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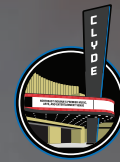
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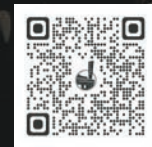
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We encourage readers to verify information prior to attending events or purchasing tickets.

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Haller's giving nature leads to Liddell Award

City musician takes time from playing to organize Rock the Plaza, help kids

BY NICK BRAUN
WHATZUP FEATURES WRITER

Amid all the summertime activities in Fort Wayne, one has remained persistent the past 18 years: Rock the Plaza.

The popular concert series has been supplying the city with free live music on the lawn of the downtown Allen County Public Library Plaza nearly two decades. It's provided the community a chance to unwind on Saturday evenings in their favorite lawn chair, grab some grub or a beverage from one of the local vendors, and take in a diverse mix of local acts.

Behind every star-studded lineup is a powerful live music impresario. That is Kyle Haller, well-known to the local music scene for his keyboard work in such acts as Phil's Family Lizard, Kyle Haller Band, Grateful Groove, The Wailhounds, and The Revisitors.

Haller is also a recipient of this year's H. Stanley Liddell Award, awarded by *Whatzup* to those that have made contributions to the arts and culture scene of northeast Indiana.

"The first time I saw the shell being built outside of the downtown library, it was my goal to play under it," Haller said. "After hounding the library a bit, not only was I given the opportunity to do so, but they were interested in doing a whole series."

ROCKING THE PLAZA

The first year for Rock the Plaza featured just seven shows, taking place every other weekend. And for the trivia nerds out there, the very first show consisted of Phil's Family Lizard and Walkin' Papers.

With expectations exceeded that first summer, it was decided to bump things up the following year with 13 shows, every weekend.

Although Haller dabbled with some touring acts early on like Ekoostik Hookah and The Why Store to try and put the series on the map and increase awareness, his focus has always been on giving local acts a platform.

"My favorite part about Rock the Plaza is the diversity of people it brings out," he said. "It's just great to see the youngsters hanging and dancing with us old folks."

I don't care who you are, providing friends and families the opportunity to gather in beautiful downtown and allowing our local musicians a place to be heard for nearly 20 years is quite an accomplishment. By now, I don't think you can find too many people in town that haven't attended a Rock the Plaza concert, whether that be a musician or the community.

HELPING YOUNG MUSICIANS

When Haller's not roaming around the library



PHOTO BY CAMI YODER

Kyle Haller's contributions to the local music scene through Rock the Plaza and Keyboards for Kids have led to him to be given an H. Stanley Liddell Award from *Whatzup*.

grounds, on father duty, or tickling the ivories with one of his bands, he's involved with Keyboards for Kids, a program he started to help youngsters.

"This whole idea came about after people would occasionally ask me where they can get a cheap keyboard for their kid who is wanting to take lessons," he said. "I'm a keyboard player, and I know these things aren't cheap and not in everyone's budget. That's when the light bulb went off."

"I started asking for people to donate their unused keyboards that were just sitting around collecting dust, and it sort of took off from there."

So far, he's managed to make the day for several youngsters, something he's eager to expand on in the upcoming year.

"It's so satisfying being there whenever a kid gets the keyboard and see their excitement," he said. "I also like to get a photo for our Facebook page, but sometimes I'm so overwhelmed myself that I forget to take the pic."

Anyone who has a child in need or wanting to donate should hit up the Keyboards for Kids

Facebook page.

IN GOOD COMPANY

Haller didn't suddenly discover altruism; He's always been a kind and giving soul. It's a big part of why he's being recognized with a Liddell Award, named after the original owner of *Piere's* who was instrumental to *Whatzup's* survival in the early years.

Haller's efforts in elevating and supporting local musicians, and organizing an impactful local event through dedication, creativity, and the love of the community have not gone unseen.

"I feel so amazing about it," he said when asked about the winning the award. "It's one of the coolest awards, and I'm very honored and humbled."

"When I saw the list of past winners and the company I was with, it just blows me away."

Well, you deserved it Kyle, and I'm sure I speak for a lot of folks who appreciate your boots-on-the-ground approach for those Saturdays throughout the summer and for fostering a strong "give back" attitude to the community.

Richards helped advance local arts

Ex-Majic director awarded Liddell for all her work

BY ANTHONY GADSON
WHATZUP EDITOR

Barb Richards was not only a radio personality. She is a personality.

When speaking with Richards, program director at 95.1-FM WAJI, aka Majic 95.1, from 1984-2013, she was chilling poolside in the Dominican Republic while her children and grandchildren enjoyed the non-northeast Indiana weather.

Luckily, she had time to discuss her role at Majic, as well as her time as marketing director at Embassy Theatre. The Homestead graduate was also chief engagement officer at The Embassy as well as station manager at the local CW television station.

All of this has led to her being a recipient of the H. Stanley Liddell Award, given by *Whatzup* to those who have made contributions to the arts and culture scene of northeast Indiana.

Through all her endeavors, she's not only been a proponent of the arts in the region, but also a trailblazer.

"I wouldn't change a thing," Richards said. "I got some of the best years in radio, especially for women. My first three radio stations, I was the first woman they put on the air. The nice thing about being first is, you have nothing to compare it to. So, that was cool. I felt like I broke through some glass ceilings."

LEADING THE WAY

Prior to getting into radio, Richards was busy in stage productions around town.

Her parents, Raymond and



COURTESY PHOTO

Barb Richards has been awarded a H. Stanley Liddell Award by *Whatzup* for her contributions to the northeast Indiana arts and culture scene.

Maryamber Bosk, were very active in the local theater scene, and their love trickled down to their daughter, who started out as many young actors in town do, with Fort Wayne Youtheatre.

"I wanted to go to New York and be a big Broadway star," Richards said.

Admitting the idea of going to New York on her own was a bit daunting, Richards instead stayed closer to home, getting her first shot at radio with Columbia City's 106.3-FM.

From there, Richards' radio career took her to Illinois, Wyoming, South Bend, and Cleveland, before returning home to join WAJI.

"Just a great place to raise a family and put down roots," she said about Fort Wayne.

However, after accepting the position, the new mother had a thought: She would have pump while at the office to have milk for her 7-week-old child.

"I said (to my husband), 'I think I'm going to have to call (WAJI General Manager Geoff Vargo) to tell him this.' Pretty much uncharted territory back then," Richards said. "So, I called him and told, 'I just want to let you know I had a baby

seven weeks ago and I am nursing him. When I'm at the radio station, I'm probably going to pump.' And, oh, I still remember this to this day and I just love him for it, but he just got all nervous: 'O-O-OK. Whatever you need, you just ask. We'll clear out space for you.' It was just so cute.

"Again, in an atmosphere when there may not have been women in the station before, other than maybe sales or administration, these things were new. They were things that we kind of had to deal with."

It was that kind of support that Richards said she received at all her stops.

"I was lucky enough to get with some stations that really wanted to see women succeed," she said. "That wasn't always true back then. So, I was grateful for that. When the whole #MeToo movement came out, I went back thinking, 'Was I taken advantage of?' And I really wasn't. I'm very grateful for that. I had some very wonderful radio opportunities."

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Those opportunities also allowed Richards to support causes she believed in.

"If it was a female-targeted event, Majic was there," Richards said. "That was our audience. We were there for Vera Bradley. We were there for Riley, for the kids. Three Rivers Festival would come around, and we did 10 events over Three Rivers Festival week. That's when we had a staff with live people who had to be there."

On top of bringing attention to causes and events, Richards and her team were also there for the listeners, be it reporting on the death of Michael Jackson or offering support during times of crisis.

One of those tragedies came on April 20, 1999, when two teens walked into Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado, and killed 12 of their classmates and a teacher before turning their guns on themselves.

"We were stunned. We were devastated," Richards said. "We got on the phone as a morning station the night before and called our consultant, and said, 'What should we do? The president is calling for prayers.' He said, 'OK, just say that. We're not a Christian station, but we're OK to say prayers.'"

"We brainstormed, and I came up with this idea: 'What if we did a construction paper chain? We hand out strips of construction paper and people could write a message to Columbine?' They didn't need water. They didn't need clothes. They weren't tornado or hurricane victims. What did they need? They needed our prayers."

"We put it on the radio, and by the end of the week, we couldn't get into my office because businesses were doing it, schools were doing it."

With a mile-long prayer chain on their hands, the next course of action was getting it to Colorado. That's when Richards stepped up again asking in favors, which led to a trip to Colorado via Consolidate Airways along with city officials, as well as the chain being shipped free through the United States Postal Service.

In Littleton, they were greeted warmly, with *The Denver Post* reporting the chain was hung from tree to tree in Clement Park.

"It was quite the emotional experience and something I'm proud of that we reacted that way," Richards said. "And also that it was so well-received."

CHEERLEADER FOR ARTS

Along with receiving a Liddell Award, Richards is also a recent recipient of the Linda & Jerry

Vandever Impact Award thanks to her work with nonprofits such as the YWCA, Fort Wayne Children's Choir, Fort Wayne Youtheatre, and Riley Hospital for Children.

"I didn't do this by myself," she said. "I had the power of a radio station behind me. When it really counted, when it really made a difference."

"It just felt good to help people with the power of a radio station. I mean, why wouldn't you want to do that?"

That power also helped her celebrate her first love, too — theater.

"I had such an arts focus, I could reach out to the Civic Theatre, 'Can I hand out some free tickets?' Arena Dinner Theatre? 'Yeah, yeah, yeah, we'll give you some free publicity. Give me some tickets,'" she said. "I could bring that to the radio station — my love of the arts and my love of the community. It allowed me to be a cheerleader. We have a great community, and it's grown so beautifully over the years."

"I feel very blessed and very grateful that I had the bosses I had, I had the leadership I had."

That leadership extends to her early years, when a nun was able to see into her future, telling her something she recalls with a laugh.

"I went to St. Therese grade school," she said. "When I was in about fourth grade, on the millionth time I had been called to office because I had gotten in trouble for talking, a nun said to me — God bless our nuns — she said to me, 'I don't know what you're going to grow up to be, but I hope that whatever you do, you can figure out a way to make a living from your mouth!'"

"I used to say, 'Sister Esther is just spinning in her grave after seeing what kind of career I ended up having.'"

A career that came natural to her.

"I was in that day and age when 'shock radio' was coming into being," she said. "You had Bob & Tom and a lot of those guys that were doing that — the Power Pig down in Tampa, Florida, was really big. I thought, 'That just really doesn't appeal to me.'"

"I had decided early on that I was going to be the kind of person that was going to be the champion: 'I'm going to be the cheerleader.' That fits my personality. If you're going to go on radio, it's an extension of your own personality. What better way to get known in the community than by supporting these nonprofits, and we have so such good, strong ones in Fort Wayne."

Holiday concert also helps feed the hungry

Local acts get together for annual Christmas at Baker Street Centre

BY ANTHONY GADSON

WHATZUP EDITOR

For the 13th year in a row, Mike Conley will host a Christmas show that not only raises holiday spirits, but also raises funds to feed those in need.

On Saturday, Dec. 14, Christmas at Baker Street Centre returns with holiday music from local acts The Celebration Quartet, JJ & McRae & Conley, Sunglasses at Night, and Vox Deco. Tickets are \$12-\$25, with proceeds going to Community Harvest Food Bank.

“One dollar will pay for four meals,” Conley said. “So, a \$12 ticket is enough money to provide 48 meals. That really sticks with me. It helps so many people to do things like this. I’ve been blessed to have a platform to get in front of a room full of people. It only makes sense to utilize this platform as positively as I can.”

HELP FROM FRIENDS

According to Conley, who will once again be hosting along with performing with JJ & McRae, the opportunity to host the now annual event came about quite organically between himself and Baker Street Centre owner Mark Minnick.

“I came out with my Christmas album, and we both kind of looked at each other and thought, ‘Well, maybe we should do a Christmas show,’” Conley said. “Then Mark went on to suggest, ‘Well, maybe we should do a great Christmas show with good music and entertainment, make it a memorable experience for everybody, then donate all proceeds to Community Harvest Food Bank.’ So, that’s where it all started.”

That concept has led to many bands taking part, with Conley always hosting, while also performing, be it solo, with his band the Beef Manhattans, or this year participating with JJ & McRae.

“They were sweet enough to let me show up at some of their shows and sing together,” he noted, saying rotator cuff surgery has left him unable to play. “I felt it was only appropriate to do this year’s Christmas show with my good friends (Jill Jugloff) and Jeff (McRae).”

Along with joining his friends, he’s also putting in plenty of time to prepare for the show.

“Christmas music is a little tricky because it’s kind of hard to identify some harmonies in some of them or come up with them,” Conley said. “It’s a little challenging, I’m not going to lie. If you’re going to do a cover of Crosby, Stills & Nash or Simon & Garfunkel, you can find the harmonies. But where do you find the



COURTESY PHOTO

The driving force behind Christmas at Baker Street Centre is Mike Conley, who will again host the event on Dec. 14 while also performing with JJ & McRae.

harmonies in ‘Let It Snow?’”

The partnership with JJ & McRae is an example of the kind of acts that take part in the show. They all have some sort of relationship with Conley.

“The Celebration Quartet, a four-piece string group, and my friend Margaret (Sklenar) is a part of that group,” Conley said. “I asked my friend Margaret if she wanted to be a part of the show, and she said sure. The same with JJ & McRae. Sunglasses at Night, (guitarist) Steve Wright is an all-time, lifer friend. We’ve been in bands together. We’ve recorded music together. Steve is like a brother.”

Vox Deco, formerly known as Smooth Edge 2, have also been mainstays of the show. And it’s a show that does not lack for participants.

“I’m kind of flattered, because we’ve had a couple people that have said, ‘We’ve always wanted to do your Christmas show.’ I’m like, ‘Really?’ I’m just kind of stunned to hear that, but I’m really proud of that,” Conley said.

“The one common element of all the bands that have played at this is, they are all my friends. They’re my friends.”

SHIFTING GEARS

Among those friends is Wright, whose band Sunglasses at Night have been keeping people dancing and partying to the songs of the ‘80s for about four years now.

When it comes to this year’s acts, Sunglasses at Night may be making the biggest departure, performing holiday songs.

“We’re an ‘80s band predominantly, but we can do anything,” said Bill Herrington, vocalist for Sunglasses at Night, which also includes Nikki Gowins (vocals), Wright, Patrick Madrid (keyboards), Brad Wilson (drums), and Dan Rohlhoff (bass). “We have enough talent and instrumentation to cover a variety of things. So, it’s a nice little departure.”

That departure has led to plenty of practice, which should result in a new-look band on Dec. 14.

CHRISTMAS AT BAKER STREET CENTRE w/THE CELEBRATION QUARTET, JJ & McRAE & CONLEY, SUNGLASSES AT NIGHT, VOX DECO

6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14

Baker Street Centre

323 W. Baker St., Fort Wayne

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“The songs we picked are not necessarily rocking,” Herrington said. “We have a couple of the ‘Please Come Home for Christmas’ and ‘Baby, It’s Cold Outside.’ They’re a little more laid-back.”

GREATER CAUSE

It’s that kind of dedication to learn completely new setlists that sets Christmas at Baker Street Centre apart. It’s a show where bands come together for a greater cause.

“Just the music community in general, we’re sort of a tight-knit group of people,” Conley said. “I think that’s an important element of this show. There’s a camaraderie and there’s friendships. If you have that, it shows.”

“All the musical acts donate their time. Of course, they have to learn material for this show, because it’s an all Christmas show. So, there’s a good amount of effort that everyone puts in to make it a great show.”

And it’s a show that will feature holiday standards but presented in very different ways. Even if two acts perform the same song, you won’t be hearing the *same* song.

“One act is a four-piece string quartet. One act is an acoustic act. One act’s a full band. Then, the last act, Vox Deco, which used to be Smooth Edge 2, is an eight-person a cappella group,” Conley said. “So, the music genres are so drastically different. If the string quartet does ‘Little Drummer Boy’ and the eight-person a cappella group also does ‘Little Drummer Boy,’ it will be completely different songs.”

On top of hearing holiday music from the top acts in the city, you’re also going to be benefiting those in need. And this year, Conley has reached out for sponsorships, which have been very beneficial.

“We’ve already raised more money than we ever have for this show, just based on the sponsors we have,” Conley said of Tradewell Tax & Financial, Steel Dynamics, FAK Logistics, el Azteca, Surack Enterprises, Tom’s Donuts, Current Mechanical, Terry D. Anderson State Farm Insurance, and Sowles Bay Yacht Club & Storage. “They’re big companies that I know get called a lot of stuff for this sort of stuff. They said, ‘We appreciate what you’re doing for the community, so we’re going to help out.’”

You can also “help out,” while also getting into the Christmas spirit on Dec. 14 at Baker Street Centre.

Henry Cho brings clean humor to Clyde

On Friday, May 16, comedian **Henry Cho's** The Empty Nest Tour will roll into town for a performance at The Clyde Theatre.

Known for his clean, clever humor and unique comedic style, Cho has been entertaining audiences across the country with his hilarious observations on life, family, and culture. His versatile humor allows him to perform on various platforms and for wide-ranging audiences.



