

whatzup

SAVOR LOCAL FLAVOR

SAVOR FORT
WAYNE OPENS
DOORS TO
49 LOCAL
RESTAURANTS
**GET THE LIST
ON PAGE 3**

Your source for
local music and
entertainment

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ENTHUSIASM AND WORLD-CLASS
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FROM PIXAR TO *THE ASSISTANT*
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COVER PHOTO BY KELLY BENTON



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Kickstart the year at local restaurants

Savor Fort Wayne gets 2021 off to great start

BY MICHELE DeVINNEY

WHATZUP FEATURES WRITER

Each year, Savor Fort Wayne helps to relieve the post-holiday doldrums by providing an excuse to check out the amazingly diverse and delicious dining options available in our city.

With specials designed to encourage visiting new places, Savor has helped build up business for restaurants that are always trying to expand their clientele.

FLEXIBILITY FOR THE CHALLENGE

Savor Fort Wayne had been originally designed to get people into the doors, limiting the specials to dine-in only.

But with the challenges restaurants were facing in 2020 — and much of Visit Fort Wayne's programming canceled due to the pandemic — a new summer edition was hatched, one which allowed for both dine-in and carryout options, bringing in people who were perhaps not yet comfortable with eating inside a restaurant.

"The summer edition of Savor Fort Wayne came at a good time," said Tim Willis, general manager of Eddie Merlot's. "Restaurants had just reopened and we were all unsure how busy we'd be.

"I feel that Savor was an additional enticement for guests to take those first, tentative steps into the post-shutdown world and gave us a chance to show them all of the protocols that we have in place for their, and our staff's, safety. It was a boost of confidence that the public and restaurants needed and provided a 'normalcy' that we all needed to see."

CAPACITY AND CARRY-OUTS

This year, as restaurants have had to step back again with additional capacity restrictions, there are more unknowns.

And with outdoor dining no longer an option for many places, Visit Fort Wayne has approached Savor 2021 with the flexibility that allowed for options as diners again question how comfortable they are eating out.

"We were super thrilled with the feedback we got after the Summer Savor," Emily Stuck, programs and events manager for Visit Fort Wayne, said in the weeks leading up to this month's Savor.

"The response was so heartfelt, and the success of summer made me feel very positive about what we were doing with this year's Savor. There are a lot of places that were new



PHOTO BY LUCAS CARTER

in the summer that have joined again for this January. Unfortunately we're back to 50 percent capacity, and we've lost outdoor dining.

"We're still including carryout among the options, and restaurant staffs are working hard to make people feel safe dining in. We're also really encouraging people to buy gift cards to help these businesses until people feel safe eating out again."

There are 49 restaurants participating this year, including 11 new restaurants and an additional location for perennial participant Shigs In Pit.

From January 13-24 — a span which includes two weekends — the restaurants will offer three-course meals for special prices.

Stuck said there are other offerings to sweeten the pot.

"We're going to have other promotions also," she said. "We have overnight hotel packages because many of our hotels have been struggling, too. We had a lot of great programming and special events planned in 2020 that would have brought people to our hotels and restaurants, and all of that was canceled. So we really want to give them opportunities to bring in some business."

STEPPING UP THE SAFETY

Having had success with the Summer Savor, Eddie Merlot's is happy to participate again this January, particularly given its somewhat



PHOTO BY KELLY BENTON

SAVOR FORT WAYNE

Wednesday, Jan. 13-Sunday, Jan. 24

Sponsored by Visit Fort Wayne
(260) 424-3700

PARTICIPATING RESTAURANTS

Shopping bag symbol indicates carryout is available

2Toms Brewing Co. & Full Circle BBQ
Alto Grado
Arcos Restaurante Mexicano
BakerStreet Steakhouse
Black Canyon
Burger Bar
Catablu Grille
Chance Bar
Chops Steaks and Seafood
Chops Wine Bar
Club Room at the Clyde Theatre
Club Soda
Copper Spoon
Don Hall's Factory
Don Hall's Gas House
Don Hall's Takaoka
Don Hall's Tavern at Coventry
Eddie Merlot's
Garden Grille at Hilton Garden Inn SW
The Hoppy Gnome
Junk Ditch Brewing Company
Kanela Blended Drinks, Coffee, & Bites

older clientele.

"We're hoping that the January Savor Fort Wayne will have the same effect [as the summer Savor]," Willis said. "We've remained very diligent in our safety protocols and are doing our best to weather the second wave.

"We understand that it's a strange time for everyone to navigate, and we want to assure our guests that we are doing everything that we can to help them be comfortable, and confident, in dining out."

Although Summer Savor was a success,

La Fogata Mexican Restaurant
The Landing Beer Company
Mad Anthony Brewing Company
Mi Pueblo Mexican Restaurant
Nawa Inspired Asian Cuisine
Nori Asian Fusion Cuisine
The Oyster Bar
Próximo
Pub @ 1802
Red Mango
Ruth's Chris Steak House
Ryu's Kitchen
Shigs In Pit: Fairfield Avenue
Shigs In Pit: Illinois Road
Shigs In Pit: Maplecrest Road
SolBird Kitchen and Tap
Summit City Brewwerks
Summit Grill
Sweets on Main
Teds Beerhall
Three Fires Pizza
Three Rivers Co-Op Deli
Three Rivers Distilling Company
Tolon
Trolley Steaks and Seafood
Trubble Brewing
Umi Fort Wayne
The Venice Restaurant
Ziffles Rib Bar

Stuck said that there are no plans to repeat the event this upcoming summer, hoping instead that things will return to normal by fall for one of Visit Fort Wayne's biggest annual events.

"We are not planning another Savor for summer because we're going to begin focusing on Be a Tourist in Your Own Hometown," Stuck said.

"We hated to have to cancel last year's, and we're excited to begin planning for people to be out and visiting our local attractions this fall."

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Distribution

Whatzup is distributed once per week at more than 650 locations in nine counties — Allen, Whitley, Noble, Wells, Adams, Huntington, Wabash, Kosciusko, Dekalb, and Steuben. *Whatzup* is distributed on Wednesdays and Thursdays by Whatzup LLC.

Back issues

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

Calendar listings

Must be received by noon Monday the week of publication for inclusion in that week's issue and, space permitting, will run until the week of the event. Calendar information is published as far in advance as space permits and should be submitted as early as possible. *Whatzup* makes every effort to authenticate claims and accurate times and event locations. We encourage readers to verify information prior to attending events or purchasing tickets.

Advertising

Space reservations and ads requiring proofs due by no later than the Monday 10 days prior to publication. Camera-ready or digital ad copy required by noon Friday the week before publication. E-mail info@whatzup.com or call (260) 407-3198.

Enthusiasm, world-class tools create quality music

Soundbar Studios offers next-level workshop

BY CHRIS HUPE

WHATZUP FEATURES WRITER

Located just a few hundred feet southwest of the Memorial Coliseum, there isn't much on the outside of the building that houses Soundbar Studios, other than the name on the door, that would indicate it contains an elite recording studio inside.

However, when you open the door to 3943 Parnell Ave., you are immersed in what can only be described as a world-class music workshop.

BRINGING EXPERIENCE

Soundbar Studios may seem fairly new to the scene, having been open under that name for just a couple of years. But the business used to be known as Crush House Entertainment Studios, established in 2011, undergoing a name change when they took over the Ditracks studio in 2019.

Owner Jeb Bartley jumped at the chance to expand his business and take it to the next level when Ditracks became available, immediately recognizing that the expertise of former Ditracks owner Dan Middleton would bring additional credibility and business to the studio. Middleton is well known around the local scene, working with many of the area's top bands and artists while also spending a good amount of time travelling around the United States setting up studios and installing equipment.

Zack Davidson, Soundbar's other main engineer, is no slouch himself as he has years of experience working in commercial studios in Atlanta, Las Vegas, Indianapolis, and Costa Mesa, and taught Music Technology at the Sweetwater Academy of Music.

The pairing with Middleton creates a complete team as each brings something different to the table in terms of production and sound development, allowing for many options when an artist enters the studio.

"They are both very talented and that's why we like having both of them here," Bartley said in a recent interview with *Whatzup*.

PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES

Bartley and company take pride in treating each artist as a unique business, so they always want to



COURTESY PHOTO

try to do what is best for the artists, whether it's utilizing their artist development tools, providing opportunities for skills development, or simply offering good, sound advice based on years and years of experience in the industry.

Under the Crush House moniker, Bartley said the company was focused mostly on artist development.

While Crush House is still available to do that, Soundbar Studios is more focused on giving that hands-on, personal touch to every artist, helping them make the best recordings they can make.

"We focus on artist talents and what they want to do with their business," Bartley said. "We want the artists to make this their studio and have the ability to do anything and everything that any studio in New York, L.A., or Nashville can do."

OFFERING SPACES AND TOOLS

Soundbar Studios is equipped with everything you need to create a world-class recording.

The state of the art work space houses a myriad of microphones and instruments, updated Pro Tools, and the best plug-ins that both Davidson and Middleton have mastered.

There are two main studios with different attributes, a drum room that is big enough to house a whole band if needed, LED programmable lights in each room so artists can set the mood that best fits them, and plenty of room for future expansion.

Bartley handles the business side of things in the attached office that also serves as the headquarters of his other business, Contact Financial Services. He has been in music all his life, singing and performing since he was three. While he devotes a lot of time to his financial business, he also has had a busy night life as part of several bands over the years, including Crush, from which the Crush House name was spawned.

He is also the organizer of the Crooked Lake Sandbar Music Festival, the second largest music festival in the United States that takes place solely on water.

When an artist calls the Soundbar Studios

to ask how much it costs to record, Bartley tells them that there are no set fees.

The cost "depends on what you want, who you want and how we can even help you," he said. "Our engineers decide what is best for the artists and bands and we personalize a package just for them."

He says it would be rare for them to advertise anything like recording a song for "X" amount of dollars because "it just doesn't do the artist any justice." What they want may cost more or less than expected.

"We don't want to waste their time and money on something if it's not exactly what they want," Bartley said. "We specialize in creating something for them that they are going to use and will further them in their development."

CREATING ENTHUSIASM

Artists that have recently used Soundbar Studios to record include punk rockers B-Movie Monsters, local country stars The Band Cheyenne, multi-genre Tara Renee, rappers e3 and 2RQ, singer/songwriter Jon Durnell, and rockers Hell Came Home and Downstait.

In short, they can work in just about any genre.

Durnell described the studio in a recent interview as having "some of the best gear around" and "some of the best ears around," which, he says, "is really the heart of a quality studio."

Durnell works mostly with Middleton when he records and says that Middleton "is a perfectionist that will always go the extra mile. It's important to him that whatever leaves his studio sounds the best that it possibly can."

