



Volume 30, Number 13 Thursday, April 3, 2014

# Drawn Like "Magnets"

## The Arts Come Alive at Pine Elementary School

by Barbara Stodola

**I**magine a school where the children don't want to leave when the final bell rings.

At Pine Elementary School, 1660 S. County Line Road, the Michigan City Area Schools magnet school for the visual and performing arts, more than half the children sign up for after-school programs where they continue learning and participating in art, music and theater ... because they want to.

To accommodate the heightened level of enthusiasm, MCAS runs



Valparaiso University pianist Carey Scheck performs for the music club at Pine Elementary School for the Visual and Performing Arts. Photos by Oleg Semkoff



"activities buses" that take youngsters home an hour later than the regular school buses do.

"The best part of this concept is that it allows kids to learn core subjects through the arts," fine arts coach Julie Schmidt says. "It awakens their creativity, their sense of wonder. We call this a magnet school because it attracts kids like a magnet."

On the day The Beacher was invited, a piano recital was presented by Valparaiso University pianist Carey Scheck, who prompted the children to observe differences between European composers Joseph Sebastian Bach, Franz Joseph Haydn and modern American composer Samuel Barber. She pointed out that some of the tunes originally were used as dance music.

Attentively listening to Carey Scheck's performance are Joshua Wilhelm (front, center), Majorie Romhilt (back, left) and Halle Hood (back, right).

"How did you learn to play

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## Drawn Like "Magnets" Continued from Page 1



Fourth-grader Elyanah Goodall is engrossed by the musical performance.

so fast?" one student asked in amazement, to which Scheck replied, "I had to practice a lot. I started out playing slow."

For many of these youngsters, Schmidt observed, "This is the first time they have heard a professional music program. They have not experienced anything like this

at all. In the fourth grade, they can begin learning to play a musical instrument. We want them to see the possibilities for themselves."

Students who live within the Pine Elementary boundaries are automatically enrolled there, said Betsy Kohn, MCAS director of communications. But once a year, open enrollment is offered throughout Michigan City for Pine and Lake Hills Elementary School, a magnet school for science, technology, engineering and math. Students are accepted on the basis of a lottery, depending on which grade levels have openings. Most new students are taken in at the kindergarten level, Kohn said.

"We have a full art and music program at every elementary and middle school," Kohn said. "Also, we have gifted and talented programs," and the magnet schools are not to be confused with these programs, which are offered after students have had some testing.

The difference lies, according to administrators, in the level of emphasis and the incorporation of fine arts into every subject in the curriculum – science, math, language arts, social studies – beginning at the kin-

dergarten level.

"Fourth-graders are working on an underground railroad project," Schmidt said. "In second-grade language arts, the rain forest was studied. At the end of each four-week period, we have a showcase evening, and the second-graders did a rain forest dance. The parents see the knowledge sticking with their child. Suddenly, the students are deeply involved."

The art and music teachers may introduce projects that relate to other subjects being taught. The art teacher, Schmidt recalled, brought in pre-Columbian pottery and had students make paint from berries and other natural materials. The music teacher showed musical instruments originally used by Native Americans.

"We have Fine Arts Fridays almost every week," Schmidt said. "Every student gets the opportunity



Everyone has a question for Mike Bailey, whose photographs are on display at the school.



to perform on stage at least once a year.”

“The students are so excited about learning,” she continued. “That’s the reason they wake up in the morning. We have a mix of students. Some are naturally gifted in drama, or the mother might say, ‘I know my child is an artsy kid.’ But we also reach those who might not usually participate. The arts are the way to get them engaged in learning.”



Fine arts photographer Mike Bailey, describing mushrooms that grow in the forest, takes questions from students.

MCAS Superintendent Barbara Eason-Watkins is the person credited with introducing the magnet school concept to Michigan City. She arranged for consultants from Chicago public schools to give special training to Michigan City’s magnet school teachers. Schmidt had been a music teacher for 20 years before heading up the Pine program.

During after-school events, guest artists are brought in for special exhibits or performances. The South Bend Symphony Orchestra sent a brass trio the week before Christmas. A jazz pianist is scheduled for later in the year, as well as a storyteller. Some events are sponsored by “Young Audiences” of Indianapolis. The Michigan City Chamber Music

Continued on Page 4



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# Drawn Like "Magnets" Continued from Page 3



Anticipating spring, Art Club members produced drawings of birds, which form a pretty decoration for Pine Elementary corridors.

Festival, under Nic Orbovich's direction, has done performances.

Local artists and organizations also augment the fine arts programs at Pine.

Fine arts photographer Mike Bailey provided students with some of his close-up studies of mushrooms, then spoke to the fine arts club about "what inspires me – the beauty of nature." Bailey, a landscape lighting professional, previously displayed his photos at Purdue University-North Central and was encouraged by Judy Jacob, PNC assistant vice chancellor of marketing and campus relations, and a key player in the campus Odyssey Arts and Cultural Events Series, to move the show

Individual totems are combined to form a Native-American type of art object, mounted outside Pine Elementary's media room.



to Pine School.

Esther Guncheon, another local artist, is involved in Michigan City's after-school programs through the Lubeznik Center for the Arts' partnership with Safe Harbor and the Boys & Girls Club.

"We supplement the schools' regular art instruction," Guncheon said, "and relate their learning experience to the exhibits currently on display at the Lubeznik Center."

The Dunes Women's Club has adopted Pine School as its special project. The club underwrites an annual museum trip to Chicago so students can personally experience a big-city art museum.

It's an eye-opener for them, exposure to the arts that keeps the youngsters hungry for more.

And, of course, thrilled about staying just a little bit longer after school.

Some mushrooms grow like trees, while others are shell-shaped, an infinite variety for Mike Bailey to locate and photograph.





## Magnet Schools Accepting Applications

Pine and Lake Hills magnet schools are accepting applications for the 2014-2015 school year.

Both schools retain their current neighborhood boundaries, serving kindergarten through fifth-grade students through the magnet programs. In addition, each school will accept approximately 30 students in kindergarten from other attendance areas across MCAS. The schools will fill open slots in the upper grades as well.

Applications for children entering grades K-5 next school year who do not live within the Pines and Lake Hills boundaries are due by 4 p.m. Monday, April 21. A random lottery will be used to determine placements.

More information and applications for the schools are available at all MCAS elementary buildings, the administration building, 408 S. Carroll Ave., or online at [EducateMC.net/magnets](http://EducateMC.net/magnets).



When inspiration strikes, any place is a good place to make art, as discovered by second-grader Jakhayla Jones.



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## SSAA Multi-Media Exhibit

Southern Shore Art Association, 724 Franklin St., will host the multi-media exhibit "Banquet" with an opening reception during Uptown Arts District First Fridays from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, April 4.

With 27 contributing artists, guests can view 50 feet of tables with eclectic settings made of wood, ceramic, alabaster, pewter, glass and textile. Items include bowls, goblets, teapots, wine caddies, plates and cups, even "food" created in glass. Woven runners and paintings, photography or fiber art placemat-napkin sets will embellish the tables.



Goblets by Rebecca Hungerford.



Larry Jensen's cornmeal resin bowl.

Refreshments will be served during the reception. The exhibit runs through April 27. Gallery hours are noon to 5 p.m. Friday through Sunday. Visit [www.SouthernShoreArtAssociation.com](http://www.SouthernShoreArtAssociation.com) for more information.

## First Friday Art Walk

Uptown Arts District will present its First Friday Art Walk from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, April 4.

Stops along the district (11th and Franklin streets north to the lake) include:

- Michigan City Old Lighthouse Museum, 1 Washington Park: photography by Jan Hoeppner highlighting the lakefront in all seasons.
- Beach Bum Jewels, 621 Franklin St.: photography by Jamie Kessler, Beach Bum Jewels co-owner and jewelry designer.
- Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St.: local musicians Mike Kucharski and Brian Rich.
- Urban Soles Inc., 624 Franklin St.: artists Hollie Bingham, Kristin Hadari and Chris Acton. Also, Urban Soles is celebrating its third anniversary.
- Darling, 418 Franklin St.: artists Lynn the Seamstress and Julie Biehl. Darling is celebrating its second anniversary.
- Walnut Ink Projects, 607 Franklin St.: Syracuse University Printmakers, a collection of large-scale prints by students and faculty.
- First United Methodist Church, 121 E. Seventh St.: watercolor artist Neil Kienitz.
- Southern Shore Art Association, 724 Franklin St.: opening reception of multi-media exhibit "The Banquet."
- The Framing Station, 912 Franklin St.: Crown Point watercolor artist Alan Vandever.
- dh2w inc. architecture-planning, 813 Franklin St.: photos of interiors designed for clients during the last several years.
- Encore Consignment Boutique, 815 Franklin St.: woodturned items by Fred Byer of Natural Bear Woodproducts. The former Indiana resident lives in Arlington, Wash.
- St. Paul Lutheran Church & School, Ninth and Franklin streets. Annual Jonah Fish Fry, 4 to 7 p.m.
- Maxine's Restaurant, 521 Franklin St.: Fumee Gypsy Project, 8 to 11 p.m. Info: [www.maxines521.com](http://www.maxines521.com)
- Mainstreet Theatre, 807 Franklin St.: First Friday Open Stage with host Andy Burd. Info: [festivalplayersguild.org](http://festivalplayersguild.org)

Visit [www.uptownartsdistrict.org](http://www.uptownartsdistrict.org) for additional information.