Out and About

NICK BRAUN

For those unfamiliar with him, he was recently inducted as the 229th member of The Grand Ole Opry, making him the first comedian to receive this prestigious honor since Jerry Clower in 1973. With that being said, he must be doing something right.

In any event, we can all use a good night of laughter now and again, so do yourself a favor and break out the plastic.

Tickets go on sale Friday, Dec. 6, at noon and can be purchased at clydetheatre.com, etix.com, over the phone at (800) 514-3849, or in person at The Clyde box office and Sweetwater Sound.



Henry Cho

Piere's celebrates life of Jack Russell

Piere's have announced a pretty interesting show coming up on Saturday, Feb. 15.

That evening, folks are encouraged to come out and celebrate the life of the late legendary frontman **Jack Russell** of the band Great White.

If you recall, Russell passed away in August at the age of 63 due to complications from Lewy Body Dementia and Multiple System Atrophy. The Piere's show will be for all Jack's friends and family who are unable to make it to his celebration of life in California in January.

Headlining the Piere's stage will be none other than **Derek St. Holmes**, best known as the lead singer and rhythm guitar player for Ted Nugent's early solo career. He's also worked with other artists over the years, most notably the Whitford/St. Holmes project with Brad Whitford of Aerosmith.

The night will also include performances by **Rick Monroe & The Hitmen** and **The JC Lee Band**. Grim Reaper guitarist and Sweetwater's own **Nick Bowcott** will host the evening.

As of press time, there were not many details released, but one can only assume Holmes and friends will be

performing Russell tunes as well as their own material.

Tickets can be purchased via etix.com and all Wooden Nickel locations.

Hillbilly Casino fill out lineup for holiday show

The **Hillbilly Casino** Christmas Show is slated for The Brass Rail on Thursday, Dec. 12.

This highly energetic and festive show has become quite the holiday tradition the last couple of years full of Christmas classics and Casino numbers performed by Nic Roulette and Co.

But hold up, Rudolph! The fun doesn't stop there since there will also be performances by our very own **Debutants** and alt-country musician **Sebastian Bordeaux**.

I'm just hoping Hillbilly Casino still has some of those bags of One Cup Beyond coffee they've been selling on the road courtesy of Old Crown.

You can purchase tickets for only \$10 at brassrailfw.ticketleap.com. If you wait until day of, it will run you \$12. If I were a betting man, I would say these tickets won't last long, so get on it.

In other Hillbilly Casino news, they just released a new single, "Tow Truck," which can be found on Bandcamp.

Bargatze stopping at Coliseum

Comedian **Nate Bargatze** is bringing his brand-new Big Dumb Eyes World Tour to Memorial Coliseum on Sunday, May 11.

Bargatze, who has hosted *Saturday Night Live* twice, is a Grammy-nominated comedian, podcaster, director, and producer who is currently the No. 1 earning comedian in the world, according to Pollstar's recent report and No. 12 in overall live tour ticket sales, putting him in the company of Coldplay, Madonna, and U2.

Tickets go on sale Friday, Dec. 6, at 10 a.m. by going to ticketmaster.com or visiting the Coliseum box office.

Badfish announce opening acts

If you're planning on attending the **Badfish: Sublime Tribute** show at The Clyde Theatre on Saturday, Feb. 8, make sure you arrive on time. That's because they just announced the opening acts, which will be the Florida's reggae/rock band **Kash'd Out** and the Columbus, Ohio, reggae outfit **The Quasi Kings**.

Both have performed with Badfish in town, so there's a good chance you boogied down with them before.

No matter who they bring with them, these shows are always one big party, so don't miss out on any of the action.

Tickets are currently on sale at clydetheatre.com as well as The Clyde Theatre box office.

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

Quick Hit LOCAL EVENT

THE BEST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT EVER: THE MUSICAL

THURSDAY-SATURDAY, DEC. 5-7; THURSDAY-SATURDAY, DEC. 12-14 · PPG ARTSLAB

As the curtain rises, Grace Bradley tells the audience the six disadvantaged, delinquent Herdman siblings are "the worst kids in the whole history of the world." To that, there is no doubt. They lie, steal, bully other kids, and smoke smelly cigars.

The story of *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* follows these kids as they discover the true meaning of

Christmas and the Christmas Story in this buoyant musical adaptation of the funny and touching holiday classic.

The show presented by the young actors of Fire & Light Academy will be Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 5-7 and Dec. 12-14, at Parkview Physicians Group ArtsLab in downtown Fort Wayne. — *Chris Hupe*

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ALLEN COUNTY WAR MEMORIAL COLISEUM FORT WAYNE, IN JAN 1

View the full calendar of events at www.memorialcoliseum.com

A Christmas Story star visits The Embassy

On Thursday, Dec. 19, Embassy Theatre will hold a special screening of *A Christmas Story* that will be hosted by the film's star, Peter Billingsley.

The evening will include a screening of the 1983 film and a moderated question-and-answer session where Billingsley will share stories from the movie set, behind-the-scenes photos, and memories from the Christmas classic. Audience questions are encouraged, and a leg lamp will be given away to one lucky winner.



News and Venues

JEN POIRY PROUGH

The Embassy box office.

Unfortunately, all meet and greet sessions have sold out.

Tickets to the screening and Q&A are \$15-\$50 and still available by going to fwembassytheatre.org or visiting

Civic Theatre raising funds to offset costs

As Arts United Center undergoes renovations to enhance its accessibility and functionality, the Fort Wayne Civic Theatre has taken a temporary home and produced their 2024-25 season at various locations.

This has cost Civic Theatre an estimated \$768,000 to fully execute. These costs include moving expenses, leasing of additional storage space, higher cost of locations for operations and performances, and loss of revenue from dropped productions in order to move.

These costs are incurred by the Civic Theatre alone and are not a part of Arts United's renovation campaign.

At this time, the Civic Theatre has secured 75 percent of their financial goal for these added expenses. They are kicking off their Inspire Campaign to raise the additional funds.

For more information, go to fwcivic.org/inspire.

Downtown Fort Wayne window decorating

Be sure to head downtown over the holiday season and vote on your favorite holiday window displays.

Contestants were asked to creatively display their favorite Gnome for the Holidays creation and will be judged in two categories: Most Thematic and Most Fort Wayne. Voting for the People's Choice Award will end Dec. 15.

Voters will be entered to win a \$50 Downtown Fort Wayne gift card and the People's Choice winner will receive a \$100 Downtown Fort Wayne gift card.

Winners will be announced Dec. 20.

Holiday Lights continue at Parkview Field

The Holiday Lights walk-thru event at Parkview Field continues through Jan. 4.

The display features more than 1 million lights and displays, plus a train ride, all choreographed to holiday music.

Johnny Claus will be on deck every night, along with stations to do crafts, write letters to Santa, and create s'mores.

Tickets are \$12.

Honeywell presents Yule Time Stroll

Honeywell Arts & Entertainment invites you to visit Charley Creek Gardens for Yule Time Stroll, beginning Friday, Dec. 13.

Lighted and decorated for the season, Charley Creek Gardens are six acres of formalized gardens that also house a horticultural center dedicated to study, conservation, and appreciation of plants.

Yule Time Stroll is free and will continue from 6-9 p.m. each night through Dec. 23.

Live performances around Fort Wayne

The Fort Wayne area is brimming with festive, holiday-inspired live theater options for the whole family to enjoy.

Among the options to get you into the holiday mood include:

- *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever: The Musical* – Fire & Light Productions show is Dec. 5-7 and Dec. 12-14 at Parkview Physicians Group Artslab.

- *Elf Jr.* — Youths present show Dec. 6-8 at Pulse Opera House in Warren.

- *A Christmas Carol* — Summit City Music Theatre production is Dec. 6-8 and Dec. 13-15 in The Old Barn at Salomon Farm Park.

- *Longing for the Light: A Christmas Celebration* — all for One productions show is Dec. 6-7 at Redemption Bible Church.

- *Christmas My Way* — Rat Pack-inspired show is Dec. 6-7, Dec. 13-15, and Dec. 20-22 at Arena Dinner Theatre.

- Holiday Cabaret — Huntington Theatre Guild: Act II present show Dec. 7 at Huntington University's Longaker Recital Hall.

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

Nightlife

Baker Street Centre (formerly C2G Music Hall)

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

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. **GETTING THERE:** Corner of Jefferson and West Main Street, 2 minutes from downtown. **HOURS:** 11 a.m.-3 a.m. daily. **ALCOHOL:** Full Service. **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, ATM

Deer Park Irish Pub

Pub • 1530 Leesburg Road, Fort Wayne • (260) 432-8966 • deerparkpub.com
EXPECT: Largest craft beer selection in city, 13 craft beer lines, over 300 domestic, craft, & imported beers, assorted wines, largest St. Pat's Celebration & Parade, keg toss, Irish snug, & USF students. Fri/Sat live music, holiday specials. Outdoor beer garden. Wi-Fi. Small snack menu, tacos every Tue/Thu. **GETTING THERE:** Corner of Leesburg and Spring, across from USF. **HOURS:** 3 p.m.-midnight Mon; noon-midnight Tue; 3 p.m.-midnight Wed; noon-1 a.m. Thu; noon-3 a.m. Fri-Sat; noon-midnight Sun. **ALCOHOL:** Beer & Wine. **PMT:** MC, Visa, Disc, Amex, tap to pay

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ALSO COMING TO THE EMBASSY:

Saturday-Sunday, December 7-8
NUTCRACKER AT THE EMBASSY
 PROJECT BALLET WITH 150 LOCAL CHILDREN

Thursday, December 19
AN EVENING w/PETER BILLINGSLEY
 WITH SCREENING OF *A CHRISTMAS STORY*

Tuesday, January 21
ERTH'S DINOSAUR ZOO LIVE
 TOP SHELF TOUR

Friday, January 24
JUSTIN WILLMAN
 ILLUSIONATI TOUR

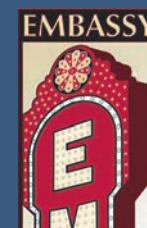
Saturday, January 25
RATBOYS
 PRESENTED BY MIDDLE WAVES

Tuesday, February 4
MOMIX: ALICE
 ILLUSION, ACROBATICS, AND MAGIC

Saturday, February 22
DOWN THE LINE 19
 GREAT BRIT WITH LOCAL MUSICIANS

Friday, February 28
JIM JEFFERIES
 "SON OF A CARPENTER" COMEDY TOUR

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 MAGICAL AT THE
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 125 W. Jefferson Blvd.
 Fort Wayne, Indiana
 (260) 424-5665
fwembassytheatre.org



DECEMBER 10-11, 2024

Big Boy leaves behind fond memories

When demolition crews ripped into the former **Azar's Big Boy** at 6800 Bluffton Road on Nov. 18, it closed the book on one of Fort Wayne's great restaurant chains.

The Azar brothers (Alex, David, and George) launched their first Big Boy in 1954, opening the Waynedale location 10 years later at Lower Huntington and Bluffton roads.



Off the Eaten Path

DEAN JACKSON

By the mid-1980s, they owned more than two dozen locations in northern Indiana and Colorado.

In the 1990s, Azar closed locations around northeast Indiana, and when COVID-19 and its cautionary restrictions gripped the nation, the Waynedale store was temporarily closed in April 2020. Two months later, owners waved the white flag, ending 76 years of a Big Boy in Fort Wayne.

The space would later house Top Notch Diner in 2021 and later Mary's Diner.

Like most of their local restaurants, Waynedale was a local landmark. Their burgers, pies, ice cream, and later breakfast bar united a community.

In its wake, it leaves behind a legacy of first dates, first jobs, impromptu reunions, or a bite after a trip to the airport, a game, or informal family gatherings.

All isn't gone: Community Harvest Food Bank has some of the original Azar's Big Boy signage and artifacts, and there are discussions about some items going to The History Center.

They are working with a few local antique stores to sell the memorabilia, with proceeds benefiting Community Harvest.

The charity welcomes inquiries to sell other pieces but say they want to preserve the memories and honor the Azar family. Proceeds will help with the mission of the food bank.

Organizations serve Thanksgiving meals

Several local groups prepared Thanksgiving meals for the needy last week.

Culinary arts students with **Fort Wayne Community Schools** prepared and distributed about 350 turkey or

chicken dinners at the Career Academy cafeteria on Barr Street. It's the eighth year students have been serving up Thanksgiving.

FWCS says it took about eight to 10 hours in the kitchen to get it all together.

As they've done since 1978, **St. Mary of Mother of God Catholic Church**, 1101 S. Lafayette St., served a feast for more than 1,500 visitors. More than 150 volunteers are involved.

Of course, **The Rescue Mission**, 404 E. Washington Blvd., was also busy, serving more than 5,000 meals.

Fire does not keep steakhouse grounded long

It didn't take long for **BakerStreet Steakhouse**, 4820 N. Clinton St., to reopen following a fire last week.

About 9:15 p.m., on Monday, Nov. 25, a small fire ignited in the kitchen hood ventilation system. Firefighters had it controlled in about 15 minutes. There were no injuries.

Workers quickly got to work cleaning up minor damage from smoke, fire, and water. They were already back at it Tuesday evening like nothing happened.

Local Apple Cart opens at Glenbrook

Local Apple Cart is now open in Glenbrook Square on the second floor overlooking the food court.

Getting their start as a food truck then setting up inside Union Street Market at Electric Works, Local Apple Cart features homemade, handcrafted ice cream and chocolate-dipped bananas.

Owner Rachel Nally says it's a throwback to her favorite stand growing up in Cleveland.

Santa visits doughnut stand

When Santa visits **Tiny Little Donuts**, 10300 Maysville Road, it's a big deal.

On Saturday, Dec. 21, from 8 a.m.-noon, the Air-stream-turned-doughnut shop in Chapel Ridge Shopping Center will host a meet and greet with the jolly elf.

Kids can get a photo and everyone 12 and younger will get a treat — a bag of cinnamon sugar donuts.

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.

Quick Hit LOCAL EVENT

THE LIGHTING OF THE LAKE & LIVING NATIVITY

6 P.M. SUNDAY, DEC. 8 · UNIVERSITY OF SAINT FRANCIS

Christmas at the University of Saint Francis is a special time, and the school celebrates the season with two traditional events.

The Lighting of the Lake and Living Nativity are highlighted events for many every year and will be presented this year Sunday, Dec. 8.

The blessing of luminaries during the Lighting of the Lake takes place at 6 p.m. at Mirror Lake and are dedicated to those who hold special places in our hearts.

The ceremony honors the

Christmas creche tradition, started by St. Francis of Assisi in 1223, that reenacts the birth of Christ. Tradition has it that luminaria lighted the way for Mary and Joseph in their search for lodging in Bethlehem.

Immediately following the blessing, members of the university community will portray the Living Nativity.

