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REINDEER  
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You know the Christmas season is in full swing when we feature Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer on our cover. Jam Productions regularly schedules a holiday-themed production for its Broadway at the Embassy series this time of year, making for yet another Fort Wayne Christmastime tradition alongside the Festival of Trees, The Nutcracker, Night of Lights, the Philharmonic's Holiday Pops and many, many others. There are many things Fort Wayne does well, and celebrating the holidays is one of them. Michele DeVinney previews the tale of acceptance and inclusion on page 4.

Also featured this week are Christian singer-songwriter Laura Story and rising country music stars Parmalee (by Deborah Kennedy and Evan Gillespie, respectively) on page 5. Both are good reads and should be great shows for fans. Then there's the Bulldogs, formerly Spike and the Bulldogs, who are carrying on the tradition of spreading oldies rock n' roll far and wide long after Spike (Val Assay) has departed for warmer climes.

Finally, we've got all kinds of community theater coverage in this week's issue: Christopher Murphy's Director's Notes for Fort Wayne Youtheatre's production of A Charlie Brown Christmas; Kevin Smith's review of IPFW's Pride and Prejudice; and Steve Lively's review of First Presbyterian Theater's unique take on Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol.

There's lots to read, and a whole lot more to see and do before 2017 wraps up, so we encourage you to get to it (and remember to tell 'em all that whatzup sent you).

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# Story to Song to Stage

By Michele DeVinney

Among many cherished holiday classics is the simple story of *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer*, best known as a TV special which spoke not only to the spirit of Christmas but to the idea of diversity, acceptance and love. The message has become such a part of the fabric of the holiday season that the stage version of the tale, which captures all the sentimentality of the television version, has become a way for families to immerse themselves in the timeless classic.

When the show comes to the historic Embassy Theatre next week, it will feature actress Sarah Errington in the lead role of Rudolph. Errington comes from a family of performers, and when her twin brother was cast in a school play, she got the itch to try performing herself. A California native, Errington now lives in San Diego and has performed in many regional productions. Her opportunity to tour with Rudolph began with a video audition she submitted last year.

"I had a few friends in the cast who had done the show before and told me about the audition, but I couldn't attend the open call. So I sent a video and didn't really expect anything to come of it. But the producers, casting director and director were very gracious and called me in to see more. It was very extensive due to the branding of all the characters. We each have to go through vocal training to sound as close as possible to the characters in the movie. This is my second year and I couldn't be more thankful."

Taking on such a familiar and well-known role, one so beloved by generations of fans, is a unique challenge. Errington says that she most enjoys hearing the audience reaction to Rudolph.

"I love his childlike spirit and wonder for all things new. It's such a gift to hear the kids in the audience react to what's going on onstage and remember the magic of both theater and the holidays. And to be a little piece of that and see it through the eyes of the kids is incredibly fulfilling. Some of the kids are seeing it for the first time and have reactions of such awe and wonder. The adults seem to be thrown back to their childhood with warm feeling of nostalgia. I'm very fortunate to have a job that brings

“It's a gift to hear the kids in the audience react to what's going on onstage ... “

— Sarah Errington



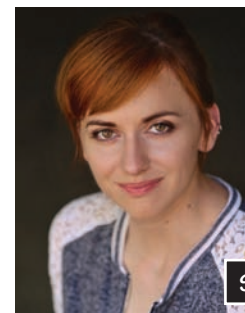
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7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 14  
Embassy Theatre  
125 W. Jefferson Blvd., Fort Wayne  
\$25-\$55 thru Ticketmaster,  
Embassy box office &  
800-745-3000

heart of the story and characters and then building from there. Staying true to the soul of it all will drive appropriate creativity within each moment. This year I am with a completely different cast than I was last year, and I'm having so much fun finding new chemistry with the Hermey and Yukon and the entire cast. But Rudolph is still that same young buck trying to figure out how to be himself and eventually find acceptance

through his own uniqueness and individuality."

Interestingly, when producers began working on the special, they had no access to the original book on which the story was based. That left them with the song, which provided a basis for the story not nearly enough for an hour-long television show. It was then that characters like Hermey and Yukon were born, allowing for a more involved storyline which stretched the story. For the

stage show, one long enough to require an intermission, still more content was needed, and Errington says a scene featuring "Rockin' Around the



Sarah Errington

the family together to experience this lovely little story that is still so prevalent today."

*Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer* began as a short booklet written by Robert L. May and published in 1939 by the now-defunct Montgomery Ward department store. An addition to the traditional story of Santa Claus and his "eight tiny reindeer," *Rudolph* offered an imagined ninth reindeer, a story which quickly caught on and led to a Gene Autry hit, a song sung by Burl Ives in the 1964 television special which still airs annually. Given how pervasive that stop-motion characterization is, it's not surprising that the actors are trained to replicate the expected voices and that fulfilling those expectations, while still offering a creative portrayal, is an interesting balance. Having toured with the show for two seasons now, Errington knows how to strike that balance.

"I think the key is understanding the

Christmas Tree," a swing performance the elves put on for Santa, is "spectacular." Those additional characters are as much a part of the show's charm as is Rudolph, and Errington says that one particular character is among her favorite aspects of the show.

"I love the Bumble, the abominable snowman. He is an enormous, 15-foot puppet operated by three people at any given time, and the children and adults go crazy for him. I love all of the puppets actually. And flying! This show is so wonderful to be a part of. It's a dream come true."

Errington is enjoying her second trip around the country, sharing the sweet, charming story with a loving message with audiences and says that audiences will love it too.

"Expect to have fun and see that wonderful magic from the movie but on a grander scale," she says.

## whatzup

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Phone: (260) 691-3188 • Fax: (260) 691-3191

E-Mail: [info.whatzup@gmail.com](mailto:info.whatzup@gmail.com)

Website: <http://www.whatzup.com>

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Publisher: Doug Driscoll  
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# Counting Blessings

By Deborah Kennedy

Some people write Christian music. Still others perform it. Georgia native Laura Story, coming to the Honeywell Center Wednesday, December 13, lives it.

Story is probably best known for her Grammy Award-winning song "Blessings," in which she ponders the mixed blessings given to believers by God. What if, she asks in the song, God's blessings come in the form of rain-drops? Tears? The kind of challenges and setbacks sure to shake even the strongest of faiths?

Story knows the answers to all of these questions. The 39-year-old singer-songwriter and worship leader has experienced her fair share of rainy days. When her husband and high school sweetheart, Martin, was diagnosed with a brain tumor in February 2006, the cancerous growth was successfully removed, but following the surgery Martin contracted meningitis that left him unable to walk on his own.

One of the main themes of Story's work is how to cope with dashed dreams, how to reconcile perfect hopes with the often more nuanced reality one lives with day-to-day. The disparity between the two is rich artistic territory, and the honesty she brings to living with adversity is one of the things her fans love most about her.

Story's career as a musician took off in 1996 when Shane Williams of the band Silers Bald asked her to join the band as bass player. The same year the band was to sign a deal with Essential Records, her manager suggested she record a solo record. It was a difficult decision for Story but, in the end, a momentous one. In 2002, Story left the band to go off on her own. She recorded her debut independent album, *Indescribable*, that very same year.

The album, while a critical success, failed to make the waves needed to thrust Story into the national spotlight, but an interesting twist of fate did take place shortly after its release. Chris Tomlin, a staple of the Christian music scene, was in need of a final track for his album *Arriving* and recorded "Indescribable" in 2004. Tomlin's version went on to reach No. 2 on Billboard's Hot Christian Songs and was later included in *Passion: How Great Is Our God*, a compilation of worship songs. A second band, Avalon, likewise recorded the hit for *WOW Worship 2006*.

Story was now a name in Christian music circles. In 2005, she put out her second album, *There is Nothing*, and, having married Martin, moved to Atlanta to become worship leader at Perimeter Church. She

followed up *There is Nothing* in 2006 with *Great God Who Saves*, a work that earned her a Dove Award nomination for Female Vocalist of the Year.

Everything seemed to be going exactly right for Laura Story. She was working with top producers to record award-winning singles and albums. She had a permanent posi-



## LAURA STORY

7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 13  
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tion at Perimeter and a congregation that loved and respected her. And she was married to the love of her life, with whom she hoped to soon start a family. But it was in 2006 that Martin had his surgery and life changed forever. Suddenly, Story understood parts of the Bible she hadn't before – namely those having to do with suffering, adversity and letting go.

She told Crosswalk.com that she heard of her record deal with INO records and her husband's diagnosis the same week. A year later, she entered the studio to record *Great God Who Saves*, but she wasn't ready. Her producer, Ed Cash, suggested that she take some time to go home and spend some time writing about her new reality.

"God really started putting songs in my heart," she said, "and it ended up being a completely different album than I thought – a much more vulnerable and raw place. It became my method of processing what we had gone through. What I've found is that God said, 'I'm going to take you from this very hard place and then I'm going to give you a very public platform to talk about it.'"

Story's writing took on a different tenor.

Continued on page 6



## All That's Behind Them

By Evan Gillespie

When it comes to keeping a band together, there are obstacles, and then there are obstacles. Every band faces a struggle in building a career, staying creative and overcoming interpersonal conflicts, but not many bands have encountered the adversity that Parmalee have. And yet, the band has remained one of the most successful, respected groups on the country rock scene, and that has a lot to do with the community Parmalee have made themselves a part of.

"It took us going through all that to mold us," says bassist Barry Knox. "In Hollywood and New York we were always pushed in opposite directions. But Nashville helped us capture our sound, a sound that's authentic to who we are as both artists and as people."

The "all that" that Knox refers to, as the band's fans know, is an incident that occurred in September 2010. After a show in North Carolina, vocalist Matt Thomas and his brother, drummer Scott Thomas, were loading out their gear into their RV behind the venue when they were approached by two men who attempted to rob them at gunpoint.

Scott was carrying a gun, and when he pulled it out, the situation escalated. In the ensuing shootout, one of the robbers was killed, and Scott was shot three times. What could have been a financial setback for the band if they'd lost their equipment had now become a life-or-death battle for Scott.

"He bled out on the air flight to Charlotte, and his heart stopped twice," Matt says. "When we got to the hospital, the doctor gave him a five percent chance to live."

But he did live. After more than a month in the hospital and several more months of recovery, Scott was able to play again by February 2011, and the band got right back to doing what it had been doing before: tour-

ing and honing their craft.

Their perseverance paid off quickly when they landed a record deal with Stoney Creek Records. It was the beginning of their national career, but it came at the end of a road that was already long.

The road began back in Greenville, NC, where Matt and Scott grew up in the local music scene. Their father, Jerry, was part of a popular Southern rock band, and the kids caught the music bug and learned to play.

Eventually, their dad took notice. When they snuck into a club to watch his band one night, Matt found himself part of the show.

"The guitar player got too drunk before the gig and didn't show," he says.

"I knew all the songs so my dad called me on stage. I was in the band from that point on."

Soon, the Thomas family entirely took over the band. Scott became the drummer, and cousin Barry Knox joined as the bass player. Performing as The Thomas Brothers Band, the trio backed up Jerry until he decided to retire. The Thomas Brothers kept performing in the local scene, and they brought in guitarist Josh McSwain to fill out the lineup.

With a new foursome established, the band staked out rehearsal space in a barn in Parmelee, North Carolina. The barn and the little town felt so much like home that they named the new band after it, adjusting the spelling to make the proper pronunciation obvious.

"Tuesdays and Thursdays were the only nights we could all get together and rehearse. The rest of the time we were each out working in order to fund Parmalee," Matt says. "Every person in town could hear us practice in the barn, so we also had to stop at 11 p.m. to be considerate of the neighborhood."

Parmalee gained a following in the southeast and recorded an EP, and that caught the

Continued on page 11



# No Slowing Down Post-Spike

By Michele DeVinney

A popular oldies band for three decades, Spike and the Bulldogs were a familiar attraction at local festivals around the area for decades, offering their spirited renditions of 1950s and 60s classics for an appreciative audience. Then around four years ago, Val Assay, better known as "Spike," called a band meeting and made a major announcement.

"He had been hinting around for awhile that he might retire," says Bob Zmyslony, keyboardist and band member for nine years. "All but one of his kids lives in Utah, and he has grandchildren and great-grandchildren and wanted to spend time with them. He gathered us all together at the Venice one night and told us he was retiring. The rest of us got together and decided we wanted to continue. It was just too good a thing to stop. We had three lead singers in the band, and we didn't want to try to replace Spike. You can't replace a guy like that."

But the addition of guitarist Kenny Taylor the year before Spike's departure and the return of Maggie Hawkins have reinvigorated the group in the wake of Assay's departure. Although it took awhile for the Spikeless Bulldogs to re-establish themselves, they're busier than ever now.

"It was a little different at first, and we did a lot fewer shows for awhile," says Zmyslony. "Some places were skeptical and thought without Spike it wouldn't be the same. But after awhile it felt the same as it had before."

The infusion of new people helped the Bulldogs make the transition, and Zmyslony says the band has three great singers once again.

"Wayne [Neukom] is a great singer, and Kenny is a great singer. Kenny has been with us for five years now, and he's the best guitarist in Fort Wayne. I've never played with a better guitarist than Kenny. And Maggie is a well-rounded musician – a great singer and plays saxophone and flute. I had never been in a band with a female singer before, and it

a year. The band itself has played together enough to only require a couple rehearsals a month. In fact, although Zmyslony has only been with the Bulldogs for nine years, he's known Neukom for almost 50 years, since the two were in bands together while students at Garrett High School. The entire band – which also includes Bernie Stone on drums and Phil McDonald on sound – bring decades of professionalism to the enterprise, and they're able to accomplish what they need to with minimal rehearsal time.

"We usually get together every other Thursday at my house. Kenny has usually laid out our parts, and those new songs are a lot easier to put together now."

The Bulldogs also continue to record each year, with plans for another release early in 2018. Their annual schedule sees a slow time in the first few months of each year until they start playing events and festivals

toward spring and summer. Those are their busiest months, and Zmyslony says they had one spurt in September when they played six shows in seven days. The new CD, which helps them kick off each year's hectic performance schedule, will be recorded live as have the others. It's been a great way to capture what has made the Bulldogs so popular for so long.

They have also tapped into the kinds of venues which make their festive and family-friendly performances well-attended by audiences of all ages. Zmyslony took over the duties of booking the band after Spike left, and they've stayed busy for all the years since.

"We do a lot of Buddy Holly, and Maggie does a great 'Unchained Melody.' We play Roy Orbison. And we've added more from the 60s since Spike left the group. The Monkees, the Beatles, Mitch Ryder. It's all good stuff."

