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Beating the Odds

by Kim Nowatzke



The Engel family today: Adam (from left), Henry, Lucy, Liz and Annabelle

To others, it might have seemed like an ordinary preschooler's birthday party. A delicious cake, complete with sprinkles and candles to blow out. Festive decorations. Plenty of presents to unwrap.

But for Adam and Liz Engel, along with 80 family and friends, the special get-together on July 6 meant much more. Not only did the event celebrate the third birthdays of their triplets — Henry Thomas, Lucy June and Annabelle Marie — but it also was a time for reflection.

This is the story of how one family, through one soul-searching journey, beat incredible odds.

Adam, a 2007 Valparaiso High School graduate, and Liz, a 2009 Michigan City High School graduate, met in 2012 through match.com. They married on Sept. 6, 2014, wanting to start a family once their "life was in order," Liz says. They'd purchased their first home in LaPorte, and Adam had begun his job as a metal cell operator at Arconic. Liz now could be a stay-at-home mom: a priority from the beginning.

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The Engels even started training to become foster parents...when Liz discovered she was expecting.

“We thought we could still foster and have one child, but then we found out we were going to have triplets and that was the end of that,” Liz said. “But I would still absolutely love to do it down the road.”

The next day, after learning the good news, morning sickness set in for the expectant mother.

“She was so sick right away,” Adam says. “I was telling her, I think it’s going to be twins, which run in my family. My mom is a twin.”

So, the couple went for an ultrasound.

“Adam told the technician, ‘I think it’s twins,’” Liz said. “The ultrasound technician said, ‘Well, you’re wrong. It’s not twins – it’s triplets.’”

The Engels had not undergone any fertility drugs or treatments, so the announcement was quite the surprise. The official due date was Sept. 13, 2016.

“I think he sat there in the corner in shock the rest of the appointment,” Liz said of her husband. “I had been looking at lots of photos of ultrasounds on Facebook and thought, I must not be looking at the ultrasound right.”

Liz’s pregnancy was progressing well. Then, at 24 weeks, the Engels had their first scare.

“She stepped out of the car and said, ‘Something is not right,’” Adam recalled.

After rushing to LaPorte Hospital, doctors initially thought one of the babies’ amniotic sacs burst. She was taken to Memorial Hospital of South Bend by ambulance where it was diagnosed as only a leak, and which doctors were able to stop. At 26 weeks, Liz was released, only for the same condition to resurface at home two days later. Doctors discovered Henry’s sac had the leak.

Whenever his head covered the hole, the leaking stopped.

Back in the hospital, the two were watching the season finale of “Game of Thrones” when Liz told her husband, “I just feel funny. I just feel different.”

Labor had begun. Sixteen hours later, her doctor determined she would need a cesarean section in 30 minutes. She received a spinal block, which caused continuous vomiting. Adam was at work in LaPorte 40 to 60 minutes away. After being prepped for surgery, Liz gave the nurse her cell phone and told her to keep calling her husband until she reached him.

“I just barely made it,” Adam said. “One minute later, Henry was pulled out.”

Henry weighed 3 pounds, 1 ounce. Next came Annabelle, the smallest, at 2 pounds, 3 ounces. Lucy June was born last, with a weight of 2 pounds, 7 ounces.

The babies were born at 28 weeks, six days.

It was a few hours before the Engels could see their children. Liz had to wait until her own vomiting finally ceased.

With tears in her eyes, Liz described the next unforgettable moments: “The doctors told us that Annabelle might not make it, and we should spend the most time with her and take any photos we wanted of her. We were terrified the whole night of any news we might get.

“But she pulled through,” Liz continued, smiling brightly, crediting the miracle partly due to Dr. Robert White, a neonatologist, and

expert care during the entire night.

The three Engel children were strong fighters.

“All of the goals they had for our kids, they just squashed,” Liz said, explaining that milestones such as no longer requiring ventilators or CPAP (continuous positive airway pressure) machines were met swiftly and successfully.



Adam and Liz on their wedding day: Sept. 6, 2014.

“I was just looking back at a Facebook post I’d made of the nurses, and how feisty and sassy all of our babies were,” Liz commented.

Henry and Lucy spent six weeks in Memorial Hospital after they were born. This wasn’t the case, however, for Annabelle.

“At four weeks, they noticed that Annabelle’s skull growth was increasing too rapidly,” Liz explained. “They did an ultrasound and found out that she had hydrocephalus, also known as a brain bleed, which is common in premature babies.”



A photo collage the Engels created of the triplets during their hospital stay.

After being monitored for several days in South Bend, it grew into a major concern, and Annabelle was transferred to Riley Hospital for Children in Indianapolis. The Engels were told their preemie needed a shunt inserted into her brain, but she was too small to survive surgery.

Instead, when she was 5 weeks old, she underwent surgery to receive a reservoir, much like a bubble, to relieve pressure on the brain. Cervical fluid would collect there and be periodically drained with a needle. Since there’s a high risk of infection if it was removed, it remains today.

At 8 weeks of age, Annabelle underwent another brain surgery – this time to place a shunt in her brain. At the base of her skull, it collects cervical fluid and drains into her stomach through a tube. Excess tubing remains coiled in her stomach and will expand as needed so a future surgery is unnecessary. The remaining tubing won’t affect her future as far as activity levels.

“They were pretty confident that she would end up with cerebral palsy, but she didn’t. They were 90 percent sure she would develop seizures, but she never did,” Liz said. “She has no other health prob-

Continued on Page 4



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Beating the Odds Continued from Page 3

lems. We beat all the odds.”

Unfortunately, Annabelle wasn't the only one to face health challenges. When Liz received the spinal block, an infection was introduced to her spine. Two days after the births, she couldn't walk. At the emergency room, the doctors first thought it was related to her cesarean-section incision. But an infectious disease specialist did a spinal tap and discovered she had an infection in her sacroiliac joint. A PICC (peripherally inserted central catheter) line was placed in her arm to her heart for daily long-term intravenous antibiotics for six weeks. She had a wound VAC for a few weeks more.

Each day, the Engels would drive in South Bend to get Liz's infusion, which took 30 to 60 minutes. Then, they would head to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit to spend time with Henry and Lucy. Friday night or Saturday morning, they would travel to Riley to see Annabelle as long as visiting hours allowed. The doctors arranged it so Liz could be administered her antibiotics as well at a neighboring hospital during weekends. All of these factors required a hotel stay every weekend for one or two nights and, after Henry and Lucy were released, they would accompany their parents on the trips.



The children gather around the birthday cake.

Relying on Adam for so much through her own healing process, Liz said a “huge lesson learned was taking care of each other, and our partnership and relying on each other. You never realize how much you can depend on each other. It's comforting to know that in this stage of our lives, we've gone through the worst of what couples go through and came out on the other side. He's still my best friend.”

“And you're mine,” Adam echoed.

“Between them (the infants) in the hospital and her being incapacitated, with the stress we would ask each other, ‘How do we get through this?’” Adam continued. “The answer was, ‘What other choice do we have?’”

After Annabelle joined the rest of her family at

home, Liz said, “We were so relieved, but then it hit us that we were home with three tiny newborns.”

Feedings consisted of half-hour sessions for the three infants, followed by 30 minutes of sleep...only to begin the cycle all over again. All the while, Liz was still struggling with back pain. The doctors told her she would have permanent nerve damage from her infection.

“We were kind of zombies at this point: everyone always needed something,” she recalled.

The Engels are grateful for the support system they had in their parents: Greg and Lisa Engel, Mary and Dan Reynolds, and Carl and Karen Wiperman.

“All the grandparents were an amazing help,” Liz said.

She also gives credit to a Facebook group called “Marmy,” made up of 250 women all over the world who were all due with babies in September 2016.



Annabelle (left) and Lucy at their birthday party.

“We are all very close,” Liz said. “They were phenomenal to talk to when you're stuck in a hospital room for five weeks. It's funny how a group of strangers can become close friends even if they never meet.”

Liz has since met some of the moms and become friends. The group even raised \$1,200 to help offset the Engels' gas and hotel expenses at the beginning of their triplets' lives.

Today, the Engels keep busy with their three preschoolers, who are always on the move. They've moved to a larger home in Michigan City where, ironically, Liz worked in the same building a few years prior when it was a portable radiology business. Their two Great Danes, Hoss and Brutus, join them. The first was a wedding gift from Adam to Liz. He gave Brutus to Liz as a Christmas gift just days before they discovered she was expecting.