Bartley said that the reason the studio creates enthusiasm is because musicians "come here to be treated like an artist and not a transaction."

"We want to be a relational business and that's what we're known for," he said. "When you come here, you feel like part of a family. It's a relationship. I'm not saying we've got the best of this or the best of that, but we have everything that any band or any artist would need or want in order to record a radio quality album."

Nightlife

469 Comedy: Fort Wayne Comedy Club

Comedy • 1324 Minnich Road, New Haven • (260) 426-6339
EXPECT: Specializing in professional stand-up comedy every week, plus newbie comedy and pro-amateur showcases. Menu is pub style. **GETTING THERE:** Take I-469/U.S. 30 to Exit 19B. **HOURS:** Friday and Saturday 6:30 p.m. until 11 p.m.
ALCOHOL: Full Service. **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, Amex

Bootleggers Saloon & Galley

Pub/Tavern • 2809 W. Main St., Fort Wayne • (260) 387-6307
EXPECT: Golden Tee, jukebox, 3 TVs, free WIFI, deck patio, motorcycle parking available. Daily food & drink specials: \$1 coneys & \$2.50 18 oz. domestics Sun.; 50¢ wings & \$3 pitchers Mon.; \$1 tacos & \$1.50 domestic longnecks Tues.; \$1 drafts & 1/2 price pizza Wed.; \$12 buckets & \$1 sliders Thurs.; \$4 pitchers & smoked BBQ ribs, tips & chicken specials Fri.; \$12 buckets Sat. **GETTING THERE:** Corner of Jefferson and West Main Street, 2 minutes from downtown. **HOURS:** 11 a.m.-3 a.m. daily. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service. **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, ATM

C2G Music Hall

Music • 323 W. Baker St., Fort Wayne • (260) 426-6464
EXPECT: Great live music on one of Fort Wayne's best stages. Diverse musical genres from local, regional and national performers, all in a comfortable, all-ages, family-friendly, intimate atmosphere. Excellent venue for shows, events, presentations, meetings and gatherings. Food catered by local vendors during some shows. **GETTING THERE:** Downtown on Baker between Ewing and Harrison, just south of Parkview Field. **HOURS:** Most shows start at 8 p.m., doors one hour earlier. **ALCOHOL:** Beer & wine during shows only. **PMT:** Cash, check

Corner Pocket Pub

Bar/Pool Hall • 3215 St. Joe Center Road, Fort Wayne • (260) 492-7665
EXPECT: Daily drink specials and daily food features. Twenty pool tables, \$1 per game or available to rent for \$10 per hour. Pool leagues Sunday through Thursday if you are interested in weekly competition. Free pool all day Monday and Wednesday, Tuesday, and Thursday after 11 p.m. (reserved for leagues from 6:30-9 p.m.) NFL Ticket on Sundays with plenty of TVs, with one big projector screen that is first come, first served for which game. **GETTING THERE:** Riviera Plaza, corner of St. Joe and St. Joe Center roads. **HOURS:** 11 a.m.-1 a.m. Mon.-Sat., noon-midnight Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full service. **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, ATM

Deer Park Pub

Eclectic • 1530 Leesburg Road, Fort Wayne • (260) 432-8966
EXPECT: Home to Dancioke, 12 craft beer lines, 75 domestic and imported beers, assorted wines, St. Pat's Parade, keg toss, Irish snug and USF students. Friday/Saturday live music, holiday specials. Outdoor beer garden. www.deerparkpub.com. Wi-Fi hotspot. Finger food, tacos every Tuesday. **GETTING THERE:** Corner of Leesburg and Spring, across from USF. **HOURS:** 2 p.m.-1 a.m. Mon.-Thurs., noon-2 a.m. Fri.-Sat., 1-10 p.m. Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Beer & Wine. **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc

Dreamers Hookah Lounge

Music/DJ Hookah Bar • 1407 S. Calhoun St., Fort Wayne • (260) 424-0442
EXPECT: Fort Wayne's only upscale hookah lounge with a full-service bar. Our hookah is all organic with no tobacco or nicotine. Light appetizers and a dessert menu. Tuesday acoustic acts, Wednesday Underground DJ sets, Thursday Latin Night, Friday Live R&B/Jazz/Funk Acts followed by DJ Dance, Saturday DJ Dance Party. Dress code enforced. **GETTING THERE:** Corner of Calhoun and Brackenridge next to Lincoln Life. **HOURS:** Monday-Thursday 4-11 p.m., Friday and Saturday 4 p.m.-3 a.m. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service. **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc

Nightlife listings work for your business

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Live Music & Comedy

LOCAL CALENDAR

FRIDAY, JANUARY 8

Chris Worth & Company — Variety at Mitchell's Sports Bar & Neighborhood Grill, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m. \$5, (260) 387-5063

Julia James — Variety at Country Heritage Winery, LaOtto, 6-9 p.m. \$5, (260) 637-2980

Q and the Coldfusion — Classic rock/funk at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 7-9:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

Six Feet to Salvation and ShovelHead — Rock/metal at Carl's Tavern, New Haven, 8 p.m.-midnight no cover, (260) 749-9133

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9

Bill Benden and Thaddaeus McKee — Comedy at 469 Comedy: Fort Wayne Comedy Club, New Haven, 7:15 and 9:15 p.m. \$20-\$30, (260) 426-6339

I Love Saturdays — R&B/soul/pop at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

Paul New Stewart & Charles Rhen — Variety at The Venice Restaurant, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 482-1618

reGenerationX — Variety at Mitchell's Sports Bar & Neighborhood Grill, Fort Wayne, 7-11 p.m. \$5, (260) 387-5063

Y's Guys seek drummer; Whoa, Man! adds keytar

Fresh off a New Year's Eve performance at Mitchell's Sports Bar, **The Y's Guys** are now faced with the daunting task of finding a new drummer.

Jason Newcomer chose to resign to pursue other opportunities.

According to a band statement, "We support him 100 percent in his decision to move forward and pursue other life goals. Jason was an original member of the band when it was a trio, and has been our rock throughout the last three years. We have tons of memories that each one of us will cherish and look back on for the rest of our lives."

Make sure to keep your eyes peeled as the band will be introducing Newcomer's replacement in the near future. By the way it looks, it had better be soon since they are scheduled to perform at The Venue (Angola) on Saturday, Jan. 16. *Whatzup* will keep you posted.

BADERTSCHER THE KEY FOR WHOA, MAN!

Speaking of new members, **Whoa, Man!** is excited to welcome the talented **Karis Badertscher** to the family.

You may know her from her keytar action and backing vocals with her other outfit **Kaitlyn Schmit and The Move**, where she will remain a member.

In any event, Badertscher will be a great addition to Whoa, Man! which hopefully we'll get the opportunity to see soon.



Out and About

NICK BRAUN



MORE ON THE WEB

Use your phone to scan the QR code above to listen to Calder the Band's new single on Spotify.

FLAW IN THE PLANS

The new Rockstar Lounge will be opening its doors to the nu metal act **Flaw** on Saturday, Jan. 16, at 7:30 p.m.

The Louisville, Ky., road warriors have made a few stops to the Summit City over the years, each time delivering their hard and heavy sound perfect for a good headbang.

Vocalist **Chris Volz** has kept the band alive throughout their duration despite numerous lineup changes and record label challenges.

Flaw are out in support of *Vol. IV: Because of the Brave* released last year. Tickets for the show are available via TicketWeb.

Identity Unknown will open the show, so get to the show in plenty of time.

CALDER QUINTET RELEASES SINGLE

Calder the Band is kicking off 2021 with a new single, "Canon in D." This is the first recording to feature all members of the current quintet.

A quick listen and you will see these cats are at the top of their game and a force to be reckoned with in 2021.

You can find "Canon in D" on all major streaming platforms. Use your phone to scan the QR code above to find the song on Spotify.

Out and About covers Northeast Indiana's most interesting music and arts events. Send your announcements to info@whatzup.com.

Songbook Academy hopes to bring live workshops to Carmel

The depth of talent in Fort Wayne extends well into our school system, and the city's high school students are great examples.

Thus, it's easy to imagine area performers who are qualified to participate in the 12th annual Songbook Academy hosted by Michael Feinstein's Great American Songbook Foundation in Carmel.

Each year, only 40 students nationwide are asked to participate in what they describe as an opportunity to "experience a lively and rigorous schedule of workshops and masterclasses on topics such as vocal technique, vocal health, song interpretation, phrasing, stage presence, music history, business concerns and auditioning for college arts programs."

The 2021 mentors have yet to be announced, but last year's mentors included Postmodern



News and Venues

MICHELE DeVINNEY

Jukebox founder Scott Bradlee, Tony and Grammy nominee Ashley Park, Tony winner Faith Prince, and nine-time Grammy winner Janis Siegel of The Manhattan Transfer.

Last year's academy was held virtually. While there is a plan in place to hold this year's on site in Carmel, alternative plans are available to pivot if the need arises.

The program runs July 17-24, and the application deadline is March 15, with an early-bird discount available through Feb. 15.

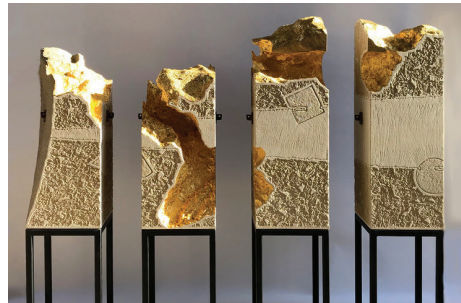
Need-based scholarships, fee waivers, and other financial-aid opportunities are available.

For more information about applying, visit app.getaccedtd.com/songbookacademy.

FORT WAYNE MUSEUM OF ART

One of the best places in the city to visit in the midst of social distancing concerns is the Fort Wayne Museum of Art, which provides that comfort with or without a pandemic.

The ability to slowly feast on the exhibits is one of the loveliest aspects of the museum,



COURTESY PHOTO

"Alchemical Studies" is one of the many works by Dale Enochs on display at the Fort Wayne Museum of Art until March 14.

particularly if you visit during a weekday.

In the coming weeks, several special exhibits are available to peruse.

Static Energy: Sculpture by Dale Enochs brings together work spanning the Bloomington artist's decades-long career and runs through March 14.

American Impressionism: Treasures from the Daywood Collection brings together 41

pieces which showcase "work from a transitional time in American art, approximately the late 19th and early 20th centuries, when artists abandoned the rigors of academic styles and subjects." This exhibit also runs through March 14.

Visitors to the museum have until Jan. 31 to enjoy A Year of Making Meaning: New Additions to the Collection 2020 which features new works acquired by the museum last year as well as Historic Indiana En Plein Air featuring 60 works by 42 artists of the Indiana Plein Air Painters Association.