They continue to expand their options, Zmyslony says, adding 15-20 new songs

we experience, for any relational strain and for any relational rejection. When it feels like hope can't be found, when we don't even know how we're going to put one foot in front of the other, scripture teaches us that's when grace abounds."

or two of the local legions, but we play a lot

Continued on page 11



its title track went to No. 1, propelled to the top spot both by Story's vulnerable yet pure voice and the song's complicated take on what it means to believe in a higher power.

"What if my greatest disappointments or the aching of this life is the revealing of a greater thirst this world can't satisfy?" she asks. "What if trials of this life – the rain, the storms, the hardest nights – are your mercies in disguise?"

Since the tremendous outpouring of fan support that accompanied "Blessings," Story has toured the U.S., had three children, written two books and released three more albums, including this year's *Open Hands*. One particular song off the album, "Grace Abounds," takes on the new normal in

America, one of mass shootings and news of terror attacks, injustice and racial tensions.

"It's easy to lose heart, and the song is about just acknowledging the brokenness," she said. "First of all, we can't just pretend like it doesn't exist. When it seemingly doesn't make sense, I'm choosing to believe that God's grace is enough. God's grace is enough for any social injustice. God's grace is enough for any loss that we go through. God's grace is enough for any loneliness that we experience, for any relational strain and for any relational rejection. When it feels like hope can't be found, when we don't even know how we're going to put one foot in front of the other, scripture teaches us that's when grace abounds."

## LAURA STORY - From Page 5

She gradually became the voice of those who might struggle sometimes with the demands of faith but then find, in the end, that all becomes clear the moment one hands everything over to God.

"With the comfort that God gives us, we're called to comfort others," Story said in that same Crosswalk.com interview. "I've seen God using our story and the little bit of wisdom that we've gained from it to minister to others. We've seen God's faithfulness to us firsthand, so we definitely have a story to tell about God leading us in a very real way through our trials."

In 2011, Story put out her most successful album to date. *Blessings* climbed to No. 2 on the Billboard Christian Albums chart, and



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## Kid Rock

### Sweet Southern Sugar

Earlier this year, Kid Rock conducted a publicity stunt to create buzz around his upcoming album, *Sweet Southern Sugar*. First he said that he was going to run for a Senate seat in his home state of Michigan, and after his trailer-park-in-the-Oval-Office photo op with Ted Nugent and Sarah Palin at the White House, the idea seemed credible. Then, near the album's release date, Mr. Rock said that he'd been joking all along, and you'd have to be stupid to have believed he'd ever run for office. In other words, he lied, making it hard to figure out who the real Kid Rock is.

That credibility issue carries over to *Sweet Southern Sugar*, an album that serves up some contradictions between Rock's crafted image and his musical output. To begin with, he's a proud redneck who flies the Confederate flag on stage, regularly swipes from "Sweet Home Alabama" and gives his albums Southern-fried titles – but he's from Michigan, which, in case geography isn't your best subject, ain't in the South.

*Sweet Southern Sugar* illustrates the contradictions. It serves up unabashed classic rock swagger ("Greatest Show on Earth"), countrified patriotic clichés ("American Rock 'n Roll") and explicit Southern pandering ("Tennessee Mountain Top"), but it also makes clear that Rock grew up hearing something other than Lynyrd Skynyrd and Bob Seger. He borrows from hip-hop, the blues, gospel and even, believe it or not, funk ("I Wonder"), all genres that are not part of the heritage of his target demographic.

In practice, Kid Rock draws from a surprisingly deep well of musical inspiration. He doesn't, however, have the vocal or lyric-writing chops to turn it into music that anyone other than his faithful audience will want to listen to, and he wraps it all in defiant uncouthness to slip it past his fan base. You'd be forgiven if you fall for his misleading self-promotion – he wants you to – but if you get past the flag-waving, deplorable-stroking, profanity-spewing veneer, you'll find that the musical truth is a little more complicated. (*Evan Gillespie*)

## Courtney Barnett & Kurt Vile

### Lotta Sea Lice

Maybe you were like me (or maybe you weren't) in thinking, when you heard that Courtney Barnett and Kurt Vile were making a collaborative album together, that it seemed like the perfect match. There's a care-free quality about both singer-songwriters that a coming together seemed like the right thing. The essential thing, even.

I've been a fan of Vile for a few years now. He's made three, in my opinion, classic albums in a row. His songs can be precise shots of swagger and pop or moseying, drawn-out jams that run well over the 10 minute mark. Regardless of what mode he may be in, Vile makes tunes that feel aged to perfection. If there was someone that could step into Tom Petty's shoes, I think Vile could be that person.

I've only in the last year or so come around to Barnett. While she's a little more uptempo than Vile, there's still this carefree, messy-haired kid with a spark in her step vibe that is a through line from her to Vile. Her music seems to have a connection to the early 90s heyday of alternative rock. While Vile may be more *Wildflowers*, Barnett is definitely more *It's A Shame About Ray* or *Only Everything*.

On *Lotta Sea Lice*, Barnett and Vile come together as perfectly as you'd hope, though at times I wish there was a little more of Barnett influencing Vile than the other way around.

Right off the bat, "Over Everything" is one of the best tracks I've heard this year. It's a tasty nugget of breezy, bluesy pop, a perfect coming together of Barnett and Vile, each taking a verse and then eventually coming together in harmony. It may be over six minutes, but you don't notice. Both of them bring their collective ticks, quirks, and nuances to the song, and they mesh like two peas in a slightly messy pod.



## BACKTRACKS

### Chemical Brothers

#### Dig Your Own Hole (1997)

The Chemical Brothers aren't a rock band per se, but they could bring an element of rock to their techno/electronic music that, when played loud, could still bend your mind or get you out on the dance floor during their heyday in the late 90s. This, their second release, was my introduction to the genre, and I really, really love this album.

It kicks off with "Block Rockin' Beats," a droning number that begins with a funky bass and heavy drums sampled from the legendary Bernard Purdie. It's five minutes of 90s disco and it works very well. "Dig Your Own Hole" follows and mixes percussion with synthesized blasts of energy. "Elektrobank" samples an intro from hip-hop pioneer Clive Campbell and then generates heat for over eight minutes.

Although this isn't my favorite type of music, these guys (Tom Rowlands and Ed Simmonds) are the godfathers of trip-hop and need to either be congratulated or shamed for what they've created (depending on who you ask).

In "Setting Sun," Noel Gallagher of Oasis takes over on some evocative vocals and makes me wish more guest artists would have contributed vocals to the album. "Don't Stop the Rock" bounces around in all of its techno glory and actually gets a little too bouncy, but the beat and soul-funk picks back up in the Quincy Jones version of "Get Up on It Like This." "Where Do I Begin" is another rare track with special vocals from Beth Orton who is recognized as one of the early folk-tronic forerunners). It's one of the coolest things from the record and one of the best things from the Chemical Brothers still 20 years later.

They released *Born in The tchoes*, in 2015 and continue to DJ all over the world. (*Dennis Donahue*)



"Continental Breakfast" is another beauty of a song. It's a low key track that seems to talk about their "intercontinental friendship." Vile and Barnett sing like they're in a conversation over coffee while guitars jangle and brushed drums move the song nicely along. There's also an exquisite version of Vile's "Peepin' Tom" sung by Barnett. The heavy reverb from the original version is washed away, and Barnett brings the song into sharper focus. She's stated that this was the song she bonded with her partner over, and you can hear that personal connection in her rendition.

"On Script" is a dirge-y number that sounds like it could've been a Califone or a Jicks outtake. It's jangly, untethered beauty. "Blue Cheese" almost has an early Flaming Lips vibe. Add some trash can drums and you'd have a *Transmissions from the Satellite Heart* B-side.

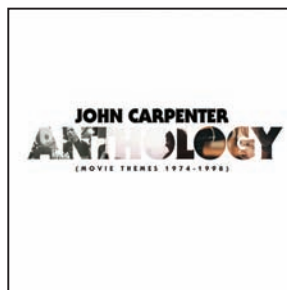
My biggest complaint is that I wish there was more of Barnett's punky, upbeat influence here. Most of these songs are in Vile's down tempo mode, which is all fine and good if it's a Vile record, but it's not just a Vile record. I would love to have heard some of that buzzing guitar that we heard on Barnett's *Sometimes I Sit and Think, and Sometimes I Just Sit*. Despite the lack of chutzpah, with each successive spin this album becomes more endearing each time.

*Lotta Sea Lice* is a collaboration that on paper looks great and sounds just as good in real life. Barnett and Vile are like two siblings who, separated by years and continents, have finally been reunited. *Lotta Sea Lice* is that beautiful family reunion. (*John Hubner*)

## John Carpenter

### Anthology: 1974-1998

I believe we've entered the John Carpenter renaissance. Five years ago the man was on the bitter end of a film career that had seen better days. To those in the know, the man was and is a filmmaking icon. His subtle nuances, patient tension building, exquisite camera work and, of course, his film score-



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2	-	CHRIS STAPLETON <i>From a Room</i>
3	3	VARIOUS ARTISTS <i>Covers for a Cause '17</i>
4	-	U2 <i>Songs of Experience</i>
5	5	BOB SEGER <i>I Knew You When</i>
6	-	THE ROLLING STONES <i>On Air</i>
7	7	KID ROCK <i>Sweet Southern Sugar</i>
8	-	RUSH <i>A Farewell to Kings (40th Anniv.)</i>
9	9	TAYLOR SWIFT <i>Reputation</i>
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Continued on page 11



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### C2G MUSIC HALL

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### CALHOUN STREET SOUPS, SALADS & SPIRITS

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**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

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**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

### COLUMBIA STREET WEST

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### DUESY'S SPORTS BAR & GRILLE

**Sports Bar • 305 E. Washington Ctr. Rd., Fort Wayne • 260-484-0411**

**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

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## Calendar • Live Music & Comedy

### Thursday, December 7

**ADAM STRACK** — Acoustic variety at Beamer's Sports Grill, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m.-10 p.m., no cover, 625-1002  
**BUCCA KARAOKE w/BUCCA** — Variety at Deer Park Irish Pub, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m., no cover, 432-8966  
**ELLE/THE REMNANT** — Folk/Americana at Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory, Fort Wayne, 6 p.m.-7 p.m., \$1, 427-6440  
**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 KARAOKE w/TJ** — Variety at Rack & Helen's, New Haven, 10 p.m., no cover, 749-5396

**JASON PAUL** — Acoustic variety at JD Lounge, Fort Wayne, 8:30 p.m.-11 p.m., no cover, 483-1311  
**JEFF McDONALD** — Oldies at Don Hall's Guesthouse, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m.-10 p.m., no cover, 489-2524  
**LIZZIE eHOFF and HER COUGH** — Folk at teds Beer Hall (and Wine Bar), Fort Wayne, 6 p.m.-9 p.m., no cover, (888) 260-0351  
**MARTINA McBRIE** — Country at Honeywell Center, Wabash, 7:30 p.m., \$45-\$299, 563-1102  
**OPEN MIC** — Hosted by Mike Conley at Mad Anthony Brewing Co., Fort Wayne, 8 p.m.-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 p.m., no cover, 478-5827

**PAUL NEW STEWART & CHARLES REN** — Standards (Sinatra) at The Venice Restaurant, Fort Wayne, 6 p.m.-9 p.m., \$1, (260) 482-1618  
**R&R ENTERTAINMENT** — Karaoke at Columbia Street West, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m., no cover, 422-5055  
**TOMMY SAUL** — Piano at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 6:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m., no cover, 426-3442  
**TRONIC** — EDM at O'Sullivan's Italian Irish Pub, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 422-5896  
**USF SINGERS** — Holiday choral at USF Robert Goldstine Performing Arts Center, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m., free, 399-7700

# We're Getting a Real Ball This Year

As you're tossing around plans for ringing in the New Year, you should consider the Fort Wayne New Year's Eve Ball Drop event.

I know, I know, we haven't even gotten past Christmas yet, but making the best night of the year requires planning ahead. If you're one of the thousands of folks who braved the cold weather at last year's inaugural Ball Drop, you got to enjoy live music, fireworks and a digitized ball drop projected on the side of one of downtown's buildings.

I have to admit, I was a little surprised when I arrived at the event and didn't see a physical ball hanging in the air. I was expecting something along the lines of New York's Times Square, but the hologram version did the job and the family and I had a good time. For this year, however, it appears the people have spoken and the event will feature the dropping of an actual physical ball. Constructed by some local engineers, the 8-foot diameter ball will be covered in translucent acrylic plastic and will be lit with over 380,000 lumens of LEDs. It will be hoisted 80 feet in the air and lowered as we ring in the New Year. This, my friends, will be a sight to see.

The Ball Drop will feature fireworks, vendors, food and drinks, a warming tent, lip sync contest, food eating contest, dance off and live music by the Alicia Pyle Quartet and Fort Wayne Funk Orchestra. The fun begins at 7 p.m. New Year's Eve in Parkview Field's Silver Parking Lot on the corner of Ewing and West Brackenridge streets. If you don't want the gang hanging out in the cold, Parkview Field is offering the opportunity to stay warm in its Suite Level Lounge, a 5,000-plus-square-foot multi-use room with an



**Out and About**  
**NICK BRAUN**

upscale, built-in bar. As you can see, this event has plenty to offer the whole family, and the kicker is that it's free. Now that's a way to start the year!

A couple months ago, the Jazz Talk Live: Big Apple Jazz Club Series was launched by a couple of community arts advocates, Ketu Oladuwa and Michael Patterson. These events will take place once a month at Wunderkammer Company and will provide artists an undisturbed opportunity to be heard and audiences a place to listen. The next on the calendar is on Friday, December 15 with local musician Kenny Bergle. Bergle, a senior sales engineer at Sweetwater, will improvise on several themes he's acquired from his mentor and friend, free jazz innovator Ornette Coleman. Bergle uses loopers, guitars, synths, vocalese and effects to portray a sense of exploration. His concerts also include musical renditions of personal-history stories of Ella Fitzgerald, Ornette, Joe Zawinul and Miles Davis. There will actually be two Wunderkammer performances to choose from: 7:15 p.m. and 8:45 p.m. Tickets for the Kenny Bergle Experience can be purchased at Eventbrite.com, Wooden Nickel Music and Unity Barbershop. Be on the lookout for more from the Jazz Talk Live: Big Apple Jazz Club Series in the upcoming months.

