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JUNE 23 • THE ECLECTIC ROOM

**NITA STRAUSS** / 13



JUNE 20-25 • ALLEN COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

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JUNE 24 • PARKVIEW FIELD

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EMBASSY ADOPTS LOCAL FESTIVAL WITH A SPLASH • STORY, PAGE 14





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9**

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**SEP  
17**

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& THE NOISEMAKERS

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**JULY  
25**

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A TRIBUTE TO QUEEN

Tribute / Classic Rock

**SEP  
22**

**BIG BAD VODOO DADDY**

Swing / Alternative

**JULY  
29**

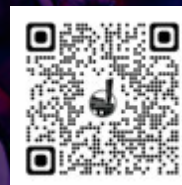
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## Calendar listings

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

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

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

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

## Advertising

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

# Familiar face back with Doobie Brothers

## Michael McDonald joins tour that will make stop at Coliseum on June 23

BY ANDREW MCNAIR

WHATZUP FEATURES WRITER

Look, the '70s were a weird time. Everywhere you turned, you could find odd pairings and strange combinations.

The decade started with Elvis in a hearty handshake with President Richard Nixon in the Oval Office. It ended with Elliot Gould, Peter Tosh, and Mick Jagger hosting *Saturday Night Live*. In the middle we were treated to *The Mike Douglas Show* presenting conversations with guests as diverse as John Lennon, Nixon, Truman Capote, Moe Howard, and Kiss.

But perhaps no matchup was so odd as the choice of The Doobie Brothers to bring their crossover appeal to the 1970's prime-time ABC comedy sitcom *What's Happening!!* for a thinly veiled PSA about the impacts of rock concert bootlegging. It's available on streaming services, and it's a charming bit of nostalgia.

The Doobies' affable characters shine through their lack of experience in delivering a script, but their staged performances in the episode remind you how solid their songwriting was. And Michael McDonald is shockingly youthful without a trace of gray hair.

This year, McDonald and the rest of the Brothers will likely bring more than just a little gray hair for their 50th Anniversary Tour at Memorial Coliseum on Friday, June 23. That's right, McDonald is back for the first time in a quarter of a century. He's bringing that distinctive voice, and he will definitely be taking it to the streets.

### CONTINUING TO CHURN OUT MUSIC

The band's songwriting chops have set the stage for dozens of accessible and familiar hits. Legions of their fans will tell you The Doobie Brothers are a solid addition to playlists for varying generations and tastes. Their sound has stretched and grown, but their roots always show.

"We're basically an American band. We cover a lot of areas," founder and songwriter Tom Johnston is quoted on the band's website. "We cover blues, R&B, country, bluegrass, and rock n' roll. It's based on rhythms, rhythm structures, picking, and harmonies. That's been the signature of the band."

The Doobie Brothers have a deep catalog to play from, but they're still always looking to push the envelope on their craft.

"We all have the same work ethic," multi-instrumentalist John McFee said. "Tom, Pat (Simmons), and I are still surging ahead. We've stayed together as friends as well as musicians. We are compelled to challenge ourselves. I mean, I love playing the old songs, but when we're working on new material now, I think we're coming up with



PHOTO BY CLAY PATRICK MCBRIDE

The Doobie Brothers will be at Memorial Coliseum on Friday, June 23.

## THE DOOBIE BROTHERS

8 p.m. Friday, June 23  
Memorial Coliseum  
4000 Parnell Ave., Fort Wayne  
\$49.50-\$69.50 · (260) 483-1111

better parts.

"The band has always been good, so it's kind of like we're competing with ourselves. But honestly, we're playing better than ever."

### HAND-ME-DOWNS

From humble beginnings in Northern California biker bars, The Doobie Brothers kept a family approach to their ensemble and have stuck together to become a touchstone for maturing fans to pass on to the next generation.

"We have a hard-core fan base that has handed our music down through the years to their children and their children's children," said founder and singer/guitarist Simmons. "Repeatedly, people go to our concerts and come up to us and say, 'My dad turned me on to you guys years ago, and I've loved you guys all this time, and my kids are listening to you now.'"

Whether it's in the percolating rhythm of

"Black Water," the jumping boogie of "Jesus Is Just Alright," or the gentle sadness of "What a Fool Believes," Doobie Brothers classics evoke a place in time that varies from listener to listener. Whether you tried to unravel the cryptic lyrics of "China Grove" on an FM radio when it first hit the charts, or your uncle dropped "Rockin' Down the Highway" into his road trip mix for the first drive in his new Camaro, that Doobies sound can snap you right back to that time.

### MADE-FOR-TV INTERVIEW

Circling back to the Doobies' appearance on *What's Happening!!*, the setup involved Raj trying to get an interview with the band for his school paper.

When your author took this assignment for *Whatzup*, it was with the tantalizing possibility of an interview with the band. Sadly, that was not to be. Raj got his scoop only because his impudent little sister, Dee, talked the band into answering a few questions.

Nobody can really and truly take you back in time to those nostalgic moments when all it takes is a sassy younger sibling to talk directly to the band, but nobody can draw those special memories out of you like the Doobies.



# Seinfeld coming to sold-out Embassy

Legendary comedian set to perform after 2020 postponement

BY ANTHONY GADSON  
WHATZUP EDITOR

The man behind the “show about nothing” has proved he is something of a big deal.

Breaking out during sets on *The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson*, comedian Jerry Seinfeld has not looked back.

Co-creating one of the top shows of all time, *Seinfeld*, with Larry David, he’s continued to perform his stand-up routine since the show came to a close in 1998.

The routine makes a stop at Embassy Theatre on Thursday, June 22. And if you don’t already have a ticket, you’re out of luck as it’s sold out.

## PROFESSIONAL CAREER

Based on his sold-out show, it’s clear that there isn’t too much that can be said about Seinfeld that you might not know.

The New York native began his professional comedy career in 1975. After making some cameos on television shows, his break came when he appeared on *The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson*. He did so well that he got what every stand-up comedian that came on



PHOTO BY MARK SELIGER

Jerry Seinfeld will perform to a sold-out Embassy Theatre audience on Thursday, June 22.

## JERRY SEINFELD

7 p.m. Thursday, June 22  
Embassy Theatre  
125 W. Jefferson Blvd., Fort Wayne  
Sold out

the show wanted: an invitation to sit next to Carson after his set. He went on to appear on the show numerous times, staking his claim as one of the premier comics in America.

With his star on the rise, he was given an opportunity to create his own show on NBC, *The Seinfeld Chronicles* in 1988. Joined by David, the show was renamed *Seinfeld*, but wasn’t a hit right away. After flirting with cancellation, it hit its stride and found its audience, becoming one of the top shows ever. During its nine-season run, Seinfeld was nominated for 68 Emmys, winning 10, plus three Golden Globes. It was also named the greatest television show of all time by *TV Guide* in 2009 and best sitcom in a 2012 poll conducted by *60 Minutes/Vanity Fair*.

After stepping away from *Seinfeld*, the comedian has stayed busy with charity work, comedy specials, books, and the hit *Comedians in Cars Getting Coffee*, which began as web series before being purchased by Netflix.

His deal with Netflix also saw *Seinfeld* move over to the streaming service, as well as two stand-up specials, including 2020’s *23 Hours To Kill*.

## BETTER LATE THAN NEVER

The June 22 show at the Embassy will be the second time he’s tried to appear since 2020. He was originally slated to perform on May 29, 2020, but, of course, the COVID-19 pandemic put an end to that idea.

He has performed at the Embassy numerous times, his most recent being in 2014.

If you were lucky enough to nab some tickets to the upcoming performance, than congratulations. For the rest of us, we might just be waiting to see him the next time he comes through the Summit City.

## Quick Hits LOCAL EVENTS

### BARKS & MEWS GALA

6 P.M. SATURDAY, JUNE 17  
PFW WALB STUDENT UNION

The Barks & Mews Gala will be Saturday, June 17, at Walb Student Union on the campus of Purdue Fort Wayne.

Presented by Fort Wayne Animal Care & Control, the event is \$75 with the money benefiting that organization’s Angel Fund, providing area animals with life-saving and critical medical care.

Take the opportunity to help animals with no place to go and have some fun at the same time with this ’70s-themed soiree, complete with a dance demonstration and lessons from the Fort Wayne Ballroom Club, dinner and drinks, a silent auction, and card pull. A selfie booth will help capture the night with that perfect picturesque pose. — *Chris Hupe*

### BLACKBERRY SMOKE

7 P.M. SATURDAY, JUNE 17  
SWEETWATER PAVILION

Atlanta’s Blackberry Smoke has forged their way through the music industry by doing things their own way and on their own terms.

The first independently released artist to hit No. 1 on the Billboard Country Album charts, the band continue touring in support of their seventh studio album, *You Hear Georgia*, released in 2021.

By playing Southern rock in the vein of Lynyrd Skynyrd and The Allman Brothers Band, Blackberry Smoke have made their name through good old-fashioned hard work and touring.

With a live presence that is rivaled by few, Blackberry Smoke will make the Sweetwater Performance Pavilion feel like it is south of the Mason-Dixon Line, if just for one night.

Find out what so many already know about this band when Blackberry Smoke stop in Fort Wayne on Saturday, June 17. — *Chris Hupe*

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50TH ANNIVERSARY SHOW

Saturday, June 24  
**RIPPLE: A MIDDLE WAVES HYPE EVENT** AT PARKVIEW FIELD

Sunday, June 25  
**OUR HOSPITALITY AND ONE WEEK**

WITH ORGANIST CLETUS GOENS

Saturday, July 8  
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CLASSIC OUTLAW COUNTRY

Wednesday, July 12  
**THE DEAD PICKERS SOCIETY**  
SUMMER NIGHTS SERIES

Sunday, July 16  
**THE TEN COMMANDMENTS**  
WITH ORGANIST CLARK WILSON

Wednesday, July 19  
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Wednesday, July 26  
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COURTESY PHOTOS

There will be multiple ways to celebrate Juneteenth on Saturday, June 17, be it at the Macknificent Freedom Fest at McMillen Park, left, or The Mack Fest at Fort Wayne Bishop Luers.



# Celebrate Juneteenth with two big local festivals

*Organizers urge unity with holiday marking end of slavery in US*

**BY ANTHONY GADSON**

WHATZUP EDITOR

It took until 2021 for Juneteenth, June 19, to become a federal holiday. Locally, it's been celebrated since the 1990s.

According to the Macknificent Freedom Fest's website, the celebration of the end of slavery began with the Pontiac Street Festival. The Harambee Street Festival followed at Pontiac before moving to Weisser Park, where annual gatherings took place until it shifted to McMillen Park in 2020.

"I used to go to Weisser Park, they used to have it there for years," said Macknificent executive chair Alle Wims. "Mr. (Adrian) Curry, Ms. Zynette Paige, and so many more were the ones that were doing that for years. And it was small. Now, especially since 2020 when everyone wanted to support the Black Lives movement, it has grown. The popularity of supporting Black people, honestly, is what kind of grew it."

Macknificent Freedom Fest has indeed grown, but it won't be the only one in town on Saturday, June 17. Former Bishop Luers football star Austin Mack has his own celebration, Mack Fest, at Luers, hosting all-star basketball games, vendors, and other activities.

"It really represents a time of freedom for us, our independence of a people that were taken from so much," said Mack, who went on to play football at Ohio State then the NFL, and recently signed with the Montreal Alouettes of the Canadian Football League. "For me to be able to come back and bring awareness to that, it means a lot."



**Adrian Curry holds the torch following the Keepers of the Light ceremony in 2021.**

## MACKNIFICENT FREEDOM FEST

Since moving to McMillen Park, Wims said the Juneteenth recognition has only grown,

"Each year, it's just getting stronger," she said. "This year is a little bit different just because we have a little bit more celebrations around the city. For the Macknificent Freedom Fest, we're sticking to the same goal of aligning, building, and crystallizing the community. It's about making sure everyone feels included and just having a great foundation so everyone can have a great time."

The festival actually begins back at Weisser Park at 10 a.m. with the ceremonial Keepers of the Light, where elders pass the torch to young leaders in the community.

## MACKNIFICENT FREEDOM FEST

1:30-6 p.m. Saturday, June 17

McMillen Park

3900 Hessen Cassel Road, Fort Wayne

Free · (260) 206-8437

"The reason we pass the torch is for those focused on carrying out the mission, it's to align everyone," Wims said. "It doesn't matter if you look like me. It's to align, build, and come together to have activities around the city. Yes, we have this one event, but, for us, it's a movement, a movement of bringing everyone together, eventually. It might not have happened last year. It might not happen this year, but we're putting in the effort. That continues to help us grow."

Following the ceremony, the Arts Learning Center Promenade marches along Oxford Street, beginning at 11:30 a.m. From there, the party gets going at McMillen from 1:30-6 p.m. with food, music, games, vendors, dancing, education, sports, a Human Library, and the Children's Corner.

"The Children's Corner in the past, they were good, but this year we're going to top it with some face-painting, snow cones, bubbles, and of course the bounce houses," Wims said. "We also have a carriage ride for them."

In the end, the celebration is about bringing folks together and raising awareness of the significance of Juneteenth.

"I think it's good that we have so much activity in the city," Wims said. "I know (the holiday) will evolve, but I'm not sure how it will evolve, except it will be positive."

## THE MACK FEST

Another activity that will be taking place is Mack Fest, which used to also be at McMillen Park. This year, it's moving to Bishop Luers

## THE MACK FEST

2-8 p.m. Saturday, June 17

Bishop Luers High School

333 E. Paulding Road, Fort Wayne

Free · themackfest@gmail.com

High School.

"I think people are going to enjoy the games more and appreciate it a lot more with it being indoors," Mack said.

Along with celebrating Juneteenth, The Mack Fest is also celebrating the state's basketball heritage.

"In 2020, my rookie year, I was with the (New York) Giants," Mack said. "I was able to experience (famed Harlem basketball court) Rucker Park and all the cool things about New York. In college, I did a lot of work giving back to the community and doing it in unique ways. Being from Indiana, Indiana is a basketball state. So my idea was, 'How can I bring Rucker Park to Fort Wayne?'"

What he formed was an all-star showcase of the city's top basketball talent. The festival will be from 2-8 p.m. with the showcase starting at 5 p.m.

"It was kind of a perfect way to set the event and also really highlight and educate about the new holiday," he said.

Along with the basketball, The Mack Fest will also have music, food, vendors, and its own Kids' Corner with face painting, drawings, and a bounce house.

Along with the fun, there will also be a \$1,000 scholarship awarded.

"We're really trying to create and build some stuff here," Mack said.

"I really want everyone to come out," he added. "It doesn't matter if you're from the north side or south side. Come enjoy this. Come be a part of the culture. It's something I want to keep building each year."



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# JUNE 23

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## Sevendust, Static-X returning to town

On Dec. 17, 1999, Piere's was jam-packed with rock fans eager to see buzzworthy acts **Sevendust**, **Static-X**, and **Dope**, a show that would leave many with their minds blown and stories to tell.

Who would have thought that more than 20 years later the same lineup would return to town?



### Out and About

NICK BRAUN

Instead of Piere's, the rockers will be at The Clyde this time around for 98.8FM The Bear's Growl-O-Ween show on Wednesday, Oct. 18.

For the first time since 1999, the three acts are hitting the road together for a 21-date fall U.S. tour dubbed the Machine Killer Tour.

Co-headliners Static-X and Sevendust will be promoting new albums on the jaunt, Static-X's *Project: Regeneration Vol. 2* and Sevendust's *Truth Killer*. Dope is also backing new material with *Blood Money Part Zero* having been released in February.

The three will be joined that evening by opener **Lines of Loyalty**.

Tickets go on sale Friday, June 16, at 10 a.m. Go to [clydetheatre.com](http://clydetheatre.com), call (800) 514-3849, or visit The Clyde box office or Sweetwater Sound.

Don't hesitate getting tickets that begin at just \$39.50 since this will be mayhem you won't want to miss!

### Loveseat! joining Beat Creeps at The Rail

The **Beat Creeps** out of Nashville, Tennessee, featuring Fort Wayne native **Nic Roulette**, return to town on Thursday, June 22, for a performance at The Brass Rail.

Featuring the Hillbilly Casino frontman, these cats pack a full arsenal of garage rock spirit and energy for a crowd-pleasing experience that must be witnessed. The Cramps, The Sonics, and The New York Dolls come to mind when describing their dark, raw, and dangerous sound.

The band recently signed with Idol Time Records and are hoping to have a record available at The Rail.

Showtime is scheduled for 8 p.m. with local standouts **Loveseat!** opening the show.

All this hoopla will set you back only \$7 at the door.

### Chapin family coming to Embassy

Embassy Theatre have announced **Harry Chapin at 80: A Retrospective featuring The Chapin Family Live in Concert** on Wednesday, Oct. 18, at 7:30 p.m.

