

Where to Go New Year's Eve - Pages 2 & 13-15

DEC. 17, 2015
- JAN. 6, 2016

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A Dream Reborn

By Steve Penhollow

There are those who might describe Charlie Noble, the late founder of the Key Palace Theatre in Redkey, as a visionary and a force of nature.

But some townspeople had a different word to describe him back when he was trying to get something — anything — off the ground in Redkey in the 1980s.

"People thought he was an idiot," said John Runyon, the club's new owner.

Legend has it that Noble, who grew up in Muncie, was working at a fish processing plant in Alaska in the late 1970s when he ran into a Hoosier friend who informed him that a former one-room schoolhouse outside of Redkey had come up for sale.

For reasons that can only be guessed, Noble bought the schoolhouse so he could live in it.

Noble later bought a bank building in Redkey and allegedly tried to turn it into a Dixieland jazz club, an entertainment concept that might not even work in New Orleans anymore, but surely wasn't a good fit for Redkey.

Eventually, he acquired an old movie theater and turned it into a blues club called the Key Palace Theatre (after experimenting with theatrical shows and country music).

Blues clubs opened and closed in the 1990s in nearby Fort Wayne, a city with hundreds of thousands of residents.

Redkey has less than 1,500 residents, but something sort of magical happened at the Key Palace Theatre.

It became known as one of the best blues clubs in America, a sentiment that was shared with Jay Leno and the nation by Leon Redbone on *The Tonight Show*.

It regularly drew patrons from Indianapolis and Columbus, Ohio, not to mention even more far-flung locales, Runyon said.

Runyon said Noble used to let him and his friends in the back door of the club when they were technically too young to occupy such an establishment.

It may be that the Key Palace Theatre owes its success to Noble's quirks, eccentricities and stubborn tolerance of economic discomfort.

At any rate, when he died in 2010, the club essentially died with him. His successors could not make it work.

The club sat empty for three years, and when the property came up in a tax sale in early 2015, Runyon took a tour.

"I took a look around," he said, "and something just fell on me while I was in there and I decided I just had to have the

place."

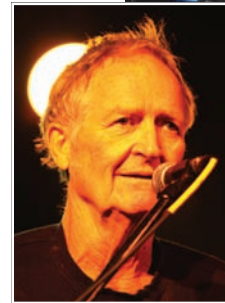
When he says something just fell on him, he is referring to an emotion.

But he's lucky something more literal didn't fall on him.

"Oh, it was in terrible shape," Runyon said. "The ceiling in the theater had fallen in. The roof was an ailing problem when Charlie had it, and he just had to suffer through it. He could never get the money to get the roof fixed."



Lil' Ed & the Blues Imperials at 'The Key'; left, the late Charlie Noble



Runyon said they had to haul "tons of moldy junk out of there."

There were also egregious plumbing and foundation issues, Runyon said. But a number of companies in the region donated time and materials to help get the club up and running.

Runyon said he took possession of the building on September 5, and he was able to present his first show on October 3.

The inaugural concert by the Stacy Mitchhart Band was standing room only, he said.

To help make the resurrected Key Palace a success, Runyon is moving a diner he owns across the street into the Key Palace space.

That way, there will be something open for business and generating income every day.

And he said he's going to diversify the programming at the Key Palace to include plays, gospel, country, rock, comedians, lecturers and youth nights.

One aspect of running this business that will take some getting used to is Runyon's role as master of ceremonies.

Noble was a showman and a ham and was always capable of supplying memorable pre-show banter.

"Charlie had a great personality," he said. "He had a lot better stage presence than I have. I am getting better at it. But there really were a lot of people who came here just to see him."

"I don't know that anybody wants me to get up there and tell jokes," Runyon said, "but we'll see what happens over the years."

You're looking at the three-week year-end issue of the Fort Wayne area's one and only free entertainment weekly, so hang onto it. It'll have to keep all the way into next year, January 7 to be precise. Our offices will be closed over most of the holiday; if you need us for anything, your best bet will be emailing info.whatzup@gmail.com. We'll be checking that from time to time. To submit calendar items for 2016, we suggest you go to whatzup.com and pull down "Submit Calendar Info" under the "Calendar" menu.

Aside from "what there is to do" over the holidays, this issue -- and much of the January 7 issue -- focuses on how Fort Wayne is moving forward into 2016 and beyond. This issue features the University of Saint Francis' music tech program, soon to be housed in the former Scottish Rite building downtown, and Arts United's involvement in a number of projects designed to enhance downtown. We also feature the resurrection of the late Charlie Noble's Key Palace Theatre, a place that's near and dear to our hearts, as well as to any number of area blues fans and musicians.

Other treats this week are Evan Gillespie's review of Honey and Leonard, the new novel by local attorney Mark Paul Smith, and Virginia Relph's review of Fort Wayne Youtheatre's holiday program, *Holidaze*.

So read on, find some fun things to do and have a fantastic Christmas and New Year's. See you in 2016!

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Music at the City's Core

By Michele DeVinney

The University of Saint Francis has long been an important institution in Fort Wayne. As the university celebrates its 125th anniversary, it is clear that the school's administration is not content to rest on its laurels. In fact, in the last few years the School of Creative Arts has not only added programming to their academic offerings, but they have reached into the community to become part of the business and downtown growth this area has enjoyed recently.

With their new dance major, USF has collaborated with Fort Wayne Ballet, itself about to celebrate its 60th anniversary, to enrich not only the creative options at the university but the academic options for FWB dancers. In acquiring the former Scottish Rite auditorium – now called the USF Robert Goldstone Performing Arts Center – the university expanded its geographic reach as well, providing another venue to the growing downtown arts scene. Since that acquisition in 2012, the venue has hosted 53 USF events and 17 non-USF events, attracting more than 30,000 attendees.

Another area of growth has been the USF Music Tech program, one which has close ties to one of Fort Wayne's largest and most prestigious employers, Sweetwater Sound. The program, which began in 2008, already has a long list of successful alumni working both at Sweetwater and in positions around the country.

Jeff Rodgers was an employee of Sweetwater, as well as a part-time faculty member of USF, when he was tapped to serve as director of the music tech program.

"I had already been teaching at Saint Francis part-time, then started teaching full-time," says Rodgers. "The program began growing so quickly that I just transitioned into this job here. I never actually quit at Sweetwater. I just was suddenly here all the time. I even still have my Sweetwater badge!"

In a few short years the program has grown quickly, hitting 60 students before a recent graduation left them with 55. But there's room for more growth in the coming years, thanks to a move from the Saint Francis campus to the new USF facility in the former Chamber of Commerce building downtown. With work set to be completed in the summer, faculty should move into their offices before the start of the fall 2016 semester. The change of scenery allows for a lot of positive changes for the program.

"We're going to have a lot of things that we don't have now," says Rodgers. "Dedicated practice rooms instead of just whatever space you can find, for one thing. We'll also have mix suites and rooms for mixing and editing productions. There will also be a dedicated piano lab. But one of the best parts of the move downtown is that we create so

many more opportunities for students

Rich Bienz, University of Saint Francis vice-president for finance and operations briefs admissions counselors during a recent tour of the university's new music tech facilities.



to have access to places where they can connect with others in professional situations. We're going to be close to the artists, bands, performers and other projects that can allow them to build communication and marketing skills. There are more potential clients downtown, so they can develop themselves professionally. They can make connections with the churches, clubs, music venues. Places like the stadium and Come2Go will be in walking distance for them."

Additionally, the location allows them easy access to the university's own Performing Arts Center where they can provide production assistance to that expanding venue programming for both USF and other organizations in the community. The experience is part of what differentiates the music tech program from other music majors around the country.

"Music tech provides a more tangible option than other music programs since a music major typically focuses on performance or conducting or being a music educator. But a music tech program prepares you for jobs related to music in other areas like audio, TV, film, videogames."

Of course, this is where having a connection to Sweetwater Sound comes in handy, not only for the university but for those

graduating and looking for employment. With internships and part-time positions available for current students, it becomes an easy transition for those who have completed their degrees. Rodgers says that 31 of the program's alumni have already found positions at Sweetwater, a number Chuck Surack, founder and president of Sweetwater, confirms with some surprise.

"I had no idea we had that many," admits Surack. "I would say the program has been wildly successful from my point of view. Our University of Saint Francis graduates are great employees, and I am so honored and thrilled to have them on our team. They are Sweetwater's future."

Surack's support of USF did not begin with this program, but he was happy to work with Sister Elise Kriss, president of Saint Francis, and Rick Cartwright, dean of the School of Creative Arts, to support the music tech program.

"I had been a supporter of the school for quite awhile," says Surack. "I was happy that Rick and I both had the same vision for this and thought it would be perfect for Saint Francis students. At the time we were first looking at it, we actually had an even closer geographic connection because we were still in our building on Bass Road which would have been even

more synergetic. But their move to downtown, with the connections with schools and churches down there and the opportunities they'll have, is just going to be wildly successful."

Surack is also happy to have his former employee heading the program.

"Jeff knows what skills we need and is able to teach those to others. USF is lucky to have Jeff there as a leader and mentor."

Rodgers is one of three full-time faculty members at this time, with one part-time and a handful of adjuncts available for some of the specialized courses the major requires. Once the move downtown is completed, the program should be able to comfortably serve more than 100 students, allowing it to more than double from its current numbers. While other music programs focus primarily on classical music, Rodgers says the music tech students can run the gamut, from rock to jazz, country to hip hop, allowing them to learn composition of a variety of musical forms, better preparing them to write anything from a performance piece to a commercial jingle.

"All of these experiences provide them with more opportunities in technology and

Continued on page 5

whatzup

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Creating a Downtown 'Collision Space'

By Steve Penhollow

In August, the pool of prospective firms vying to redevelop The Landing was simmered down to three finalists. At some point during the audition process, something happened that might not have happened 20 or more years before: Three of those firms reached out to Arts United to see how they could coordinate their visions for that charming stretch of historic Columbia Street with what the fundraising arts council had done and was hoping still to do on nearby East Main Street, according to Dan Ross, Arts United's director of community development.

"Three of them reached out to us to say, 'Hey, what are you guys doing with the Arts Campus,'" Ross recalled, "because we've had conversations connecting the Arts Campus and Freimann Square to the Landing."

The Arts Campus – which now includes the expanded Fort Wayne Museum of Art, Arts United Center and all the Auer Center's artistic tenants (Artlink, the Fort Wayne Ballet and Arts United's ArtsLab) – is inspired by architect Louis Kahn's plans for that area, plans that never fully came to fruition in the 1960s due to lack of funding.

Arts United's president Susan Mendenhall said a lot of the people who are working on improving downtown Fort Wayne these days share the same "big picture view."

People coordinating autonomous efforts feels like a relatively new phenomenon for Fort Wayne.

Two decades ago, downtown Fort Wayne was (in this reporter's estimation) one tumbleweed short of a ghost town and was as empty most weekends as an Antarctic research center.

There were people back then who said, "Let downtown die." Some of those same people today probably enjoy Parkview Field just as much as anybody, and some of them probably gaze upon the ever-escalating resplendency of downtown and see only wretched excess.

Downtown Fort Wayne was not allowed to die, it goes without saying. Indeed, it seems more full of life with each passing year, and Arts United has been a big part of the re-vivification process.

Ross, who first came to Fort Wayne in the late 1980s, said the last six or seven years have been the most exciting years of his Summit City residency.

"And it really looks like the next six or seven are going to be even better," he said.

Mendenhall said she recently participated in a focus group for the Northeast Indiana Regional Partnership about talent attraction and retention, and a theme of the discussion was that Fort Wayne has evolved into a city for builders of various kinds, meaning people who want to create rather than just lie back and enjoy what has already been created.

"If you're someone who has interest, passion and vision, it can happen here," she said.

Mendenhall has been in charge of Arts United for almost two years, having taken the reins in January 2014 from someone who wasn't even holding them at the time: Jim Sparrow.

Sparrow had already departed in September of the previous year for a job in North Carolina after seven years as Arts United's head.

Mendenhall was born in Indianapolis, spent some time in the development department of the Fort Wayne Philharmonic, took a fellowship with the Atlanta Symphony and spent a year in Colombia, the birth country of her husband.

While in Colombia, she wrote grants for Arts United that helped the organization advance the Auer Center project.

After her return to Fort Wayne, Mendenhall realized that the downtown vibe had changed, aided in no small part by the addition of Parkview Field.



DAN ROSS;
SUSAN
MENDENHALL

"The biggest change was social," she said. "Suddenly, people were actively finding excuses and places to linger."

The downtown Fort Wayne of the late 20th century was an event-oriented place, she said. People came downtown for a purpose and departed after that purpose was fulfilled. The downtown Fort Wayne of the 21st century is looking more and more like "an urban neighborhood in which people slow down and explore," Mendenhall said.

"Restaurants, cafes, trails, galleries, retail, festivals, public art and creative activities are like magnets for people," she said. "People are attracted to people. Human beings seek out social interaction in dynamic, authentic, welcoming places, and our downtown is becoming that go-to place for northeast Indiana."

With human interactions in mind, Mendenhall in October announced Arts United's intention to improve and grow the Arts Campus.

The master plan includes refurbishing the aging Arts United Center and establishing better pedestrian routes connecting the Arts Campus, the Landing and the developing riverfront, among other locales.

Mendenhall thinks in terms of "third place collision spaces." The phrase "third places" refers to locales that are neither home nor office. "Collision spaces," despite any fender-bending connotations, refers not to automotive encounters but human encounters.

They're the nice collisions that happen when people who wouldn't naturally cross paths in their daily lives meet up

and decide they should get to know each other better, perhaps even build a few things together.

Mendenhall said arts and culture "uniquely brings people and engages them in the community."

Arts and culture "helps them meet and see other people who don't necessarily look or sound like them," she said.

When this reporter arrived in Fort Wayne in the late 90s, downtown Fort Wayne wasn't merely un-walkable; it seemed hostile to pedestrians.

Now, everyone in town is thinking in terms of "walkability," Mendenhall said.

"The 'walkability' of downtown is a priority that has been incorporated in community development plans by the City of Fort Wayne and Greater Fort Wayne," she said. "The Arts Campus isn't an island. It's an interconnected hub of activity in downtown. We are very intentionally looking at ways to improve pedestrian connectivity with nearby corridors, and we have a unique envision that a 'night out on the town' will mean parking your bike or car, dining at a hip bistro on Columbia Street and walking over to a show or exhibit at the Arts Campus."

Making downtown Fort Wayne a friendlier place in which to linger goes hand-in-hand with a more traditional Arts United goal: Helping member organizations grow their audiences.

Mendenhall and Rena Burden, Arts United's director of development, came up this year with a hip and innovative way to subsidize projects that can't be funded through more traditional means: Crowdfunding.

A crowdfunding initiative called Amplify Art will bring four projects to fruition: an inflatable outdoor screen for Cinema Center, rooftop terrace concerts for the Embassy Theatre, science-minded theatrical presentations for Science Central and the Civic Theatre and cross-walk murals for Artlink.

Crowdfunding not only makes things happen that would not have otherwise happened, Burden said, but it gets the community more viscerally involved in helping local arts organizations.

People who make small donations to a crowdfunding campaign really feel like they've had a direct role in making something come to life, she said.

There was an over-arching message to all the research, focus groups, interviews, surveys, town hall meetings and committee meetings Mendenhall spearheaded after taking over Arts United: the need for advocacy and promotion.

And connectivity is a huge part of that: creating new connections between patrons and arts organizations and new connections between arts organizations and other downtown options.

"This is such a magical time for this community" she said. "It's just an exciting time where the topic on people's minds is quality of life, it's talent attraction and retention, it's arts and culture, and it's how our community is perceived by others. It's just such a powerful message that goes way beyond arts and culture. But it's a really great time to be a part of the arts and cultural ecosystem."

MUSIC TECH PROGRAM - From Page 4

contemporary music," says Rodgers. "The more that you can do and do well, the more versatile you'll be."

Not all alumni of the USF music tech program end up with Sweetwater, which also pleases both Rodgers and Surack. Graduates have found jobs in a range of fields around the country, and not surprisingly the program's reputation has also spread to draw

students from places outside of Fort Wayne.

"We are starting to get a lot more applicants from outside of our area," says Rodgers. "We have applicants now from Chicago, Maryland, Arizona, California. We are definitely attracting more national interest. I think once students discover how affordable Saint Francis is, there will continue to be more interest. People assume because it's

a private school that it's expensive, but we have a lot of scholarships and financial aid which makes it the same or maybe even less than a state school."

With a wealth of opportunities afforded them, it's not surprising that Rodgers and Surack are both pleased that so many of the graduates have opted to stay closer to home, to stay in the community and contribute to

the success of Fort Wayne and of Sweetwater Sound.

"Sweetwater is a great place to work," says Rodgers. "It has a lot of great amenities, and a great variety of jobs between the warehouse and the tech support. And Sweetwater really provides them with great experiences while they're students. They get to learn as much as they can take in."

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Calendar • Live Music & Comedy

Thursday, December 17

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

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

CHRIS WORTH & COMPANY — R&B/variety at AJ's Bar and Grill, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 434-1980

DAN SMYTH — Acoustic at Checkerz Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 7:30-9:30 p.m., no cover, 489-0286

THE DePUE BROTHERS — Christmas music at Niswonger Performing Arts Center, Van Wert, Ohio, 7:30 p.m., \$15-\$25, 419-238-6722

DJ DOUBLE K — Variety at Bar 145, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m., no cover, 209-2117

HUBIE ASHCRAFT — Acoustic at Wet Spot, Decatur, 8:30-11:30 p.m., no cover, 728-9031

JAMES AND THE DRIFTERS — Americana at Two-EE's Winery, Huntington, 7:30-10:30 p.m., no cover, 672-2000

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

JOE JUSTICE — Variety at Pine Valley Country Club, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m., no cover, 637-3145

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

MASON DIXON LINE — Country at The Green Frog Inn, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., no cover, 426-1088

MICHAEL PATTERSON — Guitar at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 6:30-9:30 p.m., no cover, 426-3442

MIKE MOWRY — Rock/variety at Beamer's Sports Grill, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 625-1002

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

Start Saving Those 2016 Dates Now

When *Frosty the Snowman* and *A Charlie Brown Christmas* are on the tube and it's 60 degrees outside, something seems a little out of whack. When's the last time we had golfing weather in December? Then again, this is Indiana, and by the time you read this we might have a foot of snow on the ground.

Anyhow, the end of another year is almost in the books, and another eventful year for the community it was. Local festivals, concerts and new eateries and breweries popping up gave us plenty of entertainment options to enjoy. No one should have been twiddling their thumbs in 2015.

The momentum appears to be rolling into next year, as many venues are already busy booking shows, new establishments are set to open their doors and our local musical acts are getting revved up and ready to entertain. Together, we're going to have a good time!

