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Journey to the Center of the Earth (Almost)

by William Halliar

We bumped and clattered along in two elderly school buses that had seen better days. Sixty sweaty adults cramped in a space designed for middle-school children: elbow to elbow, knees pressed against seats, swaying back and forth as the yellow cocoons bounced over ragged stones of various sizes and shapes. We staggered along, down and farther down, the bumpy trail, driving over steep rutted dirt ramps covered in dust and littered with fist-sized rocks.

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Journey

Continued from Page 1

Four hundred feet down into the ground, we skittered and bounced, noses pressed against smudged windows, craning our necks to get a better view of the landscape. Steep vertical walls of limestone surrounded us as we progressed ever downward, dust billowed in our wake. Soon, we would disembark our cramped quarters and stand in the center of an ancient coral reef that began to form more than 200 million years before dinosaurs appeared on the Earth.

For the last several years, my brother-in-law, Tom Sroka, and I have enjoyed inviting each other to experience interesting local tours. The challenge is, who can find the most unusual and educational idea for the next little adventure. Little did I know when

he called me and mentioned a trip to the bottom of the Thornton (Ill.) Quarry — one of the world’s largest aggregate quarries — that it would be the best of all, that I would have to concede to his superiority in the realm of excursion planning.

I have been driving over the Thornton Quarry near the Indiana-Illinois border for years, travelling east to west and back again across Illinois, always wondering, “what, exactly is down there?” The Tri-State Tollway is laid on a bridge, a “dry dyke” that crosses this huge gash in the Earth’s crust, which actually consists of three distinct quarries or lobes. The quarries are connected by tunnels that cross far beneath the toll road.

Locals refer to the quarry as the “Grand Canyon of the Midwest,” and a grand sight it is. Many motorists struggle to see over the fencing as they rush over it on the toll road. Some even manage to find a safe place to stop, peer into this man-made wonder and imagine what is going on in that deep pit.

Lehigh Hansen, current owners of the quarry, has a partnership with the Thornton Historical Society, which arranges two tours a year for those lucky enough to secure advance tickets. The ticket price is a fundraiser for the historical society housed in an old church in the little village. Curiously, newspaper stories that mention the tours are not encouraged because they only increase the demand for tickets which, to date, are booked through 2022.

Approximately 270 lucky ticketholders at a time are taken down into the working quarry accompanied by a Lehigh Hansen employee who points out and describes the mining equipment scattered



Examples of the fossil formations discovered within Thornton Quarry.



School buses carrying a tour group make their ways through the quarry.

throughout the quarry, and answers questions about the operation.

Tom and I were lucky to get a ticket for this once-in-a-lifetime experience. Our tour was organized by Ted Golat of SEECAGO Tours Inc. and sponsored by Munster Parks & Recreation. There were people with us, on our yellow school bus, from all over Chicago who had heard about the tickets the Munster park district secured through SEECAGO.

We gathered at the Munster municipal building and boarded a fine new air-conditioned tour bus for the trip to the little town of Thornton. We met with others who would also make the trek at a church hall in Thornton, where we watched a video describing the history and operation of the Thornton Quarry. From here, we boarded the not-air-conditioned school buses that would take us out to the quarry.

The tour began at an overlook, high above one ridge of the quarry. From this vantage point, we

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My brother-in-law, Tom, with our tour guide, Ted Golat.

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Journey

Continued from Page 3

could see the tollway crossing the giant hole and most of the southern lobe of the quarry. We also could see tiny yellow buses filled with an earlier tour group as they made their way across the bottom of the pit.

We reboarded our school buses, and as we bounced along in sweaty splendor, a Lehigh Hanson tour guide pointed out various huge pieces of machinery used by workers to process the rock into approximately 35 different products, from giant boulders used to stop erosion along the shores of Lake Michigan to fine powder used to make toothpaste, of all things.

The tour guide pointed out that although the quarry was in operation for 150 years and is currently mining more than nine million tons of stone a year, 60 to 80 years of minable material remain.

We drove on dusty roads paved only with native limestone, through portals underneath the tollway and looked out the windows at the lobes of the quarry. The guide pointed out the “eye” of the ancient reef laid down over thousands of years during the Silurian geologic age. From this eye, or origin point, the ancient reef formed a circle nearly a mile in diameter at the bottom of shallow tropical sea.

The Thornton Quarry contains molds and casts of ancient sea creatures, affording geologists from around the world an opportunity to study an ancient reef formation. According to “The Classic Silurian Reefs of the Chicago Area,” “Silurian reefs of the Chicago area have maintained both economic and scientific importance for more than 150 years. The high-purity dolomite from these reefs was a major source of lime throughout the nineteenth century.” This document lists 17 ancient reef structures in the Chicago area that have been mined for limestone. Of these, the Thornton Quarry is one of the largest and most famous.

The stone taken from the quarry is recognizable from the other Chicago quarries because it contains small deposits of naturally occurring asphalt. Gal-

lagher Asphalt Corp. has been operating on the grounds since 1928 to recover the natural asphalt and process it for local road building.

Everyone on the tour was looking forward to the final phase when we would disembark from the close confines of our yellow conveniences and actually stand on the floor of the quarry to search for fossils. Who doesn't like fossils? We were all like big

kids, anxiously anticipating to be let loose upon the floor of the quarry. Imagine, a 400-year-old coral reef. What would we find?

We were told to prepare for the tour by taking gloves, safety glasses, a small hammer and a 5 gallon bucket for collecting fossils. The rub was that if you filled the bucket, you would have to carry it out yourself. I calculated that a 5 gallon

bucket would hold perhaps 40 or 50 pounds of rock and opted for a smaller container. We sat on the bus with our buckets between our knees, waiting our turn to pick up rocks. This is what we were here for!

Finally, the moment arrived and the buses stopped at a level spot on the quarry floor, just below the observation deck, where we began our tour. We tumbled stiffly and with great excitement down the steps and out into the sunlit canyon, spilling onto the dusty floor of the pit like children at school recess time. It was like stepping onto the surface of the moon. The landscape was littered with chunks of rock of all sizes that we were allowed to chip at with our hammers in search of evidence of ancient reef life.

Over the years, many types of fossils have been found in the quarry, including: Crinoids; Trilobites; Pelecypod (small snails); Chain Coral; and Cup Coral, to name a few. The reef began so many millions of years ago at the “eye” as a small mound of shells and debris. Gradually over the years, wind and waves caused living creatures to cling to the sides of the mound, causing it to grow into a circular formation as a living reef.

As the climate changed over eons of time, the shallow sea that was home to the circular reef dried up and the animals of the reef died, leaving behind calcareous exoskeletons that were pressed together under weight of sediment accumulating above until



A vast machine used to sort rocks at the quarry.

they created the limestone formation that we find at Thornton today. Millions of years of history compressed into one sentence.

The group scattered, each person eyeing the other, hoping someone would not beat them to the best fossils. We could not be near the vertical walls because of the danger of rock falls, so the group of safety-vested searchers concentrated on piles of rocks left on the quarry floor expressly for the purpose of our dig.

Many people attacked the larger rocks with small hammers they took with them. The air was filled with the sound of chipping and flying bits of rock as arms flailed and hammers struck home. Some folks



The deepest part of the quarry.

could be seen bent over, quietly searching, and buckets began to fill with treasures from the ancient reef. One man brought a sledge hammer hoping to find something rare at the center of some large boulder.

I bent to pluck a few choice fossils from the ground. Armed with a magnifying glass to aid my old eyes, I studied the rocks I found while

strolling through the scene of rock destruction. But what I really wanted to do was simply stand in that place that had been so filled with life 400 million years ago and take it all in. I took pictures from the bottom of the reef and thought about how I could

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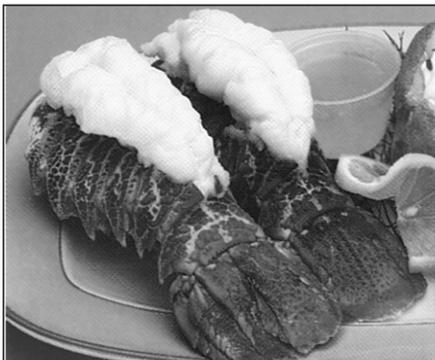


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Journey

Continued from Page 5

describe the experience for readers of *The Beacher*.

The study of the geology of the Great Lakes Watershed, the Niagara Escarpment and our own Calumet Region is an immense and ongoing scientific endeavor that would fill many volumes and thousands of pages. Being there on the bottom of that quarry, standing on rock that once was teaming with animal life millions of years ago, made me think of my own life and the place of man in all of this natural history.

I couldn't help but think about the history of the Earth, and how it has been shaped from the beginning of time. Here, under my feet, was once a shallow sea with tropical creatures. The layers folded, eroded, shook and erupted. Ice hundreds of feet thick covered the whole of the Great Lakes basin, pushing the sand and rocks ahead of it, forming moraines and lake shores, now extinct, that define our lives and modern landscapes today.

The Earth has been through so much tumult during its history, and though we study and search, we barely scratch the surface of what really happened. But the story of the Earth is held within the rocks beneath our feet, and each time we reach down to pick one up and study it, we must be fascinated by the secrets it must hold.



Finding rocks and fossils to take home was a desired portion of the tour for many involved.





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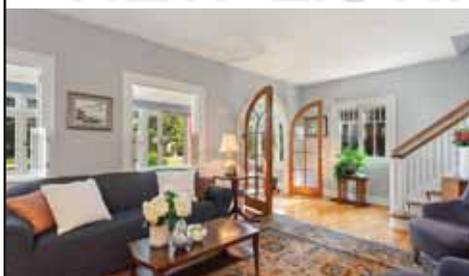
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Season 3 of “Stranger Things” is the Best Yet

by Andrew Tallackson

The measure of success for any tale of horror, the supernatural or science gone wrong, for me, is simple. Would we enjoy spending time with the characters if they *weren't* thwarting evil? In other words, do we care about them? Do we fear for their safety? Do we admire what makes them strong, courageous, vulnerable?

