

Volume 30, Number 14 Thursday, April 10, 2014

# Wonder of Wonders

## Extricationist Matt Kalita Tackles Everything from Simple Feats to Dangerous Stunts

by M.D. Cunningham and Andrew Tallackson

Watching a magician, regardless of age or how closely you pay attention, has a captivating way of softening everything around you.

The inner critics amid the onlookers dial down.

There is some suspension of disbelief, especially among children whose expressions become frozen frescos of sheer wonder, their nascent notions of reality bending and breaking as their jaws drop. For adults, that sensation is transfixed by the performance creating the feeling of..."I wish I could do that!"

Whatever it is, it is joy, which at this moment is Matt Kalita, who is throwing flames from his fingertips just after a dove appeared out of thin air.

Then, he does it again.

This time, a bird rises from his cupped hands along with bright red flames like a phoenix. That's when you realize it's happened.

Undeniable joy.

You watch. Then, you smile. This is one of magic's essences, that perfect moment when you are concentrated on nothing else but the question, "How did he do that?"

At a recent show at the St. Joseph Young Men's Society Spring Bazaar, a resurrected annual event

for family and friends of the Michigan City club, a couple of middle-school boys sported mixed reactions. One had an angst-fueled look of skepticism on his face for the duration of the show. The other seemed to want to mirror that same dubious expression, but Kalita's humor, along with his diverse array of slight-of-hand antics and booming baritone voice — all part of the performance created those magical moments that cast a little doubt, the idea that, "Maybe, there's something more this."

Kalita wears a black trench coat that flows like a cape and opens to show a shiny vest, one complemented by a studded belt buckle adorned with a decorative set of handcuffs during shows.

He doesn't do tricks. He's a man of skill who

Matt Kalita does his torn and restored paper trick with assistance from Kaylee Cibak during his performance at St. Joseph Young Men's Society. The torn piece of paper, once restored, becomes a paper hat, which Kaylee got to keep as a souvenir.

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## Wonder of Wonders Continued from Page 1

creates atmosphere for young and old viewers to find reason for entertainment, reason for wonder and, if you're like the skeptical middle-school boys, reason for an envious eye to comb over his movements, looking for miscalculation or an insight into a secret.

Born in Michigan City and raised on a farm off Johnson Road, Kalita says he witnessed his first magician as a kindergartner at Coolspring Elementary School. The magician, Bob Taylo, went by the name Mr. T. and Family. He performed the "Cut & Restored Rope Trick."

"When he finished, he tossed the rope into the

audience and into my hands," Kalita says. "I felt magical ever since."

(Life will come full circle for Kalita when he presents a show at Coolspring Elementary in May.)

His parents, Dolores and Raymond, whom he describes as incredibly supportive, bought him his first "Hocus Pocus Magic Kit."

After graduating from Rogers High School in 1979, Kalita had no career plans other than being involved in magic. He traveled the country for several years with the Ken Griffith Illusion Show, a vaudeville-type act that featured a variety of entertainers. He was hired to perform his escape stunts, as well as load and unload equipment.

He spent several years in Las Vegas, never landing bigtime jobs, but finding consistent work as a magician and mind reader for tourists, his engagements arranged by a marketing agency.

While in Vegas, he attended the National School of Broadcasting and was the first graduate in his class to land a job as a radio disc jockey on LUV 107.5FM.

After returning to Indiana, he enrolled at Purdue University-Calumet, where he earned a degree in communications, focusing on radio/TV broadcasting. He subsequently worked at radio stations WIMS, WEFM, WCOE and WLOI.

"I believe the radio/TV business is a great career to get into," he says, "but the fact is, while it's fun, you certainly don't make a good income in the small markets."

His "day job" is as a motivational speaker for Everest College, talking to high-school students about pre- and post- high-school plans, success, achievement and goals.

"The enjoyable part for me," he says, "is the



Matt Kalita does his "Tipsy Turvey Bottles" trick that involves having the youth assisting him mimic his movements to see if the bottles are in the same positions once the feat is over.

Kalita's bottle ends up being right-side up and the boy's upside down.



Matt Kalita's "Talking Drawing Board" trick makes what seems like a simple, crude drawing come to life.

chance for me to incorporate magic into the message."

Kalita doesn't claim to be the most skilled magician, even within his own circle of friends. But it only takes a second to see that he genuinely loves the work: the trade, the art of the magician. His wife, Diane, and daughter, Mya, assist him as he works to cast a spell over the audience.

The man is not a novice. Far from it.

He has scars on his wrists from all the knots that have been tied around his hands. Many times, he's offered a monetary reward up to \$5,000 if anyone farmers, Navy men and others — can hog tie him, but he's never lost. However, he says he's come close.

After realizing many "escape artists" were simply operators with gimmick acts, Kalita says he coined the term extricationist from the word "extraction," which denotes the act of removing oneself from a situation and, interestingly, refers to lineage. The term allows Kalita to separate himself from the crowd while reflecting his professional devotion to an art he takes seriously, even if he has a comedic edge to his act. He's always held a strong local base and a solid reputation in Michigan City, even if he just casts it off with smirk and a slight wave of the hand.

The man, after all, has hung from Chicago's Congress Hotel — upside down in a straightjacket.

Continued on Page 4

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## Wonder of Wonders Continued from Page 3

He's plunged from Washington Street bridge in handcuffs and leg irons.

He's been locked in a tank with piranhas.

And, it must be said, Kalita does his research. For instance, before jumping from Washington Street bridge, he had divers scour the ground beneath the water to make sure it was safe.

He ranks jumping from Washington Street bridge and locking himself in an 85 gallon barrel of beer as his most dangerous feats.

"The jump into the water was a shock, as the water was cold and dark, and I also nearly wound up landing on my back, which would surely have knocked the wind out of me and would have probably made it extremely dangerous," Kalita recalled of the Washington Street bridge experience.

The barrel of beer, he joked, was quite an "intoxicating experience."

"As you begin to realize what you're made of, because once you're submerged, and you hear the lid being screwed and locked into place with the hammer drill, you realize you have only seconds to make it to safety once the curtain of spectators surrounds you," he says.

"With both of the stunts," he continues about the barrel and Washington Street bridge, "I had to train hard for endurance, and my ability to hold

my breath."

Does he have moments of doubt before a dangerous feat begins?

"Right before you make that leap from a bridge wearing handcuffs, or the moment before that steel lid is slammed shut on the barrel, or when they begin to hoist you upside down from a building or crane, you must swallow the fear that many don't have the ability to do, and tell yourself with absolute conviction that you will succeed, and this will all be over within a few minutes, and you will rise to the applause of the audience," he says.

"That's what motivates me: applause and the satisfaction of a successful stunt."

At 53, Kalita admits that with all the aches and pains that developed from years being tied, confined and injured, the list of dangerous stunts he'd like to attempt has dwindled. He's contemplated doing one where he's suspended upside down from an unmanned hot air balloon and wearing a straight

jacket. The balloon is released, he explained, and he must free himself, climb into the balloon and navigate it back to Earth.

He's performed his original creation, "Man in Burning Box," on several occasions, but has not performed it since he was severely burned. The stunt requires many assistants to ensure safety.

"As we know, things go wrong when we least expect them," he said. "I received third-degree



Matt Kalita is assisted by his daughter, Mya, and wife, Diane, during performances.

## All Photos by Oleg Semkoff







burns on both of my legs that required two months of hospitalization to recover.

"Granted, this was when I was still a teenager trying to perfect the stunt. I realize now that using gasoline as an accelerant is not the safest way to ignite a fire you wish to control"



Enjoying the St. Joseph Young Men's Society performance are Abby and Lily Cibak, Zay Barnett, Sarah Barnett and Kaylee and Stephanie Cibak.

Like so much in life, the secret to Kalita's art and success is not mystifying, but a relentless hard-nosed attitude and work ethic.

Sometimes, as was true at St. Joseph Young Men's Society, the simpler feats provide the greatest joy.

"I do enjoy performing for family type events where I can mix magic suitable for kids, as well as adults, some doves, ducks and rabbits, along with the simple torn and restored rope trick, and then for



the finale of the show perform an escape stunt," he says. "That's the perfect balance for me."



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## **Steamroller Printmaking Project**

A group of local artists led by Chris Grohs, Nichole Renee Sheaffer and Lora Fosberg of Walnut Ink Projects aims to bring the free Steamroller Printmaking Project to Michigan City on Aug. 23.

Under professional guidance, local artists and volunteers, including students from local schools, will participate in making large-scale prints. The artists and their teams carve the giant 7-foot printmaking plates, ink them up, then roll over them with an industrial steamroller to create oversized works.

More than 30 prints will be made and displayed during the event.

Artists from Michigan City, Chesterton, Valparaiso, Hammond, and Chicago have been selected to participate, including Nichole Renee Sheaffer, Laura Fosberg, Janet Bloch, Laurel Izard, Andrea Peterson, Tom Tourlemke, Melissa Washburn, Julia Nielsen, Jay Zerbe, and Michael Bill Smith, and Richard Lange. They will be assisted by Holly Greenberg, Syracuse University associate professor of printmaking, who started the Steamroller Printmaking Project with her students in 2013.



