

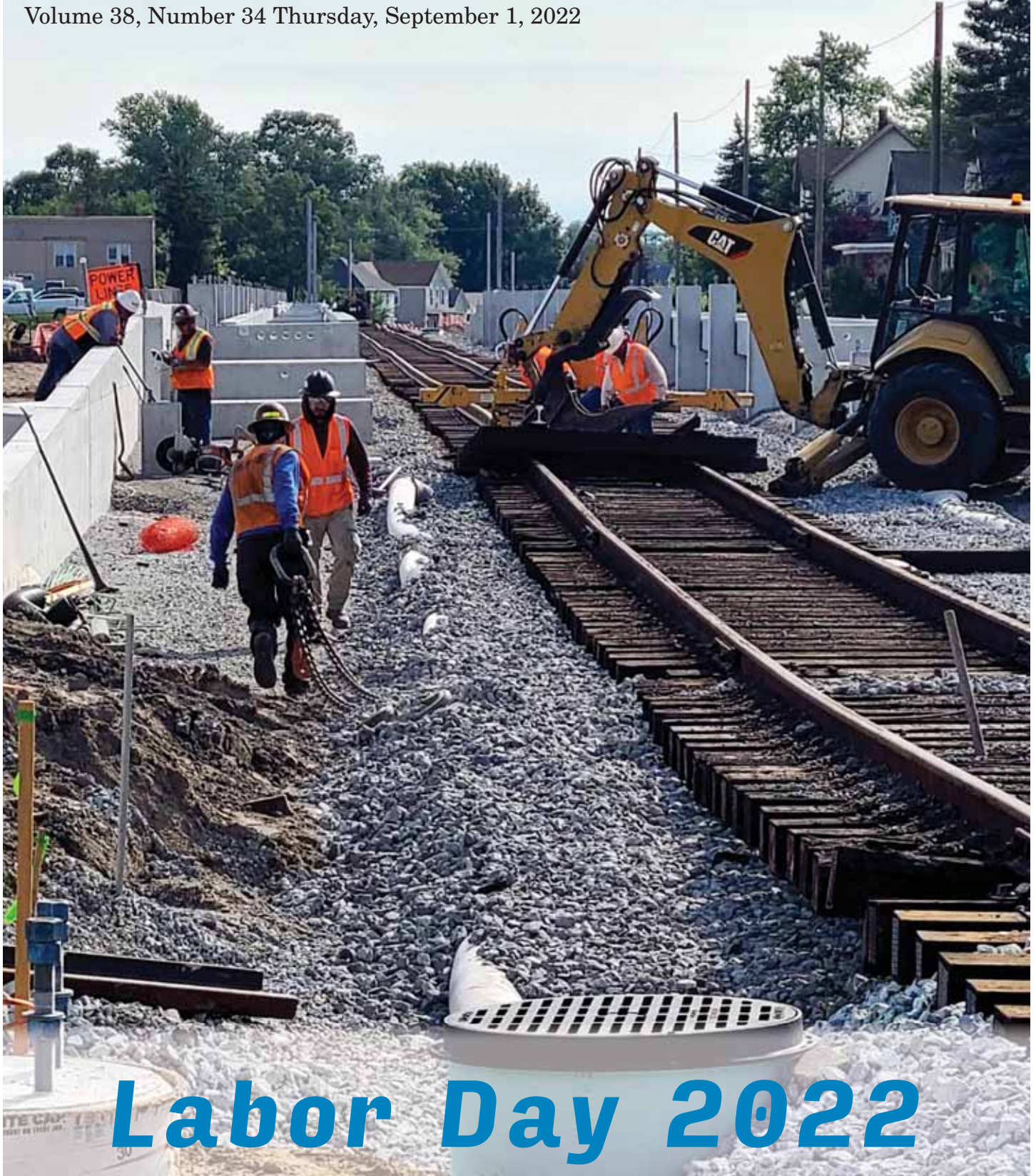
THE

# Beacher<sup>TM</sup>

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## Labor Day 2022



THE  
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# Enchanted Memories

by Andrew Tallackson

**H**as there ever been a greater feat of mechanical magnificence than The Mad Mouse?

Sure, any big-name theme park boasts a monstrosity that could topple it in size and scope. But for a child growing up here, in this region, for thrill-seekers craving an adrenaline rush of twists, turns and plunges, nothing touched it. It was the top attraction of a magical place that touted itself as “The Playland of the Indiana Dunes.”

Enchanted Forest.

How that name, just writing it here, makes me giddy. For a brief moment, I am no longer 52 years of age, with a family, a job and a mortgage, but a spry 8-year-old barreling through the park’s front entrance, veering off to the left and making a bee-line for the crowd amassed before The Mad Mouse. Never, in all my years of frequenting the park, was there a lineless trek up the wooden planks to the ride’s passenger cars.

Looking at it now, through archival photos, it seems so much smaller. A twisted maze of steel and



This undated online photo shows visitors to Enchanted Forest lined up to ride The Mad Mouse.



the nuts and bolts holding it all together. But from a child's-eye view, it was imposing.

Whoever designed The Mad Mouse at the now-defunct Allan Herschell Co. (1915-1970) was a crazed genius. This was a roller coaster that teased and taunted you. The gradual ascent up the track was pleasant enough: leisurely, tinged with anticipation. Once at the peak, the car inched forward, picking up the pace to where it seemed you might careen over the side. Then, at the last possible second, the car whipped around, choking out every laugh or scream from you. And from there, off you went, down the track at a dizzying pace. Hurtling around curves at an angle that felt dangerously close to tipping. A brief reprieve to catch your breath, then back at it, bobbing and weaving throughout the steel structure until, with a triumphant whoosh and a pause, returning to the bustling line of people chomping at the bit to fill your seat.

I'd love to know the actual duration of the ride. It never felt long enough. Your first time on The Mad Mouse was a quick taste, one to be sampled again and again and again until satiated.



An aerial view of some of the rides at Enchanted Forest.

**M**emories of Enchanted Forest, especially The Mad Mouse, flood back for me twice a year. The first is right before Memorial Day, when a trip to the theme park signified the start of summer vacation. That time, as Ray Bradbury observed in *Something Wicked This Way Comes*, when “the school doors spring wide and September’s a billion years away.” The second is Labor Day weekend, when a day at the park symbolized the unofficial end to summer and the reluctant start of another school year.

Enchanted Forest was such a pivotal presence in my childhood, I hesitate to think of what life might have been like without it. It anchored the intersec-

Continued on Page 4



## UPCOMING SHOWS

**Brooklyn Charmers**

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**The Second City presents  
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**SAT 9/3 8 P.M. ET**



**Miles Nielsen &  
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**SUN 9/4 8 P.M. ET**



**William Elliott  
Whitmore**

**SAT 9/10 8 P.M. ET**



**Al Stewart with  
The Empty Pockets**

**FRI 9/16 8 P.M. ET**



**Duke Tumatote  
and The Power Trio**

**SAT 9/17 8 P.M. ET**



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## “Enchanted” Memories Continued from Page 3

tion at U.S. 20 and Indiana 49 in Chesterton, making it a destination point for families, schools, church picnics, even fraternal and industrial groups. The parking lot could handle the crowds, with spaces for upwards of 1,500 vehicles. And the ample shelter space and picnic groves made the park all the more appealing to large groups.

In total, Enchanted Forest graced 34 acres a half-mile south of Indiana Dunes State Park from 1957-1990. Many types of rides there are still popular today, like the Tilt-a-Whirl and Scrambler. Others had names like Kiddie Whip, Jolly Caterpillar and Sky Fighter. The Mad Mouse, for trivia-minded readers, was created in 1960, just three short years after Enchanted Forest’s debut.

Now, memory is a tricky beast, especially as middle age takes root. But a fair estimate is that, whether it be through family, friends or school, I dashed through the front gates of Enchanted Forest three to four times a year.

The most memorable time for me also happened to be the most disastrous.

You see, from third grade on, I had a crush on a girl named Marianne. Sweetest thing ever. Beautiful on the inside and out. And me? With thick glasses and “Brady Bunch” clothes — this was the ’70s, mind you — I was not exactly elementary school eye candy. But in the fifth grade, I summoned the courage to ask Marianne to go on one of the rides with me.

She agreed.

The name of the ride? It escapes me. The carts sort of resembled umbrellas, with room for only two. As it spun in circles, it tilted upwards so one portion pointed to the sky, the bottom to the ground. As the ride began its circular spin, Marianne and I laughed and shouted, as children are wont to do, then began the ascent. At its peak, our laughter reached a fever pitch...until that dreadful, fateful moment. The moment when my right shoe, apparently not tied tightly, slipped off my foot, sailed through the air and landed atop a woman’s covered baby stroller. Horrified, I dared a glance at Marianne. Her eyes were the size of saucers. We would take a full spin on the ride two more times. The first, I could see the mother, holding the shoe in her right hand, her face red. The second swirl revealed the woman slamming the shoe to the ground and taking off in a huff.

As the ride came to an end, my head hung low, too embarrassed to scan Marianne’s face for a reaction. Being the kindly soul she was, she was the first off the ride, heading directly to where the woman threw my shoe. I caught up with Marianne, who handed me the shoe. Seeing that I was kinda sorta OK, she thanked me for sharing the ride with her, then waved goodbye, on her way to find her friends.

**S**ummer 1988.

My last experience at Enchanted Forest...and the most bittersweet.

It was shortly after graduating from high school. That peculiar limbo period, positioned between the life you had before high school... and the one that now awaits.

A few friends and I paid a visit shortly before heading off to college. It was the first time I became acutely aware of the passage of time... because for the first time, Enchanted Forest felt small. Take, for instance, the kiddie train that ventured around the perimeter of the park. No doubt as a toddler an eye-opening experience, but one deemed “babyish” by early elementary school. The tram ride that once delivered me to soaring heights now appeared relatively “grounded.”



### SOME OF OUR POPULAR RIDES

Skyliner — Mad Mouse Roller Coaster — Dodgem — Scrambler — Twister — Tilt-a-Whirl — Octopus — Merry Go Round — Train Ride — Ferris Wheel — Paratrooper — Safari Dark Ride — Tram Ride — Kiddie Whip — Jolly Caterpillar — Kiddie Boat — Sky Fighter — Go Karts — and many more.



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**THE PLAYLAND  
OF THE INDIANA DUNES**  
U.S. 20 & Ind. 49  
Porter, Indiana



The Safari Dark Ride, Enchanted Forest's second cousin to a haunted house, was a snooze.

