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# Musical Palate

by *Connie Kuzydym*



Rick DeJonge conducts LaPorte County Symphony Orchestra during its 2018 children's concert at LaPorte Civic Auditorium. Photo by Bob Wellinski.

**E**lementary age children are prone to wiggle and squirm in their seats...unless something grabs their attention.

Now, imagine 5,000 third-through fifth-graders arriving at LaPorte Civic Auditorium to experience a symphony orchestra.

Intimidating? Not for guest

conductor Rick DeJonge. Last year, he captured the students' attentions throughout the 45-minute LaPorte County Symphony Orchestra Children's Concert, with interactive programming of orchestral music presented in a fun, yet educational manner.

"He has this ability to hold your attention," LCSO Executive Director Tim King said. "Their world is full of computers, iPhones. He knows they have a short attention span. He knows how to grab their

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# Musical Palate

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attention using those mediums that kids today are using by adapting it to orchestra. He knows how they're thinking and chose music that is appropriate (for their age)."

After the concert, teachers provided feedback through a survey. The responses ranged from, "the kids talked about it for days," "held their attention," "educational" and "best concert" to a resounding number saying, "Bring him back!"

DeJonge innately understands the impact of music. Combined with his background in film scoring, he arranged and presented a program that totally engaged the young audience. He describes music as "a painting in sound," likening it to an artist who throws colors on a canvas and creates a picture.

"A composer takes the different colors of sound and puts them together and turns it into music," DeJonge said. "Sometimes, when it is done well, it can create also mental images that are interesting. When I was a music teacher, I would try to make the students understand that mu-

sic is more than just something you hear. It's also something you feel."

DeJonge returns to the podium Oct. 9 for the 31st annual LCSO Children's Concert, presenting "The Power and Emotion of Music." He has arranged five selections, and from his description, this year's concert again will thrill young audiences.

A sought-after composer and arranger, DeJonge acquires work mainly by word of mouth. This gig with LCSO is an example. A couple years back, the Christmas Pops concert featured a brass quintet. The group wanted to perform a new piece. One of the players was DeJonge's high school band director, who contacted him.

Composing this special arrangement is how his initial contact with LCSO began.

It is not surprising that DeJonge relates easily to children. To listen to him speak about music, one hears the wonderment, the eagerness of a youngster who has stumbled upon an amazing passion.

From the time he was young, music struck a chord deep within him. Sitting nearby, he listened to his mother play the piano and mimicked her afterward. If he happened upon a piano, he had to sit



Rick DeJonge weaves a youngster from the audience into the children's concert performance. Photo by Bob Wellinski.

and play. He thought music was something everyone did.

“I remember when my dad took me to my first high school football game,” DeJonge said. “I think I was 9. The whole time I’m watching the marching band in the stands and my dad’s, like, looking at me and said, ‘Hey, the game is out in the field.’ I go, ‘Yeah, but listen to this over here.’ I couldn’t keep my eyes off them. It was so addicting.”

His mother supported his love of music in numerous and amazing ways. She never pushed it as a career, rather giving him room to decide on his own. Although music was part of his entire being, he did not head in that direction in college.

“I was taking all the AP classes,” DeJonge said. “I was really into medicine. I wanted to be a doctor. I decided after reaching my senior year, this is stupid, I should go do music. I just never saw it as a career. I always saw it as just something I was good at and I enjoyed.”

He credits his former high school band director,



Rick DeJonge conducts LaPorte County Symphony Orchestra during a piece he wrote to accompany mostly silent-movie footage.

Photo by Bob Wellinski.

Jay Crouch, as being instrumental in helping him with his career choice. He shared his infectious passion of music with DeJonge, who ultimately realized he could pass that passion on to someone else.

“When I was student teaching, I was working with kindergartners,” DeJonge said. “I could just see them light up all the time when we did music things. I wasn’t sure I really wanted to be a teacher, but it was through those experiences, in student teaching, that made me realize that I had this opportunity to help people fall in love with music the way I did, and now it’s such a joy.

“I did that for several years and went on to do other things. But I still get the opportunity to work with kids. I do a lot of honor bands, all state bands.

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# Musical Palate

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I still get to have fun working with kids, just in a different way.”

By becoming a teacher, he could write music without concerns of who would play it, as his students were a ready-made outlet.

DeJonge holds a Bachelor of Music in instrumental music education and a Master's of Art in educational leadership, both from Western Michigan University. He also went through University of Southern California's prestigious Film Scoring Program.

His educational career began across the border in New Buffalo, Mich., as elementary choir director and assistant band director. After four years, he headed to LaPorte as a music teacher for two elementary schools. A year later, he started the band/choir program at Le Mans Academy, then took over as band director of his former high school in Niles, Mich. Five years later, his music career took off.

As long as he can remember, DeJonge wanted to be a film composer. During high school, he played the piano for school plays, creating music to go along with what was happening on stage. As a pastime, he would arrange music for silent films.

As an adult, when the opportunity arose in Los Angeles to work in film, he headed west. There, he worked with Hollywood composers such as Christopher Young, David Spear, Jack Smalley and Pete Anthony.

“When you're doing music for film, you're not trying to create music for people to hear,” DeJonge said. “You're trying to create music for people to feel. Because whatever is happening on the screen, there's a certain way an audience should be feeling while they're watching that, and you're just trying to help that come to life. It's your No. 1 job, as a film composer, to get the audience to feel something.”

Think of iconic films such as “Star Wars,” “Pirates of the Caribbean” or “Jaws,” and how their music makes you feel.

The score is written after the film is “locked,” or completely edited, thus allowing the music to perfectly match what is happening on screen.

Imagine finishing the score, then receiving a call

saying the music and frames are not lining up. DeJonge was totally stumped. Apparently, the director found another way to create special effects for a four-minute action scene. You can only imagine what happened next.

“I'm in his studio and we're looking at the scene with the music I wrote,” DeJonge said. “He looks at me and says, ‘How come this music isn't lining up anymore?’ I said, ‘Did you do anything?’ He said ‘no.’ I said, ‘Are you sure?’ He finally admitted adding a few frames here and there.”

Each change was a mere fraction of a second, but those fractional seconds altered how the music fit to the film. It was too late for DeJonge to rewrite the piece, so with the orchestrator's help, they edited the music. Was it perfect? It was close.



DeJonge on location with Willie Nelson for the 2007 film “Fighting with Anger.”

His favorite movie memory involves working with country singer-songwriter Willie Nelson. DeJonge wrote the score for the 2007 film “Fighting with Anger” and the song of the same name that Nelson recorded. At the time the film was being shot in Austin, Texas, he was living there, affording him the opportunity to go on location. He spent some time with Nelson, who produced and starred in the movie. According to DeJonge, Nelson is pretty down-to-earth: humble, and fun to work with.

The song “Fighting with Anger” won Best Original Song at the 2007 New York International Independent Film & Video Festival in L.A.

DeJonge also is a Grammy nominated composer, having written a piece recorded by an orchestra.

To date, he has written some 200 pieces for marching bands, school bands, professional orchestras, professional bands and recording artists. He gets commissioned to write original pieces, film scores, TV commercials, video games and piano scores for newly released remastered silent films. He also owns the publishing company Dream Notes Music.

He finds joy in writing music for all ensembles and styles, but enjoys writing for orchestra the most. His reasoning is simple, yet profound.

“If you're a painter and they say, OK, we're go-



Rick DeJonge, photographed in a Los Angeles studio for a *Life* magazine article about composing film music.

ing to give you 64 crayons, OK, great, I can do a lot with that, but imagine what I could do if I had the box of 128,” DeJonge said. “It’s the same thing with writing. You give me an orchestra, now I have got percussion, brass, woodwinds, strings, a harp. Listen to all those different colors I can create music with...because there’s more colors to pick from...there’s just more you can do, cuz if you hear it in your head and hear it in your heart, it allows you to bring it out easier.”

Over the years, DeJonge has developed a certain style recognizable to those familiar with his music. People have told him it sounds “filmesque,” which, considering what he loves doing, is not surprising.

DeJonge also has adapted to write quickly, as film, commercials and television are fast-paced industries that don’t afford much time.

To write music for the sake of writing is not really his style. He writes when there is an end result. DeJonge gives himself ample time to allow the



DeJonge has worked with more than 500 artists and bands, including Big Bad VooDoo Daddy.

idea to percolate. By the time he gets to the project, he has a good idea of where it is headed. Once he begins the writing process, it takes on a life of its own. The creative juices flowing, he begins with an idea, then a different one pops in his head, leading him down another path. The piece develops along the way.

“I don’t sit down to write it until I have two to three weeks from when it’s due,” DeJonge said. “Because when I’m under that time crunch, then it really just flows...Then I’ll sit down and start really cranking it out cuz once I start something, I don’t want to let it live there for months. I don’t want to work

on a piece longer than two to three weeks at the most because I don’t want those juices to stop flowing.”

Today, DeJonge can’t imagine a life without music. Everything he does revolves around it. Since 2011, he has been the official arranger/composer for Walt Disney World’s Thanksgiving Day Parade. He works full time as an artist-relations manager at

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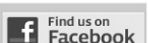
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KHS America, a provider of high-quality musical instruments and services. He composed the piece "Flight" for the U.S. Air Force Band of the Golden West and Boston Brass. He worked on scores for TV shows such as "Lost," "The West Wing" and "CSI: Miami." He guests conducts orchestras, state bands and his own scores at Paramount Studios, Fox Studios and Firehouse Studios. He has worked with more than 500 artists and bands, including Boston Brass, Big Bad VooDoo Daddy and Capital Cities.



Since 2011, DeJonge has been the official arranger/composer for Walt Disney World's Thanksgiving Day Parade.



DeJonge worked on scores for TV shows such as "The West Wing."

He also works for The Sessions, a non-profit organization, booking and marketing its events. He travels around the world with a panel of individuals from different aspects of the music industry, talking to college students about the music industry and how they can assist them in their craft.

