

November 24-30, 2022

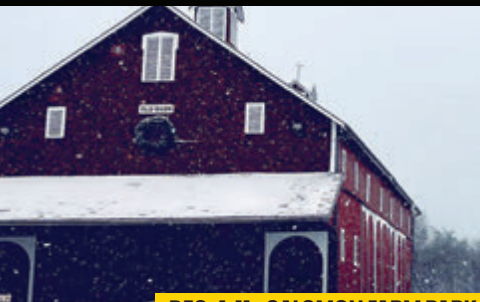
## SHOW ANNOUNCEMENTS

HIGHLY SUSPECT  
FLOGGING MOLLY



DEC. 1 • PIERE'S

**JEFFERSON STARSHIP** / 4



DEC. 1-11 • SALOMON FARM PARK

**A CHRISTMAS CAROL** / 5



NOV. 29 • SWEETWATER THEATRE

**GOLDSTOCK** / 6



DEC. 3 • BAKER STREET CENTRE

**ERIN COBURN** / 12

THINGS TO DO IN FORT WAYNE AND BEYOND

FREE WEEKLY

# whatzup

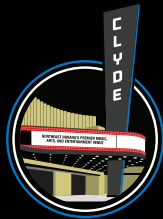


# THE NUTCRACKER

DEC. 2-11 • ARTS UNITED CENTER

FORT WAYNE BALLET'S TRADITION RETURNS / PAGE 13





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Rock / Holiday

**DEC  
22**

**DALLAS STRING QUARTET**

Classical / Holiday Show

**DEC  
30**

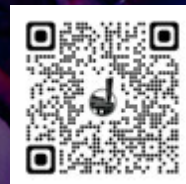
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#### How to reach us

Whatzup  
5501 U.S. Highway 30 West  
Fort Wayne, IN 46818

Phone: (260) 407-3198

Fax: (260) 469-1027

info@whatzup.com

whatzup.com

facebook.com/whatzupftwayne

instagram.com/whatzupftwayne

twitter.com/whatzupftwayne

#### Publisher

Michael Ross

#### General Manager

Jon Swerens

#### Editor

Anthony Gadson

#### Account Executive

Dennis Lyons

#### Contributing writers

Emma Bachtel, Nick Braun,  
Benjamin Dehr, Dennis Donahue,  
Evan Gillespie, Quinn Heiking,  
Olivia Hennessey, J. Hubner,  
Chris Hupe, Dean Jackson,  
Brent Leuhold, Greg W. Locke,  
Jen Poiry Prough, Sam Rohloff,  
Keith Roman, and Wheat Williams

#### Distribution

*Whatzup* is distributed once per week at hundreds of locations all over Allen County and Northeast Indiana. *Whatzup* is distributed on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Check our list of locations at [whatzup.com/pickup](http://whatzup.com/pickup).

#### Calendar listings

Must be received by noon Monday the week of publication for inclusion in that week's issue and, space permitting, will run until the week of the event.

Calendar information is published as far in advance as space permits and should be submitted as early as possible.

*Whatzup* makes every effort to authenticate claims and accurate times and event locations.

We encourage readers to verify information prior to attending events or purchasing tickets.

#### Advertising

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

# Jefferson Starship landing at Piere's

## Former Jefferson Airplane member, 84, does not see reason to stop touring

BY CHRIS HUPE

WHATZUP FEATURES WRITER

With solid roots in Jefferson Airplane, which became grounded in 1973, Jefferson Starship evolved from solo albums Paul Kantner and Grace Slick had recorded.

Joined by David Freiberg, Craig Chaquico, John Barbata, Pete Sears, and Papa John Creach, Jefferson Starship released their debut album, *Dragon Fly*, in 1974.

"(Slick, Kantner, and myself) put out a couple of albums while we were waiting to see if Jefferson Airplane was going to keep going," Freiberg told *Whatzup* in a recent interview. "And when we finished those two albums, we realized it wasn't, so we thought that maybe we'd better do something to promote them."

"On Paul's solo album, *Blows Against the Empire*, about a bunch of hippies that hijack the first starship, he listed everybody that played on it on the cover and called them the 'Jefferson Starship Crew.' That was the first place that the name Jefferson Starship appeared."

The name of the band now appears at Piere's, where they will perform on Thursday, Dec. 1.

#### LINEUPS COME, GO

Between 1974-84, Jefferson Starship released eight gold or platinum albums, with their sophomore effort, *Red Octopus*, reaching No. 1 on the Billboard 200 chart in 1975.

However, even with the success, the lineup was anything but stable.

"We went through a whole lot of stuff during that time," Freiberg said. "Like in 1979, when Grace and Marty Balin quit. Both then played with Mickey Thomas for a while, though Grace did come back a few years later. Then Paul left, and the band became Starship. Then I left, too."

Kantner reformed Jefferson Starship about 1992, but that didn't stop personnel changes, including Freiberg rejoining in 2005. However, the lineup has remained stable since Kantner's death in 2016.

"The band now, as it exists, was the band that was playing with Paul when he passed away," Freiberg said.

#### EX-MEMBER SHINES ON

The current lineup put out *Mother of the Sun* in August 2020 as the pandemic was full blown, leaving them with few opportunities to promote it.

"Well, it was ready to go and so, what are you going to do, hold on to it?" Freiberg said. "We wanted to get it out just in the case the world was going to end."

"We did a whole lot of Zooming to promote it, but there's nothing like getting out to play it live,



COURTESY PHOTO

Veteran rock group Jefferson Starship will be at Piere's on Thursday, Dec. 1.

### JEFFERSON STARSHIP

8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 1  
Piere's Entertainment Center  
5629 St. Joe Road, Fort Wayne  
\$39.50-\$59.50 · (260) 492-6064

and we've been doing that for the last year."

As the first album since his death, *Mother of the Sun* was fittingly dedicated to Kantner and, it turns out, the title reflects him as well.

"I think some fortune teller or seer or somebody that knows something told us that Paul was looking out for us, and we asked where he was watching from," Freiberg said. "They said Cassiopeia. Cassiopeia was the mother of the sun and moon, and since he was in Cassiopeia, we titled it *Mother of the Sun*."

#### NO REASON TO SLOW DOWN

Listen to classic rock radio for any amount of time, and there's a good change you'll hear the band's mega-hit "Jane," a song Freiberg wrote, or any one of Jefferson Starship's other iconic compositions like "Count on Me," "Find Your Way Back," and "Miracles."

Freiberg isn't sure why his band's music still appeals to fans, but he's glad to keep playing it.

"It's just a diverse collection of tunes," he said. "It changed through the years, but whatever it was, it's always been really eclectic. It all seems to

connect though."

When Jefferson Starship hits the Piere's stage, you can expect a night full of hits, most of which you'll know by heart and some that might become new favorites.

Freiberg said they will play "a selection of tunes from the entire gamut, all the way from Jefferson Airplane all the way up to the stuff we are doing now, maybe even beyond. We're working on another new album now, if we ever get some time to get into the studio. Who knows? It goes back further, too. I was in Quicksilver Messenger Service before Jefferson Airplane, and we've been known to do a tune or two from that band, but there's plenty of songs to play from just Jefferson Starship."

At 84 years old, Freiberg has nearly six decades of professional music experience under his belt, but he doesn't see a time when he or the rest of the band will slow down.

When asked if he ever thought he'd still be playing in a band at his age, he joked, "I didn't think I'd make it 40. When I did turn 40, it was 1978 and I wrote 'Jane.' Personally, it's going pretty good. I'm still having as great a time as ever, so I don't see any reason to quit. You know, if people didn't want to listen to us, that'd be something else, but fans seem to enjoy it, so I'm going to do it as long as I can. I'm enjoying it. Having fun is the reason for living, as far as I'm concerned."



# Salomon Farm opens barn doors for *A Christmas Carol*

## Shows selling out for Summit City Theatre's new holiday tradition

BY ANTHONY GADSON

WHATZUP EDITOR

A non-traditional theater company is aiming to create a new family tradition.

On Dec. 1, Summit City Music Theatre will hold their premiere of *A Christmas Carol* in Salomon Farm Park's Old Barn with half the performances already sold out for the 110-seat venue.

"Tickets are going fast," artistic director Gavin Thomas Drew said.

Shows are slated for Dec. 1-11 with Saturday and Sunday shows already sold out, as well as Friday, Dec. 2.

Tickets can be found at [summitcitymt.com](http://summitcitymt.com).

### CONFORMING TO SPACE

The response was predicted by Drew, and the company's claim that this would become a holiday tradition appears to be correct.

"We are marketing this as an experience," he said. "There's hot chocolate and cider, and there may be some vendors. We're really aiming to make this a new Fort Wayne tradition. Just like *The Nutcracker*, we feel like there's so many cities in the world where families go to see *A Christmas Carol* every year. We wanted to bring that to Fort Wayne. We are committed to doing this every year at Salomon Farm."

The venue certainly makes it appealing for the show, but that doesn't mean there haven't been some challenges, such as pumping heat into it and getting a barn that's used for weddings and concerts ready for a stage production.

"The first challenge was that we did not have a stage," Drew said. "We have built up a stage on risers. For us, the farm has a perfect ambiance to do an 1800s show. The barn was established in 1871, so it is restored to its original glory, and we felt it was a perfect setting."

Instead of working around the setting, the crew has been working *with* it.

"It is not your typical London streets set," Drew said. "Instead, we really play with the wood grain and barn atmosphere."

For performers like Emersen Conner, who plays Martha Cratchit, the Old Barn has only created opportunities.

"It's definitely kept me on my toes, especially when it comes to there being a whole different way that you have to look at your entrances and scene changes," she said. "You're not able to hide as well as you can with traditional proscenium stage, where you have the wings and the backstage area. It comes with its challenges, but is very rewarding."

And don't expect any pyrotechnics.

"We have really pared down the props and



COURTESY PHOTO

Emersen Conner stars as Martha Cratchit in the Summit City Music Theatre's upcoming performance of *A Christmas Carol* in the Old Barn at Salomon Farm Park.

sets, so that we allow the acting to do the storytelling," Drew said. "It is a minimalist production of *A Christmas Carol*, but it still has the bells and whistles for the special effects, because beyond anything else, it is a ghost story of Christmas."

### NON-TRADITIONAL COMPANY

If the ghosts of Christmas past, present,

and future aren't the stars, Scrooge would be, with Caleb Curtis portraying him, while Tony Didier takes on the role of Bob Cratchit, Michael Paff plays Tim Cratchit, and Abigail Ehinger handles narrating duties.

In all, there are 48 members of the cast, which were selected from more than 75 hopefuls during October auditions.

"We have put together a great team, and

### A CHRISTMAS CAROL SUMMIT CITY MUSIC THEATRE

7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 1-3

2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4

7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 8-10

2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11

Salomon Farm Park

817 Dupont Road, Fort Wayne

\$25 • (260) 437-6825

we're excited to put on this show," Drew said.

This will be Conner's third production with Summit City Music Theatre, having also starred in last year's *The Addams Family* and this summer's *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*.

"What I found special about this audition was how inviting it was," Conner said, noting it required a Christmas carol, with her selecting "Silent Night." "There wasn't a lot of pressure. There weren't a lot of barriers for people that have not had a lot of theater experience. We were allowed to bring something familiar, and we saw a lot of faces that we haven't seen in the theater community."

The company prides themselves on being a bit non-traditional, choosing inclusivity over exclusivity.

"Summit City Music Theatre always works to be very inclusive in our casting," Drew said. "We have a visually impaired actress, an actor with Down syndrome. We just really wanted this to reflect our community."

And it's that kind of non-traditionalism that keeps Emersen coming back.

"I've really fallen in love with Summit City," she said. "They have such a talented, hard-working team that you just gotta come back. I was really drawn in by the immersive aspect. I feel like in the past couple of years, the theater community has fallen into a kind of complacency by remaining status quo. Being a part of something that is so non-traditional and submersive was really alluring."

### COMING BACK FOR MORE

While it might be non-traditional, the company isn't swaying from the Charles Dickens' tale about the true meaning of the Christmas season.

"It is a classic adaptation of *A Christmas Carol*," Drew said of the adaptation he co-wrote with Chapman Shields. "It's a play with music. We have a phenomenal ensemble and choir. We have 48 cast members, and then, of course, a pit with a violin and a piano."

At the conclusion of the 70-minute performance, Drew is banking on families discussing what they saw on the way home and coming back again next year to experience a truly unique experience ... that might include layered clothing.

"People need to dress cozy, but we working hard to make sure it's comfortable for everybody," he said.



# Music showcase stocks up on young musicians

*PFW welcomes 11 acts to Goldstock on Nov. 29 at Sweetwater Theatre*

**BY WHEAT WILLIAMS**

WHATZUP FEATURES WRITER

It's called Goldstock. But unlike its 1969 namesake, Goldstock won't be attended by 300,000 people, it won't be three days of peace, love, and music, and it won't be a milestone for the Baby Boomer generation.

What it will be is more achievable: a casual, friendly two- to three-hour showcase of young, up-and-coming Fort Wayne musicians on Tuesday, Nov. 29. And because it's indoors in the state-of-the-art Sweetwater Performance Theatre, and not on a remote upstate New York farm in a thunderstorm, the facilities will be much more comfortable and the sound quality will be excellent.

## LEARNING EXPERIENCE

Goldstock is a concert put on by the students of professor Jason Lundgren's Survey of the Music Business class at the Purdue University Fort Wayne's School of Music. It's a class project in how to put on a show, and it's "powered by" the students and faculty of Gold-Top Records, the school's record label.

As for a music business undertaking, they named the second annual event after Woodstock, which is notoriously one of the biggest money-losing ventures in the history of the music business. But that didn't faze Lundgren.

"It had such a good ring to it, I couldn't help it," Lundgren said. But like the original Woodstock, "It is a free show and we definitely spend money to have it. So, there is some truth to that too."

Well, there's a theme here: "I wanted an event that would give my students the feel of what it's really like to work in the live music industry, just obviously on a smaller scale," Lundgren said. "So, that's why they're doing everything from creating posters, designing flyers, they're doing marketing, and creating video content. It's really just giving the students the full experience of what it's like to put on a fairly big event from start to finish and have them do all of it themselves."

## TAKING THE STAGE ...

So let's get to the entertainment!

The concert will feature 11 acts, including:

**The Indigo Society:** A five-piece band from Fort Wayne with backgrounds in alternative rock, pop, and jazz, creating guitar-driven rock with modern flavorings. Their debut single "You're So Cold" was featured on ALT 99.5 FM/102.3 FM. They've played in clubs around town and are preparing to release an EP.

**Private Education:** Five friends from across the U.S. with "the power of their



Man of the Flood are among 11 acts that are slated to perform at Goldstock on Tuesday, Nov. 29, at the Sweetwater Performance Theatre.

COURTESY PHOTOS



**Liyaz**

passion for art and their fancy music degrees." They're working to develop a sonic style that's unique, featuring "technical yet approachable guitar wizardry and a powerful groove. They aim to thrill audiences with their well-trained musical abilities and sardonic hope that the despair of humanity may yet change." That's ambitious.

**Loud Division:** A group of friends from the same high school in eastern Kentucky who have been playing together since 2019. This year they released an EP, *Remorse*, which is available on all streaming platforms.

**The Ear Mites:** Described as a brand new, two-piece psychedelic surf rock band that promise to produce ear candy sure to melt your brain. They further state they rebirth sounds from the past with a modern twist, creating a cocktail of original, astral, aquatic, metal melodies, and other stuff involving a



**Sam Trowbridge**

groovy loophole into a new mind-bending galaxy where the deep blue and the planets are fused. You've been warned.

**The Eleven Sevens:** A group of PFW students that like to jam on classic and hard rock. They each have their own main projects but decided to come together for Goldstock.

**Man of the Flood:** This quintet have released an album on GoldTop Records, *Crystal Bawl*, and were extensively covered here in *Whatzup* in our Aug. 24 and Sept. 14 issues. They attempt to channel a slightly left-of-center approach to their music by marrying the beats and boops of alt pop with the driving guitars of indie rock, all thrown over complicated drum grooves.

**Liyaz:** A singer, songwriter, and producer who has been singing since she was very young, choosing to express herself through song. She recently released her first single,

## GOLDSTOCK

W/MAN OF THE FLOOD, LOUD DIVISION, THE ELEVEN SEVENS, PRIVATE EDUCATION, NATALIE & CREW, THE EAR MITES, THE INDIGO SOCIETY, SAM TROWBRIDGE, GEONNA, LIYAZ, AND EZYAH

7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 29

Sweetwater Performance Theatre

5501 U.S. Hwy 30 W., Fort Wayne

Free • (260) 432-8176

"Stay With Me," on all the streaming platforms, with more new songs coming out soon.

**Sam Trowbridge:** An alternative artist who name-checks a long list of blues, indie rock, psychedelic, and alternative rock acts as influences. He said, "Art is my form of emotion and communication. The world will always need inspired artists to influence new artists." He released his 13-song album *The Painter* on Sept. 29. He was profiled in our Aug. 10 issue and is a *Whatzup* 20 Under 20 honoree.

## WORKING RELATIONSHIP

Here at *Whatzup*, we are the press, and the students putting on Goldstock include publicists, whose job it is to service information to the press.

While the Goldstock crew are learning the necessary job skill of providing sufficient information to cranky journalists (I'm talking about myself here, certainly not my editors at *Whatzup*), we would like to compliment Man of the Flood and Private Education on coming to the game with their own electronic press kits with bios, photos, recordings, and videos, which is what the press needs to give them ink. Study them, students, for they are learning how to market themselves.

