

# HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY





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# The Need for Speed

# Bittersweet a Welcome Challenge to Skiers and Snowboarders

by Stefan Barkow



Skiers and snowboarders ride the Sweet Express to the top at Bittersweet.

If you enjoy Michigan's Swiss Valley Ski & Snowboard Area and don't mind traveling another 50 miles north from there, another adventure awaits.

Upon arriving at Bittersweet Ski Resort in Otsego with my brother, Christopher, and father, Bill, what makes it different from Swiss Valley is apparent. Whereas Swiss Valley carries off a chalet charm, Bittersweet is modern in look and feel: tinted glass, strong colors and advanced technology.

It was nearly noon on a Wednesday when we arrived, so the ski area was operating, but not overly busy. Unlike Swiss Valley's village of buildings, Bit-

tersweet has a single building containing an office, rental, ski school, ski shop, café and bar. There's an indoor fireplace near booths fashioned from retired chair lifts, an arcade and an outdoor patio. Worth noting is how the patio, when it was built, intentionally had pipes run beneath the pavers so the surface is heated, making it easier to sit outside and enjoy the day.

Inside, I met with Victor Gayheart, Bittersweet's general manager. An energetic and easygoing man who clearly enjoys what he does, Gayheart started at Bittersweet as a mechanic in 1988 and worked

his way up to his current position. With Swiss Valley priding itself on being a good place to learn, I asked how he'd describe Bittersweet.

"I'd put us in the middle," he said. "Swiss is smaller, and it is a good place to learn, but we are a bit bigger, we've got more vertical feet and more advanced runs.

"We aren't Boyne or places like that further north — we're not that threatening. But our runs do have more speed and complexity than others."

Bittersweet, he continued, is known for opening first each season.



A snowboarder rides the Wondercarpet at Bittersweet.

"We're very proud of our snowmaking capability," he said. "We have about 130 snow guns, and we actually hold a patent on some of the designs. That's why we can open two or three weeks before anyone else. We can actually go from grass to skiable snow in 26 hours. Not the whole park, of course, but we can open a couple of runs."

Gayheart says Bittersweet anticipates a record year. This season, it opened Nov. 13, which is the second earliest opening it has had in its more than 30 years of operation.

Constructed in 1982 and continuously owned by the same people who built it, people who own two other ski areas — one in Wisconsin, one in Detroit — Bittersweet lacks the family run feel of Swiss Valley, but makes up for it by heavily investing in the best technology money can buy.

"In 2000, we built the Sweet Express, a high-

Continued on Page 4



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# Need for Speed Continued from Page 3

speed, smooth-running quad chair. It cost more than a million dollars at the time, but it gets you to the top of our hill quickly and comfortably. It's also the only one of its kind in Southwest Michigan."

Bittersweet, however, didn't just invest in people headed for blue squares and black diamonds.

Since rope tows can be intimidating for newcomers, Bittersweet also invested in two "Wondercarpet" lifts for the bunny hills. Think of an outdoor conveyer belt. Simply step onto the non-slip belt and you're whisked to the top.

Valley's, and anyone with children 8 and younger should be aware that most of the time, only private lessons are available to them. Advanced lessons are available, including a special offer for women. "Ladies Learn to Ski/Snowboard" is available through Feb. 26.

Bittersweet hosts a number of events and races throughout the season. An adult race league, a junior race program, NAtional STAndard Race races and invitational races are held there. On weekends, programs are held for children ages 4 to 10.

For those who don't own any gear, all the standard equipment is available for rent: skis, poles, boards,



Snowboarders head to the Sweet Express.

"They're especially good for snowboarders," Gayheart added. "Another very rare thing we feature here is the 'sweet pea' lift. It's a chair lift that isn't as high off the ground as standard lifts, so kids and people just learning can get used to chair lifts before piling in with everyone else on the faster lifts on the bigger hills."

Bittersweet's ski school has all Professional Ski Instructors of America-certified staff, complete with group and private lessons.

Erik Sebastian, assistant director of the ski school, said the offerings aren't as robust as Swiss

boots and helmets. There is no clothing rental, but the full-service ski shop has got you covered — literally — if skiers need goggles or pants.

"You could show up with nothing at all and we could get you kitted and out on the slopes," Darlene Metz, the shop's manager, said.

I asked if anyone has arrived without gear.

"You'd be amazed, but it's happened more than once," she said with a wistful shake of her head.

The shop also has certified technicians who can fix straps, mount skis and perform tuning, "usually within an hour, so you can get right back on the



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# anac northwest athletic club

301 West Kieffer Rd. Michigan City, IN (219) 879-4401 hill," Metz said.

By that point during my visit, my brother had been boarding for a while, but I still had one last stop before joining him on the slopes: the dedicated Ski Patrol building. I found my dad, a patroller since 1978, speaking with patrollers on duty. He introduced me to Rob Martin, who directs Bittersweet's all-volunteer force. Befitting a larger area, Bittersweet has more patrollers on its roster: 108, to be precise.

"We've got at least four doctors, we've got nurses, paramedics and police officers," Martin said.

Again, Ski Patrol is only authorized while acting as patrollers to perform care to the level of their OEC and advanced CPR training. Should something ma-

jor happen, a hospital is just minutes away. Most patrollers agreed they became involved because they liked the camaraderie of the organization and the ability to help people who enjoy the same sport they do. They're recruiting, too. Anyone interested should contact them to learn more.

At last, I was free to strap on my boots, snap into



Two snowboarders take a break to warm their hands on the Bittersweet lodge patio.

my skis and meet up with brother. With 20 runs and 350 vertical feet, Bittersweet is a fair amount larger than Swiss Valley, which has 11 runs and 225 vertical feet. It also has two terrain parks, with one specifically set aside for those just getting started with rails and jumps.

Continued on Page 6





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All that investment and size does come at a cost. Taking a family to Bittersweet can add up fast. That blow is lessened by the fact that rates are halved for children 6 and younger.

One of the fun things about Bittersweet is that the runs are actually named. I skied from Oak to Birch halfway down the hill to a two-person chair that took me back to the top to ride Snowberry all the way to the lodge. Though the area has full grooming capabilities, there was plenty of virgin powder to be found since we arrived during the week and before the after-school crowds. Grooming makes snow faster to ski on, but there's something about the silky feel of sinking into unexplored snow that's worth seeking out.

Thanks to windier trails — runs that branch off from each other — and more trees, Bittersweet feels a lot bigger as well.



A skier pulls off a trick on a rail.



A snowboard lesson gets started.

For the next few hours, Chris and I raced each other across the mountain and watched fellow enthusiasts grind rails and get air off the jumps in the terrain park. It wasn't long before early sun gave way to a thick, gray mass of solid snow clouds that dropped big, beautiful flakes onto the already thick base. The wind and snow sent a few people into the cafeteria or the bar, but we stuck it out and enjoyed the snow globe sensation.

As someone who has been skiing in the Midwest since I was young, the greater speed and variety at Bittersweet are what I prefer in a park. Bittersweet reminds me why I still love this sport, even after all the years I've been active in it.

(Next in the series: nearby Timber Ridge.)

Visit skibittersweet.com or call (269) 694-2820 for more information on rates, conditions and events.



Chris Barkow, on his snowboard, takes in the view.



The main entrance to Bittersweet's lodge.

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#### Bonnie Meyer @ (219) 617-5947



-- submitted by Jane Daley of the LaPorte County Convention and Visitors Bureau

Last year, I was contacted by Michigan City Mayor Ron Meer to form a committee to help facilitate an event and gauge community interest.

We have been meeting since August 2013 and discovered a great deal of interest exists throughout the county. Now, we are reaching out to ask you to assist in an event on May 1.

The President Lincoln funeral train traveled from Washington, D.C., to Springfield, Ill., and one of the stops, 150 years ago, was in Michigan City.

The anniversary is in 2015; however, in 2014 the locomotive will travel on the back of a flatbed truck from Ohio to Elgin, Ill., and stop in Michigan City on May 1. It will be in the north parking lot at Lighthouse Place-Premium Outlets at U.S. 12 and Wabash Street from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. for people to view. It also will be an opportunity for the committee to raise money.