Larry Burrow: Life in Vietnam runs through Feb. 28 and features the photojournalist's moving images taken during the War 1962-1971, many of which were featured in the pages of Life Magazine.

For more details about the exhibits and for museum hours and admission fees, visit fwmoa.org.

News and Venues covers Northeast Indiana's music and arts organizations, venues, and colleges, from large to small. Send your news items to info@whatzup.com.

Nightlife

Flashback Live

Dancing/Music • Behind Evans Toyota, Fort Wayne • (260) 483-1979

EXPECT: The city's only retro dance club with 80s, 90s and today's music. Live entertainment every Friday & Saturday evening starting at 7:30 p.m. as well as the city's hottest DJ between sets and into the late night! Family friendly from 4-9 p.m. with full menu of appetizers, wings, pizzas and sandwiches. Outdoor patio with a full service bar and dance area! **GETTING THERE:** Behind Evans Toyota at Coliseum Blvd. and Lima Rd. **HOURS:** Open 4 p.m. Thurs.-Sat. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service. **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, Amex, ATM on site

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

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., noon-12:30 a.m. Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service. **PMT:** MC, Visa

State Grill

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

EXPECT: 1st Tavern to pour beer after Prohibition; located in a fun and friendly neighborhood; home of the XKE Cranials & most dangerous jukebox. Daily drink specials include \$2 Tall Boy PBR everyday, get grilled everyday with \$2 Fireball add-on special. Golden Tee. Free WIFI. Fort Wayne's Sammy Hagar bar & Cabo Wabo Tequila. River Bend 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-2 a.m. Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service. **PMT:** Cash only; ATM on site

Nightlife listings work for your business
info@whatzup.com or (260) 407-3198

Live Music & Comedy LOCAL CALENDAR

MONDAY, JANUARY 11

Monday Blues Jam Sessions w/G-Money — Blues at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12

Jeff McDonald — Oldies at The Club Room at the Clyde, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13

Alicia Pyle Quartet — Jazz at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 7-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

Hubie Ashcraft — Acoustic at Arena Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 489-0840

Paul New Stewart & Charles Rhen — Variety at The Venice Restaurant, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 482-1618

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14

Hubie Ashcraft Trio — Americana at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

FRIDAY, JANUARY 15

Chris Worth — Variety at Dreamers Hookah Lounge, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m. cover, (260) 424-0442

Derek Richards and Bob Phillips — Comedy at 469 Comedy: Fort Wayne Comedy Club, New Haven, 9:15 p.m. \$25-\$30, (260) 426-6339

Friday Night Vibes w/Julia Meek — Variety at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 7-9:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

Hubie Ashcraft — Acoustic at Country Heritage Winery, LaOtto, 6-9 p.m. \$5, (260) 637-2980

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Round 2 — '90s rock at Martin's Tavern, Garrett, 10 p.m. no cover, (260) 357-4290

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16

De! Suede — Variety at Eagles Post 12889, Syracuse, 8-11 p.m. no cover, (574) 457-4913

Derek Richards and Bob Phillips — Comedy at 469 Comedy: Fort Wayne Comedy Club, New Haven, 7:15 and 9:15 p.m. \$20-\$30, (260) 426-6339

Flaw — Metal at Rockstar Lounge, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m. \$20-\$35, (260) 444-2442

I Love Saturdays — R&B/soul/pop at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

Mason Dixon Line — Country at Dupont Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m. \$5, (260) 483-1311

Mike Almon — Acoustic at Charley Creek Inn, Wabash, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 563-0111

Paul New Stewart & Charles Rhen — Variety at The Venice Restaurant, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 482-1618

Round 2 — '90s rock at Martin's Tavern, Garrett, 10 p.m. no cover, (260) 357-4290

Todd Harrold and Eric Clancy — Variety at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 426-3442

MONDAY, JANUARY 18

Monday Blues Jam Sessions w/G-Money — Blues at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

TUESDAY, JANUARY 19

Smooth Tuesdays — Soft rock at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20

Alicia Pyle Quartet — Jazz at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 7-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

Hubie Ashcraft — Acoustic at Mad Anthony Brewing Co., Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 426-2537

Paul New Stewart & Charles Rhen — Variety at The Venice Restaurant, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 482-1618

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21

Kaitlyn Schmit & The Move — Country/pop at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

FRIDAY, JANUARY 22

Friday Night Vibes w/Julia Meek — Variety at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 7-9:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

Hubie Ashcraft Band — Country at Mitchell's Sports Bar & Neighborhood Grill, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m. cover, (260) 387-5063

Nathan Timmel and Trevor Gertonson — Comedy at 469 Comedy: Fort Wayne Comedy Club, New Haven, 9:15 p.m. \$25-\$30, (260) 426-6339

Thunderstruck — AC/DC tribute at Rockstar Lounge, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m. \$20-\$35, (260) 444-2442

Todd Harrold and Eric Clancy — Variety at Dreamers Hookah Lounge, Fort Wayne, 8-10 p.m. \$5, (260) 424-0442

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23

At the Movies: Songs of the Silver Screen w/Three Rivers Music Theatre — Variety at Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m. \$20-\$30, (260) 424-5665

Chris Worth — Variety at Edwin Coe Spirits, Churubusco, 6-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 212-8827

Dakota Parker — Acoustic at Charley Creek Inn, Wabash, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 563-0111

I Love Saturdays — R&B/soul/pop at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

Nathan Timmel and Trevor Gertonson — Comedy at 469 Comedy: Fort Wayne Comedy Club, New Haven, 7:15 and 9:15 p.m. \$20-\$30, (260) 426-6339

Paul New Stewart & Charles Rhen — Variety at The Venice Restaurant, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 482-1618

Todd Harrold and Eric Clancy — Variety at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 426-3442

MONDAY, JANUARY 25

Monday Blues Jam Sessions w/G-Money — Blues at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26

Smooth Tuesdays — Soft rock at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27

Alicia Pyle Quartet — Jazz at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 7-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

Hubie Ashcraft — Acoustic at HT2, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 616-0444

Paul New Stewart & Charles Rhen — Variety at The Venice Restaurant, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 482-1618

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28

The Cowpokes — Classic country at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

FRIDAY, JANUARY 29

D.J. Dangler — Comedy at 469 Comedy: Fort Wayne Comedy Club, New Haven, 9:15 p.m. \$25-\$30, (260) 426-6339

Friday Night Vibes w/Julia Meek — Variety at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 7-9:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

Hubie Ashcraft Band — Country at Sylvan Cellars, Rome City, 8-11 p.m. cover, (260) 760-1421

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30

D.J. Dangler — Comedy at 469 Comedy: Fort Wayne Comedy Club, New Haven, 7:15 and 9:15 p.m. \$20-\$30, (260) 426-6339

Don Smith — Jazz/variety at Charley Creek Inn, Wabash, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 563-0111

Hubie Ashcraft Band — Country at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m. cover, (260) 407-8530

Paul New Stewart & Charles Rhen — Variety at The Venice Restaurant, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 482-1618

Todd Harrold and Eric Clancy — Variety at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 426-3442

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1

Monday Blues Jam Sessions w/G-Money — Blues at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2

Smooth Tuesdays — Soft rock at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3

Alicia Pyle Quartet — Jazz at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 7-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

Paul New Stewart & Charles Rhen — Variety at The Venice Restaurant, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 482-1618

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Friday Night Vibes w/Julia Meek — Variety at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 7-9:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

Steve Michaels — Acoustic at Charley Creek Inn, Wabash, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 563-0111

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6

I Love Saturdays — R&B/soul/pop at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

Jon Shoulders — Acoustic variety at Charley Creek Inn, Wabash, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 563-0111

Mark Christopher Lawrence and Andy Beningo — Comedy at 469 Comedy: Fort Wayne Comedy Club, New Haven, 7:15 and 9:45 p.m. \$20-\$30, (260) 426-6339

Mason Dixon Line — Country at Mitchell's Sports Bar & Neighborhood Grill, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m.-midnight \$5, (260) 387-5063

Paul New Stewart & Charles Rhen — Variety at The Venice Restaurant, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 482-1618

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Monday Blues Jam Sessions w/G-Money — Blues at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9

Smooth Tuesdays — Soft rock at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

Alicia Pyle Quartet — Jazz at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 7-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

Paul New Stewart & Charles Rhen — Variety at The Venice Restaurant, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 482-1618

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Friday Night Vibes w/Julia Meek — Variety at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 7-9:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

Mason Dixon Line — Country at Sylvan Cellars, Rome City, 8:30-11:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 854-9463

Tantric — Post-Grunge at Rockstar Lounge, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m. \$20-\$35, (260) 444-2442

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Aaron Edwards Hall — Comedy at 469 Comedy: Fort Wayne Comedy Club, New Haven, 7:15 and 9:15 p.m. \$20-\$30, (260) 426-6339

Abbie Thomas — Pop/soul at Charley Creek Inn, Wabash, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 563-0111

Grateful Groove — Variety at The Ruin, Fort Wayne, 6 p.m.-3 a.m. no cover, (260) 399-6336

I Love Saturdays — R&B/soul/pop at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

Paul New Stewart & Charles Rhen — Variety at The Venice Restaurant, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 482-1618

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Monday Blues Jam Sessions w/G-Money — Blues at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Smooth Tuesdays — Soft rock at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Alicia Pyle Quartet — Jazz at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 7-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

Paul New Stewart & Charles Rhen — Variety at The Venice Restaurant, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 482-1618

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Friday Night Vibes w/Julia Meek — Variety at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 7-9:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

CALLING ALL WORKING ARTISTS, BANDS, and MUSICIANS

We're seeking subjects for possible cover stories! Are you a good fit? Here are some requirements:

- Supply several high-resolution, professional-level, non-watermarked photos.
- Be active in one way or another, whether with performances, recordings, or exhibitions.
- Offer a way for fans to experience your music, art, or performance online.
- Provide a way for people to follow you online via social media or your website.

Do you think you can make the cut? Send an email to our editor: jon@whatzup.com

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RAISE THE CURTAIN

The Embassy has adapted, partnered with other organizations, and stayed open at reduced capacities throughout the pandemic.

But we need your help to meet our fundraising goal of \$2 million to recover losses from 2020 and 2021.

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fwembassytheatre.org/raise-the-curtain-campaign



Embassy Theatre
125 W. Jefferson Blvd.
Fort Wayne, Indiana
fwembassytheatre.org

ALBUM OF THE WEEK



M. WARD
THINK OF SPRING

M. Ward's latest album, *Think of Spring*, was inspired by Billie Holiday, Ray Ellis, J.J. Johnson, John Fahey, and Robert Johnson. Proceeds will benefit art education in inner-city schools and the Movement for Black Lives, making the collection even more enjoyable. *Think of Spring* is available for just \$11.99 on CD this week at Wooden Nickel and Neat Neat Records.

