karaoke & DJ Rockin' Rob, 9 p.m.
Piggy's — Karaoke w/DJ Shaun Marcus, 7 p.m.
Piggy's — DJ. 10 p.m.
AUBURN
Meteor Bar & Grill — Classic City Karaoke, 9 p.m.
FORT WAYNE
AJ's Bar & Grill — American Idol Karaoke, 9 p.m.
Arena Bar & Grill — American Idol Karaoke w/Josh, 10 p.m.
Babylon — Plush, 10 p.m.
Chevvy's Pizza & Sports Bar — Karaoke w/Total Spectrum, 10 p.m.
Crooners Karaoke Bar — House KJ, 9:30 p.m.
Duty's Buckets Sports Pub — DJ, 9 p.m.
Early Bird's — House DJ, 9 p.m.
Flashback — House DJ, 9 p.m.
Hammerheads — Shotgun Prod. Karaoke, 10 p.m.
Jag's Bar & Grill — American Idol Karaoke w/TJ, 9 p.m.
Latch String Bar & Grill — American Idol Karaoke, 10:30 p.m.
North Star Bar & Grill — Shotgun Prod. Karaoke, 10 p.m.
Office Tavern — Ambitious Blondes Karaoke, 10 p.m.
Piere's — House DJ, 9 p.m.
Pike's Pub — Shooting Star Productions w/Stu, 10 p.m.
Pine Valley Bar & Grill — American Idol Karaoke w/Jesse, 9:30 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.
VFW 8147 — Come Sing With Us Karaoke w/Steve, 9 p.m.
HAMILTON

Hamilton House — Jammin' Jan Karaoke, 10 p.m.
NEW HAVEN
Canal Tap Haus — Flashback Karaoke, 9 p.m.
POE
Hi Ho Again — Shooting Star Prod. w/Nacho, 10 p.m.

Sunday, December 8

FORT WAYNE
After Dark — Dance videos & karaoke, 9:30 p.m.
Crooners Karaoke Bar — House KJ, 9 p.m.
Fosters Sports Pub — Shooting Star Productions w/Stu, 9:30 p.m.

Monday, December 9

FORT WAYNE
After Dark — Karaoke, 10:30 p.m.
Crooners Karaoke Bar — House KJ, 9 p.m.
Office Tavern — Swing Time Karaoke, 9 p.m.
NEW HAVEN
Canal Tap Haus — Flashback Karaoke, 8 p.m.

Tuesday, December 10

FORT WAYNE
4D's Bar & Grill — Karaoke w/Michael Campbell, 9 p.m.
Crooners Karaoke Bar — House KJ, 9 p.m.
O'Sullivan's Italian Irish Pub — Shotgun Prod. Karaoke, 10 p.m.
Office Tavern — Shooting Star Productions w/Stu, 9 p.m.
Rusty Spur — American Idol Karaoke w/Jay, 9 p.m.
VIP Lounge — Shotgun Prod. Karaoke, 9 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, December 11

FORT WAYNE
After Dark — Karaoke, 10:30 p.m.
A.J.'s Bar & Grill — American Idol Karaoke w/Brian, 8 p.m.
Berlin Music Pub — Shooting Star Prod. w/Barbie, 10 p.m.
Chevvy's Pizza & Sports Bar — American Idol Karaoke w/TJ, 10 p.m.
Columbia Street West — American Idol Karaoke w/Josh, 9:30 p.m.
Crooners Karaoke Bar — House KJ, 9 p.m.
Dupont Bar & Grill — Shut Up & Sing w/Michael Campbell, 8 p.m.
Office Tavern — Shooting Star Productions w/Stu, 9 p.m.
Pine Valley Bar & Grill — American Idol Karaoke w/Jesse, 8 p.m.
Skully's Boneyard — American Idol Karaoke w/Jay, 8 p.m.
Wrigley Field Bar & Grill — Karaoke w/Bucca, 10 p.m.
GARRETT
Martin's Tavern — WiseGuy Entertainment w/Josh, 10 p.m.

Thursday, December 12

ANGOLA
Club Paradise — Karaoke & DJ Rockin' Rob, 8:30 p.m.
Piggy's — Karaoke w/DJ Shaun Marcus, 10 p.m.
AUBURN
4 Crowns — Shotgun Prod. Karaoke, 10 p.m.
Mimi's Retreat — Karaoke, 8 p.m.
FORT WAYNE
Arena Bar & Grill — American Idol Karaoke w/Jay, 8 p.m.
Crooners Karaoke Bar — House KJ, 9 p.m.
Deer Park Irish Pub — Bucca Karaoke w/Bucca, 10 p.m.
Fosters Sports Pub — Shooting Star Productions w/Nacho, 9:30 p.m.
Latch String Bar & Grill — American Idol Karaoke, 10:30 p.m.
North Star Bar & Grill — Karaoke w/Michael Campbell, 8 p.m.
O'Sullivan's Italian Irish Pub — Tronic, 10 p.m.
Piere's — House DJ, 9 p.m.
NEW HAVEN
East Haven — Flashback Karaoke, 8 p.m.
Rack & Helen's — American Idol Karaoke w/TJ, 9:30 p.m.

Friday, December 13

ANGOLA
Club Paradise — Karaoke & DJ Rockin' Rob, 9 p.m.
Piggy's — Karaoke w/DJ Shaun Marcus, 7 p.m.
Piggy's — DJ. 10 p.m.
AUBURN
4 Crowns — Shotgun Prod. Karaoke, 10 p.m.
Meteor Bar & Grill — Classic City Karaoke, 9 p.m.
CHURUBUSCO
DW Bar & Grill — Karaoke w/DJ Chuck, 10 p.m.
FORT WAYNE
Babylon — DJ Tabatha, 10:30 p.m.
Babylon, Bears Den — DJ TAB & karaoke w/Steve Jones, 10:30 p.m.
Columbia Street West — Dance Party w/DJ Rich, 10 p.m.
Crooners Karaoke Bar — KJ Jessica, 9 p.m.
Early Bird's — House DJ, 9 p.m.
Flashback — House DJ, 9 p.m.

going on to other projects. I could see VanWyngarden doing something really weird, interesting, artsy and even successful in the future, but not under the now-spoiled MGMT moniker. All that said, the nerds have done a notable thing with their first three records: they've released challenging, artsy records into the mainstream with some success. That just doesn't happen these days. Sadly, though, as impressive as the big sound of *MGMT* is, I don't expect it will have a legacy like the band's first two albums are destined to have. (Greg W. Locke)

Okkervil River *The Silver Gymnasium*

If Oasis' "Wonderwall" is the "Freebird" for our generation then Okkervil River's "Westfall" is our "Nebraska." Despite already having plenty of good work to their name, it was that song that made the indie rock world begin to really pay attention to singer/songwriter/band leader Will Sheff and his band of very dramatic, erudite men back in 2002. And while they've certainly had some good records since "Westfall" was released, the band – aside from maybe 2005's *Black Sheep Boy* – has never quite delivered on the great promise of that chilling, all-time great track. Sheff's a strong writer with a good voice who I think has been short on ideas for quite a while now. That, and his band sounds increasingly more and more like The Arcade Fire, who just happen to be maybe the biggest indie rock band out there.

For their eighth proper studio record (and first for ATO Records), the seemingly instantly forgotten *The Silver Gymnasium*, Sheff and his crew have decided to really go for it. Rather than toying around with slightly avant garde song structures or album-spanning themes, Okkervil River seem to be attempting to take after none other than The Arcade Fire themselves. *Silver* is an instantly more accessible record than anything else the Okks have ever put out, even opening with a bouncy piano-driven tune with a hummable, familiar hook. Sheff sings his heart out, trading his trademark big bleeding heart for a fun, radio-ready vocal that could make a young Michael Stipe blush. It's a wobbly, confident howl that I'd guess is aimed at new fans more than the band's loyal flock.

We hear horns all throughout the record, big and loud and seemingly leading a charge. It reminds me a bit of Spoon's *Ga Ga Ga Ga Ga* in that the band has managed to incorporate some big new elements without redefining its sound. We also hear some 80s-inspired keys, especially on the poppy, beautiful "Down Down the Deep River," a song that makes me think of Molly Ringwald, Friday nights and cheap-beer-fueled happiness with friends. That's sort of this record's vibe, really: friendship – happy, youthful friendship. Sheff isn't really singing too much about misery or struggle anymore; here he seems focused on good times, friends, memories and, eventually, change. Moving away from friends, getting on with your life, becoming an adult. He sings about cities and old apartments and good times from yesteryear. It's a fun, oddly intimate listen if you really pay attention. Sure, maybe the sound is a bit too clean and too accessible for a band that's mostly known for dark, intellectual, slightly avant garde records, but I suppose that's what happens when you go from an indie label to a major like ATO.

My biggest initial issue with *Silver* was how full-blown all the tracks are. As the 11-song record wore



on, it began to feel tedious, as just about every cut felt like a hit radio single version of past Okkervil River tracks. Finally, though, after a week or so of listening, I started to connect with the album as a single work. Yes, it's very upbeat, bouncy and full (and, also like Arcade Fire records, perhaps longer than it should be), but we still get enough of Sheff's expressive, oft-beautiful vocals and writing to stay tuned in with what the record is doing. "Pink-Slips" stands out as one of the record's better moments, Sheff talking about his drive to "go all the way" with his art.

Between the keyboards, bouncy pianos, horn arrangements and poppy song structures, *The Silver Gymnasium* stands as the most interesting thing Okkervil River has released since *Black Sheep Boy*, if only because it's so different than their last three efforts. It takes a little figuring out, but this record, or at least most of this record, is very much worth the time you put into it. (Greg W. Locke)

White Denim

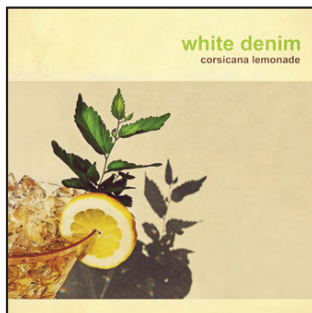
Corsicana Lemonade

The 70s have come home to roost at Casa White Denim. Rather than the dizzying, kaleidoscopic pop fractals they've come to be known for on past releases, White Denim settle into something resembling a cohesive identity throughout their latest, *Corsicana Lemonade*. The musical gauntlet is thrown down right off the bat, when doubled guitars and a galloping rhythm section announce "At Night in Dreams," maybe the best tune Thin Lizzy never wrote.

Make no mistake, however. This is still absolutely White Denim. Witness the breathtaking dual-guitar solo breakdown in the middle of the title track. The beauty of this particular passage is that it absolutely serves the song rather than being a left turn just for the sake of it. Bottom line: if you're looking for a return to jagged indie outbursts and lo-fi production, you'll probably want to look elsewhere. *Corsicana Lemonade* pulls you in on the merits of its tune craft, its blanket of comfortable sound and its downright satisfying "album-ness" – more and more a rarity in this age of the ADHD "single of the minute."

The album is varied enough, though, to let random needle drops yield compelling results. Mellotron meets mellow fuzz guitar on the nearly Big Star-esque opening of "New Blue Feeling." It's a mature work that shows off White Denim's ability to shift gears midstream, but this time they're shifting one gear at a time inside a linear pop tune structure rather than jumping between first, fifth, and second gear. It's a satisfying development from a hypertalented lineup that has at times appeared to sacrifice musical coherency in the name of staving off stagnation. The high-octane "Come Back" jumps up the classic rock quotient, bringing to mind everything from Joe Walsh to boogie-inflected country to straight-up pop confection.

You certainly can't accuse any tune on *Corsicana Lemonade* of falling into anything resembling a rut, but many of these songs are downright hummable. Producer Jeff Tweedy, an avowed fan of classic rock sonics, recorded the band at Wilco's Chicago headquarters. The unfussy sound has "gatefold" written all over it, and it fits the material like a glove. "Let It Feel Good (My Eagles)" has just enough cheek and period reverence to let you know that they know you know. That said, it's got a helluva payoff that makes you nod along unself-consciously. The same could be said for the majority of *Corsicana Lemonade*. (D.M. Jones)



