



Volume 40, Number 8 Thursday, February 29, 2024

# An Interested Individual

by Kim Nowatzke

hat do interviewing celebrities, touring a \$5 million boat, learning how to play the accordion, shadowing police officers and having a run-in with the Coast

Guard while hot-rodding on a personal watercraft have in common?

They're part of a long list of experiences local TV producer Bill Landing accumulated in his 40 years of creating content for Channel 99 Public Access TV.

"I consider myself a creator of programs rather than a talk show host," Landing says. "Talk is a part of it. It's almost like documentaries and profiles."

Born and raised in Michigan City, Landing graduated from Elston High School in 1979. He had early dreams of becoming a firefighter and attended college for a year as an English major, but came to the conclusion neither were for him.

After spending the summer of 1982 studying news announcers, Landing enrolled in a 17-week course at Midwestern Broadcasting School in Chicago. There, he learned about work in radio and TV, carrying out mock interviews, even acting as a DJ. His training landed him play-by-play announcing experience at Cubs and White Sox games, where he even met Manager Tony La Russa.

After seeing a newspaper article where the cost was \$15 to air three TV shows at the new public-access station, Landing decided



Bill Landing poses with his friends, Cyndi Taylor (left) and Susan Brown, who provides music for many of his sketches.

to give it a shot. No paid openings existed at the time, but he decided to try producing just for fun.

"When I walked into the office of Channel 27 (the channel number at the time) after talking to two employees, I thought to myself, 'I think this might have a chance to be something'," he recalled. "I would never have guessed that I would be where I am now...It's not a job. It's a hobby. I don't have deadlines."

Where he is now is the producer of nearly 800 shows, the majority under the names of "Twilight Theater," "Midnight Entertainment" and "Interesting Individuals." Today, he tapes about 15 just-under 30-minute shows a year, all under the umbrella title of "Interesting Individuals." At one time, he averaged more than 20 a year. Beacher



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"It was never about quantity, but about quality, creativity and imagination," he said. "When people are flipping channels, I want them to see my show and watch."

Drew White, Access LaPorte County director of operations, said Landing has done a good job of using public access as an independent producer.

"We need people like Bill to produce the content," he explained. "We are in a position where we want to get more Bill Landings. We want people to be creative. Bill, through his interviews, introduces us to people we might not get to meet. The more we have access to people not in our ordinary circles, the better off we are going to be."

Access LaPorte County is the local entity through which Landing's programs air.

Landing recalled his first show with local magician Matt Kalita on Feb. 29, 1984 (exactly 40 years to the day from this issue).

"He locked me to the chair with a pair of handcuffs and then left," Landing said.

Many of his shows were at events around the region.

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"I've probably been to every festival in LaPorte County," he said.

That includes, to name a few, Door Village Harvest Festival, Hesston Steam Museum, LaPorte County Fair, Michigan City In-Water Boat Show and his personal favorite, the SHARE Foundation's Leprechaun Hunt.

Landing has many recollections of memorable experiences from the past four decades. He rode a camel at the Porter County Fair. He taped police ride-along shows, once finding himself going 105 miles an hour in a squad car. At the 1985 Michigan City In-Water Boat Show, he was granted a personal tour of a boat worth \$5 million.

"It was a personally-built boat owned by a wealthy lawyer and built specifically for him in Guam," he recalled. "It had an engine the size of a Volkswagen."

The Coast Guard stopped him twice while trying out WaveRunners. The first time, he was creating a segment on a business selling the personal watercraft when he lost track of how fast he was traveling down the Trail Creek channel at Washington Park.

"The next year, while coming around the lighthouse, I almost ran into two Coast Guard officers in a small boat," Landing added.

Another unforgettable episode involved Landing and a girl on a three-seat Tiger WaveRunner. She



TV Producer Bill Landing is surrounded by equipment used to record his public-access TV show. Photo by Kim Nowatzke.

made a sharp turn, which resulted in Landing hitting his side and falling into the lake. He swallowed a lot of water, getting the air knocked out of him while half of his life preserver came off. Fortunately, it wasn't long before she realized what happened, turning back around to rescue him.

Many of his on-location shows were with Sue Copeland, owner of Costume World, 809 Franklin St. She remembers meeting Landing in 1989 when he rented an item from her shop for a segment.

Together, they produced modeling-type shows featuring costumes from her business. Eventually, Copeland said, Landing created "fun little skits with characters with goofy names."

One of her favorites was on the beach with her, Landing and fellow friend Susan Brown donning 1920s-style bathing suits. In the segment, the girls discovered Landing's character was dating them both at the same time. They ending up kicking sand on him.



Bill Landing rides a camel at the Porter County Fair in 1992.

ing since 1986, is one of them. He's helped Landing with his shows, filling in as an actor, cameraman, narrator, even a driver to some events.

Baines mentioned Landing taking on filming the Summer Festival Parade. And, Baines recalls once accompanying him to a building across from Chicago's Wrigley Field, where the plan was to interview spectators watching the Cubs game from the rooftop.

Landing and Copeland often produced historical skits explaining a holiday's origin. Landing even wore children's character costumes in local parades.

"He's been a really good friend for years – a good guy," she said.

Copeland is part of a group of Landing's friends who have been part of his life and his shows, in one way or another, for more than 20 years.

John Baines, who has known Land-





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"Inadvertently, we were at the wrong building. We got a rather unfriendly escort out of that building," Baines said with a laugh.

Once the two found the correct address, complete with fans, he continued, "those people were as friendly as could be and wondered why we were late. And, we got to see six innings of a Major League Baseball game for free."

Baines also recalled traveling with Landing to a Chicago hotel where one could meet celebrities, pay to have a photo taken with them or get a signed photograph.

"To his credit, he (Landing) would find out if he could interview them," Baines said. "Even though he was turned down two-thirds of the time, sometimes, he was granted interviews." These included, among others, Barbara Eden, Dawn Wells, Claude Akins, Clint Walker and Karl Malden.

One of Landing's favorite aspects as a TV producer is "meeting the fantastic number of people."

Through "Interesting Individuals," he has interviewed a yo-yo expert, boxers, a fencing group, Hawaiian Hula dancers, a puppet show group, go-go dancer, singing telegram group that impersonates famous people, Civil War re-enactors and a dartthrowing contestant.

Landing said he's interviewed "about every law enforcement official – state police, secret service, FBI — I could get, except a marshal."

In fact, in 1997, he found himself in a precarious position, when one early morning, at about 5 or 6 a.m., someone called him leaving an anonymous tip about a murder in the city the night before. The caller, whose identity he never learned, was right.

Baines says Landing remains involved with public-access TV because he enjoys it, adding, "He's been a good friend all these years."

Brown has provided music for his segments, either through her singing or playing music instruments. She is skilled at the guitar, dulcimer, autoharp, piano and zither. In fact, when she joined Landing on air for the first time in 1992, she taught him how to play an antique 1920s accordion (also known as a "button box").

"He's always willing to try something new," Brown said, adding she appreciates how "interested and nonjudgmental Landing is in different people's lifestyles."

One of her favorite shows with Landing also is the beach skit.

"Every single sketch that he has me do with him is creative and different...the Halloween ones (shows) stand out to me – they are always so fun," she said. "Some of the Valentine's programs stand out, too, because he asks me to play love songs for the sketches."

Landing fondly remembers one Christmas show in 1989 filmed in a LaPorte home with music from "The Nutcracker" playing in the background.

"He (the homeowner) had figurines and windows full of snowmen and Santa Clauses," he recalled. "There was a toy train set running. It turned out to be a really pretty show."

Looking back over the last four decades, Landing is especially fond of the beginning of his career.

