



whatzup

what there is to do.

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Deck the Music Hall's Walls

By Steve Penhollow

Throughout the 60s and 70s, crooners like Bing Crosby, Andy Williams and Perry Como would take to the airwaves every December and offer variety specials.

There is nothing quite like these Christmas specials on television anymore.

The hosts would usually start by inviting viewers into their "homes" (which had been mocked up on soundstages), and then they would sing the Christmas songs they'd become associated with. They'd also visit with any neighbors who happened to stop by — like Michael Landon, Sally Struthers or David Bowie.

The results were cheesy but irresistible.

It is hard to find a contemporary singer on the national scene who is as closely associated with Christmas as Crosby, Williams and Como were.

But we have one here in Fort Wayne.

He's Mike Conley.

On Saturday, December 20 Conley will be a featured performer at the Summit City's perennial yuletide variety show, A C2G Christmas.

In 2009 the local rocker released his self-produced dream project, a CD called *It's a Conley Christmas*.

In the years that have followed, one of Conley's renditions was included on a national Christmas compilation that also featured Belinda Carlisle of the Go-Go's and Dave Stewart of Eurythmics (among others).

And Conley was the special guest artist during the Fort Wayne Philharmonic's 2011 Holiday Pops concerts.

And in 2012 the first A C2G Christmas was held.

This year's edition of A C2G Christmas also features Sunny Taylor, Hannah Bushong, the Reindeer Quartet, the Gregg Bender Band and Smooth Edge 2.

There will be no celebrity neighbors involved, but Conley promises to expand the definition of variety by "telling stupid stories in between acts."

Admission to the show is only \$5 with the donation of a canned food item for the Community Harvest Food Bank.

Pastor Mark Minnick, C2G's general manager, described the comparison of the show to Christmas variety specials of the late 20th century as "perfect," a good thing because this writer wasn't likely to give it up without a fight.

With the addition this year of the Reindeer Quartet (four professional string players who, according to Conley, will race over to the Embassy Theatre after their C2G set to participate in Holiday Pops), A C2G Christmas has truly



Clockwise from top: Mike Conley, The Reindeer Quartet, Smooth Edge 2. Featured on the cover (left to right: Mike Conley, Sunny Taylor, Hannah Bushong, The Gregg Bender Band



A C2G CHRISTMAS
THE REINDEER QUARTET, SUNNY TAYLOR,
HANNAH BUSHONG, SMOOTH EDGE 2,
THE GREGG BENDER BAND & MIKE CONLEY
6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 20
C2G Music Hall
323 W. Baker St., Fort Wayne
Tix: \$5-\$10, www.c2gmusichall.com

attained "extraordinary" levels of variety, Minnick said.

"It really does feature the best local talent," he said.

New to the concept this year are The Gregg Bender Band.

Bender said this concert will represent the first time his band has played Christmas music in a live setting.

"Being involved in this is really a big deal for us," he said. "I went to the show last year to see Mike Conley, Sunny Taylor, the Bushongs and all the others because I respect them all as musicians and wanted to get a little holiday spirit going. Mike's Christmas CD is one of the best you'll ever hear."

When the call came asking him and his bandmates to take part this year, Bender said it was "a surprise and nerve-wracking all at the same time."

"This is huge for us," he said. "What a great venue, and how cool to be part of the

Christmas show! It has pushed us as a band to learn new material that is true to the original artist but also encompasses our style."

For this show only, Bender is adding a female vocalist to his usual five-piece band.

She's June McCullough, director of the Voices of Unity choir.

Bender said this concert will probably eclipse his favorite musical Christmas memory: his acquisition at the age of six of the Alvin and the Chipmunks album, which he "played till the grooves wore away."

Another fresh addition to this burgeoning C2G tradition is the seven-person a capella group, Smooth Edge 2.

The name Smooth Edge 2 would seem to suggest that somewhere in the world, a Smooth Edge 1 is performing, and that elsewhere, a lawsuit against Smooth Edge 2 is percolating.

But Smooth Edge 2 are no Creedence Clearwater Revisited, ELO 2 or Gallagher Too.

Ron Harker said the name was inspired by a high school band that was fronted by the brother of one of his fellow singers.

Harker remembers saying, "We can't possibly call ourselves Smooth Edge if that was your brother's high school band name."

"And thus Smooth Edge 2 was born," he said, laughing.

It is not known what most people think of when they

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Since we're not publishing December 25 or January 1, this is our last issue of 2014. This means (1) that you'll find this week's calendars a bit fatter than usual, as we've made sure they've extended at least until January 8, 2015; and (2) this is our last chance to wish you, the loyal whatzup reader a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year (or simply Happy Holidays, for those who prefer it that way).

It also means that this issue includes our annual New Year's Eve party pullout section which you'll find on pages 11-14. There seems to be something of a theme this year as, at least judging from the ads in the pullout, the cost of a New Year's Eve on the town has gone down dramatically over the past couple of years. Whatever your preferred method of ringing out the old and ringing in the new, you're most likely going to find something fun and affordable in this special section.

As we mentioned in this space last week, for the first time ever, all whatzup readers will be able to participate in our readers poll nominating process starting the first of the year. Check whatzup.com early next month, as our intention is to have the nominating ballots online sometime between January 2 and January 8. Nominating will go on all month, with the actual ballot going online sometime in February. That's going to push the Whammy Awards into later in the year and, with any luck at all, much warmer weather.

Meanwhile, there's plenty to keep you busy as the holidays wind down, and you'll find pretty much all of it in these pages. So read on, find your fun and be sure to tell everyone you meet while you're out and about that whatzup sent you.

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whatzup

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No Part Too Intimidating

By Jen Poiry-Prough

"I love connecting with people," says Fort Wayne actress/singer/pageant coach Dotty Miller. "I was named Dotty, after all, so I guess I 'connect the dots.'"

Born in Burbank, California, Miller says she grew up "pretty much as I am now: fun-loving, happy, outgoing and self-centered. People would say, 'My, what a pretty little girl!' I answered, 'I know it!'"

She was a natural performer from a long line of performers.

"My mother told me her father sang in minstrel shows, churches, weddings and funerals," she says. One of her sisters is a choir member and soloist in Pittsburgh, and she has a nephew who is a community theatre actor in Altoona, Pennsylvania.

Miller has enjoyed the spotlight herself from an early age.

"My parents always had me reciting a poem or singing at gatherings," she says.

The applause made a lasting impression.

"I was singing along with and matching Julie Andrews' voice in *Mary Poppins* at 6," she says. "When my singing voice was discovered by elementary music teachers, I usually got solos in performances."

Unfortunately, her audiences weren't able to get too attached to the precocious young singer. Miller attended 17 different elementary schools and as many churches throughout her childhood.

Her father was an independent contractor who installed inter-office telephone equipment during the national upgrade to the direct distance dialing system used today. His work took him to 36 different states where they would live for varying amounts of time depending on the breadth of each assignment.

"During one school year, I went to four schools in four different states," she says. "I would be asked to join a church choir in the community in which we were living at the time, sing once or twice, then move."

Her family settled in northwest Ohio when she was in 7th grade, but she didn't move to Fort Wayne until 12 years ago. "This will probably remain 'home base,'" she says now, "but I still love to travel."

Miller saw her first live theatrical performance when she was in junior high, but loved movie musicals and acting them out.

When it came time to audition for her Bryan High School production of *The Music Man*, she had so many vocal auditions and performances under her belt that she was cast as understudy for the female lead, Marian Paroo, even though she was only a freshman.

The following year she played Fruma Sarah in *Fiddler on the Roof*. "I really wanted to be Golda," she says, "but I seem to be

better suited for crazies."

As an adult she continued to act and has found Fort Wayne a city full of great opportunities. She has long ago lost count of the number of productions she has been in, but today she aims for three shows per year.

Auditions continue to be relatively low-



stress for her, due in part to her attitude about the casting process.

"What is the worst the director can say?" she asks rhetorically, then answers, "'No.' The part may not be right for you in the eyes of that director, but if you don't ask, you don't get."

Once she has been cast, she spends time researching the time, circumstances and history of the show. She also memorizes her lines as quickly as possible so that the script doesn't get in the way of onstage movements.

But most of all, she has fun.

"It's called 'a play' for a reason," she says. "Play with it, have fun, work hard. Never take the audience for granted."

Miller believes in working hard and having fun in all aspects of her life. She earns her living in human resources for Centurion Industries Inc., in Garrett. Several years ago, one of her personal connections, Miss Indiana preliminary pageant director Shirley Souder, asked her to use her HR skills to help her mock interview local pageant titleholders to prepare them for the Miss Indiana competition.

"This snowballed into my becoming a director of a local preliminary pageant to Miss Indiana," she says, "which segued into judging and emceeding pageants. Then I was coaching successful contestants in areas of interview, stage presence, and personal appearances and interactions — things they carry into the world of college or business for the rest of their lives."

As a human resources professional, she

also gets to use her performance skills on a daily basis.

"My focus is recruitment, employee involvement and training," she says. "I'm 'on stage' every day at work. Whether during a new hire orientation, dishing out food — and comments — at a company luncheon, or presenting to or updating employees on their benefits, it's like improv night every day."

Her current onstage role in First Presbyterian Theater's *Christmas Pot-pourri* has had improvisational elements as well. The show is a brand new musical revue (think Bing Crosby/Andy Williams variety show with skits and classic songs) written by Jack Cantey, and like most new shows, it experienced numerous rewrites and script tweaks as it began to come together with the cast.

"We auditioned for the show in June and started music rehearsal in October," Miller says. "In the meantime, we had a couple cast adjustments." She calls the challenges fun, saying, "It's all about your attitude."

Miller says the revue is "entertaining, uplifting, poignant, spiritual and comical. It's a good family show to get the holiday season started."

She enjoys sharing her love for theater with her family, including "The Blondterage" — her trio of granddaughters, Daphne, Stella and Amelia Gramling. But for now, they are content to remain in the audience.

"They haven't followed me into the theater, concert halls, choirs or pageants," she says, "but they all take dance lessons and perform with their studio."

She does, however, make it a point to schedule one-on-one theater trips with each of them. "They seem to enjoy these outings and talk about them thereafter," she says. "They get to do other fun things with their parents but this is 'our thing.'"

Other lessons she hopes to teach her granddaughters are to remain open to possibilities, to not be afraid of taking a chance and to always be willing to make new connections.

"Dwight Wilson assistant directed *Dreamgirls* at the Fort Wayne Civic Theatre a few years ago," she says, "and he loves to tell a story about auditions for that show."

The green room was filled with youthful African American performers, she says, "and then I showed up — a middle-aged, white woman who had loved the show since the 1980s and just wanted to be a part of it."

She went on to win an Anthony Award for her performance.

"Through the years, I have wondered if I got a part only because no one else auditioned for it," she says. "Who knows? My advice to anyone who is interested in auditioning for something, even if they don't think they're right for the show: what do you have to lose? Show up. It could be the fulfillment of a dream or the role of your career."

Remember That Name

By Chris Hupe

You can imagine the stories that might surround something called a Trichotomous Hippopotamus.

“Archaeologists in Uganda recently unearthed the bones of the rare trichotomous hippopotamus. The animal was rumored to have lived in the area millions of years ago, but until now was never proven to have existed.”

Or “The newest attraction at the Lincoln Park Zoo is the trichotomous hippopotamus. It will be on display throughout the summer in the African Safari edition of the park. Get your tickets now!”

The reality is that Trichotomous Hippopotamus is the name of a new band right here in the Fort Wayne area, a band comprised of three musicians with a like mind for creating “high energy, in-your-face rock n’ roll with roots in blues and soul.”

Judging from their success in this year’s *whatzup/Wooden*

Nickel Battle of the Bands (they placed third), they are connecting with an audience that craves the same things they do and are creating new fans with every song.

Influenced by the likes of The Beatles, Led Zepelin, The Doors, The Strokes, John Mayer Trio and Soulive, the band “originally started out playing straight-ahead blues, but we couldn’t turn the energy down,” according to lead guitarist and vocalist Ryan Lentine. The result is a band that seemingly will tackle just about any type of music, putting its own spin on it and thus making it decidedly Trichotomous Hippopotamus.

Songs start out with a good idea and simply progress from there.

“We write about life, relationships, good times and bad times. Somebody brings a riff, chord progression or whatever to the table and we hash out the form and different sections together as a band,” says Lentine.

Though Trichotomous Hippopotamus are new to the scene, the band members are not. Lentine is also a member of Elements of Cosmos and The Mojo Band, recently joined up with Mason Dillon and has played a few gigs with G-Money. Bassist Jesse Gaze, currently pursuing an art degree at Ball State, has played with 2013 Battle of the Bands champions Trackless as well as freelance jazz and orchestral double bass gigs. Drummer Connor O’Shaughnessy also recently linked up with Mason Dillon and has played in Awkward Silence. He frequently plays with G-Money and the Fabulous Rhythm as well as other freelance gigs.

According to Lentine, putting a band of this caliber together wasn’t as difficult as it may seem. In fact, it actually started with a simple text message.

Lentine and Gaze “had been talking about working together on a project in the spring of 2014 and put a bunch of ideas on the table, but weren’t really sure what we wanted to do,” Lentine said.

Lentine later got a text from Gaze that said, “Let’s start a trio.” Lentine happened to be in the same room

as O’Shaughnessy at the time. “[I] turned to him and said ‘so you doin’ anything?’ And the rest was history,” he said.

This year’s Battle of the Bands shows were the band’s first live shows, the first of many to come, most likely. Though they didn’t win the contest, the experience put the band on the map and, according to Lentine, was an overall positive experience. “Richard (Replogle) and Bob (Roets) really did a great job this year and made it a great experience. It was certainly great publicity for us, considering

our first show ever was round one and our third show ever was at the Finals. It got us started off on the right foot. There was also a really nice communal atmosphere between all the bands that were competing.”

True to expectations, a Trichotomous Hippopotamus show is a decidedly raucous, fun time. Deep rooted in the blues/rock tradition of Joe Bonamassa and North Mississippi All Stars, the band is a tight-knit unit that also seems to crave the spontaneity that playing the blues allows. Lentine handles the front-man duties with ease and exudes an air of confidence seldom seen in the local scene, while Gaze and O’Shaughnessy contribute effortlessly. The band’s songs display a high level of musicianship and song-writing ability while maintaining an air of accessibility for novice fans. They are a true rock stars in the making.

At the same time, they are still a developing band trying to find its way in the scene. Short term, says Lentine, “we’re currently working on getting as many gigs as possible while growing our fan base and putting our first album together.”

So that brings us back to that name. The band members acknowledge that Trichotomous Hippopotamus is a bit difficult to pronounce for some, but other than that, they don’t seem to think it’s really that big of a deal.

“It’s actually just a result of ‘too much time with a thesaurus,’ Lentine explained. “We’re a trio, or trichotomous, which rhymes with hippopotamus. Hence, Trichotomous Hippopotamus. Riveting.”



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TOP SELLERS @

WOODEN NICKEL (Week ending 12/14/14)

TW	LW	ARTIST/Album
1	-	GOV'T MULE <i>Dark Side of the Mule</i>
2	1	AC/DC <i>Rock or Bust</i>
3	2	PINK FLOYD <i>The Endless River</i>
4	6	FOO FIGHTERS <i>Sonic Highways</i>
5	5	SMASHING PUMPKINS <i>Monuments to an Elegy</i>
6	4	JOE BONAMASSA <i>Different Shades of Blue</i>
7	9	SHE & HIM <i>Classics</i>
8	8	J. COLE <i>2014 Forest Hills Drive</i>
9	3	SUNNY TAYLOR <i>Map to the Fire</i>
10	-	NICKY MINAJ <i>Pinkprint</i>

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Taylor Swift 1989

Taylor Swift's recent immersion into 80s-style synthpop might be seen as an act of betrayal by those fans who will always view her as the fresh-faced country star with tear-drops on her guitar. As much as this somewhat radical stylistic change reeks of corporate label persuasion, Swift explains in the liner notes to *1989* that her musical reinvention was born more out of an intuitive need to change the way she told her stories. Her new musical direction in 1989, inspired by Peter Gabriel and Annie Lennox, is already acting as the gateway to those who admit that they want to like Taylor Swift but don't like country music. That's definitely more than what I can say for Garth Brooks' alternative rock misadventure as Chris Gaines.

