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*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: May 15, 2020

Re: Update

Hope everyone is hanging in! Raven Hill is busy trying to catch up and is even getting ahead a little! We just finished our 8<sup>th</sup> week of Home Learning Opportunities on Facebook and the web, plus we are keeping both Photo and History Journal pages going on the website. All three are serving a dual purpose. In addition to keeping us in peoples' minds, the learning activities may become a book someday. The photo journal is the "backstory" of Raven Hill events, exhibits, facilities and programs—things that now mainly exist in the founder's memory. And, the history will serve us well for the **Labor Days History of Work**, our pilot project in collaboration with the Smithsonian that is now scheduled for August 14 to September 30 of 2021. All in all, we are pleased our progress on all three fronts.



The forsythia bushes are all clones from the bush by the main museum!



Even the dandelions are beautiful.

Today was our second Zoom session with another two virtual meetings scheduled for the week after Memorial Day. Today, Checkers, the corn snake and I visited with Boyne City fourth graders via Zoom. I talked with 32 students and 4 teachers, about making good sight observations. Checkers was our "subject" and loves the attention! Lots of good questions at the end! If you know any teacher, who might like to have a visit from Checkers or Spike, the lizard, please let them know that we are available to meet virtually with groups.

We are already looking forward to a grand reopening next spring. By then, things should have settled down and we will have a plan as to how to be hands-on and meet any distancing and sanitizing needs in the main museum and animal rooms. The outside will be open this summer for walking as individual family groups. We just ask that you call or text 231.675.6025 and make "reservations." Let us know how many are in your group and when you want to come walk, so that we can count "attendance" and keep visitors socially distancing and safe. And, of course, a donation via our website, a phone call with credit card or by mail would be appreciated to help keep the grounds mowed and outdoor exhibits maintained.

Think positive thoughts. Reach out to someone with an email or phone call every day during these trying times. As someone said, "Don't count the days. Make the days count." Stay safe, everyone, and check in any time: 231.675.6025.

Cheri