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Rustic Character

by Edmund Lawler

If there's one constant to Michiana Shores' 75-year history, it's the trees.

Ask any resident — from a newcomer to the town council president who's been part of Michiana Shores for 60 years — and they point to the towering trees that form a verdant summertime canopy over the community of log cabins, cottages and contemporary homes.

It's the mix of oak, maple, pine and other species that draws residents and visitors to the rolling, wooded dunescape on the southern edge of Lake Michigan. Trees are hardly unique to the lakeside communities stretching from the Indiana Dunes northeast to Michigan's Warren Dunes. But trees are the hallmark of Michiana Shores' unique geography and rustic character where 70 percent of the land is wooded, according to the town's 2016 comprehensive plan.

"All the greenery is wonderful," says Daina Dumbrys, president of Michiana Shores' five-member town council. "You feel like you're really in nature, and that's the thing that people who choose to live here truly appreciate. You are in nature, but you're not so deep in the woods that you can't access conveniences like shopping and transportation."

Dumbrys, a retired high school math and science teacher for

Chicago Public Schools, says her parents bought a cottage in 1961 on Brookside Drive when she was in grade school. Her family spent the entire summer there before returning to their home on Chicago's Southwest Side.

"As kids, we could hop on our bikes and ramble through the hills and trees with no fear of going anywhere," she says. "There was the beach, the beach grasses and all the wildlife. You could hear the birds."

A far cry from the urban landscape of her Chicago neighborhood.

She and her husband, Ray, bought a cottage in Michiana Shores in the early 2000s and have lived there full time since 2011.

One of the newest residents, Michael Martinez never takes it for granted that he can look out his windows and see nothing but forest. It's a vastly different view than the one he had in the bustling, congested Chicago neighborhood of Wrigleyville.

The backyard of the newly built home he shares with his wife, Holly Applegate-Martinez, abuts the wooded acreage of Dunes Summer Theatre. From their backyard patio, he's heard the mating call of a fox and has gazed awestruck as an eagle soared gracefully above the trees.



Daina Dumbrys is photographed by *The Beacher's* Ed Lawler at the iconic stone pillar that greets visitors on El Portal Drive.

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“We love Michiana Shores. It’s everything we expected it to be,” says Martinez, an entrepreneur who co-owns three area Biggby Coffee franchises and is preparing to open a fourth.

“I love the solitude. I don’t hear trains and trucks, and I can see the stars at night and sunsets from the beach in the evening,” he says.

Raised in Chesterton, Martinez jumped feet first into his new community. He’s vice president of the town council and a member of advisory plan commission.



Michael Martinez and wife Holly Applegate-Martinez enjoy the forest — and all its inhabitants — that abuts their back yard. Photo by Ed Lawler.

“Town council meets once a month. What we do is very impactful because what we decide will affect everyone in the community,” he says.

Holly was raised in Long Beach, but says she feels a world away in their new Michiana Shores home.

“I grew up on the 13th hole of the Long Beach Country Club Golf Course and didn’t get to live in the woods,” she says with a laugh. The Knapp Elementary School principal then adds, “This is very different from Long Beach.”

Practically neighbors in Wrigleyville, they didn’t meet until they connected on Match.com. They mar-

ried in 2016 and moved to Michiana Shores two years later.

“We love walking to the beach, which is less than a mile away,” she says. “This such a comfortable, quiet community.”



Isaac and Katie Zeckel and their children, Riva and Paul, love to stroll the nearly mile-long White Ditch Greenway trail. Photo by Ed Lawler.

Isaac Zeckel is another of Michiana Shores’ newest residents. Zeckel, a dentist, and his wife, Katie, a clinical psychologist, bought a home there in late 2019. They lived in Long Beach the previous five years.

“We’re only a mile and a half from our old home, but I’m struck by how close it is, yet how different it is at the same time,” says Zeckel, who grew up in suburban Indianapolis. Katie was raised in Michigan City.

“Long Beach is more established, whereas in Michiana Shores you have many more opportunities to help the community,” he says.

“I’ve only been here a couple of years, and I was asked to be a member of the advisory plan commission and to serve as a firefighter for the Michiana Shores Volunteer Fire Department. We’re both very interested in improving the communities in which we live.”

Zeckel accepted a position on the plan advisory commission, where he’s vice president. But he won’t be racing to any house fires as a volunteer firefight-

er, figuring he's reached the limits of his commitments to his new community.

The Zeckels are busy these days. They moved to a larger home that requires some work to accommodate their growing family. Daughter Riva is 2 and son Paul is 3 months.

"You are likely to find us at the beach, the White Ditch Greenway Trail, the woods, the park or the (Red Arrow) stables to watch the horses," he says. "It's like living in the woods where you can walk around, feel safe and let our daughter Riva go a bit. And there's the deer and the wild turkeys."

Lynette Emmons and her wife, Laura Forecki, bought what she described as a "tiny shack" in Michiana Shores in 2000. Over the years, the Chicago couple converted their ramshackle 800-square-foot property into a 2,800-square-foot haven in the woods replete with an art studio. They did much of the work themselves, installing cabinetry, laying floors and roughing out the electric.



Lynette Emmons (right) and her wife, Laura Forecki, pictured at the Stop 37 beach, bought a tiny shack in Michiana Shores in 2000 and converted it into a stunning haven in the woods. Photo by Ed Lawler.

"We started out as weekenders. But the two-day weekends turned into three-day weekends that turned into four-day weekends," Emmons, a retired college professor, says. The couple now divides their time between homes in Michiana Shores and Long Boat Key, Fla.

An avid runner, Emmons treasures the majestic trees that cast a cooling shade along her routes in Michiana Shores.

"It's wonderful to run where there is shade everywhere," she says. "I run on the White Ditch Greenway and through the shady hills. I love the natural aspect."

The nearly mile-long walking and running path

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traces the gently flowing White Ditch that roughly bisects Michiana Shores from west to east, and has become one of the community's top natural amenities.

And, of course, there's the beach, which is actually on the Michigan side of the state line at Stop 37. But an order by the Berrien County (Mich.) Circuit Court about the time of the town's incorporation in 1947 granted joint beach rights at that stop to Michiana Shores residents. It may be the only town in America with its only municipal beach in another state. It's just another unique element to the community.

"Other areas pretty much look the same," Emmons says. "Michiana Shores is different because of its natural setting — the log cabins, the woods and the beach. As soon as you're on El Portal Drive (the town's gateway avenue), you can feel the change in atmosphere."

In recent years, Emmons has noticed an influx of younger residents, a refreshing trend that injects fresh blood into the community. She's also noticed some of the once-vacant wooded lots sprouting new homes, which concerns her.

It's also a concern of Daina Dumbrys and the town council. To help maintain the community's pastoral nature, the council requires that new homes be built on land with a minimum of 10,000-square feet. For new homes in the White Ditch Greenway floodplain, the required minimum is 15,000-square-feet.

"If people own land, we can't stop them from building if they have the adequate amount of land and meet all the other requirements," Dumbrys explains.

"And we do have an ordinance that says you may not cut down any trees on an undeveloped lot," she added. "You can cut down trees on the lot of your home or any lots you own adjacent to your home. But we do encourage people not to cut trees."

Dumbrys believes some residents' concerns that the community is at risk of suburbanization is overstated. A handful of new homes have been built on wooded lots in recent years.