Does he ever have downtime? His reply made me smile.

"There's always something going on in my head," he said. "My toes are tapping, my fingers are always moving and my teeth are always clicking. It drives my wife nuts, but she knows, OK, you're thinking of something. It never stops."

When pressed to describe this passion, and why it

draws him in, he gave two inspiring examples.

"It doesn't matter what country I'm in," DeJonge said. "I don't speak their language, sometimes they don't speak very good English, but the minute we start doing music, the language barrier just breaks down," he said. "I mean, it's like we can understand and connect...and when you're with other people, no matter who they are, you can connect so easily. That's such a beautiful thing.

"I also believe music is such a great healer of expression...music is such a powerful thing. It heals. In music education, I think it helps save lives. Kids who might not know what they want to do, they find music and it keeps them in school. It helps them socially, helps them also with grades academically."

DeJonge simply knows he has to do music: It is as much a part of him as any other part of his being.

"I think you do it for the right reason," he said. "I think there's people who tend to get into it sometimes because they want fame and fortune, but it just doesn't last. You can't disrespect it that way. It's such an amazing world when you live in the world of music, you know. You have to respect it, and you respect it by giving it your all and appreciating what it is. If you get something in return, great, but that's not why you do it."

Naturally, one wonders, what does DeJonge get from this innate passion and love of music?

"Well, they always say if every day, you do what you love, you don't work. So, I don't think I work for a living. I get to play for a living. I get to do what I love and do it in so many different ways," he said. "It's like my wife said one time, she goes, are you ever going to retire? How do you ever retire from music? I think you do music until the day you die, as long as you have the ability to still see and hear and maybe use your hands a little bit, but I don't know how you ever stop. You just do it."

## If You Go

LaPorte County Symphony Orchestra's 31st annual Children's Concerts, "The Power and Emotion of Music," is Wednesday, Oct. 9, at LaPorte Civic Auditorium, 1001 Ridge St. Times are 9:30 a.m., 11:10 a.m. and 12:45 p.m. The public and students not part of reserved seating can attend for \$1. Visit [www.lcso.net](http://www.lcso.net) for details.

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## “Downton Abbey” is a Wonderful Treat for Fans of the Show

by Andrew Tallackson



Lady Mary (Michelle Dockery, center), lures Carson (Jim Carter) out of retirement to assist with royal preparations, along with the approval of Mrs. Hughes (Phyllis Logan), in “Downton Abbey.”

Aside from “Avengers: Endgame,” “Downton Abbey” may be the year’s most critic-proof movie.

Julian Fellowes, writer and creator of the PBS smash, has crafted this big-screen adaptation as a treat for fans. The show departed three years ago, but Fellowes and crew haven’t skipped a beat, picking up where they left off, the cast slipping back into these roles as if the time off was a brief respite between costume changes.

Granted, there’s no reason this deserved to be in theaters. Fellowes and director Michael Engler don’t tinker with the show’s sturdy format, nor do they excessively bloat the length or production values. This is simply a chance for the show’s devoted, and I count myself among the legions, to spend two extra hours with characters they adore. On that level, this is everything you’d want from a “Downton Abbey” movie.

There is just enough story to warrant all the fuss. More so, it affords Fellowes breathing room to do what he does best: succinctly weave through the upstairs-downstairs dynamic in a stately English country house.

It’s 1927, and Robert Crawley (Hugh Bonneville) learns by letter that King George and Queen Mary will arrive during a royal tour of the country. Everyone, from the family down to the staff, is aflutter with excitement and trepidation about pulling off the visit.

★ ★ ★<sup>1/2</sup>

### “Downton Abbey”

*Running time: 122 minutes. Rated PG for thematic elements, some suggestive material and language*

Newcomers to “Downton Abbey” — this film being their introduction to the world Fellowes created — may wonder what all the fuss is about. The movie, to them, is just a high-brow soap opera. Which, truth be told, it *always* was. Love is in the air. Secrets and deception linger. A crisis here and there emerges that Fellowes neatly wraps up in gentle bows. But the pleasure of “Downton Abbey” was never the end result, but the journey itself, the way challenges brought out the best *and* worst in its sprawling ensemble.

And if the TV show was about an anachronistic world in flux, crumbling amid a changing modern world, Fellowes, with this film, gently nudges that theme forward. Growing political unrest with the British monarchy. A potential threat to the King. And, in the most brilliantly written exchange, a confrontation between Anna Bates (Joanne Froggatt) and one of the King’s staff that calls into question why the monarchy deserves to be treated the way it is. In fact, the staff of Downton — they’re all here, including Carson (Jim Carter), lured out of retirement by Lady Mary (Michelle Dockery) to helm



royal visit preparations — initiates a playful coup against the arrogant royal staff so they can have their day in the sun.

Can the film devote sufficient time to every character in two hours? Not quite, but how could it? Fellowes knows that, in some instances, he has deliver the “Downton” goods:

- Perennial scene-stealer Maggie Smith as Dowager Countess of Grantham, delighting in chewing every nook and cranny of the lavish scenery.
- Thomas Barrow (Robert James-Collier), finally finding love when least expecting it.
- Tom Branson (Allen Leech), attracted to Lucy Smith (Tuppence Middleton), who works for Lady Maud Bagshaw (Imelda Staunton — Jim Carter’s real-life wife), Queen Mary’s lady-in-waiting.

But more so than ever, “Downton Abbey” conveys the blurring line between upstairs and downstairs. I am reminded of the film’s quieter moments. The camera lovingly closing in on Mrs. Patmore (Lesley Nicol) and Daisy (Sophie McShera), forever by each other’s side. Lady Isobel Merton (Penelope Wilton), fondly smiling at the Dowager Countess, her long-time frenemy.

These characters can’t picture life without each other. Nor can we. “Downton Abbey” leaves the door open for more stories, and we are grateful. Delirious, actually.

Contact Andrew Tallackson at [drew@thebeacher.com](mailto:drew@thebeacher.com)



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The entire cast is back, including (from left) Laura Carmichael as Edith, Maggie Smith as the Dowager Countess, Hugh Bonneville as Robert Crawley and Elizabeth McGovern as Cora Crawley.

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## Annual Barn Tour Highlights LaPorte and Porter Counties

The Indiana Barn Foundation will host its Annual Barn Tour, complete with five barns and one church in LaPorte and Porter counties, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 28.

The first stop on the self-driving tour is LaPorte County Historical Society Museum, now called The Kesling Building, 2405 Indiana Ave., for registration, tickets, maps and instructions. Tickets, which are \$10, may be purchased at [www.indianabarns.org](http://www.indianabarns.org), with a limited number available at the museum.

The Bicentennial Barn Quilt will be on display. The quilt contains 92 squares, each representing a different Indiana county. It was sold to a private collector who loaned it to the Indiana Barn Foundation for the day. In addition, the book, *Indiana Bicentennial Barn Quilt*, which tells the story of each barn depicted on the quilt, will be sold.

Barns on the tour include:

- The circa 1855 Dinwiddie Barn, LaPorte.
- The LaPorte County Home Dairy Barn on Indiana 2 West in LaPorte, built in 1915 and restored in 2016.
- The 1917 Forrester Barn, LaPorte.
- The Kosmatka Barn, Chesterton.
- The Ledgemere Barn, Chesterton.

Barn experts and owners will lead in-depth discussions on the structures and their histories.

Also, the 19th century Carmel Chapel in rural LaPorte will be open for touring. Garwood Orchards, a tour sponsor, will be open.

The museum will be open at a reduced admission fee of \$3. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Visit [www.indianabarns.org](http://www.indianabarns.org) or Facebook for more details.



The restored LaPorte County Home Dairy Barn.



The Barn Quilt with Carolyn Rahe (left), Indiana Barn Foundation founder, Joy William and Karen Pence, wife of Vice President Mike Pence.

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## Celebrating Heritage and Culture

by William Halliar



What a party!

The morning sun came up a watery orange orb Sunday, Sept. 15, peeking through gray storm clouds that skittered across the lake from the north and west. Would the much-anticipated eighth annual Polish Heritage Festival be rained out? The possibility existed as rain dripped through the branches of low-hanging trees. Nonetheless, families of Polish descent began to gather in the Friendship Botanic Gardens Symphony Garden for a Catholic Mass spoken in Polish and English.

As the day progressed, Ed Sienkowski, leader of the polka band Ampol Aires, observed, “Is everybody related or what?” This day, as with each festival by the Polish Heritage Association of Michigan City, truly was a day of family and friends of all nationalities. Whether enjoying the delicious food, colorfully clad young people dancing and whirling about the stage to a lively tune, the people were keenly aware they are, truly, of one great Polish family.

It is this spirit that is celebrated in the hymns sung together during the opening Mass, in the dances of the young people and the traditional foods of the Polish homeland prepared with care by Caviler Inn.

Polish Ambassadors of the Year Richard and Michelina Jaminski exemplified the spirit of the day and, indeed, the Polish-American tradition as they

were honored for “educating, informing and supporting the Polish culture through their love of song and dance.”

In his presentation to the couple, Polish Heritage Association President Mark Kolasa said the award, and the entire festival, “celebrate heritage and culture to keep it vibrant and to engage young people.” Indeed, young and old alike took part in the celebration of the Mass and this entire day of Polish pride.

Mayor Ron Meer, reading a proclamation honoring Sept. 15 as Polish Heritage Day, said in his remarks the special day was created to “recognize Polish Americans’ rich heritage of their many contributions to the American way of life.”

*Polonijna Orkiestra Ludowa*, an orchestra consisting of young people, gingerly and tentatively fingered their instruments while sitting next to seasoned veterans who led the way with their bold phrasing, lending a certain majesty to the music sung by the congregation.

The young people of *Wesoly Lud*, dressed in traditional clothing of their heritage, backed up the singing of hymns and ancient tunes that soared over the tops of trees and into every corner of the lush garden, vying with the songs of the birds and mingling with an occasional ringing bell to chase away the clouds and usher in an absolutely perfect day for a family celebration.



