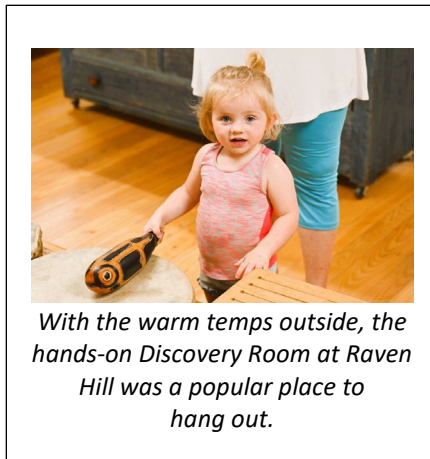


WHERE **SCIENCE****HISTORY****AND****ART** CONNECT

To: Raven Hill friends
From: Cheri
Date: June 24, 2023
Re: *Beating the Heat!*

This week's update is a perfect time and place to thank all of the volunteers, both past and present, who have made Raven Hill a very special place. Saturday was a case in point. McLaren Hospital and Raven Hill partnered to offer hospital staff a special day at the Center. In addition to the usual offerings of museum, animals and outdoor exhibits, Duane Arnott demonstrated blacksmithing and several members of the Lake Charlevoix Weavers and Spinners Guild plied their yarn, weaving and spinning for visitors. Julie Jarema, Vice President, Chief Philanthropy Officer of McLaren Northern Michigan Foundation said, "Those that came did have a great time. A big thanks to you, your staff and your volunteers for setting everything up. There is a lot of planning involved. Much more than one would think. Grateful for you."



Nancy Hellman, volunteer coordinator for Raven Hill, shared her thoughts, "a huge thanks and wow (goes) to the volunteer and worker group Saturday. I'm sorry I did not get to talk with everyone, but I was impressed by the willingness to volunteer, working in the heat, and positive attitudes."



(Far left) Spinner Carol Book was joined by other spinners and weavers Saturday at Raven Hill. They beat the heat by hanging out in the Fiber Studio. In addition to demonstrating their skills, they got to visit with their fiber friends.

(Left) Image of 17th century of great spinning wheel commonly found in homes in the colonies of North America.

As the McLaren event was winding down, action at Raven Hill's pond was gearing up. Dylan Clapp chose Raven Hill as the site for his Eagle Scout Service Project. Over the last year, Dylan has planned, funded, assembled a crew and built an accessible dock system that is now being installed at the pond. Installing docks at Raven Hill's pond will increase access to the pond and help visitors learn more about the natural world around them. The project will include interpretive signage.

Currently much of the pond shoreline is difficult to access. The docks will allow visitors to view deeper water areas from the platforms. Shoreline ramps will allow the docks to be reachable for those visitors with physical challenges. Dylan has recruited members of Troop 11, family and friends to help with his project. Once the dock is assembled, next steps will be installing the shoreline ramps and educational signage.

One of my refrigerator magnets says, "A'ohe hana nui ke alu 'ia". That translates to "No task is too big when done together by all." Raven Hill is a testament to that! From the beginning, the Center has been built on a solid foundation of supporters too numerous to mention. All of you know who you are and you know the hard work "done together by all" that has created this fascinating place of hands-on and lifelong learning.

We celebrate all of our volunteers, who have labored here over the last 32 years—yes, it will be 32 years on July 1—to make Raven Hill so very special. Helen Keller once said, "Alone, we can do so little; together, we can do so much."

THANK YOU ONE & ALL.

Cheri



Eagle Scout Dylan Clapp and his crew stayed cool in the water, as they worked on the new dock system they are installing at Raven Hill's pond.