"I have some good strong memories of the 1980s –

those early days and years," he says.

But, he admits, it wasn't "all roses."

"It wasn't always easy being a TV producer in the early days," he says. "We took our lumps. We were learning as we went along."

Where does Landing get ideas for his shows?

"Anywhere and everywhere," he replied without hesitation.

Elaborating, he finds inspiration from newspaper clippings, billboards, TV shows and, while not as common, public suggestions.

"Sometimes, they just come out of my head," he continued.

He remembers once falling asleep at home and his female calico cat, Muffin, accidentally



Bill Landing interviews a fencing group in 1992 for an "Interesting Individuals" segment.



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Continued from Page 4

pressed the record button and erased about 45 minutes of show copy. Fortunately, he'd made a backup of the magic show he'd taped with Matt Kalita in 2005.

One of Landing's current hobbies is looking up old memorabilia – newspapers and photographs on microfilm, as well as yearbooks and phone books — at the local library. He then posts them on Facebook pages, including "Michigan City, IN ... A place to call Home," "Michigan City Positive News," "Michigan City in photos – Past & Present," and "You Know You're From Michigan City, Indiana If You Remember."

In addition to his 40 years of producing publicaccess content, Landing also has worked as a radio announcer for local radio stations WCOE, WIMS and WEFM.



Taken in 2022, Bill Landing poses with longtime friends he has worked with on local content. They are (front row, from left) Cyndi Taylor, Landing and John Baines. The second row is (from left) Andy Steele, Susan Brown and Sue Copeland





TV Producer Bill Landing is photographed by *The Beacher*'s Kim Nowatzke in the Channel 99 station through Access LaPorte County.

Landing has fond memories of visits to a Chicago business called Yesterday. Open from 1976-2019, just a block from Wrigley Field, it was a media antique store where he purchased old movie magazines, TV guides and more.

"I miss that place," he said. "He (owner Tom Boyle died in December 2019) was the last of a breed."

Today, Landing's shows air at 4:30 and 9:30 p.m. Tues-

days twice a week and for two to three weeks at a time. About 400 of Landing's past shows can be seen on YouTube under the "IntIndividuals" channel.

Landing isn't entertaining thoughts of retirement anytime soon.

"I want to continue to stay down there as long as I have the desire and creativity, and they will put up with me," he says.



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"Ring of Fire"



LaPorte Little Theatre Club, 218 A St., will present "Ring of Fire" on Friday-Sunday, March 1-3 and 8-10. Music from the Johnny Cash songbook propels the show about love and faith, struggle and success, rowdiness and redemption, and the healing power of home and family. Times are 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$19 for adults, \$18 for seniors 55+ and \$15 for students with ID. Visit www.laportelittletheatreclub.com for reservations and more information.





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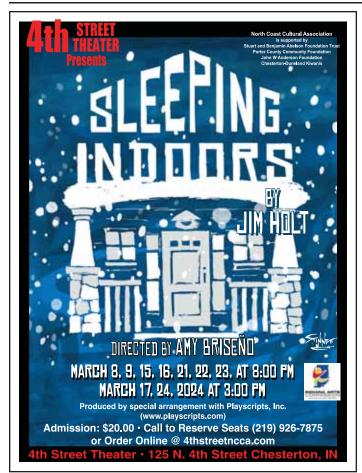


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#### **Hoosier Star Auditions**



Winners and runners-up from the 2023 Hoosier Star are photographed with Music Director and Conductor Dr. Carolyn Watson, LCSO Executive Director Emily Yiannias and Emcee Jeremiah Mellen.

LaPorte County Symphony Orchestra will hold open auditions for the 19th annual Hoosier Star benefit Saturday-Sunday, March 16-17, at The Presbyterian Church of LaPorte, 307 Kingsbury Ave.

Auditions are from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. March 16 and 1-5 p.m. March 17. Hoosier Star is Saturday, Sept. 14, at LaPorte Civic Auditorium, 1001 Ridge St.

The event is open to amateur soloists and duets only; no group performances may enter, and both competitors in a duet must be in the same age division. Contestants are divided into two age groups: youth 17 and younger and adults 18 and older at the time of auditions. Ten finalists — five in each age group — advance to the final event where they will sing with the orchestra and compete for the title of 2024 Hoosier Star. Conducting the orchestra is Music Director Dr. Carolyn Watson.

During the event, audience members, as well as a panel of judges, choose the final two winners in each age division based on that night's performances. First- and second-place winners in each division receive \$1,000 and \$500, respectively.

Contestants are encouraged to pre-register for a guaranteed time slot. The fee is \$20 per person or duet. If a competitor would like to audition as a soloist and a duet, the competitor must submit two separate forms, including two separate fees. Applications must be received by March 12 to guarantee a time slot. Walk-in auditions will be available at the end of each day.

For auditions, applicants may provide their own accompanist (a piano will be available) or supply a digital mp3-4 capable device (in most cases, a smart phone). A capella singing will not be allowed. Contestants must be a resident of Indiana or Berrien County, Mich. Applicants will be notified of the assigned audition date and time within a week prior to auditions.

Visit tinyurl.com/3ykf2bhr for an application. Email hoosierstar3@yahoo.com or call (219) 362-9020 for more details. Beacher







**NB Library Community Forum** 



Jackie Robinson was the first black player to break the color barrier in Major League Baseball.

Garry Lange, Three Oaks' Biggest Little Baseball Museum founder-curator, will present "Jackie Was the First," a program on black baseball players, at 6 p.m. EST Tuesday, March 5, at New Buffalo Township Library, 33 N. Thompson St.

Lange's free museum, located on the second floor of Three Oaks Township Public Library, features baseball memorabilia collected over the years. It is open whenever the library is open.

The March 5 program is part of the Friends of the Library Community Forum.

### **Dig the Dunes Makers Trail**

Lubeznik Center for the Arts is among the five spots included in Dig the Dunes' third Makers Trail from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, March 9.

The concept is, five projects to complete at five different locations. They are:

- Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St.
- Over Yonder Dunes Gift Shop, 12 U.S. 12, Beverly Shores.
- Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St.
- Pieces of Jayde, 1587 S. Calumet Road, Chesterton.
  Market on 12, 2704 W. Dunca Highway.
- Market on 12, 2704 W. Dunes Highway. Some sites will have refreshments. Tickets, which cost \$50, are available at tinying

Tickets, which cost \$50, are available at tinyurl.  $\operatorname{com}/26\operatorname{hf7s72}$ 



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NEED HELP? All MCAS elementary schools will be open Thursday, March 7 from 12:30 - 6:00 pm for those who need to drop off documents.

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#### **Indiana Dunes National Park**

- Birding with the Indiana Audubon Society at the National Park from 8:30-10:30 a.m. Saturday, March 2, at Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk Pavilion, 1000 Riverwalk Drive. A Dunes-Calumet Audubon Society expert will reveal how to identify water birds. Take binoculars and chairs, and be prepared for winter weather.
- Chellberg Farm Open House from 1-3 p.m. Saturdays-Sundays in March. Rangers and volunteers share the area's history as visitors tour the farmhouse/garden and visit the animals. Passes are required. The parking lot is off Mineral Springs Road between U.S. 12 and 20 in Porter.
- Controlling Invasive Plants to Protect Biodiversity at Indiana Dunes National Park from 2:30-4 p.m. Saturday, March 2, at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center. NPS Biologist Laura Brennan will highlight the global significance of natural areas protected by the park, efforts to control invasive plants and how to help.
- Drop-In Volunteer Program (Trash Trekkers) from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. daily at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center. Trash Trekkers is a nohassle volunteer option that helps keep trails and beaches clean. Temporary passes are available. Visit tinyurl.com/2p83798v for more details.

