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Sculpting a Winner

by Kim Nowatzke



Semi-Pro sculptor Lisa Fewless of Ovid, Mich., last year created "Gnome Home." Photo by Pete Follmer.

Much more than "castles in the sand," the Singing Sands Sand Sculpting Festival is a win-win for the city, one whose well-received 2022 debut was hailed as an all-around positive addition to the area.

This year's expanded effort on Friday-Sunday, June 9-11, in Washington Park expects to be even better with many repeat sculptors, new artists and other additions.

"Having amazing sand sculptors from nine states and countries simply shows the success of last year's festival," says Bill Knight of The Sand Lovers LLC, the professional sand-sculptures and event-management company Michigan City partners with to make it happen.

Terry Greetham, Michigan City director of special events, wanted to bring the festival here when he first accepted his position in May 2021. With "one of

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Sculpting a Winner

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the most beautiful beaches in the world,” he wondered why such an event hadn’t happened before. While conducting research, The Sand Lovers LLC kept coming up, so Greetham decided it was the best choice to make his vision a reality. He actually mailed Michigan City beach sand to Bill and Marianne Knight of The Sand Lovers.

“Our sand is very different than what we usually work with,” Greetham explained. “It’s a coarser sand that doesn’t hold water well.”

This presents a unique challenge to sculptors, meaning their creations need to be wide and flat, not tall.



Michigan City Special Events Director Terry Greetham and event volunteers are photographed atop the event’s main partner sculpture. Photo by Pete Follmer.

Last year’s Singing Sands festival turned out better than Greetham could have hoped.

“I was overwhelmed by the response – the positivity from both the community and the participants,” he said. “On the Sunday of last year’s event, we were talking about next year’s event.”

The 2023 festival will feature six sculptors in the Master’s category and nine in the Semi-Professional categories.

Christy Atkinson of Franklin, Texas, will return to defend her crown as Master’s Champion. In 2022, she took home titles of Master’s First Place, People’s Choice and Sculptor’s Choice for her creation, “I Can’t Believe I Ate The Whole Thing.”

“Michigan City is a delightful town with delightful people, and I am thrilled to be returning for the Singing Sands Sand Sculpting Festival,” she said. “I am looking forward to



Master Sculptor Christy Atkinson of Franklin, Texas, won multiple awards last year, including Sculptor’s Choice, People’s Choice and First Place, with her sculpture “I Can’t Believe I Ate the Whole Thing!” Photo by Pete Follmer.

making art on such a beautiful beach.”

Returning artists Laurie Tournoux of Navarre, Ohio, and Bruce Peck of St. Louis will join Atkinson in the Master’s category. Rounding out the group are newcomers Bryan Obermeyer of Grand Rapids, Mich., Bert Adams of Vancouver, Wash., and the first international artist to compete in the festival: Isabelle Gasse of Quebec City, Canada.



Thousands of people visited last year’s festival. Photo by Phil Eichas.

The Semi-Pro category will have returning sculptors Darrell O’Connor of Dewy Beach, Del., Scott Triplett of Grand Rapids, Janet Moore Schrader of Lakeside, Mich., Mark Wilson of Astatula, Fla., Dottie Willison of Melvin, Mich., and Marci Cowles of Louisville, Ohio. Testing their ability on Michigan City’s beach for the first time in the Semi-Pro category are Shannon Fishback of Acworth, Ga., Lane Lee of Toledo and Catherine Morris of Casper, Wyo.

New to the event this year is the Community Challenge, an amateur sand-sculpting competition on the Saturday of the festival. Each six-person team selects a LaPorte County charity/non-profit to represent and pays a \$2,000 fee to participate. The created sculpture must contain the charity name/logo. The sculptures are judged by The Sand Lovers LLC and professional sand sculptors. Half of the money raised in the Community Challenge goes back to the local charities, with all charities represented receiving a donation. The higher the team places, the greater the donation to that charity/non-profit. In addition to other perks, the teams receive hands-on training by Sand Lovers LLC and professional sand sculptors.

“We wanted to make sure this event gives back to the community, as well as entertaining the community,” said Greetham, who expects the number of participants in the Community Challenge to build in future years.

This year’s Community Challenge participants are: NIPSCO, LaPorte County Convention & Visitors Bureau, Comcast Xfinity, Barker Mansion and Purdue University-Northwest.

Greetham plans to target the second weekend of

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Continued from Page 3

June each year for the festival. The Michigan City event is one of three to comprise the Great Lakes Sand Sculpting Championships. The other two are the Wisconsin Sand Sculpting Festival in Manitowoc, Wis., on July 14-16 and The Blue Water Sand Fest in Port Huron, Mich., on Aug. 4-6.

In addition to Master, Semi-Pro and Amateur contests and shows, the event will contain food and craft vendors, live music and a beach bar, and a kids zone. New this year are T-shirts for sale by Repro-



Views of some of the preparation work involved in the event.

graphic Arts, 2824 E. Michigan Blvd. The festival opens at 10 a.m. each day, with activities and live entertainment throughout the day. Tickets are only available at the gate for \$5 for Michigan City residents and \$10 for non-residents. This is in addition to the usual Washington Park parking fee for those without a sticker. Children 6 and younger are free with a paying adult.

□

Visit tinyurl.com/y3ypfn3w for event information, or visit the Facebook page, Michigan City Special Events, for more details. Visit www.thesandlovers.com to learn more about The Sand Lovers LLC and professional sand-sculpting events.



New South Shore Poster

This year's Singing Sands Sand Sculpting Festival will feature a South Shore poster created specifically for the event by local artist Neil Kienitz.

"I've always loved the South Shore poster line and thought they were a great representation of our area," Terry Greetham, Michigan City director of special events, said. "People are always looking for souvenirs. It was a perfect fit. Neil is a true treasure of Michigan City. We can use it (the poster) for future events."

Kienitz, who attended last year's festival, found it to be a "phenomenal event" and is excited to be a part of it this year.

"I'm more excited about this poster than maybe some other posters because this is a family event," he said. "I wanted this to be a happy poster of a bright sunny day depicting the excitement of this kind of event. Terry is a very visionary guy who has big plans for future events."

Kienitz has earned more than 100 national and regional awards through art fairs, juried exhibi-



Neil Kienitz is thrilled to have designed the new poster for the Singing Sands Sand Sculpting Festival.

tions, galleries and one-man/group shows. His work can be seen at Michigan City Animal Hospital, 2525 E. Michigan Blvd., where he created a 10-foot high, 13 ½-foot-wide mural of whimsical pets, along with six smaller murals that feature local landmarks such as Barker Mansion and Friendship Botanic Gardens.

Kienitz has created more than 20 South Shore posters, beginning in the mid-1990s as a mix of commercial and fine art to highlight one of the last electric interurban railroads in the United States. He is one of eight artists from throughout the region involved in the campaign.

The Singing Sands Sand Sculpting poster will be unveiled Friday night at a VIP event for sponsors and other dignitaries, Greetham said. Then, beginning Saturday, the poster can be purchased for \$25 in the festival's arts, craft and merchandise area. Kienitz will sign copies of the poster Saturday from 11 a.m.-noon, 1-2 p.m., 3-4 p.m., 5-6 p.m. and 7-8 p.m., and Sunday from 11

a.m.-noon, 1-2 p.m. and 5-7 p.m.

Kienitz's work will be on display in an adjoining booth. Joining him with artwork is Bob Cox, who is a friend and longtime art student of Kienitz's.

More About Terry Greetham

As the city's director of special events, Terry Greetham is vital to planning and implementing special events for the community.

In addition to the Singing Sands Sand Sculpting Festival, the current lineup includes the Michigan City St. Patrick's Day Parade, Michigan City Easter Egg Hunt, Michigan City Kiddie Parade, Michigan City Patriotic Parade, Michigan City Fireworks Spectacular, Michigan City Oktoberfest and Michigan City Festival of Lights Celebration. Greetham also assists LaPorte County Convention & Visitors Bureau with the Michigan City AquaX Grand Prix and the XInsurance Great Lakes Grand Prix.

Along with researching potential event opportunities, Greetham explores previous events to see if a revival is possible. That included bringing back Michigan City Oktoberfest, and Greetham is proud that it returned last year. The event saw 41 bands in four days; this year, more than 40 bands already are booked for the Sept. 1-4 event.

"When I first began in this position," he said, "the first question everyone had for me was, 'When are you bringing back Oktoberfest?'"

Greetham also assists third-party groups in planning and executing events. That is the case with the Singing Sands Sand Sculpting Festival, as the city partnered with The Sand Lovers LLC based in Pine Island Center, Fla.

New and exciting events are what excite Greetham.

"I'm very happy with the direction we are going with the events in Michigan City," he said.

He also stressed the Michigan City Patriotic Parade as "getting back to the level it was in the past – what we remember back in the day – to full strength."

Greetham looks forward to "continuing to grow the events we have, as well as adding new and exciting events and turning our calendar into a 12-month calendar instead of events only in the summer."

