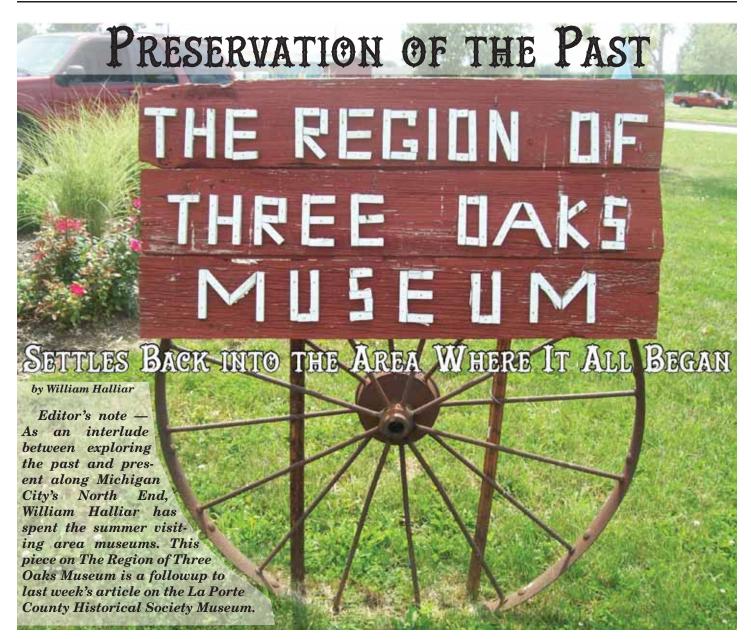




Volume 30, Number 32 Thursday, August 14, 2014



the Region of Three Oaks Museum belongs to the people of Harbor Country's villages, and its collections tell the story of the founding of the region and the people who made their home here.

Funded entirely by grants, fundraisers and faithful volunteers, the board of directors believes the collection of artifacts and information at the museum, 5 Featherbone Ave., Three Oaks, must be

preserved for the edification of future generations, even if the present digital generation does not quite appreciate it yet.

The museum's collection, itself, has quite a history. It all began in 1916 with the vision of Edward K. Warren: inventor, entrepreneur, philanthropist and founder of The Featherbone Co. as he began

Continued on Page 2



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PRESERVATION Continued from Page 1

collecting items of regional historic significance. The collection today bears the name of Warren's father-in-law, Henry Chamberlain, who established the village in 1850, naming it after the three large oak trees that grew there at the time.

The Chamberlain Memorial Collection was originally housed in Warren's home and called a "pioneer museum" because it contained artifacts pertaining to the founding of Three Oaks and the lives of its earliest settlers. Edward Warren died in 1919, but the collection continued to grow through the efforts of the E.K. Warren Foundation. In 1928, the collection was moved to the building that originally housed the home office of the Warren Featherbone Co.

The Chamberlain Memorial Museum grew to more than 80,000 artifacts, filling all three floors of the building. Many of these artifacts were do-

nated or loaned to the museum by families living in Southwest Michigan. The collection included farm tools, home furnishings, historic cloth-Native Ameriing, artifacts, flags can uniforms and guns from the Revolutionary and Civil wars. It also contained items collected by Edward during Warren travels around world.

In 1952, the contents of the Chamberlain Memorial

Museum were donated to The Michigan State College Museum (now Michigan State University). At the time, the Warren Foundation board of directors decided the new location would provide access to this important collection for a greater number of people. In accepting the collection, college president John Hannah stat-



Antique train cars are part of the collection.

ed, "It seems highly appropriate that the College has been chosen as the Permanent repository of this historical collection."



The Region of Three Oaks Museum highlights items donated by people in the area.

If You Go

Museum hours (all Eastern) are: noon to 4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 2 to 4 p.m. Sundays. Call (269) 336-9557, email regionmuseum@yahoo.com or visit facebook for more information.

In 2012, with money awarded from the Michigan Council of Arts and Cultural Affairs and public donations, as well as many donated hours faithful volunteers, much of the Chamberlain Collection came back to Three Oaks and found a new home in The Region of Three Oaks Museum, located in the old Featherbone factory area. Thus, the artifacts of history that contain the story of Harbor Country are,

at last, restored to their location of origin, fulfilling Edward K. Warren's vision.

The museum gathers and displays artifacts of the cultural heritage of the villages of Harbor Country, which include: Chikaming, New Buffalo, Three Oaks and Weesaw townships. The interior is divided into sections that



An artifact from the Edward K. Warren workshop.

highlight various aspects of the life and times of area residents. Here, you can view a 1920s-era kitchen, complete with a table set with a sumptuous dinner. There is a Victorian parlor and a workshop that contain several artifacts from the E.K. Warren farm.

A collection of antique toys is one of the most interesting displays. Here, in your imagination, you can almost hear the squeals of young children as they played with period dolls and sleighs. A visitor can almost feel the thrill as gifts of wooden wheels and tin wings were opened under the candle bedecked trees of Christmases past.

The museum proudly, and gratefully, remembers those who have served in the Armed Forces from Michigan by a special display of artifacts from the Civil War, World War I and II and Vietnam-era artifacts and uniforms.



An 1891 McShane bell used by the original Three Oaks fire department.

Continued on Page 4

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PRESERVATION Continued from Page 3

Special exhibits are often featured. Currently, the Blossomland Gem and Mineral Society has a display case filled with rocks and precious gemstones found in Michigan. Included is a description of each find and where it was discovered in the state.

Each year, special displays are arranged with artifacts on loan from the Michigan State University Museum. Many are from the original Chamberlain Collection. Currently, a working scale model of a steam locomotive once owned by the Chamberlain/Warren Museum is on display. The locomotive was built by George Bullard of Marshall, Mich., for his children. It is of large enough scale to pull several cars and haul many children on rides. The engine is a true-to-life replica of the type of steam locomotive that was used in the late 1860s and the early days of Harbor Country's villages.

The museum operates with donations from the community, including volunteer time and donated historic artifacts and documents.

In the museum's spring 2014 newsletter, Board President Ron Jelinek wrote, "We should all be very proud of being part of this wonderful museum. I hope that everyone will make a point of visiting soon and often as there is much to see and enjoy studying. Please remember that your participation is what makes this museum an asset to our area"



A Victorian parlor filled with items from the region.



The Blossomland Gem and Mineral Society display featuring local stones and gems.



A 1920s-era kitchen is recreated in the museum.

"Appraisal Event"

Your grandfather's railroad pocket watch holds a place of honor, protected from dust under a crystal dome ensconced on the fireplace mantel in your family room. It was a retirement gift given for many years of faithful service.

As you glance at this piece of your family's history each day, do you wonder if it has any intrinsic value besides what it means to your family? What is the history of its manufacture? When was it made? Is it a rare piece or common place?

The Region of Three Oaks Museum can help answer questions like that during an "Appraisal Event" from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. EDT Saturday, Aug. 16, at The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich.

Five experts from Leslie Hindman Auctioneers will appraise the public's treasures. They specialize in fine art, fine jewelry and timepieces, furniture, decorative arts, Asian works of art and old, rare books and manuscripts.

Guests are welcome to bring one or two articles for review. A \$20 entrance fee benefitting the museum includes the cost of appraisals. The cost is a \$5 donation to simply observe the proceedings.

Canterbury Takes Comic Trip to Texas With "Greater Tuna"

The quirky comedy "Greater Tuna" brings the 46th Canterbury Summer Theatre season, produced through Festival Players Guild, to a close with performances Thursday through Saturday, Aug. 14-16, at Mainstreet Theatre, 807 Franklin St.

The fictitious town of Tuna, Texas, is described as "halfway between San Angelo and Hell." During one typical day in the life of Tuna, we meet 20 of Tuna's most colorful characters, including: the vindictive town gossip, Vera Carp; the local UFO-spotting R.R. Snavely; his chain-smoking gun shop entrepreneur wife, Dee Dee; and the enthusiastic, if simple pet rescuer, Petev Fisk.



Connor Snow and Jesse Kortus play two of the oddball characters in Canterbury Summer Theatre's production of "Greater Tuna."

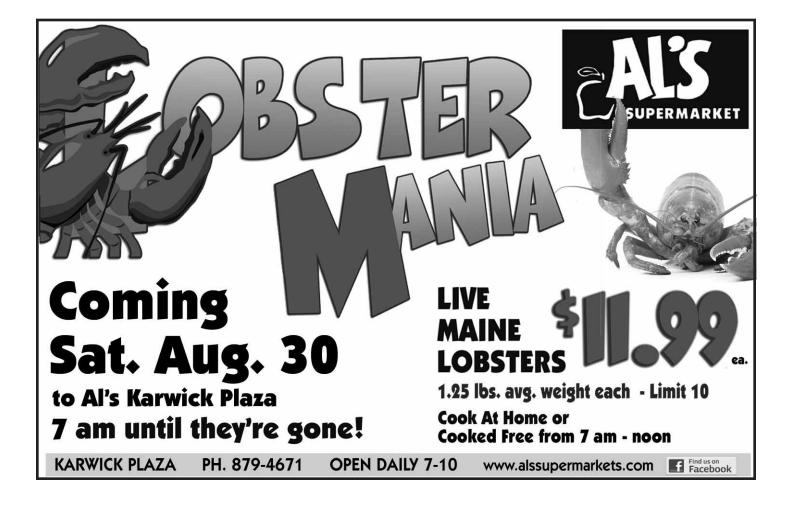
The play originally was produced in 1981 in Austin, Texas, by its authors, Jaston Williams, Joe Sears and Ed Howard, becoming one of the most-produced plays in American theater history. It is part of an annual collaboration between the Guild and Bossier Parish Community College of North-

west Louisiana, where Canterbury Artistic Director Ray Scott Crawford is dean of communication and performing arts. Crawford directed "Greater Tuna" at BPCC and is bringing the company to Michigan City to finish the Canterbury season.

The cast is Denise Dalton, Jesse Kortus, Hannah Monette and Connor Snow, who play all the residents of Tuna, Texas. The costume designer is Rona Leber, while David White will design sets and Keith Bruce the lighting and sound. Austin Jennings will stage manage, with Lari Leber as assistant stage manager.

