



# MEMORANDUM

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"...meeting community needs...enhancing quality of life."

TO: Appleton Public Arts Committee (APAC)

FROM: Jessica Titel, Principal Planner

DATE: December 23, 2020

RE: Houdini Welcome Tower Photo Contest - Contest Winner Selection

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The City has received a fantastic response to the Houdini Welcome Tower Photo Contest. We appreciate the efforts of each contestant. It is very encouraging to see such a wonderful community response.

A total of 47 eligible photos were entered into the contest. The Arts Committee is tasked with choosing the top 12 photos to be displayed in the Houdini Plaza Welcome Tower. We also ask that you choose 4 additional "runners-up." In the event that 1 of the 12 winning contestants are not able to provide a high-resolution photo suitable for printing and display in the tower, one of these photos will be displayed instead.

The City will provide a \$100 award to each of the 12 artists whose images are chosen for the Welcome Tower. Appleton Downtown Inc. (ADI) has also offered to provide a \$25 ADI gift card to each of the 12 artists that are chosen. The 4 runners-up will also receive a \$25 ADI gift card.

As a reminder, the theme of the contest was IMAGES OF HOPE. Contestants were asked to submit images from around Appleton and/or the Fox Valley that represent Hope during these uncertain times. The contest was open to residents of the City of Appleton. The full contest rules are also attached for reference.

Attached is a document that contains each contest entry. With each entry, the contestant has provided a description of where the photo was taken, how the image represents hope, and the photo. The names of each contestant were removed, and each photo has been given a number.

As you make your selections, please keep in mind that the images will be viewed from a distance and should be legible/identifiable when displayed in the tower. The images will also need to be cropped to square size for the display. Not every contestant has cropped their photo.

Staff would recommend that each Arts Committee member come to the meeting with a ranking of all the photos. This may expedite the selection process.

## **APPLETON PUBLIC ARTS COMMITTEE ACTION:**

1. Choose the top 12 winning photos.
2. Choose the 4 runner-up photos.



## Houdini Plaza Welcome Tower Photo Contest Rules

The City of Appleton Public Art Committee will be holding a photo contest to select the new images that will be displayed in the Houdini Plaza Welcome Tower! Below are the contest details and rules.

### **Contest Theme – IMAGES OF HOPE:**

Contestants will submit images from around Appleton and/or the Fox Valley that represent Hope during these uncertain times.

### **Term:**

Submissions for the Houdini Welcome Tower Photo Contest need to be received by December 18, 2020, at 4:00 PM. By submitting an entry, each contestant agrees to the rules of the contest.

### **Who May Enter:**

The contest is open to all City of Appleton residents. Photographers of all abilities and ages are encouraged to submit entries. A winning entry from photographers under the age of 18 will require a release signed by a parent or guardian. City of Appleton employees are not eligible to enter.

### **What to Enter:**

Image Size and Resolution:

- The winning photos will be reproduced on translucent mylar at 43"x43" size.
- All submissions must be cropped to square.
- Please keep each contest submission photo to under 5MB.
- If selected, you will be required to submit a high-resolution photo of minimum 150 dpi at full scale (approximately 75MB).

Minor adjustments, including spotting, dodging and burning, sharpening, contrast and slight color adjustment or the digital equivalents, are acceptable for all categories. If the judges determine that a photographer has significantly altered his or her photo, they reserve the right to disqualify it. Watermarks are unacceptable.

For a photo in which a person is recognizable, you must secure a model release from the subject or, in the case of a minor, the subject's parent or guardian and provide it with your submission. A form is available on the City's website. [INSERT LINK]

Similarly, entrants whose photos depict other people's work (such as sculptures, statues, paintings, and other copyrightable works) may need to obtain a release from the rights holder and provide it

upon request. When photographing the work of others, it must be as an object in its environment and not a full-frame close-up of another person's creation.

Photos that violate or infringe upon another person's rights, including but not limited to copyright, are not eligible.

Photos that contain sexually explicit, nude, obscene, violent or other objectionable or inappropriate content, as determined by the City of Appleton in its sole discretion, are ineligible for this contest.

Please note: the reproduction process on a clear mylar cling applied to an acrylic sheet may unintentionally alter the colors of your original photo.