"We really have not had a lot of new construction in our town, certainly not when you compare it to some of our neighboring communities," Dumbrys says.

The South Shore Line's Double Track project, designed to reduce the rail trip time to a little over an hour between Michigan City and Chicago by 2024, has prompted some to fear an influx of new construction.

"I think the plan is wonderful because we take the train to Chicago all the time," Dumbrys says. "But some people are worried that Michiana Shores will become the playground of the super-rich and that people won't be able to afford a home here."

Dumbrys is confident Michiana Shores will find the right path ahead for its next 75 years.

"If we conserve what we have, we keep our trees and keep the traffic down and maintain the ordinances that prevent over-development, then the Michiana Shores of today can last for a long time," she says.

"We are trying to find the right balance that will be good for everybody while maintaining the character of this 75-year-old community with beautiful green space to walk or ride a bike."

A Brief History



A vintage, undated photo depicts curious residents examining a log cabin in Michiana Shores that sustained fire damage. Photo courtesy of Teresa Massa.

Before there was Michiana Shores, there was Corymbo.

And like the current residents of Michiana Shores, the people of Corymbo were attracted by



An example of a log cabin home framed by the big trees of Michiana Shores. Photo courtesy of Teresa Massa.

the trees. Except they were loggers who toppled the trees for lumber.

According to a Michiana Shores history that Clerk-Treasurer Joan Lewis shared with *The Beacher*, the area on which the current towns stands was

a dense forest in the early 19th century.

When the Michigan Central Railroad was laid in the 1850s, a small logging town called Corymbo arose not far from the tracks. Today, Amtrak runs trains on the tracks.

Corymbo, whose population was a mix of railroad workers and loggers, even had its own post office by 1861. It also boasted 12 log cabins, a sawmill and a train depot. But when the trees were all harvested, the hamlet began to disappear. The post office shut down in 1874, and the sawmill sliced its last log in 1876.

By the 1920s, a new generation of trees sprung from the sandy soil. Real estate developers eyed the area for its potential to become a woodsy summer resort.

Michiana Shores in the 1930s became part of a 600-acre development on both sides of the Indiana-Michigan state line. Cabins, many occupied by Chicago school teachers on summer break, began to reappear.

The village of Michiana, Mich., was incorporated in 1946. The town of Michiana Shores, Ind., was incorporated the following year. The two communities are separated by a road appropriately called Michiana Drive that serves as the state line.

The sawmill, post office, train depot and 12 original cabins and wood frame homes are — like Corymbo — lost to the mists of time.

If You Go

Michiana Shores is throwing a birthday party, and everyone's invited.

To celebrate the community's 75th anniversary, Michiana Shores will host a dinner dance from 5-10 p.m. CDT Saturday, Aug. 27, at the firehouse, 601 El Portal Drive. Dinner will be catered by Scartozzi's Trattoria, with gluten-free and vegetarian options. Members of the Michiana Shores Volunteer Fire Department will serve wine, beer and soft drinks.

Tickets, which include two drink vouchers, are \$40 and can be purchased online. Visit the Events section of the town's website: www.townofmichianashores.org

Jeanne Paxton of the 75th Anniversary Steering Committee says live music will be provided by the Chicago classic rock band St. Jams featuring Michiana Shores resident Mario Jobbe. Other highlights include a birthday cake-baking contest judged by current and former town council members. Once judged, all entries will be served as dessert.

A Michiana Shores pop-up museum will highlight historic photos, artifacts and posters loaned by residents for the anniversary bash. Attendees will depart with a special Michiana Shores memory book commemorating the diamond anniversary.



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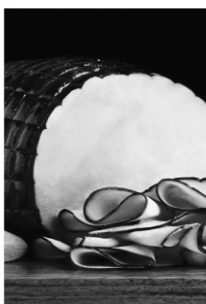


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Lubeznik Arts Festival

Lubeznik Arts Festival will celebrate its 40th year, complete with a live mural invitational, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Aug. 20-21, at Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St.

The festival, expected to draw more than 3,000 visitors, celebrates fine arts and crafts from more than 60 artists from across the nation, as well as indoor exhibits, family art making, live demonstrations, beer and wine, and food vendors.

New this year is the mural invitational. LCA invited three regional artists — Chris Silva, Dredske and FLEX — to create murals live. They will take three 8 feet by 8 feet blank surfaces and create three murals while festivalgoers watch. Spectators are encouraged to vote for their favorite.

Saturday admission is \$5, but free for LCA members, children 16 and younger, active military and veterans. LaPorte County Symphony Orchestra harpist Meg Rodgers will perform at 1 p.m. Admission is free Sunday due to support from McDonalds of LaPorte County. Origin Water will hand out free still and sparkling water.

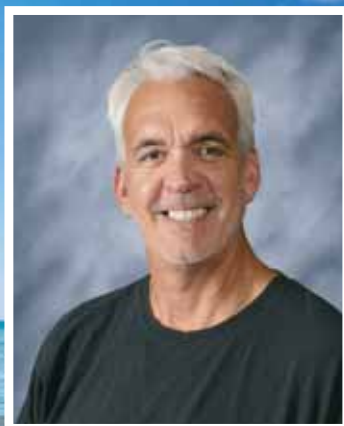
Guests also can view the exhibit “monique-meloche presents...” inside the LCA. It showcases artists represented by Chicago’s Monique Meloche Gallery. LCA’s Gallery Shop also will be open.

Visit www.LubeznikCenter.org or call (219) 874-4900 for more details.



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Krasl Art Center to Celebrate 20th Anniversary of Richard Hunt Sculpture

Krasl Art Center will celebrate the 20th anniversary of Richard Hunt's sculpture "And You, Seas" from 5 p.m.-sunset EDT Tuesday, Aug. 23.

The event honors the 20th anniversary of the dedication ceremony that honored what is regarded as a beacon to Benton Harbor and St. Joseph. Rising from the south pier of Silver Beach County Park, "And You, Seas" stands nearly 50' tall. Made of stainless steel, it has endured the wind, waves and lake spray.

Artmaking, poetry, a live steel drum performance, boat rides, refreshments and a special announcement are planned for the celebration at Silver Beach County Park's Shadowland Pavilion.

Hunt will be present, and several guest speakers will share stories behind the artwork.

The event, co-hosted by KAC and Berrien County Parks, is free and open to the public. Free parking will be available.

The schedule is (all times Eastern):

- 5-7:30 p.m. — Artmaking, Poetry & Ice Cream. Make a sculptural party hat, submit a sculpture-inspired poem for publication or write one onsite, and contribute to a creative community puzzle-building project.
- 5:15, 6 and 6:45 p.m. — Free Boat Rides. Experience views of the sculpture and a narrated tour aboard the Par-Tay-Tyme Cruise Line.
- 6:30 p.m. — Live steel drum musical performance by LaPorte's Kent Arnsbarger.
- 7:30 p.m. — The story of "And You, Seas" and the special announcements. Presenters include Susan Wilczak, Bean Klusendorf and KAC Curator Tami Fauver.
- 8 p.m.-sunset — Cupcakes and steel drum music.

Call (269) 983-0271 or visit www.krasl.org for more details.



Richard Hunt's sculpture "And You, Seas."

Fall Classes

Registration is open for fall classes through Krasl Art Center, 707 Lake Blvd., St. Joseph, Mich.

