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# Striking a Balance

by Connie Kuzdym

A karate master, teacher, adventurer and guardian of the legendary crystal skull, Bill Homann exudes a passion for life. That love of learning and mastering of pursuits has taken him across continent and abroad.

A 10th-degree black belt, the LaPorte County resident compares karate to chess. Having the mind for the game, but not the patience to sit through it, he adapted. Being high energy and a deep thinker, he merged physical movement of his body and strategic calculations of his mind into a sport that felt natural.

The mat was his chess board. The body, the chess piece. His goal: Strategically set up his opponent, in certain positions, to score the point.

Bill subsequently embarked on a lifelong passion of mastering karate where his focus expanded and deepened.

“I found in my studies over the years...starting it’s maybe 10 percent mental and 90 percent physical (learning the movements). As you go up the lines of study, it



Bill Homann is photographed by *The Beacher's* Bob Wellinski holding his well-earned black belt.

becomes maybe 50/50,” he said. “Now at a higher position where I’ve put all these years into it, it’s become 90 percent mental and 10 percent physical.

“There’s that shift; you learn to do karate with your mind more than your physical body. By positioning and moving, when people are attacking, unless they’re really angry, they’re always assuming they have the upper hand...if you come into the situation just through the mind and body, it diffuses the situation and you don’t have to confront them physically, you’ve already done it mentally.”

Bill earned his first-degree black belt in So-ryu Karate-Do in 1969, 50 years later receiving his 10th-degree black belt. Throughout the years, he has been inducted into the USA Martial Arts Hall of Fame, United States Martial Arts Hall of Fame, The World Martial Arts Hall of Fame and International Martial Arts Hall of Fame.

He is uncomfortable with accolades; rather,

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he deflects by stating the facts.

“I have been doing this a long time,” he said. “It’s a recognition for the work you have done.”

□

Rather than be drafted, Bill voluntarily entered the Air Force during the Vietnam War from 1966-1970. A sergeant, he specialized in electronics and communications. Different martial arts presented themselves from one Air Force base to the next. Excitement brewed, Bill having studied only judo at the local YMCA. Now, he could experience different karate styles. Part of the beauty of martial arts is the ability to learn different forms, then choose what best suits you.

“I kept learning, but I learned in a way that helped me because it kept my mind open to find out what works best for me,” Bill said. “The way I’m built, the way I move, is different than other people...you pick out what works for you. I learned to do that.”

Honorably discharged from the military, Bill landed in Northwest Indiana. He quickly realized there were no dojos in the area, so he began teaching at the Chesterton and Valparaiso YMCAs, Pur-

due University-North Central (now Purdue University Northwest) and area police departments.

Bill contemplated using his GI bill to enroll in a deep-sea diving school in Florida when the opportunity arose to run The Karate Academy of Michigan City on Franklin Street. By 1975, he became the owner. Two years later, his life changed. Divorced, he sold the school and moved with son, Brett. Eventually, he returned and opened a dojo, Homann Karate, in Porter. At the same time, he taught at the former Fitness Barn in South Haven.

During the day, Bill worked on electronic telecommunication equipment at a telephone company. In the evenings, he taught classes. His love of martial arts was so great, Bill spent nearly every evening and weekend teaching and working out. Brett grew up accompanying his dad to the dojo.

“I would bring him to class with me in the evenings so that he would be with me, and I could keep an eye on him growing up,” Bill said. “I wanted him to see this positive thing as a way of life for him as well.”

When Brett turned 12, he wanted to quit karate so he could do things with his friends. With a hearty laugh, Bill recalls their conversation.

“I said, OK, if you want to quit your job (doing



Bill Homann (middle row, third from left) is photographed in his class in Panama, where he received his first-degree black belt, in December 1969. Photo provided.

martial arts), I'll quit my job. We can sit around and play all the time, that would be fun," Bill recalled. "He looked at me and thought, my dad might be crazy enough to do that. He (Brett) didn't want to take the chance, so he stayed in."

With pride and love in his voice, Bill continues.

"Two years later, he competed in nationals (national championship for the U.S. Karate Federation governing body for the Olympics). He won second in the country as a junior black belt. He got on the U.S. Team...went to Japan," he said about his son. "Going there and competing against the Japanese, he was able to take two of the top 10 people. He came back with a whole different attitude. Respecting what I was helping him do and loving it. He became the start of what he is today."

In the 1980s, Brett, who had a knack for teaching, stepped into his father's shoes, opening Homann Karate in Crown Point and most recently a dojo on Franklin Street in Michigan City. Bill now teaches one day a week at both schools.

The two men have a strong bond. The respect and love for each other is obvious.

"Of all my accomplishments in the martial arts, my son is the greatest," he said. "He continues to change lives and build confidence in his martial arts students."



After devoting years to karate, a different door opened for Bill.

In the early 1980s, karate master George Dillman invited him to learn an Okinawan style of martial arts called *Ryukyu Kenpo*. It involves a deeper understanding of *kata*, where every move works on angle and direction of pressure points for self-defense.

Amongst practitioners of the martial arts, it was well-known the masters never taught or told their secrets on pressure points except to their top students. Dillman changed that thinking. By working with Okinawan masters, he figured out how to effectively use pressure points for protection defense. Done in a series of disguised moves, the technique

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Bill, lying on a bed of nails and having 60 pounds of concrete broken off his chest.



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## Striking a Balance Continued from Page 3

allows the practitioner to disable the threat without causing deadly bodily harm.

At the time, there was limited knowledge about pressure points and how they worked. Bill developed his own system known as Fast Easy Defense.

“There’s an art and science behind it,” he said. “It’s not, get out there and punch, punch, punch, like a boxing match. Those movements that look like forms have the angle and direction of all the pressure points and how to hit them hidden inside of that. Once you understand it, you can decipher and take those moves out and make them into effective techniques.”



Bill is photographed with the Mitchell-Hedges crystal skull.

There are 362 pressure points in the human body. Using certain pressure points, he developed a system whose movements are simple, natural and effective in diffusing the attacker. FED can leave the attacker in various conditions: babbling in a corner; in such excruciating pain they are left defenseless; or completely knocked out.

Bill traveled throughout the U.S., Europe, Central America, South America and Canada doing FED seminars. A high point arrived when he taught the warriors of the Italian SEALs off Venice, Italy.

At one training session in Italy, Brett recalls how his father completely knocked out six strong young men. They weren’t too happy, but Bill had proven the effectiveness of FED.

*Ryukyu Kenpo* has led Bill on a quest of study that continues to this day. After all these years, he still finds joy teaching its techniques and effectiveness. He may have achieved the highest black belt, developed his own system and earned numerous accolades, but Bill still considers himself the student.

□



Bill Homann (center) loves teaching, imparting his skills on others interested in martial arts. Photo provided.

Say the word adventure, and Bill’s demeanor changes. His eyes begin to twinkle. A smile takes hold as excitement enters his voice. He is ready and raring to go!

A great storyteller, he speaks of adventures with neighborhood friends, from the military service and of others. And so, the story begins of the journey that brought him to his current adventure.

Bill was stationed in the northern part of Panama during the Vietnam War. He was part of a parachuting show team that performed at different Panamanian fairs. The team would parachute in with smoke trailing behind them. The crowds always cheered.

On one such occasion, in the jungles of Panama, Bill describes what happened when the team landed: “*We were met by a man...who was the head of that whole military area. He took us over to his jeep, and started passing out beers...he invited us to his house...there were servants...in the backyard...men with M16s were watching the place.*”

That man was none other than Maj. Manuel Noriega. A rising figure in the Panamanian military, he eventually became dictator of the country.

Not many people can say they partied with Noriega.

Being stationed in Panama would introduce a different type of adventure into Bill’s life.

Off the coast of Panama, he visited a quaint hotel/restaurant on Taboga Island many times. The owner regaled him with stories about F.A. Mitchell-Hedges, who was known as a great fisherman and explorer. In an old fort in Panama City, Bill saw photos of the Mitchell-Hedges crystal skull that piqued his curiosity, laying the groundwork for what was to come.

After his military service, Bill was drawn to crystals, so he took a class on how to work with them. The instructor had just returned from visiting Anna Mitchell-Hedges, the adopted daughter of F.A. Mitchell-Hedges and an adventurer in her own right. In 1924, there was supposition she found the Mitchell-Hedges crystal skull. Eventually, Bill received Anna’s number from the instructor and contacted her. In a blink, he was heading to Canada to meet Anna and the crystal skull.

The two quickly became friends. Bill enjoyed the stories Anna told of her adventures in the jungles and off the coast of Honduras. After her secretary passed, Bill became a treasured friend and confidante. He took both her and the skull to various engagements. Anna taught him the most intrinsic secrets of the crystal skull, and about the responsibility that comes from being its guardian.



Bill Homann is photographed at an Indianapolis training camp. Photo provided.

