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An Idea Takes Flight

By Connie Kassal

Editor's note — This is the first in a series exploring the evolution of Michigan City's art center, from its earliest days to what's now known as the Lubeznik Center for the Arts.



This drawing shows the old library in all its glory, complete with the marble staircase and stained glass windows. Drawing from Rollo Oglesbee and Albert Hale's "History of Michigan City, Indiana."

It was 1975.

Patty Mershon Schaefer was at the neighborhood grocery store when she ran into a friend, June Todd. They stood in the aisle, leaning on their grocery carts, catching up on the latest news. They quickly discovered they'd both recently visited friends or family in Springfield, Ohio. Both had visited the newly expanded art center there as well. Wouldn't it be wonderful if Michigan City had an art center like that? The two agreed to start spreading the idea that Michigan City would benefit from an art center.

I moved to Long Beach in 1975. In the fall, a neighbor suggested I take a class with Gertrude Harbart. Patty was one of "Gertrude's Girls," too, as was Colette Golightly, Gertude Wittke, Vivian Kambs and Toni Clem.

Later, all of us ended up as charter members of the Art Center Guild or Area Artists Association as art center teachers. Patty was on the first executive board. The Kambs name ended up on one of the galleries. These are a few of the names that show up again and again in the early history of the art center.

I believe Patty shared the art center idea with all of us that fall in 1975. Today, the successful Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St., illustrates how powerful an idea can be.

There was another event

in the making at roughly the same time that played a huge role in the creation of the art center. Michigan City Public Library was rapidly outgrowing its home at 312 E. Eighth St. The library was housed in a beautiful Carnegie-style building erected in 1897. It featured a vestibule and main hall in marble with decorations in stucco. The grand staircase led to a landing adorned with three stained-glass windows. The panels depicted the Hapsburg Coat of Arms and three characters from Shakespeare: Portia, Rosalind and Ophelia.

This artistic jewel was built with \$30,000 in public donations and \$5,000 from George Ames (of Ames Field on Franklin Street). Above the main entrance are the words "Public Library Built by the People for the People of Michigan City." Those words would come back to play a part in the fight to get the old library for the art center.

A newspaper article from Sept. 30, 1972, describes the lengthy arguments — pro and con —



The old public library around 1930. Photo from "Michigan City: The First 150 Years."

about the future of the library. Should it be moved, or expanded, or should a branch be opened at the popular Marquette Mall? Eventually, it was decided to open the mall branch, and since it was so successful, it created a kind of bridge to the idea of a whole new library building. On March 22, 1972, the library board voted to build a new library closer to the population center near the north end of Franklin Street. The historically significant artwork known as the



Old Library was left behind. There was even discussion at the time removabout ing the beautiful stainedglass windows installing and them in the new building, but in the end, they remained where they were and continued to be enjoyed by art

Connie Kassal and Gertrude Harbart in her CCA class in the upstairs classroom.

Continued on Page 4

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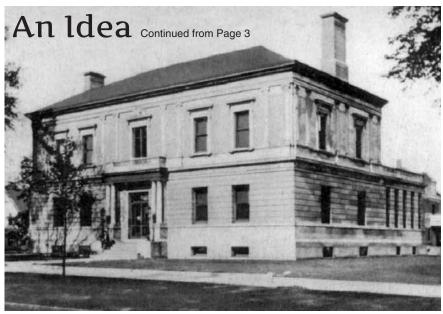
"Jollypop," shining red metallic finish, 27" high.



"Saturn," high gloss white, clear acrylic base, 25" high.

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The exterior of the old public library. Photo from "Images of America: Michigan City."

center patrons for more than 25 years. In 1977, the library board moved into its new award-winning structure designed by Helmet Jahn at 100 E. Fourth St. The historical old library on Eighth Street was left sitting empty.

What to do with it?

Carl Golightly says he "remembers sitting in the vacated old Michigan City library on folding chairs. We kept our overcoats on because there was no heat in the building. Ceiling plaster and building debris surrounded us as we discussed the future of the historic building, a Michigan City landmark. We sat looking at the stately marble staircase leading to the landing, which was accented by beautiful stained-glass windows, the central focus of the building. We agreed it must be saved, but what was our vision? And how would we do it?"

Is it possible that Colette, his wife, shared Patty and June's art center idea with Carl? In any case, Carl recalls saying, "Little League baseball has been done, but what has Michigan City to offer to artistic kids?"

Carl was part of a committee formed by Mayor Jim LaRocco tasked with coming up with a use for the old library. LaRocco, himself, suggested it hold the city's archives and an office for the city historian. June Todd recalls being asked to serve on the committee, and that Greta LaFountain was the chairwoman. June recently recalled some of the members who were on the mayor's committee. James Fleming, Carl Golightly, Phil Sprague, Pat Donoghue, Patty Mershon Schaefer and Greta La-Fountain. Carl added John Garretson and John E. Blank to her list when we talked about the early days over coffee recently. Then, I discovered these additional names in a blurb written by June in an old art center Guild booklet: Grace Saunders, Ruth Gardner and Lucy McCuen also were committee members.

June remembers some of the meetings being held in her home, while Carl recalled meeting in Jim Fleming's office in the top floor of the old Warren building on Franklin Street (in 2015, this empty building will be converted into artists lofts by ArtSpace). I found references to Marquette Mall and the Barker Civic Center as meeting places as well. Over and over again, it becomes clear that all of Michigan City took part in the center's formation.

