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A FANGIRL'S ADVENTURES CONTINUE

by Kayla Weiss

Editor's Note — This is part of an ongoing series by The Beacher's Kayla Weiss to meet her favorite celebrities through Comic Cons.

I have watched AMC's "The Walking Dead" since it first aired almost six years ago. The character of Daryl Dixon, played by Norman Reedus, is one of my favorites, mainly because of his sassy demeanor.

So when Reedus was announced as part of the lineup at the annual Wizard World Chicago Comic Con, the nation's second largest Comic Con, I was stoked, jumping at the chance for a photo op with him...at 1 in the morning.

I was ecstatic. Everything was going right. I was finally going to meet Norman Reedus.



This time, it was my turn to steal a ride in the legendary "Doctor Who" TARDIS.

Even though Norman Reedus couldn't be at Comic Con as announced, Kayla snapped a photo with a cardboard cutout of him.

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A FANGIRL

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Comic Cons, for the unfamiliar, have been a place for those with similar interests to swap stories, trade comic books and other novelties, and just have a good time since 1964. In recent years, they exploded in popularity, becoming more mainstream. Family friendly, there are no age restrictions to attend. Fans present range anywhere from 6 months old to 80, all of whom are starry eyed and excited to be near so many of their idols and other fans with similar tastes.

The Donald E. Stephens Convention Center in Rosemont, Ill., hosted the annual Wizard World Chicago Comic Con on Thursday through Sunday, Aug. 20-23. It contained two floors of celebrities, autograph booths, photo ops, Q&A panels and noted artists and celebrities such as Reedus, Jeremy Renner (Hawkeye in “The Avengers”), Stephen Amell (the title character of TV’s “Arrow”) and Carroll Spinney (Big Bird on “Sesame Street”).

I had been looking forward to Chicago Con for years. It’s right in my back yard. I could take the train in and not have to worry about driving or parking. Plus, the Chicago Con lineup is big. Even when stars have to cancel due to unforeseen circumstances — and they do cancel, believe me — there is still something and someone great to see.

This time, there were plenty of interesting names on the lineup: Ernie Hudson (“Ghostbusters”), Henry Winkler (TV’s “Happy Days”), Billie Piper and Arthur Darvill, both of “Doctor Who,” Nathan Fillion (“Firefly,” “Castle”), Lou Ferigno (“The Incredible Hulk”). But still, I kept waiting for that one person I absolutely had to get a photo op with because it would be a once-in-a-lifetime situation.

The perfect scenario would have been what happened a few months earlier at the Wizard World Comic Con in Philadelphia, where David Tennant signed on days before the convention was due to start. Tennant is one of my favorite British actors, best known for being the 10th reincarnation of The



One of the many booths selling golden-age comic books.

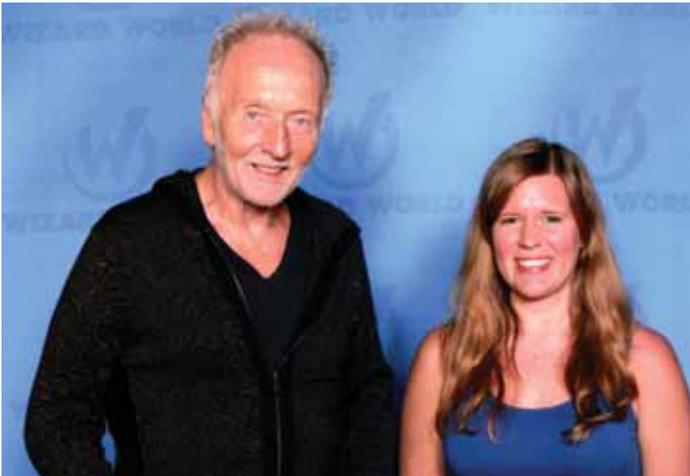
Doctor on the hit BBC show “Doctor Who,” which has been on air for the past 52 years come this November. Tennant, my favorite Doctor, doesn’t attend many Comic Cons, so when he signs on, it’s something that can’t be missed for a Whovian like me (Whovian: a true fan of the show in its entirety).

So, I kept waiting and watching, checking the Comic Con website daily. Finally, Reedus’ schedule changed. He was set to appear in Chicago.

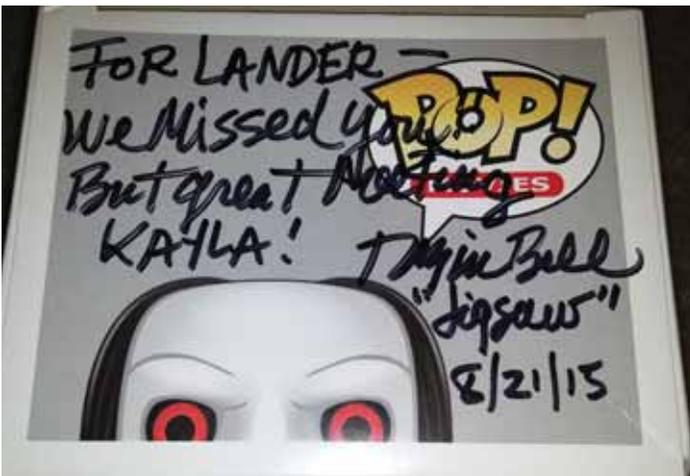
Fewer than 24 hours before he was to appear, it happened. Reedus’ filming schedule changed. He cancelled his Saturday appearance. I was crushed.

Nonetheless, I started scanning the Chicago Con webpage to see who else I might want to schedule a photo op with. For me, it’s not a necessity to get a photo op...but it’s a nice souvenir. That’s when I saw that Tobin Bell, best known for his iconic role as the villainous Jigsaw in the “Saw” franchise, would be standing for photo ops for one hour on Saturday.

Perfect!



Kayla Weiss has her picture taken with Tobin Bell, star of the “Saw” movies.



Tobin Bell wrote a personalized message on the lid of a Pop! vinyl box.

I was already getting his autograph on a miniature Billy the Puppet as a gift for one of my friends. Plus, I’ve always had a strange admiration for the “Saw” franchise. I will never forget watching the first one for the first time, that moment when the

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A FANGIRL

Continued from Page 3

then faceless Jigsaw rose from the ground, where he had been laying while his victims tried to piece together the clues that would free themselves, then uttering those final haunting words: “Game Over.”

I had been watching these movies, watching Jigsaw evolve from a nameless, faceless killer to a complex, tortured anti-hero, someone who actually was human, had human feelings, had had a family, but had been pushed too far one day and snapped. This was perfect.

So, the next day, armed with all of my tickets and dressed in my “Doctor Who” TARDIS dress, I picked



Two Comic Con attendees dressed as The Joker and The Riddler from “Batman.”



Hunter with Donatello from “Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles.”



Comic Con attendees dressed as Gru and a minion from the “Despicable Me” series.

up my cousin’s wife and son, Lisa and Hunter, who happily accepted my invitation to attend Chicago Con with me, especially considering their son would be admitted for free (all children 10 and younger are free at Wizard World Comic Cons). Neither had been to a convention before and were just as excited as I was, especially with the lure of the “Jurassic Park” jeep, the Mystery Machine and the Hall of

waiting in line — and got back out into the lobby so Lisa and Hunter could find a map of the convention and I could find customer service so I could get a refund on my Norman Reedus photo op.

We then walked through the largest hall that contained endless booths with various golden age comics, antique action figures, handmade clothing, piercing and tattoo stations — something I did



The founder of Tiny Tophats dressed as Johnny Depp’s Mad Hatter from Tim Burton’s “Alice in Wonderland.”



Running into a fellow TARDIS with her Timelord.



Two Comic Con attendees dressed as Star Lord (left) from “Guardians of the Galaxy” and Princess Leia in “Return of the Jedi.”

not realize was an actual attraction at Comic Con until that day — and the artists' row — a huge space containing booths with comic-book artists and painters who continuously created art in front of the crowds.

There was so much to take in, it was overwhelming. Hunter, of course, being a typical 8-year-old boy, was bouncing off the walls, trying to go everywhere all at once. What I've learned from experience is to get your bearings before heading off all over the place. Otherwise, you'll never find your way out. So, the three of us made our ways through the various booths in a straightforward, tactical manner so we could easily find our way out when it was time for me to head into the Hall of Horrors for my Tobin Bell autograph and photo op.

People were selling hand-stitched, high-quality silk corsets, hand painted light switch covers, fake IDs from all of your favorite TV shows (Scully and Mulder from "The X-Files," an "official" Sasquatch hunting license, an "official" TARDIS operating license from "Doctor Who," numerous badges and such that The Winchester brothers use on the hit TV show "Supernatural"). There even was a man dressed like the Mad Hatter from Tim Burton's



Kayla and her cousin's son, Hunter, with the "Jurassic Park" jeep.

"Alice in Wonderland" selling handmade, tiny silk top hats.

Finally, it was time to head upstairs into the Hall of Horrors to stand in line for my autograph with Bell, shortly followed by my photo op. My family wandered around the Hall of Horrors while I stood in line, the anticipation eating away at me. Normal-

Continued on Page 6



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A FANGIRL

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ly, when people get autographs from celebrities and artists, it's for themselves. This time, I was standing in line for Bell's autograph as a gift to one of my friends whose favorite movies are the "Saw" films.

Finally, Bell made his appearance at the autograph booth, ready to go. Unlike other celebrities, who usually try to get through as many autographs as possible, merely signing their names, Bell took his time with each person standing in line waiting to meet him. I was in line for an hour before finally making it up to him. Despite his tendency to play dark, villainous roles, Bell is one of the nicest people ever. He took his time writing out personalized messages for each person.

For the autograph I purchased, he wrote: *"For Lander – We missed you today. But it was great meeting Kayla! –Tobin Bell aka "Jigsaw"*

Bell then said with a laugh, "You are quite a friend to wait in line for over an hour for an autograph that you're giving to your friend. He should kiss the ground you walk on."

On Cloud Nine, I exited the autograph booth, racing across the Hall of Horrors for my photo op with Bell, which was due to start any minute. It seemed to take forever for him to reach the photo op area, but once he did, the line moved quickly, and in no time I was behind the red curtain, standing next to a horror movie legend, getting my photo taken with him. And in the flash of a bulb and a few friendly words from Bell, it was all over, but I had the photo

to keep the memory alive.

With nothing else dictating our schedules, except for train times, we were free to wander around. Lisa and Hunter showed me the secrets of the Hall of Horrors, where we stumbled upon a hearse collection on display, a wendigo, countless zombies and The Creeper from the "Jeepers Creepers" movies.

