

Inside This Week





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Sweetwater

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Multifaceted rocker brings pioneering spirit to area

Keel's acoustic energy coming to Pierceton

BY CHRIS HUPE

WHATZUP FEATURES WRITER

Ron Keel is a many-faceted man. Rock, metal, country, blues, jazz, and classical, you name it, he has probably played it at some point in his life.

He has also hosted a syndicated radio show, Streets of Rock & Roll, for several years, has his own podcast (the aptly named The Ron Keel Podcast), and is known by fans across the world as the "Metal Cowboy."

Keel brings all of that and more to The Post in Pierceton on April 3, where he will play "Alone & Acoustic."

ROCKING IN THE '80S

Keel has sold about three million albums in his 40-year career from the heavy metal heyday of the '80s through the present day.

The first worldwide commercial release was 1983's *Steeler* album, which became a cornerstone in the foundation of '80s Hollywood hard rock and the last, to date, is the cover album *South X South Dakota*, a rocking tribute to many of his influences.

Looking back on his career during a recent interview with *Whatzup*, Keel said he never dreamed he would still be making music and playing shows nearly four decades after he put out that first album, but he is glad he has been able to adapt and survive.

He said that he is proud to have lasted this long, but that he never plans too far ahead, instead favoring to simply focus on whatever is presently occupying his creative mind.

"I prefer to take it one day at a time, one year at a time, one song at a time," Keel said. "I'm very proud to be one of the elder statesmen of my industry at this point and have a 40-year career to look back on. But, for me, it's always about the next day, the next song, the next show, and the next challenge. That keeps me motivated."

ADAPTING IN THE '90S

To continue to survive as a relevant artist, Keel has had to adapt.

When '80s hard rock quickly fell out of fashion upon Nirvana's arrival on the scene in the





MORE ON THE WEB

Use your phone's camera to scan the QR code and listen to Keel's 2020 album, Alone at Last.

early '90s, Keel turned to country as a way of satisfying his innovative desires.

From the outside, it was looked upon as a strange career move. But today, it appears to have been just another step in the evolution of Keel as an artist.

"I felt like when I went country and it was one of the big topics on VH1 and MTV, I got slammed for that," he said.

Now, with so many others following in his

footsteps from rock and pop to country, you could say he was a visionary, a man ahead of his time.

"I grew up in an environment where there was no prejudice against any certain style of music, so you can call it rock or country or southern metal or whatever you want to call it," he said. "But to me, it's all music and it's all part of my life and part of the palette with which I paint the picture of my journey.

"The country music years were really good for me and people to this day will tell you there's a lot of country in my style."

He has combined his various influences into what he calls "metal cowboy music," consisting of screaming guitars, vocals, and thunderous drums with songs that tell stories songs and mean something.

"The lyrics have to come from the heart," he said. "Metal is certainly an inspiration to me and has been a big part of my life, but so has country. To me, it's all just music and I want to explore all those territories and find place that I can be comfortable and call home."

PIONEERING IN THE '20S

Keel is a pioneer in another aspect of the business. He was also one of the first artists to recognize the importance a platform like Patreon could have in his career.

He discovered the website out of necessity when his wife was diagnosed with cancer in late 2016

Faced with staying home for an extended period of time, Keel felt he had to find a way to work from home while continuing to entertain people. So he embraced Patreon as a way to continue to engage his fans and get them entertainment.

"That has just been a huge blessing for me," he said. "When the lockdown happened and we were all pretty much confined to our homes, I was already working from home with the Patreon platform. What you get with that is hundreds of video and audio downloads and interactions. It's basically like Netflix for rock stars and it's evolved into so much more than I ever dreamed it would. It's not about me anymore. It's really about the fans."

He said he is even hoping to use his Patreon site to livestream the Pierceton show to fans across the world who can't attend.

RON KEEL WITH HELICON'S PEAK AND ALMOST GONE

8 p.m. Saturday, April 3 The Post 134 N. First St., Pierceton \$10-\$15 · (260) 247-5119

The Alone/Acoustic concept is described by Keel as a unique intimate musical experience that is likened as somewhere between a soldout Madison Square Garden and a campfire surrounded by a few close friends.

"It's just me, my guitar, my stories, and my songs," he said. "It's a huge challenge. And it's not a guy sitting on a barstool strumming an acoustic. I am standing up, rocking out, singing my heart out and trying to deliver a real show. Audience participation, the stories, the memories, everything is geared to satisfying the audience first and satisfying myself as well"

As for the future, Keel remains grounded in the philosophy that has gotten him to where he is today.

"I just keep focusing forward," he said. "I'm climbing a mountain. It's a big, big journey that I've been on the last forty years, and so I keep my eyes focused on the next challenge and the next goal instead of sitting down and looking back on where I've been. I treasure the past, but I live for today and I work for tomorrow. We are only guaranteed today."



How to reach us

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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. Cameraready or digital ad copy required by noon Friday the week before publication. E-mail info@whatzup.com or call (260) 407-3198.

Things To Do LOCAL CALENDAR

CURRENT

Fort Wavne Record and CD Show More than 50 tables of vinvl, CDs. tapes, vintage stereo gear, and concert memorabilia, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday, March 28, Classic Cafe, Fort Wayne, free admission, (260) 482-2525

Fort Wayne's Farmers Market — Fifty vendors including farm and garden, home-based, natural products, and local artisans, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays through May 8, 216 W. Douglas St., Fort Wayne, free, contact@ftwaynesfarmers-

Historic Southside Farmers Market — Meat and egg counter open, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays through April 24, 3300 S. Warsaw St., Fort Wayne, free, (260)

Patio Tomatoes — Find out the best container varieties with Master Gardener Dennis Parr, soil, containers and labels provided, garden admission included, ages 12 and up, registration deadline March 20, 10 a.m. Saturday, March 27, Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory, Fort Wayne, \$12, (260) 427-6440

Shipshewana on the Road — Thousands of unique gifts, crafts, and food, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, March 27; and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, March 28, Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, \$5-\$8, (260) 482-9502

Tales and Trails — Children and their caregivers gather for a short story before outdoor exploration, 9-10:30 a.m. Tuesday, March 30, Merry Lea Environmental Learning Center, Albion, free admission, (260) 799-5869

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, through April 4, Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory, Fort Wayne, \$3-\$5, (260)

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

Where Am I Giving? Lecture — Author Kelsey Timmerman talks about his world travels, 7 p.m. Thursday, March 25, Multi-Flex Theater, Indiana Tech, Fort Wayne, free admission, (260) 422-5561

YLNI Farmers Market — Fresh local produce, plants, meats, baked goods and homemade crafts in a cultural setting, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays through April 24, 350 Pearl St., Fort Wayne, free, market@ ylni.org

COMING EVENTS

Spirit Dancers Ecstatic Dance -Guided meditation, body warm up, and freestyle dance to African, Eastern, and Tribal music from around the world, 6-9 p.m. Sunday, April 11, Unify Ballroom DanceSport Center, Fort Wayne, \$10, (260) 440-6027

Home & Garden Show - More than 650exhibitors 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

Historic Homes of the Fort Wayne Rich and Famous — Lecture by Karen Richards about the homes of the city's leading families, 11 a.m. Saturday, April 17, livestream by ARCH, free, (260)

Northeast Indiana Historic Synagogues and Influential Families lecture — Dr. Wendy Soltz speaks on three historic synagogues and highlights families who helped build and create sacred spaces, 2-3 p.m. Sunday, April 18, free virtual event, (260) 744-4245

Blessing of the Bikes — Motorcycle riders are blessed by a priest, 1 p.m. Saturday, April 24, St. Patrick Catholic Church of Arcola, Fort Wayne, free admission, (260) 625-4151

Lucky Duck Consignment Sale — Clothing for boys and girls, maternity and a women's clothing, shoes, toys, movies, etc., 3-9 p.m. Thursday, April 29; 6-9 p.m. Friday, April 30; 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, May 1-2, Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, (260) 482-9502

MINOR LEAGUE SPORTS **HOCKEY**

Komets— Upcoming home games at Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne Friday, Mar. 26, vs. Indy, 8 p.m. Saturday, Mar. 27, vs. Indy, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Mar. 28, vs. Indy, 5 p.m. Friday, Apr. 2, vs. Jacksonville, 8 p.m. Saturday, Apr. 3, vs. Wheeling, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Apr. 10, vs. Indy, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Apr. 11, vs. Indy, 5 p.m. Friday, Apr. 16, vs. Wheeling, 8 p.m. Friday, Apr. 23, vs. Wheeling, 8 p.m. Saturday, Apr. 24, vs. Wheeling, 7:30 p.m. Friday, Apr. 30, vs. Wheeling, 8 p.m. Sunday, May 2, vs. Florida, 5 p.m. Friday, May 7, vs. Indy, 8 p.m. Saturday, May 8, vs. Indy, 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 14, vs. Wheeling, 8 p.m. Sunday, May 16, vs. Indy, 5 p.m. Friday, May 21, vs. Wichita, 8 p.m. Saturday, May 22, vs. Wichita, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, May 23, vs. Wichita, 5 p.m. Sunday, May 29, vs. Indy, 5 p.m.

Stage & Dance

NOW PLAYING

Young Heroes of 2020 - Telling the childhood stories of Ryan White, Ruby Bridges, Harriet Tubman, Helen Keller, and Martin Luther King Jr., available online, streaming performance, Fort Wayne Youtheatre, \$10, (260) 422-6900

AUDITIONS

Xanadu Jr. — Auditions for ages 10-15, 10 a.m.-noon Saturday, May 15; 1-4 p.m. Sunday, May 16, Huber Opera House & Civic Center, Hicksville, Ohio, (419) 542-9553

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

UPCOMING PRODUCTIONS

MARCH

Tchaikovsky Enchanted — Excerpts from The Nutcracker, Swan Lake, and The Sleeping Beauty, 7 p.m. Friday, March 26; 2 and 7 p.m. Saturday, March 27; and 2 p.m. Sunday, March 28, Fort Wayne Ballet, Arts United Center, Fort Wayne, \$35, (260) 422-4226

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)

The Color Purple — Legendary musical about a girl trying to remain hopeful when she is given to an abusive husband, 3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, April 24, and 4 p.m. Sunday, April 25, Indiana Performing Arts Theatre, Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$25-\$45, (260)

Art & Exhibits LOCAL CALENDAR

CURRENT EXHIBITS

21 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, through April 10, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, Fort Wayne, \$8-\$20, (260) 422-6467

Annual Student Juried Art Exhibition - Featuring artworks of ceramics, drawing, painting, photography, and printmaking created by 16 students, 8 a.m.-9 p.m. Thursday-Friday, March 25-26, Visual Arts Gallery, Purdue Fort Wayne, free admission, (260) 481-6977

Fort Wayne Artists Guild — Guild members' work on display, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Mondays-Fridays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturdays, and noon-5 p.m. Sundays, through April 17, Gallery at Three Rivers Luxury Apartments, Fort Wayne, free admission, fortwayneartistsguild.

Fort Wayne Artists Guild Members' Show — Members' show, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, noon- 5 p.m. Sundays, through May 7, closed April 4, Allen County Public Library main branch, Fort Wayne, free admission, fortwayneartistsguild.org

Fresh: A Colorful All Media Exhibition Brand new works by over 30 artists, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Mondays-Saturdays, through March 31, Orchard Gallery of Fine Art, Fort Wayne, free admission, (260) 436-0927

The Gallery at Jefferson Pointe — Original art by 40 members of the Fort SEND US YOUR EVENTS: whatzup.com/submit

Wayne Artists Guild, 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, March 25-27, The Gallery at Jefferson Pointe Shopping Center, Fort Wayne, free admission, (260) 459-1160

The Ides of Art — Artists Forrest Formsma, Susan Suraci, Randall Scott Harden, Jody Hemphill-Smith, CW Mundy, Fred Doloresco, Doug Runyan, Rick Wilson, Michael Poorman, Chuck Marshall, Hilarie Couture, Nancy King Mertz, Donna Shortt, Pam Newell, and Mary Ann Davis, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, March 25-27 or by appointment, Castle Gallery Fine Art, Fort Wayne, (260) 426-6568

Invitational Exhibition — Featuring seven local artists in the newly renovated gallery, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Mondays-Fridays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturdays, noon-5 p.m. Sundays, through June 5, The Gallery at Three Rivers Luxury Apartments, Fort Wayne, free admission, (260) 247-9491

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

Metamorphosis — Abstract paintings by Angie Brooks, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesdays-Saturdays, closed Sundays-Mondays, through March 31, Jeffrey Benjamin Hair, Fort Wayne, free admission, (260) 704-8802

Nature Calls — Artists from all over the nation whose artwork confronts the environmental issues caused by humans, 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays; 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, through April 12, Bread & Circus Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, free admission, bcgallery2020@gmail.

