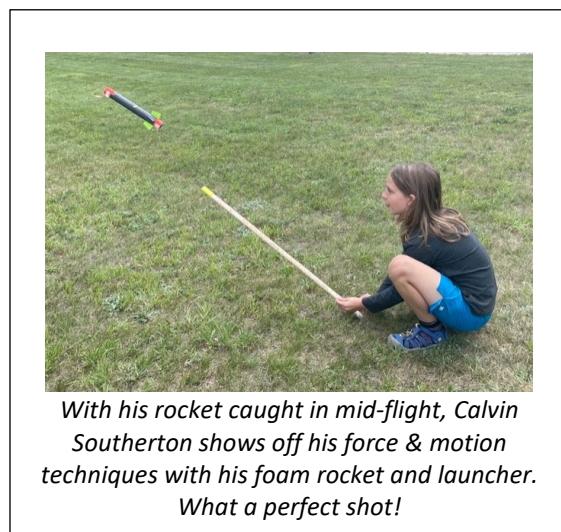


WHERE **SCIENCE****HISTORY****AND****ART** CONNECT

To: Friends of Raven Hill
From: Cheri
Date: July 22, 2023
Re: *Another busy week*

As usual, Raven Hill was alive with activity this week, including **Summer Classes for Kids**, a summer field trip group from the Upper Peninsula, visitors coming to experience the Center and an outreach program for Emmet County 4H'ers.

This was the sixth session of kid classes and the top favorites were Stomp Rockets and Fossils. Participants investigated force and angle with their paper airplanes and foam rocket launchers during the morning class. In the afternoon, the kids collected actual fossils and learned about the process of fossilization by making mold fossils with shells and plaster of Paris. The kids also got quality time engaging with the exhibits in the hands-on museum & visiting the animals.



While I was too busy to snap any photos, we entertained a second group of students from Sault Saint Marie on Tuesday. The kids enjoyed discovering all the outdoor exhibits and then spent time inside exploring the interactive exhibits and meeting Checkers the corn snake, Spike the bearded dragon and all the turtles.

Families with children of all ages spent time investigating indoors and outside at Raven Hill. The Center is well known for hands-on and lifelong learning. More than once, I have heard parents and adults say, "I learned new things today too!" We like to say this, "Everyone is a kid here."

On Wednesday, Raven Hill staff traveled to Petoskey District Library to introduce local 4-H'ers to several different engineering careers as part of the Center's **"STEM To Go"** program. Michigan State University (MSU) Extension 4-H programs is where "youth participants learn life skills that prepare them for the workforce –

especially for highly sought after jobs in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM)". Raven Hill brought supplies for four mini-interactive sessions and the kids "became" structural, civil, chemical and

aeronautical engineers. They tried their hand at building a structure to withstand a tsunami (golf ball rolling down a ramp); constructing a roadway with a hill, curve and tunnel for a marble “car”; exploring indicators to identify acids and bases; and testing the dynamics of foam rockets with the goal of hitting a target.

During the summer, Raven Hill is open weekdays from 10am to 4pm, as well as being open year-round from noon to 4pm on Saturdays and 2pm to 4pm on Sundays. Call 231.536.3369 or email info@miravenhill.org to make appointments for other times, including major holidays.

Make sure you have marked your calendar for two upcoming events.

- The **Pedal Pig & Pint Community Bike Tour** event will be held on Sunday, August 6. Registration starts at 8:00am or you can register online registration at Bikereg.com/ppp
- In addition, Raven Hill is hosting the traveling Smithsonian exhibit, **Spark! Places of Innovation**, from August 26 to October 7 of 2023. The grand opening for **Spark!** will be Saturday, August 26 from noon to 4pm. Join us at Raven Hill Discovery Center to see the newest of the Smithsonian Museum’s national traveling exhibits. Visitors can also explore unique demonstrations and hands-on activities focused on old and new “Innovations & Inventions”.

Have a great weekend and week,

Cheri



As civil engineers, 4-H’ers learned a bit about banking a curve in order to keep their marble on track!



From playing movement games to getting up close and personal with the warmth of the colored lenses, the stoplight is always popular with the youngest of our visitors.

