

WHAMMY
WINNERS

WHITE TRASH BLUES REVIVAL, WRIGLEY FIELD BAR & GRILL • PAGE 2

AUG. 27-
SEPT. 2, 2015

Free

what there is to do.

THE CARS ARE THE STARS

AUBURN • CORD • DUESENBERG
FESTIVAL
PAGE FOUR



COLLECTOR CAR
WEEKEND
PAGE FIVE



DON
MCLEAN
PAGE SIX



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White Trash Blues Revival: Best Live Duo

It's Almost Like LLC Winning Again

There's good news and there's bad news. The good news is White Trash Blues Revival were voted best Best Live Duo in the 2014 *whatzup* Readers Poll. The bad news is the talented trash-based band is calling it quits.

But wait! That's not all. There is more good news. The pair – Pete Dio on box, garbage cans and beer keg and Joe Bent on e-lectrified skateboard – will have more time to devote to their other band, Left Lane Cruiser. A bird in the hand is worth two in the landfill, as no one says.

The band formed as a joke entry in a Battle of the Worst Bands competition at the Brass Rail a few years ago. Considering White Trash Blues Revival wobbled into the world in a shopping cart with a bad wheel, they've done all right. With a well-reviewed CD, *Now Honey, Now Baby, Now Listen ...*, and several regional tours to smile back on, WTBR made the most of a goofy thing.

Dio and Bent decided they liked playing trash. And they were good at it. Dio learned new ways to pull cool sounds out of his boxes and metal cylinders. And Bent learned that a Coors Banquet bottle provides better string height than a Red Stripe.

"We don't try to overthink it," Dio said. "It's a bunch of garbage and a skateboard guitar. It has it's

limitations, but it's also very freeing. Playing on an unconventional drumset really freed me up as far as what I can do. Makes me come up with some unorthodox drum patterns, which is cool."

Dio and Bent are no strangers to the Fort Wayne music, both having been in numerous bands over the years. But for Dio the chance to play non-traditional percussion instruments was something he could not pass up.

"I got the gig basically because nobody else wanted it," Dio said. "Nobody else wanted to get on trash cans and cardboard box and play. Everybody thought it was stupid. I was about the fourth person they asked to do it. I said, 'Sure I'll

do it.' I ain't too proud to play some garbage. I just did it for fun. In the end it turned into a permanent gig with Left Lane Cruiser, which is a great gig to have."

As for Bent, building his trash-based guitar was just a matter of looking through his stuff as the Worst Band competition loomed.

"I found this old skateboard and figured I could put strings on that," Bent said. "I've worked on guitars for years, so I had the stuff and threw it all together. I was surprised it sounded pretty good."

White Trash Blues Revival maybe going away soon, but they won't be forgotten for a long long time. (Mark Hunter)



Wrigley Field Bar & Grill: Best Sports Bar

More Than Just Sports at Wrigley

Wrigley Filed is where *whatzup* readers go when they are looking for home field advantage. At least that's the case for *whatzup* readers who vote in the annual Readers Poll.

For the last five years, this year included, Wrigley Field Bar & Grill has won the Best Sports Bar Whammy. The popular venue vanquished all contenders four previous times and shared it in a split decision once.

The outright wins have all come since 2001, a year after Wrigley Field came under the ownership of Danny, Beth and Carl White. In the 15 years since Wrigley has been owned by the Whites, they have done their best to exceed the expectations of their fans.

To Danny White the secret of the bar's success is simple. "What pops in my head is the Direct TV and all the Pay Per View packages," White says. "We have WWE, UFC fights, most of the big boxing matches, the NFL package is huge. We have the Major League Baseball package, the NBA package, the college football package."

That's a lot of packages. Then again Wrigley Field has a lot of screens. Fifty seven, to be exact, including 45 monitors, six projectors and five 70-inch big screens around the bar. Plus surround sound. And of course, proper volume.

"You have to be consistent in that," White says. "You have to be consistent in volume. A lot of people think we're a Colts bar, think we're an IU bar. We're not. We're Ohio State and Michigan. When OSU plays Michigan this place fills up. I'm an IU fan, but IU hasn't been the same since Bobby Knight left."

In other words, you gotta go with the numbers.

White says. "We're a Steelers bar because of Rod Woodson. Now that the Cubs are doing good, we're hot with them. But now they're blacked-out because they're doing good."

It's as varied as the games, the boxing matches, the fights. It's what sports is. But there are aspects of Wrigley Field that are not as capricious as the fortune of sports teams.

"We have great service," White says. "We have great people working here. People don't have to go to the bar to get a drink. And the food is very good. We have a great salad bar. We get the best ingredients we can."

Plus, as White notes, sports coverage ends at some point in the night. Then what?

"We're open till 3 am. So we always have something going on from 10 to close, whether its karaoke, a band, a deejay. There's always somebody here doing something." (Mark Hunter)



Beth and Dan White

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Like the past couple of weeks, all it takes is a quick glance at the "Inside This Issue" box below to know that there's a whole lotta stuff going on this week and next. It also doesn't take much to figure out that a whole lotta that stuff involves the town of Auburn.

Yes, it's the busiest time of the year for Auburn, Indiana, and we've got it covered with feature stories on The Auburn Cord Duesenberg Festival, the Auburn Fall Collector Car Weekend and even one of Auburn's most noted artists, Nina Bennett.

If you'd rather head west than north over the next couple of weeks, you can catch Avenue Q at the Wagon Wheel. And if Auburn and Warsaw are too much of a drive for you, there's also a lotta closer-to-home stuff to choose from, including bluesman John Németh at the season's pentultimate Botanical Roots concert and songsmith Don McLean ("American Pie," "Vincent") at the Foellinger.

That's just the what-there-is-to-do stuff and doesn't include the calendars, columns, reviews and non-what-there-is-to-do stuff you'll find inside the issue. There's a whole lotta reading to do. We suggest you get started.

inside the issue

• readers poll winners

WHITE TRASH BLUES REVIVAL.....	2
Best Live Duo	
WRIGLEY FIELD BAR & GRILL	2
Best Sports Bar	

• features

AUBURN CORD DUESENBERG FESTIVAL.....	4
The Cars Are the Stars	
AUBURN FALL COLLECTOR CAR WEEKEND	5
A Collection of Cars & Stars	
DON MCLEAN	6
American Songsmith	
JOHN NEMETH.....	7
Coming to the Blues by the Back Door	
AVENUE Q.....	8
Muppet-like Mayhem	
NINA BENNETT.....	9
Auburn's Expression Maker	
ANNA LEE HUBER	10
Historical Sleuthing	

• columns & reviews

SPINS	12
Lamb of God, Ufomammut	

BACKTRACKS	10
Golden Earring, <i>Seven Tears</i> (1971)	
OUT & ABOUT.....	13
North Anthony Throwing a Party	
ROAD NOTEZ.....	18
FLIX.....	20
Shaun the Sheep	
SCREEN TIME	20
N.W.A. Pic Does Surprisingly Big Box Office	
FARE WARNING	21
City Attractions at Bargain Prices	
ON BOOKS.....	23
Fishbowl	

• calendars

LIVE MUSIC & COMEDY	13
MUSIC/ON THE ROAD	18
ROAD TRIPZ	19
THINGS TO DO	21
STAGE & DANCE	22
ART & ARTIFACTS.....	23

Cover by Greg W. Locke

Don McLean photo on page 6 by Keith Perry;
John Németh photos on cover and page 7 by
Aubrey Edwards



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The Cars Are the Stars

By Mark Hunter

Downtown Auburn is about as small-town Indiana as it gets. A quiet and prosperous community of 12,000 residents with a county courthouse rising stoically above a grassy square dotted with trees and monuments anchoring a thriving central business district filled with shops and restaurants and professional offices, Auburn wears its success with an unassuming modesty synonymous with Hoosier virtue.

Even the city website shies away from boastfulness. It wonders "Why Auburn?" in its attempt to attract new residents and industry before calmly providing a bullet list of its many, if non-flashy, civic amenities: lowest municipal electric rate in the state; less than 200 miles from Indianapolis, Chicago and Detroit; community-owned fiber optic infrastructure.

But come Labor Day weekend each year, all that quiet stuff goes out the window. That's when the city of Auburn throws a huge party for the beautiful, sleek and sometimes ostentatious automobiles that made it famous as the classic car capital of the world.

Each year more than 100,000 people from around the world flock to Auburn to get up close and personal with the spectacular Auburns, Cords and Duesenbergs that were built here in the 1920s and 30s.

Now in its 59th year, the Auburn Cord Duesenberg Festival has blossomed from an annual meeting of those who collected Auburns, Cords and Duesenbergs into a three-day celebration featuring not just extremely cool automobiles, but a classic car parade, concerts, fireworks, auctions, museums, crafts, arts, food and even educational programs.

Sarah Payne, executive director of the ACD Festival, says the weekend is an all-ages party that has something for everybody.

"It's free family-friendly fun both Friday and Saturday night. We have Chris Worth, Joe Justice and Big Caddy Daddy on Friday night and The Freak Brothers and Sugar Shot and fireworks Saturday night."

The real stars on Friday night are of course the cars. Payne says as many as 700 — hot rods, classics, one-of-a-kinds — will be on hand for the Downtown Cruise-In.

The cruise-in takes place at the courthouse square. The streets will be closed to accommodate all the cars and all the people who will be milling around. The bands will be playing nearby; the Fort Wayne Food Trucks will be there; there's even an ice cream social.

The Official Auburn Cord Duesenberg Beer Tent presented by Main Street Bistro invites you to "take in the sights, relax with friends and grab a cold one. Enjoy our



AUBURN CORD DUESENBERG FESTIVAL

Aug. 29-Sept. 7
Downtown Auburn
Admission varies
www.acdfestival.org

live music, beautiful cars and friends and wet your whistle while you walk." Sounds like a good plan.

But that's just a smidgen of the planned events. Throughout the days of Friday, Saturday and for a good part of Sunday, festival goers have a full menu of options, from museum tours at the Auburn Cord Duesenberg Automobile Museum and tours of the city to fun activities for children including an automotive bounce house and vintage backyard games. Sunday is the annual arts and crafts show, sponsored by the Downtown Auburn Business Association. There are flea markets, swap meets, kids tours, a speakeasy. The list of events is 40-plus pages long, so be sure to pick one up early.

Everybody loves a parade, right. Well on Saturday at 1 p.m. the Parade of Classics begins. ACD Club members get behind the wheels of their classics and drive them slowly through the streets of Auburn. It's a good chance to see these cars in action.

It's also a good chance to meet new people from all over the country and from around the world. Payne says it's quite common for car enthusiasts from different parts of the planet to make the pilgrimage to Auburn, not only to look at the cars but to get a taste of a truly American event.

"This is one of the things that is on a lot of people's life lists," Payne says. "People come from everywhere. That goes for the car owners as well. Since this is the annual meeting for the ACD Club, it's not unusual for car owners to come from overseas and bring their cars with them."

Payne says the ACD Club was the starting point for the festival.

"If you think about it, back in the 50s these cars were old but not really classics."

Some of the folks from the club started to pull some of the owners together and thought it would be fun to go back to where these cars came from. So they made their first trek to Auburn back in the 50s. And some of the local folks recognized the value of this club coming to town and really rolled out the red carpet for them. It started out as a Chamber event and has just been growing ever since."

Then, of course, there are the auctions. Two separate auctions will be held over multiple days during the festival. Auctions

America holds its annual Auburn Fall auction at its park while Worldwide Auctioneers hosts events at the National Auto and Truck Museum.

With all this going on in a city of 12,000 it's understandable to think that parking might be a nightmare, that the crowds will be overwhelming and that the whole thing is just about cars anyway, so what's the point?

Not to worry. There's plenty to do for the non-car enthusiasts out there. We've already covered that. As for parking, Payne says there is plenty of on- and off-street parking to handle the load. Plus there is a trolley service running between the activities downtown, the museums and the Auctions American Auction Park. The trolley runs from noon to 6 p.m. on Friday and Saturday.

"There are a lot of moving parts and different organizations that are a part of this," Payne says. "There are the museums, two auctions and a lot of clubs and organizations and businesses that collaborate with us. There are lots of different activities that happen that are put on by these partner organizations. It allows us to have a whole lot to offer visitors over that weekend."

It's also something the city might consider adding to its list of reasons to consider Auburn. After all, any community of this size that can successfully pull off an event this huge and do it for almost 60 years must have something pretty good going on.

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

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Office Manager: Mikila Cook
Advertising Sales: Mark Hunter

BACK ISSUES
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.

DEADLINES
Calendar Information: Must be received by noon Monday the week of publication for inclusion in that week's issue and, space permitting, will run until the week of the event. Calendar information is published as far in advance as space permits and should be submitted as early as possible.
Advertising: Space reservations and ads requiring proofs due by no later than 5 p.m. the Thursday prior to publication. Camera-ready or digital ad copy required by 9 a.m. Monday the week of publication. Classified line ads may be submitted up to noon on Monday the week of publication.

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A Collection of Cars & Stars

By Mark Hunter

With auctions it's all about the numbers. And it's especially so for car auctions. Take for instance the 2014 Auburn Fall auction. Well-known worldwide for its high-quality cars and its often star-studded attendees, the Auctions America event also has the numbers thing down. Big numbers. Last year some 81,500 people attended the four-day event. Those who stayed through it all got to see \$29.5 million worth of cars and other collectibles find new owners. In all, 77 percent of the items offered for auction sold. Impressive numbers. And the top price for a car last year? A 1935 Duesenberg Model SJ Dual-Cowl Phaeton sold for \$1,150,000. Now that's a nice warm number.

Auburn Fall 2015 promises to be just as exciting. There's a 1929 Duesenberg Model J Convertible Coupe by Murphy hitting the block that could fetch a similar price.

The Auburn Fall Collector Car Weekend, which runs from Sept. 2-6, is among the top auctions of its kind in the world. Now in its 45th year, Auburn Fall 2015 is bigger and better than ever. As usual the Labor Day weekend tradition will have a large number of amazing and rare cars up for auction. It will also have lots of exciting things to do for outside of the auction arena.

Ryan Hurst, star of *Sons of Anarchy*, *Remember the Titans* and *Saving Private Ryan*, will be on hand Saturday and Sunday to sign autographs. Stock car

racing fans will get the chance to test their skills in the pits and on the track. Sportbike enthusiasts can watch in awe as a pair of the world's best riders perform tricks and gasp-inducing stunts. There will be monster truck rides, helicopter rides, a swap meet and the ever-popular car corral. The car corral is where you want to go to buy a car and the swap meet is the place to be if a car you already have needs a hard-to-find part.