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3 Doors Down (\$32-\$40)	Feb. 9	Sound Board	Detroit
Aaron Lewis (\$27)	Jan. 22	Bogart's	Cincinnati
Aaron Lewis (\$38-\$45)	Feb. 6	Sound Board	Detroit
Air Supply	Jan. 31	Akron Civic Theatre	Akron, OH
Air Supply	Mar. 1	Forest Hills Fine Arts Center	Grand Rapids
Alejandro Escovedo & Peter Buck (\$27)	Feb. 21	Magic Bag	Ferndale, MI
Alfie Boe	Feb. 18-19	Park West	Chicago
Amos Lee w/Chris Kasper (\$29.50-\$47.50)	Mar. 7	Taft Theatre	Cincinnati
Amos Lee w/Chris Kasper (\$33.50-\$48.50)	Mar. 8	Lakewood Civic Auditorium	Lakewood, OH
Amos Lee w/Chris Kasper (\$39.50)	Mar. 9	State Theatre	Kalamazoo
Ana Popovic w/Bobby Murray Band, The Rattlesnake Snake, Erich Goebel & The Flying Crowbars (\$25)	Jan. 3	Magic Bag	Ferndale, MI
Andrew Bird (Sold Out)	Dec. 9-11	Fourth Presbyterian Church	Chicago
Ann Arbor Folk Festival feat. Iron & Wine, Neko Case, Pearl and the Beard, Patty Griffin, Ingrid Michaelson, Jeff Daniels, The Crane Wives and more (\$20-\$290)	Jan. 31-Feb. 1	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Anthony Hamilton w/Avery Sunshine (\$33-\$100)	Feb. 16	State Theatre	Kalamazoo
Anthony Raneri w/Nina Diaz (\$14-\$16)	Dec. 6	Schubas	Chicago
Arcade Fire (\$30.50-\$60.50)	Mar. 10	Palace of Auburn Hills	Auburn Hills, MI
Arcade Fire	Mar. 16	Quicken Loans Arena	Cleveland
Arcade Fire	Aug. 26	United Center	Chicago
Arcade Fire (\$27.50-\$57.50)	Apr. 29	Schottenstein Center	Columbus, OH
Arctic Monkeys (\$29.50)	Feb. 11	Lifestyle Communities Pavilion	Columbus, OH
Arctic Monkeys (\$29-\$58)	Feb. 12	Fillmore Detroit	Detroit
Atomic Punks w/Motley Inc. (\$12 adv., \$15 d.o.s.)	Dec. 28	House of Blues	Chicago
Atomic Punks w/Motley Inc. (\$25 adv., \$30 d.o.s.)	Dec. 31	House of Blues	Cleveland
Bettye Lavette w/Laura Rain & The Caesars, Greg Nagy Band, RJ's Gang feat. Kenny Parker (\$35)	Jan. 4	Magic Bag	Ferndale, MI
Big Bad Voodoo Daddy (\$25-\$45)	May 17	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Big Head Todd and the Monsters	Feb. 27	20th Century Theatre	Cincinnati
Big Head Todd and the Monsters	Feb. 28	House of Blues	Cleveland
Big Head Todd and the Monsters	Mar. 1	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Big Head Todd and the Monsters	Mar. 7	House of Blues	Chicago
Bill Cosby (\$37.50-\$65)	Mar. 30	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Bill Hildebrandt w/Mike Paramore (\$8-\$9.50)	Dec. 19-21	Snickerz Comedy Bar	Fort Wayne
Blackberry Smoke w/Delta Saints (\$18-\$20)	Jan. 24	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
Blackberry Smoke	Jan. 30	House of Blues	Chicago
Blackberry Smoke	Feb. 6	Bogart's	Cincinnati
Blackberry Smoke	Feb. 7	Newport Music Hall	Columbus
Blackberry Smoke	Feb. 8	House of Blues	Cleveland
Bobby Vinton (\$34-\$75)	Mar. 29	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Bob Weir & Rat Dog (\$25-\$65)	Mar. 5	Fillmore Detroit	Detroit
Bob Weir & Rat Dog (\$27-\$65)	Mar. 7	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Bob Weir & Rat Dog (\$29.50-\$75)	Mar. 11	Murat Theatre	Indianapolis
Brad Paisley w/Chris Young, Danielle Bradbery (\$41-\$61)	Feb. 27	War Memorial Coliseum	Fort Wayne
Branson on the Road (\$12-\$18)	Sept. 13	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Brian Randall Band	Dec. 7	Czar's 505	St. Joseph, MI
Broken Bells	Mar. 1	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Brookwheat Zydeco (\$20)	Mar. 6	Magic Bag	Ferndale, MI
Caroline Glaser	Dec. 13	Aronoff Center for the Arts	Cincinnati
Caroline Glaser	Dec. 14	Palace Theatre	Cleveland
Caroline Glaser (\$25-\$42)	Dec. 18	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Caroline Glaser (\$29.50-\$48.50)	Dec. 19	Morris Performing Arts Center	South Bend
Caroline Glaser (\$22.50-\$42.50)	Dec. 21-22	Murat Theatre	Indianapolis
Carrie Newcomer (\$20)	Mar. 16	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Cast of Impractical Jokers (\$35)	Dec. 7	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
Celtic Woman (\$69-\$133)	Dec. 19	The Palladium	Carmel, IN
Celtic Woman (\$51-\$69)	Dec. 20	Horseshoe Casino	Hammond, IN
Cheap Trick	Feb. 22	Hoosier Park Racing Casino	Anderson
Chick Corea w/Bela Fleck (\$32-\$45)	Apr. 3	Sound Board	Detroit
Chick Corea w/Bela Fleck (\$29-\$75)	Apr. 5	Roosevelt University	Chicago
Cody Simpson (\$25)	Jan. 28	Deluxe at Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Cody Simpson (\$27.50)	Jan. 29	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
Colin Mochrie & Brad Sherwood (\$19-\$75)	Dec. 13	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Corey Smith	Dec. 5	Bogart's	Cincinnati
Coery Smith (\$23)	Dec. 6	Deluxe at Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Corey Smith	Dec. 7	House of Blues	Chicago
Commmeal (\$10-\$12)	Dec. 12	Bell's Eccentric Café	Kalamazoo
Commmeal (\$10-\$13)	Dec. 13	Woodlands Tavern	Columbus, OH
The Cult	Dec. 13	Bogart's	Cincinnati
The Cult (\$27.50 adv., \$30 d.o.s.)	Dec. 14	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
Dale Earnhardt Jr. Jr. (\$15)	Feb. 15	Deluxe @ Old National	Indianapolis
Darius Rucker w/Eli Young Band, David Nail (\$43-\$49)	Jan. 29	State Farm Center	Champaign, IL
Darius Rucker w/Eli Young Band, David Nail (\$45)	Jan. 30	War Memorial Coliseum	Fort Wayne
Dark Star Orchestra	Jan. 31	The Vic	Chicago
Dark Star Orchestra	Feb. 3	Majestic Theatre	Detroit
Dark Star Orchestra (\$23.50-\$25)	Feb. 7	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
Dark Star Orchestra	Feb. 8	Newport Music Hall	Columbus, OH
Dark Star Orchestra	Feb. 9	House of Blues	Cleveland
Dave Koz & Friends (\$29-\$45)	Dec. 10	Niswonger Performing Arts Center	Van Wert
David Crosby	Feb. 8-9	City Winery	Chicago
David Koz w/Oleta Adams, Jonathan Butler, Keiko Matsui (\$43.50-\$88.50)	Dec. 7	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Demi Lovato	Mar. 13	Palace of Auburn Hills	Auburn Hills, MI
Demi Lovato (\$25-\$69.50)	Mar. 14	Alistate Arena	Rosemont, IL
Demi Lovato w/Cher Lloyd, Fifth Harmony (\$29.50-\$62.50)	Mar. 22	Nationwide Arena	Columbus, OH
Demi Lovato	Mar. 23	Van Andel Arena	Grand Rapids
Demi Lovato	Mar. 27	Quicken Loans Arena	Cleveland
Demi Lovato w/Cher Lloyd, Fifth Harmony (\$29.50-\$65)	Mar. 30	Bankers Life Fieldhouse	Indianapolis
Diego Garcia w/Jenn Grant (\$12-\$15)	Dec. 6	Schubas	Chicago
DL Hughley (\$37-\$43)	Jan. 23	Sound Board	Detroit
Drake w/Miguel (Cancelled)	Dec. 9	Bankers Life Fieldhouse	Indianapolis

Quiet Riot have announced that Love/Hate vocalist **Jizzy Pearl** will be taking over the singing duties for the once mighty rock band. Pearl is not unfamiliar to the replacement singer role, as he has had similar jobs in both **L.A. Guns** and **Ratt** over the years. The new band, with **Frankie Banali** on drums, **Chuck Wright** on bass and guitarist **Alex Grossi** are currently working on a new album for 2014, their first in eight years. Quiet Riot, with Pearl, will play the Arcadia Theatre in St. Charles, Illinois, near Chicago, on January 18.



Road Notez

CHRIS HUPE

Have you ever wondered what it would look like when an aging rocker married a reality TV star? Now you can find out when **Journey** guitarist **Neal Schon** marries *Real Housewives of D.C.* star **Michaela Salahi**. The event, dubbed *Neal & Michaela: The Winter Wonderland Wedding and Music Event* takes place December 15 and can be ordered on pay-per-view for the small sum of \$14.95. Unfortunately, vomit bags will not be mailed out with each pre-order; you'll have to buy those yourselves.

The long awaited **One Direction** North American tour will take place next summer and fall, with the boy band hoping to sell out stadiums. Tickets go on sale later this month for the Where We Are tour stops in Detroit's Ford Field on August 16 and in Chicago's Soldier Field August 29. It's the perfect gift for any screaming teen in your life. With a tour planned so far in advance, it will be interesting to see if the band remains popular enough throughout next year to sell all of those tickets. Boy bands have a way of falling out of favor quickly.

Tickets for the annual Ann Arbor Folk Festival are now on sale. The event takes place January 31-February first in Ann Arbor's Hill Auditorium with **Iron and Wine** headlining the Friday night show and **Patty Griffin** headlining Saturday night. Other notable acts also appearing are **Jeff Daniels**, **Ingrid Michaelson**, **Justin Townes Earle** and **Neko Case**.

Bocephus, aka **Hank Williams Jr.**, has been booked at Firekeepers Casino in Battle Creek for February 15. With 35 albums released over the last 50 years, there should be plenty of songs to choose from when he hits the stage at the intimate 2,000-seat arena. In addition to the Hank Williams, Jr. show, Firekeepers has a pretty good lineup scheduled for early 2014, with **Bret Michaels** appearing January 11, former heavyweight boxing champ **Mike Tyson**'s one-man show February 9 and 87-year-old comedian **Don Rickles** on April 5.

christopherhupe@aol.com

Drake (\$59.75-\$109.75)	Dec. 12	United Center	Chicago
Drake w/Miguel, Future (\$29.50-\$99.75)	Dec. 13	Nationwide Arena	Columbus, OH
Dropkick Murphys (\$39-\$48)	Feb. 18	House of Blues	Cleveland
Dropkick Murphys (\$26-\$36)	Feb. 19	Fillmore Detroit	Detroit
Eagles (\$39-\$179)	Mar. 5	Nationwide Arena	Columbus, OH
Eddie From Ohio (\$30)	Dec. 20	The Ark	Ann Arbor
ekootsik hookah	Dec. 31	Agora Ballroom	Cleveland
Eliot Chang w/Spencer James (\$8-\$9.50)	Dec. 12-14	Snickerz Comedy Bar	Fort Wayne
Elvis Aaron Presley, Jr.	Dec. 7	Rockford Belle	Rockford, OH
Emerson Hart w/Daniel Harrison & \$2Highway (Free)	Dec. 26	Sound Board	Detroit
Flogging Molly	Mar. 3	Bogart's	Cincinnati
Flogging Molly	Mar. 4	House of Blues	Cleveland
Flogging Molly	Mar. 6	Fillmore Detroit	Detroit
Flogging Molly (\$25-\$35)	Mar. 7	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
Flogging Molly	Mar. 8	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Florida Georgia Line w/Brantley Gilbert, Thomas Rhett	Feb. 15	Bankers Life Fieldhouse	Indianapolis
Flostradamus	Dec. 31	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Frankie Ballard (\$25)	Dec. 14	State Theatre	Kalamazoo
Frankie Rose	Jan. 27	Schubas	Chicago
Gabriel Iglesias (\$42)	Mar. 21	Palace Theatre	Columbus, OH
Galactic (\$30)	Feb. 1	Park West	Chicago
Gary Hoey (\$35-\$55)	Dec. 13	City Theatre	Detroit
Gary Hoey (\$15-\$25)	Dec. 14	C2G Music Hall	Fort Wayne
Gilbert Gottfried (\$25)	Dec. 6	Magic Bag	Ferndale, MI
Grouplove w/Alex Winston (\$23.50-\$25)	Mar. 21	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
Halestorm w/Redlight King, Stars in Stereo (\$25-\$28)	Dec. 7	Piere's Entertainment Center	Fort Wayne
Hard Working Americans w/Turbo Fruits	Feb. 22	Park West	Chicago
The Head and the Heart w/Dawes, Thao and the Get Down Stay Down	Dec. 15	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Hot Tuna (\$22-\$35)	Dec. 5	The Kent Stage	Kent, OH
Hot Tuna (\$42-\$50)	Dec. 8	City Winery	Chicago
In This Moment w/Devour the Day, Butcher Babies, All Hail the Yeti (\$25-\$28)	Jan. 11	Piere's Entertainment Center	Fort Wayne
Jake Buff	Jan. 18	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Jay Black w/Mike Stankiewicz (\$16.50-\$22.50)	Dec. 31	Snickerz Comedy Bar	Fort Wayne
Jay-Z	Jan. 8	Quicken Loans Arena	Cleveland
Jay-Z (\$32.50-\$150)	Jan. 9	United Center	Chicago
Jay-Z	Jan. 10	Palace of Auburn Hills	Auburn Hills, MI
Jeff Daniels (\$35)	Jan. 25	State Theatre	Kalamazoo
Jim Gaffigan (\$36.75-\$46.75)	Mar. 23	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Joe Bonamassa (\$71-\$91)	Apr. 23	Murat Theatre	Indianapolis
John Butler Trio w/Little Hurricane (\$35)	Feb. 7-8	Vic Theatre	Chicago
John Prine (\$49.50-\$85)	Mar. 14	Orchestra Hall	Chicago
John Tesh (\$28-\$75)	Dec. 17	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Josh Ritter (sold out)	Feb. 20	Fourth Presbyterian Church	Chicago
Josh Ritter w/Gregory Alan Isakov (\$30)	Feb. 21	Fourth Presbyterian Church	Chicago
Josh Ritter (\$24)	Feb. 22	Buskirk-Chumley Theater	Bloomington, IN
Josh Turner	Jan. 17	Hoosier Park Racing Casino	Anderson
Justin Timberlake (\$47-\$177)	Dec. 11	Bankers Life Fieldhouse	Indianapolis
Justin Timberlake (\$45-\$175)	Dec. 12	Quicken Loans Arena	Cleveland

