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Walkway of Honor

by Kim Nowatzke

It's simple, yet poignant.

Inexpensive, yet priceless.

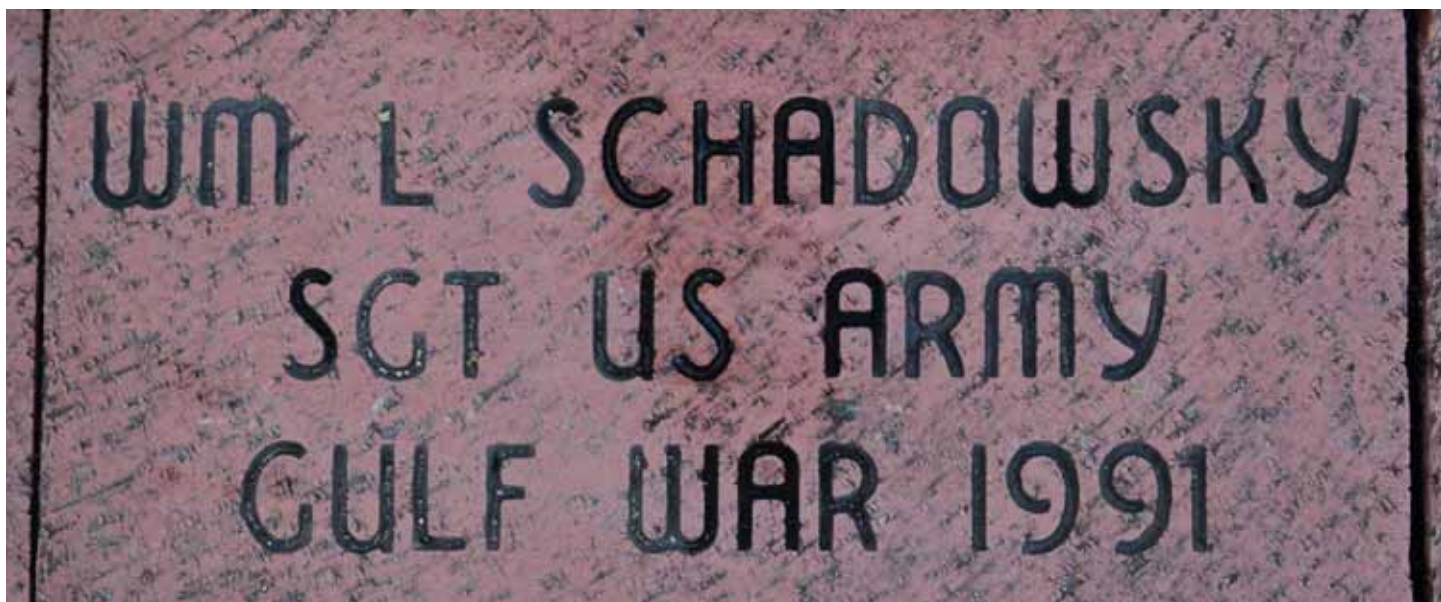
Time-sensitive, yet timeless.

"It's a way of honoring our veterans in LaPorte County," Darrel Cavin, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1130 commander in LaPorte, stated simply. "It's the main reason we started it."

Cavin is referring to the Veterans Walkway of Honor at Soldiers Memorial Park, 250 Pine Lake Ave., LaPorte. A current total of 50 sections containing 2,602 bricks forms the winding walkway that honors living and deceased LaPorte County veterans. Each brick, purchased for a

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Bill Schadowsky, who served 20 years in the U.S. Army, Indiana Army National Guard and U.S. Army Reserves, is shown here with his truck in late February 1991 in Saudi Arabia.



The Veterans Walkway of Honor brick with Bill Schadowsky's information.

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Walkway of Honor

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nominal \$25 fee to cover material and inscription costs, contains three lines of information, including the veteran's name and other details such as branch of service or dates of time served. The deadline each year to purchase a brick is Jan. 1, with applications available at the LaPorte mayor's office, American Legions, VFW Post 1130 and from committee members.

The walkway dedication ceremony each year is held the second Saturday in June. The public is invited, and those veterans whose bricks are being inducted are invited to stand and be recognized.

Last year, 84 bricks were dedicated. So far, 47 are scheduled for the 24th annual event at 2 p.m. June 10, 2023, at the park.

The walkway contains a permanent alphabetical index to locate a veteran's brick by section, with the first section reserved for Medal of Honor recipients.

In December 2021, the walkway received somewhat of a facelift when Nolan Ryan, a member of Boy Scout Troop 871 in Michigan City, refurbished it as part of his Eagle Scout project. With the help of his father, brother and fellow troop members, he reset new wood planks. In some cases, this involved actually taking out the bricks, at times removing tree roots, leveling the ground, covering the walkway with locking sand and reinstalling the bricks.

"The outside of the walkway was rotting," Gavin said. "They took it all out and put in new lumber. It looks beautiful. The timber is treated so it will weather better. It was a very nice thing they did for us."

LaPorte residents Bill and Cathy Schadowsky



In addition to the Veterans Walkway of Honor at Soldiers Memorial Park, other monuments exist such as this one for Vietnam veterans.

were "very impressed" with the walkway. So, for one of the first installments, they decided to purchase bricks honoring Bill's service, that of his father, Louis A. Schadowsky, a World War II veteran who served as a paratrooper; and that of his father-in-law, Walter F. Geyer, who was a baker during WWII. They ordered more bricks for others that year, and Bill's cousins have bought bricks for their fathers as well.

Bill retired as a staff sergeant after 20 years of service. He initially served in the U.S. Army from 1973-1976, then two years in the Indiana Army National Guard, then nearly 16 years in the U.S. Army Reserve.



The first section of the Veterans Walkway of Honor at Soldiers Memorial Park is reserved for Medal of Honor recipients.

During his years of service, which included the Gulf War, Bill served in Panama, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Iraq, and all over the United States. He was deployed six different times to Germany; in fact, he and Jodi were married in April 1990, and he ended up in Germany for their three-month and six-month anniversaries. Then, for their nine-month and one-year anniversaries, he was serving in the Gulf War.

Bill began as a dial central office repairman in a telephone exchange at seven different installments in Panama. Next, he served as a combat engineer in the Indiana Army National Guard, then as a truck driver in the U.S. Army Reserves.

The idea for the walkway came about when, during the term of Mayor Elmo Gonzales, Committee Member Barbara Hagenow read an article in a VFW magazine about a similar walkway in Mississippi. She and her husband, James (Jim) Hagenow, began to rally support for the project along with the support of Committee Chairman Robert Cutler Sr.



The late Robert Cutler Sr., Barbara Hagenow and Jim Hagenow are credited for the origin of the Veteran's Walkway of Honor.

Cutler served as the first LaPorte County veterans service officer and was named LaPorte County Veteran of the Year in 1996. He was a captain in the U.S. Army who served in the European and Pacific theaters during WWII. Hagenow served in the U.S. Navy for 20 years from 1955-1975, followed by 10 years in the Navy Reserve.

In the beginning, only \$12 existed in the walkway's treasury. Through efforts by Cutler and the Hagenows, the necessary funding and resources were obtained. There also was a donation from Robert Cutler Sr.'s wife at his passing in 1999. The Hagenows are deceased today as well.

Bricks for Kevin Banda and his late father-in-law, Richard (Dick) Urban, will be one of those included in the 2023 installation. His wife, Jodi Banda, and her two sisters, Linda Hopper and Diana Urban, were discussing purchasing one for Dick Urban, who passed away in 2008, when their mother, Darlene Urban, stepped in wanting to buy one for her late husband and another for Kevin.

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Walkway of Honor

Continued from Page 3



A brick for Kevin Banda will be part of the 2023 installation. He is a Desert Storm veteran who served in the U.S. Marines from 1990-1998.

"The brick is more about Dick than me. I'm all about my veterans – I want to honor them," Kevin said. "I'm more about taking care of my brothers and sisters than myself."

Kevin is a trustee of VFW Post 1130, as well as third district senior vice commander; in addition, he held the title of past commander from 2001-2022. A Desert Storm veteran, he served in the U.S. Marines from 1990-1998 and was discharged

as a sergeant. Kevin was stationed at Camp Pendleton, Calif., and served in Kuwait during Operation Liberty. He was part of the 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines, 1st Marine Division Golf Company, 2nd Platoon, 0311 Infantry.

Urban also served as commander of American Legion Franklin Edward Skwiat Post 451 from 1974-1975 and 1989-1990. During World War II, he served as a bulk fuel operator. He was in the 3704

Army Air Force Unit and stationed at Keesler Field, Miss. He also was in the 28th Airdrome Squadron, stationed at British Guiana (later renamed Guyana) and responsible for driving the emergency light truck used to illuminate a field in case of an emergency.

Jodi is an auxiliary member of VFW Post 1130 through her father.

"I think it's a cool tribute," she said of the walkway. "It's something that will be around for a long time. I don't know many people that have this."

Kevin encourages veterans or their family/friends to consider ordering a brick.

"It's to memorialize our veterans – to show our generations to come that these are the defenders of our constitution," he said.

