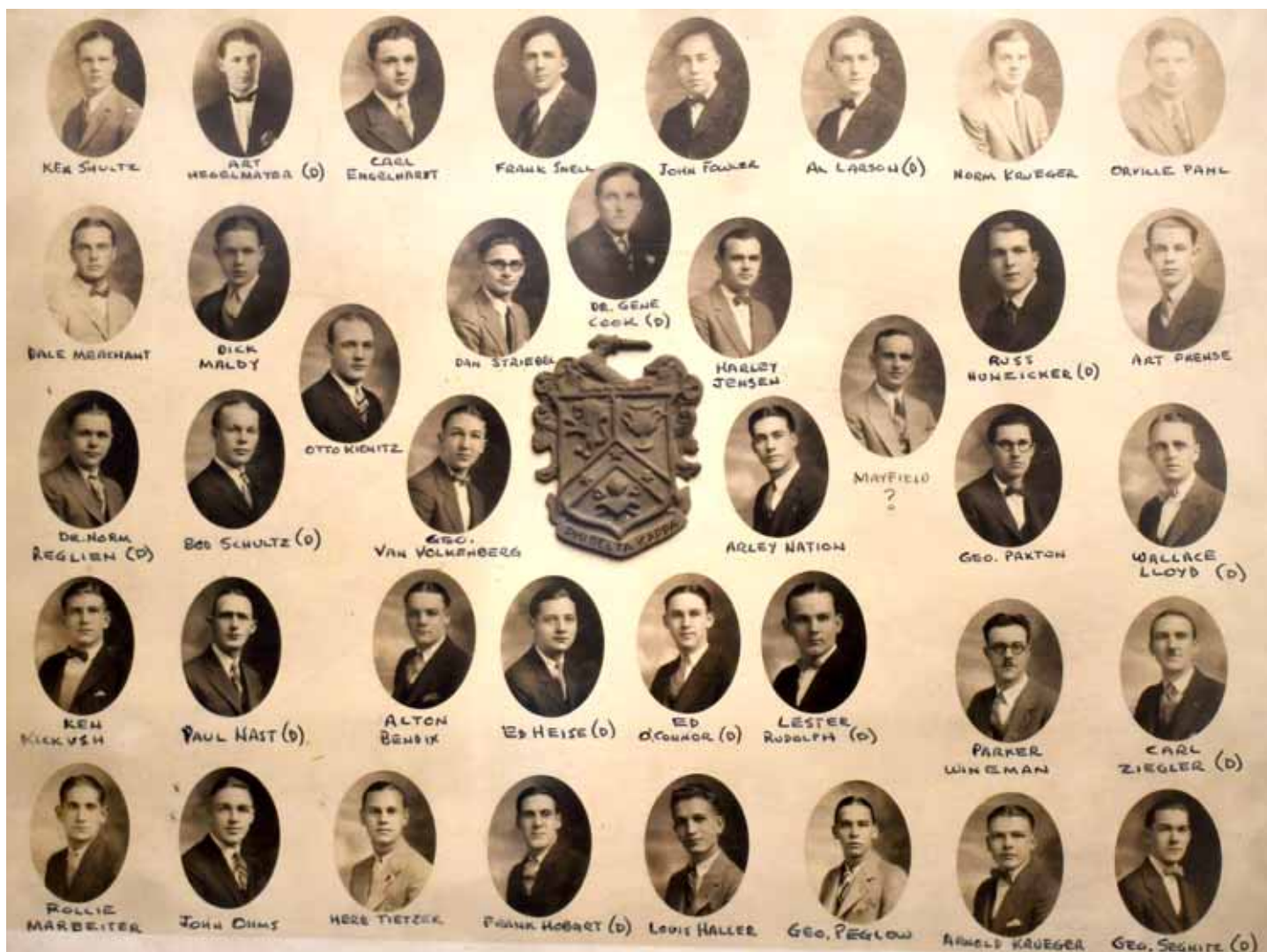




Volume 38, Number 24 Thursday, June 23, 2022

A Celebration of Brotherhood

by Kim Nowatzke



This photo shows the membership of the Phi Delta Kappa Fraternity Gamma Lambda Chapter in 1926. Seen to the left of the Coat of Arms is Otto Kienitz, grandfather of Doug and Dan Kienitz.

Brotherhood, friendship and a close, tight-knit group are just a few ways members of the Phi Delta Kappa Fraternity Gamma Lambda Chapter describe the organization that celebrates its 100th anniversary this year.

Chapter Pledge Master Fred Klinder tells new inductees, “You are going to end up with 100 of your best friends if you put your effort into it.”

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A Celebration of Brotherhood

Continued from Page 1

Klinder, who joined 29 years ago, and has served twice as chapter president, was referring to the 100 members of the male-only, non-profit group that received its charter Dec. 4, 1922. Charter members listed were: Carl Ziegler, Otto Kienitz, Arthur Hegelmayer, Louis Haller, Russell Hunziker, George Warkentine, Frank Carpenter, George Balow and Edward Keithly.

Otto Kienitz was a member for 60 years and his son, Dale, for 67. Today, their grandsons and sons, Dan and Doug Kienitz, are still members.

"It was always family and friends," said Doug Kienitz, who joined the Phi Delts 46 years ago. "I continue to enjoy that relationship — the idea of brotherhood and the idea that we support one another. You can't find a better group that steps up when one of their members is in need."

Potential members, Klinder explained, need to be at least 21 and live in the Michigan City area.

"Not anyone can come up and ask to be a member — we ask them," he said.

In addition, the chapter votes on the potential member. Membership entails paying annual dues, earning a bartender's license and fulfilling duties on social and bar committees.

The ages of members range from the youngest, Dominic Iacovetti, 22, to the oldest, Jim Grott, 96, who is a 60-year member and past national president. The average member age is about 63, and 57 members are older than 62. At the May anniversary celebration, six members were recognized for 50 years with the fraternity: Ron Kleist, Bruce Leroy, Tom Hooper, Bob Schlundt, Paul Eisele and Jim Grott. Member Bob Timm also has served as a Phi Delta Kappa national president.

Many current members are father-son pairs, such

as Dominic and his father, Michael Iacovetti.

"A number of members after they became a member brought their son in," Klinder pointed out.

Current officers are president Mark Kazmucha, vice president Mark Kline, secretary Doug Kienitz, treasurer Tim Glidden and Bill Hackett, master of ceremonies.

To begin with, Phi Delta Kappa Gamma Lambda meetings were held in the home of the first president, Carl Ziegler. The group moved to rooms above the old Idle Hour Theatre in the 400 block on Franklin Street. As the fraternity grew in size, meetings moved to the Peoples State Bank building adjacent to the Palace Bowling Alley. Additional meeting spots over the years included a large two-story house on 803 Spring St., a room beneath Kahn's

Drug Store at Franklin and Ninth streets, the Fish & Game Club building in Sycamore Park and the Italo Balbo Lodge club rooms on Franklin Street.

Finally, a 2.5-acre parcel was purchased at Eddy and Arthur streets at what was then the south edge of town. Once the concrete slab was poured and the walls and roof completed, members finished the building. The first

official club meeting commenced in the summer of 1960. The chapter still meets in this same building.

Weekly meetings, which are optional, are held every Monday evening, while a social function is planned for every month. Guest speakers, such as the late Dave Parry, Tom Nowatzke and the late Ken Schreiber, have spoken at meetings.

At one point, there even was a fraternity football team that played against other pro and semi-pro teams. In 1924, the standout game of the year was against The University of Notre Dame at Michigan City's Ames Field.

However, "we don't get involved in politics — we try to stay neutral," Klinder stressed.

The Phi Delts do give back to their community. Members have volunteered at Meals on Wheels La-



Taken in 1972 at the 50th anniversary celebration, this photo shows Otto Kienitz, Fred Flotow, Clayton Eppel, Dan Striebel and Art Freshe. Provided photo

Porte County, and supported the American Heart Association. Every year, the fraternity awards two \$500 scholarships to men — nominated from coaches or athletic departments — from Michigan City and Marquette high schools. They've sponsored an area baseball league. Recently, every Monday they've packed up 350 bags for homeless children to be distributed to Michigan City Area Schools through The Salvation Army.

Last month, in fact, member Charlie Krause accepted a Salvation Army Doing the Most Good award on behalf of the chapter.



This banner was signed by members of the Phi Delta Kappa Fraternity Gamma Lambda Chapter and dates back to the 1960s or later. It's taken out for special occasions such as the 100th anniversary event May 20. Pictured are (from left): Doug Kienitz, current secretary and past president; Charlie Krause, member; and Fred Klinder, two-time past president. Photo by Kim Nowatzke

"Charlie was instrumental in stepping up the community service," Klinder said.

Krause said he joined in his mid-30s three decades ago. He's very active in a "sub-group" made up of golf lovers.

"I didn't know a lot about it when I first came in. The Phi Deltas are completely different than other clubs in Michigan City," he shared. "In this club, everyone knows everyone. They talk about the brotherhood — that's the most important thing."

Klinder recalled when his high school friend, Jim Harbart, nominated him for membership. At the time, Klinder had gone through a divorce, move and job complications.

"It was a revelation of friendship that I fell into," he said. "I was able to re-establish my personality as a part of the Phi Deltas. I was able to start to enjoy myself more as a result of that. I continue to thank him (Harbart) to this day for that."

Taking care of their brothers is an obligation Phi Deltas take very seriously.

"If someone is in need, we step up," Krause said.

Fraternity members purchased a used vehicle for

Continued on Page 4



UPCOMING SHOWS

The Newports

FRI 6/24 8 P.M. ET



Abbie Thomas Band

WED 6/29 7 P.M. ET



Modern English

THU 6/30 8 P.M. ET



Kurt Elling

FRI 7/1 8 P.M. ET



Joe Pug w/ Esther Rose

SAT 7/2 8 P.M. ET



Marshall Crenshaw

SUN 7/3 8 P.M. ET



Find more events at

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A Celebration of Brotherhood

Continued from Page 3



Special guests at the 100th anniversary celebration were (from left): Butch Marshall, past national president; Judy Marshall, Ana Berger, Charles Berger, member; Vonda Detro and Larry Detro, national auditor. Photo by Kim Nowatzke

an older member in need. They held a benefit dinner for the family of a member who passed away after just becoming father to twin daughters. Members pooled together to raise funds for another member whose daughter was diagnosed with brain cancer.