Justin Timberlake (\$49.50-\$175)	Feb. 17	United Center	Chicago
Karl Denson's Tiny Universe w/Robert Walter's 20th Congress (\$40-\$50)	Dec. 31	Park West	Chicago
Keith Urban	Jan. 9	Van Andel Arena	Grand Rapids
Keith Urban	Jan. 10	United Center	Chicago
Keller Williams w/More than a Little	Jan. 17	Park West	Chicago
Keller Williams w/More than a Little	Jan. 23	Canopy Club	Urbana, IL
Keller Williams w/More than a Little	Jan. 24	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Keller Williams w/More than a Little	Jan. 25	Newport Music Hall	Columbus
Kellie Pickler (Sold Out)	Jan. 25	Niswonger Performing Arts Center	Van Wert
Kem and Friends (\$29-\$99)	Dec. 20	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Kenny G (\$95-\$105)	Dec. 15	City Winery	Chicago
Kings of Leon, Gary Clark Jr. (\$26.50-\$52.50)	Feb. 18	Schottenstein Center	Columbus, OH
Kip Moore w/Drake White (\$22.50-\$25)	Dec. 12	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
Kip Moore w/Drake White	Dec. 13	Fillmore Detroit	Detroit
Kip Moore w/Drake White	Dec. 14	House of Blues	Cleveland
Kip Moore w/Drake White	Jan. 11	Huntington Center	Toledo
Larry Mechem Band feat. Lindy Kristy (\$27.50)	May 15	Paramount Theatre	Anderson
Larry Reeb w/Chris DuBail (\$8-\$9.50)	Dec. 5-7	Snickerz Comedy Bar	Fort Wayne
Lez Zepplin (\$20)	Jan. 31	Magic Bag	Ferdale, MI
Little Big Town	Jan. 9	Van Andel Arena	Grand Rapids
Little Big Town	Jan. 10	United Center	Chicago
Mannheim Steamroller (\$69-\$69)	Dec. 14	Paramount Theatre	Aurora, IL
Mannheim Steamroller (\$39-\$75)	Dec. 15	The Whiting	Flint, MI
Mannheim Steamroller (\$30-\$66.50)	Dec. 20	Murat Theatre	Indianapolis
Mannheim Steamroller (\$30-\$85)	Dec. 21	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Mark Lowry (\$18-\$45)	Apr. 26	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Mark Schultz (\$18-\$35)	Dec. 21	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Mc Thuy Duong, Quang Le, Huong Thuy, Luong Tung Quang, Anh Minh, Nguyen Anh and the Liberty Band (\$30-\$45)	Jan. 19	Sound Board	Detroit
Midlake (\$15)	Dec. 5	Schubas	Chicago
Mikey Mason w/Rico Bruce Wade (\$8-\$9.50)	Dec. 26-28	Snickerz Comedy Bar	Fort Wayne
Miley Cyrus	Mar. 7	Allstate Arena	Rosemont, IL
Mimosa w/Thritworks, Bogl (\$20)	Dec. 5	Deluxe at Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Motion City Soundtrack (\$45)	Dec. 31	Bottom Lounge	Chicago
Oak Ridge Boys (\$20-\$75)	Dec. 19	Honeywell Center	Wabash
The Osmonds (\$25-\$45)	Apr. 25	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Paty Griffin w/Anais Mitchell	Jan. 31	Metro	Chicago
Paul Simon w/Sting (\$45-\$250)	Feb. 25	United Center	Chicago
Paul Simon w/Sting (\$43-\$253)	Feb. 26	Palace of Auburn Hills	Auburn Hills, MI
Pickwick (\$20-\$40)	Dec. 30	Schubas	Chicago
Pickwick (\$20-\$40)	Dec. 31	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
Pink Martini (\$15-\$49.50)	Mar. 1	Murat Theatre	Indianapolis
Pixies (\$39)	Feb. 7	LC Pavilion	Columbus, OH
Pixies (\$39.50-\$59.50)	Feb. 8	Fillmore Detroit	Detroit
Pixies (\$49)	Feb. 9	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Point of Grace (Sold Out)	Dec. 15	Niswonger Performing Arts Center	Van Wert
The Pointer Sisters	Dec. 14	Hoosier Park Racing Casino	Anderson
Rachelle Ferrell (\$36-\$45)	Mar. 20	Sound Board	Detroit
Railroad Earth	Jan. 11	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Railroad Earth	Jan. 12	Castle Theatre	Bloomington, IL
Rain (\$29.50-\$52.50)	Mar. 31	Morris Performing Arts Center	South Bend
Rebellion w/Cris Cab (\$17.50-\$20)	Feb. 5	Deluxe @ Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Red Green (\$50.50)	Apr. 12	Morris Performing Arts Center	South Bend
Red Green (\$47.50)	Apr. 14	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Red Wanting Blue (\$25)	Dec. 31	20th Century Theatre	Cincinnati
Red Wanting Blue (\$17-\$20)	Feb. 14-15	House of Blues	Cleveland
REO Speedwagon (\$28-\$58)	Dec. 4	U.S. Cellular Coliseum	Bloomington, IL
REO Speedwagon (\$25.50-\$75)	Jan. 18	Rosemont Theatre	Rosemont, IL
Richard Thompson w/Teddy Thompson (\$40)	Mar. 3	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Rick Springfield (\$45-\$50)	Dec. 5	Sound Board	Detroit
Ricky Skaggs and Kentucky Thunder (\$40-\$60)	Dec. 9	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Robin Thicke w/Jesse J, DJ Cassidy (\$29.50-\$89.50)	Mar. 12	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Ronnie Milsap (\$24-\$75)	Apr. 12	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Ron White (\$48.75-\$58.75)	Feb. 22	Murat Theatre	Indianapolis
Roy Clark (Cancelled)	Dec. 13	Magic Bag	Ferdale, MI
Sara Evans (\$34-\$75)	Feb. 7	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Savoy	Jan. 29	Bluebird	Bloomington, IN
Savoy (\$20)	Jan. 30	Deluxe at Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Savoy (\$15)	Jan. 31	House of Blues	Chicago
Sick Puppies w/Devour the Day (\$20-\$23)	Dec. 21	Piere's Entertainment Center	Fort Wayne
South Normal w/Hellen & the Deadstring Brothers (\$14)	Dec. 28	Magic Bag	Ferdale, MI
The Spinners (\$27-\$37)	Mar. 1	Niswonger Performing Arts Center	Van Wert
Steve Forbert (\$15)	Dec. 27	One Lucky Guitar	Fort Wayne
Straight No Chaser (\$24.50-\$65)	Dec. 13	Proctor and Gamble Hall	Cincinnati
Straight No Chaser (\$28-\$45)	Dec. 18	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Straight No Chaser	Dec. 19	Morris Performing Arts Center	South Bend
Straight No Chaser w/Caroline Glaser (Sold Out)	Dec. 21-22	Murat Theatre	Indianapolis
STS9 (\$32.50)	Feb. 8	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
STS9 (\$22.50)	Feb. 9	Orbit Room	Grand Rapids
Superchunk w/Roomrunner	Jan. 18	Metro	Chicago
Susan Ashton (Cancelled)	Dec. 6	The Arts Place	Portland, IN
Taj Mahal and His Trio (\$58)	Mar. 1	Magic Bag	Ferdale, MI
Tap Root w/A Liar's Eyes, Cathercist, Fighting Atrophy, Blood From a Stone (\$10-\$12)	Dec. 15	Legends Sports Bar	Fort Wayne
Terry Fator (\$29-\$79)	Dec. 14-15	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Their/They're/There w/Mansions (\$14)	Dec. 15	Schubas	Chicago
Thirty Seconds To Mars (\$27-\$44)	Dec. 11	Allstate Arena	Rosemont, IL
Thirty Seconds To Mars (\$22-\$35)	Dec. 14	Bogart's	Cincinnati
Thirty Seconds To Mars (Sold Out)	Dec. 15	Murat Theatre	Indianapolis
The Toledo Symphony Orchestra (\$20)	Mar. 9	Niswonger Performing Arts Center	Van Wert
Tony Orlando (\$27-\$52)	Dec. 7	Niswonger Performing Arts Center	Van Wert

Trans-Siberian Orchestra (\$29-\$67.50)	Dec. 11	Nutter Center	Dayton
Trans-Siberian Orchestra (\$30-\$66.50)	Dec. 12	Bankers Life Fieldhouse	Indianapolis
Trans-Siberian Orchestra	Dec. 13	U.S. Bank Arena	Cincinnati
Trans-Siberian Orchestra	Dec. 14	Quicken Loans Arena	Cleveland
Trans-Siberian Orchestra	Dec. 15	Van Andel Arena	Grand Rapids
Trans-Siberian Orchestra	Dec. 26	Nationwide Arena	Columbus, OH
Trans-Siberian Orchestra	Dec. 27	Palace of Auburn Hills	Auburn Hills, MI
Trans-Siberian Orchestra (\$39-\$70)	Dec. 28	Allstate Arena	Chicago
Trey Anastasio Band (\$42.50)	Feb. 15	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
Trivium w/Devildriver, After the Burial, Thy Will Be Done (\$20 adv., \$23 d.o.s.)	Dec. 6	Piere's Entertainment Center	Fort Wayne
Umphrey's McGee	Feb. 20-22	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Universal Expression	Dec. 6	Czar's 505	St. Joseph, MI
Vince Gill (\$29-\$100)	May 9	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Waco Brothers (\$14)	Dec. 27-28	Schubas	Chicago
The Waiters (\$15)	Jan. 22	LC Pavilion	Columbus, OH
The Waiters (\$30)	Jan. 23	House of Blues	Chicago
Walk Off the Earth (\$22.50)	Jan. 18	House of Blues	Chicago
Walk Off the Earth (\$20)	Jan. 21	The Intersection	Grand Rapids
Walk Off the Earth w/Parachute (\$20)	Jan. 22	Deluxe at Old National Center	Indianapolis
Walk Off the Earth (\$20)	Jan. 23	House of Blues	Cleveland
The Wanted (\$25-\$30)	May 15	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
The Wanted	Apr. 18	Fillmore Detroit	Detroit
The Wanted	Apr. 19	House of Blues	Chicago
Young Jeezy (\$69-\$99)	Dec. 28	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Young the Giant (\$25-\$45)	Mar. 8	Fillmore Detroit	Detroit
Young the Giant (\$30)	Mar. 10	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
Young the Giant (\$25)	Mar. 12	House of Blues	Cleveland
Young the Giant (\$25)	Mar. 17	LC Pavilion	Columbus, OH
Young the Giant (\$27)	Mar. 22	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Zac Brown Band	Dec. 12	Nutter Center	Dayton
Zac Brown Band (\$39.50-\$79.50)	Dec. 31-Jan. 1	Joe Louis Arena	Detroit

Road Tripz

BackWater
Dec. 27 Crush at the B.O.B., Grand Rapids, MI
FM90
Dec. 21 The Greazy Pickle, Portland, IN
Dec. 31 American Legion Post 117, Pendleton, IN
Gunslinger
Dec. 7 The Hideaway, Gas City, IN
Hubie Ashcraft and The Drive
Dec. 21 I Love This Bar & Grill, Auburn Hills, MI

Dec. 27-28 Cowboy Up, Mendon, MI
Marshall Law
Dec. 21 Moose Lodge 2094, Defiance, OH

Fort Wayne Area Performers: *To get your gigs on this list, give us a call at 691-3188, fax your info to 691-3191, e-mail info.whatzup@gmail.com or mail to whatzup, 2305 E. Esterline Rd., Columbia City, IN 46725.*



OPENING THIS WEEK

Angels Sing (PG)

Broken Circle Breakdown (NR)
Out of the Furnace (R)

12 YEARS A SLAVE (R) — Steve McQueen directs Chiwetel Ejiofor (*Amistad*, *Children of Men*) in this adaptation of Solomon Northrop's 1853 autobiography about the horrors of slavery in the pre-Civil War South. Benedict Cumberbatch, Michael Fassbender, Paul Giamatti and Alfre Woodward co-star.

• **CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE**
Daily: 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00

ANGELS SING (PG) — Harry Connick Jr. stars in this family holiday film about a man trying to recapture the spirit of Christmas.

• **HUNTINGTON 7, HUNTINGTON**
Starts Friday, Dec. 6
Fri.-Wed.: 11:25, 1:45, 4:00

BAGGAGE CLAIM (PG13) — A romantic comedy by David E. Talbert about a flight attendant (Paula Patton) who has 30 days to find Mr. Right. Adam Brody, Djimon Hounsou and Taye Diggs co-star.

• **COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE**
Ends Thursday, Dec. 5
Thurs.: 6:55, 9:15

THE BEST MAN HOLIDAY (R) — The gang (Taye Diggs, Sanaa Lathan, Nia Long, Morris Chestnut, Terrence Howard) reunites in this holiday sequel to the 1999 comedy-drama.

• **CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE**
Daily: 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00
Fri.-Wed.: 12:45, 3:40, 6:45, 9:45
• **COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 12:45, 3:40, 6:45, 9:35
• **JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 12:05, 4:05, 7:10, 10:20
Fri.-Sun.: 12:40, 4:35, 7:55, 11:05
Mon.-Wed.: 12:05, 4:05, 7:10, 10:20

BLACK NATIVITY (PG) — An adaptation of Langston Hughes' 1961 play which tells the Nativity story with an entirely black cast and traditional Christmas carols sung gospel style. Forest Whitaker and Angela Bassett star.

• **CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE**
Daily: 12:30, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00
• **COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 11:55, 2:25, 4:55, 7:25, 10:05
Fri.-Wed.: 12:15, 3:55, 6:35, 9:15
• **JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 12:45, 4:40, 7:45, 10:25
Fri.-Sun.: 11:35, 2:10, 4:45, 7:35, 10:35
Mon.-Wed.: 12:45, 4:40, 7:45, 10:25

BLUE IS THE WARMEST COLOR (NC17) — This French film about a 15-year-old aspiring teacher who becomes romantically involved with a blue-haired art student won the Palme d'Or at the

2013 Cannes Film Festival.

• **CINEMA CENTER, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 8:00
Fri.: 1:00
Sat.: 2:30
Sun.: 6:30
Fri.-Sat.: 1:45, 4:45, 7:45, 10:45
Wed.: 8:30

THE BOOK THIEF (PG13) — Geoffrey Rush, Emily Watson and Sophie Nélisse star in this adaptation of the award-winning teen novel set in Nazi Germany.

• **COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 12:50, 3:55, 6:55, 9:55
Fri.-Wed.: 12:20, 4:05, 7:05, 10:05
• **JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 12:05, 4:05, 7:05, 10:10
Fri.-Sun.: 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 10:10
Mon.-Wed.: 12:05, 4:05, 7:05, 10:10

THE BROKEN CIRCLE BREAKDOWN (Not Rated) — The story of two Belgian bluegrass fans who meet, fall in love at first sight and have a daughter who becomes seriously ill, putting their love to the test.

• **CINEMA CENTER, FORT WAYNE**
Starts Friday, Dec. 6
Fri.: 6:00
Sat.: 12:00
Sun.: 4:00
Mon.: 3:00
Tues.: 4:00
Wed.: 6:00

CAPTAIN PHILLIPS (PG13) — Tom Hanks

plays the real-life captain of the Maersk Alabama, a container ship hijacked by Somali pirates in 2009. Directed by Paul Greengrass.

• **CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 1:45, 4:45, 7:45
Fri.-Sat.: 1:45, 4:45, 7:45, 10:45
Sun.-Wed.: 1:45, 4:45, 7:45

CARRIE (R) — Chloë Grace Moretz (*Kick-Ass*, *Let Me In*) and Julianne Moore co-star in this remake of Brian De Palma's 1976 horror film adapted from the Stephen King novel.

• **COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE**
Daily: 12:35, 2:40, 4:45, 7:15, 9:55

THE CHRISTMAS CANDLE (PG) — This faith-based drama is noteworthy in that it is being distributed by Rick Santorum's production company (raise your hand if you knew Rick Santorum distributed movies) and marks Susan Boyle's big screen debut (and, yes, she sings).

• **COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 11:35, 1:55, 4:15, 6:35, 9:10
Fri.-Wed.: 12:05, 3:45, 6:30, 9:10
• **JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE**
Ends Thursday, Dec. 5
Thurs.: 12:35, 4:30, 7:40, 10:15

CLOUDY WITH A CHANCE OF MEATBALLS 2 (PG) — Flint Lockwood (Bill Hader) attempts to shut down the Diatonic Super Mutating Dynamic Food Replicator that's creating Watermelephants, Cheese Spiders and

other Foodimals in this sequel to the family-friendly animated comedy.

• **CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE**
Ends Thursday, Dec. 5
Thurs.: 1:25, 4:00
• **COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE**
Starts Friday, Dec. 6
Fri.-Wed.: 12:10, 2:25, 4:40, 7:00, 9:25

THE COUNSELOR (R) — Ridley Scott directs Cormac McCarthy's first original film screenplay. And it's about a greedy lawyer turned drug dealer (Michael Fassbender). Penelope Cruz co-stars and Cameron Diaz plays a bisexual former dancer. Sounds pretty interesting to us.

• **COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE**
Starts Friday, Dec. 6
Fri.-Wed.: 12:55, 3:15, 6:40, 9:20

DALLAS BUYERS CLUB (R) — Matthew McConaughey is getting rave reviews for his starring role in the Jean-Marc Vallé-directed biographical drama about an HIV-positive man who smuggles anti-viral medications for himself and other AIDS victims. Jared Leto, Jennifer Garner and Steve Zahn co-star.

