

**THE**

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# *Beacher*<sup>TM</sup>

*Weekly Newspaper*

911 Franklin Street  
Michigan City, IN 46360



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## About the Cover

Our gorgeous photo on the cover of this week's Labor Day edition is by Lance Werner, who took it July 19 by the Washington Park lighthouse. Thank you, Lance, for sharing it with us and our readers.



# A Memorable Summer

by Kim Nowatzke

The South Shore Sailing School uses compact RS Zests, good learner boats that hold up to three occupants.

**T**hirteen middle-schoolers have South Shore Sailing School to thank for unforgettable summer memories.

Launched several decades ago, the school immerses students in the recreational sport, passing on a love of sailing on Lake Michigan. For two weeks in June, the 13 Michigan City Area Schools students participated in three-hour morning sessions that included classroom instruction and hands-on experience.

This year, there was a concentrated effort to get more MCAS students involved in this unique opportunity in their own backyard, so to speak. It emerged from a conversation South Shore Sailing School board member Dale Moyer had with MCAS Superintendent Dr. Barbara Eason-Watkins.

Moyer said the realization was, "Local kids may

not have had the access to a program like this as we would have liked."

So, students at Barker and Krueger middle schools were targeted with the help of principals Lucas Snyder and Joshua Malone, respectively.

Unity Foundation of LaPorte County also was instrumental in making this happen.

"The Unity Foundation has known about the sailing school for some time and was looking for an opportunity to support more local students to be involved, as it's a terrific learning experience that you can't get just anywhere," Unity President Maggi Spartz said. "...We were delighted when MCAS Superintendent Barbara Eason-Watkins mentioned a possible connection to our middle schools. Never before had we had a number of our local students in the sailing school. Usually, it was because they



This photo, taken on "Big Boat Day," involves sailors (friends of the program) bringing out their boats on the last day of each session.

didn't know about it, couldn't afford the fees or find transportation to and from the harbor. Everyone came together, and we were able to have our first class of MCAS students participate!"

Unity donors, she added, helped by funding extra equipment and supplies.

The session the middle-schoolers participated in was one of four — with morning and afternoon classes offered — held in consecutive weeks for students ages 8-17. An additional 16 students, not part of the MCAS group, enrolled in the afternoon session from June 12-23. The average classroom size is 25; morning sessions run from 9 a.m.-noon and afternoon sessions from 1-4 p.m.

Moyer said students who sign up for the program are mostly from the region, including Chesterton and Valparaiso, but others sign up from Indianapolis and across the nation, even some international students. Sometimes, kids are part of families vacationing in the area. The program costs \$475 and the demand is high, with open slots filling up quickly each spring. There are needs-based scholarships available; those interested should visit [www.southshoresailingschool.org](http://www.southshoresailingschool.org) by February of each year.

Continued on Page 4

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# A Memorable Summer

Continued from Page 3



South Shore Sailing School boats are photographed in the channel. The RS Zest boats are used for youth instruction, and the Quests are ones for the adult students.

Taylor Wilkins, a Michigan City High School freshman, said she would definitely recommend the program to other students.

“For me, I came into camp not expecting it to be as fun as it was,” she said. “My mom had signed me up without asking me, but I was pleasantly surprised with the experience. The counselors were fun and knowledgeable. I learned that sailing can be fun, and also challenging.”

Her mom, Tracy Wilkins, jumped at the chance after learning about the opportunity, which she called “an experience of a lifetime,” through MCAS.

“I feel it taught her that sailing is fun and can be done in all sizes of boats,” she said. “Also, Taylor has never sailed before, but loves all water sports, and this gave her the chance to learn the basics of sailing in a safe and local environment. I would highly recommend it. It’s a way for kids to learn what it takes to be a sailor.”

It’s not uncommon for the school to instill a love of sailing.

“There’s nearly a 100 percent ratio of generating interest and passion about the sport,” Moyer said.

Typically, a daily lesson begins with about 20-30



Michigan City Area Schools middle-school students pose for a group photo at the end ceremony with South Shore Sailing School.

minutes of “Chalk Talk” classroom instruction in an outdoor pavilion. There, instructors talk them through the sailing process, describing it before the students actually get on the water, Moyer said.

Students learn the fundamentals of sailing, such as the kinetics of what makes a boat go through the water, right-of-way, safety, points of sail and capsizing, South Shore Sailing School President Scott Kingan said in a “Friends & Neighbors” Lakeshore PBS video (Episode 407, Season 4, Episode 7) that aired July 27, 2022.

The rest of session time is devoted next to or in the water for more active learning.

“By Week Two, they should be able to sail a boat on their own,” Kingan said. “In Week Two, we actually put the kids in the boat by themselves.”

Other fundamentals Moyer says the students learn include different parts of a boat and how to rig one, in addition to the physicals and mechanics of sailing. While a fun sporting activity, he said, it fits in well with STEM learning.



A middle-school student proudly shows off his Certificate of Completion after his session with South Shore Sailing School.

“Angles, science, buoyancy, boats and motion... they learn about it without even knowing they are,” he said.

And, there’s much more students are gaining.

“It instills in them confidence – the ability to manage situations. Every day is different,” Moyer said. “They gain an appreciation for nature and outdoors...a safe way to have fun. They learn responsibility in managing a boat and safety for themselves, others and the boat itself.”

Safety is paramount at the sailing school. Kids go out on compact RS Zests boats described by Moyer as “nice learner boats.” There’s a seating area for two to three.

“All of our instructors and kids wear life jackets all

Continued on Page 6

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# A Memorable Summer

Continued from Page 5

Furthermore, he said, instruction is given in the channel, which leads to the mouth of the harbor, and in an area of the lake protected because of the breakwall. Also, this is the area within the breakwall bounded by the walkway that leads to the lighthouse, where you often see people fishing or taking in the sights.

During the sessions, there is a scheduled “Big Boat Day,” where owners of three to seven large boats volunteer on the final day of classes.

“Kids get to tour them and see how what they learned translates to a larger boat,” Moyer said.

A larger boat, a 26-foot-long Catalina, recently was donated to the sailing school. Lessons will expand to this next summer. It’s better to begin on a smaller boat, Moyer said, then transfer those skills to a larger boat.

At the end of every session, there’s a cookout and a small ceremony where completion certificates are distributed with special personality traits such as leadership and good sense of humor.

“We have an evenly distributed gender population. That’s a positive thing,” Moyer said, adding there are several female instructors. Exceptional students are hired the next summer to be certified instructors-in-training (CITs).

the time,” Moyer assured. “We are very focused on safety. There are inflatable rescue boats always ready. And we monitor the weather and wind carefully.”



Middle-school students sign an old sail to commemorate their experience at South Shore Sailing School.

The sailing school also offers adult sessions from 5-7:30 p.m. Thursdays for four weeks. The cost is \$375, and it’s equally appropriate for those wanting to sharpen their sailing skills or those beginning their journey.

“It’s a great entry point for those who know nothing about sailing,” Moyer said. “Adults are often the parents of students; they want to learn and have fun, too.”

Moyer is one of seven board members, who meet monthly. In 2018, the Michigan-City based group became a 501©(3) under the name South Shore Nautical Education Foundation Inc. (SSNEF).

Spartz was part of the group that made that happen.

“My sister, Suzy, who also did the program, and I were a sailing team,” she said. “I still race sailboats. My sister moved back from Phoenix and does local races with me on a 36’ boat called Mrs. Jones.”

On July 22, Spartz raced to Mackinac for the 28th time.

“So, yes, I’m passionate about getting young people exposed to sailing, itself, water safety, problem solving, self-control and leadership that sailing requires,” she emphasized.

Partners that support the sailing school include Michigan City Port Authority, Michigan City Yacht Club and Michigan City Cruiser Class.

“We couldn’t do this alone,” Moyer said “We have good relationships with our partners.”

His thoughts on the future of what he considers a “real gem” in the community?

“We want to keep going with what’s working well,” he said. “We want them to have fun, enjoy the summer and build memories.”

(Visit [www.southshoresailingschool.org](http://www.southshoresailingschool.org) or the Facebook page, “South Shore Sailing School,” for more information.)



Dale Moyer.



Nathan, Dale’s 19-year-old son.

“We grow our own here, in a sense,” Moyer said.

His 19-year-old son, Nathan, is head instructor. Starting the program at age 8, he has been involved every summer, progressing from a student, to a CIT, to an instructor, to his current title. His 23-year-old daughter, Madison Moyer, also completed the program and became an instructor.

Dale Moyer has been involved with boats all his life. At 19, he started sailing through the Chicago Parks District, later racing on a large boat from Burnham Harbor. He’s been a small boat sailor on a Hobie 16 Catamaran.