Offerings range from learning how to throw a pot, draw a portrait, paint with oils or acrylics, photography and how to dye and weave.

Fall programs run September-December and in-

clude 12-week youth classes (ages 5-12) and teen/adult (ages 13+) classes running four to 12 weeks. Experienced ceramic artists also can apply for KAC's Clay Artist Guild.

Visit www.krasl.org for class information, scholarship details and to register before Sept. 12.

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Dunes Arts Foundation, GhostLight Theatre Unite for Musical



A few of the cast members in the upcoming production of "Violet" at Dunes Summer Theatre.

Dunes Summer Theatre concludes its 2022 summer season with a guest appearance of the award-winning musical "Violet," directed by GhostLight Theatre Artistic Director Paul Mow.

The performance is at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 24, at Dunes Summer Theatre, 288 Shady Oak Drive, Michiana Shores. The musical features lyrics and book by Brian Crowley ("A Little Princess") and music by Pulitzer Prize/Tony winner Jeanine Tesori ("Fun Home," "Caroline, Or Change," "Shrek").

Based on Doris Betts' *The Ugliest Pilgrim*, "Violet" tells the story of a young girl on a 1964 bus ride west, where she hopes to receive a healing miracle from a TV evangelist. Along the way, she learns about life from the people she meets, including a

young black soldier, Flick, a gospel singer, Lulu, and Monty, another soldier who vies for her affections.

The cast includes: Emilie Kurtz, Hannah Winston, Richard Allen III, Seamus Doyle, Lucas Seven, Kelly Collins, Paige Mulick, Christian Roose, Kate Mosher, Carrie Vandenberg, Meggie Anderson, Jonathan Clough, Eric Theale, Brady West, Alex Giorgio, Madison Jackson, Einra Baker and Abbi Kalin. The creative team includes: Joshua Goines (music director), Madison Jackson (assistant director); Paige Mulick (choreographer); Dan Maxon (lighting/sound); Brooke Hare (stage manager); Julie Smiy (costumes); and Madi Lee (assistant stage manager).

Tickets, which are \$12-28, are available at the box office the night of the event or at www.dunesARTS.org. The box office and bar open at 6 p.m.

Bourbon & Cigar Event

Fraternal Order of Police Dunes Lodge 75 and Elks Lodge 432 will host "Sip & Smoke," a bourbon and cigar event from 4-8 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 20, at the Elks Lodge, 416 E. U.S. 20.

Only 200 tickets are available for \$40 each. The price includes bourbon tasting tickets, a sip glass, five sip tickets, cutter and matches, live entertainment by The Boogie Men, raffles, food and full bar.

Tickets can be purchased at the FOP clubroom. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to charities. Call (219) 879-4739 for more details.

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“Nature in the Arts” Series

Shirley Heinze Land Trust will present “Nature in the Arts,” free family events aimed at connecting art and nature at SHLT preserves across Northwest Indiana.

SHLT has partnered with arts and community organizations such as Lubeznik Center for the Arts (Michigan City), Tryon Farm (Michigan City), Art Barn School of Art (Valparaiso) and Chesterton Art Center. Events are in-person and virtual (Zoom), and locations include Lydick Bog Nature Preserve (South Bend), Meadowbrook Nature Preserve (Valparaiso) and Ivanhoe South Nature Preserve (Gary). The August schedule is:

- “Nature Collage and Walking Journals” from 9 a.m.-noon Saturday, Aug. 20, at Meadowbrook, 109 W. County Road 700 North. Make an art collage and take a walk in the woods to make a nature journal. The event link is: tinyurl.com/zkkmnu9n
- “Plein Air Painters & DIY Collage” from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. EDT Saturday, Aug. 27, at Lydick Bog Nature Preserve, 25898 U.S. 20. Watch the painters as they draw inspiration from their surroundings. Participants will engage in a mixed media and collage activity led by Art Barn School of Art. The link is tinyurl.com/5n94venw

Visit www.heinzetrust.org/nature-in-the-arts/ for more details.

Oliver Mansion Specialty Tour

South Bend's The History Museum will present “Gaslights & Granite Boulders,” an Oliver Mansion specialty tour, at 4 p.m. EDT Saturday, Aug. 20.

Conducted by Copshaholm Curator Skylar Stasney, the behind-the-scenes tour demonstrates the evolution of the house's technology. Visits to lower levels of the mansion and Carriage House show how light, heat and water made the mansion a comfortable place to live. This year marks the 125th anniversary that J.D. and Anna Oliver and their four children moved into their new home — Copshaholm, as they would later name it. The house has 38 rooms, and all furnishings are original to the home.

Tickets are limited. Admission is \$25, or \$20 for members. Reservations are required by calling (574) 235-9664 or at www.historymuseumSB.org. The museum is located at 808 W. Washington St.



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Michigan City Art League Amid 90th Anniversary Celebration

In celebrating its 90th anniversary, Michigan City Art League has offered numerous opportunities to showcase member works in the area.

Serving local artists since 1932, the group offers affordable art classes, along with opportunities to show work in a variety of venues. Members range from beginning to seasoned artists. Earlier this summer, The Rising Phoenix Art Gallery hosted League artists.

Also this year, the League initiated an "Art Walk" in which local stores and businesses provide space for artists to display and sell work. Fliers will be distributed that list participating locations. Some businesses, such as Swingbelly's, have been providing space for two years.

Through September, The Legacy Center Art Wall at Queen of All Saints Catholic Church is featuring work provided the League.

This year's fall session is at 6:30 p.m. Thursdays starting Sept. 8 in the Queen of All Saints School



Work by Michigan City Art League members on display at The Legacy Center at Queen of All Saints Catholic Church.

cafeteria. Annual membership costs \$25, while each 12 week semester costs \$35.

Email Kadie O'Connor at kd3627@hotmail.com for more details.

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Indiana Dunes National Park

- **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.
- **Biking & Birding from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturdays in August 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.
- **Wonders of Wildlife from 10 a.m.-noon Saturday, Aug. 20, at The Paul H. Douglas Center.** Join a ranger to learn about an animal species native to the Indiana Dunes.
- **"Shifting Sands" Screening from 4-5 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 20, at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.** Watch the film to learn how Indiana Dunes National Park was created.
- **"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.
- **Mount Baldy Sunset Hike from 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.
- **Octave Chanute Aviation Day from 1-2:30 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 21, at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.** Learn about the aviation pioneer who experimented with gliders in the dunes, and contributed to the Wright brothers' success.
- **Miller Woods Hike from 2-4 p.m. Sundays in August at Paul H. Douglas Center.** The ranger-led stroll explores a rare black oak savanna, and offers views of Lake Michigan and Chicago.
- **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.
- **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.

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.



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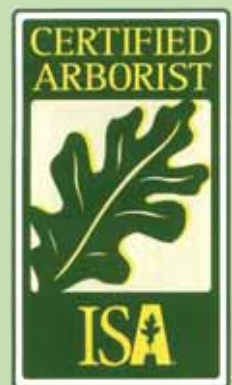
Five Tips for Taking Care of Your Trees

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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LaPorte County Symphony Orchestra will present "Summer Symphony Spectacular!" at 7 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 21, at Friendship Botanic Gardens, 2055 E. U.S. 12.