So, here's to the music business students at PFW. I was a music business student myself, back in the '80s, when it was cassette tapes and glossy 8-by-10-inch black-and-white photographs, the press got sent the information in FedEx envelopes or over fax machines, and posters furtively stapled to telephone poles were the main way young people found out about concerts.

But in all decades, the young musicians want to rock, and they want to reach an audience, and young music business people want to make that connection, professionally.

We here at *Whatzup* are happy to introduce you to Goldstock. Come on over and rock out with us.



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# Clyde books Highly Suspect, Flogging Molly

The Clyde Theatre has once again snagged a couple of shows that are worthy of that hard-earned money of yours. The musical acts are also a couple of first-timers to The Fort, which is an even better reason to check them out.

First up, on Thursday, Feb. 23, The Clyde will welcome multi-Grammy-nominated band **Highly Suspect** out of Massachusetts, who will be on the road aboard their Ice Cold Winter Tour.

The band's chemically imbalanced mix of gritty guitars, haunting piano, off-kilter synths, hip-hop production, cinematic vision, and beautifully possessed vocals will make for a night of high-energy rock that will have the venue shakin'.

Highly Suspect released their fourth studio album, *The Midnight Demon Club*, in September, so fans can expect to be treated to the new material. This general admission show will feature special guest **Dead Poet Society**.

The other booking is for the Celtic punk band **Flogging Molly**, who will stroll through town Sunday, March 5.

Wow, I never thought I'd see the day. This is a band that I have personally traveled hours to see on a couple occasions since Fort Wayne was never a tour stop. Now, they will be in my backyard.

Over the past 20-plus years, Flogging Molly have become a staple in the punk scene and built a loyal following through endless touring. They released their seventh album in September, *Anthem*. Supporting their Clyde performance will be **Anti-Flag** and **Skinny Lister**.

Tickets for both shows are on sale at [clydetheatre.com](http://clydetheatre.com), by calling (800) 514-3849, or visiting at The Clyde box office or Sweetwater Sound.

## Country star Chesney coming to Coliseum

Country music star **Kenny Chesney** is making his way to Memorial Coliseum on Thursday, May 18, for his I Go Back 2023 tour.

Having played to more than 1.3 million fans on his Here and Now 2022 tour, including a number of NFL stadiums, Chesney wanted to make this tour special and return to some of the cities he played on his way up, hence the I Go Back title.



### Out and About

NICK BRAUN

The 21-date tour will have him criss-crossing the country, making stops in some of the cities where his career first caught fire. He will be joined by three-time Grammy nominee **Kelsea Ballerini**.

Tickets go on sale to the general public Friday, Dec. 2, at 10 a.m. by going to [ticketmaster.com](http://ticketmaster.com) or visiting the Coliseum box office.

## Auburn bar goes by new name

Those of you who frequent Meteor Bar & Grill in Auburn for live music have probably noticed a recent change.

With new ownership, the bar has been rebranded as Hangar 9 Bar & Grill.

A little more than 3 miles down the road is Runway 9 at DeKalb County Airport, which was built in 1964 and has grown and changed with Auburn, just like the Meteor. With that, Hangar 9 is a perfect name for the aviation community of Auburn.

You can catch the party band **Decade Divide** there on Saturday, Nov. 26, and **Hubie Ashcraft Band** on Saturday, Dec. 17.

## Baker Street hosting Yuletide Jingle Ball

Baker Street Centre will host **Smooth Edge 2's** Yuletide Jingle Ball on Friday, Dec. 16, at 7 p.m.

Smooth Edge 2 is a local contemporary a cappella and vocal group that is sure to entertain with their beautiful arrangements of all the holiday classics.

Be sure to get there on time as **The Ragtag Bunch** open the show.

Advance general admission tickets are \$10 and \$15 at the door. Tickets can be purchased at [bakerstreetcentre.com](http://bakerstreetcentre.com) and at all Wooden Nickel locations and Neat Neat Neat Records.

## '80s themed winter party at 2Toms Brewing

Just after you put your '80s Halloween costume away for the year, 2Toms Brewing Company announced they will host Winter Market: An '80s Themed Ski Party on Saturday, Dec. 10, from 3-8 p.m.

This is your opportunity to dress in your best '80s attire and join your friends for 2Tom's annual winter party.

There will be several vendors, live music by **Los Galaxy**, an outdoor bar, and delicious food by Brew Two Sixty.

Out and About covers Northeast Indiana's most interesting music and arts events. Send your announcements to [info@whatzup.com](mailto:info@whatzup.com).



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Dining is offered before most  
Honeywell Center shows at Eugenia's,  
located just steps from the theater.

For information on tickets or dining,  
visit [honeywellarts.org](http://honeywellarts.org)





SCAN FOR TICKETS

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BY BARBARA ROBINSON

DEC. 9-11 and DEC. 16-18  
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### 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 acts, 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

**Pubs & Taverns • 2809 W. Main St., Fort Wayne • (260) 387-6307**  
**EXPECT:** Golden Tee, jukebox, 3 TVs, free Wi-Fi, 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

### Deer Park Irish 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. deerparkpub.com. Wi-Fi hotspot. Finger food, tacos every Tuesday. **GETTING THERE:** Corner of Leesburg and Spring, across from USF. **HOURS:** 2 p.m.-1 a.m. Mon.-Thurs., noon-2 a.m. Fri.-Sat., 1-10 p.m. Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Beer & Wine. **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc

### 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:** Corner of Clinton and Lima. **HOURS:** 11 a.m.-3 a.m. Mon.-Sat., noon-12:30 a.m. Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service. **PMT:** MC, Visa

# Science Central upgrades nature habitat

Science Central has completed an extensive renovation project in its Swap Shop, which has been renamed the Nature Nook.

Located on Science Central's top level, Nature Nook is the center's dedicated area for Earth and natural sciences education. The area is home to the center's nature life, which range from mammals to reptiles, and plants. The space also features identification stations for rocks, fossils, shells, skulls, and more.

The animals' food preparation area has also been moved to public viewing within the space, so visitors can now watch and participate in the process while learning about the animals' unique dietary needs from center's staff.

The animals have also received new enclosures. These living spaces afford them more room for proper enrichment. Replacing pet store-type habitats, these enclosures are museum-grade and uniform in style, elevating Nature Nook's appearance.

Other enhancements to the area include new flooring, bookshelves, display cases, and a custom-made light fixture by volunteer Craig Shoda.

## Wagon Wheel receives \$81,000 grant

The Kosciusko County Conventions, Recreation, and Visitor Commission has awarded Wagon Wheel Center for the Arts a grant of \$81,000 to support Phase One of the facility's project to save White Hill Manor, which was gifted to Wagon Wheel in 2017 as housing for contract actors and theater technicians. White Hill Manor saves the theater more than \$55,000 each year on housing expenses.

Extensive repairs are needed make the historic building livable, including the nearly 90-year-old slate roof, gutters, rotting windows and exterior wood, and internal water damage. The grant will help ensure Wagon Wheel is able to continue to operate the facility.

## Shop Small for the holidays

Downtown Fort Wayne is inviting residents and visitors to shop small for the holidays.

Kicking off on Small Business Saturday, Nov. 26, and running through Saturday, Dec. 17, shoppers can purchase holiday gifts and décor at local boutiques within the Downtown District or surrounding business



## News and Venues

JEN POIRY PROUGH



COURTESY PHOTO

A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held for the new Nature Nook at Science Central. Pictured from left are Science Central Executive Director Martin Fisher, Allen County Commissioner Nelson Peters, and Science Central board member Larry Kay.

corridors. Participating stores will offer discounted specials and provide plenty of festive cheer.

As part of Small Business Saturday, shoppers can engage with various holiday characters at Promenade Park, including Santa, Buddy the Elf, princesses, and The Grinch. Fort Wayne Youtheatre will perform scenes from *Frozen Jr.* and Flow Down Hula Hoopers will provide entertainment suitable for people of all ages on The Landing. All this holiday cheer is free, open to the public, and available for one day only.

New this year is the Social Media Challenge. Shoppers will post a photo of themselves with their shopping bag at a participating retailer on Facebook or Instagram, tag @DowntownFortWayne and use #DaysofHollyShopping to enter for a chance to win \$250 in weekly gift card giveaways. After Dec. 17, one lucky shopper will win a grand prize of \$1,000 in local downtown gift cards. Shoppers receive one drawing entry per social media post.

For more information, a list of shopping specials and a digital map, go to [HollyShopping.com](http://HollyShopping.com).

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](mailto:info@whatzup.com).

BROADWAY★THE EMBASSY

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A NEDERLANDER PRESENTATION

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## ALSO COMING TO THE EMBASSY:

Today through November 30  
**FESTIVAL OF TREES**

FUNDRAISER FOR THE EMBASSY

Saturday-Sunday, December 3-4

**PROJECT BALLET PRESENTS**

**THE NUTCRACKER**

POWERFUL FAMILY-ORIENTED SHOW

Monday, December 5

**A MOTOWN CHRISTMAS**

POWERFUL FAMILY-ORIENTED SHOW

December 9, 10, 17, and 18

**FORT WAYNE PHILHARMONIC**

HOLIDAY POPS

Sunday, December 11

**CHRISTMAS AT THE EMBASSY**

CONCORDIA LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

Saturday, December 16

**THE RAT PACK IS BACK**

**FOR THE HOLIDAYS**

25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Tuesday, January 24

**ON YOUR FEET!**

THE STORY OF EMILIO & GLORIA ESTEFAN

Thursday, January 26

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WITH PETER MULVEY & SISTASTRINGS

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**FESTIVAL OF TREES**



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 Fort Wayne, Indiana  
 (260) 424-5665  
[fwembassytheatre.org](http://fwembassytheatre.org)



The Liberty Monster Burger at Liberty Diner is a behemoth that must not be taken lightly.

PHOTO BY DEAN JACKSON



## Liberty serving up monstrous burger

Now I understand what Carly Rae Jepsen meant when she sang, “I wasn’t looking for this, but now you’re in my way” on her 2012 mega-hit “Call Me Maybe.” But while she referred to a love interest, it could just as well been about a hamburger.

Stopping into **Liberty Diner** at the corner of Coliseum Boulevard and Goshen Road, I was minding my own business, and I wasn’t ready for what was about to happen.

On a dry erase board, there it was, an announcement for the Liberty Monster Burger: two half-pound patties of ground steak, topped with cheese, bacon, tomato, lettuce, onions, pickle, and relish.

I didn’t set out to get it, but its siren’s song whispered as I leafed through the menu. “Why not?” I thought.

The description was big and bold, but it didn’t come close to matching the reality.

It’s a monster in the way a Brontosaurus is a dinosaur or Everest is a mountain.

When it arrived, it towered. The only thing keeping this leviathan together was the steak knife. It was thick, messy, and hard to control ... and I loved it.

The true critic, my oft-quoted daughter gasped when she laid eyes on it and it drew the attention of other patrons.

After resorting to a fork to eat the behemoth, it proved too much, and I had to take half of it home with me. When I finished it off later, it was just as delightful as when I first experienced it.

Truly, I left feeling like this was the best burger in town and, no hype, probably the best burger I’ve had *anywhere*.

This is the type of offering that other places would promote with billboards and photos. This is could be on the Food Network or national publications. It will set you back about \$20, but it’s worth consideration, even if you need two days to consume it.

### Rack & Helen’s: Like it was never gone

For the **Rack & Helen’s** family, there’s even more to be thankful for this holiday season.

First, they’ve been open a few weeks following last summer’s fire. The owners are enjoying loyal guests, and workers can say they were still involved and employed

even when it wasn’t open for business.

After spending part of an evening there, I left feeling like it really was never gone.

“We got our (butts) kicked,” one overwhelmed employee told me about how busy they were trying to keep up with orders shortly after the New Haven favorite reopened this month.

Days after a blaze ripped through the back of the pub, the entire crew dove right in to restore it. Instead of pouring beers, bartenders were pounding hammers. Servers were slapping down paint.

It was a collaboration of cooks right there with construction guys, as the owners kept staff working by having them involved with the rehab project.

So, what’s different? Not much.

The back entrance is metal; I remember it being wood. The smell of barbecue is ever so slightly set off by the new building smell and scent of fresh timber.

It’s so seamless that regulars hardly know. That’s probably the best compliment for the joint.

When I went last week, I went with a buddy, a long-time devotee who now lives about an hour away.

I asked him about his impressions. He looked at me in disbelief. He didn’t even know they were closed. He didn’t know about the fire.

That’s the best compliment of all. It still feels like home.

### Find Country Heritage products downtown

**County Heritage Winery** has teamed up with **DeBrand Find Chocolate** to offer their products in downtown Fort Wayne in the Ash Skyline Plaza on South Harrison Street.

Both companies say it’s a powerful mix of chocolate and wine from two uniquely local artisans.

### Sweets on Main celebrates with free treats

It’s been three years since **Sweets on Main** opened at 123 West Main St. Now they’re celebrating the anniversary with free peppermint ice cream treats through Monday, Nov. 28.

### Work wrapping up at Conner’s

Work on **Conner’s Bar & Grill** inside the Courtyard by Marriott, 1150 S. Harrison St., is expected to wrap up this week. The rooftop bar remains open.

Off the Eaten Path is the *Whatzup* weekly column that covers Northeast Indiana’s restaurant and food news. Send your news items to [info@whatzup.com](mailto:info@whatzup.com).



Off the Eaten Path

DEAN JACKSON

# \$15 HOLIDAY SAVINGS

## Give the Gift of Music

Register now through Dec 31.  
at [Academy.Sweetwater.com/events](https://Academy.Sweetwater.com/events)

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**TMLRS15**

Start your little one’s New Year with a month of singing and dancing joy! These special classes are packed with educational, musical fun for Tiny Musicians (ages 0–3 and their grown-ups) and Little Rock Stars (ages 4–5). Get \$15 savings by registering online when you use the holiday promo code **TMLRS15** at checkout. This holiday season, give the gift of music with Sweetwater Academy!



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## LIVE MUSIC SCHEDULE

### MONDAY BLUES JAM SESSIONS

MONDAYS | 7-10PM

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

### Smooth TUESDAYS

TUESDAYS | 6-9PM

Enjoy the best in soft rock and classic hits with a variety of rotating artists

### WEDNESDAY JAZZ SESSIONS

WEDNESDAYS | 7-10PM

Weekly jazz sessions featuring local, regional, and national jazz artists

### NASHVILLE THURSDAYS

THURSDAYS | 7-10PM

The sounds of classic country, bluegrass, Americana & more

### FRIDAY NIGHT VIBES

FRIDAYS | 7-10PM

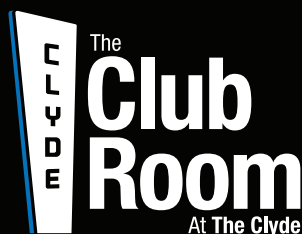
A wide array of regional artists and bands

### I ♥ SATURDAYS

SATURDAYS | 8-11PM

Enjoy the best in pop, soul, R&B, and funk

## COCKTAILS & LATE-NIGHT DINING SPECIALS



1806 Bluffton Road  
Fort Wayne, IN 46809  
ClydeClubRoom.com  
(260) 407-8530

## Quick Hits LOCAL EVENTS

### RUMPKE MOUNTAIN BOYS W/DEAD MAN'S DOG

FRIDAY, NOV. 25 · PIERE'S

Shake off the Thanksgiving overindulgence, get out of the house, and head to Piere's on Friday night, Nov. 25, to catch the Rumpke Mountain Boys with special guest Dead Man's Dog.

Drawing upon a growing catalog of originals and an eclectic mix of covers, Rumpke Mountain Boys blend music like a fine Irish whiskey, the result which has been affectionately dubbed Trashgrass.

The Cincinnati-based band bring the spirit of the Grateful Dead and Phish with them in their stream of consciousness approach to live shows with minimal structure and a lot of improvisational flow. In this way,



the band draws upon the energy of the crowd as they choose which songs to play and combine their string instruments into a singular musical experience that makes every show unique. — *Chris Hupe*

### ALT'S HOLIDAY HULLABALOO W/RIPE

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 30 · THE CLYDE THEATRE

The inaugural ALT 99.5FM/102.3FM Holiday Hullabaloo will be Wednesday, Nov. 30, at The Clyde Theatre with tickets selling for just \$10.23 ... get it?

The Fort Wayne alternative rock radio station hopes to start a tradition with this event that features eclectic Boston-based band Ripe, currently touring in support of their sophomore album *Bright Blues*.

Critically acclaimed and anthemic, *Bright Blues* is full of sleek grooves and bold melodies that the alternative-pop quartet put together to help ride out tough

times. The album is enjoying big excitement on radio, with the hit single "Settling."