Three-year-old Henry has striking, light pale blue eyes and a head full of blond hair.

“He's our explorer,” Liz said. “He likes to investi-

gate everything. He likes to get dirty and take everything apart, and likes anything that makes a lot of noise.”

Lucy also is blond, but with eyes the color of blueberries.

“She’s our independent one,” Liz explains. “She will take off on her own and is sneaky, quiet and brave. She is our sweetest and...she’s the most mischievous.”

Still the smallest of her siblings, Annabelle has a head full of light brown



The triplets with Liz’s mother and stepfather, Mary and Dan Reynolds.

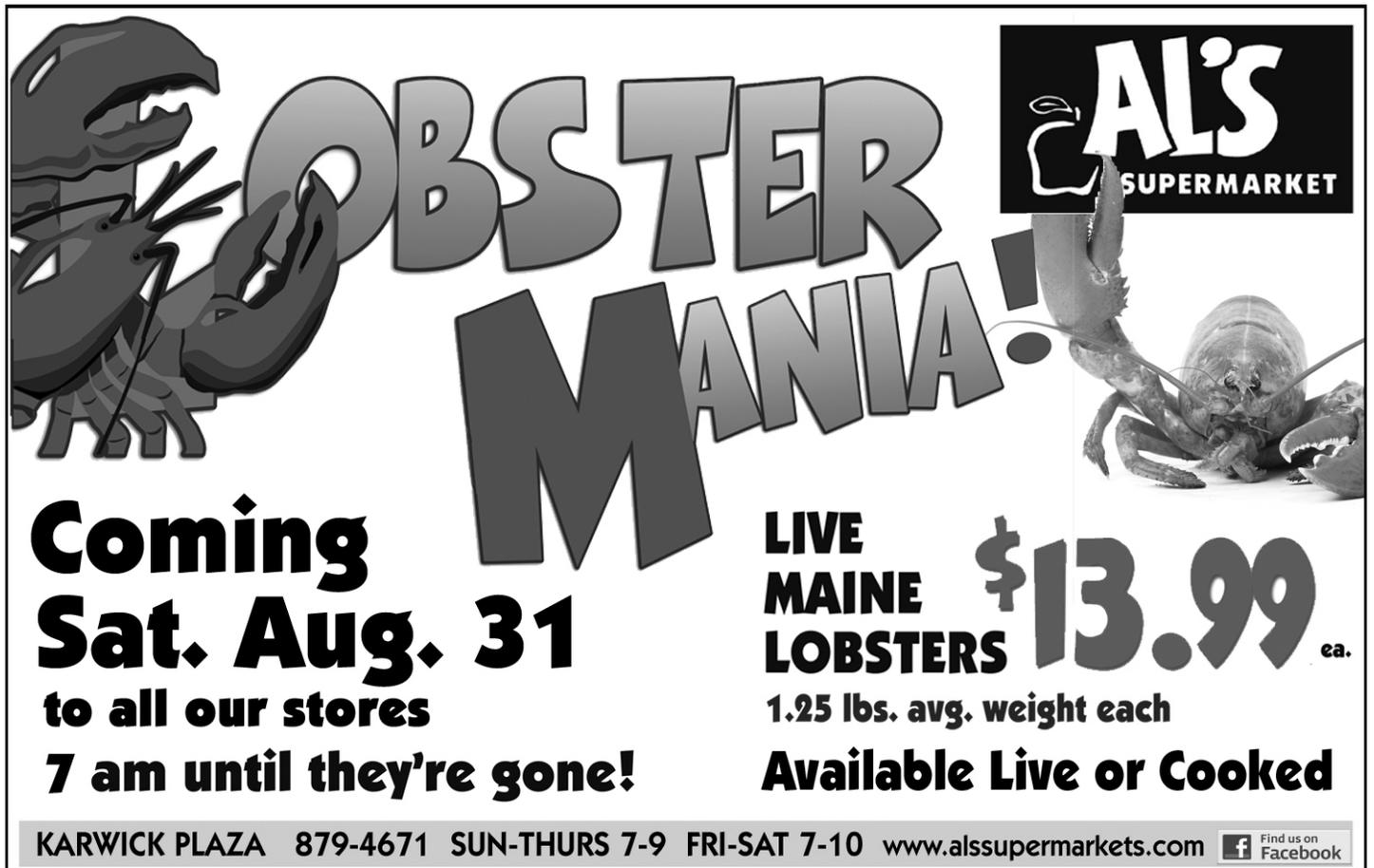
curls and bright blue eyes.

“She’s kind of a drama queen,” Liz says. “She likes to pretend and put on shows, and be in the kitchen and help. She’s our sassy one.”

One of the couple’s biggest challenges is “when you have one child at an age, they have good days and bad days, but we don’t really get that break,” Liz said. “But the good thing is, we get triple the laughs and cuddles. My kids always have someone to play with and a built-in best friend. You hear them giggling and playing together. It’s the cutest thing ever.”



Greg and Lisa Engel, Adam’s parents, with their grandchildren.



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Prepare to be Moved by “The Art of Racing in the Rain”

by Andrew Tallackson



Denny (Milo Ventimiglia) takes Enzo for a ride in “The Art of Racing in the Rain.”

Not gonna lie. Garth Stein’s 2008 novel, “The Art of Racing in the Rain,” made me bawl. The “ugly cry,” where you’re relieved no one is present to witness the spectacle.

You could say the author was shameless, but dog owners will tell you, we’re a different breed. We treat our beloved canines like children: baby talk, spoiling them rotten. When they depart this world, they etch a tender wound in our heart.

My fear for any film adaptation of Stein’s novel is that what was moving on the page would appear woefully saccharine on screen. And to some, that may, indeed, be the case.

What’s impressive, to me at least, is the restraint this exceedingly faithful adaptation illustrates. The director is Simon Curtis, whose “Woman in Gold,” starring Helen Mirren as Holocaust survivor Maria Altmann, was the most powerful and unfairly ignored picture of 2015. Here, he applies the right touch: light, airy and, by the end, deeply heartfelt.

“The Art of Racing in the Rain” is a portrait of an American family — its joys and heartaches — as seen through the family pet. Enzo. On the page and in the film, we are treated to Enzo’s thoughts, dreams and desires for himself and his family. Racing is used as a metaphor for life itself. Enzo’s wisdom is not exactly profound — more Hallmark card sentiments than mind-blowing revelations — but as voiced with gravely precision by Kevin Costner, they are devoid of icky sentimentality.

Enzo’s owner is Denny, a race-car driver who treats the dog as his best friend, carefully weaving him into the fold when he marries a teacher,

★ ★ ★ 1/2

“The Art of Racing in the Rain”

Running time: 109 minutes. Rated PG for thematic material

Eve (Amanda Seyfried), and has a daughter, Zoe (Ryan Kiera Armstrong). Denny is played by Milo Ventimiglia, who has had three seasons of playing America’s favorite dad on “This is Us” to prep for the role, and you can’t picture anyone else in it. Rarely do we see a character on film who is genuinely good, and that is what the actor creates in Denny: honest-to-goodness decency.

Without revealing too much, tragedy eventually strikes — carefully handled by Curtis — which throws Denny into a custody battle with Eve’s parents, played by Martin Donovan and the great Kathy Baker (remember her from TV’s “Picket Fences”?). Denny’s legal troubles play out like a standard TV legal drama, in large part because Donovan’s performance is a blah, one-note cliché. Baker, however, does what few can do: transform a rote character into the smartest person in the room. Her presence keeps the courtroom climax from descending into mush.

And we are thankful, because soon after is *the big finish*...if you catch my drift. In its own quiet way, the ensuing emotions are earned. No sappy music. No clunky dialogue. Just a dog owner thanking his companion for his friendship and loyalty.

Anyone who isn’t choked up by then, well, all I can say is, check to make sure you still have a pulse. Contact Andrew Tallackson at drew@thebeacher.com

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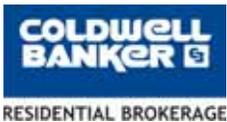
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Lubeznik Arts Festival is This Weekend at LCA

Lubeznik Arts Festival will showcase more than 75 artists and artisans, along with live entertainment, food and family activities, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 17-18, at Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St.

Exhibitors were selected through a juried application process in six categories: 2-D Art; Fine Craft; Jewelry; Photography; Sculptural Objects; and Wearable Art.

Inside the center, the NIPSCO Education Studios will host four contemporary artists.