TOP SELLERS

WEEK ENDING JANUARY 3, 2021

TW LW ARTIST/Album

- | | | |
|----|----|--|
| 1 | 1 | PAUL McCARTNEY
McCartney III |
| 2 | 10 | STURGILL SIMPSON
Cuttin' Grass |
| 3 | 2 | TAYLOR SWIFT
Evermore |
| 4 | 7 | CHRIS STAPLETON
Starting Over |
| 5 | - | HARRY STYLES
Fine Line |
| 6 | - | THE WHITE STRIPES
Greatest Hits |
| 7 | 4 | JOE BONAMASSA
Royal Tea |
| 8 | 3 | AC/DC
Power Up |
| 9 | - | MAC MILLER
Swimming |
| 10 | 5 | KENNY WAYNE SHEPHERD
Straight to You: Live |

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Shawn Mendes

Wonder



It's not easy to dislike Shawn Mendes. By all accounts, he's a very nice young man, and he's certainly attractive.

So far, he has avoided the bad-boy phase that has undermined the likability of stars like Justin Bieber, a fellow Canadian who, like Mendes, exploded into superstardom via social media. Mendes seems to be entirely free of rough edges, and it's difficult to find much to criticize in his image.

The same is true of his art as exemplified in *Wonder*, his fourth album.

Not surprisingly, most of *Wonder* is devoted to an exploration of young love. The object of 22-year-old Mendes's adoration is his girlfriend, fellow pop star Camilla Cabello, and the album's portrait of their romance is entirely fit for 21st-century consumption.

Lyricaly, the songs have Mendes tripping around in a daze of awestruck devotion to his love, unable to properly express the depth of it while simultaneously wishing he could love her more. They dance around in the open air, drinking wine and creating imagery that, if they were actual images, would rack up millions of views on TikTok. When Mendes contemplates the deep philosophy of the "wise man" who said that only fools rush in (I believe that wise man was Elvis), he discards the advice and rushes in anyway.

The album's production backs up the love-struck awe, surrounding Mendes's high-pitched crooning with heavenly choirs and grandiose synth swells. Like the lyrics, the production manages to be both overwrought and superficial.

But that description also perfectly describes most expressions of adolescent love, and that is, after all, what *Wonder* is all about. In that sense, the album is successful, and it's hard to find fault with it. — *Evan Gillespie*

The Nels Cline Singers

Share the Wealth



Nels Cline has had quite the career both before and after Wilco. A musical force to be reckoned with in the avant garde, jazz, punk, and experimental scene, Cline has played with everyone from Mike Watt, Medeski, Martin, and Wood, Geraldine Fibbers, Blue Man Group, Ornette Coleman, and Rickie Lee Jones. But for the last few years his main musical loves have been Wilco, Nels Cline 4, and The Nels Cline Singers.

Cline has released some amazing albums on the Blue Note label, including *Lovers* (under his own name) and *Currents*, *Constellations* (under Nels Cline 4.)

His latest with the iconic jazz label is as *The Nels Cline Singers. Share The Wealth* is a

sprawling double LP filled with all of Cline's musical loves, including dense experimental, fusion, and funk, plus forays into the avant garde. This is Cline's most accessible work yet.

The band opens with a cover of Brazilian composer Caetano Veloso's "Segunda." Cline leads the way with his fluid and confident playing, a low key beginning that fills the room with mystery and echoes of Jon Abercrombie and John Scofield. This leads into "Beam/Spiral," a sprawling eight-minute workout filled with noir shadows and subtle darkness that builds into an epic crescendo that borders on hopefulness.

The album is filled with moments of music grandeur and musical might, like the subtle and sultry "Nightstand" which brings to mind early Miles. There's the 17-minute soundscape that is "Stump The Panel," a plethora of otherworldly sounds that brings to mind some of Cline's earlier work on the Cryptogramophone label.

One of the surprises is the decidedly funky "Princess Phone," which starts out in a cloud of noise and chaos but locks into a serious groove courtesy of Brian Marsella's electric piano and Cline's wah wah guitar riff. "Passed Down" closes the album with a sort of "quiet at sunrise" vibe. Acoustic guitar, saxophone, and subtle percussion lead us from the sprawling world of *Share The Wealth*. Nels Cline continues to astound with his musical, compositional, and band leader skills. — *J. Hubner*

Jimi Hendrix Experience

Live in Maui



The show that makes up the new live set *Live in Maui* by The Jimi Hendrix Experience was recorded a mere two months before Jimi Hendrix' death in September 1970. On July 30, 1970, Jimi and the second iteration of his Experience, drummer Mitch Mitchell and bassist Billy Cox, flew to Maui and played two fiery sets.

Despite strong winds, the trio turned in amazing performances, showing the true genius of Jimi Hendrix and his desire to push his music into a more soulful, funky direction. In 1971, Mitch Mitchell went back into the studio and re-recorded his drums due to the wind and technical issues that day, but only bits of this show were ever released on various Hendrix albums.

Now we have *Live in Maui*, a portrait of the Jimi Hendrix Experience at a time of sonic exploration. The raw set shows Hendrix and the Experience in fine form and is also a sad reminder of what we lost in this incredible artist.

Some of the highlights are "Hey Baby (New Rising Sun)," "In From The Storm," "Hear My Train A-Comin'," "Voodoo Chile (Slight Return)," and that's just within the first six songs. Hendrix, Cox, and Mitchell lay into both classic Experience tracks like "Foxy Lady," "Fire," and "Purple Haze," while also giving a glimpse into what that fourth record could've been.

Hendrix brought in the sound of '70s blues and

Backtracks CLASSIC ALBUMS

Wild Cherry
Wild Cherry
(1976)



Everybody has heard the raucous "Play That Funky Music," whether it be during karaoke, after weddings, or on your favorite jukebox.

The band, Wild Cherry, was formed in Steubenville, Ohio, about 45 minutes from Pittsburgh, and made four albums through 1979.

But this debut, which included the aforementioned single as the opener, is a worthy record from some excellent musicians.

After the familiar opener, "The Lady Wants Your Money," follows with a funky bass-line and groovy harmonies that rivaled anything else released during the era of disco-funk-rock. "99½" is more rock than funk but has some great horns that give it some heavy grooves. The song was originally a Wilson Pickett number from 1966, and Wild Cherry gives it a new arrangement while keeping it honest to the original. "Don't Go Near the Water" is funk-rock with suggestive lyrics and reminds me of Rick James. Then the band covers a hip version of Martha & The Vandellas' "Nowhere to Run." As with most debuts from the genre, another cover on the release was The Commodores' "I Feel Sanctified." They rip the roof off with this rowdy dance number but casually rip off their own sound as it uncannily sounds like their biggest hit.

The tempo goes down in the rhythm and blues number "Hold On." I guess they needed to prove that they could be soft and romantic, but the song seems misplaced on the record.

Still, they get groovy again with the disco instrumental number, "Get It Up," in which the only lyrics are the song title. The record closes with the bluesy-funk number, "What in the Funk Do You See."

Wild Cherry released just three more albums through 1979. Their final one, *Only the Wild Survive*, included guitarist and vocalist Donnie Iris who would later embark on a solo career and produced his biggest hit in "Ah Leah." — *Dennis Donahue*

funk, stuff that cats like Sly Stone, Herbie Hancock, and even Miles with Jack Johnson and On The Corner would help to define that decade.

I can only imagine the albums we would have had to look forward to from Jimi Hendrix had he not died so young. If you want a look into what could've been, drop the needle on *Live in Maui*. — *J. Hubner*

Local bands: Send two copies of new CD releases to Whatzup, 5501 U.S. Hwy 30 West, Fort Wayne, IN 46818. Or send links to downloadable files to jon@whatzup.com. Also email any bio information, publicity photos, and cover art. Only professionally produced CDs or EPs are accepted. Submitted materials cannot be returned.

Matthews to crash show into Midwest

Dave Matthews Band is planning on touring in 2021 with several dates in our region. Perennially one of the summer's "must-see" acts, Matthews and his cohorts put on a party wherever they go.

Having sold around 40 million albums, the hits are plentiful, and include "What Would You Say," "Crash Into Me," and, of course, "So Much To Say."

The tour itinerary currently includes Cleveland on June 15, Cincinnati on June 16, a two-night stay in Indianapolis on June 18-19, Detroit on June 22, Grand Rapids on June 29, and another two-nighter in Chicago on July 2-3.

The Chicago shows will also be streamed live as a part of the "Live From Home" concert series. The series is broadcast by Watch USA Events Live Network which streams some type of live event just about every night with a focus on music and festivals.

VIRTUALLY THE '80S

The '80s Radical Sabbatical is a

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE ►

On the Road

NATIONAL TOURS WITHIN DRIVING DISTANCE

Confirm with the venue about any event you plan to attend.