With that in mind, the night promises to be a fresh, new musical journey designed to expand minds and have you dancing into December. — *Chris Hupe*



## Live Music LOCAL CALENDAR

### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24

**Funk/Jazz Open Jam w/Phil Schurger** — 8 p.m., The Ruin, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 399-6336

**Jackyl** — Metal, 8:30 p.m., Piere's, Fort Wayne, \$30-\$200, (260) 492-6064

**James Baker Duo** — Jazz, 6-9 p.m., Ruth's Chris Steak House, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 444-5898

**Lysaght & McRae** — Acoustic variety, 6-9 p.m., Chance Bar, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 449-9099

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

### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25

**Aleena York & Carly Ingalls** — Piano, 6:30 p.m., Club Soda, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 426-3442

**Artis Elias Medina w/LMT** — Latin, 10 p.m., Piere's, Fort Wayne, \$40, (260) 492-6064

**Chris Worth** — Variety, 7 p.m., Howie's on Hamilton, Hamilton, no cover, (260) 488-3344

**James Baker Trio** — Jazz, 6:30-9:30 p.m., Ruth's Chris Steak House, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 444-5898

**Kaitlyn Schmit & The Move** — Rock/pop, 8-11 p.m., Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 407-8530

**Rumpke Mountain Boys w/Dead Man's Dog** — Bluegrass, 9 p.m., Piere's, Fort Wayne, \$15-\$20, (260) 492-6064

**The Motor Folkers** — Rock, 7:30 p.m., Club Paradise, Angola, no cover, (260) 833-7082

**The Namby Pamby w/Arlen Gun Club, Ezra Clancy** — Alternative, 9:30 p.m., The Brass Rail, Fort Wayne, \$7, (260) 267-5303

**Todd Harrold & Eric Clancy** — Jazz, 10 p.m., O'Sullivan's, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 422-5896

**Tom Koenig** — Acoustic variety, 8 p.m., JD Lounge, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 483-1311

### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26

**Amara Gilraine** — Singer-songwriter, 8 p.m., 950 Speakeasy Bistro, Lagro, no cover, (260) 205-8775

**Andy Pauquette** — Guitar, 6:30 p.m., Club Soda, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 426-3442

**Big Caddy Daddy** — Rock, 8 p.m., Sylvan Cellars, Rome City, \$10, (260) 854-9463

**Chris Worth** — Variety, 6 p.m., Edwin Coe Spirits, Churubusco, no cover, (260) 286-1107

**Fort Wayne Funk Orchestra** — Funk, 8-11 p.m., Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 407-8530

**Helicon's Peak** — Rock, 9:30 p.m., Rex's Rendezvous, Warsaw, no cover, 574-267-5066

**James Baker Trio** — Jazz, 6:30-9:30 p.m., Ruth's Chris Steak House, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 444-5898

**Jiggs Hendrixson Showband** — Variety, 9 p.m., Wacky Jac's, Angola, no cover, (260) 665-9071

**Red-Eye Lorelai** — Rock, 9:30 p.m., Rex's Rendezvous, Warsaw, no cover, 574-267-5066

**Ron Rumbaugh** — Variety, 7 p.m., VFW Post 3846, Churubusco, no cover, (260) 693-9257

**Secret Mezzanine** — Alternative, 8:30 p.m., Deer Park Irish Pub, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 432-8966

**Seventh Crown w/Hudson Hill, Voice of Syllas, Damage, Persevere, To Breathe Again, Elderbug** — Lyz Fest, 5 p.m., Piere's, Fort Wayne, \$10-\$15, (260) 492-6064

**Sunglasses at Night** — 80's, 8-11 p.m., Mitchell's, Fort Wayne, \$5, (260) 387-5063

**The Meat Flowers w/Necromoon, CloudMaker** — Alternative, 9:30 p.m., The Brass Rail, Fort Wayne, \$7, (260) 267-5303

**The Mo Show** — Acoustic, 7 p.m., Mad Anthony Brewing Co., Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 426-2537

**Thunderstruck w/Static Fly** — AC/DC tribute, 8 p.m., Clyde Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$15-\$20, (260) 747-0989

**Todd Harrold Band** — Jazz, 6:30 p.m., American Legion Post 148, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 423-4751

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE ►



## Quick Hit LOCAL EVENTS

### SAM MORRIL

NOV. 25-28 · SUMMIT CITY COMEDY CLUB

Sam Morril, one of Comedy Central's "Comics to Watch" in 2011, will be at the Summit City Comedy Club in Fort Wayne for five shows, Nov. 25-28.

A veteran of the comedy circuit, Morril has worked with many comedians including Dave Attell, Marc Maron, Conan O'Brien, and Amy Schumer, performed his stand-up routine on *America's Got Talent*, and has had two one-hour standup specials on Comedy Central.

With a raspy voice, an edgy attitude, and a penchant for punchlines, few subjects are off limits for the comedian as he wades into political and cultural debates, offers his opinion on everyday occurrences, and gives his take on hot topics of the day.

Co-host of the weekly podcast *We Might Be Drunk*, Morril is a "can't miss" opportunity to laugh your way through the long holiday weekend. — *Chris Hupe*



Sam Morril

## Live Comedy LOCAL CALENDAR

### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25

**Erik Terrell w/Annette Mullraney** — 9:15 p.m., Fort Wayne Comedy Club @ 469, New Haven, \$20-\$30, (260) 426-6339

**Sam Morril** — 7:30 and 10:30 p.m., Summit City Comedy Club, Fort Wayne, \$25-\$35, (260) 844-8444

### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26

**Erik Terrell w/Annette Mullraney** — 7:15 and 9:15 p.m., Fort Wayne Comedy Club @ 469, New Haven, \$20-\$30, (260) 426-6339

**Sam Morril** — 7:30 and 10:30 p.m., Summit City Comedy Club, Fort Wayne, \$25-\$35, (260) 844-8444

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27

**Sam Morril** — 7:30 p.m., Summit City Comedy Club, Fort Wayne, \$25-\$35, (260) 844-8444

### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

**Comedy Open Mic** — 7:30 p.m., Summit City Comedy Club, Fort Wayne, Free, (260) 844-8444

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1

**Jason Banks** — 7:30 p.m., Summit City Comedy Club, Fort Wayne, \$30, (260) 844-8444

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2

**Jason Banks** — 7:30 and 10:30 p.m., Summit City Comedy Club, Fort Wayne, \$30, (260) 844-8444

## Live Music LOCAL CALENDAR

► CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27

**New Horizons Retro Revival** — Band, 2-3 p.m., Promenade Park Pavilion, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 427-6000

### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28

**Fort Wayne Children's Choir Community Sing-along** — Holiday, 6:30 p.m., Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$5-\$10, (260) 424-5665

**Joe Justice** — Acoustic, 3 p.m., Evergreen Senior Living, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 637-2830

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

### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

**Goldstock w/Man of the Flood, The Eleven Sevens, Private Education, Natalie & Crew, The Ear Mites, The Indigo Society, Sam Trowbridge, Geonna, Liyaz, Ezyah** — Variety, 7 p.m., Sweetwater Performance Theatre, Fort Wayne, Free, (260) 432-8176

**Joe Justice** — Acoustic, 2:30 p.m., Story Point Senior Living, Fort Wayne, no cover

**Primetime** — Soft rock/classic hits, 6-9 p.m., Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 407-8530

### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

**Chris Worth** — Variety, 7 p.m., 4D's Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 490-6488

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

**Joe Justice** — Acoustic, 2 p.m., Cedarhurst Senior Living, Fort Wayne, no cover

**Ripe** — Alternative, 8 p.m., Clyde Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$10.23, (260) 747-0989

**Steel Panther** — Rock, 8 p.m., Piere's, Fort Wayne, (260) 492-6064

**Three Rivers Big Band** — Jazz orchestra, 7-10 p.m., Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 407-8530

**Todd Harrold & Eric Clancy** — Jazz, 7:30 p.m., Rack & Helen's, New Haven, no cover, (260) 749-5396

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1

**Atticus Sorrell** — Americana, 6 p.m., teds beerhall, Fort Wayne, no cover, (888) 260-0351

**Blitzkid** — Metal, 7:30 p.m., Piere's, Fort Wayne, \$20-\$50, (260) 492-6064

**Funk/Jazz Open Jam w/Phil Schurger** — 8 p.m., The Ruin, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 399-6336

**James Baker Duo** — Jazz, 6-9 p.m., Ruth's Chris Steak House, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 444-5898

**Jefferson Starship** — Rock, 8 p.m., Piere's, Fort Wayne, \$39.50-\$59.50, (260) 492-6064

**Lysaght & McRae** — Acoustic variety, 6-9 p.m., Chance Bar, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 449-9099

**PFW Jazz Combo Concert** — 7:30 p.m., PFW School of Music, PFW Rhinehart Recital Hall, Fort Wayne, \$5-\$8, (260) 481-4739

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

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2

**Cadence** — Variety, 8 p.m., Thirty3, Hudson, no cover, (260) 818-6336

**Dennis & Brad's Great Brewery Tour** — Variety, 7 p.m., Trubble Brewing, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 267-6082

**James Baker Trio** — Jazz, 6:30-9:30 p.m., Ruth's Chris Steak House, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 444-5898

**Jessie Doyle & Carly Ingalls** — Piano, 6 p.m., Mad Anthony Brewing Co., Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 426-2537

**Night To Remember** — Pop, 8 p.m., Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 407-8530

**Shane Bond** — Acoustic, 8 p.m., Sylvan Cellars, Rome City, no cover, (260) 854-9463

**Switchfoot** — Alternative/holiday, 7 p.m., Clyde Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$35-\$75, (260) 747-0989

**The 906 Band** — Rock, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., Latch String Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 483-5526

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

**The Wingmen** — Classic rock, 8 p.m., American Legion Post 47, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 209-3960

**Todd Harrold Band** — Jazz, 6:30 p.m., Club Soda, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 426-3442

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3

**Blanco Brown w/King Callaway** — Hip-hop, 8 p.m., Piere's, Fort Wayne, TBA, (260) 492-6064

**Chameleon** — Variety, 8 p.m., Thirty3, Hudson, no cover, (260) 818-6336

**Dan Smyth** — Acoustic, 8 p.m., Sylvan Cellars, Rome City, no cover, (260) 854-9463

**Dan Tyminski w/Dead Pickers Society** — Country/bluegrass, 8 p.m., The Ruin, Fort Wayne, \$30-\$45, (260) 399-6336

**Erin Coburn** — Rock, 7:30 p.m., Baker Street Centre, Fort Wayne, \$15-\$30, (260) 426-6434

**James Baker Trio** — Jazz, 6:30-9:30 p.m., Ruth's Chris Steak House, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 444-5898

## THIS WEEK ON ALT FORT WAYNE



Features a local artist every Thursday and Sunday at 7 pm on ALT Fort Wayne

NOV. 24 & 27 AND DEC. 1 & 4:

*Oblique*

DECEMBER 8, 11, 15, AND 18:

*The Indigo Society*



An hour of local Fort Wayne music every Friday at 7 pm on ALT Fort Wayne



Every Thursday at 5:50 pm and every Friday at 7:35 pm during ALT Homegrown Showcase



Hosted by  
**ZACK SKYLER**





# Blues laid foundation for misfit Erin Coburn

## Young musician bringing energy to Baker Street show

BY ANTHONY GADSON  
WHATZUP EDITOR

She might only be 21 years old, but Erin Coburn is a veteran of the music industry.

Starting out in blues, the southern Ohio native released her first album, *Chaos Before Conformity*, at just 14. Since then, she's released *Queen of Nothing* and *Out From Under*, with each progressing toward a more rock sound.

She remains rooted in the blues, but when she returns to Baker Street Centre on Dec. 3, you can expect a different kind of show.

"When we do live shows, I love to jump around, jump off the drums ... I get on the floor, I go into the audience, I just love that energy of rock," she said in an interview with *Whatzup*. "I've been writing more songs like that, like Fall Out Boy or Cage the Elephant. Definitely going another direction, but it will always have that underlying tones of the blues."

### WHOLE NEW WORLD

Before she even knew the word *blues*, Coburn was drawn to the guitar, taking a liking to one her father received as an anniversary gift before she was even born.

"I picked it up when I was little, and thought, 'Oh, this is awesome!'" she said. "So they got me my own acoustic guitar when I was around 6 or 7, but I was the worst student. I did not want to practice anything people gave to me, because it was boring and all I wanted to do was write my own stuff and play around with it myself and explore the instrument."

Going through instructors, Coburn's parents found one that worked when they came upon John Redell. Through his teaching, Coburn's love for the instrument, and the blues, took off.

"He blew my mind, because he started playing the blues," she said. "I was like, 'Oh my God.' I had heard my parents play it on the radio, but

hearing it right in front me and hearing this guitar guru just make up guitar solos right on the spot, out of his mind, I was like, 'How do you do that? Teach me how to do that.'"

He did teach her, but he also showed her the meaning of the blues, taking her to jam sessions. And if the players in the club were surprised to see a pre-teen waltz in, she was just as taken aback.

"I was mortified when I first got there, because the bass player at one open jam, he was this older guy, just super intense: The image you think of when you think of grumpy bass player, that was him," she said. "But they were all super nice, but I was little 12-year-old or 11-year-old."

### HITTING THE STUDIO

Over time, Coburn became more comfortable at the open mics and even began incorporating their stories into her lyrics.

While she said, "There was too much drama in middle school and high school," she also points out that songs like "Charred Heart" on her debut came about by time in the jam sessions.

"I always heard them talking about their life problems, so I think I drew from that as well, and hearing, 'Oh, this is what adults go through,'" she said. "It made an impact."

Writing all her own lyrics and instrumentation, Coburn did not have a goal to record an album, but her parents voiced their support. With songs written while she was 12 and 13, Coburn recorded *Chaos Before Conformity* at a small studio in Indiana, and it was released in 2015.

A couple years later, Coburn was back at it, but ratcheted up the production value, heading to Clarksdale, Mississippi, to record at Gary Vincent's studio.

"That experience, I was a little more intimidated, because it was so far away and they had worked with Morgan Freeman, doing voice overs" Coburn said. "But it was really cool to get out of my comfort zone. That album challenged me to get different sounds using techniques, because Gary records a lot of older blues things. I used some amps down there that are super vintage. I used Les Paul's guitars that he



COURTESY PHOTO

Erin Coburn will be at Baker Street Centre on Saturday, Dec. 3.

owned, because he and Gary were good friends. It was real cool to use gear that had a lot of mojo in it."

*Queen of Nothing* was released in 2017, the same year Coburn was nominated in the Best Blues category at the Cincinnati Entertainment Awards. In 2018, she was nominated as Young Adult Artist of the Year at the 2018 Josie Awards.

Coburn continued to grow musically with 2019's *Out From Under*, which she recorded at Lava Room Recording in the Cleveland suburb of Independence, Ohio. Saying that was the first "modern studio" she had worked in, Coburn returned there during the pandemic, studying audio engineering and seeking a certification in ProTools.

With knowledge gained, Coburn now has her own studio where she is putting out her most ambitious music, beginning with 2020's "The MisFIT," which caused her some anxiety.

"I was so nervous, because I was

like, 'Everyone that liked my first three albums are probably going to hate this.'" she said. "I just need to remember that artists are always evolving."

To remember that, Coburn looked to Samantha Fish. She also began as a young artist and began transitioning from traditional blues to a more rock sound.

"I know she was probably nervous to release her new album, because it even has some rap artists featured on it, which is so cool, but a lot of her fans were traditional," Coburn said of Fish. "I think she was afraid she'd get some push back on that, and I was the same way. After she released her album, and people were like, 'I love her for her and her artistry,' I thought that was super inspiring."

### FINDING HERSELF

Feeling more freedom, Coburn released the rocking "Flip" in 2021 and "Sleeve" in June, which might

## ERIN COBURN

7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3  
Baker Street Centre  
323 W. Baker St., Fort Wayne  
\$15-\$30 · (260) 426-6434

make its way onto an album she hopes to release in 2023.

"I really love the energy of rock music and how broad it is, too," she said. "My first and second albums, and even the third, are much more bluesy and traditional, but I love the energy."

And that energy led to a change in her on-stage persona, coincidentally shortly after her last stop in Fort Wayne in 2018.

After opening for The Marcus King Band at what was then known as C2G, Coburn was playing at Kalamazoo State Theatre when she had her own wardrobe mishap.

"My heel got caught on my dress, and I went down during a guitar solo," she said. "You could hear the whole audience gasp, but I fell on beat, so that was good. After that, I was like, 'I can't jump, I can't run around in all this stuff I'm wearing.'"

Now rocking what she describes as *Star Wars* "stormtrooper boots," Coburn is free to go wild, which often includes jumping and falling to her knees for those classic blues guitar solos.

### INTIMATE EXPERIENCE

Coburn points to highlights such as opening for The Marcus King Band and Blackberry Smoke, performing with Grammy-winning artists Joseph Wooten and Dana Robbins, and playing a plethora of festivals. But she knows she hasn't reached the mountaintop.

"There's a lot of work that goes into it," she said. "A lot of people think, 'Oh, I'm going to put out this single and I'm going to blow up.' It is a lot of work, but that's the whole job description. It's a journey."

"It's just cool to see the climb," she added.

That climb has included smaller clubs, which Coburn says she doesn't mind because it's part of the process and she enjoys interacting with fans.

"Those are sometimes my favorite," she said. "I'm kind of weird, because I love to stare directly at people in the audience. I just love to create that connection, and with smaller venues, I can do that."

"Whether you're playing to a crowd of two people or 2,000, just put on a good show, because I'd be happy that one person made it, honestly."



# Fort Wayne Ballet's *Nutcracker* marches into town

*Holiday tradition to feature shows with The Philharmonic*

BY EMMA BACHTEL

WHATZUP FEATURES WRITER

If visions of sugar plums are already dancing in your head, then you should come see the "Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy" on stage during Fort Wayne Ballet's performance of *The Nutcracker*.

At this show, opening Friday, Dec. 2, at Arts United Center, you'll follow Clara on a fantastic adventure through the land of sweets.