Porreca + Kesler: Abstract and Tangible — Sculptures and oil paintings of nature, figures, and cityscapes, 5-8 p.m. Fridays, 4-7 p.m. Saturdays, 1-4 p.m. Sundays, through May 16, Garrett Museum of Art, Garrett, free admission, (260) 704-5400

Wabash Art Guild — Oil, acrylic, and watercolor paintings, pastel, ink, mixed media, and fused glass, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Mondays-Fridays, through April 25, Honeywell Center, Wabash, free admission, (260) 563-1102

COMING EXHIBITS

Spring Palette — Artists Forrest Formsma, Susan Suraci, Randall Scott Harden, Jody Hemphill-Smith, CW Mundy, Fred Doloresco, Doug Runyan, Rick Wilson, Michael Poorman, Chuck Marshall, Hilarie Couture, Nancy King Mertz, Donna Shortt, Pam Newell, and Mary Ann Davis, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays, April 1-May 1 or by appointment, Castle Gallery Fine Art, Fort Wayne, (260) 426-6568

41st National Print Exhibition — 60 contemporary print-makers from across the U.S. showcasing a wide variety of printmaking mediums, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursdays, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sundays, April 1-May 2, Artlink Contemporary Gallery, Fort Wayne, free admission, (260) 424-7195

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

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

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

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Live Music & Comedy LOCAL CALENDAR

THURSDAY, MARCH 25

Audrey Ray — Country at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

Molly Hatchet — Rock at The Eclectic Room, Angola, 7 p.m. \$25-\$295, (269)

FRIDAY, MARCH 26

The 906 Band — Variety at Latch String Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m. no cover, (260) 483-5526

Adam Strack - Variety at Country Heritage Winery, LaOtto, 6-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 637-2980

Alex Ortiz — Comedy at 469 Comedy: Fort Wayne Comedy Club, New Haven, 7:15 and 9:15 p.m. \$25, (260) 426-6339

BackWater — Country/classic rock at American Legion Post 241, Waynedale, 8-11 p.m. no cover, (260) 747-7851

The Band Brother — Rock at Sylvan Cellars, Rome City, 8 p.m. \$10, (260) 854-9463

Carolyn Martin — Western swing at Cottage Event Center, Roanoke, 7:30 p.m. \$12, (260) 483-3508

Chris Worth & Company — Variety at American Legion Post 47, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m. no cover, (260) 209-3960

Ernie Haase and Signature Sound -Southern Gospel at St. Joe United Methodist Church, Fort Wayne, 5:30 p.m. \$30 for dinner and show, (260) 485-9681

Hip-Hop Hustle Contest — Hip-hop at Carl's Tavern, New Haven, 9 p.m.-3 a.m. \$5-\$10, (765) 499-1637

The Hubie Ashcraft Band — Country at The Venue, Angola, 10 p.m.-2 a.m. \$5, (260) 665-3922

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

Randy Spencer — Acoustic variety at teds beerhall, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m. no cover, (888) 260-0351

Metavari steps into livestream for latest release

local multidisciplinary electronic music act Metavari throws its hat into the livestreaming ring on Friday, March 26. The group partnered with a Cincinnati production company for an audiovisual experience titled Absurda Etc.

"Couldn't be more excited about the scope of it, as it was a pretty massive feat for us," said Nathaniel David Utesch, the talent behind Metavari.

The event will be recorded live from

the Arts United Center and will be available online through April 2. Absurda Etc. features Metavari's ongoing collaboration between Utesch contemporary percussionist Colin Boyd. The two have redesigned Metavari as a duo and are producing the band's

Out and

About

NICK BRAUN

fifth studio album later this year.

Absurda was a worldwide Record Store Day title in 2019 with a limited 1,000 copies released. The album is a score to a collection of work spanning the career of filmmaker David Lynch. The livestream event will be the first time Metavari have played the Absurda material



Friends Fund of Southeast Fort Wayne. Tickets are \$11.75 presale and \$13.75 day of and can be

purchased at beatstream.live/schedule/metavari.

Proceeds from the event will be donated to Family &

STRANGE WATERS IN SOUTH BEND

The instrumental surf rockers Strange Waters have been busy in the studio working on a new album. Until it's released, the guys will head to South Bend for a performance at The Garage Arcade Bar on Sunday, May 15.

Joining them will be South Bend's own surf act The Tentakills who have performed here in the Fort on previous occasions. The show will start at 9 p.m. If you haven't been to The Garage before, make it a point to show up early as it's a free-play arcade bar with lots of vintage games to indulge in.

OPENING THE JUNK DRAWER

Adam Baker has announced Friday, May 14, as the release date for his upcoming album, Junk Drawer. To celebrate, there will be a release party that evening at The Muse on Main kicking off at 8 p.m.

Those in attendance will get first taste of the new material and the opportunity to get their hands on a CD. Baker will be joined by The Kickbacks and Red Queen Project. Tickets are \$8 presale and \$10 day of. Buy them online at TheMuseonMain.com/events.

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

Nightlife

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. Alcoноl: Full Service.

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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

Kids invited to complete marathon in '21

fficial word on the 2021 Fort-4Fitness is on hold until the Fort Way Tincaps schedule is announced since they have primary use of Parkview Field.

But one component of the event has been announced, and it starts in just over a month.

The Kids Marathon, wherein young people achieve their fitness goals over the course of a few months, kicks off on May 4.

According to the website, "The goal of Kids Marathon is for each registered child to complete a marathon throughout the summer by logging miles through walking, running, biking, swimming, playing baseball, and more. They rack up 25 miles or more during the summer and then complete their final 1.2 miles at the Fall Festival on Friday night. Throughout the summer, the Kickoff and Family Fun & Fitness events are held as a way to provide an opportunity to log miles and take part in fun activities centered around health

Signup begins 3:30-7 p.m. on Tuesday, May 4, at Turnstone Center's Plassman Athletic Center. Registration is just \$10 through July 31 and \$15 after that date.

The 10th annual Spring Cycle also takes place 9 a.m.-1 p.m. on Saturday, June 5.

For information about all upcoming Fort4Fitness events, visit fort4fitness.org.

ZOO REVENUE

The Fort Wayne Children's Zoo is used to a lot of foot traffic, and last year was a challenging one for them. But as they look ahead to better days, they're also looking for inventive ways to raise some needed funds.

The Association of Zoos and Aquariums has arranged for a virtual concert, featuring popular country music acts, at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, March 31. For a \$30 contribution, viewers get exclusive access to performers and performances featuring Brad Paisley, Old Dominion, Ashley McBryde, Wynonna Judd, Riley Green, Jessie James Decker, and Shy Carter.

While many are still opting to stick close to home in the weeks or months ahead, this provides a chance for some great entertainment as well as an opportunity to help our local zoo, one of our premier attractions.

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.

Live Music & Comedy LOCAL CALENDAR

Sponge w/Plan B — Alternative Rock at Rockstar Lounge, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m. \$20-\$35, (260) 444-2442

Todd Harrold and Eric Clancy — Variety at Dreamers Hookah Lounge, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m. no cover, (260) 424-0442

SATURDAY, MARCH 27

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

Adam Strack — Variety at Byler Lane Winery, Auburn, 5-8 p.m. no cover, (260)

Alex Ortiz — Comedy at 469 Comedy: Fort Wayne Comedy Club, New Haven, 7:15 and 9:15 p.m. \$25, (260) 426-6339

Fireball Matinée — Variety at The Hideaway, Bluffton, 9 p.m.-1 a.m. no cover, (260) 824-0455

Forever Away w/Jupiter in July, Missing Fingers - Rock/metal at The Muse on Main, Fort Wayne, 7-11 p.m. \$8-\$10, (260) 999-4108

Fort Wayne Funk Orchestra — R&B/ funk at Piere's Entertainment Center, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m. \$15, (260) 486-1979

The Hubie Ashcraft Band — Country at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

Jason Paul — Variety at Country Heritage Winery, LaOtto, 6 p.m. no cover, (260) 637-2980

Jon Durnell — Acoustic variety at teds beerhall, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m. no cover, (888) 260-0351

Morning After — Variety at Dupont Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 483-1311

Motor Folkers — Acoustic variety at Oakwood Resort, Syracuse, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (574) 457-7100

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

Samuel Harness — Soul at Central Grounds Coffee Shop, Indiana Tech. Fort Wayne, 7-8:30 p.m. no cover, (260)

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

The Y's Guys — Rock at The Venue, Angola, 10 p.m.-2 a.m. \$5, (260) 665-3922

MONDAY, MARCH 29

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, MARCH 30

Sunny Taylor — Acoustic at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31

Fatima Washington — Jazz/variety at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 7-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

The Greys - Variety at 469 Sports andSpirits, New Haven, 7-11 p.m. no cover, (260) 749-7207

Laughs At The Mambo Room — Comedy at Mambo Room, Fort Wayne, 9-11 p.m. no cover, (260) 449-9761

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

THURSDAY, APRIL 1

The Cold Hearts — Country at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

Hubie Ashcraft Trio — Country at Mitchell's Sports Bar & Neighborhood Grill, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 387-5063

FRIDAY, APRIL 2

News and

MICHELE DEVINNEY

Venues

Austin Marsh — Variety at teds beerhall, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m. no cover, (888) 260-0351

Awesome Dre w/Team Unity — Hip-hop at Carl's Tavern, New Haven, 9 p.m.-3 a.m. \$5-\$10, (260) 749-9133

Brian Koning — Acoustic at Charley Creek Inn, Wabash, 8-11 p.m. no cover, (260) 563-0111

Fozzy w/Through Fire, Royal Bliss, Black Satellite - Rock at The Eclectic Room, Angola, 6:45 p.m. \$20-\$295, (269) 625-8817

Hubie Ashcraft — Acoustic at Country Heritage Winery, LaOtto, 6-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 637-2980

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

LiveWire — Variety at Latch String Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m. no cover, (260) 483-5526

Mr. Showtime — Comedy at 469 Comedy: Fort Wayne Comedy Club, New Haven, 7:15 and 9:15 p.m. \$25, (260) 426-6339

SATURDAY, APRIL 3

8420 — Classic rock at Wacky Jac's, Angola, 9:30 p.m.-1 a.m. no cover, (260) 665-9071

Casual Friday — Variety at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

Cause 2 Reflect — Variety at Oakwood Resort, Syracuse, 8-10 p.m. no cover, (574) 457-7100

Flyt Rsk — Variety at American Legion Post 296, Fort Wayne, 7:30-10:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 456-2988

Motor Folkers — Acoustic variety at American Legion Post 47, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m. no cover, (260) 209-3960

Mr. Showtime — Comedy at 469 Comedy: Fort Wayne Comedy Club, New Haven, 7:15 and 9:15 p.m. \$25, (260) 426-6339

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

Ron Keel w/Helicon's Peak and Almost Gone — Rock at The Post, Pierceton, 8 p.m. \$10-\$15, (260) 247-5119

Shane and Eric — Acoustic variety at Sylvan Cellars, Rome City, 8 p.m. no cover, (260) 854-9463

Steve Michaels — Acoustic at Charley Creek Inn, Wabash, 8-11 p.m. no cover, (260) 563-0111

Tri-State Killing Spree, Misunderstood, Atomic Collapse — Punk/grunge at The Muse on Main, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m. \$8-\$10, (260) 999-4108

Wallen Road — Country at Country Heritage Winery, LaOtto, 6 p.m. \$5, (260) 637-2980

MONDAY, APRIL 5

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, APRIL 6

Sunny Taylor — Acoustic at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

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WHATZUP MARCH 25-31, 2021

Live Music & Comedy LOCAL CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7

Laughs At The Mambo Room — Comedy at Mambo Room, Fort Wayne, 9-11 p.m. no cover, (260) 449-9761

Mike Mowry — Rock/variety at 469 Sports and Spirits, New Haven, 7-11 p.m. no cover, (260) 749-7207

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

THURSDAY, APRIL 8

Tobi Lee & Mustang Sally — Country at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

FRIDAY, APRIL 9

Hubie Ashcraft and Travis Gow — Country at Sylvan Cellars, Rome City, 8 p.m. no cover, (260) 854-9463

Jason Dixie — Comedy at 469 Comedy: Fort Wayne Comedy Club, New Haven, 7:15 and 9:15 p.m. \$20-\$25, (260) 426-6339

The Kickbacks — Rock at Latch String Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m. no cover, (260) 609-1231

Party Boat Band — Trop rock at American Legion Post 241, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m. no cover, (260) 747-7851

Rekt — Variety at Piere's Entertainment Center, Fort Wayne, 8:30 p.m. \$5-\$10, (260) 486-1979

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

SATURDAY, APRIL 10

Dakota Parker — Acoustic at Charley Creek Inn, Wabash, 8-11 p.m. no cover, (260) 563-0111

Damon Williams w/Cody Woods — Comedy at Piere's Entertainment Center,

Fort Wayne, 9:30 a.m. \$25-\$160, (260) 486-1979

The Duosonics — Blues at Trubble Brewing, Fort Wayne, 8-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 267-6082

Jason Dixie — Comedy at 469 Comedy: Fort Wayne Comedy Club, New Haven, 7:15 and 9:15 p.m. \$20-\$25, (260)

Justin Bailey — Acoustic variety at teds beerhall, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (888) 260-0351

Party Boat Band — Trop rock at Eagles Post 985, Kendallville, 8-11 p.m. no cover, (260) 343-9030

Paul New Stewart & Charles Rhen

 Variety at The Venice Restaurant, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 482-1618

