

whatzup

SUMMER CAMPS!

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of things to
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MAY 14

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7PM

SHOW:
8PM



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CALLING ALL WORKING MUSICIANS ARTISTS and BANDS

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

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

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

whatzup



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

Advertising

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



COURTESY PHOTO

Get active this summer with camps for kids

Plenty of opportunities have opened up this year

BY STEVE PENHOLLOW

WHATZUP FEATURES WRITER

One of the benefits of being a kid growing up in Fort Wayne these days is proximity to Sweetwater's Rock Camp.

Rock Camp isn't for kids who want to take music lessons. It's for kids who have been taking music lessons and want to level up.

At Rock Camp, groups of kids are turned into rock bands. Amazingly, it takes only a week.

"Throughout the week, they are learning cover songs, writing an original, coming up with a band name and a brand or look for their band," said Camille Hunter, director of Sweetwater's Academy of Music and Technology. "They come up with an idea for an album cover and our marketing department brings that vision to life."

The summer camp offerings at Purdue Fort Wayne aren't quite as flashy as that, but they're substantive and popular.

Purdue Fort Wayne offers camps for clarinetists, pianists, vocalists, string players, singers, visual artists, poets, fiction writers, and virtual reality aficionados, said Emily Grillo, director of Purdue Fort Wayne's Community Arts Academy.

Some of the camps cater to grammar school kids and some to middle school and high school kids, she said. Some are residential and some are commuter.

Well-known area actor and director Gloria Minnich also teaches drama classes at Purdue Fort Wayne in the summer.

"Historically, she has run it like a drama camp," Grillo said. "You go to classes all week."

Grillo said they are adding some new offerings this summer, including Bunraku puppetry, taiko drumming and ceramics.

Bunraku is a traditional form of Japanese puppet theater and Taiko refers to Japanese percussion instruments.

"We're just trying to find new programming and see if that grabs the attention of some new people," Grillo said.

Ceramics has been hugely popular in the past, she said.

"We're really excited," Grillo said. "We have a good amount of studio time."

At Sweetwater's Rock Camp, studio time yields an original song from each band.

"So by the end of the week," Hunter said, "they have this really cool professionally designed album cover with their name and a photo that they get to do a photo shoot for. On Friday, they record their original song in the studio, and they perform all three of the songs they've been working on on stage."

Each band gets a coach to guide them through

SUMMER CAMP VENUES

HONEYWELL CENTER

Art and theater camps

June 7-25

(260) 563-1102

SWEETWATER ACADEMY OF MUSIC & TECHNOLOGY

Rock Camp

June 14-August 6

(260) 407-3833

PURDUE FORT WAYNE

Various Music and Arts Camps

June 13-July 31

(260) 481-4739

UNIVERSITY OF SAINT FRANCIS

Theology, Science, Arts, and Music Camps

June 8-July 30

(260) 399-7700

HUBER OPERA HOUSE & CIVIC CENTER

Youth Theater Camp

June 8-17

Summer Academy

June 22-July 1 & the week and July 11

(419) 542-9553

WAGON WHEEL CENTER

Summer Tykes

July 12-16

(574) 267-8041

the week's activities, she said.

There are six one-week Rock Camp sessions throughout the summer, Hunter said.

Alt rock group Framing Hanley reunited and ready to play

Band is happy to be revisiting Fort Wayne

BY CHRIS HUPE

WHATZUP FEATURES WRITER

Framing Hanley released three albums prior to breaking up in 2015, selling more than 200,000 units and garnering over 150 million streams.

The band reunited a couple of years later with new energy and three new members, recording a new album, *Envy*, and releasing it in February of last year.

They are set to show off some of those new songs, along with some old favorites, when they appear May 7 at the Rockstar Lounge in Fort Wayne with opening act Identity Unknown.

COVID KILLED THE ALBUM DROP

When Framing Hanley disbanded in 2015, it was a true break up. Singer Kenneth Nixon had lost his passion for music. There were no plans to ever put the band back together.

But three years later, when he and guitarist Ryan Belcher got together to simply write songs without a particular project in mind, it quickly became evident that they were writing another Framing Hanley album.

That album was originally scheduled to be released in 2018, but according to Nixon, who was recently interviewed by *Whatzup*, it kept getting pushed back for one reason or another.

As fortune would have it, the album came out on February 21, 2020, just as COVID-19 was poking its ugly head into the consciousness of the world, practically killing the album before it ever had a chance for life.

“It turns out releasing your comeback album two weeks before a once-in-a-lifetime pandemic hits is not a good sales strategy,” he said. “Putting it out when we did ended up being the worst thing we could have possibly done, but we’ve got a killer fanbase and they’re aware of the album. I think we have plans to do a re-release of it, though, when everything goes back to normal.”

While it may have been overshadowed by a catastrophic worldwide event, Nixon thinks *Envy* is worthy of the time and effort the band will take to support it, allowing rock fans a chance to give it the attention it deserves.

“Every band probably says this, but it is absolutely our best album to date,” Nixon said.



COURTESY PHOTO



MORE ON THE WEB

Use your phone's camera to scan the QR code to watch Framing Hanley's video for single “Forgiveness Is an Art” and hear the band's album, *Envy*.

zons, we'd not only be doing our fans a disservice, but ourselves as well. I definitely feel like we took a step forward in that regard.”

A lot of bands used the lockdown to write and record new music, but Nixon says that wasn't the case for his band.

“In many ways it was a huge morale killer,” he said. “We had our album release show in our hometown and it was a very, very special night. Lots of people travelled from all over the world to be at that show and we were firing on all cylinders. We had dates booked for the rest of the year. Then, two weeks later, COVID happened and everything got shut down.”

It was a depressing year for the whole band.

“It has the best material, the best songwriting and cohesiveness. It's also the first album we've done with this collection of guys, and I think that everyone brought something to the table that changed the recipe in so many ways.”

EXPANDING HORIZONS

The album still has the familiar Framing Hanley sound, but with a more mature, developed sound.

“I've always said that if we were a band that didn't keep expanding our hori-

FRAMING HANLEY

7:30 p.m. Friday, May 7

Rockstar Lounge

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So the chance to get back into a rehearsal room to prepare for upcoming live shows was a relief, finally playing the songs that they so badly wanted to present to audiences last year.

In the early days of social media, Myspace played a big part in Framing Hanley's initial success. But Nixon admits that he now is not as up to date on those type of platforms as he might like to be.

“I feel like I'm that old guy now,” he laughed.

Now a father of three and with a career outside of music as well as inside, Nixon feels he could do better at promoting his band and his music through social media, but he fears that if he went whole-heartedly into doing that, he might find himself back to the point where he despised the industry again.

“I think the more I get into that, the more it becomes a business-type venture, and I want it to just be a passion project again.”

BACK TO FORT WAYNE

Nixon is looking forward to the band's stop in Fort Wayne since this city has always held a special place in his heart. 98.9 The Bear was one of the first radio stations in the country to get behind the band. The first couple of

tours Framing Hanley were on came through Piere's.

“We were lucky enough to have people who were there to see the bands we were touring with at the time latch on to our music and become fans of our band, too,” he said. “It was always special going through there because the shows were always packed and we just made some really good friends there.”

Nixon says the band is more than ready to rock the Summit City again, overflowing with a bunch of pent-up aggression that needs to be let out.

“It's going to be a kick-ass rock show,” he said. “We're all aware that there are going to be a lot of people that haven't heard these new songs, but I look at it as a challenge to go out there with these guys and show them who Framing Hanley is in 2021. We want to win them over with the new material before we play the old stuff.”

Regardless of which songs you are hoping they play, Nixon said he will just be happy that you've made the effort to be there in person because that gives Framing Hanley a chance to show off how far they have come since their last album was released back in 2015.

“We want to put the focus on making sure this album does reach the masses and anything we can do make that happen, we will try to do. We've still got the same FH sound, but this album is really special. We're really excited to finally get out there to give it the support it really deserves.”

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

Baker Street Centre (formerly C2G Music Hall)

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

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 USE. **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 desert 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) 483-1799
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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MAY 8 • 8-11PM	NASHVILLE ARTIST ADAM CALVERT
MAY 12	FOOD TRUCK WEDNESDAY
MAY 13-15	THE PATIO OPENS!
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Live Music & Comedy

LOCAL CALENDAR

THURSDAY, APRIL 29

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

Open Mic Night w/Mike Conley — Variety at Mad Anthony Brewing Co., Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 426-2537

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

Whoa, Man! — Rock at Auburn Cord Duesenberg Automobile Museum, Auburn, 6-8 p.m. no cover, (260) 925-1444

FRIDAY, APRIL 30

Adelitas Way — Rock at The Eclectic Room, Angola, 7:30-11:30 p.m. \$20-\$295, (269) 625-8817

BackWater — Country/classic rock at Dupont Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m. no cover, (260) 483-1311

Biomassive — Electronic rock at The Ruin, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m.-midnight \$10, (260) 399-6336

Cinco de Loco — Comedy at Piere's Entertainment Center, Fort Wayne, 9 a.m. \$25, (260) 486-1979

Dan Smyth — Variety at 6 Autumns Food and Spirits, Angola, 7 p.m. no cover, (260) 624-3644

Dave and Rae — Variety at Mitchell's Sports Bar & Neighborhood Grill, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m. no cover, (260) 387-5063

Debutants — Americana at Ambrosia Orchard, Cidery & Meadery, Hoagland, 7-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 639-4101

D'Virgilio to livestream his entire album next month

American drummer, singer, and multi-instrumentalist **Nick D'Virgilio** will be doing a livestream on Friday, May 14, at 4 p.m. from the Sweetwater Studios.

D'Virgilio may not be a household name to some of you, but the man has quite the resume.

The California native is probably best known as a member of the progressive rock band **Spock's Beard**. But he has also worked with the likes of **Tears for Fears**, **Genesis**, **Sheryl Crow**, **Eric Burden and the Animals**, and **Peter Gabriel**.

D'Virgilio joined Sweetwater Sound in 2014, where he creates how-to content, demonstration videos, and product reviews. He also teaches music and pro audio classes and serves as the Sweetwater Studios' first-call drummer.

Now that you know the man, it is time you know his music. D'Virgilio and his band will perform his latest album *Invisible* in its entirety. This wonderful piece was released last June on the Sweetwater Studios label and has gained rave reviews.

Ticket bundles for the livestream range from \$25-\$65 and can be purchased at boxoffice.mandolin.com. For those of you wondering about the sheer breadth of his ability, this is your best opportunity.



Out and About

NICK BRAUN

CIRCUS FREAK SHOW IN ANGOLA

The Eclectic Room in Angola is about to open its doors to something quite interesting on the evening of Saturday, June 19.

Hellzapoppin Circus Sideshow Revue is the world's largest touring rock n' roll circus freak show, thrill show, sideshow, and stunt show extravaganza.

This vaudeville show features live stunts such as fire breathing, magic and illusions, glass walking, crossbow artistry, knife throwing, sword swallowing, and human oddities. Some of the performers have been featured in *Ripley's Believe It or Not*, *America's Got Talent*, and *Cirque du Soleil*.

Tickets are available now through TicketWeb.

NASHVILLE COUNTRY ARTIST AT FLASHBACK

On Saturday, May 8, Flashback Live will host a food truck bash on their patio to support the Fort Wayne Pit-bull Coalition (FWPBC).

Beginning at 11 a.m., come enjoy live music, great food, drinks, vendors, adoptable dogs, and a tour bus. Nashville recording artist **Adam Calvert** will be set up in the parking lot all afternoon ahead of his 8 p.m. concert on the Flashback Live stage.

Some of the food trucks taking part are Alto Grado, Maui Wowi, Salsa Grille, The Charlie Horse, King Arthur's Trolley, and more. See you there!

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

GET NOTICED

Send us your events to get
free listings in our calendar!
whatzup.com/submit



Live Music & Comedy LOCAL CALENDAR

Jordan West Band — Friday Night Vibes w/Julia Meek at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

Josh Ayers — Variety at Auburn Brewing Company, Auburn, 7:30-10:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 333-7468

Julia James — Variety at Byler Lane Winery, Auburn, 5 p.m. no cover, (260) 920-4377

Marc Vosler — Variety at Sweetwater, Fort Wayne, noon-1 p.m. no cover, (260) 557-2422

Pete Dio and the Old & Dirty, Jim The Kid, Piques — Variety at The Muse on Main, Fort Wayne, 7-11 p.m. \$10, (260) 999-4108

Todd Harrold Trio — Variety at Two-EE's Winery, Huntington, 7:30-9:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 672-2000

Whoa, Man! — Rock at Sylvan Cellars, Rome City, 8 p.m. \$10, (260) 854-9463

SATURDAY, MAY 1

8420 Band — Classic rock at Oakwood Resort, Syracuse, 3-6 p.m. no cover, (574) 457-7100

Adam Baker — Americana/indie at Two-EE's Winery, Huntington, 7:30-9:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 672-2000

Adam Calvert — Country at Buck Lake Ranch, Angola, 7 p.m. \$10-\$20, (260) 665-6699

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

The Band Cheyenne and Big Caddy Daddy — Variety at Piere's Entertainment Center, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m. \$5, (260) 486-1979

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

The Hubie Ashcraft Band — Country at Mitchell's Sports Bar & Neighborhood Grill, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m. \$5, (260) 387-5063

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

Jess Flamethrower — Variety at Auburn Brewing Company, Auburn, 7:30-10:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 333-7468

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

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FRIDAY, MAY 7TH - MASON DIXON
SATURDAY, MAY 8TH - BIG CADDY DADDY
FRIDAY, MAY 14TH - JAI BAKER
SATURDAY, MAY 15TH - GOOD NIGHT GRACIE
FRIDAY, MAY 21ST - THE Y'S GUYS
SATURDAY, MAY 22ND - BAND RELOAD
FRIDAY, MAY 28TH - UNDER THE COVERS
SATURDAY, MAY 29TH - AFU BAND

SEND US YOUR LOCAL LIVE MUSIC AND COMEDY EVENTS: whatzup.com/submit

Junk Yard — Oldies rock at American Legion Post 296, Fort Wayne, 7:30-10:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 456-2988

Kaitlyn Schmit and The Move — Country at The Venue, Angola, 10 p.m. no cover, (260) 665-3922

Karlae & Andy — Acoustic variety at Country Heritage Winery, LaOtto, 6-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 637-2980

Kevin Jagers w/The Neon Troubadours — Country at Flashback Live, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m. no cover, (260) 422-5292

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

Mike Dougherty — Variety at 6 Autumns Food and Spirits, Angola, 7 p.m. no cover, (260) 624-3644

Motor Folkers — Acoustic variety at American Legion Post 381, Rome City, 7:30-10:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 854-2477

The Paper Heart, Jaydid, Pluvio, Indy Gorgeous Club — Variety at The Muse on Main, Fort Wayne, 7-11 p.m. \$10, (260) 999-4108

Private Education — Variety at Trubble Brewing, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m. no cover, (260) 267-6082

Saliva — Rock at The Eclectic Room, Angola, 7:30 p.m. \$25-\$295, (269) 625-8817

Shane Torres — Comedy at The Tiger Room, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m. \$20, (260) 704-5393

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

Todd Harrold and Eric Clancy — Variety at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 6:30-9:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 426-3442

Volk w/Brother O Brother — Country at Brass Rail, Fort Wayne, 8:30 p.m. \$8, (260) 267-5303

Will Certain — Variety at Byler Lane Winery, Auburn, 6-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 920-4377

