



Volume 30, Number 4 Thursday, January 30, 2014

## **Tragedy, Triumph and Victory**

### **Michigan City's Armory a Story of Heroes Past and Present**

*Editor's note — The following story is the next in a series by The Beacher exploring the history behind key locations along Michigan City's North End.*

*by William Halliar*

For 75 years, the gleaming white façade of Michigan City's Armory has been a silent witness to the story of our nation and the people of Michigan City.

It has been a tacit, yet eloquent guard between Michigan City and the foaming waves of Lake Michigan, between the horrors of war abroad and the peace of the American homefront.

Docked in Trail Creek were numerous training ships with storied pasts,

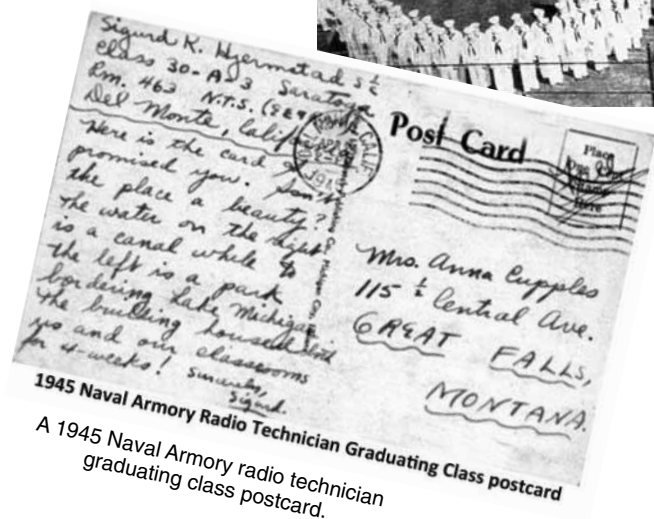


A 1944 graduating class of gunner's mates at the Naval Armory.

where countless men and women learned the skills of deep water sailing and Naval warfare. Within its cloistered walls, Navy and then Army reservists exercised, trained and studied, dedicating their lives to preserving our nation's peace.

The Armory has welcomed scores of young people who have enjoyed its excellent basketball court housed in space brightly illuminated by tall glass block windows. For a time, even the Indiana Department of Natural Resources has been housed within its whitewashed walls.

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A 1945 Naval Armory radio technician graduating class postcard.

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Beacher

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## *Tragedy, Triumph and Victory* Continued from Page 1

The Michigan City Armory's story begins in 1921, amid the Great Depression when the U.S. government instituted the 9th Division of the U.S. Naval Reserve at Michigan City. The land just to the north of the Franklin Street bridge was chosen and purchased from the Monon Railroad.

Indianapolis architects Ben Bacon and John Parrish were contracted to create a design for the building to be constructed under the auspices of the Works Progress Administration, the Depression-era public works program. Bacon and Parrish had designed the Heslar Naval Armory in Indianapolis, modeling the Michigan City Armory based on it.

The Armory was built from concrete coated in white stucco. The design is considered Art Deco, a style characterized by bold geometric shapes as evidenced by the building's sculpted front façade. At the time it was built, the Armory was considered a modern structure.

Construction began in 1936 and took three years to complete. Initially, it was intended to train Navy radio technicians and repairmen. The nautical theme was incorporated into the lavish design treatments of its interior.

The drill hall, which houses the basketball court, features a balcony designed like the bridge of a ship from which the commander of the facility could address his charges. The north and south walls are covered with glazed wainscot, and the hall is illuminated by large, vertically oriented glass block windows. The nautical theme is carried through the interior by the unique light fixtures made in the form of lanterns supported by anchors.

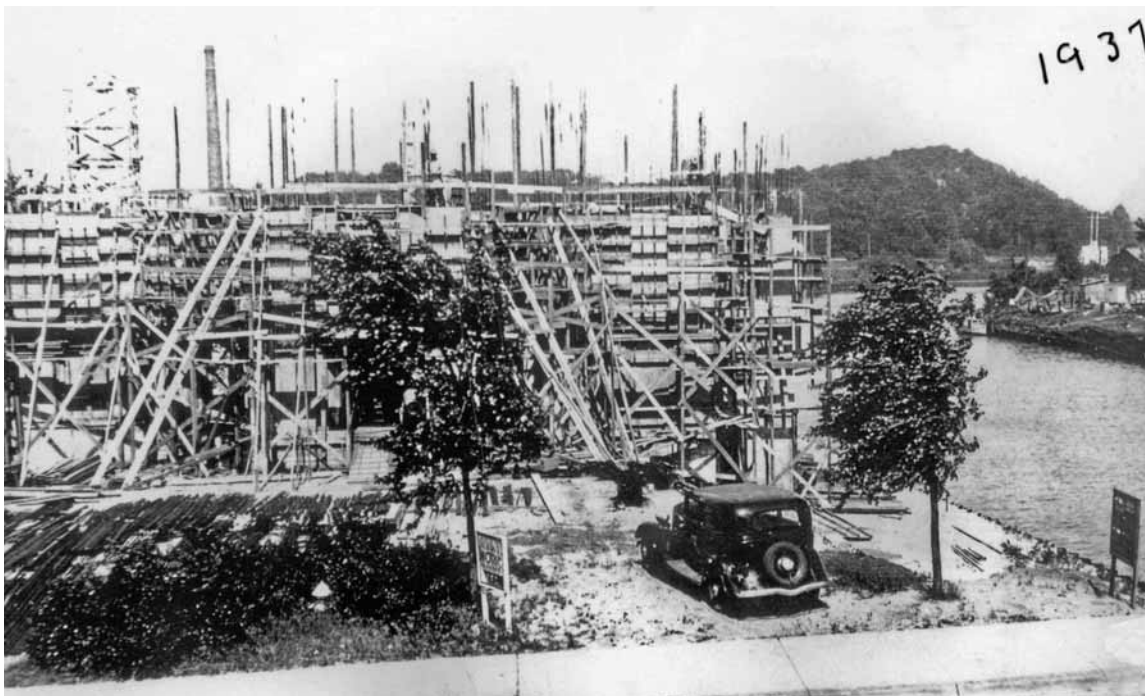


The captain's bridge overlooking the basketball court in the Armory.

The façade of the building is decorated with an Indiana flag and an anchor, and the words "Naval Armory" are emblazoned above the main entry doors.

When sailors first arrived at the new facility on Lake Michigan, they considered it "Shangri-La," a sort of paradise far from the stresses at Naval stations on either coast.

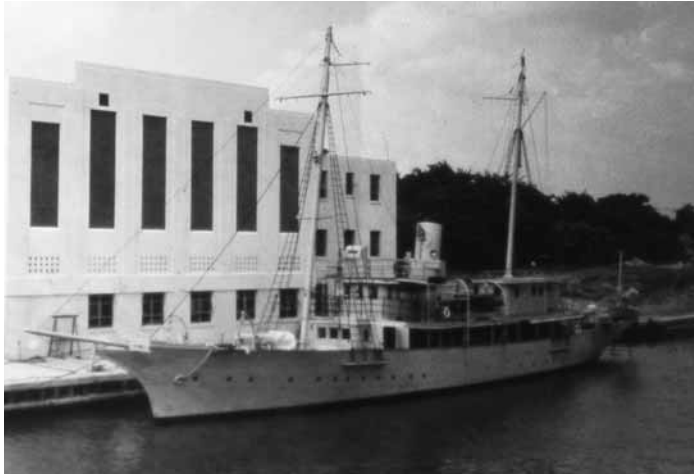
Docking facilities along Trail Creek allowed for the securing of large training ships, which had access to Lake Michigan, yet were berthed at a safe distance from its sometimes rag-



The view looking east of the Naval Armory under construction in 1937.

ing storms.

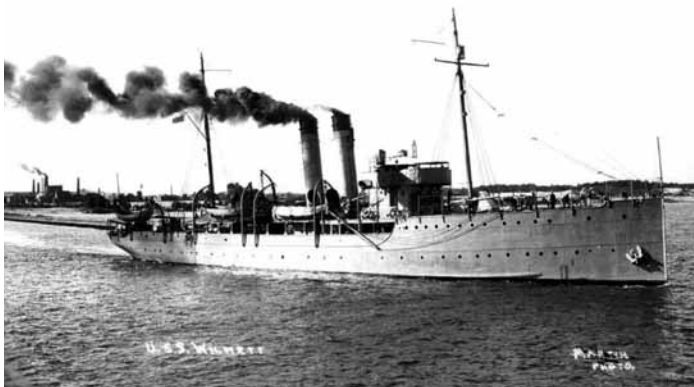
Stories of the training ships, themselves, make a colorful tale. Their voyages spell a saga of tragedy, triumph and victory. Within their steel hulls lived, worked and dreamed men who called the Michigan City Armory their home and their fellow sailors, "brothers at arms."