The Embassy Theatre has already got some worthwhile shows — Jay Leno (March 3), Jennifer Nettles (March 17) and Jethro Tull (April 7) booked for 2016. In addition, 2016 will mark the 10th anniversary for Down the Line. That event is going to span two days again, February 26 and 27, and will feature local bands covering some of the greats in the biz. Over the past nine years, 68 bands have covered such acts as Johnny Cash, David Bowie, Van Halen, Billy Joel, Black Sabbath and many more. The line-up for this year will be announced soon, so stay tuned to *whatzup* for all the info. Tickets are on sale now for \$20 for VIP (advance seating), \$15 for general admission and \$25 for a two-day pass.

When you get that calendar in your Christmas stocking, be sure to circle Saturday, February 6. That's when our friends at C2G Music Hall will play host to a special performance by Pink Droyd. C2G was at the top of their game in 2015, and the booking of this show is evidence that they intend to keep up the good



Out and About
NICK BRAUN

work in the year ahead. What makes this show unique is that it will feature music from Pink Floyd's historic show in the ancient Roman city of Pompeii where the band performed in a vacant, 2,000-year-old amphitheater in October 1971. The concert documentary *Pink Floyd — Live at Pompeii* was released the following year. Droyd will be doing numbers from that show including "Echoes," "Careful with That Axe, Eugene," "One of These Days" and other Floyd classics. Tickets for the C2G show are only \$10.

Something new to the start of the year will take place on from 6-10 p.m. on Friday, January 22 at the Memorial Coliseum. The 7th Annual Outdoor Sports, Lake & Cabin Show presents Beer & Baconfest, the Coliseum's first-ever craft beer event. This shindig will take place in the new Conference Center at the Coliseum and will include craft beer samplings, bacon food pairings, live music from Hubie Ashcraft and a silent auction to benefit Honor Flight Northeast Indiana. In addition, you'll also have access to the Outdoor Sports, Lake & Cabin Show where you can enjoy ziplines, fishing, lumberjack shows, kayak rides and 100 plus exhibitors. If you're a brewery or have a restaurant with bacon-based foods, there's booth space for you. Just hop onto www.beerbaconfest.org for more info.

Tickets for Beer & Baconfest will be \$25 or \$40 for a couple with designated driver \$15. They'll go on sale January 1.

nikni76@yahoo.com

Hamilton House
Bar & Grill, Hamilton, IN

~ Live Entertainment ~
Saturday, Dec. 19 ~ 8pm-12am

The Blooze Factor
New Year's Eve ~ 9pm-1am

Southern Image
Daily Lunch & Dinner Specials!
Thursdays: 50¢ Jumbo Wings
(dine-in only)

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260.488.3344 ~ Like Us on Facebook

Latch String

<p>EVERY THURSDAY \$1.50 DOMESTIC LONGNECKS EVERY MON., THURS. & SAT. • 10:30-2:30</p> <p>AMERICAN IDOL KARAOKE NO KARAOKE DEC. 24TH</p> <p>FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18 • 10-2</p> <p>GRATEFUL GROOVE EVERY SUNDAY • 9-1</p> <p>YESTERDAY'S HEADTRIP</p>	<p>EVERY TUESDAY \$2.75 IMPORTS • \$1.00 TACOS EVERY WEDNESDAY • 9PM</p> <p>FORT WAYNE COMEDY CONNECTION & 59¢ WINGS</p> <p>CHRISTMAS EVE • OPEN AT 1:30 PARTY TILL THE REINDEER GO HOME</p> <p>CHRISTMAS DAY OPEN AT 1PM FRIDAY, JANUARY 1 • 10-2</p> <p>BARKIN' AT KNOTS OPEN AT 1:30 P.M.</p>
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THE
PHIL
FORT WAYNE
PHILHARMONIC

ANDREW CONSTANTINE
MUSIC DIRECTOR

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

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

SHANNON PERSINGER & ERIC CLANCY — Jazz/variety at Annrita's Lounge & Grill, Fort Wayne, 6:30 p.m., no cover, 459-7687

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

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

Friday, December 18

80D — Rock at Rex's Rendezvous, Warsaw, 10 p.m., no cover, 574-267-5066

ADAM BAKER & THE HEARTACHE w/ PLAXTON & THE VOID, COPPER THIEVES — Variety at Skeletunes, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., \$5, 580-1120

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

ALICIA PYLE QUARTET w/SOUL 35 AND LIVE PAINTING BY JARED APPLEGATE — Variety at Philmore on Broadway, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., \$745-1000

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

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

BRAT PACK — Rat Pack at Nick's Martini & Wine Bar, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m., no cover, 482-6425

CHRIS WORTH & COMPANY — R&B/variety at American Legion Post 241, Waynedale, 8:30-11:30 p.m., no cover, 747-7851

CITIZENS BAND — Rock at Checkerz Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., no cover, 489-0286

COUGAR HUNTER — 80s glam rock at Moose Lodge, Bluffton, 10 p.m.-1 a.m., \$5, 824-0660

DALLAS & DOUG SHOW — Variety at Country Heritage Winery, Laotto, 5-8 p.m., no cover, 637-2980

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

DJ — Variety at Bar 145, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m., no cover, 209-2117

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

Thursday, Dec. 17 • 6pm
Mountain Town Takeover
featuring 6 beers

Saturday, Dec. 19 • 9-11am
Kids' Breakfast w/Santa & Mrs. Claus
\$3 pancakes, sausage & drink

Saturday, Jan. 9 • 8-11pm
Family & Friends Ugly Christmas Sweater Party

Every Tuesday
Tuesday Brews Day

Wednesday Nights
\$1 Domestic Pints

Sundays
All You Can Eat Pizza Buffet
Beginning at 11am

DICKY'S 21 TAPS
2910 Maplecrest
Fort Wayne
(260) 486-0590

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REDHOT ROCKABILLY XMAS HO HO HOEDOWN

live at the **BRASS RAIL**

DEC 22 **\$3**

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SPONSORED BY INDIANA MICHIGAN POWER & OLD NATIONAL WEALTH MANAGEMENT

DEC 11 AT 7:30 P.M.
DEC 12 AT 2:00 P.M. & 7:30 P.M.
DEC 19 AT 2:00 P.M. & 7:30 P.M.
Embassy Theatre

TICKETS START AT \$29

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C2G MUSIC HALL

Music • 323 W. Baker St., Fort Wayne • 260-426-6464

EXPECT: Great live music on one of Fort Wayne's best stages. Diverse musical genres from local, regional and national performers, all in a comfortable, all-ages, family-friendly, intimate atmosphere. Excellent venue for shows, events, presentations, meetings and gatherings. Food catered by local vendors during some shows. **GETTING THERE:** Downtown on Baker between Ewing and Harrison, just south of Parkview Field. **HOURS:** Most shows start at 8 p.m., doors one hour earlier. **ALCOHOL:** Beer & wine during shows only; **PMT:** Cash, check

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

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. 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

**FIND OUT HOW A WHATZUP NIGHTLIFE LISTING
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EVAN GIDLEY QUARTET — Jazz/Funk at Deer Park Irish Pub, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 432-8966

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

FORT WAYNE PHILHARMONIC — Messiah by Candelight at First Wayne Street United Methodist, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m., \$35, 481-0777

GRATEFUL GROOVE — Grateful Dead tribute at Latch String Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 483-5526

GUNSLINGER — Country rock at Lizard's Bar & Grill, Milford, 9:30 p.m., no cover, 574-658-4904

HE SAID SHE SAID — Variety at Fatboyz Bar, Ligonier, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 894-4640

JANICE ANNE & MISS KITTY'S REVENGE — Country at Taps Pub, Avilla, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 897-3331

JD SMITH OVER EASY — Variety at Venice Restaurant, Fort Wayne, 6:30-9:30 p.m., no cover, 482-1618

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

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

KARAOKE — Variety at Hamilton House, Hamilton, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 488-3344

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

MO ALEXANDER w/ANDY BENIGO — Comedy at Snickerz Comedy Bar, Fort Wayne, 7:30 & 9:45 p.m., \$9.50, 486-0216

SIERRA SHAME — Country/variety at Annrita's Lounge & Grill, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m., no cover, 459-7687

SMOOTH EDGE 2 — Vocal jazz benefit at Crescendo Café, Sweetwater Sound, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m., \$7 suggested donation, 432-8176

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

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

Saturday, December 19

A C2G CHRISTMAS — Featuring The Beef Manhattans w/Mike Conley, Kenny Taylor, Sunny Taylor, Smooth Edge 2, Sugar Shot at C2G Music Hall, Fort Wayne, 6 p.m., \$5, 426-6434

ACTUAL SIZE — Rock at American Legion 499, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 483-1368

AFTER SCHOOL SPECIAL — Rock at 4D's Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., 490-6488

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

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

THE BLOOZE FACTOR — Blues at Hamilton House, Hamilton, 8 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 488-3344

CAP'N BOB — Variety at Lakeview Pizza King, North Webster, 8 a.m., free, 574-834-2565

CAP'N BOB — Variety at Tri-Lakes Tavern, Columbia City, 7 p.m., free, 691-0015

CHRIS WORTH & COMPANY — R&B/variety at Nick's Martini & Wine Bar, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 482-6425

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

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

FEAR NOT — Contemporary Christian at Cupbearer Café, Auburn, 7-9 p.m., free, 920-8734

FORT WAYNE PHILHARMONIC — Holiday Pops at Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, 2 & 7:30 p.m., \$29-\$70, 481-0777

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

HE SAID SHE SAID — Rock at Beamer's Sports Grill, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., no cover, 625-1002

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

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

KAT BOWSER — Variety at Bar 145, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m., no cover, 209-2117

KELSCOTE — Latin at University of St. Francis Performing Arts Center, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m., donation, 399-7999

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

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

Beamer's Steaks Deliver the Sizzle

Brandon Gump, the manager of Beamer's Sports Grill, is a chef at heart. After attending culinary arts school in Louisville, he did stints with restaurants in Chicago and then in Fort Wayne. At Beamer's he wanted to create a dining experience beyond the typical bar menu of burgers, wings, pizza, breaded tenders and so on.

A few months ago he started Steak Dinner Night. Every Friday he whips up a meal of New York strip, ribeye or prime rib and a side preceded by a salad. Sounds good, though it strays a bit from the mandate of this column which is to explore the region's vast river of bar food. But hey, Beamer's is a bar and steak is food, so off we go.

Beamer's sits at the western edge of Allen County near the corner of U.S. 30 and County Line Road. It has a pool table, a stage where live music happens every week and a variety of arcade-type games, including one of those punching things that measures the player's level of inebriation.

Because of its location, Beamer's also has a smoke 'em if you got 'em policy. The smoke eaters do a valiant job, sucking in enough air to keep the band and the punchers clearly visible, but not enough to keep your clothes from smelling like Sean Penn's dressing room.

The smoking aside, Beamer's is a friendly place filled with friendly staff and patrons. It's also filled with good food, including outstanding fish tacos and a burger topped with bacon, peanut butter and a fried egg served on a pretzel bun.

On a recent Friday night, the cut of choice was ribeye, a 14-ounce slab of meat that owned the center of the square white plate it came on. It arrived as ordered, medium rare, with a grid of crispy grill marks like you see on television and in glossy print ads. And its flavor matched the sizzle those "Mad Men" covet.



Pub Grub
MARK HUNTER

Thankfully, the fresh mixed greens salad that came before it, adorned with grape tomato halves, cucumber and green pepper, was plentiful enough to soften the hunger pangs but not so large as to silence them. Goldilocks would have loved it. The blue cheese dressing was creamy and blue-cheese chunky.

The side was button mushroom caps stuffed with brie and hog jowl bacon. The brie and bacon shared space equally in their cozy mushroom nest and on the palate.

Beer-wise Beamer's has a decent selection of craft beers in bottles and on tap, along with the usual suspects. There is also top-shelf booze. I had a Bell's Two Hearted Ale to start, but then decided the elegance of the meal required a beverage a bit more sophisticated. I requested a Manhattan.

Maria, the lovely woman behind the bar, deferred to Gump, whose duties that evening included not only cooking but delivering food, chatting with regulars and helping with everything else. (Beamer's is a busy place.)

It turns out that Gump keeps on hand a pre-mixed Manhattan concoction made with Canadian rye whiskey, sweet and dry vermouth and orange bitters. He blends the liquor, adds a little water to soften it then ages it for five weeks in a small oak barrel. Served chilled in a Champagne saucer with a cherry, it was the best Manhattan I've had.

We give Beamer's four-and-a-half napkins on a scale of five.

mark.whatzup@gmail.com

MASON DIXON LINE — Country at Traxside Bar & Grill, Garrett, 10 p.m., no cover, 357-4287

Mo ALEXANDER w/ANDY BENIGO — Comedy at Snickerz Comedy Bar, Fort Wayne, 7:30 & 9:45 p.m., \$9.50, 486-0216

NEXT EXIT — R&B at Annrita's Lounge & Grill, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m., no cover, 459-7687

PETER DRAGON — Variety at O'Reilly's Irish Bar & Restaurant, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m., no cover, 267-9679

QUINCY AND THE Q-TET FEAT. PHIL POTTS — Rock/funk at Downtown Eatery & Spirits, Warsaw, 10 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 574-267-6000

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

SMALL VOICE — Acoustic at Friendly Fox, Fort Wayne, 6:30-9:30 p.m., no cover, 745-3369

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

URBAN LEGEND — R&B/variety at Wrigley Field Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., \$5, 485-1038

WALKIN' PAPERS — Variety at Taps Pub, Avilla, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., no cover, 897-3331

Sunday, December 20

ALICIA PYLE QUARTET w/PLAXTON & THE VOID, JAMES & THE DRIFTERS, IPFW CLASSICAL GUITAR TRIO — MusicCorps/Wounded Warrior Project fundraiser at Phoenix, Fort Wayne, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., no cover, donations accepted, 387-6571

FORT WAYNE PHILHARMONIC — Holiday Pops at T. Furth Center, Trine University, Angola, 2 p.m., \$35-\$45, 665-4990

HILLBILLY CASINO w/THE DEAD DEADS — Rockabilly/variety at Brass Rail, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., \$8, 267-5303

HUBIE ASHCRAFT — Acoustic at Office Tavern, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m., no cover, 478-5827

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, December 21

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

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

OLD CROWN BRASS BAND — Holiday brass at Aldersgate United Methodist Church, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m., free, 432-1524

OPEN MIC NIGHT HOSTED BY MARC VOSLER — Variety at Mad Anthony's Lake City Tap House, Warsaw, 7 p.m., no cover, 574-268-2537

QUINCY, JOE AND 1/4 KIT KURT — Variety at Deer Park Irish Pub, Fort Wayne, 6:30-8 p.m., no cover, 432-8966

Tuesday, December 22

ADAM STRACK — Acoustic at Nick's Martini & Wine Bar, Fort Wayne, 5:30 p.m., no cover, 482-6425

HUBIE ASHCRAFT — Acoustic at Barnes and Noble, Glenbrook Square Mall, Fort Wayne, 5-6:15 p.m., no cover, 483-2121

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, December 23

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

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

FORT WAYNE COMEDY CONNECTION — Comedy at Latch String Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m., no cover, 483-5526

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

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

ON KEY KARAOKE — Variety at Annrita's Lounge & Grill, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., no cover, 459-7687

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

PAT & FAYE — Variety at 4D's Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 7-10:30 p.m., no cover, 490-6488

PAUL NEW STEWART & KIMMY DEAN (WHO DAT) — Variety at Venice Restaurant, Fort Wayne, 6:30-9:30 p.m., \$1, 482-1618

RENEE GONZALES w/CHRIS RUTKOWSKI AND KEVIN PIEKARSKI — at Kozé Thai Cuisine, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m., no cover, 755-6802



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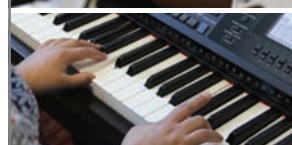
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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26 | 10PM
Freak Brothers
SATURDAY, JANUARY 2
UFC
Robbie Lawler vs. Carlos Condit
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NIGHTLIFE

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

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, \$2.75 imports; Tuesdays, \$2.50 import bottles & \$1 tacos; Wednesdays, \$2 wells and 59¢ 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 south-west 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, extremely accommodating atmosphere & staff. 12 flat screen TVs & projector TV. Kid friendly until 10 p.m. NFL football Sun., Mon. & Thurs.; trivia 7:30 p.m. Wed.; karaoke 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Fri.; college sports Sat. Menu includes Irish specialties & vegetarian options; 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

Thursday, December 24

PAUL NEW STEWART & KIMMY DEAN (WHO DAT) — Variety at Nick's Martini & Wine Bar, Fort Wayne, 5:30-8:30 p.m., no cover, 482-6425

Friday, December 25

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Saturday, December 26

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

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

CADILLAC RANCH — Classic rock at Alley Sports Bar, Pro Bowl West, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 483-4421

CHRIS WORTH — Variety at North Star Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 471-3798

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

COUGAR HUNTER — 80s glam rock at 4D's Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., \$5, 490-6488

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

DOUBLE SHOT — Variety at American Legion 499, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 483-1368

FORT WAYNE FUNK ORCHESTRA — Funk at Columbia Street West, Fort Wayne, 10:30 p.m., 422-5055

FORT WAYNE FUNK ORCHESTRA — Funk at Bar 145, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 209-2117

FREAK BROTHERS — Funk at Wrigley Field Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., \$5, 485-1038

HUBIE ASHCRAFT BAND — Country at The Venue, Angola, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., cover, 665-3922

JAMIE SIMON TRIO — Jazz/variety at Nick's Martini & Wine Bar, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., no cover, 482-6425

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

KARAOKE — Variety at Hamilton House, Hamilton, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 488-3344

THE LEGENDARY TRAINHOPPERS — Variety at B-Side, One Lucky Guitar, Fort Wayne, 8 & 10 p.m., \$7.50-\$12, 969-6672

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

SHANNON PERSINGER QUARTET — Jazz/variety at Annrita's Lounge & Grill, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m., no cover, 459-7687

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

WALKIN' PAPERS — Rock n' roll at Dupont Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., \$5, 483-1311

Sunday, December 27

THE LEGENDARY TRAINHOPPERS — Variety at B-Side, One Lucky Guitar, Fort Wayne, 8:30 p.m., \$7.50-\$12, 969-6672

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, December 28

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

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

TONY NORTON — Variety at Deer Park Irish Pub, Fort Wayne, 6:30-8 p.m., no cover, 432-8966

Tuesday, December 29

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

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

SHELLY DIXON & JEFF McRAE — Acoustic variety at Nick's Martini & Wine Bar, Fort Wayne, 5:30-8:30 p.m., no cover, 482-6425

Wednesday, December 30

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

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 Nick's Martini & Wine Bar, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 482-6425

HUBIE ASHCRAFT — Acoustic at 469 Sports & Spirits, New Haven, 7-11 p.m., no cover, 749-7207

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

MARK GARR — Acoustic variety at Eagles post 3512, Fort Wayne, 7-9 p.m., no cover, 854-3463

ON KEY KARAOKE — Variety at Annrita's Lounge & Grill, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., no cover, 459-7687

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

PAT & FAYE — Variety at 4D's Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 7-10:30 p.m., no cover, 490-6488

PAUL NEW STEWART & KIMMY DEAN (WHO DAT) — Variety at Venice Restaurant, Fort Wayne, 6:30-9:30 p.m., \$1, 482-1618