SUNDAY, MAY 2

Cathedral Artists Music Series — Music of British composers at The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne, 6:30-8 p.m. free admission, (260) 424-1494

Ryan Stevenson — Christian contemporary at Eagles Theatre, Wabash, 7:30 p.m. \$20, (260) 563-1102

MONDAY, MAY 3

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

TUESDAY, MAY 4

Open Mic Tuesdays w/Jeff McRae — Variety at Curly's Village Inn, Fort Wayne, 7-10:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 747-9964

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

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5

Hubie Ashcraft — Acoustic at HT2, Fort Wayne, 6-9 p.m. no cover, (317) 653-1806

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

Michael Patterson — Variety at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 6:30-9:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 426-3442

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

Open Jam with Dylan Roldan — Variety at The Muse on Main, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 999-4108

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

THURSDAY, MAY 6

Hubie Ashcraft and Travis Gow — Americana at teds beerhall, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (888) 260-0351

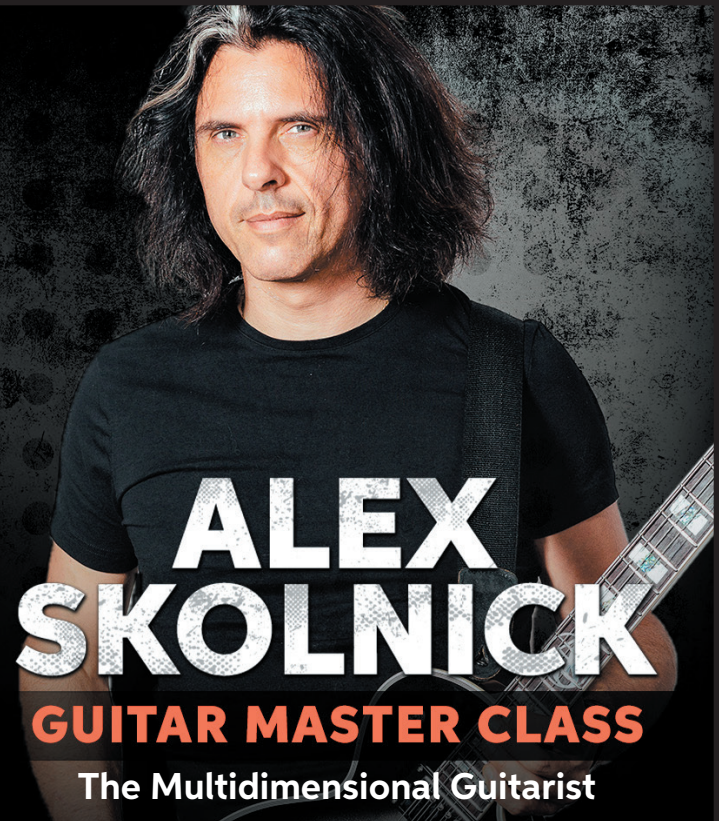
Open Mic Night w/Mike Conley — Variety at Mad Anthony Brewing Co., Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 426-2537

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

FRIDAY, MAY 7

Adam Strack — Variety at Byler Lane Winery, Auburn, 6 p.m. no cover, (260) 920-4377

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



May 5 | 7-9PM

at Sweetwater, Fort Wayne, IN

\$100 per person

Alex Skolnick defies musical genre with an impressive four-decade career as a heavy metal, hard rock, and jazz guitarist.

Learn from one of the original melodic-thrash guitarists and Testament legend, Alex Skolnick. His guitar master class will focus on harmonic, melodic, creative, and technical guitar playing styles — from hard rock and metal to jazz and many points in between. You'll leave this master class as a better guitarist, unlimited by style or genre.

Space is limited — register now!
Sign up at Sweetwater.com/Events

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Music Instruments & Pro Audio

5501 US Hwy 30 W
Fort Wayne, IN 46818
(260) 432-8176

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. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service. **PMT:** MC, Visa

Mitchell's Sports & Neighborhood Grill

Sports & Music • 6179 W. Jefferson Blvd., Fort Wayne • (260) 387-5063
EXPECT: Family-friendly atmosphere, great food, all sports packages on over 70 TVs, craft beers, and more. Great food from wings and pizza to gourmet sandwiches and entrees. Bloody Mary bar Sundays, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. **GETTING THERE:** On the corner of Getz Road and West Jefferson Boulevard, southwest Fort Wayne. **HOURS:** 4 p.m.-close Monday-Thursday; 11 a.m.-close Friday-Saturday. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service. **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, Amex

State Grill

Pub/Tavern • 1210 E. State Blvd., Fort Wayne • (260) 483-5618
EXPECT: 1st Tavern to pour beer after Prohibition; located in a fun and friendly neighborhood; home of the XKE Cranials & most dangerous jukebox. Daily drink specials include \$2 Tall Boy PBR everyday, get grilled everyday with \$2 Fireball add-on special. Golden Tee. Free WiFi. Fort Wayne's Sammy Hagar bar & Cabo Wabo Tequila. River Bend Pizza. **GETTING THERE:** Corner of State and Crescent. **HOURS:** 4 p.m.-3 a.m. Mon., 1 p.m.-3 a.m. Tues.-Fri., noon-3 a.m. Sat., noon-2 a.m. Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service. **PMT:** Cash only; ATM on site

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

Live Music & Comedy

LOCAL CALENDAR

Carolyn and Dave Martin — Country at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 6:30-9:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 426-3442

Casting Crowns — Christian rock at 13-24 Drive-In, Wabash, 8 p.m. \$129-\$299 per vehicle for up to six people, (260) 563-5745

Dakota Parker — Acoustic at Charley Creek Inn, Wabash, 5:30-8:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 563-0111

Framing Hanley — Alternative rock at Rockstar Lounge, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m. \$20-\$35, (260) 444-2442

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

The Jiggs Hendrixson Band — Variety at Rex's Rendezvous, Warsaw, 9:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 747-7851

Kyle Haller — Variety at Trubble Brewing, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m. no cover, (260) 267-6082

Mason Dixon Line — Country at Mitchell's Sports Bar & Neighborhood Grill, Fort Wayne, 7-11 p.m. cover, (260) 387-5063

Motor Folkers — Acoustic variety at Sylvan Cellars, Rome City, 8-11 p.m. no cover, (260) 854-9463

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

SEND US YOUR LOCAL LIVE MUSIC AND COMEDY EVENTS: whatzup.com/submit

Q and the Coldfusion — Friday Night Vibes w/Julia Meek at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

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

Todd Harrold Band — Variety at First Friday Concert Series, Columbia City, 6-9 p.m. no cover,

SATURDAY, MAY 8

8420 Band — Classic rock at American Legion Post 47, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m. no cover, (260) 209-3960

Adam Calvert — Country at Flashback Live, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m. no cover, (260) 422-5292

Alicia Pyle and Trinell Armor — Jazz at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 6:30-9:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 426-3442

The Band Brother — Rock at Country Heritage Winery, LaOtto, 6-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 637-2980

Big Bad Voodoo Daddy — Jazz/swing at Honeywell Center Ford Theater, Wabash, 7:30 p.m. \$29-\$100, (260) 563-1102

Help your garden grow with these local plant sales

As gardeners are beginning to tend to their yards again, some upcoming events provide excellent opportunities to get some planting started.

NATIVE PLANTS FOR SALE

On Saturday, May 8, the Creighton-Home Neighborhood Association hosts the Native Plant Sale and Rain-gardens Clean Up Day.

Beginning at 11 a.m., visitors are invited to visit for free and pick up plants for their own garden as well as help the community tend to the three raingarden parks on South Wayne.

MORE THAN 700 VARIETIES

The Botanical Conservatory is hosting its own online fundraiser with a Mother's Day virtual plant sale featuring more than 700 varieties of plants.

Orders can be placed from April 29-May 4 with curbside pickup May 7-9 and 13-16 at the Lawton Park Greenhouse.

PLANTS WITH THE PROS

Purdue Fort Wayne's Master Gardener Program hosts Plant Sale with the Pros on May 15 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. featuring indoor and outdoor plants. A master gardener will be on hand for any questions, big or small.

JUMP SPARK FOR YOUR READING

Every year, devoted library patrons look forward to the Summer Reading Program. This year, Allen County Public Library added a spring twist to the mix.

Jump SPARK provides a jump start to the summer



News and Venues

MICHELE DeVINNEY

program with a board game-inspired worksheet to mark off learning in five disciplines — Science, Play, Art, Reading, Knowledge. It's a fun and interesting template for learning to supplement what has been a weird school year. The sheet can be picked up at all ACPL branch locations and can be accessed at acpl.info/spark.

MOTHER'S DAY IN DOWNTOWN

Downtown Fort Wayne hosts another tribute to moms the weekend of May 8-9. Wander the streets and shops of downtown for window displays and retail therapy, and be sure to make reservations for a brunch with mom on Sunday.

With two dozen options available, there are plenty of places to take that important person out for a celebration. Many restaurants and shops are running specials to make the day pocket-friendly, too.

Visit downtownfortwayne.com for the full list.

FROM TACOS TO TEQUILA

Cinco de Mayo is just a few short days away, but the fun doesn't have to stop there. The fourth annual Tacos, Tequila, and Margaritas Fest takes place at Headwaters Park on Saturday, May 29, from 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

Margarita flights will allow you to try three different styles of margaritas for \$10, as well as a tequila sampling where you can sample several varieties.

To accommodate attendees while following CDC guidelines, social distancing is required with tables spaced apart at the park. Masks are appreciated while visitors are moving about the area. Also on hand will be taco vendors, dessert trucks, and live music.

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.

The Y's Guys — Rock at The Venue, Angola, 10 p.m. no cover, (260) 665-3922

SUNDAY, MAY 9

Eric Clancy — Solo piano at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. no cover, (260) 426-3442

MONDAY, MAY 10

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

TUESDAY, MAY 11

Open Mic Tuesdays w/Jeff McRae — Variety at Curly's Village Inn, Fort Wayne, 7-10:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 747-9964

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

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12

A Killer's Confession — Metal at Piere's Entertainment Center, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m. \$13-\$30, (260) 486-1979

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

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

Michael Patterson — Variety at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 6:30-9:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 426-3442

Open Jam with Dylan Roldan — Variety at The Muse on Main, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 999-4108

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

THURSDAY, MAY 13

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

Joe Justice — Variety at teds beerhall, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (888) 260-0351

Open Mic Night w/Mike Conley — Variety at Mad Anthony Brewing Co., Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 426-2537

Struggle Jennings w/Brianna Harness, Nuke Bushner — Southern Rap at Rockstar Lounge, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m. \$20-\$35, (260) 444-2442

FRIDAY, MAY 14

Adam Baker, Red Queen Project, The Kickbacks — Variety at The Muse on Main, Fort Wayne, 7-11 p.m. \$10, (260) 999-4108

Aleena York Duo — Tropical at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 6:30-9:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 426-3442

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

Hubie Ashcraft and Missy Burgess — Country at Mulligan's, Angola, 6-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 833-8899

Jai Baker — Country at Mitchell's Sports Bar & Neighborhood Grill, Fort Wayne, 7-11 p.m. cover, (260) 387-5063

Jess Thrower — Americana/indie at teds beerhall, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m. no cover, (888) 260-0351

SEND US YOUR LOCAL LIVE MUSIC AND COMEDY EVENTS: whatzup.com/submit

Junk Yard — Oldies rock at Cottage Event Center, Roanoke, 7 p.m. \$12, (260) 483-3508

The Mersey Beatles — Tribute at Wagon Wheel Theatre, Warsaw, 7:30 p.m. \$30-\$40, (574) 267-8041

Pink Droyd — Pink Floyd tribute at Baker Street Centre, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m. \$15-\$30, (260) 426-6434

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

Ty Causey — Jazz/variety at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

SATURDAY, MAY 15

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

Chris Worth & Company — Variety at American Legion Post 296, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m. no cover, (260) 456-2988

Crooked Root — Variety at Buck Lake Ranch, Angola, 7 p.m. \$10-\$20, (260) 665-6699

Dan Smyth — Variety at Auburn Brewing Company, Auburn, 7:30-10:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 333-7468

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

Don Smith — Jazz/variety at Charley Creek Inn, Wabash, 8-11 p.m. no cover, (260) 563-0111

Good Night Gracie — Variety at Mitchell's Sports Bar & Neighborhood Grill, Fort Wayne, 8-11:30 p.m. cover, (260) 387-5063

He Said She Said — Variety at Rex's Rendezvous, Warsaw, 9 p.m.-1 a.m. no cover, (574) 267-5066

The Jiggs Hendrixson Band — Variety at American Legion Post 49, Warsaw, 7 p.m. no cover, (260) 747-7851

The Kickbacks — Rock at Happy's Place, Berne, 10 p.m.-1 a.m. no cover, (260) 589-8585

Lisa McDavid Duo — Funk at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 6:30-9:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 426-3442

Mason Dixon Line — Country at Country Heritage Winery, LaOtto, 6 p.m. no cover, (260) 637-2980

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

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

The Rescue Band — Contemporary Christian at Sweetwater Performance Theatre, Fort Wayne, 6:30 p.m. \$5, (800) 222-4700

The Rock Show — Journey tribute at The Eclectic Room, Angola, 7:30-11:30 p.m. \$20-\$295, (269) 625-8817

Todd Harrold and Eric Clancy — Variety at Mad Anthony Brewing Co., Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 426-2537

Under the Covers — Variety at Flashback Live, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m. no cover, (260) 417-7523

SUNDAY, MAY 16

Wallen Road — Country at Old Fort Motorcycle Club, Columbia City, noon-5 p.m. \$20, (260) 504-6388

MONDAY, MAY 17

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

TUESDAY, MAY 18

Motor Folkers — Acoustic variety at Black Canyon, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 203-5900

WEEKLY LIVE MUSIC

MONDAY BLUES JAM SESSIONS
MONDAYS | 7-10PM
Weekly blues jam sessions hosted by G-Money & special guests

Smooth **TUESDAYS**
TUESDAYS | 6-9PM
Featuring the best of classic hits, soft rock, and smooth tunes

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

I ♥ SATURDAYS
SATURDAYS | 8-11PM
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Fort Wayne, IN 46809
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(260) 407-8530

Picks

GREAT THINGS TO DO IN FORT WAYNE AND BEYOND

Shane Torres

8 p.m. Saturday, May 1

The Tiger Room, Welch's Ale House
1915 S. Calhoun St., Fort Wayne
\$20 • (260) 704-5393

May is kicking off with a bang as comedian Shane Torres stops by The Tiger Room, inside Welch's Ale House in Fort Wayne, on Saturday, May 1. Torres is best known for his 2017 Comedy Central half-hour special and his album *Established 1981*, where he hilariously defended much-maligned TV chef Guy Fieri, who is not, as it turns out, that bad of a guy.

Torres has toured non-stop since that episode aired, appearing at various comedy festivals across the nation as well as television shows *Conan*, *Last Comic Standing*, and *Ron White's Comedy Salute to the Troops*.

Originally from Texas and more recently from Portland, Ore., and New York City, where he moved in order to chase his dreams and "sleep next to a mop closet," Torres currently hosts his *Help Wanted* podcast and has been a contributing writer for *Paste* magazine as well as *Laughspin*, *The Portland Mercury*, and *Nailed Magazine*. Torres is known for his brutally honest jokes about



COURTESY PHOTO

cracking toilet seats and selling plasma while describing himself as looking like a Native American Meatloaf impersonator. His purposeful drawl builds anticipation and puts you on the edge of your seat, constantly wondering what he will come up with next. His deadpan style relies on unexpected twists and turns and is somewhat reminiscent of the iconic Todd Barry. — *Chris Hupe*



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RESTAURANT

Along with great seafood, Umi Fort Wayne also serves amazing beef, pork, and chicken, noodle dishes, and innovative sushi and Japanese dishes.

