



Volume 37, Number 28 Thursday, July 22, 2021

Making Music

by Kim Nowatzke

Editor's note — This is the next in an ongoing series exploring life in LaPorte County since the COVID-19 pandemic.



Krueger Middle School Band Director George Olson virtually teaches a band student during the pandemic.

For Michigan City Area Schools, year-end spring concerts by middle and high school bands and choirs were sweet music to the ears.

In more ways than one.

During the last week of May, in-person concerts included a Michigan City High School choir performance Tuesday, May 25, a Barker Middle School combined choir and band concert Wednesday, May 26, and a MCHS band performance Thursday, May 27. Due to an upsurge in COVID-19 cases, Krueger Middle School held virtual band and choir concerts.

(Because of music copyright and student privacy

issues, Krueger's performances could not be posted for public viewing.)

"There are no words to describe what this concert means to all of us," Stephanie Sobecki, the Barker Middle School chorus director, said prior to the event. "For the students, it brings back the opportunity to show off their talents, and to once again experience the joy of performance! They are so excited! As their director, it is a sweet moment that is unique and significant, for reasons far beyond the usual presentation of songs. I see my kids returning

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Making Music

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from their fears and beginning to re-establish their lives. It's a very special day for us all."

At Barker, Sobecki said, seventh- and eighth-grade chorus classes focus on reading music, developing vocal technique and mastering music theory. In eighth grade, an Advanced Chorus allows students to refine their skills as they prepare for high school chorus. Typically, there are 80-100 chorus students at Barker, but this past school year, about 55 returned to in-person learning.

A few days before the Barker concert, Director of Bands Parker Sterling noted how refreshing it has been to end the year on a more normal note.

"This performance is the first opportunity these students have to perform their own concert for a crowd," he said. "Every student has been working incredibly hard these past few months preparing this concert, but this work is a culmination of their years learning their instruments, and I am happy with a chance for them to share that work.

"Many students are very excited for this concert," he continued. "It seems as if students are anxious for a chance to have a 'normal' experience this year and show off their skills."

Sterling said Barker saw about 50 seventh- and eighth-grade band students during the 2020-2021 school year, but he looks forward to the numbers increasing to around 80 in the fall.

Michelle Howisen, MCHS choral director and music department chair, spoke of the excitement among older students as well.

"Most of the students have not had a performance since March of 2020," she said before the concert. "The students have followed every COVID protocol to make sure we could get to this point safely and put on the best concert possible. They have worked extremely hard for this performance and can't wait to perform again!"

About 70 choir students are members of the Beginning Girls and Boys Choir, Concert Choir, Treble Chorale and City Singers classes at MCHS. There also are about 70 band students.

All MCAS classes faced certain challenges during the pandemic, first with eLearning from March 16, 2020, until the last day of school May 13, 2020. Returning Aug. 24 for the 2020-2021 school year, they participated in MCAS Online with live classes at set times via Zoom. The year continued by balancing periods with in-person instruction five days a week, then a hybrid schedule of in-person and online, as well as complete online instruction amid high COVID-19 numbers. While the majority of students were attending in person by March, there still were about 1,500 remote learners either through MCAS Online or Michigan City Virtual Academy.

Throughout the ups and downs, chorus and band classes had unique hurdles.

Krueger Middle School Chorus Teacher Shirley



Barker Middle School Chorus Director Stephanie Sobecki leads seventh- and eighth-grade chorus students at a spring combined band and choir concert. Photo by Kim Nowatzke.



Barker Middle School Director of Bands Parker Sterling addresses the audience at the combined band and choir concert Wednesday, May 26. Photo by Kim Nowatzke.

Allen said she taught a lower-than-normal number of about 60 seventh- and eighth-grade students (in-person and online) this past school year.

The “feeling of separation that cannot be avoided when using technology,” she said, is especially challenging during online learning.

Howisen agreed, saying, “Choir is not a very teachable class over Zoom...there are too many problems with Internet lag and timing.”

Sobecki elaborated on the challenges.

“Music is an art. It is social, and it is highly dependent on students being able to hear and interact and blend with others,” she said. “Add to this the Zoom technological problems of speakers, microphones and delayed or fuzzy sound. It is very frustrating. I applaud our students for hanging in there while we navigated all of it.”

At Krueger, where 57 students in seventh and eighth grades took band, similar obstacles existed.

“Rehearsing musical performance online presents a number of issues ranging from the inability to have students play band instruments simultaneously due to Internet latency to severe degradation of sound quality,” Krueger Band Director George Olson said. “I missed the connection with students that is only uniquely possible in an in-person setting.”

Connections between students suffered as well.

“Every time we returned in person this past year, it was as if we were starting the school year over again,” Allen said. “The kids had learned some skills and vocab during virtual learning, but the idea of choral ‘teamwork’ and the interpersonal skills that are necessary in the chorus setting were lacking. The students needed to become comfortable and ‘safe’ with each other. I feel the choral classroom must be ‘threat free’ for a student to ‘blossom’ as a musician.”

Continued on Page 4

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To rise to the challenges, Howisen adapted by teaching virtual one-on-one voice lessons to all of her students when instruction was completely online. This enhanced their sight-reading skills, which made them better listeners. It also enabled their work to go smoother when classes resumed in person.

“We all had to also learn to be much more patient with each other, as technology did not always enable us to do what we wanted to do (Zoom kicking people out of class, microphones and videos not working, etc.),” she said. “Learning patience allowed us to persevere and get to this concert, however.”

Certain staples of the pandemic – masks and social distancing – were two of the biggest complications singers faced once back in person, Sobecki said.

“Masks don’t allow proper breathing, and remove the facial cues and expressions that are at the heart of choral music,” she noted. “Additionally, social distancing makes it hard for young singers to really hear those around them, as we normally sit pretty close together.

The students had to adjust timing to allow air to settle and adapt to wearing a mask, Sobecki explained. At times, they even held class outdoors so they could sing without the hindrance of masks.

Olson noted that special PPE designed specifically for instrumental music instruction was put to use in band classes.

For Allen, becoming familiar with many online programs proved helpful.

“We still used them to a certain extent during in-person because they are so effective,” she said.

“SmartMusic,” a program Olson describes as innovative, was used to provide students with individualized feedback and performance evaluations.

The pandemic may have denied Krueger music

students a final in-person concert, but the school year still held memorable performance moments. Students created a recruitment video for MCAS sixth-graders. On April 15, eighth-grade chorus classes joined children in the Head Start program at the former Niemann Elementary School and at Imagination Station.

“We were invited to celebrate the ‘International Day of the Small Child’ by singing the Bob Marley song, ‘One Love,’ for the students and staff at those locations,” Allen said. “We sang outside at Niemann on a very cold day with the Head Start students who played homemade instruments, and we were invited inside at Imagination Station since they had a large room where we could socially distance, and because they felt sorry for how cold we looked! The little ones played instruments with us at this venue also. It was a precious day for everyone.”

Krueger’s seventh- and eighth-grade chorus students continued a tradition for Beverly Shores residents, honoring military members who lost their lives serving their country. On May 22, in front of the Beverly Shores Train Depot Museum, about 12 Krueger chorus students, including a former Krueger student, performed after Taps was played and a gun salute given.

“We sang many patriotic songs, the jazz favorite ‘Blue Moon’ and a meaningful song titled ‘One Nation’ by Theresa Jennings,” Allen said.

In addition, Krueger music classes hosted an informal Talent Showcase on Monday, June 7, where teachers and students performed their favorite songs. Seventh Grade Math Teacher Karen Eigenmann, who is one of the 2021 Hoosier Star adult finalists, performed a song on the ukulele. Thomas Covington, another seventh-grade math teacher who sings in a rock band, performed as well. Olson played the saxophone, and Allen contributed on the piano.

Most importantly, choir and band teachers, together with students, look to the future with positivity,



Michigan High School Band Director Frank Gast leads students during a concert on May 27.



Seventh-Grader Allison Sydow enjoys playing the trumpet at Barker Middle School's combined band and choir concert Wednesday, May 26. Photo by Kim Nowatzke

hope and a return to a sense of normalcy in their study and love of music.

"Even though the COVID protocols have been difficult, we are happy to be back making music together," Allen said. "Many students who struggled with online chorus are doing much better in person."

Howisen admitted the pandemic made it difficult for students to get excited for a choir season without performance opportunities — one of the

main reasons they take the class.

But, she stressed, "The choral program is going to continue to be rebuilt after the pandemic. I am looking forward to what the future will bring for the choir program at MCHS. I'm looking to really

develop some well-rounded and well-trained singers."

Olson looks forward to the 2021-2022 school year.

"Hopefully," he said, "we can once again enjoy making music together in person, unencumbered by all of the measures that have been required these past 15 months."

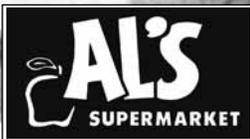
Sobecki describes everyone as "happy survivors" of the pandemic.

"We are enjoying singing again, and the students and I are already making plans for next year's chorus classes," Sobecki enthusiastically shared. "Seeing them with excitement and optimism in their eyes, thinking forward and excited for the future, I can't describe the joy that brings to my heart!"



Barker Middle School eighth-grader Hannah Parker sings a solo at Barker Middle School's combined band and choir concert. Photo by Kim Nowatzke.

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Final Musical of the Canterbury Season Up Next

Canterbury Summer Theatre will present “Ordinary Days,” its final musical of the 2021 season, on July 21-31 at Canterbury Theatre, 807 Franklin St.

Created by Adam Gwon, “Ordinary Days” tells the story of four young New Yorkers whose lives intersect while searching for fulfillment, happiness, love and cabs. Originally produced at Roundabout Theatre Company in New York, the show has been seen throughout the country and internationally, including in Paris, Sydney, Dublin and Buenos Aires.

The Canterbury production is staged by Associate Director Chapman Shields in his inaugural production here. An Oklahoma-based theater director and designer, recent directing credits include



Bailey Roberts (from left), Grace Cummings, Jacob Ryan Martinez and Anna Holmes star in “Ordinary Days.”

