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MUSIC, MOVIE + BOOK REVIEWS ENTERTAINMENT CALENDARS

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Feature • Fort Wayne Philharmonic Pops The Maestro of the Movies

By Michele DeVinney

One need not be an orchestral expert or a film score geek to recognize the music of John Williams. Since the early 1970s Williams has provided some of the most instantly identifiable music of our era, giving it such a key role in the film that it may as well be another cast member. Who can imagine watching *Jaws* without the sense of menace evoked the minute those familiar notes are played, indicating the impending danger? Or what sense of adventure would be had if the battles of *Star Wars* played out unaccompanied?

It's for that reason that every few years or so, the Fort Wayne Philharmonic revisits his immense catalog and will do so again on January 18 at the Embassy Theatre. Andrew Constantine, artistic director for the Philharmonic, will take the podium for this impressive display of orchestral power, one which he thinks highlights Williams' rare talent.

"I don't know that the quality of the compositions is among the greatest ever, but that isn't the point," says Constantine. "His genius comes from getting to the emotional and psychological core of a movie. That's why he's better known for his film scores than his concertos, which he also has done. He brings a color to the orchestrations which show how good he is at pressing all the right buttons in audiences."

"He's so adept that his music has taken on a life of its own," he continues. "The music from *Jaws* evokes a sense of something scary, and in the UK the music from *Harry Potter* is used all the time in commercials. It's a little like *The Nutcracker* is here, being used in ads and situations to invoke a sense of holiday cheer or whatever. The music from *The Nutcracker* is so identifiable and stands on its own, recognizable to even those not necessarily concert aficionados. So now you're saying John Williams in the same breath as Tchaikovsky."

As part of the Philharmonic's Pops Series of performances, Constantine wouldn't typically be conducting – but he took advantage of his situation to make it happen.

"I might not typically conduct the Pops concerts, but I am typically the music director, so I get to say what I'm going to conduct. John Williams provides some great music, some very difficult music, especially for the strings, and one of the perks of the job is being able to decide that I really want to conduct a particular performance."

While Constantine acknowledges that the most familiar and expected works will be represented – including the aforementioned *Jaws*, *Star Wars* and *Harry Potter* scores – one which he is anxious to share is the score

nine American composers, five of whom are still living. I did a better job than I realized!"

In spite of that focus, the season concludes on May 10 with a rousing performance of Beethoven's "Ninth Symphony" at the Embassy Theatre, just one month after a performance of Beethoven's "Fifth" at the Phil's other home at IPFW. In putting together these programs each year, Constantine has made his mark on the Philharmonic quickly. By the end of the current season, it will have been five years since he was appointed to the position of music/artistic director of the orchestra, during which time he has divided his time between his home here with that of his family in the Baltimore area. He's seen his share of challenges during those years.

"By and large, working with the orchestra is exhilarating, but the challenges come from the business struggle. I'm not saying that we should be above and beyond those kinds of financial struggles, but the business side of it is often weighed down by the financial insecurity."

"But I really enjoy working here in Fort Wayne," he adds. "I love to go to the lobby after a performance, whether it's at the Embassy or at IPFW, and greet people and talk to them. I'm not one to saunter around looking severe. I think it's important to have a rapport with the audience, to be part of the community, and I've been delighted to be part of Fort Wayne for the last few years. I've found a few restaurants and coffee places I like to haunt, so that all makes it feel very comfortable."

As the Williams performance looms, it might surprise people to realize how quickly an evening of music can be pulled together by the musicians of the Fort Wayne Philharmonic. Constantine concedes that scheduling time with the orchestra is a "critical exercise," and much of the preparation is left to each musician before the full group is brought together. But it's that level of talent and professionalism that makes the Philharmonic concerts among the artistic highlights of life in Fort Wayne.

"The musicians are capable of assimilating masses of information which mere mortals might balk at, but they know the music and know where their own pitfalls may be or what might have tripped them up last time and work out all of those parts. It's really a way of life so we're able to put things together in a short time."



Andrew Constantine

PHILHARMONIC POPS

THE MUSIC OF JOHN WILLIAMS

8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 18

Embassy Theatre

125 W. Jefferson Blvd., Fort Wayne

Tix: \$ 28-\$ 70 thru Philharmonic

box office, 260-481-0777,

or fwphil.org

from *Catch Me If You Can* which will feature the talents of renowned saxophonist Timothy McAllister, an associate professor and co-director of the Institute for New Music at the Bienen School of Music at Northwestern University.

"In the midst of those obvious pieces, like *Jaws* and *Star Wars*, it's good to provide some programmatic relief from those high-octane works with things like *Schindler's List* or *Jurassic Park*. It's fun to put together a show like that, with high points and points of meditation. It's like putting together a season, actually, where you try to find that balance overall."

Finding a balance for the season requires some time in planning, and Constantine approached this season with the intention of featuring American composers.

"When we put together the season, I chose eight American composers, four of whom are still alive," he says before pausing to add, "Actually, with John Williams that's

You'd think that having three whole weeks to put a weekly publication together would be relatively easy. After all, the job usually takes one week, and we had three. Of course, we completely blew off one of those weeks, it being the Christmas holiday and all. And then there were the usual year-end tasks required to keep our accountant and the IRS happy. So when it came down to it, we only had one week to devote to putting this issue together. No problem, we thought. It's what we do all the other weeks of the year.

And then it snowed. And snowed. And snowed some more. And it was a good three days and counting before anybody with any sense left their house for any reason at all.

Now that's not a terrible thing when you work out of your own house like the guy who publishes this paper. And if you don't mind working around the clock, then the fact that your two employees are also stuck at home may not be the greatest thing in the world, but it isn't the end of the world either.

On the other hand, if most of the people you do business with are also stuck in their homes, well, that can make putting together a weekly rag like this a mite tricky. And so, as we write this, we still don't know if we're going to be able to fill the holes where we're supposed to have ads. Nor do we know when our printer is going to be able to put this sucker on the press if and when we get it to him. And if he prints it, can our drivers get out on the roads to deliver it?

Who knows? We sure don't. But if you're reading this – and we assume you are – then everything must have turned out okay.

Welcome to 2014. Looks like it might be a bumpy ride.

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A Drive Worth Taking

By Jen Poiry Prough

Any good theatrical role is worth putting work into. Some roles are worth putting forth a little extra effort. For Everett Collier, playing Hoke in *Driving Miss Daisy* at First Presbyterian Theater is worth a 160-mile round trip.

The retired postmaster for Bluffton, Ohio, has made the drive several weekends a month since September for the show that opens in January, but now that the holidays are over, they will take place throughout the week. Director Thom Hofrichter has offered lodging at his home so Collier won't have to travel back and forth every night.

He's come a long way since his early theatre days. As a high school student he divided his time between choir and sports. This didn't leave enough time to pursue acting as well. "I went to Shaker Heights High School outside of Cleveland," he says, "and we had a very large theatre department. My choir director, Dr. Reginald Ellis, kept trying to get me to try out."

He eventually did audition for the school's production of *Anything Goes* where, he says, "I was happy just being in chorus."

Nevertheless, he says, "he really pushed me [to pursue acting], but I was never interested in more than [chorus roles]." In addition to *Anything Goes*, he also performed in the chorus of *The Boys from Syracuse* and in two cabaret-style musical revues.

Later, while at Bluffton College, he found another mentor in Dr. Dale Dickey, who recognized talent in him that he never dreamed of.

"I'd always been interested in theatre," he says, "and one of my professors, the head of speech and drama department, thought I should try it. He pushed me into it."

The freshman auditioned for *The Music Man* and was given a role as one of the Barbershop Quartet members. "The professor saw me in that and wanted me for the lead in a serious show, *J.B.* by Archibald MacLeish," he says. "It was based on the Book of Job. It was a very serious show to start out with. I don't know why he thought I could [handle the role], but I did. It was a huge part."

While at Bluffton College, Collier performed in several other shows, but mainly musicals, such as *Godspell* (as John the Baptist) and *My Fair Lady* (as Alfred Doolittle).

He graduated college in 1975 but didn't start doing community theatre until 1981, when he was cast as Sidney, the angel in *God's Favorite*.

Since then, Collier estimates he has done 40 to 50 shows, including a few original scripts. He has participated in several play fairs with the Encore Theatre in Lima, Ohio which accepts original, unproduced scripts from the community. Two or three plays are selected annually to be produced at the Civic Center as dinner theatre.



Everett Collier as Hoke with Kate Black in *Driving Miss Daisy*

"I've been involved in that a few times," says Collier. "I have a friend who has had a few plays selected. It's fun to work on plays that have never been done before. The writer puts his two bits in, and we as actors try to formulate what he pictured when he wrote it."

Like many longtime actors, he has also considered directing, but the right opportunity hasn't yet presented itself. He has assistant directed high school plays in Ohio but has never been at the helm of a community show. "I've been approached to direct," he says, "but I've never gotten around to doing it. The last directing I did was for a class in college. But I would like to."

Although he says he doesn't have a particular "dream role" he'd like to play, he has been trying to convince his home theaters in Ohio to produce *A Raisin in the Sun* by Lorraine Hansberry and *Fences* by August Wilson.

Those would be two more plays he would be willing to travel to perform in. But not too far. "Sixty to 80 miles is about my limit," he says.

Although he tries to pace himself, theatrically speaking, last year was an exception. He performed in no fewer than five shows, including *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, *Big River*, *Of Mice and Men* and *To Kill a Mockingbird*. "That was a little [too] much!" he laughs. "I try to do one or two shows a year if something comes up I want to do."

One role that has come up a number of times recently is Hoke in *Driving Miss Daisy*. It is a role he has played twice before. "There was a 20-year span between the first time and the last time I did it," he says. The first time was in 1990 at Encore Theatre in Lima, Ohio. The most recent time was six months ago in Van Wert."

The Van Wert cast took their production to competition at the Ohio Community Theatre Association festival this year (for which they won several awards, including an Excellence in Acting trophy for Collier).

Continued on page 23



Bob Roets

Music Maven

Back in 1982, young Robert Roets, recently graduated from Madison Area Technical College, was looking to create a cool place to buy records and tapes in a place that needed a cool place to buy records and tapes. He found Fort Wayne and started Wooden Nickel Records, now Wooden Nickel Music, even though he still sells records, though not a lot of tapes.

1. The Rides: *Can't Get Enough*

The most spun release at Wooden Nickel Music during the late summer-early fall months was from The Rides, a great collaborative effort featuring Stephen Stills (Buffalo Springfield; Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young), Kenny Wayne Shepherd and Barry Goldberg (Bob Dylan, Leonard Cohen). It features five original songs along with five covers including a great blues/rock version of Neil Young's "Rockin' in the Free World" and Iggy & The Stooges' "Search & Destroy." My favorite original tunes are "Word Game," "Can't Get Enough of Loving You" and "Roadhouse." One of the joys of working in a music store is turning customers on to music that you are passionate about, and this one hit a grand slam in our stores. Customers loved it. Great guitar riffs and keyboard work and excellent vocals. Every song on this album makes you want to sing along. Highly recommended.

2. Kasey Musgraves: *Same Trailer Different Park*

Holy cow! This one hit me like a ton of bricks. I had no idea who Kasey Musgraves was a few months ago. Then I heard the song "Merry Go Round" on XM radio and fell in love with this singer-songwriter from Texas who not only has one of the best singing voices I have heard in years, but is a fantastic songwriter. Check out her lyrics for tunes like "Blowin' Smoke," "Follow Your Arrow" and "It Is What It Is"; she writes and sings with the realness and honesty of such veteran country greats like Loretta Lynn, Tammy Wynette and Dolly Parton. No doubt Kasey is well on her way to joining such elite company. If you follow some of the best contemporary country/Americana female vocalists like Alison Krauss or Miranda Lambert, add Kasey Musgraves to your list of required listening. I can't wait for her next album!

3. Queens of the Stone Age: ... *Like Clockwork*

Having been a huge fan of everything Josh Homme and Dave Grohl for many years, ... *Like Clockwork* was a highly anticipated release for me, especially after the very successful *Them Crooked Vultures* album, my favorite album of 2009. It has been six years since the release of their last album, *Era Vulgaris*, and I can tell a lot of time and effort was put into ... *Like Clockwork*. Besides Grohl's contributions, others who appear on the record are Trent Reznor, Elton John, Alex Turner, Lames Lavelle and Jake Shears. I love the hard and soft extremes Queens of the Stone Age show on the album; the diversity of styles shown throughout keeps me wanting to listen over and over. It grows on you with every listening. Tracks to check out are "I Appear Missing," "I Sat by the Ocean" and "If I Had a Tail."

4. Daft Punk: *Random Access Memories*

The first electronic artist I remember being a fan of was the German-based Kraftwerk back in the mid 1970s. Daft Punk are a French duo whose use of keyboards remind me of Kraftwerk a bit, but they add a dance/disco/funk element to their music that is absolutely infectious. I started in the music business in the late 1970s when producers like Nile Rogers and electronic keyboardist Giorgio Moroder were producing major hits. They are both featured on this amazing album, one of the best produced records I have heard in years. From the first time I heard the song "Get Lucky" through favorites "Touch" and "Doin' It Right," I couldn't stop thinking of the music that I was listening to back in the late 70s and early 80s. This is the best throwback to that era that I can remember, a remarkable achievement. Daft Punk have just received a Grammy nomination as album of the year for *Random Access Memories*, and I wouldn't bet against it winning.

5. Paul McCartney: *New*

Let me preface my thoughts on the new Macca album by first mentioning that in my 40-plus years of listening to many genres of music that musician, singer, songwriter, multi-instrumentalist and



Stephen Stills, Kenny Wayne Shepherd, Barry Goldberg

composer Paul McCartney is the artist who I admire the most in the music business. Seeing him up front at Bankers Life Fieldhouse this summer in Indianapolis for his dazzling three-hour concert was the musical highlight of the year for me out of the dozens of shows I had the pleasure of seeing. After the tour was completed, McCartney released *New*, his first studio album in several years. On 15 tracks that range from ballads to rockers, *New* shows off the former Beatle's ageless exuberance. McCartney enlisted four young producers – Ethan Johns, Paul Epworth, Mark Ronson and Giles Martin (Beatles producer George's son) – and each approaches the collaborative challenge from a different angle. The results are very gratifying. Lots of great tracks to choose from on this one; my favorites are "Early Days," "New," "Alligator" and "Save Us." Not only did *New* debut at No. 3 on the Billboard Album Chart, but Rolling Stone magazine ranked it as their No. 4 best album of 2013. How many 71-year-old artists could accomplish that?

The Best of the Rest: 6. David Bowie, *The Next Day*; 7. Beth Hart and Joe Bonamassa, *Seesaw*; 8. Black Sabbath, *13*; 9. Tedeschi Trucks Band, *Made Up Mind*; 10. Deep Purple, *Now What?*

Julia Meek

FolkBabe



WBOI's Julia Meek continues to "Meet the Music" and tell a timely "Folktale" over the airwaves each week while reveling in the glory of homegrown public radio and local musical goodness. From these ever-satisfying pastures, which she admits net a higher and more satisfying yield each year, she gladly gathers her top 10 albums, and two of her top five songs. Note that 2013's harvest includes a "double good" No. 1 pick, an incredibly refreshing Christmas disc and two very clever EPs.

1. elle/The Remnant: *Morning Light*

In the wee hours of 2013 I received a copy of this group's first full-length album, *Home That I Come From*, and it instantly gained a spot in my heart as well as a likely inclusion on this year's top 10 list. Imagine my surprise when their second album of the year came out this fall – even surpassing its sister CD and sealing a "double good" first-place ranking for this amazingly talented ensemble.



With 10 exquisitely crafted original songs on *Morning Light*, Ellen Coplin, Hilary Armstrong, Jessica Becker and Jen Foster have captured the spirit and passion that defines their sound, in their own words, successfully "drawing inspiration from nature, literature, individual spiritual struggle and a constant pull toward something greater than themselves."

2. Ty Causey: *Cool in My Skin*

Ty Causey is known as "acclaimed singer/songwriter extraordinaire" in most of the national music review mags, and who am I to disagree? This latest offering really showcases his now trademark blend of smooth and "sensual soul, R&B and jazz" (another popular Causey-related phrase often seen in print these days), and the variety of styles and moods displayed in this collection of tunes is abundantly moving and satisfying. His earnest lyrics speak of – and to – the common denominators of life's joys and sorrows as only Ty Causey can. *Cool in My Skin* is his best to date, in my opinion. Bravo, Ty, and keep up the outstanding work

3. Roustabout: *Hootenanny Waltz*

Okay, I'll admit my addiction to lush, showy vocal harmonies, no matter the genre. They're well displayed in this thoroughly delightful collection of original folk tunes. This up-and-coming, Huntington-based folk band (consisting of Bob Thompson, Joey Spiegel, Chris Kauffman and Justin Barker) shares its most meaningful and intimate message in fresh, new/old ways on a wide and wonderful variety of acoustic instruments. You'll really want to hear/meet their music and their passion, and this CD offers a perfect meet and greet.

4. Ethan William Bowers: *Pale and Porcelain*

Bowers' lyrics become poetry in audio motion with the release of this album. Well surrounded by a stellar bunch of local musicians like Derek Reeves, Sam Smiley, Keith Turner, Albert Shoaff, Taylor Anthony, Amber Miller and Trevor Clark, Bowers' 10 originals re-

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Wooden Nickel CD of the Week



SKAVOSSAS Commotion

Listen up, kids. A long, long time ago, all the way back in 1999 in fact, a small Midwestern town called Fort Wayne had a music scene that, well, to put it mildly, kicked serious butt. And part of the scene was a little band called Skavossas (later to become known as Heavy Step) whose brand of ska made local music fans go a little bit nuts. If you missed the band's recent reunion show, well, you can still experience the magic by picking up this limited edition re-issue for just \$9.99 at any Wooden Nickel Music Store.

TOP SELLERS @

WOODEN NICKEL (Week ending 1/5/14)

TW	LW	ARTIST/Album
1	3	GARY CLARK JR. <i>Blak and Blue</i>
2	1	EMINEM <i>The Marshall Mathers LP 2</i>
3	2	CHILDISH GAMBINO <i>Because the Internet</i>
4	5	ARCADE FIRE <i>Reflektor</i>
5	-	IMAGINE DRAGONS <i>Night Visions</i>
6	6	NEIL YOUNG <i>Live at the Cellar Door</i>
7	10	FIVE FINGER DEATH PUNCH <i>Wrong Side of Heaven ... Vol. 2</i>
8	-	PAUL MCCARTNEY <i>New</i>
9	4	R. KELLY <i>Black Panties</i>
10	-	PEARL JAM <i>Lightning Bolt</i>

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SPINS - From Page 5

ally shine. And with the help of Clark's engineering expertise, Bowers has produced a truly noteworthy collection of new, exciting indie folk work. The jacket and disc artwork are wicked good too. If you haven't had the Ethan Bowers audio experience, this is a fantastic opportunity to do so.

5. Farmland Jazz Band: *Holiday Cheer!*

What makes a Christmas collection special enough to net the No. 5 spot on my 2013 fave list? In three words: Farmland Jazz Band! This ensemble of outstanding veteran bandsmen (Matthew Cashdollar, Todd Ward, Marcus Farr, Zach Kohlmeier and Kenny Taylor, led by brothers Ed and John Renz) has produced a collection of Dixieland-style holiday goodness that just could not be any sweeter. The six featured classics present a perfect assortment of secular and sacred tunes, all delivered in classic New Orleans flavor and flare. This is one holiday disc that will never grow old and is always sure to please.

The Best of the Rest: 6. Left Lane Cruiser, *Rock Them Back to Hell*; 7. Elephants in Mud, *Machinery+Scenery+Sound*; 8. Heaven's Gateway Drugs, *You Are Heaven's Gateway Drugs*; 9. Adrienne Frailley, *I Would Be the Sky* (EP); 10. 2 Before Noon, *2 Before Noon*.

Best Song: "Traces of You," Anoushka Shankar - This is the title track from Anoushka's riveting memorial to her father, Ravi Shankar. Sharing his passion for, and expertise on the sitar, she is joined by her half sister, Norah Jones on this brilliant and beautiful song, and together they present a singularly stunning tribute.

Next Best Songs: 2. "They Know," Eric Bigg; 3. "The Gift," elle/The Remnant; 4. "Old Yellow Moon," Emmylou Harris and Rodney Crowell; 5. "Starfire," Mathis Gray.

Ryan Smith



Helium sucker

Ryan Smith cares. He really does. He just doesn't care all that much about every single genre of music, and not everybody likes the kind of music he likes.

1. Ministry: *From Beer to Eternity*

This may not be as essential as some of Ministry's late 80s/early 90s albums, but main man Al Jourgenson remains such a master of the mixing board that it's addictive nonetheless. Between skewering right wing politics and throwing in everything from thrashy metal to spaced-out dub reggae with spoken word performances, Ministry showed that they still had more than a few tricks up their sleeves.

2. Motörhead: *Aftershock*

It's a Motörhead album.

3. In Solitude: *Sister*

Sounding something like a cross between late 70s UFO and Uriah Heep, In Solitude turned in one of the year's true surprises, with a fresh take on classic hard rock/heavy metal that, once you start listening to it, is hard to put down.

4. Clutch: *Earth Rocker*

Few bands 20 or so years on in their career can honestly say that they've delivered their hardest-rocking album to date, but Clutch seemingly outdid themselves this time around. The band who once titled an album *Pure Rock Fury* have delivered exactly that.

5. Windhand: *Soma*

Haunting. What could have been just another DC-area doom metal band raised itself above the fray through a combination of thunderously plodding guitars and insistent yet indecipherably feedback-drenched vocals (Note to self: do not listen to this album if ever in a state of depression).



J. Hubner

Helium sucker

J. Hubner is the owner/operator of Tanks for Peace and creator of Ronko Spray-On Hair for Dogs. He enjoys lassos, ostrich feathers and panda masks.

1. Boards of Canada: *Tomorrow's Harvest*

While it can be a tricky beast to keep tame, electronic music can be adventurous for the long haul. Only a few have been able

to grow old(er) gracefully. Brothers Michael Sandison and Marcus Eoin have been Boards of Canada since the late 80s. After an incredible run of albums from 1995 to 2005, the brothers disappeared into the ether. Then, as if they'd never left, *Tomorrow's Harvest* appears and makes everything right in the world. Not only are Boards of Canada growing old gracefully, they're doing it without changing the formula that made them so great. Eerie synths, crackling break beats and sampled voices roam the halls of *Tomorrow's Harvest* like familiar ghosts. There's the feeling of a post-apocalyptic world where the sun shines only just before the worst is about to happen. *Tomorrow's Harvest* is nearly transcendent in mood and palpable in its aural texture. It doesn't feel like the boys got bored and decided to scratch that nostalgia itch. It feels like two masters getting their groove back.

