



SUNNY TAYLOR, ACME BAR & GRILL • PAGE 2

JULY 23-29, 2015

Free



His Blood Runs Deep Blue

WAYNE BAKER BROOKS STORY ON PAGE FOUR



The B45s
PAGE 5



Chris Rasor
PAGE 7



Jane Lanier
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CS3 The Addams Family Road Notez
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Pop 'n' Fresh: Best Blues Performer

The Family That Plays Blues Together...

If this is Thursday it must be Pop 'n' Fresh hosting the weekly blues jam at the Office Tavern on Brooklyn.

There's something homey about these jams. Ted Brown, the "Pop," and his son Travis, the "Fresh," have been hosting open blues jams at the Office for the past two years. And for three years before that the jams were held at different bars. But the concept has been the same no matter where they're held. They start out playing acoustic and then they plug in for the rest of the night.

"The beginning is more like sitting around your living room," Brown says. "Then, after we do that for an hour, we plug in and try to get groups together in different ways, try to make it interesting. Then we jam till the last jammer jams. Usually that makes it fun."

Pop 'n' Fresh have been on the Fort Wayne scene for more than 20 years. And for six years in the early 2000s, the band took home the for Best Blues Performer. Now after a long drought that saw Left Lane Cruiser win year after year, Pop 'n' Fresh have reclaimed the title.

"I'm totally shocked," Brown says. "It's nice to be back in the blues category. We were entered in the oldies category for several years. I kind of like that area

between oldies and rock n' roll; we play the 50s songs when we can. We try to do whatever people want. If they want oldies we do that or swing or rockabilly, whatever gets them moving."

Brown is an amiable guy. People like him. As the patriarch of a collective of sorts (somewhat akin to what George Clinton has been heading all these years, but without the alien presence), Brown and his wife Pamela preside over an extended family of musicians. "We've been hacking at it for more than 20 years," Brown says.

The core of Pop 'n' Fresh comprises Ted and Travis on guitar and bass, Pamela on auto harp and Indian flute and Kevin Jackson on drums. Then there are the Brown daughters, Crystal (Brown) Clouse, Sarah Brown, Dusty Brown and Barbie Brown (who is married to Travis) known as the Review. Sometimes Maurice Taylor and Paul LeClair join in.

Crystal and Taylor also play in Sum Morz, and Dusty and Travis play in PlumDingo! Travis is also in Tone Junkies and Taj Maholics. It gets confusing if you think about it too much. But never fear. The whole bunch of them will be playing Rock the Plaza on August 8. Keep your scorecards handy. (Mark Hunter)



Acme Bar & Grill: Best Neighborhood Tavern (Fort Wayne)

Back and Better Than Ever - Edna Too

For a while it seemed like it might be gone forever. No more pizza. No more ball diamond painting. No more breaded tenderloin the size of your head. But most importantly, no more hanging out with pals and neighbors, not to mention the staff that seemed more like part of the family than that guy who shows up every Christmas and eats all the shrimp.

When the Acme closed in February of 2009, it seemed like a part of history had died – and not just for the East State Boulevard neighborhood the Acme had called home since 1941, but for the entire city of Fort Wayne.

But then a miracle happened. The Acme fell under new ownership and, after a year of intense remodeling and re-imagining, reopened to a delighted and hungry public.

That public showed its appreciation in the form of votes, giving the Acme Bar & Grill its first Whammy for Best Neighborhood Tavern in Fort Wayne.

"I think a lot of it probably has to do with the fact that it's been an establishment here since 1941," said Acme manager Martin Lewis. "It hasn't changed a tremendous amount. It's still a family-owned business, even though it changed families. There is a continuity there. The family room still has pictures of the two original owners."

The new owners, Jeff and Sherry Parrish, have done an admirable job of maintaining the feel of the place while adding touches here and there that keep the Acme relevant well into its eighth decade.

"It doesn't look like we changed a whole lot, but we did," Lewis said. "We actually found the original mahogany bar in the basement. We had it refinished. We restored the tin ceiling."

To complement the large painting of the ballpark in the family room, local artist Gwen Gutwein added her vision of Parkview Field to a wall in the barroom. And to keep the original six-tap beer line from getting lonely, they brought in 20 craft beer taps.

As for the food, the wood smoker that was added prior to the 2009 closing remains and has taken a more prominent role. Longtime kitchen wizard John Pentangelo has put the hickory-fired smoker to amazing use. The smoked chicken wings are arguably the best around, and the smoked ribs and brisket have developed a following as well. Tuesday is Italian night, with Pentangelo cooking up family recipes. And the old favorites like Big Daddy's Pizza and the famous breaded tenderloin haven't gone anywhere.

And neither has Edna.

"We still have Edna," Lewis said. "She's been here for 30 some years. She has a regular group that comes in to see her. She's here five nights a week."

The Acme was gone for a bit. But it's back, and it looks like it's here to stay. (Mark Hunter)



Sherry Parrish, Martin Lewis

With another Three Rivers Festival behind us, it's time to look forward to hot August nights and what we sincerely hope is the end of Fort Wayne's world famous monsoon season. Here at World Headquarters, the summer's rain revealed a leaky roof (being replaced as we write this) and a whole lotta weeds. Others have suffered far worse, and we hope, for everyone's sake, that the coming weeks will bring a return to normalcy.

A return to normalcy, and a plethora of entertainment opportunities. Take our cover story, for example. Guitarist Wayne Baker Brooks kicks off the Conservatory's 10th Botanical Roots Concert Series with some prodigious blues guitar. Deborah Kennedy talked with the man himself and has the story on page 4 (and Nick Braun adds some Botanical Roots color in his Out & About column on page 9).

Meanwhile, the Foellinger Outdoor Theatre series has bunches of shows remaining, not the least of which is a nostalgic show featuring local stalwarts The Bel-Airs and local phenoms The B45's (who are featured on page 5).

And at the Civic Theatre, Fort Wayne native Jane Lanier returns to direct Mary Poppins, featuring local actor/teacher Chris Rasor in the role of Bert. Both are featured on page 7.

That's but a smattering of what you'll find in this week's whatzup. For more, you'll just have to start turning pages. When you do, be sure to check out the ads and, should you find anything interesting, get out and support them. They keep whatzup going, so when you visit them, be sure to tell them thanks.

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Cover design by Greg Locke
Wayne Baker Brooks photos on cover and page 4 by Alain Boucley
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97.3wmee **FORT WAYNE PARKS AND RECREATION**
Today's Best Variety

His Blood Runs Deep Blue

By Deborah Kennedy

Wayne Baker Brooks grew up wanting to be the next Michael Jordan, but fate had other plans for him.

"Basically what happened was I broke the same ankle twice," Brooks told me in a recent phone interview. "It was just God's way of saying, 'Hey man, this basketball stuff's not for you. Leave it alone and pick up a guitar and start writing songs. That's what I put you on this earth for.'"

"I guess it's true what they say," he added. "God works in mysterious ways. And you can't block a blessing."

Brooks will kick off the Botanical Roots Outdoor Concert Series on Friday, July 31. The series marks its 10-year anniversary this year with a lineup that boasts not only Brooks but MODOC, J.P. Harris and the Tough Choices, Buckwheat Zydeco, Sierre Leone's Refugee All Stars and John Nemeth. The goal of the series is to take audiences back to the roots of American music and to familiarize them with a wide variety of genres and styles, including blues, rock, reggae, zydeco and country.

Baker, who co-wrote the book *Blues for Dummies*, shares the series' goal of imparting knowledge and expanding horizons.

"My thing is, every night I ask everyone to open their mind," he said. "A lot of people don't know the blues, so I'm there to educate them, specifically about Chicago blues. But I'm also there to show people a good time, to let people forget their world for two hours. And I'll tell you what – when we start playing, people don't want to leave."

If Brooks' surname sounds familiar, that's because he's the son of blues legend Lonnie Brooks. He's also the brother of blues guitarist Ronnie Brooks. You might say the Brooks blood runs deep blue.

"Dad's dream was for the three of us to go on the road together – for me to play drums and for my brother to play bass and for him to play guitar – and we did that a bit for local TV stations and commercials. But now Ronnie and I both play guitar and write songs like our dad, and he's accepted that because he knows that means that if anything happens to him, his music will always live on through us."

That's not to say that Brooks mimics his father. His style and voice and work ethic are very much his own.

"My dad is a legend," he said. "I can't get around that. He's my dad, and I can't get around that. I don't want to. I love my dad. But you'll never hear me say to people, 'Nice to meet you, I'm Lonnie Brooks' son.' I don't throw that around or expect anything

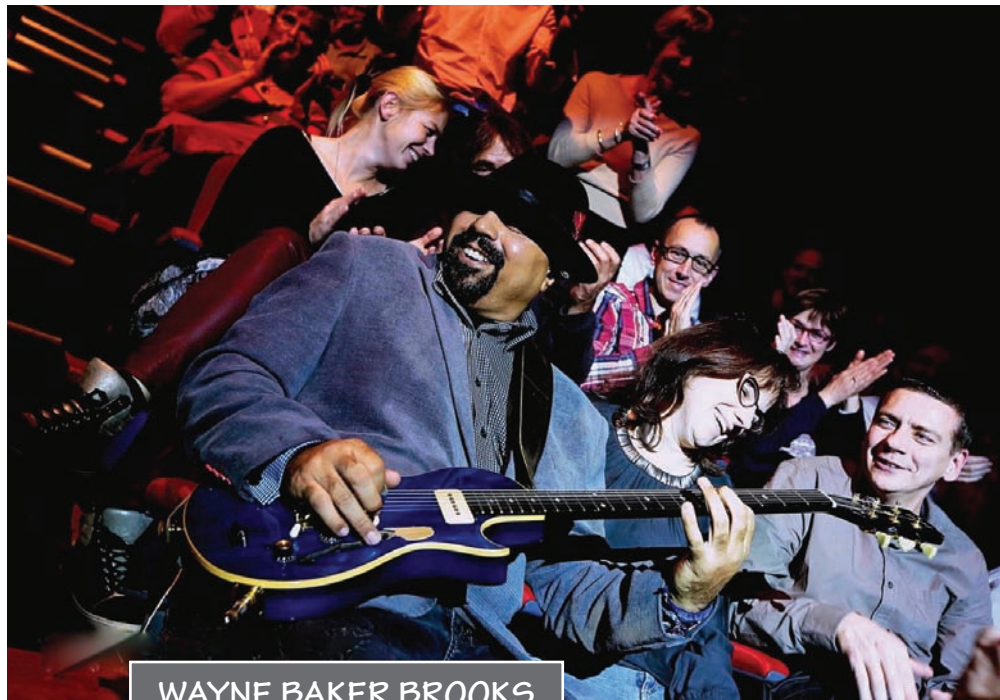
because my dad's a legend. I know I have to work my own ass off doing what I do to get real respect for myself."

And he has earned that respect. The Chicago native put out his debut album, *Mystery*, on his own label, Blues Island Records, in 2004, and the record quickly gathered its fair share of accolades from critics and fans. *Mystery* helped boost Brooks' growing popularity, but even prior to that release, he was gaining a fan base thanks in part to his live performances at Willie Dixon's Blues Heav-

creasingly difficult riffs. Each time, Brooks impressed his hard-to-impress father with his skill and determination.

"So he told me, 'You know you got this. Just keep practicing.' And I did. I taught myself how to play guitar. And it was the right choice for me. Some people can talk better through their guitars than anything else. That's how it is for me. Playing guitar is how I get things off my chest."

Brooks' childhood prepared him for a life of music and writing. He remembers waking



WAYNE BAKER BROOKS
W/SWICK & JONES

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en – with none other than then first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton in the audience – and and the 2003 All Star Game where he played the National Anthem.

Brooks lives to perform live, having developed a love of the road when he worked as his father's main tour technician as a teenager. It was during one very memorable tour that Brooks decided to put down the drum sticks and pick up the guitar. At first, his father was skeptical. After all, Lonnie had groomed his son to be a drummer.

"One night I said to my dad, 'I've been messing around on the guitar. I think I want to play guitar instead of drums.' And he said, 'Are you sure? The guitar will drive you crazy.' And I said, 'Too late for that.'"

Lonnie then lent his son one of his guitars and prompted him to play a series of in-

up and seeing his father at the kitchen table, writing songs. Then he and Ronnie would go to school and come home, and there was Lonnie, at the kitchen table, writing songs. They'd have dinner and Lonnie would go back to writing. They'd go to bed, and, you guessed it, Lonnie was still writing.

"We'd wake up the next day and dad would be at the table again. It was like our version of *Groundhog Day*," Brooks said. "We're a musical family. Records were always playing, and even started in the womb for me and my brother. Dad used to put headphones on Mom's stomach and play Muddy Waters, Howling Wolf, Elvis Presley, Albert King. We were destined to be musicians."

Brooks' career has been one of self-discovery, hard work and reverence not only for his father's contribution to the world of blues, but to the long line of bluesmen and women who have come before him. He said that anyone who comes to his show gets a taste of what he's learned and what he loves most in the world.

"They should expect to get some old school blues, some contemporary blues, some new blues. All Chicago blues. The main thing is that the show's a journey. It lets people know where I'm from musically, where I'm at and where I'm going."

whatzup

Published weekly and distributed on Wednesdays and Thursdays by AD Media, Incorporated.

2305 E. Esterline Rd., Columbia City, IN 46725
Phone: (260) 691-3188 • Fax: (260) 691-3191
E-Mail: info.whatzup@gmail.com
Website: http://www.whatzup.com
Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/whatzupFortWayne

Publisher: Doug Driscoll
Office Manager: Mikila Cook
Advertising Sales: Sarah Anderson
Webmaster: Josiah South

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Back issues are \$3 for first copy, 75¢ per additional copy. Send payment with date and quantity of issues desired, name and mailing address to AD Media, Incorporated to the above address.

SUBSCRIPTIONS
In-Home postal delivery available at the rate of \$25 per 13-week period (\$100/year). Send payment with name and mailing address to AD Media, Incorporated to the above address.

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And the Beat Goes On

By Mark Hunter

Things happen fast in rock n' roll. One minute you're throwing a band together to help out a friend, and the next you're opening for a legendary local band in a 2,750-seat venue.

Okay. It took a little more than a minute, but for the B45's the time between their first gig and their upcoming slot ahead of the Bel-Airs at the Foellinger Theater is a testament not only to their popularity but to their chops. These guys can play. They play so well it's easy to forget that no one in the band is old enough to vote.

"We got off to a really fast start," said guitarist and lead vocalist Ben Tarr who, at 17, is the oldest member. "It just kind of picked up. People liked our sound and really wanted to hear us more. Our name kind of spread."

Joining Tarr are Colin Taylor on bass and vocals and Sam Clay on drums, both 16, with 13-year-old Kellen Baker handling lead guitar and vocal duties.

Thus far the band has played at a few bars around town, including the Brass Rail. They played SolFest and Rock the Plaza earlier this year. The Foellinger Theatre show with the Bel-Airs will be by far their biggest gig.