End the evening with complimentary cookies and hot cocoa at Achatz Hall of Science. — *Chris Hupe*



THIS WEEK ON ALT FORT WAYNE



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

DEC. 5, 8, 12, AND 15:

Joe Stilwell

DEC. 19, 22, 26, AND 29:

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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



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ClydeClubRoom.com
(260) 747-0989

Live Music LOCAL CALENDAR

THURSDAY, DEC. 5

Auburn Community Chorus Holiday Carolers — Holiday, 6 p.m., Auburn Cord Duesenberg Automobile Museum, Auburn, Free, (260) 925-1444

BigMeow — Holiday, 5 p.m., The Press Room, South Whitley, Free, (260) 609-8883

Colleen McNabb-Everage w/Reggie Berg — Jazz, 5:30 p.m., Caruso's, Angola, Indiana, Free, (260) 833-2617

Joe Hess Band — Country, 7 p.m., The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 747-0989

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

FRIDAY, DEC. 6

BasketCase — Variety, 6:30 p.m., Club Soda, Fort Wayne, Free, (260) 426-3442

BigMeow — Holiday, 5 p.m., The Press Room, South Whitley, Free, (260) 609-8883

Dungeon Synth Night w/Haudh, Elyvilon, Foglord, Lone Sentinel — Dungeon Synth, 6 p.m., Stan's Room at Piere's, Fort Wayne, \$20, (260) 4892-6064

Faye — Rock, 8:30 p.m., Deer Park Irish Pub, Fort Wayne, Free, (260) 432-8966

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

Half Cap w/Four Piece, Neighborhood Strays — Alternative, 9:30 p.m., The Brass Rail, Fort Wayne, \$7, (260) 267-5303

#1YKYK — Rock, 10 p.m., Latch String Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 483-5526

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

Decade Divide — Rock, 9:30 p.m., Mitchell's, Fort Wayne, \$5, (260) 387-5063

Sixteen Candles — 80s tribute, 8 p.m., The Clyde Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$15-\$20, (260) 747-0989

Tom Koenig — Variety, 7 p.m., Club Paradise, Angola, no cover, (260) 833-7082

Under the Covers — Variety, 9:30 p.m., The Venue, Angola, no cover, (260) 665-3922

SATURDAY, DEC. 7

Alicia Pyle Duo — Jazz, 6:30 p.m., Club Soda, Fort Wayne, Free, (260) 426-3442

Avery Mitchell — Variety, 6 p.m., Deema, Fort Wayne, Free, (260) 209-2930

BigMeow — Holiday, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Fresh Thyme, Fort Wayne, Free, (260) 373-1677

Cherry Bomb — Rock, 9 p.m., Peanuts Food & Spirits, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 486-2822

Cicadas — Indie Rock, 8:30 p.m., Deer Park Irish Pub, Fort Wayne, Free, (260) 432-8966

Ethan & The Painted Strangers, Cameron Davies & The Vandals, VEO — Americana, 10 p.m., O'Sullivan's, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 422-5896

Gregg Bender Trio — Variety, 7 p.m., Mad Anthony Brewing Co., Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 426-2537

The Sweetwater All Stars — R&B/soul/jazz, 8 p.m., The 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

Jess Thrower — Singer-songwriter, 6 p.m., Fancy & Staple, Fort Wayne, Free, (260) 422-2710

Jonah Leatherman w/Neighborhood Strays, Canopy, Blissfully Crisp — Americana, 6 p.m., LaOtto Brewing Company, LaOtto, no cover, (260) 897-3360

Roustabout — Rock, 9 p.m., Thirty3, Hudson, no cover, (260) 818-6336

ta'korei — R&B/Pop, 6 p.m., Deema, Fort Wayne, Free, (260) 209-2930

The DeeBees — Variety, 6 p.m., Country Heritage Winery, LaOtto, no cover, (260) 637-2980

The Indigo Society w/Sahara, Noah Sties — Alternative, 9:30 p.m., The Brass Rail, Fort Wayne, \$7, (260) 267-5303

The Subliminal Verses w/Inconvenienced by the System, Persevere, Chokesetter, Sleep Tight, Cocaine Culture, Faith In Nothing, Eyes of Anguish, Controller, Death Hex — Slipknot tribute, 5:30 p.m., Piere's, Fort Wayne, \$15, (260) 492-6064

The Wingmen — Classic Rock, 5 p.m., Byler Lane Winery, Auburn, no cover, (260) 920-4377

Three Rivers Honor Band — Variety, 1:30 p.m., PFW Auer Performance Hall, Fort Wayne, Free, (260) 481-4739

Todd Harold Band — Jazz, 8 p.m., American Legion Post 148, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 423-4751

Ty Causey Band — R&B, 9 p.m., Wrigley Field Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 485-1038

Tyler Poe & The Volunteer Railroad — Country, 9:30 p.m., Knockin' Boots Saloon, Fort Wayne, \$5, (260) 433-6933

Winona Lake Christmas in the Village Concert — Nine Lessons & Carols, 4 p.m., Rodeheaver Auditorium, Winona Lake, \$12-\$15, (574) 372-5100

SUNDAY, DEC. 8

New Millennium Jazz Orchestra — Holiday, 6 p.m., Grace Point Church of the Nazarene, Free

Winona Lake Christmas in the Village Concert — Nine Lessons & Carols, 7:30 p.m., Rodeheaver Auditorium, Winona Lake, \$12-\$15, (574) 372-5100

MONDAY, DEC. 9

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

PFW's Home for the Holidays — Holiday, 7:30 p.m., PFW Auer Performance Hall, Fort Wayne, \$5-\$8, (260) 481-4739

TUESDAY, DEC. 10

Chris Worth — Variety, 3 p.m., StoryPoint Senior Living, Fort Wayne, Free, (260) 483-5590

Fort Wayne Philharmonic: Holiday Pops — Orchestra, 7 p.m., Honeywell Center, Wabash, \$22, (260) 563-1102

Open Acoustic Jam — Acoustic, 5 p.m., Sweetwater Sound, Fort Wayne, Free, (260) 432-8176

Open Mic w/ Shane Bond — 7 p.m., Thirty3, Hudson, Free, (260) 818-6336

Carolyn & Dave Martin — Classic hits, 6 p.m., The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 747-0989

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 11

4D's Bar & Grill Open Mic — 7-11 p.m., 4D's Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, Free, (260) 490-6488

Open Mic w/Dr. Dom — 6:30 p.m., Deer Park Irish Pub, Fort Wayne, Free, (260) 432-8966

Open Mic w/Chris Hambrick — 7-10 p.m., K-ville Pub, Kendallville, Free, (260) 349-1677

PFW Jingle & Swing: Holiday Favorites with the University Jazz Band — Holiday, 7:30 p.m., PFW Auer Performance Hall, Fort Wayne, \$5-\$8, (260) 481-4739

ta'korei — R&B/Pop, 6 p.m., Charlie's Place, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 422-5292

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

Three Rivers Big Band — Jazz, 7 p.m., The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 747-0989

THURSDAY, DEC. 12

Hillbilly Casino w/Debutants — Holiday rockabilly, 8:30 p.m., The Brass Rail, Fort Wayne, \$10-\$12, (260) 267-5303

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

The Midtown Men Holiday Hits — Holiday, 7 p.m., Honeywell Center, Wabash, \$35-\$75, (260) 563-1102

FRIDAY, DEC. 13

Weird Science — New Wave, 8 p.m., The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 747-0989

Good Night Gracie — Variety, 8 p.m., Mitchell's, Fort Wayne, \$5, (260) 387-5063

JJ & McRae — Variety, 8:30 p.m., Deer Park Irish Pub, Fort Wayne, Free, (260) 432-8966

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

Janice Anne & Power Train — Rock/Country, 10 p.m., Rack & Helen's, New Haven, no cover, (260) 749-5396

Jon McLaughlin — Holiday, 8 p.m., The Clyde Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$25, (260) 747-0989

Open Mic Night w/Acoustic Rush — 7-10 p.m., American Legion Post 160, Roanoke, Free, 260-672-2298

Plan B Band — Rock, 9 p.m., Latch String Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 483-5526

Shannon Persinger Duo — Variety, 6:30 p.m., Club Soda, Fort Wayne, Free, (260) 426-3442

The DeeBees — Variety, 7 p.m., JD Lounge, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 483-1311

The Gambler Returns — Kenny Rogers tribute, 7:30 p.m., Eagles Theatre, Wabash, \$19-\$39, (260) 563-1102

The Hubie Ashcraft Band — Country, 9 p.m., The Venue, Angola, \$5, (260) 665-3922

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE ►

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Live Music LOCAL CALENDAR

► CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

SUNDAY, DEC. 22

The DeeBees — Variety, noon, Rack & Helen's, New Haven, no cover, (260) 749-5396

The Hubie Ashcraft Trio — Country, 11:30 a.m., Auburn City Steakhouse, Auburn, no cover, (260) 333-7337

The Spirit of Christmas — 3 p.m., Heartland Sings, Allen County Courthouse, Fort Wayne, \$35, (260) 449-4246

MONDAY, DEC. 23

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

TUESDAY, DEC. 24

James Baker Trio — Jazz, 5 p.m., Ruth's Chris Steak House, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 444-5898

Open Acoustic Jam — Acoustic, 5 p.m., Sweetwater Sound, Fort Wayne, Free, (260) 432-8176

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 25

James Baker Trio — Jazz, 4 p.m., Ruth's Chris Steak House, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 444-5898

THURSDAY, DEC. 26

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

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

FRIDAY, DEC. 27

Aleena York Duo — Jazz, 6:30 p.m., Club Soda, Fort Wayne, Free, (260) 426-3442

Big Caddy Daddy — Rock, 8 p.m., Mitchell's, Fort Wayne, \$5, (260) 387-5063

Chris Worth — Variety, 7:30 p.m., Sylvan Cellars, Rome City, no cover, (260) 854-9463

Yacht Party — Yacht rock, 8 p.m., The 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, Free, (260) 432-8966

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

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

Sun.Dyle w/Augmentasia, Chirp — Neo-soul, 9 p.m., The Brass Rail, Fort Wayne, \$9, (260) 267-5303

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

SATURDAY, DEC. 28

Carolyn Martin Duo — Variety, 6:30 p.m., Club Soda, Fort Wayne, Free, (260) 426-3442

Chris Worth — Variety, 7 p.m., Eagles Post 1357, Garrett, no cover, (260) 357-4295

Ethan William Bowers — Americana, 6:30 p.m., Draft Taproom, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 739-3147

Hairball — Arena rock tribute, 8 p.m., The Clyde Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$20, (260) 747-0989

Whoa, Man! — Women of rock tribute, 8 p.m., The 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

Kerry Lee & The Calvary — Country, 9:30 p.m., Knockin' Boots Saloon, Fort Wayne, \$5, (260) 433-6933

String Theory — Variety, 8:30 p.m., Deer Park Irish Pub, Fort Wayne, Free, (260) 432-8966

Sun.Dyle w/Intrepid Cat — Neo-soul, 6:30 p.m., Ambrosia Orchard, Hoagland, \$5, (260) 639-4101

Todd Harrold & Eric Clancy — Jazz, 6 p.m., Deema, Fort Wayne, Free, (260) 209-2930

Union Street Market Open Mic — 6-8 p.m., Union Street Market, Fort Wayne, Free

MONDAY, DEC. 30

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

TUESDAY, DEC. 31

Blind Fury w/Timberwolf Tone, JC Lee, D Ray What It Do, Driven Enemy, MWG, C-Note, Ace Black, Soup Kitchen — 6 p.m., Piere's, Fort Wayne, \$20-\$35, (260) 492-6064

Cougar Hunter — Rock, 9 p.m., Mitchell's, Fort Wayne, \$5, (260) 387-5063

Countdown at The Club Room w/The Sweetwater All Stars — R&B/soul/funk, 8:30 p.m., The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, \$30-\$240, (260) 747-0989

Countdown at The Club Room w/Todd Harrold Band — Jazz, 5:30-7:30 p.m., The Club Room at The Clyde, Fort Wayne, \$10-\$120, (260) 747-0989

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

Reckless Highway — Country, 9:30 p.m., Knockin' Boots Saloon, Fort Wayne, \$5, (260) 433-6933

Sunglasses at Night — 80s, 9 p.m., Wrigley Field Bar & Grill, Fort Wayne, no cover, (260) 485-1038

The DeeBees — Variety, 9 p.m., Eagles Post 1357, Garrett, no cover, (260) 357-4295

West Central Quartet — Jazz, 9:30 p.m., Club Soda, Fort Wayne, Free, (260) 426-3442

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE ►

Quick Hits LOCAL EVENTS

PROJECT BALLET PRESENTS: NUTCRACKER AT THE EMBASSY

2 P.M. AND 8 P.M., SATURDAY, DEC. 7; 1 P.M. AND 6 P.M. SUNDAY, DEC. 8 · EMBASSY THEATRE

Exclusively committed to training children, Project Ballet takes on a holiday classic when it presents *Nutcracker* at The Embassy.

The well-known story of a young girl who dreams of a Nutcracker Prince and a fierce battle against a Mouse King features a cast of more than 100 young dancers

from Project Ballet, adding a unique element to this production designed for children, by children, and about children.

There are ample opportunities to catch this dance as it is presented at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 7, and 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 8. — *Chris Hupe*

CHRISTMAS IN THE VILLAGE

5-8 P.M. FRIDAY, DEC. 6; 8:30 A.M.-5 P.M. SATURDAY, DEC. 7 · DOWNTOWN ROANOKE

Enjoy a weekend in downtown Roanoke with family and friends celebrating the season at Christmas in the Village, Dec. 6-7.

On Friday evening, take advantage of local shopping and dining, free hot cocoa, cookies, hot dogs, and other goodies, such as a holiday photo. At 7 p.m., there will be Lighted Parade on Main Street. Stick around after

the parade for Christmas carols, a tree lighting, and the opportunity to meet Santa and Mrs. Claus to make your case of inclusion on the "nice" list.

On Saturday, shopping and dining opportunities continue while you stroll the decorated streets on your way to see a live Nativity or have Breakfast with Santa. — *Chris Hupe*

Live Music LOCAL CALENDAR

▶ CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

SATURDAY, JAN. 4

O'Sister, Brother — Americana, 9 p.m., The Brass Rail, Fort Wayne, \$7, (260) 267-5303

ta'korei — R&B/Pop, 8 p.m., Deema, Fort Wayne, Free, (260) 209-2930

MONDAY, JAN. 6

Baker Street Centre Open Mic — 7:30 p.m., Baker Street Centre, Fort Wayne, Free, (260) 426-6434

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 8

Open Mic w/Chris Hambrick — 7-10 p.m., K-ville Pub, Kendallville, Free, (260) 349-1677

THURSDAY, JAN. 9

Mac McAnally — Singer-songwriter, 8 p.m., The Clyde Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$25-\$55, (260) 747-0989

SATURDAY, JAN. 11

Anthony Gomes — Blues, 8 p.m., Baker Street Centre, Fort Wayne, \$30-\$60, (260) 426-6434

Tribute Fest w/SIYM, Phobia, Faint, Dead & Buried, My Dinosaurs Wear Ties, The Part You Left Out, Controller, Crystal C-Note, The Kickbacks — Rock, 5:30 p.m., Piere's, Fort Wayne, \$15, (260) 492-6064

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

FRIDAY, JAN. 17

Faith In Nothing w/Life in Idle, Mighty Vices, The Holy Nothing — Rock, 7 p.m., Stan's Room at Piere's, Fort Wayne, \$10, (260) 4892-6064

The Winter Blast Music Fest — Rock, 6 p.m., Piere's, Fort Wayne, \$15-\$20, (260) 492-6064

SATURDAY, JAN. 18

DJ Pauly D — Electronic, 10 p.m., Piere's, Fort Wayne, \$35, (260) 492-6064

Hotel California — Eagles tribute, 7:30 p.m., Honeywell Center, Wabash, \$25-\$75, (260) 563-1102

Live Comedy LOCAL CALENDAR

THURSDAY, DEC. 5

Jay Chandrasekhar — 7 p.m., Summit City Comedy Club, Fort Wayne, \$22-\$35, (260) 844-8444

FRIDAY, DEC. 6

Jay Chandrasekhar — 7 p.m. and 9:45 p.m., Summit City Comedy Club, Fort Wayne, \$22-\$35, (260) 844-8444

SATURDAY, DEC. 7

Jay Chandrasekhar — 7 p.m. and 9:45 p.m., Summit City Comedy Club, Fort Wayne, \$22-\$35, (260) 844-8444

Pete George — 7:30 p.m., Fort Wayne Comedy Club, New Haven, \$15-\$25, (260) 426-6339

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 11

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

THURSDAY, DEC. 12

Josh Pray — 7 p.m., Summit City Comedy Club, Fort Wayne, \$25-\$35, (260) 844-8444

FRIDAY, DEC. 13

Desi Banks — 7 p.m. and 9:45 p.m., Summit City Comedy Club, Fort Wayne, \$30-\$45, (260) 844-8444

SATURDAY, DEC. 14

Desi Banks — 7 p.m. and 9:45 p.m., Summit City Comedy Club, Fort Wayne, \$30-\$45, (260) 844-8444

Trevor Glassman — 7:30 p.m. and 9:15 p.m., Fort Wayne Comedy Club, New Haven, \$15-\$25, (260) 426-6339

SUNDAY, DEC. 15

Desi Banks — 7 p.m., Summit City Comedy Club, Fort Wayne, \$30-\$45, (260) 844-8444

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 18

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

THURSDAY, DEC. 19

Mojo Brookzz — 7 p.m., Summit City Comedy Club, Fort Wayne, \$25-\$45, (260) 844-8444

FRIDAY, DEC. 20

Jeff Dye — 7 p.m. and 9:45 p.m., Summit City Comedy Club, Fort Wayne, \$26-\$34, (260) 844-8444

SATURDAY, DEC. 21

Jamie Utley — 7:30 p.m. and 9:15 p.m., Fort Wayne Comedy Club, New Haven, \$15-\$25, (260) 426-6339

Jeff Dye — 7 p.m. and 9:45 p.m., Summit City Comedy Club, Fort Wayne, \$26-\$34, (260) 844-8444

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 25

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

FRIDAY, DEC. 27

Joe Machi — 7 p.m. and 9:45 p.m., Summit City Comedy Club, Fort Wayne, \$22-\$30, (260) 844-8444

SATURDAY, DEC. 28

J. Wiley — 7:30 p.m. and 9:15 p.m., Fort Wayne Comedy Club, New Haven, \$15-\$25, (260) 426-6339

Joe Machi — 7 p.m. and 9:45 p.m., Summit City Comedy Club, Fort Wayne, \$22-\$30, (260) 844-8444

TUESDAY, DEC. 31

Aries Spears — 7:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m., Summit City Comedy Club, Fort Wayne, \$32-\$42, (260) 844-8444

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 22

Open Mic w/Chris Hambrick — 7-10 p.m., K-ville Pub, Kendallville, Free, (260) 349-1677

FRIDAY, JAN. 24

Rock the Dock w/Ambrosia, John Ford Coley, Peter Beckett — Yacht rock, 7:30 p.m., Honeywell Center, Wabash, \$39, (260) 563-1102

SATURDAY, JAN. 25

Ratboys w/James & The Drifters — Indie rock, 8 p.m., Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$25, (260) 424-5665

FRIDAY, JAN. 31

Nile w/Six Feet Under — Tech-death, 6:30 p.m., Piere's, Fort Wayne, \$30-\$59.50, (260) 492-6064

SATURDAY, FEB. 1

Atmosphere w/Sage Francis, Mr. Dibbs — Hip-hop, 8 p.m., The Clyde Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$32.50, (260) 747-0989

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 1

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

FRIDAY, JAN. 3

K-Von — 7:30 p.m. and 10:15 p.m., Summit City Comedy Club, Fort Wayne, \$20-\$35, (260) 844-8444

SATURDAY, JAN. 4

Hypnotist Jason Christopher — 7:30 p.m., Fort Wayne Comedy Club, New Haven, \$20-\$35, (260) 426-6339

K-Von — 7 p.m. and 9:45 p.m., Summit City Comedy Club, Fort Wayne, \$20-\$35, (260) 844-8444

Open Mic Night w/Ryan Rogers — 9:15 p.m., Fort Wayne Comedy Club, New Haven, Free-\$15, (260) 426-6339

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 8

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

SATURDAY, JAN. 11

Rob Allen — 7:30 p.m. and 9:15 p.m., Fort Wayne Comedy Club, New Haven, \$20-\$35, (260) 426-6339

SATURDAY, JAN. 18

Jenna Kim Jones — 7:30 p.m., Fort Wayne Comedy Club, New Haven, \$20-\$35, (260) 426-6339

FRIDAY, JAN. 24

Bruce Bruce — 7 p.m. and 9:45 p.m., Summit City Comedy Club, Fort Wayne, \$35-\$45, (260) 844-8444

SATURDAY, JAN. 25

Bruce Bruce — 7 p.m. and 9:45 p.m., Summit City Comedy Club, Fort Wayne, \$35-\$45, (260) 844-8444

Keith Lenart — 7:30 p.m. and 9:15 p.m., Fort Wayne Comedy Club, New Haven, \$15-\$25, (260) 426-6339

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Don't look for Trampled by Turtles to take it slow

Acclaimed roots band will be at Clyde Theatre with Debutants, Dec. 14

BY ANTHONY GADSON
WHATZUP EDITOR

When trying to define Trampled by Turtles, it can be a tough undertaking.

