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A Caring Community

by Kim Nowatzke

Since its inception, the Cleveland-Cliffs Children's Garden at Friendship Botanic Gardens has flourished thanks to a caring community.

"I think that the community should know that there are those in our area — organizations, schools, individuals and more — that are involved and committed in the growth of this section of our garden," said Rima Binder, a local Master Gardener who also is FBG's botany director and board vice president.

Among the local attraction's 105 acres, the chil-



dren's garden has become the most popular area because of the many experiences it provides children, according to FBG Communications Director Carly Kwiecien.

"There is something different with every turn, providing both educational and entertainment value," she said. "It is important for us at the Gardens to provide a space for the children of our community to learn, play and interact with nature."

Designed for ages 2-13, the Children's Garden combines adventure with edu-



The progression (from left to right) of the Whimsical Cabin after students from Michigan City High School's Mural Club painted it.



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cation. Through a four-phase expansion, Kwiecien says, it “serves as an arena for educational play experiences set against the backdrop of our cultivated gardens and the surrounding wilderness.”

The Children’s Garden was designed by Stu Franzen, a landscape architect and FBG board member. The first amenity was the “Cubist Still Life with Figure” sculpture donated by Board President John Leinweber and Jim Laughlin on Nov. 1, 2015.

Then, Phase 1 began in Spring 2016 with a grant proposal to ArcelorMittal (the steel plant is now called Cleveland-Cliffs) for funds to expand the Children’s Garden. Once awarded, several pieces of nature-themed playground equipment were purchased from Natural Playgrounds and installed, along with signage relating the play activities to nearby natural processes. One of these was a hand pump designed so children can draw actual ground water and watch it travel down a 16-foot Gold Miner’s Sluiceway. They can even add leaves or soil, watching how they are carried by the flowing water.

“This is a particularly appropriate learning tool in Friendship Gardens because the nearest banks of Trail Creek, one of the most important waterways

in our region, are located 50 feet from the Children’s Garden,” Kwiecien said. “The accompanying signage explains how water is drawn up from the earth and relates the flow of water and materials down the sluiceway to subjects like sediment deposition and pollution propagation in Trail Creek.”

In 2016, a wooden climbing tower and hollow log tunnel were added to teach children about how living things make their homes high in trees, while others live under or inside fallen trees.

The main focus in Phase 2, completed in May 2017, was the installation of a multi-faceted 42- by 28-foot, splinterless Cedarworks playset, along with more interpretive signage.

“This serves as a visually captivating defining feature of the grounds that will inspire children to get active in nature and explore the interpretive exhibits and features throughout the Children’s Garden,” Kwiecien explained.

Phase 3 in May 2018 saw five new sensory gardens thanks to another volunteer, Carol Sloane. She became a Master Gardener soon after retiring, having taught kindergarten through second grade for 39 years in Michigan City Area Schools.

“When I came to Friendship Botanic Gardens, they had the play equipment in the Children’s Gar-



Pictured are (from left): Michiana Lions Club secretary Stephen Helmken, his wife and club member, Alice Helmken; Michigan City Lions Club past president Nancy Hawkins; Rotary Club of Michigan City board member Marty Corley; Michigan City Lions Club president Irene Rosevear; Master Gardener and garden volunteer Carol Sloane; retired landscape gardener and garden volunteer Janice Casper; and Rima Binder, FBG’s botany director and board of directors vice president. Photo by Kim Nowatzke

den and I thought, "There's a lot more to be explored here," she explained. "When I saw the potential there, and being a former teacher and nature lover, I wanted to combine those skills."

She offered her ideas to Binder, who invited her to approach the board, which wholeheartedly embraced her proposal.

Sloane concentrated her efforts on activities families could enjoy because she knew children are accompanied by adults when visiting the Gardens.

"Children get more exercise and use their imagination more in natural play areas. I could infuse math and literacy into outdoor experiences," she explained.



Carole Sloane, a retired elementary teacher, FBG volunteer and Master Gardener, stands next to the Touch Garden, where children are invited to feel the different textures of plants. Photo by Kim Nowatzke

The five sensory gardens — Sight Garden, Touch Garden, Smell Garden, Taste Garden and Sound Garden — "feature thematically relevant plants and interactive exhibit experiences that teach children how to explore their world using the five senses," Kwiecien said.

The Sight Garden contains plants with different colors and shapes, including petunias and black-eyed Susans, to stimulate the eyes. The Touch Garden bears a "Please Touch" sign and has lamb's ear for softness, ferns with ruffled edges and spikey plants such as rush. Likewise, a "Please Sniff" sign

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encourages visitors to smell plants like catmint and lavender in the Smell Garden. The Taste Garden with asparagus, beets, sweet peas and romaine lettuce helps children learn that all plant parts, depending on the variety, are edible. Last of all, the Sound Garden includes a few plants, such as baptisia, with seed pods that make a noise when shaken. Sloane said she tries to change up the plants in each garden yearly to add variety.



The main focus in Phase 2 completed in May 2017 was the installation of this multi-faceted 42x28 foot, splinterless Cedarworks playset. Photo by Kim Nowatzke

Several additions arrived in 2019 that were centered around nature-themed playground equipment and learning through play. These efforts are considered Phase 4 of the Children's Garden.

One such addition is the Garden of Sound. The idea for a garden with musical instruments took root through the many gardens Binder visited for



One of the new, permanent outdoor musical instruments installed in the Children's Garden in 2019. Photo by Kim Nowatzke

inspiration. She also contacted area service clubs in hopes they could help provide funds through special projects.

The Michiana Lions Club, Rotary Club of Michigan City and Michigan City Lions Club all came on board. Additional grants were obtained from a fund at Unity Foundation of LaPorte County.

The new outdoor musical instruments, purchased from Midstates Recreation, were installed in 2019. These included three orange, indigo and yellow giant flowers, as well as a Serenade Xylophone. They are designed to educate children on the science of sound and the physics of air vibration.

Michiana Lions members saw their curiosity piqued by the need for funds.

"It was something that Michiana Lions hadn't done before," club secretary Stephen Helmken said. "We've helped different individuals in the past, but not done a project like this where we have collaborated with other community groups."

Helmken said he is impressed with the sturdiness of the instruments, familiar with such play structures through The Children's Museum of Indianapolis.

"I love those types of instruments," he said. "They are nice and sturdy and made for playing.

It's an excellent thing to get involved with. What a fantastic thing for the kids to do."

The Rotary Club of Michigan City also liked the sensory instrument addition.

"We are a service club. Our motto is 'service above self.' It was a project that provided us a way to serve our community," board member Marty Corley said.



Installed in 2019, the Serenade Xylophone is designed to educate children on the science of sound and the physics of air vibration. Photo by Kim Nowatzke

The Michigan City Lions Club was excited about the project as well.

"We are very involved in helping the community," president Irene Rosevear said. "What we have, we like to use for our community. When we got the request, we thought that would be a great thing to be a part of."

In 2019, Sloane added a sun dial and a Tools for Investigation area to the Children's Garden. These tools include a yardstick, rain gauge, wind vane and thermometer. Her husband, Gary Sloane, constructed a magnifying glass station with a viewer so children can better investigate nature.

That year, a Michigan City High School senior and local Girl Scout, Bridget Mark, helped Sloane with the Sensory Gardens and created another Butterfly Garden as she worked toward her Gold Award. She started with milkweed, a butterfly bush and coneflower. Sloane plans

to add more plants next year.

Sloane is grateful to Steve and Judy Kroczek, who graciously donated many plants in addition to the idea for the raised-bed gardens.

In 2020, Sloan added an educational Indiana Garden with the state tree (poplar), the state flower (peony) and state flag. There's even a cardinal statue to represent the state bird.

A special observation window was added where children can see a honeybee colony at work in the specially constructed learning structure, the Whimsical Cabin, that was built in 2019. Then, in spring 2021, a Pollinators' Garden was cultivated near the cabin. Some of those plants included catnip, goldenrods, beramont, bluebeard and phlox. The idea was to include plants deer don't like, as that is always a challenge.

"We knew we needed pollinator flowers around the cabin," explained Janice Casper,

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Bridget Mark, a Michigan City High School senior at the time, is all smiles as she plants a butterfly bush in the Butterfly Garden, a project she worked on for a Gold Award.

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a retired landscape gardener and FBG volunteer who designed the area. “We wanted to educate the children about how bees and other insects use flowers to pollinate” (this is explained by signage near the cabin).