Chapin was one of our most passionate, political, prolific, and inspiring songwriters who was taken from us way too soon in an automobile accident in 1981 at 38 years old. In December 2023, the Long Island native would have turned 80 years old, a milestone his family wants to celebrate.

The performance will include two generations of the Chapin family coming together to bring the songs of Harry to life. His brothers Tom and Steve Chapin, his nieces Abigail and Lily Chapin, and his daughter Jen Chapin are all award-winning musical artists with active careers and multiple recordings. The band also includes Big John Wallace and Howard Fields and together they perform Harry's classic songs, including "Cat's in the Cradle," "Taxi," "Mr. Tanner," and "Mail Order Annie."

Tickets are on sale now at [ticketmaster.com](http://ticketmaster.com) and the STAR Bank box office at the Embassy.

### 2Toms celebrating fifth anniversary

Grab your Hawaiian shirt, bust out a grass skirt, and toss on a lei as 2Toms Brewing Company hosts their fifth anniversary Luau on Saturday, July 29.

Come out from 2-8 p.m. to enjoy new barrel-aged beers and special releases. There will also be a beer garden full of guest brewery special taps, food by Brew Two Sixty, and live music by **Los Galaxy**.

### TRF stays local with musical acts

The Three Rivers Festival is getting closer by the day, and organizers recently announced the musical lineup, opting for acts closer to home than national.

"This year at the Three Rivers Festival, we really wanted to highlight musical talent that we have right here in Fort Wayne and the surrounding area," TRF Board President John Nichter said. "Our theme this year is United Through the Arts and by focusing on local talent we are promoting and building unity."

The festival gets underway on Friday, July 7, and the music begins the following night with **Good Night Grace** opening for **Who's Bad: The Ultimate Michael Jackson Experience**.

On Tuesday, July 11, **The Taj Maholics** open for **The Y's Guys**, followed by **Chris Worth**, **Ty Causey Band**, and **Music Lover's Lounge** on Thursday, July 13, **Off the Edge** and **Hubie Ashcraft Band** on Friday, July 14, and **Fort Wayne Funk Orchestra** and **Sweetwater All Stars** closing things out Saturday, July 15.

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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### 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 cones & \$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

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# Grab tickets for Broadway at Embassy

Embassy Theatre and Nederlander National Markets have announced their Broadway at the Embassy schedule for the 2023-24 season, which kicks off Oct. 25 with *Come From Away*.

"This will be a great Broadway season, one that Nederlander has carefully curated for our community and region," Embassy President and CEO Kelly Updike said in a release. "Patrons will be excited by the number of shows that range from beloved favorites to current hits."



## News and Venues

JEN POIRY PROUGH

Following *Come From Away*, the five-show series includes *Mean Girls* on Feb. 20, *The Simon & Garfunkel Story* on March 14, *Pretty Woman: The Musical* on April 13, and *Mamma Mia!* on May 28-29. Season add-ons include *Cirque Dreams Holiday* on Dec. 7 and *Stomp* on Jan. 21.

Subscription packages for the five shows are on sale for \$200 and can be purchased by going to [fwembassytheatre.org/broadway](https://fwembassytheatre.org/broadway), calling the STAR Box Office at (260) 424-5665, or visiting the box office in person.

## Science Central opens Habitat on Mars exhibit

Science Central has opened a new exhibit, Build a Human Habitat on Mars, which expands the footprint of the center's existing permanent exhibition Sun, Earth, Universe.

Build a Human Habitat on Mars is a hands-on exhibit designed to inspire, engage, and educate the next generation of explorers about the human exploration of Mars.

Featuring a construction platform and building bricks, visitors design their imaginary habitat for successfully living and working on Mars. The exhibit includes a set of challenge cards that detail some of the difficulties people may face when establishing an outpost on Mars. These cards are intended to help guide visitors' design decisions.

## Tick, Tick...Boom! at Arena Dinner Theatre

Arena Dinner Theatre presents Jonathan Larson's autobiographical musical *Tick, Tick...Boom!* each Friday and Saturday from June 16-July 1, as well as Sunday, June 25.

## Quick Hit LOCAL EVENT

### WABASS LIVE

7:30 P.M. FRIDAY, JUNE 16 • HONEYWELL CENTER

Honeywell Arts Academy is a unique full fellowship summer music institute held annually in Wabash.

One of the programs offered is Wabass, an intense educational program focused on the double bass. Now in its 16th year, students are set to perform what they have learned on Friday, June 16, at the Honeywell Center during an evening curated by faculty members.

There is no doubt audience members will be amazed as students show off world-class talent and musicianship during the night. After the performances, you may want to meet some of these budding stars at the meet and greet. — *Chris Hupe*

The musical tells the story of the Pulitzer- and Tony-winning composer of *Rent* and the sacrifices he made to achieve his big break in theater. Containing 14 songs, 10 characters, three actors, and a band, *Tick, Tick...Boom!* takes you on the playwright/composer's journey that led to a Broadway blockbuster.

Directed by Jake Wilhelm, tickets are \$45 which includes dinner. Get your ticket by going to [artstix.org](https://artstix.org).

## Rock the Plaza returns June 17

Get your lawn chairs and blankets ready as Rock the Plaza returns to the Allen County Public Library Plaza downtown Saturday, June 17.

Free live music will be performed every Saturday at 6 p.m. through July 29, beginning with The Mighty McGuiggans, Nate Shultz, Zen BBQ, and Los Galaxy.

Also on the schedule is Juniper Pass, Todd Staszak, Austin & The Avenue, and Phil Schurger's Sungate on June 24; Sum Morz, Maleena Felger, Chris Hambrick, and Alicia Pyle & The Locals on July 1; Middle Names, Next Gen Jammers, Frantic, and Whoa, Man! on July 8; Radio Replay, Tone Junkies, U.R.B., and Moser Woods on July 15; The Keystones, JJ & McRae, Jonah Leatherman, and Sunglasses at Night on July 22; and Hustle54, Mike Conley, Sam Trowbridge Band, and Phil's Family Lizard on July 29.

## Help dogs socialize at Pack Walk

Balanced Canine Academy will hold a Pack Walk at 7 a.m. on Saturday, June 17, at Franke Park.

A trainer will lead the walk, which is designed to help socialize dogs in a calm, structured way. The trainer will also answer questions about tips and tricks for training.

Bring any walking gear your dog requires as well as plenty of water. Time and day are subject to change depending on weather.

## Downtown fireworks display announced

The city of Fort Wayne has announced that their downtown fireworks will begin at 10 p.m. on Tuesday, July 4. Once again being fired off from atop the I&M Power Center, the event has become an annual tradition for families.

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).





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# Deer Park celebrating customers

If there ever was a bar that wasn't, it's Tony Henry's Deer Park Irish Pub. There is something pleasantly different about this place at the corner of Spring Street and Leesburg Road across from the University of Saint Francis.

"It's not a bar," Henry will politely correct you in his friendliest tone. "It's a pub."

Whatever it is, Henry has been its "owner/publican" the past 25 years, and they'll celebrate that anniversary June 24 from noon-10 p.m.

They'll do it with music, barbecue, raffles, and specially commissioned craft beers produced by brewers based in the 46808 ZIP code: Hop River, Junk Ditch, 2Toms, Dot & Line, and Fortlandia.

But what's not listed is three decades worth of friendships and memories.

For music, Jeff Bender will kick things off at 1 p.m., followed by Wal-drons at 2 p.m., Chris Hambrick at 3 p.m., Meka Schwartz at 4 p.m., Tony Norton & Kevin Smith at 5:15 p.m., String Theory at 6:30 p.m., and Humans Among Us at 8:30 p.m.

Henry labels Customer Appreciation Day as "a reunion of patrons, old employees, and old bands with lots of memories."

Henry has seen the highs and lows of life inside the walls of the Irish pub: parties, meetings, proposals, laughter, and sorrow. All this while serving only beer and wine, none of the hard stuff.

Voted the No. 1 Craft Beer Bar in Indiana in 2019, the neighborhood establishment is more like a ministry. At least that's what Henry will tell you if you corner him long enough to chat.

Years before taking the reins ... er, the taps at Deer Park, he was a chaplain for a group of nursing homes around Washington, D.C., after he completed graduate work at Catholic University.

Even his jump into the pub business sounds like a leap of faith. Henry had just returned to Fort Wayne to help one of his brothers in the juice vending business. Deer Park, a mom-and-pop watering hole, was one of his regular customers. When the owner fell gravely ill and was looking to sell, Henry's life changed course.

Beyond the boarded-up windows and under the

canopy of smoke thicker than London fog (this was before the city smoking ordinance) he saw something more in 1997.

Henry affectionately remembers it as a gaudy, dingy, shag-carpeted "den of iniquity." He cleaned it up, gave it some TLC, and put it in a polo shirt. Not long after rebranding it as an "Irish pub," the craft beer industry exploded. Soon it became a haven for brands like Sam Adams and Sierra Nevada. Now they boast more than 200 brews: craft, domestic, and import with Guinness and Smithwick's always on tap.

"We were the first to introduce craft beers in Fort Wayne and northeast Indiana," Henry said. "I'm convinced of that. We found that niche and never let go of it."

The fellowship flows as faithful have a place they can drop their defenses. There are authentic conversations and connections. As a result, the line between the sacred and the secular gets blurry, if not erased.

"There really should not be any separation," Henry said. "Here in our midst, we have small miracles that happen, that we celebrate."

## Crumbl Cookies opening 2nd location

Crumbl Cookies will celebrate the grand opening of their second Fort Wayne location on Friday, June 16.

Joining the Orchard Crossing location will be the North Fort Wayne spot at 433 Coliseum Blvd. W., next to Midwest Eye Consultants.

## Auburn library hosting Strawberries fundraiser

Eckhart Public Library in Auburn is hosting Strawberries by the Fountain on Thursday, June 22, from 5-8 p.m.

They'll be serving up strawberry shortcakes and fun at the library at 15th and South Van Buren. It's a fundraiser by the library benefiting youth programs.

Live music, face painting, and games. It's first come, first served until sold out.

## Icing for Izaac gets into island vibe

Icing for Izaac, 243 Airport North Office Park, is hosting a Princess Day on Saturday, June 24.

From 2:30-4:30 p.m., celebrate with Moana and Pacific vibes that will include Hawaiian treats, music, and attire.

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).

## The Club Room

At The Clyde

### LIVE MUSIC SCHEDULE

## MONDAY BLUES JAM SESSIONS

MONDAYS | 7PM

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

## Smooth TUESDAYS

TUESDAYS | 6PM

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

## WEDNESDAY JAZZ SESSIONS

WEDNESDAYS | 7PM

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

## NASHVILLE THURSDAYS

THURSDAYS | 7PM

The sounds of classic country, bluegrass, Americana & more

## FRIDAY NIGHT VIBES

FRIDAYS | 8PM

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SATURDAYS | 8PM

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## DAVE MASON

8 P.M. SATURDAY, JUNE 17  
THE CLYDE THEATRE

A founding member of rock legends Traffic, Rock and Roll Hall of Famer Dave Mason has played with some of the greatest musicians to ever play during his legendary career, including Paul McCartney, George Harrison, Eric Clapton, Jimi Hendrix, and Michael Jackson.

A long solo career followed his time with Traffic, and he has produced more than a dozen studio albums.

If that's not enough, Mason also enjoyed a stint in the equally legendary Fleetwood Mac in the mid-1990s.

At 76 years old, this guitarist still puts on an amazing live show with enough material to fill several weeks of performances if he wanted.

A legitimate living legend, catch Mason when he hits the stage of The Clyde Theatre on June 17 for a show that won't soon be forgotten. — *Chris Hupe*

## IN REVIEW CABARET

7:30 P.M. JUNE 16-17  
RKF STUDIOS

Help Indiana Musical Theatre Foundation celebrate 25 years of Fort Wayne Summer Music Theatre with *In Review Cabaret*, June 16-17 at RKF Studios, 2446 Lake Ave.

As the title indicates, this show, directed by Summer Theatre alum Aaron Hawley, features productions from the past brought back to the stage by current and former cast members. The result is sure to be a delightful night of nostalgia and entertainment for the whole family.

Stick around after the end of the show to enjoy a special sneak preview of *The Phantom of the Opera*, the next production from Summer Music Theatre, set for July 14-16 and July 21-23 at North Side High School. — *Chris Hupe*

# Max Wells' musical journey is only beginning

## Documenting life changes with work on trilogy

BY SHELBY PRICE  
WHATZUP FEATURES WRITER

This round's ALT Homegrown Spotlight shines on singer-songwriter Max Wells.

You can hear a Wells' interview with ALT's Zack Skyler at 7 p.m. on Thursday, June 15, and Sunday, June 18. You might also catch his music during ALT's Homegrown Showcase every Friday at 7 p.m.

### CREATING HIS OWN SOUND

Wells is a Fort Wayne native who recently moved back after spending a few years in Austin, Texas, and Los Angeles.

Finding his voice in alternative hip-hop, Wells has grown a name for himself. With two projects and multiple singles out, Wells talked to me about his journey.

"I've been into writing music/expressing myself via art since as long as I can remember, but I wasn't exposed to a studio or an actual recording process until I was an early teen," he said. "My mom got a MacBook computer, which is when taught myself how to use GarageBand, and I started putting out freestyles on Facebook and YouTube."

### CREATING A TRILOGY

Following his 2017 debut, *Now I'm Here*, his 2020 EP *caterpillAr*, set him on a journey.

"When I started *caterpillAr* in 2019, I had no idea it was the start



PHOTO BY KELSEY MARTIN

Max Wells is being featured in the ALT Homegrown Spotlight.

## ALT HOMEGROWN SPOTLIGHT

W/MAX WELLS

ALT 99.5FM, 102.3FM  
7 p.m. Thursday, June 15  
7 p.m. Sunday, June 18

of what eventually would become a trilogy ... all I knew is that it was created to mark the starting point of my true self-discovery as an artist/human.

"After *caterpillAr* dropped, my whole life shifted in so many ways. COVID took us all for a run, I was about to start a family. I was getting out of prior management agreements making me fully independent again.

"*chrysAlistic* then started as a random collection of demos I made while trying to explore different sounds," he added. "I really was just freely creating until I quickly learned that the topics

## MAX WELLS

w/SIRIUS BLVCK, MZMR

9 p.m. Friday, June 16  
The Brass Rail  
1121 Broadway, Fort Wayne  
\$8 · (260) 267-5303

I'd been writing about were very clearly demonstrating progressions from *caterpillAr*. So, if *caterpillAr* was the starting point of me accepting that I need to heal in order to grow, *chrysAlistic* was me finding what I need to do in order to actually make those changes."

So what can we expect next?

"The next and last part of the trilogy would represent me actually finding my wings and vividly transforming into who the world will remember me as," he said.

### TURNING TO THE INTERNET

Since returning to Fort Wayne,

Wells has been working at Sweetwater and on his sound.

"Since there was so little of a 'scene' here when I was starting off, I was forced to turn to the internet to gain a following that would actually make a 'music career' possible," he said. "So I guess it helped in a sense, because instead of being a small fish in a big lake, or even a big fish in a small lake and giving up, I learned very early on that maybe I just need to go to a different lake altogether."

"I think we are on definitely our way to growing a community that is actually encouraging to striving creatives, but I wouldn't say we're quite there yet. We need to keep bringing focus to the arts, getting the community involved, and giving the youth more incentive/opportunities to create and be included. I think the overall growth in the last couple of years is encouraging to anyone from here though. It's nice to see our city finally get some light shined on it."

He is definitely correct. It is so important to offer creative outlets for our community to continue bringing talented artists from a Midwestern town to ears all over the world. Wells is one just one example of the incredibly talented artists this town has to offer.

You can catch Wells at The Brass Rail on June 16 with Sirius Blvck and MZMR.

When asked if there is anything else he wants to let us know, Wells said, "I tried to change the world today."

This is his slogan to remind himself to try his best every day.



