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Magical Memories

by Kim Nowatzke

Editor's note — This is the next in a series amid this year's Long Beach centennial anniversary highlighting history, individuals and organizations in the community.

Talk to Long Beach School alumni about their education there, and you can't miss the way their eyes light up and a smile forms as unforgettable memories resurface. They all agree it was a magical place during a special time in their lives, and whose impact and influence they will never forget.

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Sue Stephenson (from left), Tim Dry, Diane Jones, Debbie Steele-Semla, Ernest Summers, Robert Cooper and Jim Coffee gathered at their alma mater, Long Beach School, to reminisce and share their favorite memories. Photo by Kim Nowatzke

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The original Long Beach School after completion of the first phase.

The Brick and Mortar Backstory

The first school in Long Beach opened in 1927. It was a temporary schoolroom set up in the Bob-White Cottage, a private home owned by W.I. Robertson on Hermoine Trail. There was one teacher and first through sixth grades.

John Lloyd Wright, son of famous architect Frank Lloyd Wright, moved to Long Beach from Oak Park, Ill., in 1923. As he started to build homes for local homeowners, his architectural blend of Prairie style and international flare was evident. Wanting a state-of-the-art school, James Orr, G.T. Vail and Clarence Mathias hired Wright to design the new school on land deeded by Long Beach Company, where Oriole and Belle Plaine trails meet.

Wright's school design, which he contributed free to his community, was of Scandinavian and German influence. His goal was for it to blend in with the Dunes environment. Although the original plans called for brick and stone, the building ended up as a frame structure with a brick veneer the color of sand. It had four classrooms, including the large round kindergarten room with its distinct design element of a fireplace and window walls wrapping around a majority of the space, along with bathrooms. This

first phase was completed and the school opened Sept. 4, 1928. Not much later, the main entrance, auditorium, office, additional bathrooms and two more classrooms were added. In 1954, three more classrooms and bathrooms for kindergartners were added, along with grades seven and eight.

Overcrowding issues over the years resulted in classrooms moved to the auditorium and students sent to the Shoreline Building across the street. As early as 1962, the option to attend Barker Middle School was made available to Long Beach, but the majority of Long Beach School students completed their education through the eighth grade until 1965. The next year, seventh- and eighth-graders officially attended Krueger Middle School.

In 1962, after several years of setbacks, a final addition of four more classrooms and a teacher's room turned the U-shaped school into a square one with an enclosed courtyard.

School principals over the years included Beryl M. Knapp, Alice Johnson, Ruth V. Stark, Paul Haney, Ray Steele, Roy Whipperman, Tom Darman and Arleen Tarasick.

The school officially closed on June 12, 1997. It now operates as Long Beach Community Center

and houses the LaPorte County YMCA Long Beach Branch, Long Beach Historical Society Museum and other businesses.

Enchanted Years

Sue Stephenson sums up her time (1960-1965) at Long Beach School as “Enchanted Years.” In fact, those were the words she inscribed, along with her name and dates of attendance, on the red brick she purchased for the school’s entrance way as part of an ongoing campaign to raise funds for the building.

Stephenson came to Long Beach School after attending a strict school in Ohio in first through third grades. She doesn’t have many memories of that time. However, she vividly recalls her first day at Long Beach School after her family moved to the area — 61 years ago.



The Long Beach School brick purchased by Sue Stephenson.

“When we moved to Long Beach, and I walked into its small, cozy school building on the first day of fourth grade and felt the welcoming warmth from its teachers and students, I felt like I was home,” she said. “At recess, I was amazed when all the kids ran out to the hill. I’d never had that freedom before. This was a balanced world where I felt loved, encouraged, understood. The teachers were warm, loving, accepting. I was home.”

Diane Jones, who also graduated from Long Beach School in 1965 as an eighth-grader — the last year eighth-graders were taught there — echoed those sentiments.

“We were part of the family – part of the team,” she said. “The experience the teachers gave us and the opportunities made it fun to learn. Everyone weaved into each other, and it helped. No one felt less than anyone else.”

A Place in Time

Stephenson and Jones, along with other graduates from the classes of 1965, 1966 and 1967, met to discuss their beloved alma mater. For them, their time at Long Beach School was during a period of growth for the area.

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“People moved here from the steel mills,” Stephenson recalled. “We got new neighbors all the time. There was such an influx of new families.”

Robert Cooper added, “We had the Baby Boom. We had new friends every week.”

Cooper graduated from sixth grade at Long Beach School in 1966.

Jim Coffee, who graduated from sixth grade there a year later, noted how there were two classes of about 28 kids in each grade, which held true for Notre Dame Elementary School at the time.

Marty Franks, who graduated from Long Beach School’s eighth grade in 1964, recalled the school’s overcrowding issues. Some school board members, including his mother, Alice Franks, and Paul Seybert were in favor of expanding the school. The vote didn’t pass, however, and one group of fifth-grade students ended up holding class in an empty storefront that shared a building with the local liquor store.

“I liked to tease my mom that she made me go to school in a liquor store,” Marty Franks shared with a laugh.

It also was a time when historical events were set against the backdrop of their beloved school.

Jones remembers the day President John F. Kennedy was assassinated, and “they brought all the TVs into a room for us to watch.”

Cooper, who ended sixth grade in 1966 at the school, recalled how “we were taken to the Sprague family house (the “Castle Abri” located across from the school) to get the polio vaccine. Phil Sprague paid for it all out of the kindness of his heart.”

Ernest Summers, who graduated from the school the same year, added, “We got hearing tests there, too.” Cooper recalled “practice drills hiding under desks because of the Cuban Missile Crisis.”

Coffee remembered the snowstorm of 1967, which began as he was walking to school. With no intercom at the school, it wasn’t long before Principal Ray Steele was walking through the school halls, visiting classrooms with a sign that said, “Go Home.”

A Safe and Secure Community Hub

Despite overtures of the 1960s’ national unrest, students still felt safe and secure, accepted and respected, in their educational environment.

“The highlight of the school was that it was here,” said Tim Dry, who graduated from the sixth grade at Long Beach School in 1965. “Everything after was a letdown: high school, college, grad school. You felt empowered. You felt enthused about learning. You felt safe.”

Summers agreed.

“Long Beach School was the magnet where we got to know the community,” he said. “Everyone knew everybody from the school.”

Principal Steele’s daughter, Debbie Steele-Semla, called it “the hub.”

Though Ben Front graduated from sixth grade at Long Beach School decades later in 1989, his sentiments are the same.

“Long Beach School was the center of our neighborhood and life,” he said. “It was such a safe place. It was a testing ground for all things growing up – even as an adolescent.”

Front was a third-generation student.

“I remember being very proud as a student at Long Beach School, partly because my mom (Paula Trout) and her sisters (Linda Trout and Priscilla Trout) were alumni and their class pictures dating back to the 1950s hung in the halls. They were instant signs of belonging for me.”

Front’s grandparents lived across from the school, and his grandmother, Peg Trout, kept a close eye on the kids while they were on the playground.

“We referred to her as ‘Grambo.’” If she saw something stupid going on she was blowing her whistle,” Front said. “Everyone in the neighborhood knew Peg Trout.”

Like many other Long Beach alumni, Front’s memories don’t end with just classes.

“After all the buses left, I was still there playing with my neighborhood friends, attending Boy Scout meetings, and after I got older, getting into all kinds of mischief in ‘Bear Forrest’ or climbing the gutters to get up onto the roof, where you



Ben Front’s kindergarten class with teacher Lois Krueger at Long Beach School. Front is in the second row (far right) in the white shirt with red sleeves.

could find a lifetime supply of tennis balls,” Front recalled. “There was a lot of autonomy at a young age, which instilled in me the independence that I have today.”

Coffee mentioned learning how to play golf and participating in a caddy school at Long Beach Country Club. Cooper said the “Long Beach pool was a huge gathering place” for everyone – not just country club members.

He also recalled how the tennis courts would be flooded in the winter so kids could have fun ice skating and playing ice hockey.

Steele-Selma mentioned how her father organized a Saturday basketball program to “help keep kids off of the streets.”

She noted another extra-curriculum activity: “Ballroom dancing was always appreciated and a favorite memory here.”



Ben Front, shown here with his wife, Elizabeth Kasbeer, and children, Henri Front and Helena Front. Ben graduated from Long Beach School as a sixth-grader in 1989.

Of course, Long Beach School’s emphasis and dedication on academics were key to its success.

“I feel like the education, especially the reading program, was so good. There was a computer lab that got me interested in technology early on,” said Front, who has a bachelor’s degree in hospitality and tourism from Purdue University. He now works in fintech (a combination of finance and technology management).

For Franks, it was the communication skills he gained from Long Beach School that stand out in his mind. They came in handy throughout his career that included working for Tip O’Neill, former speaker of the House of Representatives,

and former President Jimmy Carter, in addition to serving as executive director of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, and ultimately retiring as the executive vice president of CBS.

Academic Accolades

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The Long Beach School building is included with the National Register of Historic Places. "I love that our school is on the historic preservation list because my promise to my dad and to several of the 10,000 children is now complete," Debbie Steele-Semla said. "He said to me (in June 2010), 'Please don't let them tear down our wonderful school just because it's old. The people will miss it.' He passed away in July."