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# It's Time to Skedaddle!

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March 20



Photos by Oleg Semkoff







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## Footlight Food Drive



Footlight Players will hold a food drive to help replenish the Sacred Heart Church food pantry during its production of "Lost in Yonkers." Performances are April 4-6 and 10-13 at Footlight Theatre, 1705 Franklin St. Call (219) 874-4035 for more information. Pictured are Footlight members Bobby Komendera and Alice Dickey.

## Annual VU Jazz Fest

Valparaiso University will host the 2014 Jazz Fest on April 7-12, complete with a lineup that features local, regional and international jazz artists.

The event, which is nearing its 30th anniversary, closes with a performance by Grammy-winning vocal group The New York Voices.

In addition to guest performances, the university's faculty and student ensembles, as well as high school jazz ensembles, will participate. Performances by high school groups kick off the week on Monday and Tuesday, April 7-8. Each performance is at 6 p.m. in the Harre Union Ballrooms.

Featured performances, also in the Harre Union Ballrooms, include:

- Special Double Billing: Windiana Concert Band, featuring select repertoire and the premiere of a commissioned composition, and "An Evening with Billy Foster, A Musical Retrospective" – 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 9.
- Valparaiso University Jazz Ensemble featuring guest trombonist John Fedchock, along with a premiere commissioned performance – 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 10.
- Valparaiso University Faculty Jazz Trio with Fedchock – 7:30 p.m. Friday, April 11.
- The New York Voices – 8 p.m. Saturday, April 12.

The New York Voices blends jazz, Brazilian, rhythm and blues, classical and pop. Windiana, Northwest Indiana's professional concert band, has performed in China, Australia and New Zealand, as well as for the national convention of the Association of Concert Bands. The Grammy-nominated Fedchock boasts a career that has spanned more than three decades.

Tickets are available at the Harre Union Welcome Desk or by calling (219) 464-5414. Visit [valpo.edu/union](http://valpo.edu/union) for more information.

## Arts and Crafts Show Entries Sought

Artists and crafters with unique items are needed for the Fifth Annual Arts and Crafts Show from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. EDT Saturday, May 24, at St. John United Church of Christ, 200 W. Buffalo St., New Buffalo, Mich.

The show will be held inside Frohne Hall and the church annex and outside in the church yard. Inside spaces are \$35 and outside spaces are \$30.

The deadline for applications with payment and submitted photos is May 1, or until all 70 spaces are rented. Add \$5 to the cost if reserving a space after May 1. Hand-crafted items may be displayed. No flea market or purchased items for resale will be permitted.

Visit [www.stjohnartsandcraftsshow.weebly.com](http://www.stjohnartsandcraftsshow.weebly.com), email [craftfair200@att.net](mailto:craftfair200@att.net) or call Pam Oselka at (734) 277-3180 for more information.



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## MBA Information Session

Purdue University-North Central will host a reception and Master of Business Administration information session from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, April 8, at the PNC-Porter County Graduate Building, Room 10, 600 Vale Park Road, Valparaiso.

Students can learn about the newly accredited program and plan of study, meet faculty, receive informational materials and learn about financial-aid opportunities.

Prospective students may start the admissions process now. The class schedule is designed to meet the needs of working adults, with courses offered on Saturdays. Students, regardless of their baccalaureate field, can complete their degrees in fewer than two years.

Contact the program office at (219) 785-5557 or mba@pnc.edu to RSVP or for more information.

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## Jewish Film Festival

The Purdue University-North Central Odyssey Arts and Cultural Events Series, along with Michigan City Public Library and the Irving Levin Jewish Cultural Fund of Sinai Temple, will present a Jewish Film Festival on April 5-6.

The free event runs from 2 to 5:45 p.m. Saturday, April 5, and 1:30 to 5:30 p.m. Sunday, April 6, at the library, 100 E. Fourth St., Michigan City.

The schedule is:

### SATURDAY

- **"Bethlehem" (2013), rated R.** The complex relationship between an Israeli Secret Service officer and his teen Palestinian informant is the theme of Israel's entry in the Academy Awards' Foreign Language category. It won seven Israeli Film Academy awards, including Best Picture.
- **"Everything Is Illuminated" (2005), rated PG-13.** A young American travels to the Ukraine in search of the woman who saved his grandfather during World War II. The story, based on Jonathan Safran Foer's book, was written and directed by Liev Schreiber and stars Elijah Wood.

### SUNDAY

- **"The Book Thief" (2013) rated PG-13.** Trapped in World War II Germany, young Liesel finds solace in stealing and sharing books with others, including the Jewish refugee being hidden behind the stairs in her home. The Oscar-nominated film is based on Marcus Zusak's book.
- **"Yoo Hoo, Mrs. Goldberg" (2009), unrated.** In addition to playing Molly Goldberg on radio and TV, Gertrude Berg wrote all 12,000 scripts, ran her own production company, was voted the second most popular woman in America (after Eleanor Roosevelt), received the first Best Actress Emmy and fought the Hollywood blacklist. The documentary is filled with clips from "The Goldbergs" shows, and interviews with fans such as Susan Stamberg, Norman Lear and Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg. It is being presented in cooperation with the National Center for Jewish Film.

Refreshments will be served during the festival. Contact Judy Jacobi, PNC assistant vice chancellor of marketing and campus relations, at (219) 785-5200, Ext. 5593.



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## Visit



— submitted by  
Jason Miller of the  
LaPorte County  
Convention and  
Visitors Bureau

## Tourism Review

It always amazes me, the impression this community makes on people.

Whether they're in town shopping at the outlet mall, eating at a downtown La Porte restaurant or watching their daughter play in a softball tournament at Patriot Park, visitors almost always leave the community saying one thing: "I can't wait to come back."

That's why it makes our job so fun, and some times, so easy.

La Porte County offers a lot to do and a lot of great people to make your visit so enjoyable. So when you run into someone, on a chance, a million miles away, who has been to La Porte County, it's not surprising when they tell you they loved their visit.

But last year, on a 10-day trip to Ireland, I was surprised.

Sitting in a pub, 3,000 miles from home in a small town on the west coast of the Emerald Isle, I was approached by a young man and his father. They spoke to me because, on a cool evening along Galway Bay in Salthill, they saw the words Michigan City, Indiana, on a spring jacket I was wearing.

If I recall, they were from a suburb of Belfast, in the north. And the young man's name was James. He explained that he left Ireland just a few years back to attend college at Indiana University. He ran cross country, and IU offered him a scholarship.

It was his opportunity to spend some of his "formative years," as he put it, in the United States.

"I didn't know anything about Indiana, but the offer (IU) made was a good one and it gave me the chance to go to the states," James said. "Once I was

there, I really had a good time. I learned a lot about America and the history of Indiana. It's an interesting place."

James also got to experience some serious Northwest Indiana culture a few times during his stay in Bloomington.

Thanks to a teammate and roommate who was from Portage, James headed to our area a few times. One visit was for a wedding in Whiting, and the other to Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. It was fun talking to James about his time in Whiting, as my wife and her family are from the farthest north city in Indiana.

But what was really neat was James' impressions of Michigan City and the Dunes.

The Cliffs of Moher and Aran Islands in Ireland are something to behold. I know, I've been there and have stood in awe of the amazing natural wonder of such miraculous views. But for James, being able to climb Mount Baldy was an experience unlike any other.

The wonder I felt standing several hundred feet above the Atlantic Ocean along those cliffs, looking out over a rainy, foggy seashore, is something I'll never forget, just as climbing up a mountain made of sand was something James will always remember.

But his impressions of La Porte County stretched far beyond that.

He remembered walking out to the lighthouse along Washington Park beach and seeing the glimmering Spa Blue tower, also shining like a beacon over the sleepy Midwestern city. He shopped, ate, saw a show and hung out with Michigan City folks while he was here and couldn't help but talk about how friendly the locals were.

"We had a lot of fun," he said. "I didn't know what to expect in Indiana, but I have to say that I really enjoyed myself. The people were all very friendly and honestly, that surprised me. I just didn't know what to think."

The next time James comes back, though, he'll know exactly what to expect. And that, he said, is exactly why he'll return.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• COMPLETE REMODELING</li> <li>• ROOM ADDITIONS</li> <li>• SIDING</li> <li>• DECKS</li> <li>• GARAGES</li> </ul>	 <p><b>219-861-6341</b> www.hullingsconstruction.com</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NEW CONSTRUCTION</li> <li>• 4 SEASON ROOMS</li> <li>• CONCRETE</li> <li>• MASONRY</li> <li>• FLOORING</li> </ul>
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## La Porte County Parks



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

### Stroller, Baby and You

Aimed at toddlers and preschoolers, programs include music, dance, storytelling and a hike (weather permitting).

The free program is from 10 to 11 a.m. at Luhr County Park, 3178 S. County Road 150 West, La Porte. Dates are: April 7 and 28, May 5 and 19, June 2, 16 and 30 and July 7 and 28. Call at least one week in advance to sign up.

### Senior Lifestyles

Join the free 55+ Club, a social club designed for adults 55 and older to learn and explore various types of nature. Free coffee is served to participants.