The training ship USS Hawk seen at the Naval Armory in 1940.

First of the training ships to be berthed at Michigan City was the USS Hawk. It was initially christened Hermione. Built as a pleasure yacht in 1891, she was purchased by the U.S. Navy in 1898 and renamed Hawk.

During the Spanish American War in 1898, the rechristened Hawk sailed from Key West and joined the Atlantic Squadron. While on station in Cuban waters, she and her crew attacked and destroyed enemy ship Alphonso XII, which carried a cargo of supplies. She was decommissioned from the U.S. Navy in 1900. In 1908, she was assigned to the Naval Militia of New York in the Buffalo area. Finally in 1922, after a colorful career, the Hawk was assigned to the 9th Naval District, operating on Lake Michigan and stationed at Michigan City.



The USS Wilmette, formerly Eastland, in the 1920s.

A second training ship, this one with a somewhat darker past, was the USS Wilmette. Built in 1903 and originally christened Eastland, she was built as a passenger excursion steamer to be used on lakes

Continued on Page 4

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**Tragedy, Triumph and Victory** Continued from Page 3

Michigan and Erie. The Eastland had a reputation for being an “unstable” sailor. It had a design flaw that made it susceptible to listing, or leaning to one side. The design of its superstructure made it top heavy. During its time in excursion service, it became one of the only steamers on the Great Lakes to survive the mutinous takeover of a part of its crew.

Then, on July 24, 1903, the Eastland was chartered to carry a group of Western Electric employees from Chicago to Michigan City's Washington Park for a picnic. An estimated 2,562 people crowded the decks of the steamer that morning. The ship began to list away from the dock. The crew tried to stabilize the hapless vessel by filling its ballast tanks, but to no avail. At 7:28 a.m., the Eastland lurched, then rolled over on its port side, trapping many inside the hull. Although the ship was only 20 feet from shore, 844 people died in the accident.

After the ship was righted, the hull was salvaged, taken over by the U.S. Navy and rebuilt as a training ship. The Eastland was renamed USS Wilmette and was brought to the Naval Armory.

Ironically, Wilmette, whose hull witnessed such great sorrow and death, spent her last days docked at the Michigan City Armory, within sight of the mooring dock that was slated for the arrival of the ill-fated Western Electric picnicgoers.



Old refrigeration units at the Armory are now used for storage.

A more glorious story can be found in the gunboat USS Sacramento, the “Galloping Ghost of the China Coast.” It, too, was a Michigan City Naval Armory training ship. During World War I, she logged 64,000 miles convoying 483 ships safely through submarine-infested waters. She witnessed the Russian and Chinese revolutions, her crew performing with distinction. The Sacramento finally made her way to the Great Lakes under the command of Naval Reserve units here and was stationed in Michigan City.

On Nov. 20, 1939, Capt. O.F. Heslar took command of the armory, which included the Sacramento. With a detachment of sailors from the Michigan City Armory, he sailed to Boston for refitting, and the ship then was assigned to active duty with the U.S. Navy. The Sacramento's assignment was Hawaii's Pearl Harbor.

At 8 a.m. Dec. 7, 1941, the USS Sacramento was berthed in Battleship Row when the Imperial Japanese Navy attacked the ships of the U.S. Navy docked there. The crew of the Sacramento was called to quarters. After a furious battle in which the Sacramento fired more than 14,000 rounds at the enemy, downing two enemy planes, she rescued survivors from stricken ships around her. Amazingly, the ship sustained no damage and lost no sailors in the battle. The Sacramento was awarded a battle star for distinguished service during the attack.

From 1962 to 1965, the USS Harve was assigned Great Lakes duty at Michigan City. In 1965, the De-



Officers seen on deck of the USS Sacramento in 1941.

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partment of Defense deactivated its Naval Reserve station in Michigan City. The Armory was considered for purchase by the city. Instead, the building was leased to the city and used as a teen center and for Park and Recreation League basketball games. The New Buffalo (Mich.) High School basketball team used the drill floor for practice in 1965. The DNR even occupied a space in the basement.

Over the years, the building fell into disrepair and was criticized for the condition of the exterior. It was repainted in the late 1970s by a gang of workers from Indiana State Prison.

In 1977, it was announced that Company "B" of the 113th Engineer Battalion of the Army National Guard would take over the building. A renovation project was begun to restore the building to its former glory. Interior work, including paint and other repairs, was completed, the outside was sandblasted and repainted white. The Indiana flag, the words U.S. Navy over the front doors and the decorative anchor on the front of the building were refinished in blue and gold.

In 1978, a 5" World War II Naval deck gun,

which for years had been a familiar site near the Armory, was removed without much fanfare from the grounds to make more space for parking. The gun was the last of several that once guarded the entrance to Washington Park. Though the gun's removal was lamented by some citizens, no one came forth to claim it save a local scrap company.

Since 1977, there have been five Army National Guard units stationed at the Armory. The HDD 190th Transportation Battalion under Capt. Jon Dudeck is stationed there now. The old drill floor or basketball court, which has been nicely refinished,

is still leased to groups in the community. The Armory continues to house a new generation of our nation's heroes. It stands as a reminder to all who pass by of heroes past, present and future who serve their country, and of the glorious history of the U.S. Army and Navy in Michigan City.

(Special thanks to Michael Fleming for providing The Beacher with historical photos. Ensuing stories in the series will head down Franklin Street as it explores Michigan City's past and present.)



The Michigan City Armory gymnasium today.



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## "Postcards from Home"

Claire Anderson Merrill's exhibit, "Postcards from Home: The Story of a Family in Norway and America," marks the culmination of a 30-year journey.

As part of Uptown Arts District's monthly First Friday event, visitors can attend an opening reception from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 7.

"Just as the almost 30-year search for my elusive Norwegian ancestors began to seem hopeless, the chance discovery of a century-old postcard addressed to my grandfather from a cousin in Wisconsin provided the missing key that finally unlocked the mystery," Merrill said in a press release.

The postcard spurred a desire to give her story artistic expression. Through a Dale E. Landsman Arts Foundation grant, Merrill spent three weeks traveling and painting in Norway.

"I returned with a wealth of experiences and the inspiration to communicate them to a larger audience," she said.



The exhibit combines a variety of media: original oils, watercolors, photographs, historic records and family memorabilia.

Merrill is a Valparaiso University graduate with a degree in fine arts in 1974. After a long association with Valparaiso's Community Theatre Guild, ranging from stage decoration to lighting design and production, she returned to painting. A studio artist as well as an active member

of the SSAA Plein Air Painters, her work has been exhibited in juried shows at The Art Barn School of Art, Midwest Museum of American Art in Elkhart and the SSAA, where she was awarded "Best in Show" in the fall 2012 Juried Exhibit.

The exhibit runs through March 2 at the SSAA Gallery, 724 Franklin St., Michigan City. Gallery hours are noon to 4 p.m. Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Visit [www.SouthernShoreArtAssociation.com](http://www.SouthernShoreArtAssociation.com) for more information.



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## Antique Valentines on Display

The La Porte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave., La Porte, again will showcase its collection of antique valentines through February.



More valentines than ever will be on display, not only in several of the museum's Period Rooms, but also in the lower-level Exhibit Hall.



In conjunction with the display, "The Great Loves of La Porte County" will be presented at 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 15. Anyone who knows of a great love story or who would like to share his/her own should send an email to [info@laportecountyhistory.org](mailto:info@laportecountyhistory.org) and it will be included in the program. It also will be kept in the Historical Society's archives.

Forms also are available at the museum. Call (219) 324-6767 for more information.

The museum is open from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Visit [www.laportecountyhistory.org](http://www.laportecountyhistory.org) for more information.

## PNC Series Looks at Diversity

Purdue University-North Central will present its Brownbag Series in the coming months, with faculty, staff and community members leading programs on "diversity."

