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# Behind the Scenes

by Edmund Lawler

Raised in Essexville, Mich. — population 3,478 — Steve Adelman must have felt like Alice tumbling down a rabbit hole into a Wonderland of bizarre adventures as he came to direct the glitter, glamour and decadence of New York City's leading nightclubs in the 1990s.

At one point, Adelman led four of the Big Apple's best-known nightclubs — all at once. New York's notorious Studio 54 was long gone by the '90s, but the party-hearty, celebrity-obsessed culture lived on in clubs such as Limelight, Tunnel and Palladium.

Yet, the small-town boy says he was never overwhelmed by the hustle and all-night pressure of orchestrating mammoth dance parties at the city's hotspots. It could be that at 6 feet, 4 inches, he usually was the tallest guy in the room.

But Adelman says he managed to keep his bearings amid the fast times thanks to a solid upbringing by his parents, Mel and Mary Adelman, whom he described as open-



Steve Adelman is photographed at the Spider Club, part of Avalon in Los Angeles. Reproduced with permission from Adelman's book, Nocturnal Admissions.

minded and liberal.

think being from a small town and the way I was raised actually helped me in that role," Adelman said as he sipped an iced coffee at David's Delicatessen & Coffee in New Buffalo. "I saw people for who they were. I didn't know black, white, gay, straight. I told myself, These people are OK. They just want to have fun."

Now 59, Adelman laughs at how naïve he was when he rolled into New York City in his late 20s to manage night-clubs.

"For example, I'm hiring a dancer, and she comes up to me. I didn't even realize the dancer was a man. I couldn't even tell the difference between a drag queen and a man," he says. "That's how oblivious I was at the time. But I couldn't care less."

Adelman captures his extraordinary experiences as a 30-year international nightclub impresario in his just-released book Nocturnal Admissions: Behind the Scenes at Tunnel, Limelight,



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<u>Avalon and Other Legendary Nightclubs</u>. Published by Santa Monica Press, the book is available on amazon.com

In the book, Adelman makes the case that there's nothing trivial about nightlife: "Nightlife is critical to our well-being, a transcendent gathering place where people can become whomever they like; a world within itself where we are unbound by the restrictions and limits set forth by daytime responsibilities, income level, sexual orientation, race or political beliefs. It has always filled the universal need for the ultimate escape, a place to forget your worries, fears and problems while bonding with others, if only for a few short hours."

Much of the book was written in 2020 and 2021 in New Buffalo Township Library. Adelman and his wife, Michele, have a second home in Union Pier.

"It's beautiful here," he says.
"I love the whole area, and
Lake Michigan is stunning. It's
much nicer than the Pacific. It's
warmer, at least in the summer. And no salt, no sharks. We
also like all the entertainment,
dining and food options here.
We had our wedding at Granor
Farm in Three Oaks."

Adelman was first introduced to Southwest Michigan as a student at Kalamazoo College, where he majored in economics and English. He went to graduate school at Boston College to pursue a doctorate in econom-

ics, and taught statistics classes to undergraduates. He dropped out of the doctoral program, but earned enough credits for a master's degree, which he parlayed into a job at a prestigious Boston consulting firm.

The gig didn't engage him, however, and he resigned after only six months. A chance meeting shortly afterward with an investor in a soon-to-be opened nightclub in downtown Boston led to a free-lance assignment to review its finances.

Little did Adelman know, the short-term assign-

ment to crunch some numbers was the beginning of a three-decade career in the nightclub industry. Adelman seized the moment and made himself indispensable at the club by analyzing liquor sales, planning events and promoting activities.

Working at the Boston nightclub rekindled a childhood dream of becoming the next Ricky Ricardo, the nightclub king played by Desi Arnaz in the popular 1950s sitcom "I Love Lucy."

"What attracted me to the reruns of the show was the Ricky Ricardo character," Adelman says. "He was this singer, musician, bandleader and owner of the Tropicana Club. He was creative and entrepreneurial. I wanted to be like him."

But Adelman's first shot at orchestrating an epic nightclub event ala Ricky Ricardo was a bust. He

created a themed party based on the 1978 cult film "Attack of the Killer Tomatoes." He inflated 50 oversized red beach balls to resemble tomatoes and tossed them from the balcony to the blaring tune of the movie's theme song.

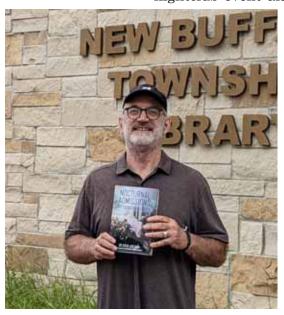
The crowd didn't buy into all the shtick.

Fortunately, the next month's themed party— "The Seven Deadly Sins" — resonated with clubgoers. The event was hosted by a young drag queen named RuPaul, who's now the host of the long-running TV series "RuPaul's Drag Race."

RuPaul was so impressed with Adelman's choreographing of the event, he recommended Adelman to the owner of the

Roxy nightclub in New York City. Despite having only five months experience at the Boston nightclub, Adelman was named director of the Roxy, New York's largest nightclub.

Ravenously curious and a keen observer, Adelman learned all the machinations to running a club where patrons eagerly line up around the block to be admitted beyond the velvet ropes for a night of drinking, dancing and gawking at celebrities. Two years later, Adelman moved on to lead the iconic Limelight. The club's portfolio was expanded to in-



Steve Adelman is photographed by *The Beacher's* Edmund Lawler outside New Buffalo Township Library, where he wrote much of his book.

clude three more top nightclubs — all under Adelman's direction.

He learned to wear many hats: ringmaster, entrepreneur, guidance counselor, even musical soothsayer as he envisioned the beat that would keep patrons dancing beneath the strobing lights of his clubs until 4 a.m. It wasn't rock, it wasn't disco, it was electronic dance music, or EDM, a style of percussive, deejay-driven electronic music that took hold in clubs, rayes and festivals.

"I helped create a monster," Adelman said of the heart-pounding, synthesized sound.

In 1998, Adelman seemingly took a career step backward by leaving the nocturnal madness of New York City to return to the relative calm of Boston. But it was the beginning of a new phase of his career in which he wasn't just a club director, but also an owner or co-owner.

Along with night club entrepreneur John Lyons, Adelman not only directed but owned a club called Avalon that became wildly popular. As Adelman points out, Boston has something New York doesn't: the world's largest per-capita student population, with more than 100 colleges and universities in the metro area.



Steve and Grandma Adelman at the Tribeca Grill while visiting him in New York City. Her dancing stole the show later that night at Limelight. Reproduced with permission from Adelman's book, Nocturnal Admissions.

College kids love a party, and Adelman had one waiting one for them nearly every night of the week. If they weren't gyrating to electronic dance music, they were rockin' to live sold-out shows featuring Green Day or Iggy Pop.

Adelman and partners continued to expand the Avalon brand in the 21st century to Hollywood, New York City and in 2011, Singapore. The Avalon at the Marina Bay Casino became the largest nightclub in Asia. Adelman was no absentee landlord in Singapore. He lived there nearly five years before returning to the states to buy into a nightclub along Memphis's famed Beale Street, home of the blues.

Adelman's long, strange trip ranged from the



# Behind the Scenes Continued from Page 3

ridiculous to the sublime. From the ridiculous file was his encounter with Bob Dylan, who performed one night at the Avalon in Boston.

On the afternoon of the show, Adelman explained he was walking up a back stairwell of the Avalon to his office. Coming in the other direction was the mercurial singer-songwriter heading to a specially appointed dressing room in the club that was accessible through the same stairwell.

Adelman, who was accustomed to seeing celebrities, glanced at Dylan, but otherwise did not engage the star. Or so he thought. A short while later, Adelman's assistant rushed into his office to say that Dylan was refusing to perform that evening because he was rattled by a "run-in" he had with someone who fit Adelman's description.

Dumbfounded, Adelman instructed his club's production manager to speak to Dylan's tour manager to resolve the issue. They worked out a deal. Dylan would perform if Adelman left the building. So the club owner departed for the rest of the day, and the show went on.

But for every prima donna and the absurd requests and behaviors, there were just as many celebrities whose company Adelman enjoyed when they were partying or performing at one of his clubs. They include Madonna, who hails from Bay City, Mich., immediately adjacent to Essexville near the base of Saginaw Bay on Lake Huron. Madonna Louise Ciccone and Adelman always had plenty to talk about. Another favorite was Mick Jagger: "A genuinely nice guy."

Celebrities, for better or for worse, are a necessity in the nightclub business, according to Adelman.