Enchanted Forest hadn't changed.

I had.

The park now belonged to a version of me that no longer existed.

Bidding farewell that day, my small group headed to Michigan City, our destination Nettie's Hot Dogs. A single thought occurred to me. When might I return next?

**T**he call came from my father junior year at Indiana University-Bloomington, my roommates and I living in that townhouse war zone across from the football stadium known as Varsity Villas.

My father read from a newspaper article. Enchanted Forest had been auctioned off on Oct. 19, 1991. Before then, after the 1989 season, it went into bankruptcy after INB Bank foreclosed on the property.

Many of the rides, including The Mad Mouse, found a new home at Little Americka in Marshall, Wis. The Mad Mouse was purchased for \$6,000, according to online reports I discovered recently.

From 1994 to 2009, Enchanted Forest was transformed into a water park, Splash Down Dunes. It re-opened as Seven Peaks Water Park in 2013 and remained open until 2017.

Continued on Page 6



The theme park was auctioned off in October 1991.

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## “Enchanted” Memories Continued from Page 5

I was at Splash Down Dunes in 2003 with my wife, Alice, and a young boy, Brandon Lambert, whose family we’d become friends with a few years beforehand. At one point, Brandon and I stood atop one of the attraction’s most precarious slides. Before taking the plunge, I scanned the property for any signs of Enchanted Forest. A hint of that magical old place. Far towards the back sat a dilapidated wooden shed. The edges of the roof curled up and down, warped by time and rot. Had it been an old utility shed at Enchanted Forest? Maybe. I asked around, making the inquiry to a few employees, all of whom reacted as if I’d just spoken in tongues.

Enchanted Forest, it seemed, was lost to time.

A few weeks ago, I began the process of researching Enchanted Forest online. Tumbling down a few online rabbit holes revealed The Mad Mouse’s whereabouts. However, Little Amerricka was unfamiliar to me.

Glancing at the website’s home page ([www.littleamerricka.com](http://www.littleamerricka.com)), the following paragraph caught my attention: *“Little Amerricka features twenty-six rides and attractions including our classic 1950’s Wooden Roller Coaster The Meteor. Our unique park features restored rides from classic amusement parks of a bygone era.”*

Oh, good, I uttered aloud, as if reassuringly. The Mad Mouse is in good hands. But where was it? I didn’t see any pictures of it on the homepage. Had it switched homes or, worse, been decommissioned? Scrolling back to the top of the page, I clicked on the link “Park Information.” A menu appeared. The

second menu option: “Rides.” I took a deep breath, then clicked on it.

My heart was racing, and I started to laugh. Good grief, I told myself. It’s not like this is Watergate or The Pentagon Papers. You’re trying to find an old roller coaster, for crying out loud.

Then, five rows down, third column. The Mad Mouse, complete with the headline “If you dare... Ride the Mad Mouse.” Ah, good. Still up to her old tricks. Still taunting and teasing. Beckoning us to try her out. Largely the same, but with some much needed upgrades.

Lingering on the picture, the memories flooding back...the wheels started turning. Marshall is in southern Wisconsin. Not too far from the Illinois border. Small town, much like Chesterton. Maybe it’s time for a road trip. Sometime before my son heads off to college in the next three years. Let him experience The Mad Mouse for himself. And for that one single moment, I will be 8 again. Barreling toward the ride without a care in the world.

Contact Andrew Tallackson at [atallackson@gmail.com](mailto:atallackson@gmail.com)

### More About the Photos

A few photos for this article were found online.

The photo of the Enchanted Forest sign in 1991 came from Stewart Michard. Staff at

Little Amerricka provided the photo of The Mad Mouse as it exists today. Thanks to Stewart and Little Amerricka for their help with this article.



The Mad Mouse as it stands today at Little Amerricka

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## In the Spirit of Labor Day, a Look at *the* Headline Making Project of the Region

*Editor's note — The following article was provided by Nicole Barker, Double Track Northwest Indiana project manager and NICTD director of Capital Investment and Implementation.*

The Northern Indiana Commuter Transportation District, which operates the South Shore Line Railroad, is amid two of its largest major infrastructure construction projects since it began service in 1908.

The first is the Double Track Northwest Indiana Project and the second the West Lake Corridor Project. The DT-NWI Project focuses on a 26.6-mile segment of the existing South Shore Line, whereas the West Lake Corridor Project is an 8-mile southern branch extension of the South Shore Line from Hammond to the Munster/Dyer border in Lake County.

The DT-NWI Project includes construction of 26.6 miles of new second track between Gary and Michigan City along NICTD's existing South Shore Line. Elements include approximately two miles of completely new right-of-way in Michigan City, platform reconfigurations at five stations, construction of 1,475 additional parking spaces, a new overhead catenary power system and reconstruction of 22 at-grade crossings and 20 culverts. The project is expected to improve safety along the entire alignment, especially in Michigan City where the new alignment will remove the street-running track, eliminate 13 grade crossings and provide a safer environment for passengers boarding trains.

Construction, which began earlier this year, is expected to be complete in 2024. The scope includes improvements at five stations, which will include:

- 11th Street (Michigan City) Station: removing embedded street-running track along 10th and 11th streets; two new tracks south of the 10th Street ROW from Sheridan Avenue to the Amtrak crossing near Chicago Street; two new tracks along 11th Street; one high-level four-car platform; one high-level eight-car platform; a

new station house with a parking structure with 437 additional spaces and a new surface parking lot with 108 additional spaces; and conversion of 11th Street to one-way automobile traffic.

- Gary/Miller Station: new station, two new high-level six-car platforms, one 8-car storage track and one four-car storage track for additional rush hour trains, and an additional 519 parking spaces.
- Portage/Ogden Dunes Station: one new high-level six-car platform on the south side of the tracks and an additional 327 parking spaces.
- Dune Park Station: one new low-level four-car platform on the north side of the tracks, realignment of the Calumet Trail under the Indiana 49 bridge and an additional 84 parking spaces;
- Beverly Shores Station: two new low-level four-car platforms.

NICTD will operate 14 additional trains on weekdays. The final schedule is still in development.

The City of Michigan City is working with NICTD and a private developer on a Transit Oriented Development project on what will be the future 11th Street Station block (bounded by 10th/11th/Franklin and Pine in Michigan City). There will be a parking structure and station, and an adjacent multi-story mixed-use building that connects to it.

The project will provide significant improvements in operational functionality for the South Shore Line. Currently, in areas with single track, NICTD must operate in a manner similar to having two-way traffic on a one-way street, waiting for trains to pass an area before being able to enter the single-track territory. Once complete, the flexibility provided to NICTD will allow for significantly shorter travel times to and from Millennium Station in Chicago.

The project is split into six discrete, but interconnected construction projects. The lion's share of the work, however, is Contract 1, which is being performed by Walsh/Herzog Joint Venture.

In general, construction is moving from the eastern limits in Michigan City westward towards the Miller Station area, but select elements of work are under way in all portions of the project area. As of mid-2022, the most intensive work is in Michigan City, with the goal to complete that work by the end of 2022. Visit [www.doubletrack-nwi.com/construction/next-steps](http://www.doubletrack-nwi.com/construction/next-steps) for project updates.

Passenger service on the railroad is still occurring during construction, albeit with what the railroad calls "bus bridges" to move passengers by bus around the construction zones. Busing has been occurring for the first phase of construction from Carroll Avenue in Michigan City to Dune Park Station in Chesterton. Busing limits will change as the project moves westward. Visit [www.mysouthshoreline.com](http://www.mysouthshoreline.com) for updates.

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### About the Photos

The cover photo was taken by *The Beacher*. The photos on this page were provided by NICTD. The Michigan City photos were taken with time-stamp photography.



## Serenata: An Evening of Song for Tenor, Violin and Piano”

Romanian tenor Emanuel-Christian Caraman will celebrate works ranging from Tosti and Rachmaninova to Toselli and Tchaikovsky during “Serenata: An Evening of Song for Tenor, Violin and Piano.”

The program, hosted by Robert Swan and Harbor Country Opera, is at 7 p.m. EDT Wednesday, Sept. 7, at The Acorn, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Caraman will be joined by Jameson Cooper on violin and Mariah Boucher on piano. The selections also span composers such as Kalman, Romberg and Massenet.

Caraman performed the title role in “*L’Amico Fritz*” at Miami Lyric Opera, where reviews noted his role was “imbued with real vocal drama, his high notes ringing through the house.” He made his debut in 2009 in Bucharest, and has appeared with *Die Deutsche Kammer-Philharmonie*, Northwest Symphony Orchestra, Chicago’s New Philharmonic Orchestra, the Los Angeles Opera and Miami Lyric Opera. Operatic roles include



Emanuel-Christian Caraman

Riccardo in Verdi’s “*Un Ballo in Maschera*,” Edgardo in Donizetti’s “*Lucia di Lammermoor*,” Rodolfo in Puccini’s “*La Bohème*” and Alaviva in Mozart’s “*Il Barbiere di Siviglia*.” The National University of Music in Bucharest conferred the title of Doctor of Music on him in 2008.

Tickets are \$25, or \$50 for reserved seating. Visit [www.acornlive.org](http://www.acornlive.org) for reservations.



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## Shelter Turns to Community to Meet Matching Grant

by Edmund Lawler

If it's true a community is judged by the way it treats the "least among us," then Michigan City has the opportunity to show its compassionate spirit.

The Healthcare Foundation of LaPorte recently announced a \$25,000 challenge grant for Phase 2 remodeling of the Interfaith Community PADS emergency overnight shelter in the city's west side. The shelter — a 501(c)(3) nonprofit — has until the end of this year to raise \$25,000 in donations, which the foundation then matches.

"Phase 2 remodeling is to replace all the windows and front doors on the upper floor," says Harrison Holtkamp, executive director of ICPADS, which is housed in the former Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 1001 W. Eighth St. PADS stands for Public Action to Deliver Shelter.

The new windows are not for cosmetic purposes. The current 5-foot-by-10-foot arched windows, located in what was the vaulted nave of the red-brick church built in 1916 — do a poor job of keeping out the cold, driving the thinly financed organization's utility costs through the roof.

When the building was a church, the windows were stained glass. But when the Diocese of Gary deconsecrated the church, it removed the stained-glass windows and repurposed them for another church. The replacement windows not only lacked the grandeur of the stained glass, but also the insulation.