Rekt — Variety at Dupont Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 9-1 a.m. no cover, (260) 483-1311

Sweetwater All Stars — R&B/soul at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

Zero — Rock at The Venue, Angola, 10 p.m.-2 a.m. no cover, (260) 665-3922

MONDAY, APRIL 12

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, APRIL 13

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

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14

Jon Durnell — Acoustic variety at 469 Sports and Spirits, New Haven, 7-11 p.m. no cover, (260) 749-7207

Kenny Taylor and the Swingset Quartet Jazz at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 7-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

Laughs At The Mambo Room — Comedy at Mambo Room, Fort Wayne, 9-11 p.m. no cover, (260) 449-9761

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

THURSDAY, APRIL 15

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

FRIDAY, APRIL 16

The 906 Band — Variety at American Legion Post 241, Waynedale, 8-11 p.m. no cover, (260) 747-7851

Anthem Lights — Pop vocals at Wagon Wheel Theatre, Warsaw, 7:30 p.m. \$28-\$50, (574) 267-8041

Big Caddy Daddy — Variety at Sylvan Cellars, Rome City, 8 p.m. \$10, (260)

Blood of Heroes, Pharohound, Voice of Sylas — Carnevil Festival at The Muse on Main, Fort Wayne, 4 p.m.-midnight \$13-\$20, (260) 999-4108

California Dreamin' - '60s and '70s at Cottage Event Center, Roanoke, 7:30 p.m. \$12, (260) 414-2015

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

Lee Carter Cook — Variety at Trubble Brewing, Fort Wayne, 8-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 267-6082

Tracey MacDonald and jus Will - Comedy at 469 Comedy: Fort Wayne Comedy Club, New Haven, 7:15 and 9:15 p.m. \$20-\$25, (260) 426-6339

SATURDAY, APRIL 17

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

Bradley Boxell - Variety at OakwoodResort, Syracuse, 8-10 p.m. no cover, (574) 457-7100

Celebrations — Pops concert at Wagon Wheel Theatre, Warsaw, 7 p.m. \$10, (574) 267-8041

The Harp Condition — Variety at Trubble Brewing, Fort Wayne, 8-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 267-6082

Jon Shoulders — Acoustic variety at Charley Creek Inn, Wabash, 8-11 p.m. no cover, (260) 563-0111

Kaitlyn Schmit and The Move — Country at Piere's Entertainment Center, Fort Wayne, 8:30 p.m. \$5-\$10, (260) 486-1979

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

Salem's Childe, Rattlesnake Mafia, Demons of Wrathica — Carnevil Festival at The Muse on Main, Fort Wayne, 4 p.m.-midnight \$13-\$20, (260) 999-4108

Sweetwater All Stars — R&B/soul at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

Symphony of the Lakes — Classical at Manahan Orthopaedic Capital Center, Winona Lake, 7-9 p.m. \$10, (574) 267-8041

Tracey MacDonald and jus Will — Comedy at 469 Comedy: Fort Wayne Comedy Club, New Haven, 7:15 and 9:15 p.m. \$20-\$25, (260) 426-6339

SUNDAY, APRIL 18

Jesse James Dupree & Dixie Inc -Rock at Piere's Entertainment Center, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m. \$20-\$75, (260) 486-1979

MONDAY, APRIL 19

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, APRIL 20

Adam Strack — Acoustic at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21

Laughs At The Mambo Room — Comedy at Mambo Room, Fort Wayne, 9-11 p.m. no cover, (260) 449-9761

Lindsey Konkler — 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

THURSDAY, APRIL 22

The Allman Betts Band — Blues rock at 13-24 Drive-In, Wabash, 8 p.m. \$99-\$399 per vehicle for up to six people, (260) 563-5745

Darryl Worley, Bryan White, Wade Hayes — Country at Rockstar Lounge, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m. \$37.71-\$341.92, (260) 444-2442

David Graham & The Eskimo Brothers — Country at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

FRIDAY, APRIL 23

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

Drew Thomas and Neil Rubenstein -Comedy at 469 Comedy: Fort Wayne Comedy Club, New Haven, 7:15 and 9:15 p.m. \$20-\$25, (260) 426-6339

Ross Kinsey — Acoustic variety at Sylvan Cellars, Rome City, 8 p.m. no cover, (260) 854-9463



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WOODEN NICKEL AND NEAT NEAT NEAT

ALBUM OF THE WEEK



JIMBO MATHUS & ANDREW BIRD THESE 13

These 13 songs were written in collaboration. Bird and Mathus penned the first half in 2018 and then wrote the second bunch in 2020. Everything was recorded live before producer Mike Viola stepped in to touch it up a bit. On CD for \$11.99 at all Wooden Nickel and Neat Neat Neat Records locations.

TOP SELLERS

WEEK ENDING MARCH 21, 2021

TW LW ARTIST/Album

- 1 FLEET FOXES Shore
- 2 LANA DEL REY
 Chemtrails Over the Country
- 3 CHRIS CORNELL No One Sings Like You Anymore
- No One Sings Like You Anymi

 4 RINGO STARR
- Zoom In

 5 PAUL STANLEY'S
- SOUL STATION

 Now and Then
- 6 STEVE EARLE & THE DUKES J.T.
- 7 1 ROB ZOMBIE

The Lunar Injection Kool Aid Eclipse Conspiracy

- 8 JON BATISTE We Are
- 9 3 EYEHATEGOD
 A History of Nomadic Behavior
- 10 LORETTA LYNN Still Woman Enough

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Sankofa

The Most Delicious Gold

Stephen Bryden, aka Sankofa, loves shoes. He also loves a Bravas dog, educating those that need it, poking the bear, and a good beat he can rap over.



Sankofa has been a Fort Wayne artist/staple for long enough now that he should be given the keys to the Fort.

Of course he wouldn't accept. He'd say sell 'em and help some folks that need it with the proceeds.

Since 2017's *Ink From Rust*, Bryden has kept Sankofa on an epic roll of releases, each one with equal purpose and engaging rhymes. In fact, I'm not sure when Sankofa sleeps. If he does, he's probably rapping on the astral plane.

His latest, *The Most Delicious Gold*, continues his prodigious roll to build a discography bigger than Robert Pollard's. *The Most Delicious Gold* is another epic run of rhymes, beats, and old school vibes that make me feel good every time I hear them.

The Most Delicious Gold is dropping with Burnt Records, and the beats are courtesy of Burnt Bakarak, scratches by DJ Navin Johnson, and artwork by Wrecklords.

But there'd be no show without MC Sankofa. He comes out strong with "Eric B. of Home Ec," bringing to mind the classic vibes of Jurrasic 5. Another favorite of mine is "Factory Tied." Killer beat and a keys sample makes me want to just bop my head in unison.

Burnt Bakarak knocks it out of the park with this beat, and Sankofa makes the most of that swagger. "Art Supplies" showcases DJ Navin Johnson, and who wouldn't want to shoot a boombox playing the Bosstones?

Stephen Bryden even drops some singing here to pepper the rap.

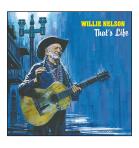
A gem among gems is "The Hoosier Way," Bryden's love letter (if you could call it that) to the Hoosier state. He pulls no punches and delivers his message in pure Sankofa style. He also dropped one of the most epic videos ever for "The Hoosier Way," directed by Bambi Guthrie. If you haven't seen it, seek it out.

Sankofa has done it again, with a little help from his friends. The Most Delicious Gold is indeed gold. — J. Hubner

Willie Nelson

That's Life

Willie Nelson is closing in on 90 years on the planet and 100 albums in his discography, and there isn't much he hasn't done before.



That's Life isn't even his first album of Sinatra songs. The first was 2018's *My Way*.

Nelson first took a swing at Sinatra-associated

songs way back in 1978 on *Stardust*, so this new collection is far from a novelty project.

There's no hint of camp, no suggestion that the album is a gimmick of any kind. Instead, it comes off as sincere and, somehow, necessary.

You'd think that Nelson's nasal, sometimes harsh voice is at the opposite end of the spectrum from Sinatra's sonorous croon. Sometimes it is, but Nelson still has remarkable range and control given his age, and he settles into each song as if he were born to be there.

Matt Rolling's lovely, intimate arrangements certainly help. It's all jazz, with no silly attempts to leverage Nelson's country-music pedigree — except, maybe, for the harmonica on the title track.

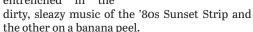
The intimacy, in a way, makes these versions sometimes feel warmer than Sinatra's takes. Songs like "That's Life" and "You Make Me Feel So Young" were bombastic under Sinatra's guidance, but Nelson makes them sound as if they come from the heart.

When Diana Kralljoins him on "I Won't Dance," the pair seem to be having authentic fun. And as long as Nelson wants to keep having fun, it will be worthwhile listening to him. — Evan Gillespie

Kickin' Valentina

The Revenge of Rock

Kickin' Valentina are a band that have one foot firmly entrenched in the



With guitar-driven rock drenched with plenty of attitude, the band have developed a reputation of delivering loud, unapologetic rock n' roll.

Their newest album, *The Revenge of Rock*, will do nothing to ruin that reputation.

They waste no time in kicking things into high gear when they welcome you to the "Freakshow" with the album opener before diving head first into the melodic "Somebody New," sounding much like Faster Pussycat with their guitar tone and vocal presentation.

"Rat Race" takes the attitude up about ten notches from there, churning out a chorus that offers the best hook on the disc.

"Lookin' for Me" heads back for another dose of melody and a look back on when "we were young and crazy" as does "End of the Road," which sees vocalist D.K. Revelle remembering the "days of laughter and long summers of love."

"War" and the title track, which close out this way too short, nine-song, thirty-nine-minute album, are perfect in their blend of everything that makes Kickin' Valentina a band to watch; attitude, superb songwriting, and an uncanny ability to write interesting lyrics that tell a great story.

If this were 1986, Kickin' Valentina would be a monster of a band with videos all over MTV. The ballad "Heart Tattoo" would have been a huge hit and they would have been touring with the likes

Backtracks CLASSIC ALBUMS

The Stone Roses

Second Coming (1994)



One of those bands that hung around from the '80s Brit-Pop scene

were the remarkable Stone Roses, who had help to start a new genre called the Madchester sound.

This was their second album, and it was the endcap to a buzzy, electronic rave sound that lasted almost a decade.

"Breaking Into Heaven" kicks it off, blending psychedelic rock with catchy guitar hooks behind the hip vocals of Ian Brown. If Oasis ripped anybody off, it was these guys.

"Driving South" follows, and the guitars in this one are straight up rock n' roll. Forget about indie-pop; this was a rock band hidden behind dance arrangements and pretty faces. One of the singles from the record was the trippy "Ten Storey Love Song." Imagine Pink Floyd and Depeche Mode collaborating in the '90s and this would be their song.

It clears the palate for the pre hip-hop of "Daybreak" that again showcases the guitar of John Squire and the jazzy percussion from Alan Wren.

Another odd but great arrangement is "Straight to the Man" which also mixes the Madchester sound with '90s driven electronic-soul. And "Tightrope" sounds like something from their first album (released in 1989) that was clearly influenced by The Beatles.

"Good Times" also has a psych-pop feel about it and brings the tempo of the release down for the first minute before turning into British garage rock for almost six minutes.

"Love Spreads" is my favorite from the release. The song lets it all hang in a guitar-laced rock song by a much underappreciated band.

I suggest you listen to this record first, then go back and listen to their debut.

How this band wasn't bigger still leaves me frustrated. They really were one of the reasons the genre carried on through most of the last 20 years. — Dennis Donahue

of Motley Crue, Ratt, and Poison.

While this type of music doesn't get airplay anymore, it is a true testimony to how rock should be played: with attitude, emotion, and no room for apologies. — *Chris Hupe*

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.

20 whatzup 20 UNDER 20

2021 SPECIAL SECTION



The Sweetwater Academy and Mynett Music are proud to partner with Whatzup to acknowledge the wealth of musical talent in northeastern Indiana. The first annual 20 Under 20 Awards highlight talented young musicians throughout the region.

Scores of friends, family members, parents, and music educators from Northeast Indiana nominated these young musicians. An expert panel of judges heard their musicianship and selected the top 20 to be recognized in 2021. Read their stories inside this special section.

STORIES BY MICHELE DEVINNEY · PHOTOS BY CHAD JENKINS AND TYLER ROSS

WAY TO BE AWESOME!