"We try to take care of each other along those lines," Klinder said.

When a fraternity brother or one of his immediate family members passes away, other Phi Delts go to the funeral home visitation at a designated time to do a "walk through" in succession to pay respects to the family.

"I've had a number of families tell me what a wonderful thing that is that we do," said Krause, recalling how 65 fraternity brothers participated in a walk-through for a 50-year member. "A lot of people in the community know us from that walk-through. This is an extremely close-knit group."

Kienitz added, "It's an obligation of a member.



Danny Cole and Dan Kienitz provide some light-hearted entertainment for a special event of the Phi Delta Kappa Fraternity Gamma Lambda Chapter. Provided photo

When you're on the receiving end as a member, it's an amazing, emotional thing. It's so meaningful."

The national organization of Phi Delta Kappa began in 1902 in Marion, Ind.

"At one time, there were 292 chapters in the United States," Klinder said. "This was prior to the (Great) Depression. We lost a great deal of chapters during the Depression."

Today, he said, there are about 1,000 members in 10 chapters in Indiana, Florida, Mississippi and Georgia. Six chapters are in Indiana; when LaPorte and Hobart chapters didn't survive the Great Depression, some members joined the Michigan City chapter.

In more recent times, the Phi Delts were affected by the challenges of COVID-19.

"We actually had to suspend the requirements for membership because we weren't having socials," Kienitz said. "We suspended those socials and meetings for a time."

But now, the brothers look forward to once again hosting the Phi Delta Kappa national convention at Blue Chip Casino on July 20-23. It's been several years since it's been held here, and about 250 are expected to attend.



Pictured at the 100th anniversary celebration of the Phi Delta Kappa Fraternity Gamma Lambda Chapter are: (from left) Mark Kazmucha, president; Doug Kienitz, current secretary and past president; Dan Kienitz, current sergeant-at-arms and past president; and Dan Cole, past president. Photo by Kim Nowatzke



Member Mick Kazmucha speaks at the 100th anniversary celebration. Photo by Kim Nowatzke



Mark Kazmucha, president of the Phi Delta Kappa Fraternity Gamma Lambda Chapter, speaks at the 100 anniversary celebration May 20. Photo by Kim Nowatzke

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“Lightyear” Takes Unique Spin on Character

by Andrew Tallackson

Buzz Lightyear finds a supportive ally in the always optimistic Izzy.

“Lightyear” opens by stating its intentions, that it’s the movie Andy saw in 1995, the day before his birthday, before moving into his new home.

Just seeing the name Andy — the human hero of Pixar’s “Toy Story” series — tugs at you. Especially when thinking of that final scene from the third movie (2010) where Andy, on the cusp of adulthood, bids farewell to his toy collection. The entire franchise is such an ingenious blend of humor and heart, with “Lightyear,” we prep for more of it.

So it comes as a surprise that this spin-off is not your typical “Toy Story” movie. It is designed to suggest what made Andy fall in love with Buzz Lightyear. In that respect, it is a largely conventional origin tale, but with the Pixar magic sprinkled throughout.

Director/co-writer Angus MacLane, a Pixar veteran, introduces a Buzz Lightyear voiced not by Tim Allen, who originated the role, but Captain America himself, Chris Evans. There’s been speculation that political bias sent Allen packing (the actor’s Trump support, his anti-vaxx stance). Truth is, MacLane, wishing to tweak the character, had his sights set on Evans from the start. And pretty quickly, we embrace the actor’s voice, Evans tapping into Allen’s all-American bravado, but injecting his own Captain America sensibilities.

Lightyear, unfortunately, feels responsible for trapping his ship’s crew and its passengers on a hostile planet, one where prickly tentacles spring from the ground. Had Lightyear not attempted a risky flight move, everyone could have headed home.

Lightyear makes numerous test flights to achieve speeds capable of saving everyone. The cost, though, is that with each trip, he technically is gone four years or so, but does not age. Everyone back at the group’s new base, however, grows grayer with each trip. And it is here that Pixar reveals how, better



“Lightyear”

Running time: 100 minutes. Rated PG for action/peril.

than any animated storyteller, it knows how to play to your emotions. We see the life of Buzz’s best friend and fellow space ranger, Alisha (voiced by Uzo Aduba), span across time. Relationships forged, children and grandchildren produced, death marking the inevitable. It’s a lovely piece of animation.

By advancing through time, Lightyear must recruit a new group of soldiers, and that includes Alisha’s eager-beaver granddaughter, Izzy, who is voiced by Keke Palmer (“Akeelah and the Bee,” the upcoming “Nope”) with boundless good cheer.

There are a lot of scenes where Lightyear and crew battle robots. Maybe *too* many. After a while, there is a redundancy to the action, where we wish the story would just get on with it. Then again, evil robots would be *precisely* what a child like Andy would have craved. And MacLane, a “Star Wars” enthusiast, pays tribute not only to that space opera, but other sci-fi touchstones, including James Cameron’s “Aliens,” “Independence Day,” “Minority Report,” “A.I. Artificial Intelligence,” “Wall*E” and the SyFy channel’s reboot of “Battlestar Galactica.”

By the end, as the movie dabbles in the multiverse — what movie doesn’t these days? — “Lightyear” really is about our love of movies. Of those films that inspired something inside us to visit them again and again and again. The message, too, is a good one, that our definition of “home” is not defined by four walls, but by the people who mean the most to us.

The more I think about “Lightyear,” the more I admire it.

Contact Andrew Tallackson at drew@thebeacher.com



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Ferocious Cast Propels “God of Carnage”

by Andrew Tallackson



Photo by Andrew Tallackson

Two couples (from left, Daniel Shtivelberg, Christie Coran, Mandy Walsh and Glenn Thompson) go for the jugular in “God of Carnage.”

The inspired premise behind Yazmina Reza’s “God of Carnage” is that its allegedly enlightened adults descend into the same childish behavior that drew them together in the first place.

It is the darkest of dark comedies. It doesn’t make you laugh in the traditional sense, with gags or silly dialogue, but by pushing its characters to such extremes, you can’t help but gawk at them.

That is where this Dunes Summer Theatre cast shines. The actors are ferocious.

The catalyst for assembling the two sets of parents is a scuffle between their children, the boys engaged in a fight where one is left missing two teeth. Veronica and Michael Novak (Mandy Walsh and Glenn Thompson), whose son took the aforementioned brunt of the fight, invite Alan and Annette (Daniel Shtivelberg and Christie Coran) over to discuss it.

The first half of this Dunes production, ably paced by director Susan Padveen, is the best. That’s because we watch these couples engage in forced social niceties. Their conversations are laced with awkward pauses. I especially liked the approaches of the two actresses, Walsh’s Veronica slipping casual, passive-aggressive digs at her guests, and Cor-

an’s Annette, carrying herself with a haughty air that feigns attentive support and understanding.

Little by little, these four implode, then explode. Their true selves emerge, and before long, four grown-ups have slipped into insane, frenzied, petty childishness.

The humor of the first act comes from witnessing this precarious dance. The pretense that, as educated adults, these folk can solve their problems without resorting to the violent actions of their children. Clearly, though, that is not the case.

Midway through the show, alliances shift and “God of Carnage” becomes more a battle of the sexes, and that’s where the show, at no fault of the cast, achieves mixed results. Maybe it is that this portion of the play hasn’t aged well. It feels overly written. The characters don’t speak, but recite carefully worded speeches. We don’t feel like we’re watching how people really talk, but intellectual monologues designed to showcase acting prowess.

When Reza’s script avoids the soapbox talk, the show kicks back into high gear. The men get a chance to strut their stuff, especially Thompson, who literally erupts, over and over again, to hilariously arrested development extremes. And, the show’s final line is perfection.

Dunes Summer Theatre is on a roll with its first two shows this season. Even when the source material, itself, reveals its flaws, the casts never let you down.

They’re phenomenal.

Contact Andrew Tallackson at drew@thebeacher.com



(Check Activities on Page 40 for show times, dates and reservation information.)

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“Streakin’ Thru The ’70s!” Up Next at Canterbury Theatre

Canterbury Summer Theatre will debut “Streakin’ Thru the ’70s!,” the first musical of its 2022 season, June 22-July 2 at Canterbury Theatre, 807 Franklin St.

Written by James A. Rocco and Albert Evans, the show dashes through the “Me Decade” featuring more than 40 hit songs and comedy sketches. Songs include “Play That Funky Music,” “You Sexy Thing,” “Peace Train” and “Smokin’ in the Boys Room.”

The production is staged by Canterbury Artistic Director Ray Scott Crawford, with Yuan-Hung Lin serving as music director. She received her Doctor of Musical Arts from the University of Mississippi, also studying at the Royal Birmingham Conserva-



Mai Hartwich, Mitchell Bauer, Kendall Shamus, Jack Gordon and Kate Drury star in Canterbury Summer Theatre's production of “Streakin’ Thru the ’70s!”

toire in England.

The cast — all making Canterbury debuts — is Mitchell Bauer, Kate Drury, Jack Gordon, Mai Hartwich, Massimo Manfredini and Kendall Shamus. Scenic design is by David White, with lighting by Julie Adamsi. Amber Gantt provides costume design, and Hannah Enciso is the stage manager.

Seating is by general admission, and patrons will be

safely social-distanced. Season ticketholders may reserve specific seating, if the box office is notified in advance. The monitoring of, and adherence to, CDC and state guidelines regarding COVID remains.

Performances are at 2 p.m. Wednesdays-Thursdays, 7:30 p.m. Fridays and 6:30 p.m. Saturdays.

Tickets, as well as season discount cards, can be reserved by calling (219) 874-4269 or by email at info@canterburytheatre.org. Reduced ticket prices are available for seniors, groups and students. Visit www.canterburytheatre.org for more details.