Such is the challenge of operating in a century-old building.

"We always have a few surprise repairs," Holtkamp says of the building, for which he's eternally grateful. Until the organization moved permanently into the former church on Aug. 2, 2020, the shelter essentially floated from church basement to church basement in the community.

"The churches were very nervous about having us during COVID," Holtkamp says. "They never said we don't want you here, but there was concern. We felt that having our own place would ease the churches' concerns a bit."

The churches have never closed their hearts to the homeless. People fall into homelessness for a variety of reasons: mental illness, eviction, job loss, poverty, domestic abuse, addiction, bad breaks, bad choices. In some cases, people are simply priced out of Michigan City's housing market, where units are

scarce, and rents are high and going higher.

Whatever the reason or reasons, ICPADS' goal is to get their guests back on their feet.

"Our case managers and all the agencies we deal with have done a great job getting people to move on to the next phase of their life," Holtkamp explains.



ICPADS Executive Director Harrison Holtkamp, standing on the shelter's front steps, is confident the nonprofit can raise \$25,000 to meet a challenge grant.

"About 44 percent eventually do find more permanent housing. We aim to guide them to the right resources."

Ryan Ebberson, treasurer of ICPADS' 11-member board of younger business professionals, says the seven-day-a-week shelter "is not a bed and breakfast. It's for people who want to get out of homelessness and who are ready to do so. Sometimes, they are not ready, and that is not easy for everyone. But what sets this organization apart from other homeless shelters is that the guests have to be ready to confront why they are homeless."

ICPADS offers overnight shelter to men, women

and women with children. Men are housed in a dormitory setting on the upper floor; women and children on the lower floor. On a typical night, 30 to 40 people stay at the shelter. Dinner is served in the evening, and breakfast is served in the morning before the shelter closes at 7 a.m. for the day.

Men spend an average of 43 nights in the shelter before they move on; women in the low 30s.

Holtkamp has a staff of nine part-time employees whose work is selflessly supplemented by community volunteers. They typically contribute about 250 hours in the summer months and more than 300 hours in the winter months.

The former church's conversion into the ICPADS homeless shelter was bolstered by an outpouring of generosity that raised \$450,000 in donations and grants to fund Phase 1 construction.

Now, it's on to a much smaller Phase 2 if the foundation grant is matched. Holtkamp is confident ICPADS will meet its fundraising goal and win the match. If the money is raised by the fall, he's hoping work can get under way before the icy winds blow off Lake Michigan in January.

And if the fundraising goal is exceeded, so much the better.

"We are also hoping to build some reserves because we are operating hand to mouth," Holtkamp says. "That's why we are hoping to bring in the community."

(All photos by Ed Lawler)



Harrison Holtkamp points to large arched windows that need to be replaced.

## How You Can Help

Donors who'd like to help ICPADS raise \$25,000 to earn a \$25,000 foundation challenge grant can contribute in several ways.

Visit the ICPADS website [www.interfaithcommunitypads.in](http://www.interfaithcommunitypads.in) and click the "Monetary Gifts" dropdown to donate. Checks can be mailed to ICPADS, 1001 W. Eighth St., Michigan City, IN 46360, or to P.O. Box 38, Michigan City, IN 46361. The memo line on the check should indicate the donation is for the match grant. All donations are tax deductible, and ICPADS will issue receipts to donors.

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## New Krasl Art Center Exhibits Examine Relationship With Food

Two new exhibits debut Saturday, Sept. 3, at Krasl Art Center: “Family Dinner: The Deep Connection of American Lived Experience” and “FOOD for THOUGHT.”

“Family Dinner” is in the Main Gallery and “FOOD for THOUGHT” in The Lounge. An Afternoon of Art reception is from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. EDT Saturday, Sept. 10.

Both exhibits run through Nov. 13.

“Family Dinner” illustrates the impact and history of domestic life in the United States. The physical center and conceptual starting point is Justin Rothshank’s “The People’s Dinnerware.” The installation of ceramic place settings commemorates each U.S. president in addition to critical and often under-represented figures from each presidential era. Similarly, Melissa Blount’s textile abecedarium (or ABC book), “Black Girl Magic,” highlights historical and contemporary women little known or unknown in American culinary history.

Other explorations of the dinner table, domestic life and current events by Tajh Rust and Katie Butler complete the exhibit.

“FOOD for THOUGHT” celebrates community while exploring society’s relationship with food.

During summer 2021, the Southwest Michigan Local Food Council asked four artists to respond creatively to the personal food experiences of visitors at local farmers’ markets. Attendees defined and expressed themselves through their experiences with food, and the artists incorporated the responses into a painting representing that community. The final art installation is a visual representation of that community voice.

The Sept. 10 Afternoon of Art includes (all times Eastern):

- 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. — Family Day. Glaze ceramic dinner plates inspired by the exhibit during the drop-in artmaking.
- 12:30-1:30 p.m. — Exhibition reception. The event includes an all-ages storytime, white glove tour in the galleries and lite bites by Bistro on the Boulevard.
- 1:30-3 p.m. — Panel discussion. Hear from “Family Dinner” artist Melissa Blount and “FOOD for THOUGHT” organizer Jennifer Tomshack.

Free events related to the new exhibits include (all times Eastern):

- Live at Lunchtime: Behind the Scenes Installing “Family Dinner” at noon Thursday, Sept. 1, through Facebook Live.
- Live at Lunchtime: Coffee with the Curator at noon Thursday, Sept. 8, in person and Facebook Live.



Justin Rothshank’s “The People’s Dinnerware” (2006-2020).

- Live at Lunchtime: Jaylen Lanier at noon Thursday, Sept. 29, on Facebook Live.
- KAC is located at 707 Lake Blvd., St. Joseph, Mich. Call (269) 983-0271 or visit [www.krasl.org](http://www.krasl.org) for more details.

### 25th PechaKucha Night

The 25th volume of PechaKucha 20x20 St. Joseph/Benton Harbor is from 8:30-10 p.m. EDT Thursday, Sept. 8, outdoors at Ghostlight Theatre, 101 Hinkley St., Benton Harbor, Mich.

PechaKucha – meaning “chit chat” in Japanese – shows 20 images, each for 20 seconds. In other words, presenters get 400 seconds to tell their story, with visuals guiding the way. Artists include: Gina Johnson, Latoya Turner, Denise McGowan Tracy, Kyna King, Dr. Bernice Patterson, Jermario Eddie, Vincent Leman, Cody Wallace, Lana Defrancesco, Steve Phelps and Tess Ulrey. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. EDT, with snacks and a cash bar available.

The cost, which is \$5, supports PechaKucha events. Tickets are available at [www.krasl.org/events/pechakucha](http://www.krasl.org/events/pechakucha), at the door or at [tinyurl.com/2p994vns](https://tinyurl.com/2p994vns)

As of April 2019, PechaKucha nights were held in more than 1,142 cities worldwide and attended by more than three million people.





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## Abstract Paintings at LCA

LaPorte abstract expressionist painter Ginny Scott will exhibit her paintings Sept. 2-26, with an opening reception from 5-8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 2, in the NIP-SCO Art Education Studios at Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St.

Scott has been a professional artist for most of her life, and exhibited throughout the New York region while living there. Since relocating to the Midwest, she has exhibited widely and won many honorable mentions and first prizes, and completed commissioned paintings.

She is a juried member of the Area Artists Association, a juried member of Northern Indiana Artists in South Bend and a member of The Box Factory for the Arts and Krasl Art Center in St. Joseph, Mich. She maintains a studio in LaPorte.



An abstract work by Ginny Scott.

## Michigan City Art League

Michigan City Art League's fall semester begins at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 8, in the Queen of All Saints School cafeteria.

The schedule is:

- Sept. 8 and 15 — Paul Ortega presents "Fun with Alcohol Ink."
- Sept. 22 — Susan Hughes presents "Watercolor and Types of Papers."
- Sept. 29 and Oct. 6 — Betsy Fleek presents "Birds of the Dunes with Watercolors."
- Oct. 13 — Susan Ballew presents "Wildlife Animals, Portraits in Acrylics Using a Grid Method."
- Oct. 20 and 27 — Matthew Kubik (topic announced at a later date).
- Nov. 3 and 10 — Wendy Kermen presents "Mixed Media Using Watercolor, Pastels and Color Pencil."
- Nov. 17 — Julia Kasinuas presents "Watercolor Demonstrations."
- Dec. 1 — Last class is social time, an art auction and Show and Tell from classes.

Annual membership costs \$25, and each 12-week semester of classes costs \$35. Fees may be paid to the Art League, P.O. Box 9720, Michigan City, IN 46360, or paid the first day of class. Arrive by 6:15 p.m. because spots fill quickly. The cafeteria can be accessed through the parking lot behind the school, 1715 E. Barker Ave.

Contact Kadie O'Connor at [kd3627@hotmail.com](mailto:kd3627@hotmail.com) for more details.

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## “Black Bird” Features the Two Best Performances of the Year

by Andrew Tallackson



Taron Egerton (right) and Paul Walter Hauser star in “Black Bird,” now streaming on Apple TV+.

Is it premature to say Taron Egerton and Paul Walter Hauser give the best performances of the year in “Black Bird?”

In a season already blessed with the tender work of Samuel L. Jackson and Dominique Fishback in “The Last Days of Ptolemy Grey,” this six-episode Apple TV+ series is a master class in acting and defying expectation that leaves you shattered.

The driving force is Dennis Lehane, the author of Mystic River, Gone, Baby Gone and Shutter Island. His strength is telling stories of working-class people with the rawness of an exposed wound.

That’s certainly the case with “Black Bird.” Lehane based it on the 2010 autobiographical novel In With the Devil: A Fallen Hero, A Serial Killer and A Dangerous Bargain for Redemption by James Keene and Hillel Levin. The series touts itself as inspired by the true story, and while that’s accurate in how it condenses characters and timelines for the sake of storytelling, it is remarkably true to the facts.

Keene (Egerton) had the high school football potential to attract college recruiters, but after failing to do so ended up dealing narcotics until his arrest. Egerton, the Welsh actor from “Rocketman” and the first two “Kingsman” movies, pulls off a flawless American accent, but it’s his screen presence that is so startling. Not just that he bulked up for the role,

but his cock-of-the-walk bravado. A man who, in his mind, is untouchable. Charming, persuasive. Prepping the next big deal.

