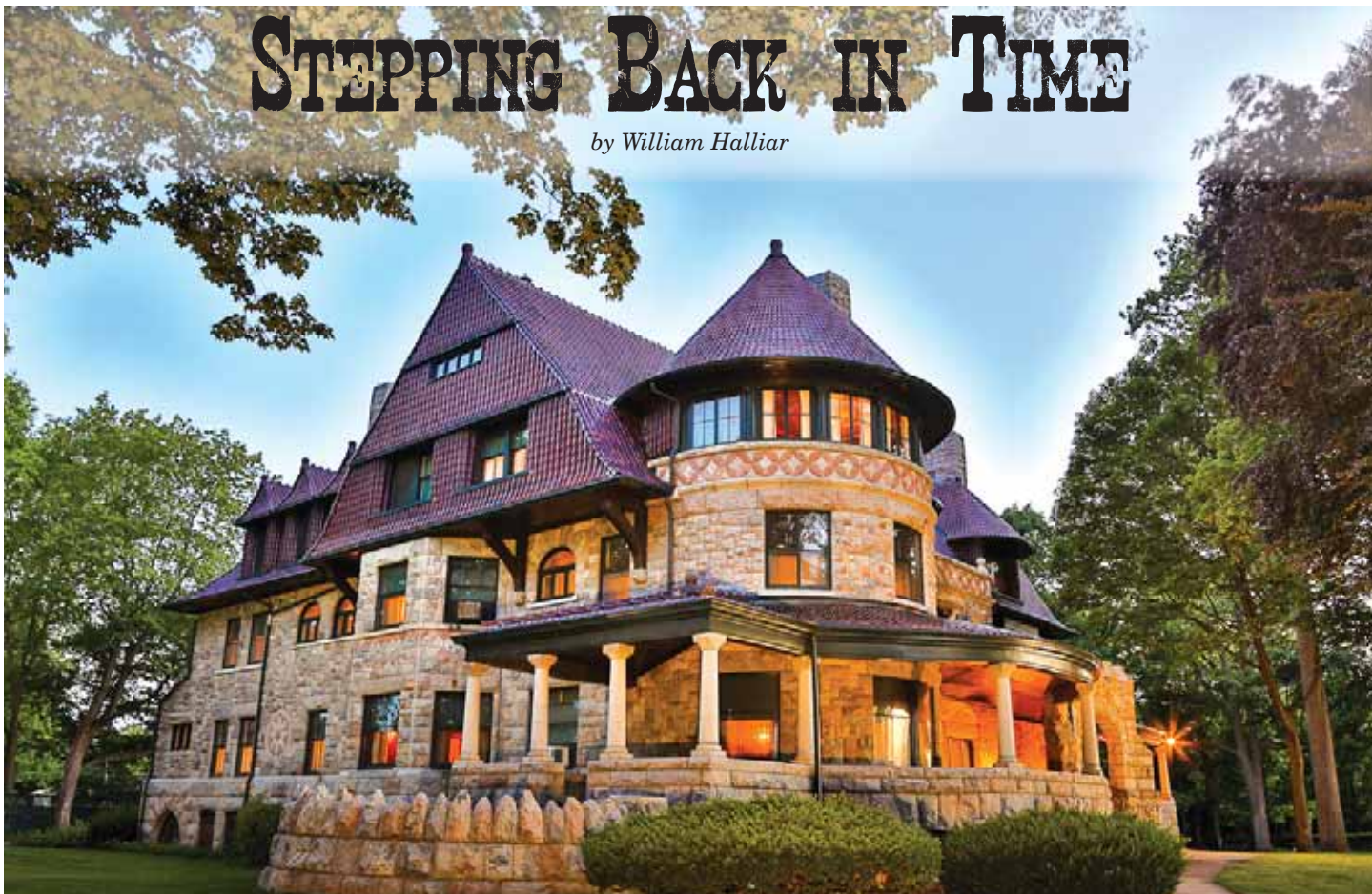




Volume 35, Number 13 Thursday, April 12, 2018

## STEPPING BACK IN TIME

by William Halliar



The Oliver Mansion in South Bend.

On the corner of Washington and Chapin streets in South Bend stands a 100-year-old home — a monument to a man, an idea and his dreams.



James Oliver

It is a testament to a family that lived in the sturdy brick-and-stone structure for three generations, leaving a legacy of manufacturing and philanthropy to the people of South Bend and northern Indiana.

The ornate three-story Victorian mansion, constructed of Indiana granite and brick, was built by Joseph Doty Oliver, son of James Oliver, guiding spirit behind the famous South Bend

Iron Works and inventor of the “Cold Chilled” plow that greatly shaped America’s agricultural history and earned Oliver the nickname “Plowmaker of the World.”

On May 39, 1900, on his parent’s 56th wedding anniversary, James Doty christened his new home *Copshaholm* to honor the birthplace in Scotland of his parents, James and Susan Catherine. Today, *Copshaholm* is an integral part of a well-kept, beautifully laid out, well-constructed museum complex that includes The Studebaker National Museum and The History Museum.



James Doty Oliver

Continued on Page 2



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## STEPPING BACK IN TIME

Continued from Page 1

Way back in 1867, a small group of history minded residents in St. Joseph County — 33 in number — decided that the story of the county should be preserved in a collection of artifacts as a legacy for all generations. Today, The History Museum has more than a half-million objects in its collection and is Indiana's second-oldest historical society.

Included in the building that houses the memories of St. Joseph County's past is a gallery dedicated to the history of South Bend's most famous University — Notre Dame. There also is an extensive children's exhibit, and a special national repository for memorabilia of the American Girls Professional Baseball League founded in 1943 by P.K. Wrigley and immortalized in the 1992 film, "A League of Their Own." This permanent exhibit, "Polished in Public, Fierce on the Field," highlights the women athletes who made up the league, and the times and pressures that made them such fierce competitors: beautiful, ladylike, fierce ballplayers — all in one package.

Recently, on a sunny, crisp day, my friend, Jessica Rosier, director of Michigan City's Barker Mansion, met me in the lobby that serves as a welcome center for the museum complex, eager for a tour of *Copshaholm* and the history museum. Jessica graciously agreed to join me, and I looked forward to hearing her take on the story we were about to hear.

Indeed, it was fitting that Rosier joined me on this tour. The Barkers, Olivers and Studebakers were contemporaries. Through their ingenuity, vision and family legacy, they contributed so much to the history and culture of our region.

Rosier is an elegant, soft-spoken woman who has

breathed new life into Barker Mansion by establishing new programs and bringing a younger generation into the fold.

During the tour, I listened intently as *Copshaholm* Curator Kristie Erickson and Rosier spoke of the problems and challenges in keeping a building with ancient plumbing and wiring in good working order.

Together, we walked through areas that were under renovation, and Erickson explained the problems of rewiring the old building

to bring it up to code. This was of particular interest to Rosier, because Barker Mansion faces similar challenges. Of interest to her as well were the Tiffany Glass ornamental windows that grace several rooms of the Oliver Mansion.

As part of the tour, Erickson was

joined by Marilyn Thompson, the museum's director of marketing. We were led through a carriage house, which now houses museum displays, classrooms and an original Oliver plow, and out to the grounds of *Copshaholm* itself.

A heavy and ornate wooden door was opened, and we were welcomed into a time capsule of life as it was lived by the Oliver family for three generations. What makes *Copshaholm* so unique, among other preserved mansions of the Victorian era (1837-1901), is that it is filled with all of the family's original furnishings, photographs, books and papers. The sensation is that of stepping back in time, observing family members who have just left the rooms we've visited.

Open drawers and closets, and you will find the family's clothes still neatly folded and ready to wear. Kitchen cabinets are filled with spices that still fill the air with their aromas. The drawers are packed with vintage kitchen utensils, gleaming and ready to prepare a sumptuous meal.



The Oliver Cold Chilled Plow.





## STEPPING BACK IN TIME

Continued from Page 3

The finished home had 38 rooms, with 14 fireplaces for ambiance since the heat to warm the building was provided by two coal-fired boilers located in the nearby carriage house. Imagine 10 bedrooms and nine bathrooms with many sitting rooms and receiving rooms, including a third-floor ballroom with adjacent poolroom and smoking porch, and you may start to picture this magnificent home.

The home was one of the first in the area to have electricity. Many critics at the time thought electric lights were a passing fad, so gas fixtures were provided for lighting. The Tiffany Glass Studio in New York provided leaded glass windows and decorative light fixtures, and a curiously modern, whole house vacuuming system was part of the package, with a motor located in the carriage house next door.

Over the years, the mansion was home to three generations of the Oliver family. The last to live there was Joseph Doty Oliver Jr., who died in 1972. After his death, the home remained unoccupied by family members, but was respectfully preserved and maintained by a trusted family butler. *Copshaholm* remained in Oliver family possession until it was gifted to the city after the death of J.D.'s last child, Gertrude Oliver Cunningham, who passed way Dec. 1, 1987.

Much like the Studebaker family and Catherine Barker, the Oliver family believed in preserving its family heritage. Both families played significant roles in developing the family company.

J.D. Oliver began his career threading nuts and bolts in his father's company when he was 14. He became president of the company after his father's death in 1908. Gertrude served on the board of directors for Oliver Farm Equipment Co. Catherine Barker, richest teenager in the world after her parents' untimely deaths, formed a foundation that still benefits the people of Michigan City to this day.

The Studebakers, Barkers and Olivers all built homes for their families that would last through the ages as a visual representation of their love of family, and of the success that comes from hard work and the pursuit of a dream. The Studebakers built wheeled vehicles, the Barkers built a fortune on railcars and the invention of assembly line manufacturing procedures, and the Oliver family built farm equipment.

But as with most success stories, *Copshaholm*

and the Oliver history begins with the life of just one person and a dream that will not let him rest until it becomes a reality.

James Oliver (Aug. 28, 1823-Feb. 2, 1908) was a dreamer of dreams. "*I was classed with the fools who pursue the fallacy of perpetual motion,*" he once said. But it takes more than mere dreams to become a man of renown in any community. Action and vision are required, as well as a bit of good old-fashioned luck.

James Oliver was a man of ideas. He accumulated 45 patents during his lifetime, many of which had to do with the process of creating stronger, more durable iron castings. He was born in Scotland and moved with his family early in life to the wilds of America where, as was the custom in those pioneer days, he took odd jobs with local farmers, helping them plow and tend their fields.