The group meets from 9 to 10 a.m. at the Luhr County Park Nature Center. Dates are:

- May 7 — "Gardening" with Sacha Burns from Sunkissed Organics.
- June 4 — "Wellness Outreach" with Katie Sarver of The Crossing, La Porte.

### Parent & Child Discovery Days

The program includes arts and crafts, games and snacks. All activities are related to the program topic. Programs are appropriate for children 3 to 8, with an adult required to participate.

Programs 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 2014 lineup is:

- April 9 — "Flower Power."

### Women Only Fishing Instruction

Pre-registration is required by April 3 for the free program from 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday, April 12, at Luhr County Park.

Aimed at women 18 and older, poles and bait will be provided. No fishing license is needed.

### Teachers-Groups-Scout Leaders

Free environmental education programs are offered to groups throughout the year. Programs last one hour or longer depending on the group size and age. Programs can be scheduled at Creek Ridge, Luhr, Bluhm or Red Mill parks. Call (219) 325-8315 for more information or to make a reservation.

## Nominations Sought for R.O.S.E. Event

Friday, April 4, is the deadline to nominate people or businesses for awards announced during the 15th Annual Recognition of Service Excellence Awards Luncheon.

The event, presented by Visit Michigan City La Porte Convention and Visitors Bureau in observance of National Tourism Week, is at 11:30 a.m. Thursday, May 8, at Blue Chip Casino Hotel & Spa.

The luncheon recognizes R.O.S.E. winners from the past year and winners in other categories. Anyone who would like to nominate people or organizations can visit <http://bit.ly/RoseNomination>

The event is co-hosted by the Porter County CVB.

## Spring Stampede

The annual Spring Stampede is Saturday, April 5, at Sarett Nature Center, 2300 Benton Center Road, Benton Harbor, Mich.

Race packet pickup and walk-in registration start at 7:30 a.m. The children's one-mile fun run starts at 8:30 a.m. The full 5K run/walk begins at 9 a.m. All times are Eastern.

Register online at [www.sarett.com](http://www.sarett.com)

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**Duneland Weavers Guild Fiber 2014**

The Duneland Weavers Guild Fiber 2014 kicks off with a reception from 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday, April 6, at Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St.

The exhibit, which continues through April, includes garments and accessories such as handbags and hats, as well as wall hangings, blankets, table runners, placemats, hand towels and rugs. All items are made by guild members crafted through weaving, knitting, crocheting and felting. Many pieces are for sale.



Duneland Weavers Guild member Sherron Pampalone works at her loom.

Guild projects such as the Friendship Coverlets and results of the President's Challenge to members — fiber art inspired by a photograph or incorporating a photograph — also will be on display. Attendees can speak with the artists.

The guild meets from 10 a.m. to noon the second Saturday of the month between September and May at Chesterton's Westchester Library Service Center. Call Chesterton Art Center at (219) 926-4711 or visit [www.chestertonart.com](http://www.chestertonart.com) for more information.



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## Michigan City Public Library

The following programs are offered through Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St.:

• **"Money Smart Week: Preparing Your Family to Be Financially Educated"** at 4 p.m. Monday, April 7.

Financial advisor Karl Bair leads the informative program.

• **"The Magic of Steven Kellogg"** at 10 a.m. Tuesday, April 8.

The performance is planned as part of spring break.

• **Story Times at 10 a.m. Wednesdays, April 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30.**

Children and adults participate in stories, songs and crafts during the time designed for parent/guardian and child interaction. It is appropriate for children birth to age 5. Arrive a few minutes early to receive a name tag.

• **Knitting Club for All Ages at 5:30 p.m. Wednesdays, April 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30.**

Take size 9 straight knitting needles, any worsted yarn and tape measure (optional). Contact Joanne Hale at joeyAB1971@yahoo.com or (219) 814-4398.

• **Free Gentle Flow Yoga at 12:15 p.m. Saturday, April 5.**

Certified yoga instructor Lauralee Sikorski emphasizes deep breathing and releasing stress. Wear comfortable attire and come on an empty stomach. Take a mat because extras are limited.

• **Actor/singer/songwriter Ronny Cox at noon Wednesday, April 9.**

Before his Lubeznik Center for the Arts concert, Cox will discuss his book "Dueling Banjos: The Deliverance of Drew," based on his character in the 1972 film "Deliverance." The program was arranged by Jerry Holt of Purdue University-North Central.

• **Duneland Stamp Club at 6 p.m. Thursday, April 10.**

The stamp-collecting club meets the second Thursday of each month. New members are invited.

Call Robin Kohn at (219) 873-3049 for more information.

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## Bird, Birder Focus of Program

Shirley Heinze Land Trust will sponsor a program featuring two regional naturalists at 2 p.m. Sunday, April 6, at Indiana Dunes State Park Nature Center.



Joel Greenberg appears with a recreation of a passenger pigeon.

Joel Greenberg, an authority on the Chicago area's natural history, will discuss his new book, "A Feathered River Across the Sky: The Passenger Pigeon's Flight to Extinction." It chronicles the decline of the passenger pigeon from billions in number to none in 50 years. This year marks the centennial of the bird's extinction. Copies of the book will be available for purchase and signing. Greenberg's presentation is titled "Hope is the Thing With Feathers: The Passenger Pigeon, Kirtland's Warbler and Whooping Crane."



Northwest Indiana birder  
Ken Brock.

Also, the American Birding Association will honor Northwest Indiana birder Ken Brock with the Ludlow Griscom Award, recognizing his regional ornithology work. He has recorded and compiled thousands of bird records, and wrote "Birds of the Indiana Dunes" and "Brock's Birds of Indiana."

Indiana Dunes State Park is at 1600 N. County Road 25 East (the north end of Indiana 49), Chesterton. There is a \$5 park entrance fee. Attendees should allow an extra five minutes to enter and reach the Nature Center. Visit [www.heinzetrust.org](http://www.heinzetrust.org) or call (219) 242-8558 for more information about Shirley Heinze Land Trust.

**CALL THE BEACHER WITH YOUR NEWS!**

Friday at Noon is the deadline for the following week's issue. (219) 879-0088



## "An Ideal Husband"

Purdue University-North Central will present Oscar Wilde's "An Ideal Husband" starting April 5 at Mainstreet Theatre, 807 Franklin St., Michigan City.

Performances are at 8 p.m. Saturday, April 5, 3 p.m. Sunday, April 6, and 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, April 11-12. Tickets are \$10 or \$5 for students with a valid student ID.

"An Ideal Husband" blends comedy with drama with political corruption. The story focuses on a blackmail plan that forces a married couple to reassess their ethical principles. A supporting cast of society matriarchs, young paramours and a formidable female character keep the momentum lively.

The cast and crew include PNC students Aram Arden, La Porte, Lisa Babigian, La Porte, Angela Barreto, New Carlisle, Kevin Biertzer, La Porte, Brenda Brown, Michigan City, Kelsey Brumley, Valparaiso, Elton Dean, Michigan City, Sarah Dwight, La Porte, Kristen Fuller, Valparaiso, Andrew Gilles, Walkerton, Shameka Harris, La Porte, Ashley Naillieux, Valparaiso, Michael Piet, Valparaiso, Kayla Singleton, New Carlisle, Brett Worthington, Valparaiso, Travis Ziegler, Hebron, and Jeff Zimmerman, Valparaiso. PNC Continuing Lecturer of English Bethany Lee, Chesterton, is the director.

Contact Lee at (219) 785-5229 or email [btlee@pnc.edu](mailto:btlee@pnc.edu) for more information.

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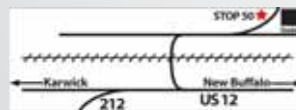
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The first one I saw was on Porter Avenue in Chesterton. It was a cedar box, filled with books, on a post just off the sidewalk in front of a house. A simple latch held the doors closed, a slope-back roof kept the water out and a white plaque declared it “Little Free Library #9380.”

I’d read about these once, somewhere, but hadn’t expected to see one in my hometown. The idea is simple: Set up a small weatherproof box of books that people wandering by can borrow or contribute to. “Take a book, return a book,” as the organization website says.

Intrigued, I knocked on the door and asked about it. As you might expect from people who would set up a free book exchange in their front yard, I was welcomed in and offered plenty of information.

The “stewards” as I soon learned — few people involved consider themselves owners — of No. 9380 are Dan and Suzi Galvin, longtime Chesterton residents who have a history of community involvement. They heard about the idea from family in Wisconsin. A career waitress, Suzi said she and Dan are now grandparents who want to devote more time to helping the community. The couple stocked their Little Free Library with all types of books, but focused on selections for children. The site, they say, requires barely any monitoring and is available to anyone in the community who passes by at any time. The hardest part is setting it up, and that’s where Dan came in.



Suzi and Dan Galvin with their Little Free Library on Porter Avenue in Chesterton.

Dan said while libraries can be bought through the website, it’s cheaper and more fun to build it yourself. By day a boiler operator at St. Mary’s, Dan is a hobbyist carpenter who also built the kitchen table where we sat to speak.

“The library took me about a week. I grabbed the biggest books we had to make sure they’d fit inside and sat down to design it. I built it all from cedar, which was the biggest source of cost,” he said. “You can find plans online, too, but I saw that most of

those are two books deep. We didn’t want good books getting lost in the back of the box, so we made ours wider so everything is accessible.”