As the Mass ended and the celebrants ambled across the bridge over Trail Creek to continue the festivities, the clouds commenced parting to spread bright sunbeams through the throng and onto the expectant smiles and bright faces of the dancers.

To be sure, the grounds were wet. In fact, the grass was filled with puddles, and folks had to pick their way around small lakes of brown water and negotiate paths made slick through the tramping of many feet in the mud. However, there were plenty of smiles to go around and delicious smells to tempt the noses. There were hugs and much backslapping as people reunited, once again, at this annual family reunion.

The day was filled with music and dancing, the quiet spots between performances punctuated by the joyful staccato peals of the bells of the gardens. Vendors scattered across the meadow near the garden's Lake Lucerne offered another view of Polish heritage. There were incredible displays of amber, T-shirts proudly sporting the Polish Eagle in a field of red, jewelry, recordings of famous polka bands and cultural displays.

A cool breeze eventually pushed the clouds aside to reveal a blue sky as hungry festivalgoers lined up to sample a feast of traditional Polish foods. Sausage, cabbage and steaming sauerkraut were heaped on plates. The lines were long, but moved quickly. Not a complaint was heard as hundreds of smiling, hungry people waited patiently to

be served, all the while delicious aromas washed over them to the accompaniment of lively polkas from Ampol Aires.

Cavalier Inn served the main course, but Bakers Dozen from South Bend and a *Kiszka* tent maned by the Polish-American Cultural Society of Michigan City added extra variety to the offerings.

The dancers of *Wesoly Lud* provided a kaleidoscope of color and sounds as they whorled around the stage to the delight of all. WICI Song and Dance offered a program of traditional Polish music and American folk accompanied by a band of amazingly talented young people playing guitars and violins. This lively American-style music juxtaposed with a stately Polonaise performed by older dancers in elegant costumes.





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at Jduzinkiewicz@pnw.edu

Indeed, the festival was a day of polkas, young people, music, dance, colorful costumes and delicious food. It was filled with smiles and the welcoming embraces of friends.

In a world of increasing coarseness of culture, the Polish Heritage Festival

could only be described as the best of the best.

What a party!

*(All photos by Paul Kemiell.)*



Among the many highlights was the announcement of winners in the annual Polish Heritage Essay Scholarship contest. The purpose is to raise awareness about Poland, Poles and Polish Americans among high school and college students, and to provide cash awards to aid students pursuing their studies. This is in keeping with the theme of the festival, to “celebrate heritage and culture to keep it vibrant and engage young people.”

Each year, a topic is chosen and students are asked to write a paper of no more than three pages, single-spaced, with a \$1,000 first-place prize. This year’s challenging topic was, “What was Haller’s Army (a.k.a. Blue Army) and what was its importance?” The 2019 winners were:

- First Place — Destini Mink.
- Second Place — Maximillian Zaccone.
- Third Place — Timothy Bukata.
- Honorable Mention — John Ryan.

The 2020 essay topic is “The Polish-Soviet War and the Miracle of the Vistula.” The contest is open to any high school or college student legally residing in Northwest Indiana (Lake, Porter, LaPorte, Starke and St. Joseph counties). Applicants don’t have to be of Polish ancestry. Anyone interested may contact Professor Janusz Duzinkiewicz, Department of History & Philosophy, Purdue University Northwest,





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## Historical Society Museum Now Called The Kesling Building



The LaPorte County Historical Society Museum on Sept. 4 was officially renamed The Kesling Building in honor of Dr. Peter and Charlene Kesling, who were special guests at a dedication ceremony. The Keslings built the site at 2405 Indiana Ave. in 1993, opening to the public in 1994 to display their auto collection. The county subsequently purchased the building in 2006 to house the museum's collection, as well as selected Kesling autos and aircraft. Pictured are Historical Society board president Bruce Johnson and Museum Director Keri Teller Jakubowski with Peter Kesling.

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### Chicago Day Train Event

Hesston Steam Museum, 1201 E. County Road 1000 North, will celebrate its vintage Chicagoland train rides during Chicago Day from noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 29.

Two of the most fondly remembered rides are the miniature steam train from Kiddieland in Melrose Park that carried families since the 1930s, and the Brookfield, Salt Creek & Western Railroad that meandered through Brookfield Zoo, giving a behind-the-scenes tour from 1967-1985.

The best-known pair of steam locomotives that ran at Kiddieland are "The Hudson" and "The Northern," which are art deco-streamlined trains of the 1930s. At Brookfield Zoo, three locomotives were in operation: two steam engines, one nicknamed "The Blue Goose" and the other "Granny," and a diesel-powered locomotive called "Rudy" commissioned and donated to the zoo by the late Elliott Donnelley of RR Donnelley Printing.

The grounds open at 11:30 a.m. Train fares are \$5 for adults and \$3 for children ages 3-12. Parking and admission are free. Visit [www.hesston.org](http://www.hesston.org) or call (219) 778-2783 (weekends) for more details.

### Aunt Kitty's Fall Yard Sale

Aunt Kitty's Fall Yard Sale is from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 28-29, at Independent Cat Society, 4061 S. County Line Road, Westville.

The event includes yard-sale bargains, a bake sale and cat toys.

Items may be dropped off from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, Sept. 27, at the shelter. No clothing, electronics or large furniture will be accepted.

Call (219) 785-4936, visit [www.catsociety.org](http://www.catsociety.org) or email [shelter@catsociety.org](mailto:shelter@catsociety.org) for more details.

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## 25th Annual Scarecrow Festival is This Weekend

The 25th Annual Scarecrow Festival is Friday through Sunday, Sept. 27-29, at locations throughout Wanatah off U.S. 30.

The schedule is:

### Friday

- 3-6 p.m. — Harvest Contest in front of the information booth.
- 4:30-7 p.m. — Pork chop dinner at Wanatah School.
- 5 p.m. — flag raising at the flagpole by the monument.
- 6-8 p.m. — Entertainment Tent (free). The schedule is: 6 p.m., Kenny & the Martin Boys; 8:30 p.m., Harvest Contest awards and merchant drawings (must be present to win).

### Saturday

- 8 a.m. — 3-K Walk and 5-K Run at Wanatah School.
- 9:30 a.m. — Scarecrow Scamper, a kids fun run for ages 2-9 that starts at Main and First streets.
- 11 a.m. — Parade begins and ends at American Legion Post 403.
- 11:30 a.m. — Tractor show at Hunt Park.
- Noon-4 p.m. — Bingo at American Legion Post 403. Food is available.
- 12:30-1 p.m. — Make a Crown with a Queen by the information tent. Aimed at children 12 and younger.
- 12:30 p.m. — Historical tours, running once per hour, with the last starting at 3:30 p.m. The tour begins at Main and Cross streets.
- 11 a.m.-8 p.m. — Entertainment Tent (free). The schedule is: 1 p.m., Tri-Township School Corp. choir; 3 p.m., John Fister; 5 p.m., Cutest Baby Contest. Participants must be pre-registered. Sign-in is from 4:15 to 4:45 p.m.; 7 p.m. — Elvis & The Sweet Sensations; 8:30 p.m., merchant drawings (must be present to win).

- Measner Magic Productions performs on its stage at 12:15, 2:15, 4:15 and 6:15 p.m.
- 1-4:30 p.m. — balloon artist.
- 1-3 p.m. — Scarecrow Sculpting by the information tent.
- 4 p.m. — Fish fry at Wanatah School.



### Sunday

- 7-11:30 a.m. — Pancake breakfast at Sacred Heart Catholic Church.
- 8 a.m.-2 p.m. — Car show at Lions Park. Concessions provided by Wanatah Lions Club.
- 8 a.m. — Whiffle ball tournament at Wanatah School.
- 10 a.m.-4 p.m. — Entertainment tent (free). The schedule is: 10 a.m., non-denominational church service; 11 a.m., Kianna Foster; 11:30 a.m., Good-time Cloggers; 12:45 p.m., Homemade Jam; 2 p.m., Queen Contest; 4 p.m., closing ceremonies; merchant drawings (must be present to win).
- Noon-3 p.m. — Bingo at American Legion Post 403.
- 1 p.m. — Pedal Pull in front of the Second Street fire station.
- 1-3 p.m. — Scarecrow Sculpting by the information tent.
- 4 p.m. — Duck race at American Legion Post 403



This year, the festival will collect food for local pantries. Take a non-perishable food item to the information booth and receive a ticket to be entered into a drawing for prizes.

Free parking and shuttle service are available. More details are available at [www.scarecrowfest.org](http://www.scarecrowfest.org) or on Facebook.



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### Chamber Breakfast

U.S. Sen. Mike Braun is the guest speaker at Michigan City Chamber of Commerce's Federal Focus Breakfast on Wednesday, Oct. 9, at the Blue Chip Casino Orleans Ballroom.

The cost is \$30 for members and \$35 for non-members. Sign-in and breakfast buffet begin at 7:30 a.m., with the program starting at 8 a.m.

Braun will share insights into the 116th Congress and take questions. He is a junior senator from Indiana who was elected to office in November 2018, defeating incumbent Joe Donnelly for the senate seat. Before then, he was the founder and CEO of Meyer Distributing, a company he built in his hometown of Jasper, Ind.



Braun

In the Senate, Braun serves on the Aging Committee, Agriculture Committee, Budget Committee, Environment & Public Works Committee and Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee.

Sponsorships are available, and the event is open to the public. Visit MichiganCityChamber.com or call (219) 874-6221 for details.

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### Triviafest 2019

"Triviafest 2019," considered a high point on the regional trivia circuit, is at 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 27, at Michigan City Senior Center in Washington Park.

The host is Mark Kline. Doors open at 6 p.m., and the contest starts at 7 p.m. Teams of eight to 10 people are suggested. The cost is \$10 per player and payable at the door. A cash bar and food concessions (nachos, hot dogs, sloppy joes, snacks) are planned.

