

# Raven Reports

## Smithsonian Water Ways exhibit coming to Raven Hill



The Michigan Humanities Council has named Raven Hill Discovery Center as one of six sites for the Water/Ways statewide exhibit tour for 2018-19.

The Council will partner with Raven Hill to present the Smithsonian Museum on Main Street exhibit from August 11 to September 23 of 2018. "Water/Ways is a unique exhibit that explores the essential role that water plays in our environment and society. Throughout the globe, water holds extensive cultural value as a symbol of power and force, grace and fluidity, and healing and cleansing. Water is also a natural resource that has dictated migration patterns, affected economic prosperity, and shaped communities throughout time, and continues to be one of Earth's most defining resources. Here in Michigan, the value of water as both a human resource and a cultural symbol is both understood and treasured." The community will be invited to a special opening of the Water/Ways Exhibit and a variety of water-related programs to be presented by Raven Hill and local water organizations. All events will be open to the

community as a part of the Water/Ways event. For more information or to volunteer, please call 231-536-3369 or email [info@miravenhill.org](mailto:info@miravenhill.org).



# Upcoming Events at Raven Hill

## Winter Hours Announced

This year Raven Hill will return to its regularly scheduled “winter” hours. **The Center will be open weekends from noon to 4pm on Saturday and 2pm to 4pm on Sundays** and closed weekdays from Labor Day to Memorial Day. Raven Hill is open over most holiday periods and is always open by appointment. Call 231.536.3369 or email [info@miravenhill.org](mailto:info@miravenhill.org) to schedule a field trip group, a family outing or a class.

Holiday hours include the Wednesday before and the Friday, Saturday and Sunday at Thanksgiving, November 22, 24, 25 and 26. Winter break hours begin December 22nd and last through January 4th. For more information or to schedule a visit, field trip or class, please call Cheri at 231-536-3369 or email [info@miravenhill.org](mailto:info@miravenhill.org).

## FREE Second Saturdays continue

**FREE (Families Reaching for Educational Excellence) Second Saturdays continue for the coming year**, so mark your calendar and join us on these special days (Oct 14th, Nov 11th and Dec 9th of 2017, as well as all the second Saturdays in 2018). Play in the hands-on museum, hold some animals and explore the outdoor exhibits. These days are sponsored by community members and are specifically for families. No groups please. For more information, call 231-536-3369 or email [info@miravenhill.org](mailto:info@miravenhill.org)

## History of Food event planned

The Evolving Technology (ET) Building at Raven Hill will be the site of a History of Food event on **Sunday, October 15, 2017 from 3pm to 5pm**. Cost is \$28 each and the food will include fare from a variety of time periods featured in the ET exhibit. The event will be catered by A Matter of Taste of Ellsworth and proceeds will support Raven Hill programs for the 2017-18 school year. Reservations can be made by calling 231-536-3369 or emailing [info@miravenhill.org](mailto:info@miravenhill.org). Please RSVP by Oct 12, 2017.

## Returning: NASA for Educators

NASA Education Specialist, Susan Kohler, from Glenn Research Center in Cleveland returns to Raven Hill for two workshops: **Tuesday, October 17 and Wednesday, October 18 from 8:30am to 3pm each day**. Topics will be the Solar System on Tuesday and Force & Motion on Wednesday. The workshops are free to k-12 educators. Call 231.536.3369 or email [Cheri@miravenhill.org](mailto:Cheri@miravenhill.org) to register for one or both workshops.

## DIY (Do It Yourself) 3D printer build

Want to get started in 3D printing? Don't know where to begin? Join us on **Saturday, September 16th at 10am** for an introductory session on and demonstration of 3D printing. John Clements will take you through a discussion of what a 3D printer is, what it can do, the hardware and software needed, and a few tips to look for when choosing your first printer. Suggested donation for the intro session is \$5 per person. For those interested in building their own 3D printer, John will lead a class over the weekend of October 28th and 29th from 9am-5pm both days. Cost will be \$200 per person for those who want to go home with a 3D printer. That covers the cost of the 3D printer kit, some starter material and instruction. If you want to come help with the build and not go home with your own printer, cost is \$20. Bring your own lunch and snacks. More information about the “build” and ordering kits will be available on the 16th of September. Call 231-536-3369 or email [info@miravenhill.org](mailto:info@miravenhill.org) to register for the intro and/or the build.