“She felt I could do what she wanted done with it, as far as taking care of it,” Bill said. “She didn’t want it put away and locked up in an inch-thick glass where people couldn’t be around it...She wanted it out where it could help people.”

The skull rose to prominence thanks to Steven Spielberg’s 2008 film “Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull.” Due to legal reasons though, the crystal skull featured in the film does not resemble the real one, rather the head of an alien being. Anna and the skull were invited to the movie’s premiere in France. Unfortunately, she passed away beforehand, so Bill attended in her place.

Bill also worked with NBC’s Lester Holt on a two-hour TV special, going through Central America, back to the site where the skull was found in Honduras. Today, he receives numerous calls to be on programs, TV shows and podcasts.

Bill learned how to strike a balance of having a full-time job, being a single parent, incorporating karate into his daily life and being an adventurer.

“It is important for each of us to find the creative things that give a person JOY,” Bill said. “The martial arts are something that even when I have a bad day, I have a workout and then I feel like a new person. That’s an easy way to know if it’s the right thing for you. It’s a way of keeping me in balance. Always learning and growing, and through the teaching I see the changes I make in people’s lives by building respect, confidence and discipline as a way of life.”

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## “Dial of Destiny” Brings Indiana Jones to a Satisfying End

by Andrew Tallackson

I don't get the hate.

Granted, these days, the instant you don't indulge every pop culture desire, the fan-service police wave their pitchforks in protest. That seems to be the case with “Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny.” Fan-boys boohoo that Spielberg ain't behind the wheel, that digital technology to make Harrison Ford look younger is an aberration...blah, blah, blah.

Ignore all that. This fifth, and final, entry in the franchise is a logical extension of the Indiana Jones universe. Long(ish), with one car chase too many, but better at capturing the spirit of the original films than Spielberg's so-so “Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull” (2008).

Did we need this film, or “Crystal Skull”? No. When Indy and company rode off into the sunset at the end of “The Last Crusade,” it was pretty much how we envisioned the character might say good-bye. But Hollywood greed frequently breeds nostalgic necessity, so we have these two extra films.

Amid the 20-minute prologue of “Dial of Destiny,” you'd be hard-pressed to know it *wasn't* directed by Spielberg. Director James Mangold (“Logan,” “Ford vs. Ferrari”) expertly apes the director's style: the dramatic closeups, the playful choreography — Nazis leap in single file onto the side of a moving train

★ ★ ★ 1/2

### “Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny”

Running time: 154 minutes. In theaters. Rated PG-13 for sequences of violence and action, language and smoking

— and, of course, that great John Williams music.

By opening the film in Nazi Germany, specifically in 1944 during the Allied liberation of Europe, that's how digital wizardry comes into play to make Ford resemble his younger self. And it is how the movie introduces the title artifact. It's Archimedes's Dial, cracked in half and, if restored, could uncover fissures in time, a means to return to the past.

The story leapfrogs to summer 1969, right as the country celebrates landing on the moon. Mangold introduces the catalyst to find the dial's missing piece: Indy's goddaughter, Helena Shaw (“Fleabag” star Phoebe Waller-Bridge). This is a first: a female lead who is not the romantic interest, but a potential, and morally iffy, ally, since she seems more interested in money than preserving history.

The story zips across the globe, while at the same time introducing the villains, including Mads Mikkelsen's former Nazi.

The first few car chases yield spectacular stunt work, making you gasp from the thrill of it. Backing off the chases, though, might have tightened the picture, make the midsection feel less redundant.

At the same, Mangold cannot resist injecting classic franchise elements into his movie: creepy crawlies, Indy's trademark hat and bullwhip, blows to the face that sound like sledgehammers pounding punching bags.

But even with that familiarity, Mangold's most refreshing twist is the last act, when all the forces converge to test the dial's power and legacy. True, there is no shortage of effects, but it is nowhere near the CGI disaster of “Crystal Skull.” It's smarter than that, exploring ego, paradoxes and healing from loss and grief.

Ford looks all of his 80 years. The movie doesn't shy away from that. In one scene, he complains to neighbors that their music is too loud. As a professor, the spark in him is gone. While scaling a rock wall, he ponders why he's still doing this, what with every ache in his body.

But the fire is there. That adventurer spirit is sharper than ever. Seeing Ford in his element, you are at peace, comforted by the knowledge that he is, and will always be, Indiana Jones.



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

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## Summer Was, Summer Is

Experts claim summer begins with the Summer Solstice, an astronomic event that falls around June 21. But for me – and most northerners sick of being stuck indoors due to cold and gloom – Memorial Day launches the summer season.

The summer months usher in not only warmer weather, but relaxed schedules, more time outdoors, vacations and entertaining. Summer denotes change, a reprieve, a recess. It creates anticipation, optimism and energy. We look forward to catching up on relationships, hobbies and projects, like that stack of books on the nightstand, the crowded garage and overflowing closets. And if you're a kid, summer is friends, freedom and lots and lots of fun.

When I was a kid, the longed-for summer months meant cruising the confines of our neighborhood on my purple Schwinn bike with its banana seat and monkey handlebars. Most days, my twin sister and I raced each other down the center of our block, a street lined with arched, towering elms where noisy cicadas clung to dark gray bark. Bike helmets were not a thing back then. It's easy to understand from where the need grew, because one of our favorite tricks was betting who could ride the longest – hands free – before spinning out of control. The loser had to spring for a yard of Big Daddy bubble-gum at the local Five-n-Dime store.

If we weren't hanging out at the community park, my siblings and I rode our bikes to the over-chlorinated public pool, where we dove for pennies without goggles, snacked on Suzy-Qs and Nutty Buddy ice cream sandwiches and slathered on baby oil with the hopes of morphing freckles into a rich tan. We weren't expected home until the streetlights came on. After dinner, our folks shooed us outdoors for games of hide-and-seek or ding-dong-ditch with the neighbors. If it stormed, we waged wicked Monopoly board game battles in the basement until the rains ceased, then we hit the overflowing streets to play in the puddles. Summer was more than no school, the lack of homework and fewer chores. It was catching fireflies in a pickle jar, setting up a Kool-Aid stand, dabbing calamine on a map of mosquito bites and sleeping in front of a window held open with a box fan.

As a teenager and college student, I couldn't wait to get off work or finish a babysitting job so I could borrow my parents' Monte Carlo and meet up with

### That Girl, This Life

Julie McGue



friends at the movies or shopping mall. Most summer evenings, I stayed up late reading a gripping whodunnit or racy romance novel. Many nights found me lying on my back in the upstairs carpeted hallway, swirling the long curly cord of the landline while I chatted with classmates with whom I had no doubt spent the afternoon. Often, my twin sister and I sunk into the cushy rec room sofa and devoured a bowl of Jiffy Pop popped corn while we watched an old movie on WGN.

But the best part were weekends we packed a small bag with our favorite cut-off jeans, a string bikini and a few T-shirts and headed to the family's lakefront cottage in Michigan. There, we devoured paperback books and glossy magazines, launched fierce Scrabble games and worked on our tans despite sand mixing with our Hawaiian Tropic lotion.

Life goes full circle and repeats itself, doesn't it?

Now, my summers encompass much of what I did when I was younger. I'm still working through a stack of novels in a favorite lounge chair with a view of the lake, snacking on popcorn and licorice while catching up on old movies, albeit through a streaming service, not a network channel. But if I'm at the pool or beach, I'm with my grandkids. Unlike the days of my youth, my adult children make sure their progeny wear sun-protective clothing, high SPF sunscreen and dive with goggles to protect their eyes from pool chemicals. Smarter and wiser, we all protect our skin from the hottest part of the day, and nobody goes out cycling without strapping on a helmet or donning appropriate shoe wear. No flip-flops like their grandmother might have done.

Regardless of our ages, summer is still about freedom, and friends, and fun. Lots of it. So, whether you consider summer commencing on Memorial Day, the Summer Solstice or even the fourth of July, I hope this column finds you reminiscing about the days gone by and with a clear idea of what the summer of 2023 has in store for you.

Find time to dream, be lazy or be productive. Read a book, maybe a stack of them, and donate a few to a Little Free Library. Smile often and laugh till you cry. Gather with family to play board games, catch fireflies and make root beer floats. Be nostalgic, forward thinking and above all be safe. I hope the summer of 2023 is your most productive, or laziest, but healthiest summer ever.



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## “The Pin-Up Girls” Honors Troops Through Songs

Canterbury Summer Theatre will present “The Pin-Up Girls,” the third production of the 2023 season, July 5-15 at Canterbury Theatre, 807 Franklin St.

The musical is written by James Hindman and Jeffrey Lodin and inspired by letters home from troops overseas. Music ranges from The Andrew Sisters to hip-hop, from World War I to Afghanistan.

In the play, while singing at their local Veterans of Foreign Wars hall, Leanne and her friends stumble upon a huge stash of letters that go back 100 years. Inspired by what they find — funny, romantic, heartbreaking, sexy — the ladies put on a show that celebrates those who fight to defend their country.