"(Teacher) Jim Williams had the greatest impact on me, but it was a close contest," he explained. "He burned English grammar into my brain permanently. It's tattooed in my brain. I think I could still diagram a sentence if I had to. With my own children at parent-teacher conferences, I always asked when they would begin teaching grammar."

For Front, it was his fifth-grade teacher, Dennis Nearly – a former Indiana senator — who left a deep impression. Front would later have the opportunity to serve as his page for a day.

"Fifth grade was a big year for me," he said. "That was so cool. He (Nearly) had a big personality. He walked in the room and it lit up. He delivered his lessons in an interesting and effective way."

Summers realized just how advanced his education at Long Beach School was when he attended Elston High School. It wasn't too long before his 10th-grade English teacher Velma Harrison pulled him aside. She explained how he would be completing a more advanced independent study the remainder of the year because the rest of the class would cover what he'd already learned in elementary school.

"The education we got prepared us and carried me all the way through school to advanced degrees in law and business," he said.

Summers earned a bachelor in

arts in economics and political science, a master's in business administration in corporate finance and a doctor of jurisprudence law degree, all from Indiana University.

Cooper shared how kindergartners began learning foreign languages, and how a weekly reader test demonstrated that fifth-graders were testing at college-level reading comprehension.

Steele-Semla explained how band instruction began in fourth grade, stating, "A lot of musical ability started here."

Front remembered many of his teachers, including Rose Higdon, Lois Krueger, Sydney Hoover and his principal, Tom Darman.

"It was the first time I'd built adult relationships outside of my family, and it has benefitted me," he said. "There were so many great role models here."

Front also can't forget the school's talent shows.

"I remember feeling socially mature. We had the best talent shows – always well attended and participated in," he said. "It inspired a lot of creativity and confidence. I don't think I ever skipped a talent show."

Many memories involving Long Beach School center around Steele, who served as superintendent and principal from 1952-1965, then only as the principal from 1965-1979. A special plaque presented to him that now is part of the Long Beach Museum in the school building (now the Long Beach Community Center,) calls him "*An Outstanding Educator, Friend of Over 10,000 Long Beach School Children, and Long Beach Community Leader.*"



Ray Steele was admired, respected and loved by many. He served as the superintendent and principal from 1952-1965, then only as the principal from 1965-1979.

"He loved this community," Steele-Semla said of her father. "He loved his job. I was told by many that he was a living legend in his own time. Even though I shared this man with over 10,000 children, he was always there for me. I don't think that anyone could ever fill his shoes."

Cooper referred to his former principal as the "supreme ruler of the school."

Coffee shared an anecdote from fourth or fifth grade of how he was waiting for someone to pick him up in front of the school. When Steele asked why he was there, he replied that he was going fishing on the pier.

"The next day, he pulled me out of class into the hallway to find out how I did, where I caught fish and more," Coffee shared, laughing.

Steele was known for his heart for children.



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“My dad always said that children don’t always know it, but they want to count in someone’s eyes,” Steele-Semla said. “He was a visible principal and would talk to the children in and out of school. Whenever they saw him outside of his home, there was always, ‘Hi, Mr. Steele’. By living in the community, he was very much a part of their lives. Children knew he was kind and interested in what they were doing.”

And, his rapport didn’t end with the kids — parents and teachers were big fans as well.

“Parents respected his judgment and backed him when a child did wrong, because they believed in him and knew he would be fair when dealing with their child,” Steele-Semla said. “He was a man of his word. He was most proud, because he would have 100 percent of the families join PTA, and 250 volunteers. Everybody wanted to come to school. Teachers loved working for him, because as long as they were in the right, they knew that he would back them 100 percent against a riled up parent. They were family, and they worked together. One teacher told me recently that he would come into the teacher’s room, and as he was sitting, he would slap his hand across his leg and say, ‘D---, this is fun!’”

Lifelong Friendships

All this aside, friendships garnered from Long Beach School are perhaps what is cherished the most.

“It’s the friendships that have lasted our whole life,” Jones emphasized. “When we see them, it’s like we just pick up where we left off.”

Coffee agreed.

“The friendships you have in grade school last forever,” he said. “I’ve know those friends since we



The Long Beach School brick purchased by Kathy Kingsley Stout and Paula Seybert Reckley

were 7 years old. The camaraderie, the friendship, the people I grew up with – they are friendships that you’ll have your whole life.”

Kathy Kingsley Stout and Paula Seybert Reckley decided to honor their friendship when they purchased their fundraising brick for the walkway. It reads, “Kathy and Paula, LBS 1955 – 1964, Friends Forever.”

The two met in Mrs. Ellison’s fourth-grade class. Although Reckley moved to South Bend for a few years, their friendship rekindled the first day of ninth grade when Stout rescued Reckley from a “lunch mishap.” Even double dating for the senior prom, they remained fast friends throughout Elston High School and in the decades since, even though Stout lives in Kendallville, Ind., and Reckley lives in Elmhurst, Ill.

“Some friendships truly are forever,” Stout said. “As another classmate once said, ‘It is impossible to describe the depth of feelings we have for each other.’ We spent our childhood together in a magical place by the lake. The people we went to school with at Long Beach School remain dear friends to both of us today. We gather in person every five years, and we Zoomed during COVID.”



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Stout said over the years, she and Reckley have celebrated milestones, including weddings, grandchildren, graduation, reunions of Long Beach School and high school.

“We continue to be a part of each other’s lives,” she continued. “We were great friends at IU, and had children about the same time. We visited each other often when our kids were little. One day in August 2001, we ran into each other – not planned – on Orientation Day at IU when Paula’s daughter and my son were both enrolled. That led to four years of Mom’s weekends there. I honestly can’t remember a time when Paula was not a part of my life.”

The two agreed their positive experiences at Long Beach School persuaded them to choose careers as teachers. They even shared a special milestone of working for the Disney Company, evaluating portfolios of future Disney Teacher nominees and writing curriculum for Harvard’s Graduate School of Education.



Kathy Kingsley Stout and Paula Seybert Reckley have been friends for more than six decades since they first met at Long Beach School in 1959.

from kindergarten through fifth grade and then moved away, recalled her experience on the site this way, ‘Growing up in Long Beach was an opportunity to experience a ‘rare childhood’ — the lake, the fall colors and abundant oak trees, the wonderful, cozy Long Beach School, Ronnie’s, 4th of July parades, sledding at Sugar Bowl, biking everywhere without fear... our time in LB (Long Beach) was without peer, I’m convinced.’

When talking to other Long Beach School alumni or noticing sentiments on Facebook “The most common comment is that we were so lucky,” Stephenson said.

For Front, the vivid memories will forever live in his heart.

“I remember so much about Long Beach School, from the smell of janitor floor-sweeping dust and the shape of the floor tiles to singing ‘Bye Bye - See You Tomorrow’ at the end of the day in Mrs. Krueger’s kindergarten class. There’s the sound of the old metal slide as you kicked it with your heels, and even the very old wooden death trap of a merry-go-round.

“We knew we were getting a good education,” Front continued. “We knew we were lucky to get it in a historic and architecturally significant building, and we knew we were safe in Long Beach. It was an amazing place to be a kid.”

Franks summed it up in these few words: “You realize how incredibly special of a place that it was.”

(Debbie Steele-Semla and Sue Stephenson gained information for the historical portion of the article through research, including from The Long Beacher and The Billows.)

Thanks for the Memories

Those who graced the halls of Long Beach School know how fortunate they are.

“We have very fond memories that a lot of people didn’t get to have,” Jones said.

A few years back, Stephenson and a classmate, Peter Oberlink, created a now-defunct Wiki site for former Long Beach students to share information, stories and photos.

Stephenson shared, “A good pal of mine, Allison Volk Miller, who went through Long Beach School



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Lubeznik Center to Unveil “Nature Now” Exhibit



Herman Aguirre's "Testigos de Guerra" (2018).

“Nature Now,” the fall exhibit at Lubeznik Center for the Arts, explores life’s cyclical nature while reflecting on how humans impact the world.

The show runs Oct. 25-Feb. 25, 2022. The opening celebration is during First Friday from 3-7 p.m. Nov. 5 at the LCA, 101 W. Second St.

Participating artists include: Herman Aguirre, Christa Donner, Doug Fogelson, Stacey Lee Gee, Holly Greenberg, Heidi Norton, Mark Rospenda and Tom Van Eynde. The artists, according to a press release, address issues to encourage conversations, and become more sustainable, equitable and just.

Aguirre’s body of work, for example, is comprised of paintings depicting traumatic events that directly affected him as a Mexican American, his loved ones and his community. His intent is to shed light

on issues regarding war, trauma and loss with his paintings, such as “*Testigos de Guerra*” (2018).

Greenberg’s piece, “*Crossing the Bar*,” references Alfred Lord Tennyson’s poem by the same name in which he describes a mariner’s surrender toward his own death.

As a mother and educator, Christa Donner is interested in the consequences of human impact on the planet. The goal of her works, such as “*Cellular Healing*,” is to explore and suggest models for moving beyond consumerism.

A free gallery talk led by LCA Exhibition Director Lora Fosberg is at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 13. Registration is available on Eventbrite at [tinyurl.com/48ajsfpf](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/48ajsfpf).

No registration is necessary for Nov. 5.