By 1977, Carl's suggestion about using the building for art had taken hold. The News-Dispatch was aflame with articles and columns about creating a "cultural center" in the Eighth Street building. "Save the Old Library!" became the rallying call. Many people felt the building should be donated for cultural center use. However, the library board thought

that due to legalities, the building had to be sold for cash. The newly formed Michigan City Art Association was created out of LaRocco's exploratory committee. James Fleming, who headed up the mayor's committee, put together a pamphlet with a proposal about the need for a cultural center. In the pamphlet, he quotes News-Dispatch columnist Bob Kaser.

Bob pointed out in his column, "Bob's Beat," that the most important consideration was "...assuring the best use of the building for the good of the community." Then, he referred to the quote carved in stone over the old library door ("Built by the People for the People of Michigan City.")

"...the people originally contributed \$30,000 to construct the building, then isn't it wrong to demand \$25,000 to sell the building back to the people?" Bob asked.

However, the library, like all institutions, needed money, too, and the board felt \$25,000 was a fair price. The Michigan City Art Association had no money and pleaded to buy it for \$1.

Fleming laid it out eloquently in the proposal for a cultural center.

"The Michigan City Art Association Inc., a notfor-profit organization, was born out of necessity... For the preservation of an historic landmark and to provide for the continued use of the building by the public at large...the group has pledged itself to the establishment of a new and desperately needed entity in this community: the Michigan City Center for the Arts."

Today, it is interesting to read his references to the city's prosperity, where "work is plentiful," the school system is excellent and even the "long neglected natural asset" of the lakefront has "enjoyed a resurgence." He also refers to the "recent fulfillment of a dream: the creation of the Old Lighthouse Historical Museum." Fleming's proposal says, "In an area abundant with qualified artists, little is done to promote or understand the arts."

Library board members, themselves, were divided on what to do. There were proposals and counter proposals. Finally, a compromise was reached. The Art Association proposed that the board give them

the building for one year for \$1. Then, if they followed agreements made in the lease, the library board would sign the title over to the Art Association at the end of that year. The library board presented a counteroffer. It agreed to lease the Old Library to the art organization for one year for \$1. Then, the market value of \$25,000 was due. If the art association couldn't pay for the building at that time, it would be sold to Junior Achievement, which was willing to rent space to the Art Association.

Suddenly, an anonymous donor put up the \$25,000 for the art association's cause. The group finally owned the old library building.

The J.G. Blank family was that Gertrude Harbart with Gert Wittke at the new CCA.

generous donor.

John G. Blank died in 1975. He had long been active in Michigan City's community affairs, and his children thought this was a perfect way to honor their father. The old library building officially became the John G. Blank Community Center for the Arts in September 1977. A plaque with the name was unveiled on Oct. 2, 1978, and placed in the

> building's entry. Later, a concrete sign with "CCA" was erected out on the front lawn, and "The Community Center for the Arts," or "CCA," was commonly used to identify the art center. But 10 to 15 years later, the Blank name had been mostly forgotten, and the art center board voted to officially change the name to The John G. Blank Center for the Arts to honor the family that not only purchased the building, but also updated or replaced the plumbing, the electricity and other upgrades through their company, Tonn & Blank Construction.

Meanwhile, the Michigan City Art Association moved forward on gaining not-for-profit status, a

Continued on Page 6





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An Idea Continued from Page 5

process that met with many delays, but became official in January 1978. The MCAA had hired Vincent Mangione as a part-time consultant in January 1977. "Enzo," as we all knew him, was a native of Italy who worked as curator and director of the South Bend Art Center. He became the first official director of the Community Center for the Arts on Feb. 1, 1978.

"I never expect to be in a similar experistarting ence, institution from the ground up, and with so gratifymuchsupport...ing it is incredible, the enthusiasm support andthis small community has given," he said.

G e t t i n g started was a huge challenge. The building was empty with

Meeting in May to look over the art center's history were (from left) Carl Golightly, Patty Mershon Schaefer, June Todd, Pat Donoghue and Connie Kassal.

no equipment, no staff, no members and no money. Fleming's proposal for a cultural center included several lofty goals. It should be a place of "cultural expression and include people of all age groups and artistic expression," he wrote. Fleming and the MCAA wanted to offer children's classes and galleries displaying local, national and international work. Another goal was that there be a museum gift shop. (The Art Center Guild developed and maintained such a shop for decades.) The cultural center proposal also called for a sales and rental gallery. (The Area Artists Association brought this to fruition a few years later.)

Enzo's vision was "community-oriented" and included classes, special events, fine art exhibits, lectures and films. He particularly stressed ceramics for the blind and other programs for those with disabilities. He had developed such programs when he was the director of the South Bend center. He

repeated the sales and rental idea "as an outlet for local artists to display and sell their works." He originally thought it should be located in one of the two main galleries downstairs, but when the inaugural exhibit was mounted, it filled both downstairs rooms and a precedent was set to use both rooms for the main exhibit.

Enzo's community oriented vision extended to other local art groups. He was careful to welcome and cooperate with the three other main visual arts

> groups that already existed in Michigan City in 1978: The Michigan City League, the Dunes Arts Foundation and the Duneland Weavers Guild. So, they all sat down together and discussed how they could work together without friction. The discussion led to an agreement to cooper-

ate with each other despite overlapping interests. Many people ended up becoming members of more than one of the three groups at the same time.