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## Oktoberfest Returns to Washington Park

The four-day Oktoberfest returns Labor Day weekend with 53 music and entertainment groups, along with local and regional food, art, craft and merchandise vendors.

The event is Friday-Monday, Sept. 1-4, in Washington Park. Hours are noon-10 p.m. Friday-Sunday and noon-6 p.m. Monday.

Entertainment will be spread over three stages, each with a full bar, as well as 18 food vendors. The sites are:

- The Oktoberfest Stage in the Michigan City Port Authority Tent.
- The Sunset Grille Pavilion and Sunset Grille Rooftop.

In addition to more than 40 art/craft and merchandise vendors, the event will offer Kidpreneur's, which is designed to teach children between ages 6-18 how to become entrepreneurs. Chicago caricature artist Roger Hurtado will be on hand, as well as magician Matt Kalita. The Great Lakers Auto Club will sponsor a Show & Shine from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday, with a Blind Draw Bags Tournament at noon Sunday.

The entertainment lineup is:

### FRIDAY

#### OKTOBERFEST STAGE

- For Pete's Sake, 4 p.m.
- Lung, 5:15 p.m.
- Cadillac Spaceship, 6:20 p.m.
- Remedy, 8:15 p.m.

#### SUNSET GRILLE PAVILION

- Halo Moon — 4 p.m.
- Crowhaven — 5:15 p.m.
- Stealing the Farm — 7:30 p.m.

#### SUNSET GRILLE ROOFTOP

- Sam Griffen — 4:45 p.m.
- Layna, 6:45 p.m.

- Blake Vissing, 9 p.m.

### SATURDAY

#### OKTOBERFEST STAGE

- The German Band, noon.
- Green Room Rockers, 3 p.m.
- Return 2 Soul, 4:30 p.m.
- Sofa King Revolution, 6:30 p.m.
- Smarty Pants, 8:15 p.m.

#### SUNSET GRILLE PAVILION

- Upstairs on Fire — noon.
- Skirt — 1:50 p.m.
- Tone Zone — 3:55 p.m.
- Shrink — 5:05 p.m.
- God Awful Small Affairs — 6 p.m.
- That Homegrown Halloween Show — 7:30 p.m.
- Heet Deth — 8:55 p.m.
- Blastcap — 9:25 p.m.

#### SUNSET GRILLE ROOFTOP

- Brian McClure, 12:30 p.m.
- Debra Sawyer, 3 p.m.
- Singing Sands String Band, 4:35 p.m.
- Lantern — 5:30 p.m.
- Amanda Igra — 6:40 p.m.
- Loose Connections — 8:15 p.m.

### SUNDAY

#### OKTOBERFEST STAGE

- Ed Wagner's Brass Band, noon.
- Latin Dance Lessons, 2:10 p.m.
- PT & The Cruisers, 3:30 p.m.
- The Rest, 5:30 p.m.
- Together Band, 7:45 p.m.

#### SUNSET GRILLE PAVILION

- Massasauga, noon.
- Publicity Stunt, 1:30 p.m.
- ZhaZha Luv, 2:55 p.m.
- Electric Soul Machine, 4 p.m.
- Hard Copy, 6 p.m.
- Sketchdog, 6:55 p.m.
- Hotel Bravo, 8:30 p.m.

#### SUNSET GRILLE ROOFTOP

- Cody & Kasim, 12:35 p.m.
- Kasim, 2:15 p.m.
- Johnathan Barnes, 3:30 p.m.
- Ryleonna & the Locker, 5:30 p.m.
- Woodie Lawson, 6:30 p.m.
- Dylan Reed Leavitt, 7:45 p.m.

### MONDAY

#### OKTOBERFEST STAGE

- Eddie Korosa, noon.
- Soul Steppers Drill Team, 2 p.m.
- Duke Tumatote, 2:45 p.m.

#### SUNSET GRILLE PAVILION

- Matt Kalita, 1 p.m.

#### SUNSET GRILLE ROOFTOP

- Soulshine, 1 p.m.
- Brandt Carmichael, 4 p.m.

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## The 39th Writing Out Loud Season

Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St., kicks off the 39th season of Writing Out Loud on Sept. 9.

All programs are free and held at 7:30 p.m. Saturdays. A reception hosted by the Friends of the Library follows each talk.

The schedule is:

- **Lee Bey, Sept. 9.** The African-American writer and architectural critic was born in Chicago, attending Lindbloom Technical High School. His father passed away when he was 15: a turning point in his life. He eventually transferred to Chicago Vocational School, where he prepared for a career as a printing press operator. Motivated by a teacher's compliment about his writing, he decided to become a journalist. Today, he is the architecture critic for *The Sun-Times* and a member of its editorial board, writing on city governance, neighborhood development, politics and urban planning. Purdue Professor Emeritus Matt Kubik is the interviewer.



Bey

- **Jonas Friddle on Sept. 23.** He is a singer, songwriter and old-time banjo player whose songs have received The John Lennon Songwriting Award, first place in the Great American Song Contest and an Album of the Year nomination in the Independent Music Awards. His partner, Anna, will perform and serve as interviewer.
- **Chris Cecil Jr. and Julia Whitehead on Sept. 30.** He serves at Visit Indy, where he helps bring events to Indianapolis. He also is involved in various community initiatives, and is a board member for the Kurt Vonnegut Museum & Library. Born and raised in Indianapolis, he will present a program as Vonnegut. Whitehead, his professional partner, will serve as moderator. A writer and editor, she founded the museum/library to create a center dedicated to free speech and common decency. She is the author of Breaking Down Vonnegut. She also



Cecil Jr.



Jonas Friddle and his partner, Anna.

wrote, produced and directed the documentary "My Friend Mickey: Common Decency and the American Dream," which was runner-up for best feature-length documentary at California's Love International Film Festival in 2019.

- **Sarah Layden on Oct. 14.** Layden is the author of Imagine Your Life Like This, stories; Trip Through Your Wires, a novel; and The Story I Tell Myself About Myself, winner of the Sonder Press Chapbook Competition. Her short fiction appears in *Boston Review*, *Blackbird*, *McSweeney's Internet Tendency* and *Best Microfiction 2020*. With Bryan Furuness, she wrote The Invisible Art of Literary Editing. Her recent essays, interviews and articles have appeared in *The Washington Post*, *Poets & Writers*, *Salon*, *The Millions* and *River Teeth*. She is an assistant professor of English at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis.



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**The Depot Museum**

“Early Builders of Beverly Shores” is the focus of the latest display at The Beverly Shores Depot Museum & Art Gallery, 525 S. Broadway.

Beverly Shores founders Frederick and Robert Bartlett envisioned the town as a sort of Miami of the Midwest. The exhibit displays original sales posters and brochures touting the resort life, and showing a bustling Beverly Shores with Central Avenue as its main thoroughfare.

The display runs through Sept. 30, with an opening reception from 5-7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 8.

Continuing through Sept. 30 is “Dancing for Our Tribe: Potawatomi Traditions in the New Millennium” by Sharon Hoogstraten.

The Depot is open from noon-4 p.m. Friday-Sunday through October. Visit [www.bsdepot.org](http://www.bsdepot.org) for more details.



**Hypertufa Class**

Friendship Botanic Gardens, 2055 E. U.S. 12, will offer a Hypertufa trough class from 10 a.m.-noon Saturday, Sept. 9.

Hypertufa involves making a trough garden to display tiny horticultural items, including dwarf conifers, alpins and miniature succulents. They are lightweight concrete and can be kept outside over the winter.

Take a container, such as a cardboard box (not too big) and a plastic dishpan; however, containers can be provided. Participants will receive mini-evergreens to take home.

The cost, which is \$35, or \$40 for non-members, covers all materials. Advanced tickets are recommended because space is limited. Tickets are available at [www.friendshipbotanicgardens.org](http://www.friendshipbotanicgardens.org) or Eventbrite.



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## Long Beach Park Board CLAY 101

Long Beach Park Board is hosting art class **Clay 101** with instructor Erin Ledyard. The class will be 6 sessions of 1.5 hours of instruction each session. Handbuilding techniques, clay tool use, and a pottery wheel experience will be taught during **Clay 101**.

**Dates/Times:**

Week 1	Week 2
Tues. 9/19 @ 5:00-6:30PM	Tues. 9/26 @ 5:00-6:30PM
Thurs. 9/21 @ 5:00-6:30PM	Thurs. 9/28 @ 5:00-6:30PM
Sat. 9/23 @ 10:00-11:30AM	Sat. 9/30 @ 10:00-11:30AM

**Location:** Long Beach Community Center  
**Cost:** \$25.00 per class - includes all instruction and supplies  
 Advanced Registration and payment **REQUIRED**.