“Disney’s Mary Poppins” and “Disney’s The Little Mermaid” for Onstage at the Freeland, and “Snow White,” “Peter Pan,” “Robin Hood,” “It’s a Wonderful Life” and “A Christmas Carol” for Bristow Theatre. He also is the founding executive director of Divergence Theatre Company, the president of Oneiric Theatre and guest education artist for Theatre Tulsa.

Musical direction is by Ellen Perkins.

Anna Holmes appears in the show and serves as choreographer. She’s joined by Grace Cummings, Jacob Ryan Martinez and Bailey Roberts. Scenic design is by David White, with lighting by Austin Ferrari. Jakob Innes and Sarah Schwarz provide costume design, and Megan Ross is the stage manager.

Shows are at 2 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays, 7:30 p.m. Fridays and 6:30 p.m. Saturdays. Tickets cost \$16-\$17, with discounts for seniors and students. Tickets can be purchased at <https://bit.ly/3dFMhLF>, by email at info@canterburytheatre.org or by calling (219) 874-4269.

Canterbury will follow health and safety protocols as set forth by the Indiana State Health Department, implementing socially-distanced seating and other precautions. Patrons are not required to wear masks, but can do so if they feel it necessary.

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LaPorte Little Theatre Club Reopens With “High School Musical”



The LaPorte Little Theatre Club cast rehearses a scene from “High School Musical.”

LaPorte Little Theatre Club, 218 A St., closed for more than a year due to COVID-19, will reopen with a two-weekend run of “Disney’s High School Musical” on July 23-25 and July 30-Aug. 1.

Based on the 2006 Disney Channel movie, the play introduces Gabriella Montez (LaPorte High School’s Norah Gartland) and Troy Bolton (recent New Prairie High School graduate Wrigley Hemp-hill) as they navigate a newfound love for the stage and sticking to the status quo. The popular score includes “Start of Something New,” “Status Quo,” “Getcha Head in the Game” and “We’re All in This Together.”

The cast of 30 includes: Keegan Darr, Jordan Dashiell, Luke Housman, Addysen Morros, Samantha Morris, Isaac King, Alexis Passmore, Breanna Wilson, Andrea Bertsche, Rick Henderson, Cole Antrim, Reagan Buchanan, Emmy Dashiell, Natalie

Gartland, Alexis Gresham, Madison Gresham, Emily Hunt, Kairah Ohime, Marie Parrette, Parker Peterson, Grace Rinkel, Gavin Rivera, Rachel Small, Raegan Smedley, Ella Taylor, Gabby Tompkins and Elizabeth Wadle.

Katy Gartland and Holly Welch are the directors, with Erin Imer serving as musical director, Samantha Bean as stage manager and Monique Fredline and Sharon Kienitz as the costumers. Grace Tarnow is the choreographer, while Kyle Liedtke, who played drums in “Little Shop of Horrors” and “Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat,” directs the show’s drumline.

Times are 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$17 for adults, \$16 for seniors 60 and older and \$13 for students with a valid ID.

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LCSO Returns to Friendship Botanic Gardens

LaPorte County Symphony Orchestra will present “Legendary Showtunes & More” during a family concert from 7-8:30 p.m. Sunday, July 25, at Friendship Botanic Gardens, 2055 E. U.S. 12.

The symphony is concluding its 48th season, with Interim Music Director Chuck Steck leading musicians beneath FBG’s Celebration Pavilion. The 2020 Hoosier STAR winners, Alyse Flores (adult) and Julia Larson (youth), also will perform.

The event is a joint fundraiser for both groups, with food and drinks sold to concertgoers. General admission is \$50 for adults, while 17 and younger are free. Gates open at 6 p.m. Advanced tickets are available at www.friendshipbotanicgardens.org. They also will be available at the entrance gate the day of the event.

Chairs will be available in the Celebration Meadow; however, guests are encouraged to take lawn chairs or blankets. No outside food or drink are



The orchestra will perform at Friendship Botanic Gardens’ Celebration Pavilion.

allowed. Guests should practice socially distanced seating and wear face coverings when unable to stay at least 6 feet away from others outside of family and friends.

Visit www.friendshipbotanicgardens.org or www.lcso.net for more details.

The Indiana Arts Commission has awarded \$9,530 to LaPorte County Symphony Orchestra through the Arts Organization Support grant program.

More than 590 applications were reviewed by 167 Hoosiers from around the state specializing in arts, community development and finance.

The commission also awarded the LCSO a \$1,000 merit award, which recognizes innovation and dedication to providing public benefit in the last year, particularly in light of the pandemic.

Funding for the IAC and its programs is provided by the Indiana General Assembly and National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

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Public seating is available, and the computer lab is open. The front door will remain closed until the new doors are installed. Use the temporary public entrance on the east side accessible from the parking lot near the drive-up book drop.

The Friends of the Michigan City Public Library book sale is Oct. 21-23 at the library. Donations can be dropped off from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday at Visit Michigan City LaPorte tourism bureau, 4073 Franklin St. Donations can include magazines, children's books and puzzles.

Two new databases are available:

- Newspapers.com World Collection contains historical newspapers from the 1700s-2000s, including thousands of well-known regional, state and small local newspapers in the United States and other countries. Visit tinyurl.com/4f8kfo3v and log in with a library card number.
- Fold3, a military-records database powered by Ancestry.com. It provides access to military records, including stories, photos and personal documents. Visitors can combine records found there with personal effects to create an online memorial for someone who served. Visit tinyurl.com/58cnu2vn and log in with a library card number.

The following programs are scheduled:

- Dungeons & Dragons for Teens from 3-5 p.m. Wednesday, July 28. The one-shot campaign is hosted on Zoom for players ages 13-18. Registration is required. Contact Jonathan at (219) 873-3045 or email ysonline@mclib.org or jlovett@mclib.org for more details.
- The free, all-ages 2021 Summer Reading Program: Tails and Tales. For every 10 hours of reading, reading to someone else or listening to someone read, participants can enter a raffle for prizes. Download a reading log from the library website. Logs also are available in Youth Services. Hours also can be recorded by emailing SRP@mclib.org or calling Youth Services at (219) 873-3045.
- Virtual Story Time. A new video will be posted to the website, Facebook page and YouTube channel at 10 a.m. Wednesdays. Each video will be available for two weeks at www.mclib.org/parents/story-time/. Stop by Youth Services to receive the craft project for the week.



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Teen Arts Council Open House

Area teens interested in participating in Lubeznik Center for the Arts' Teen Arts Council can attend a free open house from 4-7 p.m. Wednesday, July 28, at the LCA, 101 W. Second St.

Teens will experiment with acrylic pour art and button making with current TAC members. Snacks will be served.

In 2017, LCA founded the council so high school students can deepen their understanding of the art world. Members take trips to regional museums and events, enjoy art workshops, visit artists' studios, develop individual portfolios and participate in monthly meetings to discuss contemporary art practices. The Lindsey O'Brien Kesling Wishing Tree Foundation and Dale E. Landsman Foundation are the sponsors.

Email Jbloch@lubeznikcenter.org or call (219) 874-4900 for details.

Four A's Car Show

The Four A's Car Club will host its 30th annual car show Sunday, July 25, at American Legion Post 204, 204 W. Linden St., Three Oaks, Mich.

Registration is from 8 a.m.-noon EDT, with awards at 2 p.m. EDT. Admission is \$2, while 12 and younger are free. Call Donna at (219) 363-5736 or Jerry at (269) 449-0201 for more details.

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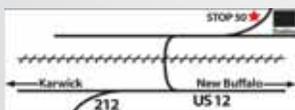
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“Happily Ever After”

Theatergoers have only two days to see Robert Komendera’s fairy-tale farce “Happily Ever After” on Saturday and Sunday, July 24-25, at Footlight Theatre, 1705 Franklin St.

A troupe of 28 children ages 6-16 attended two weeks of free workshops at the theater learning acting and vocal techniques, choreography, costume coordination, stage etiquette and presence. The Michigan City Enrichment Corp. provided funding to help defray the cost, with additional support from 50/50 raffles held during Footlight shows.

Komendera is assisted by Laura Meyer, Lee Meyer and Janice Rice. The participants and cast are: Aspyr Beaty, Charlotte and Rory Bergerson, Samantha Best, Nora Brophy, Abigail, Charlotte and Zachary Demsich, Maggie Evans, Alivia and Sophia Filson, Tessa Glancy, Jude Gowan, Tatum Haynes, Mara Huneryager, Kristopher and Maegan Jackson, Garrett Kelly, Chloey Landis, Madeline Marks, Sophia Meredith, Molly O’Brien, Ryan Otto, Zakaree Remson, Ella Rucinski, Jaren Swindell, Katelyn West and Charlotte Wildfang.

Performances are at 7:30 p.m. July 24 and 2 p.m. July 25. Tickets are \$15, or \$10 for children 12 and younger. Performances sell out, so reservations are strongly recommended by calling (219) 874-4035, online at www.footlightplayers.org and clicking the “Reservations” box, or in person at the box office when the theater is open.

Legacy Center Gallery

“Diversity,” works by Dunes artist Madeleine Schooley, marks the latest installation at The Legacy Center Gallery in Queen of All Saints Catholic Church, 1719 E. Barker Ave.

Living near Lake Michigan, Schooley is a retired children’s art educator. Her acrylic style is representative of curvi-linear lines and objects, stained-glass windows and the art nouveau period, with influences from Picasso, Matisse, Tiffany and Klimt.

The exhibit earns its title due to the differences in the thick, black outlines seen on the paintings. She calls these lines her signature style. She also works in mixed media and collage. Four of her pieces are hanging as banners in the Uptown Arts District.

Gallery hours are 6 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 6 a.m.-6 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays and 6 a.m.-3 p.m. Sundays. Visitors should enter through the Esther Street doors. A meet-the-artist reception is from 8:30 a.m.-noon Sunday, Aug. 8. Schooley will have additional cards for sale, with a portion of proceeds benefiting the school art department.