LCA hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday and 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. It is closed Tuesday. Admission is free. Visit www.lubeznikcenter.org or call (219) 874-4900 for more details, including COVID-19 measures.



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Elkhart Juried Regional Exhibition Winners

Four individuals from within *The Beacher's* readership area are winners in The Midwest Museum of American Art's 43rd Elkhart Juried Regional.

The exhibit surveys current trends by artists from 20 northern Indiana counties and four southern Michigan counties. This year, 197 artists submitted 341 works in all media for consideration. The result is 153 works by 115 artists.

The exhibit is underwritten by the Elkhart County Conventions & Visitors Bureau. Artist awards totaled more than \$26,000, making the event the state's largest cash-awards show. Jurors were artists Laura Connors (Crawfordsville) and Thomas Roesse (Cleveland, Ohio).

Local artists awarded were:

- Frances Cox, Michiana Shores, "Bowl of Plums,"



A few of the entries included with the 43rd Elkhart Juried Regional.

oil, Best Painting Award; "Bowl of Ornaments," oil, Dr. Elizabeth Elliott Purchase Award.

- Kevin Firme, Beverly Shores, "Water Spirit," glass and steel, Susan & Mark Henshaw Purchase Award.
- Patricia Herman, Michigan City, "Ode to A Sycamore, #1," ink and watercolor, Connie Fulmer Purchase Award.
- Mark Vander Vinne, Porter, "Autumn Spirit," oil, John & Sharon Feddersen Purchase Award; "The Wishing Tree," oil,

Liz Borger Purchase Award.

The exhibit runs through Sunday, Dec. 19. The museum is located at 429 S. Main St., Elkhart. Hours are (all times Eastern) 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and 1-4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday. Admission is: \$10 per adult visitor, \$6 for ages 8-12, \$8 for ages 13-18 and college students with ID. Visit www.midwestmuseum.org for more details.



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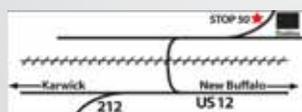
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Boo at the Zoo

Washington Park Zoo, 115 Lake Shore Drive, has modified its annual Boo at the Zoo to reduce any risks related to COVID-19.

The event is from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Oct. 23, 24 and 31. Instead of trick-or-treat stations, every child receives a goodie bag while supplies last. Guests are still encouraged to wear costumes. Areas will be decorated for the holiday.



Boo activities are included with general zoo admission and free for WPZoo members who show his/her pass and a photo ID. At this time, advance entry tickets or reservations are not required, but that could change if LaPorte County COVID cases are back into orange level under the state's reopening plan. Those who would like to pick up tickets in advance to avoid a wait will find them available daily at the zoo office.

Visit www.facebook.com/WashingtonParkZoo, call (219) 873-1510 or email jhuss@emichigancity.com for more details.

NB Library Halloween Program

The Friends of the New Buffalo Library will present a Halloween program on classic horror movies at 6:30 p.m. EDT Tuesday, Oct. 26, at the library, 33 N. Thompson St.

Film historian Annette Bochenek will explore classic horror films and lesser-known gems, the variety of horror films and characters, the production of impactful horror films, notable stars of the genre and the legacy of these films.

The program includes a multimedia presentation consisting of photos, video clips and stories. Children are welcome.

All Friends of the Library programs are free. Face masks are requested.



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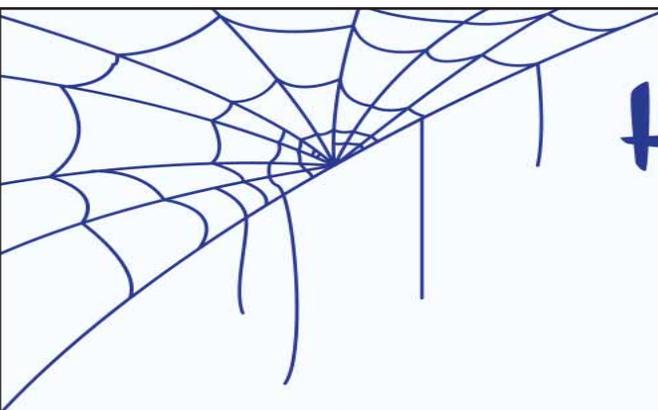
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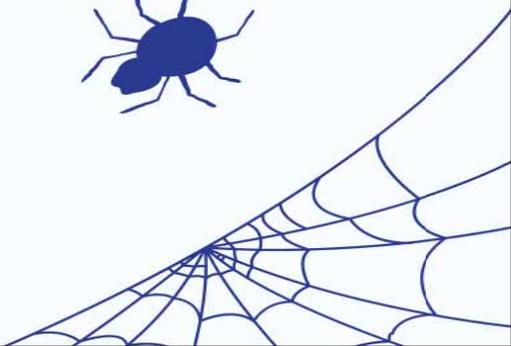
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Reins of Life Volunteer Training



Reins of Life Inc. will present new volunteer training sessions at its Michigan City facility, 9375 W. County Road 300 North.

Reins of Life offers therapeutic riding, carriage driving and interactive vaulting lessons to adults and children with disabilities. Training includes the history of Reins of Life, its mission and programs, and how to groom, tack and lead a horse.

Sessions are: 5:30-7:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 25, noon-2 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 26; and 9:30-11:30 a.m. Friday, Oct. 29. Closed-toe shoes are required, and participants must be at least 13. Parents must sign paperwork for anyone younger than 18. Horse experience is not required. Sessions will be limited to the first six people who sign up.

Call or text the volunteer coordinator at (219) 276-7849 to register.

Harbor Country Hikers

Harbor Country Hikers will visit Madeline Bertrand County Park in Niles, Mich., at 2 p.m. EDT Saturday, Oct. 23.

The hike, which is rated "moderate" in physical difficulty, is the second in a fall series that explores Berrien County parks. Named for the Potawatomi wife of early trading post operator Joseph Bertand, the park offers more than five miles of hiking trails through forests and along the St. Joseph River. A county parks naturalist will lead the program.

Those attending should take water and wear long pants, a sun hat, sturdy shoes or boots. The total walking distance is about 2.5 miles.

The park is located at 3038 Adams Road. Visit www.harborcountryhikers.com for more details.

Last New Troy Market of the Season

Friends of New Troy will present the last Friday night outdoor market of the season from 4-8 p.m. EDT Friday, Oct. 22, at New Troy (Mich.) Community Center, 13372 California Road.

In addition to vendors and outdoor games such as corn hole and bocce ball, the market will celebrate fall and the upcoming holiday, including a free pumpkin decorating station. Ron Spears and Wes County will present live music in the Allan Boyd Memorial Gazebo. The day also serves as packet pickup for the Oct. 23 10th Annual Run to the Center of the World 5K, 10K and Half Marathon.

Dinner pre-sale tickets are available. Raceway

Catering will serve a pork barbecue sandwich or vegetarian option with macaroni and cheese and a drink for \$10. The vegetarian option is an Asian chopped salad. Meal tickets may be purchased at www.friendsofnewtroy.org/font-market, or at the community center library during regular hours from 10 a.m.-noon EDT Monday-Saturday and 5:30-7 p.m. EDT Monday-Friday.

All proceeds from booth rentals benefit the non-profit community center. Vendor applications are available online and in the community center. Email friendsofnewtroymarket@gmail.com for additional information.

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“Blue Bayou” Will Rattle You to the Core

by Andrew Tallackson



Alicia Vikander (from left), Sydney Kowalske and Justin Chon star in “Blue Bayou.”

“Blue Bayou” contains the year’s three best performances thus far by Justin Chon, Alicia Vikander and Sydney Kowalske. When the final scene arrives, we are crushed. The actors rattle us out of our comfort zone.

The movie, which just played at Vickers Theatre and is available through View on Demand, explores the deportation of Asian-American adoptees years after arriving in the U.S. Chon, also the writer-director, spent four years working on the film, incorporating research and interviews with adoptees.

He stars as Antonio LeBlanc, who was born in Korea, but adopted at age 3 by a couple near New Orleans. Now an adult, he’s married to Kathy (Vikander), a rehabilitation nurse with a daughter from a previous marriage, Jessie. She’s played by Kowalske in a performance by a child actor that ranks with Henry Thomas in “E.T.” and Haley Joel Osment in “The Sixth Sense.” No precociousness. No false moves. This is astonishing, like watching an old soul trapped in a child’s body. We sense it in the opening scene, where Antonio interviews for a new job. It’s not going well, his criminal past, and blatant racism on the interviewer’s behalf, killing any hope. Thing is, Jessie knows it. She’s by his side. Fidgety. She can sense the cruel edge to the questions asked.

That scene feels real. It establishes the tone for the movie, that of unfiltered naturalism. The minimal budget works to the story’s benefit because the camera is like a silent observer to the lives of these three people.

★ ★ ★ 1/2

“Blue Bayou”

Running time: 117 minutes. View on Demand.
Rated R for language throughout and some violence.

Kathy and Antonio, though, are struggling. They love each other, but she is pregnant. As a tattoo artist, he barely makes ends meet. During a disagreement over money at the supermarket, Kathy’s ex-husband, Ace (Mark O’Brien), a police officer, and his racist partner Denny (Emory Cohen) overhear the conversation. Denny oversteps his bounds. Blows are exchanged and Antonio is arrested. That unearths painful secrets from his past: His foster parents never naturalized him before the Child Citizenship Act of 2000. And with two prior convictions for theft, the case for deporting him mounts.