About a year ago a friend of Tarr's who knew him from his other band, Soft N' Heavy, asked him if he could perform at a party she was hosting.

"That's when we threw the band together," Tarr said. "We were told we had to have a name, so we decided on the 45s because of our retro sound. At that time we had no original music. We were playing Elvis and Beatles and Otis Redding covers and stuff like that. Not too long after that we discovered there was already a band called the 45s, so we decided to name ourselves after the B-side of the 45s 'cause the hit song is always on the A side and the B song is always the more obscure songs."

That gig was a success, and they decided to carry on not only with the cover songs but with tunes of their own. Tarr had been writing songs for a couple of years, and it turned out the B45's were the perfect vehicle.

It's easy to assume a young band like the B45's would do mostly cover songs as some sort of novelty act, but that assumption would be wrong. Indeed, while the B45's do their share of covers that make the pairing with a rockabilly band like The Bel-Airs a natural, they have a growing body of originals that make you scratch your head wondering where you heard them before. Is there a secret cache of Beatles tunes you somehow missed, or maybe a previously unreleased

collection of Dave Clark Five B-sides lurking in record store bins?

Though settled comfortably among the B45's' influences, their songs are not mere rip-offs of classic 60s pop. The compositions seem familiar enough to make them enjoyable on a first hearing, yet maintain a level of coherent, confident originality that urges repeat exposure.

"Our songwriting is young and fresh and appealing to the ears," Tarr said. "A lot of younger people don't generally listen to 50s and 60s music, but they really love coming out to our shows. They have a blast, and that's really flattering. And we're just having a blast providing that kind of music. We're not trying to be retro. We love all kinds of music. We all play in jazz bands, and my other band, Soft N' Heavy, is kind of bluesy. We play Zeppelin."

Tarr, Talyor, Clay and Baker came together through some of the same paths. Both Tarr and Taylor went to Memorial Park Middle School and attended the Sweetwater rock camps, as did Baker. Tarr met Clay later at North Side High School where they play in the school jazz band. Taylor (the son of guitarist Kenny Taylor) and Baker play in a Sweetwater group called Beatles 64 Lab Band.

"I went to middle school with Colin," Tarr said. "And when I went to high school I saw Sam play and thought wow, he's a really good drummer."

"We picked up steam a lot on originals," he continued. "We just write a lot. And that's one of the big pros of us being friends and getting along so well. It makes the creative process really easy. Everybody is really easy going, and when we're writing songs it's really fast and easy."

Tarr credits his development as a musician to the elementary and middle school programs he got involved with. He started playing piano in the arts magnet program at Weisser Park Elementary and continued through his years at Memorial Park Middle School, picking up the bass and sax along the way.

"They have an awesome jazz program," Tarr said. "They needed a bass player and asked if anyone wanted to learn. I was like heck yeah. Bass is awesome."

In high school he immersed himself in music. He started Soft N' Heavy, bought a turntable, started listening to vinyl and decided he found his purpose.

"At this point in my life - I'm going into my senior year - I have no doubt that music is the path I want to pursue in my life," he said. "So it's kind of weird how things work out. If you go back to the beginning, I was just some first grader who was told to play piano. But now it's definitely my passion. I take it very seriously."

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I had a big year in 2008: got a new job, got dumped by a girl, met the girl, decided I'd had enough of apartment life and bought a house. It was also the year I officially woke up, as it were, to "the scene." Sure "the scene" had been around in various forms and intensities long before my awakening, satisfying or disappointing whatever proclivities fickle audiences brought to the table, but as the Judge says in Cormac McCarthy's *Blood Meridian*, "Whatever in creation exists without my knowledge exists without my consent." What mattered about the scene in 2008 was that it now mattered to me. Selfish much? Yes. Who isn't?

It was also at some point in 2008 I began hearing a new name dropped in conversation about all things downtown. Admittedly, it took a while before it stuck, since people were confusing me by interchangeably using the long and short forms of this establishment. The long form was a definite mouthful: Calhoun Street Soups, Salads, Spirits and More. Wait, slow down. I've had three beers. Say that again. CS3. Ah, got it. Now that's a name the sober and the not-so-sober can contend with. I was intrigued.

It took some time before I finally made it down to CS3, but get there I did. Like so many who first visit the place, I was immediately taken with the building itself. In my opinion, and I don't think it's a slam on any other of the fine bar/restaurants in town, CS3 is the best-looking downtown bar we have. The interior is a knockout: original light-oak, hardwood floors refinished and preserved beautifully but still water-stained here and there to give it that time-worn look and feel; warm brick walls accented by the light green of the original embossed tin ceiling; an impressively large L-shaped classic bar with the requisite backdrop mirror reflecting customers' eager faces as they are served; and dining tables and chairs all made of exquisite hardwood and lit up in the daytime by ample light coming through an entire wall of front windows.

But wait, there's more. The patio: a neatly landscaped terrace with a large gazebo, bountiful seating, strings of white lights and awning-covered seating with heaters for colder weather. Again, not sure there is another like it.

According to owner Donna Pressler, the building itself was completed in 1880 and over the years has hosted various businesses. One of the more well-known was Welch Hardware, opened in 1901 by John Welch. One of Welch's great granddaughters recently stopped by and was very impressed by its preservation.

Not sure if she stayed for lunch, but if she did she would have had more opportunities to be impressed by CS3's delightful menu which is not just soups and salads, although they do feature prominently. House, Greek, Deluxe Caesar, and Southwest Chicken are all salads I have had over the years, and they are consistently fresh, well portioned and expertly mixed. My favorite is the Greek, which comes with pitted olives

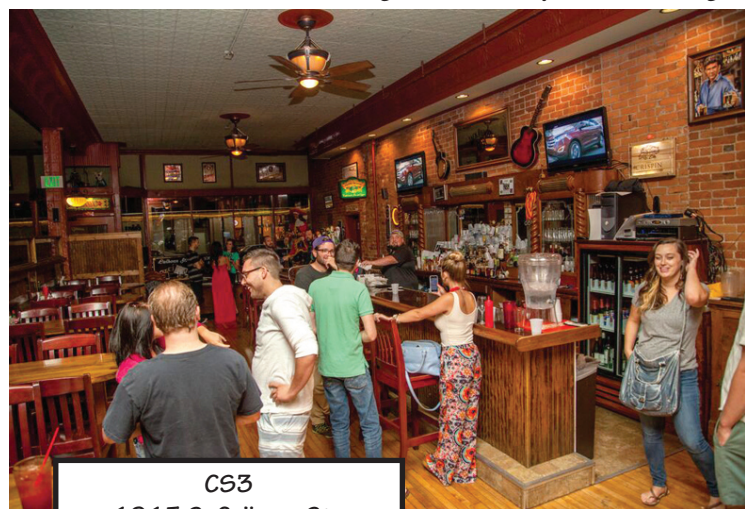


What Dag's About DARREN HUNT

instead of the teeth-shattering kind that served up by other places trying too hard to be authentic. The Deluxe Caesar is also an excellent choice, with that just-right level of anchovies—not too little not too much.

Freshly made soups feature daily and run the gamut from the traditional chicken noodle, ham and bean and vegetable to adventurous seasonal varieties like Cheesy Reuben, Stuffed Pepper, Cabbage Roll, and the award-winning White Chicken Chili.

If you're like me, however, salad and soup are often a warmup or just a passing thought. You want the beef, the grease, the hearty fare. Something to

**CS3**

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complement a cold beer or tasty cocktail. Well, CS3 has that too. The mac and cheese is legendary, as are the deep-fried onion straws. My hands-down favorites in this category, however, are the burgers: 1/3 pound of pure Angus beef on a deal-maker pretzel bun. Great flavor every time, and you have

choices: the Jack and Blue with blue cheese, grilled onion and pepper, and a homemade signature Jack Daniels sauce; the Smokestack, featuring a hearty slice of beef brisket on top of the Angus, onion straws, pepperjack cheese, and BBQ sauce; and the Pizza Burger, featuring pepperoni, banana peppers, grilled onions and peppers, provolone cheese and pizza sauce. Or you can build your own. My personal pick is the Smokestack because who doesn't like meat on top of meat? Okay, not everyone. If you're inclined toward vegetarian, CS3 has plenty of wraps, salads, and soups to accommodate.

Originally Donna and her husband Phil envisioned a lunch-only place; get in at 9 and home by 4. But destiny had other plans. Leo Vodde, who before Donna came into the picture was working on what would become CS3, wanted a bar. At first Donna and Phil were reluctant, but the sheer size of the building seemed to demand more than just lunch, so they relented. Not long after this concession, Donna's nephew, a senior in high school at the time and fronting the newly formed psychobilly band, Sour Mash Kats,

Continued on page 8

Sticking Close to His Roots

By Jen Poiry-Prough

Chris Rasor was born blessed with a vivid imagination, a flair for drama and the ability to entertain himself for hours on end. This served him well as an only child for the first eight years of his life until the first of his two brothers was born.

Not content to live inside his own head, he was also a very social child.

"I had a teacher say once that it took me 20 minutes to turn in my homework," he says, "because I had to stop by and talk to the other students in class."

As he grew, his imagination and social skills continued to inform his career path.

He played trumpet in middle school but in 7th grade decided to give choir a try.

"I fell in love with it intensely," he says.

Although not the first in his family with an interest in performing choral music, his bigger influence was his grandfather, who played harmonica in church.

"He would take me to concerts and always encouraged me," he says.

The middle schooler branched out onto a new path when a friend took him to see a Fort Wayne Civic Theatre production.

"That was my first community production, and I was just in awe," he says. "I didn't want to leave. I wanted to be up on that stage."

He went on to North Side High School, where he "did and tried it all." He was a four-year member of the school's show choir, Wave of Distinction, as well as the jazz choir and concert choir. He participated in all the school's musicals and plays during his high school career and performed in his first community theatre production (*Cinderella* at the Civic).

Already musically and theatrically accomplished, Rasor went to IPFW after graduating North Side, earning his bachelor's degree in music education with a concentration in voice. At IPFW he performed with the University and Chamber Choirs and participated in the music department's opera workshops. He was also proud to work with the IPFW Department of Theatre in their production of *A Chorus Line* under the direction of Larry Life.

Despite the classical vocal training

he received at IPFW, he never strayed far from his theatrical roots.

"I was steered toward opera and classical music, but the love for musical

ence comes to a show, they want to be entertained. They want to escape from their day of work and forget about life. That's my job as a performer. For that short amount of time, I want them not to have to worry about life, but just sit back and let the show entertain them."

He considers it not just a privilege to give the gift of entertainment to audiences, but he believes in sharing in the fun while doing it.

"When I go see a show, I want to escape from reality," he says. "There has to be fun and enjoyment in the performing. I approach every show that way; I want to have fun. Why would you spend all that time rehearsing if you are not going to have fun?"

Rasor isn't just all about fun, however.

"I also want to take something away from every show," he says. "Something that I have learned about myself or someone I've been working with."

One of the roles he had the most fun playing was Will Parker in the IPFW production of *Oklahoma!* that was performed at the Embassy Theatre. "It was in conjunction with the Fort Wayne Philharmonic," he says, "so that made it very special to not only perform on the Embassy stage but also perform with The Phil."

Performing the lead in a big musical can also present special challenges.

"I played Bobby Child in *Crazy for You* at the Civic Theatre," he says. "That character doesn't get a chance to breathe. He's a character playing another character – one who has a Hungarian accent – and you're constantly making sure you have the right costume and facial hair for the right character, trying to remember if you have your tap shoes on and trying to remember all your songs, lines, and dances. Pretty easy right? Gary Lanier was my dresser, and I would have been lost without him during that show."

Without a certain degree of concentration and cooperation, acting can also be downright dangerous.

"During a production of *Guys and Dolls*, I was supposed to get hit over the head with a tray," he says. "The person who was to hit me just swung it too hard and knocked me out cold onstage."

Rasor is currently co-starring in his 35th production, *Mary Poppins* at the



Chris Rasor
as Bert in
the Civic's
production of
Mary Poppins

theater was too great," he says. "I always had that passion deep down."

Although he studied voice and, to a lesser extent, acting, he has never taken a formal dance class. Nevertheless, he has extensive experience dancing in shows, even winning Anthony Awards for his dance performances.

"Dance has just come naturally to me," he says. "I surrounded myself with the right people in the theater community. Watching them and absorbing everything they did was my training."

Soon after graduation Rasor landed his first leading role in a community theatre production: the 2004 production of *Dames at Sea* at Arena Dinner Theatre.

"It was my opportunity to prove to myself that I could be the leading man," he says.

Whether a leading or a supporting player, Rasor says he takes a philosophical approach to performing.

"All of us have different gifts that we bring in life, whether it's being a doctor, teacher, athlete, or performer," he says. "To me, performing is the gift that I share with others. When the audi-

Coming Back to Give Back

By Deborah Kennedy

Jane Lanier left Fort Wayne when she was just 17. Like so many young women before her, she dreamt of becoming a star. The difference between Lanier and those countless, faceless others is she actually became one. Through hard work and perseverance, she rose to fame as a singer, dancer



JANE LANIER

and actress – a "triple threat" in theater parlance – in Broadway productions of *Anything Goes* and *Sweet Charity*, solidifying her reputation as a formidable talent in dance revues *Jerome Robbins' Broadway* and *Fosse*.

Now this Tony Award-nominated performer is back home, directing *Mary Poppins*, a show she said has a lot to say about the healing power of love.

"There's always dysfunction in our lives," she said. "Very few families and very few lives, for that matter, are perfect. The wonderful thing about *Mary Poppins* is that she helps the Banks family find their hearts again. She helps them rediscover their love for each other."

Lanier, in her role as director and choreographer, is helping actors and dancers discover what makes their characters tick and the story click. And while she cherishes her time on-stage – and on screen (she recently appeared as a dance teacher in the TV show *Glee*) – she said she also enjoys the unique rewards that come with shaping the production from the ground up.

"As a director, I find I see inroads into a character much better than when I'm acting. I'm better at fixing problems and figuring out new ways to convey the story. I love that part. I love to create."

This isn't Lanier's first time working for the Civic. She has also appeared in productions of *Love Letters* and *Pajama Game*. Those performances were few and far between, however, because the commute to Fort Wayne from Lanier's home in Los Angeles proved too difficult and time consuming. Now that she's moved to Chicago, where she's heading up Roosevelt University's BFA in musical theatre with a dance concentration program, chances are hometown audiences might be seeing her more often. When I spoke to her, she'd just finished up teaching a master class at Fort Wayne Ballet, where, as a young girl, she tried on her first pair of tap shoes.

"I was lucky enough to work with giants like Jerome Robbins and Bob Fosse, and they taught me so much," she said. "I want to do the same for others. That's our job as performers and artists – to give back, to pay it forward, and to keep that legacy alive as much as possible."

