



# The Beat Goes On

by *Edmund Lawler*

David Lahm performs Aug. 10 during Harbor Arts' Music in the Park series in Three Oaks' Dewey Cannon Park. Photo by Bob Wellinski

David Lahm had big shoes to fill, but he filled them his way.

Now 78, the jazz pianist divides his time between a New York City apartment and Harbor Country bed and breakfast. He's compiled an impressive list of credits, including writing a song with Academy Award-winning lyricist Dorothy Fields. Collaborat-

ing with famed composer Jerome Kern, she won the Oscar for Best Original Song in 1936 for the "The Way You Look Tonight," performed by Fred Astaire in "Swing Time." The lyricist for more than 400 songs for Broadway and Hollywood, she was inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame in 1971.

She also happened to be his mother.

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911 Franklin Street • Michigan City, IN 46360  
219/879-0088 • FAX 219/879-8070  
e-mail: News/Articles - drew@thebeacher.com  
email: Classifieds - classads@thebeacher.com  
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“My mother heard me playing a song one day, and she said, ‘That’s very nice.’ Impulsively, I said ‘Would you mind writing a lyric to it?’”

After several nudges, she did. The song, “Five O’Clock Sky,” never became a hit, but their collaboration in the late 1960s has a precious resonance.



Lahm’s mother, Oscar-winner Dorothy Fields, was the lyricist for more than 400 songs for Broadway and Hollywood.

“I was very young and naive at that point and wrote the song as a jazz waltz,” Lahm said. “I originally wrote it as an instrumental piece with no regard for the range of a singer. And it turned out to be too ‘range-y’ for a singer to handle.”

Sitting down for an interview with *The Beacher*, the white-bearded Lahm is as warmhearted as he is self-deprecating.

Growing up in an apartment across the street from Carnegie Hall, Lahm was playing classical music on the piano by 7. As a teenager, he left classical behind to focus on jazz and pop. His early life, by his own admission, was privileged and sheltered. He attended the exclusive Riverdale Country School in the Bronx, then was off to the highly selective Amherst College in Massachusetts. His father, Eli Lahm, owned a women’s garment business in New York City.

After college, Lahm enlisted in the U.S. Army Reserves and did graduate work in the School of Letters at Indiana University-Bloomington. IU is home to one of the nation’s top music schools. Despite

years of musical training and practice, Lahm didn’t think he could cut it there.

“It was far beyond my musical capabilities,” he said. “I would have never made it through there.”

Lahm recalled walking through the school one day, awestruck by such faculty names on the doors as legendary jazz composer David Baker and renowned concert pianist Andre Watts.

Yet it was an IU contact that led to his first big break as a professional musician. A music student he befriended in graduate school, impressed by Lahm’s musical talent, recommended him to a member of the Buddy Rich Band. After returning home to New York from the Midwest, Lahm took what he described as a “day job” at the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, where he monitored broadcasts to help determine appropriate compensation for musical artists’ work. At night, he played jazz.

“One morning when I was at ASCAP,” he said, “I got a call from my wife. She said someone from the Buddy Rich Band was on the phone, and they were looking for a pianist.”



Lahm says by the time he began performing with the notoriously hot-tempered Buddy Rich (pictured here), the drummer and band leader was enjoying a mellow phase of his life.

Lahm called the band representative, who said he came highly recommended. Lahm’s old IU friend, now a professional trumpeter, put in the good word for him. He was delighted, but terrified when the rep said the celebrated big jazz band needed a pianist that night for a performance at the Mark Twain Riverboat. But he could hardly say no.

“I wasn’t a very good reader of music at that time, and I probably would have been fired right away except that the band had a guitarist whose musical parts were almost identical to mine on the piano,”

he said. "So if I was afraid to play part of a song, they wouldn't miss me because the guitarist had it covered."

It was the guitarist who was eventually fired, and Lahm went on to master his parts. Lahm traveled and recorded with the band from late 1968 through early 1970.

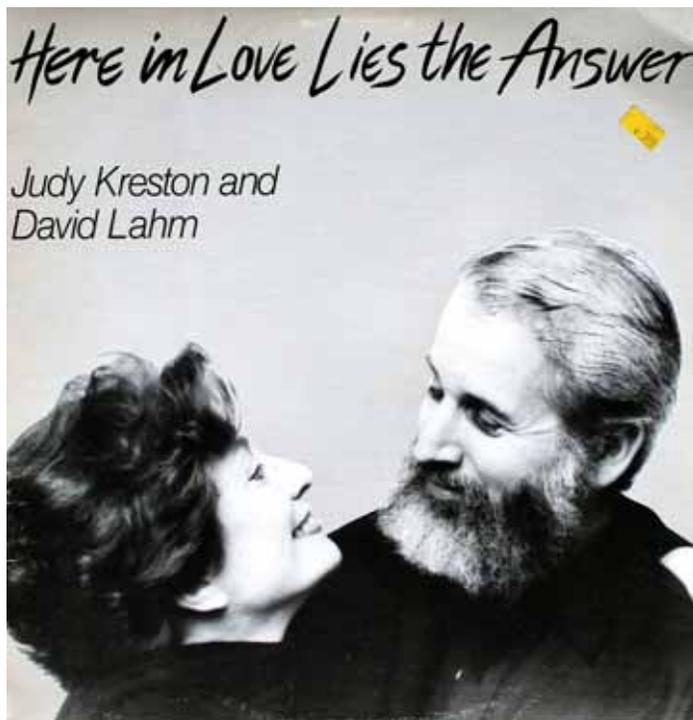
Traveling throughout the country with such musical luminaries as alto saxophonist Art Pepper and trumpeter Al Porcino was a fascinating experience, Lahm said.

"It really opened up my world because the band members were from all over," Lahm said.

And fortunately for Lahm, Buddy Rich, the notoriously hot-tempered drummer and band leader, was enjoying a mellow phase of his life.

"He had recently reconciled with his wife," Lahm said, "and many of the band members were veterans who knew how to handle themselves."

After leaving Buddy Rich, Lahm cultivated a musical career in New York City that included serving as the house pianist at Village Gate nightclub in New York's Greenwich Village. Between acts of such boldface names as trumpeter Miles Davis, saxophonist Sonny Rollins and pianist Bill Evans, Lahm served up the musical interludes. He supplemented his income by driving a cab.



Judy Kreston was the one who introduced Lahm to Southwest Michigan.

Lahm caught another big break in 1979 when Judy Kreston, a fixture on New York City's cabaret circuit, attended a club gig where he was playing. They hit it off and soon became lovers and musical collaborators. Both divorced when they met, the couple married in 1990. In a 1988 article in *The New York Times*, critic Stephen Holden wrote that Lahm

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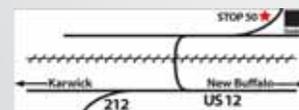
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“is a composer and arranger whose cool pop-jazz arrangements make an effective grounding wire for Kreston’s edgy anxiety.”

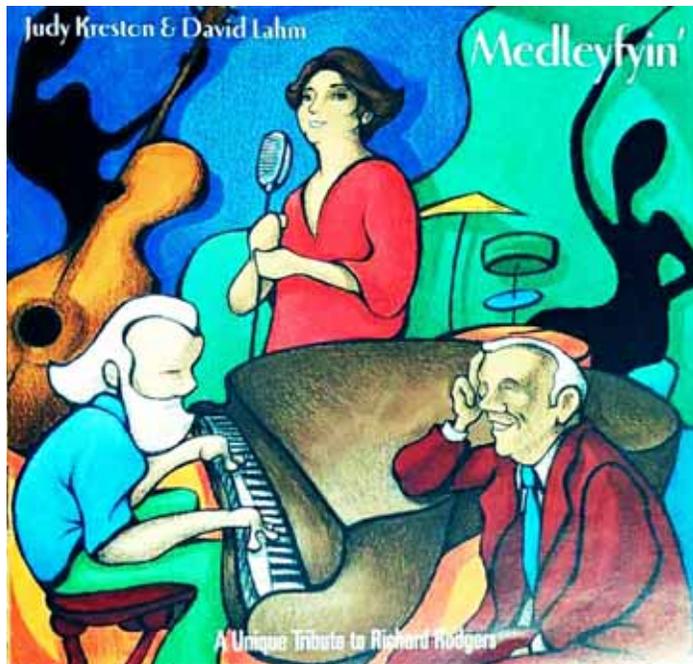
Kreston, a Chicago native, introduced Lahm to Southwest Michigan.