FRI., JUNE 16  
\$20-\$40  
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FRIDAY, JUNE 30 · \$15  
DOORS: 6PM · SHOW: 7PM



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SHOW: 7:30PM

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# Live Music

LOCAL CALENDAR

## THURSDAY, JUNE 15

**Alexander Craig w/Left Lane Cruiser** — Rock, 8:45 p.m., The Brass Rail, Fort Wayne, \$7, (260) 267-5303

**Cherry Bomb** — Rock, 6-9 p.m., Paige's Crossing, Columbia City, no cover, (260) 244-5757

**E5C4P3 w/Erin Coburn** — Blues rock, 6:45 p.m., BBQ Ribfest, Headwaters Park, Fort Wayne, \$3-\$6, (260) 427-6000

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

**Good Night Gracie** — 6 p.m., Union 12, Columbia City, \$8-\$50, (260) 203-0239

**Jazz Jam** — 7 p.m., Sweetwater Sound, Fort Wayne, Free, (260) 432-8176

**Josh Ayers** — Variety, 6:30 p.m., teds beerhall, Fort Wayne, no cover, (888) 260-0351

**Kelsey Lynn** — Hip-Hop, 7 p.m., Carl's Tavern, New Haven, \$15-\$20, (260) 749-9133

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

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

**Motor Folkers** — Classic rock, 7 p.m., Adams Lake Pub, Wolcottville, no cover, (260) 854-3463

**The Cold Hearts** — Country, 7-10 p.m., Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 747-0989

**OK Boomer Band** — Variety, 7 p.m., South Whitley Town Park, South Whitley, Free, (260) 723-5312

**Ron Rumbaugh** — Jazz, 7 p.m., Black Canyon Restaurant, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 203-5900

**Shannon Persinger & Eric Clancy** — Variety, 11:30 a.m., Freimann Square, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 427-6000

**The DeeBee's** — Variety, 7 p.m., Redwood Inn, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 426-7543

**Todd Harrold & Eric Clancy** — Jazz, 6 p.m., Sylvan Cellars, Rome City, no cover, (260) 854-9463

**Tronic Thursdays** — EDM, 10 p.m., O'Sullivan's, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 422-5896

## FRIDAY, JUNE 16

**Attaboy** — Alternative, 7:30 p.m., Fountain Park, Van Wert, Free, (419) 238-6722

**Black Stone Cherry** — Rock, 7:30 p.m., The Eclectic Room, Angola, \$25-\$35, (269) 625-8817

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

**Sweetwater All Stars** — R&B, 7-10 p.m., Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 747-0989

**Gregg Bender Trio** — Classic rock, 8:30 p.m., Deer Park Irish Pub, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 432-8966

**Freebird w/Scotty Bratcher, Hip Pocket** — Blues, 5:30 p.m., BBQ Ribfest, Headwaters Park, Fort Wayne, \$3-\$6, (260) 427-6000

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

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

**Kansas** — Rock, 7:30 p.m., Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$36-\$230.50, (260) 424-5665

**McKenna Parks** — Singer-songwriter, 7 p.m., teds beerhall, Fort Wayne, no cover, (888) 260-0351

**OK Boomer** — Classic rock, 7 p.m., Hop River Brewing Co., Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 739-3931

**Randara** — Variety, 6 p.m., The Porch Off Calhoun, Fort Wayne, Free

**Selwyn Birchwood** — Blues, 8 p.m., Baker Street Centre, Fort Wayne, \$20-\$40, (260) 426-6434

**Sirius Black w/Max Wells, MZMR** — Hip-hop, 9:45 p.m., The Brass Rail, Fort Wayne, \$8, (260) 267-5303

**Smoked Gouda** — Variety, 8-10 p.m., Trubble Public House, Roanoke, no cover, (260) 673-9056

**Susan Mae & The New Yesterday** — Variety, 8:30 p.m., Deer Park Irish Pub, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 432-8966

**Tara Renee** — Variety, 8-11 p.m., Thirty3, Hudson, (260) 818-6336

**The DeeBee's** — Variety, 8 p.m., Oakwood Resort, Syracuse, no cover, (574) 457-7100

**The Hwy 30 Band** — Rock, 7-10 p.m., Parlor City Plaza, Bluffton, no cover, (260) 820-1671

**Todd Harrold & Eric Clancy** — Jazz, 8 p.m., Trubble Brewing, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 267-6082

**Tom Koenig** — Acoustic, 6 p.m., Elks Lodge 1978, Auburn, no cover, (260) 925-2110

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

**Wabass Institute Performance** — 7:30 p.m., Honeywell Center, Wabash, (260) 563-1102

## SATURDAY, JUNE 17

**Alicia Pyle** — Jazz, 6-9 p.m., Deema Turkish Cuisine, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 209-2930

**Ally Venable Band w/Jimi Vincent Band, Set the Hook, Los Galaxy** — Blues, 12:30 p.m., BBQ Ribfest, Headwaters Park, Fort Wayne, \$3-\$6, (260) 427-6000

**Big Dick & The Penetrators** — Classic rock, 3 p.m., Escorts Motorcycle Club, Kimmell, \$5, (260) 635-1333

**BigMeow** — MTV '80s, 6-9 p.m., Recovery Cafe, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 908-3167

**Blackberry Smoke** — Southern rock, 7 p.m., Sweetwater Pavilion, Fort Wayne, \$32-\$75, (260) 432-8176 x1137

**Chapel Hart** — Country, 7:30 p.m., Niswonger PAC, Van Wert, \$19-\$49, (419) 238-6722

**Coop's Nightmare** — Alice Cooper tribute, 7 p.m., Piere's, Fort Wayne, \$10, (260) 492-6064

**Cosmic Kid** — Variety, 7 p.m., teds beerhall, Fort Wayne, no cover, (888) 260-0351

# Live Comedy

LOCAL CALENDAR

## THURSDAY, JUNE 15

**Jamie Kennedy** — 7:30 p.m., Summit City Comedy Club, Fort Wayne, \$20-\$33, (260) 844-8444

**Studi07 Open Mic Comedy** — 8:30 p.m., Studi07, Fort Wayne, Free, (260) 312-0964

## FRIDAY, JUNE 16

**Jamie Kennedy** — 7:30 p.m., Summit City Comedy Club, Fort Wayne, \$20-\$33, (260) 844-8444

## SATURDAY, JUNE 17

**Jamie Kennedy** — 7 p.m. and 9:45 p.m., Summit City Comedy Club, Fort Wayne, \$20-\$33, (260) 844-8444

**Michael Gardner w/Vixen Simone** — 8 p.m., Fort Wayne Comedy Club @ 469, New Haven, \$25-\$30, (260) 426-6339

## SUNDAY, JUNE 18

**Boozy Brunch w/Vik Pandya** — 2 p.m., Summit City Comedy Club, Fort Wayne, \$15-\$22, (260) 844-8444

**Eddie Pepitone** — 8 p.m., Let's Comedy, Piere's, Fort Wayne, \$20, (260) 492-6064

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

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21

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

## THURSDAY, JUNE 22

**Brittany Schmitt** — 7:30 p.m., Summit City Comedy Club, Fort Wayne, \$18-\$25, (260) 844-8444

**Jerry Seinfeld (Sold Out)** — 7 p.m., Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, (260) 424-5665

**Studi07 Open Mic Comedy** — 8:30 p.m., Studi07, Fort Wayne, Free, (260) 312-0964

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## Live Music LOCAL CALENDAR

► CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

**Country Junction** — Variety, 7:30 p.m., American Legion Post 296, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 456-2988

**Dave Mason** — Classic rock, 8 p.m., The Clyde Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$34.50, (260) 747-0989

**Good Night Gracie** — Variety, 8-11 p.m., Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 747-0989

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

**Jessie Mae w/Ever Easton** — 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Fort Wayne Farmers Market, Electric Works, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 439-3330

**Jimmy Whispers w/The Meat Flowers, Loomspore** — Alternative, 9:45 p.m., The Brass Rail, Fort Wayne, \$8, (260) 267-5303

**Los Galaxy w/Zen BBQ, Nate Shultz, The Mighty McGuiggans** — Variety, 6 p.m., Rock the Plaza, ACPL: Downtown, Fort Wayne, Free, (260) 421-1200

**Neon Straightjackets** — Alternative, 8 p.m., Paulding County Fairgrounds, Paulding, OH

**Red-Eye Lorelai** — Variety, 7 p.m., Louie's Bar & Grill, Syracuse, no cover, (574) 457-3944

**Rodney Atkins w/Matt Williams; Whoa, Man!** — Country, 7 p.m., Double H Farms, Hamilton, \$30-\$100, (260) 316-2098

**Set the Hook** — Classic rock, 3 p.m., BBQ Ribfest, Headwaters Park, Fort Wayne, Free, (260) 427-6000

**Set the Hook** — Variety, 3 p.m., BBQ Ribfest, Headwaters Park, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 427-6000

**Todd Harrold & Eric Clancy** — Jazz, 9 p.m., Rack & Helen's, New Haven, no cover, (260) 749-5396

**Tom Koenig** — Acoustic, 8 p.m., Club Paradise, Angola, no cover, (260) 833-7082

**West Central Quartet** — Jazz, 6:30 p.m., Club Soda, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 426-3442

### SUNDAY, JUNE 18

**Candlebox** — Rock, 7 p.m., Sweetwater Performance Pavilion, Fort Wayne, \$35, (260) 432-8176 x1137

**Fort Wayne All-Stars Blues Jam** — 1 p.m., BBQ Ribfest, Headwaters Park, Fort Wayne, \$3, (260) 427-6000

**Mike Conley** — Acoustic, 8 a.m., Tom's Donuts, Angola, Free, (260) 665-3632

**Todd Harrold Band** — Jazz, 5 p.m., Downtown Huntington, Huntington, no cover

### MONDAY, JUNE 19

**G-Money & Special Guests** — Blues, 7-10 p.m., Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 747-0989

**Open Mic Night** — 6:30 p.m., Sweetwater Sound, Fort Wayne, Free, (260) 432-8176

### TUESDAY, JUNE 20

**Chris Worth** — Vocalist, 2:30 p.m., Story Point Senior Living, Fort Wayne, no cover

**Faster Pussycat w/Jason Charles Miles, The Bites** — Rock, 7 p.m., Piere's, Fort Wayne, \$25, (260) 492-6064

**Open Mic w/JJ & McRae** — 7 p.m., Curly's Village Inn, Fort Wayne, Free, (260) 747-9964

**Lee Cook** — Classic hits, 6-9 p.m., Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 747-0989

### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21

**Left Lane Cruiser** — Variety, 7 p.m., Muddy River Concert Series, Promenade Park, Fort Wayne, Free

**Paradise** — Variety, 5:30 p.m., Union 12, Columbia City, no cover, (260) 203-0239

**The DeeBee's** — Variety, 6 p.m., Schnelker Park, New Haven, Free, (260) 749-2212

**Wednesday Jazz Sessions** — Jazz, 7-10 p.m., Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 747-0989

### THURSDAY, JUNE 22

**The Beat Creeps w/Loveseat!** — Rock, 8:45 p.m., The Brass Rail, Fort Wayne, \$7, (260) 267-5303

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

**Jordan Bridges** — Variety, 6:30 p.m., teds beerhall, Fort Wayne, no cover, (888) 260-0351

**Kody Bryant** — Variety, 6 a.m.-6 p.m., Paige's Crossing, Columbia City, no cover, (260) 244-5757

**Lacey Jane Band** — Classic hits, 11:30 a.m., Freimann Square, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 427-6000

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

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

**The Antones** — Country, 7-10 p.m., Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 747-0989

**StraitJack** — Country, 6 p.m., Monroeville Community Park, Monroeville, Free, (260) 615-3352

**The Rylie Lynn Band** — Country/Americana, 5 p.m., Ossian Health and Rehabilitation Center, Ossian, Free

### FRIDAY, JUNE 23

**Adam Strack** — Variety, 7 p.m., teds beerhall, Fort Wayne, no cover, (888) 260-0351

**Best Sleep w/Devin Hopwood, Bird-watch** — Alternative, 9 p.m., The Brass Rail, Fort Wayne, \$7, (260) 267-5303

**Chris Worth & Company** — Variety, 7 p.m., Elks Lodge 54, Lima, OH, no cover

**Dead Reckoning w/Dreams in Peril, 3130, Everfelt** — Rock, 8 p.m., Piere's, Fort Wayne, \$10-\$15, (260) 492-6064

**Demun Jones** — Country/Hip-Hop, 7 p.m., Piere's, Fort Wayne, \$20-\$49.50, (260) 492-6064

**Eliminator: ZZ Top Tribute Band** — ZZ Top tribute, 8 p.m., Kehoe Park, Bluffton, Free, (260) 824-1520

**Ty Causey** — R&B, 7-10 p.m., Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 747-0989

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

**Jessie Doyle and Carly Ingalls** — Variety, 5:30-10 p.m., Trubble Brewing, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 267-6082

**Joey O Band** — Rock, 7:30 p.m., DeKalb Outdoor Theater, Auburn, Free, (260) 952-2611

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

**Mark Mason** — Variety, 8-10 p.m., Trubble Public House, Roanoke, no cover, (260) 673-9056

**New York Voices** — Vocalese, 7:30 p.m., Heartland Sings, PFW Auer Performance Hall, Fort Wayne, \$25-\$30, (260) 481-4739

**Nita Strauss w/Lions at the Gate** — Rock, 7:30 p.m., The Eclectic Room, Angola, \$25-\$35, (269) 625-8817

**Aleena York** — Variety, 6 p.m., The Porch Off Calhoun, Fort Wayne, Free

**Set the Hook** — Variety, 6 p.m., Country Heritage Winery, LaOtto, no cover, (260) 637-2980

**Soundboard Institute Performance** — Variety, 7:30 p.m., Honeywell Arts & Entertainment, Eagles Theatre, Wabash, (260) 563-1102

**Splashes of Color: A Celebration of Jazz** — Heartland Sings, 7:30 p.m., Heartland Sings, PFW Auer Performance Hall, Fort Wayne, \$25-\$30, (260) 481-4739

**The Ark Band** — Reggae, 7:30 p.m., Van Wert Live, Fountain Park, Van Wert, OH, Free, (419) 238-6722

**The DeeBee's** — Variety, 6 p.m., Byler Lane Winery, Auburn, no cover, (260) 920-4377

**The Doobie Brothers** — Rock, 8 p.m., Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, (260) 483-1111

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# Get taste of new Nita Strauss album in Angola

*Multi-talented guitarist will be at Eclectic Room ahead of July 7 release*

BY CHRIS HUPE

WHATZUP FEATURES WRITER

Nita Strauss has no trouble keeping herself busy.

Largely known as the stellar guitarist for Alice Cooper, she stepped away from the legendary singer last year to back up Demi Lovato on her most recent tour. After her run with the pop singer, she has returned to Cooper.

Add to that her Body Shred fitness program, Rock Fundamentals guitar course, and recurring gigs for WWE and the Los Angeles Rams, and it would seem like it would be hard to find time to record a new solo album. Well, she did it, and it's everything she hoped it would be.

Strauss will show off some of the songs from that upcoming album, *The Call of the Void*, when she hits the stage at The Eclectic Room in Angola on Friday, June 23.

## GIVING ALBUM A VOICE

Strauss admitted in a recent *Whatzup* interview that *The Call of the Void*, set for release on July 7, was not an easy project to complete. But now that she has the final product in hand, she is very proud of the accomplishment.

"Making this album helped me learn and grow so much as a musician and songwriter, and I'm excited to finally unleash it on the world," she said of the album that will feature 11 songs with vocals, then each as instrumentals. "It's my first time working with vocalists, so it was really great to collaborate with some singers this time around and do something a little bit different."

Strauss said the album's title refers to something known as the "high-place phenomenon."

If you have ever been on top of a high building or on a ledge and had the thought of jumping, you have probably experienced "the call of the void," she said.

"It's not a suicidal impulse, it's actually the opposite of that, a subconscious decision to live your life. To step back from the ledge, and take control."

The first song off the album, "Dead Inside," with Disturbed vocalist David Draiman, reached No. 1 on the Billboard Mainstream Rock Chart, giving fans a taste of what she had in the works.

Strauss' previous album, 2018's *Controlled Chaos*, was an instrumental, so adding vocals this time around provided a different dynamic that gives the listener a fresh take on her music.

"It's definitely something we did consciously," she said. "There needed to be an evolution and a next step in the process. This



COURTESY PHOTO

**Nita Strauss will bring her Summer Storm Tour to The Eclectic Room in Angola on Friday, June 23, with opening acts Lions at the Gate, Zacara, and The Illegals.**

seemed like the natural progression."

Strauss said she really wanted to showcase a wide range of styles and different generations of musicians on this album. She achieved that by employing the likes of Anders Fridén of In Flames, Chris Motionless of Motionless in White, Lzzy Hale of Halestorm, Alissa White-Gluz from Arch Enemy, and even her own boss, Alice Cooper.

Cooper was all in on his contribution to the closer "Winner Takes All," Strauss said.

"It was great working with him and he did his thing completely," Strauss said. "We didn't want to tell Alice Cooper how to be Alice Cooper, and there was no intention of reinventing the wheel. He is, of course, a pro and took the idea, ran with it, and knocked it out of the park."

## SOCIAL MEDIA TO THE RESCUE

When Strauss, aka The Hurricane, brings the Summer Storm Tour to our area, she will need a vocalist on stage with her at times, a first in her solo career. This posed a problem: With so many different styles of music on her new album, how was she going to find someone who could handle all of the duties? That's where social media stepped in.

"I found the incredible Kasey Karlsen on TikTok," she said. "She is a bit of a TikTok celebrity, doing metal and rock covers, and has like a half a million followers."