When we had had our fill of zombies and creepers, we made our way into the final hall, where I found the Chicago Con mecca of "Doctor Who" stuff. It was hard to control myself, and I warned Lisa she would have to keep an eye on me because there was a good chance I would wander off...and I did! I also stumbled upon one of the best 10th Doctor Cosplayers I've seen at any comic con, and finally...I found the TARDIS. Tucked away in a little corner, I almost missed her. She didn't attract attention to herself, like other items. I stepped inside and wanted to fly away immediately. One of the best TARDISES I've seen in the past few years, with real, opening phone panel and

phone and autographs from previous Doctors and companions.

Sadly, time was winding down. The masses were tired and hungry. It was time to go.

Despite all of the hurdles, bumps and Norman Reedus cancelation, attending the Chicago Comic Con was an incredible experience. I was surrounded by people who were just as passionate about movies and books and TV shows as I am. Add to it the time spent with Jigsaw himself and venturing into the TARDIS, well, it doesn't get any better than that.



Kayla poses with someone she describes as one of the best "Doctor Who" Cosplayers she's seen.

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The Annual Door Village Harvest Festival

The many events and activities people love about the Door Village Harvest Festival will return when the 23rd annual event is held Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 12-13, at Scipio Township Park, 3501 W. Joliet Road.

The Pioneer Village encampment of 1832 features re-enactors dressed in period clothes who share and demonstrate artifacts commonly used at that time in history. The Potawatomi Village will feature local people in traditional Native American clothing demonstrating life skills and historical artifacts.

The popular Horse and Wagon Tours of History, narrated by Bruce Johnson and driven by Tammy Heinen, runs both days and offers facts about Door Village, including the 1832 fort, the Air Line Railroad and many local homes and businesses past and present. Fern Eddy Schultz will offer her annual



The 1893 Door Village School.

Living Cemetery Tour on Sunday afternoon, with Kathleen Lang and her bagpipes, as well as local actors, portraying people from the past who are buried in Door Village Cemetery.

Grandma's Parlor will feature demonstrations of handmade crafts, while Grandpa's Woodshed will demonstrate wood carving and wood working. Grandpa's Barnyard will include a variety of farm animals, while children also can have their faces painted by Clowning Attractions. The Collector's Corner will show collections of memorabilia, from military to

agriculture.

A variety of craft vendors will be present, while a food court is planned, along with homemade baked goods from the Country Bake Shop. Old-fashioned baked beans and ham, as well as chicken and noodles, will be available Saturday.

The festival schedule is:

Saturday, Sept. 12

7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

- 7:30 to 10 a.m. — Pancake and French toast breakfast.
- 8:30 a.m. — Opening ceremonies: National Anthem and salute to veterans.
- 10 a.m. — Historic wagon tours begin.
- 10:30 a.m. — Phil and Dustin Anderson perform.
- 11 a.m. — Ham & beans and chicken & noodles.
- Noon — Dave Farris performs.
- 1:30 p.m. — Good Timing (barbershop quartet).
- 3 p.m. — Parade of antique cars and tractors.

Sunday, Sept. 13

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

- 10 a.m. — Ol' Time Gospel Hour, Door Village Methodist Church.
- 11 a.m. — Historic wagon tours begin.



The Parkinson Stagecoach Line that went from La Porte to Westville and Valparaiso through Door Village on Joliet Road.

- 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. — Pork chop dinner.
- Noon to 2 p.m. — Cripple Creek performs.
- 1 p.m. — Living cemetery tour.
- 2:30 p.m. — Rusty Strings performs.

The festival is free; however, there is a charge for parking. All proceeds help improve and maintain the park.



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All the Right Ingredients in Place for Polish Heritage Festival

by William Halliar

Family, heritage and tradition, all celebrated with good food, old friends and a cold Polish brew.

That's the ingredients for the annual Polish Heritage Festival set for 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 13. The location, specially chosen for the event, is Michigan City's beautiful International Friendship Gardens, 2055 E. U.S. 12. A more verdant, pastoral venue could not be imagined.

Traditional foods, such as *pierogi*, *golabki* and juicy *kielbasa*, foot-tapping polka music, the colorful costumes and refreshing enthusiasm of Wesoly Lud, Chicagoland's happy young people, will fill the day with excitement.

Mark Kolasa, the festival committee chairman, and the committee members have planned an event to top those experienced in previous years.

The festivities begin at 11 a.m. with a traditional Catholic Mass celebrated in English and Polish. This solemn, yet joyous ceremony will be filled with the music of Poland, the ancient traditions infused with the color and design of traditional costumes and the smiles and zest of the youth of Wesoly Lud.



The young members of Wesoly Lud always bring smiles to the crowds.

The history of a proud people will be honored and demonstrated by Jamusz Duzinkiewicz, Purdue University-North Central associate professor of history, who will represent the saga of Polish history through displays of artifacts such as clothing, ceramics and wood carvings.

Indiana U.S. Rep. Pete Visclosky will read a proclamation from the Congressional Record that re-



The crowds enjoy a performance by Wesoly Lud during a previous Polish Heritage Festival.

counts and celebrates the contributions of Polish immigrants to American culture.

Even amid such a cultural celebration, it cannot be forgotten that the Polish people also are known for their traditions of fun, food and music, which will be in abundance at the festival.

Eddie Sienkowski and the E-Z tones will set the tone with their blend of polkas, waltzes and foot stomping trots — the music of

the Polish homeland. Wesoly Lud will present two complete shows to demonstrate the various dances and costumes of the Polish people throughout their history.

And, of course, there will be plenty of food served up by the lively chiefs of Cavalier Inn, Hammond. For a taste of traditional Polish cuisine, the chefs of Cavalier Inn cannot be topped.

Vendors and displays of Polish culture will be set up in booths in the Celebration Garden. As always, this is a favorite for festivalgoers. There will be Polish pottery and unique wood carvings, and a demonstration of the traditional art of *Pysanky*, or egg painting. Baker's Dozen, a favorite from years past, will return offering delicious Polish bakery products. The celebration will wrap up with a raffle, which always adds a taste of excitement to the day.



Vendors will display items celebrating Polish culture.

If You Go

Admission is \$5 for adults and free for children 12 and younger. Visit www.facebook.com/PolishHeritageFestival/MC for more information.



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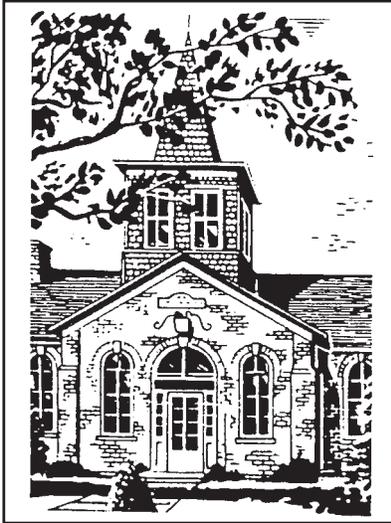
Buchanan Jazz Festival



Rain may have put an overall damper on Saturday, Aug. 29, but faithful jazz fans turned up for the festival presented by Last Saturdays on the Common in downtown Buchanan, Mich. The lineup included Dean Allrick Trio, Juli Wood Trio, Hinda Hoffman Trio and Pat Mallinger Seven featuring Gayle Kolb.

Photos by Bob Wellinski





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Concert Celebrates 70th Anniversary of World War II's End

Violin virtuoso Rachel Barton Pine will join Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra for a musical commemoration of the 70th anniversary of World War II's end at 4 p.m. EDT Sunday, Sept. 13, at the Howard Performing Arts Center.

Copland's "Fanfare for the Common Man" will represent "The Greatest Generation," Beethoven's "Concerto in D" will represent the deep culture subverted by the Axis regimes and Shostakovich's "Ninth Symphony" will represent the joy of victory and sense of loss at its human cost.

Celebrated as a great interpreter of classical works, Pine's 2012-2013 season included performances with Germany's Göttinger Symphonie Orchester, France's Orchestre de Bretagne, the Sacramento and New Mexico Philharmonics and City Music Cleveland.

The Chicago native has performed all 24 Paganini "Caprices" in Los Angeles, Chicago and New York City, and offered recitals at the Ravinia Festival, the Musical Instrument Museum in Arizona, the Chicago Beethoven Festival and LMMC Concerts in Montreal. She holds prizes from several of the world's leading competitions, including a gold medal at the 1992 J.S. Bach International Violin Competition in Leipzig, Germany. She was the first American and, at 17, the youngest person to win the honor.

The SMSO performance marks the latest Margaret Beckley Upton Memorial Concert, a living musical memorial founded in 1976 by her grandchildren. To top it off, Pine was loaned a violin from Elizabeth Upton, Margaret's daughter.

Pre-concert conversations, presented one hour before the program, afford concertgoers the chance to learn about the music they will hear from Music Director Robin Fountain. Post concert receptions give concertgoers the chance to mingle with Foun-

taion and the musicians.

The Howard Performing Arts Center is located at Andrews University at 4160 E. Campus Circle Drive, Berrien Springs, Mich. Contact the Symphony office at (269) 982-4030 or visit www.smso.org for ticket information.



Rachel Barton Pine

Master Class

Before Rachel Barton Pine performs with Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra, she will teach a master class open to the public from 3 to 5 p.m. EDT Friday, Sept. 11, at the St. Joseph High School John and Dede Howard Auditorium.

High school- and college-age musicians from St. Joseph High School and Andrews University will perform for her and the audience. Afterwards, she will give insight into the interpretation of the music and technique, in addition to demonstrating passages. A Q&A period will follow for the audience.

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Final Nuts and Bolts Tour

Barker Mansion's last "Nuts and Bolts Tour" of the season will take participants into the nooks and crannies of the building normally off-limits.

Advance registration is required for the tour, which is at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 16, at the mansion, 631 Washington St. A special Barker Mansion flashlight will be included with the \$10 tour fee, which will allow for up-close investigation.



The old summer kitchen in the Barker Mansion basement.

Guests will discover remnants of the past such as the central vacuum system, the furnace and intricate electrical panels. Guests will visit the basement and use back stairways.

The 38-room mansion was built by freight car industrialist and philanthropist John H. Barker in 1905.

Call (219) 873-1520 to make a reservation.

Runnin' for Prestin

Runnin' for Prestin and All Kids, a 5K and 10K run/walk, kicks off at 8 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 19, in Washington Park.