Movies that feature couples in love rarely persuade us these people belong together beyond that the script requires them to be. But here, Chon creates a rarity: a genuinely good person. He’s a natural as a stepfather to Jessie, and he supports Kathy at every turn. And Vikander (the Oscar winner for “The Danish Girl”) has become one of my favorite actresses. You never catch her acting. She seems fully invested in the moment. Every gesture, every emotion, feels genuine. Spur of the moment.

As long as “Blue Bayou” plays out like a documentary, it has the breath of life to it. We are moved, for example, by Antonio’s friendship with a Vietnamese woman (Linh Dan Pham, deeply affecting) dying of

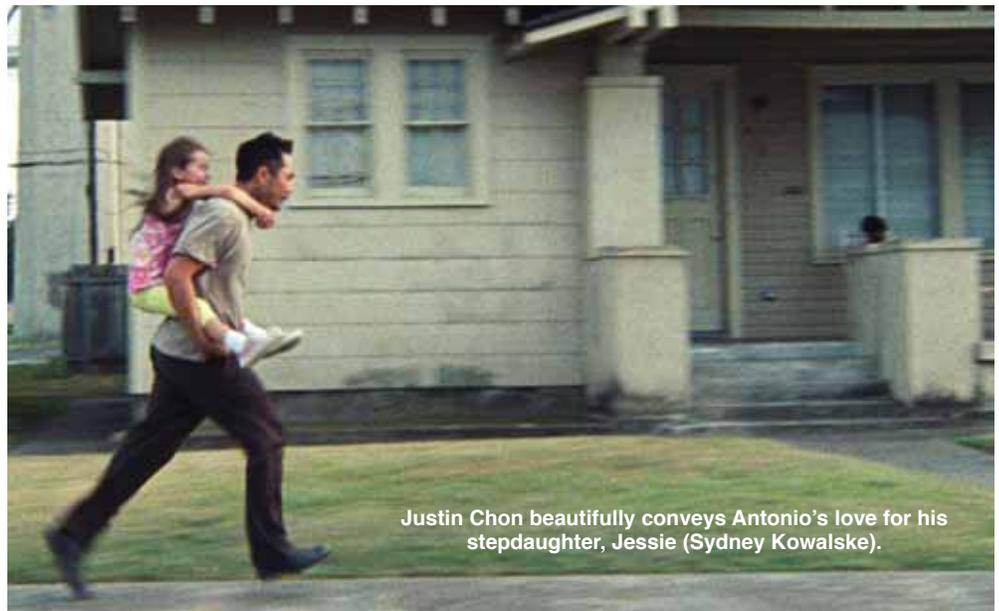
cancer. These two are opposite sides of the spectrum. His life hangs in the balance because of a flawed system. She has thrived from the same system, only to have her own body fail her.

In exploring Antonio's past, we catch glimpses of his real mother. Her story is important, but Chon overdirects the images with arty, pretentious symbolism. These scenes either should have been cut or reshot. As the story arrives at its climactic court hearing, it collapses into melodrama. In fact, I was ready to write "Blue Bayou" off. It had sacrificed its soul for TV-level theatrics.

Then, that final scene arrives. It's like someone clamping down on your heart and squeezing to the point of breaking. Nothing can prepare you for it. In exposing unfair, inhumane practices, "Blue Bayou" leaves you bruised. Raw.

Because of that scene, and the three central performances, "Blue Bayou" demands to be seen. Flaws and all.

Contact Andrew Tallackson at drew@thebeacher.com



Justin Chon beautifully conveys Antonio's love for his stepdaughter, Jessie (Sydney Kowalske).

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Childlike Wonder



Carolyn Watson conducted her first LaPorte County Symphony Orchestra performance as its new music director Oct. 13 during the 33rd annual Drayton Family Children’s Educational Concerts at LaPorte Civic Auditorium. The program, which exposes thousands of local school children to music, included Tchaikovsky’s “Swan Lake Suite” and “Hedwig’s Theme” from “Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone.”

All photos by Bob Wellinski

“Falling for Figaro” is the Right Way to do a Rom-Com

by Andrew Tallackson



Danielle Macdonald and Hugh Skinner star as budding opera singers in “Falling for Figaro.”

“Falling for Figaro” answers a question we didn’t realize warranted a reply: What if the United Kingdom and Australia joined forces to create their own Hallmark movie?

The immediate answer is that it wouldn’t suck. A more refined response would be that the movie is a delight. Nothing earth-shattering, mind you, but breezily satisfying.

When you boil “Falling for Figaro” down to its elements, it really is a Hallmark movie. An unhappy young woman ventures to a rural community to pursue her true love of performing. While there, she meets a local guy who’s kinda cute, kinda annoying. But wouldn’t you know it, their shared interests ignite a spark that generates PG-level heat.

Classic Hallmark hoey.

The difference, of course, is that “Falling for Figaro,” which opens this weekend at Vickers Theatre, has a likable cast, not actors who recite their dialogue as if cue cards were tacked to their eyelids. Minimal gushy stuff. And a performance by “Absolutely Fabulous” star Joanna Lumley that, at the very least, warrants consideration for a Best Supporting Actress nomination.

The star is Danielle Macdonald, that amiable Australian actress with a penchant for flawless American accents. She was refreshingly unsentimental in Netflix’s Jennifer Aniston beauty pageant comedy



“Falling for Figaro”

Running time: 104 minutes. Vickers Theatre,
View on Demand. Not Rated.

“Dumplin’” (2018), and she’s equally fun here. She plays Millie, a successful fund manager with a mildly supportive boyfriend, Charlie (Shazad Latif), but whose true passion is opera. We see it in the opening scene, where she swoons at the performers in a local performance — Charlie has nodded off — and later watches online clips of her favorite selections.

The screenplay by Allen Palmer and director Ben Lewin (Helen Hunt’s offbeat sex dramedy “The Sessions”) is savvy enough to bolster Mille’s interest not because she is starved for attention, but in how opera allows female performers to defy convention. Macdonald is a full-figured actress who doesn’t shy away from accentuating that on film, and here, her explanation of how women in opera can be mad, irrational, passionate and not of slim figure is all it takes for us to rally behind Millie.

And when Millie realizes her career is draining all the life out of her, she abandons it on a whim, and Charlie, heading to a ramshackle village in the Scottish highlands for lessons with a once-successful op-

era diva, Meghan Geoffrey-Bishop (Lumley). Her handyman, Max (Hugh Skinner), is under her tutelage, although she berates him at every turn. As such, he's sort of an odd duck: competitive, yet socially awkward.

And so, all the ingredients are in place for a thoroughly predictable rom-com.

But again, here is where "Falling for Figaro" throws a few kinks in the wheel. This isn't the Meryl Streep tale "Florence Foster Jenkins," where Millie's voice sounds like someone skinning live animals. Millie has talent. Raw, yes, but teachable. Charlie realizes it, and so does Meghan. Lumley takes an old cliché — the embittered, washed-up diva — and jump-starts it. Meghan has some of the best lines, at one point telling Max his future rests in performing on cruise ships for "senile-old biddies." What's moving about the performance, though, is how it changes. How working with Millie and Max recharges Meghan. The film's most beautifully realized scene is just Lumley's face as Meghan listens to the two perform a duet. The recognition in her eyes — her faded career, the genuine talent before her — is moving. One of the last shots of the movie, in fact, is of her face, reacting to people she's grown to admire and adore.

Another treat is veteran character actor Gary Lewis ("Billy Elliott," HBO's "His Dark Materials") as Ramsay, the local barkeep. He's a bit of a grouch, but no local yokel, especially when he comes to Millie's defense after Meghan won't cut her any slack.

Will Millie and Max work out their kinks *and* realize their love for each other? I wouldn't lose any sleep over it. The story does not head anywhere we have not already predicted.

But going to the movies isn't just about experi-



Meghan Geoffrey-Bishop (Joanna Lumley, right) is a bit too aggressive in her training with Millie (Danielle Macdonald).

encing the new. It also is about savoring a familiar story told exceedingly well.

Does "Falling for Figaro" find a way to sneak into our heart? You bet.

Contact Andrew Tallackson at drew@thebeacher.com

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The Writing Life: Part One

To paraphrase Eric Idle in the 1983 classic “Monty Python’s The Meaning of Life,” “*And so I became a writer.*”

Idle, so you know, was speaking of becoming a waiter. That was his character’s destiny in the funniest movie I have ever seen. But my destiny, as realized in Mrs. Harrington’s sixth-grade class at Chicago’s Alice L. Barnard Elementary School in 1962, was to become a writer.

I thank the late Jean Harrington for awakening the writer within me, and for encouraging me to write and read.

Face it, fellow writers, we can’t write if we don’t voraciously devour books, right?

Right!

So, I was infected with the writing bug in 1962 at 12 and started writing. A lot. I also was inspired and encouraged by the late, great Rod Serling, host of my favorite TV show, “The Twilight Zone.”

When I realized Serling was writing most of those wickedly wonderful episodes, why, I resolved to be just like him when I grew up. OK, I’m nothing like Rod Serling, now that I’m all grown up and actually growing old, but I thank him nearly every day for watering the writing seed Mrs. Harrington planted.

