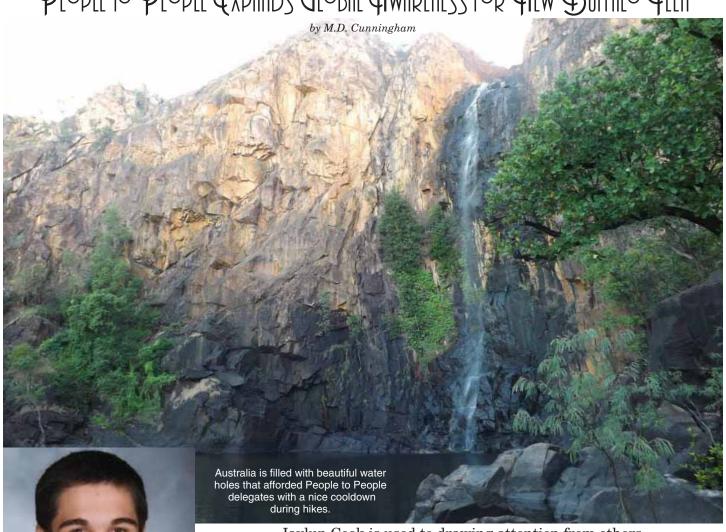


Jay Cook



Volume 30, Number 7 Thursday, February 20, 2014

THE EXPERIENCE OF A LIFETIME PEOPLE TO PEOPLE EXPANDS GLOBAL AWARENESS FOR PLEW BUFFALO FEETI



Jaylun Cook is used to drawing attention from others.

Since the 17-year-old New Buffalo (Mich.) junior's unique first name has drawn attention from petty bullies throughout his life, Jaylun, or Jay, decided if anyone was going to crack jokes about him or his name, he'd beat them to the punchline.

But this outgoing youth has more than just jokes on his mind.

In fact, Cook, who's an aspiring musician, spends most of his hours outside of class — and occasionally moments between classes Continued on Page 2



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Sneaking a shot of what is known as the "Forbidden Mountain" in Eastern Australia.

— spreading the word about People to People Ambassador Programs.

"It allows students to really gain the best education possible through education travel," Cook said at Journeyman Distillery in Three Oaks, Mich., where he suggested we meet for our interview. Turns out, Cook has played a few gigs here to help raise tuition for People to People, which he participated in last year. The trip to Australia involved about 30 other students from across the country.

Founded by President Dwight Eisenhower in 1956, People to People was created so students from across the globe could learn and explore the cultures and history of other countries and continents. It also was designed to bring peace through educational travel.

Located in Spokane, Wash., it has more than 200

employees and more than 20,000 ambassadors traveling annually. Its offerings include:

- Student Ambassador Programs international educational travel on all seven continents for students in grades five through 12 and college.
- Leadership Ambassador Programs domestic educational travel featuring leadership development and college preparation opportunities for students in grades five through 12.
- Citizen Ambassador Programs international professional programs to promote growth, interaction and learning across many professions.
- Sports Ambassador Programs international sports training for student athletes in grades five through 12.

Highlights over the years have included ambassadors being briefed by Robert Kennedy while en-



"Achieve your goals" explains a FullOn Experience teacher while stressing the importance of perseverance.

route to Europe in 1962, to students meeting Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in 1987 and Queen Elizabeth II in England in 1999.

Cook's style and manner reflect his interest in music. He's wearing a tight-fitting beanie, the top two buttons of his agua flannel are undone and he wears more than a few bracelets around his wrist: one for a favorite band, Slipknot, the other for tornado relief.

What's interesting about Cook is how he's transformed his extroverted juvenile hijinks into a highly marketable talent. When he first learned about People to People after attending a presentation in Kalamazoo, Mich., he was shocked to discover the program's cost, but when he learned that 80 percent of participants are later accepted into the college of his/her choice, he didn't look back.

"I was completely into it," he said. "I fell head over heels for it. I felt that this was something that I needed to do."

"My parents were very strict with me in saying if you want to do this, then you have to come up with the tuition by yourself, but that doesn't mean that they just, like, you know, said, 'Here, do this now,'



Photographing the view looking down a foggy mountain, Jay Cook says his first reaction was, "Oh jeez! We're repelling down that?"

What do these famous, leading edge, innovative, creative entrepreneurs, artists and shapers of our world today have in common?

Larry Page & Sergey Brin, co-founders, www.google.com **Jeff Bezos**, founder, <u>www.amazon.com</u> Mark Zuckerberg, co-founder of Facebook Jimmy Wales, co-founder of www.wikipedia.org Will Wright, designer of The Sims Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy Onassis, first lady Yo Yo Ma, U.N. Peace Ambassador Julia Childs, celebrity chef and author Peter Drucker, Management Guru David Blaine, magician/illusionist George Clooney & Helen Hunt, Actors T. Berry Brazelton, noted pediatrician and author **Helen Keller**, political activist, author, lecturer Anne Frank, famous diarist from World War II

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THE EXPERIENCE Continued from Page 3

and kicked me out the door. No, they were very supportive of me. They helped me out."

Through what Cook called the BFFs — Busi-Family nesses, and Friends — of fundraising, he was able to come up with more than \$8,000 to pay for People to People, an experience he called the time of his life. Tuition, which hinges on the length, destination and itinerary of the individual's plans, ranges between \$4,500 and \$7,999.

"It was really an experience that I can't forget because of all the sites I was able to see and all

the things I was able to learn about Australia," he said. "My biggest benefit from it was the friends that I made."

The 2 1/2-week trip started off kind of rocky with a 14-hour flight from Los Angeles that touched down in Sydney during a downpour on a day a trip to the beach was scheduled.

The overall experience, however, included visits to a former government workhouse for convicts called the Hyde Park Barracks, Kakadu National Park and the Sydney Opera House, which Cook was



People to People students gather to go hiking in the natural preserves of eastern Australia.

given the opportunity to sing at — unofficially.

"I was kind of in my own train of thought because I was just so, like, in shock of the whole entire opera house and just looking around it seeing all the seats and seeing some of the workers prepare for the next show, and then next thing I know, I see in the corner of my eye everybody staring at me. I'm like what? Apparently, word got out that I was a musician and I do sing, so they had me sing a song," he said, retelling the story animatedly. "The acoustics in there were just unbelievable."



Another waterhole. Each one, Jay Cook says, was more beautiful and breathtaking than the last. This particular one was his favorite.

Another indelible experience included spending time on an Aboriginal campground.

"They hunt and cook all day, sleeping only like five or six hours," said Cook, who admitted he was not cut out for spear throwing, not even being able to find the mark on a stationary cardboard kangaroo, although he did use the opportunity to unleash an impression of the late, charismatic wildlife expert Steve Irwin.

Overall, Cook, who noted small differences, such as the absence of his favorite brand of pop and a dazzling array of candy he'd never experienced, saw more similarities than differences between the U.S. and Australian ways of

life, although he did describe the Aboriginal way as one still separate from the mainstream. He said all locals he encountered were very welcoming.

"Australians thought very highly of U.S. kids, which was the oddest thing," he said. "Whenever



Iowa delegate Libby Weaver (from left) and Michigan delegate Nikkita Smith (right) watch Jay Cook (center) apply his background as a musician to the digeridoo.

we'd go around the streets and talk...they'd walk up to us and say, 'Oh, my God, are you guys American? Like, yeah, we're American. We're actually on this People to People delegation."