This event in 2014 is a big deal. The locomotive will only stop in three cities on its way to Elgin. Before the locomotive, which has spent the winter in Ohio, leaves, it will be in front of the Ohio State Capitol Building in Columbus, then a reception will be hosted in the statehouse that evening. On April 26-27, it will visit Indianapolis, where it will be placed on rail between Fishers and Noblesville. Michigan City is the last stop before going to Elgin and then the West Coast for the remainder of 2014.

In 2015, the entire train will travel the original route and stop in Michigan City on May 1.

As the 150th anniversary of President 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. One of the final stops was in Michigan City on May 1, 1865.

Master mechanic Dave Kloke of Elgin, Ill., is an avid Lincoln enthusiast who began to build an exact replica of the original funeral train locomotive nearly 15 years ago as a hobby, which then became a mission. The original Leviathan locomotive did not pull Lincoln's funeral train. That locomotive was not completed until 1868. However, the Leviathan is the same model of locomotive (a "4-4-0" in trainspeak) as those that pulled the original train.

Now, Kloke and his team at the Historic Railroad Equipment Association, a registered 501(c)3 organization, are working to finish the funeral car, The United States. It is the centerpiece of The 2015 Lin-

coln Funeral Train. The organization hopes a preliminary run of the route with the Leviathan will take place in 2014, and the actual route with the fully completed train on the dates the original train rode will commence on April 21, 2015.

Committees throughout the areas the funeral train traveled through are being formed to help organize and prepare for this historic event. The La Porte County Lincoln Funeral Train Committee was formed with representatives from several organizations throughout La Porte County to 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 train, as well as costs involved in taking the train along its historic route. There are many donation levels available. Please consider a donation and be part of this historic recreation.

Donations can be made at www.the2015lincolnfuneraltrain.com or make a check out to The Historic Railroad Equipment Association and send it to: Historic Railroad Equipment Association, 1325 Spaulding Road, Elgin, IL 60120.

Please let the committee know if you make a donation so the committee can track the progress of La Porte County's participation. Contact Jane Daley at the La Porte County Convention & Visitors Bureau at (219) 872-5055, Ext. 307, or email jane@michigancitylaporte.com



The Leviathan is the same model of locomotive as those that pulled the original funeral train.

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# **Coloring Contest Winners**



New Buffalo Savings Bank has announced the 2013 Cookies with Santa Coloring Contest winners. Children of all ages were invited to eat cookies and color with Santa, with winners receiving pre-filled piggy banks. Winners were chosen in categories of age and creativity. They included: Riley Henry, Ashlyn Herbst, Anana Shaw, Aaron James and Lily Morse.





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#### Lake Michigan Youth Orchestra Plans Spring Term Auditions

The Lake Michigan Youth Orchestra will have springterm auditions for its three ability-based youth orchestras: Concert Strings, Encore



Strings and Youth Symphony.

The appointment-only auditions are between 6 and 9 p.m. EST Tuesday, Feb. 18, at Upton Middle School, 800 Maiden Lane, St. Joseph, Mich.

New students should prepare a piece that demonstrates his/her present level of accomplishments. Returning members don't have to audition unless interested in advancing to a higher-level group.

New students also will need to demonstrate proficiency in scales as required of the Michigan MSBOA Proficiency I, and to sight-read. The requirements are listed under LMYO on the Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra website at www.smso.org.

Students auditioning for the Concert Strings or Encore Strings orchestras may perform a piece representative of their present expertise level. All students auditioning for any of the three orchestras should call the SMSO office at (269) 982-4030 to schedule a 15-minute slot.

Rehearsals begin Monday, Feb. 24, continuing each Monday through the second week of May. Concerts are:

- 4 p.m. EDT Sunday, March 23. The annual "Side-by-Side" concert, which features the youth orchestra performing with the SMSO.
- 4 p.m. EDT Sunday, May 11. The spring concert features all three youth orchestras at the Howard Performing Arts Center in Berrien Springs, Mich.

The spring semester registration fee is \$100 per student and \$55 for additional students of the same family. The fee covers all aspects of the program and entitles each student to a free pass to all SMSO Men-

del Mainstage concerts, SMSO sectionals and a pizza party. Each family also receives a voucher for two free adult tickets to the SMSO-LMYO

Side-by-Side concert and a 25 percent discount off single ticket prices for all SMSO Mendel Mainstage concerts. A limited number of need-based scholarships are available through the SMSO office for registration fees. These scholarships involve working for the LMYO organization.



The 140-member Youth Orchestra is divided into three sections:

- Concert Strings for string players with a minimum of one year of experience. Rehearsals are from 6 to 7:30 p.m. EDT Mondays at Upton Middle School.
- Encore Strings for more advanced middleschool string players. Rehearsals are from 6 to 7:30 p.m. EDT Mondays at Upton Middle School.
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#### MCHS Students in Exhibit



Nineteen Michigan City High School students participated in Indiana University-South Bend's second High School Exhibition. The students were honored during a gallery reception on Feb. 7. Pictured are: (bottom row, from left) Courtney Fitts, Ali Schliephake, Abbey Schoonaert and Briana Glowacki. The middle row is (from left) Skye Ponder, Vincent Kolasa and Mackenzie Clark. The back row is (from left) Kaitlin Emerick, Kalin Dombkowski, Bailey Holkan and Alex Lanier. Not pictured are Joe Gondeck, Chelsey Hill, Kayla Stark, Venus Bikos, Jaden Lane, Raychelle DeAnda, Nick Marsh and Justin Morlan.

#### **About the Cover**

For James McDonald Weatherhill, seeing his work on the cover of our Valentine's Day edition will provide a long-awaited sense of closure.

Weatherhill, who has designed past covers for The Beacher, and who in the 1990s designed Michigan City's official logo, first worked on this cover at the request of the late Sally Montgomery, who ran The Beacher with her husband, Jerry. He never finished it due to personal circumstances.

"A part of me always felt that I had in some way

# HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY



let her down," We ather hill said of Sally Montgomery in an email to The Beacher.

That's why The Beacher is honored to run Weatherhill's work on our Valentine's Day edition cover.

Sally would have loved it.



# Michigan City Green Drinks a Catalyst for Informing and Inspiring

by M.E. Cunningham

It's a bar.

A warm yellow light envelops the scene, a stark contrast to the drab cold outside. In the dining room, a chic couple holds hands across a small table, awaiting their order. A trio of women celebrates a friend's new job. Nearby, a band of men wraps around a pitcher of beer like jowly, Dionysian constellations while

You know, it's a bar.

Typically, in a bar, if a guy says something like he's discovered a new plant in a national park, your eyebrows might arc suspiciously. If that person, however, is a research ecologist and self-described geek who works for the government and has received the Paul H. Douglas Award, any potential skepticism starts to recede, even if he admits to having just indulged in a cold one.



Sharon Carnes (left), relaxing with friend Bonnie Schaaf, calls Michigan City Green Drinks an "eclectic" group of people.

City effort since it began, along with continuing to volunteer for the Valparaiso group.

"This is really community building" she said "I

"This is really community building," she said. "I had originally started to network to get into the environmental network in the region, and I have been able to meet just about everybody that I had on my list to meet just through this because everybody comes, everybody knows everybody. It's really cool."

Before each meeting, early arrivals stake out spots, exchange gossip and news and wait for the announcements to start.

On this night, Sharon Carnes, a visiting communications professor for DeVry University, was holding spots for a few friends.

"It's pretty eclectic," Carnes said of the group and the programs offered. She initially learned about Green Drinks from the website 219GreenConnect



Retired Michigan City physician Bill Rosevear attended the January meeting with his wife, Irene.



Illinois resident Chuck Dieringor enjoys attending Michigan City Green Drinks meetings.

This is not your typical Thursday night at Shoreline Brewery, 208 Wabash St., Michigan City, but events like these are now commonplace.

For the past year, on the third Thursday of every month — even on this frigid, snowy night — a big crowd packs the former non-smoking section of the establishment, tucked around the end of the bar that's cordoned off from the dining room for what appears to be some kind of meeting or rally.