Enzo's long range plan from 1979 stated, "Our purpose is to increase and diffuse knowledge and appreciation of art. To that end, our goal is to establish and maintain in the City of Michigan City, Indiana, a museum and reference library; to collect and preserve objects of artistic interest; to provide facilities for research and publication; to offer popular instruction and opportunities for aesthetic enrichment; to maintain a permanent art gallery; and encourage and promote education in the fine arts." Music and theater were suggested, too.

Could the art center pull off all these lofty goals? (Next week: Learn how that vision was achieved, along with a perspective on the center, and Michigan City's blossoming art scene, by former Blank Center director and Beacher writer Barbara Stodola.)



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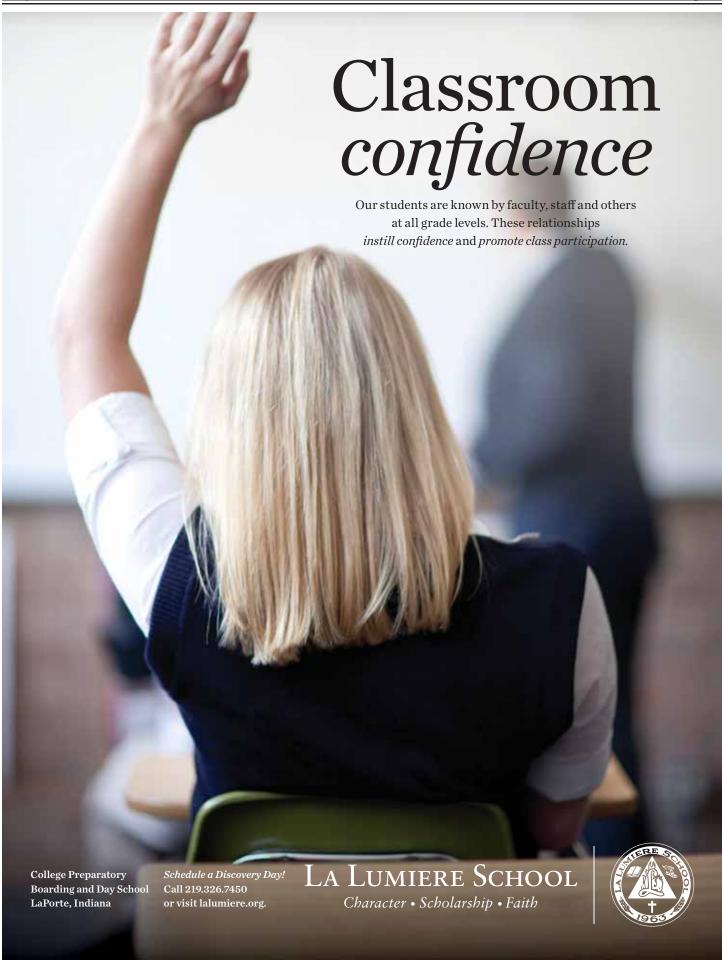
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"The Shooting of Dan McGrew"



Metamorphis Traveling Theatre will present "The Shooting of Dan Mc-Grew" with Michigan City Municipal Band at 7 p.m. Thursday, July 10, at Washington Park's Guy Foreman Bicentennial Amphitheatre. "The Shooting of Dan McGrew," a narrative poem, was written by Robert W. Service and first published in 1907. The action takes place during the Yukon Gold Rush in the late 1890s. The presentation is set to the music of Jacques Offenbach's "Orpheus in the Underworld." Pictured are Kim Riley as "The lady known as Lou" and Doug Moon as "Dan McGrew."



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Three Oaks Theater Festival

Co-founders John Stoops, Tim Evans and Marc Grapey have kicked off the second Three Oaks Theater Festival season, which brings limited-engagement runs to Harbor Country audiences.

Stoops has performed, directed and produced countless shows in Chicago. Evans is executive director of Skokie's Northlight Theatre. Grapey was the co-founder and three-time artistic director of Famous Door.

The expanded season is held in creative venues throughout Harbor Country, including The Acorn Theater, Vickers Theatre and Lakeside Inn.

The schedule is:

 Special Benefit Performance — A staged reading of Larry Kramer's "The Normal Heart" to benefit the Three Oaks Theater Festival at 7 p.m. EDT Saturday, July 12, at Vickers Theatre, 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich.

Directed by Nick Bowling, the show features the original TimeLine Theatre cast, including David Cromer, Mary Beth Fisher and Grapey.

Ticket are \$50 (wine and beer are included with pre-show comments from the director and a postshow reception with the cast). The show is appropriate for audiences 18 and older.

• "Woody Sez: The Life and Music of Woody Guthrie," at 8 p.m. EDT Friday, July 18, and 4 and 8 p.m. EDT Saturday, July 19, at The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks.

Directed by Nick Corley, the show is devised by David M. Lutken (who stars) with Corley, Darcie Deauville, Helen Jean Russell and Andy Teirstein.

Tickets are \$30 to \$35. The show is appropriate for audiences 12 and older.

• Ike Holter's "Exit Strategy," featuring the original Jackalope Theatre cast, at 8 p.m. EDT Saturday, July 26, and 1 p.m. EDT Sunday, July 27, at The Acorn Theater.

Directed by Gus Menary, tickets are \$30 to \$35. The show is appropriate for audiences 16 and older.

