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in the
**FOOTSTEPS
of GIANTS**

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In the Footsteps of Giants

By Deborah Kennedy

At 29, blues man Davy Knowles is still as fresh-faced and unspoiled as he was when he and his Isle of Man-based band, Back Door Slam, first broke onto the scene in 2007 with their album *Roll Away*. There have been some changes since then, obviously, namely that since 2009 he's worked primarily as a solo artist, with Back Door Slam backing him up when he's hit the road with the likes of Buddy Guy, Jeff Beck, Chickenfoot, Joe Satriani and The Rhythm Devils.

He's also gone from opening for some of the best guitarists in the world to being considered one of them himself, and on Friday, February 3 at 8 p.m. he'll be at C2G Music Hall, treating fans to songs from his four album-deep discography, including his latest, *Three Miles from Avalon*, which dropped in October.

Knowles grew up on the Isle of Man off the coast of Ireland. He was inspired to pursue the guitar after hearing the Dire Straits' 1979 hit "Sultans of Swing" while on a car ride with his father. Like so many young, aspiring musicians, Knowles took guitar lessons, but he eventually gave those up in favor of teaching himself. It was in high school when he met his future bandmates, buddies Brian Garvey, Ross Doyle, Adam Jones and Jamie Armstrong, who would later, along with Knowles, become the first incarnation of Back Door Slam.

In 2004 the band experienced an unthinkable tragedy, losing Garvey in a car accident. Grief stricken, Back Door Slam broke up for a time, only to reunite in Garvey's honor a few years later. In 2007 they put out *Roll Away*, an 11-tracker packed with originals written by Knowles, and in 2008 they left their home of Port St. Mary to tour the States for the first time, hitting, as young 20-somethings, all the major festivals, including South by Southwest, Bonnaroo, Coachella and Lollapalooza.

During that initial U.S. tour, Knowles blew audiences away, gaining a reputation for being a phenom, an electrifying stage presence and immense young talent. Then, just a few months after having returned home to the Isle of Man, he and his mates made the difficult and wrenching decision to split up to follow their own paths in music. All good things, as they say, must come to an end.

Luckily for Knowles' fans, his career was really only beginning. In 2009, with a new band by his side (Fritz Lewak on drums, Kevin McCormick on bass, and Benmont Tench of the Heartbreakers on keys) Knowles put out his first solo record, *Coming Up for Air*, which, according to Josh Hathaway with BlogCritics.com, provided

Robert Johnson and Rory Gallagher.

Gallagher is probably, to American audiences anyway, the lesser known of those three names, but he looms large in Knowles' musical education. Gallagher was an Irish bluesman from Donegal, Ireland who went on to form Taste, a blues-rock power trio popular in the UK in the late 60s, before, like

Knowles, launching a successful solo career. Knowles has often stated that, from a very young age, he always admired Gallagher's attention to and reverence for Irish folk music, the way he artfully blended blinding blues riffs with traditional ballads to create a style all his own.

It has been one of Knowles' goals as a musician to carry that torch and many fellow guitarists agree that Knowles has the right feet to fill those big shoes.

In the words of British blues legend Bernie Marsden, "Davy Knowles continues to amaze me – he's still so young and yet he plays, writes and sings with such maturity. He's immersed himself in the styles of many

great players and has emerged with his own brand, playing with a smile on his face. He's a rare bird, one I will continue to watch and study."

After the release of *Coming Up for Air*, Knowles embarked on a series of tours that took him all over the world. During that time, he and the current lineup of Back Door Slam – PK on bass, Steven Barci on drums and Ty Bailie on keyboards – also put out a live album and DVD.

In 2014 Knowles documented his musical influences in a film entitled *Island Bound*. The film follows the global reach of Celtic and European folk music to the British colonies and beyond, delving into how the genres ultimately influenced the development of Americana, rock and, of course, the blues. That same year he also released his third album, *The Outsider*, which, despite the title, helped solidify Knowles' spot on a short and competitive list of true bluesmen.

"Davy Knowles' music may be fairly new compared to the great sounds of Buddy Guy and Muddy Waters," wrote Rick Jamm of Jamsphere in a 2015 review of the album, "but his music will be timeless. His influences are apparent, yet individual, while his sound is reminiscent, yet unique. This is

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February 9 | 7:30pm

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LEGENDS FROM LOCALS DOWN THE LINE



February 16 | 6:30pm

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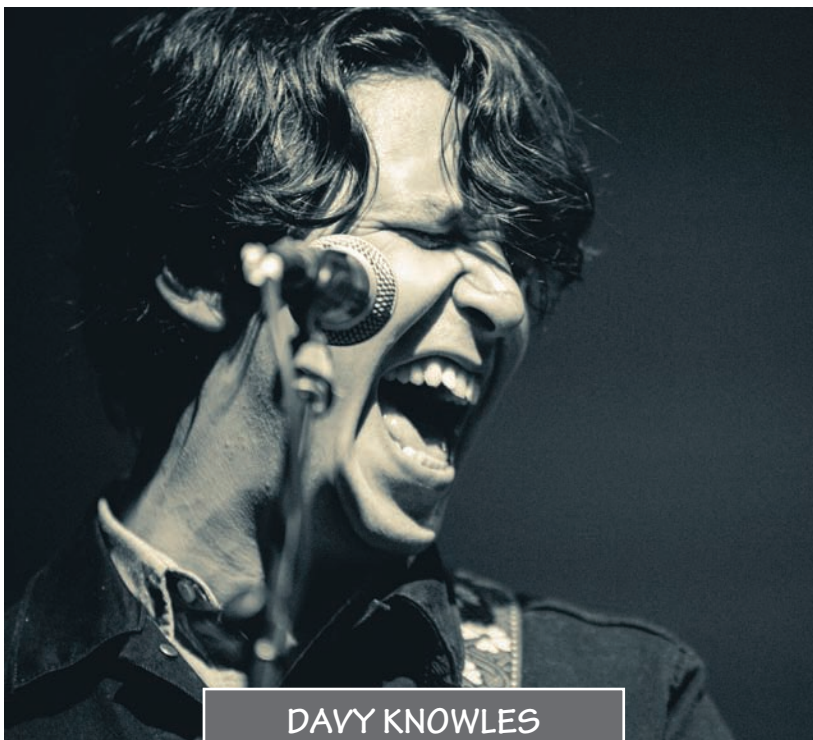
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DAVY KNOWLES

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an illuminating glimpse into Knowles' Clapton-like charisma and ability.

"Elevating Knowles to godlike might have a few of you ready to crown me the High Priest of Hyperbole," he wrote, "but *Coming Up for Air* is a musical baptism with rare power." He added, "This 22-year-old phenom scorches and blinds with the heat of a nova."

The quality that wowed so many critics at the beginning of Knowles' career was his undeniable maturity. His mastery and restraint were palpable, yet hard to explain. How was it that a 22-year-old came to make a record that sounded like it could have come from a performer twice his age?

We might never know the answer to that question, but some of the secret to Knowles' success lies in his humility and seemingly endless desire to learn more about the art form that has inspired him since he was a kid, listening obsessively to Eric Clapton,

You have the folks at C2G to thank for the fact that for the second week in a row we are featuring on our cover an extraordinary blues guitar phenom, this week the Isle of Man's Davy Knowles, a guy Fort Wayne music fans have come to know from his several appearances over the years. If you're not one of those fans, we would strongly encourage you to buy a ticket or two and take advantage of your chance to see one of his generation's great guitarists. It reminds us of those opportunities we had to see guitarists like Jonny Lang and Kenny Wayne Shepherd play some of this city's smaller venues back in the day. We still treasure those musical memories, and we can assure you that seeing Davy Knowles perform in an intimate setting like C2G is going to be equally memorable.

Also featured this week are Remembering Anne, Fort Wayne Youtheatre and playwright/director Gregory Stieber's homage to victims of the Holocaust; Three Cities, a band that made a huge impression at last years Battle of the Bands; and Jody Hemphill-Smith who, together with husband Mark Smith, has turned her West Central home into one of a destination for artists and art lovers from all over the world.

There's much more, but we're out of space, so we'll just leave it at "read on, find some fun and tell 'em whatzup sent you."

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An Homage to Anne Frank

By Michele DeVinney

For the third year, Fort Wayne Youtheatre has turned to playwright and director Gregory Stieber to helm its highly successful and deeply moving series, Young People of Conscience, an annual play which spotlights a youth who has changed the world through his or her bravery and dignity. Having already featured Ryan White and Ruby Bridges, this year Stieber turns his attention to a well known figure from outside our country, a young girl well known to the world thanks to her diary. While Anne Frank is often considered through her own words, a journal which she kept while in hiding from the Nazis, less is known about her later years. Stieber's decision to focus on her last years were both practical and artistic.

"The Anne Frank Foundation has the rights to the diary and are very protective of it," says Stieber. "But I thought it would be interesting to focus on what happened to Anne after her arrest, during her years in the concentration camps. I thought it would be a unique perspective to share the parts of her story people might not be as familiar with, when she left her hiding place, and to show what happened to her after that time. Having already shared the stories of Ryan White and Ruby Bridges, I thought she was the ideal next person to portray."

This story offered some challenges since Stieber couldn't just rely on adapting the well known diary. But Stieber's greatest strength as both writer and director is in tapping into the deep feelings in a story, and in Anne Frank's story that means looking squarely at not only the victims of the Holocaust but also the Hitler Youth, who were also victims of a frightening regime. Providing all of the perspectives of the young people in the grip of Nazi occupation – both as children and later as the adults they become – allows Stieber to mine for some very special and often painful nuggets of gold.

"There were books written by people who knew Anne after her arrest, and she had an American pen pal, so there was information about those years. But I'm looking at all of the children of the Holocaust here. I look at the Jewish children, the gentile children, the Hitler Youth, and try to see what their stories are. Anne is a figurehead in the play. She's important, but this isn't just the Anne Frank story."

Once the play was written, Stieber then had to cast and begin to work with a large group of mostly children. In addition to seven adults (including Youtheatre director Leslie Hormann) playing the grownup counterparts to some of the children portrayed (Stieber calls them "The Witnesses"), the cast includes more than 30 children, which often calls for Stieber to honestly talk about

since Anne's head was shaven in the concentration camp. I wouldn't ask her to do that, but she was happy to which is just so impressive. And her parents were fine with it so give them a lot of credit too."

For her part, Chilean, who at 13 is the same age Anne was when she began keeping her diaries, has a remarkably mature and gracious take on her opportunity to play this iconic young girl.

"I read the diary before I auditioned for the role, and I could really relate to her a lot. It's just incredibly amazing to read them, and I feel like as I play her I become a better version of myself than I am when I'm being me. It's a challenge to play the scenes in the concentration camp because no one can imagine what that must have been like, but what I hope to take away from this experience is that Anne was always positive, looking at the brighter side of life. If I can

take that into my own life, that would be amazing."

Stieber also credits the families of the young actors who he says have been very supportive through all of these Young People of Conscience productions. Stieber admits that as he talks to the cast about these very thought-provoking and emotional scenes, he often gets choked up, but it is that ability to convey these powerful stories that has made his plays so moving and successful. The series has become a highlight of the Youtheatre season, drawing a regular audience both young and old, and it's popularity with school audiences has required them to move the shows to Wayne High School to meet the demand for tickets. The performances for the general public will take place at the Auer Center ArtsLab black box, a perfectly intimate space for the story to be shared.

Stieber is grateful for the opportunity to share these stories and marvels at the courage exemplified by the three young people he's brought to life via Fort Wayne Youtheatre.

"I'm so happy to be paying respect to the bravery and spirit of these young people, to be able to keep the memories alive in thanks to all they did for us. Ryan White woke people up to the AIDS crisis, and much of the research and drug therapies came as a result of what he did. Ruby Bridges made it possible for all kids to go to school together. And how do we describe how important Anne Frank's diaries have been to us? It's really just an honor to be part of this series."



REMEMBERING ANNE FORT WAYNE YOUTHEATRE

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2 p.m. & 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 4
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some very tough subjects.

"I just addressed it as honestly as possible," he says. "I was mindful about what I said to these kids, but I told them that it's important to honor these stories and this part of history. We talked about why it happened, how it happened, and that it should never happen again."

Stieber has also brought in some special collaborators who have further enriched the performances. The Jewish Federation has provided Stieber with valuable advice which has allowed him, as a non-Jew, to accurately portray the people and their faith. He has also brought in a string quartet from the Fort Wayne Philharmonic Youth Symphony to underscore the story. One added feature that has excited Stieber is the set, art work being provided by the New Tech Academy at Wayne High School, a unique addition to the visual component of the play. He's also very enthusiastic about his cast and has been impressed with the commitment of the actress who is playing Anne, Isabel Chilean.

"Isabel played Ryan White's sister and last year had a small role in Ruby Bridges. She has actually decided to cut her hair,

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Feature • Three Cities

Carving Out Their Niche

By Colin McCallister

Fort Wayne, Marion and Lafayette. These are the three cities that comprise Three Cities, a quartet of musicians and friends from different parts of Indiana who name Led Zeppelin, Queen, Rush and Deep Purple as some of their many inspirations. Three Cities are dedicated to not only represent the classic rock era of the 70s, but are also helping to keep the hard rock spirit of those bands alive and well in a musical climate where EDM, rap and pop enjoy wide commercial popularity.

Originating in late 2013, Three Cities came together when guitarist Patrick Brown contacted a long-time friend, drummer Anthony Decker, about the possibility of forming a band of their own. Brown then also invited mutual friend Terel Lynn to help out with vocals and lyrics.

"We all knew that we wanted to do this rock n' roll type band, and we started jamming in Anthony's garage with different riffs and lyrics. But at this point, it was just guitars, drums and vocals, which isn't much of a band unless you're the White Stripes," Brown said.

That's when the band contacted David L. Herring, with whom Brown had played music before, to add keyboards and bass to Three Cities' fledgling songwriting sessions. With their lineup complete, Three Cities then had to overcome the challenge of scheduling rehearsals and recording sessions around the members' daily obligations. There was also the matter of physical distance between the band members, as Lynn and Herring live in Fort Wayne, Brown resides in West Lafayette and Decker lives in Marion.

Through perseverance, Three Cities began to rehearse monthly in Decker's garage, the experience giving inspiration to one of their first singles, aptly titled, "Anthony's Garage." The band also credits that song with establishing Three Cities' musical identity and helping them determine what sounds catchy and appealing to an audience.

Using a democratic approach to songwriting, the band managed to write enough material for an album, with many more songs left over for future alterations. Their debut studio album, *For the Price of One*, was released in January 2016.

Three Cities then started gigging last March, Skeletunes Lounge being the venue for their first live performance. More shows in and out of Fort Wayne soon followed, with the band becoming a tighter unit as a result.

"When we started getting shows, I think those actually became our best practices. We learned a lot about each other and ourselves at our shows this [past] year to prepare us for what we need to be working on

outside the stages and garages," Decker noted.

In April, while the members of Three Cities were still new to performing live with each other, the band put its skills to the test when they participated in the Wooden Nickel/Sweetwater Battle of the Bands competition, where they placed second.

"We knew going into it that we could have been completely screwed over on the crowd vote," Brown said, "We knew we had to be firing on all cylinders, and we went into this thing after a really bad rehearsal where we were out of tune and had timing issues, and I had to completely reset my three guitars because of intonation issues. There was this mini freak-out moment right before the Battle of the Bands, but we ended up getting first place in our preliminary round, and it was a great confirmation for everything that we had been working on."

According to Herring, the individual band members have diverse influences, styles and listening preferences that work as an advantage when they write songs, and helps turn basic ideas into something more elaborate and fun to perform.

"Because if you're not clicking with something, you have three other minds to take it to. That diversity within our styles that we all enjoy and like doesn't make writing songs that much of a challenge," Lynn added.

While the songwriting process itself is fun for Three Cities, they remain faithful to their initial goal of performing songs in the same style as the hard rock groups that inspired them to form the band.

"The way to look at it is we're trying to carve out that rock n' roll niche that is kind of gone right now. Beyond pop and Top 40 and EDM, metal has a great niche. Indie rock has a great niche. One of the things that motivates me is that we're one of the only bands that's trying to do this hard rock sound in not necessarily an alternative way like every other radio rock band is," Brown observed, "It's a challenge to get that message across, but one that's really fun to tackle."