The artwork will be displayed through Sept. 30. Direct questions to jessicar@qas.org

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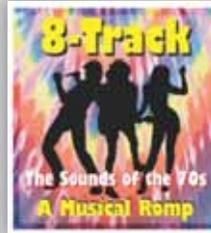
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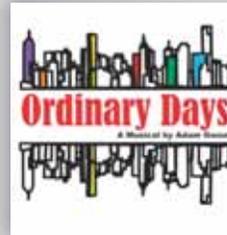
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“Bringing Nature Home” Deadline

Monday, July 26, is the deadline to submit applications for Shirley Heinze Land Trust's annual “Bringing Nature Home” awards program.



The initiative recognizes those in Northwest Indiana who landscape their grounds or gardens using plant species native to the region. Home gardeners, businesses, institutions, public agencies and landscapers are eligible.

The program takes its name from a book by native-plant advocate Douglas Tallamy.

Plantings in Lake, Porter, LaPorte and St. Joseph counties are eligible. Full program details, photos of last year's awardees and an online application are at <https://heinzetrust.org/bringingnaturehome/>.

Visit www.heinzetrust.org, call (219) 242-8558 or access its Facebook page at www.facebook.com/heinzetrust for more details.

TROTOM Gears Up for Garage Sale

Plans are under way for The Region of Three Oaks Museum's U.S. 12 Heritage Garage Sale in Carver Park on Friday-Sunday, Aug. 13-15.

The event features antiques, collectibles, furniture, dishware, homemade jams and jellies, hot dogs and sloppy joes.

The sale location also includes the adjoining Three Oaks Elementary School at Oak and Ash (U.S. 12) streets. Vendors are being accepted. Permits range from \$15 per day to \$30 for the weekend.

Contact Julie Sittig at (269) 756-3547 or juliesittigrn@vanzine.org for more details or to donate items. Donations for the sale must be brought to the site Thursday, Aug. 12.

Eastland Memorial

A short S.S. Eastland Memorial is at 11 a.m. Saturday, July 24, at Millennium Park.

The ceremony remembers the 844 men, women and children who died on July 24, 1915, when the Eastland capsized in the Chicago River. The ship was headed to Michigan City for the fifth annual Western Electric Hawthorne Works club picnic.

Read The Beacher On Line**<http://www.thebeacher.com/>**



Five Tips for Taking Care of Your Trees

1. Don't "top" your trees. Topping is the removal of large branches to reduce the height of the tree. This causes decay that leads to large branch failures in the future.
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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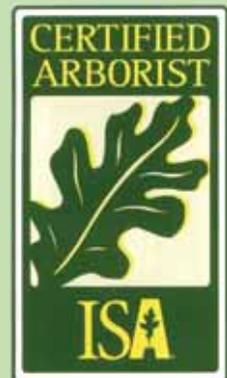
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American Music Festival Returns

The School of American Music's second American Music Festival is from 11 a.m.-5:30 p.m. EDT Saturday, July 24, on the Spring Creek Stage, 14 Maple St., Three Oaks, Mich.

The stage is behind SAM's Arts & Education Center in Dewey Cannon Park.

The festival will showcase music spanning 19th century work songs, old-timey guitar blues tunes, bluegrass, jazz, blues and big band. Admission is free, and shade is provided. Lawn chairs are recommended. The lineup is (all times Eastern):

- 11 a.m. — Garth Taylor and the Work Song Project. Featured in a film presented at The Region of Three Oaks Museum, The Work Song Project will be performed by Taylor, SAM's founder, and his ensemble of vocal and instrumental musicians.
- Noon — Blues guitarist Ron Spears, who will perform finger-picked early 20th-century guitar blues tunes.
- 1 p.m. — The Ben Benedict Bluegrass Trio.
- 2 p.m. — Jazz standards by vocalist Patti Shaffner and guitarist Scott Pazera.
- 3:10 p.m. — Ole Harv and the Blues Katz.
- 4:30 p.m. — Jazz standards and pop tunes by Down by the Dock Big Band. The New Carlisle-based band will play music that came of age in the 1930s and remained strong into the 1960s.

The festival is supported by SAM and a Pokagon Fund grant. Call (269) 409-1191 for details.

Friends of New Troy Market

The outdoor Friends of New Troy Market will debut from 4-8 p.m. EDT Friday, July 23, at New Troy (Mich.) Community Center, 13372 California Road.

The event will feature vendors, live music, outdoor games and food. Vendors include local farmers, artists, crafters, creators and collectors.

Classic Catering will present Old Mill Run's Taco Night. For \$8, patrons receive three hardshell seasoned ground beef tacos with cheese, lettuce, tomatoes, onions, sour cream and salsa. Tickets may be purchased at www.friendsofnewtroy.org, or at the Friends of New Troy Community Center Library during regular hours (10 a.m.-noon EDT Monday-Saturday and 5:30-7 p.m. EDT Monday-Friday).

Live music is in the Allan Boyd Memorial Gazebo, with surrounding outdoor seating. Outdoor activities and games are planned.

Markets continue the fourth Friday of the month through October. All booth-rental proceeds benefit the non-profit community center.

Vendor applications, which are still being accepted, are available online and in the community center. Email friendsofnewtroymarket@gmail.com or call (269) 426-3909 for details.



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“Summer of Soul” is One of the Year’s Best Films

by Andrew Tallackson

“Summer of Soul” may be the most powerful example of music as a liberating form of expression.

There is great joy, hope and unfortunate parallels to today’s fractured climate in this brilliant time capsule of a documentary, a look at when black, Hispanic and white entertainers came together for a six-week concert the same year as Woodstock. A film crew covered the performances. Then, the footage sat in a basement for 50 years.

“Summer of Soul,” appropriately subtitled “Or, When the Revolution Could Not Be Televised,” unearths the footage and gives it its due.

The event was the Harlem Cultural Festival, held in 1969 in what is now Marcus Garvey Park. With attendance estimated at 300,000, the lineup was a who’s who roster that included Stevie Wonder, Gladys Knight & the Pips, Nina Simone, The 5th Dimension, Sly and the Family Stone, Mahalia Jackson and The Staple Singers. Their presence at the festival is placed in the context of the black community embracing the pride, the beauty, the power of the color of their skin.

We see interviews not just with performers still with us today, but also those in the audience. The footage, itself, is a marvel. The crowd, dominated by families, looking on in awe at these entertainers, all championing the color of their skin through music.

The movie’s director is Ahmir “Questlove” Thompson, drummer and joint lead singer for The Roots, and he does what a good documentarian is supposed to do.

He lets his subjects speak uninterrupted. Those in the crowd, when recalling certain performers, the awe, the thrill in their voices is still potent, of experiencing that intense celebration of “blackness” as a tangible, galvanizing force.

Thompson also does something interesting. He shows the original footage to the performers. I’m thinking specifically of Billy Davis Jr. and Marilyn McCoo of The 5th Dimension. Watch their eyes. They light up, round as saucers. Marveling at seeing themselves 50 years ago. Allowing the weight of

their presence, and their fellow performers, at the festival to move them to tears.

It is incredibly powerful.

The social commentary Thompson, as director, weaves amid the performances is blazingly direct.



Gladys Knight & the Pips perform during the Harlem Cultural Festival in a scene from “Summer of Soul,” in theaters and streaming on Hulu.

Consider the TV news coverage of the July 16, 1969, Apollo 11 moon landing. Embraced with a sense of awe by white America, those interviewed at the festival, in contrast, say they’d rather see money spent fighting crime and poverty, issues relevant back here on Earth. Tough to ignore the obvious divide between black and white America.

That insight cannot be dismissed, but let it be known, “Summer of Soul” also succeeds purely as invigorating musical entertainment. Nina Simone, making no apologies for the color of her skin.



Mavis Staples (left) and Mahalia Jackson sing "Precious Lord."

Gladys Knight & The Pips, rocking the stage like they own it. Sly and the Family Stone, awing the audience not just with black and white performers, but also a female trumpet player. And the most overpowering segment: Mahalia Jackson and Mavis Staples, their voices spiritually entwined during a rendition of "Precious Lord" that catapults itself into the stratosphere.

The concert footage, we sadly learn, sat untouched because those behind it could not get any networks or studios interested to show it. That leads to the final scene of "Summer of Soul," an interview with someone who was there at the festival. He breaks down, unable to contain the emotion. Memories, he says, play tricks on you. You wonder, after so long, if they were real. Seeing this footage, he says while directly addressing the camera, proves he wasn't crazy. The Harlem Cultural Festival did happen.

Now, this film exists as a permanent record.

Expect "Summer of Soul" to land high on my list of the year's best films.

Contact Andrew Tallackson at drew@thebeacher.com



"Summer of Soul"

Running time: 118 minutes. Hulu. Opens Friday, July 30, at Vickers Theatre. Rated PG-13 for some disturbing images, smoking and brief drug material.

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A Traveling Memorial



Michigan City was fortunate to be part of a stop during the Independence Day holiday by Goldstars Tribute Wall. The traveling memorial, briefly located at Ames Field, honors those who gave their lives during the Gulf, Iraq and Afghanistan wars. *The Beacher's* Paul Kemiell was there to capture images from the visit, including the tribute's president and founder, Samuel Nicoara (above). More information is available at www.tributewall.org

THE GOLDSTARS TRIBUTE WALL

Dedicated to those who gave the ultimate sacrifice during The Gulf War, Iraq War and Afghanistan War

This wall is a symbol by which we pay tribute to our service men and women who stepped forward and gave their lives to defend the many freedoms we enjoy today. It is because of these soldiers, sailors, airmen, Coast Guardsmen and Marines who never returned to their loved ones, that this monument stands before you.

This Goldstar Tribute Wall is an affirmation of our respect and gratitude to the men and women who died in the service of our country. It stands as a reminder to us all to keep the spirit of these noble dead in our thoughts and prayers.