"People like connecting with and being with celebrities," he said. "In places like New York and Hollywood especially, there is the illusion that you could potentially meet a star in a nightclub. That was a big deal."



The crowd gathers outside at the opening of Avalon in New York City. Reproduced with permission from Adelman's book, Nocturnal Admissions.

Owning and managing nightclubs has so many unimaginable twists and turns, Adelman says reflectively. For example, he never thought he'd spend a night in jail.

But that's where he ended up one night in Memphis arising from a business dispute with a local concert producer with a shady reputation who accused Adelman of bouncing a \$19,000 check written to him.

Adelman was released the next morning after detectives learned more about the alleged fraud, determined the promoter was properly compensated. The charges were dropped.

Adelman is no longer actively involved in running nightclubs and bearing up to the late-night grind.

"I don't know if my energy is still there to go back into the straight-up concert-night club business," he says. "But I am working on something new as nightlife is going to be changing."

Adelman would only say that he is developing a new concept that combines elements of online retail shopping, dining and live music.

And he's working on a second book. It's about the improbable rise of superstar EDM deejays like Tiesto and Zedd, who can sometimes command \$1 million paydays for a two-hour performance. In the not-too-distant past, Adelman says superstar deejays were making \$500 a night.

"I like to say that I'm a writer who got sidetracked in nightlife for 30 years," he says.



The press opening of Avalon Singapore. Adelman is fourth from the left. Reproduced with permission from Adelman's book, Nocturnal Admis



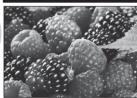




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"Where the Crawdads Sing" inches oh so close to perfection. What's good about it is *so* good, you nearly forgive what it bungles.

Who could have predicted, back in 2018, that Delia Owens' debut would strike gold. Topping *The New York Times* Fiction Best Seller list for 32 nonconsecutive weeks. That isn't a hit. That is a literary monster. Owens may have cobbled together elements of "To Kill a Mockingbird" and "Fried Green Tomatoes," but she did so in a way that took on a life of its own. A richly detailed exploration of marsh life in North Carolina, balanced by a murder trial that saves its best twist for last.

This hardworking adaptation, directed by Olivia Newman (Netflix's "First March") and scripted by Lucy Alibar, who knows her way around a marsh or two ("Beasts of the Southern Wild," Amazon Prime's hidden gem "Troop Zero"), is exceedingly faithful. It's lushly photographed by cinematographer Polly Morgan ("A Quiet Place: Part II"). Daisy Edgar-Jones as Kya and Taylor John Smith as Tate give the movie their all.

Every key element is present. In 1969, Kya, better known in town as the Marsh Girl, is accused of murdering local quarterback Chase Andrews, the rumor mill suggesting she's a vengeful ex-lover. Through flashbacks, we see how Kya was left to her own devices, first by a mother fed up with abuse at home. Then, her equally exhausted siblings. Then, her father.

Now, there is no way any movie can sneak in every single detail from a book. It's impossible. And, true, it would have been nice to have expanded scenes with the kindly black couple (Sterling Macer Jr. and Michael Hyatt) who in essence become her surrogate parents. But the movie does a good job of revealing how Kya, as a child, disappears into the natural world, learning how to adapt and survive. She befriends a young boy, Tate, who as a teen teaches her to read. They fall in love, but he abandons her, choosing college and work over her.

## $\star\star\star$

# "Where the Crawdads Sing"

Running time: 125 minutes. Rated PG-13 for sexual content and some violence, including a sexual assault.

Edgar-Jones, who is British, does a remarkable job appropriating a North Carolina accent. Better yet, she beautifully captures Kya's fight or flight instincts. Her inability to trust, to welcome others into her life. And Smith, as Tate, achieves something rare on film: genuine kindness. A gentle heart.

Flub No. 1, though, arrives when the story introduces Chase Andrews, the man Kya eventually is accused of killing. He's played by British actor Harris Dickinson ("The King's Man"), and he's, well, a stiff. His voice a dull monotone. Like, a good day on the set for him was remembering all his dialogue. He is such a dullard, the element of danger so electric on the page is missing on film. The midsection drags, where it begins to resemble a Nicholas Sparks movie.

We could do without all the legal theatrics (*way* too many oohs and ahhs from the courtroom crowd), but the murder trial affords Edgar-Jones, and the great David Strathairn as her attorney, a chance to strut their stuff. They give the last act the same potency as the novel.

The finale of "Where the Crawdads Sings" brings everything full circle, where the surprise ending weaves a feminist spin on the laws of nature. Both the novel and film arrive at the same point, but Owens took you back to that fateful night to reveal what happened. The movie does not. By omitting that crucial scene, the climax lacks the extra push to consume you.

I liked "Where the Crawdads Sing." Admired its devotion to the book. Is it the definitive adaptation? No. Close, though.

Contact Andrew Tallackson at drew@thebeacher.com





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# The Voices in "A Grand Night for Singing" Will Wow You

by Andrew Tallackson



"A Grand Night for Singing" uses a nightclub setting to explore themes of love within the works of Rodgers & Hammerstein. Photo by Andrew Tallackson

Grand, indeed.

Dunes Summer Theatre's latest, the Rodgers & Hammerstein revue "A Grand Night for Singing," amounts to roughly 90 minutes of insanely talented performers delivering Broadway caliber vocals. Five individuals whose combined talents fill a theater with a richer sound than most ensemble-heavy productions. There are moments, especially during "Some Enchanted Evening," when you close your eyes...and it sounds like a studio recording.

Musical revues, by their very nature, are flimsy excuses to capitalize on earlier successes. A catalog of beloved Broadway treasures strung together by the faintest whiff of a plot, if any. "A Grand Night for Singing" is no exception, but it take an intriguing approach. It mines the Rodgers & Hammerstein library for choice pieces centered on love, then places the cast in a nightclub setting where the songs exist as nostalgia or are reinvented in new contexts. And

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the fluid nature with which director Lauren Katz keeps the songs moving — the show rarely takes any pauses — you witness people amid the highs and defeats of looking for love.

Singling out any particular performer seems unfair. Max DeTogne, Garrett Gagnon, Sierra Jimenez, Danielle Kerr and Maya Pierce deliver stirring renditions of selections from productions like "Carousel," "State Fair," "Oklahoma," "The King and I," "South Pacific" and "Cinderella." "Some Enchanted Evening," in particular, from "South Pacific" is the most impressive, the harmonies bordering on perfection. Another "South Pacific" gem, "Honey Bun," takes on the flavor of a big band radio broadcast, while the intentionally awkward choreography amid "Shall We Dance?" scores big laughs.

"All at Once You Love Her" from "Pipe Dreams" is a lesser-known selection, but deserves reconsideration as a classic. Ditto "Love, Look Away" from "Flower Drum Song." By the end, when the cast marvelously brings the show to a close with "I Have Dreamed" from "The King and I," you are struck by how these songs exist from a whole different era. How melodic and witty they are compared to the autotune wasteland that is today's Top 40.

"A Grand Night for Singing" is pure delight.

Contact Andrew Tallackson at drew@thebeacher.com

(See Activities on Page 46 for show times, dates
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The free festival explores American music through tunes spanning blues, bluegrass, jazz and big band. The lineup is (all times Eastern):

- Noon: The Guitar Blues Project. Ron Spears will perform oldtimey guitar blues from early to mid-20th century.
- 1 p.m.: The Martha Cares Trio. Cares, accompanied by Garth Taylor on guitar and Daniel Rodriguez on bass, will perform "Love: Past, Present and Almost," love songs from the 1920s to the present.
- 2 p.m.: The Ben Benedict Bluegrass Quartet.
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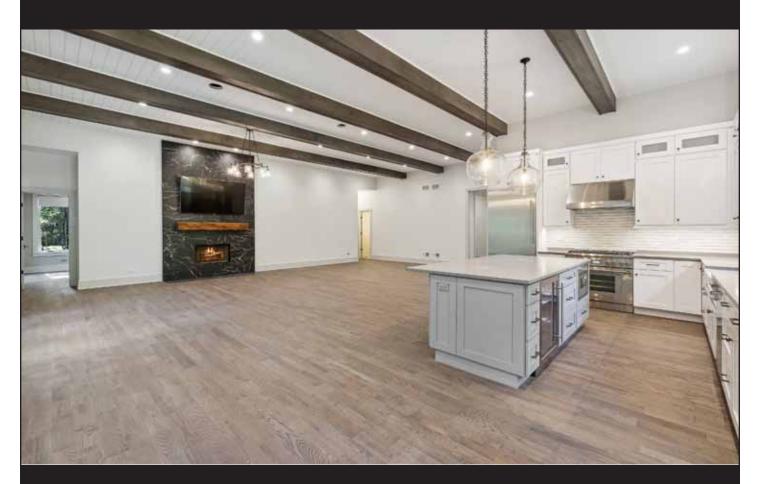
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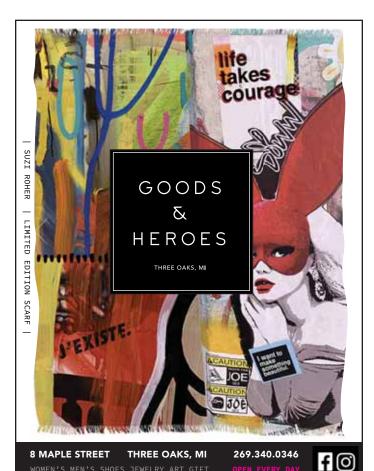
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With book by Dennis Kelly and original songs by Tim Minchin, the show centers on a young girl with magical powers who ends up at a school with a mean headmistress, but a loving teacher.