Looking ahead, Three Cities are making it a point to book more shows for 2017 so they can continue to spread the energy of classic rock to as many audiences as they can. According to Lynn, a specific goal is to start performing at bigger venues, possibly even festivals.

"I'm happy with where we've gotten so far. A goal coming out with this band was to be a bunch of dudes who played some good music, but we didn't want you to take us too seriously. Me personally, I'd like for someone to just walk up and say, 'Hey guys, I'm willing to pay you a salary to go out and tour and do music the rest of your life.' That would be awesome," Lynn said smiling, "But for now, we'll see where this goes."



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Creating an Art Destination

By Michele DeVinney

Fort Wayne is fortunate to have several beautiful and historic homes and buildings in all corners of the city. Preserving them has been an ongoing endeavor, and many have become cornerstones to the improvements and growth the community has seen in the last decade or two. Of all of the city's notable structures, perhaps none are more magical and majestic than the building once occupied by the Mossman family at 1202 West Wayne Street. Built in 1905, the home was donated by the family almost half a century later to be used as the home for Fort Wayne's Museum of Art. When the museum moved to the center of downtown, it was converted to condominiums, its days as a gallery for art seemingly over.

One of the building's biggest fans was neighbor Jody Hemphill-Smith, an artist and native of Fort Wayne who studied art at Ball State and Indiana University before moving with her husband Paul to New Orleans and later to Valparaiso where Smith taught while her husband was earning his law degree. Eventually the couple decided to return to Fort Wayne, and Smith continued to focus on her art. Then one day she saw something happening at the old Mossman home, and it caught her attention.

"I saw them putting a 'For Sale' sign in the yard when I was working on the front porch, and I said something to my husband, and he said 'Don't get any ideas about buying that place. We'll buy that place when pigs fly.'"

That building – the one that was once a family home, then a municipal museum, then a collection of condos – is now better known as the Castle Gallery, and Smith has turned it into one of the most successful galleries in the area, one which has drawn attention around the country and has been a vital part of Fort Wayne's growing reputation as a thriving arts community. That Smith overcame resistance is not surprising, given how deeply her passion for art runs. It was actually planned for her before she was even born.

"I was born into it," says Smith. "My grandparents were art professors, and my grandfather was the first artist at Hallmark. I was my parents' fourth and last child, the last chance to have an artist in the family, so my

room was set up with easels and paints. I was very lucky because I was always supported and encouraged to be an artist because my mother wanted those genes to roll."

Smith's siblings were all considerably older, and her father died when she was young, leaving her the full attention of her mother who enjoyed sharing the arts with her daughter. The pair frequented galleries, and Smith was exposed to all of the art forms, which she now credits with her openness to

very, very artistically significant in the country, and I think we've had a lot to do with that. People come to Fort Wayne to see the Castle Gallery."

The Smiths have found several ways to raise the profile of both their gallery and Fort Wayne as a cultural hot spot including last fall's visit by the Oil Painters of America show, an exhibit which brought artists from all over the country and Canada. This coming fall, they're excited to host the National Oil and Acrylic Society exhibit, having been chosen from hundreds of applicants all over the United States.

"It's a big honor," says Smith. "People are discovering that this city is artistically rich and that we have a great basis here for the arts. We'll be bringing eyes from all over the country to Fort Wayne."

In fact, Smith has seen many who come for these special exhibits and workshops fall in love with this area after seeing how much it has to offer.

"People don't know what we have here until they visit. One woman asked once if there were any covered bridges around here, so I gave her directions to the Spencerville Bridge. When she came back she said it had taken her two hours to get there, and I said 'Oh dear, were my directions that bad?' She said no, she had just stopped because there were so many things to look at and enjoy here. And you look around at what all we have now, with Sweetwater and all of the downtown development, it's exciting. And that excitement becomes contagious."

In addition to the upcoming events at the Castle Gallery, the Smiths will also celebrate their 40th anniversary this year and will continue to spotlight local and national artists in the gallery they established in 1995. There is much to look forward to, and Smith is proud of the contributions their efforts have made in the growing Fort Wayne arts community. She looks forward to continuing to fulfill the dreams her parents had when they finally brought an artist into the family.

"If I were to retire, I'd just do what I'm already doing," she says. "I'm a painter, and I don't want to retire. My husband's an author, and he's releasing his third book. We enjoy sharing our creative side with this town. We love to travel, and we always enjoy going someplace else, but we always keep coming back to Fort Wayne."



all artistic mediums.

That background has served her well, as she has grown the Castle Gallery into a place where people from Fort Wayne and from all over the country come to see exhibitions and special events. Her original motivation – and proudest accomplishment – is the opportunity she's given the artists she's been spotlighting in the last 22 years since the Castle Gallery opened.

"In this town it was hard for an artist to make a living as an artist. You can't rely on one show a year at the Fort Wayne Museum of Art or Artlink. But when these artists are featured here, you can see what it looks like in a home, and you can get the idea of how important art work is. You can see what art does for this magnificent building. And you don't have an obligation to buy, but maybe you will. And by golly, these artists are making a living as artists. This town has become

DAVY KNOWLES - From Page 2

what modern electric blues should be!"

His latest effort, *Three Miles from Avalon*, has been likewise lauded. Recorded in Knowles' adopted home town of Chicago, *Three Miles* pays homage to the city's blues rock roots while, at the same time, allowing Knowles to spread his wings and challenge the limits of his craft.

That said, blues fans need not worry that Knowles will abandon their favorite genre any time soon. The future of the blues just might

rest with young, passionate performers like Davy Knowles, and, if that's the case, the future looks pretty bright from here.

"Blues is the music I first fell in love with, and I have always connected deeply with it," Knowles says on his website. "I enjoy playing the historian and am fascinated by all facets of the genre, from the earliest field recordings to the more recent guitar gods that electrified and supercharged this music. It's from all along this timeline that I like to draw influence from."



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In these days of internet ubiquity, it takes a certain amount of chutzpah to name your band something as simple as E. Try googling it.

You're likely to come up with info about the cable channel or just the letter. You have to at least enter the word "band" with it into the search engine to come up with anything, and even then you might have to do some digging.

So to name your band simply E makes it a statement, although in this case it's as much about implicit meaning as it is an explicit concept.

Explicitly, it loosely relates to the ubiquity of "e" or "electronic" everything – email and the like. Implicitly, it says that the band is refreshingly unconcerned with commercial potential. The music contained on *E* is, naturally, staunchly uncommercial. It's not particularly harsh or confrontational, but it is fluid, noisy and largely unconcerned with pop music conventions.

It should come as no surprise, then, that the band is made up of veterans who all got their start before the internet era, or at least before its ubiquity. Singer-guitarist Thalia Zedek is the best-known of the trio that comprise E, although they come across as a band of equals. Zedek made her name in the 80s and 90s as the driving force behind bands like Uzi and Come and has been releasing some excellent solo material in recent years.

Her bandmates come with their own hearty credentials, fellow guitarist Jason Sidney Sanford (Neptune) and drummer Gavin McCarthy (Karate) both having strong pedigrees in the noise rock scene. For a team of veterans who have been active as far back as the 80s, though, *E* comes across as astonishingly fresh and alive. It's tense and very noisy, alternating between near-mechanical, repetitive riffs and more graceful, haunting turns. While at times it seems to owe a clear debt to bands like Shellac and Six Finger Satellite (in fact, some of McCarthy's guitar work with Neptune bears a striking resemblance to Shellac), taken as a whole it is its own animal.

All three members take turns on vocals. Zedek's and Sanford's are the most prominent, and it's theirs which alternate back and forth for much of the album. On "Candidate," though, McCarthy takes his turn on the microphone, turning in a caustically forceful performance ("I could be the president / So now I'm running for president!") on the album's most searing number which, yes, is directed at the recent presidential election.

You may notice that E consists of two guitarists and a drummer. Despite having no bassist, there is still some low-end noise in there. Sanford constructed his own guitar for the use on this record (as he has with his main band Neptune) and it seems to emit enough low frequency noise that the lack of bass isn't really distracting.

The album is only 30 minutes long, but that short length doesn't seem like the band is short-changing listeners. It contains a full 10 songs, songs packed with a great deal of noise, variety and emotion. For sheer inventiveness, skill, and emotional range, *E* is an engaging release by a group of veterans that deserves to find its audience in spite of its lack of search engine friendliness. (Ryan Smith)

Neal Morse Band

The Similitude of a Dream

After a couple decades spent orbiting the sun, I have learned a scant few things, and one of these shards of wisdom is this: while *nothing* ever lives up to its hype, that does not necessarily mean it is bad.

Consider the cultural hypefest that was the first *Batman* movie: Not even Jack Nicholson could ever rescue that big ship from the sea of expectations engulfing it. Through the lens of hindsight, we realize that in spite of all those failed expectations, it was, nonetheless, still a pretty good movie.

So, now comes the much-anticipated double-disc concept album from the Neal Morse Band, based on the classic novel *Pilgrim's*



BACKTRACKS

Three Dog Night

Naturally (1970)

Los Angeles-based band Three Dog Night had been voyaging along for several years performing songs that they themselves hadn't written. They had surrounded themselves with area songwriters, produced several albums and charted singles like "One" and "Celebrate." This record, their fourth studio release, is the one that gave us "Joy to the World," and "Liar."

It opens with the bluesy jam, "I Can Hear You Calling," a hip number that relies on heavy percussion and fuzzy guitars behind the raspy vocals from Chuck Negron. "One Man Band" has a jazzy organ and a folksy feel to it. Their trademark harmonies litter the track, and it represents the early 70s very well. "Fire Eater" has a heavier feel to it and reminds me of Deep Purple or Chicago from the same era. It was the only original song on the release.

Side two kicks off with "Sunlight," a mellow number penned by Youngbloods frontman Jesse Colin Young. "Heavy Church" is a non-traditional spiritual written by Alan O'Day (who had a hit in 1977 with "Undercover Angel"), and "Liar," which reached No. 7 on Billboard, was written by Russ Ballard, a former member of Argent and successful solo artist in the early 80s.

"I've Got Enough Heartache," a gritty blues track co-written by Gary Wright (of "Dream Weaver" fame), is one of the better tracks on the album and is reminiscent of an old Joe Cocker composition. The album closes with the familiar "Joy to the World," a track that was given a second life due to its inclusion in the 1983 movie and soundtrack *The Big Chill*. Written by the legendary Hoyt Axton, it may be one of the greatest songs from 1970.

Fun Fact: Axton's mother, Mae, co-wrote "Heartbreak Hotel," making them the first mother and son to have No. 1 songs on the charts. (Dennis Donahue)



Progress. It comes encased in elaborate trifold packaging, with a third "making of" DVD included and a boast on a sticker on the outer cellophane by drummer Mike Portnoy that out of all his musical contributions to this planet: "... THIS IS THE ALBUM of mine (and Neal's) careers ... it's so monumentally epic and perfect in every way." This summons within me terrible memories of Michael Keaton in a rubber bat suit.

The world of prog music is all about pushing that proverbial postal parcel ever forward. It is about obvious excess, going over the top and being willing to take huge musical risks, sometimes transporting listeners way past their musical conventions to a brand new land, but also sometimes failing very badly in front of a contemptuous crowd.

Every prog band eventually decides it's time to make a concept album, and for the most part they leave us with a work where we find something new in the mix. But occasionally the members of a bat-guano crazy prog band throws away all their anti-psychotic meds and decide their concept is just too big for a single album. They point to *The Lamb Lies Down on Broadway* by Genesis, or *The Wall* by the Floyd as their inspiration as to how great of heights can be achieved, politely ignoring the scattered wreckage of the debacle "album that killed prog," *Tales of Topographic Oceans* by Yes. To this day, when the words, 'double concept album' are whispered, the proghead thinks of a troubling dichotomy: Will it be *Lamb* or *Topographic*?

Into this arena of conceptual Prog enter Morse and Portnoy, no strangers to the successful double concept album: Portnoy from his years chopping up Dream Theatre's meters, and Morse, creator of *Snow*, that unparalleled awesome allegory of a man's rise, fall and redemption, with his former band, Spock's Beard.

Morse's Christian convictions caused him to leave that band and artistically pursue his expressions of faith by way of much less metaphor. His early musical epistles were still musically inspiring, though, like much Christian music of late, we've had to suffer through some cringe-worthy lyrics at times.

The Neal Morse Band, through several increasingly wonderful albums, has shown a growing cohesiveness as a band, with a more collaborative feel that transcends its namesake and growing

Continued on page 12

Wooden Nickel CD of the Week



COLONY HOUSE

ONLY THE LONELY

Their 2014 debut, *When I Was Younger*, heated up the alternative charts, but Colony House's big-label second release, *Only the Lonely*, threatens to make the Nashville-based band blow up for real. With the addition of bassist Parke Cottrell, the original trio is now a quartet, and they've called in producer Peter Katis (Interpol, The National) and engineer Vance Powell (Jack White, Beck) to shape the new album. Pick it up for \$11.99 at any Wooden Nickel Music store.

TOP SELLERS @

WOODEN NICKEL

(Week ending 1/22/17)

TW	LW	ARTIST/Album
1	1	RUN THE JEWELS 3
2	2	THE XX I See You
3	-	AFI AFI
4	4	THE FLAMING LIPS Oczy Mlody
5	3	THE ROLLING STONES Blue & Lonesome
6	-	TYCHO Epoch
7	7	HALESTORM ReAniMate 3.0: The CoVeRs EP
8	-	VARIOUS ARTISTS 2107 Grammy Nominees
9	9	A TRIBE CALLED QUEST We Got It from Here ...
10	-	FIREWINDS Immortals

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EXPECT: Golden Tee, jukebox, 3 TVs, free WIFI, deck patio, motor-cycle parking available. Daily food & drink specials: \$1 coneys & \$2.50 18 oz. domestics Sun.; 50¢ wings & \$3 pitchers Mon.; \$1 tacos & \$1.50 domestic longnecks Tues.; \$1 drafts & 1/2 price pizza Wed.; \$12 buckets & \$1 sliders Thurs.; \$4 pitchers & smoked BBQ ribs, tips & chicken specials Fri.; \$12 buckets Sat. **GETTING THERE:** Corner of Jefferson & West Main St., 2 minutes from downtown. **HOURS:** 11 a.m.-3 a.m. daily. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, ATM

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

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

CRAZY PINZ/COCONUTZ RESTAURANT

Games/Music • 1414 Northland Blvd., Fort Wayne • 260-490-2695
EXPECT: An exciting atmosphere for families. Bowling, arcade, laser tag, mini-golf and weekly live entertainment. Coconutz restaurant serves American cuisine daily with food and drink specials. **GETTING THERE:** North on Lima Road from Coliseum, past Sam's Club to Northland Blvd. **HOURS:** 10 a.m.-11 p.m. Mon.-Wed.; 10 a.m.-midnight Thurs.; 10 a.m.-1 a.m. Fri.-Sat.; noon-10 p.m. Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, Amex

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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

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

Thursday, January 26

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

COLUMBIA STREET UNPLUGGED FEAT. JESS THROWER AND MITCH FRAZIER — Acoustic at Columbia Street West, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m., no cover, 422-5055

ELVIS LIVES — Elvis tribute at Honeywell Center, Wabash, 7:30 p.m., \$35-\$45, 563-1102

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

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

FORT WAYNE PHILHARMONIC — Live at Lunch/Classical at Crescendo Cafe, Sweetwater Sound, Fort Wayne, 12 p.m., no cover, 432-8176

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

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 The Venice Restaurant, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m., \$1, (260) 482-1618

SIDECAR GARY'S KARAOKE & DJ w/BEN — Karaoke at Spudz Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 7-11 p.m., no cover, 493-7292

TRONIC — EDM at O'Sullivan's Italian Irish Pub, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 422-5896

Friday, January 27

BASKETCASE — Acoustic variety at Mad Anthony's Lake City Tap House, Warsaw, 7-10 p.m., no cover, (574) 268-2537

BLOOZE FACTOR — Blues at Dupont Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., cover, 483-1311

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

Earphorik Home for Show Saturday

Maybe the guys from Earphorik never got the message that most folks tend to hibernate during winter. While low temperatures, cold winds and darkened skies are enough to push anyone to the warmth of their couch, none of this seems to have fazed Earphorik; the band booked a lengthy tour which kicked off early January and will continue through the month of March. Some dates have them sharing stages with such acts as Mister F, Flightwave and Cat Daddy's Funky Fuzz Bunker Band. They even have an opening gig for Umphrey's McGee on Thursday, March 30 at the Riverside Theater in Milwaukee. That's a feat not too many local bands have accomplished. If you can't break away for a road trip, Earphorik will be performing a hometown gig on Saturday, January 28 at Mitchell's Sports Bar. In all, these cats are off to a good start in 2017. Good job!