Proceeds benefit the Michigan City Area Schools "Future Wolves" elementary school athletics program. Call (219) 362-4224 or email bkohn@educateMC.net to register a team.

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Visit [LaPorteHealthEvent.com](http://LaPorteHealthEvent.com) to register.

## La Porte Hospital



Shaan Khan, M.D., is an Independent Member of the Medical Staff at LaPorte Hospital.

## Friday Night at Footlight

Award-winning performer Jacob West will host the next Friday Night at Footlight open-mic venue at 7 p.m. Sept. 27 at Footlight Theatre, 1705 Franklin St.

West was raised in Michigan City as an artist and performer. After graduation from Michigan City High School, he traveled across the country, during which his love of theater flourished. Back home, he has appeared in numerous productions. At Canterbury Theatre, he recently joined the board and became the artistic director of the upcoming season.



West

Those who sign up to perform can be dancers, singers, stand-up comedians and poets. Visit [www.footlightplayers.org](http://www.footlightplayers.org) and fill out a registration form. A Footlight representative will follow up to determine availability and answer questions.

The cost is \$2 to perform for 15 minutes. Admission is free. Refreshments are available. The format is open seating. Doors open at 6:15 p.m.

## Retro Prom Fundraiser

Family Advocates will host its “Back to the Prom – Retro Prom Fundraiser” from 6 to 10 p.m. Friday, Sept. 27, at Marquette Catholic High School, 306 W. 10th St.

The 21-and-older event aims to raise funds and awareness for the program that supports local at-risk children and youth. Guests are encouraged to dress in clothes from their favorite era. Portofino’s will provide heavy appetizers. Also planned are a cash bar, music by DJ D, silent auctions and the crowning of the prom court.

Tickets cost \$50 and include two drink tickets and food. Visit [www.lpfamilyadvocates.com](http://www.lpfamilyadvocates.com), call (219) 324-3385 or email [mfritzen@lpfamilyadvocates.com](mailto:mfritzen@lpfamilyadvocates.com) for reservations or more details.

## Fall Fling Fundraiser

The 2019 Fall Fling Fundraiser, which supports Church of the Mediator community outreach programs, is from 2 to 5 p.m. EDT Sunday, Sept. 29, at Chikaming Country Club, 15029 Lakeside Road, Lakeside, Mich.

Tickets, which are \$48, include heavy hors d’oeuvres, silent and live auctions and a raffle ticket. A cash bar serving beer and wine is planned. Credit/debit cards are accepted. RSVP by calling the church office at (269) 469-1441.

Church community outreach efforts include mobile food pantries.

## Arts & Crafts Show



LaPorte First United Methodist Church Women will host the sixth Arts & Crafts Show from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 28, at LaPorte County Fairgrounds, 2581 W. Indiana 2.

The event features more than 100 artists and crafters from Indiana, Michigan and Illinois. The vendors are in three buildings, and all sites are accessible for people with disabilities. Admission and parking are free.

Items include home and yard goods, accessories, children and pet items, and holiday gifts.

New this year is Jim Lothary, owner of Hawks-glen Carvings, who creates wood carvings of songbirds, shorebirds, owls, fish and other animals native to Michiana. He also donates proceeds of sales to the Wounded Warriors Project.

A dining area offers lunch and pies. Call (219) 362-2443 for details.

### Call for Artists

Applications are being accepted through Oct. 13 for the 2020 gallery season at Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Mich.

The proposed exhibit must be recent work, completed within the past three years and not shown in another gallery in its entirety in Berrien County, Mich. Also, the artist can't have had an individual show at the Box Factory within the past three years (2017-2019).

Applicants who live in Allegan, Berrien, Cass, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph, Van Buren, Barry, Kent, Ottawa and Muskegon counties in Michigan, or Lake, Porter, LaPorte, St. Joseph and Elkhart counties in Indiana will be given preference.

Applications must be submitted through a Google form. To complete it, use a gmail account or create one with any preferred email address. Visit [boxfactoryforthearts.org](http://boxfactoryforthearts.org) for a link to the form.

Artists will be notified by email only before Nov. 14. Email [galler@boxfactoryforthearts.org](mailto:galler@boxfactoryforthearts.org) for more details.



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## Chesterton Art Center

The following programs are through Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St.:

- **Mary Ann Trzyna will teach a “Painting Landscapes with Pastels” workshop from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 28.**

The class is for beginning-to-intermediate students. Previous experience is helpful, but not required. Students should take sketches or multiple photos to use as sources for a landscape painting. No commercial/published photos are allowed.



A Mary Ann Trzyna pastel landscape.

The workshop starts with a discussion on the use of photos, thumbnail sketches, preliminary studies, value studies and the initial blocking in of the painting. A demonstration is planned. Students then have time to work on their own paintings with one-on-one assistance and some group review. A half hour lunch is provided. Students can take a lunch or step out.

A limited amount of pastels and papers are available for beginners who want to try pastels before buying a set. A supply list will be provided at registration. The cost is \$90, with members receiving a \$20 discount.

- **Local painter Mark VanderVinne will host Critique Night at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 2.**

Artists can take a piece at any stage, from conception to the final version, with all ability levels and styles invited.

Guests may simply listen; however, participation is encouraged. While being a safe environment, it is a critique involving advice and insight into the effectiveness of the work or artistic concept.

- **Caroline Hatch will teach two jewelry-related classes in October.**

A Mala Class is from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 2. Used in meditation, a mala is a string of 108 beads, with one bead as the summit or head bead. The class walks students through not only the process of creating a mala, but also techniques for how to use it for a healthier lifestyle.

The second class, Dot & Dashes Jewelry, is from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 9.

The class highlights the process of translating a name, short phrase or signature word into a series of beads using Morse code. The project combines

jewelry with a secret meaning for the wearer.

The cost is \$55, with members receiving a \$20 discount. All supplies and tools are included.

- **Dick Church will offers a six-week Beginning/Intermediate Watercolor Class from 10 a.m. to noon Friday, Oct. 4.**

Church will lead students through techniques. The cost is \$95, with members receiving a \$20 discount. Supplies are not included. Church will discuss supplies with all beginners to start the class.

- **Leona Jurincie will teach Oil Painting and Prismacolor Colored Pencil classes.**

Jurincie starts with the four-week Prismacolor Pencil from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Oct. 5. Participants will learn blending, layering applications, various techniques with Prismacolor colored pencils and art sticks, and using the correct solvent for specific effects.

Beginning Oil Painting starts from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 5. The class is for beginners and advanced students, with beginners learning basic oil painting techniques.

Supply lists for both classes will be provided at registration. The cost of each is \$170, with members receiving a \$20 discount.

- **Jennifer Martin will host October children’s art classes.**

The goal is to introduce children to various artists, their styles and techniques, with projects reflecting what they are learning. October’s focus is the Realism era (1840-1900).

The schedule is:

- Monday, 1:30-3 p.m., homeschool, 8- to 15-year-olds.
- Monday, 3:30-5 p.m., elementary 5- to 8-year-olds.
- Tuesday, 1-2 p.m., preschool 3- to 5-year-olds.
- Tuesday, 4-5 p.m., elementary, 5- to 8-year-olds.
- Wednesday, 1-2 p.m., preschool, 3- to 5-year-olds
- Wednesday, 3:30-5 p.m., elementary 5- to 8-year-olds.
- Thursday, 3:30-5 p.m., elementary, 7- to 12-year-olds.
- Thursday, 5:30-7 p.m., middle school, fifth to eighth grade.
- Friday, 3:30-5 p.m., high school, ninth to 12th grade.

Tuition is \$90 per month for after-school and home-school students (the member rate is \$70), and \$75 for preschool students (the member rate is \$55). Families must be current members to receive the discount. Supplies and a snack are included. Students must be registered and paid for before the start of each month. All payments made after the 15th of the month are subject to a \$20 late fee.

Call the center at (219) 926-4711 or visit [www.chestertonart.com](http://www.chestertonart.com) for details.



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INDEPENDENT



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- ▶ Tenant in the LB Community Center with an Insurance and Financial Services firm since 2011
- ▶ Volunteer on multiple community boards
- ▶ Graduate of the University of Notre Dame with a B.A. degree in Government

Jim Dehner came to Long Beach with business experience and a fervent spirit. Jim is a problem solver who believes in working together in an ethical manner. As an informed member of the community Jim voices his concerns, listens to what others have to say and steps up to help where he can. He was a member of the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) so has first-hand knowledge and experience on how to get things done in Long Beach. A vote for Jim assures a fair approach to issues and the fiscal experience required to serve the best interests of our Long Beach community.

**Mary Lou MCFADDEN**  
DEMOCRAT



- ★ Community involved resident of Long Beach for over 40 years
- ▶ Retired human resource professional and educator in local schools
- ▶ Previous elected official and member of the Long Beach Town Council from 2003-2012
- ▶ A voice of reason wherever she goes

Mary Lou McFadden is well-known in the Long Beach community. She raised her family in Long Beach and has been a steady volunteer for many years. She ran two successful campaigns to become a member of the town council and represented her constituents well. Fairness and transparency are key to Mary Lou's approach to government and aspects she will guarantee once elected. Her even-handed approach to problem solving is a trait that she is well-known for and a means by which she will gain cooperation with other members of the town council.

**Tom MCDONALD**  
REPUBLICAN



- ★ Respected resident of Long Beach for 23 years
- ▶ Marine Corps veteran and steel industry executive with strong leadership qualities
- ▶ Extensive area volunteer experience marked by effective arbitration and communication skills
- ▶ Management abilities that assure cooperation among various factions

Skill is what you have when you are dealing with Tom McDonald. It is obvious that he is a listener as well as a doer. You know that Tom will invite and consider input, and, at the end of the day, work for what is the right outcome. Over a lifetime of and career in challenging situations, Tom has been honed by the best in American industry, and will apply that experience for the best possible outcomes for the residents of Long Beach. You are in good and capable hands when partnering with Tom McDonald to elect him to the Long Beach town council.