We're giving a big congratulations to all the **Whatzup 20 Under 20 recipients**, with a special recognition of current students of Sweetwater Academy:

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BEN FINKEL

JUSTIN BAILEY

COLIN HAINES

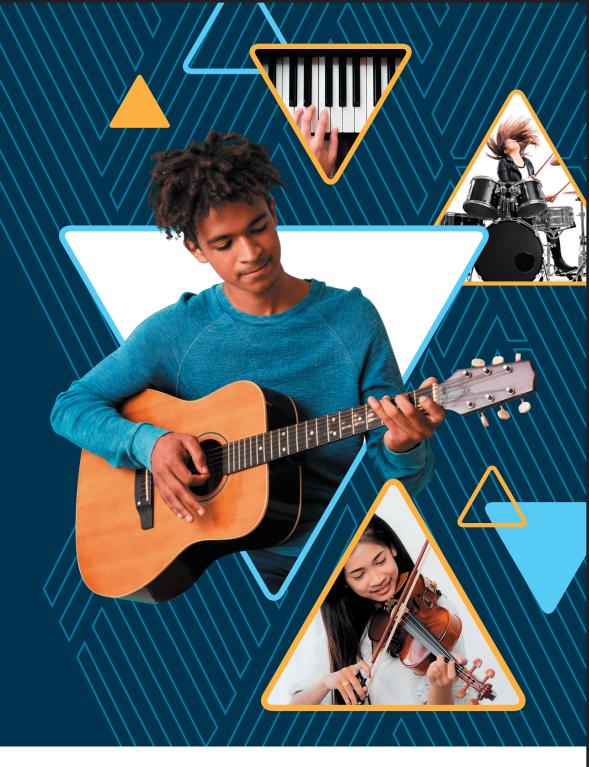
MIA VRABLIC

HUNTER SMITH

TAKODA COLLINS

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It takes some serious dedication to make a list so distinguished. We see dedication and commitment to improvement every day in the students who take lessons at the Academy, as well as in all the Build-a-Band and Rock Camp participants.



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Aden Carson

Aden Carson, 18, came to his craft through family. He began on one instrument but was influenced by other musical relatives to take a different path.

"There are a lot of musicians in my family," Carson said, "but I was really influenced by my dad and my grandpa to pick up the guitar. At the time I had already been drumming for a year, but I decided I wanted to play guitar as well and haven't looked back since."

Family is important, but so is the encouragement of a teacher who builds the student's confidence through the years.

"I began studying music at Wabash Music with Terry LeMaster," he said. "I have been with him for nine years, and I cannot express how thankful I am to have him as an instructor. He has helped me become the musician I am today. Whether it be by learning songs or theory, he has been there and has done a tremendous job as a teacher."

With plans to earn a degree in music and production through Purdue Fort Wayne and Sweetwater, Carson hopes to build a career in music and performance. Sweetwater is already the site of his favorite performance so far.

"My favorite moment as a musician was working at GearFest for Audient and then having the opportunity to perform the Sweetwater Pavilion in the same week," he said. "It was special because there are a lot of talented musicians in the area that they could have picked, and I was thankful that they selected me to have the job. Then to top it off, playing at the pavilion was a blessing and was the most fun I've had on



Ben Finkle

Ben Finkel, 16, first began playing the piano in kindergarten. He has no idea what drew him to the instrument, but being very young when he began, he was either laser focused or had a patient piano teacher.

"Very patient," Finkel said. "Dave Latchaw was my teacher, and he plays really jazzy keyboards. He was very patient with me for that first while that I was learning."

When asked what kind of music was influencing him as he matured at piano and keyboards, his answer makes him sound more Baby Boomer than Gen Z.

"When I was really young I liked the Beatles, thought they were just a fantastic band," he said. "They have some amazing songs. Then I started getting into more classic rock like Led Zeppelin and Steely Dan. Steely Dan brought that jazz fusion sound in, and their albums Aja and The Royal Scam have been a large influence on me with that jazz and jazz fusion sound. Since then I've just gotten into more and more jazz and progressive music. Return to Forever is a band I love, and I love King Crimson, old Genesis, old Yes."

Unsure if he'll continue to pursue music professionally or not, he does intend to continue playing. He currently has a band, Zen BBQ, that intends to get back on stage later this year.

He does have one favorite memory of performing before the music stopped.

"Two summer ago, we played at GearFest at the Sweetwater Pavilion," he said. "It was the Thursday night before GearFest started, and we were playing for the staff and had all the sound technicians there. That was fun."



Chali Moss

Chali Moss, 17, has always enjoyed singing and was told by her mother that she was singing before she was talking. But the moment her skills were best demonstrated came in an unusual fashion.

"When I was very young, I was watching a Blues Clues episode that had a singing scat and repeat jazz episode," Moss said, "and [my mother] said that she came in from another room and heard a tiny voice singing and scatting to Blues Clues."

Active in community theater since the tender age of six, Moss attend the fine arts magnet school Weisser Park Elementary and studied choir with Erin Bean and theater with Bruce Hancock.

Her talent led her to an experience which she cherished, one which has helped her further hone her skills. With a dream of one day performing on Broadway, these experiences are building toward that dream.

"Last year was my first year in a preprofessional theater company at the Community School of the Arts in Marion," Moss said. "I had a lot of family, personal, and financial struggles that made being able to go there such a difficult process, and I wasn't sure that I was ever going to be able to. My mom and grandparents helped make it possible for me to go and continue my career as a performer at CSA.

"Our first show of the season was Cinderella, and I was cast as Cinderella/Ella. The performance on opening night after working so hard to get there just felt so rewarding. I was so grateful, and I knew that on that stage was where I was supposed to be."



Colin Haines

Colin Haines, 17, is unlike his musical peers who were born to a life of music. But that changed when he was introduced to a famous musical family.

"I was first exposed to music by my grandpa, Dick Stoner," Haines said. "Every Sunday, on the way to church, he would put in one of his CDs to play. Every week it rotated between a Best of Frank Sinatra album or Out Among the Stars by Johnny Cash. I was drawn to the Cash album, and for a few years found myself into country music, though I have now comfortably settled into folk music, and I don't see that changing for a long time."

A student of the Sweetwater Academy, where he studies guitar with Kenny Taylor and voice with Hannah Battistone, Haines has made up for lost time with a few important experiences.

"Back in November, I was approached by Tom Brosseau to appear on his radio show The Great American Folk Show. I did two tunes to demonstrate my autoharp playing. It was my first radio appearance and will always hold a special place in my heart. My favorite, though, would be from about a year ago. When quarantine first began, my family would go to dinner at my grandparents' every other day. I'd always bring my speaker to play some music. One particular night, I played 'Here Comes That Rainbow Again,' a song that's a favorite of my grandfather and mine. And there, at the kitchen table, we sang along with Johnny Cash."



Corbin Keene

Corbin Keene, 14, was required to take a music class as a student at West Noble Middle School and chose band because it was his favorite part of football games. As it turned out, his connection to band went much deeper than even he realized.

"The more I look back now after nearly five years of dedication, I can see that music was always with me even before I began studying it," Keene said.

"I chose to play trumpet with a lot of my friends. But that year for my birthday I was gifted a \$20 Yamaha Advantage alto sax that my aunt had purchased at a vard sale. I spent hours just making sound and soon I had developed the desire to learn saxophone as well as I had with trumpet."

In just a few years, Keene had studied with three different teachers at school — Justin Goelz, Abby Travis, and Alex Villalpando.

"It's amazing to have a great teacher that you can share your passion for music with, but it's so much more to have them as a friend," he

Among his favorite musical memories, he notes a final drumline performance, one which demonstrates his passion for music, his love of playing with other musicians, and his proactive approach to making musical magic.

"I took the liberty of bringing back a drumline at our high school that we haven't had in many years. We put in a lot of work to prepare music and equipment and it was like nothing else to see that pay off."

Listen to performances of all 20 of these student musicians at whatzup.com/20under20

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Elijah Bass

Elijah Bass, 16, came from a family of musicians, so it isn't surprising that he, too, wanted to find an instrument to play. By fifth grade, his instrument of choice was the saxophone, but parents can be a bit more practical about those issues and suggested he start with a clarinet since they already owned one.

After one year, Bass was happy with music but convinced his parents to give his sister the clarinet and finally purchase him a sax.

That investment has paid off for the teenager who has been active in band, particularly jazz band, at Leo Elementary and Leo Jr./Sr. High under the direction of Bob Myers. Bass cherishes a memory from a performance when he was in eighth

"My favorite musical memory was at North Side High School for a jazz band competition my eighth grade year," he said. "It was the first time that I got to play in a large theater and I absolutely loved it. My whole family was there to watch me play my solo in Whiplash. I got to play with my best friend in the jazz band. The solo I played wasn't very good, but the experience was one I will never forget."

He is undecided about his future in music, but he knows he wants to continue to play and further develop his musical skills.

"I love making my own arrangement of music and would love to learn how to do it more."



Gabe Bailey

Gabe Bailey, 19, has taken piano lessons and even some guitar lessons over the years, but for the most part, Bailey's own musical curiosity and ambition led him to more or less carve his own path.

"I've loved and played music for as long as I can remember," he said. "I began playing piano by ear when I was four and picked up guitar, bass, drums, and more as I got older. The Beatles have been the biggest influence on me musically, along with my dad, who introduced me to that style of music."

His proficiency on the piano has won him raves from audiences, with one very special and appreciative audience leaving a lasting impression on him.

"My favorite memory would probably be playing 'Piano Man' at the Niswonger Performing Arts Center in Van Wert, Ohio," Bailey said. "The crowd was packed full of 1,200 people, and at the end, I stopped playing, and let them sing, which is one of the most special feelings you can experience as a musician, even if it's not your music."

With that dedication and ability to learn on his own, it isn't surprising to know that Bailey hopes to play music for the rest of his life. But his overall career plans suggest he may not be leaving Fort Wayne to do so.

"I would love to make music my career," he said. "I believe music is a great way to express things that are otherwise harder to express, and I hope to grow in that. Professionally, I'd love to play music for a living, or even work at Sweetwater on the sales floor!'



Gracie Grossman

Gracie Grossman, 16, began playing the violin when she was 12. But with a father who played guitar and a great-grandfather who had played the fiddle, Grossman decided a year into those lessons that she'd keep the instrument but change how she played it.

"Making the change meant that I could play with my dad which has been really cool," she said. "[Playing fiddle] made it more fun than the violin. We play a lot of bluegrass and Johnny Cash songs. My mom picked up the bass, and now we have a bluegrass band, the Rust Belt Drifters."

After she left her violin lessons, she found a couple more teachers, Becky Buller and Deanie Richardson, who have influenced her greatly. Richardson even provided her with a high profile gig, one of Grossman's fondest memories.

"Deanie had a student showcase at the Station Inn in Nashville, Tennessee," Grossman said. "It's a hub for bluegrass music, and I was so nervous. But once I got on stage, it was so much fun to play with my teacher. I take my lessons on Skype, and she lives in Tennessee, so that was the first time I'd met her in person."

Grossman also hosts a radio show, Lime City Radio, in Huntington and hopes to maintain work in radio and performance in the future. One dream would have her returning to Tennessee again one day.

"I would love to play professionally, and Eastern Tennessee State has a program in old time music. So I would love to study that."



Graydon Brath

Graydon Brath, 17, began his musical training on the piano, as did all of his siblings.

Eventually each of them, with the support and encouragement of musical parents, found an instrument which they wanted to pursue.

For Brath it was the bass, and his early years were spent learning in Minnesota, where he had a very special musical experience thanks to his involvement in the Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphonies.

"After every year, we always do a big concert with all eight or so orchestras," Brath said.

"At the end of this concert, every person comes back to play Gustav Holst's Jupiter. There are players lining the aisles and balcony. It is a wonderful experience that can't be described."

While still living in Minnesota, Brath studied with Mark Kausch, but since his move to Indiana in eighth grade, he has studied bass with Brad Kuhns, himself a noted bass player in the Fort Wayne music community.

Brath has yet to decide what the future holds but intends to continue to play in some capacity.

"I'm sorry to say that I don't have any big dreams or ambitions of where my music would take me," he said. "I definitely want to keep playing when I'm older. I think it would be fun to keep playing in an orchestra throughout my adult life."



Hunter Smith

Hunter Smith, 18, received a special gift for his 11th birthday.

"I always had a deep love for music. As a kid I would always be singing, dancing, and making noises constantly," Smith said. "My parents were the ones who decided to get me a guitar, and I fell in love with the learning process and expressiveness of the instrument."

Like many other young musicians, inspiration and confidence comes from parents but also from teachers who continue mentoring their students well into the performing career.

"I first began studying music in my middle school band class," he said. "My teacher was Shanna Lank, and to this day she still helps guide me in my musical journey and continues to help provide me with amazing opportunities even though I'm no longer a student of hers."

Smith said his favorite memory to date was his first paid gig, and he has a souvenir of that experience near him every day.

"I currently still have the check hanging next to my desk as a reminder of where I started and when I realized that playing music professionally would be an opportunity in life for me."

Smith plans to stay active in music throughout his life and make that gifted guitar the key.

"My ambition with music is for it to always play a part in my life, no matter what my career or job ends up being. If you truly love doing something you will make it work, and I aspire to continue playing music for the rest of my life."



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Jensen Snyder

Jensen Snyder, 15, has focused on singing in her young musical career. But in the past year, she honed some

"I think I was born loving music," Snyder said. "It's just always been in me as far as singing since I was little, so my main instrument is my voice. I really started getting into playing guitar a couple of years ago, and when COVID hit I really focused on improving my guitar skills."

With such an early start, Snyder sought ways to improve her singing and was given a great piece of advice for how she could do so.

"In the first grade my music teacher suggested I should audition for the Fort Wayne Children's Choir. I'm now in my ninth year, and that is where I really learned about music theory and education. It's a great organization."