The answer with the insatiably bingeable “Stranger Things” is a resounding yes. When all is said and done in Season 3, which debuted July 4 on Netflix, I didn't want it to end. I was not ready to relinquish these characters for another year to two, when the show's creators, the Duffer brothers, unveil their next installment.

Then again, how can the brothers top Season 3? This is, hand's down, the best yet. The characters are at their most endearing, the humor is rich and generous, and the story builds to an insanely fun, intensely epic battle within a defining symbol of '80s consumerism: the mall.

How do you describe “Stranger Things” to the unfamiliar? It is, well, it's the “Far From Heaven” of crap. The Duffer brothers grew up on a steady diet of 1980s horror, the classiest inspirations by Steven Spielberg and Stephen King (“The Goonies,” “E.T. The Extra Terrestrial,” “Stand By Me” and “It.”). In these tales, unspeakable horrors now exist in mundane, middle-class neighborhoods. Government cannot be trusted. Children are wise enough to, one, accept that evil exists and, two, stop it from winning.

The Duffer brothers achieve something trickier than, say, what Mel Brooks might have done with the material. They do not parody their source. Instead, they lovingly recreate it, as if it was made in the '80s...but with sly winks to the knowing.

The series takes place in the fictional Hawkins, Ind., where a secret government lab opened a portal into a dark, dangerous realm — which the children call the Upside Down — full of vicious beasts that are all teeth. They've also experimented with children, but one escapes, a girl who earns the nickname Eleven (the exceptional Millie Bobby Brown), who can levitate objects like Luke Skywalker, adores Eggos in the same way E.T. devoured Reese's Pieces, and becomes the unofficial mascot, like E.T., to a group of Dungeons & Dragons-playing tweens: Mike Wheeler (Finn Wolfhard), Dustin Henderson (Gaten Matarazzo), Lucas Sinclair (Caleb McLaugh-

lin) and Will Byers (Noah Schnapp).

There is not one weak link among these talented young actors, and they are surrounded by a wonderfully eccentric cast. We meet: David Harbour as Jim Hopper, the paunchy local sheriff reluctantly drawn into investigating mysterious events; Winona Ryder as Will's tremulous mother, Joyce Byers; and a batch of older teens: Natalia Dyer as Mike's inquisitive older sister Nancy, Charlie Heaton as Will's outcast older brother Jonathan, and Joe Keery as Steve Harrington, the school jock with the best head of hair this side of a Rogaine commercial.

At the end of Season 2, Eleven used her powers to close the ruptured entrance/exit to the Up-



The Season 3 finale features an epic battle in Starcourt Mall.

side Down, just in time for the school dance and a smooch from Mike...but with signs of evil looming in the horizon. Literally.

If Season 2 felt a tad episodic, as if the Duffer brothers overstuffed the story to top Season 1, Season 3 finds the series at its most relaxed and confident, willing to enjoy itself even as it ratchets up the tension.

As Season 3 opens, it's summer vacation, right before July 4th. With school no longer a requisite setting, the story can delve deeper into the characters before all hell breaks loose. And in doing so, the show explores the changing landscape not just of the '80s, but within the boys themselves.

In fact, that may be the most heartbreaking element this time around: the fragile moment when adolescence shifts toward older interests — girls and summer camp — and the games and toys of childhood become just that: childish distractions. For some, hormones take precedence. For Will, that change reflects a loss of carefree innocence: the bond that forges friendships.

We see how the new Starcourt Mall, with every



Steve (Joe Keery, center) spends most of his work time trying to unravel a Russian conspiracy with pal Dustin (Gaten Matarazzo) and coworker Robin (Maya Hawke).

want or need within one confined setting, is a harbinger of things to come, of the hits mom-and-pop businesses will take because of it.

And through Russian scientists and soldiers who create the underground lab in Hawkins, we are reminded of how, amid the waning years of the Cold War, the Russians were everyone's go-to baddies. It is no coincidence, too, with Season 3 set in 1985, that a machine-like soldier looks and sounds awfully like Arnold Schwarzenegger in "The Terminator."

As each episode escalates to nailbiting climaxes, several visual cues — posters, props, phrases, story threads — honor pop culture of the time. Taking center stage now are "Back to the Future," "Day of the Dead," "Invasion of the Body Snatchers," "Aliens," "It," "The Lost Boys" and, fudging a bit since it debuted in 1993, Spielberg's "Jurassic Park."

The Duffer brothers, and their crew of writers and directors, achieve an even balance with the characters so no one feels shorted. The young cast has lost none of its appeal. Lucas' younger sister, Erica, comes into greater, scene-stealing play, with young actress Priah Ferguson sporting an attitude that could pierce glass with one eye roll. Another welcome presence is Maya Hawke (the daughter of Uma Thurman and Ethan Hawke) as Robin, who works with Steve at the mall ice cream parlor, and

who quickly picks up on the Russian conspiracy at play beneath the mall. She's a corker, with unexpectedly moving confessionals addressed to Steve late in the series.

There are nice touches here and there, like the parade of bored moms, including Karen Wheeler (Cara Buono), who count down the seconds until lifeguard Billy (Dacre Montgomery) arrives in all his bare-chested glory.

Hopper, unfortunately, feels reduced to a brutish ape, a macho lout constantly squabbling with Joyce, but what happens to him at the end — or does not happen? — will lead to the greatest hanging-thread carryover into Season 4.

Indeed, the emotionally draining final scene of Season 3 takes its cue from Spielberg, who knew how to aim straight for the heart. The Duffer brothers, who wrote and directed the final episode, pull back after the lively Starcourt Mall mayhem, achieving a reverent stillness broken by a single voiceover. Love, loss, trust and the inevitable passage of time, all conveyed in a single letter to heartbreaking effect.

At some point, the Duffer brothers will have to call it quits. The boys are getting older, and they look it. The Upside Down can contain only so many threats.

But for now, we can bask in the afterglow of a series that not only does not disappoint, but is richer, fuller, more satisfying than ever.

Contact Andrew Tallackson at drew@thebeacher.com



Eleven (Millie Bobby Brown) and Max (Sadie Sink) have a laugh about the behaviors of their boyfriends.



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“Prancer” Documentary Screening Planned at Vickers Theatre

“Lights! Cameras! Three Oaks! The Making of Prancer” will have its premiere at noon EDT Saturday, July 20, at Vickers Theatre, 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich.

The film is the fourth from The Region of Three Oaks Museum documenting the area’s history.

In 1988-1989, Oscar-nominated director John Hancock (“Bang the Drum Slowly”) filmed “Prancer” in Three Oaks and surrounding areas. The film, produced by TROTOM member Nick Bogert, looks back on the experience, featuring recollections from Hancock, a child star and locals who appeared as extras. Behind-the-scenes moments are recalled, such as why the film crew wanted to eat reindeer, and how the film’s star made a little extra money on set.

The film includes an original soundtrack written and produced by Garth Taylor to evoke memories of the 1980s.



A scene from John Hancock’s “Prancer.”

“The melodies are original, though some arrangements are modeled on famous riffs or accompaniments from that era,” Taylor said in a press release. “I will consider it a success if people say it reminds them of the Go Gos, the Bangles or Dire Straits.”

A question-and-answer session with Bogert and Hancock follows the 13-minute feature.

Doors open at 11:30 a.m. EDT. A \$5 donation is requested. DVDs of the original movie and TROTOM feature will be available.

Bogert, a freelance TV producer, also released “Father of the Featherbone,” the story of local founder E.K. Warren, “The Pokagons: More Than Just a Casino,” a document-

tary about the early days of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomie Indians, and “Joe Savoldi: Gridder, Grappler, Hustler Spy.” The films are available for viewing during museum hours and special request. DVDs are available by calling (269) 756-3547.

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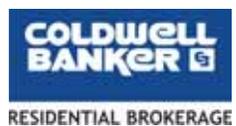
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Memorable Moments in Motown

My first impression of Detroit arrived in the fall of 1967, when folks at a hotel in the heart of the Motor City told me, "Don't go outside."

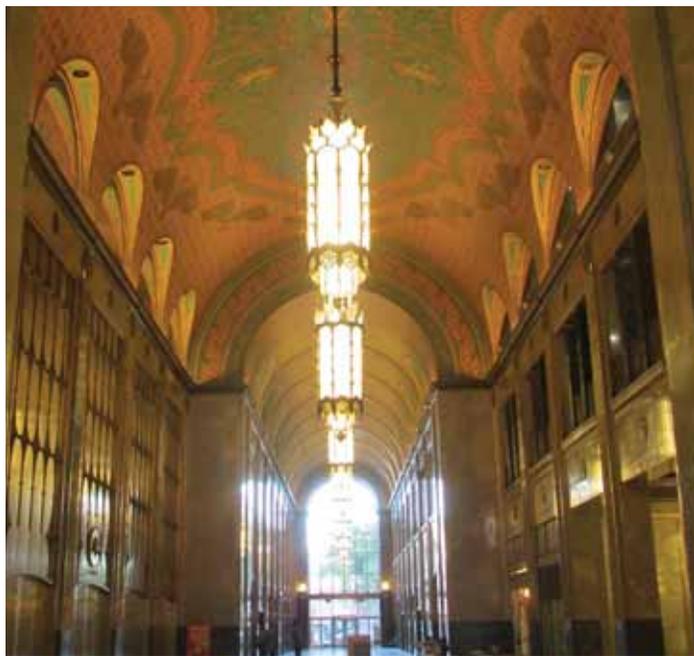
In Motown for a big Boy Scout gathering, my fellow Scouts and I wanted to explore downtown Detroit before our program that evening at Cobo Hall.

"No can do," the hotel staff told us.

In other words, it's too dangerous out there on the mean streets of the Motor City for a bunch of Boy Scouts.