Tickets are \$15 on Thursday and \$16 on Fri-

day and Saturday. Senior, group and student discounts are available. Times are 2 p.m. Thursday, 8 p.m. Friday and 6:30 p.m. Saturday. Reservations can be made by calling the theater box office at (219) 874-4269, at the theater or by email at info@ festivalplayersguild.org



Website Aids Local "Small Business Hero" to Improve the Environment

by William Halliar

David Duenas had a dream, and from it he forged a business in automobile repair, one based on quality service, quick turnaround and fair prices.

His family stood by that dream. His wife, Veronica, and daughter, Angelena, work at Dave's Auto Service, 1950 E. Michigan Blvd., Michigan City, each day.

A website that celebrates small business entered the picture this summer, elevating



David Duenas appears with his wife, Veronica, and daughter, Angelena, in his Michigan City shop.

that dream to an altogether different level.

Duenas has a concern for the environment and for the community in which he makes his home. When he became aware of a device for efficiently recycling automobile oil filters, of which he changes many each week, he began researching the possibility of purchasing such a machine for his shop.

The machine he had in mind is called a filter crusher. It smashes a steel-cased oil filter almost flat, like a crushed soda can. This reduces the size of the can and squeezes residual oil — left over after draining — from the filter. The oil then is cleaned and recycled.

The machine would allow Duenas to separate used oil from steel elements of the old filters, but the cost to his small business was prohibitive. He considered constructing one himself, but decided the device needed a high-powered air cylinder that might be dangerous in a homemade machine.

Enter "Small Business Heroes," an initiative sponsored by insureon — spelled with a lower-case "i" to emphasize its concern for small business — an online insurance broker specializing in commercial

insurance for small businesses. It embraces them as places where new products are invented, perfected and become available to the public.

Lou Friedmann Sr., vice president of the Chicagobased insureon, and the son of Roy and Sue Quiriconi, New Buffalo, Mich., said there are more than 30 million small businesses in America, and they grow at a rate of 5 percent a year.

"We invented a program to celebrate and give back to small businesses in a way that we can't through insurance alone," he said.

"Small Business Heroes" is a "fairy godmother" of sorts for America's small and micro businesses. Entrepreneurs can submit a wish to the website. It could be something small, but significant, something that perhaps is out of reach financially at the time. Every month, three of these wishes are granted to worthy recipients.



David Duenas shows how the filter crusher works.

Duenas was introduced to the Small Business Heroes site by a friend and wrote a proposal to buy the oil filter crusher for his business. He researched and submitted devices built by several manufacturers that "Small Business Heroes" reviewed. Duenas' proposal was accepted and his wish for a filter crushing machine granted. "Small Business Heroes" purchased the crusher and delivered it to Duenas' shop.

Now, Duenas is contributing to a cleaner environment. He's doing so by completely draining the contents of used oil filters so the oil can be recycled and not added to landfills or spilled along highways as it is shipped. He's also providing clean, crushed material for steel scrappers.

For their support, Duenas says he "can't thank insureon and 'Small Business Heroes' enough."

Visit www.smallbusinessheroes.com for more info.



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Dunebrook to Celebrate 25th Anniversary with Dragon Boat Event

Dunebrook is bringing Dragon Boat racing — described as the ultimate team-building sport requiring synchronicity and finesse — to La Porte's Stone Lake on Saturday, Sept. 6.

"Dunebrook wanted to bring a new and different event to our community," said Tim Gartland, who

is the event co-chair along with Ted Perzanowski. "This is our 25th anniversary year, and it seemed like the perfect time to do just that."

Dunebrook provides parent support through home visitation and parenting classes, and child advocacy services to more than 11,000 individuals each year. Board President Joe Coar said programs through the non-profit organization are provided to parents and children at no cost to them. To do that, new means to raise funds, such as the Dragon Boat races, help achieve the needed financial support.

Perzanowski said Dragon Boat racing is an ancient Chinese sport. Dragon boats are 41 feet long. The bow and stern are decorated with a dragon head and tail. Teams consist of 16-20 paddlers, who row in unison to a drummer who helps them stay in time. A steerer is provided to help paddlers stay on their path. Teams compete in heats to earn the title of grand champion. From the shoreline, spectators cheer on their favorite teams while enjoying child-



friendly activities and food vendors. Spectators also can purchase a ticket for the 50/50 raffle, with the potential to win up to \$5,000.

Gartland encourages families, businesses, church groups and social organizations to form a team.

"You don't have to be physically strong,"

Gartland said. "You just have to paddle in sync with your teammates."

Perzanowski said there's a lot of energy surrounding the races. Some teams wear themed apparel and decorate their pre-race area.

"We hope to draw experienced paddlers and racers, as well as teams who are doing this activity for the first time" he said.

The registration and sponsorship form are available at www.dunebrook.org or by calling Dunebrook at (800) 897-0007. Food vendors are being sought.





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"INVASIVE SPECIES: THE ART OF UPCYCLING"

by Barbara Stodola

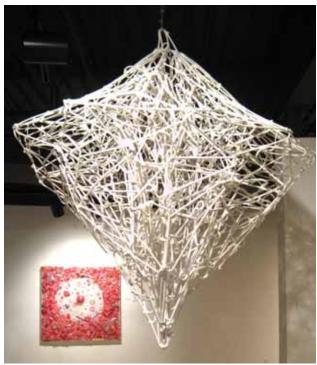
"Invasive Species," as the current exhibit is billed, can suggest any number of unwanted visitors to the Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St.

Three life-sized militaristic mannequins face the entrance, poised for combat. One wears a gas mask and carries guns, grenades: traditional instruments of warfare. The sweetest of the trio, "The Pollinator," is a female, her body assembled from appropriately shaped auto parts.

Gradually, "the invaders" begin to acquire definition and we have to figure out who they are, and how they became "upcycled."

Overhead, a large and beautifully crafted chandelier titled "Ice" is whirring, slowly spinning. Its intricate formations betray their origin: white plastic clothes hangers—dozens of them, probably hundreds, more than anybody needs in a laundry room—put to a purpose previously unimagined.

We came to this exhibit forewarned, expecting unique assemblages of everyday objects, peculiar materials cleverly repurposed and the mockery of "fine art" introduced by Dada almost 100 years ago and still attracting new adherents.



Alan Emerson Hicks' "Ice."



Bryan Sperry's "Lil Bastard."

But what comes across most strikingly is the beauty of these unusual constructions: the artists' concerns with beauty, an almost forgotten concept, and the successful attainment of their goals.

Bryan Sperry's imposing warrior-mannequins are splendid. Alan Emerson Hicks' plastic fixation extends to "Earth Angel," a remarkable figure, and then to unexpectedly appealing wall-mounted pieces: "Red Planet" and "Twilight" (mostly blue). Their glistening surfaces are found, upon close examination, to consist of ordinary bottle caps encased in lustrous plastic wrapping, achieving a mosaic-like brilliance.

The "upcycled" materials used by these artists were evidently selected for their decorative and sensual qualities, not because environmentalists plucked them from a garbage heap. Close attention to their details pays rich dividends.

In no case are the details more delightful than in Valerie Mann's recreation of little birds, precisely mounted just inches apart and casting their shadows: 140 miniature birds crafted of wire, glass, fibers and trinkets, each different, thus paying tribute to the infinite variety of the bird kingdom.

Chris Silva and Lauren Feece draw upon what has now become a modern tradition: graffiti and street art. Their materials were found on the beaches of Puerto Rico and the streets of Chicago, and are ennobled with playful, tongue-in-cheek titles: "The Boat Won't Stop Rocking Until We Reach Another Level."

Victoria Fuller, the most reminiscent of Marcel Duchamp, has made a piece of "Bad Plumbing" from shower faucets, a horn, a gourd, a convoluted piping



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Victoria Fuller's "Bad Plumbing."

system leading to a stack of books and a mid-century valise. A long-haired mop-head stands ready to bathe.

Historical references are adeptly incorporated by Michael Dinges, using a style that calls to mind sailors' scrimshaw and soldiers' trench art. In his search for "cultural markers" in our increasingly digitized society, Dinges has created a series of repurposed laptops, their screens engraved with arcane and occult imagery. His "Cabinet of Curiosities" refers to the 19th-century practice of collecting and mounting insects and shells, but notice his upto-date labels (the starfish is "Ego").



Michael Dinges' "Cabinet of Curiosities."



Chris Silva and Lauren Feece's "The Boat Won't Stop Rocking Until We Reach Another Level."

On another wall, Dinges' "Domino Theory" is mounted: a line of iPods engraved with messages you must strain to read. "We Are The Desperate/Led By The Ruthless/Doing The Unnecessary/For The Ungrateful" – that is the first. There are seven more.

A perusal of artists' bios shows the three-state area, intersecting at Michigan City, that curator Carol Ann Brown has staked out as Lubeznik Center territory. Hicks, Sperry and Silva are well-known in the Chicago art scene. Mann grew up on a working farm in Indiana and now co-owns a gallery in Ann Arbor, Mich. Dinges holds a master of fine arts from the University of Chicago and Fuller from The School of the Art Institute; both of their works are loaned by Packer Schopf Gallery.

Michigan Citian Mike Bailey is showing his acclaimed series of mushroom photographs in the NIPSCO studio, and another small space features the work of Rich Manalis, Beverly Shores artist and biologist, who photographed seaweed and rocks on the beaches of La Jolla and Santa Barbara, Calif.

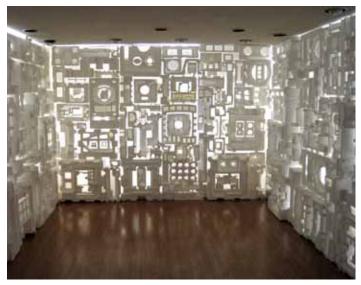
The upstairs galleries have solo shows by two more artists with Michigan connections: Renee Robbins, a Chicagoan by way of Michigan State University, and Jan Dean, a South Bend native who graduated from Cranbrook Academy and has exhibited widely, including the National Museum for Women in Washington, D.C.

Continued on Page 12





NVASIVE SPECIES Continued from Page 11



Jan Dean's "Transformation."