38 Special	Apr. 30 '21	Honeywell Center	Wabash
5 Seconds of Summer	June 6 '21	Mich. Lottery Amphitheatre	Sterling Heights
5 Seconds of Summer	June 16 '21	White River State Park	Indianapolis
5 Seconds of Summer	June 18 '21	Huntington Bank Pavilion	Chicago
Aaron Edwards Hall	Feb. 13 '21	469 Comedy	New Haven
Aaron Lewis	Apr. 17 '21	Four Winds Casino	New Buffalo, MI
Acid Mothers Temple, The Melting Paraiso U.F.O.	Feb. 26 '21	Subterranean	Chicago
Agnostic Front, Sick Of It All, Crown of Thornz	Apr. 25 '21	Subterranean	Chicago
Air Supply	June 11 '21	Foellinger Theatre	Fort Wayne
The Airborne Toxic Event	Mar. 11 '21	Vic Theatre	Chicago
AJJ	Mar. 21 '21	The Shelter	Detroit
Alabama	Apr. 7 '21	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Alabama	Apr. 8 '21	Bankers Life Fieldhouse	Indianapolis
Albert Cummings	Apr. 3 '21	Token Lounge	Westland, MI
Align	May 13 '21	Schubas Tavern	Chicago
Amy Grant	Sept. 18 '21	Wagon Wheel Theatre	Warsaw
Andy Woodhull	Dec. 18 '21	469 Comedy	New Haven
Anthem Lights	Apr. 16 '21	Wagon Wheel Theatre	Warsaw
Anthem Lights	May 7 '21	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Aries Spears	Jan. 28-30 '21	Chicago Improv	Schaumburg, IL
Artie Lange	Feb. 12 '21	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Asleep at the Wheel	Mar. 5 '21	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Atlanta Rhythm Section	June 12 '21	T. Furth Center, Trine University	Angola
Banda MS	Apr. 30-May 1 '21	Allstate Arena	Rosemont, IL
Barenaked Ladies w/Gin Blossoms, Toad the Wet Sprocket	June 28 '21	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Barenaked Ladies	July 2 '21	White River State Park	Indianapolis
Barenaked Ladies	July 3 '21	Jacobs Pavilion	Cleveland
Barenaked Ladies	July 4 '21	DTE Energy Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
Big Bad Voodoo Daddy	May 8 '21	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Bil Benden and Thaddaeus McKee	Jan. 9 '21	469 Comedy	New Haven
Bill Boronkay and Dan Brown	Mar. 13 '21	469 Comedy	New Haven
Billy Joel	June 26 '21	Notre Dame Stadium	South Bend
Billy Joel	July 9 '21	Comerica Park	Detroit
Black Stone Cherry	Apr. 24 '21	Eclectic Room	Angola
Blackhawk	May 1 '21	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Bob Zany & Costaki Economopoulos	May 20 '21	Eagles Theatre	Wabash
Boney James	Oct. 7 '21	The Clyde	Fort Wayne
Brian Culbertson	Apr. 6 '21	The Sound Board	Detroit
Brian Culbertson	Apr. 7 '21	The Clyde	Fort Wayne
Brian McKnight	Feb. 25 '21	The Sound Board	Detroit
Bruce Hornsby & The Noisemakers	June 16 '21	The Clyde	Fort Wayne
Building 429	July 9 '21	T. Furth Center, Trine University	Angola
Carol Burnett	May 26 '21	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Celctic Woman	Apr. 2 '21	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Celtic Woman	Apr. 8 '21	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Celtic Woman	Apr. 17 '21	Rosemont Theatre	Rosemont, IL
Chicago	May 23 '21	MGM Northfield Park	Northfield, OH
Chicano Batman	June 11 '21	Concord Music Hall	Chicago

Chris Janson	May 8 '21	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Chris Tucker	Mar. 13 '21	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Circa Survive	Jan. 14 '21	House of Blues	Cleveland
Circa Survive	Jan. 16 '21	Concord Music Hall	Chicago
Circa Survive w/Gouge Away	Feb. 7 '21	The Clyde	Fort Wayne
Circa Survive	Mar. 2 '21	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Colin Hay	Mar. 27 '21	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Colt Ford	Mar. 6 '21	Eclectic Room	Angola
Crowder	May 8 '21	Wagon Wheel Theatre	Warsaw
The Cybertronic Spree	Mar. 8 '21	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
D.J. Hughley	May 20 '21	The Sound Board	Detroit
Dabin	Feb. 13 '21	Concord Music Hall	Chicago
Dailey & Vincent Bluegrass	June 18 '21	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Dance Gavin Dance	Apr. 8 '21	Masonic Temple Theater	Detroit
Dance Gavin Dance	Apr. 10 '21	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Dance Gavin Dance	Apr. 12 '21	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Daughtry	May 15 '21	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Dave Landau	May 14-15 '21	469 Comedy	New Haven
Dave Matthews Band	June 15 '21	Blossom Music Center	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Dave Matthews Band	June 16 '21	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
Dave Matthews Band	June 18-19 '21	Ruoff Music Center	Noblesville
Dave Matthews Band	June 22 '21	DTE Energy Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
Dave Matthews Band	June 29 '21	Van Andel Arena	Grand Rapids
Dave Matthews Band	July 2-3 '21	Huntington Bank Pavilion	Chicago
Davi Crimmins	Apr. 17 '21	469 Comedy	New Haven
David Foster	Jan. 21 '21	The Palladium	Carmel
Dead Can Dance	Apr. 27 '21	Masonic Temple Theater	Detroit
Dead Can Dance	Apr. 28 '21	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Delta Spirit	May 2 '21	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Dennis DeYoung	Feb. 19 '22	The Clyde	Fort Wayne
Deon Cole	Apr. 22 '21	The Sound Board	Detroit
Deon Cole	May 29 '21	MGM Northfield Park	Northfield, OH
Dick Fox's Golden Boys	June 26 '21	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
The Dip	Mar. 25 '21	Thalia Hall	Chicago
DragonForce	Mar. 19 '21	Saint Andrew's Hall	Detroit
DragonForce	Mar. 21 '21	Agora Theatre	Cleveland
The Driver Era	Feb. 16 '21	Newport Music Hall	Columbus, OH
The Driver Era	Feb. 19 '21	Vic Theatre	Chicago
DSL	Aug. 29 '21	Foellinger Theatre	Fort Wayne
Duke Tatum and the Power Trio	Apr. 22 '21	Eagles Theatre	Wabash
Eddie Griffin	Apr. 30 '21	The Sound Board	Detroit
Elton John	Apr. 5 '21	Van Andel Arena	Grand Rapids
The Fab Four	Aug. 29 '21	Sweetwater Pavilion	Fort Wayne
Flaw	Jan. 16 '21	Rockstar Lounge	Fort Wayne
Flora Cash	June 18 '21	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
For King & Country	May 7 '21	Memorial Coliseum	Fort Wayne
Framing Hanley	May 7 '21	Rockstar Lounge	Fort Wayne
Fuzz	Feb. 4 '21	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Fuzz	Feb. 5 '21	Beachland Ballroom	Cleveland
Gaither Vocal Band	June 10 '21	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Gary Allan	May 15 '21	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
George Clinton and Parliament Funkadelic	June 24 '21	The Sound Board	Detroit



12 Delicious Days of Menu Deals from Fort Wayne's Favorite Restaurants

On the Road

NATIONAL TOURS WITHIN DRIVING DISTANCE

Get the Led Out	Mar. 6 '21	Rosemont Theatre	Rosemont, IL
Gladys Knight	May 21 '21	MGM Northfield Park	Northfield, OH
Gladys Knight	Aug. 21 '21	Sweetwater Pavilion	Fort Wayne
The Glenn Miller Orchestra	Aug. 31 '21	Eagles Theatre	Wabash
Goodie Mob	Apr. 8 '21	The Sound Board	Detroit
Gordon Lightfoot	Mar. 8-9 '21	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Gordon Lightfoot	May 14 '21	Lerner Theatre	Elkhart
Grand Funk Railroad	May 1 '21	MGM Northfield Park	Northfield, OH
Greer	May 8 '21	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
Gregory Porter	Feb. 16 '21	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Gregory Porter w/Ledisi	Feb. 17 '21	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Halsey	June 23 '21	Blossom Music Center	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Halsey	June 25 '21	DTE Energy Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
Halsey	June 26 '21	Hollywood Casino Amphitheatre	Tinley Park, IL
Heather McMahan	Jan. 20 '21	Agora Theatre	Cleveland
James Taylor w/Jackson Browne	June 9 '21	United Center	Chicago
James Taylor	June 11 '21	Blossom Music Center	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
James Taylor w/Jackson Browne	June 12 '21	DTE Energy Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
James Taylor w/Jackson Browne	June 14 '21	Nutter Center	Dayton
Jamey Johnson w/Whiskey Myers	June 25 '21	White River State Park	Indianapolis
Jamey Johnson	June 26 '21	Mich. Lottery Amphitheatre	Sterling Heights
Jay Leno	Apr. 22 '21	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Jeanne Robertson	June 9 '21	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Jeanne Robertson	Sept. 16 '21	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Jeff Dunham	July 7 '21	Nutter Center	Dayton
Jeff Foxworthy	June 5 '21	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Jeff Shaw	Feb. 27 '21	469 Comedy	New Haven
Jess Hilarious	Feb. 19-20 '21	Chicago Improv	Schaumburg, IL
Jim Stafford	May 28-29 '21	Blue Gate Music Hall	Shipshewana
Jo Koy	Apr. 3 '21	Masonic Temple Theater	Detroit
Jo Koy	Apr. 8-10 '21	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Joe Satriani	Oct. 15 '21	Honeywell Center	Wabash
John Conlee	July 8 '21	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Jolo	May 10 '21	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Jolo Siwa	July 17 '21	Memorial Coliseum	Fort Wayne
Jonny Lang	Mar. 14 '21	The Clyde	Fort Wayne
Josh Turner	June 4 '21	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Joywave	June 16 '21	Subterranean	Chicago
Justin Bieber	June 22-23 '21	United Center	Chicago
Justin Bieber	June 25 '21	Van Andel Arena	Grand Rapids
Justin Bieber	June 28 '21	Little Caesars Arena	Detroit
Justin Bieber	June 29 '21	Schottenstein Center	Columbus, OH
Kaleo	June 23 '21	The Fillmore	Detroit
Kaleo w/Matt Maeson, Belle MT	June 19 '21	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Kansas	June 26 '21	Lerner Theatre	Elkhart
Kashmir	Mar. 27 '21	Hobart Art Theater	Hobart
Katrina Brown	Feb. 20 '21	469 Comedy	New Haven
Kaytranada	May 8 '21	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Kenny "Babyface" Edmonds	Apr. 25 '21	The Sound Board	Detroit
Kenny Wayne Shepherd Band	June 12 '21	Sweetwater Pavilion	Fort Wayne
Kindo	Apr. 27 '21	Schubas Tavern	Chicago
Kingston Trio	June 3 '21	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Kool & The Gang w/The Sweetwater All Stars	Sept. 3 '21	Sweetwater Pavilion	Fort Wayne
Lauren Daigle w/Johnnyswim	Mar. 11 '21	Memorial Coliseum	Fort Wayne
Lauren Sanderson	Apr. 13 '21	Subterranean	Chicago
Lauren Sanderson	Apr. 18 '21	The Deluxe	Indianapolis
Lauren Sanderson	Apr. 20 '21	The Shelter	Detroit
Lauren Sanderson	Apr. 21 '21	Newport Music Hall	Columbus, OH
Lauren Sanderson	Apr. 23 '21	The Stache	Grand Rapids
Lauren Sanderson	Apr. 24 '21	House of Blues	Cleveland
Leanne Morgan	Jan. 15 '21	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Leonid & Friends	June 2 '21	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Leonid & Friends w/The Sweetwater All Stars	Oct. 27 '21	The Clyde	Fort Wayne
The Lettermen	Apr. 9 '21	T. Furth Center, Trine University	Angola
Lilly Hiatt	Apr. 7 '21	Schubas Tavern	Chicago
Little River Band	Feb. 5 '21	Four Winds Casino	New Buffalo, MI
Little River Band	Sept. 11 '21	Honeywell Center	Wabash
The Lone Bellow	Apr. 8 '21	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Los Lobos w/The Summit	Mar. 27 '21	The Clyde	Fort Wayne

