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Ballads and Barricades

By Jen Poiry-Prough

For the past 5 years, Rich Najuch and Joel Froomkin have produced delightful holiday Supper Club shows at the New Huntington Theatre. But to end the inaugural season of their main stage theatre Different Stages, they decided to do a bit of a 180.

Rather than a lighthearted holiday cabaret show, they are mounting a grand production of the most heart-wrenching, tear-jerking and universally beloved musical in history: *Les Misérables*.

What makes this story – about the oppressed poor and a 19th century French student revolution that ends tragically – so perfect for the holidays?

“The show’s most powerful lyric is ‘to love another person is to see the face of God,’” says Froomkin, who is the artistic director for Different Stages, “and I think it’s such a beautiful message for this time of year. The show touches people in a very profound way and makes us so aware of the power we have for good. There is great joy in the journey of these characters.”

Froomkin sees a connection between the writing of Victor Hugo, who wrote the novel the musical is based on, and Charles Dickens, who wrote the holiday classic *A Christmas Carol*. In fact, he says, the musical’s creators had been inspired to write the show after seeing a West End adaptation of another Dickens novel.

“*Les Misérables* and *A Christmas Carol* are both allegories of redemption,” Froomkin says. “The path of one man to accept love in his heart and embrace his own potential goodness. Scrooge takes his journey in one night and Valjean’s journey takes 40 years, but they are on the same path. Tiny Tim opens the heart of Scrooge, and Valjean is transformed when he meets little Cosette.”

Like the Dickens story, *Les Misérables* certainly appears destined for all-time classic status with universal appeal.

“It’s not easy to pinpoint what makes something the most successful musical in history,” says Froomkin, but he points out that one of the factors is its universal relevance. “The characters are so rich that everyone in the audience can connect and find their own personal way into the story,” he says.

As for Froomkin, his love of the musical began with its orchestration.

“There are passages in the accompani-

ment supporting the melody lines that are some of the most beautiful phrases ever written for the stage,” he says. “Cameron Macintosh called them ‘magic notes.’ This show is filled with themes that support the melody, but are absolutely breathtaking. It’s one of the only shows I know where the audience can hum the accompaniment. That’s extraordinary.”



LES MISÉRABLES

Wednesdays-Sundays,

Dec. 4-21 (showtimes vary)

Different Stages Theater

528 N. Jefferson St., Huntington

Tix.: \$44-\$59, 260-454-0603

www.different-stages.com

In addition to the “magic” of the music, Different Stages’ space adds another layer of depth to the production. “The intimacy of [our stage] allows a special bond between the audience and the performer,” he says.

The intimacy of the stage will not take away from the grandness of the production. “The set is truly epic,” he says, and it includes the show’s famous barricade. “The production will move in a very cinematic way, but the audience will have the opportunity to feel connected to the show in a way that is unique.”

As in the past, Froomkin will utilize projections against the backdrop of the set for added texture to transform the set in what he calls “a very painterly way.”

He also believes that the cast that he and Najuch have assembled has something special. “In my mind what makes the difference between a good production of this show and a great production is the ensemble,” he says, “and we have cast an extraordinary group of very versatile actors who work together beautifully.”

Froomkin’s expertise in dialects will also play into the production value. “I have

always felt that American productions of *Les Misérables* had a disadvantage because they didn’t have the versatility of dialect that British actors were able to employ,” he explains. “In British productions, simply by changing regional dialect the actors are not only able to transform their characters, but they can also make clear statements regarding geographic location, social status and class.”

Another enhancement Froomkin is bringing to his production centers on the characters themselves. He has turned to the source material, the Victor Hugo novel, to gain insights. “I’ve really spent time with the novel trying to understand these characters,” he says, “and get back to the root of the show’s origins.”

Froomkin contends that as rabid as *Les Misérables*’ theater fans are, this fandom did not necessarily translate to last year’s film production of the musical. “I think the film was visually a beautiful piece of work,” he admits, “but I felt there were musical choices which lost a great deal of the visceral affect this score can have on its audience.”

Rather than the operatic score that was originally written, he says that the film “shied away from that in an effort to keep things ‘real.’ The orchestra-

tration was so quiet that you didn’t feel the music in your gut the way you do when it’s washing over you in a theater. There was no bass, no heartbeat.”

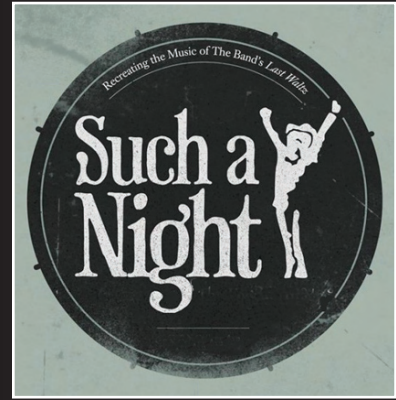
He places the blame on modern cinema’s apparent “fear” of singing. “Film directors feel like they have to apologize for [singing in film],” he says. “You hardly ever hear people sing in the trailers of musicals anymore. They [minimize the singing] so it plays as ‘natural.’ But it really has to be the opposite; the emotion has to be bigger so that the energy justifies bursting into song.”

He also had the same complaint of the film that many moviegoers had: “There were performers in the film that simply didn’t have the musical chops to sing the score the way it should be sung,” he says.

In contrast, Froomkin’s cast members have strong, theatrically trained voices. “We really wanted the score sung,” he says. “Our company are all stellar musicians with incredible voices, and the sound they produce is going to be breathtaking.”

Different Stages audiences are already familiar with three of the production’s stars. Two appeared in this season’s *The Sound of*

Continued on page 8



Saturday, Nov. 29 • 8pm • \$15/\$30

SUCH A NIGHT

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The holiday festivities really take it up a notch now that Thanksgiving is soon to be in the rear view. This week we feature a variety of holiday events – and yes, we consider our cover story on Les Misérables to be among them (you'll need to read Jen Poiry's feature on page 2 to learn the connection between Victor Hugo's epic novel and Charles Dickens' A Christmas Story, but we digress). Fort Wayne Ballet's The Nutcracker (page 4) and the History Center's Festival of Gingerbread (page 5) may seem a bit more obvious, but we think there's always room for another Christmas tradition in northeast Indiana.

Besides the features on upcoming Christmas events, we bring you this week a few Christmas gifts – like Terry Ratliff's new art gallery rising right next to the Phoenix (page 7) and Such a Night (page 6), a second helping of the recreation of The Band's famous farewell concert from 1976. And for those of you who laughed through the Civic's Shrek, which ended its run with a sold out show this past Sunday, we get up close and personal with the green ogre himself, actor Jeff Salisbury (page 9).

That's a lot to digest during the Thanksgiving weekend, but it's only a sampling of the treats that await you as you flip through the pages of your favorite free entertainment weekly. So read on, make plans to go out and have some fun and help us keep whatzup free by telling everyone you meet and greet along the way – especially our advertisers – that whatzup sent you.

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Cover design by Greg Locke
The Nutcracker photo on page 4 by Rob Borel
Jeff Salisbury photo on page 9 by Rachel Wilhelm

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Seasonal Paws de Deux

By Michele DeVinney

There have been a lot of changes at Fort Wayne Ballet in the last few years. Now settled into their studios at the Auer Center for Arts & Culture three years after their move, the ballet has seen some key personnel move on and new faces arrive to fill the void. They have also forged a relationship with the University of Saint Francis to offer a degree program in dance at the private university. But through all the changes, one thing remains predictably certain: If it's December, it must be time for *The Nutcracker*.

As usual, the casts for the performances are very large, allowing for many of the ballet's students, and a wide range of age and experience, to participate along with their performing-level students and professional company of dancers. All told, each cast (and there are two which alternate performances) boasts around 130 talented young performers and some veteran adults who fill the lush opening party scene.

That scene has also boasted some additional talent for the last five years. Through a partnership with Fort Wayne Animal Care & Control, a venture which first launched in 2010, a variety of adoptable canines have been featured performers in the ballet's first act. "The Nutcrackers," as they have been dubbed, was an idea that was at first questioned, but Karen Gibbons-Brown, executive and artistic director of Fort Wayne Ballet, wouldn't allow a few doubters to deter her. And she has been rewarded for her perseverance in seeing almost 60 dogs find new homes.

"I'm always happy to help our furry friends," says Gibbons-Brown, who fosters dogs among her little canine family. "We are the community's organization, we're not privately owned. We're called Fort Wayne Ballet for a reason, [and] we take our role in the community seriously. This time of year we have a big collection of stuffed animals that we give to the police so that they can be available to comfort children in difficult situations. We have our coat and mitten drive so that we can help children during the winter months. And we love being able to participate in something a little different by bringing dogs who are looking for forever homes to our production. I think Animal Care & Control likes it, too. This has been one of our easiest projects, and you wouldn't think it would be. We just make sure we partner the dog on stage with someone who is not dog fearful, and it's all gone very smoothly."

Though early concerns about dog behavior during the performance, particu-

larly in light of the large audience (which always reacts audibly when the dogs enter the stage), seemed well-founded, they have been rendered moot in the past four years of *Nutcracker* performances. After they leave the stage, each evening's stars are taken to an area outside the theater so they can be viewed and petted by fans. Adoption papers are available there to begin the process for anyone so moved, but Gibbons-Brown admits that many of those adopted land close to home.

"Quite a few of the dogs have found homes with our dancers or our ballet parents," she says. "And I'm also proud that Dance Theatre of Tennessee adopted our

key roles following the departure of principal dancer Lucia Rogers who left the ballet earlier this year. An infusion of new talent from around the country brings new faces into iconic roles, and there are now enough male dancers available to provide a partner to Dew Drop, allowing for one more pas de deux. Although Gibbons-Brown strives to infuse new life into the show, she ultimately hopes it isn't noticed.

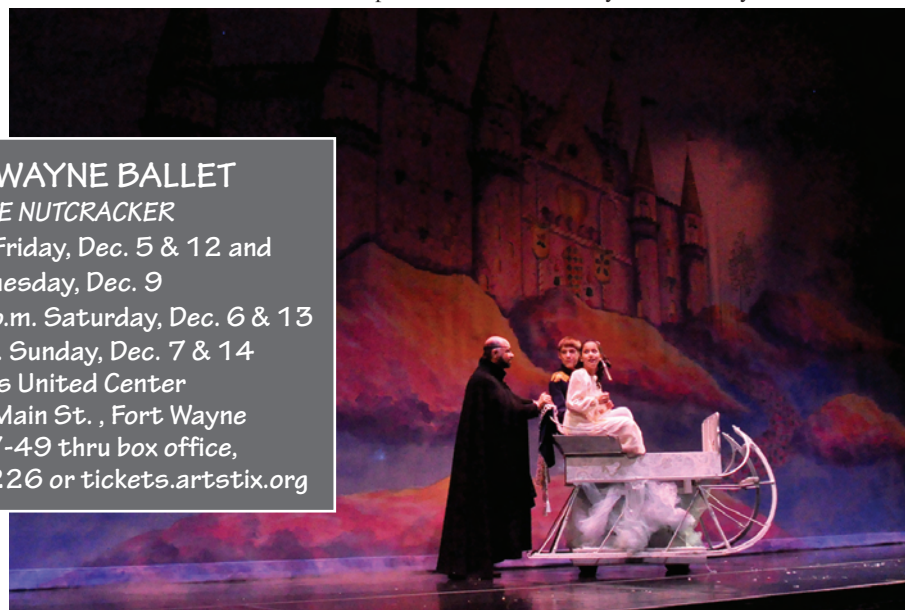
"It should be seamless so that no one realizes there are changes. We just want to heighten the magic and make it an overall more exciting production. And we always plan a few new surprises for the audiences."

As always the Fort Wayne Philharmonic

FORT WAYNE BALLET THE NUTCRACKER

7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5 & 12 and
Tuesday, Dec. 9

2:30 & 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6 & 13
2:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7 & 14
Arts United Center
303 E. Main St., Fort Wayne
Tix: \$ 17-49 thru box office,
260-422-4226 or tickets.artstix.org



program the year after we did and are still doing it too."

Aside from that element of community service, which has become a tradition of its own, Gibbons-Brown has had a few other ideas over the years that seemed a bit unrealistic at the time, but it's clear that when she sets her mind to something, she finds a way to make it happen. One of the key changes over the years was the addition of a snow-maker in the theater, one which will allow the audience to sit amidst snow as it falls onstage during the final moments of Act I. A charming gasp can be heard as children (and their parents) realize it's snowing.

"I love sitting in the back of the theater when that happens and watching the reaction. I can see little hands reaching up and trying to catch the snow. Every year we have people call and ask where they have to sit for the snow to fall on them."

Maintaining those traditions while keeping the show fresh is Gibbons-Brown challenge each year. Last year she had the backdrop for Act I updated, and the same is being done this year for the Act II backdrop. There are also new costumes provided by Fort Wayne Ballet's longtime designer Tess Heet. And there will be some new faces in

will accompany the first three performances of *The Nutcracker*, the Friday and Saturday evening performances as well as the Saturday matinee. Additionally, the matinees will once again be followed by Sugar Plum Parties, a delightful opportunity for the youngsters to meet the dancers and enjoy a treat or two. This year's opening night reception will now take place before the performance on Friday, December 5, beginning at 6 p.m. Ticket information for the Sugar Plum Parties and the reception is available at fortwayneballet.org or by calling the ArtsTix box office.

Those looking for more opportunities to watch Fort Wayne Ballet in action have a few more dates to look forward to in the coming months. February 14 will see them celebrate Valentine's Day in the ArtsLab on the first floor of the Auer Center, and the ballet's spring performance of *Don Quixote* begins in March. But until then Gibbons-Brown says she looks forward to contributing to Fort Wayne's annual celebration of the holiday season.

"People never seem to get tired of it. I think it's just such a magical show, and people never get tired of it. It's just such a great tradition."

whatzup

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Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/whatzupFortWayne

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Office Manager: Mikala Cook
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Webmaster: Josiah South

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Edible Architecture

By Michele DeVinney

Once upon a time, in a bygone era, Christmas was a largely handmade and homemade holiday. While there are still plenty of people who gather to make Christmas cookies and create special gifts from scratch, the number of people who have time to indulge in all the creativity the holiday offers has dwindled as schedules fill with other obligations. It's a romantic notion to spend hours upon hours making something special and celebratory from scratch, but reality seldom allows for it.

That may be one reason that the Festival of Gingerbread has become such a popular annual event and a comforting part of the city's celebration. Hosted by the History Center, the festival allows us to enjoy the exquisite crafting of gingerbread houses and creations, things we might aspire to try but never quite get around to doing.

Of course, it's so much more than just a chance to gander at gingerbread. It also allows the History Center to welcome more people into its doors and introduce area residents to everything the museum has to offer. This year marks 29 seasons of gingerbread at the center, with the inaugural event taking place in 1985, just five years after the center itself opened. The Festival of Gingerbread its longest-running program.

"It began as a small and unique way to attract folks to our museum during the holiday season," says Todd Pelfry, the center's executive director. "That first year we had just a handful of houses, but it was well-received. People really embraced the festival and turned it into a valued part of our shared traditions. We see many repeat visitors who are just amazed at the level of creativity shown by these fantastic houses."

Pelfry also notes that there's a level of longing for the opportunity to indulge in some holiday creativity from those who visit each year.

"I see folks every year who say 'I would love to try to do this next year.' But people are so busy, and these houses take many, many hours to put together. Of course, the other side of this is the houses made by younger individuals and groups that aren't quite as detailed but look like they were a lot of fun to do."

With a wide variety of houses to enjoy, there are plenty of reasons to visit the Festival of Gingerbread, but the History Center provides one more: admission

to the festival also includes admission to all of the displays the center has to offer. Opened in 1980, the History Center is one of the largest museums of its kind in the state and includes more than three dozen permanent exhibits pertaining to all levels of local history, from the ice age to today. Two years ago the Allen County Innovation exhibit also opened; it features highlights of 20th century industrial heritage.

There will also be an array of speakers and lectures on the weekends during the festival's run, which

goes from Wednesday, November 26 until Sunday, December 14. (The exhibit is closed on Thanksgiving.) A listing of those events and appearances can be found at the center's website which also shares the History Center mission. Additionally, there are added features each day of the festival, including visits from Santa on November 26 and December 6, a chance to create a handmade ornament on November 29 and a cookie decorating party on December 14.

As for the number of gingerbread houses to expect this year, Pelfry is reluctant to say, given the fragility of the houses themselves.

"We do lose a lot in transit," he admits. "Last year we had a record 149 on display, and I expect we'll have well over 100 again this year. But the houses have to travel here, and there are a lot of stops and a lot can happen."

In addition to the gingerbread houses, the center's regular exhibits and the educational programs and hands-on experiences available with one admission price, the History Center is proud for visitors to see the final piece of the renovation of the old city courtroom – an exquisite chandelier which Pelfry says is "both illuminating and breathtaking. It really provides a beautiful, luxurious room for the gingerbread houses."

Pelfry advises those who wish to see the exhibit to come sooner rather than later, a bit of wisdom gleaned from last year's weather challenges.

"I encourage people to come early in the exhibit's run. Last year the weather made it nearly impossible for anyone to attend that final weekend, and since you never know what's going to happen, you might want to plan on getting here early this year."



FESTIVAL OF GINGERBREAD

Daily thru Sunday, Dec. 14
(hours vary)

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Tix.: \$3-\$5, 424-4419



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----- Feature • Such a Night -----

Another Last Waltz

By Deborah Kennedy

There are people who will tell you that lightning never strikes twice in the same place. They're probably the same people who say you can't catch lightning in a bottle.

The folks behind *Such a Night: Recreating the Music of The Last Waltz* are here to correct both notions. It turns out, the magic of an historical live concert can indeed be revisited and brought to life again. And again. And again.

The Last Waltz is, of course, Martin Scorsese's much-heralded rock-doc that chronicles The Band's epic final live performance at San Francisco's Winterland Ballroom on Thanksgiving Day 1976. The concert was supposed to be nothing more than The Band's farewell to fans, its swan song, an elegant bow-out of the hectic world of world tours and sold-out shows. What it became, however, is a now legendary night of unrivaled performances by some of the brightest stars in the 60s and 70s musical galaxy, including Bob Dylan, Muddy Waters, Joni Mitchell, Eric Clapton, the Staple Singers, Dr. John, Neil Diamond, Van Morrison and Neil Young.

The evening was spontaneous and surprising, full of the kind of sweet shock and awe only live music can deliver.

You'd think recreating such an iconic moment in musical history would be a pretty tall order, but that is just what Indianapolis-based producer, composer and multi-instrumentalist Bill Maller set out to do in 2012 in the wake of the death of The Band's drummer Levon Helm at the age of 71 due to cancer.

The show started as a one-and-done, a tribute to Helm and his mates and a song-by-song, play-by-play reenactment of that now infamous night in San Francisco. Soon, though, word spread around musical communities in Indiana, Kentucky and Ohio, and other towns wanted a piece of the action. Fort Wayne was one of those towns, and it saw its first *Such a Night* last year at C2G Music Hall.

Those who enjoyed last year's show or wish they hadn't missed it will be glad to know that *Such a Night* will be back on the same stage Saturday, November 29 at 8 p.m.

Many of the performers will be returning to reprise their roles, and there will be new faces as well. Attendees can count on seeing Fort Wayne's own Kenny

Taylor as Eric Clapton, Dave Todoran as Bob Dylan, Marnée as Joni Mitchell, G Money as Muddy Waters, Hollie Shelton as Emmylou Harris, Johnny Mendez as Neil Diamond and Kevin Jackson as Paul Butterfield. The part of The Band will be played by Maller and his Indy eight-piece who, when they got together to rehearse for the first ever *Such a Night*, experienced a kind of unmistakable chemistry that means, stop, look, listen – you're on to something good.

"We'd never all played together at once, and so when we gathered in my studio we didn't know what to expect," Maller said. "I'd say it was less than a minute into our rehearsal of our first song when we

all just had to stop and laugh. One of the guys say, 'Oh my God. I think we were born to do this.'"