But it's the cars up for auction that drives attendance. Auctions America marketing coordinator Drew Gerhart said the lots for sale should garner lots of attention.

"The cars look really, really great this year," he said. "There's great offerings from the main three associated with the festival — the Auburns, Cords and Duesenbergs — and also a number of entry-level cars for people just getting into collecting. It's a great place

to find a project. There's really something for every level of collector and enthusiast."

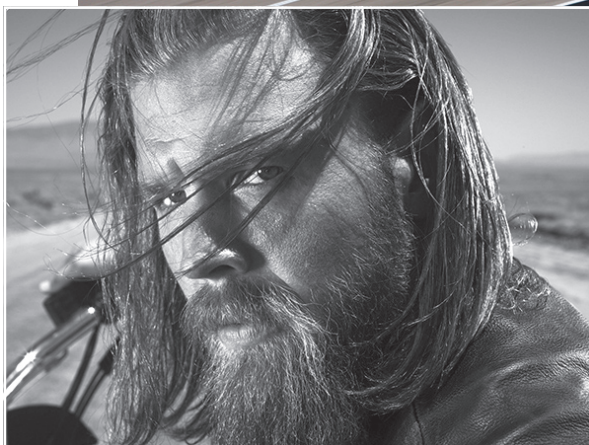
A quick scan through the lots catalogs bears this out. In addition to the 1929 Duesenberg there are Auburn Phaetons, a Cabriolet and a Speedster, and a nice cohort of Cords. Plus Cadillacs, Packards, Mercedes, a Delorean, a couple of sweet Sunbeam Tigers, Beetles, MGs, Fords, Chevys, Buicks and a bunch of car memorabilia and car parts. Vintage bicycles, wagons and toys will get their time in the spotlight as well. Gerhart said about

perience seems like a no-brainer. The Roush Fenway Racing's NASCAR racing simulators will allow two players to test their skills on the track, while a pair of mobile tire changing stations let you go for the tire-changing record. There will also be several NASCAR race cars driven by Greg Biffle, Dale Earnhardt Jr., Jimmie Johnson and Jeff Gordon on display.

"They're also bringing a car transport converted into a rolling museum," Gerhart said. "You can check out different race car



Sons of Anarchy star Ryan Hurst; Roush Fenway Car



AUBURN FALL COLLECTOR CAR WEEKEND

Wednesday-Sunday, Sept. 2-6
Auburn Auction Park
5540 County Rd. 11A, Auburn
Tix.: \$ 15/day or \$ 50 full pass
877-906-2437
www.auctionsamerica.com

1,000 cars will be auctioned over the four days of the event.

This year's auction is being touted as the most diverse to date.

One of the featured lots is the vast and diverse collection owned by Steve Ramsey. His offerings include a 2015 Dodge Challenger Hellcat with just two miles on its odometer, an all-original 1967 Chevrolet Corvette 427/400 Coupe with just 18,000 original miles; a 1962 Chevrolet Bel Air 409 Bubbletop; and an all-original 1979 Volkswagen Beetle Convertible that's seen just 177 miles of road.

Other featured lots include the Duffy Grove Collection, the Frank Heiss Sr. Collection, the Suburban Collection and the Cord Trademark.

With NASCAR's booming popularity, the addition of the Ultimate Race Fan Ex-

equipment."

Two-wheel sport fans get their moment too. Top Sportbike freestylers Kyle Sliger (a Fort Wayne native) and Jesse Toler will put on a stunt show that is certain to impress. Informative and mind-boggling, Sliger and Toler will put on two shows, one each on Friday and Saturday, tracing the birth of freestyle stunt riding through live demonstrations of tricks as they were developed and perfected. Keep your cameras handy.

And back this year are the ever-popular monster truck and helicopter rides. Bouncing and flying. Similar yet different experiences you won't want to miss.

When combined with the Auburn Cord Duesenberg Festival in downtown Auburn (easily accessible from the auction park by free shuttle) the 2015 Auburn Fall Collector Car Weekend is a must-attend event.

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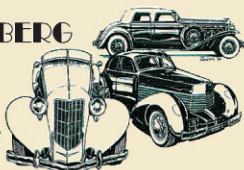
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American Songsmith

By Michele DeVinney

Music can be a window to the world.

Take for example a 10-year-old girl whose only real exposure to art is through a couple of coffee table books, limited perhaps to a few of the Italian masters. For that girl, a song like "Vincent," which lovingly tells the tale of artist Vincent Van Gogh, is an eye-opener. The song, opening with the line "Starry, starry night," paints a picture almost as colorful and enlightening as the artist and painting that inspired it.

Four decades later, how does that girl fully thank Don McLean, the man who wrote the song, for bringing new and thrilling influences into her life? She can only try.

"Music should be more than entertainment," says McLean in humble response.

Don McLean has a long list of such songs, having been one of the more prolific singer-songwriters of the early 1970s with "Castles in the Air," "And I Love You So," "Dreidel" and, of course, the ubiquitous "American Pie" in his songbook. The latter alone could have set him up for life, but with that kind of classic comes plenty of both good and bad responses.

"The song has definitely lasted and grown and means something to people," says McLean. "I had 10 hit records, but that one was huge which was surprising. It just became a phenomenon. But then there was backlash because it was played so much in the early 70s. Then there was 'Vincent' and 'Castles in the Air,' and 'Dreidel' was off the wall, so they didn't really know what to make of me."

But with all great songs, backlash is a temporary thing, based mostly in a reaction against popularity rather than the singer himself. Such was the case with McLean who has continued to write, record and tour steadily throughout the years to devoted fans who never tire of his work. And the public at large also caught up again, providing him with a bit of a renaissance.

"In 2000 there started to be some new attention to me and my music. 'American Pie' was named the fifth greatest song of the century, and it all sort of grew from there. Madonna had a cover of it. Garth Brooks has done a cover too. And Ed Sheeran did a cover of 'Vincent' on *Storytellers*. Millions of people bought [American Pie], and Ed Sheeran has said how influential that album has been to him. That all means a lot to me."

McLean's reach goes beyond his own composition. His song, "Empty Chairs," was the inspiration for the Roberta Flack hit "Killing Me Softly with His Song," and that title in turn has been adapted for McLean's authorized biography, *The Don McLean Story: Killing Us Softly With His Songs* by Alan Howard, and a 2012 DVD, *American Troubadour*, combines both concert and documentary elements to pro-



DON McLEAN

7:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 4
Foellinger Theatre
3411 Sherman Blvd., Fort Wayne
Tix: \$ 29-\$ 69 thru box office,
260-427-6715

vide insight into McLean's life and work. He says both are accurate portrayals of him and says he's granted access to a British filmmaker to further tell his story. McLean says to fully understand his

music, you have to look at a broad range of American music.

"I'm really a fusion songwriter. I'm influenced by Irving Berlin, but also by the rock n' roll of the 1950s — Elvis Presley, Eddie Cochran, Gene Vincent. I'm not a trained musician; I don't read music. I've just fused all of these different elements together."

McLean has a remarkable catalog of beloved hits but is not content to rest on his laurels, still mining stories from the life he sees around him, including a recent song about a man who lives in and wanders around McLean's hometown of Camden, Maine. McLean says he "fantasized about his life" and wrote a song. Four of his newest songs, from an upcoming collection which may also include a greatest hits package, are now available online. McLean sees both good and bad in the way technology allows for the transmission of music and other content, admitting that he enjoys the ready access but fears the long-term ramifications.

"I do have a huge presence on YouTube, and many albums are available for download, which has introduced me to new audiences. And I think as a tool

Continued on page 7

Coming to the Blues by the Back Door

By Deborah Kennedy

When you call bluesman John Németh and get his voice mail, the outgoing message is a simple and telling one. It's his smooth, soothing voice, singing, "What a beautiful day we're having, what a wonderful day. What a beautiful day we're having. What a wonderful day."

Kind of difficult to have the blues when one is confronted with such a sweet statement, but anyone who's ever gone to a blues show or, better yet, played them live, knows that the blues aren't really about being down, depressed, hopeless.

"The underlying feeling is that, 'Hey, these are the blues. Everybody gets them, but everything's going to be all right,'" Németh said in a recent phone interview. He was at home in Memphis, having missed my first call because he and his wife were taking their son to the ER for an allergy attack.

"He's going to be all right too," Németh said.

Németh, who will close out the Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory Botanical Roots concert series Friday, September 4 at 7 p.m., is, by conventional standards, not your typical bluesman — he's the son of a Hungarian immigrant and hails from Boise, Idaho — but Németh doesn't buy into media-perpetuated stereotypes about what sort of person should play what genre.

"Musicians aren't ever really surprised that I play the blues, especially here in Memphis," he said. "People have come from all over, with no exposure whatsoever to Southern culture, and they can play the blues like they were born to it. The only people who are ever surprised that I'm a bluesman are members of the public who've been told to be surprised because, supposedly, people who play the blues look a certain way."

Németh credits his background with helping shape him as a musician. His main musical influences growing up were his parents. His mother spoke in colloquialisms that to this day inform his approach to the blues, and his father listened to Hungarian folk music which, Németh says, has a great deal in common with American blues.

"We lived out in the middle of nowhere in Idaho, and my mom's speech, it was funny and full of colloquialisms. I guess she thought, 'Why not pepper conversation with innuendo? It might at least make life more interesting.' And Hungarian folk is very emotional, very harmonically complex and full of feeling. When I first heard the blues, I was like, 'Wow, this is cool. There is so much innuendo and colloquialisms the way my mother speaks, and the music has undeniable passion and emotion like gypsy music like father likes.' I fell in love with the blues right then and there."

Németh formed his first band in high school and began playing clubs in and around Boise when most of his classmates were still focusing on SATs and homework. A strong

singer and songwriter, Németh's instrument is the harmonica, which he picked up partially because it was cheap and, when he was just getting started in the 90s, electric pianos were not.

"It was the perfect instrument for a poor high school kid," he said. "I remember I was out one day and I saw a harmonica in a case. I was already a fan of Junior Wells and



Little Walter, and I thought, 'How hard can that be?' Little did I know it's tricky to pick up and play well, whereas with a piano you press a note and it happens. Any note you need, you push down and it comes out. The harmonica has hidden notes. Who knew?"

Németh gained a reputation beyond Boise for his powerful and unique approach to the blues. He even toured with Junior Watson, serving as his opening act, and in 2004 Watson appeared on Németh's debut album, *Come and Get It*. Later that same year, Németh made the difficult decision to move to the Bay Area with his then girlfriend, Jaki. It proved a fateful decision. Németh was signed to the legendary Blind Pig Records label, and he began playing in (speaking of legendary) Elvin Bishop's band.

"Working with Elvin Bishop I learned a lot about American music, about the possibilities in combining styles I'd never even thought of before," Németh said. "Elvin is a master at seamlessly arranging different stylistic influences, and he taught me so much about composition that really improved the records I made with Blind Pig."

With Blind Pig he put out *Love Me Tonight*, *Magic Touch* and *Name the Day*. Critics and fans responded to Németh's idiosyncratic style which, again, he said might have something to do with the fact that he grew up far from the birthplaces of the blues.

"I was somewhat in isolation in Idaho," he said. "The only comparison I can make is to reggae artists who grew up in Jamaica, listening to American R&B on shortwave radio. Given the way the music was recorded and how it was transmitted, some things were lost — notes here and there, pieces of a song — so you pick up on what the overall feeling of the music is and you fill in the blanks in your own way. It's a way of bringing a different dialect to an already established musical language."

Németh and Jaki, the girlfriend he followed to California, eventually married and started a family. As much as they loved Oakland and San Francisco and the music scene there, they found the Golden State an increasingly stressful and difficult place to raise a family, so in 2013 they moved to Memphis. In Memphis, Németh hooked up with producer Scott Bomar, who composed the film scores for *Hustle and Flow* and *Black Snake Moan*. Németh was soon back in the studio, laying down tracks for *Memphis Grease*, which he recorded with a little help from Bomar and his session band, The Bo-Keys.

"In Memphis they're still cutting records exactly the way they cut them back in the day," Németh said. "It's like getting back to square one, to what really matters. The talent on that record is astounding to me. I'll let it speak for itself."

And speak it did, earning Németh, among other accolades, a Soul/Blues Album of the Year from the Blues Music Awards. It was also the most played blues record in the world in 2014.

Not that Németh is resting on any laurels. He's always making

changes to his music, tweaking his songwriting and his way with the harmonica. He also has a new band he'll bring to Fort Wayne. He described the Blue Dreamers — Johnny Rhoades (guitar), Danny Banks (drums) and Matthew Wilson (bass) — as a bluesy version of the Beatles.

"They're a bunch of young guys, really fantastic players and they all sing harmonies. Some even played my music before they joined band."

A good sign for a genre some claim is in danger of dying out.

"The Grammys keep eliminating blues categories from their awards, I guess because of lack of participation? What does that even mean? And who cares about 'participation'? If it's only five guys out there playing the blues, it's still five guys playing the most important musical invention in the United States. A lot of people love to mine the blues but keep it on the back burner like it's some sort of little secret. That's okay for them, but the blues are what I've done, what I love, what I've always played and I'll play them until my dying day."

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DON McLEAN - From Page 6

to find out stuff and see things you might not otherwise be able to access, it's terrific. If I want to find out about an actor or see photographs or look something up on Wikipedia, it's great. But more and more people are putting their total reliance on their computer or their iPhone, and they aren't using their minds anymore. As someone who knows 10,000 songs, I'm not really worried about using my mind, but I see people who don't

use their minds much anymore, and they've become very sedentary. It's also ruined a lot of businesses which is really a form of cultural terrorism. The music business has been destroyed by it, the book and newspaper businesses are being destroyed by it, and the film industry eventually will be destroyed by it. So it's also very dangerous in that sense.

"It has also brought us to the point where Joe Six-Pack can have a video on YouTube

and be regarded as an artist," he continues. "And he's not an artist, and it's important that we realize that's the wrong way of becoming an artist. I don't care if people think that's arrogant. Not everybody can be a pro baseball player either. You can't just put yourself on the internet and say you're an artist."