Continued on Page 6



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THE EXPERIENCE Continued from Page 5

Despite invitations to party with locals, Cook said their strict time schedule kept them from taking up these occasional offers, but this didn't stop teen hormones from throbbing.

"The girls would be freaking out over the U.S. guys cause we're, you know, just walking around talking in our own ac-

cents, and then the U.S. girls would be freaking out over the Australian guys, and they're this normally, like, this tall, masculine, One Direction-kind-oflooking guy."



Kangaroos and wallabies (smaller kangaroos) can be seen in the grasslands of Australia.

fundraising. This summer, he hopes to take part in another People to People program, with a goal of raising the \$7,000 in tuition to go to Europe.

"I felt like People to People wasn't just an educa-



Inside the Australian War Memorial, where all who have served in Australia are revered and remembered.

Along with a taste for kangaroo — I'm told it tastes just like chicken — one expression Cook picked up was the popular saying "sweet as."

"The first time we heard someone say that, we were like, what did he say?," Cook said, explaining that it means "good job" or "that's awesome."

"Ever since I heard that," he continued, "I've been saying that a lot around my school and confusing people."

So, what's next for Cook? Naturally, he's still



Approaching Kakadu National Park, which is home to thousands of Australian wildlife.

tion program," he said, "but a great way to make friends, which is why I emphasize People to People cause you're really meeting new people throughout this program and you're gaining friends that you could not replace in a lifetime."

(More information about People to People is available at www.peopletopeople.com. Cook will be performing for tips during Journeyman Distillery's Viking Games, which is from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. EST Saturday, Feb. 22. He also has a silent auction and dinner set for May 15 at La Porte's Spire Farm-to-Fork Cuisine.)



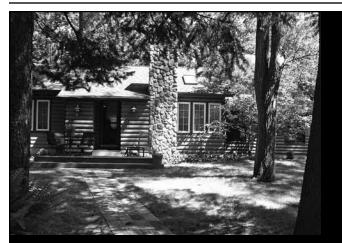
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"Love Letters"

Two actors in a longstanding relationship will take to the stage for a fundraiser production of A.R. Gurney's "Love Letters" on Saturday and Sunday, March 1-2, at Footlight Theatre, 1705 Franklin St.

The plot is simple. Two actors, in this case Alicia Ebaugh and John Avila, read a lifetime of letters between friends and sometimes lovers. Melissa Gardner is a troubled artist from a rich family and Andrew Makepeace Ladd III is an ambitious "liberal Republican." Their journey together is exposed through 50 years worth of correspondence.



"I think being so familiar with each other has helped us understand and convey the emotional nuances that come out in the play's text," Ebaugh said. "It sounds like you're just watching these two people on stage read to each other, but it is surprisingly far from being boring."

The play's first act covers Melissa and Andy's youth. They meet in second grade, start a correspondence when they're sent off to

boarding school and continue it once they're at college. Some attempts are made at romance, but more often than not, they appear stuck in the friend zone. In other words, they're only close when writing back and forth. Face to face, they're at loose ends.

Performances are at 8 p.m. March 1 and 2 p.m. March 2. Tickets are \$12. Because the show is a fundraiser, patron cards will not be accepted. Reservations are recommended by calling the Footlight Theatre box office at (219) 874-4035 or at www.footlightplayers.org.



Indoor Flea Market

New Troy (Mich.) Community Center, 13372 California Road, will host its indoor flea market Saturday, Feb. 22.

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.

Michigan City Public Library

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

• Bookmarks: "Whistling Past the Graveyard" at 2 p.m. Friday, Feb. 21.

LuAnne DePriest will review Susan Crandall's novel set in the summer of 1963 and following 9-year-old Starla Claudelle after she runs away from her strict grandmother's Mississippi home.

• "Great Decisions" at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 24.

The foreign-policy discussion program, now in its 16th season, will focus on defense technology, Israel and the U.S. Reading material is available at the circulation desk.

• Knitting Club for All Ages at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 26.

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

Call Robin Kohn at 873-3049 for more information on library programs.

Career Center Breakfast Fundraiser

An all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast is from 7 a.m. to noon Saturday, Feb. 22, at the A.K. Smith Area Career Center, 817 Lafayette St.

The meal includes pancakes, biscuits and gravy for \$8. A special mayoral proclamation and student presentation are at 11 a.m. Proceeds benefit career center and tech ed programs.



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New Lakeshore Chief Named

Paul Labovitz has been named the new Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore superintendent, succeeding Costa Dillon, who retired in August 2013.

Labovitz, superintendent at Mississippi National River and Recreation Area in St. Paul, Minn., begins the new assignment May 18.

He started his NPS career in what is now the Northeast Regional Office in Philadelphia in 1988. As its outdoor recreation planner, he provided technical assistance through the Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program to project cooperators in Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia. He transferred to the Midwest Regional Office in 1989 and, as leader of the region's RTCA program working from Cuyahoga Valley National Park in Brecksville, Ohio, provided planning and technical assistance to projects in Ohio and throughout the 13-state region.



a bald eagle survey.

Labovitz assisted in the creation of the \$400 million CLEA-NOhio program in 2001, provided early planning and assistance in the creation of the Ohio & Erie Canal National Heritage CanalWay and successfully expanded the RTCA program in the region with three new field offices while doubling the Midwest RTCA budget in five years.

Labovitz accepted his first superintendent position with the Mississippi NRRA in early 2007. During his tenure, the park has demonstrated urban youth engagement through the Urban Wilderness Canoe Adventures Program, providing an introductory outdoor experience to more than 50,000 students. He has overseen the continuation of several environmental education programs — Big River Journey and Journey to the Falls — that have served more than 60,000 students over the past decade.

Prior to his NPS career, Labovitz managed a 10,000 acre privately owned woodland in southwest Pennsylvania.

Born in Camden, N.J., and raised in Philadelphia, Labovitz graduated from Penn State University with a bachelor of science degree in forest service and his master's of business administration in 1987 from Frostburg State University in western Maryland. He has extensive international experience in Central and Eastern Europe's national parks and protected areas.

"Beauty IS a Beast"

The Festival Players Guild Winter Arts Series continues with D.M. Larson's "Beauty IS a Beast," which offers a twist on typical fairy tales.

Directed by Duane Thompson, performances are at 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 21, 2 and 6 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 23, at Mainstreet Theatre, 807 Franklin St.

In the play, instead of focusing on outer beauty, a princess is turned "inside out." Her outer beauty disappears and her inner ugliness is reflected in her outward appearance. Instead of having an evil witch, sorcerer or stepmother, the villain is selfishness itself. Instead of the cookie-cutter handsome prince, this one is blind.

The show is appropriate for all ages. Cast with local students from area schools, the performers range in age from 8 to 15.

Tickets are \$5 for students and \$10 for adults. Call the box office at (219) 874-4269 for reservations or additional information.

Calling All Artists

The Beacher is looking for someone to design the cover of our St. Patrick's Day edition on March 13.