Although deeply religious and devoted to music which celebrates that, a musical highlight came in a far more secular venue.

"I think my greatest memory would have to be singing The National Anthem at an Indianapolis Colts game," Snyder said. "There were over 60,000 people there. It was exciting, and I just felt peace and thankfulness."

Also a dedicated songwriter, Snyder hopes to continue to share her music for many years and in many places.

"I just want to reach people," she said. "I want to be able to travel around the world and sing and write songs that I pray will connect with people and help them with whatever they may be going through."



Joshua Bennett

Joshua Bennett, 16, first began playing the electric bass in sixth grade, eventually adding upright bass in 10th grade. His brother, who Bennett calls his role model, was playing cello which inspired the move musically.

"I decided I didn't want to play the cello," Bennett said. "But it did inspire me to take up bass. I just loved the distinctive low tone and sound."

Through his years at Woodside Middle School and Homestead High, Bennett continues to develop his chops, playing in jazz band since seventh grade. He has studied with Brad Watkins and Tim Beeler, and Bennett has also formed his own band, Jazz Knot.

Bennett recalled his favorite memory of playing with the band.

"It was our last gig before our drummer joined the Marines," he said. "We'd played together for two years, and it was an awesome gig. It was sad but fun to play with someone and feel the connection we had with each other."

That story is telling since Bennett's dream for the future is to become a studio musician.

Although he favors jazz, he also loves funk and pop and looks forward to playing with a variety of musicians, making more of those connections along the way.

"Studio musicians have so many opportunities to play with multiple artists and all different styles of music," he said. "I just think that would be great."



Justin Bailey

Justin Bailey, 19, was given his first guitar at a very young age. It lit a fire under him that continues to this day.

"My grandfather got me an acoustic guitar when I was young," Bailey said, "and I began showing interest in music in many different ways after that. I started taking guitar more seriously later and got myself an electric to learn lead guitar. From there I started a rock band and became our singer, almost by default, but it sparked a new interest for me, and I began to train my vocals as well. I also picked up the drum kit, bass, and electronic production/beatmaking along the way, but guitar and vocals are both my primary instruments."

Although mostly self-taught on the guitar, Bailey credits instruction at Sweetwater and vocal coaching with Rochelle Starnes with giving him confidence. Bailey has played long enough to refer to his "old band" The Setup when sharing his favorite musical memory playing at a friend's graduation party.

"It was a nice outdoor stage, and it was a great feeling to celebrate and perform for a big group of our friends all together."

As he works toward a music industry degree through Purdue Fort Wayne and Sweetwater, Bailey records under the name Houston, available on multiple platforms.

"I want to take my career to a level where I can work with other artists that I enjoy listening to. It would be my dream to make a song with someone like Travis Scott or Kid



Kellen Baker

Kellen Baker, 19, was introduced to music by his parents who provided a fully immersive experience.

"My dad was always big into old delta blues. My mom was really into the Grateful Dead, followed them around in a van for a bit, so naturally their middle ground was bluegrass."

But Baker also had a bit of the contrarian in him.

"Being what my parents were into, I thought bluegrass was very uncool and tried to distance myself from it," Baker said. "While they played music in our living room I'd go off to my room and listen to Gym Class Heroes or Bruno Mars or something. My dad was a guitar player, but I never had any interest in it until I was 10 and a kid down the street played guitar, and I thought he looked real cool."

Baker eventually found a formal teacher in Jason Davis at Weisser Park Elementary.

More recently, Baker performed with his band the B45s in Down the Line playing the songs of Tom Petty. When the Brass Rail looked to do a tribute show after Petty's passing, the B45s were included.

"There had to be over 100 people packed like tuna in the Rail just going nuts for it, and once we ran out of Petty they wanted more, so we played an original. The screams following that song were so loud they were bouncing off the back wall and into our mics, coming through totally cranked monitors, and feeding back into themselves. It was the loudest noise I've ever experienced. I just closed my eyes up there and felt like I was floating on it."



Layla Mulks

Layla Mulks, 15, first became involved in music while attending Riverdale Elementary School in Dekalb County when the school's music director, Adam Strong, began recruiting for band.

"I began playing music after seeing sign-ups posted to join band at school," Mulks said. "Growing up I had always wanted to be a percussionist, so I immediately knew what section I wanted to be a part of. I started playing marimba in seventh grade as a part of my school's indoor percussion ensemble."

She has taken advantage of all the musical opportunities provided to her as she continues her schooling.

"I have been fortunate enough to be able to perform with an amazing marching band, indoor percussion ensemble, and to perform in solo settings since seventh grade," she said. "My favorite memories are performances themselves, and what makes them most special to me is the indescribable feeling you can only get from performing and the wonderful people I have been able to perform alongside of."

Her focus continues to be on school where she hopes to be involved in music on all fronts.

"My musical ambition for the future is to continue to perform in college. Along with playing marimba, I am involved in my school's drumline, and I aspire to perform with a college drumline in the future. I also want to continue to grow as a marimba player and performer as I advance through high school and college."



Liam Campbell-Carpenter

Liam Campbell-Carpenter, 15, began playing piano when he was just six years old. His parents thought it would be a good introduction to music, but Campbell-Carpenter took the opportunity and ran with it.

Today he attends North Side High School where he is involved in marching band, concert band, the top jazz band Wildsiders, and the North Side Combo. In addition to that full schedule, he continues to study independently.

"I first began studying music privately with Patricia Burlage," he said, "and I currently study with Ali Dencklau for classical-based lessons and Dave Latchaw for jazzbased lessons. In addition to my music instruction, I have spent a lot of time lately writing and arranging music for my lessons and for a variety of musical ensembles."

Campbell-Carpenter plans to play professionally and looks forward to collaborating with other musicians. That joy of working with others is why he has enjoyed playing festivals over the years.

"I would say that my favorite memories of playing music have come from various jazz season events over the years such as Ball State or Bloomington's festivals. At these events, you are constantly surrounded by great music and great musicians. It is a lot of fun to celebrate your own and other people's hard work and learn from people who have conquered the music world. Many of these out-of-town events were canceled this year due to the situation that we find ourselves in, but I hope to create many more fond memories of these events in the future."



Mia Vrablic

Mia Vrablic, 15, came to music through singing, but she also learned to play guitar, which has helped her become a songwriter. She's come a long way since she took her first steps toward performance.

"I participated in one of my school's musicals on a whim and fell in love with performing," Vrablic said. "I didn't have any training. I just knew I liked to sing. That was about five years ago. I started taking voice lessons shortly after that for four years, and I definitely think that helped expand my knowledge of singing. But later on I realized I wanted to accomplish more."

As she continued to learn through her schooling and lessons, Vrablic found a teacher who provided another facet for her talents.

"When I entered high school, I joined my high school's show choir," she said. "In that class my teacher, Jaime Macklin, gave us music theory books. I have learned so much through her exercises, her teachings, and those frustrating theory books. Later on I took songwriting lessons to expand my knowledge even more. I took those lessons with Marnée August. She taught me so much and I really appreciate those classes because they helped me discover me."

Although her journey seems headed toward that of a singer/ songwriter, Vrablic has enjoyed her opportunities to work with others.

"I think my biggest ambition right now is to write songs for all different genres and people. I hope in the future I can sing and perform my own songs to maybe inspire people to follow their dreams or to help people that need an escape from their everyday lives."



Natalie Linnemeier

Natalie Linnemeier, 16, came to singing and music from a somewhat different angle than some.

Rather than picking up music from a family member or a popular singer, Linnemeier discovered her talent through singing with a very famous Mattel doll.

"Ever since I was little I remember singing to the songs in my favorite Barbie movies and telling my mom that one day I am going to sing just like them," she recalled. "My parents then put me in piano lessons in kindergarten hoping that I would like that just as much as I liked to sing."

That indeed turned out to be the case, and Linnemeier eventually picked up the guitar, saxophone, drums, and ukulele along the way. Those early piano lessons began at the age of five with teacher Ann Fitchner, and her father got her started on the guitar before she moved on to teach herself more.

She also began writing songs at an early age. In a performance for family she developed the confidence to move on to more performances in front of larger audiences.

"My favorite moment of performing music would either be when I got to sing at my sister's baptism when I was five or when I got to sing an original song I wrote at an openmic about two years ago," she said. "Singing at my sister's baptism was special and memorable because it was my first performance alone and being so young and standing in front of the whole church with the mic really sparked my love for performing. To sing an original song at an open mic karaoke was really special because I realized that people actually liked what I wrote."



Sam Trowbridge

Sam Trowbridge, 17, had been dabbling in music for years, first on the piano and then on the saxophone. But when his uncle gave him a guitar, the young man never looked back.

"In seventh grade and eighth grade at Blackhawk Middle School, I learned the fundamentals of reading music from a funny, inspiring music teacher, Mr. Joseph Godfrey," he said. "More recently I have taught myself in my own way, which I feel is the best way. Self-motivation helps you to learn it on your own, and it allows you to be more comfortable in having your own playing style."

Trowbridge has already released his first single, "Marissa," and he had the heady experience of performing it at a birthday bonfire while all of his friends sang along with his song. A new song recently released, "Summer Time" is now available on all platforms and could lead to a career in music, which is how Trowbridge sees his future.

"Personally, music makes me happy, and a world without it wouldn't be a world for me," he said. "I want to be happy for the rest of my life, so I must accomplish my many goals. I must do something in the field of music. Professionally I want to study music composition and production. I'd like to make a different sound to the world. Just do what I do, and never stop because art isn't a competition, art is just showing up and being yourself."



Takoda N. Collins

Takoda N. Collins, 17, started out on the trumpet but begged for an alto saxophone. He did receive one, but he eventually realized that he wanted to play tenor sax.

Borrowing one from his school until he could afford one, Collins has actually been self-taught on his musical journey and has been influenced and inspired by John Coltrane.

Collins is anxious to begin performing more but was fortunate to have one memorable experience just before things shut down last

"A little over a year ago, I had the opportunity to play with a German buddy of mine named Tristan and his dad, who had come over on a visit from Germany," Collins said. "[They were] here in Fort Wayne at Mad Anthony's, right before COVID hit, and they had to go back to Europe. I remember starting the set watching the band with Tristan, who is a superb bass player himself, and then getting called to play a funky rendition of 'My Favorite Things' in 4 instead of the usual 3. We ended the night playing 'Giant Steps,' because at that point most of the audience were musicians themselves."

Asked what he wants to accomplish in the future, Collins notes one modest goal.

"If you Google my name, I want a Wikipedia article to come up."

Listen to performances of all 20 of these student musicians at whatzup.com/20under20



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Key Palace in Redkey to host Gomes

nthony Gomes has set May 22 as the date he will return to Indiana and play the Key Palace Theater in Redkey.

Gomes' latest album, Containment Blues, reached No. 1 on the Billboard Blues Chart and was named one of the Top 20 Albums of 2020 by Blues Rock Review, Rock and Blues

Muse, and Blues Music Fan Radio. No stranger

to Fort Wayne fans since he has played here on many occasions, Gomes was also included in the Guitar World



Road **Notes CHRIS HUPE**

"Top 30 Best Modern Blues Guitarists in the World" list in 2019.

If for some reason you haven't heard Gomes play or would just like a free album, you can download a compilation he has made available at FreeGomesAlbum.com. It's worth the small amount of time it takes to obtain it. Stacy Mitchhart will open the show.

NOT SO LONELY

The Lonely Ones will hit the road for the first time in August with the first show of the trek scheduled for Aug. 19 at Hi-Fi in Indianapolis.

The band formed in 2016 from the ashes of touring warriors Bobaflex and features Marty McCoy as the lead vocalist and guitarist. Their music sounds very much like McCoy's old band, so Bobaflex fans should not be disappointed.

After the Indy show, The Lonely Ones head to The Music Factory in Battle Creek the following night, The Smokestack Brew in Mishawaka on Aug. 22, and The Basement in Columbus, Ohio, on Aug. 28.

And if you're patient, the band will rock Fort Wayne at Rockstar Lounge on Nov. 27.