 Eugene O'Neill's "Hughie," presented by Seanachaí Theatre Co., at 8 p.m. EDT Friday and Saturday, Aug. 1-2, at Lakeside (Mich.) Inn, 15251 Lakeshore Road.

Directed by Kevin Fox, the play features Brad Armacost.

Information and tickets are available at www. threeoaksfestival.com or call (866) 811-4111.

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Actress/Screenwriter Plans First Art Exhibit

by Andrew Tallackson

She's played Blanche Dubois opposite Jon Voight in "A Streetcar Named Desire."

She's shared the screen with the likes of Al Pacino and Donald Sutherland, the latter in the Oscarwinning "Klute."

She's written films directed by her husband, Oscar-nominee John Hancock ("Bang the Drum Slowly," "Prancer").

Now, Dorothy Tristan can add a new experience to her resume.

Art gallery exhibit.

Tristan, who's been painting since she was a child, will display about 11 to 12 oil-on-canvas works at the new gallery Vincent, 11 S. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. An opening reception is from 6 to 9 p.m. EDT Saturday, July 12, during which she'll also do readings from her



Dorothy Tristan

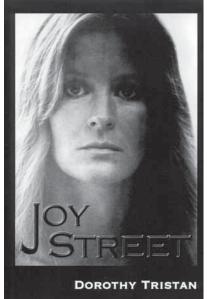
new memoir, "Joy Street," at 7 and 8 p.m. EDT.

"I've never done a show before," Tristan said. "Most of my stuff is existential: a long line of trees that disappear into the distance, a high cliff with a piano on it, a woman floating in the air."

Life is busy these days for Tristan. She just returned from Toronto where post-production work was done on "Swan Song," the latest film collaboration between her and Hancock. The movie centers on a 13-year-old girl, Julie (La Porte's Grace Tarnow), who comes to live with her grandmother, Karen (Tristan), in La Porte County. Julie is combative, withdrawn...until she auditions for a local production of "Alice in Wonderland," coming out of her shell right as Karen exhibits signs of Alzheimer's disease.

The movie, Tristan has said, is a tribute to a woman who changed her life as a child. While not a blood relative, she calls her Aunt Mabel, and she's the driving force behind "Joy Street" as well.

Tristan admits to having a difficult, often unhappy childhood while living in New York City, in part because she suffered from tuberculosis. When she was 10, she stayed with a family in Connecticut as part of the Herald Tribune Fresh Air Fund, which sent city children to stay with volunteer families to experience fresh air and sunshine. That's how Mabel entered the picture, and life took a turn for the better.



The cover of "Joy Street."

"She changed my life," Tristan said. "She loved me. She gave me my first set of oil paints. She taught me a great deal. She could do anything."

Writing "Joy Street" proved therapeutic for Tristan. So is painting. When she's not writing, she's at her easel.

"When you're painting," she said, "you're totally involved."

Tristan is delighted her first exhibit will be at Vincent,

which opened in February and is owned by Bob and Jan Gildo, who also have Red Arrow Gallery on 13650 Red Arrow Highway in Harbert. Bob also worked on "Swan Song."

"They're good friends," Tristan said of the Gildos. (Call 269-612-7308 for more information about the exhibit.)

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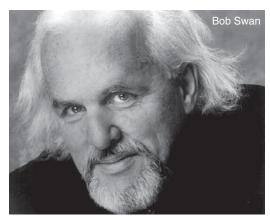
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Metropolitan Opera Performer Returns for Concert

by Andrew Tallackson



Bob Swan first heard Isola Jones sing about 30 years ago. They met through Chicago's Music of the Baroque, an ensemble focusing on

18th-century works for chorus and orchestra.

Their paths crossed again about eight years ago when they performed during a concert in Arizona. Still amazed by her voice, he asked the Chicago native and mezzo soprano, who sang at the Metropolitan Opera for 16 seasons, if she'd be interested in returning home to perform.

To his surprise, she agreed.

On Saturday, July 12, she'll return for the first time in three years to perform through Swan's group, Harbor Country Opera (formerly Opera at the Acorn). The show is at 8 p.m. EDT Saturday, July 12, at the New Buffalo (Mich.) Performing Arts Center, 1112 Clay St.

"The last time she was here, she performed the same role in 'Rigoletto' that she did at The Met, and of course, she was amazing," he said.

"She is an astonishing singer."

The concert, "Isola Jones and Friends," also will feature tenor John Concepcion, who has performed in Harbor Country Opera's annual Christmas

show, and baritone Bill McMurray, who appeared in last year's production of "La Boheme." They'll be joined by pianist Anatoliy Torchinskiy. Selections will range from "Bring Him Home" from "Les Mis-

b Swan erables" to "Sumheard mertime" to selec-Jones tions from "Man about of La Mancha."

Citing Leontyne Price as her influence, Jones was born in Chicago and earned her undergradudegree Northwestern University, joining the Metropolitan Opera in 1977. Since then, she's given more than 500 performances at



Met, as well as being part of 10 "Live from the Met" telecasts.

She's also performed with Baltimore Opera, Calgary Opera, Chicago Lyric Opera, Cincinnati Opera, Dallas Opera, Hungarian Opera Co., Palm Beach Opera and Seattle Opera. She became a faculty at South Mountain Community College in Phoenix in 1999.

Swan, whose career has ranged from opera to theater (Chicago's Goodman Theatre) to film ("Hoosiers"), may perform during the concert. Whether he does or not, Jones' voice, he says, is not to be missed.