2. My Bloody Valentine: *mbv*

Loveless dropped in 1991 like some hazy, drugged-out, erotic nightmare in which you're having the most intense physical experience with another human being while being lovingly slashed with a straight razor. It was the ultimate feeling of pain and pleasure. Countless guitarists gnawed off their fingernails attempting to replicate what Kevin Shields did on that monumental, truly game changing record. The most famous guitarist to ache and mope over recreating the magic of *Loveless*? Kevin Shields. Guess what? After 22 years, Shields found the right combination of pedals and just the right bend in his wrist to make that tremolo arm create the aural magic once again. *mbv* isn't a retread or remake. It's merely a return to that warped beautiful purple noise that engulfed our ear holes back before Andy Bell took orders from those Gallagher clowns. It's Shields and Bilinda Butcher weaving their dreamy whispers and hypnotic Fenders into a maudlin, Escher-like aural painting that we can get lost in once again. *mbv* is hopefully a new chapter for which we don't have to wait another 22 years to see how things turn out.

3. Atoms for Peace: *Amok*

In terms of growers, *Amok* was the the king of grower albums for me this year. At first listen, you think of Radiohead's crazy run-ins with Four Tet and Flying Lotus-like musical experiments since early 2000. You also think of Thom Yorke's 2006 *The Eraser*, albeit more intricately woven and created. But you'd be wrong to write this record off as yet another chance for Yorke to do his epileptic dances in more strange videos. On repeated listenings you begin to hear those intricate beats more clearly, the Flea-created bass runs that feel more like the true backbone to these songs, the skeleton upon which Yorke and producer/evil genius Nigel Godrich slap the meat and fat made by drummer Joey Waronker and percussionist Mauro Refosco onto. The electronic music is more or less a side note with this record. This is a players album. It's heady, dense, dance music for the apocalypse, though *Amok* is more *Remain in Light* than *Everything Ecstatic*. It's Yorke and Godrich playing ambiguous deities in the control room, cutting and pasting hours of jam sessions into dark, groove-filled psychedelia. Davis and Macero would be proud.

4. Unknown Mortal Orchestra: *II*

Ruban Nielson put out his second album as Unknown Mortal Orchestra way back at the beginning of 2013. I listened to it attentively, as I was in awe of the first single, "Swim and Sleep (Like a Shark)," a melancholy pop song that showed Nielson had quite a few more tricks up his sleeve than first thought on his debut album. *II* doesn't grab you as much as lull you. It's the kind of record that begs for repeated listening before it bores into your brain and infects your very soul. Over the course of the year this album has been played ample times, and I'm very confident in saying that Unknown Mortal Orchestra are bound for greatness. There's a technical side to Nielson's guitar playing that, when you pay close attention, you begin to feel small in its greatness. On the other hand, there's so much soul in the songs on this excellent sophomore effort that you can enjoy the fluid guitar playing as if they're merely a fluttering melody working towards bettering the song and not the artist's ego. There's jams ("One at a Time"), baroque pop ("Swim and Sleep (Like a Shark)" and "The Opposite of Afternoon"), R&B slow jams ("So Good at Being in Trouble") and heady psych ("Monki"). *II* is gritty, grainy and, at times, near perfect.

5. Youth Lagoon: *Wondrous Bughouse*

A wondrous bughouse, indeed. Trevor Powers left the comfort



Continued on page 7

of his little bedroom studio for something more spacious and bright. His debut as Youth Lagoon was an intimate record that was a singer/songwriter affair combined with lo-fi hip-hop beats. The result was the feeling you had stumbled upon someone's audio diary, their pain and hope displayed for all to hear. With *Wondrous Bughouse* Powers enlisted producer Ben H. Allen, and together they've created one of the most dizzying, technicolor pop albums this year. Not a space went empty on this album, as Allen is a master of making big-sounding records (see Deerhunter and Washed Out). But the production is only part of it, as Powers writes truly inspiring songs. There's an intimacy and naked vulnerability in his songs that no one else seems to capture these days. The bigness and overstuffed grandeur on this record only serves to create this imaginary world that's part H.R. Pufnstuf, Nickelodeon and existential crisis. It's a trip worth taking.

The Best of the Rest: 6. White Hills, *So You Are, So You'll Be*; 7. Deerhunter, *Monomania*; 8. Yo La Tengo, *Fade*; 9. Medicine, *To the Happy Few*; 10. The Flaming Lips, *The Terror*.

Favorite Song: "Swim and Sleep (Like a Shark)," Unknown Mortal Orchestra.



Chris Hupe

Dollar Store Metalhead

Spending way too much time on his annual year end list, Chris ran out of time to listen to everything he wanted to listen to because he also spent way too much time selling toilet paper and trash bags at his full-time (and more) job. In addition to listening to music, he enjoys long walks on the beach and hopes for world peace in 2014.

1. W.E.T.: *Rise Up*

Despite the fact that it was likely only intended to be a studio project when they formed and released their debut album back in 2009, W.E.T. have now become a full, cohesive band on their sophomore effort and seem ready to conquer the melodic rock world. Released way back in February, this is an album that just kept on giving and has stayed in my music rotation all year. Fronted by one of the best in the business today, Jeff Scott Soto, and featuring songwriter extraordinaire Erik Martensson of Eclipse, W.E.T. surpass their previous effort with 12 songs that demonstrate the range and talent of the band's individual members. "Walk Away," the title track and "What You Want" are fist-pumping anthems while "Love Heals" and "Broken Wings" show the band's softer side. There's not a bad song on this CD, and my favorite changes all the time, making this my "go to album" of 2013 as well. It's well worth the effort to try to find this gem, as it's AOR at its best. Hopefully, it won't be four more years before we hear more material from these guys.



2. Adler: *Back from the Dead*

A better title could not have been selected, as the former Guns N Roses drummer emerges from 20 years of obscurity to deliver an incredible album packed with great, straightforward rock songs. This was an album I initially had little interest in hearing, but, luckily, I took a chance on it. It hooks you immediately with the opening title track, then goes on to crush you with "My Own Worst Enemy," "Another Version of the Truth" and "The One That You Hated." I'm as surprised as anyone that this album made my list, but it just goes to show you that the music world is always full of awesome surprises where you often wouldn't expect to find them.

3. Queensrÿche: *Queensrÿche*

After finally getting rid of singer Geoff Tate, the rest of Queensrÿche get back to basics and produce their most listenable album in over two decades. Reclaiming the classic Queensrÿche sound, with new singer Todd La Torre sounding as good as or better than Tate ever did, the rest of the band sounds rejuvenated. They hit the ground running with opener "Where Dreams Go To Die," then break into standout tracks "Spore," "Redemption" and "A World Without," all serving notice that Queensrÿche are back to reclaim their place atop the rock world. This is the best surprise of the year.

4. Butcher Babies: *Goliath*

With not one, but two female singers, it would be easy to write this band off as a novelty act. However, just a few seconds into "I Smell A Massacre," the first single on *Goliath*, you realize this band is the real deal. Sure, the heavy riffs and a driving bass bring to mind Slipknot, Lamb of God and the inevitable comparisons to OTEP, but

Butcher Babies still manage to create their own unique sound while paying homage to their predecessors. Their ability to write catchy, but aggressive songs is their strength and should keep them around the scene for years beyond this album. The aforementioned "Massacre," "Magnolia Blvd.," "Grim Sleeper" and "C8H18 (Gasoline)" stand out as great tracks, but, truthfully, you'll find yourself wanting to listen to this CD from first song to last more often than cherry-picking singles. Butcher Babies are my "new band of the year," and it isn't even close.

5. Metal Church: *Generation Nothing*

You can call them old-timers or aging rockers, but Metal Church want you to know they still have a few things left to say. *Generation Nothing* ranks amongst their best efforts as the band conjures up memories of their early classic albums *The Dark* and *Blessing in Disguise* by tearing through 10 songs that may have been purposely crafted to help teach the new generation of thrash bands the proper way of creating songs of aggression. "Dead City," the title track, "Jump the Gun" and the eerie "Noises in the Wall" stand out as favorites. This is a great album from some guys who have been giving us their best for almost 30 years now.

The Best of the Rest: 6. Clutch, *Earth Rocker*; 7. Skid Row, *United World Rebellion - Chapter One*; 8. Adriangale, *Suckerpunch*; 9. Sahg, *Delusions of Grandeur*; 10. Fates Warning, *Darkness in a Different Light*; 11. Stryper, *No More Hell To Pay*; 12. Death Angel, *The Dream Calls for Blood*; 13. Tom Keifer, *the Way Life Goes*; 14. Matt Nathanson, *Last of the Great Pretenders*; 15. Dream Theater, *Dream Theater*; 16. Bobaflex, *Charlatan's Web*; 17. Kill Devil Hill, *Revolution Rise*; 18. Wesley Stace, *Wesley Stace*; 19. Pamela Moore, *Resurrect Me*; 20., Wilson, *Full Blast*.

Best Song: "Fairchild," Sahg - A killer riff, a vocal hook, great musicianship and edgy lyrics makes this song the best of 2013. "Firechild" got my attention immediately upon hearing it and turned me on to Sahg's great CD *Delusions of Grandeur*, although it is more of a stand-alone single off of a progressive concept album than a reflection of what the band's other material sounds like. I love it when songs and bands I somehow have previously missed suddenly turn up and blow me away. Turn this one up loud and enjoy.

Next Best Songs: 2. "Farewell December," Matt Nathanson; 3. "A World Without," Queensrÿche; 4. "When I Knew," Wesley Stace; 5. "I'm Glad You're Dead," Bobaflex; 6. "Rise Up," W.E.T.; 7. "Let's Go," Skid Row; 8. "Shadow Moses," bring Me the Horizon; 9. "Spore," Queensrÿch; 10. "The Dream Calls for Blood," Death angel; 11. "Habbit," Adler; 12. "Share with Me," Dayshell; 13. "On the Run," W.E.T.; 14. "C8H18 (Gasoline)," Butcher Babies; 15. "The Hates Song," Sol.



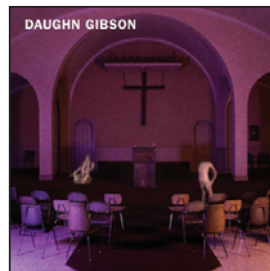
Greg W. Locke

Mark Borchardt Fan Club President

In the year 2013 the M.B.F.C. president bought six new LPs released by Robert Pollard, ate 27 Boston Rolls, read every Jennifer Egan book, drove zero cars, voted zero times, baked six beautiful vegetable lasagnas, wore two pairs of jeans and watched the film American Movie six times. He also returned to school and, at age 33, discovered the fine art of the nap.

1. Daughn Gibson: *Me Moan*

Easily the best record I've heard since 2010's *The Suburbs* and the most original sound I've heard in many, many years, Daughn Gibson's first record for Sub Pop is the listen that just keeps on giving. At first I hated it. Maybe you read me wrong: I didn't just dislike *Me Moan*; I hated it. Gibson's mix of musical elements made no sense to me. He sings like no one you've ever heard (people compare him to certain country crooners, but not me), drives a truck for a living, looks like a college football quarterback, acts like George Michael on stage, produces incredibly odd pop music and writes the lyrics of a dark, tortured poet. Though there's absolutely no connection to be made as far as sound or aesthetic goes, I feel safe suggesting that Gibson just might be our generation's Tom Waits. He's that creative, that poetic, that unique, that listenable, that cool. Like Waits, there's a learning curve while listening to Gibson: you have



Continued on page 8

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to get over a few things; you have to get a feel for the guy. But once you do that, his songs begin to reveal themselves for what they are: dark, weird, dance-y pop music for people who love lyrics. I'm sure that along the way people told Gibson not to sing. Not to produce. Not to write. But he kept going, and he kept getting better. Now he's making the most interesting, unlikely modern music I can find

2. Volcano Choir: *Repave*

The first album from Bon Iver side project Volcano Choir, 2009's *Unmap*, was a hot mess of a production epic that didn't quite seem to know what it was. And so when I bought the Choir's follow-up, this year's *Repave*, I wasn't exactly hopeful. I bought it because, like many, I love those two Bon Iver albums and believe that the man behind that — and this — music, Justin Vernon, is one of the best things we indie rock listeners have going for us. The album's eight soaring compositions snaked their way through my analytical innards all through the fall and early winter of 2013, revealing themselves more with each listen, pushing me to listen closer, to turn the dial louder. Before long I considered *Repave* to be not just one of the year's best records, but Vernon's best work to date. If you thought 2011's *Bon Iver* was an impressively detailed and refined production, wait until you hear this humble beast of an album. *Repave* is the most complete proof we have towards the argument that Vernon works harder on his words, arrangements and productions than anyone else in his genre today.

3. Arcade Fire: *Reflektor*

I've thoroughly enjoyed watching fans and critics scratch their balding heads while listening to, thinking about and writing about Arcade Fire's fourth full-length release, a double album called *Reflektor*. It's the kind of release that separates the boys from the men, the analytical from those merely looking to be entertained. Comprised of 13 mostly long songs that feature some seriously impressive production, *Reflektor* is, in the Year of the Grower, the winner of this year's Grower of the Year honors. At first it overwhelms. Sure, there are plenty of hooks and those familiar voices and sounds, but the album doesn't quite tell you what it is at first. It's surely a departure from past sounds, though not in the easily digestible way that 2010's great *The Suburbs* was. What we have in *Reflektor* is the year's most ambitious major release, a disc that goes for it all and succeeds both creatively and commercially. While it might be a hard statement for some to digest right now, I think *Reflektor* will go down as the band's *London Calling*. Their beautiful, balls-y, epic pop album. It's a sprawling, ambitious release that, I think, announces that Arcade Fire is, for now, the Best Band on Earth.

4. Deerhunter: *Monomania*

I had a hunch back in late 2007, between the release of *Cryptograms* and *Microcastle*, that Deerhunter frontman Bradford Cox was going to be my new indie rock boyfriend. And while that hasn't exactly come true, Cox and his hunters have released a whole lot of great music, including this year's very rock-centric *Monomania*. The band's most accessible effort to date, *Mono* is a melodious, hook-filled, lo-fi rock n' roll mess of a classic that features many of my favorite tracks of 2013. In place of the juicy, epic sound we've come to know Cox for is a whole lot of spirit and riffage. Noise and howling. A reviewer friend told me that they thought *Monomania* sounds like Cox's "Pavement record"; while I don't quite agree, I wouldn't be a bit surprised to learn that *Monomania* is the Pavement fan club's favorite record since *Mirror Traffic*.

5. Parquet Courts: *Light Up Gold*

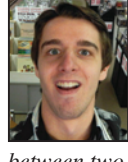
Did somebody say Pavement? Looking at the album cover, song titles and even the band name behind *Light Up Gold*, the early Malkmus influence is unmistakable. Parquet Courts' first nationally released record has the stink of a reimagined *Slanted and Enchanted*, full of jagged, artsy, unexpectedly catchy songs that feel like they could fall to pieces at any second. All the influences here are great — Sonic Youth ("Donuts Only"), Modern Lovers ("Yr No Stoner"), The Feelies ("Careers in Combat") and so on. Remember when that first Strokes record came out and people either loved them ("because they're so great!") or hated them ("because they rip off Iggy and Television too much!")? Well that same thing is going on with *Light Up Gold*; you either love it be-

cause every damn song is great, or you hate it because they sound too much like all your favorite bands. Me, I clearly think it's great. Sure, *Light Up Gold* sounds like all my favorite bands, but beautifully so.

The Best of the Rest: 6. Phosphorescent, *Muchacho*; 7. Atoms for Peace, *Amok*; 8. Camera Obscura, *Desire Lines*; 9. Bill Callahan, *Dream River*; 10. The National, *Trouble Will Find Me*; 11. My Bloody Valentine, *mbv*; 12. Adam Green & Binki / Shapiro, *S/T*; 13. White Fence, *Cyclops Reap*; 14. Ty Segall, *Sleeper*; 15. Yeah Yeah Yeahs, *Mosquito*; 16. Robert Pollard, *Honey Locust Honky Tonk*; 17. Guided by Voices, *English Little League*; 18. Darkside, *Psychic*; 19. No Joy, *Wait To Pleasure*; 20. Baths, *Obsidian*.

Best Song: "Dream Captain," Deerhunter — A bouncy, jangly, dirty, catchy rock n' roll track about being a poor, independent, hopeful dreamer. Sounds like — and is — maybe the best proper indie rock anthem since Spoon's "The Underdog." Truth be told, in my opinion there wasn't a single mind-blowing song this year that I heard, but this one came the closest.

Next Best Songs: 2. "Down by the Racetrack," Guided by Voices; 3. "Byegone," Volcano Choir; 4. "Drawing a Picture," Robert Pollard; 5. "Golden Arrow," Darkside; 6. "Here Comes the Night Time," The Arcade Fire; 7. "The Pigsee Nest," Daughn Gibson; 9. "This Is Love (Feels Alright)," Camera Obscura; 10. "Default," Atoms for Peace; 11. "Hare Tarot Lies," No Joy; 12. "Picture of Health," Parquet Courts; 13. "It'll Get You There," Rilo Kiley; 14. "Neon Junkyard," Deerhunter; 15. "Acetate," Volcano Choir; 16. "The Sing," Bill Callahan; "Here I Am," Adam Green & Binki Shapiro; 18. "Trouble Is Trouble Never Seen," White Fence; 19. "You (Ha Ha Ha)," Charli XCX; 20. "Step," Vampire Weekend.



Colin McCallister

Fire Walker

Colin McCallister has just this to say of his top 10 list: "Through the darkness of future past, the magician longs, one chance out between two worlds, 2013 walk with me."

1. My Bloody Valentine: *mbv*

The album that My Bloody Valentine fans have been waiting more than two decades for arrived at exactly the right time to comfort and console me in a rough period. Likewise with most fans who had echoes of *Loveless* still in their consciousness, I too was afraid to press play on *mbv*. Once I did, the opening wave of sound was the plunge into a dopamine pool, and everything was okay again. Kevin Shields was obviously aware of the pending intimidation, but "She Found Now" remains one of the best openers of any album because the notoriously troubled history saddled with impossible expectations vanishes with a single strum. *Loveless* by itself forever secures Shields' legacy as one of music's most innovative guitarists and songwriters, so following it was only ever a self-imposed obligation. But MBV fans know that Shields is too much of a perfectionist to ever half-bake anything that bears his name, and it's that determination that radiates throughout all 46 minutes of *mbv*. Nearly a year after its unorthodox release, it stills sounds as fresh and wondrous as anyone (MBV fan or not) could ever hope to gain out of a listening experience, and best of all, your only role is to just press play.

2. The Flaming Lips: *The Terror*

There's always that one album fans of cult bands will share to attract newcomers, and if I were to follow precedence for the Lips, technically the honor should go to *The Soft Bulletin*, but I will always credit *The Terror* for hooking me in eternally to their unique brand of music. Both albums are ambitious, if indulgent, but *The Terror* is aware that if it's going to dwell in moodiness, it needs to have a façade of beauty to prevent it from becoming monotonous. The irony in releasing *The Terror* on April Fool's Day is that the Lips

produced their most deadpan and humorless album of their entire 30-year career, but *The Terror* is not a millstone of emotional weight thanks to the seemingly effortless feel of the music. You won't hear a more dichotomous album this year.

3. Janelle Monáe: *The Electric Lady*

As is the case with some fantastic albums I've encountered over the years, were it not for the eager suggestion of a friend, I probably would have passed over *The Electric Lady*. Upon heeding the advice of said friend, I was taking in a mix of soulful R&B, straight-up hip-hop and an inescapable presence of funk — all traits of which made me think of OutKast. Perhaps it's no coincidence that Monáe and Big Boi have occasionally collaborated, but for now it seems as though Monáe's work is a stellar substitute for those who don't think that the OutKast reunion will constitute anything more than their scheduled Coachella performance next year. *The Electric Lady* consists of Suites IV and V in her ongoing Metropolis concept but does away with any pretensions that could drag it down. Also, this is one of the few albums where the interludes/skits make the album even more fun and drive the story.

4. Kanye West: *Yeezus*

Sometimes I have to remind myself that I didn't think *My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy* was that brilliant when I first heard it either. I still am skeptical about how great *Yeezus* supposedly is, but every time I play it, all the accolades make more and more sense to me. I do believe it warrants inclusion on my list for no other reason than it embraces alienation in the most artful and dignified sense possible, and no other line sells me on this notion than "As soon as they like you, make them unlike you / 'cause kissing people's ass is so unlike you." And what a better alienating icon to further praise *Yeezus* with another review than the late great Lou Reed who brought salience to its emotional core in favor of focusing on the abrasive qualities of the music. The fact that Reed willingly engaged in an act of music criticism (whose practitioners he referred to as "the lowest forms of life") on behalf of Kanye West proves that it takes greatness to recognize greatness. I can't blame people who feel alienated by West's boorish public persona, but I still insist that anyone who refuses to listen to his music because of it are only screwing themselves out of an opportunity to instead be alienated by his music.

5. Boards of Canada: *Tomorrow's Harvest*

Out of the numerous albums I endlessly considered for this No. 5 spot, this one was the most logical to include. The irony is I didn't realize the album's true power until I impulsively decided to buy a vinyl copy over Thanksgiving weekend, and I'm typing these words about 50 hours since I first listened to it. The general template of *Tomorrow's Harvest* follows 70s movie soundtrack scores, but rather than thinking disco beats a la Bee Gees, try thinking the creepy synth ambience of John Carpenter mixed with the whimsically ominous scores of Wendy Carlos. A few days after first hearing *TM*, I relied on it to help me plow through my inordinate scholarly obligations because it was humble enough to not have distracting bells and whistles, but still compelling enough to warrant revisits into its arresting world to help me escape from the crushing, calculated routine of my own.

The Best of the Rest: 6. Queens of the Stone Age, *Like Clockwork*; 7. David Bowie, *The Next Day*; 8. The Oh Sees, *Floating Coffin*; 9. Deafheaven, *Sunbather*; 10. Pissed Jeans, *Honeys*; 11. No Joy, *Wait To Pleasure*; 12. Daft Punk, *Random Access Memories*; 13. Nine Inch Nails, *Hesitation Marks*; 14. Vampire Weekend, *Modern Vampires of the City*; 15. The Arcade Fire, *Reflektor*; 16. Danny Brown, *Old*; 17. Savages, *Silence Yourself*; 18. Steven Wilson, *The Raven That Refused to Sing (and Other Stories)*; 19. Grant Hart, *The Argument*; 20. Russian Circles, *Memorial*.