Continued on page 13

Wooden Nickel CD of the Week



YEARS & YEARS COMMUNION

It only took five years for Brit electronica trio Years & Years to put out their debut album. *Communion* includes the five singles that took the UK charts by storm last year ("Real," "Take Shelter," "Desire," "King" and "Shine") as well as eight other tracks showcasing the talents of Olly Alexander, Mikey Goldsworthy and Emre Turkmen. Curious to hear what the across-the-pond fuss is all about? Pick up your copy for \$11.99 at any Wooden Nickel Music Store.

TOP SELLERS @

WOODEN NICKEL

(Week ending 7/19/15)

TW	LW	ARTIST/Album
1	-	TAME IMPALA <i>Currents</i>
2	-	JASON ISBELL <i>Something More Than Free</i>
3	-	FUTURE <i>DS2</i>
4	-	PITBULL <i>Dale</i>
5	5	KACEY MUSGRAVES <i>Pageant Material</i>
6	2	BREAKING BENJAMIN <i>Dark Before Dawn</i>
7	-	RATATAT <i>Magnifique</i>
8	-	YEARS & YEARS <i>Communion</i>
9	-	IRON & WINE <i>Sing Into My Mouth</i>
10	-	GEORGE LYNCH <i>Shadow Train</i>

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Ben Zimmerman

The Baltika Years

The Baltika Years is like archived field recordings from inside the mind of its creator. It's a collection of snapshots taken on a Tandy Deskmate computer. Primitive sound, melody, noise, and sampled voices that come together to create a collage of psychosis. Brooklyn's Software label owner Daniel Lopatin received these tracks on cassette back in 2013 from Ben Zimmerman himself. Lopatin went through and culled through hours of music, connected the musical thru-lines and created a compilation of electronic music that is as outsider art as it comes. It's compelling, with little attention span. There are new ideas to move onto before the current idea can get an opinion formed about it. From chopped voice to baroque piano pieces, to gritty drum 'n' bass, *The Baltika Years* is a steady flow of ideas and emotions that are gone before you know they're there, like ghosts of computer music's past.

There's not much to find about Zimmerman. I hadn't ever heard of him until just a month or so ago when I'd read about this release on Software. The two tracks released prior to the album's release were heavy on drum 'n' bass, with a very lo-fi vibe. If the whole record was going to be like that, then I was in. I pre-ordered the album immediately.

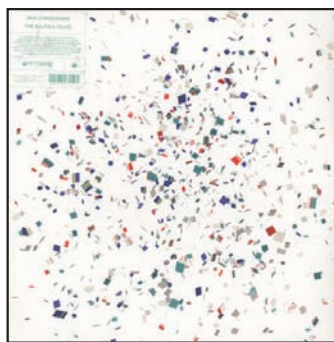
My first impressions of the album, once it arrived, were a bit on the indifferent side. I could appreciate what the guy had done. There are so many ideas and motifs on opening track (and whole first side) "Phyllis" – 21 minutes of different moods, movements and expression – that on a cursory listen it feels a bit scatterbrained.

After a couple of listens, though, the music begins to show some nuance. Each bit of the track feels every bit a part of an overall whole, as opposed to a guy randomly recording these insane, individual pieces. At times the music feels like a score to some old NES game, something played in the middle of the night, alone in your bedroom. The Tandy Deskmate was a primitive beast (even back in 1992) that required three floppy disks just to run the operating system, so there's good reason for the lack of texture and fidelity in the music. But had this music been recorded in an expensive studio I really think something would've been lost along the way.

Side two opens with the quiet "For Mimi Pt. 1" and continues on through similar motifs clear through to "For Mimi Pt. 5," at which point things get very experimental, moving through a group of sound collages and noise. "The Space Jack Hummer" and "Grumble Grumble" are quieter affairs with an incidental music vibe to them.

Side three opens with the industrial noise track "Redecorated Proto-Computations," and at this point it seems Zimmerman has grown comfortable with the limited confines of the Tandy Deskmate. "Da Chopp" is what Trent Reznor would soon enough sound like, but not nearly as primitive sounding. There's a great mix of experimentalism and beat-based tracks here. It's as if Zimmerman had mastered the machine and was letting it do his bidding.

"Now I Am Numb" leads to side four and his masterpiece, "Pausebreak pt. 1." It has a slinkiness quality to it that gives you the



began urging her to think about opening up the back room of the bar to bands, starting with his own. Becoming a music venue was definitely never part of Donna's vision.

"I'm a huge music fan," she says, "but I just knew that it would become so much more involved. Looking back now to that first show seven years ago, I'm really glad we took the leap."

She is particularly glad since over the past seven years she has been able to book some of her personal favorite artists like Eef Barzelay, Matthew Ryan and one of my favorites, Ike Reilly. I first caught Reilly in 2007 at the Botanical Conservatory. Really fun show. But three years later, on a steamy late July evening he came back to town and

Spins

BACKTRACKS

The Stooges

Fun House (1970)

The Stooges' follow-up to their debut wasn't an innovation in rock n' roll. It blended a gritty 70s rock sound with a psychedelic-punk vibe. It was hard rock with an edge. It was loud, had verve and was really, really good. This was Iggy's band, and he really captured the period with stripped-down vocals and an energy that can only be described as focused chaos.

The album opens with the grungy "Down on the Street," a track that has Ron Asheton's guitar growling at you like a caged animal. "Loose" follows and has sort of a Patti Smith feel to it. It's the boys getting down and dirty and was probably never heard on any radio station because of its obviously lewd implications. It's a great rock song, though the Stooges never wrote a bad song, ever. Side one closes with the almost improvisational slow jam "Dirt." When I listened to this record years ago, I would always play side one second, just to hear this song last.

Side two blows up with the tenacious "1970," a track that dances around three chords and a fabulous horn. I'm not sure I would even like this track without the saxophone, but it's cool nonetheless. The title tracks also features the bright horn from Steve Mackay and grooves along for almost eight minutes. It's one of those songs that has an improv jazz feel, but in a Frank Zappa-meets-punk-rock kind of way. The final track, "L.A. Blues," just has a little screaming and a ton of distortion; it was suggested they record something that emulated their live shows.

The band recorded *Raw Power* in 1973 and reformed for another album and some touring 30 years later. Iggy Pop has about 15 solo albums, and the 68-year-old continues to tour. (Dennis Donahue)



feeling of Nine Inch Nails recorded on a shoestring budget. "Pt. 1" through to "Pt. 6" flow nicely, like a mini-suite into the mind of a guy with a lot to convey. "Pausebreak pt. 1" through "Pausebreak pt. 6" really show the creative leaps and bounds Zimmerman made through the years.

The Baltika Years isn't for everyone. It's primitive, scattershot and at times rather confounding. But if you stick with it, there are rewards to be had. I think Daniel Lopatin and Software have done a great job of archiving and presenting Zimmerman's world to us. It's this dense and grainy gallery piece that needs to be heard and reheard.

More than anything, it's a fascinating walk into the mind of Ben Zimmerman – a musical diary of sorts, a lo-fi journey into 8-bit breakbeats and pixelated memories. (John Hubner)

Send two copies of new CD releases to 2305 E. Esterline Rd., Columbia City, IN 46725. It is also helpful to send bio information, publicity photos and previous releases, if available. Only full-length, professionally produced CDs or EPs are accepted.

CS3 - From Page 6

brought his young, hungry band with him to debut his latest release, *Hard Luck Stories*, at CS3. It was, hands-down, one of the best live shows I've seen in the Fort or anywhere. They played nearly every cut off the narrative-driven album with sweaty abandon and had the near-capacity crowd at the "Tiger Room" (a borrowed name from the fictional Fort Wayne venue from the movie *The Rocker*) stomping the floor for more. Fast-forward to a less than steamy July night here in 2015 and I was able to catch Reilly again at CS3. Once again he came on the heels of supporting a new album, *Born on Fire*. At an age when most performers have long since hung it up, Reilly went for broke once again, prowling the stage, looking lean, mean, and

completely invested in each word.

Donna and her excellent staff will also continue to invest day in and day out at CS3. Once a tad gun shy, they now relish new opportunities be it food or music. You can catch more than just a rock show at the Tiger Room. As I write this – on yet another rained out Tuesday – Jen Kirkman, TV comedian from shows like *Chelsea Handler*, *Funny or Die* and *Drunk History*, is on her way to the Tiger Room to do a show. I, sadly, will not be there dear readers, but here's to hoping you threw a middle finger to the weather and your own laziness and decided to go. If you did, good on ya. If you didn't, there is always tomorrow. Roar.

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Tavern/Sports Bar • 1820 W. Dupont Rd., Fort Wayne • 260-490-6488
EXPECT: Great food and drink specials and live entertainment; \$2 drink specials daily; \$1 tacos on Mon.; \$1.50 domestic longnecks & \$1 tacos on Tues.; Paul & Brian at 7 p.m. & 39¢ wings on Wed. (3-11 p.m., dine-in only); \$1 sliders & \$1.50 longnecks on Thurs.; live music Fri. & Sat.; buy one-get one half off entrees on Sat. (5-8 p.m.); \$7.50 14", 3-topping pizza on Sun. **GETTING THERE:** NW corner of Dupont & Lima. **HOURS:** 11 a.m.-3 a.m. Mon.-Fri.; noon-3 a.m. Sat.-Sun.
ALCOHOL: Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc
ALLEY SPORTS BAR
Sports Bar • 1455 Goshen Rd., Fort Wayne • 260-483-4421
EXPECT: Sports on 21 big screen TVs all week. Sandwiches, wraps, soups and salads. \$10 buckets every Sunday. **GETTING THERE:** Inside Pro Bowl West, Gateway Plaza on Goshen Road. **HOURS:** 1-10 p.m. Mon.-Tues., closed Wed., 1-11 p.m. Thurs., 1 p.m.-1 a.m. Fri.-Sat., 1-9 p.m. Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, Amex
ALL THAT JAZZ
Music/Variety • 6330 W. Jefferson Blvd., Fort Wayne • 260-456-9652
EXPECT: Great live music, 13 Indiana beers on tap. Great appetizers and sandwiches served in a club setting. **GETTING THERE:** Located in Covington Plaza next to Fresh Market and Chappell's Coral Grill; front and rear parking available. **HOURS:** 4 p.m.-12 midnight Mon.-Thurs., 4 p.m.-1 a.m. Fri.-Sat. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Amex
ARCOLA INN & ALE
Pub/Tavern • 11517 Arcola Rd., Arcola • 260-625-4444
EXPECT: Golden Tee, pool table, jukebox, live weekend entertainment, 3 TVs, free WIFI, patio, fire pit. Drink specials: \$3 domestic pitchers \$2 Fire & Ice Sun.; \$1 domestic drafts, \$2 craft drafts, \$3 Captain Mon.; \$2 well drinks Tues.; \$2 Reds, \$3 bombs Wed.; \$2 domestic longnecks, \$3 craft/import longnecks Thurs.; \$5 domestic pitchers Fri.; \$3 Beam or Canadian Mist Sat. **GETTING THERE:** Arcola Rd. & Eme, less than 10 minutes from Fort Wayne. **HOURS:** 11 a.m.-3 a.m. daily. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, ATM
BAR 145
Gastro Pub • 4910 N. Clinton St., Fort Wayne • 260-209-2117
EXPECT: Pairing premium spirits and beer with gourmet food in an ambient, energetic setting offering live entertainment. Full menu. \$10 lunches including sandwich, side & drink, 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Mon.-Fri.; \$15 bottled house wine/\$5 glasses Tues.; \$5 Burger & \$5 Martinis Wed.; \$4 Craft Bottles Thurs. **GETTING THERE:** Between Coliseum and Washington Ctr. on North Clinton. **HOURS:** 11:30 a.m.-12 a.m. Sun.-Tues., 11:30 a.m.-1 a.m. Wed.-Thurs., 11:30 a.m.-3 a.m. Fri.-Sat. **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. 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
BOOTLEGGERS SALOON & GALLEY
Pub/Tavern • 2809 W. Main St., Fort Wayne • 260-387-6307
EXPECT: Golden Tee, jukebox, 3 TVs, free WIFI, deck patio, motorcycle parking available. Daily food & drink specials: \$1 coneys & \$2.50 18 oz. domestics Sun.; 50¢ wings & \$3 pitchers Mon.; \$1 tacos & \$1.50 domestic longnecks Tues.; \$1 drafts & 1/2 price pizza Wed.; \$12 buckets & \$1 sliders Thurs.; \$4 pitchers & smoked BBQ ribs, tips & chicken specials Fri.; \$12 buckets Sat. **GETTING THERE:** Corner of Jefferson & West Main St., 2 minutes from downtown. **HOURS:** 11 a.m.-3 a.m. daily. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, ATM
G2G 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. Food catered by local vendors during some shows. **GETTING THERE:** Downtown on Baker between Ewing and Harrison, just south of Parkview Field. **HOURS:** Most shows start at 8 p.m., doors one hour earlier. **ALCOHOL:** Beer & wine during shows only; **PMT:** Cash, check

Calendar • Live Music & Comedy

Thursday, July 23

AMERICAN IDOL KARAOKE w/DAVE — Karaoke at Latch String, Fort Wayne, 10:30 p.m., no cover, 483-5526
ANGEL TIPPING — Variety at Bar 145, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m., no cover, 209-2117
BUCCA KARAOKE w/BUCCA — Karaoke at Deer Park Irish Pub, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 432-8966
CHRIS WORTH & COMPANY — R&B/variety at AJ's Bar and Grill, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 434-1980
DAN SMYTH — Acoustic at Chapmans Brewing Company, Angola, 7-9 p.m., no cover, 866-221-4005
DJ TREND — Variety at Wrigley Field Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 485-1038
THE HAMBRICKS — Variety at Nick's Martini & Wine Bar, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 482-6425
JARED SCHNEIDER — Variety at The Green Frog Inn, Fort Wayne, 9-11 p.m., no cover, 426-1088
JASON PAUL — Acoustic variety at El Azteca, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 482-2172
JEFF McDONALD — Variety at Don Hall's Guesthouse, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 489-2524

JOE JUSTICE — Variety at Trolley Bar, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 490-4322
KARI DIEHL — Piano at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 6:30-9:30 p.m., no cover, 426-3442
OPEN MIC NIGHT — Hosted by Mike Conley at Mad Anthony Brewing Co., 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
PAT & FAYE — Acoustic variety at Phoenix, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 387-6571
SHUT UP & SING w/MICHAEL CAMPBELL — Karaoke at North Star, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., no cover, 471-3798
SOFT N HEAVY — Rock at One Summit Square, Fort Wayne, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., free, 420-3266

AMERICAN IDOL KARAOKE — at The Green Frog Inn, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m., no cover, 426-1088
ANDY PAUQUETTE — Blues at Phoenix, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., cover, 387-6571
BIG DADDY WEAVE — Contemporary Christian at Honeywell Center, Wabash, 7:30 p.m., \$18-\$25, 563-1102
BULLDOGS — Oldies rock at Dekalb Outdoor Theatre, Auburn, 7:30-9 p.m., , 952-2611
CHRIS WORTH & COMPANY — R&B/variety at Arena Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 557-1563
DALLAS & DOUG SHOW — Variety at Country Heritage Winery, Laotto, 5-8 p.m., no cover, 637-2980
DAN SMYTH — Acoustic at Pedal City, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 415-6167
DANCE PARTY w/DJ RICH — Variety at Columbia Street West, Fort Wayne, 10:30 p.m., cover, 422-5055
DEES BEES — Variety at Acme, Fort Wayne, 9-11 p.m., no cover, 480-2264
DOUG HARTLE — Variety at Venice Restaurant, Fort Wayne, 6:30-9:30 p.m., \$1, 482-1618

Friday, July 24

2 BEFORE NOON — Jazz at Dash-In, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m., no cover, 423-3595
2 HEADED CHICKEN — Variety at Corner Pocket, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 492-7665

Conservatory Series in Its 10th Year

Just when you thought your summer calendar was as full as it could get, the 2015 Botanical Roots Concert Series is announced. This year will be extra special, as the concert series turns 10 years old — quite a milestone.

The Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory's Friday night concert series features some of the best national and regional acts that cover zydeco, blues, reggae and other forms of roots music. The shows take place in the Terrace Garden and are held rain or shine, though I think that a little dry weather will be appreciated by all. Food and beverages will be available, and all you need to do is bring a lawn chair and your dancing shoes.

You'll find the series' entire lineup on page 14 of this issue of *whatzup*. Admission to the BRCS is just \$6, with children 12 and under free.

The guys from Black Cat Mambo have themselves a pretty hefty gig on their calendar. On Saturday, August 22, BCM will take to the million-dollar stage at Piere's to open for ska-punkers Reel Big Fish. Not a bad gig, I must say. Reel Big Fish have been around since the early 90s and are probably best known for their hit "Sell Out." They've also appeared in the 1998 sports comedy movie *BASEketball*. Although the band has went through a number of lineup changes over the



Out and About
NICK BRAUN

years (frontman Aaron Barrett is the only founding member) they still retain a cult following. Tickets are currently on sale for a low dough price of \$12. Before that show, you can catch Black Cat Mambo when they play at the "new" Paul's Pub in Kendallville on Saturday, August 1. The place is under new management and ready to get down with the Mambo. Don't miss these opportunities to catch this well-oiled machine.

Finally, I'd like to praise all those made the 47th annual Three Rivers Festival a success. Once again, the community came out in droves to take part in the festivities throughout the week long event. Mother Nature did get a couple jabs in, which not only didn't sit well with the vendors, but, unfortunately, cut Cougar Hunter's performance short on Monday evening and forced the cancellation of the Pink Droyd/Straight On finale on Saturday. The fireworks went on as planned, despite the rain, and brought the festival to a proper close. We're already looking forward to next year.

niknit76@yahoo.com

NIGHTLIFE

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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. 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. Mon.-Thurs.; 11 a.m.-midnight or later Fri.-Sat.; closed Sun.
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. 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. Kitchen open daily with full menu and the best wings in town. **GETTING THERE:** On the corner of Lima and Till roads. **HOURS:** 3 p.m.-2 a.m. Mon.-Wed., 11 a.m.-3 a.m. Thurs.-Fri., 12 noon-3 a.m. Sat., 12 noon-2 a.m. Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, ATM available

COLUMBIA STREET WEST

Rock • 135 W. Columbia St., Fort Wayne • 260-422-5055
EXPECT: The Fort's No. 1 rock club. Live bands every Saturday. DJ Night every Friday w/ladies in free. 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). Large menu featuring salads, sandwiches, pizzas, grinders, Southwestern and daily specials. **GETTING THERE:** Downtown on The Landing. **HOURS:** Open 4 p.m.-3 a.m. Mon.-Sat. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, Amex

CURLY'S VILLAGE INN

Pub/Tavern • 4205 Bluffton Rd., Fort Wayne • 260-747-9964
EXPECT: Beautiful deck with seating overlooking Saint Marys River. Family owned since 1969. Karaoke every Friday & Saturday, 9 p.m.-1 a.m. Voted Fort Wayne's Best Onion Rings in 2011! Daily food and soup specials made from scratch. **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

DEER PARK PUB

Eclectic • 1530 Leesburg 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. 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. 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. Sun.-Mon., 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Tue.-Thurs., 11 a.m.-12 midnight Sun. **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. \$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

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NICK'S
 Martini & Wine Bar

Live Music Nightly

Thursday, July 23
The Hambricks

Friday, July 24
Soul 35

Saturday, July 25
BC Fuzzz

No Cover • Patio Seating
 East State, next to Rib Room.

www.nickswinebar.com

Latch String

EVERY THURSDAY
\$1.50 DOMESTIC LONGNECKS

EVERY THURS. & SAT. • 10:30-2:30
AMERICAN IDOL KARAOKE

FRIDAY, JULY 24 • 10-2
SUM MORZ

EVERY SUNDAY • 9-1
YESTERDAY'S HEADTRIP

EVERY TUESDAY
**\$2.50 IMPORTS • \$1.00 TACOS
 KT & THE SWINGSET QT.**

EVERY WEDNESDAY • 8PM
**CHAGRIN COMEDY
 SHOWCASE**

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

Calendar • Live Music & Comedy

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

HE SAID SHE SAID — Variety at The Post, Piercetown, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., cover, 594-3010

ISLAND VIBE — Variety at Club Paradise, Angola, 7:30 p.m., no cover, 833-7082

JOE JUSTICE — Variety at Pathway Community Church, Huntestown, 6-9 p.m., free, 469-4444

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

THE JUNK — Pop at Bar 145, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 209-2117

MANTRA KARAOKE w/JAKE — Variety at Wrigley Field Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 7-11 p.m., no cover, 485-1038

MICHAEL ANGELO BATIO w/ZEPHANIAH, EXTERMINATE ALL RATIONAL THOUGHT — Rock at C2G Music Hall, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m., \$15-\$30, 426-6434

PEARL PRESSLY — Rock at Traxside Bar & Grill, Garrett, 10 p.m.-1 a.m., 357-4287

POLLY MAE — Variety at Beamer's Sports Grill, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., no cover, 625-1002

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

RENEGADE — Country at Georgetown Square, Fort Wayne, 6:30-8:30 p.m., no cover, 749-0461

SOUL 35 — Variety at Nick's Martini & Wine Bar, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 482-6425

SUM MORZ — Rock at Latch String Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 483-5526

SUM MORZ w/NIGHT TO REMEMBER, DJ TREND — Variety at FW Pride Fest, Headwaters Park, Fort Wayne, 7:15 p.m.-12 a.m., \$5, www.fwpride.org

TIGER EYE SOUND KARAOKE w/LARRY SCHMITT — Karaoke at Curly's Village Inn, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 747-9964

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

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

Saturday, July 25

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

BC FUZZZ — Funk/variety at Nick's Martini & Wine Bar, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 482-6425

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

CAP'N BOB — Variety at Dixie Boat's Sunset & Moonlight Cruise, North Webster, 9 p.m., \$7, 800-940-2035

CLIFF WEBB TRIO — Jazz at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 426-3442

COLBIE CAILLAT w/CHRISTINA PERRI, RACHEL PLATTEN — Pop at Honeywell Center, Wabash, 7:30 p.m., \$29-\$100, 563-1102

COUGAR HUNTER — 80s glam rock at Wrigley Field Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., \$5, 485-1038

DAN SMYTH & COLIN BOYD — Variety at Mad Anthony Brewing Co., Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 426-2537

DJ TREND — Variety at Wrigley Field Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 485-1038

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

GOOD NIGHT GRACIE — Pop/variety at Bar 145, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 209-2117

GREGG BENDER BAND — Variety at Beamer's Sports Grill, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., no cover, 625-1002

GUNSLINGER — Country rock at Silver Inn, Silver Lake, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., no cover, 352-2870

HE SAID SHE SAID — Variety at The Post, Piercetown, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., cover, 594-3010

HOLBROOK BROTHERS — Variety at Hamilton House, Hamilton, 5-9 p.m., no cover, 488-3344

HOT HOUSE — Variety at Phoenix, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m., \$3, 387-6571

THE ILLEGALS — Rock at Arcola Inn & Ale, Arcola, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 625-4444

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

KILL THE RABBIT — Rock at Taps Pub, Avilla, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 897-3331

LITTLE BIG BAND — Variety at Dekalb Outdoor Theatre, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m., free, 925-2611

MORNING AFTER — Rock/variety at 4D's Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 490-6488

PAT & FAYE — Acoustic variety at Coody Brown's, Wolcottville, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 854-2425

RATNIP — Rock at Martin's Tavern, Garrett, 9 p.m., no cover, 357-4290

THE SOUNDS OF TOUCH — Motown at Foellinger Theatre, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., \$15, 427-6715

TAYLOR LANDRY w/DANNY VACHON, KRISTIN FORD, DN'T, SHEEZ OUT, DOUG STRAHM, ADRIENNE MACK-DAVIS, GOOD NIGHT GRACIE, PASTELE — Variety at FW Pride Fest, Headwaters Park, Fort Wayne, 12:30-9:15 p.m., \$5, www.fwpride.org

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

WEDNESDAYS

**\$2 DRAFTS
 & KARAOKE
 W/JOSH**

SATURDAY, JULY 25 • 10PM

**TESTED
 ON
 ANIMALS**

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Tuesdays • 7:30 p.m.

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Acclaimed musician Mike Keneally is coming to Sweetwater to share his unique and successful approach to music making.



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"...Keneally is the leading progressive rock genius of the post-Zappa era." - All Music Guide

Wednesday, July 29

6:30-8:30PM

Spots are very limited, so hurry to reserve yours! **\$60** Per Person

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Calendar • Live Music & Comedy

TIGER EYE SOUND KARAOKE w/LARRY SCHMITT — Karaoke at Curly's Village Inn, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 747-9964

UPSHOT ENTERTAINMENT, ZIG ZAG & PAMELA, FAR FROM FAKE, DOC SMOOTH, UNFALLEN C.I.C., A.M.F.J., HECKLER, NO CATCH, KID BUFKIN, FLASH G, ADAM THE INFLUENCE, OUTAMYN — Hip-hop at Carl's Tavern, New Haven, 8 p.m.-3 a.m., \$5, 749-9133

URBAN LEGEND — R&B/variety at Rolling into Roanoke, Roanok Community Park, Roanoke, 12-4:30 p.m., free, 359-8687

WALKIN' PAPERS — Rock n' roll at Corner Pocket, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 492-7665

WHAT ABOUT JOE — Rock at St. Joe Pickle Fest, St. Joe, 5-7 p.m., no cover, 337-5581

YESTERDAY'S HEAD TRIP, DAN DICKERSON'S HARP CONDITION, PHIL'S FAMILY LIZARD — Variety at Rock The Plaza, Downtown Branch, Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, 6-10 p.m., no cover, 436-8080

Sunday, July 26

ADAM STRACK — Acoustic at Bar 145, Fort Wayne, 6 p.m., no cover, 209-2117

DIXON & McRAE — Acoustic at Bar 145, Fort Wayne, 3 p.m., no cover, 209-2117

MANTRA KARAOKE w/JAKE — at Wrigley Field Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 485-1038

MIKE DOUGHTY — Acoustic at B Side, One Lucky Guitar, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., \$30, 437-1799

STONE SHADOW — Acoustic at Phoenix, Fort Wayne, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., no cover, 387-6571

URBAN LEGEND — R&B/variety at Hanger 59, Huntington, 4 p.m., no cover, 358-0055

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

Monday, July 27

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

DJ — Variety at O'Reilly's Irish Bar & Restaurant, Fort Wayne, 11 p.m., no cover, 267-9679

G-MONEY BAND — Open jam at Nick's Martini & Wine Bar, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 482-6425

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Tuesday Brews Day

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Every Wednesday

Cornhole

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People's Brewing Co.
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Wednesday thru Saturday

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The Junk
Friday, July 24 • 10pm

Good Night Gracie
Saturday, July 25 • 10pm

Founders Brewing Co.
SINCE 1997
GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN

Sunday, July 26 • 3pm-close

Founders Tapping
Shelly Dixon & Jeff McRae
3-5pm

Adam Strack
6-9pm

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NIGHTLIFE

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. Free wireless Internet. 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. 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

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 Wednesday; karaoke Monday, Thursday & Saturday. No cover. **GETTING THERE:** Where Clinton and Lima roads meet, next to Budget Rental. **HOURS:** 11 a.m.-3 a.m. Mon.-Sat., 12 noon-12:30 a.m. Sun. **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. 4-1/2 star menu, '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

NICK'S MARTINI & WINE BAR

Dining & Music • 1227 E. State Blvd., Fort Wayne • 260-482-6425
EXPECT: Specialty martinis, craft beers and cocktails served up in a classic martini lounge with live music nightly. Serving a variety of small plate appetizers with weekly featured tapas plates and drink specials. **GETTING THERE:** One block east of Crescent on State Blvd., next to the Rib Room. **HOURS:** Open at 4 p.m. Monday-Saturday. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, Amex

O'REILLY'S IRISH BAR & RESTAURANT

Irish & Sports Bar • 301 W. Jefferson Blvd., Fort Wayne • 260-267-9679
EXPECT: Friendly, welcoming, extremely accommodating atmosphere & staff. Come watch sports on any of our 12 flat screen TVs. Kid friendly until 10 p.m. DJ 10 p.m.-3 a.m. Mondays; trivia at 7:30 p.m. Thursdays; live music every Saturday. Wide variety of dishes including Irish specialties; vegetarian options and catering available. **GETTING THERE:** Inside the Harrison Building downtown between Fairfield and Webster. **HOURS:** 11 a.m.-3 a.m. Mon.-Fri., 10 a.m.-3 a.m. Sat.-Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, Amex, ATM

SNICKERZ COMEDY BAR

Comedy • 5535 St. Joe Rd., Fort Wayne • 260-486-0216
EXPECT: One of the nation's premiere comedy clubs with the brightest comics in America every Friday & Saturday night. 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 & 9:45 p.m. Fri. and Sat. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, Amex

STATE GRILL

Pub/Tavern • 1210 E. State Blvd., Fort Wayne • 260-483-5618
EXPECT: 1st Tavern to pour beer after Prohibition; located in a fun and friendly neighborhood; home of the XKE Cranials & most dangerous jukebox. Daily drink specials include \$2 Tall Boy PBR all day, everyday, great craft beer selection. Golden Tee. Free WIFI. Friendly staff: Jonesy, Theresa and Andy. 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

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 CAN GET YOU NEW CUSTOMERS & MORE BUSINESS.
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MANTRA KARAOKE w/JAKE — Variety at Wrigley Field Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 485-1038

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

Tuesday, July 28

AMERICAN IDOL KARAOKE — Karaoke at Nick's Martini & Wine Bar, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 482-6425