The talks will vary in style and subject, but share the intent of presenting topics and issues that help develop tolerant, inclusive campus and community cultural practices. Some presenters will feature short film clips or interactive pieces to stimulate conversation and discussion; others will present ideas for open dialogue and sharing of views and experiences.

The free series is coordinated by Bob Mellin, PNC continuing lecturer of English. The seminars are from noon to 1 p.m. in the PNC Library-Student-Faculty Building, Room 170A, near the cafeteria. Guests may bring a lunch or buy meals from the cafeteria.

The schedule is:

- Feb. 12 — Jerry Holt, PNC English Department chair, will present "Strange Stories from Michigan City," an exploration of some of the area's most unusual life stories, including: the first woman to drive an automobile from coast to coast; a penitentiary inmate who inspired Johnny Cash; and a major movie star.

- March 5 — Gail Barker, PNC Disability Services coordinator, will lead an interactive discussion as part of Indiana's Disability Awareness Month.

The program will cover topics of equal opportunity and equal access, technology and resources to be successful in the classroom, and the role of the PNC Disability Services' Office.

- April 9 — Maria Blumenfeld will present "Coming to the United States: Overcoming Challenges by Proactive Dreaming."

A PNC graduate and Valparaiso University third-year law student, she will discuss the challenges facing international students and the process of assimilating into a new culture.

Blumenfeld, a member of the Valparaiso University Immigration Clinic, serves as lead counsel for asylum cases. She also is working to create a project to bring awareness to attorneys, judges and the public about a type of immigration relief that will help undocumented children and juveniles who have been neglected, abused or abandoned.

Contact Mellin at (219) 785-5200, Ext. 5215, for more information.



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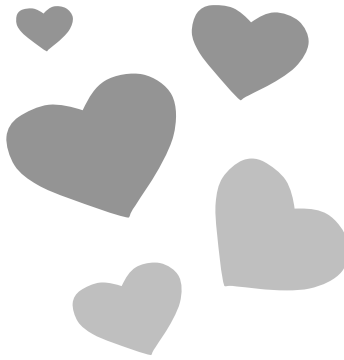
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## Visit



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

Visit Michigan City La Porte Convention & Visitors Bureau is featuring new artists, with Joyce Dille's exhibit running through March 10.

"I am always exploring different unique directions," Dille said. "I cover a diverse range of styles from realism to abstract. Everywhere I go and everything I do provides an opportunity to find new subject matter and inspiration for new paintings."

"I am fascinated with juxtapositions, and I like to show this in my paintings. Since childhood, I have found solace in the creation of art. It is the one place I can go and know I belong. It is my gift and I try not to waste it."

Dille is an emerging artist and acrylics painter. She studied fine art at Indiana University and The Art Institute of Chicago, along with building construction management at Purdue University.

You can see these works at the Visit Michigan City La Porte Convention & Visitors Bureau Gallery in Marquette Mall.



Joyce Dille displays one of her works.

## First Friday Art Walk

The Uptown Arts District First Friday Art Walk is from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 7, along Michigan City's North End.

Participating businesses and attractions include:

- The Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St. Entertainment includes two plays by Jerry Holt and performed by Mary Walton Deboer, Steve Becker and Glenn Silver.

- Trinity Episcopal Church, 600 Franklin St. Author Diane Bradley will sign copies of her new novel, "Wilder's Edge," and harpist Debra Sawyer will perform.

- Walnut Ink, 607 Franklin St. Visitors can create mixed-media found object sculptures, while new works by Liz Mares will be on display.

- Urban Soles Inc., 624 Franklin St. Work by local artist Meg Richardson will be on display.

- The Warren outdoor project "Artful Voice," hosted by Deborah Landry in partnership with ArtSpace Projects, will be at 717 Franklin St.

- Southern Shore Art Association, 724 Franklin St., will present the exhibit "Postcards from Home: The Story of a Family in Norway and America."

- Prince Gallery, 726 Franklin St., will highlight its collection of art.

- D'Aprile Properties, in conjunction with the new owner at 731 Franklin St., will host an open house. Appetizers will be served.

- dh2w Inc., 813 Franklin St., will feature a series of photos in February of interiors designed for clients during the last several years.

Entertainment also is planned at Maxine's, 521 Franklin St., and Mainstreet Theatre, 807 Franklin St. Maxine's will feature live blues and jazz by the Marco Trio from 8 to 11 p.m., while the First Friday Open Stage costs \$2 for performers and \$3 for audience members.

## Temporary Housing Sought

The National Park Service needs short-term housing near Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore for summer's seasonal workforce of park rangers, guides, maintenance workers and research aides.

Summer employees often have difficulty finding suitable short-term housing. Most are college students or people just starting their careers and have limited budgets. Many apartments will not lease or rent for fewer than six months or a year. The park's summer employees typically work fewer than that starting in May.

Most employees will need temporary — two to six months — housing, preferably furnished apartments or rooms with cooking privileges.


Anyone interested in receiving referrals for summer renters should contact Administrative Program Assistant Bill Martin at (219) 395-1751.

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## Reins of Life Benefit

Reins of Life will present its 16th Annual Benefit Dinner & Auction, in memory of the late Kelsey Marie Meekhof, on Saturday, Feb. 1, at Windsor Park Conference Center, 4020 Edison Lakes Parkway, Mishawaka.

Kelsey was a rider at Reins of Life from the time she was 4 until her death in 2004. The event is hosted by her parents, Mark and Carla Meekhof, with all proceeds supporting equine-assisted activities for children and adults with disabilities.

Reins of Life was founded in 1978 in South Bend. In 2007, a second location opened in Michigan City. Riders are from age 2 to adult and have physical, developmental, social and/or emotional disabilities.



More than 3,000 hours of therapeutic riding was provided in 2012 for more than 500 riders. Nearly 300 volunteers assisted with class time, maintenance, administrative and event duties.

The event, which starts at 5:30 p.m. EST with a cash bar and silent auction, followed by dinner at 7:15 p.m. EST, will feature three riders:

- Lilly, a 4-year-old who only converses with others while at Reins.

- Lainy, whose mother, according to a press release, "accomplishes more at Reins of Life than all the other therapies together."

- Brenner, who began riding at Reins as a pre-teen, now volunteers and competes in horse shows.

The cost for the dinner/auction is \$75 per person, \$125 a couple and \$675 for a table for 10. Reservations are required by calling the Reins of Life office at (574) 232-0853. Donations of auction items are still being accepted. More information is available at [www.reinsoflife.org](http://www.reinsoflife.org)



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## Auditions Set for Hoosier Star

La Porte County Symphony Orchestra is seeking contestants for its ninth annual Hoosier Star.

The fundraiser is open to amateur singers of all musical styles and age groups. Auditions are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, March 29, and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, March 30, at La Porte Little Theatre Club, 218 A St., La Porte.

Contestants are divided into two age groups: youth 17 and younger and adults 18 and older at the time of auditions. Twelve finalists — six in each age group — will advance to the final event.

The 12 finalists will perform with the Hoosier Star Orchestra conducted by Philip Bauman on Saturday, Sept. 13, at La Porte Civic Auditorium, 1001 Ridge St. Audience members choose the final two winners in each age division based on that

night's performances. First and second place in the Youth Division receive \$500 and \$250, respectively. First and second place in the Adult Division receive \$1,000 and \$500, respectively.

Registration forms can be found at HoosierSTAR.com. Contestants are encouraged to pre-register for a guaranteed time slot. The audition registration fee is \$20. Applications must be postmarked by March 15 to receive a guaranteed time slot. Walk-ins are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis during the audition dates. No duets or group performances may enter. For auditions, applicants may provide their own accompanist, use a CD with no lead vocals or sing a cappella.

Call (219) 362-9020 or email HoosierSTAR@LCSO.net for more information.



Jade Kuzak,  
the Hoosier  
Star 2013 Youth  
Division Winner.



Jeremiah  
Souza, the  
Hoosier Star  
2013 Adult  
Division Winner.

## Midwinter Reading Program

Adults and young adults in grades six through 12 are invited to Westchester Public Library's 2014 midwinter reading program, "Let it Snow ... and Get Buried in a Book."

The program runs Feb. 1-28 at Thomas Library, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton, and Hageman Library, 100 Francis St., Porter. No pre-registration is required, but a valid Westchester Public Library card is necessary.