“We would occasionally visit her family in Chicago in the mid-’80s,” he said. “One day, Judy borrowed her mother’s car and we drove to the family’s second home in Union Pier. She hadn’t been there in about 25 years.”

The visit reminded Kreston how much she liked the area, and Lahm was charmed as well. They continued to return every summer, even after the family home in Union Pier was sold.

“We started to book into the Inn at Union Pier for four or five weeks every summer, and that’s when we started to do cabarets at The Acorn Theater.”

Not long after the theater opened in 2003, owners David Fink and Kim Clark introduced the couple to vocalists and other musicians from Harbor Country and the Chicago area.



Lahm calls “Medleyfyin” a musical highlight of his career.

In 2002, the couple collaborated on a CD, “Medleyfyin’,” that celebrated the centennial of composer Richard Rodgers’ birth. The CD featured song pairs: one song by Rodgers, the other by a different composer to complement Rodgers’ work. Lahm considers that compilation a highlight of his musical career. Sadly, Kreston, his collaborator of 30 years, died of cancer in 2009.

After a year’s mourning, Lahm reached out to a mutual friend of his and his late wife’s, Nancy Watson, who owns and operates the Harbert House Bed & Breakfast. Their acquaintanceship blossomed into a romantic relationship, and they’ve been a

couple for nine years.

“David is the most affectionate, smartest and talented person I know,” Watson said before excusing herself to prepare her salted caramel apple pear tart for the next day’s breakfast. With a laugh, Lahm ex-



David Lahm performs with Chicago vocalist Johnny Bash during the Music in the Park performance. Photo by Bob Wellinski

plained that he is the B&B’s “summer intern” as he brushed dust off a railing on the B&B’s front porch.

Lahm continues to perform in Southwest Michigan with local vocalists like Steve and Mary E (the three have performed together in Michigan City). In fact, a performance he’s most proud of was a show at The Box Factory for the Arts in St. Joseph. The show in 2013 featured New York City vocalist Ms. Blu and local guitarist Danny Dine as they covered songs from bluesman Taj Mahal’s 1971 vinyl “The Natch’l Blues.”

In New York, Lahm said his focus is jazz-style cabaret. But in Harbor Country, his repertoire is broader to accommodate more pop, contemporary Broadway shows like “Les Miserables” and the original music of local artists such as vocalist Jenna Mammia. Regardless if the venue is Harbor Country or the Big Apple, Lahm stays true to his style: “I’m a jazz musician very focused on harmony.”

On the night of July 4, he was at Café Gulistan, the Turkish restaurant in Harbert, accompanying owner Ibrahim Parlak’s 22-year-old daughter Livia, who delightfully sang enduring favorites such as “Georgia on My Mind” and “I’m Building up to an Awful Letdown.” Lahm often works with younger vocalists and musicians during open mics at The Acorn.

Parlak, who lives in the shadow of deportation, was brightened by his daughter’s performance that night and expressed his gratitude for Lahm’s mentorship of Livia.

“David is so down-to-earth,” Ibrahim Parlak said. “He is generous enough to help pull along some of the area’s younger talent.”



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## “It Chapter 2” Brings Stephen King’s Tale to Satisfying Close

by Andrew Tallackson

The thrill of Andy Muschietti’s “It” (2017) was how it surpassed our every expectation. Gone were the days a Stephen King adaptation dazzled, the bountiful well that yielded “Misery,” “The Shawshank Redemption” and “The Green Mile” long run dry. “It,” however, was a return to form. The flawless look and feel that matched the author’s vision. The beautifully etched performances by the young cast. The colors. The nostalgic air. It all gave Spielberg a run for the money.

That could explain why this second and final chapter is taking such a critical and fanboy beating. To them, lightning cannot strike twice. Maybe, last time, there was more at stake in watching children amid constant threat. Or that the giddy discovery of witnessing Bill Skarsgård devour whole Tim Curry’s take on Pennywise in the 1990 miniseries is over.

What cannot be disputed, though, is that “It Chapter 2” is exceptionally well made, superbly acted and extremely satisfying, with a fair share of scares – I jumped at least four times.

At nearly 1,140 pages, King’s 1986 magnum opus probably is too much book for one movie. An eight- or 10-part HBO miniseries might have done the trick, but by halving the story in two, and focusing on the characters as children in the first picture and now as adults in Chapter Two, this may stand as the definitive adaptation cinema can provide.

The action unfolds 27 years after members of The Losers Club in Derry, Maine, believed they’d vanquished the evil Pennywise for good. The creature preyed mostly on the fears of children, the town’s adults looking the other way in hopes their own lives might be spared.

Now, in present day, the murders have begun again, so Mike Hanlon (Isaiah Mustafa), still living in Derry, summons The Losers Club based on the oath they took as children, that if Pennywise returned, so would they all.

Muschietti has done a remarkable casting job here. Jay Ryan as Ben Hanscom and James Ransone as Eddie Kaspbrak are virtual doppelgangers of their youthful counterparts. Jessica Chastain as Beverly Marsh, James McAvoy as Bill Denbrough and Bill Hader, a scene-stealing revelation as scrappy misfit Richie Tozier, give the potent bond within

The Losers Club a palpable gravitas.

The young cast is still present, expanding on scenes somewhat abbreviated in the first film, and Muschietti finds astonishing ways, much like Taylor Hackford’s superb 1995 adaptation of King’s “Dolores Claiborne,” of weaving through past and present.



The Losers Club reunites as adults to fight Pennywise for the last time in “It Chapter 2.”

★ ★ ★ 1/2

### “It Chapter Two”

Running time: 169 minutes. Rated R for disturbing violent content and bloody images throughout, pervasive language and some crude sexual material

The midsection of “It Chapter 2” has to work through each character’s search to identify a piece of their past they can symbolically destroy, and it is here the film’s nearly three-hour length starts to *feel* it. Muschietti’s pulsing drive as a storyteller, the viable rhythm he establishes early, starts to feel repetitious. Then, the final battle with Pennywise unfolds, and it is nightmarishly hellish, with the nervous twitter Skarsgård brings to Pennywise more maniacal than ever.

Like its predecessor, “It Chapter 2” ends on a quiet note punctuated by Benjamin Wallfisch’s lyrical score. The message this time around, though, is more reflective, that of celebrating life over weaknesses and past failures. I won’t lie. I choked up. Over the course of two films, we have come to embrace these characters – their fears, their courage, their love for each other – and we are grateful to have spent time with them.

And, of course, the moments that scare us silly.

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



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## Polish Pride Emphasis of Annual Festival

by William Halliar

It's that time again.

Labor Day and the heat of summer are behind us, and we eagerly anticipate a day filled with family, food, music and dancing during the eighth annual Polish Heritage Festival from 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 15.

Presented by the Polish Heritage Association of Michigan City, the festival is held at Michigan City's ever more beautiful Friendship Botanic Gardens, 2055 E. U.S. 12.

