

## 04737 Fuller Rd | East Jordan, MI 49727 231-536-3369 | info@miravenhill.org | MiRavenHill.org

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 SCIENCEHISTORYANDART CONNECT

To: Friends of Raven Hill

From: Cheri

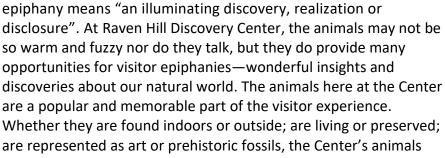
Date: January 6, 2024 Re: AWE & Wonder

Sometimes we equate animals with "warm & fuzzy" mammals, especially on the **Twelfth Night of Christmas**, which is the very magical night before the Epiphany on January 6. Some cultures used to believe that animals could speak at midnight on Epiphany Eve. People traditionally gave their animals some extra attention and a special meal or treat on those nights, so the animals would say good things about their caretakers! Even the animals in the forest are said to be able to talk on these special holidays.



Years ago, a piranha lived in the Animal Room and over time, it became a favorite resident. Once, it jumped out of its tank and hit a summer staffer on the head, flipflopping under one of the benches, where it collected a few "dust bunnies". We were finally able to scoop it up with a net and return it to its tank, none the worse for wear!

According to the Merriam-Webster Dictionary,



allow us to discover and appreciate all creatures great and small.

Writer Josie Ortega urges us to "celebrate Epiphany by looking forward".

Epiphany should be more than a holiday. It should give us feelings of awe, wonder and hope for the future.

All the animals at Raven Hill join me in wishing you many positive epiphanies in 2024. See you here soon and often!

Cheri



Last summer, a snapping turtle decided to hang out at Raven Hill's Watershed Model showing off its great camouflage capabilities!



Blue frogs lack yellow pigment and yellow frogs lack blue pigment. It takes both yellow and blue pigments to make a frog green!
Summer class kids were so excited to discover this guy hanging out in Raven Hill Pond.