Soul35, Alicia Pyle Quartet and The School of Rock Fort Wayne are teaming up to perform at this year's Weather the Fort event taking place at 4 p.m. on Saturday, February 11 at Freimann Square. If you happened to attend the Ball Drop Fort Wayne event a couple weeks back, then you're aware that a little cold weather doesn't affect Alicia Pyle's playing. Besides the fine music, this cold weather experience will include ice carving, a curling demonstration by the Fort Wayne Curling Club, a dance and fire performance by Pyroscope Entertainment and food, beer and coffee all served in heated tents. Weather the Fort is a great time to conquer cabin fever and celebrate the beauty of winter in downtown Fort Wayne. Admission is free and for adults over 21.

Our friends at CS3 will be hosting a unique event



Out and About NICK BRAUN

next month that will allow you to express artistic ability. Drawn Together is a celebration of creativity and community which provides an opportunity for artists and non-artists to come out and draw, sketch, doodle and design together. This event is free for everyone. All you have to do is bring your imagination, as pencils and paper will be provided. The first Drawn Together will take place at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, February 1. Also, be on the lookout, as it appears this is going to be a monthly event.

Can anyone remember what things they were doing 25 years ago? I mean, most folks can't recall what they did last weekend, let alone a quarter of a century ago. However, I do recall going to the Southtown Mall Cinema around that time to see the movie *Wayne's World*. Can you believe it's been 25 years since that bad boy came out? Well, there's good news for fans of Garth and Wayne, as select cinemas nationwide will be taking part in the *Wayne's World* 25th Birthday Bash February 7-8. Showings will include additional footage, as director Penelope Spheeris will lead a discussion with actors Mike Myers, Dana Carvey and more. Pretty cool.

It looks like Carmike 20 here in town will be taking part in the fun on Wednesday, February 8, so make sure to check for showtimes. As Wayne and Garth would say, "Excellent!"

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

FORT WAYNE PHILHARMONIC — Live at Lunch/Classical at Citizen's Square, Fort Wayne, 12 p.m., no cover, 427-8113

FORT WAYNE KARAOKE w/JAY — Variety at Coconutz @ Crazy Pinz, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m., no cover, 490-2695

GOOD NIGHT GRACIE — Variety at Mitchell's Sports Bar & Neighborhood Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., \$3, (260) 387-5063

JOE JUSTICE — Variety at Outdoor Sports, Lake & Cabin Show, Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m., \$10, 483-1111

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

JUST FOR KICKS — Acoustic variety at Eagles Post 3512, Fort Wayne, 7-11 p.m., no cover, 387-7254

KARAOKE — Karaoke at Wrigley Field Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 7-11 p.m., no cover, 485-1038

MOJO RISING — Classic rock at American Legion Post 241, Waynedale, 8:30-11:30 p.m., no cover, 747-7851

PAUL NEW STEWART & BRIAN FRUSHOUR (DUELING KEYBOARD BOYS) — Variety at The Venice Restaurant, Fort Wayne, 6:30-9:30 p.m., no cover, (260) 482-1618

QUINCY AND THE Q-TET — Variety at The Wet Spot, Decatur, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 728-9031

SIDECAR GARY'S KARAOKE & DJ — Karaoke at 4 Crowns, Auburn, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 925-9805

SUNNY TAYLOR — Variety at AJ's Bar and Grill, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m., no cover, 434-1980

SUSAN MAE AND NEW YESTERDAY — Variety at Deer Park Irish Pub, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 432-8966

TODD HARROLD & NICK BOBAY DUO — Blues/variety at Nick's Martini & Wine Bar, Fort Wayne, 8:30 p.m., no cover, 482-6425

U.R.B. — Funk at Latch String Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 483-5526

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

Saturday, January 28

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

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EXPECT: 27 huge flat screen TVs with all your favorites sports – NASCAR and more; live trivia 7-9 p.m. Tuesdays; kitchen opens at 11 a.m. w/custom burgers, specialty sandwiches, BBQ, flatbreads, salads and wraps. **GETTING THERE:** Corner of Washington Center Rd. and Coldwater, just south of I-69. **HOURS:** 11 a.m.-midnight or later daily. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, Amex

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, 15 flat screen TVs; \$8.99 daily lunch specials; 50¢ wings Wednesdays; Three Rivers Karaoke 9 p.m. Wednesdays. **GETTING THERE:** North of Fort Wayne at Leo Crossing (Dupont & Clinton). **HOURS:** 11 a.m.-3 a.m. daily **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Amex

EARLY BIRD'S ULTRA LOUNGE

Music/Dancing • 4201 N. Wells St., Fort Wayne • 260-483-1979
EXPECT: The city's best DJs spinning today's hottest hits; VIP rooms; the city's biggest outdoor party patio with special events, concerts and more. **GETTING THERE:** From Coliseum Boulevard, behind Evans Toyota on Wells south of Glenbrook Mall. **HOURS:** 9 p.m.-3 a.m. Friday-Saturday. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, Amex

FLASHBACK ON THE LANDING

Music/Dancing • 118 W. Columbia St., Fort Wayne • 260-422-5292
EXPECT: Dance music from 80s and 90s to today, great DJ and bartenders, free pizza available all night long. **GETTING THERE:** Downtown on The Landing. **HOURS:** 9 p.m.-3 a.m. Friday-Saturday. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, Amex

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 w/DirectTV (NFL Package during season), internet juke, pool table, karaoke every Friday (9 p.m.), live bands every Saturday (8 p.m.) Memorial Day thru Labor Day. **GETTING THERE:** Corner of roads 1 and 427. **HOURS:** 10 a.m.-1 a.m. Mon.-Wed.; 10 a.m.-3 a.m. Thurs.-Sat.; 10 a.m.-12 midnight Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa

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, \$3 margaritas & \$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. **HOURS:** 11 a.m.-3 a.m. Mon.-Sat., 12 noon-12:30 a.m. Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa

MAD ANTHONY BREWING COMPANY

Brew Pub/Micro Brewery • 2002 S. Broadway, Fort Wayne • 260-426-2537
EXPECT: Ten beers freshly hand-crafted on premises and the eclectic madness of Munchie Emporium. 4-1/2 star menu, 'One of the best pizzas in America,' large vegetarian menu. **GETTING THERE:** Just southwest of downtown Fort Wayne at Taylor & Broadway. **HOURS:** Usually 11 a.m.-1 a.m. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc

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

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

ANTHONY GOMES — Blues at C2G Music Hall, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., \$15-\$30, 426-6434
BACKWATER — Country/country rock at Wacky Jac's, Angola, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., no cover, 665-9071
COUGAR HUNTER — 80s glam rock at 4D's Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., \$5, 490-6488
EARPHORIK — Rock/progressive at Mitchell's Sports Bar & Neighborhood Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., \$5, (260) 387-5063
FORT WAYNE KARAOKE — Karaoke at Latch String Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10:30 p.m., no cover, 483-5526

THE HAMBRICKS — Acoustic variety at Nick's Martini & Wine Bar, Fort Wayne, 8:30 p.m., no cover, 482-6425
HE SAID SHE SAID — Country/variety at Pie Eyed Petey's, Leesburg, 8 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 574-453-9741
JOE JUSTICE — Variety at Outdoor Sports, Lake & Cabin Show, Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, 1-4 p.m., \$10, 483-1111
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 Duff's Bar, Columbia City, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 244-6978
MISS KITTY'S REVENGE — Country rock at The Post, Pierceton, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 574-594-3010
POP'N'FRESH — Blues/rock at Mad Anthony Brewing Co., Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m., no cover, (260) 426-2537
PRIME SUSPECTS — Variety at Dupont Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., cover, 483-1311
SHORT TERM MEMORIES — Variety at American Legion Post 499, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 483-1368

Music Community Suffers a Loss



Fort Forward STEVE PENHOLLOW

When local singer-songwriter Duane Eby succumbed two weeks ago to the cardiac problems that had plagued him for many years, the outpouring of grief and disbelief on social media was like a shock-wave.

"Duane always made people feel at ease in their own skin," fellow singer-songwriter Sunny Taylor said. "Whether I was listening to him perform, or talking with him one on one, he always allowed plenty of room for me to be my own weird self. He validated it and encouraged it. It still doesn't seem real that this world doesn't have Duane Eby anymore."

Local music booker and booster Brad Etter recalled a time when he was in the hospital suffering from some heart issues of his own.

"Duane had been a patient at various hospitals off and on for the past five years for chronic cardiac conditions," he said. "This time, though, I was not visiting Duane in his hospital room. Duane was visiting me in mine."

"Duane, armed with only his 'mighty uke' and carrying a large black notebook, entered my hospital room," Etter said. "He told me to pick any song that he had in his big notebook. There were hundreds of songs with lyrics, music notations and charts – literally hundreds of songs, if not more, neatly organized and categorized in his notebook."

Etter chose "Across the Universe." "To this day, every time I hear this popular Beatles song, I immediately think of my lovely, gentle friend Duane," he said. "What a treat. What a thrill to have Duane share a solo, mini and private concert for me while I was a patient in the hospital."

Local producer Jon Gillespie, who worked with Eby on his 2005 album, *It's What's Inside That Counts*, said his imagination was always pushing his musicianship.

"There are a lot of people who have great chops but not so great imagination," he said. "Duane was always pushing himself to be better and he made great stuff because of that."

Gillespie said *It's What's Inside That Counts* was his gift to Eby and, after his death, he knew that "someone had to do a tribute album."

Unsurprisingly, that someone turned out to be Gillespie.

"People hold him in such high regard," he said. "And my attitude was 'Well, nobody else is going to do this so I'd better do it.'"

Gillespie said he currently has 12 people signed

up to perform Eby's songs and another dozen-or-so sidemen who say they want to play backup.

The idea, he said, is not to do a "cover band" tribute to Eby, but to allow people to interpret his material as they see fit. It's an approach that Eby would have very much enjoyed, Gillespie said.

"We're trying to do stuff with a fair amount of variety," he said. "Everything from neoclassical to electronica to folk and rock."

For example, Gillespie is arranging Eby's "Overcome" for string quartet. The tribute album version will feature Hope Arthur on vocals and Jane Heald, Felix Moxter and Derek Reeves on strings.

Gillespie doesn't want to let the project marinate too long.

"I want to strike while the iron is hot, so to speak," he said. "I don't want it to come out a year from now. I'd like it to be

a few months. But it's a huge amount of work to do."

Gillespie is open to having more folks get on board.

"I want anybody who was very moved by Duane's music," he said. "Some of the people who are involved knew him really well, and a few people didn't know him well but were big fans of the music."

Gillespie said people can contact him about the project via his Facebook page.

Any proceeds from CD sales and downloads will go to Eby's widow, Janine, Gillespie said.

A secondary goal of the project is to give people a creative way to express and process their grief.

"It's rare that you see this kind of outpouring of grief and love and admiration for a 65-year-old local songwriter," he said. "What it's doing for the community in terms of bringing us together and allowing us to collectively grieve is crucial."

Asked to assess the musician independent of the man, Gillespie said the two can't be separated.

"He was such a gentle, encouraging, nurturing soul," he said, "and that went along with his music. It seems like everyone he came in contact with came away the better for it. Everyone came away more passionate about music."

steve.penhollow@gmail.com

THE SNYDERS w/STATIC FLY, FISTAFACE — Variety/Street Reach for the Homeless benefit at O'Sullivan's Italian Irish Pub, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-2 a.m., freewill donation, 422-5896

TODD HARROLD & NICK BOBAY DUO — R&B/blues/variety at American Legion Post 148, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m., no cover, 423 4751

Sunday, January 29

BLUES JAM HOSTED BY LEE LEWIS AND FRIENDS — Open jam at Checkerz Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m., no cover, 489-0286

HUBIE ASHCRAFT BAND — Country at Beer & Bacon Fest, Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, 5-10 p.m., \$19, 317-227-7419

YESTERDAY'S HEADTRIP — Variety at Latch String Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 483-5526

Monday, January 30

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

FORT WAYNE KARAOKE — Karaoke at Latch String Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 483-5526

OPEN BLUES JAM — Blues at Red Rok BBQ & Bourbon Saloon, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m., no cover, 444-5637

OPEN MIC NIGHT — Variety at Checkerz Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 489-0286

Tuesday, January 31

CHILLY'S TALENT & TACOS — Open mic at Latch String Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 483-5526

KEVIN PIEKARSKI JAZZ TRIO — Jazz at Trolley Bar, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m., no cover, 490-4322

OPEN MIC COMEDY — Comedy at Wrigley Field Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 7-9 p.m., no cover, 485-1038

Wednesday, February 1

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

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

LIVE DJ — Variety at Columbia Street West, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m., no cover, 422-5055

OPEN JAM — Hosted by G-Money at Nick's Martini & Wine Bar, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m., no cover, 482-6425

OPEN MIC — Hosted by Chilly Addams at Beamer's Sports Grill, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 625-1002

PAUL NEW STEWART — Variety at The Venice Restaurant, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m., \$1, 482-1618

Thursday, February 2

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

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

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

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

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 The Venice Restaurant, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m., \$1, (260) 482-1618

SIDECAR GARY'S KARAOKE & DJ w/BEN — Karaoke at Spudz Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 7-11 p.m., no cover, 493-7292

TRONIC — EDM at O'Sullivan's Italian Irish Pub, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 422-5896

WBOI MEET THE MUSIC FEAT. THE GOAT'S BEARDS, METAVARI, KELSICOTE — Variety at C2G Music Hall, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., no cover, 426-6434

PAUL NEW STEWART — Variety at The Venice Restaurant, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m., \$1, (260) 482-1618

SIDECAR GARY'S KARAOKE & DJ w/BEN — Karaoke at Spudz Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 7-11 p.m., no cover, 493-7292

TRONIC — EDM at O'Sullivan's Italian Irish Pub, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 422-5896

WBOI MEET THE MUSIC FEAT. THE GOAT'S BEARDS, METAVARI, KELSICOTE — Variety at C2G Music Hall, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., no cover, 426-6434

Friday, February 3

BASKETCASE — Acoustic variety at Deer Park Irish Pub, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 432-8966

DAN SMYTH — Acoustic at Duesy's Sports Bar, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 484-0411

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

DAVY KNOWLES — Blues at C2G Music Hall, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., \$15-\$30, 426-6434

FIREBALL MATINEE — Variety at Dupont Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., cover, 483-1311

FORT WAYNE KARAOKE w/JAY — Variety at Coconutz @ Crazy Pinz, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m., no cover, 490-2695

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

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

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

KARAOKE — Karaoke at Wrigley Field Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 7-11 p.m., no cover, 485-1038

KELSICOTE — Chilean Jazz at Calhoun Street Soups, Salads & Spirits, Fort Wayne, 8:30-11:30 p.m., \$5, (260) 456-7005

RYAN STEVENSON — Contemporary Christian at Honeywell Center, Wabash, 7:30 p.m., \$15-\$30, 563-1102

SIDECAR GARY'S KARAOKE & DJ — Karaoke at 4 Crowns, Auburn, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 925-9805

Saturday, February 4

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

FORT WAYNE PHILHARMONIC w/ PHILHARMONIC CHORUS, FORT WAYNE CHILDREN'S CHOIR — Concert version of Puccini's Tosca at Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m., \$19-\$69, 424-5665

FORT WAYNE KARAOKE — Karaoke at Latch String Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10:30 p.m., no cover, 483-5526

FORT WAYNE FUNK ORCHESTRA — Funk/album release party at Columbia Street West, Fort Wayne, 9-11:30 p.m., \$5, 422-5055

JASON WELLS — Variety at Dupont Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., cover, 483-1311

JOE FIVE — Variety at American Legion Post 409, Leo, 8 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 627-2628