According to the ballet's website, "Holiday magic abounds as Clara's toy Nutcracker springs to life and sweeps her off to a land of sweets and wonderment! Fairies and snow flurries shape this enchantment that must be dreamed to be believed.

"A tale for children young and old, the precious characters and familiar musical themes make Fort Wayne Ballet's *The Nutcracker* the very heart of our favorite traditions."

In the midst of the cold winter season, Fort Wayne Ballet hopes this show is a familiar, warm embrace to the community. Audiences can expect to see many traditional aspects of this show, such as the iconic scene where snow falls on stage and on the audience, as well as some updates. The first three shows will also feature the Fort Wayne Philharmonic.

"We've got some new costumes," said Karen Gibbons-Brown, Fort Wayne Ballet's artistic director. "We tend to refurbish costumes periodically, so this year, the sugar plum fairy will have a new tutu."

## PIROUETTES AND PUPPIES

In addition to beautiful dancers, you'll also find some furry friends on stage. This will be Fort Wayne Ballet's 12th year partnering with Humane Fort Wayne to bring a dog into *The Nutcracker* cast.

"We have had a lot of success over the years with rehoming animals," Gibbons-Brown said. "We're grateful they're partnering with us."

"This year's performances of *The Nutcracker* will be dedicated to the memory of our longtime friend of the animals, Joni Dick," Gibbons-Brown said.

Dick had walked the dog on stage more than a decade but passed away last summer.

According to Dignity Memorial, Sick was a dedicated volunteer with Fort Wayne Animal Care & Control, Fort Wayne Ballet as a board member, Humane Fort Wayne,

and Junior League of Fort Wayne and saved more than 200 animals.

She is deeply missed, and her impact on Ballet and community will never be forgotten anytime soon.

## TEACHING DANCE AND GIVING BACK

Fort Wayne Ballet has held a stuffed animal drive the Fort Wayne Police Department for 15 years. The stuffed animals are used by the officers to help comfort children in difficult situations. According to a 2019 *Whatzup* article, "(The Ballet's) efforts alone have led to the collection of almost 4,000 stuffed animals."

The students at Fort Wayne Ballet's Auer Academy are encouraged to participate in the collection.

"We want to teach our students in this organization to give back with their time and talents," Gibbons-Brown said. "We are this community's ballet, and we do our best to support the community that supports us."



COURTESY PHOTO  
Fort Wayne Ballet's  
*The Nutcracker* opens  
Friday, Dec. 2, at Arts United  
Center.

## KRIS KRINGLE VILLAGE RETURNS

If you stopped by the Kris Kringle Village last year during its inaugural appearance, then you have experienced its magic.

"The Kris Kringle Village takes you back in time a bit," Gibbons-Brown said.

According to the Ballet's website, Kris Kringle Village "takes its cue from traditional German Christmas Markets that fill the holidays with food, entertainment, and seasonal ornaments, gifts, and fare." FWB strives to support the community with this event by featuring a variety of local vendors.

Even the construction of the market included the community. Students at Fort Wayne Community Schools' Anthis Career Center were responsible for constructing the specially designed chalets.

Gibbons-Brown said the village is even bigger this year.

"Activities and entertainment have been added to expand on the event," she said. "I've even heard that Santa is making a special

## THE NUTCRACKER FORT WAYNE BALLET

7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 2 (FW Phil)  
2 p.m., 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3  
(FW Phil)

2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4 (FW Phil)

6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 6

(Sensory Friendly)

7:30 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Dec. 8-9

2 p.m., 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10

2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11

Arts United Center

303 E. Main St., Fort Wayne

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appearance on Saturdays."

Santa will, indeed, make his appearance each Saturday from 1-3 p.m. There will be a mix of entertainment, including choirs, dance schools, and some special entertainment from groups like Pyroscope, who do laser lights and acrobatics. All of these groups perform on the Arts United Plaza as patrons are coming in to see *The Nutcracker*.

Gibbons-Brown also said the market will be more pedestrian friendly this year.

"We are closing the plaza from traffic, so pedestrians can walk freely and patrons of the ballet can visit the village before the performance or during intermission," she said. "You don't have to purchase a ticket to enjoy the village."

"We want this event to continue to grow and become a real holiday destination for families."

## PHILHARMONIC JOINS IN

To continue a nearly 40-year tradition, the Fort Wayne Philharmonic will be joining FWB to play the music for the first weekend of *The Nutcracker*.

The Fort Wayne Philharmonic, under the direction of Andrew Constantine, will be playing the familiar scores of Tchaikovsky as the FWB company members perform.

"To have live accompaniment is a really special privilege," Gibbons-Brown said. "This is something that few professional companies have the luxury of."

With all of these incredible features, it is no wonder FWB's *The Nutcracker* landed on the *Wall Street Journal's* list of the "Top 5 *Nutcrackers* in the World."

"Fort Wayne Ballet performed Fort Wayne's first *Nutcracker* over 50 years ago, and we hope it continues to be a true tradition for our community," Gibbons-Brown said.

She encourages audiences to purchase their tickets early, especially if they want multiple seats in the same area.

To purchase tickets, go to [artstix.org](http://artstix.org) or [fortwayneballet.org](http://fortwayneballet.org).



## WOODEN NICKEL AND NEAT NEAT NEAT

### ALBUM OF THE WEEK

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### TOP SELLERS

WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 20, 2022

TW	LW	ARTIST / Album
1	—	<b>DISTURBED</b> Divisive
2	—	<b>JIMI HENDRIX</b> Los Angeles Forum
3	—	<b>BILLY STRINGS</b> Me / And / Dad
4	—	<b>NICKELBACK</b> Get Rolling
5	1	<b>BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN</b> Only the Strong Survive
6	2	<b>TAYLOR SWIFT</b> Midnights
7	—	<b>KISS</b> Creatures of the Night (40th Anniversary Deluxe)
8	—	<b>NEIL YOUNG &amp; CRAZY HORSE</b> World Record
9	7	<b>ARCTIC MONKEYS</b> The Car
10	—	<b>WEYES BLOOD</b> And In the Darkness, Hearts Aglow

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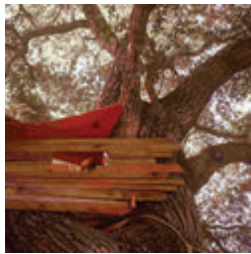
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## Spins LOCAL AND NATIONAL ALBUM REVIEWS

### The Backseat Lovers

#### Waiting To Spill



Building and breathing a life into itself, The Backseat Lovers roar into their sophomore record, *Waiting To Spill*, with a refined sound that separates this project from their previous effort. The constantly rising feeling through each track cleanly illustrates the themes of growing up as well as the emotional buildup implied by the title. Three years after their debut, *When We Were Friends*, The Backseat Lovers have really come into their own with this album, showcasing the sound that brought them their success while unafraid to grow and change.

Joshua Harmon's raw, breaking vocals perfectly parallel the subject matter and carry an air of uncertainty, but this has always been a strength for the band. The uniqueness of this piece comes in the thick instrumentation, quite uncharacteristic of their previous releases. The lush synth patches of "Morning in the Aves" and the piano-focused "Words I Used" with its full string orchestration and almost Beatles-like vocal/piano break sections mark a distinct sonic evolution for the band. Another highlight is the natural, intimate cut "Snowbank Blues," which seems to bring you right into the room, sitting and listening to your friends playing acoustic guitar.

The instrumentation and performances aren't all that make this record special, however. The production is dreamy, dynamic, and isn't afraid to leave the vocals a little darker or buried when necessary, still holding them front and center when they hold the spotlight, a rare balance in a such a well-produced modern record.

The Backseat Lovers are certainly one to watch. Their quick and steady growth over the past couple years has brought them to the forefront of the indie rock scene. They aren't afraid to grow, and *Waiting To Spill* makes this clearer than ever. If you're looking for a guitar-driven breath of fresh air, just close your eyes and follow the sound. — *Quinn Heiking*

### Charles Stepney

#### Step on Step



Charles Stepney may not be a household name, but the Chicago-based producer, arranger, and composer was an enigmatic musical mind in the '60s and '70s. First as a staff producer at Chess Records in the 1960s, where he was the creative force behind artists like Rotary Connection, Minnie Riperton, Marlena Shaw, Muddy Waters, Howlin' Wolf, Terry Callier, The Dells, The Emotions, and many more. He's also known for his work with Earth, Wind, and Fire, Deniece

Williams, and Ramsey Lewis going into the '70s.

Stepney passed away at the age of 45 in 1976. He left behind 4-track tapes filled with home recordings he'd made in the basement studio of his family's home on the south side of Chicago.

*Step on Step* is a joyous double LP that celebrates a musical genius and his love of musical creation. The album is absolute joy, and feels like an intimate look inside a creative mind buzzing at full force.

*Step on Step* is 23 tracks that range from snippets of ideas to full-on groovy '70s funk, created on what sounds like a primitive drum machine, electric piano, and a Moog synthesizer. Stepney uses the Moog and keys in place of his typical orchestrations he'd write for artists like Earth, Wind, and Fire and Ramsey Lewis.

Musically, we're in the early to mid-70s, and Stepney locks into that world of soulful funk. Think *Talking Book*-era Stevie Wonder, *Fresh- era* Sly and the Family Stone, and everything in between. "Gimme Some Sugar" struts and sways with funky electric piano and synth bass. You can't listen to this without bopping your head. "Gotta Dig It To Dig It" is the best Sly Stone song that Sly Stone never wrote. "No Credit for This" has a longing melancholy to it.

The songs on *Step on Step* are timeless and timely. Stepney was a composer and multi-instrumentalist with the head and heart of a true musical genius. These 4-track demos are a step into his mind and show a man with an endless well of talent. Though he died before these songs could see the light of day, Stepney's songs are now getting the audience they deserve. — *J. Hubner*

### Various Artists

#### Here It Is: A Tribute to Leonard Cohen



Leonard Cohen was more a poet than a songwriter. Even when his melodies were at their strongest, they were never a match for the imagery of his lyrics. That's fine, though, because his songs' bare elegance leaves plenty of room for interpretation by the many, many artists who have covered them.

This latest tribute album of Cohen's songs is at its best when the artists put their own mark on the minimalist canvas that Cohen left for them.

The interpretation begins with producer Larry Klein's assembly of a jazz ensemble to tackle new arrangements of the songs. The jazz-centric approach brings a lightness to Cohen's stark melodies that was rarely there in the originals.

Most of the album's vocalists give the songs an appealingly innovative go, too. Sarah McLachlan gets perhaps the album's most thankless assignment: covering Cohen's most over-exposed song, "Hallelujah." She does well, largely stripping away the melodrama that most singers drench the song in. Gregory Porter does well by "Suzanne," also, bringing some gospel emotion to its otherwise subdued melody. Mavis Staples does even better with "If It Be Your Will."

Not everyone got the memo about originality,

## Backtracks CLASSIC ALBUMS

### Ian Hunter

#### Ian Hunter (1975)



Life after Mott the Hoople went very well for Ian Hunter. In fact, this debut solo extended his career, and through 2016 Hunter had produced more than 15 records. This was the first of several with guitarist Mick Ronson and was a beefy rock album from the former lead singer of a celebrated group.

It opens with the familiar "Once Bitten, Twice Shy," a track that was revived and covered by Great White in 1989. "Who Do You Love" maintains the glam vibe with a groovy piano from Hunter but highlights Ronson's talent as a rock guitarist. And "Lounge Lizard" has a Mott the Hoople vibe as it sloshes around for more than four minutes with some respectable percussion from Dennis Elliott (who went on to form Foreigner). The tempo is toned down in the stunning "3,000 Miles from Here" as a nice segue into the bluesy-prog number "The Truth, the Whole Truth, Nuthin' but the Truth." One of the longer tracks on the album, it also gives Ronson a chance to stretch his guitar chops and meets all the criteria for a mid-'70s blues-jam number.

"It Ain't Easy When You Fall" also brings the temperature of the album down, but this is a more aggressive ballad than "3,000 Miles" from Side One. Again, Hunter tickles the piano in a track that has a waltzy feel for almost six minutes. But the closer, "I Get So Excited," reminds you of the Hoople sense of British blues and completes an album that continues to sound fresh even today.

Ronson (who made his name with David Bowie) went on to record with Hunter, Bob Dylan, Lou Reed, and others in a career that lasted more than 25 years. He passed away in 1993. Hunter has toured sparingly since 2016 and is rumored to be releasing a record in 2023. — *Dennis Donahue*

though. Peter Gabriel turns in his most earnest Cohen impression on "Here It Is," which is ironic since Cohen used Sharon Robinson's vocals to mask his own on the 2001 original. Iggy Pop at least cranks his raspy baritone into exaggeration on "You Want It Darker" so that he finds the essence of Cohen's vocals instead of just mimicking them. His take points out that mimicry isn't the way to go in paying tribute to an artist who was always a much better writer than a performer. — *Evan Gillespie*

**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.



# Pink visiting baseball stadiums in summer

She's known for her acrobatic, Cirque du Soleil-type concerts. Now she's about to embark on a tour which will see her performing at the biggest venues in which she has ever performed.

Yep, **Pink** has announced a stadium tour for 2023.

Following a European tour and stop in Toronto, the three-time Grammy winner brings her Summer Carnival tour to Great American Ballpark in Cincinnati on July 26, Wrigley Field in Chicago on Aug. 12, and Comerica Park in Detroit on Aug. 16.

**Brandi Carlile**, **Grouplove**, and **KidCutUp** will open the Cincinnati and Detroit shows, while Rock and Roll Hall of Famers **Pat Benatar** and **Neil Giraldo** replace Carlile in Chicago.

Pink has not announced any forthcoming album, which usually accompanies such a grandiose tour, but she did put out her first new music in a while with the recent release of the single, "Never Gonna Not Dance Again."

## Lizzo adds Chicago, Cleveland

**Lizzo** has announced a new leg of her 2023 North American tour in support of her latest album, *Special*, released in July.

The newly announced 17-date run will see Lizzo visit cities she didn't hit on the initial run of *Special* shows, including Rocket Mortgage FieldHouse in Cleveland on May 12 and United Center in Chicago on May 17.

*Special* is the follow-up to her hugely successful 2019 release *Cuz I Love You*, which peaked at No. 4 on the U.S. Billboard 200 and garnered eight Grammy nominations, the most for any artist that year.



**Road Notes**  
CHRIS HUPE

## On the Road NATIONAL TOURS WITHIN DRIVING DISTANCE

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

The 1975	Dec. 9	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
The 1975	Dec. 16	PromoWest Pavilion at Ovation	Newport, KY
A Boogie Wit Da Hoodie	Feb. 19	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
A Boy Band Christmas	Dec. 18	Hard Rock Live Northern Indiana	Gary
A Day To Remember	Dec. 11	The Fillmore	Detroit
A Day To Remember	Dec. 12	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
A Day To Remember	Dec. 14	Andrew J. Brady Music Center	Cincinnati
<b>A Motown Christmas</b>	<b>Dec. 5</b>	<b>Embassy Theatre</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Aaron Lewis	Feb. 16	Emens Auditorium, Ball State	Muncie
Aaron Lewis	March 2	Taft Theatre	Cincinnati
Aaron Lewis	March 3	Blue Gate PAC	Shipshewana
The Acacia Strain	March 10	The King of Clubs	Columbus, OH
The Acacia Strain	March 11	Saint Andrew's Hall	Detroit
The Acacia Strain	March 12	Metro	Chicago
Ali Gatie	Nov. 29	House of Blues	Chicago
Ali Gatie	Dec. 3	The Fillmore	Detroit
Ali Sethi	Jan. 18	House of Blues	Chicago
Alter Bridge	Feb. 14	The Fillmore	Detroit
Alter Bridge	Feb. 15	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Alter Bridge	Feb. 18	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Amon Amarth	Nov. 25	The Fillmore	Detroit
Amon Amarth	Nov. 26	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Amon Amarth	Nov. 27	Andrew J. Brady Music Center	Cincinnati
Amy Grant	March 25	Blue Gate PAC	Shipshewana
Amy Grant & Michael W. Smith	Dec. 6	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Andrea Bocelli	Dec. 7	Gainbridge Fieldhouse	Indianapolis
Andrea Bocelli	Dec. 8	Nationwide Arena	Columbus, OH
Angel Olsen	Jan. 29	Bluebird Nightclub	Bloomington
Angel Olsen	Jan. 31	Athenaeum Theatre	Columbus, OH
Angel Olsen	Feb. 1	Majestic Theatre	Detroit
Angel Olsen	Feb. 2	Agora Theatre	Cleveland
<b>Ani DiFranco w/Peter Mulvey, Sista Strings</b>	<b>Jan. 26</b>	<b>Embassy Theatre</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
<b>Anthony Jeselnik</b>	<b>Jan. 26-28</b>	<b>Summit City Comedy Club</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Anthrax w/Black Label Society	Jan. 29	Radius	Chicago
Ari Lennox	March 8	House of Blues	Chicago
Ari Lennox	March 10	House of Blues	Chicago
Ari Lennox	March 16	The Fillmore	Detroit
Avi Kaplan	Dec. 10	Hi-Fi Indy	Indianapolis
Bad Omens	Nov. 25	Concord Music Hall	Chicago
Bad Omens	Nov. 26	House of Blues	Cleveland
Bad Omens	Nov. 29	Bogart's	Cincinnati
Bad Omens	Dec. 4	Saint Andrew's Hall	Detroit
Bad Omens	March 13	Riverfront Live	Cincinnati
Bad Omens	March 14	Beat Kitchen	Chicago
Baila	Nov. 26	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Bayside	Feb. 26	Metro	Chicago
Bayside	March 1	Bogart's	Cincinnati
Bayside	March 3	Saint Andrew's Hall	Detroit
beabadoobee	Nov. 29	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
The Beach Boys	Dec. 13	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
The Beach Boys	Dec. 18	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Bendigo Fletcher	Dec. 3	Hi-Fi Indy	Indianapolis
The Bergamot	Dec. 9	Acorn Theater	Three Oaks, MI
The Beths	Feb. 24	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Betty Who	March 18	Saint Andrew's Hall	Detroit
Betty Who	March 19	Newport Music Hall	Columbus
Betty Who	March 21	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Big Gigantic	Feb. 15	Newport Music Hall	Columbus
Big Gigantic	Feb. 16	The Intersection	Grand Rapids
Big Gigantic	Feb. 18	The Salt Shed	Chicago
<b>Big Head Todd &amp; The Monsters</b>	<b>Jan. 17</b>	<b>Clyde Theatre</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Big Head Todd & The Monsters	Jan. 21	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Bill Gaither	Dec. 8	Memorial Coliseum	Fort Wayne
Billy Strings	March 16-18	Andrew J. Brady Music Center	Cincinnati