The group is using the crowdfunding website Kickstarter to raise the needed seed money to pay for materials and event-day permits, supplies, food and other requirements. The goal is \$7,500. Donors receive everything from stickers and T-shirts to original art in exchange for their support.

Visit https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/19630 33689/the-steamroller-printmaking-project to learn more and make a donation. Follow the project on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/steamroller-printmakingproject



## Free Screening of "Philomena"

Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St., as part of its Winter Film Series, will present a free showing of the Oscar-nominated "Philomena" at 2 p.m. Sunday, April 13.

Offered in conjunction with Purdue University-North Central's Odyssey Arts and Cultural Events Series, "Philomena" earned 43 award nominations, including Oscar nods for Best Picture, Actress (Judi Dench) and Writing, Adaptive Screenplay. It also received Golden Globes nominations for Best Picture, Actress and Screenplay.

Based on Martin Sixsmith's book "The Lost Child of Philomena Lee," the movie tells the true story of Philomena who, in 1952 Ireland, was pregnant and unmarried when she was sent to live with nuns at the Sacred Heart convent in Roscrea, Ireland. Working in the prison-like convent laundries, she saw her young son for an hour a day and was powerless when the nuns gave the 3-year-old to an American couple. She was forced to sign a document promising to never inquire about him.

When Philomena did search for him 50 years later, she was told all records were lost in a fire. Dench portrays Philomena, who was in her 70s when she and Sixsmith began the quest to find her son.

The movie is rated PG-13 for profanity, thematic elements and sexual references. Call Robin Kohn at (219) 873-3049 for more information.

## **Organic Garden Practices Lecture**

A free lecture on gardening practices is at 10 a.m. EDT Saturday, April 12, at the Chikaming Township Hall, 13535 Red Arrow Highway, Harbert, Mich.

Dane Terrill of Flowerfield Enterprises, Kalamazoo, Mich., will discuss topics such as compost tea, soil structure and organic growing methods.

Compost tea is an organic spray that can be made by any home gardener and is now used at the Planting Field Community Garden in Chikaming Township, as well as in sustainability projects at Yale and Harvard universities.

Information about the community garden, which is on Warren Woods Road in Chikaming Township, will be available. It's also available at http://www.chikamingtownship.org/parkboard.htm



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## **Display Honors Capt. Bill Eddy**

With April being Innovation Month, La Porte County Historical Society Museum will honor the late Bill Eddy of Michigan City with a display this month.

Born in New York in 1902, Eddy was a successful Naval officer, engineer, TV producer, cartoonist and inventor. After the Naval Academy, he developed equipment for tracking ships, which also could track enemy submarines. In 1941, he helped set up WBKB, which later became ABC's Chan-



nel 7. After the war, he set up a business that developed and used aircraft radar for many purposes locally and internationally. His inventions ranged from Cruise Control to the kaleidoscope.

The museum, 2405 Indiana Ave., La Porte, is open from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Call (219) 324-6767 or visit www.laporte-countyhistory.org for more information, including admission prices.



schedule of events go to www.harborcountry.org

## **PNC Hyde Park Forum**

The 31st Purdue University-North Central Hyde Park Forum Public Speaking Contest is at 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 16.

The free forum is open to all PNC students, who will present their thoughts on a variety of subjects. Many speakers will be from the Communication 114 class. All participants will meet beforehand in Library-Student-Faculty Building Assembly Hall, Room 02. Speakers will be assigned rooms on campus for their speeches.

Visitors are welcome to move from room to room to listen to the speakers. Several will present in each room, with judges evaluating them. Topics range from commentary on current news, observations of the social or cultural climate or remarks on subjects of interest to the speaker.

Afterward, participants and guests may head to Assembly Hall for a 15-minute awards ceremony in which all speakers are recognized.

Each classroom will have first-, second- and third-place winners, who will compete for monetary prizes in a "Speak-Off" from noon to 1 p.m. Friday, April 18, in LSF Assembly Hall, Room 02. One overall winner will be named, with several runners-up.

The forum and speak-off are sponsored by the PNC Department of Communication. The concept is loosely based on London's Hyde Park, a public park known as a gathering place for speakers who wish to state their minds. It has gained prominence as a reference to freedom of speech.

#### "Choral Jubilee and Exhibit"

ArtsBridge will present "Choral Jubilee and Exhibit," featuring All God's Children Choir, First Congregational Church of St. Joseph bell choirs and Lynne Tan's functional clay art, at 4 p.m. EDT Sunday, April 13, at First Presbyterian Church, 475 Green Ave. on Morton Hill in Benton Harbor, Mich.

The event is free. Call (269) 925-7075 or visit the church on facebook for more information.

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## 18th Annual Native Plant Sale

The Friends of Indiana Dunes Inc. will present its 18th annual Native Plant Sale from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 12, at the Indiana Dunes State Park Pavilion.

More than 100 native plant species will be available at the free event, including woodland flowering plants and ferns, dry, medium and wet prairie flowering plants, grasses, shrubs and trees. All varieties come in pots and are native to Northwest Indiana, Northeast Illinois and Southwest Michigan.

Gardening consultants will answer native gardening questions. Free leaflets on planting with wildflowers, designing a native garden and the benefits of going native will be available.



Friends of Indiana Dunes volunteer Sara Pavlovic, Chesterton, grooms native plants for the sale.

All native plant-sale profits support the Friends of Indiana Dunes.

Indiana Dunes State Park is at 1600 N. County Road 25 East (the north end of Indiana 49), Chesterton. Contact Zella Olson, Friends of Indiana Dunes Inc. chairwoman, at (219) 926-3833 for more information.



## "Godspell" at La Porte Church

Crown Point Community Theatre will present the beloved musical "Godspell" at 7 p.m. Good Friday, April 18, at Liberty Bible Church, 608 Colfax Ave., La Porte.

Conceived and originally directed by John Michael Tebelak, with music and new lyrics by Stephen Schwartz ("Wicked"), "Godspell" uses pantomime, charades, acrobatics and vaudeville to bring the parables of Jesus, as told in the Gospel of St. Matthew, to life. Songs include "God Save the People," "All Good Gifts" and "Day by Day."

The CPCT production is based on the 2012 Broadway revival. Familiar songs have new orchestrations that convey hip-hop and gospel, and references in the script have been updated to relate more closely to current events and technology. The production also has eschewed the traditional "clown" motif, instead modernizing the look to make things feel like a narrative rock concert.

The CPCT ensemble, headed by Jerald Jascoviak, Valparaiso, as Jesus, includes Erin Anderson, Kate-Lynn Edwards, Kerry Fitch, Darryn Glass, Jesse Hickle, Sarah Ellen Hickle, Tom Knoerzer, Laura Koch, Trish Neary and Hannah Rettew.

Becky Jascoviak is the director, Deb Porter the vocal director, Jeff Otto the musical director and Cathy Mertens the choreographer.

Tickets, which are \$10, or \$5 for theatergoers 18 and younger, are available at www.bit.ly/god-spelltix. Reservations are strongly recommended because seating is limited.

## **Bus Trip Pickup Site Changes**

The bus pickup site has changed for the trip to Allen County Public Library's genealogy research department Wednesday, April 23.

The bus will leave the Marquette Mall parking lot in front of the former Marquette Theatre at 7 a.m. The second pickup is at 7:30 a.m. at La Porte's Kabelin Ace Hardware. The bus leaves ACPL at 4 p.m. CDT for the return trip.

A few spaces remain on the bus. The cost is \$21. Call Patricia Harris (219) 872-3273 for reservations or additional information.

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## "5830: Memories of Home"

An exhibit of Robert Johnson's paintings, "5830: Memories of Home," runs through May 31 at Substation No. 9, the South Shore Arts branch at 435 Fayette St. in downtown Hammond.

Johnson's roots run deep in Chicago. Each acrylic painting on panel offers a nostalgic glimpse of bygone eras.

"The house I grew up in is gone, torn down by the city because of a fire. I had lived there until I got married. My parents sold it a few years later and about 10 years later, the fire," he said in a press release. "I have no pictures of the inside or outside of the house. All I have is my memories of the years growing up in a great neighborhood. All these paintings are for my memory of



Robert Johnson's "Gangway," an acrylic on panel.

that wonderful time in my life.

Johnson received his bachelor of art education from The Art Institute of Chicago in 1955 and his master of science in art education from the Illinois Institute of Technology in 1967. He was a professor with the art institute and for Chicago Public Schools. He was director of the CPS Bureau of Art from 1987 until his retirement in 1992.

The exhibit is free. Viewing hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday. Visit www. southshoreartsonline.org for more information.

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## **Michigan City Public Library**

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

## • Spring Break Film Showing: "Frozen" at 10 a.m. Thursday, April 10.

The Oscar-winning movie is rated PG. Light refreshments will be provided. Children up to age 18 have the chance to win a DVD of the movie.

## • "Art à la Carte" at 10 a.m. Friday, April 11. Choose from a variety of crafts to construct. All materials are provided. The program is designed for

children 12 and younger accompanied by an adult.
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.

• Understanding Your Dreams at 2 p.m. Saturday, April 12.

Dream therapist Terese Fabbri sheds light on dreams and their significance.

• Great Decisions at 6:30 p.m. Mondays, April 14 and 28.