As a pop album, *1989* succeeds brilliantly, keeping the music simplistic, fun and catchy. The lead single, "Shake It Off," sends a positive message to those who deal with criticisms large and small. The message is most relevant to Swift herself, whose reputation is often at the mercy of media sources that swear by her as the biggest star in modern music while in the same breath criticizing the turn-over rate of her relationships.

The lyrics are the real meat and potatoes of 1989, with Swift recalling moving from her hometown of Reading, Pennsylvania to the "loudest and brightest city in the world" ("Welcome to New York"), her wry honesty about past lovers ("Blank Space") and implying abuse in what should be a healthy relationship in an album highlight ("Bad Blood").

While her ability to write highly personal, yet accessible lyrics is still in fine form, what remains slightly disappointing is how the music doesn't exactly reciprocate the heart and soul of its creator. Some of the music on *1989* sounds more like product than genuine production. Missed musical opportunities prevent the album from distinguishing itself from the other artists who try to replicate the sonic clichés of the 80s.

Despite the music's mechanized heart, there are still traces of human sympathy in songs like the Imogen Heap-produced "Clean." Over a low and steady synth line with a vibraphone melody, Swift uses the metaphor of drug addiction to get over a relationship: "10 months sober / I must admit / Just because you're clean / Don't mean you don't miss it ... Now that I'm clean / I'm never gonna risk it."

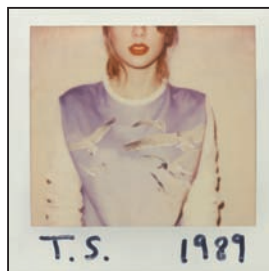
Darker implications have lurked underneath the seemingly innocuous material on her previous albums, but on *1989* the pop star finally becomes the adult songwriter she has always aspired to be. If gaining this kind of maturity meant trading in her acoustic guitar for a Yamaha DX7, Swift has every right to be rewarded for taking the risk. (Colin McCallister)

Steve Taylor & The Perfect Foil

Goliath

Way back in 1987 Steve Taylor wrote and directed a video for nearly every song on his *I Predict 1990* album. It was obvious that filmmaking was in his blood, so it was no surprise when he announced in 1993 that he would no longer make albums, but would instead focus on videos for other bands and a feature film. That film ended up being *Blue Like Jazz*, and it came out in 2012. That's a big project. So what to do after completing a massive long-term goal? Why not grab some music veteran pals and make an album? And why not tap into your enthusiastic fan base via Kickstarter and exceed your goal three times over? But first you have to stop by the DMV (Department of Music Veterans) and renew your license to rock (search "Steve Taylor DMV" on YouTube for one of the most clever and humorous videos I've seen in a long time).

Could any album be worth a wait of over two decades? Probably not. *Chinese Democracy* certainly wasn't. Fortunately, I am relieved and pleased to announce that this new album, *Goliath*, is crazy good from start to finish, easily one of the best I've heard this year. The first few listens, though, left me lukewarm. The songs seemed overly simple, and none of Taylor's usually satirical lyrics caught my ear. But then it happened. The song was "Moonshot" which starts airy



Spins

BACKTRACKS

Big Star

#1 Record (1972)

Big Star, led by Alex Chilton and Chris Bell, formed in Memphis in the early 1970s. Borrowing the harmony and soul of the late 60s Beatles, I consider this band to be one of the best of all time at blending magnificent lyrics with superb musicianship.

This debut album opens with "Feel," a hard T. Rex-like rock number with a touch of Alice Cooper and with a staggering brass-laden bridge. "The Ballad of El Goodo" brings the tempo down and has an ELO vibe, great guitars and beautiful harmony.

"In the Street" may be their most recognizable song, if only because Cheap Trick covered it for the opening credits of *That 70's Show*. It's followed by the groovy ballad "Thirteen" on which Chilton and Bell share an acoustic guitar that could bring tears to your eyes. "Don't Lie to Me" brings back the solid rock n' roll, before side one closes with the psych-folk gem in "The India Song." Take a breath, flip it over, and explore side two; it just gets better.

"When My Baby's Beside Me" is one of my favorite tracks on the album. It's a great rock song that has smart 70s lyrics and a stepped-up lead guitar in front of great percussion. "My Life is Right" also has a genuine rock sound and has endearing lyrics, like something off of Boston's first album. "Try Again" strums away at the soul and sounds uncannily like something George Harrison might have released as a solo artist. It's just that good.

Chilton was involved with a few more Big Star releases and had a celebrated solo career after relocating to New Orleans in the 80s. Sadly, he died of a heart attack in 2010, but he left us with some of the best music ever recorded. (Dennis Donahue)



and modest – just vocals and clean guitar – when all of a sudden a big furry bass dive-bombs in and turns the entire song into a funky retro swagger (think Spoon). It was then that I started to realize how incredibly well recorded everything was, and I started to hear all kinds of nuances supporting but never distracting from what I first thought were simple songs.

For instance, the guitar that opens "In Layers" is sublimely ratty with the (likely vintage, not modeled) amplifier on the verge of falling apart. This killer song sports its own heavy, dirty groove, helped along by judicious use of horns, redefining the term "blistering." I was firmly in the grip of the Tom Petty-esque "Double Negative" when I realized who I was dealing with. Guitarist Jimmy Abegg has "played the big rooms" since before I learned how to type, and drummer Peter Furler is known in some circles as "OHMYGOSH-ITSPE-TERFURLER!", drummer, lead singer, songwriter and founder of Christian music's Newsboys. And then there's John Mark Painter. Don't be fooled because this man is "just" playing the bass. This is the guy behind the orchestrations of early Ben Folds Five albums. Oh yeah, he's also a multi-instrumentalist (those horns don't play themselves), composer and studio guru, to name just a few of his accomplishments. How can an album sound simultaneously trashy and crystal clear? Only Mr. Painter knows.

Aside from the three mentioned above, it's difficult to pick out favorites on this album. The album rips to life with "Only A Ride," each song hitting hard in their self-described "rock, but in an indie-alternative kind of way," slipping in shards of humor and often marinating in a funky groove reminiscent of 70s-era Rolling Stones, not letting up until track 10, the contemplative "A Life Preserved."

But look at me, prattling on and on about the music and leaving the crafty lyrics in the cold. Well how about "The saints came marching in this morning / And they marched right out the door / Wholly offended / No pun intended." This is from "Comedian," a song which hipsters might say has much in common with The National, but to me sounds like a perfect Steve Taylor closing song, opening quietly with piano, a touch of cello and timpani, and blazing to life halfway through with a wall of distorted guitars and hissing cymbals.

It's a shame *Goliath* came out in November because it's raucous, raw songs are perfect for blasting from a car with the windows rolled down. Fortunately it's good enough that I'm certain this high-energy album will still be on my MP3 player in spring. (Jason Hoffman)

Continued on page 7

Medicine

Home Everywhere

After listening to Medicine's new album, *Home Everywhere*, for three days straight, I was still finding new nuggets of aural beauty every time I hit play. Brad



Laner, Beth Thompson and Jim Goodall don't make cut and dry kind of albums. They make albums that beg for repeated listens. Much like the films of Bergman, Goddard and Kurosawa, their records have layers that must be peeled back with repeated listens. You find meaning each time you sit down and hit play.

Back when Medicine first began making records in the early 90s, their music was coarse, jagged noise with pop melodies hidden underneath and very little subtlety in the sound. The melodies and catchy hooks were there, but you got bruised and battered on the way to that pop bliss. Last year Laner, Thompson and Goodall returned as Medicine after nearly two decades of quiet and gave us the excellent *To the Happy Few*. It was the sound they had always made, but honed in and more rapturous. Laner had become quite proficient behind the mixing console, and his ear for sonic layers and labyrinthine soundscapes came out wonderfully on that 2013 return to form. With *Home Everywhere*, Medicine have made a record that's as inviting and beautiful as it is challenging and abrasive.

"The Reclaimed Girls" starts off in a flurry of noise and static before exploding into a jangly pop gem, complete with what sounds like harpsichord halfway through. The contrast between the harsh noise bomb at the beginning and during the chorus works to accentuate the great pop hook feel in the verses. Goodall, as always, comes across as a proficient and solid drummer. Like Spoon's Jim Eno, he doesn't use flash and odd time signatures to impress. He uses rock-solid beats and powerful drumming to move the song along.

"Turning" has an almost robotic, disco vibe to it. In an alternate universe this would be playing on mainstream radio and kids would be playing it at their freshman prom. As it stands, that alternate universe has yet to be found so I'm resigned to put this song on as many mixes for friends as I can. "Move Along - Down the Road," if you've never heard Medicine's first two albums, is a great way to get acquainted with their younger, hungry sound. It takes that visceral, ear-splitting screech they perfected on *Shot Forth Self Living* and *The Buried Life* and puts it through Laner's current prodigious studio finesse, resulting in something quite wonderful. The minor key bend in the chorus is quite lovely, too. "Don't Be Slow" ebbs and flows with a drugged-out dance groove with intermittent blasts of chaos thrown in for good measure. "Cold Life" is beautiful pop seen through the looking glass. It has the sound of a *Smile Sessions* B side. The harmonies underneath Medicine's sonic blanket bring to mind Brian Wilson at his absolute best.

"They Will Not Die" is yet another blissful pop stunner, at times musically reminiscent of *Out of the Cradle*-era Lindsey Buckingham (an artist who to my mind seems like musical brethren to Brad Laner.) "It's All About You" showcases Thompson's great voice without all the layers of sonic grime. The epic closer "Home Everywhere" is over 11 minutes of beauty and chaos. It's almost mantra-like in its breezy beginnings before morphing into something cosmic and inner light-like. Very few musicians are doing what Medicine is doing, folks. Very few indeed.

Home Everywhere is Medicine re-vitalized and busting at their musical seams with ideas and life. It's an album that's lush, dense, extreme, and simply stunning. (John Hubner)

This Will Destroy You

Another Language

It's hard to describe the overwhelming joy that emanates from the speakers as opening track "New Topia" from This Will Destroy You's newest album, *Another Language*, plays. It's both extraterrestrial



and of this earth, pure light extracted from the beginning of existence. This Will Destroy You have toiled in this kind of territory before; their self-titled debut and 2011's excellent *Tunnel Blanket* set the tone for where this Texas band was heading and what stories they wanted to tell. But on *Another Language* they extract the essence of their musical scope and create this bountiful, overwhelmingly beautiful noise concentrate. "New Topia" is the introduction to This Will Destroy You's new world. That world is called *Another Language*, and it's amazing.

It's easy to just throw these guys in the same music section as their Texas brethren Explosions in The Sky, but that would be a huge mistake. While both bands create vast landscapes and contemplative moments of musical journey, they couldn't be more different in arriving at their respective destinations. EiTS are very heart-on-sleeve and simple in that what you see is what you get. This Will Destroy You layer their sound and their songs with white noise, distant voices and, on earlier works, a feeling of calm doom. On *Tunnel Blanket* they created one of the most beautifully sad and hopeful pieces of music I've ever heard, "Killed the Lord, Left for the New World." It feels like the moment where a black, engulfing sky momentarily cracks to reveal pure, otherworldly light at a funeral. Hope amidst grief. With *Another Language* the band has come full circle and have both expanded and compressed its music.

"New Topia" is ecstatic in its energy, and once the jagged drums kick in, you feel an almost spiritual release. "Dustism" is like this perfect bonding of slowcore and doom metal. It crawls rapturously with ethereal noise and the squall of something darker in the distance. "Serpent Mound" sounds like a musical marriage of Mogwai and Sigur Rós. It's beautiful on the surface with something slightly alarming underneath a thin layer of ice. The ice breaks midway through and you fall into the icy depths and something both sublime and visceral.

The "sound" or "style" of music This Will Destroy You have created on *Another Language* (and in turn have evolved into) is something more ambient than straight ahead rock. It's somewhere between doom metal, shoegaze and soundscapes. If that scares you, let me put those fears to rest: this music is absolutely beautiful. It's also harrowing, overwhelming, contemplative and vast. Each song is an emotional journey. "War Prayer," "The Puritan" and "Mother Opiate" act as mini suites and create this flow of what could be a celebration of life and/or death. "Memory Loss" is hypnotic, moving in and out and surprisingly lulling even at its most intense. This great song is what Sigur Rós would sound like as a doom metal band. "God's Teeth" is as striking as the song title suggests. It's moving and a beautiful note to end on.

With *Another Language*, This Will Destroy You have transcended any style or genre. They have created a modern piece of orchestral music. Much in the sense the classic composers composed works of music to become closer to God, I imagine that this album could indeed bring you closer to some higher power through its notes, swells, movements and emotion. Where do This Will Destroy You go from here? I don't know, but I can't wait to see. (John Hubner)

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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

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. **HOURS:** 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Monday; 9 a.m.-11 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

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

Music • 323 W. Baker St., Fort Wayne • 260-426-6464
EXPECT: Great live music on one of Fort Wayne's best stages. Diverse musical genres from local, regional and national performers, all in a comfortable, all-ages, family-friendly, intimate atmosphere. Excellent venue for shows, events, presentations, meetings and gatherings. **EATS:** Local vendors may cater during shows. **GETTING THERE:** Downtown on Baker between Ewing and Harrison; just south of Parkview Field. **HOURS:** Shows typically start at 8 p.m.; doors open an hour earlier. **ALCOHOL:** Beer & wine during shows only; **PMT:** Cash, check

CALHOUN STREET SOUPS, SALADS & SPIRITS "CS3"

Music/Variety • 1915 S. Calhoun St., Fort Wayne • 260-456-7005
EXPECT: Great atmosphere, DJ Friday night, live shows, weekly drink specials, private outdoor patio seating. **EATS:** Daily specials, full menu of sandwiches, soups, salads, weekend dinner specials and appetizers. **GETTING THERE:** Corner of South Calhoun Street and Masterson; ample parking on street and lot behind building. **HOURS:** 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 11 a.m.-midnight or later Friday-Saturday; closed Sunday. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, Amex

CHAMPIONS SPORTS BAR

Sports Bar • 1150 S. Harrison St., Fort Wayne • 260-467-1638
EXPECT: High-action sports watching experience featuring 30 HD TVs, state-of-the-art sound systems and booths with private flat screen TVs. Karaoke Thursday nights. UFC Fight Nights. Great drink specials. **EATS:** Varied menu to suit any palate. **GETTING THERE:** Corner of Jefferson Blvd. and S. Harrison St., inside Courtyard by Marriott. **HOURS:** 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Sun.-Thurs., 11 a.m.-12 a.m. Fri.-Sat. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Amex, Disc, ATM

CHECKERZ BAR & GRILL

Pub/Tavern • 1706 W. Till Rd., Fort Wayne • 260-489-0286
EXPECT: Free WIFI, all sports networks on 10 TVs. 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

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SAL DEMILIO
FRI.-SAT., DEC. 19-20 • 10PM
COUGAR HUNTER
FRIDAY, DEC. 26 • 10PM
DR. SUESS
SATURDAY, DEC. 27 • 10PM
TEN YEAR REIGN
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 31 • 10PM
BIG DICK & THE PENETRATORS
SATURDAY, JAN. 3 • 10PM
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AMERICAN IDOL KARAOKE
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SUM MORZ CHRISTMAS PARTY
 SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20 • 2:00
CHRISTMAS PARTY
 CARRY-IN, WHITE ELEPHANT GIFTS
 FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26 • 10:00-2:00
BLACK DOOR
 EVERY SUNDAY • 9:00-1:00
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Calendar • Live Music & Comedy