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Joseph Giuliani



Brandon Williams

LCSO Associate Conductor Chuck Steck will serve as maestro, leading the symphony in a selection of marches, songs from "Sophisticated Ladies" and Andrew Lloyd Webber's "The Phantom of the Opera." Joining them are Joseph and Afyah Giuliani. The brother-sister team won first and second place, respectively, in the 2021 Hoosier Star Youth Division. They will perform their winning selections, as will 2007 Hoosier Star Adult Division Champion Brandon Williams. He will sing "Feelin' Good."

Tickets are \$30 for adults, while children 12 and younger are free. Horizon Bank is the evening's sponsor. Gates open at 6 p.m. Guests can take picnic baskets and wine. No on-site food venues are planned.

Tickets are available on www.lcso.net or www.friendshipbotanicgardens.org

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“Thirteen Lives” Reveals Ron Howard Back in Top Form

by Andrew Tallackson



Divers attempt a precarious rescue of a soccer team and their coach in “Thirteen Lives.”

I thought “The Rescue,” last year’s exhaustive documentary about the 2018 Tham Luang cave rescue, was a remarkable achievement. True, Netflix beat it to the punch, securing the rights to the soccer team’s stories so no one else could, but the way the film recounted the united front to save these kids and their coach paid off. We understood every minute detail so when the miracle of the rescue operation arrived — all 12 children and their coach relatively unscathed — you wept.

Imagine my surprise that I liked “Thirteen Lives” better.

When it was announced Ron Howard intended to direct a film adaptation, I winced. Once Hollywood’s golden boy (“Cocoon,” “Parenthood,” “The Paper”), with an Oscar win for “A Beautiful Mind” (2001), he slipped into a creative rut. With the Thailand cave rescue, a story from our recent past where we all know the outcome, my fear was that Howard would wring every drop of schmaltz out of the material.

Turns out, this is Howard’s best film in two decades. It doesn’t feel like a Hollywood production. “Thirteen Lives” is respectful of the rescue and the people who pulled it off, without trying to juice it up. A story this extraordinary doesn’t need cheap theatrics.

Working from the precise script by William Nicholson (“Shadowlands,” “Gladiator,” the underrated “Everest”), this Amazon Prime release has the same dilemma as “The Rescue” in that it cannot tell the



“Thirteen Lives”

Running time: 147 minutes. Amazon Prime. Rated PG-13
for some strong language and unsettling images.

story from the team’s perspective (dagnabbit, Netflix). However, it presents a general framework for their plight. I recall, at the time of the rescue, fringe groups online posting of how the rescue operation was a waste of time, money and resources, that the soccer team got what they deserved for heading into a cave during monsoon season. Howard’s film, however, opens depicting the team concluding practice as if it’s any other day, opting to squeeze in a trip to the cave before a team member’s evening birthday party. As the rain arrives and the cave floods, the team is trapped deep inside.

Viggo Mortensen, Colin Farrell and Joel Edgerton are the only recognizable faces here, playing divers Richard Stanton, John Volanthen and Richard Harris, respectively. By keeping the star power to a minimum, Howard steers clear of constant reminders that we’re watching a Hollywood recreation. All three actors, Mortensen in particular, don’t play these guys as saints, simply as divers who realize their services can be of help. Mortensen (the “Lord of the Rings” trilogy), in fact, plays Stanton with a British sense of detachment: always the pessimist.

The film's \$55 million budget puts every penny to good use, from recreating the cave and its precarious passages, to the sea of tents with rescue workers and volunteers outside. And especially the underwater scenes, where Howard, like he did with "Apollo 13," maintains an air of tension, even though we know the outcome.

Howard's camera often functions like the silent observer. I worried that, when the scene arrived with Stanton and Volanthe finally reaching the soccer team, Howard would milk it for cheap emotion. Linger on the faces. Amp up Benjamin Wallfisch's score. Nope. The scene is presented so matter of factly, it is like we are there with these people.

Howard and Nicholson also find quietly affecting ways to move us. The soccer coach, fearing inevitable blame by the parents, astounded by letters of support from the parents, brought to them by divers. The parents, erupting into cheers after the team is discovered alive. Those same parents, after every child is rescued, hugging the divers. Diver Chris Jewell (Tom Bateman), consumed with emotion once everything is said and done.

Whatever setbacks have plagued Howard's career over the past 20 years, they are noticeably absent here. The intelligence, the detail, the scope of



The movie is able to recreate some aspects of the team's personal story while trapped in the cave.

"Thirteen Lives" reveals him working at the top of his game. His film is quite the achievement.



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A Day at the Races



The Great Lakes Grand Prix returned with a full slate of events starting Wednesday, Aug. 3, and culminating in the races Sunday, Aug. 7. The event also included food, entertainment and the popular boat parade Saturday, Aug. 6.

All photos by James Conlin

Continued on Page 28

A Day at the Races

Continued from Page 27





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'Prey' is the Best "Predator" Film Since the Original

by Andrew Tallackson



Amber Midthunder redefines the action-movie hero in "Prey," a prequel to the 1987 hit "Predator."

The "Predator" franchise has spent decades trying to capture lightning in a bottle, and it's failed... until now.

The 1987 original, if you recall, did not exactly reinvent the wheel; more, it cobbled together other hits — the studio even touted it as "Rambo" meets "Aliens" — to achieve B-movie cheese on an A-list budget, with Arnold Schwarzenegger doing what he does best: kick as much ass as is humanly possible against an inhuman enemy.

If you want to get technical, "Prey" is "Predator 5," even though it's set long before the events of the first picture. It follows three fingers-crossed-we-get-it-right sequels, plus two lame crossover entries with the "Alien" franchise. The 2018 reboot, which brought back "Predator" costar-turned-director Shane Black ("Iron Man 3") to write and direct, was so useless, the only thing I can recall is that Sterling K. Brown appeared in it.

The good news is, "Prey," streaming on Hulu, reboots the franchise in all the right ways. Everything about it is on point, both as a series tribute and, more importantly, as a logical look back. Strikingly told, with thrilling action, dynamite characters and an emotional weight lacking in other entries, "Prey" may be the best in the series.

The director, and the one who helped conceive the

★ ★ ★^{1/2}

"Prey"

Running time: 99 minutes. Hulu.

Rated R for strong bloody violence.

story, is Dan Trachtenberg, whose "10 Cloverfield Lane" (2016) is, hands down, the most satisfying of the "Cloverfield" monster movies because the characters make the most sense.

And that is what he brings to "Prey."

In the first film, there was brief dialogue suggesting this was not the first time the chameleon-like alien had arrived on Earth, that these things had been around for centuries.

That's the starting point for Trachtenberg and writer Patrick Aison, who set their tale in 1719 Comanche territory. A landscape not yet tainted by European "progress." Where "the hunt," primarily for food, is so intrinsically woven into the fabric of life, introducing a new shadowy hunter is a brilliant move. And in so doing, the film introduces its most prized creation: magnificent young actress Amber Midthunder as Comanche healer Naru, who yearns to be a fighter, a hunter, like her brother, Taabe (Dakota Beavers). Midthunder has done a fair share of television, shows like "Legion" and "Longmire," but

here, it's like watching a star being born. Extremely likable. Smart. Determined, the character a warrior in progress. You root for Midt-hunder from her first scene, all the way to the climactic finish.