**Mike JOHNSTONE**  
REPUBLICAN



- ★ Resident of Long Beach for over 17 years
- ▶ 27 years of community involvement in Chicago and Long Beach
- ▶ Strong desire to see good government practices in our town
- ▶ Commitment to approach issues cooperatively and evenly with fairness for all

Mike Johnstone has many years of experience working in large and small organizations to get things done. That kind of business and volunteer experience is invaluable when operating in the governing body of a small town like Long Beach. His approach is one of rather quiet assurance that comes with seasoning combined with a determination to compromise where necessary, and get to the best possible outcome. Mike will accomplish a great deal for the Long Beach residents once voted to the town council in November.



Each of us will restore **balanced** and **objective** governance in Long Beach. Our town is a **split** and **conflicted** community where once the residents lived in relative harmony and fairness to all. **Let's all move forward together** addressing the **many needs** of our community while at the same time **employing transparency and sound practices!**

- ▶ Reduce legal fees
- ▶ Implement fiscally responsible practices for all town expenditures
- ▶ Assure that major projects, those in excess of \$100,000.00 are voted on by all residents
- ▶ All town projects bid properly and with proper permits before project start
- ▶ Remove town employees that sit on Park, Zoning and Building who are in place due to nepotism, and with conflict of interest
- ▶ Give fair representation to ALL residents

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★ JOIN US FOR A "MEET AND GREET" | Sunday September 29th from 2:00 - 4:00 at the Long Beach Community Center Gym, all are welcome! ★







## American Red Cross

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

- South Central Junior-Senior High School, 9808 S. County Road 600 West, Union Mills, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 26.
- LaPorte Hospital, 1007 W. Lincolnway, 7 a.m.-1 p.m. Friday, Sept. 27.
- St. John's United Church of Christ, 101 St. John Road, noon-6 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 1.
- Sacred Heart Church, 201 Bach St., LaPorte, noon-5 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 2.

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 [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) for more details.

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## Westchester Public Library

The following programs are available:

- **"The Rest of the Story: Local Women 1860-1920" from 2 to 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 28, at the Brown Mansion, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.**

Museum Curator Serena Ard delves into the women, artifacts and stories behind the current exhibit "A Woman's Work Is Never Done: Local Women 1860-1920." The display runs through Oct. 6.

- **WPL Movies in September, "John Wick: Chapter 3 — Parabellum," at 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 28, at The Baugher Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.**

The film is Rated R. Free popcorn is available.

- **Knitting Together from 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 29, at Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.**

Area knitters, and those who crochet or do needlework, are invited.

- **Mermaids and Pirates from 4 to 5 p.m. Monday, Sept. 30, at Hageman Library, 100 Francis St., Porter.**

The program for children ages 6-11 involves a pirate ship-building challenge and creating a seashell necklace. A snack will be served. Registration is required by calling (219) 926-9080.

- **"Off the Hook" Kids Crochet, an eight-week program from 4 to 5 p.m. Tuesdays starting Oct. 1 at the Thomas Branch Children's Department, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.**

Children ages 9-12 learn the basics of crocheting, including the five main stitches and pattern reading. Registration is required by calling (219) 926-7696.

- **Adult Coloring Program from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 1, at Hageman Library.**

Registration can be done in person or by phone at (219) 926-9080.

## Lunch & Learn Series

The next free Lunch & Learn: Education Programs for Caregivers of Older Adults series is from noon to 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 1, at Rittenhouse Village at Michigan City, 4300 Cleveland Ave.

The topic is "Navigating Medicare Part D and the Insurance Maze." Make a reservation by calling REAL Services at (574) 284-7132 or toll free at (800) 552-7928, Ext. 7132. A complimentary lunch is provided to caregivers who make advance reservations.

## Harbor Country Book Club

Harbor Country Book Club meets at 6:30 p.m. EDT Thursday, Sept. 26, at New Buffalo Township Library, 33 N. Thompson St.

The selection is A.J. Finn's "The Woman in the Window." The Oct. 31 selection is Ocean Vuong's "On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous."

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### Final Awards Party

The Long Beach Ladies Golf Leagues celebrated the 2019 winners in the 9- and 18-hole categories during a party at Long Beach Country Club. Held Aug. 29, the event had a Hoosier Harvest theme. All photos provided.



Sarah Blank and Jean St. Peter, the Hoosier Harvest party hosts.



The 9-Hole Low Net winners: Carol Excel (from left), Donna Hennard, Rima Binder, Diane Rubey, Barb Hall and Carol Lyons.



Joan Carey (from left), 9-Hole President's Club champion, and Donna Hennard, 9-Hole Club Manager's Trophy. Not pictured is Kathy Chlystun, who won 9-Hole Most Improved.



Nine-hole league officers pictured with LBCC PGA professionals Brian Godfrey (far left) and Justin Stevens (far right) are Ginnie Hogan, President Susan Kelley, Barb Hall and Carol Lyons.



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The 9-Hole Low Putt winners: Pat Kelley (from left), Mary Weithers and Carol Lyons.



The 18-Hole Low Gross winners: Jayne Krol (left) and Melanie Davis. Not pictured is Peg King.



The 18-Hole Low Putt winners: Cindy Levy (from left), Linda Wilson and Mary Weithers.



The 18-Hole Low Net winners: Kathy Kenefick (left) and Gloria McMahon. Not pictured is Sue Luegers, who also won 18-Hole Most Improved.



Donna Hennard, 18-Hole Club Manager's Trophy, is pictured with 18-Hole Ringer winners Cindy Levy, Melanie Davis and Gloria McMahon.



The 18-Hole officers and committee chairs were: Alison Kolb (from left), Susan Keeley, President Jayne Krol, Kathy Kenefick, Nancy Reinert, Jean Guerin, Cindy Levy, Melanie Davis and Jane Irvine.



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### Memorable Monday Shopping Trips



Who needs to travel to the tropics when you can visit these guys at a pet store?

Just because one-seventh of our daily lives is spent living through Monday doesn't mean we can't make Monday memorable.

We certainly do by turning our weekly Monday shopping trips into exotic world travel.

Allow me to explain.

We are long retired, so we have the luxury of shopping and running errands on Monday, when working folk are back at their pits turning big rocks into little rocks. But the whole idea of Monday still haunts us because we once were working stiffs.

So we decided to liberate Monday, and we did so by declaring independence from the boring, old, same-old-same-old.

How so?

By simply pretending that instead of launching forth to do the laundry and refill the refrigerator, we are boarding an ocean liner and setting sail for worldwide adventure.

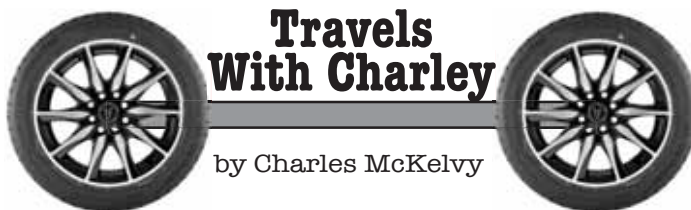
In Berrien County, Mich.?

Well, sure, because we make a point of sticking to the backroads of our beautiful county, and we don't mind a detour or two and taking a left when we should have taken a right.

Changes to our vendors have kept it fresh, as we discovered when our beloved Three Oaks laundromat closed its doors, sending us in search of another laundry service. Our little cottage in the dunes is too small for a washer and dryer, so we have entrusted our laundry to local professionals. We were quite pleased to find one in Three Oaks and built our Monday meanderings on two stops there: one in the morning to drop off the laundry, then a pickup in the evening at the end of our shopping trip. That

enabled us to head down rolling roads like Garden-er and drive right through the center of Galien.

So we moved our laundry operations to Bridg-man and changed our



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route. In so doing, we could travel through the heart of Michigan wine country on our weekly rounds.

Who needs Bordeaux in France when you can toddle along the so-called Wine Trail of Southwest Michigan, right?

And who needs the storied Yorkshire Dales when you can rollercoaster along the eponymous Hills Road looking for the next flower stand?

Right?

Of course I'm right because we have hit upon the perfect travel plan for a pair of almost-70-some-things on a fixed income: adventure travel on Mondays in search of clean clothes and sustenance.



The sign says it all.

And now that we have moved our drop-off laundry operations to Bridgman, we have new routes to explore on Mondays as we make our way up Cleveland Avenue in search of fresh produce at our favorite farmstands, or when we head east on Linco Road in search of the latest bird sightings along the so-called Scottsdale plain. Yes, we are already looking forward to spotting the first Snowy Owl of the forthcoming winter season. We actually trained binoculars on a Western Meadowlark out there in the far reaches of our home county.

We concentrate our shopping on the discount and box stores in Benton Harbor, thus seeing how our north county friends live and shop. As for the world-

travel component, why, yes, we often bump carts with shoppers speaking languages we know or have yet to learn.

Then, as often happens, we'll head east from Benton Harbor to check on a friend's progress in rehabbing a pre-Civil War home on Meadowbrook Road. We visited when he and his partner first began, and we've checked in regularly and been amazed as our friends work their magic restoring a 19th-century gem. That's fun, especially for a pair who can't tell the difference between tweezers and pliers.



Just the right touch at the rehab on Meadowbrook.

For added excitement, we'll thread our way south on Hillendale Road, all the way to the cosmopolitan burg of Berrien Springs to replenish our ever-dwindling supply of vegan *kimchi* at New Berrien Springs Oriental Supermarket on Ferry Street.

Don't worry, we don't put *kimchi* on our oatmeal, but the thought has crossed my mind. And the thought always crosses my mind to buy a Korean dish to go, then have Natalie drive the rest of the way home as I eat my vegan *bee-bim-bop* with chopsticks while descending from the fruited plain on Shawnee Road.

Is that world travel on a Monday or what?

So there you have it, fans of far-out travel: meandering Mondays on a budget without ever leaving Berrien County.