Thursday, December 18

ALICIA PYLE QUARTET — Trans Siberian Orchestra tribute at Phoenix, Fort Wayne, 7:30-10:30 p.m., \$3, 387-6571
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 & COMPANY — R&B/variety at AJ's, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 434-1980
DAN SMYTH — Acoustic at Lake George Retreat, Fremont, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 833-2266
DANCE PARTY w/DJ RICH — Variety at Columbia Street West, Fort Wayne, 10:30 p.m., cover, 422-5055
ERIC CLANCY — Piano at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 6:30-9:30 p.m., no cover, 426-3442

FORT WAYNE PHILHARMONIC & PHILHARMONIC CHORUS — Handel's Messiah at Rhinehart Music Center, IPFW, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m., 422, 481-6555
HUBIE ASHCRAFT — Acoustic at Checkerz, Fort Wayne, 7:30-9:30 p.m., no cover, 489-0286
JEFF McDONALD — Variety at Don Hall's Guesthouse, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 489-2524
MIKE MOWRY — Rock/variety at Beamer's, Fort Wayne, 7-9 p.m., no cover, 625-1002
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

SAL DEMILIO — Comedy at Dupont Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 8:30 p.m., free, 483-1311

Friday, December 19

2 BEFORE NOON — Jazz/pop at Dash-In, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m., no cover, 423-3595
AARON STARK BAND — Variety at Piggy's, Angola, 9:30 p.m., \$5, 665-7550
BIG CADDY DADDY — Rock/variety at The Venue, Angola, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., \$5, 665-3922
BROTHER — Rock at Checkerz, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 489-0286
CHRIS WORTH & COMPANY — R&B/variety at Arena, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 557-1563
CLUSTERFOLK — Neo folk at Acme, Fort Wayne, 9-11 p.m., no cover, 480-2264

Old Dog Doing a New Trick Again

Those of us who are parents can probably remember a time when we could go out and look for a good time on the town on any given night of the week. There was no bath time, no bedtime, no soccer practice — just the flexibility to do as we pleased. As long as we got a couple hours of sleep before work, we were fine, right? Okay, maybe it wasn't that much of a party, but there was a lot more freedom to hang with your buds. Sure, I still take in my share of the Fort's nightlife, but 10 years ago I was a little more active. I could just snag a *whatzup*, scroll down the list of nightly entertainment and go to the most happening place.

One band that was pretty hot during that time was Go Dog Go. Matt Kelley, Chris Dodds, Mark Winters and Eric Federspiel were a foursome to be reckoned with, as they packed houses with their setlist of covers, bar standards and awe-inspiring originals. In 2002 they gained a Whammy for Best Local Cover Band, and a year later released their debut, *Long Story Short*. Things were looking pretty good for the Dog, but eventually the band went on hiatus. As a matter of fact, their last show was on New Year's Eve 2005. After that, you could still find the guys dabbling with other local musical endeavors in town, but GDG seemed to be on the back burner.

Some of you may have seen Dodds performing at Columbia Street West during their Friday happy hour gigs, a gig he held for a number of years until last December when he decided to end his tenure. As it happened, the other members of GDG actually hijacked his last night and together put on a great acoustic set.



Out and About
NICK BRAUN

"It ended up being a pretty great night for the band and our friends and families," remembers guitarist Kelley. The folks at C Street must have enjoyed the reunion as well, as they've booked the band for another reunion this December. That's right, Go Dog Go will reunite on Friday, December 19 for a show at Columbia Street West, a room they dominated a decade ago.

"We've half-learned a ton of songs and expect to be suitably loud and sloppy, and this year we're bringing the electric guitars," says Kelley. "I have to admit it's been pretty special to do this, and I could imagine these shows becoming something of an annual tradition."

Let's hope so.

That evening, they'll also be joined by their buddy Tim Gordon who will handle the harmony vocals.

The show will run 5-8 p.m., perfect for those who need to get home before their kids' bedtimes. Even better, it's a great place to go after work, kick off the Christmas week, throw back a couple of cold ones and indulge in some top-notch music. Since this show should draw some folks out of the woodwork, it should also be a great opportunity to catch up with old friends and the guys from Go Dog Go. See you there!

niknui76@yahoo.com

KOOL KEITH

9 p.m. Friday, December 19
Cover Girls Ladies and
Gentleman's Club
1525 Production Rd., Fort Wayne
\$5, 470-5757

Fans of horrorcore, rejoice. Keith "Kool Keith" Thornton — the artist otherwise known as Dr. Doom, Dr. Octagon, Black Elvis and Poppa Large — will be in Fort Wayne Friday, December 19, bringing the beats and, of course, the cool to Cover Girls Ladies and Gentlemen's Club.

Thornton, a native of the Bronx, is a founding member of the Ultramagnetic MC's. Known for his odd and eccentric behavior (rumor has it he was briefly insti-



KOOL KEITH

tutionalized in New York's Bellevue Hospital in 1988) but also his incredible output and exceptional use of internal rhymes, Kool Keith has a 50-strong discography and is credited with influencing Eminem, among others.

Since he debuted his act in the early 90s, Thornton has worked with Ice T, Tim Dog, Marc Live, H-Bomb and the Yeah Yeah Yeahs. Not one to be modest, he doesn't mind telling the media that he invented horrorcore, a sub-genre of rap devoted to the spooky side of the street. He also likes to bring sexy back now and again, and sometimes refers to his work as "pornocore."

Forget labels. Kool Keith's music clearly has a core and a beat, and you can dance to it.

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

COUGAR HUNTER — 80s glam rock at Dupont Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., \$5, 483-1311

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

DAYSRING WOMEN'S GROUP w/TIM & SHARON — Christian at Cupbearer Café, Auburn, 7-9 p.m., no cover, 920-8734

DJENETIC DRIFT w/R.O.E., BILLY EAST, 2RQ — Rock/rap at Brass Rail, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., \$5, 260-5303

DOUG HARTLE — Variety at Venice, Fort Wayne, 6:30-9:30 p.m., \$1, 482-1618

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

FERNANDO TARANGO & CHRIS RUTKOWSKI — Jazz at LaSalle Bed & Breakfast, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., \$20, 422-0851

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

FRED ROTHERT — Acoustic at Friendly Fox, Fort Wayne, 6:30-8:30 p.m., no cover, 745-3369

Go Dog Go — Reunion show at Columbia Street West, Fort Wayne, 5 p.m., no cover, 422-5055

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

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

JOHN CURRAN & RENEGADE — Country at American Legion Post 241, Waynedale, 8:30-11:30 p.m., no cover, 747-7851

JON DURNELL BAND — Rock/variety at Eagles Post 3512, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 436-3512

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

KILL THE RABBIT — Rock at Martin's, Garrett, 10:30 p.m., no cover, 357-4290

KOOL KEITH (BLACK ELVIS, DR. OCTAGON, ETC.) — Rap at Cover Girls, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m., \$5, 470-5757

MARILYN MCCOO & BILLY DAVIS JR. — Holiday R&B at Niswonger, Van Wert, Ohio, 7:30 p.m., \$20-\$30, 419-238-6722

QUINASITY — R&B/funk at Deer Park, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 432-8966

SHELLY DIXON & JEFF McRAE — Acoustic at Pulver's Pub, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 492-0206

SMOOTH EDGE 2 — Holiday vocal jazz at Phoenix, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., \$3, 387-6571

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

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

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

Saturday, December 20

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

AMMUNITION & LIVING STONES — Christian at Cupbearer Café, Auburn, 7-9 p.m., no cover, 920-8734

BC FUZZ — Funk/variety at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 426-3442

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

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

BREAKING TRADITION — Variety at Rack and Helen's, New Haven, 10 p.m., no cover, 749-5396

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

COUGAR HUNTER — 80s glam rock at Dupont Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., \$5, 483-1311

DAVID WOLFE ACOUSTIC SHOW — Acoustic at Portside Pizze, Columbia City, 9 p.m., no cover, 691-3333

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

THE ELECTRIC PANDA w/TOTALLY ORANGE TIME MACHINE, ROGUES & BANDITS — Rock at O'Sullivan's, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 422-5896

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

FERNANDO TARANGO & CHRIS RUTKOWSKI — Jazz at LaSalle Bed & Breakfast, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., \$20, 422-0851

FILTHY RAGS — Christian rock at Wet Spot, Decatur, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 728-9031

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

FORT WAYNE FUNK ORCHESTRA — Funk at Piggy's, Angola, 9:30 p.m., \$5, 665-7550

GOOD NIGHT GRACIE — Variety at Wrigley Field, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., \$5, 485-1038

GRATEFUL GROOVE — Grateful Dead tribute at Phoenix, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., \$2, 387-6571

HEARTLAND SINGS — The Spirit of Christmas at Allen County Courthouse, Fort Wayne, 2 p.m. & 5 p.m., \$5-\$10, 436-8080

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

JOHN CURRAN & RENEGADE — Country at Alley Sports Bar, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 483-4421

KEN PRESTIB & LINDA KUMMERNESS — Variety at Mad Anthony Tap Room, Auburn, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 927-0500

KENT YOUNG — Variety at Friendly Fox, Fort Wayne, 6:30-8:30 p.m., no cover, 745-3369

KILL THE RABBIT — Rock at Martin's, Garrett, 10:30 p.m., no cover, 357-4290

THE KING OF DIAMONDS FEAT. BRENT A. COOPER — Neil Diamond/Elvis tribute at Checkerz, Fort Wayne, 2-4:30 p.m., no cover, 489-0286

LADY AND THE TRAMPZ — Variety at Beamer's, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., no cover, 625-1002

MARK GARR — Variety at Green Frog, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 426-1088

MARSHALL LAW — Country rock at 4D's, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 490-6488

NIGHT TO REMEMBER — Variety at Columbia Street West, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., \$5, 422-5055

OTIS MEDIA — Rock at O'Reilly's, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 267-9679

PETE SAMARUS — Original rock at Dicky's, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 486-0590

THE REINDEER QUARTET w/SUNNY TAYLOR, HANNAH BUSHONG, SMOOTH EDGE 2, THE GREG BENDER BAND, MIKE CONLEY — Holiday variety at C2G, Fort Wayne, 5 p.m., \$5-\$10, all ages, 426-6434

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

Sunday, December 21

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

FORT WAYNE PHILHARMONIC — Holiday Pops at T. Furth Center, Trine University, Angola, 2 p.m., \$30-\$40, 665-8096

HEARTLAND SINGS — The Spirit of Christmas at Allen County Courthouse, Fort Wayne, 2 p.m. & 5 p.m., \$5-\$10, 436-8080

FRIDAY-SATURDAY DRINK SPECIALS

\$2 High Life
\$3 Redd's Apple
\$3 Stella
\$3 Guinness Blonde
\$3 Paddy's Applesauce Shot
\$5 Rum Runner



LIVE MUSIC • NO COVER!

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18 • 7:30-9:30PM
HUBIE ASHCRAFT
FRIDAY-SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19-20 • 10PM-2AM
BROTHER
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26 • 10PM-2AM
HUBIE ASHCRAFT & THE DRIVE
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27 • 10PM-2AM
KILL THE RABBIT
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31 • 10PM-2AM
NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY W/ ONE EYED WOOKIE

9400 LIMA RD., FORT WAYNE
260-489-0286

NIGHTLIFE

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

NIGHTLIFE

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, every-day, 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 pm.-12 a.m. Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc

OLD CROWN BRASS BAND — Holiday brass at Arts United Center, Fort Wayne, 3 p.m., free, 423-4349
TODD HARROLD BAND — R&B/blues at Phoenix, Fort Wayne, 12-2 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 22

AMERICAN IDOL KARAOKE — Karaoke at Latch String, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 483-5526
DOUG SHAFFER — Variety at Deer Park, Fort Wayne, 6:30-8 p.m., no cover, 432-8966

Tuesday, December 23

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 24

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
DUELING KEYBOARD BOYS (PAUL & KIMMY DEAN) — at 4D's, Fort Wayne, 7-10:30 p.m., no cover, 490-6488
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

Friday, December 26

AMETHYST w/JAMIE WISE — Swing/variety at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 426-3442
BLACK DOOR — Variety at Latch String, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 483-5526

DANCE PARTY w/DJ RICH — Variety at Columbia Street West, Fort Wayne, 10:30 p.m., cover, 422-5055
DR. SUESS — Rock at Dupont Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., \$5, 483-1311
DUELING KEYBOARD BOYS (PAUL & BRIAN) — Variety at Don Hall's Guesthouse, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12:30 a.m., no cover, 489-2524

HUBIE ASHCRAFT AND THE DRIVE — Country at Checkerz, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 489-0286
JOE FIVE — Rock at American Legion Post 241, Waynedale, 8:30 p.m., cover, 747-7851
JOE STABELLI — Jazz at Don Hall's Gas House, Fort Wayne, 5:45-9 p.m., no cover, 426-3411

KENNY TAYLOR AND THE SWINGSET QUARTET — Swing/rockabilly at Phoenix, Fort Wayne, 9-11:55 p.m., \$2, 387-6571
MORNING AFTER — Rock at Beamer's, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., no cover, 625-1002

RONNIE, LINDA & T-BONE — Variety at Venice, Fort Wayne, 6:30-9:30 p.m., \$1, 482-1618
SCRATCH N SNIFF 2.0 FEAT. 1/4 KIT KURT — Variety at Deer Park, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 432-8966

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

Saturday, December 27

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

BEHIND BARRES — Classic rock at Wacky Jac's, Angola, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., no cover, 665-9071

DUELING KEYBOARD BOYS (PAUL & BRIAN) — Variety at Don Hall's Guesthouse, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12:30 a.m., no cover, 489-2524

FORT WAYNE FUNK ORCHESTRA — Funk at Phoenix, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., \$2, 387-6571

HUBIE ASHCRAFT AND THE DRIVE — Country at Piggy's, Angola, 9:30 p.m., \$5, 665-7550

IVORY WEST — Acoustic at Acme, Fort Wayne, 9-11 p.m., no cover, 480-2264
JFX — Rock at Columbia Street West, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., \$5, 422-5055
JOE STABELLI — Jazz at Don Hall's Gas House, Fort Wayne, 5:45-9 p.m., no cover, 426-3411
JON DURNELL BAND — Rock at Beamer's, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., no cover, 625-1002

KILL THE RABBIT — Rock at Checkerz, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 489-0286

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

SHANNON PERSINGER QUARTET — Variety at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 426-3442

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

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

TODD HARROLD BAND — R&B/blues at Dash-In, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 423-3595

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

Sunday, December 28

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

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

Monday, December 29

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

SCRATCH N SNIFF 2.0 FEAT. 1/4 KIT KURT — Variety at Deer Park, Fort Wayne, 6:30-8 p.m., no cover, 432-8966

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Juke Joint Jive..... 260-403-4195
 The Rescue Plan..... 260-750-9500

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The DeeBees 260-493-2619
 For Play 260-409-0523 or 260-639-3046

ROCK N' ROLL

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

ROCK/METAL

Valhalla 260-413-2027

STANDARDS

Pan Man Dan 260-232-3588

VARIETY

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

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

For more information on these performers, or to sign your band up for this directory, click the Musicians Finder link at www.whatzup.com

whatzup

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New Year's Eve at The Arena
American Idol Karaoke/DJ
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Tell us your best three-minute story from 2014.