Several changes are in the works to create a day of "Polish pride" that will conjure warm memories well into the cold winter months. First of all, the day will open with the traditional Polish-English Mass, which will be celebrated at 10:30 a.m. This earlier beginning to the day, plus the extended closing time of 5:30 p.m., will offer more time for families to mingle and enjoy the many activities.

And what a day it will be, jam-packed with so many sights, sounds and smells to make every heart swell with Polish pride.

Officiating at the Mass is the Rev. Walter Rakoczy, with hymns played by a traditional Polish orchestra and sung by the colorfully costumed members of the Polish folk dance group Wesoly Lud. Here is an opportunity to begin a beautiful day with the traditional songs of the homeland, sung together in unity of the spirit of "Polska."

Cavalier Inn, Hammond, will prepare mountains of stuffed peppers, heaps of Polish sausage garnished with sauerkraut and Pierogi by the thousands for the culinary highlight of the day. Of course, all of this can be washed down by a traditional Polish brew served at the beer garden.

There will be dancers in colorful costumes performing on a new, improved, much larger and cov-

ered stage. The groups include Wesoly Lud and WICI song and dance company.

Between the dance performances are lively melodies by the Polish Polka band Ampol-Airs, which never fails to get folks on their feet to swing through a polka or two.

Four tents will be set up with tables and chairs so guests can find a shady spot to enjoy their delicious Polish feast, or listen to the music and enjoy



Beacher file photo from the 2018 festival by Paul Kemiell.

the dance performances.

A midway will feature a "Bakers Dozen" Polish bakery, a *Kiszka* booth, a *Pysanky* demonstration, Polish souvenirs, jewelry and cultural displays. Nearby, the beer garden will slake the thirst of those whirling foot-stomping dancers, or for those who simply enjoy a good brew to accompany the day.

As if all of this merriment is not enough, additional highlights include: the reading of the Polish Heritage Day Proclamation by Mayor Ron Meer; the Polish Ambassador of the Year presentation; and award presentations for winners of the annual Polish Heritage Essay Contest. Add to this the announcement of the winners of the yearly raffle, and the day just couldn't get any better.

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### World Cultural Festival Set in Valparaiso

The Valparaiso International Center will transform Central Park Plaza, 68 Lafayette St., into a center for cultural diversity during its 11th annual World Cultural Festival from noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 15.

The free, family-friendly event offers music and dance from around the world, international art and handicrafts for sale, ethnic cuisine and children's activities.

Christopher McQuillin's Scottish bagpipe opens the event at the Porter Health Amphitheater, followed by dance and music performers who represent cultures of India, Mexico, Greece, China, the Middle East, Peru and the U.S. Included in the lineup is Adoyele, a West African dance and drum troupe from Chicago.

The Parade of Nations encourages attendees to wear traditional attire and carry the flag of their

birthplace or ancestral homeland. Ethnic cuisine hails from Roxana's Restaurant (Afghan), Provecho (Latin American), Woodfire Restaurant (Mexican), Kin Khao Thai and Taste of India.

Non-profit organizations and educational institutions will have information booths and representatives present. Products and fair-trade items will be sold at the World Bazaar. An origami demonstration is scheduled.

A children's tent with internationally themed activities for youngsters, and a display of art-

work from local middle-school students, is planned. Local volunteers and representatives of the Greater Northwest Indiana Boys and Girls Clubs will assist.

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Chinese performers at a recent World Cultural Festival.



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### Power to the Old Pedalers

*“It’s like you’re always going downhill with the wind at your back.”*

That was my darling wife, Natalie, upon taking a test ride on a Trek Verve+ electric bicycle at Michigan City’s Bike Stop Cycling.

“So,” I said, “should we switch to electric bikes?”

“Let me take another lap on this baby,” Natalie replied. She switched to “Sport” mode and took a really fast lap around the parking lot. Then, she was all smiles, saying we were about to enter a new golden era of bicycling.

Hey, we both turned 69 earlier this year, so we’re more than card-carrying AARP members.

We’re officially old.

And as official old folks, we’re entitled to a little help from modern technology on the hilly, windy back roads of Berrien County, Mich., and LaPorte County. What we have here are hills and more hills. And when setting out for a bike ride, does the wind *not* blow gale-force gusts in your face?

So we reported back to Bike Stop’s cycling ambassador, Trina Walsworth, asking if we could trade in our two conventional bi-



The fun couple take delivery of their new Trek Verve+ eBikes from Bike Stop Cycling.

cycles for a pair of electrical ones, or eBikes, we were test-riding.

“Sure,” Trina replied, saying our timing was perfect. Their stock of eBikes was rapidly rolling out the door as more and more local cyclists came to their senses, realizing it’s really not cheating to always feel like you’re riding downhill with the wind at your back.

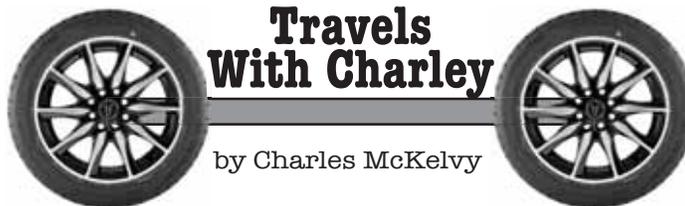
That was what Trina and Todd Walsworth had been telling us

ever since they took a pair of eBikes on vacation with them last year, discovering they could easily mount hills they would have thought twice about with conventional bikes. Plus, Trina noted, their eBikes gave them extra oomph at the end of the day when those big leg muscles are ready for the hot tub.

And, yes, the Walsworths tried to get us to try eBikes last year when they had a free demonstration in LaPorte, but we weren’t ready. We were going to be purists, a couple

of aging cyclists powering bicycles the old-fashioned way: with unaided muscle power.

But then came that day earlier this season when



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Trina sent us out with those two Trek Verve+ electric bicycles. We were sold immediately, and we were soon in possession of the two most amazing bicycles we ever owned.



Bike Stop Cycling's Phillip Kohler sent us on our way with new power for old people.

Natalie is thrilled with her new eBike, which she dubbed Silver Streak because it has enabled her to ride up hills with her physical therapist's blessings. Natalie, you see, is recovering from back and hip injuries, and her therapist didn't want her to ride anywhere but on flat, or even flatter, paved surfaces. That pretty much left out everywhere we like to ride, beginning with that little bobsled run out in front of our house called Dune Road. It was such that we had to transport our old bikes to Lake Township Park in Bridgman, Mich., so Natalie could ride the level roads there. A few laps...and that was it.

But then came our eBikes, and Natalie was showing off her new bike to her physical therapist, Hillary. One look at Natalie astride her mighty Silver Streak, and Hillary endorsed the concept, asking to take her own spin around the parking lot on said eBike.

Spin Hillary did, and she liked it so much, we worried she might not come back.

But come back Hillary did, and she happily told

Natalie to go forth and hit those hills of Berrien and LaPorte counties, gradually building up mileage on her mighty Trek Verve+. She has.

I must conclude this celebration of golden-year cycling by writing of the time we took our new bikes back to Bike Stop Cycling for warranty tune-ups and decided to follow that with a spin around Patriot Park south of town.

I figured we would just ride around that glorious park a few times and call it a day, but Natalie took off for the entrance, then hung a right. Before I knew it, we were heading far out of town on some seriously hilly roads.

No worries.  
Not for Natalie.  
And not for me.

As she said: "It's like you're always going downhill with the wind at your back."

Not only that, but there will inevitably come the time — as it recently did for me — when you're zipping along in "Sport" mode, and you just sort of pass a young whippersnapper on a hot road bike.

"Bike passing on your left," you'll cheerily say. And then you'll grin ear-to-ear as the kid realizes he's just been passed by his grandpa. Well, in my case, his great-grandpa.

But you get our drift, and you'll have a new lease on cycling if you get yourself an electric bicycle.