Performances are at 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, July 22-23 and 29-30, and 2 p.m. Sunday, June 24 and 31. Tickets are \$17 for adults, \$16 for seniors and \$13 for students.

Visit www.laportelittletheatreclub.com for reservations or more details.

#### **Annual Old Car Show**

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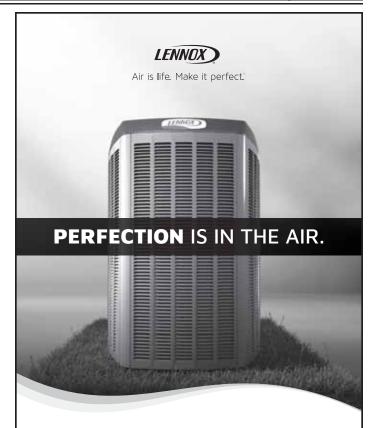
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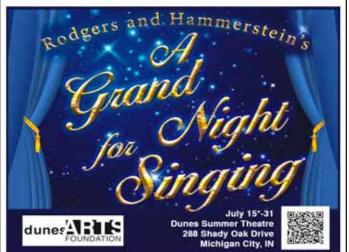


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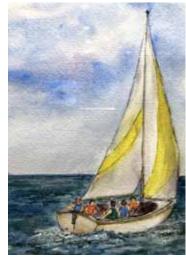
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## **Legacy Center Gallery**

Work by Michigan City Art League members are on display through Sept. 30 at Queen of All Saints

Catholic Church's Legacy Center, 1719 E. Barker Ave.

The Art League is in its 90th year of offering art classes. With 12 artists featured at the Legacy Center, works may change as they are sold. Featured artists include: Bill Cavalier; Kris Cook; Bunny Dimke: Sam Feare: Susan Hughes: Julie Kasniunas; Cathy Kissinger; Kadie O'Connor; Linda Pinkepank; Sandi Terry; Betty Thomas;



Bunny Dimke's "Sailing Lesson."

and Wendy Wilcox Kermen.

Legacy Center hours are 6 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 6 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday-Saturday and 6 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday. Visitors should enter through the doors off Esther Street.

Email Art League President Kadie O'Connor at kd3627@hotmail.com for more detail.



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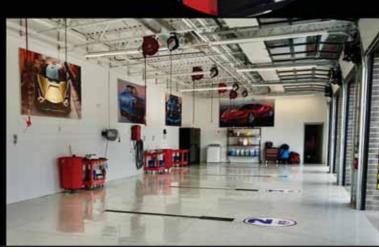
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# **Society of Innovators Awards**

The Society of Innovators at Purdue Northwest has opened nominations for the 2022 Innovators Awards through Sept. 9.

In addition to inducting individual and team honorees, three awards will be considered: Richard C. Sussman Prize for Team Innovation; Society of Innovators Fellows; and the John H. Davies Lifetime Achievement Award.

Now in its 18th year, the Society honors innovators from across Northwest Indiana's seven-county region. Nominated through an online application, they are selected through a rigorous process by regional leaders who form a selection committee chosen by the Society's board of directors and based on established criteria.

Applications are open to all innovators, regardless of discipline, industry or background. Third-party nominations and self-applications are welcome. More information can be found at pnw.edu/innovators-awards or by emailing Jason Williams at jawilliams@pnw.edu.

The annual Society of Innovators Awards Luncheon is Nov. 17 at Avalon Manor Banquet Center, 3550 E. Lincoln Highway, Merrillville. Sponsorships are available. Contact societyofinnovators@pnw.edu for more details.

# The Blessing of Vehicles

In celebration of the Solemnity of the Feast Day of St. Christopher, the Blessing of Vehicles is Sunday, July 24, at Our Lady of Czestochowa Shrine (Salvatorian Fathers Monastery), 5755 Pennsylvania St., Merrillville, Ind.

The blessings are after all Holy Masses at 9 a.m. (English), 10:30 a.m. (Polish) and noon. Call (219) 884-0714 for more information.











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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:

- Summer Reading Weekly Events: Family Movie & Craft at 10 a.m. Thursday, July 21. The screening is "Moana," which is Rated PG.
- MCPL Podcast Episode Release at 9 a.m. Friday, July 22. "Discussions with Miss Dana" includes new releases and interviews with librarians. Listen on Buzzsprout or through www. mclib.org/podcast.
- Movies in Washington Park: "Space Jam: A New Legacy" at dusk Friday, July 22, at North Pointe Pavilion. Rated PG, the movie has a run time of 1 hour, 55 minutes. The screening is free; however, normal parking charges apply. The program is sponsored by the library and Michigan City Parks and Recreation Department.
- Needle Arts Club from 5:30-7 p.m. Mondays in July. Membership to the group, formerly

- known as the Knit Club, 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.
- Makerspace: open lab hours from 3:30-5 p.m. Tuesdays in July. 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.
- Virtual Story Time with Take-Home Craft. A new storytime video is posted at 10 a.m. Wednesdays on the library website and YouTube channel at www.mclib.org/parents/story-time/ Visit Youth Services to get the craft! The program is aimed at children through age 5. Contact the Youth Services department at (219) 873-3045 for more details.

Two new services are available:

- ComicsPlus offers unlimited access to thousands of digital comics, graphic novels and manga.
   Popular titles include <u>Avatar</u>: The <u>Last Airbender</u>
   <u>& The Legend of Korra</u>, <u>Big Nate</u>, <u>Bone</u>, <u>Disney Princesses</u>, <u>Geronimo Stilton</u>, <u>Stranger Things</u>, <u>Locke & Key</u> and <u>American Gods</u>. 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)

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# MCAS Employee's Love for Her Job Earns Notice from the State

by Kim Nowatzke

Dori Wiegand loves her job as a food-service technician at Knapp Elementary School, so being recognized as a nominee for Indiana Department of Education School Food Service Employee of the Year is the icing on the cake.

"I love it there," she says. "Everybody is amazing. We all work together. It feels like home. We're a team."

Part of that team is Principal Holly Martinez, who Wiegand has known since she was a baby.

"I was so tickled to find out that she was there," Wiegand shared.

Martinez thinks highly of Wiegand as well.

"When we saw that the Department of Education was looking to honor Food Services employees, staff rallied together nominate Dori," she said. "Dori heads our food services/cafeteria at Knapp and always does so with a smile on her face. She's incredibly flexible, caring and always looking out for the best interest of all students at Knapp."

Wiegand is responsible for the breakfast, lunch and snack program for more than 500 students; only one other MCAS elementary school feeds more children.

"Many meals go in and out," MCAS Food Service Supervisor Nicole Santana explained.

Wiegand's job duties also include prepping, cooking and ordering food, as well as supervising two other part-time employees. In addition, she coordinates the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program, where students can try a new fresh fruit or vegetable each week. This program was available at Knapp and five other MCAS elementary schools for the 2021-2022 school year.

Santana said Wiegand especially stepped up during COVID-19 by preparing and packaging meals. In fact, during the 2020-2021 school year, she didn't miss a single day of work.

"It was during the really hard-hitting part of CO-VID," Santana said. "She's so valuable. I can always count on Dori."

Wiegand readily volunteers to walk in local parades and pass out candy at MCAS Halloween events – all while dressed in a fruit or vegetable costume. She's also a regular at the annual MCAS Back to School Rally.

"She's excited to do so – dressing up, walking, greeting the kids," Santana added. "Everybody

knows 'Miss Dori.' Just walking with her in the last parade, I saw this."