Karlsen performs a wide range of styles in those TikTok clips and is truly a "vocal chameleon," Strauss said.

"She can sing 'boy songs,' she can sing 'girl songs,' she screams, she pig squeals, and she

## NITA STRAUSS

**W/LIONS AT THE GATE,  
ZACARA, THE ILLEGALS**

7:30 p.m. Friday, June 23

The Eclectic Room

310 Wendall Jacob Ave., Angola

\$25-\$35 · (269) 625-8817

can sing beautiful high cleans, so it was like finding a unicorn," she said. "I'm super grateful she's able to come on the road with me this summer."

## INTERACTING WITH FANS

One of the best things about her solo tours, Strauss said, is the chance to meet fans up close and personal. One of the ways she does that is by offering a VIP meet and greet that takes place before the shows.

A lot of bands do this as an additional income stream. Strauss' VIP experience does come at an added cost, but it is well worth the price.

"I like to go out to merch and meet fans after the show, but the VIP is one of the highlights of the day for me when I'm on tour," she said. "It gives me such a unique experience to get close to people. We do a long Q-&A before the actual meet and greet part of it and I get to answer questions in depth. We take our time and do it right and make sure everybody has a great experience. I love any chance I get to connect with the people that are coming to see me."

Regardless of whether you attend the VIP session or just choose to experience the live show that features Lions at the Gate, Zacara, and local act The Illegals as support, Strauss wants you to know you will not be disappointed.

"It's going to be a high-energy, high-octane tour," she said. "We have a lot of surprises in store for the show, and we will be playing a lot of these vocal songs for the first time ever."

"I've always felt Indiana is a great home for us between coming to Sweetwater and Fort Wayne and coming to Angola. I think I've been in Indiana on every single solo tour I've ever done, so I can't wait to come back."

It's been a whirlwind of a year for Strauss, but she seems to take it all in stride as she continues touring with Cooper and promoting her new album.

While being a guitar hero may seem glamorous, it can sometimes be taxing, too, since free time can be hard to find.

"Anytime I get overwhelmed or feel like I don't want to wake up early and get on a plane or do interviews, I think about the guitar player that worked all those years to get to that moment," Strauss said. "Would that guitar player turn down a 4 a.m. flight to play at an NFL game or a chance to get up early to talk to a magazine in Sweden? Of course not."



# Artists, fans get hyped for Middle Waves event

## Will be 1-day festival at Parkview Field as Embassy takes over

BY SHELBY PRICE  
WHATZUP FEATURES WRITER

This year in Fort Wayne, Middle Waves is looking a little different.

With this festival being built in a smaller city than let's say Chicago, keeping up with the larger festivals can prove to be complicated. With an awesome turnout in 2022 at the Foellinger Theatre campus and lot of excitement for this year's announcement, Middle Waves turned to Embassy Theatre to take the festival to new levels.

While the transition of the Embassy taking over leadership of the festival continues, Middle Waves announced a "hype event" called Ripple, set for Saturday, June 24, at Parkview Field. The lineup includes local acts Mic Strong and The Namby Pamby and national acts DuPont Brass, Vundabar, and headliner Soccer Mommy.

### MAINTAINING FESTIVAL ATMOSPHERE AT HOME

So, what does all this mean for the future of Middle Waves? Well, it means the Embassy will be taking on the festival moving forward.

"The Embassy recognized how important Middle Waves was for its growing audience," Embassy President and CEO Kelly Updike said in a statement. "Providing something of this magnitude in Fort Wayne, rather than asking our residents to drive a minimum of two to four hours away to seek a 'festival experience,' helps us have an even more direct hand in helping Fort Wayne become a music city."

When I moved to Fort Wayne, I got the chance to attend Middle Waves in 2022 and I have to say, I was super-impressed with how many different genres, people, and activities this event brought out. With a completely free section to see local acts, along with games, activities, and a children's section, there also was a VVIP option that offered a private lounge and bar, as well as a ton of photo opportunities to post on your Instagram. The concert itself was very fun and featured a ton of incredible bands such as Young the Giant.

### HEADLINER IS STAYING BUSY

The legal transfer of the festival will be this summer. This means that the next Middle Waves event will be in the summer of 2024.

In the meantime, Ripple has a lot to offer, including two stages, a VIP option, and a VVIP option. VVIP offers an air-conditioned building with a rooftop patio, private bar, and prime seating for the event. The VIP option offers the same perks minus the rooftop.

This year's headliner is indie rock artist



PHOTO BY DANIEL TOPETE

Indie rock artist Soccer Mommy will headline Ripple: A Middle Waves Hype Event at Parkview Field on Saturday, June 24.



PHOTO BY WILLIAM SMITH

Local hip-hop artist Mic Strong will perform at Ripple.

Soccer Mommy. Amassing 1.2 million monthly listeners on Spotify, she will bring out an ecstatic crowd of her own.

Releasing *Sometimes, Forever* in 2022, Soccer Mommy has been hard at work. Besides doing a multitude of festivals, she will be joining Maggie Rogers on her Summer of '23 tour.

Soccer Mommy just finished traveling internationally. I am very stoked to see such a talented woman take Fort Wayne under her own wings for Ripple.

### LOCAL ACT ADDS ANOTHER ACCOLADE

Alongside Soccer Mommy, I spoke with one of the bands featured this year, The Namby Pamby.

Consisting of sisters, McKenna and Emily Parks, as well as one of their best friends



PHOTO BY CALEB NORTH

The Namby Pamby will add to their eventful year with their Ripple performance.

Payton Knerr, The Namby Pamby are an artistic folk band with vibrant storytelling abilities.

They describe themselves as "a feminine folk phenomenon that is emotionally driven, and often defined by nuanced vocals, experimental chords, and jazz-like drumming that orbit arresting lyrics."

"A shared small-town Indiana charm channels into each nearly tangible story, unionizing their individual musicianship and permitting a continuous expansion on their inimitable style."

Beginning in late 2021, the band has wasted no time leaving their mark on the local music scene, including with their debut album, *Marketplace*, in November.

"After just over a year's worth of local

## RIPPLE: A MIDDLE WAVES HYPE EVENT

Saturday, June 24

### SCHEDULE

#### Main Stage

5 p.m.: The Namby Pamby

7 p.m.: Vundabar

9:15 p.m.: Soccer Mommy

#### Amphitheatre Stage

6 p.m.: DuPont Brass

8:30 p.m.: Mic Strong

Parkview Field

1301 Ewing St., Fort Wayne

\$25-\$75 · (260) 424-5665

performances, our debut record, and very first tour, we were honored to be contacted by The Embassy's talent buyer for Middle Waves' Ripple event," the band said in an email response.

With this being the first year for this event, the excitement for this year and what is to come in future ones is quite high.

"We are most looking forward to sharing this first experience, for both the event and ourselves, with our hometown," the trio said. "Fort Wayne has played a major role in The Namby Pamby's growth, especially in the short amount of time we have been creating together. We are very thankful for the opportunity to share a stage with such admirable musicians Soccer Mommy and members of Vundabar for an audience full of our community."

"We cannot wait to see this festival's development as The Embassy pours into Middle Waves! Fort Wayne is full of hard-working performers; we are eager to see music become a greater part of the city."

"Along with tracks from our debut record, *Marketplace*, we will be sharing songs from the album we are currently working on," they added. "We are welcoming the audience with a very warm, intimate performance at this year's Ripple."

### ECLECTIC GROUP FROM NATION'S CAPITAL

I also got to speak with DuPont Brass, a horn-driven supergroup based in the D.C. Metropolitan area.

"We are a 10-piece band consisting of vocalists, producers, horns, and a rhythm section. Our sound is a mix of hip-hop, jazz, R&B, gospel, and blues that we call 'eclectic soul,'" said Jared Bailey, marketing director for DuPont Brass.

They are excited to be a part of this event.

"We're most looking forward to experiencing the music and entertainment scene in Indiana," Bailey said. "This is our first time performing in the state, which is really exciting for us. This initial event is already a huge deal. We're happy to be able to contribute this first go 'round and excited to see Ripple grow moving forward."



# Greek Fest has way to leave you with a smile

*Holy Trinity invites you to Headwaters Park for food, music, dancing*

**BY WHEAT WILLIAMS**  
WHATZUP FEATURES WRITER

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church is once again presenting Fort Wayne Greek Fest, their four-day family-friendly community gathering for Greek food and entertainment, under the pavilion at Headwaters Park.

Hours for the annual event are 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, June 22-24, and 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, June 25. Admission is free Thursday-Saturday until 4 p.m., and \$5 after those hours for those 17 and older. Admission is free all day Sunday.

## WHAT'S ON THE MENU?

The food, prepared by members of the church, is the main attraction. These days, there aren't many restaurants that specialize in traditional Greek cuisine in Fort Wayne, so lots of folks look forward to Greek Fest each year to get that taste of home.

Dinner entrees range from \$9-\$18 and include gyros, lamb and beef wrapped in pita bread; roasted lamb shank; pork and chicken souvlaki skewers; pastichio, or Greek beef lasagna; moussaka, ground beef, eggplant, and potato; spanakopita, chopped spinach and cheese wrapped in filo dough; tiopita, cheese in filo dough; and, of course, Greek salad with feta, kalamata olives, and Greek dressing.

Over at the pastries booth, you can find baklava, the ever-popular dessert made with filo crust, walnuts, butter, and honey; katafi, like baklava with cinnamon and cloves; karidopita, spiced walnut cake; koulourakia, butter cookies for dipping in coffee; kourabeides, butter cookies with pecans; melomakarona, orange-flavored spice cookies; paximadia, biscotti for coffee; and tsoureki, sweet bread.

An ice cream booth will sell loukoumades, doughnut holes with syrup; baklava sundae; soft-serve ice cream; Greek coffee; and slushies and soft drinks

The Taverna, the adult beverage area, will be serving saganaki, cheese doused with



COURTESY PHOTOS

Traditional dances are always at hit at Fort Wayne Greek Fest. The cultural event returns to Headwaters Park from Thursday through Sunday, June 22-25.



It's hard to attend a Greek festival without trying some baklava.

brandy and set aflame. They will also serve Greek beer and wine, domestic beer and wine, and hard seltzer.

You can order delivery from the festival to you by contacting Waiter on the Way, at [fortwayne.waiterontheway.biz](http://fortwayne.waiterontheway.biz) or by calling (260) 442-3663.



A volunteer shaves some meat for a gyro at last year's festival.

culture and food.

The event kicks off at 11 a.m. Thursday, June 22, with a blessing in Greek and English from Father Cosmin Sicoe, Holy Trinity's priest. Then it's on to four days of food, music, and dancing.

Holy Trinity has a number of traditional dance groups in colorful native costume, starting with the Kala Paidia for young children, moving up to the Meraklides and the Omega groups for the grownups. They are all under the direction of Stella Skembos, and the whole troupe is called the Triada Dancers.

"One of the most important aspects of the festival is the food, but I would actually say the dancing is almost as important," Makridakis said. "Greeks, they tend to articulate or show their emotions through dance. That's why if you watch a lot of the dances, they have meaning behind them."

"I'm biased, of course," he added cheerfully. "But I do think it's the best family festival there is around. Everything's done by the volunteers."

"We have the food under the pavilion, the music, the dancing. You've got pastries and cookies like crazy all over. You've got ice cream."

"It's one of the highlights of everybody's day. You've got a little bar area for adults to get Greek wine, Greek beer. You've got different things for kids and it's all under the pavilion. It's a nice secure area where our kids can run around essentially free to do whatever they want. We have security there."

"You can come down, you can get lunch, you can listen to music, dance, get yourself some treats, cookies, a sundae, ice cream, have a drink. You could actually go out, play in the park, come back in and it's time for dinner again."

"I tell everybody, you come to the festival, if you don't leave smiling, come see me," he said. "There's no way you can come down here and spend a little bit of time without being in a great mood."

## FORT WAYNE GREEK FEST

11 a.m.-11 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, June 22-24

11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, June 25

Headwaters Park

333 S. Clinton St., Fort Wayne

\$5 after 4 p.m. • (260) 341-4458

Live music will be provided all four days by a group from Ohio called Lazarus that performs on traditional Greek acoustic instruments.

A vendor named Buy Greek Art will sell T-shirts, jewelry, pottery, statuettes, and other Greek-themed items.

Church members will provide activities for children as well.

## A WORD FROM YOUR HOSTS

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church was founded in Fort Wayne in 1960. Frank Makridakis, the spokesperson for the event, is the son of immigrants who came to the U.S. in 1967. He is always excited about the church's outreach to the community, sharing Greek



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PHOTO BY ONE LUCKY GUITAR

The heart of the Allen County Fair is 4-H youths displaying their hard work of the previous year.

## County fair moves to early summer

*Now held in June  
to steer clear of  
Indiana State Fair*

BY ANTHONY GADSON  
WHATZUP EDITOR

If it feels like the Allen County Fair is approaching sooner than it used to, there's good reason. That's because it is.

"We had to move because there was an overlap with the Indiana State Fair," said Michelle Love, a member of the Allen County Fair's executive board of directors. "The state fair, two years ago, chose to move up, so we just had an overlap with our shows. Projects were having to leave our show early. We worked alongside the extension office and 4-H to solve that problem, and the best was moving to June."

Historically slated for the latter part of July, this year's fair will be June 20-25.

"Anytime you make a big change like that, it's a lot for people to adjust to, but actually people have just been really excited about the change," Love said. "They're looking forward to hopefully milder weather, and it's just a fun way to kick off the summer."

### OLD FAVORITES

The dates may have changed, but many of the events have not.

You'll still have your 4-H animals to check out, carnival rides to enjoy, and food to devour. There will also be pie-baking contests, pedal



The Hot Air Balloon Fly Out and Glow will be Thursday, June 22.

### ALLEN COUNTY FAIR

8 a.m.-10 p.m. Tuesday-Wednesday, June 20-21  
9 a.m.-10 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, June 22-24  
9 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, June 25  
Allen County Fairgrounds  
2726 Carroll Road, Fort Wayne  
\$5-\$10 • (260) 449-4444

car races, monster truck rides, the crowning of Little Miss Allen County on Tuesday, June 20, the Hot Air Balloon Fly Out and Glow on June 22, truck pulls on June 23, and demolition derbies on June 23 and June 24.

"All those favorites are right there in place," Love said.

There will also be a returning favorite. The rodeo returns after about a decade off with bull riding, barrel races, roping, and more events.

"It's going to be really exciting," Love said of the rodeo, set for 7:30 p.m. on June 20. "It's just something that hasn't been quite feasible for us. It is an expensive venture,

but we've worked really hard to get a lot of community support and sponsors in order to bring a full-fledged rodeo."

### WORTH PRICE OF ADMISSION

Most events are free with your admission, which is \$10 on Thursday-Saturday and \$5 on Tuesday and Sunday. And if you're looking for an even better deal on Sunday, active service members and veterans get in free as do those who bring in five non-perishable food items.

Regardless of the fee to enter, attending the county fair differentiates from other festivals with its wide appeal.

"We try to remind people that our fair is all-encompassing," Love said. "It's kind of all about that nostalgia and that county fair feeling. It's kind of different from the other fairs you might go to around the area. We combine that 4-H element, but have other things like kiddie tractor pulls and pedal-car races."

For a full schedule of events at this year's Allen County Fair, go to [allencountyfairgrounds.in.com](http://allencountyfairgrounds.in.com).



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### ALBUM OF THE WEEK



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WEEK ENDING JUNE 11, 2023

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- 2 — EXTREME  
Six
- 3 1 AVENGED SEVENFOLD  
Life Is But a Dream ...
- 4 2 FOO FIGHTERS  
But Here We Are
- 5 8 RIVAL SONS  
Darkfighter
- 6 6 JELLY ROLL  
Whitsitt Chapel
- 7 5 BEN FOLDS  
What Matters Most
- 8 — JENNY LEWIS  
Joy'All
- 9 — YOUTH LAGOON  
Heaven Is a Junkyard
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Fort Wayne musician Mark Linehan makes music connected to emotion and experience.

A multi-instrumentalist that plays 12-string guitar, flute, and cello, Linehan writes intimate songs about love, faith, and redemption in an almost baroque pop quality. It's bedroom classical that emanates a light and life that you can feel in the songs.

When Linehan isn't playing dinners, wine tastings, weddings, art shows, and special events, he's writing and recording songs on his own. On his latest EP, *Songs Everyone Will Hear*, he gives us seven beautifully constructed light classical/baroque pop songs that run the gamut from folksy tracks and earthy pop tunes that will put a smile on the face of the most curmudgeon of listeners.