Current members of the Mayor's Council for Veteran's Affairs, which is responsible for coordinating walkway inductees each year, are: Darrel Cavin, Barb Cavin, Rich Mrozinski, Larry Pinkerton, George Watkins, Roger Galloway, Joy Loeffler,



A brick for Richard ("Dick") Urban will be included in the next installment. During World War II, he served as a bulk fuel operator

Joanne Janisch, Doug Biege and Lesa Rosenbaum.

Annette Loeffler, the administrative assistant to the LaPorte mayor, purchased a brick for her son, Kyle Loeffler, and his wife, Joy, during one of the first years of the walkway.

Kyle, a LaPorte resident, served in the U.S. Navy from January 1998-November 2002. He was based at the Naval Air Facility El Centro in El Centro, Calif., and at the Naval Air Station Oceana at Virginia Beach, Va. Kyle was assigned to the VFA131 F18 squadron, nicknamed "The Wildcats," and the aircraft carrier USS John F. Kennedy.

"We were on one of the first aircraft carriers after 9/11," he shared. "On March 11, 2002, we started striking Taliban targets in Afghanistan."

Upon his discharge from the U.S. Navy, Kyle was a Second Class Petty Officer and held positions of an aviation electronics technician in radar communications, navigation and weapons release control.

Kyle met his wife, Joy, in El Centro. She also was a Second Class Petty Officer after her service in the U.S. Navy from December 1996-November 2004. Joy built and assembled bombs in the aviation and ordnance departments. Joy was stationed on the USS Bataan (LHD-5) in Norfolk, Va. She has served on the Mayor's Council for Veteran's Affairs for the past four years.



A 1998 photo of Kyle Loeffler, who served in the U.S. Navy from January 1998-November 2002, and a 1996 photo of Joy Loeffler, who served in the U.S. Navy from December 1996-November 2004.

"She built them and my system guided them," Kyle explained.

In past years, the Loefflers have purchased bricks for Kyle's grandfather, Ronald Loeffler Sr., a WWII Navy veteran, and Kyle's uncle, Ronald Loeffler Jr., a Marines Vietnam veteran. This year, they are adding another brick for Kyle's uncle, Mark Loeffler, another Marine Vietnam veteran.

"We've made sure that every veteran that has served in our family has gotten a brick," Kyle said. "It's amazing that LaPorte County recognizes their veterans. Any service at all, you can be recognized. For years to come, your family can find their veteran's brick."

Joy added, simply, "It's history."

Barker Hall Now Home to Valparaiso Oldtime Dance Society Events



Michigan City is now home to events presented by Valparaiso Oldtime Dance Society, the next scheduled from 7-10 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 12 at Barker Hall at Trinity Episcopal Church, 600 Franklin Square.

The Nov. 12 program marks the second Contra Dance at Barker Hall. The group has hosted such dances in Valparaiso and Chesterton for more than 20 years. However, this is its first foray into a larger venue such as Barker Hall. The first Michigan City dance proved successful, with nearly 40 people attending, including children and seniors.

Contra dancing is derived from folk dancing and often includes long lines of couples.

All dances are taught, starting with simple steps and adding to each successive dance. Hoosier Recruits, an eight-10 piece dance band, presents live music. The Nov. 12 caller is Meg Dedolf from Chicago. On Dec. 10, the caller is Casey Mullany from South Bend. Masks are recommended.

Admission is \$8, \$4 for 14 and younger and \$20 for a family. Enter through the red doors off Sixth Street.



Julietta Raby, Valparaiso Oldtime Dance Society vice president, provided these photos from previous dances.



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2022 Innovators Award Winners

Michigan City Area Schools and Hesston Steam Museum are among the nominees for the 2022 Innovators Awards presented by The Society of Innovators at Purdue Northwest.

The winners will be honored at the group's annual luncheon from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 17, at Avalon Manor Banquet Center, 3550 E. Lincoln Highway, Merrillville.

Among the team inductees are:

- Michigan City Area Schools and Neo Network Development, Naperville, Ill. Team members are: Kevin McGuire, Keith Belzowski, Jeff Williamson and Dave Wojcik
- Cedar Lake (Ind.) Historical Association and Hesston Steam Museum, LaPorte. Team members are: Julie Zasada, Ted Rita and James Kinkaide.

The selection committee examined and analyzed the innovation(s) each individual and team nominee was responsible for to guide final decision-making. An innovation needed to provide a new solution, benefit society and create measurable value.

Registration is open for the luncheon. Individual tickets are \$49, while tables of eight cost \$400. Visit www.pnw.edu/innovators-awards or email Jason Williams at jawilliams@pnw.edu to register or for more information.

NB Library Community Forum

The Friends of the New Buffalo Library will host a Community Forum program on Gen. Douglas MacArthur at 6:30 p.m. EST Thursday, Nov. 10, at New Buffalo Township Library, 33 N. Thompson St.

Held on the eve of Veterans Day, the free program is presented by Tim Moore of Lake Michigan College.

One of only six U.S. Army generals promoted to five-star rank, MacArthur led troops in World War I, served as Army Chief-of-Staff in the 1930s and directed the island-hopping strategy that helped defeat Japan during World War II. He governed Japan after the war and served as the U.N. commander in the Korean War. He also led troops who tear-gassed American World War I veterans in the streets of Washington, D.C., in 1932, and got fired by President Harry Truman for challenging civilian control of the military during the Korean War.

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Harbor Country Film Group



Peter Sellers and Shirley MacLaine star in "Being There."

Harbor Country Film Group, sponsored by the Friends of the New Buffalo Library, will host the Oscar-winning "Being There" (1979) at 6:30 p.m. EST Monday, Nov. 14, at the library, 33 N. Thompson St.

Group leader Eve Moran calls the Peter Sellers classic "a brilliant comedy that considers a childlike man whose entire life consists of tending to a garden and watching television. When circumstances force him into the outside world, his simple thoughts are embraced as profound in high society and political circles." The film is based on Jerzy Kosinski's novel and also stars Shirley MacLaine and Melvyn Douglas, who received a posthumous Oscar for his performance.

Free popcorn is available during the screening.

Duneland Weavers Guild

The Duneland Weavers Guild meets at 10 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 12, at Three Moons Fiberworks, 402 Broadway, Chesterton.

Melvenea Hodges, South Bend, will discuss "Frameloom Weaving Techniques in Folk Costumes from Around the World." The public is invited.

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Indiana Dunes National Park

- **Saw-whet Owl Banding Demonstration from 6-10 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Nov. 10-12, at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.** The Indiana Audubon will shed light on Indiana's smallest owl. See them banded following hourly net checks. The program is weather dependent and cancelled during rain or high winds. Space is limited. A donation is required. Registration is required at www.indianaaudubon.org/events.
- **Veterans Day Film & Talk from 2-3 p.m. Friday, Nov. 11, at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.** The film is followed by a short presentation.
- **Honoring Our Veterans Hike from 1-3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 12, at the Calumet Dunes Trail.** Join a ranger for a short walk through the woods on a paved trail. No reservation is required. Non-veterans are welcome. Park one mile north of U.S. 12 on East State Park Road (County Road 300 East), Beverly Shores.
- **Pinhook Upland Trail Hike from 1:30-3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 12, at Pinhook Bog.** Join a ranger for a program that showcases the bog's watershed while hiking a ravine, crossing a bridge over a secluded pond that feeds the bog, and through stands of towering trees. Meet at the Pinhook Bog parking lot, 920 N. Wozniak Road, Michigan City.
- **Art in the National Park from 2-4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 12, at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.** Learn how to paint a fall-themed painting with an artist from The Art Barn School of Art. A canvas and paints will be provided. A \$15 charge covers supplies, and reservations are required at www.artbarnschool.org. The class is limited to 15 adult painters. Be prepared to park in the auxiliary parking lot due to parking congestion.
- **West Beach Hike from 1:30-3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 13.** Join a ranger for the hike and learn how the dunes grows its forests. The trail goes up 270 stairs and from the top showcases a view of the dune and Lake Michigan. Park at 376 N. County Line Road.
- **Dune Ridge Trail Fall Color Hike from 2-3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 13, at Kemil Beach parking lot.** Join rangers for a hike to view the Great Marsh from atop the trail. The parking lot is north of U.S. 12 on East State Park Road in Beverly Shores.

The Visitor Center is at 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. The Paul H. Douglas Center is at 100 N. Lake St. in Gary's Miller Beach neighborhood. Call (219) 395-1882 or visit www.nps.gov/indu for details.

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The History Museum

Visitors will learn about upgrades to the electricity in the 38-room Copshaholm during the next behind-the-scenes tour at 4 p.m. EST Saturday, Nov. 19, at South Bend's The History Museum.

Led by Deputy Executive Director Kristie Erickson, the tour heads through Copshaholm's rooms and the mansion's lower level, detailing how the museum updated wiring, receptacles and all other electrical components.

The museum is located at 808 W. Washington St. The tour is limited, and reservations are required at www.historymuseumSB.org or by calling (574) 235-9664. Tickets are \$25, or \$20 for members. The program is supported by an Indiana Humanities grant in cooperation with the National Endowment for the Humanities.



Erickson chronicles the electrical upgrade completed in Copshaholm (the Oliver Mansion) in 2019 during "Electricity and an 1897 Mansion" at 6:30 p.m. EST Wednesday, Nov. 16.

Presented as part of the museum's year-long celebration of Copshaholm's 125th anniversary, Erickson will demonstrate how the museum updated wiring, receptacles and all other electrical components, showing how the electrical system originally appeared and explaining the relevance of historic preservation to the upgrade.