Then in high school, I saw this ad in one of the writers’ magazines I borrowed from the library advertising something sensationally super: The Famous Writers School. Founded in 1961 by Bennett Cerf, Gordon Carroll and Albert Dorne, the school promised editing and coaching for aspiring writers from the likes of the aforementioned Serling, who was listed as part of the “Guiding Faculty.”

Serling was going to help me, a high-school freshman in Chicago, become a famous writer? You’re kidding me, right? It was too good to be true, but that didn’t stop me from “applying.”

I didn’t hear a word for the longest time. Then, one Wednesday night, after I returned from my weekly Boy Scout meeting, my parents told me some man from some writers’ school in New York, or somewhere, came a calling. For me, but I wasn’t



Life With Charley

Charles McKelvy



Words of encouragement in my yearbook from Lorraine Roberts, my senior English teacher at Morgan Park High School.

home, was I?

No, but my parents set him straight and assured him I was getting all the writing instruction I needed at Morgan Park High School.

True, I had great English teachers all four years at Morgan Park, the best of the best being my senior English teacher, Lorraine Roberts. She went so far as to compare me to *Chicago Daily News* columnist Mike Royko, which really sent me off to the writing races. So, yes, I was getting all the good orderly direction a young writer needed, right there at Morgan Park. And within walking distance of my childhood home.

But I wanted that extra kick in the pants a famous writer like Serling could give me as a student of the Famous Writers School. But nope, Mom and Dad shut ‘er down and sent that slickster from that fancy, mail-order school on the East Coast packing.

Good thing I wasn’t packing, because I was pretty upset. But I did what I always did as a kid: stuffed those feelings into my writing. I wasn’t journaling or anything like that, but I was writing it all down.

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Was I ever, and was I ever shocked, dismayed and totally disappointed in 1970 when famous writer Jessica Mitford exposed the school's questionable academic and business practices. Seems they fleeced a 72-year-old in California to empty her meager bank account so she could become a famous writer, too.

So much for my heroes, right?

You'd think that would put me off promises from famous writers on the East Coast for a good, long while. It did. But I did fall for another scam — one from a "famous" literary agent — some years later, but we've heard enough out of my innocent, young writing self.

What we need to hear now is how I set the writing hook in my mouth and swam off into the literary depths.

As I said, Mrs. Lorraine Roberts really got me going as a senior at Morgan Park, but I was, as yet, an unpublished writer, right? You can't really count papers for senior English class as published work.

Writers need their work published as much as fish need their gills to function properly.

So imagine my utter delight when, during the summer of 1969, I became a published author in, of all places, *The Beverly Review*, my neighborhood's weekly newspaper.

My dear brother, Donald, just happened to be dating the editor's lovely daughter Cynthia at the time (they would later marry and remain happily married to present day). So I asked my future sister-in-law if I might have a word with her mother, Joan Johnson, about possibly contributing some "Tales from Taiwan" to *The Beverly Review* during the momentous summer of 1969. (Woodstock and

moon landing come to mind?)

Madam Editor was thrilled. She had me send handwritten dispatches from Kaohsiung, Taiwan, all summer. She published them, along with the black-and-white photographs I sent.

And when I saw the "clips," I was totally hooked on writing.

A writer needs an audience like our begonias need a weekly dose of plant food. It's in our DNA, right?

Right, and it would be right proper of me to finish Part One of this series with the memory of my mother's moving that *The Beverly Review* graciously published Nov. 27, 1996. They noted I was a former Beverly resident, the author of several books and a regular contributor between 1969 and 1977. What more does a writer need?

And now, gentle readers, you need to read "Beverly memories prove there's no

place like home" by yours truly:

She's leaving home after all these years.

She being my mother and home being the two-story brick house on 106th Street in Beverly where I celebrated my sixth birthday in 1956 just after the family moved from a cramped apartment in South Shore.

Mom is moving in November to a single-story bungalow on 101st Street. It's up the hill from Longwood Drive and right next door to my sister, Missy, and her family.

Mom is a 70-something widow with a bad hip who wants to be secure in her lodgings. The move makes perfect sense, and everyone agrees it's for the best.

But there remains, or remained, the business of saying good-bye to the old house on 106th Street.

Continued on Next Page



A Beverly artist made this doorstep of our home on 106th Street. It is a perfect replica.

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The Writing Life Continued from Previous Page

As I said, we moved there in 1956 when I was 6 and my brother was 3. Missy was born the following year, in 1957, and my brother, Donald, and I sold cupcakes and charged admission to see her when Mom brought her home from the hospital.

(Mom still reminds us we charged more for the cupcakes than admission to see Missy, but then new babies were commonplace on 106th Street in those days.)

When we moved in, there were two blue spruces in the backyard that were barely taller than my brother and me. Now, the first branches are beyond my reach. Yes, the oaks are all still there, towering over the yard and shedding their acorns and leaves.

Time was when we would rake the leaves into the gutter and flagrantly burn them. (Where I live now in Michigan, people still burn leaves the old-fashioned way, and it really takes me back to the old home.) Then, when 106th Street was enveloped in smoke, we'd ride back and forth on our bikes pretending we were World War II fighter pilots high over Germany.

In winter, we'd craft our version of a bobsled run out of huge snowballs and ample doses of water from a bucket. The run took advantage of the small hill in front of the old family house and descended right into 106th Street. When all was ready, we'd test our handiwork by mounting little Missy in a "flying saucer" and rocketing her downhill.

Mom would watch in horror from the other side of the big picture window that framed our living room, but Missy always made it safely to the other side of 106th Street. And we'd always post somebody to watch for cars. Or...almost always.

There didn't seem to be much traffic in those days, and people tended to drive slower than they do now. I guess there was less agitated monotony

back in the '60s.

Anyway, we all did a lot of great living in that old house on 106th Street. I returned recently to help Mom pack, and to spend a final night in my old bedroom.

The only things missing were: my brother, Donald; our late, great dog Cindy; the noisy night shift at the now abandoned Chicago Bridge & Iron plant on Vincennes Avenue; and explosive arguments between the Lithuanian cop and his Irish wife who lived next door.

All was quiet and peaceful on my last night in the old house. But I lay awake half the night just the same, remembering and savoring and saying goodbye to the house where I grew up and became a writer, and curled up with book after book borrowed from my parents' burgeoning bookshelves. I broke both wrists in the garage while trying to get a basketball down from the overhead door, and ran my Lionel train around the ping-pong table down in the basement, all winter long. I left for the Navy from our home on 106th Street, and returned there from Boy Scout camp and the World Jamboree, and Taiwan, and coasts east and west.

I last spoke words of love to my father in that house, up on the second floor. Dad died in that house in September 1985.

We call houses "home" because we love them so.

And I loved every square inch of that great old house on 106th Street.

It seemed so big to me in the spring of 1956 when we moved there from that little apartment in South Shore.

And it seemed so big to me still in the fall of 1996 when I came home to say goodbye.

So big because it was my home for nearly 20 years, and so big because it will always be home in my heart.



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Unity Foundation Awards Scholarships

Unity Foundation of LaPorte County is awarding more than \$330,000 in scholarships to 153 students from 43 different scholarship funds for the 2021-2022 academic year.

Since 1992, Unity has awarded more than \$2.6 million in scholarships to LaPorte County students.

This year's recipients represent 10 LaPorte County high schools and 46 colleges and universities. A virtual scholarship presentation was Oct. 13.

Students may apply for scholarships for the 2022-2023 school year beginning in January. Visit www.ulfc.net for details. This year's recipients are below.