*Songs Everyone Will Hear* doesn't waste time with excess or extended cuts. Linehan may be classically trained but knows the value of grabbing the listener's attention. The songs are tight and wonderfully to the point. "My Fine Day" opens with an almost Blind Faith feel, with a "Can't Find My Way Home" vibe. Linehan sings in harmonies quite nicely, building a perfectly content and warm mood. "What You Do" builds on '80s pop configurations, touches of the Heartbreakers, The Hooters, and Adrian Belew's underrated power pop band The Bears.

Elsewhere, "Stories" brings to mind solo Lindsey Buckingham with interesting production and vocal ideas. I'm also reminded of underground experimental musician Carl Weingarten and his early '80s band Delay Tactics. Linehan's writing chops are just left of center, giving the music here an interesting art rock lean. "Round and Round" sadly isn't an acoustic cover of '80s hair metal band Ratt, but despite that it's an engaging and jangly track. Album closer "American Eagle" is a gorgeous, finger-picked guitar track that emanates a kind of woozy positivity.

Linehan's *Songs Everyone Will Hear* is a wonderfully eclectic collection of 12-string-led tracks that put a spotlight on the songwriter and his wonderfully eccentric song world. — J. Hubner

### Tanya Tucker

#### *Sweet Western Sound*

There's a natural fit between traditional country music and musings over life's more difficult questions, like what do you do at the end of it? So it's no surprise that country legends who are getting on in years spend a lot of time singing about coming to the end of their days. That's what Tanya Tucker did on 2019's *While I'm Livin'*, and she's still doing it on her new album, *Sweet Western Sound*.



The album kicks off with a message left on Tucker's voicemail by Billy Joe Shaver, in which Shaver literally sings Tucker's praises. Like the sentiment of the title track of Tucker's previous album, it's an ahead-of-its-time eulogy for a singer who's still quite alive. The idea of being prepared to check out of this mortal life continues on songs such as "Ready As I'll Never Be" and "When the Rodeo Is Over (Where Does the Cowboy Go?)." Tucker even brings other legends into it with "Letter to Linda," a tribute to Linda Ronstadt (who is also still with us).

Tucker, who got her career rolling with the hit "Delta Dawn" at just 13 years old, is not all that old at just 64. So all this gazing at life's twilight can seem a little labored at times.

But then we get back to that natural fit thing. With Tucker's weathered voice and the edgy melancholy of the album's trad country songs, it doesn't feel as if she should be singing about anything else.

Maybe with her next album, she should start thinking about something more upbeat, but for now, *Sweet Western Sound* hits just right. — Evan Gillespie

### Ben Folds

#### *What Matters Most*

Ben Folds Five were one of those bands that you either loved or loathed. There really wasn't an "ehh, they're not bad" category. They hit at just the right time for me. Their cabaret-meets-punk rock-meets-power pop mashup made the '90s bearable, eliciting something close to earnestness in a sea of indifference — that is, in-between songs about black T-shirts and unwanted pregnancies.

As a solo artist, Ben Folds was the same. If you dug BFF, then you enjoyed what he had to offer as a solo singer/songwriter. If anything, Folds has been consistent as a solo artist, churning out decent albums with piano-driven pop songs with sometimes acerbic and sometimes genuinely heartfelt lyrics.

On *What Matters Most*, Folds continues to do his thing, which is write piano-heavy pop songs in a storyteller, character-driven fashion with relative ease.

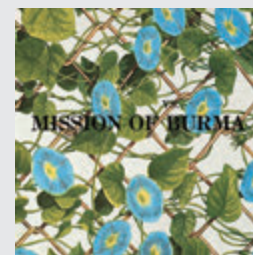
Ben Folds has the compositional and melodic chops of Joe Jackson while lyrically he's more in line with Warren Zevon. A good example of that would be "Kristine From 7th Grade," a waltz-style ballad about a girl the narrator knew in middle school who is now an unhinged character sending him messages. Lush piano and string arrangements carry a kind of nasty song about messages in all caps and far out political beliefs. That's been Folds' M.O. since Day One: beautiful songs and melodies for songs about odd characters and bizarre tales of life.

Album opener "But Wait, There's More" has buzzing electronics that sounds like a Lite Brite flashing in the dark on its own. Jazz-heavy harmonies bring the song to a new level, which then



## Backtracks CLASSIC ALBUMS

### Mission of Burma Vs. (1982)



The debut from Mission of Burma came out in the late fall of my senior year in high school, and I was immediately hooked. Although not considered radio-friendly, it was one of those cassettes that worked in the car, driving round, looking for ways to get into trouble. It's still one of their best albums.

Vs. opens with "Secrets," a trippy guitar-driven number with nice changes and percussion that received some airplay on college radio back in the day. Somewhat boisterous, it has a fat bass that drives the song around for just over three minutes.

"Train" rattles around at under four minutes and resembles a cleaner Joy Division (or more abstract R.E.M.) and "Trem Two" drips with early '80s indie-rock again guided by Clint Conley's subtle bass line. One of my favorites, "Dead Pool," still sounds fresh 40 years later, and I would put it up against any lo-fi from the last 20 years.

Side Two continues the artsy-indie rock feel with "Mica." A track that crawls around like it wants to feel like punk rock, but intentionally misses to capture more garage-rock vibe as it slithers into "Weatherbox." This is sort of a punk rock track as well and resembles a less artsy Pere Ubu in its peculiar arrangement.

The two-minute brain-shaker "Ballad of Johnny Burma" continues the punk vein but hits the lower shoe-gaze tempo in "Einstein's Day."

Again, this is one of those records that aged very well and listening to it now reminds me of a time when bands produced albums full of music that took you on a ride for almost 40 minutes without caring about views or downloads. The LP has a specific order to it, and it works. — Dennis Donahue

goes into Billy Joel territory once the drums kick in.

*What Matters Most* is 10 songs locked into middle-of-the-road tempos and pretty, tinkling melodies, from the beautiful "Clouds With Ellipses" to the uplifting '70s radio pop of "Winslow Gardens" to the contemplative album closer "Moments" that goes into Lumineers territory.

I lost track of Folds after 2001, but it feels good to know he's still putting out good albums and hasn't lost his knack for melody and storied lyricism. — J. Hubner

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



## THIS WEEK ON ALT FORT WAYNE



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

**JUNE 15 AND 18:**

**Max Wells**

**JUNE 22, 25, & 29, AND JULY 2:**

**Jae the Band**



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**



# DC story gets convoluted in a flash

Arriving with not-so-lightning speed toward the end of the DC Extended Universe's cinematic run, *The Flash* is a project that's technically been in the works since the 1980s and is finally bolting into theaters.

Based around the lauded Flashpoint comic book storyline, the movie's narrative integrates time travel and multiverses in ways that should be inspired, but ultimately end up just creating a confusing mess. Even if one goes into the film with knowledge of the myriad storylines from this universe, along with general knowledge from other superhero lore, there's a good chance you will have issues keeping up with the leaps in continuity and logic this film makes. Despite some winning performances and some of the most consistent humor in a DCEU entry,



**Reel Views**

BRENT LEUTHOLD

*The Flash* is too little, too late.

*The Flash* opens with Barry Allen (Ezra Miller), now a full-time member of the Justice League as The Flash, in the midst of handling a speedy clean-up for Batman (Ben Affleck) during a particularly messy car chase. After that bout of crime-fighting, Barry works to clean up grocery store footage that will exonerate his father, Henry (Ron Livingston), after the wrongful conviction of his wife's murder.

In frustration one night, *The Flash* discovers he is able to run so fast that he can travel faster than the speed of light and, in doing so, effectively travel through time. Hurt over his mother's murder years prior, he jets back in time with the intent of preventing her death, but his actions create an alternate reality where Barry runs into his former self. Along with an altered version of Batman (Michael Keaton), the two Barrys work to set the timeline right.

Yes, *The Flash* sees the return of Keaton donning the cape and cowl for the first time in more than 30 years, and despite the time that's passed, he settles back into the role nicely. His Bruce Wayne was always the most eccentric and cerebral of the bunch, traits that Keaton has refined even further in his career since *Batman Returns*.

While director Andy Muschietti can't help but bolster the performance with CG-enhanced virility that has Keaton moving like an impossibly spry sexagenarian, the best Keaton moments call back to the ingenuity of those earlier Tim Burton *Batman* films. Staging an escape in an elevator shaft, he quickly calculates the collective weight of the escapees, along with a handy tape measure, and sets an explosive charge with proportional propulsion to shoot them up to the roof.

Though Muschietti and screenwriter Christina Hodson do their best to hold our hand through the time travel paradoxes and multiverse snafus, it's enough to say that the concept of the "butterfly effect" is used very liberally throughout *The Flash*. After Barry makes his first interjection within the past, the ramifications are predictably severe and the storyline gets messy. But if going back in time and zipping back to the future is enough to completely alter the appearance of someone (Bruce Wayne, for instance, since he's played by two actors), shouldn't nearly everything else be drastically changed, too? The way these universes unravel relies



COURTESY PHOTO

Ezra Miller returns to his role as Barry Allen/The Flash in Warner Bros. and DC Comics' *The Flash*.

## THE FLASH

Rated PG-13 for sequences of violence and action, some strong language, partial nudity  
2 hours 24minutes · In theaters



heavily on plot contrivance or comedic effect, as with the running joke that Eric Stoltz starred in an alternate version of *Back to the Future* instead of Michael J. Fox.

I'm not someone who tends to pick on CGI in these superhero epics; there's often so much money on the screen that the majority of these blockbusters are arranged at least competently enough for me to ignore some choppy rendering or unconvincing shading here and there. Having said that, this movie has scenes containing some of the most jaw-droppingly outdated effects I've seen in the modern superhero era. When *The Flash* is speeding through time, he generates a large orb of energy around him that projects flashes of events as they were and could have been. It's not clear to me if these images are meant to look as if real actors were present in creating these vignettes, but as presented, they would barely pass muster as cut scenes from a PlayStation 2 game.

*The Flash* has flashes of brilliance when it tackles themes of regret and acceptance but stumbles in delivering a coherent standalone feature.

## More movies coming this weekend

▪ Coming to theaters is *Elemental*, a Pixar animated movie starring Leah Lewis and Mamoudou Athie set in a world inhabited by anthropomorphic elements of nature where a fire creature and water creature strike up a romantic relationship.

▪ Also playing only in theaters is *The Blackening*, a horror comedy starring Grace Byers and Jermaine Fowler about a group of Black friends who go away for the weekend only to find themselves trapped in a cabin with a killer who has a vendetta.

▪ Streaming on Netflix is *Extraction 2*, an action thriller starring Chris Hemsworth and Idris Elba continuing the story of a black-ops mercenary whose new mission involves the rescue of a ruthless Georgian gangster's family from prison.



# Clint Black, Buddy Guy performing at state fair

The Indiana State Fair just announced the first wave of acts set to hit the Hoosier Lottery Free Stage during the annual festival.

Country legend **Clint Black** will kick things off on Friday night, July 28, bringing a setlist that will include many of his 22 No. 1 hits. R&B star **Keith Sweat** stops by Aug. 2, followed by Christian singer **TobyMac** Aug. 6, and **Buddy Guy** rips up the stage with his legendary blues chops on Aug. 18.

All Indiana State Fair concerts are included with paid fair admission.

## Ohio Fair worth a visit

While we are in state fair territory, the Ohio State Fair in Columbus has a nice lineup of artists set to perform July 26-August 6.

Like in Indiana, Ohioans will welcome in **Clint Black** and **Keith Sweat** on July 27 and July 29, respectively.

In between those, **Third Eye Blind** will perform July 28, with **Yung Gravy** taking the stage July 30, **Casting Crowns** on July 31, **Ludacris** on Aug. 1, **Styx** and **Foghat** on Aug. 2, **Jeff Dunham** on Aug. 4 and **Lindsey Stirling** on Aug. 5.

## Catch Queens of Stone Age

Stoner rock pioneers **Queens of the Stone Age** have announced a 2023 North American tour for late this summer and early fall.

Their first U.S. outing in five years, they will be out in support of their *In Times New Roman ....*, set for release on June 16.

The first leg of The End Is Nero Tour begins Aug. 3 at Michigan Lottery Amphitheatre at Freedom Hills in the Detroit suburb of Sterling Heights, the only area date for that leg.



## Road Notes

CHRIS HUPE

## On the Road

NATIONAL TOURS WITHIN DRIVING DISTANCE

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

3 Doors Down	June 16	TCU Amphitheater	Indianapolis
3 Doors Down	June 17	Credit Union 1 Amp.	Tinley Park, IL
3 Doors Down	June 21	Michigan Lottery Amp.	Sterling Heights, MI
3 Doors Down	July 7	Rose Music Center	Huber Heights, OH
50 Cent	July 27	Ruoff Music Center	Noblesville
50 Cent	July 29	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
50 Cent	Aug. 6	Blossom Music Center	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
<b>Adele Givens</b>	<b>June 23-25</b>	<b>Summit City Comedy Club</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
<b>Air Supply</b>	<b>July 29</b>	<b>Honeywell Center</b>	<b>Wabash</b>
Alicia Keys	July 15	Rocket Mortgage FieldHouse	Cleveland
Alicia Keys	July 17	Little Caesars Arena	Detroit
Alicia Keys	July 18	United Center	Chicago
Altin Gun	July 13	Beachland Ballroom	Cleveland
Altin Gun	July 21	The Vogue Theatre	Indianapolis
<b>America</b>	<b>July 10</b>	<b>Foellinger Theatre</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Andy Grammer	July 21	Holiday Park	Indianapolis
Anita Baker	June 30	United Center	Chicago
Anita Baker	July 2	Pine Knob Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
Ann Wilson	July 14	MGM Northfield Park	Northfield, OH
Ann Wilson	July 30	Brown County Music Center	Nashville, IN
<b>Anthony Jeselnik</b>	<b>July 20-22</b>	<b>Summit City Comedy Club</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Avenged Sevenfold	July 26	Pine Knob Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
Avenged Sevenfold	July 28	Credit Union 1 Amp.	Tinley Park, IL
Barenaked Ladies	July 21	Blossom Music Center	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Barenaked Ladies	July 22	Pine Knob Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
Ben Folds	June 17	Rose Music Center	Huber Heights, OH
Ben Folds	June 24	Holiday Park	Indianapolis
Ben Folds	June 25	Motorcity Casino Hotel	Detroit
Ben Folds	July 22	Columbus Commons	Columbus, OH
<b>Bert Kreischer w/Fortune Feimster, Big Jay Oakerson, Jay Pharoah, Chad Daniels, Luis J. Gomez, Shane Torres, Mark Smalls</b>	<b>June 23</b>	<b>Parkview Field</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Between the Buried and Me	June 28	Majestic Theatre	Detroit
Between the Buried and Me	June 29	Newport Music Hall	Columbus
Between the Buried and Me	June 30	House of Blues	Chicago
Beyonce	July 22-23	Soldier Field	Chicago
Beyonce	July 26	Ford Field	Detroit
Big Time Rush	July 15	Schottenstein Center	Columbus, OH
Big Time Rush	July 16	Credit Union 1 Amp.	Tinley Park, IL
Big Time Rush	July 17	Blossom Music Center	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Big Time Rush	July 19	Pine Knob Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
Big Time Rush	July 21	Van Andel Arena	Grand Rapids
Big Time Rush	July 23	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
Billy Joel & Stevie Nicks	Aug. 5	Ohio Stadium	Columbus, OH
Billy Strings	June 16	Pine Knob Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
Billy Strings	June 17	Huntington Bank Pavilion	Chicago
<b>Black Stone Cherry</b>	<b>June 16</b>	<b>The Eclectic Room</b>	<b>Angola</b>
<b>Blackberry Smoke</b>	<b>June 17</b>	<b>Sweetwater Pavilion</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Bret Michaels' Parti-Gras	July 13	Pine Knob Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
Bret Michaels' Parti-Gras	July 29	Credit Union 1 Amp.	Tinley Park, IL
Bret Michaels' Parti-Gras	July 30	Ruoff Music Center	Noblesville
<b>Brittany Schmitt</b>	<b>June 22</b>	<b>Summit City Comedy Club</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Brooks & Dunn	June 16	Nationwide Arena	Columbus, OH
Bryan Adams & Joan Jett	June 15	Rocket Mortgage FieldHouse	Cleveland
Bryan Adams & Joan Jett	July 2	Allstate Arena	Rosemont, IL
Buddy Guy	June 24	Meadow Brook Amphitheatre	Rochester, MI
Buddy Guy	June 25	Rose Music Center	Huber Heights, OH
CNCO	June 22	Allstate Arena	Rosemont, IL
<b>Candlebox</b>	<b>June 18</b>	<b>Sweetwater Pavilion</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Candlebox	June 22	GLC Live at 20 Monroe	Grand Rapids
Candlebox	July 6	Bogart's	Cincinnati
Candlebox	July 9	House of Blues	Cleveland
Carin Leon	Aug. 10	Allstate Arena	Rosemont, IL
<b>Chad &amp; JT</b>	<b>July 14-15</b>	<b>Summit City Comedy Club</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
<b>Chapel Hart</b>	<b>June 17</b>	<b>Niswonger PAC</b>	<b>Van Wert</b>