We must never allow the sacrifice of our Goldstar mothers, fathers and family members to fade into obscurity. They represent the legacy of their fallen sons and daughters who died in the service of our Nation. These families carry with them a pain and grief that most of us cannot imagine or understand. In the midst of all their grief they stand as beacons of sunshine to those of us who understand, that freedom is never truly free.

We as Americans can never forget that the freedom we enjoy everyday is often paid for in the blood and tears of others.

We can never allow those thousands of soldiers, sailors, airmen, Guardsmen and Marines to be forgotten nor lose sight of their sacrifice.

We as a Nation should also never forget that those servicemen and women who currently serve are an integral part of the fabric that makes us the greatest country on earth.

“Gunpowder Milkshake” Makes No Apologies for its Gory Mayhem

by Andrew Tallackson



Sam (Karen Gillan) tries to protect Emily (Chloe Coleman) from killers in “Gunpowder Milkshake.”

“Gunpowder Milkshake” is a terrible title for a movie. Subtle, it ain’t. Then again, neither is the movie. That is why it’s so devilishly entertaining.

Comparisons will be made between this droll Netflix bloodbath and the “John Wick” series. Both exist in stylized worlds that teeter between reality and fantasy, the violence escalating to exaggerated Tarantino extremes. It is meant to be dumb fun, but this time, women call the shots.

I actually enjoyed “Gunpowder Milkshake” *more* than the “John Wick” pictures. Now, before cries of blasphemy resound, hear me out. The first “John Wick” was a gritty, grimy revenge picture. The sequels are wall-to-wall fighting and little else. “Gunpowder Milkshake,” by contrast, makes you care about the characters — it’s been cast to perfection — with just enough story, and backstory, to buffer the senses from all the bloody action.

The title is derived from the childhood of professional assassin Sam (Karen Gillan), who 15 years earlier shared a milkshake with her assassin mother Scarlet (“Game of Thrones” star Lena Headey) at a local diner before a hail of gunfire led to Scarlet’s disappearance.

Sam now works for a male-dominated agency called The Firm, receiving instructions for her next

★ ★ ★ 1/2

“Gunpowder Milkshake”

Running time: 114 minutes. Netflix. Rated R for strong bloody violence throughout and language

kill by — LOL — the head of its HR department, Nathan (Paul Giamatti). Sam’s latest job gets botched on two levels. One, she takes out the son of a Russian Mafioso. Two, she wounds a guy who later dies, but before doing so asks her to care for his daughter, Emily (Chloe Coleman), who has no other family.

A trained killer protecting an orphaned child. Not exactly fresh material. Heck, Gena Rowlands did it back in 1980 with the mob-flick “Gloria.” The same plot gave Natalie Portman a career boost in 1994’s “The Professional.” We take to it, again and again, because we want to believe that people who behave like monsters can recover their humanity through the innocence of a lonely child.

“Gunpowder Milkshake” isn’t drowning in warm fuzzies, though. Sam, played by Gillan with the same gruff vocals she applies to Nebula in Marvel movies, does soften to the child, but that is as maternal as she gets. Otherwise, she takes out foes without hesitating.

The first hilariously staged attack is twisted comic excess. Somehow, through means too complicated to explain, Sam ends up at a dentist's office, the three goons she injured there as well, but jacked up on laughing gas. She's been injected with a serum that makes her arms go limp. Thinking quickly, she has Emily tape weapons to her hands, help her into a swiveling chair, then toss her out into the hallway. The violence is amped up to such cartoonish extremes, you laugh at the warped inspiration of it.

Another clever sequence involves Sam, still not up to speed physically, enlisting Emily to help her drive, and flee, her pursuers in a cramped parking garage. The playfulness of the scene, the lickety-split editing, it gives you a giddy boost.

Then, we arrive at the movie's most delicious creation. A secret sisterhood of assassins dolled up as librarians. They are played by none other than Angela Bassett, Michelle Yeoh and Carla Gugino. Three great actresses relishing the chance to kick as much ass as possible. We get that in the movie's library showdown in which Sam, Scarlet and the three "librarians" take on an insane amount of bad guys. Everything about the sequence — the gunplay, the elaborate stuntwork, the bloodshed — is so gleefully over the top, you can't help but revel in the merry mayhem.

Watching this insanity unfold, you are struck by what a juicy team these actresses make. There is not one weak link. That the final shot lays the groundwork for a sequel means, depending on its success, "Gunpowder Milkshake" could emerge as



Michelle Yeoh (from left), Angela Bassett and Carla Gugino are the hilarious secret weapon of "Gunpowder Milkshake," now streaming on Netflix.

a franchise. I, for one, hope it's a hit. More of these characters is most welcome.

Contact Andrew Tallackson at drew@thebeacher.com

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Second Half of Netflix's "Lupin" is a Breathless Race to the Finish

by Andrew Tallackson

Omar Sy returns as Assane Diop.



If the first half of "Lupin" was rather playful, its charismatic thief thwarting foes with rascally charm, then the second half goes for the jugular. He's existing on borrowed time, pursuers breathing down his neck. The show is a breathless race to the finish...and an enormously satisfying one to boot.

Talk about a triumph. The global success of Netflix's insanely entertaining French series reminds us that audiences crave more than just super heroes from our entertainment. We love a good chase. The figures prove that without a doubt. Netflix reported that within a month of the show's debut back in January, it was watched by 76 million households.

A brief recap.

Professional thief Assane Diop (Omar Sy), amid scamming the wealthy out of priceless treasures, aims to avenge his father's death, convinced smarmy businessman Hubert Pellegrini (Hervé Pierre) framed him for stealing a prized necklace. Assane, groomed on Maurice Leblanc's tales of gentleman thief Arsène Lupin, relies on the exploits of his literary hero to outthink his pursuers, particularly through disguises and deception.

(Unfamiliar with Leblanc before the TV series, I have since read [Gentleman Burglar](#) and [The Hollow](#)

[Needle](#), admiring now in greater detail how the series embraces the mischievous spirit of the books.)

At the cliffhanger close to Episode 5, Assane corralled his ex-wife Claire (Ludivine Sagnier) and teen son Raoul (Etan Simon) to attend a Lupin festival, held along the shores of the natural wonder that inspired [The Hollow Needle](#), only to have one of Pellegrini's goons kidnap his son.

As Episode 6 begins, Assane and Claire are frantic, grasping at straws to find their son. It sets the queasy tone for what is to follow. Assane only wants his son back, but the police and Pellegrini are savvy to his tricks. There's even the potential of a devastating loss, which reveals how fiendish the series can be in toying with your emotions. It heightens each episode to a cliffhanger close where Assane is seconds away from doom.

Take, for instance, the final scene of Episode 7 in which Assane arrives at Claire's apartment. At wit's end with her ex-husband's antics, she grievously turned to Pellegrini for help. So as Assane approaches while she stands outside her apartment, Pellegrini's crew waiting inside, we see the recognition of betrayal in Claire and Assane's eyes. Then, she whispers "run." The screen fades to black.

How do you *not* keep watching from there? With each new tantalizing twist, “Lupin” is propulsively entertaining, hurtling you forward where you cannot stop watching after one episode.

As relentless as the show is, the writers insert a few breathers, moments that flesh out each character’s past. More so than the season’s first half, these new episodes reveal the systemic racism that Assane, as an adult, knows he can exploit to his benefit in nailing Pellegrini. It also deepens the friendship between Assane and longtime pal Benjamin Ferel (Antoine Gouy). The character, loyal to a fault when Assane is concerned, is pushed to greater lengths to keep his friend out of harm’s way. The performance by Gouy is a hilarious mix of courage and what-the-heck-have-I-got-myself-into disbelief.

We also appreciate the work by Soufiane Guerrab as Youssef Guedira, a detective whose Arsène Lupin knowledge not only helps him find Assane, but also makes him an unexpected ally. Youssef is increasingly sympathetic, and it’s all because of Guerrab’s ability to treat the character as one crafty cop.

By the 10th episode’s whirlwind of a finish, the show not only honors Hitchcock’s Albert Hall climax in “The Man Who Knew Too Much,” but also resolves on a bittersweet note. Assane may have cleared away the debris from his life, but now, more than ever, he’s on the run. His future uncertain.

Will the character return? *Of course* he will. Net-



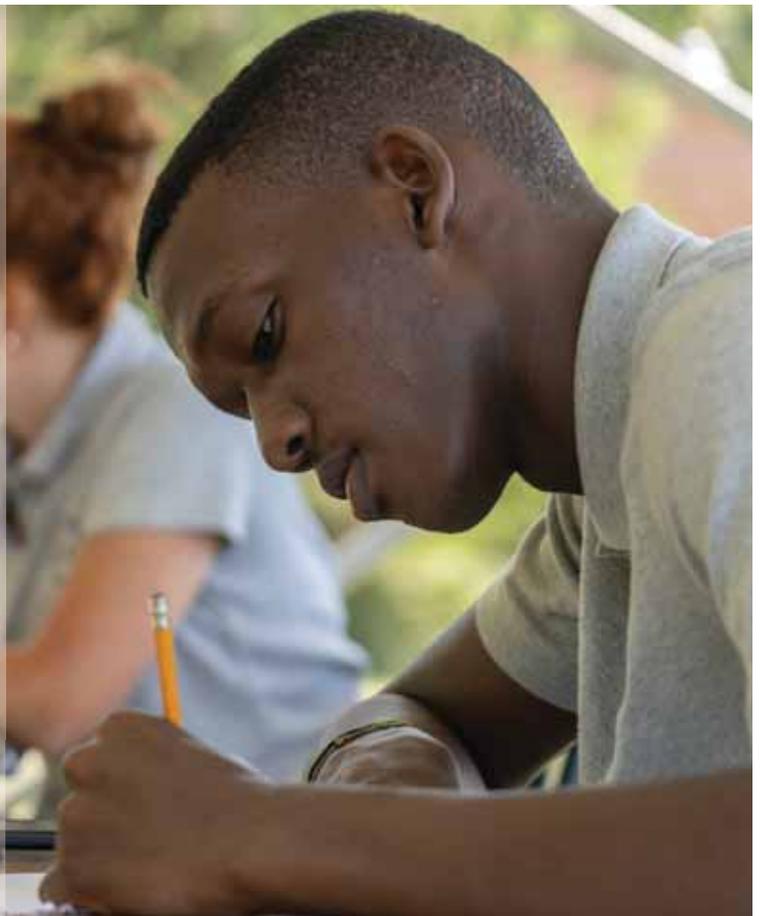
Assane Diop (Omar Sy, right) and Benjamin Ferel (Antoine Gouy) plot their next move.

flix knows when it has a good thing on its hands. More of “Lupin” is on the way. We cannot wait.