After paying a small fee to register with the organization, the couple received their plaque in the mail and had their library operational by October 2013.

“We’ve got a great location here since it’s just off the sidewalk on a busy main street in town, so lots of people see it and pass by,” Suzi said. “At first, it took some getting used to. I kept hearing car doors and looking out to see who was here, only to realize it was just someone visiting our library. But after a short time, you get used to it.”

Although No. 9380 is the only one in Chesterton (for now), the Galvins said there are a number in Valparaiso, pointing me toward the official website for more information.

Research revealed this is a fairly new movement. The first Little Free Library was built by Todd Bol of Hudson, Wis. He built a little red schoolhouse library in 2009 as a tribute to his schoolteacher mother and her



The original Little Free Library built by Todd Bol in memory of his mother, Esther Bol



Sam, Ben and Betsy Burow-Flak appear with their Little Free Library, which has helped bring people in their neighborhood a little closer together.

# little free library takes hold in porter county

by Stefan Barkow

love of reading. As the idea spread locally, Bol partnered with Rick Brooks, Madison, Wis., in 2010. Together, they organized Little Free Library into a grass-roots global movement. In May 2012, Little Free Library was officially established as a Wisconsin non-profit corporation. Its mission is to promote

literacy and a love of reading, to foster connections within communities through sharing and to build more than 2,150 libraries around the world — the number of “real” libraries built by Andrew Carnegie. By 2011, there were more than 400 libraries across the country. By August 2012, the group reached its goal of matching Carnegie. In January, the total number worldwide is conservatively estimated to be between 10,000 and 12,000, with many more being built. The website, [www.littlefreelibrary.org](http://www.littlefreelibrary.org), hosts a map of all the officially registered libraries worldwide.

Like the Galvins, Mary and John Witcher knew they had a great location for a library when they put in No. 1008 in front of their house in the neighborhood across from



Mary Beth Witcher's Little Free Library is in the neighborhood across from Valparaiso's Benjamin Franklin Middle School.

Valparaiso’s Benjamin Franklin Middle School.

“Ours is a real mix,” Mary said. “John built ours for me for my birthday in 2012. It holds about 30 books, and we didn’t stock it with any kind of focus in mind. People have put all kinds in since then. I’ve discovered some new authors this way, and some really good books.”

“For us, it just seemed like fun.

It’s by the edge of the sidewalk, so no one is coming up to the house or anything, but it’s a good way to connect with your neighbors. Even with the weather lately, I’ve seen a lot of people stopping by.”

While they didn’t know it until I began researching the stories, the Witchers’ library directly inspired Betsy Burow-Flak to ask her husband, David, and her brother-in-law, Jonathan, to build one in front of their house (No. 7690). A Valparaiso University English professor, Burow-Flak had just moved to the area and saw the Witchers’ library when picking up her boys, Sam and Ben, from school.

Unlike the Galvins and Witchers, Burow-Flak doesn’t live in a high-traffic, high visibility area.

“Since we live at the end of a cul-de-sac, part of why we set ours up is to pull more people into the neighborhood,” she said.

Just like with the others, it makes connecting with neighbors easier, but in this case, it’s because people out walking their dogs now have a reason to stroll over and see what’s new in the library, or maybe contribute a book or two of their own.

Burow-Flak says the libraries don’t have to be much work to maintain, but she and her family enjoy being active with it.

“The fun part is that two thirds of the books in it right now were put there by other people,” she said. “I like to see what kinds of things show up, and we have access to new reading material all the time. When we can, we put seasonal books in, so around holidays if we have them we’ll add a few related books for people to enjoy, too.

“I think it’s great,” she added. “It’s a supplement to public libraries, and it supports a community of life-long reading.”

“Real” libraries agree.

“It’s a wonderful idea, and I believe it encourages

Continued on Page 234





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## little free library Continued from Page 224

children to read and share their love of reading with friends and neighbors,” said Merribeth Paunicka, the children’s manager at Chesterton’s Westchester Public Library.

Westchester’s support goes beyond words as well. Following the library’s book sale last year, it contributed a number of unsold children’s books to the Galvins for their library.



Carolyn Simpson, a Valparaiso University assistant registrar, takes a break by thumbing through a book from a Little Free Library.

“I hope more families with children will consider building a Little Free Library box in their yard,” Paunicka said.

Little Free Libraries is not restricted to front yards.

Tara and Andrew Teeple, Valparaiso, have library No. 3063 in their yard, but wanted to do more. So, they came up with the idea of putting an official library in the break room in Kretzmann Hall at Valparaiso University (No. 3148). A simple basket with the plaque attached to it provides a few minutes respite from the daily grind.

The Galvins, avid campers, also considered putting libraries in campsites this year so people on vacation have access to more books.

As of now, there are only six or so libraries like this in Northwest Indiana. For anyone interested, all kinds of designs and ideas are posted online.

Anything, for those interested, is possible.

## Summer Camps in the Dunes



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## Westchester Public Library

The following programs are through Westchester Public Library:

- **An informational program co-sponsored by Porter County TRIAD about the TRIAD program from 3 to 4 p.m. Thursday, April 3, in the Bertha Wood meeting room at Thomas Library, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.**

TRIAD is a National Sheriff's Association program that teams local law-enforcement agencies and senior groups to help reduce criminal victimization and unwarranted fear of crime affecting older adults.

- **Knitting Together from 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday, April 6, in the Brown Mansion parlor, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.**

The free program is open to those who also crochet or do needlework. Attendees also will view the temporary exhibit "Needlework through the Ages," which runs through May 25.

- **Free Sunday Matinee, the Oscar-winning "12 Years a Slave," at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, April 6, at the Library Service Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.**

The film is rated R for violence/cruelty, some nudity and brief sexuality.

- **The Bits and Bytes class, "Managing Your Digital Photos," from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 8, in the Bertha Wood room at Thomas Library, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.**

Attendees learn the basics of importing and exporting digital photographs, editing photos and resizing photos. Participants need to be computer literate and proficient with a mouse.

Registration is under way by calling or visiting the Automation/Serials Department (219-926-7696, Ext. 25) or by visiting the Bits and Bytes page at [www.wpl.lib.in.us/](http://www.wpl.lib.in.us/)

- **The Bits and Bytes class, "Tablets and Smartphones," from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 8, in the Bertha Wood room at Thomas Library.**

No computer experience is necessary. The class is for those needing help with a new smartphone or tablet, or are considering a purchase. The different types of devices available, including the Apple iPad, Microsoft Windows tablets, Android-based Google tablets and smartphones, will be discussed.

Attendees learn basic skills needed to connect to the Internet, as well as how to take pictures and videos, use interactive maps, install applications and games, listen to music and watch movies. There also will be a demonstration on how to download content from the library's website, including eBooks, audiobooks and digital magazines for free.

Registration is under way by calling or visiting the Automation/Serials Department (219-926-7696, Ext. 25) or by visiting the Bits and Bytes page at [www.wpl.lib.in.us/](http://www.wpl.lib.in.us/)



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**Russian Trio Next Concert in Series**

Trio Voronezh, whose wide-ranging program features everything from Bach, Tchaikovsky and Russian folk to gypsy dance music and Gershwin, performs at 3 p.m. Sunday, April 6, at La Porte High School's Auditorium, 602 F St.

The program is sponsored by the La Porte Community Concert Association.

Classically trained at The Conservatory in Voronezh, Russia, the trio formed in 1993 and was discovered playing Bach in a Frankfurt, Germany, subway station. Its U.S. debut arrived in 1996 at the Oregon Bach Festival, later impressing audiences at Garrison Keillor's "A Prairie Home Companion."



Using Russian folk instruments, the trio alters the way audiences experience classical, folk and contemporary repertoire. It plays a double-bass *balalaika* (a large triangular-shaped Russian national instrument), a *domra* (a short-necked ancestor of the mandolin) and a *bayan* (a chromatic-button accordion with various registers).

The concert is part of the La Porte Community Concert Association season ticket. Also available at the door, tickets cost \$15 for adults and \$5 for students through high school.

Contact Bill Burger at (219) 362-5292 or Beth LeRoy at (219) 362-8262 for more information.

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## Annual Zoobilee

Washington Park Zoological Society will present its annual Zoobilee, the '70s-theme fundraiser "Stayin' Alive," at 5 p.m. Saturday, April 12, at the Blue Chip Casino Orleans Ballroom.

Guests 21 and older are welcome. This year's event features:

- International speaker Benjamin Mee, who wrote the book that inspired the film "We Bought a Zoo."
- WLS Disc Jockey John "Records" Landecker.
- A Salute to the '70s with the World Famous Together Band.
- A buffet dinner.
- A silent auction.

Tickets, which are \$100, must be purchased in advance by calling the zoo office at (219) 873-1510 or visiting <http://julcole.wix.com/zoobilee>.

Tables can be purchased for \$1,250. Sponsorships are available. Proceeds benefit zoo improvements.

## Call for Woodworkers

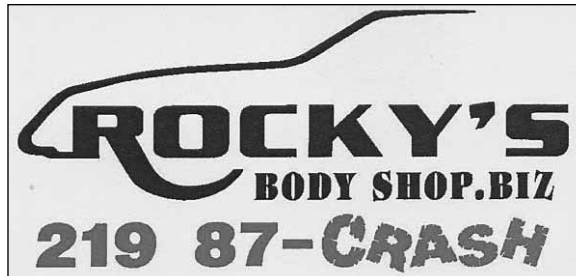
The Center of the World Woodshop Showroom needs participants for the 11th Woodworkers with the Blues show Saturday, June 21.