Early American plows were made of wood. Even though early inventors such as Thomas Jefferson had improved plow mold board designs, that is, the curved shape of the body of the plow, the wooden plows of the day must have left much to be desired. Clever James Oliver observed the deficiencies and dreamed of solutions.

One of James' sisters married a gentleman from the Hoosier state and settled on a farm near Mishawaka. In 1836, James Oliver and several of his brothers traveled to Indiana to join the sister and her husband on their farm. Iron had been discovered in the bogs of the area in the early 1830s, and soon an industry was built to mine the ore and smelt it into usable forms.

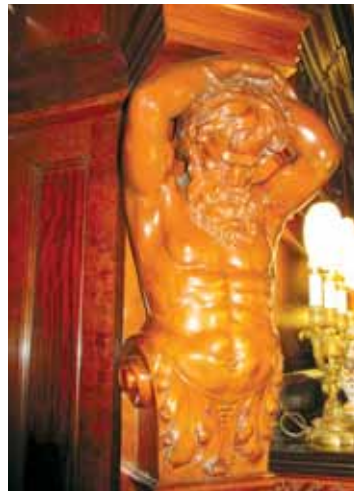
Several iron works were in existence when James arrived, and he began working on projects, constructing these facilities. In 1839, James Oliver began a job at the South Bend Blast Furnace Co., where he was introduced to the process of casting iron.

We can easily imagine young James Oliver sweating through a hot summer's day, laboring over a white hot blast furnace, his mind wandering as he dreamed of his days behind a wooden plow — a eureka moment accosting his fertile imagination. Why not build a plow made of iron?

True to the nature of every good Scotsman, and at the risk of being politically incorrect, thrifty James Oliver had saved his money while working long hours at the foundry, at the same time learning the trade. He bought shares in the fledgling South Bend Iron Works.



The intricate details along bannisters in the mansion.



The incredible detail surrounding the fireplace.

James began to experiment with iron and discovered that while it was malleable when hot, when the material cooled and cured, it was often brittle and would easily crack and break. This was especially true as the material was formed into a plowshare to be pulled behind sturdy draft animals. The plow would become damaged or crack and break as it struck the boulders left behind by ancient glaciers in the rich Midwestern soil.

Here was a challenge the Scotsman could not overlook. Could a one-piece plowshare be cast so that a part of it remained machine-able and relatively soft, while the cutting edge was hardened to withstand the rigors encountered in the field?

James Oliver pondered the question and invented the "Chilled Plow." While he was at it, he improved the shape of the plow's mold board so it would more easily cut through thick, sticky prairie soil and not get overly caked with debris, improving on Thomas Jefferson's design of 1788. This discovery, plus 44 additional patentable designs, ensured his place in history, and



A closet filled with trunks ready for travel.

the prosperity of his family for generations.

I have heard of a chilled martini, but what is "chilled iron," an astute reader may ask. The iron plowshares made by James Oliver and the South Bend Blast Furnace Co. were cast in two-part molds filled with a substance called greensand. Greensand is 90 percent fine silica sand — much like the singing sands of Washington Park beach — 10 percent Bentonite Clay, which is very fine and used in women's pancake makeup, and just enough water to make the mixture stick together.

A two-part mold box is made of wood or steel. The top part is called the "cope" and the bottom the "drag." A wooden model or pattern of the plowshare to be cast is made slightly larger than the desired finished product to allow for material shrinkage in cooling and is placed into this mold box. The box is filled

with tightly packed green sand. Vent holes are created in the sand, as well as a pour hole to allow for the flow of molten iron into the mold. The box is carefully opened, and the wooden pattern is re-



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moved, thus making a hollow space that, when filled with molten iron that is allowed to cool, will result in a fished casting.

The faster iron cools, the smaller the grains that make up its structure and, thus, the harder the finished material. You can imagine the cooling process much like that of a geode. The outside of the rock cools fastest, creating a hard shell, and the slower inside cools at a rate that allows for the creation of much larger, beautiful, gem-like crystals.

James Oliver's genius came into play as he experimented with castings and discovered a way to cause some parts of the molten iron within a mold to cool faster than other parts: faster cooling cutting blade and slower cooling, machine-able, less brittle mounting area. This created a plowshare that was stronger, with a cutting edge that retained its sharpness.

By 1856, James Oliver had discovered a process to improve the performance of the iron plow. The process, as with many a great idea, is deceptively simple. By placing precisely shaped pieces of iron in the greensand along the edges of the mold that were to be hardened, a sort of "heat sink" was created. These strategically placed iron heat sinks would draw off the heat of the molten iron poured into the mold, and allow those areas adjacent to the heat sink to cool faster, creating the smaller grains and desired harder-finished surface.

James Oliver continued his experimentation and soon had perfected the process. In 1868, he joined forces with another industrial giant in South Bend, Clement Studebaker. Together, they incorporated the South Bend Iron Works and began to produce the "chilled" plow exclusively.

At the time, world society was overwhelmingly agricultural, and the new plow was an important development in the creation of modern agricultural processes. Under the direction of Oliver and Studebaker, the business rapidly grew.

By 1900, James Oliver had more than 1,000 workers in his employ. In some of the more prosperous early years, his factory could create up to 300,000 of his special plows. The foundry and manufacturing facility began to design specialty plows for any soil or type of terrain, from prairie sod, to sandy cotton field, to the vineyards of Germany. Indeed, the plows were shipped around the world.

The company grew and prospered, producing many other types of farm implements. James Oliver received his last patent at 83. Two years later, at the time of his death in 1908, his son, J.D., took over the reins of the company. It continued to grow and



Spices adorn shelves in the kitchen.

built a second plant in South Bend, producing a motorized tractor.

J.D. Oliver began as president of the Oliver Farm Equipment Co. and through visionary leadership merged with numerous other smaller companies to form partnerships that could produce a full line of farming equipment.

Oliver tractors were produced until 1976, when the last Oliver tractor rolled off the assembly line. Today, after years of mergers and business deals, nothing remains of the original Oliver company.

Although the company is gone, the legacy of James Oliver's dreams lives on through stories told by those who worked for many years and raised their families by work-

ing for the company, the invention of the "chilled iron" process and the home J.D. built for his family.

The Oliver legacy also lives on in the form of the Oliver Memorial Trust Foundation and many civic buildings to which the family contributed funds, including South Bend's City Hall.

After Gertrude's death in 1987, the Oliver family gave *Copshaholm* to the City of South Bend and its historical society to preserve as a memorial to their family, and to the workers who came to South Bend in the Victorian age to build lives and businesses, and to raise families to inherit the blessings of their hard work and ingenuity.

A plaque on an outside wall of the mansion declares to the world, "*Copshaholm dedicated to the memory of Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Doty Oliver, gift of their Children Joseph Oliver Cunningham, Anne Cunningham McClure, Jane Cunningham Warner, December 7, 1988.*"

Wandering the lushly appointed, ornately furnished rooms of *Copshaholm* can bring to life another era. Learning of the industry and inventiveness of James Oliver can inspire a new generation of creative thinkers and industrialists.

## If You Go

The History Museum, 808 W. Washington St., South Bend, is open daily except on Easter, Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and New Year's Day. Hours are (all Eastern): 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday.

Tours of the Oliver Mansion and a workers home on the grounds are guided and limited in size. House tours are (all times Eastern) 11 a.m., 1 and 2 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and 1 and 2:30 p.m. Sunday.

Visit [historymuseumsb.org](http://historymuseumsb.org) or call (574) 235-9664 for more details.

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## “A Quiet Place” Delivers on its Creepy Premise

by Andrew Tallackson



John Krasinski (from left), Noah Jupe, Emily Blunt and Millicent Simmons play a family hunted by deadly predators in “A Quiet Place.”

“A Quiet Place” ventures down a path well-tread by many a storyteller. We’ve seen the apocalyptic thriller where individuals roam barren worlds, the streets bereft of life. Heck, “The Walking Dead” dishes that out weekly. And the unseen predator? “Jaws” wrote that playbook more than 40 years ago.

“A Quiet Place,” however, is the first horror movie since, well, since Danny Boyle’s “28 Days Later” (2003) that creates a queasy, mounting dread. It requires a leap of faith from its audience to accept 80 to 85 percent of the action unraveling in silence, but the approach creates a rarity: a true edge-of-your-seat nailbiter.

This is the directorial debut of John Krasinski, a likable guy known for TV’s “The Office.” Who knew he had it in him to craft something this creepy? Krasinski excels not only behind the camera, but in helping pen the screenplay, and in co-starring with real-life wife Emily Blunt (“The Edge of Tomorrow,” “Sicario”), who reaffirms her status as an underrated talent.

The film is set in 2020, when Earth is overrun by creatures that hunt by sound. Are they alien? Genetic engineering gone wrong? We never find out. What we do learn is run-of-the-mill racket – bird-song, the crackle of a roaring fire – doesn’t phase them. But the slightest provocation – a wrong step, the siren of a child’s toy – and the beasts claim their victims within seconds.

Krasinski and Blunt play the Abbotts, and the movie’s brilliant opening sequence spells out a brutal world, where survivors are exhaustively careful not to betray their presence. American Sign Language is used to communicate. And no shoes,

since they might squeak on flat surfaces. Rarely has sound been conveyed with such ominous clarity. Even musty tricks of the horror trade – the false alarm caused by an innocuous animal – take on heightened levels because of the dangers they pose.

An entire thriller drenched in silence could have been monotonous, but Krasinski finds ways to break through the wall of stillness: a father-son conversation muffled by the steady hum of a waterfall, whispered talks while hidden below ground. It helps, too, that Krasinski cast two wonderfully expressive young actors as their children – Noah Jupe (“Wonder”) and newcomer Millicent Simmons, who is deaf in real life – to carry the emotional weight of scene after scene.

The film’s second act unfolds over the course of one long night as everything goes wrong *and* right for the Abbotts, and it is here Blunt takes over the movie. Here is a character two to three weeks shy of giving birth – why anyone would get pregnant in this world is beyond me, but I digress – and whose water breaks as one of the creatures stages a relentless attack. Blunt gives a ferocious performance, all the more remarkable when you consider her character is feverishly trying not to cry out in agony.