McLean still enjoys time on the road and is happy to continue the life of a troubadour. With 70 shows this year, both in and

outside of the United States, he figures to spend about 200 days of this year traveling with his five-piece band. That's more than usual, he admits, but he still enjoys talking with people as he travels to learn more about the world. It's clearly been the reward for his many contributions to American music.

"It's in my blood, to travel around and see things, and I get paid to do it. I've been paid to see America."

Taj Mahal



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Muppet-like Mayhem

By Jen Poiry-Prough

If you have ever dreamed of attending a comedy club on Sesame Street, then Wagon Wheel Center for the Arts has just the show for you.

They close out their 2015 summer season with *Avenue Q*, their second annual Encore Series production.

Known for their universally popular, family-friendly musicals and plays, the Wagon Wheel takes a bit of a chance with its Encore Series productions.

"With the Encore shows, we are trying to pick smaller shows that would appeal not only to our existing audience, but hopefully to draw in new audience members," says Artistic Director Scott Michaels. "We look for shows that were successful on Broadway but that people might have a limited chance of seeing."

They also tend to have content that pushes some boundaries for their regular season-holding membership.

Much like *Rent*, last year's inaugural Encore Series production, *Avenue Q* certainly fills the bill. "There is a reason it won three Tony Awards, including Best Musical of 2003, and is still running Off-Broadway today," says Michaels. "It's a great and funny show."

The musical tells the story of recent college graduate (and puppet) Princeton, who moves to a shabby urban apartment on Avenue Q. He meets a host of colorful characters – some human, some puppet – and together they learn important lessons. Much like *Sesame Street* teaches preschoolers important life lessons about friendship, handling their emotions and navigating play dates, *Avenue Q*'s characters learn about racism, love, careers, first apartments, shattered dreams, the ramifications of poor choices, sexual identity and how to find one's purpose in life.

"I have often wondered what it would be like for [*Sesame Street*] characters if they had to face real-life adult situations," says Michaels. "With this show, you get that chance."

Michaels says he and the rest of the Wagon Wheel staff wanted to capitalize on the ongoing success of *Avenue Q*'s composer, Robert Lopez. Not many people realize that songwriter for the film *Frozen* and the co-creator of the stage musical *The Book of Mormon* had his first success with this subversive and irreverent musical about *Sesame Street*-style puppets living in the gritty real world.

Yes, the same man who wrote "Let It Go" and "Love Is an Open Door" also wrote "Hava Diga Eebowai" and "The Internet Is for Porn."

Realizing that some shows, such as *Avenue Q*, may have a slightly smaller fan base than its regular season shows (which this year included such wildly popular favorites as *West Side Story* and *The Little Mermaid*), the Encore Series is scheduled for a shorter

run (only a six-day run rather than 11).

"The Encore Series is still a new venture for us," says Michaels. "We can keep production costs down by having a short run. We have also found it challenging to get people to commit to a longer season, since kids are already back to school in the fall. And Warsaw is a summer lake town, so after Labor Day there are fewer people living here."

He is quick to point out that *Avenue Q* is not a show for kids – despite all the puppets.

"The content is R-rated, but it's all in good fun,"



AVENUE Q

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 8 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, Sept. 2-5
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he says. "I leave it up to the parents to decide if their teenagers should see it. But if you like shows along the lines of *South Park*, *Family Guy*, *Archer*, or have seen *The Book of Mormon*, then

this show will be right up your alley."

Even non-fans of those shows can get something out of *Avenue Q*, he says.

"It's touching and funny with a touch of raunchy fun. I equate it to going out to an adult comedy club."

Michaels is cognizant of the fact that the Wagon Wheel may risk offending some audience members who don't know what they're getting into with the Encore Series. But he hopes that subscribers will give *Avenue Q* a chance and that the unusual offering will bring in new audiences. "Last year's production of *Rent* brought in a very different crowd to the theater, and we hope that this show does the same," he says. "But as with any Encore show, there is always a gamble of people being offended. These shows are meant to appeal to an adult crowd, something we don't offer in our summer season."

Avenue Q premiered on Broadway in 2003, and although the script can't be changed for legal reasons, it does allow for topical humor to be added, which Michaels promises will happen.

As raunchy and potentially offensive as it might be, Michaels asserts that the show still holds some universal truths about entering adulthood. But mainly, it's great fun.

"It's meant to give our adult audiences a night out," says Michaels. "It's a great date show that has catchy music, a touching story line, and, of course, puppets."

Auburn's Expression Maker

By Heather Miller

Nina Bennett is an artist who has the Midas touch. Whatever she is involved in vibrates with the energy of art. Her creative mind expands far beyond her own two hands and has helped to build a foundation of artistic representation in the city of Auburn.

Bennett has helped develop several community art projects, including the annual Downtown Business Association's paint the (fill-in-the-blank) project. One year it was park benches while another year yielded garden gates. Summer 2015 brings small rocking chairs scattered downtown. Most are charming decorations. Bennett's, of course, has a unique twist. Her chair makes music. When it rocks back and forth, gravity takes hold and makes the cymbal clang.

"I don't just paint things," she says. "I want to incorporate a lot of the arts in my projects. I want to get people thinking. People come in and ask me about it [the chair]. I love it because it's interactive."

Bennett has also spearheaded other public art projects, her most recent being the winter yarn-bombing during which volunteers wrapped barren trees with knitted yarn. The practice is common in urban areas, but not so much in a small-town. The effect in Auburn was whimsical, as if the trees were bundled up for the cold winter wind.

"We're such a small community and we think small," says Bennett. "I'm always pushing the line. I want to figure it [art] out too and I want people to expand what art is."

Bennett is an artist who experiments with ink, watercolor and mixed media. Actually, she's open to trying just about anything, including taking the plunge into starting her own gallery.

Expressions Gallery was her first adventure and was a small gallery and frame shop that held the work of local artists.

"My first purpose was to find an art studio where I could work. During that process I really wanted to provide a space where artists could show year round, so they wouldn't have to do the festivals."

Toward that end, Bennett began collecting work from artists she knew.

"There were also people who lived just a few blocks away who had full-time careers but also made art, art that is really good," she recalls.

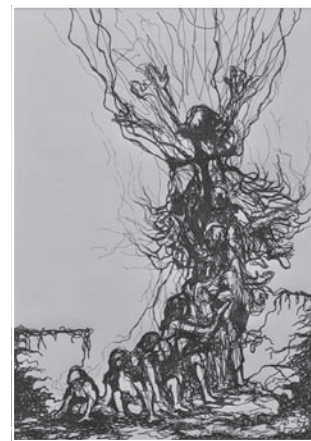
The gallery filled up and it seemed everything was complete. Even with her own space, Bennett dreamed of something bigger, something that could make a real impact on the community. When she found out an antique store was closing, her creative juices started to percolate. Through a long, drawn out series of events involving financing, ownership and development, Bennett finally came into a position where she could move her dream from concept to concrete. Working with contractors and the owner of the building, Bennett was able to design the space and direct the construction of the interior of the building at 106 West 6th Street.

It was completed in less than six months. A dream that had once been plugging and slogging along suddenly lurched forward at full speed. The result is the Auburn Atrium Marketplace.

The Marketplace is set up to house a collection of vendors. Walk in and you can't



Clockwise from above: Nina Bennett; "First United"; "Lord of My Dance"



help but look up at the high ceilings and windows that allow buckets of daylight to pour into the space. Surrounding the upper level is a wide balcony, wide enough to give an artist space to create. Bennett is determined to fill the upper level with working artist studios, a feature never thought possible in Auburn.

Downstairs visitors are greeted by an absolutely delightful stationary shop, The Paper Gourmet. Just beyond is a small bookstore run completely by donation and volunteers working to earn revenue to support the Dekalb Humane Shelter.

The jewel of the market is Bennett's gallery and framing shop. Tucked in between the oil paintings and pottery, you will find samples of Bennett's own work. With such a bright personality, one may be surprised by

the edge that much of her work reflects. One particular ink drawing is oozing with raw emotion. The piece shows series of figures that flow from a cowering form to stretching upward toward the heavens. Networks of bold and hair-like lines seem to tangle around the figure bringing across a feeling of struggle and strength.

While her watercolor and ink drawings are powerful, Bennett is ready to take a turn with her work.

"I want to take a step beyond and move into mixed media. You get bored if you stay within. It took me a long time to figure out that I love design. I got to design this building," says Bennett. "It goes along with the insanity."

Bennett is at a place where she feels comfortable with her own work. She is ready to make art for art's sake rather than let the sales numbers drive her vision. "I want to make art that is a step beyond. I don't want to make art because I think someone is going to buy it. I want to make art that someone is going to love. I want to be happy with it and then it is okay."

Just as with her smaller space, Bennett is looking for work of other artists who are brave enough to step beyond. She is drawn to work that is unique to add to her eclectic collection at the gallery.

Bennett plans to keep the momentum moving forward. She has plans for pop-up stores to fill the space over the Labor Day festivities. She would also love to see a group of artists start a co-op within the space.

Bennett is an optimist.

"I believe that Auburn can support the arts more now that it could 10 years ago when I first started my business," she says. "In those 10 years we've had the Seward Johnson statues twice and a public art project each year since. This is just another character of Auburn that has popped out."

Bennett is a visionary and a pioneer who has bolted along, fostering the art scene in a small town. Thanks to her, Auburn can enjoy a taste of art that is unique to this area.

Bennett summed it up best when she said, "There are a lot of really cool things that can be done if you go out into the world with your mind open."

The community should be thankful that this open-minded artist calls Auburn, home.

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Historical Sleuthing

By Deborah Kennedy

Anna Lee Huber thought for many years she wanted to be a singer. A native of Hicksville, Ohio, she grew up dreaming rock star dreams, and in college she majored in music and psychology. It wasn't until years later that she rediscovered one of her first loves – writing – and good thing she did, because now Huber, who resides in Fort Wayne with her husband and daughter, can add “best-selling author” to her already impressive list of accomplishments.

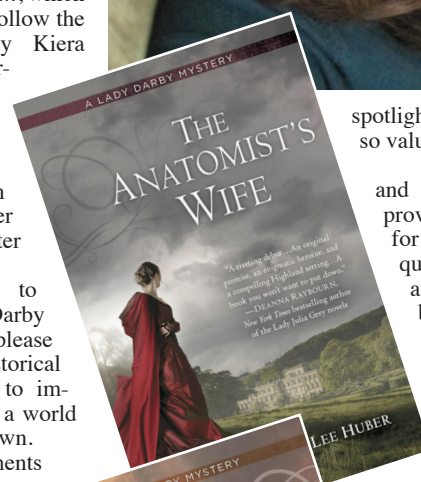
Huber is the author of the Lady Darby mysteries, a four-book strong series set in 19th century Edinburgh. The books – *The Anatomist's Wife*, *Mortal Arts*, *A Grave Matter* and the latest, *A Study in Death*, which hit shelves July 7 – follow the adventures of Lady Kiera Darby, a talented portrait painter turned reluctant homicide investigator whose short-lived and unhappy marriage to an anatomist makes her a much sought-after crime scene expert.

Huber decided to write the Lady Darby series partially to please herself. A fan of historical fiction, she wanted to immerse her readers in a world different from their own.

“All the elements in my book are the kinds of things I gravitate toward as a reader,” she said in a recent phone interview. “I love history and romance. They say ‘write what you love.’ These are things I love, they’re the things that get my imagination going.”

She also wanted to create the kind of character she would love to follow. Unlike the female protagonists of many mystery stories, Kiera Darby is not a social darling. Instead, she is shy and retiring, and it's her expertise, not her infectious charm, that makes her an essential part of the investigations that form the backbone of the books.

“There are so many mysteries out there about female detectives whose charm is what sets them apart. Those are great,” Huber said, “but I wanted to do something different. Lady Darby is awkward in society, she's shy and retiring and doesn't enjoy the



spotlight, but her skills make her so valuable.”

Choosing the setting and time period that would prove the perfect backdrop for Lady Darby's life required a bit more research, another passion of Huber's. Knowing that she wanted Lady Darby to be a portrait artist, she started digging into the history of the discipline of anatomy and came across material on the Burke and

Hare Trial. The case, which scandalized 1820s Scotland, concerned two Irishmen, William Burke and William Hare – who murdered men on the streets of Edinburgh for the purpose of selling the cadavers to Dr. Robert Knox, a renowned anatomy lecturer.

“The time period was a no-brainer,” Huber said. “There was a lot of political turmoil, and just a couple years after

the trial a number of reform acts were passed, including the Anatomy Act which changed the way medical schools dealt cadavers obtained for research purposes. The early 1830s inhabits this neat little cusp in history, after the crazy body-snatching period and before the reform.”

Huber clearly did her homework before

Continued on page 23

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Lamb of God

VII: Sturm Und Drang

It's hard not to interpret heavy metal champions Lamb of God's new album, *VII: Sturm Und Drang*, in light of the hard times the band has been through in the last few years. Specifically, frontman Randy Blythe's ordeal in the Czech Republic's criminal justice system has a clear influence on the album. For those who aren't aware, Blythe was held on the equivalent of manslaughter charges stemming from an incident at a 2010 concert where a fan fell from the stage and later died from the wounds. Blythe was ultimately acquitted of culpability, but he spent a prolonged time in prison there and was clearly shaken up by the experience, even writing and publishing his account of the ordeal, *Dark Days: A Memoir*. Aside from the emotional strain, the legal fees surrounding the incident nearly bankrupted the band, which went on hiatus in 2014.

But the band return in full force on *Sturm Und Drang*, German for "storm and stress." Lead track and single "Still Echoes" kicks things off with abandon, offering up some pure unadulterated adrenaline in the form of stirring shrieks and blustery riffing. It's the sound of catharsis, of a band working out the stress of its ordeal, but the lyrics are haunting. The Prague prison in which Blythe was held, Pankrác, is over 100 years old and was used by the Nazis in World War II. "A thousand heads cut clean across their necks / Right down the hall from me / The Reich's relentless blade / Thirsty and shining red / Still echoes of their screams," Blythe growls. It's enough to transport the listener to the Pankrác and imagine what it would be like to be imprisoned in such an infamous locale. It's chilling.

Blythe's prison experience crops up explicitly on one other track, "512," which was the number of his prison cell. And a World War II Nazi topic crops up again on "Anthropoid." "Torches," too, is about a Czech anti-communist protestor who set himself on fire in 1969 and became a symbol for the opposition. So, while the band has stated that *Sturm* is not "a prison album," it's hard to deny the effect of their experiences on the music.