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Calendar • Live Music & Comedy

Friday, December 8

**BIG CADDY DADDY** — Rock at Dupont Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., cover, 483-1311

**CHRIS WORTH & COMPANY** — Variety at American Legion Post 296, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m.-11 p.m., no cover, 456-2988

**COLIN MOCHRIE & BRAD SHERWOOD** — Comedy at Honeywell Center, Wabash, 7:30 p.m., \$20-\$76, 563-1102

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

**THE DEEBEES** — Rock/variety at The Venice Restaurant, Fort Wayne, 6:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m., no cover, 482-1618

**FORT WAYNE PHILHARMONIC** — Holiday Pops at Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m., \$29-\$72, 481-0770

**FORT WAYNE KARAOKE w/ERIC** — Karaoke at Rack & Helen's, New Haven, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 749-5396

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

**GYPSY BANDIT** — Rock/pop at Mitchell's Sports Bar & Neighborhood Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., \$3, 387-5063

**HEARTLAND SINGS** — Holiday choral at C2G Music Hall, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m., \$20-\$25, 426-6434

**JASON PAUL** — Acoustic variety at Country Heritage Winery, LaOtto, 5 p.m.-8 p.m., no cover, 637-2980

**JIM BRICKMAN** — Holiday classics at Rhinehart Recital Hall, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., \$25-\$60, 481-6555

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

**JON DURNELL** — Acoustic variety at Don Hall's Guesthouse, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 489-2524

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

**MARCH ON, COMRADE** — Variety at Brass Rail, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., cover, 267-5303

**MASON DIXON LINE** — Country at Rusty Spur Saloon, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., \$5, 755-3465

**OPEN MIC** — Variety at Praise Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m., free, 494-6463

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## NIGHTLIFE

### DUPONT BAR & GRILL

**Sports Bar • 10336 Leo Rd., Fort Wayne • 260-483-1311**

**EXPECT:** Great daily drink specials, 3 pool tables, your Nascar headquarters, 16'x10' Megatron, three 6'x4' Minitrans, 15 flat screen TVs; \$8.99 daily lunch specials; 60¢ 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/DirecTV (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

### JD LOUNGE

**Pubs & Taverns • 10366 Dupont Rd., Fort Wayne • 260-483-1311**

**EXPECT:** Upscale non-smoking atmosphere, craft beers and local wines, NFL Ticket, acoustic music on Thursdays, carryout, lottery, drink and food specials. **GETTING THERE:** North of Fort Wayne at Leo Crossing (Dupont and Clinton), next to Dupont Bar & Grill. **HOURS:** Open 5 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 12 noon Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, Amex

### 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, \$2.50 well drinks and 59¢ bone-in wings; Sundays, \$2.50 bloody Marys. Live bands Friday, Sunday, & Tuesday; 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:** 20-plus beers freshly hand-crafted on premises with a full bar featuring craft cocktails and more. Expanded menu full of old favorites and exciting new entrees, "One of the best pizzas in America," large vegetarian menu. Sunday Carry-out available. **GETTING THERE:** Just southwest of downtown Fort Wayne at Taylor & Broadway. **HOURS:** 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Mon-Thurs; 11 a.m.-12 a.m. Fri-Sat; 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Sun. **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. Expanded 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 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; seven dock slips; 150-seat banquet facility. Expanded 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.-10 p.m. Sun.-Thurs.; 11 a.m.- 11 p.m. Fri.-Sat. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc

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**PHIL'S FAMILY LIZARD** — Variety at Latch String Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 483-5526

**SCRATCH N SNIFF w/14 KIT KURT** — Variety at Deer Park Irish Pub, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m.-11 p.m., no cover, 432-8966

**SIDECAR GARY'S KARAOKE & DJ w/ BOB (SOUND MAN)** — Karaoke at 4 Crowns, Auburn, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 925-9805

**TEHILLAH & FRIENDS** — Christian Worship at Cupbearer Cafe, Auburn, 7 p.m.-9 p.m., no cover, 920-8734

**TODD HARROLD & ERIC CLANCY** — R&B/ blues at Nick's Martini & Wine Bar, Fort Wayne, 8:30 p.m., no cover, 482-6425

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

### Saturday, December 9

**BIG CADDY DADDY** — Rock at Dupont Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., cover, 483-1311

**BIG DICK AND THE PENETRATORS** — Classic rock at Beamer's Sports Grill, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., no cover, 625-1002

**BOY REX, HOLY PINTO, WE LOVE YOU** — Variety at Brass Rail, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., cover, 267-5303

**CHELSEA ERICKSON & JOHN FORBING** — Acoustic variety at Coconutz @ Crazy Pinz, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m.-11 p.m., no cover, 490-2695

**CLASSIC CITY KARAOKE w/DJ PARKER** — Variety at Club Paradise, Angola, 9 p.m., no cover, 833-7082

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

**FORT WAYNE PHILHARMONIC** — Holiday Pops at Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, 2 p.m., \$29-472, 481-0770

**FORT WAYNE PHILHARMONIC** — Holiday Pops at Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m., \$29-\$72, 481-0770

**HE SAID SHE SAID** — Variety at Wacky Jack's, Angola, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., no cover, 665-9071

**HOUSE DJ** — Variety at Early Bird's Ultra Lounge, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m., cover, 483-1979

**HOUSE DJ** — Variety at Flashback on the Landing, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m., cover, 422-5292

**IPFW HONOR JAZZ ENSEMBLE w/JAZZ FACULTY** — Jazz at Auer Performance Hall, Rhinehart Music Center, Fort Wayne, 5 p.m., \$7, 481-6555

**JD3** — Christian blues at Cupbearer Cafe, Auburn, 7 p.m.-9 p.m., no cover, 920-8734

**JESS THROWER** — Acoustic at Trubble Brewing Company, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m.-11 p.m., no cover, 267-6082

**JOE JUSTICE** — Variety at Byler Lane Winery, Auburn, 5 p.m.-8 p.m., no cover, 920-4377

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

**JOHN CURRAN & RENEGADE** — Country at 4D's Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., no cover, 490-6488

**LOOSE GRIP** — Variety at VFW Post 2457, New Haven, 7 p.m.-10 p.m., no cover, 493-3093

**MASON DIXON LINE** — Country at Rusty Spur Saloon, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., \$5, 755-3465

**MISS KITTY'S REVENGE** — Country rock at Duff's Bar, Columbia City, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 244-6978

**MITCH MAIBACH** — Variety at teds Beer Hall (and Wine Bar), Fort Wayne, 7 p.m.-10 p.m., no cover, (888) 260-0351

**MORNING AFTER** — Rock at Mitchell's Sports Bar & Neighborhood Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., \$3, (260) 387-5063

**MOTOR FOLKERS** — Classic rock/variety at Club Paradise, Angola, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 833-7082

**RUSS CHANDLER** — Variety at AmVets Post 33, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m.-10 p.m., no cover, 478-4114

**SHANE & ERIC** — Acoustic at Monument Pizza, Angola, 6 p.m.-9 p.m., no cover, 319-4489

**SIDECAR GARY'S KARAOKE & DJ** — Karaoke at K-ville Pub, Kendallville, 9 p.m., no cover, 349-1667

**SMOOTH EDGE 2** — CD release party at 816 Pint & Slice, Fort Wayne, 2 p.m.-3:30 p.m., \$5, 423-6600

**STAR 69** — Alternative rock at Rack & Helen's, New Haven, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., no cover, 749-5396

**STEEL PANTHER** — Rock at Piere's Entertainment Center, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m., \$27.50, 486-1979

**SUSAN MAE & NEW YESTERDAY** — Contemporary R&B/Jazz at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 426-3442

**SYMPHONY OF THE LAKES** — Holiday favorites at Wagon Wheel Theatre, Warsaw, 3 p.m., \$5-\$15, (574) 267-8041

**SYMPHONY OF THE LAKES** — Holiday concert at Warsaw Performing Arts Center, Warsaw Community High School, Warsaw, 3 p.m., \$8-\$18, (574) 267-8041

**TODD HARROLD & ERIC CLANCY** — R&B/ blues at Don Hall's Guesthouse, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 489-2524

**WALKIN' PAPERS** — Rock / blues at Nick's Martini & Wine Bar, Fort Wayne, 8:30 p.m., no cover, 482-6425

### Sunday, December 10

**CONCORDIA LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC DEPT. STUDENTS** — Holiday Concert at Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, 4 p.m., \$8-\$15, 424-5665

**JAZZ VESPERS SERVICE** — Jazz at Taylor Chapel United Methodist, Fort Wayne, 6:30 p.m., free, 749-8597

**THE SERVICE w/SPECIAL GUESTS** — Rock/variety at Latch String Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m., no cover, 483-5526

**SUZUKI STRINGS** — Holiday concert at Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory, Fort Wayne, 2 p.m.-2:45 p.m., \$3-\$5, 427-6440

### Monday, December 11

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

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

### Tuesday, December 12

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

**FORT WAYNE AREA COMMUNITY BAND** — Holiday concert at Auer Performance Hall, Rhinehart Music Center, IPFW, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m., \$7-\$8, 481-6555

**FORT WAYNE KARAOKE** — Variety at Rack & Helen's, New Haven, 9 p.m., no cover, 749-5396

**SHELLY DIXON & JEFF McRAE** — Variety at Trolley Steaks & Seafood, Fort Wayne, 6 p.m.-9 p.m., no cover, 490-4322

### Wednesday, December 13

**THE BRILLIANCE** — Worship at C2G Music Hall, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m., \$12-\$25, 426-6434

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

**LAURA STORY** — Contemporary Christian at Honeywell Center, Wabash, 7:30 p.m., \$18-\$45, 563-1102

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

**OPEN MIC** — Hosted by Mike Mowry at Pedal City, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 415-6167

**OPEN MIC** — Hosted by Shelly Dixon & Jeff McRae at What's Up Pub & Grub, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m.-10 p.m., no cover, 450-5199

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

**SHUT UP AND SING** — Karaoke at Duesy's Sports Bar and Grille, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m.-11 p.m., no cover, 483-5681

**SIDECAR GARY'S KARAOKE & DJ** — Karaoke at Willows, Huntertown, 8 p.m.-12 a.m., no cover, 637-5411

**THREE RIVERS KARAOKE** — at Dupont Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., no cover, 483-1311

### Thursday, December 14

**BUCCA KARAOKE w/BUCCA** — Variety at Deer Park Irish Pub, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m., no cover, 432-8966

**CHRIS WORTH** — Variety at Whats Up Pub & Grub, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m.-10 p.m., no cover, 489-3488

**ERIC CLANCY & JANE HEALD** — Piano/ cello at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 6:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m., no cover, 426-3442

**ERIC MISHLER** — Acoustic variety at JD Lounge, Fort Wayne, 8:30 p.m.-11 p.m., no cover, 483-1311

**FORT WAYNE PHILHARMONIC CHORUS** — Performance of Handel's Messiah at First Wayne Street United Methodist Church, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m., \$35, 481-0770

**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 KARAOKE w/TJ** — Variety at Rack & Helen's, New Haven, 10 p.m., no cover, 749-5396

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

**JOE JUSTICE** — Variety at Parkview Mirro Center, Fort Wayne, 1 p.m.-2:30 p.m., no cover, 373-4000

**OPEN MIC** — Hosted by Mike Conley at Mad Anthony Brewing Co., Fort Wayne, 8 p.m.-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 p.m., no cover, 478-5827

**PAUL NEW STEWART & CHARLES REN** — Standards (Sinatra) at The Venice Restaurant, Fort Wayne, 6 p.m.-9 p.m., \$1, (260) 482-1618

**R&R ENTERTAINMENT** — Karaoke at Columbia Street West, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m., no cover, 422-5055

**SEETHER** — Rock at Piere's Entertainment Center, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m., \$29-\$295, 486-1979

**SHELLY DIXON & JEFF McRAE** — Variety at Beamer's Sports Grill, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m.-10 p.m., no cover, 625-1002

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

### Friday, December 15

**ACOUSTIC COMPONENT** — Variety at American Legion Post 160, Roanoke, 8 p.m.-11 p.m., no cover, 672-2298

**BOBBY SWAG BAND** — Variety at Eagles Post 3512, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m.-11 p.m., no cover, 436-3512



## PARMALEE - From Page 5

eye of industry people on the coasts. The band traveled to New Jersey to record some more songs and then landed a deal with a publishing company in Los Angeles. They released a full-length album in 2004 and bounced back and forth between the east and west coasts, touring and recording.

Another album and another EP followed, but the coastal approach wasn't panning out for a band whose roots were clearly in the South.

Industry folks were telling them that Nashville was the place they ought to be, and after the release of *Mildew or Barbecue?* in 2006, they listened.

They moved to Nashville to continue working on a new album, but they did it on a shoestring. They planted their RV in a Comfort Inn parking lot and kept working. They released *Complicated* in 2008 and put together material for yet another album.

Demos of the new material, including the party anthem "Musta Had a Good Time," impressed indus-

try insiders, but the band needed some more cash to keep working. They set up a tour in North Carolina in 2010 to keep gas in the RV, and that's when things got really difficult.

On the other side of Scott's near-fatal shooting, the band was more than ready for success. *Feels Like Carolina*, their big-label debut, came out in 2012. The single "Musta Had a Good Time" nearly cracked the Top 40 on the country charts, but the big breakthrough came with "Carolina," which climbed all the way to No. 2.

"All the obstacles and craziness we've been through allowed us to help find our home in Nashville," Matt says.

In summer 2017, Parmalee released its second major-label album, *27861*. Titled for Parmalee's zip code, the album reflects the lessons that the band has learned: you can make it through the toughest of times, especially if you know where you belong.

## BULLDOGS - From Page 6

of private and corporate events. We do 4H and covered bridge festivals and a lot of festivals during the summer. We don't even play a lot in Fort Wayne, but we play a lot of places regionally and in places in Ohio and Michigan. We play a lot of smaller towns and a lot of big festivals."

They've also tapped into an increasingly hot place to catch live music: cruise ships. In fact, the Bulldogs were doing it long before it became a trend among oldies bands.

"We've done 17 Caribbean cruises with Norwegian Cruises as guest entertainers. We go there and use their equipment for the most part. We've been working with Travel Leaders for years, and every cruise

we book anywhere from 180 to 320 people who sign up to come to hear us play. So on a cruise of 2,300 or 2,400, about 10 percent of them are wearing Bulldogs T-shirts. It's a great time, and they come to hear us play between all of the other things going on on the ship. And it's a treat for us as well.

Finding their focus, sticking to the music of the 50s and 60s, has helped the Bulldogs maintain and continually grow their audience for 30 years, and Zmyslony says it's the great relationship between the band and its audience that has kept them busy all those years.

"People want to hear what we like to play so that's what we're going to keep doing."

## SPINS - From Page 7

ing have informed and influenced the genre of horror for the last 40 years. But by the mid 90s his films were suffering from both lack of creative source material and from the man's own creative burnout. In later interviews Carpenter sounded fed up and tired of the whole industry. It seemed one of our greats had hung it up for good.

Then something sort of amazing happened: A younger generation of talented filmmakers began paying homage to the man through their own films. Guys like Nicolas Winding Refn, Adam Wingard, David Robert Mitchell and Jeff Nichols were putting out amazing films like *Drive*, *The Guest*, *It Follows* and *Midnight Special* that had obvious visual and sound-track nods to the "Master of Horror."