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Bridgman Library Zoom Program

Bridgman (Mich.) Public Library will host a Zoom program with author Diana Raab at 6 p.m. EDT Tuesday, June 28.

The workshop is based on Raab's book Writing for Bliss: A Seven-Step Plan for Telling Your Story and Transforming Your Life. By experimenting with different forms of storytelling, such as prose and poetry, the goal is a path of self-discovery.

The program is suitable for all levels. The Zoom link is available at www.bridgmanlibrary.com

Bridgman Public Library is located at 4460 Lake St. Call (269) 465-3663 for more details.

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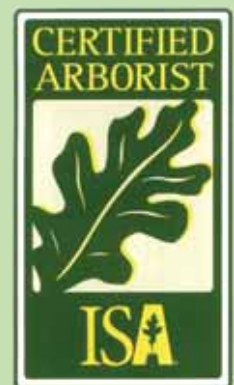
Five Tips for Taking Care of Your Trees

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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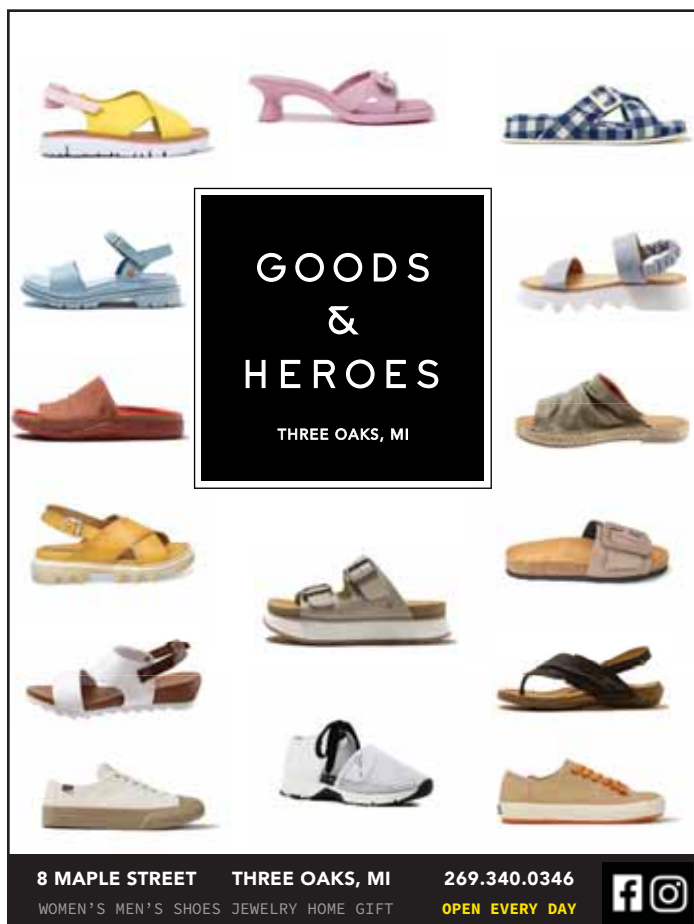
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Parent & Child Discovery Days

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:

- June 29: Animal Encounters.
- July 20: Play Pod Exploration.
- July 27: What's That Smell?
- Aug. 3: Scavenger Hunt Fun.

art

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:

- July 13 – "Atrial Fibrillation (A Fib) Heart Health," Jacob Swider, Northwest Health invasive cardiology director.
- 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.

Inclusive Playground Grand Opening

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

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

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.

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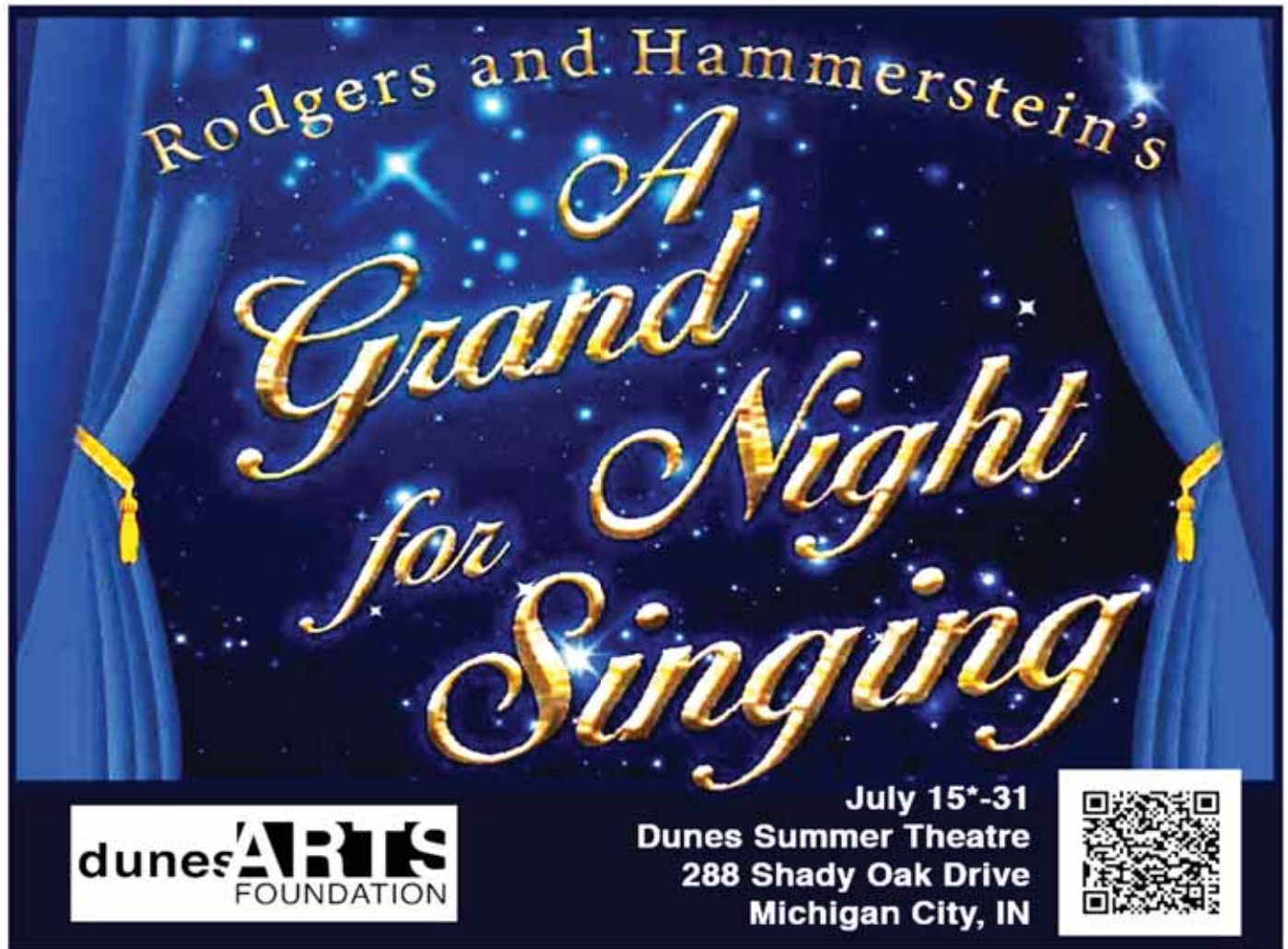


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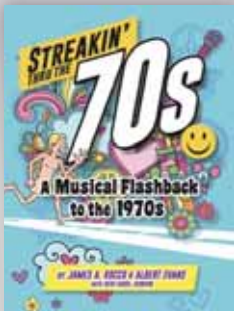
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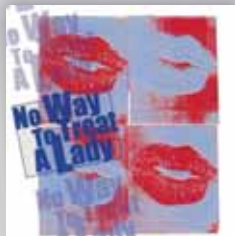
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The full schedule includes:

- June 24: MegaBeatles, recreating the music of The Beatles, at 7 p.m. with opening acts The Crawpuppies and Chris & Lou.
- July 1: The Music of Cream, performing hits by Eric Clapton, Blind Faith and Cream, at 7 p.m. with opening act Lauren Dukes.
- July 15: Toronzo Cannon, a Chicago Blues Festival headliner, at 6 p.m. with opening act Planetary Blues Band.
- Aug. 12: A Rock n' Roll Tribute from Elvis to The Beatles featuring The Neverly Brothers at 7 p.m., with opening act Chris & Lou.
- Sept. 16: Mr. Blotto at 7 p.m. with opening act Phantom Zone.

Proceeds from the series support the restoration of northern Indiana's natural landscape and enhance Gabis' hands-on education programs.

WildRose Brewing and local food vendors will be on site, with no outside alcohol allowed.

Gabis is located at 450 W. County Road 100 North, Valparaiso. Gates open 30 minutes before shows. Concerts are held rain or shine. Ticket prices vary per show and can be purchased at www.pnw.edu/gabis-concerts. Member discounts are available.