Lost Dog Street Band	June 5 '21	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
Louis Tomlinson	Apr. 15 '21	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Louis Tomlinson	Apr. 17 '21	The Fillmore	Detroit
Luke Bryan	June 10 '21	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
Lyfe Jennings and Christette Michele	June 10 '21	The Sound Board	Detroit
Maks & Val	June 20 '21	Rosemont Theatre	Rosemont, IL
Maren Morris	June 18 '21	Mich. Lottery Amphitheatre	Sterling Heights
Maren Morris	June 19 '21	Van Andel Arena	Grand Rapids
Maria Bamford	Jan. 22 '21	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Mark Christopher Lawrence and Andy Beningo	Feb. 6 '21	469 Comedy	New Haven
Matt Braunger	May 7 '21	Schubas Tavern	Chicago
MercyMe	Mar. 14 '21	Bankers Life Fieldhouse	Indianapolis
MercyMe w/Mac Powell, Micah Tyler	Apr. 8 '21	Memorial Coliseum	Fort Wayne
Michael Bolton	June 25 '21	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Michael Buble	Feb. 23 '21	Van Andel Arena	Grand Rapids
Michael Buble	Feb. 26 '21	Rocket Mortgage Fieldhouse	Cleveland
Michael Buble	Mar. 18 '21	Bankers Life Fieldhouse	Indianapolis
Michael Buble	Mar. 20 '21	Heritage Bank Arena	Cincinnati
Michael W. Smith	May 14 '21	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Mike Birbiglia	May 21 '21	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Milky Chance	Apr. 15 '21	Newport Music Hall	Columbus, OH
Milky Chance	May 4 '21	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Milky Chance	June 4 '21	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Million Dollar Quartet	Oct. 22 '21	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Ministry w/KMFDM, Front Line Assembly	Apr. 9 '21	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Ministry w/KMFDM, Front Line Assembly	Apr. 10 '21	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Ministry, KMFDM, Front Line Assembly	Apr. 12 '21	Agora Theatre	Cleveland
Molly Hatchet	Mar. 25 '21	Eclectic Room	Angola
Move to the Sanctuary	Apr. 22 '21	The Shelter	Detroit
Murder by Death	Mar. 12 '21	Saint Andrew's Hall	Detroit
Murder by Death	Mar. 14 '21	Thalia Hall	Chicago
The Musical Box	May 13 '21	The Clyde	Fort Wayne
Nada Surf	Apr. 23 '21	Thalia Hall	Chicago
NateWantsToBattle	Apr. 18 '21	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
Nathan Timmel	Jan. 22-23 '21	469 Comedy	New Haven
Nene Leakes, Adele Givens, Loni Love, Sherri Shepherd, Kym Whitley	Feb. 5 '21	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Night Ranger	July 10 '21	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Nitty Gritty Dirt Band	May 22 '21	Kalamazoo State Theatre	Kalamazoo
Nombe	Mar. 27 '21	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
Oak Ridge Boys	June 12 '21	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Oak Ridge Boys	Oct. 9 '21	Wagon Wheel Theatre	Warsaw
Omarion, Bow Wow, Ashanti, Pretty Ricky, Ying Yang Twins, Sammie, Soulja Boy	Apr. 9 '21	Little Caesars Arena	Detroit
Omarion, Bow Wow, Ashanti, Pretty Ricky, Ying Yang Twins, Soulja Boy, Lloyd, Sammie	May 7 '21	Rocket Mortgage Fieldhouse	Cleveland
Omarion, Bow Wow	May 8 '21	Heritage Bank Arena	Cincinnati
Parquet Courts	May 29 '21	Agora Theatre	Cleveland
Parsonsfield	Mar. 28 '21	Beachland Ballroom	Cleveland
Pat Hazell	Mar. 16 '21	Eagles Theatre	Wabash
Phil Vassar	Mar. 4 '21	Wagon Wheel Theatre	Warsaw
Poco	June 25 '21	T. Furth Center, Trine University	Angola
Pokey Lafarge w/Esther Rose	Feb. 19 '21	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Pokey LaFarge	Mar. 12 '21	Beachland Ballroom	Cleveland
Polaris	June 24 '21	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
Powerglove, Immortal Guardian	Mar. 15 '21	Token Lounge	Westland, MI
Preacher Lawson	Feb. 5-6 '21	Chicago Improv	Schaumburg, IL
Pure Prairie League w/The Why Store	Sept. 18 '21	Sweetwater Pavilion	Fort Wayne
Purity Ring	May 3 '21	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
PVRIS	Apr. 20 '21	Newport Music Hall	Columbus, OH
The Residents	May 7 '21	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
The Residents	May 8 '21	The Shelter	Detroit
Robert Cray Band w/Blue Veins	Mar. 19 '21	Kalamazoo State Theatre	Kalamazoo
Ron White	Jan. 23 '21	MGM Northfield Park	Northfield, OH
Ronnie Milsap	May 7 '21	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Ronny Chieng	Apr. 17 '21	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Rumours	June 12 '21	Foellinger Theatre	Fort Wayne
Russ	May 22 '21	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Russ	June 3 '21	Mich. Lottery Amphitheatre	Sterling Heights

Road Notes

► CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

virtual event aimed at presenting music from the greatest decade to those who continue to crave it.

The all-day event takes place January 30 and features headliners **Bret Michaels** and **Kenny Loggins**, along with former **Skid Row** singer **Sebastian Bach**, queen of '80s glam **Lita Ford**, **Grandmaster Flash**, **Ray Parker Jr.**, **Jim Peterik** of **Survivor**, and **Cathy Richardson** of **Jefferson Starship** and Journey tribute band **Resurrection**, all performing from their respective homes.

The event is interactive and will allow access to an aerobics class, cooking clinic, mixology lessons, trivia, a meet and greet with Bach, games, and even a virtual photo booth. Sounds gnarley.

COUNTRY AT THE BLUE GATE

Scotty McCreery has been signed to perform at the beautifully remodeled Blue Gate Theatre in Shipshewana.

The show will take place March 27 and features the Season 10 *American Idol* champion performing hits like “Five More Minutes,” “See You Tonight,” and “Carolina Moon.”

Some new music may work its way into the set as well since McCreery is rumored to be working on a new album, as most artists are during the pandemic.

Not only will you get to enjoy this show in a socially distanced fashion, but the management at the Blue Gate managed to find a way to continue to give away a free pie before each show, in a safe, anti-COVID-spreading way.

The music will definitely be good, but those pies are amazing and alone are worth the drive to Amish country.

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TUESDAYS | 6-9PM
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WEDNESDAY JAZZ SESSIONS

WEDNESDAYS | 7-9PM
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On the Road NATIONAL TOURS WITHIN DRIVING DISTANCE

Russell Howard	May 20 '21	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Ryan Niemiller	Feb. 25 '21	Eagles Theatre	Wabash
Saliva	Jan. 16 '21	Eclectic Room	Angola
Samantha Fish w/Southern Avenue	Aug. 27 '21	Sweetwater Pavilion	Fort Wayne
Samuel J. Comroe	Jan. 7-9 '21	Chicago Improv	Schaumburg, IL
Santana w/Earth, Wind & Fire	July 3 '21	Hollywood Casino Amphitheatre	Tinley Park, IL
Santana w/Earth, Wind & Fire	July 5 '21	DTE Energy Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
Santana w/Earth, Wind & Fire	July 9 '21	Ruoff Music Center	Noblesville
Scotty McCreery	Mar. 27 '21	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Sebastian Bach	June 9 '21	Rosemont Theatre	Rosemont, IL
Sebastian Bach	June 23 '21	Harpos Concert Theatre	Detroit
Silverstein	Feb. 8 '21	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Silverstein	Feb. 9 '21	Concord Music Hall	Chicago
Southside Johnny & The Asbury Jukes	May 20 '21	MGM Northfield Park	Northfield, OH
Sponge	Mar. 6 '21	Rockstar Lounge	Fort Wayne
Steely Dan w/Steve Winwood	June 23 '21	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
Steely Dan w/Steve Winwood	June 25 '21	Hollywood Casino Amphitheatre	Tinley Park, IL
Steely Dan w/Steve Winwood	June 26 '21	DTE Energy Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
Straight No Chaser	Mar. 26 '21	MGM Northfield Park	Northfield, OH
STRFKR	Feb. 7 '21	Newport Music Hall	Columbus, OH
STRFKR w/The Undercover Dream Lovers	Feb. 9 '21	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Struggle Jennings w/Brianna Harness, Nuke Bushner	May 13 '21	Rockstar Lounge	Fort Wayne
Styx	Mar. 13 '21	Four Winds Casino	New Buffalo, MI
Styx	July 22 '21	Sweetwater Pavilion	Fort Wayne
Swallow The Sun, Infected Rain	Mar. 22 '21	Token Lounge	Westland, MI
Symphony X, Primal Fear, Firewind	May 23 '21	Token Lounge	Westland, MI
Symphony X	May 22 '21	Agora Theatre	Cleveland
Tab Benoit	Mar. 23 '21	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Tantric	Feb. 12 '21	Rockstar Lounge	Fort Wayne
Tech N9ne	May 23 '21	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Tech N9ne	May 28 '21	Agora Theatre	Cleveland
Tech N9ne	May 29 '21	The Fillmore	Detroit
Tennis	Apr. 18 '21	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Tennis	May 8 '21	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Terry Fator	May 12 '21	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Theory of a Deadman	Apr. 29 '21	Eclectic Room	Angola
They Might Be Giants	May 13 '21	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Thomas Rhett	June 17 '21	Ruoff Music Center	Noblesville
Thomas Rhett	June 18 '21	Blossom Music Center	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Thomas Rhett	June 19 '21	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
Three Dog Night	May 6 '21	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Thunderstruck	Jan. 22 '21	Rockstar Lounge	Fort Wayne
Tigran Hamasyan	June 10 '21	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
Todd Rundgren	Jan. 30-31 '21	MGM Northfield Park	Northfield, OH
Tommy Emmanuel w/Joe Robinson	Jan. 13 '21	Kalamazoo State Theatre	Kalamazoo
Tower of Power w/Sweetwater All Stars	June 9 '21	Sweetwater Pavilion	Fort Wayne
Trapt	Apr. 9 '21	Token Lounge	Westland, MI
Travis Tritt	Mar. 18 '21	Hobart Arena	Troy, OH
Travis Tritt	May 21 '21	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Trevor Hall	Apr. 23 '21	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Trey Kennedy	Apr. 25 '21	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Tyler Toney, Cody Jones, Garrett Hilbert, Coby and Cory Cotton	June 24 '21	Rocket Mortgage Fieldhouse	Cleveland, OH
Walk Off the Earth	Feb. 17 '21	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Ward Davis	Mar. 6 '21	The Stache	Grand Rapids
Warrant w/Eric Martin of Mr. Big and P.J. Farley of Trixter	July 31 '21	Sweetwater Pavilion	Fort Wayne
Watsky	Apr. 14 '21	Newport Music Hall	Columbus, OH
Weathers	Feb. 28 '21	Schubas Tavern	Chicago
The Weeknd w/Sabrina Claudio, Don Toliver	June 21 '21	United Center	Chicago
The Weeknd w/Sabrina Claudio, Don Toliver	June 24 '21	Little Caesars Arena	Detroit
Whiskey Myers w/Bones Owens	July 30 '21	Sweetwater Pavilion	Fort Wayne
Widespread Panic	Apr. 1-3 '21	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Willie Nelson	Apr. 23 '21	Four Winds Casino	New Buffalo, MI
Wyclif Jean	May 2 '21	The Sound Board	Detroit
Zach Williams w/We the Kingdom and Cain	May 21 '21	Memorial Coliseum	Fort Wayne
Zoë Keating	May 19 '21	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Zucchero	Mar. 10 '21	Vic Theatre	Chicago

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COURTESY PHOTO

Netflix's 10-part documentary about Michael Jordan was our columnist's pick for the best thing to watch in 2020, whether you are a sports fan or not.