The cast includes Reid Graham, Victoria Hickman, Sophie Stechmann and Jenna Weisbach. Director Lari Leber, a Canterbury veteran, previously directed “No Way To Treat A Lady,” “I Love You, You’re Perfect, Now Change” and “Vanities: The Musical.” Choreography is by Victoria Hickman, with music direction by John Berst. Scenic design is by Ray Scott Crawford, with lighting by Alex Gray. Amber Garitt provides costume design, while Annabelle Lamb is the stage manager.



Victoria Hickman (from left), Sophie Stechmann, Reid Graham and Jenna Weisbach appear in the Canterbury Summer Theatre musical “The Pin-Up Girls.”

Performances are at 2 p.m. Wednesdays and 7 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays. Tickets are \$20 for regular admission and \$18 for seniors, with half-price discounts for students and military personnel. Tickets can be purchased by phone at (219) 874-4269 or email at [info@canterburytheatre.org](mailto:info@canterburytheatre.org)



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## Krasl Art Fair on the Bluff

More than 170 artists will showcase their works in the 61st Krasl Art Fair on the Bluff, which is Saturday-Sunday, July 8-9, at Lake Bluff Park, St. Joseph, Mich.

The times are (Eastern) 10 a.m.-6 p.m. July 8 and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. July 9.

From California to Virginia, the fair draws talent from across the nation. Artists apply in October and await their status until March. Proceeds from fair admission support year-round access to the arts, including free gallery exhibits, public-sculpture placement, scholarships and community programs.

In partnership with The Livery, the Block Party celebration, complete with beer and wine, food trucks and live entertainment, is from 5-10 p.m. EDT Friday, July 7, at KAC, 707 Lake Blvd., St. Joseph.

The Samuel Nalangira Trio, a folk/world music group, takes the stage from 5-6:30 p.m. EDT, followed by headliner Cosmic Knot. The three food



trucks include The Brick House Food Truck, Taqueria Don Chepe and Lost Coast Shaved Ice. Round Barn Winery and The Livery will sell beer, wine and Pepsi products.

Block Party general admission is \$5, while children 12 and younger attend for free with registration at [tinyurl.com/4v4zk9kn](http://tinyurl.com/4v4zk9kn)

All ticket information can be found at [www.krasl.org/art-fair/tickets](http://www.krasl.org/art-fair/tickets). Artists can be previewed at [tinyurl.com/y3vmj4rc](http://tinyurl.com/y3vmj4rc). General admission is \$5, while admission is free for 12 and younger. Free admission wristbands are available upon request.

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## Harbor Country Singers

Harbor Country Singers will host “Happy Songs of Spring & Summer,” a free outdoor sing-along, at 6:30 p.m. EDT Tuesday, July 11, on Spring Creek Stage.

The venue is at the Arts and Education Center, 14 Maple St., Three Oaks, Mich., facing Dewey Cannon Park. It will include songs like “Feelin’ Groovy,” “Zip a Dee Doh Dah,” “Raindrops Keep Falling on My Head” and “Morning Has Broken.”

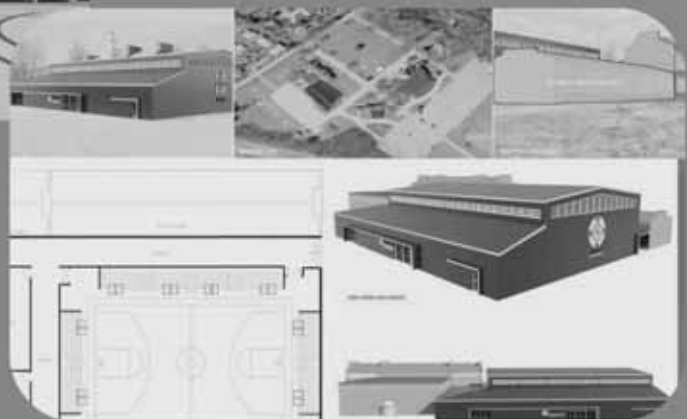
School of American Music instructors Ron Spears and Tom Parisi will provide guitar accompaniment, with Maggie Martin on piano. HCS members Diane Ruzevich, Donna Mitchell, Jill Christie and Pat Putnam are the song leaders. Songbooks with music and lyrics are provided. Musicians can take instruments. The audience can take lawn chairs or blankets. If it rains, the event moves to the Carver Memorial Park shelter house, U.S. 12 and Elm Street.

Harbor Country Singers is a School of American Music program supported by a Pokagon Fund grant. Contact SAM at (269) 409-1191 or [schoolofamericanmusic@gmail.com](mailto:schoolofamericanmusic@gmail.com) for more details, or visit <https://schoolofamericanmusic.com/>

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### Roosevelt Pipe Organ Series

The 22nd season of the Roosevelt Pipe Organ Series continues at 12:15 p.m. Wednesday, July 12, at Christ Church, 531 Washington St.

The program is by Kent Jager, who will fea-



Jager

ture three major works for organ: "Sonata III" by Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy, "Sonata I in E-Flat Major" (BWV 525) by J.S. Bach and the "Trois Chorals pour Grand Orgue" (No. 3 in A Minor) by César Franck.

Jager is the organist and choir director at St. Paul's United Church of Christ in Oskaloosa, Iowa.

Before then, he held positions at Queen of Angels Roman Catholic Church and Holy Name Cathedral in Chicago, and at First Presbyterian Church in Evanston, Ill. He completed his graduate studies in church music at Northwestern University, Evanston, and has an undergraduate degree in organ from Central College in Pella, Iowa.

Performers present concerts on the church's 1891 Roosevelt Opus 506. The church is air-conditioned. Call (219) 608-5358 for more details.

### Sullair Honorees Meeting

The Sullair Disconnected Compressor Honorees will host its annual meeting at 6 p.m. Thursday, July 13, at Galveston Steakhouse, 10 Commerce Square.

The group consists of former Sullair Corp. employees who have resigned, retired or were fired. The \$10 cost paid at the door includes appetizers. Donations and guests are welcome.

Send an RSVP by email to [SDCH.Reunion@gmail.com](mailto:SDCH.Reunion@gmail.com) to assist with the planning process. Regular communications is sent throughout the year, so even those who can't attend the meeting are asked to send an email to the requested address.



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## Downward Price Trend Has Started in NW Indiana

I am going to look outside my normal territory of "Indiana Lakefront" to consider LaPorte County and Starke County north to the lake and west along the lake to the Illinois line.

Let's start with a month of data for two years. In each category, the first number is for May 2022, the second number for May 2023.

Place	Med Price	Units Sold	\$Volume
Lake	\$240k/\$235k	554/497	\$148.9M /\$125.7 M
Porter	\$385k/\$287k	230/170	\$77.9M/ \$55.1M
LaPorte	\$182k/\$245k	118/99	\$26.9M/ \$26.4M
Seven Counties	\$240k/\$248k	985/833	\$270.1M/ \$225.3M

The only county where all three variables did not decrease is LaPorte County, where the median price actually increased 34%. God Bless those second homebuyers.

To see if May was an aberration from the overall trend, I checked the median price of LaPorte for the first five months of 2022 versus the first five months of 2023. Median price for 2022 was \$180,000 and the median for 2023 was \$183,000: a 1.6% increase. May was a better-than-average month. Prices are stagnant, not increasing

When I compared the first seven months for the seven county areas for number sales, it was down 18%. Median price increased 0.9%. \$Volume was down 19.7%.

So, house prices have started to drop. Not a great deal, but definitely a softening in the market price I have not seen clearly before. All other variables dropped for the larger 7 county area I am calling Northwest Indiana.

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## Depot Museum & Art Gallery



An example of the historical photos on display.

Two new exhibits celebrate architecture through July 30, with an opening reception from 5-7 p.m. Friday, July 14, at The Beverly Shores Depot Museum & Art Gallery, 525 S. Broadway.

The exhibits are: "If You Build It, They Will Come: Artistic Depictions of Beverly Shores Architecture," curated by Depot Gallery Curator Meg Bero, and a historical museum exhibit, "Architecture in Beverly Shores, Past and Present," curated by Depot Museum and Historian Carol Ruzik.

More than 28 architects are represented in Beverly Shores, spanning mid-century modern, Prairie-style, summer cottages and bungalows, Mediterranean Colonial Revival and contemporary, as well as the Century of Progress Homes from the Chicago World's Fair brought here by Chicago developer Frank Bartlett.

Architects who have worked in the town include Gertrude Kerbis, George Keck, Fred Bamesberger and Chicago firms Booth Hansen and dSpace.

For the gallery exhibit, regional artists have created paintings and renderings in other mediums of the town's homes and buildings. The exhibit will feature dozens of historical photos, along with photos of modern-day homes.