The image must be original artwork or photos not previously published in other venues and be family friendly. Submissions should be designed to fit the size of the cover space, which is a 7 1/2-inch square. We request they be submitted digitally in high-resolution JPEG or TIFF formats to drew@thebeacher.com

Artists can stop by The Beacher with early designs to see if the work is something we are interested in. Artwork or photos not used may be saved for the ensuing year.

The submission deadline is noon Monday, March 3. Each person whose work appears on the cover will be recognized with a short story about him/her and a photo.

Anyone wanting more information should contact Editor Drew Tallackson at (219) 879-0088 or at drew@thebeacher.com

IFG Annual Meeting

The International Friendship Gardens annual meeting is at 6 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 23, at Lindo's restaurant, 3940 Franklin St., Michigan City.

A short business meeting that includes recognizing 2013 volunteers is planned, along with the presentation of the annual report, recognition of current board members and a preview of the upcoming season.

Make reservations by Wednesday, Feb. 19, to (219) 878-9885 or international friendship gardens@yahoo.com



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Annual Speech and Poetry Contest

The development of communication skills is a key objective of La Lumiere's curriculum.

In pursuit of that goal, students are required to participate in the annual speech and poetry contest. During the first week of February, 11 students were invited to compete as finalists in the poetry division and four to compete in the original speech division.



Poetry winner Ming Washington, runner-up Lydia Costello and third-place winner Rowena Quinn.

The poetry contest was held in compliance with guidelines established by the Poetry Out Loud National Recitation Contest created by the National Endowment for the Arts and Poetry Foundation. Ming Washington, a freshman from Michigan City, won the contest and will compete at the state level Feb. 22. Lydia Costello, a junior from Chesterton, earned second place and will serve as alternate at the state competition. Rowena Quinn, a freshman from La Porte, came in third.



Speech division winner Ana Kleihege.

Junior Ana Kleihege of La Porte won the original speech division for her speech, "The Power of Pictures."

The Poetry Out Loud finalists were: Dany Brooks, Michigan City; Lydia Costello, Chesterton; Charlie Falcone, Wilmette, Ill.; Hanah Fogel, Manteno, Ill.; Christopher Hohman, Rolling Prairie; Ian Miner, Ada,

Mich.; Rowena Quinn, La Porte; Cora Schander, Long Beach; Bella Schuster, La Porte; and Stephanie Zaccone, Hobart.

Original speech finalists are: Emily Beach, South Bend; Livia Gazzolo, Harbert, Mich.; and Johanna Guentert, South Bend.

Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

The following programs are through Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore:

• The Save the Tunes Council from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Friday, Feb. 21, at the Visitor Center.

The group meets the third Friday of each month. The center is at 1215 N. Indiana 49 just south of the U.S. 20 intersection in Porter.

• "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.

Call (219) 395-1882 for more information on all programs.

Indiana Dunes State Park

The following events are planned through Indiana Dunes State Park:

Saturday, Feb. 22

• 10 a.m. — "Snowshoe Shuffle."

Meet a park interpreter in the Nature Center. Learn about snowshoes, then try on a pair for a short walk through the winter woods. A hike is still planned even if there isn't enough snow.

• 2 p.m. — Winter Alive!

Meet at the Nature Center auditorium for a look at how park animals, some of which will be present, survive the winter.

Sunday, Feb. 23

• 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. — Winter Critter Hour.

Meet in the Nature Center Auditorium for a look at some of the center's animals and how their cousins are surviving the winter outside.

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.

Owl Prowl

Participate in an "Owl Prowl" at 7 p.m. EST Saturday, Feb. 22, at Sarett Nature Center, 2300 Benton Center Road, Benton Harbor, Mich.

Call (269) 927-4832 to register.

Vocal and Piano Students Win Contest Medals

Student vocalists and pianists from Michigan City High and School Barker and Krueger middle schools traveled to Valparaiso High School on Feb. 1 to perform in the Indiana State School Music Association vocal solo and ensemble competition.

Twenty four of the high school students received gold ratings and now will compete at the state solo and ensemble contest.

The results are:



Michigan City High School City Singers are: (front row from left) Alycia Braniger, Emily Morlan, Tara Foley, Shalynn McNeal, Caitlin Martinez and Kennedy Hobson. The middle row is (from left) Elizabeth Davis, Jesi Furness, Elizabeth Wehrle, Mikayla Jordan, Debra Whitlow, Alexis Alicea and Sarah Becker. The top row is (from left) Cheyenne Haney, Jessa Cawthron, Kasey Nowatzke, Madison Ream, Azia Lewis and Victoria Myhand.

ing in Division I. They will head to the state competition.

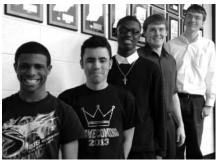
The all-female City Singers ensemble received a gold rating in Division I and will head to the state competition.

Barker Middle School

- Seventh-grader Cassidy Downs received a gold medal for a Group IV vocal solo.
- Eighth-grader Jordan Tuel received a gold medal for a Group III vocal solo.
- Eighth-grader April Lawrenz received a silver medal for her Group III piano solo.
 - Eighth-graders Haley Williams, Cassidy Downs

and Jordan Tuel received a gold medal for their Group IV trio.

• Montana Livengood, Alexis Barth, Jordan Tuel, Savanah Cawthron, Jacob Land, Cody Roach and Griffin Williams received gold medals for their Group IV mixed ensemble.



Bottom to top are Marcus Lester, Christian Galvan (alternate singer), Braxton Hervey, William Harber and James Anthony.

Michigan City High School

Freshman Rachel Lawrenz received a gold medal for her piano solo in Division III.



Bottom to top are Karmen Halfacre, Kaitlin Steinhiser and Julia Wahl

Junior Pamela Foldenauer received a silver medal for her vocal solo in Division I.

Junior Caitlin Martinez received a gold medal for her Division I vocal solo and will head to the state competition Saturday, Feb. 22.

A freshman girls' trio comprised of Julia Wahl, Karmen Halfacre and Kaitlin Steinhiser received

gold medals in Division II.

A quartet comprised of freshman Braxton Hervey, junior James Anthony, senior William Harber and sophomore Marcus Lester received a gold rat-

Krueger Middle School

- Sixth-grader Felicia Skelton received a gold medal for a Group V solo.
- Seventh-graders Hayley Catchings, Neva Panayi and Sabrina Emerick received gold medals for their Group IV trio.

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Twin Cities Organ Concert Series

Twin Cities Organ Concert Series will present Kevin Vaughn at 4 p.m. EST Sunday, Feb. 23, at First Presbyterian Church, 475 Green Ave. on Morton Hill, Benton Harbor, Mich.



Vaughn is director of music and organist at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church, Elkhart, instructor of organ at Goshen College and a doctoral student in organ performance at the University of Notre Dame. He will present works by Bruhns, Howells, Sweelinck, Krebs, Reger, Heiller and Martinson.

Vaughn will perform on a Gabriel Kney tracker action 660-pipe organ designed and built in 1975 by the Gabriel Kney Co. Limited of London, Ontario Canada. It operates through mechanical action and is known as a tracker instrument as opposed to one electrically operated.

A \$10 suggested donation will aid costs. Visit Twin Cities Organ Concert Series on facebook or call (269) 925-7075 for more information.