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 Checkerz Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 489-0286

MISS KITTY'S REVENGE — Country rock at Vinnie's Bar, Decatur, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., \$3, 729-2225

RANDOM PLAY — Classic rock at Fuzzy's Hideaway, North Webster, 8-11 p.m., no cover, 574-834-4251

SINGING HOOSIERS — Choral variety at Honeywell Center, Wabash, 7:30 p.m., \$15-\$35, 563-1102

NIGHTLIFE

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

MAIN STREET BISTRO & MARTINI LOUNGE

Music/Variety • 200 E. Main St., Fort Wayne • 260-420-8633

EXPECT: A downtown dining destination with something for everyone, from pizza and wings to fine steaks and seafood. Main Street Goes Live with DJs, live entertainment and special events every Friday and Saturday at 10 p.m.; new menu, low prices, great quality food. **GETTING THERE:** In the First Source Bank Building, corner of Barr and Main streets, downtown. **HOURS:** 11 a.m.-close Wednesday-Friday; 4 p.m.-3 a.m. Saturday. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, Amex

MITCHELL'S SPORTS & NEIGHBORHOOD GRILL

Sports & Music • 6179 W. Jefferson Blvd., Fort Wayne • 260-387-5063

EXPECT: Family-friendly atmosphere, great food, all sports packages on over 40 TVs, craft beers and more. Great food from wings and pizza to gourmet sandwiches and entrees; breakfast and blood Mary bar Saturdays & Sundays, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. **GETTING THERE:** On the corner of Getz and Jefferson Blvd., southwest Fort Wayne. **HOURS:** 4 p.m.-close Monday-Thursday; 11 a.m.-close Friday-Saturday. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, Amex

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

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. Fort Wayne's Sammy Hagar bar & Beach Bar Rum, Riverbend Pizza. **GETTING THERE:** Corner of State and Crescent. **HOURS:** 3 p.m.-3 a.m. Mon., 1 p.m.-3 a.m. Tues.-Fri., noon-3 a.m. Sat., noon-1 a.m. Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** Cash only; ATM on site

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creative contributions coming from each extremely gifted member. On *Similitude*, that blend of contributions has reached full fruition, and one can enjoy a full album with nary a lyrical cringe. Like most good prog, the level of musicianship will send the average musician to their practice space to figure out "how exactly did they play that?" Watching the "making of" DVD will convince them to not even try. There is the signature old-school prog overuse of the familiar fast triplet on many songs (for the musically uninitiated, it's that cliché of three notes in rapid succession that led one musical writer to label prog "squiggly music") but this is forgivable. The album's mixer, Rich Mouser, must push a button on a secret rack-mount device called "add epic" in his arsenal because the sound is Grand Canyon huge – maybe too huge at times, if that is possible. In this hour and 40 minutes of music, there is little room to take a breath, though this sonic complexity really means this album will endure years of listening without taking in everything.

But oh, the ghost of *Topographic Oceans* flies in to prod at us forebodingly, "Yes, but how good are the actual songs? Lads, I was musically intricate as well! Beware!"

We can shoo that ol' ghost back to the prog nether regions because there are, individually, songs that emerge from the sea of the narrative, solidly standing on their own as singable. "City of Destruction" is a solidly rocking tome with a solid memorable chorus. "Makes No Sense" gives us Morse's sense of memorable melody at its best. "The Ways of a Fool" is a fish out of water jewel with its Beatlesque quirkiness. If anything, the album could have used more songs like this to give a little more contrast, texture and break from the constant onslaught of epic. "The Man in the Iron Cage" simply rocks – *hard* – and shows off the passion in Morse's voice and personality that makes us understand why he could not remain with Spock's Beard any longer. "Freedom Song" is yet another fanciful but flailing fish for want of watery feel-good fare.

Parts of other songs are strong as well, but with 21 songs, some are bound to be filler; heck, even parts of *Lamb* and *The Wall* border on unlistenable, but each song on this album grows exponentially stronger with every listen. Lyrically, they are interpreting a centuries-old Christian allegory of a pilgrim's journey from the City of Destruction through a path of many temptations, to eventually entering the shining City on a Hill, so the words are unabashedly Christian in nature – no need to add allegory to an allegory. Some of the lyrical phrasings get show-tune-ish at times, like this could be the soundtrack to what would be an astonishing musical, if ever made.

Is *Similitude of a Dream* the album of the century? I think that is expecting too much. Is it album of the decade? Eh, possibly; give it more time. In the desert realm of Christian music, there hasn't been anything nearly this creative for at least the last 10 years, so yes – within that genre. Okay, then, album of the year? Yes, it would take quite the work in the next few weeks to outshine this.

Grab the album; ignore Portnoy's raucous boast on the front. He was too close to the fire to be objective. Set a cold drink on your *Topographic Oceans* CD/coaster, and give *Similitude* a few objective listens – ignoring the hype – and enjoy it greatly.

PS: Nicholson as The Joker still gives me nightmares. (Keith Roman)

Miranda Lambert

The Weight of These Wings

The drama hounds among us expected *The Weight of These Wings* to be Miranda Lambert's contribution to an album war with ex-husband Blake Shelton. But it's unfair to make such an assumption, not just because it sells short both singers' artistic integrity, but because *If I'm Honest*, the bland pop-country cliché-fest that Shelton released back in the spring, shouldn't be mentioned in the same breath with Lambert's bold, creative and self-assured double album.

Yes, Lambert includes plenty of you-go-girl declarations of independence and disavowals of love among the album's two dozen tracks, such as the cynical view of relationships in "Runnin' Just in Case" or the quieter heartbreak of "Tin Man." If you want stories told from the point of view of narrators done wrong, they're here.

The album's biggest dis of Shelton, though, is his absence. These songs' heroine is tragic not because of the man who broke her heart, but because of the self-destructive way she reacts to heartbreak. She drinks and smokes too much ("Vice"), makes a fool of herself at the local bar ("Ugly Lights") and just mucks thing up in general ("Things That Break"). She doesn't need a man to make her life hard; she can do it fine all by herself.

The nice thing about the album's unusual size is that there's plenty of room for experimentation, even after all the traditional country tunes and mainstream ballads are slotted in. Weird rhythms, reverb, distortion and even the occasional synth effect make this anything but a predictable radio-country album. Take, for example, "Pink Sunglasses," a song that, on paper, is nothing but a girl's good-time anthem; in execution, however, Lambert stubbornly resists the on-paper perkiness, turning the song into a dark metaphor.

The Weight of These Wings is proof that Lambert isn't a reality TV version of a country singer/songwriter. She's an artist who can crank out 24 new songs with not a dog among them and not one of them a pandering hit-song wannabe. It's a statement that, if there's any justice in the world, will exorcise all the celebrity gossip from further discussion of her music. (Evan Gillespie)

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



Adventures in Bosnian

In late 2016, a new restaurant opened in Coliseum Plaza, which houses Jungle George's and a handful of other small businesses, on Parnell Avenue. Nella's Coffee & Grill is a Bosnian restaurant with a small but tasty menu.

Bosnia is located in southeastern Europe and bordered by Croatia, Serbia and Montenegro. Its cuisine is influenced by the former Yugoslavia and other Middle Eastern countries. Several years ago, I traveled to Greece, and many of the items on Nella's menu remind me of dishes I enjoyed there: savory and comforting, with special attention paid to the seasonings and sauces.

I wasn't sure what to expect when I visited Nella's with some friends a few weeks ago. With its typical strip mall facade, the restaurant is nothing special from the outside. If you weren't looking for it, you might never notice it tucked into a small space next to Jungle George's. Inside, the décor is dark and cozy, with a nice sized stage, dance floor, and bar.

According to the eateries' Facebook page, it offers a lot musical entertainment in the evenings. We visited at lunchtime, and it was not busy. After reading this review, I hope you will give it a try so we can keep this restaurant open in our city. It is so important that we have diverse restaurant options. It adds to the quality of life in our community and exposes us to different cultures.

Though the menu is small, I was overwhelmed by the options because I had never heard of most of them. We asked our server for recommendations, and he pointed to the three most popular items. We took his word for it and tried them.

Cevapi U Lepinji – \$9.29 for a large (10 pieces) or \$6.79 for a small (5 pieces): Ground beef flavored with authentic spices, rolled into sausages and grilled and served with pita bread, onions, kajmak (homemade sour cream) and avjar (red pepper relish).



Dining Out

AMBER FOSTER

The full portion is large enough for sharing. While this dish appears plain (the sausages are tucked between two pitas with no condiments or other ingredients) it is packed with flavor. Each sausage is perfectly seasoned



Spinach Pie; Gulas



Nella's Coffee & Grill
4606 Parnell Ave., Fort Wayne
260-209-3170
Hours:
9 a.m.-9 p.m.. Mon.-Thurs.
9 a.m.-11 p.m. Fri.
9 a.m.-2 a.m. Sat.

and grilled to a slight crisp, while staying juicy. The pita is soft and thick, making it just right for dipping into the delicious red pepper relish. I liked the relish so much, I put it on the spinachach pie I ordered as well.

Zeljanica, \$6.99: Spinach and feta prepared in braided phyllo dough. A very comforting item, this spinachach pie reminds me of spanakopita, one of my favorite Greek dishes. The savory spinach and feta combination complements the fluffy and slightly sweet outer layer. The serving size is huge. We ordered it to share at our table and had plenty to take home for later.

Godovi Gulas, \$8.99: Slow-simmered beef stew, served with choice of mashed potatoes, rice or pasta. I opted for mashed potatoes. Our server called it beef goulash, but it is not like any goulash I've ever had. This dish is comfort food at its best. The beef is tender and juicy, and the broth is savory and light. The flavors remind me of a classic shepherd's pie. I recommend dipping some pita in the sauce so none goes to waste. The portion size was large and I shared mine with a friend.

Other favorites, according to our server, that I plan to try during my next visit include: Mijesano Meso (\$15.95), a mixed meat platter featuring cevapi, grilled chicken, and steak, and served with pita and kajmak; and Kebabs (\$8.99 for chicken and \$9.99 for beef).

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Aaron Carter	Feb. 16	House of Blues	Valparaiso
Aaron Lewis	Feb. 17	St. Andrews Hall	Detroit
The Accidentals	Mar. 2	Magic Bag	Ferdale, MI
AFI w/The Chain Gang	Jan. 31	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
After the Burial w/Immure, Fit for a King, Fit for an Autopsy, Invent, Animate	Feb. 23	St. Andrews Hall	Detroit
Agent Orange w/The Queers, Guttermouth	Mar. 16	The Hi Fi	Indianapolis
Agnes Obel	Mar. 30	Old Town School	Chicago
Agnes Obel	Mar. 31	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Aimee Mann	Apr. 28	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Aimee Mann	Apr. 29	Park West	Chicago
AI Di Meola	Feb. 21	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Albert Cummings	Mar. 10	Lerner Theatre	South Bend
Allah-Las	Mar. 16	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Amaranthe	Mar. 3	The Hub	Fort Wayne
Ana Popovic	Feb. 21	Vegetable Buddies	South Bend
Anoushka Shankar	Mar. 26	Rhinehart Music Ctr., IPFW	Fort Wayne
Anthony Brown & Group Therapy w/Travis Greene, Johnathan McReynolds	Feb. 27	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Anthony Gomes	Jan. 28	C2G Music Hall	Fort Wayne
Anthrax w/Killswitch Engage	Apr. 8	The Fillmore	Detroit
The Architects w/Stray from the Path, Make Them Suffer	Mar. 7	Shelter	Detroit
Ari Hest	May 19	The Warehouse	Carmel
Ariana Grande	Feb. 26	Quicken Loans Arena	Cleveland
Artie Lang	Mar. 10	Sound Board	Detroit
At The Drive-In	Mar. 27	The Fillmore	Detroit
ATB w/Orjan Nilsen, Ben Nicky, DJ Kontor, Mario Florek	Feb. 24	Concord Music Hall	Chicago
Audien	Feb. 18	Concord Music Hall	Chicago
Back 2 the 80s feat. Jai! & Ecstasy of Whodini, Big Daddy Kane, Slick Rick, Al B. Sure, Force MD's, Hi-Five, Cherrelle, Doug E. Fresh	Mar. 17	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Bad Suns	Mar. 4	Deluxe	Indianapolis
Badfish	Jan. 28	Concord Music Hall	Chicago
Badfish	Jan. 29	The Intersection	Grand Rapids, MI
Badfish	Feb. 1	House of Blues	Cleveland
Badfish	Feb. 2	St. Andrews Hall	Detroit
Badfish	Feb. 3	Newport Music Hall	Columbus, OH
Band of Heathens	Feb. 13	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Barenaked Ladies	Mar. 3	Sound Board	Detroit
Bassel & The Supernaturals	Feb. 24	Double Door	Chicago
Bayside w/Say Anything, Reggie and the Full Effect	May 5	Concord Music Hall	Chicago
Bayside w/Say Anything, Reggie and the Full Effect	May 9	House of Blues	Cleveland
Ben Folds	Feb. 17	Buskirk-Chumley Theatre	Bloomington
Bernadette Peters & Boston Pops Orchestra	Apr. 1	Niswonger P.A.C.	Van Wert, Ohio
Big & Rich	Feb. 3	Firekeepers Casino	Battle Creek, MI
Big Gigantic	Mar. 2	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
Big Sean w/Madeintyo	Mar. 31	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Big Wild	Apr. 7	Concord Music Hall	Chicago
Big Wild	Apr. 8	Majestic Theatre	Detroit
Big Wreck	Feb. 26	Shelter	Detroit
Bill Charlap Trio	Apr. 30	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Bill Gathier	Mar. 18	Morris P.A.C.	South Bend
Bill Maher	Apr. 8	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Black Joe Lewis	Mar. 3	Newport Music Hall	Columbus, OH
Black Joe Lewis	Mar. 4	Metro	Chicago
Black Stone Cherry w/Caleb Johnson, Through Fire	Mar. 26	The Intersection	Grand Rapids, MI
Black Tiger Sex Machine w/Dabin Kai Wachi	Feb. 11	St. Andrews Hall	Detroit
Black Tiger Sex Machine w/Dabin Kai Wachi	Feb. 17	The Intersection	Grand Rapids, MI
Blue October	Mar. 16	House of Blues	Chicago
Bon Jovi	Mar. 22	Bankers Life Fieldhouse	Indianapolis
Bon Jovi	Mar. 29	Joe Louis Arena	Detroit
BonJovi	Mar. 18	Nationwide Arena	Columbus, OH
BonJovi	Mar. 19	Quicken Loans Arena	Cleveland
Born of Osiris w/Volumes, Oceans Ate Alaska, Within the Ruins, Fire from the Gods	Mar. 19	House of Blues	Chicago
Bowling for Soup w/Runaway Kids, Direct Hit!	Apr. 2	House of Blues	Cleveland
Brantley Gilbert w/Tucker Beathard, Luke Combs	Feb. 23	Ford Center	Evansville
Breaking Benjamin	Jan. 28	House of Blues	Cleveland
Brian McKnight	May 18	Sound Board	Detroit
Bring Me the Horizon w/Underoath, Beartooth	Mar. 13	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
The Cadillac Three w/Brent Cobb	Feb. 3	St. Andrews Hall	Detroit
The Cadillac Three w/Brent Cobb	Feb. 4	Deluxe	Indianapolis
The Cadillac Three w/Aubrie Sellers	Feb. 9	House of Blues	Cleveland
California Guitar Trio	Mar. 3	Schubas Tavern	Chicago
Casting Crowns w/Danny Gokey, Unspoken	Mar. 3	Huntington Center	Toledo
Celars	Feb. 3	Metro	Chicago
Celtic Woman	Apr. 25	Stranahan Theatre	Toledo
Charlie Wilson w/Fantasia, Johnny Gill	Feb. 17	Joe Louis Arena	Detroit
Chris Rock	Apr. 28-29	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Chris Rock	May 4	Murat Theatre	Indianapolis
Chronixx	Mar. 11	Metro	Chicago
Chuck Prophet	Mar. 17	Old Town School	Chicago
Chuck Prophet & The Mission Express	Mar. 19	B-Side	Fort Wayne
Cloud Catcher w/Bison Machine	Mar. 23	Brass Rail	Fort Wayne
Coin	Feb. 18	Deluxe	Indianapolis
Cold War Kids w/Middle Kids	Mar. 18	Riviera Theatre	Chicago

Chicago Open Air has announced its lineup for the second year of the festival. Headlining the three-day hard rock celebration are **Kiss, Korn and Ozzy Osbourne**. The rest of the bill are all the bands you'd expect to see at a festival like this, including **Rob Zombie, Slayer, Lamb of God, Godsmack, Megadeth, Clutch, Stone Sour** and about 20 bands you'd recognize if you were a fan of the genre. Basically, with festivals like this and Rock on the Range and Louder Than Life, if you are a band and you can get to that show, your management is going to do everything they can to get you in the lineup. Playing in front of tens of thousands of fans at one show beats spending weeks on the club circuit in front of dozens. Chicago Open Air takes place July 14-16 in Toyota Park.