The ending of “A Quiet Place” may be a bummer for some. It leaves open a gaping doorway for Round Two. Don’t be surprised, though, if audiences yearn for more. As the screen abruptly fades to black, hope now exists where once it was absent.

The stage is set for all-out war.

Contact Andrew Tallackson at [drew@thebeacher.com](mailto:drew@thebeacher.com)





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## Canterbury Summer Theatre Unveils 50th Anniversary Season

Canterbury Summer Theatre will celebrate its 50th anniversary season with a lineup that ranges from work by the composer of "Rent" to a musical drama about the last days of Judy Garland.

Canterbury has hired theater artists from across the country for the milestone season to be produced at Canterbury Theatre, 807 Franklin St. The season is dedicated to the memories of Canterbury co-founder John Troyer and longtime board member Connie Bauer.

Ray Scott Crawford returns for his 33rd season as artistic director. He is the dean of performing arts and communication, and director of theatre, at Bossier Parish Community College in Louisiana. Also returning is Canterbury veteran Leah Mazur, assistant professor of scenography and resident designer at St. Mary's College of Maryland.

The lineup is:

- **Ellen Fairey's "Graceland" on June 13-16.**

With jets roaring overhead during Chicago's annual Air and Water Show, a brother and sister reunite in Graceland, the city's oldest cemetery, on the occasion of their father's puzzling death.

When the pair looks for answers at his favorite tavern, their weekend becomes complicated by bad choices and startling revelations.

David Graham, Canterbury associate artistic director, helms the show that won the Joseph Jefferson Award for Best New Play.

- **"The Bikinis" on June 20-30. Book by Ray Roderick and James Hindman, with musical arrangements by Joe Baker, and additional music and lyrics by Baker and Roderick.**

In front of a live audience, a girl group, The Bikinis, relives its heyday and beyond, beginning in the summer of 1964, when the group got its name winning the Belmar Beach Talent Contest in their bikinis. The show features hits like "Yellow Polka Dot Bikini," "Under The Boardwalk," "These Boots Were Made For Walkin'" and "It's Raining Men."

Crawford is the director.

- **Peter Quilter's "End of The Rainbow," July 5-14 (no July 4 performance).**

The award-winning musical-drama focuses on



Nick Mazzini (from left), Christian Mouisset, Jasey Erin Brook Gilbert, Becky Keeshin and Sarah Bartley star in the 2017 Canterbury production of "Have a Nice Day."

Judy Garland's "comeback" concerts during Christmas 1968 — on stage and off. The show features performances of many of Garland's greatest hits.

- **"Tick, Tick...Boom!," with book, music and lyrics by Jonathan Larson, on July 18-28.**

Before "Rent," Larson's autobiographical musical, set in 1990, focuses on a composer, and the sacrifices he makes to achieve his big break in theater.

John Berst, University of New Hampshire director of musical theatre, and who has served as Canterbury musical director, is the director.

- **Ellsworth Schave's "A Texas Romance," Aug. 2-4 (no Wednesday performance).**

Daisy Wilson lives in a small Texas town, a widow since her philandering husband was shot by his mistress. It's 1928, and romance re-enters Daisy's life when she finds Garland Steinholden in the front yard awaiting permission to call on her, despite her older sister's chagrin.

Crawford directs the show, which has its Canterbury premiere before performances at Bossier Parish Community College.



Performances are at 2 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays, 7:30 p.m. Fridays and 6:30 p.m. Saturdays. Tickets, as well as season discount cards, can be reserved by calling (219) 874-4269 or by email at [info@canterburytheatre.org](mailto:info@canterburytheatre.org). Reduced ticket prices are available for seniors, groups and students. Visit [www.canterburytheatre.org](http://www.canterburytheatre.org) for more details.

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## Fundraiser to Aid Nonprofit That Reaches Out to Teens

by Kayla Weiss

Fifteen years ago, Gerald Hartnett began Choices for Today, a nonprofit that reaches out to struggling teens.

Hartnett turned to Christian athletes and entertainers he knew from a national prison ministry that works in local schools. While discussions in school cannot be faith-based, the athletes and entertainers speak to teens about important issues.

"Most of the athletes and entertainers we bring in to talk to the kids have had some kind of problem or issue in their lives with drugs," Hartnett said. "We bring the athletes in on Tuesday night, they speak to the kids Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and then the athletes fly back out on Friday night.

"These athletes have been there. They have that experience, and they have made it out to talk about it and try to help other kids who might be facing the same kinds of trials."

The program costs the schools nothing. The athletes' expenses are covered solely by money raised through fundraisers and donations.

Choices for Today will host its annual banquet-fundraiser at 6 p.m. Saturday, April 21, at Best Western Plus Hotel & Conference Center, 444 Pine Lake Ave., LaPorte.

How does "Choices for Today" help teens?

Each student receives a 3x5 card on which they can write about anything. The "Choices for Today" team goes through the cards the same day, separating any they deem as "hot cards," handing them over to school officials for appropriate actions. On the cards, the team sees confessions from students who don't know where to turn when it comes to problems at home or school, battling depression or finding themselves in abusive situations.

Hartnett brings athletes to speak in the spring and fall. Originally, the program was limited to schools but now has grown to speaking at church youth groups, Sand Castle Shelter for Homeless Families, Michigan City at-risk students with their parents, Drug Court, Boys & Girls Club and many other opportunities.

"We had one of these programs for a school in Hobart and had gone through the cards, isolating the 'hot cards' like usual, and later on, we ended up receiving a phone call from the chief of police in Hobart, thanking us," Hartnett said.



Choices for Today brings in athletes to not only entertain teens, but also speak about relevant issues in their lives.

### If You Go

Tickets are \$30. Individuals or organizations also may sponsor a table by purchasing a block of 10 tickets for \$300. This year's entertainment is Angela Hyler Wolf, a singer/songwriter and founder of Soul Salvage Project, a Christian blues/Americana/roots band. For tickets or details, contact Jerry Slauter at (219) 575-9571 or [jerryslauter@yahoo.com](mailto:jerryslauter@yahoo.com), or Gerald Hartnett at (219) 363-6394 or [ghinin@comcast.net](mailto:ghinin@comcast.net)

"Through the course of this program, we had isolated several 'hot cards,' one of which was a young girl who was in an abusive situation at home, and because we got the card to the appropriate officials, that allowed police to open a formal investigation and remove the child from that environment.

"It's all about giving something back to the community," he continued "It's things like that that keep me going and keep me doing what I'm doing."



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## **Move Effectively**

*by Kevin Scott of Anytime Fitness*

If you are an avid gymgoer, you know there are a lot of variations to hitting certain muscle groups.

You can work your biceps by curling a dumbbell, but slightly changing the motion of the movement can work your biceps differently.



The Fitness Rebellion

So, if you aren't an avid gymgoer, where in the world do you begin?

We look at a couple different movements in exercise. Isolated movements are really more appropriate for targeting weak areas, or for rehabilitating after an injury. Today's fitness trends typically involve more functional movements that mimic real-life activities.

That's why compound exercises are becoming so popular. They're essentially multi-joint exercises that work several muscles at a time. Examples include pull-ups, push-ups, squats, lunges, deadlifts, kettlebell swings, dips, even jumping rope. And this is only scratching the surface when it comes to compound exercises. There are numerous reasons to incorporate more compound movements into your training.

Here are just a few of the benefits:

- Provides a full body workout in a shorter period of time.
- Improves coordination, reaction time and balance.
- Provides cardiovascular benefits by keeping your heart rate elevated.
- Decreases risk of injury during sports.
- Burns more calories.
- Allows for heavier lifts that will build strength faster.

If you haven't already, I highly recommend adding compound movements to your workout regimen, and if you give them a try, have fun with them and get creative. Think of new ways to use stability balls, medicine balls, Bosu balls, bands, kettlebells, ropes and, of course, your own body weight to work multiple muscle groups at a time! This will help change stale routines, keep your workouts fresh and actively keep you interested, motivated and seeing results.

After all, we are now in April, and who is still going hard at their New Year's resolutions?

## **Historical Society of Ogden Dunes**

Historical Society of Ogden Dunes meets at 4 p.m. Sunday, April 15, at Hour Glass Museum, 115 Hillcrest Road.

Emily Austin Duran, Porter County Library System's head of the Lewis Clark Genealogy Center, will discuss "Beginning Genealogy."



**"The Glass Castle"**

A free screening of "The Glass Castle," based on Jeannette Walls' memoir of the same name, is at 2 p.m. Sunday, April 15, at Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St.

The screening is a collaboration with the Purdue University Northwest Odyssey Arts and Cultural Events Series. Rated PG-13, it recounts the unconventional upbringing Walls and her siblings had at the hands of their dysfunctional parents. Oscar-winner Brie Larson ("Room") stars as Walls and Oscar-nominees Naomi Watts and Woody Harrelson as her parents.

Contact Judy Jacobi, assistant vice chancellor of the University Art Collection & Special Programs, at (219) 785-5593 for details.

**NB Library Community Forum**

"The Yin and Yang of Taoism" marks the next Friends of New Buffalo Library Community Forum at 6:30 p.m. EDT Monday, April 16, in the library Pokagon Room, 33 N. Thompson St.

David Tidwell of Lake Michigan College will review Taoism's roots, which date back to prehistoric times when it started as mysticism, became a philosophy, then a religion with an influence on other eastern religions, especially Buddhism.

The free series is underwritten in part by The Pokagon Fund. Upcoming programs include: "The House of David," Tuesday, April 24; "Backyard Birds," Tuesday, June 5; and "A Spring Hootenanny," Thursday, June 21.

Call the library at (269) 469-2933, follow the Facebook link at [newbuffalotownshiplibrary.org](http://newbuffalotownshiplibrary.org) or email [new.buffalo.FOL@gmail.com](mailto:new.buffalo.FOL@gmail.com) for details.



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## Patti Shaffner Exhibit



Northwest Indiana artist Patti Shaffner will present her multi-media show, "From Then to Zen," through May 3 at Valparaiso's The Village Gallery.

Primarily a self-taught artist, Shaffner has been engaged in the arts, from mu-

sic and theater to poetry and visual-artistic expression, since childhood. During the 1990s, she created large, dramatic portraits that focused often on one aspect of a face, allowing the viewer to complete the portrait in their mind's eye. She eventually stumbled onto Zentangle — the art of making patterns out of basic, deliberate strokes that build upon each other. She has become a certified Zentangle teacher.