The guy who seemed to have been put to the side in favor of schlocky horror and cheap thrills was finally getting the respect he deserved. Somewhere in there Carpenter began recording albums (*Lost Themes* and *Lost Themes II*) with his son and godson. He toured for those albums as well and seemed to have found that creative spark once again.

Carpenter, along with his current collaborators Cody Carpenter and Daniel Davies, have returned to the recording studio to create *Anthology: 1974-1998*. Where the *Lost Themes* albums were music pieces that never got used in Carpenter's films, *Anthology* is reimaginings of his most beloved scores. The result is a striking look at just how diverse an artist Carpenter truly is.

If you happened to pick up Carpenter's single series thru Sacred Bones a couple of years ago, you already have an idea of the serious cool collected on this LP. That series had the themes from *Assault on Precinct 13*, *The Fog*, *Halloween* and *Escape from New York*. They're all included here, but we're also treated to the rocking "In the Mouth of Madness" which has some all-out guitar crunch. There's a Dökken/Queensrÿche

feel in the metal-ish vibe. "Porkchop Express" (*Big Trouble in Little China*) also has a strutting 80s rock swagger, complete with DX-7 synth fun going on. You can almost see an aged and grizzled Jack Burton (Kurt Russell) driving down the highway in his big rig looking for new adventures as this one plays. "They Live" is a little bluesy and a little late night jazz, with both some serious blues harp and moody guitar.

Though there's some mildly dated rock mojo here, these versions fit the films and the characters that reside in those films rather well. Carpenter and crew also take a stab at Ennio Morricone's excellent *The Thing*. He turns it into a dread-filled slow synth burn. This one is great. "Starman" is another big surprise here. It's sweeping keys and melancholy vibe are quite stunning. It's an underrated piece (and an underrated film). "Dark Star" puts me in mind of current day synth wizards like Videodrones and Slasher Film Festival Strategy. It may be updated, but it still holds a nostalgic vibe to those early 70s. "Prince Of Darkness" is all Gothic stabs and dread-filled synths.

One of the big highlights is "Christine" which sounds like it could've come off a new *Survive* album. Carpenter shows why he truly is the master on this track. Rock guitar comes rolling in and the song almost morphs into something resembling "Moving in Stereo" morphed into 80s Tangerine Dream.

Carpenter sounds like a guy renewed and reinvigorated. His work on these albums over the last two years show a man with a newfound passion for creating. *Anthology: 1974-1998* is further proof that you can't keep a good man down. (John Hubner)

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

# 103.3

## THE FORT

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## 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. Expanded 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.-11 a.m. Mon.-Thurs.; 11 a.m.-12 a.m. Fri.-Sat.; 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc

### 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

### RUSTY SPUR SALOON

**Nightclub/Music Venue • 10350 Leo Rd., Fort Wayne • 260-755-3465**

**EXPECT:** Fort Wayne's premier country nightclub and concert venue. Home of quarter beer every Wednesday with live DJ. Live bands on the weekends. Great dance floor, pool tables, four full-service bars, big screen TVs and daily drink specials. Full-service kitchen and menu featuring American Burgers. **GETTING THERE:** In Leo Crossing at corner of Dupont and Clinton. **HOURS:** 3 p.m.-3 a.m. Tues.-Sat. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, Amex

### STATE GRILL

**Pub/Tavern • 1210 E. State Blvd., Fort Wayne • 260-483-5618**

**EXPECT:** 1st Tavern to pour beer after Prohibition; located in a fun and friendly neighborhood; home of the XKE Cranials & most dangerous juke-box. 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:** 4 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

### TEDS BEER HALL & WINE BAR

**Pub/Tavern • 12628 Coldwater Rd., Fort Wayne • 888-260-0357**

**EXPECT:** Lively atmosphere, eclectic tap list, knowledgeable bartenders and the kind of backtalk you usually reserve for family reunions, Thanksgiving and 90s sitcoms set in high school. Kitchen features pizzas, sandwiches, burgers, coffee, ice cream and a kids menu. **GETTING THERE:** Located at the intersection of Coldwater and Union Chapel roads. **HOURS:** 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Tues.-Sat. **ALCOHOL:** Beer/Wine; **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, Amex



Suicideboy\$	Dec. 10	House of Blues	Cleveland
1988	Feb. 17 '18	Key Palace Theatre	Redkey
Above & Beyond	Feb. 15 '18	House of Blues	Cleveland
Adventur Club, Bear Grillz, Ookay	Dec. 31	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
AJR, Hundred Handed	Apr. 6 '18	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
Alexis Antes, Ohio City Singers	Dec. 16	House of Blues	Cleveland
Alice Cooper, Edgar Winter	Mar. 15 '18	Morris P.A.C.	South Bend
Altan	Mar. 22 '18	Beachland Ballroom	Cleveland
Altan	Mar. 23 '18	Old Town School	Chicago
Amy Grant w/Fort Wayne Philharmonic Orchestra	Jan. 27 '18	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Andrew Bird w/Joan Shelley	Dec. 11-14	Fourth Presbyterian Church	Chicago
Andy Grammar	Mar. 30 '18	Deluxe	Indianapolis
Angel Olsen	Dec. 9	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Anita Renfro	Mar. 10 '18	Shipshewana Event Center	Shipshewana
Ann Wilson	Apr. 7 '18	Hard Rock Rocksino	Northfield Park, OH
<b>Anthony Gomes</b>	<b>Feb. 23 '18</b>	<b>C2G Music Hall</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Architects w/Stick to Your Guns, Counterparts	Feb. 20 '18	Agora Theatre	Cleveland
Art Garfunkel	Jan. 27 '18	Canton Palace Theatre	Canton, OH
Asking Alexandria, Black Veil Brides, Crown the Empire	Jan. 20 '18	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Asking Alexandria, Black Veil Brides, Crown the Empire	Feb. 14 '18	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
<b>Atlanta Pops Orchestra w/Chloe Agnew</b>	<b>Mar. 16 '18</b>	<b>Honeywell Center</b>	<b>Wabash</b>
August Burns Red, Bom of Osiris, Ocean Grove, Era	Jan. 9 '18	House of Blues	Cleveland
Awolnation, Nothing But Thieves	Feb. 13 '18	The Fillmore	Detroit
Awolnation, Nothing But Thieves	Feb. 14 '18	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Awolnation, Nothing But Thieves	Feb. 17 '18	House of Blues	Cleveland
Badfish	Feb. 11 '18	House of Blues	Cleveland
Bianca Del Rio	Feb. 24 '18	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Big Head Todd and the Monsters	Jan. 16 '18	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Big Head Todd and the Monsters	Jan. 18 '18	Kalamazoo State Theatre	Kalamazoo
Big Head Todd and the Monsters	Jan. 19-20 '18	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Big Head Todd & The Monsters	Jan. 23 '18	House of Blues	Cleveland
<b>Bill Anderson</b>	<b>Feb. 17 '18</b>	<b>Honeywell Center</b>	<b>Wabash</b>
Blackberry Smoke	Mar. 9 '18	Lerner Theatre	Elkhart
Blackberry Smoke w/Tyler Bryant & The Shakedown	Mar. 10 '18	The Fillmore	Detroit
Blue Dream, The Evening Attraction, Strange Foliage	Dec. 7	Schubas Tavern	Chicago
Blues Traveler, Los Colognes	Jan. 30 '18	House of Blues	Cleveland
Borns (sold out)	Jan. 27 '18	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Borns	Feb. 8 '18	Agora Theatre	Cleveland
<b>Boy Rex, Holy Pinto, We Love You</b>	<b>Dec. 9</b>	<b>Brass Rail</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Boys From The County Hell	Dec. 23	House of Blues	Cleveland
Brain Candy	Mar. 24 '18	Clowes Memorial Hall	Indianapolis
Brains, Avatar, Hellzapoppin Circus SideShow Revue, Old Kerry McKee	Feb. 8 '18	House of Blues	Cleveland
Brains, Avatar, Hellzapoppin Circus SideShow Revue, Old Kerry McKee	Feb. 9 '18	Deluxe	Indianapolis
Brent Faiyaz, Diana Gordon, Amber Oliver	Jan. 30 '18	Schubas Tavern	Chicago
<b>Brian Posehn</b>	<b>Jan. 11 '18</b>	<b>CS3</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
<b>The Brilliance</b>	<b>Dec. 13</b>	<b>C2G Music Hall</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Brockhampton	Feb. 13 '18	The Intersection	Grand Rapids
BruhitzZach, Jacob Sartorius, Hayden Summerall	Jan. 26 '18	The Fillmore	Detroit
BruhitzZach, Jacob Sartorius, Hayden Summerall	Feb. 2 '18	House of Blues	Cleveland
Bruno Major	Feb. 27 '18	Schubas Tavern	Chicago
Bunny, Ratboys, Stef Chura, Snail Mail, Lomelda	Jan. 19 '18	Schubas Tavern	Chicago
Celtic Thunder Symphony	Dec. 7	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Chastity Brown, Andrea Gibson	Jan. 30 '18	Deluxe	Indianapolis
Chevelle	Dec. 11	20 Monroe Live	Grand Rapids
Chevelle, 10 Years	Dec. 12	Schubas Tavern	Chicago
The Chieftains	Mar. 4 '18	Clowes Memorial Hall	Indianapolis
Chimaira w/Impending Lies, Slipsist, Nine Shrines, Brothers at Arms	Dec. 30	Agora Theatre	Cleveland
Chloe Agnew	Mar. 17 '18	Niswonger P.A.C.	Van Wert
Clean Bandit	Apr. 10 '18	Deluxe	Indianapolis
Clean Bandit	Apr. 11 '18	Vic Theatre	Chicago
<b>Colin Mochrie &amp; Brad Sherwood</b>	<b>Dec. 8</b>	<b>Honeywell Center</b>	<b>Wabash</b>
Collective Soul	Feb. 15 '18	Hard Rock Rocksino	Northfield Park, OH
Cowboy Jukebox, Joe Hess & The Wandering Cowboys	Dec. 15	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Cowboy Mouth	Jan. 12 '18	Magic Bag	Ferdale, MI
Crooked Colours	Mar. 2 '18	Schubas Tavern	Chicago
Daedalus w/Free th Robots, Mono/Poly	Dec. 8	The Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
Damien Escobar	Dec. 9	20 Monroe Live	Grand Rapids
Dan Auerbach w/Shannon and the Clams, Shannon Shaw, Robert Finley	Mar. 31 '18	Agora Theatre	Cleveland
Dan Auerbach w/Shannon and the Clams, Shannon Shaw, Robert Finley	Apr. 2 '18	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Dashboard Confessional, Beach Slang	Apr. 3 '18	House of Blues	Cleveland
Datsik, Brillz, Space Jesus, Riot Ten, Wooli	Jan. 12 '18	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Dave Koz & Friends	Dec. 8	Palace Theatre	Columbus, OH
<b>Davy Knowles</b>	<b>Jan. 27 '18</b>	<b>C2G Music Hall</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Davy Knowles	Feb. 23 '18	Schubas Tavern	Chicago
Dead Horses	Dec. 15	Schubas Tavern	Chicago
Demi Lovato, DJ Khaled	Mar. 9 '18	Allstate Arena	Rosemont, IL
Derek Gripper	Feb. 7 '18	Old Town School	Chicago
Destroyer	Jan. 20 '18	Metro	Chicago
Devil Makes Three	Jan. 14 '18	House of Blues	Cleveland
Dirkschneider w/Elm Street	Mar. 3 '18	Agora Ballroom	Cleveland
Dixie Dregs	Mar. 24 '18	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Do Make Say Think, Nnamdi Ogbonnaya	Dec. 8	Metro	Chicago

**Barenaked Ladies** have announced the 2018 version of their Last Summer on Earth Tour, also featuring **Better Than Ezra** and **KT Tunstall**. The tour stops in Cincinnati and Toledo on June 23 and June 24 respectively before heading to Columbus, Ohio July 11, Chicago July 13, Detroit July 14 and Cleveland July 15.



## Road Notez

### CHRIS HUPE

**Joe Satriani** has announced the 2018 version of the **G3** tour. **Dream Theater's John Petrucci** and **Phil Collen of Def Leppard** will join Satriani for a night guitar fans won't soon forget. Check out the trio as they play solo and together at the Hard Rock Rocksino in Cleveland on February 22 and at the Chicago Theatre in Chicago the following night.

Winter Jam bills itself as Christian music's biggest annual tour. For sure, the lineup is always a "who's who" of Christian music. The tour relies heavily on donations to cover the costs of the tour while charging just 10 bucks for admission. The Allen County War Memorial Coliseum is on the itinerary once again this year with a show scheduled for February 8. Other area shows include Grand Rapids January 7, Columbus, Ohio January 20, Indianapolis February 10 and Detroit February 11. This year's performers include headliner **Skillet** along with **Kari Jobe, Newsong** and **Building 429**.

**Dance Moms** stars Chloe, Kendall, Nia and Kalani are going on tour as **The Irreplaceables**. The young ladies took on the name during the latest season of their hit show and are headed out on their own now that their famed teacher, Abby Lee Miller, is in jail for tax fraud. The 75-minute show promises to showcase the talents of each dancer individually as well as in the group as a whole. There will also be a dance workshop available to a select few who choose to cough up a few extra bucks for their tickets. While some of the dancers performed in the Fort a few years ago as part of the reality show, this will be the first official tour for the group. Tell your daughters and check them out December 17 in Chicago, December 21 in Detroit or December 22 in Cleveland.