The race is in honor of Prestin Butcher and all children who have battled, or are in the fight against, pediatric cancer. All proceeds benefit pediatric cancer research at Riley Hospital for Children. Last year, the event donated \$10,000 to Riley, and this year's goal is to match or exceed that amount.

The race is chip-timed, and age-group awards will be provided. Race registration includes a T-shirt and post-race refreshments.

This year's theme is "Heroes" to honor those who fight the battle against cancer. With pre-registration, one can designate a hero he/she would like to honor on the course with a sign. Race day also will commemorate Prestin's third anniversary of being cancer-free, along with others who have reached significant milestones in their race against cancer.

Race registration and details can be found at www.runninforprestin.com, or on Facebook at Runnin' for Prestin. Early packet pickup and registration are from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 18, at Coolspring Township Volunteer Fire Department. Race-day registration is from 6:45 to 7:45 a.m.

Jay Walk for Pediatric Cancer

The Jay Walk for Pediatric Cancer 5K walk/run is Saturday, Sept. 12, in Washington Park.

Registration is at 8 a.m., with the walk at 9 a.m. Advance registration costs \$20 and can be arranged by calling (219) 814-7176 or (219) 561-6835. Race day registration costs \$25. T-shirts are guaranteed with advance registration. On race day, remaining T-shirts will be distributed.



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Buchanan Art Center to Unveil Three New Exhibits

Buchanan Art Center will host a public reception for new exhibits by three local artists from 2 to 4 p.m. EDT Sunday, Sept. 13.

“Zerbe/Paintings,” works by Jay Zerbe, is in the Roti Roti Gallery. “269 American Cadence,” photography by Kathy Murray, is in the Showplace Gallery. “Looking Beyond,” paintings by Jeff Matejovsky, is in the Hess Library. All three run through Saturday, Oct. 24.



A 2012 piece by Jay Zerbe.

Zerbe completed a Bachelor of Arts degree from the American University of Beirut, and a Master of Fine Arts in printmaking from Indiana University-Bloomington. His professional art career began in 1968 in Beirut with several exhibits. His work was first shown in Chicago in the 1977 Chicago and Vicinity Exhibit at The Art Institute. He has worked as a graphic designer for PBS, and a web designer and virtual-world designer for IBM. He now works full

time as an artist.

With a Pentax K-1000 and borrowed dark room, Murray began her exploration in photography more than 25 years ago just on the outskirts of Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Space was always limited and equipment was bare bones, often just enough to fit in her Buick Skylark. Many of her subjects were farm-



An example of Kathy Murray's photographic work.

her degree in graphic design and operating her own studio. She moved to Berrien County 18 years ago to start a family and now lives with her husband, John, and 6-year-old son, Jack, in Buchanan.

Matejovsky is a Chicago native and Niles, Mich., resident who began his design work in 1985, when as a student in a high school vocational program he used lead type. This led to a career as a darkroom technician at *The Niles Daily Star* and as a pressman at several area print shops. As a graphic design student at Southwest Michigan College, computers didn't come on the scene until a year after he graduated; however, Matejovsky was exposed to analog and digital mediums, of which he switches back and forth on a daily basis. He currently is a newscast director at WSBT.

Buchanan Art Center is located at 117 W. Front St. Visit www.buchananartcenter.org for additional information.

ers, migrant workers, linemen and railroad employees who would travel hours in their “Sunday Best” to her location because they knew the “photographer” would only be in town for a couple days once a year. They would then make the same journey back a month later to pick up their prints. She later moved on to hone her craft, receiving

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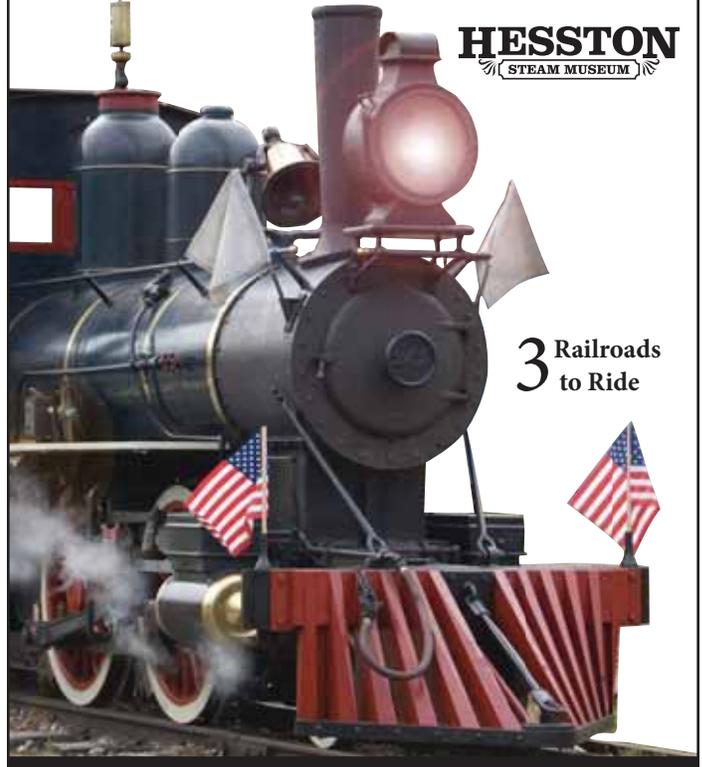


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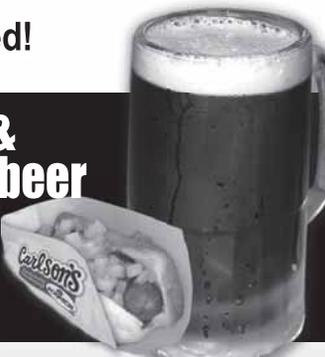


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Fernwood Botanical Garden

The following programs are available through Fernwood Botanical Garden and Nature Preserve, 13988 Range Line Road, Niles, Mich.:

• **WAUS Second Sunday Concert at 4 p.m. EDT Sunday, Sept. 13.**

The season's final WAUS Radio Second Sunday Concert features Symphony Brass Quintet. Admission is free after 3:30 p.m. EDT.



Joel Greenberg

• **"On Contested Ground: The Changing Nature of the Prairie Forest Ecotone" by Joel Greenberg from 2 to 4 p.m. EDT Saturday, Sept. 19.**

Greenberg, author of "A Natural History of the Chicago Region" and "Of Prairie, Woods, and Water," takes a look at how the area has changed during the last 300 years.

The cost is \$25 (members are \$20). Register by Sept. 11.

Call (269) 695-6491 or visit www.fernwoodbotanical.org for more information and to confirm the status of classes.

The cost is \$25 (members are \$20). Register by Sept. 11.

Dragon Boat Races

The thrill of dragon boat racing returns to La Porte's Stone Lake on Saturday, Sept. 12, when Dunebrook hosts its second Dragon Boat Races, the first heat kicking off at 9 a.m.

Dragon boat racing is an ancient Chinese sport rapidly gaining popularity in the U.S. The canoe-like vessels are adorned with a dragon head and tail on the bow and stern. Teams of 16-20 paddlers row in unison to a drummer who helps them stay in time. A steerer is provided to help paddlers stay on course. Ages 13 and older of all skill levels and physiques can participate.

The reigning champ is City of La Porte/#Hub of Awesome. There is no cost to view the races.

Visit www.dunebrook.org, or follow Dunebrook on facebook and twitter, for more information about the races.

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Michigan City Public Library

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

- **Knitting Club for All Ages at 5:30 p.m. Wednesdays, Sept. 9, 16, 23 and 30.**

Take size 9 straight knitting needles, worsted yarn and tape measure (optional). Contact Joanne Hale at joeyAB1971@yahoo.com or (219) 814-4398 for more information.

- **Duneland Stamp Club at 6 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 10.**

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

- **Ken Bier in Concert at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 12.**

The guitarist will present a concert of light jazz and classical music.

- **Doctor Who Trivia Contest at 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 12.**

Guests 10 and older can compete to win prizes. Light refreshments will be served.

- **Writing Out Loud: William Hazelgrove at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 12.**

The 31st season kicks off with Hazelgrove of Chicago, best-selling author of eight novels: "Ripples," "Tobacco Sticks," "Mica Highways," "Rocket Man," "The Pitcher," "Real Santa" and the forthcoming books "Jackpine" and "The Pitcher 2." The Friends of the Library will host a reception and book signing after the program.



- **Brain Balance Achievement Presentation: Learning Needs of Children with Neurological Disorders at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 15.**

Sponsored by the library's Learning Center, the program is based on research by Dr. Robert Melillo that addresses the learning needs of children with autism, ADHD, dyslexia and other neurological disorders. Contact Cyndie McKinney at (219) 873-3043 for more information.

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

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Peace Canon (All God's Children Choir featuring Pamela Chappell)

The phone rang. Something was wrong.

"Sister Sandy, the choir is in trouble," the 6-year-old voice said at 7 in the morning. He'd been given a letter to miss school for the day, but his teacher told him there's only one president. How could that be? Sister Sandy and Brother Larry wouldn't lie, but he was supposed to sing for another president. A President Carter? What kind of conspiracy was unraveling?

The voice on the other line was soft and understanding, like always.

"President Carter had a term as president," she explained. "You still get to have that title ..."

Later in the day, that 6-year-old boy and the rest of his choir made President Jimmy Carter cry. At one point, the former president's entourage tried to usher him out the backdoor where his car awaited, but he was so captivated, he turned around and walked back to the front row for another glimpse of the choir performing at the Habitat for Humanity event.

In Southwest Michigan, and other places they've traveled to, including Chicago and Grand Rapids, the small, but powerful children's choir has created a legacy that challenges stereotypes, stretches ideas of what diverse learning experiences can accomplish and spreads love and harmony through their interactions, appearances and songs.

The All God's Children Choir is not your average choir. It is a very deliberate attempt to bridge racial lines that still persist today.

"Both of us care passionately about bringing people together, and breaking down barriers, so one thing led to another," said Larry Feldman, who accompanies the choir on the djembe, guitar and banjo, reflecting on the start of the program that he and his wife, Sandy, helped initiate. Larry is a humble, intelligent psychiatrist and a pragmatic problem solver. It was eight years into the evolution of the choir before families learned he was an M.D.

"How many doctors do you know that don't tell you fairly early into the relationship that they're an M.D.?" Sandy said. "Larry is the guy who stays late with the parents sweeping up to make sure there are no crumbs left behind..."