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

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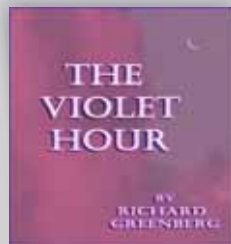
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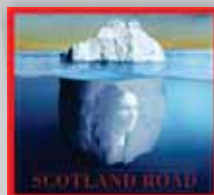
Dames at Sea  
June 21-July 1

The Pin-Up  
Girls  
July 5- 15



Honky Tonk  
Angels  
July 19-29

Scotland Road  
August 3-5



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[www.canterburytheatre.org](http://www.canterburytheatre.org)



**By Land or by Sea for 2023!**

## Harbor Country Film Group



Chishu Ryu and Chieko Higashiyama star as parents who leave their seaside village to visit their children in the big city in "Tokyo Story."

Harbor Country Film Group will screen and discuss Yasujiro Ozu's "Tokyo Story" (1953) at 6:30 p.m. EDT Monday, July 10, at New Buffalo Township Library, 33 N. Thompson St.

The movie, according to film group leader Eve Moran, "centers on the generational disengagement between adult children and their parents. It follows an elderly couple as they leave their country home to visit with children and grandchildren in the big city. The visit, however, will be awkward."

Critics voted "Tokyo Story" as the fourth greatest film of all time in the 2022 *Sight & Sound* poll.

The screening, sponsored by the Friends of the New Buffalo Library, is free, with popcorn served. The film and discussion will last about 2 1/2 hours.

## New Buffalo Township Library

- Harbor Country Film Group with Eve Moran, "Tokyo Story," at 6:30 p.m. Monday, July 10.
- Summer Reading program signup begins Monday, July 10.
- Pirate Party from 3-4 p.m. Monday, July 10, at New Buffalo Township Park, 17425 Red Arrow Highway.

### Weekly programs:

- Mommy and Me Story Time from 10-10:30 a.m. Mondays at New Buffalo Township Park.
- Guitar Lessons for Beginners (sign-up only) for ages 8-11. The times are 4:30-5:15 p.m. July 6, 13 and 20.
- Craft Time on Wednesdays while supplies last.
- Chess Club begins July 6 and continues 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 starting July 7.
- Saturday Morning Cartoons from 10 a.m.-noon Saturdays starting July 8.

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

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**Acorn Anywhere @ Fernwood**  
**Second Hand News**  
SAT 7/8 7 P.M. ET

**Sneak Prevue of *The Voice That Rocked America: The Dick Biondi Story***  
SUN 7/9 1 P.M. ET

**Resurrection Blues Band**  
*Midwest Made*  
SUN 7/9 7 P.M. ET

**Los Lobos**  
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**Chicago Farmer & The Fieldnotes**  
FRI 7/14 8 P.M. ET

**The Accidentals**  
SAT 7/15 8 P.M. ET




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## Long Beach Summer Camp Applications available June 1, 2023!

**Dates:** June 19 – August 4  
**Days:** Monday – Friday  
**Time:** 9:00 – 11:30  
**Location:** Long Beach Community Center  
**Ages:** 3-11  
**Fee:** Resident Full Camp: \$160.00  
 Non-Resident Full Camp: \$220.00  
 Resident Weekly: \$60.00  
 Non-Resident Weekly: \$80.00

### Weekly Themes

Week 1: Outer Space  
 Week 2: Wild Weather  
 Week 3: Geographic Genius  
 (No Camp July 3 & 4)  
 Week 4: Inventors Workshop  
 Week 5: Splish Splash  
 Week 6: Safari  
 Week 7: International Sports

Registration forms are available at the Long Beach Town Hall, Long Beach Community Center, and online at [longbeachin.org](http://longbeachin.org).

Any questions email [longbeachsummercamp@gmail.com](mailto:longbeachsummercamp@gmail.com).

## Chesterton Art Center

Emily Casella's "In Emotion to Entrain" runs July 8-Aug. 30 at Chesterton Art Center, with a free opening reception from noon-2 p.m. Saturday, July 15.

The multi-room installation by Casella, 28, transforms galleries into a train station where viewers can mingle at a cafe kiosk, hop inside a train and disembark into a neighborhood park. Each piece poses a different conundrum.



Emily Casella's glazed-ceramic piece "The Wheel of Options."

Casella is involved in additional CAC programming, including a ceramic bust workshop from 6-9 p.m. Thursday, July 20; during Chesterton's 3rd Fridays from 4-7 p.m. July 21; and an artist talk from 5:30-7 p.m. Thursday, July 27.

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

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## SUMMER VOLLEYBALL CLASSES – YOUTH & JUNIORS

## Long Beach Parks

### VOLLEYKIDZ USA GRASS VOLLEYBALL CAMPS

It's time to take your volleyball GAME OUTSIDE. A camp hosted by the EVP Academies of LaPorte, features all the latest drills and training techniques that build your skills for the next level. Lots of contests and games too, with fun and active instructors! The camp will concentrate on the fundamentals of passing, setting, serving and spiking. You will learn to overhand serve and play organized games. The lesson plan directs individual training that helps each student reach a new level. This four-day camp is for girls & boys ages 8-14yrs. Canceled classes are made up on Friday.

LOCATION: LB Park MIN/MAX: 8/24 PER CLASS **4 Day-camp**

#### Ages 8-10

6/19	6/22	1p-2:30p	8-10yrs	84
6/26	6/29	1p-2:30p	8-10yrs	84
7/10	7/13	1p-2:30p	8-10yrs	84
7/24	7/27	1p-2:30p	8-10yrs	84



#### Ages 11-14

6/19	6/22	230-4:30pm	11-14yrs	99
6/26	6/29	230-4:30pm	11-14yrs	99
7/10	7/13	230-4:30pm	11-14yrs	99
7/24	7/27	230-4:30pm	11-14yrs	99

### VolleyKidz USA (8-10yrs)

Volleykidz is an introductory class for children 7yrs to 10yrs. The lesson plan introduces the pass, set and spike using a very light volleyball. Volleykidz will improve each child's hand/eye coordination and left/right coordination through the use of fun drills and games. Lesson plan also incorporates short educational drills including spelling, math & science.

LOCATION:	LB Park	MIN/MAX: 8/24 PER CLASS	<b>WEEKS: 4</b>		
PROGRAM #	DAY	DATE	TIME	AGE	COST
JUNE	Wednesdays	6/7-6/28	4:30-6pm	8-10yrs	\$99
JULY	Wednesdays	7/5-7/26	4:30-6pm	8-10yrs	\$99
AUG.	Wednesdays	8/2-8/23	4:30-6pm	8-10yrs	\$99

### Jr. VolleyKidz USA (11-13yrs)

Improve your volleyball skills with 90 minutes of drills in setting, passing, overhand serving and spiking. The lesson plan directs the use of individual training, pairing drills and game situation development that help each student reach a new level. Instructors organize short games at the end of each class. The lesson plan also incorporates leadership and educational components.

LOCATION:	LB Park	MIN/MAX: 8/24 PER CLASS	<b>WEEKS: 4</b>		
PROGRAM #	DAY	DATE	TIME	AGE	COST
JUNE	Wednesdays	6/7-6/28	6-730pm	11-14yrs	\$84
JULY	Wednesdays	7/5-7/26	6-730pm	11-14yrs	\$84
AUG.	Wednesdays	8/2-8/23	6-730pm	11-14yrs	\$84

## NEW! Youth Volleyball Summer League

This summer indoor volleyball league is perfect to keep your volleyball skills fresh for the upcoming grade school season. In this co-ed league you can request to play with a group of friends. Games are scheduled on Thursdays. The YOUTH league will have two levels; Blazers and Top Flight. You will overhand serve and play organized games. EVP Certified coaches. Game formats are based on skill-level of athletes and may include 6-person and 4-person teams. Two matches per week.

LOCATION:	LB Park	MIN/MAX: 18/72 PER CLASS	<b>WEEKS: 4</b>		
DATE (s)	DAY	PROGRAM #	TIME	Ages	COST
June	4-25 Sun		430-630p	10-13yrs	\$59
July	9-30 Sun		430-630p	10-13yrs	\$59
Aug.	6-27 Sun		430-630p	10-13yrs	\$59

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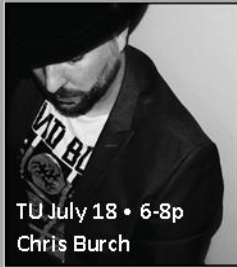
7/12 with Kyla  
7/19 with Gary  
7/26 with Abigail



SU July 9 • 6-8p  
Quinn Guillermo



TU July 11 • 6-8p  
Kasim Whiting



TU July 18 • 6-8p  
Chris Burch



SU July 23 • 6-8p  
Neek



TU July 25 • 6-8p  
Shane Lindeman



SU July 30 • 6-8p  
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Sun 11-5



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Sun 11-8

# “tick, tick...BOOM!” is Dunes Summer Theatre at its Best

by Andrew Tallackson

Periodically, this faulty, distracting quirk of mine surfaces when reviewing musicals. If the show is one I've seen before or know well, chances are, it contains one particular song that is my favorite. The chance to hear it again spikes my adrenaline. When the number arrives, if the performer blows it, my heart sinks. It's like the critical thought process in me shuts down, requiring a reboot.