"She has a sensual, low sound that really captivates you," he said. "She

grabs you with that low voice, then has an astonishing high voice that barely sounds like the one you just heard.

"She's always interesting and thrilling."

If You Go

Tickets, which are \$25, are available at harborcountryopera.org, at the following New Buffalo locations — David's Delicatessen and Coffee, 30 N. Whittaker St., Michigan Thyme, 107 N. Whittaker St., and New Buffalo Savings, 45 N. Whittaker St. — or by calling (269) 231-0027.





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Beverly Shores. Nothing so magical as living on the lake. In Beverly Shores, lakefront is across the street from 13 miles of continuous wide, sandy, 'never to be built on' beach. This dunetop home offers that magic. Spacious main level anchored by chef's kitchen that opens to all the formal spaces, the screened porch & lakeside deck. Upper level is all master suite w/fireplace & lakeside balcony. 3 bedroom/2 bath guest quarters on the lower level. 3 fireplaces. Plenty of off street parking. One hour drive from downtown Chicago. \$1,169,000



Dune Acres. Stunning post & beam on one acre adjoining hundreds of acres of National Parkland. Amazing open floor plan w/wall of windows providing those forever views of nature's ever changing landscape. Great room incorporates living room w/2 story stone fireplace, dining & chef's kitchen w/SS, granite & walk-in pantry. 2 guest bedrooms & bath. Upstairs is all master suite w/office/den, luxury bath and large outdoor covered porch. Family room w/fireplace, screened porch, deck & destination patio/pergola. Hardwood flooring and radiant heat thruout. \$749,000



Beverly Shores. One owner, quality built bi-level on one of the most charming streets in Beverly Shores. Easy one level living w/a traditional floorplan that offers spacious living room, formal dining room & updated eat-in kitchen. 3 bedrooms, bath & screened porch. Lower level offers a getaway family room, bath & access to a very spacious 3 car garage. Beautifully maintained & landscaped. Lots of off street parking. Plenty of yard space for inground pool. Perfect for weekend or full time living. \$439,000



Beverly Shores. It's all about the land & location. Add the year round bungalow & substantial outbuildings and you have a very unique opportunity. A 50's bungalow w/living room, eat in kitchen, two bedrooms & bath. Outbuildings were used as garage/storage and large workshop. House needs TLC but could be adorable. Outbuildings would make someone a great studio. Tucked into the woods on approx. 1.25 acres of pristine property only half block from hundreds of acres of National Parkland and couple blocks to great beach. \$350,000



Beverly Shores. Funky but adorable half log sided year round cabin features a spacious great room w/living, dining, kitchen. 2 bedrooms, bath. Wide planked pine floors thruout, sliders to deck & patio. Fireplace. Storage shed. A birdlovers paradise. Just one block to the Great Marsh. \$249,000



Public Invited to CISV Open Day

The Michigan City Chapter of CISV invites the public to Open Day at its CISV Step Up Camp from 3 to 5 p.m. Saturday, July 12, at Niemann Elementary School, 811 Royal Road, Michigan City.

Visitors can meet children from nine countries who have united for a three-week camp to learn about each other's cultures, break down stereotypes and try to develop a more peaceful world. The youth will discuss their countries, see presentations on their nationality and learn about CISV, its camps and activities.

CISV International, founded in 1950, is a federation of 60 member associations with more than 200 chapters or local groups, of which Michigan City is one. In 2014, the Michigan City chapter has delega-

tions traveling to Los Cabos, Mexico; Bogota, Columbia; San Salvador; El Salvador, Manilla, Philippines; Bursa, Turkey; Torshavn, Faroe Islands; Rogaland, Norway; Luneberg, Germany; and San Jose, Costa Rica. It also is hosting a three-week



The CISV Germany Village on the lakefront: Alyssa Lisenko (from left), Breanna Thorp, Jennifer Gracyalny, Gavin Troy and Carson Miller.

camp in Michigan City for 14-year-old delegates from around the world called Step Up.

Visit www.cisv.org, www.cisvusa.org, the local chapter on facebook or email MichiganCityCISV@gmail.com for more information.

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"Summer of Art" Annual Exhibit

Southern Shore Art Association will present "Summer of Art," a variety of media showcasing traditional to contemporary paintings, photography, glass and fiber art.

The sixth annual event, which runs through Sunday July 27, kicks off with an opening reception from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, July 11, at the gallery, 724 Franklin St.

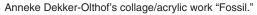
The gallery is open from noon to 5 p.m. Friday through Sunday. Visit www.SouthernShoreArtAssociation.com for more information.



Rhonda Mullen's "Sunset Reflected."









Dana Dabagia's oil painting "Welcome Home."



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Westchester Public Library

The following programs are offered through Westchester Public Library:

• Mad About Mysteries at 2 p.m. Wednesday, July 9, and Saturday, July 12, at Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.

LuAnne DePriest will present the works of Laurie R. King, focusing on the Mary Russell/Sherlock Holmes series.

• Summer Concert Series and Family Film Series, Friday, July 11, at the Thomas Park bandstand in downtown Chesterton.

The County Minstrels perform at 7 p.m., followed by a showing of "The Croods" at 8 p.m. The events move to the Library Service Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton, if the weather is poor.

• The History Discussion Group from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, July 12, in the parlor at Westchester Township History Museum.