CHRIS WORTH — Variety at Club Paradise, Angola, 7 p.m., no cover, 833-7082

HUBIE ASHCRAFT — Acoustic at Black Canyon, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 203-5900

KT & THE SWINGSET QUARTET — Blues at Latch String, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 483-5526

MANTRA KARAOKE w/JAKE — Variety at Wrigley Field Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 485-1038

OPEN MIC — Hosted by Dan Smyth at The Green Frog Inn, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 426-1088

Wednesday, July 29

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

BIFF & THE CRUISERS — Oldies at Indian Trails Park, Fort Wayne, 7-9 p.m., free, 427-6000

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

G-MONEY BAND — Open jam at Phoenix, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 387-6571

HUBIE ASHCRAFT — Acoustic at Coody Brown's, Wolcottville, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 854-2425

JOE JUSTICE — Variety at New Haven Farmer's Market, Schnelker Park, New Haven, 4-7 p.m., free, 749-2212

KARAOKE w/BUCCA — Variety at Wrigley Field Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 485-1038

OPEN MIC — Hosted by Mike Mowry & Morgan Showman at Pedal City, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., no cover, 415-6167

PAT & FAYE — Acoustic variety at Latch String Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 483-5526

SHELLY DIXON & JEFF McRAE — Acoustic at Red Rok, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m., no cover, 755-6745

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

TOMMY SAUL — Piano at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 6:30-9:30 p.m., no cover, 426-3442

TRENT BOSTON — Variety at Bar 145, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 209-2117

WHO DAT (PAUL NEW STEWART & KIMMY DEAN) — Variety at 4D's Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 7-10:30 p.m., no cover, 490-6488

Thursday, July 30

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

BLACK CAT ATTACK w/THE JASONS, THE ANTI-QUEENS, B MOVIE MONSTERS — Punk at Skeletunes, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m., \$7, 739-5671

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

DAN SMYTH — Acoustic at Bar 145, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 209-2117

DJ TREND — Variety at Wrigley Field Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 485-1038

HUBIE ASHCRAFT — Acoustic at Checkerz Bar & Grill, 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

JOSH CLEMENTS — Variety at The Green Frog Inn, Fort Wayne, 9-11 p.m., no cover, 426-1088

OPEN MIC NIGHT — Hosted by Mike Conley at Mad Anthony Brewing Co., 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

PAT & FAYE — Acoustic variety at Dupont Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 6:30-8:30 p.m., no cover, 483-1311

PAUL NEW STEWART & CHRIS WORTH — Variety at Nick's Martini & Wine Bar, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 482-6425

PINKY SWEARS — Rock at One Summit Square, Fort Wayne, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., free, 420-3266

SHADE JONZE w/BETH COTH — Variety at El Azteca, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 482-2172

SHELLY DIXON & JEFF McRAE — Acoustic at Adams Lake Pub, Wolcottville, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 854-3463

SHUT UP & SING w/MICHAEL CAMPBELL — Karaoke at North Star, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., no cover, 471-3798

TOMMY SAUL — Piano at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 6:30-9:30 p.m., no cover, 426-3442

Friday, July 31

AMERICAN IDOL KARAOKE — at The Green Frog Inn, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m., no cover, 426-1088

DIANA KRALL

wallflower

WORLD TOUR



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7:30 PM

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Civic Theatre. One of the challenges of this role has been taking place before he makes it onto the stage.

"When you tell people that you are playing Bert in *Mary Poppins*," he explains, "they say, 'Oh, you're playing the Dick Van Dyke role. Are you dancing with penguins?'"

He has to explain that the stage production differs slightly from the Disney film classic. For one thing, no penguins. The songs are (mostly) all there, he says, but may be in a slightly different order or even sung by other characters.

"But the moral is the same and has that Disney magic that we all love," he says.

The most exciting aspect of the role for Rasor is discovering the inner workings of his character.

"Our director Jane Lanier and I have had fun talking about 'who is Bert?'" he says. "We all know he is Mary's friend and they go way back, but there is so much more depth to the character and the role he plays in the show."

Actually, the most exciting aspect of this show doesn't have anything to do with character discovery. "I am going to have the opportunity to fly," he says. "I have never flown in a show and probably will never get this opportunity again, so I am super-excited."

On second thought, he says, "You might want to ask me again after they hoist me up in the air for the first time."

Excitement or terror aside, Rasor is happy to be back "home" at the Civic.

"It's where I did my first community show," he says, "so every time I walk on that stage it feels comfortable and feels like I never left."

When he's not singing and flying for audiences, Rasor is an elementary music teacher for Fort Wayne Community Schools. He is also the resident choreographer for the Northrop show choirs, Charisma and Allure, and along with Leslie Beauchamp, he choreographs for Homestead's show choir, Elite.

But he never strays far from his theatrical roots. "Even though I teach general elementary music,

I am already exposing them to musical theater," he says. "Each grade level watches a different musical, and we talk about characters, plot, setting, music and how it relates to the culture of that time. With my high school kids, I am always drawing upon my experiences in theatre when I'm choreographing."

With such a hectic schedule, Rasor sometimes finds it difficult to squeeze in family time. "My wife Stacey doesn't perform," he says, "but she was a swimmer in high school and college, so she understands all the hard work that I put into the rehearsal process."

Nevertheless, there are sacrifices the entire Rasor family must make.

"There are times it is difficult to leave my family in the evening," he admits, "and my wife has to play mother and father to our two little girls. It's very difficult, especially when I don't get to say good night and help tuck them in. But she is very supportive because she knows how much I love it and how much it means to me. I'm very lucky."

He is excited to see what his five-year-old thinks about *Mary Poppins*. It will be her first stage production (the Rasors don't think their two-year-old is quite ready yet). But the girls are no strangers to live entertainment.

"They love coming to show choir competitions and watching all the dancing and singing," he says. "They've even set up a stage in our living room. They watch the DVD of the show choir performance and perform along with them. My five-year-old even has to do a costume change [in the living room] when the choir does one [on the DVD]."

The girls are interested in a variety of activities, he says, including swimming and T-ball. But this fall, they will have the opportunity to follow in their father's footsteps when they start taking dance classes.

"I do hope they have an interest in performing, although I am keeping an open mind," he says. "I just think it would be wonderful if we could have the chance to perform together one day."

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KOSCIUSKO COUNTY

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Music/Rock • 113 E. Center St., Warsaw • 574-268-2537
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DEKALB COUNTY

MAD ANTHONY TAP ROOM

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

JIMMY'S ON JAMES

Pub/Tavern • 3885 N. Bayview Rd., Angola • 260-833-9676
EXPECT: Great atmosphere at one of Lake James' landmarks. Music on weekends, patio, lake view. Great food consisting of steaks, fish, wings, pizza, sandwiches and salads. **GETTING THERE:** I-69 exit 350, north 3 miles to Four Corners. **HOURS:** 11 a.m.-12 midnight Mon.-Sat. 8 a.m.-close Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc

MAD ANTHONY'S LAKEVIEW ALE HOUSE

Eclectic • 4080 N 300 W, Angola • 260-833-2537
EXPECT: Twelve handcrafted beers on tap; also featuring Indiana craft beers and local wines. Patio with seating for 100; 7 dock slips; 150-seat banquet facility. 4-1/2 star menu, including famous gourmet pizza, unique eats and vegetarian fare. **GETTING THERE:** Located on beautiful Lake James above Bledsoe's Beach. **HOURS:** 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Sun.-Thurs.; 11 a.m.-midnight or later Fri.-Sat. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc

THE VENUE

Music/Variety • 110 W. Maumee St., Angola • 260-655-3922
EXPECT: Great entertainment, live music and dancing. Second story balcony overlooking stage. Exposed brick topped with vintage instruments and music themed art. Menu items include subs, appetizers, famous Coney dogs, pizza, wraps. **GETTING THERE:** From I-69, take Exit 348 east 3 miles, west of The Mound downtown. **HOURS:** 11 a.m.-1 a.m. Mon.-Wed., 11 a.m.-2 a.m. Thurs., 11 a.m.-3 a.m. Fri., 12 noon-3 a.m. Sat., 12 noon-8 p.m. Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc

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 Richard Caudle..... 317-319-6132

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

Dueling Keyboard Boys (Paul New Stewart) 260-440-9918

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

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Who Dat (Paul New Stewart)..... 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

17th Floor	Aug. 14	Bar 145	Fort Wayne
1964 The Tribute	Aug. 15	Honeywell Center	Wabash
4th Day Echo	Aug. 22	Bar 145	Fort Wayne
5 Seconds of Summer	Aug. 1-2	First Midwest Bank Amphitheatre	Tinley Park, IL
5 Seconds of Summer	Aug. 21	Quicken Loans Arena	Cleveland
AC/DC	Aug. 22	Klipsch Music Center	Noblesville
AC/DC	Sept. 8	Ford Field	Detroit
Arctic Clam	Sept. 15	Wrigley Field	Chicago
Audie Blaylock and Redline	Sept. 18	Bar 145	Fort Wayne
Avett Brothers	July 31	Dekalb Outdoor Theatre	Fort Wayne
Avett Brothers	Aug. 20	Jacobs Pavilion	Cleveland
The Beach Boys w/The Temptations	Aug. 21	LC Pavilion	Columbus, OH
Big Daddy Weave	Aug. 2	Foellinger Theatre	Fort Wayne
Bill Maher	July 24	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Blues Traveler	Sept. 19	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Blues Traveler	Aug. 28-30	Conner Prairie	Fishers, IN
Bobcat Goldthwait	Oct. 3	House of Blues	Chicago
Boney James w/Brian McKnight	Oct. 4	CS3	Fort Wayne
Boyz Scaggs	Aug. 15	Hard Rock Rocksino	Northfield Park, OH
Brand New w/Basement	Aug. 11	Hard Rock Rocksino	Northfield Park, OH
Brandi Carlile	July 30	Meadow Brook Music Festival	Rochester Hills, MI
Brandi Carlile	July 28	House of Blues	Cleveland
Breathe Owl Breathe	July 30	Frederik Meijer Gardens	Grand Rapids
Brian Regan	Aug. 12	Schubas Tavern	Chicago
Bryan Adams	Aug. 26	Frederik Meijer Gardens	Grand Rapids, MI
Bryan Adams	July 23	DTE Energy	Clarkston, MI
Bryan Adams	July 24	Hard Rock Rocksino	Northfield Park, OH
Buckwheat Zydeco w/Eclipse	Aug. 25	FirstMerit Bank Pavilion	Chicago
Cake	Aug. 21	Botanical Conservatory	Fort Wayne
Chicago	July 24	Jacobs Pavilion	Cleveland
Chicago	Aug. 2	Klipsch Music Center	Noblesville
Chicago w/Earth, Wind and Fire	Aug. 19	Harp Rock Rocksino	Northfield Park, OH
Chicago w/Earth, Wind and Fire	Aug. 25	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
Chris Tomlin w/Rend Collective	Aug. 26	DTE Energy	Clarkston, MI
Colbie Caillat w/Christina Perri, Rachel Platten	Nov. 5	Memorial Coliseum	Fort Wayne
Colleen McNabb	July 25	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Counting Crows	Aug. 7	Dekalb Outdoor Theatre	Fort Wayne
Counting Crows	Sept. 7	LC Pavilion	Columbus, OH
Counting Crows	Sept. 8	Music Center at the Heights	Huber Heights, OH
Counting Crows	Sept. 10	Freedom Hill Amphitheatre	Sterling Heights, MI
Country Fest	Sept. 12	FirstMerit Bank Pavilion	Chicago
Creedence Clearwater Revisited	Sept. 19	Parkview Field	Fort Wayne
Creedence Clearwater Revisited	Aug. 9	Hard Rock Rocksino	Northfield Park, OH
David Allan Coe w/Matt Mason	Aug. 13	Indiana State Fairgrounds	Indianapolis
Diana Krall	Aug. 29	Lerner Theatre	Elkhart
Dirty Little Rock Stars	Aug. 4	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Down	July 31	Bar 145	Fort Wayne
Ed Sheeran	Aug. 7	Pierre's	Fort Wayne
Ed Sheeran	Sept. 16	First Midwest Bank Amphitheatre	Tinley Park, IL
Ed Sheeran	Sept. 17	Riverbend	Cincinnati
Ed Sheeran	Sept. 18	Blossom Music Center	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Eric Sowers Band	Oct. 24	Bar 145	Fort Wayne
Finger Eleven	Aug. 2	Pierre's Entertainment Center	Fort Wayne
Foo Fighters	Aug. 27	Klipsch Music Center	Noblesville

Our first tour announcement for 2016 comes from the **David Gilmour** camp. It seems Mr. Gilmour is getting ready to put out a new solo album on September 18 and wants to make a very quick run through the United States to let people know about it, or perhaps fulfill an obligation to his record label to support the album with some live dates. The tour only has four dates so far, but one is April 8 at The United Center in Chicago. Tickets are already on sale.



Road Notez

CHRIS HUPE

Avatar are a band I predict are going to become huge in the near future. With a great live show and a dynamic frontman in **Johannes Eckerström**, these Swedes are just an album or so away from super stardom, at least in the metal world. I feel the same way about Avatar as I did when I first saw **Slipknot** many moons ago: they bring something different to the table and they do what they do really well. Anyway, the band is wrapping up the support for its latest album, *Hail The Apocalypse*, and getting ready for a new album to be released in early 2016. Before they head into the studio, however, Avatar are hitting some clubs, including Club Fever in South Bend on August 27, Bogart's in Cincinnati September 10, The Odeon in Cleveland September 11, The Vogue in Indianapolis September 12 and The Intersection in Grand Rapids September 13. **Huntress**, **Gemini Syndrome** and **First Decree** will open the shows.

The Big Mitten State Fair and Festival aims to promote Michigan businesses, art and music during its five-day run at Michigan International Speedway. The event takes place September 3-7 and features exhibits, art and, of course, music. **The Wood Brothers** will make an appearance September 6 with **Gill Landry**, and **The Lone Bellow** appear September 5 while **John Michael Montgomery**, **American Rogues**, **Striking Matches** and several other bands are also booked for the festival.

The organizers of Dirt Fest in Birch Run, Michigan have themselves a nice little metal fest set up for August 7-8. Friday's show features **Hellyeah** as headliners along with **Coal Chamber**, **Fear Factory**, **Mushroomhead**, **Jasta** and **King 810**. Saturday's show is almost as good, with **Down** headlining a lineup that also features **Taproot**, **Pop Evil**, **Periphery**, **We Are Harlot** and the oddly booked **Kottonmouth Kings**. Birch Run is just a few miles north of Flint.