The first item in the Children's Garden was this sculpture, “Cubist Still Life with Figure,” donated by John Leinweber, Friendship Botanic Gardens board president, and Jim Laughlin on Nov. 1, 2015. Provided photo

Casper said Chesterton Feed & Garden Center provided the plants and volunteers Bob and Marcia Koselka, Donna Pouzar and Binder, all Master Gardeners, have donated plants for the project. Another volunteer/Master Gardener, Kathy Staninger, will maintain the cabin garden.

Casper enjoys watching children who not only play on the equipment, but also read the educational signs.

“A lot of children stop and smell the flowers,” she said. “One little boy, who seems to know a lot about bees, told me, ‘Bees are very important to our agriculture because they pollinate not only the flowers, but vegetables, berries and fruits that we eat.’”

“It’s very important that the Gardens are educating the kids – in this subtle way – in addition to providing a play place,” Casper continued. “It’s very hard to find something like this in our area. We are very fortunate to have Friendship Botanic Gardens.”

Casper, who began volunteering at FBG three years ago, feels a connection to the place because she remembers attending operas, plays and more there as a child.

“It was rewarding to come back to the Gardens and help revive them,” she said.

The Whimsical Cabin, itself, received some sprucing up last spring, thanks to MCHS’ mural club and art teacher Sue Cleveland. Binder contacted Cleveland asking for the students’ involvement, and they enthusiastically agreed.

Two weeks before the 2021-2022 school year ended, six MCHS art students who were part of a Mural Club, in addition to a sixth-grader from Renaissance Academy, worked on the project. They primed and then painted the brown cabin cheery and bright primary and secondary colors to match other garden items. Next, they invited young and older kids alike who were visiting the playground at the time to add their handprints, which they transformed into flowers and their thumbprints to create “bees.”



A special Book Nook invites children to enjoy a nature-related book during their visit. Photo by Kim Nowatzke

In 2021, a Book Nook constructed by Sloane’s brother, Bill Pier, found its home in the Children’s Garden. Sloane and her friends have donated fiction and non-fiction nature-related books to be enjoyed during children’s visits to the Gardens and returned when finished.

“I have so enjoyed seeing kids read with their parents,” Sloane said.

The former teacher explained that in research analysis, she has read that among highly creative people, the common thread is childhood freedom in nature.

“It’s so heartwarming to see how many people are coming to the gardens,” Sloane said. “There’s a value of outdoor play for kids. It builds character, reinforces self-esteem. There is so much that goes on in natural playgrounds. We need to release children into play – especially today, it’s extraordinarily important.”



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Bonkers “Bullet Train” is the Equivalent of a Violent Cartoon

by Andrew Tallackson

“Bullet Train” is all but assured cult status. It’s bonkers excess made by people hellbent on achieving bonkers excess. You go into it either like a Tarantino movie, embracing the extremes, or you take the high road, thumbing your nose at it.

That’s where the cult status arrives. “Bullet Train” likely won’t set the box office on fire, but it will please a certain subset of audiences that prefers their action directly in your face.

Based on Kotaro Isaka’s 2010 Japanese novel Maria Beetle (Bullet Train was the U.S. title), the story finds an odd variety of assassins deposited on a bullet train from Tokyo to Kyoto. Their pasts bind them together, their missions the same: retrieve a cash-filled briefcase.

It’s pure pulp fiction, directed by David Leitch (“Deadpool 2,” the first “John Wick,” Charlize Theron’s underrated “Atomic Blonde”) like an insanely violent comic book. And like any Tarantino flick, the carnage is so exaggerated, it stops being offensive and exists on some cartoonish level of silliness. The brutality also is offset by a mordant sense of humor, where killers dispatch victims while ruminating on mundane topics — “Thomas the Train,” of all things, gets heavy play — like pals casually shooting the breeze.

★ ★ ★

“Bullet Train”

Running time: 126 minutes. Rated R for strong and bloody violence, pervasive language and brief sexuality.

And it is the casting of these assassins that gives “Bullet Train” its kick. In addition to a whole host of A-list cameos, you have Aaron Taylor-Johnson and Brian Tyree Henry, lively as British “twins,” Joey King, girlishly and hilariously deceptive, like a sour Emily Blunt, and through it all Brad Pitt, in full what-me-worry disconnect as an assassin trying to embrace calming therapy, even as a barrage of killers — oh yeah, there’s also a poisonous snake slithering about — comes at him from all angles.

Is “Bullet Train” high art? Not by a long shot. Does it try to be? Heck no. It is content with being carefully orchestrated chaos. And on some looney level, it works.



Contact Andrew Tallackson at atallackson@gmail.com

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Lubeznik Center, Artist Unite for Mural Project

Lubeznik Center for the Arts has partnered with artist Bernard Williams and New Hope Missionary Baptist Church to create a mural emphasizing the church's history and values.

LCA staff were inspired after participating in community arts programming webinars, learning how others have transformed their neighborhoods with community driven public art.

"Public art is a very engaging way to activate the environment for people's enjoyment and reflection," LCA Executive Director Janet Bloch said in a press release. "Everyone gets to weigh in on what they think about the art. For community participatory art, it gives the community voice and power."

With 30 years of experience painting murals, Williams called the joint effort with LCA unique.

"It's literally in neighborhoods. LCA is really trying to do something new," he said in a press release. "When communities see themselves reflected in artworks, there's a sense of energy and pride that gets generated."

Williams is no stranger to Michigan City nor LCA, 101 W. Second St. He designed the Naomi Anderson Project art installation in Michigan City's Westcott Park unveiled earlier this year, and he has been in multiple group shows at LCA.

Artist Bernard Williams



The planning and implementation process happened within four months. LCA talked with the Rev. Jacarra Williams and his wife, Aleshia, of New Hope Missionary Baptist Church, 819 W. Seventh St., to determine if the project was something they wanted in their community. LCA identified an experienced artist to lead the project. The church pastor, deacons and the artist agreed on a huge, 14x140 feet wall on the church, and LCA held four meetings to discuss the mural themes with churchgoers. The design was finalized, with wall prep and painting set for the first week of August. Photos and videos are documenting the process so LCA can duplicate the mural project in Michigan City.

Contact LCA Marketing Manager Samantha Bean at (219) 874-4900 or sbean@lubeznikcenter.org for more details.



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New Carlisle Hometown Days



Long Beach resident Michael Riley submitted this photo taken during the New Carlisle Hometown Days parade. The event was held July 29-31.

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Michigan City Commission For Women Gala

Friday, Aug. 12, is the reservation deadline for "A Tribute to the Remarkable Women of Michigan City," Michigan City Commission For Women's celebration of the 10-year anniversary of the Commission for Women on Women's Equality Day.

The event is from 6-10:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 26, at Orak Shrine Temple, 3848 Frontage Road. Guest speakers are:

- Patricia Boy, Indiana state representative.
- Sheila Brillson Matias, MCCFW founder, LaPorte County commissioner and first female mayor of Michigan City.
- Sharon Carnes, first MCCFW president.

Carnessa Carnes will present a spoken word performance, while The Good Rhythm Trio and DJ Dwight McMillan will provide music. Tickets, which are \$75, can be purchased by check, cash or credit card. Checks paid to The City of Michigan City can be mailed to: Sharlene Livesay, P.O. Box 357, Michigan City, IN 46361 (Memo:



Celebrating Horizon Bank as the title sponsor are commissioners Sharlene Livesay (from left), Albertine Allen, Horizon Bank's Craig Dwight, Joann Enquist, Kristina Isabelle, Bonita Schaaf and Faye Moore. Not pictured are Nicole Coleman, Veronica Martin, Sarah Jones and Belinda Lee.

Commission for Women). Payments by phone can be made to City Hall at (219) 873-1400, attention Commission for Women Gala. Include a name, address, phone number and guest's names.

Email CommissionforWomen@emichigancity.com for more details.

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Photography Exhibit

"The Poetry of Flowers," a photography exhibit by Chicago's Susan Reyman, runs through Sept. 4, with an opening reception from 5-7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 12, at The Depot Beverly Shores Museum and Art Gallery 525 S. Broadway.



One of Susan Reyman's works.

Reyman's images, according to a press release, capture the fleeting beauty of flora. She has presented in group shows nationally and internationally, including in Budapest, Rome and Barcelona. She received honorable mention in the ND Filter Awards and was noted by LensCulture, both this year. All her profits go to Smile Train, St. Jude Children's Research and Opportunity International.