Robbins' colorful acrylic paintings are drawn from natural phenomena, micro to macro relationships and new discoveries in science. Her exhibit is titled "Aquatic Kaleidoscope" and, nicely complementing the other artists, reveals "the complex systems that reach through tiny cells, flowering botanicals, deep oceans and distant galaxies."



Renee Robbins' "Under Moon.'

Dean, by contrast, brings us a three-walled room constructed of styrofoam. If you think you would never climb to the second floor to see sculpture made out of styrofoam, it is time to think again. This artist has created a truly magical space and, besides all the witticisms and insights we have already been treated to, Dean produces a one-liner that would have you focus not on the materials, but on the composition. "Each piece fits where it's at," she explains.

If You Go

The Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St., Michigan City, is open to the public 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily except Thursdays (2 to 7 p.m.) and Sundays (11 a.m. to 4 p.m.). "Invasive Species," "Aquatic Kaleidoscope" and Jan Dean's "Transformation" run through Oct. 18, Mike Bailey's "Mycological Magic" through Sept. 14 and Rich Manalis' "Minimalism: Images of California Shorelines" through Aug. 31. Visit www.lubeznikcenter.org or call (219) 874-4900 for more information. All photos used in this article are courtesy of the Lubeznik Center for the Arts



"A Celebration of Women in the Arts"

The year-old Michigan City Commission for Women will present the fundraiser "A Celebration of Women in the Arts" at 5:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 15, at The Uptown Center for the Performing Arts, 903 Franklin St., Michigan City.

The commission, an advocate for women and their families, provides positive solutions while working within government and the community.

The event will feature visual and performing arts by female Northwest Indiana artists. Awardwinning Chicago actress Donna Blue Lachman will auction specialty items, including a Chicago weekend.

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. with cocktails from the cash bar and hors d'oeuvres and sweets provided by local restaurants, as well as work by local women artists curated by Southern Shore Art Association President Anneke Dekker. Food donors are: A.K. Smith Career Center; Al's Supermarket; Arturo's Bakery; Country Grill; Emma's Eats; Great Lakes Catering; India House; Ivy Tech Community College; Lakeshore Coffee & Specialties; Maxine's; Mc-Ginnis Pub; Michael Joyner; Mucho Mas; Oriental Pearl; Panini Panini; The Pickle & Turnip; Popolano's; Rodini's; Ryan's Irish Pub; Scartozzi's Trattoria; Shoreline Brewery; Spire; Uptown Cakery; and Water's Edge.

The performance begins at 6:30 p.m. with emcee Gerry Jones and featuring local singers Amy Percifield and Deb Whitlow, Lady Sax of Gary, as well as Dani Lane, Sally Mason and Mary McPherson in a scene from the recently sold-out show "Mixed Nuts." The Soul Steppers of Michigan City will provide the finale.

Tickets are \$45. Space is limited. Reservations are recommended by email at MichiganCity Women@gmail.com, or call (219) 874-3760.



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Notre Dame Shakespeare Festival Celebrates Milestones

This summer, as the world celebrates the 450th birthday of William Shakespeare, the Notre Dame Shakespeare Festival celebrates two dates of its own: the 150th anniversary of the first full Shakespeare play produced on campus, and the 15th sea-

son of the Notre Dame Shakespeare Festival.

"We're honoring our 1864 kinsmen by producing 'Henry IV,' the same title performed by Notre Dame 150 years ago," says Grant Mudge, the festival's artistic director.

A tale of rebels and rebellion, "Henry IV" explores the journey of a prodigal prince torn between two fathers: an ail-

ing king and an errant knave. It will be presented Aug. 19-31 at the University of Notre Dame's De-Bartolo Performing Arts Center.

The Goodman Theatre's Resident Artistic Associate, Henry Godinez, will perform the title role. Joining him will be many of Chicago's finest actors, including Jeff Award-winning actress Peggy Roeder as Mistress Quickly, festival alum John Lister as

Sir John Falstaff, Neal Moeller as Prince Harry and William Dick as Justice Shallow. Members of the festival's Young Company, comprised of students from the University of Notre Dame, St. Mary's College, Brandeis University, Butler University, the

University of Illinois, Indiana University-South Bend, Indiana University-Bloomington, Northwestern and Purdue University, fill out the cast. Michael Goldberg directs.

Performances (all Eastern time) are at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday, Aug. 19-21; 8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 22; 2 and 8 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 23; 2 p.m. Sunday,

Aug. 24; 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 26; 2 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 27, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 28; 2 and 8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 29; no performance Saturday, Aug. 30; and 2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 31.

Tickets range from \$12 to \$75, while theatergoers 18 and younger with a paid adult are free. Visit performingarts.nd.edu or call (574) 631-2800 for reservations.



Henry Godinez (from left) as King Henry IV, Neal Moeller as Prince Harry and John Lister as Sir John Falstaff.





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New Exhibits to Debut at Box Factory

New exhibits at The Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Mich., will spotlight talent from throughout the region, with an opening reception from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. EDT Friday, Aug. 15.

David Jay Spyker will present "At the Water's Edge" in the Robert Williams Gallery.



David Jay Spyker's acrylic on hardboard, "The Last Days of Autumn."

Spyker is a self-taught artist who has been working in acrylics since the early to mid-1990s, and has taken up watercolors in the last few years. His paintings are in the permanent collections of The Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, Grand Rapids Art Museum, South Bend Museum of Art, Art Center of Battle Creek, Carnegie Center for the Arts in Three Rivers, Mich., and private collections.

"Splashes of Chicago," watercolors by Kathy Los-Rathburn, will appear in the Heartha Whitlow Gallery. Her love for art, and watercolor in particular, started when she was quite young. It has now become one of her passions. In the exhibit, she'll feature well-known landmarks and everyday life in Chicago.

"The Melondy: Issues of Adolescence," sculptures by Jacqueline Baerwald, will appear in the Riverwalk Gallery. Painted book stacks elicit pondering,



Kathy Los-Rathburn's "Bridge Work."

reflection and consideration of high school hiccups, hurdles and heartbreaks.

In the lobby gallery, "The Winners' Showcase"



 $\hbox{``YouAreMySunshine''} by \hbox{\it JacquelineBaerwald. } more\ information.$

of "Fashion on the Shore" will feature mannequins displaying the winning fashions by student designers from colleges and design schools in Chicago, Northwest Indiana and Southwest Michigan.

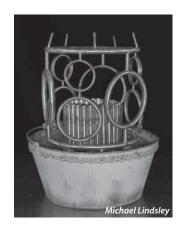
The shows run through Sept. 27. Light refreshments will be served at the opening reception. Visit www.boxfactoryforthearts.org for more information



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Joel DeGrand Photo Exhibit

The Purdue University-North Central Odyssey Arts and Cultural Events Series will feature "Italy: new/perspectives," immersive photographs by Joel DeGrand, through Dec. 13.

The free exhibit is in the PNC Library-Student-Faculty Building, Room 02, in the building's lower level. It is open to the public and may be viewed by appointment only.



DeGrand said he began making immersive photographs in 1995. That was when a budding dotcom company ask him to travel to Asia and make interactive panoramic photographs of whatever he thought was interesting subject matter. Two years later, the company went out of business, but he continued to make 360-degree panoramic photographs. Immersive photographs give the viewer a feeling of standing in one spot and turning around 360 degrees.

DeGrand has a master of fine arts in photography from the University of Oregon and a bachelor of science in art education from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. He has been a photographer since his early childhood and has taught art and photography since 1968. He has participated in numerous one-person, group exhibits and workshops in the U.S. and abroad. His work is featured in museums, corporations, private collections and publications. He has published 16 books of his photography and won many awards for his work, including a National Endowment for the Arts grant.

Contact Judy Jacobi, PNC assistant vice chancellor of marketing and campus relations, at (219) 785-5200, Ext. 5593, to schedule an appointment to view the exhibit or for more information.

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LAWRENCE ZIMMER

Westchester Public Library

The following programs are available through Westchester Public Library:

 Mad About Mysteries continues at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 13, and Saturday, Aug. 16, at Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.

Museum Registrar and mystery buff Joan Costello kicks off the first in a series that highlights regional mysteries, whether it be setting and/or author location. Authors include Connie Archer, Sofie Ryan, Lorna Barrett, Sarah Graves and Kaitlyn Dunnett.

Refreshments will be served.

 WordGirl, co-sponsored with Lakeshore TV, at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 15, in the Children's Department at Thomas Library, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

Youngsters can: have their pictures taken with WordGirl and quickly receive a printed copy; spin the word spinner and act out the word; add a leaf to the back-to-school tree; make a craft; and watch episodes of "WordGirl."

Parents at that time also can sign up children for one-on-one tutoring for the school year.

• Free Sunday matinee, "The Railway Man," at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 17, at the Library Service Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chester-

The film, which is rated R, has a running time of 116 minutes.

• The AARP Driver Safety Program from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday, Aug. 25, in the Bertha Wood meeting room at Thomas Library.

The program is designed for drivers 50 and older, but all ages are welcome. Attendees learn the current rules of the road, defensive driving techniques and how to safely operate vehicles. Also, learn how to manage and accommodate common age-related changes in vision, hearing and reaction time. Attendees receive a certificate of completion that may be presented to their insurance agents for a possible reduction in insurance premiums.

The cost is \$15 for AARP members and \$20 for non-members. Registration is necessary. Visit www. aarp.org/drive or call Instructor Jeanette Pike at (219) 949-6307 for more information or to register.







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Fernwood Celebrates 50 Years as Public Garden

Little did Kay Boydston know that when she celebrated her birthday on October 12, 1938, she would begin a journey that would consume the rest of her life, resulting in Fernwood Botanical Garden and Nature Preserve.

Following a picnic at Bear Cave near Buchanan, Mich., Kay and her husband, Walter, had a Realtor show them some properties. After seeing the 12.5 acres on the St. Joseph River, the Boydstons would dream about it and visit in every season until they finally decided to purchase it in July 1941.

To further confirm it was meant to be, the

property would have become a Girl Scout camp had the Boydstons been one hour later in putting down a deposit. Kay would later write in her book, "Reflections," "After thirty months of waiting, watching, hoping, and planning, we had first possession by just one hour! Do you wonder that we felt we were truly meant to live here?"