## Ham radio classes scheduled

Anyone interested in learning how to operate a ham radio is invited to attend classes at Raven Hill. Date and time: **Tuesdays from 5-9pm on October 17th, 24th and November 7th and 14th**. Cost is \$20 plus the cost of the manual. John Clements of Gaylord will instruct.

Questions about upcoming events or want to register for a class? Call us at 231.536.3369, email [info@miravenhill.org](mailto:info@miravenhill.org) or visit us online at [www.MiRavenHill.org/events](http://www.MiRavenHill.org/events)

# Board welcomes new youth liaison

Trent Graham, East Jordan High School junior has been named Youth Liaison to the Raven Hill Discovery Center Board of Directors for 2017-18. Raven Hill has had a youth on its board since 2009. Trent worked at the Center this past summer, along with Macy McPherson, also of East Jordan. Trent plays football, runs track, and is a member of the quiz bowl team. He enjoys hunting, spending time outdoors and learning about history. He hasn't chosen a career yet, but is leaning towards fields related to engineering. Welcome, Trent!



Left: Trent and family visit the Raven Hill pond when Trent was young.  
Right: Trent, as summer staff, with Macy McPherson and Cheri Leach during Summer Magic 2017.

## Raven Hill New Volunteer Recruitment Event

If you believe in Raven Hill's mission of connecting science, history and the arts for all ages, we encourage you to step up your level of support and consider becoming a board member or volunteer. More information will be available by attending a New Volunteer Recruitment Event on Thursday, October 19 from 5-7pm. If you are interested in learning more about how you can get involved and support Raven Hill Discovery Center as a friend and volunteer, please join us for a bite to eat, a short presentation and a tour. Attendees will leave with a better understanding of the history, mission and vision of Raven Hill; learn about the Center's programs & services; become familiar with potential volunteer opportunities; get a chance to meet & talk with staff and current volunteers, as well as participate in a question-and-answer session. The evening will end with a short tour of Raven Hill's facilities! For reservations or more information, call 231.536.3369 or email [info@miravenhill.org](mailto:info@miravenhill.org).



Even the volunteers have fun! Left: Nancy Hellman making Shibori flags.  
Right: Haley Kozek playing in the river during Nature Lover's Camp.

# Summer 2017 at Raven Hill!

## Rockets & Robots at TEC Day

Raven Hill's 3rd Annual Technology (TEC) Day was Saturday, August 19th. A variety of technology explorations were set up to challenge families. While TEC Day was dialed down a bit from last year's NASA in Your Neighborhood event, there was still a lot of fun waiting for kids of all ages. "Gary", the East Jordan Robotics Club robot demonstrated his skills for visitors. Everyone made and launched their own foam rockets and several visitors invented and tested a space capsule containing a raw egg simulating delicate instruments. The hands-on museum was open for play and families stopped to say "hello" to the animals.



## All ages compete in Raven Run

A small group of dedicated runners showed up on a sunny Saturday morning, August 5th, for the 2nd Annual 5k Raven Run. The run included the Taxi Trail and Ancient World at Raven Hill. All ages competed with each other for the top five spots and the trophies were fused glass pine trees created by Nancy Hellman. First place winner was Elizabeth DeKorne.



## Welding class well received

Max Sasso, certified welder, instructed students in Raven Hill's first Welding Class. In this introductory class, participants learned a little history and science behind the art of welding and tried their hand at oxygen acetylene and tig welding.



## Exploring the Night Sky

Thursday, August 24th, the telescopes were out at Raven Hill's moon base for an early evening viewing of the moon, Jupiter, Saturn and other highlights of the night sky. Astronomer, Patrick Stonehouse, led the session and lent a hand to others who brought their own telescopes.



## Eclipse watch creates a party atmosphere

Raven Hill hosted an Eclipse Event on Monday, August 21st and 140 visitors enjoyed the afternoon viewing. There was a chance to play in the museum and greet the animals, before going outside to see the solar eclipse. NASA donated solar eclipse glasses for visitors, so that the eclipse could be viewed safely. Visitors were invited to stay and make a bracelet with UV beads, a sundial, try their hand at racing little solar powered cars and make a time capsule to be opened at the next solar eclipse on April 8, 2024.

## DISCOVERY CAMP ADVENTURES

Kids from 4 to 14 enjoyed three weeks of discovery camp this summer. Held in June, July and August, the day camps gave students a chance to experience history, nature and STEM activities. Favorites from each week included copper pendants, wading the creek and Gary, the robot!