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Westchester Public Library

The following programs are through Westchester Public Library:

 The free monthly News at Noon from noon to 1 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 20, at Hageman Library, 100 Francis St., Porter.

Attendees are encouraged to take a news clipping or an idea of something he/she would like to discuss. Registration is not necessary, but recommended.

• "Bookmarks at the Museum" with LuAnne DePriest at 2 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 20, at Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.

The focus is Hoosier author Susan Crandall's "Whistling Past the Graveyard," set in summer 1963 and focusing on a 9-year-old girl who sneaks away from her strict grandmother's care.

Weather permitting, Crandall will join DePriest. She will discuss the writing process and sign copies of her book.

• Celebrate National Fake Mustache Day on Monday, Monday, Feb. 24, at Thomas Library, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton, Hageman Library and Westchester Township History Museum.

Mustache-related activities are planned for all age groups, including library materials and trivia. Staff will don fake and/or real mustaches.

Library hours are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. at Thomas Library, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Hageman Library and 1 to 5 p.m. at Westchester Township History Museum.

 Role-Playing Games with Jon Johnson meets from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 5, in the Bertha Wood meeting room at Thomas Library.

The group meets the first Wednesday of each month. No registration is necessary. Participants use guide books to move the journey along.

• "Bits and Bytes" continues, the focus being Microsoft Word 2, from 1 to 4 p.m. Thursday, March 6, in the Bertha Wood meeting room at Thomas Library.

Attendees learn basic formatting skills, including bullets, numbering tabs and columns, as well as how to insert clip art, use word art and create labels. Those interested must be proficient with a mouse and familiar with Word. Registration is necessary due to the limited number of computers available for the free class. Visit or call the Serials Department at (219) 926-7696, Ext. 25, or register at http://www. wpl.lib.in.us/. Click on the Bits and Bytes link.

Read The Beacher On Line

http://www.thebeacher.com/

Sophomores in Shining Armor



Michigan City High School students in Lucas Snyder's world history classes arrived at school recently with shields in hand, the culmination of a unit on the Middle Ages. After researching their family history, the students created shields depicting their relatives' country of origin, religion and occupations, along with several elements representing themselves.

Videos Have Field-to-Table Format

Indiana's "CookIN Gone Wild" video series now teaches viewers not only how to prepare their wild game, but also how to harvest it.

The video series launched last year on Indiana DNR's YouTube channel and initially focused only on cooking. Now, it includes everything viewers need to know to harvest the featured fish or game animal, a format called field-to-table.

The first episode in the new format highlights steelhead trout and coho salmon fishing on Trail Creek in Michigan City. Viewers will learn some steelhead and salmon biology, equipment requirements and fishing techniques, including some insider secrets.

Each video ends with a recipe for the harvested game. The steelhead episode offers a healthy, openfaced steelhead salad sandwich.

Episodes are at youtube.com/idnrvideos. New ones come out every other month. A downloadable cookbook and recipes are at wildlife.IN.gov/7562. htm. A selected recipe also appears in each issue of Outdoor Indiana magazine.

Next in the series is ice fishing at Trine State Recreation Area in Angola. Future episodes will feature dove hunting, squirrel hunting, wild edibles and urban fishing for catfish.





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

The Uptown Fashion Affair is back for a fabulous second year from 6:30 to 10 p.m. Friday, Feb. 21, at Barker Hall, 600 Franklin Square, Michigan City.

The fashion show showcases local boutiques, salons and artists working together to feature the latest trends and styles for women and men. There will be music, food, a cash bar, silent auction and runway event.

The show is a major fundraiser for the Michigan City Mainstreet Association, a 501(c)4 non-profit membership organization. The grassroots effort is part of the Indiana and National Mainstreet programs that follow a four-point approach to revitalization. It is the quiet parent of the Uptown Arts District and works to revitalize this core area of the historic downtown area in Michigan City.

Some of the participating businesses in this year's event are The Closet, Elle Salon, Luxe Boutique, Lakefront Salon, Paris House of Bridal, Salon Cilla, Urban Soles, The Parlor, Darling, Timothy Jeffrey, Beyond Pink and LeRoc Salon.

Advance tickets are \$15 or two for \$25, or \$20 each at the door. Advance tickets are available at the participating businesses, as well as Visit Michigan City La Porte Visitors Bureau in Michigan City and LeRoc Salon in Valparaiso.

Enter Barker Hall through the red doors at Sixth and Franklin streets. Food will be provided by Fiesta Valenciana, Maxine's, Arturo's and From Scratch. A cash bar is planned. The after party is from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Sahara Restaurant, 827 Franklin St., Michigan City. The \$5 cost will be donated to MCMA. The after party will have a DJ, free food and a cash bar. We ask that people prepay for the after party.

"I am so thrilled to be planning this Uptown Fashion Affair," MCMA Chairwoman Abigale Thayer said. "It truly is an honor to be a part of a community I believe in. This year will be bigger and better than ever. We will have such an amazing mix of boutiques, salons, artists and volunteers working together. The



generosity and excitement of not only the businesses but the public has been touching."

"Postcards from Home"



Valparaiso artist Claire Anderson Merrill (left) appears at the opening of her exhibit, "Postcards from Home: The Story of a Family in Norway and America," with Peg Landsman of Michigan City. The artist received a travel grant from the Dale E. Landsman Arts Foundation, enabling her to visit her ancestral home and other historic sites in Norway, and to do the paintings now on exhibit at Southern Shore Art Association Gallery, 724 Franklin St., through March 2.

All Day Scrapbooking

P.E.O. Chapter ED, a philanthropic group aiding women's education, will host a fundraiser, the seventh annual All Day Scrapbooking, from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22, at Christ Lutheran Church, 2610 N. Campbell St., Valparaiso.

Janet Casbon, a Creative Memories consultant, can pre-order items if needed. Contact her at (219) 921-0465 or by email at jccasbon@gmail.com. Orders must be placed as soon as possible.

The \$35 cost includes brunch, snacks, dinner, beverages and a free gift. Contact Barb Von Huben at (219) 928-5533 or email barbovon@msn.com for more information.

Proceeds benefit P.E.O.-sponsored projects that assist women's education.

National Federation of the Blind

The National Federation of the Blind of Indiana, Duneland Chapter, meets the fourth Saturday of each month.

The next meeting is Saturday, Feb. 22, at Lindo's restaurant, 3940 Franklin St. Lunch is at noon, followed by the meeting at 1 p.m.

Call (219) 649-1324 for more information.

Solo Piano Recital

The Michigan City Chamber Music Festival will present pianist Robert Auler in a solo recital at 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 23, at First Presbyterian Church, 121 W. Ninth St., Michigan City.

Auler is the main collaborative pianist with the festival, has performed as soloist with the La Porte County Symphony Orchestra and played at The Acorn Theatre, Three Oaks, Mich.



He is professor of piano at State University of New York, Oswego, and has performed in South America, Europe and China.

The program will feature works by Beethoven, Schubert and Granados. A free-will offering will be taken. Call (219) 561-1939 or email nicsunnysophia@yahoo.com for more information.

Six Week Oil Painting Class

Dana Dabagia will present a six-week oil painting class from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturdays, March 1 through April 5, at the old Long Beach School Community Center, 2400 Oriole Trail.