The Boydstons intended to use the property as a vacation home, but the war and job situation found them moving here from Glen Ellyn, Ill., by April 1942. Kay loved ferns, but it was Walter who suggested the name Fernwood, which they put to a vote among friends and family.

The name stuck.

Although there weren't many ferns on the property when they bought it, Kay tirelessly planted ferns, wildflowers, cultivated flowers, shrubs and trees. Fernwood not only was a vacation respite for family and friends in those days, but Kay led garden tours and taught classes on gardening and the craft arts. She shared her love of nature, horticulture and the arts and crafts with new neighbors and friends. She was an amateur horticulturist and a highly regarded fern expert, in addition to a weaver, silversmith, printmaker, dyer, miniaturist and writer. In those early days, Kay wrote countless letters



A photo from the Fernwood archives shows founder Kay Boydston (right) watching as a new waterwheel arrives.

to colleagues in search of new plants for Fernwood. Accounts have stated that she could get by on very little sleep, so she would plant into the night by the headlights of her car.

In 1964, Kay and Walter were retired and facing the reality of caring for their now 16 acres. Larry and Mary Plym, civic leaders and philanthropists from Niles, Mich., bought Fernwood in August 1964. Later that month, papers were signed and Fernwood became Fernwood Inc. Kay was installed as director, and Fernwood's life as a public garden began. Buildings were added

and adjoining properties were purchased, bringing the total acreage to its current 105.

As Fernwood celebrates 50 years as a public garden, visitors will notice a focus on Fernwood's history — and its future direction — in programming, events and exhibits.

In April, noted artist Patrick Dougherty installed a huge stick sculpture on the grounds to honor the occasion. Historical Fernwood artifacts and special treasures are coming out of storage for an exhibit in the gallery through Sept. 14. The annual Garden Party in June featured 300 Fernwood members and supporters in attendance, as well as past and present staff, interns and board of directors. Many of Fernwood's programs this year are free with paid Fernwood admission, and a family free day is offered each month throughout the summer.

"Fernwood remains today a special place for people to visit every month of the year," Executive Director Carol Line said. "I do think Kay would smile to see people winding down the hill to see spring wildflowers and school buses with children entering our property to learn about the natural world, and to know that Fernwood is still the place where art and nature and horticulture come together, and where the waterwheel still spins."

If You Go

A 50th public celebration is from 1 to 4 p.m. EDT Sunday, Aug. 17, at Fernwood Botanical Garden and Nature Preserve, 13988 Range Line Road, Niles, Mich.

Many members of the Boydston family, as well as past and present board members, Fernwood members and friends, will attend. Admission for the day is free, and refreshments will be offered. Past Director Stan Beikmann will present a retrospective program at 2 p.m. EDT, followed by music by Molly B. Moon and Riely O'Connor. Special activities will be offered for children and adults, including walking tours and the "Flash, Boom, Explore" program at 1 p.m. EDT

Visit www.fernwoodbotanical.org for additional information.

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Preserving Memories of Past Key Focus for Historian

by William Halliar

The La Porte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave. in La Porte, is listed in the American Automobile Association Official Guide Book (2011-2013) as a "Gem Attraction."

Chief among its treasures — the true gem — is the carefully curated, well-organized research library. Herein are the stories of the lives of people who shaped La Porte County's history.

Fern Eddy Schultz moves about the files, book cases and artifacts of the La Porte County Historical Society's research library, located on the museum's first floor, like one born to the task of preserving memories of the past. Indeed, Schultz, who has been La Porte County historian for the past 24 years, embodies the past, present and future of this historically rich region.

Most important to this story is the fact that Schultz is dedicated to preserving the memories of the people

of this county. These stories are what history is truly about. She passes all of this information down to future generations in a logical, searchable and intensely interesting and informative manner.

Her passion for history is contagious.

Schultz's dedication to the preservation of histo-

ry, and her skill and talent for collecting, conserving and cataloging historical information, came as a result of her own personal history and family experiences. By combining her love of family and history, plus her secretarial skills and fathomless curiosity, she has created the perfect home for herself.

Schultz still lives in the house where she was born, midway between Center and Coolspring

> townships, smack on the boundary between La Porte and Michigan City. By living here, she says, she grew up "experiencing the best of two worlds."

> Schultz's father's family moved into the area sometime before 1850, and her mother's family arrived in 1834. When they married, they settled down in La Porte County and began to farm the land. It seemed to her when she was growing up as if her parents knew everyone in the county.

Though farming the land in those early

years must have been a strenuous, time-consuming way of life, Schultz's parents also found time to indulge their more creative natures. Both loved music. Her father played stringed instruments while her mother enjoyed the piano. Of course, these passions were shared with the children, of which there



Preserving history, and the stories of the people of La Porte County, is what Fern Eddy Schultz does as La Porte County historian.



were three: Fern and two older brothers.

Schultz's parents also believed education was important, and they shared their combined love of learning with their children. They all learned to read before going to school, and her mother held family spelling bees, "just for the fun of it."

Schultz especially remembers her father's love of history. He never missed an opportunity to attend an event he considered of historical significance. The children always accompanied him on these adventures.

Schultz spent her high school years at what was then Center Township School. Her major subject of interest was business. After graduating from high school, her intent was to continue her education, but her mother was diagnosed with cancer and Schultz, rather than go away to school, stayed home to care for her while working as a secretary at local businesses. She started part time while still in school.

A curiosity and love of learning can never be quite satisfied, so while juggling a busy career and taking care of family, Schultz never forgot her passion for the history of the La Porte area and the life of its people. She joined the Historical Society as a volunteer in 1974 and began contributing her unique style of business/artistic/creativity.

When Schultz arrived on the scene, there were no local files in the museum's collection. This is where her native curiosity, her love of history and her secretarial skills combined to create the museum's most valuable resource. She subscribes to all publications in the county and receives "Google Alerts" that also keep her abreast of current events in La Porte County. All articles about La Porte County and its residents are carefully preserved, filed and, most importantly, indexed for future reference, creating a veritable "who, what, when, where and why" of the people of La Porte County. She is most proud of this collection of written history and believes it will be an invaluable information source for future

generations.

The museum's files include articles dating back to 1880 concerning Michigan City and 1847 for La Porte. These are all carefully preserved in an acid-free environment and filed for the use of serious researchers. Schultz's intimate association with the history of our region leads her to say that "History is never dull. It is the exciting story of people," some famous, some infamous, but all lead with great passion. Professors who teach history by simply requiring the memorization of dates are missing the whole

point of the experience.

Schultz has lived an exciting life. She says she is interested in so many different things that there is simply not enough time in the day to fit it all in. She keeps a pad of paper by her bed so she can record ideas that pop into her head in her sleep. Currently, she is first vice president of the Historical Society's board of directors, president of the Pine Lake Cemetery Association, founding president of the La Porte County Genealogical Society and presently serves on the board of directors, acting as genealogist-historian, a longtime member of the Indiana Historical Society and numerous other county genealogical and historical societies. She has been the official La Porte County historian for the past 24 years. To top this



Fern Eddy Schultz holds a copy of the book, "La Porte Indiana and its Environs."

off, she writes the Historical Society's newsletter and historical articles for the local newspapers and website.

The museum is visited by countless people from outside the county yearly, but few from La Porte or Michigan City take advantage of the wonderful resource that it is. Schultz speaks of her hope that through events such as Civil War re-enactments and historical presentations regularly held at the museum, along with the diverse exhibits offered, more young people will become interested in the history of where we live.

After all, she says, "You can't really plan for the future without understanding the past."





Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

The following programs are through Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore:

• Ranger's Choice Hike from 9 to 11 a.m. Friday, Aug. 15.

Call or stop by the Visitor Center on Friday morning to learn the hike's location.

• The Save the Tunes Council performs from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Friday, Aug. 15, at Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore Visitor Center.

The group of local musicians preserves and passes on folk songs, using musical instruments such as the guitar, autoharp, dulcimer, banjo, harmonica, bagpipe, penny whistle and hurdy gurdy.

• Kayaking the Dunes Lagoons from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Aug. 16, at Marquette Park's lagoons.

Join a ranger for a paddle through the Miller Woods-area lagoons. Take a kayak and life jacket.

Marquette Park is located in the Miller Beach neighborhood of Gary.

• Chellberg Farm Open House from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 16.

Tour the Chellberg Farmhouse and learn about the lives of early Duneland farm families.

The farm is off Mineral Springs Road between U.S. 12 and 20 in Porter.

• Duneland Heritage from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 16, at Chellberg Farm.

The ranger-hosted open house lets visitors see traditional craft or farming demonstrations.

Chellberg Farm is located off Mineral Springs Road between U.S. 12 and 20 in Porter.

• Campground Program from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 16, at the Dunewood Campground Amphitheater.

Learn about the diversity of park resources, and how park staff and volunteers help maintain that diversity and keep the park healthy.

The campground is located at Broadway and U.S. 12 in Beverly Shores.

• Pinhook Bog Open House from noon to 3 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 17.

Take a self-guided hike into Indiana's only quaking bog. Rangers and volunteers stationed along the trail help visitors understand the site filled with carnivorous plants. Allow one hour to walk the trail and tour the bog.

• "Miller Woods Hike" from 1:30 to 3 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 17, at Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education.

The length of the ranger-led stroll varies from a half mile to three miles. Call (219) 395-1821 for details of the week's hike.

• "Every Day is Family Day at the Douglas Center" from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily at the Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education.

Participate in hands-on family activities in the park's west end visitor center, especially the new

outdoor Nature Play zone where unstructured play is encouraged. Follow the new extension trail through the rare oak savanna habitat to Lake Michigan's shoreline. Inside the center, help feed the resident turtles and fish or make a free craft.

• The free Junior Ranger Program from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center and Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education.

A variety of Junior Ranger programs exist, from a short Beachcombers Activity Page to an extensive Junior Rangers Booklet. Complete a program and earn a prize. Stop by the Visitor Center or Douglas Center to pick up a free program booklet.

• "Park in Focus" from 1 to 3 p.m. every Saturday through Dec. 27 at the Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education.

Park staff will host special programs focusing on park resources, hot topics in research, new environmental films or guest speakers.

• "Kid's Rule" from 1 to 3 p.m. Sunday through Dec. 28 at the Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.