<b>Charley Crockett</b>	<b>July 1</b>	<b>The Clyde Theatre</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Charlie Puth	June 18	Meadow Brook Amphitheatre	Rochester, MI
Charlie Puth	June 19	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
Charlie Puth	June 21	TCU Amphitheater	Indianapolis
Charlie Puth	June 24	Ravinia Park Pavilion	Chicago
<b>Cody Smith</b>	<b>July 23</b>	<b>Summit City Comedy Club</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
<b>Collective Soul w/Jet Black Roses</b>	<b>July 9</b>	<b>The Clyde Theatre</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Counting Crows	June 17	TCU Amphitheater	Indianapolis
Counting Crows	June 18	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
Counting Crows	June 24	Michigan Lottery Amp.	Sterling Heights, MI
Counting Crows	June 29	MGM Northfield Park	Northfield, OH
Culture Club	Aug. 4	Pine Knob Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
Culture Club	Aug. 5	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
<b>Cynic w/Atheist</b>	<b>June 29</b>	<b>Piere's</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
<b>Dale Jones</b>	<b>July 26</b>	<b>Summit City Comedy Club</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Damien Jurado	June 15	Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
Danny Brown & JpegMafia	July 28	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Danny Brown & JpegMafia	July 29	Agora Theatre	Cleveland
Darius Rucker	Aug. 10	Michigan Lottery Amp.	Sterling Heights, MI
<b>Dave Mason</b>	<b>June 17</b>	<b>The Clyde Theatre</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Dave Matthews Band	June 27	Pine Knob Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
Dave Matthews Band	June 30-July 1	Ruoff Music Center	Noblesville
Dave Matthews Band	July 7-8	Huntington Bank Pavilion	Chicago
Dead & Company	June 27	Ruoff Music Center	Noblesville
Def Leppard & Motley Crue	Aug. 8	Ohio Stadium	Columbus, OH
<b>Demun Jones</b>	<b>June 23</b>	<b>Piere's</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
<b>Diana Krall</b>	<b>Aug. 1</b>	<b>Foellinger Theatre</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Diana Krall	Aug. 3	MGM Northfield Park	Northfield, OH
Dierks Bentley	July 8	Credit Union 1 Amp.	Tinley Park, IL
Dierks Bentley	July 9	Ruoff Music Center	Noblesville
Dizgo	June 28	The Palladium	Carmel
<b>Don McMillan</b>	<b>July 25</b>	<b>Summit City Comedy Club</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Don Toliver	June 20	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Don Toliver	June 23	Michigan Lottery Amp.	Sterling Heights, MI
<b>The Doobie Brothers</b>	<b>June 23</b>	<b>Memorial Coliseum</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
The Doobie Brothers	June 26	Rose Music Center	Huber Heights, OH
Drake	July 5-6	United Center	Chicago
Drake	July 8	Little Caesars Arena	Detroit
Dream Theater	July 7	Hard Rock Live Northern Indiana	Gary
Dream Theater	July 8	Jacobs Pavilion	Cleveland
<b>Ed Bassmaster</b>	<b>July 13</b>	<b>Piere's</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Ed Sheeran	July 14	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Ed Sheeran	July 15	Ford Field	Detroit
Ed Sheeran	July 28	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Ed Sheeran	July 29	Soldier Field	Chicago
<b>Eddie Griffin</b>	<b>July 28-29</b>	<b>Summit City Comedy Club</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
<b>Eddie Pepitone</b>	<b>June 18</b>	<b>Piere's</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Elvis Costello & The Imposters	June 23	Horseshoe Casino	Cincinnati
Elvis Costello & The Imposters	June 25	Brown County Music Center	Nashville, IN
Elvis Costello & The Imposters	June 28	Meadow Brook Amphitheatre	Rochester, MI
Emerson, Lake and Palmer	July 13	Foellinger Theatre	Fort Wayne
<b>Enuff Z'Nuff w/The Quireboys, Bad Marriage, School of Rock, Cigarettes to Sunrise, Praise the Fallen</b>	<b>July 28</b>	<b>Piere's</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Eric Church	June 23	Pine Knob Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
Eric Church	June 24	Blossom Music Center	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Eric Church	July 14	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
Erykah Badu	July 1	United Center	Chicago
Erykah Badu	July 2	Little Caesars Arena	Detroit
Fall Out Boy	June 21	Wrigley Field	Chicago
Fall Out Boy	July 15	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
Fall Out Boy	July 16	Ruoff Music Center	Noblesville
Fall Out Boy	July 29	Pine Knob Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
<b>Faster Pussycat w/Jason Charles Miles, The Bites</b>	<b>June 20</b>	<b>Piere's</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
First Aid Kit	July 22	The Salt Shed	Chicago
Flatland Cavalry	June 16	Bogart's	Cincinnati
Fleet Foxes	July 9	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Foreigner	July 21	Ruoff Music Center	Noblesville

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE ►



# On the Road

NATIONAL TOURS WITHIN DRIVING DISTANCE

► CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Foreigner	July 22	Credit Union 1 Amp.	Tinley Park, IL
Foreigner	July 24	Blossom Music Center	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Garbage	June 27	Huntington Bank Pavilion	Chicago
Garbage	June 29	Ruoff Music Center	Noblesville
Garbage	July 1	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
Garbage	July 6	Pine Knob Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
<b>Gianmarco Soresi</b>	<b>July 6-9</b>	<b>Summit City Comedy Club</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Godsmack & Staind	Aug. 9	Pine Knob Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
Godsmack & Staind	Aug. 10	Credit Union 1 Amp.	Tinley Park, IL
Gogol Bordello	July 27	Concord Music Hall	Chicago
Gogol Bordello	July 28	The Vogue Theatre	Indianapolis
Gogol Bordello	July 29	House of Blues	Cleveland
Gojira & Mastodon	Aug. 10	Jacobs Pavilion	Cleveland
Greensky Bluegrass	June 30	Rose Music Center	Huber Heights, OH
Greensky Bluegrass	July 1	Andrew J. Brady Music Center	Cincinnati
Hank Williams Jr.	June 17	Ruoff Music Center	Noblesville
Hardy	July 1	Flannagan's Dublin	Columbus, OH
<b>He Is Legend w/Greyhaven, For Your Health</b>	<b>July 7</b>	<b>Piere's</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
<b>Herman's Hermits</b>	<b>July 7</b>	<b>Foellinger Theatre</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
The High Kings	July 8	The Vogue Theatre	Indianapolis
The Hold Steady	July 1	The Salt Shed	Chicago
<b>The Hooten Hallers w/Mucca Pazza</b>	<b>July 13</b>	<b>The Brass Rail</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Ice Nine Kills	Aug. 8	Kemba Live!	Columbus, OH
Ice Nine Kills	Aug. 9	Agora Theatre	Cleveland
Incubus	July 28	TCU Amphitheater	Indianapolis
Incubus	July 30	Huntington Bank Pavilion	Chicago
Incubus	Aug. 1	Andrew J. Brady Music Center	Cincinnati
Incubus	Aug. 2	Van Andel Arena	Grand Rapids
Jackson Browne	June 19	Brown County Music Center	Nashville, IN
James Taylor	June 21	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
<b>Jamie Kennedy</b>	<b>June 15-17</b>	<b>Summit City Comedy Club</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Jason Aldean	July 20	Blossom Music Center	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Jason Aldean	July 21	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
Jason Mraz	July 29	Meadow Brook Amphitheatre	Rochester, MI
Jason Mraz	Aug. 1	TCU Amphitheater	Indianapolis
Jason Mraz	Aug. 2	Ravinia Park Pavillion	Chicago
Jelly Roll	July 21	Porter County Fairgrounds	Valparaiso
<b>Jerry Seinfeld</b>	<b>June 22</b>	<b>Embassy Theatre</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Jesse & Joy	June 24	House of Blues	Cleveland
Jesse & Joy	June 25	Ravinia Park Pavillion	Chicago
<b>Jessica Kirson</b>	<b>June 29-July 1</b>	<b>Summit City Comedy Club</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Jo Dee Messina	June 29	Blue Gate PAC	Shipshewana
Jodeci, SWV, and Dru Hill	Aug. 10	Aretha Franklin Amphitheatre	Detroit
Jodeci, SWV, and Dru Hill	Aug. 11	Arie Crown Theater	Chicago
John Anderson	June 17	Blue Gate PAC	Shipshewana
John Conlee	June 15	Blue Gate PAC	Shipshewana
John Mellencamp	June 17	Masonic Temple Theatre	Detroit
John Mellencamp	June 21	DeVos Performance Hall	Grand Rapids
John Mellencamp	June 23-24	Morris PAC	South Bend
Jon Pardi	July 20	Porter County Fairgrounds	Valparaiso
Jordan Davis	July 11	LaPorte County Fairgrounds	LaPorte
<b>Kansas</b>	<b>June 16</b>	<b>Embassy Theatre</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Kansas	June 17	Fisher Theatre	Detroit
Kansas	July 7	Taft Theatre	Cincinnati
Kansas	July 8	Clowes Memorial Hall	Indianapolis
Kansas	July 15	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
<b>Kelsey Lynn</b>	<b>June 15</b>	<b>Carl's Tavern</b>	<b>New Haven</b>
<b>Kidd G</b>	<b>July 28</b>	<b>The Eclectic Room</b>	<b>Angola</b>
Kidz Bop	July 26	Ohio State Fairgrounds	Columbus, OH
Kidz Bop	July 29	Rose Music Center	Huber Heights, OH
Kidz Bop	Aug. 2	Toledo Zoo Amphitheatre	Toledo
Kidz Bop	Aug. 4	Ruoff Music Center	Noblesville
Kidz Bop	Aug. 5	Pine Knob Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
<b>L.A. Guns</b>	<b>July 13</b>	<b>The Eclectic Room</b>	<b>Angola</b>
Larry June	June 17	Elevation at The Intersection	Grand Rapids
Larry June	June 18	The Fillmore	Detroit
Lee Brice w/Tyler Farr, The Hubie Ashcraft Band	July 22	Sylvan Cellars	Rome City
Less Than Jake	July 8	Concord Music Hall	Chicago

Less Than Jake	July 9	Saint Andrew's Hall	Detroit
Less Than Jake	July 11	House of Blues	Cleveland
Lettuce & Steel Pulse	July 7	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
Lettuce & Steel Pulse	July 8	Rose Music Center	Huber Heights, OH
Lindsey Stirling	Aug. 4	Centennial Terrace	Sylvania, OH
Lindsey Stirling	Aug. 5	Celeste Center	Columbus, OH
Lindsey Stirling	Aug. 10	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
Lionel Richie & Earth, Wind, & Fire	Aug. 5	United Center	Chicago
Louis Tomlinson	June 15	Huntington Bank Pavilion	Chicago
lovelytheband	June 18	Bogart's	Cincinnati
lovelytheband	June 20	House of Blues	Chicago
<b>Ludacris w/Juvenile, Chingy</b>	<b>July 28</b>	<b>Headwaters Park</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Madonna	Aug. 2	Rocket Mortgage FieldHouse	Cleveland
Madonna	Aug. 5	Little Caesars Arena	Detroit
Madonna	Aug. 9	United Center	Chicago
Maisie Peters	Aug. 9	The Bluestone	Columbus, OH
<b>Marc Ryan</b>	<b>July 27</b>	<b>Summit City Comedy Club</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Matchbox Twenty	June 16	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
Matchbox Twenty	Aug. 5	Ruoff Music Center	Noblesville
Matchbox Twenty & The Wallflowers	Aug. 6	Credit Union 1 Amp.	Tinley Park, IL
<b>Matt Mathews</b>	<b>Aug. 9</b>	<b>Summit City Comedy Club</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
<b>The Mavericks</b>	<b>July 15</b>	<b>Foellinger Theatre</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Melanie Martinez	July 5	Jacobs Pavilion	Cleveland
Melanie Martinez	July 7	Andrew J. Brady Music Center	Cincinnati
Melanie Martinez	July 8	Michigan Lottery Amp.	Sterling Heights, MI
Melanie Martinez	July 11	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Michael Franti & Spearhead	June 16	Aretha Franklin Amphitheatre	Detroit
<b>Micky Dolenz</b>	<b>July 28</b>	<b>Trine T. Furth Center</b>	<b>Angola</b>
Mike Gordon	June 21	Bell's Eccentric Cafe	Kalamazoo
Mike Gordon	June 24-25	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Mike Gordon	June 28	The Vogue Theatre	Indianapolis
Modest Mouse	June 17	GLC Live at 20 Monroe	Grand Rapids
<b>Montana of 300 w/Litfrank, Ernie Wayne</b>	<b>July 15</b>	<b>Piere's</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Morgan Wallen	June 22-23	Wrigley Field	Chicago
Morgan Wallen	June 29-30	Ford Field	Detroit
Mudvayne	Aug. 4	Blossom Music Center	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Mudvayne	Aug. 5	Credit Union 1 Amp.	Tinley Park, IL
Mudvayne	Aug. 6	Pine Knob Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
Mudvayne	Aug. 8	Ruoff Music Center	Noblesville
My Morning Jacket	June 23	TCU Amphitheater	Indianapolis
NF	July 12	Schottenstein Center	Columbus, OH
NF	July 14	Allstate Arena	Rosemont, IL
NF	July 18	Van Andel Arena	Grand Rapids
Nathaniel Rateliff & The Night Sweats	Aug. 3	GLC Live at 20 Monroe	Grand Rapids
Nathaniel Rateliff & The Night Sweats	Aug. 4	Meadow Brook Amphitheatre	Rochester, MI
Nathaniel Rateliff & The Night Sweats	Aug. 5	Kemba Live!	Columbus, OH
Nathaniel Rateliff & The Night Sweats	Aug. 9-10	The Salt Shed	Chicago
The National	Aug. 7	The Fillmore	Detroit
Niall Horan	June 25	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
Niall Horan	June 26	Blossom Music Center	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Niall Horan	July 9	Credit Union 1 Amp.	Tinley Park, IL
Niall Horan	July 10	Pine Knob Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
<b>Nick Hoff</b>	<b>July 16</b>	<b>Summit City Comedy Club</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Nickelback	June 16	Van Andel Arena	Grand Rapids
Nickelback	Aug. 9	Blossom Music Center	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
<b>Nita Strauss w/Lions at the Gate</b>	<b>June 23</b>	<b>The Eclectic Room</b>	<b>Angola</b>
<b>Nitty Gritty Dirt Band</b>	<b>June 28</b>	<b>Honeywell Center</b>	<b>Wabash</b>
Noah Kahan	June 23	Andrew J. Brady Music Center	Cincinnati
The Oak Ridge Boys	June 21-22	Blue Gate PAC	Shipshewana
Pantera	July 29	Ruoff Music Center	Noblesville
Parker McCollum	June 24	TCU Amphitheater	Indianapolis
Peter Dinklage	June 21	Rose Music Center	Huber Heights, OH
Peter Dinklage	June 22	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
Pink	July 26	Great American Ballpark	Cincinnati
<b>Plush</b>	<b>July 29</b>	<b>The Eclectic Room</b>	<b>Angola</b>
Post Malone	July 8	Ruoff Music Center	Noblesville
Post Malone	July 9	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
Post Malone	July 11	Pine Knob Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI

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## Road Notes

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The second leg also starts off in our area with an appearance at Riot Fest in Chicago on Sept. 16 followed by a trip to TCU Amphitheatre in Indianapolis on Sept. 22.

**Phantogram** and **The Armed** will provide support at the Detroit show while **Viagra Boys** and **Jehnnny Beth** will open in Indianapolis.

## Kesha visiting our region

**Kesha** has announced a fall tour in support of her incredible new album, *Gag Order*.

The Gag Order Tour will feature **Jake Wesley Rogers** as the opening act and make stops at Masonic Temple Theatre in Detroit on Nov. 7 and Byline Bank Aragon Ballroom in Chicago on Nov. 9.

*Gag Order* is Kesha's fifth studio album and first since 2020. A huge departure from the music that initially made her famous, it seems the artist is finally coming into her own and making the music she really wants to make.

## Violent Femmes add shows

Veteran rockers **Violent Femmes** have added some fall dates to their ongoing tour celebrating the 40th anniversary of their iconic self-titled debut album.

While the spring leg hit venues in the western half of the States, the fall leg will primarily focus on the East Coast and Midwest, including Oct. 5 at the Riviera Theatre in Chicago and Oct. 9 at Temple Live in Cleveland.

Sandwiched between those two dates are two special performances at the DeVos Performance Hall in Grand Rapids, Oct. 6-7, where they will perform with the Grand Rapids Symphony.