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 program will be offered:

• The 24th Annual Running with the Irish 5K Race from 7-11 a.m. Saturday, March 16, to benefit St. Patrick Catholic School, Chesterton. The course uses paved roads through IDSP. Visit tinyurl.com/yyehzt3h to register.

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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### **Historical Society Museum**

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LaPorte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave., will host Indiana Historical Society's traveling exhibit, "Endangered Heritage," through April 2. The exhibit promotes the need to properly care for museum collections to preserve local history. Visitors also learn how to protect artifacts and family heirlooms. Call (219) 324-6767 for more details.



LaPorte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave., will celebrate black businesses and influential black residents of LaPorte County through its Black History Month exhibit. The display runs through Feb. 29. Call (219) 324-6767 for details.

## Guided Tours Available

LaPorte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave., is offering guided tours from 2-3 p.m. Saturdays.

No registration is required. Call (219) 324-6767 for more details.

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#### Confessions of a Time Traveler on This Leap Day

by William Halliar

2024 is a Leap Year.

So why should we care?

As we flip the calendar pages on another month, considering the passing of yet another leap year, there are the words of Russian-American writer and poet Vladimir Nabokov, "*The cradle rocks above an abyss, and common sense tells us that our existence is but a brief crack of light between two eternities of darkness.*" We are journeying together between two eternities. We are all travelers in time, so to speak, seeking love, joy, peace and meaning for our lives.

Encyclopedia Britannica explains the occurrence of a Leap Year every four years in scientific terms. It is a "year containing some intercalary period, especially a Gregorian year having a 29th day of February instead of the standard 28 days. The astronomical year, the time taken for the Earth to complete its orbit around the sun, is about 365.242 days, or, to a first approximation, 365.25 days. To account for the odd quarter day, an extra calendar day is added every four years, as was first done in 46 B.C., with the establishment of the Julian calendar."

We learned these facts way back in elementary school when the movement of the planets was explained with curious models made from Styrofoam balls. This was a neat, rudimentary scientific expla-



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nation that satisfied our young minds at the time.

As we gained wisdom with age, we learned of Albert Einstein's theories and began to think about how all time is actually relative; a mind-bending concept. We then began to realize that time, as with so many of life's important considerations, is actually a great mystery. It can't be wrapped up neatly in a model made of plastic balls. What satisfied our young minds in elementary school will not reconcile us to the passing of time as we grow older. Einstein, with tongue in cheek, famously explained the relativity of time by quipping, "When a pretty girl sits on your lap for an hour, it seems like a minute. When you sit on a hot stove for a minute it seems like an hour."

My dear mother told me just before her death that she was surprised at how quickly life had passed. She spent 88 years experiencing the effects of time passing, and it all seemed to her as if it passed in the blink of an eye.

Although a scientific explanation of time does not truly satisfy, an article found at www.Study.com titled "Time in Physics/Importance, Features & Theories," strikes close to the heart of the matter. The article states that time is "the measure of a change in the physical quantity, such as the position of the sun in the sky or a heartbeat."

Truly, it is the metronome of our heartbeat that comes closest to a true measurement of time for us mortal beings.

This year, we have an extra day in February, which is added every four years to reconcile our manmade attempts at creating calendars and marking time. While academics may consider the position of the sun, moon or planets when they define the passing of time, let's consider, instead, the beats of our heart and ask ourselves, what shall we do with this extra day in February 2024?

To understand this more esoteric view of time and answer this question, we will have to consider what our poets, artists and musicians have to say about the matter. These people speak the language of the





heart, and can explain more perfectly the meaning of time as the moon and stars rotate above us.

Salvador Dali created his most famous painting "The Persistence of Memory" in 1931. Everyone is familiar with Dali's images of clocks melting over tree limbs and other solid objects. Art historians and people who study the meaning behind such works tell us that Dali's "intention was to use his art as a vehicle for his subconscious." It may be argued that all art, whether visual, musical or of the spoken word, is simply the artist's way of representing inner feelings.

In this work, Dali is sharing an idea best described by him as an image on canvas. Time to him was like a dream; nothing is as it seems. Does this feel familiar in your life? How better to describe this dreamlike passing of time but in visualizing the melting of once solid and familiar objects like clocks? If time and its passing is but a dream, as Dali tells us, how should we comport ourselves as life passes us by?

Singer/songwriter Jim Croce shares his insights into the passing of time in his 1972 hit song "Time in a Bottle": "If I could save time in a bottle, the first thing that I'd like to do, is to save every day 'till eternity passes away just to spend them with you." He continues with this thought on time's elusive passing: "But there never seems to be enough time to do the things you want to do once you find them."

Croce's song is a lament that mirrors Dali's feeling that time passes as if in a dream, and can never be captured except to be lived once again in memory.

Einstein may be rare in that, while having the mind of a brilliant scientist, he also experienced life with the heart of a poet and musician. He reminds us that after all of his years pondering the meaning of time, he discovered that while time is, indeed, relative, "Its only worth depends upon what we do as it is passing."

Perhaps the oft-quoted Maya Angelou said it best: "Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breaths away."

We each have an extra 24 hours to spend this year. The best advice from a fellow time traveler is to use it wisely. Remember the stuff of life that is truly important. Spend the day with someone you love, do something that counts.

Make some good memories.





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### A Lot to Admire, and Fault, in "True Detective"

by Andrew Tallackson



Jodie Foster (right) and Kali Reis star as police investigating a mass murder at an Alaskan research station in Season 4 of "True Detective."

Could it be that, like "Westworld," another HBO franchise, "True Detective" is only capable of one great season?

HBO just wrapped the icy fourth season of its scattershot anthology series, and while it's likely the best since its 2014 debut, it is nowhere near as superlative in quality.

What happened?

The answer, it seems, rests not with the on-screen talent. The show still attracts Hollywood's best. No, the problem is the writing, specifically the characters. If you cannot make us care about these people, then why bother?

"True Detective" arrived at a pivotal turning point in home viewing. Streaming was out of its infancy, now attracting big names. So HBO figured, let's create genre television, specifically the crime thriller, but lure big movie stars. Make TV viewers forget they're watching television.

Series creator Nic Pizzolatto, however, may have stumbled onto brief good luck. Everything about Season 1 clicked. First, you had two stars, Matthew McConaughey and Woody Harrelson, who in their private lives smoke enough weed to mellow entire continents, but here were intensely focused. Electrifying in the best kind of southern Gothic tale, one spanning 17 years and weaving elements of the occult into its Louisiana setting. I love a good yarn where the past weighs heavily into actions of the present. We want to see how things play out.

The result for Season One: huge ratings, critical raves, a treasure trove of trophies.

Then, it all went straight to Hades.

Season 2 arrived one year later. The stars were all aligned, including Colin Farrell, Rachel McAdams and Vince Vaughn. Pizzolatto was back as the writer, but it's like the scripts for seasons 1 and 2 came from two different people. Nothing made sense this time, the characters entrenched in big city corruption that was darn near impossible to follow. Toss in hysterically bad dialogue, and the ratings took a hit.

Four years later, Pizzolatto tried for a reboot with an admitted step up, importing freshly minted Oscar-winner Mahershala Ali into the mix, but confusing sour characters and somber pace for style.

The ratings continued to tumble.