RENEE GONZALES w/CHRIS RUTKOWSKI AND KEVIN PIEKARSKI — at Kotz Thai Cuisine, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m., no cover, 755-6802

Thursday, December 31

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

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

BACKWATER — Country rock at Checkerz Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., no cover, 489-0286

BLISS NOVA w/DJ PHRESH BEN, DICK WAYNE — Variety at Wunderkammer Company, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m.-2 a.m., \$15-\$25, 417-8846

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

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

BULLDOGS — Rock n' roll at American Legion Post 178, Garrett, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., \$15 adv., \$20 door, 357-5133

CAP'n BOB — Variety at Ye Olde Pub, North Webster, 6 p.m., no cover, 574-834-4251

CHRIS WORTH & COMPANY — R&B/variety at 4D's Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., cover, 490-6488

COUGAR HUNTER — 80s glam rock at Columbia Street West, Fort Wayne, 10:30 p.m., \$10, 422-5055

DJ DOUBLE K — Variety at Bar 145, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m., no cover, 209-2117

ERIC CLANCY TRIO FEAT. SHANNON PERSINGER — R&B/blues at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m., no cover, 426-3442

FORT WAYNE FUNK ORCHESTRA — Fur at Ceruti's, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m.-1 a.m., \$30-\$35, 207-2000

FREDDY & THE HOT RODS — Oldies at American Legion Post 296, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., cover, 456-2988

G-MONEY — R&B/blues at Annrita's Lounge & Grill, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m., no cover, 459-7687

GOOD NIGHT GRACIE — Variety at Nick's Martini & Wine Bar, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m., \$69.99 with 4 course meal, \$10 music only, 482-6425

HE SAID SHE SAID — Variety at The Frog, Syracuse, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., cover, 574-457-4324

HUBIE ASHCRAFT BAND w/STACI STORK, TESTED ON ANIMALS — Country/rock at Rusty Spur Saloon I, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m.-2 a.m., cover, 755-3465

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

JEFFREY JENA w/THE WANNA BEES — Comedy/variety at Marquis Ballroom, Hotel Fort Wayne, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m.-1 a.m., \$259.16 per couple, includes dinner and accommodations, 484-0411

JOEL YOUNG BAND — Country/rock/blues at Eagles Post 3512, Fort Wayne, 8:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m., no cover, 436-3512

JOHN CURRAN & RENEGADE — Country at Dupont Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., \$15-\$20, includes champagne & breakfast, 483-1311

KILL THE RABBIT — Rock at Traxside Bar & Grill, Garrett, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 357-4287

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

MAGPIE — Rock at Taps Pub, Avilla, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., \$5, 897-3331

MARSHALL LAW — Country rock at Alley Sports Bar, Pro Bowl West, Fort Wayne, 8:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m., no cover, 483-4421

MGB — Rock at American Legion 499, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., \$25, includes dinner, 483-1368

THE MIGHTY MCGUIGGAN'S — Irish rock at JK O'Donnell's Irish Ale House, Fort Wayne, 6:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m., no cover, 420-5563

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

SHELLY DIXON & JEFF McRAE — Acoustic variety at Wine Down Tastings & Tapas, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 755-1019

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

SIDECAR GARY'S KARAOKE & DJ — Karaoke at Kville Pub, Kendallville, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 349-1667

SOUTHERN IMAGE — Blues at Hamilton House, Hamilton, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 488-3344

SUM MORZ — Variety at Wrigley Field Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., \$5, 485-1038

BEAMER'S
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Thursday Acoustic, Dec. 17 • 7pm-10pm
Mike Mowry

Friday, Dec. 18 • 9:30pm-1:30am
Joel Young Band

Saturday, Dec. 19 • 9:30pm-1:30am
He Said She Said

Saturday, Dec. 26 • 9:30pm-1:30am
Morning After

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18 • 9PM
Sierra Shame

SATURDAY, DEC. 19 • 9PM
Next Exit

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 23 • 8PM
On Key Karaoke

SATURDAY, DEC. 26 • 9PM
**Shannon Persinger
Quartet**

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 30 • 8PM
On Key Karaoke

THURSDAY, DEC. 31 - NEW YEAR'S EVE
**Murder Mystery
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& G-Money**
COCKTAILS @ 6PM - MUSIC @ 9PM

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

WEST CENTRAL QUARTET — Jazz at Oakwood Resort, Syracuse, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., cover, 574-457-7100

WOODY McBRIDE w/DUSTIN EBER, JASON JUNG, DOM ALLEN, DARK MATTER — EDM at O'Sullivan's Italian Irish Pub, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m., no cover, 422-5896

ZACK ATTACK — Funk at Bar 145, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 209-2117

Friday, January 1

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

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

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

DJ — Variety at Bar 145, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m., no cover, 209-2117

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

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

MASON DIXON LINE — Country at Rusty Spur Saloon I, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., \$5, 755-3465

Saturday, January 2

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

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

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

G-MONEY BAND — Blues/variety at The Wet Spot, Decatur, 10 p.m., no cover, 728-9031

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

MASON DIXON LINE — Country at Rusty Spur Saloon I, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., \$5, 755-3465

Sunday, January 3

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, January 4

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

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

Tuesday, January 5


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, January 6

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

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DJ Fridays
Fridays • 10pm (Closed Christmas)

Kat Bowser
Saturday, December 19 • 9pm

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Funk
Orchestra**
Saturday, December 26 • 10pm

Basket Case
Tuesday, December 29 • 7pm

Zack Attack
New Year's Eve • 10pm

DJ
Saturday, January 1 • 9pm
Kid Friendly Until 10pm
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NIGHTLIFE

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, 7-9 p.m. Monday; Karaoke, 10 p.m. Sunday-Wednesday & 7-11 p.m. Friday; Live DJ, 10 p.m. Thursday-Saturday; live bands; all PPV events on 45 TVs. Full menu; 49¢ wings (including boneless), 4 p.m.-close Tuesday & Thursday, dine-in only; soup & salad lunch/dinner 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

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

STEBEN COUNTY

HAMILTON HOUSE

Neighborhood Bar • 3950 E. Bellefontaine, Hamilton • 260-488-3344
EXPECT: Great atmosphere with a beautiful view of lake; 20 beers on tap, 6 large HDTVs, NFL Package (Sunday games), internet juke, Golden Tee, pool table, karaoke every Saturday (9 p.m.); lunch and dinner specials, jumbo wing special every Thursday (50¢ eat-in only). **GETTING THERE:** Corner of roads 1 and 427. **HOURS:** 11 a.m.-1 a.m. Mon.-Wed.; 11 a.m.-3 a.m. Thurs.-Sat.; 12 noon-12 midnight Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa

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

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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 Nick's Martini & Wine Bar, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 482-6425
KARAOKE w/BUCCA — Variety at Wrigley Field Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 485-1038
OPEN MIC — Hosted by Mike Mowry at Pedal City, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., no cover, 415-6167
PAT & FAYE — Variety at 4D's Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 7-10:30 p.m., no cover, 490-6488
PAUL NEW STEWART & KIMMY DEAN (WHO DAT) — Variety at Venice Restaurant, Fort Wayne, 6:30-9:30 p.m., \$1, 482-1618
RENEE GONZALES w/CHRIS RUTKOWSKI AND KEVIN PIEKARSKI — at Kozé Thai Cuisine, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m., no cover, 755-6802

Thursday, January 7

AMERICAN IDOL KARAOKE — Karaoke at Nick's Martini & Wine Bar, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 482-6425
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 DOUBLE K — Variety at Bar 145, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m., no cover, 209-2117
JEFF McDONALD — Variety at Don Hall's Guesthouse, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 489-2524
LIVE DJ — Variety at Wrigley Field Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 485-1038
OPEN MIC — 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
SHUT UP & SING w/MICHAEL CAMPBELL — Karaoke at North Star, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., no cover, 471-3798

Friday, January 8

AMERICAN IDOL KARAOKE — at The Green Frog Inn, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m., no cover, 426-1088
BILLY DALE — Country/rock/blues at Eagles Post 3512, Fort Wayne, 7-11 p.m., no cover, 436-3512
DANCE PARTY w/DJ RICH — Variety at Columbia Street West, Fort Wayne, 10:30 p.m., cover, 422-5055
JOE STABELLI — Jazz at Don Hall's Gas House, Fort Wayne, 5:45-9 p.m., no cover, 426-3411
LIVE DJ — Variety at Wrigley Field Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 485-1038

Saturday, January 9

AMERICAN IDOL KARAOKE w/SCOTT — Karaoke at Latch String, Fort Wayne, 10:30 p.m., no cover, 483-5526
BRENT A. COOPER & JAMIE KLEIN — Variety at Don Hall's Triangle Park, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 482-4342
DJ TREND — Variety at Wrigley Field Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 485-1038
FORT WAYNE PHILHARMONIC — Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto at Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m., \$17-\$65, 424-5665
GUNSLINGER — Country rock at Silver Inn, Silver Lake, 9:30 p.m., no cover, 352-2870
HE SAID SHE SAID — Variety at Alley Sports Bar, Pro Bowl West, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 483-4421
JOE STABELLI — Jazz at Don Hall's Gas House, Fort Wayne, 5:45-9 p.m., no cover, 426-3411
SHELLY DIXON & JEFF McRAE — Acoustic variety at Don Hall's Guesthouse, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12:30 a.m., no cover, 489-2524

Sunday, January 10

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, January 11

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

Tuesday, January 12

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, January 13

AMERICAN IDOL KARAOKE w/JOSH — Karaoke at Columbia Street West, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m., no cover, 422-5055
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 Nick's Martini & Wine Bar, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 482-6425
KARAOKE w/BUCCA — Variety at Wrigley Field Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 485-1038
OPEN MIC — Hosted by Mike Mowry at Pedal City, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., no cover, 415-6167
PAT & FAYE — Variety at 4D's Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 7-10:30 p.m., no cover, 490-6488
PAUL NEW STEWART & KIMMY DEAN (WHO DAT) — Variety at Venice Restaurant, Fort Wayne, 6:30-9:30 p.m., \$1, 482-1618
RENEE GONZALES w/CHRIS RUTKOWSKI AND KEVIN PIEKARSKI — at Kozé Thai Cuisine, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m., no cover, 755-6802

whatzup PERFORMERS DIRECTORY

ACOUSTIC VARIETY

Adam Strack 260-418-2070
Jon Durnell 260-797-2980
Mike Conley 260-750-9758

BLUES

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

CLASSIC ROCK & COUNTRY

The Joel Young Band 260-414-4983

CLASSICAL

The Jaenicke Consort Inc. 260-426-9096

COUNTRY & COUNTRY ROCK

BackWater 260-494-5364

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

ORIGINAL & COVER ROCK

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

ORIGINAL ACOUSTIC

Dan Dickerson's Harp Condition 260-704-2511

The Holy Rebels 260-460-7009

ORIGINAL HIP-HOP

UpShott Entertainment upshotthiphop@gmail.com

ORIGINAL ROCK

FM90 765-606-5550

PRAISE & WORSHIP

Jacobs Well 260-479-0423

ROCK

80D 260-519-1946

Big Caddy Daddy 260-925-9562

The Rescue Plan 260-750-9500

ROCK & BLUES

Mr. Grumpy's Revenge 260-701-9709

ROCK & VARIETY

The DeeBees 260-579-6852

ROCK N' ROLL

Biff and The Cruisers 260-417-5495

STANDARDS

Cap'n Bob, The Singin' Skipper 800-940-2035

Pan Man Dan 260-232-3588

TROP ROCK & CLASSIC ROCK

Party Boat Band 260-438-3710

VARIETY

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

WRIGLEY FIELD
SINCE 1989
BAR & GRILL

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY with
SUM MORZ



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

Saturday, December 19 • 10pm • \$5 Cover
URBAN LEGEND

— 6527 E. STATE BLVD. • FORT WAYNE • 260-485-1038 —

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SPORTS GRILL

NEW YEAR'S EVE
LIVE MUSIC 9:30-1:30
RECKON



NO COVER
FREE LIMO RIDES
PRIME RIB DINNER
CHAMPAGNE TOAST
AT MIDNIGHT



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Bash **2016**

**THURSDAY
DECEMBER 31ST**

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
COMPLIMENTARY CHAMPAGNE ICE SCULPTURES
BEST DJ'S SPINNING THE HOTTEST DANCE MUSIC
PARTY FAVORS VIP TREATMENT & SO MUCH MORE
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NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

THURSDAY, DEC. 31



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**DELUXE PARTY FAVORS
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AND MUCH MORE!**

**THIS IS THE PARTY!
WHY GO ANYWHERE ELSE?**

**Columbia
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Call 483-5681
for reservations

Must be 21 for
admission

Inside our Illustrious Marquis Ballroom || 7pm-1am
The Wannabees & Comedian Jeffrey Jena
Dinner, Drinks & Entertainment
Party Favors, Champagne Toast at Midnight
Complimentary Draft Beer & House Wine
Breakfast Buffet in our Red River Steakhouse
\$259.16/couple includes Deluxe Overnight Accommodations

Inside Duesy's Sports Bar & Grill || 7:30pm-2am
Hors d'oeuvres Buffet (open at 7:30pm)
Shelly Dixon & Jeff McRae (7:30-9:30pm)
Comedian Jeffrey Jena (10:30pm)
American Idol Karaoke & DJ (10:30pm-2am)
Watch the ball drop in Times Square on 27 huge flat screen TVs
Party Favors || Champagne Toast at Midnight
Cash Bar || \$25/person || Great Overnight Room Rates

HOTEL
FORT WAYNE



305 E. Washington Center Rd., Fort Wayne || 260.484.0411

DUPONT BAR & GRILL

SPORTS PUB & GRUB

NEW YEAR'S EVE BASH



RING IN THE NEW YEAR WITH

RENEGADE

MUSIC AT 9:30 • \$15 IN ADVANCE, \$20 @ DOOR

**COMPLIMENTARY CHAMPAGNE
& FREE BREAKFAST @ MIDNIGHT**

10336 LEO RD, FT WAYNE • 260-483-1311 • DUPONTBARANDGRILL.COM



NICK'S
Martini & Wine Bar

CELEBRATE NEW YEAR'S EVE WITH US!

Thursday, 12-31, 9 pm
Good Night Gracie

Dinner & Dance Party
\$69.99 per person - doors open at 4 pm
Your ticket includes: Four-course meal, table reservation til close, cover charge for Good Night Gracie, party favors & champagne.

Purchase your tickets at Nick's Martini & Wine Bar.
Limited seating available. Reservations will not be accepted. Must have a ticket to secure a table. Doors will open to the public at 9 pm for Good Night Gracie with a \$10 cover.

East State, next to Rib Room
www.nickswinebar.com

Like our
Facebook
page for daily
specials!

December Lineup

18th - 9 pm Brat Pack
19th - 8 pm Chris Worth & Co.
22th - 5:30 pm Adam Strack
23th - 8 pm Chris Worth
24th - 5:30 pm Paul Stewart & Kimmy Dean
26th - 8 pm Jamie Simon Trio
29th - 5:30 - pm Shelly Dixon Band

RING in the new year the o'reilly's way

**2 Big Nights
of Music with**



BROTHER

FREE BUFFET • FREE CHAMPAGNE TOAST

1 Day Admission: \$20 adv. (New Year's Eve)
2 Day Admission: \$25 adv. (Dec. 31 & Jan. 1)

DECEMBER AT O'REILLY'S

Wednesdays: Trivia from 7-9pm

Thursdays: \$2 domestic pints/\$6 domestic pitchers

Sundays: \$3 Pints, 16 Taps (exc. Guinness & Smithwick's)

Sundays, Mondays & Thursdays: NFL Football



O'REILLY'S

Irish Bar & Restaurant

301 W. Jefferson, Fort Wayne
Inside the Harrison at Parkview Field

260.267.9679

www.oreillysirishbar.com

Don Hall's
GUESTHOUSE
Hotel & Conference Center

Celebrate 2016

Thursday, December 31, 2015
with **LIVE** entertainment!

Package Rates Starting at \$199 per couple
(STANDARD ROOM; tax & gratuity not included)
Doors Open at 6:30 pm

Gala Inspired Buffet from 7:00 pm-9:00 pm
CASH BAR

CALL TODAY for Reservations: (260) 489-2524

Gala Inspired Menu

Chef-Carved Prime Rib

Au Jus and Creamy Horseradish

Santa Fe Chicken Tango

Andouille Cream, roasted chili pico de gallo, crispy onions

Chesapeake Blue Crab-Crusted Atlantic White Fish

Chesapeake-crusted crab, sauce choron, and green onions

Tuscan Ziti

Carmelized onions, portabella mushrooms, basil, and Parmesan

Roasted Potato Supreme

Yukons, reds, and russets with smoked cheddar cream

Sweet Corn Casserole

Colby jack, hickory bacon, red pepper vinaigrette

Sicilian Roasted Vegetables

Snow peas, asparagus, bell peppers

Garden Harvest Salad Bar

with assorted toppings.

Served with sourdough and Indian grain bread

**A Celebration of Decadent Chocolate
& Fruited Tortes**

BUY ONE LUNCH OR DINNER, GET ONE FOR 1/2 OFF
(Of Equal or Lesser Value; Excludes Appetizers)
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The Friendly Fox

4001 S. WAYNE STREET
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BUY ONE ENTREE GET ONE FREE
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BUY ONE SANDWICH GET ONE FREE
w/One Drink Minimum Mon.-Thurs. Only
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Fort Wayne
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CASUAL DINING & LOUNGE
NOT A COUPON

Buy One Entree • Get One 1/2 Off
1414 Northland Blvd., Fort Wayne
Inside Crazy Pins • 260-490-2695

BUY ONE ENTREE GET ONE FREE
(of equal or lesser value)
MAD ANTHONY LAKEVIEW ALE HOUSE
4080 North 300 West, Angola
260-833-2537 • **NOT A COUPON**

Rack & Helens
BAR & GRILL
BUY ONE ENTREE GET ONE FREE
(up to \$9.99 value)
NOT A COUPON

525 BROADWAY ST., NEW HAVEN, 260-749-5396

Shigs In Pit BARBEQUE
BUY ONE GET ONE
Pulled Pork or Pulled Chicken Sandwich
Mon.-Thurs. Only
2008 Fairfield, Fort Wayne
260-387-5903 • **Not a Coupon**

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

BUY ONE ENTREE GET ONE FREE
(of equal or lesser value)
MAD ANTHONY TAP ROOM
114 N. Wayne St. • Auburn
260-927-0500 • **NOT A COUPON**

Taj Mahal
(Limit \$8.95) Excludes Buffet
Buy One Entree Get One Free
w/Purchase of 2 Beverages
6410 W. Jefferson Blvd., Fort Wayne
260-432-8993 **NOT A COUPON**

whatzup Dining Club

Save Big at 20 Fine Restaurants



The *whatzup* Dining Club Card entitles you to Buy One - Get One Free (or similar) savings at the 20 fine Fort Wayne area restaurants on this page.