Then, federal officials approach him in prison. Serial killer Larry Hall (Hauser) is incarcerated, but there are rumblings he might get released over allegations of a coerced confession. If Keene will transfer to the same facility as Hall, befriend him, earn his trust, coax details of his crimes from him, then he’ll stay in prison. And Keene? He’ll be a free man.

Oscar-nominee Greg Kinnear (“Little Miss Sunshine”) and Sepideh Moafi play Brian Miller and Lauren McCauley, respectively, the officers involved in Hall’s original arrest. The story alternates between their early investigation and Keene’s reluctant new assignment. In fact, when the van with Keene and the escorting officers arrives at Hall’s prison, the fear, the hesitancy from Egerton is palpable. We are reminded that Keene, for all the showmanship, was just a kid. The charismatic snake oil salesman act was just that. An act.

Keene, it turns out, has good reason to be nervous. Hall, his voice like a child sucking helium, is the queasy result of a horrific childhood and undiagnosed mental illness. With real-life portrayals in films like “I, Tonya” and “Richard Jewell,” Hauser has specialized in playing men steps behind where



they should be. But here, the actor is creepy beyond words. He keeps us guessing. Is there any moral compass? Does Hall understand the gravity of his crimes? Or is he the devil incarnate?

Trouble is, and here's where "Black Bird" gets tricky, Hall likes to take credit for crimes he didn't commit, much of them in the Hoosier state. Hitting close to home is the 1993 disappearance and tragic death of Rayna Rison in LaPorte. Hall tried to take credit for it, and "Black Bird" brings Lauren and Brian to LaPorte to speak with the officer who handled the case. True crime storytelling has a way of depicting small-town

police as inbred laziness. I braced for that, but the hard-edged conversation between the three officers is a grim reminder of how dedicated officers give their all, even to cold cases that fail to yield results.

Much of "Black Bird" is a delicate balancing act, of watching Keene, step by step, work his way into Keene's confidences. We also have the late, great Ray Liotta ("Goodfellas"), in his final performance, as Keene's father, Big Jim. The actor's fading mortality bleeds out of every fiber of him. His eyes muddied by illness. His pallor washed out. How much pain Liotta was in during filming remains to be seen, but the fire that marked his career is potent.

The turning point in "Black Bird" arrives at the close of the fifth episode. The bond between Keene and Hall firmly established, Hall opens up about



The late Ray Liotta, in his final performance, has a final scene that will deeply affect you.

one of his victims. The look on Egerton's face is a man faking sympathy and understanding to not blow his cover, but collapsing inside. It is the single most devastating piece of acting I've seen from any actor this year. A triumph by Egerton.

The sixth and final episode deals with the emotional fallout from there, and its impact on the people involved. Again, Egerton and Hauser are superb, but it is Liotta, whose Big Jim breaks down, weeping with joy, that reveals the late actor giving everything he's got, consuming you with emotion in the process.

For every major series that airs from here on out, "Black Bird" is the tough act to follow.

Contact Andrew Tallackson at [atallackson@gmail.com](mailto:atallackson@gmail.com)

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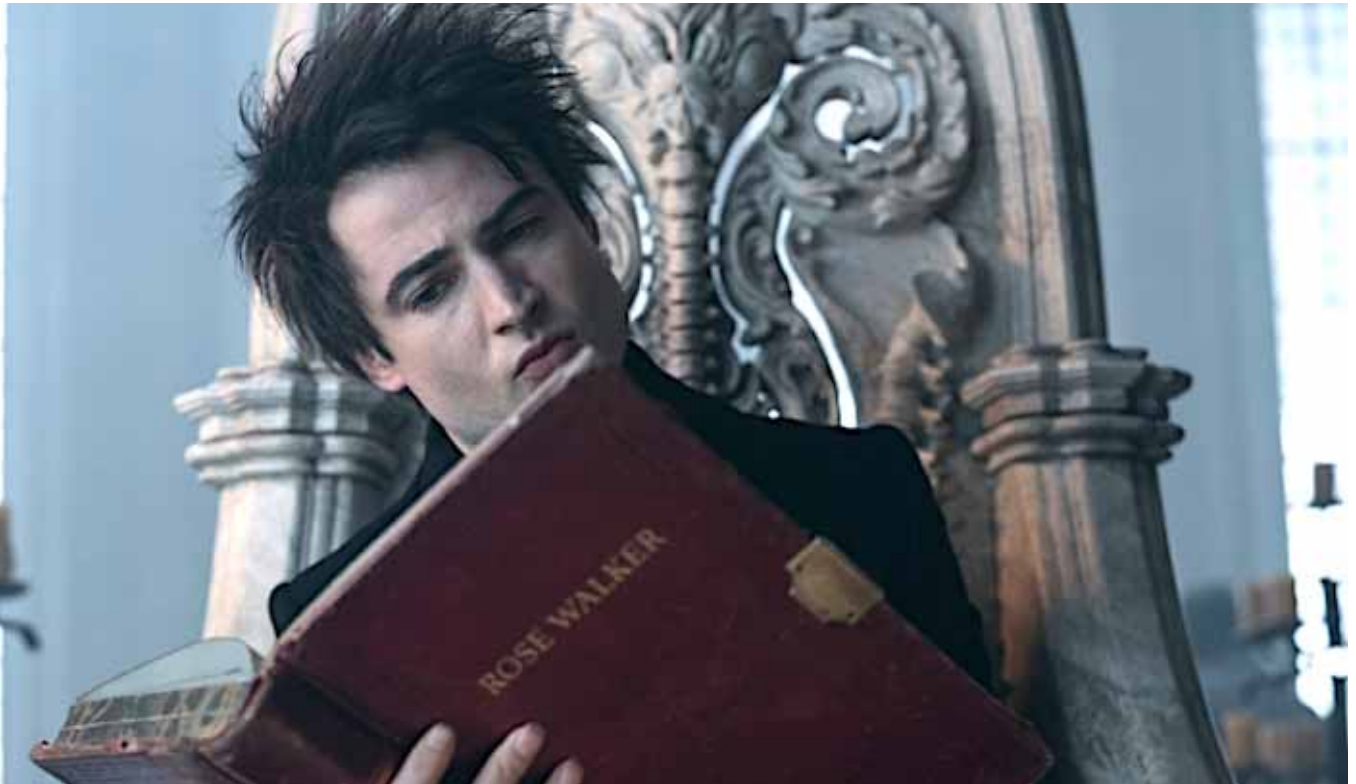
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## “The Sandman” Takes Viewers on a Bold, Wild Ride

by Andrew Tallackson



Tom Sturridge stars as Morpheus, leader of the dream world, in “The Sandman,” now streaming on Netflix.

“The Sandman” is bizarre, disjointed and uncomfortable.

It’s also bold, brilliant and strikingly original.

Welcome to the world of Neil Gaiman.

I haven’t read the English author’s works, but I’ve seen the film and TV adaptations. “Coraline.” “Stardust.” “Good Omens.” This guy does not create fantasies for children. He’s more Tim Burton than C.S. Lewis. His worlds are dark fairy tales for adults.

“The Sandman,” his graphic novel series from 1989-1996, has floundered in development hell for years, but now, it arrives on Netflix with everything money can buy. The acting talent, the visionary look and, of course, the Gaiman touch. He’s heavily involved with the production, which creates a compelling world, a sexually fluid one that gets stranger and more unsettling.

Too many fantasy writers these days are consumed with creating their own Narnia or Middle-Earth. “The Sandman,” however, is about toying with the concept of basic human emotions as embodied by fantasy figures kind and cruel.

How do you explain this? Let’s see. Seven beings exist known as the Endless: Death, Delirium, Desire, Despair, Destiny, Destruction and Dream. The latter, who goes by the name Morpheus, is captured in 1916 through an occult ritual and trapped for 100 years. He finally breaks free, trying to restore his world and the threats that arrived in his absence.

Morpheus is played by Tom Sturridge with the raspy growl of someone trying to regain his footing. His realm has become desolate, the production team behind “The Sandman” creating a gorgeous world of darkened skies and crumbling architecture. The two bright spots for him are the wonderful Vivienne Archeampong as Lucienne, Morpheus’ no-nonsense librarian, and Patton Oswalt, who provides the voice of Matthew the raven.

The early episodes of “The Sandman” involve Morpheus trying to recover tools and artifacts key to reviving his strength, and it is here the show wanders through a series of characters who come and go. “Doctor Who” favorite Jenna Colman is lively as a supernatural detective. Even more interesting is John Dee (the dynamite David Thewlis), who has a powerful ruby belonging to Morpheus.

Where “The Sandman” finds its voice are the standout fifth and sixth episodes. In the fifth, John, with ruby in hand, stops by a roadside diner intent on forging a world where no one lies. Where only the truth is spoken. What ensues is a hypnotic descent into a dark rabbit hole of violence for the diner’s staff and customers. The sixth episode, by comparison, is the loveliest, where we meet Morpheus’ kinder sister, Death. She is embodied by Kirby Howell-Baptiste in a beautiful performance. During an extended sequence where Death visits one poor soul after another, extracting her ultimate price with “a kind word and a friendly face,” the images move you



in ways you don't see coming. Death is not envisioned as a bleak, imposing figure, but a sturdy, gentle escort to the next life.

Many of the characters we've met at this point fall to the wayside, their fates, as is the case with John Dee, unfortunately unresolved. "The Sandman" thus focuses entirely on Rose Walker (the winning Kyo Ra), who is a vortex. She can enter people's dreams, but doing so threatens the line between reality and the dream world. She's not the villain, but a good, decent person thrust into an impossible situation. The real threat is the wildly charismatic Boyd Holdbrook as the Corinthian, a nightmare who escaped from the dream world. Bent on taking Morpheus down, and wearing shades to hide his hideous eyes, Holdbrook barrels through scenes like a tsunami. Destroying everyone in his path.

His pursuit of Rose and her brother to bring down Morpheus leads to the queasiest element of "The Sandman." A textbook case of Gaiman's mordant humor, the characters converge at a "Cereal Convention," but that first word is a twisted homophone for the event's true nature: a gathering of serial killers and sexual predators. Here, "The Sandman" pushes itself as far as it can go into an icky, violent, sexually ambiguous existence. The characters can't be defined as gay or straight because they weave in and out of constantly shifting reality. The show, at this point, is not for the faint of heart. That it emerges from such darkness into light speaks to its courage.