Read or listen to any book (including eBooks) checked out from Westchester Public Library. Adult participants fill out review cards for each book read and return them to the circulation desk at either Thomas or Hageman libraries. Homebound residents can give their forms to their homebound service provider to be submitted to the library.

Young adults can fill out a review card for each book read and return it to the reference desk at Thomas Library or circulation desk at Hageman Library. Review cards are available at both libraries.

Each review card is an entry to win a prize in one of the weekly drawings at each library for adults, the homebound and young adults. Patrons don't need to be present to win. Only one prize per person is allowed during the program.

Call Thomas Library at (219) 926-7696 or Hageman Library at (219) 926-9080 for more information.



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## Westchester Public Library

The following programs are through Westchester Public Library:

• **The Bits and Bytes class "Introduction to Social Networking"** from 1 to 4 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 5, in the Thomas Library Bertha Wood meeting room, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

Learn more about facebook, twitter, Flickr, MySpace, Google Plus and other networking sites.

The class is free, but registration is required. Visit or call the library at (219) 926-7696, Ext. 25, to register, or register online at <http://www.wpl.lib.in.us>. Click on the Bits and Bytes link.

• **The Bits and Bytes class, "Introduction to Google Apps,"** from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 11, at Thomas Library Bertha Wood meeting room.

Google information tools include Google Maps, Google Books, Google Images, Google Earth and YouTube. Collaborative tools include Google sites, Gmail, Google Calendar, Latitude and Google Docs and Spreadsheets.

The class is free, but registration is required because space is limited. Visit or call the library at (219) 926-7696, Ext. 25, to register, or register online at <http://www.wpl.lib.in.us>. Click on the Bits and Bytes link.

• **The Lego Club at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 14, in the Children's Department at Thomas Library.**

Children will get a bucket of Legos to build whatever they like. The program is free, but registration is necessary. Children 6 and older can register in the children's department.

• **The drop-in craft program, The Art Box, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays in February at Thomas Library.**

Children of all ages, and accompanied by their parents, are welcome. No registration is necessary.

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## Entries Sought for Tri-County Exhibit

South Shore Arts is seeking entries for its Annual Tri-County Junior/Senior High School Art Exhibit.

The event is open to public, private and parochial students from Lake, La Porte and Porter counties and south suburban Cook County in Illinois. It will run April 27 through May 25 at The Center for Visual and Performing Arts, 1040 Ridge Road, Munster. A reception and awards ceremony is from 1 to 3 p.m. Sunday, May 4.

Area teachers interested in receiving an entry form should contact Laura Cutler at [laura@southshoreartsonline.org](mailto:laura@southshoreartsonline.org) or call (219) 836-1839, Ext. 108. Art teachers should submit a list of student work to be entered in the exhibit. Teachers then are invited to install their student's artwork in the gallery.

The exhibit features a wide range of media, including drawings, paintings, ceramics, photography, fiber arts, animation and sculpture. Trophies are awarded for the best overall school display in the junior- and senior-high school levels.

More than \$5,000 in prizes will be awarded, including the \$2,500 Donald H. Berwanger Scholarship Award for a graduating high school senior to attend an accredited college or university to study fine art. Competing seniors are entered by their teacher and must submit an application, portfolio and letter of recommendation.



Randall James Clark is the juror for this year's exhibit.

The juror for this year's exhibit is Randall James Clark, owner of r j clark studio/gallery in New Carlisle. He has worked as an artist and educator for more than 40 years, most recently at Indiana University-South Bend as gallery director. Primarily a sculptor, his body of work includes bronze, terra cotta, alabaster, gypsum and leather.

As juror, Clark will choose the recipients of awards such as Best in Show, First in Media, Awards of Distinction and Honorable Mention.

Visit [www.southshoreartsonline.org](http://www.southshoreartsonline.org) for more information.

## Scholastic Art Awards Exhibition

The South Bend Museum of Art and Friends of Scholastic Art Awards will present The Northwest Indiana & Lower Southwest Michigan Region of the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers Scholastic Art Awards Exhibition from Feb. 1 through March 1.

More than 500 individual works appear in this year's exhibit, selected from more than 2,500 digital submissions by 1,298 students in seventh through 12th grade in more than 100 schools.

Gold Key, Silver Key and Honorable Mention designations are awarded, and five works are selected out of the Gold Key awards as American Vision nominees, representing "Best in Show."

Digital images of all the Gold Key Awards are sent to National Adjudication in New York City. Award recipients at the national level are invited to participate in the awards ceremony at Carnegie Hall, have their work shown in noted galleries, attend workshops, be considered for scholarships and have their names included in The New York Times article covering the awards.

SBMA gallery hours are noon to 5 p.m. EST Wednesday through Sunday. The awards ceremony is at 1:30 p.m. EST Sunday, Feb. 9, in The Century Center's Bendix Theatre and is open to the public. "Meet Me in the Gallery" to celebrate the artists is from 5:30 to 9 p.m. EST Friday, Feb. 7. Tickets, which are \$5, are available at the door.

The museum is in The Century Center, 120 S. St. Joseph St., South Bend. Visit [southbendart.org](http://southbendart.org), email [info@southbendart.org](mailto:info@southbendart.org) or call (574) 235-9102 for more information.

## Dancing Feet Yoga Workshops

Dancing Feet Yoga, 19135 U.S. 12, New Buffalo, Mich., will host two events during Valentine's Day weekend.

The first, "Gong Lab: Whispers of the Heart with Oliver Seay and Shu Shubat," is from 7 to 9 p.m. EST Saturday, Feb. 15.

Gong Lab involves images and sounds to help relieve stress and pain. The cost is \$25 in advance or \$35 at the door.

The second, "Happy Hips & Knees Workshop" with Kathleen Flannagan, is from 1:30 to 4 p.m. EST Sunday, Feb. 16.

Explore the role core stability, pelvic alignment and tightness in the joint capsule and supporting muscles play in optimal hip and knee mechanics. Participants will use yoga asana for movement re-education, as well as an assessment tool.

The cost is \$45 in advance or \$50 at the door.

Space is limited for both workshops, so anyone interested should register early. Call Dancing Feet at (269) 469-1966 for more information.

## Ranting Llamas at Mainstreet

The Purdue University-North Central student improv club, The Ranting Llamas, will perform from 8 to 10 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 8, at Mainstreet Theatre, 807 Franklin St., Michigan City.

The group has been performing for four years, presenting a comedy experience appropriate for all ages and outlooks. Comedy situations are made up on the spot and the audience often is incorporated into a scene. Sometimes, a situation is suggested by the audience and the actors build off of it, concepts such as throwing snowballs, riding a bus, walking a dog or staying awake in class.

The cast includes: Devon Hogan, Chesterton; Alex Parry, Valparaiso; Nate Werner, Union Mills; Drew Holt, Michigan City; Haley Jackson, La Porte; Justin Garetto, Wanatah; Justin Knoll, La Porte; Rachel Rogers, Michigan City; Becca Lafollette, Valparaiso; Leah Gladkowski, Wheaton, Ill.; Carly Houlton, Michigan City; Diane Rich, La Porte; Bridget Dudley, Chesterton; CieAna Marsh, La Porte; Erik Sturgeon, Chesterton; Angela Barreto, New Carlisle; Jane Davis-Bey, Michigan City; and Robert Simpson, La Porte.

Admission is \$5. All proceeds go to local arts programs, many of which helped nurture club members' appreciation for, and participation in, the arts.

## La Porte County Library

The winter reading program is Feb. 1 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.

Upcoming programs include:

- **Lego Maker Camp on Tuesdays, Feb. 4, 11, 18 and 25, at the main library, 904 Indiana Ave., La Porte.**

Children can stop by between 3 and 5 p.m.

- **"Let Go of My Lego!" during regular library hours Feb. 2-8 at the Rolling Prairie branch, 1 E. Michigan Ave.**

Create something with Lego building bricks at the building station.

- **Baby Storytime at 10 a.m. Thursdays, Feb. 6, 13, 20 and 27, at the main library.**

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

## "The Best of British Music"

Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra will present "Majesty: The Best of British Music" with guest artist Addlestone Gate at 7:30 p.m. EST Saturday, Feb. 8, at Lake Michigan College's Mendel Center Mainstage, Benton Harbor, Mich.