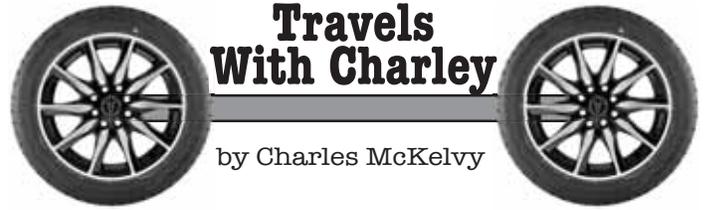
Really?

I suppose it really was, given the still painful memory of the 1967 Detroit Rebellion. Also known as the 12th Street Riot, it was the bloodiest incident in the so-called "long, hot summer of 1967."



Don't visit Detroit without beholding the Fisher Building.

The town was tarnished, and the hearty few visitors a few months later were strictly confined to secure quarters. I looked out the front door of the hotel, wondering what had become of all the people. It was a Saturday, not long before Christmas, and there should have been throngs of shoppers happily



This restoration is within walking distance of Little Caesars Arena and other downtown attractions.

flooding the downtown streets.

Not a soul, except for Detroit police on patrol in clearly marked cruisers.

That was my first visit to Detroit.

My second, in the spring of 1975, confirmed my dismal first impression. Touring Detroit with a friend's relatives, we saw a city on the ropes. To experience a thriving city, we had to cross the Ambassador Bridge into Canada, then tool around Windsor for nightlife and a peaceful, easy feeling.

Not so back in Detroit where, again, all we saw downtown were police cruisers and empty sidewalks.

So sad.

Then, I got my head turned round in the fall of 2013 when we accepted an invitation from Michigan City Chamber Music Festival's ace clarinetist, Bill King, to watch a tech rehearsal of Richard Wagner's "The Flying Dutchman" at the magnificent Detroit

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The Detroit Opera House is as good as opera houses get.

Opera House in the heart of downtown. King allayed any worries by showing us how entrepreneurs such as Dan Gilbert were bringing Motown back to life. Noting that the founder of Quicken Loans required his young staff to work and live there, King said that approach spawned a revival already under way with the new venues for the Tigers and Lions.

Detroit, King said, is a happening place.

We sensed it that night, especially during intermission when we walked to nearby Comerica Park where the Tigers were battling the Red Sox in a post-season game. The buzz was infectious, and I wanted to return, and I did, to two day games at Comerica: one pitting the Tigers against my White Sox, the other seeing them square off against the Red Sox. Both outings were wonderful, and, yes, Comerica is one of the most fan-friendly ballparks I have visited. It offers a lovely view of the downtown skyline, something those two ballparks in Chicago definitely do not.

As for the opera, it happened in a magnificent place, worthy of the capitals of Europe. The tech rehearsal unfolded without flaw, and King's clarinet playing, as always, exceeded any expectations Wagner could have had for his musical tale of a sailor doomed to sail the seas forever.

We certainly didn't feel doomed when we left the opera house that night, nor did we fear walking the once mean streets of Detroit back to the parking garage.

Our various visits to the world-class Detroit In-

stitute of Arts over the years have been wondrous, and we rejoiced when, at long last, an accord was reached to preserve the museum and its amazing collection. Yes, during Detroit's dark days of bankruptcy, there was serious talk of selling off DIA's collection. But that didn't occur, and what happened during subsequent visits to Motown was a dawning awareness that a great American city is slowly coming back to life.

We saw much evidence of that in the fall of 2016 when we took a two-night trip to Detroit with our friend and ace guide, Jay Samuelson. He showed us the best and, yes, the worst of Detroit. But the best outweighed the worst, particularly when we visited vibrant places such as the Eastern Municipal Market and the whimsical, one-of-a-kind Heidelberg Project, the latter being one artist's bold statement that his native city is far from dead.



Ford Motor Co. is restoring the historic Michigan Central Station at an estimated \$350 million cost.

Since our visit in 2016, smart streetcars began running up and down Woodward Avenue, and Ford Motor Co. began a \$350 million renovation of the historic Michigan Central Station in the hip Corktown neighborhood.

I have come full circle with Detroit since my first visit in 1967. So much so that for my 69th birthday on May 7, I told Natalie I wanted to go to Detroit for the day on Amtrak.

I wanted more memorable moments.

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American Music Festival in Three Oaks

The free American Music Festival, sponsored by School of American Music, is from 1 to 4 p.m. EDT Saturday, July 20, at Dewey Cannon Park's Spring Creek Stage in Three Oaks, Mich.

The performers include:

- The American Music Project with Garth Taylor and Dalton Stanage, who present popular songs from each decade in American history, starting with 1780. The repertoire includes English/Scottish/Irish ballads from the Colonial era and humorous introspectives from the first American-bred composers.
- Patti Shaffner and Friends — jazz standards.
- Homestretch Ride, which performs acoustic bluegrass.
- The Erly Band, which formed in 2017 and released its debut, "Shadows," the following year. It is influenced by rock, pop, alternative and folk music.



- The Round Oak Cornet Band, a brass and percussion ensemble that performs selections from mid-1800s music used by town bands of the period. It is an outgrowth of the Southwestern Michigan College Brass Band, and is directed by Jonathan Korzun.
- Down by the Docks, which includes 22 musicians ranging in age from 16 to older than 70. It performs everything from 1940s big band to '70s and '80s rock. Directed by Richard Sprague, a former teacher and music director, it has played together for more than seven years.

Those attending are encouraged to take lawn chairs. Shade pavilions will be provided.

The Pokagon Fund supported the event.

Performers at the festival include The Erly Band (top photo) and Homestretch Ride (bottom photo).

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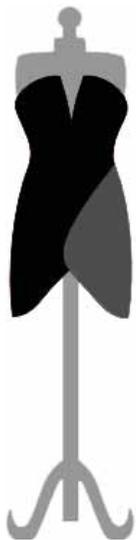
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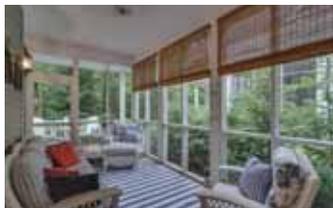
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Art in Nature Monthly Series Begins

Tryon Farm Institute, in partnership with Kristina Isabelle Dance, will present Art in Nature, a monthly performance series featuring dance, film, music and art, starting at 8 p.m. Saturday, July 20, at Tryon Farm, 1500 Tryon Road.

The series, which invites guests to take items for picnics, runs through Oct. 12.

The season-opener is the culmination of Michigan City Moves Sand: A Migrating Performance in 4 Parts.

“Sand Part 4: Succession/Migration” is a dance film with live performers. The film is directed by Elise Kermani, with dancers from Kristina Isabelle Dance and body puppet artist Pilgrim Heidi Kambitsch. The program also will include “Pool Prelude,” a site-specific work choreographed by Melli Hoppe featuring dancers from the South Shore Dance Alliance and KIDCO.

The ensuing schedule is:

- 7:30 p.m. Aug. 17 — a bonfire concert featuring Tryon resident Mark Grobner with his hammer dulcimer. He has provided therapeutic music in hospital, hospice and long-term care settings since 2002.
- 7:30 p.m. Sept. 13 — Documentary film screening, “Mr. Canoe,” which introduces Ralph Frese, master canoe builder, historian and expedition paddler.
- 3-5 p.m. Sept. 14 — Drawing You Outside, in which Christine Forni creates a mobile outdoor drawing room for participants to explore nature and the landscape through handmade charcoal.
- 5-7 p.m. Oct. 12 — Site-specific walking performance, a curated evening of dance and music that

features artists such as Erin Kilmurray Dance, Jenn Freeman, Precious Jennings and Amelia Charter movement artists, opera singer Julian Otis, musician Angel Bat Dawid and cellist Wilson Tanner Smith. The program is followed by a bonfire dance party.



A Hunter's Moon dance from October 2018.

The artists were selected for the first residency program at Tryon Farm, and will be on site creating work and sharing their process Oct. 7-12.

All events are outside and require walking. Flashlights are recommended.

Suggested donations are \$20 for adults and \$10 for children. Drawing You Outside costs \$10 for adults and \$5 for children.

Call (614) 638-6186 or email kristinaisabelle-dance@gmail.com for more details.





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Roosevelt Pipe Organ Series

The 18th season of the Roosevelt Pipe Organ Series continues Wednesday, July 24, at Christ Church (the former First Congregationalist Church), 531 Washington St.

All performances are free and at 12:15 p.m. Wednesdays.



Meyer

Performing July 24 is Lee Meyer. As a junior-high student, he began his musical career as the accompanist for a Footlight Players production. In high school, he served as an accompanist for Dunes Summer Theatre and its children's theater.

He has been the music director and pianist/organist for many area churches, including First Congregational Church. For the past eight years, he has been playing at St. Francis' Episcopal Church, Chesterton. He also has been giving voice and piano lessons for more than 50 years. Many of his students perform for Monday Musicales, of which he has been a key figure since 1973.

Meyer also has been the accompanist and director of the Michigan City Community Chorus since 1991.

Lee's organ program will include Irish folk songs, Scott Joplin rags and music by Louis Vierne.

Also of note, the 1891 Roosevelt Opus 506 tracker organ is in need of a new home. Call Ann Dobie at (219) 608-5358 for details.

Chesterton Art Fair Volunteers

Volunteers are needed for the 61st Annual Chesterton Art Fair, which is Aug. 3-4 at Chesterton's Dogwood Park.

The event features more than 80 artists from around the country, local food vendors and musical entertainment. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday.

Volunteers can sign up for a two-hour shift in the children's, hospitality or beverage booths. Assistance is needed with setup prior to the event and tear down immediately afterward.

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Michigan City Public Library

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

- **Summer Reading Finale: The Magic of Jim Merrills at 10 a.m. Thursday, July 18.**

The show incorporates comedy and magic.

- **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.