"The Sandman," clearly, is not everyone's cup of tea; however, it should be noted that at press time, it is the most streamed show on the planet. It also



My favorite performance in "The Sandman": Kirby Howell-Baptiste (right) as Death.

introduces the next hurdles for Morpheus and company. For all the inconsistencies, the sheer bravery of the endeavor pays off. I, for one, can't wait to see where this show heads next.

Contact Andrew Tallackson at [atallackson@gmail.com](mailto:atallackson@gmail.com)

An advertisement for Bubbles Ice Cream Parlor. It features two milkshakes: a green one with a cherry on top and a brown one with a cherry on top. The text "Time to Shake things Up" is written in a cursive font. Below the milkshakes is the Bubbles Ice Cream Parlor logo, which includes a snowman and the words "Bubbles ICE CREAM PARLOR". At the bottom, there is a red banner with the text "STOP IN OR DRIVE-THRU" and a Facebook icon followed by "BubblesIceCreamParlor". Below that, the address "115 W. Coolspring Ave | Michigan City | 219-872-1024" is listed.

An advertisement for Lake Interiors. It features a stylized white house icon with a chimney on a black background. Below the icon, the text "LAKE INTERIORS" is written in large, bold, white capital letters, followed by "DESIGNING CITY TO SHORE" in smaller, bold, white capital letters. Below that, the text "END OF SUMMER YARD SALE" is written in large, bold, white capital letters. Underneath, the words "FURNITURE", "LIGHTING", and "ACCESSORIES" are listed in bold, white capital letters. Below that, the text "SPECIAL \$10.00 CORNER" is written in bold, white capital letters. At the bottom, the address "14906 RED ARROW HWY, LAKESIDE, MI 49116" and the phone number "(630) 863-9940" are listed, followed by the website "WWW.LAKEINTERIORSINC.COM".

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Modern farmhouse with over 3,000 SF of living space and pool. Smartly designed for today's lifestyle. \$1,849,000



NEW LISTING

**10592 MARQUETTE DRIVE, NEW BUFFALO**

Recently updated and expanded 5 bedroom, 3 bath home that is perfect for frequent getaways. \$1,299,000

**11872 MARQUETTE DRIVE, NEW BUFFALO**

Stunning views from your own backyard with access to Riviera Community Association beach. \$1,200,000

**18485 DUNECREST DRIVE #32, NEW BUFFALO**

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### 827 E LAKE FRONT DRIVE, BEVERLY SHORES

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Gary Hardina 269.469.8300



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Dr. Solares is fluent in Spanish and thrilled to continue his passion of providing patient-centered comprehensive care in our office. He joins Drs. Weber (center in photo) and Kirk (right) in their devotion to staying up to date with the latest advances in dentistry and is a current member of the American Dental Association and Academy of General Dentistry.

Outside of the office, Dr. Solares enjoys cooking for family and friends, playing soccer, hiking and fly fishing. We are delighted to add his expertise and knowledge to the team and look forward to a wonderful working relationship.

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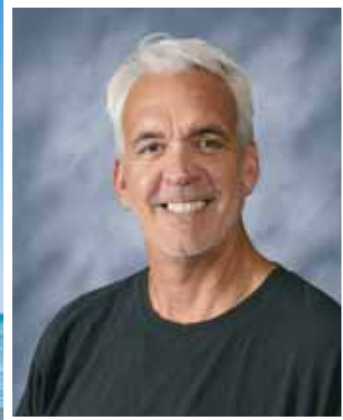
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**51116 LAKE PARK DRIVE**  
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4 BEDROOMS/4.5 BATHS  
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**10299 WARD AVENUE**  
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**3217 JAY BIRD LANE**  
Duneland Beach, Indiana  
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\$995,000



**3022 MAYFIELD WAY**  
Long Beach, Indiana  
5 BEDROOMS/3 BATHS  
\$899,000



**118 KRUEGER AVENUE**  
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4 BEDROOMS/2.5 BATHS  
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\$425,000



**3853 BIRCHWOOD DRIVE**  
Michiana Shores, Indiana  
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\$399,000



**10 MARINE DRIVE, #4A**  
Michigan City, Indiana  
2 BEDROOMS/2 BATHS  
\$398,000



UNDER CONTRACT IN 2 DAYS!

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LaPorte, Indiana  
3 BEDROOMS/1 BATH  
\$132,900



**9111 N MEER ROAD W**  
Michigan City, Indiana  
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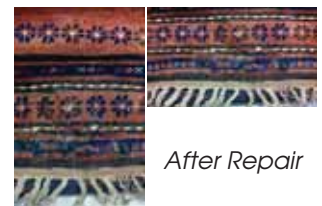
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Virtual Tour: <https://vimeo.com/701854817>



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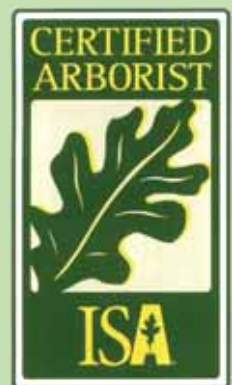
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1. Don't prune ANY oaks from April 15th to September 30th. Oak wilt spreads readily during this time. Oak wilt will immediately kill any infected trees and will spread to your trees via root grafts if your neighbor prunes their oaks and they get infected. 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.
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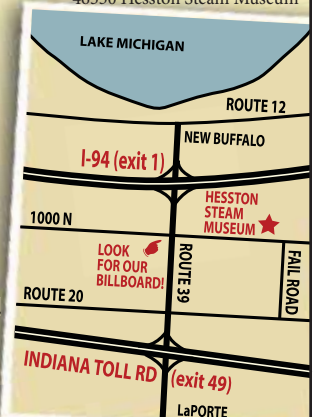
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## Surviving the Oak Lawn Tornado of 1967

In the course of writing my autobiography, I blew into a particularly dark memory from April 21, 1967: the killer F-4/5 tornado that swept through Palos Heights, Oak Lawn, Hometown and Evergreen Park in Chicago's southwest suburbs.

What I came to call the "Oak Lawn Tornado" killed 33 before skipping over Chicago's South Side and blowing itself out over Rainbow Beach in the South Shore neighborhood of my early childhood.

I suppose I could call that twister my tornado, because of where I was that sickly green day.

Allow me to quote from my autobiography, Life with Charley:

1967!

How could I forget 1967?!?

Well, let's roll back the calendar and look closely at a seminal event on April 21, 1967: the Oak Lawn Tornado. Correction, the Killer Oak Lawn Tornado.

I was there.

Was I ever.

I was working, after school at Morgan Park High School, for an Oldsmobile dealer on 95th Street in Oak Lawn as a washer of cars. The high-school kid in back, as it were. And I was not pulling in any big tips because I could never seem to make those whitewalls gleam as brightly as the well-heeled customers would have them gleam. The job was, well, it was a job, and as a swimmer, I at least got to work with water.

The swim season was done for the year, and I needed some scratch, so there I was that Friday afternoon watching business dwindle down to basically nothing. The service customers seemed to sense that something wicked was at play on the weather radar. The very air we were breathing suddenly became as thick and difficult to breathe as pea soup. I stepped out back and took a quick weather look at the sky.

Uh oh!!!

I had never before, and never since, seen a sky painted in such a sickly green. Just looking at it made me nauseous. And it also made me want to scam on outta' there. Beat feet for home.

Except I had "commuted" to work in my family's big, honking Ford station wagon. In fire-engine red, no less. That thing probably had been in Patton's Third Army, charging across France into Germany in 1944-1945. So big and way, way heavy, right?

### Life With Charley

Charles McKelvy



An online archival photo of the 1967 tornado.

Right.

And I stress the size and weight of that Motor City monster because that was relevant to what happened next.

So, my boss told me to skeedaddle, and I did.

But I had no sooner hung a Louie (turned left) on busy 95th Street when I was brought to an abrupt halt by a driving wind and drenching rain/hail. What, I wondered, could be so powerful as to stop a Detroit heavyweight in its tracks and drive hail through the sealed windows?

I glanced to the left and saw the answer:

The F-4/5 Tornado that was on its way to killing 33 and roaring to the northeast along nearby Southwest Highway. That monster couldn't have been more than a half-mile off my port bow. But it was a blowin' and a goin' away from me, on an oblique path.

Whew!!!

Still, there it was. One huge, nasty, black funnel cloud spewing debris. It was every bit as menacing as the monster depicted so skillfully in my favorite childhood (and adulthood) movie: "The Wizard of Oz." Except the one Dorothy and Toto experienced



was make-believe.

The one I was experiencing was real.

I was immobilized.

I was just days away from my 17th birthday; I was too young to die.

But die I would if that monster car I was driving got lifted all the way off the ground. And, as the tornado passed, the Ford wagon was struggling to keep two wheels on the pavement.

I didn't want to go airborne in a car with no wings. How could that possibly have a good outcome?

It couldn't.

Thankfully, it didn't.

And don't think I wasn't praying my heart out at that moment.

You know I was.

Just my favorite prayer: "Help!"

I thought I was well and truly done for.

Like those poor students at nearby Oak Lawn Community High School who sought sanctuary in the gymnasium, only to have the brick wall collapse on them.

I'm sure they cried for "help" as well.

I don't know why I survived and others didn't. At the time, I knew that tornado was a killer.

I was in a weather/war zone; I was watching, up close and personal, that killer tornado sweep north-east on its murderous path to Hometown and Evergreen Park before skipping over to the South Side, then blowing itself out over the Rainbow Beach of my early childhood.

The tornado took its time disappearing from sight.

All I could do as I watched it sweep on its murderous path was pray and breathe.

Finally, it was gone.

The hail and rain beat down for a time after and then let up.

The tornado's backwash finally released its hold on that big old Ford station wagon.

I wasn't going to go airborne after all. I was relieved, but not in a good way. I was shaken.

So were all the other motorists stalled by the tornado on 95th Street.

We finally started driving again.

But slowly and deliberately, and with watchful eyes.

When the monster wind released the Ford heavy-weight and Yours Truly from its swirling grip, I motored morosely home to Beverly, there to report to my stunned family that I had just survived what would come to be known as the Oak Lawn Tornado of 1967. They had been listening to the radio and knew I was in the path.



An online archival photo of the 1967 tornado.

I really don't think they thought I would make it home alive.