Now, "True Detective" is back for a fourth season, subtitled "Night Country," with HBO treating its dilapidated property as requiring fresh coats of paint. It lured Mexican director Issa López to write and direct. Its star? None other than two-time Oscar winner Jodie Foster, now up for her fifth nomina-



The premise is mass murder at an Alaskan research station. Now, we love a snowbound thriller ("The Shining," "Misery," FX's recent "Murder at the End of the World"). Specifically, the idea of isolated characters struggling for survival amid an inhospitable climate. That only the otherworldly could survive this type of landscape. Indeed, there is the hint of the supernatural as Season 4 opens, with creepy sounds heard at the research station, and one character jerking spasmodically as if inhabited by something unholy. López is savvy enough, at one point, to allow her camera to reveal the bookcase behind one of the characters, and there's a copy of John Carpenter's "The Thing" (1982) on the shelves. That is the granddaddy of this genre, expertly playing off the fear and paranoia of its characters.

As the investigation into the deaths commences in this small Alaskan community (the series actually was shot in Iceland), López does an expert job, thanks to the stellar production design and effects crew, of conveying this town as buried under impossible conditions.

Something else becomes readily apparent. These are *really* unpleasant people. A good mystery needs someone to root for, even if a twist arrives suggesting the character or characters have been leading us astray. But the law-enforcement team in Season 4, which includes not just Foster, but also Kali Reis, John Hawkes, Christopher Eccleston and Finn Bennett, is made up of exceedingly angry people who see their lives unravel in the worst ways possible. Foster, whose intensity can rattle any scene when she feels like it, plays a police chief with little regard for the private lives of her staff, who capitalizes on, and exploits, their trauma to forward the investigation.

By the last episode, when the series has delved in greater detail into the plight of indigenous women, the show is satisfying in affording closure long denied its characters. But the net effect is like, let's have these characters behave awfully for five epi-



The problem with Season 4: not many likable characters.

sodes, then in the sixth and final episode, give them a happy ending. It doesn't work that way. Especially after the fifth season of "Fargo," another winter tale of madness, murder and corruption, introduced some of the best characters in any show, on any network, cable or streaming service.

"True Detective: Night Country" is nowhere near in that league. Nonetheless, it secured the highest ratings in the show's history, averaging about 12.7 million across different platforms. I suspect that has more to do with viewers curious to see how things turn out, rather than how satisfying it is. And after three male-dominated seasons, "Night Country" allowed women to call the shots. Props for that. Seeing Foster, gun in hand, cautiously sweeping through a barren hallway does deliver some added "Silence of the Lambs" nostalgia.

But again, by that episode, you are more intrigued by how everything resolves itself, not by whether you fear for Foster's safety.

Make me care again, "True Detective." Remind me why we fell in love with this show, instead of playing catchup to greatness.

Contact Andrew Tallackson at atallackson@ gmail.com





### Making a Case for the Latest "Wonka" as the Best of the Franchise

Editor's note — The following column is by Jayvin Williams, a Krueger Middle School eighth-grader. He is a member of the Krueger-based journalism publication Truth from the Youth. Check out his other reviews at www.truthfromtheyouth.com



Oscar-nominee Timothée Chalamet stars as Roald Dahl's famous character in "Wonka."

I'm something of a magician, journalist and reviewer.

In December 2023, the third installment of the Willy Wonka franchise was released. The three Wonka films were made decades apart. "Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory" starring Gene Wilder was released in 1971. Tim Burton's "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" starring Johnny Depp came out in 2005. Timothée Chalamet stars in the 2023 update.

These films may share the same character, but they contrast each other in many ways. Out of the three, "Wonka" is the best because of the songs and visuals, and the fact that the interactions between the actors seem genuine.

Though it isn't as good as "Wonka," "Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory" is the second best because of its vibrant colors and old-timey look. Although I like Depp's performance, Burton's dull imagery in "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" doesn't match the vibe of "Willy Wonka." Even though it's considered a cult classic, the actors don't have good chemistry with each other. For instance, when Augustus Gloop (Michael Bollner) falls in the chocolate river, Wilder's reaction seems forced.

While "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" is substandard compared to the other two, Depp's method acting makes the performance much better than Wilder's. A highlight of his performance is the way he changes the voice to fit the character's personality.

However, out of the three, the best performance comes from Chalamet. What makes it superior is that it's the perfect combination of emotional depth and youthful energy. This is shown throughout the film as he chases his dream of having his own factory, and his wholehearted motivation for doing it. Chalamet proves great acting can impact a film.

"Willy Wonka" is popular for its catchy songs and vibrant colors. However, Burton's film includes his style of dark, gritty colors. This doesn't work, because whenever people think of the scenery of "Willy Wonka," they think of beautiful, bright colors that bring a whimsical tone to the film.

By contrast, "Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory" features beautiful scenery and a classic, grainy look that makes it nostalgic and heartwarming to audiences young and old.

But, nothing compares to "Wonka" in the way it mixes the song-and-dance choreography with bright and dark colors. This makes it the most engaging for an audience.

All three films are worth watching. However, "Wonka's" choreography, songs and acting make it rise above the other two as a golden ticket of a film.



#### And the Nominees Are DIRECTOR PICTURE "American Fiction" □ Jonathan Glazer, Generation a fall "Anatomy of a Fall" "The Zone of Interest" 🖵 "Barbie" Yorgos Lanthimos, □ "The Holdovers" "Poor Things" □ "Killers of the Flower Moon" □ Christopher Nolan, Gamma "Maestro" "Oppenheimer" "Oppenheimer" □ Martin Scorsese, □ "Past Lives" "Killers of the Flower Moon" Justine Triet, "Anatomy of a Fall" "Poor Things" □ "The Zone of Interest" ACTOR ACTRESS □ Bradley Cooper, "Maestro" Colman Domingo, "Rustin" □ Annette Bening, "Nyad" Deaul Giamatti, "The Holdovers" □ Lily Gladstone, "Killers of the Flower Moon" □ Cillian Murphy, Sandra Hüller, "Oppenheimer" "Anatomy of a Fall" □ Jeffrey Wright, □ Carey Mulligan, "Maestro" "American Fiction" □ Emma Stone, "Poor Things" SUPPORTING ACTOR SUPPORTING ACTRESS □ Sterling K. Brown, □ Emily Blunt, "Oppenheimer" "American Fiction" □ Danielle Brooks, □ Robert De Niro, "The Color Purple" "Killers of the Flower Moon" America Ferrera, "Barbie" □ Robert Downey Jr., Jodie Foster, "Nyad" "Oppenheimer" □ Da'Vine Joy Randolph, □ Ryan Gosling, "Barbie" "The Holdovers" □ Mark Ruffalo, "Poor Things" **Contest sponsor: Swingbellys!**

## Rules for The Beacher's Beat the Editor Contest:

Check one box in each category. Only one entry per person. Entries from *Beacher* employees will not be accepted. Forms can be dropped off at *The Beacher* or submitted by mail to: The Beacher, Attn: Oscar Contest, 911 Franklin St., Michigan City, IN 46360. Only scanned copies will be allowed by email to atallackson@gmail.com. The deadline is noon Friday, March 1. Editor Andrew Tallackson's picks will appear in the March 7 edition, before the March 10 telecast. Those who beat his picks will be placed into a drawing. **First place receives a \$50 Swingbelly's gift certificate and an AMC movie pass. Second place receives an AMC movie pass**. If no one beats him, readers with the most correct picks will be placed into the drawing. The winner will be revealed in the March 21 edition.

Name:

- City/Town:
- Phone Number:



It is a sign of our fragile times that the Oscar favorites for Best Documentary two years running are rallying cries for change.

"Navalny," the 2022 Academy Award winner for Best Documentary Film, sadly carries with it the most tragic of postscripts, its subject, Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny, perishing Feb. 16 in an Arctic Circle corrective colony.

Now, we have "Bobi Wine: The People's President," the 2023 Oscar nominee by National Geographic Documentary Films. Its subject is still alive, his story still being written. Yet, it is no less harrowing.