At 7 p.m. Aug. 12 is a spoken word poetry performance by Carnessa Carnes. In March, she won a poetry slam at The University of Notre Dame, and was the featured speaker at Lubeznik Center for the Arts' dedication of the Naomi Anderson sculpture.

Also running through Sept. 4 is "Past Resorts and Vacationers in Beverly Shores."

Visit www.bsdepot.com for more details.

Zoo Temporary Closure

Washington Park Zoo will close for five days, on Sept. 19-23, for minor repairs and maintenance in the Jungle Building.

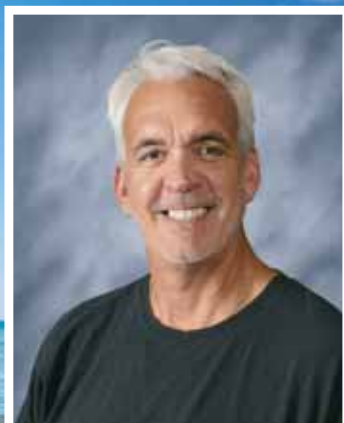
Some tasks require moving animals from viewing habitats to holding areas. Expansion efforts on the African Lion and Bengal Tigers habitats will continue during the shutdown.

Big Cat Canyon, the zoo's new African Lion and Bengal Tiger exhibits, will open April 1, 2023. The renovated habitats will add around 3,000 square feet, and include glass viewing windows and rock-faced walls that replace the current wire mesh.

The zoo will remain open the weekend of Sept. 17 with regular hours (10 a.m.-4 p.m.) before closing Sept. 19. It resumes regular hours Saturday, Sept. 24. Visit Facebook or www.washingtonparkzoo.com for more details.



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Michigan City Public Library

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

The front doors are open. 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.

The library has begun changing overhead lighting to LED fixtures. They will feature automatic ambient lighting, centralized controls for turning on and off and conservation in unoccupied public areas. A section above the front entrance will have specialized color lighting for seasonal themes. The expected completion date is Sept. 16. The library will remain open during all phases of the project, but reserves the right to close if necessary. Areas under the work zone will be closed. The goal is to minimize closure time to its collections and services. The meeting rooms will be closed while work is done in them.

The following programs are scheduled:

- **Duneland Stamp Club from 4-5 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 11.** The club meets the second Thursday of each month. New members are invited.
- **Movies in Washington Park: "Jungle Cruise" at 8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 12, at North Pointe Pavilion.** Rated PG-13, the movie has a run time of 2 hours, 7 minutes. The screening is free; however,

normal parking charges apply. The program is sponsored by the library and Michigan City Parks and Recreation Department.

- **Stuffie Sleepover on Wednesday-Thursday, Aug. 17-18.** Drop off a stuffed animal Aug. 17. Make a name tag and leave them for the overnight stay. Pick them up Aug. 18 to see what happened.
- **Makerspace: open lab hours from 3:30-5 p.m. Tuesdays in August.** Youth ages 6-17 can create with LEGO WeDo, Micro Bits, paper circuits and Ozobots. Children 12 and younger must have a parent or guardian attend with them.
- **Story Time at 10 a.m. Wednesdays.** Children birth to age 5 and adults will enjoy stories, songs and crafts. Check out previous story time videos through the library's YouTube channel, Facebook page and website.
- **Needle Arts Club to Warm Up America from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Thursdays in August.** Membership to the group is open to anyone interested in needle arts such as crochet, needlepoint, cross-stitch, crewel, tatting and other hand stitching. All skill levels and ages are welcome. Also, the group has organized a local chapter of the Warm Up America Foundation. Volunteers are knitting and crocheting handmade squares (7x9 inch) that will be joined together to make full-size afghans.



Two new services are available:

- ComicsPlus offers unlimited access to thousands of digital comics, graphic novels and manga. Popular titles include Avatar: The Last Airbender & The Legend of Korra, Big Nate, Bone, Disney Princesses, Geronimo Stilton, Stranger Things, Locke & Key and American Gods. Patrons need a current library card and PIN.
- The app Library NewsStand includes 7,000 titles of digital magazines and newspapers in more than 60 language, including: *Newsweek*, *Fast Company*, *Forbes*, *The New Yorker*, *Reader's Digest*, *Elle* and *Esquire*. A library card is required.

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

Race the Night Away

"Race the Night Away," United Way of LaPorte County's 5K run and one-mile walk, is at 6 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 18, at Blue Chip Casino Hotel & Spa.

The \$30 per-person fee includes a race T-shirt. An after party follows the race. Register at thtiming.com or Unitedwaylpc.org. A course map, T-shirt design and sponsorship levels also are available on the website.

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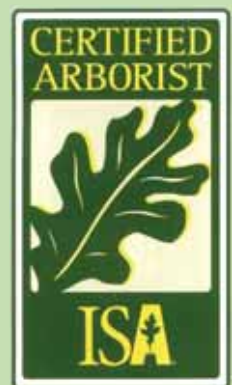
Five Tips for Taking Care of Your Trees

1. Don't prune ANY oaks from April 15th to September 30th. Oak wilt spreads readily during this time. Oak wilt will immediately kill any infected trees and will spread to your trees via root grafts if your neighbor prunes their oaks and they get infected. There is no treatment or cure for infected trees. Prevention is your Only choice.
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. Keep a good amount of natural leaf litter and organic matter covering the roots under the canopy. Blowing leaves away from your trees can kill the fibrous roots by drying the exposed soil.
5. Consult an ISA Certified Arborist before doing anything to your tree.

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Art in the Park in Long Beach



Long Beach's second Art in the Park boasted a great turnout July 30 at Long Beach Community Center. There were 17 local artists and two food trucks, including Valpo Velvet ice-cream scoops provided by the Long Beach Parks Department. From 10 a.m.-noon, kids enjoyed special activities, including nature-related educational booths and crafts led by the Beach Garden Club and Long Beach parks day camp leaders. All photos by Kim Nowatzke





Chamber Festival to Celebrate Healing Power of Music

by William Halliar

In his introduction to this year's 20th anniversary program, Nic Orbovich acknowledges 2022 marks the first full Michigan City Chamber Music Festival since the "COVID era."

"We're all getting our 'sea legs' back, if you will, but, goodness, what a season we have lined up for you!" writes Orbovich, the festival's cofounder and artistic director. This year's program, he continues, will celebrate "undisputed masters of our art like Brahms, Beethoven and Mozart, to exciting world premieres from world renowned composers, plus wonderful community collaborations."

The festival, which includes a slate of children's concerts, runs Saturday, Aug. 13, through Sunday, Aug. 21, at First Presbyterian Church, 121 W. Ninth St., and Angela House, 412 W. 10th St. The theme of "Music and Healing" ranges from opening night's exploration of "Loss and Recovery," through "Reaching Higher," to the final evening, "Community Healing."

Nic and Sunny Gardner-Orbovich co-founded the MCCMF 20 years ago through a mutual love of music and a passion for their community. The underlying goal, as they dreamed the festival into existence, was to "bring people together through music."

Indeed, the annual event draws talented musicians from not only the community, but also areas and cities far afield, including Oswego, N.Y., Tallahassee, Fla., and Knoxville, Tenn.

Chamber music is not stuffy nor antiquated, and this year's MCCMF will prove that point. The gospel choir from Michigan City's New Hope Missionary Baptist Church will join members of the Michigan City Messiah choir to present a rendition of Beethoven's "Ode to Joy" as featured in "Sister Act 2" (1993).

NHMBC Choir Director Brandon Lampkin says he is "excited to hear the sound of these combined choirs." He is a classically trained musician who also has a love of jazz and gospel music. He has led the church choir since 2017 and is excited to collaborate with the festival. He also will play a solo on a Hammond B3 organ.

Returning musician Rudolf Haken has brought classical music into the present and is inventing its future. In fact, he is teaching the first course at the doctoral level on electronic string music at University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

(More information on Haken's program is available at <https://music.illinois.edu/electric-strings>).

Haken will debut an original composition featuring electronic strings at the final Aug. 21 concert.

Haken, it must be noted, is an inventor of new music and a creator of unusual instruments. He considers himself an "ambassador for the new sounds"



Performers with Michigan City Chamber Music Festival adore the event to such a degree, they return to Michigan City whenever possible, like during this festival preview concert earlier this summer. Beacher file photo by James Conlin.

in a brave new world of musical instruments. A composer and arranger of music, his "Rhapsody on an Ode to Joy" will explore the possibility of combining musical genres and acoustic sounds with all the possibilities electronic instruments bring to the table. He takes pride, and speaks with boundless enthusiasm, that he is stretching the boundaries of music.