Sixty people were recently kicked out of **A Perfect Circle** concert for taking pictures and videos during the show. Singer **Maynard James Keenan** is behind the no-photo policy, and it has apparently been a long-standing policy in effect for his shows with **APC, Tool** and **Puscifer**. Keenan was unapologetic about the expulsions and commented on them via his Instagram page stating "No. Recording. Of. Any. Kind. For. 25. Years. Guided experience. Unplug and enjoy the ride." Keenan is my new hero. This is something I've complained about for years. Come on people, put the phones away and enjoy the show while you're there. And quit ruining the experience for everyone else who has to try to look around your phones while you hold them over your head taking crappy video and pictures you'll never look at again.

christopherhupe@aol.com

Dorothy	Jan. 9 '18	Beachland Ballroom	Cleveland
Dumpstaphunk, Honey Island Swamp Band, Nasty Snacks	Dec. 31	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Eddie B.	Jan. 13 '18	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Ella Vos	Mar. 16 '18	Schubas Tavern	Chicago
Enslaved w/Wolves in the Throne Room, Myrkur, Khemmis	Feb. 21 '18	Agora Ballroom	Cleveland
Eric Johnson	Mar. 13 '18	House of Blues	Cleveland
<b>Europa Galante w/Fabio Biondi</b>	<b>Jan. 11 '18</b>	<b>Honeywell Center</b>	<b>Wabash</b>
Excision, Liquid Stranger, Dion Timmer, Monxx	Feb. 20 '18	House of Blues	Cleveland
Excision, Liquid Stranger, Dion Timmer, Monxx	Feb. 15 '18	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
Excision, Liquid Stranger, Dion Timmer, Monxx	Feb. 16-17 '18	The Fillmore	Detroit
Excision, Liquid Stranger, Dion Timmer, Monxx	Feb. 22 '18	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Ezra Furman	Feb. 27 '18	The Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
The Fab Four	Apr. 13 '18	Hard Rock Rocksino	Northfield Park, OH
Fetty Wap	Jan. 26 '18	Deluxe	Indianapolis
First Aid Kit w/van William	Feb. 2 '18	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Foreigner	Apr. 7 '18	Four Winds Casino	New Buffalo, MI
Frankie Ballard	Dec. 16	Kalamazoo State Theatre	Kalamazoo
FuntCase, Snails Spag Heddy	Dec. 30	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
G. Love & Special Sauce	Jan. 20 '18	House of Blues	Cleveland
Gaelic Storm	Feb. 22 '18	House of Blues	Cleveland
Galactic	Feb. 21 '18	The Intersection	Grand Rapids
George Winston	Dec. 10	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Ginuwine w/Jon B., Hi Five, Ruff Endz, Adina Howard	Dec. 15	Kalamazoo State Theatre	Kalamazoo
Glen Hansard	Mar. 18 '18	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Granger Smith w/Morgan Wallen	Dec. 16	The Intersection	Grand Rapids
Greensky Bluegrass, Billy Strings	Dec. 29-31	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Greensky Bluegrass	Feb. 7 '18	House of Blues	Cleveland
Greensky Bluegrass	Feb. 9-10 '18	The Fillmore	Detroit
Greta Van Fleet (sold out)	Dec. 30	The Intersection	Grand Rapids
GWAR w/Ghoul, He Is Legend, U.S. Bastards	Dec. 8	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Henhouse Prowlers	Dec. 30-31	Martys'	Chicago
Here Come the Mummies	Feb. 16 '18	The Intersection	Grand Rapids
<b>Hillbilly Casino</b>	<b>Dec. 17</b>	<b>Brass Rail</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Home Free	Dec. 9	State Theatre	Kalamazoo
Home Free	Dec. 14	Michigan Theater	Ann Arbor
Home Free	Dec. 15	Hobart Arena	Troy, OH
<b>Hotel California</b>	<b>Mar. 17 '18</b>	<b>Honeywell Center</b>	<b>Wabash</b>
Illenium	Dec. 14	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
In This Moment, P.O.D., New Years Day, DED	Feb. 7 '18	Fillmore	Detroit
In This Moment, P.O.D., New Years Day, DED	Feb. 9 '18	House of Blues	Cleveland



Indiana Ramblers	Dec. 31	Key Palace Theatre	Redkey
Infamous Stringdusters, Horseshoes & Hand Grenades	Feb. 8 '18	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Infamous Stringdusters, Horseshoes & Handgrenades	Feb. 13 '18	Beachland Ballroom	Cleveland
<b>IU's Another Round</b>	<b>Feb. 2 '18</b>	<b>C2G Music Hall</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
J.D. McPherson	Dec. 14	The Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
Jason Bonham's Led Zeppelin Experience	Dec. 10	Hard Rock Rocksino	Northfield Park, OH
Jason Isbell and the 400 Unit, JJ Grey & Mofro, Stephen Kellogg, Dead Horses,			
Chastity Brown, Joe Pug	Jan. 26 '18	Hill Auditorium	Ann Arbor
Jeff Dunham	Jan. 14 '18	Nutter Center	Dayton
Jeff Dunham	Jan. 25 '18	Huntington Center	Toledo
Jeff Dunham	Jan. 26 '18	Van Andel Arena	Grand Rapids
Jeff Dunham	Jan. 28 '18	Schottenstein Center	Columbus, OH
The Jesus Lizard	Dec. 9	Metro	Chicago
<b>Jim Brickman</b>	<b>Dec. 8</b>	<b>Rhinehart Recital Hall</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Joe Marcinek's Dead Funk Summit	Dec. 7	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Joe Pug	Dec. 10	The Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
Joe Russo's Almost Dead	Feb. 17 '18	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Joe Satriani, John Petrucci, Phil Collen	Feb. 22 '18	Hard Rock Rocksino	Northfield Park, OH
John 5	Feb. 21 '18	The Vogue	Indianapolis
John Maus and Some Other Guys	Feb. 18 '18	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
John Mulaney	Jan. 14 '18	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
John Prine, Aimee Mann, Mountain Heart, Birds of Chicago,			
The Cactus Blossoms, The War and Treaty, Joe Pug	Jan. 27 '18	Hill Auditorium	Ann Arbor
Jon McLaughlin	Dec. 28-29	The Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
Jon Pardi w/Runaway June (sold out)	Dec. 8	The Intersection	Grand Rapids
Jonny Lang, Blue Water Highway	Jan. 10 '18	House of Blues	Cleveland
Jonny Lang	Jan. 12 '18	Four Winds Casino	New Buffalo, MI
Ustjr, Kayzo, 4B, Dubloadz, DJ Gammer	Mar. 27 '18	House of Blues	Cleveland
Ustjr, Kayzo, 4B, Dubloadz, DJ Gammer	Apr. 3 '18	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Judah & The Lion w/Tall Heights	Mar. 21 '18	House of Blues	Cleveland
Judah & The Lion w/Tall Heights	Mar. 22 '18	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
<b>Justin Flom</b>	<b>Feb. 16 '18</b>	<b>Wagon Wheel Theatre</b>	<b>Warsaw</b>
Justin Moore, Dylan Scott	Feb. 16 '18	Memorial Coliseum	Fort Wayne
Kansas	Mar. 24 '18	Four Winds Casino	New Buffalo, MI
Katy Perry	Dec. 10	Quicken Loans Arena	Cleveland
Keith Sweat w/Will Downing	Dec. 9	Horseshoe Casino	Hammond
Keller Williams	Jan. 12 '18	Beachland Ballroom	Cleveland
Kenny G	Mar. 24 '18	Niswonger P.A.C.	Van Wert
Kid Rock	Feb. 24 '18	Quicken Loans Arena	Cleveland
Kill the Noise, Tritonal, Seven Lions	Dec. 16	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
The Killers	Jan. 15 '18	Masonic Temple Theater	Detroit
The Killers, Alex Cameron	Jan. 16 '18	United Center	Chicago
Kills with Engage, Anthrax	Feb. 3 '18	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
Kiss Army	Jan. 28 '18	Key Palace Theatre	Redkey
Kuinka, Wild Skies	Feb. 2 '18	Schubas Tavern	Chicago
alah Hathaway	Jan. 21 '18	House of Blues	Cleveland
<b>Laura Story</b>	<b>Dec. 13</b>	<b>Honeywell Center</b>	<b>Wabash</b>
Lauv, Jeremy Zucker	Feb. 16 '18	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
Led Zeppelin 2	Dec. 31	House of Blues	Cleveland
Led Zeppelin 2	Feb. 17 '18	Deluxe	Indianapolis
<b>The Letterman</b>	<b>Dec. 15</b>	<b>Honeywell Center</b>	<b>Wabash</b>
Lewis Black	Apr. 7 '18	The Fillmore	Detroit
Lil Pump	Dec. 15	Agora Ballroom	Cleveland
Lil Uzi Vert, Playboi Carti, G Herbo, SOB X RBE	Dec. 12	The Fillmore	Detroit
Little Big Town w/Kacey Musgraves, Midland	Feb. 16 '18	Allstate Arena	Rosemont, IL
Little Texas	Jan. 27 '18	Shipshewana Event Center	Shipshewana
Lloyd & Pleasure P. w/Nick LaVelle	Dec. 7	Kalamazoo State Theatre	Kalamazoo
<b>Locash</b>	<b>Feb. 8 '18</b>	<b>Honeywell Center</b>	<b>Wabash</b>
Lonestar	Jan. 27 '18	Niswonger P.A.C.	Van Wert
LP	Feb. 24 '18	Metro	Chicago
Luke Combs w/Ashley McBryde	Feb. 9 '18	DeltaPlex	Grand Rapids
Machine Head	Feb. 16 '18	Agora Theatre	Cleveland
Majid Jordan	Feb. 21 '18	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Mannheim Steamroller	Dec. 12	DeVos Performance Hall	Grand Rapids
Mannheim Steamroller	Dec. 14	Cloves Memorial Hall	Indianapolis
Marilyn Manson	Feb. 6 '18	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Marilyn Manson	Feb. 7 '18	20 Monroe Live	Grand Rapids
Mark Chesnutt, Hubie Ashcraft Band	Mar. 2 '18	Shipshewana Event Center	Shipshewana
<b>Mark Lowry</b>	<b>Feb. 24 '18</b>	<b>Honeywell Center</b>	<b>Wabash</b>
Marshall Tucker Band	Mar. 3 '18	Shipshewana Event Center	Shipshewana
<b>Martina McBride</b>	<b>Dec. 7</b>	<b>Honeywell Center</b>	<b>Wabash</b>
Marty Stuart	Dec. 15	House of Blues	Cleveland
Marty Stuart	Dec. 16	Old Town School	Chicago
Mat Kearney, Andrew Belle	Mar. 9 '18	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Mat Kearney	Mar. 29 '18	House of Blues	Cleveland
Mat Kearney	Mar. 31 '18	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
Matisyahu w/Common Kingz, Orphan	Dec. 13	The Intersection	Grand Rapids
Matisyahu, Common Kings, Orphan	Dec. 14	House of Blues	Cleveland
Mavis Staples	Feb. 3 '18	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Melissa Etheridge	Dec. 12	Kalamazoo State Theatre	Kalamazoo
Michael Carbonaro	Feb. 17 '18	Hard Rock Rocksino	Northfield Park, OH
Michael W. Smith	Dec. 14	Niswonger PAC	Van Wert

# Santa & Live Reindeer

Saturdays, December 2, 9, 16, 12-4 pm



**"Snow Days" exhibit**  
and **Garden in Lights**  
thru Jan 7

**Gift Shop**  
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# C2G LIVE THE TV SHOW

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**Sugar Shot**  
**Dixon & McRae**

AIRING NEXT WEEKEND • DECEMBER 16

**Alicia Pyle**  
**Francie Zucco**  
**Mike Conley**  
**Sunny Taylor**

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Mick Gavin's Crossroads Celi	Dec. 29-30	The Ark	Ann Arbor
Miguel, SiR, Nonchalant Savant	Mar. 5 '18	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Milky Chance w/Lewis Capaldi	Jan. 26 '18	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Minnesota	Dec. 16	Agora Theatre	Cleveland
Minnesota w/IlleNiium	Dec. 14	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Minnesota w/So Down	Dec. 21	The Intersection	Grand Rapids
Miranda Lambert w/Jon Pardi, The Steel Woods	Mar. 3 '18	Wolstein Center	Cleveland
MJ Live	Feb. 10 '18	Niswonger P.A.C.	Van Wert
Mo & Cashmere Cat	Feb. 1 '18	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Moneybagg Yo w/K Camp, Q Money	Dec. 7	House of Blues	Cleveland
Nada Surf	Mar. 13 '18	Metro	Chicago
Neckdeep w/Speak Low If You Speak Love, Creeper	Feb. 10 '18	Agora Theatre	Cleveland
Needtobreathe	Dec. 9	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Nick Offerman	Dec. 9	The Fillmore	Detroit
Nightwish	Mar. 24 '18	Agora Theatre	Cleveland
Nightwish	Mar. 28 '18	Kalamazoo State Theatre	Kalamazoo
No Age, Melkbelly	Jan. 20 '18	Schubas Tavern	Chicago
Noah Gunderson	Feb. 2 '18	Beachland Ballroom	Cleveland
Oak Ridge Boys	Dec. 14	Firekeepers	Battle Creek
OMD	Mar. 16 '18	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Opiuo, Ganja White Night, Subtronics	Feb. 9 '18	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Over the Rhine	Dec. 31	Old Town School	Chicago
Papadosio w/Zombie Manana	Dec. 15	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
<b>Parmalee w/Kasey Tyndall</b>	<b>Dec. 16</b>	<b>Rusty Spur Saloon</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Passion Pit	Jan. 17 '18	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Paul Fayrewether	Feb. 10 '18	House of Blues	Cleveland
Phillips, Craig and Dean	Mar. 9 '18	Shipshewana Event Center	Shipshewana
Pink	Mar. 9-10 '18	United Center	Chicago
Pink	Mar. 17 '18	Bankers Life Fieldhouse	Indianapolis
Pink Droyd	Feb. 17 '18	C2G Music Hall	Fort Wayne
Pink w/Bleachers	Mar. 28 '18	Quicken Loans Arena	Cleveland
Pokey LaFarge	Jan. 14 '18	The Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
Pop Evil, Palaye Royale, Black Map	Mar. 28 '18	House of Blues	Cleveland
Pop Evil, Palaye Royale, Black Map	Apr. 6 '18	The Fillmore	Detroit
Pop Fiction, Tricky Dick & The Cover Ups, Old Skool	Jan. 5 '18	House of Blues	Cleveland
Portugal. The Man	Dec. 15	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Portugal. The Man	Feb. 16 '18	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Portugal. The Man	Feb. 18 '18	Agora Theatre	Cleveland
<b>Purdue Varsity Glee Club, Purduettes</b>	<b>Apr. 13 '18</b>	<b>Honeywell Center</b>	<b>Wabash</b>
PVRIS	Feb. 24 '18	The Intersection	Grand Rapids
<b>Randy Jackson w/Fort Wayne Philharmonic</b>	<b>Apr. 13 '18</b>	<b>Embassy Theatre</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Rebelution, Raging Fyah	Feb. 17 '18	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Rebulation, Raging Fyah	Feb. 14 '18	The Fillmore	Detroit
<b>Recycled Percussion</b>	<b>Jan. 26 '18</b>	<b>Honeywell Center</b>	<b>Wabash</b>
Red Wanting Blue	Dec. 13	The Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
Resurrection	Jan. 20 '18	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Robert Cray Band	Feb. 28 '18	Kalamazoo State Theatre	Kalamazoo
Robert Plant & The Sensational Space Shifters	Feb. 20 '18	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Robin Trower	Apr. 6 '18	Hard Rock Rocksino	Northfield Park, OH
Rod Tuficurlis and the Bench Press	Feb. 10 '18	The Vogue	Indianapolis
<b>Ron White</b>	<b>Apr. 5 '18</b>	<b>Honeywell Center</b>	<b>Wabash</b>
Ryan Kinder	Jan. 27 '18	Schubas Tavern	Chicago
Sanctuary, Iced Earth, Kill Ritual	Feb. 22 '18	Deluxe	Indianapolis
Sara Evans	Dec. 8	Hard Rock Rocksino	Northfield Park, OH
Sara Evans	Dec. 9	Shipshewana Event Center	Shipshewana
Say Anything, Backwards Dancer	Dec. 11-12	Metro	Chicago
Scott Bradlee's Postmodern Jukebox	Feb. 2 '18	The Fillmore	Detroit
Scott Bradlee's Postmodern Jukebox	Feb. 3 '18	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Scotty McCreery	Mar. 24 '18	Shipshewana Event Center	Shipshewana
Sebastian Maniscalco	Mar. 3 '18	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Sebastian Maniscalco	Mar. 9-10 '18	Rosemont Theatre	Rosemont, IL
<b>Seether</b>	<b>Dec. 14</b>	<b>Piere's Entertainment Center</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Sidewalk Prophets, Cody Collier	Jan. 19 '18	Shipshewana Event Center	Shipshewana
Silverstein & Tonight Alive, Broadside, Picturesque	Jan. 19 '18	House of Blues	Cleveland
Sixteen Candles	Dec. 22	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Smallpools, Misterwives	Mar. 22 '18	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Snails w/Funtcase, Yultron, Squinto	Dec. 10	The Intersection	Grand Rapids
Snails, FuntCase, Boogie T	Dec. 11	House of Blues	Cleveland
Southside Johnny & The Asbury Jukes	Mar. 2 '18	Hard Rock Rocksino	Northfield Park, OH
Spoon, Real Estate	Dec. 10	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Spoon, White Reaper	Dec. 8	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
St. Vincent	Jan. 10 '18	Express Live!	Columbus, OH
St. Vincent	Jan. 12 '18	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Starset, Grabbitz, Year of the Locust	Feb. 3 '18	House of Blues	Cleveland
Steel Panther, Diamante	Dec. 12	House of Blues	Cleveland
<b>Steel Panther</b>	<b>Dec. 9</b>	<b>Piere's Entertainment Center</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Stef Chura	Jan. 19 '18	Schubas Tavern	Chicago
Steven Curtis Chapman, Hillary Scott, We Are Messengers	Dec. 10	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Stone Sour, Red Sun Rising, The Dead Deads	Feb. 18 '18	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
Straight No Chaser	Dec. 14	Palace Theatre	Columbus, OH
Straight No Chaser w/Postmodern Jukebox	Dec. 16	Murat Theatre	Indianapolis
Strangelove	Dec. 22	House of Blues	Cleveland