Alexander Ake	Abigail Huff	Benjamin Patterson
Christine Ake	Jessica Jara Huizar	Luke Patterson
Zachary Archambault	Justin Jayasinghe	Hallee Petri
Laura Bahena	Erin Johnson	Jacob Pinkerton
Alexandria Bailey	Jennifer Justice	Paige Pizarek
Eva Barron	Emily Kasarda	Emily Pontbriand
Tessa Bauman	Joel Kelley	Sarah Price
Rachel Bellah	Blake Kessler	Emma Rice
Maria Bibian	Gabrielle Kimmel	Shelby Riehle
Kaitlin Bildhauser	Jacob Kiser	Megan Riley
Janaya Blakely	Anna Kmiecik	Makayla Robinson
June Brault	Matthew Knouse	Caleb Rosa
Amanda Brown	Elaina Kobitz	Katelyn Rudolph
Austin Casto	Sydney Kohn	Emily Samuelson
Chloe Cloutier	Stephanie Komasinski	Aldair Sanchez
Arianna Cooley	Thomas Komay	Savja Santana
Daniel Council	Katherine Kovalcik	Tori Satchwell
Olivia DeWitt	Michael Lakin	Hannah Schoner
Breanna Dove	Bailee Laux	Sarah Schoof
Garrett Eggert	Jacqueline Leal	Olivia Schroeder
Carley Ellenberger	Bayli Lebo	Bethany Schuster
Emily Evers	Bailey Lenig	Hannah Schuster
Lefteri Fegaras	Aranza Leon	Karah Schutz
Mya Fegaras	Keegan Long	Allison Schweller
Katlyn Fine	Jada Majied	Mareeya Scully
Laura Fischer	Adam Manering	Leslie Seadorf
Jordan Forney	Jacob Marsh	Samantha Shei
Alyssa Foster	Rebecca Marxman	Jacob Sherrick
Jade Foster	Jillian Matzke	Sara Siegmund
Lukas Fugate	Paige Maudlin	Hunter Smith
Aviana Garner	Roziland McCoy	Sarah Smith
Davionne Garrett	Dalin McCully	Kaylee Smythe
Taylor Gertner	Katelyn McIntosh	Sophie Sorg
Marcus Gray	Josiah Miller	Micah Spatt
Aaron Greve	Hannah Misch	Sydney Starks
Emily Gushrowski	Riley Moody	Savannah Starr
Kristen Gushrowski	Sydney Moody	Nathan Stevenson
Megan Gushrowski	Arturo Munoz	Ashleigh Suppinger
Nicholas Gushrowski	Molly Neary	Sidney Swanson
Kasey Halfacre	Rory Neary	Mia Taylor
Ashley Hannon	Payton Neely	Bria Thomas
Petra Hemphill	Logan Notaro	Lia Thomas
Wreese Hemphill	Elisabeth Novak	Riya Verma
Wrigley Hemphill	Rebekah Novak	Hannah Walker
Trevor Henckel	Drew Noveroske	Kaylee Welkie
Thomas Hertges	Madeleine Nunn	Amanda Werner
Larissa Herzog	Grace Olah	Emily Wilmsen
Erica Hesters	Janelle O'Neal	Grace Wyness
Nicole Hesters	Austen Ott	Adelaide Young Brust
Jibreel Hoskins	Ryin Ott	Andrea Zaknoun
		Abigail Zila
		Allison Zila

Walk to End Alzheimer's



More than 150 residents participated in this year's Michigan City Walk to End Alzheimer's – in person at Washington Park and by watching online and walking from home in their neighborhoods.

Participants raised \$43,284 – and counting – to support the care, support and research programs of the Alzheimer's Association.

Fundraising will continue through the end of the year, and those who didn't participate can make a donation at act.alz.org/MichiganCity.

In Indiana, more than 110,000 people live with the disease, along with 215,000 caregivers. Information and registration for local in-person and virtual programs are available at alz.org/Indiana/programs or through the 24/7 Helpline at (800) 272-3900.

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Indiana Dunes State Park

The following programs will be offered:

- **Full Moon Hike at 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 22.**

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

- **Cider With a Spider Craft at 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 23.**

Meet native spiders, sip warm cider and do a make-it and take-it craft

- **Spider Sniffing Saunter at 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 23.**

Take a night hike to learn techniques for finding spiders' eyes at night.

- **Boo-tiful Birds at 10 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 24.**

Meet at the Nature Center's Bird Feeding Observation Room to experience the backyard habitat and help fill the feeders.



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.

Noon Time Talk Series

The Noon Time Talk Series continues, focusing on the 43rd Elkhart Juried Regional, at 12:20 p.m. EDT Thursday, Oct. 21, at Midwest Museum of American Art, 429 S. Main St., Elkhart.

The speaker is Kandy Grady, Dowagiac, Mich., a first-year EJr entrant who will discuss her two mixed-media works, "Aura of Innocence" and "Michigan Autumn."

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

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Indiana Dunes National Park

- **Migration Birding Hike with the Indiana Audubon Society from 9-11 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 23.**

An Indiana Audubon Society/Dunes Calumet Audubon Society expert leads the program that meets at the Visitor Center, then carpools to the birding spot of the month. Take binoculars and dress for the weather.

- **Mount Baldy Summit Hike from 1-3 p.m. Saturdays through Oct. 30.**

The Mount Baldy parking lot and beach are open from 6 a.m.-11 p.m. daily. The dune, however, is still closed for general public use, so the ranger-led hike offers the chance to experience the dune as much as is possible. No reservations are required. The parking lot is located off U.S. 12.

- **Poetry of the Dunes from 11 a.m.-noon Sundays through Oct. 31 at the Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education.**

With past dunes stories and poetry serving as inspiration, the goal is to write insights in story or prose formats. A ranger will guide visitors along a leisurely trail that reveals changes to the landscape.

- **Ranger's Choice Hike from 1-3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 23.**

Join a ranger for the "best hike of the week," which varies based on what trail is most beautiful or interesting that day. Meet at the visitor center, then follow the ranger to the trailhead. Program time includes the drive to the trail.

- **Miller Woods Hike from 1:30-3:30 p.m. Sundays through Oct. 31 at Paul H. Douglas Center.**

The ranger-led stroll explores a rare black oak savanna, and offers views of Lake Michigan and Chicago. The moderately difficult hike is about 3.5 miles. Wear sturdy shoes, and take water and insect repellent.

- **Feed the Farm Animals at Chellberg Farm from 4:30-5 p.m. Sundays through Oct. 31.**

The farm's current residents include cows, pigs and chickens. Chellberg Farm is off Mineral Springs Road between U.S. 20 and 12 in Porter.

- **The ranger-led "Hike with your Hound" through Miller Woods is from 10 a.m.-noon Fridays in October at the Paul Douglas Center for Environmental Education.**

All dogs must be on a lead. Make sure the pet can do the two-mile hike over a moderately difficult trail, with some sandy and uneven surfaces. Much of the trail is in sun, adding to the difficulty on a hot day. Also, take water and waste bags. Doing the hike qualifies a pet for a B.A.R.K Ranger dog tag. The tags are free thanks to the Friends of Indiana Dunes.

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.

LaPorte 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.

Healthy Lifestyles

The free social club meets from 9 to 10 a.m. Wednesdays at Luhr County Park Nature Center, 178 S. County Road 150 West, LaPorte. 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:

- Nov. 3 — Understanding Medicare Parts A, B, C and D, and the upcoming annual enrollment period, Megan Rogers, State Health Insurance Assistance Program specialist.

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:

- Oct. 20 — Deer Crossing.
- Nov. 3 — What's For Dinner?
- Nov. 10 — Turkey Talk.
- Dec. 1 — Catch the Sun.
- Dec. 15 — Behind the Mask.

Nature's Tiny Tots

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

The free program is from 10-11 a.m. Oct. 25, Nov. 8 and 22 and Dec. 6 and 20 at Luhr County Park. Masks are required for 3 and older. Call (219) 325-8315 at least one week in advance to register.

Tails from the Trails

Park board member Rob Knickrehm will discuss his journey along the Appalachian Trail from 6-7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 9, in the Luhr County Park Nature Center.

Call one week before the program to register.

Nature Center Craft Day

The free family program is from 1-4 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 2, at Luhr County Park Nature Center.

Guests will do a craft while supplies last. No pre-registration is required. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

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Oh, most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh, Star of the 'Sea, help me and show me, herein you are my mother. Oh Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth! I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in this necessity. There are none that can withstand your power. Oh, show me herein you are my mother. Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3x). Holy Mother, I place this cause in your hands (3x). Holy Spirit, you who solve all problems, light all roads so that I can attain my goal. You who gave me the divine gift to forgive and forget all evil against me and that in all instances in my life you are with me. I want in this short prayer to thank you for all things as you confirm once again that I never want to be separated from you in Eternal Glory. Thank you for your mercy toward me and mine. The person must say this prayer 3 consecutive days. After 3 days, the request will be granted. This prayer must be published after the favor is granted.

Michigan City Public Library

Michigan City Public Library's circulation/front lobby area is open to the public.

The front doors are open. Remodeling of the front lobby is almost complete. Public seating is available, and the computer lab is open. Hours are: 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday-Saturday and closed Sundays.

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:

- **YMCA Trunk or Treat from 4:30-5:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 21, at LaPorte County YMCA Elston Branch, 1202 Spring St.** The library will participate in the event held in the YMCA parking lot.
- **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. through Friday at Visit Michigan City LaPorte tourism bureau, 4073 Franklin St. Donations can include magazines, children's books and puzzles.
- **Take-Home Craft for Kids & Teens.** Free take-home craft kits are available at the Youth Services desk while supplies last.
- **Virtual Story Time with Take-Home Craft.** A new storytime video is posted at 10 a.m. Wednesdays on the library website and YouTube channel at www.mclib.org/parents/story-time/ Visit Youth Services to get the craft! The program is aimed at children through age 5. Contact the Youth Services department at (219) 873-3045 for more details.

Michigan City Public Library is located at 100 E. Fourth St. Visit www.mclib.org for more details.

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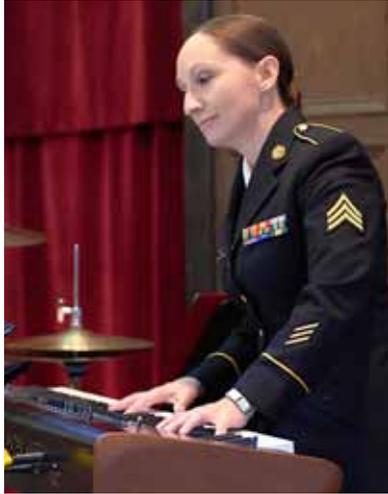
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LCSO in the Spotlight

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

Melaney Miller has been with LCSO for 14 years, primarily as a percussionist and occasionally as a pianist or augmentee singer with Illumination. She also has served on the administrative staff.