It is Naru's persistent desire to join her brother and his friends that they discover something unseen is slaughtering wildlife. They can hear it, in the peripheries, but cannot locate it. Here, Trachtenberg honors franchise trademarks: the alien's heat-seeking vision, that raspy death rattle when close, the trian-

gulated lasers. But by placing this predator within Naru's quest as a warrior, the story takes on the empowering tone of a woman, in a man's world, defining herself on her own terms. And when French voyageurs arrive, complicating matters, her fight is placed within a larger context: This is only the beginning for the land's native tribes.

Trachtenberg's camera moves through the action, zeroes in on characters, with boldness. And Jeff Cutter's brooding cinematography paints a world that is beautiful, ominous and desolate, sometimes all at once.

When members of Naru's tribe fall victim to the predator's violence, the impact is felt among the mothers back at camp. And Naru's final scene, set amid her own people, is powerful, not just because



"Prey" honors the "Predator" franchise while also spinning it in logical directions.

of what preceded it, but because we know what is to come, not by any alien threat, but by the encroachment of foreign settlers.

Two versions of the film are available on Hulu: one with subtitles, the other where Trachtenberg filmed the cast speaking in English to make the story more accessible. I wish I'd known that beforehand, watching the subtitled version instead. The movie does such an expert job honoring Comanche tradition, telling their story through subtitles allows the beauty of the language to earn its rightful place on screen.

Other than that, "Prey" is a triumph for the franchise. I intend on seeing it again.

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Slasher Elements Detract from Otherwise Gutsy “They/Them”

by Andrew Tallackson



Kevin Bacon stars as the owner of a rustic conversion camp in “They/Them.”

“I keep expecting Jason Voorhees to come out of these woods.”

So says a reluctant camper in a scene from “They/Them,” the gutsiest movie yet from Blumhouse (“Get Out,” “BlackKkklansman”). It’s “Boy Erased” meets “Friday the 13th.” A slasher movie where LGBTQ+ teens at a conversion camp discover a masked killer is dispatching the staff one by bloody one.

A bold concept that marks the directorial debut of John Logan, the Oscar-nominated screenwriter behind “Gladiator,” “The Aviator,” “Hugo” and the best Daniel Craig-James Bond film, “Skyfall.” As an LGBTQ+ movie, it puts the earnest, yet earnest failure of “Boy Erased” to shame. Logan’s story has more to say about alienation within the LGBTQ+ community than any other film.

Problem is, the movie, streaming on Peacock, stalls every time it dips into “Friday the 13th” mode, resulting in a clumsy hybrid.

The setting is rustic Camp Whistler, which is designed to strip teens of their LGBTQ+ identities, making them “straight.” A bus with newbies pulls up to find the staff patiently waiting. Directly addressing them is the camp owner, Owen (Kevin Bacon who, if you recall, appeared in the original “Friday the 13th”), who disarms them with no religious talk nor condemnation. In fact, he seems pretty recep-

★ ★ 1/2

“They/Them”

Running time: 104 minutes. Peacock. Rated TV-MA for language, strong sexual content and violence.

tive, asking only that everyone respect each other.

If 2018’s “Boy Erased” treated its conversion-camp teens as empty husks, Logan’s screenplay is the bold opposite. It’s unusually sensitive, affording its characters distinct voices. The young actors, who have an unstudied quality, feel real. Free to voice their insecurities, fears, their longing for acceptance.

And as the campers realize their hosts employ unorthodox techniques to “cure” them, “They/Them” appears headed in the same direction as Jordan Peele’s Oscar-winning “Get Out” (2017), which had more to say about race relations than any pious Oscar bait. Is “They/Them” using horror as a metaphor to convey what mainstream America thinks about the LGBTQ+ community?

It is...but the slasher elements dilute the potency of the message. Rather than have the campers square off against the hosts, Logan infuses shock value for shock value’s sake. Graphic sex and a gory body count. Worse, as a slasher movie, “They/Them”



Theo Germaine (center) stars as a teen who arrives at the camp.

isn't scary. You don't have to be Sherlock Holmes to guess the killer's identity. It's obvious from the start. For a movie that has worked this hard to be unpredictable, it descends into the same predictable trap as most slasher flicks.

What saves it, once we know the killer, is one teen's reaction. Ultimately, "They/Them" is a cry against violence, that it only begets more violence. Only through peace and understanding, the movie says, can we become a better, more tolerant society.

I suspect Blumhouse embraced "They/Them" not just because of the controversial subject matter, but because the horror elements are part of the studio's DNA. Someone, however, should have tipped off Logan that one more rewrite would do his story good. Take a cue from "Get Out." Stick to the horror within the setting.

In other words, send Jason Voorhees packing.

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The Best of Both Worlds

Writing in the July 21 issue of this estimable publication, I made the bold prediction that we would scrap the desktop computer in favor of a manual typewriter.

We were going computer-free. Old school.

Well, guess what?

We aren't such DOWN-MARKET, LOW-INCOME REJECTORS OF ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY after all.

We, and I do mean we, rather enjoy the global reach of our desktop computer. We enjoy streaming movies, and watching alternative news sources from the world over.

And yes, for a change, I am actually writing this on the computer.

I'm taking a break from pounding away on the old Remington Quiet-Riter Eleven and confessing that we're settling on the best of both worlds.

My radical plan, and I do mean radical, of selling off the big, honking iMac occupying acres of our precious desk space in sole favor of the ever-reliable Remington has run aground on the shoals of reality. Not reality TV so much as turning away from the typewriter and quick-reference pertinent facts and figures.

Natalie, for her part, was never enthusiastic about my plan to scrap the computer by the end of 2022. She tried the Remington manual and didn't go for it. Too clunky for her. Plus, she loves nothing better than composing with pen and paper, then transcribing her work into the computer.

Easy peasy, right?

And nothing wrong with writing a column on the typewriter, transposing it to a Word document on the computer, then blasting it off to Drew at *The Beacher* in the blink of an old guy's eye.

And nothing wrong with writing a paragraph or two on the Remington, then keystroking it into the computer.

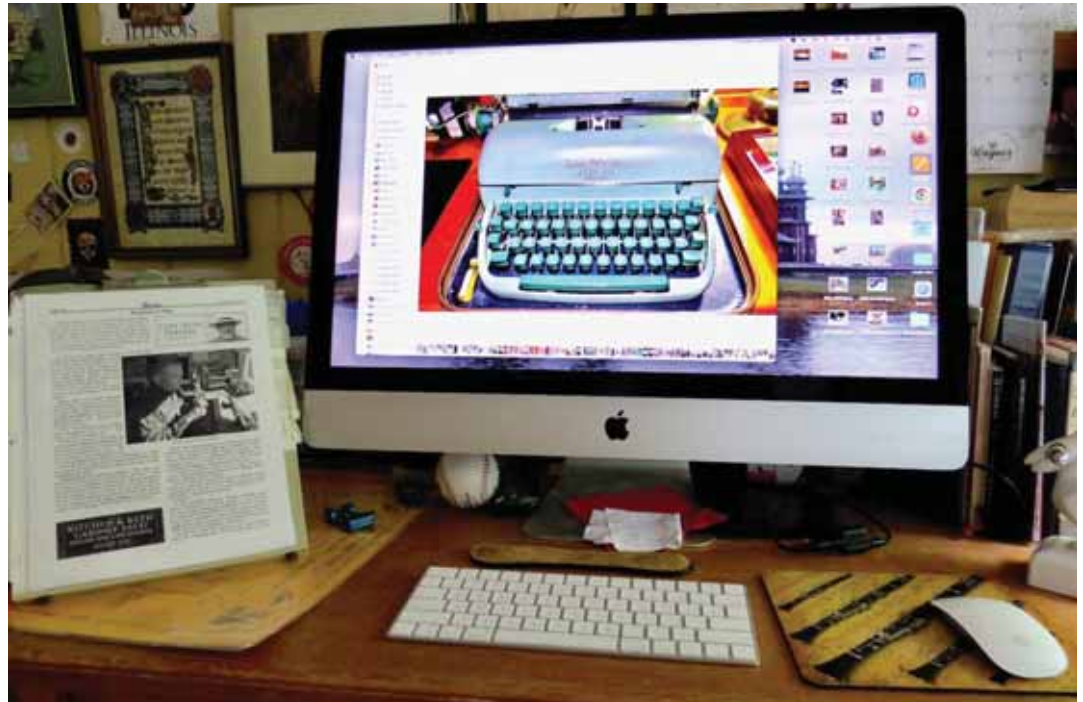
And, speaking of the Remington, I recently wrote my autobiography, appropriately titled Life with Charley, exclusively on the old, manual writing machine. Yes, I wrote more than 150, double-spaced pages on a manual typewriter.