The program is supported by an Indiana Humanities grant in cooperation with the National Endowment for the Humanities. Reservations are required. Tickets are \$5, or free for members, and are available at www.historymuseumSB.org

South Shore Line Special

Active-duty military personnel and veterans can ride the South Shore Line for free Nov. 11-14.

Let train personnel know about being active military personnel or a veteran. No identification is required. On Veterans Day (Nov. 11), trains follow the regular weekday schedule.

Up to three children 13 and younger may ride free with each military personnel/veteran on off-peak weekday and all weekend trains. Off-peak weekday trains arrive at Millennium Station after 9:30 a.m. and depart Millennium Station before 3:30 p.m. and after 6:30 p.m. Visit www.mysouthshoreline.com or download the SSL app (available for iPhone and Android) for updates.

To accommodate construction for the Double Track NWI project, long-term busing is in effect for passengers between Gary Metro and Carroll Avenue stations. Train service between Gary Metro and Millennium, and between Carroll Avenue and South Bend Airport, will operate as normal. Visit tinyurl.com/yc7df97u for updates.

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LCSO in the Spotlight



Ferraro.

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

Michael Ferraro joins LaPorte County Symphony Orchestra this season as associate principal cellist.

He received his Bachelors of Music Performance degree from Indiana State University and his Masters of Music in String Pedagogy from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

The music teacher at Hammond's Jefferson Elementary, he lives in Crown Point with his wife and two daughters.

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Waves of Laughter

Dig the Dunes and Colleen Brennan will host the sixth Waves of Laughter Stand-up Comedy Show at 8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 19, at Uptown Social, 907 Franklin St.

Brennan, a comedian, producer and podcast host ("Defending Indiana"), has attracted comics from the Chicagoland area to perform. She was seen on "The Kelly Clarkson Show" alongside Jay Leno with her comedy group "Bad Moms of Comedy."

This year, her "Waves of Laughter" lineup includes Steven Haas, Janice V. Rodriguez, Laura Hugg and headliner Marz Timms. The latter headlined the Milwaukee Comedy Festival and was featured in the "Break Out Festival" at Chicago's Second City. New this year is local guest comedian Joe White, who was chosen from video clips submitted through the Dig the Dunes website and Facebook page.

Tickets can be purchased as individual seats or tables of two and four. Uptown Social chose to sell tickets in a "cabaret style" to create a comedy nightclub feel. Doors open at 7 p.m., and drink service will be available before and during the show.



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Danielle Deadwyler Gives a Performance for the Ages in “Till”

by Andrew Tallackson



Mamie Till (Danielle Deadwyler) prepares to send her son, Emmett (Jalyn Hall), by train to visit relatives in the South in “Till.”

In the HBO Max miniseries “Station Eleven,” when Danielle Deadwyler’s Miranda lashed out at business colleagues, devastated she wasn’t with the man she loved when he died...*I knew*. I knew then this was an actress on the threshold of greatness. A remarkable talent waiting to be discovered.

The wait, blessedly, was brief.

“Till” is a journey through pain, a pain still relevant today, anchored by the tremendous performance from Deadwyler as Mamie Till, a mother devastated by the racially driven death of her 14-year-old son in 1955 Mississippi. That his murder helped galvanize the civil rights movement is not lost on the film, but by keeping a mother’s pain at the forefront, the impact is deeply felt.

Directed and co-written by Chinoye Chukwu, the movie takes a straightforward approach. No flashbacks, no truncated structure. It begins as it should, by depicting Mamie in Chicago as a mother whose only child, Emmett (Jalyn Hall), is the center of her universe. Her husband having died serving in World War II, she’s especially nervous about Emmett’s trip south to visit relatives. It is a way of life he is not accustomed to living.

In staging the key scene in which Emmett, while in Mississippi, “offends” white storekeeper Carolyn Bryant (Haley Bennett), we are struck by how we interpret it with modern sensibilities. Emmett behaves as any 14-year-old would do. In the presence of a pretty lady, admiring her beauty. But the exchange, in 1955 Mississippi, is a harbinger of the horror to come. Three days later, Emmett is dragged

★★★★

“Till”

Running time: 130 minutes. Rated PG-13 for thematic content involving racism, strong disturbing images and racial slurs.

from his uncle’s home, brutalized and lynched.

Chukwu depicts the horrific act from afar. We hear it, but do not see it. The director has said in interviews that in today’s racially charged climate, the psychology for black audiences seeing violence exacted on black characters is like an act of violence in and of itself.

That we don’t see Emmett’s final moments does not mute the agony that follows as Mamie arrives to identify his body. The grief that pours out of Deadwyler, the unspeakable image of Emmett’s ravaged body, tears right through you. If any film about this subject was going to drive home its message, it’s this scene and this scene alone. Deadwyler’s performance humbles you into wounded silence.

That Mamie chose to have an open casket at his wake and funeral was a turning point for the civil rights movement. But instead of settling in a groove of phony uplift, Chukwu never loses sight of Mamie’s grief as a mother. Deadwyler balances moments of remarkable poise with raw, vulnerable scenes of a woman not permitted to grieve her son’s loss. Scene after scene puts us at conflict. Key players in the NAACP want Mamie to seize on lightning in a bottle, to push for change...when all she wants is her son back.



Whoopi Goldberg appears as Mamie Till's mother.

The score by Polish composer Abel Korzeniowski tends to lay it on thick, in a way that threatens to reduce key scenes to melodrama. Thankfully, Chukwu knows when to have the music back off and let Deadwyler carry the weight of the film.

History, as we know, did not provide the closure Mamie deserved. The justice system failed her. But again, Deadwyler invigorates you, speaking as Mamie at a press conference of how she can no longer turn a blind eye to injustices not in her own backyard. We see a woman summoning every ounce of strength she has to keep going and, in the process, inspire others to change.

What a performance.

Contact Andrew Tallackson at atallackson@gmail.com

Independent Cat Society Book Sale

Independent Cat Society will host its semi-annual used book sale Saturday-Sunday, Nov. 12-13, at Moose Lodge 1357, 108 Indiana Ave., Valparaiso.

Times are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Nov. 12 and 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Nov. 13. The event also includes raffles, baked goods, ICS merchandise and cat toys. All proceeds benefit the shelter. Visit www.catsociety.org for more details.



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“All Quiet on the Western Front” Remake Pulls No Punches

by Andrew Tallackson



Felix Kammerer
stars as Paul
Bäumer.

Edward Berger’s “All Quiet on the Western Front,” ironically the first German adaptation of Erich Maria Remarque’s landmark 1929 novel, may be the ultimate depiction of war as Hell on Earth.

The Netflix release marks the third time this story has arrived either on film or television, but we’ve never seen it like this. The staggering physical production, the savagery of combat: it’s unrelenting.

I remember reading the book in high school and thinking any qualities I possessed were no match for the exacting price of war — The author squashed my misguided notions of heroism. Then again, that was Remarque’s point. *No one* is prepared for the horrors of war.

Berger’s faithful adaptation has as its audience surrogate the remarkable newcomer Felix Kammerer as Paul Bäumer, who in 1916 enlists to fight in World War I with his school chums. He’s too young, but lies about his age to pass the initial test. And in the giddy enthusiasm of Paul and his schoolmates, we see how their notions of war are sculpted by what they’ve read or heard from others. To them, war is instant elevation to hero status.

But in a brilliant move, before we even meet Paul, Berger depicts the uncompromising machine of war, the assembly line of combat in which a fallen soldier’s uniform is returned and prepped again for fighting. Remarque’s savage commentary is power-



“All Quiet on the Western Front”

Running time: 148 minutes. Netflix. Rated R for strong bloody war violence and grisly images.

fully achieved: It doesn’t matter who ends up in the uniform, just that there’s a warm body to fill it.

As mentioned earlier, the physical production of “All Quiet on the Western Front” is epic in ways only two films before it — “Saving Private Ryan” (1998) and “1917” (2019) — have achieved. Maybe you notice it more here because of the way Berger’s camera moves through the carnage. The scattered debris. Limbs torn from bodies. Soldiers charging into combat, instantly struck down. The relentless, eardrum shattering bombardments. The impact on Paul and his friends is instantaneous. Any illusions of grandeur are shattered.

Berger and his co-writers, Ian Stokell and Lesley Paterson, also suggest something few war films have done before it: war’s intrusion on the untouched landscape. On nature itself. We see gorgeous stretches of land inches away from terrain scorched into oblivion. Denied its beauty.

Berger doesn’t fill his tale with many familiar faces — Marvel veteran Daniel Brühl is the only one, playing German writer-politician Matthias Erzberg-

er — and that's a good thing. We are not caught up by the notion of "actors," where we are reminded that we are watching a movie. And Kammerer, as Paul, undergoes an astonishing transformation with each successive battle. A little bit more of his soul erodes, never more so than after he brutally attacks a French soldier in combat, then, while watching him die, feverishly tries to comfort him. It's Remarque's take on war. Doesn't matter which side — every soldier has someone at home praying for their survival. By the time Paul is thrust into fighting one more time — the scene depicts the arrogance of war with crushing simplicity — there is no light in Kammerer's eyes. He is a puppet of war, thrust robotically into action.