Umi also features a full bar serving beer, wine, sake, craft cocktails, and fine Japanese whiskys.



Join us on our patio, in a private booth, or in one of our three meeting spaces.



2912 Getz Road, Fort Wayne · 260-203-9975

umifortwayne.com

Live Music & Comedy

LOCAL CALENDAR

Open Mic Tuesdays w/Jeff McRae — Variety at Curly's Village Inn, Fort Wayne, 7-10:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 747-9964

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

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19

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

Michael Patterson — Variety at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 6:30-9:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 426-3442

Open Jam with Dylan Roldan — Variety at The Muse on Main, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 999-4108

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

THURSDAY, MAY 20

Here Come the Mummies — Funk at 13-24 Drive-In, Wabash, 8:30 p.m. \$99-\$279 per vehicle for up to six people, (260) 563-5745

Logan Bouwers — Variety at teds beerhall, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (888) 260-0351

Open Mic Night w/Mike Conley — Variety at Mad Anthony Brewing Co., Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 426-2537

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

Terry McNeely and Adam Gabel — Comedy at 469 Comedy: Fort Wayne Comedy Club, New Haven, 7:15 p.m. \$20, (260) 426-6339

FRIDAY, MAY 21

8420 Band — Classic rock at Oakwood Resort, Syracuse, 9 p.m.-midnight no cover, (574) 457-7100

Aleena York Duo — Tropical at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 6:30-9:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 426-3442

Chris Worth and Howard Sims — Variety at Dreamers Hookah Lounge, Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m. \$5, (260) 424-0442

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

Friday Night Vibes — Rock at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

The Hubie Ashcraft Band — Country at Commons Park, Angola, 7-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 665-1588

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

Todd Harrold and Eric Clancy — Variety at American Legion Post 148, Fort Wayne, 6:30-9:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 423-4751

Travis Tritt — Country at 13-24 Drive-In, Wabash, 8:30 p.m. \$149-\$499 per vehicle for up to six people, (260) 563-5745

Trubble Troubadours w/Adam Baker, Jeff McRae, Dave Pagan, Lee Cook — Acoustic variety at Trubble Brewing, Fort Wayne, 8-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 267-6082

The Y's Guys — Rock at Mitchell's Sports Bar & Neighborhood Grill, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m. cover, (260) 387-5063

SEND US YOUR LOCAL LIVE MUSIC AND COMEDY EVENTS: whatzup.com/submit

Submission deadline for each issue:
Noon on Monday

SATURDAY, MAY 22

Band Reload — Techno at Mitchell's Sports Bar & Neighborhood Grill, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m.-midnight cover, (260) 387-5063

Drop Dead Dangerous — Country rock at Sylvan Cellars, Rome City, 8-11 p.m. no cover, (260) 854-9463

FireHouse w/Kip Winger — Rock at 13-24 Drive-In, Wabash, 8:30 p.m. \$99-\$399 per vehicle for up to six people, (260) 563-5745

He Said She Said — Variety at Country Heritage Winery, LaOtto, 6-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 637-2980

Jana Debusk and Carly Ingalls — Variety at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 6:30-9:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 426-3442

The Jiggs Hendrixson Band — Variety at Eagles Post 3760, Syracuse, 8 p.m. no cover,

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

Matt Record — Folk at teds beerhall, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (888) 260-0351

Motor Folkers — Acoustic variety at Hartland Winery, Ashley, 5-8 p.m. no cover, (260) 587-3301

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

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

Trevor Hunt — Country rock at Auburn Brewing Company, Auburn, 7:30-10:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 333-7468

MONDAY, MAY 24

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

TUESDAY, MAY 25

Open Mic Tuesdays w/Jeff McRae — Variety at Curly's Village Inn, Fort Wayne, 7-10:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 747-9964

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

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26

Chris Worth — Variety at Four D's Bar and Grill, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 490-6488

Hubie Ashcraft and Missy Burgess — Country at Mad Anthony Lakeview Ale House, Angola, 6-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 833-2537

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

Michael Patterson — Variety at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 6:30-9:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 426-3442

Open Jam with Dylan Roldan — Variety at The Muse on Main, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 999-4108

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

THURSDAY, MAY 27

Addison Agen — Pop at Auburn Cord Duesenberg Automobile Museum, Auburn, 6-8 p.m. no cover, (260) 925-1444

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

Hubie Ashcraft and Travis Gow — Americana at Monument Pizza Pub, Angola, 6-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 319-4489

Open Mic Night w/Mike Conley — Variety at Mad Anthony Brewing Co., Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 426-2537

Red Eye Gravy — Bluegrass at teds beerhall, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (888) 260-0351

Ross Kinsey — Acoustic variety at Black Canyon, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 203-5900

FRIDAY, MAY 28

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

Dry Bar Comedy w/Mike Paramore and Billy Reno — Comedy at 469 Comedy: Fort Wayne Comedy Club, New Haven, 7:15 and 9:15 p.m. \$20-\$25, (260) 426-6339

Friday Night Vibes — Rock at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

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

Josh Ayers — Variety at Auburn Brewing Company, Auburn, 7:30-10:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 333-7468

Sweetwater All Stars — R&B/soul at Riverside Park, Warren, 7-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 375-6199

Todd Harrold and Eric Clancy — Variety at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 6:30-9:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 426-3442

Under the Covers — Variety at Mitchell's Sports Bar & Neighborhood Grill, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m.-1 a.m. no cover, (260) 417-7523

SATURDAY, MAY 29

8420 Band — Classic rock at Camp Sack-In, Angola, 6:30-10:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 665-5166

Adam Baker — Americana/indie at YLNI Farmer's Market, Fort Wayne, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. no cover,

AFU — Classic rock at Mitchell's Sports Bar & Neighborhood Grill, Fort Wayne, 8-11:30 p.m. cover, (260) 387-5063

Chris Worth & Company — Variety at Country Heritage Winery, LaOtto, 6-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 637-2980

Dry Bar Comedy w/Mike Paramore and Billy Reno — Comedy at 469 Comedy: Fort Wayne Comedy Club, New Haven, 7:15 and 9:15 p.m. \$20-\$25, (260) 426-6339

The Hubie Ashcraft Band — Country at Cold Springs Resort, Hamilton, 8 p.m.-midnight \$8, (260) 488-2920

Live Music & Comedy LOCAL CALENDAR

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

The Jiggs Hendrixson Band — Variety at Wacky Jac's, Angola, 9:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 665-9071

Motor Folkers — Acoustic variety at Byler Lane Winery, Auburn, 6-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 920-4377

Pantheon w/Filth Spewer — Metal at The Ruin, Fort Wayne, 9 p.m. \$10, (260) 399-6336

Shannon Persinger and Michael Patterson — Variety at Club Soda, Fort Wayne, 6:30-9:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 426-3442

Simply Elton — Elton John tribute at Piere's Entertainment Center, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m. \$5-\$50, (260) 486-1979

Todd Harrold Band — Variety at Two EE's Winery, Huntington, 7:30-9:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 672-2000

Whiskey Highway — Country at Buck Lake Ranch, Angola, 7 p.m. \$10-\$20, (260) 665-6699

Whoa, Man! — Rock at Art's Country Park, North Manchester, 8 p.m. no cover, (260) 982-4790

SUNDAY, MAY 30

The Hubie Ashcraft Band — Country at Kelly Jae's Lakeside, Syracuse, 6:30-10:30 p.m. no cover, (574) 537-1027

MONDAY, MAY 31

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

TUESDAY, JUNE 1

Open Mic Tuesdays w/Jeff McRae — Variety at Curly's Village Inn, Fort Wayne, 7-10:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 747-9964

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

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2

Open Jam with Dylan Roldan — Variety at The Muse on Main, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 999-4108

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

THURSDAY, JUNE 3

Open Mic Night w/Mike Conley — Variety at Mad Anthony Brewing Co., Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 426-2537

Ross Kinsey — Acoustic variety at Brewskies Bar & Grill, Angola, 6-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 833-9676

FRIDAY, JUNE 4

The Bulldogs — '50s & '60s rock at Muensterberg Plaza and Clock Tower, Berne, 7 p.m. no cover, (260) 589-3139

He Said She Said — Variety at Oakwood Resort, Syracuse, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (574) 457-7100

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

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

Melisa's Latin Beat — Latin fusion dance at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

The Swon Brothers — Country at Fountain Park, Van Wert, Ohio, 7:30 p.m. no cover, (419) 852-7353

SATURDAY, JUNE 5

The Jiggs Hendrixson Band — Variety at Redwood Inn, Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 426-7543

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

Olde 441 — Variety at Mad Anthony Brewing Co., Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 426-2537

Wallen Road — Country at Country Heritage Winery, LaOtto, 6 p.m. no cover, (260) 637-2980

MONDAY, JUNE 7

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

TUESDAY, JUNE 8

Open Mic Tuesdays w/Jeff McRae — Variety at Curly's Village Inn, Fort Wayne, 7-10:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 747-9964

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

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9

Open Jam with Dylan Roldan — Variety at The Muse on Main, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 999-4108

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

THURSDAY, JUNE 10

He Said She Said — Variety at Honeywell Center, Wabash, 5-7 p.m. no cover, (260) 563-1102

Open Mic Night w/Mike Conley — Variety at Mad Anthony Brewing Co., Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 426-2537

Ted Vigil — John Denver tribute at Eagles Theatre, Wabash, 7:30 p.m. \$15, (260) 563-1102

FRIDAY, JUNE 11

The 906 Band — Variety at Latch String Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., (260) 483-5526

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

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

Mantra of Morta w/Hate Unbound — Metal at The Ruin, Fort Wayne, 7 p.m. \$10, (260) 399-6336

Michael Kelsey — Variety at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

Rumours — Fleetwood Mac tribute at Fountain Park, Van Wert, Ohio, 7:30 p.m. no cover, (419) 852-7353

SATURDAY, JUNE 12

Adam Baker — Americana/indie at 2 Toms Brewing, Fort Wayne, 6-8 p.m. no cover, (260) 402-7644

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

Grateful Groove w/Jangatha, LSTree, Funk You Inc. — Dance/electronic at The Ruin, Fort Wayne, 6 p.m.-3 a.m. no cover, (260) 399-6336

John Michael Montgomery — Country at Double H Farms, Hamilton, 4-11:30 p.m. \$30-\$100, (260) 316-9868

SoulShot — Variety at Riverside Park, Warren, 7-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 375-6199

Sunny Taylor — Variety at Mad Anthony Brewing Co., Fort Wayne, 8-11 p.m. no cover, (260) 426-2537

MONDAY, JUNE 14

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

TUESDAY, JUNE 15

Open Mic Tuesdays w/Jeff McRae — Variety at Curly's Village Inn, Fort Wayne, 7-10:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 747-9964

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

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16

Open Jam with Dylan Roldan — Variety at The Muse on Main, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 999-4108

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

THURSDAY, JUNE 17

Open Mic Night w/Mike Conley — Variety at Mad Anthony Brewing Co., Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 426-2537

FRIDAY, JUNE 18

He Said She Said — Variety at The Frog Tavern, Syracuse, 10 p.m.-2 a.m. no cover, (574) 457-4324

Legendary Trainhoppers — Variety at The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, 7-10 p.m. no cover, (260) 407-8530

Motor Folkers — Acoustic variety at Byler Lane Winery, Auburn, 6-9 p.m. no cover, (260) 920-4377

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

Trubble Troubadours w/Adam Baker, Nick Walmer, Zach Comer, Tony Didier — Acoustic variety at Trubble Brewing, Fort Wayne, 8:30-10:30 p.m. no cover, (260) 267-6082

The Van Dells — Rock/variety at Fountain Park, Van Wert, Ohio, 7:30 p.m. no cover, (419) 852-7353

SATURDAY, JUNE 19

Canaan Cox — Variety at Flashback Live, Fort Wayne, 8 p.m. \$5, (260) 422-5292

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



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Warm weather means time for Lake Wawasee

From a grand hotel to plenty of indoor, outdoor activities

The first time I walked into the Oakwood Resort in Syracuse years ago, I expected to be so inspired by an antique portrait of a woman resembling a young Jane Seymour that I would figure out a way to travel through time, just so I could have a tragic love affair with that woman.

If you don't understand that obscure movie reference, I can't really blame you. It's the plot of *Somewhere in Time*, filmed at the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island.

THE OAKWOOD RESORT

The Oakwood Resort resembles the Grand Hotel, but the Grand Hotel was built in 1887 and the current incarnation of the Oakwood Resort opened in 1996.

I don't want to go back in time to 1996. I remember it too well.

The Oakwood Resort is meant to evoke the sort of resplendent lakeside hotels that were ubiquitous in Syracuse in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Those hotels are long gone, although interesting remnants remain.

My day trip to the Syracuse/Lake Wawasee area started with breakfast at the Pier and Back Porch, the Oakwood's Restaurant.

The Oakwood serves a great breakfast on the weekends. Be sure to ask for their cheesy hash browns, which are not cheesy in the hokey sense, but cheesy in the dairy sense. They are imbued with the finest cheeses available and would be called classy hash browns, if there were any justice in the world.

The Oakwood got its start in 1893 as a Methodist retreat. Methodists went there for "spiritual edification and physical recreation," according to the Oakwood website.

Nowadays, the Oakwood has no specific religious mission or affiliation. A version of that mission was taken over by Chautauqua Wawasee.

Yes, there is an official outpost of the venerable Chautauqua movement (which started on Chautauqua Lake in New York in 1874) in an office at the Oakwood Resort.

Its director, Mark Knecht, is hosting Syracuse's first film festival at the Pickwick Theatre on August 7. It will consist of vacation videos shot in that region.

"This will either be very cool, or a bust," he said.

SYRACUSE-WAWASEE HISTORICAL MUSEUM

My next stop was the Syracuse-Wawasee Historical Museum.

Visiting a popular lake community and seeking out its historical museum might seem to you like going to Las Vegas and seeking out its quilting museum.

But a historical museum can give you an idea about why things are the way they are today.

Also, I am a nerdy sort of person.

I spent the night before my visit looking at old newspaper clippings about Syracuse and Lake Wawasee, so I had a lot of questions for the museum's director, Jamie Clemens.

For example: Was Indianapolis pharmaceutical mogul and Civil War vet Colonel Eli Lilly responsible for having gotten the name of the lake changed to Wawasee from its original appellation, Turkey Lake?

He was.

Lilly successfully lobbied to have the name changed to Wawasee to pay tribute to a Miami tribe chief who held sway over that region with his brother Papakeecha in the early 1800s.

The reason it was called Turkey Lake originally, Clemens said, is that someone allegedly thought it was shaped like a turkey.

Frankly, it looks more like a rabbit in mid-leap to me. But I can see satellite views of the lake on the internet and the guy who named it after a turkey could not.

That guy probably knew a lot more about what a turkey looks like at ground level than I know about what rabbits look like from space.

In the days when the families of Eli Lilly and his son Josiah vacationed in Syracuse, there were 20 to 30 seasonal hotels and hostels in the area, Clemens said, some of them quite palatial.

Now there are two.

And there may have been a lot more to do in Syracuse back then, but Clemens pointed out that this was in the days when "streaming" usually involved fishing.