The focus this month is energy independence and food and climate. The foreign policy discussion program is in its 16th season. Reading material is available at the circulation desk.

Contact Robin Kohn at (219) 873-3049 for additional information.

## **Artists Sought for May Exhibit**

Southern Shore Art Association, 724 Franklin St., is seeking artists to participate in the May exhibit "Art in Good Taste."

The exhibit, which celebrates food as the subject, will showcase paintings, sculptures, photography and other media. It opens with a public reception from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, May 2, as part of the Uptown Arts District First Fridays.

The exhibit is open to SSAA members and outside artists. Those interested can enter up to three pieces. There is a \$10 fee for members, with 25 percent commission, or \$40 for non-members, with 35 percent commission.

The submission deadline is Sunday, April 20. Those interested should email staara@staara.com



#### LaLu Places 11th at State Event



The La Lumiere School Science Olympiad Team.

The La Lumiere Laker Science Team placed 11th out of 30 teams competing in the Indiana Science Olympiad State Competition at Indiana University-Bloomington on March 22.

Each school competes in 23 different events in earth science, biology, chemistry, physics, engineering and problem solving.

The following students earned medals:

Vesper Yun, Korea, and Cortney Meyer, Michigan

City, placed third in Mission Possible Rube-Goldberg Device.

- Marina Walinski, Rolling Prairie, and Noah Schuster, La Porte, placed fourth in Entomology.
- Kelly Barr, La Porte, Meyer and Walinski placed fourth in Experimental Design.
- Ian Miner, Ada, Mich., and Meyer placed fifth in Magnetic Levitation.
- Penfie Jiao, China, placed fifth in Scrambler Vehicle.



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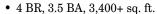
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#### **Northwest Indiana Green Drinks**

Learn how Brad Hindsley and Laura Marie Panozzo formed the collaborative efforts Movers & Shakers and Our Common Threads when Northwest Indiana Green Drinks meets at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, April 17, at Shoreline Brewery, 208 Wabash St.

Hindsley is executive chef and owner of Spire Farm-to-Fork Cuisine. Panozzo is the creator and owner at Earth Angel Eco Art Studio. Both are in La Porte. The two will present their Movers & Shakers show, which focuses on community members making a difference, and reveal how Our Common Threads supports local non-profits.



Brad Hindsley and Laura Marie Panozzo

Northwest Indiana Green Drinks, sponsored by 219 GreenConnect.com and Save the Dunes, meets at 6:30 p.m. the third Thursday of each month at Shoreline Brewery. The suggested donation is \$5, or \$2 for students. Call (219) 874-6809 for more information.



## **Westchester Public Library**

The following programs are through Westchester Public Library:

• Eating Well for Balanced Living Series from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Thursday, April 10, in the Bertha Wood meeting room at Thomas Library, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

Registered Dietetic Technician Gia DeMartinis leads the program, "Eating Well on a Budget: Don't Let the Poor Economy Threaten Your Diet and Health," rescheduled from Jan. 29.

• History Discussion Group from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, April 12, in the Bertha Wood meeting room at Thomas Library.

Discussion centers on Thomas Jefferson's presidency and decisions he made.

• Free Family Film Series, "Hop," at 2 p.m. Saturday, April 12, at Hageman Library, 100 Francis St., Porter.

The movie, which is rated G, runs 95 minutes.

• Free movie showing, "The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug" at 5 p.m. Saturday, April 12, at the Library Service Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

Popcorn will be available. The movie, which is rated PG-13, runs 161 minutes.

• Annual Nature Series with Noel Pavlovic at 2 p.m. Sunday, April 13, at the Brown Mansion, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.

Pavlovic, a research ecologist at the Lake Michigan Ecological Research Station, will discuss plant diversity in the dunes and dunes wildflowers.

• Poetry Appreciation Group from 6 to 8 p.m. Monday, April 14, in the Bertha Wood meeting room at Thomas Library.

The group serves as a forum for learning and discussing various forms and techniques of writing poems. Attendees read and listen to poetry read aloud.



## La Porte County Community Cleanup Day

Join the La Porte County Solid Waste District to help clean up a neighborhood, county road or public space from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 3.

"Last year, we sponsored more than 20 cleanups for La Porte County Community Cleanup Day with

about 200 volunteers, and we'd like to have even more this year," said Alicia Ebaugh, Solid Waste District education and publicoutreach coordinator. "It's a great way to celebrate Earth Day and get children involved with community service."

It's the third year the district has organized the event with help from local businesses, government agencies and the national non-profit group Keep America Beautiful.

Participating groups and individuals receive garbage bags. Water and snacks are available. After the cleanups, volunteers are invited to thank-you luncheons in Michigan City and La Porte. Donations make these offerings possible.

Participants choose an area to clean or join a clean-up already organized in Michigan City, including one at Washington Park beach with the Michigan City Parks Department, and one in the Fifth Ward with County Commissioner Willie Milsap and his City/County Resource Cen-

ter volunteers.

The Michigan City Refuse Department, with Refuse Inspector Connie Adams, is picking up all litter collected in Michigan City. The Community Work Program, under Sheriff's Deputy Bob Blair's guidance, will pick up litter collected in the county.

Ebaugh said many community groups already have indicated their interest in the cleanup, including political and religious organizations, school clubs, Girl and Boy Scout troops and families.

Contact Ebaugh at (219) 326-0014 or email aebaugh@solidwastedistrict.com to sign up or donate food or materials.



Two members of the Evergreen Baptist Church youth group pick up litter in greenspace along Franklin Street during last year's Community Cleanup Day.

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## **Encountering History**

Editor's note — The Lincoln Funeral Train committee is presenting stories once a month about the 2015 event. This article was written by La Porte County Historian Fern Eddy-Schultz.

As the 150th anniversary of President Abraham Lincoln's assassination and funeral approaches, The Historic Railroad Equipment Association has been preparing for a recreation of the path the president's funeral train took from Washington, D.C., to Lincoln's hometown of Springfield, Ill., in 2015. One of the final stops made was in Michigan City on May 1, 1865, and that will be recreated in 2015.

2009, Lincoln's  $200 \mathrm{th}$ birthday was commemorated. It only seemed fitting that at that time we look back to May 1, 1865, the day his funeral train passed through La Porte County. The president's remains were escorted to the car of the Louisville, New Albany & Chicago Railroad — later to become the Monon Railroad — in Indianapolis at midnight April 30 and left or Chicago, expecting to reach there by noon the next day. The nine-car train also carried 300 guests. The casket with the body of Willie Lincoln, who died three years earlier, also on was the train. Mary Todd Lincoln made the decision that he should also be buried in Illinois.

The train passed through Westville at about 20 minutes to 8 in the morning. The La Porte Herald reported a "tremendous crowd at the depot and most appropriate ceremonies were had." There was a special correspondent from The Chicago Tribune on hand and wrote the following report: "Two thousand people were here assembled, and a more serious thoughtful congregation has not been. The men stand with uncovered heads, and women look on in silence. A number of little children were grouped together, holding in their hands white flags with mourning fringes. At another place were a number of very intelligent young women, holding miniature flags of the Republic bordered with rosettes, which they waved gently, in token of their love. A tasteful and pretty arch was constructed, under which the train passed. It was the handiwork of the ladies of the village, and most artistically interwoven with wreaths of evergreen and roses. On the top was a beautiful flag waving, the support of which was trimmed with green and black drapery, its base resting in a boquet (sic) and surrounded by rosettes. On each side of the arch at the base of the curvature were portraits of the President, which were shrouded with black and white trimmings. The inscription 'Though dead he yet speaketh' was printed in large letters on white cloth, reaching across the arch where commenced the formation of the semicircle. As the funeral train slowly moved out, a choir of ladies and gentlemen, under leadership of Mr. Wilkins, a prominent citizen sang with a sweet mournfulness the peculiarly appropriate hymn entitled 'The Departed'."

titled 'The Departed'."

Forty-two years later, in 1907, it was reported that J.W. Robertson, Hebron, had a photograph of the funeral train. It was taken in Westville where the train made a stop to take on a supply of fuel consisting of wood and The picture had aged water. and the view was not very plain. It showed the train consisted of four coaches and an engine that was much smaller than the average railroad engine of the day. Reportedly, the "enterprising artist who took the negative of the train did a thriving business with the prints he made from it, and there were still several in evidence. That year, it was indicated there were still older

The Leviathan with Lincoln's picture.

residents who remembered the occasion vividly. This included the 1907 reporter who was a "lump of a cherub at the time," but had a "hazy recollection of the heavily draped train, the soldiers, the crowd and the decorations."

The train continued north through Crossing, at that time locally known as Lacroix, later Packard and then Otis. There was "quite a nice demonstration" there by the "surrounding people of the village and those from the surrounding country, who received the cortege in the most sacred manner."

The funeral train entered Michigan City at the depot at 8:35 a.m., where it then came into the care of the Michigan Central Railroad. It passed beneath a magnificent arch of roses and evergreen 25 feet wide and 30 feet high. On each side of the arch was an inscription. A delegation of ladies, 16 in number, presented a beautiful cross made of solid flowers that they asked permission to place on the coffin. The request was granted. In the group stood 36 little girls representing the entire number of the states in The Republic. They were dressed in white with black sashes and rosettes of trailing arbutus on the right shoulder. The young ladies sang na-

tional airs.