Haken met Sunny and Nic at a music festival in Hot Springs, Ark., more than 20 years ago. The three began tossing around the idea of a special kind of festival in Michigan City, and an idea was born. Nic and Sunny carried the dream home, and through tenacity and hours of planning, dreaming and work, the Michigan City Chamber Music Festival was born.

This year, as in the past, vocal selections will be featured along with instrumental favorites. Wednesday, Aug. 17, the theme of musical healing will be repeated in the plaintive strains of Puccini's "O mio babbino caro" sung by Melisa Barrick Baldwin. The great soprano Renee Fleming considered the piece the great healing song of her repertoire.

Each year, the children's concerts are a highlight. Nic credits Sunny, the event's educational director, with writing and directing each program over the years. According to Sunny, this year, as always, will be "extremely interactive."

The first program on Aug. 16, "Viola Viper," will

feature Haken and his amazing electronic instruments. The program will feature a hands-on project that will allow children to create their own electronic instrument.

The Aug. 18 program, "Paleo to Present," will introduce a musical timeline through history, from simple drums and pipes to electronic instruments of the future. It is rumored masked super heroes will attend, including the Avengers.

The final children's program, "Girl Power," will feature a program in which attendees can create a self-portrait. Nic says, "Don't be surprised if a flash mob shows up during the program."

These offerings are another example of why the festival's musicians return year after year.

Oboist Nancy Ambrose King says she returns for "great music, great friends and the opportunity to play with great musicians." Nancy travels each year from Ann Arbor, Mich., to play alongside her husband, clarinetist Bill King.

Those who have attended the MCCMF in the past can anticipate a new season of musical adventures and, with this year's programs, a journey of healing. For those who have never attended a performance, you will be amazed and delighted by the talent and skill of the musicians, and the range and diversity of genres explored. The concerts are free, but spaces fill up quickly, so it is advisable to arrive early.

The Schedule

- Saturday, Aug. 13, 7 p.m., First Presbyterian. **The lineup:** "Trio Sonata for 2 Violins and Continuo" by G.F. Handel; "Four Last Songs" by Richard Strauss; "Curves of Gold" by Edward Knight; "Trio for French Horn, Violin and Piano" by Brahms. **The performers:** Nic Orbovich and Zosia Glashauser, violins; Jasmin Arakawa and Robert Auler, piano; Melisa Barrick Baldwin and Matthew Daniel, vocalists; William King, clarinet; Anna Mayne, French Horn.
- Monday, Aug. 15, 7 p.m., First Presbyterian. **The lineup:** "Piano Trio in C Minor" by Felix Mendelssohn; "Lyric" for string quartet by George Walker; "Gaia" by Andrea Clearfield; "World Premiere Trio" for winds and piano by Miguel de Aguila. **The performers:** Glashauser and Orbovich, violins; Arakawa and Auler, piano; Wesley Baldwin, cello; Ryan King, clarinet; Nancy Ambrose King, oboe; Kimberly Jones, soprano; Rudolf Haken, viola).
- Tuesday, Aug. 16, 6 p.m., children's program at Angela House. **The lineup:** "Viper Viola Virtuosity" with Haken and Sunny Gardner Orbovich. The focus is electronic music.
- Wednesday, Aug. 17, 7 p.m., First Presbyterian. **The lineup:** "Suite for 2 Violins" by Grazna Bacewicz; "Duo for Clarinet & Cello" by David Baker; "Sonata for Cello and Piano" by Debussy; "O Mio Bambino Caro" by Puccini; Beethoven "5th Symphony" (piano, four hands). **The performers:** William King, Baldwin, Auler, Barrick Baldwin, Arakawa.
- Thursday, Aug. 18, 6 p.m., children's program at Angela House, "Musical Heroes, Past & Present." Gardner Orbovich will be joined by a string quartet featuring Glashauser, Orbovich, Haken and Baldwin.
- Friday, Aug. 19, 7 p.m., First Presbyterian, "Soprano Suos." **The lineup:** "Missa Brevis" by Haken; "Four Seasons" by Antonio Vivaldi (Orbovich, Glashauser, Haken, Baldwin, Kimberly Jones, Barrick Baldwin, Ed Randles (double bass) and Jennifer Muñiz, piano)
- Saturday, Aug. 20, noon, children's program at Angela House, "Girl Power." The interactive program, which features Jones, Muñiz and Gardner-Orbovich, will highlight contributions to music by important female musicians.
- Sunday, Aug. 21, 3 p.m., First Presbyterian, "Gospel Ode to Joy." Beethoven/Haken with combined New Hope Missionary Baptist Church gospel choir and Michigan City Messiah Chorus; "Flower Song" by Delibes; "Terzetto" for string trio by Antonio Dvorak; "String Quartet" by Jessica Carter (Glashauser, Orbovich, Haken, Baldwin, Jones, Barrick Baldwin, Muñiz). Visit www.mccmf.org for more details.



“Honor Society” Surprises You With a Big Heart

by Andrew Tallackson

Honor Rose (Angourie Rice) finds herself drawn to Michael Dipnicky (Gaten Matarazzo) in “Honor Society.”

Here is a movie where, early on, you’re not sure if you like it.

Every generation of teens, I suppose, gets its next “Heathers,” “Mean Girls” or “Juno.” “Honor Society,” now streaming on Paramount+, has the right energy level, and Angourie Rice, the star, is relentless: acidic teen cynicism on steroids. But the tone is rather smug, like the clone of a better movie.

How surprising, then, to be proven wrong. This is a rather sneaky comedy that not only proves how wise it is, but that its heart was patiently waiting to reveal itself.

As Harvard-or-bust senior Honor Rose, Rice may not be a household name, but she’s steadily doing great work, most memorably as Kate Winslet’s daughter in HBO’s “Mare of Easttown.” Here, Honor is the product of a middle-class family, weary of the dead-end life her equally middle-class community promises. Directly addressing the camera, Honor sheds light into herself, her school and her new scheme: sabotage with distractions her competitors for a Harvard scholarship. Two are socially inept: scrappy nerd Michael Dipnicky (“Stranger Things” star Gaten Matarazzo) and introverted playwright Kennedy Park (Amy Keum). The third is star athlete Travis Biggins (Armani Jackson), who’s secretly gay.



“Honor Society”

Running time: 98 minutes. Paramount+. Rated TV-MA for language and suggestive dialogue.

Rice gives Honor bite. This is someone who definitely knows how to pick at the scabs of social hierarchy within a school. But we aren’t sure whether we like Honor. Or her classmates, for that fact. She’s ice cold. They’re all “types.” Clichés. And guidance counselor Mr. Calvin, played by McLovin himself, Christopher Mintz-Plasse, is meant to be creepy. Problem is, but he’s not creepy-funny, just creepy.

The turning point, the moment David Goodman’s screenplay catches you off guard, arrives when Honor’s plan backfires. Turns out, she likes these people. They have more in common than expected. And by all four taking a step back from their studies, they are free to discover their true selves. Better yet, the wall Honor has erected around herself starts to crack.

Herein lies the beauty of “Honor Society,” of Goodman’s inspired script. The film’s message is that teens are so fixated on leaving home, on abandoning high school, they miss life’s simple gifts, many of which are staring them in the face. The way Hon-

Contact Andrew Tallackson at atallackson@gmail.com



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Indiana Dunes National Park

- **Chellberg Farm Open House from 1-3 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 11.** Rangers and volunteers will share the area's history as visitors tour the farmhouse and garden and visit the animals. Passes are required. The parking lot is off Mineral Springs Road between U.S. 12 and 20 in Porter.
- **Sunset Paddle at Marquette Lagoons from 6-8 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 11.** Join a ranger for paddling in the lagoon. The program is limited to 20 participants. Make reservations by calling (219) 395-1882. The lagoon is located in Gary's Miller Beach neighborhood.
- **Beach Fun Friday from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Friday, Aug. 12, at West Beach, 376 N. County Line Road, Gary.** Join staff for activities such as kayaking, paddleboarding and swimming. Passes are required.
- **Mount Baldy Sunset Hike from 5-6:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 12, and 9-11 a.m. Sundays in August.** Experience sunset views of Lake Michigan and Chicago from during the ranger-led tour. Passes are required. Meet at the parking lot off U.S. 12.
- **Pinhook Bog Open House from 9 a.m.-noon Saturdays in August.** Meet at the bog parking lot for a ranger-led hike to experience carnivorous insect-eating plants and rare orchids. Passes are required. The bog parking lot is at 700 N. Wozniak Road in Michigan City.
- **Beachcomber Hike with a Ranger from 8-9 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 13, at Central Avenue Beach.** Join a ranger for a morning stroll along the beach and learn about the origins of the Great Lakes and Indiana Dunes. Meet at the Central Avenue Beach parking lot. Passes are required.
- **Biking & Birding from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 13, at West Beach.** Take bikes, with

the park providing binoculars, during the trek that offers basic birding techniques. Passes are required. The parking lot is at 376 N. County Line Road, Gary.