Shanoor Devarj, founder and owner of Devarj Design Agency, is an award-winning artist from LaPorte who will feature his series “Celebrate Freedom 911.” Ish Muhammad has lived in Indiana for three decades. Calling his style post-graffiti abstract expressionism, he recently completed commissions for Leeds Public House and Franciscan Health in Michigan City. Husband-and-wife artists Rick Lange and Suzanne Cohan-Lange own Blink Contemporary Art. He is an artist and retired adjunct professor of fine arts and art education at Loyola University. She is

the chair emeritus of the Interdisciplinary Arts Department of Columbia College Chicago, which she founded in 1976.

In terms of entertainment, Surabhi Ensemble, a Chicago-based world music group, performs from 1 to 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 17. The performers fuse flamenco music, Middle Eastern Maqams, African rhythms and Indian Classical ragas.

Kristina Isabelle of Michigan City Moves performs from noon to 2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 18. Stilters

will roam and dance on the festival grounds. The performance will feature young stilters from Works in Motion Dance Co.

For families, LCA’s education staff will be in the family artmaking space from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily, exploring Ozobots, creating comics and building free-form sculptures. The activities are free with festival admission.



Beacher file photo by Bob Wellinski

Also on display is the LCA exhibit “The Chicago Imagists: Before and After.”

Available cuisine includes Pachamama Street Food, New Buffalo, Mich., which serves a rotating menu of Southeast Asian and South American classics, as well as Cabo’s Ice Cream & Mexican Food.

Admission is \$5. LCA members, children 16 and younger and active military personnel are free. Free off-site parking and shuttle service are available.

Thanks to a Michigan City Public Art Committee grant, veterans receive free admission. Qualifying individuals either may identify themselves at the festival gates or stop by LCA beforehand to pick up a special veterans ticket.

All proceeds support LCA programs and exhibitions. Visit www.lubeznikcenter.org or call (219) 874-4900 for more details.

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It WAS the Best Day of the Year!

“This is the best day of the year!”

That was Mike Mahler, Southwest Michigan Team Birdathon organizer, saying what we all thought after successful completing the 31st annual event at Sarett Nature Center in Benton Harbor, Mich.

Organized for 30 years by founder Kip Miller, who was enjoying his first year as a laid-back member of the Timberdoodles, Birdathon was and is all about him. We were so happy and sad to see him because he retired as chief naturalist at Love Creek Nature Center, Berrien Springs, Mich. At the time, he and his wife were about to move to Colorado.

We exhausted birders recalled how shocked we were at the completion of the 30th annual Birdathon at Love Creek, when Kip announced he was ready to hand the baton to another organization.

There were questions about who would assume responsibility for organizing a bunch of birders into Team Birdathon this year. But the answer was abundantly clear at the dinner in Sarett’s lovely nature center that the staff there were up to the task of pulling off a friendly event for birders of all experience levels in Berrien County: the southwestern-most county in Michigan.

Despite birding all day with his own Sarett team, Mike Mahler was witty and wise at the dinner, and he delighted everyone by renaming one of the awards for Kip. Best of all, Kip promised he will return for the 2020 Birdathon on May 16, 2020. Kip quipped he might even join our team, the Love Creek Sapsuckers, which is headed by his Love

Creek colleague, Pat Underwood.

We Sapsuckers would love to have Kip as a member of our team, but he should know we are considering a name change next year, from the Sapsuckers to — drum roll, please — the Sapped Suckers.

Yes, Pat is retiring after more than three decades of service as a parks naturalist at Love Creek, so we all will officially be “old birders” next year. Plus, we won’t be able to use a Berrien County van for our travels.

Oh well.

Mike, however, was correct in saying that a day without Birdathon is just another ho-hum day on the calendar.

Take, for example, the Sapsuckers’ take on the 2019 Birdathon. We were hard at

work in Warren Dunes State Park trying to spot as many migrating warblers as possible when we nearly stepped on an agitated male scarlet tanager. I mean, come on, the male scarlet tanager, with his telltale, brilliant red body, black wings and tail, is darn hard to miss.

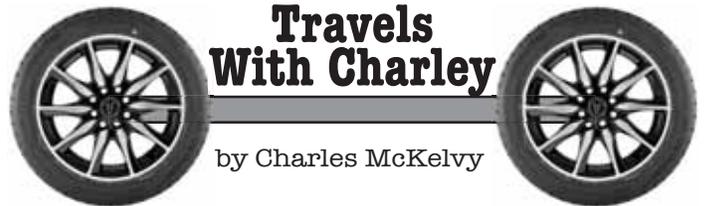
But nearly step on him we did, because we were looking to increase our warbler count. Plus, we had already checked off scarlet tanager from our list. Naturally, Pat, our naturalist, couldn’t figure out



We rescued this ungrateful snapping turtle on Schwark Road.

Travels With Charley

by Charles McKelvy



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We checked off more birds in the morning than we did in the afternoon.

why a male scarlet tanager would be on the ground until he looked up and saw another male in a tree with a female in an opposite tree.

It was all about love and, indeed, another team reported at dinner they witnessed more than a little mating ritual involving red-winged blackbirds and a sora.

Such are the episodes that make Birdathon the best day of the year, and although we were actively seeking birds of varying feathers all day, we did pause long enough on Schwark Road in Three Oaks to rescue a most ungrateful snapping turtle. Some-

how, we got said angry turtle off the road without losing a single digit. We were rewarded for our efforts by the sudden appearance of a squadron of short-billed dowitchers at the Three Oaks Water Treatment Ponds down the road.

Water treatment ponds.

As in “sewage lagoons?”

Hey, it’s a great birding spot, all right.

And we were all right until the end of the day. That’s when we were pushing the 7 p.m. deadline to return to Sarett, stopping at team member Elizabeth Gravitt’s house in Sodus to add orchard orioles to our list. Elizabeth said the orchards were regulars every day at 6, and we were there at 6, but the only orioles we saw were the ones named for Lord Baltimore, and we’d added those flashy orange jobs earlier in the day.



Two great men of birding: Pat Underwood (left) and Kip Miller.

So, we limped back to Sarett with a mere 109 species for the day, knowing full well Kip and his Timberdoodles would beat us by one.

And they did.

And the one they beat us with was a rare Pacific loon, which they spotted off Warren Dunes State Park while we were nearby, nearly stepping on a scarlet tanager.

Such are the wonders of Birdathon, and if you’d like to join us in 2020, contact Mike Mahler at Sarett Nature Center, 2300 Benton Center Road, Benton Harbor, MI 49022, or call (269) 927-4832 and email sarettnaturecenter@gmail.com.

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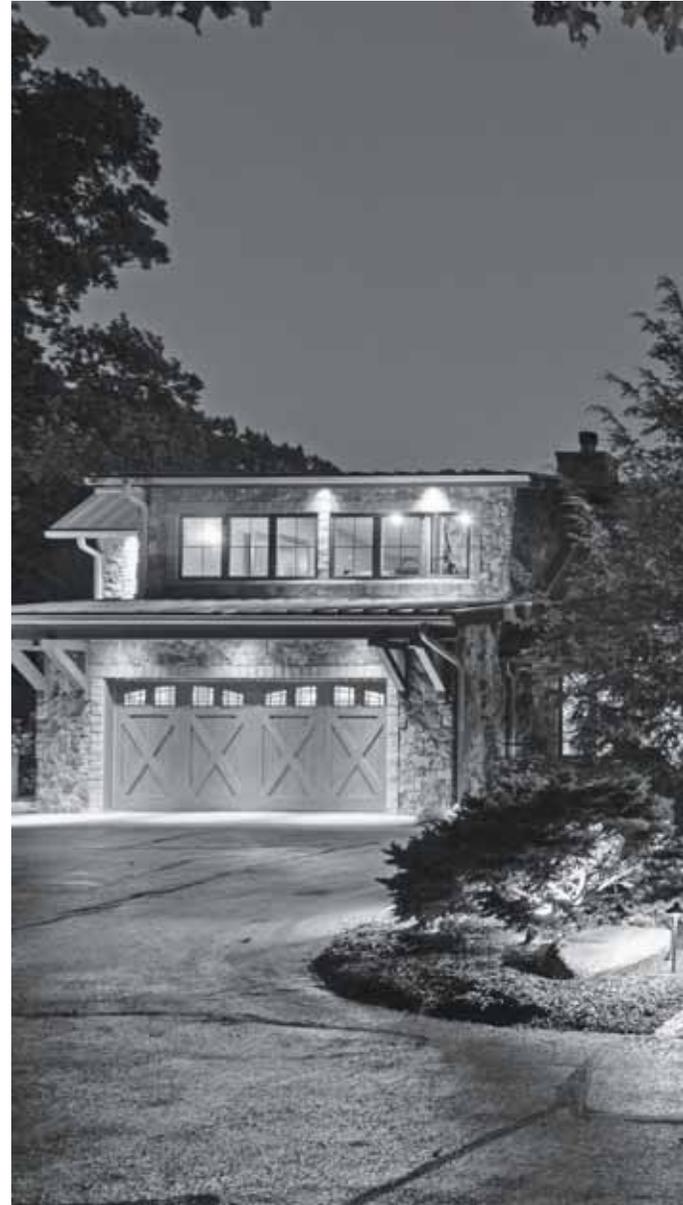
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Art in Nature Series

A bonfire concert with Mark Grobner, a Tryon Farm resident/hammered dulcimer performer, marks the next "Art in Nature" program at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 17, at Tryon Farm, 1500 Tryon Road.