So we are staying on the metal circuit with another round of dates for the An Evening with **Machine Head** tour. The press release for the tour announcement promises "two-plus hours of mayhem, crushing riffs and metal anthems." There's nothing I don't like about that. Get crazy with these Bay Area thrashers when they come to Indianapolis November 14, Columbus, Ohio November 19 and Grand Rapids November 20.

christopherhupe@aol.com

Foo Fighters	Aug. 29	Wrigley Field	Chicago
Full Tilt	Aug. 8	Bar 145	Fort Wayne
Garth Brooks w/Trisha Yearwood	Sept. 4-6	Allstate Arena	Rosemont, IL
Garth Brooks w/Trisha Yearwood	Sept. 11-14	Allstate Arena	Rosemont, IL
Gas Station Disco	Aug. 7	Bar 145	Fort Wayne
Grace Potter	Oct. 7	House of Blues	Cleveland
Grace Potter	Oct. 8	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Grace Potter	Oct. 9	LC Pavilion	Columbus, OH

Botanical Roots

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July 31 Blues	Wayne Baker Brooks Swick & Jones
Aug 7 Rock	MODOC Trichotomous Hippopotamus
Aug 14 Country	JP Harris & The Tough Choices Roustabout
Aug 21 Zydeco	Buckwheat Zydeco Eclipse
Aug 28 Reggae	Sierra Leone's Refugee All Stars Dan Dickerson
Sept 4 Blues	John Németh The Todd Harrold Band

Graham Nash	July 29	Michigan Theatre	Ann Arbor
Graham Nash	July 31	Hard Rock Rocksino	Northfield Park, OH
Graham Nash	Aug. 1	Murat Theatre	Indianapolis
Great White	Nov. 21	C2G Music Hall	Fort Wayne
Happy Together Tour feat. The Turtles w/Flo & Eddie, The Grass Roots, The Buckingham, The Association, The Cowbills, Mark Lindsay	Aug. 23	Foellinger Theatre	Fort Wayne
The Hit Men	Aug. 7	Foellinger Theatre	Fort Wayne
Holly Miranda	Sept. 24	Schubas Tavern	Chicago
Incubus w/Def Tones, Death from Above, The Bots	July 23	Firt Midwest Bank Amphitheatre	Tinley Park, IL
Incubus w/Def Tones, Death from Above, The Bots	July 25	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
Incubus w/Def Tones, Death from Above, The Bots	July 26	Lawn at White River	Indianapolis
Incubus w/Def Tones, Death from Above, The Bots	July 27	Jacobs Pavilion	Cleveland
Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra	Oct. 4	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Indina Mendez	Aug. 16	Jay Pritzker Pavilion	Chicago
Indina Mendez	Aug. 18	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
Indina Mendez	Aug. 19	Palace Theatre	Columbus, OH
Indina Mendez	Aug. 21	Blossom Music Center	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Indina Mendez	Aug. 22	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Indina Mendez	Aug. 23	Murat Theatre	Indianapolis
Jackson Browne	Sept. 5	Ravinia Festival	Highland Park, IL
Jackson Browne	Sept. 8	Jacobs Pavilion	Cleveland
Jackson Browne	Sept. 9	PNC Pavilion	Cincinnati
Jackson Browne w/Larry campbell, Teresa Williams	Nov. 17	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Jake Miller	July 30	Newport Music Hall	Columbus, OH
Jake Miller	July 31	Crofoot Ballroom	Pontiac, MI
Jake Miller	Aug. 1	House of Blues	Cleveland
Jan Noise	Aug. 1	Bar 145	Fort Wayne
Jason Aldean w/Cole Swindell, Tyler Farr, Dee Jay Silver	Sept. 19	Blossom Music Center	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Jay Brannan	Aug. 12	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
John Hiatt w/Taj Mahal	Sept. 2	Hard Rock Rocksino	Northfield Park, OH
John Hiatt w/Taj Mahal	Sept. 3	Michigan Theatre	Ann Arbor
John Hiatt w/Taj Mahal	Sept. 4	Frederik Meijer Gardens	Grand Rapids
John Kozar	Oct. 24	Honeywell Center	Wabash
John Mellencamp w/Carlene Carter	Aug. 4	Bankers Life Fieldhouse	Indianapolis
John Nemeth w/Todd Harold Band	Sept. 4	Botanical Conservatory	Fort Wayne
Josh Groban	Oct. 9	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Josh Groban	Oct. 10	State Theatre	Cleveland
Josh Groban	Oct. 14	Murat Theatre	Indianapolis
Josh Groban	Oct. 16	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Josh Kauffman	Oct. 2	Honeywell Center	Wabash
JP Harris & the Tough Choices w/Roustabout	Aug. 14	Botanical Conservatory	Fort Wayne
The Junk	July 24	Bar 145	Fort Wayne
Keller Williams	Aug. 22	Bell's Brewery	Kalamazoo
Keller Williams	Sept. 19	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Kevin Farley	Aug. 7	Tilted Kilt	Fort Wayne
Kid Rock w/Foreigner	July 26	First Midwest Bank Amphitheatre	Tinley Park, IL
Kid Rock w/Foreigner	July 30	Blossom Music Center	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Kid Rock w/Foreigner	Aug. 1	Klipsch Music Center	Noblesville
Kid Rock w/Foreigner	Aug. 2	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
Laugh Out Your Pain Comedy Tour	Aug. 14	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Laura Marling	July 29	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
LDNL	Sept. 25	Bar 145	Fort Wayne
Lepolian Effect	Oct. 10	Bar 145	Fort Wayne
Let the Haters Begin	Aug. 28	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
Lissie w/Tyler Lyle	July 27	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
Loretta Lynn w/Martina McBride	Sept. 10	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Luke Bryan w/Randy Houser, Dustin Lynch	July 24	Klipsch Music Center	Noblesville
Luke Bryan w/Randy Houser, Dustin Lynch	July 25	Klipsch Music Center	Noblesville
Mac McCaughan	July 23	Schubas Tavern	Chicago
Madonna	Sept. 28	United Center	Chicago
Madonna	Oct. 1	Joe Louis Arena	Detroit
Martini Affair	Aug. 15	Bar 145	Fort Wayne
The Matchsellers	Aug. 28	Wildwood Nature Preserve	Silver Lake
Meat Loaf	Nov. 3	MotorCity Casino	Detroit
Mersey Beatles w/Julia Baird	Oct. 23	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Michael Angelo Batio w/Zephaniah, Exterminate All Rational Thought	July 24	C2G Music Hall	Fort Wayne
Mike Doughty (sold out)	July 26	B Side, One Lucky Guitar	Fort Wayne
Mike Super	Oct. 10	Niswonger P.A.C.	Van Wert, Ohio
MODOC w/Trichotomous Hippopotamus	Aug. 7	Botanical Conservatory	Fort Wayne
Mötley Crüe w/Alice Cooper	Aug. 8	Allstate Arena	Rosemont, IL
Mötley Crüe w/Alice Cooper	Aug. 9	Palace at Auburn Hills	Auburn Hills, MI
Mötley Crüe w/Alice Cooper	Aug. 18	Quicken Loans Arena	Cleveland
Mötley Crüe w/Alice Cooper	Aug. 19	US Bank Arena	Cincinnati
Mötley Crüe w/Alice Cooper	Aug. 20	Bankers Life Fieldhouse	Indianapolis
Nickelback w/Lifehouse (cancelled)	Aug. 1	DTE Energy	Clarkston, MI
Nickelback w/Lifehouse (cancelled)	Aug. 4	Blossom Music Center	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Nickelback w/Lifehouse (cancelled)	Aug. 31	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
Noisy Neighbors	Aug. 28	Bar 145	Fort Wayne
O.A.R. w/Allen Stone, Brynn Elliot	Sept. 2	Frederik Meijer Gardens	Grand Rapids
O.A.R. w/Allen Stone, Brynn Elliot	Sept. 4	Jacobs Pavilion	Cleveland
O.A.R. w/Allen Stone, Brynn Elliot	Sept. 5	Arena District	Columbus, OH
Oak Ridge Boys	Oct. 10	T. Furth Center, Trine University	Angola
Of Montreal w/Surface to Air Missile	Sept. 10	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
One Direction	July 31	Lucas Oil Stadium	Indianapolis
One Direction	Aug. 18	Ohio Stadium	Columbus, OH
One Direction	Aug. 23	Soldier Field	Chicago
One Direction	Aug. 27	First Energy Stadium	Cleveland
One Direction	Aug. 29	Ford Field	Detroit
Patrick Watson	Sept. 28	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
The Personnel	Sept. 26	Bar 145	Fort Wayne

Peter Frampton	Oct. 24	Niswonger P.A.C.	Van Wert, Ohio
Phish	Aug. 7	Blossom Music Center	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Pop Evil w/Aranda, Red Sun Rising	Aug. 19	Piere's Entertainment Center	Fort Wayne
Press the Glass	Aug. 16	Hanger 59	Huntington
Ralphie May	Sept. 20	Lerner Theatre	Elkhart
Reel Big Fish	Aug. 22	Piere's Entertainment Center	Fort Wayne
Sam Smith	July 27	Wolstein Center	Cleveland
Sam Smith	July 29	Schottenstein Center	Columbus, OH
Scorpions w/Queensryche	Sept. 22	LC Pavilion	Columbus, OH
Scorpions w/Queensryche	Sept. 26	Allstate Arena	Chicago
Scotty McCreery	Sept. 20	Niswonger P.A.C.	Van Wert, Ohio
Shania Twain w/Gavin DeGraw, Wes Mack	July 25	Palace of Auburn Hills	Auburn Hills, MI
Shania Twain w/Gavin DeGraw, Wes Mack	July 29	Allstate Arena	Rosemont, IL
Sierra Leon's Refugee All Stars w/Dan Dickerson's Harp Condition	Aug. 28	Botanical Conservatory	Fort Wayne
Slightly Stoopid w/Dirty Heads, The Expendables	Sept. 5	Jacobs Pavilion	Cleveland
Slightly Stoopid w/Dirty Heads, The Expendables	Sept. 10	LC Pavilion	Columbus, OH
Smashing Pumpkins	Aug. 7	FirstMerit Bank Pavilion	Chicago
Smashing Pumpkins	Aug. 8	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
The Sounds of Touch	July 25	Foellinger Theatre	Fort Wayne
Stars	Oct. 13-14	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
Steely Dan w/Elvis Costello and the Imposters	July 27	DTE Energy	Clarkston, MI
Steely Dan w/Elvis Costello and the Imposters	July 28	Blossom Music Center	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Sublime w/Rome	July 24	Lawn at White River	Indianapolis
Sublime w/Rome	July 25	Meadow Brook Music Festival	Rochester Hills, MI
Sublime w/Rome	July 28	Jacobs Pavilion	Cleveland
Sublime w/Rome	July 29	PNC Pavilion	Cincinnati
Swagg	Sept. 4	Bar 145	Fort Wayne
Theory of a Deadman	Aug. 16	Piere's Entertainment Center	Fort Wayne
Titus Andronicus w/Spider Bags, Baked	Oct. 11	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
Toby Keith w/Eli Young Band	Aug. 9	Blossom Music Center	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Toby Keith w/Eli Young Band	Sept. 4	First Midwest Bank Amphitheatre	Chicago
Tony Bennett	Oct. 3	Morris Performing Arts Ctr.	South Bend
Trent Boston	July 29	Bar 145	Fort Wayne
U.S. Navy Cruisers	Aug. 21	Dekalb Outdoor Theatre	Fort Wayne
The Vaccines	Aug. 25	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
Van Halen w/Kenny Wayne Shepherd	July 24	First Midwest Bank Amphitheatre	Tinley Park, IL
Van Halen w/Kenny Wayne Shepherd	Aug. 3	Blossom Music Center	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Van Halen w/Kenny Wayne Shepherd	Aug. 31	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
Van Halen w/Kenny Wayne Shepherd	Sept. 2	Klipsch Music Center	Noblesville
Van Halen w/Kenny Wayne Shepherd	Sept. 4	DTE Energy	Clarkston, MI
Warren Haynes feat. Ashes & Dust Band	Sept. 23	Murat	Indianapolis
Warren Haynes feat. Ashes & Dust Band	Sept. 24	LC Pavilion	Columbus, OH
Warren Haynes feat. Ashes & Dust Band	Sept. 26	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Warren Haynes feat. Ashes & Dust Band	Sept. 29	Filmore Detroit	Detroit
Wayne Baker Brooks w/Swick & Jones	July 31	Botanical Conservatory	Fort Wayne
The Who	Oct. 17	Joe Louis Arena	Detroit
The Who w/Joan Jett and the Blackhearts	Oct. 15	United Center	Chicago
The Who w/Joan Jett and the Blackhearts	Oct. 17	Joe Louis Arena	Detroit
Wynonna & the Big Noise	Aug. 14	T. Furth Center, Trine University	Angola
Your Villain, My Hero	Oct. 17	Bar 145	Fort Wayne
Zack Attack	Aug. 21	Bar 145	Fort Wayne
Zedd	Sept. 30	Jacobs Pavilion	Cleveland
Zedd	Oct. 22	Dellaplex Arena	Grand Rapids
Zedd	Oct. 23	Masonic Temple Theater	Detroit
Zedd	Oct. 27	Indiana Farmer's Coliseum	Indianapolis
Zedd	Oct. 29	UIC Pavilion	Chicago

Road Tripz

Biff & The Cruisers	Aug. 22 Splash, Put-In-Bay, OH
Aug. 14 Callaway Park, Elwood, IN	J Taylors
Sept. 26 Playacres Park, Fairmount	July 24 Freedom Amphitheater, St. Henry, OH
Big Dick & The Penetrators	Jug Huffers
July 25 Sunshower Country Club, Centerville, IN	Aug. 29 Stoney Ridge Winery, Bryan, OH
Bulldogs	Kill the Rabbit
July 25 Hickory Acres Campground, Edgerton, OH	July 24 Boots 'n Bourbon, Celina, OH
Aug. 1 State Line Festival, Union City, IN	Aug. 15 Shooterz, Celina, OH
Aug. 14 Elkhart Co. Fairgrounds, Elkhart	Pat & Faye
Aug. 15 End of Summer Days, Geneva, IN	Sept. 10 Father John's Brewery, Bryan, OH
Aug. 21 Quincy Days Fall Festival, Quincy, MI	Ratnip
Aug. 22 Defiance Co. Fairgrounds, Defiance, OH	Aug. 1 Moose Lodge, Bellefontaine, OH
Aug. 3 Roann Covered Bridge Festival, Roann	Aug. 7 Edon Days, Edon, OH
Sept. 7 Marshall Co. Blueberry Festival, Plymouth	Aug. 22 American Legion Post 316, Deshler, OH
Sept. 11 Matthews Covered Bridge Festival, Upland	Sept. 12 Westwood Saloon, Defiance, OH
Sept. 18 Flat Rock Creek Festival, Paulding, OH	Sept. 26 Matteson Street Grill, Bronson, MI
Sept. 19 Napanee Apple Festival, Napanee	Oct. 10 Matteson Street Grill, Bronson, MI
Sept. 25 Duck Tail Run, Gas City	Oct. 24 Westwood Saloon, Defiance, OH
Cap'n Bob, The Singin' Skipper	Oct. 31 Bomber's Saloon, Edon, OH
Sept. 8 Greencroft Retirement Community, Goshen	Oct. 17 Pisanello's, Deshler, OH
Sept. 26 Heritage Retirement Community, Napanee	Dec. 31 Eagles Post 2246, Montpelier, OH
Oct. 20 Greencroft Retirement Community, Goshen	UpShot Entertainment
Dec. 31 Heritage Retirement Community, Napanee	Aug. 9 Fountain Square, Indianapolis
Dan Smyth	
Aug. 1 Summer Fest, Hichsville, OH	
Sept. 3 Father John's, OH	
Hubie Ashcraft Band	
July 23-25 TJ's Smokehouse, Put-In-Bay, OH	
Aug. 21 TJ's Smokehouse, Put-In-Bay, OH	

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

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Minions Fun for Nerds of All Ages

Minions are the diminutive, adorable little yellow pill-shaped creatures who served the evil genius Dru so well in the two *Despicable Me* films. They burble in their own language, push each other around and giggle inappropriately all the time. *Minions* is their very own movie, and they are hilarious, more fun than ever.