**Experience:** All experience levels welcome  
**Contact:** [longbeachactivities@gmail.com](mailto:longbeachactivities@gmail.com) / 219-873-3773

## “The Moving Image Plays Itself”



Image provided by Jon Vickers

A free, all-ages Browning Cinema screening of “The Moving Image Plays Itself” is at 7 p.m. EDT Thursday, Sept. 7, at The University of Notre Dame’s DeBartolo Performing Arts Center.

Borrowing inspiration from Thom Anderson’s 2003 film, “Los Angeles Plays Itself,” the program draws from 25 16mm films within Indiana University-Bloomington’s collections, which highlight the filmmaking process, film-handling equipment, exhibition and the cellulose material, itself, putting the medium at the forefront. Part film history, part educational-experimental effort, sampled films include “How to Make a Movie Without a Camera” (1971), “The Growing of a Young Filmmaker” (1968), “Sherlock Jr.” (1924), “Let’s Go to the Movies” (1949) and “Basic Camera Technique” (1948).

The program is one of three that make up “An Archival Roadshow,” which has been curated, edited and produced by Jon and Jennifer Vickers, who opened Vickers Theatre, Three Oaks, Mich., in the mid-1990s. Jon went on to open The Browning Cinema in 2004 and the Indiana University Cinema in 2011. The two will provide an introduction, followed by a brief Q&A. Visit [tinyurl.com/ms4yxyvf](http://tinyurl.com/ms4yxyvf) for tickets and additional information.

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**Last SBHA Meeting of the Season**

**Saturday, September 2, 2023 • 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.**  
**2nd Floor of the Clubhouse at Beachwalk (Stop 7)**

**Come to our final SBHA meeting of the season and hear about issues affecting our community. Everyone is welcome!**

All SBHA meetings are held from 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.  
2nd Floor of the Clubhouse at Beachwalk (Stop 7)

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### TROTOM Annex Open House

The Region of Three Oaks Museum, 5 Featherbone Ave., will host an annex open house from noon-5 p.m. EDT Friday-Sunday, Sept. 1-3.

Artifacts were recently returned to Three Oaks from storage under the stands of Spartan Stadium in East Lansing, Mich. They include a horse-drawn hearse used by a Three Oaks mortuary, a Brougham carriage manufactured by Studebaker in South Bend, wood stoves, blacksmith's bellows and a sleigh with red velvet seats.

Visitors can see these pieces in the new artifact storage addition the museum built this summer after a capital campaign raised more than \$100,000. Construction of the facility allowed the museum to accept items Michigan State University Museum parted with due to space constraints, and will provide space for other historic items now housed in the Three Oaks Township Library attic.

Visit [www.regionofthreeoaksmuseum.com](http://www.regionofthreeoaksmuseum.com) for more details.

### Harbor Country Hikers

Harbor Country Hikers will walk the trails of Fernwood Botanical Garden at 10 a.m. EDT Saturday, Sept. 2.

Fernwood is located at 13988 Range Line Road, Niles, Mich. A 125-foot drop in elevation, from the gardens to the St. Joseph River, creates several natural communities, including dry and wet forests, young second-growth woods, streams and ponds, and a reconstructed tallgrass prairie. Leading the hike, rated moderately physically difficult for some short climbs, is Michelle McCoskey, Fernwood's director of education.

HCH membership is preferred; however, the public is invited. Attendees are advised to wear long pants (preferably tucked in), a sun hat or cap, sturdy shoes or boots, and take insect repellent and plenty of water.

Visit [www.harborcountryhikers.com](http://www.harborcountryhikers.com) or Harbor Country Hikers on Facebook for more details.

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## Learning to Adore I-94



The Dan Ryan Expressway, with the cityscape in full view.

Given the choice of driving I-94 all the way to Chicago or eating a bag of rusty nails, I'd hammer the latter.

Sorry, fans of 94, I just can't handle that stretch between Chesterton and downtown Chicago. I trace my fear and loathing of the most direct route to the Windy City to the summer of 2010, when I went to see my mother on the city's south side almost weekly. We had, as our only car, a Honda Civic on its last cylinders, and no cell phone whatsoever.

On more than one hot, steaming Sunday afternoon, I'd find myself in the middle of the eastbound lanes in the Hammond area, waiting for our "Angel Car" to cough and die an ignoble death. I was typically surrounded on all sides by trucks that would dwarf the Grand Canyon itself.

Wait for it, I'd think. This is how it's going to end. The car is going to die, and you're going to be crushed, compacted and turned into a can of tuna.

Grim, yes, but at least I could make fun of myself for having been known in high school as "Charley Tuna" for a popular TV ad of the time. It featured a cartoon tuna fish deemed unworthy of being canned by the sponsor. As in, "Sorry, Charley, only the best tuna."

I wasn't the best tuna, but at least I didn't end up in a can. But, as I sat there in the creeping crawl of the eastbound migration, I expected that I'd be canned in my Honda Civic any second.

It never happened, but the psychic scars were

### Life With Charley

Charles McKelvy



blazoned on my imagination. In a real sense, I developed PTSD from driving I-94 between Chesterton and Chicago.

So I began to avoid it at all costs, even going so far as to take U.S. 20 all the way into Chicago. Or perhaps a bit of the Indiana Toll Road, then taking side streets to my various destinations in the city of my birth.

I even subjected friends to my alternate routes. They were not amused.

One of them, Jon Wheeler, said he had a wonderful solution to our periodic trips to the city for spiritual edification.

Jon, who lives in South Bend, suggested we meet at the Indiana Dunes National Park Visitors Center parking lot in Chesterton on the Sunday mornings in question. We could carpool from there, with Jon at the wheel of his Prius, me comfortably settled in the passenger seat. Jon, you see, is from the East Coast, so he is accustomed to heavy traffic. No worries, he handles it with ease.

Plus, he said I might be able to overcome my fear and loathing of the interstate in question and actually come to adore it. Well, at least face my fears and get my mind around actually driving I-94 again.

I agreed. We gave it a go on a recent Sunday morning.

I distracted myself by taking pictures with my Canon digital camera, and I calmed down. Really, really calmed down.

Jon, after all, is one of those steady-as-he-goes Prius drivers. He does not let oil spills, sudden back-ups and missed exit ramps phase him in the least. Jon, in fact, has a great Prius parody for the “Fast & Furious” films: the “Slow & Deliberate.”

So Jon was the pilot and I, with my camera in hand, was the copilot learning to overcome my fear of I-94. I relaxed and observed the scenery, cars and trucks passing the other way. There were more trees than I remembered from my solo flights on 94. Then, in rapid succession, two great egrets flapped overhead. Then, two contented old guys of a certain age motored by in the passing lane in a beautifully restored Buick Riviera from the early 1960s. They were motorin’ easy on the big highway in their old muscle car, so why couldn’t we do the same in Jon’s slow and deliberate Prius?

Signs for sure that all would be well.

And all was well as Jon motored us steadily into Chicago on I-94.

I did have to speak up a time or two, as the faithful copilot, such as when we got to that exciting “fork in the road” in Lansing, Ill., when one must be in the far right lanes to maintain course to Chicago on 94. As I vectored Jon in on the correct setting, he mused how he and a friend had once been in the far left lanes at that point, soon finding themselves nearing the Wisconsin line.

So, I played a useful role in the copilot’s seat. I felt like I was getting back in the game. Particularly when I failed to guide Jon into the local lanes as we made our final approach to our destination on 31st Street.

Ooops. The next available exit was 22nd Street/Lake Shore Drive.

I put on my old Chicago driving cap, and said, “No Lake Shore Drive. Go all the way to 22nd Street and hang a right. And, at the next light, hang another right. And then head down State Street to 31st Street and hang another right, and our destination will be straight ahead.”



This beauty of an old Buick Riviera appeared in a westbound lane of I-94 as a sign that all would be well. And it was.

That all worked like the charm it was meant to be. Jon was impressed. I was pleased with myself.

I was even more pleased with myself when we were homeward-bound and hitting a massive glut of eastbound traffic as we merged with traffic from the west on I-80/294. You know that spot, don’t you? Not fun. But I didn’t panic, and neither did Jon. While I snapped a photo or two, he deftly merged into the main current. Soon, we were drifting lazily along on a languid Sunday afternoon in the good old summertime.

Hmm, I thought, as Jon prepared to deposit me back at the visitors center at Indiana Dunes National Park. Maybe, just maybe, I could drive the I-94 bit next time. And there’s always a next time, as we make this trip pretty much every month.