It's Green Drinks, a movement that has spread to thousands of cities in more than 70 countries. January marked the one-year anniversary of the Northwest Indiana Green Drinks' Michigan City chapter. The premise is simple. People want to learn, discuss and organize around what's happening in the world's environment and their own communities.

"Our first meeting, we had over 60 people, people from Kalamazoo, Chicago — we had so many people we couldn't get everyone into the room," said Nancy Moldenhauer, who along with Dennis Brittain spearheaded the Michigan City effort.

"I'm amazed. I'm blown away by it. People have told me that they've been so impressed by the quality of speakers we have."

Another key feature of Green Drinks is the opportunity to meet like-minded people in the area. As a young professional interested in supporting environmental issues, Sarah Weaver has taken particular advantage of this aspect. The St. John resident, who works for the Environmental Protection Agency in Chicago and was sporting an Indiana University hoody, said she's supported the Michigan



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Sarah Weaver (from left), Dennis Brittain, Nancy Moldenhauer and speaker Noel Pavolovic gather around the cake celebrating the group's one-year anniversary in Michigan City.

and has been regularly attending since then.

Next, I spotted the evening's speaker, Noel Pavlovic, a research ecologist with the U.S. Geological Survey and the aforementioned recipient of the Paul H. Douglas Award, the highest honor bestowed by Save the Dunes, which has been dedicated to protecting the Indiana National Dunes Lakeshore since the early 1950s. It is typically reserved for volunteers, but according to its website, Save the Dunes wanted to mark a shift in focus that credits scientists and other national park employees who significant aid conservation goals.

Talking with Pavlovic, his passion and depth of knowledge, along with a keen sense of humor and humility, became clear right away.

"The Indiana Dunes, for plants, is a diversity hotspot," he said. "It's amazing given all the things that have happened in the landscape."

Once the crowd gave Pavlovic their attention, some late arrivals standing in the doorway scoping for seats amid the back-and-forth bustle of the waitress ferrying drinks to those seated at tables, he weaved an indelible, self-effacing personal touch into his presentation, which broadly combed through noteworthy vegetation trends and environmental forces shaping the current Dunes ecosystem.

He mentioned being born prematurely, which led to a vision impairment, but it was his sense of sight, stilted as it may have been, that led to an early defining moment in his life, which predated his professional career that's spanned more than 30 years. He was only 6 visiting Yosemite National Park with his family. He recalled seeing a plant growing out of snow, becoming "so transfixed that my family grabbed my arm and said, 'We have to keep going."

Later, he chanced a joke that under some circumstances only a researcher might enjoy.

"Everybody gets excited about the charismatic megafauna — big animals — well, I get excited by the charismatic microflora," he quipped as he rattled through a colorful laundry list of common plants he encountered his first summer in the Indiana Dunes in 1983. "I never used so much bug spray as I did that first summer."

There were some sobering and provocative elements to Pavlovic's remarks, too. The tinkering of environmental management is, in some ways, like playing God, and there aren't always clearly defined paths of right and wrong decisions, but he did highlight that inaction is not desirable.

"When we decide to do nothing, we've made a management decision," he said. "If we don't go after Oriental bittersweet (an invasive species threatening native varieties in the Dunes), then we've decided to let it take over."

Earlier in the meeting, before Pavlovic's presentation ended with a loud round of applause and hollers from the audience, I talked with Brittain and Moldenhauer.

"Where's your drink?" I asked.

"I only drink water until the program is over," Moldenhauer said with a laugh.

"Is that the same with you Dennis?," I inquired.

"No, no, no no, once I can get into the table, I'll be sharing."

I asked what they'd say to someone who's always said Michigan City Green Drinks looks interesting, but still hasn't attended a meeting.

"It's fun. It's inspirational and it's..." Moldenhauer said as Brittain jumped in, "It's better than being on the sidelines. It's much better to be in the game."

(The nextmeeting 6:30 p.m.Thursday, Feb. 20, at ShorelineBrewery, 208 Wabash St. More information is available by calling (219) 874-6809 for more information.)



Noel Pavlovic stayed after his talk to address questions from those attending the meeting.



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#### "Look What's Up" Exhibit

Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St., will present an exhibit of its "Look What's Up" artists in February.

The program is offered to artists who want an individual panel in the upstairs gallery to display their work. In February, participating artists also are presenting their artwork in the first-floor main gallery space. The artists include: Ken Zaborski (painter and sculptor from Chesterton); Rita Berg (painter and sculptor from St. John); Kathy Los-Rathburn (painter from Griffith); Michiko Boorman (painter from Indianapolis); Sally Hooker (painter from Munster); and Martha McGuckin (digital photographer from Valparaiso). Most work on display is for sale.

A closing reception is from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 23, during which treats and beverages will be served and people can speak with the artists.

Call the center at (219) 926-4711 or visit www. chestertonart.com for more information.

#### **River Valley Garden Club**

"Stemming the Tide of Garlic Mustard" is the topic of the first River Valley Garden Club meeting of the year, which is at noon EST Tuesday, Feb. 18, at Harbert Community Church, 6444 Harbert Road, Sawyer, Mich.

Anyone interested in gardening is welcome. Guests learn 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.

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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: March 10 and 24 and April 7 and 28. Call at least one week in advance to sign up.

#### **Senior Lifestyles**

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

The group meets from 9 to 10 a.m. at the Luhr County Park Nature Center. Dates are: March 5, April 2 and May 7.

#### Parent & Child Discovery Days

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

Programs are from 6 to 7:15 p.m. at Luhr County Park. The cost is \$5 per child/per program. Preregistration and payment are required at least one week in advance or until full, whichever comes first.

The early 2014 lineup is:

- Feb. 26 "Wild Wind."
- March 12 "Bat Basics."
- March 26 "Star Theater."
- April 9 "Flower Power."

#### Daddy Daughter Dance, "Princess Style"

The dance is from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Feb. 28 and March 1, at Red Mill County Park.

Girls can come dressed up for the evening of dancing, refreshments and pictures.

The cost is \$15 per couple and \$5 for each additional daughter. Pre-registration is required at least one week in advance or until the dance is full, whichever comes first. Registration fills up quickly.

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#### **Notre Dame Teacher Honored**



Linda Barr and (most) of the Notre Dame Catholic School Class of 2021 celebrate her 20 years with the Gary Diocese.

Linda Barr was surprised during Catholic Schools Week with a celebration honoring her 20 years of service as a Catholic educator in the Gary Diocese.

Serving Notre Dame students and families in many capacities, Barr was honored after the Catholic Schools Week volleyball match, with the Notre Dame seventh- and eighth-grade PAC Championships Volleyball Team defeating school faculty and staff in two straight sets.

"As I sat listening to Mr. (Ben) Potts honoring 'an outstanding professional educator who exemplifies what a Catholic educator should be,' I was totally clueless and wondered who it could be," Barr said in a press release.

Before the assembled school community gave her three cheers, Barr received an engraved token of appreciation that says "20 Years – Preparing Young People for Extraordinary Lives" on a heart containing the "Angel of God" prayer, which she has helped students learn over the years.

Barr thanked everyone for the surprise, which even her own granddaughter, a Notre Dame secondgrader, kept from her.



Students cheer for Linda Barr during the volleyball game.



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#### La Porte County Library

The winter reading program continues through March 1 at all library locations for students in kindergarten through fifth grade. Activities, games, reading and other programs help earn rewards. Stop at any library to get started. Thirty participants will win entry into the grand prize event: a Lego Bridge Building Workshop and a ticket to Legoland in Schaumburg, Ill. Preschool-age children complete activities and attend programs with their parents to receive a prize.

Other library programs include:

• "Worst Case Scenario — Winter Survival Edition" at 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 15, at the main library, 904 Indiana Ave., La Porte.

Teens 6-12 ponder scenarios such as being stranded in a blizzard or falling through ice.

• "Friendship Bracelets" from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 17, at the main library.

The day-long program gives participants the chance to make, give or trade the bracelets.

• History Club at 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 18, at the Coolspring branch, 7089 W. County Road 400 North.

Read any book about the Industrial Revolution or Jazz Age (1914-1928). Participants who've done so can share books and do a project related to the time period.

• "Indiana's Underground Railroad" from 6 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 20, at the main library.