Patriotic organizations conducted memorial services, and townspeople were permitted to view the remains of the martyred president. The train had to wait an hour or so in Michigan City for the arrival by special train of The Chicago Committee. With its arrival, the funeral cortege was ready to leave for Chicago. A Michigan City man, Edward Wilcox, was the engineer of the locomotive that pulled the train to Chicago over the Michigan Central System. Chicago was reached at 11 a.m. May 1.

From there, the train went on to Springfield for the burial. Large delegations from adjoining states and neighboring settlements arrived throughout the night and were unable to find accommodations. About noon, the remains were brought from the statehouse. The hearse was followed by the horse formerly belonging to Lincoln. His body was covered with black cloth trimmed with silver fringe. The procession arrived at Oak Ridge Cemetery at 1 p.m. After the benediction, the crowd reformed and returned to the city.

#### **Train's Test Run Canceled**

The Historic Railroad Equipment Association's trial run of the Lincoln Funeral Train replica scheduled for next month has been canceled due to a lack of funding.

Efforts to raise funds for the official anniversary tour of the Lincoln Funeral Train in 2015, however, will continue. The tour is scheduled to travel through Wanatah and Westville, with a stop in Michigan City on May 1, 2015, as it did on that date in 1865.

Master mechanic Dave Kloke, Elgin, Ill., is an avid Lincoln enthusiast and began building an exact replica of the original funeral locomotive, the Leviathan, nearly 15 years ago as a hobby, which then became a mission. Now, Kloke and his team at the HREA, a registered 501(c)(3) group, are working to finish the funeral car, The United States. It is the centerpiece of The 2015 Lincoln Funeral Train.

The La Porte County Lincoln Funeral Train Committee was formed with representatives from several organizations throughout La Porte County to help ensure the project is completed and that the train will follow, as closely as possible, the original route through La Porte County.

Donations are being sought to help the endeavor fund the costs involved in the trip. Donations will be accepted at the La Porte County Convention and Visitors Bureau. Visit www. michigancitylaporte.com or www.The2015LincolnFuneralTrain.com for more information or to contribute.

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## **Indiana Dunes State Park**

The following events are planned through Indiana Dunes State Park:

#### Saturday, April 12

#### • 9:30 a.m. — Early Spring Birds.

Meet at the beach pavilion for an hour or so stroll in search of migrating birds. If conditions are right, visitors will view migration from the Bird Observation Platform. Take binoculars.

#### • 2 p.m. — Fire on the Prairie.

Meet at the Nature Center to learn how prescribed fire is used to aid habitats, then help a naturalist start a fire if conditions are right. Children 12 and younger must be accompanied by a parent or responsible adult.

#### Sunday, April 13

#### • 10 a.m. — Bird Banding Demonstrations.

Meet at the Nature Center where banding nets help reveal more information about birds.

#### • 2 p.m. — A Salamander Saunter.

Join a naturalist at the Nature Center for an investigative stroll through the dune forests in search of various amphibians. Wear hiking shoes.

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



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## **Spring Exhibits Debut at VU**

Valparaiso University's Brauer Museum of Art will unveil its spring exhibits during an opening reception at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 16.

New exhibits include "Classical and Popular School Japanese Paintings from the Walter and Dörte Simmons Collection" and "Paintings by Jeanette Pasin Sloan," as well as select works by VU art students and faculty. In addition, works from the museum's permanent collection will be on display in various galleries, including Georgia O'Keeffe's "Rust Red Hills," which returns after having been on tour since September 2012.

On display in the Wehling and McGill galleries, the annual student art exhibit features a variety of media, including paintings, drawings, sculptures, photography and video. The pieces are hand-selected by VU's studio instructors, and the April 16 opening reception includes an award ceremony to honor that work.



"Chinese Beauty," which is part of the exhibit "Classical and Popular School Japanese Paintings from the Walter and Dörte Simmons Collection."

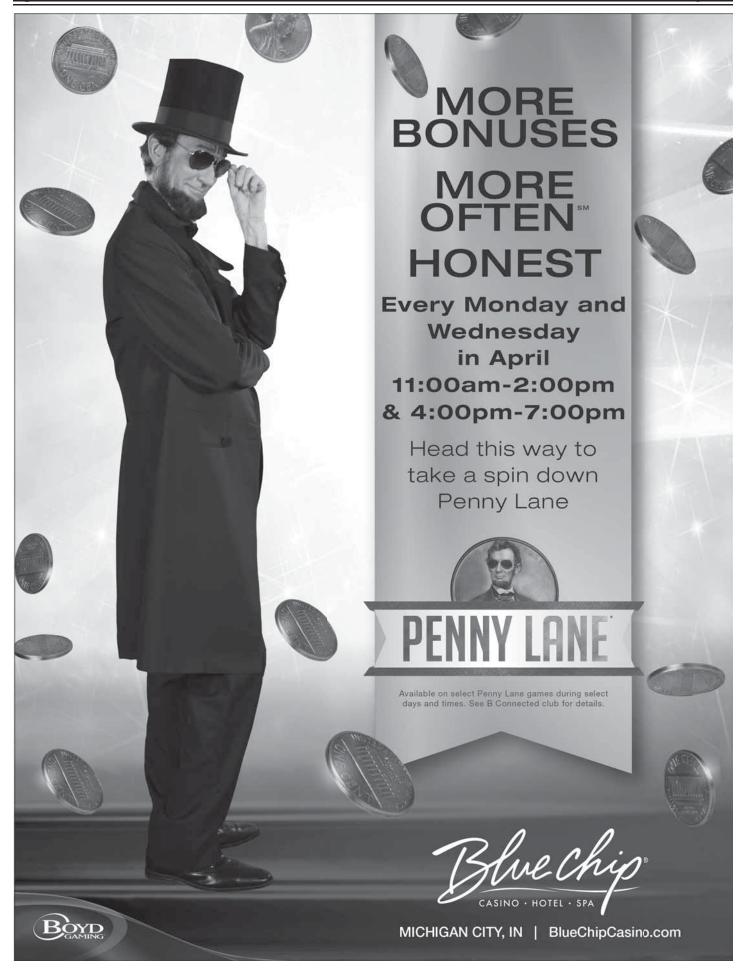
The "Classical and Popular School Japanese Paintings" exhibit in Gallery 1212 will showcase fine Japanese ink paintings from the 18th and 19th centuries. Paintings from the museum's permanent collection by Pasin Sloan, a realist artist, will be in the Ferguson Gal-

lery in a project curated by VU art history professor Nina Corazzo. The show is accompanied by a catalog featuring original research and essays by Corazzo, as well as essays by several of her art-history students.

In the museum's education room, Corwin Leverich will present a video art project that is the culmination of his work toward the studio-intensive bachelor of science in fine arts degree. He will participate in the university's May 17 commencement ceremony. An opening reception featuring a screening of the video in its entirety is at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 23, in Duesenberg Recital Hall.

Presented in the West Gallery, the biennial art faculty exhibit highlights works by each of the nine studio professors. The original artwork includes paintings, sculptures, ceramics and digital and video art. An opening reception is at 7 p.m. Friday, April 25.

The spring exhibits run through May 11. Visit valpo.edu/artmuseum for more information about all exhibits and upcoming events.



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## **Volunteer Tree Planting Workday**

In honor of Arbor Day, Shirley Heinze Land Trust will host a volunteer tree planting workday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, April 12, at Meadowbrook Conservation Center and Nature Preserve, 109 W. County Road 700 North, Valparaiso.

The 74-acre preserve has had a diverse history. For the first half of the 20th century, it was a farm called Triple Creek. In the early 1960s, it was sold to the Drifting Dunes Girl Scout Council. It remained a Scout camp until 2011, when it was retired. Portions of the site were planted with trees by the Girl Scouts, and some areas have naturally reforested. Some of the old agricultural fields, however, still need reforestation.

During the workday, staff and volunteers, including members of Cub Scout Pack 902 of Cooks Corners Elementary School in Valparaiso, will plant a variety of tree species and install protective tubes. Volunteers should take work gloves and spade shovels, if possible. Lunch will be provided.

Volunteers should make reservations, and note any dietary restrictions, by email to jerdelac@ heinzetrust.org or call (219) 242-8558. Visit www. heinzetrust.org for additional information.

## **Dunes Summer Theatre Benefit**

Disposable Theatre Improv Comedy will present a benefit to support Dunes Summer Theatre at 8 p.m. Saturday, April 12, at the Clarion Inn Ballroom, 5820 Franklin St., Michigan City.

Tickets are \$15. Call (219) 879-7509 or visit dunessummertheatre.com for reservations. Mention Dunes Summer Theatre while eating at Crawford's Pub & Eatery and it will donate 10 percent of the bill to the theater.







# Open House

Saturday, April 26, 2014

8:15 - 8:45 am 9:00 - 12:00 noon Continental Breakfast Interactive Classes Campus Tours Q&A





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Beacher April 10, 2014 Page 22 April 10, 2014 Page 23

Winning the Class A State Championship on March 29 in Indianapolis is an achievement Marquette Catholic High School's entire team will always remember.