"All Quiet on the Western Front," by its very design, doesn't pack the same emotional punch as something like "Saving Private Ryan" or "1917." There are not many moments that afford any insight into the soldiers, that tell their stories. One scene, in which Paul reads to an illiterate soldier a letter from his wife back home, comes close. But the



The movie conveys how rapidly Paul's friends see their false sense of heroism destroyed.

story is similar to a contemporary companion, Ridley Scott's "Black Hawk Down" (2001), in that the sole desire is to plunk you down in combat and keep you there, whether you like it or not.

On that level, "All Quiet on the Western Front" is a masterpiece.

Contact Andrew Tallackson at atallackson@gmail.com

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Meet Some of the Stewards of the Area's Little Free Libraries

When Sue Webster saw a newspaper article about Michiana Lions Club installing a new Little Free Library in Gardena Park, and the need for a steward to manage it, she knew it was the right fit.

Webster lives nearby. In fact, she can see the library from her home. And, she's loved Gardena Park since she was a child. She lived nearby then, too. She and her two brothers even had their photos taken on newly installed playground equipment for a local newspaper in 1957. Most of all, she loves to read and give back to her community.

Webster has been the only steward of Gardena Park's Little Free Library since Michiana Lions Club installed it in 2018 as one of its four original sites in Michigan City. Since then, the club has replaced and added other locations. Like several other Little Free Libraries in the area, it is registered at www.littlefreelibrary.org and can be found on a World Map there, as well as the Little Free Library mobile app.

Little Free Libraries began in 2009 when Todd Bol of Hudson, Wis., built a model of a schoolhouse, filled it with free books and placed it on a post in his front yard. It was a tribute to his mother, a teacher who loved reading, and an instant hit with his neighbors and friends. Now, there are more than 150,000 registered libraries in more than 115 countries. In fact, an average of one book a day is shared in a Little Free Library and an estimated 70 million books shared annually. Little Free Library's mission is simple: "Take a Book. Share a Book."

"It's such a wonderful program – It's such a fun thing to do," Webster said.

She visits the Gardena Park Library about every other day, often bringing books she's found or been given there.

Some visits speak to her heart more than others.

She recalls how once, she saw three young sisters all reading books as they were swinging. Their mother was sitting nearby, also reading on a bench.

Another time, a small boy, about 2, was walking toward her with a book in his outstretched hand and a large smile. Just a few steps behind, his father was smiling broadly.

"This is actually a book from his own library," the dad explained. "He said that he wanted to bring it to you (for the Little Free Library)."

Whenever she sees kids and families enjoying the playground, she always tries to point out the Little Free Library, painted in the bright yellow and royal blue colors representing Michiana Lions. She's often approached and asked if the books are free for the taking. When she knows she will be receiving a donation of new books, Webster spreads the word

Editor's note — This is a follow-up to our Sept. 29 story "Spreading the Love of Reading."

by Kim Nowatzke



Sue Webster has been the steward for the Little Free Library, placed by Michiana Lions Club at Gardena Park, since its installation. Photo by Kim Nowatzke

with others on the playground about when she will add them to the collection. When she returns, they often are waiting for her.

Some of her favorites are Little Golden Books.

"I get so happy when I see the gold binding for the Little Golden Books," she said, "and I think how lucky a child will be to get that book."

She recalled seeing the classic *Blueberries for Sal*, a 1949 Caldecott honor book, a week prior to her interview with *The Beacher* in the Gardena Park Library.

"No one had taken it for a week, so I gave it to my sister, whose name is Sally, to borrow for a while (and then return it to the library)," she said. "I don't find her name in very many book titles."

In 2021, just after Little Free Libraries reopened after closing through the height of the pandemic, Webster won a special St. Patrick's Day prize package from Little Free Libraries' headquarters. She received special holiday-themed books to distribute, children's necklaces, stickers and shamrocks sheets for the kids to color and list what they are thankful for.

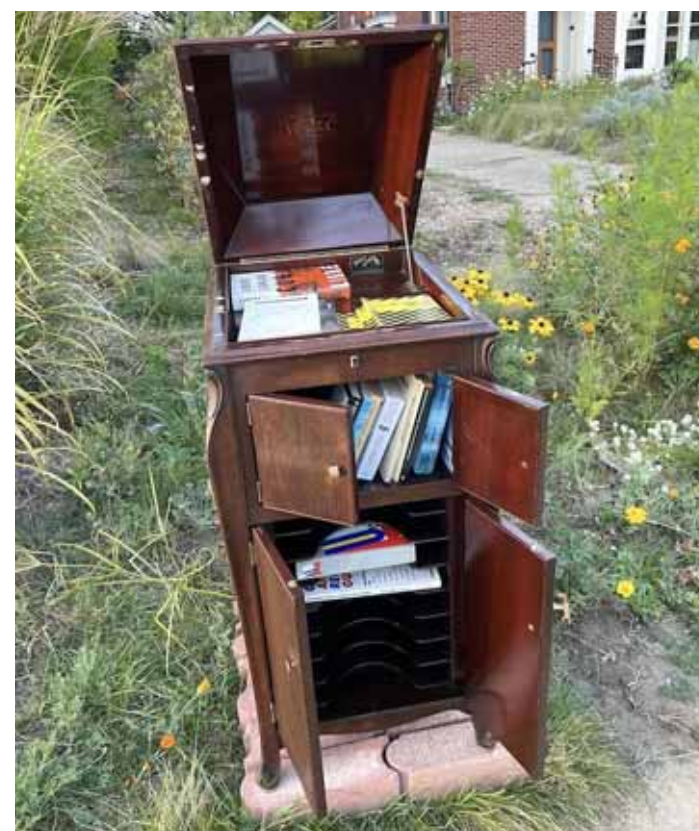
A member of the LaPorte County Bridge-Naming Committee, a part of the Pioneer Cemetery Commission and a Meals on Wheels board member, among other volunteer positions, the 72-year-old Webster prefers to keep busy making a difference in her community.

"I fill my retirement years with things that fill me

Continued on Page 22



Above: Valerie Wallace poses with Jon Hillyer next to her Little Free Library on Valentine Court. Hillyer stopped by during one of his regular rounds of visiting the dozen or so Little Free Libraries in Michigan City as he "recirculates" books between the libraries. **Below:** A better look at the refurbished Victor Victrola cabinet.



Continued From Page 21

with joy and bring joy to others,” she said. “This is one of those things.”

Sometimes, the style of the Little Free Library, itself, is what stands out in a steward’s story.

Valerie Wallace has had her official book-sharing box up for a short time, but it’s already somewhat of a conversation piece.

She wanted a more unique design and found just what she was looking for when she entered a search for “cabinets” in Facebook Marketplace near her Michigan City home at 110 Valentine Court. It was an antique Victor Victrola cabinet the seller bought at an auction. It was in good shape; she mostly just needed to add a back panel.

“I wanted to repurpose an old cabinet in keeping with my aesthetic and the house,” she explained.

To weatherproof the library, she added about seven layers of waterproofing materials, including linseed oil and polyurethane. She anticipates needing to repeat this each year.

“The reaction has been really positive so far,” Wallace noted.

On Oct. 9, she shared her new Little Free Library on the Facebook page, “Michigan City, Indiana.”

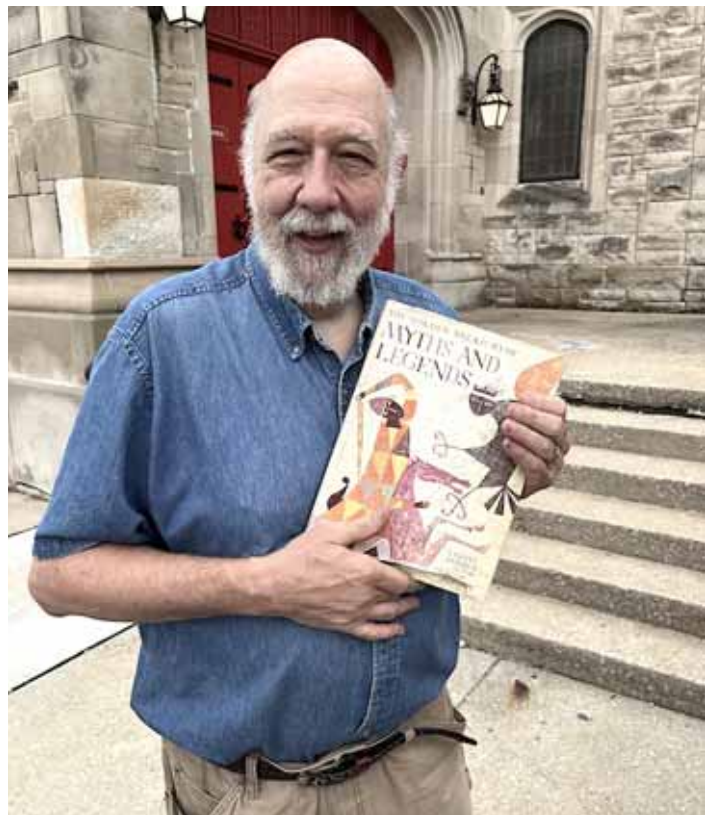
Vesna Tanaskoski commented on the post: “I saw this cabinet when I was walking my dog a little while ago and was so thrilled to see it!”

Gretchen Worley wrote, “Omgosh, I love it, and as a rather avid reader, I now have a beautiful place to give my read ones, westerns, romance and a lot of War history books.”