• **COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 1:00, 4:10, 7:05, 10:15
Fri.-Wed.: 12:55, 4:10, 6:55, 9:55
• **JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 12:10, 4:10, 7:20, 10:35
Fri.-Sun.: 12:25, 4:25, 7:25, 10:25
Mon.-Wed.: 12:10, 4:10, 7:20, 10:35

THE DELIVERY MAN (PG13) — A Vince

Let the Kids Be Your Excuse To Go See *Frozen*

Frozen is very much a fairy tale, though it bears little resemblance to the Hans Christian Andersen fable *The Snow Queen* on which, according to the film's credits, it is oh so very loosely based. Loosely based is fine when the liberties taken mean adding lovable characters, a funny screenplay, some cool visuals and highly melodic tunes. *Frozen* is a holiday movie the whole family can enjoy.

Before seeing *Saving Mr. Banks*, a movie about the making of the Disney classic *Mary Poppins*, I thought I should see a Disney film. Previews at movies for young audiences are a depressing experience. Before *Frozen* started, the previews I saw seemed to be entirely about selling product, not about telling stories.

Then the real show started and all was well. Playing before *Frozen* is *Get a Horse*, a delightful new Mickey Mouse cartoon that uses archival recordings of Walt Disney voicing Mickey. The cartoon begins in the black and white style of the early Mickey cartoons, favorites of director Lauren MacMullan. But when Minnie is threatened by Peg-Leg Pete, Mickey is thrown outside the screen where the world is in color, a la *The Purple Rose of Cairo*. Characters flop in and out of the cartoon world and the real world. Hilarity ensues. Kids at my screening were giggling loudly.

Get a Horse is a nice bridge connecting old school Disney with the new. *Frozen* is the kind of boisterous musical that I imagine will be turned into a Broadway show and become a presence in Disney theme parks. The songs are by Kristen Anderson-Lopez and Robert Lopez who have won Tony's for

Avenue Q and *The Book of Mormon*. Yes, it is a princess story, but the princesses are not shrinking violets, and they have a powerful sisterhood bond. For the boys, there are fun sidekicks, plenty of humor and a brave mountain man. And one of the princesses has a cool super power while the other is a bit of a tomboy.

Frozen begins with two girls, princesses, of course, happily playing together. Elsa, the older sister and heir to the throne, has a special power: she can freeze things. This is a power she has trouble controlling, and she accidentally hits her little sister, Anna, in the heart with a bolt of cold that knocks her out and turns a strip of her hair white.

The king and queen seek the healing and advice of a tribe of trolls. They warn the nervous parents that such a blow to the heart would be deadly and that Elsa's powers will grow more powerful as she ages. Fear, love and other powerful emotions will make her unable to disguise her powers.

So Elsa and Anna are separated, and the trolls have removed Anna's memory of what happened. Anna doesn't understand why Elsa never wants to play anymore. Elsa is afraid of hurting her sister and others. The king and queen are killed in a terrible storm at sea, so the girls are very much alone.

Time passes, and it is coronation day for Elsa. For the first time in years, the castle will be open, and guests from many kingdoms and the sisters will be together. At this point, Kristen Bell and Idina Menzel take over voicing responsibilities for Anna and Elsa.

Menzel has a Tony for her performance in *Wicked* and was nominated for *Rent*. She



Flix

CATHERINE LEE

was delightful in the film *Enchanted*. You expect her to be wonderful, and she is. Bell is known more for film and television work (*Hit and Run* and *Veronica Mars*) than for her singing, but her singing in *Frozen* is fabulous. Bell has said she would like to do more singing and stage work. She has the pipes for it.

Anna is so excited on coronation day that she falls for the first handsome prince she meets, Hans (Santino Fontana). After knowing him just a few hours, she asks Elsa's permission to marry him and becomes very angry when Elsa says "no." Elsa unleashes a deadly bout of winter in the middle of summer and flees up the mountain to be safe and alone.

Anna pursues her to ask her to come home and thaw the kingdom. She is helped along the way by Olaf, a lovable snowman who keeps falling apart and back together. She also meets Kristoff (Jonathan Groff) who helps her and keeps telling her how dumb it is to get engaged to a guy she just met.

Olaf is an especially delightful character. Elsa created him when she and Anna were kids, and he jolts Anna's memories of the past. Olaf is voiced by Josh Gad with a lilting innocence. Olaf is a snowman who dreams of enjoying summer. Gad, who sang on Broadway in *The Book of Mormon*, makes Olaf's song of longing for summer

one of *Frozen*'s high points.

Some mild danger and treachery lie ahead, but so do more songs, more jokes, another visit to the adorable trolls, pure hearts and a happy ending. Beyond good characters, a healthy dose of humor and lively songs, *Frozen* looks great.

There is a funny contrast between the characters and the landscapes. I'm not crazy about the shapes of the princesses, though they have great personalities. Their shapes are very exaggerated, booming on the top and bottom and teeny-tiny in the middle. But all the humans are exaggerated. The guys have huge chins. The citizens of Arendelle and the visiting dignitaries are similarly old style cartoon-y.

Against the goofy drawing of the people, the landscapes are much more fairy tale-like and gorgeous. When Elsa freezes things, the transformations are dazzling. The storm that shipwrecks the king and queen is the perfect storm. Somewhere in between these different styles are the trolls. In all of *Frozen*, attention to little visual details is a pleasure. I may not be crazy about the shapes of our heroines, but look at those dresses move and sparkle!

Take the kids to see *Frozen*. They can be your excuse. But be warned: little kids will start asking for a stuffed Olaf for Christmas. Maybe older kids will want one too. He's pretty cute.

Correction: My brother reminds me he skipped no school to come to New York City and help with the Lou Reed video. He was home from college on break. Apologies to Rich.

ckdexterhaven@earthlink.net

Vaughn comedy (a remake of the French-Canadian film *Starbuck*) about a sperm donor who learns that he has 533 kids.

- CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 12:30, 1:20, 3:00, 4:00, 5:30, 6:30, 8:00, 9:00
Fri.-Sat.: 12:30, 1:20, 3:00, 4:00, 5:30, 6:30, 8:00, 9:00, 10:30
Sun.-Wed.: 12:30, 1:20, 3:00, 4:00, 5:30, 6:30, 8:00, 9:00
- COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 11:50, 2:20, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50
Fri.-Wed.: 1:05, 4:15, 7:20, 10:15
- HUNTINGTON 7, HUNTINGTON**
Thurs.: 11:35, 2:00, 4:35, 7:10, 9:35
Fri.-Sat.: 11:35, 1:55, 4:30, 7:05, 9:35, 11:55
Sun.-Wed.: 11:35, 1:55, 4:30, 7:05, 9:35
- JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 12:15, 4:20, 7:25, 10:40
Fri.-Sun.: 11:45, 4:05, 7:05, 9:55
Mon.-Wed.: 12:15, 4:20, 7:25, 10:40
- NORTH POINTE 9, WARSAW**
Thurs.: 6:15
Fri.: 5:15, 8:30
Sat.: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30
Sun.: 3:30, 6:15
Mon.-Wed.: 6:15

DESPICABLE ME 2 (PG) — Steve Carell returns as the sentimental villain Gru in this sequel to the animated hit of 2010 (\$540 million). Russell Brand and Ken Jeong co-star.

- COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE**
Daily: 12:40, 2:45, 4:55, 7:20, 9:35

DON JON (R) — Joseph Gordon-Levitt wrote, directed and stars in this comedy drama about a porn-addicted guy who sets off on a journey to find a more gratifying sex life. Scarlett Johansson, Julianne Moore and Tony Danza (Tony Danza?) co-star.

- COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 12:10, 2:25, 4:40, 6:55, 9:20
Fri.-Wed.: 6:50, 9:00

ENDER'S GAME (PG13) — Gavin Hood (*X-Men Origins: Wolverine*) directs Asa Butterfield (*Hugo*, *The Boy in the Striped Pajamas*) in this adaptation of Orson Scott Card's military science fiction novel.

- CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:15
Fri.-Sat.: 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:15, 11:00
Sun.-Wed.: 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:15

ESCAPE PLAN (R) — Stallone. Schwarzenegger. 50 Cent. (50 Cent?). Action. Adventure. Wrongly imprisoned protagonists. Need we say more? This film has had three names — usually not a good sign.

- COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 12:20, 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 9:40
Fri.-Wed.: 12:15, 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 9:40

FREE BIRDS (PG) — A 3D animated buddy comedy about Reggie the Turkey (Owen Wilson) and Jake (Woody Harrelson), president and only member of the Turkeys Liberation Front.

- CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 7:50
Fri.-Wed.: 1:10, 3:20, 5:30
- JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE**
Ends Thursday, Dec. 5
Thurs.: 12:40, 4:25

FROZEN (PG) — An animated Disney musical comedy loosely based on Hans Christian Andersen's *The Snow Queen*.

- CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE**
Daily: 12:30 (3D), 1:00, 1:45, 3:00 (3D), 4:00, 4:40, 5:30 (3D), 7:00, 7:30, 8:00 (3D), 9:35
- COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 11:40, 12:10 (3D), 2:10, 2:40 (3D), 4:40, 5:10 (3D), 7:10, 7:40 (3D),

9:40, 10:10 (3D)
Fri.-Wed.: 12:10 (3D), 12:40, 2:40 (3D), 3:10, 5:10 (3D), 5:40, 7:40 (3D), 8:10, 10:10 (3D), 10:40

- EAGLES THEATRE, WABASH**
Friday-Sunday, Dec. 6-8 only
Fri.: 7:00
Sat.-Sun.: 2:00, 7:00
- HUNTINGTON 7, HUNTINGTON**
Thurs.: 11:05, 1:35, 4:10, 6:45, 9:15 (3D)
Fri.-Sat.: 11:05, 11:30, 1:35, 2:00, 4:10, 4:35 (3D), 6:45, 7:10, 9:15, 9:40 (3D), 11:35
Sun.-Wed.: 11:05, 11:30, 1:35, 2:00, 4:10, 4:35 (3D), 6:45, 7:10, 9:15, 9:40 (3D)
- JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 12:30, 12:45 (3D), 1:30, 4:00, 4:15 (3D), 5:00, 6:45, 7:10 (3D), 7:45, 9:30, 10:00 (3D), 10:30
Fri.-Sun.: 12:15, 12:45 (3D), 1:15, 3:15, 3:45 (3D), 4:15, 6:30, 6:45 (3D), 7:15, 9:15, 9:30 (3D), 10:15
Mon.-Wed.: 12:30, 12:40 (3D), 1:30, 4:00, 4:15 (3D), 5:00, 6:45, 7:10 (3D), 7:45, 9:30, 10:00 (3D), 10:30
- NORTH POINTE 9, WARSAW**
Thurs.: 4:50, 6:15, 7:15 (3D)
Fri.: 4:50 (3D), 6:15, 7:05, 8:45, 9:15
Sat.: 2:30, 3:30, 4:50 (3D), 6:15, 7:05, 8:45, 9:15
Sun.: 2:30, 3:30, 4:50 (3D), 6:15, 7:05
Mon.-Wed.: 4:50, 6:15, 7:05 (3D)
- NORTHWOOD CINEMA GRILL, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 4:15, 6:45
Fri.: 3:45, 6:15, 8:45
Sat.: 12:45, 3:15, 6:00, 8:30
Sun.: 12:45, 3:15, 6:00
Mon.-Wed.: 4:15, 6:45
- STRAND THEATRE, KENDALLVILLE**
Thurs.-Fri.: 7:15
Sat.-Sun.: 2:00, 7:15
Mon.-Wed.: 7:15

GRAVITY (PG13) — Sandra Bullock and George Clooney star in this critically acclaimed sci-fi drama from director Alfonso Cuaron (*Children of Men*, *Y Tu Mamá También*).

- CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE**
Daily: 12:35, 2:55, 5:10, 7:30, 10:00
- JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 12:25 (3D), 7:30 (3D)
Fri.-Sun.: 11:50 (3D), 2:20 (3D), 8:30 (3D)
Mon.-Wed.: 12:25 (3D), 7:30 (3D)

GROWN UPS 2 (PG13) — It was just so dang funny the first time around that Adam Sandler, Kevin James, Chris Rock and David Spade have come back for more yucks.

- COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 12:00, 2:10, 4:25, 6:50, 9:05
Fri.-Wed.: 12:00, 2:10, 4:30, 6:45, 9:05

HOMEFRONT (R) — Jason Statham, James Franco, Winona Ryder and Kate Bosworth star in this action thriller based on the Chuck Logan novel and adapted for the screen by Sylvester Stallone.

- CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE**
Daily: 1:50, 4:25, 6:55, 9:25
- COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 11:45, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45
Fri.-Wed.: 1:10, 4:30, 7:30, 10:20
- HUNTINGTON 7, HUNTINGTON**
Thurs.: 11:40, 2:10, 4:40, 7:15, 9:50
Fri.-Sat.: 11:40, 2:10, 4:40, 7:15, 9:55, 12:00
Sun.-Wed.: 11:40, 2:10, 4:40, 7:15, 9:55
- JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 12:25, 4:35, 7:35, 10:15
Fri.-Sun.: 11:20, 2:40, 5:20, 8:05, 10:50
Mon.-Wed.: 12:25, 4:35, 7:35, 10:15
- NORTH POINTE 9, WARSAW**
Thurs.: 5:15, 7:30
Fri.: 5:35, 8:30
Sat.: 3:00, 5:35, 8:30
Sun.: 3:00, 5:35

SCREENS

ALLEN COUNTY

Carmike 20, 260-482-8560

Cinema Center, 260-426-3456

Coldwater Crossing 14, 260-483-0017

Coventry 13, 260-436-6312

Northwood Cinema Grill, 260-492-4234

Jefferson Pointe 18, 260-432-1732

GARRETT

Auburn-Garrett Drive-In, 260-357-3474

Silver Screen Cinema, 260-357-3345

HUNTINGTON

Huntington 7, 260-359-TIME

Huntington Drive-In, 260-356-5445

KENDALLVILLE

Strand Theatre, 260-347-3558

WABASH

13-24 Drive-In, 260-563-5745

Eagles Theatre, 260-563-3272

WARSAW

North Pointe 9, 574-267-1985

Times subject to change after presstime.

Call theatres first to verify schedules.

Mon.-Wed.: 6:45

THE HUNGER GAMES: CATCHING FIRE (PG) — The second installment of the hugely popular (and violent) teen trilogy. Philip Seymour Hoffman (Plutarch Heavensbee) joins the returning cast (Jennifer Lawrence, Josh Hutcherson, Liam Hemsworth, Woody Harrelson, Donald Sutherland, Elizabeth Banks, et al.)

- CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 12:45, 1:15, 1:45, 2:15, 4:00, 4:30, 5:00, 5:30, 7:15, 7:45, 8:15
Fri.-Sat.: 12:45, 1:15, 1:45, 2:15, 4:00, 4:30, 5:00, 5:30, 7:15, 7:45, 8:15, 9:00, 10:30, 11:00
Sun.-Wed.: 12:45, 1:15, 1:45, 2:15, 4:00, 4:30, 5:00, 5:30, 7:15, 7:45, 8:15, 9:00
- COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00
Fri.-Tues.: 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 3:20, 3:50, 4:20, 6:40, 7:10, 8:00, 10:00, 10:30
Wed.: 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 3:20, 3:50, 4:20, 7:10, 8:00, 10:30
- HUNTINGTON 7, HUNTINGTON**
Thurs.: 12:00, 12:15, 12:30, 3:10, 3:25, 3:40, 6:20, 6:35, 6:50, 9:30, 9:45, 10:00
Fri.-Wed.: 12:15, 3:25, 6:20, 6:35, 9:30, 9:45
- JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 12:00 (IMAX), 12:15, 1:15, 2:15, 3:00, 3:30 (IMAX), 3:45, 4:45, 5:45, 6:30, 7:00 (IMAX), 7:15, 8:15, 9:15, 10:00, 10:30 (IMAX), 10:45
Fri.-Sun.: 11:15, 12:00, 12:30 (IMAX), 1:00, 2:00, 2:45, 3:30, 4:00 (IMAX), 4:30, 5:30, 6:15, 7:00, 7:30 (IMAX), 8:00, 9:00, 9:45, 10:30, 11:00 (IMAX)
Mon.-Wed.: 12:00 (IMAX), 12:15, 1:15, 1:40, 3:00, 3:30 (IMAX), 3:45, 4:45, 5:45, 6:30, 7:00 (IMAX), 7:15, 8:15, 9:15, 10:00, 10:30 (IMAX), 10:45
- NORTH POINTE 9, WARSAW**
Thurs.: 5:00, 6:00, 7:00
Fri.: 5:00, 6:00, 7:15, 8:00, 9:00
Sat.: 2:00, 3:00, 4:00, 5:00, 6:00, 7:15, 8:00, 9:00
Sun.: 2:00, 3:00, 4:00, 5:00, 6:00
Mon.-Wed.: 5:00, 6:00, 6:45
- NORTHWOOD CINEMA GRILL, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 6:30
Fri.: 4:15, 7:30
Sat.: 12:15, 4:00, 7:15
Sun.: 12:15, 3:30, 6:30
Mon.-Wed.: 6:30
- SILVER SCREEN CINEMA, GARRETT**
Friday-Sunday, Dec. 6-8 only
Fri.: 7:00
Sat.-Sun.: 2:00, 7:00
- STRAND THEATRE, KENDALLVILLE**

Thurs.: 7:00
Fri.-Sun.: 2:00, 7:00
Mon.-Wed.: 7:00

INSIDIOUS CHAPTER 2 (PG13) — Patrick Wilson and Rose Byrne return for more in this sequel to director James Wan and screenwriter Leigh Whannell's horror film about a boy whose son (Ty Simpkins) is a vessel for spirits from an astral dimension.

- COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 12:05, 2:20, 4:40, 7:00, 9:20
Fri.-Wed.: 12:05, 2:20, 4:35, 6:55, 9:15

JACKASS PRESENTS: BAD GRANDPA (R) — Unlike previous *Jackass* movies, this one's got a plot. Otherwise, it's more of the same. Johnny Knoxville plays the 86-year-old grandfather.

- CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 6:30, 9:00
Fri.-Wed.: 7:40, 10:00
- JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 7:40, 10:40
Fri.-Sun.: 8:15, 10:45
Mon.-Wed.: 7:40, 10:40
- NORTH POINTE 9, WARSAW**
Thurs.: 7:15
Fri.: 9:15
Sat.: 7:15, 9:15
Sun.-Wed.: 7:15

LAST VEGAS (PG13) — Robert De Niro, Michael Douglas, Morgan Freeman and Kevin Kline do their best to replicate the success of *The Hangover*, except with old guys. Probably more fun to make than it will be to watch.

- CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE**
Daily: 1:40, 4:15, 6:50, 9:20
- COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.-Sun.: 6:40, 9:15
Mon.-Wed.: 12:40, 3:10, 6:40, 9:15
- JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE**
Ends Thursday, Dec. 5
Thurs.: 1:00, 4:25
- NORTH POINTE 9, WARSAW**
Thurs.: 5:00
Fri.: 5:00, 7:15
Sat.-Sun.: 2:45, 5:00
Mon.-Wed.: 5:00

LEE DANIELS' THE BUTLER (PG13) — The story of a White House butler who served eight presidents and witnessed changes from the 50s to the 80s.

- COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE**
Daily: 12:50, 3:25, 6:35, 9:10
- JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE**
Starts Friday, Dec. 6
Fri.-Sun.: 5:15, 11:10
Mon.-Wed.: 4:30, 10:15

MONSTERS UNIVERSITY (G) — Billy Crystal, John Goodman, Steve Buscemi and Helen Mirren lend their voices to this *Monsters, Inc.* prequel that tells the story of how Mike and Sully became best friends.

- COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE**
Daily: 12:00, 2:15, 4:30

THE MOTEL LIFE (R) — Emile Hirsch and Stephen Dorff star in this drama about two brothers who flee their Reno Motel after getting involved in a fatal hit-and-run accident.

- CINEMA CENTER, FORT WAYNE**
Ends Thursday, Dec. 5
Thurs.: 6:15

MUSCLE SHOALS (PG) — This documentary about the famed Alabama recording studio features appearances by Aretha Franklin, Gregg Allman, Mick Jagger, Percy Sledge, Bono, Etta James and many other stars of rock n' roll and R&B.

- CINEMA CENTER, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 3:00
Mon.: 5:30

Wed.: 3:00

OUT OF THE FURNACE (R) — Christian Bale, Casey Affleck, Woody Harrelson and Forest Whitaker star in this crime drama from director Scott Cooper (*Crazy Heart*).

- CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE**
Starts Friday, Dec. 6
Fri.-Wed.: 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00
- COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE**
Starts Friday, Dec. 6
Fri.-Wed.: 12:50, 4:40, 7:00, 9:50
- JEFFERSON POINTE , FORT WAYNE**
Starts Friday, Dec. 6
Fri.-Sun.: 12:20, 4:30, 7:40, 10:40
Mon.-Wed.: 12:35, 4:30, 7:50, 10:45

PERCY JACKSON: SEA OF MONSTERS (PG) — The first film in this series based on Rick Riordan's bestselling teen adventure novels crashed and burned. Most of the cast returns (Logan Lerman, Brandon T. Jackson, Alexandra Daddario) with a new director, Thor Freudenthal.

- COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE**
Daily: 12:20, 2:35, 5:00, 7:25, 9:45

PLANES (PG) — If you can make a hit movie with talking cars, then why not with planes? Disney's planning three of them. Lots of stars involved, including Dane Cook, John Cleese, Sinbad and Brent Musburger.

- COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 12:25, 2:30, 4:35, 6:45, 9:00
Fri.-Wed.: 12:25, 2:25

PRISONERS (R) — Denise Villeneuve's crime thriller stars Hugh Jackman, Jake Gyllenhaal, Viola Davis, Paul Dano and a bunch of other stars.

- COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 12:15, 3:15, 6:25, 9:25
Fri.-Wed.: 4:25, 7:35

RUSH (R) — Chris Hemsworth and Daniel Brühl (*Inglourious Basterds*, *The Bourne Ultimatum*) star in Ron Howard's action drama about the fierce rivalry between Formula One drivers James Hunt and Niki Lauda in 1976.

- COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 12:45, 3:20, 6:35, 9:30
Fri.-Wed.: 12:45, 3:20, 6:30, 9:30

THOR: THE DARK WORLD (PG13) — Chris Hemsworth flexes muscles and throws hammers as he battles to save Earth and assorted other realms from a shadowy enemy. Natalie Portman and Tom Hiddleston co-star.

- CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 2:00, 5:00, 8:00, 10:00
Fri.-Sat.: 2:00, 5:00, 8:00, 11:00
Sun.-Wed.: 2:00, 5:00, 8:00
- COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 1:10, 4:20 (3D), 7:35, 10:20
Fri.-Wed.: 12:25, 3:30, 6:50, 9:40
- HUNTINGTON 7, HUNTINGTON**
Thurs.: 11:00, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40
Fri.-Wed.: 11:00, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:50
- JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 12:20, 4:15, 7:20, 10:05
Fri.-Wed.: 12:25, 3:30, 6:50, 9:40
- NORTH POINTE 9, WARSAW**
Thurs.: 5:00, 7:25 (3D)
Fri.: 5:45, 8:15 (3D)
Sat.: 3:00, 5:45, 8:15 (3D)
Sun.: 3:00, 5:45 (3D)
Mon.-Wed.: 4:45, 7:00 (3D)

WE'RE THE MILLERS (R) — Jason Sudeikis puts together a bogus family (Jennifer Aniston, Emma Roberts and Will Poulter) in order to make a Mexican marijuana buy without arousing suspicion in this comedy directed by Rawson Marshall Thurber.

- COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE**
Daily: 12:30, 2:45, 5:05, 7:30, 9:50

'Tis the Movie Season

November, December and January are my favorite months of the year. It's during this chilly span that many of the year's best films are finally released to the public. They're often presented over a five-week period right before the Oscar eligibility season concludes, but they scatter around the country all through the winter, keeping our artsy hearts warm and toasty. This past weekend I saw three of the year's most notable releases, including the film that will likely win the Best Picture Oscar (*12 Years a Slave*), the film that will likely make the most money in 2013 (*The Hunger Games: Catching Fire*), and the film that will perhaps go down as the year's most impressive artistic screen work (*Blue is the Warmest Color*). Though I'm still working to wrap my head around each of these flicks, I figure now — while all three movies are still in the theater — is the best time to share some thoughts (I will, naturally, share more in my year-end "best of" write-up).

Blue is the Warmest Color: I'm a guy with rules. For example, I can only walk up the last set of stairs when exiting the platform at the Church Avenue subway station in Brooklyn. No other set of stairs makes my cut in that particular station. To explain this I would require about an hour of your time and likely more patience than you've got for such matters. Also, certain lights in my house don't get turned on; I cook Ramen in a very specific, labored manner; no one is allowed to touch my face, ever; and I check my pants zipper approximately 347 times each day (or at least every time I walk into a room). As you can see, I have an endless amount of rules that govern my days. A man needs a code, right?

One of my 4 billion other personal rules states that I see whatever film wins the Palme d'Or prize (an honor that, to the world of cinema, means more than the Best Picture Oscar) at the Cannes Film Festival every year at the theater, then again at home. It doesn't matter what said film is about, what language it's in or who made the film. This year's winner was a French movie from *The Secret of the Grain* director Abdellatif Kechiche, and it's called *Blue is the Warmest Color*. Kechiche's film is over three hours long and tells the sprawling, if not always eventful, love story of two young lesbians (played by Adele Exarchopoulos and Lea Seydoux). It features several unthinkably extended, very authentic sex scenes that are bound to make any audience member feel very awkward as they sit in a room full of strangers, so *Warmest* isn't exactly *Die Hard*. To my surprise, I was glued to the screen from the first shot, in which we see Adele, our protagonist, catching a bus for school.

We see Adele's sexual awakening. She tries out boys but can't stop thinking about Emma, this blue-haired gal (Seydoux) she happened to notice in the square. Eventually Adele and Emma hook up and have a beautiful love. I'll tell you no more, but that it all feels very authentic and even profound. The style of storytelling is masterful and the lead performances — especially by Exarchopoulos — are two of the year's best. I left the theater buzzing, wanting to see this three-hour love story again as soon as possible. It is, I think, a new major classic. [A+]

The Hunger Games: Catching Fire: I won some contest that allowed me a ticket to see the second *Hunger Games* flick for free before it was released. I enjoyed the first film well enough and had read that the second was supposed to be even better. At the moment it's no rare news that this flick, starring Jennifer Lawrence, is the year's biggest movie. Chances are you know what it's about and probably already saw it. Either that, or you hope to never see it, which is understandable.

For me, a film like this is pure escapism. Pure entertainment. And, on those two levels, *Catching Fire* delivered just fine. Director Francis Lawrence (*I Am Legend*) did a stellar job handling the epic production, and Lawrence once again holds the whole thing together with her Katniss. The addition of actors like Jeffrey Wright and Philip Seymour Hoffman to what was already an interesting cast (especially notable are Lawrence, Woody Harrelson and Stanley Tucci) is a nice touch, though I would've liked to have seen a lot more Hoffman. Clocking in at a substantial 146 minutes, I found that the film passed quickly and maybe even ended too abruptly. Considering how poorly the books are written and how hands-on the studio has been with the production of these films, I think they're turning out surprisingly good. Great? I really won't be able to say until a few years have passed and I've seen them all multiple times. What matters for a film like *Catching Fire*, I suppose, is that people love it. And, in this case, they most certainly do. [B]

12 Years a Slave: Considered to be the front runner for the 2014 Best Picture Oscar, writer/director Steve McQueen's third feature is undeni-



ScreenTime
GREG W. LOCKE

Continued on page 23

Current Exhibits

ALCOVE AND FRIENDS HOLIDAY SHOW — Works by members of regional artists cooperative, **Monday-Friday thru Dec. 20** Arts Place, Portland, 726-4809

ART FARM HOLIDAY STUDIO SHOW — Works by Lisa Vetter, Paul Siefert and other local and regional artists, **Wednesday-Sunday, Dec. 7-29** (opening reception 5-10 p.m. **Friday, Dec. 6**), The Art Farm, Spencerville, 238-4755

ART FOR THE HOLIDAYS: FEATURING HANDMADE ORNAMENTS & NATIVITIES — Holiday-themed ornaments and art from regional artists, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Dec. 31** (except **Thanksgiving and Christmas Day**), The Orchard Gallery of Fine Art, Fort Wayne, 436-0927

ART SQUARED — Juried show featuring bodies of work by 60 artists in their chosen media displaying 20 small square panels together in a group of 4 panels across and 5 panels down, **daily thru Jan. 4** (artist reception 6-8 p.m. **Thursday, Dec. 19**), Artworks Galleria of Fine Art, Fort Wayne, 387-6943

CASH & CARRY HOLIDAY EXHIBIT — Holiday art, **daily thru Jan. 5**, Clark Gallery, Honeywell Center, Wabash, 563-1102, www.honeywellcenter.org

C.W. MUNDY: AMERICAN IMPRESSIONIST — Recent paintings by Hoosier artist C.W. Mundy and other local and national artists, **Tuesday-Saturday and by appointment thru Dec. 7**, Castle Gallery Fine Art, Fort Wayne, 426-6568, www.castlegallery.com

DECATUR SCULPTURE TOUR — Features 20 sculptures on display, **daily thru May 31**, 2nd & Monroe Streets, Decatur, 724-2604, www.decatursculpturetour.com

DIANE GROENERT AND TOM FUHRMAN — Oil paintings and blown glass **daily, Dec. 6-Jan. 19** (artists' reception 5:30-7 p.m. **Friday, Dec. 6**) at First Presbyterian Gallery, Fort Wayne, 426-7421, www.firstpres-fw.org