So, let the record show that Yours Truly is going to pilot his 2013 Honda Civic next time out. Face everything and recover, right? Isn’t that what “FEAR” stands for? Face Everything And Recover? I believe it does, and I believe I am a long way on the road to recovery. I don’t yet adore 94, but someday, I might even see three great egrets as I’m tootling along in bumper-to-bumper traffic on you know what highway.

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## “Blue Beetle” Has More to Offer Than Just Another Origin Tale

by Andrew Tallackson



Xolo Maridueña stars as the title hero in “Blue Beetle.”

A more intriguing superhero tale exists beneath the surface of “Blue Beetle,” and when it emerges, what’s on screen is the better movie.

DC’s latest effort to encroach on Marvel turf is another origin story where another unsuspecting nice guy develops extraordinary powers. And like most DC efforts, when it’s through with the backstory and the “plot” kicks in, everything lurches toward another overblown effects finale.

That the title hero is Mexican American isn’t just woke lip service, though. There is a lot more going on that speaks to the immigrant experience in America, and within the Latino community the importance of family.

Director Ángel Manuel Soto and writer Gareth Dunnet-Alcocer can’t entirely avoid obvious comparisons between their hero, Jaime Reyes, and Peter Parker in Marvel’s “Spider-Man” franchise. Jaime is a sweet, easygoing guy fresh out of college who, in trying to help out his family, is transformed by an ancient scarab into his alter-ego, Blue Beetle.

But the movie’s stroke of genius is in casting “Cobra Kai” star Xolo Maridueña as Jaime. You couldn’t ask for a better actor. This guy instantly projects likability with a smile or kind gesture. There’s nev-



### “Blue Beetle”

*Running time: 127 minutes. In theaters.  
Rated PG-13 for sequences of action and violence,  
language and some suggestive references*

er any false note from him. You believe he’s capable of goodness and greatness.

It helps, too, that the movie gives Jaime a wonderfully eccentric family, one that sticks together at all costs. Like his supportive parents (Elpida Carillo and Damián Alcázar) and feisty, mischievous grandmother (“Babel” Oscar-nominee Adriana Barraza). I particularly appreciated Belissa Escobedo as his younger sister Milagro, who is as mouthy, pushy and devoted as any sibling could be.

Comic relief exits in Jaime’s uncle, Rudy (George Lopez), but it is the veteran comedian who has the film’s most telling line when encouraging his nephew by saying, “*Maybe it’s time we get our own hero.*”

And by “we,” he means Mexican Americans. That is the greatest strength of “Blue Beetle.” It’s not just about representation. It is, as Milagro notes about white society, “*We’re invisible to people like*

that, Jamie. It's like our super power."

So when Susan Sarandon's heavy, Victoria Kord, scrambles to strip Jamie of his newfound power, she behaves like an imperialist hiding behind democracy and capitalism. It is no coincidence, then, that the attack on Jamie's home, his family hiding within, is staged by Soto as the equivalent of an immigration raid. Oppressive, demoralizing... and within the cover of night. And it is that experience that triggers something in Jamie's grandmother to not let the past repeat itself. To take charge.

You really care for Jaime and his family. And with the relatively subdued Sarandon creating a villain who isn't concerned with ruling the world, just profiting from it, the message is that Jamie and his family deserve a piece of the pie like everyone else.

Again, "Blue Beetle" is not perfect. Too many special effects at the end. But for DC, after a creaky



Jamie's family is the film's best creation.

stretch of movies — the so-so "Black Adam," the unfairly maligned "Shazam: Fury of the Gods," the regrettable "Flash" misfire — "Blue Beetle" is a step forward. Proof all is not lost for DC.

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

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Students receive a swimsuit, towel, goggles and backpack upon participation. Classes also were available in LaPorte.

All photos by Andrew Tallackson



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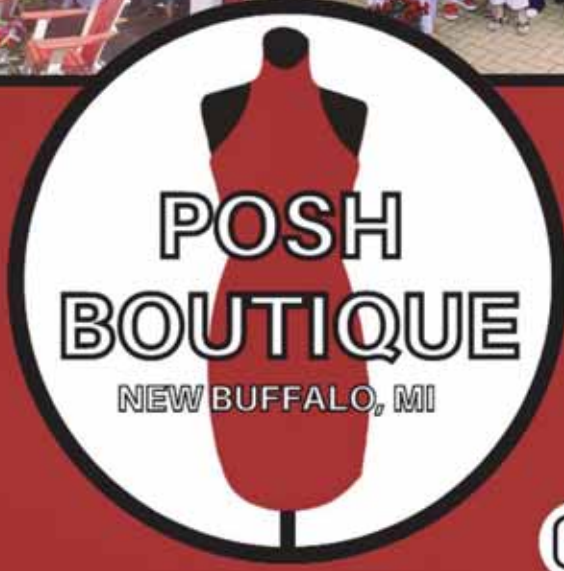
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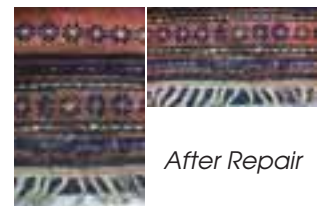
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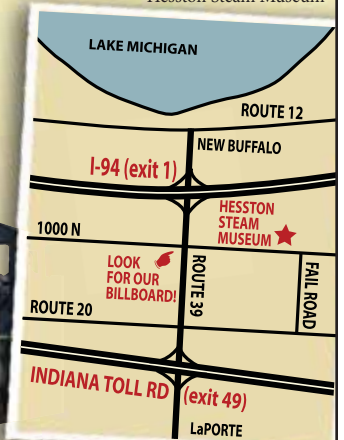
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# Celebrating Art





The 41st annual Lubeznik Arts Festival was held Aug. 19-20 on the grounds of Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St., and *The Beacher's* Bob Wellinski was there to capture the experience for visitors and participating artists.

## “Wham!” Documentary Takes Insightful Look at Pop Duo

by Andrew Tallackson



The Netflix documentary dispels all myths that the end of Wham! arose from George Michael's rising popularity.

Back in 1986, when Wham! called it quits, we just assumed that because George Michael's star wattage had eclipsed Andrew Ridgeley's, he'd kicked Ridgeley to the curb to launch a solo career.

Wrong.

That may be the biggest revelation of “Wham!,” the Netflix documentary that arrives on the 40th anniversary of the duo's debut album “Fantastic.” The emphasis is the resilient bond between Michael and Ridgeley: pals since childhood, friends beyond the duo's wild three-year run.

The documentary's approach is nothing new. It's entirely archival footage spliced together with audio interviews of Ridgeley and Michael, who died of heart disease in 2016. But it is the insight into these guys that forces us to re-evaluate the duo's demise after achieving global success.

This also may be the most honest look at the disconnect between pop persona and private identity, a subterfuge that, for Michael, was the deciding factor in him leaving Wham! for a solo career.

Imagine, too, my ignorance at not realizing that Michael was Greek and Ridgeley Egyptian. That Freddie Mercury's family hailed from western In-

★ ★ ★<sup>1/2</sup>

“Wham!”

Running time: 92 minutes. Netflix. TV-14.

dia was lost on me as well until 2018's “Bohemian Rhapsody.” Then again, the entertainment industry is notorious for downplaying any ethnicity of its cash cows for fear of deterring mainstream audiences.

Michael's private troubles, though, ran deeper. He knew he was gay and at 18 outed himself to Ridgeley, who had no issue with it. They'd been friends since Ridgeley was 12 and Michael 11. Considering Michael's stage presence, the irony is that Ridgeley was the more outgoing, Michael the shy loner.

What the documentary reveals is that Michael feverishly worked to craft a bubbly pop personality, and to go public with his sexuality would jeopardize the duo's meteoric rise. So, he kept himself in check, sinking into depression behind the scenes for not being true to himself.

Public perception at the time was that Michael was the driving creative force behind the duo. There is some truth to that, but director Chris Smith

stresses the collaborative nature between Michael and Ridgeley. At the same time, it conveys Michael's yearning to be taken seriously as a songwriter, not the latest perpetrator of bubble gum pop.

What's moving about the documentary is how, at the height of Wham!'s fame, Ridgeley respected Michael's desire to be creatively true to himself, and to his own sexuality, subsequently agreeing to walk away from their shared success. And, he continued to support Michael as his solo career catapulted into the stratosphere.