Clemens told me about the Waco Dancing Pavilion where Will F. Tucker's "Wawasee Waltz" was performed by an African American band from Indianapolis called Hart's Orchestra.

She played a recording of the song for me and I expected to be so inspired by it that I would figure out a way to travel through time, just so I could dance a tragic waltz with any woman who was willing.

Tragic because I don't know how to dance the waltz.



Day Trips

STEVE PENHOLLOW



The Oakwood Resort on the shores of Lake Wawasee

PUBLIC BEACHES

In the early 20th century, it was possible to enjoy the lake without owning property on it. It is much more difficult now to get on the lake if you aren't a landowner.

There are two public beaches in the region, neither of them on Wawasee. They are on Syracuse Lake, which is Wawasee's watery northern neighbor. The two lakes are connected by a channel.

I decided to visit Hoys Beach, which had been recommended to me many times over the years by tourism boosters.

It was quite a surprise. The beach is only slightly wider and longer than the average suburban driveway.

It's not so much a beach as an homage to a beach. It has all of three parking spaces.

I couldn't help but wonder how people enjoy Hoys Beach on a busy holiday like Independence Day. Perhaps they sunbathe standing up.

The beach at Lakeside Park is nicer and more genuinely beach-like.

WAWASEE SPINK CONDOMINIUMS

If you like history as much as I do, one thing you should do in Syracuse is drive over to Wawasee Spink Condominiums.

No, I am not trying to trick you into a time-share presentation. I have other ways for you to earn free Disney tickets.

Wawasee Spink Condominiums was converted from the Spink-Wawasee Hotel, which opened on that site in 1926.

It replaced the Wawasee Inn, which had burnt down in 1919. (Almost everything in Syracuse has burned down at least once, Clemens said.)

From the outside, Wawasee Spink Condominiums doesn't look all that different from photos I have seen of the Spink-Wawasee Hotel, which is sort of magical if your time-travel fantasies have more to do with visiting old hotels than preventing your mom from marrying Biff Tannen.

Of course, thanks to ornate gates, I couldn't get very close.

I felt like Charlie Bucket, gazing longingly, yet fearfully, through the front gate of Willy



Top: The S.S. Lilypad. Above left: The Channel Marker. Above right: Point of interest on Route 13.

Wonka's chocolate factory.

I half expected a tinker to push his cart by and say, "Nobody ever goes in. And nobody ever comes out!"

Sorry. I have foisted yet another obscure movie reference on you.

LUNCH AND DINNER IN SYRACUSE

Perhaps the best way to spend a day in Syracuse is to eat and drink your way through Syracuse.

I had lunch at Pat's Chicago Dogs. I ordered both the Chicago Dog and the Philly Cheesesteak — not because I am a glutton, but because those are two items that are traditionally hard to find on menus in Fort Wayne.

Also, I am a glutton.

Other good options for lunch or dinner include the Channel Marker and the Frog Tavern.

I sat down with Channel Marker owner Steve Johnson for a bit. He said he found creative ways to survive the pandemic by speeding up customer turnover time and adding patio seating in the parking lot.

The Channel Marker offers fresh seafood that is conveyed from Chicago twice a week. It also has a tiki bar and "parking spaces" for boats and (sometimes) sea planes.

THE FROG TAVERN

The Frog Tavern is really the only place in town where young people can go to drink and dance on the weekends.

It has an enormous circular patio overlooking the channel and a party boat called the S.S. Lilypad.

Owner Doug Shoemaker said he didn't do too badly during the pandemic, owing to the size of the Frog and its patio.

Even with social distancing, he could accommodate a lot of people.

On Sunday mornings in the summer, the Lilypad takes people over to the Oakwood for an outdoor church service.

Shoemaker shows you a good time on Saturday night and then helps you find forgiveness for your sins on Sunday morning.

What other bar owner could you say that about?

THE SLEEPY OWL

At the Sleepy Owl Supper Club, you will not only find great food. You will also find one of the region's most popular bartenders, Chip Erwin.

The restaurant sells T-shirts that say, "I got Chipfaced at the Owl."

Erwin is a former boat salesman, and he is the go-to guy if you have any questions about boating, boat acquisition, and local real estate.

Erwin said he doesn't want anyone to come to town and have a negative experience because that reflects badly on everyone.

MAN CAVE BREWING

I only did a walkthrough of the Man Cave Brewing Company. I have a strict policy of not drinking on the job unless I know I can get away with it.

Man Cave Brewing consists of two shops connected by a hallway: a brewpub in the back and a coffeehouse called Mugshots in the front.

The design of both shops is top-notch, and the Man Cave menu features four kinds of poutine, a Canadian dish that American restaurants don't always understand the appeal of.

Trust me when I write that true poutine is as different from chili cheese fries as crackers are from cookies.

KELLY JAE'S LAKESIDE

I decided to eat dinner at a new place in town, Kelly Jae's Lakeside.

Kelly Jae is a Goshen chef who closed down her place there because of the pandemic, then decided to open a new place in Syracuse instead.

Kelly Jae's Lakeside is the sort of restaurant that Fort Wayne foodies might want to make special trip for.

I had fried soft-shell crabs, an item I have never seen on a Fort Wayne menu.

BOAT RENTALS

I left town without ever having gotten on the water, but I can tell you that pontoon boats are available for rent at Main Channel Marina and the Wawasee Boat Company.

Paddleboats may be rented at the former.

POINT OF INTEREST

On the way out of town, I discovered on State Road 13 one of my favorite Indiana attractions to date.

Drivers in either direction are alerted to its existence by several "Point of Interest" signs.

It's a rusty pipe.

I'm sure there is a rich history associated with this pipe but there is no explanatory plaque. As much as I like history in other contexts, I really don't really want to know the history of the pipe.

The pipe isn't asking for any favors. "Be interested in me or not," it seems to be saying. "I don't care either way."

I can respect that.

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Thomas Rhett

COURTESY PHOTO

Country acts announcing big tours for summer, fall

It looks like most of the concert industry thinks things are going to start opening up now that vaccines are readily available.

One sure sign of this is when a couple of guys who are considered royalty in “bro country” decide they are going to hit the road soon.

RHETT PLACES BET ON 2021

First up, **Thomas Rhett** has rescheduled most of his 2020 “Center Point Road Tour” dates with a few additions and subtractions thrown in for good measure.

Rhett's four studio albums to date have yielded 19 charting singles with 15 of those reaching No. 1.

The superstar's trek kicks off mid-August and finds its way to Cleveland on Aug. 29, Cincinnati on Sept. 23, Indianapolis on Sept. 24, and Chicago on Sept. 25.

While the tour is named after Rhett's 2019 album *Center Point Road*, he will release Side A of his new double album *Country Again* on April 30, so there will be new music for him to tour behind. **Cole Swindell** and **Gabby Barrett** will open the shows.

BRYAN IS RELYIN' ON JULY

Secondly, ACM Entertainer of the Year **Luke Bryan** has announced he



Road Notes

CHRIS HUPE

On the Road

NATIONAL TOURS WITHIN DRIVING DISTANCE

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

38 Special	Dec. 11	Honeywell Center	Wabash
5 Seconds of Summer	June 6	Mich. Lottery Amphitheatre	Sterling Heights
5 Seconds of Summer	June 16	White River State Park	Indianapolis
5 Seconds of Summer	June 18	Huntington Bank Pavilion	Chicago
A Killer's Confession	May 12	Piere's Entertainment Center	Fort Wayne
A Killer's Confession	May 13	Emerson Theatre	Indianapolis
Adam Calvert	May 8	Flashback Live	Fort Wayne
Adelitas Way	Apr. 30	Eclectic Room	Angola
Air Supply	June 11 '22	Foellinger Theatre	Fort Wayne
Alabama	Aug. 28	Van Andel Arena	Grand Rapids
Alan Jackson	July 10	Rocket Mortgage FieldHouse	Cleveland
Alan Jackson	Sept. 17	Little Caesars Arena	Detroit
Alanis Morissette w/Garbage and Liz Phair	Sept. 8	Blossom Music Center	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Alanis Morissette w/Garbage and Liz Phair	Sept. 10	Ruoff Music Center	Noblesville
Alanis Morissette w/Garbage and Liz Phair	Sept. 11	Hollywood Casino Amphitheatre	Tinley Park, IL
Alanis Morissette w/Garbage and Liz Phair	Sept. 12	DTE Energy Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
Alanis Morissette w/Garbage and Liz Phair	Sept. 15	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
Alicia Keys	Aug. 17	Mich. Lottery Amphitheatre	Sterling Heights
Alicia Keys	Aug. 18	Jacobs Pavilion	Cleveland
Alicia Keys	Aug. 20	PNC Pavilion	Cincinnati
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
Anthem Lights	May 7	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshevana
Anthony Gomes	May 22	Key Palace Theatre	Redkey
Aries Spears	Aug. 19-21	Chicago Improv	Schaumburg, IL
Armor for Sleep	July 22	Saint Andrew's Hall	Detroit
Bachman Cummings	Aug. 22	MGM Northfield Park	Northfield, OH
Backstreet Boys	July 22	DTE Energy Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
Backstreet Boys	July 27	Blossom Music Center	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Backstreet Boys	July 30	Ruoff Music Center	Noblesville
Backstreet Boys	July 31	Hollywood Casino Amphitheatre	Tinley Park, IL
The Beach Boys	July 25	Foellinger Theatre	Fort Wayne
Bettye LaVette	Sept. 19	The Sound Board	Detroit
Big Bad Voodoo Daddy	May 8	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Bill Bushart and Billy Reno	June 11-12	469 Comedy	New Haven
Billy Joel	July 9	Comerica Park	Detroit
Billy Joel	Sept. 10	Great American Ball Park	Cincinnati
Biomassive	Apr. 29	The Melody Inn	Indianapolis
Biomassive	Apr. 30	The Ruin	Fort Wayne
Biomassive	May 1	Stanley's Pub	Cincinnati, OH
Biomassive	May 14	Lansing Brewing Company	Lansing, MI
Biomassive	May 15	Tip Top Deluxe Bar & Grill	Grand Rapids, MI
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	Blossom Music Center	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
The Black Crowes	Aug. 7	Hollywood Casino Amphitheatre	Tinley Park, IL
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.	Shipshevana
Bob Zany & Costaki Economopoulos	Sept. 16	Eagles Theatre	Wabash
Boney James	Oct. 7	The Clyde	Fort Wayne
Brian Culbertson	Nov. 19	The Clyde	Fort Wayne
Brooks & Dunn	Sept. 2	Ruoff Music Center	Noblesville
Brothers Osborne	Aug. 4	Toledo Zoo Amphitheatre	Toledo
Brothers Osborne	Sept. 2	Jacobs Pavilion	Cleveland
Brothers Osborne	Sept. 3	TCU Amphitheater	Indianapolis
Brothers Osborne	Sept. 4	Mich. Lottery Amphi.	Sterling Heights, MI
Brothers Osborne	Sept. 9	ICON Music Center	Cincinnati
Bruce Bruce	May 7-9	Chicago Improv	Schaumburg, IL
Bruce Hornsby & The Noisemakers	Sept. 19	The Clyde	Fort Wayne
Buckcherry w/Saliva	Aug. 19	Piere's Entertainment Center	Fort Wayne

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE ►

On the Road

NATIONAL TOURS WITHIN DRIVING DISTANCE

Buddy Guy w/Ally Venable	Oct. 16	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Building 429	July 10	T. Furth Center, Trine University	Angola
Building 429	Aug. 6	Fountain Park	Van Wert, Ohio
Built to Spill	Aug. 8	Bell's Eccentric Cafe	Kalamazoo
Carol Burnett	May 26	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Casting Crowns	May 7	13-24 Drive-In	Wabash
Chicago	July 23	Ruoff Music Center	Noblesville
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 Stapleton	July 17	Wrigley Field	Chicago
Chris Stapleton	Aug. 5	Blossom Music Center	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Christiane Porter	June 10	Chicago Improv	Schaumburg, IL
Clint Black	Sept. 11	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Cody Ko & Noel Miller	July 13, 17, 18	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Colt Ford	Nov. 18	Eclectic Room	Angola
Creed Fisher	Aug. 13	Piere's Entertainment Center	Fort Wayne
Crowder	Sept. 17	Wagon Wheel Theatre	Warsaw
Dailey & Vincent Bluegrass	June 18	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Dance Gavin Dance	Sept. 18	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Dark Star Jubilation	May 28-29	Legend Valley	Thornville, OH
Daryl Felsberg	May 14-15	469 Comedy	New Haven
Daryl Hall & John Oates	Aug. 17	Blossom Music Center	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Daryl Hall & John Oates	Aug. 19	Ruoff Music Center	Noblesville
Daryl Hall & John Oates	Aug. 21	DTE Energy Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
Daryl Hall & John Oates	Aug. 23	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
Daryl Hall & John Oates	Aug. 26	Hollywood Casino Amphitheatre	Tinley Park, IL
Dave Matthews Band	June 15	Blossom Music Center	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 Spade	Aug. 6	MGM Northfield Park	Northfield, OH
The Dead South	Aug. 20	Newport Music Hall	Columbus, OH
Deftones	Aug. 17	Huntington Bank Pavilion	Chicago
Deftones	Sept. 2	White River State Park	Indianapolis
Deftones, Gojira, Poppy	Aug. 15	Mich. Lottery Amphitheatre	Sterling Heights
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
Dermot Kennedy	Aug. 17	Taft Theatre	Cincinnati
Dick Fox's Golden Boys	Aug. 14	FireKeepers	Battle Creek, MI
Dierks Bentley	July 9	FireKeepers	Battle Creek, MI
Disciple	June 19	Howard Co. Viet. Vets Grounds	Greentown
Disturbed	Aug. 14	Ruoff Music Center	Noblesville
Disturbed w/Staind, Bad Wolves	Aug. 8	Hollywood Casino Amphitheatre	Tinley Park, IL
Disturbed w/Staind, Bad Wolves	Aug. 14	Ruoff Music Center	Noblesville
Doobie Brothers w/Michael McDonald	Aug. 29	Hollywood Casino Amphitheatre	Tinley Park, IL
Doobie Brothers w/Michael McDonald	Sept. 2	DTE Energy Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
Doobie Brothers w/Michael McDonald	Sept. 5	Toledo Zoo Amphitheatre	Toledo
Doobie Brothers w/Michael McDonald	Sept. 8	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
Doobie Brothers w/Michael McDonald	Sept. 9	Blossom Music Center	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Doobie Brothers w/Michael McDonald	Sept. 11	Ruoff Music Center	Noblesville
Doobie Brothers w/Michael McDonald	Sept. 12	Van Andel Arena	Grand Rapids
Dry Bar Comedy w/Mike Paramore and Billy Reno	May 28-29	469 Comedy	New Haven
DSL	Aug. 29	Foellinger Theatre	Fort Wayne
Duke Tumatooe and the Power Trio	Oct. 28	Eagles Theatre	Wabash
Ekoostik Hookah	May 14	Legend Valley	Thornville, OH
Eric Church	Sept. 18	Nationwide Arena	Columbus, OH
Ernie Haase + Signature Sound & The Hoppers	Sept. 3	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Ernie Haase and Signature Sound	Dec. 17	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Etta May	Oct. 21	Eagles Theatre	Wabash
The Fab Four	Aug. 29	Sweetwater Pavilion	Fort Wayne
Farewell Angelina	June 25	Fountain Park	Van Wert, Ohio
FireHouse w/Kip Winger	May 22	13-24 Drive-In	Wabash

Road Notes

► CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

will launch his “Proud To Be Right Here Tour” on July 8 in Syracuse, New York. His schedule includes a stop in Cincinnati on July 22, Indianapolis on Aug. 20, and Chicago on Aug. 21.