NOT REALLY LADIES

On the streaming front, Barenaked Ladies just announced an event called "Flip n' Hits with BNL: A Night of Monster Jams of

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE ▶

On the Road NATIONAL TOURS WITHIN DRIVING DISTANCE

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38 Special	Apr. 30	Honeywell Center	Wabash
5 Seconds of Summer	June 6	Mich. Lottery Amphitheatre	Sterling Heights
Seconds of Summer	June 16	White River State Park	Indianapolis
Seconds of Summer	June 18	Huntington Bank Pavilion	Chicago
Adam Carolla	Mar. 26	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Agnostic Front, Sick Of It All, Crown of Thornz	Apr. 25	Subterranean	Chicago
Alabama	Apr. 7	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Alabama	Apr. 8	Bankers Life Fieldhouse	Indianapolis
Alan Jackson	July 10	Rocket Mortgage FieldHouse	e Cleveland
Alex Ortiz	Mar. 26-27	469 Comedy	New Haven
Align	May 13	Schubas Tavern	Chicago
All That Remains	May 19	Eclectic Room	Angola
The Allman Betts Band	Apr. 22	13-24 Drive-In	Wabash
Amy Grant	Sept. 18	Wagon Wheel Theatre	Warsaw
Andrew Dice Clay	July 15	The Sound Board	Detroit
Andy Woodhull	Dec. 18	469 Comedy	New Haven
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Anthem Lights	Apr. 16	Wagon Wheel Theatre	
Anthem Lights	May 7	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Anthony Gomes	May 22	Key Palace Theatre	Redkey
Armor for Sleep	July 22	Saint Andrew's Hall	Detroit
Atlanta Rhythm Section	June 12	T. Furth Center, Trine Unive	
Backstreet Boys	July 22	DTE Energy Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
Backstreet Boys	July 27	Blossom Music Center C	uyahoga Falls, OH
Backstreet Boys	July 30	Ruoff Music Center	Noblesville
Backstreet Boys	July 31	Hollywood Casino Amphithe	atre Tinley Park, IL
Banda MS	Apr. 30-May 1	Allstate Arena	Rosemont, IL
Barenaked Ladies w/Gin Blossoms, Foad the Wet Sprocket	June 28	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Barenaked Ladies w/Gin Blossoms, Toad the Wet Sproket	July 2	White River State Park	Indianapolis
Barenaked Ladies w/Gin Blossoms, T bad the Wet Sprocket	July 3	Jacobs Pavilion	Cleveland
Barenaked Ladies w/Gin Blossoms, Foad the Wet Sprocket	July 4	DTE Energy Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
Barenaked Ladies w/Gin Blossoms, Toad the Wet Sprocket	July 20	PNC Pavilion	Cincinnati
The Beach Boys	July 25	Foellinger Theatre	Fort Wayne
Big Bad Voodoo Daddy	May 8	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Billy Joel	June 26	Notre Dame Stadium	South Bend
Billy Joel	July 9	Comerica Park	Detroit
The Black Crowes	July 29	DTE Energy Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
The Black Crowes	Aug. 1	Ruoff Music Center	Noblesville
The Black Crowes	Aug. 3	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
The Black Crowes	Aug. 4		uyahoga Falls, OH
The Black Crowes	Aug. 7	Hollywood Casino Amphithe	
Black Pumas	Apr. 28	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Black Stone Cherry	Apr. 24	Eclectic Room	Angola
Blackberry Smoke w/The Allman Betts Band	July 17	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Blackberry Smoke w/The Allman Betts Band	July 18	PNC Pavilion	Cincinnati
Blackberry Smoke w/The Allman Betts Band	July 29	Jacobs Pavilion	Cleveland
Blackberry Smoke w/The Allman Betts Band	July 30	White River State Park	Indianapolis
Blackberry Smoke w/The Allman Betts Band	July 31	Mich. Lottery Amphitheatre	Sterling Heights
Blackhawk	May 1	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Bob Zany & Costaki Economopoulos	Sept. 16	Eagles Theatre	Wabash
Boney James	Oct. 7	The Clyde	Fort Wayne
Brian Culbertson	Apr. 4	Southern Theatre	Columbus, OH
Brian Culbertson	Nov. 19	The Clyde	Fort Wayne
Bruce Bruce	May 7-9	Chicago Improv	Schaumburg, IL
Bruce Hornsby & The Noisemakers	June 16	The Clyde	Fort Wayne
Building 429	July 9	T. Furth Center, Trine Unive	
	-	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
Building 429	Aug. 6	Fountain Park	Van Wert, Ohio
Built to Spill	Aug. 8	Bell's Eccentric Cafe	Kalamazoo
Béla Fleck and the Flecktones	Apr. 5	Southern Theatre	Columbus, OH
Carol Burnett	May 26	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Casting Crowns	May 7	13-24 Drive-In	Wabash
Celtic Woman	Apr. 8	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Chicago	May 23	MGM Northfield Park	Northfield, OH

WEEKLY LIVE MUSIC

MONDAY BLUES

MONDAYS | 7-10PM

Weekly blues jam sessions hosted by G-Money & special guests

SmoothTUESDAYS

TUESDAYS | 6-9PM

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WEDNESDAY JAZZ SESSIONS

WEDNESDAYS 7-9PM

Weekly jazz sessions featuring the Alicia Pyle Quartet & friends

NASHVILLE THURSDAYS

THURSDAYS | 7-10PM

The sounds of classic country, bluegrass, Americana & More

FRIDAY NIGHT VIBES

FRIDAYS | 7-10PM

An array of regional artists and bands with WBOI's Julia Meek

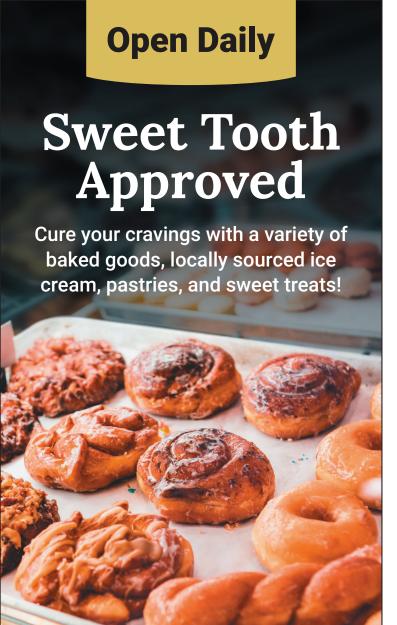


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On the Road NATIONAL TOURS WITHIN DRIVING DISTANCE

Chicago

Ruoff Music Center

DTE Energy Music Theatre

Noblesville

Clarkston, MI

Chicago	July 25	DTE Energy Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
Chicago	Aug. 1	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
Chicano Batman	June 11	Concord Music Hall	Chicago
Chris Janson	Apr. 24	13-24 Drive-In	Wabash
Chris Stapleton	July 17	Wrigley Field	Chicago
Chris Stapleton		Blossom Music Center	
	Aug. 5		Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Christianee Porter	June 10	Chicago Improv	Schaumburg, IL
Cody Ko & Noel Miller	July 17	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Cody Ko & Noel Miller	July 18	Agora Theatre	Cleveland
Colin Hay	Mar. 30	Taft Theatre	Cincinnati
Creed Fisher	Aug. 13	Piere's Entertainment Co	enter Fort Wayne
Crowder	May 8	Wagon Wheel Theatre	Warsaw
D.L. Hughley	Apr. 9-11	Chicago Improv	Schaumburg, IL
			<u> </u>
Dailey & Vincent Bluegrass	June 18	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Dance Gavin Dance	Apr. 8	Masonic Temple Theater	Detroit
Dance Gavin Dance	Apr. 10	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Dance Gavin Dance	Apr. 12	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Dark Star Jubilation	May 28-29	Legend Valley	Thornville, OH
Darryl Worley, Bryan White, Wade Hayes	Apr. 22	Rockstar Lounge	Fort Wayne
Dave Landau	May 28-29	469 Comedy	New Haven
Dave Matthews Band		Blossom Music Center	
	June 15		Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Dave Matthews Band	June 16	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
Dave Matthews Band	June 18-19	Ruoff Music Center	Noblesville
Dave Matthews Band	June 22	DTE Energy Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
Dave Matthews Band	June 29	Van Andel Arena	Grand Rapids
Dave Matthews Band	July 2-3	Huntington Bank Pavilion	Chicago
Davi Crimmins and jus Will	July 24	469 Comedy	New Haven
David Gray	July 17	Jacobs Pavilion	Cleveland
David Gray	July 19	Huntington Bank Pavilion	Chicago
<u>David Spade</u>	Aug. 6	MGM Northfield Park	Northfield, OH
Dead Can Dance	Apr. 27	Masonic Temple Theater	Detroit
Dead Can Dance	Apr. 28	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Del McCoury Band	July 9	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Dennis DeYoung	Feb. 19 '22	The Clyde	Fort Wayne
Deon Cole	May 29	MGM Northfield Park	Northfield, OH
Dermot Kennedy	July 31	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
	-		
Dick Fox's Golden Boys	June 26	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Dierks Bentley	July 9	FireKeepers	Battle Creek, MI
Disciple	June 19	Howard Co. Viet. Vets Gro	unds Greentown
Disturbed w/Staind, Bad Wolves	July 12	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
Disturbed w/Staind, Bad Wolves	July 13	Blossom Music Center	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Disturbed w/Staind, Bad Wolves	July 18	DTE Energy Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
Disturbed w/Staind, Bad Wolves	Aug. 8	Hollywood Casino Amphit	heatre Tinley Park, IL
DMX	May 28	Piere's Entertainment Ce	
	-, -		
Drew Thomas and Neil Rubenstein	Apr. 23-24	469 Comedy	New Haven
DSL	Aug. 29	Foellinger Theatre	Fort Wayne
Duke Tumatoe and the Power Trio	Oct. 28	Eagles Theatre	Wabash
Ekoostik Hookah	May 14	Legend Valley	Thornville, OH
The Fab Four	Aug. 29	Sweetwater Pavilion	Fort Wayne
Farewell Angelina	June 25	Fountain Park	Van Wert, Ohio
Flora Cash	June 18	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
For King & Country	Oct. 8	Memorial Coliseum	Fort Wayne
The Format	July 23-25	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
Fozzy	May 6	Newport Music Hall	Columbus, OH
Fozzy w/Through Fire,			
Royal Bliss, Black Satellite	Apr. 2	Eclectic Room	Angola
Framing Hanley	May 7	Rockstar Lounge	Fort Wayne
The Frontmen	Nov. 14	Wagon Wheel Theatre	Warsaw
Gaither Vocal Band	June 10	Blue Gate P.A.C.	
			Shipshewana
Gary Allan	May 15	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Gary Owen	June 18-20	Chicago Improv	Schaumburg, IL
		Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Gene Watson	July 10		
		The Sound Board	Detroit
Gene Watson	July 10		Detroit Northfield, OH
Gene Watson George Clinton and Parliament Funkadelic Gladys Knight	July 10 June 24 May 21	The Sound Board MGM Northfield Park	Northfield, OH
Gene Watson George Clinton and Parliament Funkadelic Gladys Knight Gladys Knight	July 10 June 24 May 21 May 22	The Sound Board MGM Northfield Park Four Winds Casino	Northfield, OH New Buffalo, MI
Gene Watson George Clinton and Parliament Funkadelic Gladys Knight Gladys Knight Gladys Knight	July 10 June 24 May 21 May 22 Aug. 21	The Sound Board MGM Northfield Park Four Winds Casino Sweetwater Pavilion	Northfield, OH New Buffalo, MI Fort Wayne
Gene Watson George Clinton and Parliament Funkadelic Gladys Knight Gladys Knight	July 10 June 24 May 21 May 22	The Sound Board MGM Northfield Park Four Winds Casino	Northfield, OH New Buffalo, MI

Road Notes

► CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Pandemic Proportions," set to take place on Saturday, April 17.

The show will be 60 minutes long and feature some of the band's biggest smash hits and a lot of fan favorites that might not have gotten much airplay.

For this event, the band is returning to the Danforth Music Hall in their hometown of Toronto for the first time in 30 years.

Barenaked Ladies are still planning to make good on the sixth installment of their "Last Summer on Earth Tour," originally scheduled for last year and set to kick off in June of this year. That tour will stop in Chicago on June 28, Indianapolis on July 2, Cleveland on July 3, Detroit on July 4, and Cincinnati on July 20.

Gin Blossoms and Toad the Wet Sprocket are also on the bill, making it a wonderful night of mostly '90s music.

Road Notes covers concerts within driving distance of Northeast Indiana. Send your news items to info@whatzup.com.