- **Bookmarks: Susan Holloway Scott's "I, Eliza Hamilton" at 2 p.m. Friday, July 19.**

Hilda DeMuth Lutze is the reviewer.

- **Movie in Washington Park: "Ralph Breaks the Internet" at dusk Friday, July 19, at Washington Park's North Pointe Pavilion.**

The film is Rated PG. The free showing is a collaboration with the Michigan City park department.

- **Pokemon Go Community Day from 3 to 6 p.m. Sunday, July 21, in Youth Services.**

Pokemon-themed giveaways are planned while supplies last. Call (219) 873-3045 for details.

- **Cool Craft for Kids at 10 a.m. Wednesday, July 24.**

Children 4 and older, accompanied by an adult, are welcome. All materials are provided, and children must be present to receive supplies.

- **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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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 for more details.

Make and Take Craft Weekends

The free program is from 1 to 4 p.m. July 20 and 21, and Aug. 17 and 18 at Luhr Park Nature Center, 3178 S. County Road 150 West, LaPorte.

No pre-registration is required. All ages are welcome, but children must be accompanied by an adult. Crafts are available while supplies last.

PJ Time With Your Stuffed Friend

Wear PJs and take a favorite stuffed animal to the free program from 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. Monday, July 22, at Luhr County Park.

The program for children 2-11, accompanied by an adult, includes story time and snacks. Reservations are held for eight to 24 participants. Space is limited, so families should make reservations.

Tuesday Treasures

The program aimed at 6- to 13-year-olds meets from 9 a.m. to noon Tuesdays at Luhr County Park.

All programs include arts and crafts. Parents are not required to participate or stay. The cost is \$8 per person per program. Pre-registration and payment are required one week before each program. The schedule is:

- July 23 — Animal Communication. Learn about sounds of nature.
- July 30 — Ducks Unlimited. Learn about ducks.

Parent & Child Discovery Days

The program includes arts and crafts, games and snacks. All activities are related to the topic. Programs are appropriate for children 3 to 8, with an adult required to participate. Times are from 6 to 7:15 p.m. at Luhr County Park. The cost is \$5 per child/per program. Pre-registration and payment are required at least one week in advance or until full, whichever comes first.

The schedule is:

- July 24 — Ambitious Amphibians.
- July 31 — Was that a Hummingbird?

Nature's Tiny Tots

Designed for parents and grandparents, explore nature with toddlers and preschoolers. Enjoy music, dancing, storytelling and, weather permitting, hiking.

The free program is from 10 to 11 a.m. July 29, and Aug. 12 and 26 at Luhr County Park. Call (219) 325-8315 at least one week in advance to register.

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Patriotism on Parade



Long Beach Civic Association released the list of winners in its 2019 July 4th parade.

They are:

Golf Carts

- Heroes of Long Beach — Chlystun Family.
- S'more Fun in Long Beach — Kause Family.
- Happy Bday Mickey — Stratman Family.
- Hog Dog Eating — Garvey Family.
- Ralph Wrecks 4th of July — Norris Family.
- Long Beach Search & Rescue — Smith Family.
- A Whale of a Good Time — McFarland/Haverstock families.
- Mary Margaritaville — Stropky Family.
- House Divided — Cuevas/Carrara families.

Costumes

Parade Themes Over the Years — Kennedy Family.

Wagon/Stroller

- Bow to the Wow — Tanski/Tiedeman families.
- Pirates — Miller Family.
- Reach for the Stars — Ripka Family.
- Firecracker Kids — Brown/Yoder families.
- Put Me in Coach — Konicek Family.
- Long Beach Silver — John Miller Family.
- Patriotic Sailboat — Brazys Family.
- My Second 4th of July — Gondeck Family.
- Blank Boys — Blank Family.

Bicycles

- Mary Elizabeth Baricman.
- Violet VanGieson.

All photos by Andrew Tallackson





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• Fri: 4:30-10:30pm • Sat.: 11:30am-10:30pm • Sun: Noon-9pm

JROTC Helps Honor Nation

Cadets in Michigan City High School's Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps helped honor America during the holiday by participating in two patriotic events.

First, they carried an oversized flag in the Michigan City Patriotic Parade on June 29, with help from Michigan City Police Department summer campers. They also marched in the LaPorte Independence Day Parade on July 4.

Also in June, cadets provided the Color Guard for the Indiana Volunteer Firefighters Association convention at Blue Chip Casino, and assisted a Salvation Army fundraiser.



Cadets present the Indiana, national and firefighter flags during the volunteer firefighters convention at Blue Chip Casino.



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Cadets have been working over the summer to improve military drill skills for the upcoming year. Four cadets were to attend a drill camp at Texas A&M University on July 7-13 in College Station, Texas.

“Our goal is to not only qualify for the Marine National Championship as we have done in the last two years, but to win it,” Maj. Tom McGrath, the senior Marine instructor, said in a press release.

The camp, which includes the round-trip flight, will not cost the school nor the cadets; instead, it is funded by the Marine Corps. In addition, three more cadets will attend a Senior Leadership Camp in Boswell, Pa., on July 21-28. That experience also is funded by the Marine Corps.

The capstone event for the cadets' summer activities is the Back-to-School Rally on Aug. 8, during which Michigan City Area School students can obtain free school supplies donated by Michigan City businesses.



Five Tips for Taking Care of Your Trees

1. Don't "top" your trees. Topping is the removal of large branches to reduce the height of the tree. This causes decay that leads to large branch failures in the future.
2. Don't "spike" your trees. Spiking causes wounds that lead to infection and tree decline. Anyone who spikes trees is causing long-term damage to the trees.
3. Avoid damage to the roots. Large trucks cause soil compaction and digging up roots cause frayed wounds that can't heal and create access points for pathogens (fungi) that start root rot and weaken the trees structural stability. Lawn mowers can also cause damage to the root flares.
4. Protect the roots out to the drip line from any activity other than foot traffic. The drip line is simply the outside edge of the canopy. On a mature open grown oak, it can be a circle of 60 feet in diameter.
5. Consult an ISA Certified Arborist before doing anything to your tree.

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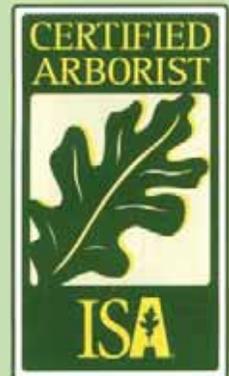
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South Shore Essay Contest

To thank local educators, South Shore Line has created Teacher Appreciation Week, where educators ride for free July 15-21, and through an essay contest could win a free field trip.

Teachers can ride free on all off-peak weekday and weekend trains. Off-peak weekday trains arrive at Millennium Station after 9:30 a.m. and depart before 3:30 p.m. and after 6:30 p.m. To ride, educators must present a valid school ID.

Essay applications will be accepted from educators for a chance to win free field-trip transportation for their classes. They should submit an essay focusing on what they did on the day they utilized the free train service. All essays must be submitted by July 29, and the winner will be contacted by email and announced on social media.

Submissions must include the educator's name, email address, school and grade(s) currently taught. The essay must include a one to three paragraph description of the trip. Photos are encouraged and may be shared on SSL social media.

Email essays to mysouthshoreline@gmail.com with the subject "Teachers Ride Free Essay." Only one submission per educator is allowed. The field trip must occur during the 2019/2020 school year.

Harbor Country Hikers

Harbor Country Hikers will feature invasive species educator Jared Harmon discussing the effects of genetic engineering on forests and wetlands at 10 a.m. EDT Saturday, July 20, at Harbert Road Preserve.

Harmon will reveal how new genes from one species can be incorporated into an unrelated species through genetic engineering. These techniques, which go beyond traditional breeding practices, may cause concerns of altered and invasive species.

Harmon is a Southern Michigan Invasive Species Team coordinator and Berrien Conservation District technician.

Due to wet weather, the condition of the hiking trails in Chikaming Township's Harbert Road Preserve require comfortable muck boots, insect repellent and drinking water. The preserve is located just east of the Interstate 94 overpass on Harbert Road.

HCH events are open to adults and children accompanied by an adult. Membership costs \$20 for individuals or \$30 for families.

Visit harborcountryhikers.com for details.

Public Art Committee

The Michigan City Public Art Committee meets at 10 a.m. Thursday, July 18, in the Mayor's Conference Room at City Hall, 100 E. Michigan Blvd.

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Summerfest

Summerfest, described as “a toast to beer, wine and music,” is Saturday, July 20, at Shadowland Pavilion in St. Joseph, Mich.

The event features 12 beer vendors, six wine vendors, food trucks, bands and singers. Gates open at 4 p.m. EDT, with the Andrew Fisher Quartet playing at 5 p.m. EDT, followed by the performers of R-E-S-P-E-C-T 2 at 7:30 p.m. EDT.



The Andrew Fisher Quartet.

Beer vendors include Anheuser-Busch, Silver Harbor Brewing Co., Oskar Blues Brewery, Perrin Brewing Co., Sierra Nevada Brewing Co., Round Barn Brewery, Maplewood Brewery, Virtue Cider, Cigar City Brewing Co., Saugatuck Brewery, New Belgium Brewing Co. and Goose Island Brewery. Wines include a selection of Old World wines, New World wines, selections from the LMC vinters program, White Pine Winery and Lazy Ballerina Winery.

Food trucks include Pig Out on the Fly, Woodstock & Grill and Lake and Farmer.

The Andrew Fisher Quartet is a neo-soul jazz group from Michigan, bending traditional genres such as soul, funk, R&B and Motown.

R-E-S-P-E-C-T 2 celebrates the journey of women in music from the 1960s to the present. Artists include Andrea Deleon as Sharon Jones, Kecia Deroly as Aretha Franklin, Candice Elders as Amy Winehouse, Megan Francis as Blondie, Meredith George as Ann Wilson, Nikki Gauthier as Stevie Nicks, Carina Kanzler as Adele, Jenna Mammina as Bonnie Raitt, Yolonda Lavender as Lauryn Hill and Leah Tirado as Gloria Estefan.