Bryan's first ten studio albums have resulted in 23 No. 1 singles and his 2013 album, *Crash My Party*, received the Album of the Decade award from the Academy of Country Music. *Born Here, Live Here, Die Here*, originally set for an April 24 release, will now arrive on Aug. 7.

Morgan Wallen will open the shows.

BROTHERS HAVE THEIR DRUTHERS FOR LATE SUMMER

Another top act, the Maryland-based duo **Brothers Osborne**, are planning to take their handful of hits, including the top five charting “Stay a Little Longer,” out on the “We're Not For Everyone Tour” beginning in late July.

The siblings and the rest of their band will visit the Toledo Zoo Amphitheatre on Aug. 4, Jacobs Pavilion in Cleveland on Sept. 2, White River State Park in Indianapolis on Sept. 3, Michigan Lottery Amphitheatre in Detroit on Sept. 4, and the ICON Music Center in Cincinnati on Sept. 9.

Travis Denning and **Tenille Townes** will open the shows.

BROWN GOES TO TOWN IN NBA ARENAS

OK, one more. **Kane Brown** has announced plans for an extensive and interesting tour beginning in Fall 2021. Brown's “The Blessed and Free Tour” will see the country star visiting 29 NBA arenas, making him the first country star to play every professional basketball arena on a single tour.

Detroit's Little Caesar's Arena is first on the docket on Nov. 20 with Cleveland's Rocket Mortgage Arena following on Nov. 21. Banker's Life Fieldhouse in Indianapolis is slated for Jan. 6 and the United Center in Chicago is scheduled for Jan. 22.

Jordan Davis and **Restless Road** open the Detroit and Cleveland shows while **Chase Rice** replaces Davis at the Indianapolis and Chicago shows.

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

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Road Trips

LOCAL ACTS ON TOUR

Chris Worth

May 13 Bent Prop Pub, Coldwater Lake, MI

Kaitlyn Schmit and The Move

June 6 Celina Moose Lodge, Celina, OH
June 10 Defiance Concert in the Park, Defiance, OH

June 12 Poultry Days, Versailles, OH
June 18-20 T&J's Smokehouse, Put-In-Bay, OH
June 25 AmVets Post 698, Middle Point, OH
June 26 Celina Pride March, Celina, OH
July 2 Auglaize Demolition Derby, Wapakoneta, OH

July 4 Delphos 4th of July, Delphos, OH
July 22 Wetzelland, Grover Hill, OH
July 23-25 T&J's Smokehouse, Put-In-Bay, OH
Aug. 8 Coldwater Community Picnic, Coldwater, OH
Aug. 13-15 T&J's Smokehouse, Put-In-Bay, OH
Aug. 28 Bluewater Campground, Grover Hill, OH
Aug. 29 Celina Moose Lodge, Celina, 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 East Lake Street, Topeka
July 18 Van Trees Park, Fort Recovery, OH
July 19 Madison County Fair, Alexandria
July 31 Hickory Acres Campground, Edgerton, OH
Aug. 6 Bethel Pointe Health & Rehab, Muncie
Aug. 7 State Line Festival, Union City
Aug. 20 Elkhart County Fairgrounds, Goshen
Aug. 27 Village Park, Quincy, MI
Sept. 6 Marshall County Blueberry Festival, Plymouth
Sept. 17 Back To The Fifties Festival, Lebanon
Sept. 18 Nappanee Apple Festival, Nappanee
Sept. 24 Ducktail Run, Gas City

The Hubie Ashcraft Band

Apr. 30 Riverside Park, Warren
May 2 The Old Mill Village, Fremont
June 4 Blue Gate Performing Arts Center, Shipshewana
June 5 The Bent Prop, Coldwater, MI
June 11 T&J's Smokehouse, Put-In-Bay, OH
June 12 Splash Swim-Up Bar, Put-In-Bay, OH
June 13 T&J's Smokehouse, Put-In-Bay, OH
June 18 Clocktower Inn, Berne
July 9 The Michiana Event Center, Shipshewana
July 11 Clear Lake Kasota Island, Fremont
July 15 Huggy Bear Campground, Middle Point, OH
July 16 T&J's Smokehouse, Put-In-Bay, OH
July 17 Splash Swim-Up Bar, Put-In-Bay, OH
July 18 T&J's Smokehouse, Put-In-Bay, OH
July 30 Edon Days, Edon, OH
Aug. 6 Little Nashville Festival, Ottawa, OH
Aug. 14 Schweizer Festival, Tell City
Aug. 20 T&J's Smokehouse, Put-In-Bay, OH
Aug. 21 Splash Swim-Up Bar, Put-In-Bay, OH
Aug. 22 T&J's Smokehouse, Put-In-Bay, OH
Sept. 5 Ottoville Park, Ottoville, OH
Oct. 22 Country Heritage Winery, Nashville, IN

Answer key for puzzle on Page 22

S	R	E	R	O	N	S		W	A	V	E	D	E
E	E	S	A	M	A	M		S	N	I	O	T	
S	D	N	E	T	L	V		N	T	I	O	D	
O	N	I	M		T	V		O	G	N	M	O	
W	U	R	L	S		N	I	S		E	K	E	
			N	A	T	I	P			A	V	P	
	E	T	O	M	A		E	G	V	S	O		
A	N	V				I	E	S	E	R			
P	I	S		N	O	I		R	V	N	O	S	
E	L	N	L	V	T	S			G	V	L	S	
E	T	O	V	A		S	E	L	V	I	P	O	
T	V	O	C	D		V	R	E	I	A	I	R	
S	S	V	W	V		T	E	N	N	V	H	O	

On the Road

NATIONAL TOURS WITHIN DRIVING DISTANCE

Flora Cash	June 18	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
For King & Country	Oct. 8	Memorial Coliseum	Fort Wayne
Fozzy	Sept. 2	Newport Music Hall	Columbus, OH
Fozzy w/Through Fire, Royal Bliss, Black Satellite	Sept. 16	Eclectic Room	Angola
Framing Hanley	May 7	Rockstar Lounge	Fort Wayne
The Frontmen	Nov. 14	Wagon Wheel Theatre	Warsaw
The G---d--- Gallows	July 18	Brass Rail	Fort Wayne
Gaither Vocal Band	June 10	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Gary Allan	May 28	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Gary Owen	June 18-20	Chicago Improv	Schaumburg, IL
Gary Puckett & Union Gap	Sept. 16	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Gene Watson	July 10	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Geoff Tate	Nov. 18	Eagles Theatre	Wabash
George Clinton and Parliament Funkadelic	June 24	The Sound Board	Detroit
Gladys Knight	May 21	MGM Northfield Park	Northfield, OH
Gladys Knight	Aug. 21	Sweetwater Pavilion	Fort Wayne
The Glenn Miller Orchestra	Aug. 31	Eagles Theatre	Wabash
Gold Frankincense & Myrrh	July 23	Rockstar Lounge	Fort Wayne
Goo Goo Dolls	Aug. 6	Huntington Bank Pavilion	Chicago
Goo Goo Dolls	Aug. 8	Mich. Lottery Amphitheatre	Sterling Heights
Goo Goo Dolls	Aug. 11	Jacobs Pavilion	Cleveland
Gordon Lightfoot	May 14	Lerner Theatre	Elkhart
Gordon Lightfoot	July 15-16	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Greater Vision	Aug. 26	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Green Day w/Fall Out Boy, Weezer, the Interrupters	Aug. 10	Comerica Park	Detroit
Greg Howe w/Stu Hamm, Joel Taylor	Aug. 27	Token Lounge	Westland, MI
Guns N' Roses	July 18	Lucas Oil Stadium	Indianapolis
Guns N' Roses	July 21	Wrigley Field	Chicago
Guns N' Roses	July 24	Comerica Park	Detroit
Guy Penrod & The Browns	Sept. 4	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Hall and Oates w/KT Tunstall, Squeeze	Aug. 17	Blossom Music Center	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Hall and Oates w/KT Tunstall, Squeeze	Aug. 19	Ruoff Music Center	Noblesville
Hall and Oates w/KT Tunstall, Squeeze	Aug. 21	DTE Energy Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
Hall and Oates w/KT Tunstall, Squeeze	Aug. 23	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
Hall and Oates w/KT Tunstall, Squeeze	Aug. 26	Hollywood Casino Amphitheatre	Tinley Park, IL
Harry Styles	Sept. 20	Little Caesars Arena	Detroit
Harry Styles	Sept. 24-25	United Center	Chicago
Heart by Heart	July 30	Fountain Park	Van Wert, Ohio
Here Come the Mummies	May 20	13-24 Drive-In	Wabash
Hot Mulligan	June 26	Saint Andrew's Hall	Detroit
J.B. Smoove	May 27	The Sound Board	Detroit
Jake Owen	Aug. 21	FireKeepers	Battle Creek, MI
James Taylor w/Jackson Browne	July 29	United Center	Chicago
James Taylor w/Jackson Browne	July 31	Blossom Music Center	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
James Taylor w/Jackson Browne	Aug. 1	DTE Energy Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
James Taylor w/Jackson Browne	Aug. 4	Nutter Center	Dayton
Jamey Johnson w/Whiskey Myers	June 25	White River State Park	Indianapolis
Jamey Johnson w/Whiskey Myers, Folk Uke	June 26	Mich. Lottery Amphitheatre	Sterling Heights
Jamey Johnson	Aug. 8	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Jeanne Robertson	June 9	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Jeanne Robertson	Sept. 16	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Jeanne Robertson	Sept. 18	Kalamazoo State Theatre	Kalamazoo
Jeff Allen	Aug. 26	Eagles Theatre	Wabash
Jeff Foxworthy	June 5	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Jeff Shaw	Apr. 30-May 1	469 Comedy	New Haven
Jeremy Piven	May 13	Hobart Art Theater	Hobart
Jess Hilarious	July 23-24	Chicago Improv	Schaumburg, IL
Jim Stafford	May 28-29	Blue Gate Music Hall	Shipshewana
Jimmy Buffett	July 10	Ruoff Music Center	Noblesville
Jimmy Buffett	July 13	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
Jinjer w/Suicide Silence	Nov. 10	The Clyde	Fort Wayne
Jo Koy	Sept. 17	Masonic Temple Theater	Detroit
Jo Koy	Oct. 24	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Joe Russo's Almost Dead	Aug. 19	Jacobs Pavilion	Cleveland
Joe Satriani	Oct. 15	Honeywell Center	Wabash
John Conlee	July 8	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
John Hiatt & The Jerry Douglas Band	Nov. 13	The Clyde	Fort Wayne

On the Road

NATIONAL TOURS WITHIN DRIVING DISTANCE

John Legend	Sept. 2	Mich. Lottery Amphitheatre	Sterling Heights
John Michael Montgomery	June 12	Double H Farms	Hamilton
JoJo Siwa	July 16	Allstate Arena	Rosemont, IL
JoJo Siwa	July 17	Memorial Coliseum	Fort Wayne
JoJo Siwa	July 18	Rocket Mortgage FieldHouse	Cleveland
Josh Turner	June 4	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Justin Bieber	June 22-23	United Center	Chicago
Justin Bieber	June 25	Van Andel Arena	Grand Rapids
Justin Bieber	June 28	Little Caesars Arena	Detroit
Justin Bieber	June 29	Schottenstein Center	Columbus, OH
Ken Davis	Aug. 31	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Kenny Chesney	Aug. 14	Ford Field	Detroit
Kenny Wayne Shepherd Band	Sept. 1	Sweetwater Pavilion	Fort Wayne
Kesha, AJR, The Band Camino, The Knocks	Aug. 28	WonderBus Music Fest	Columbus, OH
Kidz Bop	July 30	PNC Pavilion	Cincinnati
Kidz Bop	Aug. 27	White River State Park	Indianapolis
Kidz Bop	Aug. 28	DTE Energy Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
King's Brass	Aug. 12	Blue Gate Music Hall	Shipshewana
Kingston Trio	June 3	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
KISS w/David Lee Roth	Sept. 1	DTE Energy Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
KISS w/David Lee Roth	Sept. 2	Nutter Center	Dayton
KISS w/David Lee Roth	Sept. 4	Hollywood Casino Amphitheatre	Tinley Park, IL
Kool & The Gang w/The Sweetwater All Stars	Sept. 3	Sweetwater Pavilion	Fort Wayne
Lady Gaga	Aug. 27	Wrigley Field	Chicago
Lane 8	Sept. 18	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Larry the Cable Guy	Sept. 4	FireKeepers	Battle Creek, MI
Larry Reeb	June 4-5	469 Comedy	New Haven
Lauren Daigle	Sept. 24	Memorial Coliseum	Fort Wayne
Leanne Morgan	Sept. 9	Vic Theatre	Chicago
Lee Roy Parnell	Aug. 28	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Leonid & Friends	July 17	Blue Gate P.A.C.	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
Lindsey Stirling	Aug. 6	PNC Pavilion	Cincinnati
Lindsey Stirling	Aug. 10	Huntington Bank Pavilion	Chicago
Lindsey Stirling	Aug. 11	White River State Park	Indianapolis
Lindsey Stirling	Aug. 12	Mich. Lottery Amphitheatre	Sterling Heights
Lindsey Stirling	Aug. 14	Jacobs Pavilion	Cleveland
Little River Band	Aug. 13	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Little River Band	Sept. 11	Honeywell Center	Wabash
The Lonely Ones	Aug. 19	The Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
The Lonely Ones	Aug. 20	The Music Factory	Battle Creek, MI
The Lonely Ones w/Sunflower Dead	Aug. 22	Smokestack Brew	Mishawaka
The Lonely Ones	Aug. 28	The Basement	Columbus, OH
The Lonely Ones	Sept. 3	The Empire Concert Club	Akron, OH
The Lonely Ones	Sept. 12	Top Fuel Saloon	Braidwood, IL
The Lonely Ones	Nov. 27	Rockstar Lounge	Fort Wayne
Los Aztecas	May 8	Rockstar Lounge	Fort Wayne
Los Lobos w/The Summit	Nov. 6	The Clyde	Fort Wayne
Louis the Child	Aug. 20	Masonic Temple Theater	Detroit
Louis The Child	Aug. 21	Jacobs Pavilion	Cleveland