I'd say more, but my eBike, Rollin' Rod, is all charged up and ready for another long downhill with the wind at my back



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## New Exhibit Celebrates “Shakespearean Culture at Notre Dame”

The History Museum will present “Full Circle: Shakespearean Culture at Notre Dame,” which explores the past, present and future of Shakespearean performance, analysis and culture at the university.

A collaboration with Shakespeare at Notre Dame, the exhibit runs through Sept. 6, 2021.

In 1847, scenes from a Shakespeare play (“Henry IV, Part One”) were part of graduation exercises for the first time. Performances from other Shakespeare plays were repeated sporadically in later commencements until in 1884, the inclusion of scenes became so standard, it was referred to as “the annual Shakespeare entertainment.”

In one area of the History Museum exhibit, three costumes and a ship’s wheel — all from the 2016 production of “The Tempest” — are shown on a teal-and-copper shimmering fabric that evokes thoughts

of the sea. A nearby section reveals a case that suspends eight swords used to teach combat classes for productions of “Richard III,” “Henry IV” and “Henry V.”

Another area features football helmets from “Love’s Labor’s Lost” and a rocket pack from a recent production of “A Midsummer Night’s Dream.”

Also on view are costumes, props, set designs, photographs and playbills from “Macbeth,” “Julius Caesar,” “The Taming of the Shrew,” “Twelfth Night,” “The Merchant of Venice,” “Love’s Labor’s Lost” and “Othello.”



A portion of the exhibit paying tribute to a production of “The Tempest.”

Museum admission is \$10 for adults, \$8.50 for seniors (60+), \$6 for youth (6-17) and free for members. Hours are (all times Eastern) 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday.

The museum is located at 808 W. Washington St., South Bend. Visit [historymuseumSB.org](http://historymuseumSB.org) or call (574) 235-9664 for details.

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## Indiana Dunes National Park

The following programs are planned:

- **Drop-In Volunteer Program from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Sept. 14.**

Projects focus on preserving the park's natural and cultural resources. Dress for the weather, and be prepared to walk off trail. All equipment and protective gear, including gloves and eye protection, will be provided. Meet at The Park Connection volunteer office, which is adjacent to the main Chellberg Farm parking lot.

- **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.

- **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.

- **Feed the Farm Animals at Chellberg Farm from 4:30 to 5 p.m. Sundays.**

The farm includes cows, pigs, goats, chickens and turkeys.



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

## Indiana Dunes State Park

The following programs are offered:

- **Dunes Creek Hike at 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 14.**

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

- **Scarecrow Making at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 14.**

Meet Drama in the Dunes artist Jerry Jascoviak at the campground shelter next to site 116 to create a scarecrow. Take ratty clothes if having them. Materials will be provided.

- **Full Moon Hike at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 14.**

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

- **Feed the Birds at 10 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 15.**

Meet a naturalist outside the Nature Center for the daily feeding. Get close views of chickadees, cardinals and woodpeckers

- **Beach Mysteries at 10 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 15.**

Meet at the Nature Center to identify items found on the beach.



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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## Shirley Heinze Appreciation Hike

Shirley Heinze Land Trust will host its annual Appreciation Hike at 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 14, at Meadowbrook Nature Preserve, 109 W. County Road 700 North, Valparaiso.



A guided hike at Meadowbrook Nature Preserve.

The 154-acre preserve within the Valparaiso moraine offers four miles of hiking trails. It features woods, wetlands, streams, prairie pockets and former agricultural land that is being reforested. Hike participants should meet at the trailhead adjacent to the parking lot.

Unless thunderstorms arise, the hike is held rain or shine. Long pants, sturdy shoes, sun hat and insect repellent are recommended. Refreshments will be served in the Meadowbrook lodge after the hike, followed by a short program about the organization's work. Those who wish to attend the program only should arrive at 3 p.m.

RSVPs are requested to Bonnie Hawksworth at [bhawksworth@heinzetrust.org](mailto:bhawksworth@heinzetrust.org) or by calling (219) 242-8558. An online RSVP form is available at [www.heinzetrust.org](http://www.heinzetrust.org)

## Art Exhibit Tour

Friends of New Buffalo Library, as part of its Community Forum Series, will host a private, after-hours tour of the "Chicago Imagists" exhibit at 6:30 p.m. EDT Tuesday, Sept. 17, at Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St.

Exhibition Director Lora Fosberg will narrate the exhibit of works by Chicago Imagists, including Roger Brown, Tony Fitzpatrick, Lee Godie, Jeff Koons, Paul Nudd, Ed Paschke, Suellen Roccal and Ray Yoshida. The movement celebrated the low-brow, colorful nature of everyday urban life.

Admission is free, but group size is limited, so advance signup by email is requested at [new.buffalo.fol@gmail.com](mailto:new.buffalo.fol@gmail.com) or the library front desk. Visit [lubeznikcenter.org](http://lubeznikcenter.org) for directions.

Upcoming FOL programs include: "The First Woman President" on Monday, Sept. 23; "Climate Change and Fishing in Lake Michigan" on Monday, Oct. 7; "Nature Photography with Your Smart Phone" on Saturday, Oct. 12; and "The Day the Music Died" on Tuesday, Oct. 29.

Follow the Facebook link at [newbuffalotownshiplibrary.org](http://newbuffalotownshiplibrary.org) or email [new.buffalo.FOL@gmail.com](mailto:new.buffalo.FOL@gmail.com) for more details.

## Scrabble Tournament

READ LaPorte County Inc. will host its 16th annual Scrabble Tournament from 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 19, at Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 181, 181 W. McClung Road.

The event involves two rounds, with a lightning round before and between games. A cash bar, prizes, silent auction and hors d'oeuvres are planned.

The cost is \$30 per person. Search for 16th Annual Scrabble Tournament on facebook for details.



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# Amazing Race

The second leg of the Columbia Yacht Club 2019 Tri State Regatta arrived in Michigan City the afternoon of Sunday, Sept. 1. Twenty five entries were expected to dock by Michigan City Yacht Club. The race, itself, had three legs. The first was from Chicago to St. Joseph, Mich., the second from St. Joseph to Michigan City and the third from Michigan City to Chicago. Boaters arrived in Chicago on Monday morning.

All photos by Paul Kemiel



## LaPorte Native Returns to Tour Museum Exhibit of His Works

The staff at LaPorte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave., welcomed artist and LaPorte native Roland Hockett, who toured an exhibit of his works on display through Oct. 8.

The donated works include multi-media, copper work, paintings and sketches. Hockett arrived for the tour Aug. 15, then was honored Aug. 16 during a reception, hosted by Gerald and Kay Kabelin, in which he shared stories behind the artwork.

Born in LaPorte, Hockett was a 1956 LaPorte High School graduate. He earned a Master of Fine Arts from Indiana University, then taught at LaPorte High School for three years before moving to Florida. He spent the majority of his career as an art professor at Gulf Coast College in Panama City, Fla. He continues to create art in his Panama City studio. His pieces have been installed in the Florida Supreme Court, Panama City Florida International Airport and the U.S. Embassy in Costa Rica. His 16-foot sculpture "New Liberty III" was accepted for installation in the Canary Islands of Spain; however, the tragic events of 9/11 changed plans for the sculpture and it remained in Florida.

Also at the museum, Bruce Johnson, LaPorte County Historical Society president, will make the presentation "Hoosier Authors" at 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 14.

Besides James Whitcomb Riley and Booth Tark-

ington, who are included in the September exhibit "The Golden Age: Indiana Literature," the audience will learn about Theodore Dreiser, Kurt Vonnegut, Lew Wallace, Jessamyn West, Gene Stratton-Por-



Above: Roland Hockett (right) chats with LaPorte County Historian Fern Eddy Schultz at LaPorte County Historical Society Museum. Below: Bruce Johnson.

ter, Lloyd Douglas and others.