You know, it's funny. I wasn't a huge Wham! fan back in the '80s. Sure, I knew all the songs. Who *wasn't* listening to them? But hearing all those hits again, from "Careless Whisper," to "Freedom," to "Wake Me Up Before You Go-Go," I found myself smiling. Filled with nostalgia and more appreciative that these guys were just having fun, trying to put out music that made people happy.



The friendship between Andrew Ridgeley (left) and George Michael began when they were children.

There is more to this story, obviously, in terms of Michael, how his career evolved and his run-ins with the law. But the movie is titled "Wham!" for a reason. It aims to chart that specific moment in time for Michael and Ridgeley, and it does so splendidly.

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

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**“Sisu” is  
a Finnish  
Cousin to  
Tarantino**

by Andrew Tallackson



**On  
Demand**

Aatami Korpi (Jorma Tommila) proves impossible for the Nazis to stop in “Sisu.”

One day, someone needs to tally how many movies Quentin Tarantino influenced.

The irony, of course, is that the Oscar winner is a big copycat, himself. Toiling at a video store before striking gold with 1992’s “Reservoir Dogs,” he developed a voracious appetite for pulpy grindhouse fare. One man’s cinematic trash was solid gold treasure to him. Somehow, through osmosis, he absorbed everything he observed to create his own revisionist, hyper violent universe.

When the Finnish import “Sisu” dropped in theaters this past spring, I dodged it. There are some topics that, when applied to popcorn fare, make me itch. Nervously. Specifically slavery and the Holocaust. The original “Scary Movie” (2000), for instance, mined Spielberg’s slave ship courtroom drama “Amistad” (1997) for laughs with a fake movie trailer that still makes me cringe. Hitler’s fate in Tarantino’s “Inglourious Basterds” (2009) was pure revenge fantasy.

But with the two-season arc of Amazon Prime’s “Hunters,” my ironclad reasoning softened a bit. Maybe, I wondered, revisionist history is not entirely a bad thing. Maybe, we *can* achieve a catharsis to tragedy with what *might have been*.



**“Sisu”**

Running time: 91 minutes. On Demand.

Rated R for strong bloody violence, gore and language.

With “Sisu” consistently hovering among the Top 10 most-streamed movies, it was time to give it a chance. My reaction: It’s insane, illogical, outrageous...and outrageously entertaining. Not for the faint of heart, that’s for sure. Writer-director Jalmari Helander has said his movie was inspired by “First Blood” (1982), the debut of Stallone’s Rambo, and real-life Finnish military sniper Simo Häyhä. That may be true...but the movie is pure Tarantino.

The story is lean to the extreme: one man’s practically supernatural ability to turn the tables on his Nazi pursuers.

Set in late 1944 during the Lapland War, we meet former commando turned gold prospector Aatami Korpi (Jorma Tommila), who lives on his own with his horse and dog, preferring the wilderness to the encroaching reality of war. We see that in a spectacular image of Aatami, seated with his dog, as Nazi fighter planes soar through the sky above.

And in a short matter of time, Nazi soldiers march across the land, prepared to conquer, yet ill-prepared for the foe they will encounter in Aatami.

In all his films, but especially the “Kill Bill” pictures, Tarantino pushed his violence to such outlandish extremes that, after the initial shock, it stopped being offensive, existing more as comedic carnage. Aatami, a one-man army if there ever was one, uses everything within his grasp to thwart his attackers. As the limbs fly and blood sprays, you find yourself laughing not just at the excess of it, but that Helander is using comedic shock value to undermine the Nazi presence. Our laughter in response to their demise, and Aatami’s crazed ingenuity, is in its own way a cathartic release. That evil can be kept at bay, even by one man.

Aatami, by the way, does not speak amid 99 percent of the picture. That duty falls to the Nazis, their dialogue released in short bursts. Helander also introduces a group of women — prisoners of the Nazi group following Aatami — who get the most satisfying, laugh-out-loud retaliation you could want. And it is one of those women (Finnish actress Mimosa Helena Willamo) who gets the movie’s pulpiest dialogue: It’s not that Aatami cannot be killed, but that he simply refuses to die.

With that type of dialogue, you know what you’re getting with “Sisu.” There is nothing subtle or brainy about it. And, it’s over before you know it,



Women held captive by Nazis, led by Mimosa Helena Willamo (right), turn the tables on their attackers.

so it is only afterward that you have time to dissect whether it’s guilty pleasure time or garbage.

I’m leaning toward Door No. 1.

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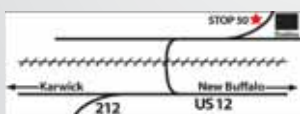
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## Insights in History

The next “Insights in History” will focus on the life of Schuyler Colfax at 1:30 p.m. EDT Wednesday, Sept. 6, at The History Museum, 808 W. Washington St., South Bend.

Deputy Executive Director Kristie Erickson leads the program on Colfax, who is considered the most notable political figure in St. Joseph River Valley history. An ardent abolitionist, he is best known for his roles as speaker of the house under Abraham Lincoln and vice president under Ulysses S. Grant. He



Colfax

was instrumental in many political achievements, including passage of the Thirteenth Amendment, which abolished slavery in the United States.

A tour of “Colfax: Speaker for Freedom” will be offered. Admission is \$3, or \$1 for members. Reservations are required by Sept. 4.

Visit [www.historymuseumSB.org](http://www.historymuseumSB.org) or call (574) 235-9664 for more details.

## Moonlight & Merlot at the Mansion

Reservations for The History Museum’s “Moonlight & Merlot at the Mansion” are due by Thursday, Sept. 7.

The 21-and-older event is from 6:30-8:30 p.m. EDT Thursday, Sept. 14, at the South Bend museum, 808 W. Washington St. It features a wine-tasting by Ironhand Wine Bar. Tickets are \$40 for general admission, \$35 for museum members and \$35 for Ironhand Wine Club members.

Curator of Copshaholm Skylar Stasney will give a short presentation about the Oliver Mansion, while Ironhand co-owner Dave Sabato will discuss the history of winemaking. Self-guided tours of the mansion’s first floor are offered.

Visit [www.historymuseumSB.org](http://www.historymuseumSB.org) or call (574) 235-9664 for more details.

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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.

## LCN Spotlight Organization

The application period is open through Sept. 29 for the 2024 Spotlight Organization through Lakefront Career Network, Michigan City Chamber of Commerce's young professionals' group.

LCN chooses one non-profit to spotlight through a year-long partnership, offering increased awareness of the organization and its mission. Past groups include Stepping Stone Shelter for Women, Boys & Girls Clubs of LaPorte County, Reins of Life, Dunebrook, Michiana Humane Society and most recently Interfaith Community PADS.

To be considered, applicants must:

- Be a registered 501(c)(3) organization.
- Be established for at least five years.
- Have a strong Michigan City presence.
- Work with the LCN Committee to coordinate involvement.
- Cross-promote within networks.
- Have an active need that can benefit from a year-long partnership.

Visit [tinyurl.com/2b2nh6v6](https://tinyurl.com/2b2nh6v6) for details. Send completed applications to [kswistek@mcatchamber.com](mailto:kswistek@mcatchamber.com)

## Hesston Steam Museum

A Labor Day weekend tradition returns with the 67th annual Hesston Steam & Power Show from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday-Monday, Sept. 1-4, at the museum, 1201 E. County Road 1000 North, LaPorte.

The campus opens at 9 a.m., with trains starting at 10 a.m. Regular admission is \$5.

In addition to train rides, the weekend includes a sawmill, flea market, antique farm machinery, blacksmith, food and vintage ice cream soda fountain. Visit [www.hesston.org](http://www.hesston.org) for details.

For area homeschoolers, a STEM learning day is Friday, Sept. 1. Children can learn about steam engines and locomotives. Visit Hesston Steam Museum on Facebook for additional information.

## New Buffalo Township Library

- **Holiday closing.** The library is closed Monday, Sept. 4, for Labor Day.

### Weekly programs:

- Craft Time on Wednesdays while supplies last.
- Chess Club from 6-8 p.m. Thursdays.
- Read to a Dog Sessions for all ages from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Tuesday and 4-4:45 p.m. Wednesday.
- Lego Club all day Fridays.
- Saturday Morning Cartoons from 10 a.m.-noon Saturdays.
- Story time at 6 p.m. Sept. 11, 18 and 25.

*All times are Eastern. New Buffalo Township Library is located at 33 N. Thompson St. Call (269) 469-2933 for more details.*

### Chesterton Art Center

Suzy Vance's "Collaborating with the Natural World" and "As I See It," a group exhibit by the Teen Arts Group, run Sept. 2-30 at Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St.

A reception for both is from noon-2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 9. Vance's work, a combination of photography and haiku, will be shown in the upper gallery, with TAG members in the lower gallery.