- **Join Art Barn School of Art during "Art in the Park" from 2-4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 13, at Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk, 100 Riverwalk Road.** Participants create a dunes-inspired picture. There is a \$15 charge for supplies, and reservations are required at www.artbarnschool.org. The class is limited to 15 adults.
- **"Is it a 'Birdie' or an 'Eagle'?" from 7-9 a.m. Sundays in August at Dunewood Campground off Golf Wood Road, Beverly Shores.** Join a ranger to walk through a relatively unexplored area of the park. Birders of all levels are welcome. Take binoculars or borrow a pair from the park. Passes are required.
- **Bailly/Chellberg History Hike from 2-4 p.m. Sundays in August.** Explore the grounds of both historic homes, and learn about early settlers and farmers who came to the region in the 1800s. After the hike, help the ranger feed the Chellberg Farm animals from 4:30-5 p.m. Park at the Bailly/Chellberg parking lot off Mineral Springs Road between U.S. 12 and 20 in Porter. Passes are required.
- **Folk Music at the Farm with Save the Tunes from 5-6 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 14, at Chellberg Farm.** Local musicians from Save the Tunes Council will perform from the farmhouse porch. Take a blanket/folding chair. Passes are required.
- **Drop-In Volunteer Program (Trash Trekkers) from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. daily at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.** Trash Trekkers is a no-hassle volunteer option that helps keep trails and beaches clean. Temporary passes are available. Visit tinyurl.com/2p83798v for more details.

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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Art Barn Art Blitz Deadline

Monday, Aug. 15, is the deadline for exhibitors interested in the sixth annual Art Blitz, which is Saturday-Sunday, Sept. 17-18, at Valparaiso's Art Barn School of Art.

It's estimated 1,000 people will attend that event that highlights Art Barn educational art offerings through participatory activities, a regional outdoor exhibit and collaborations with other organizations. Hands-on art activities include live music, food, mini classes, artist booths and artwork from the permanent collection.

The registration fee is waived for Juried Art Exhibit award winners (Coupon Code JAEAW22). The fee is discounted 50 percent for Juried Art Exhibitors (Coupon Code JAE22). The cost is \$15 for all others. Each exhibitor will be assigned a 12'x12' booth space, suitable for a 10'x10' tent. The fee is \$150. The fee for a demonstrating artist is \$100. A double booth space costs \$300, while the double space cost for a demonstrating artist is \$200.

All proceeds support Art Barn educational programs. Visit www.artbarnschool.org to register or for more information. Art Barn is located at 695 N. County Road 400 East. Call (219) 462-9009 for additional information.

Indiana Dunes State Park

The following programs will be offered:

- **J.D. Marshall Shipwreck Stroll from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 11.** Join a naturalist at the Nature Center for a 1.5-mile flat walk to the beach and back.
- **Who Goes Where? from 10-11 a.m. Friday, Aug. 12.** Meet in the Nature Center Auditorium to learn how physical/behavioral adaptations help animals survive diverse Indiana Dunes habitats.
- **The 15th annual Perseid Meteor Shower & Stargaze from 8:30 p.m.-midnight Saturday, Aug. 13.** Sky lore stories begin at the pavilion at 8:30 p.m., with the best star observations expected after 9:30 p.m. Naturalists will have a telescope on hand for deep sky viewing and constellation talks. Take a chair or towel.

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.

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Senior Boot Camp Helps Students Prepare for Next Steps

With the new school year approaching, nearly 40 incoming Michigan City High School seniors attended a “Senior Boot Camp,” preparing for their final high-school year.

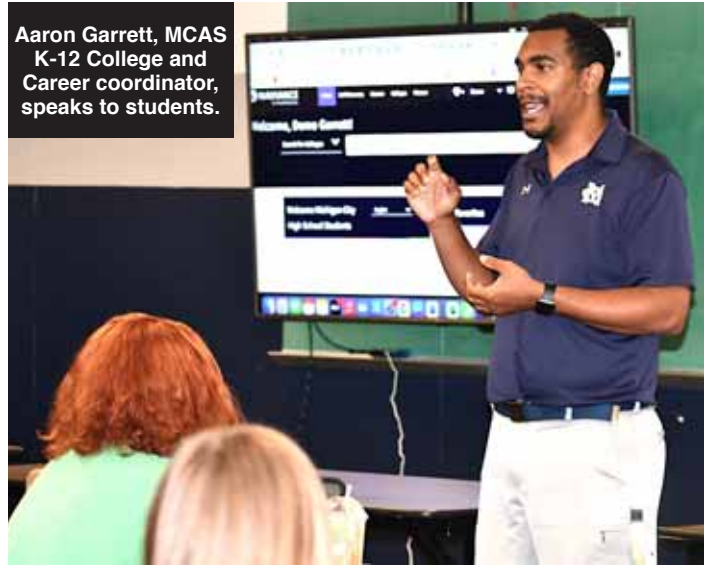
Aaron Garrett, the Michigan City Area Schools K-12 College and Career coordinator, organized the event.

“At Michigan City Area Schools, we focus on college and career readiness beginning at the elementary level, so our hope is that students have already determined their post-high school plans by senior year,” Garrett said in a press release. “Now, we can focus on the steps necessary to make that future happen, whether that is attending college, entering the workforce or joining the military.”

The “Boot Camp” introduced students to topics such as applying for colleges and scholarships, requesting transcripts and completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. Among the guest speakers were English teacher Tyler Evans, who gave students tips on writing essays for college applications, and recruitment officers for the U.S. Army and U.S. Marine Corps.

Staff Sgt. Ramona Dabney, a recruiter with the U.S. Army, described everyday life in the military, saying she enlisted because of the opportunities to travel, as well as the variety of professions she

Aaron Garrett, MCAS K-12 College and Career coordinator, speaks to students.



could choose.

“We are a true career field,” she said in a press release, describing the multiple opportunities available in the Army. “There are over 120 jobs to choose from in the Army Reserves...and over 150 if you’re active duty. We have paralegal, medical, combat, plumbing, trades – everything you can think of.”

(Visit www.EducateMC.net/MCHS for additional information.)

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Shane Lindeman



TU August 16 • 5-8pm
Kasim Whiting



SU August 21 • 6-8p
Nicolas Kazonis "Neek"



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Jim St. James Band



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TU August 23
5-8p
Chris Burch



SU July 28 • 5-8p
Neil Allesse

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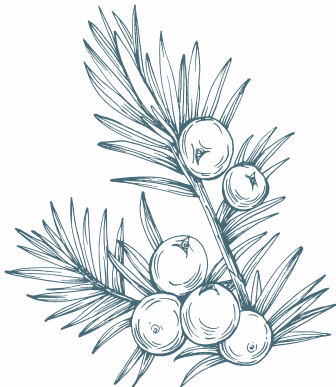
In case of inclement weather performances will be in first floor pavilion

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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:

- Sept. 14 — Pairing Your Plants for Multi-Season Display, Sacha-Gee Burns, Solid Waste District of LaPorte County.
- Oct. 5: Medicare 2021 Overview, SHIP Supervisor Megan Rogers.
- Nov. 2: Managing Stress with Moria Cogwell, The Crossing wellness specialist.

Inclusive Playground Grand Opening

A ribbon cutting is at 10 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 13, at Bluhm County Park, 3855 S. County Road 1100 West, Westville.

The new sensory-rich environment enables children to develop physically, socially and emotionally. Refreshments will be provided. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Family Fishing Nights

The next free all-ages outing is from 5-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 23, at the Luhr County Park pond. A limited number of poles and bait will be available. No fishing licenses are required. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Pre-registration is required at least one day before each program.

Field Trips

Formal educators, Scout leaders and groups can schedule a free organized program for students or group at any county park. The programs on various topics meet state standards and patch requirements.

Call (219) 324-5855, visit www.laportecountyparks.org or email natureniki@csinet.net or for details.



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Harbor Country Film Group



A scene from "Some Like It Hot."

