

Tuesday March 2, 2021

Hello Friends of Grass Lake Charter Township,

My name is Bobbi Llewellyn-Harper. My husband: Peter D Harper and I have been members of Friends of Grass Lake Township since October, 2017. We originally moved from Melbourne, Australia in 2005, when Peter signed a record deal with Blind Pig Records, who had their early beginnings in Ann Arbor. What we love about FOGLT is that the group has put us in touch with our local community. We have made some amazing new friends, who share the common goal of keeping Grass Lake, a safe and beautiful place to call home. We have regularly attended the Grass Lake Township Board Meetings and the Planning Commission meetings. We feel this participation along with many other "Friends" members, has lead to positive results for our town.

Our band "Harper and Midwest Kind" has performed at several of the Friends fundraiser events. We have also volunteered for the Haunted Halloween Forest three day extravaganza which is always held the week before Halloween in October. We have also participated in the Angel Tree Program and the various food drives which address food insecurity in our local area.

Recently our youth music/art and cultural program called "The Australian Didgeridoo Workshop", received grants from The Copper Nail Resale Shop and the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs (MCACA). Partnering with the Friends of Grass Lake Township, we will present a series of workshops about Australia, its culture, music and art at the George Long Elementary School in Grass Lake on Monday September 13, Tuesday September 14 and Wednesday September 15, 2021 for the students of Grades 3, 4 and 5.

The reasons for doing this project are: 1. To open hearts and minds to an ancient culture. 2. To promote understanding and knowledge of Australian indigenous art and music. 3. To gain an understanding of the connection we humans have with the environment and animals. 4. To learn about ways to protect our environment and wild life. 5. To encourage creativity by decorating a musical instrument. 6. To create and perform an original song with a live band. The workshop is designed to empower and uplift students in a racially inclusive and safe environment. Also encouraging self expression, personal growth and a healthy well being.

We are very excited to be presenting The Australian Didgeridoo Workshop in our hometown!

All The Best,

Bobbi Llewellyn-Harper