The chemistry between Maller's eight-piece and the local musicians hand-picked to play guest starring roles is like-wise a thrill, Maller said.

"It's a combination of the

incredible songs and the talent we've assembled in each city that makes the night so special."

The night is special for another reason: it will serve as a benefit for the Community Harvest Food Bank. Proceeds from ticket sales will go toward stocking that pantry's food shelves, and concertgoers are also encouraged to bring canned good to the show that night. C2G will then distribute that food to Fort Wayne's needy.

The connection between *The Last Waltz* and giving back is a strong one, according to Maller.

"The original concert was done at a time when music was making a huge difference in society. There was a spirit then that something new and great was happening, and I do not exaggerate when I say that spirit is in the room now when we recreate it," he said. "A big part of that spirit is doing your part to make things better. We like to leave each town we go to a little better than how we found it."

Part of that goal is supporting the local music community, many of whose members will show up that night dressed for the part they're asked to play.

"The cast of the show gets to perform for a crowd they might not have played for before," Maller said. "For instance, G-Money as Muddy Waters gets to sing for Dave Todoran's fans, and Dave Todoran gets to play for Marnée's fans, and Kenny Taylor gets to play for G-Money's fans. It's uplifting, it brings people together, and it's also just a pretty cool show."

SUCH A NIGHT

8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 29

C2G Music Hall

323 W. Baker St., Fort Wayne

Tix.: \$15-\$30

c2gmusic hall.com

A Gallery Rises on Broadway

By Heather Miller

The writing on the window leaves no question. There is a new gallery in town.

The tiny building that shares a wall with the popular Phoenix restaurant on Broadway now reads, Ratliff in large, white script letters that span the front reflective window. Terry Ratliff fans are streaming in like rats following the piper.

It seems that whenever one turns a head in a restaurant, public building or even the homes of a friend in this city, there is a Ratliff signature scrawled across a canvas. His work hangs on walls all over town. The standout, bright colors Ratliff applies with an energetic but well-tuned hand are easy to spot. His range in style proves he is, to say the least, versatile. He is an "order up" painter who can fill just about any need for any collector who wants to fill a wall.

With such a large following, one would assume Ratliff would own a puffed up ego. Not so. An inviting handshake welcomed me into his gallery, a long, narrow space flanked by exposed brick broken up by sections of deep purple walls. Large mirrors paired with a row of hair-cutting stations in the building that was once a barbershop make the gallery look brighter, as the reflections of his bold work hit visitors with eye candy from all sides. The floors are warm and wood-covered, and a few cozy pieces of furniture easily shift positions to accommodate lively conversations.

Those who know Ratliff know that conversations with him are upbeat, intelligent and spiked with a bit of edgy wit that reflects the range of experience, both good and bad, he has had over his long career as an artist. He has worked in a variety of studio spaces all over town, but finally feels he has found the just-right location. Many readers will remember the house on Jefferson Boulevard from which he worked and hosted many a Trolley Tour stop. He has since outgrown the small house once used as both a studio and a gallery.

Ratliff says of the space, "After a while it got kind of tiring to be painting in a dining room all day long. It just got to be too much. The lighting was terrible."

The Jefferson location still holds stacks of his work; he estimates it contains over 1,000 pieces. From now on, it will serve as a holding area for work waiting to be edited or sold.

Even without a gallery to fill, Ratliff keeps working. His recent focus has been on a variety of commissioned works, and he explains, "For a while it didn't really matter that I didn't have a place to show because I've been working with clients. I recently did 67 pieces for Indiana Tech."



Ratliff is so highly esteemed by locals that commissions often come with few parameters. He says of the Indiana Tech project, "I didn't have many guidelines. They said they trusted me, which put on a lot of pressure. They gave me a color scheme and let me run with it."

Even being well seasoned by experience, Ratliff can feel a bit apprehensive about the work produced for commissions.

"When you try to do something for someone else, it's never as good. It's not coming from your soul. When I paint a painting for myself, I don't worry if anyone is going to like it," he says.

Ratliff recently stepped back into the studio with the goal of painting for himself. He paints nearly every day and explains, "It's a scary job. I'm not assured of a paycheck. Even after a commission like Indiana Tech, I have to get right back to work. You can't be lazy or take the day off. It's a job for me."

Setting up his new space took time and focus away from his studio routine.

"When I was getting this place ready, I didn't paint for at least two weeks and it was getting into my head," he says. "I missed it. Now I have about 20 pieces going at a time."

Between working on a tidal wave of commissioned pieces and developing new work that follows his own passions, one might wonder how Ratliff keeps the momentum of consistent sales going? After all these years, it seems his spark would fade. The answer to his success is his fireball personality, dedicated work ethic and polished marketing skills.

Ratliff can whip pieces out in just a couple hours. "The faster, the better," he says, yet his quality remains high and his pieces express the passion that he holds. "That's what selling art is about. You have to be enthusiastic."

Enthusiasm and relentless energy are what makes showing and running his own gallery a sensible choice for this artist. Ratliff questions why he would want to split the commission with another gallery and says, "I want to sell myself. I don't want someone else to sell me. I would feel like I'm missing out on something if I wasn't there to meet the people who buy my work and take it to their place to install it."

For Ratliff, the stars often align to guide him to the next client or phase of his career. Just as the Casaburos kicked started his success by filling their restaurants with his work, the opportunity to open his own gallery on Broadway just sort of, according to Ratliff, "fell in my lap."

He talked to Matt McCoy, the owner of the building about having a place to show his work.

"The walls were yellow from cigarette smoke. The floor was almost non-existent," says Ratliff, "but Matt did everything he could to bring this place up to par. The sign on his restaurant reads, 'music, food and art.' It's going to be a perfect fit."

Filling the gallery with inventory won't be a problem.

"At my studio on Jefferson I have stacks and stacks of paintings," says Ratliff, but he won't just be digging out old pieces to hang

Continued on page 8

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LES MISERABLES - From Page 2

Music – Amelia Story (who played Marta) and Becky Rosky (who played Mother Abbess). Story plays the urchin boy Gavroche, and Froomkin calls her “just fabulous.” Rosky, whom Froomkin says audiences “went crazy over” in *The Sound of Music* plays Cosette. Ethan Carpenter, who performed in two seasons of the theater’s Supper Club, will play Marius. “He has this extraordinary warmth and innocence coupled with one of the most beautiful voices,” says Froomkin.

To cast their shows, Froomkin and Najuch have fully embraced modern technology. “We did something we dubbed a digital open call,” Froomkin says. “We provided performers with accompaniment tracks of songs from the show and they were able to submit a video audition.”

This allowed actors to submit even if they were away on tour or on contract elsewhere. In all, they received 1,200 submissions, and they also held an open casting call in New York. “We saw 400 people in four hours,” Froomkin says. “That was pretty crazy, but it was amazing. Hundreds of actresses submitted for the role of Eponine, but when Brooke Quintana auditioned at the open call, she knocked it out of the park.”

Froomkin is confident this production will not only wow *Les Miz* devotees, but will win over new fans – something he doesn’t believe the film did. “If you didn’t love *Les Misérables* before [you saw the film],” he says, “I’m not sure you really grasped what all the fuss was about.”

The magic of live theater (including every single one of the “magic notes” in the live theatrical score) coupled with the intimate setting could change all that.

“At Different Stages, we create this powerful relationship – it’s really a partnership – between the audience and the performer,” says Froomkin. “It’s incredibly communal, and I have a feeling that with this particular show, the effect is going to be really extraordinary.”

RATLIFF - From Page 7

on the walls. “I’ve found 10-year-old paintings that I rework. Now that I know a bit more about myself as an artist and what I’m trying to say, I have more direction.”

He quickly whips out his phone to show a photo of a piece he reworked just that morning. “I completely revised this one,” he says. “I primed an old work and pumped out this painting of two people eating spaghetti.” The piece shows a whimsical, yet stylish couple slurping a strand of pasta, very reminiscent of the Disney scene shared by two runaway mutts.

Ratliff warns other artists not to destroy old pieces that have become stale. “Don’t throw it away, you can pull something out of it,” he says.

He also enjoys looking at the progression of his work and says, “I like the vintage ones because they are more raw. I can’t do raw anymore. I’m more calculated. I’d like to have that rawness come back into my work.”

While Ratliff has spent years developing his own career, he now searches for and supports young artists with potential.

“There’s a couple of artists who I really admire,” says Ratliff, “and I’m trying to help them as much as I can. I try to help them get shows and teach them about marketing. It’s important to develop a brand.”

“It’s all about hanging your art. I tell young artists to get your work out there. You might have to sell your work for next to nothing but if you keep doing it, it will happen for you.”

For Ratliff, it is happening again. “Fort Wayne is getting better and better, especially here on Broadway,” he says.

That’s 1124 Broadway, to be specific, open Friday and Saturday from 4 to 8 p.m. and Sunday 2-7 p.m. Certainly this new gallery will keep things moving forward for both the city and for Ratliff.



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A Naturally Aged Ham

By Jen Poiry-Prough

Actors tend to fall into one of two categories: shy people who use performing to come out of their shells, or attention-seeking hams.

Jeff Salisbury proudly counts himself a member of the latter group.

"According to my parents, I have been singing and dancing and hamming it up since I was born," he says. "You know how most kids just stare blankly when you are trying to take a picture? Well, apparently if I saw a camera, even if they were complete strangers, I would go try and get in the picture. I guess I was photo bombing before I even knew what that was."

Despite his desire to be seen by anyone and everyone, he was a reluctant stage performer.

"In fourth grade, my teacher asked me if I wanted to do the elementary musical, *Pinocchio*," he says. "I had no interest in it, but she finally talked me into it. I was the cat that helps trick Pinocchio into going to Pleasure Island. It took me about four rehearsals to be completely hooked. I seemed to have some natural aptitude for it and really enjoyed the playing and creating involved with coming up with a character."

That was 26 years ago, and he hasn't stopped since.

As smitten as he was with performing, he never actually saw a live theatrical performance until he made a bold decision when he was 16 years old. When his high school offered a program for sophomores to job shadow in their career of interest, he impulsively – and unexpectedly – requested to shadow a professional actor.

"My guidance counselor laughed and then asked what I was actually interested in," he says. "I told him that was the only thing. He sighed and said, 'Okay, Jeff,' and sent me on my way."

True to his word, his counselor did some research and learned about a professional theater only 20 minutes away from them – the Round Barn Theatre at Amish Acres in Nappanee. The teen followed one of the actors around for the day, learning what a professional rehearsal was all about, and talked with other actors and the artistic director about their careers. He got a backstage tour and was able to see two different shows in one day (*Godspell* and *Plain and Fancy*).

"Each of those shows moved me in a way I hadn't felt before," he recalls. "To see people I had been talking to all day completely transform and tell two completely different yet beautiful stories was mind-blowing to me. I was completely lost in acting after that. That one day told me what I wanted to do with the rest of my life."

After high school he earned a B.A. in theatre from Bethel College in Mishawaka. Following that, he worked off and on as a professional actor at the Round Barn Theatre and other companies for about 10 years. He also learned the technical aspects of theatre, including lighting design and set construction.

He quit acting in 2006 and moved to Fort Wayne, where he has held an assortment of different jobs, including restaurant host, furniture delivery man, photographer and administrative assistant. However, he believes he has found his niche with his current employer, Apollo Design Technologies. "They make lighting and effects equipment, and I find the work to be really interesting," he says. "The lighting designer in me loves all the 'toys' I play with every day. It's just a great place to work."

Salisbury still finds plenty of time to tread the boards and just finished the playing the title role in the

Civic Theatre's production of *Shrek*.

"An over-the-top fun-ride of silliness, fantasy and a whole lot of singing sums it up nicely," he says of the *Shrek* experience. "The show itself is just fun, yet it has a lot of heart and a good message."

Salisbury says he approaches his characters like a little kid. "I live by the question, 'Why?' When you



can answer that question to everything you say [on-stage] and put in the time to figure out how to convey that 'why,' that adds a level to the performance that isn't there if you just recite the script and think, 'Oh, it might be good if I'm mad here,' or 'I think I'll be happy here.'"

Not surprisingly, he is an actor who creates a backstory for each character he portrays. But he also embraces the collaborative nature of theater.

"I figure out the 'why' for every line of every scene," he explains, "and in rehearsals I tweak those feelings based on what the director is looking for or in response to how [other actors are] delivering their lines and where they are taking it. I try to be as prepared as I can be but still be flexible and creative enough to adapt to what other people bring to the table."

While he says the Civic is the most "professional" theatre group in town and offers some of the most fun productions, he loves the work of the faith-based theatre group all for One (afO) productions. He has been their technical director and occasional actor for the past four years and calls them "a fantastic group."

"I just completely believe in what they do and what they represent," he says. "They create an amazing atmosphere and refreshing theater experience for actors and audience members."

His first experience with afO was in the 2007 play *A Sentimental Journey* in which he played a WWII soldier who awakens in a hospital to find he has partial paralysis and no memory.

"The emotional and physical gamut I had to go through in that show was so hard and so much fun," he says. "I went from happy to furious to scared to having a complete emotional breakdown. From con-

Continued on page 22

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TOP SELLERS @

WOODEN NICKEL (Week ending 11/23/14)

TW	LW	ARTIST/Album
1	1	PINK FLOYD <i>The Endless River</i>
2	4	JOE BONAMASSA <i>Different Shads of Blue</i>
3	2	FOO FIGHTERS <i>Sonic Highways</i>
4	6	SUNNY TAYLOR <i>Map to the Fire</i>
5	-	EMINEM <i>Shady XV</i>
6	7	TAYLOR SWIFT <i>1989</i>
7	-	RICK ROSS <i>Hood Billionaire</i>
8	-	IN THIS MOMENT <i>Black Widow</i>
9	-	NEW BASEMENT TAPES <i>Lost on the River</i>
10	-	VARIOUS ARTISTS <i>The Art of McCartney</i>

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Iceage

Plowing into the Field of Love

Iceage have come a long way from their vicious post-punk beginnings. *New Brigade* was dark, angry and monstrous. It was the sound of torn fingers and bloody guitar necks. *You're Nothing* seemed to be a continuation of that sound, albeit with more experience under these young, Icelandic lads belts. On their new album, *Plowing Into the Field of Love*, Iceage have opened the floodgates and have released a record so varied and expansive that, if it weren't for Elias Bender Rønnenfelt's unique vocals, you wouldn't know it was the same band. It's a huge step forward and a hell of an album.

"On My Fingers" starts the album out like a funeral dirge written by The Fall and Nick Cave and the Bad Seeds. A doomed romantic vibe permeates and pulsates in the piano and Rønnenfelt's vocal delivery. "The Lord's Favorite" has a cow punk shuffle and chiming guitars that give this great track a Smiths vibe. There's a lightness to this song that hasn't been heard previously, and it's a welcome surprise. I think even Joe Strummer & The Mescaleros might have had some fun with this one.

"Glass Eyed, Dormant, and Veiled" has a punk rock jangle mixed with an almost doomed, Goth sound. "Let It Vanish" sounds like Joy Division fronted by Sid Vicious. It has that Manchester darkness, but with youthful energy those post-punks could never quite muster. "Abundant Living" could be the love child of The Smiths, Love and Rockets, and Drivin N Cryin. "Cimmerian Shade" has all that nasty vitriol that got Iceage their reputation for intense and bloody live shows. It's tension-filled and waiting to explode at any moment. "Plowing Into the Field of Love" is a ramshackle track that ends the album on a drunken Pogues stumble that nearly falls out of the speakers.

It's one thing for a band to get ambitious and attempt some sort of grand gesture on a record. Usually they just end up reverting back to the same old thing next time around. But Iceage aren't being ambitious here. They've just grown up, and their music has grown right along with them. (John Hubner)



Pink Floyd The Endless River

I'll admit that being a mere 23 years old puts me at a slight disadvantage when it comes to reviewing the latest Pink Floyd album. So far, I have yet to sell a copy of *The Endless River* to anyone born after Roger Waters left the group in 1985. This tells me that the reason we millennials mostly go for 70s Pink Floyd is because as the band got older, so did anyone who still cared to follow them into David Gilmour-led new age purgatory. Since we kids were not around to witness the exhilarating rise and disappointing decline of Pink Floyd, understanding the appeal of albums like *A Momentary Lapse of Reason* and *The Division Bell* comes eventually, but not easily.

When it was announced that *The Endless River* would be mostly comprised of session work from 1994's *The Division Bell*, along with parts re-recorded in the past year, it was and still is hard to take calling this a "new album" seriously. Bearing in mind that it's a tribute to Richard Wright, who died in 2008, as well as a swan song for Pink Floyd themselves, this last album is a more awkward goodwill gesture for the millions of fans who were perfectly comfortable with *The Division Bell* being the last word.

Given the album's ties to *Bell*, one of the few surprises of *The Endless River* is how there are occasional conscious attempts to echo other ideas of decades prior. "Things Left Unsaid" opens similarly to *Dark Side*'s "Speak to Me," and the following track, "It's What We Do," mirrors both "Shine on You Crazy Diamond" and some traits from *Animals*. These familiar sounds aren't necessarily as recycled as they are re-appropriated into an updated collage in the hopes that it would appease the older fans while also drawing in a younger crowd that either has yet to discover them or hasn't listen to anything made after *The Wall*.



Spins

BACKTRACKS

James Brown

Live at the Apollo (1963)

Recorded in late 1962, this was James Brown, the "Godfather of Soul" at his finest. This recording captured his essence in one of the greatest buildings for live music during the peak of a career that was launched in the mid 50s.

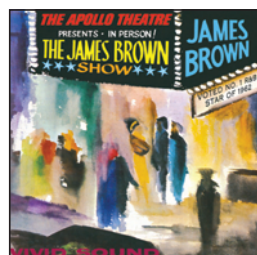
After an introduction from Lucas "Fats" Gonder, Brown kicks off the show with the funky-soul track "I'll Go Crazy." The showmanship may be only heard on the album, but the 1,500 fans were ready – and these screaming teenagers complement the vibe of this classic release.

"Try Me," a rhythm and blues number, keeps the show going and leads into the ridiculously funky "Think." The soulful "I Don't Mind" is riddled with tight backing vocals from The Famous Flames, and Brown goes on for over 10 minutes in "Lost Someone," a song that epitomizes how Brown poured everything into his performances. He owns the crowd in this one, and it is one of the best recordings he ever did.

Before covering "Night Train" to close the show, Brown lets it all hang out with a six-minute medley featuring some of his best hits up to that point. The medley, which showcases parts from "Please, Please, Please," "You've Got the Power," "I Found Someone," "Why Do You Do Me," "I Want You So Bad," "I Love You," "Yes I Do," "Strange Things Happen" and "Bewildered," just oozes the passion from the man they called "the hardest working man in show business," and he delivers.

This recording is considered one of the greatest live albums ever produced, and though not an expert, I couldn't agree more.

Fun Fact: Although the Apollo was built in 1914, blacks weren't allowed into the theater until 1934. It is now a Nationally Registered Landmark venue and is owned by the State of New York. (Dennis Donahue)



The album has 18 tracks, but since nearly all of them flow into each other, *River* is more of a monolithic suite, and its head-scratching song titles like "On Noodle Street" are mostly useless. The only song that has actual lyrics is the last, "Louder Than Words," during which you realize the band was at least smart enough to know that if it doesn't have much to say, it shouldn't say anything at all.

This album doesn't sound like anything on the Billboard charts right now, if only because hardly anybody else would willingly put out an album that shares musical characteristics with retro soap operas. As a Pink Floyd fan who first discovered them at 8 or 9 years old when my mother spun *Relics* on the turntable, I take no pleasure in making that statement. But as a music salesman, I feel uncomfortable praising it for the sake of making a sale. Instead, I tell customers that if they like *The Division Bell*, then they'll most likely understand and enjoy *The Endless River* more than I can. (Colin McCallister)

Obituary

Inked in Blood

Obituary's latest album is in many ways indicative of its time. The band funded *Inked in Blood* with a Kickstarter campaign, meaning technology-enabled fans got to fund the record they wanted to hear. It also enabled the band to make the record on its own terms (they partnered up with Relapse records for release and distribution). On the other hand, it's a little sad to see a band of Obituary's stature having to raise funds to record a new album.