A pair of guest vocals add to the occasional ethereal quality of the album. On "Embers," the Deftones' Chino Moreno lends a vocal that sounds otherworldly, and on "Torches," the Dillinger Escape Plan's Greg Puciato mirrors Blythe's pained howls, making for an intense mid-tempo dirge.

Some of the quieter moments are what most clearly distinguish *Sturm* from the rest of the band's work. Best example: a clean-singing Blythe channeling Alice in Chains on what is probably the closest Lamb of God will ever get to a power ballad. These moments are more asides than they are typical of the album, but they demonstrate that the band is still willing to expand its sound. Which isn't to say that the band has abandoned its trademark mix of groove and death metal. Far from it. The vast majority of the album finds the band in rage mode, typified by the intensity of tracks like "Engage the Fear Machine" and "Anthropoid."

But, perhaps most importantly, Lamb of God are still Lamb of God. Their musicianship and uncompromising stance shine throughout the album. Unlike a lot of bands who either mellow with age or simply can't recapture the energy of their youthful work, *Sturm* burns with enough energy and rage to put just about any other band to shame. And maybe that's the silver lining to the band's harrowing experience. For all of its technical acumen, their last album, 2012's *Resolution*, found the band coasting and seemingly lacking a clear sense of direction. *Sturm* is a clear return to form and finds the band focused and possessed of a clear sense of purpose. It's perhaps the best case scenario for a group that has endured such *Dark Days*. (Ryan Smith)

Ufomammut

Ecate

In literary terms, Ufomammut's new long player, titled *Ecate*, feels not like a mere 45-minute album, but the aural equivalent of Homer's *Odyssey*. It's a punishing trip into some desolate, dystopian world. Think Frank Herbert's *Dune* melded



BACKTRACKS

Golden Earring

Seven Tears (1971)

Golden Earring were formed in The Hague in the early 60s and were relatively known in Europe. Before "Radar Love" hit the charts in 1973, this album followed about a half-dozen releases. It's a solid rock album in the era of "heavy" rock n' roll.

Seven Tears opens with the deceptively-mellow "Silver Ships," a prog-rocker with a soft flute, a grungy guitar and an almost Pink Floyd-meets-Yes feel to it. Rock n' roll follows in "The Road Swallowed Her Name," a song with a groovy riff and great percussion from the formidable madman Cesar Zuiderwijk, a pretty unbelievable, very underrated drummer.

"Hope" starts off slow, but picks up after the bridge and has some dirty horns and keyboards inserted in all the right places. "Don't Worry" is a little more poppy than the rest of the album, but still sounds like something from northern Europe at the beginning of the 70s. A fat bass groove in this one really carries the track. "She Flies on Strange Wings" starts off as a progressive super ballad, but then gets all Steppenwolf with its organs and heavy guitars. It slows down again, but is worth the trip after some brief saxophone and strong lyrics. These cats even made a music video for this song back in '71, which is pretty cool. "This Is the Other Side of Life" is a nice little jazzy-folk-rock track for radio, and the album closes with the almost seven-minute jam in "You're Better Off Free." One of my favorite GE songs, it's still weird to imagine these guys growing up in The Netherlands and having such an important impact on rock n' roll.

Fun Fact: The same four guys on this album are still together, have produced 14 more records, and still tour (*Dennis Donahue*)



with William Gibson's *Neuromancer* and you might have an idea of where this music roams.

Musically speaking, this is "stoner doom space metal." I do not own the copyright to that phrase, but I will use it often and with much vigor. The riffs on *Ecate* are sludgy and massive, much like a woolly mammoth making its way across a meteor-scorched earth. Matt Pike and Sleep pretty much begat the stoner/doom genre with their weed-ian masterpiece *Dopesmoker*, along with Electric Wizard's excellent *Come My Fanatics*. Ufomammut keep the genre alive and well with *Ecate*.

So how do you continue to make sludgy doom metal vital? Well, throw some synths into the mix and take that red-eyed trip to space. At least, that's what Ufomammut have done to stunning effect. Since 2000 these Italian sludge metal gods have put out eight albums, each one surpassing the next. *Oro: Opus Primum* and *Oro: Opus Alter* were classics of the genre, and it seemed Ufomammut could never top them. *Ecate* doesn't necessarily top those two records as much as use them as jumping off points. "Somnium" opens with synthesizers rising slowly from the ashes of some recently fought galactic battle. Someone has woken the sleeping giant and there's hell to pay. Tribal and monstrous, thundering bass rolls in before riffage appears out of the smoke and embers and crushes our psyche for nearly 10 minutes. "Plouton" sounds like it could've come right off of *Holy Mountain*. Guitars growl and scratch as vocals belch out from the darkness. "Chaossecret," the centerpiece of this great LP, takes its time making its way through it's nearly 11-minute span with spacey noise and distant voices coming in and out of the mix. It's a trip into the belly of the beast. Ufomammut enjoy the journey just as much as reaching the destination, and this is one hell of a trip. This is doom metal you can meditate or trance out to. "Revelation" is a synthed-out moment of aural bliss, a reprieve from the relentless riff and doom, if you will. If you're all familiar with White Hills' *H-pl* LP, then this track will give you the warm and fuzzies for sure. Not to end an album on a blissful, spacey note, "Daemons" brings back the massive crunchy riff for a 10-minute ride into the heart of darkness. With elements of early Deftones, Tool and even Sunn O))), this track pummels you until the last ringing note.

Ecate gives one hope for the future of metal. Ufomammut are keeping the tradition of bands like Black Sabbath, Electric Wizard, Sleep and High on Fire alive and well. Stoner doom space metal lives on, and we're the better for it. (John Hubner)



TOP SELLERS @

WOODEN NICKEL

(Week ending 8/23/15)

TW	LW	ARTIST/Album
1	-	DR. DRE <i>Compton</i>
2	-	DISTURBED <i>Immortalized</i>
3	-	POP EVIL <i>Up</i>
4	-	BON JOVI <i>Burning Bridges</i>
5	-	WILCO <i>Star Wars</i>
6	-	GHOST B.C. <i>Meliora</i>
7	-	THE SWORD <i>High Country</i>
8	-	METHOD MAN <i>Meth Lab</i>
9	-	BUCKCHERRY <i>Rock N Roll</i>
10	-	LYNCH MOB <i>Rebel</i>

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Jared Pagan

Friday, August 28 • 9:30pm-1:30am

Jim Shoe & the Hightops

Saturday, August 29 • 9:30pm-1:30am

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ALLEN COUNTY

4D'S BAR & GRILL
Tavern/Sports Bar • 1820 W. Dupont Rd., Fort Wayne • 260-490-6488
EXPECT: Great food and drink specials and live entertainment; \$2 drink specials daily; \$1 tacos on Mon.; \$1.50 domestic longnecks & \$1 tacos on Tues.; Paul & Brian at 7 p.m. & 39¢ wings on Wed. (3-11 p.m., dine-in only); \$1 sliders & \$1.50 longnecks on Thurs.; live music Fri. & Sat.; buy one-get one half off entrees on Sat. (5-8 p.m.); \$7.50 14", 3-topping pizza on Sun. **GETTING THERE:** NW corner of Dupont & Lima. **HOURS:** 11 a.m.-3 a.m. Mon.-Fri.; noon-3 a.m. Sat.-Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc

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

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

Calendar • Live Music & Comedy

Thursday, August 27

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

DAG & Co. — Americana at The Green Frog Inn, Fort Wayne, 9-11 p.m., no cover, 426-1088

DAN SMYTH — Acoustic at Lake George Retreat, Fremont, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 426-2537

DAVID REYNOLDS — Solo piano at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 6:30-9:30 p.m., no cover, 426-3442

ELLE/THE REMNANT — Folk/Americana at One Summit Square, Fort Wayne, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., free, 420-3266

FARRENHEIT — 80s rock at Sweetwater Performance Theatre, Fort Wayne, 7-9 p.m., free, 432-8176

JARED PAGAN — Variety at Beamer's Sports Grill, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 625-1002

JASON PAUL — Acoustic 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

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

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

PAUL NEW STEWART & CHRIS WORTH — Variety at Acme Bar and Grill, Fort Wayne, 9-11 p.m., no cover, 480-2264

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

Friday, August 28

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

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

BULLDOGS — Oldies rock at Sycamore Village, Fort Wayne, 6:30-8 p.m., no cover, 271-4180

CHRIS WORTH & COMPANY — R&B/variety at Arena Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 557-1563

CLINT BLACK w/WALKER COUNTY — Country at Foellinger Theatre, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m., \$29-\$69, 427-6715

COUGAR HUNTER — 80s glam rock at Bock's Bash, South Whitley, 9 p.m., no cover, 609-3850

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

North Anthony Throwing a Party

With the month of August coming to an end, it also means the 33 percent off sale at Wooden Nickel is going bye-bye. The August sale is for the 33rd anniversary of Wooden Nickel's existence — quite a feat for any business, I'd say. I have spent my share of time at their stores, especially during my high school days when you could find me sifting through music and reading upcoming show posters at the North Clinton Street location. I also remember waiting in lines outside the door on Saturday mornings in all kinds of weather, waiting for concert tickets to go on sale. In those pre-internet days, you actually had to wait in line rather than purchase tickets from your phone or laptop while sitting on the couch in your pajamas.

There were also the famous midnight sales which made it possible for me to be one of the first in town to get my grubby hands on newly released music like Guns N' Roses' *Use Your Illusion 1 & 2* or Metallica's black album. Whether it was cassettes, CDs, vinyl or concert tix, I probably covered their electric bill a time or two.

Today, I still make frequent stops at the Clinton location, but I've become more accustomed to the North Anthony location since it's a little closer to my house and during my IPFW days it was an ideal place to kill some time between classes. Plus, my kids like to go there to hear to live music during their always enjoyable in-store performances



Out and About NICK BRAUN

The North Anthony Wooden Nickel has good neighbors. Whether you're buying vinyl or donuts, tobacco or fish for your tank, the North Anthony corridor has you covered. If you're familiar with the area, then the best chance to get acquainted will be at the 2nd Annual North Anthony Corridor Block Party. The event was such a hit last year that it only made sense to bring it back.

On Sunday, September 13 from 1-6 p.m. the businesses in that area host a block party that will feature live music, outdoor yoga, pet activities, a beer tent, food vendors, a bounce house, fire trucks, sidewalk sales, arts and crafts vendors and much more. It's a great opportunity to get acquainted with what the North Anthony corridor has to offer.

Bands set to perform during the day are The Distractions, Little Logan and The Insta-gators, Soft N' Heavy, The Be Colony and The B45's. There will be free bike parking.

Round up the troops and stop by to see just how happening the North Anthony corridor is these days
niknit76@yahoo.com

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 cones & \$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 Parkway Field. **HOURS:** Most shows start at 8 p.m., doors one hour earlier. **ALCOHOL:** Beer & wine during shows only; **PMT:** Cash, check

CALHOUN STREET SOUPS, SALADS & SPIRITS "CS3"

Music/Variety • 1915 S. Calhoun St., Fort Wayne • 260-456-7005
EXPECT: Great atmosphere, DJ Friday night, live shows, weekly drink specials, private outdoor patio seating. 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

NIGHTLIFE

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

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

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Calendar • Live Music & Comedy

DARRYL KNIGHT w/DAVE GLARDON — Comedy at Snickerz Comedy Bar, Fort Wayne, 7:30 & 9:45 p.m., \$9.50, 486-0216

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

HE SAID SHE SAID — Variety at The Post, Piercetown, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., cover, 574-594-3010

ISAIAH'S VISION — Contemporary Christian at Cupbearer Café, Auburn, 7-9 p.m., free, 920-8734

JIM SHOE AND THE HIGHTOPS — Variety at Beamer's Sports Grill, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., no cover, 625-1002

JOE JUSTICE — Variety at Dave's Lake Shack, Fremont, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 833-2582

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

JULIE HADAWAY — Acoustic at Venice Restaurant, Fort Wayne, 6:30-9:30 p.m., \$1, 482-1618

THE JUNK YARD BAND — Variety at Georgetown Square, Fort Wayne, 6:30-8:30 p.m., free, 749-0461

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

THE MATCHSELLERS — Bluegrass at Wildwood Nature Preserve, Silver Lake, 7 p.m., no cover, 637-2273

NOISY NEIGHBORS — Rock at Bar 145, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 209-2117

OUTTA HAND — Variety at Latch String Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 483-5526

PHILS FAMILY LIZARD — Variety at Corner Pocket, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 492-7665

SHANNON PERSINGER & ERIC CLANCY — Jazz at Cottage Event Center, Roanoke, 7:30 p.m., \$10, 483-3508

SIERRA LEONE'S REFUGEE ALL STARS w/DAN DICKERSON'S HARP CONDITION — Progressive rock at Botanical Conservatory, Fort Wayne, 8:30 p.m., \$6, 427-6440

SOUL 35 — Variety at Pedal City, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 415-6167

SWEETWATER ALLSTARS — R&B at Don Hall's Guesthouse, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12:30 a.m., no cover, 489-2524

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 — Swing/favorites at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 426-3442

Saturday, August 29

2 BEFORE NOON — Jazz at Barr Street Market, Fort Wayne, 9 a.m., free, 424-4358

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

BIG DADDY DUPREE AND THE BROKE & HUNGRY BLUES BAND — Blues at PNC Parking Lot, Churubusco, 4-8 p.m., free, 693-9350

BIG DICK AND THE PENETRATORS — Classic rock at Wacky Jac's, Angola, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., no cover, 665-9071

BULLDOGS — Oldies rock at Foellinger Theatre, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., \$5, 427-6715

CADILLAC RANCH — Classic rock at Hamilton House, Hamilton, 5-9 p.m., no cover, 488-3344

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

CHRIS WORTH — Variety at Oakwood Resort, Syracuse, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 855-929-2733

DARRYL KNIGHT w/DAVE GLARDON — Comedy at Snickerz Comedy Bar, Fort Wayne, 7:30 & 9:45 p.m., \$9.50, 486-0216

DJ RICH — Variety at Columbia Street West, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., \$5, 422-5055

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

ELEOS — Contemporary Christian at Cupbearer Café, Auburn, 7-9 p.m., free, 920-8734

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

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

GUNSLINGER — Country rock at Susie's Sandbar, Warsaw, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., no cover, 574-269-5355

HE SAID SHE SAID — Variety at The Post, Piercetown, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., cover, 574-594-3010

JACK ROCKS — Rock/oldies at Tri-Lakes Tavern, Columbia City, 4 p.m., no cover, 691-0015

JANELLE 'N JONZE — Variety at Dicky's 21 Taps, Fort Wayne, 6-8 p.m., no cover, 486-0590

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

LOOSE GRIP — Variety at Mad Anthony Lakeview Ale House, Angola, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 833-2537

MIKE MOWRY — Rock/variety at Pedal City, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 415-6167

PARR/CLANCY TRIO — Jazz/variety at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 426-3442

PRIME SUSPECTS — Variety at American Legion 499, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 483-1368

WEDNESDAYS
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 w/JOSH**

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Sweetwater Upcoming Events



Alex Skolnick Master Class

August 31 • 6:30-8:30PM

During this Master Class, Alex will improvise through a few different styles (jazz, blues, world music, metal, and more), demonstrating tones and techniques for each. \$75



Fender Custom Shop Roadshow

September 10 • 1-8PM

During this rare and exclusive event, Master Builder Dennis Galuszka will provide an insider's perspective into the craftsmanship, techniques, and nuanced details behind these coveted guitars.