Regular museum admission fees apply: adults cost \$5, 60 and older \$4 and free for children. There is no extra charge for the presentation. Call (219) 324-6767 or email [info@laportecountyhistory.org](mailto:info@laportecountyhistory.org) for more details.





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## 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.

- **Duneland Stamp Club at 4 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 12.**

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

- **Readings in Elementary Spanish 1 at 10 a.m. Saturdays, Sept. 14 and 28.**

The prerequisite is a previous study of beginning Spanish. The aim is to increase vocabulary and improve reading. The class is free, but a \$6 textbook is available at the first session.

- **Writing Out Loud: Viola Shipman at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 14, at The Nest, 803 Franklin St.**

This year's series is at The Nest while renovation continues at the library.

- **Pokemon Go Community Day from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 15, in Youth Services.**

Pokemon-themed giveaways — while supplies last — are planned. Call Jonathan at (219) 873-3045 for details.

- **"The Practice of Writing" workshop at 6 p.m. Mondays, Sept. 16, 23 and 30.**

Author-teacher Hilda Demuth-Lutze offers the workshop for adults. Supplies are provided. Call (219) 873-3049 to register.

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

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

- **Tinkercad at 4 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 17.**

Registration is required for the program that involves Tinkercad, a free online collection of software tools. This session, for children 10-18, serves as an introduction to 3-D design, art and printing. No experience is necessary. All registered participants receive a 3-D print of his/her creations. Register at the Youth Services desk or call (219) 873-3045 for more info. Space is limited. MCPL 3-D printing rules apply, and the printing fee is waived for this program.

- **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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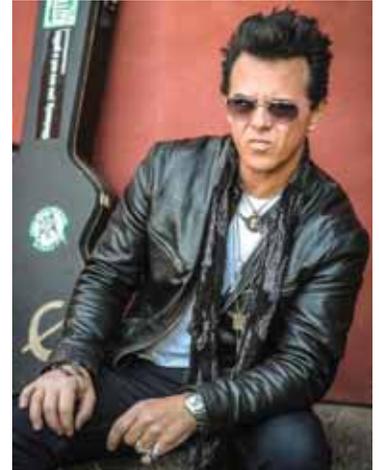
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### Acorn Concert Series

Gabis Arboretum at Purdue Northwest will end its 2019 Acorn Concert Series with a blues-themed night at 7 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 14.

Headliner Mike Farris is a 2015 Grammy winner whose style is described as earthy, modern soul with a rock-blues undertone. The opener, The Blues Project, is a local middle-school group that not only learns the history and artistry of blues, but also performs around the region.



Mike Farris

Food vendors include Valpo Velvet, Chicagoland Popcorn and Blue Chip: King of the Road. Tickets are \$20, while children 12 and younger are free. Tickets can be purchased at pnw.edu/gabis-concerts or at the gate. Food, beer and wine will be sold on site. Guests can take lawn chairs.

Gabis Arboretum is located at 450 W. County Road 100 North near Valparaiso.

### Car Wash for United Way

The annual Michigan City Area Schools and Michigan City police and fire departments Car Wash for United Way is from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 12, at the Plant Planning parking lot across from Ames Field.

A minimum \$5 donation is suggested, although donations of any amount are welcome. Mums will be sold, and a free hot dog lunch is provided. Two available services include: the "waterless wash," which involves a donation only, and the "executive wash," where donors of \$100 or more receive a certificate and are featured on social media.

The fundraiser supports after-school programs, kindergarten countdown, Open Door Health Center and other causes.

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## LaPorte County Public Library

The following programs are at the main branch of LaPorte County Public Library, 904 Indiana Ave.:

• **Maker Mondays from 3-5 p.m. Mondays through Oct. 28.**

Each month highlights a different skill and lab equipment. September focuses on video production and October 3-D modeling and printing.

• **STEAM Sandbox from 3-5 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday through Oct. 31.**

Students in third grade and older move up through levels, earning a certificate for each completed. They work independently and chart their progress as they complete hands-on projects that include web literacy, fixer skills, circuitry, game design and coding.

• **Food For Thought: Author Social from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 13, at Cummings Lodge on Stone Lake.**

Long Beach author-journalist David Hoppe will present "There and Gone and Back Again," a presentation developed as part of the Indiana Humanities INseperable initiative. He will explore how the cultural conversation sparked by the creative and culinary arts renews communities. His book, Food for Thought, explores food across Indiana, and includes how Garwood Orchard evolved from a family farm to a tourist destination. Reservations are required at laportelibrary.org.

• **Sew a Reusable Grocery Bag on Saturday, Sept. 14.**

Participants learn sewing skills while using sustainable materials in everyday life to create a bag. Fabric is provided, or take material (one yard of outer fabric and one yard of lining fabric; prewashed cotton is recommended).

There are two sessions: 10 a.m. to noon and 2 to 4 p.m. Register at laportelibrary.org

• **To Stream or Not To Stream? Cutting the Cable Cord from 6 to 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 16.**

The program focuses on which streaming service is the best for each individual, saving money and which devices work best.

The following program is at the Coolspring branch, 6925 W. County Road 400 North:

• **Caregiver University from 6-7 p.m. Tuesdays.**

The schedule is: Sept. 24 — Medicare and Medicaid; Oct. 8 — Caring for Aging Parents at Home; Oct. 22 — Alzheimer's and Dementia; Nov. 5 — Aging and the Law: Living Wills, Guardianships and More; and Nov. 19 — End of Life Care and Planning.



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

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**Westchester Public Library**

*The following programs are available:*

• **NorthShore Health Center free blood-pressure screenings from 10 a.m. to noon Thursday, Sept. 12, at Hageman Library, 100 Francis St., Porter.**

Interested patrons also can receive help calculating Body Mass Index.

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

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

• **Inquiring Minds: Smart 911 from 1 to 2 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 12, at Hageman Library.**

Sue Baugher, a 26-year veteran of the Porter County Dispatch Center and a Tactical Telecommunicate Response instructor, will provide information on setting up the service. Register by calling (219) 926-9080.

• **Lego Club from 4 to 5 p.m. Friday, Sept. 13, at the Thomas Library Children's Department, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.**

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

• **Knitting Together from 1 to 5 p.m. Sundays, Sept. 15 and 29, at Westchester Township History Museum.**

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

• **Maker Mondays from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Monday, Sept. 16, 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. Register by calling (219) 926-7696.

• **Pete the Cat Palooza from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 18, at the Thomas Branch Children's Department.**

Children ages 4-6 will read books, play a math game with buttons and make Pete the Cat visors. Registration is required by calling (219) 926-7696.

• **DIY Pumpkin Spice Sugar Scrub from 6 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 18, in the Thomas Branch Bertha Wood Meeting Room.**

All materials are provided. Registration is required by calling (219) 926-7696.

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### Art in Nature Series

The Tryon Farm Institute, in partnership with Kristina Isabelle Dance, continues Art in Nature, a monthly series featuring dance, film, music and art experiences at Tryon Farm, 1500 Tryon Road.

A documentary screening, "Mr. Canoe" by Chicago filmmaker James Forni, is at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 13.



Chicago filmmaker James Forni's "Mr. Canoe."

In fall 2012, Forni was introduced to Ralph Frese, world-famous canoe-builder and conservationist whose Portage Park shop Chicagoland Canoe Base was known as the city's last working blacksmith shop. Forni was able to dig into Frese's past through research and interviews with more than 30 friends and peers. Also, musician Tom Kastle will share maritime songs and stories as it relates to Frese.