Billy Wilder's classic comedy "Some Like It Hot" is the subject of the next Harbor Country Film Group, which meets at 6:30 p.m. EDT Monday, Aug. 15, at New Buffalo Township Library, 33 N. Thompson St.

"A clever script, a dynamic trio of lead actors (Tony Curtis, Jack Lemmon and Marilyn Monroe) and gifted direction by Billy Wilder all conspire to bring us the perfect summer movie," film group leader Eve Moran said in a press release.

The movie tells the story of two male musicians, on the run from gangsters in Chicago, who take cover by disguising themselves as women to join an all-female jazz band heading for Florida.

In 2001, when the American Film Institute ranked the 100 greatest American comedies, "Some Like It Hot" placed first on the list. In his "Great Movies" essay from 2000, Roger Ebert called the comedy "one of the enduring treasures of the movies, a film of inspiration and meticulous craft."

Moran will introduce the film and lead a discussion after the screening. Expect the meeting to last about 2 1/2 hours. The screening is free, and free popcorn will be served. The group is sponsored by the Friends of the Library.



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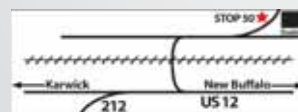
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LCSO 50th Season

LaPorte County Symphony Orchestra is entering its 50th anniversary with the 2022-2023 season.

Concerts include:

- Aug. 21: Friendship Botanic Gardens.
- Sept. 17: 17th annual Hoosier Star.
- Sept. 24: Sharing Meadows (40th anniversary).
- Oct. 12: 34th Annual Drayton Family Children's Educational Concerts.
- Nov. 5: "Americana!"
- Dec. 10: 28th Annual Holiday at the Pops.
- Feb. 11, 2023: "Side by Side" with the LaPorte High School Orchestra and Wind Ensemble.
- March 12, 2023: "Pictures at an Exhibition."
- April 22, 2023: Purdue Varsity Glee Club and special guest to be announced. Other new offerings include:
- A new website created by Duneland Media (www.lcso.net).
- A 50th anniversary retrospective book underwritten by David and Susan Ratajick and created by retired LCSO musician Merry Johnson.
- A fanfare commissioned by Garry and JoFran Bendix and composed by Rick DeJonge, to be performed at several of concerts.
- Banners celebrating musicians along Lincolnway in LaPorte, and Franklin and Washington Streets in Michigan City, supported by Purdue University Northwest.
- An online merchandise store to buy 50th anniversary season mementos.
- Monthly small pop-up ensembles performing around LaPorte County, supported by Harbour Trust Investment Management Co.
- Small ensembles to perform prior to each Sinai Forum presentation.
- Frances Ho joining the leadership team as assistant conductor.
- Vocalists Amanda Sheriff, Nicholas Davis and Joseph Leppke performing at the November concert.
- LCSO Concertmaster Tamara Stojanovich as the featured soloist at the February concert.
- Pianist Michael Chertock as the soloist at the March concert.



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Call for Entries

The Midwest Museum of American Art has issued a "call for entries" for the 44th Elkhart Juried Regional Art Exhibition that runs Sept. 6-17.

The all-media competition is open to artists 18 and older from Allen, DeKalb, Elkhart, Fulton, Huntington, Jasper, Kosciusko, Lake, LaGrange, LaPorte, Marshall, Newton, Noble, Porter, Pulaski, St. Joseph, Starke, Steuben, Wabash or Whitley counties in Indiana, and Berrien, Branch, Cass or St. Joseph counties in Michigan. Each entrant may submit one work in any media for \$25. A \$40 entry fee will be charged for two. All works must be original in concept and execution, created within the last two years, not completed under instruction and not previously exhibited at the museum or any Michiana region event. Entries must be hand-delivered and prepared for installation.

Awards, which are more than \$20,000, will be selected by the Jurors and Purchase Award patrons. Jurors are Nick Antonakis, Grand Rapids Community College professor of visual arts, and Shaun Dingwerth, Richmond Art Museum executive director.

The exhibit is sponsored by The Elkhart County Conventions & Visitors Bureau. A prospectus and entry form are available at tinyurl.com/2f66vzbd

The museum is located at 429 S. Main St. Email info@midwestmuseum.us for more details.



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A Busy Summer for JROTC

Cadets in Michigan City High School's Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps found themselves quite busy over the summer supporting Michigan City Area Schools and the community.

The cadets trained for a week in Wisconsin at a leadership camp organized and run by MCHS, with cadets from Portage and South Bend Riley also attending. Selected cadets also attended the National Military Drill Camp at Schreiner University in Texas and the MCJROTC Senior Leadership Camp in Boswell, Pa. The camps, like all MCJROTC activities, were done at no cost to students nor MCHS; instead, they were fully funded by the Marine Corps.

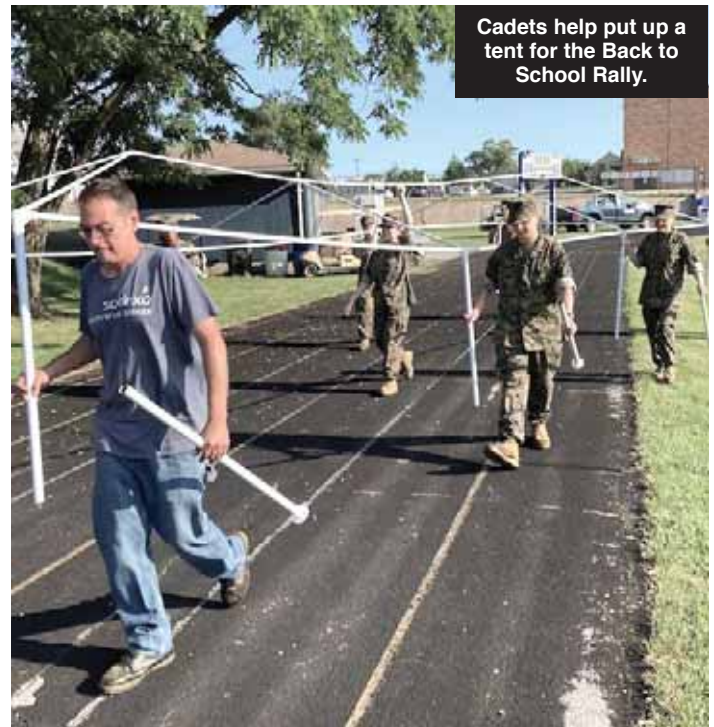
The cadets also provided Color Guards for numerous events, including the Michigan City Patriotic Parade, Indiana State Employees Convention, LaPorte County Veterans Court and Montel Williams' "Military Makeover" TV show, which helped an area family with a home renovation.

The cadets did a number of community service projects, including the Adopt-a-Highway program with the local Marine Corps League chapter, landscaping at Dunes Summer Theatre, paper shredding and a food drive at Members Advantage Credit Union and the Citywide Back-to-School Rally at Elston's Gill Field.

Once school starts, the cadets will continue to support school activities, such as home athletic games and community events. They will start military drill-team practice, with the objective to qualify for the national championship meet in Washington, D.C., in April.



The Color Guard supports the "Military Makeover" show.



Cadets help put up a tent for the Back to School Rally.



Cadets take a break amid work at Dunes Summer Theatre.

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LBCC Women's Golf Leagues

9-Hole League

July 28, 2022

Event: Regular Golf



A FLIGHT

Low Net — Janet Andreotti.

Low Putts — Carol Excell

Birdies/Sunken Approaches – Not available.

B FLIGHT

Low Net — June Salmon.

Low Putts — June Salmon.

Birdies/Sunken Approaches – Not available.

C FLIGHT

Low Net — Catherine Kelly.

Low Putts — Gloria McMahon.

Birdies/Sunken Approaches – Not available.

D FLIGHT

Low Net — Rosann Conroy.

Low Putts — Carrie Noland.

Birdies/Sunken Approaches – Not available.

18-Hole Golf League

Aug. 2, 2022

Event: Low Net

A FLIGHT

First Place — Sue Luegers.

Second Place — Claudia Brennan.

Third Place — Linda Behringer.

B FLIGHT

First Place — Donna Hennard.

Second Place — Mary Weithers.

Third Place — Nancy Trainor.

C FLIGHT

First Place — Gloria McMahon.

Second Place — Nancy Reinert, Carol Sullivan & Roxann Conroy (tie).

Third Place — Barb Hall.



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Chesterton Art Center

Chesterton Art Center will host a reception for print artist Corey Hagelberg's "The Design is Fine... The Design is not Fine" from noon-2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 13.