Tickets, which are \$20 (\$25 day of), can be purchased at SMSO.org or by calling (269) 982-4030.

Noon Time Talk Series

The Noon Time Talk Series continues with a 30-minute film showing at 12:20 p.m. EDT Thursday, July 18, at Midwest Museum of American Art, 429 S. Main St., Elkhart.

The film is “Courtly Art of the Ancient Maya.”

Admission is \$5. Members are free. Call (574) 293-6660 for details.

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Michiana Evening Under the Stars



The first Michiana Evening Under the Stars Celebration was held July 6 to benefit Michiana Day Camp.

The family event, which included a Rod Stewart impersonator, was designed to unite the community through dinner, drinks and entertainment. The co-chairs were Jamie Rittoff Cherry and Tina Weaver, both of whom attended Michiana Day Camp when they were girls, then as counselors when they were teens.

Special thanks to Lauri Fisher for providing *The Beacher* with these photos.



A Marvelous Day in Michiana



Special thanks to Lauri Fisher for providing *The Beacher* with these photos from July 4th festivities in Michiana, Mich.

Indiana Dunes National Park

The following programs are planned:

- **Beachside with a Ranger from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Fridays through Aug. 9 at the West Beach parking lot.**

Learn about the park's preservation story, including challenges the region faced and the largest threats today. The parking lot is located at 376 N. County Line Road.

- **Drop-in Volunteering at West Beach from 2 to 3 p.m. Fridays through Sept. 6.**

Join staff and fellow volunteers in helping care for the site. Wear comfortable clothes; work gloves and equipment will be provided. West Beach parking lot is 376 N. County Line Road, Portage.

- **Mount Baldy Summit Hike from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Fridays through Aug. 30.**

The Mount Baldy parking lot and beach are open from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily after being closed for the last several years. The dune, however, is still closed for general public use, so the ranger-led hike offers the chance to experience the dune as much as is possible. No reservations are required. The parking lot is located off U.S. 12.

Also offered is Mount Baldy Open House from 1 to 4 p.m. Sundays through Sept. 8. Explore the issues and science surrounding the dune.

- **The Save the Tunes Council performs from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Friday, July 19, at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.**

The group preserves folk songs in the traditional way, using guitar, autoharp, dulcimer, banjo, harmonica, bagpipe, penny whistle, hurdy gurdy and other obscure instruments.

- **Junior Wildland Firefighter Program from 11 a.m. to noon Saturday, July 20, at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.**

Meet the IDNL's fire crew and learn about their jobs and equipment. Children then receive a Junior Wildland Firefighter activity book and patch. The 30-minute program is repeated throughout the day.

- **Pinhook Bog Open House from noon to 3 p.m. Saturdays through Sept. 7.**

Talk a self-guided tour of the bog and talk to rangers along the trail for a better understanding of the site filled with carnivorous plants and orchids. Arrive by 2 p.m. to allow about one hour to walk the trail and tour the bog. The bog parking lot is at 700 N. Wozniak Road in Michigan City.

- **Beach Fun Saturdays from 1 to 8:30 p.m. Saturdays through Aug. 10 at West Beach.**

Try a kayak or paddleboard starting at 1 p.m. All equipment is provided for free. A one-hour sunset hike on the Dune Succession Trail starts at 7 p.m. from the Ranger Contact Station in the north end of the parking lot. A beach campfire, complete with marshmallow toasting, starts shortly before sunset. Meet at the West Beach parking lot. A \$6 per car

parking fee is charged until 7 p.m. Take a picnic dinner and warmer clothing for the evening sunset and beach campfire.

- **Playdate in the Nature Play Zone from 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday, July 20, at The Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education.**

Explore Miller Woods, build a fort, climb a tree, create nature art and feed the resident fish, turtles, snakes, toads and frogs. Dress for the weather.

- **Rollerblading with a Ranger from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Saturdays through Aug. 3.**

Meet at Robinson Lake parking lot, S. Liverpool Road, Hobart, to explore the Oak Savannah Trail with a ranger on roller blades.

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

Join an Art Barn artist and 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 the visitor center at (219) 395-1882 for more information and to register.

- **Science in the National Park from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday, July 20, at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.**

Meet local experts and scientists conducting research, followed by a hike. Dress for the weather.

- **Bailly/Chellberg History Hike from 1 to 3 p.m. Sundays through Sept. 1.**

Explore the grounds of both historic homes, and learn about early settlers and farmers who came to the region in the 1800s. Park at the Bailly/Chellberg parking lot.

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

- **Sunset Around the Fire at the Pavilion from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 24, at Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk.**

Catch a Lake Michigan sunset from the pavilion, and roast marshmallows from the fireplace.

□

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:

- **Glacial Goodies at 3 p.m. Thursday, July 18.**

Enjoy ice cream with toppings, while supplies last, and while learning about glacial drift in the Indiana Dunes landscape.

- **Feed the Birds at 10 a.m. Saturday, July 20.**

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

- **Snakes Alive! at 3 p.m. Saturday, July 20.**

Meet at the Nature Center to view snakes and learn more about them.

- **3-Dune Night Hike at 8:30 p.m. Saturday, July 20.**

Join a naturalist for activities to test skills in the dark at the top of each peak during the 1.5-mile challenge.

- **Morning Bird Walk at 8:30 a.m. Sunday, July 21.**

Take binoculars or borrow a pair for an easy walk searching for birds.

- **Creek Peek at 10 a.m. Sunday, July 21.**

Join a naturalist for a short, wet walk searching for animals that call the habitat home.

- **Bird Window Bingo at 3 p.m. Sunday, July 21.**

Prizes will be awarded during a bird-theme version of the game.

- **Awesome Amphibians at 3 p.m. Monday, July 22.**

Meet at the Nature Center to explore the differences and similarities between Dunes amphibians during a short hike to the marsh.

- **Wild Edibles Walk at 3 p.m. Tuesday, July 23.**

Meet at the Nature Center for a walk exploring dune delicacies.

- **Ant Lion Safari at 3 p.m. Wednesday, July 24.**

Join a naturalist at the Nature Center for the short discovery walk.

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.

Nature Preserve Fundraiser

A Grand Beach Nature Preserve fundraiser and update is from 5 to 10 p.m. Saturday, July 20, at the Grand Beach Clubhouse.

The event starts with a program by Tom Suhs on the former Golfmore Hotel, followed by the fundraiser, which includes live and silent auctions.

Admission is free, with a jar at the front door for donations. Call (773) 934-9580 for details.



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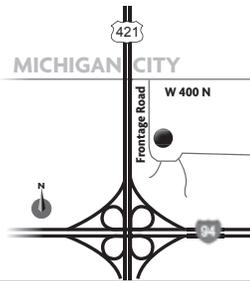
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Classic and Antique Car Show



LaPorte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave., will host the 12th Annual Classic & Antique Car Show from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, July 20.

Registration begins at 8 a.m., and the fee for exhibited cars is \$15 per vehicle. The event is open to vehicles manufactured in 1989 and earlier. Admission is \$5 per carload. A DJ will provide music, and Homerun Hot Dogs will sell food and beverages.

Trophies to be awarded include: Director's Choice; Assistant Director's Choice; Mayor's Choice; Sheriff's Choice; President's Choice; Preservation Award; and Chairman's Choice. Also, five Participant's Choice and five Public's Choice trophy plaques will be awarded. Exhibitors receive a dash plaque and two free museum admission tickets.

Call the museum at (219) 324-6767 for details.

"Sister Act"

Young People's Theatre Co. will present the musical "Sister Act" for a two-weekend run starting Friday, July 19, at The Holdcraft Performing Arts Center, 1200 Spring St.

Inspired by the popular 1992 film starring Whoopi Goldberg, the play features music by Oscar-winner Alan Menken ("Beauty and the Beast"), lyrics by Glenn Slater and book by Cheri Steinkellner and Bill Steinkellner.

Performances are July 19-21 and 26-28. Times are 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday. Tickets, which cost \$10 for adults and \$5 for students, can be ordered at www.yptcinc.com. They also are available at the door.

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Insights at Night

“Pokagnek Bodewadmik: The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi” is the focus of the next Insights at Night at 7 p.m. EDT Wednesday, July 24, at South Bend’s The History Museum.

Giving the overview of his tribal nation is John Low, Ohio State University associate professor and an enrolled Pokagon Band of Potawatomi citizen.

Low received his doctorate in American Culture from the University of Michigan. He also earned a graduate certificate in museum studies and a Juris Doctorate from the University of Michigan. His recent book, Imprints: The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians & the City of Chicago, was published in 2016 by the Michigan State University Press.

Guests may also visit the museum’s new exhibit, “Keepers of the Fire: The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi.” Flavored iced coffees will be offered.

Admission is \$5, or \$4 for members. Reservations can be made at historymuseumSB.org or by calling (574) 235-9664. The museum is located at 808 W. Washington St.

Chamber Music Festival Concert

Michigan City Chamber Music Festival will present “Violins & Vino!,” a free program featuring music from the classical era, Broadway and rock, at 7 p.m. Friday, July 19, at The Nest, 803 Franklin St.

The musicians will discuss what makes Chamber music an enjoyable and intense experience, taking questions from the audience. The program will serve as a preview to the festival’s 18th season, “Witness, Legacy and Triumph,” on Aug. 3-11.

A cash bar is planned. Visit mccmf.org for more information.

Play Day Golf Outing

The LaPorte Economic Advancement Partnership will host the 45th Annual Play Day Golf Outing on Friday, July 19, at Beechwood Golf Course, 2222 Woodlawn Drive, LaPorte.

The outing starts with registration at 8 a.m., followed by a shotgun start at 9 a.m. The cost is \$550 for a team of four. Hole and tee sign sponsorships are still available.

The outing will feature several contests, including: Hole-in-One, Fastest Hole and Putting.