A partnership between Tryon Farm Institute and Kristina Isabelle Dance, the event is part of the monthly performance series that features dance, film, music and art. Those attending are encouraged to take picnic meals.



Mark Grobner in performance.

Grobner has provided therapeutic music in hospital, hospice and long-term care settings since 2002. He has presented on the topic of music and healing at conferences and seminars, including the 2004 Advocate Healthcare Dimensions of Excellence Conference with music therapist Soozie-Cotter Schaufele. He teaches hammered dulcimer in Indiana and performs throughout the Midwest.

Opportunities exist to interact with the performer. Some walking is required, so guests should have appropriate footwear. Flashlights are recommended. The suggested donation is \$20 for adults and \$10 for children. The Drawing You Outside cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Those needing ADA accommodations should call (614) 638-6186.

Email kristinaisabelledance@gmail.com or call (614) 638-6186 for details.

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Aja Yasir's full-yard garden.

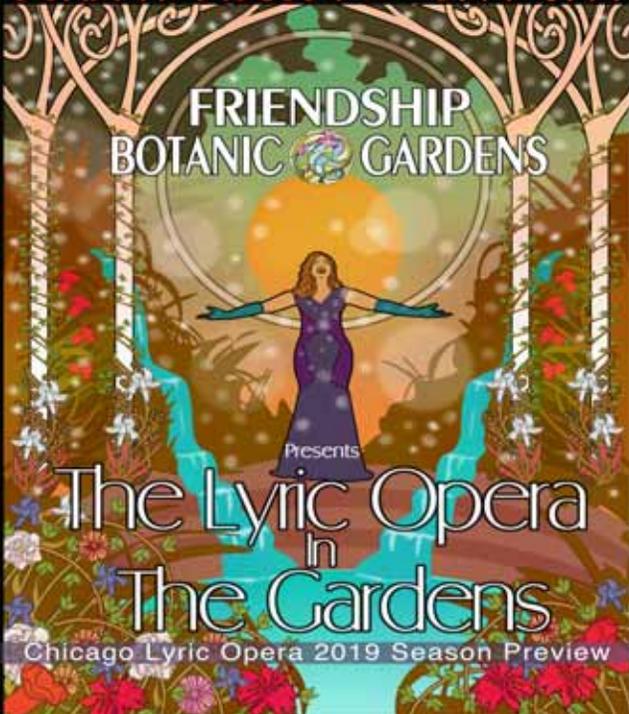
One woman's fight to save her full-yard garden is the focus of the next Northwest Indiana Green Drinks at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 15, at Shoreline Brewery, 208 Wabash St.



Aja Yasir will share her journey of starting her therapeutic "A Rose for Yaminah Garden," then having to save it when faced with the city of Gary telling her she had to take it out, even though it was zoned for agriculture. Learn how she united a supportive, active community, with illustrative photos of her food-growing methods displayed.

Northwest Indiana Green Drinks is sponsored by Save the Dunes and supported by 219 GreenConnect. The suggested donation is \$5, or \$2 for students. Call (219) 210-7513 for details.

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2. Don't "spike" your trees. Spiking causes wounds that lead to infection and tree decline. Anyone who spikes trees is causing long-term damage to the trees.
3. Avoid damage to the roots. Large trucks cause soil compaction and digging up roots cause frayed wounds that can't heal and create access points for pathogens (fungi) that start root rot and weaken the trees structural stability. Lawn mowers can also cause damage to the root flares.
4. Protect the roots out to the drip line from any activity other than foot traffic. The drip line is simply the outside edge of the canopy. On a mature open grown oak, it can be a circle of 60 feet in diameter.
5. Consult an ISA Certified Arborist before doing anything to your tree.

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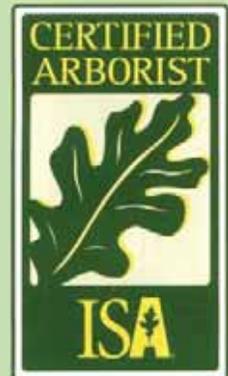
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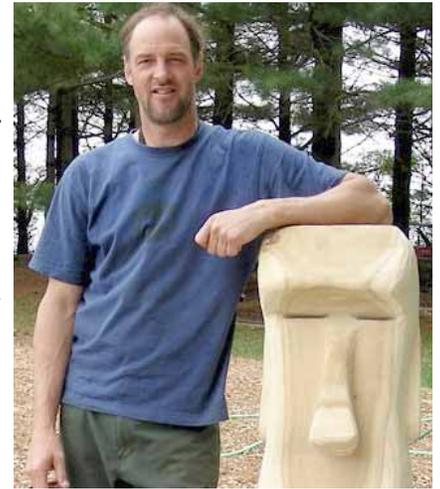
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Harbor Country Hikers

Local arborist Christian Siewert will share one of his favorite walks through Warren Dunes State Park at 1 p.m. EDT Sunday, Aug. 18.

Siewert will offer tips for identifying native species while reading the body language of trees, and provide facts on common issues associated with local forests.



Siewert

Founder of C&A Arborists in 1997, Siewert studied arboriculture at Merristwood College in Guildford, England, and received his certified arborist status from The International Society of Arboriculture. He works as a consultant for his company, diagnosing tree issues and advising homeowners on best management practices for trees and their ailments.

The Harbor Country Hikers program will start at the first parking lot on the right on Floral Lane, which is north of the main park entrance on Red Arrow Highway. Those without a seasonal pass will need to stop at the main entrance for a day permit. The two-mile hike of moderate difficulty will be on natural earth trails and sand, so sturdy shoes, water and insect repellent are recommended.

HCH events are open to adults and children accompanied by an adult. Membership (\$20 for individuals, or \$30 for families) is encouraged. Visit harborcountryhikers.com for details.

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LET'S TALK TODAY.





Continued on Page 24



The Beacher's Paul Kemiel was a busy man Aug. 2-4. Alternating between the Taste of Michigan City, Great Lakes Grand Prix Parade and the race itself, Kemiel barely had time to catch his breath. Thankfully, he was able to capture for us the fun and joy of one of the most popular weekends in LaPorte County.

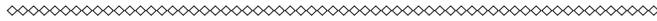
He also provided us with the results by category from the race itself:

- Class ONE USA — 222 Offshore, driver Darrin Nicholson.
- Super Cat — WHM, driver Billy Mauff.
- Super Stock — Shadow Pirate, driver Nick Scafidi.
- Vee Extreme — Knucklehead Instigator,

- driver Ed Smith.
- SVX — Sun Print, driver Steven Freeman.
- Prostock Vee — LSB Racing, driver Brit Lilly.
- Class 3 — Wazzup, driver Nick Smith.
- Class 6 — Reindl Powerboats, driver Kim Kramer.
- Class 2 — Summerset Boat Lift, driver Mitchell Watson.
- Class 3 — Wazzup, driver Nick Smith.
- Class 4 — Simmons Marine, driver Jim Simmons.
- Class 5 — Reindl Powerboats, driver Chris Reindl.
- Class 7 — Goofin Around, driver Matt Lauer.







Billy Mauff is One “Cool Cat”

by Paul Kemiell

Billy Mauff has a certain ritual each year before the Great Lakes Grand Prix.

Mauff, of East Setauket, N.Y., is the owner and driver of the WHM Motorsports team that competes in the Super Cat class of the American Power Boat Association/Offshore Powerboat Association Series. He likes to head over to Washington Park Zoo, spending time with the animals. It has a calming effect, helping mentally prepare for the race.