Best Song: "Only Tomorrow," My Bloody Valentine — Pardon me if I want to further engage in shameless hero worship, but any one of the songs off of *mbv* could easily be my favorite of the year. This song in particular is the one I revisited the most throughout 2013 because, even though I most associate it with the snowfalls of winter, it's a tune for all seasons. As much as it sounds like a forgotten work from

Continued on page 10

BEST OF 2013 **whatzup** READERS POLL

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BEST ROCK PERFORMER/ ORIGINALS

- ☐ The Orange Opera
- ☐ Sirface
- ☐ Valhalla
- ☐ Unlikely Alibi
- ☐ Earphorik
- ☐ Flamingo Nosebleed
- ☐ Heaven's Gateway Drugs
- ☐ Miles High

Other: _____

BEST ROCK PERFORMER/COVERS

- ☐ Cougar Hunter
- ☐ Brother
- ☐ Grateful Groove
- ☐ Freak Brothers
- ☐ Phil's Family Lizard
- ☐ Taj Maholics

Other: _____

BEST METAL/HARD ROCK PERFORMER

- ☐ Valhalla
- ☐ I, Wombat
- ☐ Beneath It All
- ☐ Kill the Rabbit

Other: _____

BEST BLUES PERFORMER

- ☐ Left Lane Cruiser
- ☐ Big Daddy Dupree and the Broke and Hungry Blues Band
- ☐ Bill Lupkin
- ☐ G-Money & Fabulous Rhythm

Other: _____

BEST HIP-HOP/RAP PERFORMER

- ☐ Sankofa
- ☐ Djenetic Drift
- ☐ Kid Bufkin
- ☐ Nyzzy Nyce

Other: _____

BEST R&B PERFORMER

- ☐ Todd Harrold Band
- ☐ Mikki White
- ☐ Ty Causey
- ☐ Freak Brothers
- ☐ Urban Legend

Other: _____

BEST FUNK/WORLD MUSIC PERFORMER

- ☐ Freak Brothers
- ☐ U.R.B.
- ☐ Miles High
- ☐ Unlikely Alibi

Other: _____

BEST PUNK PERFORMER

- ☐ Flamingo Nosebleed
- ☐ The Lurking Corpses
- ☐ Save Maumee Project

Other: _____

BEST FOLK/AMERICANA PERFORMER

- ☐ Sunny Taylor
- ☐ Clusterfolk
- ☐ Possum Trot Orchestra
- ☐ David Todoran
- ☐ Lee Miles & the Illegitimate Sons

Other: _____

BEST COUNTRY MUSIC PERFORMER

- ☐ Hubie Ashcraft & the Drive
- ☐ Joel Young Band
- ☐ Dag & the Bulleit Boys

Other: _____

BEST JAZZ PERFORMER

- ☐ Phil Schurjer
- ☐ Farmland Jazz Band
- ☐ Jamie Simon Trio
- ☐ Eric Clancy

Other: _____

BEST OLDIES ROCK PERFORMER

- ☐ Biff & The Cruisers
- ☐ Spike & The Bulldogs
- ☐ Taj Maholics

Other: _____

BEST SINGER/SONGWRITER

- ☐ Sunny Taylor
- ☐ David Todoran
- ☐ Duane Eby
- ☐ Ivory West

Other: _____

BEST KARAOKE HOST

- ☐ Michael Campbell (Shut Up & Sing)
- ☐ Shawn Browning (Shotgun Productions)
- ☐ Barbie Brown (Shooting Star)

Other: _____

BEST LIVE PERFORMER/BAND

- ☐ Cougar Hunter
- ☐ Miles High
- ☐ Freak Brothers
- ☐ Valhalla
- ☐ Heaven's Gateway Drugs
- ☐ Slow Pokes
- ☐ Djenetic Drift
- ☐ The Orange Opera

Other: _____

BEST LIVE PERFORMER/DUO

- ☐ Left Lane Cruiser
- ☐ Robbie V. & Heidi
- ☐ Shelly Dixon & Jeff McRae

Other: _____

BEST LIVE PERFORMER/SOLO

- ☐ Totally Orange Time Machine
- ☐ Jon Durnell
- ☐ Sunny Taylor
- ☐ Dan Dickerson
- ☐ Kevin Hambrick
- ☐ Mike Conley

Other: _____

BEST NEW PERFORMER

- ☐ Djenetic Drift
- ☐ Bekah Bradley
- ☐ Dirty Comp'ny
- ☐ Fighting Atrophy
- ☐ Soft 'n' Heavy
- ☐ Miles High
- ☐ Trackless
- ☐ Earphorik

Other: _____

BEST CD RELEASE (ROCK)

- ☐ Elephants in Mud/*Machinery&Scenery&Sound*
- ☐ Flamingo Nosebleed/*Blood on the Basement Floor*
- ☐ Miles High/*Pleasure Playground*
- ☐ Heaven's Gateway Drugs/*You Are Heaven's Gateway Drugs*
- ☐ Cambodia Highball/*Odd Geometry*
- ☐ Slow Pokes/*Dead Lines*

Other: _____

BEST CD RELEASE (NON-ROCK)

- ☐ David Todoran/*True*
- ☐ Bekah Bradley/*Bekah Bradley*
- ☐ Sankofa/*Just Might Be*
- ☐ Mathis Grey/*Handsome Mysteries*

Other: _____

BEST EP/SINGLE RELEASE

- ☐ The Remony/*A Lot To Learn*
- ☐ Mathis Grey/*Lights*
- ☐ Taylor Fredricks/*The Structure of a Mechanical Heart*
- ☐ Valhalla/*Deathmas*

Other: _____

BEST NATIONAL CONCERT

- ☐ John Fullbright/C2G Music Hall
- ☐ Steely Dan/Embassy
- ☐ The Winery Dogs/Piere's
- ☐ Alice in Chains/Embassy
- ☐ Leon Russell/C2G Music Hall
- ☐ Marilyn Manson/Piere's

Other: _____

BEST NATIONAL CONCERT VENUE

- ☐ C2G Music Hall
- ☐ Embassy Theatre
- ☐ Piere's
- ☐ The Brass Rail
- ☐ Foellinger Theatre

Other: _____

BEST LOCAL MUSIC VENUE

- ☐ Columbia Street West
- ☐ The Brass Rail
- ☐ C2G Music Hall
- ☐ CS3
- ☐ The Phoenix

Other: _____

BEST ROCK CLUB

- ☐ The Brass Rail
- ☐ Dupont Bar & Grill
- ☐ Columbia Street West
- ☐ O'Sullivan's Irish Italian Pub

Other: _____

BEST DANCE CLUB

- ☐ Flashbacks
- ☐ Babylon
- ☐ Early Birds

Other: _____

BEST JAZZ/BLUES CLUB

- ☐ Club Soda
- ☐ The Phoenix
- ☐ All That Jazz
- ☐ Philmore on Broadway

Other: _____

BEST COUNTRY MUSIC CLUB

- ☐ Rusty Spur Saloon
- ☐ Neon Armadillo
- ☐ The Post (Pierceton)

Other: _____

BEST KARAOKE CLUB

- ☐ Latch String Inn
- ☐ Crooner's (Piere's)
- ☐ 4D's Bar & Grill
- ☐ Skully's Boneyard

Other: _____

BEST SPORTS BAR

- ☐ Wrigley Field Bar & Grill
- ☐ Duty's Buckets Sports Pub & Grub
- ☐ Checkerz Bar & Grill

Other: _____

BEST COFFEE HOUSE

- ☐ The Firefly Coffee House
- ☐ Old Crown Coffee Roasters
- ☐ Mocha Lounge
- ☐ The Bean

Other: _____

BEST NEIGHBORHOOD TAVERN (FORT WAYNE)

- ☐ Acme Bar & Grill
- ☐ Henry's Restaurant
- ☐ Mad Anthony Brewing Co.
- ☐ Black Dog Pub
- ☐ Deer Park Irish Pub
- ☐ The Green Frog Inn

Other: _____

BEST NEIGHBORHOOD TAVERN (OUTSIDE FORT WAYNE)

- ☐ Beamers Sports Grill (Allen Co.)
- ☐ Downtown Eatery (Warsaw)
- ☐ Martin's Tavern (Garrett)
- ☐ Rack and Helen's (New Haven)

Other: _____

BEST NEW CLUB

- ☐ The Phoenix
- ☐ All That Jazz
- ☐ Chameleon

Other: _____

BEST OVERALL CLUB

- ☐ Columbia Street West
- ☐ CS3
- ☐ The Brass Rail
- ☐ 4D's Bar & Grill
- ☐ The Phoenix

Other: _____

BEST FINE DINING RESTAURANT

(Locally owned; non-franchise)

- ☐ Joseph Decuis
- ☐ Baker Street
- ☐ Paula's on Main
- ☐ Oyster Bar
- ☐ Chappell's Coral Grill
- ☐ Eddie Merlot's

Other: _____

BEST CASUAL RESTAURANT

(Locally owned; non-franchise)

- ☐ Dash-In
- ☐ Henry's Restaurant
- ☐ JK O'Donnell's Irish Ale House
- ☐ Loving Cafe
- ☐ Mad Anthony Brewing Company
- ☐ Shigs in Pit

Other: _____

BEST ETHNIC RESTAURANT

(Locally owned; non-franchise)

- ☐ Baan Thai
- ☐ El Azteca
- ☐ Wu's Fine Chinese Cuisine
- ☐ Koto Japanese Steak House
- ☐ Saigon Restaurant

Other: _____

FAVORITE RADIO PERSONALITY

- ☐ Doc West (WXKE)
- ☐ JJ Fabini (WXKE)
- ☐ Julia Meek (WBOI)
- ☐ Kyle Stamos (WBYP)
- ☐ Jason Lee (WXKE)
- ☐ John (The Mexican) Arroyo (WBYP)
- ☐ Turner Watson (WBYP)

Other: _____

FAVORITE TV PERSONALITY

- ☐ Curtis Smith (INC)
- ☐ Melissa Long (INC)
- ☐ Terra Brantley (WANE)
- ☐ Linda Jackson (NBC33)
- ☐ Megan Trent (NBC33)
- ☐ Heather Herron (WANE)

Other: _____

BEST THEATRICAL PRODUCTION

- ☐ *Les Misérables* (Civic Theatre)
- ☐ *Oliver!* (Fort Wayne Youtheatre/IPFW)
- ☐ *Our Town* (IPFW)
- ☐ *A Little Princess* (all for One)
- ☐ *Mrs. Packard* (First Presbyterian Theater)

Other: _____

PERFORMER OF THE YEAR

- ☐ Miles High
- ☐ Cougar Hunter
- ☐ Freak Brothers
- ☐ Flamingo Nosebleed
- ☐ Heaven's Gateway Drugs
- ☐ Thunderhawk
- ☐ Trackless
- ☐ Valhalla
- ☐ The Orange Opera
- ☐ Unlikely Alibi

Other: _____

VISUAL ARTIST OF THE YEAR

- ☐ Terry Ratliff
- ☐ Diane Groenert
- ☐ Kristy Jo Beber

Other: _____

THE RULES READ CAREFULLY

1. Vote **only once in each category** (you may skip as many categories as you wish).
2. Only votes for **local** venues and artists are counted ("local" refers to the *whatzup* distribution area; see website for additional information).
3. No reproductions of this ballot will be accepted.
4. Only one entry per household will be accepted. Multiple ballots from the same household or individual will be disqualified.
5. Completed ballots must be received by no later than Wednesday, January 22, 2014.

BEST OF 2013 READERS QUESTIONNAIRE

For your vote to count you must **completely** fill out the questionnaire below. Entries must be received by our office no later than Wednesday, January 22, 2013. Please see additional rules on the back of this page.

Mail to: **whatzup/Best of 2013**

2305 E. Esterline Rd., Columbia City, IN 46725

OR VOTE ONLINE AT www.whatzup.com

This form must be filled out completely.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ ☐ Male ☐ Female

Age: _____ Occupation: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Generally speaking, how often do you pick up the print version of *whatzup*?

☐ Weekly ☐ Every Other Week ☐ Monthly ☐ Never

On average, how much time a week do you spend reading your copy of *whatzup*?

_____ (Give time in hours and/or fractions of hours)

Generally speaking, how often do you visit *whatzup* online?

☐ Daily ☐ More Than Once a Week ☐ Once a Week
☐ Less Than Once a Week ☐ Never

On average, how much time per week do you spend reading *whatzup* online?

_____ (Give time in hours and/or fractions of hours)

Do you spend more time, the same amount of time or less time with *whatzup* than you do with these other media?

Radio: ☐ More time ☐ Less Time ☐ The Same
Television: ☐ More time ☐ Less Time ☐ The Same
Newspapers: ☐ More time ☐ Less Time ☐ The Same
Magazines: ☐ More time ☐ Less Time ☐ The Same
Social Media: ☐ More time ☐ Less Time ☐ The Same

How often do you refer to the following for local arts & entertainment information?

whatzup: ☐ Often ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely ☐ Never
Daily Newspaper(s): ☐ Often ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely ☐ Never
Sunday Newspaper(s): ☐ Often ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely ☐ Never
Other Free Publications: ☐ Often ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely ☐ Never
Radio: ☐ Often ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely ☐ Never
Television: ☐ Often ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely ☐ Never
Social Media: ☐ Often ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely ☐ Never
whatzup2nite: ☐ Often ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely ☐ Never

On average, how many times a **month** do you go out to hear music at a local club or music venue?

☐ Less than Once ☐ 1-4 Times ☐ 5-8 Times ☐ More than 8 Times

On average, how many times a **year** do you travel out of town for a concert or show?

☐ Less than Once ☐ 1-4 Times ☐ 5-8 Times ☐ More than 8 Times

On average, how many times a **month** do you go out to dinner at a local restaurant?

☐ Less than Once ☐ 1-4 Times ☐ 5-8 Times ☐ More than 8 Times

On average, how many times a **month** do you go out to see a movie?

☐ Less than Once ☐ 1-4 Times ☐ 5-8 Times ☐ More than 8 Times

SPINS - From Page 8

Loveless, it carries a more claustrophobic sonic density that characterizes most of *mbv*. Plus, the astonishing coda sounds like it could go on forever.

Next Best Songs (in no particular order): "Numbers on the Boards," Pusha T; "Ohm," Yo La Tengo; "Drive Home," Steven Wilson; "And the Sky Began to Scream," How to Destroy Angels; "Full of Fire," The Knife; "Subway," Yeah Yeah Yeahs; "Bad Guy," Eminem; "Lebaron," Russian Circles; "Before Your Very Eyes," Atoms for Peace; "Obvious Bicycle," Vampire Weekend; "E," No Joy; "Twin Hype Back," Run the Jewels; "Strawberries 1 + 2," The Oh Sees; "Lose Yourself to Dance," Daft Punk; "Blood on the Leaves," Kanye West; "Sunbather," Deafheaven; "Punishment Time," Korn; "Lights," M.I.A.; "Mute," Youth Lagoon.



Doug Driscoll

Old and In the Way

Having spent as much time listening to Little Feat than anything produced in this decade, the publisher formerly known as Mr. whatzup, came across quite a number of albums that didn't do a whole lot for him. The 10 that he did like, however, he liked quite a lot.

1. Josh Ritter: *The Beast in Its Tracks*

I consider Idaho's Josh Ritter to be among the greatest songwriters of my lifetime, right up there with Dylan, Leonard Cohen, Tom Waits, Paul Simon and a dozen or so others. To be honest, though, Ritter may be more storyteller than songwriter; his best songs are literate, intricately plotted, fully developed stories, more often than not leavened with a generous pinch of irony (see "The Curse," "Galahad," "Kathleen," "The Temptation of Adam"). *The Beast in Its Tracks* is basically one long song in 13 movements, a song about lost love and redemption and the emotional minefield that lies between those two events. Written and recorded in the throes of his divorce from Dawn Landes, it begins with an intro lamenting the fact that the new girl he just met and danced with "didn't have your arms." He revisits those arms a couple of times later on, notes on at least two occasions that his new love "only looks like you in a certain kind of light," acknowledges that "she's hopeful" even though she's dumped him, and hopes that she's happy too, although "if you're sad and you are lonesome and you've got nobody true / I'd be lying if I said that didn't make me happy too."

This is Ritter's *Blood on the Tracks* with just a touch of *Still Crazy After All These Years* thrown in for good measure. Those two albums still resonate 40 years after their release, and to my mind, *The Beast in Its Tracks* should have just as much staying power.

2. Mikal Cronin: *MCH*

I can't stand that schmaltzy new wave 80s crap. Flock of Seagulls sucked, as did Duran Duran, Tears for Fears and just about everything else from that era. Musically at least, it was a lost decade, and the fact that music from that era is being resurrected and listened to and talked about like it was actually *music* makes me want to throw up. You want retro? I'll give you retro. Well, Mikal Cronin will give you retro. George Harrison rhythm guitar riffs, Beach Boys harmonies, great big hooks with a little bit of guitar thrashing thrown in for good measure. Now *that's* retro. That's what music ought to be. Okay, I'll come out with it: I'm a sucker for power pop – and Mikal Cronin, multi-instrumentalist and Ty Segall collaborator, just happens to be very, very good at it. Got a problem with that?

3. The National: *Trouble Will Find Me*

This is not *High Violet*, an album I consider to be one of the best of the 21st century, all 14 years of it. No, *Trouble Will Find Me* is less boisterous, more subdued. The National on Quaaludes, perhaps. Or maybe just *High Violet* in a minor key. A very minor key.

This being perhaps my most highly anticipated album of the year, I felt let down a bit the first few times I listened to it. It just didn't grab me the way *High Violet* did. But you know how it works: you keep playing it because it's just there, and before you know it, it just sort of sets up shop in your psyche. I haven't given 150 spins like I did *High Violet*, and I don't know all the words to any of its songs like I do with "England" or "Bloodbuzz Ohio," but still, something comes over me when it comes on. It's not exactly a *happy* something, there's far too much "crying in the sound" for that. That lyric shows up in the second verse of the opening track, and it pretty much sums things up. But if you don't mind not lighting up a room when you walk into it, you might find *Trouble Will Find Me* highly relatable.

4. Beth Hart: *Big Bang Boom Boom*

My male-to-female music ratio is something like 10:1, and if I were to rank my favorite musicians of all time, very few of them, probably no more than a handful, would be female. The ones who would make the list would not be rockers like Joan Jett or Pat Benatar, but *rawkers* like Janis Joplin, Tina Turner and Lorraine Ellison – women who belt out songs from a place so deep in their own soul that it makes your heart want to jump out of your chest and join them there. So I guess that makes this my lucky year because quite by accident I stumbled upon Beth Hart around mid-summer and fell instantly in love. And better yet, she put out not one album this year, but two, the other being a collaboration with Joe Bonamassa that is also very good. I chose *Big Bang Boom Boom* for this list because the first three songs – "Baddest Blues," the title track and "Better Man" – are absolutely *killer*, and the bonus track, "I'd Rather Go Blind" (the Etta James version, not the Beyoncé song), is like icing on a very sweet cake.

5. Jamie N Commons: *Rumble and Sway EP*

This was another total accident. I don't remember how I came across this guy, a young, white British blues singer who sound a lot like *Lie to Me*-era Jonny Lang. What little I know about him I had to find on Wikipedia. Like, did you know he once opened for Bruce Springsteen in Njmegem? Yeah, that's right, Njmegem. Did you know there was a Njmegem? Me neither. And since his Wikipedia page is relatively brief, I still don't know much about this guy. Like, has anybody else out there ever heard of him? Does he have a future? Probably, since Facebook tells me he's got at least 26,672 fans. Is that a lot for a young, white British blues singer? I just don't know. I do know this, though: the kid can belt out a song.

The Best of the Rest: 6. Foxygen, *We Are the 21st Century Ambassadors of Peace and Magic*; 7. Frightened Rabbit, *Pedestrian Verse*; 8. John Mayer, *Paradise Valley*; 9. The Head and the Heart, *Let's Be Still*; 10. Joe Bonamassa & Beth Hart, *Seesaw*.

Best Song: "A Certain Light," Josh Ritter – I probably could have picked four or five songs from *Beast*, but this is the one that most makes me want to sing along to it. It's also the one, to my mind anyway, that manages to gather up all of *The Beast's* conflicting emotional threads and weaves them into a single, coherent fabric that is at once optimistic and heart-breaking. Think of Dylan's "Buckets of Rain." It's like that.

Next Best Songs: 2. "Baddest Blues," Beth Hart; 3. "Dear Marie," John Mayer; 4. "Strange Fruit," Joe Bonamassa & Beth Hart; 5. "Song for Zula," Phosphorescent; 6. "Demons," The National; 7. "Rumble and Sway," Jamie N Commons; 8. "New Lover," Josh Ritter; 9. "Piano Mantra," Mikal Cronin; 10. "Humiliation," The National.

Thursday, January 9

ADAM STRACK — Acoustic at Beamer's Sports Grill, Fort Wayne, 7-9 p.m., no cover, 625-1002
D FERREN — Acoustic at Phoenix, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m., no cover, 387-6571
HUBIE ASHCRAFT — Acoustic at Skully's Boneyard, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 637-0198
JOSEPH ANTHONY w/TIM SULLIVAN, YELLOW DEAD BETTYS — Comedy/original rock at Snickerz Comedy Bar, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m., \$8, 486-0216
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
ROBBIE V AND HEIDI DUO — Variety at Draft Horse Saloon, Orland, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 829-6465
SHELLY DIXON & JEFF McRAE — Acoustic rock at Checkerz Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 7:30-9:30 p.m., no cover, 489-0286
SHELLY DIXON & JEFF McRAE — Acoustic variety at Don Hall's Guesthouse, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 489-2524

Friday, January 10

BIG CADDY DADDY — Variety at Draft Horse Saloon, Orland, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 829-6465
BROTHER — Rock at Dupont Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m., cover, 483-1311
DAN SMYTH — Acoustic at Beamer's Sports Grill, Fort Wayne, 6-8 p.m., no cover, 625-1002
FERNANDO TARANGO AND THE WICKERSHAM BROTHERS — Variety at Deer Park Irish Pub, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 432-8966
FM90 — Original rock at Martin's Tavern, Garrett, 10:30 p.m., no cover, 357-4290
G-MONEY & FABULOUS RHYTHM — Rock/blues at Phoenix, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 387-6571
Gov't. CHEEZE — Rock at The Wet Spot, Decatur, 9 p.m., no cover, 728-9031
HUBIE ASHCRAFT — Acoustic at Columbia Street West, Fort Wayne, 5 p.m., no cover, 422-5055
HUBIE ASHCRAFT AND THE DRIVE — Country at Checkerz Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 489-0286
JOE STABELLI — Jazz guitar at Hall's Old Gas House, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m., no cover, 426-3411

JOSEPH ANTHONY w/TIM SULLIVAN — Comedy at Snickerz Comedy Bar, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m. & 9:45 p.m., \$9.50, 486-0216
KENNY TAYLOR — Elvis birthday bash/Northeast Indiana Honor Flight benefit at The Cottage Event Center, Roanoke, 7:30 p.m., \$10, 483-3508
LEFT LANE CRUISER — Punk blues at North Star Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 471-3798
MAD JR. — Rock/pop at Duty's Buckets Sports Pub, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m., no cover, 459-1352
MARK MASON QUARTET w/RICK BROWN — Jazz/swing at All That Jazz, Fort Wayne, 8:30-11:30 p.m., no cover, 203-5971
MIGHTY MCGUIGGANS — Variety at Latch String Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 483-5526
OFFERLE — Acoustic at Acme Bar and Grill, Fort Wayne, 9-11 p.m., no cover, 480-2264
OPEN STAGE JAM HOSTED BY POP'N'FRESH — Blues variety at A & O Sweet Shop Tavern, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 467-1679
SHADE AND SHANNON — Variety at Venice Restaurant, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 482-1618

NIGHTLIFE

ANGOLA

MAD ANTHONY'S LAKEVIEW ALE HOUSE

Eclectic • 4080 N 300 W, Angola • 260-833-2537

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

ALL THAT JAZZ

Jazz/Blues • 6330 W. Jefferson Blvd., Fort Wayne • 260-203-5971

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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- All your calendar entries included in whatzup's daily email blast reaching over 1,400 subscribers.
- Live links included with all your online calendar entries.
- A live link on whatzup's homepage.
- Reduced rates on any display advertising you purchase.