At just \$18.00, your *whatzup* Dining Club Card will more than pay for itself with just one or two uses. And for a limited time only, you can purchase additional cards to just \$10.00 apiece to use as stocking stuffers, hand out to your friends, family or co-workers or simply to enjoy even more savings for yourself.

But hurry! This early bird offer expires on December 12, 2015.

Here's How the *whatzup* Dining Club Card Works:

1. Present your Dining Club card to receive one complimentary entree with the purchase of one other entree at regular price. Complimentary entree will be of equal or lesser value, not to exceed limitations set by the restaurant. Complimentary meal value may be applied as a credit towards any two higher priced entrees. Unless specifically stated, offer does not include beverage, appetizers, desserts, other a la carte menu items or tax. Offer does not include take-out orders or room service.
2. The *whatzup* Dining Club Card is not valid on holidays.
3. The *whatzup* Dining Club Card may not be combined with other coupons or offers.
4. Individual restrictions are noted in this ad and after each participating restaurant listed on the *whatzup* Dining Club card. Purchaser may review card restrictions prior to purchase.
5. Restaurants reserve the right to add 15% gratuity *before the discount*. Please check with your server.
6. The card is valid through Nov. 30, 2016
7. The *whatzup* Dining Club Card may be used one time at each restaurant.

~ THE ADVERTISEMENTS ON THIS PAGE ARE NOT COUPONS ~

whatzup Dining Club Enrollment

Please send ____ cards. Enclosed is \$18 for one card and \$15 for each additional card. Enclosed is my personal check/money order or charge my credit card. Click on the Dining Club link at www.whatzup.com to sign up online.

Credit Card Type: ☐ Master Card; ☐ Visa Expiration Date: ____/____/____ Sec. Code: ____

Credit Card Number: ____ - ____ - ____ - ____

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Signature: _____ Phone: _____

Make check out to *whatzup* and mail with this form to:
whatzup, 2305 E. Esterline Rd., Columbia City, IN 46725
or call 260-691-3188 weekdays 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. to order by phone.

BUY 2 ENTREES & GET FREE APPETIZER
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BUY ONE ENTREE GET ONE FREE
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MAD ANTHONY BREWING COMPANY
2002 S. Broadway • Fort Wayne
260-426-2537 • **NOT A COUPON**

10% OFF
Not Valid on Alcohol
Monday-Friday Dine-In Only
bar45°
Burgers • Bands • Bourbon
4910 N. Clinton, Ft. Wayne, 209.2117

NOT A COUPON
O'Reilly's Irish Bar & Restaurant
FREE APPETIZER
w/PURCHASE OF 2 ENTREES (Up to \$10)
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Fort Wayne || 260.267.9679

BUY ONE LUNCH OR DINNER (Max. \$9.75), GET ONE OF EQUAL OR LESSER VALUE FOR HALF OFF
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COLUMBIA STREET WEST
135 W. Columbia St. • Fort Wayne
260-422-5055

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Fort Wayne • 260-918-9775

BUY ONE ENTREE GET ONE FREE
(of equal or lesser value)
MAD ANTHONY LAKE CITY TAP HOUSE
113 E. Center St. • Warsaw
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BUY ONE ENTREE GET ONE FREE
Up to \$12
Excludes Saturdays, Pizza & Pizza Buffet
THE VENICE
2242 Goshen Rd., Fort Wayne
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BUY ONE LUNCH OR DINNER & GET ONE FREE
Up to \$10.99
Excludes Frog Legs
Green Frog INN
820 Spring St., Fort Wayne
260-426-1088 • **Not a Coupon**

Calendar • On the Road

The 1975	May 21 '16	Meadow Brook Amphitheatre	Rochester, MI
38 Special	Apr. 8 '16	T. Furth Center, Trine University	Angola
AC/DC	Mar. 26 '16	Quicken Loans Arena	Cleveland
AC/DC	May 1 '16	Hard Rock Rocksino	Northfield Park, OH
The Academy Is	Dec. 17	House of Blues	Cleveland
Air Supply (\$30-\$60)	Feb. 6 '16	Niswonger Performing Arts Center	Van Wert, Ohio
Alessia Cara w/Kevin Garrett, Craig Stickland	Jan. 29 '16	Metro	Chicago
Anderson East	Feb. 19 '16	Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
Andrew Bird	Apr. 14 '16	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Andrew Bird	Apr. 15 '16	The LC Pavilion	Columbus, OH
Andrew Bird	Apr. 16 '16	House of Blues	Cleveland
Ani DeFranco (\$30-\$55)	Apr. 2 '16	Michigan Theater	Ann Arbor
Ani DeFranco w/Chastity Brown	Apr. 3 '16	The Intersection	Grand Rapids
Avett Brothers	Apr. 22-23 '16	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Awolnation w/Metric, PVRIS	Dec. 18	Fillmore Detroit	Detroit
B.J. Thomas	Feb. 27 '16	Niswonger Performing Arts Center	Van Wert, Ohio
Beach House	Feb. 29 '16	House of Blues	Cleveland
Beach House	Mar. 1 '16	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Beatlemania Now	Jan. 2 '16	FireKeepers Casino	Battle Creek, MI
Ben Folds	May 12 '16	Fillmore Detroit	Detroit
Ben Folds w/Dolan	May 13 '16	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Ben Harper & The Innocent Criminals	Apr. 16 '16	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Ben Harper & The Innocent Criminals	Apr. 17 '16	House of Blues	Cleveland
Big Head Todd & the Monsters w/Mike Doughty	Feb. 9 '16	Vogue	Indianapolis
Black Sabbath	Feb. 19 '16	Palace of Auburn Hills	Auburn Hills, MI
Blake Shelton w/Chris Janson	Feb. 20 '16	Palace of Auburn Hills	Auburn Hills, MI
blessthefall	Mar. 2 '16	Saint Andrews Hall	Detroit
Bob Saget	Jan. 17 '16	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Bobby Rush & Joe Louis Walker w/Wayne Baker Brooks, Shawn Holt and the Teardrops	Feb. 12 '16	State Theatre	Kalamazoo
Bonnie Raitt	Mar. 16 '16	Detroit Opera House	Detroit
Bonnie Raitt	Mar. 22 '16	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Boys from County Hell	Dec. 23	House of Blues	Cleveland
Brandi Carlile	Dec. 30-31	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Brian Culbertson	Apr. 30 '16	Niswonger Performing Arts Center	Van Wert, Ohio
Brian McKnight	Mar. 11 '16	Soundboard Detroit	Detroit
Brian Regan	Jan. 14 '16	Victory Theatre	Evansville
Bruce Springsteen & The E Street Band	Jan. 19 '16	United Center	Chicago
Bruce Springsteen & The E Street Band	Feb. 23 '16	Quicken Loans Arena	Cleveland
Buckwheat Zydeco (\$20)	Feb. 18 '16	The Ark	Ann Arbor
California Guitar Trio (\$25)	Mar. 13 '16	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Cameron Carpenter feat. The International Touring Organ	Apr. 9 '16	Cloves Memorial Hall	Indianapolis
Cannibal Corpse	Feb. 21 '16	Saint Andrews Hall	Detroit
Carley Rae Jepsen	Mar. 12 '16	Metro	Chicago
Catie Curtis w/Maia Sharp (\$15)	Jan. 11 '16	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Cedric the Entertainer w/Eddie Griffin, D.L. Hughley, George Lopez, Charlie Murphy	Jan. 23 '16	United Center	Chicago
Celtic Woman	Mar. 18 '16	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Charles Kelley	Jan. 8 '16	House of Blues	Chicago
Chris Hillman & Herb Pedersen (\$25)	Apr. 7 '16	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Chris Smither (\$26)	May 6 '16	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Chuck Prophet	Mar. 24 '16	B-Side, One Lucky Guitar	Fort Wayne
Ciara	Apr. 15 '16	House of Blues	Cleveland
City and Colour w/Greyhounds	Jan. 30 '16	The Intersection	Grand Rapids
Courtney Barnett	Apr. 28 '16	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Craig Owens w/Whenskiesaregray, Too Close To Touch	Dec. 18	Bottom Lounge	Chicago
Craig Wayne Boyd	Jan. 23 '16	Niswonger Performing Arts Center	Van Wert, Ohio
Damon Williams	Dec. 31	Star Plaza Theatre	Merrillville
Dan Bern (\$15)	Jan. 20 '16	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Dan Navarro	Feb. 13 '16	Schubas Tavern	Chicago
Dark Star Orchestra	Feb. 26 '16	Taft Theatre	Cincinnati
Dark Star Orchestra	Feb. 27 '16	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
Dark Star Orchestra	Feb. 28 '16	LC Pavilion	Columbus, OH
Dark Star Orchestra	Mar. 1 '16	House of Blues	Cleveland
Dark Star Orchestra	Mar. 3-4 '16	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Del McCoury Band w/Jeff Austin Band feat. Don Julin, Billy Strings Trio	Jan. 16 '16	Kalamazoo State Theatre	Kalamazoo
The DePue Brothers	Dec. 17	Niswonger Performing Arts Center	Van Wert, Ohio
Disturbed	Apr. 7 '16	Saint Andrews Hall	Detroit
Donnie Osmond	Jan. 22 '16	Hard Rock Rocksino	Northfield Park, OH
Dr. Dog	Mar. 11 '16	Saint Andrews Hall	Detroit
Dr. Dog	Mar. 12 '16	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Dr. Dog	Mar. 13 '16	Vogue	Indianapolis
Dropkick Murphys	Feb. 18 '16	House of Blues	Cleveland
Dustin Lynch	Jan. 17 '16	House of Blues	Cleveland
Dwight Yoakam	Jan. 28 '16	Hard Rock Rocksino	Northfield Park, OH
Electric Six	Dec. 31	Saint Andrews Hall	Detroit
Ellie Goulding	May 6 '16	Allstate Arena	Rosemont, IL
Ellie Goulding	May 7 '16	Wolstein Center	Cleveland
Ellie Goulding	May 10 '16	LC Pavilion	Columbus, OH
Ellie Goulding	May 14 '16	Farm Bureau Insurance Lawn	Indianapolis
Elton John	Mar. 23 '16	Van Andel Arena	Detroit
Empire of the Sun	Dec. 17	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Excision w/Bear Grillz, Figure	Mar. 15 '16	House of Blues	Cleveland
Experience Hendrix feat. Buddy Guy, Zakki Wyld, Kenny Wayne Shepherd, Jonny Lang,			
Dweezil Zappa, Eric Johnson & more	Mar. 11 '16	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Experience Hendrix	Mar. 12 '16	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Experience Hendrix	Mar. 13 '16	Taft Theatre	Cincinnati

Carly Rae Jepsen is trying to prove that she is more than just a flash-in-the-pan artist as she pushes the hits out from her third album, *Emotion*. To further her mission, Jepsen embarks on a tour early next year that will see the “Call Me Maybe” singer visit about 40 cities including Chicago on March 12 and Detroit the following night.



Road Notez

CHRIS HUPE

It might be just a bit out of our usual zone of coverage, but a cool new music festival has announced some of the performers for its initial run in Louisville, Kentucky. The Forecastle Festival takes place at Waterfront Park July 15-17 and features **Death Cab for Cutie**, **Alabama Shakes**, **Ryan Adams**, **The Avett Brothers**, **Ben Harper & The Innocent Criminals** and a couple of dozen other acts. Three-day tickets are on sale already and start at \$150.

Duran Duran, believe it or not, put out a pretty good album this year. *Paper Gods*, the band's 14th album, is chock full of songs that feature the Duran Duran's trademark sound updated for the new millennium. Like proud parents, Duran Duran are reportedly excited to have a chance to show off some of those new songs on their 2016 tour. The appropriately titled Paper Gods Tour visits Chicago for two nights July 8-9 and Detroit July 11. **Chic**, featuring **Nile Rodgers**, will open the Detroit date while the Chicago opener is still unannounced.

Animal Collective have marked February 19 as the day they will release their 10th LP, *Painting With*. They will also begin their tour that day in Philadelphia and head to Columbus, Ohio February 26 and Chicago February 27. The band will then head to Europe for a few dates before returning to the States for several more shows, including a May 4 date in Detroit.

Megadeth have announced a 2016 tour to support their new album, *Dystopia*, due out January 22. **Lamb Of God's Chris Adler** will be behind the drum kit for the first time for Megadeth when the thrash titans stop at the Aragon Ballroom in Chicago on March 13. Legendary rockers **Suicidal Tendencies** are providing direct support for the tour while **Havok** and **Children of Bodom** are slated as opening acts.

If ever there were a show tailor-made for me, this one may be the one. Savage Arena, on the campus of my alma mater, the University of Toledo, is where I will be on March 19 for Rock the Arena, an all-day concert featuring some of the better rock acts from the late 80s and early 90s. **Bret Michaels** is headlining the event that also sees **Ratt**, **Warrant**, **Winger**, **Lita Ford**, **Firehouse**, **LA Guns** and **Trixter** on the bill. Tickets are on sale now and range from \$35-\$125. If you're a fan of this era of music, you know how cool this show will be.

christopherhupe@aol.com

Experience Hendrix	Mar. 15 '16	Hard Rock Rocksino	Northfield Park, OH
The Fab Four	Feb. 12 '16	Star Plaza Theatre	Merrillville
Fab Four	Apr. 8 '16	Hard Rock Rocksino	Northfield Park, OH
Fort Wayne Philharmonic	Dec. 20	T. Furth Center, Trine University	Angola
Frankie Ballard (sold out)	Dec. 19	Kalamazoo State Theatre	Kalamazoo
Future	Feb. 18 '16	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
The Future Laureates w/Jarryd Scott Steimer	Dec. 18	Bottom Lounge	Chicago
Future w/Ty Dolla \$ign	Feb. 19 '16	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Gaelic Storm	Mar. 11-12 '16	House of Blues	Chicago
Gaelic Storm	Mar. 16 '16	Saint Andrews Hall	Detroit
Gary Clark Jr.	Apr. 1 '16	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Goo Goo Dolls	Jan. 23 '16	FireKeepers Casino	Battle Creek, MI
Graveyard	Jan. 28 '16	Saint Andrews Hall	Detroit
Grizfolk	Feb. 5 '16	The Shelter	Detroit
Guster w/Rhett Miller	Jan. 30 '16	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Henry Rollins	Feb. 13 '16	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Here Come the Mummies	Feb. 26 '16	The Intersection	Grand Rapids
Here Come the Mummies	Mar. 25 '16	Bluebird Nightclub	Bloomington, IN
Hermans Hermits w/The Buckinghams, The Grass Roots	Jan. 30 '16	Star Plaza Theatre	Merrillville
Heywood Banks (\$25)	Apr. 29 '16	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Hillbilly Casino w/The Dead Deads	Dec. 20	Brass Rail	Fort Wayne
Hillsong Worship, Jesus Culture & Martin Smith, Kari Jobe, Elevation Worship, Brian Houston	Apr. 10 '16	Palace of Auburn Hills	Auburn Hills, MI
Hillsong Worship, Jesus Culture & Martin Smith, Kari Jobe, Elevation Worship, Brian Houston	Apr. 19 '16	Van Andel Arena	Detroit
Hillsong Worship w/Kari Jobe, Jesus Culture	Apr. 17 '16	Allstate Arena	Chicago
Home Free	Feb. 14 '16	Kalamazoo State Theatre	Kalamazoo
Hoodie Allen w/SuperDuperKyle, Black Bear	Feb. 27 '16	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Hoodie Allen	Mar. 16 '16	House of Blues	Cleveland
Hot Sauce Committee	Dec. 19	House of Blues	Cleveland
Il Volo	Feb. 27 '16	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Il Volo	Feb. 24 '16	State Theatre	Cleveland
Il Volo	Feb. 26 '16	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Jack & Jack w/Daya	Feb. 21 '16	House of Blues	Cleveland
Janet Jackson	Jan. 29 '16	Bankers Life Fieldhouse	Indianapolis
Janet Jackson	Feb. 1 '16	Schottenstein Center	Columbus, OH
Janet Jackson	Feb. 2 '16	Quicken Loans Arena	Cleveland
Janet Jackson	Feb. 5 '16	Palace at Auburn Hills	Auburn Hills, MI
Jason Isbell	Feb. 19 '16	Murat Theatre	Indianapolis
Jason Isbell w/Shovels & Rope	Feb. 20 '16	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Jason Isbell w/Shovels and Rope (\$27.50-\$55)	Mar. 1 '16	Royal Oak Music Theatre	
Jay Leno	Mar. 3 '16	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Jeffrey Jena w/The Wanna Bees	Dec. 31	Marquis Ballroom, Hotel Fort Wayne	Fort Wayne
Jennifer Nettles w/Brandy Clark, Lindsay Ell, Tara Thompson	Jan. 16 '16	Hard Rock Rocksino	Northfield Park, OH