Minions begins with the evolutionary history of the minions. In the beginning, they were very simple sea organisms, following and attaching themselves to ever bigger fishes. When the biggest fish crawls out of the sea onto land, the minion follow.

Throughout this progression, they seek the biggest and baddest to follow. A species seeking evil is a perfect match for humans. The minion follow many of them.

The problem is the minion are accident prone and not the sharpest blobs on the planet. In voice-over, Geoffrey Rush gives us the guided tour of the minion, with a kind patient tone that makes us sympathetic to their trials.

When their failures earn them an enemy (Napoleon, no less, a meaner if smaller boss than they are used to), the minion retire to an icy wonderland to stay safe. Though all goes well at first, without a villain to serve, the minion lose their joie de vivre.

Three brave little minion – Kevin, Stuart and Bob – set off in the world to find a new master to follow. Their journey brings them



Flix

CATHERINE LEE

to the U.S. The year is 1968, and many freak flags are flying, so the minion don't stick out so dramatically.

Watching television one night, they learn about Villain Con, a Comic-Con-like convention, and set out for Orlando. This is when the crazy adventures of the modern minion begin. They hitch a ride with a family bound for the same convention.

Mom and Dad are voiced by Michael Keaton and Alison Janney. They are a family of bank robbers, and the minion get them out of a jam. *Minions* is structured like a series of cartoons, set pieces that string together to form a wacky plot. Light and silly is the mood.

At Villain Con the star of the convention is Scarlett Overkill, voiced by Sandra Bullock. Surprisingly, the minion win the competition to become the new henchmen for Ms. Overkill. Her partner in crime is her husband Herb, voiced by Jon Hamm. He's a mad scientist-like inventor.

She wants to conquer England. She wants the crown at least as much as she wants to rule. She manages a brief rule after minion Bob is made king through a series of

events too silly to recount.

The action flashes back to the many minions back in the ice cave. They grow ever more listless and then, en masse, make their way to England to join the cause.

Minions doesn't try to bring in the adults with cleverness. The humor is slapstick, lots of falling and bumping in to things. Not quite the violence of Wile E. Coyote and the roadrunner, but lots of things fall on other things. I laughed, but the kids in my audience were extremely enthusiastic. There was applause at the end.

Minions is co-directed by Pierre Coffin, who created the minions for the *Despicable* movies, and Kyle Balda, a former Pixar director. The screenplay by Brian Lynch is almost more of a road map. The story is well enough conceived that, even with characters not speaking English, we are never lost.

Minions is also for nerds. It is no accident that the movie includes a parody of Comic Con. Merchandise is important. So is Minionese, the language the little guys speak.

It isn't a real language, but who knows where catch phrases can go? Director Pierre Coffin speaks many languages and mixed in real words from many languages. He voices most minion dialogue. Nobody says "banana" like a minion, and "kumbaya" might

Continued on page 19

The Paul Rudd Fans Come Out for Ant-Man

Tops at the Box: Marvel's unlikely-ish superhero flick, *Ant-Man*, took the No. 1 spot at last weekend's box office, selling \$58 million in the U.S. and \$56 million abroad over its first three days of release. The film, which stars Paul Rudd in the lead role and was directed by Peyton Reed (*Yes Man*, *The Break-Up*), has been getting mixed reviews from critics. The trailer looks interesting enough, and Rudd is always very charming. And hey, it's kind of exciting to see a guy like Rudd in such a huge film, isn't it? I think it is. Will *Ant* be another massive Marvel seller? I don't see that happening, but I do think it will find its fans and have a little legacy of its own – if only because it's a well made film and the people who like Paul Rudd tend to really, really like Paul Rudd. Myself included.

Top 5 Favorite Paul Rudd Performances: (1) *Prince Avalanche*, (2) *I Love You, Man*, (3) *Role Models*, (4) *Wet Hot American Summer*, (5) *Our Idiot Brother*.

Also at the Box: Universal Pictures' *Despicable Me* prequel/spin-off *Minions*, a flick about the little yellow Tic-Tac dudes, had a strong second weekend, selling another \$50 million in the U.S. while upping the film's 10-day worldwide total to \$626 million. Big money, Tic-Tacs. Looks like a fun, cute, hilarious little film. Mostly cute.

Taking the No. 3 spot at last weekend's box office was Judd Apatow's new flick, *Trainwreck*, which sold a stellar \$30 mil-



Screen Time

GREG W. LOCKE

lion over its first three days of release in the U.S. Looks like a fun enough little New York City-set hipster comedy for 30- and 40-somethings. The film was written by It-Girl Amy Schumer (who also stars in the lead role) and features standout performances from major ScreenTime favorites Bill Hader and – wait for it – King Lebron James. Good flick, this one. I mean, I've not seen it, but I'm assuming. Apatow's stuff is always worth seeing, even if it's a little too vanilla and obvious at times. Plus, something tells me that Schumer's script is pretty strong.

Taking the No. 4 spot at last weekend's U.S. box office was new classic *Inside Out* with another \$12 million, bringing this incredible film's five-week total to \$306 million in the U.S. and \$490 million worldwide. Decent enough numbers for sure, but I kind of hoped *Inside Out* would do better. Why? Because it's a brilliant film with a whole lot of commercial appeal. You don't get that too often in this business.

Rounding out last weekend's big summer Top 5 was *Jurassic World* which sold another \$11.4 million, upping the film's domestic sales total to \$611 million and making it one of the Top 5 grossing U.S. films of

all time. Wowzers. The film is also the No. 4 selling worldwide film of all time with a stellar \$1.5 billion in ticket sales around the globe. So whoa, I guess Chris Pratt and director Colin Trevorrow are now major, major stars. Who'd have ever thunk Pratt would be a major movie star? Not this guy, that's who not.

Also of note: *Terminator: Genisys*, *Magic Mike XXL* and *Ted 2* all continued to sell reasonably well despite being up against some pretty serious summertime competition. Oh, and Woody Allen's *Irrational Man*, starring ScreenTime's favorite current actor, Joaquin Phoenix, sold \$188,000 while testing on five screens this past weekend. Not bad numbers for Woody. Looks really solid, Woody, despite the mixed reviews.

New This Week: Three big flicks open this weekend, none of which stink too much of Hollywood blockbusterness, thank goodness. All three films seem worth watching, if to very different degrees. Here they are, this week's major releases, in ascending order of perceived quality:

(3) *Paper Towns*, starring Nat Wolff and Cara Delevigne, directed by Jake Schreier (*Robot & Frank*) and based on the popular young adult novel written by John Green (*The Fault in Our Stars*, *Looking for Alaska*). Looks sweet enough, kids.

(2) *Pixels*, a half-animated action com-

Continued on page 19

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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

JUNIOR RISING STAR SUMMER CAMP — For grades K-2, **10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Friday, Aug. 3-7**, Fort Wayne Youtheatre, 422-6900

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

WHITLEY COUNTY FARMERS MARKET — Farmers market sponsored by Whitley County Chamber of Commerce, **8 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Saturdays thru Oct. 10**, Courthouse Square, downtown Columbia City, free, 248-8131

This Week

ALLEN COUNTY FUN FAIR — 4-H exhibits and animals, midway, live music, demolition derby, truck pull, hot air balloon flights, pageants, talent contest and more, **hours vary, Tuesday-Sunday, July 28-Aug. 2**, Allen County Fairgrounds, Fort Wayne, \$2-\$5, 449-4444

CORVETTES, HARLEYS & S'MORE — Vehicles on display from Fort Wayne Corvette Club and American Legion Riders 4th District, **5-7 p.m. Wednesday, July 29** Byron Health Center, Fort Wayne, free, 637-3166 ext.271

DIXIE DAY FESTIVAL AND ART FAIR — Sidewalk sales, art show, vendors and merchants, antique sale and more, **9 a.m., Saturday, July 25**, locations vary, downtown North Webster, free with \$7 Dixie cruise, 574-528-0850

MOTORCYCLE RIDE TO BENEFIT OUR TURN TO SERVE — Ride, Auctions, vendors, live entertainment and more; proceeds benefit a training group for Service Dogs for Our Veterans, **12:30 p.m. Saturday, July 25** (registration **10 a.m.-12 p.m.**), Eagles Post 3512, Fort Wayne, \$15, 373-0536

PICKLE FESTIVAL — Art and photo show, bake sale, flea market, pickle derby, live entertainment and more, **4-9 p.m. Thursday, July 23; 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Friday, July 24 and 6:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Saturday, July 25**, Sechler's Pickles, St. Joe, free, 337-5581

PRIDE FEST — Pride March, workshops, vendors, KidSpace, tournaments, drag shows, live entertainment and more, **7 p.m.-12 a.m. Friday, July 24 and 12 p.m.-12 a.m. Saturday, July 25**, Headwaters Park, Fort Wayne, fees vary, www.fwpride.org

Discussions, Authors, Readings & Films

PEE WEE'S BIG ADVENTURE & BILL & TED'S EXCELLENT ADVENTURE — Outdoor screening of two 1980's classics, concessions, beer tent, photo booth and bicycle safety presentation, **7:30 p.m. Saturday, July 25** (movie at **8:45 p.m. or sundown**), Sweets So Geek Parking Lot, Fort Wayne, free, 312-5758

BEATLES' ALTER EGO, SGT. PEPPER'S LONELY HEARTS CLUB BAND — Aaron Krerowicz discusses the Sgt. Pepper's album track by track, citing musical and historical precedents and the development of the songs through excerpts from interviews with the band and discarded takes, **6:30-8 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 27**, Main Branch, Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, free, 421-1210

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 — Babies and Books, **10 a.m. Fridays**; Family Story Time, **10:30 a.m. Wednesdays**; Storytime for preschoolers, day-cares and other groups, **9:30 a.m. Wednesdays**; Toddler Time, **10:30 & 11 a.m. Fridays**; 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

YOUNG EAGLES FLIGHT RALLY — Free flights for kids ages 8-17, **9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, August 9** (registration from 9-11 a.m.), Smith Field Airport, Fort Wayne, free, parent or guardian must be present, y402-6764

YOUNG EAGLES FLIGHT RALLY — Free flights for kids ages 8-17, **9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 13** (registration from 9-11 a.m.), Smith Field Airport, Fort Wayne, free, parent or guardian must be present, 402-6764

Spectator Sports

BASEBALL

TINCAPS — Upcoming home games at Parkview Field, Fort Wayne
TUESDAY, JULY 28 vs. Dayton, 7:05

WEDNESDAY, JULY 29 vs. Dayton, 7:05 p.m.

THURSDAY, JULY 30 vs. Dayton, 7:05 p.m.

FRIDAY, JULY 31 vs. West Michigan, 7:05 p.m.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1 vs. West Michigan, 7:05 p.m.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 2 vs. West Michigan, 1:05 p.m.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11 vs. Quad Cities, 7:05 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12 vs. Quad Cities, 7:05 p.m.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13 vs. Quad Cities, 7:05 p.m.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14 vs. Cedar Rapids, 7:05 p.m.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15 vs. Cedar Rapids, 7:05 p.m.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16 vs. Cedar Rapids, 1:05 p.m.

MONDAY, AUGUST 24 vs. Lansing, 7:05 p.m.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 25 vs. Lansing, 7:05 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26 vs. Lansing, 7:05 p.m.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27 vs. Lake County, 7:05 p.m.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 28 vs. Lake County, 7:05 p.m.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 29 vs. Lake County, 7:05 p.m.

Sports and Recreation

BISON BONANZA BASH- 5K STAMPEDE — 5K run and 1 mile fun run, **8 a.m.** (registration at **6:45 a.m.**) **Saturday, Aug. 8**, Ouabache State Park, Bluffton, \$1-\$15, 824-0926

FORT WAYNE TRAILS 5K RUN/WALK — 5K run/walk, kid's fun run, games, live music, pony rides and food to help extend the regional Pufferbelly Trail, **8:30 a.m.** (registration at **7 a.m.**, kid's fun run at **8 a.m.**) **Saturday, Aug. 8**, \$5-\$25, 969-0079

KICKBALL TOURNAMENT (RESCHEDULED) — Kickball tournament, dodgeball games, long kick contest, food, entertainment and more to benefit Turnstone and TOPSoccer, **9:30 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 15**, Indian Trails Park, Fort Wayne, free, 750-0325

Dance

DANCE PARTY — Open dancing, **8-11 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 8**, Walb Memorial Ballroom, IPFW, Fort Wayne, \$5-\$10, fwdancesport.org

Tours & Trips

AC/DC BUS TRIP — Bus trip to see AC/DC at Ford Field, Detroit MI, departure time and location TBA, **Tuesday, Sept. 8**, Fort Wayne, \$199 available at Wooden Nickel Records, 484-2451

August

FURRBALL FEST/PET EXPO — Battle of the Bands, vendors, family entertainment to benefit Huntington County Humane Society, **2-10 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 1**, Hiers Park, Huntington, free, 356-0355

FORT WAYNE FRINGE FESTIVAL — Art exhibits, live stage and dance performances, Wake and Break fundraiser, live music and more, **hours vary Sunday, Aug. 2-Sunday-Aug 9**, Wunderkammer Company, Fort Wayne, event prices vary, www.wunderkammercompany.com

TEARING DOWN WALLS AND BUILDING BRIDGES — Food, school supplies, music, games for kids and information about employment opportunities and healthy living, **11 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 8**, Renaissance Pointe YMCA, free, 427-5958

Current Exhibits

20 YEAR RETROSPECTIVE — Works from Jody Hemphill Smith, CW Mundy, Katy McMurray, Michael Poorman, Mike Kelly, Joey Frisillo, Diane Lyon, Doug Runyan, Susan Suraci, Terri Buchholz, Andrea Bojrab, Bill Inman, Terry Armstrong, Carolyn Fehsenfeld, Lori Putnam, Rick Wilson, Fred Doloresco, Forrest Formsma, B. Eric Rhoads, Robert Eberle, Pamela C. Newell, Shelby Keefe, Mark Daly and Maurice Papier, **Tuesday-Saturday and by appointment thru Aug. 29**, Castle Gallery Fine Art, Fort Wayne, 426-6568