The popular Ugandan singer and actor, early in his career, used politically charged lyrics to attack the status quo of decades-long incumbent Yoweri Kaguta Museveni. He is elected to parliament, then in June 2019 announces his candidacy for Ugandan president through the National Unity Platform.

Wine's wife, Barbara, is a fountain of strength, yet no spousal saint. She supports her husband, holds the family together, yet has moments where she breaks down. With each new government arrest of her husband on trumped-up charges, she tells the camera she needs to see her husband's face. Once she looks into his eyes, she says, she knows exactly where to go next.

That unfettered access, where directors Chris-

"Bobi Wine: The People's President" Running time: 113 minutes. Disney+, Hulu. Rated PG-13 for strong violent content, bloody images and thematic elements.

topher Sharp and Moses Bwayo are permitted to capture the most private moments, galvanizes the picture. We are watching real people react to events as they happen, not through reflection months after the fact. And kudos to Sharp and Bwayo for not approaching their subject with kid gloves. The movie is a case study in the principles, if you can call it that, of power, greed and corrupt government. The struggle to preserve the current regime is seen as having little to do with protecting a way of life. It is a desperate struggle to retain power. Violence is the only swift means of reducing opposition. And we see that in the film. A lot. Footage of soldiers attacking civilians, even those in positions of relative power. The most shocking moment: a Ugandan mayor, halfway through a press conference, is grabbed without warning and tossed into a police vehicle.

There are many moments like that in the movie. Footage where you shake your head in disbelief, floored by events. Like, no joke, incumbent Museveni shutting down the Internet on the eve of the election to disrupt the process.

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Then comes some of the most staggering visuals. COVID kicks in, and directors Sharp and Bwayo deliver haunting drone shots of Ugandan streets, drained of life as everyone hunkers down to selfquarantine.

Wine did not win the 2021 election. The movie makes a convincing argument for all the corruption involved in thwarting his success. This being a documentary, we do not get the happy ending a Hollywood production might yield. But by showing Wine vowing not to give up, we get some satisfying closure.

Navalny paid the ultimate price for standing up to authority. The same fate may befall Wine as well. But for now, he is proof the work is never finished.

Contact Andrew Tallackson at atallackson@ gmail.com



The movie repeatedly shows Bobi Wine taking to the streets.



#### **Studebaker National Museum Unveils New Exhibit**

South Bend's The Studebaker National Museum will host "Radiator Mascots: Art, Style & Story," which highlights mascots from several early automobile companies, through May 5.

Mascot designs varied greatly, including mythological figures, brand iconography, animals, human figures and aftermarket accessory mascots. The exhibit showcases a collection mostly from the 1920s-1930s. As radiator filler caps retreated under the hood during the 1930s, the mascot evolved into the hood ornament recognized today.



Visitors also can explore the evolution of radiator mascots, from their early origins as functional accessories to their transformation into symbols of luxury, prestige and style.

The museum, located at 201 Chapin St., is open (all times Eastern) from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Saturday and noon-5 p.m. Sunday.

Admission is \$11 for adults, \$9.50 for seniors 60+ and \$7 for youth ages 6-18.

Call (574) 235-9714 or toll free at (888) 391-5600, or visit www. studebakermuseum.org for more details.





#### Harbor Country Film Group

Filmmaker Rana Segal and sculptor Margo Mc-Mahon will join Harbor Country Film Group for a

screening of Segal's 2018 documentary, "The Oracle of Bronzeville: The Making of the Gwendolyn Brooks Monument."

The screening, designed to celebrate Women's History Month, is at 2 p.m. EST Saturday, March 2, at New Buffalo Township Library, 33 N. Thompson St. The movie follows the creation of a statue sculpted by McMahon in tribute to Brooks and placed in a Chicago park.



"Segal's own unique process interweaves the story

Sculptor Margo McMahon's statue.

of Gwendolyn Brooks — who she was, the importance of her writing and her influence on American culture," group leader Eve Moran said in a press release.

Admission is free, and free popcorn will be served. The Friends of the New Buffalo Library sponsors the film group.

#### **Cabin Fever Pawction**

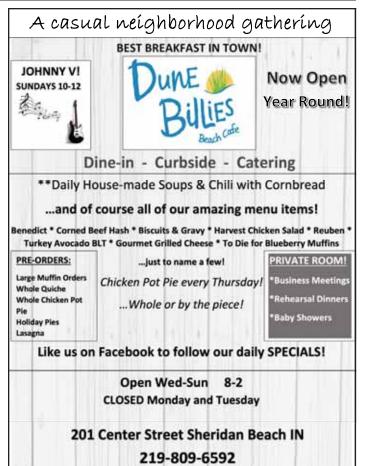
Michiana Humane Society will host "Cabin Fever Pawction," its fourth annual online auction to support shelter animals, on March 4-10.

The auction includes golfing, custom pet portraits, fitness packages, pet items, massages, live performance tickets, sporting tickets and garden design, all donated by businesses and individuals.

Event organizers are seeking more items for the auction, including: gift cards; lodgings (hotel or vacation rental home); recreational services and experiences; classes and workshops; and new, unused small kitchen appliances and household items

Contact Development Director Heidi Tuthill at Heidi@michianapets.org or (219) 872-4499, Ext. 103, if interested in donating. The full auction catalogue can be previewed online starting Friday, March 1. Follow the Facebook event "Cabin Fever Pawction" for updates.







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### Michigan City Art League Spring Classes

Beacher

Michigan City Art League has unveiled its spring slate of classes.

All skill levels are welcome. Required materials will be listed and emailed beforehand. Some supplies are available, with some sold for a small fee. The schedule is:

- March 7 Gail Woolever, "Ukrainian Egg Painting."
- March 14 and 21 Kristy Kutch, "Dip Into Watercolor Pencil."
- March 28 No classes, Holy Thursday service.
- April 4 and 11 Bunny Dimke, "Intro to Oils" (all supplies included).
- April 18 Holly Beadles, "Neurographic Art." Watercolor paper, fine tip Sharpie and watercolor paint are needed for class.
- April 25 Matthew Kubik, presentation to be announced.





• May 2 — Laura Krentz, "Mixed Media for Spring Flowers."

- May 9 and 16 Julie Kasniunas, "Gelli Plate Printing."
- May 23 Jane Cowley, oil painting techniques
- May 30 Last class, "Auction, Critique and Fun!"

Annual membership dues are \$25, and each semester class fee (12 weeks of classes) costs \$35. Classes are from 6-9 p.m. Thursdays in the Queen of All Saints

Catholic School cafeteria, which can be accessed through the parking lot behind the school, 1715 E. Barker Ave.

Membership and class fees may be paid to the Art League, P.O. Box 9720, Michigan City, IN, 46360, or on the first day of class. Arrive by 6:15 p.m. because spots fill fast. Contact Kadie O'Connor at (219) 214-2349 or Betty Thomas at (219) 877-5343 for more details.

### Franciscan Health Scholarships

Franciscan Health Michigan City medical staff are accepting scholarship applications through March 1 from LaPorte County high-school seniors interested in healthcare careers.

Staff unanimously voted in 2021 to establish and fund a scholarship honoring the memories and legacies of physicians who served the community.

The scholarship of up to \$5,000 is funded by Franciscan Health physicians in partnership with the Franciscan Health Foundation. Applications are available from guidance offices at all LaPorte County high schools.

Call (219) 877-1817 for more details.

#### **Home Watch Accreditation**

Home Watch of Southwest Michigan has earned accreditation for the seventh year from the National Home Watch Association.

The NHWA formed in 2009 to establish and maintain high industry standards in the United States and Canada.