Calendar • On the Road

Jennifer Nettles w/Lindsay Ell, Tara Thompson	Mar. 17 '16	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Jethro Tull	Apr. 7 '16	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Jethro Tull	Apr. 11 '16	Akron Civic Center	Akron, OH
Jim Brickman w/Anne Cochran, Tracy Silverman	Dec. 20	Kalamazoo State Theatre	Kalamazoo
Jim Norton	Feb. 11 '16	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Jim Norton	Mar. 11 '16	Hard Rock Rocksino	Northfield Park, OH
Joel McHale	Jan. 23 '16	Hard Rock Rocksino	Northfield Park, OH
John Gorka (\$20)	Jan. 24 '16	The Ark	Ann Arbor
John Oliver	Dec. 30	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
John Scofield, Joe Lovano	Feb. 6 '16	The Palladium	Carmel
Johnny Mathis	May 12 '16	Morris Performing Arts Center	South Bend
Johnny Mathis	May 14 '16	Clowes Memorial Hall	Indianapolis
Johnny Pemberton w/Josh Fadem	Mar. 11 '16	Metro	Chicago
Jon Pardi	Jan. 7 '16	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
Jon Pardi and Brothers Osborne	Jan. 8 '16	House of Blues	Cleveland
Jon Pardi and Brothers Osborne	Jan. 9 '16	Saint Andrews Hall	Detroit
Jorma Kaukonen (\$30)	Dec. 20	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Josh Ritter & The Royal City Band	Jan. 29 '16	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Josh Ritter	Feb. 29 '16	Taft Theatre	Cincinnati
Kaki King (\$20)	Jan. 18 '16	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Kaleo	Mar. 2 '16	Bottom Lounge	Chicago
Kelsicote	Dec. 19	USF Performing Arts Center	Fort Wayne
Killing Joke w/The Soft Moon	Feb. 9 '16	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Kirk Franklin	Mar. 25 '16	Detroit Fox Theatre	Detroit
Kygo	Jan. 23 '16	Navy Pier	Chicago
Ladysmith Black Mambazo (\$45)	Feb. 3-4 '16	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Lake Street Dive	Mar. 11-12 '16	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Lake Street Dive	Mar. 14 '16	House of Blues	Cleveland
Lamb of God w/Anthrax, Deafheaven, Power Trip	Jan. 28 '16	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Lamb of God w/Anthrax, Deafheaven, Power Trip	Jan. 29 '16	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
Lamb of God w/Anthrax, Deafheaven, Power Trip	Jan. 30 '16	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Lamb of God w/Anthrax, Deafheaven, Power Trip	Jan. 31 '16	Orbit Room	Grand Rapids
Led Zeppelin 2	Dec. 29	Saint Andrews Hall	Detroit
Led Zeppelin 2	Feb. 19 '16	House of Blues	Cleveland
Leftover Salmon w/Dumpstafunk, Bonerama	Feb. 26 '16	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Leftover Salmon w/The Travelin' McCouresys, Love Canon	Feb. 27 '16	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Leo Kottke	Apr. 16 '16	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Leon Bridges	Mar. 11 '16	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Lewis Black	Jan. 30 '16	Akron Civic Center	Akron, OH
Lewis Black	May 20 '16	State Theatre	Kalamazoo
Libera	Apr. 3 '16	Niswonger Performing Arts Center	Van Wert, Ohio
Lil' Wayne w/Rae Sremmurd	Feb. 18 '16	Van Andel Arena	Detroit
Lizzo	Feb. 18 '16	Subterranean	Chicago
LoCash	Dec. 31	8 Seconds Saloon	Indianapolis
Los Inquietos Del Norte	Jan. 1 '16	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Lucy Kaplansky (\$20)	May 7 '16	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Luis Miguel	Dec. 20	Rosemont Theatre	Rosemont, IL
Lupe Fiasco	Feb. 12 '16	House of Blues	Cleveland
Machine Gun Kelly	Dec. 20-21	House of Blues	Cleveland
Macklemore & Ryan Lewis	Feb. 2 '16	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Mannheim Steamroller	Dec. 18	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Mariana's Trench	Feb. 12 '16	Fillmore Detroit	Detroit
Mariana's Trench	Feb. 14 '16	Orbit Room	Detroit
Marlon Wayans	Feb. 5 '16	Hard Rock Rocksino	Northfield Park, OH
Megadeath	Mar. 13 '16	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Melanie Martinez	Mar. 17 '16	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Michael Carbonaro	Apr. 2 '16	Hard Rock Rocksino	Northfield Park, OH
Michael Stanley and the Resonators w/Donnie Iris and the Cruisers	Dec. 20	Hard Rock Rocksino	Northfield Park, OH
Minor Wits	Dec. 29	House of Blues	Chicago
Mo Alexander w/Andy Benigo	Dec. 18-19	Snickerz Comedy Bar	Fort Wayne
Muse w/X Ambassadors	Jan. 14 '16	Joe Louis Arena	Detroit
MusiQ Soulchild w/Keke Wyatt	Feb. 13 '16	Kalamazoo State Theatre	Kalamazoo
MusiQ Soulchild	Feb. 24 '16	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Mustard's Retreat (\$20)	Feb. 26 '16	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Natalie Grant	Mar. 20 '16	Niswonger Performing Arts Center	Van Wert, Ohio
Neck Deep w/State Champs, Knuckle Puck, Like Pacific	Feb. 13 '16	Saint Andrews Hall	Detroit
Never Shout Never	Feb. 6 '16	Saint Andrews Hall	Detroit
Oak Ridge Boys	Dec. 20	Star Plaza Theatre	Merrillville
Oak Ridge Boys	Apr. 23 '16	The Palladium	Carmel
Orgy w/Bobaflex, Death Valley High	Jan. 14 '16	The Outpost	Kent, OH
Orgy w/Bobaflex, Death Valley High	Jan. 16 '16	Harpo's	Detroit
Parquet Courts	Feb. 16 '16	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Patty Larkin (\$20)	Mar. 24 '16	The Ark	Ann Arbor
The Piano Guys	Mar. 12 '16	State Theatre	Cleveland
The Piano Guys	Mar. 14 '16	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Pink Droyd	Feb. 6 '16	C2G Music Hall	Fort Wayne
R5 w/Ryland	Mar. 10 '16	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Railroad Earth w/Horseshoes & Hand Grenades	Dec. 30	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Railroad Earth w/Commeal	Dec. 31	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Railroad Earth	Jan. 29 '16	Vogue	Indianapolis
Ratt	Dec. 26	Hard Rock Rocksino	Northfield Park, OH
Ravyn Lenae & Manwolves	Dec. 22	House of Blues	Chicago
Rayland Baxter	Feb. 12 '16	Schubas Tavern	Chicago
Rayland Baxter	Feb. 28 '16	B-Side, One Lucky Guitar	Fort Wayne
Red Green	Apr. 22 '16	Morris Performing Arts Center	South Bend

Red Wanting Blue	Dec. 31	House of Blues	Cleveland
Reel Big Fish	Feb. 9 '16	House of Blues	Cleveland
Reventon Navideño	Dec. 19	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Richard Marx	Feb. 5 '16	Kalamazoo State Theatre	Kalamazoo
Riders in the Sky	Apr. 15 '16	Niswonger Performing Arts Center	Van Wert, Ohio
Robert Gordon	Jan. 23 '16	Magic Bag	Ferdale, MI
Robin Trower	May 6 '16	State Theatre	Kalamazoo
Ron White	Feb. 25 '16	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Rusted Root	Jan. 7 '16	House of Blues	Cleveland
Ryan Bingham	Jan. 28 '16	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Ryan Bingham	Jan. 29 '16	Saint Andrews Hall	Detroit
Scotty McCreery	Jan. 28 '16	Kalamazoo State Theatre	Kalamazoo
Sharon Jones & the Dap Kings	Dec. 31	House of Blues	Chicago
Shawn Colvin (\$40-\$65)	Feb. 16 '16	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Siegel-Schwall Band	Dec. 18	Magic Bag	Ferdale, MI
Skizzy Mars	Feb. 10 '16	The Shelter	Detroit
Slayer w/Testament, Carcass	Feb. 19 '16	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Sleep	Jan. 26-27 '16	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Soul 2 the Bone	Dec. 31	House of Blues	Chicago
Southside Johnny & the Asbury Jukes	Mar. 4 '16	Hard Rock Rocksino	Northfield Park, OH
Stephen Kellogg (\$17-\$20)	Feb. 23 '16	The Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
Steve Forbert	Jan. 24 '16	B-Side, One Lucky Guitar	Fort Wayne
Steve Lippia	Feb. 5 '16	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Steve Poltz, Grant-Lee Phillips (\$20)	Feb. 9 '16	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Steve Wilson	Mar. 7 '16	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Steve Wilson	Mar. 8 '16	Vic Theatre	Chicago
STS9	Feb. 13 '16	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
STS9	Feb. 14 '16	House of Blues	Chicago
Styx	Apr. 7 '16	ISU Hulman Center	Terra Haute, IN
Styx	Apr. 8 '16	Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort	Mt. Pleasant, MI
Sublime with Rome w/Mutemath, USS	Dec. 19	Fillmore Detroit	Detroit
Sylvia McNair	May 20 '16	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Temptations	Apr. 24 '16	Hard Rock Rocksino	Northfield Park, OH
The Tenors	Jan. 23 '16	Clowes Memorial Hall	Indianapolis
Terry Lee Goffee	Jan. 9 '16	House of Blues	Cleveland
Terry Lee Goffee	Jan. 15 '16	Saint Andrews Hall	Detroit
The Texas Tenors	Apr. 17 '16	Niswonger Performing Arts Center	Van Wert, Ohio
They Might Be Giants	Mar. 20 '16	Vic Theatre	Chicago
The Threads	Dec. 27	House of Blues	Chicago
Todd Hembrook & the Hemispheres w/The Crombies	Dec. 31	Bottom Lounge	Chicago
Todd Rundgren w/John Ferenzik, Jesse Gress, Prairie Prince, Kasim Sulton	Jan. 26 '16	Park West	Chicago
Tommy Emmanuel	Feb. 14 '16	DeVos Performance Hall	Grand Rapids
Tommy Emmanuel (\$40)	Feb. 24 '16	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Trans-Siberian Orchestra	Dec. 26	Schottenstein Center	Columbus, OH
Trans-Siberian Orchestra	Dec. 28	Alstate Arena	Rosemont, IL
Trans-Siberian Orchestra	Dec. 29	Palace of Auburn Hills	Auburn Hills, MI
Trans-Siberian Orchestra	Dec. 30	Quicken Loans Arena	Cleveland
The Trippin' Billies	Jan. 2 '16	House of Blues	Chicago
Turtle Island Quartet w/Cyrus Chestnut	Apr. 1 '16	Clowes Memorial Hall	Indianapolis
Underoath	Apr. 7 '16	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Vance Joy w/Reuben and the Dark	Jan. 22-23 '16	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
The Waifs (\$30)	Apr. 27 '16	The Ark	Ann Arbor
The Waiters	Jan. 14 '16	House of Blues	Chicago
Walsher Clemons w/Joe Hertler & the Rainbow Seekers, From Tha 99, Desmond Jones	Dec. 19	Bottom Lounge	Chicago
Warren Haynes and The Ashes & Dust Band	Feb. 26 '16	House of Blues	Cleveland
The Wellington International Ukulele Orchestra	Mar. 3 '16	Niswonger Performing Arts Center	Van Wert, Ohio
Who's Bad	Apr. 1 '16	House of Blues	Cleveland
Widespread Panic	Feb. 21 '16	Murat Theatre	Indianapolis
Wish You Were Here	Jan. 2 '16	House of Blues	Cleveland
Wizards of Winter feat. Ted Nugent and Greg Smith	Dec. 20	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Wolfmother	Feb. 25 '16	Metro	Chicago
Wynonna & The Big Noise	Feb. 4 '16	Hard Rock Rocksino	Northfield Park, OH
Zack Attack	Dec. 31	Bar 145	Fort Wayne
Zoso	Mar. 4 '16	Vogue	Indianapolis

Road Tripz

BackWater	July 28-29.....T&J's Smokehouse, Put-In-Bay, OH
Dec. 12.....The Hideaway, Gas City, IN	July 30.....Splash, Put-In-Bay, OH
Big Dick and the Penetrators	Aug. 5.....Little Nashville Festival, Ottawa, OH
July 30.....Sunshower Bike Rally, Centerville, IN	Aug. 12-13.....T&J's Smokehouse, Put-In-Bay, OH
Cap'n Bob, The Singin' Skipper	Aug. 27.....Lorain County Fair, Wellington, OH
Dec. 31.....Heritage Retirement Community, Nappanee	Sept. 2-3.....T&J's Smokehouse, Put-In-Bay, OH
Gunslinger	Sept. 4.....Splash, Put-In-Bay, OH
Dec. 31.....The Hideaway, Gas City	Sept. 30.....Bella Luna, Middlebury
Jan. 23.....AM Vets Post 5, Marion	Oct. 21-22.....Cowboy Up, Mendon, MI
Feb. 5.....American Legion Post 95, Jonesboro, IN	Nov. 19.....Bella Luna, Middlebury
Hubie Ashcraft Band	Ratnip
Dec. 18-19.....Cowboy Up, Mendon, MI	Dec. 31.....Eagles Post 2246, Montpelier, OH
Jan. 29-30.....Tequila Cowboy, Lansing, MI	
March 4.....Hollywood Casino, Joliet, IL	
March 5.....Firewater Saloon, Chicago	
March 26.....Bella Luna, Middlebury	
May 27-29.....T&J's Smokehouse, Put-In-Bay, OH	
July 1-3.....Splash, Put-In-Bay, OH	

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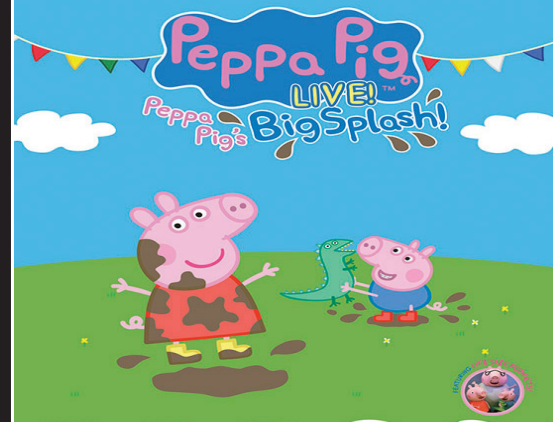
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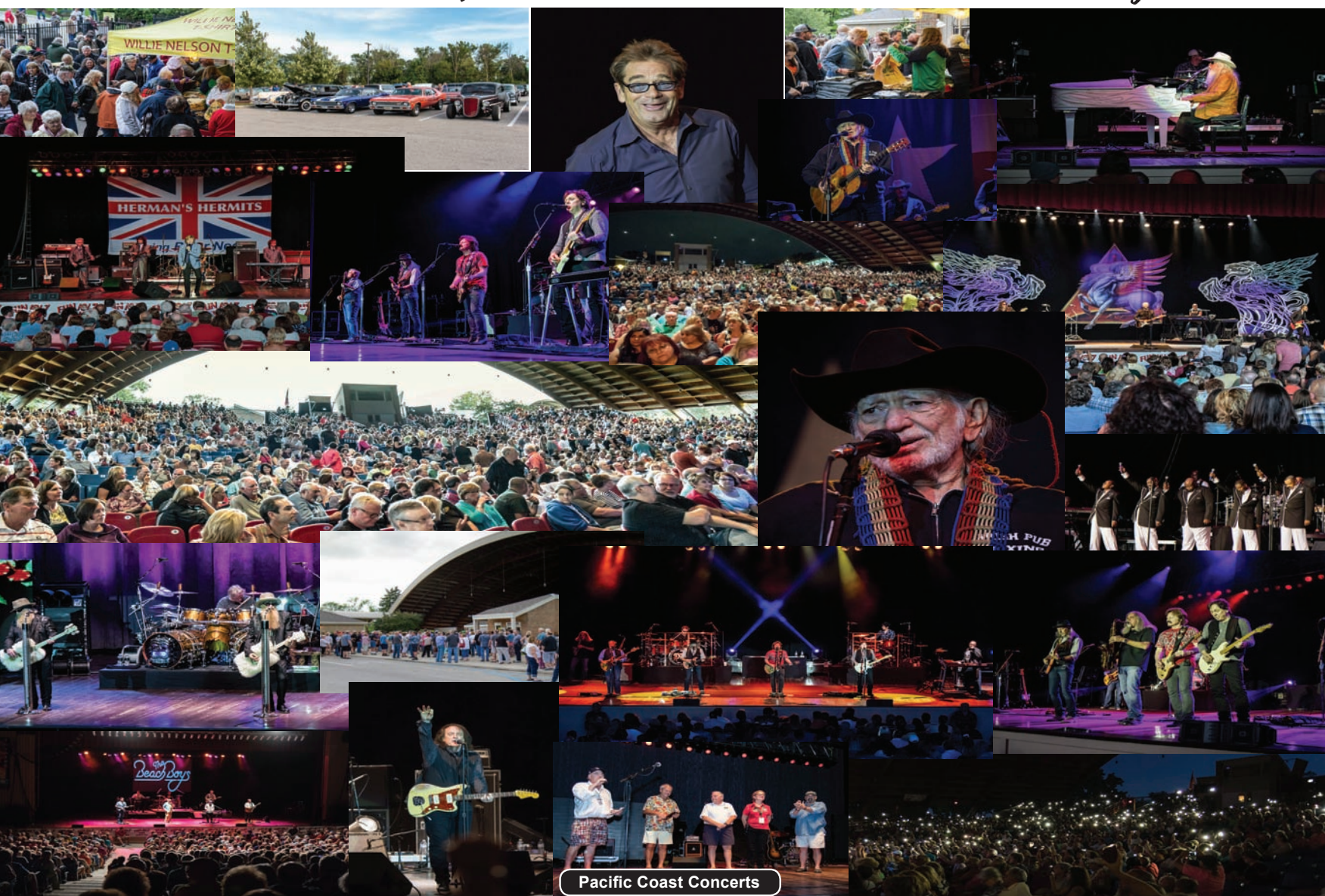
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Pacific Coast Concerts

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SUNN O))) KANNON

Putting the "concept" in concept album are the dudes from Sun O))), namely founders Stephen O'Malley and Greg Anderson. *Kannon* is a three-part tour de metal celebrating not only eastern philosophy and deep thoughts, but the group's gradual growth from heavy jam band to orchestral wonder over 10 years together. It also revels in epic riffs, droning beauty and the glory that is the 30-minute song. Pick up your copy for \$11.99 at any Wooden Nickel Music store.

Sunn O)))

Compromised

How do you find yourself listening to Sunn O)))? What makes you decide to buy tickets to see Sunn O))), donning cloaks and floating in a sea of fog machine emissions in some small theater as the ceiling tiles shake and plaster cracks and crumbles from the sheer hellish volume they create?

In the past I've listened to Sunn O))) out of morbid curiosity. Their music always felt like the beginning of some doom metal song stretched out for 10 minutes, then nothing. Droning feedback, sub-level riffs quiver and quake under the weight of ample fuzz and d-tuned strings and faint hissed whispers for vocals make their way out of the muck and mire of their songs. They seem adamant about what they do. There doesn't seem to be any hesitation in the delivery, so I think they're quite good at creating these dark passages of music. The lack of drums and any real discernible rhythm creates a wooziness; without drums pushing the song along, the guitars create almost this sea of black we begin floating in. Stranded in this droning, doom-filled body of water, our small vessel nearly capsizes as wave after wave of volume and squealing swells of noise crash on the bow. There is never a horizon with Sunn O))), just impenetrable blackness.

Kannon is the first true full-length record from Sunn O))) since 2009. It's not nearly the black hole of drone that *Monoliths and Dimensions* was, but very little is. What it is, however, is three songs that clock in at a little over 33 minutes and deliver on the promise of a new Sunn O))) record, which is sheer volume and dark atmosphere.

I was listening to *Kannon* at home last Saturday night while my wife and I sat in the living room reading. About two minutes into "Kannon 2", the second track on the album, my wife looked at me with a squinting look on her face and went "Ahhhhhhh", pointing at the speakers. I said "What's wrong? Is it hurting your ears?" in regards to the screeching feedback and sub-level drone emanating from my Pioneer tower speakers.

"Yeah. Just a little," she said, wincing.

That's really all you need to know about *Kannon*. It's not for everybody, but it might just be for you. If you're at all familiar with Sunn O))), then you know what to expect. I will say this: "Kannon 3" has almost an upbeat feel in the drone-y delivery of the hellish squalls and shrieks. It has more of a sea chantey vibe, had a pirate ship been sucked into a wormhole and shot out into an alternate universe in slow motion. But overall, it seems to be business as usual – which I think is a good thing. There are certain bands you don't want to change all that much. You want them to retain those things that made them special and unique, whether it be ear-shattering volume, breakneck speed, chanting, or sludge-y, soupy riffs played at the speed of blood-tinged molasses dripping down a white canvas. Oh, and cloaks. Don't forget the cloaks.

So how do you find yourself listening to Sunn O)))? Well if it's with your wife, it better be with headphones. (John Hubner)



BACKTRACKS

Frank Zappa

Chunga's Revenge (1970)

After his period with the Mothers of Invention, Frank Zappa ventured out on his own to what has become one of the most illustrious careers of any American musician. Though most critics and fans don't recognize Zappa as mainstream, his following (myself included) was loyal and knowledgeable when it came to digging what he was putting out in the late 60s through his death in 1993.