Lucky Chops	May 13	Taft Theatre	Cincinnati
Luke Bryan	July 22	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
Luke Bryan	Aug. 20	Ruoff Music Center	Noblesville
Luke Bryan	Aug. 21	Hollywood Casino Amphitheatre	Tinley Park, IL
Luttrell	Aug. 13	Concord Music Hall	Chicago
Lyfe Jennings and Chrisette Michele	June 10	The Sound Board	Detroit
Maria Bamford	Aug. 21	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Mark Farner's American Band w/John Corabi	May 15	BMI Event Center	Versailles, OH
Mark Lowry	Sept. 2	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Mark Lowry	Nov. 6	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Maroon 5	Aug. 21	Ruoff Music Center	Noblesville
Maroon 5	Aug. 23	DTE Energy Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
Maroon 5	Aug. 26	Blossom Music Center	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Maroon 5	Aug. 28	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
Maroon 5	Aug. 30	Wrigley Field	Chicago
Matchbox Twenty	Aug. 24	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
Matchbox Twenty	Aug. 25	Toledo Zoo Amphitheatre	Toledo
Matchbox Twenty	Aug. 27	Hollywood Casino Amphitheatre	Tinley Park, IL
Matchbox Twenty	Aug. 28	Ruoff Music Center	Noblesville
Matchbox Twenty w/The Wallflowers	Aug. 29	DTE Energy Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
Matchbox Twenty	Aug. 31	Blossom Music Center	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
The Mavericks	July 16	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Maz Jobrani	Sept. 17	The Sound Board	Detroit
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 Amphitheatre	Tinley Park, IL
Megadeth, Lamb of God, Trivium, In Flames	July 9	DTE Energy Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
Megadeth, Lamb of God, Trivium, In Flames	July 14	PNC Pavilion	Cincinnati
Michael Buble	Aug. 20	Heritage Bank Arena	Cincinnati
Michael Buble	Aug. 21	Rocket Mortgage FieldHouse	Cleveland
Michael Buble	Sept. 13	Van Andel Arena	Grand Rapids
Michael W. Smith	May 14	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Million Dollar Quartet	Oct. 22	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Moe Bandy	Aug. 19	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Monsta X	May 5	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Motley Crue, Def Leppard, Poison, Joan Jett	July 10	Comerica Park	Detroit
Motley Crue, Def Leppard, Poison, Joan Jett	Aug. 29	Wrigley Field	Chicago
The Mountain Goats	Aug. 26	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
The Musical Box	Nov. 17	The Clyde	Fort Wayne
My Chemical Romance	Sept. 15	Little Caesars Arena	Detroit
My Chemical Romance	Sept. 18	Douglas Park	Chicago
Nate Bargatze	Apr. 29-May 1	Toledo Funny Bone	Perrysburg, OH
NateWantsToBattle	Sept. 7	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
Nicole Atkins	Aug. 13	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
Night Ranger	July 10	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Nitty Gritty Dirt Band	May 22	Kalamazoo State Theatre	Kalamazoo
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, Soulja Boy, Lloyd, Sammie	May 7	Rocket Mortgage Fieldhouse	Cleveland
Palaye Royale	July 10	Saint Andrew's Hall	Detroit

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On the Road

NATIONAL TOURS WITHIN DRIVING DISTANCE

Parkway Drive w/Hatebreed, Knocked Loose, Fit For a King	Sept. 12	Masonic Temple Theater	Detroit
Parquet Courts	May 29	Agora Theatre	Cleveland
Pat Hazell	Sept. 21	Eagles Theatre	Wabash
Paul Conyers	June 18-19	469 Comedy	New Haven
Pauly Shore	Sept. 19	Token Lounge	Westland, MI
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
Pink Droyd	May 14	Baker Street Centre	Fort Wayne
Poco	June 25	T. Furth Center, Trine University	Angola
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	Cincinnati
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
Rain	Nov. 4	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Ralphie Roberts and William Krolowitz	May 21-22	469 Comedy	New Haven
Rammstein	Sept. 1	Soldier Field	Chicago
Reba McEntire	Aug. 7	Huntington Center	Toledo
Reba McEntire	Aug. 13	Allstate Arena	Rosemont, IL
Reba McEntire	Aug. 14	Van Andel Arena	Grand Rapids
REO Speedwagon	July 31	Foellinger Theatre	Fort Wayne
The Residents	May 7	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
The Residents	May 8	Saint Andrew's Hall	Detroit
The Revivalists	Sept. 17	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Ricky Skaggs & Kentucky Thunder	Sept. 10	Blue Gate Theatre	Shipshewana
Robert Cray Band w/Blue Veins	Sept. 15	Kalamazoo State Theatre	Kalamazoo
Robin Trower	Sept. 14	Kalamazoo State Theatre	Kalamazoo
Robin Trower	Sept. 15	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI

The Rock Show	May 15	Eclectic Room	Angola
Rod Stewart w/Cheap Trick	July 15	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
Rod Stewart w/Cheap Trick	July 21	Hollywood Casino Amphitheatre	Tinley Park, IL
Rod Stewart w/Cheap Trick	July 23	DTE Energy Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
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
Ronnie Milsap	Nov. 26	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Russ	May 22	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Russ	June 3	Mich. Lottery Amphi.	Sterling Heights, MI
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, MI
Santana w/Earth, Wind & Fire	July 9	Ruoff Music Center	Noblesville
Santana w/Earth, Wind & Fire	July 10	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
Saving Abel	July 1	Eclectic Room	Angola
Shallow Side	Aug. 20	Rockstar Lounge	Fort Wayne
Smokey Robinson	July 10	Four Winds Casino	New Buffalo, MI
Southern Fried Chicks	Aug. 21	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Steve Trevino	May 27-30	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
Tab Benoit	May 29	Token Lounge	Westland, MI
Tab Benoit	June 6	City Winery	Chicago
Tanya Tucker w/Walker County	Aug. 10	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Tech N9ne	May 23	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Tech N9ne	May 28	Agora Theatre	Cleveland
Tech N9ne	May 29	The Fillmore	Detroit
Ted Nugent	Aug. 14	DTE Energy Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
Terry McNeely and Adam Gabel	May 20	469 Comedy	New Haven
Theory of a Deadman	Nov. 30	Eclectic Room	Angola
Thomas Rhett	Aug. 29	Blossom Music Center	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
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 w/Joe Robinson	July 29	Kalamazoo State Theatre	Kalamazoo
Tower of Power w/Sweetwater All Stars	Sept. 19	Sweetwater Pavilion	Fort Wayne
Trapt	Aug. 7	Token Lounge	Westland, MI
Travis Tritt	May 21	Blue Gate P.A.C.	Shipshewana
Travis Tritt	May 21	13-24 Drive-In	Wabash
The Turtles w/Chuck Negron, The Association, Mark Lindsay, The Vogues, The Cowsills	Aug. 15	MGM Northfield Park	Northfield, OH
Tusk	Aug. 26	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Ty Segall	Aug. 12-13	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Ty Segall and the Freedom Band	Aug. 14	Agora Theatre	Cleveland
Tyler Toney, Cody Jones, Garrett Hilbert, Coby and Cory Cotton	June 24	Rocket Mortgage Fieldhouse	Cleveland, OH
Umphrey's McGee	Aug. 28	White River State Park	Indianapolis
The Van Dells	June 18	Fountain Park	Van Wert, Ohio
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
Weezer, Green Day, Fall Out Boy, The Interrupters	Aug. 15	Wrigley Field	Chicago
Whiskey Myers	July 29	Taft Theatre	Cincinnati
Whiskey Myers w/Bones Owens	July 30	Sweetwater Pavilion	Fort Wayne
Wilco, Grouplove, Black Pumas, Bob Moses	Aug. 29	WonderBus Music Fest	Columbus, OH
Wreking Crue	Aug. 28	Eclectic Room	Angola
Wyclef Jean	May 2	The Sound Board	Detroit
Yacht Rock Revue	Aug. 14	White River State Park	Indianapolis
Zach Williams w/We the Kingdom and Cain	Oct. 29	Memorial Coliseum	Fort Wayne
ZoSo	Aug. 14	The Clyde	Fort Wayne
Zoë Keating	May 19	Thalia Hall	Chicago

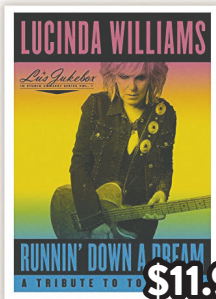
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ALBUM OF THE WEEK



\$11.99

LUCINDA WILLIAMS
RUNNIN' DOWN A DREAM

The revered singer/songwriter is working to help independent music venues with *Lu's Jukebox*. The six-episode series will feature a themed set of songs by other artists curated by Williams. *Runnin' Down a Dream: A Tribute to Tom Petty* features songs from his celebrated career. Pick up yours for just \$11.99 on CD at all Wooden Nickel and Neat Neat Neat Records locations.

TOP SELLERS

WEEK ENDING APRIL 25, 2021

TW LW ARTIST/Album

- 1 1 GRETA VAN FLEET
The Battle at Garden's Gate
- 2 - DINOSAUR JR.
Sweep It Into Space
- 3 3 CHEAP TRICK
In Another World
- 4 - JOHN LENNON
John Lennon/Plastic Ono Band
- 5 - PETER FRAMPTON
Frampton Forgets the Words
- 6 - ERIC CHURCH
Soul
- 7 - KALEO
Surface Sounds
- 8 8 LANA DEL REY
Chemtrails Over the Country Club
- 9 9 LIQUID TENSION EXPERIMENT
LTE3
- 10 2 TOM PETTY
Finding Wildflowers

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Evanescence

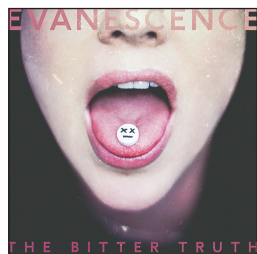
The Bitter Truth

Evanescence has been making records for the better part of 20 years, but the band's discography contains only five albums. With an average gap of about 4½ years between releases, this year's *The Bitter Truth* is pretty much right on schedule, coming after 2017's *Synthesis*. Despite the lag, Evanescence returns sounding as confident as ever.

There are plenty of reasons that *The Bitter Truth* took time to come to fruition. More than one tragedy befell the band members' families after they began work on the album. Then a global pandemic happened. As the world locked down, guitarist Jen Majura was stuck in her native Germany while the rest of the band worked in the United States. Like many of us, Evanescence had to figure out how to be productive while working remotely.

The Bitter Truth can fit comfortably in the "pandemic album" file, but its ruminations on darkness and resilience are not solely inspired by the events of the past year. "Broken Pieces Shine" resonates broadly today, but its stark admission that "survival hurts, but I keep breathing, I'm alive" describes anyone who has dealt with personal tragedy. Many of the other songs work on a personal level as well. "Wasted on You" bellows its defiance while "Use My Voice" frames its narrator's fight against abuse as a barely restrained simmer.

The uniform seriousness of the album is broken only by the P!nk-style romp of "Yeah Right." Even if the song has an irresistible energy, it's an energy that feels a little out of place among the otherwise ethereal songs. That one incongruity isn't enough, however, to make *The Bitter Truth* anything less than worth the wait. — Evan Gillespie

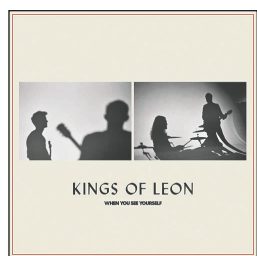


Kings of Leon

When You See Yourself

You guys remember Kings of Leon? Three brothers, one cousin, and a plethora of fashion trends in the early 2000s that spanned '70s bell bottom blues, Mason Dixon faux punkers, Skynyrd art rock, and then finally Tom Ford fashion-spread top 40 jams? Yeah, I figured you did. They continued making albums, accompanied in the studio by hands-on producers and songwriter doctors that helped with both chord changes and fashion changes alike.

You can't blame the Followill boys for soldiering on, making album after album of retreads, repeats, and newfound chameleon-like skills to mirror what came before and what is happening now. If you can make a living in rock n' roll, and you can pull it off live, why not?



With album number eight, *When You See Yourself*, Kings of Leon continue to create mildly catchy songs interspersed among filler on albums that never seem to come close to those youthful records that came before.

There's a moment very early on with *When You See Yourself* when I was feeling a little hopeful. Album opener "When You See Yourself, Are You Far Away," while not possessing that spitfire spirit and amp-buzzing fun of yore, feels like a proper progression to something else. The older Followills are making something of years lived, lessons learned, and maturity gained. The loping rhythm, subtle electronic touches, and Caleb Followill's aged voice all come together like something Brian Eno might have produced. While not jaw-dropping, this song feels like a step forward for Kings of Leon. "100,000 People" is similar in vibe, sort of a monotone, maudlin feel that is comfortable, if not inspiring.

Soon enough we're back in a cycle of wash, rinse, repeat. "Stormy Weather" stays in the middle lane, mopey southern soul for the Adult Alternative channel on Sirius. "Golden Restless Age" seems to be channeling Band of Horses through the early 2000s' New York indie rock resurgence to no avail. "Claire & Eddie" is a sad-eyed soul ballad that feels like every other sad-eyed soul ballad we've heard over the last five years.

If you're interested in hearing what the Followills have been up to, give *When You See Yourself* a spin. You might enjoy about half of it. — J. Hubner

Liquid Tension
Experiment

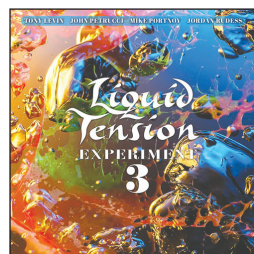
LTE3

One magical moment 20 years ago, someone handed me Liquid Tension Experiment's debut, saying, "You gotta hear this!" At a time when most music around me had devolved to three chords and an attitude, the virtuosity astounded me. There was a second tsunami with the release of *LTE2*. Then, for 21 years, nothing.

All the members of this supergroup were otherwise occupied. Jordan Rudess and John Petrucci were involved in a project called Dream Theatre. Tony Levin has been playing bass and Chapman stick for the likes of Peter Dinklage. Mike Portnoy has ventured from Dream Theatre to Avenged Sevenfold, Sons of Apollo, Flying Colours, and Neal Morse Band. They have teased for years that a reunion was possible, and here it is.

But even with virtuosity, even with just instrumentals, the songs must be memorable. Is there a melody looping in one's head the next day?

With *LTE3*, well, kind of. The band influenced Animals as Leaders at one time, and now on the first tune, "Hypersonic," they borrow the frenetic influence right back. The jams hum along nicely through familiar musical territory for three songs until the unlistenable "Chris and Kevin's Amazing Odyssey," which sounds like a whale being tortured. Delivering us from this cetacean abuse is the album's jewel, a prog-metal rendition



Backtracks CLASSIC ALBUMS

Journey

Infinity (1978)



Journey has been around since 1973. Although they have had a long career since this album, I think the stuff they produced through 1980 is their most creative and well-known music.

This was their fourth release, part of a three-arc series of albums (including this one, *Evolution*, and *Departure*) that made them pack arenas for almost a decade. Featuring newcomer Steve Perry on the vocals, Journey blended pop-rock with heavy production to allow Perry to chase the vocal range that appealed to both male and female fans.

It opens with a nod to their hometown in the beautiful "Lights," a track that is still played during athletic events in the San Francisco Bay area. The combination "Feeling That Way/Anytime" follows with keyboardist Greg Rolie sharing the vocals with Perry. Heavy guitars from Neal Schon give this a hard rock sound, but Perry's voice still gives it the "super ballad" feel. "Lă Do Dă" has Schon shredding his guitar and Rolie pounding the keys for three electrifying minutes. Side one ends with "Patiently," a ballad that became their formula throughout the '80s.

Side two opens with the four-minute gem in "Wheel in the Sky." Still one of my favorites from the album, it's hard to not feel like it's the late '70s when it comes on the radio in all of its splendor. A couple more ballads float around including the proggy "Winds of March" before Schon gets it going again with his formidable guitars behind the rock vocals from Perry. The album closes with a simple yet groovy pop-rock track, "Opened the Door."

The band took a break for ten years starting in the mid-80s, and Perry went on to continue his solo career. But in 2007, the band hired a new lead singer, Arnel Pineda, that they discovered on YouTube. — Dennis Donahue

of Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue" that had previously only been available live. Next, "Shades of Hope," consciously or not, repeats Gershwin's melody lines. The regular album finishes strongly with "Key to the Imagination."

These eight tracks satiate our appetite for prog metal noodling and whale torture, but the deluxe version has five more ramblings that make us leave the table saying, "No, seriously, I've had enough." Nevertheless, many will enjoy this release, if for the nostalgia alone. — Keith Roman

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.