How was it?

Great. Really great. Although, when I started out, I was still addicted to that liquid whiteout stuff.

Life With Charley

Charles McKelvy



You know what I'm talking about here. You have to brush it on, and if you don't wait long enough for it to dry, you get a mess on the next strike.

I was gumming up my typewriter with gunk. The platen was peppered with white spots.

The computer was looking better and better.

But then, we had to file some forms at a medical center and, lo and behold, the agent there made a mistake on a document and whipped out this little gizmo called "Wite-Out Correction Tape." She applied it right over her boo-boo, then wrote the right information right over the Wite-Out Correction Tape.

How cool is that?

Way cool. I ran right out and got a roll before continuing with my big type.

Mistakes were fun with my Wite-Out Correction Tape. Where was that stuff when I was typing the final draft for my senior term paper at Chicago's Morgan Park High School in 1968? Nowhere to be seen, that's for sure. Typing all the way to the end of a page and making a mistake on the last line, then having to type it all over again was no fun.

But thanks to Wite-Out Correction Tape, I have a new freedom in typing.

Not that I wanted my autobiography to be letter perfect. But I wanted it to look clean and crisp. So I wrote on and on and on. All with my Remington Quiet-Riter. My finger muscles had “cuts” by the end: I could have won some serious finger-wrestling contests, I tell you.

So there was that benefit from the world of typewriters.

And from the world of computers came the pictures I added to my book. I have albums full of photographs, and Natalie suggested I print some and include them.

So I did.

She also suggested I transcribe it all into the computer, but I have yet to do so.

Instead, I took the manuscript to Janet Baines at The Beacher Business Printers and asked her to “publish” my book on their big, honking copier. Actually, Natalie took the book to Janet, because I was literally tied up at a blood drive in New Buffalo, Mich. Better I wasn’t there, because those two know all about laying out books.

But I will get the best of both worlds when that book rolls off the press at The Beacher Business Printers. It will be a perfect blend of old and new technology.

Just the way I like it.

Anyway, I stepped back from the bold plan I outlined July 21 with my “Reverting to Type” column.

When I wrote that, I was romancing the good, old days of writing, when the likes of John Updike were pictured happily composing their latest best sellers on manual typewriters.

Why not me, I thought?

Well, I discovered there is so much to be said for the Internet.

Not available on my Remington Quiet-Riter.

But it most certainly is on the big iMac desktop. The world is at my fingertips.

And I know and see that it makes Natalie happy to boot up and fly off around the world.

And there is something to be said for composing on the computer. It’s way past “lights out, campers” down here on Dune Road, and I would keep the early-to-bed-early-to-rise neighbors awake with my persistent pounding on the typewriter as the clock winds down to midnight.

Our Irish landlady in Chicago complained bitterly when I began writing a novel, before work, on a manual typewriter. She had every reason to complain — no one wants to listen to typing in the wee hours.

So I followed Natalie’s lead and learned to compose on a computer. Who knew I could be so teachable at an advanced age?

And now that my age is advancing into the heart of 70-something territory, I am enjoying the best of both worlds with my iMac desktop and Remington Quiet-Riter.

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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:

- **Angels Among Us from 2-3 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 23.** Ange Benz, who leads the discussion, can be contacted at (219) 874-3754.
- **Tinkercad 3-D Modeling from 4-5 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 24, in the Makerspace.** Registration is required for the program that involves Tinkercad, a free online collection of software tools. This session, for children 9-17, serves as an introduction to 3-D design, art and printing. No experience is necessary. All registered participants receive a 3-D print of his/her creations. Register at the Youth Services desk or call (219) 873-3045 for more info. Space is limited. MCPL 3-D printing rules apply.
- **Virtual Dungeons & Dragons from 4-6 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 24.** Youth ages 12-18 can play through Zoom. Stop by Youth Services to pick up

a free player's kit. Miss Dana can teach people how to play. Advance registration is required. Contact Dana in Youth Services at dwolf@mclib.org or (219) 873-3045 for more details.

- **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.)

Garden Hotline

LaPorte County Master Gardeners are available through a free garden hotline to answer questions from 9 a.m.-noon Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays through Sept. 30.

Master Gardeners will answer questions on house plants, landscaping, flowers, fruit trees, vegetables, trees, shrubs, lawns, insects and garden pests. Answers include research-based materials produced by the Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service or other regional land-grant universities.

The phone number is (219) 324-9407. Michigan City-area residents can call (219) 874-5611, Ext. 2010. Ask to speak with a Master Gardener. Questions also can be emailed to lpmastergardener@gmail.com

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Shane Lindeman



TU August 16 • 5-8pm
Kasim Whiting



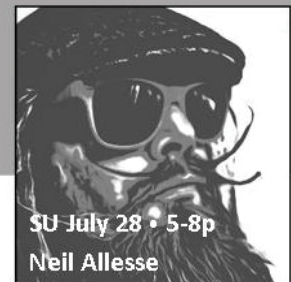
SU August 21 • 6-8p
Nicolas Kazonis "Neek"



SU, August 7 • 3 - 6p
Jim St. James Band



TU August 9 &
TU August 23
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Chris Burch



SU July 28 • 5-8p
Neil Allesse

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More Children Benefit from Boys & Girls Clubs Summer Camp

Boys & Girls Clubs of LaPorte County saw a 65.5 percent increase in the number of children served through its summer camp.

Over the past two months, the program served 149 children. Club members finishing kindergarten through eighth grades experienced activities designed to align with the club's focus on: Academic Success, Character & Citizenship and Healthy Lifestyles.

Program highlights included:

- Field trips to the library, bowling alley, movie theater, Potawatomi Zoo and Luhr County Park.
- Visits to the Marsh Elementary School playground.
- Building/erupting volcanoes during STEM time.
- A club-wide door-decorating contest.
- Weekly theater classes in partnership with Dunes Arts Foundation.



- Regular Career Exploration sessions through the Indiana Kids program.
- A visit from Lenny the Sloth through the "Zoo to You" program.
- Tie-dyeing club shirts.
- Free breakfast, lunch and snacks daily.