The workshop, presented by Indiana State Museum, stresses the importance of the Underground Railroad in Indiana and the nation before, during and after the Civil War. Characters from the time period lead participants through various levels of the presentation, which highlights hands-on activities as part of the experience. It is intended for students in third grade and older, as well as adults interested in state history.

• "Travels in Japan" at 1 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 20, at the Coolspring branch, 7089 W. County Road 400 North.

Brendan Hubbs, who lived in Tokyo for a year, will discuss Japan's varied islands, unique holidays and festivals and Japanese arts, folklore and food.

#### **Polish-American Cultural Society**

The Polish-American Cultural Society of Northwest Indiana, Michigan City chapter, meets at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 19, at the old St. Mary's School, 321 W. 11th St., Michigan City.

Meeting activities include a beginners' Polish language session and discussion on Polish-related topics. Call Theresa Child at (219) 464-1369 or email polamnwi@yahoo.com for more information.

## "Clybourne Park"

Notre Dame Film, Television and Theatre will present Bruce Norris' Pulitzer Prize-winning comedy "Clybourne Park" on Feb. 20 through March 2 in the Philbin Studio Theatre at the university's DeBartolo Performing Arts Center.

"Clybourne Park" was conceived in response to Lorraine Hansberry's groundbreaking play "A Raisin in the Sun." In it, a black family confronts mounting resistance while preparing to move into an all-white Chicago neighborhood in 1959. "In Clybourne Park," Norris offers a different perspective, that of the white family selling the house. The second act is set in the same modest bungalow 50 years later as the neighborhood, now all-black, is gentrifying.

To invite conversation about issues raised by the play, the department will host a free panel discussion, "Some Change is Inevitable: A Conversation about Revitalization and Gentrification in South Bend Neighborhoods," at 5 p.m. EST Sunday, Feb. 23, after the 2:30 p.m. EST performance. Moderated by Jackie Rucker, Notre Dame's associate director of community relations, the panel will feature Jeff Gibney, South Bend Heritage Foundation founder and director of planning and development, Bernice Freeman, neighborhood advocate for equity in housing and former member of CASH Plus (Community Action for South Bend Housing); and Marguerite Taylor, a board member of Northeast Neighborhood Revitalization Organization and officer of the North East Neighborhood Council.

Tickets for the show, which are \$15 for the general public, \$12 for seniors (65 and older), faculty and staff and \$7 for students, may be purchased online at http://performingarts.nd.edu, by phone at (574) 631-2800 or in person at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center ticket office. No tickets are required for the panel.

Performances (all Eastern Standard Time) are at:

- 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 20-22.
- 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 25, through Saturday, March 1.

• 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 23, and Sunday, March 2. Free parking is available on performance nights and daily after 5 p.m. EST in a gated parking lot just north of the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Additional free parking is available in the nearby Legends of Notre Dame lot. An accessible lot for disabled patrons is available immediately adjacent to the center. A valid hangtag or license plate is required. There is a 10-minute parking zone on the north drive of the center for ticket pickup. Non-campus (paid) parking is available at Eddy Street Commons, just south of the center.

Story idea? Call (219) 879-0088 or email drew@thebeacher.com





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# The World of Dr. Seuss

Pine Fine Arts Magnet Elementary School presented the musical, directed by Becky Tiedeman, on Feb. 6



Photos by Andrew Tallackson















## **Sculptor Focus of Exhibit**

South Shore Arts will present "William Dawson," a free exhibit organized by the Montgomery (Ala.) Museum of Fine Arts, through Sunday, April 20, at The Center for Visual and Performing Arts, 1040 Ridge Road, Munster.



William Dawson sits amid his many creations.

Dawson grew up on his maternal grandfather Samuel Arnet's 654-acre farm in Huntsville, Ala., but spent most of his life in Chicago. He worked for 35 years as a produce distributor in the South Water Street market, where he became the first black member of the Teamster Union. It was not until he semi-retired in 1965 at 64 that he began to seriously devote time to art.

Working part time as a security guard, Dawson passed the time by carving wood figures. When he retired completely, he focused on creating sculptures of men and women that range in size from several inches to several feet. Along with carved wooded sculptures, totems and works on paper, the exhibit features other works from Chicago-area collections.

A reception is from 1 to 3 p.m. Sunday, March 2. Regular viewing hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday.

Visit www.southshoreartsonline.org for more information.

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#### **Westchester Public Library**

The following programs are through Westchester Public Library:

• Mystery buff and "Mad About Mysteries" regular Pat Mitchell will discuss the 15th annual "Love is Murder Conference" at 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 15, at the Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.

"Love is Murder" is the Midwest's premiere mystery/romantic, suspense/thriller conference for writers and fans.

• Both Westchester Public Library branches—the Westchester Township History Museum and Library Service Center—will be closed for President's Day on Monday, Feb. 17.

The branches reopen Tuesday, Feb. 18, and resume regular hours.

Also, the Chesterton Adult Learning Center and Westchester Township Trustee office will be closed on President's Day.

• "We're Crazy for Chocolate" at 12:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 19, at Hageman Library, 100 Francis St., Porter.

Join Annetta Jones from Purdue Extension as she shares facts about chocolate. Samples will be given. Space is limited, so registration is necessary by calling the library at (219) 926-9080.

• A beginning Microsoft Word class for adults from 1 to 4 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 27, in the Bertha Wood meeting room on the second floor of Thomas Library, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

Attendees must have some computer knowledge and know how to use a mouse. Typing skills are preferred, but not necessary. The class is free, but registration is required and starts Thursday, Feb. 13. Visit or call the library at (219) 926-7696 to register, or register online at www.wpl.lib.in.us, then click on the Bits and Bytes link.

• Free IT-40 forms and basic federal forms are available in the Serials/Automation room on the second floor of Thomas Library.

Instruction booklets also are available.

## **Grand Opening Reception**

A free grand-opening reception is from 6 to 10 p.m. EST Saturday, Feb. 15, for Vincent, the new studio/showroom at 11 S. Elm St. across from Elm Street Bistro in Three Oaks, Mich.

In addition to the artist/designer's furniture made from reclaimed wood, the studio will feature oil paintings, sculptures and organic jewelry.

Wine, food, chocolate and music is planned. Contact Jan Gildo at redarrowgallery@gmail.com or (269) 469-1950 for more information.



# American Red Cross

The following American Red Cross blood drives are scheduled:

- Monday, Feb. 17, noon to 5 p.m., IU Health La Porte Hospital auditorium, 1007 W. Lincolnway, La Porte. Donate and receive a \$3 lunch coupon.
- Monday, Feb. 17, 3 to 7 p.m., Anytime Fitness, 59 Pine Lake Ave., La Porte.
- Friday, Feb. 21, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., South Central Junior-Senior High School South Gymnasium, 9808 S. County Road 600 West, Union Mills.
- Sunday, Feb. 23, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Salem United Church of Christ Memorial Hall, 302 S. Main St., Wanatah.
- Thursday, Feb. 27, 7:45 a.m. to 1:45 p.m., A.K. Smith Career Center Cafeteria, 817 Lafayette St., Michigan City. Receive a T-shirt.
- Friday, Feb. 28, 8 a.m. to noon, Franciscan St. Anthony Health St. Francis Hall, 301 W. Homer St., Michigan City.
- Friday, Feb. 28, 1:30 to 5:30 p.m., Kingsford Heights Elementary School gymnasium, 460 Evanston Road, Kingsford Heights. This is a Pint Size Heroes blood drive.

To schedule an appointment to donate, call (800) RED CROSS (800-733-2767) or visit redcrossblood. org for more information. Individuals who are 17 (16 with parental permission in Indiana and Ohio), meet weight and height requirements (110 pounds or more, depending on their height) and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. Individuals should take their Red Cross blood donor card or other form of positive ID when donating.

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#### "One Billion Rising for Justice"

A "One Billion Rising for Justice" ceremony is from 4 to 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 14, at the Long Beach Old School Community Center, 2501 Oriole Trail.

"One Billion Rising for Justice," according to its website, www.onebillionrising.org, invites women survivors of violence and their loved ones to meet at places where "they are entitled to justice," including courthouses, police stations, government offices, school administration buildings, work places, sites of environmental injustice, military courts, embassies, places of worship and homes.