"It's one of things I really admire and love about him, and why he's so approachable because there isn't an elitist bone in his body, and he doesn't present himself as though he and his work are any more valuable than what anyone else does."

"As you can see," Larry replied, "one of Sandy's strengths is giving positive feedback. She never

holds back, letting people know that she feels good about something they've done, and that's been an enormous benefit for the choir. I think a lot of kids stay because they want more of this kind of experience, and she's terrific at it."

Sandy Feldman, a former clinical social worker, is credited with being the brainchild of The All God's Children Choir. Shortly after she and Larry relocated from Oak Park, Ill., one of the most integrated cities in the nation, to Lakeside, Mich., for a slower, more relaxed way of life, they found their activism and careers, which had cemented their relationship, again begin to shape the community around them.

For the first two weeks, the couple saw a lot of sunsets, they joked. Later, they came across a newspaper article that mentioned the forming of a race-relations committee to open a dialogue between folks in St. Joseph and Benton Harbor. The couple thought the meeting would be a great opportunity

CROSSING THE BRIDGE

Children's Choir Emphasizes Unity

by M.D. Cunningham



Larry and Sandy Feldman have run the choir for 16 years.

for them to share their experiences from a group they'd participated with called Project Unity.

"When we started, Sandy said that I want this to go on and on and on and be like the Chicago Children's Choir," Larry Feldman said of his wife, who introduced the idea after they'd been involved with the race-relations committee for a couple years. Humble man that he is, Larry acknowledges that the Chicago Children's Choir has been

in existence for 50 years and is much bigger, "but her idea was going on and on and on. And, my reaction was, let's do one event and see how it goes," he said with a laugh.

Most of the children — there are 25 members as young as 4 and as old as 17 — are from the St. Joseph/Benton Harbor area. The choir deliberately practices in different locations to give them the experience of being on "both sides of the river," but also in galleries and venues with an abundance of

opportunities for enriching experiences.

"Part of what we said is that people in Benton Harbor get the message that you belong in Benton Harbor, don't cross the river. People in St. Joe were reluctant to go into Benton Harbor. People told us when we started the choir that you'll never get either side to cross that bridge," she said. "We said what we want these children and their families to feel is that everyone belongs everywhere. That everybody belongs everywhere, and that this in the larger sense is all our community."

"We said we weren't going to begin until the adults in charge reflected the children. We didn't want this to look like some benevolent white thing," said Sandy, who is one of a handful of musical directors. "We wanted all the children to see models that look like them that say you can be in charge."

When the group goes on "tour," as the kids like to call it, it's common for viewers and members of the facilities where they stay and play at to comment on the harmony evident in the group. In the entire 16 years the Feldmans have been running the choir, they can recall only a half dozen quarrels, most of which were between siblings.

"We have families of different denominations and different faiths," Larry said. "Primarily, the families are Christian, but we've had Jewish, Hindu and we're not specifically a religious choir in spite of the name."

People often think that due to the name the choir has a specific religious theme. The opposite is true since the choir celebrates a variety of music spanning different religions and languages, but the message always represents a common theme.

In the course of doing the choir, which at one point was extended in age to maintain interest in the teen population, the Feldmans have written more than a few college recommendation letters. One of their former students who went to the University of Chicago decided, instead of taking a summer job between her freshman and sophomore years, to put a CD together. She'd said the choir was one of the most powerful experiences in her life, so in honoring that, she researched rights to all the songs, met with all the choir members and asked them what word comes up when they think of the choir for the CD's cover. The choir came up with the following words: Community, Love, Friend, Fun, Voices, Harmony, Diverse, Smile, Joy, Music, Friends, Family, Happy, Peace.

Currently, the choir's teen ensemble is recording a new CD, which may be ready for release when the group plays Sept. 26 at The Box Factory for the Arts in St. Joseph with a professional group called Gemini. The performance and release may have a bittersweet note since the Feldmans have made it known that they will soon put their Lakeside home up for sale, the goal being to move closer to their children and grandchildren.



The All God's Children's Choir.



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Bridge Continued from Page 25



The Feldmans with members of the choir.

To say they will be missed would be wildly understating the work and relationships they've built in the community. The Feldmans will leave behind a few godchildren — through relationships built in the choir — and the choir itself, which is expected to remain intact, and just as Sandy had dreamed, to go on and on and on.



Members of the choir, having a few laughs.

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Indiana Dunes State Park

The following programs are offered:

Thursday, Sept. 10

• **9 a.m. — Beach Yoga.**

Bleu Lotus Yoga will offer the program every Thursday this summer. Registration is required and includes a \$10 fee. Classes are canceled in case of inclement weather. Visit www.bleulotusyoga.com to register.

Friday, Sept. 11

• **9 a.m. — Beach Yoga.**

Bleu Lotus Yoga will offer the program every Friday this summer. Registration is required and includes a \$10 fee. Classes are canceled in case of inclement weather. Visit www.bleulotusyoga.com to register.

• **6:30 p.m. — Sunset Beach Yoga.**

Bleu Lotus Yoga will offer a chance to stretch on the dunes beach. Registration is required and includes a \$10 fee. Classes are canceled in case of inclement weather. Visit www.bleulotusyoga.com to register.

Saturday, Sept. 12

History Comes Alive Weekend

• **9 a.m. to 7 p.m. — Fur Trader Encampment.**

Visit the Ouiatenon Brigade on the beach east of the pavilion as they re-enact the area's early French fur traders.



The Ouiatenon Brigade will be a key part of programs throughout the weekend.

• **10 a.m. — Beaver Trading Hike.**

Meet a naturalist at the campground shelter for a trek through the dunes, and a meeting with early French fur traders who inhabited the area nearly 200 years ago. Take a beaver pelt, or borrow one available.

• **2 p.m. — Wild Edibles...Then and Now.**

Many native plants needed by early explorers to survive are still present today. Check them out during the one-hour walk that meets outside the Nature Center.

• **8 p.m. — Insects Alive.**

Meet at the Wilson Shelter for a look at fall insects. Purdue researchers will have special sheets and lighting in search of the area's biodiversity.

Sunday, Sept. 13

• **8 a.m. — Fall Birding.**

Explore back dune sites known for migrant warblers, thrushes and other birds. Take binoculars or borrow a pair at the park. Meet at the campground gate.

• **9 a.m. — Beach Yoga.**

Bleu Lotus Yoga will offer the program every Friday this summer. Registration is required and includes a \$10 fee. Classes are canceled in case of inclement weather. Visit www.bleulotusyoga.com to register.

• **9 a.m. to 1 p.m. — Fur Trader Encampment.**

Visit the Ouiatenon Brigade on the beach east of the beach pavilion as they re-enact the fur-trading era.

• **10 a.m. — Beaver Trading Hike.**

Meet a naturalist at the campground shelter for a trek through the dunes, and a meeting with the early French fur traders who inhabited the area nearly 200 years ago. Take a beaver pelt, or borrow one from the park.

• **2 p.m. — 100 Years of Indiana State Parks.**

Meet at the Nature Center auditorium for the 50-minute documentary produced in 2009 by PBS.

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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What's Cooking

by Jim LaRocco

Just in case you haven't noticed, this is the time of year when if you have to drive east in the early morning, you definitely need a pair of sunglasses. It is nature's subtle hint that fall is on the way.

The dew is heavier in the morning, the leaves have started to change into their fall colors, squirrels have begun their pre-winter task of hiding nuts. They forget where they hide half of them, so it's no wonder they have to start so early "squirreling" them away.

Us humans will soon enjoy tasks like raking leaves, putting away the patio furniture and getting the snowblower ready, so now is the time to enjoy the nice pre-fall weather.

If you are one of those people who spent the summer complaining about the heat, stick around a little while, it will get a lot cooler for you. Those nasty four letter words are just around the corner: COLD, ICY, WIND CHILL (actually two four letter words) and the worst four letter word of them all, SNOW.

We all know what is on the way: the end of summer and the beginning of fall. Fall is a great time of year. Fall means football, getting those last miles in on your bicycle, motorcycle and sports cars. We hope to break 5,000 miles on our Mustang before I put it up for the winter. We always think this is the year we will drive it more. Well, this wasn't the year either. We have only used 3/4 of a tank of gas this summer.

There is plenty of great weather coming, so you need to enjoy it while it lasts. I distinctly remember there used to be four seasons. Just to refresh your memory, spring, summer, fall and winter were the seasons we grew up with. Now, it seems we only have two: highway construction season and winter.

Fall is a good time to enjoy the county parks, the national lakeshore and the many bicycle paths in the area. They become less crowded when school starts, so now is a good time.



Visiting a pumpkin patch is an annual fall tradition.

There are all types of activities in the fall months, with many small communities having festivals during this time, some with parades and car shows. You can visit michigancitylaporte.com to see a calendar of events.

You can take a drive down to the lakefront and watch the sunset, take a walk along the beach or pier and see the Chicago skyline off in the distance.

Fall means football and tailgating for a lot of folks. Some people just like to hang out in the stadium parking lot and tailgate, sampling food, listening to the game on the radio or portable TV, tossing a football or Frisbee.

You can take the kids on a trip to your favorite orchard, walk through a corn maze, go on a hayride or visit a pumpkin patch. There are a few in the area.

Fall also is a great time to take a family picnic. Let everyone help plan it. Pick the location, itinerary and most importantly, the menu. Let the kids help make the sandwiches and pack the basket. There are many simple foods you can take along. There are some nice, inexpensive portable grills that are just right for a fall picnic, too, if you like to grill.



A suitable cooler for picnics.

If you like to make s'mores, taking along a grill is a must. Don't forget the graham crackers, chocolate bars and marshmallows. You will have some pretty unhappy people if you do.

I remember going on picnics when I was younger with the family. We would cook hamburgers/hot dogs if the place where we were going had grills. The destination was usually Washington Park. If the place didn't have grills, my mother would make ham salad sandwiches and lemonade, and bring along some chips, cookies or Rice Krispy treats.

I remember my mother preparing the ham salad in our kitchen on Manhattan Street. She had one of those meat grinders you attached to the counter and placed chunks of meat in. I often was tricked into thinking that turning the handle was fun. Mom would use minced ham as the main ingredient.

After the minced ham was ground up and placed in a large bowl, my mom would add Miracle Whip and diced pickles. Sometimes, she would use sweet

pickles — not my favorite. I liked it when she used dill pickles.