After receiving a bachelor's degree in public relations and advertising from Ball State University, Greetham spent 25 years in professional motorsports in positions such as marketing, public relations, hospitality operations, sponsorships, event operations and business management. Although he worked for companies in Indianapolis and Joliet, Ill., Michigan City, where he was raised, "is always where I've considered my home."



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After a Hectic Start, “Across the Spider-Verse” Soars to Cliffhanger Finale

by Andrew Tallackson

When the trailer for “Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse” (2018) dropped, my reaction was, Marvel’s getting greedy. Shifting to animation to squeeze one more buck out of its web-slinging hero.

Boy, was I wrong. The Oscar-winning movie was wildly inventive, populated with characters of color no longer relegated to second fiddle.

Now, we arrive at “Across the Spider-Verse,” the first in a two-part sequel. After a hectic start, it reminds us why this world stands apart from the rest.

The concept is that characters from multiple universes converge for one adventure. The hero is not Peter Parker, although he’s present, but Miles Morales (voiced by Shameik Moore), who embarks on the same journey of discovery with his own powers.

“Across the Spider-Verse” begins with a bit of housekeeping, an extended prologue that follows Gwen Stacy (voiced by Hailee Steinfeld). It is wall-to-wall action spun in such a chaotic frenzy, my fear was that the sequel had lost its way.

Fortunately, Miles enters the equation, and he, along with his parents, Jefferson Davis (voiced by Bryan Tyree Henry) and Rio Morales (voiced by Luna Lauren Vélez), are still a likable family. They are the beating heart of this tale, and not just because they are a blend of African-American and Puerto Rican cultures. It is because, as parents of an only child, their love, and fear, for their son’s safety is potent: moving in ways most animated feature films are not.

And it is Miles’ family that triggers a terrifying



★ ★ ★ 1/2

“Spider-Man:
Across the Spider-Verse”

Running time: 140 minutes. In theaters. Rated PG for sequences of animated action violence, some language and thematic elements

possibility that, to balance friction within the multiverse, one of his parents must pay the price. Any time a hero is faced with a personal journey, it ups the stakes. Forces you, as the viewer, to make a personal investment in the outcome.

Like the previous film, “Across the Spider-Verse” is clever in exploring how multiple universes feed off each other. Visually, this may be Marvel’s riskiest venture. The movie paints Miles against backdrops that explore every artistic medium in the book. Not just traditional computer animation, but also anime, watercolors, Pop Art, newspapers, comic books, even charcoal drawings. It’s stunning. Distracting at times, but stunning.

“Across the Spider-Verse” does not so much as end, but arrive at a cliffhanger. A doorway to the next chapter that arrives in March 2024. The approach embraces the serial-style storytelling of old, and it works. We are fully on board for more.



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The Cast is Fearless in Hilarious “Boeing Boeing”

by Andrew Tallackson

The women rule in “Boeing Boeing.”

That’s not a slight against the guys in this Dunes Summer Theatre production, the first of the 2023 season. They hold their own. It’s just that the ladies are so fearsomely funny, they elevate this 1960 French farce into a laugh-out-loud experience.

Director Jay Españo cast this one right. He’s assembled actresses who don’t just chew the scenery. They consume it whole. These performers make their male costars break out in sweats. Literally.

Marc Camoletti’s script has all the requisites of a door-slamming farce... and with technically eight doors in Michael Lasswell’s extravagant set, there’s plenty of slamming.

Bernard (Dakotah Brown, channeling his inner Jack Black) has a flat in Paris near the airport, which is convenient because he’s engaged to three flight attendants. He juggles them like an office manager arranging work schedules. It’s all about timetables, about knowing precisely when each lover is in town or leaving town...and making sure no one knows the other exists.

Up until now, Bernard’s scheme has worked, thanks in large part to his trusty maid, Bertha (Amy Orlowe, an exercise in sour deadpan). But with the arrival of school chum Robert (Khyel Roberson), and the sudden shift in flight schedules, all hell breaks loose.

The actresses playing the flight attendants are comedy gold. Let’s start with Lili Galluzzo as Gloria. She plays my favorite kind of American archetype: the dame who believes herself to be classy, but is a classic case of brash American tackiness. Galluzzo has a moment, early in the play, when Gloria demands to be heard. Her voice skyrockets in intensity within

seconds, then resumes its serene tone. It’s hilarious. Then comes Hannah Rhode as Gabriella, the Italian flight attendant with the husky voice who, in the second act, can storm into a room like she’s marching into battle. Lastly, we have Kylie Shay’s German flight attendant, Gretchen. She’s an intimidating presence who plows across furniture and picks



Robert (Khyel Roberson) loses his cool around Gretchen (Kylie Shay) in a scene from “Boeing Boeing.” Photo by Andrew Tallackson

up Bertha like she’s hugging a rag doll.

Together, these actresses accelerate the laughs. And watching Roberson, as Robert, try to maintain his sanity, his voice careening through pitch levels in near hysteria, is a treat. Witnessing Brown, as Bernard, grow increasingly frazzled conveys how skilled he is at physical comedy.

Of course, you have to ask, all this shouting going on...and none of the three women hear any of it from their individual rooms? They only arrive when timed specifically for one door to slam shut and another to open. You can feel the wheels grinding here.

Nonetheless, Españo, as director, knows how to pace the laughs, to keep them coming. And the cast hurls itself into the material with such fearlessness, they sell it like pros. All of them...outstanding.

(See Page 44 for show times, dates and ticket prices.)

Contact Andrew Tallackson at atallackson@gmail.com

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Beach Garden Club Celebrating 90th Anniversary

To celebrate its 90th anniversary, Beach Garden Club members held a Founders Day Luncheon on May 17 at Long Beach Country Club.

Members and guests viewed items from Garden Club archives displayed by Club Historian Deanna Caulfield. New yearbooks were distributed. At noon, members and guests gathered around tables adorned with vases containing fresh-cut flowers.

Mary Beth Ribedeau-Warden honored Dolly Millick for her 50 years of membership in the club, and for her time spent as club president. She received a bouquet of flowers and applause.

Past presidents Rima Binder, Beverly Johnson and Barb Macudzinski recited an "anniversary" poem written by Edna Ruth ("Sam") Grawcock.

Vice President Carrie Noland introduced the guest speaker, Paul Labovitz, Indiana Dunes National Park superintendent.

Following the program, members sang "Happy 90th Birthday," then enjoyed cake.

Leslie Meyer and Ribedeau-Warden were the hostesses. The next meeting is Thursday, June 23, at Kate Flores' home.



Mary Beth Ribedeau-Warden (left) is photographed with Dolly Millick, who was honored for her 50 years of membership in the club, and for her time spent as club president.



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Krasl Art Center Exhibit Celebrates Sculptor/Printmaker

“The Art of Elizabeth Catlett from the Collection of Samella Lewis,” which features work by the African-American sculptor and printmaker, runs June 10-Sept. 4 at Krasl Art Center, 707 Lake Blvd., St. Joseph, Mich.

Catlett is known for her depictions of the black experience in the 1960s-1970s. The exhibit presents a selection from the collection of Lewis, her student, a fellow artist, educator and lifelong friend. Sculpture, art prints and protest banners tell the story of her life: her early art education in the U.S., her move to Mexico and membership in *Taller Gráfica Popular*, her continual involvement with the Civil Rights movements in both countries, and the flow of influence between her and her peers.

Works by Lewis, as well as Catlett’s husband, Francisco Mora, also will be on view.

A free exhibit preview is from 6-8 p.m. EDT Friday, June 9. Visitors can see prints and sculptures by Catlett, the 2023 Pride Installation on the exterior of the art center and Joy Bradley’s interactive artwork in the East Garden. A cash bar, lite bites



Elizabeth Catlett’s lithograph “Dancing” (1990).

and live music are planned.

Another program, a Coffee with the Curator gallery tour, is from noon-1 p.m. EDT Thursday, June 15. Visit www.krasl.org or contact KAC at info@krasl.org or (269) 983-0271 for more details.

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Necktie 5K Walk & Run



Participants are encouraged to wear neckties in recognition of fathers.

Father’s Day wouldn’t be complete without the 16th annual Necktie 5K Walk & Run from 8-9 a.m. Saturday, June 17, in Beverly Shores.

Open to ages 4 and older, participants are encouraged to wear neckties in recognition of fathers. Prizes are awarded for the most-creative neckties, as well as the first father/son and father/daughter teams to finish together.

Participants should meet at Reborra Plaza, 1 E. Lakefront Drive (Lakefront Drive and Broadway at Lake Michigan). Parking is available at St. Ann of the Dunes, 433 Golf Wood Road, Beverly Shores.

The race fee is \$30. Registration is limited to 500 runners/walkers. Groups of four or more receive a \$5 discount per entry when registering together through the website.

Before the race is the free Kid’s Sprint for ages 8 and older at 7:40 a.m. near the registration tables. Registration is not required. Prizes are awarded. After the race is live entertainment and refreshments (Gatorade, Dunesmart Donuts and homemade cookies).