***A special thanks to Friends of the Jordan River for co-hosting the July session, Nature Lover's Camp!***



## Summer Festival another success

**On July 15th, supporters of Raven Hill gathered on a beautiful summer evening to celebrate the 15th annual Summer Magic Festival.**

Throughout the evening, the guests enjoyed live music in the museum, a scavenger hunt throughout the campus, a silent auction in the Warren Loranger Great Room and delicious food, beer and wine under the tent. The evening ended with a short program and the annual balloon pop where guests purchased \$20 balloons, each holding a prize valued at \$20 or more. Thanks to the many donors, who gave of their time, merchandise and money to make Summer Magic Festival a success. The monies raised are used to fund the operations of Raven Hill over the coming year. This year's event raised over \$17,000 among sponsors, silent auction proceeds and other monetary donations.



### Our sincere thanks to the following donors:

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*Our sincere apologies, if we inadvertently left anyone off these lists.*

## Location, location, location!

Thanks to a few generous donors, Raven Hill Discovery Center is now the proud owner of the land at the corner of Pearsall and Fuller Roads. The 9.5-acre parcel is contiguous with Raven Hill property and was acquired to facilitate more exposure on C-48 with signage and parking for those not wanting to drive up the hill in the winter. Long term plans include the construction of a Welcome Center that will provide a “lower” center for use during the winter months and more visibility year round. The “upper” campus will continue to be the major focus.

## Visions: envision & imagine

The Petoskey Harbor Springs Area Community Foundation has awarded a grant to Raven Hill. The Visions Project will provide outreach funding to work with Emmet County art students. Middle and high school art students will complete a piece of art in any chosen art medium to represent their vision of our close pre-history (Cretaceous Period or newer) OR our future, as they foresee it may be. The program will include two visits to the classroom by Raven Hill staff: the first, to introduce the project, brainstorm possible research & ideas and the second to further develop student ideas & projects. All student art will be on display at Raven Hill during November and December of 2017. A three-person jury will select 4-5 pieces for permanent displays—prehistory and future—in Raven Hill’s Evolving Technology (ET) Building. Selected artists will receive a purchase prize. For more information or to schedule a classroom visit, call 231-536-3369 or email [info@miravenhill.org](mailto:info@miravenhill.org).

## Thanks again!

Our thanks go out to Raven Hill board members and our regular monthly volunteers, as well as those who helped at the Summer Magic Festival and those who support the Center now and then, here and there and whenever the need arises. Those who helped over the spring and summer include:

|                         |                         |                       |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Amy Gillard             | Jane Seaton             | Patrick Stonehouse    |
| Carol Book              | Jay Nowell              | Paul & Lisa Blanchard |
| Carol McCarus           | Jean VanDam             | Renee Santina         |
| Caroline Keson          | Jock & Marilyn Rader    | Savanah Cool          |
| Charlie Huntington      | John & Bea Clements     | Steve Ritter          |
| Chet & Nancy Gulczynski | Kate Kretschmann        | Steve Roote           |
| Chris Monk              | Kathy Leist             | Steve’s food crew     |
| Darrell Jacob           | Kecia Freed             | Rose Newson           |
| Diane Burke             | Kyle Smith              | Tami Seger            |
| Dottie Kasunik          | Kyra Brazell            | Ted & Carol Hindbaugh |
| Ed & Diane Strzelinski  | Larry & Gayle Levengood | Tom Kaufmann          |
| EJ Robotics Team        | Macy McPherson          | Trent Graham          |
| Ellen Blanchard         | Martha Jager            | Walter T. Barkley     |
| Gail Howie              | Marty McIntry           | Yvonne Pentecost      |
| Georganna Monk          | Mary Trout              |                       |
| Glenn Hindbaugh         | Matt McLeod             |                       |
| Gwen Sarya              | Max Sasso & Haley Kozek |                       |
| Hannie Kuieck           | Melissa Hansen          |                       |
| Holly Sasso             | Murphy Holt             |                       |
| Jackie Bolinger         | Nancy Garrison          |                       |
| Jane Sasso              | Nancy Hellman           |                       |

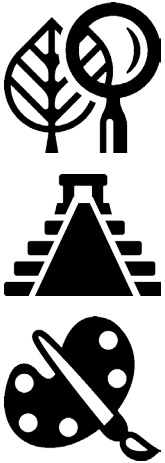
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Please make your check payable to Raven Hill Discovery Center, 4737 Fuller Road, East Jordan, MI 49727. All gifts are tax deductible to the fullest extent provided by law.

*Supported in part by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and the National Endowment for the Arts through Raven Hill Discovery Center's 2017 Operational Grant Award.*