Contact Andrew Tallackson at drew@thebeacher.com

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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 for more details.

Tuesday Treasures

The program aimed at 6- to 13-year-olds meets from 9 a.m. to noon Tuesdays at Luhr County Park, 178 S. County Road 150 West, LaPorte.

All programs include arts and crafts. Parents are not required to participate or stay. The cost is \$8 per person per program. Masks are required. Pre-registration and payment are required one week before each program. The schedule is:

- July 27 – “Scat, Tracks and Other Mammal Facts.” Learn to identify animal scat and tracks.
- Aug. 3 – “Feathers, Feet, Nests and Beaks.” Birds are the topic of the hands-on program.

Family Fishing Nights

The free, all-ages event is from 5-7:30 p.m. July 26 and Aug. 30 at Luhr County Park.

A limited number of poles and bait will be provided. No fishing licenses are required. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Pre-registration

is required.

Parent & Child Discovery Days

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

- July 28 — “Here, Fishy, Fishy.”
- Aug. 4 — “It’s a Great Blue Heron.”

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:

- Aug. 4: Sleep disorders and their health effects, by Mindi Whittaker, Northwest Health LaPorte.
- Sept. 1 — Fall garden cleanup and separating plants, Gee-Burns.
- Oct. 6 — Pulmonary health, Patti Solona, Northwest Health LaPorte.

Nature Stroll

Join a naturalist in front of the Nature Center for a relaxing stroll from 7:15-8 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 17, at Luhr County Park.

Learn about the park’s history, look for migrating birds, identify trees and hunt for native plants. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Call to reserve a free spot.



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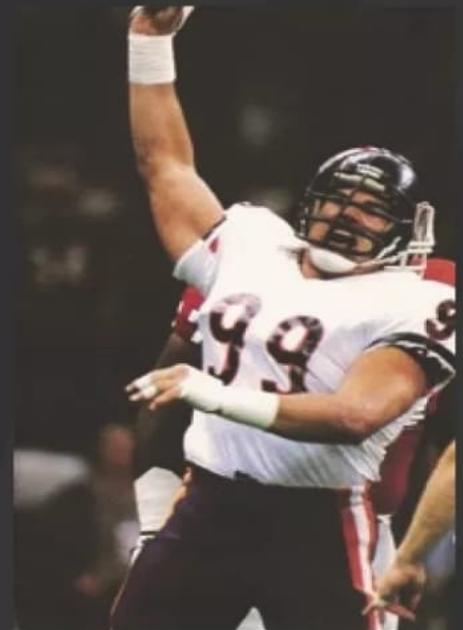
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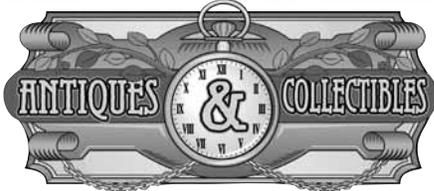
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LaPorte County Public Library

LaPorte County Public Library has updated its curbside pickup service using meeScan.

New users can download the meeScan app through options such as Apple and Google Play. Then, place holds on items using a customer account. Once at the library, check in using the app and clicking Pickup from the bottom of the screen (or calling the library location). An appointment no longer is needed. Add the parking space on the app if picking up from the main location. Enter information in the instructions box if picking up holds placed on more than one account, or if needing additional assistance.

A staff member brings held items to the vehicle. Customers using the app receive updates as their requests are processed. Returns can be placed in book drops and be checked in within 24 to 72 hours. At this time, there is no limit to the number of items customers can reserve and pick up during curbside.

- Coolspring Branch: Monday/Wednesday/Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Main Library: Tuesday/Thursday (10 a.m. to 6 p.m.) and Saturday (10 a.m. to 4 p.m.).

The following programs are planned:

- **Computers 102 — Settings and Security from 2-4 p.m. Friday, July 23, at the main library, Meeting Room B.**

The interactive class shows how to customize computer settings for easy use, and how to make a computer more secure. Registration is required.

- **Readers Corner — Book Club from 6-7 p.m. Tuesday, July 27, at the Coolspring Branch Meeting Room.**

Refreshments will not be served, but participants may take coffee or tea.

- **STEAM Sandbox from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, July 24, at the main library. Also from 4-6 p.m. Wednesday, July 28, at the Coolspring Branch.**

Children ages 6-18 can build real-world STEAM skills with self-paced STEAM challenges using the Mobile Maker cart.

- **Online class — Chef for a Day in the Wizardly World of Harry Potter from 3-4:15 p.m. Wednesday, July 28.**

Learn to make recipes inspired by the series. Register through the website.

LaPorte County Public Library is located at 904 Indiana Ave. The Coolspring Branch is located at 6925 W. County Road 400 North. Visit www.laportelibrary.org for more details.



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KAC Summer Art Markets

Summer Art Market on the Green returns to Krasl Art Center from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. EDT the fourth Saturday of each month through September.

Purchases directly support the artists, and guests are encouraged to explore KAC's sculpture and gallery exhibits. Held on the recently redesigned outdoor grounds, individuals in five 10x10 artists' tents will sell handmade artworks ranging from \$15-\$250. Food vendors and art activities that support KAC will be available.

The July 24 artists are: Mark Metelko, leather; Jennifer Zona, ceramics and fiber; Rebecca Hungerford, metal; Tina Tivolacci, jewelry; and emerging artists Sam Adkins and Luke Moyer, mixed media.

Krasl Art Center is located at 707 Lake Blvd., St. Joseph, Mich. Visit www.krasl.org/events/art-market/ or call (269) 983-0271.

IAC Supports MC Messiah Inc.

The Indiana Arts Commission has awarded \$3,900 to Michigan City Messiah Inc. for its annual "Messiah" presentation and June oratorio concert through the Arts Project Support grant program.

During its June 25 quarterly business meeting, the commission approved funding recommendations. More than 590 applications were reviewed by 167 Hoosiers from around the state specializing in arts, community development and finance.

This is the second year in a row Michigan City Messiah Inc. has received IAC funding. The money is specifically allocated to present the 56th annual presentation of "Messiah" with an all-volunteer chorus, four professional soloists and a chamber orchestra Dec. 18-19. In late spring 2022, a free concert and open dress rehearsal are planned featuring sacred and secular choral masterworks.

LaPorte Firefighters Rock the Park

LaPorte Firefighters will host the family friendly event "Rock the Park" from noon-11 p.m. Saturday, July 24, at LaPorte's Fox Park.

The day includes music, food and drinks, and family events. Take chairs, but no food, drinks or pets are allowed. A bag tournament starts at 2 p.m. The musical lineup is:

- The Remedy Band, 3:30 p.m.
- Point n' Fingers, 6 p.m.
- Anthony Gomes, 8:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$10 in advance or \$12 at the gate. Ages 12-21 cost \$5, while 12 and younger are free.

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LCSO in the Spotlight



Kathryn Brtko (right).

Editor's note — This weekly spotlight, provided by Tim King, LaPorte County Symphony Orchestra executive director, highlights its talented musicians.

Kathryn Brtko joined LCSO's oboe section in 1994.

She was smitten by the oboe and science at a young age. A musician and retired chemist, she is a Whiting native who received her Bachelor of Science in Chemistry with honors from Purdue University. She studied oboe with Carl Sonik at Roosevelt University and English horn with Grover Schiltz, CSO's longtime principal English horn.

Brtko performs with the Southwest Symphony Orchestra (Chicago), Whiting Park Festival Orchestra and WINDIANA band, and is an active church musician. She also has performed with organist Benjamin Basile at Calumet College of St. Joseph as part of the Greening of the Arts Show and Concert series.

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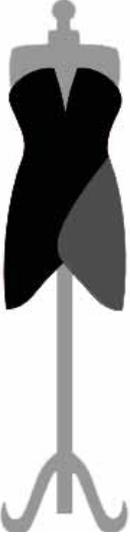
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Indiana Dunes National Park

• **A Shoreline Birds Program is at 11 a.m. Sunday, July 25, at the Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education.**

Sammi King, Marquette Park project coordinator for Dunes-Calumet Audubon, will discuss the park's history and its bird habitats.

The Lake Michigan shoreline is considered one of the most important flyways for many North American bird species, and the location of Marquette Park Beach at the lake's southernmost tip produces a funnel effect where many of these birds will stop to refuel before heading to their next destination.

• **Wetland Wonders is from 10 a.m.-noon Saturdays at The Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education and Miller Woods ponds.**

Join a ranger to search for life in a pond. Sampling equipment and identification sheets are provided. Visitors also can hike the trail through Miller Woods, check out the nature play zone or explore activities inside the center.

• **Bailly Chellberg History Hike is from 1-3 p.m. Sundays.**

Join a ranger for a hike to Bailly Homestead and Chellberg Farm. Learn about early settlers and farmers who came to the region in the 1800s. Take children to Chellberg Farm at 4 p.m. to help a ranger feed the animals. Meet at the Bailly/Chellberg Farm parking lot, which is on Mineral Springs Road between U.S. 20 and 12 in Porter.