It could be a discovery, a miracle, a revelation, a joke,
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Whoever tells the best story will be January 2015's
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INCLUDES LIGHT APPETIZERS
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9PM
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CHAMPAGNE TOAST AT MIDNIGHT

\$5.50 LARGE MILLER HIGH LIFE PITCHERS

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NEW YEAR'S EVE
DECEMBER 31
8:30PM

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THE COMEDY BAR

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\$25 DAY OF SHOW

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CRAIG CARMEAN
CARMEN VALLONE

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FUN - FOOD - LIVE MUSIC
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WARSAW
TICKETS \$30

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FOOD BUFFET • WINE • UNLIMITED SODA • LIVE DJ

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SINCE 1989
BAR & GRILL

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY with
SUM MORZ

Free Champagne
& Party Favors
Band @ 10pm • \$5 Cover

Saturday, December 20 • 10pm • \$5 Cover

GOOD NIGHT GRACIE



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Tuesday, December 30

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 31

AMERICAN IDOL KARAOKE w/JOSH — Karaoke at Columbia Street West, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m., no cover, 422-5055
BIG DICK AND THE PENETRATORS — Classic rock at Dupont Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., \$5, 483-1311
BROTHER, HUBIE ASHCRAFT AND THE DRIVE — Rock/Country at Rusty Spur, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m.-2 a.m., \$5, 755-3465
CHAGRIN COMEDY SHOWCASE — Comedy at Latch String, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., no cover, 483-5526
CHRIS WORTH & COMPANY — R&B/variety at 4D's, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., cover, 490-6488
COUGAR HUNTER — 80s glam rock at Columbia Street West, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., \$10, 422-5055
CRAIG CARMEAN w/CARMEN VALLONE, JIM SHOE & THE HIGHTOPS — Comedy at Snickerz, Fort Wayne, 8:30 p.m., \$22.50-\$25, 486-0216
DEES BEES — Variety at Acme, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-12:30 a.m., no cover, 480-2264
DUELING KEYBOARD BOYS (PAUL & BRIAN) — Variety at Don Hall's Guesthouse, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12:30 a.m., no cover, 489-2524
DUELING KEYBOARD BOYS (PAUL & KIMMY DEAN) — at 4D's, Fort Wayne, 7-10:30 p.m., no cover, 490-6488
FREAK BROTHERS — Funk at Phoenix, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m., \$5, 387-6571
GOOD NIGHT GRACIE — Pop/variety at Ceruti's, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m.-1 a.m., \$30, 207-2000
HEARTLAND SINGS — Big Band jazz at Grand Wayne Center, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., \$60, 436-8080
IVORY WEST — Acoustic at Acme, Fort Wayne, 7-9:30 p.m., no cover, 480-2264
JACK ROCKS — Classic rock at Tri Lakes Tavern, Columbia City, 9 p.m., no cover, 691-0015
JANIS SUE — Piano at Green Frog, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., no cover, 426-1088
JIRK COMEDY — Comedy at CS3, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m., \$10, 456-7005
JOHN CURRAN & RENEGADE — Country at Alley Sports Bar, Fort Wayne, 8:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m., no cover, 483-4421
KILL THE RABBIT — Rock at Vinnie's, Decatur, 10 p.m., \$5, 729-2225
ONE EYED WOOKIE — Rock at Checkez, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 489-0286
OVER EASY w/JD SMITH — Variety at Venice, Fort Wayne, 6:30-9:30 p.m., \$1, 482-1618
RECKON — Country at Beamer's, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., no cover, 625-1002
SHUT UP & SING w/MICHAEL CAMPBELL — Karaoke at Dupont Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., no cover, 483-1311
SUM MORZ — Rock at Wrigley Field, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., \$5, 485-1038
TODD HARROLD BAND — R&B/blues at Chappell's All that Jazz, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 456-9652
TRACKLESS — Variety at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 426-3442
WALKIN' PAPERS — Rock n' roll at American Legion Post 499, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12:30 a.m., cover, 483-1368
WHAT ABOUT JOE — Classic rock at Eagles Post 823, Huntington, 8 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 356-7048

Thursday, January 1

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
DANCE PARTY w/DJ RICH — Variety at Columbia Street West, Fort Wayne, 10:30 p.m., cover, 422-5055
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, January 2

DANCE PARTY w/DJ RICH — Variety at Columbia Street West, Fort Wayne, 10:30 p.m., cover, 422-5055
JOE STABELLI — Jazz at Don Hall's Gas House, Fort Wayne, 5:45-9 p.m., no cover, 426-3411
JOHN CURRAN & RENEGADE — Country at American Legion Post 241, Waynedale, 8:30-11:30 p.m., no cover, 747-7851
SHELLY DIXON & JEFF McRAE — Acoustic at Acme, Fort Wayne, 9-11 p.m., no cover, 480-2264

Saturday, January 3

AMERICAN IDOL KARAOKE w/SCOTT — Karaoke at Latch String, Fort Wayne, 10:30 p.m., no cover, 483-5526
BIG DADDY DUPREE AND THE BROKE & HUNGRY BLUES BAND — Blues at Dupont Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., \$5, 483-1311
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
JOHN CURRAN & RENEGADE — Country at Rusty Spur, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., cover, 755-3465
SHATTERED INNOCENCE — Rock/variety at Wacky Jac's, Angola, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., no cover, 665-9071

Sunday, January 4

DANCE VIDEOS & KARAOKE — Variety at After Dark, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m., no cover, 456-6235
YESTERDAY'S HEADTRIP — Variety at Latch String, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 483-5526

Monday, January 5

AMERICAN IDOL KARAOKE — Karaoke at Latch String, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 483-5526
OPEN JAM — Hosted by G-Money & Fabulous Rhythm at Dash-In, Fort Wayne, 8-10 p.m., no cover, 423-3595

Tuesday, January 6

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, January 7

ADAM STRACK — Acoustic at Acme, Fort Wayne, 8-10 p.m., no cover, 480-2264

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
DUELING KEYBOARD BOYS (PAUL & KIMMY DEAN) — at 4D's, Fort Wayne, 7-10:30 p.m., no cover, 490-6488
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, January 8

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
DANCE PARTY w/DJ RICH — Variety at Columbia Street West, Fort Wayne, 10:30 p.m., cover, 422-5055
JASON PAUL — Acoustic variety at Dupont Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 6:30-8:30 p.m., \$5, 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

Friday, January 9

BROTHER — Rock at Dupont Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., \$5, 483-1311
CHICAGO AFROBEAT PROJECT — Afrobeat/world at Brass Rail, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., \$7, 267-5303
DANCE PARTY w/DJ RICH — Variety at Columbia Street West, Fort Wayne, 10:30 p.m., cover, 422-5055
JOE STABELLI — Jazz at Don Hall's Gas House, Fort Wayne, 5:45-9 p.m., no cover, 426-3411
OFERLE — Variety at Acme, Fort Wayne, 9-11 p.m., no cover, 480-2264

Saturday, January 10

AMERICAN IDOL KARAOKE w/SCOTT — Karaoke at Latch String, Fort Wayne, 10:30 p.m., no cover, 483-5526
BROTHER — Rock at Dupont Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., \$5, 483-1311
CRAIG MORGAN — Country at Rusty Spur, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., \$20-\$50, 755-3465
FORT WAYNE PHILHARMONIC — Mozart's Symphony No. 31, Clarinet Concerto, Symphony No. 41 at Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m., \$17-\$65, 481-0777
HE SAID, SHE SAID — Variety at Wacky Jac's, Angola, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., no cover, 665-9071
JOE STABELLI — Jazz at Don Hall's Gas House, Fort Wayne, 5:45-9 p.m., no cover, 426-3411
JOHN CURRAN & RENEGADE — Country at Susie's Sandbar, Warsaw, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., no cover, 574-269-5355
JULIE HADAWAY — Acoustic at Acme, Fort Wayne, 9-11 p.m., no cover, 480-2264

Sunday, January 11

DANCE VIDEOS & KARAOKE — Variety at After Dark, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m., no cover, 456-6235
YESTERDAY'S HEADTRIP — Variety at Latch String, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 483-5526



WE'VE RECENTLY GIVEN AWAY TICKETS TO

LEON RUSSELL, NINE INCH NAILS, LYNRYD SKYNYRD, GORDON LIGHTFOOT, BLACK STONE CHERRY, WILLIE NELSON, HOOBASTANK, EILEN JEWELL, DEREK TRUCKS BAND, BLACK LABEL SOCIETY, STEPPIN' IN IT W/RACHAEL DAVIS, FORT WAYNE DERBY GIRLS, TEMPTATIONS, GARY PUCKETT, BUCKWHEAT ZYDECO, SICK PUPPIES, FRANKENSTEIN, REO SPEEDWAGON, LIFEHOUSE, BUCKCHERRY, HALESTORM, BAY CITY ROLLERS, 311, STYX, HERE COME THE MUMMIES, THE GLASS MENAGERIE, THE FESTIVAL OF TREES, BOB DYLAN, JOHN MELLENCAMP, PUDDLE OF MUDD, DONNIE BAKER, ALTER BRIDGE, FESTIVAL OF TREES, ZAC BROWN BAND, EGYPT CENTRAL, IKE REILLY ASSASSINATION, OTEP, TRANS-SIBERIAN ORCHESTRA, REVOLUTION, ILL NINO, LORETTA LYNN, LITTLE RIVER BAND, SALIVA, BO BICE, DISTURBED, SEVENDUST, HINDER, BLIND MELON, JAKE OWEN, GRETCHEN WILSON, LOVERBOY, COLLECTIVE SOUL, LOS LOBOS, BLUES TRAVELER, PAPA ROACH, NONPOINT, MIKE EPPS, THIRD EYE BLIND, SHINEDOWN, GUSTER, FILTER, 10 YEARS, THREE DAYS GRACE, ROB ZOMBIE, OVER THE RHINE, RED, DROWNING POOL, KEITH SWEAT, AFROMAN, LEON REDBONE, BREAKING BENJAMIN, WIDESPREAD PANIC, SMASHMOUTH, MOE., MUSHROOMHEAD, GODSMACK, SAVING ABEL & RED, DUKE TUMATOE, SUPERCHIC[K], GIN BLOSSOMS, DR. DOG, SHADOWS FALL, ROBERT RANDOLPH, SHAMAN'S HARVEST, FORT WAYNE CINEMA CENTER, B.B. KING, SEETHER, O.A.R., FIRST PRESBYTERIAN THEATER, BBQ RIBFEST, SICK PUPPIES, JON McLAUGHLIN, JACKYL, SUGARLAND, TED NUGENT, MOLLY HATCHET, JIM BRICKMAN, ANTHONY GOMES, GEORGE CARLIN, LAMB OF GOD, DMX, QUEENSRYCHE, WOLFMOOTHER, ANOTHER BLACK DAY, RICHIE HAVENS, EDDIE MONEY, FORT WAYNE BALLET, MARTIN SHORT, PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES, GRAND FUNK, THUNDER FROM DOWN UNDER, THEORY OF A DEADMAN, ALL THAT REMAINS, TIM ROGERS, HILLBILLY CASINO

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2Cellos (\$25-\$60)	Feb. 21 '15	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
A\$ap Ferg (\$29.50)	Jan. 13 '15	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Adrian Belew Power Trio (\$24)	Dec. 18	Magic Bag	Ferndale, MI
Alton Brown (\$48-\$58)	Mar. 26 '15	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Annie Sellick (\$10-\$23)	Jan. 10 '15	Arts Place	Portland, IN
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
Barry Manilow (sold out)	Feb. 14 '15	United Center	Chicago
Barry Manilow	Feb. 15 '15	Palace at Auburn Hills	Auburn Hills, MI
Barry Manilow	Feb. 26 '15	Wolstein Center	Cleveland
Barry Manilow	Mar. 1 '15	Nationwide Arena	Columbus, OH
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
Black Label Society (\$26-\$34)	Jan. 16 '15	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Black Label Society (\$32.50)	Jan. 17 '15	LC Pavilion	Columbus, OH
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
Borgore w/Ookay (\$25-\$30)	Feb. 6 '15	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Brad Paisley (\$26.50-\$109)	Feb. 5 '15	Northeastern Illinois University	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	Bress Rail	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
Craig Carmean w/Carmen Vallone, Jim Shoe & The Hightops (\$22.50-\$25)	Dec. 31	Snickerz	Fort Wayne
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
Datsik (\$25)	Feb. 14 '15	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Dave Mason (\$30-\$125)	Jan. 29 '15	Music Box	Cleveland
Dave Mason (\$33-\$155)	Feb. 5 '15	20th Century Theatre	Cincinnati
The Decemblers w/Always (\$30-\$125)	Mar. 27 '15	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
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
Excision (\$29.50-\$60)	Mar. 21 '15	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Excision (\$30)	Mar. 22 '15	House of Blues	Cleveland
Excision (\$25-\$30)	Mar. 25 '15	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
Excision (\$24.50)	Mar. 26 '15	The Bluestone	Columbus, OH
Extreme (\$35.30)	Jan. 27 '15	Bogart's	Cincinnati
Extreme (\$29.50)	Jan. 28 '15	House of Blues	Chicago
Extreme (\$27-\$60)	Jan. 31 '15	Firekeepers Casino	Battle Creek, MI
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
Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons	Apr. 9 '15	Cincinnati Music Hall	Cincinnati
Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons (\$71-\$106)	Apr. 11 '15	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Garth Brooks (\$66)	Feb. 27 '15	Joe Louis Arena	Detroit
Garth Brooks (\$66)	Feb. 28 '15	Joe Louis Arena	Detroit
Greensky Bluegrass w/Joe Hertler & The Rainbow Seekers (\$25-\$35)	Dec. 31	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Halestorm (\$20)	Dec. 31	Bogart's	Cincinnati
Home Free (\$15-\$30)	Jan. 31 '15	Niswonger	Van Wert, Ohio
Hozier w/Asgeir (\$27.50)	Feb. 28 '15	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Jason Aldean w/Cole Swindell, Tyler Farr (\$30.25-\$60.25)	May 9 '15	Memorial Coliseum	Fort Wayne
Jason Isbell w/Damien Juarno (\$39.50)	Feb. 10 '15	Southern Theatre	Columbus, OH
Jason Isbell w/Damien Juarno (\$39.50)	Feb. 12 '15	Symphony Center	Chicago
Jason Isbell w/Damien Juarno (\$35)	Feb. 13 '15	Kalamazoo State Theatre	Kalamazoo
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
John Mellencamp (\$49.25-\$135)	Jan. 24 '15	Aronoff Center	Cincinnati
John Mellencamp (\$39.50-\$115)	Jan. 30 '15	Mershon Auditorium	Columbus, OH
John Mellencamp (\$42.50-\$118)	Jan. 31 '15	Connor Palace	Cleveland
John Mellencamp (\$37-\$127)	Feb. 3 '15	Indiana University Auditorium	Bloomington
John Mellencamp (\$37-\$127)	Feb. 4 '15	Indiana University Auditorium	Bloomington
John Mellencamp (\$42.50-\$129.50)	Feb. 17 '15	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
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
Kool Keith (Black Elvis, Dr. Octagon, etc.) (\$5)	Dec. 19	Cover Girls	Fort Wayne
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, Authority Zero (\$22-\$25)	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

Here it is the last column of the year. It's been a great year for live music, and the start to 2015 seems to be bright as well with several big tours already announced as well as dates and performers being solidified for the annual summer festivals.



Road Notez

CHRIS HUPE

The Avett Brothers will continue to tour through at least the early part of 2015, adding some more dates to support their newest album *Maggie and the Dandelion*, released in late 2013. These will likely be the last dates for this tour, as the band plans to go back into the studio sometime this summer to begin recording a new album. Of course, if a big summer tour that fits the bands style happens to come along, those plans could be changed. Regardless, catch the indie giants at Purdue's Elliott Hall of Music April 17 or at Wings Stadium in Kalamazoo the following night.

Jack White was recently nominated for a Grammy for Best Alternative Album for his album *Lazaretto*. I'm guessing the definition of "alternative rock" must have changed sometime in the last decade while I was listening to old **Skid Row** albums because White is not what I would call "alternative." Regardless of my classification of what genre White actually fits in, the man does make good music and has booked a few dates in 2015 to remind us of that fact. Check him out at the Schottenstein Center in Columbus, Ohio January 31. If you don't get a chance to attend that show, White will also likely be at all the usual festivals including Lollapalooza and Pitchfork in Chicago this summer, although nothing has been confirmed as of press time.