Life is good, and it gets even better every Monday.

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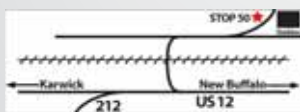
**Our passion** is to provide our guests this authentic Neapolitana pie along with fresh salads and refreshing house made Gelato using only the finest fresh ingredients, cooked using time honored traditions and served in a warm inviting atmosphere. We also offer the finest local micro-crafted beer on tap, as well as, a selection of fine wines.

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## Michigan City Public Library

The following programs are available at Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St.:

• **Makerspace: open lab hours from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Thursdays.**

Youth ages 6-18 create with LEGO WeDo, Micro Bits, paper circuits and Ozobots. Children 12 and younger must have a parent or guardian attend.

• **Graphic Novel Book Club for Teens at 5 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 26.**

The focus this month is Lois Lowry's "The Giver." The group is aimed at teens 13-18. Stop by Youth Services for more information.

• **Readings in Elementary Spanish 1 at 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 28.**

The prerequisite is a previous study of beginning Spanish. The aim is to increase vocabulary and improve reading. The class is free, but a \$6 textbook is available at the first session.

• **Writing Out Loud, Mary Ruth Clarke, at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 28.**



A playwright and screenwriter, Clarke co-wrote and appeared in "Meet the Parents" (2000). Her play, "Bonhoeffer's Cost," has had runs in Austin, Texas, Philadelphia and Chicago. Her farce, "Suffer the Long Night," has been produced in Los Angeles and Austin. Her play, "Address Unknown," was produced in Chicago. Her solo performance, "I Could Kill Him for Dying," also ran in Chicago. She is a resident playwright at Chicago Dramatists.

• **Creative Coding with Micro:bit from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 29.**

The physical computing workshop, aimed at children 9 and older, is an introduction to coding with the Micro:bit microcontroller. Projects will use Microsoft MakeCode, cardboard and other craft materials. Advance registration is required. Call the Youth Services desk at (219) 873-3045 for details.

• **Learning Center Volunteers Needed.**

The Learning Center needs volunteer tutors for children and adults. Students need assistance in: reading, math, high school equivalency and English as a Second Language. All supplies and training are provided. All that's required are two hours a week. Contact Jessica Hoffmaster at (219) 873-3043 or stop by the center for more information.

Contact Robin Kohn at (219) 873-3049 for more information on library programming.

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### Free Tree Workshop

The LaPorte County Master Gardener Association will host “Diseases and Pests of Trees in Northwest Indiana,” a free tree workshop, on Thursday, Oct. 3, at Red Mill County Park, 0185 S. Holmesville Road, LaPorte.



Hodge

Refreshments are served at 6 p.m., with the workshop at 6:30 p.m. The speaker is Russell Hodge, an International Society of Arboriculture-certified arborist who has been involved in the tree-care industry for 31 years. He hails from a family that has been in the industry for more than 65 years. He also is a tree appraiser, a state-certified pesticide applicator for trees and shrubs and

was a corporate tree crew safety trainer for seven years. In 2004, he began an “Urban Tree Care Workshop” in cooperation with Purdue Extension Service that has been conducted throughout the state.

Call the Purdue Extension-LaPorte County office at (219) 324-9407.

### Beach Garden Club

The Beach Garden Club met Aug. 22 at Long Beach Community Center, with Melli Hoppe and Kathy Brennan as hostesses and President Bev Johnson presiding.

The group took a Field Trip to Chicago’s Lurie Garden in July arranged by member Mary Beth Rebedeau-Warden.

Robin Eisen, of Dragonfly Body Mind Healing, presented the program “Effortless Gardening” based on the Feldenkrais and Miriam Levenson.

The next meeting is Thursday, Sept. 26, at the center. Meetings are at 1 p.m. the fourth Thursday of the month April through September, with a holiday lunch in December. Contact Bev Johnson at (219) 874-6974 for details.

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## Fernwood Botanical Garden

The following programs are through Fernwood Botanical Garden and Nature Preserve, 13988 Range Line Road, Niles, Mich.:

• **Wild Ones meeting from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. EDT Sunday, Sept. 29.**

The chapter, new to Fernwood, restores native plants, natural landscapes and pollinators. More information is available at [www.wildones.org](http://www.wildones.org)

• **Eco-printing — Silk Scarf Workshop from 1 to 4 p.m. EDT Sunday, Sept. 29.**

The natural dyeing workshop is led by members of Color Wheel, Detroit's natural dye collective. Participants experiment with a bundle-dyeing technique that transfers natural color from freshly gathered botanicals onto silk scarves. While each bundle is being hot processed, Color Wheel leads a garden tour, exploring the native and cultivated dye plants at Fernwood, including historic dye plant varieties installed earlier this year. Individuals leave having created a silk scarf. The cost is \$90, or \$72 for members.

• **Fernwood Photography Club from 2 to 4 p.m. EDT Sunday, Oct. 6.**

The club is open to all ages and experience levels. Meetings start with discussion of recent images by club members, followed by a topical program. The program is free with paid Fernwood admission. Contact Bob Denny at [bobdenny.fernwood@gmail.com](mailto:bobdenny.fernwood@gmail.com) for details.

• **Glamour Pumpkin Decorating from 2 to 3:30 p.m. EDT Sunday, Oct. 6.**

Turn a pumpkin into a planter/centerpiece by filling it with houseplants, succulents, ferns, berries and stems. All supplies are provided, but individuals can take their own. Register by Oct. 1. The cost is \$30, or \$24 for members.

• **Vin-Nidra Yoga from 2 to 4 p.m. EDT Sunday, Oct. 6.**

Weather permitting, the first hour involves conscious Vinyasa Yoga in the gardens, the second hour a stroll to the river platform for Yoga Nidra (yogic sleep) and Pancha Maya Kosha. The cost is \$24, while members pay \$20.

Call (269) 695-6491 or visit [www.fernwoodbotanical.org](http://www.fernwoodbotanical.org) for more information and to confirm the status of classes.

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## History on Tap

The History on Tap lecture series continues with Jon-Paul McCool, Valparaiso University meteorology-geography department professor, from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 3, at Barker Mansion, 631 Washington St.



McCool

McCool's lecture is titled "Wetlands and Climate Change: How We Alter the Climate by Changing the Environment." He will discuss wetlands, land use and society's role in carbon emissions. He also will share current research on the former Grand Kankakee Marsh, and the role wetlands play in climate change. The marsh once covered much of northern Indiana, but was filled in and dredged to make room for farmland in the 19th century.

The lecture is free, and refreshments are available. Call the mansion at (219) 873-1520 or visit [barkermansion.com](http://barkermansion.com) for details.

## LONG BEACH WOMEN'S BOWLING



Sept. 17, 2019

### TEAM STANDING

1. Alley Katz, Pin Pals
2. Blind Side

WON	LOST
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7	1

### HIGH INDIVIDUAL GAMES

1. Mary Lou McFadden
2. Sue Labovitz
3. June Salmon
4. Nancy Kubath
5. Ellie Parkerson
6. Jill Craig

### SCORE

177
176
167
162
153
150

### SPLITS

Debbie Frederick	2-10
Sarah Blank	4-5
June Salmon	3-10
Pat Collado	2-7
Peg King	3-10



More bowlers are invited when teams meet at 12:30 p.m. Tuesdays at City Lanes.



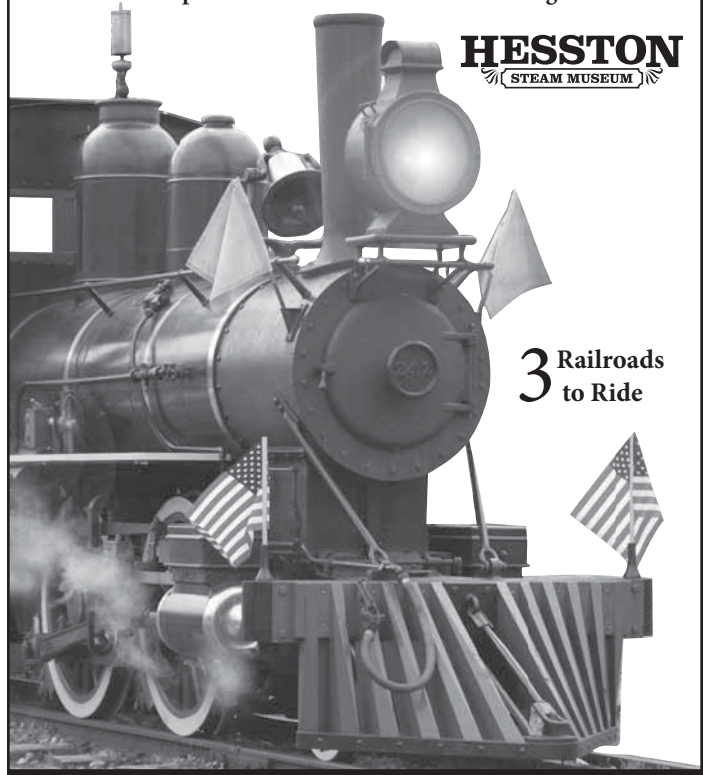
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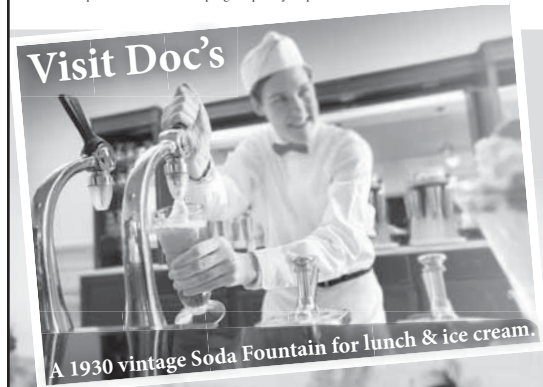
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North-South

- **First** — Susan Keeley and Betty Madigan.
- **Second/Third (tie)** — Kaye Moriarty and Sue Faul, Lynn Martin and Dianne Swygart.