• **Closed are 1.5 miles of the Little Calumet River Hiking Trail for safety and resource protection.**

The temporary closure allow a contractor to replace approximately 1,000 feet of boardwalk. The work is expected to last no more than 120 days. Hikers will still have access to the adjacent Bailly/Chellberg trails, along with another 48 miles of trails, including: Dune Ridge, Miller Woods, West Beach, Heron Rookery, Tolleston, Great Marsh and the Pinhook Bog Upland Trail.



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 or visit www.nps.gov/indu for details.

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Chesterton Art Center



A watercolor rendering of a tree peony.

Herb Helm will teach a watercolor workshop from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Thursday and Friday, Aug. 12-13, at Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St.

The focus for advanced beginners and above is creating a tree peony. Painting will require a number of techniques, including pouring, splattering, blowing and throwing paint. Students will learn how to pull (or paint) elements out of their splattering and pouring. Also planned is painting that is tighter and more controlled.

Students will have a break each day, so take a bag lunch or buy lunch in town.

The cost is \$140 for members and \$160 for non-members. A supply list is provided upon registration. Register at the center or through Eventbrite, then search Chesterton Art Center.

Masks are encouraged, but not mandatory. Hand sanitizer will be available. Social distancing will be practiced. The classroom will be cleaned and sanitized prior to students' arrival. There are no make up days due to COVID-19.

Chesterton Art Center is located at 115 S. Fourth St. Hours are 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday. Call the center at (219) 926-4711 or visit www.chestertonart.org for more details.

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Art Festival Volunteers Needed

Volunteer opportunities are available with Lubeznik Arts Festival, which will be held in-person Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 21-22, at Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St.

The event features new and returning artists and artisans, live entertainment, family activities and food. Volunteer opportunities include setting up Friday (Aug. 20) and tearing down Sunday (Aug. 22), greeters, booth/row captains and gallery monitors.

Email LFA Volunteer Coordinator Mo Vear at lafcoordinator@gmail.com if interested.

Showstoppers



Metamorphis Traveling Theatre will present "Showstoppers" on July 22 at Trail Creek Place. Helen Williams, Doug Moon and Judith Joseph (pictured here during a June 29 presentation at Rittenhouse Village at Michigan City) bring theater to venues that don't have traditional stages. Call (219) 872-4813 for details.



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Noon Time Talk Series

The Noon Time Talk Series continues with Amish folk carver Henry Chupp at 12:20 p.m. EDT Thursday, July 22, at Midwest Museum of American Art, 429 S. Main St., Elkhart.

Chupp is a self-taught woodcarver, making decorative wood creations for around 33 years in his shop south of Nappanee. His carving of two Amish draft horses pulling an early 20th century plow is part of the MMAA permanent collection.

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

SMSO, GhostLight Theatre Unite

Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra will join forces with The GhostLight Theatre to present a semi-staged performance of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" at 6:30 p.m. EDT Saturday, July 24, at The Shadowland Pavilion, St. Joseph, Mich.



Waddell

Gates open at 5:30 p.m. EDT. Stage direction is by Paul Mow, with music direction by Music Director finalist Rachel Waddell.

In conjunction with the performance is a costume contest, with prizes awarded for the best-dressed adult and child. Concertgoers can dress as a fairy, elf, king or queen.

Food and beverage will be available from vendors such as Don Chepe, Louie's Red Hots, Wood Stock & Grille and Wagner's Good Dips.

Ticket costs are:

- \$30 for reserved seating.
- \$20 for lawn seats.
- \$10 for children 12 and younger lawn seats.
- \$350 for tables, which includes 10 tickets and two parking passes.

Tickets can be purchased at www.smso.org, by calling (269) 982-4030 or by purchasing at the event if available.

School Supply Drive

Michigan City Area Schools is conducting a school supply drive in conjunction with its upcoming Back to School Rally.

Items needed include: pencils, black pens, spiral notebooks, three-hole notebook paper (college rule), markers (washable), crayons, dry erase markers, glue sticks, erasers, two-pocket folders, rulers, highlighters, composition books, calculators, pencil boxes, water bottles, facial tissues, hand sanitizer, antibacterial wipes, quart- and gallon-size Ziploc bags, earbuds and headphones.

These items can be dropped off at: Al's Supermarkets (Franklin and Karwick), Captain Ed's, City Hall, First Trust Credit Union, First United Methodist Church, General Insurance Services, MCAS Food Service Department, Members Advantage Credit Union, Swanson Center, Michigan City Chamber of Commerce and the MCAS Administration Building through Aug. 8. They also can be dropped off at Walmart on Aug. 6-8.

The annual "Citywide Back to School Rally" returns to an in-person event from noon-4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 14, at Elston's Gill Field, 317 Detroit St. Visit www.EducateMC.net/backtoschoolrally for more information.

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LBCC Women's Golf Leagues**9-Hole League****July 8, 2021****Flight A**

Low Gross — Sue Luegers.
 Low Net — Rise Wendt.
 Low Putts — Mary O'Neil.
 Sunken Approaches — Mary O'Neil (#11, #15).

Flight B

Low Gross — June Salmon.
 Low Net — Erin McMahon.
 Low Putts (Tie) — Pat Bailey, Jean Guerin, Dorothy Healy.

Flight C

Low Gross (Tie) — Catherine Kelly, Mary Weithers.
 Low Net — Amanda Ferlmann.
 Low Putts — Tina Sonderby.

Flight D

Low Gross — Jeanne St. Peter.
 Low Net — Jude Stahmer.
 Low Putts — Sally Allen.

Long Beach Country Club**Ladies Duplicate Bridge****June 30, 2021****North/South**

First — Pat Hoodwin & Milda Roszkiewicz.
 Second — Sue Faul & Kathleen Gazzolo.
 Third — Sally Allen & Gloria McMahon.

East/West

First (tie) — Mariana Bruce & Marge Quigley, Lynn Martin & Dianne Swygart.
 Second — Pat Kelley & Susan Kelley.
 Third — Peggy Bolger & Betty McLean.

July 14, 2021**North/South**

First — Sue Faul-Kathleen Gazzolo.
 Second — Susan Keeley-Nancy Trainor.
 Third — Janet Andreotti-Linda Wilson.
 Fourth — Pat Costello-Mary Jane Brodie.

East/West

First — Lynn Martin-Dianne Swygart.
 Second — Pat Kelley-Kaye Moriarty.
 Third (tie) — Cindy Garver-Corinne McGrail, Mariana Bruce-Marge Quigley.
 Fourth — Kathy Byrnes-Alison Kolb.

18-Hole League**July 6, 2021***Event: Beat the Pro*

Winners: Carol Excell, Kathy Peters

June 29, 2021*Event: Regular Golf – Low Net***A Flight**

First Place — Beth White
 Second Place — Kathy Daly
 Third Place (tie) — Linda Behringer, Vicki Hill, Jean Muldowney
(Due to rain, there were not enough players to award prizes for B and C flights.)

June 22, 2021*Event: Regular Golf – Low Net***A Flight**

First Place — Carol Excell.
 Second Place — Melanie Davis.
 Third Place — Kathy Daly.

B Flight

First Place (tie) — Susan Keeley, Jean Guerin, Eileen Miller.
 Second Place — Claudia Brennan.
 Third Place — Rima Binder.

C Flight

First Place — Barbara Beardslee.
 Second Place — Nancy Reinert.p
 Third Place — Barb Hall.

June 8, 2021*Event: Regular Golf – Low Net***A Flight**

First Place — Katy Lee.
 Second Place (tie) — Sue Leugers, Carol Excell.
 Third Place — Claudia Brennan.

B Flight

First Place — Janet Andreotti.
 Second Place (tie) — Kathy Hanley, Nancy Trainor.
 Third Place — Susan Keeley.

C Flight

First Place — Barb Hall.
 Second Place (tie) — Nancy Reinert, Diane Rubey.

June 1, 2021*Event: Regular Golf – Low Net***A Flight**

First Place — Melanie Davis.
 Second Place (tie) — Vicki Hill, Carol Excell.
 Third Place (tie) — Cindy Levy, Peg King.

B Flight

First Place — Nancy Trainor.
 Second Place — Pat Bailey.
 Third Place — Eileen Miller.

C Flight

First Place — Diane Rubey
 Second Place (tie) — Kathie Mole, Nancy Thill.
 Third Place — Barb Hall.

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Westchester Public Library

Westchester Public Library has curbside pickup at its Thomas and Hageman branches.

Use a library card or go online to place holds on up to 10 items, including DVDs and CDs. Once notified the items are available, park in specially-numbered spaces at each branch during pickup hours.

While parked, call the library phone number posted on the numbered space sign, tell staff your library card number and he/she will check out the items and take them to a table at the parking space and walk away. Patrons then can step out of their vehicle to retrieve them. Curbside hours are Monday-Friday (1 to 6 p.m. at Thomas and Hageman) and Saturday (11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Thomas and 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. at Hageman).

Hageman Library (219-926-9080) is located at 100 Francis St., Porter. Thomas Library (219-926-7696) is located at 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton. Westchester Township History Museum (219-983-9715) is located at 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton. The Baugher Center is located at 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

Indiana Dunes State Park

The following program will be offered:

- **Full Moon Hike from 8:30-10 p.m. Friday July 23.**

Meet at the Nature Center for a short presentation about the moon, followed by a two-mile hike to Lake Michigan and back. The Friends of Indiana Dunes will provide treats.