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On the Road NATIONAL TOURS WITHIN DRIVING DISTANCE

► CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Blackberry Smoke	Dec. 14	GLC Live at 20 Monroe	Grand Rapids
Blackberry Smoke	Dec. 15	The Fillmore	Detroit
Blackberry Smoke	Dec. 16	The Vic	Chicago
Blake Shelton	March 10	Nationwide Arena	Columbus, OH
Blake Shelton	March 11	Gainbridge Fieldhouse	Indianapolis
Blake Shelton	March 23	Heritage Bank Arena	Cincinnati
Blanco Brown w/King Callaway	Dec. 3	Piere's	Fort Wayne
Blitzkid	Dec. 1	Piere's	Fort Wayne
Bobby Shmurda	Nov. 25	Bogart's	Cincinnati
Bobby Shmurda	Nov. 26	The Fillmore	Detroit
Bobby Shmurda	Nov. 27	Agora Theatre	Cleveland
Bobby Shmurda	Dec. 1	The Vic	Chicago
Boney James	Feb. 17	Clyde Theatre	Fort Wayne
Brad Williams	Dec. 29-31	Summit City Comedy Club	Fort Wayne
Brett Eldredge	Dec. 1	KeyBank State Theatre	Cleveland
Brett Eldredge	Dec. 2	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Brett Eldredge	Dec. 15-16	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Bruce Springsteen	March 9	Nationwide Arena	Columbus, OH
Bruce Springsteen	March 29	Little Caesars Arena	Detroit
Bryan Callen	Jan. 12-14	Summit City Comedy Club	Fort Wayne
Buddy Guy w/Eric Gables, Ally Venable	Feb. 23	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Buddy Guy	Feb. 25	Paramount Theatre	Anderson
Caamp	Dec. 13	The Vic	Chicago
Cannibal Corpse	Dec. 6	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Carrie Underwood	Feb. 26	Little Caesars Arena	Detroit
Carrie Underwood	March 2	Heritage Bank Arena	Cincinnati
Carrie Underwood	March 4	Nationwide Arena	Columbus, OH
Chad Prather	Feb. 3	Piere's	Fort Wayne
Charley Crockett	Nov. 26	The Vic	Chicago
Charley Crockett	Nov. 27	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Chase McDaniel	Dec. 8	Piere's	Fort Wayne
Chayce Beckham	Feb. 18	Piere's	Fort Wayne
Cody Johnson	Feb. 16	Van Andel Arena	Grand Rapids
Cody Johnson w/Randy Houser	March 3	Memorial Coliseum	Fort Wayne
Colony House	Feb. 18	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Colony House	March 3	Bogart's	Cincinnati
Colony House	March 4	House of Blues	Cleveland
Colony House	March 12	Saint Andrew's Hall	Detroit
Colony House	March 14	House of Blues	Chicago
Colt Ford	Dec. 17	The Eclectic Room	Angola
Cory Wong	March 1	Majestic Theatre	Detroit
Cory Wong	March 3	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Couch	Jan. 28	Hi-Fi Indy	Indianapolis
Dan Tyminski	Dec. 2	Old Town School of Folk Music	Chicago
Dan Tyminski w/Dead Pickers Society	Dec. 3	The Ruin	Fort Wayne
Danny Ocean	Feb. 14	House of Blues	Chicago
Dave Koz	Dec. 8	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Dawes	March 8	Taft Theatre	Cincinnati
Dawes	March 10	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Deadbeats & Zed's Dead	Dec. 16-17	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Desmond Jones	Dec. 9	Bell's Eccentric Cafe	Kalamazoo
Destroy Lonely	Dec. 11	Majestic Theatre	Detroit
Diamond Rio	Dec. 15	Clyde Theatre	Fort Wayne
The Disco Biscuits	Dec. 29-31	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Dominic Fike	Dec. 9	The Fillmore	Detroit
Drayton Farley & JR Carroll	Dec. 17	Hi-Fi Indy	Indianapolis
Dropkick Murphys	March 8	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Dropkick Murphys	March 12	GLC Live at 20 Monroe	Grand Rapids
Dropkick Murphys	March 13	Kemba Live!	Columbus, OH
Eden	Feb. 4	House of Blues	Chicago
Elle King	Feb. 27	Cleveland Masonic Auditorium	Cleveland
Elle King	Feb. 28	Andrew J. Brady Music Center	Cincinnati
Elle King	March 1	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Elle King	March 3	The Fillmore	Detroit
Elle King	March 4	The Salt Shed	Chicago
Eric Benet & Donell Jones	Dec. 10	Hard Rock Live Northern Indiana	Gary
Eric Johnson	March 12	Clyde Theatre	Fort Wayne
Erin Coburn	Dec. 3	Baker Street Centre	Fort Wayne

Falling in Reverse	Dec. 2	Saint Andrew's Hall	Detroit
Falling in Reverse	Dec. 3	Kemba Live!	Columbus, OH
Fat Pockets	Nov. 25	Hi-Fi Indy	Indianapolis
Fitz and The Tantrums	Feb. 2	The Vic	Chicago
Fitz and The Tantrums	Feb. 4	Saint Andrew's Hall	Detroit
flipturn	Feb. 19	Hi-Fi Indy	Indianapolis
Flogging Molly	March 4	GLC Live at 20 Monroe	Grand Rapids
Flogging Molly w/Anti-Flag, Skinny Lister	March 5	Clyde Theatre	Fort Wayne
Foals	Dec. 2-3	The Vic	Chicago
Foals	Dec. 9	Kemba Live!	Columbus, OH
Foals	Dec. 11	Agora Theatre	Cleveland
For King & Country	Dec. 4	Rocket Mortgage FieldHouse	Cleveland
For King & Country	Dec. 15	Gainbridge Fieldhouse	Indianapolis
For King & Country	Dec. 16	Memorial Coliseum	Fort Wayne
For King & Country	Dec. 17	Van Andel Arena	Grand Rapids
From Ashes to New w/The Word Alive, Dropout Kings	Dec. 9	The Eclectic Room	Angola
From Ashes to New	Dec. 11	Newport Music Hall	Columbus
Fuerza Regida	Dec. 2	Allstate Arena	Rosemont, IL
G. Love & Special Sauce	Jan. 15	House of Blues	Chicago
G. Love & Special Sauce	Jan. 19	The Vogue	Indianapolis
G. Love & Special Sauce	Jan. 20	Saint Andrew's Hall	Detroit
G. Love & Special Sauce	Jan. 21	House of Blues	Cleveland
G. Love & Special Sauce	Jan. 22	Newport Music Hall	Columbus
Gaelic Storm & The High Kings	March 11	House of Blues	Chicago
Gary Allan	Feb. 9	Clyde Theatre	Fort Wayne
Gasolina Party	Dec. 2	GLC Live at 20 Monroe	Grand Rapids
Getter	Jan. 21	Agora Theatre	Cleveland
Giant Rooks	Dec. 10	House of Blues	Chicago
Gordo	March 3	The Salt Shed	Chicago
Grand Funk Railroad	Dec. 2	Hard Rock Live Northern Indiana	Gary
Greensky Bluegrass	Nov. 25-26	Kalamazoo State Theatre	Kalamazoo
Greensky Bluegrass	Jan. 25	Agora Theatre	Cleveland
Greensky Bluegrass	Feb. 1	Kemba Live!	Columbus, OH
Greensky Bluegrass	Feb. 3-4	The Vic	Chicago
The Halluci Nation	Dec. 16	Hi-Fi Indy	Indianapolis
Hardy	Feb. 16	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Hardy	Feb. 17-18	GLC Live at 20 Monroe	Grand Rapids
Harry Connick Jr.	Nov. 25	KeyBank State Theatre	Cleveland
Harry Connick Jr.	Dec. 3	Peoria Civic Center	Peoria, IL
Hembree & Little Hurt	Dec. 1	Hi-Fi Indy	Indianapolis
Highly Suspect w/Dead Poet Society	Feb. 23	Clyde Theatre	Fort Wayne
Home Free Family	Dec. 22	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Horseshoes & Hand Grenades	Dec. 17	Bell's Eccentric Cafe	Kalamazoo
Iggy Pop	March 10	The Salt Shed	Chicago
Inhaler	March 23	Saint Andrew's Hall	Detroit
Inhaler	March 24	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
J.I.D. & Smino	March 17	The Fillmore	Detroit
J.I.D. & Smino	March 18	GLC Live at 20 Monroe	Grand Rapids
J.I.D. & Smino	March 21	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
J.I.D. & Smino	March 28	Andrew J. Brady Music Center	Cincinnati
Ja Rule & Ashanti	March 4	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Jack Harlow w/Pitbull, Khalid, Macklemore	Dec. 5	Allstate Arena	Rosemont, IL
Jack Russell's Great White w/LiveWire, Reload	Dec. 17	Piere's	Fort Wayne
Jack White	Dec. 8	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Jackyl	Nov. 24	Piere's	Fort Wayne
Jason Banks	Dec. 1-3	Summit City Comedy Club	Fort Wayne
Jason Boland & The Stragglers	Dec. 9	Hi-Fi Indy	Indianapolis
Jason Isbell & The 400 Unit	Jan. 28	Blue Gate PAC	Shipshewana
Jason Isbell & The 400 Unit	Jan. 31	Brown County Music Center	Nashville, IN
Jeff Allen	March 4	Summit City Comedy Club	Fort Wayne
Jefferson Starship	Dec. 1	Piere's	Fort Wayne
Jerry Cantrell	March 21	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Jerry Harrison & Adrian Belew	Feb. 26	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Jim Messina	March 26	Clyde Theatre	Fort Wayne
Jimmy Failla	Dec. 16-17	Summit City Comedy Club	Fort Wayne
Joe "Mr. D" Dombrowski	Dec. 15	Summit City Comedy Club	Fort Wayne

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Road Notes

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Sonic Temple fest returns

While no artists have been announced, the return of the **Sonic Temple Art & Music Festival** in Columbus, Ohio, was announced for Memorial Day weekend, May 25-28. The highly successful hard rock festival took a break during COVID shutdowns and did not return last year either, but it promises to be back better than ever in 2023. Artist announcements are expected to come in the next few weeks.

Foreigner sets final shows

**Foreigner** have announced a farewell tour that is set to launch July 6 in Alpharetta, Georgia. The band behind many iconic songs like “I Want To Know What Love Is,” “Cold As Ice,” “Hot Blooded,” “Juke Box Hero,” “Urgent,” and five more Top 10 hits is calling it quits, but not before one final trip. “Many years ago, I wrote a song called ‘Feels Like the First Time,’ and today we are launching one last worldwide tour,” said **Mick Jones**, leader, founder, and sole remaining original member of the band. “We will be presenting a show that I know will have the same enthusiasm as our very first appearances. The tour will start this summer in America, and we hope to get to every place that we have played over the last several years.

“While I’m sure our fans will have mixed feelings about the end of the road for the band, I know our shows are going to delight audiences everywhere.”

“The time has come,” lead singer **Kelly Hansen** said. “I’m sure there may be occasions when we’ll do some special appearances, but I think the time is coming for us to live off the road.”

The first leg of the tour will feature **Loverboy** in the opening slot when Foreigner come to Ruoff Music Center in Noblesville on July 21; Hollywood Casino Amphitheatre in the Chicago suburb of Tinley Park, Illinois, on July 22; Blossom Music Center near Cleveland on July 24; and Pine Knob Music Theatre outside Detroit on Aug. 30.

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

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On the Road NATIONAL TOURS WITHIN DRIVING DISTANCE

► CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

<b>Joe Gatto</b>	<b>Feb. 5</b>	<b>Embassy Theatre</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Joe Russo's Almost Dead	Dec. 2-4	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
John Mellencamp	Feb. 5	Indiana University Auditorium	Bloomington
<b>John Waite</b>	<b>Feb. 5</b>	<b>Clyde Theatre</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
JohnnySwim	Nov. 30	Fourth Presbyterian Church	Chicago
<b>Jon Lovitz</b>	<b>Dec. 8-10</b>	<b>Summit City Comedy Club</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Judy Collins	Dec. 23	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Kai Wachi	Jan. 21	Majestic Theatre	Detroit
Kane Brown	March 16	Van Andel Arena	Grand Rapids
Kane Brown	March 23	Nationwide Arena	Columbus, OH
Kayzo	March 2	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Kayzo	March 4	Radius	Chicago
Kayzo	March 8	Bogart's	Cincinnati
Keller & Cole	Dec. 30	Hi-Fi Indy	Indianapolis
Keller Williams	Feb. 11	The Vogue	Indianapolis
<b>Kenan Thompson's Comedy Experience</b>	<b>Dec. 4</b>	<b>Summit City Comedy Club</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Kenia OS	March 15	House of Blues	Chicago
Kenny Wayne Shepherd Band	March 14	GLC Live at 20 Monroe	Grand Rapids
Kenny Wayne Shepherd Band	March 17	Hard Rock Live Northern Indiana	Gary
<b>Kenny Wayne Shepherd Band</b>	<b>March 22</b>	<b>Honeywell Center</b>	<b>Wabash</b>
Keshi	March 21	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Keshi	March 22	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Keshi	March 24	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
The Kid Laroi			
w/AJR, Backstreet Boys, Khalid, Macklemore	Dec. 6	Little Caesars Arena	Detroit
King Buffalo	Jan. 14	Hi-Fi Indy	Indianapolis
Kirko Bangz	Dec. 5	Piere's	Fort Wayne
<b>Kiss the Sky: The Jimi Hendrix Re-Experience</b>	<b>March 25</b>	<b>Baker Street Centre</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
<b>Koe Wetzel</b>			
<b>w/The Cadillac Three, Dylan Wheeler</b>	<b>March 23</b>	<b>Memorial Coliseum</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Laid Back Country Picker	Jan. 21	Hi-Fi Indy	Indianapolis
Larkin Poe	March 16	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Ledisi & Kem	Feb. 14	Indiana Farmers Coliseum	Indianapolis
The Lemonheads	Dec. 11	Saint Andrew's Hall	Detroit
Lil Darkie	Feb. 22	House of Blues	Chicago
<b>Lindsey Stirling</b>	<b>Dec. 12</b>	<b>Embassy Theatre</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Lotus	Jan. 29	Beachland Ballroom	Cleveland
Lotus	Feb. 2	Majestic Theatre	Detroit
Lotus	Feb. 3	Kemba Live!	Columbus, OH
Lotus	Feb. 8	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Lotus	Feb. 9	The Intersection	Grand Rapids
Lotus	Feb. 10	Park West	Chicago
Lucero	Jan. 29	Hi-Fi Indy	Indianapolis
Luke Combs	April 1	Lucas Oil Stadium	Indianapolis
MAX	Dec. 2	House of Blues	Cleveland
MAX	Dec. 8	Elevation at The Intersection	Grand Rapids
Mac Saturn	Nov. 25	Saint Andrew's Hall	Detroit
Machine Head	Nov. 27	A&R Music Bar	Columbus, OH
Machine Head	Nov. 28	Legend's Bar and Venue	Cincinnati
Maggie Rogers	Feb. 17	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Magic City Hippies	Jan. 27	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Mannheim Steamroller Christmas	Dec. 10	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Mannheim Steamroller Christmas	Dec. 17	Rosemont Theatre	Rosemont
<b>Mannheim Steamroller Christmas</b>	<b>Dec. 18</b>	<b>Honeywell Center</b>	<b>Wabash</b>
Mannheim Steamroller Christmas	Dec. 22	Clowes Memorial Hall	Indianapolis
Mannheim Steamroller Christmas	Dec. 26	Proctor & Gamble at Aronoff Center	Cincinnati
Marc Anthony	Feb. 24	Allstate Arena	Rosemont, IL
Marc Anthony	Feb. 26	Gainbridge Fieldhouse	Indianapolis
Margo Price	Feb. 21	The Vic	Chicago
Margo Price	Feb. 22	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Margo Price	Feb. 25	Majestic Theatre	Detroit
The Mavericks	Jan. 26	Hatfield Hall	Terre Haute
The Mavericks	Jan. 27	The Palladium	Carmel
Max	Dec. 9	Saint Andrew's Hall	Detroit
Max	Dec. 11	House of Blues	Chicago
<b>Michael Winslow &amp; JJ Walker</b>	<b>Dec. 10</b>	<b>The Eclectic Room</b>	<b>Angola</b>
<b>Mike Cronin</b>	<b>Dec. 22-23</b>	<b>Summit City Comedy Club</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
<b>Mike E. Winfield</b>	<b>Feb. 2-4</b>	<b>Summit City Comedy Club</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>