The free ceremony in Long Beach aims to inspire those attending to speak and share stories.

Call Jane Neulieb at (219) 874-8575 or Ange Benz at (219) 874-3754 for more information.





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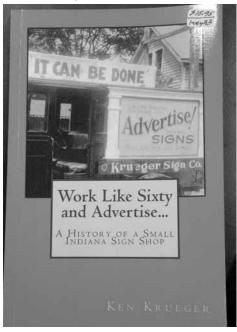
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#### **Museum Gives January Update**

The La Porte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave., has released its January report.

Visitors came from four counties and five states, along with three tour groups: seniors from the Church of God, a Christian school group and a Knox High School group.

Events included a program on the La Porte County courthouse by County Historian Fern Eddy Schultz. The museum's vast collection of vintage Valentines were displayed and will remain so through the end of February.



The new book, Ken Krueger's "Work Like Sixty and Advertise: A History of a Small Indiana Sign Shop," is available in the La Porte County Historical Society Museum gift shop.

Donations were:

- Photos and items for the sale table, Ellie Schnable.
- Archival information, photos, scrapbooks and other items, Donna Weist, Elaine Church of the Porter County Historical Society and Dennis Reidel.
  - CDs for the new CD player, Peter Kesling.
- Christmas lights and ornaments, Kim Haddad. Upcoming events include a program, "The Great Loves of La Porte County," at 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 15, in the meeting room. Anyone with a love story to share is encouraged to email the museum at info@

share is encouraged to email the museum at info@ laportecountyhistory.org. Forms also are available at the front desk. Refreshments will be served.

The spring display is "Diners & Drive-ins: Hometown Memories." Anyone wishing to donate photographs or memorabilia from La Porte County in the 1950s or 1960s is asked to contact the museum at

(219) 324-6767. Requested are restaurant items, but poodle skirts or a jukebox are needed as well. A sock hop is planned for April and a 1950s-style variety show in May.

The Historical Society also needs donations of ladies' military uniforms. Anyone wishing to volunteer may call (219) 324-6767 and ask for Museum Curator Susie Richter.

#### "The Origins and Evolution of Ska"

The Purdue University-North Central Honors Program will present a free lecture by Chesterton-based music journalist Heather Augustyn, "The Origins and Evolution of Ska — from Jamaica, to England, to the U.S. and the Rest of the World," from noon to 1 p.m. Monday, Feb. 17, in the Library-Science-Faculty Building, Room 170A.

The musical genre began in Jamaica in the 1950s, then traveled to England before reaching the U.S. in the 1980s. Augustyn's work traces that flow of cultural materials alongside the political, social and historical circumstances that made it possible.

Augustyn is the author of three books on ska using biography, oral history and cultural analysis: "Ska: an Oral History" (2010); "Don Drummond: The Genius and Tragedy of the World's Greatest Trombonist" (2013); and "Ska: The Rhythm of Liberation" (2013).

Regarded as an expert on Jamaican music, Augustyn has been an invited lecturer at the International Reggae Conference and hosted music programming on Chicago's National Public Radio station. Her work is accessible to a broad audience and includes a blog exploring the cultural history of ska (skabook.com/foundationska/).

Visit www.pnc.edu/honors or email honorsprogram@pnc.edu for more information.

#### Sarett Nature Center

Families or adults can make a birdhouse at 10 a.m. EST Saturday, Feb. 15, at Sarett Nature Center's Woodshop, 2300 Benton Center Road, Benton Harbor, Mich.

The cost is \$20 per house. Pre-registration is required by calling call (269) 927-4832.

## **Michigan City Public Library**

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

• Basket weaving at 9:15 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 15.

Margie Warner teaches the single-session class where participants take home their baskets. A \$10 non-refundable deposit is required for materials, and prices vary. Sign up and see the basket at the library circulation desk.

• "Understanding Your Dreams" at 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 15.

Dream therapist Terese Fabbri reveals how to remember and understand dreams.

• Films on DVD Series: "All is Lost" at 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 16.

Academy Award-nominated writer/director J.C. Chandor ("Margin Call") helms the adventure-drama starring Robert Redford. The movie, rated PG-13, is co-sponsored by the Purdue University-North Central Odyssey Series.

• School's Out Movie: "Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs 2" at 10 a.m. Monday, Feb. 17.

The movie is rated PG. Light refreshments will be served. Children 18 and younger have the chance to win a DVD of the film.

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









#### **Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore**

The following programs are through Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore:

• "Stewardship Days: Waking up the Sugar Bush" from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Feb. 15, at Chellberg Farm.

Join a ranger to help prepare for Maple Sugar Time events.

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

• Join a ranger for a snowshoe hike from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 15.

Meet at the Bailly/Chellberg contact station for a quick lesson on using snowshoes, then take a guided snowshoe walk. A limited number of snowshoes are available. If there is not enough snow, a nature hike will be offered.

The Bailly/Chellberg parking lot is off Mineral Springs Road between U.S. 12 and 20.

• "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.

The center is on Lake Street north of U.S. 12 in the Miller Beach neighborhood of Gary. Call (219) 395-1821 for more information.

• "Kid's Rule" from 1 to 3 p.m. every 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 center is at 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. Call (219) 395-1882 for more information.

#### "All is Lost" Next Film in Series

Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St., as part of its winter film series, will show "All is Lost" at 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 16.

The free showing is offered in collaboration with Purdue University-North Central's Odyssey Arts and Cultural Events Series.

Rated PG-13 for brief strong language, the movie stars Robert Redford as a man cast adrift in the Indian Ocean after his boat collides with a stray shipping container. The film contains little dialogue. Through Redford and the film's cinematography, the viewer is left to interpret much about the stranded sailor fighting for survival.

Call Judy Jacobi, PNC assistant vice chancellor of marketing and campus relations, at (219) 785-5200, Ext. 5593, for more information.

# Call The Beacher With Your News (219) 879-0088

#### **Indiana Dunes State Park**

The following events are planned through Indiana Dunes State Park:

#### Saturday, Feb. 15

#### • 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. — Clay Sculpting Workshop: Owls.

Register for the Nature Center workshop taught by Dunes-area sculptor Rita Jackson where participants learn the art of stoneware clay sculpting. Create an owl sculpture that will be fired in the kiln for pickup later. Registration is required by calling the Nature Center at (219) 926-1390. The \$10 cost covers supplies, instruction and entrance fees.

#### Sunday, Feb. 16

#### • 10 a.m. — "Feed the Birds."

Join a naturalist outside the Nature Center for the daily feeding. Get close views of chickadees, cardinals and woodpeckers.

#### • 2 p.m. — "100 Years of Indiana State Parks."

Meet at the Nature Center auditorium for the 50-minute documentary, produced in 2009 by PBS, that captures 100 years of Indiana's state parks.

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.

#### **Indoor Flea Markets**

New Troy (Mich.) Community Center, 13372 California Road, will host its indoor flea market on Saturdays, Feb. 15 and 22 and March 22 and 29.

Past flea markets have included collectors' knives, books, local food products, plants, tools, antiques, jewelry, hand-woven rugs, crafts, furniture and other housewares. Visitors can place orders for heirloom seed collections at the February markets, with seeds distributed in March. The center's Used Book Store and Used Furniture Store will be open.

Vendor spaces are available for \$10. The cost includes a table and chair. Contact Janna at (773) 275-1514. Del at (269) 985-3087 or info@centeroftheworld.net for reservations or more information.

The center will be open for dealer setup 6 to 7 p.m. EST Friday and 8 a.m. EST Saturday. Doors open to the public from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. EST Saturday. Admission is free, and a homecooked lunch can be purchased.

Proceeds from space rentals benefit the center, an all-volunteer facility run by the non-profit organization Friends of New Troy.