Come...enter the forest with me...  
As we enter here,  
all the leaves gently blowing  
away, remembering



Left: A digital print by Suzy Vance.  
Above: An oil painting by Summer Machnik.

Vance, Beverly Shores, expresses her creativity in a variety of media, one of which is *Haiga*: a combination of photography and *Haiku*.

The teen exhibit explores the perspective of leaving adolescence and entering early adulthood, and how the transitionary period changes their views of the world. Artists include: Brooklyn Becker, Hana Byrt, Summer Machnik, Marley Mayer, Natalie Orban, CeCe Post, Jackie Ringler, Kendra Ritchie, Brooklyn Towner and Lauren Yarosz.

TAG is a free, monthly program for those interested in pursuing professional arts experiences and strengthening their own visual art practices.

*Chesterton Art Center is located at 115 S. Fourth St. Hours are 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday. Call the center at (219) 926-4711 or visit www.chestertonart.org for more details.*

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## American Red Cross

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

- St. John's United Church of Christ, 101 St. John Road, noon-6 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 5.
- LaPorte County Fairgrounds, 2581 W. Indiana 2, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 6.

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.

### Greek Bake Sale

A Greek bake sale is from noon-4 p.m. EDT Saturday-Sunday, Sept. 2-3, at Annunciation & Agia Paraskevi Greek Orthodox Church, 18000 Behner Road, New Buffalo, Mich.

The sale is sponsored by the Orthodox Philanthropic Society. A variety of Greek pastries, along with museum tours, will be available.

Call (269) 231-9052 for details.

### Pride Stride

The annual free Pride Stride 5K Fun Run/Walk is Thursday, Sept. 7, at Purdue University Northwest, 1401 S. U.S. 421, Westville.

The community is invited. Participants receive white T-shirts and are doused with color powder at select spots of the 3.1-mile course. Check-in starts at 4 p.m., and the race commences at 5 p.m.

Visit [www.pnw.edu/homecoming](http://www.pnw.edu/homecoming) for details.



### 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.

## Indiana Dunes National Park

- **Bird Walk and Talk from 9-11 a.m. Thursdays in August at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.** Join a ranger for a morning stroll while observing plant and bird life. Meet at the Visitor Center and carpool to a chosen location.
- **Mount Baldy Summit Hike from 5-6:30 p.m. Fridays in August.** Meet at the parking lot off U.S. 12 for a ranger-led hike to the top of the dune. Passes are required. The parking lot and beach are open from 6 a.m.-11 p.m. The dune, however, is still closed.



Improvements are in the works at the Lake View picnic facility and beach-access area, East Lake Front Drive, Beverly Shores.

The existing site does not provide accessible public-beach access nor seating due to storm damage and past mechanical issues. An accessible concrete ramp and other improvements will be added during construction that starts in September. Work will close the facility immediately after Labor Day and continue until Memorial Day weekend 2024.

Constructed in 1989, the current site includes a paved plaza, vehicle parking, picnic tables, benches, restrooms and stairway access to a former boardwalk level adjacent to the lake. Planned work includes removing existing raised planters, light poles, portions of concrete wall and concrete pavement, and building a new accessible concrete ramp with concrete seating, handrails, a concrete pad seating area, concrete walks, sand fill, accessible beach-access matting, benches and at-grade plaza landscaping.

Since the restroom facility will be closed during the work, nearby Dunbar Beach restrooms will remain open through winter months.



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.

## Indiana Dunes State Park

The following programs will be offered:

- **Awesome Amphibians at 10 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 31.** Learn about frogs, toads and salamanders.
- **Dunes Calumet Audubon Society Bird Walk at 8 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 2.** Join Dan Barriball, Dunes-Calumet Audubon Society leader and naturalist, at the Wilson Shelter parking lot to look for fall bird migrants. Registration is required at [tinyurl.com/4xsjc64n](http://tinyurl.com/4xsjc64n)



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.

## 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 following programs are scheduled:*

- **Needle Arts Club to Warm Up America Joining Night from 5:30-7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 31.** Membership 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.
- **Guitarist Peter Aglinskis at 5 p.m. Friday, Sept. 1.** Aglinskis presents a blend of popular, classical and world-music influences. He also has two CDs of original solo guitar arrangements. The performance is in the library courtyard.
- **Holiday closing:** The library is closed Monday, Sept. 4, for Labor Day.
- **Weekly Crafts for Kids & Teens weekly.** Each week offers a different project. Take-home craft kits are available, or create some in the Makerspace. Supplies are limited.
- **Creative Tech Activities from 3:30-5 p.m. Tuesdays, Sept. 5 and 12.** Children ages 6-17 can create with LEGO WeDo, Micro:bits, paper circuits, Ozobots and 3-D. Children 12 and younger must have a parent or guardian attend.
- **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.
- **D&D@MCPL in person at 4 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 6.** Learn how to play the role-playing game. All supplies are provided, including premade characters, dice and notebooks. No registration is required, but supplies are available on first-come, first-served basis. Email questions or special accommodations to Miss Dana at [dwolf@mclib.org](mailto:dwolf@mclib.org)

*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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## Churches Offer Grief Support

The Salvation Army has partnered with St. John United Church of Christ to offer Grief Share, a grief support meeting, at 6:30 p.m. Mondays for the next 11 weeks at The Salvation Army, 1201 Franklin St.

Classes aim to help those struggling through the grief process after the death of a loved one. They are facilitated by Maj. Becky Simmons of The Salvation Army and the Rev. Bill Fine of St. John United Church of Christ.

“Since the COVID-19 pandemic, we have seen an increase in the issue of grief and it is becoming more prominent in our community,” Simmons said in a press release.

The meetings are free and open to the public. Registration is not necessary. Topics include the “normal” grieving process, the grief journey, loneliness and sadness, self-care, fear, anger, regrets, friendship, questions for God, hope and resilience.

Meetings will feature a different video each week produced by Grief Share. Then, participants use a workbook to further explore each topic and have a discussion in a group setting.

The program is faith-based, but Simmons said people of all beliefs and faiths are invited. Contact The Salvation Army at (219) 874-6885 for additional information.



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

Aug. 8, 2023

Event: Regular Golf

Winners of the two-day championship will be announced at Summer Celebration on Aug. 31. Sunken approaches on Aug. 8 were:

- Tina Sonderby, #5.
- Aimee Sullivan, #1.
- Kellie Burke, #3.
- Jude Stahmer, #5.

Aug. 21, 2023

### A Flight

- First — Ellen Magrini.
- Second — Jill Craig.
- Third — Julie Doyle.

### B Flight

- First — Diane Rubey.
- Second — Kathy Kenefick.
- Third — Mary O’Neil.

### C Flight

- First — Joanne Dodd.
- Second — Susan Keeley.
- Third — Nancy Reinert, Meg Caplice.

### Sunken Approaches

- Peg Cooney, #17.
- Kellie Burke, #8.
- Kathy Kenefick, #7.
- Tina Sonderby, #6.
- Julie Doyle, #4.
- Joanne Dodd, #12.
- Ellen Magrini, #16.

## Classic Car Show

Rittenhouse Village at Michigan City, 4300 Cleveland Ave., will host its 11th annual Classic Car Show from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 6.

The event will include 50 antique cars, live entertainment and a free cookout (hamburgers and hot dogs). The reservation deadline is Monday, Sept. 4, by calling (219) 872-6800.

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### Michigan City Municipal Golf Course



**North Course, "Early Birdies,"**  
**Aug. 21, 2023**  
**Event: Ringer Tournament Day 2**

**A Flight**

Low Gross: Mary Beres.  
 Low Net: Mary Beres.  
 Low Putts: M. Beres, P. Roach, L. Uremovich.

**B Flight**

Low Gross: Daphne Craft.  
 Low Net: Daphne Craft, Evelyn Cassin.  
 Low Putts: Evelyn Cassin.

**C Flight**

Low Gross: Bev Szybala.  
 Low Net: Bev Szybala.  
 Low Putts: Sandra Provan.

**D Flight**

Low Gross: Jan Smith.  
 Low Net: Linda Sperling.  
 Low Putts: Jan Smith.



**Chip-Ins:** Jan Smith, Nancy Wilhelm: Hole #8.

**South Course, "Par-Tee Women's Golf League,"**  
**Aug. 16, 2023**  
**Event: Most Pars Flights A/B**  
**Most Bogeys Flights C/D**

**Flight A**

Low Gross: Tina St. Germain.  
 Low Net: Tina St. Germain.  
 Low Putts: Tina St. Germain.  
 Event: Tina St. Germain.