Out of the gate, you assume the Duluth, Minnesota-based act are bluegrass. I mean, they have had four albums top *Billboard's* Bluegrass chart, with another two settling in at No. 2.

However, you can also find them on *Billboard's* Rock, Americana/Folk, and Alternative charts.

While they're used to being lumped into an array of genres, mandolinist Erik Berry wants you to know they are not jamgrass.

"The big thing is we don't jam," he said during a phone interview. "We all spent time being fans of jam bands, I myself am a Deadhead. So, we all appreciate the idea. In the very early days, we would try to stretch something and be like, 'Ugh. We're not very good at this.'"

Well, jamming may be one of the few things they are not good at, but they can be forgiven since they are so at so many other things.

You'll get the chances to see some of those things when they bring their high-energy show to The Clyde Theatre on Saturday, Dec. 14, with local newgrass favorites Debutants opening things up.

SAME INSTRUMENTS, DIFFERENT SOUND

Like many bands featuring a mandolin, banjo, cello, and guitar, Trampled by Turtles are continually being placed in a box they may not feel they belong in.

"One example I used to give is Bob Marley & The Wailers and Radiohead have the same instrumental lineup," Berry said. "It never bothers anybody that they don't sound like each other. And they don't sound anything like each other."

"It always kind of blows my mind that like, 'You have a guitar. Why don't you sound like Van Halen?' You don't have to sound like something because your instruments are like that."



PHOTO BY OLIVIA BASTONE

Trampled by Turtles will be The Clyde Theatre on Saturday, Dec. 14, with opening act Debutants.

"But bluegrass music has a very cohesive thing going on. We're on the sides of it, because we're not so radically different. We have not reinvented the wheel. But putting us nowhere near bluegrass doesn't make any sense either."

What does make sense is sitting back and just enjoying the music without feeling the need to classify it. And with Trampled, you're gonna hear something you enjoy, whether you know it or not.

That's what happened when they went on tour with country superstar Zach Bryan in 2023.

"That was an enormous tour for us," Berry said. "I feel very confident that we were never playing for zero percent Trampled by Turtles fans in there, but we were also never playing for more than 15 percent Trampled by Turtles fans. It was a different scene."

FINDING GOOD FOOTING

Trampled formed in 2003 shortly after frontman Dave Simonett had his gear stolen. Legend has it that with his electric equipment gone, Simonett turned to bluegrass and folk as he was only left with his acoustic.

While their history is chronicled, Berry did point out that it's not to be followed word for word.

"He did have all his stuff stolen, but he was also interested in putting together an acoustic project," Berry said. "His electric project was winding down because some of them were university students, and they were graduating and whatnot."

That acoustic project included Simonett, Berry, Dave Carroll on banjo, and Tim Saxhaug on bass in 2003. A few years later, Ryan

Young joined on fiddle, and Eamonn McLain joined the group on cello in 2014.

After being intrigued by the mandolin years earlier, Berry got some help to get better acquainted with the instrument.

"When the band first got together, I went into the record store in Duluth and said, 'I just joined a bluegrass band on mandolin and I have no idea what I'm doing.' They were very cool. They recommended I buy Bill Monroe's greatest hits and the latest Yonder Mountain String Band record," Berry said. "They were like, 'This is where it started, and this is where it is right now.' I was like, 'Perfect.'"

Along with him finding his way on the mandolin, the band were also finding their way.

"There was a period of time, like in the first five years of the band, that there was a lot of bluegrass (listening)," Berry said. "I think that was to kind of absorb the vocabulary of how that lineup of instruments works together. Then, there was absolutely a move to not listen to so much of it so that we wouldn't be sounding like everyone else."

Despite not trying to sound like a bluegrass band, the comparisons were inevitable.

"So, there was a point early in our career where if you knew nothing about bluegrass, we totally sounded like a bluegrass band," he said. "We had mandolin, banjo, guitar, and there's high vocal harmonies, and the songs are kind of quick."

"But if you know something about bluegrass, it's like, 'Wait a minute. This isn't right. They're not doing it the way bluegrass people do it.' It's because we weren't trying to do it that way. In some instances, we didn't even know you could. A lot of it was, 'We're having fun.'"

TRAMPLED BY TURTLES w/DEBUTANTS

7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14
The Clyde Theatre
1808 Bluffton Road, Fort Wayne
\$32.50-\$35 · (260) 747-0989

TRYING NEW THINGS

As they were "having fun," they released their debut album in 2004, *Songs From a Ghost Town*.

They would begin to see their names entering the charts with their fourth album, *Duluth*, which reached No. 8 on Bluegrass chart. One album later, and *Palomino* was reaching No. 1 on the chart in 2010, followed by another No. 1 with *Stars and Satellites* in 2012.

Their ninth and 10th albums, *Life Is Good on the Open Road* and *Alpenglow*, the latter produced by Wilco's Jeff Tweedy, also reached No. 1.

While they've been on a hot streak, their latest project sees them trying something totally new.

The five-song EP *Always Here* was released in September. While it's a great listen, what separates it is Simonett also recorded it with his side project Dead Man Winter. So, all five songs appear on each album, but in different forms.

"Generally, when Dave's writing songs, he knows full well that he's writing a Trampled song or a Dead Man Winter song or a solo song, and he has other projects that are basically him, but he uses a different name so he can get weird," Berry said.

"I'm only in the one, so I don't really know what makes a Dead Man Winter song different. I've listened to them and jammed with Dead Man Winter, but I don't know how he figures, 'Oh, this is a Dead Man Winter song.'"

"But for this particular batch of five songs, he was like, 'I don't know and I kinda want to see what happens when they both take a crack at it.' The rest of us were like, 'Well, sure. Why not?'"

And that concept is not the only way Trampled have been extending their creative wings.

"The theme of the last couple of years has been trying new things," Berry said. "We have this project and a handful of things in the can where we've recorded with other musicians. We've got some cover songs we've worked on. It's just a little bit of a different approach the past couple years."

"Normally, it's like, 'We're going to go into the studio and make a record.' The last couple of years, it's been more, 'We're going to go into the studio and just cut a track and see what happens.' This kind of fits into the ethos of trying new things in the studio."

As they continue to try out new things, swing on out to The Clyde where you may even run into a familiar face.

"We're pleased to be playing in Fort Wayne for the first time because our merch guy (Carey Abrams) is from Fort Wayne, and we've never been there before," Berry said.

"It's like a hometown show for one of our guys."

Philharmonic spread cheer with Holiday Pops

Orchestra will perform across region before taking stage at PFW

BY WHEAT WILLIAMS
WHATZUP FEATURES WRITER

Holiday Pops!

The Fort Wayne Philharmonic Orchestra is spreading holiday cheer, loud and bold, throughout the region with multiple performances of three different programs that span contemporary pop favorites to traditional classics. The concerts run from Dec. 10-22.

The Holiday Pops journey begins with conductor Troy Webdell leading the orchestra, with Fort Wayne bass-baritone Ian Williams, performing family concerts in Wabash, Warsaw, and at Trine University in Angola. There will be opportunities for you and your family to sing along.

In the middle, there's a unique concert of holiday chamber music in Auburn.

Then there's the big show, five performances at the Auer Performance Hall at Purdue University Fort Wayne, where Andrew Constantine will conduct the orchestra and present singer-songwriter and cabaret diva Ann Hampton Callaway, with choirs and dancers, Santa Claus, and more sing-alongs.

OFF TO A RUNNING START

We spoke with Webdell, Family Concert conductor, and Adrian Mann, principal bass player and the orchestra's resident composer, arranger, and librarian, to get an overview of these ambitious forays into family fun.

"Holiday pops" is an American tradition started by the conductor Arthur Fiedler with the Boston Pops orchestra in the 1940s, and some of the most beloved music you'll hear comes from that era. But of course there will be traditional sacred carols and anthems, along with new pop standards and suites from your favorite holiday films in recent years.

In the regional, or "run-out," series of concerts in Wabash, Warsaw, and Angola, Webdell is happy to present Fort Wayne favorite Williams.

"I wanted to have Ian sing because I think he's a really a wonderful up-and-coming vocal artist," Webdell said.

Williams was a member of Heartland Sings for several years and was featured in last summer's "A Night at the Opera."

On the light side, he'll be singing "You're a Mean One, Mr. Grinch," as only a basso profundo can, but he'll also give us David Foster's "Grown-up Christmas List," which you may know from Amy Grant's 1992 recording, and French composer Adolphe Adam's profoundly spiritual "O Holy Night" from 1852. He'll be leading the audience in a rousing sing-along



COURTESY PHOTO

Santa Claus will make an appearance during the Fort Wayne Philharmonic's Holiday Pops shows at PFW Auer Performance Hall.

medley of Christmas carols you know by heart.

For the instrumental side, Webdell said, "I've done a lot of holiday programs over the years and there's just some things, some standards that people expect."

Leroy Anderson's "A Christmas Festival," from 1950, is one of those Boston Pops favorites. His original piece "Sleigh Ride" is another classic.

Webdell is going for "things that bring the audience back to their childhood."

"And maybe some people aren't coming to Fort Wayne to hear the Philharmonic play the actual *Nutcracker* (with the Fort Wayne Ballet)," Webdell said, so the orchestra is giving them four charming movements from Tchaikovsky's *Nutcracker Suite*.

There's more music than we can list, but a highlight for me will be the suite from the 2004 movie *The Polar Express*, by Alan Silvestri, which your kids will love as much as you do.

SYMPHONY OF STEEL

On Thursday, Dec. 12, the Philharmonic will perform *A Symphony of Steel* at Auburn Cord Duesenberg Automobile Museum.

It was a success last year, so the Philharmonic are returning to Auburn with a unique event for one night only.

It's called *A Symphony of Steel*, but there's no actual symphony. Rather, 11 chamber groups made of Philharmonic players, from the Calhoun Brass Quintet to the Violin Duo, along with the 34-voice Philharmonic Chorus, will take turns performing in four galleries in the museum. Audience members can stroll

through the exhibits of classic cars while each group plays pop arrangements of holiday classics and American pieces written during the golden age of automobiles: 1903-1924.

Throughout the year, the Philharmonic chamber groups perform in community centers, retirement homes, and the like all over the region, so you may have seen one or two of them before. *A Symphony of Steel* is an opportunity to hear all the groups, plus the chorus, in one place.

THE MAIN SHOW

The really big extravaganza kicks off Thursday, Dec. 19, at the Philharmonic's home base, PFW's Auer Performance Hall.

Constantine is totally jazzed, pun intended, to accompany singer-songwriter Callaway along with the orchestra's instrumental favorites.

The Fort Wayne Philharmonic Chorale, directed by Benjamin Rivera, will join in, with the Fort Wayne Children's Choir, directed by Jonathan Busarow. Choreographer Mandie Kolkman will bring the Fort Wayne Dance Collective. James Stover is the stage director. Of course Santa and Mrs. Claus will be there, too.

Callaway, born in Chicago, broke out on the cabaret scene in New York in the 1990s as a performer and recording artist. As a songwriter, she's penned tracks for some of the biggest names in the business. She recorded her first major-label Christmas album, *This Christmas*, in 1998. She will be leading the Philharmonic, singing her own original holiday songs and interpreting the classics, too.

Mann has enjoyed connecting with Callaway

HOLIDAY POPS

FORT WAYNE PHILHARMONIC

7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 10
Honeywell Center
275 W. Market St., Wabash
\$22 · (260) 563-1102

7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 11
Warsaw Community High School PAC
1 Tiger Lane, Warsaw
Free · (260) 481-0770

7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14
Trine Furth Center for Performing Arts
500 W. Maumee St., Angola
\$15 · (260) 481-0770

7:30 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Dec. 19-20
2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 21
2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 22
PFW Auer Performance Hall
2101 Coliseum Blvd. E., Fort Wayne
\$27-\$86 · fwphil.org/events

A SYMPHONY OF STEEL

7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 12
Auburn Cord Duesenberg Automobile
Museum
1600 S. Wayne St., Auburn
\$75 · (260) 481-0770

and preparing the scores, but says the most interesting part of these concerts won't be on sheet music.

"She does a feature where she sits at the piano and has the audience call out tunes, and then she improvises on the spot," Mann said.

So get ready to call out some favorites that you haven't heard the orchestra play that night.

To run down some highlights, Constantine will lead the orchestra and choirs in Mann's new arrangement of "The Twelve Days of Christmas," a local staple. Another rather new piece is arranger Bob Krogstad's *Christmas at the Movies*, a medley of themes from *Home Alone*, *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*, *Miracle on 34th Street*, *The Polar Express*, *A Christmas Story*, and *The Nightmare Before Christmas*.

You'll hear a lot more classics like Irving Berlin's "White Christmas," Johnny Marks' "Rudolph the Red-Nose Reindeer," and the World War II sentimental favorite "I'll Be Home for Christmas" by Kent, Gannon, and Ram.

Perhaps the pinnacle of the concert will be Constantine leading the choirs and orchestra in the "Hallelujah" chorus from G.F. Handel's *Messiah* from 1741.

The Philharmonic will have more than 140 musicians, singers, and dancers on the Auer stage to bring you and your family holiday cheer. We hope to see you there.

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TW LW ARTIST / Album

- 1 6 **WICKED: ORIGINAL SOUNDTRACK**
Stephen Schwartz
- 2 1 **LINKIN PARK**
From Zero
- 3 — **THE SMASHING PUMPKINS**
Aghori Mhori Mei
- 4 5 **ZACH BRYAN**
The Great American Bar Scene
- 5 4 **FATHER JOHN MISTY**
Mahashmashana
- 6 — **AS I LAY DYING**
Through Storms Ahead
- 7 2 **MARILYN MANSON**
One Assassination Under God: Chapter 1
- 8 — **BLOOD INCANTATION**
Absolute Elsewhere
- 9 — **CHARLI XCX**
Brat and it's the same but there's three more songs so it's not
- 10 3 **THE CURE**
Songs of a Lost World

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Spins LOCAL AND NATIONAL ALBUM REVIEWS

Kevin Hambrick Refill, Part 2

Fort Wayne's own singer-songwriter Kevin Hambrick has been working hard writing and recording songs.

For more than two decades, Hambrick has been putting out music under his own name, as well being the frontman and main songwriter for The Orange Opera. In both roles he writes songs that have origins in a lifetime of listening to bands like The Beatles, Robyn Hitchcock, and Big Star, artists that helped define power pop.

In July, Hambrick released *Refill, Part 1*, a collection of tracks written and recorded but never released. Not that these weren't worthy of a proper release, it's just that sometimes you end up having leftover songs that aren't stylistically compatible for a particular batch of songs. Or, releasing a double album isn't in the cards.

Hambrick is a pretty prolific musician, so of course we now have *Refill, Part 2*.

We open up with the quiet and jittery "Hit Where It Hurts (mellow version)," an acoustic-led track that has Hambrick's vocals front and center accompanied by his impeccable guitar-playing and what sounds like a farfisa organ. "Wired Mind" buzzes and sizzles with distorted guitar and a *White Album* spirit, ala "Sexy Sadie." It's a beautifully buzzing track.