Road Trips

Austin Marsh

Apr. 9 JJ Winns, Montpelier, OH Strange Waters w/The Tentakills

May 15 The Garage Arcade Bar, South Bend The Bulldogs

June 3 Mentone Egg Festival, Mentone June 13 Callaway Park, Elwood July 3 Fast Lake Street, Topeka

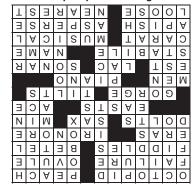
The Hubie Ashcraft Band

Apr. 3 McSobers Saloon, Coldwater, OH Riverside Park, Warren Apr 30 May 2 The Old Mill Village, Fremont May 7 Two Bandits Brewery, Coldwater, MI Country Heritage Winery, Nashville, IN May 8 June 4 Blue Gate Performing Arts Center, Shipshewana Ribfest, Antwerp, OH June 5 T&J's Smokehouse, Put-In-Bay, OH lune 11 Splash Swim-Up Bar, Put-In-Bay, OH June 13 T&J's Smokehouse, Put-In-Bay, OH Clocktower Inn, Berne June 18 July 9 The Michiana Event Center, Shipshewana July 11 Clear Lake Kasota Island, Fremont

July 15 Huggy Bear Campground, Middle Point, OH

T&J's Smokehouse, Put-In-Bay, OH

Answer key for puzzle on Page 22



On the Road NATIONAL TOURS WITHIN DRIVING DISTANCE **Huntington Bank Pavilion** Goo Goo Dolls Aug. 8 Mich. Lottery Amphitheatre Sterling Heights Gordon Lightfoot May 14 Lerner Theatre Elkhart Gordon Lightfoot July 15-16 Royal Oak Music Theatre Royal Oak, MI Grand Funk Railroad May 1 MGM Northfield Park Northfield, OH Green Day w/Fall Out Boy, Weezer, the Interrupters Aug. 10 May 8 Lincoln Hall Chicago Guns N' Roses July 18 Lucas Oil Stadium Indianapolis Guns N' Roses Chicago July 21 Wrialey Field Guns N' Roses July 24 Comerica Park Halsey June 23 Blossom Music Center Cuyahoga Falls, OH June 26 Hollywood Casino Amphitheatre Tinley Park, IL Heart by Heart July 30 Fountain Park Van Wert, Ohio Hot Mulligan June 26 Saint Andrew's Hal Detroit J.B. Smoove May 27 The Sound Board Detroit Chicago James Taylor w/Jackson Browne June 9 United Center James Taylor w/Jackson Browne Blossom Music Center Cuyahoga Falls, OH DTE Energy Music Theatre James Taylor w/Jackson Browne Nutter Center Dayton Jamey Johnson w/Whiskey Myers White River State Park June 25 Indianapolis Jamey Johnson w/Whiskey Myers, Folk Uke June 26 Mich. Lottery Amphitheatre Sterling Heights Rlue Gate P.A.C. Jamev Johnson Aug. 8 Shipshewana Jason Dixie Apr. 9-10 469 Comedy New Haven Fox Theatre Jeanne Robertson June 9 Blue Gate P.A.C. Shipshewana Jeanne Robertson Sept. 16 Honeywell Center Wabash leff Dunham July 7 Nutter Center Davtor Rlue Gate P.A.C. Jeff Foxworthy June 5 Shipshewana Jeff Shaw Apr. 30-May 1 469 Comedy **New Haven** Jeremy Piver May 13 Jess Hilarious July 23-24 Chicago Improv Schaumburg, II Jesse James Dupree & Dixie Inc Apr. 18 Piere's Entertainment Center Fort Wayne lim Stafford May 28-29 Blue Gate Music Hall Shipshewana July 10 Ruoff Music Center Jimmy Buffett Noblesville Jimmy Buffett July 13 Riverbend Music Center Cincinnat Oct. 15 Joe Satrian Honeywell Center July 8 Blue Gate P.A.C. Shipshewana John Michael Montgomery Double H Farms Hamilton Johnny Mathis June 11 Four Winds Casino New Buffalo, MI JoJo Siwa July 16 Allstate Arena Rosemont, IL JoJo Siwa July 17 Memorial Coliseum Fort Wayne JoJo Siwa July 18 Rocket Mortgage FieldHouse Cleveland Blue Gate P.A.C Shipshewana Joywave Subterranean June 22-23 **United Center** Justin Bieber Chicago Justin Bieber Van Andel Arena June 25 Grand Rapids Justin Bieher June 28 Little Caesars Arena Detroit Justin Biebe June 29 Schottenstein Center Columbus, OH The Fillmore June 23 Kaleo w/Matt Maeson, Belle MT Aragon Ballroom Chicago Chicago May 8 Aragon Ballroom Kenny "Babyface" Edmonds Apr. 25 The Sound Board Detroit Kenny Wayne Shepherd Band Sweetwater Pavilion Fort Wayne Sept. 1 Kidz Bop July 30 **PNC** Pavilion Cincinnat Schubas Tavern Apr. 27 Kingston Trio June 3 Blue Gate P.A.C Shipshewana Larry Reeb June 4-5 469 Comedy **New Haven** Memorial Coliseum Lauren Daigle Sept. 24 Fort Wayne Lauren Sanderson Apr. 13 Subterranean Chicago Lauren Sanderson Apr. 18 The Deluxe Indianapolis Apr. 20 Saint Andrew's Hall Newport Music Hall Apr. 21 Columbus, OH The Stache **Grand Rapids** Lauren Sanderson Apr. 24 House of Blues Cleveland Blue Gate P.A.C. Leonid & Friends June 2 Shipshewana Leonid & Friends w/The Sweetwater All Stars Oct. 27 The Clyde Fort Wayne The Letter Black June 18 Howard Co. Viet. Vets Grounds Greentown Schubas Tavern





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Week 3: **July 12–16**

Week 6: August 2-6

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On the Road NATIONAL TOLIRS WITHIN DRIVING DISTANCE

Lindsey Stirling	Aug. 6	PNC Pavilion	Cincinnat
Little River Band	Sept. 11	Honeywell Center	Wabash
The Lonely Ones	Nov. 27	Rockstar Lounge	Fort Wayne
Los Aztecas	May 8	Rockstar Lounge	Fort Wayne
Lost Dors Chroat Dond	Nov. 6	The Clyde	Fort Wayne
Lost Dog Street Band Louis Tomlinson	June 5	Lincoln Hall The Fillmore	Chicago
Lucky Chops	Apr. 17 May 13	Taft Theatre	Detroit Cincinnat
Luke Bryan	June 10	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnat
Lyfe Jennings and Chrisette Michele	June 10	The Sound Board	Detroit
Maks & Val	June 20	Rosemont Theatre	Rosemont, II
Maren Morris	July 9	White River State Park	Indianapolis
Maren Morris	July 10	Jacobs Pavilion	Cleveland
Matt Braunger	May 7	Schubas Tavern	Chicago
The Mavericks	July 16	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Megadeth and Lamb of God	July 27	Jacobs Pavilion	Cleveland
Megadeth and Lamb of God	July 28	Ruoff Music Center	Noblesville
Megadeth and Lamb of God	Aug. 6	Hollywood Casino Amphithe	atre Tinley Park, II
Megadeth, Lamb of God, Trivium, In Flames	July 9	DTE Energy Music Theatre	Clarkston, M
Megadeth, Lamb of God, Trivium, In Flames	July 14	PNC Pavilion	Cincinnati
Michael Bolton	June 25	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Michael W. Smith	May 14	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Milky Chance	Apr. 15	Newport Music Hall	Columbus, OF
Milky Chance	May 3	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, M
Milky Chance	May 4	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Milky Chance	June 4	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Million Dollar Quartet	Oct. 22	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Molly Hatchet	Mar. 25	Eclectic Room	Angola
Monsta X	May 2	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Monsta X	May 5	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Motley Crue, Def Leppard, Poison, Joan Jett	July 10	Comerica Park	Detroit
Mr. Showtime	Apr. 2-3	469 Comedy	New Haven
The Musical Box	May 13	The Clyde	Fort Wayne
Nada Surf	Apr. 23	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Nate Bargatze NateWantsToBattle	Apr. 29-May 1 Apr. 18	Toledo Funny Bone Lincoln Hall	Perrysburg, OF
Night Ranger	July 10	Honeywell Center	Chicago Wabash
Nitty Gritty Dirt Band	May 22	Kalamazoo State Theatre	Kalamazoo
Nombe	Mar. 27	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
Oak Ridge Boys	June 12	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Oak Ridge Boys	Oct. 9	Wagon Wheel Theatre	Warsaw
Omarion, Bow Wow, Ashanti, Pretty Ricky,			
Ying Yang Twins, Sammie, Soulja Boy	Apr. 9	Little Caesars Arena	Detroit
Omarion, Bow Wow, Ashanti, Pretty Ricky,	May 7	Pookot Mortgogo Fioldhouse	e Cleveland
Ying Yang Twins, Soulja Boy, Lloyd, Sammie	,	Rocket Mortgage Fieldhouse	
Omarion, Bow Wow	May 8	Heritage Bank Arena Saint Andrew's Hall	Cincinnati Detroit
Palaye Royale Parquet Courts	July 10 May 29	Agora Theatre	Cleveland
Pat Hazell	Sept. 21	Eagles Theatre	Wabash
Peach Pit	May 11	Newport Music Hall	Columbus, OH
Phil Vassar	Nov. 13	Wagon Wheel Theatre	Warsaw
Phish	Aug. 6-8	Ruoff Music Center	Noblesville
Pigeons Playing Ping Pong	May 21-22	Legend Valley	Thornville, OH
Poco	June 25	T. Furth Center, Trine Unive	
Polaris	June 24	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
Primus	July 15	Express Live	Columbus, OH
Primus	July 16	Jacobs Pavilion	Cleveland
Primus	July 17	Mich. Lottery Amphitheatre	Sterling Heights
Primus	July 19	PNC Pavilion	Cincinnat
Primus	July 20	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Primus	July 21	White River State Park	Indianapolis
Pure Prairie League w/The Why Store	Sept. 18	Sweetwater Pavilion	Fort Wayne
PVRIS	Apr. 20	Newport Music Hall	Columbus, OF
Rage Against the Machine	July 12-13	United Center	Chicago
Rage Against the Machine	July 26-27	Little Caesars Arena	Detroit
	Aug. 7	Huntington Center	Toledo
Reba McEntire	Auu. /		.0.040
		Ohio Theatre	Columbus. OH
Reba McEntire Renée Fleming REO Speedwagon	May 22 July 31	Ohio Theatre Foellinger Theatre	Columbus, OH



20 WHATZUP

MARCH 25-31, 2021

On the Road NATIONAL TOURS WITHIN DRIVING DISTANCE

The Decidents		
The Residents	May 8	Saint Andrew's Hall Detroit
Rod Stewart w/Cheap Trick Rod Stewart w/Cheap Trick	July 15 July 21	Riverbend Music Center Cincinnat Hollywood Casino Amphitheatre Tinley Park, IL
Rod Stewart w/Cheap Trick	July 23	DTE Energy Music Theatre Clarkston, M
Rod Stewart w/Cheap Trick	July 28	Blossom Music Center Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Ron Feingold and Vikram Balji	May 7-8	469 Comedy New Haven
Ron Keel w/Helicon's Peak and Almost Gone	Apr. 3	The Post Pierceton
Ronnie Milsap	May 7	Honeywell Center Wabash
Ronny Chieng	Apr. 17	Thalia Hall Chicago
Russ	May 22	Aragon Ballroom Chicago
Russ	June 3	Mich. Lottery Amphi. Sterling Heights, M
Russell Howard	May 20	Thalia Hall Chicago
Ryan Niemiller	Sept. 30	Eagles Theatre Wabash
Saliva	May 1	Eclectic Room Angola
Samantha Fish w/Southern Avenue	Aug. 27	Sweetwater Pavilion Fort Wayne
Samuel J. Comroe	July 29-31	Chicago Improv Schaumburg
Santana w/Earth, Wind & Fire	July 3	Hollywood Casino Amphitheatre Tinley Park, Il
Santana w/Earth, Wind & Fire	July 5	DTE Energy Music Theatre Clarkston, M
Santana w/Earth, Wind & Fire	July 9	Ruoff Music Center Noblesville
Santana w/Earth, Wind & Fire	July 10	Riverbend Music Center Cincinnat
Sebastian Bach	June 23	Harpos Concert Theatre Detroit
Skillet, Jordan Feliz, Colton Dixon	Apr. 24	Van Del Drive-In Theater Middle Point, OH
Smokey Robinson	July 10	Four Winds Casino New Buffalo, M
Southside Johnny and the Asbury Jukes	May 17-18	City Winery Chicago
Southside Johnny and the Asbury Jukes	May 22	MGM Northfield Park Northfield, OH
Sponge w/Plan B	Mar. 26	Rockstar Lounge Fort Wayne
Steely Dan w/Steve Winwood	June 23	Riverbend Music Center Cincinnat
Steely Dan w/Steve Winwood	June 25	Hollywood Casino Amphitheatre Tinley Park, IL
Steely Dan w/Steve Winwood	June 26	DTE Energy Music Theatre Clarkston, M
Steve Trevino	May 29-30	Chicago Improv Schaumburg, IL
Stokley Williams	July 18	The Sound Board Detroit
Struggle Jennings w/Brianna Harness, Nuke Bushner	May 13	Rockstar Lounge Fort Wayne
Struggle Jennings	May 16	Hobart Art Theater Hobart
Styx	July 22	Sweetwater Pavilion Fort Wayne
Sunny Sweeney	May 1	Beachland Ballroom Cleveland
The Swon Brothers	June 4	Fountain Park Van Wert, Ohio
Symphony X	May 22	Agora Theatre Cleveland
T.J. Miller	Apr. 16-18	Chicago Improv Schaumburg, II
Tab Benoit	Mar. 25	Taft Theatre Cincinnat
Tab Benoit	May 29	Token Lounge Westland, M
Tab Benoit	June 6	City Winery Chicago
Tanya Tucker w/Walker County	Aug. 10	Royal Oak Music Theatre Royal Oak, M
Tech N9ne	May 23	Old National Centre Indianapolis
Tech N9ne	May 28	Agora Theatre Cleveland
Tech N9ne	May 29	The Fillmore Detroit
Tedeschi Trucks Band	July 14	White River State Park Indianapolis
Tennis	Apr. 18	Vic Theatre Chicago
Tennis	May 8	Old National Centre Indianapolis
Theory of a Deadman	Nov. 30	Eclectic Room Angola
They Might Be Giants	May 13	Vic Theatre Chicago
Thomas Rhett	June 17	Ruoff Music Center Noblesville
Thomas Rhett	June 18	Blossom Music Center Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Thomas Rhett	June 19	Riverbend Music Center Cincinnat
Three Dog Night	Nov. 27	Honeywell Center Wabash
Tigran Hamasyan	June 10	Lincoln Hall Chicago
TobyMac	Nov. 14	Embassy Theatre Fort Wayne
Tommy Davidson	June 25-27	Chicago Improv Schaumburg, IL
Tommy Emmanuel	Apr. 24	Riffe Center Columbus, OH
Tommy Emmanuel w/Joe Robinson	July 29	Kalamazoo State Theatre Kalamazoo
Tower of Power w/Sweetwater All Stars	Sept. 19	Sweetwater Pavilion Fort Wayne
Tracey MacDonald and jus Will	Apr. 16-17	469 Comedy New Haven
	Apr. 9	Token Lounge Westland, M
Trapt	7 грт. 0	
Travis Tritt	May 20	Hobart Arena Troy, OH
Travis Tritt		Blue Gate P.A.C. Shipshewana
'	May 20	
Travis Tritt Travis Tritt Travis Tritt Travis Tritt Tyler Toney, Cody Jones, Garrett Hilbert,	May 20 May 21 May 21	Blue Gate P.A.C. Shipshewana 13-24 Drive-In Wabash
Travis Tritt Travis Tritt Travis Tritt Travis Tritt Tyler Toney, Cody Jones, Garrett Hilbert, Coby and Cory Cotton	May 20 May 21 May 21 June 24	Blue Gate P.A.C. Shipshewana 13-24 Drive-In Wabash Rocket Mortgage Fieldhouse Cleveland, OF
Travis Tritt Travis Tritt Travis Tritt Tyler Toney, Cody Jones, Garrett Hilbert,	May 20 May 21 May 21	Blue Gate P.A.C. Shipshewana 13-24 Drive-In Wabash

