



Volume 39, Number 38 Thursday, September 28, 2023

Saving a Family Tradition

by Kim Nowatzke

At first glance, the party held July 15 at Earl and Gidget Griffin's Trail Creek home was a great time with family, friends, food and fun.

But as everyone there knew, especially the Griffins' 20-year-old son Jacob, it was so much more.

It was the continuation of a much-beloved, long-standing family tradition.

Gidget has many fond memories of unforgettable summer parties thrown by her parents, Frank and Bridget "Dolly" Schiavone. The family, which included Gidget's four older siblings (Gerard "Jai," Gary, Gina (Taylor) and Gail (Rusboldt), lived over time in three Lake Shore Drive homes. The legendary get-togethers began at those lakefront homes,

but it was at "the farm," the Meer Road property passed down by Frank's father, that the Schiavone tradition continued the longest for 10 years.

"There were family, friends, neighbors, friends of friends and more," Gidget recalled. "At least 150-200 would show up...it was word-of-mouth. There were no invitations. My dad would always say, 'If I've ever shaken your hand, you are welcome at my party.'"

The fun times included bonfires, a DJ, kids games, three-legged races, bobbing for apples and a dunk tank.

"Throughout the day, there were just activities to keep the fun going. At times, the party would go on



Jacob Griffin prepares pasta sauce for the summer party held at his family home in July.



Jessica Griffin is busy in the kitchen the day before the party.

Cooking for a Crowd...

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Saving a Family Tradition

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for days,” Gidget explained. “People would come on Fridays and help set up, the party would be Saturday and people would still be around on Sunday to help clean up and eat leftovers. Some would spend the night. One time, we had people staying in campers on the farm.”

Her father was the “brainchild,” she says, the rest of the family the “hands and feet.” What was her father’s philosophy? Gidget said a few years back, her father made the comment, “Share everything you have with all of your beautiful friends.”

One particularly vivid memory for Gidget is “so much food,” including Italian beef, Italian sausage and green peppers, potato and pasta salads, corn on the cob, fruit trays and Italian pastries.

“He wanted to make sure that everyone could just show up – that it was all taken care of,” Gidget fondly recalls. “I loved that part of it.”

With so many memories of her parents’ parties, it wasn’t a total surprise for Gidget when Jacob suggested bringing back the family tradition after Frank and Bridget passed away.

“I was always very close to my Grandpa,” he explained. “He made me realize how important family is. He always said, ‘Family is everything.’ I wanted

to put forth a special effort that the things that he cared about in life were kept. I wanted to make sure that his values lived on.”

Bridget echoed that sentiment, adding, “And to keep his spirit alive. A lot of times when a prominent family member dies, their traditions die with them.”

Dolly died Nov. 19, 2021, at age 94. Frank followed her on March 17, 2022, at age 95. At the time of Frank’s death, he had 10 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Together, they celebrated

nearly 72 years of marriage. In fact, their wedding day on Dec. 11, 1949, at Chicago’s Saint Callistus Roman Catholic Church was quite a celebration. Five hundred invitations were sent out, with an estimated 1,000 to 1,200 in attendance at the 25th Ward Democratic Convention Hall.

The event was considered a “Peanut Wedding” reception: an Italian-American immigrant tradition in Chicago because of the beef sandwiches and peanuts served. Not only was there plenty of food at the three-hour celebration, but guests enjoyed dancing to an 18-piece orchestra that played for 45 minutes at a time, with short breaks in-between. Gidget recalled her father talking about how

their cake was the largest made in Chicago at the time until Mayor (Richard) Daley’s wedding cake. On Sunday, Dec. 8, 2019, they commemorated seven



Alexa Schiavone (from left), Jacob Griffin, Monica Rusboldt and Jessica Griffin are all smiles at the return of the summer party this year at Earl and Gidget Griffin’s home.

decades together with a special celebration that included a vow renewal. Held in Hobart, the event's officiant was Frank's godson, Ambrose Panico.

"And, in my Dad's fashion of adventure, the ceremony was delayed because he fell in the restroom beforehand," Gidget said. "We had to call an ambulance to check him out before the ceremony could take place. He was fine, just a bump and some bruises. All turned out great in the end."

Gidget helped care for them during the last three years of their life.

"That time with them made me realize what amazing people they were," she said.

Hearing her son's request to restore the big event, Gidget admits her first thought was, "That's going to be a lot of work."



Two kids enjoy popcorn during the summer party.

She knew in her heart, however, that it was the right decision.

"Jacob and I were on board from the very beginning," she said.

Gidget said her four siblings stepped up, and work began promoting the party at the Griffins' house. They made a Facebook event page, sent out postcards, called others and invited more in person. She estimated about 120 attended, with the party starting at noon and continuing to about 7 or 8 p.m.

"Just like in the past, family and friends came together to make sure we had tables and chairs we needed," she said, "and helped set up the day before the party."

Main dishes were mostaccioli and fried chicken with sides such as baked beans, potato salad, watermelon, macaroni salad, broccoli slaw, salsa and chips, and hummus with crackers.

"Jacob spent the day before the party making four huge pots of mostaccioli while Jessica baked," Gidget said.

Many attendees arrived with a sweet treat in hand.

Continued on Page 4

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Kids play a game of transferring Goldfish crackers with a straw.



Frank and Bridget (Dolly) Schiavone celebrated their 50th anniversary at their 1998 summer picnic. Their daughter, Gidget Griffin, can be seen directly behind and to the left of her father.



Gidget (second from right) is photographed with her siblings (from left) Gerard (Jai), Gina, Gary and Gail.

“We had so much dessert,” Jacob said. “There was a whole table full of desserts.”

In her younger years, Gidget was responsible for games for the day. She “passed on the torch” to her 22-year-old daughter, Jessica. She brought back favorites, including a water balloon toss, a hula hoop game and mini-golf driving range. Adults enjoyed a hammer and nail game called *Hammerschlagen*.

There was live music — mostly oldies and classic rock — with Jacob playing the keyboard and guitar. He was accompanied by friends, including his former biology teacher, Mike Paniccia, on the drums.

Gidget, Jacob and the rest of the family were pleased with the outcome of their efforts.

“We had relatives come from Detroit and Las Vegas, and friends of the family that we hadn’t seen in 20 years,” she said. “People that had come to previous parties came.”

“I liked how it was family and friends, too,” she added. “I loved combining this.”

Hearing how much the guests appreciated having the space, and the time, to be together was something Gidget won’t forget.

For the future, Gidget says preliminary plans include repeating the successful event, but every other year.

“It meant so much to us to bring back this tradition that was so important to my parents, and to show how giving they were,” Gidget said. “I hope and truly believe that they would be so proud of all of us for putting it together, and happy that we are keeping the family and friendships together, and bringing their tradition back to life.”

Jacob agreed.

“It was everything I had hoped for,” he said. “It was such joy. Everyone I cared about came to be a part of our day together. It was nice.”



Jacob Griffin performs classic rock and oldies on a keyboard at the party.

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Elston Graduating Class Celebrates its 70th Reunion Milestone

by William Halliar



Members present at the 70th reunion of the Elston Class of 1953 are (back row, from left) Herb Woodruff, Milt Dabagia, Kenny Mitchell, Don Pagos, Barb Johnston Wolfe, Bill Dynowski, Nancy Brinckman Bixler, Dale Schultz and Betty Kemp Peo. The front row is (from left) Pat Dixon Woodruff, Georgia Steindrager Wolter, Joyce Black Neulieb, Mary White Urbanski, Helen Nadaf Hathoot, Charmaine Muckway Tompkins, Phyllis Hileman, Loretta Collins Walton and Judy Henry Schreiner.