The outdoor event features a woodworkers' show, demonstrations, presentations, flea market and live music. Woodworkers can participate in the show and/or give a demonstration or presentation.

Past events have featured woodcarvings, furniture — fine and rustic — boats, musical instruments, jewelry boxes, wooden jewelry, bowls and other wood turnings and cutting boards.

Flea market items must be related to woodworking and can include tools, machinery, wood and books.

Registration fees range from \$20 to \$35. Contact Center of the World, 13400 Red Arrow Highway, Harbert, Mich., at (269) 469-5687 or [info@centeroftheworld.net](mailto:info@centeroftheworld.net), or visit [www.centeroftheworld.net](http://www.centeroftheworld.net), where the registration form and informational flier can be downloaded.



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## Print Council Members Exhibit

Printmakers historically have applied innovation to fine art through new technologies and creative approaches.

The Spring 2014 Mid America Print Council Members Exhibition, which runs through May 25 in The South Bend Museum of Art's Art League Gallery, showcases such inspiration through 45 printworks created by 40 print council members.

An opening reception is from 5 to 9 p.m. EDT Friday, April 4, at the SBMA in South Bend's Century Center, 120 S. St. Joseph St.

Printmaking, wherein the artist creates a composition on a matrix and transfers it to paper — encompasses a broad range of media, from the ancient technique of woodcut to the recent use of digital tools. Many processes incorporate more than one technique in the finished print, along with hand-colored portions, including altered book pages.




Ricardo Ruiz's "Native Call."


The exhibit was juried by the Segura Arts Studio, which includes: Joe Segura, Tamarind master printer and director; Douglas Franson, associate director; Jill Lerner, master printer; and Jes O'Hearn, production printer. Segura Arts Studio is located at the Notre Dame Center for Arts & Culture on West Washington Street. Formerly known as Segura Publishing Co., it has a 30-year history of collaborating with underrepresented artists, with a particular interest in Hispanic art.

The free opening reception includes a gallery talk by Michiko Itatani at 6:45 p.m. EDT, followed by the chance to talk with the artists.

Gallery hours are noon to 5 p.m. EDT Wednesday through Sunday. Admission is free to members, with a suggested \$5 donation from nonmembers. Visit [southbendart.org](http://southbendart.org), email [info@southbendart.org](mailto:info@southbendart.org) or call (574) 235-9102 for more information.



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## Volunteer Company of the Year



Blue Chip Casino Hotel and Spa was recognized as Volunteer Company of the Year at the Indiana Association of United Ways State Leaders Conference on March 13 in Indianapolis. Blue Chip's 2013 employee campaign raised more than \$65,000, and the business provided another \$100,000 in corporate support for United Way fundraising events.

Throughout the year, Blue Chip donates food, clothing and office equipment to meet the needs of United Way community partner agencies.

Pictured are: (from left) Kris Pate, United Way of La Porte County executive director; Kathy Ertle, Indiana Association of United Ways president; Jack Elia, Blue Chip assistant general manager and United Way board member, and Elia's wife, Margaret.

## Lunch With the League

League of Women Voters member and activist Jeanette Neagu is the featured speaker at Lunch With the League at noon Tuesday, April 8, at Lindo's Restaurant, 3940 Franklin St.

Neagu will discuss "Above Ground Storage Tanks." The public is invited. No reservations are required. Attendees purchase lunch from the menu.

The league meets the second Tuesday of the month. Call Sue Webster at (219) 874-6809 or visit [www.lwvlaporte.org](http://www.lwvlaporte.org) for more information.

## Indigan Storyteller Workshop

Indigan Storyteller will present a workshop from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. EDT Sunday, April 6, at The Laugh Comedy Club, 512 Cleveland St., South Bend.

Mary Dean Cason and Gregg Fraley will lead the workshop, which highlights tools and techniques to develop and share true or fictional stories. Participants will have the chance to present their stories from 7 to 10 p.m. Thursday, April 24, at The Laugh Comedy Club.

The \$65 fee includes instruction and a workbook. Call (269) 357-1602, email [improvers@bcglobal.net](mailto:improvers@bcglobal.net), or visit Indigan Storyteller on facebook. Learn more about Cason at [www.marydeancason.com](http://www.marydeancason.com) and Fraley at [www.greggfraley.com](http://www.greggfraley.com)

Indigan Storyteller, a regional, educational non-profit in Three Oaks, Mich., aims to advance the art of storytelling.

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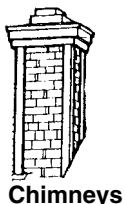
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## Prayer to the Blessed Virgin

(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.



## Brick Campaign Reaches Goal

Through community support, the Friends of New Buffalo Library sold enough bricks during Phase I of its commemorative campaign to complete a two-section walkway at the main entrance of the new library under construction at Merchant and Thompson streets.

Enough bricks were sold, in fact, that a planned Phase II campaign is unnecessary, fundraiser chairwoman Arlene Urquhart said.



Gathering during a recent tour of the library under construction are Friends of New Buffalo Library committee members (from left) Lillian Casten, Sandy Sporleder and Arlene Urquhart and Library Director Julie Grynwich.

More than \$10,000 was raised and will be used for library equipment enhancements or special programs, Urquhart said. A total of 280 bricks were sold, with buyers choosing the words to be engraved on them. A random drawing will determine the placement of the bricks in the walkway.

Anyone interested in joining FOL can visit [www.newbuffalo.michlibrary.org](http://www.newbuffalo.michlibrary.org) and click on Friends of the Library

## Detroit Institute of Arts Trip

The public is invited to join Buchanan (Mich.) Art Center's bus trip to the Detroit Institute of Arts on Friday, May 16.

A 29-passenger bus has been reserved. The day starts at 7:45 a.m. EDT — the bus leaves Buchanan Community Center, 131 S. Oak St., at 8 a.m. EDT — and ends when the bus returns at approximately 9 p.m. EDT. Reserved seats are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration and payment are required by Friday April 11. Registration will close earlier if all seats are filled.

The cost is \$95, or \$76 for BAC and Fernwood Botanical Garden and Nature Preserve members. That fee includes the bus, entrance ticket and driver tip.

In conjunction with the trip, "A Preview of DIA Collections Lecture" is from 1 to 3 p.m. EDT Sunday, May 4, at the art center, 117 W. Front St. It is free and open only to those who've registered for the bus trip. Center teachers will share their knowledge of the galleries and collection. Gallery maps will be available, along with other resources.

Registration can be done at the center, or by credit card by calling (269) 697-4005.

## La Porte County Genealogical Society

The La Porte County Genealogical Society meets at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 8, at the La Porte Parks & Recreation Department meeting room, 250 Pine Lake Ave., La Porte.

After the business meeting, Jeffrey Bassett will discuss genetic genealogy, the latest technique used in research.

Bassett has been working on his family's genealogy for more than 32 years.

Guests are welcome.

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## Two MCAS Students in State Event

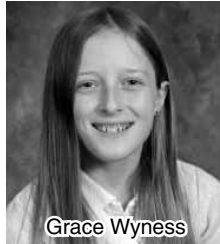


Shawn Hill

Shawn Hill, a Krueger Middle School eighth-grader, and Grace Wyness, a Barker Middle School seventh-grader, are semifinalists in the Indiana State Geographic Bee on Friday, April 4, at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis.

This is the third level of the National Geographic Bee. Students who won the school-level event took a qualifying test, which was submitted to the National Geographic Society. Students with the top 100 scores in each state then were invited to compete at the state level. Those winners receive prizes and a trip to Washington, D.C., to represent their state in the May finals.

This is the second year in a row that Hill will represent Krueger at the state bee. He also was one of the top 100 scores statewide last school year, when he competed as a seventh-grader.



Grace Wyness

## Free ASL Game Night

Purdue University-North Central American Sign Language Club will host a free ASL Game Night from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, April 8, in the PNC Library-Student-Faculty Building, Room 144.

Snacks and drinks will be served starting at 5:30 p.m. A Children's Hour starts at 6 p.m. with ASL games for children and adults. Hearing and deaf children are invited. Children are welcome to attend with a parent or adult. Guests with all ASL abilities are welcome. The goal is to better communicate with friends, co-workers or family members.

Information about the PNC ASL Club is at [www.aslclub.info](http://www.aslclub.info). Other community events are listed at [www.nwideaf.org](http://www.nwideaf.org). Additional information is available by contacting Karen Donah, PNC continuing lecturer and coordinator of American Sign Language, at (219) 785-5200, Ext. 5432, or [kdonah@pnc.edu](mailto:kdonah@pnc.edu). The PNC club is on facebook as well.

## CALL THE BEACHER WITH YOUR NEWS!

Friday at Noon is the deadline for the following week's issue. (219) 879-0088

## La Porte County Historical Society

The La Porte County Historical Society met March 18.

Museum Curator Susie Richter said the display "Diners and Drive-ins" runs through the end of May. A sock hop is planned in April. Photos from the Historic Structures Photo Contest are on display. In May, photos from across the state entered in the contest will be displayed at the museum.