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

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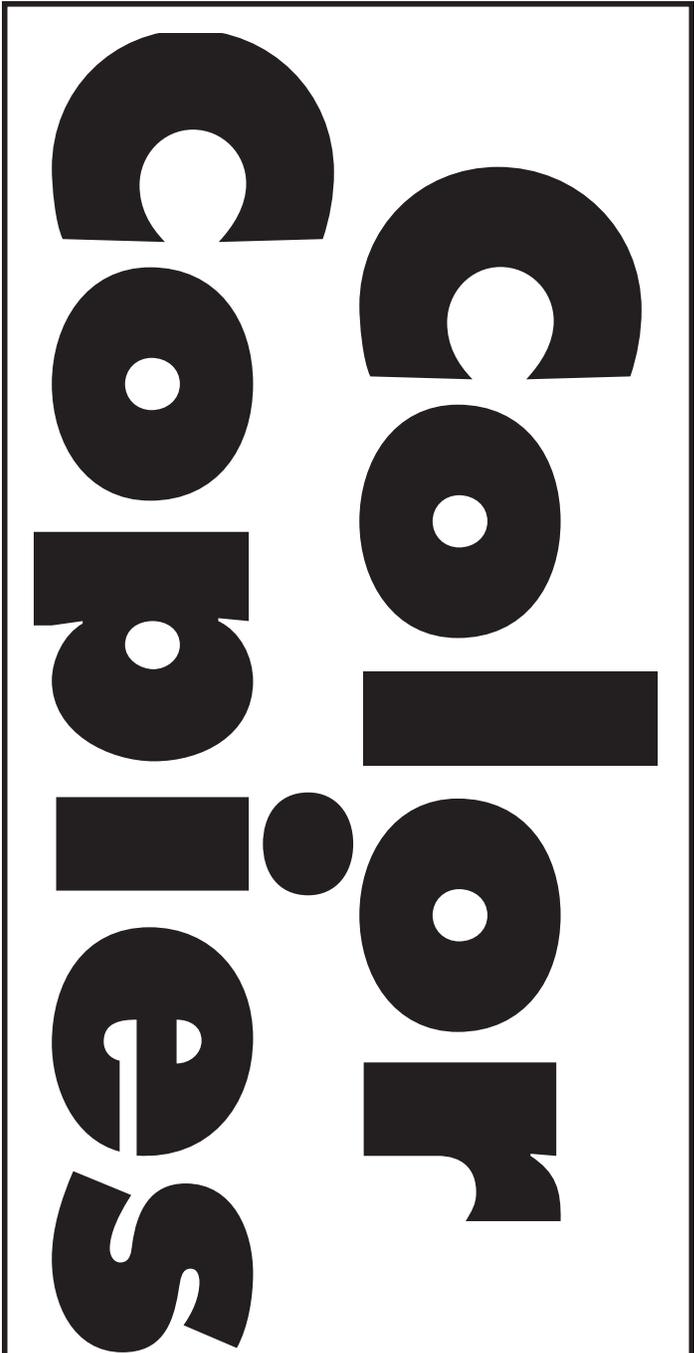
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Activities to Explore

In the Area:

July 21-31 — “Ordinary Days,” Canterbury Theatre, 807 Franklin St. Times: 2 p.m. Wed.-Thur., 7:30 p.m. Fri., 6:30 p.m. Sat. Tickets: \$16-\$17. Reservations: (219) 874-4269, info@canterburytheatre.org

July 22 — Washington Park Water Safety Event, 9-11 a.m., near Washington Park beach lifeguard station. Free.

July 23 — Full Moon Hike, 8:30-10 p.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

July 23-25 — “A Midsummer Night’s Dream,” Dunes Summer Theatre, 288 Shady Oak Drive, Michiana Shores. Times: 6-7:30 p.m. Free; suggested donations — \$25/individual, \$50/family. Reservations: tinyurl.com/yezp2vym

July 23-25, July 30-Aug. 1 — “Disney’s High School Musical,” LaPorte Little Theatre Club, 218 A St. Times: 7:30 p.m. Fri.-Sat., 2 p.m. Sun. Tickets: \$17/adults, \$16/seniors 60 & older, \$13/students with valid ID. Reservations: www.laportelittletheatreclub.com/

July 24 — S.S. Eastland Memorial, 11 a.m., Millennium Park.

July 24 — LaPorte Firefighters Rock the Park, noon-11 p.m., LaPorte’s Fox Park. Tickets: \$10/advance, \$12/gate, ages 12-21/\$5, 12 & younger/free. Info/reservations: www.guardianridersin.org/, (219) 262-4775.

July 24-25 — “Happily Ever After,” Footlight Theatre, 1705 Franklin St. Times: 7:30 p.m. July 24/2 p.m. July 25. Tickets: \$15, \$10/children 12 & younger. Reservations: www.footlightplayers.org, (219) 874-4035.

July 25 — LaPorte County Symphony Orchestra, “Legendary Showtunes & More,” 7-8:30 p.m., Friendship Botanic Gardens, 2055 E. U.S. 12. Tickets: \$50/adults, 17 & younger/free. Advance tickets: www.friendshipbotanicgardens.org. Also @ gate day of.

July 27 — Readers Corner-Book Club, 6-7 p.m., LaPorte County Public Library Coolspring Branch Meeting Room, 6925 W. County Road 400 North. Info: www.laportelibrary.org

July 28 — Roosevelt Pipe Organ Series, William Halliar, 12:15 p.m., Christ Church, 531 Washington St. Free. Info: (219) 608-5358.

July 28 — Online class, “Chef for a Day in the Wizardly World of Harry Potter,” 3-4:15 p.m., through LaPorte County Public Library. Registration: www.laportelibrary.org

July 28 — Dungeons & Dragons, 3-5 p.m., Zoom, through Michigan City Public Library. Registration: (219) 873-3045, ysonline@mclib.org, jlovett@mclib.org

July 28 — LaPorte City Band, 7 p.m., LaPorte’s Fox Park Dennis F. Smith Amphitheater. Free.

Though Aug. 12 — Michigan City Municipal

Band, 7:30 p.m., Guy F. Foreman Bicentennial Amphitheater, Washington Park. Free. Parking @ Senior Center, lots closest to amphitheater.

Through Sept. 30 — New exhibit, “Diversity” (Madeleine Schooley), The Legacy Center Gallery in Queen of All Saints Catholic Church, 1719 E. Barker Ave. Meet-the-artist reception: 8:30 a.m.-noon Aug. 8. Info: jessicar@qas.org

Through Oct. 15 — Exhibit, “Bramson/Indiana/Lake,” Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St. Info: www.lubeznikcenter.org

Wednesdays — Virtual Story Time, 10 a.m., through Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: www.mclib.org/parents/story-time/

Saturdays — Michigan City Farmers Market, 8 a.m.-noon, Eighth and Washington streets (Uptown Arts District).

Saturdays — LaPorte Farmers Market, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., Lincolnway & Monroe (near Mucho Mas). Info: laportefarmermarket@gmail.com

First and Third Mondays — Singing Sands Toastmasters Club, 6:30-8 p.m., Zoom. Info: https://7269291.toastmastersclubs.org.

Second Saturdays — Free sunset yoga w/ Lauralee Sikorski, 1 hour before sunset (specific time TBD), Long Beach Realty Stop 31 location. Limited parking. Updates: Long Beach Realty Facebook page.

In the Region

July 22 — Noon Time Talk Series, Amish folk carver Henry Chupp, 12:20 p.m. EDT, Midwest Museum of American Art, 429 S. Main St., Elkhart. Cost: \$5, members/free. Info: (574) 293-6660.

July 23 — Friends of New Troy Market, 4-8 p.m. EDT, New Troy (Mich.) Community Center, 13372 California Road. Info: friendsofnewtroymarket@gmail.com, (269) 426-3909.

July 23-Sept. 12 — Artist reception, 5:30-7:30 p.m. EDT, Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Mich. Exhibits: “The Hidden Common Place,” “Found,” “ReShoot,” “At the River’s End.” Info: www.boxfactoryforthearts.org

July 24 — The School of American Music American Music Festival, 11 a.m.-5:30 p.m. EDT, Spring Creek Stage, 14 Maple St., Three Oaks, Mich. Free. Info: (269) 409-1191.

July 24 — Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra/The GhostLight Theatre, “A Midsummer Night’s Dream,” 6:30 p.m. EDT, The Shadowland Pavilion, St. Joseph, Mich. Reservations: www.smso.org, (269) 982-4030, @ event if available.

July 25 — The Four A’s Car Club 30th annual car show, American Legion Post 204, 204 W. Linden St., Three Oaks, Mich. Registration: 8 a.m.-noon EDT, awards/2 p.m. EDT. Admission: \$2, 12 & younger/free. Info: (219) 363-5736, (269) 449-0201.

July 25 — Shoreline Birds Program, 11 a.m., Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education, Lake Street north of U.S. 12, Gary’s Miller Beach neighborhood. Info: (219) 395-1882, www.nps.gov/

Saturdays — Wetland Wonders, 10 a.m.-noon, The Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education/Miller Woods ponds, Lake Street north of U.S. 12, Gary's Miller Beach neighborhood. Info: (219) 395-1882, www.nps.gov/indu

Sundays — Bailly Chellberg History Hike, 1-3 p.m., Mineral Springs Road between U.S. 20/12, Porter. Info: (219) 395-1882, www.nps.gov/indu

Through July 25 — New exhibits, artists Abner Hershberger/Dick Lehman, Midwest Museum of American Art, 429 S. Main St., Elkhart. Admission: \$10/adult, \$6/ages 8-12, \$8/13-18 & college students with ID. Hours: (Eastern) 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tue.-Fri., 1-4 p.m. Sat.-Sun. Info: (574) 293-6660, info@midwestmuseum.us

The Region of Three Oaks Museum — 5 Featherbone Ave., Three Oaks Mich. Free admission; donations accepted. Hours (Eastern): noon-5 p.m. Friday-Sunday through October.

Vickers Theatre — *Now showing:* "Holler." Rated R. Times: 3 p.m. July 23-25, 6 p.m. July 26. *Also:* "Rita Moreno: Just a Girl Who Decided to Go for It." Rated PG-13. Time: 6 p.m. July 22. *Opening July 23:* "I Carry You With Me." Rated R. Call for times. All times Eastern. Theater address: 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. Info: (269) 756-3522, www.vickerstheatre.com

American Red Cross

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

- Northwest Health LaPorte, 1007 W. Lincolnway, 7 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Friday, July 23.
- First United Methodist Church, 121 E. Seventh St., 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, July 24.
- St. Paul Lutheran Church & School, 818 Franklin St., 1:30-6:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 27.