Jordan doc tops 2020's must-watch list

In my end-of-the-year column I wrote a few weeks ago, I talked about movies like *First Cow*, *Nomadland*, *I'm Thinking of Ending Things*, *Mank*, *Tenet*, *Never Rarely Sometimes Always*, and several other flicks that are racking up awards nominations and placing on critics' Top 10s.

And that's all great. Against the odds, it was a good year for cinema. Not great, good.

But, hold onto your butts, because I have a hot take to drop for the New Year ... none of the movies I wrote about in that column are my favorite film / TV show / whatever of 2020. Not even close. No, sorry, *Mank* is not the best watch of 2020. Neither is *Tenet* or *Sacred Cow*. Not even close.

The best watch of 2020 was Jason Hehir's 10-part documentary series about Michael Jordan, *The Last Dance*.

Here's the thing about *The Last Dance*: You don't have to like sports to enjoy it. I'd even feel comfortable suggesting that a person who dislikes sports (but likes great film and art and storytelling) could love *The Last Dance*.

For starters, *The Last Dance* is not really about sports. It's about greatness. It's about a group of people in the 1990s who assembled to support a guy named Michael Jordan.

If you're somehow unfamiliar with Michael Jordan, he's the most celebrated, best-known (and I'd argue just straight-up best) athlete of all-time.

And so we end up with a long-rumored,



Screen Time

GREG W. LOCKE

much-discussed 10-part film (featuring a ton of gorgeous '90s footage shot on 35 mm film) about people. About greatness. About a decade. About friendship and, more than anything, about a guy who was so much better at what he did than anyone else before him, and how he was able to be so good.

The story is told using endless archival footage, a huge amount of cinema-quality footage shot during the 1997-98 Bulls season, and interviews shot over the last couple of years. A sprawling supporting cast of talking heads help tell the story, including Barack Obama, Bill Clinton, Nas, Carmen Electra, Pat Riley, Ahmad Rashad, David Stern, and pretty much every great living basketball player. Oh, and pretty much every ESPN anchor from the 1990s, which is a real nostalgic treat.

The main subjects in the episodic tale of Michael Jordan's rise to historic athletic and cultural greatness are, in order of narrative heft, Michael Jordan, Scottie Pippen, Phil Jackson, Dennis Rodman, Jerry Krause, and Steve Kerr. These six men have all lived huge lives, and each character gets their own time to shine, with everyone but Krause getting their own little mini bio-doc at some point along the way.

But that's enough about that. I don't want to spoil the fun too much. Remember the OJ docu-series a few years ago? *The Last Dance* is every bit the grand cultural study that piece was, but with more interesting characters and gorgeous cinematography.

The Last Dance is easily my favorite watch of 2020. Once the final episode ended, I wanted to start episode one up again immediately. That doesn't happen for me a whole lot these days.

SEND US YOUR EVENTS: whatzup.com/submit

Top ten movies of a not-top-ten year

Every columnist summing up the past 12 months will note how challenging it was for us collectively and individually, but I still feel the need to acknowledge and echo the sentiment.

Even though theaters were closed, the movies were still open for business. Thankfully, there was no shortage of superb entertainment to consume at home.

I watched just over 170 films that were released in 2020. Here are my 10 favorites:

10. *DICK JOHNSON IS DEAD*

STREAMING EXCLUSIVELY ON NETFLIX

Documentarian Kirsten Johnson's idiosyncratic mus-ing on the meaning of life and its inevitable end via her ailing father is the year's most original vision.

Transcendent and grounded in equal measure, it's a rewarding doc that's warmer and more drolly humorous than its morbid title may suggest.

9. *FIRST COW*

STREAMING ON SHOWTIME AND AVAILABLE TO RENT DIGITALLY

Indie filmmaker Kelly Reichardt makes her most approachable and affecting movie yet about a pair of unlikely heroes who turn into even more unlikely entrepreneurs in 19th century Oregon. Filled with well-considered artistic touches and a softhearted story at its center, this is a small treasure worth discovering.

8. *BOYS STATE*

STREAMING EXCLUSIVELY ON APPLE TV+

Released in the middle of the most contentious election year in modern American history, this entrancing and supremely entertaining political documentary examines how we got here and embraces how we move forward together.

No matter which side of the aisle you find yourself on, this look at Texas teens creating their own government from scratch will fascinate and surprise at every turn.

7. *AMERICAN UTOPIA*

STREAMING EXCLUSIVELY ON HBO MAX

Spike Lee released 2 great films in 2020 and while his *Da 5 Bloods* is likely to scoop up more awards, his filmed version of David Byrne's Broadway concert is a joyous experience and proper companion to 1984's *Stop Making Sense*.

From both creative and technical perspectives, it's an unbridled triumph of conviction, imagination, and world-class wireless audio performance. The rousing rendition of Janelle Monáe's "Hell You Talmhout" is a clear highlight.

6. *SOUND OF METAL*

STREAMING EXCLUSIVELY ON AMAZON PRIME

This debut by director Darius Marder about a heavy metal drummer battling permanent hearing loss starts off rough around the edges but transitions into something more sensitive and soulful than what it appears to be at first. Riz Ahmed turns in his best work yet as the hearing-impaired protagonist and the sound design flawlessly immerses us into the changing inner world of the main character.



Reel Views

BRENT LEUTHOLD



COURTESY PHOTO

Pixar's *Soul* tops our reviewer's list of best films of 2020.

joyously and off-key with other people in public spaces.

4. *THE NEST*

AVAILABLE TO RENT DIGITALLY

Writer/director Sean Durkin emerges from a nine-year hiatus and delivers another excellent slow-burn of a not-quite horror movie. His agonizing depiction of an affluent family on the verge of financial tumult is dreadfully transfixing and brilliantly rendered.

Carrie Coon and Jude Law both do career-best work as the feuding husband and wife dancing dangerously around a divorce.

3. *PALM SPRINGS*

STREAMING EXCLUSIVELY ON HULU

In a year where the concept of time became fuzzy and days blurred together, this hilarious *Groundhog Day* variant benefited from the unexpectedly apt context of world events.

Andy Siara's remarkably clever script and Max Barbakow's assured first-time direction are in perfect harmony with one another. Andy Samberg and Cristin Milioti sport world-class chemistry and J. K. Simmons is a hoot in his supporting role.

2. *THE ASSISTANT*

STREAMING ON HULU AND AVAILABLE TO RENT DIGITALLY

It's not exactly an easy watch, but Kitty Green's day-in-the-life tale of a young assistant at a film production company where dark secrets lurk is chillingly compelling and exceedingly well-observed.

Ozark's Julia Garner is a revelation as the morally conflicted young professional at the story's center. Aside from the scene that gives *Never Rarely Sometimes Always* its title, Garner's visit to the HR director's office may be 2020's best stretch of film.

1. *SOUL*

STREAMING EXCLUSIVELY ON DISNEY+

Pixar delivers yet another life-affirming masterpiece about the passions that drive us and the preciousness of every moment of life that lies before us.

Director Pete Docter and the entire crew behind him craft an existential fantasy that bursts at the seams with beauty and humor. The heartfelt jazz compositions by Jon Batiste and heady musical score from Atticus Ross and Trent Reznor compliment each other exquisitely.

5. *SMALL AXE: LOVERS ROCK*

STREAMING EXCLUSIVELY ON AMAZON PRIME

Amid the towering achievement that is *Small Axe*, Steve McQueen's five-film anthology series, his depiction of two lovers who meet at a West London reggae house party is a high point.

The partygoers spontaneously belting out Janet Kay's "Silly Games" in unison is cinema's defining music moment in 2020, a year that took away our ability to sing



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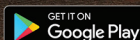
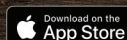
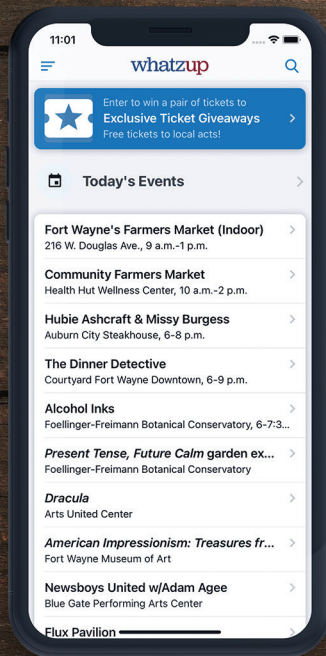
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Stage & Dance LOCAL CALENDAR

NOW PLAYING

The Dinner Detective — America's largest interactive comedy murder mystery dinner show, **6-9 p.m. Saturdays, Jan. 9 and Jan. 23; 6-9 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 14; 6-9 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 20**, Courtyard by Marriott, Fort Wayne, \$59.95, (866) 496-0535

ASIDES

Wagon Wheel Jr. acting classes — In-person classes include Theater Adventures for grades 2-4, Drama Time for grades 5-7, and Acting the Script for grades 8-12, **Saturdays, Mondays, and Tuesdays, Jan. 9-Feb. 9**. Online classes include Online Storytelling for grades 2-5 and Virtual acting for grades 6-12, **Wednesdays, Jan. 13-Feb. 10**. \$50 tuition, Wagon Wheel Center, Warsaw, (574) 267-8041

AUDITIONS

Bach Collegium — Auditions for new collegium members, by appointment, Redeemer Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne, (260) 485-2143

UPCOMING PRODUCTIONS

FEBRUARY

Mary's Wedding — Charlie and Mary are about to be married, however they are on different sides of a social divide in their small town, **7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Feb. 19-20; 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 21; 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Feb. 26-27; 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 28**, all for One Productions, ArtsLab, Auer