**How to Enter:**

- Complete entry form and photo upload available on the City's website by following this link: [INSERT LINK]
- We will not accept photographs submitted in person or through the mail. Submit no more than three (3) photographs per contestant. Complete a separate entry form for each photo submitted. Contact information provided will only be used to contact the contest winners and to keep contest entrants informed of the contest selection process.
- Photo submitted with entry form shall be no larger than 5MB. Winners will be asked to submit a high-resolution file.
- Digital photographs should be taken at the highest resolution possible – specifically, a minimum of 150 dpi. Photographs must be in a .png, .jpg or .gif format.
- Contestants certify that the photograph is unique and original and does not infringe upon any copyright or the rights of any person.

**Entry Deadline:**

All entries must be received no later than 4:00 PM on December 18, 2020. Only entries submitted via the online entry form will be accepted.

**Photo Selection:**

The Appleton Public Arts Committee will select and recommend 12 photographs for display in the Houdini Plaza Welcome Tower. The Common Council will confirm the Committee selections and they will be displayed for a minimum of 6 months.

**Prizes:**

The contestant for each of the 12 photographs selected will receive \$100 in prize money from the City of Appleton. Appleton Downtown Inc. will also provide a \$25 ADI gift card to each winner!

**Photo Release:**

By submitting your photograph for this contest, you recognize the City may use your photo for other City purposes (website, brochures, facebook, etc).

**You retain your rights to your photograph; however, by entering the contest, you grant the City of Appleton (and those authorized by the City) a royalty-free, perpetual, non-exclusive license to publicly display, distribute, reproduce and create derivative works of the entries, in whole or in part, in any media now existing or later developed, for any City of Appleton purpose, including, but not limited to, website, publications, social media, etc.** Any photograph reproduced will include a photographer credit as feasible. City of Appleton will not be required to pay any additional consideration or seek any additional approval in connection with such uses.

**Questions?**

Email [Jessica.Titel@appleton.org](mailto:Jessica.Titel@appleton.org) or (920) 832-6476.

## IMAGES OF HOPE - Houdini Tower Photo Contest Entries

### Photo #1

**Description of where photo was taken:**

Memorial Park pond

**Describe how the photo represents HOPE:**

Even though we are living in what feels like dark, unprecedented times, the world is still turning and the future remains bright.



## Photo #2

### Description of where photo was taken:

This photo was taken on the Fox Trot Trail in Appleton. In it, you can see the beautiful Fox River and part of Lawrence University.

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

I took this picture this past spring. I think spring is a hopeful time of year. In the springtime, the snow melts, the flowers bloom, and the robins come out. Robins represent love. Springtime also spells the end of winter. People always seem to be in a cheerful, optimistic mood in spring because they know that warmer weather is on the way.