What fond memories we have of high school. We look back with nostalgia at those carefree days of friendship and learning. The memories can seem vivid, whether we graduated last year or perhaps even 70 years ago.

On Sept. 16, 19 members of the Elston High School Class of 1953 gathered at Mug Shots Lounge at City Lanes, 1901 S. Woodland Ave. Over a pleasant meal, they celebrated 70 years of life, family and adventures since that graduation day so long ago.

Editors of the 1953 yearbook wrote in the forward, *"Today (this) volume may serve only the purpose of reminding the students of the past 9 months. However the ELSTONIAN will serve its main purpose when at some time, perhaps after dreams have become realities, it presents to the reader memories of forgotten events."*

"Endless Horizons" was the theme of the graduating class. That year was quite the year. Queen Elizabeth II was formerly crowned in Westminster Abby. Sir Edmond Hillary became the first to scale Mount Everest. A signed armistice ended the Korean War. James Watson and Francis Crick discovered the double helix of DNA.

Indeed, the horizons seemed endless for Elston's class of 1953.

How do you begin planning a 70th high school reunion? It takes a great deal of energy and tenacity, and Barb Johnston Wolfe was just the person. Barb is 87 years young and filled with vivacious life.

Getting fellow graduates together began as quite a research project. She had help, though, from the reunion committee: Milt Dabagia and Don Pagos, who enlisted the help of their spouses.

Of the 180 students who graduated in 1953, Barb discovered that 122, sadly, passed away. After much research, she sent out 45 invitations. Nineteen former students, accompanied by their spouses and guests, attended Sept. 16, for a total of 37 present.

Elston High School was built in 1909 and by 1953 had accumulated a rich history. Dabagia says Elston was known for a quality education. A reputation for excellence, he says, that could guide a graduate into any Indiana college

"I never had a teacher I didn't like," he added. "Our teachers truly cared about our education."

Milt remembers having close friends while at Elston. When he graduated, he was 5' 1" and quite the gregarious character. He joined the Army right out of school and immediately gained 11" in stature. When he returned from his service, no one recognized him. He majored in finance in college, becoming a successful businessman able to retire by 57.

Soon, he decided the retirement life was not suited to his temperament, so he returned to work and is actively employed today at 87. He offers this advice to young entrepreneurs: "You have to make things happen; things don't happen just because you want them to."

In the yearbook, Barb Johnston was described



as *“One Swell Swan Dancer.”* She tells of her high school days when she and friends would “cruise” the streets of Michigan City in the evenings after school. She would suddenly shout out, “I gotta dance,” and the driver of the car would slam the vehicle to a stop. Barb would jump out and show off her ballet moves in the vehicle’s headlights. She spent extra-curricular hours at school, serving on the play and prom committees.

Pagos’ comment in the “To See Ourselves” page of the yearbook was, *“Don’t bother me, I’m napping.”* Still, he found time to excel in track and football in between naps.

During the reunion, Barb made sure everyone in attendance had a nice hug and felt welcome.

“Everyone had a great time,” she said. “The venue was perfect, the food was delicious, and it was so good to see old friends and hear their stories.”



All photos by Andrew Tallackson



Walk to End Alzheimer's



The Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's is at 9 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 7, in Washington Park. Participants honor those affected by Alzheimer's with the Promise Garden ceremony. The colors of flowers represent people's connection to Alzheimer's: personal reasons to end the disease. Also planned are music, entertainment and family-friendly activities. Visit www.act.alz.org/nwiwalk for more details.

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MCAS Elementary Schools to Launch “All Pro Dad” Program

All eight Michigan City Area Schools elementary buildings soon will launch chapters of a nationwide program called “All Pro Dad.”

In it, fathers strengthen relationships by spending quality time with their children. One day a month, dads or other father figures and their kids meet at school and walk through various topics. The character-based curriculum encourages communication and growth between dads and their children, and at an age-appropriate level. Meetings center on topics such as forgiveness, leadership, humility and purpose. Take-home resources provide a way for fathers and children to do activities related to the topic discussed at the meeting.

The program typically is held an hour before school; however, each elementary school will offer meeting times and dates that work best for them.



School Board President Marty Corley (seated) is photographed with All Pro Dad trainer Rodney Bussell.

MCAS School Board President Marty Corley brought the program to Michigan City after hearing about it at a recent National School Boards Association conference. He will lead the chapter at Edgewood Elementary, where his son is a student.

“I am excited about this program because it provides the materials and activities to help dads build strong relationships with their children,” he said in a press release. “Once dads are comfortable participating in these activities and being in the school environment, I’m hoping it will lead them to become more involved in other ways at schools, too.”

A Unity Foundation of LaPorte County grant helped fund chapter materials and licensing. Fathers and father figures interested in participating should contact their children’s school office.

Visit www.AllProDad.com for

additional information.

A Tribute to Patti Panozzo



Friday, Sept. 29
5-8 p.m. EDT

Art Loft Studio & Gallery
10232 Wilson Road, New Buffalo

Art Loft Studio and Gallery will present the tribute, featuring paintings from her private collection of Dave Knoebber’s watercolors. Proceeds from the silent auction will be donated in Patti’s name to WRHC Radio Harbor Country

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Harbor Country Hikers



Derek Pelc, Berrien County chief naturalist, leads a group of hikers in spring 2022.

Harbor Country Hikers will hold the first of three hikes in Berrien County parks at 1 p.m. EDT Saturday, Sept. 30, at Love Creek Park, 9292 Huckleberry Road, Berrien Center, Mich.

The hike, which covers approximately two miles of hilly trails, is rated moderate to difficult. Led by a county parks naturalist, hikers will view early fall colors, and learn how Southwest Michigan wildlife prepares for winter. Love Creek include about 200 acres of meadows, mature forests and marshes.

Subsequent hikes will include Madeline Bertrand and Galien River in October.

Membership is preferred; however, the public is welcome. Attendees should wear a sun hat and sturdy shoes or boots, and take insect repellent and water. Visit www.harborcountryhikers.com or the group's Facebook page for more details.

Run to the Center of the World 5K

Registration is open for Run to the Center of the World 5K Run/Walk — the 12th annual race along paved rural roads surrounding New Troy, Mich. — on Saturday, Oct. 14.

That's two weeks earlier than previous years, so participants should register early. Those who do so before Sept. 29 receive a free T-shirt. No extra shirts will be ordered.

The event is hosted by Friends of New Troy, the nonprofit that owns and operates the New Troy Community Center, 13372 California Road.

The race starts and ends at the center, which benefits from race proceeds. All finishers receive a carved wooden medal, with overall winners' names engraved on bricks mounted at the center. A free grab-and-go breakfast is provided.

The entry fee is \$25. Information, a link to register online and a form that can be downloaded and printed are at tinyurl.com/5rdwepth. Registration forms also may be picked up at the center. Email runtothecenteroftheworld@gmail.com or call (269) 426-3909 for more details.



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Nature in the Arts activities are made possible in part by South Shore Arts and the Indiana Arts Commission, which receives support from the State of Indiana and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Beverly Shores Depot Exhibits

Visitors have through Oct. 29 to experience two exhibits at Beverly Shores' The Depot Museum & Art Gallery, 525 S. Broadway.

In the museum is "A Different Look at the Century of Progress."

Learn more about Chicago's 1933 World's Fair, and how five houses exhibited there ended up across the lake in Beverly Shores.