Home Watch of Southwest Michigan, a *Beacher* advertiser, serves the northwest part of Indiana near Lake Michigan, Berrien and Van Buren along Lake Michigan, including New Buffalo to St. Joseph, the Paw Paw Lake area, South Haven to Glenn and Fennville, and everywhere in between.

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#### Karstens' Club Chili Cookoff



The 20th annual Karstens' Club Challenge Chili Cookoff was held Feb. 17 at Moose Family Center 980, 2107 Welnetz Road. The event is a fundraiser for the Karstens Athletic Scholarship. St. Joseph Young Men's Society took first place, with Moose Family Center 980 winning the People's Choice Award. Representing the Moose Lodge were Don Gonser (left) and Dave Nespo.



#### **4-H Clover Crop**

The 15th Annual 4-H Clover Crop is from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, March 2, at LaPorte County Fairgrounds, 2581 W. Indiana 2.

The fee is \$35, or \$25 for students. That covers table space, breakfast, lunch, snack, contests, prizes and goodie bags. The event features classes, make 'n takes, a silent auction and home-based businesses. All proceeds for the event, sponsored by LaPorte County 4-H Boosters and Alumni, supports 4-H Club members here.

Contact Ruth Lile at (574) 910-0107 (leave a message if there is no answer) or email angrlile@gmail. com or lile.farm@gmail.com for details. Follow the event on Facebook at "15th Annual 4-H Clover Crop," or on Google at tinyurl.com/2d34nzh2 for a registration form and updates.

### **Book Launch Party**

Local author Sandra Young will celebrate her second novel, <u>Divinely Dramatic</u>, with a launch party at 3 p.m. Tuesday, March 5, at LaPorte Little Theatre Club, 218 A St.

In the book, vintage fashionista Marcy Alexander reluctantly agrees to costume a period-era play and ends up solving a 1966 mystery.

The tale, the second in the "Divine Vintage" series, features settings in Michigan City, Rolling Prairie and Fish Lake. The third and final book in the series, <u>The Ghostly Diva</u>, arrives May 1.

Young will include a brief reading, conversation, book signing and refreshments. RSVP by email to slyoung@sandrayoungauthor.com

The launch party snow date is March 6.







Porter County Museum (PoCo Muse), 20 Indiana Ave., Valparaiso, will showcase through May 12 original photos from the 1926 fire that destroyed the Academy of Music block.

The fire ravaged the southwest corner of Lincolnway and Washington Street, ending in the death of two firefighters.

"In terms of serious injury, property destruction and loss of life, the Academy of Music blaze was perhaps the most eventful of several 20th-century fires that occurred on Valparaiso's courthouse square...," Executive Director Kevin Pazour said in a press release. "The three-story brick-and-stone building, built in 1864, housed a variety of enterprises during its 62-year history, including the city's premier theater space, the Masonic temple and numerous shops and business offices."

The exhibit is in the Robert Cain Gallery. A downloadable guide is available at www.pocomuse. org/special-publications.

The museum is open from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday, with free admission. Visit www.pocomuse. org or find @pocomuse on social media for more details.



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

- Marquette Catholic High School, 306 W. 10th St., 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 29.
- St. John's United Church of Christ, 101 St. John Road, noon-6 p.m. Tuesday, March 5.

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.

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Lethal Range by Ryan Steck (hardcover, \$26.99 retail in bookstores and online; also available as an eBook and an audiobook. 356 pages.)

As the Brits would say — "Brilliant!" I've never read a story that combined a cowboy, biker gang, the FBI and a bioterrorist into a jaw-dropping thriller.

I know that sounds weird, but wait! Before you turn the page, hear me out...

All these elements take you on a roller-coaster ride that combines thrills, revenge and plans for a

massive ecocatastrophe no one would see coming.

This is the second in an apparent series about Matthew Redd, former Marine-turned FBI counterterrorism asset. He's a big guy with definite anger issues — but not without reason. He's off the coast of Spain as the story opens, based on intel an international fugitive, Anton Gage, is hiding out in a villa on the coast.

To the world, Gage is working on "genetically engineered, high-yield, drought and disease resistant cereal crops." In reality, his ultimate goal is not to produce more food, just reduce the number of mouths eating it.

Anyway, Redd changes the plan and goes against direct orders. The mission goes sideways, sending him back to D.C. and his boss, Gavin Kline, who just happens to be his biological father — but not the one who raised him. Fact: he hates him, but that's another story.

Meanwhile, back in his home state of Montana, his wife, Emily, is racing to a hospital with their infant son, who seems to have a high fever with no known cause. She is suddenly surrounded by bikers who terrorize her, almost causing her to go off the road. They disappear as fast as they appeared. What was that all about? She has no clue. But it certainly scares her.

Redd's father is a little vague about whether he still has a job with the FBI or not, but Redd is more interested in racing back home when he finds out about Emily and the bikers.

Redd is one of the good guys, but he has the "I can do it myself" attitude about everything, not telling his wife about why the biker gang is after him, that they want to get his attention for killing one of their own some time ago. He "disrespected" them. Ha. What a joke. So here's another thing he will handle on his own, just like the overdue property tax on the ranch. He had an understanding about paying it with the last county treasurer, but the new guy seems hellbent on foreclosing on the property.

Little does Redd know the bikers and bioterrorist he's hunting have a lot in common with wanting to

#### Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter



take him down...permanently. Action and Drama. Lots of both. That's what you get here. Several fight scenes with bikers will be emblazoned in your mind's eye, and by the time the final confrontation occurs, you will understand

> more of this uncomplicated man. How things are black and white to him, how he must be the one to sort things out. And now, as the FBI forgives him and asks he continue looking for Gage, he finds himself facing fights on three fronts — the bikers, Gage and the unforgiving tax collector — a storyline handled exceptionally well, with plenty of details and emotion.

> There are no heavy sex scenes here. Redd is devoted to his wife and child. He's just a bad-ass cowboy who sometimes acts before he thinks. I guess that's why he has Emily. She is a great character. Trying to make Redd see that she is not a shrinking violet, but a working member of this family, lends a little humor to the story. He tells her to stay home and stay safe, she rides out and

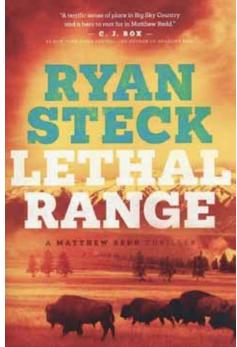
follows him, sometimes saving his life in the most unusual way. They make a great pair, and I hope that in the next book, Steck uses this dynamic more.

Redd will be beyond anger when the doctors finally discover what is wrong with baby Redd. Luckily, whatever it is, isn't enough to threaten the boy's life. But who would do that to an infant? Going after Redd is one thing, but putting a bullseye on a baby is unconscionable. But it got Redd's attention — the ultimate goal.

Is Redd equipped to face his threats alone? Especially when he finds out about Gage's research and ultimate goal. The real question about him is, who is he working for or with? The answer could hold major repercussions for world leaders who would have to submit to his wishes after witnessing his intensions.

*The final word*: The first book in this series, <u>Fields</u> <u>of Fire</u>, is available, and Book Three, yet untitled, arrives this fall. <u>Lethal Range</u> is a great read that will hold your attention from start to finish. The fight scenes are bruisingly realistic, and the story is current. The main character even is a happily married man. Will wonders ever cease...

Till next time, happy reading!



## Beacher

### **African-American Legacy Award**

LaPorte County is within the acceptance area for nominations through The History Museum's 2024 African American Legacy Award.

The deadline is March 15, with the presentation made June 11 at the Juneteenth Luncheon.