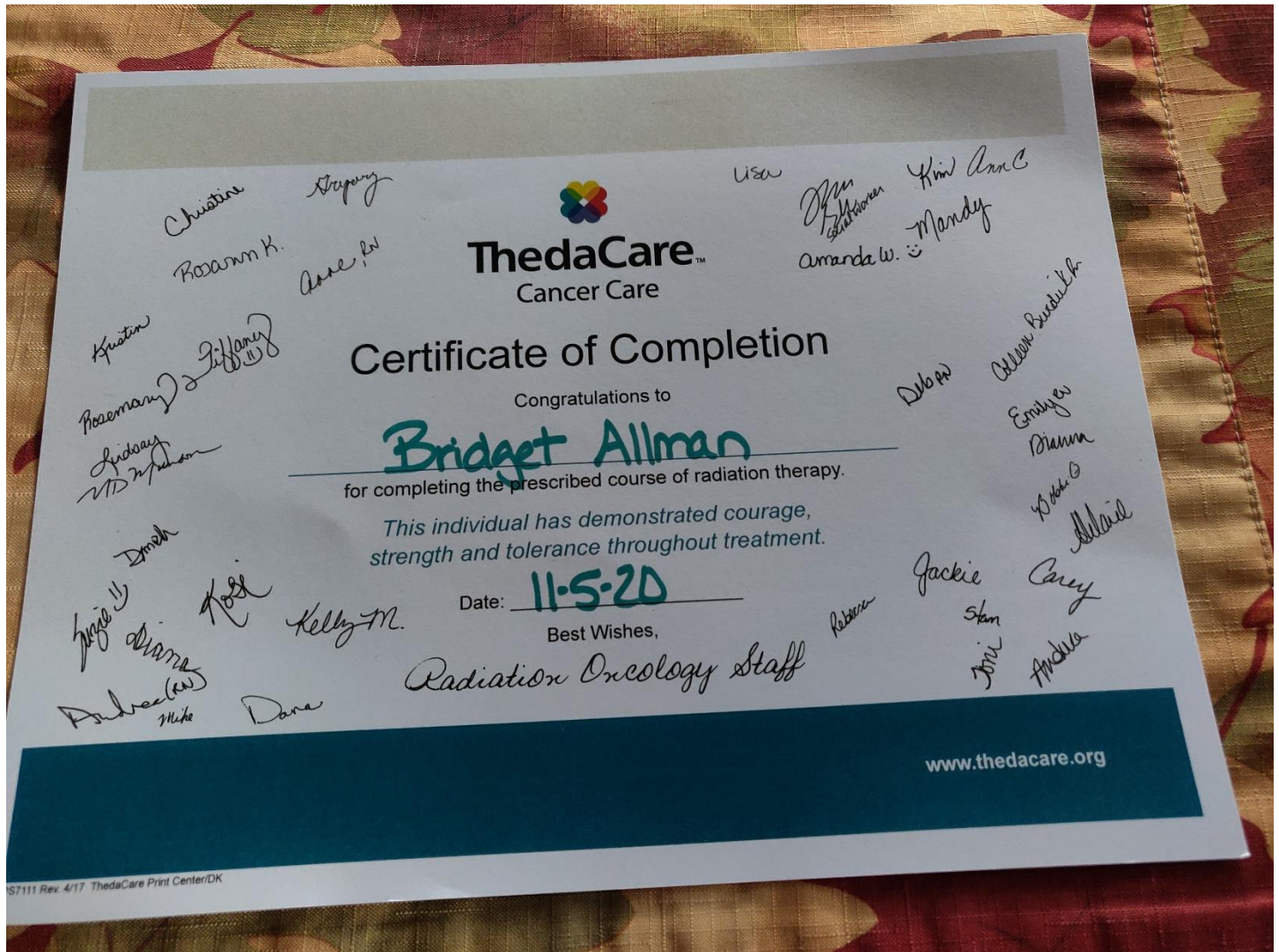
### Photo #3

#### Description of where photo was taken:

At Breast Cancer in Appleton. Completed my radiation for Breast Cancer. Caught it early. So important to keep the mammogram up.

#### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

By Being strong and Hope. And know This too shall pass. I saying my mom always said. She died of cancer and I told my self, You will get thru this part of your love for.



## Photo #4

### Description of where photo was taken:

Hekrodt Wetland Reserve, Menasha

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

On one level, this photo shows how successful parks such as Heckrodt have been in attracting a wide variety of wildlife. Through such efforts, the public has been intimately exposed to the natural world, which leads to appreciation and a desire to preserve what we have. Through such urban wild spaces, there is hope for the preservation of our natural environment. On another level, these fox kits represent youth, who are our hope for a better future.





## Photo #5

### Description of where photo was taken:

Fox River, Kaukauna., near 1000Is Environmental Center

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

Bald Eagles were practically extinct when a pair built a nest on the Fox River at 1000 Islands in the early 1980's. Since then, the river has been cleaned up and Bald Eagles are seen with hawks, herons, cranes, pelicans, osprey and other birds. This gives hope that with good planning and cooperation, further improvements in our environment can be made.



## Photo #6

### Description of where photo was taken:

Heckrodt Wetland Reserve, Menasha

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

This photo shows a Great Horned owl and its offspring. The young chick was frightened by a hawk flying overhead and crawled along the tree limb to its mother, to be consoled. This photo shows the importance of family and the love of others to bring hope to those living with danger and fear.



## Photo #7

### Description of where photo was taken:

West outside wall of Gabriel Furniture downtown.

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

My granddaughter is considered by me to be an indigo child and is a ray of hope by default. When I suggested a picture near a mural of butterflies she struck the pictured pose.



## Photo #8

### Description of where photo was taken:

1529 W Commercial St, Appleton

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

2020 was one of the most difficult years of our lives as we endured isolation from our friends, family, and social lifestyle. While out for a walk one day in early summer, I came across the house in the submitted picture. Taped to a window was a message that read, "Hang in there world." It reminds us that we are part of a larger collective, that although we may be experiencing physical isolation, we do not have to be mentally isolated. We have each other, and if we rely on each other, we can make it through this difficult period.