A program on Captain Eddy is planned in April. The Belle Gunness display was moved and updated. Fern Eddy Schultz reminded attendees Historian of the Year nominations are due by April 15. Annual membership dues cost \$10.

The May 20 dinner-meeting, when the historian of the year is named, will be held at the museum. Social hour begins at 6 p.m., with dinner at 6:30 p.m. and the program at 7:15 p.m. The cost is \$10.50. The reservation deadline is 4 p.m. May 16.

Bruce Johnson presented the program "Hoosiers in Sports," including two La Porteans, Ron Reed and Ken Schreiber. The April 15 program is by E.A. Rovenstine, former La Porte High teacher, coach and athletic director who became the No. 1 anesthesiologist in the world.

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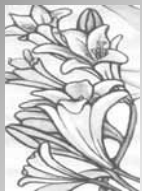
## Long Beach Women's Bowling

March 25, 2014

TEAM STANDING	WON	LOST
1. Striking Beauties	31	13
2. Bowling Goddesses	29	15
3. Incredi-Bowls	26.5	17.5

HIGH INDIVIDUAL GAMES	SCORE
1. Tammy Vouri	228
2. Heidi Jaffee	179
3. Liz Lutterbach	166
4. Nancy Kubath	166
5. Barb Macudzinski	162
6. Dottie Brinkman	161
7. Kathy Osborne	160
8. Ellie Parkerson	158
9. Tammy Nelmar	157
10. Linda Neulieb	157
11. June Salmon	156
12. Mary Lou McFadden	155

*Tammy Vouri — Five strikes in a row.*



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 French Toast • Eggs Benedict  
 Pretzel Encrusted Chicken w/Parmesan Cream Sauce  
 Baked Whitefish w/Lemon, Wine, Butter Sauce  
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 Mashed Potatoes & Vegetables  
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## Easter Pysanky Egg Classes



Mary Acton will host two Easter Pysanky egg classes from 6 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, April 9, and 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 12, at Chester-ton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St.

Students learn the art of Pysanky egg dy-ing while creating Easter egg ornaments. They may choose from a variety of spring designs or create their own. By the end of the class, each guest will have completed an egg or two.

Each class costs \$40 for members and \$45 for non-members. Call (219) 926-4711 or visit [www.chester-tonart.com](http://www.chester-tonart.com) to register or for more information.

## Allen County Public Library Trip

Reservations for the bus trip to Allen County Public Library's genealogy research department are due by Friday, April 4.

The trip, co-sponsored by La Porte County Genealogical Society in conjunction with Michigan City Public Library, leaves the Dunes Plaza parking lot at 7 a.m. Wednesday, April 23, with a pickup at 7:30 a.m. at Kabelin's Ace Hardware in La Porte. The bus leaves ACPL at 4 p.m. CDT for the return trip.

Prepaid reservations of \$21 are payable to La Porte County Genealogical Society, c/o Patricia Harris, 504 Greenwood Ave., Michigan City, IN 46360-5426. Call (219) 872-3273 for more information.

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## Enrichment Corp. Awards \$800,000 to 58 Groups

Mayor Ron Meer and the Michigan City Community Enrichment Corp. granted \$800,000 to 58 charitable groups serving the Michigan City area at the Blue Chip Casino Awards Banquet.

The corporation originated in 1997 by an agreement between Blue Chip and Michigan City. The following groups received grants during the banquet:

- Boys and Girls Club of Michigan City, Project Cool Summer III, \$22,000.
- Catholic Charities, Diocese of Gary, Homelessness Prevention & Self Sufficiency Workshop, \$7,000.
- Catholic Charities, Diocese of Gary, Children's Vision Screening, \$5,000.
- Catholic Charities, Diocese of Gary, Wheelchair Ramps/Home Safety Repair Project, \$15,000.
- Citizens Concerned for the Homeless, Learn and Earn, \$15,000.
- Covering Kids and Families of La Porte County, Identify, Enroll and Advocate for Children & Adults with Appropriate Health Insurance Coverage in Michigan City, \$8,000.
- Dunebrook Inc., Nurturing Parenting Program, \$20,000.
- Essence Rare Social-Service Organization, Debutante/Master Ball Program, \$8,000.
- Footlight Players Inc., Heating system replacement, \$3,000.
- Guardian Riders, Honor Flight, \$12,000.
- Harmony House/CASA Program of La Porte Co. Inc., Court Appoint Youth Advocate Program, \$10,000.
- Healthy Communities of La Porte County, The Go to Organization for all community programs, \$8,000.
- Imagination Station Child Development Center, Outdoor Play for Infants and Toddlers, \$3,000.
- International Friendship Gardens, Educational Activities A, \$4,500.
- Jack and Shirley Lubeznik Center for the Arts, Academic Achievement through Art and Passport to Culture, \$10,000.
- Jack and Shirley Lubeznik Center for the Arts, Project Mobility, \$18,600.
- Junior Achievement of La Porte County, Junior Achievement Elementary School Classes and Eighth Grade Classes, \$15,000.
- La Porte County 4-H Council, Growing Up Green, \$6,800.
- La Porte County Habitat for Humanity, Safety Enhancements for volunteers, staff and customers, \$10,500.
- La Porte County Meals on Wheels, So No Senior Goes Hungry, \$11,000.
- La Porte County Symphony Orchestra, March 2015 Classical Concert, \$6,000.
- La Porte County Symphony Orchestra, Summer Symphony at Washington Park, \$6,000.
- La Porte Juvenile Court, Neighborhood Accountability Board, \$6,250.
- LaSalle Council, Boy Scouts of America, After School Scouting, \$12,000.
- Life Skills Thru Golf, Inc., The First Tee National School Program, \$3,500.
- Literacy Council of La Porte County, Enriched Literacy Kindergarten through Second Grade, \$15,000.
- MCAS Grant Acceptance Fund: Hours for Ours, Hours for Ours-School Based Mentoring, \$17,000.
- MCAS: Safe Harbor Out of School Time Program, Safe Harbor Summer Camp, \$12,500.
- Michiana Marine Detachment 1348, Toys for Tots 2014 Campaign, \$3,000.
- Michigan City Housing Authority, La Porte County Youth Leadership Summit, \$4,658.
- Michigan City Housing Authority, Families United in Learning, \$5,070.
- NewDay Foundation, It's a NewDay for Michigan City's Cancer Patients, \$10,000.
- North Central Community Action Agencies Inc., Summer Youth Education/Recreation Program, \$8,584.
- Northwest Indiana Paddling Association, Trail Creek Voyageur Canoe Days, \$1,538.
- Open Door Adolescent Health Center Inc., Adolescent Health Center, \$30,000.
- Open Door Community Alliance Inc., Medication Assistance Program, \$15,000.
- Parents and Friends, Group Home Bedding, \$6,000.
- Parents and Friends/Council on Aging, Escort, \$5,000.
- Parents and Friends/Council on Aging, Guardianship, \$5,800.
- Parents and Friends/Council on Aging, Transportation Match Funds, \$20,000.
- Parents' Council for Children with Special Needs of La Porte Inc., doing business as Barker Woods Enrichment Center, Barker Woods Enrichment Center, \$18,700.
- Pine Fine Arts Magnet Elementary School, Art Surrounds Us, \$10,000.
- Reins of Life Inc., Reins of Life — Michigan City Horse Care, \$25,000.
- Safe Harbor Nurturing Minds, WWW.MichiganCityRoboticsTeam, \$7,000.
- St. Stanislaus Kostka, Enriching Students Beyond the Classroom, \$5,000.
- Samaritan Counseling Centers, Inc., Counseling in two elementary schools, \$10,000.
- Southern Shore Art Association, Perspectives from Extraordinary Young Adults, \$5,000.
- Stepping Stone Shelter for Women Inc., Rape Recovery & Victim Advocacy Program, \$50,000.
- The Salvation Army "Stuff-a-Shelf/Fill-a-Freezer" Food Pantry Request, \$25,000.
- The Salvation Army, Shelter and Resource Program for Homeless Men, \$30,000.
- The Salvation Army, Gift of Warmth Utility Fund, \$60,000.
- Washington Park Zoo, Capital Improvements, \$100,000.
- YMCA of La Porte County, Michigan City Kindergarten Readiness, \$11,000.
- Young People's Theatre Co. Inc., There is Room for Everyone in the Theater, \$8,000.
- Youth Service Bureau Big Brothers Big Sisters of La Porte County, Big Brothers Big Sisters School Buddies, \$5,000.
- Youth Service Bureau Big Brothers Big Sisters of La Porte County, Kids on the Block, \$5,000.
- Youth Service Bureau Big Brothers Big Sisters of La Porte County, Michigan City Teen Court, \$20,000.

## LaLu Student Excels at Poetry Event



La Lumiere freshman Ming Washington, Michigan City, was named second runner-up in February during the 2014 Indiana Poetry Out Loud contest in Indianapolis.

Washington recited "Blackberrying" by Sylvia Plath, "Black Boys Play the Classics" by Toi

Derricotte and "I Felt a Funeral in My Brain" by Emily Dickinson.

La Lumiere has had a student finish in the Top 10 at the state event for each of the past three years.