There was a time when Obituary were one of death metal's standouts. Credited for introducing slow, dirge-y tempos into what was generally a whiplash-inducing genre, they rose to the top ranks of the Florida death metal ranks in the late 80s and early 90s with classics like 1988's *Slowly We Rot*. Like many metal bands, Obitu-



Continued on page 22

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 (Mon.-Thurs. Only)
BIG EYED PISA BARAGRILL
 420-3474
 1502 N. Wells St., Fort Wayne
 260.420.3474 / Not a Coupon

BUY ONE ENTREE GET ONE FREE
 UP TO \$10
The Lucky Turtle Grill
The Lucky Moose Lounge
 622 E. DUPONT RD.
 FT. WAYNE • 260.490.5765
NOT A COUPON

Buy 1 Grinder, Calzone, Wrap or Gluten-Free Pizza & Get 1 of Equal or Lesser Value Free
816
 816 S. Calhoun St.
 Fort Wayne • 260-918-9775

BUY ONE ENTREE GET ONE FREE
 (of equal or lesser value)
MAD ANTHONY LAKE CITY TAP HOUSE
 113 E. Center St. • Warsaw
 574-268-2537 • NOT A COUPON

Buy 2 Entrees & Get Free Appetizer (up to \$10)
Bourbon Street Hideaway
 135 W. Columbia St. • Fort Wayne
 260-422-7500 • NOT A COUPON

BUY ONE ENTREE • GET ONE FREE
 1414 Northland Blvd., Fort Wayne
 Inside Crazy Pins • 260-490-2695

ALLEN COUNTY

4D'S BAR & GRILL

Tavern/Sports Bar • 1820 W. Dupont Rd., Fort Wayne • 260-490-6488
EXPECT: Great food and drink specials and live entertainment; \$2 drink specials daily; \$1 tacos on Mon.; \$1.50 domestic longnecks & \$1 tacos on Tues.; Paul & Brian at 7 p.m. & 39¢ wings on Wed. (3-11 p.m., dine-in only); \$1 sliders & \$1.50 longnecks on Thurs.; live music Fri. & Sat.; buy one-get one half off entrees on Sat. (5-8 p.m.); \$7.50 14", 3-topping pizza on Sun. **GETTING THERE:** NW corner of Dupont & Lima. **HOURS:** 11 a.m.-3 a.m. Mon.-Fri.; noon-3 a.m. Sat.-Sun. **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 live bands 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover; Sports on 21 big screen TVs all week. **EATS:** Sandwiches, wraps, soups and salads. **GETTING THERE:** Inside Pro Bowl West, Gateway Plaza on Goshen Road. **FALL HOURS:** 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Monday; 9 a.m.-10 p.m. Tuesday-Wednesday; 9 a.m.-12 a.m. Thursday; 11 a.m.-2 a.m. Friday; 9 a.m.-2 a.m. Saturday; 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Sunday. **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

BEAMER'S SPORTS GRILL

Sports/Music/Variety • W. County Line Rd. & Highway 30 • 260-625-1002
EXPECT: Big Ten, Nascar, NFL Sunday Ticket, pool tournaments, live music Thursdays, Fridays & Saturdays. No cover. New owners & management. **EATS:** Complete menu featuring homemade pizza, burgers, steaks, sandwiches and salads. Serving fresh Didier meats. **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

Musical • 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"

Musical/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

BEAMER'S
SPORTS GRILL
 Friday, Nov. 28, 9:30pm-1:30am
Morning After
 Saturday, Nov. 29, 9:30pm-1:30am
Adam Strack Band
 260-625-1002
 9 short min. west of Coliseum Blvd. at US 30 & W. County Line Road

DUPONT BAR & GRILL
 SPORTS PUB & GRUB
WEDNESDAYS
 \$1.50 MILLER LITE & COORS LIGHT, 50¢ WINGS
 SHUT UP & SING KARAOKE @ 8PM
THURSDAYS
 \$1.50 BUD/BUD LIGHT & 1/2 PRICE APPETIZERS (6-10PM)
FRIDAY, NOV. 28 • 9:30PM
ONE EYED WOOKIE
SATURDAY, NOV. 29 • 9:30PM
SEATTLE RAIN
SUNDAYS
 NFL TICKET ON THE MEGATRON
 \$2.75 16 OZ. BUD LIGHT
 \$4.25 BLOODY MARYS
 \$11 PBR & BUSCH LT 100oz TUBES
 \$14 BUD LT & MILLER LT 100oz TUBES
 10336 LEO ROAD FORT WAYNE
 260-483-1311

SNICKERZ
 THE COMEDY BAR
 FRIDAY-SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28-29, 7:30 & 9:45 • \$9.50
BILLY RAY BAUER
 w/QUINN PATTERSON
 THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11 • ONE NIGHT ONLY!!
 FROM THE BOB & TOM SHOW!
DONNIE BAKER
 CALL 486-0216 FOR MORE INFORMATION
 OR VISIT WWW.SNICKERZCOMEDYCLUB.BIZ
NOW HIRING ALL POSITIONS!

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

Thursday, November 27

AMERICAN IDOL KARAOKE w/DAVE — Karaoke at Latch String, Fort Wayne, 10:30 p.m., no cover, 483-5526
BUCCA KARAOKE w/BUCCA — Karaoke at Deer Park, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 432-8966
JASON PAUL — Acoustic variety at Dupont Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 6:30-8:30 p.m., no cover, 483-1311
JEFF McDONALD — Variety at Don Hall's Guesthouse, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 489-2524
OPEN MIC NIGHT — Hosted by Mike Conley at Mad Anthony Brewing Company, Fort Wayne, 8:30-11 p.m., no cover, 426-2537
OPEN STAGE JAM — Hosted by Pop 'n' Fresh at Office Tavern, Fort Wayne, 8:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m., no cover, 478-5827

WAILHOUNDS — Variety at Wrigley Field, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., \$5, 405-1038

Friday, November 28

BONAFIDE — Variety at 4D's, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 490-6488
CHRIS WORTH — Variety at Club Paradise, Angola, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 833-7082
COUGAR HUNTER — 80s glam rock at Rusty Spur, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., \$5, 755-3465
DAN SMYTH — Acoustic at Country Heritage Winery, Laotto, 5-8 p.m., no cover, 637-2980
DANCE PARTY w/DJ RICH — Variety at Columbia Street West, Fort Wayne, 10:30 p.m., cover, 422-5055

DJ TAB & KARAOKE w/STEVE JONES — Variety at Babylon, Bears Den, Fort Wayne, 10:30 p.m., no cover, 456-7005
EC Trio — Jazz/funk at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 426-3442
EXPANDING MAN — Variety at Don Hall's Guesthouse, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12:30 a.m., no cover, 489-2524
FERNANDO TARANGO & THE WICKERSHAM BROTHERS — Americana at Deer Park, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 432-8966
FRAMING HANLEY w/TRACING OCEANS — Rock at Piere's, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., \$8, 486-1979
G-MONEY & FABULOUS RHYTHM — Blues at Phoenix, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., \$2, 387-6571
HILLBILLY CASINO — Rockabilly at Skeletunes Lounge, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m., cover, 739-5671

----- **Stash Some Cash for 2015 Shows** -----

You can expect 2015's concert calendar to be every bit as busy as this past year's. Within the last couple of weeks alone, we've gotten announcements for Jason Aldean at Memorial Coliseum (May 9), Neil Diamond at Bankers Life Fieldhouse (April 17) and Nickelback (July 11) and Foo Fighters (August 27) at Klipsch Music Center. You can add those to area shows already booked for the new year — shows like Days of the New at Piere's (January 24), Buddy Guy at the Honeywell Center (March 14), Winter Jam at the Coliseum (March 19) and John Mellencamp at the Embassy Theatre (June 6).

Many of these shows seem like a lifetime away — especially the Foo Fighters which isn't until late August. I mean some folks can have a baby in that span. It's crazy to think that far ahead, especially for a procrastinator like me. But in today's market, promoters want to get shows announced and tickets sold as early as possible, so get ready take to out a second mortgage because there are going to be some top-notch shows next year. Perhaps AC/DC is the tour for you, or maybe Taylor Swift. Then again, Pink Floyd has some new material out. Wouldn't that be cool?

I've got my eyes on a couple of shows already, and since my wife doesn't pay a whole lot of attention to my column these days, I'm safe to talk about my secret stash of cash I put aside for concerts. Not that concerts come before putting food on the table, but it's nice to put a little "concert cash" aside before the wife spends it on a Ninja Blender.

Right now, that cash is being saved for the announcement of dates for Faith No More, currently working on a new album scheduled for an April 2015



Out and About
NICK BRAUN

release. Once I see an area date, that cash will be spent faster than a knife fight in a phone booth. But no matter who you've got on your radar, let the concerts roll in and spend wisely, my friend.

I was glad to see that Brother have been given the opening slot for the upcoming Firehouse show at the Rusty Spur on Thursday, December 4. What a great way to start off the evening, wouldn't you say? I remember seeing Firehouse at the Coliseum in 1991 with Warrant and Trixter and then again in 1997 at Piere's. After 20 years, these rockers are still going strong with three-fourths of the line-up still original. In 2011 they released their ninth studio album, *Full Circle*. Tickets for the show are only \$15 in advance and \$20 day of.

Come out to the Phoenix on Thursday, December 18 for a unique performance from the Alicia Pyle Quartet. That evening, one of the area's premier ensembles will be playing tribute to the almighty Trans-Siberian Orchestra. If you're wondering whether a local foursome can match the greatness of TSO, hop on over to APQ's Facebook page to hear their take on the TSO track "Wizards in Winter." If you can't make the December 5 TSO show at the Coliseum, or simply can't get enough of their breathtaking showmanship, get yourself down to the Phoenix.

niknit76@yahoo.com

THURSDAY, DEC. 4 • 6-10PM

SAMUEL ADAMS

TAKE OVER
6 Kegs Tapping at 6pm
Ugly Sweater Party
w/Contest & Prizes

Get \$5 in Free Gift Cards
with Each \$25
Gift Card Purchase



2910 Maplecrest
Fort Wayne
(260) 486-0590

Latch String

EVERY THURSDAY
\$1.50 DOMESTIC LONGNECKS
EVERY THURS. & SAT. • 10:30-2:30
AMERICAN IDOL KARAOKE
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28 • 10-2
JOE FIVE
EVERY SUNDAY • 9-1
YESTERDAY'S HEADTRIP
EVERY TUESDAY
\$2.50 IMPORTS • \$1.00 TACOS
KT & THE SWINGSET QT.
EVERY WEDNESDAY
CHAGRIN COMEDY SHOWCASE, 8PM
LIVE JAZZ, 9:30-12:30

3221 N. CLINTON • FORT WAYNE • 260-483-5526

CS3 WILL BE CLOSED THANKSGIVING WEEKEND

Have a Happy
& Safe
Holiday

**CALHOUN STREET
SOUPS, SALADS + SPIRITS**
1915 CALHOUN ST
FT WAYNE • 260.456.7005



NIGHTLIFE

CHECKERZ BAR & GRILL

Pub/Tavern • 1706 W. Till Rd., Fort Wayne • 260-489-0286
EXPECT: Free WIFI, all sports networks on 10 TVs. Live rock Thursday thru Saturday. EATS: Kitchen open daily w/full menu & the best wings in town. GETTING THERE: On the corner of Lima and Till roads. HOURS: 3 p.m.-2 a.m. Monday-Wednesday, 11 a.m.-3 a.m. Thursday-Friday, 12 noon-3 a.m. Saturday, 12 noon-2 a.m. Sunday. 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. Also visit Bourbon Street Hideaway, our New Orleans-style restaurant, in the lower level of C-Street; open at 5 p.m. Thursday-Saturday (260-422-7500). 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

CURLY'S VILLAGE INN

Pub/Tavern • 4205 Bluffton Rd., Fort Wayne • 260-747-9964
EXPECT: Beautiful deck with seating overlooking Saint Marys River. Family owned since 1969. Eats: Voted Fort Wayne's Best Onion Rings in 2011! Daily food and soup specials made from scratch. Bells's Two-Hearted on tap. GETTING THERE: Corner of Bluffton and Engle roads, in Waynedale. HOURS: Open 1 p.m.-3 a.m. Mon.-Sat., 1-9 p.m. Sun. Kitchen open at 5 p.m. daily. Alcohol: Full Service PMT.: MC, Visa, Disc, Amex, Checks

DEER PARK PUB

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

DICKY'S 21 TAPS

Pub/Tavern • 2910 Maplecrest Rd., Fort Wayne • 260-486-0590
EXPECT: Family-friendly, laid back atmosphere; Great tunes; Large selection of beers; Beautiful patio; Cornhole on Wednesdays. EATS: Brand new menu! Daily lunch specials under \$8. GETTING THERE: 2 blocks north of State St. on Maplecrest at Georgetown. HOURS: 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Sunday-Monday, 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday, 11 a.m.-12 midnight Sunday. ALCOHOL: Full Service; PMT: MC, Amex, Visa, Disc

DUPONT BAR & GRILL

Sports Bar • 10336 Leo Rd., Fort Wayne • 260-483-1311
EXPECT: Great daily drink specials, 3 pool tables, NFL Ticket, 16'x10' Megatron, three 6'x4' Minitrans, 12 flat screen TVs, Shut Up and Sing Karaoke w/Mike Campbell every Wednesday at 8 p.m.; live music every Friday & Saturday. EATS: \$6.99 daily lunch specials; 50¢ wings Wednesdays; Fishy Fridays w/\$10 Fish Bowls & \$6.99 Fish Tacos. 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

GREEN FROG INN

Pubs & Taverns • 820 Spring St., Fort Wayne • 260-426-1088
EXPECT: Great atmosphere at one of Fort Wayne's true landmarks. Great food, great drinks and great friends. EATS: Wing Fest Grand Champion wings every Monday and Wednesday for just 50¢ apiece. GETTING THERE: Just north of downtown at the corner of Spring and Sherman. HOURS: Open 10 a.m.-12 a.m. Mon.-Thurs., 10 a.m.-3 a.m. Fri., 12 p.m.-3 a.m. Sat. and 12:30-8 p.m. Sun. ALCOHOL: Full Service; PMT: MC, Visa, Amex, Disc

Calendar • Live Music & Comedy

JOE FIVE — Rock at Latch String, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 483-5526

JOE STABELLI — Jazz at Don Hall's Gas House, Fort Wayne, 5:45-9 p.m., no cover, 426-3411

KILL THE RABBIT — Rock at The Venue, Angola, 10 p.m., \$3, 665-3922

MORNING AFTER — Rock at Beamer's, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., no cover, 625-1002

NICK GOGOS — Variety at Acme, Fort Wayne, 9-11 p.m., no cover, 480-2264

ONE EYED WOOKIE — Rock at Dupont Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., \$5, 483-1311

PLAN B — Rock at Checkerz, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 489-0286

SHELLY DIXON & JEFF McRAE — Variety at Venice, Fort Wayne, 6:30-9:30, \$1, 482-1618

SUNNY TAYLOR — Variety at Wooden Nickel Music, North Anthony, Fort Wayne, 2 p.m., no cover, 484-2451

TODD HARROLD BAND — R&B/blues at O'Sullivan's, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 422-5896

TRACE ADKINS — Country/holiday at Morris Performing Arts Center, South Bend, 8 p.m., \$42.50-\$102.50, 574-235-9190

ADAM STRACK BAND — Variety at Beamer's, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., no cover, 625-1002

AMERICAN IDOL KARAOKE w/SCOTT — Karaoke at Latch String, Fort Wayne, 10:30 p.m., no cover, 483-5526

ANGIE BAKER & GUS BERRY — Original acoustic at Don Hall's Triangle Park, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 482-4342

BC Fuzzz — Jazz/funk at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 426-3442

BENEATH IT ALL — Rock at O'Sullivan's, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 422-5896

BREAKING TRADITION — Variety at Wacky Jac's, Angola, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., no cover, 665-9071

CASKET SHARP — Rock/variety at 4D's, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 490-6488

DUELING KEYBOARD BOYS (PAUL & BRIAN) — Variety at The Venue, Angola, 8 p.m., \$3, 665-3922

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

GREG BENDER BAND — Variety at Mad Anthony Brewing Company, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 426-2537

IVORY WEST — Acoustic at Acme, Fort Wayne, 9-11 p.m., no cover, 480-2264

JOE STABELLI — Jazz at Don Hall's Gas House, Fort Wayne, 5:45-9 p.m., no cover, 426-3411

KENNY TAYLOR & THE SWINGSET QUARTET — Swing/rockabilly at Phoenix, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m., \$2, 387-6571

LOUDMOUTH SOUP — Variety at Vinnie's, Decatur, 10 p.m., \$3, 729-2225

MARSHALL LAW — Country/country rock at Alley Sports Bar, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 483-4421

PLUSH — Variety at Babylon, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 456-7005

SEATTLE RAIN — 90s rock at Dupont Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., \$5, 483-1311

SEATTLE RAIN — 90s rock at Wrigley Field, Fort Wayne, 7 a.m., no cover, 485-1038

SUCH A NIGHT — Music of the Last Waltz at C2G, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., \$15-\$30, all ages, 426-6434

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

TODD HARROLD BAND — R&B/blues at American Legion Post 148, Fort Wayne, 7:30-10:30 p.m., no cover, 423-4751

TRACE ADKINS — Country/holiday at Honeywell Center, Wabash, 8 p.m., \$32.50-\$103.50, 563-1102

U.R.B. — Funk at Green Frog, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 426-1088

Sunday, November 30

DANCE VIDEOS & KARAOKE — Variety at After Dark, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m., no cover, 456-6235

TWO HEADED CHICKEN — Variety at Phoenix, Fort Wayne, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., no cover, 387-6571

YESTERDAY'S HEADTRIP — Variety at Latch String, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 483-5526

Monday, December 1

AMERICAN IDOL KARAOKE — Karaoke at Latch String, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 483-5526

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

OPEN JAM — Hosted by G-Money & Fabulous Rhythm at Dash-In, Fort Wayne, 8-10 p.m., no cover, 423-3595

SMOOTH EDGE 2 — A capella vocal jazz at First Presbyterian Church, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m., free, 426-7421

TRUMPET AND HORN STUDIO — Variety at Rhinehart Recital Hall, IPFW, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m., \$4-\$7, 481-6555

WEDNESDAYS

\$2 DRAFTS

FRIDAY, NOV. 28 • 10:30PM

DJ RICH

ON THE LANDING • 135 W. COLUMBIA ST.
FORT WAYNE • 260-422-5055
WWW.COLUMBIASTREETWEST.COM

WED. & THURS.