Addlestone Gate features composer/lead singer/guitarist Jim Wirth with sons Nathan on percussion and vocals and Michael Alan on bass and vocals. It is reminiscent of the British Invasion sound, presenting its "Majesty" show with professional symphony orchestras.



Addlestone Gate

The concert will feature everything from the Beatles' "All My Loving" to Moody Blues' "Nights in White Satin" to Coldplay's "Viva La Vida." The group will be joined by backup singers Lisa Chilton, soprano, Karol Krueger, alto, Andrew Fisher, tenor, and David Carew, tenor.

SMSO Music Director Robin Fountain will host a "Pre-Concert Conversation" at 6:30 p.m. EST in the north training room. A post-concert reception is in the lobby, followed by a meet and greet with the band at RyeBelles Restaurant. There is \$5 cover charge. Pre-registration is required.

Also during the concert, Dave Smykal, Heather Seawright and Brian Cooley from Chartreuse will debut a special exhibit highlighting the area's largest selection of unique art.

Tickets are:

- Zone A: \$37 adults, \$32 seniors and \$5 students.
- Zone B: \$20 adults and \$5 students.

Contact the symphony office at (269) 982-4030 or visit [www.smso.org](http://www.smso.org) for tickets or more information.

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## Indiana Dunes State Park

*The following events are planned through Indiana Dunes State Park:*

### **Saturday, Feb. 1**

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

Explore the science of bird banding at the Nature Center. Naturalists will throw up banding nets to view the birds up close.

#### • **2 p.m. — “Naturally Indiana: An Indoor Tour.”**

Meet at the Nature Center auditorium for the new 45-minute documentary, produced by PBS in 2011, that captures the heart of Indiana's wild places, from Indiana Dunes to Clifty Falls.

### **Sunday, Feb. 2**

#### • **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. — “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.*

## Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

*The following programs are through Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore:*

#### • **“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.

## CALL THE BEACHER WITH YOUR NEWS!

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

## VU Dance Ensemble Concert

The annual Valparaiso University Dance Ensemble concert, presented by the Department of Theatre, opens Feb. 6.

The ensemble showcases student dancers and choreographers from nearly every college within the university. This year's program, directed by Ann Kessler, features dance styles ranging from classical ballet to hip-hop, combined with costumes, light design and music. Thirty four student performers, two faculty choreographers and eight student choreographers are featured.

Performances are at 8 p.m. Thursday and Friday, Feb. 6-7, and 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 8-9, in the University Theatre in the VU Center for the Arts. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for seniors and non-VU students. Admission is free for VU students, faculty and staff. Call (219) 464-5162 for more information and tickets, or visit <http://www.valpo.edu/vuca/ticket.php>

## Winter Fest

A variety of events are planned as part of Winter Fest on Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 1-2, in New Buffalo, Mich.

Free sleigh rides are from noon to 5 p.m. EST Saturday. Pickup and dropoff are at the information booth at North Whittaker and Merchant streets.

Ice sculpting is from noon to 2 p.m. EST Saturday. An ice rink and sledding are at Oselka Park.

Bev's Second Season Ball is at 6:30 p.m. Saturday at the Four Winds Casino Resort Silver Creek Event Center, 1111 Wilson Road.

The Chocolate Chip Pancake Breakfast Special is Sunday at Rosie's Restaurant, 128 N. Whittaker St., and Michigan Thyme, 107 N. Whittaker St.

Visit [www.newbuffalo.org](http://www.newbuffalo.org) for more information.

## Cat Society Receives Grant

The Independent Cat Society of Westville has received a \$5,000 Porter County Community Foundation grant.

Most grants the ICS receives arrive by mail, but grant committee representatives from the foundation delivered the check in person.

The ICS partners with Porter and La Porte counties to help reduce pet over-population, providing low-cost spay and neuter options and promoting responsible pet-ownership. It also trains volunteers who provide trap/neuter/release services in areas of high feral-cat concentrations.

The grant will help spay and neuter more cats in the region. It also will help the ICS assist low-income families and pet owners in Porter County.

Call (219) 785-4936 or visit [www.catsociety.org/](http://www.catsociety.org/) for more information.



Independent Cat Society Grant Chair Roberta Jocius (from left), ICS President Staci Trackles and Emily Remster and Jackie Stutzman, Porter County Community Foundation committee members.

## AAUW Meeting

The Michigan City Branch of the American Association of University Women will meet for brunch at 10 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 1, at Lindos Restaurant, 3940 Franklin St., Michigan City.

Call 872-3730 for more information.



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# UNITED EFFORT HELPS DOUBLE SIZE OF LONG BEACH ICE SKATING RINK



Thanks to financial support from the Long Beach Park Board and Long Beach Volunteer Fire Department, this year's ice-skating rink in Long Beach is double the size of past years.

"Skaters have wished for a larger rink, and with the board's and fire department's support, it was possible this year," Long Beach firefighter Bart De La Barre said.

The new liner, De La Barre continued, means someone still has to set up and maintain the rink. So, Long Beach Volunteer Fire Department members pitched in, along with a member of the local Boy Scout troop and two troop parents, to build the rink. To simplify maintenance, Fire Chief Dave Albers built an ice surface re-finisher. Dubbed "The Albers Zamboni," his creation will ensure a glass-smooth ice surface for skaters.

Weather permitting, the key to enter the rink, which is west of the Community Center, is available at the Long Beach Police Dispatch Desk. Night skating is available on the lighted rink.

Long Beach officials encourage people to use the rink and avoid shelf ice on Lake Michigan.

"Although it looks solid, shelf ice can be a collection of hollow spaces, thin surface and holes," De La Barre said. "Falling through the ice could end with an icy dip in the lake many feet below with the unlikely prospect of rescue."





## Pigeon Creek Adaptation of "Tartuffe"

Pigeon Creek Theatre Co. will stage an adaptation of Moliere's French comedy "Tartuffe" at 7:30 p.m. EST Saturday, Feb. 1, at The Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Mich.

This is Pigeon Creek's third appearance at The Box Factory. Rosalind Srb, who frequently designs costumes for their productions, created a new translation specifically for Pigeon Creek. The production will emphasize audience interaction. The cast includes Kathleen Bode, Kilian Goodson, Kat Hermes, Scott Lange, Katherine Mayberry, Megan Prangley, Sarah Stark, Brad Sytsma, Kate Tubbs and Kyle Westmaas.



Scott Lange is featured in the cast of "Tartuffe."

Special VIP tickets of \$15 with prepaid reservations are available for this event. General admission tickets are \$10 and senior and student tickets \$8. They are available at [www.boxfactoryforthearts.org](http://www.boxfactoryforthearts.org), by phone at (269) 983-3688 or at the door. Wine and light refreshments will be sold at the event.

## Documentary Premiere at Lubeznik

Zach Skiles' documentary "Veterans: On Killing" will have its Midwest premiere at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 30, at the Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St., Michigan City.

Doors open at 6 p.m. in the center's Hyndman Gallery.

The film is shown as part of the center's exhibit, "Citizen\*Soldier\*Citizen," and is based on Lt. Col. David Grossman's book "On Killing: The Psychological Cost of Learning to Kill in War and Society." It follows one Marine who was part of the Iraq invasion in 2003. It also features combat veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan who give personal insights to their own experiences in training, combat and the aftermath.

The documentary goes into detail about the psychological effects when engaged in "killing." It features veterans reading passages from Grossman's book, followed by their insights and relating it to their own experiences.

Skiles was inspired to make the film after admitting himself into a post traumatic stress disorder clinic in northern California in 2010 and reading Grossman's book.

Everyone featured in the film has served in the U.S. military.

Call the center at (219) 874-4900, Ext. 209, for more information. "Citizen\*Soldier\*Citizen" runs through Feb. 9.

## Trivia Night to Aid Children's Chorus

La Porte County Symphony Orchestra will present a trivia night to raise funds for its Children's Chorus at 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 7, at La Porte Little Theatre, 218 A St.

Individual players cost \$20 and teams of six \$100. A cash bar is planned, and participants can take their own snacks or food. Raffles and prizes are planned.

Register at [www.lcso.net](http://www.lcso.net) or call (219) 362-9020 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. Holmerville Road, La Porte. Call (219) 325-8315 or visit [www.laportecountyparks.org](http://www.laportecountyparks.org) for more information.