Wiegand has worked for MCAS since 1999 and at Knapp for the last seven years. Over the years, she has worked at Michigan City High School, Edgewood Elementary School and St. Stanislaus School (as MCAS provided meals there), and filled in as a substitute in the food service department in many others. In the 1990s, she worked for the Safe Harbor afterschool program for nine years.

For several years, Wiegand has served as treasurer for the Michigan City Classified Association, the union for MCAS food service and transportation personnel. In an *NEA Today* article on Jan. 2, 2021, she explained how, during the pandemic when schools were shut down March 13, the food service department had to act quickly to get a program in place to distribute meals to area students

program in place to distribute meals to area student before the summer meal program started in June.

"We pack breakfasts and lunches for five day

"We pack breakfasts and lunches for five days and freeze the packages," she explained. "Then we distribute the packages during two pickup times on Mondays so the adults don't have to return multiple times per week. Each bag has instructions on how to thaw or heat the meals, which were everything from sandwiches to orange chicken to tacos. We include a lot of fresh fruit and vegetables, too, plus cartons of milk."

She said the work was exhausting, but mostly she just missed students coming into the lunchroom with their smiles and hugs.

"Our entire staff worked so well together to get the job done," she continued in the article. "We did





Dori Wiegand is photographed with the plaque identifying her as a nominee for the state award.

more than I ever thought we could. We had to for our kids – three-quarters of them are from low-income families. We figured out everything we had to do at unfamiliar job sites to get through those first critical months, when suddenly all of our students were learning virtually."

Wiegand has two kids and four grandkids. A perk has been getting to see two of her four grandchildren at Knapp. Joshua Davis ended sixth grade and Joslynn Davis was a MCHS graduate the last school year.

"I still haven't retired, though I'm at that age," she said. "I enjoy my job so much."



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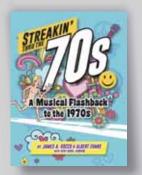
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Summertime and the fine arts are in full bloom, offering a variety of styles, media and colorful concepts. Imagination combined with technical versatility and skill have produced a number of must-see options, works that are colorful, challenging, curious and conceptual. The mix of representation and abstract does not matter. What matters is that it's difficult for the inquiring viewer to simply ignore and walk past so many fascinating works.

One doesn't have to travel far to experience challenging, cutting-edge, contemporary art. Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St., continues to lead the region by emphasizing upcoming and established leaders in today's art world.

LCA's recent exhibit "LatinXAmerican" (March 4-June 11) presented an impressive group show on loan from Chicago's DePaul Art Museum. The 26 Latinx artists representing Chicago and beyond offered works in a variety of media, including: photography; painting; sculpture; video; textile; and works on paper. The show was colorful, varied, thoughtful and above all interesting.



"The Lemon, after Manet" by Vik Muniz.

I was especially drawn to the largest piece in the Hyndman Gallery: Vik Muniz's "El limón, a partir de Manet (The Lemon, after Manet)." Muniz created a huge collage of a lemon using shreds of paper taken from popular magazines and tabloids. The work is described as a "refashioning...to mimic iconic images from art history." In this case, the icon referenced was Edouard Manet's painting, "Le Citro (The Lemon)." However, the artist's intent went beyond simply highlighting the subject of the lemon with surrounding background. Rather, Muniz imbued the work with a more complex objective. Large,



Drawings by Gala Porras-Kim.

# **Articulating the Visual**

by Linda Weige

"I didn't want a completely passive viewer. Art means too much to me. To be able to articulate something visually is really an important thing. I wanted to make work where the viewer wouldn't walk away." – Kara Walker

striking, textural and a truly reimaginative version of the original, the work captivated. I enjoyed the physicality of the piece, with strips of paper creating movement across the surface. It kept me entranced and involved, wondering not only how it was constructed, but why so large, too.

Other artists' works that caught my attention included: Edra Soto's sculpture "Open 24 Hours"; Alfredo Martinez's mixed-media work "Boxing with Batman"; Gala Porras-Kim's three powerful drawings referencing... "the whistled version of the Zapotec languages...."; Vincent Valdez's lithograph print "America's Finest"; and Marisa Morán John's video "CareForce One Travelogues."

In fact, I returned more than once just to ponder the eloquence of the unspoken, visual vocabulary.

"For me, all the materials and objects I employ come from a specific space that's very personal." — Rashid Johnson

"Moniquemeloche Presents" opened June 18 at the LCA and continues through Oct. 21, bringing another direct-from-Chicago exhibit here. This time, it is courtesy of Monique Meloche Gallery, 421 N. Paulina St., which is dedicated to representing emerging artists.

The current show covers all three major galleries: Hyndman, Brinka-Cross and Susan Block. Artists

featured include: Sanford Biggers; Layo Bright; Dan Gunn; Sheree Hovsepian; Rashid Johnson; Kajahl; Ben Murray; Ebony G. Patterson; Karen Reimer; Jake Troyli; and Nate Young.

As described on the LCA website, the gallery hosts "an international roster of emerging artists working in



The recent "LatinXAmerican" exhibit at Lubeznik Center for the Arts.

# If You Go

- Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St. Info: (219) 874-4900 or www.lubeznikcenter.org
- The Depot Museum & Art Gallery, 525 Broadway, Beverly Shores. Info: www. bsdepot.org
- The Rising Phoenix Gallery, 2803 Franklin St. Info: (480) 206-0964, www.risingphxgallery.com
- SFC Gallery, 607 Franklin St. Info: (219) 877-4420, www.sfcgallery.com

all media." The range of art media, the individualistic voices, the fascinating stories behind all the artists, their influences and intent was highlighted during a recent curator gallery talk led by LCA Exhibition Director Lora Fosberg for Area Artist Association membership.

The tour began with Fosberg stating the artwork we were about to see, "...you would have to go to New York City or at least into Chicago to see. We are proud to be able to bring you some of this work." The resulting exhibit is very much "now," and the opportunity to experience what is current in the art world without traveling far is a bonus.

You may ask, as I did, who is Monique Meloche? Fosberg shared the following: "Twenty years ago she (Meloche) was showing artists of color. And I can tell you right now no other galleries were, unless they were an African-American gallery showing African-American artists. There are a couple in Chicago who have had a long history and also show African artifacts and stuff like that. But really, honestly, Monique was the only one who would show artists of color."

Fosberg enumerated the risks and rewards of showing such unknowns. As an example, she discussed artist Rashid Johnson, who Meloche represented straight out of graduate school. Rashid has since gone on to forge a superstar,

international reputation, with his art now included in the collections of MOMA (New York), the Tate Modern (London) and the *Centre Pompidou* (Paris), among others. His work "Green Belt" is one of the pieces included in the LCA show, and the story behind it is touching and socially important.

The last line of the artist statement notes, "Johnson situates his work as a portal to both joy and to a greater investigation into the relationship between artist, society and politics."

Discussion now turned to the works and artists, beginning with Sheree Hovsepian, Rashid Johnson's wife and a formidable talent in her own right.

Hovsepian is a



Lora Fosberg, photographed in front of "Green Belt" by Rashid Johnson

Autobiographical Time Travel" by Sheree Hovsepian.

photographer who prefers to work with film-based cameras and a darkroom digital phovs. tos. She combines her photographic prints with other objects to create what is described as "wall-based assemblages." Her three works, "Night Shade," "Autobiographical Time Travel" and "Reveries of a Solitary Walker," stand as striking examples

of her oeuvre. All three feature a dark background, from which emerge various parts/pieces, emanating a sense of inquiry as well as pristine execution. I was captivated by the forms and shapes/lines held within the rectangular boxes. Hovsepian, too, has garnered an international reputation, with work currently featured in the 2022 Venice Biennale.

As we moved around the Hyndman, Fosberg continued to introduce artists and their work: Biggers, Murray, Gunn, Kajahl, Troyli, Bright and Young.

When viewing the abstract paintings by Ben Murray, Fosberg offered insightful comments: "In my own work I'm an imagist. But I'm always thinking I want to lose the image. How do you even start? Where do you even go? How do you even begin an abstract painting? What is the starting point?"

She continued.

"And for him (Murray), I told you he's interested in film and avant garde cinematography. He's really

Continued on Page 28

# **Articulating the Visual**

Continued from Page 27

interested in the artist named Rose Lowder in this particular series. Rose does short films that are just flashes of things: a flower – a garden – a flower – a landscape – a flower; and in Ben's studio, instead of playing music, he plays videos. So, these flashing images sort of give him his start in his paintings."

Such perception was informative. Fosberg also stated, "It is so hard to make an abstract painting and make it not go to mud and turn to garbage in its shape and its form. It is so difficult to stop and know when to stop, how to vary the size of the brush strokes so every mark doesn't look exactly the same, ending up looking boring. It seems to me that this guy knows how to do it."