We had one of those picnic baskets complete with the multi-colored plastic plates and cups. Like most people, we had one of those plaid coolers to put the lemonade in. I remember my mom carefully making the sandwiches, laying the bread on the counter, placing the ham salad on a slice of bread, carefully putting the other slice of bread on top. She would then slice the sandwiches in half on an angle and then wrap them in Saran Wrap. I still have the grinder she used. Fruit always was part of the picnic, too. Apples, grapes and bananas.



Pack a picnic basket with plenty of good eats.

Don't forget to bring along a football, Frisbee, even a whiffle ball and bat. What is important here is that you just take time to relax and have some fun. Remember what it was like to be a kid, no one will be watching. HONEST!

Ham salad is really easy to make. Just purchase your favorite minced ham and grind it and some type of mayonnaise and your favorite kind of pickle, either dill or sweet. There is nothing better when you put it between a couple slices of fresh baked bread.

Chicken salad is a favorite around our house. I use fresh pineapple, red and green grapes, walnuts and, of course, chicken. I prefer to use Miracle Whip. You can put the chicken salad on a sandwich or hollow out a tomato and fill it.

It won't be long and we will be stuck indoors for a few months. I have to admit, the winters are not as severe as the ones we used to have. I recall snow being on the ground from around Thanksgiving up until the regionals for boys basketball. Oh yeah, I used to walk five miles to school, and it was uphill in both directions, too.

Take time and enjoy the rest of the nice weather. When the leaves start to fall and it is time to get out the blowers or rakes, bribe the kids with some hot chocolate, cookies or cider for their help. Send them into the garage to get something and cover yourself up with leaves and when they return, jump out and scare them. It's your right as a parent. After all, they will scare you enough with the things they will do growing up.

Until next time, enjoy.

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Nature Program for Kids

Barker Mansion, 631 Washington St., will continue its fall nature program for children Thursday, Sept. 17.

A continuation of the summer series, "Kids Nature Play in the Garden," the program moves to an after-school time slot at 3:30 p.m. Autumn leaves is the topic of the session, which includes a story, snack time and an art project. The hour-long program will encourage youth to explore nature just as Catherine Barker may have done as a young girl.



Children show bird feeders made during the August session.

The interactive session, led by Indiana Master Naturalist Cookie Ferguson, is ideal for ages 10 and younger. A \$2 fee per child applies; each accompanying adult is free. Registration is not necessary. The program will move indoors if it rains.

Visit www.barkermansion.com for more info.

Foreign Sports Car Show

Round Barn Winery, 10983 Hills Road, Baroda, Mich., will host "Vintage Vineyard — A Foreign Sports Car Show" from 1 to 7 p.m. EDT Saturday, Sept. 12.

The event will feature dozens of foreign sports cars displayed amid the vineyard. The majority of cars will represent European countries and Asia.

Paralell Hope performs at 1 p.m. EDT and Rebecca Anne Band at 4 p.m. EDT.

There is a \$5 suggested entry. Lawn chairs are encouraged; however, outside food and beverages are not permitted. Call (800) 716-9463 for additional information.

Duneland Weavers Guild

The Duneland Weavers Guild kicks off the 2015-2016 year at 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 12, at the Westchester Public Library Annex, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

After "Show 'n Tell" of members' summer projects, Suzanne Halvorson will present "Kicking off the Year with Color." A textile studio artist and visiting lecturer at the IU School of Fine Arts, Halvorson is a partner in By Hand Gallery in Bloomington.

Guests are welcome. Visit dunelandweaversguild.org for more information.

Ladies Bowling League

The Long Beach Ladies Bowling League is seeking more bowlers.

The first semester starts Sept. 15 and ends in December. Bowling resumes in January and continues through April.

Three-person teams bowl from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. Tuesdays at City Lanes. Help is available if individuals need a team. Call Mary Lou McFadden at (219) 879-5581 if interested.

Public Art Committee

The Michigan City Public Art Committee will meet at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 15, in the City Hall Mayor's Conference Room.

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Free Guided Hikes, Luncheon

Shirley Heinze Land Trust will host its annual appreciation hike Saturday, Sept. 19, at Ambler Flatwoods Nature Preserve in Michigan City.



Ambler Flatwoods Nature Preserve in Michigan City.

The “boreal flatwoods” forest community at the dedicated 353-acre state nature preserve in Springfield Township contains plant species more commonly found further north. Rare and endangered plant species can be found there, with the preserve providing habitat for a variety of animals and birds.

Guided hikes start at 10 a.m. and occur every 15 minutes, with the last departure at 11:30 a.m. A free lunch begins at noon at nearby Krueger Middle School, 2001 Springfield Ave. The meal includes homemade chili, salads and desserts. Afterward is the presentation of the individual “Bringing Nature Home” native landscaping recognitions, as well as an introduction to the organization’s new stewardship director, Eric Bird.

Participants for the Ambler Flatwoods hikes should park on the north side of County Road 900 North at 5413 W. County Road 900 North. RSVPs are requested no later than Saturday, Sept. 12, to Bonnie Hawksworth at bhawksworth@heinzetrust.org. More information and an RSVP form may be found at www.heinzetrust.org.

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Westchester Public Library

The following programs are available:

• **NorthShore Health Center free blood pressure screening from 10 a.m. to noon Thursday, Sept. 10, at Hageman Library, 100 Francis St., Porter.**

Interested patrons also can receive help calculating Body Mass Index.

• **Knit Wits and Pearls of Wisdom at 9 a.m. Thursdays, Sept. 10, 17 and 24, at Hageman Library.**

Learn and share with fellow knitters and crocheters. No registration is required.

• **Music at the Museum from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 10, at Westchester Township Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.**

Local musical group The Flashbacks will perform. The members are Suzanne Keldsen on guitar, recorders and fiddle, Julietta Raby on fiddle, mandolin and guitar, Nancy Cairns on dulcimer and ukulele, Paul Mache on guitar and banjo and Marti Pizzini on autoharp, dulcimer and guitar.

• **Lego Club meets from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Fridays through December at Thomas Library, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.**

The club is aimed at children 6-11. Registration is necessary and can be done in person or by phone at (219) 926-7696.

• **Make-N-Take Kids Craft Time anytime during the day the second Saturday of each month starting Sept. 12 at Thomas Library.**

The program is open to children of all ages, and registration is not necessary.

• **Library Card Signup from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 12, outside of Thomas Library.**

The event is planned in conjunction with September being Library Card Signup Month. Raffles are planned.

• **Computer Equipment Sale from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 12, in the Bertha Wood meeting room at Thomas Library.**

Monitors, printers, computers and miscellaneous items will be sold. All equipment has been tested, and is sold as is. Sales are final. Returns will not be accepted.



• **Teen Movie: "Mad Max: Fury Road" at 5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 12, at the Library Service Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.**

The movie is rated R. Free popcorn will be available.

• **Popular Books at 2 p.m. Monday, Sept. 14, at Thomas Library.**

Jane Austen's "Emma" is the focus.

• **Pokemon League from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Tuesdays at Thomas Library.**

First-graders and older are invited. Attendees will learn to make decks of 60 cards.

• **Crochet Club meets from 3:30-4:30 p.m. Wednesdays in the Thomas Library Children's Department.**

Children 9 and older can participate.

• **Battles of the American Civil War from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 16, and 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Sept. 19, at Thomas Library.**

History buff and Civil War enthusiast Thomas Murphy will discuss the Battle of Chancellorsville.

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Fall Exhibit at The Inn

The Gallery at The Inn at Harbor Shores will present the fall exhibit "Fluid Movement," oils and pastels by Susan Henshaw and ceramic works by Lynne Tan, on Sept. 14 through Jan. 2, 2016.

An artist reception is from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. EDT Friday, Oct. 23.

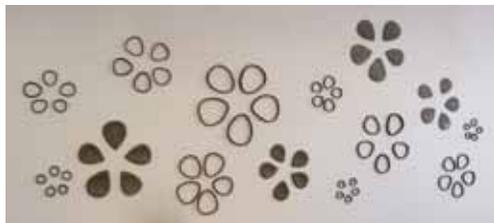
Both artists incorporate organic use of shapes and lines in different ways: natural rounded abstract forms based on those found in nature much like fractals are seen in Tan's work. Flowing waves by Henshaw capture the movement of water and freeze that motion, allowing the viewer to examine the detail of the fluid nature of that element.

A lifetime Union Pier, Mich., resident, Henshaw works in several mediums, including pastel, oil and drawing. A self-taught artist, she has held many



Susan Henshaw's pastel work "Summer Jewel."

solo shows. Over the years, she has received juried awards for her pastels, paintings and photography. She also was chosen as an Artist-in-Residence at Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore, Porcupine Mountains State Park and Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.



Lynne Tan's ceramic wall installation.

Tan grew up in Singapore and was educated at the University of Oxford, England, receiving a doctorate in experimental psychology. She discovered clay while teaching psychology. She has exhibited her functional pottery and sculpture installations in cities such as Chicago, Grand Rapids and Baltimore, regionally at galleries and art festivals and locally at the Chartreuse Arts Co-op on State St. In 2013, she won "Best of Category in Clay-Functional" at the Krasl Art Fair on the Bluff. Her studio is in The Box Factory for the Arts in St Joseph.

The art program at The Inn at Harbor Shores, 800 Whitwam Drive, St Joseph, Mich., has two components: a permanent collection displayed in rooms and public areas, and rotating exhibits in the gallery curated by Susan Wilczak. Contact her at susan@susanwilczak.com or (269) 449-3231, or visit www.innatharborshores.com for more information.

Banking at School



Horizon Bank held training sessions for five student tellers who will work at its "Wolves" Bank Branch this school year. Pictured outside the Horizon Bank branch, located in the Michigan City High School cafeteria, are (front row, from left) Jen McGrew (Horizon Bank) and students RaShaunda Ridle and Dennis Rucker. The back row is Jalen Stockley, Jaelyn Nowatzke and Cameron Greenway.



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ROTC Earns National Honor



Cadets conduct a Veteran's Day ceremony for the high school and community.

Michigan City High School has been honored as a Naval Honor School for the 2014-2015 school year.

The designation comes from the U.S. Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps Headquarters located at the Marine Corps Combat Development Command at Quantico, Va. It puts MCHS in the top 20 percent of all Marine JROTC programs nationally.

Schools were judged on academic awards, community service, scholarships, school leadership, extracurricular competitions and summer operations.