The display also will explore the fair's ties to the Great Depression.

In the gallery is "Volunteers: With A Little Help from Our Friends." The group show includes Robert Stanley, Meg Bero, Suzy Vance and Nancy Natow Cassidy. Also on display are photographs of long-time commercial photographer Chris Cassidy and photographer Kevin Shick.

The depot is open from noon-4 p.m. Sundays, with an opening reception from 5-7 p.m. the second Friday of the month.

Visit www.bsdepot.org for more details.


UWF Arts & Crafts Show

The women of LaPorte First United Methodist Church will present the annual Arts & Crafts Show from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 30, at LaPorte County Fairgrounds, 2581 W. Indiana 2.



About 100 artists and crafters will participate in three buildings, each accessible for people with disabilities. Visitors can purchase lunch and slices of pie in the community building. All money raised goes to organizations that benefit people in need on local, state, national and global levels.

Returning this year are horse-drawn wagon rides around the fairgrounds and Pioneerland, a Children's Activity Center, where kids can decorate a pumpkin and participate in other activities, and free face painting. The activity center, a secured area supervised by adults, is in the back half of the Commercial No. 1 building. Parents can sit outside the activity area or visit vendor booths.

There is no admission or parking fees. Call the church at (219) 362-2443 or visit the UWF Arts & Crafts Show page on Facebook.




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2023

Candidate Meet & Greet

For Clerk-Treasurer

★ **Ernie Summers** ★

For Long Beach Town Council

★ **Cheryl Flemington** ★
★ **Mary Lou McFadden** ★

Saturday, Sept. 30, 2023
9-11 a.m.

Long Beach Community Center Gym
2501 Oriole Trail

Paid for by Sergio Peña, Mary Lou McFadden, Cheryl Flemington and Sonia Mohacsi

Nature in the Arts Series



Northern Indiana Pastel Society members will be painting throughout the preserve during the event.

The next free Shirley Heinze Land Trust Nature in the Arts event, "Bug-Eating Plants of the Bog," is from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. EDT Saturday, Sept. 30, at Lydick Bog Nature Preserve, 25898 U.S. 20, South Bend.

The event includes a series of stationed art activities. Visitors can paint and draw with South Bend Museum of Art staff to help create a community paper mural featuring various plants of the bog. Participants can craft a take-home "pom pom garden" inspired by the carnivorous roundleaf sundew, or practice landscape plein air using mixed media. Visitors also can speak with Northern Indiana Pastel Society members, who will be painting throughout the preserve.

Guided hikes are at 10:30 and 11:30 a.m. EDT to learn about the bog's unique ecosystem. Accessible restrooms and water will be available. Light refreshments will be provided.

The Nature in the Arts series is supported by South Shore Arts and the Indiana Arts Commission, which receives support from the state and National Endowment for the Arts. Visit www.heinzetrust.org/nature-in-the-arts for more details.

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Bullied Youth Becomes President of Nonprofit That Saved His Life

A LaPorte High School graduate who credits the anti-bullying group Hey U.G.L.Y. with saving his life now is president of the same organization.

Victor Vargas was unanimously voted to the post. Previously, he became a board member in 2020.

Vargas grew up in LaPorte physically, mentally and emotionally bullied from second grade on because he was Mexican American. Even Mexican students bullied him because he was only half Mexican. At 12, a bully held a gun to his head, saying, "Today is your last day."

Like so many youth in America, he subsequently held all of his pain inside, telling no one. He reverted to cutting and became suicidal.

In 2008, he met Betty Hoeffner, co-founder/CEO of the non-profit Hey U.G.L.Y., which helps save young people contemplating suicide because of bullying. She was conducting the "HUE-MAN Being" ending racism program, which begins with students rolling up their sleeves and standing next to each other, their forearms touching. They are invited to look at the "hue" of their skin. The discovery is, no one is exactly same. Then, they move into common ground, where each student is asked to share something all "hue-man" beings have in common.

The students then draw pictures of Hue-Man Beings interacting in harmony, and writing on the artwork two to three sentences about why it is important to view each other as equals. Out of 350 entries, art experts select the top 50 for inclusion in Hey U.G.L.Y.'s book Hue-Man Kind: a Book to End Racism. Vargas' art was one of the 50 selected. Journalist Linda Ellerbee sent a Nick News film crew to LaPorte High School to film the students, whose work was to be included in the book and showcased at Lubeznik Center for the Arts.

According to Vargas, this interaction opened his eyes to his value, thoughts of suicide abating. When Hoeffner learned he was writing music, so she invited him on HU's "Choose to Change" radio show, which is all about lyrics. That is when the two started to cement their relationship.



Victor Vargas addresses Michigan City High School students in 2019 during a student-led bullying/suicide/school shooting assembly. *Beacher* file photo

In 2010, Victor was one of the LaPorte High School students who went through Hey U.G.L.Y.'s stop bullying program, which culminates in them conducting a school assembly. The tables turned for Vargas, as he was now center stage with all of his bullies watching, extolling how bullying is not OK. At the same time, there were two students present who were thinking of taking their lives because of bullying. Later, in 2017, he shared his harrowing story with Hoeffner, telling her, "Hey U.G.L.Y. saved his life." Hoeffner suggested his story would help many and asked him to write a book, which he did: Almost Bullied to Death.

Ted Perzanowski, M.Div., B.A.

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“Past Lives” is One of the Year’s Best

by Andrew Tallackson



Na Young (Greta Lee, right) and Hae Sung (Teo Yoo) grapple with feelings for each other from their childhood in “Past Lives.”

“Past Lives” made my heart ache. In a rom-com world, the characters would slip into a comfortable groove, squabble...then happily-ever-after time. But here, in a world that feels very real, two people who deserve to be together find that life has a way of getting *in* the way.

Celine Song’s feature directorial debut arrived in theaters in June, earned mostly rapturous critical notices and is finally available to rent through View on Demand. I can see how naysayers mistake its quiet nature as dull. The movie is so scaled back, melodrama dialed down to zero, that what remains is just the characters. Two people who gaze into each other’s eyes without saying anything, but the longing in their body language speaking volumes.

Song charts the bond between Na Young (Greta Lee) and Hae Sung (Teo Yoo) by starting in Seoul, South Korea, where they meet as 12-year-olds. There is an attraction, their parents arranging a date for them.

But then, Na Young’s parents — a filmmaker father and artist mother — decide to immigrate to Canada. Na Young, for the most part, rolls with it, but Hae Sung is heartbroken.

Twelve years later, Na Young is in New York, forging a career as a writer, Hae Sung having finished his stint with the military. Out of curiosity, she scans Facebook for signs of Hae Sung, only to discover he’s posted on her father’s Facebook page, looking for her, unaware she changed her name to a



“Past Lives”

Running time: 105 minutes. View on Demand.

Rated PG-13 for some strong language.

more Americanized Nora.

The two reconnect, strictly by webcam. It seems the relationship is rekindled...until, that is, Nora suggests the two take a break from each other. She wants to propel her career forward. He’d rather keep the momentum going between the two, but respects her wishes.

Leap forward another 12 years, and Nora is married to a writer, Arthur (John Magaro). Hae Sung arrives in New York on vacation, curious to see if the spark remains with Nora.

On paper, “Past Lives” sounds like something the late Nora Ephron (“Sleepless in Seattle,” “You’ve Got Mail”) could have cranked out in her sleep. Two people who clearly belong together, beating the odds, surviving any and all challenges, to be together.