Hambrick covers a lot of sonic ground on this collection. From the dusty and sinister "Sorry I Said (mellow version)" to the soulful and organ-led "Killing Time" to the sorrowful "Looney Bin," Hambrick shows off masterful songwriting and a knack for pop melodicism. Two highlights here are the Midwestern pop melancholy of "Boy From Indiana" and album closer "End of the Year," which lays on a layer of dreamy vocal harmonies and plenty of reminiscing and pop majesty.

Refill, Part 1 and *Part 2* are an incredibly solid set of tracks, a journal entry written as perfect pop tomes, leading the way to a Hambrick album coming sooner rather than later. — *J. Hubner*

Pixies

The Night the Zombies Came

When I see Pixies have released an album, it's a good sign. Not that they've put out a classic like 1988's *Surfer Rosa* or any of the greats that followed into the early '90s. No, it's just good to see they have not imploded.

Following 1991's *Trompe le Monde*, friction led frontman Black Francis to announce the band was finished. Bassist Kim Deal did not miss a beat, as she had the side project The Breeders.

Following a few reunion shows, Deal left for good in 2013, and the band released *Indy City* in 2014, their first album since *Trompe le Monde*.



They've released four albums since, with their latest being another solid contribution into the catalog.

Along with Francis, original members guitarist Joey Santiago and drummer David Lovering are still here with bassist Emma Richardson, who joined this year following the departure of Paz Lenchantin.

The Night the Zombies Came has all the components of Pixies — Francis' gravelly voice that pairs great with a female's softer voice, melancholic lyrics, and plenty of melody, as well as Santiago's stellar guitar.

From the opening "Primrose," you know you've got a Pixies song on, with things picking up on "You're So Impatient."

The title track, "Jane (The Night the Zombies Came)," is a bit larger in scope, and "Chicken" sees Francis merge into a country song without fully getting into the lane.

"Johnny Good Man" and "Motoroller" are good rockers, and "Mercy Me" gives off vibes from Francis' solo project, Frank Black & The Catholics.

Closer "Vegas Suite" is a melancholic number, which is the way any album should end.

Is this an all-timer by Pixies? No, but it is good enough for repeated listens and affirmation that one of the alternative rock pioneers are still going strong and not a nostalgia act. — *Anthony Gadson*

Tim Heidecker Slipping Away

Tim Heidecker, one half of comedy duo Tim and Eric, is secretly a pop songwriter and musician.

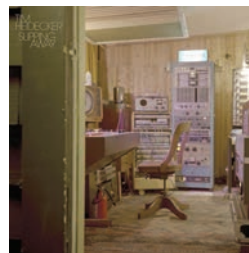
After releasing albums like *What the Brokenhearted Do...* and *High School*, the comedian/actor known for his absurdist humor and surreal characters has established himself as a great songwriter.

It would be easy to think this was all some elaborate scheme or setup for some meta joke given Heidecker's penchant for Andy Kaufman-esque performance art, but Heidecker's the real deal. He seems to lean toward '70s singer-songwriters like Randy Newman, Harry Nilsson, and the Laurel Canyon crowd.

His latest, the sunny and jangly *Slipping Away*, leans into alt-country vibes. With a top-notch band and help from daughter Amelia, Heidecker has made his most earnest album yet.

"Well's Running Dry" opens the album on a wistful, country-tinged note. Tasteful pedal steel and acoustic guitar carry the song along on a single chord. Big Thief comes to mind as the song plays along. "Trippin' (Slippin)" is an ode to mushrooms and good feelings with a touch of John Prine in the dusty mood. There's also bits of The Band in this great track. "Bottom of the 8th" is about taking his daughter to a baseball game, a wistful track that's reminiscent of the great Randy Newman lyrically and musically.

One of the highlights is "Dad of the Year," an



Backtracks CLASSIC ALBUMS

Ray Barretto Acid (1968)

Brooklyn-born Raymundo "Ray" Barretto Pagán began his career after completing military service.

Considered to be the first artist to bring the conga drum sound into American jazz, Barretto had tenures in Tito Puentes' and Charlie Parker's bands before he went out on his own.

This record is one of several he released in the late '60s, and although there were no definitive ways to describe the sound during this new wave, it has been considered as one of the few records that created a sub-genre in jazz collectively known now as Afro-Latin funk.

It opens with "El Nuevo Barretto" which sounds like a horn-filled Santana number with lively horns and percussion that will get you out of your chair and onto the dance floor. "Mercy, Mercy Baby" repeats the title as it bounces around for just under three minutes before tapping into the title track.

"Acid" isn't as psychedelic as the title suggests, but the percussion behind the trumpet of Rene Lopez does have a trance-like effect. "A Deeper Shade of Soul" has a sincere piano arrangement and is one of the tracks that borrows the Memphis vibe during the same part of the decade and is also one of the more radio-friendly tracks for the non-jazz enthusiast.

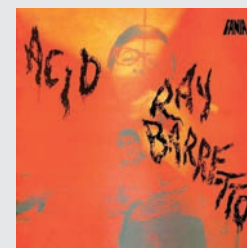
Barretto lets loose in his percussion on "Soul Drummers" as legendary Cuban American bassist Bobby Rodriguez belts out the groovy lyrics. The album closes with the trippy "Espíritu Libre," a Miles Davis-inspired, psychedelic ride that takes an eight-minute journey through clattering horns, booming congas, and another piano that hides in the background from Louis Cruz. Its chaos is its strength and is a small sample from one of the best hand percussionists in jazz history. — *Dennis Donahue*

ode to fatherhood and coming to terms with the fact that we're never as famous as we'd want to be and being OK with that. It's a great pop song with melodies for miles and tight production.

Over the course of 10 tracks, Heidecker and his band give us one catchy song after another. From the driving rocker "Bows and Arrows" to the Jimmy Buffet-tinged "Hey Would You Call My Mom for Me" to moody closer "Bells Are Ringing," Heidecker hits all the right notes.

Heidecker is more than the guy that made a bizarre commercial for Totino's Pizza Rolls. He's also a great songwriter. *Slipping Away* is proof of that. — *J. Hubner*

Local bands: Send copies of new CD releases to Whatzup, 7100 W. Jefferson Blvd., Fort Wayne, IN 46804. Or send links to downloadable files to info@whatzup.com. Also email any bio information, publicity photos, and cover art.



Set sail for another *Moana* adventure

It was never going to be an easy task following up a cultural phenomenon like *Moana*, which remains Walt Disney Animation's finest offering of the past 10 years.

Originally conceived as a long-form streaming series for Disney+, *Moana 2* doesn't quite have the narrative poignancy or thematic sophistication of its predecessor. Where that film felt like it was actually trying to speak to a teenage audience, this sequel brings things more in the kid-friendly range with easy laughs and an easier-to-follow plot.



Reel Views

BRENT LEUTHOLD

The fact remains that this lush and vibrant setting is nothing short of enchanting, and any excuse to revisit the world of *Moana* is worthwhile, no matter how it compares to the original. Perhaps I'll change my tune once *Moana 5* is released, but until that time, I intend to stay on the boat of this franchise.

Following her transition to chieftess of the Motunui people, Moana (Auli'i Cravalho) also acts as their lead wayfinder, voyaging to other nearby islands in search of inhabitants. In her exploration, she learns of the sunken island Motufetu, which once served as a connecting point for the nearby isles but was pushed to the bottom of the ocean by the storm god Nalo (Tofiga Fepulea'i). Emboldened by visions from her ancestors, Moana recruits a team to raise Motufetu from its watery depths and restore the channels to the separated sea. Accompanied once again by haughty demigod Maui (Dwayne Johnson) and joined by Moni (Hualālai Chung), Loto (Rose Matafeo) and Kele (David Fane), the crew ventures across the treacherous ocean to break Nalo's curse.

If *Moana* was a journey of self-discovery and independence, then *Moana 2* is about the next step into maturity, wherein our heroine takes on the responsibility of looking after others. She now has a much younger sister, Simea (Khaleesi Lambert-Tsuda), who acts like Moana walks on water and who misses her dearly when she leaves for her expeditions. Her tribe looks to her for guidance on issues big and small as they crop up on Motunui, and she even has a fan club of adoring "MOANA-BES" who idolize the young trailblazer.

During the story's main quest, Moana doesn't always have the right answers, but like any good leader, she considers the capabilities and commitments of her people when making decisions about what to do next. The storms are always easier to ride out when you have the right people by your side.

Like its predecessor, *Moana 2*'s adventure storyline is supplemented by new original songs, although Lin-Manuel Miranda did not return as lead songwriter this time around. While this sequel doesn't quite have instant classics like "How Far I'll Go" and "You're Welcome," new tunes like "Beyond" and "We're Back," penned by Opetia Foa'i, Abigail Barlow, and Emily Bear, are welcome additions to this series' songbook.

Cravalho's singing was, of course, lovely in the original, but her voice seems even more powerful and assured this time around. Once the crew gets sailing, "What Could Be Better Than This?" finds the four main performers trading humorous lines, with Matafeo as a standout among them. The rousing ensemble number



COURTESY PHOTO

It may not exceed the original, but *Moana 2* has plenty of action, original songs, and jaw-dropping animation.

MOANA 2

Rated PG for action/peril.

1 hour, 40 minutes · In theaters



"We Know the Way" is also reprised here, and Maui gets another cheeky up-tempo anthem with "Can I Get A Chee Hoo?"

Also returning from the first movie are the sentient coconut pirates from the Kakamora tribe, who get even more screen time and remain a cute concoction within this magical universe. Their antics certainly play a role in the narrative, but also seem to play double-duty as a way to keep kids entertained. The Kakamora have aboard a gelatinous, bug-eyed creature whose noises seem pitched to emulate the "goat scream" fad from several years ago.

Moana 2 has several moments like that where it feels like it's dumbing itself down just to hit the marks with everyone, and I wish it didn't. But the animation and craft in this sequel is just as impressive as it was the first time around, and the color palette is always a wonder to behold.

Just because the waves aren't quite as high in this sequel doesn't mean it's not worth the trip back out to the dazzling blue.

New movies coming this weekend

▪ Playing only in theaters is *Y2K*, a disaster comedy starring Jaeden Martell and Rachel Zegler, set at a high school party on New Year's Eve 1999 which imagines if the millennium bug actually caused all technology to come to life and turn against humanity.

▪ Also coming to theaters is *Werewolves*, a horror thriller starring Frank Grillo and Katrina Law, following two scientists who try to stop a mutation that turns people into werewolves after being touched by a super-moon event the year before.

▪ Streaming on Netflix is *Mary*, a biblical epic starring Noa Cohen and Anthony Hopkins, telling the story after the birth of Jesus wherein Mary is forced to flee when Herod's insatiable thirst for power ignites a murderous pursuit for the newborn.

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Long wait for AC/DC to visit U.S. nearly over

For the first time in nine years, Australian rockers **AC/DC** will be playing hits like “Hells Bells,” “Back in Black,” “Thunderstruck,” and “You Shook Me All Night Long” for North American fans.

The Rock and Roll Hall of Famers recently announced their Power Up North America Tour, which kicks off April 10 at Minneapolis’ U.S. Bank Stadium.



Road Notes

CHRIS HUPE

Tickets go on sale Dec. 6, and

your reasonably local chance to see them will be April 30 at Ford Field in Detroit, May 24 at Soldier Field in Chicago, or May 28 in Cleveland at Huntington Bank Field, which will also be the last stop on the tour.

The Pretty Reckless will be the openers on the tour.

Possess McRae tickets

Canadian pop sensation **Tate McRae** has seen her fanbase grow exponentially this year and will tour arenas worldwide in 2025 on her Miss Possessive Tour.

McRae’s debut studio album, *I Used To Think I Could Fly*, peaked at No. 13 on the *Billboard* 200, while her second studio album, 2023’s *Think Later*, debuted in the Top 5. Her single “Greedy” reached No. 3 on the *Billboard* Hot 100, and the follow-up, “Exes,” peaked at No. 9. Her third studio album, *So Close to What*, will be released Feb. 21.

The North American leg of the tour begins Aug. 5 and heads to United Center in Chicago on Aug. 15, Little Caesars Arena in Detroit on Aug. 16, and Rocket Mortgage FieldHouse in Cleveland on Aug. 29.

Pixies play two-night shows

Iconic indie rockers **Pixies** will play double dates in a dozen U.S.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE ►

On the Road NATIONAL TOURS WITHIN DRIVING DISTANCE

CONFIRM WITH THE VENUE ABOUT ANY EVENT YOU PLAN TO ATTEND.

070 Shake	Jan. 27	Newport Music Hall	Columbus, OH
070 Shake	Feb. 7	Majestic Theatre	Detroit
070 Shake	Feb. 8	The Salt Shed	Chicago
A Hundred Drums	Dec. 13	Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
A Killer’s Confession w/Aaron Nordstrom, LYLC, Blood of Heroes	Dec. 15	Piere’s	Fort Wayne
A.J. Croce	April 4	The Palladium	Carmel
A.J. Croce	April 5	Blue Gate PAC	Shipshevana
ATLiens	Jan. 23	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Aaron Lewis	Dec. 5	Celeste Center	Columbus, OH
Aespa	Feb. 15	United Center	Chicago
Ahren Belisle w/Martin Phillips, Heath Cordes	March 20-22	Summit City Comedy Club	Fort Wayne
Air Supply	Feb. 22	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Alan Walker	Feb. 14	The Fillmore	Detroit
Alan Walker	Feb. 15	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Alejandra Guzman	March 21	Rosemont Theatre	Chicago
Anberlin	March 30	Majestic Theatre	Detroit
Anberlin	March 31	Columbus Athenaeum	Columbus, OH
Andrea Bocelli	Dec. 11	Allstate Arena	Chicago
Ani DiFranco	April 10	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Anthony Gomes	Jan. 11	Baker Street Centre	Fort Wayne
Apocalyptica	Feb. 14	Andrew J. Brady Music Center	Cincinnati
Apocalyptica	Feb. 15	Athenaeum Theatre	Columbus, OH
Apocalyptica	Feb. 16	The Fillmore	Detroit
Aries Spears	Dec. 31	Summit City Comedy Club	Fort Wayne
Ashley McBryde	Dec. 5	Blue Gate PAC	Shipshevana
The Astronomers & Kyle Hume	March 13	Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
Atmosphere w/Sage Francis, Mr. Dibbs	Feb. 1	The Clyde Theatre	Fort Wayne
Attila	March 19	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Ax & The Hatchetmen	Feb. 20	Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
Badfish	Feb. 8	The Clyde Theatre	Fort Wayne
The Barricade Boys	Feb. 20	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Bay Ledges	Jan. 24	Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
Bayem	Dec. 14	Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
Becky Robinson	March 16	The Clyde Theatre	Fort Wayne
Bellamy Brothers w/The Hubie Ashcraft Band	March 13	Blue Gate PAC	Shipshevana
Belmont	April 3	Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
Big Bad Voodoo Daddy	Dec. 13	Blue Gate PAC	Shipshevana
Bilmuri	Feb. 20	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Bishop Briggs	March 23	Newport Music Hall	Columbus, OH
BlackHawk	Feb. 21	Gas City PAC	Gas City
Born of Osiris	Feb. 22	The Pyramid Scheme	Grand Rapids
Brett Eldredge	Dec. 6-8	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Brett Eldredge	Dec. 10	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Brooks & Dunn	April 3	Gainbridge Fieldhouse	Indianapolis
Brooks & Dunn	April 5	Allstate Arena	Chicago
Brother Ali	Dec. 13	Bottom Lounge	Chicago
Bruce Bruce	Jan. 24-25	Summit City Comedy Club	Fort Wayne
Bryce Vine	Feb. 13	House of Blues	Chicago
Bryce Vine	Feb. 14	Bogart’s	Cincinnati
Bryce Vine	Feb. 15	The Intersection	Grand Rapids
Bryce Vine	Feb. 16	Saint Andrew’s Hall	Detroit
Burton Cummings	March 28	Blue Gate PAC	Shipshevana
Caravan Palace	April 4	House of Blues	Chicago
Caravan Palace	April 5	Saint Andrew’s Hall	Detroit
Carly Pearce	April 10	Kemba Live!	Columbus, OH
Carly Pearce	April 11	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Cece Winans w/Roman Collins	Dec. 18	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Celtic Angels Ireland	March 6	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Champagne Drip	Feb. 21	Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
Charity Gayle	Jan. 25	Blue Gate PAC	Shipshevana
Chayce Beckham	Jan. 30	Blue Gate PAC	Shipshevana
Cheap Trick	Dec. 8	Brown County Music Center	Nashville, IN
Cheap Trick	Dec. 11	Blue Gate PAC	Shipshevana
Cherry Poppin’ Daddies	Dec. 5	The Palladium	Carmel
Chiodos	March 21	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Chiodos	March 22	The Vic Theatre	Chicago