I would agree. Later, I looked up Murray online to see more of his art, affording a greater appreciation of his work.

After Murray, we took in Dan Gunn's large and striking "Paradise Scenery." Made of a mix of materials (acrylic, woods, nylon cord and metalized acid dye), the work visually dominates a large portion of the curved wall space. The three-dimensionality is intriguing. I began imagining a short story about the piece. We next continued around the room viewing sculptures by Biggers, Gunn and Bright. We examined oils by Kajahl and Troyli and drawings by Young. As introduced by Fosberg, each artist came alive with interesting background. It made the experience richer.



"the of 72 project" by Ebony Patterson.

Upstairs in the Brinka/Cross and Susan Block galleries, we encountered three more pieces by Biggers, Reimer's two fiber works and Patterson's two installations. Despite their colorful appearance, the installations were somber and political in intent. It helped to understand the motivation behind the works by reading the nearby statement of purpose. I must admit to feeling a bit emotionally overwhelmed with the significance of the masked individuals in "the of 72 project." Despite its colorfully decorative nature, this is a serious work.

**NOTE**: As a reminder, contemporary art is reflective of the times we live in and can be controversial.

Indeed, contemporary art for many first-time and repeat visitors can be challenging. Many works in this exhibit are challenging on several levels – that is a good thing. It makes us think.

Even when the work has identifiable components, it can be difficult to understand the artist's intent/message. I suggest when looking at art, begin by reading the generalized statement about the exhibit before entering. I always read, too, the accompanying artist statement next to or nearby each work, which I find helpful before immersing myself visually and mentally into the work. I am rewarded with new, often unexpected viewpoints/concepts. In this way, I am not just passing by, but rather engaging with the artist's visual dialogue. I may not even agree with every message, but I am always connecting and thinking about what I experienced.

The LCA is not the only show in town. Other new exhibits have opened, including at The Beverly Shores Depot Museum & Art Gallery, SFC Gallery and The Rising Phoenix Gallery.

The Beverly Shores Depot, 525 S. Broadway, debuted "4 The Birds" on July 8 featuring Laurel Izard's fiber art. She uses vintage quilt tops upon which she stitches and appliqués portraits of endangered birds. The works are beautifully and thoughtfully executed, continuing her deep concern for the planet, the people, plants and animals.



"The Magic Bringer," a quilt with hand applique by Laurel Izard.

Along with "The Magic Bringer," Izard's "The Kagu" stood out. Both feature two bird figures. Both feel very painterly. The crows in "The Magic Bringer" are impressive, combining contemporary and vintage quilt, glass beads, hand embroidery and hand appliqué. As mentioned in the nearby description, "Crows are not endangered, and in fact are amazing, intelligent and adaptable survivors. In many cultures they are creators, tricksters and bearers of magic."



"Garden II" by Ben Murray.

"The Kagu" is hand embroidered, painted and uses a vintage quilt top. The bird, itself, "is a sweet little flightless bird that lives on the island of New Caledonia." This is a lovely work set against a turquoise-like sea of swirling quilted lines and spiral forms.

The exhibit closes Aug. 7.

The Rising Phoenix Gallery, 2803 Franklin St., presents "Inspired Images," plein air paintings by Betty Thomas and Bunny Dimke. These two often travel together to regional and sometimes overseas locations to paint. Much of the work in this show is sited locally, feels familiar and yet, each painter takes a unique perspective.

"Waiting," a watercolor by Thomas, features a cow facing forward in a midwinter field. It is a gem of a painting: humorous, yet a tad unsettling as the cow stares forward, challenging the viewer. Both artists are well-seasoned painters continuing to entice fans of plein air.

The show closes July 23.

SFC Gallery, 607 Franklin St, is featuring the oil paintings of Laurie Schirmer Carpenter. Her works exude a sense of calm, serenity and internal contemplation. She considers herself a landscape painter. In her statement, she says, "The landscape grows, changes, dies, renews but always endures. While my oil paintings are a chronicle of the land as I see it, they are also visual ideas of the land – the essence of its beauty, vastness, peace and strength..."

Each work is a statement on its own. I was especially drawn to one smaller piece: "Ace Loves Rachel," a 15" x 10" oil on canvas. There is something so quiet and dreamlike about it: a captured moment in time that seemed familiar in some way.

The show closes the end of July.

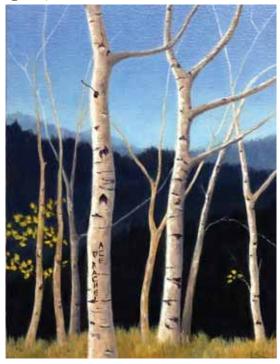
I encourage everyone to visit the LCA and experience the current exhibit. Explore the variety of work. Immerse yourself in time spent among contemporary art's diversity. Later, look up your favorite artists online to learn more about them. Take



"Spring Redbud," an oil on wood by Bunny Dimke.

your time and don't rush. For families, sign up for Family Day from 1-3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 15.

Visit, too, The Depot, SFC Gallery and The Rising Phoenix. There is so much quality regional talent that needs to be seen and appreciated. Set aside a day devoted to art and enjoy the experience of seeing original, one-of-a-kind works.



"Ace Loves Rachel," an oil on canvas by Laurie Schirmer Carpenter.



# **Reverting to Type**

(Author's note: I wrote the first draft of the following column on my manual typewriter. I present it now with only a few minor corrections. Alas, manual typewriters are not equipped with spell/grammar checkers. And, yes, I was, and, am, serious about this plan. I had way more fun writing the story on the old typewriter than I am now, plinking my pinkies across a dainty little keyboard.)

Life With Charley

Charles McKelvy



So, here's the plan: We're going to sell the big,

honking iMac that occupies acres of our precious desk space and revert to type. By that, I mean the good, old, utterly reliable Remington Quiet-Riter Eleven manual typewriter upon which I am composing this brilliant column.

Yes, we're going back to basics here in the sun-dappled Michigan dunes.

Years ago, we heard popular marketing consultant Faith Popcorn identify a growing population of what she called, and I quote: DOWN-MARKET, LOW-INCOME REJECTORS OF ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY.

"Say," we said to one another, "that describes us to a T. And that's T with a capital T."

When we lived in Chicago, in the so-called DePaul neighborhood west of Lincoln Park, we lived carfree (and carefree) for years. We only bought a car when we knew

we were going to move full time to Michigan in 1986.

We still have a car, but we both have e-bikes and are ready to get around on those with gas prices outrageously high.

Natalie took to computers before I did. She was forced by work to do so. Eventually, so was I. I had to write on a computer for the late, great American Hospital Supply Corp. in Evanston, Ill. But I continued pounding away at home on my tried-and-true Smith-Corona manual typewriter from high school. I was writing a novel (<u>Holy Orders</u>, Dunery Press) before work, during what I called Dawn Patrol.





Life with Charley without a computer.

When the typing became too loud for our old Irish landlady, the inimitable Margaret O'Malley, I broke down and bought an IBM Selectric electric typewriter. But that, too, awakened Mrs. O'Malley at an ungodly hour, so I broke down, and with Natalie, purchased a desktop computer for home use.

I hated it, just as I have hated every iteration since. Computers do all sorts of smart things. Wonders to behold, right? Wrong!!!

There's nothing wonderful about crashing a hard drive by accident. Or downloading a new operating system only to discover that your computer no longer talks to your ancient printer.

Great!!!

In my humble opinion, there's nothing great about computers, or smart phones or any of that ilk. All of that electronic gadgetry is just a means by which BIG BROTHER can spy on you and track your every movement. (Hey, I read George Orwell's 1984 at too early an age to ever believe the government has my best interests at heart.)

So, as time went on, I grew in my heart a yearning to be computer-free. To truly get back to being,

as Faith Popcorn so famously put it, a DOWN-MARKET, LOW-INCOME REJECTOR OF AD-VANCED TECHNOLOGY.

Yeah, Baby!!!! And why not?

I watch my friends struggle with their so-called smart phones. They're not having fun, and I'm sure not having fun waiting for them to find the app that finds the app that shows the brilliant photos of their navels.

Are you kidding?!?



Natalie gave the old Remington a test type and decided to stick with her pen and paper.

Not me.

No thanks.

Never had no stinkin's mart phone and never will. Don't need no BIG BROTHER watchin' over me, 24/7.

Watch on this Remington Quiet-Riter? I don't think so.