The Village Gallery is located at Pines Village Retirement Communities (off Calumet Avenue north of Cumberland Crossing). Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. There is no admission charge. Call (219) 465-1591 for details.

## Polish-American Cultural Society

Polish-American Cultural Society of Northwest Indiana, Michigan City Chapter, meets at 5 p.m. Wednesday, April 18, at the former St. Mary's School, 321 W. 11th St.

Call Theresa Child at (219) 464-1369 or email polamnwi@yahoo.com for details.

## "Hamlet" at Canterbury

Purdue University Northwest's Department of English will present William Shakespeare's "Hamlet" at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, April 13-14, at Canterbury Theatre, 807 Franklin St.

The cast of PNW students includes: Angela Barreto as Rosencrantz; Abigail Drake as Guildenstern; Alexis Dukes as First Player/Gravedigger; Joseph Ellison as Polonius/Laertes; Ashley Ganz as Ophelia; Niel Jacoby as Ghost/Claudius; Erin Lain as Gertrude; Lillian Pollnow as Hamlet; and Alexis Ulrich as Horatio.

The production is directed by Paul Hecht and associate director Rick Gilbert. Rob Clearfield provides music, with light design by Charles Trott. Ulrich is the dramaturge.

Tickets cost \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. Call (219) 874-4269 or visit [www.canterburytheatre.org](http://www.canterburytheatre.org) for reservations.

## Brauer Museum of Art

Four exhibits are on display through May 13 at Valparaiso University's Brauer Museum of Art.

They are: Art Student Exhibition; Art Faculty Exhibition; Senior Seminar Exhibition; and Robert Sirko Paintings and Drawings.

An opening reception for the Art Faculty Exhibition is at 7 p.m. Friday, April 20. Sirko will give a gallery talk at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 3.

All exhibits and programs are free; however, donations are welcome.

The museum is located at 1709 Chapel Drive. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Wednesday and noon to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. It is closed Mondays. Call (219) 464-5365 or visit [www.valpo.edu/brauer-museum-of-art](http://www.valpo.edu/brauer-museum-of-art) for details.



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## Grand Magic Show

The LaPorte Community Concert Association will present "The Grand Magic Show" at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 19, at Kesling Middle School, 306 E. 18th St., LaPorte.



The Grand Magic Show.

Duane Laffin, assisted by his wife, Mary, have performed on five continents, in 18 countries and in 47 of the 50 states. In South Africa, he was a guest lecturer at the Siegfried and Roy College of Magic. In Mexico City, he received the illusionist award, and in Singapore was honored as a star of magic. Mary was

honored by the dean of the Society of American Magicians, included in his "Top 10 List" of magician's assistants. The two live, and perform, near Mount Rushmore in South Dakota.

The show is included with season tickets and is a bonus concert for newly subscribed members. General admission at the door is \$15 for adults and \$5 for students through high school.

Because of construction near Kesling, use the A Street entrance and park in the back of the school to enter through Door 7.

Call (219) 362-8262 for details.

## RV Senior Center Receives Grant

River Valley Senior Center has received a \$20,343 Lakeland Community Wellness Endowment grant to support Phase II of its renovation.

The grant also will fund Americans With Disabilities Act-compliant renovation that includes a fully functional nurse's office and adjacent multipurpose room for medical-related trainings and education classes. The center partners with Lakeland and employs a registered nurse for medical services.

Renovation began in 2017 with Phase I, which included a new ADA-compliant entryway, board room and library. Phase II, started in March, will focus on first-floor staff offices, creating ADA-compliant restrooms, remodeling the great room, nurse's office and adding a new multipurpose/training room.

Phase III starts in July.

Founded by the Berrien County Council on Aging in 1973, the center offers services to area residents 60 and older. It is located at 13321 Red Arrow Highway, Harbert, Mich.

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## Springing North for an Annual Spring Renewal



Mike Klinger is the man responsible for getting me to head north each March.

Four years ago, my good friend, Mike Klinger, said, "Hey, Charley, how about going on a retreat with me up in Petoskey?"

Hmm.  
Petoskey?  
In March?  
Really?!

But then, Mike sealed the deal by adding, "It's a St. Patrick's weekend retreat. For Irish-Americans like us who want to clean up our acts and..."

"Say no more. Where do

I sign?"

And sign I did, and off we went in March 2015 for a retreat at the cozy Augustine Center Retreat House in Conway, Mich.

(All right, I know I said the retreat was in Petoskey, but Conway is to Petoskey what Long Beach is to Michigan City.)

I wasn't sure what to expect, but my fears about blinding snow and marauding polar bears were quickly relieved as we sailed forth on a sunny Friday, with little or no snow until we got all the way north to Boyne Mountain, where the only white stuff was of the manufactured kind.

Oh, and as a signing bonus, Mike encouraged me to read to him the manuscript of the book I was writing at the time — Life with a Laryngectomy — as we journeyed to North Country.

Being as it was and is a memoir of my late father, James S. McKelvy, I became quite emotional reading my recollections to Mike. No worries. He was a compassionate listener, having faced many of the same issues with his father, and when the signs for Petoskey began appearing along U.S. 131, Mike said, "Save the

rest for the return trip."

I did, and we entered this amazing world of a weekend retreat at the Augustine Center overlooking Little Traverse Bay.

Wishing as I do to protect the anonymity of my fellow retreatants, I will simply say they were a great group of guys who had walked my walk and were talking my talk. The food was tasty, plentiful and nutritious, but the fellowship was all that and a bag of chips so, of course, I told the organizers to put me on the list for the 2016 retreat.

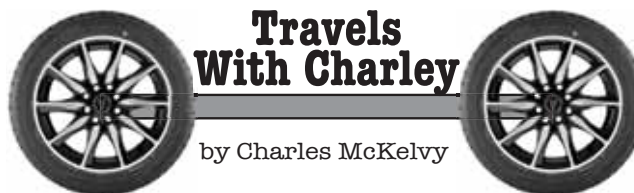
And then, on the way back down Michigan's west coast, I read the remaining chapters of Life with a Laryngectomy, and it was utter catharsis. (Yes, this real man did cry.)

When it came time to book the 2016 retreat, I recruited a friend and introduced him to the wonders of the St. Patrick's gang. We grabbed another friend for 2017, and we added two more in 2018.



Just desserts in Big Rapids, Mich.

The 2018 retreat would be as good a place as any to end by saying that four of us caravanned in two vehicles and stopped for lunch in Big Rapids at a delightful restaurant called Ruby Tuesday, thus beginning the retreat long before we arrived in Petoskey. One



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of our number had just had a birthday so, of course, there was the obligatory chocolate brownie with vanilla ice cream to celebrate, extra trips to the salad bar and just good times in the great, white North.

(Yes, there was still plenty of snow up there north of Grand Rapids.)

We saw skiers schussing down the slopes at Boyne Mountain as we passed, and upon arrival at Augustine Center realized we probably should have brought our snowshoes. The trail across from the retreat house had more than 6 inches of fresh snow on it.

Oh well.



Heading into North Country on U.S. 131.

At least two of us brought baseball gloves and an official Major League baseball, so we had a good game of catch before the retreat officially started. Part of the fun was shagging missed throws out of the snow. Nothing like March in Michigan! And, yes, one year on the way back along U.S. 131, we saw people skiing at Boyne Mountain and folks in shorts out playing golf at a course that was still more brown than green.

The retreat, itself, was uplifting and wonderful, but that it is a topic for another publication, so suffice it to say, we had enough free time Saturday afternoon to either take long naps or a tour of Petoskey. We opted for the latter, and after observing the frozen harbor, we headed uptown for a walking tour of the downtown district, where one of the four of us



The Bear River Valley Recreation Area is yours to enjoy in Petoskey, Mich. spent a wad of hard-earned retirement income on clarinet reeds at the music store and all manner of books and notebooks at McLean & Eakin Booksellers, 307 E. Lake St.

(Memo to Sally Carpenter: Sail across Lake Michigan some Saturday and spend an afternoon at this amazing, two-level bookstore.)

And, as I have discovered each and every one of the four years I have attended the retreat, the ride home is a treat in itself, with grand and glorious vistas all along beautiful U.S. 131. And approaching downtown Grand Rapids from the north on a sunny Sunday afternoon puts one in mind of the final approach to The Emerald City in *The Wizard of Oz*.



On retreat in Conway, Mich.

Clearly, this year's retreat to North Country put me in a peaceful enough frame of mind to pen these many words of praise, and I encourage you and yours to make your own retreat in northern Michigan this year.

If you go, please consult the following before you go:

[www.petoskeyarea.com](http://www.petoskeyarea.com), [home.catholicweb.com/augustinecenter](http://home.catholicweb.com/augustinecenter) and McLean & Eakin Booksellers at [books@mcleanandeakin.com](mailto:books@mcleanandeakin.com)

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- Top exercise tips for the back, the core, neck, shoulders, hips, knees and foot.
- Balance and Fall Prevention, including top exercises to get you steady on your feet
- How to heal naturally from rotator cuff tears
- How LASER helps injured tissues heal naturally
- Top 2 causes of heel and foot pain, and how to conquer them for good

Here's the schedule...Saturday, April 28, 2018.

Time	Topic
10:00-10:50 AM	How to Heal Naturally from the Top 3 Causes of Low Back Pain
	Your 2 Main Core Muscles and How to Strengthen Them (exercise sheets provided)
11:00-11:50 AM	Don't Fall in 2018: Balance and Fall Prevention Workshop
	Simple Techniques to Strengthen The 3 Main Components of Balance Control (instruction sheets provided)
12:00-12:50 PM	The Gift of Healthy Shoulders: Rotator Cuff and Shoulder Pain Workshop
	Top 3 Tips for Natural Healing (instructions provided)
1:00-1:50 PM	Deep Tissue Laser Therapy
	Discover the natural power of LASER
2:00-2:50 PM	Heel and Foot Pain Workshop: Top 2 Most Common Causes
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## Michigan City Public Library

*The following programs are available at Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St.:*

• **Duneland Stamp Club at 6 p.m. Thursday, April 12.**

The club meets the second Thursday of each month. New members are invited.

• **Films on DVD Series: "The Glass Castle" at 2 p.m. Sunday, April 15, in the meeting room.**

Rated PG-13, the free screening is in conjunction with the Purdue Northwest Odyssey Arts and Cultural program.