It happened a few years back, during a production of “Little Women.” My first encounter was a few years prior at a different theater. The favorite song: “Days of Plenty.” In it, Marmee, her family rocked by Beth's death, sings of how life goes on amid despair, the memory of loved ones never lost.

It got to me.

So when the actress in the ensuing production, riddled with nerves, fumbled her way through the song, muffling its intended impact, my reviewing mind turned off, almost unforgivingly, toward the performer and the show, itself.

A problem, yes, I'm aware. One song does not make a show.

My favorite song in Jonathan Larson's “tick, tick...BOOM!,” and it arrives early, is “Johnny Can't Decide.” The piece represents the musical's “meta” tactic of commenting on itself *and* larger themes of embracing, or deflecting, major life choices. The three actors sing in counterpoint to each other, the melody downright gorgeous.

When “Johnny Can't Decide” arrived in this Dunes Summer Theatre production, the first musical in its 2023 season, I could feel the adrenaline rush. The cast had knocked the opening number, “30/90,” out of the ballpark, but here was that warped litmus test of mine.

Sink or swim time.

The cast crushed it. It's *the* highlight...in a show of many highlights.

In fact, this Dunes production, directed with polish by Lauren Katz, contains such phenomenal talent, it's like the equivalent of a national touring company.

Larson, of course, is known for “Rent!,” the 1996 musical that pretty much defined the decade in its exploration of love, Generation X and, of course, the AIDS epidemic. The composer, sadly, died before getting to see “Rent!” on opening night. “tick, tick...BOOM!” is like getting a peek into Larson's brain *before* his posthumous success. His fears and hopes. You can see the template he was crafting for “Rent” in his themes, and not just with the issue of AIDS, but in struggling artists. The lyrics and melodies embrace the “mumblecore” ethos, where the characters,



**Above:** Max DeTogne gives the best performance of his Dunes Summer Theatre career as Johnny. **Top right:** DeTogne with Khyel Roberson. **Bottom right:** DeTogne with Lili Galluzzo. All photos by Andrew Tallackson

when singing, feel like they're having a conversation with you, as opposed to verse, chorus, verse, chorus.

Playing Johnny is Dunes regular Max DeTogne, and seeing him front and center for the entire duration of the show, it's a triumph. Like, everything he's done with the Dunes has been a prelude to this.

His best performance.

DeTogne nails it. His Johnny is always moving, always in motion. The performance thrives with an overly caffeinated nervous energy — productive *and* toxic — that reveals a major talent oh so close to greatness. The vocals pour out of him with heart and conviction. You can't ask for more from a performer in this role. He gives you his all.

His co-stars, Khyel Roberson and Lili Galluzzo, are a treat. Their main characters are Johnny's best friend, Michael, and girlfriend, Susan, respectively, but they also play others who exist in the periph-

eries of Johnny's life. They shift from character to character with astonishing ease. They also get showstoppers: Roberson with “Real Life” and Galluzzo with the crowdpleaser “Come to Your Senses.”

Michael Lasswell's set is a visual feast: a gorgeous, twinkling ode to New York and its artist community...and if you look closely, filled with plenty of Easter eggs. The pit, led by music director Andrew Flasch, is simply the best.

The final scenes of “tick, tick...BOOM!” get pretty emotional, but the cast is up to the challenge. The whole show is.

Seriously, I don't know how the Dunes can top this. It is the group's best musical since “Working.”

(See *Upcoming Events* on Page 42 for show times, dates and ticket prices.)

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





## “Chevalier” Explores Complex Life of Black Classical Composer

by Andrew Tallackson



In the opening scene, Chevalier (Kelvin Harrison Jr.) upstages none other than Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (Joseph Prowen) during a live performance.

“Chevalier” opens as a concertgoer accepts the challenge to perform on stage alongside none other than Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. The work is the composer’s “Concerto No. 5.” Mozart (Joseph Prowen) is all ego and bombast, but he’s upstaged by the young fellow beside him. That Joseph Bologne, Chevalier de Saint-Georges (Kelvin Harrison Jr.) is black throws him for a loop. That Mozart’s orchestra follows Chevalier’s lead, not his, sees the famed composer storm off, shouting, “*Who the (expletive deleted) is that?*”

Now, whether this actually happened, I cannot say. But it is a dynamite opening, for several reasons. The look and sound of the film, from the costumes, to the rich colors, to the vibrant music, it’s impeccable. But the scene also illustrates the tragic theme of its subject, that Chevalier, because of the color of his skin, is underestimated at every turn.

The movie, which debuted this spring and is streaming on Hulu, celebrates the man credited as the first classical composer of African-American descent to receive wide acclaim. The first half is perfectly fine — an ably told period piece — but it is the movie’s second half, which holds no punches in exploring the issue of race, that contains undeni-

★ ★ ★ 1/2

### “Chevalier”

Running time: 108 minutes. Hulu. Rated PG-13 for thematic content, some strong language, suggestive material and violence

able power.

Like the Broadway musical “Hamilton,” “Chevalier” expertly crams tons of backstory into a short amount of time. That Joseph was a free Creole, torn by his father from his mother to live a more “acceptable” life in France. That he was a virtuoso violinist and fencer. And that he is knighted by Marie Antoinette (Lucy Boynton, “Bohemian Rhapsody”), becomes her friend and takes a crack at being named director of the Paris Opera. With composer Christoph Gluck (Henry Lloyd-Hughes) being the favored choice, Marie Antoinette initiates a challenge between the two, to see which one achieves the better work.

The treat of Harrison Jr.’s performance is how Chevalier carries himself in public: storming into a room with rock star bravado, like he’s untouchable. And in some ways, he has been, despite pockets of racism earlier in life. In flashbacks, we see the ugly

sneers and side glances of classmates, including a few that are swift to violence. But within the arts community, as an adult, he has potential as a critical and public darling.

But the complexity of the screenplay by Stefani Robinson (she's written for TV shows like "Atlanta" and "What We Do in the Shadows") is how it depicts Chevalier as treading the line between two worlds. Where he's not entirely accepted by either. One is white society that can't completely hide its patronizing attitude toward him. The other involves his mother, Nanon (a moving Ronke Adékoluéjo), whose black friends view him as an oddity. A black man trying to act "white."

We experience snippets of Chevalier's opera — the music is gorgeous — but we can see where this is headed. The committee will never embrace him as the Paris Opera director because he's black. The look on Marie Antoinette's face as she breaks the news to him — you can see in Boynton the composure starting to crack — is cruel and heartbreaking. The same applies to Chevalier's friendship, and love affair, with his opera's leading lady, Marie-Josephine de Montalembert (Samara Weaving). It's equally devastating. When Chevalier first pitches his opera to Marie-Josephine, the emotions on Weaving's face evolving with each dramatic element, we believe these two are kindred spirits. Society, however, has other thoughts.

The constant hardships result in a shift in Che-



The movie explores the tricky relationship between Chevalier and Marie Antoinette (Lucy Boynton).

valier. Up until now, he's turned a deaf ear to social unrest that will lead to the French Revolution. By the end, Chevalier is no longer the impartial bystander. The hardness in Harrison Jr.'s face introduces a new man, one committed body and soul to fighting for change.

It is a galvanizing performance by Harrison Jr., contained in a movie bold enough to show triumph and tragedy. Chevalier was wronged on so many levels. Hopefully, this movie adds to growing interest in rediscovering his buried genius.

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

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## Awakening to the Wonders of Watercolor

My dear aunt, Cynie (McKelvy) Mattson, has encouraged me for years to take up watercolor painting. Aunt Cynie is just sharing her love of an art form she mastered long ago, and to sweeten the deal, she sent me a set of brushes and paint from her home in Pennsylvania.

“Get to it, Charley my boy,” she told me.

And I did.

Well, sort of. I did a desultory painting or two, even sending her one or two.

But nothing serious.

Sorry, Aunt Cynie.

Then, my childhood friend, Boyd “Ren” Bartlett, began sending me some of his magnificent watercolor paintings of scenes in Colorado, where he lives, and in Maine, where he has vacationed since childhood. Wow! Ren said I could do the same, the “West Coast of Michigan” a worthy subject.

I wasn’t so sure of myself, so Ren sent me tutorials and told me to get to it.

I dashed off one weak effort and sent it off to him. He encouraged me to stick with it.

But, you know, I didn’t really want to. Yeah, I gave it a whirl, but didn’t really get off the runway. I was no professional like my friend, and certainly not destined to be a creator of consistently creative holiday cards like my Aunt Cynie.

Something was missing.

Hmm.

What could that be?