Chris Botti	March 9	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Chris Daughtry	Dec. 6	Kemba Live!	Columbus, OH
Chris Young	Feb. 21	Blue Gate PAC	Shipshevana
Coal Chamber	April 9	Piere’s	Fort Wayne
Collingsworth Family	Dec. 12	Blue Gate PAC	Shipshevana
Connor McLaren	Jan. 3	Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
Cyndi Lauper	Dec. 5	United Center	Chicago
DJ Pauly D	Jan. 18	Piere’s	Fort Wayne
Dailey & Vincent	Dec. 19	Eagles Theatre	Wabash
Daily Bread	March 12	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Danae Hays	March 14	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Darkside	March 13	The Salt Shed	Chicago
Darkside	March 14	Masonic Temple Theatre	Detroit
Dave Koz & Friends	Dec. 13	The Palladium	Carmel
David Gray	Feb. 1	Masonic Temple Theatre	Detroit
David Gray	Feb. 2	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
David Lee Murphy	March 7	Blue Gate PAC	Shipshevana
David Nail	Feb. 14	Blue Gate PAC	Shipshevana
David Phelps	Dec. 10	Blue Gate PAC	Shipshevana
Deftones	March 28	Gainbridge Fieldhouse	Indianapolis
Deftones	March 29	Nationwide Arena	Columbus, OH
Deftones	March 31	United Center	Chicago
Deftones	April 1	Little Caesars Arena	Detroit
Desi Banks	Dec. 13-15	Summit City Comedy Club	Fort Wayne
Destroy Lonely	Jan. 8	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Dionne Warwick	Dec. 6	Blue Gate PAC	Shipshevana
The Dirty Nil	Feb. 7	Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
Disturbed	March 8	United Center	Chicago
Disturbed	March 10	Little Caesars Arena	Detroit
Disturbed	March 29	Heritage Bank Center	Cincinnati
Disturbed	March 31	Rocket Mortgage FieldHouse	Cleveland
Disturbed	April 9	Gainbridge Fieldhouse	Indianapolis
Don Was & The Pan-Detroit Ensemble	Feb. 28	The Palladium	Carmel
Donavon Frankenreiter	March 21	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Donny Benet	Jan. 31	Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
Dream Theater	March 8	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Dream Theater	March 9	MGM Northfield Park	Northfield, OH
Dream Theater	March 19	Andrew J. Brady Music Center	Cincinnati
Drew & Ellie Holcomb	Feb. 26	Taft Theatre	Cincinnati
Drew & Ellie Holcomb	March 1	Blue Gate PAC	Shipshevana
Drew & Ellie Holcomb	March 9	Cahn Auditorium	Chicago
Dropkick Murphys	Feb. 28	Kemba Live!	Columbus, OH
Dropkick Murphys	March 2	Andrew J. Brady Music Center	Cincinnati
Dwight Yoakam	March 27	Wings Event Center	Kalamazoo
Dylan Schneider	Dec. 8	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Dylan Scott	April 10	Andrew J. Brady Music Center	Cincinnati
Elevation Worship	March 2	Little Caesars Arena	Detroit
Eli Young Band	March 8	Blue Gate PAC	Shipshevana
Elvis Costello	March 8	Michigan Theater	Ann Arbor
Elvis Costello	March 11-12	Park West	Chicago
Elvis Costello	March 14	Park West	Chicago
Emerson, Lake, & Palmer	March 21	The Palladium	Carmel
Emmylou Harris	April 3	The Palladium	Carmel
Eric Hutchinson	Dec. 6	Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
Explosions in the Sky	April 1	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
The Fabulous Thunderbirds	March 21	Eagles Theatre	Wabash
Father John Misty	Feb. 17	Kemba Live!	Columbus, OH
Father John Misty	Feb. 18	The Fillmore	Detroit
Faye Webster	March 8	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Finneas	Feb. 25	The Fillmore	Detroit
Finneas	Feb. 26	The Salt Shed	Chicago
Flipturn	March 21	The Salt Shed	Chicago
Flipturn	March 26	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Flipturn	March 27	Kemba Live!	Columbus, OH
Flipturn	March 28	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Foster the People	Feb. 15	The Salt Shed	Chicago
Foster the People	Feb. 17	The Fillmore	Detroit
The Four Phantoms	Dec. 6	The Palladium	Carmel

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On the Road

NATIONAL TOURS WITHIN DRIVING DISTANCE

► CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Frank Black	Jan. 25-26	Metro	Chicago
Frank Black	Jan. 28	Saint Andrew's Hall	Detroit
Frank Foster & Creed Fisher	Jan. 18	Blue Gate PAC	Shipshevana
Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons	March 29	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
G. Love & Special Sauce	Jan. 11	Lincoln Hall	Chicago
G. Love & Special Sauce	Jan. 12	Park Theatre	Holland, Michigan
G. Love & Special Sauce	Jan. 15	A&R Music Bar	Columbus, OH
Gaither Homecoming Christmas	Dec. 14	Blue Gate PAC	Shipshevana
Gene Watson	April 10	Blue Gate PAC	Shipshevana
Geoff Tate	April 9	Saint Andrew's Hall	Detroit
Geoff Tate	April 10	The Intersection	Grand Rapids
Geoff Tate	April 11	Arcada Theatre	Chicago
George Thorogood & The Destroyers	March 5	Blue Gate PAC	Shipshevana
The Ghost Inside	Dec. 11	Agora Theatre	Cleveland
The Ghost Inside	Dec. 13	Newport Music Hall	Columbus, OH
Girl In Red	Dec. 8	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Good Kid	Feb. 13	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Grupo Niche	March 1	The Palladium	Carmel
Guster	Jan. 26	Agora Theatre	Cleveland
Guster	Jan. 28	Clowes Memorial Hall	Indianapolis
Guster	Jan. 29	Majestic Theatre	Detroit
Guster	Jan. 31	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
The Hails & Never Ending Fall	Feb. 28	Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
Hank Ruff	Dec. 27	Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
Hans Kim	Feb. 14-15	Summit City Comedy Club	Fort Wayne
Herman's Hermits	Dec. 7	Gas City PAC	Gas City
High Fade	March 6	Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
Highly Suspect	Jan. 24	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Hillbilly Casino w/Debutants	Dec. 12	The Brass Rail	Fort Wayne
Hinder	March 2	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Hinder	March 5	House of Blues	Cleveland
Hippo Campus	Feb. 11	The Fillmore	Detroit
Hoi!	Feb. 7	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Hypnotist Jason Christopher	Jan. 4	Fort Wayne Comedy Club	New Haven
iHeartRadio Jingle Ball	Dec. 9	Allstate Arena	Chicago
iHeartRadio Jingle Ball	Dec. 10	Little Caesars Arena	Detroit
Il Volo	March 14	Chicago Theatre	Chicago
Il Volo	March 16	KeyBank State Theatre	Cleveland
Il Volo	March 18	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Infekt	Jan. 30	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
J. Wiley	Dec. 28	Fort Wayne Comedy Club	New Haven
Jack White	April 10-11	The Salt Shed	Chicago
Jack White	April 12-13	Masonic Temple Theatre	Detroit
Jamie Uitley	Dec. 21	Fort Wayne Comedy Club	New Haven
Jason Boland & The Stragglers	March 29	Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
Jason Isbell & The 400 Unit	Feb. 15	Auditorium Theatre	Chicago
Jay Chandrasekhar	Dec. 5-7	Summit City Comedy Club	Fort Wayne
Jeff Dye	Dec. 20-21	Summit City Comedy Club	Fort Wayne
Jenna Kim Jones	Jan. 18	Fort Wayne Comedy Club	New Haven
Jennie DeVoe	Jan. 29	The Palladium	Carmel
Jerry Cantrell	Feb. 18	The Bluestone	Columbus, OH
Jerry Cantrell	Feb. 19	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Jerry Cantrell	Feb. 23	The Vic Theatre	Chicago
Jesse Welles	March 4	Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
Jim Jefferies	Feb. 28	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Jolo	Feb. 14	Concord Music Hall	Chicago
Jolo	Feb. 20	Newport Music Hall	Columbus, OH
Jolo	March 15	Ramova Theatre	Chicago
Jolo	March 18	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Jolo	March 21	Agora Theatre	Cleveland
Joe Machi	Dec. 27-28	Summit City Comedy Club	Fort Wayne
Johnnyswim	March 20	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Johnnyswim	April 8	The Vic Theatre	Chicago
Jon McLaughlin	Dec. 13	The Clyde Theatre	Fort Wayne
Jon McLaughlin	Dec. 14	The Palladium	Carmel
Josh Pray	Dec. 12	Summit City Comedy Club	Fort Wayne
K-Von	Jan. 3-4	Summit City Comedy Club	Fort Wayne

K. Flay	March 7	The Vic Theatre	Chicago
K. Flay	March 8	The Vogue	Indianapolis
K. Flay	March 16	Newport Music Hall	Columbus, OH
Kalani Pe'a	Feb. 22	The Palladium	Carmel
Keith Lenart	Jan. 25	Fort Wayne Comedy Club	New Haven
Keller Williams w/Debutants	Feb. 16	The Clyde Theatre	Fort Wayne
Kelsea Ballerini	Jan. 21	Van Andel Arena	Grand Rapids
Kelsea Ballerini	Jan. 23	United Center	Chicago
Kelsea Ballerini	Feb. 1	Schottenstein Center	Columbus, OH
Kelsea Ballerini	Feb. 4	Little Caesars Arena	Detroit
Killswitch Engage	April 1	GLC Live at 20 Monroe	Grand Rapids
King Buffalo	Jan. 31	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Kylie Minogue	April 2	Allstate Arena	Chicago
Lang Lang	March 28	The Palladium	Carmel
Latin Mafia	Feb. 13	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Lettuce	Feb. 2	Newport Music Hall	Columbus, OH
Lonestar	March 22	Blue Gate PAC	Shipshevana
Lucas Zelnick	March 2	Summit City Comedy Club	Fort Wayne
Mac McAnally	Jan. 9	The Clyde Theatre	Fort Wayne
Mac McAnally	Jan. 10	The Palladium	Carmel
Magic City Hippies	Jan. 30	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Malingo	Feb. 26	The Palladium	Carmel
Mannheim Steamroller	Dec. 11	Miller Auditorium	Kalamazoo
Mannheim Steamroller	Dec. 13	Fox Theatre	Detroit
Mannheim Steamroller	Dec. 14	Rosemont Theatre	Chicago
Mannheim Steamroller	Dec. 15	Clowes Memorial Hall	Indianapolis
Mannheim Steamroller	Dec. 20	Blue Gate PAC	Shipshevana
Marc Broussard	March 13	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Marc Broussard	March 14	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Marc Rebillet	Dec. 5-6	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Marty Friedman	Jan. 30	Arcada Theatre	Chicago
Marty Friedman	Jan. 31	The Token Lounge	Detroit
Marty Friedman	Feb. 1	The King of Clubs	Columbus, OH
Marty Friedman	Feb. 2	The Winchester	Cleveland
Mary J. Blige	March 14	United Center	Chicago
Mary J. Blige	March 19	Little Caesars Arena	Detroit
Mary J. Blige	April 2	Nationwide Arena	Columbus, OH
Matt Nathanson	March 5	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Matt Nathanson	March 6-7	Cahn Auditorium	Chicago
Matt Nathanson	March 14	The Bluestone	Columbus, OH
Matt Nathanson	March 15	Brown County Music Center	Nashville, IN
Matt Schuster	Dec. 7	Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
Matteo Bocelli	Dec. 12	The Palladium	Carmel
MercyMe	March 13	Nutter Center	Fairborn, OH
MercyMe	March 23	Elliott Hall of Music	West Lafayette
Meredith Masonry & Tiffany Jenkins	Feb. 19	Summit City Comedy Club	Fort Wayne
Michael Ian Black	Feb. 22	Summit City Comedy Club	Fort Wayne
Michael Shannon & Jason Narducy	Feb. 24	The Vogue	Indianapolis
The Midtown Men Holiday Hits	Dec. 12	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Mike Logan	Feb. 8	Fort Wayne Comedy Club	New Haven
Mojo Brookzz	Dec. 19	Summit City Comedy Club	Fort Wayne
Montgomery Gentry	March 15	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Movements	March 24	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Mxmtoon	March 26	House of Blues	Chicago
Mxmtoon	March 28	Majestic Theatre	Detroit
Mxmtoon	March 29	The Bluestone	Columbus, OH
NCT 127	March 7	Allstate Arena	Chicago
Natalie Grant & Danny Gokey	Dec. 15	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Nessa Barrett	Feb. 6	The Salt Shed	Chicago
Nessa Barrett	Feb. 7	Bogart's	Cincinnati
Nessa Barrett	Feb. 8	The Fillmore	Detroit
Night Ranger	Dec. 7	Lerner Theatre	Elkhart
Niko Moon	Feb. 20	The Bluestone	Columbus, OH
Niko Moon	Feb. 22	Andrew J. Brady Music Center	Cincinnati
Nile	Jan. 23	Agora Theatre	Cleveland
Nile	Jan. 24	The King of Clubs	Columbus, OH
Nile	Jan. 26	Elevation	Grand Rapids
Nile	Jan. 27	The Forge	Joliet, IL

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Road Notes

► CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

cities — and two Canadian ones — for their 2025 tour.

The Boston-based band saw their greatest commercial success in the late '80s and early '90s and have been named as a tremendous influence by bands like Nirvana, Radiohead, The Smashing Pumpkins, and Weezer.

Beginning in June, the band plan to play the albums *Bossanova* and *Trompe le Monde* on night one in each city and a set of classics and selections from their new album *The Night the Zombies Came* the second night.

The tour will hit Detroit toward the end of the trek, stopping at The Fillmore from July 28-29.

Kurt Vile + The Violators will support.

Clap Your Hands plan tour

Another indie darling, **Clap Your Hands Say Yeah**, will celebrate the 20th anniversary of their self-titled album, visiting theaters and clubs in the U.S. starting in March.

The North American leg of the tour kicks off in Washington, D.C., and heads to Thalia Hall in Chicago on May 3 and The Pyramid Scheme in Grand Rapids the following night.

Shakira upgrades venues

Shakira added dates to her Las Mujeres Ya No Lloran World Tour and upgraded from arenas to stadiums.

An announcement from Live Nation noted the tour was moved “due to unprecedented fan demand.”

The newly announced venues include a mix of baseball and football stadiums in most cases. However, our only area appearance will be inside at Little Caesars Arena in Detroit on May 22.

Stereophonics visit States

Welsh rockers **Stereophonics** will embark on their first headlining tour since 2022 next year.

Their spring tour stops in Cleveland on March 29 and Chicago's Vic Theatre on March 30.

Though they have not enjoyed a lot of commercial success in The States, Stereophonics have released 12 studio albums with eight of those charting at No. 1 in the U.K.

They enjoyed their greatest mainstream success in the U.S. with the single “Dakota,” off 2005's *Language.Sex.Violence.Other?*

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

On the Road

NATIONAL TOURS WITHIN DRIVING DISTANCE

► CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Nile	Jan. 30	Bogart's	Cincinnati
Nile w/Six Feet Under	Jan. 31	Piere's	Fort Wayne
Ninja Sex Party & TWRP	April 7	Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
The Oak Ridge Boys	Dec. 20	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Old Crow Medicine Show	March 14	Blue Gate PAC	Shipshewana
Oso Oso	Dec. 12	Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
Patterson Hood	March 30	Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
Pentatonix	Dec. 8	Rocket Mortgage FieldHouse	Cleveland
Pentatonix	Dec. 11	Van Andel Arena	Grand Rapids
Pentatonix	Dec. 12	Allstate Arena	Chicago
Pete George	Dec. 7	Fort Wayne Comedy Club	New Haven
Phantogram	Feb. 13	Saint Andrew's Hall	Detroit
Phantogram	Feb. 14	Aragon Ballroom	Chicago
Phil Wickham	Feb. 19	Crossroads Community Church	Cincinnati
Pink Sweats	Feb. 21	Majestic Theatre	Detroit
Pink Sweats	Feb. 22	House of Blues	Chicago
Poppy	March 21	House of Blues	Chicago
Poppy	March 25	Saint Andrew's Hall	Detroit
Poppy	March 26	House of Blues	Cleveland
Post Sex Nachos	Feb. 22	Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
Pouya	April 5	House of Blues	Chicago
Pouya	April 7	The Intersection	Grand Rapids
Pouya	April 8	The Fillmore	Detroit
Pouya	April 10	Bogart's	Cincinnati
Pouya	April 11	House of Blues	Cleveland
Preacher Lawson	Feb. 27-March 1	Summit City Comedy Club	Fort Wayne
Pure Prairie League	April 5	The Palladium	Carmel
Rascal Flatts	Feb. 15	Van Andel Arena	Grand Rapids
Rascal Flatts	March 6	Nationwide Arena	Columbus, OH
Rascal Flatts	March 7	Huntington Center	Toledo
Ratboys w/James & The Drifters	Jan. 25	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Ravenscoon	Dec. 31	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Real Boston Richey w/Mike Lucci, Ni DaDon, Flat260	Dec. 14	Piere's	Fort Wayne
Real Estate	Feb. 3	Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
Red Leather	Dec. 8	Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
Resonant Language	Dec. 21	The Vogue	Indianapolis
The Righteous Brothers	April 4	Blue Gate PAC	Shipshewana
Rock the Dock w/Ambrosia, John Ford Coley, Peter Beckett	Jan. 24	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Role Model	March 20	The Fillmore	Detroit
Role Model	March 22	The Bluestone	Columbus, OH
Role Model	March 23	Riviera Theatre	Chicago
Ron Pope	Feb. 25	Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
Russell Dickerson	March 21	Joe's Live	Chicago
Russell Dickerson	March 29	GLC Live at 20 Monroe	Grand Rapids
Sal Vulcano	March 28	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
Sarah Barton & Second That w/Arthur Cope, Brugada, Baba Kosmicka, Aperture, Charybdis	Dec. 21	Piere's	Fort Wayne
Sawyer Brown	Jan. 10	Blue Gate PAC	Shipshewana
Shadowgrass	March 21	Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
Shakey Graves & Buffalo Hunt	Dec. 5	Bluebird Nightclub	Bloomington
Shane Smith & The Saints	Feb. 8	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Silverstein	Feb. 10	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Silverstein	Feb. 12	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Sister Hazel	Dec. 12	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Sisters of Mercy	Dec. 31	The Fillmore	Detroit
Six Foot Blonde	Dec. 28	Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
Snow Patrol	April 1	The Salt Shed	Chicago
Soccer Mommy	Feb. 5	Majestic Theatre	Detroit
Soccer Mommy	Feb. 6	Thalia Hall	Chicago
Son Little	Dec. 18	Piere's	Fort Wayne
Spencer Sutherland	March 12	House of Blues	Chicago
Spencer Sutherland	March 27	The Bluestone	Columbus, OH
Stars	Feb. 15	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Steel Panther	Dec. 7	The Bluestone	Columbus, OH
Steve Wariner	Feb. 21	The Palladium	Carmel
Steven Curtis Chapman	Dec. 7	Blue Gate PAC	Shipshewana