CALL 260.691.3188 FOR MORE INFORMATION

The Fort Takes It Up a Notch

"What a year" is a cliché as old and tired as they come, yet it carries a ring of truth, as 2013 appeared to be good to us all. There were many new offerings that came along in 2013 and an array of traditions that together make this fine city a great place to call home.

We lost the likes of Nelson Mandela, journalist Roger Ebert, actors James Gandolfini and Paul Walker, baseball great Stan Musial, boxer Tommy Morrison and musicians Ray Manzarek (The Doors), Chi Cheng (Deftones), Jeff Hanneman (Slayer) and Lou Reed. We also saw our government shut down, the Boston Marathon tragedy and the tornados that ripped through Oklahoma. Nationally, you could say it was pretty stressful at times. Locally, we had our share of downers with Mitchell's Sports Bar burning to the ground, a canceled RiverFest and longtime Komets great Colin Chaulk retiring coming to mind. If that's all I can think of, that's pretty good, as I would have to say the good definitely outweighed the bad. For example, the Raft Race was back, for crying out loud! Who would've ever thought we'd get to see water balloons flinging and homemade rafts floating down the river again? Hopefully, we see it again this year.

I don't think you can review a year without reflecting on the local festivals that highlighted the summer. Whether it was Sol Fest, Germanfest, Greekfest, Get Green Festival, Foodstock 2013, Pride Fest, Ribfest or the Three Rivers Festival, the community came out and supported them all. Whether it was a TRF foot-long hot dog or sauerkraut balls at Germanfest, the array of children's activities or live music, the community came out in droves. Fright Night and HolidayFest were also well attended events that have become traditions for many. Having children of my own, these festivals have become must-attend events.

One gathering the Braun foursome took part in a great deal was Rock the Plaza. There's not a better way to spend a Saturday evening than outside with family and friends while taking in free music from the area's elite. The concert line-up was once again outstanding (thanks, Kyle Haller). The shell in front of the library even housed the sardined-packed Beatlefest and Zepfest in 2013. How about an AC/DC Fest in 2014?



Out and About

NICK BRAUN

O'Reilly's Irish Bar, Red Rok BBQ & Bourbon Saloon and The Phoenix were nice additions to downtown last year, as well as Blue Stack Smokehouse on North Clinton and The Chameleon concert venue up on Goshen. Add them to the mass list of establishments that are already offered, and there was no reason you should've been on the couch last year. Just look at what C2G Music Hall did last year with the top-notch booking of shows that included Johnny Winter, Coco Montoya, Ana Popovic, Leon Russell and Gary Hoey. As usual, other local venues like Piere's, Brass Rail, Neon Armadillo, Rusty Spur, Memorial Coliseum and Wooden Nickel stayed true to their values and booked superb shows that brought to town many favorites as well as some first-timers. Volbeat, Alice in Chains, Social Distortion, Barry Manilow, Mustard Plug, Lita Ford, The Winery Dogs, Steely Dan and Marilyn Manson are some that come to mind when I reflect on last year. What's so awesome about the Fort is there are so many more venues in town than the ones I listed above, and many of them were on top of their game last year. Look at Legend's Sports Bar for instance; towards the end of the year they started booking bands like Smile Empty Soul, Taproot and Duke Tumatoe. Once again, so much to choose from.

Although I was busy buying releases in 2013 from bands like Clutch, Alice in Chains, Soulfly, Tom Kifer, Cage the Elephant, Black Sabbath and The Winery Dogs, I can't forget the productivity from our area musicians this year who released some great pieces of work. Although I didn't get my hands on all of them, I was fortunate enough to snag work from Sankofa, Slow Pokes, Controller, Elephants in Mud, U.R.B., The Elky Summers and Big Money and the Spare Change. We'll have to wait until the Whammys to see how the local releases shake out.

Can't wait to see what 2014 brings!

niknit76@yahoo.com

NIGHTLIFE

BEAMER'S SPORTS GRILL

Sports/Music/Variety • W. County Line Rd. & Highway 30 • 260-625-1002
EXPECT: Friendliest bar in Allen County. Big Ten, NASCAR, NFL on 12 big screen, hi-def TVs. **EATS:** Complete menu featuring homemade pizza, Beamer's Burger Bar, killer Philly steak sandwiches, juicy sirloins, great salads, fish on Fridays. **ACTIVITIES:** Pool, darts, cornhole. Live bands on weekends, no cover. Smoking allowed, four state-of-the-art smoke eaters. **GETTING THERE:** A quick 10 minutes west of Coliseum on U.S. 30. **HOURS:** Open daily at 11 a.m., noon on Sunday. **PMT:** MC, Visa, Amex, Disc

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

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

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Adam Strack
 Friday, Jan 10th • 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Dan Smyth
 Friday, Jan 10th • 9:30 PM - 1:30 AM
What About Joe
 Saturday, Jan 11th • 9:30 PM - 1:30 AM
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 SPORTS PUB & GRUB

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• **WEDNESDAY NIGHTS •**
 \$1 MILLER LIGHT & COORS LIGHT, 50¢ WINGS
SCOTT FREDRICKS (6-8PM)
SHUT UP & SING KARAOKE @ 8PM
THURSDAYS • 6-10PM
 \$1 BUD/BUD LIGHT &
 1/2 PRICE APPETIZERS

• **FRIDAY&SATURDAY, JAN. 10-11 • 9:30PM**
BROTHER
 • **FRIDAY, JAN. 17 • 9:30PM •**
ZANNA-DOO!
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 \$2.50 DOMESTIC LONGNECKS
 \$6.99 DAILY LUNCH SPECIALS
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Calendar • Live Music & Comedy

SHELLY DIXON & JEFF McRAE — Acoustic variety at Don Hall's Guesthouse, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 489-2524
SODA GARDOCKI, HANGDOG HEARTS, WHITE TRASH BLUES REVIVAL — Americana at Brass Rail, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., cover, 267-5303
TODD HARROLD BAND — R&B/blues at Dash-In, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 423-3595
TY CAUSEY — R&B/soul at Skully's Boneyard, Fort Wayne, 8:30 p.m.-1 a.m., cover, 637-0198
WEST CENTRAL QUARTET — Swing jazz at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m., no cover, 426-3442
WHAT ABOUT JOE — Classic rock/country at Beamer's Sports Grill, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., no cover, 625-1002

Saturday, January 11

BIG DICK AND THE PENETRATORS — Rock at Wacky Jac's, Angola, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., \$3, 665-9071
BONAFIDE — Variety at Checkerz Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 489-0286
BREAKING TRADITION — Country/rock at Skully's Boneyard, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., cover, 637-0198
BROTHER — Rock at Dupont Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m., cover, 483-1311
CHRIS WORTH & Co. — R&B/blues at 4D's Bar & Grill, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., 490-6488
DAG & THE BULLEIT BOYS, JUG HUFFERS — Americana & bluegrass at Brass Rail, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., \$3, 267-5303
DAN SMYTH — Acoustic at The Woods Too and Lighthouse Lounge, Hudson, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 351-2967

DAVE LATCHAW TRIO — Jazz/fusion at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m., no cover, 426-3442
FM90 — Original rock at Martin's Tavern, Garrett, 10:30 p.m., no cover, 357-4290
FORT WAYNE PHILHARMONIC — Masterworks Concert: A Lincoln Portrait at Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., \$17-\$64.50, 481-0777
GOV'T. CHEEZE — Rock at Duff's Bar, Columbia City, 9 p.m., no cover, 244-6978
GREGG BENDER BAND — Classic rock at Beamer's Sports Grill, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., no cover, 625-1002
IN THIS MOMENT W/DEVOUR THE DAY, BUTCHER BABIES, ALL HAIL THE YETI — Rock at Piere's Entertainment Center, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., \$25 adv., \$28 d.o.s. thru Ticketmaster and box office, 486-1979
JOE STABELLI — Jazz guitar at Hall's Old Gas House, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m., no cover, 426-3411
JOSEPH ANTHONY W/TIM SULLIVAN — Comedy at Snickerz Comedy Bar, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m. & 9:45 p.m., \$9.50, 486-0216
JULIE HADAWAY — Acoustic at Acme Bar and Grill, Fort Wayne, 9-11 p.m., no cover, 480-2264
LADY AND THE TRAMPZ — Variety at Eagles, Decatur, 8 p.m., no cover, 724-3374
MAD JR. — Rock/pop at Duty's Buckets Sports Pub, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m., no cover, 459-1352
MEMORIES OF THE KING FEAT. BRENT A. COOPER — Elvis tribute at Arbor Glen, Fort Wayne, 2:30-3:30 p.m., no cover, all ages, 918-0143
POP'N'FRESH — Blues variety at Phoenix, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 387-6571

SECOND SATURDAY — Electronic at O'Sullivan's Italian Irish Pub, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 422-5896
SHANNON PERSINGER QUARTET — Jazz at All That Jazz, Fort Wayne, 8:30-11:30 p.m., no cover, 203-5971
TODD HARROLD BAND — R&B/blues at Mad Anthony Brewing Company, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 426-2537
TOP SECRET BAND — Rock/dance at Rack and Helen's, New Haven, 9 p.m., no cover, 749-5396
UNLIKELY ALIBI — Reggae/rock at Columbia Street West, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., \$5, 422-5055
THE VICTIM, THE WITNESS W/FAMINGO, NOSEBLEED, BENEATH IT ALL, TRENT BOSTON, WILL CERTAIN, LIGHT THE WAY, PATRICK DiGANGI, ZACH FUH — CD release show/benefit for Community Harvest Food Bank at Wooden Nickel Music, North Anthony Blvd., Fort Wayne, 1-8 p.m., free, all ages, 484-3635

Sunday, January 12

DAVID WOLFE — Acoustic country rock at Wolf Lake Bar and Grill, Wolf Lake, 5 p.m., no cover, 635-8249
HUBIE ASHCRAFT — Acoustic at Draft Horse Saloon, Orland, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 829-6465
HUBIE ASHCRAFT — Acoustic at Office Tavern, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 478-5827
TAJ MAHOLICS — Blues at Latch String Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 483-5526

Monday, January 13

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

WEDNESDAYS
\$2 DRAFTS & WELL DRINKS
KARAOKE/DJ JOSH

FRIDAY ACOUSTIC, JAN. 10 • 5PM

HUBIE ASHCRAFT

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SATURDAY, JAN. 11 • 10PM

UNLIKELY

ALIBI



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SATURDAY, JANUARY 17

DAVID TODORAN

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24

MARK HUTCHINS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31

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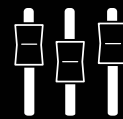
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Calendar • Live Music & Comedy

SCRATCH N SNIFF WITH 3/4 KIT KURT — Rock/variety at Deer Park Irish Pub, Fort Wayne, 6:30-8 p.m., no cover, 432-8966

Tuesday, January 14

CAJUN SKIP AND COCOMO JOE — Acoustic at Phoenix, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m., no cover, 387-6571

DAN SMYTH — Acoustic at O'Reilly's Irish Bar & Restaurant, Fort Wayne, 9-11 p.m., no cover, 267-9679

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, January 15

CHRIS WORTH — Acoustic at Acme Bar and Grill, Fort Wayne, 8-10 p.m., no cover, 480-2264

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

HUBIE ASHCRAFT — Acoustic at Arena Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 557-1563

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

JASON PAUL — Variety at North Star Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 471-3798

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, January 16

AL GOODWIN w/KEN GARR — Comedy at Snickerz Comedy Bar, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m., \$8, 486-0216

CHRIS WORTH & Co. — R&B/blues at AJ's Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., 434-1980

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

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

ROBBIE V AND HEIDI DUO — Variety at The Wet Spot, Decatur, 8:30-11:30 p.m., no cover, 728-9031

SUNNY TAYLOR — Acoustic at Skully's Boneyard, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 637-0198

Latch String

EVERY THURSDAY

\$1.50 DOMESTIC LONGNECKS

EVERY THURS. & SAT. • 10:30-2:30

AMERICAN IDOL KARAOKE

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10 • 10-2

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w/Rick Brown**

SATURDAY, JAN. 11

**Shannon
Persinger
Quartet**

FRIDAY, JAN. 17

**Mark Mason
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WEDNESDAY KARAOKE • 8PM

American Idol Karaoke

ACOUSTIC THURSDAY

JANUARY 9 • 8PM

**Hubie
Ashcraft**

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10 • 8:30PM

Ty Causey

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11 • 9:30PM

**Breaking
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ACOUSTIC THURSDAY

JANUARY 16 • 8PM

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NIGHTLIFE

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, three pool tables, 14 TVs, Shut Up and Sing Karaoke w/Mike Campbell every Wednesday at 8:30 p.m. and 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

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

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

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Friday, January 17

JUKE JOINT JIVE — Classic rock at Eagles Post 3512, Fort Wayne, 7-11 p.m., no cover, 387-7254

ADAM STRACK — Acoustic at Acme Bar and Grill, Fort Wayne, 9-11 p.m., no cover, 480-2264

AL GOODWIN w/KEVIN GARR — Comedy at Snickerz Comedy Bar, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m. & 9:45 p.m., \$9.50, 486-0216

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

BIG CADDY DADDY — Variety at The Venue, Angola, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., \$5, 665-3922

BLACK CAT MAMBO — Rock/reggae at Fort Wayne Museum of Art, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m., \$5-\$12, all ages, 422-6467

CHRIS WORTH — R&B/soul at Club Paradise, Angola, 8 p.m.-12 a.m., , 833-7082

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

G-MONEY & FABULOUS RHYTHM — Rock/blues at Skull's Boneyard, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., cover, 637-0198

GRG — Variety at Venice Restaurant, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 482-1618

HUBIE ASHCRAFT & TRAVIS GOW — Country at Draft Horse Saloon, Orland, 8 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 829-6465

JERK COMEDY — Comedy troupe at Columbia Street West, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 422-5055

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

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

LADY AND THE TRAMPZ — Variety at 4D's Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 490-6488

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

MARK MASON TRIO — Jazz/swing at All That Jazz, Fort Wayne, 8:30-11:30 p.m., no cover, 203-5971

THE MATCHSELLERS — Bluegrass at The Friendly Fox, Fort Wayne, 6:30-8:30 p.m., no cover, all ages, 745-3369

PHIL'S FAMILY LIZARD — R&B/blues at Latch String Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 483-5526

POSSUM TROT ORCHESTRA — Americana at Deer Park Irish Pub, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 432-8966

ROBBIE V AND HEIDI DUO — Variety at American Legion Post 241, Fort Wayne, 8:30-11:30 p.m., no cover, 747-7851

TERRY LEE AND THE ROCKABOOGIE BAND — 50s/rockabilly at Empeyrean, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., \$20, 602-7311

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

ZANNA-DOO — Dance at Dupont Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m., cover, 483-1311

Saturday, January 18

JUKE JOINT JIVE — Classic rock at The Wet Spot, Decatur, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 728-9031

LADY AND THE TRAMPZ — Variety at Duff's, Columbia City, 10 p.m., no cover, 244-6978

AL GOODWIN w/KEVIN GARR — Comedy at Snickerz Comedy Bar, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m. & 9:45 p.m., \$9.50, 486-0216

AP-Jazz5 — Jazz at All That Jazz, Fort Wayne, 8:30-11:30 p.m., no cover, 203-5971

BIG CADDY DADDY — Variety at The Venue, Angola, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., \$5, 665-3922

BIG DICK AND THE PENETRATORS — Rock at Wayne Street Tavern, Waterloo, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., no cover, 837-3209

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

CEDRIC BURNSIDE PROJECT — Blues at Phoenix, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m., \$7, 387-6571

COUGAR HUNTER — 80s glam rock at Dupont Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m., cover, 483-1311

DAN SMYTH TRIO — Variety at Phoenix, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 387-6571

DEE BEES — Acoustic at Acme Bar and Grill, Fort Wayne, 9-11 p.m., no cover, 480-2264

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

FORT WAYNE PHILHARMONIC — Pops: The Music of John Williams at Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., \$28-\$70, 481-0777

G-MONEY & FABULOUS RHYTHM — Rock/blues at Mad Anthony Brewing Company, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 420-8989

GOV'T. CHEEZE — Rock at Rusty Spur Saloon, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., cover, 755-3465

GRATEFUL GROOVE — Grateful Dead tribute at North Star Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 471-3798

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 Fatboyz Bar & Grill, Ligonier, 10 p.m., \$5, 894-4640

STILL GROOVE — 50s rock n' roll at 4D's Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., cover, 490-6488

TAJ MAHOLICS — Blues at Skull's Boneyard, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., cover, 637-0198

TESTED ON ANIMALS — Rock at Columbia Street West, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., \$5, 422-5055

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

whatzup PERFORMERS DIRECTORY

ACOUSTIC VARIETY

Mike Conley..... 260-750-9758

BLUES

Big Daddy Dupree and the Broke & Hungry Blues Band..... 708-790-0538

CLASSIC ROCK

Remnants..... 260-471-4664

CLASSIC ROCK & COUNTRY

The Joel Young Band..... 260-414-4983

CLASSIC ROCK & POP

What About Joe..... 260-255-0306

CLASSICAL

The Jaenicke Consort Inc. 260-426-9096

COUNTRY & COUNTRY ROCK

BackWater..... 260-494-5364

John Curran & Renegade 260-402-1634

Marshall Law 260-229-3360

DISC JOCKEYS/KARAOKE

American Idol Karaoke 260-637-7926 or 260-341-4770

Shotgun Productions Karaoke..... 260-241-7181

FUNK

Big Dick & The Penetrators..... 260-415-6955

HORN BAND

Tim Harrington Band 765-479-4005

ORIGINAL ACOUSTIC

Dan Dickerson's Harp Condition 260-704-2511

ORIGINAL ROCK

Downstait..... 260-409-6715

FM90 765-606-5550

ORIGINALS & COVERS

Kill The Rabbit..... 260-223-2381 or 419-771-9127

PRAISE & WORSHIP

Jacobs Well..... 260-479-0423

ROCK

80D..... 260-519-1946

Juke Joint Jive..... 260-403-4195

Little Orphan Andy..... 574-342-8055

The Rescue Plan..... 260-750-9500

ROCK & BLUES

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

Walkin' Papers..... 260-445-6390

ROCK & REGGAE

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

Unlikely Alibi..... 260-615-2966

ROCK & SOUL

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

ROCK & VARIETY

KillNancy..... 260-740-6460 or 260-579-1516

ROCK N' ROLL

Biff and The Cruisers..... 260-417-5495

ROCK/METAL

Valhalla..... 260-413-2027

VARIETY

Big Money and the Spare Change..... 260-515-3868

Elephants in Mud..... 260-413-4581

Joe Justice 260-486-7238

Paul New Stewart & Brian Freshour/

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



Sponsored in part by:

Thursday, January 9

ALBION
TK's Bar & Grill — Karaoke w/Ambient Noise Entertainment's Rooster, 8 p.m.

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, January 10

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.

COLUMBIA CITY
Portside Pizza — Karaoke w/Ambient Noise Entertainment's Rooster, 9 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.
Rack & Helen's — DJ Double K, 10 p.m.
Spudz Bar — Bucca Karaoke w/Bucca, 9 p.m.

WOLCOTTVILLE
Coody Brown's USA — American Idol Karaoke, 9 p.m.

Saturday, January 11

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
A.J.'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, January 12

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, January 13

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, January 14

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.
Drunken Monkey — Shotgun Prod. Karaoke, 9 p.m.

GARRETT
CJ's Canteena — Classic City Karaoke, 9 p.m.

NEW HAVEN
Rack & Helen's — DJ Double K, 10 p.m.

Wednesday, January 15

FORT WAYNE
19th Hole Bar & Grill — Come Sing Witt Us Karaoke, 9 p.m.
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, January 16

ALBION
TK's Bar & Grill — Karaoke w/Ambient Noise Entertainment's Rooster, 8 p.m.

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, January 17

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.