"Drawing You Outside," conceived by Christine and James Forni, is from 3 to 5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 14. Participants will create a mobile outdoor drawing room to explore nature and the landscape though handmade charcoal. All ages and experiences are welcome

An Artist Salon Talk at 5 p.m. will feature Forni, Kimberly Beck and other visual artists.

The suggested donation is: \$20 for adults and \$10 for youth, while Drawing You Outside costs \$10 for adults and \$5 for children.

Call (614) 638-6186 or email kristinaisabelle-dance@gmail.com for details.

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## Special Barker Mansion Tour

A special tour, "Bulbs, Buzzers and Silk Wires: Electrifying the Barker Mansion," is from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 18, at the mansion, 631 Washington St.



In 1905, Barker Mansion became one of the first LaPorte County homes to have electricity. During the tour, guests will learn how the mansion achieved that feat, viewing the inner working of original electrical outlets in the floors and walls, as well as the original switchboard, hidden call buttons in the walls, Tiffany lamps, nickel-plated telephones and other details normally hidden to the public.

Learn as well how working conditions, social customs and urban crime changed with the onset of indoor and outdoor lighting.

The cost is \$5. Visit [www.barkermansion.com](http://www.barkermansion.com) 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.

## Historical Society Potluck Dinner

"The Making of the Mural" and "The Present and Future of Downtown La Porte" are the program topics for the Sept. 17 LaPorte County Historical Society meeting.

The potluck dinner is at First Baptist Church, 908 Jefferson St., LaPorte. Doors open at 6 p.m., with dinner at 6:30 p.m. and the program at 7 p.m.

Tom Torluemke, the artist painting the mural at Lincolnway and Monroe Street, will speak about the project, while Bert Cook, LaPorte Economic Advancement Partnership executive director, will share insights on economic-development successes, and future efforts, in LaPorte.

The public is welcome. Reservations and a side dish are required for those wanting to attend the dinner. Reservations must be made no later than Friday, Sept. 13, by phone (219-324-6767), by email ([info@laportecountyhistory.org](mailto:info@laportecountyhistory.org)) or in person (2405 Indiana Ave., LaPorte. A main dish and beverages will be provided. There is no admission fee.

## Cherry Beach Fundraising Update

Chikaming Township's effort to acquire Lake Michigan property adjacent to Cherry Beach is entering its final phase.

More than 700 individuals and organizations have made new pledges, repledged after showing support in 2018 or increased their 2018 pledges to receive a grant from the State of Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund. With the Sept. 30 deadline looming, supporters must raise nearly \$160,000 in the next few weeks.

The grant would cover 60 percent of the purchase price, and the current drive is Chikaming Township's second attempt to qualify. Last year, the community raised \$1.2 million (the minimum 25 percent match needed), but the state had considerably less money to award than in previous years. However, the MNRTF encouraged the township to try again this year.

"This year, we're attempting to raise more of a match so we can ask the state for less," Township Supervisor David Bunte said in a press release.

A grassroots group of area residents and home owners called the Cherry Beach Committee has led fundraising efforts. If the grant is awarded, the township intends to keep the parcel in its natural state in perpetuity.

Visit [cherrybeachproject.com](http://cherrybeachproject.com) to contribute or for more details.

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## PechaKucha 20x20

Multiple groups have united to present PechaKucha 20x20 St. Joseph/Benton Harbor, Vol. 18, following Artoberfest from 8:30 to 10:30 p.m. EDT Saturday, Sept. 14, at The Livery Microbrewery, 190 Fifth St., Benton Harbor, Mich.

PechaKucha 20x20 is a simple presentation format where presenters run 20 images for 20 seconds each, advancing automatically. There are eight confirmed presenters: Dierdre Guthrie; Carolyn Pampalone Rabbers; Marnie Heyn; Princella Stringer; Karen Joy B.; Rick Fuller; Traci Burton; and Barb Chartier Raudonis.

The Whirlpool Creatives Association, Wightman, Krasl Art Center, The Box Factory for the Arts and individual volunteers collaborated on the event.

Conceived by Astrid Klein and Mark Dytham in Tokyo, PechaKucha 20x20 is an international event in more than 700 cities around the world, and attended by more than 250,000 people annually. It has been described as the world's biggest physical social network.

Doors open at 7:30 p.m. EDT, with the first presenter starting promptly at 8:30 p.m. EDT.

## Duneland Weavers' Guild

Duneland Weavers' Guild meets from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Sept. 14, at its new home, Three Moons Fiberworks, 402 Broadway, Chesterton.

Meetings are open to the public, including non-weavers and other fiber artists. The group's first fall meeting includes Show 'n Tell of members' summer projects and updates on upcoming programs.

Visit [www.dunelandweaversguild.org](http://www.dunelandweaversguild.org) for photos and more details.

## Pat Herman Solo Exhibit

The solo exhibit "Painting Inside and Out: Studio and Plein Air by Pat Herman" opens with a reception from 7 to 9 p.m. Friday, Sept. 13, at the Beverly Shores Depot Museum and Art Gallery, 525 S. Broadway.

The exhibit runs through Sunday, Oct. 6. Gallery hours are from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday-Sunday.

## Franklin Street Roll-Around

The first Franklin Street Roll-Around, a free rollerskating event, is from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 14, at Seventh and Franklin streets.

The event includes activities, games and music. Take rollerskates if having them.

Search Franklin St. Roll-Around on Facebook for details.

### Chesterton Art Center

The following programs are at Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St.:

• **Robyn Feeley will teach two four-week Whimsical Pastel Painting classes.**

A class for adults starts from 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 19, while the class for children 8-12 starts from 9 to 11 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 28.

Feeley will help participants create pastel paintings using her signature style: something between caricature and pure whimsy. Subjects can include wildlife/flora, underwater sea creatures and parody portraits. Students will learn about the use of color, shape and blending techniques, creating three finished pastel paintings and one mosaic-type frame.



An example of a whimsical painting by Robyn Feeley.

The cost is \$90, with members receiving a \$20 discount. Supplies are included. The maximum class size is 10 to allow for individualized instruction.

• **Kristy Horb will host a Fall Leaves edition of Cookies and Canvas on Friday, Sept. 20.**

Children ages 3-7 can attend from 5 to 6:30 p.m. and ages 8 and older from 7 to 8:30 p.m. The evening includes an 8x10 leaf-themed stretched canvas painting, as well as cookies and juice.

The cost is \$10 per child, or \$5 for members. Interested students must register and pay no later than Thursday, Sept. 19.

• **Life Drawing Open Studio from 6-9 p.m. the first and third Wednesday of the month, the next session being Sept. 18.**

This is an open studio, so artists should take supplies and clean up after. Organizer Ivan Chermel can provide guidance, but the class is not structured. Artists can use any media: pencil, charcoal, pastel or paints. Typically, fully clothed models are used, or on rare occasion a partially clad or nude model. The cost of each session is \$15, and students must pre-register.

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



## American Red Cross

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

- LaPorte High School, 602 F St., 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Friday, Sept. 13.
- Bethany Lutheran Church, 102 G St., LaPorte, 1-6 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 17.
- St. John Kanty, 7012 N. County Road 600 East, Rolling Prairie, 1-6 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 17.
- Chesterton Physical Therapy-Michigan City, 320 Dunes Plaza, 3-6 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 17.
- Ivy Tech Community College, 3714 Franklin St., 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 17.

Donors must be in good general health and feeling well, at least 17 (16 with parental consent) and weigh at least 110 pounds. Call (800) 733-2767 or visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) for more details.

### Fernwood Botanical Garden

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

• **The Marvel of Trees from 1 to 2:30 p.m. EDT Sunday, Sept. 15.**

Become familiar with the methods of estimating a tree's age, and one particular method to use while walking Fernwood's trails on a scavenger hunt. The cost is \$12 (members pay \$10). Register by Sept. 13.