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Steven Curtis Chapman	Feb. 22	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Straight No Chaser	Dec. 14-15	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Straight No Chaser	Dec. 20	Embassy Theatre	Fort Wayne
The Strumbellas	Jan. 17	Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
Suki Waterhouse	Dec. 6	Agora Theatre	Cleveland
Suki Waterhouse	Dec. 17	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Suki Waterhouse	Dec. 18	The Salt Shed	Chicago
Sullivan King	Feb. 15	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Sungazer	Jan. 25	Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
Swallow the Sun	Feb. 20	The Sanctuary	Detroit
Swallow the Sun	March 15	Reggie's	Chicago
Sweetnotes Music	Dec. 20	Piere's	Fort Wayne
T.G.I. Free & Bigg Woog	Jan. 10	Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
Tanner Adell	Dec. 11	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Tauk	Feb. 1	Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
The Temptations & The Four Tops	April 11	Blue Gate PAC	Shipshewana
The Tenors	Dec. 8	Cincinnati Memorial Hall	Cincinnati
The Tenors	Dec. 10	Brown County Music Center	Nashville, IN
This Wild Life	March 7	Metro	Chicago
This Wild Life	March 8	The Loving Touch	Detroit
This Wild Life	March 9	The Roxy	Lakewood, OH
Three Dog Night	March 6	Blue Gate PAC	Shipshewana
Three Dog Night	March 8	Honeywell Center	Wabash
Tiny Moving Parts	Dec. 5	Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
Tinzo + Jojo	Feb. 28	The Vogue	Indianapolis
TobyMac	Feb. 27	Huntington Center	Toledo
TobyMac	Feb. 28	Gainbridge Fieldhouse	Indianapolis
TobyMac	March 2	Van Andel Arena	Grand Rapids
TobyMac	March 16	Nationwide Arena	Columbus, OH
Too \$hort	Feb. 21	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Toro y Moi & Panda Bear	Feb. 7	The Salt Shed	Chicago
Toro y Moi & Panda Bear	Feb. 8	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Trampled by Turtles	Dec. 12	Agora Theatre	Cleveland
Trampled by Turtles	Dec. 13	The Intersection	Grand Rapids
Trampled by Turtles w/Debutants	Dec. 14	The Clyde Theatre	Fort Wayne
Trans-Siberian Orchestra	Dec. 6	Heritage Bank Center	Cincinnati
Trans-Siberian Orchestra	Dec. 7	Nutter Center	Fairborn, OH
Trans-Siberian Orchestra	Dec. 8	Van Andel Arena	Grand Rapids
Travis	Feb. 8	The Vic Theatre	Chicago
Travis	Feb. 10	Royal Oak Music Theatre	Royal Oak, MI
Travis	Feb. 11	Agora Theatre	Cleveland
Trentemoller	Feb. 7	Outset	Chicago
Trevor Glassman	Dec. 14	Fort Wayne Comedy Club	New Haven
Trey Songz, Omarion, Bow Wow	March 8	Little Caesars Arena	Detroit
Trey Songz, Omarion, Bow Wow	March 9	Rocket Mortgage FieldHouse	Cleveland
Trivecta	Feb. 1	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Trombone Shorty & Orleans Avenue	March 11	Niswonger PAC	Van Wert
Two Friends	Jan. 22	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Two Friends	Jan. 30	The Fillmore	Detroit
Tycho	Jan. 25	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Tyler, The Creator	March 29	Schottenstein Center	Columbus, OH
Vanessa Collier	Feb. 7	Baker Street Centre	Fort Wayne
The Vindys	Jan. 11	Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
Wallows	Feb. 11	GLC Live at 20 Monroe	Grand Rapids
Wallows	Feb. 12	Andrew J. Brady Music Center	Cincinnati
Warrant	Feb. 1	Blue Gate PAC	Shipshewana
The Warren Haynes Band	Feb. 14	The Palladium	Carmel
The Weeks	Jan. 23	Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
White Panda	Dec. 27	The Vogue	Indianapolis
Wilder Woods	Feb. 21	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Willow Avalon	Feb. 10	Hi-Fi	Indianapolis
Winston Hodges	March 22	Fort Wayne Comedy Club	New Haven
Winter Jam w/Skillet, Anne Wilson, KB, Colton Dixon, Newsong, Micah Tyler	Feb. 6	Memorial Coliseum	Fort Wayne
Young Nudy	Dec. 7	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
ZZ Top	April 2	Blue Gate PAC	Shipshewana
Zakk Sabbath	Dec. 18	Bogart's	Cincinnati
Zakk Sabbath	Dec. 19	Old National Centre	Indianapolis
Zakk Sabbath	Jan. 7	The Intersection	Grand Rapids

Quick Hits

LOCAL EVENTS

MAGIC OF THE HOLIDAYS SHOW

8 P.M. FRIDAY, DEC. 6

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN THEATER

The final event capping off Stoner's Funstore's 75th anniversary takes place at First Presbyterian Theater on Friday, Dec. 6.

Magic of the Holidays Show features a lineup of magicians including Colin Haines, president of the Fort Wayne Magicians Club, who will serve as Master of Ceremonies.

Magician Elmer Smith, 95, who purchased the first magic trick ever sold by the Stoner family in 1949, will make his return to the stage for the first time in 15 years.

The night will also feature Rick Reader, who has been involved with the entertainment business more than 50 years; Rusty Ammerman, who has done magic more than 40 years; and Sean Bogunia, dubbed "Your Favorite Magician's Favorite Magician." — *Chris Hupe*

IS THIS SEAT TAKEN SCREENING

7:30 P.M. FRIDAY, DEC. 13

SOUTH SIDE HIGH SCHOOL

Writer and director of the feature film *Is This Seat Taken*, Bob Ahlersmeyer, will present his film on Friday, Dec. 13, at South Side High School's Fine Arts Auditorium.

A pre-screening before he takes it to festivals, the production was shot in Fort Wayne at various recognizable locations featuring more than 100 people from the city and area who donated their time and talents to make this film at no cost.

The story revolves around Victoria and Thomas who both believe the world appears to not have much love for them. They hit it off one fateful night before a mysterious guest arrives to turn the evening into chaos. — *Chris Hupe*

Road Trips

LOCAL ACTS ON TOUR

Austin Marsh

Dec. 14 Kora Brew House, Bryan, OH

The Bulldogs

Dec. 31 Moose Lodge 2387, Fremont

The Hubie Ashcraft Band

Dec. 21 Eagles Grand Lake Aerie Celina, OH

Ross Kinsey

Dec. 5 Bent Prop Pub, Coldwater, MI

Things To Do

LOCAL CALENDAR

CURRENT

Huntertown Woodworkers Craft Sale — Handmade crafts, gifts and furniture for those hard-to-shop-for friends and family, **8 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday-Sunday, Dec. 6-8**, Huntertown Woodworking Club, Fort Wayne, free

Mixing Masterclass w/Michael Brauer — Seven-time Grammy winner takes you through his approach to mixing with emotion, using his in-the-box “Brauerize” technique that features multiple bus compressors during three-day class, **10 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday-Sunday, Dec. 6-8**, Sweetwater Studios, Fort Wayne, \$1,495, (260) 432-8176

Christmas Tea at Historic Swinney Homestead — Celebrate the Christmas spirit with the Settlers at a Victorian Tea Party with sweets, savories, and a pot of tea, as well as unique holiday items, **1:30-4 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 6-7**, Historic Swinney Homestead, Fort Wayne, \$25, (260) 432-4232

Christmas at the Castle — Take self-guided tour to see more than 120 holy creches (Nativity scenes) will be on display in Brookside mansion, **4-6 p.m. Friday; noon-5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 6-15**, USF Brookside, Fort Wayne, \$10, (260) 399-7999

Christmas in the Village: Roanoke — Annual celebration will have lighted parade, Mr. and Mrs. Claus, a tree lighting, and shopping, **5-8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6; 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7**, downtown Roanoke, free, discoverroanoke@gmail.com

City of Churches Tour — Eighth annual event allows you to see Fort Wayne churches, including The Cathedral of The Immaculate Conception (5-9 p.m.), St. John Lutheran Church (6-9 p.m.), St. Patrick’s Catholic Church (5-7 p.m.), Trinity English Lutheran Church (5-9 p.m.), and Trinity Episcopal Church (5-8 p.m.), **5-9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6**, various locations, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 705-0718

The Living Nativity Drive-Thru — Gospel message brought to life through actors and animals as you visit Bethlehem and Herod’s Place, while also having possible run-ins with Roman soldiers, **6-9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 6-7**, Central Ministries, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 493-1022

Sleigh Days Christmas Village & Market — More than 50 vendors will be on hand, as well as Santa Claus, face-painting, and demonstrations by Science Central, Fort Wayne Animal Care & Control, and Camp Potawatomi, **6-9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6; 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7**, Allen County Fairgrounds, Fort Wayne, (260) 449-4444

University of Saint Francis Holiday Bazaar — There will be artist and artisan booths from various disciplines, live music, and free custom tote bags to the first 200 patrons, **9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7**, USF Rolland Art Center, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 399-7999

Breakfast with St. Nicholas — Learn about the legacy of St. Nicholas during ticketed event while enjoying breakfast, story time, crafts and other activities with family and friends, **10 a.m.-noon Saturday, Dec. 7**, USF Hutzell Athletic Center, Fort Wayne, \$7-\$15, (260) 399-8032

Cookies with Ryder — Bring the family to decorate cookies, make holiday crafts, with Ryder from Paw Patrol and register at pbsfortwayne.org, **10 a.m.-noon Saturday, Dec. 7**, PBS Fort Wayne, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 484-8839

Women’s Winter Art Fair — Along with handcrafted jewelry, fabric art, Native American art, glass, pottery, prints, and photography will be homemade soups and baked goods, **11 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7**, Beacon Heights Church of the Brethren, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 482-7402

Christmas on the Farm — Annual event will have vendors on hand, as well as horse-drawn wagon rides, a visit from Santa Claus, games, and live music by Mike Conley, **1-5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7**, Salomon Farm Park, Fort Wayne, \$5/car, (260) 427-6000

Christmas in the Village: Albion — Event kicks off with holiday petting zoo, caroling, photo opportunities with The Grinch and Cindy Lou Who, as well as Santa, kids crafts, letters to Santa, and a Light Parade at 6 p.m. at Central Noble High School, **3-6:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7**, downtown Albion, free, albion-chamber@gmail.com

Williams Woodland Park Neighborhood Holiday Home Tour — Several residents open their homes for 30th year for you to explore turn-of-the-century homes with carriage rides available, **5-9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7; 1-5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8**, Williams Woodland Park Neighborhood, Fort Wayne, \$13-\$15, williamswoodlandpark.com

Art on Broadway Holiday Party — Boutique will have local art by PhanGear, live music by Jess Thrower, face-painting, and ceramics by Rock Paper Print, as well as beer and wine, **6-8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7**, Fancy & Staple, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 422-2710

Kickboxing with 9Round — Monthly exercise class aimed at burning calories through kicking and punching, **9-10 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 8**, Promenade Park Pavilion, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 427-6000

Yoga on the Riverfront — Relaxing, one-hour flow for all skill levels with instructor Chelsea Vona, owner of Discover Yoga, **10:30-11:30 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 8**, Promenade Park Pavilion, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 427-6000

Lighting of the Lake and Living Nativity — Experience the Nativity on the steps of the Oratory of St. Francis, along with Mirror Lake luminaries honoring loved ones, **6-7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8**, USF Chapel Plaza, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 399-7999

FARMERS MARKETS

Ft. Wayne’s Farmers Market — Farm foods, baked goods, homemade natural items, and unique works from regional artisans, **9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays**, Union Street Market at Electric Works, Fort Wayne, contact@ftwaynesfarmersmarket.com

South Side Farmers Market — Fort Wayne’s oldest farmers market has produce, meat, baked goods, plants, and artwork, **8 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays**, South Side Farmers Market, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 310-9499

Ylni Farmers Market — Produce, baked goods, jewelry, honey, **9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays**, East Ende Building, Fort Wayne, free, market@ylni.org

RECURRING EVENTS

Berne Christkindlmarkt — German-style marketplace will have unique holiday gifts, **noon-9 p.m. Friday-Saturday and noon-8 p.m. Sunday, through Dec. 22; 4-9 p.m. Monday, Dec. 23; 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 24**, Muenster Plaza and Clock Tower, Berne, free, (260) 849-3412

Fantasy of Lights — Blue Jacket’s holiday tradition features driving through 3-mile loop filled with 165 displays, including 30 new ones for 2024, **5:30-9 p.m. Sunday-Thursday; 5:30-10 p.m. Friday-Saturday, through Dec. 31**, Franke Park, Fort Wayne, \$15/vehicle, (260) 744-1900

Festival of Gingerbread — Annual event features amateurs and professionals putting their gingerbread creations on display, **9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Friday-Saturday; noon-5 p.m., through Dec. 22**, The History Center, Fort Wayne, \$5-\$7, (260) 426-2882

Headwaters Park Ice Skating — Park pavilion turns into ice skating rink for experienced and inexperienced alike, **4-9 p.m. Monday-Friday; noon-9 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Nov. 23-Feb. 23; noon-9 p.m. Nov. 27, Nov. 29, Dec. 23, Dec. 26, Dec. 27, Jan. 2, Jan. 3; noon-6 p.m. Dec. 31; closed Nov. 28, Dec. 24, Dec. 25, Jan. 1**, Headwaters Park, Fort Wayne, \$6, (260) 427-6000

Holiday Lights — Inaugural event allows you to walk through display consisting of 1 million lights that are choreographed to holiday music, along with a train ride, **6-10 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Nov. 28-30; 6-9 p.m. Sunday-Wednesday, Dec. 1-4; 6-10 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 5-7; 6-9 p.m. Sunday-Wednesday, Dec. 8-11; 6-10 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 12-14; 6-9 p.m. Sunday-Wednesday, Dec. 15-18; 6-10 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 19-Saturday, Jan. 4**, Parkview Field, Fort Wayne, \$10-\$12, (260) 482-6400

Krusin’ Christmas — Fourth annual drive-thru light show is filled with sparkling displays synchronized to Christmas music, **6-9 p.m. Thursday; 6-10 p.m. Friday-Saturday; 6-9 p.m. Sunday through Dec. 31; 6-9:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 24**, Kruse Plaza, Auburn, \$10/car, (260) 927-9144

SPECTATOR SPORTS

BASKETBALL

Purdue University Fort Wayne — Upcoming home games at Memorial Coliseum, unless noted **Sunday, Dec. 8** — Robert Morris, **2 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 11** — IU Indianapolis, **7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 20** — Defiance, **7 p.m.** (Gates Sports Center)

HOCKEY

Komets — Upcoming home games at Memorial Coliseum

Friday, Dec. 6 — Cincinnati, **7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7** — Kalamazoo, **7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14** — Allen, **7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 15** — Allen, **5 p.m. Friday, Dec. 20** — Indy, **7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 28** — Cincinnati, **7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 29** — Indy, **5 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 31** — Bloomington, **7:30 p.m.**

UPCOMING EVENTS

DECEMBER

Wild Walkers: Fox Island — Adult hiking group meets on second and fourth Friday of the month, visiting different locations, **9 a.m. Friday, Dec. 13**, Fox Island, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 427-5023

Yule Time Stroll — Lit and decorated for the season, take a walk through Charley Creek Gardens, six acres of formalized gardens and a horticultural center, **6-9 p.m. Dec. 13-23**, Charley Creek Gardens, Wabash, free, (260) 563-1020

All Things Open Mic — Monthly event welcomes people to network before anyone with a hidden talent is able to grab the mic, **6:30-9:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 13**, Visions Event Hall, Fort Wayne, \$5, soulhighstudios@gmail.com