### Stroller, Baby and You

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

The free program is from 10 to 11 a.m. at Luhr County Park, 3178 S. County Road 150 West, La Porte. Dates are: Feb. 3 and 10, 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. Pre-registration and payment are required at least one week in advance or until full, whichever comes first.

The lineup is:

- Feb. 12 — "Where Did They Go?"
- Feb. 26 — "Wild Wind."
- March 12 — "Bat Basics."
- March 26 — "Star Theater."
- April 9 — "Flower Power."

### Learn How to Crochet

Learn how to make a washcloth during a three-class series that meets from 6 to 7:15 p.m. Tuesdays, Feb. 4, 11 and 18, at Luhr County Park.

Participants learn the basics the first night, then practice at home before returning for the next two classes to ask questions and proceed with their projects. All supplies will be provided.

The classes, which include a minimum of five people and a maximum of 10, are aimed at participants 8 and older. Children must be accompanied by an adult. The cost is \$12 per person.

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## Michigan City Public Library

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

• **Free Gentle Flow Yoga at 12:15 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 1.**

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

• **Knitting Club for All Ages at 5:30 p.m. Wednesdays, Feb. 5, 12, 19 and 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.

• **Drop-in Craft at 10 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 6.**

All materials are provided to make a valentine craft. All ages are welcome.

*Call Robin Kohn at 873-3049 for more information.*

## Open Stage Canceled

Barker Hall Open Stage, originally scheduled for Friday, Jan. 31, has been canceled.

The series resumes the last Friday in February.

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## Leadership Training Series

The Calumet Stewardship Initiative is offering a special training series for volunteers interested in environmental stewardship.

The 2014 Volunteer Leadership Training Series will educate participants about the Calumet region's ecology and develop skills to monitor and manage natural resources at local waterways and nature preserves.

Staff from Shirley Heinze Land Trust, The Field Museum, Friends of the Forest Preserves, Chicago Park District, Forest Preserves of Cook County and Openlands will host the series of four workshops held on Saturdays between Feb. 22 and April 19. Participants must attend volunteer events at local nature preserves to apply their knowledge and gain mentorship from other local land stewards.

The course starts with an overview of the region's geology, hydrology, ecology and cultural history. Then, participants lead volunteers in the field, coordinating volunteer workdays and safely conducting tasks such as burning brush. Some workshops satisfy additional training requirements to volunteer with the Forest Preserves of Cook County.



A Calumet Volunteer Training Workshop in 2012.

Paul Quinlan Shirley Heinze Land Trust stewardship director, will co-lead two of the workshops.

Shirley Heinze Land Trust's Meadowbrook Nature Preserve near Valparaiso will be the venue for the final class in April, where participants learn techniques to monitor and restore the health of streams and surrounding uplands. Other locations include Gibson Woods County Park in Hammond and Sand Ridge Nature Center in South Holland, Ill.

Registration is required by Feb. 7. A \$40 fee covers course materials. Scholarships are available. Contact Paul Quinlan at [pquinlan@heinzetrust.org](mailto:pquinlan@heinzetrust.org) or at (219) 242-8558 for more information. Additional information is at [www.calumetstewardship.org](http://www.calumetstewardship.org)

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## IAC Artist Grants

The Indiana Arts Commission announced that Hoosier artists in selected disciplines have just more than two weeks to submit applications for Individual Artist Program grants.

Artists must complete the online application process by Feb. 7.

Individual artists living and working in Indiana may request up to \$2,000 from the program, which does not require matching funds. The grants are intended to assist artists with specific project-related costs that will help further their artistic careers.

Eligible projects only will be considered in visual arts, photography, design, media, crafts and folk arts related to these traditional disciplines. Artists with disabilities are encouraged to apply for projects related to these eligible disciplines, either through the discipline directly or through the access category.

Application guidelines and the online grant application system are accessible at [www.in.gov/arts/individualartistprogram.htm](http://www.in.gov/arts/individualartistprogram.htm). The application is only available online. Artists are encouraged to read through the guidelines before starting the process. Applications must be submitted through <http://indiana.cgweb.org/>

Those interested must be at least 18, an Indiana resident for at least one year prior to the date of application and plan to remain in the state for the full grant period. Artists may not be enrolled in a degree-granting program. All projects must be completed between July 1, 2014, and June 30, 2015.

Contact Sarah Fronczek at (317) 232-1274 or email [SFRonczek@iac.in.gov](mailto:SFRonczek@iac.in.gov) for more information.

## Brief Lakeshore Site Closures

Three Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore sites may experience brief closures this winter.

West Beach, Tolleston Dunes and Cowles Bog may be closed on a few weekday afternoons through March 31. The closures are to ensure the public's safety during resource-restoration work related to deer management.

The sites will remain open most weekdays this winter and be open every Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Information on daily closings are available by calling the National Lakeshore's information desk at (219) 395-1882 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

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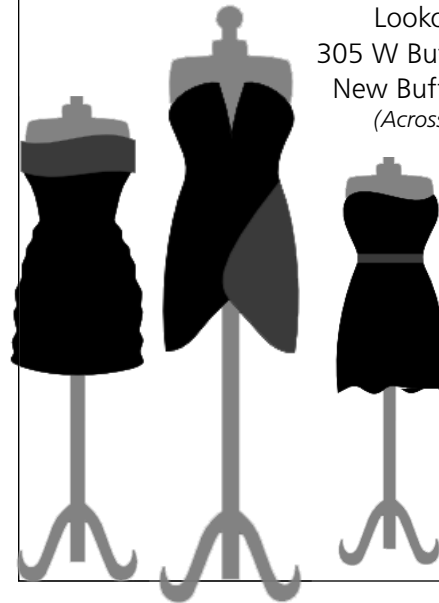
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## Gold Bar Winner Announced

Frank Ennis, a Lake Station real-estate broker, had the winning ticket for the \$10,000 gold bar raffle held in conjunction with United Way of La Porte County's annual gala celebration, "New York, New York," at Blue Chip Casino.



Ennis will donate a portion of the windfall to benefit Northwest Indiana. His firm, Ennis Moore & Associates Inc., has a 20-year history of donating to local food banks, sponsoring youth sports teams and contributing to annual events, such as "Toys for Tots" and "Shop With a Cop."

Ennis purchased three raffle tickets while at Blue Chip Casino.

## What's New at Sarett Nature Center

*The following programs are offered through Sarett Nature Center, 2300 Benton Center Road, Benton Harbor, Mich.:*

- Ski with a naturalist on some of Sarett's lesser known trails at 2 p.m. EST Sunday, Feb. 2. The fee is \$5. Ski rentals are available.
- A snowshoe explore at Allegan State Game Area is Saturday, Feb. 8. The van leaves Sarett at 12:30 p.m. EST. The fee is \$10. Rentals are available for an additional \$3.

*Call (269) 927-4832 to register for either program.*

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## Long Beach Women's Bowling

Jan. 21, 2014

### TEAM STANDING

	WON	LOST
1. Striking Beauties	7	1
2. Alley Oops	7	1
3. Pin-eets	5	3

### HIGH INDIVIDUAL GAMES

	SCORE
1. Kathy Osborne	176
2. Mary Lou McFadden	176
3. Tammy Vouri	166
4. Ann Bogart	151

### SPLITS

1. Fran Lysaught	3-10
2. Kathy Osborne	6-7

*Kathy Osborne, Mary Lou McFadden — four strikes in a row*

*Susan O'Connor, Ann Bogart — three strikes in a row*

## Stout and Chop Month

February is Stout and Chop Month at Shoreline Brewery, 208 Wabash St., Michigan City.

Every Thursday, a different small batch stout will be unveiled along with a small plate pairing of an appetizer or dessert. All proceeds from the weekly specials will be donated to The Lustgarten Foundation, a leader in pancreatic cancer research.

This leads to the "Best Facial Chop" contest Sunday, March 2. All contestants will be asked to donate or raise \$100 for the entry fee due the day before judging. Judging will be based on complete chop ability, including length, fullness, style and originality. The winner receives a \$150 Shoreline Brewery gift certificate, while the runnerup receives a \$50 gift certificate. The \$100 entry fee includes entry into a private buffet and open craft brew party from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, March 2, when the 4th Best Chops Trophy will be awarded.