• **Story Time at 1 p.m. Tuesdays, April 17 and 24, and 10 a.m. Wednesdays, April 18 and 25.**

Children birth to age 5 and adults will enjoy stories, songs and crafts. Arrive a few minutes early to receive a name tag.

• **Friends of the Library Collector's Breakfast.**

Tickets for the annual fundraiser, held April 21 at Full Gospel Church of Deliverance, 2700 Ohio St., are \$25. Martin Papke will share his expertise on collector items. Guests can take one item for appraisal. Portofino Grill will cater breakfast. Tickets are available from Friends' board members and at the library circulation desk.

Contact Robin Kohn at (219) 873-3049 for more information on library programming.

## New Troy Indoor Flea Market

New Troy (Mich.) Community Center, 13372 California Road, will host its indoor flea market from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. EST Saturdays, April 14 and 21, and Sunday, April 22.

Admission is free. Antiques, tools, crafts, books, memorabilia, housewares, furniture and locally made treats are planned. A hot lunch will be available.

Vendors interested in reserving a space should contact Donald at (773) 803-9773. Proceeds from space rentals benefit the community center, an all-volunteer facility run by the non-profit Friends of New Troy.

The market season continues the second and third Saturdays of each month through April. A map is available at [www.facebook.com/NewTroy-FleaMarket](http://www.facebook.com/NewTroy-FleaMarket)

## Duneland Weavers Guild

Duneland Weavers Guild meets at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 14, at The Baugher Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

Each meeting begins with Show 'n Tell. Member Jacque Gaddy will present a program and short workshop on making a mini basket with tapestry weave using a small box as a loom.

Visitors and potential members are welcome. Visit [www.dunelandweaversguild.org](http://www.dunelandweaversguild.org) for details.



## Happy Hunting



Despite temperatures in the low 30s, an estimated 1,000 people turned out for the free Easter egg hunt Sunday, April 1, at Friendship Botanic Gardens, 2055 E. U.S. 12. Children hunted for eggs in two areas: one for children 3 and younger and one for ages 4-12. The Easter Bunny also made an appearance.

## River Valley Garden Club

Karen Sierzega will present "Downsizing and Simplifying Your Garden Over the Years" during the next River Valley Garden Club meeting, which is at 1 p.m. EDT Tuesday, April 17, at Harbert Community Church, 6444 Harbert Road, Sawyer, Mich.

Sierzega has been a business owner for 20 years, specializing in designing, planting and maintaining gardens and landscapes. Her expertise is using all types of plants, especially ornamental trees, shrubs and perennials.

Her portion of the meeting starts at 2 p.m. EDT, following social time and a short business meeting.

Anyone with an interest in gardening and ecology can attend. Contact Elizabeth Palulis at [evpalulis@yahoo.com](mailto:evpalulis@yahoo.com) or (269) 426-3513 for details. Visit [www.rivervalleygardenclub.org](http://www.rivervalleygardenclub.org) for more information.



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Last day to register to vote in the Primary election on May 8<sup>th</sup> is April 9<sup>th</sup>

First day of early voting at the LaPorte or Michigan City Courthouse is April 9<sup>th</sup>.

Go to [www.indianavoters.in.gov](http://www.indianavoters.in.gov) to make sure that you are registered to vote.



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## Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

*The following programs are available:*

• **Birding with the Indiana Audubon Society from 8 to 10 a.m. Saturday, April 14, at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.**

Brad Bumgardner, birding expert and Indiana Audubon Society executive director, will meet guests at the visitor center, then carpool to a birding spot. No experience is required. Take binoculars, and dress for the weather.

• **A ranger will lead a two-hour tour of Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore in one of the park's 16-passenger buses at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. Saturday, April 14.**

Meet at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center. After a brief introduction, participants board for the tour, which is free, but reservations are required by calling (219) 395-1882.

• **Stargazing on Saturday, April 14, at the Kemil Beach parking area.**

Members from Chicago Astronomical Society, Michiana Astronomical Society and Calumet Astronomical Society will attend with telescopes. Dress for the weather. Take binoculars. The Kemil Beach parking lot is located at 27 N. East State Park Road, Chesterton. Call the visitor center for the time.

*The Visitor Center is at 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. The Paul H. Douglas Center is at 100 N. Lake St. in Gary's Miller Beach neighborhood. Call (219) 395-1882 for more information.*

## Indiana Dunes State Park

*The following programs are offered:*

• **Friends of the Indiana Dunes Native Plant Sale from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 14, at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.**

More than 100 species will be sold at the 22nd Annual Native Plant Sale.

• **Tall Dune Trek from 2 to 3:15 p.m. Saturday, April 14.**

Meet at the nature center for a trek to the summit of the state's highest sand dune.

• **Bird Tower Bonanza from 10 to 11 a.m. Sunday, April 15.**

Meet at the beach pavilion for a one-mile trek to the bird-viewing tower to learn about bird migration data being collected.

• **Critter Feeding from 2 to 2:45 p.m. Sunday, April 15.**

Meet at the Nature Center to watch resident reptiles and amphibians eat their food.

*Indiana Dunes State Park is at 1600 N. County Road 25 East (the north end of Indiana 49), Chesterton. Call (219) 926-1390 for more information.*

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## Hoosier Star Finalists

After two days of auditions and several hours of deliberation, Hoosier Star audition judges Ken Grace Jr., Lee Meyer and Mary Kay Steele have chosen this year's youth and adult division finalists.

Now in its 13th year, Hoosier Star benefits LaPorte County Symphony Orchestra. This year's event is at 7 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 8, at LaPorte Civic Auditorium, 1001 Ridge St.



Hoosier Star audition judges are (from left) Ken Grace Jr., Mary Kay Steele and Lee Meyer.

The finalists are:

### Youth Division

- Maggie Cornett — LaPorte.
- Joseph Giuliani — LaPorte.
- Jacob Griffin — Michigan City.
- Molly Lenig — Rolling Prairie.
- Eliana Weston — Morocco, Ind.

### Adult Division

- Laurel Blankenship — LaPorte.
- Abby Bradley — LaPorte.
- Mike Green — LaPorte.
- Julia Obendorf and Rachel Lenker — Bristol.
- Bob Penney — Valparaiso.

From here, finalists select their Hoosier Star song with the selection committee, get professional headshots and write their bios. The event's artistic team will work through the spring and summer pulling together various music selections, securing special arrangements for the pop or country selections and coordinate orchestral and vocal rehearsals.

Tickets go on sale in May, but sponsorships are available. Visit [HoosierSTAR.com](http://HoosierSTAR.com) for details.

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## Westchester Public Library

*The following programs are available:*

• **NorthShore Health Center free blood-pressure screenings from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, April 12, at Hageman Library, 100 Francis St., Porter, and 10 a.m. to noon Wednesday, April 18, in the Thomas Library Bertha Wood Meeting Room, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.**

Interested patrons also can receive help calculating Body Mass Index.

• **Bits & Bytes series, Intro to Evernote, from 1 to 3 p.m. Thursday, April 12, in the Thomas Library Serials/Automation Department.**

Registration is required by visiting or calling the IT Department at (219) 926-7696, or registering at [www.wpl.lib.in.us](http://www.wpl.lib.in.us). Click on the Bits & Bytes link.

• **Music at the Museum from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Thursday, April 12, at Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.**

The Flashbacks will perform. Members are: Suzanne Keldsen, playing guitar, recorders and fiddle; Julietta Raby, playing fiddle, mandolin and guitar; Nancy Cairns on dulcimer and ukulele; Paul Mache playing guitar and banjo; and Marti Pizzini on autoharp, dulcimer and guitar.

• **Lego Club from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Friday, April 13, at Thomas Library Children's Department.**

Children build around a different theme using the library's Legos. Registration is required by calling (219) 926-7696.

• **Sunday Matinee: "The Shape of Water" at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, April 15, at The Baugher Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.**

The film is Rated R. Free popcorn will be served.

• **Maker Mondays from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Monday, April 16, at Thomas Library.**

Local software engineer Adam Johnson will lead a hands-on program, appropriate for patrons 12 and older, about Arduino circuit devices.

• **Children's Crochet Club from 3:30-4:30 p.m. Tuesdays through April 24 at Thomas Library.**

Children in grades 3 and older learn beginning crochet from instructor Sadie Steciuch. They should take a size G crochet hook and skein of medium weight yarn. Call (219) 926-7696 to register.

• **Bits & Bytes series, Picture This, from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, April 17, and 1 to 3 p.m. Thursday, April 19, in the Thomas Library Serials/Automation Department.**

Registration is required by visiting or calling the IT Department at (219) 926-7696, or registering at [www.wpl.lib.in.us](http://www.wpl.lib.in.us). Click on the Bits & Bytes link.

• **Pizza Pajama Book Club for Teens from 7 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, April 18, in the Thomas Library Young Adult Room.**

Teens in grades 6-12 will discuss Neal Shusterman's "Thunderhead." Registration is required by calling (219) 926-7696 or visiting the library.



## Rotary Award Honors JROTC Student

Over the past few years, Rotary Club of Michigan City has honored distinguished individuals in the community with the Service Above Self Award.

Its newest recognition will honor a JROTC student. Past club president Lance Werner proposed the idea, intending to honor the Michigan City High School JROTC student with the most community service volunteer hours.



The inaugural award goes to Cadet Gunnery Sgt. Zachary Benedict, the son of Thomas and Alexandra Benedict of Michigan City. During his three years in JROTC, he has conducted more than 450 hours of community service, according to Maj. Tom McGrath, who leads JROTC classes at the high school.

Benedict also serves on the drill and rifle teams, with McGrath referring to him as a key cadet, serving as a squad leader on the armed and unarmed basic platoons, a commander of the armed squad and one of the best rifle spinners on the armed exhibition platoon.

“His collateral duties include being the armory chief and operations chief,” McGrath added. “Gunner Sgt. Benedict plans on enlisting in the military after he graduates.”

Benedict will receive the award during the JROTC Awards Ceremony in May at the high school, and will be honored as a guest during an upcoming Rotary meeting.

The club will continue offering the award, which adds to the annual Service Above Self Awards presented to a police officer, firefighter and educator.

Visit [www.mcr Rotary.org](http://www.mcr Rotary.org) for more details.