As they did on the first leg of the tour, Violent Femmes will be playing their debut LP, featuring classics like “Blister in the Sun,” “Kiss Off,” “Add It Up,” and “Prove My Love,” in its entirety at each show.

Road Notes covers concerts within driving distance of Northeast Indiana. Send your news items to [info@whatzup.com](mailto:info@whatzup.com).

SEND US YOUR EVENTS  
[whatzup.com/submit](https://whatzup.com/submit)



***On the Road*** NATIONAL TOURS WITHIN DRIVING DISTANCE

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Putridity w/ Cenotaph, Immortal Suffering, Severed Headshop	July 26	Piere's	Fort Wayne
Quinn XCII	June 16	Huntington Bank Pavilion	Chicago
Quinn XCII	June 17	Michigan Lottery Amp.	Sterling Heights, MI
Rahsaan Barber & Everyday Magic	Aug. 3	Eagles Theatre	Wabash
Rebelution	June 28	The Fillmore	Detroit
Rebelution	July 1	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Rebelution	July 2	Jacobs Pavilion	Cleveland
Regina Spektor	July 29	Canal Shores Golf Course	Chicago
Regina Spektor	July 30	Andrew J. Brady Music Center	Cincinnati
The Rev. Peyton's Big Damn Band w/ The Legendary Trainhoppers	Aug. 5	The Ruin	Fort Wayne
Reverend Horton Heat	July 25	Beachland Ballroom	Cleveland
Rick Springfield	Aug. 5	TCU Amphitheater	Indianapolis
Rick Springfield	Aug. 6	Michigan Lottery Amp.	Sterling Heights, MI
Robert Plant & Alison Krauss	June 28	Blossom Music Center	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
The Rocket Summer	July 2	Bottom Lounge	Chicago
Rodney Atkins w/ Matt Williams; Whoa, Man!	June 17	Double H Farms	Hamilton
Rodrigo y Gabriela	June 16	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Rodrigo y Gabriela	June 17	Aretha Franklin Amphitheatre	Detroit
Rufus Du Sol	Aug. 8	TCU Amphitheater	Indianapolis
Rufus Du Sol	Aug. 9	Smale Riverfront Park	Cincinnati
Ryan Adams & The Cardinals	July 28	Holliday Park	Indianapolis
Ryan Adams & The Cardinals	Aug. 1	The Bluestone	Columbus, OH
Sad Summer Fest w/ Taking Back Sunday	July 18	Michigan Lottery Amp.	Sterling Heights, MI
Sad Summer Fest w/ Taking Back Sunday	July 19	Andrew J. Brady Music Center	Cincinnati
Sad Summer Fest w/ Taking Back Sunday	July 21	Huntington Bank Pavilion	Chicago
Sad Summer Fest w/ Taking Back Sunday	July 22	TCU Amphitheater	Indianapolis
Sam Hunt	July 27	Pine Knob Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
Sam Hunt	July 28	Ruoff Music Center	Noblesville
Samantha Fish w/ Jesse Dayton	July 30	Sweetwater Pavilion	Fort Wayne
Samuel J. Comroe	Aug. 3-5	Summit City Comedy Club	Fort Wayne
Santa Fe Klan	June 27	Little Caesars Arena	Detroit
Santana	June 25	MGM Northfield Park	Northfield, OH
Santana	June 27	Rose Music Center	Huber Heights, OH
Santana	June 29	Pine Knob Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
Sante Fe Klan	June 23	Allstate Arena	Rosemont, IL
Selwyn Birchwood	June 16	Baker Street Centre	Fort Wayne
Shania Twain	June 30	Blossom Music Center	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Shania Twain	July 1	Credit Union 1 Amp.	Tinley Park, IL
Shania Twain	July 15	Ruoff Music Center	Noblesville
Shaun Weiss w/ Will King	June 30	Piere's	Fort Wayne
Shinedown	July 21	Hard Rock Live Northern Indiana	Gary
Slightly Stoopid	July 28	Huntington Bank Pavilion	Chicago
Slightly Stoopid	July 29	Michigan Lottery Amp.	Sterling Heights, MI
Slightly Stoopid	July 30	TCU Amphitheater	Indianapolis
Snoop Dogg & Wiz Khalifa	July 20	Ruoff Music Center	Noblesville
Snoop Dogg & Wiz Khalifa	July 21	Credit Union 1 Amp.	Tinley Park, IL
Snoop Dogg & Wiz Khalifa	July 23	Pine Knob Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
Soccer Mommy w/ Vundabar, DuPont Brass, The Namby Pamby, Mic Strong	June 24	Parkview Field	Fort Wayne
Stephen Marley	July 22	Riverbend Music Center	Cincinnati
Stevie Nicks	June 23	United Center	Chicago
Straight No Chaser	July 1	Rose Music Center	Huber Heights, OH
The Struts	June 16	The Fillmore	Detroit
The Struts	June 18	GLC Live at 20 Monroe	Grand Rapids
The Struts	June 20	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
The Struts	June 23	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
The Struts	July 11	The Bluestone	Columbus, OH
T.G. Sheppard & T. Graham Brown	June 16	Blue Gate PAC	Shippshewana
TLC & Shaggy	June 21	Blossom Music Center	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
TLC & Shaggy	June 23	Credit Union 1 Amp.	Tinley Park, IL
TLC & Shaggy	June 24	Ruoff Music Center	Noblesville
TLC & Shaggy	June 25	Pine Knob Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
Taylor Swift	July 1	Paycor Stadium	Cincinnati
The Temptations	July 29	The Clyde Theatre	Fort Wayne
Tesla w/ Buckcherry, Saving Abel	Aug. 5	Plymouth Motor Speedway	Plymouth
Thomas Rhett, Cole Swindell, & Nate Smith	July 28	United Center	Chicago

Thomas Rhett, Cole Swindell, & Nate Smith	July 29	Van Andel Arena	Grand Rapids
Tori Amos	July 9	Meadow Brook Amphitheatre	Rochester, MI
Tori Amos	July 11	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
<b>Train w/Better Than Ezra</b>	<b>Aug. 9</b>	<b>Foellinger Theatre</b>	<b>Fort Wayne</b>
Twice	June 28	United Center	Chicago
Underoath & The Ghost Inside	July 16	The Salt Shed	Chicago
The Used & Pierce the Veil	June 17	Blossom Music Center	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
The Used & Pierce the Veil	June 19	GLC Live at 20 Monroe	Grand Rapids
The Used & Pierce the Veil	June 21	Andrew J. Brady Music Center	Cincinnati
Vanilla Ice w/Kid N' Play, Tone Loc, All 4 One, Young MC, C&C Music Factory	July 15	Plymouth Motor Speedway	Plymouth
Volbeat	July 30	Hard Rock Live Northern Indiana	Gary
Walker Hayes	Aug. 4	TCU Amphitheater	Indianapolis
Walker Hayes	Aug. 5	Michigan Lottery Amp.	Sterling Heights, MI
We Are the Union	July 5	House of Blues	Cleveland
Weezer	July 9	Hard Rock Live Northern Indiana	Gary
Weezer & Modest Mouse	June 16	Blossom Music Center	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Weezer & Modest Mouse	June 18	Pine Knob Music Theatre	Clarkston, MI
WonderRoad Festival	June 17-18	Garfield Park	Indianapolis
Yellowcard	July 12	Blossom Music Center	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Yellowcard	July 13	Michigan Lottery Amp.	Sterling Heights, MI
Yellowcard	July 16	Huntington Bank Pavilion	Chicago
Young the Giant	June 16	Michigan Lottery Amp.	Sterling Heights, MI
Young the Giant	June 17	Kemba Live!	Columbus, OH
Young the Giant	June 20	Andrew J. Brady Music Center	Cincinnati
Young the Giant	June 21	Jacobs Pavilion	Cleveland
Young the Giant	June 23	Huntington Bank Pavilion	Chicago
Young the Giant	June 25	TCU Amphitheater	Indianapolis
Yungblud	July 7	Michigan Lottery Amp.	Sterling Heights, MI
Yungblud	July 8	TCU Amphitheater	Indianapolis
Yungblud	July 11	Jacobs Pavilion	Cleveland
Zac Brown Band	June 30	Nationwide Arena	Columbus, OH
Zac Brown Band	Aug. 6	Ruoff Music Center	Noblesville

## Road Trips

## LOCAL ACTS ON TOUR

**Austin Marsh**

July 14	JJ Winns Restaurant & Lounge, Montpelier, OH
July 28	Dark Horse Social Club, Defiance, OH
Aug. 11	Kora Brew House and Wine Bar, Bryan, OH

## The Bulldogs

June 17	CoColo's RV Campground, Lagro
July 15	Greenwood Acres Family Campground, Jackson, MI
July 17	Madison County Fair, Alexandria
July 22	Downtown Hartford City, Hartford City
July 27	Downtown South Whitley
July 29	Hickory Acres Campground, Edgerton, OH
Aug. 11	Bethel Pointe, Muncie

**Hubie Ashcraft Band**

June 17	Landeck Tavern, Delphos, OH
July 2	CoCoLo's RV Campground, Iagro
July 7	Michiana Event Center, Shipshewana
July 20	Edgerton Days, Edgerton, OH
Aug. 4	Little Nashville Festival, Ottawa, OH
Aug. 11	Edon Days, Edon, OH
Aug. 13	Clear Lake Kasota Island, Fremont
Aug. 17	Bent Prop Pub, Coldwater, MI

## Necromoon

June 22 Liar's Club, Chicago  
June 23 The Pyramid Scheme, Grand Rapids  
June 24 B-Nektar, Ferndale, MI

## Neon Straightjackets

June 24      Ottawa Tavern, Toledo

### Red-Eye Lorelai

Aug. 4 Van Buren Popcorn Festival, Van Buren

**Tom Koenig**

June 15	Bent Prop Pub, Coldwater, MI
June 29	Boardwalk Grill, Celina, OH

## 2023 - 2024 SEASON



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## Things To Do LOCAL CALENDAR

### CURRENT

**Vera Bradley Annual Outlet Sale** — Popular bag and luggage brand returns for event that draws thousands from around country, **7:30 a.m.-8:30 p.m. Thursday, June 15-16; 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday, June 17; and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, June 18**, Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, free-\$6, (260) 483-111

**BBQ Ribfest** — Four days of live music and barbecue served up by award-winning teams from across the country, **11:30 a.m.-midnight Thursday-Saturday, June 15-17; and 11:30 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Sunday, June 18**; Headwaters Park, Fort Wayne, \$3-\$6, ribfestatheadwaterspark@gmail.com

**teds Food Truck Thursday** — Enjoy food trucks, drinks, and live music, **5-9 p.m. Thursday, June 15**, teds beerhall, Fort Wayne, free, (888) 260-0351

**Zoofari** — Food and drinks from more than 50 local establishments, live music, and animals at fundraiser, **5:30-9:30 p.m. Thursday, June 15**, Fort Wayne Children's Zoo, Fort Wayne, \$85-\$175 (21-and-over only), (260) 427-6800

**Chicks' Run** — Women's 5K run with prizes, snacks, and wine and beer after the run, **7 p.m. Thursday, June 15**, Pickett's Run Park, Bluffton, \$15, (260) 824-6069

**Renaissance Car Show** — Motorcycles, trucks, and hot rods, plus live music and free food, **5-8 p.m. Friday, June 16**, Renaissance Pointe YMCA, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 447-4567

**Father's Day in the Garden** — For fathers and grandfathers, butterflies, gardens, and food and snacks from Mad Anthony Brewing and Shigs in Pit, **10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, June 17; and noon-4 p.m. Sunday, June 18**, Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 427-6440

**Juneteenth Macknificent Freedom Fest** — Annual celebration marks the end of slavery with music, games, vendors, a human library, horse rides, and bounce houses, **1:30-6 p.m. Saturday, June 17**, McMillen Park, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 206-8437

**Barks & Mews Gala** — Fort Wayne Animal Care & Control fundraiser returns with 1970s theme, dance demonstration, dinner, drinks, silent auction, and gift-card pull, **6-10 p.m. Saturday, June 17**, PFW Walb Ballroom, Fort Wayne, \$75, (260) 427-1244

**Beyond Able Movie Night** — Bring chair or blanket for *Encanto* and pre-movie activities and refreshments, **7:30 p.m. Saturday, June 17**, Beyond Able, Fort Wayne, free, inquire@gobeyondable.org

**Rocket Launch** — Observe or bring your own rockets, motors, and supplies and launch using Summit City Aerospace Modelers equipment, **1 p.m. Sunday, June 18**, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 710-6976

**Dad Day at Tek** — Hands-on projects in wood, electronics, and metal; radio-controlled trucks on the River City Challenge Track; and squirt gun Zombie battles, **1-5 p.m. Sunday, June 18**, Twistful Meadow at TekVenture, Fort Wayne, \$5-\$20 per family, (260) 750-9013

**The Art of Clay Camp (Grades 9-12)** — Five-day exploration of hand-built and wheel-thrown pottery, **9 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Friday, June 19-23**, PFW Visual Arts Building, Fort Wayne, \$299, (260) 481-6977

**Advanced Music Technology Camp (Grades 9-12)** — Students work with professionals, learn about careers, and experiment with latest recording software during four-day camp, **9 a.m.-noon, Monday-Thursday, June 19-22**, PFW Sweetwater Music Center, Fort Wayne, \$199, (260) 481-6977

**Intro to Music Technology Camp (Grades 9-12)** — Students work with professionals, learn about careers, and experiment with latest recording software during four-day camp **1-4 p.m., Monday-Thursday, June 19-22**, PFW Sweetwater Music Center, Fort Wayne, \$199, (260) 481-6977

**Allen County Fair** — Annual event with 4-H animals, carnival rides, daily shows, and food, **8 a.m.-11 p.m. Tuesday, June 20; 5:30 a.m.-11 p.m. Wednesday, June 21; 9 a.m.-11 p.m. Thursday-Friday, June 22-23; 7 a.m.-11 p.m. Saturday, June 24; 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, June 25**, Allen County Fairgrounds, Fort Wayne, \$5-\$10, (260) 449-4444

**Trek the Trails: Coliseum Trailhead** — Family-friendly bike ride, 7-9 miles with average speed of 10-12 mph, although no one is left behind, bring helmet and water, **6 p.m. Tuesday, June 20**, Coliseum Trailhead, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 969-0079

**Union 12 Food Truck Night: Superhero Night** — Don your favorite costume and have picture taken with pair of superheroes while enjoying the music of Paradise, **5:30-9:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 21**, Union 12, Columbia City, free, (260) 203-0239

**The Garden Night Market** — Monthly series has art show opening combined with live music, food trucks, artisan vendors, **6-9 p.m. Wednesday, June 21**, The Garden, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 739-6557

### FARMERS MARKETS

**Downtown Wabash Farmers Market** — Find products like fresh produce, organic meats, homemade ice cream, hand-poured candles and soap, pottery, and metal and wood works, **8 a.m.-noon Saturdays through Sept. 30**, Honeywell Center, Wabash, free, (260) 563-0975

**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**, Electric Works, Fort Wayne, contact@ftwaynesfarmersmarket.com

**Parlor City Market** — Local produce, home bakers, and artisans, **9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays through Sept. 9**, Parlor City Plaza, Bluffton, (260) 824-0510

**Salomon Farmers Market** — Fresh produce, baked goods, honey, artisan crafts, and tractor rides, **4-7 p.m. Wednesdays through Sept. 6**, Salomon Farm Park, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 427-6000

**South Side Farmers Market** — Shop locally grown produce, meat, eggs, baked goods, plants, crafts, jewelry, and more at market celebrating its 97th year, **8 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays through Dec. 16**, South Side Farmers Market, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 310-9499

**Ylni Farmers Market** — Produce, baked goods, jewelry, honey, pony rides, **9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays**, Barr and Wayne streets, Fort Wayne, free, market@ylni.org

**Ylni Wednesday Market** — Fresh produce, locally sourced meat, and crafts, **4-7 p.m. Wednesdays through Aug. 30**, History Center, Fort Wayne, free, market@ylni.org

### STORYTIME AT THE PARK

**Storytime at the Park** — All ages welcome to read, sing, dance, and play at parks across Allen County, sponsored by Allen County Public Library, free, (260) 436-8080

**Thursdays through July 27**, Leo-Cedarville Town Park, **10-10:30 a.m.**

**Fridays through July 28**, Jack R. Harris Park, Grabill, **10-10:30 a.m.**

**Fridays through July 28**, Kreager Park, Fort Wayne, **10:15-10:45 a.m.**

**Mondays through July 31**, Franklin School Park, Fort Wayne, **10:30-11 a.m.**

**Mondays through July 31**, Schnelker Park, New Haven, **11-11:30 a.m.**

**Wednesdays through Aug. 30**, Promenade Park, Fort Wayne, **10-10:30 a.m.**

### RECURRING EVENTS

**Fitness Park Drop-In Classes** — Learn to strengthen and tone your muscles using resistance train every Monday, **9:30 a.m.-10:15 am Mondays through June 12**, Community Center, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 427-6460