Since her “advertisement,” Wallace has seen an increase in the number of people dropping off and taking books from her library in what she considers a “walking neighborhood.”

Because of its unusual design, her library can accommodate larger books and magazines in its lower record slots, while smaller compartments can hold other reading materials.

Wallace has known about Little Free Libraries for a long time and, after moving here from Chicago about two years ago, “it seemed like a natural extension. I love to read, and I think they are cool.”



Steward Matt Kubik was surprised to find one of his favorite childhood books, *The Golden Treasury of Myths And Legends*, the first time he visited the Little Free Library at Trinity Episcopal Church.

Wallace said there’s something for everyone in her library.

“Books expand your world,” she said. “They do it from internally out. I love being a part of keeping that going.”

For Matt Kubik, who is part of the leadership at Trinity Episcopal Church, his experience as a steward of the Little Free Library there was an unexpected trip down memory lane.

Michiana Lions placed the library there this past June.

“We chose the location right next to the steps of Barker Hall (owned by the church and located behind its main building) because we are concentrating on developing more activities and use of the building by youth,” Kubik said.

The library, he continued, has been “extremely successful. I’m constantly trying to add books to it. Children’s books go the fastest.”

And it was a book in this genre that quickly captured his attention. The first time the 71-year-old went to add books to the box, he noticed *The Golden Treasury of Myths And Legends* in pristine condition with a dust jacket.

A favorite book of Kubik’s as a child, he described it as a “cultural literacy during a formative part of my childhood. It was such a thrill to be able to capture my childhood. I left some books and took that one.”

He has six grandchildren ranging in age from 1 to 12, and he looks forward to reading it to the older ones.

Cheryl Chapman has been the primary steward



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of the Little Free Library at Head Start of LaPorte County, 811 Royal Road, since it was placed there in October 2021. It is another one donated and managed by Michiana Lions Club.

When Chapman, known as the “Book Grandma,” first heard about the club placing the libraries around the area, she knew it would be a great addition to the former Neimann Elementary School building where Head Start operates.

Also fulfilling a role as the “Garden Grandma” at Head Start, she often gets to witness firsthand visitors to the Little Free Library there. Just recently, she saw a grandfather and grandchild walking to the playground and told them to be sure to check out the library.

“I’m delighted to see people taking books,” she shared.

Chapman, herself, wrote a children’s book, Snow on Snow on Snow, which came out in 1994.

“It is timeless,” she said. “When I put a copy in (the Little Free Library), it always disappears quickly.”

She shared a story about it.

“When Synthia St. James was illustrating our story, Snow on Snow on Snow, the book company wanted her to paint a window in the main character’s bedroom, but she insisted on painting a book shelf!” she said. “Aside from a bed, there is nothing more important in a child’s bedroom than the bookshelf! And here at Head Start, books are No. 1 as well!”

Jamie Miller, past Michiana Lions Club president and manager of the stewards for the organization’s boxes, has a treasure trove of wonderful memories born out of the libraries. She labels it the “magic of the Little Free Library.”

“The community impact far exceeded my expectations,” she said. “Each location has a unique audience.”

She remembers the effects of the first Michiana Lions’ library at 10th Street near the Keys to Hope Community Resource Center community garden. Due to Michigan City’s dual-track expansion downtown, the box had to be removed, but during the years of its operation, the homeless population often visited it. Sometimes lacking the proper identification to obtain a library card, the Little Free Library offered the chance to obtain and return books without a timeline or fines.

“They would read during the day – they felt comfortable there,” Miller said. “They would often bring the books back to Keys to Hope and then eventually return a pile of them. One homeless man admitted his reading skills were not the best, but he found great joy in Curious George and other easy reads he found. He said he was reading more and more books each day. He found a point of happiness in Curious George.”

As she sometimes carries out steward responsibilities herself, Miller often is aided by nearby



Kyle Wheeler swings with his 21-month-old daughter, Remi Wheeler, while they enjoy a book from the Little Free Library at Gardena Park.

children.

“We do this as a group exercise,” she said. “They often help me clean out the box and organize books.”

Miller reminds those who visit the boxes that the concept is not only to take books, but return some for others to share as well.

“People think it’s a free place to get books,” she explained. “But they need to remember to pay it forward and return the books when they are finished with them.”

Miller said Michiana Lions always needs stewards to help manage their library locations. She tells visitors to feel free to spruce up or straighten up a box. And, she’s grateful to those who have anonymously helped care for the boxes and provide book donations.

She keeps ongoing communication with stewards, not only checking boxes, but also assisting them with finding books to add and passing on any needed repairs to the appropriate Michiana Lions’ volunteers.

“We have a whole village to take care of them,” she said. “It’s a Little Library family.”

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The Making of Mighty Mike

DVDs, as you know, have special features with behind-the-scenes info on movies. I usually watch them, learning more than I ever wanted to about the nuts and bolts of the film industry.

Well, now it's my turn to spew out my own special feature about the making of Mighty Mike and the Magic Acorn. I refer to the "story for big kids" by yours truly, and now, I will get to the story behind the story. Then, of course, I will present the whole story, and nothing but the whole story, of a squirrel and his magic acorn.

First to Fort Collins, Colo., where my childhood friend, Boyd "Ren" Bartlett, saw an article in his local newspaper about a squirrel that got into some, well, some of what we called *magic mushrooms* in the day. Ren thought the misadventures of a somewhat altered squirrel would make for a merry little story for big kids.

(And by big kids, we mean kids of all ages.)

I noodled a bit, telling Ren I was going to set the story in Michigan and change the magic mushrooms to one magic acorn. Ren said, "Go for it."

And I did.

But not on the old desktop computer. Or even with pen and paper.

Nope.

With Natalie's unwavering support, I actually inserted a new ribbon in my vintage Remington Quiet-Riter Eleven manual typewriter and started typing. The way I did at Morgan Park High School in Chicago; and Illinois State University in Normal, Ill.; and *The City News Bureau of Chicago*; and even *The Suburban Trib* in Hinsdale, Ill. Yes, I composed on the typewriter.

And it worked.

I soon had a 10-page story for big kids, suitable for mailing off to my core group of loyal readers, one of whom is writer/artist Lisa Quinlan of St. Joseph, Mich.

Lisa loved the story so much, she gladly accepted my invitation to illustrate one of the book's two editions. The other is being illustrated by Eric Heward, proprietor of Small Town Grounds in Bridgman, Mich. Eric also conceived and illustrated our 2004 illustrated novel, Clash of the Cloud People. But that's a story for next time.

With no further ado, here is a transcribed version of Mighty Mike and the Magic Acorn for your reading pleasure. And, yes, it was much, much more fun typing it on a manual typewriter.

MIGHTY MIKE AND THE MAGIC ACORN

How was Mighty Mike, the feisty fox squirrel of Fenway Forest, Michigan, to know that not all acorns were equal?

No way, really.

Hey, he was your basic, acorn-munching squirrel of Michigan.

Life With Charley

Charles McKelvy



The cover for Mighty Mike and the Magic Acorn.

Acorns were the highlight of every fall and winter of his squirrely life. So when he went deeper into Fenway Forest than he usually did, how was he to know that not all red oaks are created equal to all other red oaks?

Yes, Mighty Mike was mighty partial to the plump, meaty acorn of the red oak tree.

And why not?

The acorn of the red oak was to the acorn of the white oak a mighty champion.

Food for the journey.

Worthy of being picked off and put away for winter.

Mmmmm good!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Mighty Mike knew, and he knew he was really on to something when he took it to the limit in Fenway Forest, not all that far from Lake Michigan, and found the mightiest of all red oak trees.

It stood out in its forest and, despite the perma-cloud that had socked the west coast of Michigan into a gray sock of autumnal gloom, why it positive-

ly shimmered.

That's right: **SHIMMERED!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

Mighty Mike got up on his bushy tail and hindquarters and chucked a mighty song of squirrel delight.

"I've found it!" Mighty Mike chuckled. **"THE ULTIMATE RED OAK!!!!!!!!!!** None taller. None leafier. None shimmering in the gloom to beat the band, but this one. And look at these 'corns. Acorns to keep a mighty squirrel happy and whole all winter long."

With that, Mighty Mike began gathering acorns from the shimmering red oak. Each was better and plumper than the previous one.

But then the acorn-of-all-acorns fell from the highest reaches of the tailor-made red oak, rolled and came to rest right under Mighty Mike's front paws.

"Is this cool, or what?!" Mighty Mike chuckled.

(By the way, you can learn to speak chuck if you spend lots and lots of quality time in your local oak forest.)

"Hmmm," Mighty Mike chuckled. "I think I'll reward myself and eat this bad boy right here and now. Why not? Where am I goin'?"

So Mighty Mike of Michigan ate **THE MAGIC ACORN**.

That's right: **THE MAGIC ACORN!!!**

Want to know what happened next?

(Truth be told, I took a time out here when I first typed the story on my old Remington. To give my fingers a rest and let my small, but loyal band of readers develop a thirst for more. Like in the old days of serialized novels. Anybody remember The Spy Who Came in from the Cold appearing in serial form? I do, because, I'm an old, old guy. So—)

So, Mighty Mike of Michigan up and ate **THE MAGIC ACORN**.

Then what?!?