The award goes to someone "instrumental in collecting, preserving and disseminating African-American history in the St. Joseph River Valley, either working directly with The History Museum or within the African-American community," Brian Harding, The History Museum executive director, said in a press release.

LaPorte County is part of the St. Joseph River Valley. To be eligible, an individual:

- Must be, or have been, a St. Joseph River Valley resident for at least 10 years.
- Must not have previously received the award.
- Must have demonstrated leadership and creativity in promoting African-American history.
- Must have increased understanding of, and appreciation for, the heritage of African-Americans.
- Had significant impact on the local community promoting African-American history.
- Has recognized efforts that are exceptional or gone above and beyond their job.

Nominations can be made by an individual or organization by completing an online application or by downloading the application and mailing to: African American Legacy Award Committee, The History Museum, 808 W. Washington St., South Bend, IN, 46601. Visit www.historymuseumSB.org or call (574) 235-9664 for more details.

## **Rotary Club Scholarships**

The Rotary Club of Michigan City Foundation offers \$2,000 scholarships to two high school seniors in the geographical area served by Michigan City Area Schools and exemplifying Rotary's motto of "Service Above Self."

The foundation, in honor of J.M. Ruby, Robert Schwartz and A.K. Smith, funds the scholarships. The application can be accessed at www.mcrotary. org (see the homepage blue banner "2024 Scholarship Application").

To be eligible, students must:

- Demonstrate "Service Above Self" in the community.
- Have a minimum "C" average in high school (class rank will not be considered).
- Graduate from any accredited high school before June 30, 2024.
- Plan to attend post-secondary education in fall 2024.

The scholarship will be paid directly to the winner's post-secondary education school.

Applications and letters of recommendation must be postmarked no later than March 22.





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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:

- Needle Arts Club to Warm Up America Joining Night from 5:30-7 p.m. Thursdays in February-March. 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.
- Board Game Bonanza! from 4-5 p.m. Monday, March 4. Families are invited to play the library's growing collection of games
- Creative Tech Activities (ages 6-17) from 3:30-5 p.m. Tuesdays. Create with LEGO WeDo, Micro:bits, paper circuits, Ozobots and 3-D pens. Children 12 and younger must have a parent or guardian attend with them.
- Story Time at 10 a.m. Wednesdays. Children birth to age 5 and adults will enjoy stories, songs



and crafts. Check out previous story time videos through the library's YouTube channel, Facebook page and website.

- Dungeons & Dragons (ages 10-17) from 4-6 p.m. Wednesday, March 6. Supplies and characters are provided on a first-come, first-served basis. Email Miss Dana at dwolf@mclib.org for details.
- Weekly Crafts for Kids & Teens. Each week offers a different project. Take-home craft kits are available, or create some in the Makerspace.
- Volunteer Income Tax Assistance aid needed. Volunteers help at least one day a week during tax season. The IRS provides some training, and passing the VITA test through the intermediate level is required. Testing and training are online. Call (219) 873-3049 for more details.
- Learning Center volunteers needed for children and adults. Areas include reading, math, high school equivalency and English as a Second Language. All supplies and training are provided. Volunteers are needed two hours a week. Contact Jessica Hoffmaster at (219) 873-3043 or stop by the Learning Center for more details.
- The 2024 Genealogy Bus Trip to Allen County is Wednesday, April 17. The trip is sponsored by the library and LaPorte County Genealogical Society. The center has an extensive collection of North American genealogy resources. More details will be available in March.

Michigan City Public Library is located at 100 E. Fourth St. Visit www.mclib.org or call (219) 873-3049 for more details.

### **Free Yoga Classes**

Dancing Feet Yoga, 19135 W. U.S. 12, New Buffalo, Mich., will host eight weeks of free community yoga classes at 6:30 p.m. EST starting March 7.

Visit www.dancingfeetyoga.com or call (269) 469-1966 for more details.



## Beacher

## LONG BEACH WOMEN'S BOWLING

		v/IIIIIIII		
Feb. 20, 2024				
TEAM STANDING	WON	LOST		
1. Gutter Busters	16	0		
2. Gutter Gals	12	4		
3. Pin Pals	11	5		
HIGH INDIVIDUAL GAMES		SCORE		
1. Deb Frederick		188		
2. Pat Collado		187		
3. Nancy Kubath		175		
4. Kathy Osborne		166		
5. Kim Stokes		161		
6. Diana Holt		157		
7. Debbie Novak		151		
8. Ann Bogart		150		
9. Mary Lou McFadden (series)		422		
10. Shelly Dunleavy (series)		420		
SPLITS				
Deb Konicek		3 - 10		
Linda Sperling		1-7		
Dottie Brinckman		5-7		
STRIKES				
Pat Collado, 4 in a row				
Nancy Kubath, 3 in a row				

### International Women's Day Program

Michigan City Commission for Women will host its International Women's Day program, "#Inspire Inclusion," from 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Friday, March 8, at Krueger Memorial Park, 801 Liberty Trail.

The full title of the free program is "Inspire Inclusion Through Entrepreneurship and Empowerment." Guest speakers include:

- Denice Shipp-Glenn, founder, MBA of Northwest Indiana Inc.
- Lorri Feldt, executive director, Northwest Indiana Small Business Development Center.
- Liliana Franco, operations director, Economic Development Corp. of Michigan City.

RSVP by March 1, including names, to commissionforwomen@emichigancity.com



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#### In the Area

Feb. 29 — Dunes Summer Theatre 2024 Season Announcement Party, 5-7 p.m., Vita Del Lago, 521 Franklin St. RSVP: contact@dunesarts.org, (219) 879-7509. Info: www.dunesarts.org

March 1-3, 8-10 — "Ring of Fire," LaPorte Little Theatre Club, 218 A St. Times: 7:30 p.m. Fri.-Sat., 2 p.m. Sun. Tickets: \$19/adults, \$18/seniors 55+, \$15/students with ID. Reservations: www. laportelittletheatreclub.com

March 2 — 4-H Clover Crop, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., LaPorte County Fairgrounds, 2581 W. Indiana 2. Cost: \$35, \$25/students. Registration: (574) 910-0107, angrlile@gmail.com, lile.farm@gmail.com

March 4 — Board Game Bonanza!, 4-5 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

**March 5** — Launch party, Sandra Young's <u>Divinely</u> <u>Dramatic</u>, 3 p.m., LaPorte Little Theatre Club, 218 A St. Reservations: slyoung@sandrayoungauthor.com

**March 6** — Virtual Author Talk with Nina Totenberg, 3-4 p.m., through LaPorte County Public Library. Registration: www.laportelibrary.org

**March 6** — Creative Kids: St. Patrick's Day, 4-5 p.m., LaPorte County Public Library, 904 Indiana Ave. Info: www.laportelibrary.org

March 6 — Dungeons & Dragons (ages 10-17),

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**Through Feb. 29** — Black History Month exhibit, LaPorte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave. Info: (219) 324-6767.

**Through March 31** — Work by Cheryl Kaper, The Legacy Center Gallery at Queen of All Saints Catholic Church, 1719 E. Barker Ave. Legacy Center hours: 6 a.m.-8 p.m. Mon.-Thur., 6 a.m.-6 p.m. Fri.-Sat., 6 a.m.-3 p.m. Sun. Info: lucia@qas.org

**Through April 2** — Indiana Historical Society traveling exhibit, "Endangered Heritage," LaPorte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave. Info: (219) 324-6767.

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

**Mondays in Michigan City** — Bingo, Moose Family Lodge 980, 2107 Welnetz Road. Doors open/8:30 a.m., early birds/9:30 a.m., regular Bingo/10 a.m.