"Since earning our first Naval Honor School designation in 2011, we improved in every category every year," Senior Marine Instructor Maj. Tom McGrath said. "However, other schools in our region were also working hard, so this award has become very competitive."

Marine Instructor Master Sgt. Jeff Benak said, "Our school and our community should be very

proud of the achievements of our cadets. We run a well-rounded program, and it takes cadets who are able to do a variety of tasks, not just concentrating on one or two categories, to reach the level of a Naval Honor School."

The MCHS cadets competed in a number of extracurricular activities. The Drill Team competed in more meets and earned more awards than any drill team in school history. Each cadet on the Rifle Team set personal high scores in their seven matches. The CyberPatriot Team, participating in a national computer security competition, was the state runner-up.

The MCJROTC is heavily involved with school and community activities. It conducted nearly 2,000 hours of community service and 38 parades and ceremonies. Cadets also are working toward their goal of being a Marine Corps Reserve Association Awardee as the best school in the region of 45 schools.

Notre Dame 2015-16 Theater Season

Notre Dame's Department of Film, Television and Theatre will present four productions in its 2015-2016 season.

The season will open with ND Theatre NOW, an annual event involving a production realized entirely by student artists. This year's show is Lila Rose Kaplan's "Wildflower," directed by FTT senior Anthony Murphy, who previously directed "Out of Orbit" for ND Theatre NOW (2014) and appeared as the emcee in FTT's production of "Cabaret" (2013). Performances of "Wildflower" are Oct. 1-11 in the Philbin Studio Theatre.

Next up is "Little Shop of Horrors," directed by returning guest artist Nathan Halvorson, who previously helmed FTT's production of "Cabaret." Performances are Nov. 18-22 in the Patricia George Decio Theatre.

The spring semester kicks off with "The Bear and Afterplay," a pair of comic one-acts based on the plays of Anton Chekhov by Irish playwright Bri-

an Friel. "The Bear" is inspired by Chekhov's one act of the same title. "Afterplay" unites characters from two different Chekhov plays: Sonya Serebriakova from "Uncle Vanya" and Andrey Prozorov from "Three Sisters." The production is part of a campus-wide celebration of Irish history and culture, led by Notre Dame's Keough-Naughton Institute for Irish Studies and coinciding with the centenary of the 1916 Easter Rising. The show, directed by FTT faculty member Carys Kresny, runs Feb. 18-28, 2016, in the Philbin Studio Theatre.

Rounding out the season is Jon Jory's adaptation of Jane Austen's "Pride and Prejudice," directed by FTT professor Anton Juan. Jory's streamlined script draws heavily from Austen's original language and focuses primarily on the love story of Elizabeth Bennet and Mr. Darcy. Performances are April 13-17, 2016, in the Patricia George Decio Theatre.

Visit <http://performingarts.nd.edu> or call (574) 631-2800 for tickets, times and more information.

Lend a Hand Days

La Porte County Extension Homemakers is sponsoring Lend a Hand Days to aid various La Porte County agencies.

Times and dates are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Wednesdays, Sept. 16 and Nov. 18, at the La Porte County Fairgrounds Small Projects Building. Those present will assemble quilts, bags, backpacks, lap robes, wheelchair totes, birthday bags, hats and other items to be donated to La Porte County residents through local service organizations. Anyone who can sew, cut, stitch, tie, sort, iron, knit, crochet, pack, stack and carry is welcome.

Donations of fabrics, notions, zippers (12-inch or longer), thread, yarn and supplies are needed. If possible, take a sewing machine, or use one provided. Helpers can stay for an hour or the entire day. Light meals will be provided at noon and 6 p.m.

Contact the La Porte County Purdue Cooperative Extension Office at (219) 324-9407 or email mwolff@purdue.edu for more information.

Day of Mindfulness

The Peacemakers' Sangha's 13th annual Day of Mindfulness is Saturday, Sept. 12, at LaMaPa LaPrairie Museum & Park, located at The Petersen Farm, 2215 E. County Road 350 North, La Porte.

Those present can enjoy nature, engage in sitting or walking meditation and have a mindful meal.

Registration is at 9:30 a.m., with the event running from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The cost is a \$15 donation. Take lunch, water, meditation cushion and/or a chair. Register by calling Ange Benz at (219) 874-3754 or by email to Lee Malizia at leemalizia@gmail.com

Wild Patagonia Program

Sonia Lawrentz will present "Wild Patagonia: A South American Cruise" at 6 p.m. EDT Monday, Sept. 14, in the Pokagon Room at New Buffalo Township Library, 33 N. Thompson St., New Buffalo.

Places highlighted during the program include Chile's Lake District, Chilean fjords, glaciers and waterfalls, Paine National Park and Tierra del Fuego (the southern tip of South America).

Visit www.newbuffalotownshiplibrary.org or call (269) 469-2933 for more information.

A Legacy of Learning



When three Michigan City Area Schools teachers attended a recent professional development session, they realized they had a special connection: Holly Applegate (left) is a former student of Kathy Pizarek (right), who is a former student of Anne Pearson (center). All three serve MCAS as curriculum coaches at Springfield, Lake Hills and Coolspring elementary schools.

Depot Friday

Beverly Shores Depot Museum and Gallery, 525 Broadway, will have Depot Friday from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 11.

On display this month is "Little Black Dress," sculptor Suzanne Cohan-Lange's study in self-expression, fashion, the body, self and society, as well as video artist Niki Nolin and poet/sound artist Sherry Antonini.

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Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

The following programs are available:

- **Junior Wildland Firefighter Program from 10 to 11 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 12, at West Beach Contact Station.**

Meet the park's fire crew and learn about their jobs and equipment. Afterward, children receive a Junior Wildland Firefighter activity book and Junior Wildland Firefighter patch. West Beach is 1/4 mile north of U.S. 12 on County Line Road in Portage. There is a \$6 per vehicle entrance charge until 6:30 p.m.

- **Pinhook Bog Open House from noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 12.**

Take a self-guided tour of the bog and talk to rangers stationed along the trail. Arrive by 2 p.m. to allow about one hour to tour the bog. The parking lot is at 700 N. Wozniak Road in Michigan City.

- **“Kid's Rule” from 1 to 3 p.m. Sundays at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.**

Join a ranger in the Visitor Center's activity room for stories and activities. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

- **Century of Progress Home Tour Ticket Sale Date.**

Tickets go on sale at 8 a.m. Monday, Sept. 14, at www.dunesnationalpark.org. The program is at 8 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 17.

The Visitor Center is at 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. The Paul H. Douglas Center is on Lake Street in Gary. Call (219) 395-1882 for more information.



**American
Red Cross**

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

- First Church of God, 2020 E. Lincolnway, La Porte, noon to 6 p.m. Monday, Sept. 14.

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 for more information.

Trivia Fest 2015 — Part II

Michiana Resources, 4315 E. Michigan Blvd., will present Trivia Fest 2015 — Part II on Friday, Sept. 11.

Doors open at 6 p.m., and the contest starts at 7 p.m. The cost is \$10 per player. Teams are encouraged to register. A cash bar and limited food menu will be available. Call (219) 874-4288 to register or for more information.

La Porte County Parks



All registrations/questions go through the Red Mill County Park Administrative Office, 0185 S. Holmesville Road, La Porte. Call (219) 325-8315 or visit www.laportecountyparks.org for more information.

Stroller, Baby and You

Aimed at toddlers and preschoolers, programs include music, dance, storytelling and a hike (weather permitting).

The free program is from 10 to 11 a.m. Monday, Oct. 5 and 19, Nov. 30, Dec. 7 and 14 at Luhr County Park, 3178 S. County Road 150 West. Call at least one week in advance to register.

Parent & Child Discovery Days

The program includes arts and crafts, games and snacks. All activities are related to the topic. Programs are appropriate for children 3 to 8, with an adult required to participate. Times are from 6 to 7:15 p.m. at Red Mill County Park. The cost is \$5 per child/per program. Pre-registration and payment are required at least one week in advance or until full, whichever comes first. The schedule is:

- Sept. 16: "Look at That Beak."
- Oct. 7: "Let's Talk Tails."

Senior Lifestyles

Join the free 55+ Club, a social club designed for adults 55 and older to learn and explore various types of nature. Free coffee is served to participants.

The group meets from 9 to 10 a.m. at Luhr County Park Nature Center. Call at least one week in advance to register. The schedule is:

- Oct. 7: "Tips on Gardening: Getting Your Garden Ready for Winter."
- Nov. 4: "De-Clutter Your Life."

Northern Indiana Walk for PKD

The two-mile walk is Saturday, Sept. 19, at Creek Ridge County Park, 7943 W. County Road 400 North, Michigan City. Check-in is at 9 a.m. and the walk at 10 a.m.

Visit www.walkforpkd.org/northernindiana or email northernindianawalk@pkdcure.org to register or for more information.

24th Annual Pioneer Days

The event is from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 26-27, at Creek Ridge County Park, 7943 W. County Road 400 North, Michigan City.

Experience wagon rides, outdoor cooking, crafts and food. Visit with historically clad vendors, and try fun, educational activities. Admission is \$2 for adults, \$1 for children or seniors and free for youth 4 and younger.

A Tribute to Neil Diamond

The La Porte Community Concert Association continues its latest season with Denny Diamond and sons Spenser and Lucas, sometimes referred to as "the Jewels," at 7 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 12, at La Porte High School Auditorium.



Denny Diamond and the Jewels.

The family show pays tribute to the music of Neil Diamond, but other performers as well, including Johnny Cash, Ricky Nelson and Glen Campbell. The performers include original music as well.

Denny's singing voice has an uncanny similarity to that of Neil Diamond's distinctive baritone. Spenser started playing bass guitar in high school and since has added drumming to the show. Lucas is the trio's lead guitarist.

Tickets, available at the door, cost \$15 for adults and \$5 for students. Call (219) 362-5292 or (219) 362-8262 for more information.

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Sarett Nature Center

The following programs are available at Sarett Nature Center, 2300 Benton Center Road, Benton Harbor, Mich.:

• **The Homeschool Program begins at 2:30 p.m. EDT Wednesday, Sept. 16.**

The biweekly classes provide hands-on natural science lessons for children ages 6-14. Visit sarett.com for more information.

• **The monthly Preschool Nature Study Classes start at 10 a.m. EDT Thursday, Sept. 17.**

The target age is 4- and 5-year-olds who love nature. The fee is \$25 and a family membership.

Call (269) 927-4832 to register or for more information on any program.