Camp culminated with a two-day, end-of-summer celebration featuring water games, a unicorn sprinkler, a giant parachute and a visit from the Kona Ice truck.

Financial support came from Michigan City Community Enrichment Corp., Indiana State Department-21st Century Community Learning Centers, Indiana Department of Education — R.E.A.C.H., Unity Foundation of LaPorte County, GAF (tie-dye sponsor), LaPorte Seamless Gutter (end-of-summer celebration sponsor), Kylee Norman and Lee Ann Killingbeck (Unicorn Sponsors). Additional funds were raised through the 2022 annual campaign.

Pre-registration is open for 2022-2023 after-school programs at five locations in Michigan City, Westville and Kingsford Heights. Visit www.bgclpc.org for more details.



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Public Art Committee

The Michigan City Public Art Committee meets at 10 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 18, in the City Hall Mayor's Conference Room, 100 E. Michigan Blvd.

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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.

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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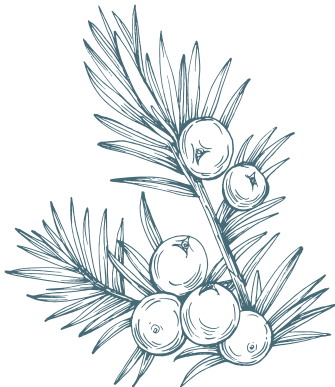


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LBCC Women's Golf Leagues 9-Hole League



Aug. 4, 2022

Event: Regular Golf

A FLIGHT

Low Net — Janet Andreotti, Donna Hennard.

Low Putts — Cindy Levy.

Birdies — Donna Hennard (No. 16)

Sunken Approaches — Pat Kelley (No. 3), Cindy Levy (No. 3).

B FLIGHT

Low Net — Amanda Ferlmann.

Low Putts — June Salmon.

Birdies/Sunken Approaches — Not available.

C FLIGHT

Low Net — Barb Hall.

Low Putts — Catherine Kelly.

Birdies/Sunken Approaches — Not available.

D FLIGHT

Low Net — Regina Bradley.

Low Putts — Regina Bradley.

Birdies/Sunken Approaches — Not available.

Michigan City Municipal Golf Course



North Course

Monday League "Early Birdies"

Aug. 8, 2022

Event: Ringer Tournament Day 1

A Flight

Low Gross: Linda Hirsch.

Low Net: Linda Hirsch, Barb Rumbuc.

Low Putts: Barb Rumbuc, LuAnn Uremovich.

B Flight

Low Gross: Paula Hutchinson.

Low Net: Carol Hullings.

Low Putts: Mary Knaup.

C Flight

Low Gross: Alice Wozniak.

Low Net: Pam Betcher.

Low Putts: Pam Betcher, Alice Wozniak.



Chip-Ins: Jane Shuger, Hole 2.

Birdies: Pat Czizek, Hole 6.

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

- Northwest Health Heart and Vascular Building, 901 Lincolnway, LaPorte, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday, Aug. 19
- Michigan City Fire Training Center, 2510 E. Michigan Blvd., 12:30-5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 24.

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.

Pottawattomie Country Club



Aug. 10, 2022
WGA Guest Day Results

18-Holers

T-1st — Tracey McCorkel, Mary Beres.
T-1st — Eve Minogue, Janet Henderson.

9-Holers

1st — Judee Martin, Bea O'Donnell.

Special Game Winners

18-Holers

Closest to the Pin — Hole 3, Jackie Schiewe.
Closest to the Line — Hole 18, Liz Van Horn.

9-Holers

Closest to the Pin — Hole 3, Judee Martin.
Long Drive — Hole 8, Mary Ward.

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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 programs are planned:

- **Stories & More from 10-10:30 a.m. Friday, Aug. 19.** The socially distanced storytime includes rhymes, music and activities.
- **Virtual Author Talk with Michele Harper (Adults 19+) from 8-9 p.m. Monday, Aug. 22.** Harper will discuss her book The Beauty in Breaking. Registration is required at <https://libraryc.org/laportelibrary/18036>

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, including programming through the Exchange building.

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A Notice to Our Readers

The Beacher's office hours are:

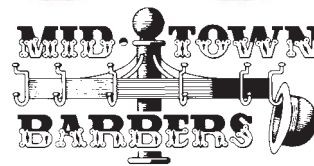
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In the Area

Aug. 18 — Michigan City Municipal Band, 7:30 p.m., Washington Park's Guy F. Foreman Bicentennial Amphitheater.

Aug. 18 — Arts in the Park, LaPorte's Fox Park. Indika Reggae/7 p.m.; preconcert: LaPorte High School marching band/6 p.m. **Aug. 17:** LaPorte City Band/7 p.m. Info: contact@artsintheparklaporte.com

Aug. 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. 20 — "Sip & Smoke," 4-8 p.m., Fraternal Order of Police Dunes Lodge 75/Elks Lodge 432, 416 E. U.S. 20. Tickets: \$40. Info: (219) 879-4739.

Aug. 20-21 — Lubeznik Arts Festival, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St. Saturday admission: \$5, free/LCA members, children 16 & younger, active military-veterans. Sunday admission: free. Info: (219) 874-4900, www.LubeznikCenter.org

Aug. 21 — LaPorte County Symphony Orchestra, "Summer Symphony Spectacular!," 7 p.m., Friendship Botanic Gardens, 2055 E. U.S. 12. Tickets: \$30/adults, 12 & younger/free. Reservations: www.lcso.net, www.friendshipbotanicgardens.org

Aug. 22 — Virtual Author Talk with Michele Harper (Adults 19+), 8-9 p.m., through LaPorte County Public Library. Reservation: <https://libraryc.org/laportelibrary/18036>

Aug. 23 — Angels Among Us, 2-3 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

Aug. 23 — Family Fishing Nights, 5-7:30 p.m., Luhr County Park pond, 178 S. County Road 150 West, LaPorte. Reservations/info: (219) 325-8315, www.laportecountyparks.org

Aug. 24 — Tinkercad 3-D Modeling, 4-5 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Registration: Youth Services desk, (219) 873-3045.

Aug. 24 — Virtual Dungeons & Dragons, 4-6 p.m., through Michigan City Public Library. Registration: dwolf@mclib.org, (219) 873-3045.

Aug. 24 — "Violet," 7 p.m., Dunes Summer Theatre, 288 Shady Oak Drive, Michiana Shores. Tickets (\$12-28): www.dunesARTS.org, @ box office.

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/Bufalo).

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. 18 — Second Hand News: A Tribute to Fleetwood Mac, 8 p.m. EDT, The Acorn, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: general/\$25, reserved/\$50. Reservations: www.acornlive.org

Aug. 19 — Lil' Ed & The Blues Imperials, 8 p.m. EDT, The Acorn, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: general/\$25, reserved/\$50. Reservations: www.acornlive.org

Aug. 20 — Shirley Heinze Land Trust "Nature in the Arts" series ("Nature Collage and Walking Journals"), 9 a.m.-noon, Meadowbrook, 109 W. County Road 700 North. Link: tinyurl.com/zkkmn9n

Aug. 20 — Wonders of Wildlife, 10 a.m.-noon, The Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education, 100 N. Lake St., Gary's Miller Beach neighborhood. Info: www.nps.gov/indu, (219) 395-1882.