Call (219) 324-8584 for details.



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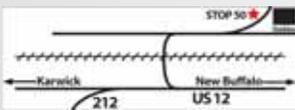
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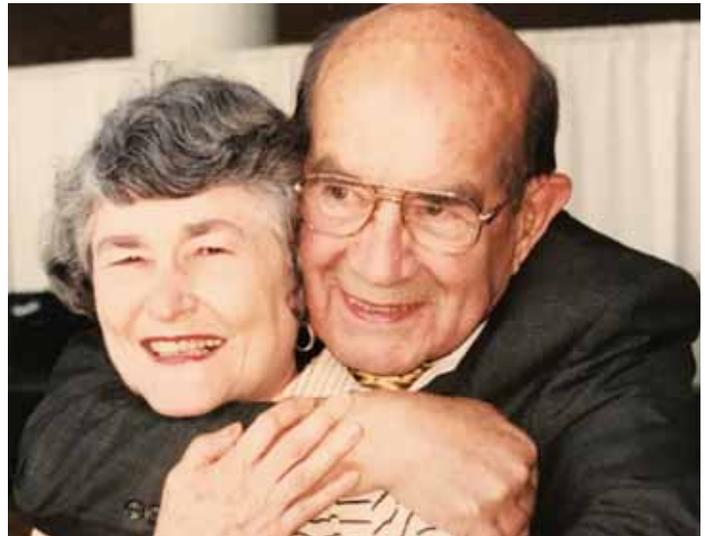
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Betty Jean Duggan

Dec. 30, 1925-July 8, 2019

Betty Duggan, a longtime Duneland Beach resident, passed away July 8 surrounded by loving family.

The love of her life, Bob Duggan, preceded her in death in 2006. Betty was proud of her “crew”: her five children, Rob, Lee, Lynn, Scott and Tim; her 18 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

A memorial Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 17, at Notre Dame Church



American Red Cross

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

- Golden Living Center, 1700 I St., LaPorte, 1-4 p.m. Monday, July 22.
- Anytime Fitness LaPorte, 59 Pine Lake Ave., 8:30-11 a.m. Monday, July 22.
- St. John Kanty, 7012 N. County Road 600 East, Rolling Prairie, 1-6 p.m. Tuesday, July 23.

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 for more details.



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.



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Fernwood Botanical Garden

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

• **Summer Contemplative Retreat from 1 to 4 p.m. EDT Saturday, July 20.**

The event is one of four annual contemplative programs that reflects a seasonal theme of “Reclaiming Our Nature.” Deirdre Guthrie, meditation teacher and University of Notre Dame research professor, is the guide. Dress for an outdoor walk and gentle movement drawn from yoga and qigong. The cost is \$42, or \$34 for members.

• **“Butterflies!” from 2 to 3 p.m. EDT Sunday, July 21.**

Naturalist Ron Dudek leads the interactive presentation on butterflies and metamorphosis. Children 10 and younger are free.

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

“Little Shop of Horrors” Auditions

LaPorte Little Theatre Club, 218 A St., will hold auditions for the popular musical “Little Shop of Horrors” on Sunday and Monday, July 28 and 29.

Times are 5 p.m. July 28 and 6 p.m. Monday, July 29. Possible callbacks are at 6 p.m. Tuesday, July 30. Sign up at www.laportelittletheatreclub.com

Katy and Tim Gartland are the directors, with Andrew Tallackson serving as music director.

Those auditioning are asked to perform one minute from a song of his/her choice. If the directors decide a person may be ideal for a certain role, they might ask him/her to sing the chorus of “Suddenly, Seymour.”

Rehearsals are from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, with a tech rehearsal from 1 to 6 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 6. Performance dates are Oct. 11-13 and 18-20.

U.S. 12 Garage Sale

The Region of Three Oaks Museum has openings for Three Oaks-stop vendors in the U.S. 12 Heritage Garage Sale — said to be the nation’s longest — on Friday-Sunday, Aug. 9-11.

The museum’s site has included antiques, collectibles, furniture, dish ware, garden produce, jams and jellies, hot dogs and walking tacos.

The TROTOM locations are at either the Carver Park Pavilion or adjoining Three Oaks Elementary School. Permits range from \$10 per day to \$55 for the entire weekend.

Applications are due by Tuesday, Aug. 6. Contact Julie Sittig at (269) 756-3547 or juliesittigrn@van-zine.org for details.



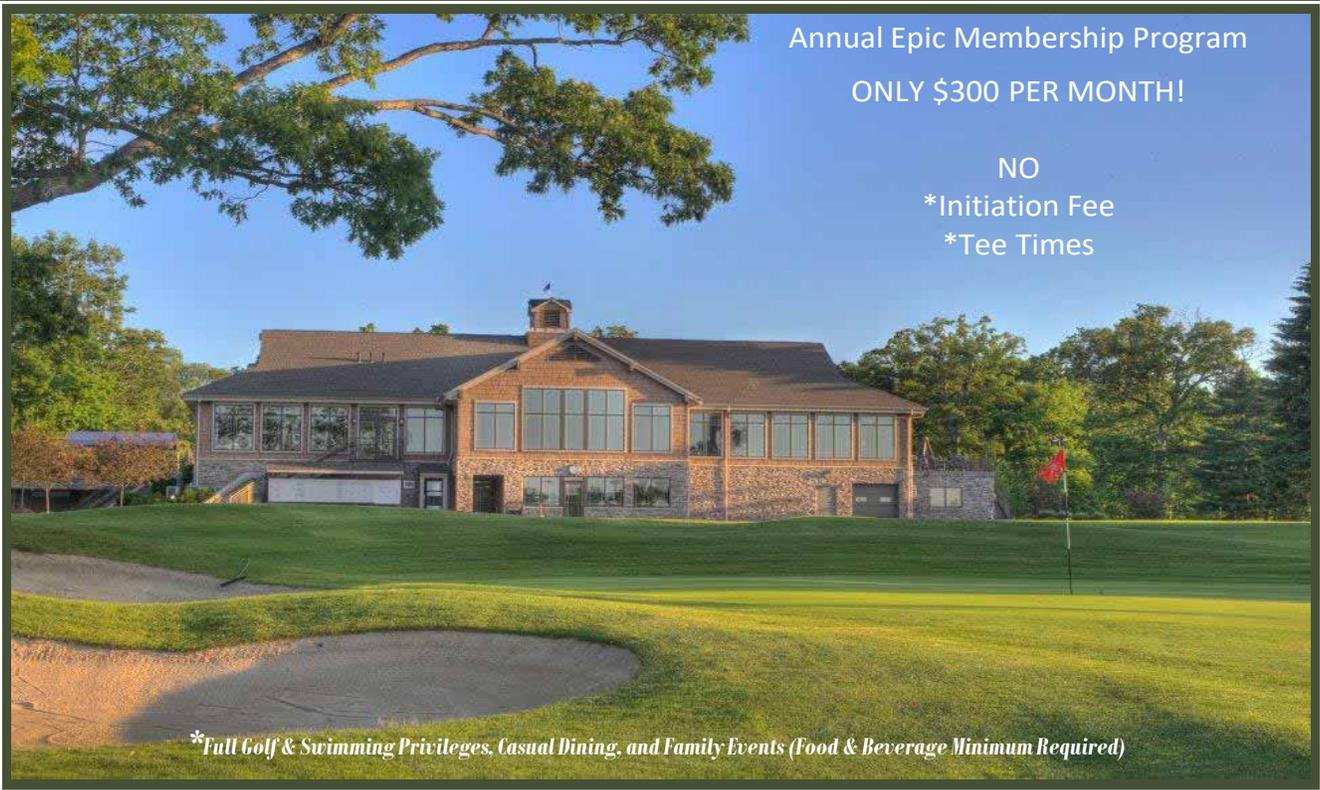
Prayer to the Blessed Virgin

(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

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Annual Photo Contest

The theme of this year's LaPorte County Historical Society Museum photography contest is LaPorte County doors and windows.

The photo must be unframed, 8x10 and in color or black and white. The subject must be in LaPorte County and at least 50 years old. Photos must have been taken in 2018 or 2019.

The submission deadline is 4:30 p.m. Aug. 3 at LaPorte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave., LaPorte. Photographers must fill out an entry form for each submission. The photos then become museum property. Judging is Aug. 17, and the photos remain on display through September. Judging criteria includes composition, focus, historical significance, creativity and lighting.

Call the museum at (219) 324-6767 for details.

Rock the Park

LaPorte Firefighters will present Rock the Park, a music festival to benefit local charities, on Saturday, July 20, at LaPorte's Fox Park

Performers include Pat Travers Band, Remedy and Point'n Fingers. Gates open at noon. A bag tournament starts at 2 p.m., with music starting at 3:30 p.m. The Pat Travers Band performs at 8:30 p.m. Food and drinks will be available. No carry-ins are allowed.

Tickets are \$15. Search for the event on eventbrite.com for reservations.

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Gatsby at the Gardens

The third annual Gatsby at the Gardens, a speak-easy evening set in the 1920s and 1930s, is from 6 to 9 p.m. Saturday, July 27, at Friendship Botanic Gardens, 2055 E. U.S. 12.



Guests at the 21-and-older event can dress in 1920s apparel and sample cocktails, dance and play lawn games while listening to live jazz music or strolling through the gardens.

Tickets, which are \$45, are available at Eventbrite or at www.friendshipgardens.org. Advanced tickets are recommended because the door price is \$55. Each ticket includes four cocktail samples, beer samples or light appetizers. Those attending must have a valid ID to enter.

Call (219) 878-9885 for more details.

LaPorte County Public Library

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

- **Stories & More from 10 to 10:30 a.m. Fridays.**

Children ages 3-5 with their caregivers experience stories, songs, crafts and activities that include using iPads to build early literacy skills.