“After the drivers meeting, I go see the lions, tigers and bears,” he says. “Seeing my friends at the zoo was the best part of the day. It takes your mind off racing and gets it where it should be, on animal safety and rescue. That means more than anything.”

So, at this year’s race, Mauff announced he is donating \$20,000 to the zoo. The money will help remodel and expand the big cat exhibit. The donation was presented at the Friday racer meet & greet

at Blue Chip Casino’s Stardust Event Center.

Mayor Ron Meer and Jack Arnett, Visit Michigan City LaPorte tourism bureau executive director, were on hand to accept the donation.

“This donation speaks volumes about Billy Mauff and his entire WHM team,” Meer said, “and I think it expresses how they view our community as more than just a stop on a race schedule.”

Mauff’s zoo routine must have had a tranquil effect, because he went on to win the Super Cat class on the Lake Michigan course. This is his third consecutive win here.

Mauff and throttleman Jay Muller aboard the 40’ Skater cat are powered by a pair of 750 horsepower Sterling inboard engines.

Mauff has attended all 11 races since the 2009 Great Lakes Grand Prix inaugural race here.



Fernwood Botanical Garden

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

• **Native American Harvest from 1 to 2:30 p.m. EDT Sunday, Aug. 18.**

Visitors will learn about: Native American cuisine in the collective sense; its contribution to the contemporary American palate; and how native people of Eastern North America obtained food through hunting, fishing, gathering and farming.

The cost is \$12, or \$10 for members. Register by Aug. 16.

• **Kids Go Buggy! from 2 to 4 p.m. EDT Sunday, Aug. 18.**

Children 6-10 learn about insects and explore the grounds. The cost is \$10, or \$8 for members.

• **Organic Farm Tour & Harvest Dinner from 1 to 7:30 p.m. EDT Wednesday, Aug. 21.**

The event includes personal tours of four organic farms. Fresh produce will be sold. Chef Tim Carrigan prepares the harvest dinner. The costs are: \$40 for the tour only (members pay \$32), \$80 for the dinner only (members pay \$64) and \$110 for both (members pay \$88).

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

Michigan City Public Library

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

• **Makerspace: open lab hours from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Thursdays.**

Youth ages 6-18 create with LEGO WeDo, Micro Bits, paper circuits and Ozobots. Children 12 and younger must have a parent or guardian attend.

• **Bookmarks: Allie Rowbottom's "Jell-O Girls" at 2 p.m. Friday, Aug. 16.**

Jessica Hoffmaster is the reviewer.



• **Movies in Washington Park: "The House with a Clock in its Walls" at dusk Friday, Aug. 16, at Washington Park's North Pointe Pavilion.**

The free showing is in collaboration with the Michigan City Parks and Recreation Department.

• **Paper Crane Origami Craft at 11 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 17.**

Learn how to make easy origami creations. Materials are provided. Children 10 or younger must be accompanied by an adult.

• **Learning Center Volunteers Needed.**

The Learning Center needs volunteer tutors for children and adults. Students need assistance in: reading, math, high school equivalency and English as a Second Language. All supplies and training are provided. All that's required are two hours a week. Contact Jessica Hoffmaster at (219) 873-3043 or stop by the center for more information.

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



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Sunset Coast Series

The Sunset Coast Performance Series, which highlights regional talent, kicks off at 5:30 p.m. EDT Thursday, Aug. 15, in the new green space grounds at Krasl Art Center, 707 Lake Blvd., St. Joseph, Mich.

The free performance Aug. 15 is a night of poetry and a sneak preview of GhostLight Theatre's production of "Urinetown." Featured poets include: Grand Rapids Poet Laureate Fable the Poet; KAC's "Inhaling the Universe" artist Jon Hook; and local writer Julia Turner.

GhostLight Theatre is a new performance venue in the Benton Harbor Arts District.

Visit visit.krasl.org for more details.



Fable the Poet

NB Library Community Forum

The mystery surrounding 14 murders, and possibly more, in LaPorte around the turn of the 20th century is the subject of the next Friends of New Buffalo Library Community Forum at 6 p.m. EDT Tuesday, Aug. 20, at the library, 33 N. Thompson St.

Bruce Johnson, LaPorte County Historical Society president, will screen a film he wrote and narrated about the murders committed by Belle Guinness on her farm, purchased with insurance money from the death of her first husband in a suspicious sausage-grinder accident. Through want ads in Scandinavian newspapers, Guinness attracted men to her home with promises of a bright future. Those who came were never seen again...until a house fire and a persistent relative of one of the victims led to their remains on Guinness' farm.

The movie, which is not suitable for children, will be followed by questions and answers.

Upcoming programs: "A Nightmare on Elm Street – The JFK Assassination" on Mon, Sept. 9; a private tour of Lubeznik Center for the Arts' "Chicago Imagists" exhibit on Tues, Sept. 17; and "Climate Change and Fishing in Lake Michigan" on Mon, Oct. 7.

The series is underwritten in part by The Pokagon Fund. Follow the Facebook link at newbuffalotownshiplibrary.org or email new.buffalo.FOL@gmail.com for more details.



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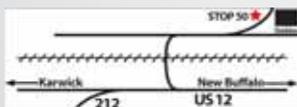
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Polish-American Cultural Society

Polish-American Cultural Society of Northwest Indiana, Michigan City Chapter, meets at 5 p.m. Wed, Aug. 21, former St. Mary School, 321 W. 10th St.

The facilitator is the Rev. Walter Rakoczy. Membership is free and open to anyone wanting to learn about the Polish language, culture and traditions. Call Theresa Child at (219) 464-1369 for details.

New Oasis Splash Park Schedule

The Oasis Splash Park in Washington Park will be closed Monday through Wednesday, Aug. 19-21 and 26-28.

Weather permitting, hours are 10 a.m. to noon, 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. and 3 to 5 p.m. The final day of operation for the 2019 season is Monday, Sept. 2.

Visit www.michigancityparks.com for details.



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Indiana Dunes National Park

The following programs are planned:

- **Drop-in Volunteering at West Beach from 2 to 3 p.m. Fridays through Sept. 6.**

Join staff and fellow volunteers in helping care for the site. Wear comfortable clothes; work gloves and equipment will be provided. West Beach parking lot is 376 N. County Line Road, Portage.

- **Mount Baldy Summit Hike from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Fridays through Aug. 30.**

The Mount Baldy parking lot and beach are open from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily after being closed for the last several years. The dune, however, is still closed for general public use, so the ranger-led hike offers the chance to experience the dune as much as is possible. No reservations are required. The parking lot is located off U.S. 12. Also offered is Mount Baldy Open House from 1 to 4 p.m. Sundays through Sept. 8. Explore the issues and science surrounding the dune.

- **The Save the Tunes Council performs from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Friday, Aug. 16, at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.**

The group preserves folk songs in the traditional way, using guitar, autoharp, dulcimer, banjo, harmonica, bagpipe, penny whistle, hurdy gurdy and other obscure instruments.

- **Pinhook Bog Open House from noon to 3 p.m. Saturdays through Sept. 7.**

Talk a self-guided tour of the bog and talk to rangers along the trail for a better understanding of the site filled with carnivorous plants and orchids. Arrive by 2 p.m. to allow about one hour to walk the trail and tour the bog. The bog parking lot is at 700 N. Wozniak Road in Michigan City.

- **Playdate in the Nature Play Zone from 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 17, at The Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education.**

Explore Miller Woods, build a fort, climb a tree, create nature art and feed the resident fish, turtles, snakes, toads and frogs. Dress for the weather.

- **Art in the National Park from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturdays through Nov. 9 at Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk, 100 Riverwalk Road.**

Learn how to paint the dunes. A canvas and paint are provided for the free class. Registration is required, and the class is limited to 20 adult painters. Be prepared to park in auxiliary sites during the summer due to parking congestion. Call (219) 395-1882 for more information and to register.

- **Bailly/Chellberg History Hike from 1 to 3 p.m. Sundays through Sept. 1.**

Explore the grounds of both historic homes, and learn about early settlers and farmers who came to the region in the 1800s. Park at the Bailly/Chellberg parking lot.

- **Octave Chanute Aviation Day from noon to 3 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 18, at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.**

Learn about the aviation pioneer who experimented with gliders in the dunes, and contributed to the Wright brothers' success.

- **Miller Woods Hike from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Sundays through Nov. 24 at Paul H. Douglas Center.**

The ranger-led stroll explores a rare black oak savanna, with views of Lake Michigan and Chicago.