Anyone who would like to attend the party may do so with a \$100 donation. Other ways the general public can contribute to pancreatic cancer research at Shoreline Brewery is to purchase "chops" to display on the brewery's walls with personal messages written inside. The chops can be displayed with \$1, \$2 or \$5 donations.

To enter the contest, visit Shoreline Brewery and fill out an entry form by Feb. 27 with the entry fee and donations. Call (219) 879-4677 for additional information.

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## THIS WEEK IN HISTORY



**On January 30, 1815**, Congress authorized purchase of Thomas Jefferson's library, making it the nucleus of the Library of Congress.

**On January 30, 1882**, Franklin D. Roosevelt, who would become the 32nd President of the United States, was born at Hyde Park, NY.

**On January 30, 1933**, the first episode of *The Lone Ranger* was broadcast on Detroit's radio station WXYZ.

**On January 30, 1962**, two members of the famed Flying Wallendas high-wire act died when their seven member pyramid collapsed during a performance in Detroit.

**On January 30, 1964**, the U.S. launched *Ranger 6*, an unmanned spacecraft carrying television cameras. As planned, it crash-landed on the moon.

**On January 31, 1606**, English conspirator Guy Fawkes was executed for his part in a "Gunpowder Plot" to blow up Parliament.

**On January 31, 1931**, Ernie Banks, the Hall of Fame infielder and power hitter for the Chicago Cubs who would become known as "Mr. Cub," was born in Dallas.

**On January 31, 1949**, television's first daytime soap opera, "These Are My Children," was broadcast from Chicago's NBC studios.

**On January 31, 1958**, the United States entered the Space Age with the launching of *Explorer 1*, its first successful launching of a satellite into orbit.

**On February 1, 1862**, Julia Ward Howe's "Battle Hymn of the Republic" was first published in the *Atlantic Monthly* magazine.

**On February 1, 1865**, the signing of the 13th Amendment to the American Constitution marked the end of slavery in the United States.

**On February 1, 1892**, the *New York Times* published the names of the 400 guests invited to Mrs. William B. Astor's society ball, making the term "the 400" synonymous with high society.

**On February 1, 1911**, in the Criminal Court of Cook County, IL, fingerprints were used for the first time as evidence to obtain a conviction. The conviction was upheld by the Illinois Supreme Court.

**On February 1, 1982**, "Late Night With David Letterman" premiered on NBC.

**On February 2, 1675**, the first recorded observance of Groundhog Day took place in Germany. In the United States, the official observance takes place in Punxsutawney, PA. (At least that's what

they say in Punxsutawney). There, crowds gather to wait for a groundhog to emerge from his burrow. If he sees his shadow there will be six weeks more of winter. No shadow — spring has definitely arrived.

**On February 2, 1876**, the “National League of Professional Baseball Clubs” was formed at an owners meeting in New York. The new league consisted of teams from Chicago, Boston, Cincinnati, Louisville, New York, Philadelphia, St. Louis, and Hartford.

**On February 2, 1893**, a cameraman at Thomas Edison’s New Jersey motion picture studio took the first close-up picture in the industry’s history. The picture was of comedian Fred Ott sneezing.

**On February 2, 1983**, Pope John Paul II elevated 18 bishops, including Chicago’s Archbishop Joseph Bernardin, to the rank of cardinal.

**On February 2, 2001**, Eddie “Fast Eddie” Parker, a legendary pool player who inspired the movie “The Hustler,” died, in Brownsville, TX, at the age of 69.

**On February 3, 1690**, Massachusetts issued America’s first paper money, using it to pay soldiers fighting a war against French Quebec.

**On February 3, 1836**, the “Whig Party” held its first state convention in Albany, NY, nominating William Henry Harrison for president.

**On February 3, 1959**, rock ‘n roll star Buddy Holly was killed in a plane crash near Clear Lake, IA. This date is referred to as the day the music died. Killed with Holly was Ritchie Valens and J.P. “The Big Bopper” Richardson, as well as pilot Roger Peterson.

**On February 3, 1966**, the Soviet probe *Luna 9* became the first man-made object to make a soft landing on the moon.

**On February 3, 1993**, Marge Shott, Cincinnati Reds owner, was suspended from baseball for one year for her use of racial and ethnic slurs.

**On February 3, 2001**, the XFL, a football league founded by the World Wrestling Federation and jointly owned by NBC, started its first – and last – season, in which the Las Vegas Outlaws beat the New York/New Jersey Hitmen 19-0, and the Orlando Rage beat the Chicago Enforcers 33-29.

**On February 4, 1938**, the Thornton Wilder play “Our Town” opened on Broadway.

**On February 4, 1997**, a civil jury in Santa Monica, CA, found O.J. Simpson liable for the deaths of his ex-wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and her friend Ronald Goldman.

**On February 4, 2007**, the Chicago Bears lost Super Bowl XLI to the Indianapolis Colts, 29-17, in rainy Miami.

**On February 5, 1967**, “The Smothers Brothers Comedy Hour” premiered on CBS.

**On February 5, 1971**, astronauts Alan Shepard and Edgar Mitchell landed on the moon.

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### Prayer to the Blessed Virgin

(Never known to fail.)

Oh, most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh, Star of the 'Sea, help me and show me, herein you are my mother. Oh Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth! I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in this necessity. There are none that can withstand your power. Oh, show me herein you are my mother. Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3x). Holy Mother, I place this cause in your hands (3x). Holy Spirit, you who solve all problems, light all roads so that I can attain my goal. You who gave me the divine gift to forgive and forget all evil against me and that in all instances in my life you are with me. I want in this short prayer to thank you for all things as you confirm once again that I never want to be separated from you in Eternal Glory. Thank you for your mercy toward me and mine. The person must say this prayer 3 consecutive days. After 3 days, the request will be granted. This prayer must be published after the favor is granted.



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## Activities to Explore

### In the Local Area:

**January 30** — Documentary screening: Zach Skiles' "Veterans on Killing," 6:30 p.m., Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St., Michigan City. Info: (219) 874-4900/lubeznikcenter.org

**January 30** — La Porte Service League play, "Peter and the Wolf," 9:30 a.m. and 1 p.m., La Porte High School auditorium. Also 9:30 a.m. Sat., Feb. 1. Suggested donation: \$1/adults, 50 cents/children. Info: (219) 778-4478.

**February 1** — Free Gentle Flow Yoga, 12:15 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: 873-3049.

**February 1** — Michigan City Branch of the American Association of University Women brunch, 10 a.m., Lindos Restaurant, 3940 Franklin St., Michigan City. Info: 872-3730.

**February 1** — "Naturally Indiana: An Indoor Tour," 2 p.m., Indiana Dunes State Park Nature Center, 1600 N. County Road 25 East (north end of Indiana 49), Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

**February 1** — Reins of Life 16th Annual Benefit Dinner & Auction, 5:30 p.m. EST, Windsor Park Conference Center, 4020 Edison Lakes Parkway, Mishawaka. Cost for dinner/auction: \$75/person, \$125/couple, \$675/table for 10. Reservations/information: (574) 232-0853/www.reinsoflife.org

**February 1** — The Northwest Indiana & Lower Southwest Michigan Region of the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers Scholastic Art Awards Exhibition opens, The South Bend Museum of Art in The Century Center, 120 S. St. Joseph St., South Bend. Gallery hours: noon-5 p.m. EST Wednesday through Sunday. Info: southbendart.org/email info@southbendart.org/(574) 235-9102.

**February 1-2** — Winter Fest in New Buffalo, Mich. Complete list of events: www.newbuffalo.org

**February 2** — "100 Years of Indiana State Parks," 2 p.m., Indiana Dunes State Park Nature Center auditorium, 1600 N. County Road 25 East (north end of Indiana 49), Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

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

**February 6-7, 8-9** — Annual Valparaiso University Dance Ensemble concert, 8 p.m. Thur.-Fri., 2 p.m. Sat.-Sun, University Theatre in the VU Center for the Arts. Tickets: \$15/adults, \$10/seniors and non-VU students, free/VU students, faculty and staff. Info/tickets: (219) 464-5162/http://www.valpo.edu/vuca/ticket.php

**February 7** — Uptown Arts District First Friday Art Walk, 5-8 p.m., Michigan City's North End.

**February 7** — Opening reception, Claire Anderson Merrill's exhibit, "Postcards from Home: The

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Story of a Family in Norway and America," 5-8 p.m., Southern Shore Art Association Gallery, 724 Franklin St., Michigan City. Info: [www.SouthernShoreArtAssociation.com](http://www.SouthernShoreArtAssociation.com)

**February 7** — La Porte County Symphony Orchestra trivia night/Children's Chorus fundraiser, 7 p.m., La Porte Little Theatre, 218 A St. Cost: Individual players/\$20, teams of six/\$100. Reservations/information: [www.lcso.net/\(219\)362-9020](http://www.lcso.net/(219)362-9020)

**February 8** — The Ranting Llamas improv show, 8-10 p.m., Mainstreet Theatre, 807 Franklin St., Michigan City. Admission: \$5.