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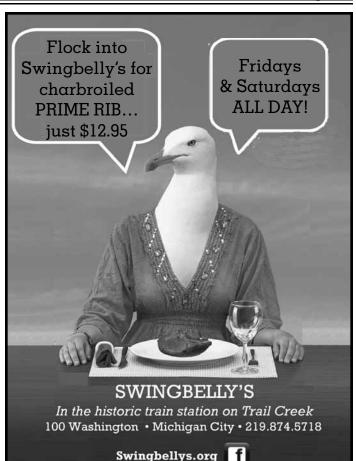
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## THIS WEEK IN HISTORY



**On February 13, 1633**, Italian astronomer Galileo was arrested in Rome and charged with heresy.

**On February 13, 1635,** the Boston Latin School, the oldest public school in America, was established in Boston.

**On February 13, 1719,** the first magazine to be published in America, The *American Weekly Mercury*, was printed in Philadelphia by Andrew Bradford.

**On February 13, 1795,** the University of North Carolina became the first U.S. state university to admit students with the arrival of Hinton James, who was the only student on campus for two weeks.

On February 13, 1914, Joseph in the Land of Egypt opened with a new high for admission to a movie — 50 cents per person. Most of the nation's major newspapers headlined moviegoers complaints about such exorbitantly high prices.

On February 13, 1996, world chess champion Garry Kasparov asked for a draw in his third game against the IBM supercomputer "Deep Blue," leaving the six-game match in Philadelphia tied at 1-1/2 games each.

On February 14, 1849, James Polk became the first president to be photographed while in office.

**On February 14, 1895,** Oscar Wilde's final play, "The Importance of Being Earnest," opened in London.

**On February 14, 1920,** the League of Women Voters was founded in Chicago; its first president was Maude Wood Park.

**On February 14, 1929,** in what became known as Chicago's "St. Valentine's Day Massacre," seven rivals to the Al Capone gang were gunned down in a garage on North Clark Street.

On February 14, 1931, Bela Lugosi's first "Dracula" movie was released. Dracula's rather unusual drinking problem was the basis for more than 100 vampire films that were to follow.

**On February 14, 1962,** First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy conducted a televised tour of the White House.

**On February 15, 1820**, Susan B. Anthony, who was destined to lead the world's crusade for women's rights, was born in Adams, MA. As her life drew to a close, she said, "I have been striving for over sixty years for a little bit of justice... and yet I must die without obtaining it."

On February 15, 1842, the first United States postage stamps with adhesive on the back were introduced by a private mail service in New York.

On February 15, 1958, the Michigan City area

was "clobbered" by the biggest recorded snowfall in history. A slow breeze, picking up moisture over the length of Lake Michigan, dumped its entire load on just a few square miles of land. Three to five feet of snow (depending on who did the measuring), paralyzed the area for several days.

On February 15, 1980, Eric Heiden won the first of five gold medals at the Winter Olympics in Lake Placid, NY.

**On February 15, 1997,** at the age of 14, Tara Lipinski became the youngest person in history to win the women's U.S. Figure Skating Championship.

On February 15, 2004, Dale Earnhardt Jr. won the Daytona 500 on the same track where his father was killed three years earlier.

On February 15, 2008, adventurer and business tycoon Steve Fossett, 63, was declared dead by a Cook County judge, five months after his small plane vanished after taking off from an airstrip near Yerington, NV.

On February 16, 1923, in Egypt's "Valley of the Kings," the treasure-laden tomb of Tutankhamen ("King Tut") was opened by archaeologists.

On February 16, 1948, the first daily television news was broadcast on NBC.

**On February 17, 1897**, the PTA was founded in the United States as the "National Congress of Mothers." It later expanded to include fathers, teachers, and other citizens. Today, the official name of the organization is: "The National Congress of Parents and Teachers."

**On February 17, 1904,** Italian Giacomo Puccini's opera, *Madama Butterfly*, received a poor reception at its premiere at Milan's La Scala Theater.

On February 17, 1933, Newsweek was first published.

**On February 17, 1965**, the U.S. spacecraft *Ranger Eight* was launched from Cape Kennedy, Florida, and made a crash-landing on the moon three days later after sending back more than 7,000 pictures.

**On February 18, 1546,** German religious reformer Martin Luther died at the age of 62.

**On February 18, 1953**, *Bwana Devil*, the movie that heralded the 3-D fad of the 1950s, opened in New York.

**On February 18, 1953,** Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz scored an \$8 million contract to continue their TV show (*I Love Lucy*) through the 1955 season. This was the highest single TV contract to that date.

**On February 18, 2001,** Dale Earnhardt, one of the NASCAR circuit's most successful race-car driver, was killed in the Daytona 500 when his car hit a wall. He was 49.

On February 19, 1976, Patricia Hearst, at her bank robbery trial in San Francisco, invoked the 5th Amendment 19 times.



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#### **Activities to Explore**

#### In the Local Area:

**February 14** — "One Billion Rising for Justice" ceremony, 4-7 p.m., Long Beach Old School Community Center, 2501 Oriole Trail. Info: Jane Neulieb/ (219) 874-8575, Ange Benz/(219) 874-3754.

February 14-16 and 21-23 — "The Dream Continues," Footlight Theatre, 1705 Franklin St., Michigan City. Times: 8 p.m. Fri./Sat., 2 p.m. Sun. Tickets: \$15/adults, \$10/children 12 and younger. Info/reservations: www.footlightplayers.org/(219) 874-4035.

**February 15** — "Understanding Your Dreams," 2 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

**February 15** — Purdue University-North Central "Alumni Night" at men's basketball game, 7 p.m., La Porte Civic Auditorium, 1001 Ridge St., La Porte. Free admission for alumni/families.

**February 15** — "The Great Loves of La Porte County," 1 p.m., La Porte County Historical Society Museum meeting room, 2405 Indiana Ave., La Porte. Info: (219) 324-6767/info@laportecountyhistory.org

**February 15** — "Stewardship Days: Waking up the Sugar Bush," 9 a.m.-noon, Chellberg Farm off Mineral Springs Road between U.S. 12 and 20. Info: (219) 395-1882.

**February 15** — "Clay Sculpting Workshop: Owls," 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., Indiana Dunes State Park Nature Center, Chesterton. Cost: \$10. Registration: (219) 926-1390.

**February 15** — Snowshoe hike, 1-2:30 p.m. Meet at the Bailly/Chellberg contact station off Mineral Springs Road between U.S. 12 and 20. Limited number of snowshoes available. Info: (219) 395-1882.

**February 15** — Grand-opening reception, 6-10 p.m. EST, Vincent, 11 S. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. Info: redarrowgallery@gmail.com/(269) 469-1950.

**February 15, 22** — Indoor flea market, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. EST, New Troy (Mich.) Community Center, 13372 California Road. Free admission.

**February 16** — Free Winter Film Series, "All is Lost," 2 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

**February 16** — Documentary: "100 Years of Indiana State Parks," 2 p.m., Indiana Dunes State Park Nature Center auditorium. Info: (219) 926-1390.

**February 16** — TiPsY TuNeS (live music), 2-5 p.m. EST, Journeyman Distillery, 109 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Info: tiffany@journeymandistillery.com

**February 17** — School's Out Movie: "Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs 2," 10 a.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

**February 17** — "The Origins and Evolution of Ska — from Jamaica, to England, to the U.S. and the Rest of the World," noon-1 p.m., Purdue University-North Central Library-Science-Faculty Build-

ing, Room 170A. Info: www.pnc.edu/honors, honor-sprogram@pnc.edu

**February 19** — The Polish-American Cultural Society of Northwest Indiana meeting, Michigan City chapter, 5 p.m., old St. Mary's School, 321 W. 11th St., Michigan City. Info: (219) 464-1369/polamnwi@yahoo.com

February 20-March 2 — Bruce Norris' Pulitzer Prize-winning comedy "Clybourne Park," Philbin Studio Theatre at University of Notre Dame DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Times, tickets, info: http://performingarts.nd.edu, (574) 631-2800.

**February 20** — "Indiana's Underground Railroad," 6-7 p.m., La Porte County Library, 904 Indiana Ave., La Porte.

**February 20** — "Travels in Japan" with Brendan Hubbs, 1 p.m., La Porte County Library Coolspring branch, 7089 W. County Road 400 North.

February 21 — Free open mic, "All You Need is Love!," 7 p.m. EST, The Acorn Theatre, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Part of Harbor Country's Chocolate Classic Month. Show starts at 8 p.m. EST. Info: www. acorntheater.com

Through February 28 — Valentine display, La Porte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave., La Porte. Cost: \$3/La Porte County residents, \$6 out-of-county. Info: (219) 324-6767.