The Strypes	Apr. 2 '18	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
Suicideboys	Dec. 9	The Intersection	Grand Rapids
Superorganism	Mar. 28 '18	Schubas Tavern	Chicago
SZA w/Smino, Ravyn Lenae	Dec. 13	House of Blues	Chicago
Tab Benoit, Eric Johanson, Jake Kershaw	Dec. 8	Niswonger P.A.C.	Kalamazoo
The Ten Tenors	Dec. 12	Butler Arts Center	Indianapolis
The Ten Tenors	Dec. 12	Cloves Memorial Hall	Indianapolis
Tenderloins	Dec. 15	Allstate Arena	Rosemont, IL
Tenderloins	Jan. 19 '18	Wolstein Center	Cleveland
Tenderloins	Feb. 3 '18	Nationwide Arena	Columbus, OH
Tennis w/Overcoats	Jan. 15 '18	The Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
Tennis, Overcoats	Jan. 13 '18	Metro	Chicago
Texas Tenors	Dec. 8	Shipshewana Event Center	Shipshewana
Texas Tenors	Dec. 9	Niswonger PAC	Van Wert
Theresa Flores	Mar. 27 '18	Niswonger P.A.C.	Van Wert
They Might Be Giants	Feb. 7 '18	The Vogue	Indianapolis
They Might Be Giants	Feb. 11 '18	Beachland Ballroom	Cleveland
They Might Be Giants	Mar. 17 '18	Vic Theatre	Chicago
This Must Be the Band, Genome	Dec. 22	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Thompson Square, Hubie Ashcraft Band	Jan. 20 '18	Shipshewana Event Center	Shipshewana
<b>Three Dog Night</b>	<b>Feb. 2 '18</b>	<b>Honeywell Center</b>	<b>Wabash</b>
Thrice, Circa Survive, Balance & Composure	Dec. 7	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Tiesto	Dec. 23	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
<b>Tim Hawkins</b>	<b>Mar. 24 '18</b>	<b>Honeywell Center</b>	<b>Wabash</b>
<b>Tinsley Ellis</b>	<b>Feb. 3 '18</b>	<b>C2G Music Hall</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Todd Rundgren	Dec. 16-17	Park West	Chicago
Tokio Hotel	Feb. 14 '18	Agora Theatre	Cleveland
Tom Papa	Mar. 8 '18	Butler Arts Center	Indianapolis
Tommy Emmanuel, Rodney Crowell	Feb. 9 '18	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
Trans-Siberian Orchestra	Dec. 20	Bankers Life Fieldhouse	Indianapolis
Trans-Siberian Orchestra	Dec. 21	U.S. Bank Arena	Cincinnati
Trans-Siberian Orchestra	Dec. 23	Little Caesars Arena	Detroit
Trans-Siberian Orchestra	Dec. 28	Allstate Arena	Rosemont, IL
Trans-Siberian Orchestra	Dec. 29	Quicken Loans Arena	Cleveland
Trans-Siberian Orchestra	Dec. 30	Nationwide Arena	Columbus
<b>Trent Tomlinson</b>	<b>Dec. 21</b>	<b>Piere's Entertainment Center</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Turkuaz, The Suffers	Dec. 9	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Twiddle, Stick Figure, Iya Terra	Jan. 18 '18	House of Blues	Cleveland
Twizted	Dec. 31	Agora Ballroom	Cleveland
Two Feet	Feb. 24 '18	The Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
Tyler, The Creator, Vince Staples, Taco	Mar. 23 '18	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Typhoon	Jan. 19 '18	Metro	Chicago
Under the Streetlamp	Mar. 23 '18	Shipshewana Event Center	Shipshewana
Valerie June	Feb. 23 '18	Beachland Ballroom	Cleveland
The Vulgar Boatmen	Jan. 6 '18	Schubas Tavern	Chicago
Wafia	Jan. 29 '18	Schubas Tavern	Chicago
Walk The Moon	Jan. 24 '18	The Fillmore	Detroit
Walk The Moon	Jan. 26 '18	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Walk The Moon	Jan. 27 '18	Egyptian Room	Indianapolis
Wallows	Feb. 22 '18	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
War on Drugs	Dec. 21	The Vogue	Indianapolis
<b>Warrant &amp; Firehouse</b>	<b>Feb. 3 '18</b>	<b>Honeywell Center</b>	<b>Wabash</b>
The Wedding Present, Terry De Castro	Mar. 26 '18	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
Weird Al Yankovic	Mar. 10 '18	20 Monroe Live	Grand Rapids
Weird Al Yankovic w/Emo Philips	Mar. 25 '18	Ohio Theatre	Cleveland
Weird Al Yankovic	Apr. 6-7 '18	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Westover, Skillet, NewSong, Building 429, Mallary Hope, Kari Jobe, KB,			
Dan Bremnes, Jordan Feliz, John Crist, Nick Hall	Mar. 30 '18	Allstate Arena	Rosemont, IL
<b>Whiskey Myers</b>	<b>Feb. 23 '18</b>	<b>Rusty Spur Saloon</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Who's Bad	Dec. 22	20 Monroe Live	Grand Rapids
Why?	Feb. 3 '18	Beachland Ballroom	Cleveland
Y&T	Mar. 1 '18	Agora Ballroom	Cleveland
Yumi Zourma	Jan. 17 '18	Schubas Tavern	Chicago

# Road Tripz

<b>Bulldogs</b>	
Jun 8 .....	Pork Rind Festival, Harrod, OH
Jun 10 .....	Callaway Park, Elwood
Jul 6 .....	Downtown Concert, Wabash
Jul 16 .....	Madison County Fair, Alexandria
Jul 28 .....	Hickory Acres Campground, Edgerton, OH
Jul 29 .....	Friends of Arts, Fort Recovery, OH
Aug 4 .....	State Line Festival, Union City
Aug 24 .....	Quincy Daze, Quincy, MI
Sep 6 .....	Covered Bridge Festival, Roann
Sep 15 .....	Apple Fest, Nappanee
Sep 21 .....	Ducktail Run, Gas City
Oct 20 .....	Bicentennial Fundraiser, Rockford, OH
<b>Cash &amp; The King</b>	
Dec 16 .....	Key Palace Theatre, Redkey
<b>Earpthorik</b>	
Dec 7 .....	Cosmic Charlie's, Lexington, KY
Dec 8 .....	Preservation Pub, Knoxville, TN
Dec 13 .....	Guanabanas, Jupiter, FL
Dec 14 .....	Ringside, St. Petersburg, FL
Dec 15 .....	The Roof, Daytona Beach, FL
Dec 17 .....	Dundin Brewery, Dunedin, FL
Dec 29 .....	Vegetable Buddies, South Bend
<b>Gypsy Bandit</b>	
Jan 12 .....	Czar's 505, St. Joseph
Jan 13 .....	Eagles Post 2246, Montpelier, OH
Mar 10 .....	Eagles Post 1291, Celina, OH
May 19 .....	Eagles Post 1291, Celina, OH
<b>Hubie Ashcraft Band</b>	
Dec 8 .....	Rulli's Bella Luna, Middlebury
Dec 15-16 .....	Cowboy Up, Mendon, MI
Dec 29-30 .....	Tequila Cowboy, Lansing
<b>Joe Justice</b>	
Dec 30 .....	Leisure Time Winery, Napoleon, OH



# Stunning Portrayal of Grief

Missouri is the "Show Me" state. In *Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri*, Mildred Hayes takes that a step further. After the gruesome death of her daughter and months of what she believes is inaction by the local authorities, she conducts a campaign that demands "show me results!" Her campaign for justice is fierce and frightening. Watching her pursue it is a harrowing but rewarding journey.

Aspiring screenwriters are told to start their story as close to the end as possible. Writer and director Martin McDonagh begins Mildred's story with her sitting on the road as evening falls gazing at three decrepit billboards. The next morning she strides into the rental office, plunks down her money and tells the agent what she wants.

The three billboards read: "Raped While Dying," "And Still No Arrests?," and "How Come Chief Willoughby?" Those are fighting words. Mildred makes few friends with her campaign, but she is so consumed by grief and anger she hardly cares.

For Frances McDormand, Mildred is the best role she's had, at least since her Oscar-winning turn in *Fargo* and maybe for her entire career. (Awards, or at least nominations, are in her future.) Her performance is real and believable even when Mildred's actions seem more than extreme. Mildred is sympathetic, though many of her actions are violent and unkind. How many characters kick school children in the crotch and still win your faith?

A particularly cruel condition she suffers is that no one in town takes much notice of her loss or offers her much sympathy. In many ways she is giving back only what she has been given. Her grief and bitterness are so consuming that she can barely



**Flix**  
**CATHERINE LEE**

acknowledge the grief and suffering of her son or her ex-husband.

She feels for them, but not much. Her son Robbie (Lucas Hedges) seems able to handle his mom's extreme behavior. Her ex has coped with his loss by taking up with a dim young woman so sweet that Mildred can't even be bothered by her, except to warn him not to beat up on her the way he beat her during their marriage.

Mildred is focusing her anger on the sheriff's office. Sheriff Willoughby (Woody Harrelson) has his reasons for not being any further along in finding the rapist/killer and a strategy behind his search for the culprit. He also pushes Mildred hard to back off, which isn't going to happen.

Willoughby also has some serious personal issues that interfere with giving his full attention to the investigation. He uses his personal troubles to try to dissuade Mildred from being so aggressive. She is having none of it, even after his troubles result in heartbreaking, disastrous consequences.

Inside the department is Dixon, a racist, homophobic, violent officer who has his own troubles. He lives with a mother who is even more racist and bullying than he is. Dixon is also drunk most of the time, and everyone knows it. Sam Rockwell delivers a staggering (pun intended) performance as Dixon.

*Continued on page 16*

# Tried and True Austen

Jane Austen's writing and characters stand up to the passage of time despite major changes in social norms. It's a good thing since her novels have had audiences, on the page, stage and screen, for nearly 200 years.



**Curtain Call**  
**KEVIN SMITH**

## PRIDE AND PREJUDICE

8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 7-9  
Williams Theatre, IPFW  
2101 E. Coliseum Blvd., Fort Wayne  
\$5-\$16, 260-481-6555

Because they have remained so popular between the Austen originals and creative adaptations, most know at least a few Austen characters.

A standout among them, of course, is Mr. Darcy, one of the central figures in a trio of love stories included in *Pride and Prejudice*, now being performed by IPFW's Department of Theatre. Darcy is the quintessential brooding, arrogant English landowner, and women for two centuries have loved him. Since Austen created the character, he has become an archetypal romantic hero. His strong personality is paired with that of the equally memorable Elizabeth (Lizzie) Bennet, from a (temporarily) comfortable family with five daughters needing husbands. Strong-willed and prideful Elizabeth, a delight to her father and a source of frustration to her money-grasping mother, takes an immediate dislike to Darcy, and her change of feeling requires a good many plot turns and twists involving two of the other Bennet sisters.

This adaptation by Marcus Goodwin, first staged in Seattle in 2000, is true to the original. Where it is unique is in its presentation of characters and narrative method, which has actors explaining elements of their characters and occasionally a plot development directly to the audience, in addition to playing a role. I am not sure I have ever seen this exact combination of what feel like asides and dialogue used as it is here. It works quite well and seems to save time by efficiently relaying details that would take longer to provide through other methods.

Assuming and retaining accents can probably be quite an undertaking, especially for young actors. Overall, the cast of does well with accents. Bob Haluska, who plays Mr. Bennet, is one of few in the cast who doesn't seem to attempt the British accent at all, which was a good call as he was consistently the easiest to hear. He projects a strong voice that serves him well whenever he appears on a local stage, and he always turns in a fun performance. Laura Laudeman, after playing an Englishwoman in *Blithe Spirit* a year or so ago, does a fantastic and consistent British accent as she assumes the role of Elizabeth.

With a couple of notable exceptions, the cast consists entirely of Department of Theatre students, many of whom I had not seen on stage before. All were good in their roles. Other than Haluska, Kate Black and Leslie Bryan were the only two non-student actors in the cast. The always-dazzling Black played the annoying Mrs. Bennet and clearly had a great time in the role.