Students receive individual attention, and new students are welcome.

An award-winning artist, Dabagia has studied oil painting through instructional books, the Internet, videos and workshops. She will fast-track students to work in oil on canvas, foregoing the stumbles she experienced while learning.

The cost is \$145. Pre-registration is requested at d2211@comcast.net. A complete list of supplies will be sent after registering.

ASL Club Coffeehouse

The Purdue University-North Central American Sign Language Club will host an ASL Coffeehouse from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 21, at Uptown Café, 1400 E. Lincolnway, Valparaiso.

The coffeehouse is open to ASL students, as well as community members and children with a parent or adult. Coffee, food and drinks may be ordered throughout the evening.

More coffeehouses are from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Fridays, March 21 and April 18, at Uptown Café and will feature a guest speaker, group activity or game.

Information about the club is available at www. aslclub.info or by contacting Joanna Witulski, limited term lecturer in American Sign Language, at pncaslwitulski@yahoo.com





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Rittenhouse Rallies to an Important Cause

Through funds raised from its annual bazaar, breakfast and bake sale on Feb. 8, Rittenhouse Senior Living, 4300 Cleveland Ave., donated \$1,454 to the Alzheimer's & Dementia Services of Northern Indiana. The bazaar featured a variety of area vendors.

















Tuesday Night Jewelry Classes

Mara Wible will teach a variety of Tuesday night jewelry classes in March at Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St.

All classes are at 5:15 and 7 p.m. The cost is \$25 for members and \$30 for non-members, with the exception being the Twisted Vine Bracelet class, which is \$20 for members and \$25 for non-members. All supplies are included.



Examples of Twisted Vine Bracelets.

On March 4, Wible will offer a Ruffle Bracelet class where students use a variety of beads to change the appearance of the ruffled detail. Ensuing classes include Twisted Vine Bracelets on March 11, Pointed Cuff Bracelets on March 18 and Rounded Cuff Bracelets on March 25.

Call the center at (219) 926-4711 to register. Visit www.chestertonart.com for additional information.

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Duneland Historical Society

The Duneland Historical Society will meet at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 20, in the Westchester Township Public Library Service Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

Patricia Wisniewski, executive producer and contributor, will introduce "Everglades of the North: The Story of the Grand Kankakee Marsh." The award-winning documentary explores the diverse ecology, history and controversial saga of the marsh.

All Duneland Historical Society programs are free. Memberships are available at the meetings. Call (219) 983-9715 for additional information.

Ceramics Class

Dean Hultman will offer a five-week ceramics class starting from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 24, at Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St.

The class is designed for students to either work on the wheel or use a handbuilding technique. During the first four classes, participants focus on building original works. Then, during the fifth class, students glaze their pieces.

The cost is \$100 for members and \$125 for non-members. Students can buy 25 pounds of clay for \$25. All other supplies are included. Call (219) 926-4711 to register or for more information.

Beach Glass Workshop

Local Color Gallery, 16187 Red Arrow Highway, Union Pier, Mich., will present a workshop on how to wrap beach glass from 6 to 7:30 p.m. EST Thursday, Feb. 27.

Participants can take found beach glass or use some from the gallery to create pendant jewelry. The cost is \$25. Call (269) 469-5332 for reservations.



Fernwood Botanical Garden

The following offerings are through Fernwood Botanical Garden and Nature Preserve, 13988 Range Line Road, Niles, Mich.:

• Make a fully beaded necklace or bracelet from 2 to 4 p.m. EST Saturday, Feb. 22.

Julie Soales of Mystic Beads and Earth Wear, Niles, will lead the jewelry making workshop. Choose from a selection of beads and metal findings (priced separately, up to \$20 for a bracelet and up to \$30 for a necklace). Tools are provided. The cost is \$10, or \$8 for members. Register by Feb. 20.

• "The Contemporary Show: Scott Hatt, Maureen Lighthall, Robert Bloss and Nancy Bailey" through March 16.

Paintings, mixed media and other contemporary works are on display in Fernwood's gallery.

Call (269) 695-6491 or visit www.fernwoodbotanical.org for more information.

Chesterton Art Fair Applications

Online applications for new and returning artists are being accepted for the 56th annual Chesterton Art Fair, which is from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Aug. 2-3 in Porter's Hawthorne Park.

Rules, requirements and application information are listed at http://www.chestertonart.com/ChestertonArtFair.html. Returning artists who need to rejury, as well as new artists, may submit their information along with four images (three of their work and one of their booth) on Entry Thingy, the online application program.

The application cost is \$20. The deadline is April 15. Contact Chesterton Art Center at (219) 926-4711 or gallery@chestertonart.com for more information.

Youngest R.O.S.E. Winner

Kayle Maffei might just be the youngest person to receive Visit Michigan City La Porte's R.O.S.E. Award.



Kayle Maffei holds his framed R.O.S.E. certificate.

A 16-year-old high school student, Maffei has been a busser at McGinnis Pub in Michigan City since August. He was nominated by a customer who was impressed with the young man's service.

"Oh my goodness, where to begin," the customer wrote. "This is probably this young man's first job. He was so attentive, courteous and friendly. This young man will go a long way with this

kind of positive attitude."

The monthly R.O.S.E. award goes to a local customer service worker who is nominated by customers for service above and beyond. Along with a framed certificate, winners receive a rose corsage with a \$100 bill folded inside. McGinnis Pub always matches the award with another \$100. R.O.S.E winners are invited to Visit Michigan City La Porte's annual R.O.S.E. luncheon. Maffei also will be nominated for a statewide Hoosier Hospitality Award.

"I'm very excited, surprised and happy," Maffei said. "I want to thank whoever nominated me. I work behind the scenes, and I don't always come into contact with customers."



Results of Christmas Bird Count

Seeing two bald eagles on a small patch of open water on Stone Lake was the highlight of the day for two local birders.

The sighting occurred during the 28th Annual Northeast La Porte County Christmas Bird Count on Dec. 16. One of the birds was mature, with the characteristic white head and tail. The other was immature, without the white markings. The appearance, according to a press release, is a testament to the conservation community, which brought the eagles back from the brink of extinction in the eastern United States in the 1970s.

Results of the December count have been collected and sent to the Indiana Audubon Society, which is gathering statewide data and forwarding it to the National Audubon Society. The national results will be published at www.audubon.org

Also on Dec. 16, 13 other birders were scattered about the area counting birds by foot and in cars. The tally for the day was 3,826 individual birds of 48 species. One notable sighting in Hudson Township was 16 Lapland longspurs mixed in a group of horned larks. The highest count within the 15-mile circle was 731 American crows. Two great horned owls were spotted in a Springfield Township backyard. The total of four pileated woodpeckers was higher than normal and indicated what seems to be an increased population for the crow-sized bird.



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"Eating Well for Living Healthy" Series

Adults interested in learning more about how foods affect our bodies are invited to attend the "Eating Well for Living Healthy" series at Westchester Public Library.

Unless noted, all programs, led by Registered Dietetic Technician Gia DeMartinis-Novak, are from 3:30 to 5 p.m. in the Bertha Wood meeting room at Thomas Library, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton. Registration is not necessary.