Digital Camera Workshop

George Kassal will offer the workshop "Getting the Most from Your Digital Camera" from 6 to 9 p.m. Mondays, Sept. 21 and 28, at Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St.

Kassal will review basic concepts and camera controls, then demonstrate how they apply when shooting portraits, closeups and outdoor landscapes. Students should take their camera and instruction manual to class. A tripod is recommended.

The cost is \$45, with members receiving a \$5 discount. Call (219) 926-4711 to register.

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LBCC Women's Golf Leagues

18-Hole League

Sept. 1, 2015

Event: Low Net-Odd Holes



"A" Flight

Event: Donna Hennard
Low Gross: Peg King
Low Net: Donna Hennard
Low Putts: Lisbeth Slattery

"B" Flight

Event: Joan Carey
Low Gross: Joan Carey
Low Net: Melanie Davis
Low Putts: Mary Weithers

"C" Flight

Event: Alison Kolb
Low Gross: Mary O'Neil
Low Net: Alison Kolb
Low Putts: Barbara Beardslee

Sunken Approach

Donna Hennard	Hole 9
Joan Carey	Hole 8
Pat Kelley	Hole 17
Linda Wilson	Hole 3
Melanie Davis	Hole 18
Barb Beardslee	Holes 3 and 9

Birdies

Peg King	Hole 5
Linda Wilson	Hole 3

LBCC Women's Golf Leagues

9-Hole League

Sept. 3, 2015

Event: Mystery Event



Championship Flight

Event: Jane Irvine
Low Net: Linda Wilson
Low Putts: Peg King

A Flight

Event: Tina Sonderby
Low Net: Mary Weithers
Low Putts: Rima Binder

"B" Flight

Event: Sally Allen
Low Net: Mary O'Neil
Low Putts: Sally Allen

"C" Flight

Event: Peg Carey
Low Putts: Regina Bradley
Low Putts: Judy Curtin

Birdies

Judy Curtin	Hole 16
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Sunken Approach

Judy Curtin	Hole 16
Alison Kolb	Hole 16



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Activities to Explore

In the Local Area:

Sept. 10 — Music at the Museum, The Flashbacks, 2-3:30 p.m., Westchester Township Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.

Sept. 10-14 — Vickers Theatre, 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. *Now showing:* "Jimmy's Hall." Rated PG-13. Times: 6 p.m. Thur.-Mon. *Also:* "Mr. Holmes." Rated PG. Times: 6 p.m. Thur., 9 p.m. Fri.-Mon. & 3 p.m. Sat.-Sun. All times Eastern. Info: vickerstheatre.com

Sept. 11 — Trivia Fest 2015 — Part II, Michiana Resources, 4315 E. Michigan Blvd. Doors/6 p.m., contest/7 p.m. Cost: \$10. Registration: (219) 874-4288.

Sept. 11 — Depot Friday, 5-7 p.m., Beverly Shores Depot Museum and Gallery, 525 Broadway.

Sept. 11 — "Time in a Bottle" (Swearingen & Kelli), 8 p.m. EDT, The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: \$18. Info: www.acorntheater.com, (269) 756-3879.

Sept. 12 — Michigan City Mainstreet Association Farmers Market, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., Eighth and Washington streets, through Oct. 31. Info: www.michigancityfarmersmarket.com

Sept. 12 — Jay Walk for Pediatric Cancer 5K walk/run, Washington Park. Registration/8 a.m., walk/9 a.m. Advance registration: \$20. Race day cost: \$25. Info: (219) 814-7176, (219) 561-6835.

Sept. 12 — Fur Trader Encampment, 9 a.m.-7 p.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

Sept. 12 — Duneland Weavers Guild, 10 a.m., Westchester Public Library Annex, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton. Info: dunelandweaversguild.org

Sept. 12 — Dunebrook's second Dragon Boat Races, 9 a.m., La Porte's Stone Lake. Free. Info: www.dunebrook.org

Sept. 12 — Ken Bier in Concert, 10:30 a.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

Sept. 12 — Doctor Who Trivia Contest, 2 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

Sept. 12 — Teen Movie: "Mad Max: Fury Road," 5 p.m., Westchester Public Library Service Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

Sept. 12 — Writing Out Loud: William Hazeltown, 7:30 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

Sept. 12 — The La Porte Community Concert Association, Denny Diamond and "the Jewels," 7 p.m., La Porte High School Auditorium. Cost: \$15/adults, \$5/students. Info: (219) 362-5292, (219) 362-8262.

Sept. 12-13 — 23rd Annual Door Village Harvest Festival, Scipio Township Park, 3501 W. Joliet Road. Hours: 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Sat./9 a.m.-4 p.m. Sun.

Sept. 13 — 100 Years of Indiana State Parks, 2 p.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County

Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

Sept. 14 — “Wild Patagonia: A South American Cruise,” 6 p.m. EDT, Pokagon Room @ New Buffalo Township Library, 33 N. Thompson St., New Buffalo. Info: www.newbuffalotownshiplibrary.org, call (269) 469-2933

Sept. 14 — Popular Books, Jane Austen’s “Emma,” 2 p.m., Westchester Public Library, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

Sept. 16 — Nuts and Bolts Tour, 7 p.m., Barker Mansion, 631 Washington St. Cost: \$10. Reservations: (219) 873-1520.

Sept. 16 — Battles of the American Civil War, 6-8 p.m., Westchester Public Library, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

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

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

Through May 2016 — “An Outsider Looks In,” mixed-media paintings and sculptures by Thomas Olesker, PNC Library-Student-Faculty Building student lounge, Room 062. Info: (219) 785-5593.

Farther Afield:

Sept. 11-20 — “Deathtrap,” Elkhart Civic Theatre @ Bristol (Ind.) Opera House, 210 E. Vistula St. Times (Eastern): 7:30 p.m. Sept. 11-12, 18-19, 3 p.m. Sept. 13, 20. Tickets: \$19/adults, \$17/students & seniors 62+. Reservations: (574) 848-4116, www.elkhartcivictheatre.org

Sept. 12 — “Vintage Vineyard — A Foreign Sports Car Show,” 1-7 p.m. EDT, Round Barn Winery, 10983 Hills Road, Baroda, Mich. \$5 suggested entry. Info: (800) 716-9463.

Sept. 12 — Riversong presents “Young Talent Showcase,” 7:30 p.m. EDT, The Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Mich. Tickets: \$10/general admission, \$8/students and seniors, free/children 12 and younger. Info/reservations: (269) 983-3688, info@boxfactoryforthearts.org, www.boxfactoryforthearts.org

Sept. 13 — Opening reception, new exhibits, 2-4 p.m. EDT, Buchanan (Mich.) Art Center, 117 W. Front St. Info: www.buchananartcenter.org

Sept. 13 — Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra concert, 4 p.m. EDT, Howard Performing Arts Center @ Andrews University. Tickets: (269) 982-4030, www.smsso.org

Sept. 13 — WAUS Second Sunday Concert, 4 p.m. EDT, Fernwood Botanical Garden and Nature Preserve, 13988 Range Line Road, Niles, Mich. Cost: \$25 (members \$20). Registration: Call (269) 695-6491, www.fernwoodbotanical.org

Sept. 13 — Comedy Criminals Improv Winners Night, 6:30 p.m. EDT, Elkhart Civic Theatre @ Bristol (Ind.) Opera House, 210 E. Vistula St. Tickets: \$10. Reservations: www.elkhartcivictheatre.org, (574) 848-4116.



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Prayer to the Blessed Virgin

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Oh, most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh, Star of the 'Sea, help me and show me, herein you are my mother. Oh Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth! I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in

this necessity. There are none that can withstand your power. Oh, show me herein you are my mother. Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3x). Holy Mother, I place this cause in your hands (3x). Holy Spirit, you who solve all problems, light all roads so that I can attain my goal. You who gave me the divine gift to forgive and forget all evil against me and that in all instances in my life you are with me. I want in this short prayer to thank you for all things as you confirm once again that I never want to be separated from you in Eternal Glory. Thank you for your mercy toward me and mine. The person must say this prayer 3 consecutive days. After 3 days, the request will be granted. This prayer must be published after the favor is granted.



**THIS
WEEK
IN
HISTORY**



On September 10, 1624, English physician Thomas Sydenham, who taught that medicine could be learned only at the bedside of the patient, was born at Wynford Eagle, Dorset.

On September 10, 1739, Irish scholar Thomas Sheridan was discussing the direction of the wind with a friend. He remarked, "Let the wind blow east, west, north, or south, the immortal soul will take its flight to the destined point." He then leaned back in his chair and died.

On September 10, 1846, Elias Howe, of Spencer, MA, received a patent for a "chain-stitch" type sewing machine.

On September 10, 1924, in Chicago, Nathan Leopold and Richard Loeb were given life terms for the kidnap-murder of 14-year-old Bobby Franks.

On September 10, 1955, "Gunsmoke," the long-running television series, premiered on CBS.

On September 10, 1993, "The X-Files" premiered on Fox Television.

On September 11, 1927, an American meat packer announced the production of a frankfurter with a zipper. The instructions were: "boil the hot dog in its zippered casing and then discard it." There is no record as to how many, following these instructions, threw away the hot dog and kept the casing.

On September 11, 1961, "Bozo's Circus" made its TV debut on WGN.

On September 11, 1962, the Beatles recorded their first single – "Love Me Do" and "P.S. I Love You" – at Abbey Road Studios in London.

On September 11, 2001, nearly 3,000 people were killed when terrorists hijacked four jetliners, crashing two into the 110-story twin towers of New York's World Trade Center. The two others crashed into the Pentagon and in a Pennsylvania field.

On September 12, 1886, the opening of the New York stage show, *The Black Crook*, marked the beginning of the era of "girlie" shows in the U.S.

On September 12, 1954, "Lassie" made its TV debut on CBS.

On September 12, 1972, the situation comedy "Maude" premiered on CBS.

On September 12, 1984, the Chicago Bulls selected Michael Jordan as their No. 1 choice in the NBA draft.

On September 12, 1992, the space shuttle *Endeavour* blasted off with Mark Lee and Jan Davis, the first married couple in space; Mae Jemison, the first black woman in space; and Mamoru Mohri, the first

Japanese citizen to fly on a U.S. spaceship.

On September 13, 1872, presidential candidate George Francis Train described his qualification for office as follows: "I am that wonderful, eccentric, independent, extraordinary genius and political reformer of America, who is sweeping off all the politicians before him like a hurricane. I am your modest, diffident, unassuming friend, the future President of America -- George Francis Train." He received no votes in the general election the following November.