KARAOKE W/JOSH

SATURDAY, NOV. 29 • 10PM

TESTED ON ANIMALS



FIND OUT HOW A WHATZUP NIGHTLIFE LISTING CAN GET YOU NEW CUSTOMERS & MORE BUSINESS. CALL 260.691.3188 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

LATCH STRING BAR & GRILL

Pubs & Taverns • 3221 N. Clinton St., Fort Wayne • 260-483-5526
EXPECT: Fun, friendly, rustic atmosphere. Daily drink specials. Mondays, \$5 pitchers; Tuesdays, \$2.50 import bottles & \$1 tacos; Wednesdays, \$2 wells and 50¢ bone-in wings; Sundays, \$2.50 bloody Marys. Live bands Friday, Sunday, & Tuesday; comedy improv/open mic and live jazz Wednesday; karaoke Monday, Thursday & Saturday. No cover. **GETTING THERE:** 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

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

STATE GRILL

Pub/Tavern • 1210 E. State Blvd., Fort Wayne • 260-483-5618
EXPECT: 1st Tavern to pour beer after Prohibition; located in a fun and friendly neighborhood; home of the XKE Cranials & most dangerous jukebox. Daily drink specials include \$2 Tall Boy PBR all day, everyday, great craft beer selection. Golden Tee. Free WIFI. Friendly staff: Jonesy, Theresa and Andy. **EATS:** Riverbend Pizza. **GETTING THERE:** Corner of State and Crescent. **HOURS:** 3 p.m.-3 a.m. Mon., 1 p.m.-3 a.m. Tues.-Fri., noon-3 a.m. Sat., noon-1 a.m. Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** Cash only; ATM on site

KOSCIUSKO COUNTY

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

DEKALB COUNTY

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

STEBEN COUNTY

MAD ANTHONY'S LAKEVIEW ALE HOUSE

Eclectic • 4080 N 300 W, Angola • 260-833-2537
EXPECT: Twelve handcrafted beers on tap; 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:** 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

SHADY NOOK BAR & GRILL

Pub/Sports Bar • 10170 E. 600S., Big Long Lake • 260-351-2401
EXPECT: Beautiful deck overlooking lake. Boat bar rail, freshly remodeled, new owners & management, free WIFI, all sports networks on 7 TVs, 2 pool tables. **EATS:** Kitchen open daily w/full menu & the best wings in town. **GETTING THERE:** From I-69 N take exit 140/IN-4 W Ashley/Hudson, turn right on IN-327 N, 3rd left onto W 750 S, right onto S 1100 E, left onto E 630 S, left on E 600 S, located on left. **HOURS:** 3 p.m.-12 a.m. Mon.-Thurs., 11 a.m.-2 a.m. Fri.-Sat., 12 p.m.-12 a.m. Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc

Tuesday, December 2

FLUTE STUDIO AND ENSEMBLE — Variety at Rhinehart Recital Hall, IPFW, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m., \$4-\$7, 481-6555
KT & THE SWINGSET QUARTET — Blues at Latch String, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 483-5526
OPEN MIC — Hosted by Dan Smyth at O'Reilly's, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 267-9679

Wednesday, December 3

AMERICAN IDOL KARAOKE w/JOSH — Karaoke at Columbia Street West, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m., no cover, 422-5055
CHAGRIN COMEDY SHOWCASE — Comedy at Latch String, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., no cover, 483-5526
CHRIS WORTH — Variety at Acme, Fort Wayne, 8-10 p.m., no cover, 480-2264
DUELING KEYBOARD BOYS (PAUL & BRIAN) — Variety at 4D's, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 490-6488
GUITAR STUDIO SHOWCASE — Variety at Rhinehart Recital Hall, IPFW, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m., \$4-\$7, 481-6555
HUBIE ASHCRAFT — Acoustic at Red Rok, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m., no cover, 755-6745
JANIS SUE — Piano at Green Frog, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., no cover, 426-1088
SHELLY DIXON & JEFF McRAE — Variety at JK O'Donnell's, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 420-5563
SHUT UP & SING w/MICHAEL CAMPBELL — Karaoke at Dupont Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., no cover, 483-1311
SKIP CALVIN — Variety at Deer Park, Fort Wayne, 6:30-8 p.m., no cover, 432-8966
SMOOTH EDGE 2 — Holiday vocal jazz at Phoenix, Fort Wayne, 7:30-10:30 p.m., \$3, 387-6571

Thursday, December 4

AMERICAN IDOL KARAOKE w/DAVE — Karaoke at Latch String, Fort Wayne, 10:30 p.m., no cover, 483-5526
BUCCA KARAOKE w/BUCCA — Karaoke at Deer Park, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 432-8966
CHRIS WORTH — Variety at AJ's, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 434-1980
FIREHOUSE w/BROTHER — Rock at Rusty Spur, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m., \$15-\$20, 755-3465
JEFF McDONALD — Variety at Don Hall's Guesthouse, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 489-2524
JOE JUSTICE — Variety at Adams Lake Pub, Wolcottville, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 854-3463
OPEN MIC NIGHT — Hosted by Mike Conley at Mad Anthony Brewing Company, Fort Wayne, 8:30-11 p.m., no cover, 426-2537
OPEN STAGE JAM — Hosted by Pop 'n' Fresh at Office Tavern, Fort Wayne, 8:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m., no cover, 478-5827
WIND ENSEMBLES — Variety at Auer Performance Hall, Rhinehart Music Center, IPFW, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m., \$4-\$7, 481-6555

Friday, December 5

AFTER SCHOOL SPECIAL — 90s rock at Beamer's, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., no cover, 625-1002
BIG CADDY DADDY — Rock/variety at Dupont Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., \$5, 483-1311
BIG DADDY DUPREE AND THE BROKE & HUNGRY BLUES BAND — Blues at Phoenix, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m., cover, 387-6571
CHRIS WORTH & COMPANY — R&B/variety at Arena, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 557-1563

COUGAR HUNTER — 80s glam rock at 4D's, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 490-6488
DANCE PARTY w/DJ RICH — Variety at Columbia Street West, Fort Wayne, 10:30 p.m., cover, 422-5055
DJ TAB & KARAOKE w/STEVE JONES — Variety at Babylon, Bears Den, Fort Wayne, 10:30 p.m., no cover, 456-7005
DUELING KEYBOARD BOYS (PAUL & BRIAN) — Variety at Don Hall's Guesthouse, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12:30 a.m., no cover, 489-2524
J TAYLORS — Variety at Cottage Event Center, Roanoke, 7:30 p.m., \$10, 483-3508
JAZZ SWING CONCERT — Holiday Jazz at Auer Performance Hall, Rhinehart Music Center, IPFW, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m., \$4-\$7, 481-6555
JOE STABELLI — Jazz at Don Hall's Gas House, Fort Wayne, 5:45-9 p.m., no cover, 426-3411
JON SECULOFF — Variety at Deer Park, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 432-8966
JUNK YARD BAND — Rock at Eagles Post 3512, Fort Wayne, 7-11 p.m., no cover, 436-3512
MANNHEIM STEAMROLLER — Holiday rock/classical at Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., \$25-\$65, 424-5665
MATT & JASON BAND — Christian rock at Cupbearer Café, Auburn, 7-9 p.m., no cover, 920-8734
NATE HOLLEY — Variety at Philmore, Fort Wayne, 8:30 p.m., \$10, 745-1000
PHIL'S FAMILY LIZARD — Variety at Latch String, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 483-5526
SHELLY DIXON & JEFF McRAE — Acoustic at Acme, Fort Wayne, 9-11 p.m., no cover, 480-2264
TED YODER — Variety at Friendly Fox, Fort Wayne, 6:30-8:30 p.m., no cover, 745-3369
TODD HARROLD BAND — R&B/blues at Dash-In, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 423-3595
TRANS-SIBERIAN ORCHESTRA — The Christmas Attic at Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., \$32-\$65, 483-1111
YELLOW DEAD BETTYS — Rock at River View Tavern, Decatur, 10 p.m., no cover, 724-3500

Saturday, December 6

TEVENTH TIME DOWN w/ALL THINGS NEW, REGENERATION — Christian at Cupbearer Café, Auburn, 7 p.m., \$15, 920-8734
AMERICAN IDOL KARAOKE w/SCOTT — Karaoke at Latch String, Fort Wayne, 10:30 p.m., no cover, 483-5526
BIG CADDY DADDY — Rock/variety at Dupont Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., \$5, 483-1311
COUGAR HUNTER — 80s glam rock at Rack and Helen's, New Haven, 10 p.m., no cover, 749-5396
DARLENE HACKETT — Hammered dulcimer at Fort Wayne Museum of Art, Fort Wayne, 1-4 p.m., free, 422-6467
DUELING KEYBOARD BOYS (PAUL & BRIAN) — Variety at Don Hall's Guesthouse, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12:30 a.m., no cover, 489-2524
FM90 — Rock at The Greazy Pickle, Portland, 10 p.m., \$3/person, \$5/couple, 726-9200
GAITHER CHRISTMAS HOMECOMING — Holiday Concert at Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, 6 p.m., \$23.50-\$74.50, 483-1111
JOE STABELLI — Jazz at Don Hall's Gas House, Fort Wayne, 5:45-9 p.m., no cover, 426-3411
JULIE HADAWAY — Variety at Acme, Fort Wayne, 9-11 p.m., no cover, 480-2264
KILL THE RABBIT — Rock at Lucky Lady, Churubusco, 10 p.m., no cover, 693-0311

KING'S BRASS — Holiday brass at Saint Joseph United Methodist Church, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m., freewill donation, 485-9681
MICHAEL ANGELO BATIO w/ZEPHANIAH, DEMONWOLF, THEMATIC, DARK TRILOGY, SCOTT BURKHART, VINCE MINOQUE — Rock/metal at 4D's, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m., \$10-\$12, 490-6488
No STATIC — Variety at Friendly Fox, Fort Wayne, 6:30-8:30 p.m., no cover, 745-3369
PLUSH — Variety at Babylon, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 456-7005
SHAWN KLUSH — Elvis Tribute/holiday at Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, p.m., \$32-\$52, 424-5665
TANDEM — Variety at Green Frog, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 426-1088
TODD HARROLD BAND — R&B/blues at Mad Anthony Brewing Company, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 426-2537
TRINE UNIVERSITY MUSIC DEPARTMENT APPLIED STUDIES RECITAL — Variety at T. Furth Center, Trine University, Angola, 7 p.m., free, 665-8096
UNWRAPPED — Variety at Wacky Jac's, Angola, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., no cover, 665-9071
URBAN LEGEND — R&B/variety at AJ's, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., \$5, 434-1980
WHY STORE — Rock at O'Reilly's, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m., \$5, 267-9679

Sunday, December 7

CHRIS DARBY — Folk at B-Side, One Lucky Guitar, Fort Wayne, 5:30 p.m., \$5, all ages, 969-6672
COUNTING CROWS w/TWIN FORKS — Rock at Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m., \$48-\$88, 424-5665
DANCE VIDEOS & KARAOKE — Variety at After Dark, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m., no cover, 456-6235
LURKING CORPSES w/ABYSME, TERMINATE — Metal at Brass Rail, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m., \$5, 260-5303
BIG CADDY DADDY — Rock/variety at Alley Sports Bar, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 483-4421
NEW MILLENNIUM JAZZ ORCHESTRA w/DEKALB JAZZ COMBO #2, CENTRAL LUTHERAN SCHOOL BAND — P.I.T.C.H. fundraiser at Sweetwater Sound, Fort Wayne, 2 p.m., freewill donation, 432-8176
YESTERDAY'S HEADTRIP — Variety at Latch String, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 483-5526

Monday, December 8

AMERICAN IDOL KARAOKE — Karaoke at Latch String, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 483-5526
COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA, CHORAL ENSEMBLES AND OTHER CHAMBER ENSEMBLES — Holiday Jazz at Auer Performance Hall, Rhinehart Music Center, IPFW, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m., \$4-\$7, 481-6555
DePUE BROTHERS — Holiday variety at Honeywell Center, Wabash, 7:30 p.m., \$28, 563-1102
IRISH TRAD SESSION — Traditional Irish at JK O'Donnell's, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 420-5563
JEN FISHER & FRIENDS — Variety at Deer Park, Fort Wayne, 6:30-8 p.m., no cover, 432-8966
OPEN JAM — Hosted by G-Money & Fabulous Rhythm at Dash-In, Fort Wayne, 8-10 p.m., no cover, 423-3595

Tuesday, December 9

KT & THE SWINGSET QUARTET — Blues at Latch String, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 483-5526
OPEN MIC — Hosted by Dan Smyth at O'Reilly's, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 267-9679

PETER WHITE w/MINDI ABAR, RICK BRAUN — Holiday jazz at Niswonger, Van Wert, Ohio, 7:30 p.m., \$20-\$40, 419-238-6722

Wednesday, December 10

AMERICAN IDOL KARAOKE w/JOSH — Karaoke at Columbia Street West, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m., no cover, 422-5055

CHAGRIN COMEDY SHOWCASE — Comedy at Latch String, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., no cover, 483-5526

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

DON FREW — Acoustic at Red Rok, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m., no cover, 755-6745

DUELING KEYBOARD BOYS (PAUL & BRIAN) — Variety at 4D's, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 490-6488

FRED ROTHERT — Variety at Acme, Fort Wayne, 8-10 p.m., no cover, 480-2264

JANIS SUE — Piano at Green Frog, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., no cover, 426-1088

SHUT UP & SING w/MICHAEL CAMPBELL — Karaoke at Dupont Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., no cover, 483-1311

Thursday, December 11

AMERICAN IDOL KARAOKE w/DAVE — Karaoke at Latch String, Fort Wayne, 10:30 p.m., no cover, 483-5526

BUCCA KARAOKE w/BUCCA — Karaoke at Deer Park, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 432-8966

CHRIS & PAUL — Variety at Main Street Bistro, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 420-8633

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

OPEN MIC NIGHT — Hosted by Mike Conley at Mad Anthony Brewing Company, Fort Wayne, 8:30-11 p.m., no cover, 426-2537

OPEN STAGE JAM — Hosted by Pop 'n' Fresh at Office Tavern, Fort Wayne, 8:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m., no cover, 478-5827

Friday, December 12

AFTER SCHOOL SPECIAL — 90s rock at Deer Park, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 432-8966

BIG CADDY DADDY — Rock/variety at Alley Sports Bar, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 483-4421

CHRIS WORTH & COMPANY — R&B/variety at 4D's, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 490-6488

DANCE PARTY w/DJ RICH — Variety at Columbia Street West, Fort Wayne, 10:30 p.m., cover, 422-5055

DEVIL TO PAY w/So SAYETH, SIN THEOREM, DOUBLE BARREL BLASPHEMY, DEMERICA, AERIALS, HAILSHOT — Metal at Piere's, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., \$8, 486-1979

DJ TAB & KARAOKE w/STEVE JONES — Variety at Babylon, Bears Den, Fort Wayne, 10:30 p.m., no cover, 456-7005

FORT WAYNE PHILHARMONIC w/PHIL CHORUS, FORT WAYNE CHILDRENS CHOIR — Holiday Pops at Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m., \$32-\$70, 481-0777

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

JOE JUSTICE — Variety at Country Heritage Winery, Laotto, 5-8 p.m., no cover, 637-2980

JOE STABELLI — Jazz at Don Hall's Gas House, Fort Wayne, 5:45-9 p.m., no cover, 426-3411

THE JOEL YOUNG BAND — Country/rock at Latch String, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 483-5526

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

KENNY ROGERS — Country at Niswonger, Van Wert, Ohio, 7:30 p.m., \$50-\$85, 419-238-6722

MICHAEL McDONALD — Holiday hits at Honeywell Center, Wabash, 7:30 p.m., \$38-\$100, 563-1102

NICK GOGOS — Variety at Acme, Fort Wayne, 9-11 p.m., no cover, 480-2264

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

WAYWARD SUN — Rock at Dupont Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., \$5, 483-1311

WEST CENTRAL QUARTET — Holiday jazz at Philmore, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m., \$12.50, 745-1000

YELLOW DEAD BETTYS — Rock at Latch String, Fort Wayne, 5-9 p.m., no cover, 483-5526

Saturday, December 13

80D — Rock at Dupont Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., \$5, 483-1311

AMERICAN IDOL KARAOKE w/SCOTT — Karaoke at Latch String, Fort Wayne, 10:30 p.m., no cover, 483-5526

FORT WAYNE PHILHARMONIC w/PHIL CHORUS, FORT WAYNE CHILDRENS CHOIR — Holiday Pops at Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m., \$32-\$70, 481-0777

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

JAZZ HONOR BAND — Classical at Rhinehart Recital Hall, IPFW, Fort Wayne, 2 p.m., free, 481-6555

JIM WEBBER — Variety at Mad Anthony Tap Room, Auburn, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 927-0500

JOE STABELLI — Jazz at Don Hall's Gas House, Fort Wayne, 5:45-9 p.m., no cover, 426-3411

JUKE JOINT JIVE — Classic rock/funk at O'Reilly's, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m., no cover, 267-9679

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

MIKE CONLEY — Variety at Acme, Fort Wayne, 9-11 p.m., no cover, 480-2264

PLUSH — Variety at Babylon, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 456-7005

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

SHELLY DIXON & JEFF McRAE — Variety at Green Frog, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 426-1088

SMOOTH EDGE 2 — Vocal jazz at B-Side, One Lucky Guitar, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m., \$7, 969-6672

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Valhalla 260-413-2027

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Elephants in Mud 260-413-4581
Joe Justice 260-486-7238
Night to Remember 260-797-2980
Paul New Stewart & Brian Freshour/
The Dueling Keyboard Boys 260-440-9918