For the team's four seniors, it is particularly special since the 70-66 clincher in overtime marks the end of their high-school basketball careers...and the start of new chapters in their lives.

The seniors graciously sat down with The Beacher to discuss what's next for them.

Nathan Flores plans to study business, although he is still narrowing down which school he wants to attend. A guard for Marquette's team, he also participated in cross country and tennis.

"They were both good conditioning for basketball," he said.

In his free time, Flores works on cars and is proud of his Volkswagen GTI.

"Winning the championship was a nice end to the season with all of my teammates," he said. "I'm happy we won it together."

Cortland Gillespie played point guard. In middle school, he played football. It wasn't until ninth grade that he picked up basketball. Ever since then, he's dreamed of playing at college. Later this year, he'll achieve that dream.

"I'm still deciding between Roosevelt University and Judson University," he said.

Gillespie wants to major in physical therapy, which he became interested in because of his trainer, adding, "Seeing how he enjoys his job made me want to do the same thing."

Gillespie discovered a love of film editing when he started making highlight videos for himself and friends, and intends to pursue that interest at college.

Photos by

Janet Baines

Stefan Barkow

and

Marquette

Catholic High School

"I'll miss Marquette, though," he admits. "I like the family feel here. Everyone can trust and support each other."

Richard Mitchell, who played point guard, says he has been playing basketball for as long as

# For Marquette Seniors, It's Time to "Blaze" New Trails











he can remember. He's always been focused on basketball, but does enjoy watching other sports and likes football. In high school, his favorite class was economics. Next up for him is a year at Midwest Elite Preparatory Academy in Merrillville. Afterward, he hopes to keep playing ball in college.

"It was amazing," Mitchell says of the big win. "I always dreamed about it, and it's something the city hasn't seen in awhile."

Ian Smith, head manager of the team, came to Marquette his junior year, when he was encouraged to join the team by friends and Coach Donovan Garletts.

"It was a great way to get immersed in the school," he said.

Smith, who also plays baseball for Marquette, works at B&E Marine and crews a 76-foot charter boat. He will pursue his love of boating and utilize his management skills when he attends SUNY Maritime College in New York City.

"I may have the title of head coach," Coach Garletts said, "but Ian's the boss. He steers the ship so that we don't have to worry about anything but the game.

"We're definitely going to miss these guys. These are great voung men who I'm proud to say I've coached."











Coach Donovan Garletts (back row, center) poses with his four seniors: Cortland Gillespie (front row, left) and Nathan Flores, and Ian Smith (back row, left) and Richard Mitchell.



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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 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 28, May 5 and 19, June 2, 16 and 30, July 7 and 28, Aug. 11 and 25, and Sept. 15 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.
- ullet June 4 "Wellness Outreach" with Katie Sarver of The Crossing, La Porte.
- July 2 Sleep disorders and their effects on your health with Mindi Whittacker of IU Health La Porte Hospital.
- Aug. 6 Heart Disease Risk Factors: Know Your Numbers with Nancy Blossom, a registered nurse from IU Health.
- $\bullet$  Sept. 10 Understanding Medicare" with Denise Holmes.

#### **Spring Stroll**

Join a naturalist for an easy, 45-minute stroll on an ADA-accessible path through the woods at 9 a.m. Tuesday, April 22, at Bluhm County Park, 3855 S. County Road 1100 West, Westville.

A minimum of five and a maximum of 20 participants will be accepted. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Pre-registration is required at least one week in advance.

#### **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.

## Works by Children on Display

Jennifer Martin and Chesterton Art Center will present artwork created by the children's art classes, starting with a reception from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, April 13, at the center, 115 S. Fourth St.

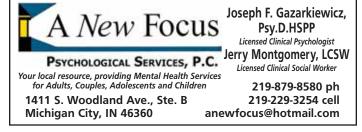
The exhibit will include work from children who have participated in the preschool and after-school art program during the school year. The classes encompass children 3 to 16.

The theme is "Starry Night" and includes a collection of papier-mache houses created to look like a French village. Throughout the year, the children have studied a different artist each month, creating projects that reflect that individual's style.

Guests are welcome to view the exhibit through the end of the month. Call (219) 926-4711 for more information.



Pre-schoolers who've taken art classes include Luca Bombacino (from left), Lily Lyons, Leah Burkett, Ella Starkewicz, Camden Tegt, Kyle Egan, Gray Pedersen and Mason Cutin.









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## **Accelerated Weekend Experience**

Northwestern University and La Lumiere School have partnered to bring local fifth- through eighthgraders the Accelerated Weekend Experience.

Set for Saturday and Sunday, April 26-27, the event lets students explore a subject with an expert in the field.

The programs are:

#### • StarLogo (grades five through six).

Learn to build and program a 3-D game using StarLogo TNG, a computer programming and modeling environment designed for interactive 3-D games and simulations. Practice programming, agent-based modeling and acquire numerous computer science skills. No previous programming experience is necessary.

The subject area is technology and the qualifying score is reading or math.

## • Forensic Science (grades seven through eight).

The course covers observational skills, perceptual fallacies, codes and code breaking, osteology, chromatography and criminology. Students will extract DNA, take fingerprints, analyze blood spatters and discuss famous — and infamous — cases.

The subject area is science and the qualifying score is reading or math.

Both offerings are at La Lumiere, 6801 N. Wilhelm Road, La Porte. Visit ctd.northwestern.edu/sep/program/awe to register, by phone at (847) 491-3782 or by email at awe@northwestern.edu

## **Basic Handgun Shooting Course**

Michigan City Rifle Club, 4801 W. U.S. 20, will host an eight-hour NRA Basic Handgun Shooting Course at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, April 19.

Students gain the knowledge, skills and attitude to safely own and use a handgun. They learn about pistol parts and operation, ammunition, gun safety and handgun-shooting fundamentals.

The cost ranges from \$175 to \$125, depending on if participants bring their own handgun, ammunition or equipment. The fee includes light refreshments and lunch. Class size is limited, and preregistration is required. Email jotto32@gmail.com or call (219) 369-3577 for information or to register.



Monday April 21, 2014

## 2014 Dyngus Day Dash 5k Run & Walk

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www.northwestathleticclub.net

## Students Attend Leadership Training

Leadership La Porte County recently completed its 19th annual leadership training program, with more than 30 local high school students participating from each school in La Porte County.

Four all-day sessions were held at different locations: Purdue University-North Central, the La Porte County Complex, Red Mill County Park and Cummings Lodge.

Facilitators were Dick Reel, Jim Jessup, Mary Foell and Leadership Executive Director Monica Komasinski. Seven students from last year's class served as student leaders: Jessica-Lena Bohlin (La Porte High School), Carter Brown (South Central), Nolin Bruns (Westville), Stephanie Espar (Marquette), Olivia Glowacki (Michigan City), Justin Kiel (La Crosse) and Riana Sass (New Prairie).

The program, funded by a Unity Foundation community grant, afforded students the chance to practice leadership skills such as communication, problem solving, team-building, collaboration and decision-making. At the opening session, the groups did a personality assessment to better understand group dynamics and individual personality traits. At the County Complex, the group toured the county jail and interviewed a panel of offenders. The student leaders facilitated many discussions on current youth issues.

The graduation speakers were Gerrie Grott, who spoke to the group on overcoming odds to become a community leader, and Sonshine Troche, who spoke about being a power for good. A panel featuring Troche, Shannon Hannon and Charlie Roberts also held a question-and-answer session with students. Each graduate received a certificate and T-shirt.

Next year's student leaders were chosen. They are: Matt Bartels (La Porte), Emily Wolfe (Westville), Elijah Davis (South Central), Elliott Sass (Marquette), Amanda Beutner (New Prairie), Katie Vance (La Crosse) and Alejandro Miller (Michigan City).

Contact Komasinski at (219) 325-8223 or info@ leadershiplaportecounty.com for more information.





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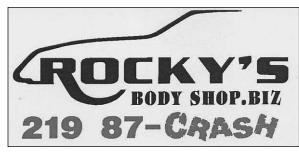
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## **Pysanky Demonstration**



Gale Balmer will demonstrate "Pysanky," the Ukrainian art of decorating Easter eggs, from 1 to 3 p.m. EDT Sunday, April 13, at The Midwest Museum of American Art, 429 S. Main St., Elkhart.

The free annual event offers the chance to view Balmer at work while discovering the designs and colors he employs. Finished work will be available for purchase.

Visit www.MidwestMuseum.US for additional information.

## PNC English Club Poetry Event

Purdue University-North Central's English Club will present its PoetryPalooza 2014 Competition and Open Mic from 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday, April 17.

Held during National Poetry Month and in conjunction with Michigan City Public Library and the Lubeznik Center for the Arts, the program is in the Library-Student-Faculty Building Assembly Hall, Room 02.

Area poets can enter a maximum of three original works, all three minutes or less in length. The entry fee is \$5 at the door for each poem entered. Spectators and open mic participants may attend for \$1. Coffeehouse-style refreshments will be available.

Prizes will be awarded, with \$75 for first place, \$50 for second place and \$25 for third place. A "fan favorite" will be awarded.

Poets will read their poems before a panel of three judges. If time permits, there will be an open mic for anyone who would like to share their talents with poetry, music or other original works.