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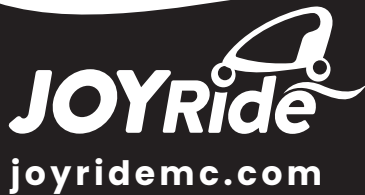
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Roosevelt Pipe Organ Series

The 22nd season of the Roosevelt Pipe Organ Series kicks off at 12:15 p.m. Wednesday, June 7, at Christ Church, 531 Washington St.

The June 7 performer is Stephen Schnurr, the director of music at St. Paul Catholic Church, Valparaiso, since 1990. He has led the church's adult and young people's choirs on tours of Italy, Spain, Portugal, Ireland, Northern Ireland, Poland, the Czech Republic, Germany and Austria, with performances in Rome, Dublin, Madrid, Barcelona, Warsaw, Krakow, Prague, Leipzig, Salzburg and Vienna. That included performances for Pope Francis. Since 2017, he has served as editor of *The Diapason*. In addition, he is adjunct instructor of organ at Valparaiso University. As a recitalist, he has played programs throughout the United States, as well as in Germany, England, Northern Ireland and Poland.



The next program on June 14 is by Rhonda Sider Edgington, who spent seven years studying, working and performing in Bremen, Germany (originally with a Fulbright scholarship). That fueled her passion for 17th century German repertoire and organs. Since returning to the U.S., her focus expanded to include newer works, along with highlighting women composers and collaborating with other musicians.



Edgington has played recitals at venues such as St. Paul's Cathedral in Pittsburgh, West Point Cadet Chapel and Arizona State University. She has performed at numerous national and regional conventions of the American Guild of Organists and Organ Historical Society, and has been heard on the radio program "Pipedreams." She is the organist and music director at Hope Church, and teaches organ at Calvin University.

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

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New LCSO Executive Director

The LaPorte County Symphony Orchestra board of directors has appointed Emily Yiannias as its next executive director.

Yiannias starts June 22, succeeding Tim King, who will retire July 16 after five years in the position.

A Valparaiso resident, Yiannias is a former adjunct music faculty member of Valparaiso University and The University of Notre Dame. She is now affiliated with Opportunity Enterprises. She earned her Bachelor of Music from DePauw University and her Master of Music from Northwestern University Bienen School of Music. She's also had a varied career as a vocal soloist, performing with many ensembles in the Northwest Indiana and Chicago regions.



Yiannias

"I look forward to working with Tim King, Dr. Carolyn Watson, LCSO staff, board and orchestra in the coming weeks to continue presenting incredible concert experiences to our region, stellar music education initiatives that will captivate young audiences, and cultivating a deep appreciation of music and the arts," she said in a press release.

Yiannias will work with King for four weeks to ensure a smooth transition.

"I am happy to hand over the administrative duties of the LCSO to Emily," King said in a press release. "She possesses the combination of musical knowledge, fundraising experience, as well as the temperament to lead the LCSO into the next era."

LCSO will embark on its 51st season this fall with Watson, her third season as music director.

New Buffalo Township Library

- **Harbor Country Film Group with Eve Moran at 6:30 p.m. Monday, June 12.** The screening is "Vertigo."
- **Guitar Lessons for Beginners from 4:30-5:15 p.m. Thursday, June 15-July 20.** The free classes are limited to 10 attendees and open to ages 8-11. Children must commit to the full six-week session. Participants must take an acoustic guitar and music stand. Email nbtlevnts@gmail.com if interested.

Weekly programs:

- Craft Time from 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Wednesday while supplies last.
- Read to a Dog Sessions for all ages from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Tuesday and 4-4:45 p.m. Wednesday.
- Story Time at 5:30 p.m. Thursday.
- Lego Club from 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Saturday.

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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(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.

Any questions email
longbeachsummercamp@gmail.com.

Harbor Country Film Group



James Stewart and Kim Novak star in "Vertigo."

Harbor Country Film Group will screen Alfred Hitchcock's "Vertigo" at 6:30 p.m. EDT Monday, June 12, at New Buffalo Township Library, 33 N. Thompson St.

The 1958 film is hailed not only as one of Hitchcock's greatest, but one of the all-time movie greats. The story follows a retired police detective (Jimmy Stewart) who becomes obsessed with a beautiful woman (Kim Novak) he has been hired to trail.

A 2022 *Sight & Sound* poll saw critics name it the second-greatest film of all time.

The screening is free, with free popcorn served.

Back to the Bricks Car Show

The free car show "Back to the Bricks Promo Tour" is from 4-7 p.m. EDT Monday, June 12, in downtown South Bend.

The event is a united effort involving Downtown South Bend, Visit South Bend and The Studebaker National Museum. South Bend is one of four host cities for the tour promoting the "Back to the Bricks" car show Aug. 14-19 in Flint, Mich. It will feature more than 250 "Back to the Bricks" cars, with an additional 50 from local clubs.

Drivers start parking cars at 3 p.m. EDT on Michigan Street from Colfax to Western avenues, with food vendors and a concert by The Strays at The Gridiron. Parking is available in downtown parking garages.

Visit www.backtothebricks.org for more details, or call The Studebaker National Museum at (574) 235-9714 or visit www.studebakermuseum.org

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BEATRIX

Author! Author!

Author! Author!, an event that celebrates writing, books and authors, is Saturday, June 10, at New Troy (Mich.) Community Center, 13372 California Road.

Participants can take a writing workshop, listen to an author's presentation and reading, and get deals on used books. A free glass of wine and snacks will be provided.

The event begin with a haiku workshop from 3-4:30 p.m. EDT with instructor Michael Kozubek, who has written and published more than 200 haiku and other poems. He also earned second prize in the International Section of the 2017 Mainichi Haiku Contest in Japan. Seats are limited, so advance registration is recommended.

Vaughn Roycroft, author of The Severing Son and Bold Ascension, will give a presentation and reading at 5 p.m. EDT, followed by a question-and-answer period. Signed copies of Roycroft's books will be sold. Advance registration is not required.

The suggested donation is \$5. Proceeds support new book purchases for the community center's lending library. Call (269) 426-3909 or email FriendsOfNewTroy@yahoo.com to register or for more information.

Chamber 105th Anniversary Bash

To celebrate its 105th anniversary, Michigan City Chamber of Commerce will host a party from 5-9 p.m. Wednesday, June 14, at Millennium Plaza.

Presented by Harbor Country Adventures, the event includes networking, music, food and a sunset cruise. Chamber members and the community are invited. Each guest receives a \$5 voucher for one food or drink item. Additional items will be available for purchase by member vendors, including Patrick's Grille, Sweet Lou, That's Who, Predictable Foodz, Zorn Brew Works and Burn 'Em Brewing. Guests also can join the sunset cruise aboard the Emita II. Entertainment, sponsored by the Economic Development Corporation Michigan City, includes music by For Pete's Sake and a photo booth.

Individual tickets cost \$15 for members and \$25 for non-members. Event sponsorships are available for \$300 (members only), which include 10 entry tickets. Tickets are available at www.MichiganCityChamber.com, the event found on the chamber events calendar under the News & Events tab.

Email Katelyn at kswistek@mcachamber.com or call (219) 874-6221 for more details.





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In Our June 8 Edition

William Halliar explores the 50th anniversary of Old Lighthouse Museum in Washington Park opening its doors to the public.

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“The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel” Comes to an End on a Perfect Note

by Andrew Tallackson



The moment of truth: Midge (Rachel Brosnahan) scores air time on “The Gordon Ford Show” with the titular chauvinistic host (Reid Scott).

As “The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel” rolls out its fifth and final season, creator Amy Sherman-Palladino takes a gamble with sneak peaks of her hero’s messy future. Flash-forwards through ensuing decades. Divorces, deaths, tenuous friendships, disillusioned children...and I wasn’t buying it. At first.

You see, it’s the fantasy of this Prime hit that made it so enticing. Hints of reality, but mostly a vision of the late 1950s-early 1960s where just about every day is a sunny day. Where the colors pop. Where the bouncy pace and cutting dialogue effortlessly complement each other. A world where anything is possible...not the unfortunate price of celebrity. That mess can exist in some other world.

You know what, though? Sherman-Palladino knows what she’s doing. All she asks is that you take the leap of faith with her, because as the season inches closer to the end, everything clicks, arriving at a hugely satisfying close.

Previous seasons found Rachel Brosnahan’s divorcee and mother of two scrambling for stand-up gigs, thanks largely to her pint-sized and profane

manager, Susie Myerson (Alex Borstein). A journey peppered with eccentric parents (Tony Shalhoub and Marin Hinkle — comedy brilliance, these two) and in-laws (Kevin Pollack and Caroline Aaron, I’ll get to them later), an ex-husband, Joel (Michael Zegen), she resents *and* loves, and two children who, as flash-forwards reveal, somewhat pay the price for her lack of maternal instincts.

But this season, Midge is the first female writer at The Gordon Ford Show, a Jack Parr-like talk show where the titular host (Reid Scott) hires her more out of lip service. On television, he’s smooth as glass. Behind the scenes, he’s an egotistical pig perplexed as to why Midge is more interested in her career than him.