Then, one fine day, River Valley Senior Center in Harbert, Mich., posted a notice in its monthly newsletter of a forthcoming watercolor class, taught by Madden-certified teachers Roy and Peg Hruska. “Classes,” the notice noted, “are geared to those who have never tried watercolor before, or who like the loose paintings of TV teacher Terry Madden.”

Well, I didn’t know Terry Madden from the late NFL coach John Madden, but I liked the cut of this jib, so I read on. To wit: “Create something beautiful in a relaxed, positive and fun atmosphere.”

The cost was only \$20, and they provided all materials needed for my finished painting.

What’s not to like, right?

So I signed up and, on the day in question, marched into River Valley Senior Center and settled in for a few afternoon hours of, well, I had no idea.

### Life With Charley

Charles McKelvy



I “borrow” Natalie’s office when the watercolor bug bites me.

I was more than a little nervous, despite the reassuring notice in the newsletter. Hey, I have a mixed record with art and music classes. Full disclosure. And, as a writer with decades of copy under my fingers, I have suffered more than a few rejections. I used to save my rejection slips and threatened to make a quilt out of them, until Natalie chucked the lot of them in File 13 and told me to “buck up.”

So I bucked up that afternoon and told myself, “Here we go. You can do this, Charley my boy.”

And I did, because Roy and Peg Hruska introduced themselves as retired teachers who loved nothing better than imparting their love of watercolor painting to others.

Then, off we went on an amazing journey that mixed water, color, brushes and paper into something wonderful.

Step 1 was simple: Use the provided red pen to trace the drawing on the top sheet of tracing paper. That transferred the image of a puppy and kitten to the watercolor paper below the sheet of graphite paper. We used to call it carbon paper, but I got it.

Who doesn’t love a bit of tracing, right? Easy-peasy, right?

Well, it was. And way more fun than I expected



I took this photo (left) of a rose-breasted grosbeak at my mother's feeder in Bridgman in 2013, resolving to paint it one day. And one day, in 2023, I did.

because the Hruskas, especially Roy, kept it light and lively. No worries, no hurries, just the growing pleasure of working wonders with water, paint and brushes. Roy guided us through every step, first demonstrating how to paint the puppy, then sending us back to our stations to paint the puppy with the materials provided.

Then, on to the kitten and then "swimming" the background color around the two critters.

Time flew by. Soon, I was taking home a completed watercolor painting of a puppy and a kitten standing peacefully, side by side. It was, in Natalie's opinion, good enough to frame and hang on a wall by the fireplace in the living room. So I did. As I look at it now, I am grateful to Roy and Peg Hruska for kick-starting my long-idle watercolor engine.

They taught me the first word in watercolor is water, and to use it liberally. Also, that one can use water and a paper towel to "erase" watercolor mistakes. Most importantly, they taught me to relax and enjoy the process.

So I have, and I have surprised myself with my prodigious output.

I was unable to return for the April class at the senior center due to my impending total shoulder replacement surgery April 3, so I prepared for surgery April 1 by tracing my 2007 photograph of Kizhi Island in Russia and painting it. Pleased with the results, I framed it immediately and positioned it on the living room wall so I could gaze fondly at it from my recliner as I recovered from surgery. Some might say this is simply painting by numbers, but I now view visits to the art-supplies store with the same gusto I did as a 9-year-old walking into the neighborhood toy store with a pocketful of dimes and nickels.

I was able to return to the June watercolor class at River Valley Senior Center, thanking the Hruskas for launching me on such a satisfying adventure. I assured them that picking up a paint brush was one of my first acts of physical therapy follow-

ing my shoulder surgery, and I comforted our dear friend Mary Lober with a painting, from a photograph, of her dearly departed Tobey, shortly after the dog's passing-on to the "Rainbow Bridge."

I even painted my physical therapist's two children in action on the soccer field, in gratitude for all her help in getting me going again.

When I shared my excitement with a friend who is a "real" artist, he said I was just learning to "paint by the numbers."

Paint by the numbers?

So be it.

I love it, and I love leafing through my growing portfolio of watercolor paintings.

I am "painting by the numbers" with abandon, and I love it, even if I am using the cheaper paints and paper I can afford. Our water bill hasn't gone up since March, and I have a computer file full of photographs waiting to be traced.

So thanks be to Aunt Cynie, and Ren Bartlett, and Roy and Peg Hruska, for not brushing me off.

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### Celebrating Juneteenth



Michigan City held its Juneteenth Celebration on June 18-19 at the Guy Foreman Bicentennial Amphitheater and Fedder's Alley in Washington Park. *The Beacher's* James Conlin attended on June 19, capturing images from the Freedom March and some of the live music and speakers.

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### Michigan City Public Library

Michigan City Public Library’s circulation/front lobby area is open to the public. Public seating is available, and the computer lab is open. Hours are: 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday-Saturday and closed Sundays..

*The following programs are scheduled:*

- **Movie & a Craft: “Monsters, Inc.” at 10 a.m. Thursday, July 5.** The movie is Rated PG. Children 17 and younger who arrive by 10:15 a.m. have a chance to win a copy of the movie. Light refreshments will be served.
- **Needle Arts Club to Warm Up America Joining Night from 5:30-7 p.m. Thursdays in July.** 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.
- **Creative Tech Activities from 3:30-5 p.m. Tuesdays in July.** 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.
- **Weekly Crafts for Kids & Teens weekly.** Each week offers a different project. Take-home craft kits are available, or create some in the Maker-space. Supplies are limited.
- **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.
- **Dinosaur Scavenger Hunt in July.** Visit Youth Services, find all the characters hiding there and win a prize.
- **Summer Reading Program: All Together Now! through July 22.** For every 10 hours a person reads, reads to someone else or listens to someone read, they have a chance to win a raffle item. Record reading hours and select the desired raffle prize for a chance to win.

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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## The Concours d'Elegance at Copshaholm

The Concours d'Elegance at Copshaholm will showcase Amelia Earhart's 1937 Cord and Charlie Chaplin's 1936 Packard as part of the event from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. EDT Saturday, July 8, at The Studebaker National Museum, 201 Chapin St., South Bend.

The Cord was introduced at the 1935 New York Auto Show. With its louvered, wraparound "coffin nose" grille and low-slung bearing, it also featured innovative engineering through its pioneering front-wheel drive, as well as retractable headlights, raised and lowered with cranks on either side of the streamlined dashboard. Earhart ordered a 1937 Cord 812 Phaeton Convertible for her daily transportation. Her affinity for it may be partly attributed to its aviation-inspired styling. The instrument panel's uninterrupted surface of machine-turned aluminum conjured a cockpit's interior.

Chaplin's 1936 Packard Twelve All Weather Cabriolet is only one of two known to exist. It appeared in 1972's "The Godfather," later in "The Betsy" and also an episode of "Remington Steele." The Packard Motor Car Co. produced only 682 Twelves in 1936.

The Concours at Copshaholm's chief judge is automotive scholar-historian Matt Short. Judging is French Traditional. The awards ceremony is narrated by automotive raconteur Bill Rothermel. A special guest is automotive author-historian Ken Gross.



**Above:** Charlie Chaplin's 1936 Packard.  
**Below:** Amelia Earhart's 1937 Cord.



He is a 32-year Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance chief class judge and a Pebble Beach Concours selection-committee member. He will present a lecture on Art Deco automotive design at 11 a.m. EDT. He also will select and present the 2023 Concours at Copshaholm's "Ken Gross Digs This Car" award.

The event is presented by LaVine Restorations & The JBS Collection. The Pass In Review and Awards ceremony is at 2:30 p.m. EDT.



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



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

- IBEW 531, 2751 N. Indiana 39, LaPorte, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, July 8.
- St. John's United Church of Christ, 101 St. John Road, noon-6 p.m. Tuesday, July 11.
- Indiana Department of Transportation, 315 E. Boyd Blvd., LaPorte, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Wednesday, July 12.

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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### New Sculptures Unveiled

The Michigan City Public Art Committee will unveil three new large sculptures, as well as the long-awaited “Ram” in Washington Park.

Other pieces will move to different locations, re-installed to make room for new sculptures.

A naming contest was held for “Ram,” with a panel of judges choosing the top 10 names. Then, the public can choose the top three. The winning name will be announced Aug. 2.

“Dasein,” which will be repainted, will be installed at the fire administration offices on Michigan Boulevard. “Clairvoyance,” which was damaged, was repaired and will be installed at Horizon Bank, Fifth and Franklin streets. “Peace Tree” will move from that location to mid-block between Eighth and Ninth streets on Franklin Street. “Crystal Effect,” which was at Ninth and Franklin streets, moves to Ohio and Ann streets.

Newly leased pieces are:

- Michael Magnotta, “Eye of the Storm,” Ninth and Franklin streets.
- Tess Little, “Moon Spirit,” U.S. and 35.
- Maureen Gray, “Connected,” Fourth Street near Leeds Public House.