- **Sunset Around the Fire at the Pavilion from 7-8 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 21, at Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk.**

Catch a Lake Michigan sunset from the pavilion, and roast marshmallows from the fireplace.

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.

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Indiana Dunes State Park

The following programs are offered:

- **Bird Window Bingo at 10 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 15.**

Prizes will be awarded during a bird-theme version of the game.

- **Ant Lion Safari at 3 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 15.**

Join a naturalist at the Nature Center for the short discovery walk.

- **High Dunes Hike at 10 a.m. Friday, Aug. 16.**

Meet a naturalist at the Nature Center for a hike to the summit of the state's highest sand dune. Wear hiking shoes.

- **Full Moon Hike at 8:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 16.**

Meet at the Nature Center for a short presentation about the moon, followed by a hike to Lake Michigan and back.

- **Dunes Creek Hike from 10 to 11 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 17.**

Meet a naturalist at the campground shelter next to campsite 113 for a program on the creek that flows through the dunes.

- **Succession Stroll at 3 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 17.**

The moderate hike stresses Indiana Dunes diversity by viewing habitats created by different stages of succession.

- **Moth Mysteries from 7:30 to 11 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 17.**

Meet at the Nature Center, where the first 45 minutes involve a program introducing moths by Steve Sass. Then, mothing equipment will be set up outside.

- **Morning Bird Walk at 8:30 a.m. Sunday, Aug. 18.**

Take binoculars or borrow a pair for an easy walk searching for birds.

- **The J.D. Marshall Shipwreck at 3 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 18.**

Meet at the Nature Center to learn about the sinking of the J.D. Marshall just offshore of Indiana Dunes State Park.

- **Critter Dinner at 10 a.m. Monday, Aug. 19.**

Meet at the Nature Center as reptiles and amphibians eat live meals.

- **Fur-tastic Show n' Tell from noon to 2 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 20.**

Stop by the Nature Center for a look at mammals of the dunes.

- **Geology Rocks Hike at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 21.**

Learn the story behind the dunes' changing landscape during the moderate hike.

- **Animal Origami at 3 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 21.**

Learn about dunes animals, then fold them during a craft project.

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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**Prayer to the
Blessed Virgin**

(Never known to fail.)

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 will be published after the favor is granted.

Elkhart Juried Regional

The Midwest Museum of American Art has issued a call for entries Sept. 10-21 for the 41st Elkhart Juried Regional Art Exhibition.

The all-media event is open to artists 18 and older who are residents of Allen, DeKalb, Elkhart, Fulton, Huntington, Jasper, Kosciusko, Lake, LaGrange, LaPorte, Marshall, Newton, Noble, Porter, Pulaski, St. Joseph, Starke, Steuben, Wabash or Whitley counties in Indiana, and Berrien, Branch, Cass or St. Joseph counties in Michigan.

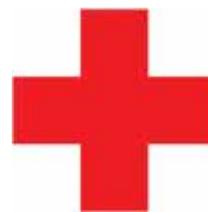
Each entrant may submit one work in any media for \$25. A \$40 fee is charged for two works. Art must be original in concept and execution, created within the last two years, not completed under instruction and not previously exhibited at the museum or any other Michiana region event. Entries must be hand-delivered and prepared for installation.

Awards are more than \$20,000 and will be selected by the jurors and purchase award patrons. Jurors are: Denise Lisiecki, artist, instructor and director for the Kirk Newman Art School at the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, and Ginger Owen-Murakami, associate professor of photography and intermedia at Gwen Frostic School of Art, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo.

The exhibit will be on view Saturday, Oct. 5, through Saturday, Dec. 21.

A prospectus containing all competition rules and an entry form are available at MidwestMuseum.US (click on the Events tab-Elkhart Juried Regional).

The event is sponsored by The Elkhart County Conventions & Visitors Bureau. The museum is located at 429 S. Main St.



**American
Red Cross**

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

- St. Stanislaus Kostka Catholic Church, 1506 Washington St., 2-6 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 21.

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 details.

Back to School Yard Sale

A back-to-school yard sale is from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday through Sunday, Aug. 16-18, at The Bridge, 501 Springland Ave.

The sale includes antiques, dishes, clothes, furniture and child items.

Roosevelt Pipe Organ Series

The 18th season of the free Roosevelt Pipe Organ Series concludes at 12:15 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 21, at Christ Church (the former First Congregationalist Church), 531 Washington St.



Halliar

Performing is William Halliar, whose parents and grandparents played instruments and served in local church choirs. His keyboard instruction began at age 8 and continued through high school and into college. Over the years, he has accompanied soloists, church choirs and played for weddings, funerals and other occasions. He formed and directed a variety of musical groups, from choirs

and mixed ensembles to pep bands, wind ensembles and polka bands. Along the way, he arranged and composed original pieces and music for numerous instrumental combinations.

Halliar moved to Michigan City after retiring from the rail industry in 2011, eventually playing the 1907 antique pump organ at the Old Lighthouse Museum for First Fridays and special tours. He also plays the pump organs at Barker Mansion and LaPorte County Historical Society Museum. For the past eight months, he has been playing piano for services at Trinity Episcopal Church, recently adding the pipe organ and carillon to his performances.

Halliar also is a correspondent with *The Beacher*. Call Ann Dobie at (219) 608-5358 for details.

Reins of Life Volunteer Training

Training for new volunteers at Reins of Life is from 5:30 to 9 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 15, at the barn located at 9375 W. County Road 300 North.

Attendees learn about therapeutic horseback riding, how to groom, tack and lead horses, and how to help riders during therapeutic lessons. Volunteers offer confidence, friendship, guidance and encouragement. They also help with events, horse schooling, mini-visits, nuzzles and snuggles program, vaulting and driving, veteran programs and school programs.

Volunteers must be at least 13 and wear close-toed shoes. Call or text Marilyn at (219) 877-7719 to sign up.

Washington Park Beach Lifeguards

As of Aug. 12, lifeguards are no longer on duty at Washington Park beach.

Call (219) 873-1406, Ext. 390, for beach and swimming conditions. Visit www.michigancityparks.com or call (219) 873-1506 for details.

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Prayer to the Blessed Virgin
(Never known to fail.)
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.

Westchester Public Library

The following programs are available:

• **Inquiring Minds: Fluid Art from 1 to 2 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 15, at Hageman Library, 100 Francis St.**

The program is a guided process to creating fluid art. Registration is required by calling (219) 926-9080.

• **Knitting Together from 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 18, at Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.**

Area knitters, and those who crochet or do needlework, are invited.

• **Ancestry Basics from 10 a.m. to noon Monday, Aug. 19, or 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 20, in the Thomas Branch Serials/Automation Department, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.**

Curator Serena Ard will explain the basics of using a personal Ancestry.com account, and how the library's edition can be used in conjunction with a personal account. Registration is required by calling (219) 926-7696.

• **Maker Mondays from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Monday, Aug. 19, in the Thomas Library upstairs IT classroom.**

Local software engineer Adam Johnson will lead a hands-on program, appropriate for patrons 12 and older, about Arduino circuit devices. Registration is required by calling (219) 926-7696.

• **Minecraft Meet-up at 4 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 21, at Thomas Library.**

Registration is required and must be done in person. The WPL Gaming Policy and Rules of Conduct must be signed upon registration as well. Parents are welcome to attend, but required for youth 10 and younger.

Pancake Breakfast

The LaPorte Aero Club will host its annual pancake breakfast from 7 a.m. to noon Sunday, Aug. 18, at LaPorte Municipal Airport, 2341 Indiana 39.

The event features pancakes, eggs, sausage, hash browns and airplane rides. The cost is \$8 for adults and \$4 for 12 and younger.

Advance tickets are available at the airport terminal, or they can be purchased the date of the breakfast, with proceeds aiding the club's scholarship fund.

Gather at Gardena

The summer's final “Gather at Gardena,” a free family event sponsored by Immanuel Lutheran Church, is from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 17, at Gardena Park, 800 block of Gardena Street.

Families can participate in crafts and games, while food and drinks will be available.

City Cemetery Tour



A guided tour of City Cemetery highlights the graves of individuals significant to South Bend history at 6:30 p.m. EDT Thursday, Aug. 22.

Travis Childs, The History Museum director of education, leads the twilight tour, which features historic sites and markers.

The cost is \$2. The event is open to all ages, although participants should be prepared to walk on uneven terrain. No food or pets are permitted. Participants should meet at the iron gate of the cemetery's main entrance, West Colfax and Elm streets.