Join a ranger in the Visitor Center's activity room for stories and activities. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

The Visitor Center is at 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. The Paul H. Douglas Center is on Lake Street north of U.S. 12 in the Miller Beach neighborhood of Gary. Call (219) 395-1882 for more information.



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SMSO Uncork & Unwind Series

Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra's Casual Classics — Uncork & Unwind series continues with its second concert, "Here, There and Everywhere" featuring Anthony Molinaro, at 6 p.m. EDT Thursday, Aug. 21, at The Heritage Museum & Cultural Center, 601 Main St., St. Joseph, Mich.

Molinaro is a pianist who won the 1997 Naumburg International Piano Competition. His latest Beatles-inspired release and concert program, "Here, There and Everywhere," has played to sold-out venues, including five consecutive sold-out concerts in Chicago. His performances have taken him to Boston, Cleveland, Dallas, Indianapolis, Los Angeles, Miami, Philadelphia, New York's Alice Tully Hall and Chicago's Symphony Center. He has been featured on Ravinia's "Rising Stars" Series, The Young Artist Series at the Kravis Center, The Irving S. Gilmore Festival, The Charles Vanda Master Series in Las Vegas and at The Santa Fe Jazz Festival, The Toronto Jazz Festival, The Grand Teton Music Festival and Eastern Music Festival.

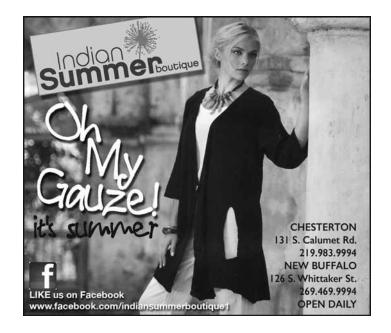
A Chicago native, he spends summer weekends at his grandparent's lake house in Sister Lakes, Mich.

Tickets, which are \$35, include a light summer dinner. Molinaro will be available after the concert to sign and sell copies of his CD. Call (269) 982-4030 or visit www.smso.org for more information.

Fun Fest

Imagination Station, 1200 E. Coolspring Ave., will present Fun Fest from 2:30 to 8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 15, and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 16.

The event will include a bounce house, games, prizes and food.





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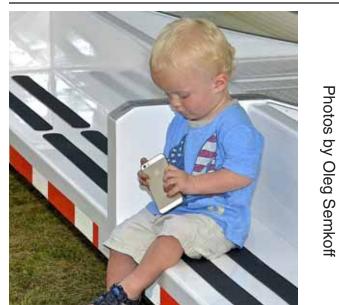
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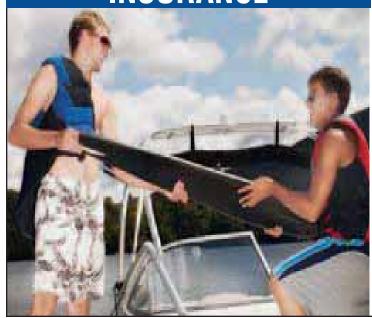
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3 Dune Challenge Spurs Huge Traffic...and Amazing Stories

The 3 Dune Challenge trail kicked off two months ago, but it's already been the site of a marriage proposal, the place where a young girl celebrated the anniversary of her kidney transplant and many other stories.

Since the June 12 kickoff, more than 800 people from across the Midwest — and across the globe — have conquered the special 1.5-mile course, which features the three highest sand dunes at Indiana Dunes State Park, and have come to the Indiana Dunes Visitor Center to share their stories and pick up a free commemorative sticker.



Nathan Taylor proposed to Sara Carlino on July 25 on the highest dune, 192-foot Mount Tom.

Among them are Nathan Taylor and Sara Carlino of Indianapolis. Taylor on July 25 proposed marriage to Carlino on the highest dune, 192-foot Mount Tom. She said yes.

Also doing the challenge was Porter resident Abby Wodrich, 9, who completed it June 19, which was the eighth anniversary of her kidney transplant.

Wodrich did the challenge with her brother, Ethan, 11, her father, David, who is on the Porter Town Council and owns Third Coast Spice Cafe and Lemon Tree Mediterranean Grill in Chesterton, and David's father, Wayne.



Abby (from left), Ethan and David Wodrich completed the trail June 19, the eighth anniversary of Abby's kidney transplant.

"My dad called us up and said, 'Would you like to do The 3 Dune Challenge?' He spurred the moment," David Wodrich said. "It was a great day when we went out. She (Abby) loved it. My dad is 76 years old and nothing really stops him. He enjoyed it, too."

Indiana Dunes Tourism spearheaded the creation of The 3 Dune Challenge along with Indiana Dunes State Park and Friends of Indiana Dunes. Indiana Dunes Tourism Executive Director Lorelei Weimer said the goal was to give area residents a fun fitness challenge, and draw visitors from outside the area.

"Our 3 Dune Challenge landing pages have received about 20,000 views, and our videos have received 2,100 views," Weimer said, adding that 68 percent of challenge finishers have come from outside Northwest Indiana.

Indiana Dunes State Park, where The 3 Dune Challenge takes place, is located at 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton, which is north of U.S. 12 on Indiana 49. There is no cost to do The 3 Dune Challenge, and it can be done any day of the week. However, the park's entry fee is \$5 per car for Indiana residents and \$10 per car for out-of-state residents. The Indiana Dunes Visitor Center is located at 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter.

Call(219)926-2255 or visit www.3DuneChallenge. com for more information.



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Land Trust Guided Bus Tour

Shirley Heinze Land Trust will host a guided bus tour of its nature preserves from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 23.

The bus leaves promptly at 8 a.m. from the Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. The first stop is Seidner Dune and Swale in Hammond. Here, participants depart the bus for a brief walk to learn about the Grand Calumet River Remediation Project, which is using Seidner as a base of operations for river cleanup from Kennedy to Cline avenues. The next stop is Ivanhoe South Nature Preserve for a brief peak at the globally rare dune and swale habitat, followed by stops at two sites in the Hobart Marsh project area, then lunch provided at the Meadowbrook Conservation Center and Nature Preserve in Valparaiso.



Participants in the 2013 tour.

The afternoon portion of the tour focuses on preserves in Porter and La Porte counties, including Little Calumet Wetlands Project Area, Beverly Shores Project Area and Hildebrand Lake Nature Preserve. Along the way, Shirley Heinze staff, board members and guest speakers will provide insights on the land preservation, ecology, geology and history of Northwest Indiana. The tour concludes at the Visitor Center at 3:30 p.m.

The tour cost is \$35 per person or \$60 per couple. Reservations can be made by calling (219) 242-8558 or through www.heinzetrust.org. Reservations must be made no later than Aug. 21.

Shirley Heinze Land Trust has been protecting natural land in the southern Lake Michigan watershed since 1981. It manages more than 1,400 acres that have been permanently preserved by the organization. Five of its properties – Cressmoor Prairie, Seidner Dune & Swale, John Merle Coulter Preserve, Barker Woods and Ambler Flatwoods – have been dedicated as state nature preserves.



"Permanent Rose" Opening Reception

"Permanent Rose," featuring paintings by Joe Dahm, will debut at Burnison Galleries, 15460 Red Arrow Highway, Lakeside Mich., with an opening reception from 5 to 8 p.m. EDT Saturday, Aug. 16.

Dahm is an artist who paints from life in a classical style, with strong marks of contemporary attitudes. He has a bachelor of fine arts from the University of Dayton and a master of fine arts from The School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

As a recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts grant, he spent time in the art centers of New York City and Chicago, producing abstract metal sculpture and Cubist-inspired paintings.

After several years, Dahm returned to figurative painting, to the study of great European figure painters. His current work is a near life-size figurative painting in which draperies serve as a foil for the nude figures, and demonstrate the academic discipline required for the mastery of realistic painting from life.

Call Burnison Galleries at (269) 469-1141 for additional information.

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Sarett Nature Center

The following programs are available at Sarett Nature Center, 2300 Benton Center Road, Benton Harbor, Mich.:

• Kayak the Paw Paw River at 10 a.m. EDT Saturday, Aug. 16.

The \$20 fee includes transportation and equipment rental. Wear shoes that can get wet. Pre-registration is required.

• Become a Sarett Nature Center restoration ranger at 1 p.m. EDT Thursday, Aug. 21.

Help remove invasive species that threaten Sarett's habitats. Snacks are provided. Registration is required.

Call (269) 927-4832 to register or for additional information.

ASL Club Coffeehouse

The Purdue University-North Central American Sign Language Club will host an ASL Coffeehouse from 5 to 7:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 15, at Uptown Café, 1400 E. Lincolnway, Valparaiso.

The coffeehouse is open to ASL students, as well as community members and children accompanied by a parent or adult. Visitors can simply observe. Participants are asked to use ASL. Coffee, food and drink may be ordered.

Information about the club may be found at www. aslclub.info. Information about other events in the community is posted at www.nwideaf.org/deafevents.htm. Additional information about the coffeehouse is available by contacting Joanna Witulski, limited term lecturer in American Sign Language, at pncaslwitulski@yahoo.com

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Gateway Implementation Workshop

A Lake Michigan Gateway Implementation Strategy Workshop is at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 13, at Michigan City City Hall's Lower Level Emergency Operations Center Room.

The joint workshop includes the City Council and Redevelopment Commission. City staff and Hitchcock Design Group representatives will present the draft report for the Lake Michigan Gateway Implementation Strategy. It's a more than five-year vision for public area improvements and redevelopment strategies within the city's North End. Examples include streetscaping enhancements, traffic flow and one-way street conversion improvements, public-space improvements and bridge enhancements.

The public and any interested parties are encouraged to attend. Contact Planning Director Craig Phillips at cphillips@emichigancity.com for more information.

Independent Cat Society

Independent Cat Society, 4061 S. County Line Road, Westville, is presenting its "Furry Shades of Grey" adoption promotion in August.

Any grey, or grey and white — or white and grey — cat or kitten can be adopted for \$45. A companion cat of any color costs \$25. Also, adoption fees are waived for cats 5 and older.

Back to school specials are planned during additional adoption hours from 4 to 7 p.m. Fridays, Aug. 15 and 29. A cat or kitten 3 years old or younger can be adopted for \$20 each.