NOW PLAYING

The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe — Peter, Edmund, Susan, and Lucy travel to the magical world of Narnia, **2 and 7 p.m. Saturday, May 1; and 2 p.m. Sunday, May 2**, Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$18-\$25, (260) 424-5665

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

ASIDES

***Les Misérables* Audition Workshop** — Learn the key elements of a successful audition, for students age 12-19, **noon-2:30 p.m. Saturday, May 8**, IMTF Headquarters/RKF Studios, Fort Wayne, free admission, www.IMTFinc.com

Theater Workshop — Acting, voice, and movement exercises for grades 5-7 that will culminate in a final performance, **9 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday-Friday, June 7-11**, Wagon Wheel Theatre, Warsaw, \$175, (574) 267-8041

Summer Youth Theater Camp — For children ages 6-10 who want to get involved with stage production, **9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Tuesdays-Thursdays, June 8-10 and June 15-17**, Huber Opera House & Civic Center, Hicksville, Ohio, \$100, (419) 542-9553

Musical Theater Workshop — Students grades 8-12 will mount a full-length Broadway musical in 11 days, **9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Wednesday-Monday, Sunday evening rehearsal, June 16-26**, Wagon Wheel Theatre, Warsaw, \$250, (574) 267-8041

Summer Academy 2021 — Rehearsals for *Xanadu Jr.*, **9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Tuesdays-Thursdays, June 22-24, June 29-July 1, and during the week of July 11**, Huber Opera House & Civic Center, Hicksville, Ohio, \$150, (419) 542-9553

Summer Tykes — Story-theater, fun crafts, and a final performance for grades 1-2, **9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**

Monday-Friday, July 12-16, Wagon Wheel Education Center, Warsaw, \$150, (574) 267-8041

Summer Play — Students grades 3-4 go through acting and movement exercises, culminating in a final performance, **9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, July 19-23**, Wagon Wheel Theatre, Warsaw, \$150, (574) 267-8041

AUDITIONS

The Wizard of Oz, The Music Man, and Big the Musical — Auditions for ages 8-10, **9:30 a.m.**; ages 11-13, **11 a.m.**; ages 14-18, **12:30 p.m. Saturday, May 1**, Wagon Wheel Center for the Arts, Warsaw, (574) 267-8041

A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum — Auditions for ages 17 and older, **6 p.m. Monday, May 10**, Arts United Center, Fort Wayne, (260) 424-0646

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

MAY

Frozen Jr. — Based on the 2018 Broadway musical, this production brings Elsa, Anna, and the magical land of Arendelle to the stage, **7 p.m. Thursday and Friday, May 6-7, and 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, May 8**, Fire & Light Productions, Life Community Church, Bluffton, \$8-\$10, (260) 824-2252

The Nutcracker in May — A production for children, by children, and about children, **7 p.m. Thursday-Friday, May 13-14; 2 and 7 p.m. Saturday, May 15; 1 and 6 p.m. Sunday, May 16**, Project Ballet, Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$29-\$42, (260) 424-5665

Little Women, The Musical — The adventures of sisters Jo, Meg, Beth and Amy March growing up in Civil War America, **7 p.m. Thursday and Friday, May 13-14, and 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, May 15**, Fire & Light Productions, Life Community Church, Bluffton, \$8-\$10, (260) 824-2252

Progressions21 — An evening of new and original choreography, **7 p.m. Friday, May 14**, Masonic Temple, Fort Wayne, \$20, (313) 832-7100

It's a Wonderful Life — George Bailey's guardian angel descends on Christmas Eve to save him from despair, **7 p.m. Thursday and Friday, May 20-21, and 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, May 22**, Fire & Light Productions, Life Community Church, Bluffton, \$8-\$10, (260) 824-2252

American Son — Broadway play about who we are as a nation and how we deal with familial relationships, love, loss, and identity, **7:30 p.m. Friday, May 21; Saturday, May 22; and Tuesday, May 25**, Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, (260) 424-5665

JUNE

The Wizard of Oz — A Kansas farm girl travels over the rainbow to discover the magical power of home, **8 p.m. Wednesday, June 2; 7 p.m. Thursday, June 3; 8 p.m. Friday, June 4; 7 p.m. Saturday, June 5; 2 p.m. Sunday, June 6; 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 8, and Wednesday, June 9; 2 and 8 p.m. Thursday, June 10; 8 p.m. Friday, June 11; 7 p.m. Saturday, June 12**, Wagon Wheel Theatre, Warsaw, \$15-\$40, (574) 267-8041

Guys and Dolls — A gambler tries to set up the biggest craps game in town with authorities breathing down his neck while his girlfriend pushes for marriage and a fellow gambler has love intricacies of his own, **8 p.m. Wednesday, June 16; 7 p.m. Thursday, June 17; 8 p.m. Friday, June 18; 7 p.m. Saturday, June 19; 2 p.m. Sunday, June 20; 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 22, and Wednesday, June 23; 2 and 8 p.m. Thursday, June 24; 8 p.m. Friday, June 25; 7 p.m. Saturday, June**

26, Wagon Wheel Theatre, Warsaw, \$15-\$40, (574) 267-8041

True Colors: A Celebration of Pride — Honoring Fort Wayne's LGBTQIA+ community with iconic hits of pop, music, stage, and screen, **8 p.m. Friday, June 18**, Three Rivers Music Theatre, Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$20-\$30, (260) 424-5665

Hellzapoppin — Circus sideshow revue with death-defying stunts and live rock n' roll, **8 p.m. Saturday, June 19**, The Eclectic Room, Angola, \$20-\$295, (269) 625-8871

The Music Man — Without knowing a lick about music, fast-talking salesman Harold Hill cons the citizens of River City, Iowa, **8 p.m. Wednesday, June 30; 7 p.m. Thursday, July 1; 8 p.m. Friday, July 2; 2 p.m. Sunday, July 4; 7 p.m. Tuesday, July 6, and Wednesday, July 7; 2 and 8 p.m. Thursday, July 8; 8 p.m. Friday, July 9; 7 p.m. Saturday, July 10**, Wagon Wheel Theatre, Warsaw, \$15-\$40, (574) 267-8041

JULY

Big the Musical — Josh Baskin makes a wish to the Zoltar machine to become "big," **8 p.m. Wednesday, July 14; 7 p.m. Thursday, July 15; 8 p.m. Friday, July 16; 7 p.m. Saturday, July 17; 2 p.m. Sunday, July 18; 7 p.m. Tuesday-Wednesday, July 20-21; 2 and 8 p.m. Thursday, July 22; 8 p.m. Friday, July 23; 7 p.m. Saturday, July 24**, Wagon Wheel Theatre, Warsaw, \$12-\$38, (574) 267-8041

A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum — A crafty slave tries to win the hand of a courtesan for his master, **7:30 p.m. Saturday, July 24; 2 p.m. Sunday, July 25; 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, July 30-31; 2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 1; 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Aug. 6-7; and 2 p.m. Aug. 8**, Fort Wayne Civic Theatre, Fort Wayne, season tickets available, (260) 424-5220

Pride & Prejudice — This new adaptation explores the absurdities and thrills of finding your perfect (or imperfect) match, **8 p.m. Wednesday, July 28; 7**

p.m. Thursday, July 29; 8 p.m. Friday, July 30; 7 p.m. Saturday, July 31; 2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 1; 7 p.m. Tuesday-Wednesday, Aug. 3-4; 2 and 8 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 5; 8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 6; 7 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 7, Wagon Wheel Theatre, Warsaw, \$15-\$40, (574) 267-8041

AUGUST

Nunsense — A convent stages a fundraiser so they may bury the last four nuns of their order who died in a cooking accident, **8 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 11; 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 12; 8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 13; 7 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 14; 2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 15; 7 p.m. Tuesday-Wednesday, Aug. 17-18; 2 and 8 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 19; 8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 20; 7 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 21**, Wagon Wheel Theatre, Warsaw, \$15-\$40, (574) 267-8041

Blue Man Group — A show full of joy, art, music, and hilarious absurdity, **7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 17**, Honeywell Center, Warsaw, \$44-\$100, (260) 563-1102

SEPTEMBER

Buckets N Boards — A high-energy show full of percussion, ridiculous songs, tap dancing, and more, **7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 9**, Eagles Theatre, Wabash, \$15, (260) 563-1102

Theresa Caputo — America's favorite Long Island medium entertains with her psychic abilities, **7:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 17**, Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$39.75 & up, (260) 424-5665

The Charitable Sisterhood of the Second Trinity Victory Church — The ladies of the Charitable Sisterhood sort a mountain of donations for a relief effort, **7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, Sept. 17-18 and 24-25, 2:30 p.m. Sundays, Sept. 19 and 26**, all for One Productions, ArtsLab, Auer Center for Arts & Culture, Fort Wayne, \$11-\$20, (260) 745-4364

Art & Exhibits

LOCAL CALENDAR

CURRENT EXHIBITS

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, through May 2**, Artlink Contemporary Gallery, Fort Wayne, free admission, (260) 424-7195

Bold Assemblage: Mixed Media from the Collection — Bringing together for the first time works that do not have a natural home in a museum's collection though they occupy an important place in the story of American art, **10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays-Saturdays, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursdays, noon-5 p.m. Sundays, through May 30**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, \$5-\$20, (260) 422-6467

Bronze: The Artistic Interest — Sculptures from the permanent collection that represent both ends of the artistic spectrum, from traditional religious or mythical figures to contemporary abstract works of art, **10 a.m.-6 p.m.**

Tuesdays-Saturdays, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursdays, noon-5 p.m. Sundays, through May 30, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, \$5-\$20, (260) 422-6467

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**, Allen County Public Library main branch, Fort Wayne, free admission, fortwayneartistsguild.org

Glass and Clay by Paula Crill — Clay planters with faces, a.k.a. "Pot Heads," emulating people and their many expressions, **11 a.m.-4 p.m. Mondays-Saturdays, through May 1**, Orchard Gallery of Fine Art, Fort Wayne, free admission, (260) 436-0927

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, through June 13**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, Fort Wayne, \$8-\$20, (260) 422-6467

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

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, through May 31 or by**

appointment, Castle Gallery Fine Art, Fort Wayne, (260) 426-6568

ART EVENTS

Rural Studio Tour — A self-guided tour where visitors can gain an appreciation for how local studios come to produce the various pieces which will be for sale and exhibit, **10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, May 1**, locations in Leo-Cedarville and Spencer-ville, free admission, (260) 740-8725

Bloom Fest: Local Arts & Nature — Local artists and artisans, indoor/outdoor plant starts, children's activities, live music, and food trucks, **10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, August 14**, Riverside Gardens Park, Leo-Cedarville, free admission, (260) 503-4264

COMING EXHIBITS

Katherine Gaff and Jose Arénivar-Gómez — Solo exhibits for artists in residence, **11 a.m.-8 p.m. Wednesdays and Fridays, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Thursdays, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturdays, May 6-June 17; artists talk 5-6 p.m. and opening 6-10**

p.m. Thursday, May 6, Bread & Circus Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, free admission

Revival by Fire — Exhibit featuring 36 pieces by the late ceramist Michael Minick , **11 a.m.-4 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays, May 13-June 12, or by appointment; reception 5-9 p.m. Thursday, May 13**, Castle Gallery Fine Art, Fort Wayne, (260) 426-6568

Unity by Sam — Printmaking, oil paintings, and charcoal drawings by Sam Parker, **6-9 p.m. Saturday, May 22**, Art22 Academy, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 715-4990

Alphonse Mucha: Master of Art Nouveau — Most remembered for his role in shaping French Art Nouveau, featuring lithographs and proofs, drawings, an oil painting, a pastel, and more, **10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays-Saturdays, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursdays, noon-5 p.m. Sundays, closed Mondays, June 5-Sept. 26**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, Fort Wayne, \$8-\$20, (260) 422-6467

CURRENT

Color in Motion Live Butterfly Exhibit — Featuring colorful shade sails, spring flowers, ground cover undergird, and large-scale kaleidoscopes, **10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, noon-4 p.m. Sunday, through June 27**, Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory, Fort Wayne, \$3-\$5, (260) 427-6440

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-market.com

Historic Southside Farmers Market — Fort Wayne's oldest continuously operating farmers market, **8 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays, through Dec. 18**, 3300 S. Warsaw St., Fort Wayne, free, (260) 244-3288

Lucky Duck Consignment Sale — New-born-Junior sized clothing for boys and girls, maternity and a women's clothing, shoes, toys, movies, decor, bikes, books and more, **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

Shoshana Bean — Embassy fund-raising event bringing this Broadway star to the stage in Fort Wayne for an intimate evening of music and camaraderie, **8 p.m. Friday, April 30**, Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$100-\$150, (260) 424-5665

Great American Cleanup — Volunteers lend a hand to clean up littered roadsides, parks, trails, and riverways, **8 a.m. Saturday, May 1**, various locations around Fort Wayne, (260) 427-1345

Genealogical Search Tools — Stephen P. Morse will present "One-Step Website — a Potpourri of Genealogical Search Tools," and will cover "Searching the 1950 Census with and without a Name Index", **1-4 p.m. Sunday, May 2**, Northeast Indiana Jewish Genealogy Society, Fort Wayne, free and online, (260) 625-3693

Trek the Trails — Meet at school parking lot for a six-mile ride, **6 p.m. Tuesday, May 4**, Deer Ridge Elementary, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 427-1112

Cinco de Mayo Party — Salsa Grille taco truck and live music, **5 p.m. Wednesday, May 5**, Flashback Live, Fort Wayne, free admission, (260) 422-5292

Bass Master Class with Stu Hamm — Learn from a master bassist as he demonstrates and discusses technique and conducts a Q&A, **7-9 p.m. Wednesday, May 5**, Sweetwater, Fort Wayne, \$100, (800) 222-4700

Guitar Master Class with Alex Skolnick — Learn from one of the original melodic-thrash guitarists about harmonic, melodic, creative, and technical guitar playing styles from hard rock and metal to jazz, **7-9 p.m. Wednesday, May 5**, Sweetwater, Fort Wayne, \$100, (800) 222-4700

COMING EVENTS

MAY

Over the Edge for Strong Neighborhoods — Rappelers use ropes to scale down 80 feet from the eighth floor of the PNC building, **4 p.m.-7 p.m. Thursday, May 6**, and starting at noon on Friday, May 7, PNC Bank building, downtown

SEND US YOUR EVENTS: whatzup.com/submit

Fort Wayne, free admission, (260) 422-4776

Mother's Day Wine Tasting — Tastings include five samples, one full glass, a commemorative wine glass, snacks, and bottles available for purchase, **6-8 p.m. Thursday, May 6**, Edwin Coe Spirits, Churubusco, \$25, (260) 212-8827

Open House and Plant Sale — Hand-arts display of Settlers Inc. programs, herbs in the basement, and perennial diggings on the lawn, **10 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday, May 7**, Historic Swinney Homestead, Fort Wayne, free admission, (260) 424-7212

Mother's Day Weekend Downtown — Retail shops and restaurants offer Mother's Day specials, **11 a.m.-10 p.m. Friday-Saturday, May 7-8**, downtown Fort Wayne, (260) 420-3266

Rain Garden Workshop — Detailed guidance on planting a garden, **8:30-10 a.m. Saturday, May 8**, Packard Park Pavilion, Fort Wayne, free admission, pre-registration required, (260) 427-8311

Food Truck Bash — Local food trucks serving food and drinks on the patio, and local businesses to shop, **11 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, May 8**, Flashback Live, Fort Wayne, free admission, (260) 422-5292