**Through February 28** — "Look What's Up" artists exhibit, Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St. Closing reception: 2-4 p.m. Feb. 23. Info: (219) 926-4711/www.chestertonart.com

**Through March 10** — Work by artist Joyce Dille on display at Visit Michigan City La Porte Convention & Visitors Bureau in Marquette Mall.

#### **Farther Afield:**

**February 15** — Birdhouse-making workshop, 10 a.m. EST, Sarett Nature Center's Woodshop, 2300 Benton Center Road, Benton Harbor, Mich. Cost: \$20 per house. Pre-registration: (269) 927-4832.

**February 15** — The Trio, 7:30 p.m. EST, 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: http://www.boxfactoryforthearts.org/

**February 18** — River Valley Garden Club, noon EST, Harbert Community Church, 6444 Harbert Road, Sawyer, Mich. Info: (269) 426-3513, evpalulis@yahoo.com, www.rivervalleygardenclub.org

**February 18** — Lake Michigan Youth Orchestra appointment-only spring-term auditions, 6-9 p.m. EST, Upton Middle School, 800 Maiden Lane, St. Joseph, Mich. Time-slot reservations: (269) 982-4030.

Want your event included in Activities to Explore?
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#### MLK Jr. Day Youth Workshop



Michigan City High School students participated in the sixth Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day Youth Workshop on Jan. 20 at Merrillville High School. Activities challenged students to look at themselves, their relationships with others and how they can be empowered individually and as a group to make positive changes. Pictured are: (front row, from left) Rebeccah Dumortier, Madison Ritter, Kennedy Hobson, Christian Galvin, Richer Huynh and MCHS Teacher Mindy Thalmann. The middle row is (from left) Veronica DeBone, Brittany Burt, Braxton Hervey, Abigail Schoonaert and Marty Corley, Michigan City Police Department detective and Michigan City Area Schools board member. The back row is (from left) Donovan Wilson and Michael Smallwood and Gordon Terry.

#### **Beginning Cartooning Class**

Andrew Biancardi will offer a six-week Beginning Cartooning Class starting from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Monday, Feb. 24, at Chesterton Art Center, 115 E. Fourth St.

Biancardi will explain the history behind a different type of cartooning each week, along with giving students the opportunity to try their hand at each one. The styles include gag, editorial, caricature studies and comic strip.

The class is designed for beginning students, as well as more advanced students interested in a refresher course. The cost is \$60 for members and \$65 for non-members. Contact the center at (219) 926-4711 to register. Visit www.chestertonart.com for additional information.

#### **Handgun Shooting Course**

Michigan City Rifle Club, 4801 E. U.S. 20, will host an eight-hour NRA Basic Handgun Shooting Course at 9 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 15.

The course introduces the knowledge, skills and attitude necessary for safely owning and using a handgun. Fees range from \$175 to \$125 depending on if participants bring a handgun and ammunition or use the club's equipment. The fee includes light refreshments and lunch.

Email jotto32@gmail.com or call (219) 369-3577 for more information.

#### **Last Chance to Order Heirloom Seeds**

Saturday, Feb. 22, marks the deadline to order seeds from Friends of New Troy.

With packets provided by Seed Savers Exchange, the sale features everything from the Big Salad Bowl Collection to the Kids' Favorites Collection. Other offerings are Pizza Party, Container Magic, Heritage Garden and Flower Passion.

Each collection contains four seed packets for \$10. The seeds are heirlooms, meaning they were saved from a plant that has been passed from one generation to another, some for more than 100 years.

Orders are being accepted at the New Troy (Mich.) Community Center, Center of the World Woodshop Showroom and New Troy's Resale Shop, or by contacting Lorraine Hanover at (269) 469-5687 or lorrainehanover@yahoo.com. Seeds will be distributed in March.

Proceeds from the sale benefit the center, 13372 California Road, an all-volunteer facility run by the non-profit group Friends of New Troy.

Seed Savers Exchange is a non-profit group based in Iowa that aims to preserve diverse, but endangered garden heritages.



Feb. 4, 2014

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TEAM STANDING	WON	LOST
1. Alley Oops	13	3
2. Striking Beauties	12	4
3. Incredi-Bowls	10.5	5.5
HIGH INDIVIDUAL GAMES		SCORE
1. Susan O'Conor		177
2. Bina Gupta		176
3. Kathy Osborne		160
4. Ann Bogart		158
5. June Salmon		156
6. Tammy Vouri		155
•		

Three strikes in a row — Susan O'Conor, Kathy Osborne and Fran Lysaught

5-10

**SPLIT** 

1. Tina Sonderby

#### **PNC Alumni Night**

Purdue University-North Central will host an "Alumni Night" at the PNC men's basketball game with the Olivet Nazarene Tigers at 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 15, at La Porte Civic Auditorium, 1001 Ridge St., La Porte.

Alumni and their families are admitted free.

## Free Tax Service Through PNC

Students from Purdue University-North Central tax and accounting classes again are offering free assistance in preparing federal and state income tax returns.

The program provides basic income-tax return preparation to people with low to moderate incomes, people with disabilities and seniors.

Help will be available from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturdays from Feb. 15 through March 29 (except March 15) in Room 171 of the Technology Building.

Appointments are required. Walk-ins will not be accommodated unless free time is available at the time a taxpayer arrives. Due to a recent IRS change, tax returns now can be prepared for taxpayers who need to file an Indiana Return, but are not required to file a federal tax return (state only returns).

This is the 25th year PNC has participated in the Internal Revenue Service's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program, which offers free filing help to individuals and families with Gross Incomes of \$52,000 or less. Gross Income is defined as income from all sources. Tax returns will be prepared for income from wages, salaries, tips, pensions, ordinary interest, dividends, unemployment compensation or Social Security benefits.

Thomas Holets, continuing lecturer of accounting and coordinator of the PNC program, said the student VITA volunteers are prepared to help with basic returns, including the 1040, 1040A, 1040 EZ and the Indiana IT-40. Returns that include interest and dividend income, Itemized Deductions, Earned Income Credit and basic stock and bond transactions also will be prepared. Taxpayers are expected to participate in the IRS e-file program unless there is a technical reason that prevents from doing so. E-filing (electronic filing) is preferred by the IRS. It is free, quick and more secure than paper filing.

The volunteer tax preparers have completed 12 credit hours in accounting, including at least one tax course at PNC and passed a rigorous IRS examination on tax rules and filing procedures.

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- Form 1040 with Schedules A, B, EIC, D and R.
- Form 2441 (Child and Dependent Care Credit).
- Form 8863 (Educational Credits).
- Form 8812 (Additional Child Tax Credit).

Forms that will not be prepared are:

- Schedule C (Profit and Loss from business, such as cosmetic sales or other self-employment.
- Complicated and Advanced Schedule D (Capital Gains and Losses on portfolio stock sales).
  - Schedule E (Rents & Losses).
- ullet Schedule F (Farm Income or Income from Rental of Farm Property).
  - Form 2106 (Employee Business Expenses).
  - Form 3909 (Moving).
  - Form 8606 (Non-deductible IRA).
  - Form 8615 (Minor's Investment Income).
- Form SS-5 (Request for Social Security Number).
- Returns for taxpayers that are on active Military Duty.
  - Injured or Innocent Spouse Returns.
  - Cancellation of Debt.
- Health or Medical Savings Accounts (W-2 Box 12 Code W or W-2 Box 12 Code R). Help may be offered with these Health Savings accounts later in the season. Please call to ask for a callback if this type of return is offered, which would become available early in March.

Students do not prepare self-employment returns (no Schedule C, Schedule SE). This type of income is often reported on FORM 1099-MISC.

To request an appointment, call the PNC Business Department at (219) 785-5559 and leave a name and telephone number. Return calls to schedule appointments will be made starting the first week of February. Anyone who does not intend to keep the appointment noted on their reminder letter should call Cecilia Kajer at (219) 785-5263 prior to 1 p.m. on the Friday prior to the appointment.