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I believe it is becoming time — most likely some time near one of my two "birthdays" (one "belly-button" and the other "sober living") in 2022 — when we'll pull the plug on the monster computer on our desk and sell it to an interested party. Along, of course, with the ages-old printer the desktop doesn't like talking to now that it has been loaded with the latest operating system.

Don't get me started on all the computer fun we've been having since 1982 when we were dragged, kicking and screaming, into the cesspool that is the

cyber world.

All right.

Enough out of me.

Except to close with this fond expectation:

I foresee a future, a near future, free from the electronic leash. A life without email, downloads and error codes and unwanted bovine cah-cah.

Hey, we went the computer route, way back when, because we were forced to in order to be professional writers. We knew, as we wandered from one formless operating system to another, that we had done just fine as professional writers with typewriters. even manual typewriters.

Now that Natalie has reverted to writing with pen and paper, and I am happily pounding away on my trusty old Remington Quiet-Riter Eleven, I foresee heaven for my birthday in 2022.

And when might that be?

For me to say and you to find out.

But, as we work out some of the logistics, like scanning stories from the library and maintaining manual typewriters (I've already figured out more than a few fix-its), we are already counting the days to one of my birthdays on...

Stay tuned.



## **SUNDAY, JULY 31, 2022**

Registration 8 a.m.-Noon EDT/Awards at 2 p.m. EDT

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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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## **Indiana Dunes National Park**

- Chellberg Farm Open House from 1-3 p.m. Thursdays in July. 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. Thursdays, July 14-21. 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.
- Mount Baldy Sunset Hike from 5-6:30 p.m. Fridays and 9-11 a.m. Sundays in July. 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 July. 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. Saturdays in July at Central Avenue Beach. Join a ranger for a morning stroll along the beach and learn about the origins of the Great



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- 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, July 23, 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.
- Bailly/Chellberg History Hike from 2-4 p.m. **Sundays in July.** 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.
- "Is it a 'Birdie' or an 'Eagle'?" from 7-9 a.m. Sunday, July 24, at Dunewood Campground off Golf Wood Road, Beverly Shores. Join a ranger to walk through a relativity unexplored area of the park. Birders of all levels are welcome. Take binoculars or borrow a pair from the park. Passes are required.
- Folk Music at the Farm with Save the Tunes from 5-6 p.m. Sunday, July 24, at Chellberg Farm. Local musicians from Save the Tunes will perform from the farmhouse porch. Take a blanket or folding chair. Passes are required.
- Sunset Around the Fire at the Pavilion from 8-9 p.m. Wednesday, July 27, at Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk, 100 Riverwalk Road. Catch a Lake Michigan sunset from the pavilion, and roast marshmallows from the fireplace.
- Drop-In Volunteer Program (Trash Trekkers) from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. daily at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center. Trash Trekkers is a nohassle volunteer option that helps keep trails and

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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.

### **Indiana Dunes State Park**

*The following programs will be offered:* 

- Beach House Blowout Sunset Hike from 7:30-10 p.m. Saturday, July 23. Join a naturalist for a look at twilight along a scenic trail. Meet at the Nature Center for the moderately rugged two-mile hike. The destination is to reach the Beach House Blowout for sunset at 8:14 p.m.
- Moth Mysteries from 8:30-11 p.m. Saturday, July 23. Meet at the Wilson Shelter, where moth enthusiast Chris Joll will set up his mothing equipment. See moths up close and learn how to better identify them.
- Salamander Gander from 10-11 a.m. Sunday, July 24. Meet at the Nature Center to view and learn about salamanders.

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





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# **Reins of Life Driving Show**



Reins of Life Inc., 9375 W. County Road 300 North, will host its first Driving Fun Show at 11 a.m. Sunday, July 24.

Therapeutic Carriage Driving is one of its newest and fastest-growing programs. It started in November 2019 with three students and has increased to more than 10 driving students weekly, with more students added every session. Reins has served more than 100 people in the program.

Attendees can watch drivers compete in various events, and cheer Reins' therapeutic driving students and volunteers. The show welcomes all drivers regardless of previous show experience. A licensed judge, along with pleasure and reinsmanship classes, are planned. Pre-registration is not required, and entry fees are \$5-\$7.

Parking and admission are free, and concessions will be available for \$1.

Reins of Life has been operating in South Bend since 1978 and in Michigan City since 2007, its mission to improve the quality of life for children and adults with disabilities through equine-assisted therapy.





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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.

#### Parent & Child Discovery Days

The program includes arts and crafts, games and snacks. All activities are related to the topic. Programs are appropriate for children 3-8, with an adult required to participate. Times are 6-7:15 p.m. at Luhr County Park's Morgan Shelter, 178 S. County Road 150 West, LaPorte. The cost is \$5 per child/per program. Pre-registration and payment are required at least one week in advance or until full, whichever comes first. The schedule is:

- July 20: Play Pod Exploration.
- July 27: What's That Smell?
- Aug. 3: Scavenger Hunt Fun.

#### **Tuesday Treasures**

The program aimed at 6- to 13-year-olds meets from 9 a.m. to noon Tuesdays at Luhr County Park.

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

- July 26 "Your Roots." The focus is trees, plants and other things with roots.
- Aug. 2 "Nocturnal Animals." Participants learn about nighttime creatures.

#### **Healthy Lifestyles**

The free social club meets from 9 to 10 a.m. Wednesdays at Luhr County Park Nature Center, Programs focus on health trends, gardening, medical information and balancing active lifestyles. Call at least one week in advance to sign up (the maximum allowed is 30). The schedule is:

- Aug. 3 "Ear & Hearing Care," audiologist Jessica Nichols.
- 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.

#### Field Trips

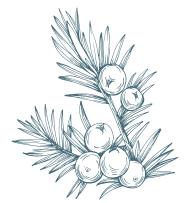
Formal educators, Scout leaders and groups can schedule a free organized program for students or group at any county park. The programs on various topics meet state standards and patch requirements.

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

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#### **Eastland Disaster Ceremony**

A public commemoration of the Eastland Disaster's 107th anniversary is at 11 a.m. Sunday, July 24, along downtown Chicago's Riverwalk (between Clark and LaSalle streets) — the tragedy's exact site.

Those who can't attend can watch the Facebook livestream "Eastland Disaster Historical Society."

The ceremony remembers the 844 men, women and children — many of whom were Polish immigrants — who died July 24, 1915, when the S.S. Eastland capsized in the Chicago River. The ship was headed to Michigan City for the fifth annual Western Electric Hawthorne Works club picnic. One victim was Anna Kubiak, a Michigan City native who worked at Western Electric in Chicago to help support the family farm. She was elected "princess" for the cable department's float in the parade that would have been held had the SS Eastland arrived safely in Washington Park.

Later in the day, a grave marker dedication for Kubiak is at 2 p.m. at Resurrection Catholic Cemetery, 7201 Archer Ave., Justice, Ill. The public is invited. Kubiak was born in 1898 in Cicero. She was the fourth of nine children born to Polish emigrants Anton and Frances (Branecki) Kubiak. The family farm was located just south of Michigan City on North Wozniak Road. In 1915, Anna and her older sister, Frances, lived in Cicero and worked at the Western Electric Hawthorne Works. Anna perished in the Eastland Disaster just a few days after her 17th birthday and was buried in an unmarked grave. Anthony Levendowski (Anna's nephew), Jim Retseck (former Michigan City Historical Society president) and the historical society worked to purchase and install a grave marker to give a name to Kubiak's unmarked grave.

#### **Public Art Committee**

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







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Hours:

Tuesday **4-10 p.m**.

Wednesday-Saturday 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m.

Sunday 11:30 a.m.-9 p.m.

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#### **Citywide School Supply Drive**

Several local organizations are involved in a community-wide school supply drive that runs through July 25 and benefits area students needing materials to start the school year.

Many area businesses have set up collection bins to accept donations from employees and the general public, including: Al's Supermarket (Franklin Street and Karwick locations); Captain Ed's Candy Island & Furniture Showroom; First Trust Credit Union; Michigan City Area Schools Administration Building; Members Advantage Credit Union; Michigan City's City Hall; Healthy Communities of LaPorte County; Meridian Title Co.; The LaPorte County Herald-Dispatch; Michigan City Chamber of Commerce; and First United Methodist Church.

Businesses, churches and other organizations are invited to join the collection drive. Supplies collected may be brought to the MCAS Administration Building, 408 S. Carroll Ave., from 9 a.m.-noon Monday, July 25.