**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.

**Through March** — "The Kelpies," a 10-foot model of two horse heads being constructed in Scotland by world-renowned sculptor Andy Scott, debuts at PNC. Info: (219) 785-5200, Ext. 5593.

#### **Farther Afield:**

**January 31** — Evening of dueling pianos, a Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra fundraiser, 7 p.m. EST, The Vineland Center, 1155 Vineland Road, St. Joseph, Mich. Info/tickets: (269) 982-4030/[www.smso.org](http://www.smso.org)

**January 31** — Opening reception for two exhibits, 6 p.m. EST, Krasl Art Center, 707 Lake Blvd., St. Joseph, Mich.

**February 1** — Pigeon Creek Theatre Co. adaptation of Moliere's French comedy "Tartuffe," 7:30 p.m. EST, The Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Mich. Special VIP tickets: \$15 with prepaid reservations. General admission tickets/\$10, senior, student tickets/\$8. Info/reservations: [www.boxfactoryforthearts.org/\(269\)983-3688/at the door](http://www.boxfactoryforthearts.org/(269)983-3688/at the door).

**February 2** — Ski with a naturalist, 2 p.m. EST, Sarett Nature Center, 2300 Benton Center Road, Benton Harbor, Mich. Cost: \$5. Ski rentals available. Info/registration: (269) 927-4832.

**February 8** — "Majesty: The Best of British Music," 7:30 p.m. EST, Lake Michigan College's Mendel Center Mainstage, Benton Harbor, Mich. Info/reservations: (269) 982-4030/[www.smso.org](http://www.smso.org) for tickets.

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### **Prayer to the Blessed Virgin**

(Never known to fail.)

Oh, most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh, Star of the 'Sea, help me and show me, herein you are my mother. Oh Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth! I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in this necessity. There are none that can withstand your power. Oh, show me herein you are my mother. Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3x). Holy Mother, I place this cause in your hands (3x). Holy Spirit, you who solve all problems, light all roads so that I can attain my goal. You who gave me the divine gift to forgive and forget all evil against me and that in all instances in my life you are with me. I want in this short prayer to thank you for all things as you confirm once again that I never want to be separated from you in Eternal Glory. Thank you for your mercy toward me and mine. The person must say this prayer 3 consecutive days. After 3 days, the request will be granted. This prayer must be published after the favor is granted.

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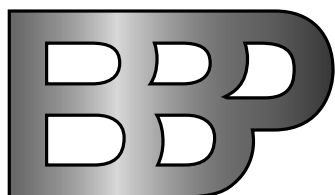
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## La Porte Savings Bank Honored



The American Cancer Society — Lakeshore Division has honored La Porte Savings Bank with the 2013 Relay for Life Team Excellence Award. The recognition marks the second consecutive year the bank's Lifesavers team received the award for raising the most money during Relay for Life area events. The team featured La Porte Savings Bank staff, friends and family, raising \$13,622 for cancer research, information and services.

## Wire Wrapping Beach Glass Class

Local Color Gallery, 16187 Red Arrow Highway, Union Pier, Mich., will celebrate the Harbor Country Chocolate Classic with a wire wrapping beach glass class from 6 to 7:30 p.m. EST Thursday, Feb. 6.

Take found beach glass or use some from the gallery to create pendant jewelry. Participants during class will sample chocolate treats and wine.

The participation fee is \$25. Call (269) 469-5332 to make a reservation.

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Blessed Virgin**

(Never known to fail.)

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

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



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be published after the favor is granted.



## Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter

### **King and Maxwell by David Baldacci** (hardcover \$28 retail)

This is book No. 6 in David Baldacci's King and Maxwell series, which shows the staying power of these two private eyes, formerly of the U.S. Secret Service. In fact, the pair is so popular, a TV series ran on TNT, unfortunately for only one season, probably to be replaced by a new reality series that TNT can't seem to get enough of these days.

Sorry, no more ranting...

Anyway, lucky for us readers, King and Maxwell goes on in print, and I for one am deliriously happy. All No. 1 *New York Times* best sellers, the series follows Sean King and Michelle Maxwell, private investigators who, with their government background and the help of a computer savant named Edgar, make a formidable team.

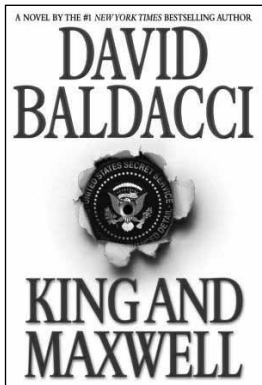
I love the way the story starts out.

It was a dark and stormy night, with Sean and Michelle racing along a slippery road — Sean at the wheel, a nervous Michelle riding shotgun. I love the banter between these two. Michelle warns, "*Slow it down,*" to which Sean replies, "*Words I never thought I would hear leave your mouth.*" Michelle: "*I drive fast because I know how to.*" Sean shoots back, "*I've got the injuries and therapy bills to prove otherwise.*"

These two are made for each other. Baldacci shows how the firm friendship and trust two people who love each other, but are not in love with each other, plays out.

They spot a teenage boy, Tyler Wingo, running along in the driving rain with a gun in his hand.

Sensing the boy is in trouble, and not running away from some crime, Michelle chases him down on foot and finally gets him to open up with his story. It seems he and his stepmother just received word that his dad, Sam Wingo, was killed in action in Afghanistan. Problem is, Tyler received an email from his dad the day after the government said he was killed. Then, the Army started changing their story from Sam Wingo being shot to being blown to bits by a bomb, and that there was no body to return to the states.



Hmmm. Sounds fishy. What's the real story? That's what Tyler wants to know. After talking to Sean and Michelle, he wants to hire them to find out what really happened to his dad, and if he is dead or alive and on the run. All Tyler knows is that his dad was on a special mission, the true nature of it unknown.

It doesn't take long for King and Maxwell to know they are hip deep in some strange goings on, proof of which is people trying to kill them, followed by visits by the FBI, Homeland Security, Department

of Defense, CIA and any other government alphabet organization there is. And how about a personal command to visit the president of the United States himself? Seems everyone wants Sean and Michelle to stand down from this situation.

Tyler also is in danger of being killed or kidnapped by person or persons unknown, and the race is on to find out who is behind the coverup of Sam Wingo's secret mission.

This is one exciting story that never lets up. King and Maxwell are great characters who are three-dimensional and exciting to ride along with. Edgar is one of those computer geniuses whose mind is always several gigabytes away from the world, and his interaction with Sean and Michelle is a treat to explore.

Don't miss this one. It will keep you warm on these cold, cold nights.

David Baldacci has written 21 other books besides the King and Maxwell series. He has more than 110 million books in print, not to mention they are in more than 45 different languages. Now that's impressive! His love of literature is evident in the two foundations he and his wife have set up: [www.WishYouWellFoundation.org](http://www.WishYouWellFoundation.org) (a non-profit dedicated to supporting literary efforts across the country), and [www.FeedingBodyandMind.com](http://www.FeedingBodyandMind.com) (a program to spread books across America). His personal website is [www.DavidBaldacci.com](http://www.DavidBaldacci.com)

Coming up next week: I will showcase works by local authors in prose and poetry. Stay tuned and till next time, happy reading!



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Pat has 27 years experience & has obtained her ABR, Accredited Buyers Representative, GRI, Graduate of Realtors Institute and SRES, Senior Real Estate Specialist designations, her Indiana Brokers license, and is also licensed in Michigan as a Broker.

Congratulations Pat on your professionalism and personal service both to your clients, as well as your colleagues. Thank you for your superior efforts Pat, and a terrific year. I wish you only the best in 2014.

Sincerely,

*Micky*



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