East/West

- **First** — Jayne Krol and Carol Bulger.
- **Second** — Michele Eckert and Molly Trafas.
- **Third** — Cindy Garver and Beverly Battle.

**AUG. 7, 2019**

North-South

- **First/Second (tie)** — Sally Allen and Gloria McMahon, Pat Costello and Mary Jane Brodie.
- **Third** — Linda Wilson and Kathy Kenefick.

East/West

- **First** — Dottie Healy and Sharon Delawder.
- **Second/Third (tie)** — Cindy Garver and Dianne Swygart, Vicki Hill and Kaye Moriarty.

**AUG. 28, 2019**

North-South

- **First** — Corinne McGrail and Kaye Moriarty.
- **Second** — Michele Eckert and Molly Trafas.
- **Third** — Sue Faul and Kathleen Gazzolo.
- **Fourth** — Cindy Garver and Judy Wadlington.

East/West

- **First** — Mariana Bruce and Beverly Battle.
- **Second** — Sally Allen and Gloria McMahon.
- **Third** — Alison Kolb and Marci Meyer.
- **Fourth** — Adele O'Donnell and Connie Sullivan.

**SEPT. 11, 2019**

North-South

- **First** — Milda Roszkiewicz and Lynn Martin.
- **Second** — Sue Faul and Kathleen Gazzolo.
- **Third** — Pat Costello and Mary Jane Brodie.
- **Fourth** — Carol Bulger and Carol Teshima.

East/West

- **First** — Linda Wilson and Marci Meyer.
- **Second** — Kathy Kenefick and Dottie Healy.
- **Third** — Adele O'Donnell and Marge Quigley.
- **Fourth** — Pat Kelley and Jan Duffy.

**Dining with Diabetes**

Purdue Extension-LaPorte County, in conjunction with Franciscan Alliance, is hosting four 90-minute sessions of Dining with Diabetes.

The free program meets from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesdays, Oct. 2-23, at Franciscan Physician Network Coolspring Health Center, 1225 E. Coolspring Ave. It includes a light diabetes-friendly meal. For those who attend all four sessions, Michiana Lions Club is sponsoring a thank you bag of groceries for a diabetes-friendly recipe.

Reservations, due by Sept. 30, are required by calling Purdue Extension at (219) 324-9407.

## La Porte County Parks



All registrations/questions go through the Red Mill County Park Administrative Office, 0185 S. Holmesville Road, LaPorte. Call (219) 325-8315 or visit [www.laportecountyparks.org](http://www.laportecountyparks.org) for more details.

### Pioneer Days

The event is from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 28-29, at Creek Ridge County Park, 7943 W. County Road 400 North, Michigan City.

Historically clad re-enactors and vendors involve families in outdoor cooking, crafts, candle dipping, wagon rides and food. The cost is \$2 for adults and \$1 for seniors and children 4 or younger.

### Healthy Lifestyles

The free social club that emphasizes quality of life meets from 9 to 10 a.m. Wednesdays at Luhr County Park Nature Center, 3178 S. County Road 150 West, LaPorte.

Programs focus on health trends, gardening, medical information and balancing active lifestyles. Call at least one week in advance to sign up (the maximum allowed is 30). The schedule is:

- Oct. 2 — Medicare 2020: an overview of any changes in coverage and enrollment.
- Nov. 6 — What is your spine saying, and complimentary health/spinal screening, with Hicks Chiropractic Health Center.

### Early Celebration of Indigenous Peoples Day

Decorate a paper bag vest during the free program from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday or Sunday, Oct. 5-6, at Luhr Park Nature Center.

All ages are welcome, but children must be accompanied by an adult. Handouts of recipes for squash soup and corn bread will be available.

No pre-registration is required.

### Chalk It Up

Families can design and make reusable vinyl transfer and chalk paste from 6 to 8 p.m. Monday, Oct. 7, at Luhr County Park.

Aimed at children 4 and older, adults will make a 9x12 framed piece and children 5x7 two-sided pieces. A minimum of five participants and a maximum of 24 are required. The cost is \$25 per pair (adult and one child) and \$5 for each additional child.

Registration and payment are due at least one week in advance or until full, whichever comes first.

### Shelter and Hall Reservations

Call (219) 325-8315 to make reservations for one of many picnic shelters at any of the four county parks, or Pat Smith Hall at Red Mill County Park for a family function.



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## LaPorte County Public Library

The following programs are at the main branch of LaPorte County Public Library, 904 Indiana Ave.:

• **Health Insurance from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 26.**

Speak with a representative about affordable health-care plans.

• **Maker Mondays from 3-5 p.m. Mondays through Oct. 28.**

Each month highlights a different skill and lab equipment. September focuses on video production and October 3-D modeling and printing.

• **STEAM Sandbox from 3-5 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday through Oct. 31.**

Students in third grade and older move up through levels, earning a certificate for each completed. They work independently and chart their progress as they complete hands-on projects that include web literacy, fixer skills, circuitry, game design and coding.

• **Introduction to Drones from 6 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 2.**

Learn from local experts about how drones are impacting nearly every industry, from insurance, farming and landscaping to construction and the arts. Also, learn about current Federal Aviation Administration certification.

The following program is at the Coolspring branch, 6925 W. County Road 400 North:

• **Caregiver University from 6-7 p.m. Tuesdays.**

The schedule is: Oct. 8 — Caring for Aging Parents at Home; Oct. 22 — Alzheimer's and Dementia; Nov. 5 — Aging and the Law: Living Wills, Guardianships and More; and Nov. 19 — End of Life Care and Planning.

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



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## Indiana Dunes National Park

*The following programs are planned:*

- **Century of Progress House Talk from 7 to 9 p.m. Friday, Sept. 27, at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.**

The cost is \$10 (\$5 for members of Indiana Landmarks and Dunes National Park Association). Visit [www.indianalandmarks.org](http://www.indianalandmarks.org) to register.

- **Birding with the Indiana Audubon Society from 9 to 11 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 28, at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.**

Brad Bumgardner, birding expert and Indiana Audubon Society executive director, leads the program. Meet at the Visitor Center and car pool to the birding spot. No experience is required. Take binoculars, and dress for the weather.

- **National Public Lands Day from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Sept. 28, at West Beach, 376 N. County Line Road, Portage.**

Join park staff, Mermaid Straw and Recreational Equipment Inc. to reduce single-use plastic waste. The event is an extension of Trash Trekkers, a drop-in trash collection program in the park.

Volunteers sign in and pick up supplies. Each individual receives a fee-free coupon that grants single-day entry into federal public lands. Take reusable water bottles, and wear appropriate footwear for the beach and trails. Trash bags and other safety gear will be provided.

- **Science in the National Park from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 28, at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.**

Zoran Kilibarda of Indiana University-Northwest will highlight beach pebble identification. A 45-minute presentation is followed by a carpool to Kemil Beach for a short hike. Dress for the weather.

- **Art in the National Park from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturdays through Nov. 9 at Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk, 100 Riverwalk Road.**

Learn how to paint the dunes. A canvas and paint are provided for the free class. Registration is required, and the class is limited to 20 adult painters. Be prepared to park in auxiliary sites during the summer due to parking congestion. Call (219) 395-1882 for more information and to register.

- **Stargazing from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 28, at the Kemil Beach parking area.**

Members from Chicago Astronomical Society, Michiana Astronomical Society and Calumet Astronomical Society will attend with telescopes. Dress for the weather. Take binoculars. The Kemil Beach parking lot is located at 27 N. East State Park Road, Chesterton.

- **Miller Woods Hike from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Sun-**

- days through Nov. 24 at Paul H. Douglas Center.**

The ranger-led stroll explores a rare black oak savanna, with views of Lake Michigan and Chicago.

- **Feed the Farm Animals at Chellberg Farm from 4:30 to 5 p.m. Sundays.**

The farm includes cows, pigs, goats, chickens and turkeys.

□

*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 for more information.*

## Indiana Dunes State Park

*The following programs are offered:*

- **Feed the Birds at 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 28.**

Meet a naturalist outside the Nature Center for the daily feeding. Get close views of chickadees, cardinals and woodpeckers

- **Marram Grass Planting at 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 28.**

For the volunteer project, take a short hike up the dunes to transplant marram grass, helping prevent future erosion. Long pants, water and gloves are recommended. Park entry is free because of National Public Land's Day.

- **Bubble Art at 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 28.**

Bubble artist Mike Bever demonstrates artistic creations using colored bubbles made from items often seen littered on the beach. Visitors can try creating bubble art to take home.

- **Bat Chat at 7 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 28.**

Dispel myths about bats in the Nature Center Auditorium, then take an easy hike to see them collect their nightly insect meals.

- **Fall Birding Walk at 10 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 29.**

Meet at the Nature Center for an easy stroll. Take binoculars or borrow a pair at the park.

- **Prickly Pear Promenade at 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 29.**

Join a naturalist at the beach pavilion for a 1.5-mile trek on Trail 3 to search for Indiana's only native cacti: the prickly pear.

□

*Indiana Dunes State Park is at 1600 N. County Road 25 East (the north end of Indiana 49), Chesterton. Call (219) 926-1390 for more information.*



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## Activities to Explore

### In the Area:

**Sept. 26** — Graphic Novel Book Club for Teens, 5 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

**Sept. 26** — Harbor Country Book Club, A.J. Finn's "The Woman in the Window," 6:30 p.m. EDT, New Buffalo Township Library, 33 N. Thompson St.

**Sept. 27** — Friday Night at Footlight (open-mic venue), 7 p.m., Footlight Theatre, 1705 Franklin St. Free. Performers/\$2. Registration: [www.footlight-players.org](http://www.footlight-players.org)

**Sept. 27** — "Triviafest 2019," 7 p.m., Michigan City Senior Center, Washington Park. Cost: \$10 per player. Info: (219) 362-4224, [bkohn@educateMC.net](mailto:bkohn@educateMC.net)

**Sept. 27-29** — Wanatah Scarecrow Festival, downtown Wanatah. Hours: Fri./4-9 p.m.; Sat 9 a.m.-9 p.m.; Sun./9 a.m.-4 p.m.