Melaney Miller.

A Michigan native, she moved to Indiana in 1998 to franchise a Domino's Pizza. After leaving the pizza business, she stayed in the area and immersed herself in performing arts, which eventually led her to LCSO.

In 2018, she re-joined the 126th Army Band with the Michigan Army National Guard after a 19-year hiatus. In addition to performing with the band, "Sergeant Miller" has started to learn the role of unit photographer. When COVID struck the U.S., she went on active duty orders, working for three months at Feeding America West Michigan, which serves 70 counties.

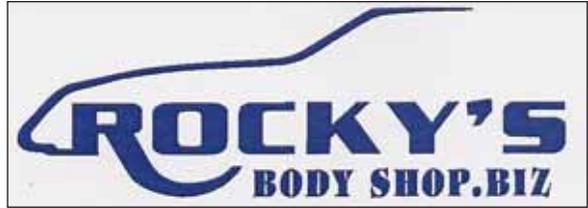
Miller does freelance work as an accompanist and is a field-service technician for Procter & Gamble, which supported her deployment last year. Her hobbies include golf, salsa dancing, travel, nature and antiquing. She lives in South Bend with her longtime boyfriend, and has an adult daughter who was in the LCSO Children's Chorus as a child.

Meals on Wheels Trivia Night

Meals on Wheels LaPorte County will host its Trivia through the Decades fundraiser at 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 23, at LaPorte Civic Auditorium, 1001 Ridge St.

Doors open at 6 p.m. General admission is \$10 per person, with eight-person teams requested. Table sponsorships include gold (\$400) and silver (\$250). Cash prizes, a silent auction, cash bar and 50/50 raffle are planned. Preregistration is available at www.laportecountymealsonwheels.org

The goal is to raise \$15,000 to support Meals on Wheels.



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	SCORE
1. Nancy Kubath	186
2. Mary Lou McFadden	168
3. Pat Collado	155

SPLITS

June Salmon	3-7
Pat Collado	3-6-9-7
Mary Lou McFadden	5-7 (2)
Susan Kiefer	3-10
Kathy Staninger	5-7



More bowlers are invited when teams meet at 12:30 p.m. Tuesdays at City Lanes.

Paws for Humanity Fall Festival

Paws for Humanity will hold a fall festival from noon-7 p.m. EDT Saturday, Oct. 23, at 14671 Three Oaks Road, Three Oaks, Mich.

The event includes tours of the farm and a chance to meet the animals, hayrides and pumpkin painting. Chicken Dolphin Band performs at 4:30 p.m. EDT.

Admission is \$10 just for the afternoon activities, or \$25 for the activities and the concert.

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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 Pick-up 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 program is planned:

- **Readers Corner — Book Club from 6-7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 26, at the Coolspring Branch Meeting Room.**

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

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.

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.



American Red Cross

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

- Northwest Health LaPorte, 1007 W. Lincolnway, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Friday, Oct. 22.
- Queen of All Saints, 606 S. Woodland Ave., 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 23.
- Lions Club at The Salvation Army, 1201 Franklin St., 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday, Oct. 25.

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.

Art in Focus Lecture Series

The South Shore Arts Art in Focus lecture series resumes virtually with a presentation of the BBC documentary "Forest, Field & Sky" at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 28.

South Shore Arts Director of Education Natalie Heath will host and guide the lecture, while encouraging participants to discuss the historical relationship between humans and the natural world.

Each presentation will be available through Zoom webinar and YouTube Live, with a rebroadcast on the South Shore Arts website the following Monday.

Art in Focus is part of an ongoing series of free presentations that provides insight into the work of artists and the artistic forms they express. The 2021-22 season will showcase arts and culture locally and worldwide.

Visit www.SouthShoreArtsOnline.org/art-in-focus, or contact Heath at Natalie@SouthShoreArtsOnline.org or call (219) 836-1839, Ext. 101.

Polish-American Cultural Society

Polish-American Cultural Society of Northwest Indiana, Michigan City Chapter, meets at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 20, at St. Stanislaus Kostka School, 1506 Washington St.

Father Wladyslaw "Father Wally" Rakoczy will explore the Polish language, customs and culture. There is no membership fee, and meetings are open to the public. Use the entrance between the church and school; signs direct guests to the meeting room, which is on the ground level (no stairs).

Call Theresa Child at (219) 464-1369, email polamnwi@yahoo.com or visit "Polish-American Cultural Society of Northwest Indiana" on Facebook (click "Join Group") for more details.

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Oct. 20 — Turn Up Dance Fitness with Stacy G., 5:30-6:30 p.m., Long Beach Community Center, 2501 Oriole Trail. Cost: \$5 paid at class.

Oct. 21 — YMCA Trunk or Treat, 4:30-5:30 p.m., LaPorte County YMCA Elston Branch, 1202 Spring St.

Oct. 21-23 — The Friends of the Michigan City Public Library book sale, Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

Oct. 21-23 — Fall Rummage Sale, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, 7396 W. Johnson Road.

Oct. 22 — Full Moon Hike, 7 p.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

Oct. 23 — Migration Birding Hike with the Indiana Audubon Society, 9-11 a.m., Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. Info: (219) 395-1882, www.nps.gov/indu

Oct. 23 — Mount Baldy Summit Hike, 1-3 p.m., parking lot off U.S. 12 west of Michigan City. Info: (219) 395-1882, www.nps.gov/indu

Oct. 23 — Ranger's Choice Hike, 1-3 p.m., Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. Info: (219) 395-1882, www.nps.gov/indu

Oct. 23 — Cider With a Spider Craft, 2 p.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

Oct. 23 — Spider Sniffing Saunter, 7 p.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

Oct. 23 — Meals on Wheels LaPorte County Trivia through the Decades fundraiser, 7 p.m., LaPorte Civic Auditorium, 1001 Ridge St. Preregistration: www.laportecountymealsonwheels.org

Oct. 23, 24 & 31 — Boo at the Zoo, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Washington Park Zoo, Washington Park. Info: www.facebook.com/WashingtonParkZoo, (219) 873-1510, jhuss@emichigancity.com

Oct. 24 — Boo-tiful Birds, 10 a.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

Oct. 26 — 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

Oct. 26 — The Friends of the New Buffalo Library Halloween program (classic horror movies), 6:30 p.m. EDT, New Buffalo Public Library, 33 N. Thompson St.

Oct. 27 — Michigan City Chamber of Commerce's annual "Inspiring Women" luncheon, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Blue Chip Casino's Fremont Event Center. Cost: \$25/members, \$30/non-members. Registration: www.MichiganCityChamber.com, (219) 874-6221.

Through Oct. 23 — Tinkercad Virtual Workshop: Design a 3-D Halloween Print, Michigan City Public

Library. Registration: tinyurl.com/19vgzvxe. Info: dfink@mclib.org, (219) 873-3045.

Oct. 25-Feb. 25 — "Nature Now," Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St. Opening celebration: 3-7 p.m. Nov. 5. Center hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon., Wed., Thur., Fri.; 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Sat.-Sun. Closed Tuesday. Admission: free. Info: (219) 874-4900, www.lubeznikcenter.org

Through Dec. 31 — Oil paintings by Don Grott, The Legacy Center Gallery @ Queen of All Saints Catholic Church, 1719 E. Barker Ave. Hours: 6 a.m.-8 p.m. Mon.-Thur., 6 a.m.-6 p.m. Fri.-Sat., 6 a.m.-3 p.m. Sun. Info: kd3627@hotmail.com

Tuesdays — Tai Chi for health & relaxation, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Long Beach Community Center, 2501 Oriole Trail. Sliding fee paid at class.

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, Long Beach Realty Stop 31 location. Limited parking. Updates: Long Beach Realty Facebook page.

In the Region

Oct. 21 — Noon Time Talk Series, 12:20 p.m. EDT, Midwest Museum of American Art, 429 S. Main St., Elkhart. Admission: \$5. Info: (574) 293-6660.

Oct. 22 — Friends of New Troy outdoor market, 4-8 p.m. EDT, New Troy (Mich.) Community Center, 13372 California Road. Info: www.friendsofnewtroy.org/font-market, friendsofnewtroymarket@gmail.com

Oct. 23 — Paws for Humanity fall festival, noon-7 p.m. EDT, 14671 Three Oaks Road, Three Oaks, Mich. Chicken Dolphin Band/4:30 p.m. EDT. Admission: \$10/afternoon activities, \$25/activities & concert.

Oct. 23 — Harbor Country Hikers, 2 p.m. EDT, Madeline Bertrand County Park, 3038 Adams Road, Niles, Mich. Info: www.harborcountryhikers.com

Through Oct. 30 — Series 5 art exhibits, The Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Mich. Featured: St. Joe Valley Watercolor Society, Bryce Culverhouse, Cameron Covert, Susan Sheldon, April Seybold. Info: www.boxfactoryforthearts.org

Sundays through Oct. 31 — Poetry of the Dunes, 11 a.m.-noon, Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education, 100 N. Lake St., Gary's Miller Beach neighborhood. Info: (219) 395-1882, www.nps.gov/indu for details.

Through Nov. 1 — Opportunity Enterprises student exhibit, Art Barn School of Art, 695 N.