Well, it being squirrel and small-game season, a hunter with a .22-caliber rifle appeared, right on cue, took careful aim at Mighty Mike and squeezed off a round.

Our noble hunter had a spot-on aim that was tried and true. So his .22-caliber bullet traced a trajectory of sure and certain death, right at Mighty Mike's slowly beating squirrel heart.

That's right — slowly beating squirrel heart.

Normally — pre-**MAGIC ACORN** — Mighty Mike's little squirrel heart would be pounding out of his chest at the sight of a practiced hunter taking deadly aim at him.

But Mighty Mike was more like Magic Mike after eating **THE MAGIC ACORN**. The seed of that great, shimmering red oak had gone right to work on his metaphysical self.

So much so that Mighty Mike, or Magic Mike, was able to calmly, but deftly, scamper out of the path of that speeding death-bullet. The one with his name on it.

Magic Mike chuckled out a big squirrel laugh and taunted the hunter, saying (in chuck of course): "Nah,

nah, nah, nah. Sticks and stones and bullets will never hurt me. And, dude, if you really want to make a sport of this, you'd give me weapons. Right? But, no, you get to blast away at me, while I'm supposed to stand here, naked and unarmed, ready to take one for the squirrel team. Well, dude, I just ate **THE MAGIC ACORN**, and I ain't gonna take it no more. You dig?"

All that the witless hunter knew was that the plump, chucking and chiding fox squirrel was suddenly putting one wicked rodent bite on his ankle.

And then totally disappearing into the gloomy depths of Fenway Forest.

All the hunter could say (in English, of course) was: "What the @\$%^?!?"

And all the disappointed hunter could think was that he was going to round up all his squirrel-hunting buddies and come back to Fenway Forest, loaded for bear. And then some.

To be continued...

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What's Happening in Michigan City Area Schools

Michigan City High School's Robotics Team held an open house Oct. 19 to celebrate the successes of past alumni, and introduce employers and university officials to current team members.

Several alumni were present, including 2018 MCHS graduate Scott Kreighbaum. He joined his elementary team in 2012 and this past May graduated from Valparaiso University with a Bachelor of Science in mechanical engineering.

"Being on the Robotics Team taught and inspired STEM skills in me and many others, helping us to get internships at Sullair, Dwyer Instruments, Cleveland Cliffs and Task Force Tips," he said in a press release. "I am now working locally as a test engineer at Sullivan Palatek, utilizing the skills I gained from being in the MCAS Safe Harbor after-school robotics program."

Local business leaders attending the open house included Larry Fabina, Cleveland-Cliffs energy program director, and GAF Plant Manager Matt Hannon. MCAS Superintendent Dr. Barbara Eason-Watkins was pleased to witness the interaction between students and community leaders.

"Safe Harbor's Michigan City Robotics program continues to motivate and engage our students, and is leading a number of them to rewarding careers in high-demand STEM-related fields," she said in a press release.

Angie Nelson Deutch, City Council president and Diversity Squared president, has long supported the team, speaking with members at the open house and touring the newly upgraded lab facilities.

"I definitely believe the impact is great for these students, and the progression of the alumni is impressive," she said in a press release.

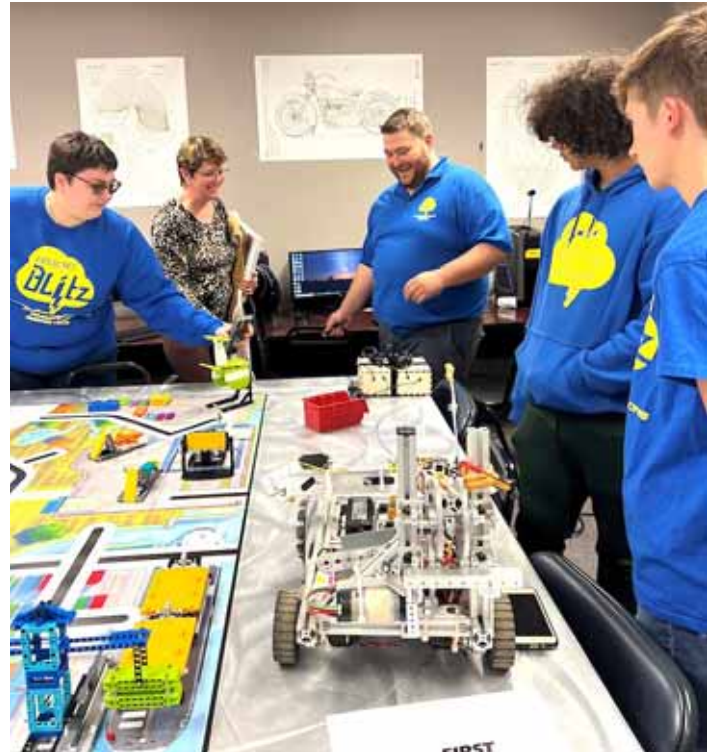
Doug Tougaw, Valparaiso University dean of the College of Engineering, found the open house enjoyable. "Most importantly," he continued in a press release, "we appreciated meeting the student members and adult leaders of the team. Our student tour guide did an amazing job!"

Tougaw has taught MCHS/Safe Harbor Robotics Team alumni as a VU professor. One student in particular, Justin Szaday, left a lasting impression.

"Justin is a once-in-a-generation student who impacted every class he took and every research project he worked on," Tougaw said. "He combined genius-level intelligence with an equal level of work ethic and curiosity. I loved every minute working with him."

Szaday has since graduated VU, earned a doctorate in computer science from the University of Illinois in May and is working as a software engineer at Google.

The team is accepting new members as it prepares for the upcoming competition season. Contact Safe Harbor STEM/Robotics Coordinator Julie



MCHS student Anastasia Timm (from left), Unity Foundation of LaPorte County President Maggi Spartz, MCHS Teacher/Robotics Team Coach Ralph Gee and MCHS students Jeremiah Allen and Levi Scoville examine an elementary school-level competition course (left) and middle-school robot (center).



Madison Gresham, a Michigan City High School junior, is inducted into the National Honor Society. She is pictured with Krissy Freitag, MCHS' National Honor Society sponsor.

Kreighbaum at jkreighbaum@mcas.k12.in.us for details on the team and connecting with alumni seeking internships for next summer.



Michigan City High School's National Honor Society inducted 23 new members during its 28th annual induction ceremony.

New members are: Jeremiah Allen, Sophia Bar-

czak, Esther Barnes, Jack Barnes, Davida Barney, Abigail Bartlett, Keona Briggs, Sophie Devens, Angelina Duenas, Sofia Garcia, Madison Gresham, Gerzey Lewalski, Habriah McFerson, George Mezo, Tatiana Miller, Meaghan Painter, Lorenzo Panozzo, Erin Piazzisi, Krystani Quinn, Ashley Sparks, Andrew Vicari, Juliana Williams and Joseph Zook.

They were selected based on four National Honor Society key criteria: scholarship, service, character and leadership.



Kiahna Davis speaks to Early College students at Michigan City High School.

Michigan City native Kiahna Davis, owner and CEO of MYB Accounting, Tax and Consulting, recently spoke with Early College students at Michigan City High School.

Davis, a 1993 Rogers High School graduate, returned to her alma mater to share her success story with students. She attended Indiana University-Bloomington, first as a journalism major to “become the next Oprah.”

After she discovered the world of finance, she changed majors and graduated with a bachelor’s degree from IU’s Kelly School of Business. She later earned a Master of Business Administration in accounting from Indiana Wesleyan University. After climbing the corporate ladder to CFO and COO positions, she opened her own accounting business in Indianapolis.

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LaPorte County Public Library

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

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

- Coolspring Branch: Monday/Wednesday/Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Main Library: Tuesday/Thursday (10 a.m. to 6 p.m.) and Saturday (10 a.m. to 4 p.m.).
The following programs are planned:
- **Virtual Author Talk with Bonnie Garmus (Adults 19+) from 1-2 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 10.** Garmus will discuss her debut *New York Times* best-selling novel Lessons in Chemistry. Advanced registration is required at <https://libraryc.org/laportelibrary/20276>
- **Genealogy Basics (Adults 19+) from 3-4 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 10, at the Coolspring Branch meeting room.** Learn how to start family history research or find answers to questions about research.
- **Family Pajama Storytime from 6-6:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 14, in the main library multi-purpose room.** The program focuses on stories and songs. Guests can wear pajamas and take a favorite stuffed animal.
- **Virtual Author Talk with Kwame Christian (Adults 19+) from 11 a.m.-noon Tuesday, Nov. 15.** Christian will discuss his new book How to Have Difficult Conversations About Race: Practical Tools. Advanced registration is required at <https://libraryc.org/laportelibrary/21212>
- **Beginner Android Tablets & Phones (Adults 19+) from 4-5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 15, in the Main Library Meeting Room A.** Learn how to use an Android Tablet or Android Phone.

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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Michigan City Public Library

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

The following programs are scheduled:

- **Duneland Stamp Club at 4 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 10.** The club meets the second Thursday of each month. New members are invited.
- **Needle Arts Club to Warm Up America Joining Night from 5:30-7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 10 and 17.** Membership to the group is open to anyone interested in needle arts such as crochet, needlepoint, cross-stitch, crewel, tatting and other hand stitching. All skill levels and ages are welcome. Also, the group has organized a local chapter of the Warm Up America Foundation. Volunteers are knitting and crocheting handmade squares (7x9 inch) that will be joined together to make full-size afghans.
- **Makerspace: open lab hours from 3:30-5 p.m. Tuesdays in November.** 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.
- **Escape Room at MCPL! from 4-6 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 16.** The challenge, aimed at families and teens, involves solving the escape room in 20 minutes. Priority goes to groups that sign up through the library website.