ELECTRICITY — Traveling exhibition exploring electricity through highly engaging hands-on displays with live currents, motors, batteries, wires and more, **Wednesday-Sunday thru January 5**, Science Central, Fort Wayne, \$6-\$8 (2 and under, free), 424-2400 ext. 423

FIRESIDE CHRISTMAS — Holiday showcase, **Tuesday-Saturday thru Jan. 5**, Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory, 427-6440

FRANK LILJEGREN — Over 20 finished works and examples of preliminary studies, photographs and source material in commercial illustration, **Monday-Friday thru Dec. 20**, Goldfish Gallery, University of St. Francis, Fort Wayne, 497-0417, www.sf.edu/sf/art/events/galleries

GET UP. STAY UP. — Mixed media works utilizing reclaimed and recycled materials by Daniel Dienelt, Seth Harris, Eric Tarr and Jerrod Tobias, **Tuesday-Saturday thru Dec. 17**, Crestwoods Frame Shop & Gallery, Roanoke, 672-2080

GRAPHICANOS: CONTEMPORARY LATINO PRINTS FROM THE SERIE PROJECT — Serigraphic works created over the past two decades, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Jan. 5**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, \$5-\$7 (members, free), 422-6467, www.fwmoa.org

GREG BECKER — Acrylics, **Tuesday-Saturday thru Dec. 31**, Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory, 427-6440

HARD EDGE, COOL LOGIC: GEOMETRIC ABSTRACTION IN THE 20TH CENTURY — Geometric works by post WWII artists, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Jan. 26**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, \$5-\$7 (members, free), 422-6467, www.fwmoa.org

HOLIDAY SHOW — National and regional artists exhibited in a Richardsonian Romanesque home decked out for the holidays, **Tuesday-Saturday and by appointment Dec. 7-Jan. 10**, Castle Gallery Fine Art, Fort Wayne, 426-6568, www.castlegallery.com

HOLIDAY SHOW — Handmade nativities and ornaments made from clay, glass, wood, fiber, metal and more, **Monday-Saturday thru Dec. 31**, Orchard Gallery of Fine Art, Fort Wayne, 436-0927

ILLUSTRATORS 55 — A traveling exhibition presented by New York Society of Illustrators, **daily except Thanksgiving Day thru Dec. 20**, John P. Weatherhead Gallery, Mimi and Ian Rolland Art and Visual Communication Center, University of St. Francis, Fort Wayne, 497-0417, www.sf.edu/sf/art/events/galleries

INDELIBLE IMPRESSIONS: THE POLITICS OF THE SOCIAL IN CONTEMPORARY ART — Prints addressing socio/political life from printmakers such as Luis Jiménez, Faith Ringgold and Jaume Plensa, **Quick-to-See Smith, Tuesday-Sunday thru Jan. 5**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, \$5-\$7 (members, free), 422-6467, www.fwmoa.org

L'INNAMORATO — A collection of work that explores over 25 local, national and international artists' interpretations of the enamored, a focus on responses to those that inspire, motivate and drive the human experience, **Tuesday-Saturday, thru Dec. 21**, Potters Wife Gallery, Fort Wayne, 420-8300

MARYANNE HALSEY — Watercolor paintings by local artist, **Wednesday-Sunday, Dec. 1-31**, Katharos Art & Gift, Roanoke, 676-2445

MEDITATIVE SURFACES — Introspective works from Chicago artists Deanna Krueger, Maggie Meiners and Charles Gniech, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Jan. 14**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, \$5-\$7 (members, free), 422-6467, www.fwmoa.org

PAUL DEMAREE — Oil paintings of Acres Land Trust trails, **daily thru Dec. 31**, Firefly Coffee House, Fort Wayne, 373-0505, fireflycoffee-housefw.com

PIÑATA PARADISE — Showcase of piñatas in the Desert Garden, **Tuesday-Saturday thru Dec. 8**, Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory, 427-6440

SOLE NATURE! — Multi-media visionary works by Brandon Zsolnay, Camille Hayes and Elizabeth Balzer, **Friday-Sunday thru Jan. 5**, 3R Gallery, Fort Wayne, 493-0913

VARIATION UPON A THEME: SONIC OF THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD — Johnny Coleman's installations combining salvaged and handcrafted objects, fragment materials and sound elements, **Tuesday-Sunday thru March 9**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, \$5-\$7 (members, free), 422-6467, www.fwmoa.org

WILLIAM AND JOAN McNAGY COLLECTION OF SACRED ICONS — Collection of Byzantine and religious icons from the 17th-19th century with multi-colored enamels on brass and paintings on wood, **Monday-Friday thru Jan. 17**, Lupke Gallery, University of St. Francis, Fort Wayne, 399-7999, www.sf.edu/sf/art/events/galleries

Artifacts

CALLS FOR ENTRY

34TH ANNUAL NATIONAL PRINT EXHIBITION (DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS: JAN. 24) — Prospectus online at www.artlinkfw.com, or mail S.A.S.E. to Artlink, Auer Center for the Arts, 300 E. Main St., Fort Wayne, IN 46802; 424-7195

EVENTS

INDIVIDUAL ARTIST PROJECT WORKSHOP — Indiana Arts Commission workshop on grant applications for artists **1-3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14**, Artlink, 424-7195, www.artlinkfw.com

Upcoming Events

DECEMBER

9TH REGIONAL WINNERS EXHIBITION — Works from regional artists, **Tuesday-Sunday, Dec. 13-Jan. 15** (opening reception 6-9 p.m. **Friday, Dec. 13**) Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, 424-7195, www.artlinkfw.com/category/exhibitions/

ARTWORK BY LINDA BINEK — Abstract expressionistic works by contemporary Fort Wayne artist, **Tuesday-Sunday, Dec. 13-Jan. 15**, Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, 424-7195, www.artlinkfw.com/category/exhibitions/

EXPRESSIONS OF LOVE & LOSS — Exhibition featuring the works of the late J.R. Shimer, **Tuesday-Sunday, Dec. 13-Jan. 15** (opening reception 6-9 p.m. **Friday, Dec. 13**), Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, 424-7195, www.artlinkfw.com/category/exhibitions/

JANUARY

ANABEL HOPKINS, TRANSITIONS: IMPRESSIONIST TO ABSTRACT — Works by Brown County, Indiana artist, **daily, Jan. 7-Feb. 9**, Clark Gallery, Honeywell Center, Wabash, 563-1102, www.honeywellcenter.org

NEW MEDIA EXPLORATION: MICHAEL DINGES, DENNIS LEE MITCHELL, BRETT FREUND, ALESSANDRO BAVARI — Non-traditional drawings formed by engravings in man-made plastic objects and smoke applied to paper, ceramics formed with wax, digital images and multi-media animation, **daily, Jan. 18-Feb. 26, 2014** (opening reception 6-9 p.m. **January 18, 2014**), John P. Weatherhead & Goldfish Galleries, Mimi and Ian Rolland Art and Visual Communication Center, University of St. Francis, Fort Wayne, 399-7999, www.sf.edu/sf/art/events/galleries

RANDY JACKSON AND CURTIS ROSE — Photography and Mobius, **daily, Jan. 24-March 2** (artists' reception **Saturday, Jan. 25**) at First Presbyterian Gallery, Fort Wayne, 426-7421, www.firstpres-fw.org

FEBRUARY

92 COUNTY ART SHOW — Works by Indiana artists, **daily, Feb. 12-March 12**, Clark Gallery, Honeywell Center, Wabash, 563-1102, www.honeywellcenter.org

MARCH

38TH ANNUAL HIGH SCHOOL ART EXHIBITION — Student artwork from over 25 high schools from Indiana, Ohio and Michigan, **Daily, March 6-23, 2014** (opening reception and awards, 6-8 p.m. **Thursday, March 6, 2014**), John P. Weatherhead Gallery, Mimi and Ian Rolland Art and Visual Communication Center, University of St. Francis, Fort Wayne, 497-0417, www.sf.edu/sf/art/events/galleries

PENNY FRENCH-DEAL AND KAY KOHLER — Watercolors and baskets, **daily, March 7-April 20** (artists' reception 5:30-7 p.m. **Friday, March 7**) at First Presbyterian Gallery, Fort Wayne, 426-7421, www.firstpres-fw.org

A Perfect Chemistry

There's a theatrical concept called "willing suspension of disbelief." It gives the audience permission to accept the impossible in order to enjoy and appreciate the story.

Same Time, Next Year, now running at Arena Dinner Theatre, doesn't really require much willing suspension of disbelief. But for a handful of audience members it may require something one could call "willing suspension of moral judgment."

The two-person play follows George and Doris – both happily married to other people – who meet at the same hotel room every year for an affair. Over the course of 24 years their relationship grows as they themselves change, reflecting the changing times in American history from 1951 to 1975 (the year the play was written).

The affair becomes more about emotional intimacy than physical attraction (although they have that too), and they both struggle with feelings of guilt about their affair. As much as they grow to love one another, they also grow to care about one another's families through the stories they tell each other. The stories are hilarious and heartbreaking and the couple share a closeness they could never experience with their own spouses.

The show doesn't ask the audience to condone infidelity. My über-Catholic mother actually saw and enjoyed the 1978 film starring Alan Alda and Ellen Burstyn. She understood that the story reflects on what it means to be in a faithful relationship and what it means to experience satisfying human connection. You root for the pair to find lasting happiness together but question whether their getting together permanently is what they really want or need.

Director Brian H. Wagner cast Kevin Knuth and Gloria Minnich who are close friends offstage and have worked together a number of times in the past. Their natural chemistry shines through onstage as well. In the first scene, Doris is a naïve young housewife and George is a neurotic accountant. As the years go by, both characters evolve as the country does.

Twice, Knuth's performance moved me to tears – once at the climax of an argument and once during a surprising telephone conversation.

Continued on page 23



Curtain Call JEN POIRY-PROUGH

SAME TIME NEXT YEAR
7 p.m. Friday-Saturday,
Dec. 6-7, 13-14 & 20-21
1 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8
Arena Dinner Theatre
719 Rockhill St., Fort Wayne
Tix.: \$35, 424-5622

Now Playing

HENRY AND MUDGE — Page-to-Stage matinee based on the children's book, 10 a.m. & 12 p.m. Monday, Dec. 9, Honeywell Center, Wabash, \$5-\$8, 563-1102, www.honeywell-center.org

MADRIGAL DINNER THEATRE — Dinner and Christmas entertainment, 6:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 6-Dec. 7 Honeywell Center, Wabash, \$55, 563-1102, www.honeywell-center.org

SAME TIME, NEXT YEAR — Romantic comedy focusing on two people, married to others, who meet for a romantic tryst once a year for 25 years, rated PG13 for mature subject matter, 8 p.m. (7 p.m. dinner) Friday-Saturday, Dec. 6-7; 2 p.m. (1 p.m. dinner) Sunday, Dec. 8; 8 p.m. (7 p.m. dinner) Friday-Saturday, Dec. 13-14 & 20-21, Arena Dinner Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$35 (includes dinner & show), 424-5622

Asides

AUDITIONS

MONTY PYTHON'S SPAMALOT (Feb. 22-March 9, 2014) — Roles for singers/actors in Civic Theatre's musical comedy, 7-11 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8 (callbacks 7-10 p.m. Monday, Dec. 9), Arts United Center, Fort Wayne, 422-8641 ext. 226

EVENTS

BIPPITY-BOPPITY BALL — Dinner and meet-and-greet with Russian Ballet performers prior to performance of *Cinderella*, 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 21, Niswonger Center for the Performing Arts, Van Wert, Ohio, \$10-\$15, 419-238-6722, www.npacvw.org

Calendar • Stage & Dance

Upcoming Productions

DECEMBER

FPT CHRISTMAS REVUE — Musical sketches about Christmas and the holiday season by Jack Canteley, 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 5-7; 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8; 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 13-14; 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 15; 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 20-21; 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 22 First Presbyterian Theater, Fort Wayne, \$10-\$24, 426-7421, firstpres-fw.org

MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS — Musical based upon the film by the same name about a family living in St. Louis on the eve of the 1904 World's Fair, 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6; 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7, Bishop Luers High School, Fort Wayne, \$10, 456-1261 ext. 3114

JUST IN THE NICK OF TIME — Christmas production by Off Stage Productions, 7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 6-7 & 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8, Marsh Foundation Auditorium, Van Wert, Ohio, \$3-\$7 at door, 419-605-6708

MAX & RUBY IN THE NUTCRACKER SUITE — Family musical performance, 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7, Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$20-\$35 thru Ticketmaster and Embassy box office, 424-5665

THE NUTCRACKER — Fort Wayne Ballet annual holiday performance of the Tchaikovsky classic about a young girl, her precious nutcracker and their battle to enter the Kingdom of Sweets (Sugar Plum Party immediately follows matinee performances; Dec. 6-7 performances feature Fort Wayne Philharmonic and Fort Wayne Children's Choir), 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6; 2:30 & 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7; 2:30 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 8; 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 10; 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 13; 2:30 & 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14; 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 15, Arts United Center, Fort Wayne, \$15-\$45, 484-9646, www.fortwayneballet.org

OUR TOWN — IPFW Department of Theatre presents a contemporary approach to the Pulitzer Prize-winning play by Thornton Wilder about life in a New England town; starring and directed by *Frasier's* Dan Butler, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 6-7; 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8; 8 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, Dec. 10-14; sign language performance 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 15; high school matinee 10 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 11, Studio Theatre, Kettler Hall, IPFW, ages 6 and up, \$5-\$20 thru IPFW box office 481-6555, www.ipfw.edu/theatre

SANTALAND DIARIES — David Sedaris' comedic chronicle of his time working as an elf at Macy's which covers preliminary group lectures, inter-elf flirtation and more, 7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 6-7 & 7 p.m. Friday-Sunday, Dec. 12-14, Wunderkammer Company, Fort Wayne, \$10, 908-3776

NUTS & CRACKERS — Fort Wayne Dance Collective holiday program, 2 p.m. Monday, Dec. 15, South Side High School Auditorium, Fort Wayne, \$11-\$13, 424-6574, tickets.artstix.org

SANTA CLAUS IN OZ — Play featuring Santa Claus and the cast of *Wizard of Oz*, presented by Fort Wayne Theatre, 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 20; 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 21; 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 22, Arts United Center, Fort Wayne, \$10-15, 422-4226, www.fortwayneyoutheatre.org

ipfw dept of theatre

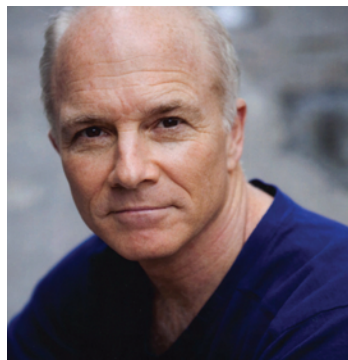
Our Town

Directed by and Starring Dan Butler

Dec. 6 – 15
Studio Theatre

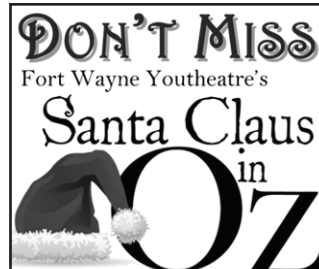
Admission:
\$5 IPFW students/H.S. students/ Children under 18
All Others \$20 and under

IPFW Box Office
260-481-6555
www.ipfw.edu/tickets
www.ipfw.edu/theatre



The beloved, Pulitzer Prize-winning play about daily life in the New England town of Grover's Corners, New Hampshire.