Minnesota	Dec. 2	Hi-Fi Indy	Indianapolis
Mitchell Tenpenny	Feb. 10	Kemba Live!	Columbus, OH
Mod Sun	March 7	Saint Andrew's Hall	Detroit
Mod Sun	March 9	Agora Theatre	Cleveland
Modest Mouse	Dec. 9	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Morgan Wade	March 4	Agora Theatre	Cleveland
Morgan Wade	March 7	Hi-Fi Indy	Indianapolis
Muse w/Evanscence	Feb. 25	United Center	Chicago
Muse w/Evanscence	March 7	Nationwide Arena	Columbus, OH
<b>Nate Bargatze</b>	<b>Jan. 21</b>	<b>Embassy Theatre</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Ne-Yo	Dec. 3	Hard Rock Live Northern Indiana	Gary
New Found Glory	March 11	Thalia Hall	Chicago
<b>Newsboys</b>	<b>March 4</b>	<b>Niswonger PAC</b>	<b>Van Wert</b>
Night Ranger	Dec. 8	Hobart Arena	Troy
Noah Kahan	Feb. 7	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Noah Kahan	Feb. 8	Kemba Live!	Columbus, OH
Noah Kahan	Feb. 10	The Fillmore	Detroit
The North 41	Dec. 23	Bell's Eccentric Cafe	Kalamazoo
OV7	March 24	Rosemont Theatre	Rosemont
Of the Trees	Jan. 28	Majestic Theatre	Detroit
Omar Apollo	Nov. 30	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Our Last Night	March 20	House of Blues	Chicago
Our Last Night	March 22	House of Blues	Cleveland
Panteon Rococo	Dec. 10	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Paolo Nutini	March 13	Metro	Chicago
Parkway Drive	Feb. 13	Kemba Live!	Columbus, OH
Parov Stelar	March 4	The Vic	Chicago
Pentatonix w/Girl Named Tom	Dec. 1	Allstate Arena	Rosemont, IL
Pentatonix w/Girl Named Tom	Dec. 6	Gainbridge Fieldhouse	Indianapolis
Pepper	March 3	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Pepper	March 4	Elevation at The Intersection	Grand Rapids
<b>Phil Vassar &amp; Deana Carter</b>	<b>Dec. 11</b>	<b>Clyde Theatre</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
The Plot In You	Nov. 26	Saint Andrew's Hall	Detroit
The Plot In You	Nov. 27	The King of Clubs	Columbus, OH
The Plot In You	Nov. 29	Beachland Ballroom	Cleveland
The Plot In You	Nov. 30	Bottom Lounge	Chicago
Portugal. The Man	Dec. 6	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
<b>Preacher Lawson</b>	<b>Feb. 23-25</b>	<b>Summit City Comedy Club</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Purple Disco Machine	Dec. 31	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
<b>Ra</b>	<b>Dec. 14</b>	<b>Piere's</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
<b>Raheem DeVaughn</b>	<b>Dec. 23</b>	<b>Embassy Theatre</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Railroad Earth	Dec. 30-31	The Vic	Chicago
Rainbow Kitten Surprise	Dec. 3	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
<b>Randy of Trailer Park Boys Christmas Tour</b>	<b>Dec. 9</b>	<b>Piere's</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
<b>Rick Monroe and the Hitmen</b>	<b>Jan. 7</b>	<b>Piere's</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
<b>The Righteous Brothers</b>	<b>Dec. 17</b>	<b>Clyde Theatre</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
<b>Ripe</b>	<b>Nov. 30</b>	<b>Clyde Theatre</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Ripe	Dec. 1	The Vogue	Indianapolis
<b>Riverdance</b>	<b>March 23</b>	<b>Embassy Theatre</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Rod Tuffcurls & The Bench Press	Dec. 31	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Rod Wave	March 27	Avondale Music Hall	Chicago
The Roots	March 18	The Salt Shed	Chicago
<b>Rumpke Mountain Boys w/Dead Man's Dog</b>	<b>Nov. 25</b>	<b>Piere's</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Ryan Adams	Dec. 1	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Ryan Adams	Dec. 2	Andrew J. Brady Music Center	Cincinnati
Ryan Adams	Dec. 6	Masonic Temple	Fort Wayne
Sad Hours	Dec. 9	House of Blues	Chicago
<b>Sam Morril</b>	<b>Nov. 25-27</b>	<b>Summit City Comedy Club</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Samia	Feb. 17	The Vic	Chicago
Saves the Day	Dec. 15	House of Blues	Chicago
Seaforth	Feb. 17	Hi-Fi Indy	Indianapolis
Sevendust	Dec. 28	Majestic Theatre	Detroit
<b>Shawn Wayans</b>	<b>March 24-25</b>	<b>Summit City Comedy Club</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Sierra Ferrell	March 4	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Sister Hazel	Dec. 17-18	House of Blues	Chicago
<b>Sister Hazel</b>	<b>April 1</b>	<b>Niswonger PAC</b>	<b>Van Wert</b>

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Road Trips

LOCAL ACTS ON TOUR

<b>Atticus Sorrell</b>	
Dec. 7	Goshen Brewing Co., Goshen
<b>Bulldogs</b>	
Dec. 31	Fremont Moose Lodge, Fremont

<b>Hubie Ashcraft Band</b>	
Nov. 25	VFW Post 5713, Celina, OH
Nov. 26	Lori's Roadhouse, Cincinnati

<b>Jiggs Hendrixson Showband</b>	
Nov. 25	Hop's Place, Antwerp, OH

<b>Joe Justice</b>	
Nov. 26	Leisure Time Winery, Napoleon, OH

<b>Sunglasses at Night</b>	
Dec. 17	McSober's Saloon, Coldwater, OH

<b>Sunny Taylor</b>	
Dec. 23	Stoney Ridge Winery, Bryan, OH

<b>Tom Koenig</b>	
Dec. 1	Bent Prop Pub, Coldwater, MI
Dec. 15	Eagles Grand Lake Aerie 1291, Celina, OH

<b>Uncle Muscle</b>	
Dec. 2	Happy Dog, Cleveland



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## On the Road

NATIONAL TOURS WITHIN DRIVING DISTANCE

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Six Foot Santa	Dec. 23	Hi-Fi Indy	Indianapolis
Sixteen Candles	Feb. 18	House of Blues	Chicago
Skegss	Nov. 27	Metro	Chicago
Skillet & Theory of a Deadman	Feb. 17	Hard Rock Live Northern Indiana	Gary
Skillet & Theory of a Deadman	Feb. 22	The Fillmore	Detroit
Skillet & Theory of a Deadman	March 3	Agora Theatre	Cleveland
Skillet & Theory of a Deadman	March 5	Andrew J. Brady Music Center	Cincinnati
The Smile	Dec. 1	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Snarky Puppy	March 31	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Snarky Puppy	April 1	Hard Rock Live Northern Indiana	Gary
Snarky Puppy	April 2	Kalamazoo State Theatre	Kalamazoo
The Sound of Animals Fighting	Jan. 18	Majestic Theatre	Detroit
St. Paul & The Broken Bones w/Retz Madison	Jan. 27	Clyde Theatre	Fort Wayne
Static-X	March 25	Saint Andrew's Hall	Detroit

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Static-X	March 31	Clyde Theatre	Fort Wayne
Steel Panther	Nov. 27	GLC Live at 20 Monroe	Grand Rapids
Steel Panther	Nov. 30	Piere's	Fort Wayne
Steven Curtis Chapman	March 15	PFW Rhinehart Music Center	Fort Wayne
Straight No Chaser	Dec. 10-11	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Straight No Chaser	Dec. 14	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Straight No Chaser	Dec. 23	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Subtronics	Feb. 15	House of Blues	Cleveland
Subtronics	Feb. 23	The Bluestone	Columbus, OH
Subtronics	March 10	Andrew J. Brady Music Center	Cincinnati
Subtronics	March 11	Masonic Temple Theatre	Detroit
SunSquabi & Iespecial	Dec. 3	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Sunn O)))	Dec. 14	Majestic Theatre	Detroit
Surf Curse	Dec. 6	The Vic	Chicago
Switchfoot	Dec. 2	Clyde Theatre	Fort Wayne
Switchfoot	Dec. 7	Motorcity Casino Hotel	Detroit
Tedeschi Trucks Band	March 17 -18	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Tedeschi Trucks Band	March 31-April 1	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Thee Sacred Souls	Jan. 22	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
They Might Be Giants	March 24	Athenaeum Theatre	Columbus, OH
They Might Be Giants	March 26	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Third Eye Blind	April 1	The Salt Shed	Chicago
Thy Art Is Murder	Feb. 10	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
TobyMac	March 2	Huntington Center	Toledo
TobyMac	March 4	NOW Arena	Hoffman Estates, IL
TobyMac	March 5	Van Andel Arena	Grand Rapids
TobyMac	March 19	Gainbridge Fieldhouse	Indianapolis
TobyMac	March 20	Nutter Center	Fairborn, OH
Token	Feb. 10	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Tommy DeCarlo	Feb. 25	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Too Short	Jan. 13	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Tove Lo	Feb. 15	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Tove Lo	Feb. 17	The Salt Shed	Chicago
Tracy Lawrence	Feb. 17	The Lerner Theatre	Elkhart
Trampled By Turtles	Dec. 3	Andrew J. Brady Music Center	Cincinnati
Trampled By Turtles	Dec. 4	Majestic Theatre	Detroit
Trans-Siberian Orchestra	Dec. 2	Huntington Center	Toledo
Trans-Siberian Orchestra	Dec. 3	Nutter Center	Fairborn, OH
Trans-Siberian Orchestra	Dec. 4	Van Andel Arena	Grand Rapids
Trans-Siberian Orchestra	Dec. 11	Gainbridge Fieldhouse	Indianapolis
Travis Tritt	Dec. 8	The Lerner Theatre	Elkhart
Twiddle	Dec. 7	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Umphey's McGee w/Doom Flamingo	Jan. 26	Clyde Theatre	Fort Wayne
Umphey's McGee	Jan. 27	GLC Live at 20 Monroe	Grand Rapids
Umphey's McGee	Jan. 28	The Fillmore	Detroit
Umphey's McGee	Jan. 29	House of Blues	Cleveland
Vance Joy	Feb. 17	Kemba Live!	Columbus, OH
Vance Joy	Feb. 18	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Viagra Boys	Feb. 24	The Salt Shed	Chicago
The Wallflowers	Dec. 15	GLC Live at 20 Monroe	Grand Rapids
We Came As Romans	Feb. 15	House of Blues	Chicago
We Came As Romans	Feb. 17	The King of Clubs	Columbus, OH
We Came As Romans	Feb. 18	Saint Andrew's Hall	Detroit
Weyes Blood	March 11	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
White Reaper	Feb. 9	Hi-Fi Indy	Indianapolis
Whitney Morgan	Dec. 17	The Fillmore	Detroit
The Wild Feathers	Dec. 8	Hi-Fi Indy	Indianapolis
Winter Jam w/We the Kingdom, Jeremy Camp, Andy Mineo, Anne Wilson, Disciple, Austin French, Newsong	Feb. 2	Memorial Coliseum	Fort Wayne
Wizkid	March 22	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Wizkid	March 24	United Center	Chicago
Wynonna Judd	Feb. 11	Nutter Center	Fairborn, OH
YG	Feb. 17	The Fillmore	Detroit
Yacht Rock Revue	Dec. 31	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Yonder Mountain String Band	Feb. 3-4	Evanston Space	Evanston, IL
Zach Williams	Dec. 12	Morris Performing Arts Center	South Bend
Zoe	Dec. 14	Chicago Theatre	Chicago



# Wakanda holds strong at box office

**W**akanda Forever continued to kill at the box office, bringing in another \$67.3 million over the weekend and boosting the flick's 10-day domestic sales total to \$288 million. Massive. Add in foreign sales and Wakanda has already made \$546 million. In 10 days. Whoa.

What I like about this is that it pretty much means Ryan Coogler can do whatever he wants for at least the next 10 years. And something tells me Coogler isn't going to be doing a whole lot more of this superhero junk. I'm sure the Black Panther movies have been a fun learning experience, but the guy has a big imagination, and I find it hard to believe that he's fulfilled by these men-in-tights films.

Coogler's next film, *Wrong Answer*, will star Michael B. Jordan with a script from the great Ta-Nehisi Coates. That's the kind of work Coogler should be doing, in my opinion. But yay, *Wakanda*. Happy for y'all.

## Also at the Box

Mark Mylod's *The Menu* has been getting great word of mouth, taking the No. 2 spot at the domestic box office and selling a solid \$9 million over its first three days of release. This one sounds fun.

Something called *The Chosen Season 3: Episode 1 & 2* took the No. 3 spot, selling \$8.2 million over its first three days of release. I have no clue what this is. Two episodes from Season 3 of a Christian television show? At the movies? Is this a new trend? I gotta say, if AMC played the last three episodes of season four of *The Wire*,



## Screen Time

GREG W. LOCKE

I'd be there with bells on. That being said, this one feels weird to me.

Moving on, *Black Adam* is still selling tickets. Yay. The Rock film took the No. 4 spot with another \$4.8 million, bringing its five-week worldwide sales total to \$366 million. Sounds like a lot of money, but The Rock and his friends expected this one to be in the \$800 million-plus range. Whoops.

Cute rom-com *Ticket to Paradise* continued to sell tickets, taking the No. 5 spot at the box with another \$3.2 million in sales. So far, the George Clooney-Julia Roberts comedy has sold \$62 million in the U.S. and \$158 million worldwide. I love that a rom-com for adults (that's probably not even that good) is doing well at the box. That's a good sign.

## Outside of blockbusters

Also of note, there are a whole lot of really good prestige films at the theaters right now.

I'd recommend looking to see if any of the following are showing: *Triangle of Sadness*, *Tár*, *Bones and All*, *Aftersun*, *The Fabelmans*, *Amsterdam*, *Till*, *The Banshees of Inisherin*, and *Armageddon Time*.

That's a whole lot of good stuff to choose from.

## New this Week

Thanksgiving weekend will see the expansion of a lot of the aforementioned films, including Steven Spielberg's much discussed new film, *The Fabelmans*. Also, look out for *Bones and All*, *Devotion*, and *Strange World*.

I imagine I'll watch all four eventually. *Strange World* in particular looks like a good time at the movies. Most people, I'd guess, will just be going to *Wakanda*. Oh well. Get it, Coogler.

## Quick Hits LOCAL EVENTS

### FESTIVAL OF GINGERBREAD

NOV. 24-DEC. 18 • THE HISTORY CENTER

One Fort Wayne's holiday traditions, The History Center's annual Festival of Gingerbread, celebrates its 37th year in 2022.

Since its inception in 1985, the Festival of Gingerbread has become one of our community's premier holiday traditions. From Nov. 25-Dec. 18, take the opportunity to step into the Shields Room and be amazed by the variety of styles, sizes, shapes, and themes of the more than 135 edible creations on display. Competitive categories range from

preschool to adults and professionals, and the theme of each creation ranges from traditional houses to replicas of existing structures to unique art. Prizes were recently awarded to winners in each category, but regardless of whether they won or lost, the emphasis is always on fun.

To accommodate those who are unable to visit in person, The History Center is again offering a Virtual Gingerbread Tour, for purchase on their website. — *Chris Hupe*



### CHRISTMAS AT THE FORT

SATURDAY, NOV. 26 • THE OLD FORT



Many Fort Wayne traditions revolve around the city's history, and much of that history involves the Old Fort just north of downtown.

While a fort may not be the first place that comes to mind when celebrating the holidays, Christmas at the Fort may help bring it to the forefront in the future.

Enjoy learning how Christmas was

celebrated in the city during the 1700s and 1800s, visit with the artisans as they demonstrate their skills and present handcrafted gift ideas, pick up a sweet treat from the bake sale, and, of course, find that perfect gift while checking out the Old Fort merchandise.

History and the holidays come to life in a unique way on Saturday, Nov. 26, from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. — *Chris Hupe*

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December Events

DECEMBER 8

BILL GAITHER  
*And The*  
GAITHER VOCAL BAND

THE BRIGHTER THE LIGHT TOUR  
CHRISTMAS 2022

DECEMBER 16

for KING & COUNTRY  
A DRUMMER BOY CHRISTMAS

DECEMBER 26

THE ORIGINAL  
HARLEM  
GLOBETROTTERS

Presented By  
Jersey Mike's

Le Chic Holiday Market • DEC 2 & 3  
Rumble In Fort Wayne • DEC 30 & 31

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# Dark comedy serves just deserts

Comedian Patton Oswalt has a hilarious bit titled “Great Food Is Cooked By Psychos,” in which he equates his past love for out-there authors and musicians to his recent adoration with worryingly eccentric chefs. It’s a notion that HBO’s *Succession* director Mark Mylod and *The Onion* alums Seth Reiss and Will Tracy must have had in mind when crafting the razor-sharp black comedy *The Menu*.