Because the character of Darcy has been made almost a legend in the minds of romantics, playing him would be a little daunting. Senior Brock Graham has brooding down impressively and has a good chemistry with Laudeman's Elizabeth, who starts out well and just seems to get better with each scene. As Jane, the oldest and sweetest of the Bennet sisters, junior Corrie Taylor is perfect. She and Nicolas Alles, a freshman who appears on the IPFW stage for the first time and plays Jane's romantic interest Mr. Bingley, look terrific and have a sweet chemistry on stage.

The set by Robert Shoquist was simple and elegant, and it served scene changes effectively. Costumes by Jeanne Pendleton worked quite well, too. Craig A. Humphrey's direction was smooth throughout.

The only challenge I had with the performance was a problem hearing various actors' lines. In a couple of scenes during which a piano was playing, Elizabeth delivered several of her wittiest speeches, but they were barely audible. Other instances with projection of voices also made hearing lines difficult to impossible.

One possible danger of working with a beloved tale like this one is that other tellings of the same story may pop into the heads of audience members and momentarily distract. Having had as a last meeting with the Bennets and Mr. Darcy the surprisingly good film *Pride and Prejudice* and *Zombies* not long ago, I had hopes a couple of times that one or another Bennet sister might pull a dagger or a gun out of a petticoat to help battle zombies. Once I fully realized that this wasn't happening, I came to greatly enjoy IPFW's zombie-free production.

1kmsmith@frontier.com

# Coco Leads a Weak Box Office Lineup

**Tops at the Box:** Pixar's new animated hit, *Coco*, once again topped the U.S. weekend box office chart, selling a soft \$26 million over the fall weekend, upping the flick's 10-day U.S. sales total to just under \$109 million. So far *Coco* has sold about \$280 million worldwide. And sure, that sounds like a lot of money in 10 days, but for Pixar it's below average. That said, I've been hearing some great things about the film, so maybe it has something to do with the weather? Are adults still going to the theater to see kid's films, or is that a thing of the past? *Who cares, Greg?* Look for *Coco* to sell well for a few more weeks, then probably do very well on streaming services for a month or two, then be mostly forgotten. Because that's what happens anymore. We have so much good stuff to watch that we don't really cherish any of it. I'm not sure how to feel about that.

**Also at the Box:** That new Zack Snyder stinker, *Justice League*, took the No. 2 spot at last weekend's box office, selling another \$16.6 million and upping the film's 17-day U.S. sales total to \$197 million. The movie, said to have cost over \$700 million to produce and promote, has now sold \$567 million worldwide. Yeah, sure, it might break even when all is said and done, but maybe we need to have a conversation about budgeting, Hollywood.

Tearjerker *Wonder*, starring Julia Roberts and a little kid in a bunch of makeup, took the No. 3 spot, selling another \$12.5 million while bringing the film's worldwide total to over \$100 million. Is this a film we should be talking about as a potential Oscar nominee?



**ScreenTime**  
**GREG W. LOCKE**

Good director, legendary lead actress, my guy Owen Wilson and, of course, the hottest lil' tyke in Hollywood.

Late-year hit *Thor: Ragnarok* took the No. 4 spot at the box, selling another \$9.7 million and upping the flick's worldwide sales total to \$816 million. Rounding out last weekend's Top 5 was holiday-set ensemble comedy *Daddy's Home 2*, which sold another \$7.5 million, bringing the movie's four-week sales total to \$82 million. So it appears all those people who insisted that there was no forgiving Mel Gibson were correct. Buzz off, Mel.

**Also of note:** James Franco's said-to-be masterpiece, *The Disaster Artist*, opened on 19 screens, selling \$1.2 million over its first three days of release. Not bad, Franco. Oh, and two other very promising indie flicks, Guillermo del Toro's *The Shape of Water* and Woody Allen's *Wonder Wheel*, are both playing in limited release right now as well. Both are getting good reviews and certainly have strong trailers. There are a lot of industry insiders, writers, critics and podcasters who are suddenly suggesting that *The Shape of Water* could be a huge hit come awards season. I

*Continued on page 16*



# Charlie Brown's Holiday Spirit

On December 9, 1965, CBS aired the original broadcast of *A Charlie Brown Christmas*, and a holiday tradition was born. Since then, its annual airings, jazzy Vince Guaraldi music, myriad of tie-in toys and Hallmark ornaments have become as much a part of Christmas as Bing Crosby and Santa.

But did you know it almost didn't happen? It was Coca-Cola who, in summer 1965, first approached Peanuts creator Charles Schulz about a Christmas special. With nothing prepared, he quickly crafted a single page (triple-spaced!) outline. When Coke surprisingly green-lit the proposal, Schulz and his team produced the entire show in just three hectic months. Then, when producers, sponsors and network executives finally viewed the finished product a week before airtime, everyone agreed it was, good grief, destined for failure. However, CBS agreed to air the special once – mostly because it was already paid for. The rest is history.

By the next day, *A Charlie Brown Christmas* was hailed as a classic, and it has aired every year for 52 years.

Charlie Brown was certainly a cherished part of my childhood Christmases. This was back in the days when the whole family gathered around one television set which, even with cable, only got 30 channels! I fondly recall snuggling up with my family on cold winter evenings to watch it, *Garfield's Christmas*, *Rudolph's Shiny New Year*, *The Year Without a Santa Claus* and more.

Imagine then my delight when I recently discovered that *A Charlie Brown Christmas* had been adapted for the stage! When I joined the staff of



## Director's Notes

**CHRISTOPHER J. MURPHY**

Youtheatre last year, the show seemed like such a natural fit to join our rotation of family holiday classics. Few shows I've worked on in recent years have made me as giddy as this one, and I'm clearly not the only one.

Some 140 wonderful young actors auditioned for this production, and the cast we have assembled is truly top-notch. Along with Ben Wedler (piano),

Dan Katter (drums) and Tom Neumann (bass) playing Vince Guaraldi's unforgettable music, they'll bring the tale of everyone's favorite blockhead and his quest to find the true meaning of Christmas to vivid life on-stage this December.

A half-century after the debut of *A Charlie Brown Christmas*, the world is a very different

place. With schedules spread thin and attention spans even thinner, families seldom find the time to gather "just to watch a cartoon."

One thing hasn't changed though: Christmas certainly hasn't gotten any less commercial. Today more than ever, we're all like Charlie Brown, looking for something deeper and more meaningful.

So if it's been a while since you and your family or friends have sat by the Christmas tree to watch *A Charlie Brown Christmas*, come to the theater together and experience it in a whole new way. I promise you'll leave with a little more joy in your heart. Then go spread that joy – the world needs it.

## A CHARLIE BROWN CHRISTMAS

FORT WAYNE YOUTHEATRE

7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 8 & Dec. 15

12 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 9

2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10 &

Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 16-17

First Presbyterian Theater

300 W. Main St., Fort Wayne

\$15-\$20, 260-422-4226,

[www.fortwayneyoutheatre.org](http://www.fortwayneyoutheatre.org)

## FLIX - From Page 15

The stories of the cops are fascinating subplots, perfect complements to the misery of Mildred. All the minor characters in *Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri* make their presence known. Peter Dinklage delivers a ridiculously charming performance as someone willing to help Mildred as best he can.

*Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri* is first and foremost a character study. Dinklage's character must have been written for him. As Martin McDonough has said, "By the time one of my scripts goes into production, I've been sitting with it for seven years, and every one of those lines is carefully chosen. If you signed on to do my script, you're doing my script, and that's the end of it." You can feel the truth of that throughout the film.

But these characters are engaged in playing out a

suspenseful story, one that keeps you guessing. Early in the film, Mildred gives an insect a boost, so you assume that underneath it all she will be forgiving and choose life. But that assumption is challenged again and again throughout the film.

*Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri* isn't a feel-good movie, unless your idea of fun is being punched repeatedly in the stomach and the head.

The experience of *Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri* is intense and suspenseful. The cinematography and music ratchet up the emotional punch. There is just enough hope to let you walk out of the theater with a glimmer of hope and a healthy appreciation for the numerous talents it takes to make such a gripping portrait of human frailty.

[ckdexterhaven@earthlink.net](mailto:ckdexterhaven@earthlink.net)

## SCREENTIME - From Page 15

believe it.

**New This Week:** Ron Shelton's new comedy, *Just Getting Started*, starring Morgan Freeman, Tommy Lee Jones and Rene Russo, opens wide this weekend. But that's not really what's on people's minds right now. Mostly people are watching football and Netflix right now.

In addition to the Shelton flick, *The Disaster Artist* will see a wide expansion, hitting most cities around

the country, while comedy *I, Tonya* begins to test on four screens. Next week will see the release of probably the biggest film of the year, Rian Johnson's *Star Wars: The Last Jedi*, and yes, I am very much looking forward to that. I like Johnson, I like this new *Star Wars* cast and I've only heard amazing things. Some "insiders" I know even think it could be a serious Best Picture contender this year. I dunno about that.

[griegwlocke@gmail.com](mailto:griegwlocke@gmail.com)

# Dickens with a Twist

Imagine.

This one word is a direct order from the cast of this new adaptation of Charles Dickens' classic holiday tale *A Christmas Carol* from author Jack Cantey. The seven-member cast, who begin by introducing themselves with their real name and their various parts (I'll get to that), request that the audience imagine the scenery, the setting, and the situation.



## Curtain Call

**STEVE LIVELY**

## DICKENS' A CHRISTMAS CAROL

7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 9 & 16

6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10 & 17

First Presbyterian Theater

300 W. Wayne St., Fort Wayne

\$10-\$20, 260-426-7421 ext. 121

Of course, it is highly likely that anyone reading this is also familiar with the Dickens story that tackles greed and benevolence as the life of Ebenezer Scrooge is examined through the past, present and future. Thus, it becomes a challenge for any adaptation to stand out unless it has with it some clever artistic liberties.

It was Dickens' language that thrilled Cantey as he prepared this script, although he notes that the actors were without an "established, unchanging text" prior to this premiere run. The inventiveness of this new adaptation calls for less attention to elaborate stage design and costume changes and much more focus toward pinpointing the essence and key phrasings from Dickens' original tale. It should be noted that Sophia Young's set is exquisitely designed for Cantey's vision. The stage suggests a frosty winterscape along with a projected yellow image at the top-center that will play its own small role throughout the performance.

The seven-member cast is chock full of locally grown talent. Because various scenes from Scrooge's life are presented, each of the four male members of the cast play a version of the infamous penny-pincher. Simultaneously, each of the three female cast members successfully complement these scenes through strong renditions of multiple significant characters.

FPT veteran Scott McMeen, while playing the eldest Scrooge, captures the essence of the burdened man in the counting-house and convincingly exhibits the likeable man who redeems himself with his remaining family. Rachel Dostal's dynamic Ghost of Christmas Past and lovable Tiny Tim characters serve as the adhesive to this compacted adaptation.

Billy Hofman takes on a younger Scrooge, Old Joe and Fezziwig, who again serves as crowd favorite. Kyle Nelson, who recently performed in *An American Lynching: The Emmet Till Story* in Indianapolis, excels as Bob Cratchit throughout the play, but his six other roles are not to be dismissed. Kendallville native Allison Brandgard serves as the Movement Director as well as six total characters, most notably as Belle and the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come. The overall choreography of this performance, led by Brandgard, is among its best features. Ashley Shewman shows off her advanced acting chops with performances as Fred Scrooge and Belle, but her strongest presence is as Mrs. Cratchit. Lastly, Fort Wayne's own Dalen West does an extraordinary job in his laundry list of roles, including a very humorous man-child who is summoned to purchase some poultry. As The Reader throughout the play, West further provides textual notes that serve audience members young and old.

Christina Connelly, the Assistant Director, also reads the voice-overs. These short lines occur at the beginning of each scene and work quite well as a short preview to the forthcoming action. Jeanette Walsh's costumes are predominantly simplistic blacks and whites which evoke a subtle nod to common oppositions found in all art: life vs. death and good vs. evil. The technical director is Rae Surface, who has loved being involved with FPT during this, her first season.

Even though Cantey admits he was hesitant to write this adaptation along with FPT's Managing Artistic Director Thom Hofrichter because so many adaptations exist, he states in his program notes that both of them wanted to tell this holiday tale "in a fresh way."

This fresh approach is immediately apparent as the entire cast hauntingly discusses a recent death during the opening scene. Over the next 90 minutes, the audience is whisked away through the pages of the famous author while a visually aesthetic experience unfolds before them. Through the use of creative staging, lighting, and puppetry, Cantey has created a stirring, modern take on the classic tale.

[steve.lively@gmail.com](mailto:steve.lively@gmail.com)



## Now Playing

**A CHARLIE BROWN CHRISTMAS** — Fort Wayne Youtheatre's Christmas musical featuring Charles Schultz's comic strip characters and the music of Vince Guaraldi, 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 8; 12 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 9; 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10; 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 15; 2 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 16-17, First Presbyterian Theater, Fort Wayne, \$12-\$20, 426-4226

**A CHRISTMAS CAROL** — An adaptation of Charles Dickens' classic Christmas tale about the redemption of Ebenezer Scrooge and the spirit of Christmas, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 9; 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10; 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 16; 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 17, First Presbyterian Theater, Fort Wayne, \$10-\$20, 426-7421 ext. 121

**DREAM CRUISE** — Beach-themed performances from South Side High School and other guest schools' dance programs, 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 7, Fort Wayne Dance Collective, \$5-\$10, 424-6574

**MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET** — Meredith Wilson's musical based on the classic Christmas movie of the same name, 7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 8-9; 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10; 7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 15-16; 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 17, Wagon Wheel Theatre, Warsaw, \$18-\$38, 574-267-8041

**THE NUTCRACKER** — Fort Wayne Ballet's annual production of the Tchaikovsky holiday classic, 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Dec. 7-8; 2:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 9; 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10, Arts United Center, Fort Wayne, \$17-\$40, 422-4226

**PETER AND THE STARCATCHER** — Musical comedy adapted from Dave Barry and Ridley Pearson's novel that upends the century-old story of how Peter Pan came to be, 7 p.m. dinner, 8 p.m. curtain, Friday-Saturday, Dec. 8-9; 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10; 7 p.m. dinner, 8 p.m. curtain, Friday-Saturday, Dec. 15-16, Arena Dinner Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$40 (includes dinner & show), 424-5622

**PRIDE AND PREJUDICE** — IPFW Department of Theatre presents Marcus Goodwin's adaptation of Jane Austen's novel of manners, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 1-2; 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 3; 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 7-9, Williams Theatre, IPFW, \$5-\$16 thru IPFW box office, 481-6555

## Asides

### EVENTS

**BREAKFAST WITH SANTA PRESHOW PARTY** — Breakfast, photos with Santa, meet-and-greet characters from Fort Wayne Youtheatre's *A Charlie Brown Christmas* and more, 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 9, McKay Hall, First Presbyterian Theater, Fort Wayne, \$25-\$30, 422-4226