## "The American Landscape of Leisure"

The Midwest Museum of American Art, 429 S. Main St., Elkhart, will present "Gardens, Rivers & Lakes: The American Landscape of Leisure" on April 4 through July 13, which coincides with the museum's 35th anniversary.

The exhibit celebrates nature through paintings, drawings, etchings and lithographs by artists from the permanent collection. More than 90 percent of the works have never before been displayed. They take a variety of approaches to the subject of landscape as witnessed, described or idealized by artists past and present. Water, specifically represented by lakes and rivers, is a general theme.

Represented artists have gravitated to a subject, whether it is Lake Michigan beaches or smaller lakes and tributaries.

Museum hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. All times are Eastern. Admission is \$5 for adults and seniors and \$4 for students. Sunday is Free Family Day, with docents available. Visit [www.MidwestMuseum.US](http://www.MidwestMuseum.US) for more information.

## La Porte County Library

The following programs are offered through La Porte County Library:

• **Baby Storytime at 10 a.m. Thursday, April 3, at the main library, 904 Indiana Ave., La Porte.**

Stories, songs and play are designed to promote early language development and future reading skills. The program is intended for babies 0-24 months and their caregivers.


• **Daytime Storytime at 10 a.m. Friday, April 4, at the main library.**

Stories, music, activities and crafts help develop and reinforce early literacy skills and concepts. The program is intended for children 3 to 5 with an adult caregiver.

• **Science Meets Art from 1 to 3 p.m. Wednesday, April 9, at the Coolspring branch, 7089 W. County Road 400 North.**

Elementary age children can visit three science-inspired craft stations.

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IN  
HISTORY**



**On April 3, 1783**, Washington Irving, American author, historian, and diplomat, was born in New York City. Irving, who created such well known characters as Rip Van Winkle and Ichabod Crane, was the first American writer to gain fame abroad as well as at home.

**On April 3, 1848**, the Chicago Board of Trade held its first official session.

**On April 3, 1860**, the legendary "Pony Express" began service between St. Joseph, MO and Sacramento, CA, a distance of 1,966 miles. The service would last for only about 18 months, being replaced by the transcontinental telegraph.

**On April 3, 1882**, notorious outlaw Jesse James was shot to death in St. Joseph, MO. He was killed by Robert Ford, a member of James' own gang who was seeking to claim reward money. James was 36.

**On April 3, 1968**, less than 24 hours before he was assassinated, Martin Luther King Jr. delivered his "mountaintop" speech to a rally of striking sanitation workers.

**On April 3, 1979**, Democrat Jane Byrne, with 82 percent of the vote, was elected Mayor of Chicago, defeating Republican Wallace Johnson.

**On April 4, 1832**, Cook County's first financial statement showed taxes on real and personal property totaled \$148.29.

**On April 4, 1914**, *The Perils of Pauline*, the most famous of all motion picture serials, was first shown. Starring Pearl White, the first episode concluded with the announcement that future segments would feature "flying machine accidents, thrilling rescues, fires at sea, train wrecks, and automobile accidents."

**On April 4, 1968**, civil rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr. was shot to death while standing on the balcony of his Memphis motel.

**On April 4, 1969**, CBS canceled "The Smothers Brothers Comedy Hour" because of its political humor.

**On April 4, 1989**, retired Marine Corps General Samuel Robert Shaw, a presidential advisor on the Cuban missile crisis and the Vietnam War, died at the age of 78.

**On April 4, 1989**, Richard M. Daley, following in the footsteps of his famous father, was elected mayor of Chicago. He won a 2-year term to complete the term of the late Harold Washington.

**On April 5, 1614**, Pocahontas, daughter of Indian Chief Powhatan, was married in Virginia to English colonist John Rolfe.

**On April 5, 1621**, the *Mayflower* sailed from Plymouth, MA, on its first return trip to England.

**On April 5, 1649**, Elihu Yale was born in Boston. Yale became a wealthy official of the East India Company, and gave many books and valuable gifts to the "Collegiate School," a Congregationalist School in Connecticut. In 1718, in recognition of his generosity, the trustees changed the name of the school to "Yale College."

**On April 5, 1792**, President George Washington used his veto power for the first time, refusing to sign a bill affecting state representation.

**On April 5, 1984**, with 31,421 career points, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar passed Wilt Chamberlain to become the highest scoring player in NBA history.

**On April 5, 1987**, Fox Broadcasting Co. made its prime-time TV debut.

**On April 6, 1830**, Joseph Smith (in the New York village of Fayette) founded the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, better known today as the Mormon Church.

**On April 7, 1862**, Union forces, led by General Ulysses S. Grant, defeated a Confederate army at Tennessee's "Battle of Shiloh."

**On April 7, 1949**, *South Pacific*, a musical by Rodgers and Hammerstein, opened on Broadway.

**On April 8, 1974**, Atlanta Braves outfielder Hank Aaron, in a home game against the Los Angeles Dodgers, hit his 715th career home run. The homer came off pitcher Al Downing, and broke the home run record set by legendary Babe Ruth.

**On April 8, 1986**, actor Clint Eastwood was elected by a landslide as mayor of Carmel-by-the-Sea, CA.

**On April 8, 1990**, Ryan White, 18, the AIDS patient whose battle for acceptance gained national attention, died in Indianapolis.

**On April 8, 1994**, Kurt Cobain, 27, of Nirvana was found dead in Seattle from an apparently self-inflicted gunshot wound.

**On April 9, 1928**, Mae West made her New York debut in a play called *Diamond Lil*. Critics described the play as "shocking," "suggestive," and in "questionable taste." Such reviews, naturally, made the play a huge success.

**On April 9, 1959**, NASA announced the selection of America's first seven astronauts. They were: Scott Carpenter, Gordon Cooper, John Glenn, Gus Grissom, Wally Schirra, Alan Shepard, and Donald Slayton.

**On April 9, 1965**, the newly built Houston Astrodome hosted its first baseball game, an exhibition between the Astros and the New York Yankees.

**On April 9, 2005**, Britain's Prince Charles married longtime love Camilla Parker Bowles, who took the title Duchess of Cornwall.



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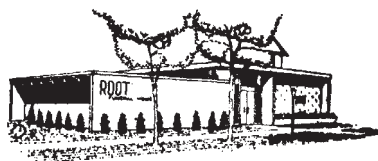
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## Activities to Explore

### In the Local Area:

**April 3** — Season Nine “American Idol” winner Lee DeWyze, 8 p.m. EDT, The Acorn Theatre, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: \$30, \$40 VIP seating. Info/tickets: (269) 756-3879, [www.acorntheater.com](http://www.acorntheater.com)

**April 4** — Opening reception, multi-media exhibit “Banquet,” 5-8 p.m., Southern Shore Art Association, 724 Franklin St. Exhibit runs through April 27. Info: [www.SouthernShoreArtAssociation.com](http://www.SouthernShoreArtAssociation.com)

**April 4** — First Friday Art Walk, 5-8 p.m., Michigan City’s Uptown Arts District (11th/Franklin streets north to lake). Info: [uptownartsdistrict.org](http://uptownartsdistrict.org)

**April 4** — Opening reception, Spring 2014 Mid America Print Council Members Exhibition, 5-9 p.m. EDT, South Bend Museum of Art in The Century Center, 120 S. St. Joseph St. Exhibit runs through May 25. Info: [southbendart.org](http://southbendart.org), [info@southbendart.org](mailto:info@southbendart.org), (574) 235-9102.

**April 4-6, 10-13** — “Lost in Yonkers,” Footlight Theatre, 1705 Franklin St. Tickets: \$12/adults, \$10/Thursdays for youth 12 and younger. Times: 8 p.m. Thur.-Sat. and 2 p.m. Sun. Doors open 45 minutes prior to curtain. Reservations/info: [www.footlightplayers.org](http://www.footlightplayers.org), (219) 874-4035.

**April 4-7** — Vickers Theatre, 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. *Now showing:* “Gloria,” Chile’s official entry for a Best Foreign Language Film Oscar about a “woman of a certain age” alternating between despair and hope. Rated R. In Spanish with English subtitles. Times: 6 p.m. Fri.-Mon. *Also:* “The Rocket,” about a boy who leads his family (and a couple of ragged misfits) through Laos to find a new home. English subtitles. Not rated. Times: 9 p.m. Fri.-Sat., 3:15 and 9 p.m. Sun. *Also:* “Charlie Chaplin: 100th Anniversary of the Little Tramp” (four short films from 1914), 11 a.m.-3 p.m. April 5. Free. All times Eastern. Info: [vickerstheatre.com](http://vickerstheatre.com)

**April 5-6 and 11-12** — “An Ideal Husband” by Purdue University-North Central at Mainstreet Theatre, 807 Franklin St., Michigan City. Times: 8 p.m. April 5, 3 p.m. April 6, 8 p.m. April 11-12. Tickets: \$10/\$5 for students with valid ID. Info: (219) 785-5229, [btlee@pnc.edu](mailto:btlee@pnc.edu)

**April 5-6** — Jewish Film Festival, Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Free. Times: 2-5:45 p.m. April 5, 1:30-5:30 p.m. April 6. Info: (219) 785-5200, Ext. 5593.

**April 6** — Trio Voronezh concert, 3 p.m., La Porte High School’s Auditorium, 602 F St. Part of La Porte Community Concert Association season. Tickets: \$15/adults, \$5/students through high school. Info: (219) 362-5292 / (219) 362-8262.