- **Tinker Tuesdays from 3 to 7 p.m. Tuesdays.**

Teens and adults can use the Cricut Maker, the complete Adobe Creative Cloud, including Photoshop, Illustrator, Spark and Lightroom, and the 3-D printer.

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

- **Reins of Life Day from 10-11 a.m. Thursday, July 25.**

Presenters will cover topics such as grooming, what horses eat, how to measure a horse, Native American symbols, wants vs. needs and safety. Attendees should wear closed-toed shoes for safety.



Visit www.laportelibrary.org for more details.

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June 25, 2019
Event: Regular Golf

First Place:

Second Place:

Third Place:

Peg King
 Carol Excell
 Jeannie Muldowney

"B" Flight

First Place:

Second Place:

Third Place:

Linda Wilson
 Victorial Hill
 Donna Hennard

"C" Flight

First Place:

Second Place:

Third Place:

Eileen Miller
 Jayne Krol
 Rima Binder

Birdies

Mary Weithers

Hole 12

July 2, 2019
Event: Stableford

"A" Flight

First Place:

Second Place:

Third Place:

Peg King
 Cindy Levy
 Melanie Davis

"B" Flight

First Place:

Second Place:

Third Place:

Janet Andreotti
 Donna Hennard
 Joan Carey

"C" Flight

First Place:

Second Place:

Third Place:

Jayne Krol
 Tina Sonderby
 Eileen Miller

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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.

New History Museum Exhibit

“The Final Frontier: Bendix and the Apollo Program” runs through June 28, 2020, at South Bend’s The History Museum.

It was 50 years ago on July 20, 1969, that U.S. astronaut Neil Armstrong became the first person to walk on the moon. South Bend’s Bendix Corp. was essential in its development of equipment needed for the Apollo missions. The contract for the lunar module was awarded to Gruman Aircraft in 1963, which delegated the \$350 million project to several subcontractors, including Bendix.



Through artifacts, photographs and documents, “The Final Frontier” tells the story of the Apollo program, and chronicles its mark on history. An Apollo spacesuit, on loan from the Cosmosphere in Hutchinson, Kan., is a centerpiece of the exhibit.

Tickets to the museum are \$10 for adults, \$8.50 for seniors 60 and older, \$6 for youth 6-17 and free for members. Museum hours are (all times Eastern) 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday.

The museum is located at 808 W. Washington St. Visit historymuseumSB.org or call (574) 235-9664 for more details.

Blue Star Museum Status

LaPorte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave., is now a Blue Star Museum, which offers free admission to active-duty military personnel and up to five family members.

The 2019 Blue Star Museums program began May 18 (Armed Forces Day) and ends Monday, Sept. 2 (Labor Day). Eligible for free admission are those serving in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and Coast Guard, as well as members of the Reserves, National Guard, U.S. Public Health Commissioned Corps and NOAA Commissioned Corps.

Qualified members must show a Geneva Convention Common Access Card (CAC), DD Form 1173 ID card (dependent ID) or a DD Form 1173-1 ID card. Active duty military family members may attend for free without the active duty family member by showing DD Form 1173 ID Card or DD Form 1173-1 ID Card.

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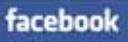


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Westchester Public Library

The following programs are available:

• **Bandstand Concert & Movie Series on Friday, July 19, at Thomas Centennial Park Gazebo, Chesterton.**

Cynthia Shelhart performs at 7 p.m., followed by "E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial" at 8 p.m. If it rains, the program moves to The Baugher Center.

• **The Messier The Better for 9- to 30-month-olds at 10 a.m. Tuesdays through July 23 at Hageman Library, 100 Francis St., Porter.**

Miss Ronnie will lead children in singing songs and an art experience. Dress to get messy.

Barker Mansion Summer Camp

Barker Mansion, 631 Washington St., will present its annual summer history camp on Tuesday through Friday, July 23-26.

The time frame differs by day. Youth ages 8 and older will dig into Michigan City's past at the mansion and off site. Each day includes a snack, craft and activities.

Director Emily Reth will be assisted by former camp attendee Will Tallackson.

The \$50 cost includes a Barker Mansion T-shirt. Visit www.barkermansion.com for details.

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Activities to Explore

In the Area:

July 17-27 — “John & Jen,” Canterbury Theatre, 807 Franklin St. Performances: 2 p.m. Wed.-Thur., 7:30 p.m. Fri., 6:30 p.m. Sat. Tickets: \$16/Wed.-Thur., \$17/Fri.-Sat. Reservations: tiny.cc/CST2019, (219) 874-4269, info@canterburytheatre.org

July 18 — Summer Reading Finale: The Magic of Jim Merrills, 10 a.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

July 19 — Bookmarks: Susan Holloway Scott’s “I, Eliza Hamilton,” 2 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

July 19 — Michigan City Chamber Music Festival, “Violins & Vino!,” 7 p.m., The Nest, 803 Franklin St. Free. Info: mccmf.org

July 19 — Save the Tunes Council, 7:30-9 p.m., Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. Info: (219) 395-1882.

July 19 — Movie in Washington Park: “Ralph Breaks the Internet,” dusk, Washington Park’s North Pointe Pavilion. Info: (219) 395-1882.

July 19 — R-E-S-P-E-C-T 2, 8 p.m. EDT, The Acorn, 107 Generation Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: \$30. Reservations: acornlive.org

July 19-24 — Vickers Theatre, 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. *Now showing:* “Echo in the Canyon.” Rated PG-13. Times: 6 p.m. Fri.-Mon., 7 p.m. Tue. *Also:* “All is True.” Rated PG-13. Times: 9 p.m. Fri.-Sat., 3 p.m. Sat.-Sun. *Also:* GreenScreens: An Environmental Film Festival, presented by Chikaming Open Lands and Fernwood Botanical Garden. Time: 7 p.m. Wed. Tickets: info@fernwoodbotanical.com, (269) 695-6491. All times Eastern. Info: vickerstheatre.com, (269) 756-3522.

July 19-21, 26-28 — Young People’s Theatre Co., “Sister Act,” Holdcraft Performing Arts Center, 1200 Spring St. Times: 7 p.m. Fri.-Sat., 2 p.m. Sun. Tickets: \$10/adults, \$5/students. Reservations: www.yptcinc.com

July 20 — 12th Annual Classic & Antique Car Show, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., LaPorte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave. Admission: \$5/carload. Info: (219) 324-6767.

July 20 — Immigration History Walking Tour, 10:30-11:30 a.m., Barker Mansion, 631 Washington St. Tickets: Eventbrite, (219) 873-1520.

July 20 — Free “Gather at Gardena,” 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Gardena Park, 800 block of Gardena Street.

July 20 — LaPorte Firefighters’ Rock the Park, LaPorte’s Fox Park. Gates open @ noon. Tickets: \$15. Reservations: eventbrite.com

July 20 — Premiere, “Lights! Cameras! Three Oaks! The Making of Prancer,” noon EDT, Vickers Theatre, 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. Cost: \$5 donation. Info: regionofthreeoaksmuseum.com

July 20 — Free American Music Festival, 1-4 p.m. EDT, Dewey Cannon Park’s Spring Creek

Stage, Three Oaks, Mich.

July 20 — Music in the Park, Cabildo, 6:30 p.m. EDT, Dewey Cannon Park, Three Oaks, Mich. Free, donations accepted. Info: www.harborarts.com

July 20 — Art in Nature performance, 8 p.m., Tryon Farm, 1500 Tryon Road. Suggested donation: \$20/adults, \$10/children. Info: (614) 638-6186.

July 20 — 3-Dune Night Hike, 8:30 p.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East (the north end of Indiana 49), Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

July 20-21 — Make and Take Craft Weekends, 1-4 p.m., Luhr Park Nature Center, 3178 S. County Road 150 West, LaPorte. Free. Info: (219) 325-8315.

July 22 — PJ Time With Your Stuffed Friend, 10:30-11:15 a.m., Luhr Park Nature Center, 3178 S. County Road 150 West, LaPorte. Free. Registration: (219) 325-8315.

July 24 — Cool Craft for Kids, 10 a.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

July 24 — Roosevelt Pipe Organ Series, Lee Meyer, 12:15 p.m., Christ Church (former First Congregationalist Church), 531 Washington St. Free, donations accepted. Info: (219) 608-5358.

July 24-25 — Arts in the Park, 7 p.m., Dennis Smith Amphitheater @ Fox Park, LaPorte. Schedule: July 24/LaPorte City Band; July 25/Midwest Hype. Pre-concert: LaPorte Drum Circle.

Thursdays through Aug. 8 — Michigan City Municipal Band, 7:30 p.m., Washington Park Guy Foreman Amphitheater.

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.

Sundays through Sept. 8 — Mount Baldy Open House, 1-4 p.m., parking lot off U.S. 12. Info: (219) 395-1882.

In the Region

July 19 — Reception, Series 5 Art Exhibit, 5:30-7:30 p.m. EDT, Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Mich. Exhibit end date: Aug. 24. Info: nikki@boxfactoryforthearts.org, (269) 983-3688.

July 20 — Harbor Country Hikers, 10 a.m. EDT, Harbert Road Preserve, east of I-94 overpass on Harbert Road. Info: harborcountryhikers.com

July 20 — Summerfest, Shadowland Pavilion, St. Joseph, Mich. Gates open 4 p.m. EDT. Tickets: \$20 (\$25 day of). Reservations: SMSO.org, (269) 982-4030.

July 22 — Open Mic Night at the Box, host Jenna Mammina, 7-9 p.m. EDT, The Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Mich. Registration: nikki@boxfactoryforthearts.org

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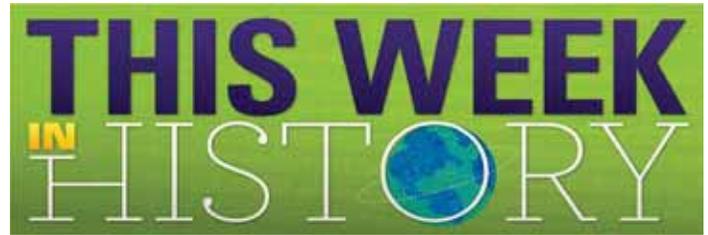
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On July 18, 64 A.D., the Great Fire of Rome, which virtually destroyed the city, began. Emperor Nero, contrary to popular legend, apparently did not “fiddle as Rome burned.”