A sculpture tour is available. The process is:

- Download Otocast on the Apple/Google Play store, or scan the QR code located on each sculpture.
- Download SculptFusion inside the Otocast.
- Take the tour and listen to artist insights.

### Potawatomi Audubon Society

Potawatomi Audubon Society will host a booth at the LaPorte County 4-H Fair from 2-4 p.m. Monday-Friday, July 10-14, in the fairgrounds Conservation Building, 2581 W. Indiana 2. Visitors can participate in a craft and learn more about the club.

#### Architecture Buff?

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

June 22, 2023

Event: Golf Guest Day

### Front 9

First Place: Donna Andreotti, Laura Murphy, Janet Andreotti, Roxanne Warble.

Second Place — Julie Doyle, Mary Frances Grote, Rise Wendt, Monica Tynan.

Third Place — Margaret Doyle, Kathy Cooney, Joanie Doyle, Erin Finnegan.

Longest Drive: Monica Tynan.

Proximity to hole: June Salmon.

Suitcase proximity: Monica Tynan.

### Back 9

First Place — Sue Kemper, Tammy Verticchio, Victoria Witt, Lisa Ryan.

Second Place — Beth White, Patti Coogan, Barb Hall, Joyce St. Clair.

Third Place — Carrie Noland, Sharon Hart, Jackie Purcell, Sue Morley.

Long Drive: Cheryl Pernoi.

Proximity to hole: Sue Wittenmeier.

Suitcase Proximity: Katie Kessler.

## 18-Hole League

June 27, 2023

Event: Match Play — Solheim Cup  
Winner: Blue Team

Team: Barb Beardslee, Linda Behringer, Paulette Harnach, Peg King, Alison Kolb, Jeannie Muldowney, Kathy Peters, Nancy Reinert, Nancy Thill, Nancy Trainor, Roxanne Warble, Rise Wendt, Linda Wilson, Susie Yemc, Barb Hall (team captain).

## Michigan City Municipal Golf Course



North Course, "Early Birdies,"

June 26, 2023

Event: Most 1 Putts

### A Flight

Low Gross: Linda Hirsch.

Low Net: Linda Hirsch.

Low Putts: Jane Shuger.

Event: Sandy Baldwin, Pat Czizek.

### B Flight

Low Gross: Linda Wabshall.

Low Net: Linda Wabshall.

Low Putts: Mary Lou Marshall.

Event: Jane Spang.

### C Flight

Low Gross: Kathy Nelson.

Low Net: Kathy Nelson.

Low Putts: DNA.

Event: Kathy Nelson.

### D Flight

Low Gross: Jan Smith.

Low Net: Jan Smith.

Low Putts: Jan Smith.

Event: Kathy Grott, Cindee Schroll, Jan Smith, Linda Sperling.

Chip-Ins: Pat Czizek, Hole #7; Mary Lou Marshall, Hole #3.

Birdies: Sandy Baldwin, Hole #6; Pat Czizek, Hole #7; Barb Rumbuc, Hole #6.

50/50: Linda Hirsch.

South Course, "Par-Tee  
Women's Golf League,"  
Fewest Putts on Par 3s  
June 21, 2023

### A Flight

Low Gross: Sharon Weber.

Low Net: Sharon Weber.

Low Putts: Sharon Weber.

Event: Linda Hirsch.

### B Flight

Low Gross: Carol Tylish.

Low Net: Carol Tylish.

Low Putts: Phyllis Roach.

Event: A six-way tie.

### C Flight

Low Gross: Mary Lou Marshall.

Low Net: Mary Lou Marshall.

Low Putts: Pat Collado, Daphne Craft.

Event: Daphne Craft.

### D Flight

Low Gross: Bev Szybala.

Low Net: Bev Szybala.

Low Putts: Nancy Ash.

Event: Nancy Ash, Bev Szybala.

Pars: Barb Rumbuc, Phyllis Roach, Daphne Craft.

Chip-Ins: Phyllis Roach (2), Sheila Brackin, Carolyn Cooney, Sharon Weber.



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## LaPorte County Public Library

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

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

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



Patrons are no longer charged daily overdue fines. Customers only will be charged for items they damage, lose or never return.



*The following programs are planned:*

- **Coolspring Storytime from 1:30-2 p.m. Thursday, July 6, at the Coolspring Branch.** Each session, which includes stories and songs, is part of a themed six-week program, with a four-week break between sessions.
- **Stories & More from 10-10:30 a.m. Friday, July 7, at the main library.** Children ages 3-5 with their caregivers experience stories, songs, crafts and activities.
- **Time with Dr. Strange (ages 12-18) from 6-7 p.m. Friday, July 7, at the Coolspring Branch.** Travel through time lines of Marvel's Dr. Strange with comics guru Eric Williams from the Hall of Heroes Superhero Museum.
- **Getting to Know Your Computer (adults 19+) from 5:30-7 p.m. Monday, July 10, in the main library Meeting Room A.** Take a laptop because only a limited number are available.
- **Family Storytime and Yoga in the Garden from 6-7 p.m. Monday, July 10, at the main library.** Meet in the Reading Wi-Fi Garden.
- **Page Turners Book Club from noon-1 p.m. Tuesday, July 11, in the main library Meeting Room B.** Refreshments will not be served, but guests can take coffee or tea.
- **Fire Safety with the Fire Department from 10-11 a.m. Wednesday, July 12, in the Main Library Reading Wi-Fi Garden.** LaPorte firefighters will explain how to stay safe during a fire, and what it takes to be a firefighter. Visitors also get to explore a fire truck.

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

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### 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.

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### In the Area

**July 5-15** — “The Pin-Up Girls,” Canterbury Theatre, 807 Franklin St. Shows: 2 p.m. Wed., 7 p.m. Thur.-Sat. Tickets: \$20/regular admission, \$18/seniors, half-price discounts/students & military personnel. Reservations: (219) 874-4269, info@canterburytheatre.org

**July 6** — Movie & a Craft: “Monsters, Inc.,” 10 a.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

**July 6** — Coolspring Storytime, 1:30-2 p.m., Coolspring Library, 6925 W. County Road 400 North. Info: www.laportelibrary.org

**July 6** — Arts in the Park, LaPorte’s Fox Park. Pre-concert: 6-6:45 p.m., main band: 7-8:30 p.m. *July 6* — The Rest. *Wednesdays*: LaPorte City Band, 7 p.m.

**July 7** — First Friday Open Studios, 5-8 p.m., St. Mary’s Arts, 326 W. 10th St.

**July 7** — Time with Dr. Strange (ages 12-18), 6-7 p.m., Coolspring Library, 6925 W. County Road 400 North. Info: www.laportelibrary.org

**July 10** — Family Storytime and Yoga in the Garden, 6-7 p.m., LaPorte County Public Library, 904 Indiana Ave. Info: www.laportelibrary.org

**July 11** — Page Turners Book Club, noon-1 p.m., LaPorte County Public Library, 904 Indiana Ave. Info: www.laportelibrary.org

**July 12** — Fire Safety with the Fire Department, 10-11 a.m., LaPorte County Public Library, 904 Indiana Ave. Info: www.laportelibrary.org

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

**Through July 7** — Old Lighthouse Museum’s 50th season pop-up exhibit, LaPorte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave. Info: (219) 324-6767

**Through July 16** — “tick, tick...BOOM!,” Dunes Summer Theatre, 288 Shady Oak Drive, Michiana Shores. Times: 7 p.m. Fri.-Sat., 2 p.m. Sun. Admission: \$30; students/seniors, \$27; groups of four or more, \$25. Reservations: tinyurl.com/yckm52x8

**Through July 30** — Exhibits (“If You Build It, They Will Come: Artistic Depictions of Beverly Shores Architecture,” “Architecture in Beverly Shores, Past and Present”), The Beverly Shores Depot Museum & Art Gallery, 525 S. Broadway. Opening reception:

5-7 p.m. July 14. Info: www.bsdepot.org

**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.

**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** — 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.

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

**Thursdays in July** — 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.

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

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

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

### In the Region

**July 7** — Miles Nielsen & The Rusted Hearts, 8 p.m. EDT, The Acorn, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: \$30 + \$5 convenience fee, \$55 + \$5 convenience fee (reserved). Reservations: www.acornlive.org

**July 8** — The Concours d’Elegance at Copshaholm, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. EDT, The Studebaker National Museum, 201 Chapin St., South Bend. Info: www.concoursatcopshaholm.org

**July 8** — Acorn Anywhere at Fernwood: Second Hand News, 7 p.m. EDT, Fernwood Botanical Garden, 13988 Range Line Road, Niles, Mich. Tickets: \$35 + \$5.50 convenience fee, \$60 + \$5.50 convenience fee (reserved). Reservations: www.acornlive.org

**July 8** — Acoustic duo Priscilla Sabourin-Drew Stolz, 7 p.m. EDT, Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Mich. Tickets: \$15/cabaret seating, \$12/general admission, \$15/door. Reservations: www.Ticketstripe.com/drewandpriscilla

**July 8-Aug. 30** — Emily Casella’s “In Emotion to Entrain,” noon-2 p.m., Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St. Info: www.chestertonart.org, (219)

926-4711.