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 www.redcrossblood.org for more details.



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THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

On July 22, 1587, a second English colony, under the command of Capt. John White, was established on Roanoke Island off the coast of North Carolina.

On July 22, 1882, painter Edward Hopper was born in Nyack, N.Y.

On July 22, 1933, American aviator Wiley Post completed the first solo airplane flight around the world. The journey took 7 days, 18 hours and 45 minutes.

On July 22, 1934, federal agents shot and killed gangster John Dillinger as he was leaving Chicago's Biograph Theatre.

On July 22, 1991, former White Sox owner Bill Veeck was inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame.

On July 23, 1829, William Burt, of Mount Vernon, Mich., received a patent for a machine called a "Typographer." The name was changed to typewriter.

On July 23, 1846, Henry David Thoreau was sent to jail for refusing to pay his poll tax. The ordeal inspired him to write his most famous novel, Civil Disobedience.

On July 23, 1904, in St. Louis, Charles E. Menches invented the ice cream cone.

On July 23, 1962, a Telstar communications satellite relayed the first live television programs from the United States to Europe.

On July 23, 2000, Tiger Woods, 24, became the youngest player to win the career Grand Slam with a record-breaking performance in the British Open.

On July 24, 1847, Mormon leader Brigham Young and his followers arrived at Utah's Great Salt Lake.

On July 24, 1870, the first railroad car from the Pacific Coast reached New York, marking the beginning of transcontinental rail service.

On July 24, 1915, 812 were drowned when The Eastland, an excursion boat preparing to leave Chicago for Michigan City, rolled over in the Chicago River.

On July 24, 1946, off the Pacific Ocean's Bikini Atoll, the United States conducted the first underwater test of an atomic bomb.

On July 24, 1975, Apollo astronauts returned to Earth after completing an orbital rendezvous with a Soviet Soyuz spacecraft.

On July 25, 1814, England's George Stephenson, who was to become known as the Founder of Railways, first successfully demonstrated a steam locomotive.

On July 25, 1878, the first Chinese diplomatic mission to the United States arrived in Washington.

On July 25, 1885, Louis Pasteur inoculated the first human being against rabies. The patient, Joseph Meister, bitten by a rabid dog, later became superintendent of the Pasteur Institute.

On July 25, 1917, the Dutch spy Mata Hari was sentenced to death by a French court for spying for Germany during World War I.

On July 26, 1788, New York became the 11th state to ratify the Constitution.

On July 26, 1908, U.S. Attorney General Charles Bonaparte issued an order creating an investigative agency that was a forerunner of the FBI.

On July 26, 1943, Rolling Stones lead singer Mick Jagger was born in Dartford, England.

On July 26, 1952, Eva Peron, wife of Argentine President Juan Peron, died of cancer at 33.

On July 26, 1964, Teamsters President Jimmy Hoffa was convicted of defrauding its pension fund.

On July 27, 1694, the Bank of England was incorporated.

On July 27, 1866, the first underwater cable message was sent between North America and Europe.

On July 27, 1909, Orville Wright set a world record by keeping his airplane aloft for 72 minutes and 40 seconds.

On July 27, 1931, thousands of acres of crops were destroyed as swarms of giant grasshoppers descended on Nebraska and South Dakota.

On July 27, 1960, the Republican National Convention, meeting in Chicago, nominated Vice President Richard Nixon for president.

On July 28, 1750, Johann Sebastian Bach, German composer and organist, who is regarded as one of the greatest composers of all time, died at 65 in Leipzig, Germany.

On July 28, 1825, John Kinzie, who was referred to as the "First Citizen of Chicago," was appointed as the city's first justice of the peace.

On July 28, 1859, Chicago's Rosehill Cemetery was officially dedicated.

On July 28, 1927, 27 passengers drowned when the "Favorite," a Lake Michigan cruise ship, capsized in a sudden squall off Chicago's North Avenue.

On July 28, 1932, federal troops dispersed the "Bonus Army," a group of World War I veterans gathered in Washington to demand money that they were supposed to receive.

On July 28, 1943, during World War II, President Franklin Roosevelt announced the end of coffee rationing.

On July 28, 1984, the Los Angeles Summer Olympics opened, minus 15 nations who stayed away in a Soviet-led boycott.

NEWSLETTERS



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Will train. Email letter of intent and resume to

FishcampMC@gmail.com

Electric Bike Store Coming to New Buffalo, Mich.

We're looking for a part-time, experienced and enthusiastic electric bicycle mechanic to start immediately. The role includes building the electric bikes in our inventory, as well as tuneups and repairs. The pay range we're offering is up to \$20/hour based on your qualifications. We're looking for a go-to, local mechanic to build a relationship with and grow with as our company expands.

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Friday-Sunday, July 23-25, 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. EDT

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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.

Wanted: Fishing tackle. Buying all kinds of fishing tackle. Tackle boxes, lures, reels, misc. Call/text (219) 873-6568.

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Park Department Public Survey

The Michigan City Parks and Recreation Department is seeking public input for its 2017-2021 park system master plan.

Surveys will be received until Oct. 29. Call the park office at (219) 873-1506 for more details.

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Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter

Falling by T.J. Newman (hardcover, \$28 retail in bookstores and online; also available as an eBook and an audio book. 285 pages.)

“I’m not going to crash this plane and you’re not going to kill my family.”

If you decide to read this book, hang on tightly to the covers because the action goes from 0 to 60 at Page 1 and doesn’t let up until the last page. Not kidding...

Meet Bill Hoffman, respected airline pilot with years of experience, his wife, Carrie, 10-year-old son Scott and 10-month-old daughter Elise. The story opens on a typical day for the family — Bill is ready to go out the door for a flight from their home in L.A. to New York City to Portland and back home.

A not so typical Saturday though: His boss has asked him to fill in for a sick pilot, and how do you say no to the man in charge? Just then, a tech, he says his name is Sam, shows up to fix their Internet. A few kisses and last-minute talk between Bill and Carrie, and soon he picks up his overnight bag and heads out the door.

As soon as Bill is on his way, the “tech” pulls a gun on Carrie...

Meanwhile, everything is on schedule at the airfield on this beautiful clear-sky day. Bill boards the plane and meets his crew. There’s Jo, a veteran flight attendant and family friend, Michael, who everyone calls Big Daddy for some unknown reason, and new girl Kellie. First Officer Ben shares the cockpit with Bill. All eager to get going, 144 passengers.

Once in the air, Bill gets an email with a photo attached. It shows Carrie and Scott wearing suicide vests and hoods over their heads. Another vest is attached to Sam. Another email tells Bill to put on headphones to receive a FaceTime call...

The “tech,” who says his name is Saman Khani, tells Bill he must kill his co-pilot, then the people on the plane, then crash the plane where he is ordered to go. If he doesn’t, well, he saw the photo of his family.

Sam tells Bill there is a white powder poison in his flight bag to kill the co-pilot, and a canister of poison gas to kill the flight attendants and passengers — snuck in his flight bag that morning when Bill was talking to Carrie.

So well-planned...So what’s it going to be, Bill?

Either the passengers on the plane live or his family lives, but not both. Sam tells him the choice is his.

Ideas are racing through Bill’s head as he tries to figure out how to stall Sam and prevent either of these scenarios from happening.

He manages to connect with Jo and fill her in. He wishes he could just contact the FBI and send them to his house. Say no more! Jo has a relative, Theo Baldwin, who works for the FBI. However, he’s not exactly in good graces with his boss, so this might require bold action on his part. Is Theo up to it?

Action — with a capital A — goes between the plane, Bill’s house and Theo’s car.

What will happen if the passengers get wind of all this? Maybe they have a right to know they might be headed for a fiery death. What can happen next? Just when you get that “this is it” moment, something else happens — sometimes for better and sometimes for worse. Like when a news crew reports on site at a house explosion and fire — nothing is left — it’s Bill’s house.

To give you more of this amazing story would be a big mistake. The characters are so well-defined, giving you a sense of how everyone, from crew to passengers and even Bill’s wife, would react — will they be proactive? Or will they be sheep to the slaughter?

The tension is all consuming, the whole “what would I do?” possibility is explored, and it all feels too real. But the big question is — if Sam is on the ground giving directions, doesn’t it stand to reason he would have backup on the plane to ensure Bill’s cooperation? Jo and crew now have to look at each passenger as a possible terrorist.

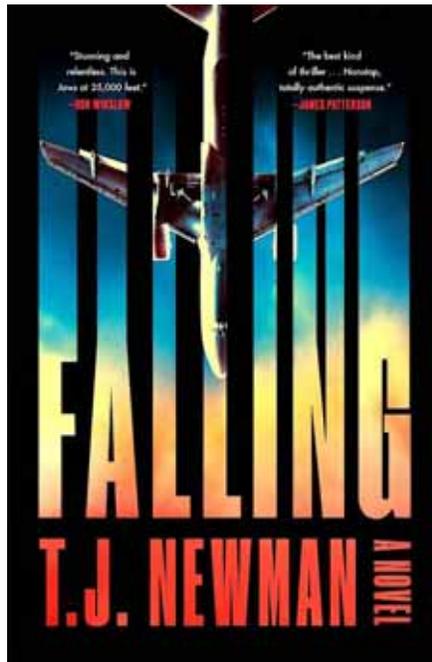
Newman gives her characters a three-dimensional quality that has you cheering (or booing) like you’re at the Kentucky Derby with a betting slip in your clenched fist.

Newman was a flight attendant for 10 years, and this is her first novel. In her acknowledgements, she states: *“My aim was to make it accurate enough to be convincing but skewed enough that it wasn’t a training manual.”* Mission accomplished!

Universal has purchased film rights to the story, and Newman has a two-book, seven-figure deal from her publisher. Not bad for a first-time author, right?

Fantastic read from beginning to end — this is sure to be one of the best books of 2021.

Till next time, happy reading!





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