But Song, as a storyteller, is not interested in any of that. There’s no dramatic flourishes here, no comic relief, no phony roadblocks that exist not from the breath of life, but from the artificiality of the script. Instead, Song probes something deeper: how a fairy tale notion of love beckons from the past, clashing with the sensible reality of the present.

Sensible, in fact, may be the ideal description

of Lee's performance as Nora. On Apple TV+'s "The Morning Show," she plays a clipped breed of corporate robot. Here, she's a softer version, with a wavering protective shell. She acknowledges the foundation for love once existed between her and Hae Sung, but life directed her elsewhere, and she not only must respect it, but honor it.

That leads to the most unflinching honest conversation between husband and wife. In bed, unable to sleep, Arthur is perceptive enough to realize Hae Sung's longing for Nora is unmistakable. He's trying to be the good husband, but his insecurities spill out. He fears he's denying his wife her destiny, that he'll always be a regrettable second choice.

Rarely does a film treat us to such intelligent honesty between a husband and wife. You expect secrets and lies, but what Song depicts is a man pleading with his wife to choose wisely.

That's the dilemma "Past Lives" explores. In a past life, as children, Nora and Hae Sung were made for each other. As adults, are these two longing for what they once had, or genuinely in love?

That leads to the final scene, where Hae Sung and Nora stand before each other, gazing directly into each other's eyes. No words spoken. The aftermath, particularly Lee's performance, have a galvanizing effect. A wave of emotions that speaks to



The movie shows uncommon intelligence in dealing with how Nora's husband, Arthur (John Magaro, center), reacts to her friendship with Hae Sung.

the delicate maturity of the film. It's overwhelming, actually. Song, as a storyteller, is a realist with melancholy notions of love.

Her film is one of the year's best.

Contact Andrew Tallackson at atallackson@gmail.com



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**“The Unknown Country”
Preps You for Greatness
from Lily Gladstone**

by Andrew Tallackson

**On
Demand**

Lily Gladstone stars as a woman in mourning after her grandmother’s death in “The Unknown Country.”

The spirit of “Nomadland” lingers over every frame of “The Unknown Country,” but, hey, if you’re going to crib from others, the 2020 Oscar winner ain’t a bad place to start.

This is a quiet, achingly meditative road picture completed in 2022, but only now getting a theatrical and streaming release because of the buzz circulating for Lily Gladstone in October’s “Killers of the Flower Moon.” Her performance in this film, the directorial debut of Morissa Maltz, isn’t the showy type, but it offers a hint of what is to come.

Like “Nomadland,” “The Unknown Country” is a tricky mix of fact and fiction, inserting the main character into a very real world with people who, essentially, are not “acting.” They are, for all intents and purposes, being themselves.

Gladstone plays Tana, an Oglala Lakota woman living in Minnesota whose existence over the past few years has been consumed by caring for her ailing grandmother. In many ways, it defined who she was, so the loss of her grandmother now has created a gaping void. Her world not only has been emptied of the one woman she loved, but whose care dictated her purpose in life.

An invitation to a family wedding in South Dakota rattles Tana out of her grief, prompting her to take her grandmother’s Cadillac and hit the open road. And it is here that “The Unknown Country” embraces the soul of Chloe Zao’s “Nomadland.” Shot in winter, the bleak, snow-covered landscape is a symbolic parallel to Tana’s desolate life. No joy, nor signs of spring’s rebirth, just an empty sea of gas



“The Unknown Country”

*Running time: 85 minutes. View on Demand.
Not Rated, but suitable for audiences 12 and older.*

stations, hotels and mom-and-pop restaurants.

But by introducing real people into Tana’s journey, what Tana discovers is that there is an entire existence, an “unknown country,” as the title suggests, that reminds her there is a world out there waiting for her to re-enter it. A restaurant owner who throws every bit of herself into delighting customers is the most compelling. On a whole, though, there isn’t the same profound ruminations on life, on surviving its ups and downs, that made “Nomadland” so moving.

However, Tana’s Oglala Lakota relatives — cousins aching to reconnect with her, and all played by real people — infuse “The Unknown Country” with a refreshing sense of cultural identity we rarely see today. The movie is not out to make any statements about past or present, just a matter-of-fact depiction of an Oglala Lakota family celebrating the bond between them, the wedding ceremony a full embrace of tradition.

As Tana decides to retrace her grandmother’s journey, made decades earlier, that led to a cherished photo, the goal is to provide Tana with closure. There is great beauty in Gladstone’s performance: smiles that convey a desire to reconnect

with others, watery eyes suggesting unquenchable pain beneath the surface. It is subtle work: reactive in ways where the real meaning behind her actions is delivered by what's *not* said. Through tears shed while alone in a hotel room.

I wish the movie, written by Maltz, with Gladstone contributing to the story, had permitted the actress to really sell the movie's ending. To permit Tana to open up more, either through actual dialogue or voiceover narration, so the journey is complete. A flashback or two with the grandma so we, too, feel Tana's loss.

Instead, you leave "The Unknown Country" feeling like there's more to the story. An effective tale, but not the expected powerhouse. Sort of the appetizer to the main course "Killers of the Flower Moon" should turn out to be.

Contact Andrew Tallackson at atallackson@gmail.com



The impetus for Tana to start living again comes with the invitation to a family wedding in South Dakota.

An advertisement for Evergreen Furniture. The background is a collage of four images showing different furniture pieces: a grey sofa in a bright room, a green recliner with a blanket, a brown recliner, and a white sofa with a coffee table. In the center, there is a white box with the text:

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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:

- **Scratch Club (ages 7-17) at 4 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 28.** Learn to code with Scratch — a platform to create stories, games and animations — by working through projects and sharing ideas. Call Dave at (219) 873-3045 for details.
- **Writing Out Loud, Chris Cecil Jr. and Julia Whitehead, at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 30.** He serves at Visit Indy, where he helps bring events to Indianapolis. He also is involved in various community initiatives, and is a board member for the Kurt Vonnegut Museum & Library. Born and raised in Indianapolis, he will present a program as Vonnegut. Whitehead, his professional partner, will serve as moderator. A writer and editor, she founded



Chris Cecil Jr. and Julia Whitehead

the museum/library to create a center dedicated to free speech and common decency. She is the author of Breaking Down Vonnegut. She also wrote, produced and directed the documentary "My Friend Mickey: Common Decency and the American Dream," which was runner-up for best feature-length documentary at California's Love International Film Festival in 2019.

- **Needle Arts Club to Warm Up America Joining Night from 5:30-7 p.m. Thursdays in September.** 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.
- **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.
- **Paw Patrol Scavenger Hunt in September.** Visit Youth Services, find all hidden Paw Patrol characters and win a prize. Children can return each week when the characters move around.
Michigan City Public Library is located at 100 E. Fourth St. Visit www.mclib.org for more details.

PNW College Fair

Purdue University Northwest will host a college fair from 8:30-11 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 3, at Michigan City High School, 8466 W. Pahs Road.

The free fair will include about 60 colleges and universities. In past years, PNW sponsored and hosted fairs at the Hammond and Westville campuses.

The MCHS fair will include admissions representatives who can discuss programs and campus-life experience with students and their families. InvestEd will be present to answer questions and provide information on financial aid.

Visit www.pnw.edu/college-fairs for more details.

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Maria Petti Memorial Scholarship

When Ebony Thomas first enrolled in college, she intended to leave with a nursing degree.

