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*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: November 6, 2021  
Re: Weekly update

Welcome to Eastern Standard Time, Everyone!

Early Sunday morning is the time to “fall back” to Eastern Standard Time. In 1883 the railroad companies started using standard time and time zones across the country to coordinate railway schedules. Before that, deadly train accidents happened, when different trains used different times. Standard time is important for cross country travel and for communications. During the world wars, Daylight Saving Time was instituted. It is still used today, although many people dislike it. The sundial at Raven Hill sports both Daylight Saving Time (DST) and Eastern Standard Time (EST), making accurate solar time measurements all year round! In 2021, the bluestone bricks were added to replace the paper numbers.



*(Right) The sundial picture was taken on November 6, 2020 at 4 DST/3 EST. (Above right) The bluestones have DST at the top & EST at the bottom, since most of our visitors come during Daylight Savings Time (DST). The next sunny day that you visit, be sure to check the time on the sundial at Raven Hill.*

This week, East Jordan girl scouts spent a couple of hours exploring Raven Hill’s Hands-on and Animal Rooms. They have been working on a STEM badge and are starting an Animal Habitat badge, so they had fun exploring, playing and learning. Raven Hill is a perfect spot for scout field trips, both day and overnight. Groups can choose a certain badge to work on or specify areas-of-focus from multiple badge criteria. Raven Hill staff talk with scout leaders and then provide specific activities for an outing. Alternatively, staff can emphasize certain badge requirements during a regular “museum and animals” visit. Overnight stays consist of five or six hands-on activities, usually centered around a single badge. Museum and animal time is a “given” and a “night at the museum” includes everyone sleeping on the floor in sleeping bags! For those wanting to commemorate their experience, Raven Hill patches are available for purchase. For more information or to book a date to visit, call 231.536.3369 or email [info@miravenhill.org](mailto:info@miravenhill.org)



*(Left) These scouts created a new game or dance move! Whichever it is, it’s a unique use for the stoplight in the Hands-on Room. Some of the scouts also tried their hand at building a tower on the magnet table and others worked at the Rollway constructing a ramp to slow the golf ball down, all STEM-related explorations!*

Many volunteers willingly give of their time and energy as needed at Raven Hill and we can't say thank you enough. Recent volunteers include Clayton Favor, Max Sasso and Dave Clapp, who helped take the tipi poles down for winter. Max has volunteered to store them in his barn. Max & Dave also helped bring in the small sculptures from **Jurassic Park**. Later, Dave brought his two sons out to set sign posts along the **Connections Trail**. Boyne Mountain picked up the two golf carts for winter storage and maintenance. Ed & Pat May are still making "mouse runs" for snake food and "mealworm runs" for lizard food. Ed Strzelinski is always willing to give a hand at whatever needs to be done. Jean VanDam volunteers for a couple of hours every week. Her most recent "job" was to move the loom and spinning wheel to the Great Room near the **Labor Days** exhibit, in order to make room for the **Jurassic Park** sculptures in the Sunroom. Of course, every move necessitates dusting, sweeping and mopping! If you are interested in lending a hand to help out at Raven Hill, email [info@miravenhill.org](mailto:info@miravenhill.org) or call Cheri at 231.536.3369.



*It was a family affair on Sunday morning as the Clapp family set sign posts along the Connections Trail. They dodged the rain until the very end!*

Remember to visit the Smithsonian **Labor Days: History of Work** exhibit one of these days. Weekend hours are noon to 4pm on Saturdays and 2pm to 4pm on Sundays or call 231.536.3369 to make an appointment for other times.

As always, for the sake of the vaccinated and unvaccinated, we ask everyone to mask up while inside Raven Hill.

Hope to see you soon, *Cheri*



*Barb Danly's table-top loom is now on display with the Labor Days History of Work exhibit!*



*Indoors, the Jurassic Park sculptures continue to teach visitors about the Earth's geologic history.*



*The artistic interpretations of trilobites and horseshoe crabs are readily identifiable in this picture, but the Charnia on the back left and the Tully monster on the far right of the photo are more unusual and intriguing. Next time you visit the Center, ask about their fascinating stories.*



*The **Historical Society of Michigan** has made old editions of their magazine available for free. Stop in and pick one up here at Raven Hill. While you are here, you can check out the **Labor Days** exhibit!*



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