**Flight B**

Low Gross: Paula Hutchinson.  
 Low Net: Paula Hutchinson.  
 Low Putts: Wendy Shaver.  
 Event: Hutchinson, Shaver.

**Flight C**

Low Gross: Mary Knaup.  
 Low Net: Mary Knaup.  
 Low Putts: Ev Cassin.  
 Event: Knaup, Linda Gorman, Mary Lou Marshall,  
 Jill Mellen.

**Flight D**

Low Gross: Sheila Brackin.  
 Low Net: Sheila Brackin.  
 Low Putts: Sheila Brackin.  
 Event: Brackin, Linda Komp.



**Pars:** Tina St. Germain, Linda Hirsch, Barb Rumbuc, Sharon Weber, Paula Hutchinson, Wendy Shaver, Mary Knaup.

### First Friday at LCA

Open mic night is part of First Friday festivities from 5-8 p.m. Sept. 1 at Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St.

On display is Area Artist Association Carol Estes' cyanotype exhibit, "Sculpt and Chisel: An Homage to the Artists in Cyanotype," and photographer Robert Daum's "Proximity." Both are in the NIPSCO Art Education Studios. Other works on display include those by Vivian Maier, Natasha Moustache and zakkiyyah najeebah dumas o'neal.

Attendance at LCA First Friday events ranges from 150 and 400 visitors, and of all ages.

Visit [www.lubeznikcenter.org](http://www.lubeznikcenter.org) for more details.

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### In the Area

**Aug. 31** — Arts in the Park, LaPorte's Fox Park. Preconcert: 6-6:45 p.m., main band: 7-8:30 p.m. *Aug. 31* — Midwest Big Band (jazz big band).

**Sept. 1** — Guitarist Peter Aglinskas, 5 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

**Sept. 1** — First Friday, 5-8 p.m., Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St. Free. Info: [www.lubeznikcenter.org](http://www.lubeznikcenter.org)

**Sept. 1** — Open Studio Night, 5-8 p.m., St. Mary's Arts, 326 W. 10th St.

**Sept. 1-4** — Oktoberfest, Washington Park. Hours: noon-10 p.m. Fri.-Sun., noon-6 p.m. Mon. Info: [tinyurl.com/38wbhdnj](http://tinyurl.com/38wbhdnj)

**Sept. 1-4** — 67th annual Hesston Steam & Power Show, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Hesston Steam Museum, 1201 E. County Road 1000 North, LaPorte. Regular admission: \$5. Info: [www.hesston.org](http://www.hesston.org), Hesston Steam Museum on Facebook.

**Sept. 2** — Free summer concert (The St. Jams Band), 6-9 p.m. EDT, Buford Pavilion stage, Michiana Village Park, 4000 Cherokee Drive.

**Sept. 5, 12** — Creative Tech Activities, 3:30-5 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

**Sept. 6** — D&D@MCPL, 4 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: [dwolf@mcplib.org](mailto:dwolf@mcplib.org)

**Through Sept. 30** — "Early Builders of Beverly Shores," "Dancing for Our Tribe: Potawatomi Traditions in the New Millennium — Photographs by Sharon Hoogstraten," The Beverly Shores Depot Museum & Art Gallery, 525 S. Broadway. Reception: 5-7 p.m. Sept. 8. Info: [www.bsdepot.org](http://www.bsdepot.org)

**Through Sept. 4** — "Water: Above and Below — Photographs by Timothy D. Lace, paintings by Diane Grams," Ellen Firme Gallery, 92 W. U.S. 12, Beverly Shores. Hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sat.

**Through Sept. 14** — Indiana Historical Society's traveling exhibit, "Be Heard: Latino Experiences in Indiana," LaPorte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave. Info: (219) 324-6767.

**Through Sept. 30** — Artwork by Kristina Knowski, The Legacy Center Gallery at Queen of All Saints Catholic Church, 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.

**Through Oct. 21** — "Vivian Maier: In Color," "Under the Same Sun," "to render the infinite," Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St. Info: [www.LubeznikCenter.org](http://www.LubeznikCenter.org), (219) 874-4900.

**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.

**Mondays in LaPorte** — Weekly line dance lessons, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1130, 181 W. McClung Road. Cost: \$5. Beginner lessons, 2-3 p.m. Improver lessons, 3-4 p.m. Info: (219) 363-8301.

**Tuesdays in Michigan City** — Creative Tech Activities, 3:30-5 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

**Tuesdays** — Bingo, St. Stanislaus Kostka Catholic Church, 109 Ann St. Doors open: 3:30 p.m. Bingo: 6 p.m. \$45 entrance fee (includes all cards). Info: (219) 336-3099.

**Thursdays in August** — Yoga in the Gardens with April Fallon, 9:30-10:30 a.m., Friendship Botanic Gardens, 2055 E. U.S. 12. Info: (219) 878-9885, [www.friendshipbotanicgardens.org](http://www.friendshipbotanicgardens.org)

**Thursdays in August** — 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.

**Saturdays through Oct. 28** — Michigan City Farmers Market, 8 a.m.-noon, Eighth & Washington streets. Info: [www.emichigancity.com](http://www.emichigancity.com)

**Sundays through Sept. 24** — Farmed & Forged Market (LaPorte Farmers Market), 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Monroe & Lincolnway.

### In the Region

**Aug. 31** — Awesome Amphibians, 10 a.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

**Sept. 1-2** — Debut, LaPorte artist Ginny Scott, 1-5 p.m. EDT, Courtyard Gallery, 813 E. Buffalo St., New Buffalo, Mich. Info: (219) 575-9299.

**Sept. 2** — Dunes Calumet Audubon Society Bird Walk, 8 a.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

**Sept. 2** — Harbor Country Hikers, 10 a.m. EDT, Fernwood Botanical Garden, 13988 Range Line Road, Niles, Mich. Free. Info: [www.harborcountryhikers.com](http://www.harborcountryhikers.com), Harbor Country Hikers on Facebook

**Sept. 2** — Rocks Off: A Tribute to Rolling Stones, 8 p.m. EDT, The Acorn, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: \$30 + \$5 convenience, \$55 + \$5 convenience fee (reserved). Reservations: [www.acornlive.org](http://www.acornlive.org)

**Sept. 2-3** — Greek bake sale, noon-4 p.m. EDT,

Annunciation & Agia Paraskevi Greek Orthodox Church, 18000 Behner Road, New Buffalo, Mich. Info: (269) 231-9052.

**Sept. 3** — The 1985 —Totally '80s Tribute: A CLUB ACORN Show, 7 p.m. EDT, The Acorn, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: \$30 + \$5 convenience, \$55 + \$5 convenience fee (reserved). Reservations: [www.acornlive.org](http://www.acornlive.org)

**Sept. 6** — "Insights in History" (Schuyler Colfax), 1:30 p.m. EDT, The History Museum, 808 W. Washington St., South Bend. Admission: \$3, \$1/members. Info/reservations: (574) 235-9664, [www.historymuseumSB.org](http://www.historymuseumSB.org)

**Through Sept. 4** — "The Art of Elizabeth Catlett from the Collection of Samella Lewis," Krasl Art Center, 707 Lake Blvd., St. Joseph, Mich. Info: [www.krasl.org](http://www.krasl.org), [info@krasl.org](mailto:info@krasl.org), (269) 983-0271.

**Through Sept. 17** — Theda Sandiford's "Triggered, Truth & Transformation," Krasl Art Center, 707 Lake Blvd., St. Joseph, Mich. Info: [tinyurl.com/yckh57jx](http://tinyurl.com/yckh57jx)

**Through Sept. 28** — Plein air artist David Baker, The Village Gallery @ Pines Village Retirement Communities, 3303 Pines Village Circle, Valparaiso.

**Through Sept. 30** — Suzy Vance's "Collaborating with the Natural World," Teen Arts Group ("As I See It"), Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St. Reception: noon-2 p.m. Sept. 9. Info: (219) 926-4711, [www.chestertonart.org](http://www.chestertonart.org)

**Through October** — "Ever Yours: Postcards From the Golden Age," Porter County Museum, 20 Indiana Ave., Valparaiso. Free admission. Hours: 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Tues.-Sun. Info: [www.pocomuse.org](http://www.pocomuse.org)

**Through May 12, 2024** — "Indiana Lore," South Bend's The History Museum, 808 W. Washington St. Hours (Eastern): 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Sat., noon-5 p.m. Sun. Admission: \$11/adults, \$9.50/seniors, \$7/youth 6-17, free/members. Info: [www.historymuseumSB.org](http://www.historymuseumSB.org), (574) 235-9664.