NIGHTLIFE

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 including 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 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. 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



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
Adam Carolla	Jan. 31	Park West	Chicago
Air Supply	Jan. 31	Akron Civic Theatre	Akron, OH
Air Supply	Mar. 1	Forest Hills Fine Arts Center	Grand Rapids
Albert Hammond Jr. w/Jake Bugg (\$25)	Jan. 15	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Albert Hammond Jr. w/Jake Bugg (\$25)	Jan. 18	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Alejandro Escovedo & Peter Buck (\$27)	Feb. 21	Magic Bag	Ferdale, MI
Alfie Boe	Feb. 18-19	Park West	Chicago
AI Goodwin w/Ken Garr (\$8-\$9.50)	Jan. 16-18	Snickers Comedy Bar	Fort Wayne
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
Andrew Ripp w/Judah and the Lion (\$10)	Feb. 28	Deluxe at Old National Centre	Indianapolis
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
Apache Relay w/The Lonely Wild (\$15)	Feb. 24	The Ark	Ann Arbor
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 (\$27.50-\$57.50)	Apr. 29	Schottenstein Center	Columbus, OH
Arctic Monkeys (\$29.50)	Feb. 11	LC Pavilion	Columbus, OH
Arctic Monkeys (\$29-\$58)	Feb. 12	Fillmore Detroit	Detroit
The Atlas w/Authority Zero, Versus the World & Drag the River	Mar. 22	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Band of Horses (\$37.50)	Feb. 19	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Bastille (\$15)	Jan. 19	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Bastille	Mar. 31	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
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
Billy Gardell	Jan. 24	Park West	Chicago
Billy Joel	Feb. 15	Palace of Auburn Hills	Auburn Hills, MI
The Black Angels (\$26)	Feb. 5	Vic Theatre	Chicago
The Black Angels (\$22.50)	Feb. 8	Beachland Ballroom	Cleveland
The Black Angels (\$20)	Feb. 9	Magic Slick	Detroit
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
Bob Mould	Mar. 1	Old Town Theatre	Chicago
Bob Mould	Mar. 2	City Winery	Chicago
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
Bobby Vinton (\$34-\$75)	Mar. 29	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Brad Paisley w/Chris Young, Danielle Bradberry (\$41-\$61)	Feb. 27	War Memorial Coliseum	Fort Wayne
Brit Floyd (\$25)	Mar. 14	Lc Pavilion	Columbus, OH
Broken Bells	Mar. 1	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Buckwheat Zydeco (\$20)	Mar. 6	Magic Bag	Ferdale, MI
Caroline Glaser	Apr. 5	Deluxe at Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Carrie Newcomer (\$20)	Mar. 16	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Castling Crowns w/Laura Story, for King & Country (\$25-\$45)	Feb. 21	Allen Co. War Memorial Coliseum	Fort Wayne
Catie Curtis (\$20)	Mar. 9	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Caveman w/Phosphorescent (\$16)	Jan. 28	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Caveman w/Phosphorescent (\$15)	Jan. 30	A&R Music Bar	Columbus, OH
Caveman (\$12)	Feb. 25	Double Door	Chicago
Caveman (\$10)	Feb. 26	Magic Slick	Detroit
Cedric Burnside Project (\$7)	Jan. 18	Phoenix	Fort Wayne
Celtic Woman	May 2	Peoria Civic Center	Peoria
Celtic Woman	May 8	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Celtic Woman	May 9	Michigan Theatre	Ann Arbor
Charlie Hunter & Scott Amendola Duo (\$20)	Apr. 9	Magic Bag	Ferdale, MI
Cheap Trick	Feb. 22	Hoosier Park Racing Casino	Anderson
Cher	Apr. 12	Joe Louis Arena	Detroit
Chick Corea w/Bela Fleck (\$32-\$45)	Apr. 3	Sound Board	Detroit
Chick Corea w/Bela Fleck (\$29-\$75)	Apr. 5	Roosevelt University	Chicago
Christina Perri	Apr. 9	House of Blues	Chicago
Christina Perri	Apr. 11	Majestic Theatre	Detroit
Christina Perri	Apr. 12	Bogart's	Cincinnati
Christina Perri	Apr. 24	House of Blues	Cleveland
Christina Perri	Apr. 26	Deluxe at Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Cody Simpson (\$25)	Jan. 28	Deluxe at Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Cody Simpson (\$27.50)	Jan. 29	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
Crosby, Stills & Nash (\$45-\$99)	Mar. 12	Peoria Civic Center	Peoria
Collin Christian & Southern Gothic w/Gunslinger (\$5)	Feb. 22	Neon Armadillo	Fort Wayne
Crosby, Stills & Nash (\$40.50-\$80.50)	Mar. 14	Murat Theatre	Indianapolis
Crosby, Stills & Nash (\$56-\$76)	Mar. 15	Firekeepers Casino	Battle Creek, MI
Crosby, Stills & Nash (\$47.50-\$62.50)	Mar. 18	Palace Theatre	Columbus, OH
Crosby, Stills & Nash (\$49-\$94)	Mar. 19	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Dale Earnhardt Jr. Jr. (\$15)	Feb. 15	Deluxe @ Old National	Indianapolis
Dan Hicks and the Hot Licks (\$25)	May 1	The Ark	Ann Arbor
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	Allen Co. War Memorial Coliseum	Fort Wayne
Dark Star Orchestra	Jan. 31	The Vic	Chicago
Dark Star Orchestra	Feb. 3	Majestic Theatre	Detroit

Bon Jovi played in front of over 2 million faces last year, and, of course, they rocked them all, making them the top-grossing act of the 2013 concert year. The band played 90 shows, all of them sellouts, and grossed over \$200 million in the process. With guitarist **Richie Sambora** out of the picture for the time being, frontman **Jon Bon Jovi** can now finally find a way to live off of such meager earnings.



Road Notez

CHRIS HUPE

The Michael Jackson Immortal Tour by Cirque du Soleil was the second largest grossing concert tour for 2013, taking in over \$157 million in ticket sales. The tour played shows, but strangely enough, none of them were classified as a sellout. Still, it goes to show you that being dead doesn't necessarily hurt a celebrity's popularity.

Speaking of dead, or rather not dead as the title of her 2006 album *I'm Not Dead* suggests, **Pink** comes in a surprising third place in the 2013 concert year, grossing \$147 million in 114 shows. It wasn't that long ago I saw Pink play at The Vogue in Indianapolis; now she's selling out 20,000 seat venues everywhere. It's amazing what a little girl power and some radio play can do for a career.

The Boss, **Bruce Springsteen** checks in at No. 4 for 2013 concert sales, putting \$147 million in his pocket while playing just 53 shows. Not bad. This makes Springsteen only the second most popular act from the state of New Jersey this year.

At No. 5 is **Rihanna**, raking in a cool \$137 million while playing 87 shows. A friend of mine took his daughter to see Rihanna, or at least he said he took his daughter, and he said she put on a great show. All I know is her guitarist is **Nuno Bettencourt** of **Extreme**. so that makes her okay in my book.

Rounding out the top 10 are **The Rolling Stones** with 23 shows grossing \$126 million, **Taylor Swift** playing 66 shows and grossing \$115 million, **Beyoncé** grossing \$104 million over 59 shows, another surprise in **Depeche Mode** collecting \$99 million in 54 shows and **Kenny Chesney** playing 44 shows for a paltry \$90 million.

Pollstar had the list a bit different, with Beyoncé at No. 2 and **Justin Bieber** sneaking in at No. 4, along with Pink at 3 and Springsteen at 5 again.

What do we have to look forward to in 2014? Well, there are the usual festivals: Lollapalooza in Chicago August 1-3, Pitchfork Music Festival in the same city likely a few weeks earlier and the annual Vans Warped Tour and Rockstar Mayhem Festival coming through several area cities throughout the summer.

There are very few big summer tours booked so far, but we know we won't see a **Kinks** reunion (too much in-fighting) or a **The Who** tour (their final tour will be next year according to reports). But what we'll probably get are some real good shows at the Memorial Coliseum, some great tours coming through Piere's and some unexpected gems at places like 4D's, C2G and CS3. In the meantime, go out and support your local musicians. There is a lot of talent in this city. I, for one, plan on seeing as many as I can.

christopherhupe@aol.com

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
David Crosby	Feb. 8-9	City Winery	Chicago
The Deadly Gentlemen (\$13)	Jan. 15	The Ark	Ann Arbor
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
Dick Siegel (\$20)	Mar. 8	The Ark	Ann Arbor
DL Hughley (\$37-\$43)	Jan. 23	Sound Board	Detroit
Dropkick Murphys (\$39-\$48)	Feb. 18	House of Blues	Cleveland
Dr. Ralph Stanley and his Clinch Mountain Boys (\$45-\$70)	Jan. 12	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Dropkick Murphys (\$26-\$36)	Feb. 19	Fillmore Detroit	Detroit
Eagles (\$39-\$179)	Mar. 5	Nationwide Arena	Columbus, OH
Emblem3	Feb. 16	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
Eric Paslay (\$5-\$7)	Mar. 8	Neon Armadillo	Fort Wayne
Excision (\$27)	Apr. 11	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
Excision (25)	Apr. 13	House of Blues	Cleveland
Excision (\$20)	Apr. 15	Bogart's	Cincinnati
Excision (\$33.50)	Apr. 18	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
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
For Today w/Like Moths to Flames, Stray from the Path, The Plot in You, Fit for a King (\$25)	Feb. 27	Deluxe at Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Frankie Rose	Jan. 27	Schubas	Chicago
G. Love and Special Sauce (\$25)	Feb. 5	20th Century Theater	Cincinnati
G. Love and Special Sauce (\$20)	Feb. 6	St. Andrews Hall	Detroit
G. Love and Special Sauce (\$25)	Feb. 7	House of Blues	Cleveland
G. Love and Special Sauce (\$22.50)	Apr. 18	The Metro	Chicago
Gabriel Iglesias (\$42)	Mar. 21	Palace Theatre	Columbus, OH
Gaelic Storm (\$20)	Mar. 19	Magic Bag	Ferdale, MI
Galactic (\$30)	Feb. 1	Park West	Chicago
Gavin DeGraw w/Rozzi Crane (\$35-\$75)	Apr. 14	Honeywell Center	Wabash

Calendar • On the Road

George Kahumoku w/Ledward Kaapana (\$20)	Feb. 4	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Gov't Mule	Feb. 21	Victory Theatre	Evansville
Greensky Bluegrass (\$18)	Jan. 17	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Greensky Bluegrass w/Tumbleweed Wanderers (\$15 adv., \$18 d.o.s.)	Feb. 6	Woodlands Tavern	Columbus, OH
Greensky Bluegrass w/Tumbleweed Wanderers (\$17 adv., \$20 d.o.s.)	Feb. 7	Beachland Ballroom	Cleveland
Greensky Bluegrass w/Tumbleweed Wanderers (\$20)	Feb. 8	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Grouplove w/Alex Winston (\$23.50)	Mar. 21	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
Hannibal Buress (Sold out)	Jan. 25	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Hard Working Americans w/Turbo Fruits	Feb. 22	Park West	Chicago
The Honeycutters (\$15)	Jan. 22	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Hopsin (\$20)	Feb. 11	House of Blues	Chicago
Huey Lewis and the News (\$25)	Jan. 24	Hard Rock Live	Northfield, OH
Joed Earth (\$15)	Apr. 6	House of Blues	Chicago
IL Divo	Apr. 18	Rosemont Theatre	Chicago
IL Divo	Apr. 19	Fox Theatre	Detroit
IL Divo (\$52.50-\$127.50)	Apr. 21	Murat Theatre	Indianapolis
In This Moment w/Devour the Day, Butcher Babies, All Hail the Yeti (\$25-\$28)	Jan. 11	Piere's Entertainment Center	Fort Wayne
Infected Mushroom w/Butch Clancy (\$35)	Feb. 13	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
Jake Bugg	Jan. 18	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Jason Isbell w/Holly Williams (\$17.50)	Feb. 4	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Jay-Z (\$32.50-\$150)	Jan. 9	United Center	Chicago
Jay-Z	Jan. 10	Palace of Auburn Hills	Auburn Hills, MI
Jeff Austin and the Here and Now (\$25-\$35)	Mar. 7	Chicago Winery	Chicago
Jeff Austin and the Here and Now (\$15)	Mar. 8	Bell's Eccentric Café	Kalamazoo
Jeff Daniels (\$35)	Jan. 25	State Theatre	Kalamazoo
Jeff Tweedy (\$27.50)	Feb. 14	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Jennifer Nettles (\$32-\$40)	Mar. 11	Sound Board	Detroit
Jeremy Spencer (\$20)	Mar. 2	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Jill Jacky w/Melissa Greener (\$25)	Jan. 11	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Jim Gaffigan (\$36.75-\$46.75)	Mar. 23	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Joe Bonamassa (\$71-\$91)	Apr. 23	Murat Theatre	Indianapolis
Joe Rogan (\$22.50-\$45)	Jan. 24	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
John Butler Trio w/Little Hurricane (\$35)	Feb. 7-8	Vic Theatre	Chicago
John Fullbright (\$25)	Jan. 17	Grand Valley Dale Ballroom	Columbus, OH
John Gorka (\$20)	Apr. 27	The Ark	Ann Arbor
John Prine (\$49.50-\$85)	Mar. 14	Orchestra Hall	Chicago
John Wort Hannam (\$15)	Jan. 20	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Joseph Anthony w/Tim Sullivan (\$8-\$9.50)	Jan. 9-11	Snickerz Comedy Bar	Fort Wayne
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 (\$49.50-\$175)	Feb. 17	United Center	Chicago
Keb Mo (\$39.50)	Mar. 12	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
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. 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
Kings of Leon, Gary Clark Jr. (\$26.50-\$52.50)	Feb. 18	Schottenstein Center	Columbus, OH
Kip Moore w/Drake White	Jan. 11	Huntington Center	Toledo
Larry Mechem Band feat. Lindy Kristy (\$27.50)	May 15	Paramount Theatre	Anderson
Les Claypool's Duo De Twang	Mar. 7	Majestic Theatre	Detroit
Les Claypool's Duo De Twang	Mar. 8	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Lez Zeppelin (\$20)	Jan. 31	Magic Bag	Ferndale, MI
Little Big Town	Jan. 9	Van Andel Arena	Grand Rapids
Little Big Town	Jan. 10	United Center	Chicago
Local Natives	Apr. 22	House of Blues	Cleveland
Lorde	Mar. 16	Fillmore Detroit	Detroit
Lorde	Mar. 18	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Los Campesinos!	Jan. 25	The Metro	Chicago
Man Man w/Xenia Rubios (\$13)	Jan. 22	The Loft	Lansing
Man Man w/Xenia Rubios (\$15)	Jan. 23	Grog Shop	Cleveland
Man Man (\$18)	Feb. 8	Deluxe at Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Mark Lowry (\$18-\$45)	Apr. 26	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Mayer Hawthorne w/Quadron (\$20)	Feb. 16	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Mc Guiffey Lane (\$25.00)	Jan. 25	LC Pavilion	Columbus, OH
Mc Thuy Duong, Quang Le, Huong Thuy, Luong Tung Quang, Anh Minh, Nguyen, Ahn and the Liberty Band (\$30-\$45)	Jan. 19	Sound Board	Detroit
Mike Felton (Free)	Mar. 22	Beathiks Cafe	Marion
Mike Gordon (\$25)	Mar. 8	Park West	Chicago
Miley Cyrus	Mar. 7	Allstate Arena	Rosemont, IL
Miley Cyrus	Apr. 12	Palace of Auburn Hills	Auburn Hills, MI
Miley Cyrus, Iona Pop, Sky Ferreira (\$39.50-\$89.50)	Apr. 13	Schottenstein Center	Columbus, OH
mo.e. (\$24)	Feb. 13	House of Blues	Cleveland
Mogwai	May 14	House of Blues	Cleveland
Mogwai	May 15	St. Andrews Hall	Detroit
Mountain Heart (\$30)	Jan. 10	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Naked and Famous	Mar. 10	House of Blues	Cleveland
Neko Case w/Thao & The Get Down Stay Down (\$22)	Jan. 30	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Newsboys (\$10)	Mar. 20	Allen Co. War Memorial Coliseum	Fort Wayne
Okkervil River (\$17)	Apr. 3	Deluxe at Old National Centre	Indianapolis
The Osmonds (\$25-\$45)	Apr. 25	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Panic! at the Disco (\$27)	Jan. 24	LC Pavilion	Columbus, OH
Patty Griffin w/Anais Mitchell	Jan. 31	Metro	Chicago
Paul Simon w/Sling (\$45-\$250)	Feb. 25	United Center	Chicago
Paul Simon w/Sling (\$43-\$253)	Feb. 26	Palace of Auburn Hills	Auburn Hills, MI
Pete Siers Trio feat. Dave Bennett & Tad Weed (\$20)	Feb. 27	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Pink Martini (\$15-\$49.50)	Mar. 1	Murat Theatre	Indianapolis

Pixies (\$39-\$47.50)	Feb. 7	LC Pavilion	Columbus, OH
Pixies (\$39.50-\$59.50)	Feb. 8	Fillmore Detroit	Detroit
Pixies (\$49)	Feb. 9	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Pusha T w/Stalley, Fly Union & Friends (\$26.50)	Jan. 24	Newport Music Hall	Columbus, OH
Pusha T w/2 Chainz, August Alsina (\$35-\$90)	Feb. 7	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
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
Rebelution w/Cris Cab (\$17.50-\$20)	Feb. 5	Deluxe at 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 (\$17-\$20)	Feb. 14-15	House of Blues	Cleveland
REO Speedwagon (\$25.50-\$75)	Jan. 18	Rosemont Theatre	Rosemont, IL
REO Speedwagon (\$35-\$95)	Apr. 12	French Lick Resort	French Lick, IN
The Revelers (\$15)	Jan. 26	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Richard Thompson w/Teddy Thompson (\$40)	Mar. 3-4	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Robert Ellis (\$12.50)	Feb. 12	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
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
Sharon Jones and the Dap-Kings w/Valerie June (\$15)	Mar. 4	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Sharon Jones and the Dap-Kings	Apr. 11	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Slightly Stoopid	Mar. 14	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Slightly Stoopid	Mar. 16	St. Andrews Hall	Detroit
Slightly Stoopid	Mar. 19	House of Blues	Cleveland
Slightly Stoopid (\$29.50-\$55)	Mar. 21	LC Pavilion	Columbus, OH
The Spinners (\$27-\$37)	Mar. 1	Niswonger Performing Arts Center	Van Wert
St. Vincent (\$28)	Apr. 5	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
St. Vincent (\$27)	Apr. 6	Majestic Theatre	Detroit
St. Vincent (\$25)	Apr. 8	Bogart's	Cincinnati
St. Vincent (\$29.50)	Apr. 9	Newport Music Hall	Columbus, OH
St. Vincent (\$25)	Apr. 10	House of Blues	Cleveland
Stone Sour (\$32.50)	Jan. 24	House of Blues	Cleveland
Stone Sour w/Pop Evil, Stolen Babies (\$30 adv., \$33 d.o.s.)	Jan. 25	Piere's Entertainment Center	Fort Wayne
Stone Sour w/Pop Evil, Stolen Babies (\$29.50)	Jan. 28	House of Blues	Chicago
Steve Turner (\$15)	Feb. 17	The Ark	Ann Arbor
STS9 (\$32.50)	Feb. 8	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
STS9 (\$22.50)	Feb. 9	Orbit Room	Grand Rapids
Sunset Stomp (\$25)	Apr. 24	Paramount Theatre	Anderson
Superchunk w/Roomrunner	Jan. 18	Metro	Chicago
Taj Mahal and His Trio (\$58)	Mar. 1	Magic Bag	Ferndale, MI
The Toledo Symphony Orchestra (\$20)	Mar. 9	Niswonger Performing Arts Center	Van Wert
Trey Anastasio Band (\$42.50)	Feb. 15	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
Umphrey's McGee w/The Werks (\$30.50)	Jan. 31	LC Pavilion	Columbus, OH
Umphrey's McGee	Feb. 20-22	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Vince Gill (\$29-\$100)	May 9	Honeywell Center	Wabash
The Wallers (\$15)	Jan. 22	LC Pavilion	Columbus, OH
The Wallers (\$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 Centre	Indianapolis
Walk Off the Earth (\$20)	Jan. 23	House of Blues	Cleveland
The Wanted	Apr. 18	Fillmore Detroit	Detroit
The Wanted	Apr. 19	House of Blues	Chicago
We the Kings	Mar. 23	Deluxe at Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Wild Feathers (\$13)	Feb. 13	Blind Pig	Ann Arbor
Wild Feathers (\$15)	Feb. 14	Radio Radio	Indianapolis
Wild Feathers (\$14)	Feb. 16	Double Door	Chicago
Yonder Mountain String Band (\$20 adv. \$25 d.o.s.)	Feb. 13	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Yonder Mountain String Band (\$24)	Feb. 14	LC Pavilion	Columbus, OH
Yonder Mountain String Band (\$20)	Feb. 16	Canopy Club	Urbana, IL
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 (\$22)	Mar. 17	LC Pavilion	Columbus, OH
Young the Giant (\$27)	Mar. 22	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Zac Brown Band	Feb. 5	Huntington Center	Toledo

Road Tripz

Big Daddy Dupree and the Broke & Hungry Blues Band	March 21	Toby Keith's, Rosemont, IL
July 27	Indianapolis Rib Festival, Indianapolis	Kill the Rabbit
FM90	Jan. 25	Cheers Pub, South Bend
Mar. 8	The Greazy Pickle, Portland, IN	March 1
Gunslinger	Jan. 11	Black Swamp Bistro, Van Wert
Jan. 18	The Hideaway, Gas City	June 14
March 1	Raymond's, Wakarusa	Memories of the King
April 5	The Hideaway, Gas City	Feb. 1
Hubie Ashcraft & The Drive	Jan. 31	American Legion Post 178, Van Wert
Jan. 31	The Old Crow, Chicago	Yellow Dead Bettys
Feb. 28-March 1	Cowboy Up, Mendon, MI	July 11
March 14-15	Toby Keith's, Auburn Hills, MI	Cheers Pub, South Bend

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Greg's Annual Movie List

Not quite everything has been seen just yet. There's John Well's *August: Osage County* Jean-Marc Vallée's *Dallas Buyer's Club*, Stephen Frears' *Philomena*, Claire Denis' *Bastards*, Paolo Sorrentino's *The Great Beauty* and even Pedro Almodóvar's *I'm So Excited*. Also, a responsible cinephile (such as myself) feels the need to revisit Shane Carruth's great, if confusing, *Upstream Color* and Terrence Malick's interesting, if lifeless, *To the Wonder* lest they not be given the credit they deserve.

All that said, thus far I've seen 114 of the year's most promising releases, and while ranking and rating complex works of storytelling art feels increasingly silly with older age, away I go, back down into my annual winter cinephilia rabbit hole ...

1. Only God Forgives (Nicolas Winding Refn, director): The best art is almost always challenging, offensive, off-putting and divisive. When word came that Refn was violently booed at Cannes following a screening of *Only God Forgives*, the follow-up to his breakthrough film, *Drive*, I was excited. Martin Scorsese's *Taxi Driver* was booed at Cannes, as were Malick's *The Tree of Life*, David Lynch's *Wild at Heart*, Michelangelo Antonioni's *L'Eclisse* and several other of my all-time favorite films. Could *Only God Forgives*, a movie that works as much as a masters-level color study as it does a film, possibly join such prestigious company?

When I first saw this violent, colorful, brilliantly photographed, edited and composed nightmare of a movie, I was deeply intrigued (though not fully engaged). I watched it via iTunes on a 27-inch computer screen. What I saw made me realize that it was a film I needed to see on a big screen in a dark room, so I went to the Angelika Film Center in NoHo and saw the movie properly. I liked it, but didn't love it; it just still wasn't connecting.