Road Notez

CHRIS HUPE

There's a new entrant in the festival game, and it's practically in our backyard. The inaugural Loud N Lima takes place July 21-22 at the Allen County Fairgrounds in, of course Lima. The two-day festival is headlined by **Bret Michaels, Steel Panther and 3 Doors Down**. The rest of the lineup, so far, is packed with nostalgia-type bands, including **Warrior, Winger, Tom Keifer of Cinderella, Lita Ford, Firehouse, Operation Mindcrime, Steelheart and Bulletboys**, along with **Scrap Metal**, a band consisting of **Matthew and Gunnar Nelson of Nelson** and **Mark Slaughter of Slaughter**. Tickets are reasonable starting at \$55 per day for general admission. Radio personality and 80s rock aficionado **Eddie Trunk** hosts the weekend.

Detroit is getting a new downtown arena for their hockey and basketball teams. The Little Caesar's Arena opens this fall and is situated in close proximity to Comerica Park and Ford Field, the city's other professional sports complexes. The first event in the new arena is not a sporting event, however. Hometown hero **Kid Rock** will open the arena with a four-night stay September 12-13 and September 15-16. Rock is a huge draw in Detroit, and selling out four nights won't be difficult for him. If you want to go, I'd suggest getting tickets shortly after they go on sale January 27.

Iron Maiden have announced a second leg of the Book of Souls tour for North America. The new trek includes 25 cities with a June 15 date in Chicago amongst them. Making this a "can't miss" event is opener **Ghost**. Ghost have been gaining notoriety with their enter-taining stage shows over the last couple of years and now have a hit song, "Square Hammer," to go with it. Get there early. You're not going to want to miss any of this show.

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Cold War Kids w/Middle Kids	Mar. 19	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
Cold War Kids w/Middle Kids	Mar. 21	St. Andrews Hall	Detroit
Colin Hay	Mar. 10	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Cory Branan	Mar. 29	Ignition Music Garage	Goshen
The Cosmic Situation	May 11	Eagles Theatre	Wabash
D.R.A.M. w/River Tiber, Nebu Kiniza	Jan. 27	Metro	Chicago
Daedmau5	Apr. 15	The Fillmore	Detroit
The Damned	Apr. 23	House of Blues	Chicago
The Damned	Apr. 26	Deluxe	Indianapolis
The Damned	Apr. 27	Bogart's	Cincinnati
The Damned	Apr. 29	St. Andrews Hall	Detroit
Dan + Shay	Apr. 7	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Dan + Shay	Apr. 9	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
Dashboard Confessional	Jan. 27	St. Andrews Hall	Detroit
Dashboard Confessional	Jan. 28	House of Blues	Chicago
Dave Alvin and The Guilty Ones	May 5	Magic Bag	Ferdale, MI
David Lindley	Apr. 6	The Ark	Ann Arbor
David Phelps	Apr. 14	Niswonger P.A.C.	Van Wert, Ohio
Davina & The Vagabonds	May 4	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Davy Knowles	Feb. 3	C2G Music Hall	Fort Wayne
Dawes	Mar. 1	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Daya	Mar. 26	House of Blues	Chicago
Daya	Mar. 29	House of Blues	Cleveland
Deafheaven w/This Will Destroy You, Emma Ruth Rundle	Mar. 17	St. Andrews Hall	Detroit
Delbert McClinton	Mar. 6	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Dennis DeYoung	Feb. 11	Star Plaza Theatre	Merrillville
Diamond Dogs	Feb. 10	House of Blues	Cleveland
Dinosaur Jr.	Mar. 11	St. Andrews Hall	Detroit
Dinosaur Jr.	Mar. 12	Beachland Ballroom	Cleveland
Dinosaur Jr.	Mar. 13	Newport Music Hall	Columbus, OH
Dinosaur Jr.	Mar. 16	Bluebird Nightclub	Bloomington, IN
Dionne Warwick	Jan. 28	Lerner Theatre	Elkhart
DNCE	Feb. 2	House of Blues	Cleveland
Dorothy w/The Georgia Flood	Feb. 21	Shelter	Detroit
Doyle Bramhall II	Feb. 9	Magic Bag	Ferdale, MI
Drake White and the Big Fire	Apr. 21	8 Seconds Saloon	Indianapolis
Drive By Truckers	Feb. 3	Majestic Theatre	Detroit
Drive-By Truckers	Feb. 2	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Duke Dumalo	Apr. 13	Eagles Theatre	Wabash
Eilen Jewel	May 3	The Hi Fi	Indianapolis
Eisley	Mar. 10	Shelter	Detroit
Eisley	Mar. 13	The Hi Fi	Indianapolis
Eli Young Band	Feb. 11	Bluebird Nightclub	Bloomington, IN
Elizabeth Cook	Mar. 15	Hi Fi	Indianapolis
Elizabeth Cook	Mar. 17	The Ark	Ann Arbor

Calendar • On the Road

Elvis Lives	Jan. 26	Honeywell Center	Wabash
The English Beat	Mar. 17	Magic Bag	Ferndale, MI
Eric Church	Feb. 23	Bankers Life Fieldhouse	Indianapolis
Eric Church	Feb. 24	Quicken Loans Arena	Cleveland
Eric Church	Feb. 25	Palace of Auburn Hills	Auburn Hills, MI
Eric Church	Apr. 13	Allstate Arena	Rosemont, IL
Eric Gales	Mar. 11	Buddy Guy's Legends	Chicago
Experience Hendrix	Mar. 22	Murat Theatre	Indianapolis
Experience Hendrix feat. Billy Cox, Buddy Guy, Zakk Wylde, Jonny Lang	Mar. 23	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Explosions in the Sky	Apr. 26	House of Blues	Cleveland
Flaming Lips	Apr. 17-18	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Follow Fridays 7 feat. Joe Bates, Daniel Vergara, Dan Altan	Feb. 17	CS3	Fort Wayne
Foxygen	Mar. 30	Newport Music Hall	Columbus, OH
Foxygen	Mar. 31	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Gabriel Iglesias	Feb. 23	Cloves Memorial Hall	Indianapolis
Gabriel Iglesias	Mar. 5	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Gaelic Storm	Mar. 3	House of Blues	Cleveland
Game of Thrones: Live Concert Experience	Feb. 22	Nationwide Arena	Columbus, OH
Geoffrey Golden	Apr. 23	Multi-Flex Theater, Indiana Tech	Fort Wayne
George Clinton and Parliament Funkadelic	Feb. 19	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Get the Led Out	Feb. 24	Emens Auditorium	Muncie
Green Day w/Against Me!	Mar. 27	Joe Louis Arena	Detroit
Greensky Bluegrass	Feb. 10-11	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Greg Brown	Feb. 17	The Ark	Ann Arbor
The Growlers	Mar. 7	Hi Fi	Indianapolis
The Growlers	Mar. 10	Metro	Chicago
Hackensaw Boys	Apr. 28	The Hi Fi	Indianapolis
Haley Kiyoko	Mar. 30	Shelter	Detroit
Haley Kiyoko	Apr. 1	Double Door	Chicago
Hamilton Leithauser	Feb. 11	Newport Music Hall	Columbus, OH
The Head and the Heart w/Whitney	Feb. 23	Murat Theatre	Indianapolis
The Head and the Heart w/Whitney	Feb. 28	Hill Auditorium	Ann Arbor
Hed P.E. w/Flaw	Feb. 12	The Hub	Fort Wayne
Here Come the Mummies	Feb. 18	House of Blues	Chicago
Hippie Sabotage	Mar. 11	Majestic Theatre	Detroit
Hippie Sabotage	Mar. 12	House of Blues	Chicago
The Hitmen	May 6	Niswonger P.A.C.	Van Wert, Ohio
Hollerado	Jan. 26	St. Andrews Hall	Detroit
Hurray for the Riff Raff w/Ron Gallo	Apr. 27	Magic Bag	Ferndale, MI
Hurray for the Riff Raff w/Ron Gallo	Apr. 28	Thalia Hall	Chicago
I Prevail w/Wage War, Islander, Assuming We Survive	Feb. 19	The Intersection	Grand Rapids, MI
Ike Reilly	Mar. 12	B-Side	Fort Wayne
Il Volo	Mar. 16	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Infected Mushroom	Feb. 3	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
J. Mark Mosey & The Heartland Singers	Mar. 18	Niswonger P.A.C.	Van Wert, Ohio
J.J. Grey w/Luther Dickinson, Anders Osborne, Marc Broussard	Mar. 21	The Ark	Ann Arbor
J.J. Grey w/Luther Dickinson, Anders Osborne, Marc Broussard	Mar. 24	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Jacob Sartorius	Jan. 28	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Jacob Sartorius	Jan. 29	House of Blues	Chicago
Jagged Edge w/Donell Jones, Kelly Price	Feb. 18	Auer Hall, IPFW	Fort Wayne
Jake Miller w/MAX, Spencer Sutherland	Feb. 21	Newport Music Hall	Columbus, OH
Jake Miller w/MAX, Spencer Sutherland	Feb. 23	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Jake Miller w/MAX, Spencer Sutherland	Feb. 24	House of Blues	Cleveland
Jake Miller w/MAX, Spencer Sutherland	Feb. 27	House of Blues	Chicago
Japandoids w/Craig Finn	Feb. 15	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Jason Aldean	Apr. 27	Huntington Center	Toledo
Jason Aldean w/Chris Young, Kane Brown, Dee Jay Silver	May 12	Blossom Music Center	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
The Jaxons w/Children of October, The Lurking Corpses, Flamingo Nosebleed	Feb. 11	Brass Rail	Fort Wayne
Jauz	Feb. 16	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
JD McPherson	Mar. 14	Blind Pig	Ann Arbor
JD McPherson	Mar. 17	Bluebird Nightclub	Bloomington, IN
Jeff Dunham	Jan. 28	Joe Louis Arena	Detroit
Jeff Dunham	Jan. 29	Wolstein Center	Cleveland
Jerry Seinfeld	Apr. 6	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Jesse Cook	May 13	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Jim Brickman	Feb. 12	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Jim Jefferies	Jan. 26	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
Joe w/Christette Michele, Ro James, Vivian Green	Feb. 14	Fox Theatre	Detroit
John 5	Apr. 14	The Vogue	Indianapolis
John Mark McMillan w/Josh Garrels	Feb. 23	House of Blues	Cleveland
John Mark McMillan w/Josh Garrels	Feb. 26	House of Blues	Chicago
John Moreland	Feb. 26	Newport Music Hall	Columbus, OH
Johnnyswim	Mar. 8	Deluxe	Indianapolis
Johnnyswim	Mar. 10	Newport Music Hall	Columbus, OH
Johnnyswim	Mar. 14	St. Andrews Hall	Detroit
JoJo	Mar. 12	Concord Music Hall	Chicago
JoJo	Mar. 30	House of Blues	Cleveland
JoJo	Mar. 31	Newport Music Hall	Columbus, OH
JoJo	Apr. 21	Majestic Theatre	Detroit
Josh Abbott Band	Mar. 10	8 Seconds Saloon	Indianapolis
Journey	Mar. 31	Allen Co. War Memorial Coliseum	Fort Wayne
Journey	Apr. 1	Ford Center	Evansville

Juicy J w/Belly, Project Pat	Mar. 9	House of Blues	Cleveland
Juicy J w/Belly, Project Pat	Mar. 10	The Fillmore	Detroit
Juicy J w/Belly, Project Pat	Mar. 12	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
Juicy J w/Belly, Project Pat	Mar. 17	House of Blues	Chicago
Julian Lage w/Chris Eldridge	Feb. 26	Old Town School	Chicago
Julian Lage w/Chris Eldridge	Feb. 27	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Julianne Hough w/Derek Hough	Apr. 22	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Justin Furstenfeld	Feb. 3	The Ark	Ann Arbor
K Flay	Feb. 16	The Hi Fi	Indianapolis
Katatoria w/Caspian, Uncured	Apr. 15	Metro	Chicago
Katt Williams	Feb. 11	Joe Louis Arena	Detroit
Kehlani	May 7	Concord Music Hall	Chicago
Kehlani	May 8	The Intersection	Grand Rapids, MI
Kehlani	May 10	St. Andrews Hall	Detroit
Keith Sweat, K-Ci & JoJo, 112, El DeBarge	Apr. 15	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Keller Williams w/Leo Kottke	Mar. 10	Park West	Chicago
Keller Williams	Mar. 16	Blind Pig	Ann Arbor
Keller Williams	Mar. 17	The Intersection	Grand Rapids, MI
KelsiCote	Feb. 3	CS3	Fort Wayne
Kenny Rogers w/Linda Davis	Apr. 7	The Palladium	Carmel
Kier	Feb. 18	Club 250	Bluffton
Kinsey Report	Apr. 14-15	Kingston Mines	Chicago
The Knocks w/Bipolar Sunshine, Gilligan Moss	Mar. 11	Concord Music Hall	Chicago
The Knocks w/Bipolar Sunshine, Gilligan Moss	Mar. 16	Shelter	Detroit
Laura Marling	May 7	Metro	Chicago
Laura Marling	May 7	Metro	Chicago
Laurn Hill	Feb. 7	Palace Theatre	Columbus, OH
Less Than Jake w/Pepper	Feb. 8	Concord Music Hall	Chicago
Less Than Jake w/Pepper	Feb. 9	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Lettuce	Feb. 23	The Intersection	Grand Rapids, MI
Lettuce	Feb. 24	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Lewis Black	Apr. 28	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Lewis Black	Apr. 29	Murat Theatre	Indianapolis
Lil' Ed & the Blues Imperials	Feb. 2-3	Kingston Mines	Chicago
Lilacs	Mar. 4	Metro	Chicago
Lily & Madeleine	Feb. 25	Deluxe	Indianapolis
Lionel Richie w/Mariah Carey	Apr. 11	Palace of Auburn Hills	Auburn Hills, MI
Lisa Lampanelli	Feb. 17	Sound Board	Detroit
Local Natives	Mar. 31	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Lotus	Mar. 2	The Intersection	Grand Rapids, MI
Lotus	Mar. 3	The Intersection	Grand Rapids, MI
Louis the Child	Jan. 27	Majestic Theatre	Detroit
Loverboy	Mar. 10	Firekeepers Casino	Battle Creek, MI
The Lumineers w/Andrew Bird	Jan. 26	Van Andel Arena	Grand Rapids, MI
The Lumineers w/Andrew Bird	Jan. 27	Palace of Auburn Hills	Auburn Hills, MI
The Lumineers w/Andrew Bird	Jan. 28	Schottenstein Center	Columbus, OH
The Lumineers w/Andrew Bird	Jan. 31	U.S. Bank Arena	Cincinnati
Lumineers w/Kaleo	Mar. 10	Bankers Life Fieldhouse	Indianapolis
Lunasa	Mar. 25	Old Town School	Chicago
Lynyrd Skynyrd	Feb. 2	Sound Board	Detroit
The Marcus King Band	Feb. 14	The Hi Fi	Indianapolis
The Marcus King Band	Feb. 15	Buddy Guy's Legends	Chicago
The Marcus King Band	Feb. 16	Buddy Guy's Legends	Chicago
Margo Price	Apr. 5	The Hi Fi	Indianapolis
Margo Price	Apr. 7	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Maroon 5	Feb. 22	Quicken Loans Arena	Cleveland
Maroon 5	Mar. 3	U.S. Bank Arena	Cincinnati
The Marshall Tucker Band	Apr. 1	Lerner Theatre	Elkhart
Martina McBride w/Lauren Alaina	Feb. 3	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Martina McBride w/Lauren Alaina	Feb. 23	The Palladium	Carmel
Mastadon w/Eagles of Death Metal, Russian Circles	May 13	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Mastadon w/Eagles of Death Metal, Russian Circles	May 16	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Maximum Fun	Feb. 11	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Mayday Parade w/Knuckle Puck, Milestones	Apr. 22	House of Blues	Chicago
Mayday Parade w/Knuckle Puck, Milestones	Apr. 25	Deluxe	Indianapolis
Mayday Parade w/Knuckle Puck, Milestones	Apr. 27	Newport Music Hall	Columbus, OH
Maze feat. Frankie Beverly	Jan. 27	Sound Board	Detroit
The Menzingers w/Jeff Rosenstock, Rozwell Kid	Mar. 1	House of Blues	Cleveland
The Menzingers w/Jeff Rosenstock, Rozwell Kid	Mar. 3	Metro	Chicago
Midtown Men	May 4	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Mike Eggs w/Sommere, Bruce Bruce, Arnez J, Felipe Esparza	Mar. 31	Joe Louis Arena	Detroit
Modern Baseball w/Kevin Devine, Sorority Noise, The Obsessives	Apr. 18	Concord Music Hall	Chicago
Modern Baseball w/Kevin Devine, Sorority Noise, The Obsessives	Apr. 19	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
Molly Hatchet w/Davy Knowles	Apr. 22	Lerner Theatre	Elkhart
Moving Units w/Viktor Fiction, Soviet	Mar. 9	Brass Rail	Fort Wayne
Musiq Soulchild w/Lyfe Jennings, Kindred Family Soul, Foreign Exchange	Feb. 25	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Mutts Gone Nuts	Apr. 30	Niswonger P.A.C.	Van Wert, Ohio
The New Pornographers w/Waxahatchee	Apr. 19 & 21	Metro	Chicago
The New Pornographers w/Waxahatchee	Apr. 22	Newport Music Hall	Columbus, OH
Night Riots	Mar. 24	House of Blues	Chicago
Night Riots	Mar. 25	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Night Riots	Mar. 26	St. Andrews Hall	Detroit