As one would hope, the jokes in the film cut a bit deeper than, “Hey, isn’t it funny how tiny the portions are at fancy restaurants?” and get into why this kind of snobby subculture continues to thrive. When the movie starts to infuse more thriller and horror elements, it can sometimes get a bit out of its depth, but overall, this is a devilishly fun dish.



## Reel Views

BRENT LEUTHOLD

We meet Margot (Anya Taylor-Joy) and Tyler (Nicholas Hoult) as they board a boat with 10 others who are also traveling to Hawthorne, a luxury restaurant situated on a private island. Each couple is paying \$2,500 to savor a meal made by idiosyncratic celebrity chef Julian Slowik (Ralph Fiennes) and his slavishly devoted kitchen staff. When the group arrives, they’re given a tour of the grounds by austere maître d’ Elsa (Hong Chau) before heading inside the lavishly designed restaurant. Slowik’s introduction and the amuse-bouche seem normal enough, but with each subsequent course, his preambles get stranger and the mood in the dining room gets more tense. Even though fanboy Tyler is still enraptured by the experience, Margot’s unwillingness to eat any of the prepared food draws Slowik’s ire and curiosity.

Pretentious foodies and the ultra-rich may make for soft targets in a satire, but *The Menu* serves them their just deserts just the same. When the guests first arrive, the mood is not dissimilar from an Agatha Christie whodunnit, but as the night goes on, the film turns into more of a playful dark comedy about the kinds of people who would pay this much for food. There’s the Anton Ego-esque food critic and her obsequious editor, a trio of tech bros, a washed up actor with his assistant, and a businessman and his wife, who converse as if they’re enjoying soup and breadsticks at Olive Garden. Even before Slowik sardonically dispenses with moral judgments about who these people are and why he suspects they’ve come, it’s clear none of them actually care about his cooking in the first place.

Margot wasn’t Tyler’s originally intended guest, which seems to concern Elsa right away and is brought to Slowik’s attention shortly after, so she is immediately seen as being outside of this typically sealed system. Fiennes and Taylor-Joy are outstanding scene partners as the chef calls Margot back to the kitchen for a series of terse conversations where they poke and prod at one another to gain understanding of their respective mindsets. Editor Christopher Tellefsen cuts these jagged-edge exchanges with a serrated knife, but when the night gets more twisted, he moves to a butcher’s knife, punctuated by Slowik’s loud claps to introduce courses, to savor the intensity of the moment.

Obviously, there are tantalizing (and occasionally ludicrous) plot developments that you’ll want to avoid knowing specifics about going into the movie, but



COURTESY PHOTO

Ralph Fiennes and Anya Taylor-Joy share a scene in the new film *The Menu*.

## THE MENU

Rated R for strong/disturbing violent content, language throughout, and some sexual references

1 hour 47 minutes · In theaters

★★★★☆

suffice it to say, there are some delectable turns peppered throughout the film.

As much as this is a cheeky parable about the 1 percent and the people who serve them, *The Menu* is obviously a movie about the art of preparing food and all the emotions that come along with it.

There is a scene of catharsis that recalls last year’s transcendent *Pig*, a film also set in the high-end restaurant scene, but used in a way to gain understanding into how the characters live their lives once the meal is over. For most of its runtime, *The Menu* isn’t nearly that earnest, and its primary aim is to skewer its band of obscenely rich patrons. As such, it’s a more superficial effort and not as satisfying as a movie that has more interest in its characters. But like a plate of burger and fries from your favorite fast-food spot, *The Menu* will fill you up and put a smile on your face.

## New movies coming to theaters this weekend

▪ *The Fabelmans*, starring Michelle Williams and Paul Dano, is a coming-of-age drama from Steven Spielberg about a teenager growing up in post-World War II era Arizona who aspires to become a filmmaker soon after discovering a shattering family secret.

▪ *Strange World*, starring Jake Gyllenhaal and Dennis Quaid, is an animated sci-fi adventure following a family of explorers whose differences threaten to topple their latest and most crucial mission in the uncharted and treacherous land of Avalonia.

▪ *Devotion*, starring Jonathan Majors and Glen Powell, is a biographical war drama which tells the true story of a pair of elite fighter pilots who became the Navy’s most celebrated wingmen during the Korean War.



# Stage & Dance

LOCAL CALENDAR

## NOW PLAYING

**Champions of Magic** — A family-friendly evening of illusions and special effects, **7:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 25**, Honeywell Center, Wabash, \$35-\$125, (260) 563-1102

## STAGE EVENTS

**all for One productions Christmas Open House** — Get a “backstage” view of space where the work happens, connect with staff, volunteers, and board members, enjoy snacks, and get a preview of the February show, *Daddy Long Legs* the musical, **2-5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3**, all for One productions, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 744-4364

## CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS

**Adult/Teen Ballet** — Weekly class is for intermediate/beginner advanced dancers who wish to improve their knowledge, **9-10:15 Wednesdays through April**, PFW Dolnick Learning Center, Fort Wayne, \$12, mdancetheatre@gmail.com

## AUDITIONS

**The Ladies Man** — Four women and four men are needed for Charles Morey’s loose adaptation of Georges Feydeau’s bedroom farce, with rehearsals beginning Dec. 12, **7-10 p.m. Sunday-Monday, Dec. 4-5**, Arena Dinner Theatre, Fort Wayne, suekahn651@gmail.com

**Wagon Wheel Junior Winter Musical** — Youths between 9 and 18 years old will learn short part of song for production with rehearsals slated for Jan. 19-Feb. 2, with performances Feb. 3-5, **10 a.m. (9-11 year olds) and 11:30 a.m. (12-18 year olds) Saturday, Dec. 10**, Wagon Wheel Center for the Arts, Warsaw, free, (574) 267-8041

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

## UPCOMING PRODUCTIONS

### DECEMBER

**A Christmas Carol** — The classic and timeless tale celebrating Christmas and the holiday season, **7 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Dec. 1-2**, and dinner theater at **6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3**, Excelsior Arts Academy and Youth Theater, First Christian Church, Auburn, \$10-\$45, (260) 413-3747

**A Christmas Carol** — Bring blankets and coats to experience Charles Dickens’ tale of redemption in the unheated Salomon Farm Park Old Barn, **7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 1-3; 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4; 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 8-10; 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11**, Summit City Music Theatre, Salomon Farm Park, Fort Wayne, \$25, (260) 437-6825

**A Christmas Story** — Hijinks abound in story of boy vying for a Red Ryder BB gun for Christmas, **7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 2-3; 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4**, Gaslight Playhouse, Community Learning Center, Kendallville, \$15-\$17, (260) 544-3455

**Shrek** — Mythical story of acceptance as perception of ogre living in solitude in woods changes following an adventure, **7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 2-3; and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4**, Huber Opera House, Hicksville, \$15-\$20, (419) 506-1085

**Kinky Boots** — Musical about friendships and the belief that you can change the world when you change your mind, **8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 2-3; 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4; 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 9-10, Dec. 16-17; 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 18**; Three Rivers Music Theatre, PPG ArtsLab, Fort Wayne, \$24-\$41.50, (260) 422-4226

**Fort Wayne Ballet’s The Nutcracker** — Fort Wayne Ballet takes on classic holiday tale, with Fort Wayne Philharmonic taking part in performances on Dec. 2-4, **7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 2; 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3; 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4; 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 6 (sensory friendly); 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 8; 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 9; 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10; 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11**, Arts United Center, Fort Wayne, \$35-\$55, (260) 422-4226

**It’s a Wonderful Life** — New musical adapted from classic holiday tale, **7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 2; 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3; 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4**, Life Community Church, Bluffton, \$10, (260) 824-5222

**Project Ballet’s The Nutcracker** — This classic Christmas tale is produced for children, by children, and about children **2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3; 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14**, Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$15-\$34, (260) 471-7848

**The Sound of Music** — Featuring a trove of cherished songs, this musical has won the hearts of audiences worldwide, **7**

**p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 2-3; 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4; 7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 9-10; 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11; 7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 16-17; 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 18**, Wagon Wheel Theatre, Warsaw, \$15-\$40, (574) 267-8041

**‘Tis the Season** — Collaboration between Huntington University Music and Theatre departments kicks off holiday season with songs and dancing, **7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 2-3**, Zurcher Auditorium, Merillat Centre for the Arts, Huntington, \$6-\$13, (260) 359-4261

**Mrs. Bob Cratchit’s Wild Christmas Binge** — In this departure from Dickens, young Scrooge’s “Bah, humbug!” is seasonal Tourette’s Syndrome, and The Ghost of Christmas Past is a sassy Black woman, **7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 2-17; and 1 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11-18**, Arena Dinner Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$45, (260) 424-5622

**A Christmas Carol** — An adaptation of the Dickens’ classic particularly suited to children, **10 a.m. and noon Monday, Dec. 5**, Honeywell Center, Wabash, \$10, (260) 563-1102

**Willy Wonka** — Toe-tapping music, laughter, and themes of bravery and humbleness, **7:30 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Dec. 8-9; and 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10**, Fire & Light Productions, USF Robert Goldstine PAC, Fort Wayne, \$13, (260) 241-3378

**The Dinner Detective Murder Mystery Show** — Solve a mystery while eating a full plated dinner, **6-9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 9**, Courtyard by Marriott Downtown, Fort Wayne, \$59.95, (866) 496-0535

**Disney’s Frozen Jr.** — Princess Anna and Queen Elsa discover hidden potential in story of true love and acceptance between sisters, **7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 9; 3 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 10-11; 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 15 (Sensory Friendly); 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 16; 3 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 17-18**, First Presbyterian Theater, Fort Wayne, \$15, (260) 422-4226

**Best Christmas Pageant Ever** — Beloved tale is warm, funny, and full of relatable characters, **7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 9-10 and Dec. 16-17; and 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11 and Dec. 18**, First Presbyterian Theater, Fort Wayne, \$12-\$18, (260) 422-4226

**A Charlie Brown Christmas** — Everyone’s favorite holiday classic comes to life on stage, **7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec.**

**15**, Honeywell Center, Wabash, \$39-79, (260) 563-1102

**The Spirit of Christmas** — Heartland Sings perform at the Allen County Courthouse’s rotunda, featuring favorite carols and newly composed carols by founding artistic director Maestro Robert Nance, **7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 16; and 3 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 17-18**, Allen County Courthouse, Fort Wayne, \$25-\$30, (260) 436-8080

## JANUARY

**Steel Magnolias** — Local talent will bring 1989 film about finding strength and love after tragedy to the stage, **2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 7; and 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 8**, Eagles Theatre, Wabash, \$16, (260) 563-1102

**Gene Marcus Piano Competition** — Open to all pre-college piano students, ages 18 and under as of Feb. 5, 2023, who reside within 100 miles of Fort Wayne, with application deadline of Thursday, Jan. 5, **8 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Jan. 21-22 (first round); 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 5 (finals)**, PFW Auer Performance Hall, Fort Wayne, \$25-\$40, (260) 481-6100

**Annie Jr.** — Van Wert youth perform one-hour version of musical about orphan finding a home with billionaire, **7:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 21; 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 22**, Niswonger PAC, Van Wert, \$10-\$12, (419) 238-6722

**On Your Feet** — Touring production of true story about two people who believed in their talent and became an international sensation: Gloria and Emilio Estefan, **7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 24**, Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$40-\$75, (260) 424-6287

**Candid Camera: Unmasked Tour** — Host Peter Funt intertwines stage comedy with clips, quips, and behind-the-scene’s tales of the classic TV show, **7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 26**, Eagles Theatre, Wabash, \$15-\$25, (260) 563-1102

## FEBRUARY

**Dragons & Mythical Beasts** — Interactive show brings you face to face with magnificent monsters and terrifying beasts, **6:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 2**, Honeywell Center, Wabash, \$15-\$35, (260) 563-1102

**Love Notes** — Fort Wayne Ballet’s visual-telling of tales from the heart of loves won and lost, **7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 10-11**, PPG ArtsLab, Fort Wayne, \$35, (260) 422-4226

**The Puppy Pals Comedic Stunt Dog Show** — From shelters to showbiz, the show features a variety of stunts, from a jumping hurdle routine, climbing and diving off a high ladder, balancing on a barrel, and jumping rope, **3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 12**, Niswonger PAC, Van Wert, \$15-\$35, (419) 238-6722

**Daddy Long Legs** — A musical about an orphan who receives an anonymous gift of a college scholarship, **7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 17-18; 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 19; 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 24-25; and 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 26, sensory-friendly show 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25**; all for One productions, PPG ArtsLab, Fort Wayne, \$15-\$22, (260) 422-4226

**Puffs** — The comedic retelling about a “certain school of magic” for anyone who has felt like a secondary character in someone else’s story, **8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 10-11; 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 12 and 19; and 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Feb. 16-18**, PFW Williams Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$5-\$18, (260) 481-6555

**Hello, Dolly!** — Musical adaptation of Thornton Wilder’s hit play *The Matchmaker* bursts with humor, romance, and energetic dance, **7:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 18; 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 19; 7:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 24; 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25; 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 26**, Fort Wayne Civic Theatre, Arts United Center, Fort Wayne, \$22-\$35, (260) 424-5220

**Disney on Ice: Into the Magic** — Mickey Mouse and Minnie Mouse plus stars from *Frozen*, *Moana*, *Beauty and the Beast*, and more, **7 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Feb. 23-24; 11 a.m., 3 p.m., 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25; 1 p.m., 5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 26**, Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, (260) 482-9502

**Peter Pan** — Keep an eye out for Captain Hook and the scallywags of the Jolly Roger with the Auer Academy Youth Company, **10 a.m. and noon Saturday, Feb. 25**, Fort Wayne Ballet Studios, Fort Wayne, \$15, (260) 422-4226

**Menopause The Musical** — A comedic celebration of women, **3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25**, Niswonger PAC, Van Wert, \$39-\$69, (419) 238-6722

**El Otro Oz** — Take a transformative journey with this salsa, merengue, and Mexican folk-infused bilingual musical inspired by “The Wizard of Oz,” **10 a.m. and noon Tuesday, Feb. 28**, Honeywell Center, Wabash, \$10, (260) 563-1102



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# Art & Exhibits

LOCAL CALENDAR

## CURRENT EXHIBITS

**Art for the Holidays** — Ornamental works by many local artists including fused glass stars and snowflakes, pottery, and Nativity scenes, **10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Friday; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday through Dec. 31; 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve; closed Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day**, Orchard Gallery of Fine Art, Fort Wayne, free admission, (260) 436-0927

**Emergence: Art Inspired by Poetry** — Artwork from 27 artists inspired by local poet Marsi Lawson with online bidding from 10 a.m.-8 p.m. on Dec. 3; proceeds help the homeless. Dwandra Lampkin will read poetry from 3-6:30 p.m. Dec. 3, **noon-5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 19; and noon-5 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday, through Dec. 3**, Ruth Koomler Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, free admission, (260) 414-4948

**Fall 2022 PFW Bachelor of Fine Arts Exhibition** — Department of Art and Design students display senior thesis projects with reception from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 1, **8 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Friday; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Nov. 28-Jan. 22**, PFW Visual Arts Gallery, Fort Wayne, free admission, (260) 481-6709

**Fort Wayne Artists Guild Holiday Exhibit** — Local artists will have art on display at fifth annual exhibit, **noon-8 p.m. Friday-Saturday; noon-4 p.m. Sunday; and noon-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 17, Dec. 24, beginning Nov. 25**, The Gallery at Jefferson Pointe, Fort

Wayne, free, info@fortwayneartistsguild.org

**Fort Wayne Artists Guild Members Show** — Browse works created by artists from the community, **9 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday-Saturday; and noon-5 p.m. Sunday through Dec. 31**, Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 421-1200

**Garden Party** — Years before her famous exhibitions at Walt Disney World and Rockefeller Center, Dorothy Gillespie had a city-wide exhibition in Fort Wayne in 1979, **noon-5 p.m. Sundays; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursdays, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays through June 4**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, \$8-\$10, (260) 422-6467

**Happy Smallidays Holiday Exhibit** — Follow Little Mouse in this holiday story about taking time to embrace the little things, **10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursday; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday; through Jan. 8**, Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory, Fort Wayne, \$5-\$7, (260) 427-6440

**Holiday Show: 27th Artist Invitational** — Annual exhibit features holiday scenes from local artists, **noon-5 p.m. Wednesday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, through Dec. 31**, Castle Gallery Fine Art, Fort Wayne, free admission, (260) 426-6568

**Holiday Window Displays at Promenade Park** — Light boxes were designed and hand-cut by staff using ideas of common winter scenes at park, **Nov.**

**24-Jan. 3**, Promenade Park, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 427-6000

**If I Were a Queen** — Exhibit features 20 of Susan Janow's drawings that she begins with an open hand-drawn grid, then meticulously fills in each shape with fine lines that resemble faintly moving curtains, **noon-5 p.m. Sundays; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursdays, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays, through Dec. 4**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, \$8-\$10, (260) 422-6467

**The National: Best Contemporary Photography 2022** — Photographers from across country push the boundaries of the medium with adventurous techniques and original subject matter, **noon-5 p.m. Sundays; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursdays, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays, through Jan. 8**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, \$8-\$10, (260) 422-6467

**Norman Rockwell: American Icon** — Browse works of painter and illustrator famous for *The Saturday Evening Post* covers, whose work reflected American culture, **5-8 p.m. Friday; 4-7 p.m. Saturday; and 1-4 p.m. Sunday, through Dec. 18**, Garrett Museum of Art, Garrett, \$5, (260) 704-5400