**Country/Hip-Hop Beginner Line Dancing** — Get some exercise and learn a few moves, **7 p.m. Thursdays**, Charlie's Place, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 222-7302

**Sunshine Yoga w/Tara Lynn** — Start weekend off by centering mind and body, **11 a.m. Saturdays**, Studi07, Fort Wayne, \$10, (260) 312-0964

**River Rangers** — Science, technology, engineering, and math lessons for ages 5-12, **10-11 a.m. Wednesdays through July 26**, Promenade Park, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 427-6000

### SPECTATOR SPORTS

#### BASEBALL

**TinCaps** — Upcoming home games at Parkview Field, Fort Wayne

**Thursday, June 15**, vs. Dayton, **7:05 p.m.**

**Friday, June 16**, vs. Dayton, **7:05 p.m.**

**Saturday, June 17**, vs. Dayton, **6:35 p.m.**

**Sunday, June 18**, vs. Dayton, **1:05 p.m.**

**Tuesday, July 4**, vs. West Michigan, **6:05 p.m.**

**Wednesday, July 5**, vs. West Michigan, **7:05 p.m.**

**Thursday, July 6**, vs. West Michigan, **7:05 p.m.**

**Friday, July 7**, vs. West Michigan, **7:05 p.m.**

**Saturday, July 8**, vs. West Michigan, **6:35 p.m.**

**Fort Wayne Roller Derby** — Upcoming home games at SportONE Parkview Field-house, Fort Wayne

**Sunday, July 9**, Noon

**Soccer**

**Fort Wayne Football Club** — Upcoming home games at University of Saint Francis' Bishop D'Arcy Stadium, Fort Wayne

**Sunday, June 18**, vs. FC Buffalo, **4 p.m.**

**Friday, June 23**, vs. Inter Detroit, **8 p.m.**

**Sunday, June 25**, vs. Cleveland Force SC, **5 p.m.**

**Wednesday, June 28**, vs. Dayton Dutch Lions, **7 p.m.**

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# Art & Exhibits

LOCAL CALENDAR

## CURRENT EXHIBITS

**45th Annual Artlink Members' Showcase** — Exhibition is open to all mediums, offering an opportunity to view works of artists Fort Wayne and the surrounding area, **10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursday; 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday-Saturday; Noon-5 p.m. Sunday, June 15-July 16**, Artlink, Fort Wayne, free admission, (260) 424-7195

**Art Deco Glass** — 120 works on display including those from Rene Lalique, Daum Nancy, and Pierre D'Avesn, **10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Fridays, Saturday; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursday; noon-6 p.m. Sundays, through Aug. 6**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, Fort Wayne, \$8-\$10, (260) 422-6467

**Below the Surface: A Deep "See"** — Bill Dutterer's exploration of human condition through elegant minimalism, funky renewed figuration, and cryptic personal iconography, **10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursday; noon-6 p.m. Sunday, through July 2**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, Fort Wayne, \$8-\$10, (260) 422-6467

**Color in Motion: Butterfly Exhibit** — Observe exotic butterflies emerge from their chrysalides amid multicolored flowers and foliage, **10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Thursday; and noon-4 p.m. Sunday, through June 25**, Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory, Fort Wayne, \$5-\$7, (260) 427-6440

**Early Brown County Artists** — More than 100 pieces drawn from private collections, showcases the artists that came to Brown County in the first half of the 20th Century, **5-8 p.m. Friday; 4-7 p.m. Saturday through July 1**, Garrett Museum of Art, Garrett, free admission, kwallace@gmoa@gmail.com

**Miró in New York, 1947** — Exhibit focuses on Spanish surrealist painter Joan Miró's time in New York when he made experimental intaglio prints at the legendary print shop Atelier 17, **10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursday; noon-6 p.m. Sunday, through June 25**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, Fort Wayne, \$8-\$10, (260) 422-6467

**Natural Appeal: Differing Approaches to the Landscape** — Assortment of landscapes from permanent collection, spanning more than 200 years and 15 mediums, **10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursday; noon-6 p.m. Sunday, through Sept. 17**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, Fort Wayne, \$8-\$10, (260) 422-6467

**PFW Juried Student Art Exhibition** — Art and design students' juried exhibition with awards by professional artist/adjudicator, **8 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Friday; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, through Aug. 11**, PFW Visual Arts Gallery, Fort Wayne, free admission, (260) 481-6709

**Return to Sender** — Solo exhibit by Jeff Schofield regarding pollution and nature, **11 a.m.-7 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, through June 17**, Bread & Circus Art Gallery, Fort Wayne, free admission, bcgallery2020@gmail.com

**Roman F. Miller: Landscape Architecture & Art** — Hailing from Sister City Gera, Germany, Miller's photographs emphasize change and a lack of control with light and shadow effects in the moment, **10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Thursday; and noon-4 p.m. Sunday, through Aug. 13**, Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory, Fort Wayne, \$5-\$7, (260) 427-6440

**Sharmalene Gunawardena Photography** — Local photographer's pieces on display through month of June, **4 p.m.-1 a.m. Sunday-Tuesday; 4 p.m.-3 a.m. Wednesday-Saturday through June 30**, Henry's, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 426-5031

**Jays of Summer** — Array of expressive paintings that capture the essence of the season by artists such as Robert Eberle, Fred Doloresco, Robert Hagberg, and Donna Shortt, **noon-5 p.m. Wednesday; 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Thursday-Saturday**, Castle Gallery Fine Art, Fort Wayne, free admission, (260) 426-6568

**Unity With Variety** — Hilarie Couture exhibit features 52 portraits of people living in Fort Wayne and video interviews, highlighting diversity in the community, **8 a.m.-5 p.m. Thursday-Friday, through June 18**, Honeywell Center Clark Gallery, Wabash, free admission, (260) 563-1102

## ART EVENTS

**Art05 Studio Collective Open Studio** — Meet with artists and purchase their work, **10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, June 17**, Reclaimed Fort Wayne, Fort Wayne, free admission, (260) 244-8999

**Covington Art Fair** — Show returns for 31st year with juried fine artists from across country, **10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, June 24; 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday, June 25**, Covington Plaza, Fort Wayne, free, covingtonartfair@asheragency.com

**Art on Broadway** — Gallery crawl along Broadway corridor with each spot hosting local art pop-up or artist showcase, **5-8 p.m. Saturday, July 22**, Broadway corridor, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 417-5925

**Broadway Street Stroll** — Galleries host local art pop-ups or showcase artists, with many offering art activities or demonstrations, **1-5 p.m. Sunday,**

**July 23**, Broadway corridor, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 417-5925

**Taste of the Arts** — Artwork, music, comedy, theater, dance, and more at The Landing, Promenade Park, Rousseau Plaza, and the Arts Campus, **11 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 26**, The Landing, Promenade Park, Arts Campus, Rousseau Plaza, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 424-0646

## CALL FOR ENTRIES

**Premier Pastel Society of Indiana** — Nonprofit art association of regional artists is seeking artists 18 and older for exhibit opportunities, painting excursions and education. For more information, contact hilariecouture@gmail.com.

**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

**Beyond Van Gogh: The Immersive Experience** — Walk through painter's works like *Starry Night*, *Sunflowers*, and *Cafe Terrace at Night* as they are projected from floor to ceiling, **10 a.m.-7 p.m. Sunday; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Thursday; and 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Friday-Saturday; June 24-Aug. 10, closed July 4**, Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, \$19.99-\$83.99, (260) 483-1111

**Frank Louis Allen Exhibit** — Originally from Biggleswade, United Kingdom, Allen is a legally blind artist that has been shown in Washington, D.C.; New York; and abroad, **6-9 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 7**, The Garden, Fort Wayne, free admission, (260) 639-6557

# Stage & Dance

LOCAL CALENDAR

## NOW PLAYING

**Jimmy Buffett's Escape to Margaritaville** — Wagon Wheel Professional Theatre production about part-time bartender and singer on an island paradise who meets a beautiful, career-driven tourist, **7 p.m. Thursday, June 15; 8 p.m. Friday, June 16; 7 p.m. Saturday, June 17; 2 p.m. Sunday, June 18; 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 20; 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 21; 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Thursday, June 22; 8 p.m. Friday, June 23; and 7 p.m. Saturday, June 24**, Wagon Wheel Theatre, Warsaw, \$20-\$50, (574) 267-8041

**Tick, Tick ... Boom!** — Autobiographical tale of *Rent* composer Jonathan Larson and the sacrifices he made to achieve his big break, **7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, June 16-17; 7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, June 23-24; 1 p.m. Sunday, June 25; and 7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, June 30-July 1**, Arena Dinner Theatre, Fort Wayne, (260) 422-4226

**In Review: Celebrating 25 Years of Fort Wayne Summer Music Theatre** — Celebration of cabaret covering songs from the last 25 years, featuring current and former Summer Music Theatre performers, **7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, June 16-17**, RKF Studios, Fort Wayne, imtfinc@gmail.com

**The Comedy of Errors** — Two sets of identical twins separated at birth are reunited by chance years later in the same town, **7:30 p.m. Monday, June 19**, Charley Creek Gardens, Wabash, free admission, (216) 407-0811

**Measure for Measure** — The new ruler of Vienna cracks down on morality laws, but his true character is revealed when a beautiful young nun comes to plead for her brother's life, **7:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 20**, Charley Creek Gardens, Wabash, free admission, (216) 407-0811

## CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS

**Dances of Universal Peace Midwest Retreat** — A blend of chant, live music, and simple movements in an experience of unity, peace, and integration, **9 a.m.-10 p.m. Friday-Monday, June 30-July 3**, Dance Collective Studios, Fort Wayne, \$125, monnierliz@gmail.com

**Fort Wayne Ballet Summer Camps** — Once Upon a Fairy Tale camp is open to those 3-6 years old with those 7 and older learning the basics at Follow the Ballet Brick Road camp, **9:30 a.m. Monday-Friday, July 24-28**, Auer Center for Arts & Culture, Fort Wayne, \$100-\$120, (260) 484-9646

**Summer Musical Theatre Intensive** — For high school students with week of classes and workshops provided by Ball State faculty and guest clinicians that culminates in a performance, **10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Saturday, July 24-29; and noon-5 p.m. Sunday, July 30**, Three Rivers Music Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$300, info@threeriversmusictheatre.com

## AUDITIONS

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

## UPCOMING PRODUCTIONS

### JUNE

**A Star's Born: The Concert** — Songs from each version of film and soundtrack of "A Star Is Born," including "The Man That Got Away," "Shallow," and the Oscar-winning "Evergreen," **7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, June 23-24; 2 p.m. Sunday, June 25**; First Presbyterian Theater, Fort Wayne, \$10-\$15, (260) 422-4226

**Splashes of Color: A Celebration of Jazz** — Vocal Artists of Heartland Sings, along with the Heartland Sings Jazz Orchestra, will perform a variety of songs culminating in the Midwest premiere of *Mass in Blue* by composer Will Todd, **7:30 p.m. Friday, June 23**, PFW Auer Performance Center, Fort Wayne, \$25-\$30, (260) 436-8080

**The Big Gay Cabaret** — Celebrate Pride Month with iconic hits from pop music, stage, and screen, **8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, June 23-24**, **Three Rivers Music Theatre**, Fort Wayne, \$18.25, info@threeriversmusictheatre.com

**Our Hospitality and One Week w/organist Cletus Goens** — Silent film series accompanied by Grand Page Pipe organ continues with a film and short, both starring Buster Keaton, **3 p.m. Sunday, June 25**, Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$10, (260) 424-5665

**Kiss Me, Kate** — Leading lady and her ex-husband battle on stage and off in a production of Shakespeare's *Taming of the Shrew* in this Wagon Wheel Professional Theatre production, **7 p.m. Thursday, June 29; 8 p.m. Friday, June 30; 7 p.m. Saturday, July 1; 2 p.m. Sunday,**

**July 2; 7 p.m. Tuesday, July 4; 7 p.m. Wednesday, July 5; 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Thursday, July 6; 8 p.m. Friday, July 7; and 7 p.m. Saturday, July 8**, Wagon Wheel Theatre, Warsaw, \$20-\$50, (574) 267-8041

### JULY

**The Music Man** — Con man's attempt to get Iowa town to purchase band equipment before he slides out of town is foiled by love interest that helps change his ways, **7:30 p.m. July 8; 2 p.m. July 9; 7:30 p.m. July 15; 2 p.m. July 16**, PFW Auer Performance Hall, Fort Wayne, (260) 437-6825

**Jesus Christ Superstar** — Wagon Wheel Professional Theatre takes on Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice rock opera loosely based on the Gospels that follow last week of Jesus Christ's life, **7 p.m. Thursday, July 13; 8 p.m. Friday, July 14; 7 p.m. Saturday, July 15; 2 p.m. Sunday, July 16; 7 p.m. Tuesday, July 18; 7 p.m. Wednesday, July 19; 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Thursday, July 20; 8 p.m. Friday, July 21; and 7 p.m. Saturday, July 22**, Wagon Wheel Theatre, Warsaw, \$20-\$50, (574) 267-8041

**The Phantom of the Opera** — Fort Wayne Summer Music Theatre marks its 25th season with Andrew Lloyd Webber's iconic musical, **7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, July 14-15; 2 p.m. Sunday, July 16; 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, July 20-22; and 2 p.m. Sunday, July 23**, North Side High School, Fort Wayne, imtfinc@gmail.com

**The Ten Commandments w/organist Clark Wilson** — Silent film series with accompaniment by Grande Page Pipe

organ stars Theodore Roberts in two-part story, **3 p.m. Sunday, July 16**, Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$10, (260) 424-5665

**Little Shop of Horrors** — Sci-fi horror musical about a man-eating plant, **7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, July 21-22; 2:30 p.m. Sunday, July 23**, Gaslight Playhouse, Community Learning Center, Kendallville, \$15-\$17, (260) 544-3455

**Wait Until Dark** — A sinister con man and two ex-convicts are about to meet their match when they come across a blind woman determined to prove her husband's innocence in this Wagon Wheel Professional Theatre show, **7 p.m. Thursday, July 27; 8 p.m. Friday, July 28; 7 p.m. Saturday, July 29; 2 p.m. Sunday, July 30; 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 1; 7 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 2; 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 3; 8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 4; 7 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 5**, Wagon Wheel Theatre, Warsaw, \$20-\$50, (574) 267-8041

### AUGUST

**Ripcord** — Competition between senior living facility roommates reveals deep truths they'd like to keep secret, dinner and a show, **7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Aug. 4-5; Friday-Saturday Aug. 11-12; 1 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 13; 7 p.m. Friday-Saturday Aug. 18-19**, Arena Dinner Theatre, Fort Wayne, (260) 422-4226

**Why Worry? and Bumping Into Broadway w/organist Clark Wilson** — Silent films with Grande Page Pipe organ including a feature film and short film, each starring Harold Lloyd, **3 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 6**, Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$10, (260) 424-5665



**Sweetwater**  
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# HAVE YOUR TICKETS YET?



**BLACKBERRY SMOKE**  
WITH SPECIAL GUEST SAM BARBER

Southern Rock | June 17



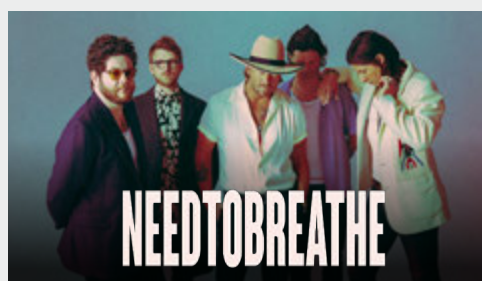
**CANDLEBOX**  
WITH SPECIAL GUEST THE DEAD DEADS

Rock | June 18



**SAMANTHA FISH FT. JESSE DAYTON**  
WITH SPECIAL GUEST ERIC JOHANSON

Blues Rock | July 30



**NEEDTOBREATHE**  
WITH SPECIAL GUEST JONATHAN HUTCHERSON

Alt Rock | August 13



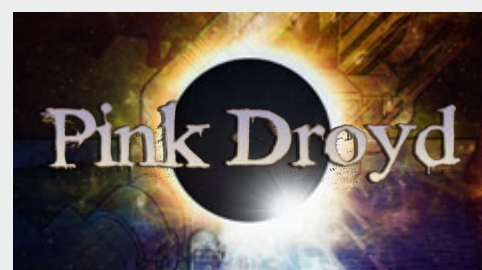
**WE THE KINGDOM**

Christian | August 27



**YACHT ROCK RADIO CRUISE** starring  
**PETER BECKETT AND MONSTERS OF YACHT**

Yacht Rock | September 1



**PINK DROYD**

Pink Floyd Tribute | September 30

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