“I wanted to go for nursing, but the program was full, so they suggested surgical tech as an alternative,” the Michigan City woman said in a press release. “I thought it was so interesting and I was enjoying it, then they came and said a spot opened up and I could come to nursing. I was already two weeks in and learned so much, so I said, ‘I’ll go back to nursing later.’”



Thomas

Thomas, now a 41-year-old married mother of two, is making good on that promise. After 15 years of working as a surgical technician in South Bend, she is in her final year of nursing school at Purdue University Northwest Westville.


To assist in her efforts, Thomas recently received the Franciscan Health Michigan City 2023 Maria Petti Memorial Scholarship. The fund was established in 2009 as a living memorial to Petti, who served at Franciscan Health Michigan City for 35 years as a nurse and peri-operative director. She died of cancer in 2008 at age 53.

The annual scholarship encourages educational excellence in LaPorte and Porter counties undergraduate students, offering financial assistance of up to \$5,000 to those seeking surgical careers. Scholarship winners get preferential consideration for Franciscan Health jobs upon graduation.

“I’m getting my second degree and still trying to pay off the first one,” Thomas said. “Our oldest son is in college, too. The scholarship is a blessing. It helped me not have to stress so much about getting my tuition payment in.”



The scholarships are funded by donations to the Franciscan Health Foundation. Contributions can be made at tinyurl.com/nn6fzuaj by selecting “Maria Petti Memorial Nursing Scholarship Fund” in the dropdown menu, or by calling (219) 661-3401.



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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 program is planned:

- **Stories & More from 10-10:30 a.m. Friday, Sept. 29, at the main library.** Children ages 3-5 with their caregivers experience stories, songs, crafts and activities.
- **Homeschool Makers-Kids & Teens (ages 6-11) from 2-4 p.m. Friday, Sept. 29, in the Coolspring Library meeting room.** The focus is fun, educational learning. Registration is required.
- **Hispanic Heritage Festival from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 30, at the main library.** The event celebrates authentic Hispanic food, music and art. Also planned are an interactive soccer show by the *Futboleros* (the “Harlem Globetrotters” of soccer), and health screenings by HealthLinc Community Health Center.
- **Family Pajama Storytime from 6-6:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 2, in the main library multi-purpose room.** The program focuses on stories and songs. Guests can wear pajamas and take a favorite stuffed animal.
- **Car Maintenance 101 from 6-7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 2, in the main library Meeting Room B.** Automotive expert Steve Barnes will explain how to better understand your vehicle, and how to perform basic checks. Barnes, an Automotive Technology teacher at the LaPorte County Career and Technical Education Center, attended Rogers High School and Lincoln Technical Institute before spending 20 years in the automotive field.
- **Intro to English Paper Piecing from 2-4 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 4, at the Coolspring Branch.** Learn how to create precise fabric shapes with the English Paper Piecing quilting technique.
- **Creative Kids (ages 6-11) from 4-5 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 4, in the main library multi-purpose room.** Activities center on creating something new.

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



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Chicago singer-songwriter Meagan McNeal will present “Do It With Love,” a benefit concert for Neighbor by Neighbor, at 8 p.m. EDT Friday, Oct. 6, at The Acorn, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich.

McNeal’s music explores the genres of soul, jazz and R&B. Her concert benefits the Harbor Country non-profit Neighbor by Neighbor, which address food insecurities, homelessness and vulnerable seniors.

Tickets are \$35 (general) and a \$5.50 convenience fee, or \$75 (reserved) and a \$7 convenience fee. Visit www.acornlive.org for tickets.

“From Excaliburs to Weinermobiles”



William “Steve” Stevens, the son of industrial designer Brooks Stevens, will lead an in-depth exploration of his father’s design work for Studebaker during “From Excaliburs to Weinermobiles.”

The program, which also details how the famous “Mercebaker” became the Excalibur, is at 6 p.m. EDT Wednesday, Sept. 27, in the Wiekamp Auditorium at South Bend’s Studebaker National Museum, 201 Chapin St.

William Stevens will discuss the two-decade run and legacy of the Excalibur, and his father’s work designing the famous line of Wienermobiles for Oscar-Mayer. Period images and vehicle models will be available. The museum also will be open until 7:30 p.m. EDT, and guests are encouraged to explore the special exhibit: “Mid-Century Master: The Designs of Brooks Stevens.”

Tickets cost \$10, or \$5 for members and free for children 12 and younger. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. EDT. Because seating is limited, advanced ticket are recommended at www.studebakermuseum.org


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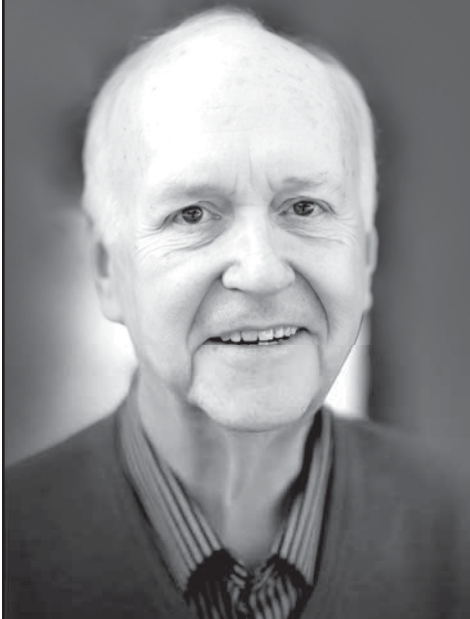
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Indiana Dunes National Park

- **Chellberg Farm Open House from 1-3 p.m. Friday, Sept. 29.** Rangers and volunteers will share the area's history as visitors tour the farmhouse and garden and visit the animals. Passes are required. The parking lot is at 618 N. Mineral Springs Road, Porter.
- **Paul H. Douglas Center Open House and Nature Play Date from 1-3 p.m. Saturdays in September.** Participate in a free nature-themed craft in the art room, watch the staff feed the animals or build a fort in the Nature Play Zone.
- **Furs to Farm Flashback from 1-3 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Sept. 30-Oct. 1, at Bailly Homestead/Chellberg Farmhouse, 618 N. Mineral Springs Road, Porter.** At Bailly Homestead, the chapel and fur traders' cabin will be open. The main house will be closed due to ongoing restoration. At Chellberg Farm, tour the farmhouse and visit the animals. Rangers and volunteers will be on hand at each location to share area history.
The Visitor Center is at 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. The Paul H. Douglas Center is at 100 N. Lake St. in Gary's Miller Beach neighborhood. Call (219) 395-1882 or visit www.nps.gov/indu for details.

Indiana Dunes State Park

The following programs will be offered:

- **Full Moon Hike at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 29.** Meet at the Nature Center for a short presentation about the moon, followed by a two-mile moderate hike to Lake Michigan and back. The Friends of Indiana Dunes will provide treats.
- **The J.D. Marshall Shipwreck History Stroll at 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 30.** Meet at the Nature Center for a 1.5-mile flat walk to the beach and back.
- **Awesome Amphibians at 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 30.** Learn about dunes amphibians.
- **Wild Edibles Walk at 10 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 1.** Meet at the Nature Center for a walk exploring dune delicacies.
- **Spooky Snakes at 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 1.** Meet at the Nature Center to meet native snakes up close, learning about their survival adaptations.
Indiana Dunes State Park is at 1600 N. County Road 25 East (the north end of Indiana 49), Chesterton. Call (219) 926-1390 to register for programs.

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Michigan City Municipal Golf Course



North Course, "Early Birdies"
Sept. 14, 2023
Event: Most 2 Putts

A Flight

Low Gross: Pat Czizek.
 Low Net: Mary Beres.
 Low Putts: Pat Czizek.
 Event: Pat Czizek.