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7eventh Time Down w/All Things New, Regeneration (\$15)	Dec. 6	Cupbearer Café	Auburn
Adrian Belew Power Trio (\$24)	Dec. 18	Magic Bag	Ferdale, MI
Alton Brown (\$48-\$58)	Mar. 26 '15	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Anjelah Johnson (\$30-\$37)	Dec. 4	Motor City Casino	Detroit
Annie Sellick (\$10-\$23)	Jan. 10 '15	Arts Place	Portland, IN
Atilla	Dec. 6	The Fillmore	Detroit
Atilla	Dec. 7	Bogart's	Cincinnati
Atilla	Dec. 8	House of Blues	Chicago
Atilla	Dec. 10	House of Blues	Cleveland
Badfish (\$14-\$24)	Feb. 13 '15	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Badfish (\$15)	Feb. 15 '15	The Intersection	Grand Rapids
Badfish (\$17-\$20)	Feb. 17 '15	House of Blues	Cleveland
Beach Boys	Dec. 16	Lerner Theatre	Elkhart
Beach Boys (\$59-\$99)	Dec. 17	Kalamazoo State Theatre	Kalamazoo
Bela Fleck & Abigail Washburn	Mar. 1 '15	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Beth Hart (\$30)	Feb. 21 '15	Park West	Chicago
Beth Hart (\$30)	Feb. 22 '15	Kent Stage	Kent, OH
Big Bad Voodoo Daddy (\$20-\$45)	Feb. 21 '15	Niswonger	Van Wert, Ohio
Bill Engvall (\$40-\$60)	Feb. 15 '15	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Billy Idol	Feb. 7 '15	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Blackberry Smoke w/Temperance Movement	Mar. 6 '15	Joe's Sports Bar	Chicago
Blackberry Smoke w/Temperance Movement	Mar. 7 '15	Fillmore	Detroit
Blackberry Smoke w/Temperance Movement	Mar. 13 '15	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
Blackberry Smoke w/Temperance Movement	Mar. 19 '15	House of Blues	Cleveland
Bob Seger and the Silver Bullet Band	Dec. 9	Van Andel Arena	Grand Rapids
Bob Seger and the Silver Bullet Band	Dec. 11	United Center	Chicago
Celtic Thunder	Nov. 30	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Celtic Woman (\$42-\$102)	Dec. 22	Morris Performing Arts Center	South Bend
Cher w/Pat Benatar, Neil Giraldo (\$41.50-\$127)	Jan. 15 '15	Memorial Coliseum	Fort Wayne
Chicago Afrobeat Project (\$7)	Jan. 9 '15	Brass Rail	Fort Wayne
Chris Darby (\$5)	Dec. 7	B-Side, One Lucky Guitar	Fort Wayne
Clutch w/Torche, Lioniza (\$25)	Dec. 27	Bogart's	Cincinnati
Clutch w/Torche, Lioniza (\$25)	Dec. 28	House of Blues	Cleveland
Cold War Kids w/Elliott Moss (\$22)	Jan. 28 '15	House of Blues	Cleveland
Cold War Kids w/Elliott Moss (\$23)	Jan. 30 '15	LC Pavilion	Columbus, OH
Cold War Kids (\$25)	Jan. 31 '15	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Counting Crows (\$54-\$99)	Dec. 6	Packard Music Hall	Warren, OH
Counting Crows w/Twin Forks (\$48-\$88)	Dec. 7	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Counting Crows (\$49.50-\$109)	Dec. 9	Fillmore	Detroit
Counting Crows (\$69.50-\$99.50)	Dec. 12	Murat Theatre	Indianapolis
Craig Morgan (\$20-\$50)	Jan. 10 '15	Rusty Spur	Fort Wayne
Dark Star Orchestra (\$25)	Feb. 6 '15	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Dark Star Orchestra (\$30)	Feb. 10 '15	House of Blues	Cleveland
Dark Star Orchestra (\$25-\$45)	Feb. 12 '15	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
Dark Star Orchestra (\$27)	Feb. 13 '15	Newport Music Hall	Columbus, OH
Devil Makes Three (\$17.50)	Jan. 15 '15	House of Blues	Cleveland
Devil Makes Three (\$17.50)	Jan. 16 '15	St. Andrews Hall	Detroit
Devil Makes Three (\$17.50)	Jan. 17 '15	House of Blues	Chicago
Firehouse w/Brother (\$15-\$20)	Dec. 4	Rusty Spur	Fort Wayne
Florida Georgia Line (\$27.50-\$67.50)	Jan. 15 '15	Huntington Center	Toledo, OH
Florida Georgia Line (\$29-\$56)	Jan. 16 '15	Nutter Center	Dayton, OH
Flosstradamus (\$20)	Nov. 28	The Intersection	Grand Rapids, MI
Flosstradamus (\$22)	Nov. 29	Masonic Temple	Detroit
Flosstradamus (\$20)	Nov. 30	Bogart's	Cincinnati
Flosstradamus (\$25)	Dec. 2	House of Blues	Cleveland
Flosstradamus (\$20)	Dec. 3	Bluestone	Columbus, OH
Gaither Christmas Homecoming (\$23.50-\$74.50)	Dec. 6	Memorial Coliseum	Fort Wayne
Gino Vannelli	Dec. 5	Hard Rock Rocksinio	Northfield Park, OH
Halestorm (\$20)	Dec. 31	Bogart's	Cincinnati
Home Free (\$15-\$30)	Jan. 31 '15	Niswonger	Van Wert, Ohio
Hoodie Allen (\$27.50-\$35)	Nov. 30	House of Blues	Cleveland
Jason Isbell w/Damien Juardo (\$39.50)	Feb. 10 '15	Southern Theatre	Columbus, OH
Jason Isbell w/Damien Juardo (\$39.50)	Feb. 12 '15	Symphony Center	Chicago
Jason Isbell w/Damien Juardo (\$35)	Feb. 13 '15	Kalamazoo State Theatre	Kalamazoo
Jeremy Camp w/Plumb, Chris August, Love & the Outcome (\$20-\$42)	Dec. 12	Eagle Church	Whitestown, IN
Jim Brickman (\$29.50-\$51.50)	Dec. 29	Morris Performing Arts Center	South Bend
Jim Brickman (\$24.50-\$44.50)	Mar. 13 '15	Taft Theatre	Cincinnati
Johnny Rodriguez w/Bobby Randall (\$14)	Dec. 20	Marion High School	Marion
Joshua Radin (\$20)	Feb. 15 '15	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Joshua Radin (\$17-\$22)	Feb. 17 '15	20th Century Theatre	Cincinnati
Joshua Radin (\$20)	Feb. 20 '15	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Karl Denson's Tiny Universe (\$40-\$55)	Dec. 31	Park West	Chicago
Keller Williams	Dec. 30	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Keller Williams	Dec. 31	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Kenny Rogers (\$50-\$85)	Dec. 12	Niswonger	Van Wert, Ohio
Leon Bates (\$10-\$20)	Mar. 22 '15	Niswonger	Van Wert, Ohio
Less Than Jake w/Reel Big Fish (\$22.50)	Jan. 21 '15	House of Blues	Chicago
Less Than Jake w/Reel Big Fish (\$17-\$26.50)	Jan. 22 '15	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Less Than Jake w/Reel Big Fish (\$22.50)	Jan. 23 '15	House of Blues	Cleveland
Lewis Black	Feb. 19 '15	Taft Theatre	Cincinnati
Lewis Black	Feb. 25 '15	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Linkin Park w/Rise Against, Of Mice & Men (\$27-\$83)	Jan. 18 '15	Bankers Life Fieldhouse	Indianapolis
Linkin Park w/Rise Against, Of Mice & Men (\$30-\$86)	Feb. 4 '15	Van Andel Arena	Grand Rapids
Lotus (\$19.50-\$22)	Mar. 4 '15	Canopy Club	Urbana
Lotus (\$19.50-\$22)	Mar. 5 '15	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
Lotus (\$19.50-\$22)	Mar. 7 '15	Newport Music Hall	Columbus, OH
Lotus (\$19.50-\$22)	Mar. 8 '15	House of Blues	Cleveland
Luke Bryan	Feb. 10 '15	Van Andel Arena	Grand Rapids
Luke Bryan	Feb. 11 '15	Ford Center	Evansville
Mannheim Steamroller	Dec. 3	Wharton Center	East Lansing

Red Dragon Cartel featuring former **Ozzy Osbourne** guitarist **Jake E. Lee** will continue their touring cycle with some dates to finish out 2014. The band has enlisted Lee's former **Badlands** bandmate **Greg Chasson** for bass playing duties on this tour allowing fans of that underrated 90s band to have something else to look forward to seeing. Expect some **Badlands** songs to be played as well as a couple of **Ozzy** songs and, of course, **Red Dragon Cartel** songs when the band visits **Detroit** December 12, **Chicago** December 13, **Dayton** December 16 and **Cleveland** December 18.

Rodney Carrington has a new album, *Laughter's Good*, and the newly remastered album *C'mon Laugh You Bastards* at the top of the comedy charts. Now Carrington will head out on tour to entertain folks in person with his country charm. Carrington visits **Cincinnati** January 16, **Indianapolis** January 17, **East Lansing** January 29 and **Columbus, Ohio** February 20.

moe. are turning 25 and are going out on the road to celebrate and sell some merchandise to fans. The band released their 11th album, *No Guts, No Glory*, last May and will play songs from it as well as other favorites when they play a three-night run in **Chicago** March 19-21.

Chris Brown and **Trey Songz** are heading out together on the **Between the Sheets** tour beginning in late January. Tyga will open the shows when the tour storms its way into **Columbus, Ohio** on **Valentine's Day**, **Detroit** the following night and **Chicago** February 27.

Kicking it up a bit in the brutality department is the announcement of the **Voivod** and **Napalm Death** co-headlining tour, also beginning in late January. The **Through Space** and **Grind** tour features one of the most legendary grind metal bands ever in **Napalm Death** and "spacey" thrashers **Voivod**, a band that never quite got the recognition it deserved. **Exhumed**, **Iron Reagan** and **Black Crown Initiate** will calm the audience with soothing sounds before the headliners take the stage in **Cleveland** February 9 and **Chicago** the following night.

Sarah McLachlan announced a couple of dozen dates for her 2015 tour to continue support of her newest album, *Shine On*. McLachlan is more than the voice behind that sad animal cruelty commercial; she is actually quite a dynamic performer as well. Check out some new tunes as well as that really sad song from the commercial when she visits **The Murat Theatre** in **Indianapolis** March 10. Don't forget to bring some tissues.

Does anyone remember **Spandau Ballet** and their hit "True"? Well, the band has reunited and will embark on their first North American tour in 30 years early next year. A little older and probably a lot wiser, **Spandau Ballet** will bring their **Soul Boys** of the **Western World** tour to the **House of Blues** in **Chicago** January 30 and the **Masonic Temple Theatre** in **Detroit** the following night. The only thing that could make that better is if they somehow found a way to get **Kajagoogoo** back together to open for them, but only if singer **Li-mahl** recreates the 80s hair. (Google it; it's worth the 10 seconds it'll take to look it up.)

christopherhupe@aol.com

Mannheim Steamroller	Dec. 4	Morris Performing Arts Center	South Bend
Mannheim Steamroller (\$25-\$65)	Dec. 5	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Mannheim Steamroller	Dec. 12	Rialto Square Theatre	Joliet
Mannheim Steamroller	Dec. 17	Emens Auditorium	Muncie
Mannheim Steamroller	Dec. 19	State Theatre	Cleveland
Mannheim Steamroller	Dec. 20	Rosemont Theatre	Rosemont
Mannheim Steamroller	Dec. 21	Palace Theatre	Columbus, OH
Marilyn McCoo & Billy Davis Jr. (\$20-\$30)	Dec. 19	Niswonger	Van Wert, Ohio
Maroon 5 w/Magic!, Rozzi Crane	Feb. 28 '15	Bankers Life Fieldhouse	Indianapolis
Maroon 5 w/Magic!, Rozzi Crane	Mar. 11 '15	Nationwide Arena	Columbus
Maroon 5 w/Magic!, Rozzi Crane	Mar. 18 '15	Palace of Auburn Hills	Auburn Hills, MI
Maroon 5 w/Magic!, Rozzi Crane	Mar. 19 '15	United Center	Chicago
Medeski, Scofield, Martin & Wood (\$35)	Dec. 13	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Mike Eggs (\$59.75-\$90)	Dec. 31	Fox Theatre	Detroit
moe. (\$27.50-\$88)	Mar. 19 '15	Bottom Lounge	Chicago
moe. (\$27.50-\$88)	Mar. 20 '15	Concord Music Hall	Chicago
moe. (\$27.50-\$88)	Mar. 21 '15	Concord Music Hall	Chicago
Nate Holley (\$10)	Dec. 5	Philmore	Fort Wayne
Neil Diamond	Mar. 18 '15	Schottenstein Center	Columbus, OH
Neil Diamond	Mar. 20 '15	Palace of Auburn Hills	Auburn Hills, MI
Newsboys (\$20-\$45)	Mar. 21 '15	Niswonger	Van Wert, Ohio
Nickelback	Feb. 24 '15	Van Andel Arena	Grand Rapids
Nickelback	Feb. 27 '15	Nationwide Arena	Columbus, OH
Papadosio	Nov. 28	House of Blues	Cleveland
Papadosio	Nov. 29	Bogart's	Cincinnati
Peter White w/Mindi Abair, Rick Braun (\$20-\$40)	Dec. 9	Niswonger	Van Wert, Ohio
Railroad Earth	Jan. 16 '15	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Railroad Earth	Feb. 11 '15	Newport Music Hall	Columbus, OH
Railroad Earth	Feb. 12 '15	The Intersection	Grand Rapids, MI
Railroad Earth	Feb. 13 '15	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Railroad Earth	Feb. 14 '15	House of Blues	Cleveland
Red Dragon Cartel (\$17)	Dec. 13	Reggie's	Chicago
Red Dragon Cartel (\$20-\$70)	Dec. 16	Oddbody's	Dayton, OH
Red Dragon Cartel (\$20.80-\$72.80)	Dec. 18	Agoda Theatre	Cleveland
Reverend Payton's Big Damn Band (\$17)	Nov. 28	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Ryan Singer w/Beth Stelling (\$18)	Dec. 17	Indiana Hotel Lobby, Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Sam Smith w/Fitz and the Tantrums, Mary Lambert (\$22.50-\$65)	Dec. 6	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Sam Smith (\$45-\$75)	Jan. 22 '15	Masonic Temple Theatre	Detroit
Sam Smith (\$38.50-\$84)	Jan. 23 '15	UIC Pavilion	Chicago



Road Notez

CHRIS HUPE

Seether w/Papa Roach (\$33-\$45.50)	Jan. 23 '15	Fillmore	Detroit
Seether w/Papa Roach (\$45)	Jan. 25 '15	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Shawn Klush (\$32-\$52)	Dec. 6	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Sirhad (\$20-\$35)	Feb. 7 '15	Niswonger	Van Wert, Ohio
Sister Hazel (\$20)	Dec. 10	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Sister Hazel (\$20)	Dec. 11	St. Andrews Hall	Detroit
Sister Hazel (\$28)	Dec. 12	House of Blues	Chicago
Sister Hazel (\$28)	Dec. 13	House of Blues	Chicago
Skillet w/Blanca, Veridia, About a Mile, Building 429 (\$10)	Jan. 4 '15	Van Andel Arena	Grand Rapids
Skillet w/Blanca, Veridia, About a Mile, Building 429, Newsong (\$10)	Jan. 17 '15	Schottenstein Center	Columbus, OH
Skillet w/Blanca, Veridia, About a Mile, Building 429, Newsong (\$10)	Jan. 29 '15	Ford Center	Evansville
Skillet w/Blanca, Veridia, About a Mile, Building 429, Newsong (\$10)	Jan. 30 '15	Alistate Arena	Chicago
Skinny Puppy w/VNV, Haujobb, Youth Code (\$40-\$45)	Dec. 9	Vic Theatre	Chicago
St. Olaf Choir (\$15-\$30)	Feb. 12 '15	First Presbyterian Church	Fort Wayne
Steel Panther (\$27.50)	Dec. 12	Bogart's	Cincinnati
Steel Panther (\$29.50-\$43.50)	Dec. 13	Hard Rock Rocksinio	Northfield Park, OH
Steel Panther (\$31.50)	Dec. 16	House of Blues	Chicago
Steve Hackett: Genesis Extended (\$37.50-\$75)	Dec. 3	Hard Rock Rocksinio	Northfield Park, OH
Straight No Chaser (\$29-\$49)	Dec. 16	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Styx (\$49-\$99)	Dec. 4	Kalamazoo State Theatre	Kalamazoo
Toby Mac w/Matt Maher, Ryan Stevenson (\$24-\$43)	Dec. 14	University of St. Francis	Fort Wayne
Trace Adkins (\$42.50-\$102.50)	Nov. 28	Morris Performing Arts Center	South Bend
Trace Adkins (\$32.50-\$103.50)	Nov. 29	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Tragically Hip (\$44.50)	Jan. 14 '15	House of Blues	Chicago
Tragically Hip (\$44.50)	Jan. 16 '15	House of Blues	Cleveland
Trailer Park Boys (\$35-\$50)	Dec. 5	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Trailer Park Boys (\$39.50-\$59.50)	Dec. 6	Kalamazoo State Theatre	Kalamazoo
Trans-Siberian Orchestra (\$32-\$65)	Dec. 5	Memorial Coliseum	Fort Wayne
Trombone Shorty & Orleans Avenue w/The Soul Rebels Brass Band (\$22)	Dec. 12	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Ultraviolet Hippopotamus (\$15)	Dec. 6	The Vogue	Indianapolis
The Werks (\$15)	Nov. 29	The Vogue	Indianapolis
West Central Quartet (\$12.50)	Dec. 12	Philmore	Fort Wayne
West Central Quartet (no cover)	Dec. 19	Club Soda	Fort Wayne
The Who (\$49.50-\$154.50)	May 13 '15	Alistate Arena	Rosemont, IL
Wilco (\$55)	Dec. 5-6	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Wilco (\$55)	Dec. 8-9	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Wilco (\$55)	Dec. 11-12	Riviera Theatre	Chicago

Road Tripz

Nov. 26	FM90	Twisted Sisters, Rushville
Jan. 17	Filthy Rags	2:10 Music Venue, Sharpsville, IN
Dec. 5	Grave Robber	
Dec. 6		300 Stat, Alton, IL
Dec. 7		Enerje Event Centre, Owasso, OK
Dec. 20	J Taylors	Neighborhood Fellowship, Indianapolis
Nov. 26	Joe Justice	The Belle, Rockford, OH
Nov. 26	Leisure Time Winery, Napoleon, OH	
Nov. 26	Hubie Ashcraft and the Drive	
Nov. 28-29	Toby Keith's, Auburn Hills, MI	
Dec. 5	Toby Keith's, Auburn Hills, MI	
Dec. 6	Hollywood Casino, Joliet, IL	
Dec. 19-20	Firewater Saloon, Chicago	
Dec. 23	Cowboy Up, Mendon, MI	
Dec. 31	Rulli's Bella Luna, Middlebury	
Nov. 26	Toby Keith's, Auburn Hills, MI	
Nov. 26	Kill the Rabbit	
Nov. 26	Moose Lodge 1320, Van Wert, OH	

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ARTS UNITED

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ART WORKS

OPENING THIS WEEK

Dr. Cabbie (PG)
Low Down (R)

ALEXANDER AND THE TERRIBLE, HORRIBLE, NO GOOD, VERY BAD DAY (PG) — Steve Carell, Jennifer Garner and Ed Oxenbould star in this Disney adaptation of Judith Viorst's popular children's book.

• **CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE**
Daily: 12:55, 3:00, 5:25

• **NORTHWOOD CINEMA GRILL, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 4:30, 7:00
Fri.: 1:15, 3:30, 6:15, 8:15
Sat.: 1:15, 3:30, 6:00, 8:00
Sun.: 1:15, 3:15, 6:00
Mon.-Wed.: 6:45

ANNABELLE (R) — John R. Leonetti directs this horror film that's both a spin-off of and a prequel to James Wan's *The Conjuring*.

• **COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 4:35, 7:00, 9:15
Fri.-Wed.: 12:30, 2:30, 4:35, 7:00, 9:15

AS ABOVE/SO BELOW (R) — This found footage horror film (a la *The Blair Witch Project* and *Chronicle*) is set in the catacombs below the streets of Paris and was written and directed by John Erick Dowdle

(*Devil*, *Quarantine*).

• **COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 4:55, 7:05, 9:50
Fri.-Wed.: 12:40, 2:45, 4:55, 7:05, 9:50

THE BEST OF ME (PG13) — Get your Nicholas Sparks jonzie on with this sob fest about high school sweethearts (Michelle Monaghan and James Marsden) who are reunited 20 years later by a funeral for a friend.

• **CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE**
Daily: 1:15, 4:00, 9:20

BEYOND THE LIGHTS (PG13) — Gugu Mbatha-Raw and Nate Parker star in this drama about a music superstar and the cop assigned to protect her. Danny Glover and Minnie Driver co-star.

• **CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE**
Daily: 1:25, 6:30, 9:15

• **COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 11:10, 2:15, 5:10, 7:55, 10:50
Fri.-Sun.: 10:15, 11:10, 3:55, 6:50, 9:35
Mon.-Wed.: 1:10, 3:55, 6:50, 9:35

• **JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 3:15, 6:00, 8:50
Fri.-Sat.: 3:15, 6:00, 8:50, 11:45
Sun.: 3:15, 6:00, 8:50
Mon.-Wed.: 11:05, 1:55, 4:40, 7:30, 10:20

BIG HERO 6 (PG) — Disney animation about the bond that develops between a large inflatable robot named Baymax and a young prodigy (and his friends) who team up to foil a dangerous plot unfolding in the streets of San Fransokyo.

• **CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 12:30, 1:20, 3:00 (3D), 4:20, 5:30 (3D), 7:10, 8:00, 9:50
Fri.-Sat.: 12:30, 1:20, 3:00 (3D), 4:20, 5:30 (3D), 7:10, 8:00, 9:50, 10:30
Sun.-Wed.: 12:30, 1:20, 3:00 (3D), 4:20, 5:30 (3D), 7:10, 8:00, 9:50

• **COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 11:30, 12:00 (3D), 2:15, 2:40 (3D), 5:00, 5:50 (3D), 7:45, 8:30 (3D), 10:30
Fri.-Sun.: 10:05 (3D), 11:05, 1:05 (3D), 2:05, 4:05 (3D), 5:05, 6:45 (3D), 7:45, 9:25 (3D), 10:25
Mon.-Wed.: 1:05 (3D), 2:05, 4:05 (3D), 5:05, 6:45 (3D), 7:45, 9:25 (3D), 10:25

• **HUNTINGTON 7, HUNTINGTON**
Thurs.: 11:10, 1:40, 4:10, 6:40, 9:10
Fri.-Sat.: 11:10, 1:40, 4:10, 6:40, 9:10, 11:45
Sun.-Wed.: 11:10, 1:40, 4:10, 6:40, 9:10

• **JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.-Sun.: 10:50, 11:55, 1:45, 2:45, 4:25, 5:25 (3D), 7:05, 9:40
Mon.-Wed.: 11:15, 12:15, 2:05, 3:05 (3D), 5:00, 6:00, 7:40, 8:40, 10:20

• **NORTH POINTE 9, WARSAW**

Thurs.-Sat.: 2:35, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30
Sun.: 2:35, 5:00, 7:15
Mon.-Wed.: 5:00, 7:15

BIRDMAN (R) — Michael Keaton stars in this black comedy from director Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu (*Biutiful*). Zach Galifianakis, Lindsay Duncan and Edward Norton co-star.

