

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

**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: July 17, 2021

Re: Weekly Update

Greetings!



*Volunteer Diane Strzelinski "painted" this beautiful needle-felted landscape with scraps of colored wool. It always reminds me to "slow down" and appreciate the moment.*

The Kind Initiative is a community of women who are chasing their dreams and encouraging one another on the journey. They have recommendations for all of us: "Let go of things you can't control." | "Don't forget to take care of yourself." | "It's okay to go slow." That is good advice for everyone. With those words in mind, **RAVEN HILL HAS RESCHEDULED THE CONNECTIONS TRAIL OPENING** to some future date yet to be set! Work continues, but we need to be deliberate about each station. That will take time. **STAY TUNED FOR MORE DETAILS.** We did get the anemometer, wind vane, rain gauge and thermometer up on the Weather Station this week, so we are making progress!



*The Weather Station is looking pretty official with all the equipment for monitoring rain, temperature, wind speed and direction. Nowadays, most of us just check our TVs, radios or cell phones for the weather report. forecast.*

There's something special about rocks. Maybe it is the fact that they are from a time long past or that they will outlast us all. Maybe it is the stories they could tell. Perhaps the

fascination with rocks has been ingrained in us from caveman times, when a rock might be the difference between life & death—ground into pigments for paint or used to shape an arrowhead or to start a fire. I know I can't walk down the road without picking up any little rock that catches my eye. This past week, campers studied geology. They polished fossils, made their own rock collections, created a rock plaque and more. The campers also collected rocks and fashioned their own Inuksuk, technically *Inunnguaq*. Stone figures were used by the Inuit "in the capacity of a human" as hunting and directional aids in the Arctic. I created my own Inuksuk at home to keep me company during COVID. It is still on the patio, greeting me every morning, when I get up and every evening, when I get home from work!



*(Left) Tala is having a hard time deciding which rocks she wants to use for her Inuksuk. (Right) This completed Inuksuk is all ready to go home and provide safety, hope and friendship for its young creator.*

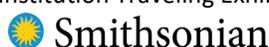
Remember to **Choose Your Wheels!** Mark your calendars for the third annual Pedal, Pig, and Pint (PPP) Bike Tour, Sunday, August 1, 2021, in Boyne City, Michigan. Riders of all ages and levels are welcome to enjoy this self-paced bike touring event sponsored by Raven Hill Discovery Center [www.miravenhill.org](http://www.miravenhill.org) and the Top of Michigan Mountain Bike Association (TOMMBA) [www.tommba.org](http://www.tommba.org). Register online at [www.bikereg.com](http://www.bikereg.com) or at Veterans Memorial Park, 319 N. Lake St. in Boyne City, beginning at 7:30 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. Registration includes an event bike shirt, lunch and a pint at Stiggs Brewing Company, a free admission ticket to Raven Hill Discovery Center and acknowledgement for your support of these two amazing non-profit organizations. Wristbands will be distributed at registration and are required for lunch and a pint at Stiggs, which is located at 112 S. Park St., Boyne City, [www.stiggsbrewingcompany.com](http://www.stiggsbrewingcompany.com). If you have additional questions concerning the ride or would like to be a sponsor, contact Holly Sasso (517) 231-3341 or Michael Labadie (616) 304-5758.

The time is also drawing near for an exciting exhibit at Raven Hill. Be sure to mark August 14 through September 30 on your calendar and pick a day to come check out **Labor Days-A History of Work**. Raven Hill Discovery Center is collaborating with the Smithsonian's Museum on Main Street (MoMS) program on a pilot project about the history of who, where, why and how we work. The Center was chosen in 2019 as one of only ten organizations in the entire United States to work with Smithsonian staff to create this **History of Work** exhibit. **Labor Days** will chronicle the diversity of work in northern Lower Michigan over the past 150 years and will parallel that with the variety of work done in the rest of Michigan, the nation and around the world during that same time period.



*In 1905, the entire family worked at haying on the Lumley farm near Deer Lake. Ed May Collection*

**Labor Days-A History of Work** is organized by **Raven Hill Discovery Center** in collaboration with the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service.



*Doug Waldo participated in the PPP last year, but will be on a much longer ride this year. He is biking the Continental Divide of the Americas with a group of men and women, most of whom are at least 70 years old. It will be a tough ride. He plans to be back around October 1<sup>st</sup>. We wish him well!*

Raven Hill is hosting a lot of visitors this summer! From families to field trips, the Center appeals to a diverse range of ages and interests. As always, our mission is hands-on connections between science, history and the arts! Regular hours are 10am to 4pm weekdays, noon to 4pm on Saturdays, 2pm to 4pm on Sundays and other times by appointment. You can email [info@miravenhill.org](mailto:info@miravenhill.org) or call 231.536.3369 with any questions you might have. For the sake of the children, we do continue ask everyone to mask up while inside.

Enjoy your week!

Cheri



*My Inuksuk*