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE
BRIANA UNIVERSITY-PURDUE UNIVERSITY FORT WAYNE
COLLEGE OF VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS
IPFW is an Equal Opportunity/Equal Access University.



The Scarecrow, Cowardly Lion, and the Tin Man welcome Santa into Oz each year – but one tribe objects. A trial is held! Will the children of Oz receive gifts from Santa this year? Join the fun and find out!

Performances

Friday, Dec 20-7pm
Saturday, Dec 21-11am
Sunday, Dec 22-2pm

www.fortwayneyoutheatre.org

Office: 260.422.6900

Tickets: 260.422.4226

Arts United Center
303 E. Main Street



A new musical revue of songs, dances, and sketches to put you in the Christmas spirit. Playwright Jack Canteley's clever comedy, and Jim Mergenthal's wonderful music selections will put the joy of Christmas in your heart for the holiday season. Assembled by Jack Canteley, Thom Hofrichter and Jim Mergenthal. Direction by Thom Hofrichter, musical direction by Jim Mergenthal and choreography by Sara Black.

December 5-22, 2013
for tickets

260-422-6329

www.firstpresbyteriantheater.com

300 West Wayne Street
Fort Wayne, IN 46802



Arena Dinner Theatre
presents

Bernard Slade's



Nov. 29-Dec. 21

Starring Gloria Minnich
and Kevin Knuth

Produced through special
arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

Call theatre or visit online for show
times and ticket information.

Arena Dinner Theatre
719 Rockhill St., Fort Wayne

(260) 424-5622

arenadinnertheatre.org

Featured Events

CAA PRIVATE MUSIC INSTRUCTION — Private music lessons 30, 45 or 60 minutes in length for children and adults for voice and a variety of instruments through IPFW Community Arts Academy, times and dates vary, Rhinehart Music Center, IPFW, prices vary, 481-6713, www.ipfw.edu/caa/

SWEETWATER ACADEMY OF MUSIC — Private lessons for a variety of instruments available from professional instructors, ongoing weekly lessons, Sweetwater Sound, Fort Wayne, \$100 per month, 432-8176 ext. 1961, academy.sweetwater.com

This Week

PEARL HARBOR DAY REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY — Commemoration of the men and women who lost their lives in the attack that led to the United States' entry into World War II, **11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 7**, Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, free, 480-3710

ARTAMENTS — Ornaments decorated by local artists displayed and auctioned off to raise funds for Cinema Center, **6-9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7**, Cinema Center, Fort Wayne, \$20-\$25, 426-3456

BREAKFAST WITH ST. NICHOLAS — Breakfast and family activities, **9:45 a.m.-12 noon Saturday, Dec. 7**, check-in at north campus foyer, University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne, \$5-\$10 (purchase tickets by Dec. 3 at <http://stnicholas.eventbrite.com>), 399-8037

CHRISTMAS AT HOME WITH THE SWINNEY SISTERS — Christmas program w/ traditional music and refreshments, **2 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 7-8**, Historic Swinney Homestead, Fort Wayne, \$15/person, 489-7115

CHRISTMAS IN THE CASTLE — Tours of Brookside, the former Bass mansion, decorated for the holidays, **noon-5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 7-8 & 14-15**, \$5 (\$20 family of six or more), 399-8140

CHRISTMAS ON THE FARM — Traditional celebration featuring live Nativity scene, wagon rides, a visit from Father Christmas, entertainment and more, **1-5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7**, Salomon Farm Park, Fort Wayne, free (donations appreciated), 427-6028

FESTIVAL OF GINGERBREAD — 28th annual exhibit of over 100 edible gingerbread creations as well as Wolf and Dessauer display of animatronic characters and an exhibit of "A Christmas Carol" watercolors from the Patterson Fletcher Department Store, **Friday-Sunday thru Dec. 15 (9 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Thurs., 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Fri., 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Sat., noon-5 p.m. Sun.)**, The History Center, Fort Wayne, \$3-\$5, 426-2882, www.fwhistorycenter.com/events.html#gingerbread

HOLIDAY COOKIE WALK — Benefit for the Christ Child Society, **8:30 a.m.-12 noon Saturday, Dec. 7**, St. Vincent Catholic Church, Wallen Road, Fort Wayne, www.christchildfw.org

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE — Tour of facility, visits with animals and refreshments, **3-7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 11**, Animal Care & Control, Fort Wayne, donations accepted, 427-1244

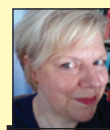
LIVING NATIVITY w/CHILDREN'S PETTING ZOO — The Christmas story narrated by the character of Saint Francis, **6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8** (petting zoo, **5-5:45 p.m.**), amphitheater next to Pope John Paul II Center, University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne, free, <http://sf.edu/sf/alumni/events/christmas-at-usf>

Run, Run As Fast As You Can

I don't think I'd be going out on a limb or dipping into controversial waters to say that I love the holiday season and think it's a definite highlight of life in Fort Wayne. The downtown area, once so desolate, is now thriving, and the last five weeks of the month are particularly exciting. The classic and beloved Santa-on-the-Wall, the lit wreath, the decorated street lamps and building facades — and that only adds to the fun of the activities which take place during those days. From the Embassy's Festival of Trees to the special exhibits at the Botanical Conservatory and the holiday productions on downtown stages, there's plenty to add to the annual festivities.

One recent addition to the proceedings is the Gingerbread Pursuit, a walk/run event hosted by VEEP racing, the same organization (led by City Councilman Mitch Harper) responsible for the recent Galloping Gobbler and upcoming Huff 50K challenge. The Gingerbread Pursuit, now in its third year, hosted over 400 hearty souls last year and allows participants to travel through the streets of downtown Fort Wayne amidst all of the holiday splendor. At the end of the December 14 jaunt is a stop at the Art Deco Tower Bank lobby where there will be gingerbread cupcakes and cookies. Who says fitness has to be about self-denial?

Harper admits that even he has been surprised by the enthusiasm for the Pursuit's mascot — a Gingerbread Man — and live reindeer which greet those at the end of the route, both of which are popular photo ops for those who stick around to claim their cupcake. And those treats and pleasures are well-



Fare Warning
Michele DeVinney

earned. The four-mile track begins on East Wayne near Clay at 8:30 that morning and includes the Rivergreenway and the still-new Martin Luther King Jr. bridge on Clinton. (Harper admits that the logistics for this event were challenged during the bridge's construction, so this year's inclusion of the beautiful landmark has made things easier for everyone.) Distractions along the way are always the key to a fun run or walk, and the four miles is only slightly longer than the very popular 5K events which take place regularly these days. And to make the pot even sweeter, proceeds will help benefit the programs at The History Center.

Since this particular race takes place only days after my own (gasp!) 52nd birthday, I think I'll join the hundreds of other holiday revelers that morning to bask in the glow of holiday spirit — not to mention gingerbread cupcake glory. If you want to join me there, check out the online registration at www.veepraces.com or pick up a paper form at the Three Rivers Running Company on North Clinton and at Fleet Feet Sports at the Village of Coventry. And feel free to don a Santa cap or reindeer antlers for the occasion. You likely won't be alone.

michele.whatzup@gmail.com

SANTA AND THE REINDEER — Visit Santa and two reindeer, **12 noon-4 p.m. Saturdays, Dec. 7, 14 & 21**, Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory, Fort Wayne, \$3-\$5 (2 and under free), 427-6440

STAR OF BETHLEHEM — 90-minute program exploring the path of the Wise Men in the year 3 B.C., **3 & 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7; 12:30 & 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8; 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 13; 3 & 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14; 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 15; 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 20; 3 & 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 21; 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 22**, Schouweiler Planetarium, Achatz Hall of Science, University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne, \$3-\$4 (\$14 maximum per family), 399-7700

Lectures, Discussions, Readings & Films

DUNS SCOTUS, ARCHITECT OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION — Lecture by Dr. Earl Kimfer, part of the USF faculty lecture series, **3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8**, Gunderson Auditorium, Achatz Hall of Science, University of St. Francis, Fort Wayne, free, 399-8066

WHAT IS LINGUISTICS? WHAT IS LANGUAGE — Lunch with an IPFW scientist program featuring Shannon Bischoff, associate professor of English, **11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14**, Science Central, Fort Wayne, \$10-\$15 (includes lunch), pre-registration required, 424-2400

BOOK SIGNING — Local author Dan Stockman signs his novel, *Brood X*, **4:30-6:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 19**, IPFW Bookstore, Walb Student Union, IPFW, Fort Wayne, free, 481-0300

FORT WAYNE SPORTS HISTORY — George R. Mather Lecture by Blake Sebring, **2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 5**, History Center, Fort Wayne, free, 426-2882

FIVE FEASTS OF THE CHILD JESUS — Lecture by Sister Felicity Dorsett, part of the USF faculty lecture series, **3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 12**, North Campus Auditorium, University of St. Francis, Fort Wayne, free, 399-8050

THE IMPACT OF SOCIAL MEDIA AND CYBER-TECHNOLOGY ON GENERATION Y — Religious forum and a simple lunch, **12-1:15 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 23**, Walb Student Union, IPFW, Fort Wayne, free, 481-6992

EARLY AFRICAN AMERICAN PIONEER FAMILIES — George R. Mather Lecture by Roma Stewart, **2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 2**, History Center, Fort Wayne, free, 426-2882

GIFTED FOR WORLD CHANGE — Religious forum and a simple lunch, **12-1:15 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 20**, Walb Student Union, IPFW, Fort Wayne, free, 481-6992

ICONOGRAPHY AND ICONOCLASM — Lecture by Dr. Adam DeVille and Dr. Esperanca Camara, part of the USF faculty lecture series, **1 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 20**, North Campus Auditorium, University of St. Francis, Fort Wayne, free, 399-8050

ORION SAMUELSON — WGN Radio's agribusiness director speaks, **3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 23**, Niswonger Performing Arts Center, Van Wert, Ohio, \$10-\$20, 419-238-6722, www.npacvw.org

THE IRISH IN FORT WAYNE AND HOW THEY CAME TO BE HERE — George R. Mather Lecture by Tom Logan, **2 p.m. Sunday, March 2**, History Center, Fort Wayne, free, 426-2882

CROSS-CULTURAL MINISTRY IN THE 21ST CENTURY — Religious forum and a simple lunch, **12-1:15 p.m. Thursday, March 20**, Walb Student Union, IPFW, Fort Wayne, free, 481-6992

EVERYTHING OLD IS NEW AGAIN: LINCOLN FINANCIAL GROUP'S ARCHIVES READ LIKE TODAY'S NEWSPAPER HEADLINES — George R. Mather Lecture by Nancy Jordan, **2 p.m. Sunday, April 6**, History Center, Fort Wayne, free, 426-2882

BOB KNIGHT — Former Indiana University basketball coach speaks, **7:30 p.m. Friday, April 11**, Honeywell Center, Wabash, \$24-\$75, 563-1102

Storytimes

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

STORYTIMES, 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

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

MAIN LIBRARY — PAWS to Read, **6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursdays thru Dec. 19**; Babies and Books Storytime, **10 a.m. Fridays thru Dec. 27**; Toddler Time Storytime, **10:30 & 11 a.m. Fridays thru Dec. 27**; Smart Start Storytime for ages 3 to 6, **10:30 a.m., Fridays thru Dec. 18**, 421-1220

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 Start 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

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

Kid Stuff

SATURDAY MORNING ART CLASSES — Drawing, painting, print-making, multi-media and ceramics classes for grades 1-8, **9-11 a.m., Saturdays thru Dec. 7** (no classes Nov. 30), University of St. Francis, Fort Wayne, \$75 (includes materials), 399-7700 ext. 8001

HALF-PINT SCIENCE — Science program for pre-schoolers, **10-11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 10**, Science Central, Fort Wayne, \$8-\$12 per child (with adult, pre-registration required), 424-2400

WINTER BREAK TABLETOP CRAFTS — Craft activities for kids **daily (except New Year's Day) Dec. 26-Jan. 5 (call for hours)**, Children's Services, Main Branch, Allen County Public Library, free, 421-1220

WINTER ART CAMP — Full day of activities with Artlink and the Fort Wayne Ballet, **9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday, Dec. 23 & 30 and Thursday-Friday, Jan. 2-3**, Auer Center for Arts and Culture, Fort Wayne, \$25-\$35 per day, 424-7195

WINTER BREAK CAMPS — Half-day and full-day day camps **9 a.m.-noon and 1-4 p.m. Monday, Dec. 23; Thursday-Friday, Dec. 26-27; and Monday, Dec. 30**, Science Central, Fort Wayne, \$20-\$35 per day, 424-2400

COLOR FULL! — Crafts, experiments and fun with colors, **2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 28**, Children's Services, Main Branch, Allen County Public Library, free, 421-1220

ART HERE: HOOSIER FAVORITE ARTIST? — A look at famous Indiana artists and a chance to create art of one's own, **2 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 3**, Children's Services, Main Branch, Allen County Public Library, free, 421-1220

SCIENCE EXPLORERS ZAP!: ENGINEERING AND MATH — Engineering and match experiments for grades K-5, **2 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 10**, Children's Services, Main Branch, Allen County Public Library, free, 421-1220

5-4-3-2-1 — HAPPY NOON YEAR — Countdown to noon (and the New Year, just a bit early) w/science activities, a soda pop toast and a noon balloon drop, **10 a.m.-2 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 31**, Science Central, Fort Wayne, admission fee, 424-2400

Dance

OPEN DANCES

SUNDAY SINGLES/COUPLES DANCES — Variety DJ music with ballroom dance, country, 50s-80s and current hits; cash bar available, **6-10 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 1, 15 & 29**, Westside Gardens Reception Hall, Fort Wayne, \$7, 609-8877

BALLROOM DANCE — Beginner open dance, **8:30-9:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 5**, American Style Ballroom, Fort Wayne, \$5, 480-7070

BALLROOM DANCE — Open dance, **8:30-10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6**, American Style Ballroom, Fort Wayne, \$5, 480-7070

BALLROOM DANCE — Beginner open dance, **8:30-9:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 12**, American Style Ballroom, Fort Wayne, \$5, 480-7070

BALLROOM DANCE — Open dance, **8:30-10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 13**, American Style Ballroom, Fort Wayne, \$5, 480-7070

DANCES OF UNIVERSAL PEACE — Participatory dances of meditation, joy, community and creating a peaceful world; no experience necessary, **7-10 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14**, Fort Wayne Dance Collective, Fort Wayne, \$5-\$10 suggested donation, fragrance free, 424-6574, fwc.org

BALLROOM DANCE — Open Fort Wayne Dancesport dance, **8-11 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14**, Walb Student Union Ballroom, IPFW, Fort Wayne, \$5-\$10, 348-6205

CONTRA DANCE — Contra dancing with a caller and live string band Band O'Goshen, **8-11 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 21** (beginner lessons at 7:30 p.m.), Fort Wayne Dance Collective, Fort Wayne, \$6-\$9 (12 and under, free), 244-1905

Spectator Sports

BASKETBALL

MAD ANTS — Upcoming home games at Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne

THURSDAY, DEC. 12, vs. Iowa, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, DEC. 14, vs. Idaho, 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, DEC. 22, vs. Canton, 5 p.m.