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Mixing Pros with the
WORKSHOP SERIES
\$995*

Mixing with the Pros • Al Schmitt

September 12 • 9AM-6PM

Don't miss this rare opportunity to listen and learn from one of recording's greatest masters of all time!

*Includes lunch, **dinner with Al**, and hotel accommodations



Andy McKee Clinic

September 16 • 7-9PM

Andy McKee is coming to Sweetwater to showcase Ernie Ball Aluminum Bronze strings while demonstrating his unique acoustic guitar mastery. Don't miss this FREE event!

Visit Sweetwater.com/events
for our full schedule of events!

5501 U.S. Hwy 30 W.
Fort Wayne, IN 46818



Calendar • Live Music & Comedy

RENEGADE — Country at SummerFest, Summit Street, Monroeville, 6:30-10:30 p.m., no cover, 740-8040
ROOSEVELT — Indie at Wooden Nickel, North Anthony, Fort Wayne, 3 p.m., free, 484-3635
SOUTH BOUND — Variety at Club Paradise, Angola, 10 p.m., \$5, 833-7082
TAJ MAHOLICS — Blues at Don Hall's Guesthouse, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12:30 a.m., no cover, 489-2524
TODD HARROLD BAND — R&B/blues at St. Henry's Community Center, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m., no cover, all ages, 447-4100
TOP SHELF — Country at Beamer's Sports Grill, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., no cover, 625-1002
U.R.B. — Funk at Corner Pocket, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 492-7665

THE UNION PROJECT, DIXON & McRAE BAND — Variety at Rock The Plaza, Downtown Branch, Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, 6-10 p.m., no cover, 436-8080
URBAN LEGEND — R&B/variety at Nick's Martini & Wine Bar, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., \$5, 482-6425
WALKIN' PAPERS — Rock n' roll at Taps Pub, Avilla, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 897-3331
WAYWARD SON — Rock at Dupont Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., \$5, 483-1311
WHAT ABOUT JOE — Rock at VFW Post 2689, Huntington, 12-3 p.m., no cover, 388-2543
YOU AND ALL THE BLIND PEOPLE — Variety at O'Sullivan's Italian Irish Pub, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 422-5896

Sunday, August 30

MANTRA KARAOKE w/JAKE — at Wrigley Field Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 485-1038
YESTERDAY'S HEADTRIP — Variety at Latch String, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 483-5526

Monday, August 31

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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Saturday, August 29 • 3-10pm

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Saturday, August 29 • 5-7pm

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Saturday, August 29 • 10pm

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NIGHTLIFE

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

WRIGLEY FIELD BAR & GRILL

Sports Bar • 6527 E. State Blvd., Fort Wayne • 260-485-1038
EXPECT: Fort Wayne's No. 1 Sports Bar. BS Sports Show, Mon., 7-9 p.m.; Billy Elvis, Fri., 6:30-8:30 p.m.; Karaoke, Sun.-Wed., 10 p.m.; DJ Trend, Thurs.-Sat., 10 p.m.; live bands; all PPV events on 45 TVs. Full menu; 49¢ wings (including boneless), Tues. & Thurs, 4 p.m., dine-in only; lunch and dinner salad bar buffet, Mon.-Fri. **GETTING THERE:** At Maplecrest and State, east on State, left at first stoplight. **HOURS:** 11 a.m.-3 a.m. Mon.-Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, Amex, ATM on site.

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Due to circumstances beyond the control of whatzup, Wooden Nickel Music or any of the participating sponsors, there will not be a whatzup/Wooden Nickel Battle of the Bands XII this year. Check back with us in 2016.

Fill out an entry form at any Wooden Nickel Music Store

For more information, email richardreprogle@gmail.com

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

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, September 1

AMERICAN IDOL KARAOKE w/JOSH — Karaoke at Nick's Martini & Wine Bar, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 482-6425
CHRIS WORTH — Variety at Club Paradise, Angola, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 833-7082
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, September 2

AMERICAN IDOL KARAOKE w/JOSH — Karaoke at Columbia Street West, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m., no cover, 422-5055
CHRIS WORTH — Variety at Bar 145, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., no cover, 209-2117
FORT WAYNE COMEDY CONNECTION — Comedy at Latch String Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m., no cover, 483-5526
G-MONEY BAND — Open jam at Phoenix, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 387-6571

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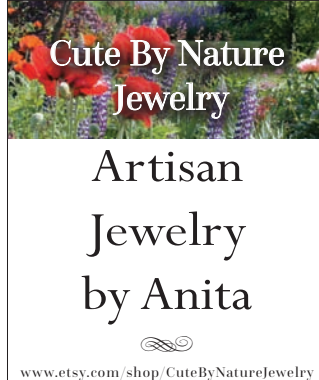
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NIGHTLIFE

KOSCIUSKO COUNTY

MAD ANTHONY LAKE CITY TAP HOUSE

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

EXPECT: The eclectic madness of the original combined with hand-crafted Mad Anthony ales and lagers. Carry-out handcrafted brews available. Live music on Saturdays. The same 4-1/2 star menu, including one of the best pizzas in America and a large vegetarian menu.

GETTING THERE: From U.S. 30, turn southwest on E. Center St.; go 2 miles. **HOURS:** 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Mon.-Thurs.; 11 a.m.-12:30 a.m. Fri.-Sat.; 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full-Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc

DEKALB COUNTY

MAD ANTHONY TAP ROOM

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

EXPECT: The eclectic madness of the original combined with hand-crafted Mad Anthony ales and lagers. The same 4-1/2 star menu, including one of the best pizzas in America and a large vegetarian menu.

GETTING THERE: Take I-69 to State Rd. 8 (Auburn exit); downtown, just north of courthouse. **HOURS:** 11 a.m.-12 a.m. Sun.-Thurs.; 11 a.m.-2 a.m. Fri.-Sat. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc

STEUBEN 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

Calendar • Live Music & Comedy

Thursday, September 3

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

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

DJ TREND — Variety at Nick's Martini & Wine Bar, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 482-6425

ISLAND VIBE — Variety at El Azteca, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 482-2172

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

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

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

KIMBERLY — Variety at Bar 145, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m., no cover, 209-2117

MAHRIA GREEN — 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

QUINCY SANDERS QUARTET — Jazz/funk at Red Rok, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 755-6745

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

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

CAP'N BOB — Variety at Town Park, North Webster, 7 p.m., no cover, 574-834-7954

CONTINUUM — Jazz/R&B at Deer Park Irish Pub, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 432-8966

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

DISTRACTIONS — Acoustic at Calhoun Street Soups, Salads & Spirits, Fort Wayne, 6:30 p.m., no cover, 456-7005

DON MCLEAN — Folk at Foellinger Theatre, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m., \$29-\$69, 427-6715

GUNSLINGER — Country rock at Jellystone Park, Piercetown, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 574-594-2124

JOE JUSTICE, CHRIS WORTH, BIG CADDY DADDY — Variety at Courthouse Square, Auburn, 4-11:30 p.m., free, 925-1444

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

Friday, September 4

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

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

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

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

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BLUES	
Big Daddy Dupree and the Broke & Hungry Blues Band.....	708-790-0538
CLASSIC ROCK & COUNTRY	
The Joel Young Band.....	260-414-4983
CLASSIC ROCK & POP	
What About Joe.....	260-255-0306
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The Jaenicke Consort Inc.	260-426-9096
COUNTRY & COUNTRY ROCK	
BackWater.....	260-494-5364
FUNK	
Big Dick & The Penetrators.....	260-415-6955
HORN BAND	
Tim Harrington Band.....	765-479-4005
INDIE ROCK	
James and the Drifters.....	717-552-5240
KARAOKE/DJ	
Sidecar Gary's Karaoke/DJ.....	260-343-8076
OLDIES ROCK	
The Bulldogs.....	260-357-3694
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Kill The Rabbit.....	260-223-2381 or 419-771-9127
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Dan Dickerson's Harp Condition.....	260-704-2511
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ORIGINAL ROCK	
FM90.....	765-606-5550
PRAISE & WORSHIP	
Jacobs Well.....	260-479-0423
ROCK	
80D.....	260-519-1946
Big Caddy Daddy.....	260-925-9562
Juke Joint Jive.....	260-403-4195
The Rescue Plan.....	260-750-9500
ROCK & BLUES	
Dirty Comp'ny.....	260-431-5048
Mr. Grumpy's Revenge.....	260-701-9709
Walkin' Papers.....	260-445-6390
ROCK & VARIETY	
The DeeBees.....	260-579-6852
ROCK N' ROLL	
Biff and The Cruisers.....	260-417-5495
STANDARDS	
Cap'n Bob.....	800-940-2035
Pan Man Dan.....	260-232-3588
TROP ROCK & CLASSIC ROCK	
Party Boat Band.....	260-438-3710
VARIETY	
Big Money and the Spare Change.....	260-515-3868
Dueling Keyboard Boys (Paul New Stewart).....	260-440-9918
Elephants in Mud.....	260-413-4581
Night to Remember.....	260-797-2980
Triple Play.....	520-909-5321
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	

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1964 the Tribute	Oct. 23	Connor Palace	Cleveland
1964 the Tribute	Dec. 5	Lafayette Theater	Lafayette
2 Before Noon	Sept. 12	Fellowship Missionary Church	Fort Wayne
4th Day Echo	Oct. 2	Bar 145	Fort Wayne
AC/DC	Sept. 8	Ford Field	Detroit
AC/DC	Sept. 15	Wrigley Field	Chicago
Alan Jackson	Aug. 31	Ravinia Festival	Highland Park, IL
Arctic Clam	Sept. 18	Bar 145	Fort Wayne
Arctic Clam	Dec. 11	Bar 145	Fort Wayne
Between the Buried and Me	Nov. 20	Saint Andrews Hall	Detroit
Big & Rich, A Thousand Horses, Austin Webb	Sept. 19	Parkview Field	Fort Wayne
Bill Maher	Sept. 19	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Bill Maher	Oct. 10	Wharton Center	East Lansing
Bill Maher	Oct. 11	Michigan Theater	Ann Arbor
The Birthday Massacre	Nov. 22	Saint Andrews Hall	Detroit
Black Violin	Oct. 15	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Blues Traveler	Aug. 28-30	Conner Prairie	Fishers, IN
Blues Traveler	Oct. 3	House of Blues	Chicago
Bobcat Goldthwait	Oct. 4	CS3	Fort Wayne
Brad Paisley w/Justin Moore, Mickey Guyton	Aug. 29	Klipsch Music Center	Noblesville
Brian Regan	Nov. 8	Stranahan Theatre	Toledo
Brian Regan	Dec. 4	State Theatre	Kalamazoo
Cherry on Top	Sept. 12	Bar 145	Fort Wayne
Chonda Pierce	Sept. 26	First Assembly of God	Fort Wayne
Chris Robinson Brotherhood	Oct. 7	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Chris Tomlin w/Rend Collective	Nov. 5	Memorial Coliseum	Fort Wayne
Colin Mochrie & Brad Sherwood	Dec. 11	Honeywell Center	Wabash
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
Counting Crows	Sept. 12	FirstMerit Bank Pavilion	Chicago
The Dandy Warhols	Nov. 19	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Darryl Knight w/Dave Gardon	Aug. 28-29	Snickerz Comedy Bar	Fort Wayne
Dave Koz & Friends	Dec. 6	Niswonger P.A.C.	Van Wert, Ohio
Dave Koz	Dec. 11	The Palladium	Carmel
David Allan Coe w/Matt Mason	Aug. 29	Lerner Theatre	Elkhart
David Phelps	Dec. 13	Niswonger P.A.C.	Van Wert, Ohio
Def Leppard w/Styx, Tesla	Aug. 30	Klipsch Music Center	Noblesville
The DePue Brothers	Dec. 17	Niswonger P.A.C.	Van Wert, Ohio
Destroyer w/Jennifer Castle	Sept. 27	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Dierks Bentley w/Kip Moore, Maddie & Tae, Canaan Smith	Sept. 5	Klipsch Music Center	Noblesville
Dirty Rotten Imbeciles w/Ratzkrieg Reunion, Cryptic, The Lurking Corpses	Oct. 4	Sunset Hall	Fort Wayne
Easton Corbin w/The Swon Brothers	Oct. 23	Clowes Memorial Hall	Indianapolis
Easton Corbin w/Craig Campbell	Nov. 14	Embassy Theatre	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
Ethan Bortnick	Nov. 1	Niswonger P.A.C.	Van Wert, Ohio
Farrenheit	Aug. 27	Sweetwater	Fort Wayne
Foo Fighters	Aug. 27	Klipsch Music Center	Noblesville
Foo Fighters	Aug. 29	Wrigley Field	Chicago
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	Nov. 21	Bar 145	Fort Wayne
Gladys Knight, The O'Jays, Joey Alexander	Sept. 11	Ravinia Festival	Highland Park, IL
Glen Hansard w/Aoife O'Donovan	Nov. 21	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Glen Hansard w/Aoife O'Donovan	Nov. 24	Taft Theatre	Cincinnati
Gordon Lightfoot	Nov. 5	The Palladium	Carmel
Gorgon City	Oct. 29	Saint Andrews Hall	Detroit
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
Great White	Nov. 21	C2G Music Hall	Fort Wayne
GWAR w/Born of Osiris, Battlecross	Nov. 4	Orbit Room	Detroit
Halsey	Oct. 27	Newport Music Hall	Columbus
Halsey	Oct. 28	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Halsey	Oct. 29	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Here Come the Mummies	Sept. 10	Newport Music Hall	Columbus, OH
Here Come the Mummies	Sept. 11	House of Blues	Cleveland
Here Come the Mummies w/Fort Wayne Funk Orchestra	Oct. 1	Dekalb County Free Fall Fair	Auburn
Here Come the Mummies	Oct. 23	Vogue Theatre	Indianapolis
Hibira w/Unleash the Archer	Oct. 10	Skeletunes	Fort Wayne
Hillbilly Casino	Sept. 11	4D's	Fort Wayne
Holly Miranda	Sept. 24	Schubas Tavern	Chicago
Home Free	Dec. 12	Niswonger P.A.C.	Van Wert, Ohio
Hot Sauce	Sept. 11	Bar 145	Fort Wayne
Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra	Oct. 4	Honeywell Center	Wabash
The Internet	Oct. 2	The Shelter	Detroit
Itzhak Perlman, Emanuel Ax	Sept. 9	Ravinia Festival	Highland Park, IL
Jackie Evancho	Nov. 20	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Jackson Browne w/Larry Campbell, Teresa Williams	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
Jason Aldean w/Cole Swindell, Tyler Farr, Dee Jay Silver	Sept. 18	DTE Energy Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
Jason Aldean w/Cole Swindell, Tyler Farr, Dee Jay Silver	Sept. 19	Blossom Music Center	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Jim Brickman	Dec. 5	Rhinehart Music Center, IPFW	Fort Wayne
Joe Jackson	Nov. 2-3	Thalia Hall	Chicago

The Madness Fall Tour is the chosen name for **The Weeknd**'s just-announced trek supporting their sophomore album, *Beauty Behind the Madness*, out August 28. The tour commences November 3 and heads to Chicago November 6 and Detroit November 7. You'll be able to see for yourself if The Weeknd has the goods to aptly follow up their hugely successful debut album. **Travis Scott** will open the shows.