Not until I got the film on Blu-ray and sat down alone at home did Refn's latest masterpiece really start to click for me as something more than a pretty-looking and -sounding bloodfest. I sat down and watched the movie twice in a row, hardly blinking. Sure, it's violent and shocking and challenging, but it's also beautiful and complex and deeply layered oh, and maybe one of the most subtle films I've ever seen, despite all the swords and torture and guts. The care put into the set design, cinematography, sound design and editing alone makes it my pick for the year's most impressive film, as is the rare piece of cinematic work that, as far as all around production value goes, I'd rank alongside the work of auteuristic masters like Stanley Kubrick, Guillermo del Toro and Pedro Almodóvar.

It's a puzzle of a film that resonates a bit more with me each time I see it. And yeah, I know that a lot of people think this is one of the year's worst films; some of my favorite critics have even been shouting this very sentiment from the tops of mountains and skyscrapers ever since the film premiered at Cannes. Maybe those folks just didn't think hard enough. Me? I'll bet my movie collection that *Only*



ScreenTime

GREG W. LOCKE

God Forgives will soon enough be considered one of the most beautifully produced cult classics ever made, up there with Alejandro Jodorowsky's *El Topo* and *The Holy Mountain*.

2. Blue Is the Warmest Color (Abdellatif Kechiche, director): Several lesbian groups are mad that a straight man and two straight women made a film about lesbian love. Chill, ladies. For starters, *Blue Is the Warmest Color*, from *The Secret of the Grain* director Abdellatif Kechiche, isn't about lesbian love as much as it is young love. Secondly, no one is stopping all you lesbians from making your own lesbian – or non-lesbian – films. In *Blue* we begin by following Adele (played by newcomer Adele Exarchopoulos in a performance I believe will go down as a classic) as she navigates her final days of high school, experimenting with boys before eventually meeting Emma (played by the powerful Lea Seydoux), an engaging, introspective 20-something lesbian artist. The unique, startlingly honest and authentic love story that unfolds after our two heroes meet plays out like a three-hour master class in art house filmmaking, engrossing viewers in a way no other film in 2013 did. As Exarchopoulos herself said to Charlie Rose, *Blue* isn't about lesbians but, instead, it's about one woman's "sentimental education." That one woman just happens to like breasts.

3. The Place Beyond the Pines (Derek Cianfrance, director): The first time I saw Derek Cianfrance's second collaboration with Ryan Gosling I left the theater feeling conflicted. The movie, split into three distinct stories (all of which are linked by the settings and characters), was much more of an epic art house experience than I had expected.

It's a film about fathers and sons – that simple. The first 50 minutes of the 140-minute drama, focused on Gosling's Luke (a very Brando-like character), were perhaps the most enjoyable 50 minutes of film I saw in 2013. The other two carefully crafted acts are strong as well, but demand patience and repeat viewings.

4. Inside Llewyn Davis (Coen Brothers, directors): You never quite know what to expect when you go to a Coen Brothers film. I knew that *Llewyn* focused on the early 60s folk music scene in Greenwich Village. This, of course, made my expectations soar. As something of an obsessive music fan, I couldn't help but think of those magical first theater screenings of films like *Almost Famous*, *High Fidelity* and the like. *Llewyn*, however, is not that kind of movie. Here we see the Coens in their craftsman mode, making a moody, nuanced drama that plays through almost like something of a *Not Fade Away*/*A Serious Man* mash-up. As the days

Continued on page 24

Worthwhile Reading

Looking back over the books I reviewed in 2013, I'm feeling a bit of nostalgia – not nostalgia for 2013, but for the eras depicted in some of the better books I read in the last year. Of the six books I chose to highlight in this New Year recap, three of them take place between 20 and 50 years ago. So much for using the turn of a new year as a chance to look ahead to the future.

Centerville

It's sobering but fitting that I reviewed Karen Osborn's dramatic novel less than three months before the bombings at the Boston Marathon last spring. Osborn's novel is about a bombing in a small Midwestern town in 1967 and the effect that the event has on the book's adolescent protagonist.

In 1967, the explosive disruption of peace-of-mind was a foreign idea in America, and Osborn presents the bombing as a catalyst for life-changing introspection in her characters. In 2013, a similar event was shocking but not strictly surprising, a change in the American psyche that makes Osborn's period story even more resonant.

Joyland

Stephen King's understated murder mystery is really a coming-of-age story set at an East Coast amusement park in the early 1970s. This is King at his best, combining convincing character study with evocative set dressing while avoiding wordy excess and lack of discipline in plotting. It breaks down a little at the end, but the first half of the relatively (for King) brief novel outweighs the predictable conclusion.

The Yellow Birds

Kevin Powers' novel is a story for the era of modern warfare, but it fits easily into a long tradition of soldiers' stories. The saga of three soldiers fighting in the Iraq war of the 2000s, *The Yellow Birds* captures the disorienting alternation of boredom and terror characteristic of modern military conflicts, and it makes a case for the fundamental difference between America's 20th-century wars and its more recent, objective-less conflicts.

Skeptic's Guide to the Mind

In our quest to believe that humans are on the verge of conquering the universe, we've tapped



On Books

EVAN GILLESPIE

neuroscience as the latest magical way that science is triumphing over nature. Give a neuroscientist a functional MRI to work with and he'll be able to do anything from diagnosing mental illness to determining whether his subject is lying or telling the truth. Bah, says neuroscientist Robert A. Burton. We're not even close to being able to do that, he says in *A Skeptic's Guide to the Mind*, and we shouldn't be so quick to throw away our romantic notions of the "self" and the "mind." Burton's book is both enlightening and a warning against feeling too enlightened.

Gulp

Then there's Mary Roach's book about the human gastrointestinal tract. It's enlightening too. It's also gross and funny. Roach's career has been built on writing books that take on taboo science topics, and this one is as daring as the rest. It's also densely informative and entertaining.

Wild

Every year a good number of the books I read are memoirs; I like to keep track of what Americans are observing about their lives and how they're putting those observations into words. This year, as is usually the case, the majority of the memoirs I read were slight and consisted mostly of self-consciously cute whining about First-World problems; *Dan Gets a Minivan* and *Don't Lick the Minivan* don't reach very deeply into introspection. The same can't be said of Cheryl Strayed's *Wild*. This book, an account of a woman's hike along the Pacific Crest Trail in the 1990s, is all introspection. That might not necessarily sound like a good thing, but in this case it works.

Now that the looking back is out of the way, I'm ready to move forward into 2014. I have a stack of new books sitting in front of me at this very moment – only one of them is a memoir – and I'm eager to dive into them. I'm optimistic that the year ahead will be filled with books I love. I'll let you know whether or not that turns out to be true.

evan.whatzup@gmail.com



OPENING THIS WEEK

An Apology to Elephants (NR)
Her (R)
Inside Llewyn Davis (R)
The Legend of Hercules (PG13)
Lone Survivor (R)

47 RONIN (PG13) — Keanu Reeves (remember him?) and an ensemble of Japanese actors star in this action film about, well, about 47 Ronin, a real-life group of samurai in 18th century Japan.
CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE
 Thurs.: 1:25, 4:10, 6:55, 9:35
 Fri.-Sat.: 1:25, 4:10, 6:55, 9:35, 10:30
 Sun.-Wed.: 1:25, 4:10, 6:55, 9:35
COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE
Ends Thursday, Jan. 9
 Thurs.: 12:40, 3:40 (3D), 6:35 (3D), 9:25 (3D)
HUNTINGTON 7, HUNTINGTON
Ends Thursday, Jan. 9
 Thurs.: 11:10, 1:50, 4:40, 7:20, 10:05
JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE
 Thurs.: 12:40, 4:25, 7:40
 Fri.-Sat.: 8:10, 11:05
 Sun.: 7:30, 10:25
 Mon.-Wed.: 7:05, 10:20
NORTH POINTE 9, WARSAW
Ends Thursday, Jan. 9
 Thurs.: 4:45, 7:15 (3D)

AMERICAN HUSTLE (R) — Christian Bale, Bradley Cooper, Amy Adams, Jeremy

Renner and Jennifer Lawrence star in this critically acclaimed David O. Russell crime drama based on the FBI's ABSCAM sting operation of the late 70s and early 80s.
CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE
 Daily: 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00
COLDWATER CROSSING, FORT WAYNE
 Thurs.: 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 10:20
 Fri.-Wed.: 12:30, 3:45, 7:00, 10:15
HUNTINGTON 7, HUNTINGTON
Starts Friday, Jan. 10
 Fri.-Wed.: 12:00, 3:00, 6:15, 9:15
JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE
 Thurs.: 12:30, 3:40, 6:55, 10:05
 Fri.-Sat.: 12:15, 4:15, 7:35, 10:50
 Sun.: 12:15, 4:15, 7:35
 Mon.-Wed.: 12:50, 4:25, 8:00
NORTH POINTE 9, WARSAW
 Thurs.: 6:15
 Fri.: 5:40, 8:40
 Sat.: 2:30, 5:40, 8:40
 Sun.: 2:30, 5:40
 Mon.-Wed.: 6:15

ANCHORMAN 2: THE LEGEND CONTINUES (PG13) — You probably haven't heard anything about this one, so we'll fill you in: it's a sequel; it stars Will Farrell as the legendary Ron Burgundy; Steve Carell, Paul Rudd, Luke Wilson and about every actor you've ever heard of are along for the ride; and it's said to be funny.
CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE
 Thurs.: 12:30, 1:00, 3:20, 4:00, 6:30, 7:00, 9:20, 10:00
 Fri.-Wed.: 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00
COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE
 Thurs.: 12:00, 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 10:20
 Fri.-Wed.: 1:10, 4:10, 7:25, 10:00

HUNTINGTON 7, HUNTINGTON
Ends Thursday, Jan. 9
 Thurs.: 11:00, 1:35, 4:15, 6:55, 9:35
JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE
 Thurs.: 12:35, 1:10, 4:10, 5:30, 7:10, 9:10, 10:10
 Fri.-Sat.: 11:50, 4:20, 7:15, 11:10
 Sun.: 11:50, 4:20, 7:15, 10:10
 Mon.-Wed.: 12:55, 4:40, 7:40, 10:30
NORTH POINTE 9, WARSAW
 Thurs.: 4:45, 7:15
 Fri.: 5:45, 8:15
 Sat.: 3:00, 5:45, 8:15
 Sun.: 3:00, 5:45
 Mon.-Wed.: 6:15
NORTHWOOD CINEMA GRILL, FORT WAYNE
Ends Thursday, Jan. 9
 Thurs.: 6:45

AN APOLOGY TO ELEPHANTS (Not Rated) — Lily Tomlin narrates this documentary about elephants kept in captivity by zoos and circuses. A question and answer session follows. Free admission.
CINEMA CENTER, FORT WAYNE
Sunday, Jan. 12 only
 Sun.: 6:00

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.
COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE
 Thurs.: 12:45, 3:15, 6:30, 9:20
 Fri.-Wed.: 12:45, 3:15, 6:30, 9:25

BETTIE PAGE REVEALS ALL (R) — An "authorized" biographical documentary

film, done with the pinup model and cult icon's full participation prior to her death in 2008. Directed by Oscar-nominated filmmaker Mark Mori.
CINEMA CENTER, FORT WAYNE
Ends Thursday, Jan. 9
 Thurs.: 6:15
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.
COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE
Ends Thursday, Jan. 9
 Thurs.: 12:35, 2:40, 4:45, 7:15, 9:55

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.
COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE
 Thurs.: 12:15, 2:20, 4:25, 7:00, 9:25
 Fri.-Wed.: 12:15, 2:20, 4:25, 7:00, 9:30

DELIVERY MAN (PG13) — A Vince Vaughn comedy (a remake of the French-Canadian film *Starbuck*) about a sperm donor who learns that he has 533 kids.
COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE
 Daily: 12:20, 2:35, 5:05, 7:30, 9:50

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
 Thurs.: 12:40, 2:45, 5:00, 7:25, 9:35
 Fri.-Wed.: 12:35, 2:45, 5:00, 7:25, 9:35
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.
COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE
 Daily: 1:00, 3:30, 6:45, 9:10

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
 Daily: 12:10, 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.
COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE
 Daily: 12:25, 2:25, 4:40, 7:05, 9:30

FROZEN (PG) — An animated Disney musical comedy loosely based on Hans Christian Andersen's *The Snow Queen*.
CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE
 Thurs.: 1:00, 1:20 (3D), 4:00, 4:20 (3D), 6:55, 9:35
 Fri.-Wed.: 1:00, 1:20 (3D), 4:00, 4:20

Relax, Guys. Hollywood Has Reason To Be Cheerful

I breathe a happy sigh of relief sitting down to ruminate about the best films of 2013. There are many good films this year, more than enough for an estimable top 10 — too many, in fact. I prefer a list that suggests that the state of cinema is strong. Call this the "reasons to be cheerful" list.

The number one reason to be cheerful is the quality and variety of the movies released during the past year. Going down the list of 2013 releases ranked by total box office revenue reveals quality blockbusters (*Iron Man 3*), quirky dramedies (*The Way, Way Back*), bawdy comedies (*Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues*), adventurous entertainments jumping outside the box (*All Is Lost*), indie films with soul (*Mud*), excellent period pieces (*Saving Mr. Banks*), films that dealt with real issues with finesse (*Dallas Buyers Club*), delightful animated films (*Despicable Me 2*) and solid old-fashioned studio pictures (*Captain Phillips*).

My favorite development of the year in movies is the hand-wringing of Steven Spielberg and George Lucas. Their public lamentation that the movie business as it is has become untenable is deliciously clueless. They are as responsible as any two single humans could be for years of bad management of the industry. They ignited the endless quest for the next blockbuster and the bloat of big budgets for brain-dead, high-concept fold-over. While I've been laughing at and ridiculing such whining, I welcome their statement. Their alarm will be noted, at least by some.

Spielberg's whining is particularly ridiculous. *Lincoln*, he claims, came "this close" to being on HBO instead of in theaters. (Oh the humanity!) Steven Soderberg also aired his gripes about the mindlessness of the studio system, but he just kept working. He

made an HBO movie this year, *Behind the Candelabra*, a brilliant piece of work missing nothing that a movie with a theatrical release could boast, except big profits.

Many established directors managed to make quality, profitable, personal pictures this year. After directing last year's blockbuster *The Avengers*, but before editing the film, Joss Whedon adapted and directed *Much Ado About Nothing*, a charming update of Shakespeare's comedy released this year, made for less than the craft service budget of *The Avengers*.

Alfonso Cuarón made his best picture to date, the brilliantly cinematic *Gravity*, a spectacular visual experience with a simple survival tale at the core. It may not be the best picture of the year, but it is the fullest expression of how a movie can take you on a wild ride.

Other established directors are working at or near the top of their game. The Coen brothers gave us *Inside Llewyn Davis*. Baz Luhrmann freshened up *The Great Gatsby*. Martin Scorsese had Leonardo DiCaprio's second excellent film of the year, *The Wolf of Wall Street*. Alexander Payne stayed in his home state with *Nebraska*. Woody Allen headed to the West Coast for *Blue Jasmine*. Spike Jonze imagines a relationship between man and operating system in *Her*. David O. Russell, with *American Hustle*, gave us a swirling tale worthy of the disco era, so loosely based on real events that the picture begins by noting that "some of this actually happened."

A special word of mention goes to Richard Linklater. *Before Midnight* isn't just cleverly directed to the point where you think you're just walking along with Jesse and Celine as they navigate the challenges of



Flix
CATHERINE LEE

marriage. Linklater is a true collaborator in this film. The screenplay is by Linklater and his two stars, Julie Delpy and Ethan Hawke. And for those who say long-running television series are seducing audiences away from movies because series can develop characters, this is the third film starring these characters.

African-American stories have had perhaps their best year ever. *12 Years A Slave*, a film based on a memoir and a realistic portrayal of slavery is a contender for top awards. *Lee Daniels' The Butler*, though based on a real person, is a more imaginative tale and a compelling look at a lifetime of remarkable change seen through the experiences of one family. *42* brings the experiences of Jackie Robinson to the big screen. The telling of a more recent and tragic event, *Fruitvale Station* is the heartbreaking tale of Oscar Grant, killed by transit officers in Oakland, California on New Year's Eve 2008.

Moviegoers voted with their ticket purchases and showed an appetite for better fare. Social media seems to be a valuable, positive tool to help spread the word, letting people know what is worth seeing and what is not. I'd also like to think that perhaps movie audiences — spurred by plenty of good films, other media choices and rising prices at the multiplex — are becoming more discerning media consumers.

While it is still easy to lament that women directors didn't have any big hits this year, there is progress. The most charming

animated film of the year, *Frozen*, was co-directed by Jennifer Lee. When the remake of *Carrie* was released, Kimberly Peirce was vocal about her frustration in not being able to get funding for her own stories. Nicole Holofcener's *Enough Said* is receiving award attention for its stars and screenplay.

Away from mainstream Hollywood films, Sarah Polley made *Stories We Tell*, a documentary about her family and an affectionate and surprising journey. The first film by a Saudi Arabian woman director, Haifaa al-Mansour, made it to the U.S. *Wadjda* is the story of a plucky 10-year-old girl and her courageous quest for greater independence by acquiring a bicycle.

Stories about women were dynamic and diverse. Heroines like *The Hunger Games' Katniss* and Dr. Ryan Stone in *Gravity* showed their courage. Philomena Lee demonstrates her faith and tenacity in *Philomena*, a film based on the true story of a mother's love and persistence. The many writers and subjects of *Girl Rising* are inspirational. Sisterly affection triumphs all in *Frozen*. Faith and family are at the center of *Into the Void*. Familial discord is fierce in *August: Osage County*. Coming of age and falling in love were told from the female perspective in *Blue Is the Warmest Color* and *Ginger and Rosa*. Melissa McCarthy made us laugh in *Identity Thief* and *The Heat*. For music lovers of both sexes, be sure to see *20 Feet from Stardom*, the story of the backup singers who helped make many a pop or rock tune soar.

If I missed a picture you really enjoyed, that helps make my point. I bid a fond farewell to 2013 and hope that 2014 will be as good as the movies and everywhere else.

ckdexterhaven@earthlink.net

(3D), 6:55 (2D & 3D), 9:25 (3D), 9:35

- COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 12:50, 3:30
Fri.-Wed.: 12:50, 3:30, 6:30
- HUNTINGTON 7, HUNTINGTON**
Thurs.: 11:05, 1:30, 4:10, 6:45, 9:05
Fri.-Wed.: 11:10, 1:35, 4:15, 6:45, 9:05
- JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 12:50, 4:35, 7:25, 10:10
Fri.-Sun.: 11:20, 2:05, 4:55, 7:45
Mon.-Wed.: 1:05, 4:45, 7:30
- NORTH POINTE 9, WARSAW**
Thurs.: 4:50, 7:05
Fri.: 4:50, 7:05, 9:15
Sat.: 2:30, 4:50, 7:05, 9:15
Sun.: 2:30, 4:50, 7:05
Mon.-Wed.: 4:50, 7:05
- NORTHWOOD CINEMA GRILL, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 6:30
Fri.: 3:45, 6:15
Sat.: 1:15, 3:45, 6:15
Sun.: 1:15, 3:45, 6:00
Mon.-Wed.: 6:30
- SILVER SCREEN CINEMA, GARRETT**
Friday-Sunday, Jan. 10-12 only
Fri.: 7:00
Sat.-Sun.: 2:00, 7:00
- STRAND THEATRE, KENDALLVILLE**
Starts Friday, Jan. 10
Fri.: 7:15
Sat.-Sun.: 2:00, 7:15
Mon.-Wed.: 7:15

GRUDGE MATCH (PG13) — Ever want to see Sylvester Stallone and Robert DeNiro punch each other out? Did you ever wonder who'd win a boxing match between an old Rocky and an even older Jake LaMotta? Well, this boxing movie by Peter Segal (*Anger Management*, *Tommy Boy*) is your big chance.

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

HER (R) — Spike Jonze's dramedy blends science fiction and romance along with Joaquin Phoenix, Scarlett Johansson, Amy Adams, Rooney Mara and Olivia Wilde. It took Best Film honors from the National Board of Review and the Los Angeles Film Critics Association.

- CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE**
Starts Friday, Jan. 10
Fri.-Wed.: 1:00, 4:40, 7:00, 10:00
- COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE**
Starts Friday, Jan. 10
Fri.-Wed.: 12:20, 3:10, 6:35, 9:45
- JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE**
Starts Friday, Jan. 10
Fri.-Sat.: 12:45, 4:35, 7:55, 10:55
Sun.: 12:45, 4:35, 7:55, 9:50
Mon.-Wed.: 12:45, 4:15, 7:20, 10:25

THE HOBBIT: DESOLATION OF SMAUG (PG13) — Peter Jackson delivers the second installment of *The Lord of the Rings* prequel. Martin Freeman and Ian McKellen star as Bilbo and Gandalf, Orlando Bloom is back as Legolas and the full retinue of dwarves return.

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

(IMAX 3D), 6:50, 7:00 (IMAX 3D)

- Mon.-Wed.:** 12:30, 12:45 (IMAX 3D), 4:15, 4:30 (IMAX 3D), 7:50, 8:05 (IMAX 3D)
- NORTH POINTE 9, WARSAW**
Thurs.: 6:15
Fri.: 5:15, 8:30
Sat.: 2:00, 5:15, 8:30
Sun.: 2:00, 5:15
Mon.-Wed.: 6:15

THE HUNGER GAMES: CATCHING FIRE (PG13) — 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, 4:00, 7:15
Fri.-Sat.: 12:45, 4:00, 7:15, 10:30
Sun.-Wed.: 12:45, 4:00, 7:15
- COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE**
Daily: 12:05, 3:15, 6:45, 10:05
- JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 1:10, 5:00, 8:20
Fri.-Sat.: 11:55, 3:20, 7:25, 10:45
Sun.: 11:55, 3:20, 7:25
Mon.-Wed.: 12:35, 4:20, 8:00

INSIDE LLEWYN DAVIS (R) — The Coen Brothers' comedic drama about an aspiring singer (Oscar Isaac) struggling to make it in the New York folk music scene of 1961. T Bone Burnett was the music director.

- CINEMA CENTER, FORT WAYNE**
Starts Friday, Jan. 10
Fri.: 2:00, 6:00
Sat.: 2:00, 6:30, 8:30
Sun.: 4:00
Mon.: 4:30, 6:30
Tues.: 6:30, 8:30
Wed.: 3:00, 6:30
- JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE**
Starts Friday, Jan. 10
Fri.-Sat.: 11:40, 2:20, 5:30, 8:30, 11:10
Sun.: 11:40, 2:20, 5:30, 8:30, 10:25
Mon.-Wed.: 1:15, 4:55, 7:35, 10:30

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

- COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE**
Daily: 12:00, 2:10, 4:30, 6:50, 9:00

JUSTIN BIEBER: BELIEVE (PG) — Well, you either like him or you don't. Director John M. Chu (G.I. Joe: *Retaliation*, *Step Up Revolution* and, believe it or not, *Justin Bieber: Never Say Never*) apparently does. A lot.

- CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE**
Daily: 12:15, 2:35, 4:55, 7:20, 9:50

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.

- COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE**
Daily: 12:05, 2:15, 4:35, 6:55, 9:15

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, 9:15

THE LEGEND OF HERCULES (PG13) — One of two live action Hercules films scheduled for release this year, this one stars Kellan Lutz (Emmett Cullen in *Twilight*) as the legendary Greek strongman.

- CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE**
Starts Friday, Jan. 10
Fri.-Wed.: 12:30 (2D & 3D), 2:50 (2D & 3D), 5:15 (2D & 3D), 7:35 (2D & 3D), 10:00 (2D & 3D)
- COLDWATER CROSSING, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 10:00 (2D & 3D)
Fri.-Wed.: 1:40 (3D), 4:30, 7:10 (3D), 9:40
- HUNTINGTON 7, HUNTINGTON**
Starts Friday, Jan. 10
Fri.-Sat.: 11:20, 2:10, 4:40 (3D), 7:05, 9:25 (3D), 11:45
Sun.-Wed.: 11:20, 2:10, 4:40 (3D), 7:05, 9:25 (3D)

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.

- JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE**
Starts Friday, Jan. 10
Fri.-Sun.: 11:35, 2:10, 4:50, 7:30 (3D), 10:30 (3D)
Mon.-Wed.: 1:10, 4:45, 7:20 (3D), 10:15 (3D)
- NORTH POINTE 9, WARSAW**
Starts Friday, Jan. 10
Fri.: 5:00, 7:15 (3D), 9:30 (3D)
Sat.: 2:30, 5:00, 7:15 (3D), 9:30 (3D)
Sun.: 2:30, 5:00, 7:15 (3D)
Mon.-Wed.: 5:00, 7:15 (3D)

LONE SURVIVOR (R) — Based on the book by former Navy Seal Marcus Luttrell (with Patrick Robertson) about a failed Afghan mission, Peter Berg's war film stars Mark Wahlberg, Taylor Kitsch, Emile Hirsch, Ben Foster and Eric Bana.

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

MANDELA: LONG WALK TO FREEDOM (PG13) — Released just a week before Nelson Mandela died, this bio-pic is based on the anti-apartheid activist's 1994 autobiography. Idris Elba and Naomie Harris star.

- CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE**
Ends Thursday, Jan. 9
Thurs.: 9:25 p.m.
- COLDWATER CROSSING, FORT WAYNE**
Ends Thursday, Jan. 9
Thurs.: 12:15, 3:35, 7:05, 10:15
- COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE**
Starts Friday, Jan. 10
Fri.-Wed.: 12:40, 3:35, 6:25, 9:20
- JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE**
Ends Thursday, Jan. 9
Thurs.: 4:00, 10:05

NEBRASKA (R) — Director Alexander Payne (*About Schmidt*) revisits the Heartland, this time with Bruce Dern as a cantankerous old man who ropes his son (Will Forte) into a road trip.

- CINEMA CENTER, FORT WAYNE**

Thurs.: 3:00
Fri.: 8:00
Sat.: 4:00
Sun.: 1:45
Mon.: 8:30
Tues.: 4:00
Wed.: 8:30

- JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE**
Starts Friday, Jan. 10
Fri.-Sun.: 1:00, 4:00, 7:10, 10:00
Mon.-Wed.: 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:05

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*).

- COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE**
Daily: 12:55, 3:20, 6:40, 9:05

PARANORMAL ACTIVITY: MARKED ONES (R) — Written and directed by Christopher B. Landon who also wrote the last three *Paranormal Activity* films. You'd think the son of Charles "Pa" Ingalls, would be putting out more wholesome stuff, but to each his own.

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

PHILOMENA (PG13) — Judi Dench and Steve Coogan star in this adaptation of the 2009 book *The Lost Child of Philomena Lee* about a mother searching for the illegitimate son she put up for adoption in the U.S.

- CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE**
Ends Thursday, Jan. 9
Thurs.: 6:55, 9:25
- CINEMA CENTER, FORT WAYNE**
Ends Thursday, Jan. 9
Thurs.: 8:30

SAVING MR. BANKS (PG13) — Emma Thompson plays author P.L. Travers and Tom Hanks portrays Walt Disney in this comedic film about Disney's attempts to bring *Mary Poppins* to the big screen.

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

THE SECRET LIFE OF WALTER MITTY (PG) — Ben Stiller stars in and directs this adaptation of the beloved short story by James Thurber. Kristen Wiig plays the girlfriend, and Shirley MacLaine plays Mom Mitty. Also along for the ride are Sean Penn and Patton Oswalt.

- CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 12:50, 1:00, 3:30, 4:10, 6:30, 6:55, 9:10, 9:35
Fri.-Wed.: 1:00, 4:10, 6:55, 9:35
- COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 1:35, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45
Fri.-Wed.: 1:05, 4:00, 7:15, 9:55
- HUNTINGTON 7, HUNTINGTON**
Ends Thursday, Jan. 9
Thurs.: 11:00, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00
- JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 12:45, 4:25, 7:15, 10:05
Fri.-Sat.: 12:05, 4:05, 6:55, 9:50
Sun.: 12:05, 4:05, 6:55
Mon.-Wed.: 1:00, 4:35, 7:35, 10:25
- NORTH POINTE 9, WARSAW**
Thurs.: 4:45, 7:00
Fri.: 4:45, 7:05, 9:25
Sat.: 2:30, 4:45, 7:05, 9:25
Sun.: 2:30, 4:45, 7:05
Mon.-Wed.: 4:45, 7:05
- NORTHWOOD CINEMA GRILL, FORT WAYNE**
Starts Friday, Jan. 10
Fri.: 4:15, 7:00
Sat.: 1:00, 4:15, 7:00
Sun.: 1:00, 4:00, 6:30
Mon.-Wed.: 6:45

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.

- COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE**
Daily: 12:10, 2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:45

TYLER PERRY'S A MADEA CHRISTMAS (PG13) — Bet you didn't see this one coming. The question is: how is it that this movie wasn't made until now? Kathy Najimy and Chad Michael Murray join Perry/Madea in this yuletide romp.

- CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE**
Ends Thursday, Jan. 9
Thurs.: 1:30, 4:15, 6:50
- COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE**
Fri.-Wed.: 9:10 p.m.
- JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE**
Ends Thursday, Jan. 9
Thurs.: 12:50, 4:40, 7:45, 10:20

WALKING WITH DINOSAURS (PG) — Computer-animated dinosaurs from the Late Cretaceous period walk the earth in this family film that focuses on three Pachyrhinosaurus (-sauruses? -sauri?) who grow from infants into adulthood.

- CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 12:15, 2:40, 5:00
Fri.-Wed.: 12:15, 2:40, 5:00, 7:25, 10:00
- JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 1:05, 4:45 (3D), 7:35, 10:15 (3D)
Fri.-Sat.: 11:25, 2:00, 5:10
Sun.: 11:25, 2:00, 5:05
Mon.-Wed.: 1:20, 4:05
- STRAND THEATRE, KENDALLVILLE**
Starts Friday, Jan. 10
Fri.: 7:15
Sat.-Sun.: 2:00, 7:15
Mon.-Wed.: 7:15

THE WOLF OF WALL STREET (R) — Martin Scorsese's adaptation of Jordan Belfort's memoir chronicling his rise as a crooked stockbroker is darkly comedic. Leonardo DiCaprio plays the con artist Belfort with Jean Dujardin, Jonah Hill and Matthew McConaughey co-starring.

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

An Enduring Piece of Theater

Twenty-seven years ago a small, unassuming play opened off-Broadway. That show, *Driving Miss Daisy*, has become a contemporary classic. The script won the Pulitzer Prize for Drama that year as well as all the off-Broadway awards. Its fame spread with the 1989 movie adaptation which won the Best Picture Oscar in 1990. And now we are well into the third decade of the play being a staple in the American theater.

There are several reasons for its popularity, one of which is the wonderful opportunity the plays presents for three actors. My wanting to see Kate Black, one of Fort Wayne's most engaging actors, play *Daisy* was the primary impetus for the show landing on FPT's 2013-2014 season. As a director, there are certain actors I love getting to work with, and Kate is one of them; and as an artistic director of a theater, I am in the enviable position of getting to choose vehicles for performers who I know will be terrific in the role. Rounding out First Pres' cast are Everett Collier as Hoke (a Bluffton, Ohio man making his Fort Wayne debut) and Scott Ramage, another often-seen Fort Wayne actor. It is a marvelous cast.

Once the seed was planted in my brain that this would be a wonderful role for Kate and that we'd have a great time working on it together, I still had to revisit the play to see if what it had to say was still important



Director's Notes

THOM HOFRICHTER

to the world we are currently living in. I become more and more convinced that this play, this funny and moving play which is firmly rooted in its time period of 1947-1972, will always speak to what it means to be a human being living in the United States. It looks at the need for all humans to wrestle with those pre-conceived notions we have of other cultures, whether they be religious or racial. This is a beautiful work of art, and I hope anyone who reads this gets a chance to

revisit this moving play.

The play previews on Thursday, January 9 at 7:30 p.m. (all seats \$10) and runs Fridays and Saturdays, January 10, 11, 17, 18, 24 and 25 at 7:30 p.m. There is one Sunday matinee, January 19 at 2 p.m. Advanced tickets are \$20 general admission, \$18 for patrons age 65-plus and free for full-time students. If you buy them at the door, they are \$24, \$22 and \$10. Box office hours are Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from noon to 5 p.m. You can also buy tickets by going to our website, www.firstpresbyteriantheater.com.

DRIVING MISS DAISY
7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 9 (\$10)
7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Jan.
10-11, 17-18 & 24-25
2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 19
First Presbyterian Theater
300 W. Wayne St., Fort Wayne
Tix.: \$18-\$24, 260-422-6329

Theater Folks' Remembrances

It was another banner year for Fort Wayne theater and its community. Harvey Cocks won the newly named H. Stanley Liddell Award which was presented by Susan Domer and Leslie Hormann at the 2013 *whatzup* Area Music Awards (Whammys) in March. Lifelong Trekkie Tad Atkinson produced a *Star Trek* movie with several veterans of the series. And First Presbyterian Theater obtained a state-of-the-art lighting system, the likes of which most community theaters only dream of.

Once again this year, we thought we'd let some of the area's thespians recount their favorite memories of the past year.

James Del Priore: I've had a dream of starting my own theatrical troupe for a few years, and this was the year that Working Dog Theatre Group was born. The highlight of 2013 was having our first sold-out performance. The show was a staged version of David Sedaris' short story *The SantaLand Diaries* performed at Wunderkammer Company. The audience's laughter filled the room and made the struggles of starting a new theatre company worth all the uphill challenges.

Here's to more theatrical adventures in 2014!

Manna Nichols: This past year, I played Eliza Doolittle in *My Fair Lady* at Arena Stage, Washington D.C. (and made the cover of the February 2013 issue of *American Theatre Magazine*); Kim in *Miss Saigon*'s Midwest Tour produced by Kansas City Starlight in Missouri; and Eponine in *Les Misérables* at Pioneer Theatre in Salt Lake City, Utah, and at Maine State Music Theatre in Brunswick, Maine.

Jane Frazier: My favorite theatrical moment was any time I was onstage with Dotty Miller during John Guare's *The House of Blue Leaves* at First Presbyterian Theater. This was a piece I had wanted to be in



The Green Room

JEN POIRY-PROUGH

for a long time, but Guare can be difficult to tackle, both for the performers and the audience. I appreciated Thom [Hofrichter] allowing it on his stage and Craig Humphrey's amazing direction.

Several of my former students were involved in it. I knew it might be my last show in Fort Wayne for awhile, and I was still being challenged every night while having so much fun. [It was] everything theatre should be!

Brian H. Wagner: I have three top moments this year: (1) *Les Misérables* at the Civic. I wasn't sure anyone could pull that off in town, but it was the best thing I've ever seen on the Civic stage. (2) *Almost, Maine* at Arena. Such a beautiful, simple show. Todd Frymier did an amazing job as director and the entire cast was top notch. (3) Directing *Same Time, Next Year*. Kevin Knuth and Gloria Minnich were outstanding and moved me in different ways each night. With their dedication the show just got better and better.

Oh! One more. (4) The final act of *Our Town* at IPFW (directed by Dan Butler). The reveal of the actual kitchen in the Webb home when Emily went back to relive her 12th birthday was brilliant. The idea of that being the only time period costumes and props were used throughout the show, down to real bacon frying in an iron skillet to bring scent into the show to evoke a memory and water running through a hand pump was brilliant. So moving.

jen@greenroomonline.org

Calendar • Stage • Dance

Now Playing

DRIVING MISS DAISY — Pulitzer Prize-winning play about a wealthy Jewish southerner and her soft-spoken chauffeur, 7:30 p.m. **Thursday, Jan. 9** (preview performance, \$10); 7:30 p.m. **Friday-Saturday, Jan. 10-11 & 17-18; 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 19; 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Jan. 24-25**, First Presbyterian Theater, Fort Wayne, \$18-\$24 (\$10 students), 422-6329

ELVIS LIVES — Broadway at the Embassy musical journey across Elvis' life featuring finalists from the worldwide Ultimate Elvis Tribute Artist Contest, as well as a tribute to Ann-Margret, 7:30 p.m. **Thursday, Jan. 9**, Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$28-\$53 thru Ticketmaster or Embassy box office, 424-5665

CABARET KNIGHT — Bishop Luers Show Choirs showcase and dinner, 5-8 p.m. **Sunday, Jan. 12**, Bishop Luers gymnasium, Fort Wayne, \$6-\$15 (under age 3, free), 456-1261 ext. 3008

Asides

AUDITIONS

WILLY WONKA AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY (MARCH 21-30) — Various roles for Fort Wayne Youththeatre/University of Saint Francis' musical version of the popular children's tale, 4:30-6:30 p.m. (children) & 6:30-8:30 p.m. (adults), **Tuesday-Wednesday, Jan. 21-22**, Arts United Center, Fort Wayne, 422-6900

INTO THE WOODS (APRIL 18-27) — Variety of roles for Stephen Sondheim musical, 1:30 p.m. **Sunday, Jan. 26**, Williams Theatre, IPFW Department of Theatre, IPFW, Fort Wayne, 481-6551

THE DIXIE SWIM CLUB (MARCH 14-29) — Roles for comedy about five southern women who became friends on their college swim team and recharge their relationships over a weekend getaway, 7 p.m. **Sunday-Monday, Jan. 26-27**, Arena Rehearsal Studio, Arena Dinner Theatre, Fort Wayne, 424-5622

MISALLIANCE (MAY 1-18) — Read from script for roles for 6 men and 3 women in this comedy about marriage, the emerging "new woman" and the ups and downs of being human, 1 p.m. **Saturday, Feb. 15**, First Presbyterian Theater, Fort Wayne, 422-6329

Upcoming Productions

JANUARY

CINDERELLA — Russian Ballet performance, 7:30 p.m. **Tuesday, Jan. 21**, Niswonger Performing Arts Center, Van Wert, \$22-\$37, 419-238-6722

LAUGHING STOCK — Comedy about a rustic summer theatre company, from auditions to rehearsals to opening nights and a nostalgic season close, 7 p.m. dinner, 8 p.m. curtain, **Friday-Saturday, Jan. 24-25, Jan. 31-Feb. 1, & Feb. 7-8**, Arena Dinner Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$35 (includes dinner & show), 424-5622

MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET — Broadway at the Embassy production of the Tony Award-winning Broadway musical inspired by the true story of the recording session where Sam Phillips brought together icons Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis and Carl Perkins for a night, 7:30 p.m. **Monday, Jan. 27**, Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$30-\$60 thru Ticketmaster or Embassy box office 424-5665

THE PEOPLE IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD — Values-based Fort Wayne Youththeatre production for kids, 1 & 2 p.m., **Friday, Jan. 31**, Main Branch, Allen County Public Library, free, 421-1220

THE ADDAMS FAMILY — Macabre musical created by *Jersey Boys* authors Marshall Brickman and Rick Elice, 7:30 p.m., **Friday, Jan. 31**, Niswonger Performing Arts Center, Van Wert, Ohio, \$22-\$47 thru box office 419-238-6722

FEBRUARY

THE PRINCESS AND THE GOBLIN — all for One's production of children's fantasy about a young princess, her great-grandmother, goblins and a miner utilizing puppets and dance, 7:30 p.m. **Friday-Saturday, Feb. 7-8; 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 9; 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 14-15; 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 16**, Main Library Auditorium, Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, \$10-\$18, 622-4610

MEN ARE FROM MARS, WOMEN ARE FROM VENUS — One-man show featuring Peter Story and based on the John Gray best-seller, 8 p.m. **Friday, Feb. 7**, Bendix Theater at Century Center, South Bend, 800-537-6415

JOEL HALL DANCERS — Internationally known modern dance troupe from Chicago, 7 p.m. **Saturday, Feb. 8**, Warsaw Performing Arts Center, Warsaw, \$25, 574-371-5040

RED — Tony Award-winning drama by Mark Rothko, 7:30 p.m. **Thursday-Friday, Feb. 13-14; 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 15; 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Feb. 20-21; 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22**, MCA Studio Theatre, Huntington University, Huntington, \$12, 359-4261



First Presbyterian Theater presents

Driving Miss Daisy
By Alfred Uhry



Winner of the 1988 Pulitzer Prize, this warm-hearted masterpiece has been delighting audiences for 25 years. From 1948 to 1973, Daisy, a wealthy Jewish southerner, employs Hoke, a soft-spoken, proud chauffeur. Time makes them realize they have more in common than they ever believed was possible (and more than the times and circumstances of their lives would ever allow them to admit).

January 9-25, 2014
for tickets

260-422-6329

www.firstpresbyteriantheater.com

**300 West Wayne Street
Fort Wayne, IN 46802**

Current Exhibits

9TH REGIONAL WINNERS EXHIBITION

— Works from regional artists, **Tuesday-Sunday, thru Jan. 15**, Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, 424-7195

ANABEL HOPKINS, TRANSITIONS:

IMPRESSIONIST TO ABSTRACT — Works by Brown County, Indiana artist, **daily thru Feb. 9**, Clark Gallery, Honeywell Center, Wabash, 563-1102

ARTWORK BY LINDA BINEK — Abstract expressionistic works by contemporary Fort Wayne artist, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Jan. 15**, Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, 424-7195

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

DIANE GROENERT AND TOM FUHRMAN — Oil paintings and blown glass **daily thru Jan. 19**, First Presbyterian Art Gallery, First Presbyterian Church, Fort Wayne, 426-7421

EXPRESSIONS ... A VISUAL NARRATION OF THE INTANGIBLE — Works by Beth Forst, Chas Davis, Penny French-Deal, Randall Scott Harden, Karen Moriarty, Vicki Junk-Wright, Santa Brink and autistic artists Frank Louis Allen and potter Sean Gray, **daily, Jan. 11-Feb. 9** (opening reception **6-9 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 11**), Artworks Galleria of Fine Art, Fort Wayne, 387-6943

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

FORT WAYNE ARTIST GUILD BUSINESS EXHIBITIONS — Works by Cherie Droegge at Aldersgate Methodist Church, Sue Joseph at Allen County Retinal Surgeons, Darlene Selzer-Miller and Roddy Dammeyer at Citizens Square, Doni Adams at Lutheran Rehab Hospital, Linda Binek at Ophthalmology Consultants Southwest, Karen Bixler and Anita Trick at Ophthalmology Consultants North, Robert Vegeler at Parkview Physicians Plaza, Toni Murray at ResCare Adult Day Care Service, Jennifer Parks at Townhouse Retirement Center Library, Carolyn Stachera at Visiting Nurse Hospice, John Kelly and Cheryl Burke at Will Jewelers, Barb Yoder at Ivy Tech

Cafe and Karen Harvey at Bon Bon Coffee Shop, **daily during regular business hours thru Jan. 31**, www.fortwayneartistsguild.org

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

HOLIDAY SHOW: FINE ART FOR FINE HOMES — National and regional artists exhibited in a Richardsonian Romanesque home decked out for the holidays, **Tuesday-Saturday and by appointment thru Jan. 10**, Castle Gallery Fine Art, Fort Wayne, 426-6568

INQUIRY: TEXTILES BY SARA NORDLING — Woven structures from fabric artist and adjunct faculty for IPFW Dept. of Fine Arts, **daily thru Feb. 16**, Visual Arts Gallery, IPFW, Fort Wayne, 481-6705

LISA RANSOM SMITH — Pastel landscapes, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Feb. 28** (artist reception **1-3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 12**), Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory, Fort Wayne, \$3-\$5 (2 and under, free), 427-6440

LIVING HISTORY: PRESENTING THE PAST IN THE PRESENT — Acrylic historical character portrayals by Daniel T. Driggs, **Monday-Friday thru Feb. 15**, Hugh N. Ronald Gallery at Arts Place Portland Center, Portland, 726-4809

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

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

TREES ... AN ALL MEDIA GROUP EXHIBITION WITH A THEME — Tree-themed art from regional artists, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Jan. 30**, The Orchard Gallery of Fine Art, Fort Wayne, 436-0927

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

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

Artifacts

CALLS FOR ENTRY

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

SPECIAL EVENTS

LIVE WITH FRANK LOUIS ALLEN — Live demonstration by abstract illustrator, **12-5 p.m. Sundays, Jan. 19 and Feb. 23**, Artworks Galleria of Fine Art, Fort Wayne, 387-6943

LIVE WITH SEAN GRAY — Live demonstration by potter, **12-5 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 26**, Artworks Galleria of Fine Art, Fort Wayne, 387-6943

CLOSER LOOK LECTURE: MIKCHAEL DINGES — Dremel engraving tool artist demonstrates his technique, **7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 26**, North Campus Auditorium, University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne, 399-7700

Upcoming Exhibits

JANUARY

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



Resonating Footsteps

People who step foot inside museums frequently are trained to take note of the wandering attendants who slowly circle the galleries, warning of their presence with slow, rhythmic footsteps. The men and women in official blazers have trained us to revere the art, keep our toes behind the viewing lines, use only pencils when taking notes, refrain from pointing when discussing the work and never get too loud or excited.

During a recent trip to the Fort Wayne Museum of Art, I passed through several galleries with the familiar routine. The Dr. Calvin H. & Mary Tower English Gallery is currently hung with neatly organized compositions of geometric shapes filled with bold color. The work appears clean, tidy and stiff. While walking past the paintings, viewers stand tall, arms often folded. The museum attendant coughs slightly to remind a patron not to lean in too far. The exhibit is lovely, yet typical. Canvases arranged neatly across the walls. Look, but don't touch and the world is good. Keep walking through the sliding glass doors, and the world gets better.