On July 18, 1817, novelist Jane Austen, 41, died in Winchester, England.

On July 18, 1921, the “Black Sox” trial, in which eight White Sox players were accused of throwing the 1919 World Series, opened in Chicago. Even though acquitted, all were barred from baseball for life.

On July 18, 1927, Ty Cobb hit safely for the 4,000th time in his career.

On July 18, 1969, Mary Jo Kopechne was killed on Massachusetts’ Chappaquiddick Island when a car in which she was riding (driven by Sen. Edward Kennedy) went off a bridge.

On July 18, 1986, videotapes were released showing the remains of Titanic, the British luxury liner that went down in 1912 in the North Atlantic.

On July 19, 1846, the first recorded baseball game, between formal clubs, took place at Elysian Fields in Hoboken, N.J.

On July 19, 1941, during World War II, Winston Churchill, Britain’s Prime Minister, launched his “V for Victory” campaign in Europe.

On July 19, 1969, Apollo 11 went into orbit around the moon with astronauts Neil Armstrong, Edwin “Buzz” Aldrin and Michael Collins on board.

On July 19, 1990, Pete Rose was sentenced to five months in prison for income tax evasion.

On July 20, 1859, 1,500 baseball fans paid 50 cents each to see the Brooklyn Dodgers play the New York Giants, the first time fans were charged admission to see a game.

On July 20, 1917, the World War I draft lottery began.

On July 20, 1942, the first detachment of the Women’s Army Auxiliary Corps, later known as WACs, began training at Fort Des Moines, Iowa.

On July 20, 1945, the American flag was raised over Berlin as American troops prepared to take part in the “Government of Occupation.”

On July 20, 1969, Apollo 11 astronauts Neil Armstrong and Edwin Aldrin became the first men to set foot on the moon.

On July 20, 1999, after 38 years at the bottom of the Atlantic, astronaut Gus Grissom’s Liberty Bell 7

Mercury capsule was lifted to the surface.

On July 21, 1856, the Illinois Central Railroad began operating wood-burning trains on its Chicago lakefront line.

On July 21, 1899, author Ernest Hemingway was born in Oak Park, Ill.

On July 21, 1925, the “Monkey Trial” ended in Dayton, Tenn., as John Scopes was found guilty (and fined \$100) of teaching Darwin’s theory of evolution. The conviction was later overturned.

On July 21, 1957, Alethea Gibson won the women’s clay court singles championship, the first black woman to win a major U.S. tennis tournament.

On July 21, 1994, Britain’s Labor Party elected Tony Blair its new leader, succeeding the late John Smith.

On July 22, 1864, in the Civil War’s first “Battle of Atlanta,” Confederate troops, under the command of Gen. John Hood, were defeated by Gen. William Sherman’s Union Army.

On July 22, 1934, federal agents shot and killed gangster John Dillinger as he was leaving Chicago’s Biograph Theatre.

On July 22, 1942, during World War II, gasoline rationing began in the United States.

On July 22, 1991, former White Sox owner Bill Veeck was inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame.

On July 23, 1904, in St. Louis, the ice cream cone was invented by Charles E. Menches.

On July 23, 1958, Queen Elizabeth II named four women to the Peerage, the first women entitled to sit in the House of Lords.

On July 23, 1962, a Telstar communications satellite relayed the first live television programs from the United States to Europe.

On July 23, 1986, at London’s Westminster Abbey, Britain’s Prince Andrew married Sarah Ferguson.

On July 23, 2000, Tiger Woods, 24, became the youngest player to win the career Grand Slam with a record-breaking performance in the British Open.

On July 24, 1870, the first railroad car from the Pacific Coast reached New York, marking the beginning of transcontinental rail service.

On July 24, 1915, 812 were drowned when The Eastland, an excursion boat preparing to leave Chicago for Michigan City, rolled over in the Chicago River.

On July 24, 1946, off the Pacific Ocean’s Bikini Atoll, the United States conducted the first underwater test of an atomic bomb.

On July 24, 1959, Vice President Richard Nixon and Soviet Premier Nikita Krushchev held their famous “kitchen debate” in an American exhibit in Moscow.

On July 24, 1980, at 54, British actor Peter Sellers died of a heart attack.

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Saturday, July 27 — 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Sunday, July 28, Noon – 4 p.m. (50% off day)

Saturday, Aug. 3 — 10 a.m. — noon (Giveback day, cash only)

If you would like to contribute items to the sale please email thegirlfriendsale@gmail.com and ask for our participation guidelines. There are limited dropoff appointments available July 19-24. Visit our Facebook page at thegirlfriendsale for a sneak preview, and to inquire about purchasing furniture items prior to the sale.

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Gather at Gardena

Families are invited to the free “Gather at Gardena,” sponsored by Immanuel Lutheran Church, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, July 20, at Gardena Park, 800 block of Gardena Street.

The event includes crafts, games, food and drink.

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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

Whiskey When We're Dry by John Larison (paperback, \$16 retail in bookstores and online; also available as an eBook. 416 pages.)

What do people today consider a hard life? Living in a small apartment in the city instead of a spacious home in the country? Or having to settle for a used Ford instead of a new BMW because that raise didn't come through at work?

What if it was watching your cattle die of a disease? Or waiting to see if the seeds you planted so carefully in the spring will sprout when you've just had a drought or flood?

Our way of life may have changed over the centuries, but love of family, and hopes of a better future for our children, are universal and never change.

This is a story that is as hard as concrete, as sad as a rainy day on the 4th of July, and as happy as the laugh of a baby. I'm taking you back in time to a story and a character you will not soon forget.

But first, we learn about Milt, a sharpshooter for the Union Army during the Civil War who meets Rosa in 1864 while walking west with a party of people all searching for a new life. *"Pa would be a cattleman and to him that occupation promised wealth and maybe a mountain to name as his own."* People had simpler dreams in those days. Too bad life throws us a curve or two...

Our narrator is Jessilyn Harney, born in 1869 to Milt and Rosa Harney. Brother, Noah, was born five years before her. *"Ma didn't live past my entrance to this world on account I wasn't no good at getting born. I set Ma to bleeding."*

Jessilyn's voice is haunting, as well as genuine and unforgettable. Her words are as gritty as a mountain trail and as lyrical as a poem.

How does a man cope with cattle to tend and two young children to raise? It isn't easy. Jess grows up learning from Pa, and on her own to take care of the cabin, make meals, skin and prepare wild game... and one more thing. She sneaks out with one of Pa's guns and practices loading and shooting, just the way she sees him do it. And, she gets good at it — Jess is a fast learner. Better, even, than Noah. But Pa can never know, because in those days, women had their place and men had theirs, and certain boundaries could never be crossed.

As Noah becomes a teen, and it is obvious what Pa's "syrup" from the dentist really is, things be-

come tense between the two, coming to a head in a knock-down, drag-out fight that leaves Pa on the floor and Noah out the door.

Pa is never right in the head after that and, well, things happen, don't they?

Jess is in a state. No one can find out she is a young girl living alone on what is desirable property. *"The resolve come to me then. I was done letting hard times govern me. I might be orphaned but that didn't make me no orphan. I was Jesse Harney, and I had a brother who knew me."* Time to find Noah and bring him back home.

How to make it in a man's world, as a woman alone? You don't. Jess fits herself out as a boy and takes off to find her brother. Now a crack shot with pistol or rifle, she earns money along the way, betting against other sharpshooters. And, she finds wanted posters for her brother with a bounty on his head — dead or alive.

Now, what's the best way to find out where her brother and his following are holed up? By a fluke, she meets the governor of the territory and, after seeing her marksmanship, he offers her a job as one of his guardsmen. What a plan — stay with the governor until he leads her to Noah...of course, it's not that sim-

ple. Keeping her disguise as a boy is tricky, but doable. Jess is always in awe that men believe what they want to believe — that she is a teenage boy who is extraordinary with a gun or rifle.

Jess admires the governor, at first, until she learns his true nature, making her realize time is running out for her brother. The governor will soon found out how much he underestimates Jess.

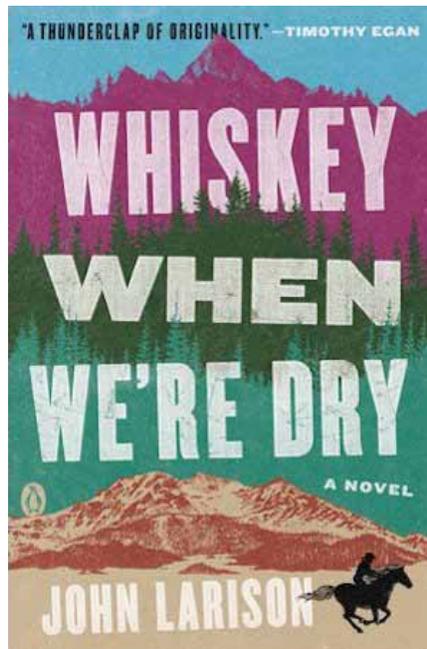
There's so much more to this story, but I'm running out of space! It keeps moving on from here, but always with Jess' simple way of looking at what is bad or good and deciding what is necessary, all told in the speech of the day. How could this story end? It's an ending to soften the hardest among us.

On a scale of 1-10, this book is a 20. No surprise TV and movie rights have been secured.

Whiskey When We're Dry was named a Best Book by *Entertainment Weekly*, *O Magazine*, NPR's "All Things Considered" and other publications.

Larison received an MFA from Oregon State University and stayed on to teach while completing this book. He continues to live in rural Oregon with his family.

Till next time, happy reading!



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