Night Riots	Mar. 29	Newport Music Hall	Columbus, OH
Night Riots	Mar. 31	House of Blues	Cleveland
Noname w/Ravyn Lenae	Feb. 8-9	Metro	Chicago
Nouvelle Vague	Mar. 27	Metro	Chicago
Opeth	May 9	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Opeth	May 13	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
The Orwells	Mar. 16	Metro	Chicago
The Outer Vibe	Feb. 10	Blind Pig	Ann Arbor
Panic! at the Disco w/MisterWives, Saint Motel	Mar. 8	Wolstein Center	Cleveland
Passenger	Mar. 17	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Pat Benatar w/Neil Giraldo	Mar. 11	Stranahan Theatre	Toledo
Pat Benatar & Neil Giraldo	Mar. 12	Sound Board	Detroit
Patti Smith	Mar. 11	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Paul Anka	Apr. 1	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Paul Thorn	Apr. 27	The Warehouse	Carmel
Penny and Sparrow w/Lowland Hum	Apr. 22	Ignition Music Garage	Goshen
Pierce the Veil w/Falling in Reverse, Crown the Empire	Feb. 28	The Intersection	Grand Rapids, MI
Pink Martini w/Fort Wayne Philharmonic	Mar. 4	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Pink Talking Fish	Mar. 11	Park West	Chicago
PJ Harvey	Apr. 24	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Puddle of Mudd w/Saving Abel, Tantric	Mar. 25	Harpos Concert Theatre	Detroit
Purdue Varsity Glee Club w/IPFW Singing Dons	Apr. 1	Mirro Center	Fort Wayne
Rachelle Ferrell	Mar. 23	Sound Board	Detroit
Rain: A Tribute to the Beatles	Mar. 6	Niswonger P.A.C.	Van Wert, Ohio
Red Hot Chili Peppers w/Trombone Shorty & Orleans Avenue	Feb. 2	Joe Louis Arena	Detroit
Red Hot Chili Peppers	May 13	Quicken Loans Arena	Cleveland
Red Hot Chili Peppers	May 18	Bankers Life Fieldhouse	Indianapolis
The Reen Family Singers	Mar. 16	Eagles Theatre	Wabash
Regina Spektor	Mar. 23	The Fillmore	Detroit
Regina Spektor	Mar. 24	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
REO Speedwagon (date change)	May 21	Niswonger P.A.C.	Van Wert, Ohio
The Revivalists	Mar. 18	Concord Music Hall	Chicago
Richard Ashcroft	Mar. 30	House of Blues	Chicago
Rick Smiley & Friends	Apr. 20	Sound Board	Detroit
Rick Springfield & Richard Marx	Feb. 16	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Rikishi	Feb. 5	CS3	Fort Wayne
Rival Sons w/The London Souls	May 9	St. Andrews Hall	Detroit
Rival Sons w/The London Souls	May 14	House of Blues	Chicago
Ruthie Foster	Feb. 16	House of Blues	Carmel, IN
Ryan Stevenson	Feb. 3	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Sam Roberts Band w/Hollerado	Jan. 27	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
San Fermin	Apr. 12	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Sango w/Monte Booker	Feb. 11	Metro	Chicago
Sara Watkins	Jan. 27	The Warehouse	Carmel, IN
The Schwag	Feb. 25	The Hi Fi	Indianapolis
Scott Bradley's Postmodern Jukebox	Jan. 30	House of Blues	Cleveland
Secondhand Serenade w/Hawthorne Heights, Ronnie Winter	Mar. 5	Big Shots	Valparaiso
Secondhand Serenade w/Hawthorne Heights, Ronnie Winter	Mar. 6	Metro	Chicago
Secondhand Serenade w/Hawthorne Heights, Ronnie Winter	Mar. 8	House of Blues	Cleveland
Senses Fail w/Counterparts, Movements, Like Pacific	Mar. 25	St. Andrews Hall	Detroit
Senses Fail w/Counterparts, Movements, Like Pacific	Mar. 26	House of Blues	Cleveland
Senses Fail w/Counterparts, Movements, Like Pacific	Mar. 28	Concord Music Hall	Chicago
Shawn Holt and the Teardrops	Jan. 27-28	Kingston Mines	Chicago
Shawn Holt And The Teardrops	May 5-6	Kingston Mines	Chicago
Shawn Mullins	Apr. 7	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Shiner w/Milemarker	Feb. 25	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Simple Plan w/Set It Off	Apr. 4	House of Blues	Cleveland
Singing Hoosiers	Feb. 4	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Sir Charles Jones w/Willie Clayton, Bigg Robb, Bishop Bullwinkle, Shirley Brown, TK Soul	Mar. 11	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Skillet w/Sick Puppies, Devour the Day	Feb. 19	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
Sleigh Bells	Mar. 21	Metro	Chicago
Snarky Puppy	Mar. 16	Hill Auditorium	Ann Arbor
Southside Johnny & The Asbury Jukes	Mar. 18	House of Blues	Cleveland
State Champs w/Against the Current, With Confidence, Don Broco	Apr. 9	Concord Music Hall	Chicago
Steve Martin w/Martin Short, Steep Canyon Rangers	Mar. 5	Murat Theatre	Indianapolis
Steve Martin and Martin Short w/Steep canyon Rangers	Mar. 17	Morris P.A.C.	South Bend
Steven Wright	Feb. 4	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Stevie Nicks w/The Pretenders	Mar. 29	Bankers Life Fieldhouse	Indianapolis
Sticky Fingers	Mar. 4	Double Door	Chicago
Sting w/Joe Summer, The Last Bandoleros	Mar. 3	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Strand of Oaks	Mar. 18	Thalia Hall	Chicago
STS9	Feb. 3-4	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Susan Werner	Jan. 27-28	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Susan Werner	Mar. 24	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Switchfoot w/Relient K	Feb. 16	House of Blues	Cleveland
Taizhou Luntan Opera	Mar. 19	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Talib Kwei w/Styles P, Kvalentine	Feb. 2	Metro	Chicago
Tangled Chords w/Kill Le Kill, Leones	Feb. 11	CS3	Fort Wayne
Temptations	Jan. 29	Hard Rock Rocksino	Northfield Park, OH
Tennis	Mar. 9	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Tennis w/Overcoats	Mar. 10	Magic Bag	Ferdale, MI
Terry Fator	Mar. 4	Fox Theatre	Detroit

Tesla	Feb. 17	Hard Rock Rocksino	Battle Creek, MI
Tesla	Feb. 18	Star Plaza Theatre	Merrillville
Tesla	Feb. 21	The Fillmore	Detroit
Testament w/Sepultura, Prong	Apr. 28	Majestic Theatre	Detroit
Testament w/Sepultura, Prong	May 2	Concord Music Hall	Chicago
Texas Tenors	Jan. 27	The Palladium	Carmel
Texas Tenors	Jan. 28	The Palladium	Carmel
Texas Tenors	Mar. 17	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
The Texas Tenors	Mar. 18	Lerner Theatre	Elkhart
The-Dream	Feb. 25	Metro	Chicago
Thomas Rhett w/Kelsea Ballerini	Mar. 2	Allen Co. War Memorial Coliseum	Fort Wayne
Tim McGraw & Faith Hill	Apr. 29	Bankers Life Fieldhouse	Indianapolis
Tom Chaplin	Jan. 26	Park West	Chicago
Toranzo Cannon	May 6	C2G Music Hall	Fort Wayne
Travis Tritt	Feb. 18	Stranahan Theatre	Toledo
Trey Anastasio w/Natalie Cressman	May 5	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
Trey Anastasio w/Natalie Cressman	May 6	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Trollphase w/Trampa, Skism	Mar. 3	Concord Music Hall	Chicago
Tuck & Patti	Jan. 26	The Warehouse	Carmel, IN
Tweed Funk	Apr. 13	Buddy Guy's Legends	Chicago
Twiztid	Feb. 22	Front Row Live	Kokomo
Twiztid w/Blaze, Boondox, G-Mo Skee, The R.O.C., Lex the Hex Master	Apr. 20	St. Andrews Hall	Detroit
Ty Segall	May 13	Metro	Chicago
UFO & Saxon	Mar. 28	House of Blues	Cleveland
Under the Streetlamps	May 5	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Valerie June	Feb. 20	Park West	Chicago
Vanessa Carlton w/Tristen	Feb. 22	Schroff Center, Butler Univ.	Indianapolis
Vanessa Carlton w/Tristen	Feb. 23	St. Andrews Hall	Ann Arbor
Vanessa Williams	Mar. 9	Sound Board	Detroit
The Vegabonds	Feb. 16	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Vince Gill & The Time Jumpers	Feb. 4	Niswonger P.A.C.	Van Wert, Ohio
Vince Staples w/Kilo Kish	Mar. 18-19	Metro	Chicago
Vince Staples w/Kilo Kish	Mar. 20	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Vince Staples w/Kilo Kish	Mar. 22	Newport Music Hall	Columbus, OH
Vince Staples w/Kilo Kish	Mar. 23	Majestic Theatre	Detroit
Vishten	Mar. 2	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Vulpeck	May 4-5	Metro	Chicago
The Way Down Wanderers	May 5	Ignition Music Garage	Goshen
Ween	Mar. 16	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Whiskey Myers w/The Steel Woods	Apr. 13	House of Blues	Cleveland
Whitechapel w/Cattle Decapitation, Goatwhore, Allegæon	Feb. 26	House of Blues	Cleveland
Whitney	May 8	Bluebird Nightclub	Bloomington, IN
The Why Store	Feb. 17	Mitchell's	Fort Wayne
Wilco	Feb. 22-23	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Wilco	Feb. 25-26	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
The Wild Reeds w/Blank Range	Mar. 6	The Hi Fi	Indianapolis
William Singe & Alex Aiono	Feb. 14	Majestic Theatre	Detroit
William Singe & Alex Aiono	Feb. 18	Concord Music Hall	Chicago
ZZ Top	Feb. 25	Hard Rock Rocksino	Northfield Park, OH

Road Tripz

BackWater
Feb. 11..... American Legion # 313, Fairmount

Buldogs
March 18 American Legion # 470, Coldwater, OH
June 11 Callaway Concert in the Park, Elwood
June 24 Renaissance Festival, Maria Stein, OH
July 11 Allen Co. Fairgrounds, Lima, OH
July 29 Hickory Acres, Edgerton, OH
Aug. 5 State Line Festival, Union City, OH
Aug. 9 Elkhart Co. Fairgrounds, Elkhart
Aug. 25 City Park, Quincy, MI
Sept. 7 Covered Bridge Festival, Roann
Sept. 17 Flatrock Creek Festival, Paulding, OH
Sept. 22 4-H Grounds, Gas City
Nov. 4 Key Palace Theatre, Redkey

Earphorik
Jan. 26 The Bluebird, Bloomington
Jan. 27 Kenny's Westside Pub, Peoria, IL
Feb. 3 El Club, Detroit
Feb. 8 Silk City, Philadelphia
Feb. 9 The Camel, Richmond, VA
Feb. 10 Martin's Downtown, Roanoke, VA
Feb. 11 Nowhere Bar, Athens
Feb. 12 Aisle 5, Atlanta
Feb. 13 Preservation Pub, Knoxville, TN
Feb. 15 Pour House, Charleston, SC
Feb. 17 Thomas St. Tavern, Charlotte, NC
Feb. 18 Asheville Music Hall, Asheville, NC
Feb. 24 Cosmic Charlie's, Lexington
Feb. 25 Time and Space, Louisville
March 8 Scarlet & Grey Café, Columbus, OH
March 9 Urban Artifact, Cincinnati

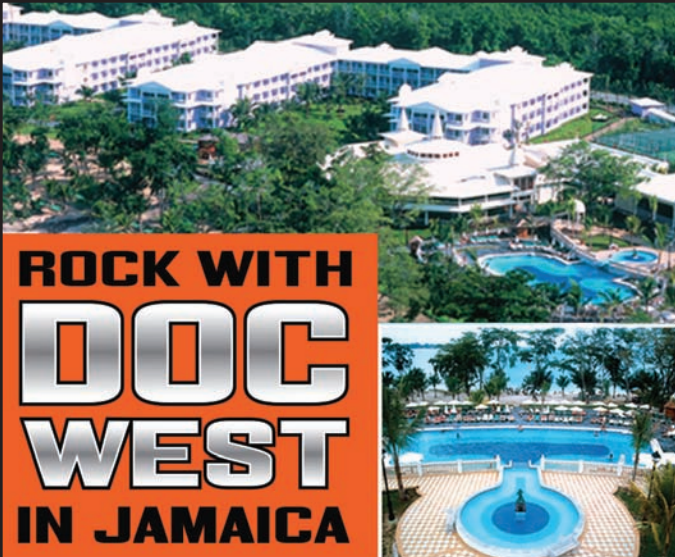
March 10 The Mousetrap, Indianapolis
March 11 Lamasco, Evansville
March 15 Blind Pig, Ann Arbor
March 16 Founders, Grand Rapids
March 17 The Loft, Lansing
March 18 Tonic Room, Chicago
March 24 Vegetable Buddies, South Bend
March 25 The Livery, Benton Harbor, MI

Hubie Ashcraft Band
Feb. 4 Rulli's Bella Luna, Middlebury
Feb. 25 The Distillery, Toledo
June 23 St. Dan's Summerfest, Chicago
July 27-30 T&J's Smokehouse, Put-In-Bay, OH
Aug. 4 Little Nashville Festival, Ottawa, OH
Dec. 8 Rulli's Bella Luna, Middlebury
Dec. 9 The Distillery, Toledo, OH

Loose Grip
June 3 Camp Buckeye, Coldwater, MI
June 30 JT's Billiard Bar, Coldwater, MI
Aug. 5 Camp Buckeye, Coldwater, MI
Aug. 26 JT's Billiard Bar, Coldwater, MI
Sept. 1 Camp Buckeye, Coldwater, MI

Mountain Dewe Boys
Feb. 11 High Street Bar & Grille, Montpelier
Zephaniah
May 5 Royal Skate & Apparel, Lansing, IL

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



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La La Land Is Full of Heart

La La Land had me at the title. Who cares what a movie is about if the filmmaker has the, um, guts to name a film *La La Land*? Beyond the title, I needed only a few additional facts to know that *La La Land* was at the top of my list of movies that could be at the top of my list. *La La Land* may not be for everyone, but if you love pop culture, movies, music, singing and dancing, mixing musical genres, romance, pursuing dreams and artistic accomplishments and can handle a little heartache, *La La Land* is the rare movie that lives up to its hype.