Road Notez

CHRIS HUPE

It's the Dog Days of August, so that means, of course, **Trans-Siberian Orchestra** have just announced the dates for their annual Christmas tour. Two touring bands descend on the U.S. to hit as many cities as they can within a two-month time frame. New this year from the band is an album, *Letters From The Labyrinth*, and the live debut of *The Ghosts of Christmas Eve*, a show the band recorded for DVD before they had ever played a live show. Shows scheduled for this year include December 3 at the Memorial Coliseum here in The Fort, December 4 in Cincinnati, December 5 in Dayton, December 6 in Grand Rapids, December 26 in Columbus, Ohio, December 28 in Chicago, December 29 in Detroit and December 30 in Cleveland. Curiously there is no Indianapolis date scheduled this year. I probably don't have to tell you, but this band is one you don't want to miss; they consistently deliver a show that is both visually spectacular and pleasing to the ears.

After last year's Melodic Rock Fest in Chicago, word on the street was that MRF was dead. Someone must have brought a defibrillator to the show because Melodic Rock Fest has joined forces with Rock N Skull to present what is essentially another Melodic Rock Fest at a different venue. You have to give the organizers credit for planning in advance (the event doesn't take place until October 28-30, 2016) but the bands already lined up are a melodic rock fans dream. The festival takes place at The Tree in Joliet, Illinois, and although headliners haven't yet been announced, **Babylon A.D.**, **D'Molls**, **Danger Danger**, **Eclipse**, **Roxy Blue**, **Brighton Rock** and **House of Lords** have already been booked for the three-day event. Tickets are on sale with a lot of VIP options.

Public Image Ltd will release their second album following their 20-year hiatus on September 4 and follow it up with a few dates here in the U.S. The band featuring **Johnny Lydon** (aka Johnny Rotten from his **Sex Pistols** days) and a couple of other guys hit the states in October and finds its way to Chicago's Concord Music Hall on November 18. Never one to hold back his words, Lydon recently stated that during the bands tour he would "like to see Donald Trump misrepresented with the greatest possible glee." Whatever that means.

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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 Nemeth w/Todd Harrold 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 Kaufman	Oct. 2	Honeywell Center	Wabash
The Junk	Sept. 5	Bar 145	Fort Wayne
Keller Williams	Sept. 19	The Vogue	Indianapolis
KISS Army w/Casket Sharp	Sept. 30	Dekalb County Free Fall Fair	Auburn
Kurt Braunohler	Sept. 11	CS3	Fort Wayne
Kurt Vile w/Waxahatchee, Luke Roberts	Oct. 23	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Last Comic Standing Live	Dec. 2	Honeywell Center	Wabash
LDNL	Sept. 25	Bar 145	Fort Wayne
Lenny Kravitz	Aug. 27	Meadow Brook Music Festival	Rochester, MI
Lenny Kravitz	Sept. 3	Ravinia Festival	Highland Park, IL
Lepolian Effect	Oct. 10	Bar 145	Fort Wayne
Let the Haters Begin	Aug. 28	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
Libera	Apr. 3 '16	Niswonger P.A.C.	Van Wert, Ohio
The Lone Bellow w/Anderson East	Oct. 31-Nov. 1	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Loretta Lynn, Martina McBride	Sept. 10	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Low w/Andy Shauf	Sept. 19	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Mac DeMarco	Nov. 7	Metro	Chicago
Mac DeMarco	Nov. 8	Crofoot Ballroom	Pontiac, MI
Madonna	Sept. 28	United Center	Chicago
Madonna	Oct. 1	Joe Louis Arena	Detroit
Mannheim Steamroller	Nov. 21	Clowes Memorial Hall	Indianapolis
Mannheim Steamroller	Nov. 27	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Mannheim Steamroller	Nov. 30	DeVos Performance Hall	Grand Rapids
Mannheim Steamroller	Dec. 13	Aronoff Center	Cincinnati
Mannheim Steamroller	Dec. 18	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Mars Royal w/Continue the Story, We Love You	Sept. 18	Skeletunes	Fort Wayne
The Matchsellers	Aug. 28	Wildwood Nature Preserve	Silver Lake
Matt Braunger	Sept. 16	CS3	Fort Wayne
Meat Loaf	Nov. 3	MotorCity Casino	Detroit
MercyMe	Dec. 5	Niswonger P.A.C.	Van Wert, Ohio
Mersey Beatles w/Julia Baird	Oct. 16	State Theatre	Kalamazoo
Mersey Beatles w/Julia Baird	Oct. 23	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Michael Bolton	Dec. 4	T. Furth Center, Trine University	Angola
The Midtown Men	Nov. 14	Niswonger P.A.C.	Van Wert, Ohio
Mike Super	Oct. 10	Niswonger P.A.C.	Van Wert, Ohio
My Sinatra feat. Cary Hoffman	Dec. 5	Lerner Theatre	Elkhart
Nickelback w/Lifehouse (cancelled)	Aug. 31	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
Noah Gundersen w/Ivan & Alyosha	Sept. 24	Thalia Hall	Chicago

Noisy Neighbors	Aug. 28	Bar 145	Fort Wayne
O.A.R. w/Allen Stone, Brynn Elliott	Sept. 2	Frederik Meijer Gardens	Grand Rapids
O.A.R. w/Allen Stone, Brynn Elliott	Sept. 4	Jacobs Pavilion	Cleveland
O.A.R. w/Allen Stone, Brynn Elliott	Sept. 5	Arena District	Columbus, OH
O.A.R. w/Brynn Elliott	Sept. 6	Ravinia Festival	Highland Park, IL
Oak Ridge Boys	Oct. 10	T. Furth Center, Trine University	Angola
Of Montreal w/Surface to Air Missive	Sept. 3	The Pyramid Scheme	Grand Rapids
Of Montreal w/Surface to Air Missive	Sept. 10	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
Of Montreal w/Surface to Air Missive	Sept. 12	Majestic Theatre	Detroit
Of Montreal w/Surface to Air Missive	Sept. 13	Park Street Saloon	Columbus, OH
Old 97's	Oct. 28	Thalia Hall	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
Public Image Limited	Nov. 18	Concord Music Hall	Chicago
Ralphie May	Sept. 20	Lerner Theatre	Elkhart
Regina Carter	Nov. 21	The Palladium	Carmel
Reverend Youngsoo An	Oct. 11	First Presbyterian Church	Fort Wayne
Ronnie Milsap	Nov. 20	The Palladium	Carmel
Roosevelt	Aug. 29	N. Anthony Wooden Nickel	Fort Wayne
Santana	Aug. 29	Ravinia Festival	Highland Park, IL
Santana	Aug. 30	Ravinia Festival	Highland Park, IL
Saving Abel w/Otherwise, Static Fly	Oct. 2	Dekalb County Free Fall Fair	Auburn
Scorpions w/Queensryche	Sept. 22	LC Pavilion	Columbus, OH
Scorpions w/Queensryche	Sept. 23	Jacobs Pavilion	Cleveland
Scorpions w/Queensryche	Sept. 26	Allstate Arena	Chicago
Scotty McCreery	Sept. 20	Niswonger P.A.C.	Van Wert, Ohio
Sebastian Maniscalco	Nov. 28	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Sierra Leone'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
Stars	Oct. 13-14	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
Steve Brewer and Benjie Wright	Sept. 4-5	Snickerz Comedy Bar	Fort Wayne
Stevie Wonder	Nov. 21	Joe Louis Arena	Detroit
Swagg	Sept. 4	Bar 145	Fort Wayne
Swon Brothers w/Southbound 65	Oct. 3	Dekalb County Free Fall Fair	Auburn
The Tallest Man on Earth w/Lady Lamb the Beekeeper	Aug. 30-31	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Tanya Tucker	Oct. 31	The Palladium	Carmel
Three Dog Night	Oct. 25	The Lerner	Elkhart
Titus Andronicus w/Spider Bags, Baked	Oct. 11	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
Toby Keith w/Eli Young Band	Sept. 4	Hollywood Casino Amphitheatre	Tinley Park
Toby Keith w/Eli Young Band	Sept. 25	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
Todd Snider w/Elizabeth Cook	Sept. 10	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Tony Bennett	Oct. 3	Morris Performing Arts Ctr.	South Bend
Trina	Sept. 5	Piere's Entertainment Center	Fort Wayne
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	Fillmore Detroit	Detroit

The Weeknd	Nov. 6	United Center	Chicago
The Weeknd	Nov. 7	Palace of Auburn Hills	Auburn Hills, MI
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
Your Villain, My Hero	Oct. 17	Bar 145	Fort Wayne
Youth Lagoon	Oct. 21	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Zac Brown Band	Sept. 11	Wrigley Field	Chicago
Zac Brown Band	Sept. 12	Comerica Park	Detroit
Zac Brown Band	Sept. 13	Klipsch Music Center	Noblesville
Zack Attack	Oct. 9	Bar 145	Fort Wayne
Zanna-Doo!	Nov. 25	DuPont Bar & Grill	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
ZZ Top w/Blackberry Smoke	Aug. 27	Ravinia Festival	Highland Park, IL
ZZ Top w/Goodbye June	Sept. 27	Foellinger Theatre	Fort Wayne
ZZ Top	Sept. 29	Palace Theatre	Columbus, OH

Road Tripz

BackWater	Jug Huffers
Oct. 3.....The Hideaway, Gas City	Aug. 29.....Stoney Ridge Winery, Bryan, OH
Biff & The Cruisers	Kill the Rabbit
Sept. 26.....Playacres Park, Fairmount	Aug. 29.....Woodfest, Mendon, OH
Bulldogs	Nov. 6-7.....Nikki's Sturgis Bowl, Sturgis, MI
Sept. 7.....Marshall Co. Blueberry Festival, Plymouth	Nov. 14.....Boots N' Bourbon, Celina, OH
Sept. 10.....Roann Covered Bridge Festival, Roann	Nov. 25.....Eagles Post 1291, Celina, OH
Sept. 11.....Matthews Covered Bridge Festival, Upland	Dec. 5.....Shout's Sports Pub, Anderson
Sept. 18.....Flat Rock Creek Festival, Paulding, OH	Pat & Faye
Sept. 19.....Napanee Apple Festival, Napanee	Sept. 10.....Father John's Brewery, Bryan, OH
Sept. 25.....Duck Tail Run, Gas City	Ratnip
Cap'n Bob, The Singin' Skipper	Sept. 12.....Westwood Saloon, Defiance, OH
Sept. 8.....Greencroft Retirement Community, Goshen	Sept. 26.....Matteson Street Grill, Bronson, MI
Sept. 26.....Heritage Retirement Community, Napanee	Oct. 10.....Matteson Street Grill, Bronson, MI
Oct. 20.....Greencroft Retirement Community, Goshen	Oct. 24.....Westwood Saloon, Defiance, OH
Dec. 31.....Heritage Retirement Community, Napanee	Oct. 31.....Bomber's Saloon, Edon, OH
Dan Smyth	Oct. 17.....Pisanello's, Deshler, OH
Sept. 3.....Father John's, OH	Dec. 31.....Eagles Post 2246, Montpelier, OH
Gunslinger	Todd Harrold Band
Aug. 28.....American Legion Post 95, Jonesboro, IN	Sept. 5.....Boondock's, Kokomo
Sept. 19.....The Hideaway, Gas City	Sept. 19.....Union 50, Indianapolis
Sept. 25.....Jonesboro River Rally, Jonesboro, IN	Oct. 30.....Boondock's, Kokomo
Oct. 9.....Club Omega, Plymouth	Nov. 13.....Union 50, Indianapolis
Oct. 23.....Rulli's Balla Luna, Middlebury	Nov. 14.....Boondock's, Kokomo
Oct. 24.....The Hideaway, Gas City	
Joe Justice	
Aug. 29.....Knotty Vines Winery, Wauseon, OH	
Aug. 30.....Dockside Grill, Celina, OH	
Sept. 19.....Swan Lake Resort, Plymouth	
Sept. 20.....Dockside Grill, Celina, 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.



Botanical Roots

Concert Series

Friday Nights at Foellinger-Freimann
Botanical Conservatory
1100 S. Calhoun St, Fort Wayne

Doors Open 7:30 • Opener 8:30
Admission \$6 (12 and under free)

Food/Beverage Available from
Mad Anthony Brewing Company
Lawn Chairs Encouraged

Reggae
Friday, August 28
Sierra Leone's Refugee All Stars
with Dan Dickerson

Blues
Friday, September 4
John Németh
with The Todd Harrold Band

FREE FESTIVAL!