"Power Immunity: Fighting Seasonal Bugs Naturally" is from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 20. Learn how to use the body's natural defense system to combat illnesses. DeMartinis-Novak also will discuss how to fight cold and flu bugs with nutrition and lifestyle modification to promote health and well-being any time of the year.

The final session, "Diabetes Self Care," is Thursday, March 20.

DeMartinis-Novak earned her bachelor's degree from Trinity Christian College with a biology major and chemistry minor. She also earned an associate's degree in applied nutrition from Central Arizona College. She has worked at Kraft General Foods performing vitamin analysis of foods. She also served a dietetic internship at Methodist Hospitals in Gary and Merrillville and Methodist Cardiac Rehab Center and Outpatient Diabetes Clinic, and worked at Methodist Hospital in Merrillville.

Call the Reference Department at (219) 926-7696 for more information.

Watercolor Class

Dick Church will offer a six-week Beginning/Intermediate Watercolor Class starting from 10 a.m. to noon Friday, March 7, at Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St.

Church leads students through a variety of watercolor techniques.

The cost is \$60 for members and \$65 for non-members. Supplies are not included. Church will discuss supplies with all beginners to start the class.

Call the center at (219) 926-4711 to register or for more information.

Social Media Boot Camp

The Greater La Porte Chamber of Commerce will host "Social Media Boot Camp" on Tuesday, Feb. 25, at T-Bones Pier 11, 1110 Lakeside, La Porte.

Registration is from 7:15 to 7:30 a.m., with the presentation and breakfast from 7:30 to 9 a.m. La-PorteCountyLife.com is the sponsor.

The cost is \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members. Registration is encouraged by contacting the chamber at (219) 362-3178 or at http://business.lpchamber.com/events/

MCAS Spelling Bee Winners

Michigan City Area Schools has announced the winners of school spelling bees.

These students now will enter the La Porte County Spelling Bee on Feb. 20 at Westville School. They are:

- Coolspring Elementary School Mia Taylor, fifth grade.
- Edgewood Elementary School Kyra Krachinski, third grade.
- Joy Elementary School Lucas Kist-Abbott, fifth grade.
- Knapp Elementary School Anthony Tilden, fourth grade.
- Lake Hills Elementary School Michael Lakin, fifth grade.
- Marsh Elementary School Braidyn Thornton, fourth grade.
- Niemann Elementary School Aniya Dabney, fourth grade.
- \bullet Pine Elementary School Kadin Cooley, fourth grade.
- Springfield Elementary School George Smith, fourth grade.
- Barker Middle School Alexandria Hahn, sixth grade.
- Elston Middle School Darby Woolslayer, eighth grade.
- Krueger Middle School Miracle Deberry, sixth grade.

Chamber Introduces Nosh & Know

With chocolate-themed refreshments, the Michigan City Area Chamber of Commerce launched its first Nosh & Know workshop Feb. 11 to a packed room of chamber members.

The workshop guided representatives from business and non-profit organizations through free promotional options available to them through the chamber.

Workshops will be scheduled throughout the year. Lindt Chocolate was the featured member Feb. 11, and each ensuing workshop will have a featured member that provides refreshments.

Call the chamber at (219) 874-6221 or call www. mcachamber.com for more information.

"Early Black History of La Porte Co."

La Porte County Historian Fern Eddy Schultz will present "Early Black History of La Porte County" at 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22, at La Porte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave., La Porte.



Hazel Harrison

The program will include information about schools, churches, Civil War veterans, businessmen and Hazel Harrison, a world-renown female pianist born in La Porte.

The program is free, but regular museum admissions apply. Visit www.laportecountyhistory. org, call (219) 324-6767 or email feschultz@laportecountyhistory. org for more 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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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:

• "Indiana's Underground Railroad" from 6 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 20, at the main library, 904 Indiana Ave.

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.

Reins of Life Volunteers Needed

Reins of Life, 9375 W. County Road 300 North, Michigan City, is seeking volunteers to feed its therapeutic riding horses.

Teams meet in the morning and early evening. Feeding sessions last about two hours. Horse experience is helpful, but not required. Training will be provided. The minimum age for volunteers is 16.

Anyone interested should call Amanda at (574) 232-0853.



Citizen Science Workshop

Spencer Cortwright, Indiana University-Northwest biology professor, along with Shirley Heinze Land Trust staff, will lead a free frog-monitoring workshop from 7 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 19, at Meadowbrook Conservation Center and Preserve, 109 W. County Road 700 North, Valparaiso.

By monitoring frog populations, residents can collect large amounts of data that would otherwise be unattainable. The focus includes characteristics of each species, their preferred habitats and how to identify their calls. Participants receive data-collection protocol, survey sheet and CD with audio frog calls of various species from the region. New monitors will be assigned a preserve or natural area close to his/her home to monitor.

Call Shirley Heinze Land Trust at (219) 242-8558 and ask for Jim Erdelac or email jerdelac@heinzetrust.org to RSVP or for more information.





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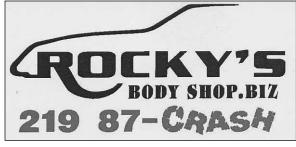
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THIS WEEK IN HISTORY



On February 20, 1792, President George Washington signed an act creating the United States Post Office.

On February 20, 1962, John Glenn, in his *Mercury* space capsule, became the first American to orbit the earth, circling the globe three times before landing in the Atlantic.

On February 20, 1972, world famous columnist and radio commentator Walter Winchell died at the age of 74.

On February 20, 1999, *Tribune* movie columnist Gene Siskel, 53, died in Evanston, IL of brain cancer

On February 20, 2005, Jeff Gordon won his third Daytona 500.

On February 21, 1838, Samuel Morse gave the first public demonstration of the telegraph.

On February 21, 1866, Lucy Hobbs, upon graduating from the Ohio College of Dental Surgery, became America's first women dentist.

On February 21, 1885, the Washington Monument was officially dedicated.

On February 21, 1925, the New Yorker Magazine made its debut.

On February 21, 1947, the Polaroid Land Camera, which produced black and white photographs in 60-seconds, was introduced by inventor Edwin H. Land.

On February 21, 1972, President Richard Nixon began his historic visit to mainland China.

On February 21, 1995, Chicago investment millionaire Steve Fossett became the first person to fly solo across the Pacific Ocean in a balloon, landing in Leader, Saskatchewan.

On February 21, 2003, Michael Jordan became the first 40-year-old in NBA history to score 40 or more points in a game. He scored 43 for the Washington Wizards in their 89-86 victory over the New Jersey Nets.

On February 22, 1630, English colonist in America got their first taste of popcorn as Indians shared their Thanksgiving dinner.

On February 22, 1879, in Utica, NY, Frank W. Woolworth opened the first "five-cent store," fore-runner of the modern "five-and-dime."

On February 22, 1879, the first women registered for longshore work on the piers of New York.

On February 22, 1924, Calvin Coolidge delivered the first presidential radio broadcast from the

White House.

On February 22, 1934, the romantic comedy "It Happened One Night," starring Clark Gable and Claudette Colbert, opened at New York's Radio City Music Hall.

On February 22, 1983, Harold Washington won Chicago's Democratic mayoral primary, defeating Mayor Jane Byrne and Cook County State's Attorney Richard Daley.