Walden	July 16	Fountain Park	Van Wert, Ohio
Walter Trout w/Papa Kiszka	Apr. 24	Token Lounge	Westland, MI
Ward Davis	June 19	The Stache	Grand Rapids
Warrant w/Eric Martin of Mr. Big			
and P.J. Farley of Trixter	July 31	Sweetwater Pavilion	Fort Wayne
Warrant, Firehouse	Aug. 7	Pine View G.C.	Monticello, IN
Watsky	Apr. 14	Newport Music Hall	Columbus, OH
Watsky	Apr. 16	Saint Andrew's Hall	Detroit
Whiskey Myers	July 29	Taft Theatre	Cincinnati
Whiskey Myers w/Bones Owens	July 30	Sweetwater Pavilion	Fort Wayne
Widespread Panic	Apr. 1-13	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Willie Nelson	Apr. 23	Four Winds Casino	New Buffalo, MI
Wyclif Jean	May 2	The Sound Board	Detroit
Zach Williams w/We the Kingdom and Cain	Oct. 29	Memorial Coliseum	Fort Wayne
Zoë Keating	May 19	Thalia Hall	Chicago

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By Glen Oldiges INCIDENTAL INSTRUMENTALS 14 16 15 17 18 19 20 22 29 32 36 37 35 39 41 44 49 48 50 51

Across

- 1. Enemy in The Little Mermaid
- 8. One of the season-
- concluding College Football
- Bowl games **13.** Bomb
- 14. Fertilization site
- 15. Tinkers (with)
- 16. Tropical nut
- 17. Baseball stats
- 18. Magnetite, e.g. **20.** Knuckleheads
- 22. 5-time MLB All-Star 2nd Baseman Steve, who won
- the Rookie of the Year award in 1982
- 23. Time div.
- **24.** Bridge seats
- 26. Duffer's dream
- 27. Stuff to the gills
- 29. Pinball flubs
- **32.** Boyz II __ **33.** Soft
- 35. Best guess: Abbr.
- **36.** Varnish ingredient
- 37. Sub detector

- 41. Type of stationary abstract sculpture, often executed in sheet metal
- 43. _ That Tune
- 44. Diamond measure
- 45. Type of instruments (such as the answer homonyms of 15, 22, & 33-Across, and 42-Down)
- 48. Gorillalike
- 49. Malign
- 50. Kind of change
- 51. Under one's nose

Down

- 1. Rubbed out
- 2. Egypt's capital
- 3. Jay-Z's streaming service
- 4. Golden-ager
- 5. Monetary unit of
- Afghanistan
- 7. Stop
- 8. Address abbr.
- 9. Neck and neck
- 10. Mechanized cafeteria
- 11. Religious officials

- 12. Fort Wayne patron of the arts Foellinger, who was publisher of The News-Sentinel
- 19. Bob Marley fan
- 21. Give in to gravity
- 25. Flower part
- 27. German secret police
- during the Nazi regime 28. Smallest Great Lake in surface area, but not in
- 30. Helpful connections
- 31. More crazy or weird
- 32. Peyote
- 34. Val Kilmer's character's nickname in Top Gun
- 36. Loose-limbed
- 38. Mother-of-pearl
- 39. Collect
- 40. Get a new tenant for
- 42. Striped or largemouth
- 46. Consume
- 47. Day_
- Answer key on page 18

Oscar nominations are surprisingly good

The Oscar nominations for the 2020 film cycle are here and, unbelievably, they're very good. Maybe even the highest quality set of nominations we've seen this century so far. Let's dig in:

BEST PICTURE

Eight films received Best Picture nominations this year and all eight are very good. That never ever happens. Never.



GREG W LOCKE

David Fincher's Mank led among the Best Picture nominees with 10 overall nominations. Also nominated were The Father, Judas and the Black Messiah, Minari, Nomadland, Promising Young Woman, Sound of Metal, and The Trial of the Chicago 7. Nomadland was the early favorite, but both Mank and Judas and the Black Messiah are now getting a lot of buzz — Mank as the industry/ craft pick and Judas as the "important film" pick. I'd be happy with either.

If I were to make a prediction right now, I'd still go with Nomadland.

ACTOR NOMINEES

Riz Ahmed (Sound of Metal), Chadwick Boseman (Ma Rainey's Black Bottom), Anthony Hopkins (The Father), Gary Oldman (Mank), and Steven Yeun (Minari) were all nominated for Best Actor. Boseman will win, because he died, and that's OK. I get it.

If it were up to me, Daniel Kaluuya (Judas and the Black Messiah), who was mysteriously nominated for Best Supporting Actor as opposed to Best Actor, should be the winner. His performance was all-time great. Prediction: Chadwick Boseman.

Sacha Baron Cohen (The Trial of the Chicago 7), Daniel Kaluuya (Judas and the Black Messiah), Leslie Odom Jr. (One Night in Miami), Paul Raci (Sound of Metal), and Lakeith Stanfield (Judas and the Black Messiah) rounded out this year's nominations. The narrative so far is that Kaluuya and Stanfield will cancel each other out and Sacha Baron Cohen will win. That would be upsetting.

My pick and prediction would be Daniel Kaluuya, who gave the best performance of the 2020 film cycle (and has maybe taken the Best Living Actor mantle).

ACTRESS NOMINEES

This year's Best Actress narrative belonged to Frances McDormand (Nomadland) for months. That hype has cooled down, as Nomadland, despite being an incredible flick, did not exactly set the world on fire.

Other nominees this year include Viola Davis (Ma Rainey's Black Bottom), Andra Day (The United States vs. Billie Holiday), Vanessa Kirby (Pieces of a Woman), and Carey Mulligan (Promising Young Woman). Viola might get the legacy award, Kirby might get the newcomer award, or Carey Mulligan might get the celebrity award. It's hard to sav.

If I had to make a prediction, I'd go with McDormand, who gave my second-favorite performance of 2020.

Most folks are now predicting that Glenn Close will get the legacy award for her performance in the terribly Hillbilly Elegy. That would be very unfortunate. That performance felt like an SNL skit to me.

Also in the running: Maria Bakalova (Borat Subsequent Film), Olivia Colman (The Father), Amanda Seyfried (Mank), and Youn Yuh-jung (Minari).

There's a chance that Mank or Minari make a run and take home several awards, but mostly, this category is a

BEST DIRECTOR

My favorite award of the night. In a year that was considered at one point to be a throwaway year due to Covid limitations, we ended up with a pretty great batch

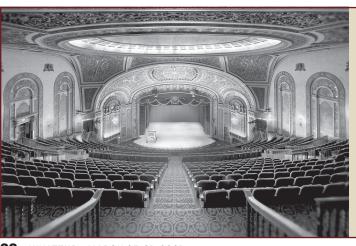
Four of this year's Best Director nominees have never been nominated before and none of them has won. That's unique.

The biggest name this year is David Fincher, who probably should have won a couple statues by now, and therefore might be the frontrunner. The other two to keep an eye on are Chloe Zhao (Nomadland) and Lee Isaac Chung (Minari). Either of those films could take off and dominate, and if that happens, Chung or Zhao are likely to win.

The two other nominees, Emerald Fennell (Promising Young Woman) and Thomas Vinterberg (Another Round), are longshots. I love that Vinterberg got the nomination since he's someone I never thought would get widespread acceptance for his work.

The real story here, though, are Fennell, Zhao, and Chung, who represent the future. If I had to pick a winner, I'd go with either Fincher or Zhao. Probably Fincher.

That's that for this week. As the Oscars get a little closer, we'll take a closer look at the full range of awards. For now, feel free to send your predictions my way at gregwlocke@gmail.com.



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THE FATHER

Rated PG-13 for some strong language, and thematic material 1 hour 37 minutes Available to rent digitally starting Friday, March 26



COURTESY PHOTO

Olivia Colman and Anthony Hopkins star in the new film The Father.

Brave portrayal of dementia adapted from stageplay

espite it being a difficult subject to broach, dementia has been relatively popular in cinema over the past several months.

Last summer saw the release of Relic, an Australian horror film that makes literal the treacherous indicators of a decaying mind. In the fall, there was Dick Johnson Is Dead, Kirsten Johnson's unconventional Netflix documentary about her aging father's worsening mental faculties.



Reel **Views** BRENT LEUTHOLD

Just in time for Oscar season, we

MORE ON

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above and watch

the movie trailer.

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now have The Father, a prestige drama told from the perspective of a protagonist suffering from progressive memory loss.

None of these three films will be easy for those who have loved ones suffering from similar ailments to watch. I suspect *The Father* could be the most difficult

to watch of the three.

Adapted from Florian Zeller's 2012 play Le Père, the movie centers around octogenarian Anthony (Anthony Hopkins) and his slowly deteriorating state of mind. His daughter Anne (Olivia Colman) and her husband Paul (Rufus Sewell) have welcomed him into their London apartment, where he passes the time listening to opera and hiding valuables from caretakers that he deems untrustworthy.

When Anne breaks the news that she and Paul are planning on mov-

ing to Paris, Anthony feels a sense of betrayal and fear of abandonment that reverberates through the rest of the story. As more characters are introduced, the sense of reality becomes more subjective as faces blur together and facts begin to lose their sense of permanence.

In his directorial film debut, Zeller demonstrates a keen ability to put the audience in the shoes of an essentially housebound man who grows more paranoid with each passing day. He has a way of making the limited confines even more stifling by filling the space with the loneliness of a man's later years.

When other characters do show up to the apartment, they are sometimes played by different actors who seem to have differing backstories from the people we think we know.

Credit to the film's deceptive nature also goes to editor Yorgos Lamprinos, who utilizes jump cuts and unconventional timing to give the film an off-kilter rhythm that mirrors an unsettled mind.

Despite establishing a uniquely deceptive tone that's pitched somewhere between family drama and psychological thriller, the actual narrative is not as involving on its own merits. Even at just over 90 minutes, the film's pace is often languid and not especially packed with incident. Perhaps this is a story better told on stage, where the singular location isn't as much of a drawback and the atmosphere of the room heightens the experience.

The theatrical aspect is carried over primarily in the central performance by Hopkins, which is indeed good work but exudes the kind of righteous anger that culminates in the film's "stagiest" moments. It doesn't feel as understated as the work that Colman and Sewell are doing here, although it's possible that it was never supposed to anyway.

I applaud Zeller for creating a movie about dementia that so entrenches us in the experience of suffering from such a cruel and pernicious disease. The most effective scenes in the film recall the fear and insecurity that permeate heady alt-horror fare like last year's I'm Thinking of Ending Things. But it doesn't feel like a gimmick or exploitation; it just feels real.

Just recently nominated for six Academy Awards, including Best Picture, it doesn't seem likely to score any wins (especially since Chadwick Boseman is a lock for Best Actor), but the nominations may draw enough attention for crowds to seek it out.

The Father is certainly not an easy sit, but it's a brave portrayal of those struggling with dementia and the caregivers on whom they rely.

OTHER NEW MOVIES COMING THIS WEEKEND

Premiering on Netflix is Bad Trip, a hidden camera comedy starring Eric André and Lil Rel Howery about two friends who embark on a cross-country road trip to NYC with pranks and misadventures along the way.

Streaming on HBO Max is Tina, a music documentary about Tina Tuner's early fame, her private and professional struggles, and her return to the world stage as a global phenomenon in the 1980s.

Opening in theaters is Nobody, an action thriller starring Bob Odenkirk and Connie Nielsen about a mild-mannered Good Samaritan who becomes the target of a vengeful drug lord.



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