B Flight

Low Gross: Paula Hutchinson.
 Low Net: Carol Hullings.
 Low Putts: Jane Spang.
 Event: Mary Lou Marshall.

C Flight

Low Gross: Kathy Nelson, Alice Wozniak.
 Low Net: Kathy Grott, Charlotte Wozniak.
 Low Putts: Kathy Nelson, Sandra Provan.
 Event: Ann Batagianis.

D Flight

Low Gross: Jan Smith.
 Low Net: Jan Smith.
 Low Putts: Tina Kintzele.
 Event: Tina Kintzele, Jan Smith.

Birdies: Jan Smith, Hole #6.

North Course, "Early Birdies"
Sept. 18, 2023

Event: Lowest Score on Hole #9 + 50/50

A Flight

Low Gross: Barb Rumbuc.
 Low Net: Jane Shuger.
 Low Putts: Jane Shuger.
 Event: Barb Rumbuc.

B Flight

Low Gross: Mary Lou Marshall.
 Low Net: Mary Lou Marshall.
 Low Putts: Mary Lou Marshall, Paula Hutchinson, Carol Hullings.
 Event: Mary Lou Marshall, Jane Spang.

C Flight

Low Gross: Sandra Provan
 Low Net: Sandra Provan
 Low Putts: Kathy Grott
 Event: Bev Szybala

D Flight

Low Gross: Pam Betcher.
 Low Net: Pam Betcher.

Low Putts: Pam Betcher.
 Event: Pam Betcher. □

Chip-Ins: Mary Lou Marshall, Hole #8.
 Birdies: Paula Hutchinson, Hole #6.
 50/50: Jane Spang.

**South Course, "Par-Tee
 Women's Golf League,"**
Sept. 13, 2023

Event: Most Drives on Fairway

A Flight

Low Gross: Tina St. Germain.
 Low Net: Tina St. Germain.
 Low Putts: Sharon Weber.
 Event: Pat Czizek, Jane Shuger.

B Flight

Low Gross: Linda Wabshall.
 Low Net: Linda Wabshall.
 Low Putts: Jane Spang.
 Event: Carol Tylisz.

C Flight

Low Gross: Mary Lou Marshall.
 Low Net: Mary Lou Marshall.
 Low Putts: Alice Wozniak.
 Event: Linda Gorman.

D Flight

Low Gross: Bev Szybala.
 Low Net: Bev Szybala.
 Low Putts: Bev Szybala.
 Event: Bev Szybala, Jane Wall.
Birdies: St. Germain, Hole #3; Wabshall, Hole #3.

**South Course, "Par-Tee
 Women's Golf League,"**
Sept. 20, 2023

Event: Least Hits to Green

A Flight

Low Gross: Barb Rumbuc.
 Low Net: Barb Rumbuc.
 Low Putts: Phyllis Roach.
 Event: Barb Rumbuc.

B Flight

Low Gross: Jane Spang.
 Low Net: Jane Spang.
 Low Putts: Sandy Baldwin, Carol Tylisz.
 Event: Jane Spang.

C Flight

Low Gross: Jill Mellen.
 Low Met: Jill Mellen.
 Low Putts: Jill Mellen.
 Event: Jill Mellen.

D Flight

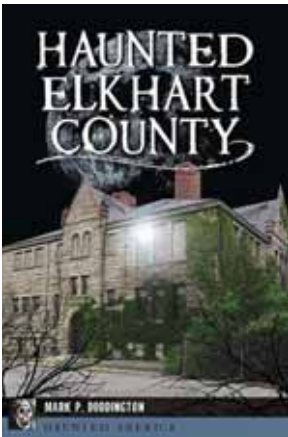
Low Gross: Sheila Brackin.
 Low Net: Sheila Brackin.
 Low Putts: Sheila Brackin.
 Event: Linda Komp.

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“Haunted Elkhart County”

Mark Doddington, author of Haunted Elkhart County, will explore rumored hauntings of a mansion, factory, school and opera house in Elkhart County during “Insights in History.”



The program is at 1:30 p.m. EDT Wednesday, Oct. 4, at South Bend’s The History Museum, 808 W. Washington St. Doddington will be available to sign copies of the book.

Admission is \$3, or \$1 for members. Reservations are required by Oct. 2. A tour of

Indiana Lore will be offered. Call (574) 235-9664 or visit www.historymuseumSB.org for more details.

New Buffalo Township Library

- **Wreath Making Workshop from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 30.** Take materials. Call the library to register.
- **Nerf Battle.** The program is from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 3.

Weekly programs:

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

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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Holly by Stephen King (hardcover \$30 retail in bookstores and online; also available as an eBook and an audiobook. 446 pages.)

“Just when you think you’ve seen the worst human beings have to offer, you find out you’re wrong. There’s no end to evil.”

That’s a lesson, learned the hard way, by Holly Gibney, the subject of King’s latest thriller. Holly was a supporting character in his Mr. Mercedes trilogy, then emerged as a key character in The Outsider and the novella If It Bleeds. In a recent interview, King said he couldn’t forget Holly, feeling compelled to write a story of her own, making this a standalone book.

Holly has no cape to make her fly or magic bracelets to give her extraordinary power. No, Holly’s just a 50-something single woman who runs a small detective agency called Finders Keepers.

If you’re looking for supernatural creatures or denizens of the dark, you won’t find them here. What you will find are those who walk among us, smiling and chatting. The evil that dwells inside them is something they can turn on and off at will. But I’m getting ahead of myself...

It’s 2021, and Holly’s mother, her contentious mother, has just died as the story opens. Her mother belittled the COVID pandemic, refusing to get vaccinated or wear a mask. She became sick, ended up in the hospital and died shortly thereafter, with the funeral service held via Zoom.

Holly has become obsessive about COVID — she wears a mask and has been *very* conscious of getting the vaccine. Some people look at her with that condescending attitude, but she doesn’t care. After all, maybe her mother would still be alive if she followed the guidelines.

The ceremony is barely over when Holly gets a call on her business line. Even though she closed the office for several weeks, she answers the phone. It’s Penelope Dahl, calling about her missing college-aged daughter, Bonnie. Her bicycle was found abandoned on the side of the road just past a convenience store with a note on the seat — *“I’ve had enough.”* It’s been a few weeks, and the police have all but given up, believing she ran away from home.

Since her partner, Pete, is in quarantine with COVID, Holly takes the case herself with the part-time help of siblings Jerome and Barbara Robinson, who have appeared in previous King stories. Walking over to the former auto repair shop lot where Bonnie’s bike was found, Holly finds one gold earring the police missed. It’s confirmed to be Bonnie’s.

Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter



Now, it’s beginning to look more like a kidnapping than a runaway.

A lucky break happens when the name Jorge Castro comes up in the missing persons file from 2012. There are similarities in the two cases, and that leads Holly to...

The local college and a pair of retired professors, Rodney and Emily Harris. He was a biology professor and she an English professor. They are now in their 80s, she in a wheelchair and he heading toward Alzheimer’s. It’s about 1/3 into the book that you find out what the good professors are up to. And, wow!, will you be surprised when the whole truth comes out early on. It’s a great stratagem, allowing you to follow Holly’s investigation while simultaneously watching the Harrises keep their dirty secrets hidden.

Of course, there turns out to be more missing persons spanning the past 10 years — who knows? — maybe more. They all have startling similarities, most prominent is that in every case, there are no bodies.