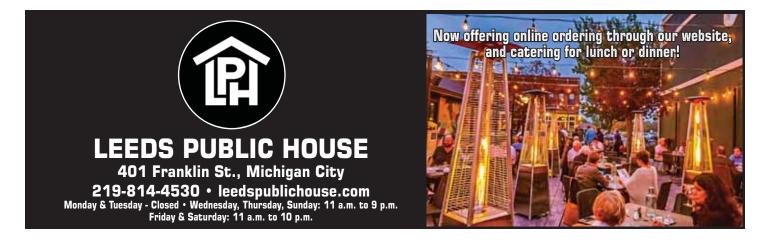
Suggested donations include: pencils, black pens, spiral notebooks, 3-hole notebook paper, markers (washable), dry erase markers and erasers, glue sticks, erasers, pencil boxes, two-pocket folders, disinfectant wipes, facial tissues, backpacks, gallon and quart-size Ziploc bags, highlighters, composition books, hand sanitizer, scissors, crayons, Post-It notes and index cards.

The drive is a precursor to the annual Citywide Back-to-School Rally from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, July 30, at Elston's Gill Field. The event is a collaborative effort supported by numerous community agencies. This year, the organizing committee includes representatives from Indiana Black Expo, MCAS, Franciscan Health, HealthLinc, Anthem, American Licorice, the YMCA Elston Branch, Sodexo and LaPorte County NAACP.

Information on volunteering, sponsorships and exhibiting at the rally is available at www.edu-catemc.net/BackToSchoolRally







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#### **Patriotic Parade Results**

This year's Michigan City Patriotic Parade, held July 2, embraced the theme "United We Stand," featuring multiple high school bands, traditional floats, local businesses and non-profits.

#### **GRAND CHAMPION**

Washington Park Zoo.

#### AUTO/MOTORCYCLE

- First Place Jeff Piotrowski 1966 MC Police Car.
- Second Place Four A's Car Club.
- Third Place The Guardian Riders.

#### **BAND**

- First Place New Prairie Marching Cougars.
- Second Place LPHS Marching Band.
- Third Place MCHS Wolf Pack Pride.

#### DANCE/GYMNASTICS

- First Place Lakeshore Performing Arts.
- Second Place MCHS Cheerleaders.

#### **DRILL TEAM**

- First Place Michigan City Soul Steppers.
- Second Place MCHS Marine Corps JROTC.

#### FLOAT - COMMERCIAL

- First Place Haunted Hills Hospital.
- Second Place LaPorte Community Federal CU.
- Third Place Robert Tylisz Appliance.

#### FLOAT - NON-PROFIT

- First Place Grandma & Grandpa Built a Float.
- Second Place Community 203 Girl Scouts.
- Third Place Indiana State Prison.

#### **EQUESTRIAN**

- First Place Reins of Life.
- Second Place LaPorte County Sheriff's Posse.

#### **United Way Golf Outing**

United Way of LaPorte County will host its 18th annual golf outing Saturday, July 23, at Beechwood Golf Course, 2222 Woodlawn Drive, LaPorte.

Registration opens at 11 a.m., with the shotgun tee time and box lunch at noon. Awards, and the conclusion of the silent auction, are at 5 p.m.

The cost for a foursome is \$400, while individuals cost \$100. That includes 18 holes of golf with cart, a gourmet box lunch, Bloody Mary bar, games, prizes, cash/gift cards and awards, complimentary water and soft drinks on the course and two complimentary drink tickets for the bar cart on the course

Visit tinyurl.com/3t3zr6pe to register.



#### **LaPorte County Public Library**

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

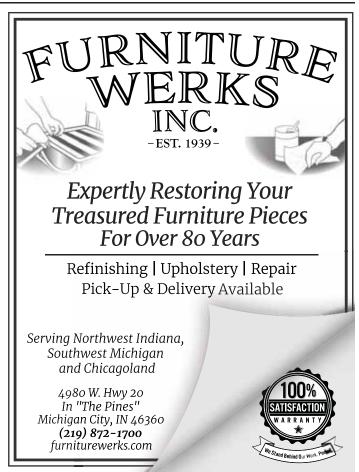
New users can download the meeScan app through options such as Apple and Google Play. Then, place holds on items using a customer account. Once at the library, check in using the app and clicking Pickup from the bottom of the screen (or calling the library location). An appointment no longer is needed. Add the parking space on the app if picking up from the main location. Enter information in the instructions box if picking up holds placed on more than one account, or if needing additional assistance. A staff member brings held items to the vehicle. Customers using the app receive updates as their requests are processed. Returns can be placed in book drops and be checked in within 24 to 72 hours. At this time, there is no limit to the number of items customers can reserve and pick up during curbside.

- Coolspring Branch: Monday/Wednesday/Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Main Library: Tuesday/Thursday (10 a.m. to 6 p.m.) and Saturday (10 a.m. to 4 p.m.).
   The following programs are planned:
- Girls Who Code Club (Grades 5-8) from 1-3
   p.m. Thursday, July 21, in the Main Library
   Multipurpose Room. Explore coding and technology, and build leadership skills.
- Maker Cart Pop Up from 4-5 p.m. Thursday, July 21, and Tuesday, July 26, at the Coolspring Branch. Explore Dash Robots, Ozobot, Sphero and other options, with help available from an expert. Youth also can stop by anytime to check out the Maker Cart.
- Stories & More from 10-10:30 a.m. Friday, July 22. The socially distanced storytime includes rhymes, music and activities.
- Think Like an Engineer-Kids (6-11) from 11 a.m.-noon Saturday, July 23, in the Coolspring branch meeting room. Youth will design, explore and create using Rigamajigs.
- Dinosaur Day from 6-7 p.m. Monday, July 25, at the main library. Learn about dinosaurs and dig for fossils.
- Readers Corner Book Club from 6-7 p.m. Tuesday, July 26, at the Coolspring Branch Meeting Room. Refreshments will not be served, but participants may take coffee or tea.

LaPorte County Public Library is located at 904 Indiana Ave. The Coolspring Branch is located at 6925 W. County Road 400 North. Visit www. laportelibrary.org for more details, including programming through the Exchange building.

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#### **Roosevelt Pipe Organ Series**

The 21st season of the Roosevelt Pipe Organ Series concludes at 12:15 p.m. Wednesday, July 27, at Christ Church, 531 Washington St.

The concert by Ann Dobie also features Cheryl

Dobie on flute. Ann founded the series, presenting them with her husband, George, for 21 years.

Ann was a math teacher for 25 years and George an accountant for 35 at U.S. Steel. She also was a church organist for more than 50 years. Together, they ran a bed and breakfast, New Buffalo's Victorian, for eight years. The two continue to pursue a new home for the Roosevelt pipe organ.



At the concert, the Dobies will hand out free copies of a South Shore poster celebrating the organ series. Anyone who can't attend the concert, but would like to buy a poster can call the Dobies at (219) 608-5358.

The church is air-conditioned. Call (219) 608-5358 for more details about the concert series.



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, July 22.
- First United Methodist Church, 121 E. Seventh St., 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, July 23.
- St. Paul Lutheran Church & School, 818 Franklin St., 1:30-6:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 26.

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.

# LBCC Women's Golf Leagues 18-Hole League

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#### In the Area

July 20-30 — Canterbury Summer Theatre, "No Way To Treat A Lady," Canterbury Theatre, 807 Franklin St. Times: 2 p.m. Wed.-Thur., 7:30 p.m. Fri., 6:30 p.m. Sat. Tickets: (219) 874-4269, info@canterburytheatre.org. Info: www.canterburytheatre.org

**July 21** — Summer Reading Weekly Events: Family Movie & Craft, 10 a.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Screening: "Moana." Info: (219) 873-3049.

**July 21** — Michigan City Municipal Band, 7:30 p.m., Washington Park's Guy F. Foreman Bicentennial Amphitheater.

**July 21**— Arts in the Park, LaPorte's Fox Park. Aftermath (rock)/7 p.m.; preconcert: YMCA Zumba/6 p.m. *July 20*: LaPorte City Band/7 p.m. Info: contact@artsintheparklaporte.com

**July 21, 26** — Maker Cart Pop Up, 4-5 p.m., Coolspring Library Branch, 6925 W. County Road 400 North. Info: www.laportelibrary.org

**July 22** — MCPL Podcast Episode Release, 9 a.m., through Michigan City Public Library. Info: (219) 873-3049.

**July 22** — Movies in Washington Park: "Space Jam: A New Legacy," dusk, North Pointe Pavilion. Free. Info: (219) 873-3049.

