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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: November 23, 2024  
Re: *Anticipation*

The song “Anticipation” by Carly Simon encapsulates the excitement we are feeling about the current developments at Raven Hill Discovery Center. From the Fuller Road bridge construction project to upgraded exhibits and coming programs, Simon’s song reminds us that “We can never know about the days to come. But we think about them anyway...” with ANTICIPATION.

The Deer Creek crossing on Fuller Road, a crucial access point to Raven Hill, is currently undergoing construction. This project will enhance infrastructure, ensuring safer and more efficient travel to the Center for our visitors. While the construction is underway, access to the main museum is maintained via a detour route. At the construction site, the pilings are in on the south side of the creek and work has started on the north side. The construction crew should be ready to pull the culvert during the first week in December, if all goes as planned.

### Bridge construction



*It's been a long time coming, but the end is finally in sight. Soon the culvert will be replaced by a two-lane bridge and we will celebrate with an inaugural parade!*

### Evolving Technology Building



*Signs and miniature doors and windows are ready to be installed along the timeline path in the ET Building!*

Once you arrive at Raven Hill, visitors can explore the Center’s extensive indoor and outdoor exhibits. The newly accessible Evolving Technology (ET) Building’s timeline exhibits are being expanded with door & window development timelines, plus innovations illustrating “how we got to now.” The viewing panels and display cases are already complete. These changes will allow the ET Building to be open for visitors to experience at their own pace, much like the Schoolhouse.

Adding to the excitement and anticipation, the replacement of fencing along Jurassic Park (JP) with its insights into Earth's geologic history exhibit is underway. This upgraded fencing will not only enhance safety and aesthetics but will provide the perfect framework for interpretive signage and textural displays. These improvements will bring the Earth's story to life, offering hands-on and visual interactions that deepen connections to history and science.

Anticipation surrounds several program developments. The ongoing exhibit **UNDER MICHIGAN & BEYOND** showcases our natural resources, the excavation of those resources from the earth and their applications in daily life. Raven Hill is also pleased to announce the return of our popular **FREE Second Saturday** program for families, thanks to a generous donor. Starting on Saturday, January 11, families can enjoy the Center on the second Saturday of each month for free.

### Jurassic Park Pathway



*A brick border was added to the JP pathway this past summer. Now the 20 year old split rail fence is being replaced with treated posts and railing. The final step will be new signage identifying the different geologic time periods & their flora and fauna.*

### Stone Throne



*During one FREE Second Saturday these two young ladies enjoyed taking a break in the Ancient World & tried out the stone throne there!*

Two other programs will be available starting in 2025 as well. The Petoskey-Harbor Springs Area Community Foundation has awarded a grant for the Center's new **HOT "Here Or There" Project**. The **HOT Project** invites Emmet County teachers and schools to enhance their grade level curriculum by choosing either a field trip to Raven Hill or an Outreach Program at their school. The Center is waiting to hear about additional funding that has been requested for the **HOT Project**. A second new Raven Hill program has already received funding from the Smithsonian **Museum on Main Street (MoMS)** and **Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum (CHSDM)**. The program is called **2025 YIRA at Raven Hill**. Center staff and volunteers will work with participating upper-elementary students at their local libraries and at Raven Hill. They will learn and practice the innovation design process just as the Smithsonian does. The program is similar to the **2023 Youth Innovation in Rural America (YIRA) Project** hosted by **MoMS, CHSDM** and Raven Hill.

During this period of transformation—through infrastructure improvements, exhibit enhancements and innovative programming—Raven Hill invites the community to embrace the

anticipation of discovery right here. Anticipate the bridge's completion and the continuation of Raven Hill's exhibits & programs, each reflecting a shared eagerness for progress and discovery. Just as the song "Anticipation" speaks to the excitement of new experiences, Raven Hill looks forward to the enhanced access and ongoing discovery opportunities that Raven Hill is working to provide for future visitors. Whether you visit now or in the future, Raven Hill offers exhibits and programs that connect science, history, and art for all ages, providing interactive experiences and fostering curiosity.

Simon wrote her song in just 15 minutes, capturing the energy of looking forward to what's next. In her case, it was a dinner date with Cat Stevens. At Raven Hill it's a reflection of the changes unfolding at Raven Hill Discovery Center--tangible, exciting improvements to anticipate. The construction of the Fuller Road bridge paves the way for easier access to the center, symbolizing the steps forward in creating a more engaging experience for visitors. Just as the Fuller Road bridge will soon re-connect visitors to the Center's main campus, the additional timelines in the ET Building, the new fencing along Jurassic Park and upcoming programs will reveal more wonders, illustrating how Raven Hill stands as a testament to the joy of informal learning and the inevitability of change. As the song lyrics go, "these are the good old days ". At the Center, those days are getting even better. Join us soon to experience both the old and new.

While the bridge is under construction, visitors can still explore the Center via the detour: C-48 to Bergman Road to Rogers Road and access the Center from the south end of Fuller Road. Soon, the improved route will offer a smoother journey into the mixture of science, history and art that defines Raven Hill. The main campus is currently open during regular weekend hours and by appointment on weekdays. For more information or to reserve a date and time to visit, please email [info@miravenhill.org](mailto:info@miravenhill.org) or call 231.536.3

Cheri

Generator bike



More  
FREE Second  
Saturday Memories

Magnet table



Animal room



Ancient World