Participants will delve into the history of the U.S. Constitution. The discussion will not be political nor a legal debate. No registration is required.

• The new temporary exhibit, "Westchester at War: The Civil War," opens from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, July 13, in the Brown Mansion, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.

The exhibit runs through Sept. 28.

• Poetry Appreciation Group from 6 to 8 p.m. Monday, July 14, in the Bertha Wood meeting room at Thomas Library, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

The group serves as a forum for learning and discussing various forms and techniques of writing poems. Attendees read and listen to poetry read by others. No registration is required.

• Join Sarah Halter of the Indiana Medical History Museum for a program on Civil War medicine at 10 a.m. Wednesday, July 16, at the Library Service Center.

The program is recommended for children in grades three through six, but is suitable for older children. Space is limited to 60.

• The four-session Creative Writing for Young Adults from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Mondays, July 28 and Aug. 4, 11 and 18, in the Bertha Wood meeting room at Thomas Library, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

David Rodich will lead the sessions. His experience ranges from teaching elementary school classes to helping prepare oral histories for the Library of Congress. Registration is required by visiting the reference desk or calling (219) 926-7696.

• Now available is the online streaming service IndieFlix for Libraries.

Use the library barcode number to create a free account when visiting www.wpl.lib.in.us. If having a Zinio digital magazine account, access IndieFlix by using the same login.



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- submitted by Jason Miller of the LaPorte County Convention and Visitors Bureau

For decades, the American people have found themselves enjoying days like this: sitting on the back deck and watching the sun set with a cold can of Miller Lite in their hand.

Finish mowing the lawn on a warm summer's day? Crack open a Budweiser and sit back and relax. It's summer, after all. The beer is cold, the sun is hot and you just burned a couple hundred calories making sure your grass stands at a uniform 2 inches, patterned to look like the outfield grass at Wrigley Field.

If you're anywhere near my age, you were raised on your dad swigging back a PBR on a sunny day. As you got older and were old enough to enjoy such libations yourself, you did what your dad and uncles did. You bought your domestic, mass-produced lagers and enjoyed them the way you were supposed to, at least according to your own personal history.

It was what you did.

It was what I did.

But as I continued to age, my tastes changed, not so much because I was tired of the same old stuff, but because I was swept up in a phenomenon that began on the West Coast. This phenomenon showed so many of us that drinking beer didn't have to be simply about drinking beer to drink beer.

The movement – the craft beer movement – showed us that drinking beer also could be about an experience. It could be about experiencing a taste you'd never felt before while drinking a beer. Hints of coffee and chocolate. The bitterness of a Cascade Hop in a solid India Pale Ale or the notes of banana in a Belgian Dubbel.

Beer was no longer just a way to relax and maybe loosen your inhibitions a bit. Beer was now an experience. Beer now could be expertly paired with foods or even used to add flavor when cooking food.

Beer – craft beer – was turning into a way of life. And it's that way of life that made me write this piece.

While the craft beer movement started in places such as San Francisco, Portland and Denver, it has spent the last decade or so spreading across the nation. We're to the point now where it's fairly easy to find a microbrewery wherever you travel in this good old U S of A, so much so that craft beer has turned into a tourism draw.

And here in La Porte County, we're lucky to attract visitors from near and far to the great breweries we sport between Lake Michigan and Door Prairie.

From stalwarts like Back Road Brewery, which has been producing craft beer in downtown La Porte for nearly 20 years, to cutting edge startups like Michigan City's Burn 'Em Brewing, La Porte County is quickly turning into a must-see area for craft beer.

Couple those folks not only with Shoreline and Twisted K-8 – the county's two other craft breweries – but with a plethora of other top-notch facilities throughout Northwest Indiana, along with some of the best restaurants and bed and breakfasts around, and the southern tip of Lake Michigan is gaining a reputation as a wonderful place to which you can travel to taste great beer.

So make a weekend out of it and enjoy a bourbon barrel aged Russian Imperial Stout with your T-bone steak and baked potato, and you'll want to come back again and again because the one trip just won't be enough.



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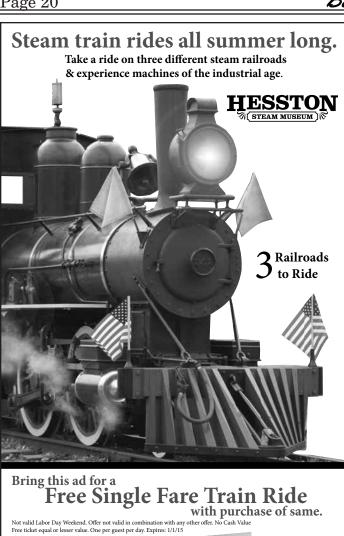


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La Porte County Parks



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.

Summer Day Camp

Tuesday Treasures for youth 6-13 is from 9 a.m. to noon at Luhr County Park, 3178 S. County Road 150 West, La Porte.

The cost is \$8 per person/per program, which includes arts and crafts, games and snacks. Pre-registration and payment are required one week before each program. The schedule is:

- July 15 Fantastic Flyers. Learn about birds, butterflies and more.
- July 22 Cycles of Life. Learn about animals' lives and the roles they play.
- July 29 Nature Detectives. Use clues to unlock the mysteries of nature.
- Aug. 5 Eco- Education. Explore the wetland, pond, forest and prairie ecosystems, and what makes each unique.
- Aug. 12 Geo-Tree and Me. Learn about trees using geocaching and a first-person approach.