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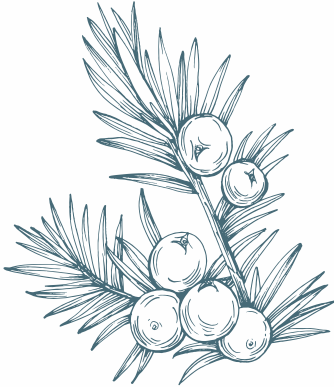
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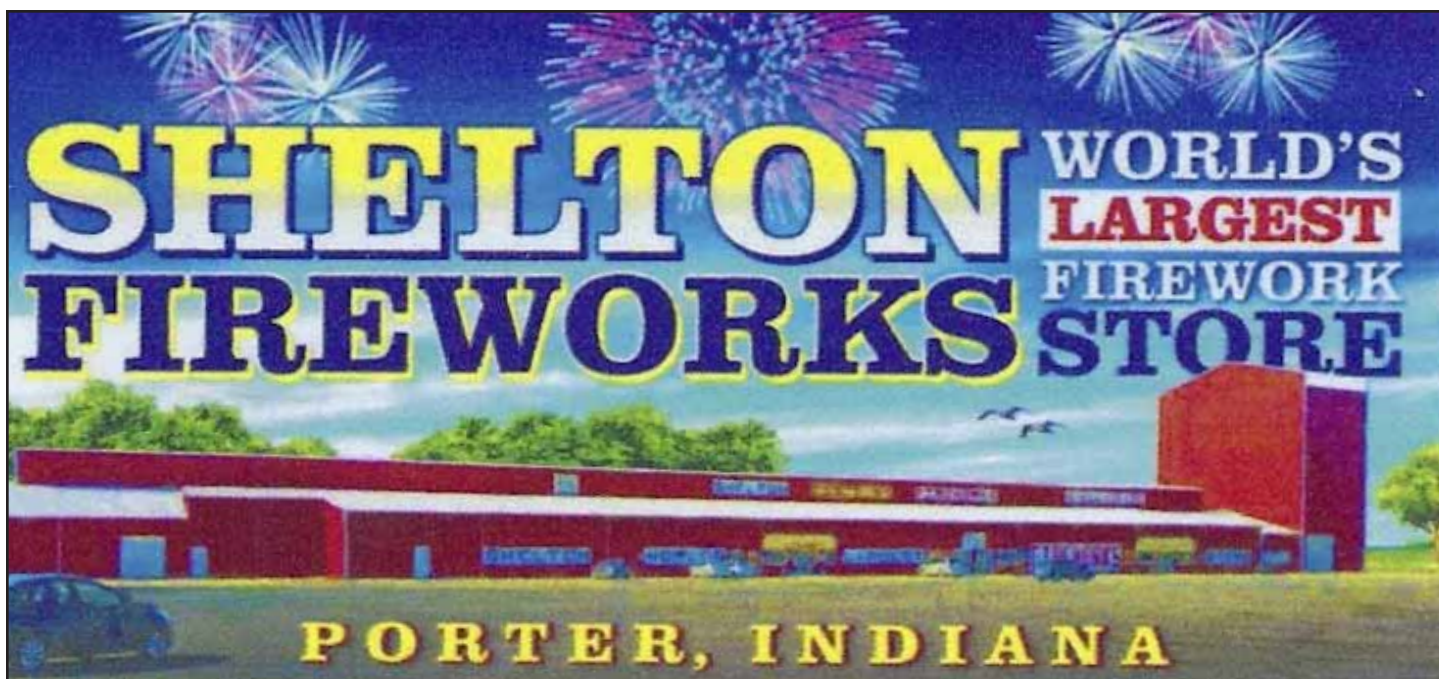
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Honoring Experience and Service

by Kim Nowatzke

As Dr. Barbara Eason-Watkins spoke at the 2022 Retirement & Wall of Fame Dinner on June 2, the Michigan City Area Schools superintendent asked the audience to stop for a moment and consider the *many* years of experience represented in the Blue Chip Casino ballroom.

“Whether you are a classroom teacher, an administrator, an instructional assistant, a paraprofessional, a secretary, a food service or transportation professional, or part of our Sodexo team, you have touched hundreds, even *thousands* of lives,” she said. “Our students have been blessed by your service, and we are thankful for the opportunity to come together to celebrate you this evening.”

The popular event, once again held on the last day of school, is an annual tradition to honor retirees and those inducted into the MCAS Wall of Fame. For 2022, there were 10 retirees representing 267 combined years of service and four new Wall of Fame inductees. Michigan City Education Association President Mandy Chastain joined Eason-Watkins to welcome those in attendance.

After dinner, the Wall of Fame inductees received their awards. Eason-Watkins explained the award began in 1976 and recognizes employees in all areas: administrators, transportation staff, custodians, food-service personnel, instruc-

tional assistants, maintenance personnel, paraprofessionals, teachers and secretarial staff.

There now are 196 Wall of Fame recipients. However, after the 2019 inductees, the permanent display in Michigan City High School’s Heritage Hall was completely full, so all of the small plaques were temporarily removed as work began on cataloging and redesigning a new and improved Wall of Fame. Although the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in a setback, the renovation project is back on track. The plan is to have a rededication next year.

“Selection for the Wall of Fame honor is a rigorous process beginning with nominations from the corporation or the larger community,” Eason-Watkins explained. “Anyone in the corporation – or in the larger community – can nominate a former em-

ployee. To qualify, the candidate must have been employed by the Michigan City Area Schools for at least 15 years. He or she must have been retired from the school system for at least five years. Nominations for the Wall of Fame are accepted each spring and inductees are selected by a committee of current Michigan City Area Schools employees, representing all employee groups.”

At the dinner, the person who made the nomination traditionally introduces the honoree.

Trish Lykins, a Springfield Elemen-



Pictured are (front row) Katie St. Germaine, who nominated Roxanna Young, inductee Thomas Dombkowski, inductee Sylvester Mabone and Sherri Silcox, who nominated Herb Higgin. The back row is Sara Hendricks, who nominated Sylvester Mabone, and Mark Marz, who accepted Roxanna Young’s award.

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tary School paraprofessional, was one of 30 individuals to submit nominations on behalf of Thomas Dombkowski. Lykins met him when she was the parent of one of his students; her children were the third generation in her family to walk through the doors of Niemann (it was still Lakeland when her mother attended).



Thomas Dombkowski is photographed with Trish Lykins, who nominated him.

"We felt like family there... we were educational partners," she said. "Mr. Dombkowski encouraged us as parents to partner with teachers to ensure the success of our children. He always called himself the 'Head Learner.' He never knew how many children and adults he inspired with

that philosophy."

In his 33 years working for MCAS, Dombkowski fulfilled the roles of teacher, principal and Title 1 program administrator. Ironically, he was one of the original committee members to help establish the Wall of Fame back in 1976.

The next inductee, Herb Higgin, served as coordinator of the Safe Harbor After-School Program for 15 years. Unfortunately, he was unable to attend the event, but his friend and colleague, Sherri Silcox, who worked with him for several years, accepted the award on his behalf.

Silcox described the moment she took over the coordinator role after Higgin retired: "I had to fill those big shoes...and I had to wear a lot of socks to make that happen."

During his time with MCAS, Silcox said Higgin touched more than 10,000 lives. He expanded Safe

Harbor to more sites, and added summer camp, STEM and robotics. Higgin was known for his two "Herbisms": "It's all about relationships" and "Just show up."

In the acceptance letter Silcox read, Higgin wrote, "It's the people – not the place. It afforded me the opportunity to work with and hire the most fantastic people anyone could ever hope for. Thank you a million times over."

Another Wall of Fame inductee was Sylvester Mabone. He served as an assistant principal for MCAS for 17 years, working at Michigan City High School, Elston High School, Elston Jr. High School, Barker Jr. High School and Krueger Jr. High School.

Mabone said it was "the love of MCAS, the students, parents, teachers and staff that he will always remember."

Sara Hendricks, who is co-principal of MCHS and a former student, in addition to a former colleague of Mabone's, read several words used to describe him that were included in the nominations: "class act, compassionate, dedication, sharp dresser, work ethic, selfless, charismatic, loyal, dependable and an exquisite human being."

The last inductee was Roxanna Young, who was with MCAS for 33 ½ years as a science teacher. She worked at Krueger Jr. High School, Barker Jr. High School, Elston High School, Michigan City Jr. High School and Michigan City High School. She was nominated by Katie St. Germaine, who is a former chemistry and anatomy/physiology student.

"When I went to college, I felt like I was ahead of the game in my science classes, and that was all be



Herb Higgin.

Continued on Page 22



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Honoring... Continued from Page 21

cause of the education I received at Elston," she said.

St. Germaine recalled several fond memories of her high school science class, such as dissection projects and decorated turtle shell races. She said she nominated Young for the award because she learned so much during those years.



Roxanna Young.

Since Young could not attend the event, Mark Marz, current chair of the MCHS science department, accepted the award for her. He said he learned a lot from

Young over the years.

"She was warm and open to everyone," he said. "Her students loved her teaching style, and she truly cared for her students."

As Eason-Watkins does each year, she asked those employees to stand with more than 10 years of service. She then increased the number to 15, 20, 25, 30, 35 and 40 years. Sandra Suzanne Kedo has the most at 41 and, while not in attendance, Joan Stewart was a close second with 40.

The 10 educators and staff members whose retirements were celebrated included: Julie Bietry (27 years), Sandra Suzanne Kedo (41 years), Connie LaRocco (38 years), Cynthia Licciardone (8 years), Richard Liwosz (27 years), Stan Mason (15 years), Donna Pangborn (16 years), Leslie Samelson (29 years), Joan Stewart (40 years) and Marsha Tappan (26 years).

More information about the MCAS Wall of Fame, including a list of past inductees, can be found at www.EducateMC.net/WOF



The pictured retirees are (from left) Sandra Suzanne Kedo, Leslie Samelson, Richard Liwosz, Marsha Tappan, Cynthia Licciardone, Donna Pangborn, Julie Bietry and Connie LaRocco. Not pictured are Stan Mason and Joan Stewart.

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The Return of a Beloved Tradition

The Three Oaks Flag Day Parade celebrated 70 years with numerous events, including its popular parade, on June 12. The festivities kicked off with a flag-raising ceremony at Elm and Maple streets. A flyover by a World War II military plane over downtown Three Oaks signified the start of the event. All photos by James Conlin



Songs of Praise to the South Shore Line

If you happened to ride South Shore Train 106 to Chicago on Feb. 28, you may have noticed more than a few photographers focusing on your train as it made its way westbound along 11th Street.

That's because history was in the making as the Chicago South Shore & South Bend Railroad, or simply the South Shore Line, was about to begin its ambitious double-tracking project. According to one of those photographers that cold morning, the project, scheduled for completion in 2024, will change the face of the last interurban.

Writing in the July 2022 issue of *Trains* magazine, Bruce Stahl said "railroad photographers from around the nation descended on the Carroll Avenue (Shops) station in Michigan City to catch the last glimpse of trains tying up after running directly on the pavement of 11th and 10th streets."

We who drive the streets of Michigan City know only too well the challenges of crossing those two streets as South Shore's operator, Northern Indiana Commuter Transportation District, begins its 25-mile Double Track Project.