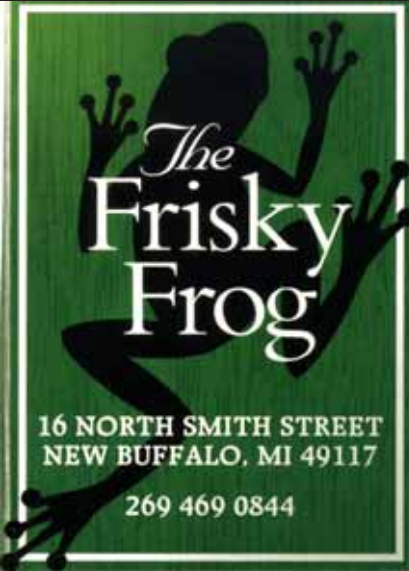
But I did.

But 33 souls did not.

And for that I am ever wary of the sky.

I know what to look for, because I was on the front lines of the Oak Lawn Tornado of 1967.

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## Middle School Students Complete Summer Leadership Camp



A Healthcare Foundation of LaPorte grant funded the camp aimed at sixth- through eighth-graders.

Leadership LaPorte County recently completed its Summer Leadership Camp for middle-school students at LaPorte's Kesling Park.

Students from throughout LaPorte County entering sixth through eighth grades participated in activities to teach leadership skills and positive character development.

A Healthcare Foundation of LaPorte grant funded the camp facilitated by Monica Komaskinski, Leadership LaPorte County executive director, along with community volunteers Scott Lanoue, Amanda Chavez, Carly Levandoski, Steph Komaskinski and Jim Jessup. Activities emphasize team building, personal responsibility, self-confidence and respect for others.

During the school year, the students will continue leadership training with meetings and activities that focus on community, volunteerism, philanthropy, servant leadership and civic responsibility. A select group will be invited to participate in Youth to Youth, which sheds light on the grant-making

process for youth projects here. The program is supported by Unity Foundation of LaPorte County.

Contact Leadership LaPorte County at (219) 325-8223 or [info@leadershiplaportecounty.com](mailto:info@leadershiplaportecounty.com) for more details.

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## Outsiders Art Fair

The Outsiders Art Fair returns Friday-Sunday, Sept. 2-4, at Judith Racht Gallery, 13689 S. Prairie Road, Harbert, Mich.

Times are 6-9 p.m. EDT Friday, Sept. 2, and 11 a.m.-5 p.m. EDT Saturday-Sunday, Sept. 3-4. The event is held outdoors in tents, regardless of inclement weather.

The event highlights artists with no formal training. Works include paintings, woodcuts, sculpture and fiber art, the artists using many non-traditional materials. Food and entertainment are planned. Masks will be available, but are not required.

Tickets are \$25 for the Friday preview party and \$10 for Saturday and Sunday. Children are free. Advance tickets can be purchased by calling (269) 469-1080, or they are available at the door.



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### How Long Before I Should Drop My Price?

Back in the day, I would list a property, advertise it and wait for showings and offers. I usually would not mess with the price unless it did not get any showings the first 90 days. If it got showings and did not sell, I might leave the price the same for as long as 120 days.

I made those decisions based on data indicating properties generally were selling after at least 90 days and up to as long as 180 days after I listed them.

Now that I am pricing my listings to cause an auction (that is, I try to list a house or lot for just under what I think it will sell for to cause multiple bids), how long should I wait before I call the Seller to say, "We really need to drop the price"?

To answer this question, I pulled the stats for "Total Days on the Market" for a combination of house and lot sales for the past five years in my "Indiana Lakefront" area for April 1–Aug. 24 each year. I found it interesting to list both the median and average days.

Year	Med DOM	Aver DOM
2018	77	170
2019	92	177
2020	91	195
2021	11	80
2022	7	60

Two insights. The median time on the market has disappeared the past two years. The time for listings that take a long time to sell has remained much longer than the median. That is what the "average" stat means. Some people wait too long before reducing their price enough to sell.

The answer to my headline question: A week!

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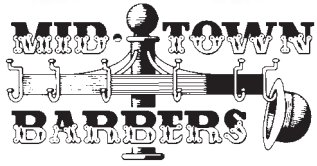
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## AOH Supports Sharing Meadows



The Ancient Order of Hibernians-McGinnis by the Lake chapter again has donated \$5,000 to Sharing Meadows Executive Director William Harmon.

Proceeds came from the annual AOH Charity Golf Outing on Aug. 19 at Michigan City Municipal Golf Course. This is the eighth consecutive year AOH has partnered with Share Foundation, whose Sharing Meadows is a residential facility in Rolling Prairie serving other-abled adults. The donation will be used to support the current remodeling of residential housing. Pictured are (from left) founding AOH member Kevin McGinnis, Harmon and AOH President Jack Lydon.

## Oktoberfest Back in Washington Park

The four-day Oktoberfest returns to Washington Park over Labor Day weekend (Sept. 2-5), featuring more than 40 music and entertainment groups, food, art, craft and merchandise vendors.

Hours are noon-10 p.m. Friday-Sunday and noon-6 p.m. Monday. Entertainment will encompass three stages: The NIPSCO Music Tent, Sunset Pavilion and Sunset Rooftop. Each area will have a full bar with food options.

Also planned is a Kids Sand Zone, with tools and toys available to build sandcastles, and daily lessons in sandcastle building by sand sculptor Janet Moore Schrader, winner of the Singing Sands Sand Sculpting Festival Semi-Pro category in June. Also, caricature artist Roger Hurtado from Chicago will be present.

Family hours are noon-6 p.m. Saturday-Monday. In addition, the Great Lakers Car Club will hold a car show Sunday, Sept. 4.



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## Michigan City Public Library

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

The front doors are open. Public seating is available, and the computer lab is open. Hours are: 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday-Saturday and closed Sundays.

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

*The following programs are scheduled:*

- **Needle Arts Club to Warm Up America from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 1.** 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 Amer-

ica Foundation. Volunteers are knitting and crocheting handmade squares (7x9 inch) that will be joined together to make full-size afghans.

- **Virtual Dungeons & Dragons from 4-6 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 7.** Youth ages 12-18 can play through Zoom. Stop by Youth Services to pick up a free player's kit. Miss Dana can teach people how to play. Advance registration is required. Contact Dana in Youth Services at [dwolf@mclib.org](mailto:dwolf@mclib.org) or (219) 873-3045 for more details.
- **Makerspace: open lab hours from 3:30-5 p.m. Tuesdays in September.** 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.
- **Pokemon Scavenger Hunt through Sept. 30.** Children and teens can ask for a Pokedex at the Youth Services desk and look for the Pokemon. When finding them, write their names down and turn in the completed sheet for a prize.



The library is closed Monday for Labor Day and resumes normal hours Tuesday.



*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](http://www.mclib.org) for more details.)

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## Indiana Dunes State Park

*The following programs will be offered:*

- **Who Goes Where? from 10-11 a.m. Friday, Sept. 2.** Meet in the Nature Center Auditorium to learn how physical/behavioral adaptations help animals survive diverse Indiana Dunes habitats.
- **Snakes Alive! from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 3.** Meet at the Nature Center to view snakes and learn more about them.
- **The J.D. Marshall Shipwreck Story from 2-3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 3.** Meet at the Nature Center to learn about the sinking of the J.D. Marshall just offshore of IDSP.
- **Owl Prowl from 7:30-8:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 3.** Join a naturalist to walk from the campground gate to try and call nearby owls.
- **"Feed the Birds B-I-N-G-O" from 9:30-10 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 4.** Join a naturalist at the Nature Center to help fill bird feeders and play the game.
- **Turtle Shell-abration from 2-3 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 4.** Stop by the Nature Center to meet native turtles and learn about their adaptations.
- **Awesome Amphibians Amble from 7-8 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 4.** Learn about frogs, toads and salamanders.
- **Critter Dinner from 10-11 a.m. Monday, Sept. 5.** Meet at the Nature Center as reptiles and amphibians eat live meals.

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

## Indiana Dunes National Park

- **Migration Birding Hike from 9-11 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 4, at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.** A Dunes-Calumet Audubon Society birding expert leads the monthly program. Meet inside the center, then carpool to the birding spot of the month. Take binoculars.
- **Bailly/Chellberg History Hike from 2-4 p.m. Sundays in September.** 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.

*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](http://www.nps.gov/indu) for details.*

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## LBCC Women's Golf Leagues 9-Hole League



**Aug. 18, 2022**  
**Event: Close & Long**

### A FLIGHT

Low Net — Sue Luegers.  
Low Putts — Julie Doyle, Cindy Levy.  
Birdies — N/A.  
Sunken Approaches — Donna Hennard (No. 6).

### B FLIGHT

Low Net — Jean Guerin.  
Low Putts — Jean Guerin.  
Birdies — Nancy Trainor (No. 10).  
Sunken Approaches — N/A.

### C FLIGHT

Low Net — Ann Daley.  
Low Putts — Carol Sullivan.  
Birdies, Sunken Approaches — N/A.

### D FLIGHT

Low Net — Kate Flores.  
Low Putts — Regina Bradley, Rosann Conroy.  
Birdies/Sunken Approaches — Not available.

*Congratulations to Jean Guerin for a hole in one  
on No. 16.*

## LBCC Women's Golf Leagues 18-Hole League



**Aug. 9 and 16, 2022**  
**Event: Low Net**

### A FLIGHT

First Place — Katherine Lee.  
Second Place — Janet Andreotti.  
Third Place — Sue Luegers.

### B FLIGHT

First Place — Susan Keeley.  
Second Place — Mary O'Neil.  
Third Place — Anne Robson.

### C FLIGHT

First Place — Diane Rubey.  
Second Place — Carol Lyons.  
Third Place — Carol Sullivan.

## A Notice to Our Readers

The Beacher's office hours are:

**Monday-Thursday: 9 a.m.-3 p.m.**

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

**Closed: Saturday & Sunday**

The Beacher, 911 Franklin St. • (219) 879-0088 • [beacher@thebeacher.com](mailto:beacher@thebeacher.com)



## Michigan City Municipal Golf Course



North Course  
Monday League "Early Birdies"  
Aug. 22, 2022  
Event: Longest Drive on Fairway  
(Hole 4)

### A Flight

Low Gross: Mary Beres.  
Low Net: Jane Shuger.  
Low Putts: Carol Tylisz, Mary Lou Marshall.  
Event: LuAnn Uremovich.

### B Flight

Low Gross: Mary Knaup.  
Low Net: Mary Knaup.  
Low Putts: Charolotte Wozniak.  
Event: Sheila Brackin.