Stroller, Baby and You

Aimed at toddlers and preschoolers, programs include music, dance, storytelling and a hike.

The free program is from 10 to 11 a.m. at Luhr County Park. Dates are: July 28, Aug. 11 and 25, and Sept. 15 Call at least one week in advance to sign up.

Senior Lifestyles

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

The group meets from 9 to 10 a.m. at the Luhr County Park Nature Center. Dates are:

- Aug. 6 Heart Disease Risk Factors: Know Your Numbers with Nancy Blossom, a registered nurse from IU Health.
- Sept. 10 Understanding Medicare" with Denise Holmes.

Parent & Child Discovery Days

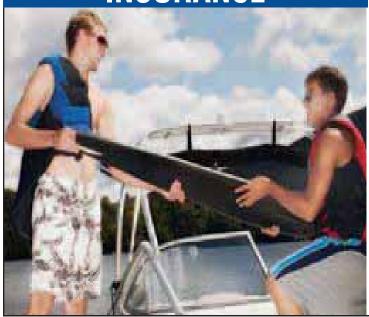
The program includes arts and crafts, games and snacks. Programs are appropriate for children 3 to 8, with an adult required to participate.

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 lineup is:

- July 16 Woody the Woodpecker.
- July 30 Fantastic Fishing.

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Michigan City Public Library

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

• Life Line Screening at 9 a.m. Friday, July 11.

Five non-invasive screenings will scan for potential health problems related to: blocked arteries; abdominal aortic aneurysm; hardening of the arteries in the legs; atrial fibrillation or irregular heart beat; and a bone density screening for men and women used to assess the risk of osteoporosis. Call (888) 653-6441 or visit www.lifelinescreening.com/community-partners to register.

• Free Gentle Flow Yoga at 12:15 p.m. Saturday, July 12.

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

• Yoga with David Kipley at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 15.

Kipley is a recent graduate of Dancing Feet Yoga's Yoga Teacher Program. All levels are welcome. Take a mat and wear comfortable clothes for the one-hour class that meets Tuesdays through Aug. 12.

• Story Time at 10 a.m. Wednesday, July 16.

Children from birth to age 5 accompanied by adults experience stories, songs and crafts. Arrive a few minutes early to receive a name tag.

• Knitting Club for All Ages at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 16.

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

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



Pantry Comes to Garden's Aid

La Porte County's first American Heart Association Teaching Garden, located at Rolling Prairie Elementary School, is no longer at risk.

After-school summer activities were canceled to allow for a facilities upgrade to the building. Without students attending after-school programs, it seemed pointless to plant the gardens in the spring, only to be abandoned when the school year ended.

Then, the Community Food Pantry of Rolling Prairie took over the gardens from where students left off. As a result, the teaching garden learning experience continued without interruption this spring as kindergarten through fifth-grade students tilled the garden beds, planted vegetables and tended the crops until school was out.



Rolling Prairie Elementary School students work on the American Heart Association Teaching Garden. Photo by Julie L. Neiner

Food pantry volunteers recently began harvesting and distributing fresh produce to their clients.

Food pantry coordinator Rose Lenig said the pantry needs donations of all kinds, so its clients appreciate the fresh garden vegetables. The garden is growing cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, zucchini, tomatoes and peppers. The harvest began June 26 and will continue through fall.



SATURDAY, JULY 12 WE'RE OPEN 'TIL MIDNIGHT!



Cruise shops and galleries along the Red Arrow Highway from Union Pier to Sawyer, under the full moon! We are open until Midnight for fun, shows, discounts excitement, specials and more. Start at ...

LOCAL COLOR GALLERY for the one & only sale that they have all year long. 20% to 40% off artwork. 6 p.m. - Midnight. While in Union Pier, stop at CRAIG SMITH GALLERY and meet the artists and view their artwork in the exhibit "New Works by Gallery Artists". 6 p.m. - Midnight. In Harbert stop at the HARBERT ANIQUE MALL. Antiques and decor from consignors and dealers. Sales from 10-40%. 6 p.m. - Midnight. Join MILLIE'S ANTIQUES where all merchandise in the store will be 20% off. Enjoy lovely refreshments and shopping until Midnight. Take part in the grand opening sale at PEACOCK PLACE GALLERY & GIFTS, 50% off Pantara Designs. View the work by local artists, focusing on sustainable hand-made offerings. 10am.-Midnight. Enjoy the exhibit "Moodance" at FRITZ OLSEN SCULPTURES CONTEMPORARY FINE ART. Come see what Fritz, Christine, Robert, Linda, Bonnie, Dave and Martha are up to, noon until Midnight. Check out the latest early Fall collection of deconstructed tunics and dresses made from recycled tees and sweater at CATHERINE DOLL FASHION FOR GREEN LIVING. Sale on selected summer items noon - 10:30 p.m. Enjoy our hand painted furniture, tin tiles, accessories, all done with a vintage flair at SWEET PEA Studio. 10% discount on any purchase 5 p.m. until Midnight.

Look for the Moonlight Madness signs to find participants. To download a full brochure go to http://www.harborcountry.org/moonlightmadness/

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Young People's Theatre Co. will present the tongue-in-cheek Broadway musical "Xanadu," directed by Aaron Garrett, on July 11-13 and 18-20 at Elston Performing Arts Center, 317 Detroit St., Michigan City.