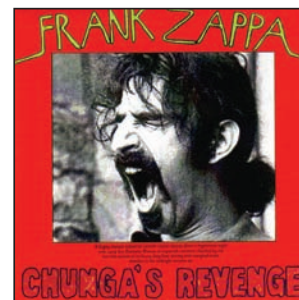
This second release mixed jazz and rock with some improvisational numbers and was lyrically based on being on the road in a band (groupies, drugs, sex). But musically, it was structurally sound, attractive and somewhat complicated.

"Transylvania Boogie" opens up the record with an almost late 60s surf music atmosphere that intertwines with a jam band sound familiar to fans of Phish and Umphrey's McGee. "Road Ladies" is gospel blues number that features a mean guitar from Zappa and some of the attention-grabbing lyrics he was known for.

"The Nancy & Mary Music" is an almost 10-minute number that for non-fans can get a little repetitive, but the guitars are extremely groovy nonetheless. "Tell Me You Love Me" is straight up rock n' roll that goes right into the poppy "Would You Go All the Way." The latter songs actually has a funky trombone arrangement (because Zappa didn't follow rules).

The title track is also an instrumental number that brings the tempo down for a moment before going on for another five minutes on cruise control with a funky little organ and sick guitars from Zappa. "The Clap" is a short little percussion blend; it goes into the goofy "Rudy Wants to Buy Yez a Drink."

His massive catalogue is unique, strange, brilliant, original and sometimes over your head – but it's never too late to discover the genius that was Frank Zappa. (Dennis Donahue)



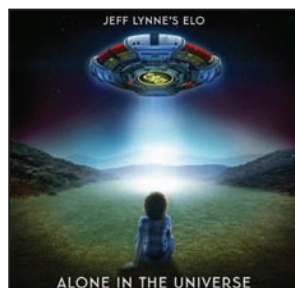
Jeff Lynne's ELO. *Alone in the Universe* is most definitely a Jeff Lynne album. Do you like soaring harmonies, melodies for miles and a sprinkle of heartbreak for good measure? Then step inside Mr. Lynne's guitar-shaped rocket ship and enjoy.

I'm not sure what constitutes an ELO album anymore, as opposed to just a Jeff Lynne album. They're really hard to tell apart at this point. I suppose there's less spaced-out rockabilly and Roy Orbison-isms on an ELO album than on a solo Lynne record. *Alone in the Universe* revisits some familiar ELO territory, in particular *Face the Music* and *A New World Record*-era ELO. The "Telephone Line"-like "When I Was A Boy" will make you feel all warm and fuzzy, while "Dirty To The Bone" feels like Lynne revisiting the few moments of 80s ELO that weren't dreadful. "When The Night Comes" has a stunted reggae vibe, like Lynne can't get loose enough in the rhythm department to get the right amount of skank. Still, it comes across as a decent enough Jeff Lynne song.

The production touches Jeff Lynne is known for have mellowed over time, like a leather chair that has been worn down over years of use. The snare isn't quite as snappy as it used to be, which is a good thing and a good fit for the weathered voice that emerges from that bearded face.

Alone in the Universe is worth the price of admission just to have two exquisite tracks. "The Sun Will Shine on You" is regal – like floating through space in some magical bubble powered by a truly "strange magic." This song is proof Lynne should continue to make music until he no longer can. "Ain't It a Drag" is a jangle rock track that sounds like what would happen if the Traveling Wilburys had been produced by Jon Brion on a coffee buzz. It's a fun rock n' roll number that Lynne might've thrown at us in his *Armchair Theatre* days.

So if you're looking for *A New World Record*, *Face the Music* or *Out of the Blue*, then go listen to those albums. *Alone in the Universe* isn't those records. It is, however, Jeff Lynne making the best out of growing old. It's also a couple Jeff Lynne classics and a handful of pretty decent songs. (John Hubner)



Jeff Lynne's ELO

Alone in the Universe

Not many can have a successful career first as a recording artist, then as a sought-after producer. Jeff Lynne did that.

In the 70s he was the leader of ELO; then in the 80s he produced albums for George Harrison, Tom Petty and the supergroup Traveling Wilburys (of which he was also a member.) He created the "Jeff Lynne sound" – chorus-y, snappy snare and bright chiming guitar – one of those unforgettable sounds that makes albums like Tom Petty's *Full Moon Fever* and Lynne's own *Armchair Theatre* such timeless and classic albums.

Unfortunately it's also like a watermark that indelibly dates the songs and albums. While it's a calling card with a catchy phrase you never forget, after a while that catchy phrase goes from clever to kind of kitchy.

Lynne has returned after a rather quiet 15 years (give or take some producing here and a covers album there) and has given us

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(Week ending 12/13/15)

TW	LW	ARTIST/Album
1	1	ADELE 25
2	2	COLDPLAY Head Full of Dreams
3	-	R. KELLY Buffet
4	3	BOB DYLAN The Best of the Cutting Edge
5	5	JEFF LYNNE'S ELO Alone in the Universe
6	-	GRIMES Art Angels
7	-	BEATLES 1's
8	8	ROGER WATERS The Wall
9	10	RUSH R40 Live
10	-	AUGUST ALSINA This Thing Called Life

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Continued on page 21

Jerry Gaskill

Love and Scars

For the past few decades, Jerry Gaskill has beaten the skins for King's X, a relatively unknown but highly influential power trio. While the other two members have added a string of side projects and solo albums to their work as a band, Jerry has released only a single solo album. Until now.

While Gaskill's first album, *Come Somewhere*, sounded like it had been written on an acoustic guitar and later rocked up, *Love and Scars* is a full-on melodic, hard rock onslaught. The modern sound is largely due to guitarist/songwriter/producer DA Karkos, plus friends like Andee Blacksugar, Billy Sheehan and Phil Keaggy. But as they say back on the farm, if you slap lipstick on pig and put it in a fancy sequined dress, you might have a date for Saturday, but it's still a pig. To that end, all the deluxe sonic treatments won't do anything to make a poorly written song enjoyable.

Thankfully as a co-writer for many classic King's X tunes, Gaskill excels at creating great songs – and this time it's obvious that his guitar was plugged in when he wrote them.

And thankfully for King's X fans, Gaskill solo sounds a lot like King's X. Surprise! I'm sure it helps that the guitarists "borrow" Ty Tabor's signature guitar sound and style, but since it's been awhile since a proper King's X album, I'm not complaining. I mean, can you really rip off your own band? As a confirmed Beatles fan, Gaskill also uses vocal harmonies to flesh out his rich melodies. Instead of going through song by song, I'll just say that there are grinding mid-tempo rockers, lighter songs filled with dreamy guitars and even a playful "live" song at the end. In short, it's got everything a rocker could want.

Always one to write some way-out lyrics that leave the listener scratching their head ("Six Broken Soldiers" and "American Cheese" come to mind), Gaskill combines poetic mystery with humor and enjoyment out of everyday activities. Just a few examples: "You're only pretty when your heart beats / Or your lungs breath / After that I just don't know" (concerning his heart attack), "So Patty, cut my hair / We talked about the air" and "You're so lovely when you're far away."

With *Love and Scars*, Jerry Gaskill proves that he's much more than just an excellent drummer and songwriter. He's survived two heart attacks plus losing everything to Hurricane Sandy and is still able to kick back, laugh and enjoy life. Thankfully, the songs on this album invite us to sit down and enjoy the humor of life by his side. (Jason Hoffman)

Leftover Crack

Garden of Delete

"When was the last time you met somebody who thinks for themselves?"

That question is asked in the sampled recording that intro the song "?!Pallamora Fiesta Crack!" about halfway through *Constructs of the State*, the latest album by Leftover Crack and their first full-length in 11 years. The question neatly sums up what the band is all about: individualism and, by extension, railing against any form of groupthink.

The album starts off with "Archaic Subjugation," a full-frontal assault on religion. Afterwards, the band tackles the rich, the military and authoritarian systems in general.

In case you haven't figured it out yet, Leftover Crack are dyed-in-the-wool lefties and aren't making any apologies for their politics.

They've also proven that they're not above courting a



little controversy - this is the band, after all, that released an album that depicted George W. Bush, Dick Cheney and Rudolph Giuliani causing the World Trade Center bombings – an album that, not surprisingly, was quickly banned by outlets like Wal-Mart and Best Buy.

Whether you agree with their politics or not – and chances are that's "no" for most folks – they at least deserve credit for practicing what they preach. In addition to spewing radical left treatises through their music, the band members actually live in C-Squat in Manhattan. Granted, that particular location is no longer technically a squat, but it is a landmark in the anarcho-punk movement, and remains something of a mecca for punk rock music and skate culture.

Musically, Leftover Crack play a blend of hardcore punk, post-punk and ska with a tinge of metal. "Archaic Subjugation" delivers a cavalcade of crushing guitars and introduces the harsh vocals of Scott Sturgeon (aka Stza Crack, Osama Stiz Laden, and Ol' Dirty Stza). By the second song, Sturgeon proves that he's not a one-trick pony, engaging in a surprisingly hooky chorus, delivered in his trademarked rasp. The band, too, flexes its musical muscles throughout: "Slave to the Throne" has a monster riff that's a drop-dead ringer for Slayer, and "Vicious Constructs" is a brooding number that's straight out of Fugazi's playbook.

Even though the band hasn't released a new album since 2004, they've remained busy with side projects and playing live, and it shows. *Constructs* is a tight album that benefits from enough of a variety that it doesn't become monotonous, but not so much that it is unfocused. And who knows, maybe their politics will move you to go out and get that anarchy symbol tattoo you've always wanted. (Ryan Smith)

Steve Forbert

Compromised

Steve Forbert is a lifer. He writes rock tunes that swell with pop – pop tunes that don't condescend – in a timeless style.

Forbert blasted onto the scene back in 1980 with "Romeo's Tune." The arrival of this potent singer/songwriter came just in time for that decade's affinity for musical detachment and flash and the devaluation of such a 70s-era virtue as a guy holding a guitar and spouting clever and heartfelt lyrics.

Forbert held his ground, however, and he outlived the synths and the haircuts and "the death of the guitar." With his now ultra-gruff vocal delivery, he certainly sounds like he came out the other side of some kind of battle. Drop the needle on any of the cuts on *Compromised* and witness an artist who has stuck to his guns. Many tunes, including the title track, bear the hallmarks that define most of Forbert's substantial catalog: tight, concise songs coated in just enough jangle to make the earthy substance of the lyric go down smoothly. While his delivery may be an acquired taste to new listeners (I'd suggest checking out some older Forbert material as an appetizer to this album), Forbert hasn't lost a bit of his edge.

The production on *Compromised* sounds as timeless as Forbert's songs; placed in context with his early work, these songs would absolutely fit right in. While *Compromised* doesn't parrot his past work in the least, the album showcases what the man does best. It will prove comfortable as an old shoe to longtime Forbert fans.

The piano and horns driving "Welcome the Rolling Stones" may not be considered radio catnip these days, but they add a friendliness to a nostalgic tune that could have easily been diluted by modern studio sheen. The gentle "You'd See What I See," written after Forbert visited John Lennon's boyhood home, imagines the young Lennon's thoughts upon first meeting with a kid named Paul, while the firmly in-the-now "Whatever, Man" lets us know that life is far too important to take seriously. "I'm not the only one with worldly problems / But I'm the only one with mine," he sings before admonishing the listener to lighten up and look at the big picture. "Whatever, man / Don't let it drive you crazy."



Coming from a lifer with such a lived-in voicebox, those simple words rise to the level of sage advice. (D.M. Jones)

Adele

25

It's been said that once you sell 30 million copies, there's nowhere to go but down.

Released in January 2011, Adele's *21* became a cultural milestone for the new decade, with singles like "Rolling in the Deep" being an inescapable presence in modern culture that still persists today. The album was also viewed as the saving grace for an ailing music industry struggling to survive in the digital age. Continually mounting sales and a deluge of awards put an unfair amount of pressure on the singer-songwriter to save the music industry yet again with a follow-up. However, like any good mother would, she held off on the task in favor of raising her son, Angelo, birthed in the melee of Adelemania.

Adele finally announced her reintroduction to the world by saying "Hello" – mostly as a way to make peace with her past self and reflect on the passage of time. Thematically, her third album, *25*, is a makeup record, but not a stark contrast to its break-up oriented predecessor. When she laments, "I know I'm not the only one / Who regrets the things they done / Sometimes I feel it's only me / Who can't stand the reflection that they see," on "Million Years Ago," it's one of many bitter spots in an otherwise sweet album.

The legion of Adele fans who focus on her vocal dexterity are not at all going to be disappointed by *25*. Each of the 11 songs demonstrates undeniable triumphs of a skilled vocalist in total command of her range and pitch. The collaborations with Max Martin ("Send My Love"), Danger Mouse ("River Lea"), Tobias Jesso Jr. ("When We Were Young") and Bruno Mars ("All I Ask"), among many others, remain consistent despite each of them practicing within different genres. The artistic success of *25* can be measured by its continuance of *21*'s love for soul music and remaining sympathetic to the plights of many.

Which is also the record's most disappointing aspect: however many fans will be satisfied, there's bound to be a respectable percentage of fans who can't help but feel cheated by having to hear the same album over again. Some of the biggest talking points to this album have more to do with its first-week sales figures of 3.38 million copies sold, rather than how she took more advantage of a situation that would have allowed her to branch out and still be hugely successful, no matter what. It's also possible that once you sell 30 million copies, there may be little choice but to repeat what appeals to a worldwide audience. (Colin McCallister)

El Vy

Return to the Moon

The National's Matt Berninger isn't one to just fall into a project. Call him an artist; call him complicated; call him pretentious, if you like. But back up a few paces and you realize that this singer has never phoned in a line in his life. One gets the impression that a "lark" is not an attractive foundation on which he would build anything.

El Vy (as in, more than one Elvis. Get it?) pairs Berninger with Brent Knopf, late of Menomena, and their freshman effort is an energized breath of fresh air. Rather than simply slum during downtime, Berninger actually created personas to embody these songs. Reportedly inspired by both his early exposure to the Cincinnati music scene and the camaraderie



Continued on page 22



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Honey and Leonard by Mark Paul Smith,
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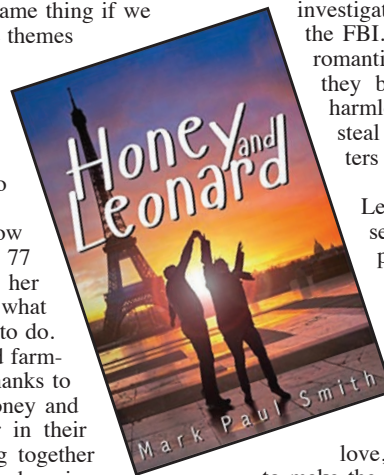
In the heart-rending documentary *I'll Be Me*, we watch as singer Glen Campbell deals with the dramatic progression of Alzheimer's disease, and we marvel at his denial of the disease's effects. As his memory begins to fail, he explains his inability to answer his doctor's questions by claiming that he's choosing not to remember the things that don't matter to him – even if those things happen to be the current season or his own age.

The need to fit the disconcerting loss of self into something that seems normal is strong, and it's easy to imagine we'd do exactly the same thing if we were in the same situation. Those themes of denial and fear can be found in *Honey and Leonard*, Mark Paul Smith's new novel, as can the assertion that happiness and fun don't need to flit away along with the memories as life begins to wind down.

Honey Waldrop is the widow of a small-town doctor; she's 77 and feisty, a wealthy woman on her own who doesn't hesitate to say what she thinks or do what she wants to do. Leonard Atkins, 76, is a widowed farmer, himself financially well off thanks to a lifetime of smart investing. Honey and Leonard have found each other in their twilight, and they've been living together for months, a situation that's caused a minor scandal in North Manchester, Indiana, the small town where they live.


Leonard is in the early stages of Alzheimer's, and he's moved out of an assisted living facility in order to move in with Honey. That doesn't sit well with his niece, who already has power of attorney in Leonard's affairs and is trying to have him declared mentally incompetent so that she can take over fully as his legal guardian.

When routine blood tests turn up high levels of arsenic in Leonard's system, Honey is accused of poisoning him, and his niece obtains a court order to keep the pair separated. But these two strong-willed people are in love, and nothing will keep them apart. Honey suggests that they flee their small town, just fly off to France on a whim. Leonard, who's never even been on an airplane, is scared but willing to follow Honey.

**EVAN GILLESPIE**

anywhere. So off they go, instantly turning themselves into fugitives from the law.

What follows is a comic adventure, with Honey and Leonard making their way, clumsily and romantically, through all of the tourist hot spots in France, charming cab drivers and waiters along the way. Hot on their heels are everyone from a private investigator, to a small-town journalist, to the FBI. When the world gets wind of the romantic exploits of this adorable couple, they become international celebrities, a harmless Bonnie and Clyde who easily steal the hearts of everyone who encounters them.



Smith tells the story of Honey and Leonard with humor and a healthy sense of whimsy, but the lurking problem of Leonard's increasing dementia is always there. The message seems to be, however, that Leonard's escalating difficulties are no reason for him to give up on himself and certainly no reason for Honey to give up on him. They are both still alive and in love, and they are stubbornly determined to make the most of what they have, right here and right now.

Smith also boldly addresses the challenges of simply being old in a culture that doesn't have much respect for the elderly. He writes frankly – although not especially graphically – about Honey and Leonard's sex life, and he shows us how they bristle at the assumption that their relationship is somehow less complete than one between two younger people.

Most soberingly, Smith shows us two adults who, thanks to a legal system that's stacked against them, are in danger of losing control of their own lives when they've still got plenty of living to do. It's no wonder that they would fight so hard and go to such extremes to keep that control in their own hands and convince everyone that they are still perfectly capable of taking care of themselves.

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SPINS - From Page 21

he viewed in the Minutemen documentary *We Jam Econo*, Berninger created Didi Bloome and Michael as kind of avatars to give voice to the new album.

Return to the Moon is also nuanced and not without its melancholy moments. While the National's frontman doesn't exactly shed the mannerisms and vocal stylings that make his full-time band instantly recognizable, he is more energetic here.

Knopf's musical contributions put Berninger in a far different context, framing his baritone in a more upbeat, if not joyous, setting. The opener, "Return to the Moon (Political Song for Didi Bloeome to Sing, with Crescendo)," brings home a suspicion I've had about the National: they re-imagined The Smiths, albeit as a matter of degree. The sprightly "Return to the Moon" only bolsters this feeling, thanks to its compact musical construction and tight, lively beat.

"Leave me somewhere near the back / Where the bouncers won't attack," he sings on "Need a Friend." He continues, "I don't need your love / I just need a friend." Pumping pianos and an insistent beat add to

the song's tension. It's pop, but the bubblegum is salty rather than sugary. I'd be remiss if I didn't point out that Amsterdam's The Great Dictators have always sounded to me like a take on what the National could have sounded like. "Need a Friend" sounds more like TGD than the National. Go figure.