Parking is limited. The tour is canceled if it rains. Visit www.historymuseumSB.org or call (574) 235-9664 for details.

Workplace Training Series

Strategic Management will present "Drama, Discipline & Documentation," a five-week training series on workplace negativity, starting from 8 to 9:45 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 4, at Patrick's Grille.

Each session begins with a scenario. Participants separate fact from the story, responding with questions instead of answers to lead the players out of their story.

The \$500 tuition includes individual coaching with Nora Akins, breakfast and a toolbox

Visit www.managepeopleright.com or contact Akins at nora@managepeopleright.com or (219) 873-1735 for details.

Night Bike Ride

The LaPorte Night Bike Ride, a leisurely 13-mile trip through LaPorte, starts at 8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 16, at LaPorte Civic Auditorium, 1001 Ridge St.

All participants must wear a helmet, their bikes equipped with a headlight and taillight. Riders 10 and younger must be accompanied, and ride with, an adult, either pulled behind or in tandem. They also require separate registration.

The \$20 cost includes a T-shirt and snacks. Complete the registration form at the LaPorte Park and Recreation Office, 250 Pine Lake Ave., or register at BikeSignUp.com

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Annual Summer Fest

Veterans of Foreign Wars 2536 Auxiliary will present its annual Summer Fest from noon to 11 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 24, at the post, 1101 W. Earl Road.

Music, prizes, food, beer and a margarita garden are planned. Raffle tickets are \$5, or five for \$20. A drawing is at 8 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at the post.



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(Never known to fail.)

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Master Gardener Class Enrollment

A Purdue Extension Master Gardener training program is from 6 to 9 p.m. Sept. 5-Dec. 19 at Purdue Extension-LaPorte County, 2857 W. Indiana 2, Suite A, LaPorte.

The program's purpose is to teach people about growing plants so they can share information with others, specifically in gardening and home horticulture. It is an integral part of Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service.

A two-step process is involved to register for the class limited to 25 participants. Call the extension office at (219) 324-9407 or visit extension.purdue.edu/laporte/article/19255. After being accepted, participants attend weekly classes, each lasting three hours. The rank of Master Gardener Intern is achieved after completing the training and passing a final exam. Interns are required to volunteer, representing Purdue a minimum of 35 hours to be certified as a master gardener. To maintain certification, individuals volunteer 12 hours and attend six hours of educational training.

The \$200 training-program fee includes a Master Gardener name badge, choice of the training manual in print or electronic versions, class handouts, mailings and networking opportunities.

Applications should be completed, signed and returned by Friday, Aug. 30, to the extension office.

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Supporting the Arts



The Kankakee Valley REMC Operation Round Up program contributed \$3,000 to LaPorte County Symphony Orchestra's Children's Concerts. Pictured are (from left) Interim Music Director Chuck Steck, Operation Round Up Board Director Ed Marks and LCSO Executive Director Tim King. This year's concert is Oct. 9 at LaPorte Civic Auditorium. About 5,000 students from LaPorte and Porter counties attend the program.



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Activities to Explore

In the Area:

Aug. 15 — Northwest Indiana Green Drinks, 6:30 p.m., Shoreline Brewery, 208 Wabash St. Suggested donation: \$5, \$2/students. Info: (219) 210-7513.

Aug. 16 — Bookmarks: Allie Rowbottom's "Jell-O Girls," 2 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

Aug. 16 — Movies in Washington Park: "The House with a Clock in its Walls," dusk, North Pointe Pavilion. Free.

Aug. 16 — LaPorte Night Bike Ride, 8 p.m., LaPorte Civic Auditorium, 1001 Ridge St. Cost: \$20. Registration: LP park office, 250 Pine Lake Ave., BikeSignUp.com

Aug. 16-21 — Vickers Theatre, 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. *Now showing:* "Maiden." Rated PG. Times: 6 p.m. Fri./Sun., 7 p.m. Tue. *Also:* "The Last Black Man in San Francisco." Rated R. Times: 6 p.m. Sat./Mon., 7 p.m. Wed. *Also:* "Rocketman." Rated R. Times: 9 p.m. Fri., 2:45 and 9:15 p.m. Sat., 2:45 p.m. Sun. All times Eastern. Info: vickerstheatre.com, (269) 756-3522.

Aug. 17 — Music in the Park, The Bergamot, 6:30 p.m. EDT, Dewey Cannon Park, Three Oaks, Mich. Free, donations accepted. Info: www.harborarts.com

Aug. 17 — "Art in Nature" series, Mark Grobner, 7:30 p.m., Tryon Farm, 1500 Tryon Road. Suggested donation: \$20/adults, \$10/children. Info: (614) 638-6186, kristinaisabelledance@gmail.com

Aug. 17 — Moth Mysteries, 7:30-11 p.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

Aug. 17-18 — Lubeznik Arts Festival, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St. Admission: \$5. Info: www.lubeznikcenter.org, (219) 874-4900.

Aug. 17-18 — Make and Take Craft Weekend, 1-4 p.m., Luhr Park Nature Center, 3178 S. County Road 150 West, LaPorte. Free. Info: (219) 325-8315.

Aug. 18 — Octave Chanute Aviation Day, noon-3 p.m., Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter.

Aug. 20 — Friends of New Buffalo Library Community Forum, Belle Gunness, 6 p.m. EDT, library, 33 N. Thompson St. Info: newbuffalotownshiplibrary.org

Aug. 21 — Roosevelt Pipe Organ Series, William Halliar, 12:15 p.m., Christ Church (former First Congregationalist Church), 531 Washington St. Free, donations accepted. Info: (219) 608-5358.

Aug. 21 — Animal Origami, 3 p.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

Aug. 21-22 — Arts in the Park, 7 p.m., Dennis Smith Amphitheater @ Fox Park, LaPorte. Schedule: Aug. 21/Agape Worship Band, pre-concert/Youth SWAG in the Park/Spiritual Wisdom and Godliness with Ron Gaston & FCA; Aug. 22/Indika, pre-con-

cert/Frontline Foundation – The Salt Exchange.

Through Oct. 5 — Art exhibit, former LaPorte resident Roland Lee Hockett, LaPorte County Historical Society Museum, 2504 Indiana Ave.

Saturdays through October — Michigan City Mainstreet Association Farmers Market, 8 a.m.-noon, Eighth & Washington streets.

Saturdays through Oct. 26 — LaPorte Farmers Market, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., Lincolnway parking lot next to Mucho Mas.

Sundays through Sept. 8 — Mount Baldy Open House, 1-4 p.m., parking lot off U.S. 12. Info: (219) 395-1882.

In the Region

Aug. 15 — The Sunset Coast Performance Series, 5:30 p.m. EDT, Krasl Art Center, 707 Lake Blvd., St. Joseph, Mich. Free. Info: krasl.org

Aug. 17 — Guided tour, Series 5 Art Exhibit, noon-2 p.m. EDT, The Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Mich. Cost: free, donations welcome. Info: boxfactoryforthearts.org, (269) 983-3688.

Aug. 18 — Harbor Country Hikers, 1 p.m. EDT, Warren Dunes State Park. Info: harborcountryhikers.com

Aug. 18 — Meet-the-artist reception, Kimberly Jensen Stout, 1:30 p.m., The Village Gallery @ Pines Village Retirement Community, 3303 Pines Village Circle, Valparaiso. Info: (219) 465-1591.

Aug. 18 — Native American Harvest, 1-2:30 p.m. EDT, Fernwood Botanical Garden and Nature Preserve, 13988 Range Line Road, Niles, Mich. Cost: \$12 (\$10/members). Info: www.fernwoodbotanical.org, (269) 695-6491.

Aug. 18 — Summer Sundays at the Box, Sankofa, 4-6 p.m. EDT, The Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Mich. Tickets: \$8/advance, \$10/door. Info/reservations: (269) 983-3688, boxfactoryforthearts.org

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 Hospital Clair of Assisi Room, 3500 Franciscan Way; 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.

Thursdays — Adult Children of Alcoholics and Dysfunctional Families, 6 p.m., Franciscan Health Michigan City, Maria Theresia Conference Room C, 3500 Franciscan Way. Info: (219) 801-1296.

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Miller Pizza By the Beach, 1012 N. Karwick Road, is taking applications for employment. Apply within. No phone calls, please.