Aug. 20 — "Gaslights & Granite Boulders" tour, 4 p.m. EDT, South Bend's The History Museum, 808 W. Washington St. Admission: \$25, \$20/members. Reservations: www.historymuseumSB.org, (574) 235-9664.

Aug. 20 — "Shifting Sands" Screening, 4-5 p.m., Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. Info: www.nps.gov/indu, (219) 395-1882.

Aug. 20 — The Common Concert Series, 7-9 p.m. EDT, Buchanan, Mich. Entertainment: Aug. 20: Best of Acorn Open Mic Night. Info: The Common-Buchanan, MI (Facebook).

Aug. 21 — Octave Chanute Aviation Day, 1-2:30 p.m., Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. Info: www.nps.gov/indu, (219) 395-1882.

Aug. 23 — 20th anniversary celebration (Richard Hunt sculpture "And You, Seas"), 5 p.m.-sunset EDT, Silver Beach County Park's Shadowland Pavilion. Info: (269) 983-0271, www.krasl.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 Bower," 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. 18: Brandon LePage & Rachel Miller. Info: www.smso.org

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 — Biking & Birding, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., West Beach, 376 N. County Line Road, Gary. 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 — "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.

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

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.

Vickers Theatre — *Now Showing*: "Mrs. Harris Goes to Paris." Rated PG. Times: 6 p.m. Aug. 18, 3 p.m. Aug. 19, 3 & 8:30 p.m. Aug. 20, 3 p.m. Aug. 21, 6 p.m. Aug. 22. *Also*: "Marcel the Shell With Shoes On." Rated PG. Times: 6 p.m. Aug. 19-21, 3:15 p.m. Aug. 22. *Also*: Paintings by Annie Hickman through late August. Theater address: 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. Info: www.vickerstheatre.com, (269) 756-3522.




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Call for Entries

The Midwest Museum of American Art, 429 S.
Main St., Elkhart, has issued a "call for entries" for
the 44th Elkhart Juried Regional Art Exhibition
that runs Sept. 6-17.

Entrants may submit one original work in any
media for \$25, or \$40 for two. All works must be
created within the last two years, not completed un-
der instruction and not previously exhibited at the
museum or any area event. A prospectus and entry
form are available at tinyurl.com/2f66vzbd



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.

Breathless by Amy McCulloch (hardcover, \$28 retail in bookstores and online; also available as an eBook and an audiobook. 337 pages.)

"The lamas sent up their prayers...As incense and juniper fumes from the small ceremonial fire reached her nostrils she felt transported up to the summit itself. This was what they were praying to. Not to God, but to the mountain asking permission to climb her, to crawl on her shoulder just for a few weeks — a mere blip on her life span."

If the heat's getting to you, here's a way to cool off: a "hike" up the world's eighth tallest frozen monument — the Nepalese peak Manaslu. Although the mountain exists, the story is pure fiction, but with a twist: there is plenty of information about climbing the world's highest peaks, the equipment, the weather, the Sherpa guides and more.

That, in itself, is interesting enough, but for the fiction part, McCulloch has added a murder mystery to the mix. Murder at 26,000+ feet? Gives new meaning to "cold-blooded murder"...

First, meet Cecily Wong, a British journalist with *Wild Outdoors* magazine. She receives the chance of a lifetime to make a name for herself in the world of outdoor adventure writing. Her soon-to-be-gone boyfriend, James, also is an outdoor adventure writer and can't believe she got the assignment instead of him. Oh, well...

Cecily's assignment is an interview with Charles McVeigh, the world's greatest mountain climber. His current mission is to climb the 14 mountains higher than 8,000 meters, but without use of ropes and oxygen — and all within one year.

He agrees to the interview, but only if Cecily goes with him on his latest climb up Manaslu and actually reaches the summit with him. Good thing Cecily is in great physical shape and has climbed many mountains herself, although none as high as Manaslu. She considers the offer an exciting challenge to her own talents, as well as a big advancement to her writing career.

However, Cecily has another reason for wanting this opportunity. *"...her deep and abiding sense of failure — that she'd failed to summit Kilimanjaro, failed to complete the three peaks Challenge, failed to save a woman's life."*

The last failure was a terrible accident, but in her mind, she was at fault.

And who wouldn't want a chance to spend time

Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter



with mountain climbing's golden boy? He's tall, blond, handsome, muscular, a great speaker and also known for a daring rescue during one of his 14 summits. Two Italian brothers were stranded, and Charles fought dropping temperatures and thin air to bring them down to the next camp to be airlifted out. Even though one of them died, Charles was hailed as a hero for his superhuman effort. And that was only the beginning of other rescues that cemented him as a media darling.

Cecily eagerly makes a list, spends all her savings on the best alpine climbing equipment and leaves England, and James, behind to face the greatest adventure of her young life. From this point on, things happen that are out of her hands...

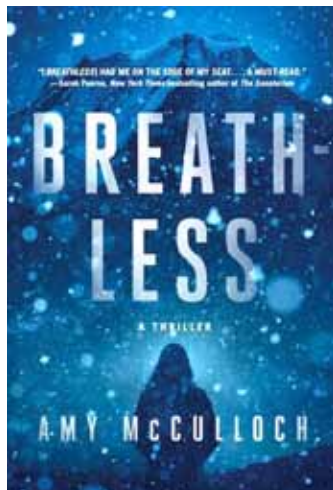
Cecily's adventure begins in Kathmandu, Nepal, where she meets up with her expedition buddies, led by Doug Manners and head guide Mingma Lakpa Sherpa. Doug also is a media legend: five Everest climbs, plus numerous others on mountains around the world. Zak is CEO of TalkForward, financing the trip for Charles and wanting to try out new mountaineering equipment his company is producing. Then, there is Elise Gauthier, a French-Canadian "influencer and mountaineer" popular on social media. Alain is climbing to honor his friend, Pierre, who died on the mountain recently, while Grant, another Brit, is there to film and photograph every step along the way.

Time is spent acclimatizing at a low camp before attempting to reach the top of Manaslu. If you're interested in mountaineering, there's a lot of information about getting ready for the ascent. Things start to happen almost immediately, as Alain is found dead in a nearby lake. It's ruled an accident, and the climb progresses. There will be more "accidents" — two to be exact...or is it three? Is this climb cursed? Cecily is sure someone is stalking her, but everyone thinks she is suffering from the thin air. Suspense mounts as the temperature plummets and the question now becomes a matter of survival — from both man and mountain.

McCulloch actually started her mountain climbing in 2018 on Mount Toubkal in Morocco, and subsequent climbs gave her the impetus to climb Manaslu, giving her the unique perspective of experiencing the uneven terrain, the crevasses, extreme cold and lack of oxygen at those high altitudes. The unforgiving mountain gave her a perfect place for a murder mystery incorporating all she experienced.

The final word: adventure aplenty, obscenities not so much.

Till next time, happy reading!





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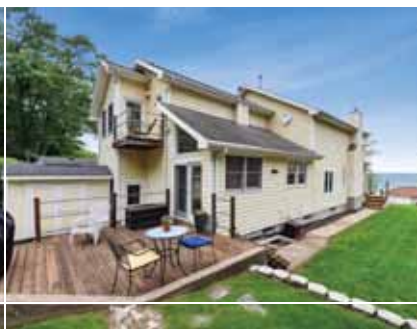
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