• **In Trillium Hall: FireArts: 15th Anniversary Celebration, Sept. 13-Dec. 9.**

Jewelry, stone sculpture, bronze work and pottery are on display from South Bend FireArts' 25 resident members.

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

### Noon Time Talk Series

The Noon Time Talk Series continues with the film "The Collector: Allan Stone's Life in Art" at 12:20 p.m. EDT Thursday, Sept. 12, at Midwest Museum of American Art, 429 S. Main St., Elkhart.

Stone was one of the most influential Manhattan art dealers of the last half of the 20th century. An abstract expressionism expert, he discovered important American artists such as John Chamberlain and Wayne Thiebaud.

Admission is \$5. Members are free. Call (574) 293-6660 for details.

### La Porte County Parks



All registrations/questions go through the Red Mill County Park Administrative Office, 0185 S. Holmesville Road, LaPorte. Call (219) 325-8315 or visit [www.laportecountyparks.org](http://www.laportecountyparks.org) for more details.

#### Hand-Stitched Painted Canvas

Hemlock Heather leads the program from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 14, at Luhr County Park Nature Center, 3178 S. County Road 150 West, LaPorte.

Participants 13 and older will make an arrow design with provided paint and thread colors. Children must be accompanied by an adult. The stitching aspect is basic and minimal. The cost is \$15 per person. Pre-registration and payment are required.

#### Nature's Tiny Tots

Designed for parents and grandparents, explore nature with toddlers and preschoolers. Enjoy music, dancing, storytelling and, weather permitting, hiking.

The free program is from 10 to 11 a.m. Sept. 16 and 23, Oct. 7 and 28, Nov. 18 and 25, and Dec. 2 and 16 at Luhr County Park. Call (219) 325-8315 at least one week in advance to register.

#### Pioneer Days

The family event is from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 28-29, at Creek Ridge County Park, 7943 W. County Road 400 North, Michigan City.

Historically clad re-enactors and vendors involve families in outdoor cooking, crafts, candle dipping, wagon rides and food. The cost is \$2 for adults and \$1 for seniors and children 4 or younger.

#### Healthy Lifestyles

The free social club that emphasizes quality of life meets from 9 to 10 a.m. Wednesdays at Luhr County Park Nature Center.

Programs focus on health trends, gardening, medical information and balancing active lifestyles. Call at least one week in advance to sign up (the maximum allowed is 30). The schedule is:

- Oct. 2 — Medicare 2020: an overview of any changes in coverage and enrollment.
- Nov. 6 — What is your spine saying, and complimentary health/spinal screening, with Hicks Chiropractic Health Center.

#### Teachers-Groups-Scout Leaders

Free environmental education programs are offered to groups throughout the year. Programs last one hour or longer depending on the group size and age. Programs can be scheduled at Creek Ridge, Luhr, Bluhm or Red Mill parks. Call (219) 325-8315 for more information or to make a reservation.



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## Activities to Explore

### In the Area:

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

**Sept. 12-15** — “Doublewide, Texas,” Footlight Theatre, 1705 Franklin St. Times: 7:30 p.m. Thur.-Sat., 2 p.m. Sun. Tickets: \$15/adults, \$10/12 or younger. Reservations: (219) 874-4035, FootlightPlayers.org

**Sept. 13** — Food For Thought: Author Social (David Hoppe), 6-8 p.m., Cummings Lodge on Stone Lake. Reservations: laportelibrary.org

**Sept. 13** — Opening reception, “Painting Inside and Out: Studio and Plein Air by Pat Herman,” 7-9 p.m., Beverly Shores Depot Museum and Art Gallery, 525 S. Broadway.

**Sept. 13** — Michael Glabicki (Rusted Root) with Dirk Miller, 8 p.m. EDT, The Acorn, 107 Generation Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: \$25. Reservations: acornlive.org

**Sept. 13-16** — Vickers Theatre, 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. *Now showing:* “The Peanut Butter Falcon.” Rated PG-13. Times: 6 p.m. Fri.-Mon. *Also:* “David Crosby: Remember My Name.” Rated R. Times: 9 p.m. Fri.-Sat., 3:15 p.m. Sat.-Sun. *Also:* Live performance, “Conversations with a Suffragist,” 3 p.m. Tickets: \$10/advance, \$12/door, limited student seating/\$5. All times Eastern. Info: vickers-theatre.com, (269) 756-3522.

**Sept. 14** — Community Appreciation Day, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Washington Park Zoo, 115 Lakeshore Drive. Admission half off. Info: www.washington-parkzoo.com

**Sept. 14** — Franklin Street Roll-Around, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Seventh and Franklin streets. Free.

**Sept. 14** — Scarecrow Making, 11:30 a.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

**Sept. 14** — Writing Out Loud, Viola Shipman, 7:30 p.m., The Nest, 803 Franklin St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

**Sept. 15** — Polish Heritage Festival, 11:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Friendship Botanic Gardens, 2055 E. U.S. 12. Admission: \$7/adults, free/children 12 & younger. Info: Polish Heritage Festival on facebook.

**Sept. 17** — Friends of New Buffalo Library Community Forum Series, “Chicago Imagists” exhibit, 6:30 p.m. EDT, Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St. Info: newbuffalotownshiplibrary.org

**Sept. 17** — LaPorte County Historical Society meeting: “The Making of the Mural”/“The Present and Future of Downtown LaPorte,” First Baptist Church, 908 Jefferson St., LaPorte. Doors open/6 p.m., dinner/6:30 p.m., program/7 p.m. Info/reservations: (219) 324-6767.

**Sept. 18** — DIY Pumpkin Spice Sugar Scrub, 6-7 p.m., Westchester Public Library, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton. Registration: (219) 926-7696.

**Sept. 18** — Tour, “Bulbs, Buzzers and Silk Wires: Electrifying the Barker Mansion,” 7-8:30 p.m., Barker Mansion, 831 Washington St. Cost: \$5. Info: [www.barkermansion.com](http://www.barkermansion.com)

**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.

**In the Region**

**Sept. 13-15** — “Now and Then,” Elkhart Civic Theatre @ Bristol (Ind.) Opera House, 210 E. Vistula St. Times (Eastern): 7:30 p.m. Fri.-Sat., 3 p.m. Sun. Tickets: adults/\$21, students & seniors 62+/\$19. Reservations: [elkhartcivictheatre.org](http://elkhartcivictheatre.org), (574) 848-4116.

**Sept. 14** — Shirley Heinze Land Trust annual Appreciation Hike, 2 p.m., Meadowbrook Nature Preserve, 109 W. County Road 700 North, Valparaiso. Reservations: [bhawksworth@heinzetrust.org](mailto:bhawksworth@heinzetrust.org), (219) 242-8558

**Sept. 15** — World Cultural Festival, noon-5 p.m., Valparaiso’s Central Park Plaza, 68 Lafayette St. Free. Info: [www.valpovic.org](http://www.valpovic.org), (219) 464-1122.

**Sept. 15** — The Marvel of Trees, 1-2:30 p.m. EDT, Fernwood Botanical Garden and Nature Preserve, 13988 Range Line Road, Niles, Mich. Cost: \$12, members/\$10. Registration: (269) 695-6491, [www.fernwoodbotanical.org](http://www.fernwoodbotanical.org)

**Sept. 17** — Open Mic Night with host Kecia Deroly, 7-9 p.m. EDT, The Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Mich. Free, donations accepted. Performer signup: [nikki@boxfactoryforthearts.org](mailto:nikki@boxfactoryforthearts.org)

**Through Sept. 21** — Exhibit, FACETIME, Fritz Olsen Fine Art Gallery, 6914 W. Holloway Drive, Sawyer, Mich. Info: (269) 426-3003.