Writer/director Damien Chazelle has a lot more than guts. He has talent and ambition to spare. *Whiplash*, his first post-college feature, released two years ago, is an outstanding, quirky examination of artistic endeavor and obsession (and it won an Oscar for one of my favorite actors, J.K. Simmons, who plays a very practical club owner in *La La Land*). But even a movie as original as *Whiplash* is scant preparation for the ambitious undertaking of *La La Land*.

La La Land wastes no time grabbing for your heart and sweeping you off your feet. Irritated commuters sit at a standstill in L.A. traffic, each closed in to the little world of their car, listening to tunes or chatting on the phone.

A driver steps out and starts singing "Another Day



Flix

CATHERINE LEE

of Sun," and soon the whole freeway is singing and dancing. The joy they express is infectious. The long tracking shots are technical marvels. The movie is off and running.

Part of its heart, which is large, is the fact that *La La Land* is a romance. Boy meets girl. They fall in love. Love blooms. Complications ensue. In such a simple formula, success depends on the appeal of the characters, and the actors' chemistry.

The two stars, Ryan Gosling and Emma Stone, have proven their chemistry before in *Crazy, Stupid Love* and *Gangster Love*. As an audition for *La La Land*, all they need is the *Dirty Dancing* lift scene from *Crazy, Stupid Love*. Sparks and awkward burps in conversation fly in *La La Land*. Their "meet cute" is full of rudeness, then some pretending they aren't attracted to each other. Soon they are gazing at each other and singing and dancing. Both actors give stel-

Continued on page 17

Women March, Men Go See *Split*

Tops at the Box: I didn't see this happening. I'm not sure anyone did. This past weekend, the same weekend as the Women's March and the Trump Inauguration, M. Night Shyamalan's new horror/thriller, *Split*, took the No. 1 spot at the U.S. box office over its first weekend of release, selling a solid \$40 million in just three days. The reviews haven't been great, but sometimes that doesn't matter. Sometimes the ladies go away to march and the fellas go to bad movies.

Also at the Box: To support that last sentence, I have further proof: *xXx: Return of Xander Cage* took the No. 2 spot at last weekend's U.S. box office, selling \$20 million over its first three days of release. The film, quite surprisingly, sold an additional \$50 million in foreign markets. I'm not personally a fan of the *xXx* films, but I do think star Vin Diesel is an interesting talent, one that I don't think we have seen in full yet. Taking the No. 3 spot at the U.S. box office was Theodore Melfi's *Hidden Figures*, a decent enough film that seems to have been made for the Oscars season. The movie sold another \$16.3 million over its fifth weekend of releasing, bringing its so-far total to just under \$85 million. Pretty cool to see a film about black women selling so well. Don't be surprised if this one picks up a Best Picture nomination.

Taking the No. 4 spot at the U.S. box last weekend was megahit *Sing* which sold another \$9 million, bringing its worldwide total to \$428 million. Whoa, cartoons. Rounding out last weekend's Top 5 was *La La Land* which sold another \$8.3 million, upping the film's seven-week U.S. sales total to \$89 million. Add to that \$83 million in abroad sales (and surely a lot of sales to come, with the Oscars still ahead), and Emma Stone, Ryan Gosling and auteur Damien Chazelle have a major hit on their hands. This is something of an art house film, so seeing it sell so well is really nice.

Also of note: The McDonalds movie, *The Founder*, which I suspect is probably quite good, bombed, selling just \$3.7 million over its first three days despite opening wide. Oof. The trailer is strong and the talent involved is proven, so I suppose we have to as-



ScreenTime

GREG W. LOCKE

sume that it's the association with McDonalds – be it positive or not – that turned people off. Look for this to be one of those movies that eventually succeeds via Netflix.

New This Week: Dump season is now in full effect. All the Oscar films are still on the big screen and still slowly making bucks. In the meantime, the studios are all dumping their garbage on us. Mostly films that didn't turn out as well as hoped, but also just some straight up garbage. This week we have *A Dog's Purpose* which might actually be really good. Or at least really well made. I doubt anyone will see it, though. The film was directed by Lasse Hallstrom (*My Life as a Dog*, *What's Eating Gilbert Grape?*, *The Cider House Rules*). Next up is Stephen Gaghan's *Gold*, which was supposed to be a Best Picture competitor from the Weinstein Company but ended up being, well, just not that good. Or so that's the word. The film stars Matthew McConaughey in what was supposed to be a Best Actor caliber role. I doubt the movie will do well and reviews haven't been great, but I bet it's worth seeing. When McConaughey really commits, he's fun to watch. The guy makes decisions, big ones, and sometimes they work and sometimes they don't. Also, Gaghan is a writer who has earned my time. Rounding out the weekend's major releases is *Resident Evil: The Final Chapter*. This one should do pretty well, as *RE* has been one of the most satisfying action series of recent memory. It's not for everyone, but the devotees always seem to love the flicks and show up at the theater.

That's it, and there's not really a notable movie being release for a while. So get out and watch some of the Oscar films.

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Less Than Satisfying Answers

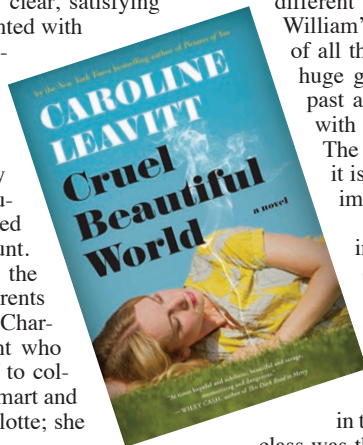
***Cruel Beautiful World* by Caroline Leavitt,
Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill, 2016**

Caroline Leavitt set her latest novel, *Cruel Beautiful World*, in the unsettled cultural environment of the late 1960s, but the question at the heart of her story is one that's more often asked now than it was back then. That is, what is it that makes women stay in a dangerously abusive relationship even when it's clear that they're not safe where they are? In real life, the question often arises in alarmingly ordinary circumstances and ends up with no clear, satisfying answers, but Leavitt's story is painted with broad strokes and wrapped in extraordinary drama.

The novel is primarily concerned with three women: two young sisters and their elderly guardian. As the book opens, Lucy and Charlotte are high school students living with a widow named Iris, whom they think is their aunt. They've been living with Iris on the outskirts of Boston since their parents died when they were very young. Charlotte is a senior, a serious student who is preparing earnestly to head off to college. Lucy is two years younger, smart and pretty but not as studious as Charlotte; she is restless and rebellious.

Lucy is about to shake up the family by running off with her English teacher to live in a remote area of Pennsylvania. The teacher, William, is a 30-something pursuer of the counter culture, often at odds with the school's administration as he encourages his students to chafe against the establishment. He sees Lucy's yearning for rebellion, and he takes advantage of it to begin a sexual relationship with her and then convince her to run away with him.

But, of course, Lucy's adventure turns out to be nothing like she hoped it would be. Isolated in the middle of nowhere in Pennsylvania, she is helpless to resist William's whims, which become ever more controlling and menacing. With nowhere to turn for support, she clings to news of the outside world where the sensational crimes of Charles Manson and his followers are grabbing the headlines. To Lucy, the strange



On Books EVAN GILLESPIE

mixture of Manson's charisma and violence seem all too familiar – and it's here where Leavitt's novel bears an unfortunate resemblance to Emma Cline's buzzy novel *The Girls*.

Leavitt's book weaves back and forth between different points of view – Lucy's, Charlotte's, William's and others – to fill in the backstories of all the characters. And there are plenty of huge gaps to fill, including William's grim past and the truth of the girl's relationship with Iris, who isn't the girls' aunt after all. The complexity adds narrative depth, but it is also a distraction from the emotional immediacy of Lucy's plight.

What's perhaps least satisfying about *Cruel Beautiful World* is its examination of that central question: why are women sometimes willing to sacrifice themselves, literally, to the idea of love? There's a point early in the novel when Lucy considers why she was so drawn to William in the first place. She notes that William's class was the first class she'd ever done well in, that from him she got her first A. She was eager to get another A from him; "This is something I can do," she told herself. His approval gave her validation she'd never received before from anyone else.

All of the other kids bought in to William's charm, at least to some degree – except for Charlotte, who dropped out of his class "because she said she wasn't learning enough." So, is that it? The insecure girl will be dazzled by charisma and do anything for affirmation, even if it comes with a big side order of menace, while the smart girl with a clear sense of direction will see through the charade immediately? Maybe there's truth to it, but it all seems too easy, too uncomplicated – and there's something uncomfortable about Charlotte being the sensible woman left to pick up the pieces in the end.

evan.whatzup@gmail.com

FLIX - From Page 16

lar, endearing performances.

Stone is Mia, an aspiring actress who has moved to L.A. to pursue her dreams. Gosling is Sebastian, a jazz pianist who wants to bring his passion for jazz to the world. He wants to open a club to make sure jazz has a home and a future. Mia claims to hate jazz, but Sebastian brings her around. You don't have to love jazz, though Sebastian makes jazz fun, and his own compositions lean more toward more Hollywood standards.

Another beating heart in *La La Land* is the passion artists pour into their art. Can an artist be successful if he or she doesn't pour everything into that art, sacrificing romance and other influences?

La La Land is also a valentine to Los Angeles. L.A. landmarks from inside and outside movie world are the backdrop for key scenes. The city is portrayed as contemporary and nostalgic. Retro has been part of the L.A. landscape and American culture for decades. Chazell and his production team move effortlessly between worlds. Styles and fashions mix. A dance number ends with a familiar phone ring tone. *La La Land* makes breaking out into song-and-dance seem perfectly normal. Studios will be green-lighting origi-

nal musicals because of its charm and success.

After winning seven Golden Globes, a record that includes Best Picture (Comedy or Musical), Best Director, Best Actor and Best Actress (in a comedy or musical), screenplay, song and score, *La La Land* is the frontrunner for Oscar nominations and wins. And the backlash has already started, even before the nominations are out.

Whiners gonna whine. Complaints include: *La La Land* is a frothy confection, not a "serious" film. Don't we need that now? It is a very white movie. It is a little long. It isn't that charming ...

Sure, I could quibble and complain. Maybe Mia's woes take up too much time? Maybe shorter numbers would do? What happens to Rosemarie DeWitt's groovy sis character? But in order to whine, I would have to stop smiling and singing "City of stars, are you shining bright for me?"

The happy ending montage is what movie lovers crave. "What if?" is a question the best movies inspire. *La La Land* gives a sweet taste of what might have been. *La La Land* is the brightest star in the Hollywood sky, just the kind of star dreamers wish upon.

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Current Exhibits

- 8TH ANNUAL POSTCARD SHOW & SALE** — Postcard-sized works in a variety of media, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Feb. 10**, Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, 424-7195
- BRIGHT, BOLD & COLORFUL** — Colorful works from local artists, **Monday-Saturday thru Jan. 30**, Orchard Gallery of Fine Art, Fort Wayne, 436-0927
- BRILLIANT OPTICS: A SPECTRUM OF MEDIUMS AND COLOR** — Works from the Fort Wayne Museum of Art's traveling exhibition series, **daily thru Jan. 31**, Franco D'Agostino Art Gallery, Indiana Tech, Fort Wayne, 422-5561
- DECATUR SCULPTURE TOUR** — 31 original sculptures and 15 permanent exhibits on display, walking tour maps available, **thru April 1**, Decatur, free, 724-2605
- EMILY GEODESKY** — Contemporary photographs, **Sunday-Friday thru Feb. 26** at First Presbyterian Art Gallery, First Presbyterian Church, Fort Wayne, 424-7421
- FORT WAYNE, AMERICAN MONOLOGUE** — A new body of Fort Wayne-based works by Oakland, California-based artist Brett Armory, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Feb. 26**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, \$5-\$7 (members, free), 422-6467
- GLASS: A MEDIUM IN ART AND AUTOMOBILES** — Dale Chihuly blown glass and fiberglass auto, **daily thru Sept. 8**, Auburn, \$7.50-\$12.50, 925-1444
- IPFW CONTINUING STUDIES PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY GRADUATE EXHIBIT** — Photographs from 2017 graduates, **Friday-Sunday thru March 5**, Garrett Museum of Art, Garrett, 704-5400
- KIM VITO & HEATHER MILLER** — Immersive sculptural works and contemporary prints, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Feb. 10**, Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, 424-7195
- LIFE IN FULL BLOOM** — Metal sculpture focused on a spirit of hope for women with breast cancer, **Sunday-Friday thru Feb. 26** at First Presbyterian Art Gallery, First Presbyterian Church, Fort Wayne, 426-7421
- A MARY POPPINS GARDEN PARTY** — Child-oriented garden exhibit, **Tuesday-Sunday thru April 1**, Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory, Fort Wayne, \$3-\$5 (2 and under, free), 427-6440
- MILTON GLASER: SIXTY YEARS OF DESIGN** — Works from the one of the nation's preeminent graphic designers, **daily thru Feb. 21**, Weatherhead Gallery, USF Rolland Art Center, University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne, 399-7999
- OUTDOOR SCULPTURE INVITATIONAL** — Fifteen outdoor sculptures from regional artists, **daily thru April 30**, School of Creative Arts campus, University of Saint Francis North Campus, Fort Wayne, 399-7999
- PATRICIA BIESEN: PASTELS, INK DRAWING & ACRYLIC** — Works from Chicago-based artist recently relocated to Fort Wayne, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Feb. 29**, Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory, Fort Wayne, \$3-\$5 (2 and under, free), 427-6440
- A PEEK AT THE STUDIO CREATIONS OF DOC WIEDMAN: TRADITIONAL CARVER OF WOOD SINCE 1980** — Nearly 70 original works by Huntington-based wood artist, **Monday-Friday thru Feb. 28**, Balentine Gallery, Arts, Commerce & Visitors Centre, Bluffton, 824-5222
- PRISM** — Works examining the relationship between color and our perception of art, **Tuesday-Sunday thru Feb. 10**, Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, 424-7195

- RE-ART** — "Artwork from our Attics," **Sunday-Thursday thru Feb. 12**, Langhinrichs Art Gallery, Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Fort Wayne, 744-1867
- THROUGH THE YEARS** — Works in various 2D mediums, **daily thru Feb. 10**, Jeffrey R. Krull Gallery, Main Library, Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, 312-9941
- WINTER REFLECTIONS** — Works from local and national artists, **Tuesday-Saturday and by appointment thru Feb. 4**, Castle Gallery Fine Art, Fort Wayne, 426-6568
- A WINTER WONDERLAND OF ART** — Works from over 20 artists including Norman Bradley, George McCullough, Austin Cartwright, Sayaka Ganz and more, **Tuesday-Saturday thru Feb. 13** (artist reception **2-5 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11**), Crestwoods Frame Shop & Gallery, Roanoke, 672-2080
- WOODCARVINGS BY DR. LARRY WIEDMAN** — "A peek at the studio creations of Doc Wiedman: traditional carver of wood since 1980," **Monday-Friday thru Feb. 24** (artist reception **2-5 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 28**), Balentine Gallery, Arts Commerce & Visitors Center, Bluffton, 824-5222

Artifacts

ARTIST LECTURE — Sue Walsh, creative director at New York City's SYPartners and faculty member who worked with Milton Glaser for nearly a decade, discusses the iconic graphic designer, **7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 2**, North Campus Auditorium, University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne, 399-7999