**Paintings Inspired by Big Sky Country** — Penny French-Deal exhibit with open house from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 10, **11 a.m.-3 p.m. Tuesday; 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Wednesday; 10 a.m.-2 p.m. and 5-8 p.m. Thursday-Friday; 10 a.m.-3 p.m. and 5-8 p.m. Saturday, through Jan. 21**, Joseph Decuis, Roanoke, free admission, (260) 672-1715

**Year of the Tiger** — Group show featuring 13 artists who submitted their work to juror based on the Tiger, the Chinese Zodiac for 2022, **11 a.m.-8 p.m. Wednesday, Friday; 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Thursday; and 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday through Dec. 31**, Bread & Circus Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, free admission, bccgallery2020@gmail.com

## ART EVENTS

**Artlink Curated Shop** — Shop small this holiday season as more than 15 local artists will have their wares for sale, **10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursday; 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday-Saturday; noon-5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 26-Dec. 11**, Artlink, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 424-7195

**Artlink Cup Exhibition & Sale Opening Reception** — Shop small this holiday season as more than 15 local artists will have their wares for sale, **11 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 26**, Artlink, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 424-7195

**Artlink Winter Market** — Shop small from 10 local vendors each Saturday and find one-of-a-kind gifts for yourself or a loved one, **10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 26, Dec. 3, and Dec. 10**, Artlink, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 424-7195

**ARTament** — Artlink and Fort Wayne Ballet present a holiday event and silent auction featuring artist-made ornaments, **6-8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 2**, Artlink, Fort Wayne, \$35, (260) 424-7195

**Art for the Holidays Open House** — Orchard Gallery of Fine Art will offer 10 percent off items, **10 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 3**, Orchard Gallery of Fine Art, Fort Wayne, free admission, (260) 432-0927

**Women's Winter Art Fair** — Sponsored by Sophia's Portfolio, local artists display jewelry, fabric art, Native American art, glass, pottery, photography, clothing, prints, cards, and mixed media, plus soups, breads, and other baked goods, **11 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3**, Beacon Heights Church of the Brethren, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 482-7402

**Art on Broadway** — Showcase of art galleries along corridor, which also has some eateries, **5-8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10**, Broadway corridor, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 705-2959

**Bread & Circus Holiday Sale at Slam City Skatepark** — Second annual event with 35 artist booths, silent auction, and DJ, with portion of proceeds going to Humane Fort Wayne Food Pantry, **5-10**

**p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11**, Slam City Skatepark, Fort Wayne, free, bccgallery2020@gmail.com

## CALL FOR ENTRIES

**Fort Wayne Artists Guild** — The local guild is seeking members looking to further their artistic knowledge, share work, and take part in local exhibits. All skill levels are accepted, you just must be 18 years old to join. For more information, go to [www.fortwayneartistsguild.org](http://www.fortwayneartistsguild.org)

## UPCOMING EXHIBITS

**Segmented Woodturning and Painting** — Segmented woodturning by K. Mark Waringer and pastel, oil, and collages by Diana Fair, opening reception 5:30-7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 2; **noon-5 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday or by appointment Friday, Dec. 2, through Sunday, Jan. 22**, First Presbyterian Gallery, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 426-7421

**USF Alumni/Faculty Exhibition** — Variety of works and media, with Goldfish Gallery presenting art of Rebecca Stockert, who holds a masters in studio art, artist reception 6-8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3, **9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday; and 1-5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 3-18**, USF Rolland Art Center, Fort Wayne, free admission, (260) 399-7000

**Art Farm Holiday Pop Up Gallery** — National and local artists with mediums that include ceramics, fiber, jewelry, mixed media, sculpture, printmaking, glass, and metal, **noon-6 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday, Dec. 3-Jan. 15**, The Art Farm, Spencerville, free admission, (260) 740-8725

**Papercutting** — Traditional papercutting artistry by Lou Hii and Janice Furtner, opening reception 5:30-7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 27; **noon-5 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday or by appointment Friday, Jan. 27, through Sunday, March 19**, First Presbyterian Gallery, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 426-7421

**Parish** — Painting, drawing, stitchery, weaving, sculpture, pottery, poetry, and more on display by members of the First Presbyterian community, opening reception 5:30-7 p.m. Friday, March 24; **noon-5 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday or by appointment Friday, March 24, through Sunday, May 21**, First Presbyterian Gallery, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 426-7421

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# Things To Do

LOCAL CALENDAR

## CURRENT

**Jamie Ward Book Signing** — Along with local vendors, author of 100 Things To Do in Indiana Before You Die will be available to sign her book during Days of Holly Shopping Kickoff, **10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 26**, Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 427-6440

**Bookmaking Workshop w/Hannah Burnworth** — First of four winter workshop series presented by Artlink will teach basic bookbinding skills and create a star book that can function as a small book, small sculpture, or ornament, **1-3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 26**, Artlink, Fort Wayne, \$35, (260) 424-7195

**Fort Wayne Record Show** — Thousands of records, CDs, tapes, and pieces of music memorabilia, along with storage supplies and vintage stereo gear, **11 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 27**, Classic Cafe, Fort Wayne, free, fortwaynerecordshow@gmail.com

**Beat Making for Girls** — Open to girls who want to learn the first steps to beat making by using Ableton Live, **7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 29**, Sweetwater Academy, Fort Wayne, \$10, (260) 407-3833

**Feltie Workshop w/Phil Rogers** — Learn basics of felting with humorous, no-stress project, **6-8 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 30**, Bread & Circus Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, \$45, bcgallery2020@gmail.com

**Headwaters Park Ice Skating** — Enjoy 20th season of ice skating at downtown park, **3-8 p.m. Monday-Thursday through Jan. 2; 3-8 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday, Jan. 3-Feb. 26; and noon-9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, noon-8 p.m., through Feb. 26**, Headwaters Park, Fort Wayne, \$4-\$6, (260) 427-6000

**Sweet Strings** — Cellists, uprights bassists, violists, and violinists of all ages, skill levels, and styles come together to jam, **6:30 p.m. first and second Wednesday of month**, Sweetwater Sound, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 432-8176

## FARMERS MARKETS

**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**, Parkview Field, Fort Wayne, contact@ftwaynesfarmersmarket.com

**Southside Farmers Market** — Fort Wayne's oldest, continuously operated farmers market features fresh produce, eggs, meats, baked goods, jewelry, tea, and a snack counter, **8 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays through Dec. 17**, 3300 Warsaw St., Fort Wayne

**Ylni Farmers Market** — Produce, baked goods, jewelry, honey, hayrides, **9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays through April 29**, The Olde East End Building, Fort Wayne, free, market@ylni.org

## MINOR LEAGUE SPORTS

### BASKETBALL

**Mad Ants**— Upcoming home games at Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne  
**Friday, Nov. 25**, vs. Iowa, **7 p.m.**  
**Saturday, Dec. 3**, vs. Windy City, **7 p.m.**  
**Monday, Dec. 5**, vs. Iowa, **7 p.m.**

### HOCKEY

**Komets** — Upcoming home games at Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne  
**Thursday, Nov. 24**, vs. Cincinnati, **7:30 p.m.**  
**Saturday, Nov. 26**, vs. Toledo, **7:30 p.m.**  
**Friday, Dec. 2**, vs. Wheeling, **8:00 p.m.**  
**Sunday, Dec. 4**, vs. Cincinnati, **5:00 p.m.**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### DECEMBER

**It's a Pearl World** — Explore and support local minority businesses, **3-5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3**, New Covenant Church, Fort Wayne, free, iotachio-mega@gmail.com

**Sandra Baker Brown Book Signing** — City author will sign copies and read excerpts from her debut novel, *Bridging the Mississippi*, **5 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 6**, Hyde Brothers, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 424-0197

## HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

**Blue Jacket Fantasy of Lights** — Annual tradition continues with 2-mile drive to see holiday-themed displays, **5:30-9:30 p.m. Sunday-Thursday and 5:30-10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday through Dec. 31**, Franke Park, Fort Wayne, \$10-20 per vehicle, (260) 744-1900

**Christmas in the Library** — Pick up a free book for the kids, plus cookies, hot chocolate, and celebration of the birth of Christ, **10 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday, Nov. 25**, downtown Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, free, christchildfestival@comcast.net

**Festival of Trees** — Embassy Theatre and Indiana Hotel lobbies transform into a wonderland of decorated trees in array of themes, with Santa on hand and entertainment on stage, **3-7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 24; 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Friday-Monday, Nov. 25-28; and 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 30**, Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$5-\$10, (260) 424-5665

**Dr. Seuss' The Grinch at The Embassy** — Historic downtown theater will screen 2018 Christmas story with Grinch voiced by Benedict Cumberbatch, **4 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 24**, Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$5-\$10, (260) 424-5665

**Breakfast With Santa (Sold Out)** — Annual event allows guests to have a meal with the Big Guy, **8:30 a.m. Friday-Saturday, Nov. 25-26**, Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$30, (260) 424-5665

**Festival of Gingerbread** — Annual tradition with tasty creations created by professionals and amateurs, **9 a.m.-8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, noon-5 p.m. Sunday, and 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Thursday, Nov. 25-Dec. 18**, The History Center, Fort Wayne, \$4-6, (260) 426-2882

**Berne Christmas Tree Lighting** — Carriage rides, pictures with Santa, and more will accompany lighting, **6:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 25**, Muensterberg Plaza, Berne, free, (260) 589-3139

**University of Saint Francis Art Bazaar** — Part of Downtown Fort Wayne's Days of Holly Shopping with art and artisan wares from Saint Francis students, alumni, faculty, and staff, **10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 26**, USF Robert Goldstine PAC, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 399-7700

**Sip and Shop** — Stop by Promenade Park Pavilion to shop for Riverfront merchandise, river and promenade-themed art from local vendors, and passes from neighboring parks, **11 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 26**, Promenade Park Pavilion, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 427-6000

**Santa Train (Sold Out)** — Annual tradition includes 20-minute ride on vintage diesel locomotive while enjoying treats and meeting Santa, **9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturdays and 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sundays, Nov. 26-Dec. 18**, Fort Wayne Historical Railroad Historical Society, New Haven, \$9, (260) 493-0765

**Artlink Winter Market** — Curated marketplace featuring the best in fine art, contemporary craft, and handmade goods, **10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturdays, Nov. 26-Dec. 3**, Artlink, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 424-7195

**Christmas at The Fort** — Learn how Christmas was celebrated here during the 1700s and 1800s while shopping handcraft gifts and baked goods, **11 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 26**, The Old Fort, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 437-2836

**Handprint Reindeer Puppet** — Make a reindeer puppet with your handprint, **noon-5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 26**, The History Center, Fort Wayne, \$5-7, (260) 426-2882

**Christmas in the City** — Event in the heart of Huntington will have pictures with Santa, storytime, craft, reindeer, and more, **3-6 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 26**, Downtown Huntington, free

**Reindeer at Jefferson Pointe** — Interact with reindeer before they set off on Santa's big night, **5-7 p.m. Saturdays, Nov. 26-Dec. 24**, Jefferson Pointe, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 459-1160

**Huntertown Woodworkers Craft Sale** — Dozens of local artists selling handmade crafts, **8 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday-Sunday, Dec. 2-4**, Huntertown Woodworks Club, Huntertown, free

**Holiday Fun** — Create crafts, play games, and enjoy some milk and cookies, **10-10:45 a.m. Friday, Dec. 2**, Community Center, Fort Wayne, \$14, (260) 427-6460

**Wild Zoo Wonderland** — Interact with farm animals, hear a story, give a stingray a treat, and visit with Santa, **10 a.m.-3 p.m. Friday-Sunday, Dec. 2-18; Monday-Thursday, Dec. 19-22**, Fort Wayne Children's Zoo, Fort Wayne, \$6-\$8, (260) 427-6800

**Brookside Tours** — Docent-led tours of decorated areas featuring creches; reservations required, **4-6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 2 and 9; and noon-5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 3-4 and 10-11**, University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne, donation, (260) 399-8030

**Kris Kringle Village** — German-style Christmas market with vendors, visits with Santa, singing, and dancing, **5-9 p.m. Friday, noon-9 p.m. Saturday, and noon-5 p.m. Sunday from Dec. 2-11**, Arts United Center, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 484-9646

**Le Chic Holiday Market** — More than 100 vendors in over 35,000 square feet of space, and there's a chance Santa stops by, **5-9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 2, and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3**, Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 355-5825

**North Pole Santa Stroll** — Eckhart Park is transformed into a seasonal display with lights, props, inflatables, and free photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus, **6-8 p.m. Friday-Sunday, Dec. 2-11**, Eckhart Park, Auburn, free, (260) 925-2997

**Cookies and Caroling with Santa** — Have picture taken with Santa, while also enjoying activities and some baked goods, **6:30-8:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 2**, Freemasons Hall, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 426-4728

**Christmas at Home w/Swinney Sisters Tea** — Settlers' Hearthstone Ensemble will provide music as Victorian-costumed Settlers invite you to celebrate the Christmas season with sweets, savories, and a pot of tea, **2-4 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 2-3**, Swinney Homestead, Fort Wayne, \$25, (260) 747-1501

**Wonderland of Lights** — Drive through holiday light displays, highlighted by synchronized light to music at the fire tower, **6-9 p.m. every day from Dec. 2-31**, Ouabache State Park, Bluffton, \$5 per vehicle, (260) 824-0926

**Breakfast with St. Nicholas** — Buffet breakfast, storytime, crafts, games, and a lesson about the saint that became basis for Santa Claus, **10 a.m.-noon Saturday, Dec. 3**, USF Performing Arts Center, Fort Wayne, \$6-\$10, (260) 399-8034

**Santa at History Center** — Let ol' Saint Nick know what you want for Christmas, **noon-5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3**, History Center, Fort Wayne, \$4-\$6, (260) 426-2882

**Hand-Printing Holiday Cards Workshop** — Class with Olivia Ulch combines upcycling and printmaking basics to create cards for loved ones and The Rescue Mission, **1-3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3**, Artlink, Fort Wayne, \$30, (260) 424-7195

**Fort Wayne Merry Makers Market** — Shop 36 area vendors with donation of new or gently used winter clothing and have pictures taken with Santa and Mrs. Claus from 4-5:30 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 3, **2-8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3; noon-6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4**, The Venue at Charlie's Place, Fort Wayne, donation, (260) 494-6905

**Lighting of the Lake and Living Nativity** — Blessing of luminaries followed by members of community portraying the Living Nativity, **5:30-7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4**, University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 399-8033

**Mistletoe Market** — Annual shopping event features more than 25 vendors at Sylvan Cellars Event Center, **5-9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 8**, Sylvan Centers, Rome City, free, (260) 854-9463

**Christmas at the Center** — Cookie decorating, crafts, storytime, carols, and a visit to the hot chocolate bar, **6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 9**, The Apple Tree Center, Kendallville, free, (260) 599-0207

**Avilla Fire Department Breakfast with Santa** — Enjoy pancakes and sausage while photographer is on hand to snap pictures with Santa, **8-11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 10**, Avilla Fire Department, Avilla, free, (260) 897-3295

**Breakfast with Santa Claus** — Following a pancake breakfast, children can create crafts and meet with Santa and Mrs. Claus, **8-11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 10**, New Haven Community Center, New Haven, \$4-\$7, (260) 749-2212

**Tippy Creek Winery Christmas Market** — Get some holiday shopping in while enjoying wine, soup, live music, and a visit from Santa, **11 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10**, Tippy Creek Winery, Leesburg, free, (574) 453-9003

**Create Holiday Cards** — Put your creative spin on cards to send to friends and family, **noon-5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10**, History Center, Fort Wayne, \$5-\$7, (260) 426-2882

**Froebel Star Workshop** — Choose from a handful of festive colors and create a dozen stars with help from instructor Joanne Schultz, **1-3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10**, Artlink, Fort Wayne, \$20, (260) 424-7195

**Winter Market: '80s Themed Ski Party** — Don your bright winter gear and visit local vendors, enjoy drinks and food, and listen to live music from Los Galaxy, **3-8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10**, 2Tom's Brewing Company, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 446-6246

**Snowflakes** — Create snowflakes you can use as decorations, **noon-5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11**, History Center, Fort Wayne, \$5-\$7, (260) 426-2882

**Holiday Dinner and Light Tour** — Following dinner at entertainment, board a bus to see the downtown Christmas light displays and Festival of Lights at Franke Park, reservations required by Dec. 5, **5:30-8:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 12**, Community Center, Fort Wayne, \$20, (260) 427-6460

**Anna & Elsa's Breakfast with Santa** — Fort Wayne Youtheatre's Breakfast in Arendelle includes meeting Frozen characters, music, crafts, and meeting Santa, **10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 17**, First Presbyterian Theater, Fort Wayne, \$30-\$35, (260) 424-4226

**Hanukkah Storytime & Craft** — The Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne kicks off Hanukkah, **11 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 18**, Orchard Crossing Barnes & Noble, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 268-1350

**Cookie Decorating Party** — Decorate your own gingerbread cookie, **noon-5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 18**, History Center, Fort Wayne, \$7-\$9, (260) 426-2882

**Mix-N-Mingle Jingle Luncheon** — Enjoy socializing and bingo for people 50 and older, register by Dec. 14, **noon Monday, Dec. 19**, Community Center, Fort Wayne, \$6, (260) 427-6460



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