Two new services are available:

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

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



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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 to 8, with an adult required to participate. Times are from 6 to 7:15 p.m. at Luhr County Park, 3178 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:

- Nov. 16 — Snakes Alive.
- Dec. 7 — Let it Snow.

Story & Bingo

The program is from 4-5 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 15, at Luhr County Park nature center.

All children must be accompanied by an adult. Call (219) 325-8315 to make a reservation.

Nature Center Craft Day

The all-ages program is from 1-4 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 6, at Luhr County Park. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Field Trips

Educators, Scout leaders and groups can schedule a free organized program at any park. The programs meet state standards and patch requirements. Call (219) 324-5855, visit www.laportecountyparks.org or email natureniki@csinet.net for details.



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American Red Cross

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

- LaPorte High School, 602 F St., 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 10.
- Conservation Club House, 1 Mill Pond Road, Union Mills, 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 13.
- First Church of God, 2020 E. Lincolnway, LaPorte, noon-6 p.m. Monday, Nov. 14.
- St. John Kanty, 7012 N. County Road 600 East, Rolling Prairie, 1-6 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 15.

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.

SAM Announces President-Elect

School of American Music staff announced local teacher and performer Ron Spears is the next president of the non-profit's board of directors.

"My roots in the organization go deep," Spears said in a press release. "My wife, Marge, served as a founding board member. I have been a board member, music teacher and performer at SAM for several years. I look forward to reaching out to my friends and supporters in the community to champion the school's vision..."

Founder-outgoing board president Garth Taylor has been at the helm for 10 years. He will remain involved in the school.

"I love the mission and the impact we have on the lives of the students," he said in a press release, "and the economic and cultural value we bring to the community."

SAM is located in Three Oaks, Mich. All donations and ticket purchases are tax deductible and matched by an anonymous donor.

Visit <https://schoolofamericanmusic.com/> for more details.

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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.

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In the Area

Nov. 10 — Virtual Author Talk with Bonnie Garmus (Adults 19+), 1-2 p.m., through LaPorte County Public Library. Registration: <https://libraryc.org/laportelibrary/20276>

Nov. 10 — Genealogy Basics (Adults 19+), 3-4 p.m., Coolspring Library meeting room, 6925 W. County Road 400 North. Info: www.laportelibrary.org

Nov. 10, 17 — Needle Arts Club to Warm Up America Joining Night, 5:30-7 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

Nov. 12 — Pinhook Upland Trail Hike, 1:30-3 p.m., Pinhook Bog, 920 N. Wozniak Road, Michigan City. Info: (219) 395-1882, www.nps.gov/indu

Nov. 12 — Valparaiso Oldtime Dance Society, 7-10 p.m., Barker Hall at Trinity Episcopal Church, 600 Franklin Square. Admission: \$8, \$4/14 & younger, \$20/family.

Nov. 14 — Family Pajama Storytime, 6-6:30 p.m., LaPorte County Public Library, 904 Indiana Ave. Info: www.laportelibrary.org

Nov. 15 — Virtual Author Talk with Kwame Christian (Adults 19+), 11 a.m.-noon., through LaPorte County Public Library. Registration: <https://libraryc.org/laportelibrary/21212>

Nov. 15 — Story & Bingo, 4-5 p.m., Luhr County Park nature center, 3178 S. County Road 150 West, LaPorte. Info: www.laportecountyparks.org, (219) 325-8315.

Nov. 16 — Escape Room at MCPL!, 4-6 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

Through Nov. 19 — Exhibit (39 military uniforms/associated artifacts), LaPorte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave. Info: (219) 324-6767.

Through Dec. 31 — Works by Andrea Bojrab, Queen of All Saints Catholic Church's Legacy Center, 1719 E. Barker Ave. 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: (219) 872-9196.

First and Third Mondays — Singing Sands Toastmasters Club, 6:30-8 p.m., Senior Health/Wellness Center (old hospital ER, Barker/Buffalo).

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

Bingo/10 a.m.

In the Region

Nov. 10 — New Buffalo Township Library Community Forum, 6:30 p.m. EST, New Buffalo Township Library, 33 N. Thompson St.

Nov. 10-12 — Saw-whet Owl Banding Demonstration, 6-10 p.m., Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. Info: (219) 395-1882, www.nps.gov/indu

Nov. 11 — Veterans Day Film and Talk, 2-3 p.m., Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. Info: (219) 395-1882, www.nps.gov/indu

Nov. 11 — The Steepwater Band with Nomad Planets, 8 p.m. EST, The Acorn, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: \$25 + \$4.50 convenience fee, \$50 + \$4.50 convenience fee (VIP). Reservations: www.acornlive.org

Nov. 12 — Interwoven Expressions 37th annual celebration, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Sand Creek Country Club, 1001 Sand Creek Drive, Chesterton. Info: www.InterwovenExpressions.com

Nov. 12 — Duneland Weavers Guild, 10 a.m., Three Moons Fiberworks, 402 Broadway, Chesterton.

Nov. 12 — Honoring Our Veterans Hike, 1-3 p.m., Calumet Dunes Trail, one mile north of U.S. 12 on East State Park Road (CR 300E), Beverly Shores. Info: (219) 395-1882, www.nps.gov/indu

Nov. 12 — Art in the National Park, 2-4 p.m., Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. Fee: \$15. Reservations: www.artbarnschool.org

Nov. 12 — Frank Orrall of Poi Dog Pondering with Sophia De Leon Sanchez, 8 p.m. EST, The Acorn, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: \$30 + \$5 convenience fee, \$55 + \$5 convenience fee (VIP). Reservations: www.acornlive.org

Nov. 13 — West Beach Hike, 1:30-3 p.m., 376 N. County Line Road. Info: (219) 395-1882, www.nps.gov/indu

Nov. 12-13 — Independent Cat Society semi-annual Used Book Sale, Moose Lodge 1357, 108 Indiana Ave., Valparaiso. Times: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Nov. 12/11 a.m.-4 p.m. Nov. 13. Info: (219) 785-4956.

Nov. 13 — Dune Ridge Trail Fall Color Hike, 2-3 p.m., Kemil Beach parking lot, north of U.S. 12 on East State Park Road, Beverly Shores. Info: (219) 395-1882, www.nps.gov/indu

Nov. 13 — Mason Jennings, 7 p.m. EST, The Acorn, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: \$35 + \$5.50 convenience fee, \$60 + \$5.50 convenience fee (VIP). Reservations: www.acornlive.org

Nov. 14 — Harbor Country Film Group ("Being There"), 6:30 p.m. EST, New Buffalo Township Library, 33 N. Thompson St. Free.

Nov. 16 — "Electricity and an 1897 Mansion," 6:30 p.m. EST, The History Museum, 808 W. Washington St., South Bend. Tickets: \$5, free/members. Reservations: www.historymuseumSB.org

Nov. 17 — Open Mic Night featuring Skirt, 7 p.m. EST, The Acorn, 107 Generations Drive, Three

Oaks, Mich. Tickets: \$25 (reserved). Performer inquiries: OpenMic@acornlive.org.

Through Nov. 11 — LaPorte artist Ginny Scott, Valparaiso's The Village Gallery (Pines Village Retirement Communities). Gallery hours: 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Info: (219) 435-1591, www.pinesvillage.org

Through Nov. 13 — New exhibits, "Family Dinner: The Deep Connection of American Lived Experience" & "FOOD for THOUGHT," Krasl Art Center, 707 Lake Blvd., St. Joseph, Mich. Info: (269) 983-0271, www.krasl.org

Through Nov. 29 — "Mark My Words" exhibit, Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St. Hours: 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sat. Info: (219) 926-4711, www.chestertonart.org

Through Dec. 23 — 44th Elkhart Juried Regional, Midwest Museum of American Art, 429 S. Main St., Elkhart. Hours (all Eastern): 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tues.-Fri., 1-4 p.m. Sat.-Sun. Admission: \$10/adults, \$6/8-12, \$8/13-18 & college students with ID. Info: www.midwestmuseum.us, (574) 293-6660.

Through Jan. 8, 2023 — "Charged: The Rise, Fall & Resurgence of Electric Vehicles," 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.

Vickers Theatre — *Opens Nov. 11*: "The Storied Life of A.J. Fikry." Rated PG-13. See website for hours. All times Eastern. Theater address: 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. Info: www.vickerstheatre.com, (269) 756-3522.

Interwoven Expressions

Interwoven Expressions will present its 37th annual celebration from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 12, at Sand Creek Country Club, 1001 Sand Creek Drive, Chesterton.

Skills on display include: weave, dye, knit, felt, quilt, tat, stitch, design and basketry. Items include holiday ornaments, clothing, contemporary and traditional, home décor and gifts. In addition to regional artists, the 24 participants hail from Three Rivers, Lake Leelanau, Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo, Chicago, Park Forest and West Lafayette.

More information at www.InterwovenExpressions.com or Interwoven Expressions on Facebook.