• **COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 11:30, 5:20
Fri.-Sun.: 12:30, 6:55
Mon.-Wed.: 12:55, 6:55

DEAR WHITE PEOPLE (R) — A satirical drama by Justin Simien about four black students at an Ivy League college

• **CINEMA CENTER, FORT WAYNE**
Fri.: 1:45
Sat.: 4:00, 8:45
Sun.-Mon.: 2:00
Tues.: 4:30
Wed.: 3:00, 8:30

DOLPHIN TALE 2 (PG) — This sequel to the 2011 film brings back the entire cast (Harry Connick Jr., Ashley Judd, Morgan Freeman) and Winter the dolphin, plus a new baby dolphin named Hope.

• **COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 5:00, 7:20, 9:40
Fri.-Wed.: 12:20, 2:40, 5:00, 7:20, 9:40

DR. CABBIE (G) — Bollywood goes to

Canada in this comedy about an immigrant doctor who settles for a job as a cab driver, but turns his taxi into a mobile clinic and becomes a local hero.

• **JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 11:05, 1:35, 4:05, 6:50, 9:15
Fri.-Sat.: 11:05, 1:35, 4:05, 6:50, 9:15, 11:45
Sun.: 11:05, 1:35, 4:05, 6:50, 9:15
Mon.-Wed.: 11:20, 2:10, 4:55, 7:25, 9:55

DUMB AND DUMBER TO (PG13) — The Farrelly Brothers, Jim Carrey and Jeff Daniels come back for more in this sequel to the 1994 original. Laurie Holden and Kathleen Turner co-star.

• **CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE**
Daily: 1:25, 4:05, 4:35, 6:45, 9:25, 9:55

• **COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 11:15, 1:55, 4:35, 7:45, 10:30
Fri.-Sun.: 10:40, 1:40, 4:40, 7:40, 10:40
Mon.-Wed.: 1:40, 4:40, 7:40, 10:40

• **HUNTINGTON 7, HUNTINGTON**
Thurs.: 11:15, 1:50, 4:20, 6:50, 9:20
Fri.-Sat.: 11:15, 1:50, 4:20, 6:50, 9:20, 11:50
Sun.-Wed.: 11:15, 1:50, 4:20, 6:50, 9:20

• **JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE**
Thurs.: 12:20, 3:30, 6:20, 8:30, 9:20
Fri.-Sat.: 12:20, 3:30, 6:20, 8:30,

On Film and Stage, Nichols' Star Shone Brightly

Franchises are flourishing. Sequels are sinking. The whirl of holiday entertainment enticements grows. But after hearing a few days ago that Mike Nichols' life and work have come to an end, the world is a duller place. The fortunes of Katniss and all the rest just don't hold much attraction, since the artist who gave us *The Graduate* has departed the planet. I'll jump back into the holiday rush of movies after turkey day. For now, I cannot, nor do I want to turn my thoughts away from Mikhail Igor Peschkowsky.

Mike Nichols was one of those immigrants who came here as a kid and grew up to take away a job as, well, eventually, creative genius. Something to love about Nichols is that he started in radio and conquered all media. He is one of those people, an EGOT (a winner in all the major categories: Emmy, Grammy, Oscar and Tony). If he'd had another 50 years, who knows what he would be doing.

Nichols didn't win a Tony for *The Gin Game*, but that is the first time I saw his work. I was not sure that two old folks (I had no idea who Hume Cronyn and Jessica Tandy were) sitting on stage bickering could be all that thrilling. I was wrong. It is odd to think I saw *The Gin Game* before I saw *The Graduate*, but I was just a kid.

If he had only directed *The Graduate*, I might still be writing this fond remembrance. I saw *The Graduate* before I graduated college, and it is the best text to imbibe as preparation for the nonsense you hear after graduation. "Plastics" is the least of it,

but all these years later that one word still encapsulates the toxic goo that passes for "advice."

Watch *The Graduate* and be wowed by what was new then and celebrated now: a fiercely cool soundtrack made for the movie; an ending that is completely satisfying as you watch it, but when you think about it is not an ending at all, but just a close of a chapter. Elaine escapes the "make-out king," but how long will Benjamin make her happy?

Miscasting is a Nichols forte. Dustin Hoffman, a short, filled-out guy as a track star? Luckily, he only has to run briefly, and he gets everything else right. Meryl Streep is a great actress, but calling her Rachel and making her home neighborhood the Upper West Side doesn't make her a nice Jewish girl, like Nora Ephron, author of the book and screenplay. And Jack Nicholson is an improbable idealized version of Carl Bernstein. John Travolta and Emma Thompson as Bill and Hilary? There was nothing primary about those colors, and they did not work, especially up against Kathy Bates. Still, those movies do weirdly work on some level.

Moving on from *The Graduate*, a spectacularly odd and successful leap from Nichols' cinematic directorial debut, *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, Nichol's screen career is a hot mess of hits and misses. I'm sticking with the hits.

Fav o' faves: *Working Girl*. Wow, did Nichols get that time and place spectacularly spot on. The big bad hair, the ugly comfy shoes over panty hose, the excessive jewelry



Flix
CATHERINE LEE

are just the beginning. I was living in New York then, and more than half the time when some guy expressed a desire to help you step up professionally, what they really wanted was something else, which became totally tiresome. Nearly 20 years after the release of *Working Girl*, a women's studies professional told me that the film was suspect because the main character almost seemed like a prostitute. She sure missed the point, but she gave me a great punchline. Thanks Mike!

Postcards from the Edge is Carrie Fisher's memoir of recovery from substance abuse and over-mothering. In Nichols' hands, it is also a hilarious behind the scenes look at fame and fortune. Streep is perfectly cast here, and she sings better than in *Mamma Mia*.

The Birdcage is the best screen performance of Robin Williams. Sure, Williams won an Oscar for the maudlin *Good Will Hunting*, but that was just the industry figuring out a year or so later that Williams could actually act. Haters who whine that the French original of *La Cage aux Folles* should recognize the clever translation of text, time and place and then go home and watch the original.

Space requirements force me to skip

over a lot of good stuff — stuff like *Silkwood* or his work with Gilda Radner and Whoopi Goldberg.

And, of course, movies weren't even Nichols' most successful medium. His directing career for the stage won him the most acclaim. He won nine Tonys, in different categories for shows ranging from *Barefoot in the Park* in 1964 to *Spamalot* in 2005. He also won a Tony for *Annie*, coming soon in updated fashion to a theater near you.

My favorite personal detail about Nichols is his hairlessness. At a young age, the negative side effect of a vaccine left Nichols hairless. Strike one: you are an immigrant. Strike two: you arrive in this country knowing only two English phrases ("I do not speak English" and "Please don't kiss me"). Strike three: you have no hair.

"I was a bad little kid," he said in a 1984 interview. Imagine putting on hair and eyebrows every day of your adult life, which he did.

I haven't mentioned his partnership with Elaine May. But she gets the last word. The quote is everywhere, but that is because it is so wonderful:

"So he's witty, he's brilliant, he's articulate, he's on time, he's prepared and he can write. But is he perfect? He knows you can't really be liked or loved if you're perfect. You have to have just enough flaws. And he does. Just the right perfect flaws to be absolutely endearing."

ckdexterhaven@earthlink.net

9:20, 11:10, 11:50
Sun.: 12:20, 3:30, 6:20, 8:30, 9:20
Mon.-Wed.: 11:10, 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 8:45, 10:00
• NORTH POINTE 9, WARSAW
Thurs.-Sat.: 2:30, 5:00, 7:00, 7:30, 9:15, 9:45
Sun.: 2:30, 5:00, 7:00, 7:30
Mon.-Wed.: 5:00, 7:00, 7:30

THE EQUALIZER (R) — Denzel Washington plays an ex-Special Forces soldier who comes out of self-imposed retirement to save a young girl. Directed by Antoine Fuqua (*Training Day*).
• CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE
Daily: 7:30

FURY (R) — Brad Pitt stars in this war drama about a small squadron of soldiers on a deadly mission behind enemy lines. Written and directed by David Ayer (*Training Day*, *End of Watch*).

• CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE
Daily: 1:40, 4:55, 8:00
• COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 2:15, 9:10
Fri.-Wed.: 3:45, 9:45
• JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 4:15
Fri.-Sat.: 4:15, 11:20
Sun.: 4:15
Mon.-Wed.: 2:30, 9:45

GET ON UP (PG13) — Tate Taylor (*The Help*) directs this bio-pic about the legendary James Brown (42's Chadwick Boseman). Viola Davis and Octavia Spencer co-star.
• COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 3:35, 6:25, 9:10
Fri.-Wed.: 12:50, 3:35, 6:25, 9:10

GONE GIRL (R) — David Fincher (*Fight Club*, *Zodiac*) directs Ben Affleck, Neil Patrick Harris and Rosamund Pike in this suspenseful adaptation of the 2012 Gillian Flynn novel.
• COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 11:35, 2:50, 6:30, 9:35
Fri.-Sun.: 11:30, 3:05, 6:35, 9:55
Mon.-Wed.: 3:05, 6:35, 9:55
• JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.-Sun.: 12:05, 7:40
Mon.-Wed.: 11:10, 6:00

GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY (PG13) — More Marvel characters — Peter Quill (Chris Pratt), Bradley Cooper (Rocket Raccoon) and others — find their way into cineplexes as they face off against the powerful villain Ronan the Accuser (Lee Pace). Directed by James Gunn (*Movie 43*, *Super, Slither* — classics all).
• COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 3:30, 6:30, 9:00
Fri.-Wed.: 12:55, 3:30, 6:30, 9:00

HORRIBLE BOSSES 2 (R) — Jason Bateman, Charlie Day and Jason Sudeikis return for this sequel to Seth Gordon's 2011 comedy. They're joined by Jennifer Aniston, Jamie Fox, Chris Pine, Christoph Waltz and Kevin Spacey.
• CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE
Daily: 12:30, 1:40, 3:00, 4:20, 5:30, 6:45, 7:00, 8:00, 9:40
• COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 11:25, 1:55, 5:00, 7:40, 10:20
Fri.-Sun.: 10:50, 1:20, 3:50, 6:40,

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

HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON 2 (PG) — Hiccup and Toothless return in this follow-up to the 2010 animated film.
• COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 4:30, 6:45, 9:20
Fri.-Wed.: 12:00, 2:15, 4:30, 6:45, 9:20

THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY PART 1 (PG13) — Jennifer Lawrence, Josh Hutcherson and Liam Hemsworth continue to take it to Donald Sutherland in part one of the two-part conclusion of the *Hunger Games* trilogy. The entire cast returns, including the late Philip Seymour Hoffman.

• CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 12:30, 1:15, 1:30, 2:30, 3:30, 4:15, 4:30, 5:30, 6:30, 7:15, 7:30, 8:30, 9:30
Fri.-Sat.: 12:30, 1:15, 1:30, 2:30, 3:30, 4:15, 4:30, 5:30, 6:30, 7:15, 7:30, 8:30, 9:30, 10:15, 10:30
Sun.-Wed.: 12:30, 1:15, 1:30, 2:30, 3:30, 4:15, 4:30, 5:30, 6:30, 7:15, 7:30, 8:30, 9:30
• COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 11:00, 1:00, 1:30, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30
Fri.-Sun.: 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 1:00, 1:30, 3:00, 4:00, 4:30, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30
Mon.-Wed.: 1:00, 1:30, 3:00, 4:00, 4:30, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30

• EAGLES THEATRE, WABASH
Friday-Sunday, Nov. 28-30 only
Fri.: 7:00
Sat.-Sun.: 2:00, 7:00
• HUNTINGTON 7, HUNTINGTON
Thurs.: 11:00, 12:45, 1:45, 3:30, 4:30, 6:15, 7:15, 9:00, 10:00
Fri.-Sat.: 11:00, 12:45, 1:45, 3:30, 4:30, 6:15, 7:15, 9:00, 10:00, 11:40
Sun.-Wed.: 11:00, 12:45, 1:45, 3:30, 4:30, 6:15, 7:15, 9:00, 10:00
• JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 11:00, 11:30, 12:00, 1:00, 1:55, 2:25, 2:55, 4:00, 4:45, 5:15, 6:40, 7:45, 8:10, 9:45, 10:15
Fri.-Sat.: 11:00, 11:30, 12:00, 1:00, 1:55, 2:25, 2:55, 4:00, 4:45, 5:15, 6:40, 7:45, 8:10, 9:45, 10:10, 10:40, 11:15
Sun.-Wed.: 11:00, 11:30, 12:00, 1:00, 1:55, 2:25, 2:55, 4:00, 4:45, 5:15, 6:40, 7:15, 7:45, 8:10, 9:45, 10:15

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
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.

• NORTH POINTE 9, WARSAW
Thurs.-Sat.: 2:30, 3:00, 4:00, 5:35, 6:15, 7:15, 8:45, 9:15, 9:45
Sun.: 2:30, 3:00, 4:00, 5:35, 6:15, 7:15
Mon.-Wed.: 5:30, 6:15, 7:15
• NORTHWOOD CINEMA GRILL, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 7:00
Fri.-Sat.: 12:00, 4:00, 7:30
Sun.: 12:00, 4:00, 7:00
Mon.-Wed.: 3:45, 7:00
• STRAND THEATRE, KENDALLVILLE
Thurs.-Fri.: 4:00, 7:00, 9:15
Sat.: 1:45, 4:00, 7:00, 9:15
Sun.: 1:45, 4:00, 7:00
Mon.-Wed.: 7:00

IF I STAY (PG13) — R.J. Cutler (*The War Room*, *30 Days*) directs this drama based on the 2009 young adult novel of the same name by Gayle Forman. Chloe Grace Moretz, Jamie Blackley and Mireille Enos star
• COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 4:45, 7:15, 9:35
Fri.-Wed.: 12:20, 2:30, 4:45, 7:15, 9:35

INTERSTELLAR (PG13) — Matthew McConaughey and Anne Hathaway star in this sci-fi adventure directed (and co-written) by Christopher Nolan (*Memento*, *The Dark Night*).
• CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE
Daily: 1:00, 4:40, 8:20
• COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 11:20, 12:45, 2:55, 4:20, 6:45, 8:45, 10:25
Fri.-Sun.: 10:10, 11:10, 1:50, 2:45, 5:30, 6:25, 9:10, 10:10
Mon.-Wed.: 1:50, 2:45, 5:30, 6:25, 9:10, 10:10
• HUNTINGTON 7, HUNTINGTON
Daily: 6:10, 9:40
• JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 10:40, 11:10 (IMAX), 2:15, 2:50 (IMAX), 6:15, 6:25 (IMAX), 9:55, 10:10 (IMAX)
Fri.-Sat.: 11:10, 11:45 (IMAX), 3:00, 3:30 (IMAX), 6:45, 7:10 (IMAX), 10:25, 10:50 (IMAX)
Sun.: 10:40, 11:10 (IMAX), 2:15, 2:50 (IMAX), 6:15, 6:25 (IMAX), 9:55, 10:10 (IMAX)
Mon.-Wed.: 11:30 (IMAX), 12:15, 4:00, 4:30 (IMAX), 7:50, 8:45 (IMAX)
• NORTH POINTE 9, WARSAW
Thurs.-Sat.: 2:30, 5:45, 9:00
Sun.: 2:30, 5:45
Mon.-Wed.: 6:00

INTO THE STORM (PG13) — Richard Armitage (aka Thorin Oakenshield) stars as a guy so dumb that he runs toward tornadoes instead of away from them in this disaster film by Steven Quale (*Final Destination 5*).
• COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 6:50
Fri.-Wed.: 12:05, 2:10, 6:50

JOHN WICK (R) — Keanu Reeves stars as an ex-hitman in New York City who comes out of retirement to exact revenge on bad guys who did him wrong. Real wrong.
• CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE
Daily: 1:15, 4:00, 6:30, 9:10

KIRK CAMERON'S SAVING CHRISTMAS (PG13) — The *Growing Pains* star turned Christian activist helps his brother-in-law recover his Christmas.
• CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE
Daily: 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30
• JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.-Sun.: 11:00, 1:20, 3:35, 6:05, 8:25
Mon.-Wed.: 11:35, 2:15, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50

LOW DOWN (R) — Elle Fanning and John Hawkes star in this bio-pic about jazz pianist Joe Albany who played with Charlie Parker, Miles Davis and Charles Mingus before his descent into heroin addiction.
• CINEMA CENTER, FORT WAYNE
Fri.: 11:15, 4:00
Sat.: 1:30, 6:15
Sun.: 4:15
Mon.: 4:30
Tues.: 2:00
Wed.: 6:00

LUCY (R) — Luc Besson directs Scarlett Johansson in this action-thriller about a woman who transforms into a super duper (and merciless) warrior. Morgan Freeman co-stars.
• COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 4:20, 6:40, 9:25
Fri.-Wed.: 12:10, 2:05, 4:20, 6:40, 9:25

MALEFICENT (PG) — Angelina Jolie stars in director Robert Stromberg's live-action re-imagining of Disney's *Sleeping Beauty*.
• COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 4:40, 6:55, 9:05
Fri.-Wed.: 12:15, 2:25, 4:40, 6:55, 9:05

NIGHTCRAWLER (R) — Jake Gyllenhaal stars as an aspiring crime journalist who really likes his work in this suspense drama co-starring Rene Russo, Bill Paxton and Ann Cusack.
• CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE
Daily: 1:05, 4:00, 6:55, 9:50
• JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE
Times thru Tuesday, Nov. 25 only
Thurs.: 4:00, 7:00, 9:50
Fri.-Sun.: 2:40, 9:30
Mon.-Tues.: 11:00, 6:00

PENGUINS OF MADAGASCAR (PG) — Skipper, Kowalski, Rico and Private — from *Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted* — get a Dreamworks animated film of their own. In this adventure, they help the leader of the North Wind (Benedict Cumberbatch)

stop the evil Dr. Octavius Brine (John Malkovich) from taking over the world.
• CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE
Daily: 12:45 (3D), 1:40, 3:05 (3D), 4:00, 4:15, 5:25 (3D), 6:40, 7:50 (3D), 9:00
• COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 11:05, 11:40 (3D), 1:25, 2:00 (3D), 4:00, 4:30 (3D), 6:30, 7:00 (3D), 9:00, 9:30 (3D)
Fri.-Sun.: 10:20, 11:20 (3D), 12:50, 2:00 (3D), 3:30, 4:25 (3D), 6:20, 7:20 (3D), 9:20, 9:50 (3D)
Mon.-Wed.: 12:50, 2:00 (3D), 3:30, 4:25 (3D), 6:20, 7:20 (3D), 9:20, 9:50 (3D)
• HUNTINGTON 7, HUNTINGTON
Thurs.: 11:05, 12:00, 1:30, 2:15, 4:00, 4:25 (3D), 6:45, 9:15 (3D)
Fri.-Sat.: 11:05, 12:00, 1:30, 2:15, 4:00, 4:25 (3D), 6:45, 9:15 (3D), 11:30
Sun.-Wed.: 11:05, 12:00, 1:30, 2:15, 4:00, 4:25 (3D), 6:45, 9:15 (3D)
• JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.-Sun.: 10:55, 12:10 (3D), 1:40, 2:40 (3D), 4:10, 5:10 (3D), 6:30, 7:30 (3D), 9:00, 10:05 (3D)
Mon.-Wed.: 11:25, 12:25 (3D), 2:15, 3:15 (3D), 5:00, 6:05 (3D), 7:35, 8:35 (3D), 10:05
• NORTH POINTE 9, WARSAW
Thurs.-Sat.: 2:45, 3:15, 5:00 (2D & 3D), 7:15, 9:15 (3D)
Sun.: 2:45, 3:15, 5:00 (2D & 3D), 7:15
Mon.-Wed.: 5:00 (2D & 3D), 7:15
• NORTHWOOD CINEMA GRILL, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 6:30
Fri.-Sat.: 12:45, 3:15, 6:00, 8:30
Sun.: 12:45, 3:15, 6:00
Mon.-Wed.: 4:15, 6:30
• STRAND THEATRE, KENDALLVILLE
Thurs.-Fri.: 4:00, 7:15, 9:00
Sat.: 2:00, 4:00, 7:15, 9:00
Sun.: 2:00, 4:00, 7:15
Mon.-Wed.: 7:15

ST. VINCENT (PG13) — Bill Murray stars as a curmudgeonly drunk who turns out to be a pretty good neighbor to a mother and son (Melissa McCarthy and Jaeden Lieberher). Chris O'Dowd, Naomi Watts and Terrence Howard co-star.
• CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE
Daily: 1:45, 7:15
• JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 10:40, 1:15, 4:00, 6:35
Fri.-Sat.: 10:40, 1:15, 4:00, 6:35, 11:55
Sun.: 10:40, 1:15, 4:00, 6:35
Mon.-Wed.: 11:20, 2:05, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10

TAMMY (R) — Tammy is Melissa McCarthy, and she's having a bad, bad day. Susan Sarandon is her grandmother with an itch to see Niagara Falls. A road trip ensues.
• COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE
Daily: 4:25, 9:30

TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES (PG13) — What the world really needs right now is 3D ninja turtles, and director Jonathan Liebesman obliges, even throwing in some Megan Fox for a little eye candy.
• COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 4:50, 7:10, 9:45
Fri.-Wed.: 12:25, 2:35, 4:50, 7:10, 9:45



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Wrapping One's Head Around Football

Why Football Matters
by Mark Edmundson,
The Penguin Press, 2014

It's a tricky prospect, writing a defense of the game of football from the point of view of a thoughtful intellectual, but English professor Mark Edmundson is willing to tackle the task, so to speak.