## Upcoming Productions

### DECEMBER

**RUDOLPH THE RED-NOSED REINDEER** — Broadway at the Embassy production based on the popular holiday television show, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 14, Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$25-\$55 thru Ticketmaster and Embassy box office, 424-5665

**CAROL OF THE KING** — Irish dancers tell a Christmas story of love and salvation, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 16, Honeywell Center, Wabash, \$8-\$26, 563-1102

**BABES IN TOYLAND** — Fort Wayne Dance Collective's annual December program loosely based on Victor Herbert's popular operetta, 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 17, South Side High School auditorium, \$13-\$15, 424-6574

**A VERY ELECTRIC CHRISTMAS** — Lightwire Theatre's electroluminescent Christmas show, 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 17, Honeywell Center, Wabash, \$9-\$14, 563-1102

### JANUARY

**THE WIZARD OF OZ** — Family musical based on the L. Frank Baum classic children's story, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 3, Honeywell Center, Wabash, \$35-\$45, 563-1102

**RED** — John Logan's drama about an abstract expressionist artist commissioned to paint a series of murals for New York's Four Seasons Restaurant, a commission that could prove to be his undoing, 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Jan. 4-6 and Friday-Saturday, Jan. 12-13; 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 14; 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Jan. 19-20, First Presbyterian Theater, Fort Wayne, \$10-\$20, 426-7421 ext. 121

**FAUSTUS** — Shakespearemachine's production of Christopher Marlowe tragedy uses masks and puppetry backed by a live heavy metal soundtrack, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Jan. 5-6; 6 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 7; 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Jan. 12-13; 6 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 14; 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Jan. 19-20; 6 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 21, PPG ArtsLab, Auer Center for Arts & Culture, Fort Wayne, \$10-\$15 thru artstix.org, 422-4226

**SHOPKINS LIVE! SHOP IT UP!** — Family entertainment based on the children's toy brand, 4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 14, Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$17-\$37 thru Ticketmaster and Embassy box office, 424-5665

**THE SOUND OF MUSIC** — Broadway at the Embassy production of the classic musical about the Von Trapp Family Singers, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 17 Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$35-\$65 thru Ticketmaster and Embassy box office, 424-5665

**THE STATE BALLET THEATRE OF RUSSIA PRESENTS SLEEPING BEAUTY** — Classic Tchaikovsky ballet performed by some of Russia's greatest ballet stars, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 18, Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$38-\$58 thru Ticketmaster and Embassy box office, 424-5665

**DANIEL TIGER'S NEIGHBORHOOD: KING FOR A DAY** — Family entertainment featuring characters from the popular PBS television series, 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 25, Honeywell Center, Wabash, \$19-\$29 (add \$25 for VIP meet-and-greet), 563-1102

**A LIFE IN THE THEATRE** — David Mamet's comedy that examines the lives of two actors at different stages of their careers, 7 p.m. dinner, 8 p.m. curtain, Jan. 19-20, Jan. 26-27 and Feb. 2-3, Arena Dinner Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$40 (includes dinner & show), 424-5622

## FEBRUARY

**YOUNG HARRIET TUBMAN** — Fort Wayne Youtheatre production based on the life of the famed abolitionist and U.S. Army spy, written and directed by Gregory Stieber as part of FWYT's Linda Ruffolo Young Heroes of Conscience series, 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 2; 2 p.m. & 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 3; 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 4 (special school shows at Wayne High School, 9:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m. Monday, Feb. 5; \$7/student, one free adult for every 10 students), Black Box Theatre, PPG ArtsLab, Fort Wayne, \$12-\$18, 422-4226



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## Current

**50+ HOLIDAY DINNER AND LIGHT TOUR** — Dinner, holiday music, performance by Alley Kats dancing troupe and bus tours of downtown Fort Wayne and Fantasy of Lights at Franke Park, **5:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 11** (paid reservations due by Dec. 4), Community Center, Fort Wayne, \$14, 427-6460

**FORT WAYNE CITY OF CHURCHES TOUR** — Tour of 17 area churches, live music and refreshments, **6-10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 9**, various locations, Fort Wayne, free, 579-0447

**HOLIDAY JEWELS** — ARCH fundraiser with food from Club Soda, drinks and silent auction, **6-9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 8**, Vermilyea House, Fort Wayne, \$45-\$55, 426-5117

**HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE** — Casual review of 2017 accomplishments and preview of some of the initiatives slated for 2018, **11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 7**, Downtown Improvement District, Fort Wayne, free, please RSVP, 420-3266

**HOLIDAY PHOTO BOOTH** — Family, individual and pet photos by BT Manning Photography to benefit Allen County Christmas Bureau, **12-5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10**, Jefferson Pointe, Fort Wayne, donation, 710-2163

**PEARL HARBOR DAY REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY** — Memorial ceremony to mark the 76th anniversary of the bombing of Pearl Harbor, **7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 7**, Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, free, 705-9901

## Holiday Events

**BREAKFAST WITH SANTA** — Meet and greet with Fort Wayne Youtheatre's Peanuts gang, breakfast with Santa and Mrs. Claus, holiday sing-a-long and more, **10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 9**, McCay Hall, First Presbyterian Theater, Fort Wayne, \$25-\$30, 422-6900

**SANTA BRUNCH** — Brunch with Santa, **10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 17**, Honeywell Center, Wabash, \$6.95-\$14.95, 563-1102

**BREAKFAST WITH ST. NICHOLAS** — Breakfast, learning activities focused on the legacy of St. Nicholas and pictures with St. Nicholas, **9:45 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 9**, North Campus Auditorium, University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne, \$6-\$10, www.stnicholas2017.eventbrite.com or 399-8051

**FANTASY OF LIGHTS** — Drive thru animated Christmas lighting displays with interactive tune in radio program, **6-9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 7; 6-10 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 8-9; 6-9 p.m. Sunday-Thursday, Dec. 10-14; 6-10 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 15-16; 6-9 p.m. Sunday-Thursday, Dec. 17-21; 6-10 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 22-23; 6-9 p.m. Sunday-Thursday, Dec. 24-28; 6-10 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 29-30 and 6-9 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 31**, Franke Park, Fort Wayne, \$10 personal vehicles (cars and mini-vans), \$20 commercial vans (8-15 passengers), \$40 (buses or trolleys, 15-plus passengers), 744-1900

**FESTIVAL OF GINGERBREAD** — Gingerbread houses and creations on display, children's activities and more, **9 a.m.-5 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 7; 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 8-9 and 12-5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10**, History Center, Fort Wayne, \$6-\$8, 426-2882

**KWANZAA CELEBRATION** — Live music, dancing, poetry, Kwanzaa feast, vendors and more, **6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 28**, Weissner Park Youth Center, Fort Wayne, free, 467-8875

**SANTA & LIVE REINDEER** — Santa and live reindeer and access to the Snow Days exhibit and Garden in Lights exhibit, **12-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 9 and 12-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 16**, Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory, Fort Wayne, \$3-\$5, 427-6440

**VISIT SANTA'S REINDEER** — Up close visits with live reindeer and Santa, **12-2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 9; Saturday, Dec. 16 and Saturday, Dec. 24**, Jefferson Pointe, Fort Wayne, free, 459-1160

**WALK TO BETHLEHEM** — Live scenes depicting the story of Jesus's birth, spice and bread vendors, Roman soldiers, census taker, potter and spinner of wool, **5:30-7:30 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 9-10**, First Christian Church, Fort Wayne, free, 744-3239

## Lectures, Discussions, Authors, Readings & Films

**INCARNATE WISDOM SCRIPTURE** — Philosophy and Theology lecture by Sr. Felicity Dorsett, **3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10**, North Campus Auditorium, University of St. Francis, Fort Wayne, free, 399-8050

**ACRES LAND TRUST: PRESERVING PLACES AND THEIR HISTORY** — George R. Mather lecture with Jason Kissel, **2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 7**, History Center, Fort Wayne, free, 426-2882

**BACK TO THE FUTURE** — Screening of 1985 film with pre-show Grande Page organ performance, **7:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 19**, Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$10, 424-5665

**THE WIZARD OF OZ** — Screening of 1939 classic with pre-show Grande Page organ performance, **2:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 20**, Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$10, 424-5665

**THE FORT WAYNE COLORED GIANTS** — George R. Mather lecture with Dr. Alfred Brothers Jr., **2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 4**, History Center, Fort Wayne, free, 426-2882

**FROM TROUBLED TEEN TO RHODES SCHOLAR: THE TRANSFORMATIVE POWER OF EDUCATION** — Omnibus lecture with best selling author and CEO Wes Moore, **7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 7**, Auer Auditorium, IPFW, Fort Wayne, free, tickets required, 481-6100

**CASABLANCA** — Screening of original 1942 film Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman with pre-show Grande Page organ performance, **7:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 10**, Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$10, 424-5665

**2018 SERVUS OMNIUM** — Opening blessing from Bishop Kevin Rhoades, Mardi Gras style breakfast and presentation of "Faith and Business" by Dr. Andrew Abela, **7 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 13**, USF Robert Goldstine Performing Arts Center, Fort Wayne, 10-\$15, 399-8112

## 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

**WAYNEDEALE 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

**RAISING EARL** — Children's holiday book reading with author Frederika Shawgo, **1-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2**, The Art Studio Holiday Gallery, Jefferson Pointe, Fort Wayne, free, 916-397-7598

**STORIES FOR THE DARKEST DAY** — Winter Solstice storytime, **6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 21**, Main Branch, Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, free, 421-1220

## Kids Stuff

**HARRY POTTER PARTY** — Games and crafts inspired by Harry Potter and friends for grades 6-12, **6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 20**, Meeting Room A, Main Branch, Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, free, 421-1255

**WINTER WONDERLAND PRESCHOOL FUN** — Art and crafts and other winter themed activities for preschool age children, **9 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 21**, Community Center, Fort Wayne, \$14, 427-6460

**COUNTDOWN TO NOON** — New Year's themed activities and annual balloon drop, **10 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 31**, Science Central, Fort Wayne, \$9, 424-2400

## Instruction

**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

**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

**WATERCOLOR INSTRUCTION** — Artist Tom DeSomer of DeSomer Fine Art Studio offers watercolor painting instruction **6:30-8:30 p.m. the first four Thursdays of each month**, Indiana Wesleyan University, Fort Wayne, \$144 for four two-hour classes, 805-328-8336, www.desomerart.com/classes

## Tours and Trips

**IRELAND, LONDON AND PARIS** — USF School of Creative Arts trip to visit the Rock of Cashel, Dublin City Gallery, Victoria and Albert Museum, Eiffel Tower and more; college course credit available, **May 7-18**, University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne, \$4400-\$4650, jnix@sf.edu

## Trivia

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

**TEAM TRIVIA** — Trivia for teams of up to 6 players, **7 p.m. Tuesdays**, Rack & Helen's, New Haven, free, 749-5396

**TEAM TRIVIA** — Trivia for teams of up to 6 players, **8 p.m. Thursdays**, Crazy Pinz/Coconutz, 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

## Sports and Recreation

**GINGERBREAD PURSUIT 4 MILER** — Holiday themed 4 mile race, **8:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 9**; race begins at Cinema Center, Fort Wayne, \$25, 435-9524

## Spectator Sports

### BASKETBALL

**MAD ANTS** — Upcoming home games at Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne  
**Saturday, Dec. 16** vs. Grand Rapids, 7 p.m.  
**Monday, Dec. 18** vs. Greensboro, 7 p.m.  
**Thursday, Dec. 21** vs. Long Island, 7 p.m.  
**Tuesday, Dec. 26** vs. Westchester, 7 p.m.  
**Saturday, Dec. 30** vs. Grand Rapids, 7 p.m.  
**Friday, Jan. 5** vs. Chicago, 7 p.m.  
**Sunday, Jan. 7** vs. Lakeland, 5 p.m.

**HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS** — Exhibition basketball game against the Washington Generals, **1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 4**, Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, \$12-\$66, 483-1111

### HOCKEY

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

**Saturday, Dec. 9** vs. Quad City, 7:30 p.m.

**Sunday, Dec. 10** vs. Orlando, 5 p.m.  
**Friday, Dec. 15** vs. Indy, 8 p.m.

**Saturday, Dec. 23** vs. Quad City, 7:30 p.m.

**Friday, Dec. 29** vs. Wheeling, 8 p.m.

**Sunday, Dec. 31** vs. Toledo, 7:30 p.m.

**Wednesday, Jan. 3** vs. Kalamazoo, 7:30 p.m.

**Saturday, Jan. 6** vs. Indy, 7:30 p.m.

## Dance

**EMBODY DANCE** — Guided dancing for adults of all ages and abilities to exercise the mind, body and spirits, **10:50 a.m.-12:23 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, **8:45-11 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 9**, Walb Classic Ballroom, IPFW, Fort Wayne, \$10, ftdancesport.org

**CONTRA DANCE** — Old time dance with live caller and live music from Spy Run String Band, no partner necessary, **8-11 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 16**, Fort Wayne Dance Collective, Fort Wayne, \$6-\$9, 244-1905

## December

**HAWAIIAN HOLIDAY LUAU** — Tropical themed buffet and music by Island Vibe, **6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 16**, Legacy Hall, Honeywell Center, Wabash, \$25, 563-1102

**CHEER MAX CHRISTMAS CHEER** — Cheer leading and dance competitions, vendor booths and Coats for Kids coat drive, **10 a.m.-8 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 17**, Grand Wayne Center, Fort Wayne, \$5-\$10 (937) 903-2028

**BOAR'S HEAD & YULE LOG FESTIVAL** — Orchestra, choir and handbell music, costumes and how the story of the Christ Child spread through the middle ages told by over 250 participants, **5:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 29-30**, Plymouth Congregational Church, Fort Wayne, free, tickets required, 423-9424

**RUMBLE IN FORT WAYNE** — Indoor racing of midget cars, 600cc, winged and non-winged midgets, go-karts and more, **7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 29-30**, Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, \$10-\$24, 483-1111

**ANIMAL ENRICHMENT DAY** — Christmastime celebration featuring enrichment activities for animal residents, hot cocoa & coffee and light snacks, **1-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 30**, Black Pine Animal Sanctuary, Albion, \$7-\$15, 636-7383

**NEW YEAR'S EVE BALL DROP** — Live music, fireworks, countdown and ball drop, **7 p.m.-12 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 31**, Parkview Field, Fort Wayne, free, 760-9494

## January

**SAVOR FORT WAYNE** — Twelve days of menu deals, all under \$30, from dozens of Fort Wayne-area restaurants, **Tuesday-Sunday, Jan. 10-21**, 424-3700

**MIZPAH SHRINE CIRCUS** — Three ring circus featuring clowns, aerial acts, acrobats and more, **6:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 25; 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 26; 10 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 27; 1 p.m. and 5:45 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 28**, Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, \$14-\$22, 483-1111



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