The talk show, and the insider’s look at the machinery, the daily grind to produce it, are the meat and potatoes of Season Five. Not just the sexism Midge encounters, but more the way she ingratiates herself into this world. And, there are more of my favorite moments from Brosnahan when Midge watches from the sidelines as Gordon Ford struts his

stuff during monologues. That look, that knowing smile, on Brosnahan's face, that Midge is in the presence of comedy greatness.

The flash-forwards indicate a 1980s fallout between Midge and Susie, and we eventually learn why. The reason exists largely to redeem Joel in Midge's eyes, and it is a fair trade that comes full circle during the season's best flash-forward: a 1990 Friar's Club roast of the now successful Susie. Borstein's acidic tone is perfect here, but the pre-recorded message from Midge — it's extremely moving — gets to what this show ultimately is about. The great love affair of "The Marvelous Mrs.

Maisel" is not just between Midge and comedy, but also between Midge and Susie. Not in any physical sense, but in a friendship between two women who, over decades, became each other's best audience.

The show, by the way, offers a peek into Susie's sexuality, and it finally allows the parental figures in Midge's life to grow. The gentle humor surrounding Abe and Rose (Shalhoub and Hinkle) is that they're rather scatterbrained. Overwhelmed by life, especially their family. This season, they finally achieve an a-ha moment, that their daughter is an extraordinary woman. Shalhoub, in particular, has an affecting dinner scene where he confides to colleagues that he's missed out in getting to know Midge as an adult. And Hinkle, in a brief exchange, suggests what we've always known about Rose: Her daughter's approval means everything.

For the longest time, I had an issue with Pollack and Aaron as Joel's parents, Moishe and Shirley — loud, abrasive, Old World contrasts to Midge's subdued take on her own Jewish identity. But for the first time, I found myself laughing *with* these two characters instead of cringing at them. In many ways, they are like Midge and Susie. Moishe and Shirley are each other's best audience. But more than ever, we realize now, they love each other dearly. A scene that begins as slapstick — the two falling on top of each other in the shower — ends with a deeply affecting image that conveys deep-rooted love. And Aaron, as Shirley, fuels some of the season's biggest laughs. Shirley has so much zest for life, so much affection for her family, she's too clueless to appreciate how much she gets in the way.

The last 20 minutes of the final episode arrive at a turning point for Midge: a shot at doing stand-



Caroline Aaron (far left), seen here with (from left) Marin Hinkle, Rachel Brosnahan and Justine Lupe, finally comes into her own during Season 5.

up on "The Gordon Ford Show." It is what she's craved from the start, and whether it goes off without a hitch sustains the tension. Everything you love about this series — the dialogue, the frenzied pace, Brosnahan's comedy flare behind the mic — achieves the ideal close. Laughter through tears, accented by a final scene that is perfection.

I am going to miss this show. Spending time with these people was a pleasure. I suppose, for the show's sake, it was better to quit while you're ahead than overstay your welcome.

I'm still going to miss it, though.

□

Contact Andrew Tallackson at atallackson@gmail.com



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Honoring Those Who Served

The *Beacher's* Bob Wellinski captured several images from Memorial Day events in town May 29. We hope you are as moved by them as we were.



CTE 2023 Awards Program



The LaPorte County Career and Technical Education program at the A.K. Smith Career Center held its 2023 Awards Program on May 5 at The Holdcraft Performing Arts Center. Pictured are just a few of the honorees (from left): Brandon Bubalo, Tony Juszkiwicz, Esperanza Arteaga, Grant Olson, Tyrel Miller, Alysa DeFelice, Wyatt Schoff, Olivia Ruiz, Sofia Garcia, Summer McGee, Kyle Yackus and Sara Villa.

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Honoring why Memorial Day is a national holiday, Michigan City High School's Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps marched in the Michigan City parade, then participated in the Greenwood Cemetery program.

American Legion Post 37 organized the parade and ceremony, with participants from all Michigan City veteran groups.

"It was great to see our cadets representing our school so well in the parade and ceremony," Maj. Tom McGrath, the senior Marine instructor, said in a press release.

School is out for the summer; however, the cadets will stay busy supporting school and community activities.

Among these are the MCHS graduation, the Michigan City Patriotic Parade on July 1 and the Back to School Rally on July 29.

The cadets also will attend a leadership camp at St. John's Military Academy in Delafield, Wis., on June 5-9. MCHS organized the camp, which will be attended by units from Indianapolis Ben Davis, Portage and Romeoville, Ill., high schools.

Selected cadets also will attend the National Military Drill Camp in San Antonio, Texas, and Senior Leadership Camp near Pittsburgh. All camps are at no cost to the cadet nor MCHS; instead, they are funded by the Marine Corps.



Cadets post the Colors to start the Memorial Day ceremony.

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by Kim Nowatzke



The Michigan City Area Schools 2023 Hall of Fame inductees are (from left) Dan McNabb, Renee Buell, Karen Williams, Charlotte Cota and Richard Lenard. Photo by Betsy Kohn.

It was a time of honor, recognition and celebration for Michigan City Area Schools.

Colleagues, family and friends gathered May 23 — the last day of school for MCAS students — for the 2023 Retirement and Wall of Fame Dinner. Seventeen teachers and staff retired this year, while five former MCAS employees were named to the district's Wall of Fame for their contributions to the school system and its students.

"I would like you to consider for just a moment the *many* years of experience represented in this room tonight. Whether you are a classroom teacher, an administrator, an instructional assistant, a paraprofessional, a secretary, a food service or transportation professional, or part of our Sodexo team, you have touched hundreds, even *thousands* of lives," Superintendent Dr. Barbara Eason-Watkins said to the crowd of 170. "Our students have been blessed by your service, and we are thankful for the opportunity to come together to celebrate *you* this evening."

This year's Wall of Fame inductees have a combined 148 years of service. Eason-Watkins explained the award, started in 1976, recognizes employees from every area.

Permanently displayed in Michigan City High School's Heritage Hall, the Wall of Fame ran out of

space in 2019.

"And so all of the small plaques were removed as we began cataloging and redesigning a new and improved Wall of Fame," Eason-Watkins said. "The renovation project is now complete and the new display boards are due to be installed this summer. Please stay tuned, as we plan to have a rededication and reunion for our Wall of Fame recipients once this is complete."

With the 2023 inductees, 201 former MCAS employees are now featured on the wall.

Eason-Watkins said the selection process is rigorous, starting with nominations from within the corporation and the community. Requirements include being employed by MCAS for 15 years and having been retired a minimum of five. Inductees are selected each spring by a committee of current MCAS employees who represent all groups. In some cases, someone who nominated the inductee makes the introduction and presentation of the plaque.

The first Wall of Fame inductee honored was Renee Buell, who retired in 2015 after 35 years as a teacher and special education teacher at Central, Mullen and Joy elementary schools. Olivia Davis, the Joy Elementary School instructional coach, gave a heartwarming speech about her former teacher,

mentor and role model.

Davis recalled her difficult third-grade year when her mother took care of her grandmother, who had terminal cancer.

“Mrs. Buell was always there to greet me when I got off the bus at school,” he said. “In a time when things were a little crazy at home, I knew it would be OK at school because I had Mrs. Buell. Mrs. Buell and her classroom provided a sense of normalcy and calm for me.”

During the holiday break that year, an 8-year-old Davis faced one of the most difficult times of her life when her grandmother died. Buell was one of the many caring, familiar faces who attended the funeral.

“When I returned to school after break, still saddened by the loss, Mrs. Buell was there. I got off that bus looking for her and there she was, with her smile, arms wide open ready to hug me. I was safe,” she recalled. “At the age of 33, I can still see her face, feel her hug and know that I was loved by my teacher. From that school year on, I knew what I wanted to be when I grew up – a teacher. I wanted to be just like Mrs. Buell.”

Davis recalled how cool Buell was as she sat on the bus with students during field trips, and how her beloved teacher taught her how to write a most beautiful cursive “B.”

“It is the dedication to her students and their well-being that I want to highlight what makes Mrs. Reneé Buell stand out from all the rest,” she said. “I am blessed to have this amazing educator and now friend and mentor in my life.”

Upon receiving the award, Buell explained how she “wanted to be a teacher since she was little,” playing school all the time with her younger siblings. She recalled serving under principal Jason Hopper (now the Joy Elementary School principal), known for his sense of humor, when “she never knew what she would find in her classroom,” once finding everything on her desk Velcroed down. She shared her gratefulness to former MCAS principal Walt Zmuda, who after an especially tough first year of teaching persuaded her to take a few days off and not quit.

She offered the saying, “If you love your job, you will never work a day in your life,” adding, “I am so blessed to have a career I loved and to be a teacher in Michigan City Area Schools.”

The next Wall of Fame recipient was Charlotte Cota, who was employed by MCAS for 17 years from 1996-2014. Her long list of titles included paraprofessional, lunch assistant, Title 1 assistant, substitute teacher, librarian instructional assistant and volunteer. She served at Pine, Knapp, Joy and Edgewood elementary schools, Barker and Elston middle schools and Rogers High School.

Cota was introduced by her daughter, Missy Burklow, an instructional assistant and Michigan City Ed-

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Continued from Page 31

ucation Support Professionals co-president. Counting the years served as a volunteer, Burklow spoke of her mother's four decades of dedication to MCAS.