Although this message is important, the context in which it is displayed is equally worth considering. The sign is not displayed in the yard, where one would have to brave the outside world to place it. Rather, it is taped to the interior side of a home's window, conjuring images of a homeowner, isolated from his or her community, taking initiative to communicate messages of positivity and resolve to neighbors through an outward-facing sign. The image reminds us that hope lies not only in each other but in our communication with each other. It lies in our community, for when pandemic ends, it will be our community that will help us heal the many wounds we have sustained.



## Photo #9

### Description of where photo was taken:

Near the Marcus Hollywood Cinema across from Woodman's

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

When we are struggling, we lose our ability to see beyond our immediate problems. It is often only when we broaden our perspective that we are able to realize that the things troubling us are not as bad as they seem or that we are closer to the end of our journey than we had previously realized.

The bird in this photograph is a symbol of hope because it reminds us of that broader perspective. Sitting high in a tree, it looks not down to the ground but out to the horizon. In so doing, it reminds us that our current struggles are temporary, that not too far away is the potential for relief. Through its regal posture, it also conveys a certain calmness, removing any desire we may have to panic and assuring us that all is under control.



## Photo #10

### Description of where photo was taken:

Photo taken from College St. Bridge, looking down at the Fox River

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

Represents the beautiful fall colors along the Fox River and the beauty of the surrounding area.



## Photo #11

### Description of where photo was taken:

Showing the beauty of not only the sculpture, and how nature can transform something that we see everyday into something more surreal.

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

To show the beauty in nature, no matter how intense a storm can be.



## Photo #12

### Description of where photo was taken:

Although the train trestle is an iconic symbol of the area, when viewed during a different part of the day or during different elements, the beauty still shines through.

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

During different times of the day or different weather conditions, we still remain the same.





## Photo #13

### Description of where photo was taken:

Photo taken in North Appleton in our backyard.

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

Hope is anticipation, excitement and the expectation of something to come. She is the embodiment of hope for the future, and excitement for more snow.



## Photo #14

### Description of where photo was taken:

The photo was taken at Memorial Park in Appleton in the Sheig Garden.

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

A symbol of a fresh new start and hope for the future.



## Photo #15

### Description of where photo was taken:

This photo was taken on the new pedestrian bridge near downtown Appleton. The bridge is in walking distance to our home and we walked there to get some fresh air before the cold winter air arrives. This area of Appleton is beautiful and never too crowded. We love it.

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

The photo represents the Hope of my children even in this long pandemic. Evy and Ash are both students in the AASD and part of the present and future of Appleton. They are bright shining kids in somewhat dark times for us all. Their smiles and energy make people smile, even on our walk to the bridge for this photo. The kids walking and smiling not only gives them hope of a happy future but also makes our community happy in return. Knowing that the future is still bright!



## Photo #16

### Description of where photo was taken:

This photo of my Daughters, Evelyn and Ash, was taken near our home in Appleton. We were on a walk during quarantine. This would be near the corner of Lincoln Ave and Jefferson.

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

This photo literally represents hope during the pandemic. Two sisters hoping that they can see their friends soon in a pandemic and relying on their sisterly instincts to take care of each other and to be kind. Much like my other submission, my daughters always get a lot of smiles from other Appleton residents when we are out on walks together. Appleton has been a beautiful place to live and quarantine because it's never too crowded and the nature is beautiful for a mid-size city.



## Photo #17

### Description of where photo was taken:

This photo was taken on a walk near our house in Appleton. This would be near the intersection of South River Road and Madison Avenues.

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

This photo represents the hope of the youth in our great city! There is such a blend of urban and suburban in Appleton and we were happy to see this city-like scene on our walk. As I mentioned in my previous submission, my daughters are both students in the AASD and bring smiles to others on our walks in Appleton.

They both are so positive and our walks around town always give us all a sense of hope. Hope for good health and hope for our world to return to "normal". My daughters' kindness, smiles and giggles create a hope for not only their own health but by showing others that we 'are all going to be okay. :)



## Photo #18

### Description of where photo was taken:

Amanda and Norah Weidner cleaning up Appleton during Covid.