**Sat., Aug. 29, 2015
from 11am-10pm**

Arts United Campus/Main Street

- 11 Performance Stages
- Fort Artisan Fine Art Fair
- 30+ local restaurants
- Busker Square
- Barr St. Art Market
- Hands-on Activities

WBOI "Meet the Music"
with Julia Meek

6pm-10pm after the Taste!



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TasteOfTheArtsFortWayne.org

Warm-Hearted Leap to the Big Screen

Shaun the Sheep, a beloved character from the Ardman studio, has made the leap to the big screen. Shaun made his debut in *A Close Shave*, a Wallace and Gromit short and has been the star of his own very popular television show. *Shaun the Sheep*, his leap to the big screen, is warm-hearted, funny and full of endearing characters.

The stop action animation style of the Ardman studio is an extremely time-consuming process. *Shaun the Sheep* took four years to make. Even though Ardman cannot turn out films as quickly as some of the other animation studios, the quality and originality of their films are part of this new golden age of animation.

I think the length of time it takes to make an Ardman film allows the filmmakers to keep making the film better. *Shaun* is rich with jokes and images, funny for both kids and adults. I laughed. I cried.

Die-hard Wallace and Gromit fans may find these characters not quite as relatable, but give Shaun and company a chance. There is no dialogue in *Shaun* – the animals make noise, and the humans mumble in an incomprehensible burble – but you never don't understand what is happening.

There are a few songs in the movie that contain lyrics (and the soundtrack fits the silence well). The movie kicks off with a montage to a very happy song. We see a loving farmer dancing and hanging out with his beloved animals, including Shaun, the sheep and canine pal Bitzer.

Fast forward and the Farmer has much



Flix

CATHERINE LEE

less hair and poor eyesight. The farm routine has become too repetitive for Shaun. The gang doesn't romp the way it used to, and there are the terrifying shearing sessions. Mossy Bottom just doesn't seem like Eden anymore.

Shaun sees a billboard on the side of a bus that claims that everyone deserves a day off. Shaun is a very smart little guy; he can't speak, but he can read, draw and innovate. He concocts a plan for everyone to get a day off. They fool the farmer into falling asleep by setting up an elaborate scheme where he is counting sheep. (How else?)

The old caravan camper they put him in launches accidentally, rolls to the Big City and crashes, leaving the Farmer with a head injury and no memory. On separate adventures, Shaun and Bitzer head to the city to find him. Soon the rest of the herd follows.

The rest of the herd includes a little ewe, a mama, a very large sheep and just a couple more. Things get crazy fast. They are pursued by an animal "containment" specialist with a mean streak and a big ego.

Shaun sees a very mutt like animal hauled off by this guy and soon faces the same fate. So these two must be rescued, which happens, of course, but not before some hilarious events ensue.

The action sequences in *Shaun* are marvelous. You start to think they won't work as movie bits. Can a group of sheep dressed up as humans survive in the world? But rolling into town, to a meal in a fancy restaurant, to a jailbreak, to a kidnapping – sequences that are not slap bang short – the filmmakers just keep the entertainment coming.

Shaun is written and directed by Mark Burton and Rich Starzak. This is the kind of film with dozens and dozens of technical departments filled by large teams. It is an impressive accomplishment, suggesting a team that worked well together.

Meanwhile the Farmer is having his own adventures, still suffering amnesia. Wandering the city without a clue, he stumbles into a salon and sees clippers. Instinctively, he picks up the clippers and finishes a cut. Fame and fortune follow. He becomes a sensation on social media and soon is living a very different life. Labeled Mr. X at the hospital, the name just adds to his new hip personality.

While all this is going on, clever references are everywhere. They range from the silly (at one point a cow jumps over the sign of a pub called The Moon) to an homage to *Cape Fear*. Even small characters get something to do. A goose extorts bread from Shaun and company to help them with their plot. Some of this kids won't get. The references are to entertain the adults.

Shaun the Sheep is a movie parents will enjoy and so will kids. It is a happy edition to the end of summer season.

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N.W.A. Pic Does Surprisingly Big Box Office

Tops at the Box: Gotta say, I didn't think F. Gary Gray's *Straight Outta Compton* would do very well. I was certain that it was a movie that I would want to see over and over again, but didn't expect it to be No. 1 at the box office for two consecutive weeks. Especially with such competition. Gray's film, about the rise and importance of late 80s/early 90s hip-hop group N.W.A., sold another \$26 million last weekend, bringing the film's 10-day total to \$111 million in the U.S. Not sure how the films will do abroad, but something tells me it'll be making a lot more money over the new five or six weeks. Word of mouth works. And so does a good Facebook campaign, apparently.

Also at the Box: Christopher McQuarrie's second collaboration with Tom Cruise, *Mission: Impossible – Rogue Nation*, had a slow second weekend, selling just \$11 million. Still, thus far the film has made \$157 million in the U.S. and \$438 million worldwide. With *Edge of Tomorrow*, *Oblivion*, *Jack Reacher* and now *Rogue Nation*, Cruise has four hit action films in a row since his involvement in the hot mess that was *Rock of Ages*. TC is back on track!

Taking the No. 3 spot at last weekend's U.S. box office was horror flick *Sinister 2* which sold just over \$10 million during its first weekend of release. Looks really bad. Taking the No. 4 spot was *Hitman: Agent*



ScreenTime

GREG W. LOCKE

47, a movie I can't believe Fox decided to brazenly release alongside the Cruise flick. Maybe not a good idea, as the movie made just \$8 million over its first three days of release.

Rounding out last weekend's Top 5 was another big, expensive action flick, *The Man from U.N.C.L.E.*, starring Henry Cavill and Armie Hammer and directed by Guy Ritchie. Looks very promising to me. Reviews have been mixed, but they pretty much always are when Ritchie is involved. The movie made another \$7 million last weekend, bringing the flick's 10-day worldwide total to about \$52 million.

Also of note: Nima Nourizadeh's *American Ultra*, a stoner action flick starring Jesse Eisenberg and Kristen Stewart, sold \$5.5 million over its first three days of release. This is a movie I will eventually see. And probably love.

New This Week: We have a few lame weeks ahead, with studios dumping movies they don't exactly believe in. First up this week is *No Escape*, a not-great looking action film starring Owen Wilson, Pierce Bro-

snan and Lake Bell. Could be an okay flick. I watched the trailer and it looks incredible, but I just don't see it being the kind of movie that makes a big splash in the current box office. Also out is Warner Bros. drama *We Are Your Friends*, starring Zac Efron, Wes Bentley, Jon Bernthal and Emily Ratajowski. Looks not good. *War Room* will finally see a nice expansion, and indie action flick *Memories of the Sword* will see a limited release. If you've already seen everything and want to go to the movies this weekend, I think *No Escape* is definitely your best bet. Looks like it could be a surprise hit. Or maybe check out Alex Ross Perry's fourth feature, *Queen of Earth*, which also looks to be very good.

ScreenRant: Have you read the interview Quentin Tarantino did with New York Magazine yet? Because whoa, it's like, a big deal. Like, a classic interview. We see a new QT in his words: a thoughtful, self-aware, mature artist who finally has an opinion that can be trusted. Gone are the opinions fueled by anger and jealousy, it seems. And wow is QT still funny and, at times, irreverent. He talks about Aaron Sorkin, President Obama, David O. Russell, Noah Baumbach and more. I'd highly recommend reading it, even if you're not a QT fan. Something tells me he's already thinking about rebranding himself for a second career in film criticism.

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Featured Events

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

FARRENHEIT CLINIC — 80s rock band performs and demonstrates the new Bose F1-series loudspeaker system, **7-9 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 27**, Sweetwater Sound, Fort Wayne, free, 432-8176, sweetwater.com

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, 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

AUBURN CORD DUESENBERG FESTIVAL — Classic car shows, 5K, live entertainment, craft show, Gatsby Gala Ball, historic tours, games and activities, ice cream social, swap meet and more, **hours vary Saturday, Aug. 29-Monday, Sept. 7**, various location, downtown Auburn, free (activity and admission fees may apply), 925-3600

BACKYARD BBQ — BBQ, silent and live auctions and home dedication, **6-9 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 27**, Fuller's Landing, Fort Wayne, free (donations accepted), 422-4828 ext. 305

CRUISE IN — Cruise In for car, truck or motorcycle at Tilted Kilt Pub, Fort Wayne, **6-9 p.m. Friday, Aug. 28**, free, 459-3985

HARRISON HILL HOME AND GARDEN TOUR — Arch historic home and garden tours in the Harrison Hill neighborhood, **10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 29**, Harrison Hill addition, Fort Wayne, \$12-\$15, 426-5117

TASTE OF THE ARTS — 11 performance stages featuring local and national performers, artisan fine art fair, busker square, Barr St. Market, hands on activities and more, **11 a.m.-midnight Saturday, Aug. 29**, Arts United Campus, Main St., Fort Wayne, free, 424-4349

THELMA RACZY FOUNDATION BENEFIT — Door prizes, auction, raffle and food to benefit the Thelma Raczy Foundation, **3 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 30**, Merriman Auction Building, Huntertown, free, 755-9313

VAPE IN THE FORT 2.0 — Vapor education and sales convention with vendors, live entertainment and giveaways, **12-6 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 29 and 12-5 p.m. Sunday Aug. 30**, Headwaters Park, Fort Wayne, \$5-\$8, 436-9901

WHITTINGTON WINE DOWN — Wine tasting, Hors d'oeuvres, live and silent auctions to benefit Home Based services, **7:30-9:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 27**, Two-EE's Winery, Huntington, \$45, 745-9431

Lectures, Discussions, Authors, Readings & Films

AGE OF DISTRACTION — Dr. Lewis Pearson discusses the many distractions that can hinder people from living the spiritual lives they desire, **1 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 27**, Brookside Ballroom, University of St. Francis, Fort Wayne, free, 399-8050

City Attraction at Bargain Prices

Having become a grandmother less than two years ago, I've discovered some new and interesting possibilities in Fort Wayne. When my own kids were little, we would happily join my grandparents for a one-day, blowout, no-holds-barred day at the Fort Wayne Children's Zoo. No ride was overlooked; no animal was unappreciated; no souvenir was too big. It was great fun, but it was exhausting.

With our granddaughter, we've taken an entirely new approach — a grandparent membership, which means we can stroll in with her any time for as little or as long as her (and our) attention span allows. It's been a revelation.

Having now enjoyed that for the past two seasons, we started looking for other ways to entertain the lass for those long months between October and April when the zoo is closed. And lo and behold, there are other great deals out there for families to both learn and have fun in Fort Wayne.

One of the best is the Museum Dream Membership which provides two adults and up to six children under the age of 18 admission to three of Fort Wayne's favorite spots — Science Central, the History Center and the Botanical Conservatory — for only \$125 a year. And this is a great year to be members since there are plenty of exciting exhibits coming up at all three locales.

Science Central is currently exhibiting, straight from the Smithsonian, Evolving Universe, which is running through September 13. The exhibit takes a look at space in ways we seldom see, and given the recent fascination with photos of Pluto, it comes at a time when people are once again seeking more knowledge about not only our own planet but the universe that surrounds us. From September 19 to January 3, Amazing Maize will explore one of our most significant crops, corn, and how many uses it really has and what some of the latest discoveries about its uses has meant. Of course, aside from the exhibits,



Fare Warning Michele DeVinney

Science Central has some special events, the most interesting being the Sci-Fi Central day on October 3. For an \$8 admission, sci-fi geeks can enjoy all of the trappings of being so, including science fiction, fantasy, gaming, comic books — the whole shebang. Given how popular those areas have become, it's sure to be a large, and interestingly dressed, gathering.

Now exhibiting at the Botanical Conservatory is Egyptian Pleasure Garden. One of the best things about the Conservatory is its ability to transport us to another place simply by exposing us to different flowers and foliage. It's breathtaking, and it's always especially pleasant during the winter months when our own gardens are failing to provide that warmth. Egyptian Pleasure Garden remains through November 15, after which Christmas returns to the Conservatory. That means poinsettias and Santa Claus and all the trappings of the holiday season in greenery.

The History Center also has plenty to offer around the holidays, namely the annual Festival of Gingerbread. In the meantime, visitors can learn more about the Miami Indians as well as Anthony Wayne, our city's own namesake. And the Allen County Innovation exhibit, opened in 2012, demonstrates how much ingenuity has sprung from this area and how many ways our innovators have contributed to this country's entrepreneurial spirit. Local concerns, from Sweetwater Sound to Vera Bradley are highlighted.

With so much to do, there's no reason for anyone to get bored between seasons at the zoo!

michele.whatzup@gmail.com

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 finger-plays 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

WAYNE DALE 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, Sept. 13** (registration from 9-11 a.m.), Smith Field Airport, Fort Wayne, free, parent or guardian must be present, 402-6764

PRINCESS PARTY — Crafts, nail painting, crowns and runway fun for princesses ages 2-12 with parental supervision, **10 a.m.-12 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 29** downtown Roanoke, Roanoke, free, 356-5688

Spectator Sports

BASEBALL

TINCAPS — Upcoming home games at Parkview Field, Fort Wayne

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.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5 vs. Bowling Green, 7:05 p.m.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6 vs. Bowling Green, 7:05 p.m.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 vs. Bowling Green, 1:05 p.m.