The exhibit runs through Sept. 28.

Hagelberg blurs the lines between humor and tragedy, natural and industrial, accusation and confession, beautiful and grotesque. His work with black-and-white woodcut has highlighted the relationship between the human and natural world.

His CAC exhibit features about 20 black-and-white woodcuts spanning almost 20 years, some as large as 10 feet in length. According to a press release, the work speaks to the beauty of the natural world while raising questions about the human impact on the land.



Corey Hagelberg's 2014 woodcut print
"Trees on Their Knees."

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.

SMSO Summer Beach Series

Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra's Summer Beach Series continues with "Music for the Young at Heart" at 6:30 p.m. EDT Saturday, Aug. 13, at Silver Beach County Park's Shadowland Pavilion, 101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Mich.

Gates open at 5:30 p.m. EDT. The program includes music from "Star Wars," "Frozen," "Raiders of the Lost Ark" and "Casey at the Bat."

Lawn seating costs \$20, or \$10 for children 12 and younger. Take blankets or chairs. Reserved seating costs \$30. The day-of price is an additional \$5.

Contact the SMSO office, 513 Ship St., at (269) 982-4030 or visit www.smso.org for tickets.

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Midwest Museum of American Art

Elkhart's Midwest Museum of American Art will present "Journey Through Indiana: The Photographs of Kay Westhues and John Bower," through Oct. 1.



John Bower's Pleasant Vale Church in Jay County.

Westhues is a South Bend-based artist and Bower a Bloomington-based photographer. Their exhibit explores the lives of everyday Hoosiers, honoring past achievements and enduring traditions. Fifty-seven photographs were sourced from multiple bodies of work belonging to each photographer taken between 2000-2019.

The museum is located at 429 S. Main St.

Hours are (all times Eastern) 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and 1-4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$6 for ages 8-12, \$8 for ages 13-18 and \$8 for college students with ID.

Call (574) 293-6660 or email info@midwestmuseum.us for more details.



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In the Area

Aug. 11 — Michigan City Municipal Band, 7:30 p.m., Washington Park's Guy F. Foreman Bicentennial Amphitheater.

Aug. 11 — Arts in the Park, LaPorte's Fox Park. For Pete's Sake (Irish folk & bluegrass)/7 p.m.; preconcert: For Pete's Sake/6 p.m. *Aug. 10*: LaPorte City Band/7 p.m. Info: contact@artsintheparklaporte.com

Aug. 12 — Opening reception, "The Poetry of Flowers," 5-7 p.m., The Depot Beverly Shores Museum and Art Gallery 525 S. Broadway. Runs through Sept. 4. Info: www.bsdepot.com

Aug. 12 — Music Under the Stars, Dunes Broadway Concert: A Cabaret Night with Dunes Summer Theatre, 6:30-9 p.m., Friendship Botanic Gardens, 2055 E. U.S. 12. Tickets: \$50/person, \$80/couple, free/13 & younger. Reservations: <https://friendshipbotanicgardens.org>

Aug. 12 — Movies in Washington Park: "Jungle Cruise," 8 p.m., North Pointe Pavilion. Info: (219) 873-3049.

Aug. 12-14, 19-21 — "Gilligan's Island," Footlight Theatre, 1705 Franklin St. Times: 7:30 p.m. Fri.-Sat., 2 p.m. Sun. Tickets: \$17/adults, \$12/children 12 & younger. Reservations: (219) 874-4035, www.footlightplayers.org

Aug. 13 — Inclusive Playground Grand Opening, 10 a.m., Bluhm County Park, 3855 S. County Road 1100 West, Westville. Info: (219) 325-8315, www.laportecountyparks.org

Aug. 13 — Incredible Bats Live Animal Show, 2-3 p.m., HannaFest, Hanna Park, 5 W. Young St. Info: www.laportelibrary.org

Aug. 15 — Teen D&D, 5-7 p.m., LaPorte County Public Library, 904 Indiana Ave. Info: www.laportelibrary.org

Through Sept. 30 — Michigan City Art League, Queen of All Saints Catholic Church's Legacy Center, 1719 E. Barker Ave. Legacy Center 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

Through Oct. 21 — "moniquemeloche presents...", Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St. Info: www.LubeznikCenter.org/Events

First and Third Mondays — Singing Sands Toastmasters Club, 6:30-8 p.m., Senior Health/

Wellness Center (old hospital ER, Barker/Buffalo).

Mondays in Michigan City — Bingo, Moose Family Lodge 980, 2107 Welnetz Road. Doors open/8:30 a.m., early birds/9:30 a.m., regular Bingo/10 a.m.

Tuesdays in August — Makerspace: open lab hours, 3:30-5 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

Thursdays in August — Needle Arts Club to Warm Up America, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

Saturdays in Michigan City — Michigan City Farmers Market, 8 a.m.-noon, Eighth & Washington streets. Info: farmersmarketmichigancity@gmail.com

Saturdays in LaPorte — LaPorte Farmers Market, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., Lincolnway parking lot next to Mucho Mas. Info: laportefarmermarket@gmail.com

Sundays in Michigan City — The Dockside Artisan Market, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Millennium Plaza. Free parking.

In the Region

Aug. 11 — J.D. Marshall Shipwreck Stroll, 10:30-11:30 a.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

Aug. 11 — PettyBreakers, 8 p.m. EDT, The Acorn, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: general/\$30, reserved/\$55. Reservations: www.acornlive.org

Aug. 12 — Who Goes Where?, 10-11 a.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

Aug. 12 — An American Prayer: The Doors Tribute, 8 p.m. EDT, The Acorn, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: general/\$25, reserved/\$50. Reservations: www.acornlive.org

Aug. 13 — Art in the Park, 2-4 p.m., Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk, 100 Riverwalk Road. Supply cost: \$15. Reservations: www.artbarnschool.org

Aug. 13 — Artist reception, Corey Hagelberg's "The Design is Fine... The Design is not Fine," noon-2 p.m., Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St. Info: (219) 926-4711, www.chestertonart.org

Aug. 13 — Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra's Summer Beach Series, 6:30 p.m. EDT, Silver Beach County Park's Shadowland Pavilion, 101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Mich. Lawn seating: \$20, \$10/12 & younger. Reserved seating: \$30. Day-of: \$5. Reservations: www.smso.org, (269) 982-4030.

Aug. 13 — 15th annual Perseid Meteor Shower & Stargaze, 8:30 p.m.-midnight, Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

Aug. 13 — An Acorn Evening with Mark Giangreco: Hosted by Janet Davies, 8 p.m. EDT, The Acorn, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: general/\$35, reserved/\$60. Reservations: www.acornlive.org

Aug. 14 — Folk Music at the Farm with Save the

Tunes, 5-6 p.m., Chellberg Farm, Mineral Springs Road between U.S. 12/20, Porter. Info: www.nps.gov/indu, (219) 395-1882.

Aug. 15 — Harbor Country Film Group ("Some Like It Hot"), 6:30 p.m. EDT, New Buffalo Township Library, 33 N. Thompson St. Free.

Aug. 17 — The Common Concert Series, 7-9 p.m. EDT, Buchanan, Mich. Entertainment: Aug. 17: Liam Purcell & Cane Mill Road. Info: The Common-Buchanan, MI (Facebook).

Aug. 17 — Lake Effect Jazz Big Band – Midwest Made, 7 p.m. EDT, The Acorn, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: general/\$15, reserved/\$40. Reservations: www.acornlive.org

Through Aug. 21 — "Michiana Master's Series," Elkhart's Midwest Museum of American Art, 429 S. Main St. Admission: \$10/adults, \$6/ages 8-12, \$8/ages 13-18, \$8/college students with ID. Hours (Eastern) 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tue.-Fri., 1-4 p.m. Sat.-Sun. Info: info@midwestmuseum.us

Through Oct. 1 — "Journey Through Indiana: The Photographs of Kay Westhues and John Bowser," Elkhart's Midwest Museum of American Art, 429 S. Main St. Hours (Eastern): 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tue.-Fri./1-4 p.m. Sat.-Sun. Admission: \$10/adults, \$6/ages 8-12, \$8/ages 13-18, \$8/college students with ID. Info: (574) 293-6660.

Through Oct. 2 — "WIRED: The Rise (and Fall) of Electric Cars," The Studebaker National Museum, 201 Chapin St., South Bend. Hours (Eastern): 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Sat., noon-5 p.m. Sun. Admission: \$10/adults, \$8.50/seniors 60+, \$6/youth ages 6-18. Info: www.studebakermuseum.org, (574) 235-9714.