You've read all about it by now, and you've seen the work they're doing along 10th and 11th streets to create a mostly separate right-of-way for the South Shore.



The perfect end to yet another "sunset cruise" in the summer on the South Shore.

Life With Charley

Charles McKelvy



According to Stahl, "Part of the Double Track Project is revamping the overall appearance of 11th Street, as well as some of 10th Street. A brand-new station will be built here, and during the project trains will stop at this location, as it will remain closed until completion. Buses will provide service across construction gaps, from Carroll Street on the east side of Michigan City west to Dune Park. The project will also require a substantial overhaul of existing infrastructure elsewhere, including new bridges, track, power lines and a plethora of other railroad equipment."

Stahl provides a plethora of information, plus great photographs, in his article in the periodical that presents itself as "THE magazine of railroad-ing" (Visit www.Trains.com for more information).

And, of course, you can and should contact the South Shore Line at www.mysouthshore.com for regular updates on the project.

Meanwhile, what I could and should do is sing a song of praise to the South Shore Line.

Granted, I did not grow up along the Chicago, Lake Shore & South Bend Railway, which first carved its route west from South Bend in 1907. Nor was I even a spark in my Daddy's eye in 1925 when Chicago utilities magnate Samuel Insull acquired the railroad and spent millions to modernize it.

But, as a wee lad in Chicago, I rode the Illinois Central — or IC electric trains, as we called them — from the city's South Shore neighborhood to Randolph Street station downtown. I remember seeing those orange trains from the South Shore Line pass as we rattled our way toward the Loop, once we

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climbed up on the main line.

Natalie and I first rode on one of those orange South Shore trains in the early 1980s when we traveled from Randolph Street to South Bend for a Fourth of July weekend party at a friend's house. They met us at the train station and asked how we liked riding the South Shore.

We loved it. Plain and simple. Granted, the air-conditioning system consisted of wrestling the windows open, but that old, Pullman-built electric train took us on a magic rail ride. We saw it all, from congested city neighborhoods to wide-open country spaces, on that full-length feature of what was even then being called "America's last interurban."

We were particularly intrigued that the train ran down the middle of 10th and 11th streets in Michigan City; we knew we had to come back for more.

And we did, after we moved full time to Southwest Michigan in June 1987. In no time flat, wise locals were telling us that the only good way to get to Chicago for the day, or weekend, was to "take the South Shore from Shops."

"Shops?"

"You'll figure it out."

And we did...and then some.

We came to rely on the South Shore for our affordable, reasonable and relaxing ride to and from our old sweet-home Chicago. We soon learned which trains to take going in, and which ones to catch, coming back to Shops. Soon, some of the conductors came to know us as the fun couple who liked to ride the South Shore.

I got to see the South Shore Line from a whole new perspective in October 2007 when I did a story for *The Beacher* on South Shore Freight. Yep, that was yours truly up there in the cab that gorgeous fall day. We didn't move at the fast clip I was used to on the South Shore, but, boy oh boy, did I ever learn

the ins and out of a busy freight line that operates on the same tracks as a busy passenger line.

Our happiest South Shore memories are of those years when we subscribed to a series of classical-music concerts at Chicago Symphony Orchestra and were card-carrying members of The Art Institute of Chicago.

We would head into Chicago on off-peak Train 14, which departed Shops at 8:37 a.m. That would reliably roll us into Van Buren Street station at 10:22 a.m., and we'd head from there to one of our low-budget eateries in The Loop. Not four-star restaurants, mind you, but hearty, affordable fare for the common folk. Then, we'd run some errands at some of our favorite shops and head to Orchestra Hall for the pre-concert lecture, heading to our seats for some of the best music in the world by one of the greatest orchestras in the world. We even got to know some of the musicians, and, yes, they are lovely people.

Then, after another standing ovation, we'd head across Michigan Avenue to while away the rest of the afternoon with the treasures of The Art Institute of Chicago. You know

that drill; I don't have to tell you what wonders one can behold in those galleries of great art of the ages.

Going home, we came to prefer the 5:28 p.m. from Millennium Station. We'd grab a bag of bagels at a place we liked, then settle in our seats on the starboard side and enjoy a sunset cruise down the old Illinois Central "Main Line of Mid-America" to Kensington, where the South Shore crossed to, well, the South Shore Line.

From there, it was all magic, especially that dash through the dunes at the end.

And it's still all magic on the South Shore Line.

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In this undated photo, a homeward-bound, rush-hour train stops at 11th and Franklin streets



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Indiana Dunes National Park

- **Chellberg Farm Open House from 1-3 p.m. Thursdays, June 23 and 30.** 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.
- **Beach Fun Friday from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Friday, June 24, at West Beach, 376 N. County Line Road, Gary.** Join staff for activities such as kayaking, paddleboarding and swimming. Passes are required.
- **Indiana Landmarks and the National Park Service will present the Logs to Lustrons Tour on June 25.** The tour features 17 sites, including nine interiors, spanning restored residences not normally open to the public and vacant landmarks in need of new use. Designs include log structures of early settlement days, Victorian-period frame homes and mid-century homes of glass, stucco and metal. Tour shuttles depart every 15 minutes from the Bailly Homestead/Chellberg Farm parking lot beginning at 8:30 a.m., with the last tour departing at 2 p.m. The tour lasts approximately three hours. Shuttles circulate throughout the tour so participants can spend more time at particular sites. Tour sites close in the order of the tour, starting at 2:30

p.m. All sites close by 5:30 p.m. Reservations are required, with a fee of \$30 for adults, \$25 for Indiana Landmarks members and free for children 16 and younger. Visit www.Logstolustronstour2022.eventbrite.com or call (317) 639-4534 for reservations. For a deeper insight into the homes, an evening lecture Friday, June 24, highlights the park's architecture and history. Tickets can be purchased on the Eventbrite site.

- **Folk Music at the Farm with Save the Tunes from 5-6 p.m. Sunday, June 26, at Chellberg Farm.** Local musicians from Save the Tunes will perform from the farmhouse porch. Take a blanket or folding chair. Passes are required.
- **Drop-In Volunteer Program (Trash Trekkers) from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. daily at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.** Trash Trekkers is a no-hassle volunteer option that helps keep trails and beaches clean. Temporary passes are available. Visit tinyurl.com/2p83798v for more details.
- **Sunset Paddle at Marquette Lagoons from 6-8 p.m. Thursdays in June.** 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 Summit Hike from 5-6:30 p.m. Friday, June 24, and 9-11 a.m. Sunday, June 26.** Meet at the parking lot off U.S. 12 for a ranger-led hike to the top of the dune. Passes are required. The parking lot and beach are open from 6 a.m.-11 p.m. The dune, however, is still closed.
- **Biking & Birding from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, June 25, 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 June.** 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.
- **Ranger's Choice Hike from 2-4 p.m. Tuesdays through June at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.** Join a ranger for the "best hike of the week," one based on what trail is most beautiful or most interesting that day. Meet at the visitor center, then follow the ranger to the trailhead. Passes are required.
- **Sunset Around the Fire at the Pavilion from 8 to 9 p.m. Wednesdays through June 29 at Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk, 100 Riverwalk Road.** Catch a Lake Michigan sunset from the pa-



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vilion, and roast marshmallows from the fireplace.



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:

- **Wetland Wander from 10-10:40 a.m. Thursday, June 23.** Take a 40-minute hike to Dunes Creek and explore breeding birds and underwater critters.
- **Bird Buffet from 9-9:30 a.m. Friday, June 24.** Help a naturalist fill bird feeders at the nature center, then play a game to learn how to better identify birds and animals.
- **Nature Scavenger Hunt from 2-3 p.m. Friday, June 24.** Stop by the Nature Center front desk to pick up directions. The hunts change weekly. The Friends of Indiana Dunes provides a prize.
- **Reptile Rendezvous from 10-10:30 a.m. Saturday, June 25.** Meet a naturalist at the Nature Center to see live turtles and snakes.
- **An Owl-some Amble from 8:30-10 p.m. Saturday, June 25.** Join a naturalist for an easy walk to call native owls of the Dunes.
- **Prickly Pear Promenade from 9-10 a.m. Sunday, June 26.** Join a naturalist at the beach pavilion for a 1.5-mile trek on Trail 3 to search for Indiana's only native cacti: the prickly pear.
- **Critter Dinner from 10-10:40 a.m. Monday, June 27.** Meet at the Nature Center as reptiles and amphibians eat live meals.
- **The J.D. Marshall Shipwreck Story from 10-10:40 a.m. Tuesday, June 28.** Meet at the Nature Center to learn about the sinking of the J.D. Marshall just offshore of IDSP.



Indiana Dunes State Park is at 1600 N. County Road 25 East (the north end of Indiana 49), Chester-ton. Call (219) 926-1390 to register for programs or 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 following programs are scheduled:

- **Summer Reading Weekly Events: Family Movie & Craft at 10 a.m. Thursday, June 23.** The screening is "Finding Dory," which is Rated PG.
- **MCPL Podcast Episode Release at 9 a.m. Friday, June 24.** "Discussions with Miss Dana" includes upcoming books and interviews with a librarian. Listen on Buzzsprout or through www.mclib.org/podcast.
- **Friday Afternoon at the Movies: "West Side Story" at 2 p.m. Friday, June 24.** The movie is Rated PG-13.
- **On Display in June: Work by local artist Edwin Levitin on the library gallery walls.** Levitin's career involved design and color in the textile field. At 77, he put his thoughts relating to everyday surroundings onto canvas. Now 94, he continues to create and has shown his work at the Purdue University Northwest Odyssey Arts and Cultural Events exhibit, Box Factory for the

Arts, Southern Shore Art Association and Chertonton Art Center.