**July 22-31** — "A Grand Night for Singing," Dunes Summer Theatre, 288 Shady Oak Drive, Michiana Shores. Times: Fri.-Sat./7 p.m., Sun./2 p.m. Tickets: \$20-\$25. Reservations: www.dunesARTS.org

July 22-31 — "Matilda: The Musical," LaPorte Little Theatre Club, 218 A St. Times: 7:30 p.m. July 22-23 & 29-30, 2 p.m. June 24 & 31. Tickets: \$17/adults, \$16/seniors, \$13/students. Info: www.laportelittletheatreclub.com

**July 23** — Think Like an Engineer-Kids (6-11), 11 a.m.-noon, Coolspring Library branch meeting room, 6925 W. County Road 400 North. Info: www.laportelibrary.org

**July 23** — 14th Annual Old Car Show, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., LaPorte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave. Car registration fee: \$15.

**July 24** — Driving Fun Show, 11 a.m., Reins of Life Inc., 9375 W. County Road 300 North. Entry fees: \$5-\$7. Parking & admission: free.

July 25 — Dinosaur Day, 6-7 p.m., LaPorte

County Public Library, 904 Indiana Ave. Info: www.laportelibrary.org

**July 26** — Readers Corner — Book Club, 6-7 p.m., Coolspring Branch Meeting Room, 6925 W. County Road 400 North. Info: www.laportelibrary.org

**July 27** — Roosevelt Pipe Organ Series, Ann Taylor Dobie, 12:15 p.m., Christ Church, 531 Washington St. Info: (219) 608-5358.

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 July — Needle Arts Club, 5:30-7 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

**Tuesdays in July** — Makerspace: open lab hours, 3:30-5 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

#### In the Region

**July 23** — Opening reception (Detroit sculptor Foster Willey/Whitcomb Senior Living Community Center jigsaw puzzles), 5:30-8 p.m. EDT, Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Mich. Info: https://boxfactoryforthearts.org

**July 23** — Biking & Birding, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., West Beach, 376 N. County Line Road, Gary. Info: (219) 395-1882, www.nps.gov/indu

July 23 — Beach House Blowout Sunset Hike, 7:30-10 p.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

**July 23** — Moth Mysteries, 8:30-11 p.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

July 23 — Third annual American Music Festival, noon-5:30 p.m. EDT, School of American Music Spring Creek stage, 14 Maple St., Three Oaks, Mich. Free. Info: www.schoolofamericanmusic.com

**July 24** — Salamander Gander, 10-11 a.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

**July 24** — Meet-the-artist reception, photographer Dave Lasayko, 1:30 p.m., The Village Gallery, 3303 Pines Village Circle, Valparaiso. Info: (219) 465-1591.

**Through July 28** — "Transition," Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St. Info: (219) 926-4711, www.chestertonart.org

**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 July** — 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** (**July 21**) — Sunset Paddle at Marquette Lagoons, 6-8 p.m., Gary's Miller Beach neighborhood. Limit 20 participants. Reservations: (219) 395-1882.

**Fridays/Sundays in July** — 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 July** — 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 July** — 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 July** — 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 (July 24)** — "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** (**July 24**) — Folk Music at the Farm with Save the Tunes, 5-6 p.m., Chellberg Farm, 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: "Official Competition." Rated R. Times: 6 p.m. July 21, 3 p.m. July 22-23, 9 p.m. July 23, 3 p.m. July 24. Also: "My Donkey, My Lover & I." Not Rated. Times: 6 & 9 p.m. July 22, 6 p.m. July 23-24. Also: Paintings by Annie Hickman through late August. All times Eastern. Theater address: 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. Info: www.vickerstheatre.com, (269) 756-3522.

#### **Motor Row District Program**

Barbara Barrett, a history educational entertainment speaker, will discuss Chicago's historic Motor Row District (1905-1936) at 1:30 p.m. EDT Wednesday, July 20, in the Wiekamp Auditorium at The Studebaker National Museum.

Chicago's Motor Row District is home to the country's largest, intact early "motor colony." Primarily located on south Michigan Avenue, it was designated as a Chicago landmark Dec. 13, 2000, then added to the U.S. National Register of Historic Places on Nov. 18, 2002.

Barrett will discuss how at its peak, more than 116 different makes of automobiles were sold and repaired on Motor Row. She has a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Illinois and a Master in Public Administration degree from Roosevelt University.

Regular admission is \$2, or free to members. The museum is located at 201 Chapin St., South Bend. Email jmccoy@studebakermuseum.org for 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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The Beacher's office hours are:

Monday-Thursday: 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Friday: 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Closed: Saturday & Sunday

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#### **Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property**

Notice is hereby given that the self-storage unit listed below will be sold on a public website by competitive bidding ending at 10 a.m. July 29, 2022, at <a href="https://www.lockerfox.com">www.lockerfox.com</a> for the property at:

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The Hidden One by Linda Castillo (hardcover, \$27.99 retail in bookstores and online; also available as an eBook and an audiobook. 307 pages.)

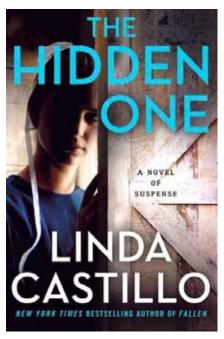
"You are a police, Kate Burkholder,' Nathan says. You understand our ways. You understand the law of the land, too. More importantly, you know Jonas Bowman."

The man speaking is a deacon of an Amish church. He and two other members of the Amish hierarchy are in Painters Mill, Ohio, asking the police chief for help with a murder investigation. A murder

among the Amish? The same people known as pacifists?

They have appolice proached chief Kate Burkholder, a former member of the Amish community and therefore, knowledgable of its ways and beliefs. Oh, but there's so much more than that. First, some important details...

The three churchmen have come from Pennsylvania since they can't get help from local police who, first,



having deemed the case cold, calling the murder a closed case, an accused in police custody.

The dead man is Ananais Stolzfus, a bishop in the Pennsylvania community. He disappeared some 18 years ago. A farmer recently found his bones in a newly plowed field. There was an old rifle and some casings buried with him. The gun belonged to Jonas Bowman, a young man who had many run-ins with the bishop.

Jonas freely admits it is his rifle, saying it was missing for years. He has no idea who might have taken it from his house. And, to the police, the final evidence is a confrontation Jonas had with the bishop blaming him for the death of his father.

Means, motive and opportunity. Case solved. The police lock him up and look no further. The church men don't believe Jonas is guilty, but what really happened all those years ago?

Truth is, Jonas and his family once lived in Painters Mill, and he grew up with Kate. She is in a solid relationship with John Tomasetti, an Ohio State Police agent. Jonas is married with two children. But memories of a childhood and teen years with Jonas bring back a flood, make that a deluge, of memories she thought she put away years ago.

#### Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter



Kate knows she must find out if Jonas has changed that much since leaving Ohio. He once wasn't the kind to even raise a hand to another, let alone kill them. Old memories surface, and she has mixed feelings about seeing him again.

Tomasetti reminds her, "Keep in mind that this is a homicide investigation, Kate...The case may be cold and the players Amish, but it's still murder..."

Kate packs up and says she will give her investigation a week, knowing full well Pennsylvania police may or may not allow her access to their reports.

There's a deeper reason for wanting to help Jonas that has to do with years ago when they were teens and his family left Painters Mill for something she feels responsible for. Castillo goes back and forth in time to construct the years Kate and Jonas grew up together, and the eventual reason the Bowman family left Ohio. Flashbacks are enough to make Kate doubt her ability to help him now.

The first thing Kate learns of the deceased bishop is that maybe he wasn't so good. Vague stories of harshness and punishments on members of his flock lead Kate to believe there may be more than one person who wanted to see Ananias Stoltzfus dead and buried. And yet, there are some who regarded him as a beloved guide and teacher.

Kate's ability to speak in Deitsch allows some, but maybe not all, to open up to her questions. She finds out Ananias' wife committed suicide — in a Lutheran church no less! — which had everyone scratching their heads. Unknown factors about the wife pop up, like a journal she kept with secrets written down. Now, that journal has disappeared.

Kate also finds several other men who suffered under the bishop's strict hold. Clues keep popping up until one night, someone breaks into Kate's motel. She suffers a beating and warning to leave town. There will be more incidents to scare Kate into leaving, like a car crash, a barn fire and...let's just say, more than enough to know she's on the right trail.

There is much to learn about the Amish in Castillo's books. She shows a deep regard for their lifestyle, but doesn't disregard the fragility found in people of all cultures. Her character-driven stories are augmented by this knowledge and a fuel-filled twisty plot, making every one of her Kate Burkholder books show a different side of the Amish community and their relationship with the "Englischers," or outsiders, of their faith.

This is an outstanding series. Once you read one, you will be hooked.

Till next time, happy reading!









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