SEND US YOUR EVENTS: whatzup.com/submit

Center for Arts & Culture, Fort Wayne, \$11-\$20, (260) 422-4226

MARCH

Theresa Caputo — America's favorite Long Island medium entertains with her psychic abilities, **7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 4**, Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$39.75 & up, (260) 424-5665

The Odd Couple: Female Version — Florence Unger and Olive Madison replace the original duo in this twist of the Neil Simon classic comedy, **7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, March 11-13; 2 p.m. Sunday, March 14**, Wagon Wheel Theatre, Warsaw, \$15, (574) 267-8041

Agatha Christie's The Mousetrap — A group of strangers is stuck in a boarding house amid a snow storm, and one must be discovered as a murderer, **7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, March 12-13; 2 p.m. Sunday, March 14; 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, March 19-20; and 2 p.m. Sunday, March 21**, Fort Wayne Civic Theatre, Fort Wayne, season tickets available, (260) 424-5220

Ragtime — A musical that tells of people seeking the American Dream, doors and cash bar at 6:15 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m., curtain at 8 p.m., **8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, March 12-13; 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, March 19-20; 2 p.m. Sunday, March 21; and 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday March 26-27**, Arena Dinner Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$40, (260) 424-5622

APRIL

Buckets N Boards — A high-energy show full of percussion, ridiculous songs, tap dancing, and more, **7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 8**, Eagles Theatre, Wabash, \$15, (260) 563-1102

Lyrical Pursuit — Game show featuring knowledge of lyrics, audience participation, and a murderous twist, **7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 23-24**, Wagon Wheel Theatre, Warsaw, \$20, (574) 267-8041

The Charitable Sisterhood of the Second Trinity Victory Church — A comedy about three women sorting through a donation pile for a relief effort, **7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, April 23-24; 2:30 p.m. Sunday, April 25; 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, April 30-May 1; and 2:30 p.m. Sunday, May 2**, all for One Productions, ArtsLab, Auer Center for Arts & Culture, Fort Wayne, \$11-\$20, (260) 422-4226

Night Watch — A thriller involving woman who claims to see the body of a dead man, doors and cash bar at 6:15 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m., curtain at 8 p.m., **8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, April 30-May 1; 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, May 7-8; 2 p.m. Sunday, May 9; and 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday May 14-15**, Arena Dinner Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$40, (260) 424-5622

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Things To Do LOCAL CALENDAR

CURRENT

Fort Wayne's Farmers Market (Indoor) — Fifty vendors including farm and garden, home-based, natural products, and local artisans, **9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays through May 8**, Fort Wayne's Farmers Market, Fort Wayne, free, contact@ftwaynesfarmersmarket.com

Festival of Trees — Forty-four spectacular trees to view virtually, **through Sunday, Jan. 31**, virtual, \$25, (260) 424-5665

Savor Fort Wayne — Twelve delicious days of menu deals at participating restaurants, **Wednesday, Jan. 13-Sunday, Jan. 24**, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 424-3700

The Tiki Bowl Play Garden — Play the ancient Hawaiian bowling game, Ulu Maika, while enjoying the living garden, **10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesdays-Wednesdays, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursdays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, noon-4 p.m. Sundays, closed Mondays, Jan. 9-April 4**, Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory, Fort Wayne, \$3-\$5, (260) 427-6440

COMING EVENTS

JANUARY

Tiki Sessions — Explore customs of Polynesia through activities, crafts, and tattoo art designs, **11 a.m.-1 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 21-Saturday, Jan. 23**, Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory, Fort Wayne, \$3-\$5, (260) 427-6440

The Scottsdale Auction in Auburn — Hand-selected prewar automobiles, classics, sports, exotics, and select American muscle cars, **1-5 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 23**, Kruse Park, Auburn, \$30-\$150, (260) 925-6789

FEBRUARY

Wintery Walks in the Woods — A monthly hike featuring a different wintery topic each time, **10-11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 6**, Lindenwood Nature Preserve, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 427-6740

Tiki Sessions — Explore customs of Polynesia through activities, crafts, and basket weaving, **11 a.m.-1 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 18-Saturday, Feb. 20**, Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory, Fort Wayne, \$3-\$5, (260) 427-6440

MARCH

Tiki Sessions — Explore customs of Polynesia through activities, crafts, and bark papermaking, **11 a.m.-1 p.m. Thursday, March 25-Saturday, March 27**, Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory, Fort Wayne, \$3-\$5, (260) 427-6440

APRIL

Home & Garden Show — More than 650 exhibitors with contemporary home and garden products and services, **11 a.m.-9 p.m. Thursday-Friday, April 15-16; 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturday, April 17; 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, April 18**, Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, \$6-\$10, (260) 482-9502

CURRENT EXHIBITS

2020 Alumni/Faculty Exhibition — Works by alumni and faculty of USF Creative Arts, **9 a.m.-5 p.m. Mondays-Fridays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturdays, 1-5 p.m. Sundays, Jan. 11-Feb. 24**, Rolland Art Center, University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 399-7999

A Year of Making Meaning: New Additions to the Collection 2020 — Showcasing some of the museum's brightest stars from the past year, **10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays-Saturdays, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursdays, noon-5 p.m. Sundays, closed Mondays, through Jan. 31**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, Fort Wayne, \$8-\$20, (260) 422-6467

American Impressionism: Treasures from the Daywood Collection — Forty-one American paintings originally from the private collection of Arthur Dayton and Ruth Woods Dayton, **10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays-Saturdays, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursdays, noon-5 p.m. Sundays, closed Mondays, through March 14**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, Fort Wayne, \$8-\$20, (260) 422-6467

Art Farm Holiday Pandemic Pop Up Gallery — Ceramics, fiber, jewelry, mixed media, sculpture, glass, and metal, **noon-6 p.m. Wednesdays-Sundays, through Jan. 10**, The Art Farm, Decatur, free, (260) 740-8725

Historic Indiana En Plein Air — Sixty works by 42 artists of the Indiana Plein Air Painters Association including historic places from Indiana, **10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays-Saturdays, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursdays, noon-5 p.m. Sundays, closed Mondays, through Jan. 31**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, Fort Wayne, \$8-\$20, (260) 422-6467

Jamie McCann Photography — Nature photography, **noon-5 p.m. Tuesdays-Fridays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturdays through Jan. 30**, 2nd Floor Gallery & Studio, Churubusco, free, (260) 633-6957

Larry Burrows: Life in Vietnam — Photos captured during the Vietnam War, **10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays-Saturdays, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursdays, noon-5 p.m. Sundays, closed Mondays, through Feb. 28**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, Fort Wayne, \$8-\$20, (260) 422-6467

Static Energy: Sculpture by Dale Enochs — A collection of unique sculptural techniques that incorporate both figurative and abstract forms in stone and metal, **10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays-Saturdays, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursdays, noon-5 p.m. Sundays, closed Mondays, through March 14**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, Fort Wayne, \$8-\$20, (260) 422-6467

Woodworking & Valentine Hearts — Works in wood plus hearts in clay, metal glass, wood, and on canvas, **11 a.m.-4 p.m. Mondays-Saturdays, closed Sundays, through Jan. 30**, Orchard Gallery of Fine Art, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 436-0927

ART EVENTS

Ashley Beatty and Cara Wade Artist Lecture — Artist will present their work and studio practice as it relates to contemporary photography, **6-8 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 10**, University of Saint Francis North Auditorium, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 399-7700

COMING EXHIBITS

Breakout 2021 — Emerging artists coming into the art scene with refreshing and innovative works of art, **Fridays-Sundays, Jan. 15-Feb. 7, opening reception 6-8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 15**, Garrett Museum of Art, Garrett, free, (260) 704-5400

2021 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards — Featuring the Gold and Silver Key winning art and writing by students in grades 7-12 from Northern Indiana and Northwest Ohio, **10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays-Saturdays, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursdays, noon-5 p.m. Sundays, closed Mondays, Feb. 13-April 10**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, Fort Wayne, \$8-\$20, (260) 422-6467

45th Annual USF Creative Arts Student Exhibition — Works by students enrolled at USF Creative Arts, reception 4-6 p.m. Saturday, April 10, **9 a.m.-5 p.m. Mondays-Fridays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturdays, 1-5 p.m. Sundays, Apr. 5-28**, Rolland Art Center, University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 399-7999

Lost Man Blues: Jon Schueler — Art and War — A veteran of World War II wove his war memories and undiagnosed PTSD into his abstract expressionist paintings, **10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays-Saturdays, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursdays, noon-5 p.m. Sundays, closed Mondays, March 27-June 13**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, Fort Wayne, \$8-\$20, (260) 422-6467

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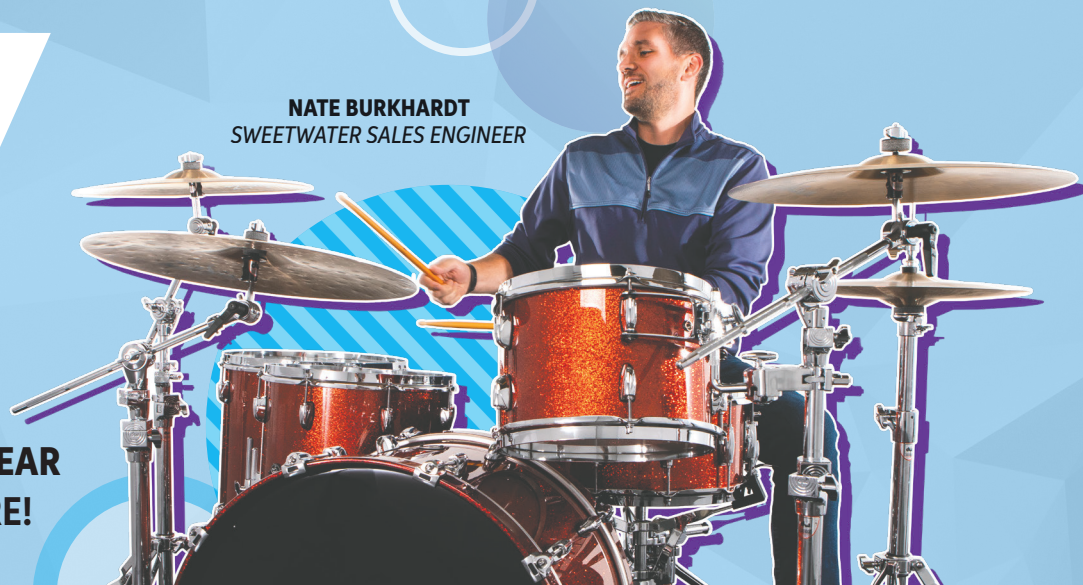
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