Day of Cheer with Santa — Auburn Community Chorus will be caroling, Eckhart Public Library staff will be telling stories, and you can get a photo with Santa beginning at 10 a.m., **8 a.m.-noon Saturday, Dec. 14**, Auburn Cord Duesenberg Automobile Museum, Auburn, free, (260) 925-1444

Holiday Shopping Extravaganza — Proceeds from annual shopping bazaar with a raffle and entertainment go to The Journey, a nonprofit helping young people with mentoring and classes, **9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14**, Christ’s Church, Fort Wayne, \$5, (260) 485-1611

Biscuits with Santa — Bring your dog along for a free family photo with Santa, **10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14**, Rub-A-Dub-Dub Dog Grooming, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 312-1649

An Evening with Peter Billingsley and A Christmas Story — Star of holiday film will be on hand for screening and moderated question-and-answer with Billingsley sharing stories and behind-the-scenes photos from his time on set, **7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 19**, Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$15-\$100

Indiana Vintage Market — Shop more than 50 vendors selling primarily vintage clothing alongside vintage home goods, vinyl records, and other items, **noon-5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 21**, Grand Wayne Convention Center, Fort Wayne, \$5-\$10

Glitter Cheer & Dance Co. Throwback Winter Showcase — Program highlights Fort Wayne group that offers recreational cheerleading and dance classes, **1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 21**, Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, \$7-\$11, (260) 483-1111

Last Minute Madness Make-A-Gift Party — Family-friendly, 30-minute projects in sewing, metal, wood, 3D-printing, crafts, and clay, as well as demonstrations, refreshments, games, and photo opportunities with Santa and Krampus, **2-5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 21**, TekVenture Makerspace, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 750-9013

Rumble in Fort Wayne — Midget cars race around Expo Center vying to be first when checkered flag flies, **7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 27-28**, Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, \$15-\$25, (260) 483-1111

Boar’s Head & Yule Log Festival — Holiday tradition celebrates 48th year with pageant that celebrates Medieval tradition of celebrating season with elaborate costumes, musical performances, and dramatic portrayals of the Nativity, **5:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. Sunday-Monday, Dec. 29-30**, Plymouth Congregational Church, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 423-9424

JANUARY

Harlem Globetrotters — Comedic basketball team make outrageous plays and will keep you laughing all along the way, **2 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 1**, Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, \$30-\$120, (260) 483-1111

Rage in the Cage — Live pro wrestling event, **6 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 4**, Piere’s, Fort Wayne, \$15-\$20, (260) 492-6064

Winter Bridal Expo — One-stop shop for brides-to-be in search of everything from place settings to photographers, **noon-4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 5**, Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, \$10, (260) 483-1111

Nancy Carlson Dodd: Picturesque Lindenwood Cemetery — Monthly George R. Mather Sunday Lecture Series are presented by The History Center and free to the public, **2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 5**, The History Center, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 426-2882

All Things Open Mic — Monthly event welcomes people to network before anyone with a hidden talent is able to grab the mic, **6:30-9:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 10**, Visions Event Hall, Fort Wayne, \$5, soulhighstudios@gmail.com

Little Rock Stars — Geared toward those 4-5 years old, three-week class helps child explore musical genres, create musical experiences, compose short songs, and expand vocal range, **11 a.m.-noon or noon-1 p.m. Saturdays, Jan. 11-25**, Sweetwater Academy, Fort Wayne, \$45, (260) 432-8176

FEBRUARY

Roberta F. Ridley: His-Story, Our Story, and Fort Wayne — Monthly George R. Mather Sunday Lecture Series are presented by The History Center and free to the public, **2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 2**, The History Center, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 426-2882

Dirty Dancing in Concert — Watch iconic film with live band and singers, followed by an encore party where you can dance and sing along with the hits, **7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 6**, Honeywell Center, Wabash, \$29-\$79, (260) 563-1102

All Things Open Mic — Monthly event welcomes people to network before anyone with a hidden talent is able to grab the mic, **6:30-9:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 21**, Visions Event Hall, Fort Wayne, \$5, soulhighstudios@gmail.com

Turnstone’s 48th Annual Casino Night — Test your skills at blackjack, bingo, wheelchair basketball shot, bottle ring toss, and other activities alongside local food tastings and a cash bar at Turnstone Center fundraiser, **6-10 p.m. Friday, Feb. 28**, Turnstone Center, Fort Wayne, \$75, (260) 483-2100

MARCH

Suzanne LaVere: Spectacles, Politics, and Patriotism: Cultural Uses of Joan of Arc in Fort Wayne and Beyond — Monthly George R. Mather Sunday Lecture Series are presented by The History Center and free to the public, **2 p.m. Sunday, March 2**, The History Center, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 426-2882

Art & Exhibits

LOCAL CALENDAR

CURRENT EXHIBITS

Art of Hope — Local artists share inspiring stories about recovery, healing, and hope, **9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday; 7 a.m.-1 p.m. Sunday, through Jan. 3**, First Presbyterian Church, Fort Wayne, free admission, (260) 426-7421

Art Farm Pop-Up Gallery — Spencerville studio transforms into a gallery for curated exhibit that features national and local artists with everything from ceramics and fiber to pop art prints and glass, **noon-6 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday, Dec. 6-Jan. 12**, The Art Farm, Spencerville, free admission, (260) 740-8725

Clyde Butcher: America's Everglades — Known for large-scale, black and white photography, Butcher captures landscapes and ecosystems from across U.S., particularly Florida's Everglades, **10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursday; 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday-Saturday; noon-5 p.m. Sunday, through Jan. 26**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, Fort Wayne, \$8-\$10, (260) 422-6467

Comedy and Criticism: Satire in 19th and Early 20th Century Europe and North America in the Print and Drawing Study Center — Works from political cartoonists that were featured in newspapers, **10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursday; 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday-Saturday; noon-5 p.m. Sunday, through Dec. 20**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, Fort Wayne, \$8-\$10, (260) 422-6467

Stage & Dance

LOCAL CALENDAR

NOW PLAYING

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever: The Musical — Fire & Light Productions present musical adaptation of a town scrambling after the worst kids in town demand roles in the annual Christmas pageant, **7 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Dec. 5-6; 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7; 7 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Dec. 12-13; 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14**, PPG ArtsLab, Fort Wayne, \$10-\$14, (260) 422-4226

Madrigal Christmas Dinner Theatre — Festive holiday celebration includes Medieval-inspired cuisine while you're entertained by live comedy and music, **5:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 6-7**, Honeywell Center, Wabash, \$59, (260) 563-1102

Christmas My Way: A Rat Pack Holiday Bash — Show will have 40 swinging hits as four singers perform cool versions of Great American Sound-book standards and holiday favorites, **6:45 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 6-7; 6:45 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 13-14; 1:15 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 15; 6:45 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 20-21; 1:15 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 22**, Arena Dinner Theatre, Fort Wayne, (260) 422-4226

Miracle on 34th Street — Wagon Wheel Professional Theatre holiday classic about young girl's encounters with who may be the actual Santa Claus, **7 p.m. Friday-Saturday Dec. 6-7; 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8; 7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 13-14; 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 15; 7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 20-21; 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 22**, Wagon Wheel Theatre, Warsaw, \$21-\$51, (574) 267-8041

A Christmas Carol — Summit City Music Theatre returns to Salomon Park's Old Barn for third annual production of Charles Dickens' classic tale with Ebenezer Scrooge and the Cratchit family, **7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 6-7; 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8; 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 13-14; 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 15**, Salomon Farm Park, Fort Wayne, \$20-\$25, (260) 427-6000

Longing for the Light — all for One productions sets a new tone for Christmas season with music, spoken word poetry, and short dramas, **7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6; and 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7**, Redemption Bible Church, Fort Wayne, \$10-\$14, (260) 422-4226

Diverse Directions: Rethinking the Landscape — Meanings of landscape art, which are often associated with physical descriptions of color, light, shadow, atmosphere, and form, **10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursday; 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday-Saturday; noon-5 p.m. Sunday, through Dec. 8**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, Fort Wayne, \$8-\$10, (260) 422-6467

Fish Out of Water — Aquatic art features diverse selection that showcases glass, scientific illustrations, and still-life paintings, **10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursday; 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday-Saturday; noon-5 p.m. Sunday, through Dec. 15**, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, Fort Wayne, \$8-\$10, (260) 422-6467

From the Artist's Hand: A Legacy of Works from the Collection of William and Mary Ann Roebel — Prints and works from master artists from the 17th to 20th centuries, include Rembrandt, Renoir, Picasso, Toulouse-Lautrec, and Dali, **9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday; 1-5 p.m. Sunday, through Dec. 13**, USF Rolland Art Center, Fort Wayne, free admission, (260) 399-8064

Gnome for the Holidays — Seasonal exhibit will feature mythical poinsettia tree along with large fresh-cut evergreens and playful touches, **10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Wednesday; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursday; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Friday (through Dec. 20) 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday (Dec. 27-Jan. 3); 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday; noon-4 p.m. Sunday, through Jan. 5**, Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory, Fort Wayne, \$1-\$7, (260) 427-6440

The Nutcracker — Fort Wayne Ballet's annual production of holiday story about Nutcracker Prince coming to life to guide Clara to the Land of Sweets, with Fort Wayne Philharmonic supplying music, **7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6; 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7; 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8**, Robert Goldstine PAC, Fort Wayne, \$58-\$62, (260) 484-9646

Magic of the Holidays — Final event to celebrate Stoner's Funstore's 75th anniversary will have magicians Elmer Smith, Rick Reader, Rusty Ammerman, and Sean Bogunia, with Colin Haines emceeing, **8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6**, First Presbyterian Theater, Fort Wayne, \$15-\$20, (260) 426-1100

Holiday Cabaret — Huntington Theatre Guild Act 2 present holiday favorites and originals with theatrical flair, **2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7**, Huntington University Longaker Recital Hall, Huntington, \$10, (260) 355-5103

Project Ballet Presents: Nutcracker at The Embassy — Production by a cast of more than 150 local children present classic holiday tale, **2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7; 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8**, Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, (260) 424-6287

Christmas at the Movies! — Fort Wayne's Reverie Dance Studio presents show complete with live narration and music from new and familiar Christmas movies, **6:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7**, ACPL: Downtown, Fort Wayne, \$20-\$21, (260) 436-4853

The Nutcracker — Wabash Valley Dance Theater present classic holiday tale with accompaniment by Manchester Symphony Orchestra, Indiana Ballet Conservatory, and Manchester High School choir, **7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7; 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8**, Honeywell Center, Wabash, \$20, (260) 563-1102

The 24-Hour Plays — PFW Department of Theatre present night of original work by students that take a piece from playwright at 7 a.m. the previous day and create entire show by the following night, **8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7**, PFW Kettler Hall, Fort Wayne, \$5, (260) 481-6555

Chicago: The Musical — Broadway at The Embassy series features iconic musical about fame, fortune, and all that jazz with one show-stopping song after another, **7:30 p.m. Tuesday-Wednesday, Dec. 10-11**, Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$35-\$75, (260) 424-6287

Loose Screws — Local artists Amber Cox, Jaden Rice, and Kay Allday will have works on display for sale, **9 a.m.-3 p.m. Thursday-Sunday, through Dec. 22**, Dash-In, Fort Wayne, free admission, (260) 422-3595

PFW Featured Alumni Artist: Peter Lupkin — Graduate of IPFW in 2010, artist's portraiture paintings are visual response to his upbringing and influences, **8 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Friday; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, through Jan. 5, closed Dec. 21-Jan. 1**, PFW Visual Arts Gallery, Fort Wayne, free admission, (260) 481-6709

Small Works — Local artists Kristy Jo Beber, Grace Berg, Nancy Fritz, Morgan Wenner, Janet Lynch, Jan Klee, Kara Saylor, Christy Arbogast, Jamie Grabner, and Becky Stockert have pieces no larger than 12-inch-by-12-inch on display, **11 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Wednesday; 11 a.m.-6 pm. Thursday; 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday-Saturday, through Dec. 31**, Creative Women of the World, Fort Wayne, free admission, (260) 267-9048

Thinking in Color — Works from local artists Cameron Omega, Drece L. Guy, Thomas Leffers, Nancy Fritz, and Teresa Vazquez are on display, **11 a.m.-9 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday; 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Friday-Saturday, through Dec. 16**, Chapman's Brewing: Electric Works, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 250-4371

AUDITIONS

MisCast — Bring 32-64 bars of your audition song on flash drive, YouTube link, or played from your phone to speaker for Huntington Theatre Guild: Act II production, **6:30-9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 19**, Trinity United Methodist Church, Huntington, free, (260) 355-5103

UPCOMING PRODUCTIONS

DECEMBER

Anastasia — Fort Wayne Youtheatre presents musical inspired by animated film about young woman who sets out to discover if she's a Russian princess, **7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 13; 3 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 14-15; 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 19 (sensory friendly); 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 20; 3 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 21-22**, First Presbyterian Theater, Fort Wayne, \$11-\$20, (260) 422-4226

Make the Yuletide Gay — Put on your brightest ugly sweater for holiday-themed cabaret, **8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 13-14; 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 15**, Three Rivers Music Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$21.60, info@threeriversmusictheatre.com

A Christmas Carol — Classic Charles Dickens' story about curmudgeon Ebenezer Scrooge being visited by ghosts of Christmas in order to change his ways, **7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14**, Niswonger PAC, Van Wert, \$19-\$65, (419) 238-6722

Assisted Living: The Musical — The Home ... For the Holidays production is a sequel, featuring plenty of hi-jinks, **2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 18**, Honeywell Center, Wabash, \$20, (260) 563-1102

JANUARY

Doubt: A Parable — Fire Line Productions of Wabash present story of nun who is skeptical of church's new priest, **2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 11; 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 12**, Eagles Theatre, Wabash, \$17, (260) 563-1102

Godspell — Fire & Light Productions present story of small group of people helping Jesus by telling different parables using variety of games, storytelling techniques, and comic timing. **7 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Jan. 9-10; 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 11; 7 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Jan. 16-17; 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 18**, PPG ArtsLab, Fort Wayne, \$10-\$14, (260) 422-4226

Women Take the Walls — Second annual exhibit features works from 16 women creators, including Fort Wayne's Terri Lindvall and Janice Further, as well as Hoagland's Diane Evans, **5-8 p.m. Friday; 4-7 p.m. Saturday; 1-4 p.m. Sunday, through Dec. 22**, Garrett Museum of Art, Garrett, free admission, (260) 704-5400

RECEPTIONS

PFW Featured Alumni Artist: Peter Lupkin — Graduate of IPFW in 2010, artist's portraiture paintings are visual response to his upbringing and influences, **4:30-6:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 5**, PFW Visual Arts Gallery, Fort Wayne, free admission, (260) 481-6709

ART EVENTS

Artlink Winter Market — More than 10 creative small businesses selling items such as artwork, holiday cards, handmade home goods, and accessories, **10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturdays, through Dec. 14**, Artlink, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 424-7195

Artlink Curated Shop/Annual Cup Exhibition/ARTament — Shop will have items from local artists and makers, while cup sale features more than 30 ceramic artists, and ARTament fundraiser will have handmade ornaments hanging from a tree, **10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursday; 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday-Saturday; noon-5 p.m. Sunday, through Dec. 15**, Artlink, Fort Wayne, free, (260) 424-7195

The Last Quiz Night on Earth — As an asteroid nears the planet, a landlady and her quizmaster decide to conduct a pub quiz, but unexpected guests create havoc, **6:45 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Jan. 17-18; 6:45 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Jan. 24-25; 1:15 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 26; 6:45 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Jan. 31-Feb. 1**, Arena Dinner Theatre, Fort Wayne, (260) 422-4226

Erth's Dinosaur Zoo Live — Meet and interact with collection of life-like dinosaurs and creatures during tour through prehistoric Australia, **6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 21**, Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$25-\$45, (260) 424-6287

Justin Willman — Illusionist's show mixes magic, comedy, and mind control that is fun for the entire family, **7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 24**, Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$36-\$146, (260) 424-6287

FEBRUARY

Momix: Alice — In collaboration with Fort Wayne Dance Collective, show blends illusion, acrobatics, magic, and whimsy into Lewis Carroll's classic *Alice in Wonderland* tale, **7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 4**, Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$30-\$45, (260) 424-6287

MisCast Cabaret — Talented performers step into roles they'd never be cast in, such as adult tackling Annie's "Tomorrow" or a gentleman belting out Wicked's "Defying Gravity," in Huntington Theatre Guild: Act II production, **7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 7; 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 8**, New Hope Church, Huntington, \$10, (260) 355-5103

Waitress — Fort Wayne Civic Theatre presents musical featuring waitress looking to better her life and sees opportunity with baking contest, **7:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 8; 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 9**, Embassy Theatre, Fort Wayne, \$33-\$45, ((260) 424-6287

Love Notes — Fort Wayne Ballet presents annual production featuring romance, passion, and heartfelt movement, **7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 13**, Eagles Theatre, Wabash, \$20, (260) 563-1102

Love Notes — Fort Wayne Ballet's blend of dancing from classical pas de deux to dynamic contemporary movements, showcasing the essence of love in all its forms, **7:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 14; 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 15**, Pearl Street Arts Center, Fort Wayne, \$25-\$30, (260) 422-4226



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