- **Needle Arts Club from 5:30-7 p.m. Mondays in June.** 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 June.** 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 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.
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County Historical Society Now Indiana Lincoln Highway Control Station



The Lincoln Highway Association has designated LaPorte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave., as the Lincoln Highway's fifth control station in Indiana. The first coast-to-coast paved highway, The Lincoln Highway was completed in 1914. It was named for President Abraham Lincoln decades after his death. LaPorte County is one of the only counties in the country with sections of the original 1914 route and the 1928 route. LaPorte also was the birthplace of Anita King, famous silent film star and the first woman to drive across the country on the Lincoln Highway. The 1914 route went through the middle of LaPorte, giving Lincolnway its name. The 1928 route ran near U.S. 30 and Hanna. The original control station was located near the LaPorte County Courthouse. Pictured are State Rep. Jim Pressel, Lincoln Highway Association members, LaPorte Mayor Tom Dermody and LaPorte County Historical Society President Bruce Johnson.

Regional musical artists
are the featured organists at the
Wednesday Pipe Organ Concert Series
at

Christ Church, 531 Washington St.

The noon concerts begin at
12:15 p.m. Central time.

The church is home to an
**1891 Roosevelt
tracker pipe organ.**

The 21st season runs
through early August.
Performing organists
include
**Rhonda Edgington,
William Hallier,
Kent Jager, Mark Sudieth
and Ann Taylor Dobie**



Information: (219) 608-4719.

The portrait of Ann Dobie was painted by Michigan City artist Connie Kassal.



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Roosevelt Pipe Organ Series

The 21st season of the Roosevelt Pipe Organ Series continues at 12:15 p.m. Wednesday, June 29, at Christ Church, 531 Washington St.

The program is by Rhonda Sider Edgington. Seven years spent in Bremen, Germany (originally with a Fulbright scholarship), led to her passion for 17th century Germany repertoire and organs.

Edgington has played recitals at venues such as St. Paul Cathedral, Pittsburgh, West Point Cadet Chapel, N.Y., and Arizona State University, as well as on historic instruments in Germany. She has performed at numerous national and regional conventions of the American Guild of Organists and Organ Historical Society, and been heard on the radio program "Pipedreams."

She co-leads an educational tour for AGO's European chapter to visit organs of northern Germany, and was AGO dean of the Holland (Mich.) chapter for eight years.

She is the organist and music director at Hope Church, and teaches organ at Calvin University.

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



Edgington



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

- LaPorte County Fairgrounds, 2581 W. Indiana 2, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Thursday, June 23.
- Northwest Health Heart and Vascular Building, 901 Lincolnway, LaPorte, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Tuesday, June 28.
- St. John's United Church of Christ, 101 St. John Road, noon-6 p.m. Tuesday, June 28.
- American Legion, 107 N. Flynn Road, Westville, 1-6 p.m. Wednesday, June 29.

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.

Long Beach Summer Camp**Applications available June 1, 2022!****Dates:** June 20 – August 5**Days:** Monday – Friday**Time:** 9:00 – 11:30**Location:** Long Beach Community Center**Ages:** 3-11**Fee:** Resident Full Camp: \$160.00

Non-Resident Full Camp: \$220.00

Resident Weekly: \$60.00

Non-Resident Weekly: \$80.00

Weekly Themes

Week 1: Great Outdoors

Week 2: Holidays, Hooray!

Week 3: Kaboom!

(No Camp July 4)

Week 4: Construction Chaos

Week 5: All Star Sports

Week 6: Shark Week

Week 7: Superheroes

Registration forms are available at the Long Beach Town Hall, Long Beach Community Center, and online at longbeachin.org.

Any questions email

longbeachsummercamp@gmail.com.◆ **Landscape Lighting** ◆**Thoughtful design and installation.****Extraordinarily artful can be your look.****Text 219.210.0543**

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JROTC Part of Holiday Events, Leadership Camp

Michigan City High School's Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps participated in numerous Memorial Day events honoring those who have served their nation or passed away.

Activities included placing flags on veterans' graves at Greenwood Cemetery, manning the Washington Park bridge for Rolling Thunder (veterans motorcyclists) and marching in the Michigan City Memorial Day parade. The culminating event was the memorial ceremony at Greenwood Cemetery.

The cadets also assisted other Michigan City organizations in May. These included: Lake Hills Elementary School's Science, Technology, Engineering and Math day; the Soul Steppers performance at Krueger Middle School; and the Keys for Hope Community Resource Center.

The MCJROTC will be busy this summer. Cadets assisted in the MCHS graduation June 12. They also conducted a week-long leadership camp at St. John's Military Academy and Fort McCoy Army Post, both in Wisconsin. Cadets were put into physical and problem-solving events, including rappelling off a 60-foot tower, negotiating height and water-related obstacles and locating points in a large field by using a compass. Among the cadets' leaders were varsity football players Tristan Sherwood and Damian Sanchez.



Cadets do the wall climb.



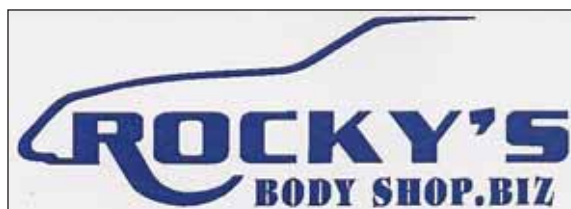
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LaPorte County Public Library

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

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

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

The following programs are planned:

- **Girls Who Code Club (Grades 5-8) from 1-3 p.m. Thursday, June 23, in the Main Library Multipurpose Room.** Explore coding and technology, and build leadership skills.
- **Maker Cart Pop Up from 4-5 p.m. Thursday, June 23, and Tuesday, June 28, 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, June 24.** The socially distanced storytime includes rhymes, music and activities.
- **Interactive Movie at the Library from 1-3 p.m. Saturday, June 25, in Meeting Room B at the Main Library.** The program is family friendly.
- **Readers Corner — Book Club from 6-7 p.m. Tuesday, June 28, 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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(Low Net)

A Flight

Low Gross: Sandy Baldwin, Jane Shuger.

Low Net: Jane Shuger.

Low Putts: Jane Spang.

Event: Sandy Baldwin, Jane Shuger.

B Flight

Low Gross: Paula Hutchinson.

Low Net: Carol Tylisz.

Low Putts: Ev Cassin, Sandra Provan.

Event: Paula Hutchinson, Carol Tylisz.

C Flight

Low Gross: Mary Schlunz.

Low Net: Mary Schlunz.

Low Putts: Laurie Wink.

Event: Bev Szybala.

LBCC Women's Golf Leagues 9-Hole League



June 9, 2022
Event: Regular Golf

A FLIGHT

Low Net — J. Andreotti, E. Nondorf, K. Peters.

Low Putts — Mary O'Neil.

Birdies — Vicki Hill (5).

B FLIGHT

Low Net — June Salmon.

Low Putts — Nancy Trainor.

Sunken Approaches — Kathy Kenefick (4).

C FLIGHT

Low Net — Amanda Ferlmann.

Low Putts — Catherine Kelly.

Sunken Approaches — Catherine Kelly (18).

D FLIGHT

Low Net — Carrie Noland.

Low Putts — Jackie Purcell.

Sunken Approaches — Ann Daley (8).



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Art Show Winners Announced



Carleen O'Connor Rivera won Best in Show for her acrylic painting "On Guard" during the Chesterton Woman's Club 70th Annual Art Show. Pictured is Jenny Gaff, CWC Art Show chair, with "On Guard." Other award winners in *The Beacher's* readership area include: Kevin Firme, Dorothy Graden, Carol Hazelgrove, Patricia Herman, Laurel Izard, Julie Kasniunas, Kristina Knowski, Suzy Vance and James B. Vanes. The public can view the display through June 30 at Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St.

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Friday: 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Closed: Saturday & Sunday

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LCSO Director Adds New Post

The University of Illinois School of Music has appointed Dr. Carolyn Watson to its fall faculty as director of orchestras.

"In addition to conducting her own ensembles and teaching individual conducting students, Dr. Watson will be responsible for overseeing the overall orchestra programs, which is of national renown," the school's director, Jeffrey Sposato, said in a press release.



Watson

Watson comes from the University of Kansas at Lawrence, where she served as director of orchestral studies. Originally from Australia, she has performed all over the world, and serves as music director of LCSO and principal guest conductor of the Kansas City Chamber Orchestra.

"The LCSO is so happy for Carolyn," LCSO Executive Director Tim King said in a press release. "Geographically, this puts her closer to the LCSO, where she will continue to present outstanding concerts as we roll out our 50th anniversary programs and activities."

Independence Day Events

Three events are planned over two weekends to celebrate Independence Day in Michigan City.

The Kiddie Parade returns to the Uptown Arts District at 11 a.m. Saturday, June 25. The theme, "Red, White, Blue & You," will feature youth dressing in costume and decorating their entries. The route starts at 11 a.m. at Seventh and Franklin street, then heads north to Michigan City Public Library. Parents can register their children for free at www.emichigancity.com/1247/Kiddie-Parade

A second event scheduled for June 25, "Venetian Night," Michigan City's boat parade, was canceled due to a lack of participation.

Michigan City on July 2 will hold its annual Patriotic Parade, which travels Franklin Street south from 10th Street to Ames Field. Starting at 11 a.m., the parade features floats, bands and organizations. This year's theme is "United We Stand!" Those wanting to sign up should visit www.emichigancity.com/1249/Patriotic-Parade. Participation is free.

The Independence Day celebration concludes Monday, July 4, with the Michigan City Fireworks Spectacular in Washington Park. The community will line the beach and boats will fill the water to watch the traditional celebration. In addition, 95.9 WEFM will broadcast patriotic music.

Read The Beacher On Line

<http://www.thebeacher.com/>

MC Messiah Concert

Michigan City Messiah will present the concert "A Sacred Journey" at 3:30 p.m. Sunday, June 27, at St. Mary the Immaculate Conception, 411 W. 11th St.



Bauman



Jones



McMurray

Directed by Phillip Bauman, and accompanied by Pat Lee, the music will include selections from the Renaissance, Baroque, Classical and Romantic periods. Kim Jones and Bill McMurray are the soloists on Gabriel Fauré "Requiem."

This is the second year Michigan City Messiah has balanced its Christmas performances with performances elsewhere in the year.