On September 13, 1978, in Elkhart, a grand jury indicted Ford Motor Co. on three counts of recklessness, and one count of criminal negligence in the death of three women killed in the fiery crash of a Pinto.

On September 14, 1741, George Fredrick Handel, having worked without interruption for 23 days, finished his composition of The Messiah.

On September 14, 1901, President William McKinley died, in Buffalo of gunshot wounds inflicted eight days earlier. Vice President Theodore Roosevelt succeeded him.

On September 14, 1972, "The Waltons" premiered on CBS.

On September 15, 1949, "The Lone Ranger" premiered on ABC television.

On September 15, 1966, *Gemini 2*, after a record 3-day space flight, splashed down in the Atlantic Ocean.

On September 15, 1997, two of the nation's most popular diet drugs – dexfenfluramine and fenfluramine – were pulled off the market because of new evidence they could seriously damage patients' hearts.

On September 15, 2003, the WUSA soccer league shut down operations five days before the Women's World Cup, saying it didn't have enough money to stay in business for a fourth season.

On September 16, 1630, the Massachusetts village of Shawmut changed its name to Boston.

On September 16, 1908, General Motors first filed papers of incorporation.

On September 16, 1919, the American Legion was incorporated by an act of Congress.

On September 16, 1953, "The Robe," the first movie presented in the widescreen process Cinema-scope, had its world premiere in New York.

On September 16, 1966, the Metropolitan Opera opened its season in the new opera house at New York's Lincoln Center. The audience saw the premiere of Samuel Barber's "Anthony and Cleopatra."

On September 16, 1972, "The Bob Newhart Show" premiered on CBS.

On September 16, 1976, the Episcopal Church approved the ordination of women as priests and bishops.

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2 adjacent RV lots in Yogi Bear Park, Portage, IN.
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For sale: Vanguard Club 420. Ready to sail. Good condition. \$600 OBO. Call (219) 879-7074.

Very nice Baldwin spinet piano with bench, newly tuned. Best offer. (219) 879-8871

2008 Harley-Davidson Dyna Superglide with extras. New rear tire, under 10K miles. \$8,000. **Call (219) 879-4190**

FOR SALE: Almost new self-propelled Toro lawn mower/recycler. \$325. Shredder/chipper 10 horsepower. \$265. **Call (708) 609-7065.**

Large trestle table dresser set, upholstered chairs, beautiful condition. Was \$1,500. Asking \$350. Matching etched glass buffet with glass shelves. \$300. **Call (219) 262-5007.**

Photo developing equipment. 6ft developing sink/stand (\$300). Enlarger (\$200), etc. Call (312) 399-5341.

GARAGE SALES, ESTATE SALES, ETC.

Upscale garage sale, Saturday, Sept. 12., 9am-3pm, 3405 Lake Shore Drive (entrance to driveway on Manitou).

Garage Sale: 122 Northbrook Drive, Shoreland Hills 10am-4pm Sept. 10-12. Antiques, art, jewelry, goodies.

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.**

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Duneland Drive, Duneland Beach, 1 year furnished rental. 4BR/3BA, 2-car garage. \$1,600/mo + utilities Call/text Cari @ Merrion @ 219-898-5412.

Long Beach fall/winter rental, 5BR/3BA, furnished, two fireplaces, 165 ft. to lake, \$895 per month+utilities. C/A, heat. Call Tom at (708) 606-4614.

Long Beach Stop 31 3 BR/4BA home with lake views and steps from beach. \$1,800 a week. Also, weekends available. (773) 718-5546.

Cozy, fully furnished fall rental, 6-9 months required, near lake in Michiana Shores. 2BR/1BA, fireplace, heat, A/C. \$750 + utilities. (219) 229-4806.

Available September: 2BR/1BA loft style duplex. Few blocks from beach. \$1,000/mo. + utilities. Call (269) 612-7068 or (334) 790-1197.

Long Beach off-season rental. 3BR/2BA, GREAT VIEW OF LAKE from deck & living room, 2 fireplaces, nicely furn.& dec, W/D, WiFi, AC. No smoking. No pets. Call 708-420-1109.

Seasonal Rental: September-May: \$1,300/mo + utilities. Beachside Stop 30. 5/BR, 2-car garage. Call/text Cari @ Merrion 219-898-5412.

WATERFRONT APTS for rent in MC. Furnished-utilities, WiFi/TV incl. 1BR \$700/mo., 2BR \$850/mo. Sec. dep. Call Pete at (219) 871-9187.

Dunescape: 4th Floor 2BR/2BA condo available Oct. 1-end of May 2016. \$1,100/mo + utilities. Call/Text Cari @ Merrion Realty @ 219-872-4000.

AVAILABLE NOW! 902 Birch Tree Lane, 2BR condo w/balcony. \$850/mo + electric. Gas included. Call/text Cari @ Merrion Realty @ (219) 898-5412.

Quiet, nicely furnished 1 BR coach house in The Woodlands off Tryon Road. Hardwood floors, granite counter. Efficiency kitchen. WiFi. Credit check reference required. Utilities included. \$750/mo. Available immediately. Call (312) 399-5341.

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

VACANT LAND FOR SALE: Two 50x100 lots on Maplewood Drive in Shoreland Hills, a pleasant 2-block walk from Stop 33 beach. A great opportunity to build 1 large or 2 smaller homes in a very desirable neighborhood. Priced to sell by owner at \$59,500 per lot. **Contact Bob N. at (312) 726-2699 if interested.**

FOR SALE: 3 BR/4BA home on Moore Road, three doors from Lake Shore Drive (Stop 31). Two-car indoor garage. Lake view from living room. Deck. Two fireplaces. \$499,999. Call (773) 718-5547.

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Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter

Badlands by C.J. Box (*hardcover, \$26.99 in bookstores and online; also available as an eBook*)

C.J. Box is the bestselling author of 20 other novels. He has won the Edgar Award for Best Novel of 2009, the Anthony Award, Macavity Award and Barry Award. His first novel, *Open Season*, was a *New York Times* Notable Book, Edgar Award winner and *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize finalist. And, his work has been translated into 27 languages. True to his book locales, he's also a Westerner, living in Cheyenne, Wyo.

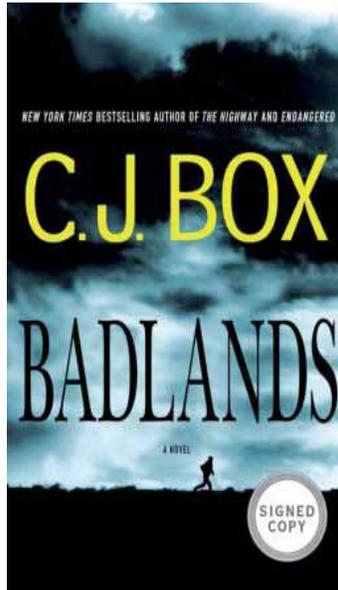
Now you can see why I tend to take notice when he puts out a new book. A number of his novels — 15 to be exact — are about Joe Pickett, a Wyoming game warden. In this latest offering, we meet sheriff's department chief investigator Cassie Dewell, first introduced in last year's *The Highway*, but this is a stand-alone story that explains enough of her past without having read the previous book. Having said that, let's get down to business...

It's winter in Grimstad, N.D., just north of the Badlands. That means it's 30+ degrees below zero! A small farming community, well it used to be, until they discovered oil and that they could get at it by fracking. And now, the small town is bulging at the seams by men coming into Grimstad for big paying jobs. *"To one of the few states that until recently had lost population in every census. To a place where there were Scandihoovian farmers rather than rawboned ranchers, and where polka music was a staple on the radio and Sven and Ole jokes were relevant."*

Now, the men who flocked to town want women, booze, drugs and gambling. We all know there will always be someone to provide the need...

Kyle Westergaard is small for his 12 years, and many call him a "retard" because his speech is slurred and he is a quiet boy. Well, you'd be too, if you had his mother: Rachel is a single mom who used to work as a dancer in a local club. Now, she works at the local McDonald's. She has a live-in boyfriend nicknamed T-Lock: sometime carpenter, most-time lazy ass.

Kyle earns extra money by delivering papers early in the morning before he goes to school. Mom is supposed to take him in the car, but she never seems to get out of bed, so Kyle is forced to ride his bike because he took on a \$250 signing bonus, which his mom already spent. One morning when Kyle is delivering papers on the outskirts of town, where the new homes are being built, he sees a



car go off the road. Another car comes along and stops, looks at the wrecked car and leaves. The next car is a sheriff's SUV, the driver of which also gets out looks around and leaves. Kyle, like most kids, is nosy and rides down to the wreck, where he finds a duffel bag filled with little packets of white powder and a whole lot of money. What should he do? He hides the bag in the garage before going to school, and that is his mistake...

T-Lock, who makes no effort around the house normally, finds the bag and confronts Kyle when he gets home. He makes the boy think the money would do his mom a lot of good, and doesn't she deserve something nice for a change? Wow, what a piece of work!

T-Lock gets his friend, Winkie, involved in distributing their "product," and even persuades Rachel that since the money is probably marked, she should change it little by little in the till at McDonald's. Who'll notice? The men looking for their lost drugs and money, maybe?! Think, T-Lock!

Meanwhile, Cassie and the sheriff have a heart-to-heart talk about the department, and how he thinks there is a bad seed among his men. Thing is, it could be an old former friend. Also, it seems a biker gang is pushing the drugs in town, and a new gang from El Salvador is trying to take over their business. What a mess! To prove the drug war, body parts are beginning to show up around town: Pieces here and there are found by the deputies that are finally identified as three missing men from town.

I love that Cassie is a solid character in this story. I'm rather fed up with the anti-hero. You know, the guy who pushes the envelope, going beyond the limits of the law and is accepted for all the wrong reasons. Cassie and the sheriff are strong characters with ethics and morals. They are completely believable.

There's lots more as Cassie must find Kyle, who has disappeared along with his mother and grandmother, before he becomes the next victim. And uncovering the mole in the department will take a lot of good investigative work, not to mention the surprise when the truth reveals more than the sheriff and Cassie even imagined.

I swear, my fingers got frost-bit as the author described the cold and unforgiving landscape of a North Dakota winter! This book proves, once again, that Box knows how to capture and keep your attention. Two enthusiastic thumbs up!

Till next time, happy reading!



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