Sports and Recreation

BIKE TO BUILD — 17 mile, 35 mile and 100K challenge bike rides to benefit Haitian orphans, **10 a.m. (9 a.m. registration) Saturday, Sept. 5**, Hutzell Athletic Center, University of St. Francis, Fort Wayne, \$25, 399-8050

FORT WAYNE DERBY GIRLS BOOTCAMP — Recruiting skates for new Derby girls; helmet, mouth guard, elbow pads, wrist guards, knee pads and quad skates required, **8-10 p.m. Thursdays, Sept. 10, 17 and 24; 7-10 p.m. Sundays, Sept. 13, 20 and 27** (Orientation, **6:45-8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 3**, Fortezza Coffee) Bell's Skating Rink, New Haven, \$40, 749-8214

DRIVE YOU WILD — Shotgun start golf scramble to benefit Fort Wayne Children's Zoo, **12:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 30** (registration and lunch at 11 a.m.), Autumn Ridge Golf Club, Fort Wayne, \$150-\$600, 427-6844

Tours & Trips

AC/DC BUS TRIP — Bus trip to see AC/DC at Fort Field, Detroit, departs from North Anthony Wooden Nickel Music Store, **2 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 8**, Fort Wayne, \$199 available at Wooden Nickel Records, 484-2451

September

EL NIÑO'S BAILE — Sociedad Guadalupeana benefit dance featuring Mexican food and music, raffles and a cash bar, **7-11:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 5**, St. Joe Hessen Cassel Hall, Fort Wayne, \$5-\$10, under 15 free, 639-3580

ROANOKE FALL FESTIVAL — Live music, kids' games, parades, demolition derby, NPTA tractor pull, corn hole tournament, paintball, food alley, carnival rides, antique tractors and more, **hours vary Thursday-Saturday, Sept. 10-12**, Historic Main St., downtown Roanoke, free (food items \$1-\$7), 983-0700

GEARS & BEERS-PUB PEDAL AND CRAWL — Part of Mad Anthony Brewing Company's Oktoberfest, the Gears & Beers is for bike riders and walkers, **21+, 5-8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 11**, registration from 4-6 p.m. at Fort Wayne Outfitters, Entry is \$15, total mileage is 3 miles, 426-2537

INDIANA F.A.M.E. and the CIRCLE OF DRUMS — F.A.M.E. fundraiser featuring food, wine tasting, music, interactive drum circle, and silent drum auction, **6-9 p.m. Friday, Sept. 11**, Sweetwater Sound, Fort Wayne, \$35, 247-7325

RIDEGREEN BIKE TOUR — Adults only bike tour of local pubs, restaurants and popular destinations, **1:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 12** (free family wellness/fitness ride, **10:30 a.m.**), departs from Headwaters Park West, Fort Wayne, \$25, www.ridegreen.org

A Fundraiser For Fort Wayne Dance Collective

Lovestruck

A take on Shakespeare's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'

Friday
September 11th 2015

At Foellinger-Freimann
Botanical Conservatory
Tickets at FWDC.org

The Fort Wayne Dance Collective is a principal partner of Arts United at Greater Fort Wayne, and supported by the Indiana Arts Commission, The National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency, and other generous funders.



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August 31- December 12, 2015
For more information or to register for classes visit fwdc.org

Now Playing

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

Asides

AUDITIONS

TWO PLAYS ON A BENCH: THE ZOO STORY & THE DUCK VARIATIONS (JAN. 14-30) — Casting for *Zoo Story* only, 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 21, by appointment only, First Presbyterian Theater, Fort Wayne, 422-6329

CALL FOR ENTRY

NORTHEAST INDIANA PLAYWRIGHT FESTIVAL — Open to current or former Indiana residents or persons living within a 90 mile radius of Fort Wayne who are over the age of 19 and unpublished; may submit one acts to full length plays; submissions must include 10 single-sided pages of your script, 1 page synopsis, playwright's bio and contact information, entry deadline **Tuesday, Sept. 1**, Fort Wayne Civic Theatre, Fort Wayne, 424-5220



Weekends

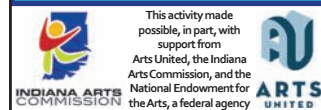
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Calendar • Stage & Dance

Upcoming Productions

SEPTEMBER

LOVESTRUCK — A choose-your-own adventure experience, based loosely on *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, in which audience members will have the Botanical Conservatory to explore and watch the events unfold; a Fort Wayne Dance Collective fundraiser, 8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 11, Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory, Fort Wayne, \$42-\$50, 424-6574

BEND US — Musical story of the thoroughly-researched 1904 revival in Wales which led to revivals across the world; presented by all for One productions, 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday Sept. 18-19; 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 20; 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Sept. 25-26 and 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 27, PPG Arts Lab, Arts United Center, Fort Wayne, \$10-\$18, 745-4364

ESCANABA IN DA MOONLIGHT — Jeff Daniels' Upper Peninsula-inspired comedy, 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Sept. 10-12; 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Sept. 18-19; 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 20; 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Sept. 25-26, First Presbyterian Theater, Fort Wayne, \$12-\$20, 422-6329

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

OCTOBER

ANYTHING GOES — Cole Porter musical love story involving a stowaway and a passenger upon a London-bound ocean liner, presented by IPFW Department of Theatre, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Oct. 2-3, 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 4 and 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Oct. 8-10, Williams Theatre, IPFW, \$5-\$17 thru IPFW box office 481-6555

THE KITCHEN WITCHES — Two cable access cooking show hostesses who have hated each other for 30 years are put on a TV show together that quickly becomes a hit, 8 p.m. (7 p.m. dinner) Friday-Saturday, Oct. 2-3, Oct. 9-10, Oct. 16-17, Arena Dinner Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$35, includes dinner and show, 424-5622

LORD OF THE FLIES — A group of British boys stuck on an uninhabited island try to govern themselves with disastrous results, presented by Fort Wayne Youth Theatre; PG 13, strong content, 7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Oct. 9-10, 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 11, Arts United Center, Fort Wayne, \$12-\$18, 422-6900



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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, 426-6658

ABOVE THE FOLD — 140 years of Fort Wayne Newspaper's archives, **Wednesday-Sunday thru Sept. 20**, Wunderkammer Company, Fort Wayne, free, 417-8846

ACHROMATIC — Works by Theoplis Smith, **Wednesday-Sunday thru Sept. 20**, Wunderkammer Company, Fort Wayne, free, 417-8846

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

APWEAR IN VESTATION — Upcycled clothing with a focus on vests from Becca Strachan and BJ Jordan, **Monday-Saturday, Sept. 2-30**, Orchard Gallery of Fine Art, Fort Wayne, 436-0927

ARTLINK MEMBERS' SHOW — Works from Artlink member artists, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Sept. 1**, Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, 424-7195

AUSTIN CARTWRIGHT AND GWEN GUTWEIN — Abstract and plein air paintings, **Tuesday-Saturday thru Oct. 3**, Crestwoods Frame Shop & Gallery, Roanoke, 672-2080

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

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

FRACTURE — Works by Thomas Leffers, **Wednesday-Sunday thru Sept. 20**, Wunderkammer Company, Fort Wayne, free, 417-8846

INVISIBLE COLLEGE — Group exhibition co-curated by Andrew and Shawn Hosner of Los Angeles' Thinkspace Gallery and Josef Zimmerman of FWMoA 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

HERITAGE OF NEEDLE ART — Works from the Embroiderers' Guild of America, **daily thru Oct. 2** (exhibit program, 1 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 15, Globe Room), Jeffrey R. Krull Gallery, Main Library, Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, 421-1210 ext. 2101

LYRICAL — Song lyrics, poetry and famous quotes on canvas 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 thru Sept. 1**, Betty Fishman Gallery, Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, 424-7195

MYSTIC DOMESTIC — Pieces from Rebecca Stockert, **Wednesday-Sunday thru Sept. 20**, Wunderkammer Company, Fort Wayne, free, 417-8846

REGIONAL ART EXHIBIT — Mixed media pieces from regional artists, **Monday-Friday thru Sept. 2**, Merrill Centre for the Arts, Huntington, 358-0055

RON AND JANIE CALDWELL — Oil paintings inspired by Lake Michigan and the couple's other recent trips, **Monday-Saturday thru Aug. 31**, Orchard Gallery of Fine Art, Fort Wayne, 436-0927

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

Artifacts

CALL FOR ARTISTS

SCULPTURES ON THE SQUARE III: THE MAGIC OF METAL — Juried public art sculpture event open to individual professional artists 18 years or older from the local and regional area, submission deadline **Monday, Aug. 31**, Auburn Arts Commission, 916-397-7589

ART² — Create 9 small square panels to be displayed together in a group of 3 panels across and 3 panels down. Each 12"x12" panel will incorporate a cohesive theme in the artists chosen medium and will be for sale individually, application deadline **Tuesday, Sept. 4**; finished art due no later than **Thursday, Oct. 29**, Artworks Galleria of Fine Art, Fort Wayne, 387-6943

SPECIAL EVENTS

WET PAINT AND FORT ARTISAN — Wet paint auction, **2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 29**, Fort Artisan arts and crafts show and sale, **11 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 29** Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, free to attend, 424-7195

WHITLEY COUNTY AUTUMN ART FESTIVAL — Juried art festival featuring live music, children's art activity tent and food vendors, **9 a.m.-10 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 12**, Whitley County Courthouse, Columbia City, free, 610-4645

Upcoming Exhibits

SEPTEMBER

CONTEMPORARY MYTHOLOGY — Works of Laura Levine, **Monday-Friday, Sept. 4-Oct. 2**, Arts Place, Portland, free, 726-4809

MYTHOS: A RETROSPECTIVE — A survey of several years, media and styles, from printmaking to Chinese painting by Greg Coffey, **Fridays, Sept. 4-Oct. 30**, The Gallery at Prana Yoga, Fort Wayne, 423-9642

Going Down at the Seville

Fishbowl by Bradley Somer, St. Martin's Press, 2015

The metaphor that provides the frame for Bradley Somer's *Fishbowl* is an obvious one, and sometimes it's applied with an unnecessarily heavy hand, but the book's gentle observation of its characters overcomes the story's reliance on an unwieldy literary device. The message of *Fishbowl* is so warm-hearted, a reader would have to be irredeemably cynical to suggest that it's anything less than sincere.

The setting of *Fishbowl* is the Seville on Roxy, a mostly-gracefully aging apartment building on a busy street in a large, unnamed city. The 27-story building was built in the 70s and is past its prime, but it's still full of residents who are doggedly living out their lives inside the building's 162 apartments.

At the opening of the book, a goldfish named Ian has begun a plunge from a 27th-floor balcony toward the street below. At this point, we don't know the reason for Ian's fall, but the book, in a meta-fiction wink, lets us know that we'll find out the secret in Chapter 54. In the meantime, we'll hop back and forth in time, visiting the lives of various residents of and visitors to the Seville, and we'll check in occasionally with Ian as he plummets toward the ground.

The characters we visit include Connor, a grad student who lives on the 27th floor and who happens to be Ian's owner. Connor, we learn quickly, has been cheating on his girlfriend, Katie, with at least two other women; one of those women is Faye, and as Ian nears his disastrous fall, Katie is on her way up to Connor's apartment as Faye is on her way down.

At the same time — or close to it — a pregnant woman on the 8th floor is about to give birth, and an agoraphobic woman on the same floor is trying to bake a quiche and avoid the outside world. An awkward young boy is struggling to deal with a sudden trauma and a lonely construction worker is coping with a difficult secret. Through all of it, the building's superin-



On Books
EVAN GILLESPIE

tendent, himself a lonely but deeply kind-hearted man, is trying to fix the building's broken elevators.

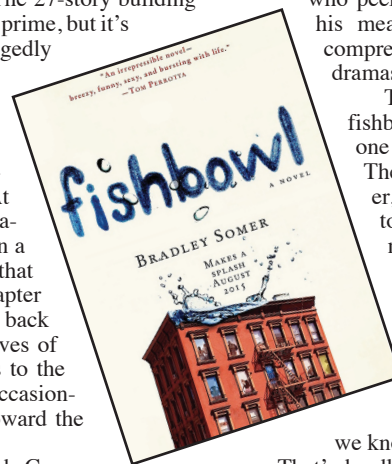
All of these lives and situations intersect and overlap in numerous and complex ways, helped along by the conceit of the broken elevators and tied neatly together by the observations of the falling goldfish, who peers into windows as he flashes past, his meager goldfish awareness not fully comprehending the breadth and depth of the dramas he's witnessing.

The metaphor here, of course, is the fishbowl of the title, but not the little glass one from which Ian has been liberated. The Seville is the fishbowl — or, rather, it's 162 fishbowls stacked one on top of another — and its residents are not much more aware of the world around them than Ian was before he leapt out of his own bowl. Still, unaware or not, they live their lives fully and completely inside their fishbowls, and the entirety of human existence, from one end to the other, is there to be observed if we know where and how to look.

That's hardly a shocking idea to suggest — the similarities between urban existence and life in a fishbowl are difficult to miss, even for the most literal minded — and sometimes Somer works harder than he has to in order to make his point. In the opening and closing chapters, for instance, he spells the metaphor out for us in so many words, in case we might otherwise miss it, and the book would have held together just fine without these bookends.

But in between, Somer gives us many moments of genuine and touching humanity, and thanks to the narrative's sincerity, the metaphor works, obvious or not. Maybe we could have gotten by without Ian's help, but his perspective is welcome nonetheless.

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ANNA LEE HUBER - From Page 10

she sat down to write her first Lady Darby mystery, but what she couldn't have prepared for was the critical and popular reception of her work. *The Anatomist's Wife* made her a nationally best-selling writer and the three Lady Darby books that followed solidified her reputation as a mystery writer to watch. And, of course, read.

"I feel really, blessed," she said of her success. "It's a dream come true excitement kind of feeling."

Huber's dreams have changed a bit since she was a young girl growing up in Hicksville with four brothers and a sister and fantasizing about life as a pop star or even a celebrated soprano. But even back then, she was an avid reader and reading fed her love of writing.

"At one point I thought I should try writing stories of my own," she said. "I was always making them up in my head, so it was a natural progression to start writing them down. I loved creating my own worlds. I even made up my own Nancy Drew-type series."

Only time will tell whether Lady Kiera Darby joins Nancy Drew in the pantheon of female detectives that have become household names, but in the meantime Huber is hard at work writing the next part of Darby's story. Over the course of the four-book se-

ries, Kiera Darby and a fellow investigator, Sebastian Gage, have fallen deeply in love and are now engaged. A novella, entitled *A Pressing Engagement*, is slated to come out May 17, and the fifth full book, *As Death Draws Near*, should hit shelves next July.

Huber's goal as a writer is to entertain, and she also wants her readers to identify with her characters, to find them life-like and relatable. In particular, she hopes Lady Darby's story of triumph over adversity — Kiera's husband, the anatomist, was an abusive brute — will strike a chord.

"Everyone has their own darkness, their own shadows to move past," Huber said. "Lady Darby's story is a journey from a period of darkness to one of strength and happiness. I hope the books give other people the encouragement to do the same thing."

The life of a writer is not an easy one; rejection and poverty and periods of darkness and shadows are all part of a writer's life. Huber's advice to aspiring writers is simple: read a lot and keep writing.

"Read what you want to write. Examine how they're doing it, discover the tricks of the trade, but really just keep writing. The best way to write is to write and write and write and write. Find that voice that is uniquely yours and use it."

Sweetwater

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