Visit www.catsociety.org, email shelter@catsociety.org or call (219) 785-4936 for more information.

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A Daughter's Tribute to Her Father

Editor's note — Bill McMahon was a long-standing community member whose family started coming to Long Beach in the late 1930s. He owned a home at Stop 18 for the last 25+ years. He passed away in February. His daughter, Deirdre Sullivan, discovered this Contributor's Column he wrote that appeared in The Beacher on Sept. 19, 1991. She requested it be reprinted as a tribute to him.

Those of us, Chicagoans as we call ourselves, who enjoy Lake Michigan, need only travel 60 miles to the Indiana side of our great Lake to view this enormous wonder from a whole new perspective.

There we will find a tranquil, hushed little resort community called Long Beach. This magnificent hide-a-way gives new meaning to the word serenity. Nestled between the lakeshore and the sand dunes, it calls out to the weary traveler, "Come rest with me for a while." It says, "Enjoy the sights and smells and sounds of my ever-changing, multi-faceted seaside, and the greenness and grandness of my grassy rolled dunes. Look out over my sprawling lakefront and count the wonders that you behold. Note the ten tiny towers on the horizon that represent all you can see, and all that you care to see of Chicago's Skyline.

Watch the graceful gulls in their constant quest for gastronomical delights. Listen to the soft swish of the singing white sand beneath your sandals as you stride aimlessly along my splendid shore while breathing in my celestial fresh lakefront air. Look up at my Cobalt blue sky brushed, as if by a master painter's touch, with an occasional light and languishing cloud.

But wait, your time with me is not complete. Together we must view the sight that caps all others. For as the shadows stretch longer on my golden sand, we shall witness if only for a few pleasurable moments, my resplendent, dazzling sunset."

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Michigan City Public Library

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

• Duneland Stamp Club at 6 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 14.

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

• Fabulous Friday Film: "Muppets Most Wanted" at 10 a.m. Friday, Aug. 15.

The film is rated PG and runs 1 hour 47 minutes. If "Muppets Most Wanted" is not available, "Frozen" will be shown.

• Movies in Washington Park (final showing): "The Lego Movie" at 8:15 p.m. Friday, Aug. 15.

The library and City of Michigan City again have collaborated to bring family films to Washington Park's Jaycee Stage.

The movie is rated PG.

• Winter in the Southwest" at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 18.

Sonia Lawrentz returns with a travelogue revealing the southwest as seen in winter. Experience mountains, deserts and canyons.

• Knitting Club for All Ages at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 20.

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

Meditation classes at 6 p.m. Tuesdays, Aug. 19 and 26.

Patrecia Lenore facilitates group dialogue and support for integrating stress-reducing exercises into daily life. She has taught Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction courses since 1998.

Contact Robin Kohn at (219) 873-3049 for more information on library programming.



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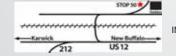
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Volunteer Tutors Needed

Westchester Public Library will resume its reading tutoring service for children preschool age through 12th grade who need to improve reading scores or reading levels/skills this fall.

Those interested in volunteering may fill out an application, which is available at the circulation desks at Thomas Library, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton, and Hageman Library, 100 Francis St., Porter.

Registration as a volunteer tutor or student also will begin at Word Girl at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 15, in the Children's Department at Thomas Library. Tutoring sessions begin in September.

Volunteers will be responsible for one-on-one tutoring during assigned hours at the library, catering to individual student needs. Tutors must have a desire to help students achieve their reading goals, and possess patience and a positive attitude. It is preferred they have previous reading tutoring experience or other experience working with or teaching children. Those who have, or are pursuing, a degree in elementary education or a similar field are encouraged to apply, as well as retired educators.

Volunteers must pass a background check. Call Thomas Library at (219) 926-7696 or Hageman Library at (219) 926-9080 for more information.

Comic Book Convention

The South Bend Comic Book Convention is from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. EDT Saturday, Aug. 16, at Comfort Suites, 52933 U.S. 933 (Cleveland and U.S. 31), South Bend.

The event is free. Dealers will have comics from the Golden Age to the present, along with collectible items. Dealers also will buy items from customers.

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Math Meets Art in New Exhibit

Kevin Gross, an artist who finds inspiration in mathematically based shapes and patterns that resemble those found in nature, will present a solo exhibit through Sept. 11 at The Village Gallery in Valparaiso.

Born in South Dakota, Gross is a self-taught artist living in Goshen. He specializes in fractal artwork. Aided by computers, it uses color to make structures and patterns visible to the human eye.



Gross has won many awards for his work, including first place at Elkhart Art League's Annual Juried Show and Competition, Best Digital Work at the Michiana 10th Annual Art Competition, a Judge's Award at the Fort Wayne Museum of Art's Independence in the Studio, a Purchase Award at the Heartland Artists Gallery's 23rd Annual Juried Regional and the Elizabeth J. Conran Memorial Award.

Gross also lectures on fractals and art in educational, artistic and other venues. He received a bachelor of arts degree from Goshen College, where he studied computer science, art design, photography and photo communications.

The Village Gallery is located at Pines Village Retirement Communities, 3303 Pines Village Circle (off Calumet Avenue just north of Cumberland Crossing). The gallery is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. There is no admission charge. Call Pines Village Retirement Communities at (219) 465-1591 for more information.



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33rd Annual Lakefront Art Festival

Visitors to the 33rd annual Lakefront Art Festival will view works by more than 100 artists during the Lubeznik Center for the Arts' annual event set for Aug. 16-17 in Michigan City's Washington Park.

The festival is juried, which means each artist must apply, and be accepted, to exhibit. The application process begins only months after each festival ends. The center solicits artists in six categories: 2-Dimensional; Photography; Wearable Art; Fine Craft; Sculptural Objects; and Jewelry. Earlier this year, a team of cross-disciplinary jurors reviewed the work of more than 100 artists in six categories, assigning each a point value.

Once accepted, artists are judged by category once again on the day of the event by a team of experts that awards cash prizes totaling \$3,000. Winners this year are announced after noon Saturday, Aug. 16. Visit www.lubeznikcenter.org in the weeks after the festival and see who won.

At the festival, children can make an art project with instruction from LCA faculty and volunteers. The Michiana Clowns will be present from 1 to 3 p.m. both days at the Children's Activity Tent, sponsored by Ivy Tech Community College. Clowns will do face painting and interact with children.

A food court will be available, and visitors can leave an entry form to win a free art basket. An art patron oasis, complete with a sitting area out of the sun and weather, is planned. While there, the option exists to sign up for a free energy audit of your home and business with Energizing Indiana, which will provide tips on how to reduce energy costs. For each assessment provided, the Lubeznik Center receives \$25.

Festival admission is \$4 for adults and free for children 12 and younger and active military with CACDD1173 card. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m Saturday, Aug. 16, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m Sunday, Aug. 17. Washington Park parking fees can be avoided if patrons use free off-site parking. A free shuttle service will ferry visitors to and from the festival grounds from Lighthouse Place-Premium Outlets, Lubeznik Center for the Arts, Michigan City Area Chamber of Commerce or City Hall.

Festival proceeds support the Lubeznik Center's after-school and summer art instruction, which reach more than 1,200 economically disadvantaged children. The center also stages nine contemporary exhibits annually, with more than 25,000 people benefitting from center programs each year.

Visit www.lubeznikcenter.org, call Lubeznik Center staff at (219) 874-4900 or email artinfo@lubeznikcenter.org for more information.

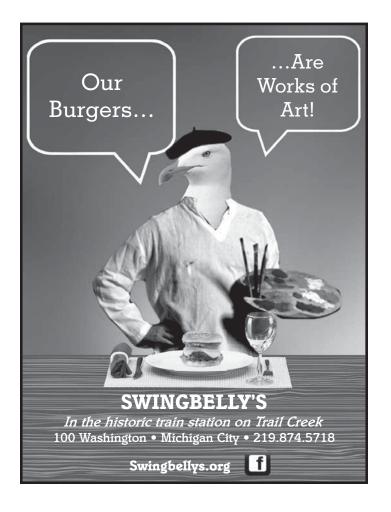
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McLemore Honored



The Michigan City Area Schools board honored Michigan City High School track standout Jasmine McLemore at its July 29 meeting. A junior, McLemore is an honor student who reached the Indiana High School Athletic Association State Track and Field Finals for the second year in a row this past spring, finishing 15th in the 400 meters. Pictured are (from left) Girls Track Assistant Coach Harold Edwards, Jasmine's mother, Yvonne Stephens, Jasmine McLemore and Girls Track Head Coach Tim Bumber.



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Master Gardener Class

A Master Gardener training program will be offered in La Porte County from 6 to 9 p.m. Thursdays, Sept. 11 through Dec. 11, at the Purdue Extension – La Porte County office, 2857 W. Indiana 2, Suite A, La Porte.

The program's purpose is to teach people about growing plants, and to more effectively share with others information related to plants. Its specific aim is to provide information and technical assistance in gardening and home horticulture through trained and certified volunteers.

The program is an integral part of Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service. It provides a framework for participants to increase their knowledge on horticultural subjects. In turn, participants volunteer by sharing their knowledge, thus representing Purdue University.

To become a Purdue Master Gardener, those interested must complete an application form and return it to the La Porte County Extension Office by Friday, Aug. 15. Enrollment is limited. After being accepted, participants must attend a series of weekly classes, each lasting three hours. After completing the required training and passing the exam with 70 percent success, one achieves the rank of Master Gardener Intern, and must volunteer a minimum of 35 hours to be certified as a Purdue Master Gardener. Then, to maintain certification, Master Gardeners volunteer just 12 hours and attend six hours of educational training annually.

Participants pay a \$200 registration fee for the training program, which includes a Master Gardener name badge, newly published training manual in print and electronic versions, a flash drive with hundreds of Purdue University reference materials, mailings and opportunities to network with other Master Gardeners.

Contact the Purdue Extension – La Porte County office at (219) 324-9407 or visit www.extension.purdue.edu/laporte and click on "Garden," then click on "Register for the La Porte County Master Gardener Class" for more information.