If you love Matt Berninger's thoughtfulness but could use a little sugar to go along with the usual medicine, Knopf's chops supply it. It's no surprise that El Vy have become an actual entity rather than just a one-off vanity project. This record brings out another side of a gifted songwriter as it manages to stand alone as a worthwhile listen. The best praise I can offer is this: If this is the first time you've ever heard Matt Berninger and Brent Knopf, then you're in for a treat. *(D.M. Jones)*

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Several Factors Bode Well for Film

Be of good cheer. Despite all the willful nonsense and genuine idiocy surrounding us, 2016 will be a year of fun at the movies. We'll need fun this year. It is an election year. Movies, books, music, plays, dance, television, visual art in all of its many mediums, will keep us sane. Better than sane: informed, enlightened, inspired and laughing at ourselves.

The new year will bring developments for local moviegoers. Carmike at Jefferson Point will begin serving beer and wine. Critics object to alcohol being introduced to the movie going experience. This is a trend that works well across the country. Cinema Grill has been serving food and libations for years and also manages to throw birthday parties for younger audiences at the same time. In defense of critics of movies and beer and wine, I offer a quote from Annie in *It's a Wonderful Life*, "Boys and girls and dancing. Why do they need gin?"

A new event, the Hobnobben Film Festival will debut this summer to celebrate Cinema Center's 40th anniversary. The dates are June 16 to 19, and the festival will happen at multiple venues and include advance screenings, hobnobbing with filmmakers and a wide variety of programming. The festival will also celebrate Fort Wayne's connection to television pioneer, Philo Farnsworth, with Philo Fest.

The Hollywood holiday schedule is as crowded as ever, so look for some highly buzzed about films not making it to the community until 2016. National expansion for even a film like the highly praised and an-



Flix
CATHERINE LEE

ticipated *The Revenant* is currently dated for January 8.

Star Wars: The Force Awakens, even if it arrives on the low end of expectations, will be playing well into 2016. If it satisfies fans even moderately, they will tend to go to more movies in 2016, and that's good for future moviemaking. If *Star Wars* is a genuine hit and attracts new fans, one trend I'm sure Hollywood will hope to repeat is the successful lockdown of too much pre-release chatter. I haven't heard any accounts of bootleg downloads. Influential people either haven't seen the film, or they aren't talking.

My Christmas movie wish is for *Star Wars* to be really great and really successful. The original *Star Wars* is the first film I went to many times in a theatre. The fun of the original is like Christmas morning. So many presents! Really, really cool effects, cute guys, wacky creatures, epic drama, corny dialogue and a great story? Sounds like Christmas to me.

And then there is princess Leia. Finally, I met a princess I could love! She is smart, smart-mouthed, courageous, committed (like you read about) and effective. A brunette with a wicked eye roll, she does not suffer fools. And really, if you forget that slave costume (I know you can't) she is a great nerd heroine.

Critics and pundits are talking about how there aren't any clear Oscar favorites in so many categories so far. I think everyone is holding their breath. There is certainly some expectation that *Star Wars* will dominate technical categories.

What if it is also a potential Best Picture nominee? Diversity is a big topic in the industry. If *Star Wars* is diverse but not pandering, that would be great and would woo academy voters.

Courtesy of the hacked e-mails of Sony executives, the sexism of Hollywood has been a big topic in 2015. Jennifer Lawrence, Amy Schumer and other ladies spent this year raising awareness about sexist behavior in the boardroom and on set and the big pay gaps between male and female stars. I hope they continue to make progress for the health and well-being of the movies.

Studio heads love to say moviemaking is a high-risk business. That's their truth. Most of them have seen *Risky Business* way too often. They keep making movies that appeal to the male 18-49 demographic because they want to score big. They say this is the group that attends movies most worldwide, so male driven action pictures have the most earning potential.

I hope the women of Hollywood create more opportunities for themselves, but I encourage them to work for the equality of women across the globe. And they have been. As lousy as it is to be a female star or tech worker and get paid less, or be mak-

Continued on page 26

You Want Lists? We've Got Bunches of 'em

Hello friends. Usually, this time of year I'm offering all sorts of end-of-the-year coverage. My favorite performances in a film, on a television show. My favorite films and television show programs. My favorite scripts and directors. All that. I discuss all the awards show nominations and the lists of other writers. Not this year. Not really. This year I was too busy, in too lousy a place financially, too otherwise engaged, to keep up with film and television as I have in the past. Sure, I watched plenty, but I don't feel that I'm the year-end expert that I've fancied myself to be in past years. So, instead of offering you a too-long essay about my favorite films of the year (that write-up will probably come in March, after I've caught up), I'm going to give you a bunch of interesting lists to consider - my opinions peppered in for fun.

The 25 Best Reviewed films of 2015: 25. *Girlhood* (director, Céline Sciamma), 24. *Tangerine* (Sean Baker), 23. *Room* (Lenny Abrahamson), 22. *Dreamcatcher* (Marielle Heller), 21. *The Diary of a Teenage Girl* (Marielle Heller), 20. *The Duke of Burgundy* (Peter Strickland), 19. *Son of Saul* (László Nemes), 18. *Listen to Me Marlon* (Stevan Riley), 17. *Brooklyn* (John Crowley), 16. *Democrats* (Camilla Nielsson), 15. *Mad Max: Fury Road* (George Miller), 14.



ScreenTime
GREG W. LOCKE

Western (Anurag Kashyap), 13. *Gangs of Wasseypur* (Anurag Kashyap), 12. *Of Men and War* (Laurent Bécue-Renard), 11. *Hard to Be a God* (Aleksi German), 10. *Phoenix* (Christian Petzold), 9. *Gett: The Trial of Viviane Amsalem* (Ronit Elkabetz and Shlomi Elkabetz), 8. *Jafar Panahi's Taxi* (Jafar Panahi), 7. *The Look of Silence* (Joshua Oppenheimer), 6. *Timbuktu* (Abderrahmane Sissako), 5. *45 Years* (Andrew Haigh), 4. *Spotlight* (Tom McCarthy), 3. *Inside Out* (Peter Doctor and Ronaldo del Carmen), 2. *Carol* (Todd Haynes), 1. *Anomalisa* (Charlie Kaufman and Duke Johnson).

Whoa. What a list! Of course, J.J. Abrams' new *Star Wars* film is going to shake up this list - maybe all of these lists. But so far, wow, it's nice to see so many unknown directors getting such great reviews. Very few of the movies listed above were mainstream releases. And look at how many of the films were made by women! This is the good thing about all this new technology: There are a lot of people making films now who couldn't before, and they're even

getting seen and reviewed. The film world is changing so quickly.

The Top 25 Grossing Films of 2015 (again, pre-*Star Wars*): 25. *Tomorrowland*, 24. *Trainwreck*, 23. *Spy*, 22. *The Peanut Movie*, 21. *Kingsman: The Secret Service*, 20. *The Divergent Series: Insurgent*, 19. *Mad Max: Fury Road*, 18. *San Andreas*, 17. *Straight Outta Compton*, 16. *The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water*, 15. *Fifty Shades of Grey*, 14. *Hotel Transylvania 2*, 13. *Home*, 12. *Ant-Man*, 11. *Pitch Perfect 2*, 10. *Spectre*, 9. *Mission: Impossible - Rogue Nation*, 8. *Cinderella*, 7. *The Martian*, 6. *The Hunger Games: Mockingjay, Pt. 2*, 5. *Minions*, 4. *Furious 7*, 3. *Inside Out*, 2. *Avengers: Age of Ultron*, 1. *Jurassic World*.

New York Times' Critic Manohla Dargis' Top 10: 10. *Sixty Six*, 9. *The Big Short*, 8. *The Diary of a Teenage Girl*, 7. *The Kindergarten Teacher*, 6. *The Martian*, 5. *In Jackson Heights*, 4. *Carol*, 3. *Bridge of Spies*, 2. *Luminous Intimacy*, 1. *The Assassin and Mad Max: Fury Road* (tie).

New York Times' Critic A.O. Scott's Top 10: 10. *Results and Welcome to Me* (tie), 9. *Creed*, 8. *Mad Max: Fury Road*, 7. *Out 1: Noli Me Tangere*, 6. *Taxi*, 5. *Carol* and *Anomalisa* (tie), 4. *Heart of a Dog*, 3.

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HOLIDAZE — Fort Wayne Youtheatre's musical revue of the pageantry, shopping, family gatherings and madness of the season, **7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18 and 2 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 19-20**, First Presbyterian Theater, Fort Wayne, \$12-\$18, 422-4226

ROGERS & HAMMERSTEIN'S CINDERELLA — The Tony Award-winning musical that is a contemporary take on the classic fairy tale, **8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 18-19; 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 20**, Wagon Wheel Center for the Arts, Warsaw, \$14-\$32, 574-267-8041

THE SANTALAND DIARIES — David Sedaris' account of working as an elf at Macy's Santaland in New York City during the holiday crunch, **10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18; 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19**, First Presbyterian Theater, Fort Wayne, \$12-\$20, 422-6329

SUPPER CLUB HOLIDAY SHOW — Retro Vegas-style crooner entertainment with holiday themed buffet, **6:30 p.m.** (dinner), **7:30 p.m.** (show), **Thursday-Sunday Dec. 17-20**, Huntington Supper Club, Huntington, \$35 (show only), \$49 (includes dinner & show) thru box office 454-0603

Asides

AUDITIONS

RUBY BRIDGES (Feb. 5-8) — Auditions for adults and children, **4-6 p.m. Monday-Tuesday, Jan. 5-6**, Fort Wayne Youtheatre, Arts United Center, Fort Wayne, 422-8641

ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST (April 21-May 7) — Casting for 13 men and 4 women of all ages, gender blind casting possible, **7 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 14**, First Presbyterian Theater, Fort Wayne, 422-6329

Upcoming Productions

JANUARY 2016

TWO PLAYS ON A BENCH — Edward Albee's *The Zoo Story* and David Mamet's *The Duck Variations*, each involving two men sitting on a park bench, **7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Jan. 14-16; 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Jan. 22-23; 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 24; 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Jan. 29-30**, First Presbyterian Theater, Fort Wayne, \$12-\$20, 422-6329

ROMEO AND JULIET — Full-length three act ballet performed by The State Ballet Theatre of Russia, **7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 20**, Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$28-\$58 thru Ticketmaster and Embassy box office, 424-5665

THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (ABRIDGED) [REVISED] — Fast paced, witty comedy featuring three actors and all 37 of Shakespeare's plays revised for 21st century audiences, **7 p.m. dinner, 8 p.m. curtain, Friday-Saturday, Jan. 22-23, 29-30, Feb. 5-6**, Arena Dinner Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$35 (includes dinner & show), 424-5622

MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET — Musical based on the one-time-only recording session that united Elvis Presley, Jerry Lee Lewis, Carl Perkins and Johnny Cash, **7:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 31**, Niswonger Performing Arts Center, Van Wert, Ohio, \$30-\$55 thru box office, 419-238-6722

FEBRUARY 2016

RUBY BRIDGES — Story of the six year old girl that became the face of the nation's school integration system, presented by Fort Wayne Youtheatre, **7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 5 and 2 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Feb. 6-7**, Parkview Physician's Group ArtsLab, Fort Wayne, \$12-\$18, 422-6900

YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN — Fort Wayne Civic Theatre's production of the Mel Brooks musical based on the 1974 film, **8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 13, 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 14, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 19-20, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 26-27 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 28**, Arts United Center, Fort Wayne, \$29, 424-5220

TURTLE SOUP — Local writer/actor Michael Wilhelm's comedic play based on the story of "Oscar", the famous turtle of Churubusco; presented by all for One productions, **7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 19-20; 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 21; 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 26-27 and 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 28**, PPG Arts Lab, Arts United Center, Fort Wayne, \$10-\$18, 745-4364

A Cure for the Humbugs

Christmas is sometimes a great big drag.

Some people are lonesome for their faraway families. Some people wish they were lying on a faraway beach — *without* their families. Shoppers stand in lines, lines, lines. Credit cards get maxed. The occasional fight breaks out. Ah, the holiday season! Should be great, but sometimes, it's not so whippy.

Fort Wayne Youtheatre presents the antidote for everybody who has drunk deeply of the "Bah, humbug!" draft with *Holidaze: A Survivor's Guide for the Season*. Grumpy people will emerge humming a little tune or doing a little dance. Grumpy people will feel just a little bit like a kid again.

Holidaze is an original revue, written and directed by Leslie Hormann, and she has captured beautiful little snapshots of modern family life. The audience will get to know a blended family, a single mom and her son, a young couple with a new family and some sweetly loopy old folks.

The cast is enormous, and enormously fun; more than 50 characters swarm all over the First Presbyterian Theater, making entrances, singing their pageant songs and choreographing a holiday dance routine that sends the pageant director screaming into the wings. In *Holidaze*, people tend to wig out just a little bit. It lends a certain realism to the depiction

Curtain Call



VIRGINIA RELPH

HOLIDAZE
FORT WAYNE YOUTHEATRE
7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18
2 p.m. Saturday-Sunday,
Dec. 19-20

First Presbyterian Theater
300 W. Wayne St., Fort Wayne
Tix.: \$12-\$18, 260-422-6900
www.fortwayneyoutheatre.org

Continued on page 25

Get Your Move On



Fort Wayne
Dance collective

Register for Winter/Spring classes online
at fwdc.org or by calling 260.424.6574



State Ballet Theatre of Russia

Direct from Russia

JANUARY
20
2016
at 7:30 pm

S. Prokofiev

Romeo and Juliet

Ballet in 2 acts
Choreography
by M. Lavrovsky



City of Fort Wayne, IN
Embassy Theatre
Tickets at
Ticketmaster.com - 800.745.3000
Embassy box office - fwembassytheatre.org



First Presbyterian Theater presents

DAVID SEDARIS

THE SANTALAND DIARIES



December 3-19

One man's account of working as an elf at Macy's Santaland in New York during the holiday crunch. From one of our funniest contemporary American humorists, with a satirical style reminiscent of Mark Twain, comes this merrily subversive tale — just the antidote if the holidays have overwhelmed you. Kevin Torwelle plays Crumpet, the elf.

For tickets, call
260-422-6329
www.firstpresbyteriantheater.com
300 West Wayne Street
Fort Wayne, IN 46802

Current Exhibits

10TH REGIONAL EXHIBITION AWARD

WINNERS — Works by Jeremy Stroup, Trevor Rush and John Myers on display, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Jan. 13**, (opening reception **6-9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11**, with Artists' Talk at **6:45 p.m.**) Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, 424-7195

ANGELA ELLSWORTH — Prints on display, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Jan. 13**, (opening reception **6-9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11**), Betty Fishman Gallery, Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, 424-7195

ART CLUB — Artwork by students from the Art Club outreach program on display, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Jan. 13**, (opening reception **6-9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11**), Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, 424-7195

ART FARM HOLIDAY POP UP GALLERY — Feat. 13 national and local artists offering ceramics, jewelry, fiber, metal, glass, mixed media, **daily thru Dec. 27**, Spencerville, 740-8725

ART FOR THE HOLIDAYS — Handmade ornaments and nativities, **Monday-Saturday thru Dec. 31**, Orchard Gallery of Fine Art, Fort Wayne, 436-0927

THE ART OF SEATING — A survey of American chair design from the early 19th century to the present day, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Jan. 24**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, \$5-\$7 (members, free), 422-6467

ART YOU CAN USE — Works of clay, oil, fiber, wood and more, **Tuesday-Saturday thru Jan. 15**, Crestwoods Frame Shop & Gallery, Roanoke, 672-2080

BLOOD, SWEAT, AND PIXELS: FALL 2015 BFA EXHIBITION — IPFW Senior thesis works, **Wednesday-Sunday thru Dec. 27**, (artist reception, **6-10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11**) Wunderkammer Company, Fort Wayne, \$2, 417-8846

CAROL POPP BENNETT & SARAH THOMPSON — Acrylic paintings, "Carol and Corky" TV nostalgia and pottery, **Sunday-Friday thru Jan. 10**, First Presbyterian Art Gallery, First Presbyterian Church, Fort Wayne, 426-7421

CASTLE GALLERY HOLIDAY SHOW — Local and national artists, **Tuesday-Saturday and by appointment thru Jan. 2**, Castle Gallery Fine Art, Fort Wayne, 426-6568

DAVID CARPENTER — Figure drawings and still life images, **Wednesday-Sunday thru Dec. 27**, (artist reception, **6-10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11**) Wunderkammer Company, Fort Wayne, \$2, 417-8846

FROM THE COLLECTION — Mixed art works, Sunday-Thursday thru Jan. 9, Langhinrichs Art Gallery, Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Fort Wayne, 744-1867

GARDEN IN LIGHTS — All garden areas decorated for the holidays, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Jan. 3**, Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory, Fort Wayne, \$3-\$5 (2 and under, free), 427-6440

HIGH SCHOOL ART COMPETITION AND EXHIBITION — High school student work on display, **daily thru Dec. 12**, Visual Arts Gallery, IPFW, Fort Wayne, 481-6705

JOHN LEAVELL — Acrylic, large-canvas works, **Saturdays thru Dec. 31**, The Gallery at Prana Yoga, Fort Wayne, 627-9642

MAURICE PAPIER: A RETROSPECTIVE — Over 70 pieces by Papier and dozens of paintings by his former students, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Jan. 15**, Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, 424-7195

MEMORIAL PARK MIDDLE SCHOOL — Student works on display, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Jan. 13** (opening reception **6-9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11**), Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, 424-7195

NANCY FRITZ — Vibrant paintings centering primarily on motif of the mandala, **Wednesday-Sunday thru Dec. 27**, (artist reception, **6-10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11**) Wunderkammer Company, Fort Wayne, \$2, 417-8846

THE NATIONAL: BEST CONTEMPORARY PHOTOGRAPHY 2015 — Contemporary photography from invited and juried artists, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Jan. 3**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, \$5-\$7 (members, free), 422-6467

"A NORTH WOODS CHRISTMAS" GARDEN EXHIBIT — A rustic setting feat. a cabin during the holidays, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Jan. 3**, Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory, Fort Wayne, \$3-\$5 (2 and under, free), 427-6440

OBJECT STRANGE — Ball State Architecture exhibition, **Wednesday-Sunday thru Dec. 27**, (artist reception, **6-10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11**) Wunderkammer Company, Fort Wayne, \$2, 417-8846

SOCA STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS: COMPUTER ART, ANIMATION, AND FILM — Works by current students, **daily thru Dec. 20**, Goldfish Gallery, Mimi and Ian Rolland Art and Visual Communication Center, University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne, 399-7999

USF ALUMNI/FACULTY EXHIBITION — Works of alumni and graduates and by current and retired faculty from the School of Creative Arts, **daily thru Dec. 20**, John P. Weatherhead Gallery, Mimi and Ian Rolland Art and Visual Communication Center, University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne, 399-7999

WRIGHT BROTHERS PHOTOGRAPHS BY WILLIAM PRESTON MAYFIELD — Collection of works from Orville and Wilbur Wright's personal photographer, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Feb. 21**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, \$5-\$7 (members, free), 422-6467

Artifacts

CALL FOR ARTISTS

7TH ANNUAL POSTCARD ART SHOW/SALE FUNDRAISER — Artists invited to create a postcard and mail it to Artlink by **Friday, Jan. 22**. No jury, no entry fee and no return of artwork. Must be original work of art. Must be mailed as a postcard, be standard postcard dimensions and cannot be placed in envelope. Postcards will be on display and available for sale throughout the exhibit (Jan. 22-Mar. 2), Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, 424-7195

36TH ANNUAL NATIONAL PRINT EXHIBITION — All artists, 18 years of age, residing in U.S. are eligible. All original printmaking media are eligible that meet Artlink's exhibition criteria (available at www.artlinkfw.com). No photography, computer generated, or digitally altered prints accepted. Works must have been completed in the last 2 years, may be no larger than 54" in any direction and may not have been exhibited at Artlink previously. Submission deadline **Friday, Jan. 22**, Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, 424-7195

Upcoming Exhibits

JANUARY

ANN JOHNSON & WILLIAM STEFFEN — Paintings, paper mache and woodworking, **Sunday-Friday, Jan. 15-Feb. 21** (opening reception, **5:30-7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 15**), First Presbyterian Art Gallery, First Presbyterian Church, Fort Wayne, 426-7421

Fort Wayne Ski Club 2016 Ski Trips

Saturday, Jan. 9 Bittersweet, Mich.
First trip of the ski season (bus)

Weekend, Jan. 22-24 Boyne Highlands, Mich.
Traditional Champagne Cruise (bus/waiting list)

Saturday, Jan. 30 Timber Ridge, Mich.
Toucan Snow Adventure with WXKE 96.3 (bus)

Midweek, Feb. 2-3 Caberfae Peaks, Mich.
Really cheap central Michigan (drive-up)

Feb. 13-20 Park City, Utah
Salt Lake City w/Condos (waiting list)

Sunday, Feb. 14 Swiss Valley, Mich.
Closest Michigan resort on Valentine's Day

Weekend, Feb. 19-21 Boyne Highlands, Mich.
Indiana Ski Council family trip with racing (drive-up)

Feb. 27-Mar. 5 Whistler/Blackcomb, Canada
Chicago Metro Ski Council Ski Week

Ski Club Parties

Friday, Jan. 15 80th Year, Classic Café, 4832 Hillegas Rd.