**April 6** — Duneland Weavers Guild Fiber 2014 reception, 1-4 p.m., Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St. Info: (219) 926-4711.

**April 6** — Free Sunday Matinee, “12 Years a Slave,” 1:30 p.m., Westchester Public Library Ser-



vice Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

**April 6** — Shirley Heinze Land Trust program with two regional naturalists, 2 p.m., Indiana Dunes State Park Nature Center, 1600 N. County Road 25 East (the north end of Indiana 49), Chesterton. Info: [www.heinzetrust.org](http://www.heinzetrust.org), (219) 242-8558

**April 6** — Opening reception, Ginny Scott exhibit "Images of the Mind," 1:30 p.m., The Village Gallery at Pines Village Retirement Communities, 3303 Pines Village Circle, Valparaiso. Exhibit runs through May 1. Info: (219) 465-1591.

**April 6** — Indigan Storyteller workshop, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. EDT, The Laugh Comedy Club, 512 Cleveland St., South Bend. Cost: \$65. Info: (269) 357-1602, [improvers@bcglobal.net](mailto:improvers@bcglobal.net), visit Indigan Storyteller on facebook.

**April 7** — "Money Smart Week: Preparing Your Family to Be Financially Educated," 4 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

**April 8** — "The Magic of Steven Kellogg," 10 a.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

**April 8** — Lunch With the League, noon, Lindo's Restaurant, 3940 Franklin St. Info: (219) 874-6809, [www.lwvlaporte.org](http://www.lwvlaporte.org)

**April 8** — Purdue University-North Central American Sign Language Club free ASL Game Night, 5:30-8 p.m., PNC Library-Student-Faculty Building, Room 144. Info: [www.aslclub.info](http://www.aslclub.info)

**April 7-12** — Valparaiso University 2014 Jazz Fest, Harre Union Ballrooms. Schedule, tickets: (219) 464-5414, [valpo.edu/union](http://valpo.edu/union)

**April 9-13** — Federico García Lorca's "Blood Wedding," Patricia George Decio Theatre at University of Notre Dame DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Times: 7:30 p.m. April 9-12, 2:30 p.m. April 12-13. All times Eastern. Tickets: \$15/general public, \$12/seniors (65+), faculty and staff, \$7/students. Reservations: <http://performingarts.nd.edu>, (574) 631-2800, DeBartolo Performing Arts Center.

**Wednesdays** — Al-Anon meetings, 7-8 p.m., Long Beach Old School Community Center, 2501 Oriole Trail. Info: (219) 716-2690.

#### **Farther Afield:**

**April 4** — First Friday Films, "The Day Carl Sandburg Died," 7 p.m. EDT, The Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Mich. Cost: \$5 donation at door. Info: (269) 983-3688, [info@boxfactoryforthearts.org](mailto:info@boxfactoryforthearts.org), [www.boxfactoryforthearts.org](http://www.boxfactoryforthearts.org)

**April 5** — Ed Bagatini's New Swing Orchestra, 7:30 p.m. EDT, The Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Mich. Tickets: \$10/general admission, \$8/students and seniors, free/children 12 and younger. Reservations/info: (269) 983-3688, [info@boxfactoryforthearts.org](mailto:info@boxfactoryforthearts.org), [www.boxfactoryforthearts.org](http://www.boxfactoryforthearts.org)

**April 5** — Annual Spring Stampede, Sarett Nature Center, 2300 Benton Center Road, Benton Harbor, Mich. Check-in: 7:30 a.m. EDT. Online registration: [www.sarett.com](http://www.sarett.com)

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Purdue University-North Central will host a free campus open house for prospective students and their families starting at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, April 10, in the Library-Student-Faculty Building.

Campus tours are at 5:30 and 6 p.m. An Academic, Student Service and Activity Fair, which runs throughout the night, allows students to explore majors, clubs and activities, as well as various types of assistance PNC offers.

Two breakout sessions are at 6:15 p.m. One is for students and featuring a student panel that explores campus life through the eyes of PNC students. It also will cover the basics of financial aid. A second breakout session explains the transfer process and academic opportunities at PNC.

Light refreshments will be served. Preregistration is encouraged — but not required — by April 8 and can be completed by email at [www.pnc.edu/admissions/openhouse](http://www.pnc.edu/admissions/openhouse). More information is available at [jwhisler@pnc.edu](mailto:jwhisler@pnc.edu), by phone at (219) 785-5200, Ext. 5505, or by IM [pncadmissions4](http://pncadmissions4) through AOL.





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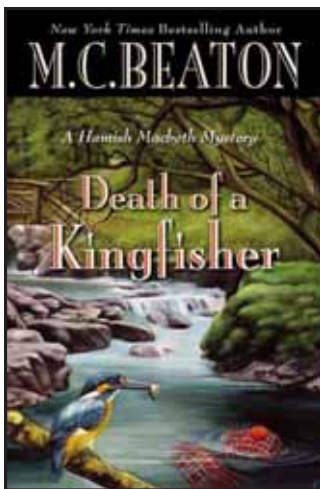
by Sally Carpenter

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Of all the different types of novels, mysteries may have the biggest following. After all, they keep you guessing from beginning to end. It's the page-to-page suspense of wondering when you'll discover whodunit, of staying up late at night or almost missing the call to board a plane while trying to read one more chapter.

Within the mystery novel, there are several sub-genres: crime detective, historical, noir, paranormal, suspense, thriller, whodunit, police procedural and the cozy, to name a few.

The cozy is what I'm offering you today. It is a mystery that downplays extreme violence, sex and language. Not to say these books aren't interesting. No, indeed. They have interesting places and characters that allow more time to develop the story while not being so...gory. Here's two mysteries written by two successful cozy writers.



**Death of a Kingfisher**  
by M.C. Beaton (paperback, \$7.99 in bookstores and online)

This charming series invites you to sit down and have a cuppa tea with Police Constable Hamish Macbeth of Lochdubh in the Scottish Highlands. But don't let this sleepy town fool you. There's much skullduggery afoot.

Hamish lives in the village of Braikie that had a beautiful area called Buchan's Wood.

While not a very comely name, it was renamed The Fairy Glen by the smart marketing director Mary Leinster. Brochures to attract tourists featured a picture of a beautiful kingfisher on the cover flying up from a lovely pond. Soon, the place is as busy as can be until Mary calls Hamish and screams "murder!"

The murder in question turns out to be a kingfisher with a noose around its neck and found hanging from a tree. Ah, but that's only the beginning — more murders to come, and they're not animal. They're human.

Superstition flies around the county, and tourists are replaced by news vans and police tape. It's up to Hamish to sort out two psychopathic children, their money hungry parents and a grandmother whose belief in fairies in the glen just might cost her more than her family's fortune.

I love the vivid description of the Scottish Highlands, along with the lore and legends that still pro-

pel the country into the 21st century and a town holding more secrets to come.

*The Houston Chronicle* said: "Superb entertainment, as rich and warming as a fine malt whisky, and every bit as addictive."

Yeah, that sums it up nicely.

C. Beaton — a lady, by the way! — lives in the Cotswold region of England. Her Hamish Macbeth mysteries have been made into a 24-episode BBC series. She also has another series of mysteries featuring Agatha Raisin. Her website is [www.agatharaisin.com](http://www.agatharaisin.com)

**Buried in a Bog** by Sheila Connolly (paperback, \$7.99 in bookstores and online)

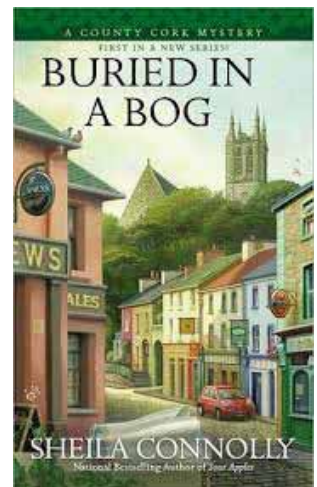
We move to Ireland for this next book featuring Maura Donovan. Her Irish-born grandmother has just died, and her last wish was for Maura to travel to Ireland and see the country from which her family came. Since her mother deserted her years ago and her father died in an accident, Maura has no ties anymore to her hometown of Boston.

She doesn't expect to fall in love with the countryside or enjoy listening to stories from Mrs. Nolan, her grandmother's good friend, but she does.

The trip was to only last a week. Instead, Maura finds herself taking on a job at a local pub, a chance to stick around and see the people who knew her family and maybe see more of Ireland. Little did she know a body found in a nearby bog, even though it's been there near 100 years, might be someone connected to another murder of which she has knowledge. How can that be? And where will all this lead Maura, being a stranger in a foreign country?

Connolly is an Agatha Award nominee and has written 12 other mysteries. This is the first in her County Cork mystery series. Her website is [www.sheilaconnolly.com](http://www.sheilaconnolly.com)

Till next time, happy reading!



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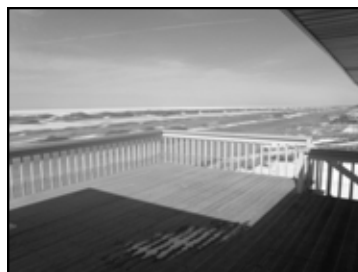
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