Burklow shared how Cota was the WPINE radio announcer at Pine Elementary School from 1996-2014.

"I was the principal's secretary at the time and got to see how much she loved working with the students," Burklow said. "They looked forward to signing up to be on the radio with Mrs. Cota, presenting the morning announcements together. She gave every student a chance to be on the air, even if they had troubled reading. She would be right by their side, encouraging them all the way...Her heart was always in what was best for her students, and her work and her dedication proved that. She influenced students to believe in themselves and gave them that extra bit of confidence they needed."

Cathy Dilling, a Pine Elementary School teacher, also nominated Cota for the Wall of Fame. She wrote in her nomination form, *"My initial impression was that she was very energetic. This was the beginning of not only a great work partnership, but also a friendship that has lasted even into her retirement. We learned from each other. She introduced me to programs and activities that she was passionate about and I did the same in return. She was someone that was always up for a challenge. Whether it was handling the crayfish for science that I didn't want to touch, taking inventory of the science kits, changing the calendar, cleaning tables or making cinnamon ornaments at Christmas, I knew that I could count on her. She was and still is in my opinion irreplaceable."*

Michele Keltz, a fourth-grade teacher at Pine, said in her nomination form Cota was one of her assistants when she first came to the school.

"Charlotte's people and organizational skills

were amazing," she wrote. *"Her level of energy went over and beyond. I don't know that we ever asked for anything to be done. She was always asking us, 'What else can I do?' She was one of the reasons that I wanted to come to Pine. I had some friends here already, and they told me about how great she was. She lived up to everything I was told."*

The third Wall of Fame inductee was Richard Lenard. His 42 years of service from 1972-2014 included the positions of social studies and physical education teacher, assistant baseball and football coach, head baseball coach and assistant athletic director at Rogers and Michigan City high schools.

Beau Bruemmer, who teaches social studies at MCHS, wrote this about Lenard: *"Mr. Lenard was one of the most engaging and dedicated teachers I have ever had. His ability to incorporate real-life experiences to the material being presented was just one way Rich was able to reach his students and keep them engaged. Mr. Lenard was more than just a teacher – he was a friend, a role model and a mentor to many students, making personal connections and impacting every student he came across in a positive way."*

Krissy Freitag, MCHS social studies teacher and department head, presented the Wall of Fame award to Lenard. She spoke about meeting her mentor as a first-year teacher in 2004. Immediately, he reached out to her, offering help with organization and planning, continually checking in for additional assistance and, in the process, becoming a true friend.

"Rich was extremely helpful in my development as an early teacher and armed me with so many tools that I still use to this very day," she said. "I will be forever grateful for Rich's kind words and wisdom that helped to get my teaching career off on the right path."

Her praise for Lenard carried over to his rapport with students.



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The MCAS 2023 retirees include: (front row, from left) Cheryl Allen, Ruth Radke, Nadia Dabagia, Melinda Thalmann and Cindy Geese. The second row is (from left) Linda Meyer, Lorraine Hoffman, Joyce Westphal, Andrew Jasicki, Wanda DeMunck and Dena Slisher. Not pictured are Paula Day, Andrew Dudeck, Robin Endris, Dona Maerz, Pamela Patterson-Uryga and Trinka Rubeck. Photo by Kim Nowatzke.

“I honestly believe for as much of a role model he was for me, he was an *even* stronger teacher in the classroom,” Freitag told the crowd. “The students just loved his class. They worked hard for him, and they scored well on their tests. He built relationships with them and, more importantly, he passed that on to all of his colleagues. I wish I could become half of the teacher he was in the classroom.”

In his nomination, MCHS Social Studies Teacher Michael Megyese recalled his first days in the district 13 years ago, and especially Lenard’s influence.

“Coming from a private school corporation, I faced different challenges at a much larger school,” he said. “Rich was more than a department head. He guided and mentored me and helped my adjustment at a new school while providing great knowledge and professionalism. While watching Rich teach, it was obvious I should pay attention. His rapport with the students, the great respect he was shown in the classroom was like none I had ever seen. Rich is truly the best teacher I have ever been associated with in my 29 years in education.”

While accepting the award, Lenard touched on the important balance between teaching and coaching. He quoted the words of Delos Lonzo, his friend and retired MCHS educator: “Don’t ever let your \$1,000 job become more important than your \$10,000 job. Remember, you were hired as a teacher first.”

Lenard remembered the 42 “enjoyable years” and “great times” he had in the district.

“It was an amazing profession for me to be a part of,” he said. “I loved teaching here in Michigan City.

I couldn’t have found a better place to work than Michigan City.”

Another Wall of Fame inductee was Dan McNabb, who was a choral music teacher at Jefferson, Long Beach and Central elementary schools, Barker Junior High and Elston High School. He retired in 1996 after 27 years. Presenting the award was his friend and colleague, John Rimmel, who taught Latin in MCAS and has been active in the Michigan City music community for many years.

Rimmel, who has known him for 55 years, spoke of the “prodigious Dan McNabb.” He shared one of his most well-known accomplishments, starting and directing the production of Handel’s “Messiah” for 50 years at First Presbyterian Church.

Continued on Page 34

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Continued from Page 33

A nomination from the late Edward Frank stated, *“Generation after generation of youngsters that came under his tutelage learned the love of music.”*

Even in retirement, Frank wrote, McNabb directed numerous presentations and provided music at Sinai Temple.

“Although now a senior citizen, he is young at heart when it comes to directing and performing music of all types,” Frank wrote.

Diane Hack also nominated McNabb, writing about how, at First Presbyterian, he encouraged youth to participate in music. She also stressed his “good work for many years,” including serving as choir director, playing the organ for weddings, funerals and many special events. He also was active in the “Primetimer” group.

The last Wall of Fame inductee was Karen Williams, who devoted 27 years to MCAS from 1981-1986 and 1988-2010. Her positions included a teacher, special-education teacher and principal at Rogers High School, Barker Middle School, and Edgewood, Mullen and Joy elementary schools.

Carol Manuel, retired MCAS principal and teacher, and a 2017 Wall of Fame recipient, nominated Williams and presented the award to her. She explained how the two were casual acquaintances for years until Williams also became an administrator.

“We became close friends as we had the same problems, situations and dilemmas to successfully navigate,” Manuel explained. *“As we became closer friends, I discovered that she established clubs for middle school students even before she was monetarily compensated for those positions.”*

In the after-school clubs, the Ladies of Edgewood and Ladies of Barker, Williams exposed students to professionals so they could learn about exceptional jobs in Michigan City.

But, it is the reception Williams receives just walking through Walmart that prompted Manuel to nominate her friend.

“When I am with her now in Michigan City, she is like a rock star with parents and former students calling out her name and having conversations about children, grandchildren and memories of her past when we are out in the city,” Manuel wrote. *“She tells of many experiences of teaching, meeting with parents and mentoring of those students during their young years, especially in middle school. I know she was especially fond of middle-school age children, which can be a difficult age to develop relationships that makes a difference in the trajectory of lives of young people.”*

While presenting the award, Manuel added, “She knew all about their lives. She made them feel important. That’s a beautiful thing.”

In addition to the Wall of Fame inductees, the following individuals were recognized for their contribution to MCAS as they enter retirement (or entered retirement officially after last year’s event):

- Cheryl Allen – 29 years.
- Nadia Dabagia – 25 years.
- Paula Day — 39 years.
- Wanda DeMunch – 32 years.
- Andrew Dudeck – 26 years.
- Robin Endris – 25 years.
- Cindy Geese – 33.5 years.
- Lorraine D. Hoffman — 20 years.
- Andrew Jasicki – 24 years.
- Dona Maerz – 34 years.
- Linda Meyer – 39 years.
- Pamela Patterson-Uryga – 22 years.
- Ruth Radke – 28 years.
- Trinka Rubeck – 31 years.
- Dena Slisher – 27 years.
- Melinda Thalmann – 29 years.
- Joyce Westphal – 38 years.

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A Shout-Out to Shirley

A long, overdue shout-out to the late Shirley Heinze for dotting the Northwest Indiana landscape with gloriously green nature preserves.

Shirley Heinze, you say?

Yes, you know of her through Shirley Heinze Land Trust gems like Gary's 16-acre coastal dunes conservation area known as Miller Dunes/Bayless Dune. Or right here in Michigan City with hidden treasures like Ambler Flatwoods and Barker Woods.

Happily, we got to know something of the amazing Shirley Heinze when we explored Lydick Bog in St. Joseph County, just west of South Bend International Airport. In fact, the latter was the basis of the excuse, as we were tasked with dropping off a neighbor at the airport for an afternoon flight.

"Lydick Bog is on the way home, if we take U.S. 20, and we always take U.S. 20 to New Carlisle, so let's have a look," I said.

Natalie was on board, so we found ourselves beholding a 178-acre kettle-lakes conservation area that features one of Indiana's last remaining sphagnum bog habitats.