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

Finding outdoor and different ways to not only pass the time during the pandemic but instilling a sense of civic duty in our daughter. Giving back doesn't have to be just monetary and this is not only helping keep our great city litter free, but is helping the environment.



## Photo #19

### Description of where photo was taken:

On S Riverview Lane, in Appleton.

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

This represents that no matter how small the gesture is, we are all in this together. We can't know what hardships or stress someone else is going through and sometimes a little unexpected thing goes along way. We put out cucumbers, tomatoes, etc. from our garden and they were gone almost immediately. And, the table was never taken...a true testament to the goodness in all of us.



## Photo #20

### Description of where photo was taken:

Our garage on S Riverview Lane, Appleton.

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

Like a caterpillar that turns into a moth or butterfly, we too will transform into something more beautiful. This pandemic has shown us what a great community we live in and that although times are tough and ugly right now, the kindness and beauty shown throughout our city shines bright!





## Photo #21

### Description of where photo was taken:

Inside my house, in Appleton.

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

This was taken during the first snowfall of the year and my daughter was lifting my son up to see the snowman she had made in the front yard. It is a positive photo of joy, which gives me the hope that happiness will return again soon. Because you can't tell what they are looking at, it leaves it open to interpretation for the viewer. Perhaps they are looking out of the window and hoping for Santa to come. Perhaps they are waiting for a family member to arrive. They are joyful in their anticipation because they have hope.



## Photo #22

### Description of where photo was taken:

This image was taken in front of the Trout Museum.

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

I have known Karen for several years. She was in her later 30s when she finally found the love she'd been hoping for. Karen and Justin's October wedding day was rainy and dismal. The couple, my photo partner, and I were all soaked after running to the museum from the Fox Banquets facility.

This represents hope to me on many fronts: A wedding is a hope for the future...for their future, for OUR future. Capturing this beautiful image in the rain highlights that hope endures even when the "weather" isn't perfect. And, and most importantly, this is an image of love, and love and hope walk hand in hand.



## Photo #23

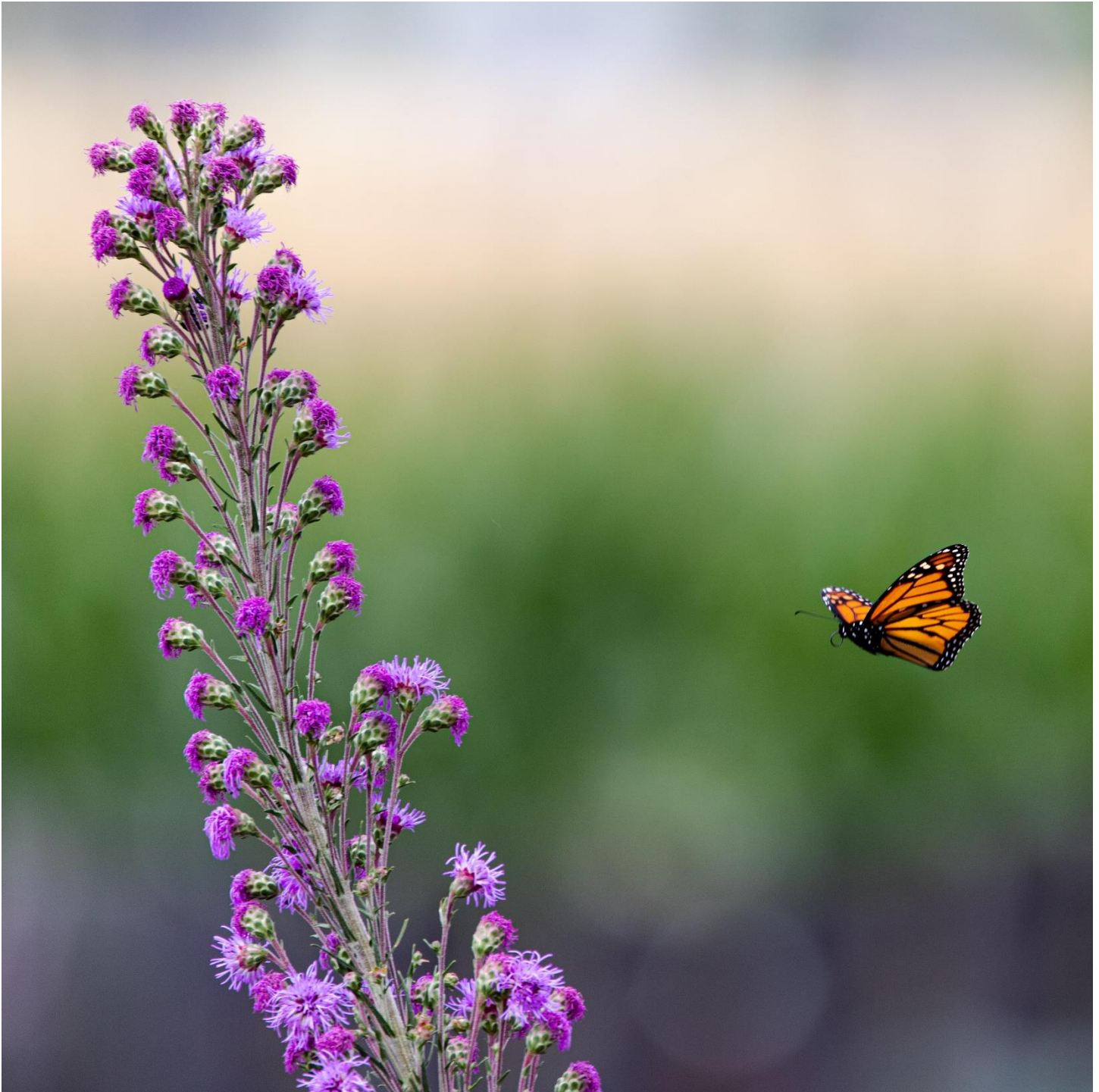
### Description of where photo was taken:

My backyard at N Haymeadow Ave

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

For the butterfly - hope is finding food and a place to rest.

For me - hope during COVID was finding a new creative outlet through photography.



## Photo #24

### Description of where photo was taken:

On the stairs by the Historic Fox River Mills.

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

This shows all of the generations of high school students who have graduated over the years letting the new generation know that they were here.



## Photo #25

### Description of where photo was taken:

College avenue facing west in front of pac.

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

Shows the beauty of appleton.



## Photo #26

### Description of where photo was taken:

This picture was taken in the driveway of my Appleton home. Should you choose this photo, I have a larger size available.

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

This picture represents hope and its power on many levels -- the way the basketball hangs above the rim, the graduation gown the young man wears, the way he's floating above the ground. None of this happened by chance -- it all took hard work, support, self-confidence and hope.

No one's future is a slamdunk, but hope drives everyone to try a little harder, jump a little higher and shoot for goals they would not otherwise have considered.

Lastly, this represents hope during this particularly challenging year because it's a way to celebrate a high school graduation when more traditional ways became unavailable.

On a private note, this young man has been through so much in his life, that his ability to maintain hope and find joy in every day is an inspiration all on its own.



## Photo #27

### Description of where photo was taken:

At Erb Park on the playground equipment.

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

This picture of a boy catching a snowflake on his tongue epitomizes childhood innocence to me and that represents hope because some children have to work harder than others to close their eyes and trust a snowflake's magic. Also, like snowflakes, each child is beautiful in his or her own way and there is hope for all of us when we take a moment to find the beauty in that.



## Photo #28

### Description of where photo was taken:

I took this picture on a bike trail off of College Avenue in Appleton.

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

I was walking on the trail and all I saw were dead plants and trees. But then in the grass, surrounded by snow, I found this dandelion. I thought it was a symbol of hope that this plant was hanging on even when it was covered in snow. I also thought it was extra special because dandelions at this stage of their life are used for wishes, which can offer even more hope in difficult times.





## Photo #29

### Description of where photo was taken:

This photo was taken in my house in Appleton.

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

Paper cranes are used as symbols of hope, love, and healing in difficult times. In this time, I think everyone can use hope and healing, so I thought an image of a paper crane my friend gifted me would be a good choice for the plaza. I also thought it would correspond with the paper crane statue on the trout museum in the plaza.



## Photo #30

### Description of where photo was taken:

This was taken on a walk along the Newberry Trail near The Tempest coffee shop.

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

I felt hopeful that if geese could keep a safe social distance during this pandemic, then maybe people might begin to do likewise.



## Photo #31

### Description of where photo was taken:

This was taken on the Newberry Trail.

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

I'd just come from Houdini Square and had seen the new "HOPE" exhibit. This beautiful sunset over the river completed that sense that all will be well.