Pre-registration is not required, but those who would like to do so can send an email that includes a name, a couple of biographical sentences and an attachment of the poem to English Club President Alyssa Moskwa at amoskwa@pnc.edu, with POET-RY RSVP in the email subject line.

## **Downtown Coordinator Named**

Thaddeus Cutler has been named La Porte's new downtown coordinator.

Graduating from Indiana University-South Bend in 1999, Cutler furthered his education at the New York Academy of Art, which eventually led him back to La Porte to open an art gallery in 2004, Thaddeus C. Gallery, with his wife, Laura.

Cutler replaces Tiffany Bley, who served as downtown coordinator for the last two years and left for a new position in Northwest Indiana. He started the position March 3. It is housed within the Greater La Porte Chamber of Commerce and represents a partnership of the chamber, City of La Porte, Urban Enterprise Association, Convention and Visitors Bureau and GLEDC. These entities contribute to the funding of the position, which represents them and furthers their particular goals in La Porte.

## Taltree Earns Special Accreditation

Taltree Arboretum & Gardens, 450 W. County Road 100 North near Valparaiso, has become one of only eight arboretums in the world to earn Level III accreditation by The ArbNet Arboretum Accreditation Program.

Sponsored and coordinated by The Morton Arboretum, Lisle, Ill., the international initiative has four levels of accreditation, recognizing various degrees of development, capacity and professionalism.

At Level III, Taltree is the highest accredited Indiana arboretum and botanic garden, followed by The Purdue Arboretum in West Lafayette, Ind., with a Level II accreditation and the Hartman Arboretum in Evansville, Ind., with a Level I accreditation.

Taltree is a 360-acre preserve of formal gardens, woodlands, wetlands and prairies. Call (219) 462-0025 or visit Taltree.org for more information.

## **Tourism Agency, Porter Honored**

The DNR Division of State Parks & Reservoirs has recognized Indiana Dunes Tourism and the Town of Porter for their commitment to conservation in 2013.

One of three Partnership Award recipients, Indiana Dunes Tourism and Porter were honored for leadership in connecting Indiana Dunes State Park to the South Shore commuter train station with the Dunes-Kankakee Trail.

The division also recognized the winners of two awards presented earlier in the year, including Brad Bumgardner of Indiana Dunes State Park, who received the Lucy Pitschler Award presented to a full-time interpreter by his/her peers.



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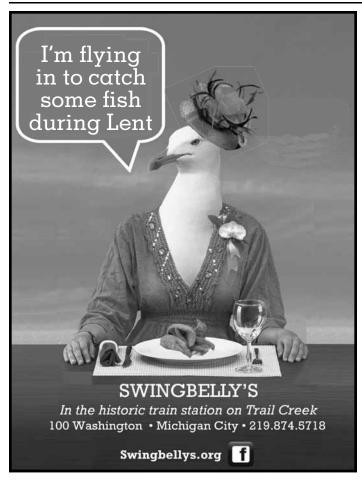
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## **Camp Riley 2014 Theme Set**

"Around the World" is the 2014 theme for Camp Riley, which provides a traditional camping environment tailored to the individual needs of children with disabilities.

For 59 years, Camp Riley has been an extension of Riley Hospital for Children, integrating medical and nursing directors, pharmacists and staff into the program. Twenty four-hour medical care is available. Approximately 70 percent of campers have been Riley Hospital patients, but any child 8-18 with a physical disability can attend.

The staff-to-camper ratio never exceeds 1-to-3. Children can attend one of five sessions offered during a six-week span. Sessions feature swimming, hiking, horseback riding, vertical climbing, canoeing, art projects and other activities. New families may attend Newcomer's Day on Saturday, May 24. RileyKids.org/Camp offers an online photo gallery showcasing camp events.

The setting is Bradford Woods, Indiana University's outdoor recreation center located 20 miles southwest of Indianapolis in Martinsville, Ind. In 2013, 219 campers enrolled in the program, representing 57 Indiana counties and seven states: Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Maryland, Michigan, Ohio and Pennsylvania.

Because of donors and Riley Children's Foundation, the cost is \$400 for a one-week session and \$800 for a two-week session. Beyond that, a sliding scale is available depending on household income. In 2013, 37 percent of Camp Riley families qualified for a reduced camper fee. Every child can attend regardless of their ability to pay. No child will be turned away.

Online applications are available at RileyKids. org/Camp. Call Riley Children's Foundation at (877) 867-4539 or email campriley@rileykids.org for more information.

## **ICS April Specials**

Independent Cat Society, 4061 S. County Line Road, Westville, is having its "Choose Your Own Colorful Calico" adoption special this month.

A calico cat or kitten can be adopted for \$40, with a companion cat or kitten costing \$25.

The shelter also continues to waive its adoption fee for people who adopt a cat 5 years old and older. The adoption fee includes spay or neuter, current vaccinations, flea treatment and nail trim. Also included is a free initial visit with a shelter veterinarian within two weeks of the adoption. This may be the last month for that special.

Adoption hours at the non-profit, no-kill shelter are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays and 1 to 4 p.m. Sundays. Other hours are available by appointment. Call (219) 785-4936 or visit facebook for more information.

## **Craft Show Vendors Sought**

Vendors are needed for an arts and crafts show planned for 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, June 7, at La Porte's Swanson Activity Center for Older Adults, 910 State St.

The event is a fundraiser for the center, which provides activities for La Porte County area seniors. Proceeds from booth fees, as well as food and beverage sales, offset operating costs.

Vendors specialize in quality, hand-crafted items, as well as some select commercial distributors. No flea market items or merchandise purchased for resale is allowed. All inside spaces have been purchased; however, some outside spaces remain. The cost for a 10-by-10 foot booth is \$35.

Food and beverages will be sold throughout the day. Also, a large hand-sewn quilt made by the center's quilting ladies, and an original watercolor painting from a local artist will be raffled.

Interested vendors can call Barb or Vicki at the center at (219) 326-5354 or email Dee at ddev1111@ csinet.net. Applications with payment must be submitted no later than April 30.

## "Gardening with Native Plants"

Chad Hughson will discuss "Gardening with Native Plants" at 1 p.m. EDT Tuesday, April 15, during the River Valley Garden Club meeting at Harbert Community Church, 6444 Harbert Road, Sawyer, Mich.

Hughson is from Hidden Savanna Nursery, Kalamazoo, Mich.

Anyone with an interest in gardening is invited to the meeting. Guests will learn more about the club's mission and upcoming projects, including the annual May plant sale.

Contact Elizabeth Palulis at (269) 426-3513 or email evpalulis@yahoo.com for more information. Visit www.rivervalleygardenclub.org/ for additional information.

## **MQT Honor Society Inductions**

Marquette Catholic High School has announced the latest students inducted into the National Honor Society.

Marquette students must have a minimum gradepoint average of 3.7 out of 4.0.

Class of 2014 Inductees: Kaitlynn Brady and Reagan DePorter.

Class of 2015 Inductees: Libbey Cook, Michelle Espar, Olivia Hebbe and Emma Wangtrom.

Class of 2016 Inductees: Jailah Blakely, Lily Congleton-Giancaspro, Abigail Garza, Robert Gotsch, Julia Haddad, D'Aria Kincaid, Abbey Paholski, Catherine Parks, Alexander Prascak, Natalie Riley, Liam Roder, Kelsey Sullivan, Nicole Szymkowski, Jack Wagner, Quinn White, James Wolf and Ian Wood.



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## **Maple City Grand Prix**

The USF1 Powerboat Tour will return to La Porte for the second Maple City Grand Prix.

The tunnel boat-racing series will unfold on La Porte's Stone Lake on May 29 through June 1.

Last year's inaugural event pumped more than \$1 million into the area economy through visitor spending, and drew visitors from all over the country, according to Visit Michigan City La Porte tourism bureau. VIP and meet-the-racers events are scheduled, as well as a boat parade and downtown event in La Porte's city center.

Last year's field of 28 F1 and F-Lights boats is expected to expand this year, according to F1 President Jose Mendana Jr., who said registrations already are topping last year's number.

This year, Visit Michigan City La Porte has teamed with La Porte-based sports marketing firm FWC, adding more events to the grand prix, including several family friendly outlets.

Contact Visit Michigan City La Porte Sports Development Manager Jason Miller at Jason@michigancitylaporte.com or at (219) 872-5055 for more information.

## **Pork Chop Dinner**

St. Luke United Lutheran Church, 2000 E. Coolspring Ave., will host a pork chop dinner from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Saturday, April 12.

The menu includes breaded pork chops, homemade German potato salad, green beans, applesauce, rolls, butter and beverages.

Tickets cost \$10, and takeouts are available. A dessert bar costs \$1 per serving. Call (219) 879-9415 for information.

## **Terrarium Fairy Garden Program**

Learn how to plant mosses, ferns and miniature plants in a fairy style garden from 10:30 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 12, at Taltree Arboretum & Gardens, 450 W. County Road 100 North near Valparaiso.

Use recycled materials to create a fun house and add small characters to make a terrarium garden.

The cost is \$15 for members and \$17 for non-members. Register online at Taltree.org or call (219) 462-0025.

