



04737 Fuller Road, East Jordan, MI 49727  
(231) 536-3369 | [www.miravenhill.org](http://www.miravenhill.org)  
[info@miravenhill.org](mailto:info@miravenhill.org)

*Raven Hill Discovery Center 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: August 29, 2020

Re: Update

Greetings to all!

One of my favorite places at Raven Hill is the Evolving Technology or ET Building. Inside it, a timeline meanders along with sixteen time periods from the modern Information Age all the way back to the Stone Age. Each time period features the technology of daily life—cooking, cleaning, laundry, sewing, tools, toys & games, as well as communications from that time period—written, audio, visual and number communication, like calendars, clocks, radios, televisions, thermometers, license plates, etc.



Built in the shape of a capital “H” for History, the ET allows visitors to view changes in technology from the Stone Age to the present.



The U.S. granted 229 patents between 1790 & 1800, the first decade of the US Patent Act. In 2019, America granted an average of 971 patents every day.

One day, during construction, Randy Matelski was unloading wood to be used for paneling the walls, so that the artifacts could be placed in a “timely” manner! I will never forget Randy saying to me, “I hear you are going to have antiques in here.” Of course, that was the furthest thing from my mind. The ET Building was to be all about the inventions and advances of technology over time. But, if it had not been for that one little remark, the building might look totally different than it does today. That one comment resulted in a chronology of sixteen time periods, each distinguished by historically representative wall and floor coverings.

Bryce Courteney, Australian author, put it this way, “Sometimes the slightest things change the directions of our lives, the merest breath of a circumstance, a random moment that connects like a meteorite striking the earth.” Randy’s random comment changed the entire “feel” of the ET Building, making it a fascinating exploration of how we got to now.

May this story inspire you to embrace the unpredictable, because you never know when some small occurrence might change everything! Hope you are well and enjoying the bittersweet end of summer and the promise of fall colors. Stay safe and keep in touch. Call anytime 231.675.6025 or email [cheri@miravenhill.org](mailto:cheri@miravenhill.org) and let us know how you and your family are doing.

Take care, *Cheri*