On February 23, 1905, Chicago's Paul Percy Harris, along with three friends, founded the Rotary Club.

On February 23, 1997, scientists in Scotland announced they had succeeded in cloning an adult mammal, producing a lamb named Dolly.

On February 23, 2001, Dale Landsman, creative ad genius who gave Parkay margarine a voice and personality, died of cancer at his home in Michigan City, IN.

On February 24, 1980, Israel adopted the shekel as its basic currency, replacing pound notes.

On February 24, 1981, Jean Harris was found guilty of murdering Dr. Herman Tarnower, the author of *The Scarsdale Diet*.

On February 24, 1983, for the first time in history, the Dow Jones industrial average closed above the 1,100 mark.

On February 25, 1913, passage of the 16th Amendment gave Congress the authority to levy an income tax.

On February 25, 1964, Cassius Clay (who later changed his name to Muhammad Ali) defeated Sonny Liston to become the world heavyweight boxing champion.

On February 26, 1870, the first New York City subway line was opened to the public.

On February 26, 1916, comedian and actor Jackie Gleason was born in Brooklyn, NY.

On February 26, 1919, an act of Congress established Arizona's Grand Canyon National Park.

On February 26, 1940, the U.S. Air Defense Command was created.

On February 26, 1951, the 22nd Amendment to the Constitution, limiting a president to two terms in office, was ratified.

On February 26, 1952, Prime Minister Winston Churchill announced that England had produced an atomic bomb.

On February 26, 1979, total solar eclipse cast a moving shadow 175 miles wide from Oregon to North Dakota and into Canada.

On February 26, 1985, thousands of farmers, along with the entire South Dakota Congressional delegation, converged on Washington to demand economic relief for farmers.



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Activities to Explore

In the Local Area:

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

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

February 20 — "Power Immunity: Fighting Seasonal Bugs Naturally," 6:30-8 p.m., Bertha Wood meeting room at Westchester Public Library, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-7696.

February 20 — Duneland Historical Society meeting, 7:30 p.m., Westchester Township Public Library Service Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton. Info: (219) 983-9715.

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: 7:30 p.m. Tues.-Sat./2:30 p.m. Sun. EST. Tickets/reservations: http://performingarts.nd.edu/(574) 631-2800.

February 21 — Bookmarks: "Whistling Past the Graveyard," 2 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

February 21 — Save the Tunes Council, 7:30-9 p.m., Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. Info: (219) 395-1882.

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

February 21 — The Purdue University-North Central American Sign Language Club free ASL Coffeehouse, 5:30-8 p.m., Uptown Café, 1400 E. Lincolnway, Valparaiso. Info: pncaslwitulski@yahoo.com

February 21-23 — "Beauty IS a Beast," Mainstreet Theatre, 807 Franklin St. Times: 7 p.m. Feb. 21, 2 and 6 p.m. Feb. 22, 2 p.m. Feb. 23. Cost: \$5/students, \$10/adults. Tickets/info: (219) 874-4269.

February 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 21-24 — Now showing at Vickers Theatre: The Oscar-nominated "Philomena," starring Best Actress-nominee Judi Dench as a woman who enlists the help of a journalist (Steve Coogan) to find a son taken from her. Rated PG-13. Times: 6:15 p.m. Feb. 21-24. Also: Oscar-nominated short films — animated. Not rated. Times: 9 p.m. Feb. 21, 12:30 and 9 p.m. Feb. 22 and 3:15 p.m. Feb. 23. Also: Oscar-nominated short films — live action. Not rated. Times: 3:15 p.m. Feb. 22 and 12:30 and 9 p.m. Feb. 23. All times Eastern. Vickers Theatre is located at 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. Info: vickerstheatre.com

February 22 — Presentation by La Porte County

Historian Fern Eddy Schultz, "Early Black History of La Porte County," 1 p.m., La Porte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave., La Porte. Free. Info: www.laportecountyhistory.org/(219) 324-6767/feschultz@laportecountyhistory.org

February 22 — Hamfest, 7 a.m.-1 p.m., La Porte Civic Auditorium, 1001 Ridge St. VE testing: 8 a.m. Cost: \$5. Table reservations: cabinfeverhamfest@gmail.com. Info: http://lpcarc.org/hamfest

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

February 22 — P.E.O. Chapter ED-sponsored fundraiser, All Day Scrapbooking, 10 a.m.-10 p.m., Christ Lutheran Church, 2610 N. Campbell St., Valparaiso. Cost: \$35. Info: (219) 928-5533/barbovon@msn.com

February 23 —Michigan City Chamber Music Festival concert, pianist Robert Auler, 3 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 121 W. Ninth St. Cost: Freewill offering. Info: (219) 561-1939/nicsunnysophia@yahoo.com

February 23 — Free College Goal Sunday, 2-4 p.m., Purdue University-North Central Technology Building, Room 265. Info: (219) 785-5200, Ext. 5493, or finaid@pnc.edu

February 24 — "Great Decisions," 6:30 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

February 28, March 1-2 and 7-9 — "Over the River and Through the Woods," La Porte Little Theatre Club, 218 A St. Times: 7:30 p.m. Fri.-Sat., 2 p.m. Sunday. Tickets: \$12. Info/reservations: (219) 362-5113/www.laportelittletheatreclub.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 March 10 — Work by artist Joyce Dille on display at Visit Michigan City La Porte Convention & Visitors Bureau in Marquette Mall.

Farther Afield:

February 22 — "Owl Prowl," 7 p.m. EST, Sarett Nature Center, 2300 Benton Center Road, Benton Harbor, Mich. Info: (269) 927-4832.

February 22 — 12-string guitarist Neil Jacobs, 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.box-factoryforthearts.org/

February 22 — Make a fully beaded necklace or bracelet, 2-4 p.m. EST, Fernwood Botanical Garden and Nature Preserve, 13988 Range Line Road, Niles, Mich. Info/registration: (269) 695-6491/www. fernwoodbotanical.org

February 23 — Twin Cities Organ Concert Series with Kevin Vaughn, 4 p.m. EST, First Presbyterian Church, 475 Green Ave., Benton Harbor, Mich. \$10 suggested donation. Info: (269) 925-7075.



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Service League of Michigan City

The Service League of Michigan City held its monthly meeting Feb. 11 at 301 E. Garfield St.

The League is selling Carson's Community Days Coupon Booklets, which can be purchased at the office or from a member. The sale is Friday, Feb. 28, and Saturday, March 1. Also planned is a Holly's Give Back on Tuesday, March 11.

In January, the League served 72 patients, loaned 101 items and received five donations. For collections, it sent out 24 first cards, nine second cards and five letters. With dressings, there were two new patients and 12 repeat patients.

The League is a volunteer non-profit organization that loans medical equipment such as wheelchairs, walkers, shower chairs and toilet aids to Michigan City area residents for free for a three-month period. Anyone interested may call (219) 872-1144 or stop in between 9 a.m. and noon and 1 and 4 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

PNC Students Free Bowling Nights

Purdue University-North Central students are invited to free bowling at Inman's Bowling & Recreation, 3201 Evans Ave., Valparaiso, on Wednesday nights in February.