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Billy Boy's Blueberry Barn, 650 Freyer Road, is open 8:30-6 CDT daily, closed Tues. Local honey, jam. Call for fresh muffins (weekends only). No pets allowed. You pick, ready pick or phone orders. 219-872-7477 • Visit [facebook](https://www.facebook.com/billyboysblueberrybarn.com) • www.billyboysblueberrybarn.com

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Tools, wheel barrow, 8-foot beach raft, oak table & chairs, piano rolls, pocket knives, housewares, vinyl 45s, beer signs, militaria, antiques.

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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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Professional seeking long-term rental 9 months to 1 year (or more) in Long Beach/Duneland/beach area. Min 2 bedrooms. Clean. Bright. Near Water. Beach Access. **Please call (704) 898-5401.**

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Stop 31 Shoreland Hills: Renovated ranch home, 2BR, 1BA, ranch home, AC, W/D, Wi-Fi, deck w/ grill, walk to beach, summer avail \$200/nt (3 nt min); winter/spring \$875 + utilities; no smoke or pets.
Contact cmppsusan@gmail.com

Furnished Uptown Arts District Apt, 2BR/1BA, 1,400 sq ft, beautifully renovated with laundry in unit! Available Oct 1-May 31. \$1,025/mo., includes util. No smoking/pets. **Call (219) 214-3451.**

Large studio with separate kitchen. Total renovation! Located in park-like setting. Private, but close to everything. \$850/mo., includes all utilities, cable and Internet, snow removal/trash pickup. No smoking/pets.
Call (219) 221-2228.

Stop 39, beautifully furnished 5BR/2BA, with fireplace, beautiful family room. 10 minutes to beach. \$1,500/week, or \$300/night.
Call (847) 769-7800 or email liskorinternational@gmail.com

Stop 31 with Beach Rights For Rent
 Shoreland Hills 4BR/3.5BA. Open concept, vaulted ceilings, huge porch. A Beautiful Life. For Rent Annually. \$2,800/mo. No smokers/no pets. Broker Owned. **Call or text Caroline at (312) 498-1444.**

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

Galien, MI, Development for Sale
 67,000 sq. ft., 8 acres, 3 b-ball courts, full football field, concession stand. Some work required. \$1.1M
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 4BR/3.5 BA. Newly rehabbed. Open concept, vaulted ceilings, granite and marble countertops, stainless steel appliances, large porch, writers shed. \$399,000. 3% to cooperating brokers. No listing calls please. II. Broker/Owner. **Call Caroline Rogers at (312) 498-1444**

Beautiful 5BR/2BA cabin for sale by owner. Michiana Shores. 1,800 sq. ft. Wood-burning fireplace, hardwood throughout. \$325,000. **Call (847) 769-7800 or email liskorinternational@gmail.com**

Beautiful, 2BR, 2BA villa on Briar Leaf golf course for sale by owner. Open concept on one level, with cherry floors and vaulted ceilings. Golf course view from front and back of unit. Maintenance-free living 15 minutes from Lake Michigan, with golf and fine dining just steps away. \$299,000. **Leave a message at (219) 362-8610 or email Thirdcoast903@gmail.com**

Public Art Committee

The Michigan City Public Art Committee meets at 10 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 15, in the City Hall Mayor's Conference Room, 100 E. Michigan Blvd.



Prayer to the Blessed Virgin

(Never known to fail.)

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.



Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter

The Chelsea Girls by Fiona Davis (hardcover, \$27 retail in bookstores and online; also available as an eBook. 352 pages.)

“Each room at the Chelsea remembers the people who’ve passed within its walls as if the names and dates have been etched on the grubby doorframes.”

In The Chelsea Girls, Davis shows us the famous Chelsea Hotel, opened in 1884 in Manhattan. If ever a place could talk — this one would sing and dance, and cry, too...

But right now, we’re interested in a particular time in America’s history — 1945-1967 — years of turmoil, years of changes, years of tears...of crumbling facades and crumbling careers...

Davis is one of the premier authors of historical fiction. This is her fourth novel. I have read them all. Her expertise is in showing us how buildings play as important a role in our lives as the people inhabiting them, giving the reader a unique view of the way we interact with the places we live in.

Our story opens in 1945 in Naples, Italy. Hazel Ripley and Maxine Mead are part of a USO troupe entertaining Allied soldiers. Not a lot in common, these two. Maxine is the looker who turns every man’s head. Hazel’s looks, according to Maxine: *“She’s got this girl-next-door quality — it’s as if she were wearing pigtails and overalls, not a uniform.”*

The pair finally recognize a growing friendship; however, that bond is interrupted by the bombing of Japan and the end of the war. Hazel heads back to New York City to audition for the stage, and Maxine to California to pursue a movie career.

After many rejects as an actress, Hazel realizes her true calling is writing stage plays. Her mother, however, thinks she should be an actress and makes Hazel crazy, constantly pushing her toward a career she doesn’t feel is her future. Through a chance meeting, Hazel learns about the Chelsea Hotel: a great way to be on her own and find her way on her own terms. The hotel is a haven for the arts. Artists, writers, actors — all have found not only a place to live, but also a gathering place where they can express their art without any interference.

Hazel writes a play about her experiences in Italy and shows it to the grand dame of the Chelsea, who hooks her up with a producer who wants to put her show on Broadway.

Hazel is thrilled, and doubly so when Maxine shows up one day and announces she is staying in New York for awhile. She convinces Hazel she would be best for the lead, and the race is on. Costumes,

set designs, extras, music — all must be pulled together before it’s time for previews and then, on to opening night.

Previews go well, the play is sure to be a hit. Did I mention it’s now 1950? There’s this senator in D.C. named Joe McCarthy. Yeah, the House Committee on UnAmerican Activities. What secrets is Maxine hiding? She’s acting (no pun intended) strange.

Hazel is shocked to find her name listed in Red Channels, a magazine put out by a group listing all current and past members of the Communist Party, not all of the information true. Hazel is called to testify...

The play is allowed to go on, and the first act is smooth as silk, but in the second act, Maxine blows it. She’s a professional — yet this seems almost planned...

If you know your history, you know what harm McCarthy did to many in the arts and entertainment field; ruining careers and lives in a witch hunt that lasted years. How do you persuade a Senate it is wrong? In this case, you don’t.

Hazel’s play closes after that one performance, and she is blacklisted from writing any more plays. The pain inflicted is palpable in this part of the story. Everyone touched by this horrible search for Communists is labeled: They lose their jobs, their dignity and some, their lives.

Hazel must try to pick up the pieces while trying to understand what happened with Maxine? And why did she go scurrying back to Hollywood and leave her hanging?

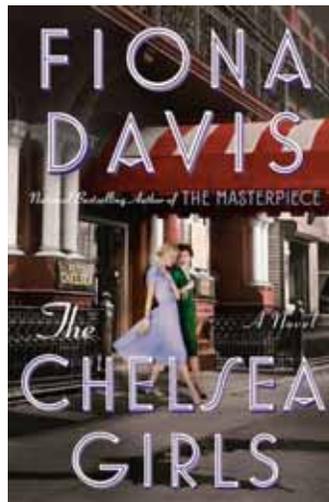
The story winds up in 1967 with the first televising of the Tony Awards, an evening Hazel would rather have spent alone, instead of this reminder about what might have been. What happens next is the bombshell climax to a story that could end badly, or just maybe, finally, reveal the truth.

This story is broad in scope, covering everything from the top of the heap to the bottom of the barrel. The characters that inhabit the Chelsea provide a backdrop, and the hotel is a haven...no, a fortress against the pains and inequalities of the world for Hazel and Maxine.

It’s another winner for Davis. Can’t wait to see what she comes up with next.

The Dollhouse brought to life the Barbizon Hotel; The Address, the Dakota apartment building; and The Masterpiece, reimagining the heyday of the Grand Central Terminal and the School of Art that once thrived there.

Till next time, happy reading!





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Wonderful 3-bedroom, 2-bath ranch situated on 3 buildable lots. 3,200 sq ft living area. Room for all your guests! Deeded beach rights at Stop 31.



2025 Juneway Drive, Long Beach \$420,000

So much room! This wonderful Long Beach home has a spacious open floorplan. There is room for everyone, yet there is plenty of privacy to be had. 4 bedrooms, 3 baths.



2817 Roslyn Trail, Long Beach \$359,000

Many Scandinavian and Italian influences throughout this 5BR/2.5 BA home. Large master bedroom with bath, with 3 additional bds on the main floor. Open kitchen concept flows to the rear decks.

Beachgoers! Not only have we remodeled, but we also have a new outdoor edition to our Stop 31 office! Complimentary foot shower for beach users! Come by and give us a visit!



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