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

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

**Tuesdays in March** — Creative Tech Activities (ages 6-17), 3:30-5 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

**Thursdays in February** — 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.

Fridays — Overeaters Anonymous, 9:30 a.m. Info: Jan at (219) 241-8757, Paula at (219) 588-3127, www.oa.org

**Fridays Through March 22** — Knights of Columbus Council 12951 annual Lenten Fish Fry, 4-7 p.m., Queen of All Saints Catholic Church, 606 S. Woodland Ave. Cost: \$15/adults, \$12/seniors. "Season Passes": \$85/adults, \$67/seniors. Online orders: http://qas.org/kofc

**Saturdays in LaPorte** — Guided tours, 2-3 p.m., LaPorte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave. Info: (219) 324-6767.

In the Region

**March 1** — Peach Jam: A Tribute to The Allman Brothers Band, 8 p.m. EST, The Acorn, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: \$30 + \$5 convenience fee, \$55 + \$5 convenience fee (reserved). Reservations: www.acornlive.org

**March 2** — Birding with the Indiana Audubon Society at the National Park, 8:30-10:30 a.m., Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk Pavilion, 1000 Riverwalk Drive. Info: (219) 395-1882, www.nps.gov/

March 2 — Vernal Pools with Pat Fischer, 1 p.m.

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EST, Fernwood Botanical Garden and Nature Preserve, 13988 Range Line Road, Niles, Mich. Info: (269) 469-2933.

**March 2** — Harbor Country Film Group, 2 p.m. EST, New Buffalo Township Library, 33 N. Thompson St. Free.

**March 2** — Controlling Invasive Plants to Protect Biodiversity, 2:30-4 p.m., Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. Info: (219) 395-1882, www.nps.gov/indu

March 2 — Cesar Rosas of Los Lobos & The Chi-Town Playboys, 8 p.m. EST, The Acorn, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: \$40 + \$6 convenience fee, \$65 + \$6 convenience fee (reserved). Reservations: www.acornlive.org

**March 3** — Three Oaks Flag Day Prince and Princess Pageant, 2 p.m. EST, The Acorn, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Free. Registration: www.acornlive.org

**March 5** — Friends of the Library Community Forum, "Jackie Was the First," 6 p.m. EST, New Buffalo Township Library, 33 N. Thompson St. Free.

**Through Feb. 29** — "Student & Instructor Exhibition," Art Barn School of Art, 695 N. County Road 400 East, Valparaiso. Gallery hours: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tues.-Fri./10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sat. Info: (219) 462-9009, www.artbarnschool.org

**Through Feb. 29** — "Changes" (solo exhibit by Bryana Bibbs), Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St. Info: www.chestertonart.org

**Through March 3** — "Abstract Topographies: One if by Land, The Paintings of Richard Keen," "Intimate Worlds: The Collage Works of Bonnie Rock," Elkhart's Midwest Museum of American Art, 429 S. Main St. Admission: \$10/adults, \$6/8-12, \$8/ ages 13-18 & college students with ID. Hours (Eastern): 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tues.-Fri., 1-4 p.m. Sat.-Sun. Info: (574) 293-6660.

**Through March 14** — Chesterton-based plein air oil artist Christine Newton, The Village Gallery at Pines Village Retirement Communities, 3303 Pines Village Circle, Valparaiso.

**Through March 31** — "Being There" (oils by Julie Christian Bender), Episcopal Church of the Mediator, 14280 Red Arrow Highway, Harbert, Mich. Hours: 9 a.m.-noon EST weekdays. Info: www.mediatorharbert.com

Through May 5 — "Radiator Mascots: Art, Style & Story," The Studebaker National Museum, 201 Chapin St. Hours (Eastern): 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Sat., noon-5 p.m. Sun. Admission: \$11/adults, \$9.50/ seniors 60+, \$7/youth ages 6-18. Info: (574) 235-9714, (888) 391-5600, www.studebakermuseum.org

**Through May 12**—"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. **Through May 12** — Photo exhibit of 1926 Valparaiso fire, Porter County Museum (PoCo Muse), 20 Indiana Ave., Valparaiso. Free admission. Hours: 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Tues.-Sun. Info: www.pocomuse.org, @pocomuse on social media.

Through May 12 — "Facing the Giant: 3 Decades of Dissent," Krasl Art Center, 707 Lake Blvd., St. Joseph, Mich. Also on display: Joe Matty's "A World Apart" (through March 24), Aaron Martin's "Nébwakat Mshiké: Wise Turtle," through 2024. Info: www.krasl.org, (269) 983-0271.

**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-Sundays in March**. — Chellberg Farm Open House, 1-3 p.m., Mineral Springs Road between U.S. 12 and 20, Porter. Info: (219) 395-1882, www.nps.gov/

Vickers Theatre — Now Showing: "Best in Show." Rated PG-13. Time: 6 p.m. Feb. 29. Also: 2024 Oscar Nominated Shorts-Live Action. Time: 4 p.m. March 3. Also: 2024 Oscar Nominated Shorts-Animation. Time: 6 p.m. March 2. Also: 2024 Oscar Nominated Shorts-Documentary. Time: 3:30 p.m. March 2. Also: "Bomb It." Not Rated. Time: 1 p.m. March 3. All times Eastern. Theater address: 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. Info: www.vickerstheatre.com, (269) 756-3522.





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Must have USA ID

Will get Michigan child care fingerprint/background check. Must have current Ability to lead and oversee an assigned group of campers. Ability to work with children of all ages, understand their interests, and apply that to how you relate to each camper

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# 2228 LAKE SHORE DRIVE

LONG BEACH, IN • 4 BEDROOM • 3.1 BATHROOM • \$2,075,000

Lake living is calling your name with breathtaking lakefront views of Lake Michigan and the Chicago skyline. This 2 story home is situated on a 60x120 lot in the quiet and quaint town of Long Beach. Spacious open layout with a kitchen that includes beautiful cabinetry and ample amount of counter space. Kitchen opens to the dining area and living room with a fireplace that is perfect for off season comfort. Sliding glass doors lead you out to an expansive back deck to enjoy summer cookouts and plenty of room for fun. Upstairs you will find the primary bedroom with a tasteful ensuite bathroom and an enclosed porch to enjoy your morning coffee or evening wine, taking in sunset after sunset. 3 additional bedrooms and a shared bathroom complete the upstairs. Lower level includes rec room, bonus sleeping space, laundry room, and full bathroom right off of the beach. Rare to find backyard space for further entertainment. This is the lake house you've been waiting for!

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MICKY GALLAS ABR, CRB, CRS, E-PRO, GRI, SRES	David Albers	Kelly Gausselin	Karen Pavy		
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Beacher



# COMPANY WIDE OPEN HOUSES MARCH 3rd 1:00PM - 3:00PM



**190 Country Club Dr. LaPorte** 3 Bedrooms - 2 Bathrooms 2818 Sq. ft. \$399,900



55398 Sumerset Lane New Carlisle 3 Bedrooms - 2 Baths 2278 Sq. Ft. \$329,000



213 Sutherland St. LaPorte 4 Bedrooms 1 Baths 1287 Sq ft. \$165,000



**3965 N Malaga Dr. W LaPorte** 4 Bedrooms - 4 Baths 3859 Sq. Ft \$560,00

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**616 Oakland Dr. Michigan City** 3 Bedrooms - 2.5 Baths 2064 Sq ft. \$600,000

1401 Lake Shore Drive, 46360 | 219-874-5209 418 Perry St, 46350 | 219-872-1432 www.makethemovegroup.com



2946 Wrobel Ave. Michigan City 2 Bedrooms - 1 Bath 777 Sq. ft. \$164,900

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