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

Open year-round on weekends – noon to 4pm Saturdays and 2pm to 4pm Sundays.
Between Memorial Day and Labor Day, hours expand to include weekdays from
10am to 4pm. The Center is also open other times, including holidays, by appointment.

MISSION: to provide a place that enhances hands-on and lifelong
learning for all ages by connecting science, history and the arts.

WHERE SCIENCE HISTORY AND ART CONNECT

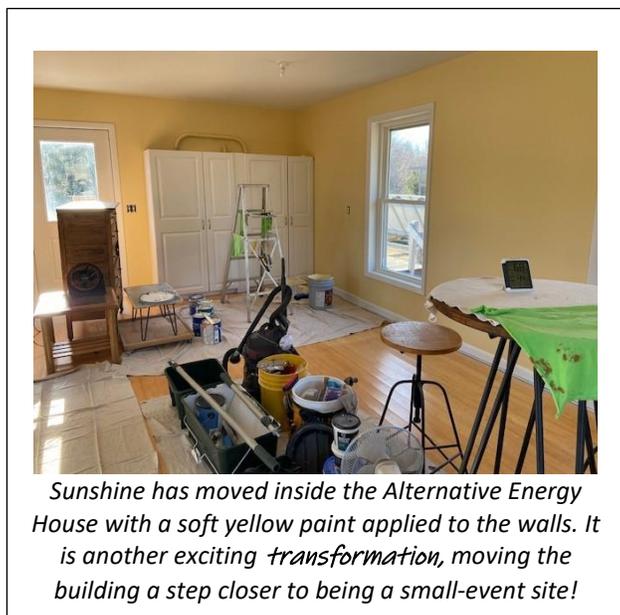
To: Raven Hill friends
From: Cheri
Date: April 6, 2024
Re: Transformations

It has been a busy week with lots of work going on “behind the scenes.” The outside of the Schoolhouse has been scraped, sanded and painted. The Alternative Energy House is getting its first official coat of paint inside. And the Sundial is being upgraded with a beautiful brick border. At the same time, the “front of house” programs are ramping up. On Monday, several families enjoyed their last day of spring break exploring Raven Hill. A small group of scout leaders met on Tuesday to brainstorm new collaborations with Raven Hill and Leadership Charlevoix County (LCC) held its 12th annual Environmental Day at the Center on Thursday.



The Schoolhouse looks wonderfully crisp & clean with its transformative coat of paint welcoming visitors to stay a while and “play school.”

Even though painting two of the Center’s buildings may seem unrelated to the leadership training that LCC provides, both are *transformations*. In one case, Raven Hill structures are being *transformed* with bright new colors, while LCC participants are learning new leadership skills that can *transform* their communities. New paint for the Schoolhouse and Energy House required an investment in materials and labor, similar to a community investing time and resources in training new leaders to better the future of that community. Both



Sunshine has moved inside the Alternative Energy House with a soft yellow paint applied to the walls. It is another exciting transformation, moving the building a step closer to being a small-event site!

painting and leadership require attention to detail, whether it is ensuring smooth brush strokes on the Energy House walls or honing new “people” skills through workshops, mentorship, and practical experience. A fresh coat of paint enhances the value and longevity of the Schoolhouse, just as leadership training can impact the long-term success and sustainability of local communities. The new paint on the Energy House walls is instilling a sense of pride and even excitement, making the building feel “new,” just as well-trained new leaders inspire confidence and a sense of pride in their community. In the end, the new paint makes the Schoolhouse stand out visibly on the Center’s main campus, just like newly trained leaders become visible role models and catalysts for positive change within their community, all wonderful *transformations*.

It is exciting to think that painting a couple of buildings at Raven Hill and training new leaders within Charlevoix County both contribute to the overall improvement and vitality of our community, enhancing the aesthetics at Raven Hill and nurturing the leadership potential within the larger Charlevoix County community. Way to go, everyone! Thanks for your involvement in enriching the lives of Charlevoix County residents!



It is a win-win! The Sundial is looking more "finished" with a brick border AND the brick pile is shrinking—exciting transformations at Raven Hill Discovery Center!



Raven Hill is always honored to host Leadership Charlevoix County's Environmental Day. LCC's mission is to develop and promote community-based leadership in individuals and organizations within Charlevoix County. The day is a perfect blend of meeting new community members and renewing old friendships.

Be sure to mark your calendars for the following programs and events:

- If you have not already made plans, feel free to join us for the **Solar Eclipse** on Monday, April 8th between noon and 4pm.
- The **Night Skies** will be the topic of a program by Rod Cortright on Wednesday, April 24th at 7pm. If the weather permits, we will spend time on the hill with the telescopes after the indoor session.
- Raven Hill's **FREE (Families Reaching for Educational Excellence) Second Saturday** program will be curtailed this year due to construction issues. Families are invited to experience the museum, animals and outdoors at no cost on Saturday, May 11, June 8 and July 13. No registration required.
- **Under Michigan & Beyond**—an exploration of rocks and minerals—opens Saturday, May 25 and will remain on display through 2024 and into 2025.
- A **Serendipity Multi-media Art Workshop** with Kelly Boyle is scheduled for Friday, June 21 and Saturday, June 22 from 9am to noon both days.
- The **SACK (Summer Adventure Classes for Kids) Program** begins June 17th and continues through August 22nd, with a week off for the Fourth of July holiday.

For questions or to register for any or all the above, call Cheri at 231.536.3369 or 231.675.6025. You can also email info@miravenhill.org

Currently, Raven Hill is open to the public on weekends: noon to 4pm on Saturdays; 2pm to 4pm on Sundays and then other times by appointment. As in the past, the Center will "transform" between Memorial Day and Labor Day, when Raven Hill will be open daily—noon to 4pm Saturdays; 2pm to 4pm Sundays, plus 10am to 4pm Monday through Friday. Call 231.536.3369 for more information or to make reservations for off-hour visits. See you soon!



*Over millions of years, layers of sediment compressed partially decomposed plant materials. In combination with heat from the Earth's crust, chemical changes occurred, transforming the plant material into coal. —part of the coming **Under Michigan & Beyond** exhibition opening May 25th.*

Cheri