Through Oct. 30 — "The Avanti: America's Most Advanced Automobile," The Studebaker National Museum, The Studebaker National Museum, 201 Chapin St., South Bend. Hours (Eastern): 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Sat., noon-5 p.m. Sun. Admission: \$10/adults, \$8.50/seniors 60+, \$6/youth ages 6-18. Info: www.studebakermuseum.org, (574) 235-9714.

Thursdays in August — Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra 2022 Summer Pop Up Concert Series, 4 p.m. EDT, On the Green at Krasl Art Center, 707 Lake Bluff Blvd., St. Joseph, Mich. Aug. 11: The Norwood Trio; "In the Garden" musical selections. Info: www.smso.org

Thursdays in August (Aug. 11) — Chellberg Farm Open House, 1-3 p.m., Mineral Springs Road parking lot between U.S. 12/20, Porter. Info: www.nps.gov/indu, (219) 395-1882.

Thursdays (Aug. 11) — Sunset Paddle at Marquette Lagoons, 6-8 p.m., Gary's Miller Beach neighborhood. Limit 20 participants. Reservations: (219) 395-1882.

Fridays (Aug. 12)/Sundays in August — Mount Baldy Sunset Hike: 5-6:30 p.m. Fridays/9-11 a.m. Sundays, parking lot off U.S. 12. Info: www.nps.gov/indu, (219) 395-1882.

Saturdays in August — Pinhook Bog Open House, 9 a.m.-noon, parking lot @ 700 N. Wozniak Road, Michigan City. Info: www.nps.gov/indu, (219) 395-1882.

Saturdays in August (Aug. 13) — Beachcomber Hike with a Ranger, 8-9 a.m., Central Avenue Beach. Info: www.nps.gov/indu, (219) 395-1882.

Saturdays in Chesterton — European Market, 8 a.m.-2 p.m., Broadway & Third Street. Info: (219) 926-5513.

Sundays in August — Bailly/Chellberg History Hike, 2-4 p.m., Bailly/Chellberg parking lot off Mineral Springs Road, U.S. 12/20, Porter. Info: www.nps.gov/indu, (219) 395-1882.

Sundays in August — "Is it a 'Birdie' or an 'Eagle'?", 7-9 a.m., Dunewood Campground off Golf Wood Road, Beverly Shores. Info: www.nps.gov/indu, (219) 395-1882.

Vickers Theatre — *Now Showing:* "Where the Crawdads Sing." Rated PG-13. Times: 6 p.m. Aug. 11, 2:45 p.m. Aug. 12, 11:30 a.m. & 9 p.m. Aug. 13, 2:45 p.m. Aug. 14, 6 p.m. Aug. 15. *Also:* "Mrs. Harris Goes to Paris." Rated PG. Times: 6 & 9 p.m. Aug. 12, 6 p.m. Aug. 13-14, 3 p.m. Aug. 15. All times Eastern. *Also:* Paintings by Annie Hickman through late August. Opening reception: 2:30-4:30 p.m. EDT Aug. 13. Theater address: 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. Info: www.vickerstheatre.com, (269) 756-3522.





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mostly homes in beach communities. The person, who will be paid, must
have his/her own vehicle. The individual currently in the position will train
the new employee for a few weeks to familiarize him/her with the route. If
interested, call (219) 879-0088 and ask for Drew Tallackson, email drew@thebeacher.com
or stop by our office, 911 Franklin St.

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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.

Hidden Pictures by Jason Rekulak (*hardcover, \$27.99 retail in bookstores and online; also available as an eBook and an audiobook. 368 pages.*)

Do you enjoy novels that include supernatural themes, family secrets, murder/mystery or addiction? Look no further — they're all here. All of these themes are wrapped up in one cleverly-written, pulse-pounding book.

Mallory Quinn is 21 and a drug addict, but she is 18 months clean and intends to keep it going. Once a winning runner on her high school track team, a car accident led to a dependence on pills, which led to heroin use. She's been living in a home with other addicts and now her sponsor, 68-year-old Russell, has set up an interview for a summer babysitting job with a well-to-do family and their 5-year-old son.

Mallory is scared. Scared of things that happened in her past, and scared that Ted and Caroline Maxwell will find her past unacceptable and reject her.

On the contrary, Caroline is delighted with Mallory and only has to persuade her husband, who isn't convinced she is really done with drugs. Caroline finally wins out.

The Maxwells have a three-story home in an affluent New Jersey neighborhood, and a guest cottage on the grounds for Mallory. Mallory has never seen such luxury in her life.

The Maxwells are so protective of their son, it's almost suffocating. They strictly monitor his books, the movies he watches and maintain a healthy, no-red-meat kind of diet. Teddy is a quiet boy, never plays with other boys on the playground and spends a lot of time drawing in his room. Hearing Teddy talking to someone in his room one day, Mallory discovers he has a special friend named Anya. He knows the friend is imaginary and, strangely, his parents don't seem to mind — *"It's just a phase he's going through"* — so Mallory puts it out of her mind. Teddy is fun to be with, loves the pool and walks through the woods where they play pretend.

Teddy gives some drawings to Mallory. They are stick figures: very cute and very little boy type. She also notices he is left-handed. As time goes on, the drawings get darker, more sophisticated. Like, the one of a man shoveling dirt into a hole with a woman at the bottom. Where did that come from?

Surprisingly, the author includes these drawings in the book. Yes, an adult read with drawings. They give much clarity to the story and a better perspective of why Mallory now is worried about Anya and her hold on Teddy. Then there's the day Mallory

Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter



catches Teddy drawing one of these strange new-style pictures and he's using his right hand...He seems almost to be in a trance.

Events occur through the eyes and words of Mallory, who soon finds out some interesting news from the strange lady next door. Mitzi says she *"reads auras for a living."* Well, with her strange clothing and

overloaded with jewelry, she certainly looks straight out of central casting. She proceeds to tell Mallory the cottage she's living in is haunted by the spirit of Annie Barrett, who was killed there.

Annie, Anya? Close enough to send Mallory on a hunt to find out more about this Annie. Seems this happened some 80 years ago and they never found a body... Could Anya be the long-dead Annie trying to tell her story through Teddy? Of course, it all sounds so sci-fi, Mallory is afraid the Maxwells will think she's back on drugs. And yet, something is happening with Teddy, even though his parents refuse to admit it.

Can you have too many subplots? Not in this case. Mallory meets the house's landscaping team that includes Adrian, the boss' son. He lives in an even bigger

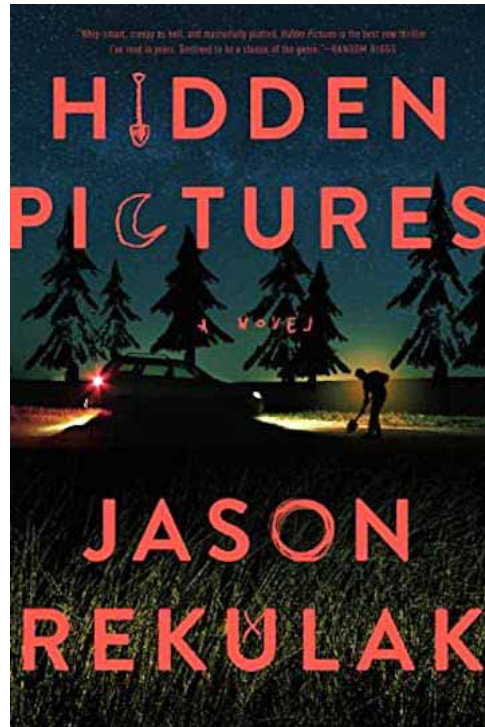
mansion several streets over. Evidently, landscaping has been good to his family. Mallory can't admit her real story — the drugs, the rehab, the halfway house — so she comes up with half-truths that eventually surface in all the wrong ways. Looks like her blossoming romance has hit a roadblock, but Adrian won't be put off that easily...

You might think this is a book best served at Halloween, but despite the supernatural nature, this is a story about a 5-year-old boy and a 21-year-old recovering addict who actually have a lot in common. They are both trying to keep a low profile and hide their secrets while trying to find their place in the world. A world that has confused and dismissed them without understanding their life stories.

Hidden Pictures is scary without being gruesome. It's an ingenious psychological puzzle with well-developed characters and an ending you may not see coming.

The Last Word: no salty swearing or hatchet happy psychos!

Till next time, happy reading!



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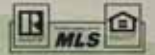
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