## Photo #32

### Description of where photo was taken:

This was taken on the Newberry Trail.

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

I'd just come from Houdini Square and had seen the new "HOPE" exhibit. This beautiful sunset over the river completed that sense that all will be well.



## Photo #33

### Description of where photo was taken:

View out my window in Appleton, WI

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

The way the morning light is coming through the flag brings me hope that the sun will continue to shine another day, I.



## Photo #34

### Description of where photo was taken:

Inner city Appleton. Our backyard :)

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

Butterflies to me display hope.

They begin as eggs, then the caterpillar stage, then the chrysalis, such metamorphosis.... The great hope that they were made for... A butterfly!

This monarch posed wonderfully on a beautiful July 2020 day in our backyard in inner city Appleton.

It brought me great hope as I was in such great pain awaiting my right hip replacement surgery.

I thought if a butterfly can go through such change, I believe I can too! 🦋



## Photo #35

### Description of where photo was taken:

Our backyard. Inner city Appleton.

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

The Red-spotted Purple butterfly represents hope.

All butterflies to me display hope.

They begin as eggs, then the caterpillar stage, then the chrysalis, then the metamorphosis.... The great hope that they were made for... A butterfly!

This Red-spotted Purple butterfly posed wonderfully on a beautiful July 2020 day.

It brought me great hope as I was in such great pain awaiting my right hip replacement surgery.

I thought if a butterfly can go through such change, I believe I can too! 🍀



## Photo #36

### Description of where photo was taken:

This photo was taken in Autumn outside my home in Appleton.

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

My photo represents a hope of a dog rescued from the streets of Missouri. If my dog spoke he would say to me, "Hope is the only thing that is not lost because I had a second chance to have a better life and be happy with you." And that is the hope that always opens a second chance in this life. Let's be positive and never lose that hope.





## Photo #37

### Description of where photo was taken:

This photo was an extract of a video I took of the sunrise on December 10, 2020. It was taken across the street from Peabody Park.

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

I believe the dawn of a new day represents hope. On this day the sun was insisting on it. The colors were so vibrant and so persistent, one could not help but smile. In times where there is so much angst and uncertainty, when people are struggling, and hope doesn't seem close, we get these glimpses of incredible beauty. It's like the universe is saying, 'Look. There's still hope.'



## Photo #38

### Description of where photo was taken:

Along the Fox River down in the flats

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

A new day beckons a rebirth



## Photo #39

### Description of where photo was taken:

I discovered these two happy campers on my walk on the Newberry Trail. I didn't bother them, they didn't bother me.

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

We are in this together. When it comes down to it . . . we have each other.



## Photo #40

### Description of where photo was taken:

While kayaking on the Fox River.

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

There's beauty everywhere for you to discover and enjoy.



## Photo #41

### Description of where photo was taken:

My backyard. On the Fox River.

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

Your Happy Place is waiting for you.



## Photo #42

### Description of where photo was taken:

All where taken in Appleton WI. Orange light beam was out by Woodmans on West Hill Blvd.

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

The orange light beam is after a stormy day which shows no matter how bad it gets there is beauty somewhere to be found.



## Photo #43

### Description of where photo was taken:

These flowers were taken outside my townhome during the summer. Right here in Appleton, WI

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

The flowers were photographed during a rainy night. It shows that we can take what the world gives us and come out stronger in the end.