## Chesterton Art Center

*The following offerings are through Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St.:*

• **An opening reception for the April exhibit, “Cabaret of Art,” from 2-4 p.m. Sunday, April 15.**

Each month, Jennifer Martin selects a different artist to study. The exhibit features work from the center’s children’s classes, which include preschool, after-school and home-school children ages 3-16.

• **Jayde McAloon will teach a Beach Glass Suncatcher class from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 28.**

Students can take beach glass, or a limited amount will be provided. Participants choose either a heart or a star. The cost is \$50, with members receiving a \$20 discount. Supplies are included.

Visit [www.chestertonart.com](http://www.chestertonart.com) for details.



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## Tutor Training

READ La Porte County Inc. will host tutor training from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 14, in Meeting Room B at LaPorte County Public Library, 904 Indiana Ave.

The morning will center on tutoring English-speaking adults in reading, with a break at noon for a complimentary lunch. At 1 p.m., the focus is tutoring adults who grew up speaking a language other than English.

There is no registration charge, but registrations by emailing [mhedge8@comcasat.net](mailto:mhedge8@comcasat.net) are encouraged.

There is a waiting list of students of all ages who want to be tutored in reading, math and speaking English, so volunteer tutors are greatly needed. Visit [www.readlaportecounty.org](http://www.readlaportecounty.org) for details.

## Program on Syrian Refugees

Concerned Citizens for Syrian Refugees of Northwest Indiana will host a free presentation on the Syrian refugee crisis by Dr. Monica Lorimer from 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday, April 14, at Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St.

Lorimer, a volunteer with the Syrian-American Medical Society, will speak about her work in Jordan, near the Syrian border, last November. Notre Dame Catholic Church, Michigan City, helped sponsor the trip. Her presentation will include video updates on relief efforts by SAMS and other humanitarian groups.

A reception is planned afterward. Contact Jeanette Neagu at (219) 873-4791 for details.

## Spring Flower Program

Author and naturalist Cindy Crosby will teach about spring flowers from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 14, at Gabis Arboretum (formerly Taltree), 71 N. County Road 500 West near Valparaiso.

Crosby will help students explore uses of wildflowers throughout history as food, love charms and for medicinal purposes.

The cost is \$34 for members and \$39 for non-members. Register at [ekapitan@pnw.edu](mailto:ekapitan@pnw.edu) or call (219) 462-0025.

## Behind the Scenes Tour

Barker Mansion, 631 Washington St., again will host one of its "Behind the Scenes" tours at 5 p.m. Saturday, April 14.

In addition to viewing the art and décor, the tour gives visitors access to off-limits places, including the inside of closets, archives and the basement. Heritage interpreters offer additional insight.

The cost is \$15 for adults and \$10 for youth or seniors. Tickets are available on Eventbrite, or call the mansion at (219) 873-1520.





## Long Beach Women's Bowling

April 3, 2018

TEAM STANDING	WON	LOST
1. Diagonal Divas	33	19
2. Blind Side	31	21
3. Bitchin Bowlers	30	22

### TEAM MEMBERS

1. Tina Sonderby, Susan Kieffer, Susie Lutz
2. Sue Woodland, Linda Sperling, Liz Burnham
3. Kathy Osborne, Celena Byrnes, Jill Jankowski

### HIGH INDIVIDUAL GAMES SCORE

1. Cindy Beck	185
2. Kathy Osborne	181
3. Sue Labovitz	176
4. Dottie Brinckman	158
5. Margie Midkiff	155
5. Nancy Kubath	155
5. Barb McCorkel	155
5. Susan Kieffer	155
6. Pat Collado	153
7. Linda Neulieb	151
8. Polly Fletcher	150
9. Barb Macudzinski (series)	420
10. Lenore Hadaway (series)	410

### SPLITS

1. Janet Miernicki	4-5
2. Cindy Beck	2-7

### THREE STRIKES

Dottie Brinckman Cindy Beck, Sue Labovitz



Scores reflect the last for the season.



## American Red Cross

The American Red Cross La Porte County Chapter will sponsor the following bloodmobiles:

- LaPorte High School, 602 F St., 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, April 13.
- IBEW 531, 2751 N. Old Indiana 39, LaPorte, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, April 14.
- LaPorte Hospital, 1007 W. Lincolnway, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, April 16.
- South Central Junior-Senior High School, 9808 S. County Road 600 West, Union Mills, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 17.

Donors have a chance to win a \$1,000 Home Depot gift card, courtesy of Suburban Propane, through May 13. Donors must be in good general health and feeling well, at least 17 (16 with parental consent) and weigh at least 110 pounds. Call (800) 733-2767 or visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) for more details.

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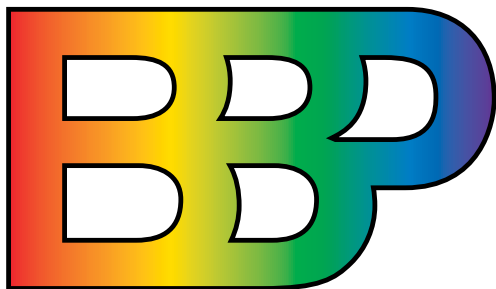
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## Family Advocates Banquet

Family Advocates will host its volunteer appreciation banquet Friday, April 20, at Pottawattomie Country Club, 1900 Springland Ave.

Registration begins at 5:30 p.m. The guest speaker is Sue Badeau, a writer, consultant and foster parent to more than 50 children. The Child Advocates of the Year winner will be announced, and volunteers from Court Appointed Child Advocate and Youth Advocate programs will be honored.

The cost is \$50 per person. Call (219) 324-3385 or visit [www.lpfamilyadvocates.com](http://www.lpfamilyadvocates.com) for more details.

## AAUW Meeting

The Michigan City Affiliate of the American Association of University Woman meets at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, April 12, at the Coolspring Branch Library off Johnson Road.

Master Gardener Dennis Brittain will present a program on spring gardening and composting. Afterward, members will meet at Hammer's Restaurant for lunch.

AAUW promotes equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research. Call Gail Ludwig at (219) 926-2874.

## Volunteer Expo

Leadership LaPorte County will host its second "Volunteer Expo" from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Thursday, April 19, at LaPorte Civic Auditorium, 1001 Ridge St.

Admission is free. Approximately 30 non-profits will have tables set up with information about volunteer opportunities. Vendor space is still available for \$30.

The event is sponsored, in part, by the Greater LaPorte Economic Development Corp. Call (219) 325-8223, email [info@leadershiplaportecounty.com](mailto:info@leadershiplaportecounty.com) or visit [www.leadershiplaportecounty.com](http://www.leadershiplaportecounty.com) for more information.

## Bikes on Trains Program

South Shore Line's Bikes on Trains program is under way, offering two morning and evening rush-hour weekday trains in addition to select weekend trains.

Bike cars are available on select weekend/holiday and weekday trains through October. They are bike rack-equipped in addition to regular seating so passengers can ride near their bicycles. These cars are clearly marked with a bike symbol on the windows of the car.

Bikes are not permitted during special Chicago events, such as Lollapalooza.

Visit [mysouthshoreline.com](http://mysouthshoreline.com) or download the SSL app (available for iPhone and Android) for details.



## Michiana Annual Art Competition

Artists have until April 29 to submit entries online for the 16th Michiana Annual Art Competition through Box Factory for the Arts.

The local juried fine-art exhibit, open to artists in Southwest Michigan and northern Indiana, runs June 15 through July 28, at Box Factory, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Mich. An opening reception is from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. EDT Friday, June 15.

Categories include: mixed media, photography, digital media, painting, drawing, glass, sculpture and ceramics.

The \$35 nonrefundable entry fee covers up to two pieces per artist. The works must be original in concept and execution, created within the last two years, not completed under instruction nor previously exhibited at Box Factory. All works remain the artist's property unless sold.

Online jurying begins May 5, with online notification by May 10. A judges panel will announce the award winners during the opening reception.

Visit [www.boxfactoryforthearts.org](http://www.boxfactoryforthearts.org) or call (269) 983-3688 for details.

## Big Comedy LaPorte

Big Comedy LaPorte will present its ninth stand-up show at 7 p.m. Friday, April 20, at LaPorte Little Theatre, 218 A St.

The previous eight shows sold out, and as of April 4, tickets were still available. The 21-and-older show contains mature content, with a cash bar planned.

All proceeds directly benefit LaPorte Meals on Wheels. Tickets are available at [huffisback.brown-papertickets.com](http://huffisback.brown-papertickets.com). Contact Ben Konowitz at [laporte-seamlesscharity@gmail.com](mailto:laporte-seamlesscharity@gmail.com) for details.

## Swanson Center Arts & Crafts Show

Booth spaces are available for Swanson Activity Center for Older Adults' fifth annual Arts & Crafts Show, which is from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, June 16, at the center, 910 State St., LaPorte.

The event features Indiana and Michigan vendors that specialize in handcrafted items. Booth spaces (outside space) are 10x10 and cost \$35.

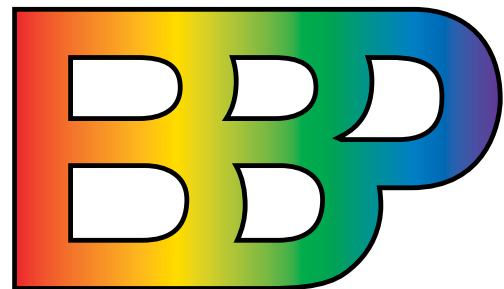
Interested artists and crafters can call (219) 393-4093 or email [ddev48@hotmail.com](mailto:ddev48@hotmail.com)

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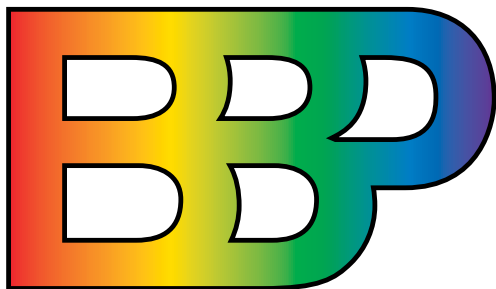
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## Activities to Explore

### In the Area:

**April 12** — Music at the Museum, 2-3:30 p.m., Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.

**April 12** — Potawatomi Audubon Society, 6 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St.

**April 12** — Family Fishing Night, 6-7:30 p.m., Luhr County Park, 3178 S. County Road 150 West, LaPorte. Free. Pre-registration: (219) 325-8315.