AMERICAN BRILLIANT CUT GLASS — Highlights form the American Cut Glass Association Permanent Collection, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Dec. 6**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, \$5-\$7 (members, free), 422-6467

ARTLINK MEMBERS' SHOW — Works from Artlink member artists, **Tuesday-Sunday, July 24-Sept. 1** (opening reception 6-9 p.m. **Friday, July 24**), Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, 424-7195

CHRISTINA BOTHWELL: SPIRIT INTO MATTER — Stone and glass sculptures reflecting the processes of birth, death and renewal, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Sept. 13**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, \$5-\$7 (members, free), 422-6467

DENNIS MCNETT: LEGEND OF THE WOLFBAT — Woodblock Nordic mythological creatures inspired by the 80s skateboarding and punk rock scene, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Aug. 23**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, \$5-\$7 (members, free), 422-6467

EGYPTIAN PLEASURE GARDENS — Plantings inspired by Ancient Egypt's New Kingdom period , **Tuesday-Sunday thru Nov. 15**, Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory, Fort Wayne, \$3-\$5 (2 and under, free), 427-6440

THE EVOLVING UNIVERSE — Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory and Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History traveling exhibit featuring photos and videos of the cosmos, **Wednesday-Sunday thru Sept. 13**, Science Central, Fort Wayne, \$6-\$8 (2 and under, free), 424-2400 ext. 423

INVISIBLE COLLEGE — Group exhibition co-curated by Andrew and Shawn Hosner of Los Angeles' Thinkspace Gallery and Josef Zimmerman of FVWMA featuring works by 46 artists belonging to the New Contemporary Movement, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Sept. 27**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, \$5-\$7 (members, free), 422-6467

LYRICAL — Song lyrics, poetry and famous quotes on canvass by various regional artists, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Aug. 23**, Artworks Galleria of Fine Art, Fort Wayne, 387-6943

M.Y.O. (My, Yours, Ours...) — Photographs of disparity, race perceptions and race relations through current national events by Palermo Galindo, **Tuesday-Sunday, July 24-Sept. 1** (opening reception 6-9 p.m. **Friday, July 24**), Betty Fishman Gallery, Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, 424-7195

PRINTMAKING AND MORE — Works by Julie Wall Toles, Jerrod Tobias, Alan Larkin, Barbara Nohinek, Dale Enoch, Patrick George, Paul Demaree and Stephanie Carpenter, **Tuesday-Saturday thru Aug. 8**, Crestwoods Frame Shop & Gallery, Roanoke, 672-2080

STEVE LINN AND ROBERT SCHEFMAN — Sculptures and paintings, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Sept. 13**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, \$5-\$7 (members, free), 422-6467

SUMMER OF GLASS — 43rd Annual Glass Invitational Award Winners; solo, exhibit featuring Christina Bothwell, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Sept. 13**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, \$5-\$7 (members, free), 422-6467

TADEUSZ OSINSKI — Watercolors and ink drawings of Plock, **Monday-Saturday thru Aug. 7**, Mimi and Ian Rolland Art and Visual Communication Center, University of St. Francis, Fort Wayne, 399-7999

A TASTE OF FLORIDA — Hand painted silk, scarves, throw pillows and framed works, **Monday-Saturday thru July 30**, Orchard Gallery of Fine Art, Fort Wayne, 436-0927

TOM KELLY — Paintings reflecting observations of work, family and personal experiences, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Aug. 23**, Artworks Galleria of Fine Art, Fort Wayne, 387-6943

Artifacts

CALL FOR ARTISTS

REGIONAL ART EXHIBIT — Entry open to artists 18 and older; accepting oil, acrylic, watercolor or drawing media; photography or digital media and sculptures, ceramics and textiles, submission deadline **Monday, July 27** (art pieces received **10-11:30 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 1**), Merrilat Centre for the Arts, Huntington, 358-0055

Upcoming Exhibits

JULY

2015 WABASH ART GUILD MEMBER'S SHOW — Mixed media collection of local artists' recent creations, **Monday-Friday, July 29-Aug. 24**, Clark Galley, Honeywell Center, Wabash, 578-0735



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Now Playing

THE ADDAMS FAMILY — Musical comedy based upon the ghoulish family created by Charles Addams, 8 p.m. **Thursday-Saturday July 23-25 and 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, July 30-Aug. 1**, Pulse Opera House, Warren, \$5-\$14, 357-7017

THE ADDAMS FAMILY — Musical comedy based upon the ghoulish family created by Charles Addams, 2 and 8 p.m. **Thursday, July 23; 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, July 24-25**, Wagon Wheel Center for the Arts, Warsaw, \$14-\$32, 574-267-8041

MARY POPPINS — Broadway musical based on the Disney film set in 1910 in England, presented by Fort Wayne Civic Theatre, 8 p.m. **Saturday, July 25; 2 p.m. Sunday, July 26; 8 p.m. Friday, July 31; 8 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 1; 2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 2; 8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 7; 8 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 8; 2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 9**, Arts United Center, Fort Wayne, \$17-\$29, 424-5220

YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN — Musical comedy based on the Peanuts comic strip presented by Audience of One, 7 p.m. **Friday-Saturday, July 24-25**, Salvation Army Community Center, Fort Wayne, \$5, 241-3378

Asides

EVENTS

CELEBRITIES ACT UP — Local CEO's, celebrities and community leaders take the stage for a reading of a parody written and directed by Phillip H. Colglazier; includes appetizer buffet, DeBrand Fine Chocolates, live and silent auctions; a Fort Wayne Civic Theatre fundraiser, 6 p.m. **Saturday, Oct. 17**, Arts United Center, Fort Wayne, \$90, 424-5220

Upcoming Productions

JULY

DANCING WITH THE STARS: LIVE! — Live professional dancers from the acclaimed television show; hosted by Melissa Rycroft, 8 p.m. **Friday, July 31**, Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$39.50-\$97 thru Ticketmaster and Embassy box office, 424-5665

I WILL WAIT: THE VETERAN'S SPOUSE PROJECT — Spouses of veterans tell stories of experience through music, dance and drama, 8 p.m. **Friday, July 31 and 2 and 8 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 1**, Arts Lab, Auer Center for Arts and Culture, Fort Wayne, \$20, 422-4226

AUGUST

BAT BOY: THE MUSICAL — A half boy/half bat is found in a cave in West Virginia by the local sheriff and taken to live with the town veterinarian in this musical comedy/horror, 8 p.m. (7 p.m. dinner) **Friday-Saturday, Aug 7-8, Aug. 14-15, and Aug. 21-22**, Arena Dinner Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$35, includes dinner and show, 424-5622

LITTLE WOMEN, THE MUSICAL — Musical story filled with personal discovery, heartaches, hope and everlasting love; base on Louisa May Alcott's life, 8 p.m. **Wednesday, August 12; 7 p.m. Thursday, August 13; 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, August 14-15; 2 p.m. Sunday, August 16; 7 p.m. Wednesday, August 19; 2 and 8 p.m. Thursday, August 20 and 8 p.m. Saturday, August 22**, Wagon Wheel Center for the Arts, Warsaw, \$14-\$32, 574-267-8041

SEPTEMBER

AVENUE Q — Humans and puppets interact in the tale of twenty-somethings learning how to live and love in New York City, 7 p.m. **Tuesday, Sept. 1; 8 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, Sept. 2-5 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 6** Wagon Wheel Center for the Arts, Warsaw, \$14-\$32, 574-267-8041

THE FOREIGNER — The self proclaimed "world's dullest man" takes a vacation to a sleepy Georgia fishing lodge and pretends not to understand English in this comedy by Larry Shue, 8 p.m. **Friday-Saturday, Sept. 18-19; 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Sept. 24-26 and 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Oct. 1-3**, Pulse Opera House, Warren, \$5-\$14, 357-7017

THE MARVELOUS WONDERETTES — Off-Broadway hit set in 1958 and featuring musical hits such as 'Lollipop', 'Dream Lover' and 'It's my Party' presented by Fort Wayne Civic Theatre, 2 & 8 p.m. **Saturday, Sept. 19; 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 20; 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 25** 8 p.m. **Friday, Sept. 26 and 2 & 8 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 27**, Arts United Center, Fort Wayne, \$17-\$29, 424-5220

Creepy, Kooky, Well Done



Curtain Call

KEVIN SMITH

THE ADDAMS FAMILY
8 p.m. **Thursday-Saturday, July 30-August 1**
Wagon Wheel Theatre
2517 E. Center St., Warsaw
Tix.: \$14-\$32, 574-267-8041

As soon as the orchestra began to play the theme of the 1960s TV show *The Addams Family*, the opening night audience at the Wagon Wheel Center for the Arts started the double-finger snap we've been conditioned to know goes along with the creepy, kooky and delightful Addams clan. I'm not sure I've ever seen a reaction start quite that soon in a theater before, and it was sweet and indicative of what was to come.

The Addams family, led by Gomez and Morticia, are all here, and this fairly new musical shows they can sing and dance (more than the tango for which they are known). I have to say I was surprised how well all the elements of this show come together and how well the familiar characters moved into the world of the musical comedy.

The plot centers on a more mature Wednesday having found and fallen in love with a "normal" boy from Ohio. She confides in her father, Gomez, that she plans to marry the boy, and much of the play's conflict centers on his turmoil over keeping the secret (the first ever) from his wife. There are, of course, subplots involving Fester, Grandma Addams, young Pugsley, butler Lurch and a bunch of ancestors returned from the land of the dead to help the family move props and serve as dancers. "Thing," the hand in the box, even makes a few appearances. The parents of Lucas, Wednesday's love, are interesting and welcome additions. It all works beautifully on the Wagon Wheel's round stage under skilled direction of Scott Michaels and his production team.

Continued on page 19



MARY POPPINS
THE BROADWAY MUSICAL

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A Musical based on the stories of P.L. Travers and the Walt Disney Film

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JANE LANIER

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Family at Core of *Mary Poppins*

Disney's 1964 movie *Mary Poppins* was indeed "practically perfect in every way." Based on the book by P.L. Travers and music by the Sherman Brothers, it garnered 13 Academy Award nominations with Julie Andrews winning the Oscar for her portrayal of Mary Poppins. In 2013, the film was selected for preservation in the United States National Film Registry by the Library of Congress for being "culturally, historically or aesthetically significant."

Disney brought the story to life on the stage on London's West End in 2004 and then to Broadway in 2006 where it received seven Tony Award nominations. The stage musical is not a direct adaptation of the Disney film, but it features elements of the film and the original books, plus original updated elements and additional music supplied by George Stiles and Anthony Drewe.

The story takes place in Edwardian London in 1910 where a magical nanny visits a dysfunctional family and opens their eyes and hearts to what is truly important in life: family.



Director's Notes JANE LANIER

I found my first "theater family" here at the Civic 38 years ago when I performed in *The Music Man*. I went on to do two more productions under the wonderful guidance of director Richard Casey. Through him and the actors I met and shared the stage with, I found my passion and true calling. My Family. I left Fort Wayne when I was 17 years old and am happy to be back after all these years. So many great memories are in the rehearsal halls and on this stage for me.

I have loved working with these actors on this piece. Each brings his or her own unique spirit and talent to tell this story

and to create "our" *Mary Poppins* to share with you – and to be reminded also that "Anything Can Happen" if you let it.

MARY POPPINS
8 p.m. Saturday, July 25
2 p.m. Sunday, July 26,
Aug. 2 & Aug. 9
8 p.m. Friday-Saturday,
July 31-Aug. 1 & Aug. 7-8
Arts United Center
303 E. Main St., Fort Wayne
Tix.: \$ 17-\$ 29 thru box office,
260-424-5220

FLIX - From Page 16

make a big comeback. After all, there are fans who turned Vulcan into a language.

Towards the end we meet a young Dru, his character already formed. *Despicable Me 3* is due out in July 2017. I hope the minion – especially the Three Stooges-like dynamic between Kevin, Stuart and Bob

– make a strong showing in the next chapter of this franchise.

For real silliness and for the kids, Minions is bouncy summer fun.

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SCREEN TIME - From Page 16

edy from director Chris Columbus starring Adam Sandler, Kevin James, Josh Gad and Peter Dinklage. Hard to say if this one will be good or great, but it will almost certainly be worth seeing for the entertainment value and production alone.

(1) And now finally we have the weekend's most exciting release, boxing drama *Southpaw* from director Antoine Fuqua, who is best known for his collaborations with Denzel Washington. *Southpaw* is notable to us because it is led by actor Jake Gyllenhaal, whose performance in last year's great drama *Nightcrawler* was, we think, about as masterful as they come. Gyl-

lenhaal has become the real deal, and we're excited to see what he comes up with next. Fingers be crossed, son. Supporting Jake G is a great cast, including Forest Whitaker, Rachel McAdams and Naomie Harris. Could be a really solid little summer drama. Looks gritty for sure.

Also out in limited release: *Big Significant Things*, *Phoenix*, *Samba*, *Unexpected* and *The Vatican Tapes*. There are some really solid releases in the weeks ahead, so stay tuned, friends!

gregwlocke@gmail.com

CURTAIN CALL - From Page 18

The songs, though perhaps not super memorable, are fun and very well delivered. "Just around the Corner," sung by Morticia about the comfort that death is never far off, is great. "Happy Sad," sung by Gomez to his daughter about his feelings related to her moving ahead with her life, is sweet. Fester's love song to the moon (yes, the moon) is funny and imaginatively staged.

The actors have been well cast. A standout is Danny Borgos as Gomez. The glee he brings to the over-the-top role is amazing and contagious. Ellen Jenders makes a fine and sexy Morticia. Scott Fuss is a hysterical Uncle Fester and has the perfect face for the role. Clara Cox is a sweet Wednesday as she shows the character's conflict between a dark nature and the brightness of the love she's come to feel for Lucas.

Kira Lace Hawkins play's Alice Beineke, straight-laced mother of Lucas, who falls victim to a potion made by Grandma and administered by Pugsley, with

panache as she goes a little uncharacteristically wild. Keaton Eckhoff plays Lucas and makes for a fine romantic interest. I kept thinking his strong voice and style would work well in a variety of roles. As his father, Jordan Edwin Andre is fun to watch as the madness of his environment takes hold and leaves him transformed.

Costumes, particularly those of the ancestors representing various time periods, are just right and the props and moveable sets serve the theater-in-the-round perfectly.

It's sometimes easy to forget what a resource we in this area have in the Wagon Wheel, since it's down the highway a bit from Fort Wayne. However, the drive is short considering the payoff provided, including this chance to see wonderfully creepy and familiar characters in a new way, showing off their song and dance skills in Wagon Wheel's 415th production.

lkmsmith@frontier.com

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