**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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**On September 12, 1869**, the National Prohibition Party was formed in Chicago.

**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 United States.

**On September 12, 1948**, Maine’s Republican Margaret Chase Smith was elected to the U.S. Senate, becoming the first woman to have served in both houses of Congress.

**On September 12, 1953**, in Newport, R.I., Massachusetts Sen. John Kennedy married Jacqueline Bouvier.

**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, 1788**, the U.S. Constitutional Convention authorized the new nation’s first national election to be held on “the first Wednesday in January next.”

**On September 13, 1872**, presidential candidate George Francis Train described his qualification for office: *“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.”* He received no votes in the general election the following November.

**On September 13, 1996**, rapper Tupac Shakur died at a Las Vegas hospital after he was wounded in a drive-by shooting; he was 25.

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

**On September 14, 1886**, George K. Anderson, of Memphis, Tenn., patented the typewriter ribbon.

**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, 1948**, a groundbreaking ceremony took place in New York at the site of the UN world headquarters.

**On September 14, 1959**, a Soviet space probe, the Luna-2, became the first vehicle to land on the moon

**On September 14, 1972**, “The Waltons” premiered on CBS.

**On September 15, 1890**, detective novelist Agatha Christie was born in Torquay, England.

**On September 15, 1940**, during World War II, the tide turned in the “Battle of Britain” as Royal Air Force planes inflicted heavy losses on the German Luftwaffe.

**On September 15, 1949**, “The Lone Ranger” premiered on ABC.

**On September 15, 1983**, Menachem Begin resigned as prime minister of Israel.

**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 16, 1620**, after two previous false starts — 74 men and 28 women — along with a small crew, set sail from Plymouth, England aboard HMS Mayflower. The “Mayflower,” originally designed as a wine ship, reached Provincetown, Mass., on Dec. 26, 1620.

**On September 16, 1893**, more than 100,000 homesteaders rushed into Oklahoma’s “Cherokee Strip” to claim shares of six million acres of land opened up to settlers by the government of the United States.

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

**On September 17, 1862**, in the Civil War battle of “Antietam,” Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee’s troops were defeated by Gen. George McClelland’s Union Army.

**On September 17, 1920**, the American Professional Football Association — precursor of the National Football League — was formed in Canton, Ohio.

**On September 17, 1939**, the Harry James Orchestra and Frank Sinatra recorded “All or Nothing at All” for Columbia Records.

**On September 17, 1961**, the situation comedy “Car 54, Where Are You?” premiered on NBC.

**On September 17, 1972**, “M\*A\*S\*H” premiered on CBS.

**On September 18, 1769**, *The Boston Gazette* reported the first piano made in this country was a spinet, with a three-to-four-octave range, manufactured by John Harris.

**On September 18, 1851**, *The New York Times*, founded by George Jones and Henry Raymond, went on sale for 2 cents a copy.

**On September 18, 1940**, *You Can’t Go Home Again* by Thomas Wolfe was first published.

**On September 18, 1963**, “The Patty Duke Show” premiered on ABC.

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## Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter

**The Chain** by Adrian McKinty (hardcover, \$28 retail in bookstores and online; also available as an eBook. 352 pages)

*“She pauses and again racks her brain for any other way out of this, but nothing comes to mind. Follow The Chain. That’s all. If you follow The Chain you get your kid back. If you don’t...”*

Rachel is the divorced mother of 13-year-old Kylie. One fateful morning, Kylie is waiting at the corner for the school bus. Her mother is on the way to a routine visit to her oncologist to make sure her breast cancer is still in remission. Yes, Rachel is a cancer survivor. At least she thought she was...

In the car, Rachel receives a call marked Unknown Caller: *“In five minutes, Rachel, you will be getting the most important phone call of your life.”* And that next phone call will cement the fact that life will never be the same for this woman or her daughter.

Kylie is abducted at the bus stop. She is blindfolded and taken to a basement in a house obviously far out in the country. Kylie is a smart girl who keeps her mouth shut, listening for any telltale noises or smells — anything that will identify who has her or where she is.

Meanwhile, the promised call comes in from a woman who says Rachel must snatch another child because her child also has been kidnapped and won’t be released until Rachel does her part. If Rachel fails, then that woman, her child, Rachel and Kylie will be killed and The Chain will move on to new victims.

Rachel is trying to process what she is hearing. She might, at first, think this is a hoax, but The Chain proves they know everything about her: her life, her movements, everything — indisputable facts prove she and Kylie are now part of The Chain, something so monstrous and foolproof, there is nothing except to listen and obey. First, give them \$25,000, then kidnap a child, hold her or him until she notifies their parents, who are then directed to kidnap another child in order for Rachel to get Kylie back, and so it goes — on and on. Get the picture? There’s no end to The Chain.

Rachel can’t involve her ex-husband, Marty. He is down in Augusta with his latest blonde bombshell and would probably be no help. But, there is Pete, Marty’s brother. He’s ex-Army and a computer expert. Rachel tells the unknown caller she can’t do this alone, and they OK her to include Pete in kid-

napping a child.

Rachel immediately finds a vacation house not far from her home on Plum Island, off the Massachusetts coast, breaks in and makes the basement ready for her victim. She calls Pete, tells him what has happened and, after much discussion, says he will keep quiet and help her get Kylie back safe and sound. Small problem — Rachel doesn’t know Pete is a heroin addict.

Immediately, she goes to social media, because that’s where so many give out precious facts about their children and their lives. She makes a list of five possible children, then she and Pete get in the car and first scope out the Dunleavy family and their son: 11 years old, takes archery lessons every Sunday evening and walks home alone. Sunday arrives and they follow the boy until he is in a quiet street with no one around, grab him and his archery pack and — wait — it’s a girl! It’s his 8-year-old sister, taking his archery equipment home because he went to a friend’s house. Too late now. They take the girl and run. The Chain tells her to give the Dunleavys the same information Rachel received four days before.

Rachel is amazed at herself how fast she falls into all this madness:

*“Your fall has been vertiginous and swift. You’re in the cage plummeting to hell. And it’s going to get worse. It*

*always gets worse. First comes the cancer, then the divorce, then your daughter gets kidnapped, then you become the monster.”*

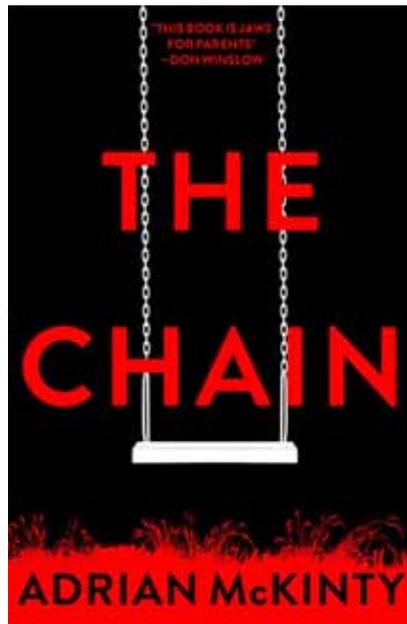
Go to the police, you say? The Chain has it all covered. They have all the knowledge they need to kill Rachel and Kylie anytime, anyway they want. They know all their moves somehow and, well, it’s an airtight plan. But, consider this — just how far can a person be pushed until something inside snaps and the decision is made to fight back?

Top-of-the-scale scary, The Chain certainly keeps you turning pages, but there is something else to consider. Never before have our lives been out there in the public domain as they are today. We allow it and share it freely on social media. We take pictures of family at home, family on vacation, even take photos of the food we eat. Anyone can find out our family makeup, school schedules, where we live and more.

Maybe this book is a cautionary tale.

*“When is this going to end?” she whispers to the darkness. The darkness keeps its own counsel.”*

Till next time, happy reading!



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