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"A" Flight

Low Gross:Susan KeeleyLow Net:Dottie HealyLow Putts:Mary Weithers

"B" Flight

Low Gross: Tina Sonderby Low Net: Barb Beardslee

Low Putts: Adele O'Donnell

"C" Flight

Low Gross:Bonnie ReeseLow Net:Judy CurtinLow Putts:Peg Carey

Sunken Approach

Rima Binder Hole 15

Chamber Fest Children's Concert

As part of this year's Michigan City Chamber Music Festival, families can attend the "Concert for Children: A Musical Time Machine" at 6 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 14, in the undercroft at First Presbyterian Church, 121 W. Ninth St.

The free program explores music through the ages, including Bach and Mozart, as well as festival performer Rudolf Haken's "Kinderquartett."

A make-and-take art project is planned, and a light meal is provided.



Prayer to the Blessed Virgin

(Never known to fail.)

Oh, most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh, Star of the 'Sea, help me and show me, herein you are my mother. Oh Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth! I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in

this necessity. There are none that can withstand your power. Oh, show me herein you are my mother. Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3x). Holy Mother, I place this cause in your hands (3x). Holy Spirit, you who solve all problems, light all roads so that I can attain my goal. You who gave me the divine gift to forgive and forget all evil against me and that in all instances in my life you are with me. I want in this short prayer to thank you for all things as you confirm once again that I never want to be separated from you in Eternal Glory. Thank you for your mercy toward me and mine. The person must say this prayer 3 consecutive days. After 3 days, the request will be granted. This prayer must be published after the favor is granted.

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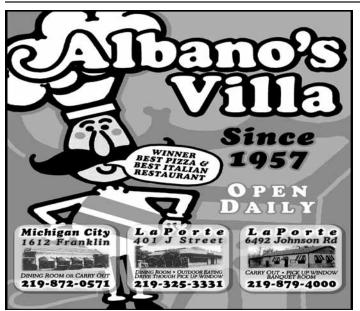
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beg to whom God has given such great power To come to my assistance. Help me in my present and urgent petition, In return I promise to make your name known and cause you to come to my assistance. Say 3 Our Fathers, 3 Hail Mary's and 3 Glory Be's. Publication must be promised. St. Jude pray for us and all who invoke your aid. Amen. This Novena has never been known to fail. This Novena must be said for 9 consecutive days. C.D.



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Activities to Explore

In the Local Area:

August 13-14, 20-21 — Free Arts in the Park. Jeff Brown Jazz (Aug. 13), HiFi2WiFi (Aug. 14), La Porte High School Marching Band and Color Guard (Aug. 20) and Windiana (Aug. 21). All concerts 7 p.m., Fox Park Dennis Smith Amphitheater, La Porte.

August 14 — Michigan City Chamber Music Festival, "Concert for Children: A Musical Time Machine," 6 p.m., undercroft at First Presbyterian Church, 121 W. Ninth St. Free.

August 14 — Live Podcast: Emerging Artist Series, 8 p.m. EDT, The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Free. Info: www. acorntheater.com, (269) 756-3879.

August 14-16 — Canterbury Summer Theatre production, "Greater Tuna," Mainstreet Theatre, 807 Franklin St. Times: 2 p.m. Thur., 8 p.m. Fri. 6:30 p.m. Sat. Tickets: \$15/Thursday, \$16/Fri.-Sat. Reservations: info@festivalplayersguild.org, (219) 874-4269.

August 14-20 — Vickers Theatre, 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. *Now showing*: "Boyhood." Rated R. Times: 9 p.m. Fri., 6 p.m. Sat.-Sun., 7 p.m. Mon.-Wed. *Also*: "Life Itself." Rated R. Times: 9 p.m. Thurs. and 2 p.m. Sun. (includes Q&A with Technical Director Jim Morrissette and Producer Zak Piper). Also: The documentary "Alive Inside." Not rated. Times: 6:30 p.m. Thurs., 1 p.m. Sat. *Also*: 50th anniversary release of "A Hard Day's Night." Rated G. Times: 6:30 p.m. Fri., also 3:15 and 10 p.m. Sat. All times Eastern. Info: vickerstheatre.com

August 15 — Michigan City Commission for Women fundraiser, "A Celebration of Women in the Arts," 5:30 p.m., The Uptown Center for the Performing Arts, 903 Franklin St., Michigan City. Doors open 5:30 p.m., show at 6:30 p.m. Tickets: \$45. Reservations: MichiganCityWomen@gmail. com, (219) 874-3760.

August 15 — Movies in Washington Park, "The Lego Movie," 8:15 p.m., Washington Park's Jaycee Stage.

August 15 — The Purdue University-North Central American Sign Language Club ASL Coffeehouse, 5-7:30 p.m., Uptown Café, 1400 E. Lincolnway, Valparaiso. Info: www.aslclub.info

August 15 — The Save the Tunes Council, 7:30-9 p.m., Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore Visitor Center, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. Info: (219) 395-1882.

August 16 — Michigan City Mainstreet Association Farmers Market, 8 a.m.-2 p.m., Eighth and Washington streets, through October. Second Saturdays, (chef's demonstrations, special market activities, food truck, artists, music), 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

August 16 — La Porte Urban Enterprise Association Farmers Market, Lincolnway and Monroe Street, through October. Info: (219) 362-8260.

August 16 — Opening reception, "Permanent Rose," paintings by Joe Dahm, 5-8 p.m. EDT, Burni-

son Galleries, 15460 Red Arrow Highway, Lakeside Mich. Info: (269) 469-1141.

August 16-17 — 33rd annual Lakefront Art Festival, Washington Park. Cost: \$4/adults, free/children 12 & younger and active military with CACDD1173 card. Hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m Sun. Free shuttle service from Lighthouse Place-Premium Outlets, Lubeznik Center for the Arts, Michigan City Area Chamber of Commerce or City Hall. Info: www.lubeznikcenter.org

August 17 — Free Sunday matinee, "The Railway Man," 1:30 p.m., Westchester Public Library Service Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

August 18 — "Winter in the Southwest" with Sonia Lawrentz, 6:30 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

August 19 — Showing of PBS documentary, "100 Years of Indiana State Parks, 3 p.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East (the north end of Indiana 49), Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

Mondays — Codependents Anonymous (CoDA), 6 p.m., Franciscan Alliance-St. Anthony Health. Info: (219) 879-3817

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

Through September 11 — Solo exhibit of fractal art by Kevin Gross, The Village Gallery at Pines Village Retirement Communities, 3303 Pines Village Circle (off Calumet Avenue just north of Cumberland Crossing). Hours: 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Free. Info: (219) 465-1591.

Through December 13 — Joel DeGrand photo exhibit, "Italy: new/perspectives," PNC Library-Student-Faculty Building, Room 02. Free, viewed by appointment only. Info/appointment schedule: (219) 785-5200, Ext. 5593.

Farther Afield:

August 16 — The South Bend Comic Book Convention, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. EDT, Comfort Suites, 52933 U.S. 933 (Cleveland and U.S. 31), South Bend. Free. Info: (309) 657-1599, www.epguides.com/comics

August 16 — Mark Dvorak, 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. Info/reservations: (269) 983-3688, info@boxfactoryforthearts.org, www.boxfactoryforthearts.org

August 16 — The comedy troupe "Los Improviachis," 8 p.m., Crown Point Community Theatre, 1125 Merrillville Road. Tickets: \$10. Reservations: CPCT.biz, (219) 805-4255.

August 16 — Kayak the Paw Paw River, 10 a.m. EDT. Meet at Sarett Nature Center, 2300 Benton Center Road, Benton Harbor, Mich. Cost: \$20. Registration: (269) 927-4832.

August 17 — 50th public celebration, 1-4 p.m. EDT, Fernwood Botanical Garden and Nature Preserve, 13988 Range Line Road, Niles, Mich. Free. Info: www.fernwoodbotanical.org

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Letter of Thanks

To our supporters and The Town of Trail Creek: June 7, 2014, marked the second Annual St. Stanislaus 5K Run/Walk, which was held in cooperation with the Town of Trail Creek.

We want to thank The Town of Trail Creek for its support and cooperation, and Town Marshal Stephen Dick, the Trail Creek police and street departments.

We want to thank all of our sponsors, race participants and volunteers. This fundraiser was for the Parish Renaissance Campaign for needed church repairs.

Special thanks to our sponsors: St. Andrews Products; Robert Tylisz Appliance for Robert's donation of the beautiful plaque awards he handcrafted; Members Advantage Credit Union; Ott/Haverstock Funeral Home; Sauers Ford/Lincoln; MC Sports; Snyder Insurance Agency Inc.; City Heating & Cooling: and Dr. Thomas Borman.

We also want to thank the many volunteers, including photographer Paul Kemiel and Jill Wozniak. We could not have held this event without all of their help.

Hope to see you again next year, June 6, 2015.

Patrick Kroehler St. Stans 5K race director Linda Pliske Committee member **Brother Shaun Gray** Committee member

Chamber Membership Luncheon

The Greater La Porte Chamber of Commerce will host a Chamber Membership Luncheon on Monday, Aug. 18, at B&J's American Café, 607 Lincolnway, La Porte.

The La Porte Lions Club is the event sponsor. The non-profit sponsor is the American Red Cross La Porte County Chapter.

The cost is \$16 for chamber members and \$21 for non-members. Registration begins at 11:15 a.m., with lunch and the presentation at 11:30 a.m.

Registration is encouraged. Call the chamber at (219) 362-3178.

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The goal is to introduce children to various artists, their styles and techniques, with projects reflecting what they are learning. Classes meet weekly and are open to all age and skill levels. Several mediums will be used, including drawing, painting, papier mache, mosaic, sculpture and collage.

The schedule is:

- Monday, 1 to 2 p.m., Preschool (4- to 5-year-olds).
- Monday, 3:30 to 5 p.m., Beginning (6- to 9-year-olds).
- Tuesday, 1 to 2 p.m., Preschool (3- to 4-year-olds).
- Tuesday, 3:30 to 5 p.m., Beginning (5- to 7-year-olds).
- Wednesday, 3:30 to 5 p.m., Intermediate (6- to 11-year-olds).
- Thursday, 3:30 to 5 p.m., Advanced (7- to 10-year-olds).
- Thursday, 5:15 to 6:45 p.m., Beginning (9- to 14-year-olds).
- Thursday, 7 to 8:30 p.m., Advanced (11- to 16-year-olds).