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## **Museum Honors Neagu**

George Neagu, a community activist from Michigan City, received a charter member card on Monday, Feb. 3, from the Smithsonian National Museum of African-American History and Culture's director, Lonnie Bunch.

The museum's mission is to immerse tourists in African-American history, culture and music. Visitors will see how America's story and the African-American experience have been linked from earliest years to the present day.

The museum is being constructed on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. Already installed are a Pacific Railway car (segregated) and a 1930s-era guard tower from the Louisiana penitentiary at Angola. These will be two major inaugural objects centered on segregation.

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#### **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.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*
DUNESCAPE BEACH CLUB
LAKEFRONT CONDOS -- 2 and 3 bedrooms.
October-May 15 -- \$1,500 to \$2,000 per month
DUNESCAPE REALTY - 219/872-0588.

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

Booking for June/July 2014! 2 BR Lakefront Condo, Dunescape Beach Club, \$1,500/week (1 mo. min.) Call Cari @ (219) 898-5412.

2 BR, 1.75 BA Condo in Karwick Glen available now! \$900/mo + utilities. Call Cari @ (219) 898-5412

FURNISHED 3BR, 2BA HOUSE. Util. included.

Monthly rental from Jan.-June. \$900/mo. with credit check. 1/2 block from lake. Call 708-383-2635.

LONG BEACH POINTE — QUIET 1 bedroom in upper end unit. Washer/dryer in unit, dishwasher, deck, storage, pool and off-street parking. Gas/heat/water included. \$875/month plus electric. Security deposit, one-year lease. Please call 219-878-1210.

#### பூ REAL ESTATE FOR SALE பூ

15.8 acres one mile from lake, Eastwood Road just south of Long Beach. \$170K. (219) 210-0544.

For Sale: 109 Felton St., Michigan City, IN. Move in furnished weekender home with updated features near Lake Michigan (fewer than 2/10 of a mile from historic Washington Park and Zoo). 3 BR/1BA, kitchen, dining room, loft overlooking living room with wood-planked cathedral ceiling, fenced-in landscaped yard with raised patio and a garage built recently. About an hour's drive from DT Chicago, Chicago train service nearby. Price: \$159,499. Enquire at (708) 798-4096 after 6 p.m.

## **PNC Has Record Spring Enrollment**

Purdue University-North Central has enrolled a spring-semester record of 5,768 students taking 52,105 credit hours.

That enrollment includes 3,237 core undergraduate students, 38 graduate students and 2,493 students in the Concurrent Enrollment/Dual Credit program.

This spring, PNC also enrolled a spring-semester record of 2,528 students seeking bachelor's degrees in its 24 bachelor's-degree programs.

The Concurrent Enrollment/Dual Credit program allows high-achieving high school students the chance to earn PNC credits while in high school. It remains a popular option for students in 42 high schools in Porter, La Porte, Lake, Starke and other Northwest Indiana counties. This enrollment grew to 2,493 students enrolled in 13,132 credit hours. These students will enter college with the credit hours earned in high school and have a head start on their college education. Generally, they will graduate sooner and accumulate less debt.

There are 38 graduate students pursuing their master's of business administration degrees at PNC — Porter County.

GILLIAN



#### Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter

Gone Girl by Gillian Flynn (hard-cover, \$25 retail in bookstores and online; paperback, available in April for \$16.)

Diabolical. Disarming. Decidedly Different. My adjectives all start with the letter "D," but this book is most assuredly an "A+."

David Fincher's film adaptation arrives this fall, and it's obvious why this book was chosen for the big screen. The only thing worrying me is that this story is told in the words of its two main characters: Amy and Nick Dunne. Hollywood sometimes has trouble translat-

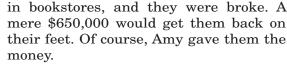
ing thoughts and feelings into action, especially the skewed thoughts of these two very intelligent journalists. That's why I always advise friends to read the book, then see the movie...especially this one.

It starts out on a bright, hot July day that just happens to be the Dunnes' fifth wedding anniversary. Before the day is out, Amy will be missing — there is evidence of a struggle in the house — and the police and media are on Nick's side, feeling sorry for the handsome man and his beautiful, missing wife. Within a week, all that will change and Nick will be the prime suspect in a murder investigation — even though there is no body — and all good will toward him gone, including the backing of his inlaws. Where, oh where, did it go so horribly wrong? We learn more about them.

Amy: rich, spoiled New York daughter of parents who made thousands on a series of books called "Amazing Amy," patterned after their daughter.

Nick: handsome, reserved son from North Carthage, Mo., son to a mean, vicious man in a nursing home suffering from dementia (no love lost there) and a loving mother diagnosed with advanced cancer.

Amy and Nick, both writers for different magazines, met and married in New York. All was perfect until the day when first Nick, then Amy, lost their jobs. They took time to assess their situation since Amy had more than \$700,000 from a trust fund. But then one day, Amy's mommy and daddy came around looking for some of that money back because the latest "Amazing Amy" book wasn't so amazing



Decisions had to be made. Nick's solution: go back to North Carthage, take care of his mother and open a bar with his twin sister, Margo, with the rest of Amy's money. Amy put on the brave face, and the move was made.

Sounds all perfectly normal so far, right? But we all know there are underlying rivers of emotion in any relationship, rivers that must find an outlet somehow

before it becomes a tsunami.

It's several years into the move when the fateful fifth anniversary arrives. Nick begins to believe that Amy has set all this drama in action, but the police are fixated on him as the possible murderer, and things just keep popping up to confirm that assessment. The living room struggle doesn't look real. It looks staged. Police techs find proof that blood was spilled and cleaned up in the kitchen. A hint of an affair Nick had surfaces, and he just doesn't act like the heartbroken husband. The topper — Amy was pregnant, according to a neighbor. Nick had no idea.

Things just keep piling up, and it looks like Nick may be headed for Death Row as we read Amy's diary. Nick said she never kept one. So, who's zooming who?

This story is so well written. The author has given us pure psychological insight into the minds of two individuals who maybe are just too smart for their own good. The characters jump off the page at you. If you only have time to read one book this year, make it this one. You won't be sorry.

I love this comment from author Scott Smith: "It's as if Gillian Flynn has mixed us a martini using battery acid instead of vermouth and somehow managed to make it taste really, really good."

Author Laura Lippman said: "...A devastating portrait of a marriage and a timely, cautionary tale about an age in which everyone's dreams seem to be imploding."

Till next time, happy reading!



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# Home Is Where Your Heart Is



# 2700 Oriole Trail Long Beach

Grand & Glorious - Set high atop the dunes & wrapped in mature specimen pines, this elegant 4,000 square foot landmark English Manor home boasts breathtaking views of the area.



Soaring ceilings, two stone fireplaces, marble, terrazzo and hardwood flooring throughout. Magnificent two story bridal staircase presents stunning entrance to a home ready to entertain in grand style or offer privacy and escape.

Updated kitchen, palatial master suite with bathroom spa and private deck.

Short stroll to Lake Michigan's endless beaches or prestigious

Long Beach Country Club. Truly a Long Beach classic.

# *Offered for \$625,000*









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Family Owned and Operated Since 1920



# Look at these Sweethearts!



## 2029 Juneway Drive

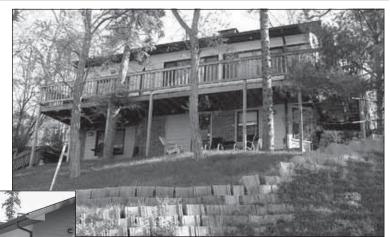
Charming tri-level with plenty of privacy and wooded surroundings. Two lots, two car garage, long driveway for off-street parking. The living room fireplace offers additional heating and ambiance. Picturesque bay window in the living room offers a wooded view. Sliders to the balcony and additional living space in the basement with another fireplace. Room to rest and relax. \$280,000





Offered with 3 lots with 150 ft of frontage and 250 ft of depth on Lake Shore Drive (37,500 sq ft). The property is huge and will allow for 4 more building sites. Private home with spectacular lake views, easy access to the beach and plenty of private parking. Home has a total of 4 bedrooms and 3 full baths. Fireplace with wrap around decks and several patios. Guest suite on lower level has a living room, kitchen, bedroom and a full bath \$499.000









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