King is in his usual stay-up-all-night-and-see-what-I’ve-got-planned writing style. Each clue opens up another avenue toward solving the case. Holly finally rises above the insecure, bullied-in-school, hiding-in-the-background person she used to be. She’s thinking more clearly and logically now. She gets sidelined, however, which almost ends the story prematurely. After all, there must be another person pulling the strings of the good professors. Right? But because they’re octogenarians, don’t think they are incapable of...well, what they do.

It’s good meets evil in the middle, and the final confrontation is a scary, unexpected tribute to Holly’s turnaround from wimp to take-charge woman in yet another King winner. Bravo, I say!

The final word: King has been called out by some for his political views in this story, which takes place mostly in 2021. He doesn’t hold back on describing the COVID pandemic and its effects on certain people in the story. That’s ridiculous. If he had written a book that took place in, say, 1943, and never mentions World War II, I would wonder how the author could ignore the horrors of that year. When specific years are used in a novel, it only makes sense to utilize the events within that time frame.

Till next time, happy reading!





American Red Cross

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

- St. John's United Church of Christ, 101 St. John Road, noon-6 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 3.
- Sacred Heart Church, 201 Bach St., LaPorte, noon-5 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 4.

Donors must be in good general health and feeling well, at least 17 (16 with parental consent) and weigh at least 110 pounds. Call (800) 733-2767 or visit www.redcrossblood.org for more details.

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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30th Anniversary Celebration



September marks the 30th anniversary of LaPorte's Kesling Building, which today houses La Porte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave. The entire month is devoted to revealing details of the building's history. The archival photo here was taken during the grand opening of the building's earliest incarnation, the Door Prairie Auto Museum.

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In the Area

Sept. 28 — Scratch Club (ages 7-17), 4 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: Dave/(219) 873-3045.

Sept. 29 — Homeschool Makers-Kids & Teens (ages 6-11), 2-4 p.m., Coolspring Library meeting room, 6925 W. County Road 400 North. Info: www.laportelibrary.org

Sept. 30 — LaPorte First United Methodist Church women annual Arts & Crafts Show, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., LaPorte County Fairgrounds, 2581 W. Indiana 2. Free admission, parking. Info: (219) 362-2443, "UWF Arts & Crafts Show" on Facebook.

Sept. 30 — Hispanic Heritage Festival, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., LaPorte County Public Library, 904 Indiana Ave. Info: www.laportelibrary.org

Sept. 30 — Writing Out Loud, Chris Cecil Jr. and Julia Whitehead, 7:30 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

Oct. 2 — Family Pajama Storytime, 6-6:30 p.m., LaPorte County Public Library, 904 Indiana Ave. Info: www.laportelibrary.org

Oct. 2 — Car Maintenance 101, 6-7 p.m., LaPorte County Public Library, 904 Indiana Ave. Info: www.laportelibrary.org

Oct. 4 — Intro to English Paper Piecing, 2-4 p.m.,

Coolspring Library meeting room, 6925 W. County Road 400 North. Info: www.laportelibrary.org

Oct. 4 — Creative Kids (ages 6-11), 4-5 p.m., LaPorte County Public Library, 904 Indiana Ave. Info: www.laportelibrary.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.

Through Sept. 30 — "Early Builders of Beverly Shores," "Dancing for Our Tribe: Potawatomi Traditions in the New Millennium — Photographs by Sharon Hoogstraten," The Beverly Shores Depot Museum & Art Gallery, 525 S. Broadway. Info: www.bsdepot.org

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

Through Oct. 29 — "A Different Look at the Century of Progress," "Volunteers: With A Little Help from Our Friends," The Beverly Shores Depot Museum & Art Gallery, 525 S. Broadway. Info: www.bsdepot.org

Through Nov. 5 — "Glass: An Exhibition," The Ellen Firme Gallery, 92 W. U.S. 12, Beverly Shores. Regular gallery hours: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. weekdays/Saturdays.

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.

Thursdays in September — Yoga in the Gardens with April Fallon, 9:30-10:30 a.m., Friendship Botanic Gardens, 2055 E. U.S. 12. Info: <https://friendshipbotanicgardens.org>

Thursdays in September — 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

In the Region

Sept. 27 — "From Excaliburs to Weinermobiles," 6 p.m. EDT, Studebaker National Museum, 201 Chapin St., South Bend. Tickets: \$10, \$5/



Prayer to the Blessed Virgin

(Never known to fail.)

Oh, most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh, Star of the 'Sea, help me and show me, herein you are my mother. Oh Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth! I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in

this necessity. There are none that can withstand your power. Oh, show me herein you are my mother. Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3x). Holy Mother, I place this cause in your hands (3x). Holy Spirit, you who solve all problems, light all roads so that I can attain my goal. You who gave me the divine gift to forgive and forget all evil against me and that in all instances in my life you are with me. I want in this short prayer to thank you for all things as you confirm once again that I never want to be separated from you in Eternal Glory. Thank you for your mercy toward me and mine. The person must say this prayer 3 consecutive days. After 3 days, the request will be granted. This prayer must be published after the favor is granted.

members, free/12 & younger. Reservations: www.studebakermuseum.org

Sept. 29 — A Tribute to Patti Panozzo, 5-8 p.m. EDT, Art Loft Studio & Gallery, 10232 Wilson Road, New Buffalo, Mich.

Sept. 29 — Full Moon Hike, 7:30 p.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

Sept. 29 — SuperBlue: Kurt Elling & Charlie Hunter, 8 p.m. EDT, The Acorn, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: \$55 + \$7.50 convenience fee, \$80 + \$7.50 convenience fee (reserved). Reservations: www.acornlive.org

Sept. 30 — Shirley Heinze Land Trust free Nature in the Arts event, “Bug-Eating Plants of the Bog,” 10 a.m.-1 p.m. EDT, Lydick Bog Nature Preserve, 25898 U.S. 20, South Bend. Info: www.heinzetrust.org/nature-in-the-arts

Sept. 30 — The J.D. Marshall Shipwreck History Stroll, 10 a.m., Indiana Dunes SP, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

Sept. 30 — Wreath Making Workshop, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. EDT, New Buffalo Township Library, 33 N. Thompson St. Registration at library.

Sept. 30 — Harbor Country Hikers, 1 p.m. EDT, Love Creek Park, 9292 Huckleberry Road, Berrien Center, Mich. Info: www.harborcountryhikers.com, Harbor Country Hikers on Facebook.

Sept. 30 — Awesome Amphibians, 2 p.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

Sept. 30 — The Music of Simon & Garfunkel, 8 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

Sept. 30 — Past Time (rock), 7-9 p.m., EDT, Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Mich. Advance tickets: \$12/general, \$15/cabaret seating. Reservations: <https://ticketstripe.com/pasttime>. Tickets at door: \$15, free/children 12 & younger.

Sept. 30-Oct. 1 — Furs to Farm Flashback, 1-3 p.m., Bailly Homestead/Chellberg Farmhouse, 618 N. Mineral Springs Road, Porter. Info: (219) 395-1882, www.nps.gov/indu

Oct. 1 — Wild Edibles Walk, 10 a.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

Oct. 1 — Spooky Snakes, 2 p.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

Oct. 1 — Rodney Crowell: The Chicago Sessions Tour with special guest Laurel Lewis, 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

Oct. 3 — Nerf Battle, 6:30-7:30 p.m. EDT, New Buffalo Township Library, 33 N. Thompson St. Info:

(269) 469-2933.