County Road 400 East, Valparaiso. Info: www.artbarnschool.org

Through Dec. 19 — The Midwest Museum of American Art's 43rd Elkhart Juried Regional, 429 S. Main St., Elkhart. Hours (all times Eastern): 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tue.-Fri., 1-4 p.m. Sat.-Sun. Admission: \$10/adult, \$6 (8-12), \$8 (13-18 & college students with ID). Info: www.midwestmuseum.org

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:* "Dear Evan Hansen." Rated PG-13. Times: 2:45 p.m. Oct. 22, 11:45 a.m. Oct. 23, 2:45 p.m. Oct. 24, 6 p.m. Oct. 25. Also: "Falling for Figaro." Not Rated. Times: 6 p.m. Oct. 22, 3 p.m. Oct. 23, 6 p.m. Oct. 24, 3 p.m. Oct. 25. *Fright Nights at Vickers* (Oct. 23): "Let's Scare Jessica to Death with Director John D. Hancock Q&A, 6 p.m.; "The Shining," 9 p.m. All times Eastern. Theater address: 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. Info: www.vickerstheatre.com, (269) 756-3522.

Want your event listed in Activities?
The weekly deadline is noon Thursday
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Chamber of Commerce Luncheon

Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch is the keynote speaker at Michigan City Chamber of Commerce's annual "Inspiring Women" luncheon, which is from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 27, at Blue Chip Casino's Fremont Event Center.

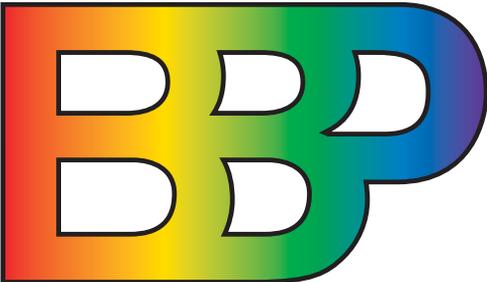
The event recognizes women for contributions to their community, the economy and their selected career field. Speakers and panelists from a variety of backgrounds have participated in the event since 2011.

As lieutenant governor, Crouch oversees a portfolio that includes the Indiana State Department of Agriculture, Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority, Office of Community and Rural Affairs and Office of Tourism Development. She also serves as president of the Indiana Senate and chairwoman of the Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Task Force. Prior to her role as lieutenant governor, she has served in a variety of public offices on local and state levels.

A PNC Bank representative will make welcoming remarks and introduce Crouch. Michigan City High School students will attend as guests.

The luncheon is open to the public. The cost is \$25 for chamber members and \$30 for non-members. Registration is required by calling (219) 874-6221 or visiting www.MichiganCityChamber.com

ENVELOPES



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will show you how to take it down, and the trick we learned to remove and put on the coiled springs. This method will shave considerable time down from putting it together. It only took us 40-45 minutes total each spring putting it together. We paid \$300 for it new and are asking \$125. Cash only. **Call (219) 873-6248 if interested.**

GARAGE SALES, ESTATE SALES, ETC.

The Girlfriend Sale, your ultimate woman's resale clothing event LAST CHANCE 1/2 Price Sale is **Saturday, Oct. 23, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.**, and The Give Back Sale with consignment donation items only, the more you buy the more you save, cash only, is **Saturday, Oct. 30, 10 a.m.-noon.** Come shop for amazing bargains and a whole lot of fun. Stop by the ATM for Give Back Sale cash. Parking at the Community Center is limited. You can park on the grass triangle in front of the building with all 4 tires off the pavement. Please pull in leaving room for others and regard the no parking signs that are posted

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Public Art Committee

The Michigan City Public Art Committee meets at 10 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 21, in the City Hall Mayor's Conference Room, 100 E Michigan Blvd.

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Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter

The Guide by Peter Heller (hardcover, \$27 retail in bookstores and online; also available as an eBook and an audiobook. 257 pages.)

“He closed his eyes. He smelled the warm pine needles on the sandy track and heard the muffled rush of the river reverberating in its bed and murmured ‘You’re all right. New gig, couple months, knee deep in a river. What could be better?’ And he almost believed it.”

The beginning of this story almost makes you believe you’re going on a walk with Henry David Thoreau. Only a true naturalist can describe the beauty of the Colorado rivers, canyons and mountains so lovingly, it has you ready to call your travel agent and book a flight. And only a true fisherman can describe fly fishing as almost a religion.

However — there’s much more here than just the beauty of nature that greets the eye in Chapter One...

Jack — 20+ years old, cowboy, college-educated — loves Japanese poetry and is a fly fishing expert. He answers an ad for a fishing guide at Kingfisher Lodge and is hired for the late summer season.

The lodge is a high-end, high-priced place for the über rich to take time off from counting their money. The expensive price includes fishing with an expert guide along the river known as Billionaire’s Mile. But maybe they’re there for other reasons...

On arrival, Jack meets Kurt, the manager, who shows him his cabin and tells him he is replacing Cody, a guide who just up and left one day. The pay is good, the accommodations fine and food is included. Jack can’t help but wonder why Cody would leave such a cushy job.

Kurt explains what they have at Kingfisher Lodge is called “boutique fishing.” Some of the guests are experienced fly fishermen, while others prefer learning the finer points from an expert. The next day, Jack meets Alison, his charge for the next week. She’s somebody famous, but he can’t place why. Her background fades away as Jack discovers Alison is as good a fly fisherman as he is. She gets lost in playing one particularly feisty trout, and before Jack can say anything, Alison goes past the “Don’t Get Shot” sign on the riverbank downriver from the lodge. As if on cue, shots ring out, obviously meant

to scare, not kill, but certainly put a damper on the day’s fishing. Kurt told Jack the owner has fences all around his property and a pack of angry dogs, and has been known to shoot at trespassers.

Jack and Alison meet the other two couples in attendance that week, only one of which seems to be there for the fishing. As Jack observes more strange things, he confides in Alison, who agrees with him that something is not right. Then, the next night, Jack hears a scream in the night — could be an owl, could be a human. Hard to tell...

Time to start sneaking around and gather intel.

That’s when he discovers hidden cameras all over the place — even in his cabin. He also finds a cell phone hidden under his bed. It belongs to Cody, and he left several messages on it for whomever would find it. And what Jack hears makes him more determined to find out what’s going on, because...things just keep getting curiously and curiously...

“He stood at the edge of the deck and listened to the sounds of water and smelled the breath of the creek, which in its chill carried a portent of fall. He was uneasy... something about this place.”

Jack and Alison start making trips into town, and Kurt soon tells him that’s not a good idea. Best to stay on the property. Sounds more like a threat than a suggestion.

Now, nature takes a backseat to the machinations of man as

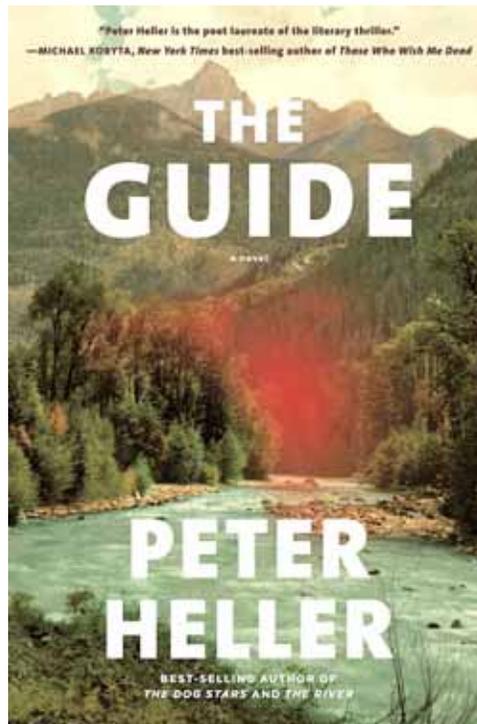
Jack and Alison delve deeper into what’s going on at the place downstream. They discover the unseen can be more terrifying than the seen.

Pages of beautifully written prose build slowly like crumbs on the trail for you to follow, as the tension and excitement build to a crescendo of events that either will prove something bad is going on, or Jack and Alison probably will be killed and buried on the property.

Nature can be cruel — Heller makes many references to COVID in this book, but humans also can be unbelievably cruel, not to mention self-serving. The juxtaposition of nature and man in this story leaves little doubt as to who you will root for.

Heller is the author of four other novels and four nonfiction works, as well as the recipient of several prestigious awards. No surprise to his readers — he lives in Denver, Colo.

Till next time, happy reading!





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Sandy Rubenstein
219-448-0249

2 beds | 2 baths | 1,194 sq ft
Near Sheridan Beach
New appliances, flooring, windows
Offered at: \$599,000
pruett124@aol.com



Desirable Beach Home



136 Sagamore Pkwy, 46350
Sagamore Condos | \$239,900
Chip Jones 219-363-9825
More Info:
<https://bit.ly/3mqwljF>



1003 W 23rd St, 46350
Peaceful Neighborhood | \$199,900
Jari Troth 219-363-9203
More Info:
<https://bit.ly/3DwYqNf>



5535 N County Rd, 46360
63.8 acres | \$380,000
Chip Jones 219-363-9825
More info:
<https://bit.ly/3FCZuB1>



1401 Lake Shore Drive | 219-874-5209.

3100 Lake Shore Drive | 219-872-1432

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