After the release of their first studio album since bassist **Gerard Smith** died in 2011, **TV On The Radio** are back on the touring trail. The album, *Seeds*, was released last month and is described by the bands as "the closest thing to pop we will ever produce." Only a few dates have been announced thus far, with a March 23 gig at the Metro in Chicago being the only show close to us. Expect more dates for the summer to be announced within the next month, though.

There seems to be a lot of indie news this week, as **Neutral Milk Hotel** have announced they will tour for the last time, at least "for the foreseeable future," according to their website. There will be just a couple of chances to say goodbye, as the band has only booked shows in our area for April 22 in Cleveland and April 23 in Kalamazoo.

We'll end with this bit of metal news: **Coal Chamber** have finished recording their first album of new material since 2002's *Dark Days*. The album will be released early next year, just in time for the bands recently announced spring tour. The tour, featuring **Filter**, **Combichrist** and **American Head Charge** as openers, stops in Detroit March 21 and Columbus, Ohio March 25.

christopherhupe@aol.com

Lewis Black	Feb. 25 '15	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Lewis Black	Apr. 24 '15	State Theatre	Cleveland
Lewis Black	Apr. 25 '15	DeVos Performance Hall	Grand Rapids
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. 19	State Theatre	Cleveland
Mannheim Steamroller	Dec. 20	Rosemont Theatre	Rosemont
Mannheim Steamroller	Dec. 21	Palace Theatre	Columbus, OH
The Marcus Roberts Piano Trio	Feb. 13 '15	Cloves Memorial Hall	Indianapolis
Marilyn Manson (\$32.50-\$63)	Feb. 3 '15	Fillmore	Detroit
Marilyn Manson (\$57)	Feb. 5 '15	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
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
Mike Eggs (\$59.75-\$90)	Dec. 31	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Milky Chance	Apr. 24 '15	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Milky Chance	Apr. 26 '15	Deluxe at Old National Center	Indianapolis
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
Neil Diamond	Mar. 18 '15	Schottenstein Center	Columbus, OH
Neil Diamond	Mar. 20 '15	Palace of Auburn Hills	Auburn Hills, MI
Neil Diamond	Apr. 17 '15	Bankers Life Fieldhouse	Indianapolis
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
Pierce the Veil w/Sleeping with Sirens, Mallory Knox, Pvriss	Feb. 7 '15	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
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 (\$22.50-\$40)	Feb. 13 '15	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Railroad Earth	Feb. 14 '15	House of Blues	Cleveland
Red Dragon Cartel (\$20.80-\$72.80)	Dec. 18	Agora Theatre	Cleveland
Sal DeMilio (free)	Dec. 18	Dupont Bar & Grill	Fort Wayne
Sam Smith (\$45-\$75)	Jan. 22 '15	Masonic Temple Theatre	Detroit
Sam Smith (\$38.50-\$84)	Jan. 23 '15	UIC Pavilion	Chicago

Sarah McLachlan	Mar. 10 '15	Murat Theatre	Indianapolis
Seether w/Papa Roach (\$33-\$45.50)	Jan. 23 '15	Fillmore	Detroit
Seether w/Papa Roach (\$45)	Jan. 25 '15	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Sirbad (\$20-\$35)	Feb. 7 '15	Niswonger	Van Wert, Ohio
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	Allstate Arena	Chicago
Skillet w/Blanca, Veridia, About a Mile, Building 429, For King and Country, Family Force Five (\$10)	Feb. 21 '15	Palace of Auburn Hills	
Auburn Hills, MI			
Skillet w/Blanca, Veridia, About a Mile, Building 429, For King and Country, Family Force Five (\$10)	Feb. 22 '15	Wolstein Center	
Cleveland			
Skillet w/Jeremy Camp, Francesca Battistelli, For King and Country, Tony Nolan (\$10)	Mar. 19 '15	Memorial Coliseum	Fort Wayne
Skillet w/Jeremy Camp, Francesca Battistelli, For King and Country, Tony Nolan (\$10)	Mar. 20 '15	Bankers Life Fieldhouse	Indianapolis
St. Olaf Choir (\$15-\$30)	Feb. 12 '15	First Presbyterian Church	Fort Wayne
Step Crew (\$20-\$30)	Apr. 14 '15	Niswonger	Van Wert, Ohio
Stewart Copeland & Jon Kimura Parker	Mar. 27 '15	Clowes Memorial Hall	Indianapolis
Styx (\$39.50-\$99.50)	Feb. 13 '15	Emens Auditorium	Muncie
Temptations (\$25-\$50)	Apr. 25 '15	Niswonger	Van Wert, Ohio
Tragically Hip (\$44.50)	Jan. 14 '15	House of Blues	Chicago
Tragically Hip (\$44.50)	Jan. 16 '15	House of Blues	Cleveland

Road Tripz

Dec. 31	The Bulldogs
	Alexandria Eagles, Alexandria
Jan. 17	Filthy Rags
	2:10 Music Venue, Sharpsville, IN
Dec. 20	J Taylors
	The Belle, Rockford, OH
Dec. 19-20	Hubie Ashcraft and the Drive
Dec. 23	Cowboy Up, Mendon, MI
	Rulli's Bella Luna, Middlebury
Jan. 24	Kill the Rabbit
	Duality's, LaPorte
March 27	Cheer's, South Bend

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Even Heroes Cashing In These Days

No Hero by Mark Owen, Penguin, 2014

It's not an easy time for Navy SEALs, especially those who were part of certain high-profile missions, to follow the force's code of conduct and keep their mouths shut about their service. The latest SEAL to stir up controversy is the man who claims to have killed Osama bin Laden, Robert O'Neill, who recently bragged about his role in the mission on Fox News; O'Neill was criticized not just by his fellow SEALs, but publicly by the Navy for violating the SEAL pledge not to talk about missions.

Before O'Neill made himself a public face of SEAL heroism, however, ex-SEAL Matt Bissonnette ignited the same controversy when he wrote the 2011 best-selling memoir *No Easy Day* under the pen name Mark Owen. Bissonnette/Owen is back with a follow up to *No Easy Day*, but this time the book's content is much less controversial, and the author took the crucial step of getting the Defense Department to sign off on the book before it was published.

No Hero doesn't get into the details about any particularly newsworthy SEAL missions. It mostly focuses on training missions, during which Bissonnette conquers his fear of heights and weak swimming skills. When the author talks about combat missions, they're no-frills excursions into the mountains of Afghanistan to eliminate faceless bad guys, unnamed "Taliban commanders" whom no one has ever heard of. There are no thrilling raids on the compounds of famous villains, no covert-intelligence intrigue, no disastrous missions in which Bissonnette sees his comrades die. If any part of a SEAL's job is businesslike, it's the business-like days that Bissonnette writes about here.

The book is more inspirational self-help manual than it is an adventure story. Bissonnette writes about steadfast focus on goals, about the way that perseverance can banish



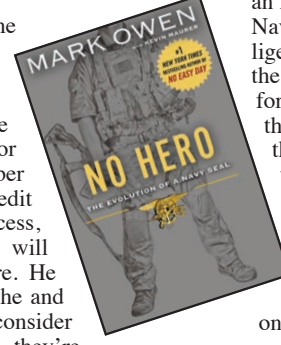
On Books

EVAN GILLESPIE

weaknesses, about the importance of communication skills, about the indispensability of teamwork. At the same time that he talks about the rigors of SEAL training and work, he lays down the implication that he's no one special, that it was only his dedication and mental toughness that allowed him to be successful.

That's where the book's title comes from. Part of the criticism of O'Neill was rooted in the SEALs' distaste for any individual member of the team taking credit for a mission's success, and Bissonnette will have none of it here. He insists up front that he and other SEALs don't consider themselves heroes; they're just guys doing a job. There is, however, a note of disdain in his dismissal of the hero title; these days, anyone who enlists is called a hero, and the commodification of the term demeans the superiority of special ops when it's applied to a SEAL. And after rejecting the hero label at the beginning, Bissonnette drops the argument and spends the rest of the book explaining how hard a SEAL's job is.

The key to success in SEAL endeavors, Bissonnette claims, is to stay in your "three foot world," a bubble of concentration that keeps you exclusively attentive to the problem at hand and shuts out any troublesome input from the outside world over which you have no control. It's a technique that seems to work especially well for Bisson-



nette when he briefly considers, near the end of the book, the fact that his job is to kill people; in order to deal with the troublesome realization, he compartmentalizes, and he moves on. Problem solved.

For the most part, Bissonnette stays clear of making political statements in *No Hero*. He has criticism for the way things are run sometimes, but his criticisms fall in line with the old clichés of out-of-touch leadership and the inefficiencies of bureaucracy. He writes about the incompetent commander who messes things up because he's an Army Ranger who doesn't do things the Navy SEAL way. He writes about an intelligence officer who's a garish caricature of the book-learned idiot who fouls things up for the street-smart soldier. He writes about the colossal raid on the caves of Tora Bora that turned into a fiasco because all of the top brass wanted a piece of the glory. All of it falls into the age-old formula for American military stories: leadership is, by nature, inefficient and incompetent, and the infallible wisdom of the guy with his boots on the ground is the only hope for saving the day.

It's easy to see why SEALs like Bissonnette and O'Neill can't keep their mouths shut. The American public has a ravenous hunger for exciting tales of their heroics. SEAL-glorifying movies such as *Zero Dark Thirty* and *Lone Survivor* are box office gold. Fox News is eager to turn any outspoken special ops soldier into a celebrity and Bissonnette's best-sellers are proof that there is money to be made even by individual members of the team. The temptation to cash in must be immense, and although Bissonnette, in *No Hero*, tries to bring the spirit of SEAL teamwork to the foreground, the truth is that he, and not any other member of his team, is the one depositing the checks from his publisher.

evan.whatzup@gmail.com

It's Time to Catch Up on the Would-Be Classics

I've had a year. It's been a New York hustle, and I suppose I've mostly enjoyed the ride as it's played out. While living in Fort Wayne I had a slow, simple existence compared to the one I've been living for almost three years now in Brooklyn. In Fort Wayne I had a car and time and money and extra energy; in New York I have none of these things. What I'm trying to tell you is that, despite following what's happening in the film industry as much as I ever have, these days – because of my writing and filmmaking endeavors – I've become more of a contributor than a fan.

By mid-December in most years, I've seen somewhere between 80 and 100 of the films released that year; this year I've seen a whopping 15. I plan to right this wrong as much as possible as the year comes to a close. For example, how could I not see the upcoming new Dardenne Brothers film, *Two Days, One Night*? It's brilliant; it has to be, right? Or how about the new P.T. Anderson



Screen Time

GREG W. LOCKE

flick, *Inherent Vice*? What kind of man would I be if I didn't go to all necessary lengths to see a P.T. Anderson film as quickly as possible?

That said, I have liked many of the few films I've seen so far this year. For example, unlike a lot of people, I happened to really enjoy Lars von Trier's two *Nymphomaniac* flicks. Richard Linklater's new opus, *Boyhood*? A new American classic that I predict will win many awards and be written about for years and years. Wes Anderson's *The Grand Budapest Hotel*? Brilliant, I say. Maybe even 2014's most impressive film (not that I've seen everything of course, but it certainly sets a high standard.) That silly *Guardians of the Galaxy* flick? An incred-

ibly good time at the movies that constantly made me think of Han Solo. Hollywood at its finest.

My guess is that *Inherent Vice* will go down as my personal favorite flick from this year. The trailer is an undeniable riot and this P.T. Anderson/Joaquin Phoenix coupling is something I really believe in (somehow *The Master* now feels like a passing of the torch from Philip Seymour Hoffman to my dude J.P.). But the competition for top honors is tough this year; there are at least another 25 films I know I need to see before I start screaming and shouting about Joaquin or the Dardenne. By the time you hear from me again in three weeks I will have seen many, many more films. Ten more. Twenty more. I may even have a list of my so-far favorites ready for you. In the meantime, if there's a 2014 film you feel particularly passionate about, write me at gregwlocke@gmail.com and tell me all about it.

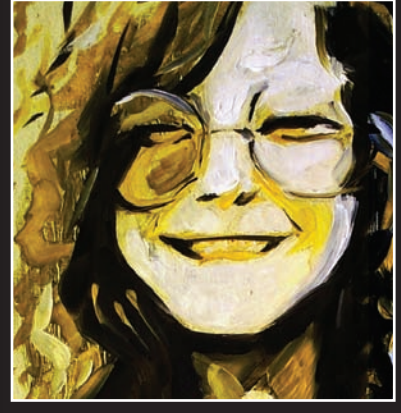
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Review • Friends Too

Greek Fest All Year Round

Since visiting Greece in 2006, I've been infatuated with Greek cuisine. It should come as no surprise then that Greek Fest is my favorite Fort Wayne festival (because of the food, of course).

Typically, Greek cuisine uses olive oil quite liberally, whether it is a vegetable, fish, lamb or poultry dish. Olives, cheese, eggplant, mint, garlic and yogurt are also staples in many Greek dishes. Sadly, Greek Fest comes around only once a year, but thankfully, Friends Too provides me with my fix all year round.

Locally owned and operated by Niko and Ana Hatzigeorgiou, the restaurant on West Jefferson is the second location for the pair; the original, Friends, is located on Dupont Road.

In addition to traditional Greek cuisine, Friends Too has a robust menu typical of Greek diners in larger cities. I am a big fan of their breakfast options, especially

Vegetarian Plate

the Spartan Omelette (\$8.29), which is made with gyro meat, spinach, tomatoes and feta cheese.

The American Favorites section of the menu features a BBQ Rib Dinner (\$17.99 for a full slab, \$11.99 for half), Fried Fish (\$6.99), Rotisserie Chicken (\$11.99 for a whole, \$7.99 for half), Pork Chops (\$9.99), and Beef Manhattan (\$8.99), to name a few of the selections.

Here are my favorite Greek dishes on the menu: Maranthi's Greek Vegetarian Plate, \$9.99 – Three spanakopita, three tiropitakia, six dolmadakia and tzatziki sauce. This is the perfect dish to order if you are not sure you like Greek food. It offers an assortment of some staples and is more than enough to share. Spanakopita is spinach and feta wrapped with phyllo dough. Similarly, tiropitakia is a feta and egg mixture wrapped in layers of buttered phyllo dough. Dolmadakia are grape leaves stuffed with rice and dill and seasoned with lemon. Tzatziki sauce is to Greek food as ketchup is to American food. It consists of strained yogurt mixed with cucumbers, garlic, salt, olive oil, lemon juice and dill and is a great complement to these vegetarian options.

Dolmades, \$9.99 – grape leaves stuffed with



Dining Out

AMBER RECKER



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7 a.m.-8:30 p.m. Sun.

ground beef and rice, topped with an egg-lemon sauce. These tangy Greek staples are similar to dolmadkia but are loaded with beef which makes them extra satisfying and filling for meat lovers. I had my first taste of them in Greece, and the ones prepared at Friends Too give those a run for their money. For some, the texture of the grape leaves is unappealing, and I'll admit it took me a few tries to get past it, but now dolmades rank at the top of my list when it comes to Greek cuisine.

FriendsPlate for Two, \$19.99 – mousaka, pastichio, two spanakopita, two tiropitakia and

two pieces of pita bread. This is another dish perfect for those unsure if they like Greek food. It offers a variety of some Greek staples and is enough to share with a friend. Mousaka is a baked eggplant, potatoes and ground beef casserole topped with béchamel

sauce (a roux made with butter and flour). Pastichio is a baked pasta and ground beef casserole topped with a béchamel sauce. Both mousaka (\$10.99) and pastichio (\$9.99) are offered on the menu separately.