Upcoming Exhibits

FEBRUARY


- BEEWAX & BASKETS** — Works of encaustic painting, basketry and woven sculpture from Ruth Koomler, **Monday-Saturday, Feb. 1-28**, Orchard Gallery of Fine Art, Fort Wayne, 436-0927
- TIM BRUMBLEOE RETROSPECTIVE** — A retrospective of local photographer's works over the past 25 years, **Monday-Friday, Feb. 2-March 17** (opening reception **6-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 2**), Lupke Gallery, University of Saint Francis North Campus, Fort Wayne, 399-7999
- GENERATIONS: A VIEW OF WHO WAS WHO** — Works by Romare Bearden, Kara Walker, Alma Thomas, Jacob Lawrence and other African-American artists, **Tuesday-Sunday, Feb. 4-April 9**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, \$5-\$7 (members, free), 422-6467

2017 SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING AWARDS — Award-winning works from northern Indiana and north-west Ohio middle and high school students, **Tuesday-Sunday, Feb. 12-April 9**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, \$5-\$7 (members, free), 422-6467

MARCH

- 41ST HIGH SCHOOL EXHIBITION** — Student art from Great Lakes region high schools, **daily, March 2-19** (awards ceremony **6-8 p.m. Thursday, March 2**), Weatherhead Gallery, USF Rolland Art Center, University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne, 399-7999
- SOCA STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS EXHIBITION: 3D** — Works from students enrolled in USF's School of Creative Arts' 3D studio art program, **daily, March 2-19** (opening reception **6-8 p.m. Saturday, March 2**), John P. Weatherhead Gallery and Goldfish Gallery, Mimi and Ian Rolland Art and Visual Communication Center, University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne, 399-7999

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FAILURE: A LOVE STORY — Musical comedy about three sisters whose time runs out, 7 p.m. dinner, 8 p.m. curtain, **Friday-Saturday, Jan. 27-28 and Feb. 3-4**, Arena Dinner Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$40 (includes dinner & show), 424-5622

HEROES — Dramatic comedy about old soldiers who never quite recover from the war, 7:30 p.m. **Friday-Saturday, Jan. 27-28**, First Presbyterian Theater, Fort Wayne, \$12-\$20, 426-7421 ext. 121

THE LITTLE PRINCE — Fort Wayne Ballet Youth Company performs ballet based on the story by by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, 10 a.m. & 11:30 a.m. **Saturday, Jan. 28**, Fort Wayne Ballet Studios, Auer Center for Arts & Culture, Fort Wayne, \$10, 422-4226

Asides

AUDITIONS

THE TAMING OF THE SHREW (APRIL 27-May 13) — Auditions for the controversial Shakespeare play examining the eternal battle of the sexes; seeking 10-15 men (16 and up), 3-8 women (16 and up), 1 p.m. **Saturday, Feb. 11**, First Presbyterian Theater, Fort Wayne, 426-7421 ext. 121

Calendar • Stage & Dance

DISNEY'S THE LITTLE MERMAID (APRIL 22-MAY 7) — Auditions for Fort Wayne Civic Theatre production, 6 p.m. **Sunday, Feb. 19** (callbacks 7 p.m. **Monday, Feb. 20**), Arts United Center (check in at rear entrance), Fort Wayne, sign up at 422-8641 ext. 226

JAMES AND THE GIANT PEACH (MAY 11-13) — Fort Wayne Youththeatre auditions, 4-6 p.m. **Tuesday-Wednesday, March 28-29**, Arts United Center, Fort Wayne, 422-6900

THE ADDAMS FAMILY (JUNE 24-26) — Audition for Wells Community Theater's musical production, 5 p.m. **Friday, May 12**, lower level, Arts, Commerce & Visitors Center, Bluffton, 824-5222

Upcoming Productions

FEBRUARY

REMEMBERING ANNE — Fort Wayne Youththeatre performance of original play about Anne Frank, as seen through the eyes of children, 7 p.m. **Friday, Feb. 3; 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 4; 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 5**, Black Box Theatre, Auer Center, Fort Wayne, \$12-\$18, 422-6900

LOVE NOTES — Fort Wayne Ballet's traditional Valentine's Day performance, 9 p.m. **Friday, Feb. 10; 7:30 p.m. and 9 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11**, PPG ArtsLab, Auer Center for Arts & Culture, Fort Wayne, \$20-\$50, 422-4226

DANIEL TIGER'S NEIGHBORHOOD LIVE! — From the animated TV series, live, interactive musical adventure for children, 6:30 p.m. **Thursday, Feb. 16**, Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$22-\$78 thru Ticketmaster and Embassy box office, 424-5665

42ND STREET — Classic song-and-dance fable of Broadway, 7:30 p.m. **Friday, Feb. 17**, Honeywell Center, Wabash, \$35-\$58, 563-1102

MEMPHIS — Fort Wayne Civic Theatre production featuring music from the underground dance clubs of 1950s Memphis, Tennessee, 8 p.m., **Friday-Saturday, Feb. 17-18; 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 19; 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 24-25; 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 26**, Arts United Center, Fort Wayne, \$17-\$29, 424-5220

STUPID F*%ING BIRD — IPFW Department of Theatre's performance of a comedic send-up of Anton Chekov's *The Seagull*, 8 p.m. **Friday-Saturday, Feb. 17-18; 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 19** (sign-language performance); 8 p.m. **Thursday-Sunday, Feb. 23-25**, Williams Theatre, IPFW, Fort Wayne, \$5-\$16, 481-6555

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S ROMEO AND JULIET — all for One productions' immersive-theater adaptation of the Shakespeare tragedy, 7:30 p.m. **Friday-Saturday, Feb. 17-19; 2:30 Sunday, Feb. 19; 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 24-25; 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 26**, PPG ArtsLab, Auer Center for Arts & Culture, Fort Wayne, \$11-20, 422-4226

Failure Full of Heartbreak & Hope

A play that describes the deaths of its three female leads in the first speech doesn't sound like a particularly chipper little comedy. But *Failure: A Love Story*, currently running at the Arena Dinner Theatre, is not a typical play.

Written by Philip Dawkins and directed by Gloria Minnich, *Failure* tells the story of Mortimer Mortimer (Justin Dirig), a nouveau-riche gentleman who stops into a Chicago clock shop run by the Fail sisters. The bubbly dreamer Nellie (Emma Jean Baker), the ambitious athlete Jenny June (Rachel Dirig) and the no-nonsense protector Gerty (Emily Caudill) live above the shop that had been founded by their parents who died in a car crash. Mortimer loves — and loses — each sister in turn.

All three sisters die in or as a result of water, which, not coincidentally, is where their adopted brother John N. (Jordan Plohr) is found as boy. John N. is more comfortable dealing with animals than with humans, but just as Mortimer does, he goes on an emotional journey from emptiness to love to loss and to what comes next.

The leads are surrounded by a Greek chorus made up of Mary Alberding, Brock Graham, Kevin Knuth, Janet Piercy and Brian H. Wagner. Each cast member gives a strong performance with opportunities to stand out.

Minnich, a longtime actor in Fort Wayne, makes her directorial debut with this production. She keeps the timing fast-paced but slows it down for the tender moments. With so many "chorus" characters, the script calls upon the director to use his or her own creativity and imagination in terms of casting, divvying up the poetic script, staging and music. Minnich's



Curtain Call
JEN POIRY-PROUGH

choices are all seamless and spot-on.

The structure of the play is also unusual. It opens in a presentational, storytelling style with the actors narrating the history of the Family Fail in a kind of cheerful, detached way. Props and furniture are utilized in the storytelling. As the story unfolds, it takes on a slightly more traditional style, with dialogue and conversations among the characters — animal, human, and inanimate object alike. In fact, two of the play's most emotionally effective scenes involve animals (both played by Wagner). Equally brilliantly in their own ways, Alberding plays a cuckoo clock and a snake, Eastom

plays the front door of the clock shop and Knuth plays a grandfather clock.

Although not technically a musical, there is plenty of singing (and a little dancing with choreography by Abigail Ehinger), particularly by Piercy and Alberding, whose beautiful voices serve as the gramophone that underscores the more emotional moments.

Failure: A Love Story is an oddly moving tale of love and loss, failure and success and the relentless passage of time. The show, like life itself, is a contradiction — full of whimsy and melancholy, sometimes absurd, frequently hilarious and, at times, heartbreaking. But always hopeful.

jen@greenroomonline.org

Fort Wayne Youththeatre Presents



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE JEWISH FEDERATION



PERFORMANCES AT

PARKVIEW PHYSICIANS GROUP ARTSLAB

February 3: 7PM

February 4: 2PM & 4PM

February 5: 2PM

For Tickets

Call: 260.422.4226

fortwayneyouththeatre.org



Featured Events

ARTLINK EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS —

Art classes offered by Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery, **dates and times vary**, Artlink, Fort Wayne, fees vary, 424-7195

FORT WAYNE DANCE COLLECTIVE

WORKSHOPS — 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

LIVE TRIVIA — Trivia night with live host, **7-9 p.m. Tuesdays**, Duesy's Sports Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, free, 484-0411

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

TEAM TRIVIA — Trivia for teams of up to 6 players, **7 p.m. Thursdays**, Crazy Pinz/Conconutz, Fort Wayne, free, 969-9336

TINCTURE TRIVIA — Trivia night for teams of 4 or 6 people, **7-9 p.m. Tuesdays**, Nick's Martini & Wine Bar, Fort Wayne, free, 482-6425

Current

CELEBRATE DOWNTOWN — Downtown Improvement District celebration featuring live music, downtown photography, hors d'oeuvres and cash bar, **5-7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 26**, Cinema Center, Fort Wayne, free, please rsvp, 426-3456

MIZPAH SHIRE CIRCUS — Three rings of circus performers, acrobats, clowns and animals, **6:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 26**; **7 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 28**; **10 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 29**; **1 p.m. and 5:45 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 30**, Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, \$14-\$22, 422-7122

OUTDOOR SPORTS, LAKE AND CABIN SHOW — Vendor booths, seminars, demonstrations, air rifle range, archery range, kids activities, food, seminars, a 25,000 gallon lagoon, kayak rides, log cabins and live lumber jack shows, **12-10 p.m. Friday, Jan. 27**; **10 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 28** and **11 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 29** Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, \$10, half off with Shrine Circus ticket stub, 483-1111

BEER AND BACON FEST — Honor flight fundraiser featuring beer sampling, bacon food pairings, live music and silent auction, **5-10 p.m. Friday, Jan. 27**, Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, \$19-\$45, 483-1111

WINTER COZY — Winter celebration featuring heated tent, bonfire, live music and beverages, **8-10 p.m. Friday, Jan. 27**, Wells Street Bridge, Fort Wayne, \$10, 427-6000

WINTERVAL — Winter celebration featuring Snow Bowl rugby game, carnival, theater performances, car & truck show, ice carving and more, **10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 28**, locations vary, downtown Fort Wayne, free, 420-3266

Lectures, Discussions, Authors, Readings & Films

THE ADVENTURES OF PRINCE ACHMED — Showing of the early silent animated silent film with score performed by Silbo Gomero, **7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 27**, Cinema Center, Fort Wayne, \$10-\$15, 426-3456

CHAPTER 187 OF AARP — Andrew Betts discusses AARP's Smart Driver PProgram and the challenges facing senior drivers, **2 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 2**, Community Foundation, Fort Wayne, free, 749-8392

No PLACE FOR HATE — Daryl Davis speaks at 49th Annual Remembrance and Rededication Ceremony, **7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 2**, Cordier Auditorium, North Manchester University, North Manchester, free, 982-5285

SUE WALSH — Closer Look Artist Lecture from creative director at SYPartners, NYC and School of Visual Arts faculty member, **7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 2**, North Campus Auditorium, University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne, free, 399-7700

WAR AS A TOLL FOR UPLIFT: AFRICAN AMERICAN THOUGHT & WARTIME MILITARY SERVICE IN THE 20TH CENTURY — George R. Mather lecture with Anthony Conley, **2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 5**, History Center, Fort Wayne, free, 426-2882

MARK EMMERT — Omnibus lecture with president of the National Collegiate Athletic Association, **7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 7**, Rhinehart Music Center, IPFW, Fort Wayne, free, tickets required, 481-6555

POLKAS AND THE MASSES — Dr. Lance Richey speaks, **7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 15**, Brookside Ballroom, University of St. Francis, Fort Wayne, free, philosophy.sf.edu

Call for Entry

HOBNOBBEN FILM FESTIVAL (JUNE 15-18, 2017) — Call for narrative, documentary, experimental, animated, family, student and short film submissions, regular deadline **Thursday, Feb. 16** (late deadline **Thursday, March 3**), Fort Wayne, \$20-\$40, to submit a film visit www.hobnobben.org

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 & Thursdays**, Baby Steps, **10:30 a.m. Wednesdays**, 421-1320

DUPONT BRANCH — Born to Read Storytime, **10:15 a.m. Mondays**, Baby Steps Storytime, **10:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Tuesdays**, Ants in Your Pants Storytime, **10:30 & 11:30 a.m. Wednesday & Thursdays**, PAWS to Read, **4 p.m. Wednesdays**, Bookworms Storytime, **11:15 a.m. Thursdays** 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 Storytime, **10:15 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Tuesdays**; Family Storytime, **10:15 & 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

LITTLE TURTLE BRANCH — Storytime for toddlers & preschoolers, **10:30 a.m. Mondays and Tuesdays**; Babies and Books, **10:30 a.m. Wednesdays**, 421-1335

MAIN LIBRARY — Babies and Books, **10 a.m. Fridays**; Family Story Time, **10:30 a.m. Wednesdays**; Storytime for preschoolers, day-cares and other groups, **9:30 a.m. Wednesdays**; Toddler Time, **10:30 & 11 a.m. Fridays**; 421-1220

NEW HAVEN BRANCH — Babies and books for kids birth to age 2, **10:30 a.m. Thursdays**, 421-1345

PONTIAC BRANCH — Smart Start Storytime for preschoolers, **10:30 a.m. Fridays**, PAWS to Read, **5 p.m. Thursdays** 421-1350

TECUMSEH BRANCH — Smart Start Storytime, **10:30 a.m. Tuesdays**, YA Day for teens **5 p.m. Wednesdays**, Wondertots reading for ages 1-3, **10:30 a.m. Thursdays**, 421-1360

SHAWNEE BRANCH — Born to Read Storytime, **10:30 a.m. Thursdays**, Teen Thursdays, **3:30 p.m. Thursdays**, 421-1355

WAYNE DALE BRANCH — Smart Start Storytime, **10:30 a.m. Mondays & 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

Kids Stuff

LEARNING LINCOLN'S LEGACY: A DAY FOR YOUTH — Tour of the Lincoln collection, a look at Lincoln in the movies, games and Civil War reenactors, **9 a.m.-12 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 4**, Main Library, Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, free, 421-1378

Sports and Recreation

INAUGURAL TURNSTONE MILE — 1 mile run, roll, walk, sprint and jog for people of all abilities to benefit Turnstone, exact start times will be available after registration, **Saturday, Feb. 11**, Plassman Athletic Center, Fort Wayne, \$20-\$30, turnstone.org/mile

Spectator Sports

HOCKEY

FORT WAYNE KOMETS — Upcoming home games at Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne

FRIDAY, FEB. 3 vs. Rapid City, 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, FEB. 10 vs. Indy, 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, FEB. 17 vs. Kalamazoo, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEB. 18 vs. Brampton, 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 22 vs. Quad City, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEB. 25 vs. Wichita, 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, FEB. 26 vs. Wheeling, 5 p.m.

ROLLER DERBY

FORT WAYNE DERBY GIRLS — Upcoming home bouts at Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne

SATURDAY, FEB. 11 vs. Dayton, 6 p.m.

Dance

EMBODY DANCE — Guided dancing for adults of all ages and abilities to exercise the mind, body and spirits, **7-8:30 p.m. first and third Sunday of each month**, Fort Wayne Dance Collective, Fort Wayne, \$10 suggested donation, 244-1905

MONTHLY DANCE — Fort Wayne Dancesport's monthly dance, **8-11 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11**, Walb Classic Ballroom, IPFW, Fort Wayne, \$5-\$10, fwdancesport.org

SUNDAY NIGHT SINGLES DANCE — Open dancing with DJ, cash bar and pot luck carry-in, **6-9 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 12**, American Legion Post 47, Fort Wayne, \$7, 409-3321

February

FORT WAYNE RV & CAMPING SHOW — Trade show featuring the latest in RVs, camping and lake equipment, accessories and more, **11 a.m.-9 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Feb. 2-4** and **11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 5**, Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, \$2-\$16, 483-1111



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