Edmundson admits that the best athletes are typically not capable of creative, independent, profound thought; they're not in a position to argue in favor of their game in a way that will satisfy rational thinkers, so Edmundson is willing to do the defending for them. In *Why Football Matters*, he comes up with many nice things to say about the game, but he also has to acknowledge that football has its substantial dark side, too. In the end, Edmundson concludes that the thoughtful football fan or player has to be, by necessity, conflicted over his love of the game.

The author begins by recounting his introduction to the game in the 1960s, first by watching it on TV with his father in their working-class suburban Boston home, then by playing it himself in high school. As a child, Edmundson bonded with his emotionally distant father by watching the game, and as a teenager, he used his playing of the game to transform himself from an apathetic student with a mid-section like a donut to a focused young man who learned how to finish what he started.

The transformation — what football boosters call “character building” — is a familiar one; it's the benefit that's usually presented as justification for the brutality and insistence on conformity that's heaped upon football players. It's a suspicious argument, but Edmundson insists that it's true; football really does build character.

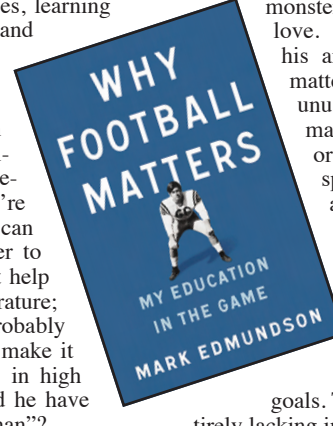


On Books

EVAN GILLESPIE

He won't leave it at that, though. He goes on to question whether “character” is really a consistently good thing. Yes, learning to mindlessly pursue goals and to do what your coach tells you to do can help you to be successful in certain areas of the wider world, but it can also suppress creativity, original thought and inquisitiveness. It can limit what you're capable of achieving, and it can limit what you have to offer to the world. Edmundson can't help but pull analogies from literature; Samuel Taylor Coleridge probably wouldn't have been able to make it through two-a-day practices in high school, but if he had, would he have been able to write “Kubla Khan”?

Football's hunger for aggression is also problematic. There's no denying that being an aggressive male is an effective key to success in our society, and football rewards aggression in the same way that capitalism does, making football a valuable primer in how to get ahead in life. Edmundson points out, however, that unchecked aggression is also responsible for bullying, abuse and all kinds of other unattractive things. Finding the balancing point is difficult. For an analogy here, Edmundson reaches for *The Iliad*; Hector is the reluctant, thoughtful warrior, while Achilles is the lover of battle. Hector is admirable, while Achilles is arrogant.



Hector loses, and Achilles wins. The conclusion? Aggression as taught by football can make a man successful, but that man might make the world unpleasant for the rest of us to live in.

Edmundson's appealingly written semi-memoir makes a strong case for the dual-faced nature of football, the ugly monster that somehow inspires love. Much less successful is his argument for why football matters uniquely, why it's so unusual among sports that its many flaws can be forgiven, or at least overlooked. Any sport can “build character,” and football has no monopoly on being able to teach important life lessons. Consider long distance runners, who undoubtedly learn how to push through extreme challenges and achieve lofty goals. Their sport, however, is entirely lacking in aggression and herd mentality. The same can be said for just about any individual sport.

Edmundson knows that there are irreconcilable contradictions in a thinking man who loves football. In his own personal story, the answer to the question of why football matters is rooted in nostalgia. The game occupies a special place in his personal history, and it will always be important to him because of that. But more broadly, the answer to the question might be, at once, much simpler, logically indefensible and terribly unsatisfying. Football matters because it does, and we love it because we do.

evan.whatzup@gmail.com

As Expected, Mockingjay, Part 1 Crushes

Tops at the Box: As expected, Francis Lawrence's new *Hunger Games* film, *Mockingjay, Part 1*, took the No. 1 spot at the U.S. box office, selling a stellar \$123 million over its three-day release weekend. Add in another \$152 million in abroad sales and Katniss and the gang already have another major hit. I'm just going to say it: Jennifer Lawrence is the new Michael Jackson. The new Kanye West. The new Obama. She's a big deal, guys. And for good reason. Look for *Mockingjay, Part 1* to kick butt for a few weeks and end up being the biggest financial success of the *Hunger Games* franchise so far. Good job, J-Law, you wonderful weirdo.

Also at the Box: No other film really had a chance to make big money this weekend, not with the new *Hunger Games* hitting screens everywhere. Regardless, Disney's *Big Hero 6* (will the inevitable sequel be called *Big Hero 6 2* or *Big Hero 6b* or, I guess, maybe *Big Hero 7*?) sold another \$20 million, upping the film's 17-day total to a solid \$135 million in the U.S. and \$185 million worldwide. Christopher Nolan's *Interstellar* took the No. 3 spot at the U.S. box office last



Screen Time

GREG W. LOCKE

weekend, selling another \$15 million, bringing the space opus's total to \$120 million in the U.S. and \$449 million worldwide. Farrelly Brothers comedy *Dumb and Dumber To* sold another \$14 million in the U.S. for the No. 4 spot in last weekend's white-hot box office, upping the film's domestic sales total to \$58 million over 10 days. Not bad for an R-rated comedy. The film has thus far made about \$13 million abroad. The original *Dumb and Dumber* film made \$127 million in 1994 dollars, thus making *To* something of a financial flop. Rounding out last weekend's Top 5 was David Fincher's *Gone Girl* which sold \$2.8 million, bringing the film's worldwide total to a smashing \$327 million. Feels good when an incredibly well made, artistically credible film makes big dollars. No complaints here.

In other news, *Birdman* continued to sputter along, selling just another \$1.85 mil-

lion despite playing on a solid number of screens. Something tells me that the box office woes of this very expensive indie flick might keep it from getting the Oscar attention everyone seemed to assume it would see (and is very much worthy of).

New This Week: Why would you put out your movie the weekend after a film like *Hunger Games: Mockingjay, Part 1* premiered? Ya gotta be crazy, right? Well Warner Bros. is putting out *Horrible Bosses 2* and Fox is putting out *Penguins of Madagascar*, both sequels to much loved movies. So I guess I get it. Look for both of these probably-phoned-in flicks to make decent dollars despite the solid competition. Why? Because it's cold out and people want to be warm and entertained and they want to see familiar things. But don't worry, kids: aside from a limited release of P.T. Anderson's *Inherent Vice* (my guess pick for Best Film of 2014), there's nothing too worthwhile coming out for a few weeks.

ScreenRant: I can hardly believe that the year is almost over. How did that hap-

Continued on page 22

Featured Events

FORT WAYNE DANCE COLLECTIVE — Workshops and classes for movement, dance, yoga and more offered by Fort Wayne Dance Collective, Fort Wayne, fees vary, 424-6574

IPFW COMMUNITY ARTS ACADEMY — Art, dance, music and theatre classes for grades pre-K through 12 offered by IPFW College of Visual and Performing Arts, fees vary, 481-6977, www.ipfw.edu/caa

RECORD STORE DAY — Black Friday event featuring hundreds of limited edition releases, Doc West and donuts **8-10 a.m.** (North Anthony store); live music with Sunny Taylor **2 p.m.** (North Anthony store), **Friday, Nov. 28**, Wooden Nickel Music Stores, Fort Wayne, free, 484-3635

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

This Week

CHRISTMAS AT THE OLD FORT — Reenactors, children's activities, bake sale, period artisans and more, **11 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 29**, Old Fort, Fort Wayne, donation, 437-2836

FESTIVAL OF TRAINS — Model trains on display, **10 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday, Nov. 28**; **10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 29**; **12-5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 30**, Science Central, Fort Wayne, \$8, under 2 free, 420-3266

HOLIDAY JEWELS — ARCH tour of The Merchant Huxford House, Canton Laundry and Alexander T. Rankin house; appetizers, dinner and desserts included, **6-10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5**, various locations, Fort Wayne, \$40-\$45, 426-5117

Featured Holiday Events

AWS FANTASY OF LIGHTS — 1.5 mile display of animated Christmas lights and holiday decorations, **6-9 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 27**; **6-10 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Nov. 28-29**; **6-9 p.m. Sunday-Thursday, Nov. 30-Dec. 4**; **6-10 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 5-6**; **6-9 p.m. Sunday-Thursday, Dec. 7-11**; **6-10 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 12-13**; **6-9 p.m. Sunday-Thursday, Dec. 14-Dec. 18**; **6-10 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 19-20**; **6-9 p.m. Sunday-Thursday, Dec. 21-Dec. 25**; **6-10 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 26-27**; **6-9 p.m. Sunday-Wednesday, Dec. 28-31**, Franke Park, Fort Wayne, \$5 per car; \$10 per 15-passenger van; \$25 per bus/trolley, 456-2971, ext. 5874

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA — McDonald's breakfast with Santa, story time with Mrs. Claus, sing-a-long with Santa, magic show with Ronald McDonald, create a take home holiday photo ornament, **9:30-11 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 30**, Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$12.50, includes admission to Festival of Trees, 424-6287

COOKIE DECORATING PARTY — Decorate and eat holiday cookies, **1-4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14**, History Center, Fort Wayne, \$5-\$7, (includes admission to the History Center and Festival of Gingerbread), 424-4419

CREATE YOUR OWN ORNAMENT — Create a holiday ornament, instruction and supplies provided, **1-3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 29**, History Center, Fort Wayne, \$5-\$7, (includes admission to the History Center and Festival of Gingerbread) 424-4419

FESTIVAL OF GINGERBREAD — Over 100 creations made of edible ingredients by persons ranging from preschoolers to adults, including professional bakers, **9 a.m.-5 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 27**; **9 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday, Nov. 28**; **9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 29**; **12-5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 30**; **9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Thursday, Dec. 1-4**; **9 a.m.-8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5**; **9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6**; **12-5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7**; **9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Thursday, Dec. 8-11**; **9 a.m.-8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12**; **9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13** and **12-5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14**, History Center, Fort Wayne, \$4-\$6, 424-4419

FESTIVAL OF TREES — Decorated Christmas trees sponsored by local business and organizations, **4-8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 27** (featuring Grande Page Organ); **12-8 p.m. Friday-Sunday, Nov. 28-Nov. 30** (youth entertainment on Embassy stage); **9 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday, Dec. 1** (senior day); **9 a.m.-1 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 2** and **9 a.m.-1 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 3** (Tots and Trees), Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$3-\$7, 424-6287

HOLLY TROLLEY SHOPPING TOUR — Park, shop and ride the free trolley to unique gift shops and attractions across downtown, **11 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 29**, Downtown, Fort Wayne, free, 420-3266

INDIANA ARTISAN HOLIDAY MARKETPLACE — Juried pieces from over 275 Indiana artisans including painters, potters, woodworkers, bakers, instrument makers, jewelry designers, weavers, paper and mixed media artists, leatherworkers and more, **10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 29** and **10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 30**, Grand Wayne Center, Fort Wayne, \$5-\$7, under 14 free, 420-9080

SCIENCE OF SUGARY STRUCTURES — Explore sturdy and not so sturdy structures by making a sugary creation, **1-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13**, History Center, Fort Wayne, \$7-\$9 (includes admission to the History Center and Festival of Gingerbread), 424-4419

STORYTELLING WITH REAL MEN — Holiday storytelling, **1-3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7**, History Center, Fort Wayne, \$4-\$6 (includes admission to the History Center and Festival of Gingerbread), 424-4419

VISIT WITH SANTA CLAUS — Visit Santa, **1-3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6**, History Center, Fort Wayne, \$3-\$6, 424-4419

Lectures, Discussions,

Authors, Readings &

Films

JAN BRETT — Author and illustrator book talk, illustration demonstration and book signing, **5 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 2**, Main Library Theatre, Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, free, 421-1200

PRANCER — Holiday movie night, **6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 9**, Main Library Theatre, Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, free, 421-1200

AARP LUNCHEON — Informational luncheon and presentation, **12:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11**, Don Hall's Gas House, Fort Wayne, free to attend, dues \$7-\$10, 749-8392

TYLER PERRY'S A MADEA CHRISTMAS — Holiday movie night, **6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 16**, Main Library Theatre, Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, free, 421-1200

COLOR IN SILENCE — Film screening, live music, food and a pop up art gallery; film screenings at **7, 8 and 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18**, Cinema Center, Fort Wayne, \$7, 312-6359

Storytimes

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 and 10:30 a.m. Thursdays**, 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**, 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**, 421-1335

MAIN LIBRARY — Smart Start Story Time, **10:30 a.m. Wednesdays**; Storytime for preschoolers, day-cares and other groups, **9:30 a.m. Wednesdays**; 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**, Smart Start Storytime for preschoolers, **10:30 a.m. Fridays**, 421-1350

TECUMSEH BRANCH — 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**, 421-1365

WOODBURN BRANCH — Smart Start Storytime, **10:30 a.m. Fridays**, 421-1370

Kid Stuff

SANTA SCIENCE — Make holiday cheer eruptions. Santa's magic milk and Santa toothpaste, **11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 20**, Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory, Fort Wayne, \$3-\$5, 427-6440

Spectator Sports

BASKETBALL

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

FRIDAY, Nov. 28 vs. Delaware, 7:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, Dec. 2 vs. Iowa, 7 p.m.

SUNDAY, Dec. 7 vs. Westchester, 5 p.m.

FRIDAY, Dec. 12 vs. Grand Rapids, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, Dec. 13 vs. Grand Rapids, 7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, Dec. 19 vs. Westchester, 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, Dec. 28 vs. Austin, 5 p.m.

TUESDAY, Dec. 30 vs. Oklahoma City, 7 p.m.

NOTRE DAME VS. MARYLAND — ACC/Big Ten women's basketball, **7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 3**, Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, \$9-\$15, 483-1111

HOCKEY

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

THURSDAY, Nov. 27 vs. Indianapolis, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, Nov. 29 vs. Orlando, 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, Dec. 14 vs. Toledo, 5 p.m.

SATURDAY, Dec. 20 vs. Indianapolis, 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, Dec. 21 vs. Evansville, 5 p.m.

SATURDAY, Dec. 27 vs. Evansville, 7:30 p.m.

MONDAY, Dec. 29 vs. Toledo, 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 31 vs. Indianapolis, 7:30 p.m.

RACING

RUMBLE IN FORT WAYNE — Indoor midgeet car racing, doors open at **11 a.m. Friday-Sunday, Dec. 26-28**, main event begins at **7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday**, Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, \$10-\$55, 483-1111

Sports & Recreation

PATHFINDER KIDS KAMPUS TURKEY TROT — 5K and 1 mile fun run/walk to benefit Pathfinder Kids Kampus, **8 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 27**, 60 Home Street, Huntington, \$20 adv. \$25 day of, 356-0123

GINGERBREAD PURSUIT — 4 mile run/walk, **8:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 13** (gather at **7:15 a.m.**), Cinema Center, Fort Wayne, \$20 adv. \$25 day of, 436-4824

Tours & Trips

FASHION OUTLETS OF CHICAGO — Bus/shopping trip, **7 a.m.-10:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 29**, departure from Bob Arnold Park, Fort Wayne, \$65 (includes continental breakfast), 427-6017

FORT WAYNE CIVIC THEATRE GUILD CHICAGO BUS TRIP — Bus trip to see Broadway musical *Newsies* at the Oriental Theatre, **Saturday, Dec. 13**, morning departure from Fort Wayne, \$190, 437-7497

CHICAGO SHOPPING — Downtown Chicago shopping trip, **7 a.m.-10:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 3, Saturday, Dec. 6 and 13**, departure from Bob Arnold Park, Fort Wayne, \$60, 427-6000

INTERNATIONAL ICE SCULPTURE SPECTACULAR — Bus trip to Plymouth, Michigan with return supper at Schuler's Restaurant in Marshall, Michigan, **8 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 10**, departure from Bob Arnold Park, Fort Wayne, \$85, includes supper, 427-6000

CHICAGO AUTO SHOW — Travel by bus to McCormick Place to see new 2015 models and one-of-a-kind concept autos, **7:30 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 21**, departure from Bob Arnold Park, Fort Wayne, \$75, 427-6000

Dance

DANCES OF UNIVERSAL PEACE — Participatory dances of joy, meditation, community and creating a peaceful world; no experience necessary, fragrance free, **6:30-8:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 29**, Fort Wayne Dance Collective, Fort Wayne, \$5-\$10 suggested donation, 424-6574

December

CHRISTMAS AT HOME — Tours of the decorated Swinney homestead, refreshments and music from Hearthstone Ensemble, **2-4 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5**; **11 a.m.-1 p.m. and 2-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6**, Historic Swinney Homestead, Fort Wayne, \$20, 747-1229

CHRISTMAS IN THE CASTLE — Tours of historic Brookside decorated for Christmas by local florists and designers, **4-6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5**; **12-5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 6-7**; **4-6 p.m. Monday, Dec. 8**, Brookside, University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne, \$4-\$25, 399-8140

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA — Pancakes, sausage, beverages and Santa; admission includes 'High Style Holidays' Exhibit and a return visit with Santa and the Reindeer (**12-4 p.m.**), **9-10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 6**, Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory, Fort Wayne, \$11 registration deadline **Wednesday, Nov. 26**, 427-6000

GREAT TRAIN SHOW — Model railroad show and sale, **10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 6-7**, Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, \$8, children free, 482-9502

SANTA & THE REINDEER — Take pictures and visit with Santa and two live reindeer and visit the 'High Style Holidays' exhibit, **12-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6**, **Dec. 13 and Dec. 20**, Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory, Fort Wayne, \$3-\$5, 427-6000