Greek Salad, \$7.49 – mixed greens, beets, pineapple, tomatoes, feta, kalamata olives, pepperocini, red onions, cucumbers and croutons. No Greek menu would be complete without a Greek salad, and this one delivers. The large is filling because it is loaded with veggies. A small is also available for \$5.79.

Not brave enough to try a full meal? Friends Too has an extensive appetizers menu that includes hummus, tzatziki, and spicy feta dip, served with two pitas (\$7.99); pork and chicken souvlaki, served with tzatziki and two pitas (\$6.99); saganaki, a Greek kaseri cheese flambéed at your table and serve with two pitas (\$7.99); and charbroiled octopus (\$7.99).

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OPENING THIS WEEK

Annie (PG)
Big Eyes (PG13)
The Gambler (PG)
The Interview (R)
Into the Woods (PG)
Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb (PG)
Unbroken (PG13)
Wild (R)
Whiplash (R)

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.: 12:30, 2:30, 4:35, 7:00, 9:15
Fri.-Tues.: 12:30, 2:30, 4:35, 7:00, 9:20
Wed.: 12:30, 2:30, 4:35
Christmas Day: 4:35, 7:00, 9:20

ANNIE (PG) — Jamie Foxx and Quvenzhané Wallis star in this updated version of the Broadway musical. Reviews are less than spectacular.

• CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE
Starts Friday, Dec. 19; times thru Wednesday, Dec. 24 only
Fri.-Tues.: 1:20, 1:50, 4:15, 4:45, 7:05, 7:40, 9:00, 9:50
Wed.: 1:20, 1:50, 4:15, 4:45, 7:05
• COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 6:00, 9:30
Fri.-Tues.: 12:20, 4:10, 7:15, 10:20
Wed.: 12:20, 4:10, 7:15
Christmas Day: 12:20, 4:10, 7:20, 10:20
• HUNTINGTON 7, HUNTINGTON
Times thru Wednesday, Dec. 24 only
Thurs.: 6:05, 9:05
Fri.-Sat.: 12:30, 3:15, 6:25, 9:05, 11:45
Sun.-Tues.: 12:30, 3:15, 6:25, 9:05

Wed.: 12:30, 3:15
• JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE
Times thru Wednesday, Dec. 24 only
Thurs.: 6:00, 9:00
Fri.-Tues.: 10:30, 11:30, 1:30, 2:30, 4:25, 5:25, 7:30, 8:15, 10:30
Wed.: 10:30, 11:30, 1:30, 2:30, 4:25, 5:25, 7:30

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.: 12:40, 2:45, 4:55, 7:05, 9:50
Fri.-Tues.: 4:25, 9:40
Wed.: 4:25
Christmas Day: 4:25, 9:40

THE BABADOOK (Unrated) — A storybook creature called The Babadook seemingly turns real, scaring the babadook out of a widow and her young son (Essie Davis and Noah Wiseman).

• CINEMA CENTER, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 3:00, 8:30
Fri.: 2:15
Sat.: 8:30
Sun.: 6:30
Tues.: 8:30
Wed.: 4:30

BIG EYES (PG13) — Amy Adams and Christoph Waltz star in a Burtonesque (i.e. somewhat twisted) depiction of art, greed and sexism based on the true story of Walter Keane, a hugely successful "painter" in the 1950s and 60s.

• COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE
Starts Wednesday, Dec. 24
Wed.: 7:10
Christmas Day: 11:45, 4:20, 7:50, 10:50

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
Times thru Wednesday, Dec. 24 only
Daily: 1:20, 4:20
• COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE
Times thru Wednesday, Dec. 24 only
Thurs.: 12:05, 2:45, 5:20 (3D), 8:05, 10:40
Fri.-Sun.: 12:05, 2:45, 6:30
Mon.-Tues.: 12:05, 2:45, 6:30, 9:20
Wed.: 12:05, 2:45
• HUNTINGTON 7, HUNTINGTON
Ends Thursday, Dec. 18
Thurs.: 11:10, 1:40, 4:10
• JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE
Times thru Wednesday, Dec. 24 only
Thurs.: 10:10, 11:10, 12:45, 1:50, 3:30, 4:25, 6:30, 7:25, 9:15
Fri.-Tues.: 10:10, 12:50, 3:35, 6:30, 9:10
Wed.: 10:10, 12:50, 3:35, 6:30

THE BOXTROLLS (PG) — An animated family comedy from the creators of *Coraline* and *ParaNorman*.

• COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE
Starts Friday, Dec. 19
Fri.-Tues.: 12:35, 2:45, 4:55, 7:05, 9:15
Wed.: 12:35, 2:45, 4:55
Christmas Day: 4:55, 7:05, 9:15

THE CAPTIVE (R) — Ryan Reynolds plays the distraught father of a daughter in this tense drama directed by Atom Egoyan (*Devil's Knot*).

• CINEMA CENTER, FORT WAYNE
Ends Thursday, Dec. 18
Thurs.: 6:15

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.: 12:20, 2:40, 5:00, 7:20, 9:40
Fri.-Tues.: 12:20, 2:40, 5:00, 7:20, 9:35
Wed.: 12:20, 2:40, 5:00
Christmas Day: 5:00, 7:20, 9:35

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
Times thru Wednesday, Dec. 24 only
Thurs.-Tues.: 1:25, 4:05, 6:45, 9:25
Wed.: 1:25, 4:05, 6:45
• COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE
Ends Thursday, Dec. 18
Thurs.: 1:50, 4:35, 7:15, 9:55
• JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE
Times thru Wednesday, Dec. 24 only
Thurs.: 10:05, 1:00, 4:10

EXODUS: GODS AND KINGS (PG13) — Christian Bale and Joel Edgerton head an all-star cast in Ridley Scott's super-sized story of Moses and the flight of Jews from Egypt.

• CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE
Times thru Wednesday, Dec. 24 only
Thurs.: 12:50, 1:50 (3D), 2:15 (3D), 4:05, 5:00 (3D), 5:30, 7:00, 7:20, 8:15 (3D), 8:45 (3D), 9:00, 10:10
Fri.-Sat.: 12:50, 2:15 (3D), 4:05, 5:30, 7:00, 7:20, 8:45 (3D), 10:10, 10:30
Sun.-Wed.: 12:50, 2:15 (3D), 4:05, 5:30, 7:00, 7:20, 8:45 (3D)

• COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE
Times thru Wednesday, Dec. 24 only
Thurs.: 11:45 (3D), 12:25, 3:20 (3D), 3:50 (3D), 6:40 (3D), 7:10, 10:00 (3D), 10:30 (3D)
Fri.-Tues.: 11:45 (3D), 12:25, 3:20 (3D), 3:50 (3D), 6:40 (3D), 7:10, 10:05 (3D), 10:30

Wed.: 11:45 (3D), 12:25, 3:20 (3D), 3:50, 7:00
• HUNTINGTON 7, HUNTINGTON
Times thru Wednesday, Dec. 24 only
Thurs.: 11:30, 12:00, 2:50 (3D), 3:10, 6:05, 6:20, 9:15 (3D), 9:30
Fri.-Tues.: 11:30, 2:50, 6:05, 6:40, 9:10, 9:50
Wed.: 11:30, 2:50
• JEFFERSON POINTE 18, FORT WAYNE

Times thru Wednesday, Dec. 24 only
Thurs.: 10:00, 11:15 (3D), 12:00, 1:30, 2:45 (3D), 3:15, 4:45, 6:15 (3D), 7:00, 8:00, 9:45 (3D), 10:15, 11:30
Fri.-Tues.: 10:00, 11:20 (3D), 1:30, 2:50, 4:45, 6:25 (3D), 8:00, 10:00, 11:30
Wed.: 10:00, 11:20 (3D), 1:30, 2:50, 4:45, 6:25 (3D), 8:00

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
Times thru Wednesday, Dec. 24 only
Thurs.: 1:40, 4:55, 8:00
Fri.-Wed.: 1:40, 4:55

THE GAMBLER (PG) — Mark Wahlberg stars in this remake of the 1974 film written by James Toback and loosely based on his own experience as an English professor with an out-of-control gambling addiction.

• COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE
Starts Wednesday, Dec. 24
Wed.: 7:05
Christmas Day: 1:00, 4:40, 8:00, 10:35

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
Ends Thursday, Dec. 18
Thurs.: 12:05, 6:40

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.-Tues.: 12:55, 3:30, 6:30, 9:00
Wed.: 12:55, 3:30
Christmas Day: 3:30, 6:30, 9:00

Chris Rock Gets His Talentless Hack Groove On

In one of his many interviews for *Top Five*, Chris Rock ragged on critics. His joke, and it is a funny one, is that he could discern the difference between the love they have shown him on previous films he has made and the much more sincere affection they seem to have for *Top Five*. I respect his honesty. He has been taken in by praise in the past, but now he is getting real love. So what is a critic to do?

Hey Chris, mostly I have liked your past films. *Top Five* isn't much better or worse than anything you have ever done. It isn't Tim Tebow bad, but it isn't — ooh I am worried about the positive end of that equation — Robin Roberts good,

Really. Top five? The laziness of inserting a top five list of rappers or cultural observers, (what exactly?) when you are low on material is a bore. But it is also a welcome distraction from the blah, blah, blah on screen.

KRS 1 shouldn't be subjected to you, Gabrielle Union, Rosario Dawson, Kevin Hart, Tracy Morgan, Cedric the Entertainer, JB Smoove, Sherri Shepherd, Seinfeld, Whoopi and the rest! As Homer Simpson says, "Be more funny!"

Top five? KRS 1, Salt-N-Pepa and, oh God, who cares beyond that? You could get down to a top 25 and you would be including the "artists" who are mostly interested in body parts. All of what has been produced by any top five in the dull way presented in *Top Five* couldn't fill the shoes of Al Green or Marvin Gaye. "Let's Stay Together" or "What's Goin' On" beats them all.

Last week I called *Top Five* one of the most buzzed-about comedies. I so wanted this movie to be more than the buzz. Or at least, I hoped it would live up to the buzz. Alas, I cannot report that *Top Five* is very funny.

Rock "plays" Andre Allen, a comedian who isn't very funny and doesn't think he wants to try to be funny any-



Flix
CATHERINE LEE

more. He has agreed to be part of a reality show with his icky chick. They are going to be married soon, and the reality show could help both of their careers. Wow. They get the hideous fingernails right. And the gross vibe of reality TV.

Andre is about to release a film about Haitian revolution. *Uprize!* is the serious movie he hopes will resurrect his sagging career. This is the funniest thing about *Top Five*. The casual ridicule of the revolution of slaves against French oppressors so close in time and place to our revolution is hilarious! Right? It isn't "Springtime for Hitler in Germany!" That's for sure.

Okay, it is funny that Rock has picked a topic nobody other than a few of us cares or knows anything about. Oprah should get on that Haitian revolution story, now that she has conquered Selma and the butler and is so beloved.

Luckily for Andre, he is being trailed by a cute journalist. She's got opinions. She has sass. So, since his ex-wife and his next wife are crashing bores, what is he going to do? He is going to chase that tail.

So we enter into an imitation of art. Critics (the folks Rock doesn't like) are stumbling over themselves to compare *Top Five* to *Annie Hall* and *Sullivan's Travels*. What? Rock is stumbling over himself to prove he knows about movies and loves them. Someday, hopefully, he'll translate that into a movie that is good.

Things are so fractious and idiotic in our country now,

who am I to say anything about a movie by an African American comedian? Rock can make jokes about the Haitian revolution. But if you go see this movie, or even if you don't, read something about the Haitian revolution.

To quote *Dazed and Confused*, an early movie by Richard Linklater, my nominee for the best director of the year, just remember that when "a bunch of slave-owning white men who didn't want to pay their taxes" were putting on our revolution, slaves of color were busy overthrowing much more violent and privileged white men just off the coast of our country.

Haiti is a hot mess, and sadly, it probably always will be. Wyclef Jean ran for president. Yikes. That shows a shortage of the possibility of progress. Dessalines would have eaten that pop brat for breakfast. Lauryn Hill makes my top 5 list before most of the current crop of concerned pop stars.

On the flip side of things, when Andre was famous he played a character named Hammy the Bear. Isn't that really funny? A black man in a bear costume? You never see him in the bear costume. That might be humiliating. If you want a worthwhile riff on fallen stardom, go see *Birdman*.

The most Hollywood thing about *Top Five* is watching Jerry Seinfeld and Whoopi Goldberg sit around a table and make jokes. It is painfully not funny and a shiver up the spine of how desperately people need to help their friends and be on screen.

Hey Chris. I am a critic, a fan and a moviegoer who likes you. It is not now, nor will it ever be "Hammy Time" for me. Like most people, I enjoy making of fun of Tyler Perry. But just because he is a talentless hack doesn't mean you get to be one too.

ckdexterhaven@earthlink.net

THE HOBBIT: THE BATTLE OF THE FIVE ARMIES (PG13) — Peter Jackson's third and final installment of the J.R.R. Tolkien story that preceded the *Lord of the Rings* trilogy.

- CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE
Times thru Wednesday, Dec. 24 only
Thurs.: 10:30, 11:30, 12:30 (3D), 1:00 (3D), 1:45, 3:00, 4:05 (3D), 4:30 (3D), 5:00, 6:30, 7:10 (3D), 7:45 (3D), 8:15, 9:00, 9:45
Fri.-Sat.: 10:30, 11:30, 12:30 (3D), 1:00 (3D), 1:45, 3:00, 4:05 (3D), 4:30 (3D), 5:00, 6:30, 7:10 (3D), 7:45 (3D), 8:15, 9:00, 9:45, 10:15 (3D), 11:00 (3D), 11:30
Sun.-Tues.: 10:30, 11:30, 12:30 (3D), 1:00 (3D), 1:45, 3:00, 4:05 (3D), 4:30 (3D), 5:00, 6:30, 7:10 (3D), 7:45 (3D), 8:15, 9:00, 9:45
Wed.: 10:30, 11:30, 12:30 (3D), 1:00 (3D), 1:45, 3:00, 4:05 (3D), 4:30 (3D), 5:00, 6:30, 7:10 (3D)
- COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 11:30 (3D), 12:00, 12:30 (3D), 3:15 (3D), 3:45, 4:15 (3D), 7:00 (3D), 7:30, 8:00 (3D), 10:15 (3D), 10:45, 11:15 (3D)
Fri.: 11:30 (3D), 12:00, 12:30 (3D), 3:15 (3D), 3:45, 4:15 (3D), 7:00 (3D), 7:30, 8:00 (3D), 9:20, 9:40 (3D), 10:15 (3D), 10:45, 11:15 (3D)
Sat.: 11:30 (3D), 12:00, 12:30 (3D), 3:15 (3D), 3:45, 4:15 (3D), 7:00 (3D), 7:30, 8:00 (3D), 9:20, 9:40 (3D), 10:15, 10:45, 11:15 (3D)
Sun.: 11:30 (3D), 12:00, 12:30 (3D), 3:15 (3D), 3:45, 4:15 (3D), 7:00 (3D), 7:30, 8:00 (3D), 9:20, 9:40 (3D), 10:15 (3D), 10:45, 11:15 (3D)
Mon.: 11:30 (3D), 12:00, 12:30 (3D), 3:15 (3D), 3:45 (3D), 4:15 (3D), 7:00 (3D), 7:30, 8:00 (3D), 10:15 (3D), 10:45 (3D)
Tues.: 11:30 (3D), 12:00, 12:30 (3D), 3:15 (3D), 3:45, 4:15 (3D), 7:00 (3D), 7:30, 8:00 (3D), 10:15 (3D), 10:45
Wed.: 11:30 (3D), 12:00, 12:30 (3D), 3:15 (3D), 3:45, 4:15 (3D), 7:00 (3D), 7:30, 8:00 (3D)
Christmas Day: 11:30 (3D), 12:00, 12:30 (3D), 3:15 (3D), 3:45, 4:15 (3D), 7:00 (3D), 7:30, 8:00 (3D), 10:15, 10:45
- EAGLES THEATRE, WABASH
Friday-Sunday, Dec. 19-21 only
Fri.: 7:00
Sat.-Sun.: 2:00, 7:00
- JEFFERSON POINT 18, FORT WAYNE
Times thru Wednesday, Dec. 24 only
Thurs.: 10:00 (3D IMAX), 10:30 (3D), 11:00, 11:30 (3D), 12:30 (3D), 1:15 (3D IMAX), 1:45, 2:30, 3:00 (3D), 4:00, 4:35 (3D IMAX), 5:00, 6:00, 6:30 (3D), 7:15 (3D), 8:00 (3D IMAX), 8:30, 9:30, 10:00 (3D), 10:30 (3D), 11:15 (3D IMAX), 11:45
Fri.-Sun.: 10:00 (3D IMAX), 10:30, 11:30 (3D), 12:30, 1:15 (3D IMAX), 1:45, 3:00 (3D), 4:00, 4:35 (3D IMAX), 5:00, 6:30 (3D), 7:15 (3D), 8:00 (3D IMAX), 8:30, 9:45 (3D), 10:30 (3D), 11:15 (3D IMAX), 11:45
Mon.-Tues.: 10:00 (3D IMAX), 10:30, 11:30 (3D), 12:30, 1:15 (3D IMAX), 1:45, 3:00 (3D), 4:00, 4:35 (3D IMAX), 5:00, 6:30 (3D), 7:15 (3D), 8:00 (3D IMAX), 8:30, 9:45 (3D), 10:30 (3D), 11:15 (3D IMAX), 11:45
Wed.: 10:00 (3D IMAX), 10:30, 11:30 (3D), 12:30, 1:15 (3D IMAX), 1:45, 3:00 (3D), 4:00, 4:35 (3D IMAX), 5:00, 6:30 (3D), 7:15 (3D), 8:00 (3D IMAX)
- HUNTINGTON 7, HUNTINGTON
Times thru Wednesday, Dec. 24 only
Thurs.: 12:10, 12:40 (3D), 3:20, 3:50, 6:30, 7:00, 9:40, 10:05 (3D)
Fri.-Sat.: 11:40, 12:20 (3D), 2:45, 3:30, 6:15, 6:50, 9:30, 10:00 (3D), 11:35
Sun.-Tues.: 11:40, 12:20 (3D), 2:45, 3:30, 6:15, 6:50, 9:30, 10:00 (3D)
Wed.: 11:40, 12:20 (3D), 2:45, 3:30
- NORTHWOOD CINEMA GRILL, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 3:15, 6:30
Fri.: 3:00, 7:30
Sat.: 2:45, 7:15
Sun.-Tues.: 12:00, 3:15, 6:30
Wed.: 1:45, 5:00
Christmas Day: 6:30
- STRAND THEATRE, KENDALLVILLE
Times thru Wednesday, Dec. 24 only
Thurs.: 7:00
Fri.: 7:00, 9:30
Sat.: 2:00, 7:00, 9:30

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

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 Foxx, Chris Pine, Christoph Waltz and Kevin Spacey.

- CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE
Times thru Wednesday, Dec. 24 only
Thurs.: 1:40, 4:20, 6:45, 7:00, 9:40
Fri.-Tues.: 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40
Wed.: 1:40, 4:20, 7:00
- COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE
Ends Thursday, Dec. 18
Thurs.: 1:15, 4:00, 7:40, 10:20
- JEFFERSON POINT 18, FORT WAYNE
Times thru Wednesday, Dec. 24 only
Thurs.: 10:55, 1:45, 4:30, 7:20, 10:20
Fri.-Sat.: 10:55, 1:40, 4:30, 7:25, 10:25, 12 midnight
Sun.-Tues.: 10:55, 1:40, 4:30, 7:25, 10:25
Wed.: 10:55, 1:40, 4:30, 7:25

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.-Tues.: 12:00, 2:15, 4:30, 6:45, 9:10
Wed.: 12:00, 2:15, 4:30
Christmas Day: 4:30, 6:45, 9:10

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
Times thru Wednesday, Dec. 24 only
Thurs.: 1:15, 1:30, 2:30, 4:15, 4:30, 5:30, 7:15, 7:30, 8:30, 9:15
Fri.-Sat.: 1:15, 1:30, 4:15, 4:30, 7:15, 7:30, 8:30, 10:15
Sun.-Tues.: 1:15, 1:30, 4:15, 4:30, 7:15, 7:30, 8:30
Wed.: 1:15, 1:30, 4:15, 4:30
- COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE
Times thru Wednesday, Dec. 24 only
Thurs.: 11:40, 12:20, 1:30, 2:40, 4:40, 7:35, 10:35
Fri.-Tues.: 11:55, 2:50, 6:35, 9:50
Wed.: 11:55, 2:50
- HUNTINGTON 7, HUNTINGTON
Thurs.: 11:00, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00
Fri.-Tues.: 11:05, 1:50, 4:30, 7:15, 10:05
Wed.: 11:05, 1:50, 4:30
- JEFFERSON POINT 18, FORT WAYNE
Times thru Wednesday, Dec. 24 only
Thurs.: 10:15, 11:15, 1:20, 2:20, 4:40, 5:30, 8:35, 10:45, 11:40
Fri.-Tues.: 10:05, 1:10, 4:05, 7:05, 8:05, 10:10, 11:10
Wed.: 10:05, 1:10, 4:05, 7:05, 8:00

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

- COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 12:20, 2:30, 4:50, 7:15, 9:35
Fri.-Tues.: 12:15, 2:25, 4:50, 7:15, 9:30
Wed.: 12:15, 2:15, 4:50
Christmas Day: 4:50, 7:15, 9:30

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
Times thru Wednesday, Dec. 24 only
Thurs.-Tues.: 1:00, 4:40, 8:20
Wed.: 1:00, 4:40
- COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE
Ends Thursday, Dec. 18
Thurs.: 1:40, 5:25, 9:20
- JEFFERSON POINT 18, FORT WAYNE
Times thru Wednesday, Dec. 24 only
Thurs.: 10:05, 1:40, 5:20, 9:00
Fri.-Tues.: 10:10, 7:10, 11:00
Wed.: 10:10, 7:10

THE INTERVIEW (R) — Seth Rogen and James Franco star in this action comedy that's become more than a movie by upsetting North Korea's Kim Jong-un.

- COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE

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.

Starts Wednesday, Dec. 24
Wed.: 7:15
Christmas Day: 12:50, 4:00, 7:30, 10:25

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.: 2:50, 4:45, 9:30
Fri.-Tues.: 12:05, 2:05, 6:50
Wed.: 12:05, 2:05
Christmas Day: 6:50

INTO THE WOODS (PG) — Rob Marshall (*Chicago*) directed this Disney adaptation of the Stephen Sondheim musical that fractures popular fairy tales. Meryl Streep, Emily Blunt, Chris Pine, Johnny Depp, Anna Kendrick head up the cast.

- COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE
Starts Wednesday, Dec. 24
Wed.: 7:00
Christmas Day: 11:50, 3:30, 6:50, 9:50

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
Ends Thursday, Dec. 19
Thurs.: 1:15, 4:00, 6:30

LUCY (R) — Luc Besson directs Scarlett Johansson in this action-thriller about a woman who transforms into a warrior. Morgan Freeman co-stars.

- COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 12:10, 2:05, 4:20, 6:40, 9:25
Fri.-Tues.: 12:10, 2:05, 4:20, 6:40, 9:45
Wed.: 12:10, 2:05, 4:20
Christmas Day: 4:20, 6:40, 9:45

MALEFICENT (PG) — Angelina Jolie stars in director Robert Stromberg's live-action re-imagining of Disney's *Sleeping Beauty*.

- COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 12:15, 2:25, 4:40, 6:55, 9:05
Fri.-Tues.: 12:15, 2:20, 4:40, 6:55, 9:05
Wed.: 12:15, 2:20, 4:40
Christmas Day: 4:40, 6:55, 9:05

NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM: SECRET OF THE TOMB (PG) — Shawn Levy (*The Spectacular Now*) directs pretty much the same cast of characters (Ben Stiller, Robin Williams, Owen Wilson, Steve Coogan) as in the earlier *Nights*.

- CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE
Starts Friday, Dec. 19; times thru Wednesday, Dec. 24 only
Fri.-Sat.: 12:40, 1:35, 3:10, 4:10, 6:00, 6:30, 8:30, 9:00, 11:00
Sun.-Tues.: 12:40, 1:35, 3:10, 4:10, 6:00, 6:30, 8:30, 9:00
Wed.: 12:40, 1:35, 3:10, 4:10, 6:00, 6:30
- COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 7:00, 9:40
Fri.: 11:40, 12:35, 2:30, 3:30, 5:05, 7:05, 7:35, 9:30, 10:15
Sat.: 11:45, 12:35, 2:30, 3:30, 5:05, 7:05, 7:35, 9:30, 10:10

Sun.-Tues.: 11:40, 12:35, 2:30, 3:30, 5:05, 7:05, 7:35, 9:30, 10:10
Wed.: 11:40, 12:35, 2:30, 3:30, 5:05, 7:05, 7:35
Christmas Day: 12:35, 3:30, 7:05, 9:30

- HUNTINGTON 7, HUNTINGTON
Times thru Wednesday, Dec. 24 only
Thurs.: 7:00, 9:25
Fri.-Sat.: 11:45, 2:10, 4:35, 7:00, 9:20, 12:15
Sun.-Tues.: 11:45, 2:10, 4:35, 7:00, 9:20
Wed.: 11:45, 2:10, 4:35
- JEFFERSON POINT 18, FORT WAYNE
Times thru Wednesday, Dec. 24 only
Thurs.: 7:00, 10:00
Fri.-Tues.: 10:15, 1:00, 2:00, 3:30, 4:30, 6:15, 8:45, 11:25
Wed.: 10:15, 1:00, 2:00, 3:30, 4:30, 6:15
- NORTHWOOD CINEMA GRILL, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 7:00
Fri.: 3:45, 6:15, 8:30
Sat.: 12:00, 3:30, 6:00, 8:15
Sun.: 12:45, 4:00, 7:15
Wed.: 1:15, 3:30, 6:00
Christmas Day: 7:15
- STRAND THEATRE, KENDALLVILLE
Starts Friday, Dec. 19; times thru Wednesday, Dec. 24 only
Fri.: 7:15, 9:15
Sat.: 2:00, 4:00, 7:15, 9:15
Sun.: 2:00, 4:00, 7:15
Mon.-Wed.: 7:15

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
Times thru Wednesday, Dec. 24 only
Thurs.: 1:05, 4:00, 6:45, 9:35
Fri.-Wed.: 3:30

OUIJA (PG13) — From the same folks who brought us *The Purge* and *The Texas Chainsaw Massacre*, this is a horror film about, surprisingly enough, a group of friends who get in trouble with a Ouija board.

- COVENTRY 13, FORT WAYNE
Thurs.: 12:35, 2:45, 4:50, 7:25, 9:20
Fri.-Tues.: 12:40, 2:50, 4:45, 7:25, 9:50
Wed.: 12:40, 2:50, 4:45
Christmas Day: 4:45, 7:25, 9:50

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
Times thru Wednesday, Dec. 24 only
Daily: 1:40, 4:00, 6:40
- COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE
Times thru Wednesday, Dec. 24 only
Thurs.: 2:05, 4:25 (3D), 6:50, 9:50
Fri.-Sun.: 11:35, 2:00, 4:30, 6:55
Mon.-Tues.: 11:35, 2:00, 4:30, 6:55, 9:40
Wed.: 11:35, 2:00, 4:30
- HUNTINGTON 7, HUNTINGTON
Times thru Wednesday, Dec. 24 only
Thurs.: 11:45, 2:15
Fri.-Wed.: 11:50, 2:05, 4:25
- JEFFERSON POINT 18, FORT WAYNE
Times thru Wednesday, Dec. 24 only
Thurs.: 10:20, 12:40, 3:10
Fri.-Wed.: 10:20, 12:40, 3:05, 5:30
- NORTHWOOD CINEMA GRILL, FORT WAYNE
Ends Thursday, Dec. 18
Thurs.: 4:15

PK (Not Rated) — A comedy about a stranger in the city who asks child-like questions that bring about catastrophic answers.

- JEFFERSON POINT 18, FORT WAYNE
Starts Friday, Dec. 19; times thru Wednesday, Dec. 24 only
Fri.-Tues.: 10:20, 1:50, 5:15, 8:35
Wed.: 10:20, 1:50, 5:15

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
Times thru Wednesday, Dec. 24 only
Thurs.: 1:20, 4:05, 6:35
Fri.-Wed.: 1:00, 6:35

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.: 12:25, 2:35, 4:50, 7:10, 9:45
Fri.-Tues.: 12:25, 2:35, 4:50, 7:10, 9:25
Wed.: 12:25, 2:35, 4:50
Christmas Day: 4:50, 7:10, 9:25

THE THEORY OF EVERYTHING (PG13) — Eddie Redmayne (*Les Misérables, My Week with Marilyn*) and Felicity Jones (*Like Crazy*) star in this bio-pic about the astrophysicist Stephen Hawking. Directed by James Marsh (*Man on Wire*).

- COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE
Times thru Wednesday, Dec. 24 only
Thurs.-Tues.: 12:40, 3:35, 6:45, 9:45
Wed.: 12:40, 3:35
- JEFFERSON POINT 18, FORT WAYNE
Times thru Wednesday, Dec. 24 only
Thurs.: 10:25, 1:35, 4:50, 7:50, 11:00
Fri.-Tues.: 10:35, 1:35, 4:50, 7:50, 10:55
Wed.: 10:35, 1:35, 4:50, 7:50

TOP FIVE (R) — Chris Rock directed and stars in this comedy about a comedian turned film star who is determined to reinvent himself as a serious actor. Gabrielle Union and Rosario Dawson co-star.

- CARMIKE 20, FORT WAYNE
Starts Friday, Dec. 19; times thru Wednesday, Dec. 24 only
Fri.-Sat.: 2:15, 4:50, 7:25, 10:00, 10:30
Sun.-Tues.: 2:15, 4:50, 7:25, 10:00
Wed.: 2:15, 4:50, 7:25
- COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE
Starts Friday, Dec. 19
Fri.-Sat.: 11:50, 2:25 5:10, 7:50, 10:35
Wed.: 11:50, 2:25, 5:10, 7:50
Christmas Day: 11:50, 2:25, 5:10, 7:50, 10:35
- JEFFERSON POINT 18, FORT WAYNE
Times thru Wednesday, Dec. 24 only
Thurs.: 10:45, 1:25, 4:00, 7:00, 9:50, 10:50
Fri.-Sun.: 10:45, 1:25, 4:00, 7:00, 9:50, 11:55
Mon.-Tues.: 10:45, 1:25, 4:00, 7:00, 9:50
Wed.: 10:45, 1:25, 4:00, 7:00

UNBROKEN (PG) — Angelina Jolie directed this bio-pic on Louis "Louie" Zamperini (Jack O'Connell), an Olympic track star who survived 47 days lost at sea and then more than two and a half years in Japanese POW camps during WWII.

- COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE
Starts Wednesday, Dec. 24
Wed.: 8:00
Christmas Day: 12:10, 3:30, 7:15, 10:30

WHIPLASH (R) — A drama starring Miles Teller about a young jazz drummer who aspires to be the next Buddy Rich and is accepted into one of the best music schools in the U.S. J.K. Simmons co-stars as his intimidating drumming instructor.