No tickets are required; however, donations will be accepted, with online donations made at www.MCMessiah.com

10-Digit Dialing Now Mandatory

Ten-digit dialing is official for Indiana, Illinois and Michigan residents.

Those affected are: Indiana residents with (219) and (574) area codes; Illinois residents with (309) (618) and (708) area codes; and Michigan residents with (616), (810), (906) and (989) area codes.

A 10-digit call requires the three-digit area code and seven-digit telephone number, even when calling someone in the same area code. The change does not affect a current telephone number. In the case of the Illinois (708) number, the 10-digit number may have to use trunk code 1, which is known as 1+10-digit dialing, or national, format.

Why is this required? According to the Federal Communications Commission, "as more area codes begin to run out of new seven-digit numbers to assign, a second local area code may be added, requiring that area to transition to ten-digit dialing."

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Prayer to the Blessed Virgin

(Never known to fail.)

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



In the Area

June 22-July 2 — Canterbury Summer Theatre, “Streakin’ Thru the ‘70s!,” 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

June 23 — Summer Reading Weekly Events: Family Movie & Craft, 10 a.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Movie: “Finding Dory.” Free. Info: (219) 873-3049.

June 23 — Michigan City Municipal Band, 7:30 p.m., Washington Park’s Guy F. Foreman Bicentennial Amphitheater.

June 23 — Arts in the Park, LaPorte’s Fox Park, Truesdell Avenue. Visions of Santana (Santana Tribute Band)/7 p.m.; preconcert: Lakeshore Performing Arts/6 p.m. *June 22*: LaPorte City Band/7 p.m. Info: contact@artsintheparklaporte.com

June 23, 28 — Maker Cart Pop Up, 4-5 p.m., Coolspring Library Branch, 6925 W. County Road 400 North. Info: www.laportelibrary.org

June 24 — MCPL Podcast Episode Release, 9 a.m., through Michigan City Public Library. Link: Buzzsprout, www.mclib.org/podcast

June 24 — Friday Afternoon at the Movies: “West Side Story,” 2 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Free. Info: (219) 873-3049.

June 24-26 — Fellowship Fest, Pioneerland at LaPorte County Fairgrounds, 2581 W. Indiana 2. Info: <https://fellowshipfest.org/flfwr49/>

June 25 — Cookie decorating, 10-11 a.m., Long Beach Community Center, 2501 Oriole Trail. Cost: \$10. Registration: longbeachactivities@gmail.com

June 25 — July 4th Kiddie Parade, 11 a.m., Seventh & Franklin streets to library. Free registration: www.emichigancity.com/1247/Kiddie-Parade

June 25 — Interactive Movie at the Library, 1-3 p.m., Meeting Room B @ LaPorte County Public Library, 904 Indiana Ave. Info: www.laportelibrary.org

June 27 — Michigan City Messiah concert, “A Sacred Journey,” 3:30 p.m., St. Mary the Immaculate Conception, 411 W. 11th St. Free; donations accepted @ www.MCMessiah.com

June 28 — Readers Corner — Book Club, 6-7 p.m., Coolspring Library Branch, 6925 W. County Road 400 North. Info: www.laportelibrary.org

June 29 — Roosevelt Pipe Organ Series, Rhonda Edgington, 12:15 p.m., Christ Church, 531 Washington St. Info: (219) 608-5358.

Through June — Work by local artist Edwin Levitin, Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

Through June — Local artist Elda Rundzaitis, The Legacy Center Gallery @ Queen of All Saints Catholic Church, 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.

Through July 2 — “God of Carnage,” Dunes Summer Theatre, 288 Shady Oak Drive, Michiana Shores. Times: 7 p.m. Fri.-Sat./2 p.m. Sun. Tickets: \$25, \$20 (students/seniors). Reservations: (219) 879-7509, www.dunesARTS.org, or buy at door.

Through Oct. 21 — “moniquemeloché presents...,” Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St. Opening reception: 5-8 p.m. July 1. 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 June — Needle Arts Club, 5:30-7 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

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

Fridays and Sundays through June — Mount Baldy Summit Hike, 5-6:30 p.m. Fridays/9-11 a.m. Sundays. Meet @ parking lot off U.S. 12, Michigan City. Info: (219) 395-1882, www.nps.gov/indu

Saturdays — Turn Up Dance Fitness with Stacy G., 8:30-9:30 a.m., Mullin Elementary School (outside). Cost: \$5 paid at class.

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

In the Region

June 23 — Wetland Wander, 10-10:40 a.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

June 23 — The Common Concert Series, 7-9 p.m. EDT, Buchanan, Mich. Entertainment: Blue Water Ramblers. Info: The Common - Buchanan, MI on Facebook.

June 23 — Cracker, 8 p.m. EDT, The Acorn, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: general/\$45, reserved/\$70. Reservations: www.acorn-live.org

June 23, 30 — 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.

June 24 — Beach Fun Friday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., West Beach, 376 N. County Line Road, Gary. Info: www.nps.gov/indu, (219) 395-1882.

June 24 — Bird Buffet, 9-9:30 a.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

June 24 — Nature Scavenger Hunt, 2-3 p.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

June 24 — The Newports' Last Dance, 8 p.m. EDT, The Acorn, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: general/\$20, reserved/\$45. Reservations: www.acornlive.org

June 25 — Logs to Lustrons Tour, 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Bailly Homestead/Chellberg Farm parking lot, Mineral Springs Road parking lot between U.S. 12/20, Porter. Cost: \$30/adults, \$25/Indiana Landmarks members, free/children 16 & younger. Reservations: www.Logstolustronstour2022.eventbrite.com, (317) 639-4534.

June 25 — An Owl-some Amble, 8:30-10 p.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

June 26 — Prickly Pear Promenade, 9-10 a.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

June 26 — Folk Music at the Farm with Save the Tunes, 5-6 p.m., Chellberg Farm, Mineral Springs Road parking lot between U.S. 12/20, Porter. Info: www.nps.gov/indu, (219) 395-1882.

June 26 — Sunday Simmer Sessions at the Box (host: Andrew Fisher), 5:30 p.m. EDT, The Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Mich. Tickets: \$10. Info: <https://boxfactoryforthearts.org>

June 28 — The J.D. Marshall Shipwreck Story, 10-10:40 a.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

June 28 — Bridgman (Mich.) Public Library Zoom program, Diana Raab & Writing for Bliss: A Seven-Step Plan for Telling Your Story and Transforming Your Life, 6 p.m. EDT. Zoom link: www.bridgmanlibrary.com

June 29 — Abbie Thomas Band-Midwest Made, 7 p.m. EDT, The Acorn, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: general/\$15, reserved/\$40. Reservations: www.acornlive.org

Through July 3 — Michiana Annual Arts Competition, Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Mich. Info: <https://boxfactoryforthearts.org>, <https://facebook.com/boxfactoryarts>

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.

Tuesdays through June — Ranger's Choice Hike, 2-4 p.m., Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. Info: (219) 395-1882, www.nps.gov/indu

Wednesdays in June — Sunset Around the Fire at the Pavilion, 8-9 p.m., Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk, 100 Riverwalk Road. Info: (219) 395-1882, www.nps.gov/indu

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

Thursdays in June — Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra 2022 Summer Pop Up Concert Series, 4 p.m. EDT, Maud Preston Palenske Memorial Library, 500 Market St., St. Joseph, Mich. June 23: Quartet (Irina Kagan, Nic Orbovich, Sean Diller, Sara Thomas). Info: www.smso.org

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

Vickers Theatre — *Now Showing*: "Jazz Fest: A New Orleans Story." Not Rated. Times: 6 p.m. June 23, 3 p.m. June 24-26, 6 p.m. June 27. *Also*: "Benediction." Rated PG-13. Times: 6 p.m. June 24-26, 2:45 p.m. June 27. *Also*: Paintings by Annie Hickman (June 30-late August). All times Eastern. Theater address: 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. Info: www.vickerstheatre.com, (269) 756-3522.

The deadline to submit entries in
Upcoming Events is noon Thursdays



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.

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Oh, most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh, Star of the 'Sea, help me and show me, herein you are my mother. Oh Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth! I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in

this necessity. There are none that can withstand your power. Oh, show me herein you are my mother. Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3x). Holy Mother, I place this cause in your hands (3x). Holy Spirit, you who solve all problems, light all roads so that I can attain my goal. You who gave me the divine gift to forgive and forget all evil against me and that in all instances in my life you are with me. I want in this short prayer to thank you for all things as you confirm once again that I never want to be separated from you in Eternal Glory. Thank you for your mercy toward me and mine. The person must say this prayer 3 consecutive days. After 3 days, the request will be granted. This prayer must be published after the favor is granted.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

On June 23, 1868, Christopher Latham Sholes, a Wisconsin journalist and state senator, received a patent for his "Type-Writer."

On June 23, 1892, the Democratic convention in Chicago nominated former President Grover Cleveland on the first ballot.

On June 23, 1904, the Republican National Convention, meeting in Chicago, nominated President Theodore Roosevelt and Vice President Charles Fairbanks for a second term.

On June 23, 1969, Warren Burger succeeded Earl Warren as chief justice of the Supreme Court.

On June 24, 1497, the first recorded sighting of the North American mainland took place when John Cabot, on a voyage for England, sighted what is probably, present-day Canada.

On June 24, 1647, Margaret Brent, a niece of Lord Baltimore, was ejected from the Maryland Assembly after demanding a place and vote in that governing body.

On June 24, 1947, in what may be the first report of "flying saucers," Kenneth Arnold, of Boise, Idaho, said he saw nine "shining saucer-like objects" over Washington's Mount Rainier.

On June 24, 1983, Sally Ride, America's first female astronaut in space, and the crew of the Challenger made a safe landing at Edwards Air Force Base in California.

On June 25, 1798, Congress passed a law requiring immigrants to live in the United States for 14 years before becoming eligible for citizenship.

On June 25, 1938, President Franklin Roosevelt signed into law the "Fair Labor Standards Act."

On June 25, 1951, the first commercial color telecast took place as CBS transmitted a one-hour special from New York to four other cities.

On June 25, 1967, the Beatles performed a new song, "All You Need Is Love," during a live international telecast.