Della's Mother's Day Drag Brunch — Games and food plus a drag show, **noon-4 p.m. Sunday, May 9**, Welch's Ale House, Fort Wayne, \$36, (260) 456-6542

Trek the Trails — Meet at Cookie Cottage parking lot for an eight-mile ride, **6 p.m. Tuesday, May 11**, Pufferbelly Trail, Fort Wayne, free admission, (260) 427-1112

DJ Group Meetup — Learn from other DJs of all backgrounds and skill levels, **7:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 11**, Sweetwater, Fort Wayne, free admission, (800) 222-4700

Nature Fest — Canoeing, hiking, nature crafts, touring the sustainable farm, bird counting, and insect monitoring, **7:30-10 p.m. Friday, May 14; 6:45 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, May 15**, Merry Lea - Farmstead Site, Albion, \$5-\$10, (260) 799-5869

Fort Wayne's Farmers Market — Farm foods, baked goods, homemade natural items, and unique works from regional artisans, **9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays starting May 15**, McCulloch Park, Fort Wayne, free admission, (260) 422-6000

Remembering the Flood of 1913 — Lecture by Karen Richards about Fort Wayne's most damaging flood, **11 a.m. Saturday, May 15**, livestream by ARCH, free, (260) 426-5117

Union 12 Sip & Shop — A full day of sales and drinks with a cash bar and local vendors, **noon-5 p.m. Sunday, May 16**, Union 12, Columbia City, free admission, (260) 203-0239

Wedding Walk — An outdoor, walkable bridal show with up to 20 different vendors of wedding related products, **1-4 p.m. Sunday, May 16**, Historic Downtown Wabash, \$5, (260) 563-6565

Trek the Trails — Meet in the parking lot for an eight-mile ride, **6 p.m. Tuesday, May 18**, SportONE Parkview Fieldhouse, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 427-1112

Voice-Over Workshop with Ed Bednarczyk — Career-launching topics from working in the industry on a day-to-day basis to studio development and business management, **10 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday and Saturday, May 21-22**, Sweetwater, Fort Wayne, \$250, (800) 222-4700

Rain Garden Workshop — Detailed guidance on planting a garden, **9:30-10:45 a.m. Saturday, May 22**, Salomon Farm, Fort Wayne, free admission, pre-registration required, (260) 427-8311

Trek the Trails — Meet at trail head near Coliseum Boulevard for an eight-mile ride, **6 p.m. Tuesday, May 25**, Johnny Appleseed Park, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 427-1112

Hottest In The City — A regional tour in which performers in each city compete for a chance to win that city's prize package, **7-11 p.m. Saturday, May 29**, The Muse on Main, Fort Wayne, \$5-\$75, (260) 999-4108

JUNE

Wrestling Legends — See all your favorites throw down in the ring, **6 p.m. Saturday, June 5**, Rockstar Lounge, Fort Wayne, \$8-\$25, (260) 444-2442

Adult Prom — Black-tie event with hors d'oeuvres, live entertainment, cash bars, photographer, and a prom king and queen, **8 p.m.-midnight Saturday, June 5**, Flashback Live, Fort Wayne, \$25-\$40, (260) 422-5292

Huntington Trails Beer and Wine Festival — Wine and beer tasting event featuring food trucks, photo booth, and prize raffles, **5-10 p.m. Friday, June 11**, Huntington County Fairgrounds, Huntington, \$10-\$35, (260) 355-5103

JULY

Three Rivers Festival Parade — This year's theme, "Coming Together: Fort Wayne's Past, Present, & Future," celebrates the value of community, **10 a.m. Saturday, July 10**, Downtown Fort Wayne, free admission, (260) 426-5556

Junior Achievement Wine & Beer Festival — Samples from popular Indiana wineries, breweries, and distilleries, live music, activities, and a silent online auction, **5-9 p.m. Friday, July 30**, Parkview Field, Fort Wayne, \$40-\$90, (260) 407-2820

33rd Annual Duck Race — Watch 20,000 plastic ducks being dropped into St. Mary's River and see who wins our \$5,000 top prize and others, **10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, July 31**, Promenade Park, Fort Wayne, free admission, (260) 421-5000

MINOR LEAGUE SPORTS

HOCKEY

Komets — Upcoming home games at Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne
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.**

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Across

- The ___ Marker, bar & grill located on 49-Across lake and in the city spelled out by the circled letters when read horizontally
- Gather
- Mediterranean coast, and also a drama series starring Julia Stiles
- Windshield attachment
- Class of drugs, often highlighted for their misuse
- Twinned diamond
- Deer sir
- A written law
- Sub detector
- Lithium-___ battery
- Small intake
- Change, as a clock
- “___ questions?”
- Missouri river
- Native Mexican plant used in soaps and detergents
- Take care of a bill
- Rice dish, in the UK
- ___ out a living
- Break a commandment
- Pull strings?

- Embarrassing blunder in soccer or hockey when a player scores on their defensive side of the playing area
 - Port authority?
 - WWI soldier
 - Shows up
 - Symbol of purity flower
 - Largest natural lake in Indiana located in the city denoted by the circled letters
 - Tomato blight
 - Nighttime log-sawers
- Down**
- “___ my heart and hope to die”
 - “___ Be Square,” Huey Lewis and the News song
 - Winged
 - Falls over which 75,750 gallons of water flow every second
 - Court divider
 - Bard’s “before”
 - Noted female collie
 - Madison Avenue worker
 - Vegetarian’s no-no
 - A claim that someone is guilty
 - Soup cracker
 - The ___ Owl, fine dining restaurant located in the city denoted by the circled letters

- Demolish, as a car
 - Coffee order: Abbr.
 - Brown shade
 - Resort located on the edge of 49-Across lake featuring rooms, event centers, and The Pier & Back Porch restaurant
 - Class of intrusive igneous rocks
 - Bell and Barker
 - Endure (past), or last (beyond)
 - National Enquirer or Cosmopolitan competitor
 - Charles and Camilla, to Meghan
 - John Philip ___, The March King
 - Salon job
 - Down ___ Bar & Grill, restaurant in the city denoted by the circled letters
 - He took two tablets
 - Like a sad sack
 - Beachgoer’s goal
 - Losing come-out roll in craps
- Answer key on page 16*

The weird ‘21 Oscars with one big misstep

The Steven Soderbergh-produced 2021 Oscars are in the books and, welp, they sure were unique — unique to such a degree that the program resembled the loose shagginess of a Golden Globes or Indie Spirit awards show more so than the formal and serious Oscars.

To understand some of the unusual decisions made by Soderbergh and his collaborators you have to consider two things:

- The strange, COVID-driven circumstances of doing live, in-person events right now.
- Steven Soderbergh’s adventurous creative persona and work.

Among Soderbergh’s filmography are some legitimate hits, including the *Ocean’s 11* trilogy, *Erin Brockovich*, *Contagion*, *Magic Mike*, and *Traffic*. I like all of those movies, and in some ways all of them are inventive and strange. But these are movies that a broad swath of people can watch and appreciate.

On the other side, you have the artist Steven Soderbergh who takes big chances and has his heart set on innovation. Some of his movies that would fit that characterization include *Schizopolis*, *Full Frontal*, *Bubble*, *The Girlfriend Experience*, and the movies he did with and about Spalding Gray. These films are very much for cinephiles.

TAKING CHANCES

Soderbergh, for the most part, took the chance of producing and directing the Oscars as his opportunity to take risks on one of cinema’s biggest stages.

There was no proper host, but instead, a few very famous people led segments.

No musical performances. Questlove DJ’d the night.

No one wore masks. No one accepted an award via a Zoom screen.

Lighting was provided mostly by candles at tables.

The show was presented in 2.40:1 widescreen at 24 frames per second. The cameras were almost always seemingly being manned by aspiring 19-year-old filmmakers using DSLRs on gimbals.

No one got played off during an acceptance speech.

The order in which the awards were given out was completely different than usual, with the typical closer, Best Picture, being presented before Best Actor or Best Actress.

That last choice, I think, was an especially silly idea.

It was, to say the least, an odd night. It felt as if Steven Soderbergh was center stage as opposed to the presenters, nominees, and winners.

According to Soderbergh, he wanted the Oscars to feel cinematic. And by shooting at 2.40:1 at 24fps, he was on the right track. By poorly lighting the show and using what seemed to be prosumer cameras on gimbals, he failed.

The camera operation, lighting, and staging of the entire show was awkward and, at times, so uncinematic that I wondered about some of the failures of Soderbergh’s past experimental work.

ON TO THE AWARD WINNERS

But anyway, onto this column’s secondary subject of the week: the award winners themselves.

As mentioned above, the biggest award of the night,



Screen Time

GREG W. LOCKE

Best Picture, was given away with 20 minutes left in the show.

Typically the show ends with all the Best Picture winners on stage celebrating. Not tonight. After Chloe Zhao’s excellent *Nomadland* was announced as the winner, they cut to commercial then came back and gave out two more awards.

The second-to-last award was Best Actress, which went to Frances McDormand for *Nomadland*. That’s McDormand’s third time winning said award, putting her in a very rare league with just Daniel Day-Lewis and Katharine Hepburn as the only three people to win three or more Best Actor / Best Actress statues. So that was historic and, frankly, made me quite happy.

And then finally we get to the last award of the show: Best Actor. The night’s biggest blunder.

It had been assumed by pretty much everyone that Chadwick Boseman, who tragically passed away last year, was a sure-thing winner. Was his performance better than all the other nominees’ performances? No, certainly not. But he died young and was absolutely a very good actor worth celebrating.

So Soderbergh and crew had planned to end the night on a sad but celebratory note, with Boseman winning, a speech from someone in his family, and a lot of wet eyes.

But instead, Joaquin Phoenix announced the excellent Anthony Hopkins as the winner for his performance in *The Father*.

But Hopkins wasn’t there. He wasn’t even there remotely from Paris or wherever. Instead of the big Boseman celebration, the night ended on a static photo of Anthony Hopkins. Whoops!

The other big historic moment came when Chloe Zhao won Best Director, making her only the second woman to ever win Best Director and the first woman of color to ever win.

I love Chloe and I love *Nomadland*, but I left the show feeling as if maybe these wins will come with asterisks because of all the other “Oscar-y” films that were held due to COVID theater protocols.

Will *Nomadland* ever feel like a proper Best Picture winner? I’m not sure. I hope it does, but it seems as if this year’s Oscar season had the fewest eyes on it that I can recall an Oscars season having with very few people having seen many of the films.

MORE AWARDS

Other big winners included H.E.R. for Best Song; Youn Yuh-jung for Best Supporting Actress (*Minari*); the excellent *Another Round* for Best Foreign Language Film; Daniel Kaluuya (who I think gave the year’s best overall performance) for Best Supporting Actor (*Judas and the Black Messiah*); *Soul* for Best Animated Feature; *My Octopus Teacher* for Best Documentary; *Promising Young Woman* writer/director Emerald Fennell won Best Original Screenplay; Florian Zeller and Christopher Hampton’s *The Father* won for Best Adapted Screenplay; *Tenet* won for Best Visual Effects; *Mank* DP Erik Messerschmidt won for Best Cinematography; and Mikkel E. G. Nielsen won Best Editing for *Sound of Metal*.

An absolutely weird night. While there were certainly a whole lot of missed ideas and countless missed opportunities to show what the Oscars could be, I’m going to mark down Steven Soderbergh’s Oscars as a win if only because they’ll stand out over time as *so* different from all the other shows.

And hey, I like when artists take chances.

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Film based on video game takes itself too seriously

When the first *Mortal Kombat* movie came out in the late summer of 1995, it was amid a string of early attempts like *Double Dragon* and *Street Fighter* to adapt fighting video games for the big screen.

While all three titles feature fantastical elements, what set *Kombat* apart was an over-the-top brutality that relied upon a gratuitous amount of gore. New Line Cinema knew an R-rating would hurt the film's box office viability, so it opted for a PG-13 version that may have pulled punches but brought in enough money to spawn a sequel a couple years later.



MORE ON THE WEB

Use your phone's camera to scan the QR code above and watch the movie trailer.

erworldly tournament called *Mortal Kombat*.

The dark realm known as Outworld is one win away from taking over our Earthrealm, prompting the lightning god Raiden (Tadanobu Asano) to recruit marked individuals like Young and brash mercenary Kano (Josh Lawson) to defend their universe.

Aiding in their effort are brothers Liu Kang (Ludi Lin) and Kung Lao (Max Huang), while Outworld bad-dies Shang Tsung (Chin Han) and Sub-Zero (Joe Taslim) summon all manner of bloodthirsty brawlers to hinder Earth's chances.

With recent successes like *Detective Pikachu* and *Sonic the Hedgehog*, Hollywood again returns to the well of 1990s video game nostalgia but things are a bit different with this entry. Those two films were based on kids' games and remain family-friendly PG fare.

But *Mortal Kombat* is, at last, true to the "rated M for Mature" nature of its source material. To that end, its authenticity to the experience of the video game may be enough to satiate the bloodlust of the franchise's fans but isn't likely to win over casual moviegoers.

New characters are introduced with little fanfare and dispatched with even less regard, while the exposition-heavy dialogue does heavy lifting in between the numerous fight scenes to string together a cohesive yet painfully derivative plot.

1995's *Mortal Kombat* was far from a cinematic masterpiece — and its sequel even less so — but that film at least had a knowing sense of how ridiculous the excesses of the video game were and played into them properly.

The most disappointing aspect of this reboot is how fatally self-serious it is, giving into Hollywood's penchant to "grittily reimagine" material that was intentionally corny at the outset.

Besides a few well-earned bits of fan service and meta humor from the Kano character, first-time director Simon McQuoid treats this material with bone-headed



Reel Views

BRENT LEUTHOLD



COURTESY PHOTO

Lewis Tan stars in the new *Mortal Kombat* movie.

MORTAL KOMBAT

Rated R for strong bloody violence and language throughout, and some crude references

1 hour 50 minutes

Streaming on HBO Max and playing in theaters



gravitas intended to revitalize a franchise rather than faithfully render the tone of the video game.

When Young inquires, "Lord Raiden, can you send anyone anywhere?" I howled with laughter at his stoicism while asking such a preposterous question. But I doubt the movie was laughing along with me.

Fortunately, McQuoid still sees the value in the superpowers these characters possess and the bloody bedlam that they inevitably produce.

The video game series is famous for its Fatalities, signature finishing moves of outlandish overkill that translate nicely to this R-rated iteration of the fighting game. My personal favorite implements the sharp-brimmed hat of good guy Kung Lao against the winged terror known as Mileena.

But in between these flights of blood-soaked fancy, there is a movie that wants desperately to be taken seriously on the merits of its characters and story.

It may be glib to suggest that I've grown past this particular franchise but would be more apt to say that we as a society have likely outgrown the need for much more *Mortal Kombat* content.

NEW MOVIES COMING THIS WEEKEND

Premiering on Amazon Prime is *Tom Clancy's Without Remorse*, an action thriller starring Michael B. Jordan and Jodie Turner-Smith about a Navy SEAL who goes on a path to avenge his wife's murder, only to find himself inside of a larger conspiracy.

Streaming on Netflix is *The Mitchells vs. the Machines*, an animated comedy starring Abbi Jacobson and Danny McBride about a family road trip that is interrupted by the sudden worldwide takeover of evil robots.

Also debuting on Netflix is *Things Heard & Seen*, a horror movie starring Amanda Seyfried and James Norton about an artist whose marriage begins to reveal a darkness as she and her husband relocate to a storied new house.



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