THURSDAY, DEC. 26, vs. Reno, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, DEC. 28, vs. Rio Grande Valley, 7:30 p.m.

MONDAY, DEC. 30, vs. Sioux Falls, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY, JAN. 3, vs. Iowa, 7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, JAN. 10, vs. Austin, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, JAN. 11, vs. Iowa, 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, JAN. 19, vs. Iowa, 5 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEB. 1, vs. Canton, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEB. 8, vs. Sioux Falls, 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 12, vs. Bakersfield, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, FEB. 13, vs. Sioux Falls, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEB. 22, vs. Sioux Falls, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 1, vs. Iowa, 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 16, vs. Delaware, 5 p.m.

TUESDAY, MARCH 18, vs. Los Angeles, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY, MARCH 28, vs. Springfield, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 29, vs. Springfield, 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, APRIL 3, vs. Maine, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL 3, vs. Los Angeles, 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, APRIL 4, vs. Iowa, 7:30 p.m.

HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS — 2014 Fans Rule World Tour, **7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 2** at Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, \$21-\$79, 483-1111

HOCKEY

KOMETS — Upcoming home games at Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne

SUNDAY, DEC. 15, vs. Evansville, 5 p.m.

FRIDAY, DEC. 20, vs. Reading, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, DEC. 21, vs. Reading, 7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, DEC. 27, vs. Toledo, 8 p.m.

SUNDAY, DEC. 29, vs. Gwinnett, 5 p.m.

TUESDAY, DEC. 31, vs. Toledo, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, JAN. 4, vs. Evansville, 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, JAN. 5, vs. Kalamazoo, 5 p.m.

SUNDAY, JAN. 12, vs. Kalamazoo, 5 p.m.

FRIDAY, JAN. 17, vs. Elmira, 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, JAN. 31, vs. Elmira, 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, FEB. 7, vs. Kalamazoo, 8 p.m.

SUNDAY, FEB. 9, vs. Kalamazoo, 5 p.m.

FRIDAY, FEB. 14, vs. Cincinnati, 8 p.m.

SUNDAY, FEB. 16, vs. Wheeling, 5 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 26, vs. Kalamazoo, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY, FEB. 28, vs. Greenville, 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, MARCH 14, vs. Florida, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 15, vs. Florida, 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, vs. Orlando, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY, MARCH 21, vs. Gwinnett, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 22, vs. Kalamazoo, 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2, vs. Cincinnati, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 5, vs. Cincinnati, 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, APRIL 6, vs. Toledo, 5 p.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL 11, vs. Evansville, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 12, vs. Toledo, 7:30 p.m.

RACING

RUMBLE IN FORT WAYNE — Indoor Midget Car Races, **7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 27-28** at Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, \$10-\$41, 317-418-3216

ROLLER DERBY

FORT WAYNE DERBY BRATS — Two intra-league bouts, **5:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8** at Bell's Skating Rink, New Haven, \$5 (age 5 and under free), fwderbybrats.com

Sports & Recreation

WIFFLE BALL

2013 WIFFLE BALL WORLD SERIES — All-day tournament, **9 a.m.-8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 29** at SportOne/Parkview Fieldhouse, Fort Wayne, \$120-\$150 entry fee (teams of 6), 471-5100, www.wiffleballworldseries.com

Tours & Trips

ROCK WITH DOC IN JAMAICA — Rock 104's Doc West hosts all-inclusive trips to the beachfront Riu Negril resort for land and sea activities, nightly entertainment, dining and more; choice between four, seven or nine nights, **Feb. 7-16, 2014**, departing from Indianapolis Airport, \$1,429-\$2,299, includes airfare, accommodations, T-shirt, transfers and taxes, \$250 due with reservation, final payment due **Dec. 5**, 434-6618, http://cts.vacation.travel-leaders.com/jamaica.aspx

CIVIC GUILD BUS TRIP TO CHICAGO — Civic Theatre group travels to Chicago to see *Motown — The Musical* at Chicago Oriental Theatre, **Saturday, May 3**, \$99 if reserved before Dec. 31, 437-7497

December

GERMAN CHRISTMAS SHOW — Annual holiday dinner and show featuring German entertainers, **5:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 13**, Fort Wayne Sport Club, \$35 (reservations required), 244-6964

WALK TO BETHLEHEM — Guided tours of scenes from the birth of Christ, **5:30-7:30 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 14-15**, First Christian Church, Fort Wayne, free, www.walktobethlehem.com

FARM TOY SHOW — Jay County's 26th annual Farm Toy Show w/over 70 dealer tables, **9 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 15**, Jay County Fairgrounds, Portland, \$2, 726-6433

WINTER BASH — Free ice skating (9 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.), art project (10:30 a.m.) and showings of *Despicable Me 2* (1, 4 & 7 p.m.) **Monday, Dec. 30**, Honeywell Center/Eagles Theatre, Wabash, 563-1102

January

FORT WAYNE BRIDAL SPECTACULAR — **12-4 p.m., Saturday-Sunday, Jan. 4-5**, Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, \$10, www.fortwaynebrides.com

FORT WAYNE GUN & KNIFE SHOW — **9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 4; 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 5**, Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, \$6 (\$2 ages 6-12), 480-3710

FORT WAYNE FARM SHOW — **9 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 14; 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 15; 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 16**, Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, free, 480-3710

MIZPAH SHRINE CIRCUS — **6:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 23; 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 24; 10 a.m., 2:30 p.m. & 7 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 25; 1 p.m. & 5 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 26**, Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, \$12-\$20, 422-7122

OUTDOOR SPORTS LAKE & CABIN SHOW — **12-9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 24; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 25; 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 26**, Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, \$10 (12 & under free), 480-3710

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- Lighting of the Lake
- Fair Trade Bazaar
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- Art Exhibits

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Twice- and Thrice-Told Tales

Nine Inches: Stories by Tom Perrotta
St. Martin's Press, 2013

There have always been consistent themes in Tom Perrotta's work, but you've had to dig a little to find them. Books like *Election* and *Little Children* seem on the surface to be darkly comedic send-ups of the perceived comforts of suburbia, and they are that. But the ways in which Perrotta undermines our ideas of suburban serenity are not always obvious. He often presents us with adult characters who act in childish ways, giving in to their immature impulses and desires and endangering the status quo in the process. Meanwhile, the actual children either suffer as a consequence of the childish grown-ups, or they offer a counter example, behaving in ways that are morally mature.

In the stories of *Nine Inches*, Perrotta keeps hammering these themes, sometimes to wonderful effect, sometimes monotonously.

In several of the stories, boys on the cusp of manhood grapple with the prospect of the long lives that lie before them, and they experiment with actions that will define their morality. In one story, a smart high-schooler blows off his college applications and allows his apathy and egocentric outlook to lead him down a dark path. In another, a high-school football player, forced to sit out his senior season because of an injury, rages at the sudden loss of his specialness, a loss that he's sure he'll be feeling for decades to come. In yet another, a bright student makes some money on the side by taking college entrance exams for other students; already walking on the dark side, he continues to tinker with good and evil when he gets the opportunity to get some self-centered revenge on another student.

In other stories the protagonists are middle-aged men who realize that they haven't been paying attention to the world around them, and, as a result, their lives are chugging down unhappy paths. A Little League umpire tries to use his position to atone for his past bad behavior. An aging husband discovers secrets in his neighborhood that make him question



On Books

EVAN GILLESPIE

nearly everything in his past. A pediatrician pursues his adolescent urges, despite that fact that the pursuit will inevitably tear his life apart.

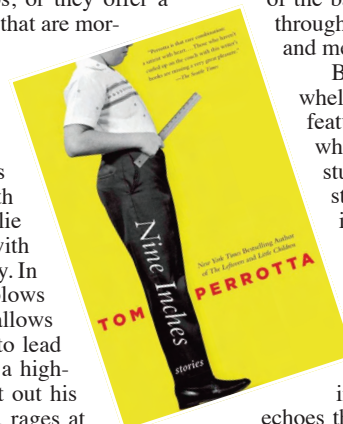
When the stories work, they work wonderfully. The best of the bunch is "The Smile on Happy Chang's Face," the tale of the morally ambiguous umpire. The story's voice and pacing are flawless, and the setting of the baseball game, which Perrotta takes us through play by play, is a beautiful backdrop and metaphor for the narrator's struggle.

But the collection suffers from overwhelming homogeneity. Three of the stories feature adults engaging in introspection when they see themselves reflected in the students they encounter, and two of those stories involve adults who are chaperoning school events. Some of the stories rely on clichés: the underachieving smart kid; the angry, entitled jock; the mid-life crisis involving boyish hobbies. Some of the stories are uncomfortably similar to Perrotta's own past work; the guitar-playing pediatrician, for example, clearly

echoes the would-be lawyer in *Little Children* who neglects the bar exam in order to hang out with the skateboarders in front of the library.

There are few writers today who have Perrotta's balanced, nuanced view of the suburbs. Perrotta's little towns are not the outposts of perfection that they aspire to be, but neither are they happy facades that cover hearts of darkness and depravity. They are ordinary, good and bad at the same time; they are more complex than either suburban lovers or suburban haters want them to be. These stories tell complex suburban tales masterfully, but if the book has a weakness as a collection, it's that the same tales are told too well, too often, too easily.

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LOVE & LOSS - From Page 4

work as semi-autobiographical, with a female figure resembling a former flame making repeat appearances. Shimer also analyzed pop culture and tried to work in a bit of humor. Pargeon added that there was no certain theme or anything that was off limits.

"It's pretty amazing the detail he could do on the very small space of an envelope," marveled Hamilton. "J.R.'s artwork reflected his real love for 'sex, drugs and rock n' roll.' I hope everyone has a sense of humor about it because that's how he drew it.

"I am doing this for my love of J.R. I want to build an audience for his artwork. I hope this show will bring awareness to his artwork and what a tragic loss it is — for me, personally, as his friend and the art world, in general — that his career never saw the light of day. This exhibition is a testament to his talent and a life taken too soon."

Pargeon agreed, calling Artlink's *Expressions of Love and Loss* exhibition a highlight of not only Shimer's work, but also his life.

"The theme of this show is so fitting because J.R. would always ask, 'Did you miss me?' knowing that



I'd always reply with a biting 'Like a heart attack, boy!' I think maybe this exhibit is what he wanted: that someone would pull everything together and have a show for him like this. In fact, I'm sure that's what he wanted in the back of his mind. J.R. would never say that, and he didn't go after publicity in life, but in the hereafter, he would enjoy it.

SCREENTIME - From Page 18

ably a new classic. That said, it's a tough movie to get through and one that I think very few people will ever revisit. The film tells the story of a free black man (Chiwetel Ejiofor) who is kidnapped and enslaved. We see his long journey back to freedom in painstaking detail. What's most amazing is how McQueen leaves all sentimentality aside and attempts to make the story feel as real and unrelenting as possible. He puts you in the room with the slaves and the masters, the pain and the torture, the human injustice and pain. Call it the anti-*Amistad*. We know that at the end Ejiofor's Solomon Northrup will find his freedom and seek out justice, but watching his impossible journey is the point here. We're reminded of just how awful certain parts of American history really are.

12 Years a Slave is a powerful, beautifully crafted art house film that I think everyone should see. Sure, it's long and slow and the structure is at times experimental, but there's not a thing I would change about it. McQueen has crafted one of the year's brightest, most substantial and socially conscious artistic works. [A+]

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SAME TIME - From Page 19

Minnich does a beautiful job depicting the gradually maturing Doris as she attains education (first through the Book of the Month Club, then through correspondence courses, and finally a college degree from Berkeley). She grows more self-assured as she discovers who she is. Meanwhile, Knuth's George is endearingly neurotic, over-analyzing every moment of their encounters, fighting with himself over whether the relationship is acceptable or not. Their transformations surprise and at times unnerve and infuriate one another. But as time marches on, their bond becomes stronger until a surprising twist at the end reveals where the relationship is headed.

The scene changes are long but entertainingly marked by era-appropriate pop music and a slide show depicting images of the times. The changes take time due to the elaborate costume changes, mainly by Minnich, who goes from 1950s crinolines to 1960s hippie fringe to a 1970s caftan, with wigs and accessories to match. The changes were expertly assisted backstage by dresser Donna Frey, and not a hair or pleat was out of place each time Minnich returned to the stage. The costumes and wigs, by the way, were some of the most beautiful I've seen in a community theatre production. Wigs are often obvious and distracting onstage, especially in such an intimate setting as the Arena stage, but these looked particularly natural and appropriate.

Opening night fell on Black Friday, and the house was nearly full, a testament to the quality of productions Arena puts on and the loyalty of its subscriber base. Opening night also ushered in a new caterer for the dinner theatre. Googlein's Catering provided a mixed greens salad, chicken Chelsea (served with dill havarti cheese and ripe black olives on a bed of julienne zucchini), parsley potatoes, green beans with dill, rolls and peach crisp. During the pre-show curtain speech, which took place after dinner had been finished, the welcoming of the new catering service earned two rounds of applause by the appreciative audience.

One of the charms of Arena is the intimacy of the space. The stage is small and close to the audience. The space also lends itself to bringing audiences closer to one another, particularly during the dinner. I attended this performance alone but was seated at a round table with seven other patrons who were friendly and eager to introduce themselves and share a little bit of personal history. We discussed Fort Wayne theatre, Obama-care, tips on job hunting, our families and how we spent the holidays. When the show was over, we shook hands and wished each other safe travels home. This is a rare and unique experience for Fort Wayne and it exemplifies what theatre means: bringing people together through a shared experience.

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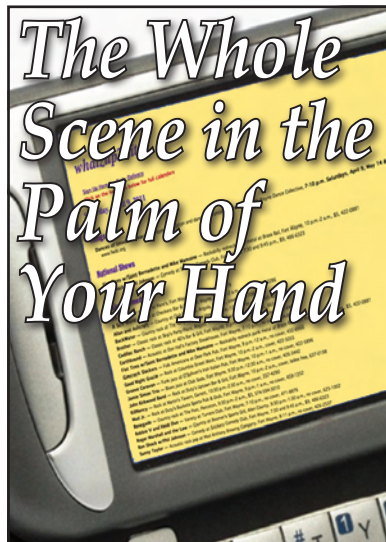
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