Oct. 4 — Haunted Elkhart County, 1:30 p.m. EDT, South Bend’s The History Museum, 808 W. Washington St. Admission: \$3, \$1/members. Info: www.historymuseumSB.org, (574) 235-9664.

Through Sept. 30 — Suzy Vance’s “Collaborating with the Natural World,” Teen Arts Group (“As I See It”), Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St. Info: (219) 926-4711, www.chestertonart.org

Through October — “Ever Yours: Postcards From the Golden Age,” Porter County Museum, 20 Indiana Ave., Valparaiso. Free admission. Hours: 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Tues.-Sun. Info: www.pocomuse.org

Through Nov. 3 — Diversified Art Visionaries (Dave), Art Barn School of Art, 695 N. County Road 400 East, Valparaiso. Opening reception: 2-4 p.m. Oct. 1. Info: www.artbarnschool.org/exhibitions

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, (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

Fridays through Sept. 29 — Chellberg Farm Open House, 1-3 p.m., 618 N. Mineral Springs Road, Porter. Info: (219) 395-1882, www.nps.gov/indu

Saturdays in September — Paul H. Douglas Center Open House and Nature Play Date, 1-3 p.m., 100 N. Lake St., Gary’s Miller Beach neighborhood. Info: (219) 395-1882, www.nps.gov/indu

Vickers Theatre — *Now Showing*: Manhattan Short Film Festival. Not Rated. Times: 7 p.m. Sept. 28, 3 p.m. Sept. 30-Oct. 1. All times Eastern. Theater address: 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. Info: www.vickerstheatre.com, (269) 756-3522.

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On September 28, 490 B.C., the Greeks defeated the Persians in races held at Marathon. According to legend, a Greek soldier, dispatched to notify Athens of the victory, ran the entire 26 miles. It was from this we derived the word “marathon.”

On September 28, 1850, the U.S. Navy abolished flogging as a form of punishment.

On September 28, 1920, in what became known as the “Black Sox Scandal,” eight members of the Chicago White Sox baseball team were indicted for allegedly “throwing” the 1919 World Series against the Cincinnati Reds.

On September 28, 1924, two U.S. Army planes landed in Seattle, completing the first around-the-world flight. The total elapsed time was 175 days.

On September 29, 1829, London reorganized its police under the name of Scotland Yard.

On September 29, 1906, with a gala party, attended by almost everyone in the city who was anyone, Chicago’s South Shore Country Club officially opened its doors.

On September 29, 1953, Chicago’s Carson Pirie Scott & Co. became the first department store to sell insurance.

On September 29, 1955, a one-act version of the Arthur Miller play “A View From the Bridge” opened in New York. Miller later turned it into a two-act play.

On September 29, 1979, Pope John Paul II became the first pope to visit Ireland as he arrived for a three-day tour.

On September 30, 1787, the sailing ship Columbia left Boston in the first attempt by an American ship to circumnavigate the globe.

On September 30, 1791, “The Magic Flute,” an opera by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, premiered in Vienna.

On September 30, 1843, Reverend William Quarter was appointed the first bishop of the newly created Roman Catholic Diocese of Chicago.

On September 30, 1846, Boston dentist William Morton made the first recorded use of ether as an anesthetic.

On September 30, 1882, the first hydroelectric plant in the United States went on line in Appleton, Wis.

On October 1, 1781, James Lawrence, who commanded the U.S.S. Chesapeake in the “War of 1812,” was born in Burlington, N.J. Lawrence was killed in a battle between the Chesapeake and the



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British ship Shannon. His dying command, "Don't give up the ship," became a watchword of the U.S. Navy.

On October 1, 1847, astronomer Marie Mitchell discovered a new comet. For this discovery, the King of Denmark awarded her a gold medal, and the Republic of San Marino presented one made of copper.

On October 1, 1892, the University of Chicago opened.

On October 1, 1903, the first baseball World Series opened in Boston between the American League's Boston Pilgrims and the National League's Pittsburg Pirates. In the best of nine series, Boston won 5 to 3.

On October 1, 1961, in New York's Yankee Stadium, Roger Maris became the first major league baseball player to hit 61 home runs in one season.

On October 2, 1919, President Woodrow Wilson suffered a stroke that paralyzed the left side of his body.

On October 2, 1938, in a game against the Detroit Tigers, Cleveland Indian's pitcher Bob Feller struck out 18 batters, a record that was to stand until 1974.

On October 2, 1950, "Peanuts," a comic strip produced by Charles Schulz, was first published.

On October 2, 1967, Thurgood Marshall was sworn in as an associate justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, the first African American to be so honored.

On October 3, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln designated the last Thursday in November as the day in which the nation celebrates Thanksgiving.

On October 3, 1922, Georgia's Democrat Rebecca Felton became the first woman to be seated in the U.S. Senate. She was appointed to serve out the remaining term of Thomas Watson.

On October 3, 1952, "Our Miss Brooks," formerly a radio show, premiered on CBS-TV with Eve Arden again in the title role.

On October 3, 1954, "Father Knows Best," a television series starring Robert Young and Jane Wyatt, premiered on CBS.

On October 4, 1895, the first U.S. Open golf tournament was held at Newport Country Club in Rhode Island.

On October 4, 1918, New York's Delmonico's Restaurant closed its doors. It was once the city's most famous eating place, and was favored by the world's celebrities. It carried, at the height of its popularity, more than 200 chefs and waiters.

On October 4, 1931, *The New York News* carried the first "Dick Tracy" comic strip.

On October 4, 1957, television's "Leave it to Beaver," starring Hugh Beaumont as Beaver's dad, premiered on CBS.

On October 4, 1957, Russia ushered in the space age as Sputnik, the first man-made satellite, orbited the earth. Its radio continued to transmit for 21 days.



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Community Enrichment Grant

Nov. 30 is the deadline to submit grant applications for Michigan City Community Enrichment Corp.'s 2023-2024 grant cycle.

The applications are online only at www.mccec.com

Since the board's inception in 1997, the corporation has awarded more than \$16.5 million to charitable organizations that directly benefit the Michigan City area. This past March, the group awarded 35 grants totaling \$656,200 to Michigan City-area charitable organizations.

All applications must include non-profit 501(c)(3) documentation, and that services are performed within the Michigan City Area Schools district. Budgets for the past two years (all of 2022 and through the fall of 2023) must be provided. Submitting timely and complete semi-annual reports is required. Failure to do so may result in disqualifying future grant requests. New requirements this year include that funding requests are limited to \$30,000 per program. Each organization that submits more than one application must assign a numerical priority to each program in order of importance.

Completed applications are due by 11:59 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 30, at www.mccec.com. This is the only grant cycle for 2023-2024. Money will be distributed beginning in March 2024.

A grant-writing workshop is from 4-5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 10. Make reservations at mccec@emichigancity.com. Two attendees per organization are allowed. Call (219) 873-1402 for more details.

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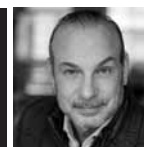
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FEATURED AGENT

Abby Heaps

“I recently bought my new house and Abby was my realtor. I told her what I was looking for and what I didn't want and she found the perfect house for me and my boys. I was new to the whole house buying experience and she helped me through it 100%. From the moment I first saw the house it just seemed right and that night I put an offer in. I would tell anyone that Abby is great realtor and if I ever move again, which I don't plan on it, she will always be my go to realtor no question about it.”

~ Recent client

Call or text Abby @ 219-393-8149



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\$174,900



This adorable 3 bedroom has been recently remodeled.

New paint & flooring throughout.



Look at that enclosed porch!!



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