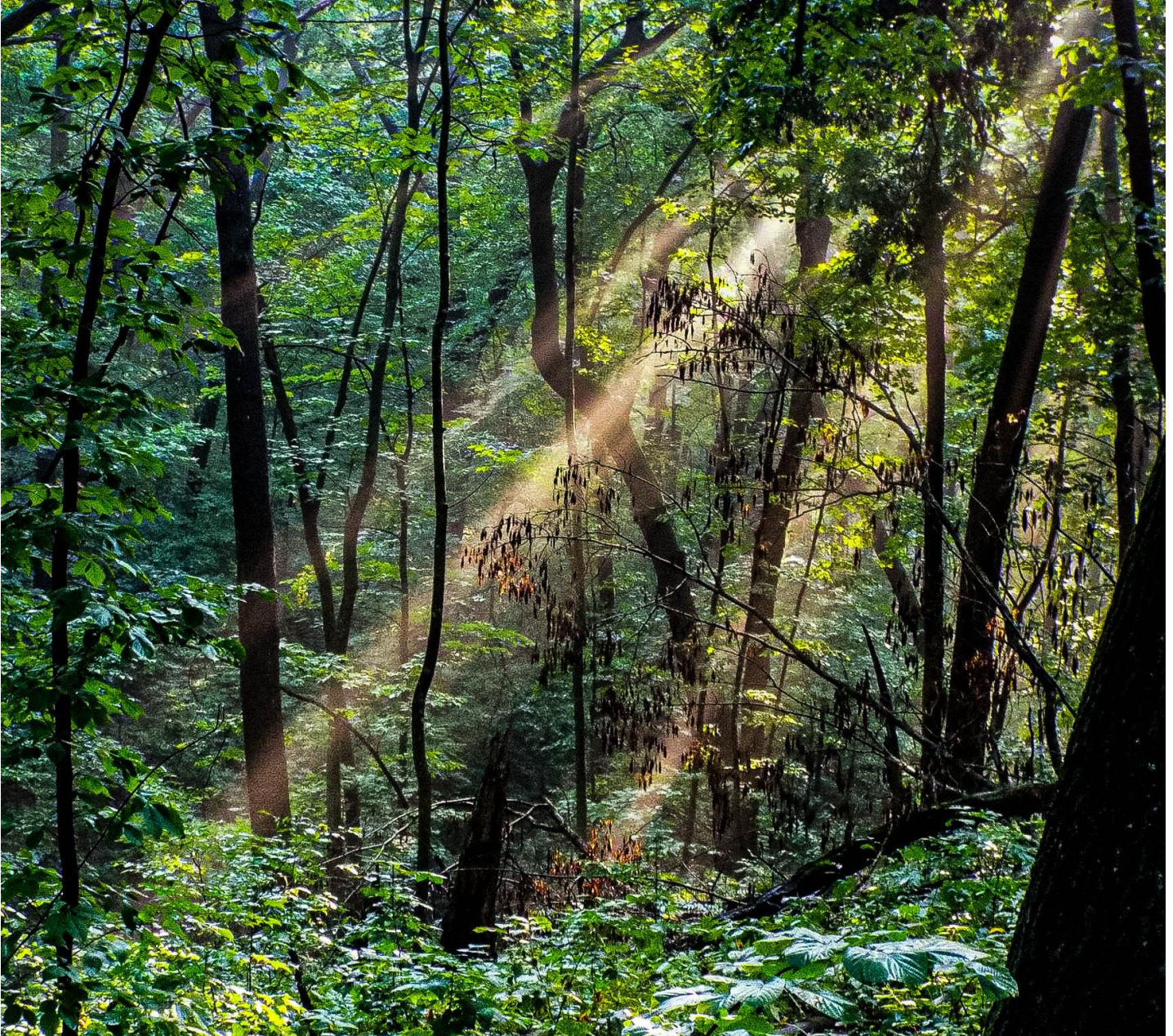
## Photo #44

### Description of where photo was taken:

This was taken in the woods at High Cliff State Park.

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

Even if all seems lost and we struggle to find our way there is always a light to guide us and show us the beauty we may miss otherwise.





## Photo #45

### Description of where photo was taken:

This photo is taken at Kimball Alley facing Soldiers Square.

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

Searching through the deep darkness, the searcher finally find the light from outside. At the current phase, everyone is standing in the dark tunnel. As time gets longer and longer, many are getting tired of the darkness. I want to tell them that there is a bright spotlight in the near future and let's run towards it together.



## Photo #46

### Description of where photo was taken:

This photo is taken near the Briggs Hall on Lawrence University campus. It is taken from a high point and looking over the Fox River.

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

The Fox River is never peaceful, especially in winter. It is cold while it ruffles with our hearts. But the sun hugs all lives equally with warmth. Its warmth reminds people of home, of mother's homemade dishes, and of hanging out with supportive friends. Those things give people energy and comfort.

That is what hope is. It let us look forward with confidence and positivity.



## Photo #47

### Description of where photo was taken:

This photo was taken in front of Warch Campus Center, on the Lawrence University campus.

### Describe how the photo represents HOPE:

The three young adults represent the new energy and the rising hope of our society. They are walking towards the unknown future while the sun tries to lights up their road and gives them hope.

