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Raven Hill Discovery Center, incorporated in 1991, is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization.

Mission: Raven Hill provides a place that enhances hands-on and lifelong learning for all ages by connecting science, history & the arts.

To: Friends and Family everywhere
From: Cheri and Raven Hill
Date: February 27, 2021
Re: Weekly Update

Greetings, Everyone!

We have lots of exciting events planned for this spring & summer! Below is a sample of what is coming!

First, Raven Hill is hosting a Zoom session on **CLIMATE CHANGE** on Monday, April 5th at 7pm. The presentation is called, "Must we, Can we, Will we change?" Robin Gleason was trained by former Vice President Al Gore and will be a speaker for the Climate Reality Leadership Corps, an organization whose purpose is to educate the public and inspire action on climate change. This engaging presentation is for audiences of all types, so people everywhere, including Northern Michigan, can join together in working for solutions. The presentation will last about an hour, and everyone will have the opportunity to ask questions. Sign up to attend by calling or texting Cheri at 231.675.6025. Please share this invitation with family and friends. This world belongs to all of us. Let's all work together to take care of it.



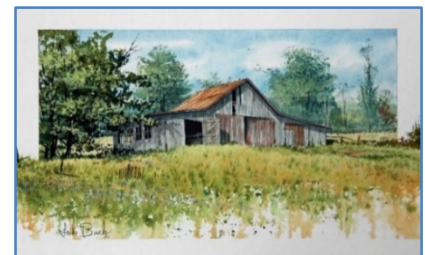
This is NOT northern Michigan. This is Texas. Make a pledge to fight climate change, which affects us all. Join us at 7pm on April 5th for Robin's Zoom presentation.



In the old days, circles were punched out of mussel shells and made into plain & fancy buttons. Pearl Buttons "star" in one of the new "eyes-only" displays opening in April.

Second, the Center is **REOPENING** on Saturday, April 17, 2021. The Center will be open to the public from noon to 4pm, pending state pandemic guidelines. Due to COVID, visitors are asked to call 231.536.3369 and make an appointment to visit. The indoor facilities of Raven Hill will be reconfigured to showcase exciting new "eyes-only" exhibits of shells, skulls, rocks and other intriguing artifacts. "**Mother of Pearl Treasures**" featuring pearl buttons is one new display waiting for visitors to experience. Raven Hill's Animal Room, is also "eyes-only" for now. Still, the Center will remain a place to immerse yourself in a world of discovery. Don't forget to mask up and plan to spend the day exploring inside and out. To further enhance open-air learning, the Center is currently fundraising to install the **CONNECTIONS TRAIL** this spring. This half-mile walkway will parallel the existing Taxi Trail and feature 40 learning stations.

Third, artist Luke Buck returns to Raven Hill for his 12th **WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP**. The workshop is scheduled for Thursday, June 24th and Friday, June 25th from 10am to 3pm both days. The focus this year is on "**Old Barns**" in



conjunction with the Center's coming exhibit on the history of work. Luke's workshop will emphasize the construction of barns and participants will examine the interesting variations and styles of barns found throughout the country and the beauty that they portray.

Register soon! Learn to express the artist within you in this motivational, creative & inspirational class.



Luke Buck demonstrates a watercolor technique to the group during a previous workshop.

Barns are one of Luke's favorite subjects to paint. The class will study techniques of painting textures, from the wood siding to the shingling and metal roofs. The unique placement of barns & the terrain on the substrate will also be considered. This class is designed for the novice beginner, intermediate, or the more advanced & accomplished watercolor artist.

Luke grew up and studied art in Indiana. Many "locals" here in northern Michigan appreciate his talents and collect his paintings.

Early enrollment is encouraged, as space is limited. Due to COVID-19, everyone will be asked to mask and socially distance at all times during the workshop. Please understand that the workshop may be cancelled, if state pandemic guidelines require. To register or for more information, email info@miravenhill.org

Fourth, there are seven **DISCOVERY CAMPS** for kids scheduled for this summer.

- Art Camps are June 21st to 25th & June 28th to July 2nd
- STEM Camp is July 5th to 9th
- Geology Camp will be July 12th to 16th
- Nature Lovers Camps are July 19th to 23rd & July 26th to 30th
- History Camp will be August 2nd to 6th

All camps will be limited to 8-10 campers per session and held outside under the Picnic Pavilion. Children must wear masks and be able to keep their distance. To request a flyer or register, email info@miravenhill.org



Choose science, history or art camps. Even art classes, like **Marbled Paper** (left) will be held safely outdoors with campers masked and socially distanced.

Fifth, the third annual **PEDAL, PIG & PINT BIKE EVENT** is scheduled for Sunday August 1, 2021. Riders are welcome to enjoy this self-paced bike event accessible to all ages and riding abilities. Mark your calendars and watch for more information. This year's bike event is expanding to include both the road bike tour and a mountain bike component. Raven Hill Discovery Center www.miravenhill.org and the Top of Michigan Mountain Bike Association (TOMMBA) www.tommmba.org are collaborating to bring you the opportunity to "Choose Your Wheels". Enjoy a scenic paved route around Lake Charlevoix OR delight in beautiful wooded mountain bike trails. Your support will go to two exceptional non-profit organizations striving to enhance outdoor experiences in this area. **Stiggs Brewing Company** in Boyne City has generously offered to support the event with a Pig Roast, Pint and festive atmosphere for relaxing after your ride.



Sign up. Then get on your bike & enjoy a ride around Lake Charlevoix to support Raven Hill.

Finally, the Smithsonian **LABOR DAYS HISTORY OF WORK** exhibit will open Saturday, August 14th and close Thursday, September 30th of 2021. Exhibit hours are from 10am to 4pm daily. Depending on the pandemic, the exhibit will be virtual, by appointment or open to the public. Watch for more details coming soon.

It's going to be a wonderful spring and summer, but we still need to be cautious. I got my second vaccination yesterday, but I will continue to wash my hands often, wear my mask, socially distance and stay away from crowds, just to be safe. I look forward to seeing you soon!

Cheri