### C Flight

Low Gross: Ann Batagianis.  
Low Net: Alice Wozniak.  
Low Putts: Kathy Grott.  
Event: Kathy Grott.



Chip-Ins: Kathy Grott, Alice Wozniak, both Hole 8.

## Temporary Zoo Closure

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

Some tasks require removing animals from their viewing habitats and into holding areas. Construction to expand the African Lion and Bengal Tigers habitats will continue during the shutdown.

The zoo will be open the weekend of Sept. 17 with regular hours from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. before closing Sept. 19. Regular hours resume Saturday, Sept. 24.

Big Cat Canyon, the zoo's new African Lion and Bengal Tiger exhibits, opens to guests April 1, 2023. The renovated habitats will add around 3,000 square feet for the cats and bring guests up close with glass-viewing windows and rock-faced walls replacing the current wire mesh.



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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.



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## Harbor Country Hikers

Harbor Country Hikers will explore an ancient lakebed, and trails linked by an abandoned railroad right-of-way, from 10 a.m.-noon EDT Saturday, Sept. 3, at Maiden Lane Park, St. Joseph, Mich.

HCH President Pat Fisher will discuss proglacial Lake Baroda, an ancient lake that once stretched nearly the entire length of Berrien County before it drained into Lake Michigan. The hike will meander through several parks and preserves connected by June Trace, a one-time right-of-way for an interurban railway and now a trail and power line corridor. Hikers will pass through a variety of habitats, including woodland, savanna, streams, marshes and urban areas.

The 2 1/2 mile hike is rated moderately physically difficult. Those who attend should wear long pants (preferably tucked in), a sun hat, sturdy shoes or boots, and take insect repellent and water.

Membership is encouraged; however, hikes are open to the community. HCH observes federal and state COVID guidelines, and face masks are optional. An all-terrain rollator — a wheeled walker with oversized tires for unpaved areas — is available on a first-come, first-served basis by emailing harborcountryhikers@gmail.com. Driving directions and other details are available at [www.harborcountryhikers.com](http://www.harborcountryhikers.com) and Harbor Country Hikers on Facebook.

## Healthcare Foundation Grant Cycles

Healthcare Foundation of LaPorte's first grant cycle this year awarded \$3,804,550 across 55 grants.

Each year, HFL offers two grant cycles to community partners and nonprofits looking to improve health and wellness in LaPorte County. The 55 grants in the first cycle span HFL's three strategic priorities — Healthy Children, Healthy Minds and Healthy Living — as well as projects that contribute to the overall health and wellness of LaPorte through the foundation's Healthy LaPorte grants.

HFL began accepting applications for Cycle 1 grants Jan. 7, with proposals due by Feb. 25. Grant recipients were notified by June.

The 55 grants awarded in 2022 Cycle 1 fall within HFL's main strategic areas:

- Healthy Children: 17 grants, totaling \$900,069.
- Healthy Living: 17 grants, totaling \$2,464,741.
- Healthy Minds: 5 grants, totaling \$108,000.
- Healthy LaPorte: 16 grants, totaling \$331,740.

Most of the grants awarded are for a one-year term, but HFL did award a few two-year and three-year grants.

A \$25,000 Challenge Grant went to Michigan City's Interfaith Community PADS for Phase 2 of the emergency overnight shelter remodel. That involves replacing windows and front doors. As a Challenge Grant, Interfaith Community PADS needs to raise \$25,000 to receive the money.

HFL's Grant Cycle 2 closed July 15, and applicants will be notified of decisions no later than the end of October. Local organizations with ideas to improve health and wellness should submit applications for the 2023 grant cycles when they open in January. Visit [hflaporte.org/grant-opportunities](http://hflaporte.org/grant-opportunities) for more details.

## First Friday Chapel Concerts

The First Friday Chapel Concerts have returned, but with a new sponsor and home, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 1006 Michigan Ave., LaPorte.

The free concerts resume from 12:10-12:40 p.m. Friday, Sept. 2, and continue the first Friday of each month through May. They will feature a variety of vocal and instrumental music. The Sept. 2 program is "Sentimental Journey" by Sue and Roger Smith, LaPorte. Lifelong LaPorte residents, their program will feature electric violin, clarinet and keyboard.

Before retirement, Sue was a private music teacher offering classes in violin, viola and piano. She has been a high school choir director in Kentucky, choir director at local churches and a volunteer accompanist for students and choirs. Roger was a LaPorte High School chemistry and math teacher, counselor and guidance director. They have seven children and 18 grandchildren.

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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.



## LCSO Celebrates Musicians



As part of LaPorte County Symphony Orchestra's 50th anniversary celebration, banners featuring 50 of its musicians have been created that are being posted both in LaPorte and Michigan City. Banners in LaPorte will be posted along Lincolnway through Sept. 30. Banners in Michigan City will be posted along Franklin and Washington streets Sept. 1-Oct. 30. Purdue University Northwest sponsored the banners, with the photos taken by Bob Wellinski, who also takes photos for *The Beacher*.



# 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. Friday, Sept. 2.
- St. John's United Church of Christ, 101 St. John Road, noon-6 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 6.
- LaPorte County Fairgrounds, 2581 W. Indiana 2, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 7.

*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](http://www.redcrossblood.org) for more details.*

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### In the Area

**Sept. 1** — Needle Arts Club to Warm Up America, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

**Sept. 1** — Michigan City Historical Society “Members Only” event (model maker Tom Suhs), 7 p.m., Old Lighthouse Museum, 100 Heisman Harbor Road. Info: contact@mchistorical.org, (219) 872-6133.

**Sept. 2** — Slow Stitchers Club (All Ages), 11 a.m.-1 p.m., LaPorte County Public Library, 904 Indiana Ave. Info: www.laportelibrary.org

**Sept. 2** — First Friday Chapel Concerts, 12:10-12:40 p.m., St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, 1006 Michigan Ave., LaPorte. Free. Sept. 2 program: Sue & Roger Smith.

**Sept. 2** — Opening reception, LaPorte abstract expressionist painter Ginny Scott, 5-8 p.m., NIPSCO Art Education Studios @ Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St. Exhibit runs thru Sept. 26.

**Sept. 2** — Open Studio Night, 6-8 p.m., St. Mary’s Arts — 326 W. 10th St. Artists: Diane Grams, Tim Lace, Kuhn Hong, Jane Cowley, Edwin Shelton, Kei Constantinov, Sunny Gardner-Orbovich, Margaret Sullivan, Carol G. Block, Nic Orbovich, Quilters Apothecary.

**Sept. 2-5** — Oktoberfest, Washington Park. Hours: noon-10 p.m. Fri.-Sun., noon-6 p.m. Mon.

### **Sept. 5 — LABOR DAY.**

**Sept. 7** — Virtual Dungeons & Dragons, 4-6 p.m., through Michigan City Public Library. Info: dwolf@mclib.org, (219) 873-3045.

**Sept. 7** — Crafty Kids (ages 6-11), 4-5 p.m., LaPorte County Public Library, 904 Indiana Ave. Info: www.laportelibrary.org

**Through Sept. 30** — Michigan City Art League, Queen of All Saints Catholic Church’s Legacy Center, 1719 E. Barker Ave. Legacy Center hours: 6 a.m.-8 p.m. Mon.-Thur., 6 a.m.-6 p.m. Fri.-Sat., 6 a.m.-3 p.m. Sun. Info: kd3627@hotmail.com

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

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

**Mondays in Michigan City** — Bingo, Moose

Family Lodge 980, 2107 Welnetz Road. Doors open/8:30 a.m., early birds/9:30 a.m., regular Bingo/10 a.m.

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

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

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

### In the Region

**Sept. 2** — Who Goes Where?, 10-11 a.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

**Sept. 2** — Brooklyn Charmers: The Music of Steely Dan, 8 p.m. EDT, The Acorn, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: general/\$40, VIP/\$65. Reservations: www.acornlive.org

**Sept. 2-4** — The Outsiders Art Fair, Judith Racht Gallery, 13689 S. Prairie Road, Harbert, Mich. Times (Eastern): 6-9 p.m. Sept. 2, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sept. 3-4. Tickets: \$25/Friday preview party, \$10/Sat.-Sun., free/children. Advance tickets: (269) 469-1080. Also available at door.

**Sept. 3** — Snakes Alive!, 10:30-11:30 a.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

**Sept. 3** — Harbor Country Hikers, 10 a.m.-noon EDT, Maiden Lane Park, St. Joseph, Mich. Info: www.harborcountryhikers.com, Harbor Country Hikers on Facebook.

**Sept. 3** — The J.D. Marshall Shipwreck Story, 2-3 p.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

**Sept. 3** — Owl Prowl, 7:30-8:30 p.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

**Sept. 3** — The Second City presents Out of the House Party, 8 p.m. EDT, The Acorn, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: general/\$40, VIP/\$65. Reservations: www.acornlive.org

**Sept. 3-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. Sept. 10: Afternoon of Art reception/11 a.m.-3 p.m. EDT. Info: (269) 983-0271, www.krasl.org

**Sept. 4** — Migration Birding Hike, 9-11 a.m., Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. Info: (219) 395-1882, www.nps.gov/indu

**Sept. 4** — “Feed the Birds B-I-N-G-O,” 9:30-10 a.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

**Sept. 4** — Turtle Shell-abration, 2-3 p.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

**Sept. 4** — Awesome Amphibians Amble, 7-8 p.m.,



Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

**Sept. 4** — Miles Nielsen & The Rusted Hearts, 8 p.m. EDT, The Acorn, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: general/\$35, VIP/\$60. Reservations: [www.acornlive.org](http://www.acornlive.org)

**Sept. 5** — Critter Dinner, 10-11 a.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

**Sept. 7** — "Insights in History," 1:30 p.m. EDT, The History Museum, 808 W. Washington St., South Bend. Cost: \$3, \$1/members by Sept. 5. Info: (574) 235-9664, [www.historymuseumSB.org](http://www.historymuseumSB.org)

**Sept. 7** — Serenata, An Evening of Song for Tenor, Violin and Piano, 7 p.m. EDT, The Acorn, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: general/\$25, VIP/\$50. Reservations: [www.acornlive.org](http://www.acornlive.org)

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

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

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

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

**Vickers Theatre** — *Now Showing*: "Emily the Criminal." Rated R. Times: 6 p.m. Sept. 1, 3:15 p.m. Sept. 2-4, 6 p.m. Sept. 5. *Also*: "Bullet Train." Rated R. Times: 6 p.m. Sept. 2-4, 2:45 p.m. Sept. 5. All times Eastern. Theater address: 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. Info: [www.vickerstheatre.com](http://www.vickerstheatre.com), (269) 756-3522.

