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Here on Lake Hallie: In Praise of Barflies, Fix-it-Guys, and Other Folks in Our Hometown

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These essays establish that, above all else, it's friends, family, and neighbors who provide us with a sense of belonging. Growing up as the youngest of eight children, Patti See never imagined she'd stay in Chippewa Falls as an adult. Now she has a new appreciation for all that comes with country living, from ice fishing and supper clubs to pontoon rides and tavern dice. Whether sending her son off to basic training, holding her mother's hand through late stage Alzheimer's, or tiptoeing over thin ice with her best friend since childhood, See notices the comedy and beauty of life's everyday moments.