By chance, we arrived just as Stewardship Ecologist Doug Botka was setting out to film highlights of the preserve for the group's next fundraiser. Truly a man on a mission to preserve and appreciate natural treasures, Botka said Lydick Bog has it all: a bog replete with round-leaved sundew, pitcher plant, winterberry, tamarack and large cranberry.

We took Botka's advice and walked the boardwalk out to the end, then sat there, soaking it all in. The only reminder that we were still smack dab in the middle of a busy metropolitan area was a commercial jetliner on final approach to South Bend International.

Thank you, Doug, and, more importantly, a huge shout-out to Shirley Heinze herself.

According to a handy guidebook from Botka, Shirley Heinze was a scholar and scientist before she died in 1978 at 51. Way, way too young for a woman who earned degrees at Wayne State University, Cornell University and the University of Chicago, the latter a doctorate in human development.

"*Shirley Heinze*," according to the Guidebook to the Nature Preserves of Shirley Heinze Land Trust, "would be astonished to learn that she is the namesake for an organization dedicated to the protection of nature in northwestern Indiana, the adopted home that she loved."

Born in Ohio, Shirley was constantly on the move

Life With Charley

Charles McKelvy



with her family: Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, Massachusetts and Washington, D.C.

"When Shirley Heinze moved to Ogden Dunes, she finally found a place she could call home," the guidebook explains. "She became active in the fight to save the Indiana Dunes. Shirley loved the setting in which she lived. She hiked the dunes, sailed on Lake Michigan, took photographs and studied nature. And she passed these passions on to others."

Now, we have a string of pearls across the Northwest Indiana landscape known as the Shirley Heinze Land Trust. And that trust came to be after Shirley's death in 1978, when Robert and Bette Lou Seidner made a donation in honor of their longtime friend to endow a conservation organization in her name.

So, yes, a huge shout-out to Shirley Heinze.

As we explored Lydick Bog for the first time, we kept thinking of her as a beloved aunt, as Aunt Shirley.

Yes, I had a beloved aunt, Sally McKelvy-Bevan, who died all too young, when I was a wee lad. Aunt Sally taught me a love of nature, especially of the



Stewardship Ecologist Doug Botka (right) leads a photo safari at Lydick Bog on a sunny afternoon.

Jersey Shore, the “A-Atlantic Ocean” and cavorting dolphins. Naturally, I had warm thoughts of Aunt Sally and Aunt Shirley as the sun warmed our faces out there on the end of the boardwalk at Lydick Bog.

Then, another thought rushed in: So many Shirley Heinze Land Trust preserves, so little time now that we are both 73.

Hmmm.

Well, we’ve made a good start with Lydick Bog, and we have strolled Ambler Flatwoods and “bird-ed” Beverly Shores/Great Marsh, the latter being a great spot for a spotting of a great egret or two.

But so, so many other Shirley Heinze Land Trust properties to enjoy, especially when most are open to the public. Permitted activities include our favorites — hiking, birding, nature study, photography and cross-country skiing. Wooh-hooh!!!

So, what’s next for us?

Well, we’ve driven past Barker Woods on Barker Road at least 10 trillion times, but have yet to hike the 30-acre forest/flatwoods conservation area. The guidebook promises an old-growth forest that is “a place for quiet contemplation amidst a busy urban environment.” Especially in fall when Barker Woods puts on one dazzling color show.

OK, let’s flip through the guidebook.

Ah, here’s one: Gordon & Faith Greiner Nature Preserve on Old Ridge Road in Hobart. The guidebook notes it sits astride a transitional zone between ecosystems. “The northern end is on an arm of the Glenwood dune system, the southernmost ridge in

the high dune complex on the south shore of Lake Michigan. A remnant of a black oak savanna survives there. Groundwater discharged from seeps at the base of the dune produce a stepped fern, peaty, wetlands, wet prairie and wet woodland habitats. A walk at Greiner Preserve is like taking a tour of the diverse natural communities that make northwestern Indiana so special.”

We’re certainly ready for a walk at Greiner Preserve and all the other diverse natural communities in Shirley Heinze Land Trust. And, we’re certainly ready to make your happy acquaintance out there in the splendor of nature. Before you go, please visit its well-organized website at www.heinzetrust.org, or call (219) 242-8558.

Happy trails!



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Christ Church Sunday Worship (10 a.m.)

Reins of Life Volunteer Training



Reins of Life Inc., which offers equine-assisted services and activities to people with disabilities, will host volunteer training from 2-4:30 p.m. Monday, June 12, and 5:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, June 13.

With facilities in Michigan City and South Bend, the non-profit Reins of Life offers more than 50 lessons per week, serving nearly 100 participants. Each participant requires one to three volunteers for a weekly lesson. Volunteers also serve in ground-keeping, feeding horses and at special events such as fundraisers and horse shows.

Volunteers must be at least 13 and wear closed-toe shoes. No horse experience is needed; training explains the basics of horse handling.

RSVP to attend a session in Michigan City by calling (219) 874-7519. The volunteer coordinator will confirm and email paperwork. More details are available at www.reinsoflife.org or on Facebook.

Reins of Life is located at 9375 W. County Road 300 North.



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Join us for a city-wide Corpus Christi Eucharistic Procession to honor Our Lord on Sunday, June 11, 2023. We will begin at Queen of All Saints and walk to St. Mary's (2 miles). We will stop at Altars from MC Catholic parishes along the way. There will be a picnic at the Scholl Center after the final Benediction. Shuttle buses will be provided to return to QAS.

WHEN: June 11, 2023

TIME: 2:00 PM

WHERE: Begins at Queen of All Saints

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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:

- **Summer Reading Kickoff Event: "Hedgehog Hannah" at 10 a.m. Thursday, June 8.** "Hedgehog Hannah" will showcase exotic animals.
- **Duneland Stamp Club at 4 p.m. Thursday, June 8.** The club meets the second Thursday of each month. New members are invited.
- **Needle Arts Club to Warm Up America Joining Night from 5:30-7 p.m. Thursdays in June.** 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.
- **Family Bad Art Night at 1 p.m. Saturday, June 10.** Designed as a way to unwind and create, the library provides the paint, canvas and pompoms. No registration is required.
- **Creative Tech Activities from 3:30-5 p.m.**

Tuesdays in June. 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.

- **Friends of the Library Book Sale from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday, June 13-15, at the Visit Michigan City LaPorte tourism bureau, 4073 Franklin St.**
- **Tinkercad 3-D Modeling at 4 p.m. Wednesday, June 14, in the Makerspace.** Registration is required for the program that involves Tinkercad, a free online collection of software tools. This session, for children 9-17, serves as an introduction to 3-D design, art and printing. No experience is necessary. All registered participants receive a 3-D print of his/her creations. Register at the Youth Services desk or call (219) 873-3045 for more info. Space is limited. MCPL 3-D printing rules apply, and the printing fee is waived for this program.
- **Board Game Night for Adults from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 14.** The event will include a variety of board, card and trivia games.
- **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.
- **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.
- **Among Us Scavenger Hunt in June.** 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 for more details.)

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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, June 8, 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, June 9, at the main library.** Children ages 3-5 with their caregivers experience stories, songs, crafts and activities.
- **Potawatomi Zoo Animals from 10-11 a.m. Saturday, June 10, in the main library, Meeting Room B.** Zookeepers will show a few of the zoo's animals.
- **Getting Started with Microsoft 365 (adults 19+) from 5:30-7 p.m. Monday, June 12, at the main library, Meeting Room A.** Learn the basics of Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint. Take a laptop with Microsoft 365. A limited supply of laptops will be available.
- **Family Concert in the Garden with Tom Sieling from 6-7 p.m. Monday, June 12, at the main library, Meeting Room B.** Sieling is a singer and guitar/banjo/drum machine player. Take a blanket or chairs for the concert in the new Reading Wi-Fi Garden.
- **Page Turners Book Club from noon-1 p.m. Tuesday, June 13, in the main library Meeting Room B.** Refreshments will not be served, but guests can take coffee or tea.
- **Guess the Author (adults 19+) from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Wednesday, June 14, at the main library, Meeting Room B.** Test literary knowledge by guessing an author from a single quote.
- **STEAM Camp: Stop Motion Animation from 1-5 p.m. Wednesday, June 14, in the Coolspring Branch Meeting Room.** Campers will learn about stop-motion animation and create a short stop-motion animation video.



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

Art Barn Fundraiser

Valparaiso's Art Barn School of Art will host "One to Grow On: Legacy for Growth Art Auction" from 6-10 p.m. Saturday, June 10, at Valparaiso University's Center for the Arts, 1709 Chapel Drive.

The fundraiser, which bolsters educational arts programs, includes drinks, dinner and art experiences. The attire is garden party cocktail. Tickets cost \$135, or \$1,000 for tables.

Visit tinyurl.com/475r6tdb for reservations.



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Event — Jane Shuger.

Flight B

Low Gross — Jane Spang.
Low Net — Jane Spang.
Low Putts — Jane Spang.
Event — Mary Lou Marshall.

Flight C

Low Gross — Florence Stokfisz.
Low Net — Florence Stokfisz.
Low Putts — Florence Stokfisz.
Event — Sheila Brackin, Carolyn Cooney.