Students may register as a team, with four students per group. Bowling starts at 7 p.m.

Contact PNC Resident Life at residentlife@pnc. edu to register or for more information.



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College Goal Sunday

Purdue University-North Central will participate in the free College Goal Sunday for all college-bound students and their families from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 23, in the PNC Technology Building, Room 265.

College Goal Sunday is a 25-year-old statewide program that provides free financial-aid information and assistance to Indiana students seeking admission to any Indiana college, university or technical institution. Students and their parents receive help in understanding, completing and filing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid.

College Goal Sunday is part of FAFSA Help Weekend at PNC. From 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22, prospective students and their families can stop by Technology Building Room 265 for assistance in completing the FAFSA.

The application is required for students to be considered for federal and state grants, loans and scholarships at most colleges, universities and vocational/technical schools and must be filed by March 10 to be eligible for state aid. During the FAFSA Help Weekend, PNC financial-aid staff can help students and their families file the form online.

Students should attend College Goal Sunday with their parent(s) or guardian(s) and bring their parents' completed 2013 IRS 1040 tax returns, W-2 Forms and other 2013 income and benefits information. Students who worked last year should bring their income information. Students 24 or older may attend alone and bring their completed 2013 IRS 1040 tax return, W-2 Form or other 2013 income and benefits information.

Students and parents are encouraged to apply for their U.S. Department of Education Personal Identification Numbers (PINs) at www.pin.ed.gov before attending the event.

Students who attend College Goal Sunday and submit a completed evaluation form will automatically be entered into a drawing for an educational prize. Winners will be notified in March; prizes will be sent directly to the higher education institutions selected by the winning students.

Twenty-first Century Scholars are encouraged to attend College Goal Sunday to receive help in completing the FAFSA and other paperwork necessary to receive their scholarships.

Contact the PNC Financial Aid Office at (219) 785-5200, Ext. 5493, or finaid@pnc.edu for more information.

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

Michiana Clowns Sets 2014 Calendar

Michiana Clowns met Feb. 10 for its first business meeting of 2014, setting the year's core calendar.

For 12 Tuesday evenings starting April 1, the group will conduct "Introduction to the Art of Clowning" classes. Call (219) 363-4402 to register.

Parades selected for participation are: St. Patrick's Day, Michigan City, Blossomtime in St. Joseph-Benton Harbor, Mich., July 4 in La Porte and Summerfest in Michigan City. Shows are planned for National Clown Week at Michigan City Public Library and Art in the Park at Washington Park. The troop will participate in a number of Relays for Life in Porter and La Porte counties. Locations and dates will be determined later.



Michiana Clowns Past President Lonna "Chips" Temkin participates in the "Reading Hour" at Michigan City Public Library. She read from books donated by Michiana Clowns to the library. The book donations included those on aspects of clowning.

Projects will include area food banks, First United Methodist Church soup kitchen and The Salvation Army food banks and kettle. An effort will be made to provide gently used books and magazines to women's, juvenile and other shelters.

Members voted to cohost a hospitality night at the World Clown Association convention in Northbrook, Ill., in March and another at the Midwest Clown Association Roundup in Davenport, Iowa.



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PNC Spring Career Expo

The Purdue University-North Central Office of Career Development will present its fifth Spring Career Expo from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 19, in the Library-Student-Faculty Building, Room 144.

The fair is open to PNC students, alumni and the public, which can network with employers representing industries and organizations, including finance and insurance services, retail, manufacturing, business, management, sales, government and non-profit organizations.

Natalie Connors, PNC director of career development, said employers are seeking applicants with strong problem-solving, analytical thinking, communication and leadership skills. Job seekers are encouraged to research organizations they are interested in and take multiple copies of their resume along with questions. Attendees should be dressed in interview-appropriate attire.

Among the employers are American Sugar Refining Inc., ArcelorMittal USA, Arnett Construction, All Phase Electrical Supply, CEC Controls Company, Dwyer Instruments, Farm Credit Mid America, Geico Insurance Co., Group Dekko and Imagination Station Child Care Development Center.

Further information about the fair, including the list of registered employers, is at www.pnc.edu/careers/office-of-career-development/students/career-expo/

Job seekers are encouraged to pre-register for the event, which can be done online or by calling (219) 785-5451.



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Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter

Beneath the Abbey Wall by A.D. Scott (oversize paperback, \$15 retail in bookstores and online)

It's still winter — don't we all know it! — and maybe you're looking for something to read that's not too heavy, not too long, but a book that holds your interest.

This week's recommendation covers all that and more.

I love how books let you travel through time and space without leaving your favorite chair to do so. This week's book takes us to the Scottish Highlands in 1957. It feels real, this small town where not everyone owns a TV, everyone knows everyone else and

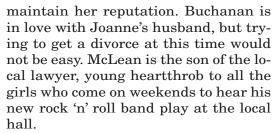
who is related to whom, and news is spread by way of a weekly newspaper. It is a simpler time with less hustle and bustle. But prejudices and strict moral codes abound as this tightly drawn mystery reveals.

Our story begins with newspaper editor John McAllister called in the middle of the night to identify a body in the morgue. It turns out to be Joyce Smart, business manager of the local newspaper, *The Highland Gazette*, run by McAllister. She was a 50-something woman married to Sgt. Maj. Archibald Smart.

Who in the world would want to harm this lady? A shocked McAllister makes it his priority to uncover what happened, especially after his top assistant, Don McLeod, is arrested. The sergeant major fingers McLeod as the murderer and, due to his influence in the community, has him charged with murder. The small newspaper staff is devastated. Joyce Smart was liked by everyone there, including reporters Joanne Ross and Rob McLean, photographer Hector Bain and secretary Betsy Buchanan.

Now short two key staff members, McAllister is torn between conducting his own investigation of Smart's murder while trying to put out a weekly newspaper. And now, "the game's afoot!"

All the characters are well defined and represent stratas of 1950s Scottish society. Ross is a separated mother of two young girls. Her husband was abusive, but in this society, she must tread lightly to



Then there are the Travelers — what we call gypsies — who come and go. Led by Jenny McPhee, it may turn out that she knows more about the murder than anyone, but she harbors secrets she promised to take to her grave.

McAllister is called to the reading of Joyce Smart's will, and then the real shock hits the newspaper staff as the

extent of her fortune is revealed and more importantly, who got what!

Enter Neil Stewart just in the nick of time. A Canadian, he says he is in the area doing research on his family. He just happens to be a journalist, so McAllister hires him as a temp to fill the gap made by McLeod's absence. Stewart also happens to be a handsome, friendly guy who Ross is immediately attracted to. Where could this doomed romance go? Not very far, I'm thinking, but his appearance causes more questions, especially when McAllister finds out he visited Joyce Smart just before she was killed.

A different kind of mystery, combined with the lives and mores of mid-20th century Scotland, make this just the kind of winter reading to keep your mind off the snow for awhile.

There are three other books in this series, and a fifth will come out by the end of summer.

Suspense Magazine said: "Scott doles out the clues and keeps it interesting all the way to the end."

Can't argue with that.

A.D. Scott — a lady, by the way — was born in Scotland, educated at Inverness Royal Academy and the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama. She has worked in the theater, magazines and as a knitwear designer.

Till next time, happy reading!

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