## **Sarett Nature Center Workshop**

Sarett Nature Center, 2300 Benton Center Road, Benton Harbor, Mich., will host a workshop where participants build a small table.

The workshop, set for 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. EDT Saturday, April 12, is appropriate for children 7 and older with an adult helper.

The cost is \$50. Pre-registration and prepayment are required by calling (269) 927-4832.

## La Porte County Library

The following programs are available through La Porte County Library:

• Baby Storytime at 10 a.m. Thursday, April 10, 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 11, 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.

• Microsoft Excel Basics from 10 a.m. to noon Tuesday, April 15, at the main library.

Microsoft Excel allows users to organize, format and calculate data with formulas using a spreadsheet system broken up by rows and columns.

• "All Aboard With Thomas!" at 6 p.m. Thursday, April 17, at the main library.

The program includes stories, songs and a craft based on the Thomas the Tank Engine character.

## **CAC Origami Class**

Leslie Cefali will offer a four-week origami folded box and container class starting from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 16, at Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St.

Students begin with a traditional one-sheet origami box, then learn a series of variations, including modular boxes and boxes made with multiple units. Each participant is asked to bring a package of traditional 6-inch origami paper and bone folder, which is optional.

The cost is \$35 for members and \$40 for non-members. Call (219) 926-4711 or visit www.chestertonart.com for more information.

## **Intermediate Drawing/Pastel Class**

Chesterton artist Mary Ann Pals will offer a sixweek intermediate drawing and pastel class starting from 7 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, April 16, at Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St.

The class is designed for students with some drawing experience; however, no prior pastel or charcoal knowledge is necessary. Students work from their own reference materials, and bring their own art supplies. Pals will provide a general supply list when requested.

The cost is \$65 for members and \$70 for non-members. Call (219) 926-4711 or visit www.chestertonart.com for more information.





## **Three Oaks Pub Crawl**

Visitors can trek through town and stop by local establishments during the Three Oaks Pub Crawl from noon to 5 p.m. EDT Saturday, April 12.

Contact tiffany@journeymandistillery.com for more information.

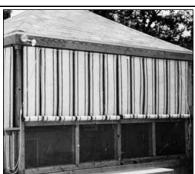




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## SBMA Classes

The South Bend Museum of Art is taking enrollment for adult's and children's classes.

Adult classes include drawing, painting, soft pastel, watercolor, weaving, jewelry making and ceramics. Children's classes — including child/parent classes — stress developing creative abilities and self-esteem through painting, collage and clay, using a potter's wheel and drawing.

Classes meet once a week for eight weeks unless noted. Members receive a 20 percent discount.

The museum is in South Bend's Century Center, 120 S. St. Joseph St. Call (574) 235-9102 or visit www. southbendart.org for more information.

#### **Illiana Artists**

Illiana Artists meets at 6:30 p.m. Monday, April 14, at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 8955 Columbia Ave.. Munster.

The guest lecturer/demonstrator is Sandi Bacon of Golden Paints, which does transfers and digital mixed media for mixed-media artists and photographers. She is a member of the Dandelion Gallery, Waukegan, Ill., and shows in galleries and museums across the country.

The meeting includes sample give-aways and refreshments. Contact Ann Noldin at (219) 864-0593 or anoldin@sbcglobal.net for more information.

#### New Habitat Board Members

Five people were elected March 18 to the La Porte County Habitat for Humanity Board of Directors.

They are: Alicia Ebaugh, Karen Pavy and Edward Shebel, all of Michigan City, and Daina Krueger and Leslie A. Schroeder, all of La Porte. They start their three-year terms at the April 15 meeting.

Rounding out the slate of 2014 officers are: Joy Schmitt, vice president; Laurie Wink, secretary; and Jeff Hilb, treasurer. Current board members continuing their service include Anthony Getter, Brian Nelson and Tim Welty.





## Long Beach Women's Bowling

April 1, 2014

TEAM STANDING	WON	LOST
1. Striking Beauties	35	13
2. Bowling Goddesses	31	17
3. Incredi-Bowls	30.5	17.5

HIGH INDIVIDUAL GAMES	SCORE
1. Ann Bogart	199
2. Liz Lutterbach	191
3. Kathy Osborne	162
4. Dottie Brinkman	159
5. Sue Luegers	159
6. Margie Midkiff	156
7. Terry Deming	154
8. Tina Sonderby	154
9. Tammy Vouri	153

#### **SPLITS**

1. Caroline Wiggins	1-2-7-9/5-6
2. Tina Sonderby	4-10
3. Liz Lutterbach	4-5-9
4. Terry Deming	5-6-10

Liz Lutterbach — Three strikes in a row.

## "Great Garden Cleanup"

International Friendship Gardens, 2055 U.S. 12, will hold its "Great Garden Cleanup" from 10 to 11 a.m. Saturday, April 19.

The public and interested groups are invited to participate in the spring cleanup. Gloves, rakes, drinks and snacks will be provided. Those interested also can sign up to sponsor and care for a garden. Information will be shared as well about the free Earth Day/Arbor Day event on April 27.

Email international friendship gardens@yahoo.com for more information.

## **AAUW Meeting**

The Michigan City American Association of University Women branch meets at 7 p.m. Monday, April 14, at Barker Mansion, 631 Washington St.

Sandy Gleim will discuss vintage fashion during the program "What Did They Wear?"

AAUW stresses equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research. Anyone with an associate's degree or higher from an accredited college or university can join.

Call membership chairwoman Julie Kreighbaum at (219) 872-3730 if interested in joining.

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## **Cemetery & Research Association**

The Cemetery & Research Association of La Porte County meets at 1 p.m. Monday, April 14, at 8074 W. County Road 200 North.

Contact Patricia Harris at (219) 872-3273 for more information.

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# WEEK HISTORY



**On April 10, 1849,** New York's Walter Hunt was granted a patent for the safety pin.

**On April 10, 1866**, the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals was incorporated.

**On April 10, 1912**, the luxury liner *Titanic*, on its ill-fated maiden voyage to New York, set sail from the English port of Southampton with 2,224 people aboard.

**On April 10, 1925**, F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby* was published.

On April 10, 1947, Brooklyn Dodgers President Branch Rickey announced he had purchased the minor league contract of Jackie Robinson, who would become the first black player in Major League Baseball.

**On April 10, 1953,** the first feature length color 3-D movie *House of Wax*, premiered in New York.

**On April 11, 1921,** Iowa became the first state to impose a tax on cigarettes.

On April 11, 1931, Dorothy Parker retired as drama critic for *The New Yorker*, thus ending her self described "Reign of Terror."

On April 11, 1980, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission issued regulations prohibiting sexual harassment of workers by superiors.

On April 11, 1981, President Ronald Reagan returned to the White House, 12 days after being wounded in an assassination attempt.

On April 11, 1991, the musical "Miss Saigon" opened on Broadway.

**On April 12, 1934,** *Tender is the Night,* by F. Scott Fitzgerald, was published.

**On April 12, 1947,** television talk show host David Letterman was born in Indianapolis.

**On April 12, 1983,** Harold Washington was elected Chicago's first black mayor, defeating Republican Bernard Epton.

**On April 13, 1796,** the first elephant (a gift from India) to see the New World arrived in New York.

On April 13, 1958, Van Cliburn became the first American to win the Moscow's "Tchaikovsky International Piano Contest."

On April 13, 1964, voted as best actor for his work in "Lilies of the Field," Sidney Poitier became the first black actor to win an Academy Award.

**On April 13, 1970**, already four/fifths of the way to the moon, astronauts aboard *Apollo 13* reported that the spacecraft was crippled by the bursting of a tank carrying liquid oxygen. The crew splashed

down safely in the Pacific four days later.

**On April 13, 1986,** marking the first papal visit to a Jewish house of worship, Pope John Paul II met at a Rome Synagogue with Rome's Chief Rabbi, Elio Toaff.

**On April 13, 1997,** Tiger Woods, at 21, became the youngest player to win the Masters tournament.

On April 13, 1999, Michigan's Jack Kevorkian was sentenced to 10 to 25 years for the second-degree murder of Thomas Youk, whose assisted suicide in 1998 was videotaped and shown on "60 Minutes."

**On April 14, 1828,** the first edition of Noah Webster's *American Dictionary of the English Language* was published.

**On April 14, 1865,** while attending the comedy *Our American Cousin* at Washington's Ford's Theatre, President Abraham Lincoln was shot and killed by actor John Wilkes Booth. The President died the next morning.

On April 14, 1912, the British luxury liner *Titanic* struck an iceberg in the North Atlantic off Newfoundland on its debut voyage to New York. Early the next morning it sank with the loss of 1,500 lives.

On April 14, 1939, John Steinbeck's novel *The Grapes of Wrath* was published.

**On April 14, 1956,** Ampex Corp. demonstrated its first commercial videotape recorder, or VCR, at the National Association of Radio and Television Broadcasters Convention in Chicago.

**On April 15, 1953,** insulin, which had been discovered the year before by Dr. Frederick Banting, of Toronto, became available for the general treatment of diabetes.

**On April 15, 1955,** Ray Kroc opened the first McDonald's franchise, in Des Plaines, IL.

On April 15, 2004, in the finale to the first edition of the NBC reality show "The Apprentice," Donald Trump "hired" Chicagoan Bill Rancic during a live broadcast.