**Mondays** — Pickleball, 5:30 p.m. EST, New Troy (Mich.) Community Center, 13372 California Road. Free, donations welcome. Info: (269) 426-3909, [friendsofnewtroy@yahoo.com](mailto:friendsofnewtroy@yahoo.com)

**Thursdays in August** — Bird Walk & Talk, 9-11 a.m., Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. Info: visit [www.nps.gov/indu](http://www.nps.gov/indu)

**Fridays in August** — Mount Baldy Summit Hike, 5-6:30 p.m. Fridays/9-11 a.m. Sundays, parking lot off U.S. 12. Info: visit [www.nps.gov/indu](http://www.nps.gov/indu), (219) 395-1882.

**Vickers Theatre** — *Now Showing:* "Gran Turismo: Based on a True Story." Rated PG-13. Times: 3:30 p.m. Sept. 1, 7 p.m. Sept. 2, 3:30 p.m. Sept. 3. *Also:* "Unknown Country." Not Rated. Times: 7 p.m. Sept. 1, 4 p.m. Sept. 2, 1 and 7 p.m. Sept. 3. *Also:* "The Princess Bride." Time: 7 p.m. Aug. 31. All times Eastern. Theater address: 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. Info: [www.vickerstheatre.com](http://www.vickerstheatre.com), (269) 756-3522.

## Westchester Public Library

Westchester Public Library has curbside pickup at its Thomas and Hageman branches.

Use a library card or go online to place holds on up to 10 items, including DVDs and CDs. Once notified the items are available, park in specially-numbered spaces at each branch during pickup hours.

While parked, call the library phone number posted on the numbered space sign, tell staff your library card number and he/she will check out the items and take them to a table at the parking space and walk away. Patrons then can step out of their vehicle to retrieve them. Curbside hours are Monday-Friday (1 to 6 p.m. at Thomas and Hageman) and Saturday (11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Thomas and 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. at Hageman).

Hageman Library (219-926-9080) is located at 100 Francis St., Porter. Thomas Library (219-926-7696) is located at 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton. Westchester Township History Museum (219-983-9715) is located at 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton. The Baugher Center is located at 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

## Concert in the Park

A free summer concert featuring The St. Jams Band is from 6-9 p.m. EDT Saturday, Sept. 2, at the Buford Pavilion stage in Michiana Village Park, 4000 Cherokee Drive.

Concertgoers can take blankets, lawn chairs and coolers, as well as trash bags to take garbage home afterward. Valdo's Taquizas will sell tacos and sides.

## Two for Tuesday

LaPorte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave., offers a Two for Tuesday promotion where visitors buy one admission, then get the second one free.

The promotion includes Historical Society members and the public. Call (219) 324-6767 for additional information.

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Chefs, bartenders, servers, admin. Competitive pay.

Interested, call Matt Wooldridge at (219) 872-8624

**PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT!**

Duneland Home & Pro Hardware, 1018 N. Karwick Road, is hiring part-time hardware team members. Apply in person.

## FOR SALE

**Greenwood Cemetery plots for sale.** Northwest corner, Section C, block 15, plots 1-6. Upon entrance to cemetery, turn left at circle, first left, plots are in the section on the right. \$3,000 per plot.

If interested, call (708) 269-9717.

## GARAGE SALES, ESTATE SALES, ETC.

**Jackpot Consignments and Estate Sales**

1919 E. U.S. 12 (Liberty Trail entrance), Michigan City

Thur.-Sat. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. We buy, sell, consign and conduct in home estate sales. Call (312) 953-7306.

**Art on the Porch Sale • Saturday, Sept. 9, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.**

120 Beechwood Trail, Michigan City. Cash Only!

5 local artists, acrylic paintings, \$10-\$50. Unique gifts or a new treasure!

## WANT TO BUY

**WANTED:** I buy all types of antiques and collectibles, including toys, advertising, military items and more. Call Matt at (219) 794-6500.

## HOME WATCH

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## REAL ESTATE RENTALS INDIANA

**BEAUTIFUL Dunescape Beach Club Townhouse**

**3 BR, 2.5 BA, fully furnished. Steps to the beach!**

Includes clubhouse access to pool, workout room and sauna. Minimum 30 days. Prefer long-term rental. Call (847) 456-3010.

**Sheridan Beach furnished 2BR/1BA rental.** Available Oct.-May, \$1,250/mo. Contact [leasing@harborandlake.com](mailto:leasing@harborandlake.com) or (219) 319-1515.

**FOR RENT:** 3BR + houses. 1 & 2 BR apts. Short, medium, long term. 1, 3, 5 & 6 blks to lake. Call Kathy: (773) 837-7335.

## Michigan City Art League

Michigan City Art League kicks off its fall class schedule at 6 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 7, in the Queen of All Saints School cafeteria, 1715 E. Barker Ave.

The schedule is:

- Sept. 7 and 14: Betty Thomas, "Secrets of Watercolor."
- Sept. 21 and 28: Rob Prellwitz, "Color Pencil Artist."
- Oct. 5: Clinton Worthington III, "Acrylic Painting Focusing on Abstract Expressionism."
- Oct. 12: Susie Rosso, "How to Draw Realistic Animals," with handouts (pencils, sketchbook paper, kneaded eraser).
- Oct. 19: Clinton Worthington III, "Acrylic Painting Teaching Neon Techniques."
- Oct. 26: Sue Hughes, "Color Theory."
- Nov. 2: Lorie Butler, "Know Your Paint Values."
- Nov. 9 and 16: Wendy Kermen, "Mixed Media with Watercolors and Pastels," with a focus on sky, clouds and water.
- Nov. 30: Susie Rosso, "Paper Collage of Your Favorite Animal," using a 9x12 or 11x14 canvas board.
- Dec. 6: Holiday dinner at Galveston Steakhouse from 5-8 p.m.

Annual membership is \$25; 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 on the first day of class. Contact Sam Stroud at (219) 851-4651 or Sue Hughes at (219) 379-7865 for more details.

## Krasl Art Center Fall Classes

Registration is under way for Krasl Art Center's fall season of classes that begin Sept. 18.

The deadline is Sept. 11. Participants can explore various mediums and engage in hands-on learning with teaching artists. A few highlights are: "Cartooning & Beyond"; "Digital Illustration"; "Colored Pencil Realism"; and "Swivel Hinge Locket." Additional classes include ceramics, printmaking, drawing and mixed media. Register and explore scholarship opportunities online at [www.krasl.org/education](http://www.krasl.org/education)

Krasl Art Center is located at 707 Lake Blvd., St. Joseph, Mich. Call (269) 983-0271 for more details.

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## 2228 LAKESHORE DR

LONG BEACH, IN · 5 BED, 3.1 BATH  
\$2,700,000

Enjoy some of the best views of the Chicago skyline from the full length, wraparound deck. Only 9 years old, this home packs everything you need in just under 3000 sqft. Three levels all laid out perfectly, and with gorgeous lake views from the main, upper and lower levels. Exit onto an expansive lawn for the maximum Lake experience on 50 feet of lake frontage. Large open kitchen is perfect for all the cooks in your group! Tastefully designed and intended for most of the fun to take place outside and lakefront! State of the art seawall. Lower level storage for all your recreational toys and lounge chairs.

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LAPORTE, IN · 3 BED, 2.1 BATH  
\$869,000

Located in the scenic Heston Corridor and just minutes from Harbor Country, this is a one-of-a-kind home surrounded by breathtaking gardens that provides relaxation in every season. Contemporary home on nearly 4 stunning acres of beautifully landscaped grounds offers a perfectly secluded getaway. Every detail inside and out has been hand-picked for comfort and luxury. Flagstone surrounded pool and outdoor kitchen, waterfall with koi pond. Wraparound deck with hot tub. Designed for entertaining in a garden paradise.



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# last call for summer

HAPPY LABOR DAY



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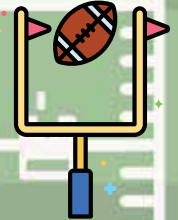
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35 miles	Like a Rockstar	10
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41 miles	Sunset Hide Away	4
41 miles	The Lake House	7
42 miles	Sheridan Beach Escape	14
42 miles	Dune Grass	6
42 miles	Dune Sky	6



## Home Game Schedule

Navy	Aug. 26	1:30PM
TN State	Sept. 2	2:30PM
Central MI	Sept. 16	1:30PM
Ohio State	Sept. 23	6:30PM
USC	Oct. 14	6:30PM
Pittsburgh	Oct. 28	2:30PM

Book these properties and others at [mtmpremier.com](http://mtmpremier.com)