Tuition is \$75 per month for after-school students and \$60 for preschool students. Supplies are included. There is a \$5 a month discount for center members. Call the center at (219) 926-4711 to register. Visit www.chestertonart.com for more information.

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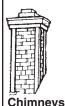
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Firewood season: Delivered, stacked. Summer special: \$100. Call (269) 756-3547.

Barnett 1400 Sailboat, Whirlpool Self-Cleaning Gas Range 30," GE TitanXL Under-Counter D/W. All Great Condition. (773) 456-9723. 1936 refrigerator, cooling element on top. Runs part time. Good for holidays and parties. Must sell, \$139. Call (219) 874-9486.

REAL ESTATE

COMMERCIAL - RENTALS/LEASE/SELL

Fully rehabbed and upgraded first-floor commercial/residential space available. Open kitchen, private bath, private office and three large well lit rooms in 1,200 square feet of space. The unit includes two private parking areas for tenants and three open spaces for customers. \$775 per month. For more information, email www.terrafirmainvestments.org or call Milt at 708-334-9955 for more details.

REAL ESTATE INVESTING

INVESTOR WANTED TO DEVELOP PRIME BEACH PROPERTY IN MICHIGAN CITY. <u>sunterra@comcast.net</u>, 219-872-4446.

RENTALS INDIANA

LONG BEACH COZY 3/BR HOUSE AT STOP 15 (Across from Beach) Summer Rental. Fireplace and Large Deck. No pets. Call 708/370-1745.

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LAKEFRONT CONDOS -- 2 and 3 bedrooms.

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DUNESCAPE REALTY - 219/872-0588.

GREAT 5BR HOUSE. CLOSE TO BEACH AT STOP 20. CALL PATTY AT 773-401-2966.

Stop 37. House for rent. Weekly or weekends. 4BR, 3BA, AC, WiFi. One house to sandy beach. (847) 630-5235, nmarkey11@hotmail.com

Long Beach Long Term House Rental: Recently remodeled 3 BR/2 full BA home available for year-round rental. Contact G. Schander @ 708-447-2417.

SHORELAND HILLS 10-MONTH RENTAL: 3BR/2BA, nicely furnished, wash/dry, fireplace, 2 blocks to lake. Available 8/18/14-6/30/15. \$795 per month includes WiFi, outdoor maintenance, but not utilities. No pets/smokers. Call Bob N. at (312) 726-2699. Must See to Appreciate. Long Beach 9-month rental, 5BR/3BA, furnished, two fireplaces, 200 ft. to lake, \$900 per month+utilities. C/A, heat. Start in Sept. Call Tom at (708) 606-4614.

Winter rental: Sept. to May, 5BR/2BA Sheridan Beach house. 4 houses from beach. \$800/month. No pets or smoking. (708) 567-5858.

FALL/WINTER RENTAL at Stop 33.

2 blocks from beach. Charming décor, beautiful surroundings, 4BR, 2BA, family room with remote fireplace. Patio, deck, sun porch. A/C, W/D. September to June. No pets, no smoking. \$890/mo. + util. Weekend rentals also available. See at VRBO.com #262805. Call 708-784-9866.
SHERIDAN BEACH: Year-round, 1 BR, quiet building, laundry, off-street parking, no smoking, no pets, \$625/month, utilities included. Also, small 3 BR house, no smoking, no pets. Year-round rental. \$725 + utilities.
Call (219) 879-2195.

A REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

MICHIANA SHORES: 2-3 BR/2BA, fireplace, garage, gazebo, corner property on four lots. SS appliances, W/D. Available immediately. 308 Pokagon. \$299,000. Call (219) 878-1608.

Tryon Farm Cabin Home (#51) For Sale, \$162,500. Open house Sat/Sun, Noon- 3pm, Aug. 9-10, 16-17, 23 -24. (219) 229-3096, Debra.

122 Maplewood Trail, Michigan City (Shoreland Hills): 2BR/1BA; less than 1/2 mile from L. Michigan; deeded beach rights. View at http://seahorse1994.wix.com/122maplewoodtrail





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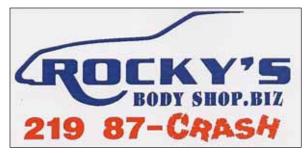
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Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter

The Caretaker by A.X. Ahmad (paperback, \$14.99 retail online and in bookstores)

Have you ever been wrongfully accused of something? Have you ever been asked to lie about an event so others will look good or innocent? Well, fasten your seat belts for this exciting story of one man's struggle to follow his convictions, yet keep his family safe and provided for.

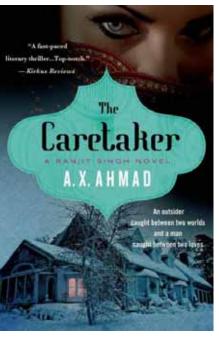
Ranjit Singh was a Sikh and captain in the Indian Army, his unit assigned to the Siachen Glacier, the 19,000-foot mountain that has been the center of a dispute between India and Pakistan. What happened on that mountain was the cause of Singh's court martial and subsequent three-year prison sentence.

Following his release, he took his wife and young daughter to America, the plane tickets purchased by his wife's uncle in Boston. Ah, there's the rub. Uncle Lallu makes Ranjit work in his store to pay back the tickets, never letting him forget his place.

Ranjit learns he can become a landscaper and caretaker to the palatial homes on Martha's Vineyard. His wife is not happy, but his daughter loves America and her school on the island. Come winter, along with a broken fuel tank in the basement of his rental home, Ranjit makes the bold decision to move his family — temporarily, of course — into one of the homes no one will be staying in all winter. It's the home of African-American U.S. Sen. Neals and his wife, Anna. Anna takes a great interest in Ranjit, a dangerous situation since Ranjit and his wife, Preetam, are having a strained relationship.

All is going well until the night two men enter the senator's house and the Singhs must flee. The men seem most interested in a cabinet containing a collection of old and expensive dolls. They become more frustrated when they can't find the one they're looking for. What do two grown men want with a vintage doll? You'd be surprised.

Unfortunately, the men see Ranjit, and the chase is on. The family gets away and Ranjit later discovers his daughter, Shanti, has taken an old mammy doll from the house with her. Was that the doll the men were looking for? Ranjit takes it to an antique dealer in Boston, who offers him \$5,000 cash for the doll. Now, he is really intrigued, especially when he discovers the doll has a secret compartment containing...oh no, I'm not giving that away!



To make matters worse, if they could be, Ranjit and his family's visas have expired, and they suddenly find immigration after them as well. Clashing cultures, political intrigue and a man trying to keep his religious beliefs while trying to stay alive make for a different and engrossing story that had me flipping pages as fast as I could read them.

After Ranjit can't get the senator to talk to him, he has no one to turn to except Anna, so the two set out to unwind the tangled web of lies and deceits that both of them have experienced.

Suffice it to say, the senator recently pulled off the greatest release ever of a woman from the clutches of the North Koreans. But

at what price? Even the U.S. government couldn't get anywhere with the Koreans. The senator must have something to offer them, but what?

At the same time, the story drifts back and forth between the events on the Siachan glacier and the present, Ranjit suffering hallucinations and bad dreams about the death of his fellow soldiers. Maybe if he can resolve what happened in India and find out the truth of the senator's chicanery, he can finally find peace for him and his family.

The Caretaker offers a great look at the immigrant life: how to assimilate in a country in which you stand out like the proverbial sore thumb, especially Ranjit with his long hair and turban. There is a great scene where he has to cut his hair, ditch the turban and put on a western suit to attend a talk by the senator at Harvard. The police are polite to him and treat him with respect, a far different attitude than when he was in traditional Indian clothes. Also, there are chase scenes in the freezing winter on the winding streets of Martha's Vineyard that had my mouth wide open gasping for breath.

Ahmad's ability to create interesting characters while making the surrounding countryside come alive with the seasons is part of his gift that couples beautifully with a thought-provoking story.

This is a new author with a fascinating new character in a promised trilogy. The second book, <u>The Last Taxi Ride</u>, is available in bookstores and online. I will be out the door to pick up a copy soon.

Ahmad, by the way, was raised in India and educated at Vassar College and M.I.T.

Till next time, happy reading!



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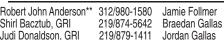
Updated kitchen & hardwood floors, living room with fireplace, master bedroom bath & finished lower level. Private rear yard with patio. Great location close to the Town of Long Beach community center, shopping conveniences & a short walk to the beach.

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3603 Lake Shore Dr. • Michiana Shores \$2,499,000

4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths. Open concept kitchen, dining & living room. Vent free fireplace, Carlisle wide plank Oak flooring, granite & high end appliances. Gorgeous master bedroom suite with spa-like bathroom. In floor hydronic heating on all three levels. Garage parking for 5.5 cars. Custom built home with unobstructed tri-state lake views.





217 Adahi Trail • Michiana Shores Area \$349,900

3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Open floor plan with bamboo flooring, wood burning fireplace, vaulted ceiling & skylights. Custom maple cabinets, stainless steel appliances & breakfast bar in kitchen. Master suite has vaulted ceiling & private bath. One car detached garage. Screened porch, deck, covered front porch, stone walkways, firepit & outdoor beach shower.



16142 First Lane • Union Pier, MI \$244,000

3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Cathedral ceiling, fireplace, skylights & hardwood floors. Dining room open to kitchen. Two screened porches, back deck with plenty of room to grill. Short stroll down Townline Avenue takes you to Lake Michigan's beautiful beaches. Delightful & bright, this home is in perfect condition. Large lot offers great privacy.

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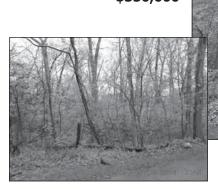


Buildable Lots – Buy now, break ground before Winter

2703 Belle Plaine Trail

Splendidly large corner wooded building site close to Long Beach golf course and the town center, could be a very private estate or secluded home. All permits required.

\$350,000





The very best commercially zoned property in the beach area. Highly visible at the corner of Lake Ave and Lake Shore Dr. Almost 1/2 acre, all permits needed, perfect for retail, restaurant, multi-unit housing or any combination. Phase 1 competed. \$499,000





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