Flight D

Low Gross — Pam Jaracz.
Low Net — Pam Jaracz.
Low Putts — Pam Jaracz.
Event — Sandra Provan.

Birdies — Sharon Weber, No. 3
Chip-ins — Sharon Weber, No. 7; Paula Hutchin-son, No. 2; Jane Spang, No. 4.



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Candle Making Workshop

Denisse Santos will show how to make a summer fruit basket candle from 6-8 p.m. EDT Thursday, June 8, in the Jean Gast Classroom at Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Mich.

The candle will be decorated with a wax fruit, along with a choice of scents that includes strawberry, blueberry, watermelon or peach.

The workshop is limited to 12 participants who must pre-register, be 18 or older or accompanied by an adult. The non-refundable fee is \$50 for Berrien Artist Guild members or \$65 for non-members. The fee includes all supplies and light snacks.

Visit <https://boxfactoryforthearts.org/classes-workshops> for reservations.

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LBCC Women's Golf Leagues 9-Hole League

May 25, 2023

Event: Mix & Match

A Flight

- First — Cindy Levy.
- Second — Julie Cronin.
- Third — Rise Wendt.
- Low Putts — Eunie Nondorf.
- Birdie — Julie Cronin (No. 2).
- S. Approach — C. Levy (No. 6), Pat Kelley (No. 10).

B Flight

- First — Nancy Thill.
- Second — Nancy Trainor.
- Third — Mary O'Neil, Barb Hall.
- Low Putts — Mary O'Neil, Nancy Trainor, N. Thill.
- Birdie — Nancy Trainor (No. 11).

C Flight

- First — Barb Beardslee.
- Second — Gloria McMahon.
- Third — Carol Sullivan.
- Low Putts — Catherine Kelly, Diane Rubey.
- Sunken Approach — Barb Beardslee (No. 5).

D Flight

- First — Rosann Conroy.
- Second — Joanne Dodd.
- Third — Jeanne Schimeck.
- Low Putts — Jeanne St. Peter.

18-Hole League

May 23 2023

A Flight

- First — Janet Andreotti.
- Second — Jeannie Muldowney.
- Third — Vicki Hill, Melanie Davis.

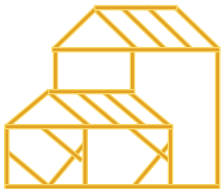
B Flight

- First — Donna Hennard.
- Second — June Salmon.
- Third — Kathy Kenefick.

C Flight

- First — Marty Doherty
- Second — Tina Sonderby
- Third — Carol Sullivan, Diane Rubey.

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In the Area

June 8 — Coolspring Storytime, 1:30-2 p.m., Coolspring library branch, 6925 W. County Road 400 North. Info: www.laportelibrary.org

June 8 — Summer Reading Kickoff Event: “Hedgehog Hannah,” 10 a.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

June 8 — Duneland Stamp Club, 4 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

June 8 — Arts in the Park, LaPorte’s Fox Park. Preconcert: 6-6:45 p.m., main band: 7-8:30 p.m. *June 8* — Nawty. *Wednesdays*: LaPorte City Band, 7 p.m.

June 8 — Michigan City Municipal Band, 7:30 p.m., Washington Park’s Guy F. Foreman Bicentennial Amphitheater.

June 9-11 — Singing Sands Sand Sculpting Festival, 10 a.m., Washington Park beach. Tickets @ gate: \$5/Michigan City residents, \$10/non-residents, free/children 6 & younger with paying adult. Info: tinyurl.com/y3ypfn3w

June 10 — Potawatomi Zoo Animals, 10-11 a.m., LaPorte County Public Library, 904 Indiana Ave. Info: www.laportelibrary.org

June 10 — Family Bad Art Night, 1 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

June 12 — Family Concert in the Garden with Tom Sieling, 6-7 p.m., LaPorte County Public Library, 904 Indiana Ave. Info: www.laportelibrary.org

June 13-15 — Friends of the Library Book Sale, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Visit Michigan City LaPorte tourism bureau, 4073 Franklin St.

June 14 — Guess the Author (adults 19+), 10:30-11:30 a.m., LaPorte County Public Library, 904 Indiana Ave. Info: www.laportelibrary.org

June 14 — Roosevelt Pipe Organ Series, Rhonda Sider Edgington, 12:15 p.m., Christ Church, 531 Washington St. Info: (219) 608-5358.

June 14 — Board Game Night for Adults, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

June 14 — STEAM Camp: Stop Motion Animation, 1-5 p.m., Coolspring Library, 6925 W. County Road 400 North. Info: www.laportelibrary.org

Through June 18 — “Boeing Boeing,” Dunes Summer Theatre, 288 Shady Oak Drive, Michiana

Shores. Times: 7 p.m. Thur.-Sat., 2 p.m. Sunday. Tickets: \$30/general, \$27/students & seniors, \$25 groups of 4 or more. Pride Month promo (50% off): Promo Code PRIDE. Reservations: tinyurl.com/4tp2kwud

Through June 30 — Artwork by the Rev. David Kime, the Rev. Roque Meraz, Dr. John Wilhelm, 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 July 1 — “Intertwine: Stitches of the Soul,” The Beverly Shores Depot Museum & Art Gallery, 525 S. Broadway. Second Friday reception: 5-7 p.m. June 9.

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 — Line dance lessons, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1130, 181 W. McClung Road. Cost: \$5. Beginner dance lessons, 2-3 p.m. Improver dance 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 June — Creative Tech Activities, 3:30-5 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

Thursdays in June — 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

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

In the Region

June 8 — Candle making workshop, 6-8 p.m. EDT, Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Mich. Cost: \$50/Berrien Artist Guild members, \$65/non-members. Reservations: <https://boxfactoryforthearts.org/classes-workshops>

June 8 — Martin Barre: The Classic History Of Jethro Tull, 7 p.m. EDT, The Acorn, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: \$75 + \$9.50 convenience fee, \$125 + \$9.50 convenience fee (reserved). Reservations: www.acornlive.org

June 9 — Cathy Richardson, 8 p.m. EDT, The Acorn, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: \$35 + \$5.50 convenience fee, \$60 + \$5.50 convenience fee (reserved). Reservations: www.acornlive.org

June 10 — Author! Author!, New Troy (Mich.) Community Center, 13372 California Road. Haiku

workshop: 3-4:30 p.m. EDT. Registration required. Vaughn Roycroft reading/Q&A: 5 p.m. EDT. Suggested donation: \$5. Registration/info: (269) 426-3909, FriendsOfNewTroy@yahoo.com

June 10 — Valparaiso's Art Barn School of Art "One to Grow On: Legacy for Growth Art Auction," 6-10 p.m., Valparaiso University's Center for the Arts, 1709 Chapel Drive. Tickets: \$135, \$1,000/tables. Reservations: tinyurl.com/475r6tdb

June 10 — An American Prayer: The Doors Tribute, 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

June 10-Sept. 4 — "The Art of Elizabeth Catlett from the Collection of Samella Lewis," Krasl Art Center, 707 Lake Blvd., St. Joseph, Mich. Free exhibit preview: 6-8 p.m. EDT June 9. Coffee with the Curator gallery tour: noon-1 p.m. EDT June 15. Info: www.krasl.org, info@krasl.org, (269) 983-0271.

June 12 — Free car show, "Back to the Bricks Promo Tour," 4-7 p.m. EDT, Michigan Street from Colfax to Western avenues, South Bend. Info: www.backtothebricks.org

June 12 — Harbor Country Film Group ("Vertigo"), 6:30 p.m. EDT, New Buffalo Township Library, 33 N. Thompson St. Free.

Through June 29 — Photography exhibit, "Water Dancing," Valparaiso's Art Barn School of Art, 695 N. County Road 400 East. Info: (219) 462-9009, info@artbarnschool.org

Through June — Acrylic painter Connie Kasal/photographer Carol Estes, The Courtyard Gallery, 813 E. Buffalo St., New Buffalo, Mich. Hours (Eastern): 11 a.m.-5 p.m. daily, closed Tuesday. Info: galleries@courtyardfineart.com, (800) 291-9287.

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

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 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

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

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*: "The Lost Weekend: A Love Story." Not Rated. Time: 6 p.m. June 12. All times Eastern. Theater address: 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. Info: www.vickerstheatre.com, (269) 756-3522.

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On June 8, 1810, German composer Robert Schumann, who, along with Frederic Chopin and Franz Liszt evolved romantic piano music, was born in Zwickau, Germany.

On June 8, 1867, Frank Lloyd Wright, considered one of the world's greatest architects, was born in Richland Center, Wis.

On June 8, 1869, Chicago inventor Ives McGaffey received a patent for a vacuum cleaner, a "sweeping machine" that was to revolutionize house cleaning.

On June 8, 1948, "Texaco Star Theater," the long-running TV variety program, made its debut on NBC with Milton Berle as host.

On June 8, 1953, 116 were killed as a series of tornadoes swept Michigan from Flint to Lakeport.

On June 9, 1790, John Barry's The Philadelphia Spelling Book became the first book entered for an American copyright.