**On April 16, 1867,** Wilbur Wright, co-inventor of the airplane, was born on a farm near New Castle, IN.

**On April 16, 1948,** WGN-TV broadcast its first bigleague game, with Jack Brickhouse calling the White Sox's 4-1 win against the Cubs at Wrigley Field.

**On April 16, 1962,** Walter Cronkite made his debut as anchor of "The CBS Evening News."

On April 16, 1990, Frank DiLuzion, an engineer who worked on the "Manhattan Project" that built the atomic bomb, died at the age of 77.

**On April 16, 1996,** Britain's Prince Andrew and his wife, Sarah, the Duchess of York, announced they were getting a divorce.

On April 16, 2003, Michael Jordan, one of the greatest to ever play the game, played in his final NBA game.



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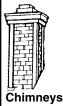
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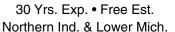
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## **Activities to Explore**

#### In the Local Area:

**April 10** — Spring Break Film Showing: "Frozen," 10 a.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

**April 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.footlight-players.org, (219) 874-4035.

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

**April 11-14** — Vickers Theatre, 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. *Now showing*: The acclaimed documentary "Elaine Stritch: Shoot Me." Not rated. Times: 6:30 p.m. Fri.-Mon. *Also*: "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: 9 p.m. Fri., 3:30 and 9 p.m. Sat.-Sun. All times Eastern. Info: vickerstheatre.com

**April 12** — Understanding Your Dreams, 2 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

**April 12** — Disposable Theatre Improv Comedy benefit for Dunes Summer Theatre, 8 p.m., Clarion Inn Ballroom, 5820 Franklin St., Michigan City. Tickets: \$15. Info/reservations: (219) 879-7509, dunessummmertheatre.com

**April 12** — Pork chop dinner, 4:30-6:30 p.m., St. Luke United Lutheran Church, 2000 E. Coolspring Ave. Tickets: \$10. Info: (219) 879-9415.

**April 12** — The Friends of Indiana Dunes Inc. 18th annual Native Plant Sale, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., Indiana Dunes State Park Pavilion, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-3833.

**April 12** — Free Family Film Series, "Hop," 2 p.m., Hageman Library, 100 Francis St., Porter.

**April 12** — Free movie showing, "The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug," 5 p.m., Westchester Public Library Service Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

**April 12** — Shirley Heinze Land Trust volunteer tree planting workday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Meadowbrook Conservation Center and Nature Preserve, 109 W. County Road 700 North, Valparaiso. Info/reservations: jerdelac@heinzetrust.org, (219) 242-8558.

**April 12** — Three Oaks Pub Crawl, noon-5 p.m. EDT, Three Oaks, Mich. Info: tiffany@journeymandistillery.com

**April 12** — Free open mic, 8 p.m. EDT, The Acorn Theatre, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Performer reservations: sandra@acorntheater.com. Info: www.acorntheater.com

April 12 — Free organic garden practices lec-

ture, 10 a.m., Chikaming Township Hall, 13535 Red Arrow Highway, Harbert, Mich.

**April 13** — Free Winter Film Series, "Philomena," 2 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

**April 14** — Great Decisions, 6:30 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

**April 15** — "Gardening with Native Plants," 1 p.m. EDT during River Valley Garden Club meeting, Harbert Community Church, 6444 Harbert Road, Sawyer, Mich. Info: (269) 426-3513, evpalulis@yahoo.com

**April 16** — Opening reception, spring exhibits, 7 p.m., Valparaiso University's Brauer Museum of Art. Info: valpo.edu/artmuseum

**April 17** — Purdue University-North Central English Club PoetryPalooza 2014 Competition and Open Mic, 7-9 p.m., Library-Student-Faculty Building Assembly Hall, Room 02. Info: amoskwa@pnc. edu

**April 17** — Northwest Indiana Green Drinks, 6:30 p.m., Shoreline Brewery, 208 Wabash St. Suggested donation: \$5/\$2 for students. Info: (219) 874-6809.

**April 18** — "Godspell," 7 p.m., Liberty Bible Church, 608 Colfax Ave., La Porte. Tickets: \$10/\$5 for theatergoers 18 and younger. Reservations: www.bit.ly/godspelltix.

**April 19** — "Great Garden Cleanup," 10-11 a.m., International Friendship Gardens, 2055 U.S. 12. Info: internationalfriendshipgardens@yahoo.com

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

#### Farther Afield:

April 11-13 — Genesius Guild performance, "Carousel," First United Methodist Church of Hammond, 6635 Hohman Ave. Times: 8 p.m. Fri.-Sat., 3 p.m. Sun. Tickets: \$15/adults, \$13/seniors and students high-school age or younger. Available at door, or call (877) 724-7715.

April 11-13 — 34th Annual Home, Garden & Leisure Show, Lake Michigan College Mendel Center. Hours: 5-8 p.m. April 11, 9 a.m.-7 p.m. April 12, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. April 13. All times Eastern. Cost: \$5/free children 12 and younger. \$1-off coupons at www.SWMHomeShow.com

**April 12** — John Hosler and the Rusty Nails, 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, www.boxfactoryforthearts.org

**April 13** — Free "Choral Jubilee and Exhibit," 4 p.m. EDT, First Presbyterian Church, 475 Green Ave. on Morton Hill, Benton Harbor, Mich. Info: (269) 925-7075.

**April 13** — Gale Balmer "Pysanky" demonstration, 1-3 p.m. EDT, The Midwest Museum of American Art, 429 S. Main St., Elkhart. Info: www.MidwestMuseum.US





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## Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter

<u>Cockroaches</u> by Jo Nesbø (oversize paperback, \$14.95 in bookstores and online)

Last week, I introduced you to a subgenre of mysteries called the cozy. This week, we amp it up with the detective crime novel, a mystery that is more intense and not afraid to give you the gory details.

Author Jo Nesbø is a Norwegian and one of a growing number of Scandinavian authors who have found wild popularity not only in their native countries but internationally as well. Like the late Stieg Larsson, the Swedish sensation who wrote The Girl With the Dragon

<u>Tattoo</u> trilogy, Jo Nesbø's books are edgy, with characters so sharply defined you could cut yourself on the pages.

Take a trip with me to Norway this week and meet Harry Hole, the ruggedly handsome detective who chases demons on the job and in his personal life. In my mind's eye, I see Harry played by 007 himself, Daniel Craig, a man any woman knows she should avoid, but is drawn to like bees to honey.

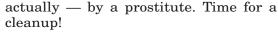
You know what they say about cockroaches, too: for every one you see, there are a hundred you can't see, and that is the premise in this week's thrilling story. Just when you think you're honing in on the killer, you discover there are more suspects hiding in the background.

Our story begins in Bangkok with a Thai call girl opening the motel door to what should have been her "date" for the night and instead turned out to be a corpse with a knife stuck in his back.

The next scene takes us to Oslo, where Bjarne Møller, head of Crime Squad, has been summoned to the Foreign Ministry office. Big happening, apparently, because why would he be greeted by the Secretary of State and Dagfinn Torhus from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs?

Big, indeed.

"Atle Molnes has been found dead, probably murdered, in Bangkok..." Big, indeed, seeing as the late Atle, the very married Atle, complete with a wife and daughter, was the Norwegian ambassador to Thailand who was found in a motel room — brothel



So why the need for a hush-hush investigation? It all boils down to politics, of course, politics that the PM's office doesn't want to go into. All it wants is for Harry to close the investigation as quickly as possible. As Harry is soon to learn, this does not necessarily mean getting to the bottom of the murder. No, indeed. It just means filing some reports and pretty much covering up the whole bloody incident.

What they don't know about Harry is that when he's sober and on the scent of a murder, he's like a bird dog on the trail

of prey. Perhaps they sent the wrong man for the job.

In Thailand, Harry's given the help of Inspector Liz Crumley, the very tall, very bald American young woman who's all business. Three other Thai officers round out Harry's helpers, and they're off.

First things first as Liz has to teach Harry about life in Thailand like the food and the horrible non-stop traffic, not to mention the opium dens and go-go bars. But there also are the tourist traps and beautiful temples.

Each embassy official Harry encounters only adds to his unease about what is really going on here, and before it's all over, there will be more murders and attempted murders...and Harry is not exempt from that scenario.

Nesbø's knowledge of the criminal mind and his ability to weave a story that never lets up until the last page is his forté. He can literally make the hair on the back of your neck stand up. Now that's a crime writer's biggest accomplishment!

Nesbø has written 10 Harry Hole novels. <u>Cockroaches</u> is the second. He has received the Glass Key Award for Best Nordic crime novel. His books have been translated into 47 languages. He also is a musician, songwriter and economist. His website is <u>www.jonesbo.com</u>

The Mirror (U.K.) said: "Harry Hole is fast becoming one of the planet's favorite detectives. And his demons are almost as legendary as his observational and analytical skills."

Till next time, happy reading!



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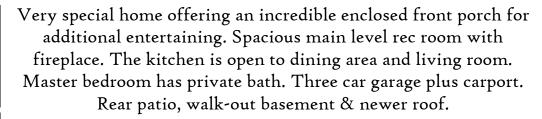
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