On June 25, 1999, the San Antonio Spurs won their first NBA title as they defeated the New York Knicks, 78-77, in five games.

On June 26, 1844, in New York, President John Tyler married Julie Gardiner.

On June 26, 1870, in Atlantic City, N.J., the first section of the famous Boardwalk opened to the public.

On June 26, 1894, the American Railway Union called a general strike in sympathy with striking Pullman workers.

On June 26, 1919, the first issue of *The Illustrat-*

ed Daily News was published in New York by Robert R. McCormick and Joseph Medill Patterson. It now goes under the name *The New York Daily News*.

On June 26, 1925, Charlie Chaplin's comedy "The Gold Rush" premiered in Hollywood.

On June 26, 1963, President John F. Kennedy, in a speech in Berlin, made the statement "*Ich bin ein Berliner*" ("I am a Berliner.")

On June 27, 1847, New York and Boston were linked by telegraph wires.

On June 27, 1893, prices collapsed on the New York Stock Exchange, setting off a world-wide depression.

On June 27, 1963, President John Kennedy spent his first full day in Ireland, the home of his ancestors.

On June 27, 1980, President Jimmy Carter signed legislature reviving the draft registration.

On June 27, 1984, the motion picture industry approved a PG-13 in its system of film ratings.

On June 27, 1993, actress Julia Roberts and singer Lyle Lovett were married in Marion, Ind.

On June 28, 1778, at the Revolutionary War Battle of Monmouth, N.J., aid given the colonials by Mary Ludwig Hays, who became known as Molly Pitcher, made her a heroine in American history.

On June 28, 1894, Congress designated the first Monday in September as Labor Day. It was originally a holiday only for federal employees and the District of Columbia.

On June 28, 1904, blind-deaf student Helen Keller graduated with honors from Radcliffe College.

On June 28, 1996, The Citadel voted to admit women, ending a 153-year-old men-only policy at the South Carolina military school.

On June 29, 1941, Ignace Paderewski, Polish statesman, pianist and composer, died in New York at age 80.

On June 29, 1967, Jerusalem was re-unified when Israel removed barricades separating the "Old City" from the Israeli sector.

On June 29, 1972, the Supreme Court ruled the way the death penalty was usually enforced constituted "cruel and unusual punishment."

On June 29, 1982, the extended deadline for passage of the Equal Rights Amendment expired, still three states short of the 38 required.

On June 29, 1984, the Soviet Union offered to negotiate with the United States on banning weapons from outer space.

On June 29, 1995, the shuttle Atlantis and the Russian-built space station Mir docked in orbit.

On June 29, 2003, 13 people were killed when a third-floor porch collapsed during a party in Lincoln Park, Ill.

On June 29, 2005, President George W. Bush said he was creating a national security service to specialize in intelligence as part of a shakeup of the disparate U.S. spy agencies.

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• Power Washing. **Jeffery Human, owner – (219) 861-1990.****HP Electric LLC****(219) 363-9069**

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Miller Pizza By the Beach, 1012 N. Karwick Road, is taking applications for employment. Apply within. No phone calls, please.

The Beacher is seeking someone to deliver the newspaper on Tuesdays. A few businesses are included among the stops, but it's mostly homes in beach communities. The person, who will be paid, must have his/her own vehicle. The individual currently in the position will train the new employee for a few weeks to familiarize him/her with the route. If interested, call (219) 879-0088 and ask for Drew Tallackson, email drew@thebeacher.com or stop by our office, 911 Franklin St.**HELP WANTED: F/T P/T Front desk and Maintenance**Apply within at Beachwalk Vacation Rentals
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Friday, June 24, 8 a.m.-4 p.m./Saturday, June 25, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.

No early birds. Do not block mailboxes or driveways.

Household Moving Sale: 203 Hoosier Drive, MichianaSaturday, June 25, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. CT
Beds, Rugs, Patio Set, Armoires, etc.**WANT TO BUY****WANTED:** I buy all types of antiques and collectibles, including toys, advertising, military items and more. **Call Matt at (219) 794-6500.****Wanted: Fishing tackle.** Buying all kinds of fishing tackle. Tackle boxes, lures, reels, collectibles, toys, misc. **Call/text (219) 873-6568.****HOME WATCH****NOW IN OUR FIFTH YEAR! • HOME WATCH SERVICES**Home Watch of Southwest Michigan provides periodic house checks to 2nd homes, ensuring peace of mind while you're away. **INSURED, ACCREDITED, BONDED.** For a courtesy visit and free quote, contact us today! info@mihomewatch.com • (269) 281-4584 • www.mihomewatch.com **Serving Berrien & LaPorte counties along the shores of Lake Michigan****REAL ESTATE****COMMERCIAL – RENTALS/LEASE/SELL****EXECUTIVE OFFICE SPACE FOR WORKING PROFESSIONALS**

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RENTALS MICHIGAN**Original single-room Michiana teacher's log cottage available for rent** in the tranquil beach community of Michiana Shores. This 500 square-foot home is built on an exceptionally large 125 x 125 foot lot. There is a fire pit, outdoor grill and flex space garage located adjacent to home. The home has deeded beach access at Stop 37, which is only a 10-minute walk from the property! \$4,200/month, 2-4 person occupancy. Monthly rental only. Available July 1-Oct. 30.

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Sparring Partners by John Grisham (*hardcover, \$28.95 retail in bookstores and online; also available as an eBook and an audiobook. 306 pages.*)

I am an avowed Grisham Groupie. With no apologies. I enjoy his stories, his vast legal knowledge and his easily readable style that keeps me turning pages like a well-oiled reading machine.

This is novel No. 40. Very impressive, and don't forget that a number of his books made it to the big screen. He also has written a series of seven young adult novels — the Theodore Boone books.

This time, Grisham has tried something new — three novellas in one edition. Again, all involve the law in one way or another and include “Strawberry Moon (a look at a prisoner on death row), “Homecoming” (a disgraced lawyer wants to come home) and “Sparring Partners” (a family of lawyers with an interesting look at life and family).

Let me give you a rundown of these three very different, yet very engrossing stories that are sad, even funny (not ha-ha, but funny strange) and centered on brotherly (not-so-much) love.

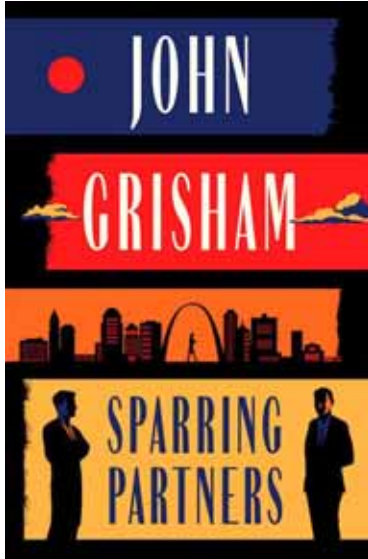
“Homecoming” brings back Mack Stafford, a fellow lawyer and friend of Jake Brigance, in Clanton, Miss., the small town introduced in Grisham's first novel, *A Time to Kill*.

It's been three years since Mack disappeared from Clanton. He divorced his wife, filed bankruptcy and left with a pile of cash he stole from clients. He's back in the states and contacts Jake, wanting him to find out if the coast is clear, that is — are the state or feds after him? And will he arrange a meeting with his older daughter?

The best laid plans...did Mack really think coming back would be even possible? Oh yes, I forgot to mention — his ex-wife is dying of cancer. As I said, it's a small town, and soon rumors are flying that Mack has been seen in the area, and Jake is hounded by the residents, as well as the press, for answers to questions he can't answer even if he wanted to.

Beside the obvious problems of reuniting with his children, it's interesting how Jake goes about checking if any authorities are looking for Mack without putting himself in jeopardy. One thing's for sure, there will be no parade for Mack's homecoming.

“Strawberry Moon” is the most emotional of the three novellas. Cody Wallace has been on death row for 15 years, and the clock has run out for him. No



Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter



more appeals, no governor coming to his rescue, Cody will die this night at 9 p.m. His only visitor has been his lawyer, Jack Barber, who has come to like Cody and believes he got a raw deal.

Cody was only 14 when he was part of a robbery that went horribly wrong and his friend killed a man. Cody was caught and charged as an adult for the wrongful death.

He does have hundreds of paperback books, sent by an elderly lady who read about his case. They have exchanged letters over the years, too.

Cody has come to accept his fate, eats his last meal and finds after all these years, he has a real visitor — Iris Vanderkamp — the lady who sent those books and letters.

After she leaves, Cody has one more request of his jailer...

This is a quiet, contemplative story that hits the center of the death penalty controversy. No surprise, Grisham is on the board of the Innocence Project, dedicated to saving the wrongfully convicted.

Then there's “Sparring Partners,” the longest and most explosive of the three novellas.

Dad, Bolton Malloy, is in jail, more about that in a minute. Two sons now run the business. Did I mention they hate each other? It makes for a... sorry, can't think of one all-encompassing adjective to describe their relationship. Contentious comes to mind, along with that pure, unadulterated hatred of each other. Opposite ends of the rainbow are Bolton's sons, Kirk and Rusty Malloy. They even have separate wings of their office building, with Diantha Bradshaw in the middle. She's a lawyer whom all parties involved actually trust. She is strategically situated to keep peace and open communication between the brothers.

Rusty is the take-no-prisoners lawyer, while his brother, Kirk, is the more sensible. With Dad out of the picture, the firm is running on empty, both morally and financially.

How much can one person absorb before they take things in their own hands? We all have our breaking point. There's Rusty's leaking money like a hole in the plumbing, and Bolton quietly planning out his early release from prison and a retirement far, far away. And Kirk? He's in the middle of a divorce case...his own.

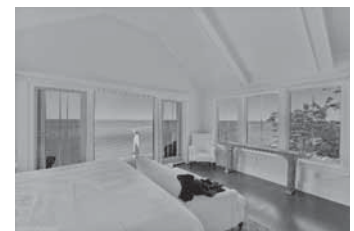
Not a surprise, Grisham is one of the world's best-selling authors.

Till next time, happy reading!

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