On June 9, 1893, American popular music composer Cole Porter was born in Peru, Ind.

On June 9, 1903, the White Sox were incorporated under Illinois law with \$5,000 in capital.

On June 9, 1943, after several years of debate, Congress passed an act providing for "pay-as-you-go" income-tax deductions. Employers were authorized to withhold income-tax payments from the salary checks of their employees.

On June 9, 1959, the nuclear-powered USS George Washington, the first ballistics missile-firing submarine, was launched at Groton, Conn.

On June 10, 1610, the first Dutch settlers landed on Manhattan Island.

On June 10, 1847, the first edition of *The Chicago Tribune* was published, with approximately 400 copies distributed.

On June 10, 1902, Chicago's Americus F. Callahan earned a patent for a window envelope.

On June 10, 1935, in Akron, Ohio, Dr. Robert Smith and Dr. William Wilson established the Alcoholics Anonymous organization.

On June 10, 1938, in a game against the Boston Braves, Johnny Vander Meer, pitching for Cincinnati, pitched the first of his successive no-hit baseball games.

On June 10, 1963, Congress passed the "Equal Pay Act," prohibiting wage discrimination because of sex.

On June 11, 1509, England's Henry VIII married Catherine of Aragon – the king's first of six wives and mother of Queen Mary I.



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On June 11, 1776, the Continental Congress appointed Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Robert Livingston and Roger Sherman as a committee to draft a Declaration of Independence from Britain.

On June 11, 1859, a prospector laid claim to a silver deposit in Nevada's Six-Mile Canyon. The claim later turned out to be the multimillion-dollar Comstock Lode.

On June 11, 1919, Sir Barton won the Belmont Stakes, becoming the first Triple Crown winner in the history of American thoroughbred racing.

On June 11, 1939, the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum was dedicated in Cooperstown, N.Y.

On June 11, 1959, the Postmaster General banned a new edition of "Lady Chatterley's Lover" from the mails.

On June 12, 1630, John Winthrop sailed into Salem Harbor to become the first governor of the Massachusetts Bay Colony.

On June 12, 1912, actress Lillian Russell married Alexander Moore (her fourth husband), and announced she was retiring from the stage to become "just another Pittsburg housewife."

On June 12, 1947, Babe Didrickson Zaharias became the first native-born American woman to win the British Women's Amateur Golf Tournament.

On June 12, 1971, in a ceremony held in the White House Rose Garden, Tricia Nixon, daughter of President and Mrs. Richard Nixon, married Edward Cox.

On June 13, 1898, the Yukon Territory was organized.

On June 13, 1927, New York staged a huge ticker-tape parade honoring Charles Lindberg on his return from his non-stop flight to Paris.

On June 13, 1966, the Supreme Court issued its landmark "Miranda" decision. It specified that a suspect could not be questioned without his consent, had the right to an attorney and had to be advised of his rights before any questioning.

On June 13, 1971, *The New York Times* began publishing the "Pentagon Papers," a secret study of America's involvement in Vietnam.

On June 14, 1777, the Continental Congress adopted the Stars and Stripes as the official national flag.

On June 14, 1900, the islands of Hawaii became a territory of the United States.

On June 14, 1922, Warren Harding spoke over Baltimore's radio station "WEAR," becoming the first U.S. president to make a radio speech.

On June 14, 1954, the first nation-wide civil defense test was conducted.

On June 14, 1967, the Venus-bound Mariner spacecraft launched from Florida's Cape Kennedy.

On June 14, 1977, Eastern Airlines banned smoking on 65 percent of its flights.

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MOVING/ESTATE SALE: 157 Riviera Drive, Suburban Estates
Fri.-Sat., June 16-17, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. • Sun., June 18, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
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Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property

Notice is hereby given that the self-storage units listed below will be sold on a public website by competitive bidding ending at 10 a.m. June 23 at www.lockerfox.com for the property at:

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Michigan City, IN 46360
(219) 872-4247

- No. 503 — Jack Higgins
- No. 282 — Zachary Bailey
- No. 72 — Jose Segovia Jr.
- No. 132 — Mick Wulff

Payments must be made with cash only and paid at the facility within 72 hrs. All goods are sold as is and must be removed at the time of payment. Sale is subjected to adjournment.

Moving Sale, 221 Pokagon, Michiana Shores
June 10 and 11, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. CST

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Where Coyotes Howl by Sandra Dallas
(hardcover, \$27.99 retail in bookstores and online; also available as an eBook and an audiobook. 304 pages.)

*“Bury me not on the lone prairie
Where coyotes howl, and the wind blows free.”*
“The Cowboy’s Lament”

It is 1916 when the new school teacher comes to Wallace, Wyo. Her name is Ellen Webster, and she comes from Fort Madison, Iowa — as different a place from Wyoming as night is from day. Located in the eastern part of the state, Ellen finds Wyoming to be endless plains with nothing to break up the monotony, and the town consisting of two streets — one with a few businesses on it, the other a few houses. Other settlers, mostly families, are spread out in ranches in the area.

Ellen is to teach all children who come to the school, grades 1-12, in a one-room schoolhouse that also serves as a meeting hall for the town. She signs a one-year contract and upon meeting other women in the area realizes her clothing must look like high fashion compared to the others’ plain, homespun dresses.

Getting to know other women in the area is a process that takes time, mostly because of distance between homesteads. The women help each other with simple things like sharing recipes, and hard things like pregnancies, and getting through hard winters when food becomes scarce and loneliness can drive a body mad.

Ellen gets room and board from Mr. and Mrs. McGinty in a house that almost sends Ellen running for the train station. Not that it is dirty, no indeed. Ruth McGinty is a kind woman, and a good housekeeper and cook. It is her husband who is mean and cruel. It isn’t long before Ellen notices the bruises on Ruth’s arms. Men rule the roost in those days, and no one wants to come between a husband and wife.

The Gurleys have the most successful ranch around, and Ellen is soon invited to supper with them. One of their cowboys, Charlie Bacon, falls hard for Ellen. It doesn’t take long for her to reciprocate. The Wallace school board will be looking for a new teacher next year...

This is a quiet book, not meant to be a blockbuster of super heroes. Sandra Dallas has a firm finger

Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter



on time and place, describing daily living for the women in detail and with much understanding of their daily lives. From putting newspaper on the walls to keep out drafts, to putting up food stores for the long winter, to gathering around a neighbor who lost her husband or a child, she shows us how much things have changed in the past 100 years — we needed each other then. Now, neighbors come and go without our even knowing their names.

Living in small houses, some not more than mud huts, raising children and keeping mind and body in one piece is a challenge to the women, and not all are up to the life. The women are the main characters in this story, showing how the land can be as cruel to them as their husbands. Not all of them are loving men. Maybe Wyoming just kicked the godness out of some of them.

Despite setbacks and some terrible losses, Ellen comes to love the land as much as Charlie, whom she marries, of course, not thinking of all the bad things that could happen to them, but concentrating on one day at a time. But everyone has their breaking point, even Ellen and Charlie.

This is not a “they lived happily ever after” story, but mostly about the women who help each other, not expecting awards or notoriety, just friendship.

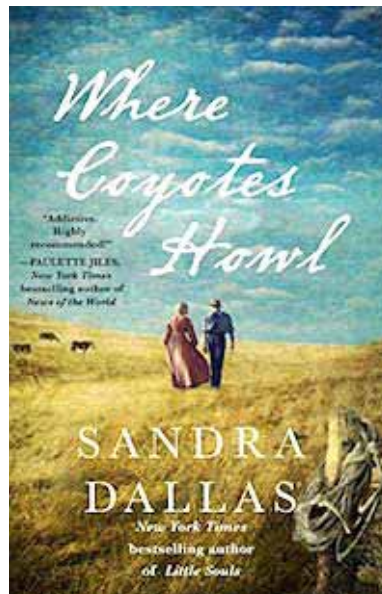
“Folks that were here for a time, and then they weren’t...Except for the way they loved each other, they were just ordinary, everyday folks. Just ordinary.”

The final word: This is an emotional story about a land that spit out the weak and toughened the rest. There is no objectionable language.

Mondo Potus: An American Love Story by David Hoppe (paperback, \$18 retail in bookstores and online though Barnes & Noble or Amazon; 212 pages.)

Local author David Hoppe turns his writing to political satire with his latest book. Having reviewed — and thoroughly enjoyed — Letters From Michiana and Midcentury Boy, I can say confidently Hoppe’s look at life and politics in Mondo Potus will make you smile and give you a great summer read.

Till next time, happy reading!



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With a family background in real estate, I have grown to love the real estate business and have successfully oriented my practice to cater to the specific needs of my clientele. Through my experience with several local home builders, my unique perspective of home building has given me great knowledge of the home building and buying process. I pride myself on my responsiveness and attention to detail. With years of experience in social work, it was important to have good listening and communication skills. I use those skills now to give guidance to clients/customers in order that they find the home/property of their dreams and a transaction experience that is stress free.

You can reach Meghan at : 219-877-5795 or meghanemaddoxrealtor@gmail.com

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