**April 13-14** — Purdue University Northwest's Department of English, "Hamlet," 7:30 p.m., Canterbury Theatre, 807 Franklin St. Tickets: \$10/adults, \$5/students. Reservations: (219) 874-4269, [www.canterburytheatre.org](http://www.canterburytheatre.org)

**April 13-16** — Vickers Theatre, 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. *Now showing:* "Film Stars Don't Die in Liverpool." Rated R. Times: 6 p.m. Fri.-Mon., 3 p.m. Sat.-Sun. All times Eastern. Info: [vickerstheatre.com](http://vickerstheatre.com)

**April 13-15, 20-22** — "Annie," Footlight Theatre, 1705 Franklin St. Times: 7:30 p.m. Fri.-Sat., 2 p.m. Sun. Tickets: \$15/\$10 kids 12 & younger. Reservations: [www.FootlightPlayers.org](http://www.FootlightPlayers.org), (219) 874-4035.

**April 14** — Birding with the Indiana Audubon Society, 8-10 a.m., Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. Info: (219) 395-1882.

**April 14** — Friends of the Indiana Dunes Native Plant Sale, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. Info: (219) 926-1390.

**April 14** — Duneland Weavers Guild, 10 a.m., The Baugher Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton. Info: [www.dunelandweaversguild.org](http://www.dunelandweaversguild.org)

**April 14** — 10th Annual Bowl for Worthy Women, noon-3 p.m., Casey's Lanes, 610 Colfax Ave., LaPorte. Teams/\$100, individuals/\$10, families/\$25. Registration: (219) 325-3360.

**April 14** — "Behind the Scenes" tour, 5 p.m., Barker Mansion, 631 Washington St. Cost: \$15/adults, \$10/youth & seniors. Reservations: Eventbrite, (219) 873-1520.

**April 14** — Stargazing, Kemil Beach parking area, 27 N. East State Park Road, Chesterton. Time: (219) 395-1882.

**April 14** — "Kashmir! The Led Zeppelin Show!," 8 p.m. EDT, The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: \$25. Info: [www.acorntheater.com](http://www.acorntheater.com), (269) 756-3879.

**April 15** — Bird Tower Bonanza, 10-11 a.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

**April 15** — Films on DVD Series: "The Glass Castle," 2 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

**April 15** — Sunday Matinee: "The Shape of Water," 1:30 p.m., The Baugher Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.



**April 15** — Opening reception, “Cabaret of Art,” 2-4 p.m., Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St. Info: [www.chestertonart.com](http://www.chestertonart.com)

**Through April 29** — Photography exhibit, “David Larson: 50 Years of Photography in the Indiana Dunes,” Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.

**Through May** — “Up Up and Away!: A Look at Aerial Photography from La Porte County!,” La Porte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave. Info: [www.laportecountyhistory.org](http://www.laportecountyhistory.org), (219) 324-6767.

### In the Region

**April 13-15, April 20-22** — Ken Ludwig’s “Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery,” Elkhart Civic Theatre @ Bristol (Ind.) Opera House, 210 E. Vistula St. Times (Eastern): 7:30 p.m. April 13-14, 20-21, 3 p.m. April 15 & 22. Tickets: \$21/adults, \$19/students & seniors (62+). Reservations: (574) 848-4116, at [elkhartcivictheatre.org](http://elkhartcivictheatre.org)

**April 14** — Spring flower program with Cindy Crosby, 9 a.m.-noon, Gabis Arboretum (formerly Taltree), 71 N. County Road 500 West near Valparaiso. Cost: \$34/members, \$39/non-members. Registration: [ekapitan@pnw.edu](mailto:ekapitan@pnw.edu), (219) 462-0025.

**April 14, 21-22** — Indoor flea market, 9 a.m. -3 p.m. EDT, New Troy (Mich.) Community Center, 13372 California Road. Info: (773) 803-9773.

### Support Groups

**Mondays** — Codependents Anonymous (CoDA), 6 p.m., Franciscan Alliance-St. Anthony Health. Info: (219) 879-3817.

**Mondays, Fridays** — Overeaters Anonymous, 7 p.m. Mon./Franciscan St. Anthony Health, 301 W. Homer St., 9 a.m. Fri./First United Methodist Church, 121 E. Seventh St. Info: <https://oa.org>, (219) 879-0300.

**Wednesdays** — Alzheimer’s/Dementia Support Group for Caregivers, 2 p.m., third Wednesday of each month, Rittenhouse Senior Living, 4300 Cleveland Ave. Info: (888) 303-0180.

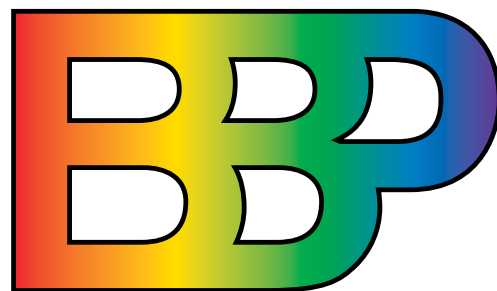
**Wednesdays** — Al-Anon meetings, 6-7 p.m., Franciscan Alliance-St. Anthony Health. Info: (708) 927-5287.

# Want your event listed here?

The weekly deadline is  
Noon Thursday

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# NEWSletters



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## Barker Middle School Partnership



Barker Middle School is in its first year of a three-year partnership with Chicago's Museum of Science & Industry. A teacher interdisciplinary school team is established to examine school programming in science, technology, engineering and math. The team reviews programming and creates goals and action plans to improve student learning. Barker's team infuses field trips to the museum within units of study. Pictured (from left) is Barker's MSI school partnership team: Dan Caudle (principal); Amy Hamann (teacher leader); Maria Surma (science teacher); Christina Parsons (reading teacher); Kelly Rothermel (digital arts teacher); and Mariah Pol (social studies teacher). Not pictured are Tim Blakeney (special needs teacher) and Scott Masson (math teacher).

## FUMC Scholarship Applications

First United Methodist Church, 121 E. Seventh St., annually awards scholarships to students entering an accredited college or trade school, as well as those continuing or resuming their education, regardless of age.

Most scholarships require church membership; however, three are open to the community.

The Richard Presser Scholarship, named for the late local educator, goes to a graduating senior from Michigan City High School or Marquette Catholic High School. Applications have been sent to guidance departments at both schools.

The Swinehart/Bartholomew Scholarship is intended for an arts major living in LaPorte County. Those applying must have completed at least one year, studying vocal music, instrumental music, theater or visual arts. The Swinehart and Bartholomew families have been involved in local music and community theater for three generations.

The Timberlake Scholarship, given in memory of Joan Thomas Timberlake and Diane Fike Timberlake, is open to the non-traditional student. The applicant must be a mother, at least 18 and an active member of any recognized church, synagogue or mosque. Residents of LaPorte, Porter and Berrien counties are eligible.

The submission deadline is May 3. Scholarships will be awarded during the 10:30 a.m. worship service on May 20.

Contact Higher Education Committee Chairwoman Sue Cassler at [susan.cassler@comcast.net](mailto:susan.cassler@comcast.net) or (219) 362-1421 for more information or an application. Forms also are available at the church.

## Logs to Lustrons Tour

The Logs to Lustrons Tour features 13 landmarks spanning a century of architecture, from rustic log cabins, to Victorian-era houses, to mid-century modern.

Nine interiors will be open for the May 5 event sponsored by Indiana Landmarks, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore and Dunes National Park Association. Included are three Swedish landmarks:

- The Gust Lindstrom Site and its World War I-era Wahl Barn, which has been restored and repurposed as an environmental preschool.
- The restored Oscar and Irene Nelson House and outbuildings.
- The Charles and Mathilda Nelson House.

Moving into the 20th century, the tour heads to U.S. Steel's Good Fellow Lodge— open for the first time to the public — the centerpiece of a youth camp overlooking the Little Calumet River that the company maintained from 1941 to 1976 for employees' children. Also included are architect-designed international-style houses — Meyer House and Solomon Enclave — and two prefabricated post-World War II enameled steel Lustron houses.

Tours depart Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter, every 15 minutes from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Each tour lasts approximately two hours. Visitors proceed at their own pace, visiting or skipping sites, with guides at each location.

The cost is \$30 (\$25 for Indiana Landmarks members). Children 16 and younger are free, but must have a ticket. Timed-entry tickets are available at [www.logstolustrontour18.eventbrite.com](http://www.logstolustrontour18.eventbrite.com) or by calling (800) 450-4534.

Children can earn a Junior Ranger badge by completing drawings of tour sites in a booklet supplied by the IDNL. Hands-on programs will be presented at several sites, including log construction at Bailly/Chellberg Contact Station and brick making at the Oscar and Irene Nelson site.

For those who want a deeper understanding, the illustrated talk "Logs, Glass & Metal: A Century of Architectural Legacy" is at 7 p.m. May 4. Speakers include: Todd Zeiger, director of Indiana Landmarks' Northern Regional Office; Cliff Goins, IDNL special events manager; and the Shymanski family, restorers of the Oscar and Irene Nelson house and outbuildings.

The cost is \$10 (\$5 for Indiana Landmarks members). Children 16 and younger are welcome, but must have a ticket. Visit [www.logstolustrontalk18.eventbrite.com](http://www.logstolustrontalk18.eventbrite.com) or call (800) 450-4534 for reservations.

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**CONDUCTED ESTATE SALES**

We buy all kinds of jewelry. Call Jackpot @ (219) 872-5000

**ONE DAY CABINET SALE!**

Sat., April 14, 9 a.m.-noon

426 Boyd Circle, Michigan City

Remodeling kitchen and bathroom. \$20 each item. Cash only!

15 laminate kitchen cabinets.

3 wood bathroom cabinets.

1 wood 60-inch vanity mirror.

1 60-inch double-sink bathroom countertop.

1 KitchenAid garbage disposal.

1 kitchen countertop.