- CINEMA CENTER, FORT WAYNE
Starts Friday, Dec. 19
Fri.: 12:00, 6:00
Sat.: 11:30, 1:45, 6:15
Sun.: 2:00, 4:15
Mon.: 2:15, 4:30
Tues.: 4:00, 6:15
Wed.: 2:00
Christmas Day.: 8:00

WILD (R) — Reese Witherspoon stars in this adaptation of the Cheryl Strayed autobiography, *Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail*.

- COLDWATER CROSSING 14, FORT WAYNE
Starts Friday, Dec. 19
Fri.-Tues.: 1:10, 4:00, 7:20, 10:25
Wed.: 1:10, 4:00, 6:50
Christmas Day: 1:10, 4:00, 7:20, 10:25
- JEFFERSON POINT 18, FORT WAYNE
Times thru Wednesday, Dec. 24 only
Thurs.: 8:00
Fri.-Tues.: 10:25, 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 10:20, 11:20
Wed.: 10:25, 1:20, 4:20, 7:20

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, Dec. 19-20**, Arena Dinner Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$35, includes dinner and show, 424-5622

THE CARIBBEAN CAPER — Bower North Productions mystery dinner theatre; Oak Hill Farm fundraiser, **7:30 p.m.** (6:30 p.m. dinner) **Wednesday, Dec. 31**, Cottage Event Center, Roanoke, \$35, includes dinner and show, 433-6461

CHRISTMAS POTPOURRI: SONGS & STORIES FOR THE SEASON — A throwback to TV Christmas specials featuring musical acts, comedic and heartfelt sketches, **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

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

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. 18-19**; **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 STEADFAST TIN SOLDIER — Fort Wayne Youtheatre 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

Asides

AUDITIONS

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

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

FEBRUARY 2015

THE KID FROM KOKOMO — The Ryan White Story, a Fort Wayne Youtheatre premiere by local playwright Gregory Stieber, **7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 6**; **11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 7** and **2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 8**, Black Box, Auer ArtsLab, Artlink, Fort Wayne, \$7-\$15, 422-6900

ANYTHING GOES — Broadway musical comedy featuring nightclub singer Reno Sweeney en route from New York to England upon a cruise ship, **3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 15**, Niswonger Performing Arts Center, Van Wert, \$25-\$50, 419-238-6722

CABARET — Musical story of a seedy nightclub in the early 1930s where a young English performer strikes up a relationship with an aspiring American writer, presented by Fort Wayne Civic Theatre, **8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 14**; **2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 15**; **8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 20-21**; **2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 22**; **8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 27-28** and **2 p.m. Sunday, March 1**, Arts United Center, Fort Wayne, \$17-\$29 (includes ArtsTix fees), 424-5220

THE MUSIC LESSON — all for One productions' tale of two musicians who escaped the Bosnian war to start start a new life in Pittsburgh, rated PG for subject matter, **7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 20-21**; **2:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 22**; **7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Feb. 27-29** and **2:30 p.m. Sunday, Mar. 1**, Allen County Public Library Auditorium, Fort Wayne, \$10-\$18, 622-4610

COME BACK TO THE FIVE & DIME JIMMY DEAN, JIMMY DEAN — Disciples of James Dean gather for a 20th anniversary reunion to mull over their present lives and reminisce about the past, presented by IPFW Department of Theatre, contains adult language and subject matter **8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 20-21**; **2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 22**; **8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Feb. 26-28**, Williams Theatre, IPFW, \$5-\$15 thru IPFW box office 481-6555

FLASHDANCE- THE MUSICAL — 80s film transformed into a Broadway musical, part of the Broadway at the Embassy series, **7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 25** Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$25-\$55 thru Ticketmaster and Embassy box office, 424-5665

MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET — Musical based upon the December 1956 gathering of Elvis Presley, Jerry Lee Lewis, Carl Perkins and Johnny Cash, **7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 26**, Honeywell Center, Wabash, \$24-\$54, 563-1102

SHAKESPEARE'S MERCHANT OF VENICE — Complex and controversial play about a merchant who secures a loan from a Jewish money lender who will receive a pound of flesh if the loan defaults, **7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Feb. 26-28**; **7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 6-7**; **2:30 p.m. Sunday, March 8** and **7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 13-14**, First Presbyterian Theater, Fort Wayne, \$10-\$20, 422-6329

MARCH 2015

LOVE LETTERS — Barbara Eden of "I Dream of Jeannie" and Hal Linden of "Barney Miller" star in modern day classic boy meets girl love story, **3 p.m. Sunday, March 8**, Niswonger Performing Arts Center, Van Wert, \$20-\$40, 419-238-6722

VANYA AND SONIA AND MASHA AND SPIKE — Chekhov comedy about two middle-aged siblings living together, their movie star sister and her newest boy toy, rated mature, **8 p.m.** (7 p.m. dinner) **Friday-Saturday, March 13-14**; **March 20-21**; **March 27-28**, Arena Dinner Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$35, includes dinner and show, 424-5622

Current Exhibits

10TH REGIONAL EXHIBITION — Mixed media pieces from local and regional artists, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Jan. 14**, Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, 424-7195

AMERICA'S SPIRIT: EVOLUTION OF A NATIONAL STYLE — Collection drawn from FWMoA'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**, Orchard Gallery of Fine Art, Fort Wayne, 436-0927

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

BOYCOTT! THE ART OF ECONOMIC ACTIVISM — 61 posters from 20 past and present economic campaigns and movements, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Jan. 14**, Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, 424-7195

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

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

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

DANCE THEATRE OF HARLEM: 40 YEARS OF FIRSTS — Costumes, accessories, set pieces, documentary excerpts, historical photos and tour posters from the Dance Theatre of Harlem's first 40 years, **Tuesday-Sunday, Dec. 20-March 15**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, \$5-\$7 (members, free), 422-6467

EUNICE SCULLY AND DAN SIGLER — Fabric art and fanciful birdhouses, **Sunday-Friday thru Jan. 4**, First Presbyterian Art Gallery, First Presbyterian Church, Fort Wayne, 426-7421

GROUP HOLIDAY SHOW — Mixed media from Gwen Gutwein, Justin Johnson, Austin Cartwright, Diana Fair, Elizabeth Wamsley, Richard Tuck, Marcy Neiditz, Aaron Dickinson and Linda Nathan Jones, **Tuesday-Saturday thru Jan. 31**, Crestwoods Frame Shop & Gallery, Roanoke, 672-2080

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 POP UP GALLERY — Mixed media pieces from 12 local and regional artists, **Wednesday-Sunday thru Dec. 28**, The Art Farm, Spencerville, 238-4755

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 Jan. 6**, Castle Gallery Fine Art, Fort Wayne, 426-6568

HUNT SLOMOM: MAGNIFICENT MENAGERIE — Nature inspired paintings, **Tuesday-Sunday, Dec. 20-March 8**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, \$5-\$7 (members, free), 422-6467

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

USF PHOTO CLUB — Photography, **Tuesday-Sunday, Dec. 12-Jan. 14**, Betty Fishman Gallery, Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, 424-7195

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, 424-7195

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, 424-7195

SPECIAL EVENTS

CONTROLLED SUBSTANTIAL APPEARANCES — Photography by Steve Anselm, **6 p.m.-12 a.m. Friday, Dec. 19**, Canton Gallery, Fort Wayne, free, 444-8278

Upcoming Exhibits

JANUARY

AMERICAN QUILTS FROM THE COLLECTION — American quilts ranging from the late 19th century through the mid-20th century, **Tuesday-Sunday, Jan. 10-Feb. 1**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, \$5-\$7 (members, free), 422-6467

SEASONS OF THE SOUL — Mixed media works with an emphasis in clay by Teresa Koenig, **Monday-Friday, Jan. 12-Feb. 13**, Arts Place, Portland, 726-4809

ROCK PAPER SCISSORS — Mixed media pieces focused on games, **Tuesday-Sunday, Jan. 23-Mar. 4**, Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, 424-7195

A C2G CHRISTMAS - From Page 2

hear the phrase "a capella," but it's a safe bet that some people think of something high-falutin'.

"They think of a choir in a concert hall," he said. "We are absolutely nothing like that."

They are "a group that plays to a relatively small core audience," Harker says, "because people aren't going to say, 'Oooh, look! It's an a capella group. I can't wait to get out and see that.'"

Typically, he said, once people take a chance on the group, they tend to say, "'You are not at all what I was expecting.'"

"There's a lot of humor in the show," Harker said. "We make fun of ourselves a lot. We do some completely ridiculous things on stage. We want to make sure that we can go into a bar and that people can

watch our show and have a good time."

Harker said Smooth Edge 2 recently released their first Christmas EP which should be available at the show. Add to this Conley's *It's a Conley Christmas* and Bushong's *Sleigh Bells in the Air* (not to mention Taylor's new non-Christmas CD, *Map to the Fire*) and you have a lot of potential gifts that will await you at the conclusion of the concert.

Conley said A C2G Christmas has fast become a Fort Wayne Christmas tradition on par with more venerable others.

"For people who are already in the Christmas spirit, they'll love it," he said. "For people who may not be in the Christmas spirit — by the time they leave, they will be."

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

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

AWS FANTASY OF LIGHTS — 1.5 mile display of animated Christmas lights and holiday decorations, **6-9 p.m. Thursday, 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

BRIDAL SPECTACULAR AND BEYOND — Bridal show featuring gowns and attire, planning services, caterers, musicians and DJs, florists and more, **12-4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Jan. 3-4**, Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, \$10, 482-9502

FORT WAYNE GUN AND KNIFE SHOW — New and used firearms, ammo, hunting supplies, **9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 3 and 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 4**, Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, \$6-\$12, 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. 20**, Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory, Fort Wayne, \$3-\$5, 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, **7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19; 3 and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 20; 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21**, Schouweiler Planetarium, Achatz Hall, University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne, \$3-\$14, 399-8050

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

Lectures, Discussions,

Authors, Readings &

Films

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

LIFE LESSONS LEARNED FROM A WASP — Marsha Wright discusses her book based upon the life of her mother, Maggie Ray Ringenberg; part of the George R. Mather Lecture Series **2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 4**, History Center, Fort Wayne, free, 426-2882

Youtheatre Recreates Its Debut

There are many amazing arts organizations in Fort Wayne, and any one of them can promise you a remarkable evening or afternoon of entertainment and delight. But in the last few years some of my favorite offerings have been collaborations between those organizations that have produced some of the best productions Fort Wayne has seen in a long time. Two of my recent favorites were courtesy of Fort Wayne Youtheatre which joined forces two seasons ago for *Oliver!* with IPFW's Department of Theatre and last year's *Willie Wonka and the Chocolate Factory* in partnership with the University of St. Francis.

Once again this year Youtheatre is finding new ways to collaborate, and this month, as they continue the celebration of their 80th anniversary, they have picked a perfect way to honor that milestone. *The Steadfast Tin Soldier* not only provides a great way to work again with their neighbors and frequent partners, the Fort Wayne Ballet, but it also serves to commemorate Youtheatre's debut production some 80 years ago in 1934. Appropriately, longtime director and Fort Wayne theater icon Harvey Cocks has adapted the Hans Christian Andersen tale for the corps of Youtheatre performers.

Since the tale involves a toy soldier earnestly trying to win the heart of a ballerina, the inclusion of Fort Wayne Ballet, fresh off their annual production of *The Nutcracker*, is perfect and will allow both Youtheatre and FWB to share the stage in the still-



Fare Warning Michele DeVinney

new Auer Black Box Theatre just downstairs from the ballet studios and across the street from Youtheatre's home at Arts United Center. For this production the ArtsLab becomes a toy box filled with soldiers, ballerinas and holiday carolers and should provide a perfect warm-up for holiday week.

As usual, Youtheatre will hold an opening night reception, this time hosted by Artlink on Friday, December 19 at 6 p.m. Food will be catered by the Coliseum Subway and Zinnia's bakery, and beverages will be provided by Five Star Distributing. Admission to the reception

is \$5 for children 18 and under and \$10 for adults (and includes wine and beer). Of course, access to the Artlink exhibits are an added perk of admission, and additional entertainment includes the Tin Soldier Troupe, meeting the Toy Ballerina, and piano accompaniment by Jenny Huang.

The opening performance of *The Steadfast Tin Soldier* begins across the lobby in the Black Box at 7 p.m. For ticket information, call 422-4226 or visit the Arts Tix box office at tickets.artstix.org.

michele.whatzup@gmail.com

THE STEADFAST TIN SOLDIER

FORT WAYNE YOUTHEATRE

7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19

11 a.m. & 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 20

2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21

Black Box Theatre, Auer Center

300 E. Main St., Fort Wayne

Tix.: \$7-\$15, 260-422-6900

BOYCOTT NOW! — Contemporary Expressions of the Boycott Movement panel discussion, **3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 11** Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, free, 424-7195

PAUL NICKLEN PHOTOGRAPHY — Part of the National Geographic Live! series, polar photographer shares his experiences in photographing Antarctica, **3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 25**, Niswonger Performing Arts Center, Van Wert, \$15-\$25, 419-238-6722

TAKE THESE JOKES, PLEASE! — The history of Jewish humor with a focus on Borscht Belt with journalist Mike Legiderman, **2 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 28**, congregation B'nai Jacob, Fort Wayne, free, 672-8459

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, 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.

THURSDAY, JAN. 1 vs. Oklahoma City, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, JAN. 3 vs. Erie, 7:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, JAN. 6 vs. Santa Cruz, 7 p.m.

TUESDAY, JAN. 13 vs. Reno, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, JAN. 29 vs. Iowa, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY, FEB. 6 vs. Erie, 7:30 p.m.

HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS — Featuring Big Easy Lofton, Ant Atkinson, Hi-Lite Bruton, Thunder Law and more, **12 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 3**, Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, \$21-\$79, 483-1111

HOCKEY

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

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.

FRIDAY, JAN. 2 vs. Wheeling, 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, JAN. 16 vs. Evansville, 8 p.m.

SUNDAY, JAN. 18 vs. Kalamazoo, 5 p.m.

FRIDAY, JAN. 30 vs. Elmira, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, JAN. 31 vs. Toledo, 7:30 p.m.

RACING

RUMBLE IN FORT WAYNE — Indoor midget 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

Dance

OPEN DANCE PARTY — Open dancing, no partner necessary, **7:30-10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19**, Dance Tonight, Fort Wayne, \$10, 437-6825

CONTRA DANCE — Old time dance with live caller and live music from Root Cellar String Band, no partner necessary, **8-11 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 20**, Fort Wayne Dance Collective, Fort Wayne, \$6-\$9, 244-1905

Tours & Trips

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

BROADWAY IN CHICAGO — Bus trip to see *The First Wives Club* and lunch at 'Mity Nice Grill', **7:30 a.m.-10:30 p.m. Saturday, March 14**, departure from Bob Arnold Park, Fort Wayne, \$125, includes lunch, 427-6000

CHICAGO FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW — Trip to Navy Pier Marketplace, buffet luncheon and floral arrangement upon 'Spirit of Chicago' ship, and Chicago Flower and Garden Show, **8 a.m.-10:30 p.m. Saturday, March 21**, departure from Bob Arnold Park, Fort Wayne, \$105, 427-6000

FORT WAYNE CIVIC THEATRE GUILD INDIANAPOLIS BUS TRIP — Bus trip to see *Dirty Dancing the Musical*, **2 p.m. departure Sunday, June 14**, departs from a Northeast Fort Wayne location, \$110 includes transportation, show and refreshments, 437-7497

January

FORT WAYNE FARM SHOW — Latest in farm technology, agriculture equipment and regions largest variety of farm machinery, **9 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 13; 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 14 and 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 15**, Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, free, 482-9502

MIZPAH SHRINE CIRCUS — Three rings of fun, **6:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 22; 7 a.m. Friday, Jan. 23; 10 a.m., 2 and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 24; 1 and 5:45 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 25**, Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, \$12-\$20, 482-9502

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