Friday, Feb. 5 Live Band, Classic Café, 4832 Hillegas Rd.

Friday, Mar. 4 Night Out, Lucky Moose, 622 E. Dupont

Go to www.FWSC.org for more details

C2GLIVE THE TV SHOW

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Commander Cody

AIRING NEXT WEEKEND • DECEMBER 27

Ivory West & The Bergamot

MEET THE MUSIC • JANUARY 3

APQ, Ivory West, Randy Kimball Blues Trio

323 W. Baker St., Fort Wayne
www.c2gmusicall.com | Sweetwater
whatzup

HOLIDAZE - From Page 24

of the season.

Standouts include Fawn Liebowitz guitarist Paul Stephens, as a kind, shaggy bear of a dad who's just trying to do right by his dramatic, teenaged step-daughters, eccentric mother-in-law and his younger son, without going broke in the process.

Maggie Kole Hunter and Gavin Drew are Miss Nancy and Jason, a bickering mom and son (Leslie Hormann herself will appear as Miss Nancy in the second week of the run). They *seem* like they are the two biggest Grinchies in the known world. There might be some hearts growing a couple of sizes as the parent finds out her child is now a man.

Harvey Cocks and Dotty Miller steal the show (and will steal your heart) as a forlorn old geezer and his immigrant housekeeper. Neither has much of a reason to be happy at Christmas, but they manage to give each other the real Magi gifts of joy and hope. I needed my hankie, so fair warning.

The show is an abundance of riches with wonderful performers, dynamic dancers and sweet voices singing familiar songs. Some songs are traditional, some are popular; they all stick with you as you make your way home.

Holidaze: A Survivor's Guide for the Season is absolutely family-friendly because, well, Youtheatre. The uproar from the children in the audience mixes with the uproar from the children in the cast and it's all part of the entertainment. Running time is about 60 minutes, so little ones can enjoy live theater without getting cranky.

And speaking of cranky, all of the folks who are feeling bummed about the *Holidaze* should get over to the show. You'll find out a secret, and I don't think I'm giving it away, that one small, friendly act can make a Christmas miracle.

vrelph@gmail.com

Featured Events

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

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

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

This Week

TRAIN TOWN SHOW AND SWAP MEET — Over 150 tables of model and railroad, toy train and train memorabilia along with Lego® train display and model railroad layouts, **10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19**, Merchants Building, Allen County Fairground, Fort Wayne, \$5, under 12 free, 567-259-3340

WAYNE DALE HOLIDAY TROLLEY TOUR & SANTA — Meet and greet with Santa and trolley tours through the decorated corridors of Waynedale, **3-6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19**, American Legion Post 241, Waynedale, free, donations appreciated, 747-4535

Holiday Events

FANTASY OF LIGHTS — Drive-thru holiday light event featuring over 70 animated light displays depicting holiday scenes; horse drawn carriage rides available Friday-Sunday, **6-9 p.m. Sunday-Thursdays and 6-10 p.m. Friday-Saturday thru Dec. 31**, Franke Park, Fort Wayne, \$5 per car, \$10 per 15 passenger van, \$25 per bus or trolley, 744-1900

NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS — Coats for Kids coat drive featuring flashlight only ghost hunt through the Haunted Jail, **7-9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 17; 7-11 p.m. Friday-Saturday Dec. 18-19 and 7-9 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 20**, Columbia City Haunted Jail, Columbia City, admission is a gently used or new coat or \$13, www.columbiacityhauntedjail.com

SANTA AND THE REINDEER — Visit with Santa and live reindeer and tour the conservatory gardens, **12-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19**, Botanical Conservatory, Fort Wayne, \$3-\$5, 427-6440

STAR OF BETHLEHEM — 90 minute planetarium program following the path of the Wise Men in 3 B.C., **7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18; 3 & 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19 and 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 20**, Schouweiler Planetarium, University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne, \$3-\$4, \$14 family max., 399-8050

Lectures, Discussions, Authors, Readings & Films

DOWNTOWN ABBEY SNEAK PREVIEW — Screening of the first episode of the final season of the popular PBS/Masterpiece television series, **3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 27**, sEmbassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, free, 424-5665

A REAL AMERICAN HERO — Luke Zamperini, son of Louis Zamperini, one of WW II's most well-known prisoners of war and hero of the 1936 Olympics, discusses his father's life and world view, **3 p.m. Sunday, March 6**, Niswonger Performing Arts Center, Van Wert, Ohio, \$20 thru box office, 419-238-6722, www.npacvw.org

JAMES CARVILLE AND MARY MATALIN — All's Fair: Love, War and Politics, an Omnibus lecture, **7 p.m. Thursday, March 24**, Auer Performance Hall, Fort Wayne, free, tickets required, 481-6103

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, daycares 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

TUCUMSEH 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

Tours and Trips

FORT WAYNE SKI CLUB SKI TRIPS — Ski trips to Whistler Mountain, Bittersweet, Swiss Valley, Lake Tahoe and more, **dates vary**, locations vary, departs from Fort Wayne, prices vary, more information available at www.fwsc.org

CHICAGO SHOPPING TRIP — Bus trip to downtown Chicago for holiday shopping, **7 a.m.-10:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12**, departs from Bob Arnold Park, Fort Wayne, \$55, 427-6017

WHITE CHRISTMAS: THE MUSICAL — Chicago bus trip to see the Irving Berlin classic performed at the Drury Theatre; lunch and continental breakfast included, **7:30 a.m.-9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10**, departs from Bob Arnold Park, Fort Wayne, \$99, 427-6017

DETROIT AUTO SHOW — Bus trip to view over 500 cars, new and late model, **7:30 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 16**, departs from Bob Arnold Park, Fort Wayne, \$79, 427-6017

ZEHNDER'S SNOWFEST — Bus trip to Frankenmuth, MI to watch ice carvers from around the world; lunch at Zehnder's Restaurant, **8 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 30**, departs from Bob Arnold Park, Fort Wayne, \$85, 427-6017

CHICAGO FLOWER AND GARDEN SHOW — Bus trip to Chicago Flower and Garden Show at Navy Pier; trip includes luncheon cruise and continental breakfast, **8 a.m.-10:30 p.m. Saturday, March 12**, departs from Bob Arnold Park, Fort Wayne, \$99, 427-6017

Sports and Recreation

CHILI CHALLENGE BIKE RIDE — Off-road, Greenway and city street bike riding; helmets required, **1 p.m. Friday, Jan. 1**, departs from Psi Ote lower pavilion, Bob Arnold Park, Fort Wayne, free, 797-3364

Spectator Sports

BASKETBALL

HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS — Exhibition basketball, **2 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 3**, Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, \$18-\$75, 483-1111

MAD ANTS — Upcoming home games at Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne
TUESDAY, Dec. 22 vs. Reno, 7 p.m.
SUNDAY, Dec. 27 vs. Sioux Falls, 5 p.m.

SATURDAY, JAN. 2 vs. Iowa, 7:30 p.m.
THURSDAY, JAN. 28 vs. Canton, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, JAN. 30 vs. Maine, 7:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, FEB. 2 vs. Maine, 7 p.m.
FRIDAY, FEB. 5 vs. Canton, 7:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, FEB. 9 vs. Delaware, 7 p.m.

TUESDAY, FEB. 16 vs. Grand Rapids, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, FEB. 25 vs. Westchester, 7 p.m.

SUNDAY, FEB. 28 vs. Iowa, 5 p.m.
WEDNESDAY, MAR. 9 vs. Grand Rapids, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY, MAR. 11 vs. Westchester, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, MAR. 12 vs. Sioux Falls, 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, MAR. 20 vs. Grand Rapids, 5 p.m.

TUESDAY, MAR. 22 vs. Sioux Falls, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY, APR. 1 vs. Erie, 7:30 p.m.

HOCKEY

KOMETES — Upcoming home games at Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne
FRIDAY, Dec. 18 vs. Manchester, 8 p.m.
SATURDAY, Dec. 19 vs. Brampton, 7:30 p.m.

MONDAY, Dec. 21 vs. Gwinnett, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, Dec. 26 vs. Kalamazoo, 7:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, Dec. 29 vs. Brampton, 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, Dec. 31 vs. Indy, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEB. 6 vs. Quad City, 7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, FEB. 19 vs. Toledo, 8 p.m.

SUNDAY, FEB. 21 vs. Colorado, 5 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 24 vs. Missouri, 7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, FEB. 26 vs. Missouri, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEB. 27 vs. Tulsa, 7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, MAR. 18 vs. Quad City, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, MAR. 19 vs. Quad City, 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MAR. 23 vs. Wheeling, 7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, MAR. 25 vs. Toledo, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, MAR. 26 vs. Evansville, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, APR. 2 vs. Indy, 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, APR. 3 vs. Evansville, 5 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, APR. 6 vs. Quad City, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, APR. 9 vs. Indy, 7:30 p.m.

CONTRA DANCE — Dancing to old-time swing music by The Spy Run String Band and live caller, no partner necessary, **8-11 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 19**, Fort Wayne Dance Collective, Fort Wayne, \$6-\$9, 244-1905

COMMUNITY KWANZAA CELEBRATION — Family event featuring live music, dance, poetry and a meal, **6 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 29**, Weissner Park Youth Center, Fort Wayne, free, 427-6784

SIGNATURE GIVING'S NEW YEAR'S EVE MASQUERADE BALL — Charity event featuring live music from Heartbeat City, dinner buffet, dancing, prizes and a champagne toast to benefit Whitley County two-year and vocational scholars, **7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31**, The Van Buren, Columbia City, \$60 individual, \$100 couple, 609-5378

January

MIZPAH SHRINE CIRCUS — Three ring circus; all proceeds benefit the Mizpah Shrine Center, **6:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 21; 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 23 and 5:45 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 24**, Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, \$14-\$22, 422-7122

OUTDOOR SPORTS, LAKE & CABIN SHOW — Expo featuring vendors, travel consultants and planners, interactive family area with ziplines, seminars, giveaways and more, **12-9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 22; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 23 and 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 24**, Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, \$10, 482-9502

BEER & BACON FEST — Bacon-inspired foods, beer sampling, live music, and silent auction to benefit Honor Flight Northeast Indiana, **6-10 p.m. Friday, Jan. 22**, Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, \$15-\$40 (includes free access to Outdoor Sports, Lake & Cabin Show), 317-846-8965

WINTERVAL — Ice carvers, rugby game, winter carnival and other special events, **times vary, Saturday, Jan. 30**, various downtown location, Fort Wayne, free, activity fees may apply, 427-6000

ing only 70¢ on the dollar a man makes across the U.S., imagine how much the movies would improve if women across the world had the opportunity to go to the movies.

Across the world, women aren't attending films less because they don't like them. (Women in Saudi Arabia just voted for the first time.) The more women can go to the movies, the more they will. And they will want pictures about women. Education and equality for women will create a big market for movies. Men in foreign lands will discover the pleasures of a date at the movies.

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SCREENTIME

From Page 23

Spotlight and *The Big Short* (tie), 2. *Inside Out*, 1. *Timbuktu*.

New York Times' Critic Stephen Holden's Top 10: 10. *Brooklyn*, 9. *Tangerine*, 8. 45 *Years*, 7. *Truth*, 6. *The Look of Silence*, 5. *The Diary of a Teenage Girl*, 4. *The Fool*, 3. *Spotlight*, 2. *The Big Short*, 1. *Carol*.

Top 20 Films According to Prominent Critic's Top 10 Lists: 20. *The Diary of a Teenage Girl*, 19. *Chi-Raq*, 18. *Ex Machina*, 17. *Sicario*, 16. *Creed*, 15. *Phoenix*, 14. *Timbuktu*, 13. *Amy*, 12. *The Big Short*, 11. *The Martian*, 10. *Room*, 9. *Tangerine*, 8. 45 *Years*, 7. *Son of Saul*, 6. *The Assassin*, 5. *Brooklyn*, 4. *Inside Out*, 3. *Spotlight*, 2. *Mad Max: Fury Road*, 1. *Carol*.

Oh wow, whoa, dang. That's a lot of lists and opinions. Do you ever wonder if the NYT critics all make sure that their lists are different, or does it happen organically? Hmm. So, based on what I've seen and what I've read and how I feel about film and certain filmmakers and actors, here's what I predict my personal list will look like if/when I see everything: 20. *Hateful Eight*, 19. *Inside Out*, 18. *Sicario*, 17. *Tangerine*, 16. *Mad Max*, 15. *Ex Machina*, 14. *Duke of Burgundy*, 13. *Girlhood*, 12. *Joy*, 11. *Star Wars: The Force Awakens*, 10. *While We're Young*, 9. *It Follows*, 8. *Carol*, 7. *Creed*, 6. *The Martian*, 5. *The Diary of a Teenage Girl*, 4. *Room*, 3. *Spotlight*, 2. *The Big Short*, 1. *The Revenant*.

That's it for me. Do you have a list? Is there a particular film you're looking forward to seeing before the end of the year (in addition to the *Star Wars* thing)? Have you seen something recently that you really loved? Write me at gregwlocke@gmail.com. Thanks for reading this year!

gregwlocke@gmail.com

Well Worth the Gas Money

South of Fort Wayne, in Gas City, lies a hidden gem that is well worth the drive, Payne's Restaurant. This eclectic restaurant was founded over 10 years ago by Stephen Payne who was born in England and travelled to the United States to visit the birthplace of James Dean in nearby Fairmont. Long story short, he ended up falling in love with this country and eventually opened Payne's, which can be described as a free-spirited restaurant that is serious about food.

Many of Payne's dishes are heavily influenced by Stephen's British background. He and his wife operate the business together and have created a truly one-of-a-kind dining experience that you wouldn't expect to find nestled among gas stations at a non-descript exit off the interstate. In fact, most people probably know the Gas City exit by the town's questionable choice of the Comic Sans font used on the water tower.

I've made several trip to Payne's and rate it as one of my top 10 restaurants in northeast



Dining Out AMBER FOSTER

British Chicken Curry (\$14): Mild aromatic korma with steamed potatoes and naan bread. This dish is an explosion of flavors, simultaneously sweet and savory. The naan bread is house-made and serves as the perfect vehicle for sopping up all of the delicious spiced sauce. The chicken is juicy and the potatoes are smooth, complementing each other and the complex flavors. Even if you think you don't like curry, this is a must-try menu item.

Huntsman's Breakfast (\$10): Grilled ham steak, grilled potato cake and over easy-eggs. This dish is almost too beautiful to eat. It comes stacked high on the plate and garnished with fresh herbs from the garden.

The ham steak is about as big as your head, and the grilled potato cakes add a much-needed savory smoothness. And, you can't go wrong when you top a



Clockwise from top: The Huntsman, Grilled Cheese, Cock-a-Leekie Soup

dish with an over easy egg. All that yummy gooiness drizzles down and meshes with the other flavors in a way that can't be described.

Bourriche Grilled Cheese & Cock-a-leekie Soup (\$9): Cock-a-leekie soup, a Scottish classic dating back to the 1590s, is made with leeks, prunes and chicken. The soup presents an interesting mix of flavors; the sweetness of the prunes, combined with the savory chicken and onion-like leeks, results in a surprisingly pleasant experience. I asked our server several times to explain Bourriche to me, and I am still not sure what it means. What I do know is this is one of the best grilled cheese sandwiches I've ever had. Bourriche refers to the type of bread it was served on, which was not like bread at all. It was more like a puffed, but dense pastry, stuffed with several types of cheeses. It is impossible to eat like a sandwich; it definitely requires a knife and fork, but delicious just doesn't do it justice.

In addition to the items mentioned above, Payne's offers a wide selection of soups, sandwiches and entrees and an impressive selection of dessert custards. I have always been too full after my meal to venture into dessert, but I have my eye on James Dean's Payne: vanilla custard, raspberries and espresso. Yum!

amber.recker@gmail.com

Payne's Restaurant
4925 Kaybee Drive, Gas City
765-998-0668
Hours:
8:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
9 a.m.-10 p.m. Sat.
11 a.m.-10 p.m. Sun.

Indiana. The restaurant is small — just a one-room space filled with booths and tables — and it is always busy.

The décor is kitschy and cozy. During the spring and summer months, the urban garden is in full bloom, and many of the items on the menu are influenced by what's growing outside.

That said, the menu is constantly changing, so each time I go back it's like Christmas — I never know what wonderful surprises await. Payne's serves breakfast, lunch and dinner. Just make sure you arrive hungry; portion sizes are huge.

Here are a few of my favorites:

Bangers and Mash (\$12): Traditional British sausage, rutabaga/potato mash and Sweet Scrumpy's onion gravy. I have had this dish at several local and regional restaurants, but this version is my favorite. The addition of the slightly bitter rutabaga in the rutabaga/potato mash adds a sophistication to this dish that is lacking in other versions I've sampled. And as I mentioned before, the portion sizes are huge. This dish easily provides a few days' worth of leftovers.



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