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THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

On November 10, 1888, 13-year-old concert violinist Fritz Kreisler made his American debut at New York's Steinway Hall.

On November 10, 1917, 41 women suffragists were arrested during a demonstration outside the White House.

On November 10, 1919, in Minneapolis, the newly formed American Legion held its first national convention.

On November 10, 1938, Kate Smith first sang "God Bless America" on her CBS radio program.

On November 10, 1954, President Eisenhower dedicated the "Two Jima Memorial," depicting five Marines raising the American flag on top of Iwo Jima's 546-foot-high Mount Suribachi, in Arlington, Va.

On November 11, 1620, 41 Pilgrims aboard the Mayflower signed the Mayflower Compact, establishing basic rules for their new settlement in Massachusetts.

On November 11, 1918, on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, fighting in World War I ended with the signing of an armistice between the Allies and Germany. The signing took place in a railroad car in the French forest of Compiegne.

On November 11, 1933, the first of the great dust storms of the 1930s swept across North Dakota.

On November 11, 1966, Gemini 12 blasted off from Cape Kennedy, Fla., with astronauts James Lovell and Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin Jr. aboard.

On November 12, 1942, the World War II naval Battle of Guadalcanal began. The Americans ended up winning a major victory over the Japanese.

On November 12, 1946, the Exchange National Bank of Chicago installed the first bank drive-in window, called an "autobank."

On November 12, 1954, Ellis Island, the immigration station in New York Harbor, was ordered closed. During its 62-year history, more than 20 million immigrants passed through its doors.

On November 12, 1975, Supreme Court Justice William Douglas retired, ending a record-setting 36 years on the court.

On November 12, 2003, President George W. Bush and top foreign advisors reviewed new strategies to speed the transfer of political power in Iraq.

On November 13, 1789, Benjamin Franklin sent a letter to a friend in which he wrote, "*In this world, nothing can be said to be certain except death and taxes.*"

On November 13, 1794, President George Washington ordered federal troops into Pennsylvania to quell the “Whiskey Rebellion.”

On November 13, 1921, “The Sheik,” a motion picture starring Rudolph Valentino, opened at Chicago’s Roosevelt Theater. It was said the masculinity of Valentino’s image on the screen caused women in the audience to swoon. Leading men in movies have tried ever since to capture the romanticism of the Italian born star.

On November 13, 1927, the Holland Tunnel under the Hudson River, linking New York and New Jersey, opened for traffic.

On November 14, 1732, Louis Timothee, America’s first paid librarian, was hired by the Philadelphia Library Company.

On November 14, 1832, the world’s first street-car — called the “John Mason” — made its debut in New York. Thirty people could be accommodated in the three compartments of each car, which was drawn by two horses and traveled on tracks laid on Fourth Avenue.

On November 14, 1851, *Moby Dick*, a novel by Herman Melville, was first published in the U.S.

On November 14, 1889, *New York World* reporter Nellie Bly began her attempt to top the fictitious voyage of Jules Verne’s Philas Fogg by traveling around the world in less than 80 days. She completed the journey in 72 days.

On November 15, 1887, artist Georgia O’Keefe was born near Sun Prairie, Wis.

On November 15, 1926, the National Broadcasting Co. went on the air with 24 radio stations. The first broadcast, from the Grand Ballroom of New York’s Waldorf Astoria, featured opera stars Mary Garden and Tito Ruffa, the New York Symphony Orchestra, Will Rogers, Weber and Fields, and many others.

On November 15, 1939, President Franklin Roosevelt laid the cornerstone of the Jefferson Memorial in Washington, D.C.

On November 15, 1940, the first 75,000 men were called to military duty under peacetime conscription.

On November 16, 1864, the army of Union Civil War Gen. William Sherman began its destructive “march to the sea.”

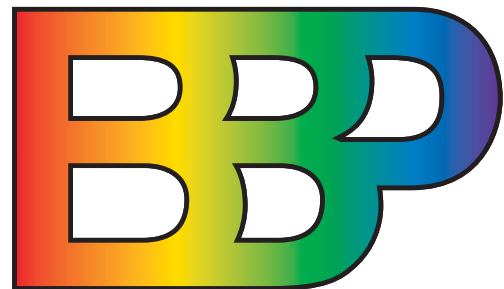
On November 16, 1901, in a race on Brooklyn’s Ocean Parkway, a car driven by A.C. Bostwick became the first automobile to exceed the speed of a mile a minute.

On November 16, 1908, conductor Arturo Toscanini made his U.S. debut at New York’s Metropolitan Opera House.

On November 16, 1959, “The Sound of Music” opened on Broadway.

On November 16, 1982, a 57-day strike by National Football League players ended when negotiators reached agreement on a new five-year contract.

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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.

L.M.

The Boys From Biloxi by John Grisham
(hardcover, \$29.95 retail in bookstores and online; also available as an eBook and an audiobook. 454 pages.)

Grisham Groupie Sally here with a new, exciting legal thriller from one of my favorite authors. Some people are born storytellers, and Grisham definitely is at the top of that list.

This barn burner of a story unfolds in the 1920s-1980s in Biloxi, Miss. Besides the legal aspect, the political elements make this two times the excitement and two times the repercussions.

There is a lot of background in the beginning, how the state's Gulf Coast became "the poor man's Riviera" and the "Seafood Capital of the World" due, in part, to the influx of Croatian immigrants who helped build their houses, fished the gulf and, finally, started up businesses. It may seem like a lot of extraneous information, but you will discover as the pages fly by that the Gulf Coast, the people, the politics and Mother Nature all play a part in what happens and why in two particular families.

These two immigrant families are the Rudys and the Malcos.

At first glance, this seems like a coming-of-age story about two friends, Keith Rudy and Hugh Malco, born 28 days apart in 1948. By the time they are 12, they are on the All Star Baseball Team and dreaming of making the pros someday. Ah, the simple dreams of youth...how age and experience will change them.

The story expands to include a lot more that will put the families smack in the middle of all that is to come...

When Hugh's grandfather died, he owned a grocery store and several bars. All very legal. Hugh's father, Lance, persuades mom to turn over control of all assets to him, bypassing the fact he has two siblings. What family love! He pays off his brother and sister, adds gambling, opens more bars and strip clubs, and uses the second-floor rooms of his clubs for prostitution. Life is good. Business is booming.

Trouble with the law? Naw. By the 1960s, business is brisk, the cops are on the take and a new Army training facility nearby brings in hundreds of young soldiers each weekend eager for the bright lights, bars and girls.

As Lance owns more businesses — some clean, most dirty — he becomes the undisputed "Boss" of the "Strip." Most club owners fall in line with him, and anyone who crosses him finds a good reason to leave town, if they are still standing. So what if you have to bust a few heads along the way? It keeps others in line. Malco's organization soon becomes

Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter



the "Dixie Mafia." Hugh grows up seeing how easy it is to make big, that is to say easy, money off all the suckers out there. Hugh listens and learns...

Keith Rudy's father, Jesse, comes back from World War II, takes advantage of the GI Bill and becomes a history teacher and, later, a lawyer. Keith's admiration for his father makes him decide law is to become his profession, too.

And then, 1969 ushers in Hurricane Camille, and everything changes...

Insurance companies are overwhelmed by the vicious storm and try using a line in the policies that says it is water, not wind, that caused all the damage so they don't have to pay. Jesse decides to take on the insurance companies, telling people he won't take any payment unless the insurance company pays up. He wins big — the insurance companies pay. More people come to him, and Jesse finally builds a reputation as a tough, unyielding litigator.

Jesse is pumped up from his success and wants to go further — right up to the District Attorney position. He wins, and finds out there are more cases involving Lance and Hugh Malco

than he knew.

Meanwhile, Lance has rebuilt his establishments, and it is business as usual. As the years go by, booze isn't enough to satisfy the bar crowds, so marijuana and soon heroin and cocaine fill in the gaps. Someone is profiting mightily — what will be the fallout of Jesse's investigations? By then, Keith is out of law school and working with his dad. Will he be able to accept that his once-good friend, Hugh, is now deeply embedded in his daddy's businesses?

How long will it take for Lance and Hugh to contain the new district attorney? And to what lengths will they go?

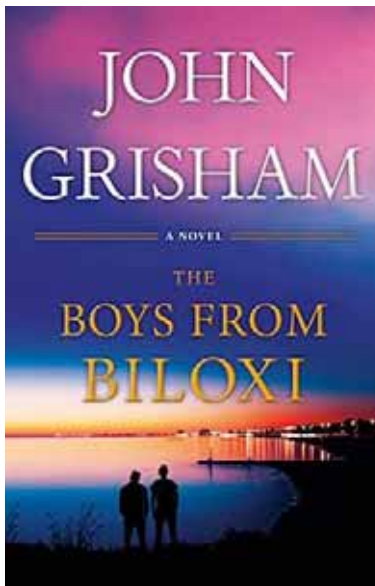
Lance soon finds himself the prime object of Jesse's investigation into prostitution — found guilty, and sent to prison. That leaves hot-headed Hugh in charge.

Let the games begin...

Maybe it will be the two sons whose divergent paths finally cross and become the classic story of good vs. evil, and will make them the major players in the stunning climax.

The final word: Storytelling at its finest, and Grisham doesn't have to use coarse language to make his point.

Till next time, happy reading!



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