**WANT TO BUY**

**WANTED:** I buy all types of antiques and collectibles, including toys, advertising, military items and more. **Call Matt at (219) 794-6500.**

**REAL ESTATE****COMMERCIAL – RENTALS/LEASE/SELL**

**New Buffalo Retail:** U.S. 12 high-vis rental and pop-up space next to popular yoga studio. 700-2,000 SF. Viewing/rates: **(312) 259-4011.**

**REAL ESTATE INVESTING**

**Income-producing property:** 4 fully occupied units located in good neighborhood (central Michigan City). Recent renovations. Asking \$250,000. **(219) 879-2198 or text (219) 877-8177.**

**RENTALS INDIANA**

**Stop 31. Nicely furn. 3BR, 2BA** with 3-season porch. Family room. \$2,100/wk. WiFi. W/D. No smoking/pets. 4-min. walk to beautiful beach. Winter/spring available: \$895/mo.+util. **Call Pat at 708-361-8240.**

**Dunescape Condo, 4th floor, 2BR/2BA, available now-May. \$1,100/mo+ utilities. Available June & July at market rate. Call/text Cari @ Merriion Realty @ (219) 898-5412.**

**Furnished 1BR apartment over garage, quiet wooded setting among \$500K homes, granite, hardwood floors, shared pool, tennis, basketball. Kitchenette. Utilities included. \$800, 1-yr lease, no smoking, no pets. (312) 399-5341.**

**LB summer rental: July-August.** Big, beautiful house ½ block from beach. 4BR/1BA. **Call (219) 210-1181.**

**Stop 31: Renovated 2 BR/1BA ranch** within walking distance to private beach. Avail May 15-Oct. 15 \$200/nt; 3-nt min; Oct 15-May 15, 2019: \$825/mo.+utilities. **Contact cmpgsusan@gmail.com**

**REAL ESTATE FOR SALE**

**CONDOMINIUM WITH UNIVERSAL APPEAL IN THE SHORES!** 2BR/2.5BA/main-floor den, at 2210 Bayview Drive. \$224,500. Sale by owner. Household items, furniture items available by appointment. **(219) 393-4609.**

**Buildable site in Michiana Shores: 5 corner lots (200x130). Call Jim (219) 871-2101 for more information.**

**Edgewood Forest condominium: 217 Autumn Trail** 2BR, bonus room over garage. Hardwood floors. Sunroom **Call (219) 873-7802 or (219) 878-1069.**

**FOR SALE or LEASE: Long Beach Home** 4BR/2.5BA, 2,800 sq.ft. Lake views. \$720,000 or \$1,800/mo. **(219) 878-6876**

**Classic Michiana Log Cottage.** Full reno/all charm, stone fireplace, A/C, deck & porch. 3BR/2BA. \$369K. See display ad. Broker-owned. PuddleJump Properties. **(312) 259-4011.**

**Brown Bag Lunch Series**

The final session in LaPorte County Master Gardeners' Brown Bag Lunch Series, "Importance of Bees for Gardens," is from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 18, at LaPorte County Extension Office, 2857 W. Indiana 2, LaPorte.

The \$5 fee includes informational handouts. No registration is required. Call Purdue Extension-LaPorte County at (219) 324-9407 for details. Flyers also can be downloaded at [www.lpmastergardener.com](http://www.lpmastergardener.com)

**Gabis Arboretum Summer Camp**

Gabis Arboretum staff will transform the 330-acre attraction include an outdoor classroom for seven weeks of summer camp.

Children 6-11 can engage in hands-on activities, including hikes, science projects and games. Space is limited, and children can register for one week or all seven.

Camp runs from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. The schedule is:

- Week 1: June 11-15 — Welcome to the Wild!
- Week 2: June 18-22 — Amazing Animals.
- Week 3: June 25-29 — What's in the Water?
- No camp July 2-6.
- Week 4: July 9-13 — Wild Creatures, Big and Small.
- Week 5: July 16-20 — Growing Gardens.
- Week 6: July 23-27 — Wilderness Survival.
- Week 7: July 30-Aug 3 — Nature's Inspiration.

The cost per week for members is \$140 for the first child and \$125 for each additional child. The cost for non-members is \$150 for the first child and \$135 for each additional child. Extended care is offered from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. for \$10 a day.

Registration and payment are due one week prior to each start date.

Gabis Arboretum (formerly Taltree) is located at 71 N. County Road 500 West near Valparaiso. Visit [Taltree.org](http://Taltree.org) to register for the camps, or call (219) 462-0025 for more information.

**Ceramics Workshop**

Kristy Horb will teach a two-day Kids Ceramics Workshop, creating a bird's nest with eggs, at Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St.

The sessions are from 9 to 10:30 a.m. Saturday, April 21, and 9 to 10 a.m. Saturday, April 28. Students explore hand building with clay, creating a nest during the first session, then adding a glaze during the second session. All finished pieces will be ready for pickup after May 1.

Children in kindergarten through fifth grade can participate. Class size is limited to 12 students to allow for individual attention. The cost is \$45, plus a \$10 supply fee. Students part of a family membership receive a \$20 discount.

Call (219) 926-4711 or visit [www.chestertonart.com](http://www.chestertonart.com) for details.

**Potawatomi Audubon Society**

Potawatomi Audubon Society will host a program at 6 p.m. Thursday, April 12, at Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St.

Jim Erdelac will discuss the new Richardson Hidden Hundred Nature Preserve off U.S. 35. The public is invited.



## Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter

**The Hazel Wood by Melissa Albert** (hardcover, retail \$16.99 in bookstores and online; also available as an eBook)

First off, this is listed as a YA (Young Adult) book, but like Harry Potter, it has the phenomenal story and skillful writing that attract adults as well. It wasn't until I picked up the book that I remembered it has been some time since I read a fantasy, the Harry Potter series being the last. Years before Harry, I enjoyed the works of other fantasy writers such as Stephen Donaldson, Patricia McKillip, Philip Pullman, Charles de Lint and others. There's something about getting outside your adult world and traveling back to childhood and those exciting words, "Once upon a time..."

In The Hazel Wood, how much bad luck can two women have? Ella Proserpine and her 17-year-old daughter, Alice, have been on the road for as long as Alice can remember: *"My mother was raised on fairy tales, but I was raised on highways."*

Run-down motels, sleeping in the car, renting until they can't pay the bill and stealing off into the night, even a husband or two along the line for Ella. As narrator of the story, Alice tries hard to justify her mother's behavior, even though she doesn't really understand her.

*"She wanted me to be happy. Each new place was a fresh chance, a field of unmarked snow she gave me to run through. And maybe everyone felt this way when they moved on — that everything they'd left behind smeared together like watercolors and washed away."*

Ella's mother was Althea Proserpine, author of one published book — one very popular published book: Tales From the Hinterland. It is a collection of 12 fairy tales. Despite its popularity, Althea never wrote another book and retired to a solitary life on her estate, the Hazel Wood. Ella wouldn't talk about her or even suggest to Alice a visit to meet her grandmother. Alice only knew her from a few photos and the book she wrote, even though she only saw one copy years ago. As a teenager, Alice tried to find the book, but it seemed it disappeared from bookstores, the Internet, even eBay. Very strange.

One day, Ella receives a letter saying her mother died. Alice is hopeful that maybe Hazel Wood will now be theirs and they will have a real home. Not long after, Alice discovers her mother missing — taken by someone claiming to be from the Hinterland. Ella's quickly scrawled note before she disappears says, *"Stay away from the Hazel Wood."* Of course,

we all know that's an open invitation for Alice to do the opposite. Besides, questions about her family and Ella's estrangement from her mother need to be answered. Maybe Alice's story is more than the one she knows.

Over the years, Althea's book has gathered a cult of sorts, people who take her stories seriously. One of them is a rich classmate of Alice's, Ellery Finch. They have discussed Althea at length, and Finch even tells her one of the tales from the book — "Alice-Three-Times." Is the story about her? Finch says he wants to go along with her to find the Hazel Wood, but what are his real intentions? It doesn't matter to Alice. All she wants is to find her mother and bring her home.

Before they leave, Alice sees several strange people following her, and several cryptic notes have been left for her, including one obviously written on a page torn from the Tales book. As another fairy tale character (also named Alice) once said, *"Curiouser and curiouser!"*

What makes a fairy tale so appealing? Because it's so far removed from "real life"? Do we just lose the magic of these stories as we grow older? Questions, questions! The more Alice learns, the less she knows. Until she meets The Story Spinner and it all gets a little crazy...

Even the cover and inside pages are so beautifully illustrated, you are inexplicably drawn to the book. And the story, combining Alice's knowledge of her life as it is and her quest to find out what her mother never told her, may just transport you back to your childhood and "once upon a time."

The Hazel Wood has received seven starred reviews and is a *New York Times* bestseller, No. 1 ABA IndieNext Pick, a Junior Library Guild Selection, a *Seventeen* Best YA Book of the Year and was named a most anticipated book of 2018 by *Entertainment Weekly*, *BuzzFeed*, *Esquire* and more.

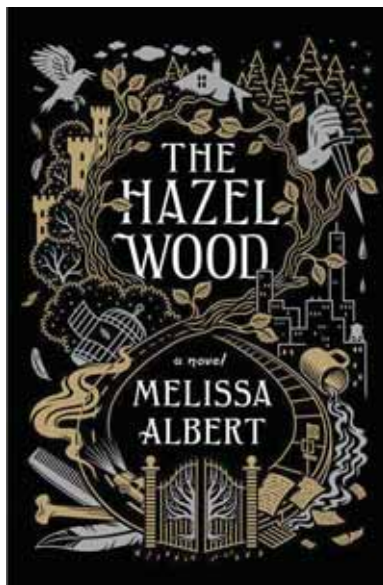
*The Washington Post*: "An eerie, assured first novel..."

*School Library Journal* (starred review): "An empowering read that will be especially popular with fans of fairy-tale retellings."

*ALA Booklist* (starred review): The buzz for this debut is deafening, and the fact that the film adaptation is already in the works doesn't hurt."

Albert is a web editor and the founding editor of the B&N Teen Blog. She grew up in Illinois and now lives in Brooklyn. Twitter her at: @mimi\_albert

Till next time, happy reading!





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## 30 Marine Dr #C-2 Michigan City

Exquisite updated creek side condo, 1 bedroom 1 bath with many extras, Stainless kitchen, furniture included, 50 ft boat slip with direct access to Lake Michigan.



## 302 Birch Tree Lane Michigan City

This wonderful 2 story condo has updated kitchen, updated bathroom fixtures, crown molding, and tasteful neutral decor. Affordable living with many amenities!



## 3307 Calumet Trl Duneland Beach

4 bd 3 bath home with wonderful screened in porch overlooks expansive yard and deck. Perfect for a year round family or as a summer retreat. This home is a 4 minute walk to the beach!



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