**Sept. 27-Oct. 1** — Vickers Theatre, 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. *Now showing:* "Where'd You Go Bernadette?" Rated PG-13. Times: 6 p.m. Fri.-Mon. *Also:* "Luce." Rated R. Times: 9:15 p.m. Fri.-Sat., 3 p.m. Sat.-Sun. *Also:* "What's Next for All the Refugees on Manus Island?" Not Rated. Time: 7 p.m. Oct. 1. Free, followed by Q&A with Imran Mohammad. Presented with Harbor Country Progress. All times Eastern. Info: [vickerstheatre.com](http://vickerstheatre.com), (269) 756-3522.

**Sept. 28** — LaPorte First United Methodist Church Women Arts & Crafts Show, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., LaPorte County Fairgrounds, 2581 W. Indiana 2. Admission, parking/free. Info: (219) 362-2443.

**Sept. 28** — The Indiana Barn Foundation Annual Barn Tour, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Starting point: LaPorte County Historical Society Museum, now called The Kesling Building, 2405 Indiana Ave. Tickets: \$10. Reservations: [www.indianabarns.org](http://www.indianabarns.org)

**Sept. 28** — Birding with the Indiana Audubon Society, 9-11 a.m., Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. Info: (219) 395-1882.

**Sept. 28** — "The Rest of the Story: Local Women 1860-1920," 2-3 p.m., Brown Mansion, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.

**Sept. 28** — WPL Movies in September, "John Wick: Chapter 3 — Parabellum," 3 p.m., The Baugher Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

**Sept. 28** — Stargazing, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Kemil Beach parking area, 27 N. East State Park Road, Chesterton. Info: (219) 395-1882.

**Sept. 28** — Writing Out Loud, Mary Ruth Clarke, 7:30 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

**Sept. 28** — Miles Nielsen & The Rusted Hearts with opener Little Something, 8 p.m. EDT, The Acorn, 107 Generation Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: \$30. Reservations: [acornlive.org](http://acornlive.org)

**Sept. 28-29** — Pioneer Days, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Creek Ridge County Park, 7943 W. County Road 400 North, Michigan City. Cost: \$2/adults, \$1/se-

niors, 4 or younger. Info: (219) 325-8315.

**Sept. 28-29** — Aunt Kitty's Fall Yard Sale, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Independent Cat Society, 4061 S. County Line Road, Westville. Info: (219) 785-4936.

**Sept. 29** — Fall Birding Walk, 10 a.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

**Sept. 29** — Chicago Day, noon-5 p.m., Hesston Steam Museum, 1201 E. County Road 1000 North. Fares: \$5/adults, \$3/children 3-12. Info: [www.hesston.org](http://www.hesston.org)

**Sept. 29** — Creative Coding with Micro:bit, 2-3:30 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Registration: (219) 873-3045.

**Sept. 29** — Prickly Pear Promenade, 2 p.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

**Oct. 2** — Introduction to Drones, 6-7 p.m., LaPorte County Public Library, 904 Indiana Ave. Info: [www.laportelibrary.org](http://www.laportelibrary.org)

**Through Oct. 5** — Art exhibit, former LaPorte resident Roland Lee Hockett, LaPorte County Historical Society Museum, 2504 Indiana Ave.

**Saturdays through October** — Michigan City Mainstreet Association Farmers Market, 8 a.m.-noon, Eighth & Washington streets.

**Saturdays through Oct. 26** — LaPorte Farmers Market, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., Lincolnway parking lot next to Mucho Mas.

#### In the Region

**Sept. 27-29, Oct. 4-5** — Elkhart Civic Theatre Youth Theatre, "Disney's Frozen Jr.," Bristol (Ind.) Opera House, 210 E. Vistula St. Times (Eastern): 7 p.m. Sept. 27-28/Oct. 4-5, 3 p.m. Sept. 28-29. Reservations: (574) 848-4116, [elkhartcivictheatre.org](http://elkhartcivictheatre.org)

**Sept. 28** — Guided tour, Series 6 Art Exhibition, noon-2 p.m. EDT, The Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Mich. Free, donations welcome. Reservations: [boxfactoryforthearts.org/](http://boxfactoryforthearts.org/), (269) 983-3688.

**Sept. 28** — The Backsliders with "Stories and Songs," 7 p.m. EDT, The Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Mich. Cost: \$8/advance, \$10/door. Reservations: [boxfactoryforthearts.org/](http://boxfactoryforthearts.org/), (269) 983-3688.

**Sept. 29** — Meet-the-artists reception, Valparaiso University Junior Art Major Exhibition, 1:30 p.m., The Village Gallery @ Pines Village Retirement Communities, 3303 Pines Village Circle, Valparaiso. Info: (219) 465-1591.

**Sept. 29** — Eco-printing — Silk Scarf Workshop, 1-4 p.m. EDT, Fernwood Botanical Garden and Nature Preserve, 13988 Range Line Road, Niles, Mich. Cost: \$90 (\$72/members). Registration: (269) 695-6491, [www.fernwoodbotanical.org](http://www.fernwoodbotanical.org)

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**Prayer to the Blessed Virgin**

(Never known to fail.)

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

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



## Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter

**Milwaukee Noir** edited by **Tim Hennessy**  
(soft cover, \$15.95 retail in bookstores and online;  
also available as an eBook. 251 pages)

What a great idea! Akashic Books has come up with a clever series that takes readers to cities in the U.S. and around the world. Each book is a collection of short stories by men and women who live or have lived in a select city. Therefore, they give us a more intimate look at the people and streets of New York to San Francisco and Montana to Miami, to London, Singapore and other locales around the globe.

Milwaukee is a hop, skip and a jump from Northwest Indiana and, like many Midwest cities, has gone from boom to bust and back again, offering plenty of fodder for storytelling. Let me give you a preview...

The book is divided into three parts:

- Part 1 — “Schlemiels & Schlimazels” (remember “Laverne & Shirley”?)
- Part 2 — “Sweet Misery Blues.”
- Part 3 — “What Made Milwaukee Famous.”

Each story provides a look at a different neighborhood around Milwaukee, and there is a map in the front showing where each neighborhood is located. Perfect.

Another great feature of these books is the author pages in the back. They have a photo of each contributor and a short bio of their works and awards. Some still live in Wisconsin, others have moved on, but retain strong memories and emotional ties to this city of many contrasts.

So, the question hangs in the air above these stories: Do we change a city, or does a city change us? Several stories suggest the latter, and at least one suggests the former. Our status in life, the color of our skin, our amount of education, all affect where we live and how we live there. These stories prove that. Some make you laugh, some are thoughtful, at least one made me cry. And one gives an intriguing ecology lesson.

In Part 1, in “Runoff,” Valerie Lakin tells of three teenagers — a girl and two guys — who spend their nights in the old sewer system of Downer Woods, looking for manhole covers that will take them up into garages where they steal whatever they can to trade for money or drugs. But one night, they find something they hadn’t bargained for and maybe should have left alone.

Matthew J. Prigge goes back to “Summerfest ’76”

and the Murray Hill neighborhood where boy meets girl, boy moves in with girl and soon nothing is the same. When does lust turn to indifference? When does caring start to fade away? It’s a bittersweet tale with an interesting ending.

In Part 2, Frank Wheeler Jr. takes us to Midtown with “Transit Complaint Box.” A seasoned bus driver breaks in a newbie who learns there’s a lot more to driving a bus than just taking fares. There’s the crazies, the drunks, the sad, the down and out and, once in a while, a mean drunk who almost brings the transit drivers to the end of the line.

Sherman Park is a rough part of Milwaukee, as shown in Derrick Harriell’s “There’s a Riot Goin’ On.” Terrell isn’t a bad kid. He’s caught between two worlds — the world of being a shy teenager, trying to make good at school, obsessing over girls — and the world of the angry black man. Angry at “the Man” always picking on them, angry at fathers who disappear, angry at lost opportunities and a world that seems to be always against them.

There is a burning gas station down the street, rioters still around and Terrell hanging out with friends of which mother expressly disapproves. It’s a compelling exchange among the boys and girls as they drink beers and play pool, and an even more interesting way Terrell finally makes a decision about

his own life.

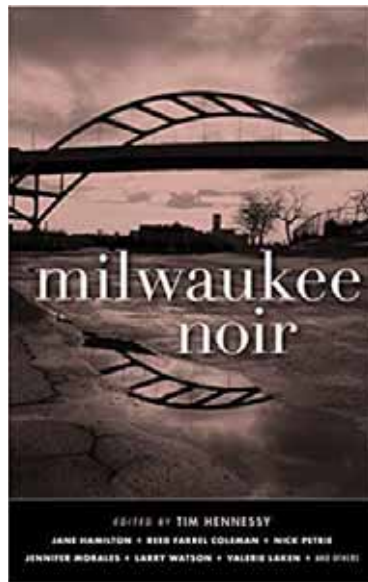
In Part 3, “Night Clerk” shows us one of the old hotels in the Yankee Hill neighborhood, close to Lake Michigan, where most residents are permanent and the night clerk doesn’t have much to do but dream about what might have been.

In “The Clem” by James Causey, we go to the northwest part of the city, to an area known as Lincoln Creek, what was once an all-white neighborhood, now slowly becoming integrated. School isn’t fun after Becky is accosted by a man in a ski mask. She fights him off, but can’t identify him — what did he look like, and more importantly, was he black or white? Jay, a classmate, finds a gun in the house and puts it in his backpack...

There are several other stories in the collection: a missing little girl, two old ladies and how superstition can take over the most sensible of us, and six more stories to enjoy.

People and place, time and circumstances, all of which make up Milwaukee, home of brewers and The Brewers!

Till next time, happy reading!





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