Beyond Galleries Five and Six, is the North Gallery. Approaching the installation, "Variation Upon A Theme: Song of the Underground Railroad," one's relationship with traditional museum rules is challenged. Looking into the piece, one can clearly see, highlighted by dramatic lighting, a small wooden house resting on a field of stones. Across the space, a few wooden chairs sit in a corner near a wall of rusted metal. There is a door through which a warm light glows, and other significant, yet curious details such as paper airplanes and a particularly lovely blue bowl are noticed the longer the scene is observed.

Standing at the entrance to the exhibit, I stopped to read the sign which told me I was free to wander into the piece on either the stones or the wooden path. Still feeling pre-programed to follow museum rules, I chose the direc-



Art Fix
Heather Miller

tive and defined road of wood. I timidly entered the installation, a carefully choreographed world designed by artist Johnny Coleman, where hidden speakers pump out sound effects, both blatant and subtle, giving the viewer a sensorial experience. Sounds of summer insects layered by strong, maternal chants of an African American mother stun the soul. Short, powerful phrases drenched with adjectives describing hardship, pain and strength tell a story of a mother faced with a devastating decision. As I sat a wooden chair, my senses absorbed the story. I began to feel more comfortable existing inside a piece of art, and the courage to leave the safety of the wooden path grew. I stepped off. The sound of rocks scraping against one another jarred me. No longer was I a silent, hidden observer of the work. The grinding stones revealed my presence and interrupted the thoughtful stream of sounds put in place by the artist.

As I walked across the stones, the spoken phrases and words "blister", "open" and "yellow fever" struck my ears. Caught in the middle of the exhibit, anxiety and a bit of fear began to stack up with each footstep. For a brief moment the sound of crunching stones helped me realize the panic that a fleeing slave might have felt as he or she moved through the night, being careful not to make the slightest sound.

I walked with quick steps to the edge of the exhibit where the wood planks absorbed my footsteps and allowed me to return to silence, safety, and relief.

With careful manipulation of sound, sight, smell, and touch, Coleman introduces visitors to a mother's story and connects them with the heart of her child who — because of this art — will not be forgotten.

HeatherMiller@mchsi.com

EVERETT COLLIER - From Page 4

But he apparently hadn't gotten his fill of the character.

He began researching on the Internet whether any other local groups were producing the show. "When I saw it was being done in Fort Wayne," he says, "I thought, 'Well, why not?'"

Collier's wife asked him what it was about the role that keeps drawing him back. "I really enjoy the warmth that transpires from the show as this relationship grows," he explains. "Maybe someone [in the audience] will treat someone else just a little better [after seeing the show]."

He had been to Fort Wayne before, but not to do a show. He made the long trek to the city for the first time in quite a while. "It's been nice to see how much it's changed since my last visit," he says.

Not only did the city impress him, but he was pleased by First Presbyterian Theater as well. "It's a nice theatre," he says. "It's been a great experience, and it's been nice working with Thom and with Kate [Black, who plays Daisy]."

Collier appreciates Hofrichter's directing style. "He gives suggestions and tries to come up with different insights than what I've been doing. It's a work

in progress to get to the finished product."

He says there are some differences in his take on Hoke this time around, but they "aren't monumental."

His main challenge, he says, is to stay true to the script. "I've done it for so long without going back to the book," he explains, "that I need to make sure my character's old Southern dialect is intact. [Hoke] drops a lot of sounds at the ends of words and a lot of words at the ends of sentences. I want to make sure I get that flavor of dialect and not [unconsciously] clean [the grammar] up. I need to tighten that back up."

After *Driving Miss Daisy*, Collier plans to take some time off from theatre to travel and do some cross-country biking.

"In October I rode from Tennessee through Alabama and Mississippi, to the border of Louisiana," he says, "over four hundred miles. After the show I hope to travel to Florida and bike from Key Largo to Key West. [It will be] a nice vacation."

After that, he will keep his eyes out for audition notices — perhaps a little closer to home. But if an appealing enough opportunity comes along in Fort Wayne, he just might make the journey again.

Featured Events

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

Current

A NEW BEGINNING: FUNDRAISER FOR TRACK THREE RIVERS ART CENTER FOR KIDS — Music, theatrical performances, demonstrations and more, **2-5 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 12**, Calhoun Street Soups, Salads & Spirits, Fort Wayne, \$5 (kids free), 220-0072

DOWNTOWN ABBEY DOWNTOWN — Afternoon tea for fans of the PBS series, **2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 11** (register Dec. 17-Jan. 8), Main Library, Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, free, 421-1212

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

MANMANIA — Demonstrations, vendors, contests and admission to the Victory War Museum and Kruse Automotive Museum, **10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Jan. 11-12**, Victory War Museum, Auburn, \$20 (active service personnel free), www.hfhnei.org

MOCK CALDECOTT DISCUSSION AND ELECTION — Parents, teachers, librarians and interested adults vote for the best children's picture book of 2013, **9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 11**, Main Branch, Allen County Public Library, free, 421-1220 (registration requested)

MOCK NEWBERY DISCUSSION AND ELECTION — Parents, teachers, librarians and interested adults vote for the best children's book of 2013, **2-5 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 11**, Main Branch, Allen County Public Library, free, 421-1220 (registration requested)

MLK SPOKEN WORD TRIBUTE AND RECEPTION — Commemoration of civil rights leader's life featuring Ketu Oladuwu, Michael Patterson, Condra Ridley, E. Anne Henning Byfield and Brandon Thornton, **7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 15**, Walb International Ballroom, IPFW, Fort Wayne, 481-6847, free

Lectures, Discussions, Readings & Films

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

LUNCH WITH AN IPFW SCIENTIST — Discussion of dental hygiene with Chrissy Stephan, IPFW professor of dental education, **11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 14**, Science Central, \$10-\$16, 424-2400

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

AFFORDABLE CARE ACT — Blayne Miley J.D., Indiana State Nursing Association director of policy and advocacy, speaks on Indiana's approach to Medicaid expansion and health insurance exchanges as part of USF's "Future of" lecture series, **1-4 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 28**, USF Performing Arts Center, Fort Wayne, free, 399-8050

Submitting Items for This Calendar

Submit non-commercial events for this calendar as late as Monday, the week of publication. Events must fit under the umbrella of arts, entertainment and recreation and must be open to and of interest to the general public.

Because our space and resources are limited, events that are commercial in nature and/or tailored to a limited audience cannot be published in this calendar. Among the types of events and activities that we cannot publish in this space are sales, club activities and instruction.

If your event or activity does not qualify for inclusion in this calendar, we invite you to consider placing a classified ad at our affordable classified line ad rates (see second to back page of this issue for details).

Items listed under the heading "Featured Events" are for contracted whatzup advertisers whose events would not otherwise qualify for inclusion in this calendar.

Once submitted, events stay in our system until they have passed, so there is no need to re-submit items. Items that are not published in the print version of whatzup because of the lack of space in any given week will still be listed in our online calendars.

If you are submitting a calendar item for publication, we encourage you to use the online form found under the "Calendars" tab on www.whatzup.com.

If you prefer to submit a press release or email, please be sure it includes the following information:

The name and phone number and/or email address of the person submitting the item.

- The name or title of the event
- A brief description of the event
- Time(s) and date(s) of the event
- The location of the event (including full address and city)
- The price of admission (can be a price range; if free, please state)
- A phone number which the public may call for more information or to obtain tickets

Web sites will not be included in these listings, although live links can be included in online listings. Email addresses will be published in lieu of phone numbers only in those cases where a phone number is unavailable.

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

F.U.N. (FOLKS UNITING NOWADAYS) FRIDAY — African-American historical discussion, **1-2:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 14**, Links Wonderland, Fort Wayne, 50¢ added to lunch cost, 765-285-8546

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. Esperanza 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

INDIAN MISSION TRIP REPORT — Religious forum and a simple lunch, **12-1:15 p.m. Thursday, April 10**, Walb Student Union, IPFW, Fort Wayne, free, 481-6992

ST. FRANCIS/POPE FRANCIS: DON'T FORGET THE POOR — Lecture by Sister Anita Holzer, part of the USF faculty lecture series, **1 p.m. Thursday, April 10**, Brookside Ballroom, University of St. Francis, Fort Wayne, free, 399-8050

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

LET IT SNOW! STORY TIME AND CRAFT — Storytime and crafts for ages preschool to grade 2, **6 p.m. Monday, Jan. 13**, Main Library, Huntington, 356-2900 (registration appreciated)

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 — Ballet Dreams Storytime for preschoolers, **10:30 a.m. & 2 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 9**; Paws to Read reading to animals, **6:30 p.m. Thursdays, Jan. 16-Feb. 27**; Story times for Preschools, Daycares and Other Groups, **9:30 a.m. Wednesdays, Feb. 5-26**; Smart Start Storytimes for ages 3-6, **10:30 a.m. Wednesdays, Feb. 5-26**; Letter Play Day, **9 a.m.-8 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 12**; 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

RECUMSEH 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**, Wondertots 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

MEET ABE LINCOLN'S FREIND — Dramatic presentation by storyteller Doyne Carson, **9:45 a.m. & 12:45 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 12**, Main Branch, Allen County Public Library, Febort Wayne, free, 421-1220

SCIENCE EXPLORERS: OUR MARVELOUS MOON — Experiments and activities for homeschoolers grades K-5, **2-3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 18**, Main Branch, Allen County Public Library, Febort Wayne, free, 421-1220

Dance

OPEN DANCES

DANCES OF UNIVERSAL PEACE — Participatory dances of meditation, joy, community and creating a peaceful world; no experience necessary, **7-10 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 11**, Fort Wayne Dance Collective, Fort Wayne, \$5-\$10 suggested donation, fragrance free, 424-6574 or 715-1225, fwdc.org

SUNDAY SINGLES/COUPLES DANCES — Variety DJ music with ballroom dance, country, 50s-80s and current hits; cash bar available, **6-10 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 12**, Westside Gardens Reception Hall, Fort Wayne, \$7, 609-8877

DOWNTOWN SWING — Swing dance with Terry Lee and the Rockaboogie Band, **8-10 p.m. Friday, Jan. 17**, Emyprean (formerly the Summit Club), Fort Wayne, \$20 (cash only), 602-7311

CONTRA DANCE — Contra dancing with a caller and live band, **8-11 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 18**, Fort Wayne Dance Collective, Fort Wayne, \$6-\$9 (12 and under, free), 244-1905

SUNDAY SINGLES/COUPLES DANCES — Variety DJ music with ballroom dance, country, 50s-80s and current hits; cash bar available, **6-10 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 26**, Westside Gardens Reception Hall, Fort Wayne, \$7, 609-8877

DANCES OF UNIVERSAL PEACE — Participatory dances of meditation, joy, community and creating a peaceful world; no experience necessary, **7-10 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 8**, Fort Wayne Dance Collective, Fort Wayne, \$5-\$10 suggested donation, fragrance free, 424-6574 or 715-1225, fwdc.org

SUNDAY SINGLES/COUPLES DANCES — Variety DJ music with ballroom dance, country, 50s-80s and current hits; cash bar available, **6-10 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 9**, Westside Gardens Reception Hall, Fort Wayne, \$7, 609-8877

CONTRA DANCE — Contra dancing with a caller and live band, **8-11 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 15**, Fort Wayne Dance Collective, Fort Wayne, \$6-\$9 (12 and under, free), 244-1905

SUNDAY SINGLES/COUPLES DANCES — Variety DJ music with ballroom dance, country, 50s-80s and current hits; cash bar available, **6-10 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 23**, Westside Gardens Reception Hall, Fort Wayne, \$7, 609-8877

DANCES OF UNIVERSAL PEACE — Participatory dances of meditation, joy, community and creating a peaceful world; no experience necessary, **7-10 p.m. March 8**, Fort Wayne Dance Collective, Fort Wayne, \$5-\$10 suggested donation, fragrance free, 424-6574 or 715-1225, fwdc.org

SUNDAY SINGLES/COUPLES DANCES — Variety DJ music with ballroom dance, country, 50s-80s and current hits; cash bar available, **6-10 p.m. Sunday, March 9**, Westside Gardens Reception Hall, Fort Wayne, \$7, 609-8877

Spectator Sports

BASKETBALL

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

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.

HOCKEY

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

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.

ROLLER DERBY

FORT WAYNE DERBY GIRLS — Upcoming bouts at Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, \$9-\$12

SATURDAY, JAN. 11, vs. Glass City & Cornfed Derby Dames, 6 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEB. 15, vs. Lansing Derby Vixens, 6 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 29, vs. Steele City & Lake City, 6 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEB. 19, vs. South Bend, 6 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEB. 15, vs. Lansing Derby

Vixens, 6 p.m.

WRESTLING

GREAT LAKES CHALLENGE WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIPS — 10 a.m. **Saturday, Jan. 12**, \$5-\$10 (5 and under free), 483-1111

Tours & Trips

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

January

SOUP COOK-OFF — Soup-tasting event to restock the Dekalb County Food Pantry, **11 a.m.-2 p.m.** (or until soups are gone) **Saturday, Jan. 18**, downtown Auburn, free with donation, 908-1391

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

February

DOWNTOWN ABBEY DOWNTOWN — Afternoon tea for fans of the PBS series, **2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 1** (register Jan. 12-29), Main Library, Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, free, 421-1212

FORT WAYNE BOAT SHOW — **3-9 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Feb. 6-7**; **11 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 8**; **11 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 9**, Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, \$10 (12 & under free), 480-3710

WMEE BABY FAIR & FAMILY EXPO — **8 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 15**, Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, free, 480-3710

FORT WAYNE HOME & GARDEN SHOW — **11 a.m.-9 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Feb. 27-28**; **10 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturday, March 1**; **11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, March 2**, Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, \$8-\$10 (15 & under free), 480-3710

SCREENTIME - From Page 19

after seeing the film passed, I appreciated the subtlety of the Coens' work more and more. Like several other Coen Brothers flicks, *Llewyn* is a movie I can't wait to buy and study at home. It's a calm, deep, beautiful piece of cinema that deepens the Coen Brothers' legend.

5. *The Wolf of Wall Street* (Martin Scorsese, director): A soulless film about greed, excess, sex, drugs and an irresponsible man child? Sure. What's so wrong with that? I'd watch a movie about tampons if it was well made and entertaining. *Wolf* sees Scorsese at his most playful and artsy, crafting an epic of a dramedy that's so full of style and so playful that I couldn't help but love it instantly. Leonardo DiCaprio finally gives what will surely go down as a signature performance in this very fun, very stylized movie about awful people doing awful things. *Wolf* may not be an awards-worthy film, but it'll go down as yet another bright spot in Scorsese's increasingly diverse filmography.

6. *Her* (Spike Jonze, director): Jonze's first original screenplay sees the writer/director influenced by the futurist writings of Bruce Sterling, a great untapped influence if ever there was one. Jonze sets his offbeat rom-com in the future, focusing the details on the forecasting of technology, style and public progress. Our lonely hero, played with a whole lot of soul by Joaquin Phoenix, begins dating an artificially intelligent program housed within an iPhone-like device he takes everywhere with him. A ghost in the machine. We watch as his relationship with the program (voiced by Scarlett Johansson) grows and changes, the ghost coming alive in its own limitless cyberspace. The script isn't as groundbreaking as the ones Charlie Kaufman wrote for Jonze, but regardless, *Her* is a very notable, memorable effort from both Jonze and leading man Phoenix. The brilliance of the film perhaps lies in the degree to which Jonze practiced restraint, never taking any of his sci-fi themes too far.

7. *Frances Ha* (Noah Baumbach, director): Wanting to make a film in the most modern (i.e. technologically simple) way imaginable, Baumbach shot *Frances Ha* on \$1,700 DSLR cameras using skeleton crews. Despite sticking to a tight script, the film was shot in a very loose, run-and-gun style, not unlike how French New Wave auteurs like Jean-Luc Godard produced their movies through the early 1960s. The result is a very freewheeling, New Wave-inspired depiction of modern youth culture in New York City. The film-making is simple and the acting mediocre, but the end product is very memorable and stylistically exciting. Baumbach's writing isn't nearly as layered or literate as it has been in the recent past, but his focus on reality and authenticity makes his film very much worth the cost of admission.

8. *Short Term 12* (Destin Cretton, director): For a few years now I've been waiting for actress Brie Larson to get a role worthy of her incredible talents, and here it finally is. The story within *Short Term 12*

is, in essence, quite pedestrian: two 20-something lovers work at a modern orphanage where their own problems and experiences mix with those of the kids they look after. Larson's Grace is running the show, acting as the soul of the orphanage while working through a personal crisis or two of her own. Crafted with a slightly more mainstream appeal than one might expect, given the reviews and accolades the movie has seen, Cretton's micro-budget indie plays through tightly, almost coming off like a really well-made extended pilot for a great new high end HBO series. That said, it is Larson's brilliant performance that helps rank *Short Term 12* amongst the year's best pictures.

9. *American Hustle* (David O. Russell, director): David O. Russell just flat out knows how to cast and how to get top shelf performances out of his actors. For his latest, Russell has a killer gang of talents led by Amy Adams, Christian Bale, Jennifer Lawrence, Jeremy Renner and Bradley Cooper. Not bad. The script, based on the ABSCAM Scandal, is something of a snarky *Goodfellas*-like treatment, Russell and his cast having a whole lot of period piece fun along the way. He's in the middle of a classic streak, and *American Hustle* is a heck of an effort that only further demands that we consider him among the best of the current American auteurs.

10. *Nebraska* (Alexander Payne, director): Sure, some of the laughs in *Nebraska* have a very Payneian vibe to them, but for the most part this sweet, subtle drama is a departure for the director. It's his *The Straight Story*, his *Dead Man*. Bruce Dern gives a noteworthy and nearly silent performance in what is a moodily, sad, redeeming and deeply nuanced story about a noble son and his father (Dern), who is essentially living his last lucid days. One of the year's great growers.

Also Great (directors in parentheses): 11. *Mud* (Jeff Nichols); 12. *Gravity* (Alfonso Cuarón); 13. *12 Years a Slave* (Steve McQueen); 14. *Before Midnight* (Richard Linklater); 15. *Rush* (Ron Howard); 16. *Stoker* (Park Chan-wook); 17. *Blue Caprice* (Alexandre Moors); 18. *Prisoners* (Denis Villeneuve); 19. *Fruitvale Station* (Ryan Coogler); 20. *Upstream Color* (Shane Carruth); 21. *Prince Avalanche* (David Gordon Green); 22. *To the Wonder* (Terrence Malick); 23. *Spring Breakers* (Harmony Korine); 24. *The East* (Zal Batmangli); 25. *Out of the Furnace* (Scott Cooper); 26. *Captain Phillips* (Paul Greengrass); 27. *The Secret Life of Walter Mitty* (Ben Stiller); 28. *The Iceman* (Ariel Croomen); 29. *Ain't Them Bodies Saints* (David Lowery); 30. *Stories We Tell* (Sarah Polley)

Be sure to check back for next week's column, in which we will thoroughly cover individual film-related accolades from 2013.

For now, put this paper down (or shut that laptop) and go watch some movies!

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The Third Time's the Charm

Review • The Acme

My relationship with The Acme Bar & Grill on East State has been tumultuous. When we first moved to Fort Wayne in 2002, we tried it a few times and didn't love it, so we didn't go back. In a town with so many wonderful dining options, there's no time for mediocre.

In May 2009 it closed suddenly, and a few months later new owners swooped in and reopened it. Because we live in the 46805 neighborhood, we were especially interested in the reopening and went right away, only to be utterly disappointed. Despite its updated décor, the menu and service left something to be desired.

We waited close to an hour for our food after ordering, the waitress was unapologetic, the food was subpar at best and it took an excruciatingly long time for our waitress to deliver our check. It was like they didn't even want our money. For the first time in our lives, we contemplated dining and dashing just to get out of there. The entire experience was a disaster and propelled The Acme to the bottom of our list.

I am pretty unforgiving when it comes to service and quality of food. Two strikes and you are out, so The Acme fell off the list completely. But then last year I started hearing murmurings about Tuesday nights at The Acme. First, I heard an advertisement on the radio and dismissed it, but then I started hearing rave reviews from friends. The kicker was a picture someone texted to me of the dish he had just been served on Italian Night: a fist-sized meatball atop a mound of spaghetti. My mouth watered just looking at it, and the very next week Jon and I made a point to check out Italian Night.

We were not disappointed.

I ordered the lasagna and Jon ordered the veal Parmesan. Both dishes were heaping portions of Italian goodness, cooked just right, with the perfect amount of cheese and sauce, accompanied by four scrumptiously buttered pieces of garlic bread. It takes a lot these days to thoroughly impress me, but The Acme succeeded. Though it was a bit pricey (my lasagna and Jon's veal were both over \$14) the portions are huge and well worth the extra dollar.

Because of our Italian night experience, we decided to give The Acme another shot and have been very pleased with our subsequent visits. We love sitting in a booth on the bar side – the neighborhood feel is very welcoming – but we also enjoy the varied seating options in the dining room, from booth to large table to high top. It's a great place for an after work drink, diner with friends, or even a



Dining Out

AMBER RECKER

lunchtime meeting.

I've grown to appreciate the menu as well, which I'd describe as middle-of-the-road bar food – a step up from a menu loaded with fried food, but a step below fine dining. Some of my favorites include pizza, Garlic Chicken Roll (\$8.99), Grilled Center Cut Pork (\$8.99)

and Beef Brisket Dinner (\$10.99).

The pizza, which they claim they "build to the edge," is loaded up with your favorite toppings. I can be pretty picky when it comes to pizza, and I actually crave



Top to bottom: Spaghetti, Pork Chop and Veal Parmesan



The Acme's pizza, with thick but not too thick crust, loads of cheese and a smidgen of sauce. The Garlic Chicken Roll is huge and filled with savory chicken and sauce. I love dousing mine in barbeque sauce. When I am craving something a little healthier, I opt for the Grilled Pork Chop with a side of steamed veggies and sweet



potato fries. So many places totally botch pork chops, overcooking them and drying them out, but The Acme does it just right. They're juicy and flavorful and I can't get enough. The sweet potato fries are done

well too. While I haven't ordered the Beef Brisket Dinner for myself, I have sampled off of Jon's plate and I love it. It is so tender and slow-smoked for 20 hours, providing a rich flavor. The The Acme barbeque sauce is amazing and complements the brisket well.

If a full meal seems like too much, you can get the brisket sandwich (\$7.49). It's the same slow-smoked brisket in a much smaller portion.

I am glad we gave our neighborhood bar another chance. It has certainly taught me a lesson: I shouldn't hold so hard to my two-strikes rule.

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