CHRISTMAS ON THE FARM — Live Nativity, live music, horse drawn wagon rides, St. Nicholas, holiday vendors and more, **1-5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6**, Salomon Farm Park, Fort Wayne, \$5 per car, 427-6000

STAR OF BETHLEHEM — 90 minute program following the Wise Men in 3 B.C. followed by view's of Fort Wayne's winter sky, **3 and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6**; **12:30 and 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7**; **12:30 and 3 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10**; **7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12**; **3 and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13**; **5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14**; **7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19**; **3 and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 20**; **5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21**, Schouweiller Planetarium, Achatz Hall, University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne, \$3-\$14, 399-8050

LIGHTING OF THE LAKE — Vigil lights dedicated to loved ones illuminating Mirror Lake, **6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7**, Pope John Paul II Center Amphitheater, University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne, free to attend, luminaries \$10, 399-8037

LIVING NATIVITY — Actors and animals reenact the the first Christmas during the lighting of the lake, **6:10 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7**, Pope John Paul II Center Amphitheater, University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne, free, 399-8037

WALK TO BETHLEHEM — Guided tours of live scenes with live animals depicting the birth of Jesus, **5:30-7:30 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 13-14**, First Christian Church, Fort Wayne, free, 744-3239

55+ HOLIDAY DINNER AND LIGHT TOUR — Dinner and holiday music followed by motorcoach light tour, for ages 55 and up, **5:30-9 p.m. Monday, Dec. 15**, Community Center, Fort Wayne, \$15, 426-6460

WINTER GARDEN PARTY — Screening of the first episode of season five of Downton Abbey; historic games, music and 'upstairs/downstairs' themed menu, display of 1920s era dresses, 1920s themed costume contest and raffle to raise funds for PBS39 and Embassy Theatre, **4 p.m. (Garden Party), 7 p.m. (free screening) Sunday, Dec. 28**, Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$150, 424-6287

Current Exhibits

AMERICA'S SPIRIT: EVOLUTION OF A NATIONAL STYLE — Collection drawn from FWWOA's permanent collection chronicling American art from 1765-1900, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Jan. 25**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, \$5-\$7 (members, free), 422-6467

ART² — 12x12 themed original mixed media pieces from local and regional artists, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Dec. 19**, Artworks Galleria of Fine Art, Fort Wayne, 387-6943

ART FOR THE HOLIDAYS — Handmade ornaments and nativities, **Monday-Saturday, thru Dec. 31** (holiday open house, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. **Saturday, Dec. 6**), Orchard Gallery of Fine Art, Fort Wayne, 436-0927

BRENDA MOORE: SOLO EXHIBITION — Paintings, mixed media works and drawings, **daily thru Dec. 21**, Goldfish Gallery, Rolland Arts Center, University of St. Francis, Fort Wayne, 399-7999

CHARLOTTE WEHR — Glass and wire landscapes, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Dec. 3**, Betty Fishman Gallery, Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, 424-7195

CHRIS AND SAYAKA GANZ — Sculptures from reclaimed objects, prints and charcoals, **Tuesday-Saturday thru Dec. 6**, Crestwoods Frame Shop & Gallery, Roanoke, 672-2080

CONTEMPORARY PAINTING — Oil, pastel and acrylics courtesy of Linda Warren Projects, **daily thru Dec. 21**, John P. Weatherhead Gallery, Rolland Arts Center, University of St. Francis, Fort Wayne, 399-7999

CONTEMPORARY REALISM BIENNIAL — National invitational highlighting the strength and innovation of America's current trends in realism, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Nov. 30**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, \$5-\$7 (members, free), 422-6467

CORRUGATED — Pieces made with corrugated materials; in partnership with Kelly Box and Packaging and USF School of Creative Arts, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Dec. 3**, Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, 424-7195

CRAFTING A CONTINUUM: RETHINKING CONTEMPORARY CRAFT — Arizona State University Art Museum and Ceramics Research Center in the Herberger Institute's comprehensive collection of craft holdings and new international requisitions in wood, ceramic and fiber, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Dec. 21**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, \$5-\$7 (members, free), 422-6467

CROSSING LINES: CONTEMPORARY ART FROM COAST TO COAST — Contemporary pieces from Austin, TX, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Jan. 15**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, \$5-\$7 (members, free), 422-6467

HIGH STYLES HOLIDAY EXHIBIT — Poinsettia filled Christmas display depicting the era between World Wars I and II, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Jan. 4**, Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory, Fort Wayne, \$3-\$5 (2 and under, free), 427-6440

HOLIDAY SHOW — Visual interpretations of the season by national and regional artists including Terry Armstrong, Forrest Formsma, Fred Doloresco, Robert Eberle, Bill Inman, Diane Lyon, Jody Hemphill Smith, CW Mundy and more., **Tuesday-Saturday and by appointment thru Dec. 31**, Castle Gallery Fine Art, Fort Wayne, 426-6568

LYNN BERRY — Illustrations and nature photography, **daily thru Nov. 29**, Firefly Coffee House, Fort Wayne, 373-0505

MARVELOUS MOLECULES: THE SECRET OF LIFE — Traveling exhibit focusing on molecules and the building blocks of life, **daily thru Jan. 4**, Science Central, Fort Wayne, \$5-\$8, 424-2400

THE ROLLING STONES: 50TH ANNIVERSARY EXHIBIT — Photography from Stephen Perfect, **daily thru Dec. 21**, Artist Spotlight Gallery, Rolland Arts Center, University of St. Francis, Fort Wayne, 399-7999

TIM PARSLEY: OH BLINDNESS TO THE FUTURE, KINDLY GIVEN — Paintings, drawings and mixed media collages that appropriate and piece together scraps of historic imagery, **daily thru Dec. 15**, Lupke Gallery, University of St. Francis, Fort Wayne, 399-7999

Artifacts

CALL FOR ARTISTS

ROCK, PAPER, SCISSORS (JAN. 23-MARCH 4) — Themed, open call, all-media exhibit; pieces embrace the fun and whimsy of childhood games, for full criteria visit www.artlinkfw.com, submission deadline, **Friday, Dec. 19**, Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, \$10, members free, 424-71955

TEEN PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST — For ages 12-18, submit 8x10 photos of buildings, landmarks or any point of interest in Huntington County, entries accepted thru **Wednesday, Dec. 31**, Huntington City-Township Public Library, 356-2900

COMMUNITY SUPPORTED ART — Call for visual artists, musicians, performing artists and writers to enter to be juried, full details available at artsincubatorfw.com/programs/csa/, application deadline **Saturday, Jan. 5**, Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, \$10, members free, 424-71955

NATIONAL PRINT EXHIBITION (APRIL 24-MAY 27) — Original printmaking media that has been completed in the last 3 years, has not previously been exhibited at Artlink and is no larger than 54" in any direction may be submitted, for full criteria visit www.artlinkfw.com, submission deadline, **Friday, Jan. 23**, Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, 3 entries for \$25, members \$20, 424-71955

SPECIAL EVENTS

POP UP GALLERY — Featuring Daniel Dienelt, Tanner Wilson, Dusty Neal, Jason Swisher and Josef Zimmerman, **7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 28**, Cinema Center, Fort Wayne, \$7, 312-6359

DIRECTORS TOUR: AMERICA'S SPIRIT — 1st Thursday Gallery Talk Series featuring a guided tour by Executive Director and Chief Curator Charles Shepard **12:15 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, \$5-\$7 (members, free), 422-6467

SECOND THURSDAY IN THE PARADIGM GALLERY — Annual jewelry show-casewith Steven and Susan Shaikh, **5 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, free, 422-6467

Upcoming Exhibits

DECEMBER

BFA EXHIBITION — Senior thesis pieces from IPFW Department of Visual Communication and Design students, **Wednesday-Sunday, Dec. 5-28**, Wunderkammer Gallery, Fort Wayne, 481-6709

HOLIDAY POP UP GALLERY — Mixed media pieces from 12 local and regional artists, **Wednesday-Sunday, Dec. 5-28**, (opening reception **5-10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5**), The Art Farm, Spencerville, 238-4755

Simon's Genius Shows Through

I was first introduced to Neil Simon when *The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson* was broadcast from New York City in the early 1960s. Johnny would introduce Mr. Simon as one of the funniest men in show business, having been a writer for such television shows as *The Phil Silvers Show* and Sid Caesar's *Your Show of Shows*, two of my favorites in the early days of television.

I would also read Earl Wilson's column in which he would talk about theatrical productions opening on Broadway; it seemed like a new Neil Simon comedy would open at least once a month.

During the 1966-1967 Broadway season alone, *Barefoot in the Park* was running simultaneously with *The Odd Couple*, *Sweet Charity* and *The Star-Spangled Girl*. He has written over 30 plays and books of musicals, garnering 17 Tony nominations and winning the Tony Award for Best New Play for *The Odd Couple*, *Biloxi Blues* and *Lost in Yonkers* (for which he also won the Pulitzer Prize) and over 30 scripts for films. In 1983 he became the only living playwright to have a Broadway theater named after him.

When I saw the movie version of *The Odd Couple*,



Director's Notes

FRED KRAUSKOPF

I realized just how great a writer he was. Years later, I auditioned for and landed a role as one of Oscar's poker playing buddies in a local production of the stage show. Since then, I have done that show four more times — once as Oscar, twice more as one of his buddies and once as one of the Costazuela brothers (in the female version of *The Odd Couple*). Each time, I have learned something more about Simon's abilities as a writer. He writes with a rhythm like a musician with a very good ear for the musicality of his dialogue. It makes his scripts a true joy to

memorize and work with.

This cast, from the very beginning, has understood the rhythms of this show — something I hope the audience will see. I have so enjoyed the process of watching this production go from simply words on a page to such an entertaining evening of live theater. I hope audiences will enjoy it as well.

BAREFOOT IN THE PARK

7 p.m. dinner, 8 p.m. curtain
Friday-Saturday, Nov. 28-29
& Dec. 5-6, 12-13 & 19-20

1 p.m. dinner, 2 p.m. curtain
Sunday, Dec. 14

Arena Dinner Theatre

719 Rockhill St., Fort Wayne
Tix.: \$35, 260-424-5622

JEFF SALISBURY - From Page 9

cern to love to laughter, all while trying to remember I can't use my right side and most of the time in a wheelchair. It was a hard show, but still one of the most rewarding experiences I've ever had on stage."

Even though aO is "faith-based," Salisbury points out, "That doesn't mean they do church plays like most people think when they hear that. It's how they treat their actors and everyone they interact with. They choose really good shows that have a good message. They adapt a lot of classic literature to stage and find very challenging shows to produce. The actors are always pushed to be better than they think they

can be, and I've seen a lot of people grow in their art there. Everyone works together to create the absolute best show they can. It's not separated into actors and technicians and designers; everyone chips in to put the show up. That's not an atmosphere you get in theater most of the time."

When he's not involved with theater, Salisbury likes another collaborative type of team play: gaming.

"I love table top games, video games, card games, you name it," he says. "If it involves a group of people getting together and having fun playing it, I'm in."

SPINS - From Page 10

ary fell from grace in the 90s and broke up before the dawn of the new millennium, only to reform in 2005.

Inked finds the band continuing in the same vein as their last effort, 2009's *Darkest Day*, keeping things simple and playing to their basic strengths. They've always been considered an especially primal version on death metal, and on this album they consistently demonstrate why. Vocalist John Tardy growls the lyrics as if he were choking on them; Trevor Perez bludgeons away with grinding, repetitive riffs; Tardy's brother, Donald, bashes away on the drums. The album may never reach the heights of lunacy of *Slowly*, but its command of the band's sonic identity is compelling.

Opening track "Centuries of Lies" kicks off the album at a fast pace, and third track "Pain Inside" includes the unnerving refrain "We're coming to get you

and your soul!" But the album doesn't really get rolling until the following song, "Visions In My Head" which starts off with a series of concise but effective riffs before shifting gears to devastating effect. "Back On Top" finds the band in slow dirge mode, and judging by John Tardy's intense howling, that may be a declarative statement. The next track, "Violence," speeds things up again, its simple and in-your-face title demonstrating what the song (and the band) are all about.

All of this is to say that *Inked* serves up an unpredictable mix of tempos and chunky riffs. Other bands may cram more and more complicated riffs and lyrics into each song at breakneck speeds, but Obituary are content to revel in their less-is-more approach, demonstrating how brutal simplicity can be. (Ryan Smith)

SCREEN TIME - From Page 20

pen? We're all so old and disgusting now. What will the best movies of the year be? J.C. Chandor's *A Most Violent Year*? *Inherent Vice*? The Dardenne Brothers' *Two Days, One Night*? *Selma*? Tim Burton's *Big Eyes*? *American Sniper*? *Unbroken*? Seth Rogen's *The Interview*? (Kidding, though I'm sure it's great.) Jean-Marc Vallée's *Wild*? Morten Tyldum's *The Imitation Game*?

Something that came out earlier this year? Our pick, as noted above, is the new P.T. flick. But dang, Wes Anderson's *The Grand Budapest Hotel* really holds up. What do you think will end up being your favorite picture of 2014? E-mail your answer to gregwlocke@gmail.com.

gregwlocke@gmail.com

Now Playing

BAREFOOT IN THE PARK — Romantic comedy telling the story of newlyweds who have to learn to live as a couple, **8 p.m.** (7 p.m. dinner) **Friday-Saturday, Nov. 28-29; Dec. 5-6; Dec. 12-13; 2 p.m.** (1 p.m. dinner) **Sunday, Dec. 14; 8 p.m.** (7 p.m. dinner) **Friday-Saturday, Dec. 19-20, Arena Dinner Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$35, includes dinner and show, 424-5622**

THE BEST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT EVER — Comedic play based upon the 1971 book by Barbara Robinson where 6 delinquent children attend church for the first time and become part of the Christmas play, **8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Nov. 28-29; 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 4-6 and Dec. 11-13, Pulse Opera House, Warren, \$5-\$14, 375-7017**

CIRQUE DREAMS: HOLIDAZE — Neil Goldberg musical featuring flipping gingerbread men, toy soldiers on tight wires, balancing snowmen, dancing reindeer and more, **7:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 1, Honeywell Center, Wabash, \$20-\$45, 563-1102**

SNOW WHITE & THE THREE BEARS — Storybook Theatre featuring Snow White, Stinky Cheese Man, Mother Goose, Rana Azul and The Dumb Bunnies, presented by Fort Wayne Youththeatre's Traveling Troupe, **2 p.m. Friday, Nov. 28 (Main Branch, Allen County Public Library), Fort Wayne, free, 422-6900**

Asides

AUDITIONS

CABARET (Feb. 14-MARCH 1) — Fort Wayne Civic Theatre production; contains occasional adult language and deals humorously with topics of sexuality, **6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, Arts United Center, Fort Wayne, 424-5220**

NUNSENSE (APRIL 23-MAY 10) — Auditions for 5 women 20-60, must sing, move and act; bring 32 bars of sheet music in your key to sing, **1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 7, First Presbyterian Theater, Fort Wayne, 422-6329**

Upcoming Productions

DECEMBER

GREAT RUSSIAN NUTCRACKER — Traditional Christmas ballet performed by 40 Russian artists from the Moscow Ballet, **7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4, Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$31-\$71 thru Ticketmaster and Embassy box office, 424-5665**

CHRISTMAS POTPOURRI: SONGS & STORIES FOR THE SEASON — A throwback to TV Christmas specials featuring musical acts, comedic and heartfelt sketches, **7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 4-6; 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7; 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 12-13; 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14; 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 19-20 and 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21, First Presbyterian Theater, 10-\$20, Fort Wayne, 422-6329**

LES MISÉRABLES — Hit musical based on the classic Victor Hugo novel that culminates in the 1832 uprising in Paris, France, **7:30 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Dec. 4-5; 1:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7; 7:30 p.m. Wednesday-Friday, Dec. 10-12; 1:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13; 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14; 7:30 p.m. Wednesday-Friday, Dec. 17-19; 1:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 20; 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21, Different Stages at the New Huntington Theatre, Huntington, \$44-\$59 thru box office, 454-0603**

THE CHRISTMAS ISLAND CAPER — A Bower North mystery dinner theatre, **6:30 p.m. (cocktails); 7 p.m. (dinner); show to follow, Friday, Dec. 5, Hotel Fort Wayne, Fort Wayne, \$35.95, 484-0411**

THE NUTCRACKER — Fort Wayne Ballet presents Tchaikovsky's holiday classic of magic, mystery and the Mouse King, **7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5; 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6; 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7; 7:30 p.m. Tuesday Dec. 9; 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12; 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. Saturday Dec. 13 and 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, Arts United Center, Fort Wayne, \$17-\$49, 424-6574**

YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN — Presented by Bishop Luers Drama Department, **7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5; 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, Bishop Luers High School, Fort Wayne, \$10, 456-1261**

THE NUTCRACKER — Ballet featuring the Ballet Theatre of Toledo and a live orchestra, **2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, Niswonger Performing Arts Center, Van Wert, \$15-\$35, 419-238-6722**

HANDEL'S "MESSIAH" — Full traditional Messiah score using 21st century technology to enhance voices and instruments, **7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, Robert Goldstone Performing Arts Center, Fort Wayne, \$10-\$30, 422-4226**

NUTS AND CRACKERS — Dances of winterscapes, memories of last year's blizzard, Santa and elves presented by Fort Wayne Dance Collective students, **2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, South Side High School Auditorium, Fort Wayne, \$11-\$13, 424-6574**

MAX & RUBY IN THE NUTCRACKER SUITE — Family musical dance performance, **7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10, Honeywell Center, Wabash, \$14-\$19, 563-1102**

EXCERPTS FROM THE NUTCRACKER — Performed by New American Youth Ballet, **5:30 and 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, Main Library Theatre, Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, free, 421-1200**

THE NUTCRACKER — Featuring the New American Youth Ballet, **2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, University of Saint Francis Performing Arts Center, Fort Wayne, \$15-\$20, 471-7848**

HOLIDAY ICE SPECTACULAR — World-class ice skaters perform a glamorous and comedic ice show, **7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 15, Niswonger Performing Arts Center, Van Wert, \$14-\$19, 419-238-6722**

THE STEADFAST TIN SOLDIER — Fort Wayne Youththeatre presents Hans Christian Andersen's story of a toy soldier who tries to win the heart of his ballerina true love, **7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19 (pre-show party 6 p.m. at Artlink); 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 20 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21, Black Box, Auer ArtsLab, Artlink, Fort Wayne, \$7-\$15, 422-6900**

JANUARY 2015

THE SAVANNAH DISPUTATION — A young conservative evangelist tries to save the souls of two elderly liberal Catholics in this comedy by Evan Smith, **7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Jan. 8-10; 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Jan. 16-17; 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 18 and 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Jan. 23-24, First Presbyterian Theater, Fort Wayne, \$10-\$20, 422-6329**

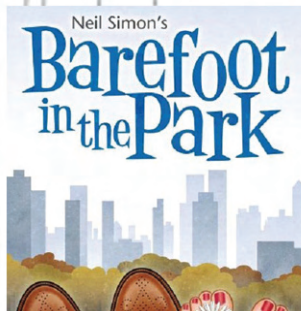
SWAN LAKE — Ballet based upon Russian folklore and German legend set to the music of Tchaikovsky, performed by The State Ballet Theatre of Russia, **7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 21, Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$28-\$58 thru Ticketmaster and Embassy box office, 424-5665**

THE SMELL OF THE KILL — Black comedy revolving around three malicious wives and three miserable husbands and three failing marriages, rated mature, **8 p.m. (7 p.m. dinner) Friday-Saturday, Jan. 23-24; Jan. 30-31; Feb. 6-7, Arena Dinner Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$35, includes dinner and show, 424-5622**

SISTER ACT — A Broadway production of the feel-good musical comedy, **3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 25, Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$27-\$57 thru Ticketmaster and Embassy box office, 424-5665**



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