## 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](http://www.laportecountyparks.org) for more details.*

### Healthy Lifestyles

The free social club meets from 9 to 10 a.m. Wednesdays at Luhr County Park Nature Center, 178 S. County Road 150 West, LaPorte. Programs focus on health trends, gardening, medical information and balancing active lifestyles. Call at least one week in advance to sign up (the maximum allowed is 30). The schedule is:

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

### 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:

- Sept. 14 — Frog Fun.
- Sept. 28 — Sounds of Nature.
- Oct. 12 — Wiggly Workers.
- Oct. 26 — Spider Sniffing.
- Nov. 2 — What's Falling.
- Nov. 16 — Snakes Alive.
- Dec. 7 — Let it Snow.

### Halloween Decorating, Bingo and Prizes

The family event is from 4-5 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 27, at Luhr County Park.

Decorate a Halloween craft, with all decorations provided. Bingo with prizes is planned. The cost is \$5 per child. Payment and registration are due at least one week in advance by calling (219) 325-8315. 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.

Call (219) 324-5855, visit [www.laportecountyparks.org](http://www.laportecountyparks.org) or email [natureniki@csinet.net](mailto:natureniki@csinet.net) or for details.

The weekly deadline to submit listings for Upcoming Events is noon Thursday  
**Questions:** [atallackson@gmail.com](mailto:atallackson@gmail.com)

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# THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

**On September 1, 1682**, 100 English Quakers, led by William Penn, sailed for America aboard "HMS Welcome." Many were buried at sea as a smallpox epidemic swept through the ship.

**On September 1, 1859**, the first Pullman sleeping car was placed in service on a train operating between Chicago and Bloomington, Ill.

**On September 1, 1878**, Emma Nutt became America's first female telephone operator in Boston. Within a few hours, her sister became the second.

**On September 1, 1914**, the last known passenger pigeon died in the Cincinnati Zoo.

**On September 1, 1945**, Americans received word of Japan's formal surrender that ended World War II.

**On September 2, 1666**, the "Great Fire of London" began, destroying more than 13,000 buildings before being brought under control.

**On September 2, 1901**, in a speech at the Minnesota State Fair, Vice President Theodore Roosevelt made his famous "Speak softly and carry a big stick" statement.

**On September 2, 1930**, the first non-stop airplane flight from Europe to the United States was completed in 37 hours.

**On September 2, 1954**, Hurricane Edna started her sweep through New England, causing 21 deaths and \$41 million in property damage.

**On September 2, 1963**, "The CBS Evening News" with Walter Cronkite was lengthened from 15 to 30 minutes, becoming network television's first half hour nightly newscast.

**On September 3, 1783**, the United States and Great Britain signed the "Treaty of Paris," bringing the American Revolutionary War to an end.

**On September 3, 1894**, Labor Day was celebrated (as a legal public holiday) for the first time in the United States.

**On September 3, 1951**, the TV soap opera, "Search for Tomorrow," made its first appearance on CBS. It was to run continuously for 35 years, the last five on NBC.

**On September 3, 1976**, Viking II, an unmanned U.S. spacecraft, landed on Mars, taking the first close-up photographs of the planet's surface.

**On September 3, 1978**, Pope John Paul I was installed as the 263rd pontiff of the Roman Catholic Church.

**On September 4, 1609**, British explorer Henry Hudson discovered the island of Manhattan.

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**On September 4, 1781**, the city of Los Angeles was founded by Spanish settlers. Its original name was: *"El Pueblo de Nuestra Senora La Regina de Los Angeles de Porciuncula."*

**On September 4, 1833**, Barney Flaherty, a 10-year-old New York boy, became the first newsboy in the United States when he was hired by the publisher of *The New York Sun*.

**On September 4, 1882**, the Pearl Street Electric Power Co., built by Thomas Edison, began operation in New York City.

**On September 5, 1774**, the First Continental Congress assembled in Philadelphia's Carpenter Hall.

**On September 5, 1885**, Sylvester F. Bowser, of Fort Wayne, who had built the first gasoline pump, delivered it to Jake D. Gumper, a gasoline dealer.

**On September 5, 1914**, the First Battle of the Marne began during World War I.

**On September 5, 1957**, On the Road, by beat writer Jack Kerouac, was published.

**On September 5, 1958**, the novel Doctor Zhivago by Russian author Boris Pasternak was published in the United States.

**On September 6, 1837**, female students at Oberlin Collegiate Institute (now Oberlin College) were granted equal status with men, making it the first co-educational institution of higher learning in America.

**September 6, 1883**, the Chicago White Stockings, after scoring 18 runs in the seventh inning, defeated the Detroit Tigers 26-6.

**On September 6, 1901**, President William McKinley, while attending a reception in New York, was shot by an assassin. He died Sept. 14.

**On September 6, 1923**, it was announced that at least half of the pianos sold in the United State were player pianos. These were instruments operated by foot pedals turning perforated paper rolls. Americans bought nearly 350,000 pianos that year.

**On September 7, 1892**, in Newport, R.I., 19 automobiles took part in the first automobile parade held in the United States.

**On September 7, 1892**, James J. "Gentleman Jim" Corbett won the heavyweight boxing championship from John L. Sullivan. This was the first championship bout held under the "Marquis of Queensberry" rules.

**On September 7, 1945**, World War II ended as President Harry Truman received the surrender papers signed by the Japanese.

**On September 7, 1963**, the National Professional Football Hall of Fame was dedicated in Canton, Ohio.

**On September 7, 1975**, Czechoslovakian tennis star Martina Navratilova requested political asylum in the United States.

**On September 7, 1979**, ESPN made its cable TV debut.

**On September 7, 1986**, the Rev. Desmond Tutu was installed as the first black man to head the Anglican Church in South Africa.

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**The Book Woman's Daughter** by Kim Michele Richardson (hardcover, \$26.99 retail in bookstores and online; also available as an eBook and an audiobook. 352 pages.)

*"Faith is the bird that feels the light and sings when the dawn is still dark. As long as you have the books, you'll always have that light."*

This actually is a sequel to The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek, but it also works as a stand-alone. The first book was a rousing bestseller. This one also explores a part of history you may not be familiar with: the Pack Horse Library Project — part of FDR's Works Progress Administration program during the Depression — in eastern Kentucky.

Pack Horse librarians were paid \$28 a month, used their own horses and traveled the backwoods of eastern Kentucky delivering books, magazines and newspapers to people who otherwise would never see them. These women brought more than reading material. They brought news from nearby towns and carried news back to family and friends. More than that, they provided friendship.

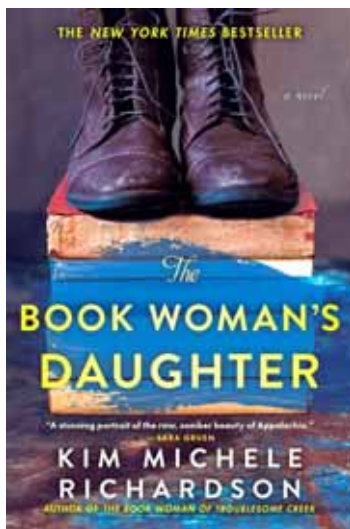
The Book Woman's Daughter brings the pack horse librarian story up to 1953...

Honey Lovett is the daughter of the original Book Woman, Cussy Mary Lovett. Her mother's story took place in 1936. Honey's story takes us to 1953, where things haven't advanced much, especially for women and people who are "different."

Honey and her mother fit this description because they were born with congenital methemoglobinemia, a gene disorder that causes the blood to turn a brownish-red that turns the skin blue. While her mother was blue all over, Honey lost most of her blue except for her hands, which turn even more blue when she was emotional.

What uneducated people don't understand, they are fearful of. *"I thought of the fright, scorn, and horror that would appear in others' eyes when they glimpsed Mama's ink-blue skin."*

Honey's mama and poppa are ripped apart by the sheriff on their wedding day and charged with miscegenation — a law prohibiting interracial marriage. Apparently, Cussy's coloring automatically made her a different race. Her father is banished from Kentucky for 25 years. They move to another town thinking the sheriff will never find them. He does, sending them to jail.



## Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter



Honey is told to go to Miss Loretta, an old friend who will take care of her. She has to hide to avoid the social worker who wants to put her in the home for orphans until she is 18 — she's now 16 — or the House of Reform until she is 21.

One thing about these hill folk, they take care of their own. Besides Miss Loretta, there is Moonshiner Devil John, his son Carson, the lawyer Mr. Morgan and the local doctor, all of whom help Honey.

There also is Pearl, the young woman who recently got the job of fire tower lookout for the Forest Service — something local men are not happy about. She soon becomes Honey's best friend.

Honey is determined to get her emancipation, even though as a girl it is highly unlikely. She tells Mr. Morgan she wants to get a job and take over her own life while her parents are in prison. Of course, he is skeptical — he's a man! After all, although it is the mid-20th century, the state is still a patriarchal society with laws made and carried out by white men.

As Honey says, *"Books'll save you, my troubled heart knew."* And sure enough, Honey sees an ad for a pack horse librarian job and is hired. She has her mother's old mule, Juni, and happily sets off each day into the backwoods delivering books to an eager audience, just like her mother did. This time, her salary is \$98 a month! What a surprise.

Now, she has a job. Time to go to court.

The real surprise comes in court when Mr. Morgan states her case and Honey gives her statement. To say the least, the judge is shocked at her audacity and his decision is earthshaking for Kentucky. Unfortunately, she is discovered by the social worker, who is determined to send Honey to a home for orphans, a place not known for its compassion. Now, it's back to court...

There are a number of hard-working, inspirational women in this book who show the indomitable spirit of a people who love the land and work hard to keep what little they have.

This incredible story is based on extensive research and written by a native daughter of Kentucky. There also are vintage photos showing past pack horse librarians and women of the Frontier Nursing Service, providing nursing services and midwifery to folks who needed medical help. They rode their horses and visited the hill people just like the librarians.

*The final word:* not a sanitized version, but a realistic look at a place and time that is both dangerous and beautiful.

Till next time, happy reading!





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