**July 8-9** — Krasl Art Fair on the Bluff, Lake Bluff Park, St. Joseph, Mich. Times (Eastern): 10 a.m.-6 p.m. July 8/10 a.m.-5 p.m. July 9. General admission: \$5, free/12 & younger. Tickets: [www.krasl.org/art-fair/tickets](http://www.krasl.org/art-fair/tickets). Preview party: 5-10 p.m. EDT July 7, Krasl Art Center, 707 Lake Blvd., St. Joseph. Block Party admission: \$5, free/children 12 & younger. Registration: [tinyurl.com/4v4zk9kn](http://tinyurl.com/4v4zk9kn)

**July 9** — Demonstration, oil painter Scott Kenyon, noon-3 p.m. EDT, The Courtyard Gallery, 813 E. Buffalo St., New Buffalo, Mich. Info: (800) 291-9287, [galleries@courtyardfineart.com](mailto:galleries@courtyardfineart.com)

**July 9** — Sneak Prevue of “The Voice That Rocked America: The Dick Biondi Story,” 1 p.m. EDT, The Acorn, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: \$25 + \$4.50 convenience fee, \$50 + \$4.50 convenience fee (reserved). Reservations: [www.acornlive.org](http://www.acornlive.org)

**July 9** — Midwest Made: Resurrection Blues Band, 7 p.m. EDT, The Acorn, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: \$15 + \$3.50 convenience fee, \$40 + \$3.50 convenience fee (reserved). Reservations: [www.acornlive.org](http://www.acornlive.org)

**July 10** — Pirate Party (through New Buffalo Township Library), 3-4 p.m. EDT, New Buffalo Township Park, 17425 Red Arrow Highway. Info: (269) 469-2933.

**July 10** — Harbor Country Film Group, “Tokyo Story,” 6:30 p.m. EDT, New Buffalo Township Library, 33 N. Thompson St. Info: (269) 469-2933.

**July 11** — Harbor Country Singers, “Happy Songs of Spring & Summer,” 6:30 p.m. EDT, Spring Creek Stage at Arts and Education Center, 14 Maple St., Three Oaks, Mich. Free. Info: <https://schoolofamericanmusic.com/>

**Through July 6** — Works by Kuhn Hong, The Village Gallery at Pines Village Retirement Communities, 3303 Pines Village Circle, Valparaiso.

**Through July 15** — “Trailblazers: Legacies of Excellence,” 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.

**Through July 16** — “America the Beautiful: The Photographs of Clyde Butcher,” “Ansel Adams: Selected Photographs from the Portfolios,” Midwest Museum of American Art, 429 S. Main St., Elkhart. Hours (Eastern): 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tue.-Fri., 1-4 p.m. Sat.-Sun. Admission: \$10/adults, \$6/8-12, \$8/13-18, \$8/college students with ID. Info: (574) 293-6660.

**Through July 31** — “Budgie’s Garden” Art Show, Front Street Crossing, 227 S. Front St., Dowagiac, Mich. Featured artist: Lisa Quinlan-Heibutzki (past collaborator with *Beacher* columnist Charley McKelvy).

**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 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)

**Saturdays in Chesterton** — European Market, 8 a.m.-2 p.m., Broadway & Third Street (next to Thomas Centennial Park). Info: <https://tinyurl.com/yc8z2utd>

**Vickers Theatre** — *Now Showing*: “Mission: Impossible — Dead Reckoning Part One.” Time: 7 p.m. July 12. All times Eastern. Theater address: 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. Info: [www.vickers-theatre.com](http://www.vickers-theatre.com), (269) 756-3522.

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**Zero Days** by Ruth Ware (hardcover, \$29.99 retail in bookstores and online; also available as an eBook and an audiobook. 354 pages.)

*“And I had no other options now - but to keep going...”*

*And after that? But I couldn't think that far ahead. Solve the next problem. And then the next one after that.*

*Keep putting one foot in front of the other. Until you can't walk any further.”*

Jack (Jacintha) and Gabe love each other, and they love the job they get to do together. They run a small “penetration testing firm” in London. Translation: They test and assess security methods for well-heeled clients...by breaking in after hours to see how far they can get before security discovers them. Gabe works from home by computer, Jack does the physical side of the business — locks, cameras, fire detection — obviously taking the most risks.

One night — Jack on site, Gabe at home monitoring on his computer — something goes wrong. Jack is picked up by a policeman, charged with breaking and entering. Phone calls to the man who can clear them go unanswered.

Things finally appear sorted out at the police station, so Jack heads home, very tired, making several wrong turns on the way, and stumbling into the house to a horrific site...

Gabe is seated at his computer, his throat slit. There is no obvious sign of entry, and Jack goes into shock. After the police are finally called, Jack is summoned back to the police station for “a few more questions.”

She is interrogated by two police officers. A man and a woman — good cop, bad cop? They keep questioning her about the time line of the night's activities. Why did it take so long to get home? Why didn't she call the police the minute she found Gabe? Why was the murder weapon her own kitchen knife? How could the intruder have snuck up on Gabe since there was no sign of a struggle? All questions Jack cannot answer.

Now what? Knowing she is now suspect No. 1, that's what.

Jack flees the police station. She makes her escape using a Sharpie pen to...but wait, that's just too good to give away!

What else can she do? She can't prove her innocence or find out who really killed Gabe from a prison cell. Sound familiar? Of course, it's the old

## Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter



“Fugitive” plot: running for your life trying to solve a murder, knowing you're innocent. Of course, Ware has a few twists and turns to make the story her own. Her cunning writing had me glued to the pages, engaged enough to try coming up with solutions for Jack as I read.

Jack turns to her sister, Hel, and Gabe's best friend, Cole, for help. They're both shocked at this turn of events, but know that Jack is no murderer, especially of the man she adores. Yeah, tell that to the police — especially after Jack sees an email from a life insurance company saying the 1 million pound policy on Gabe is now in effect.

Well, Jack didn't see that coming. It certainly doesn't help that the policy points to a strong motive for murder, right? There's the one place to start— Jack must break into the insurance company to find out who set up and paid for the life insurance. It's her only lead so far...

Excitement abounds as Jack tries to stay one step ahead of the law. Hasn't she noticed they keep showing up every place she does? Almost as if they have a tracking device on her...but she's been on the run, so how do

they do it? Another clue?

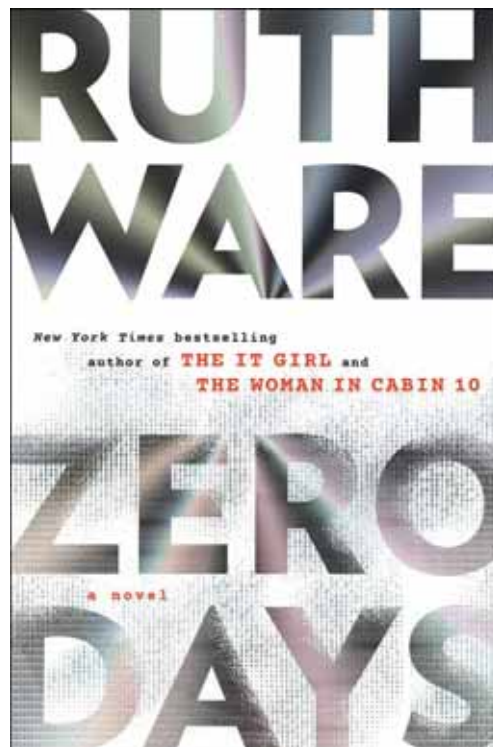
In the meantime, Jack has other problems, like a vicious wound on her side from climbing over a stone wall with sharp points not seen in the dark. Then there's a trip to the dark web, a bitcoin deal, more break-ins, all while she's slowly succumbing to her injuries and possible blood poisoning.

Told entirely in Jack's voice, you can't help but be amazed by her ability to think on her feet and keep going when every bone in her body tells her to give up and let the police take her. Not on your life. Not this woman.

*The final word:* Somewhat different from other Ware books, but in a good way. Salty language is rare, and the action scenes had me holding my breath for Jack's attempt to scale a wall or pick a lock with the police in hot pursuit.

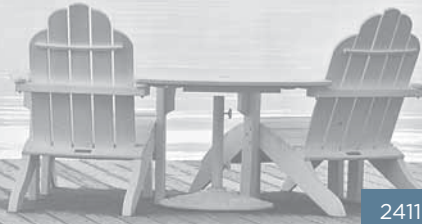
Jack will finally discover along the way that **who** killed Gabe is overshadowed by the **why**.

Till next time, happy reading!



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