"Xanadu" is about roller skates, mirror balls, muses with unpronounceable names and Southern California beach culture. Playwright Douglas Carter Beane ("To Wong Foo, Thanks for Everything, Julie Newmar") and collaborators transformed the 1980 flop starring Olivia Newton-John and Gene Kelly into a hit musical that drew rave reviews... and actually has a plot.

In the play, with music by Electric Light Orchestra and John Farrar, the beautiful Greek goddess Clio, disguised as the Australian-accented mortal Kira, is sent by Zeus on a quest from the heavens to inspire young beach-boy artist Sonny Malone to achieve his obsession of opening a roller disco. Famous songs include "Magic," "I'm Alive," "Evil Wom-



an" and "Xanadu."

The cast includes Laura Riggle (Kira), Stephan Stanz (Sonny Malone), Richer Huynh (Danny Maguire), Zach Staback (Thalia/Zeus/ Young Danny), Jessa Cawthron (Calliope), Theresa

Werner (Melpomene), Rebecca Richmond (Euterpe/Thetis), Laurel Blankenship (Erato/Eros/Hera), James Anthony (Terpsicore/Hermes/Centaur), Isabell Pozos (Ensemble), Guendolen Mark (Ensemble) and Sam Rohrman (Ensemble).

The creative team includes choreographer/scenic artist Amy Richmond, costumer Sue Vail, lighting designer Arturo Pozos and master carpenter Tim Vail.

Times are 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 2:30 p.m. Sundays. The family friendly show runs about 90 minutes, with no intermission. Tickets are \$10. Limited general-seating admission is available. Tickets can be purchased at www.yptcinc.com or by calling the box office at (219) 873-2070.

















WEDNESDAY PIPE ORGAN CONCERT SERIES

Regional musical artists will be the featured organists at the noon Wednesday Pipe Organ Concert Series at the First Congregational Church of Michigan City, Indiana. The Church is home to an 1891 Roosevelt tracker pipe organ. The church is located at 531 Washington Street. The noon concerts begin at 12:15 pm central time.

The thirteenth season pipe organ concert series will last until mid August. Performing organists include • June 4 — Ben Basile. •

June 11 — Ann T. Dobie. • June 18 — Derek Nickels. • June 25 — Carol Garrett. • July 2 — Stephen Schnurr. • July 9 — Gary Powell. • July 16 — Stephen Schnurr and Gary Powell. • July 23 — Kent Jager. • July 30 — Wolfgang Rubsam. • Aug. 6 — Carey Scheck. • Aug. 13 — Mark Sudeith.

The portrait of Ann Dobie was painted by Michigan City artist Connie Kassal.

Plenty of New Faces Attend Annual Barker Mansion Pink Tea

by Jan Van Ausdal

Barker Mansion held two sessions of its annual pink tea, the first on Sunday, June 22, the second on Wednesday, June 25. On Sunday, 75 guests attended, while 55 to 60 attended Wednesday. Guests were seated under canopies on and near the patio.

Sunday afternoon was breezy and sunny. Shortly after guests were seated, members of the Michigan City High School National Honor Society finished delivering food and beverages to all tables. Items prepared were: cucumber and cream cheese tea sandwiches; deviled ham with sourdough; chicken salad with whipped cream or whipped butter; pineapple boat with strawberries; lemon poppy seed bread; Scottish shortbread; raspberry tarts; and Barker Mansion English tea.

What a bountiful array of food!

Cecilia Zubler, Barker Mansion's executive director, addressed the crowd.

"I realize that some of you have been here before, but there are some new faces, too," she said. "I'm glad to see so many hats here today, more than were ever here before, I think. At least it's breezy and warm."

She continued.

"An old Chinese proverb says, 'It's better to be without food for three days than without tea for one day!' Here in America, we drink more coffee than tea."

Zubler presented the question, "Why is this a 'Pink Tea?

"A few years ago, we were doing some research in some old books, and we came across a cookbook written in 1889. Pink teas were just so fashionable, and one might as well be dead as to be out of fashion! We then decided to put on our own pink tea.

"In our teas, we use as much pink as we can. The servers wear pink aprons, our dishes have pink flowers on them, our tablecloths have pink tulle around the sides with pink daisies and we have pink napkins. Using pink is kind of fun. But it's a lot of work, putting on two of these pink teas in one week!"



Back Porch Swing performs for the audience.



All wearing hats at the Pink Tea were Davis and Mary Ellen Jefferson, Eileen Jefferson, Bruce and Sue Jefferson, Savanah Jefferson, Realyn Evans and Melanie Jefferson.

Zubler then introduced all her helpers and told everyone what each person did to help. Mary Kintzele, her right-hand lady, sets up all the tea tables with the tablecloths and other items. Ann Jankowski helps with all the seating charts for the tables. Sarah Moon is in charge of the gift shop. At the teas, there is a gift table in the foyer with tea cups, teapots, books and other items that can be purchased.

The summer display, "Summer Days of Leisure," was done by b.j. parmley, and it will be quite interesting (it's open through Sept. 30). Donna Allen, the gardener, was not at that day's tea, but her work was evident in the garden adjoining the patio. Many flowers were blooming there. Volunteers Joan and Shirley also were present during the afternoon to help as needed.

Zubler thanked everyone for coming and introduced the entertainment, Back Porch Swing, which features Sue, Carol and Debra, as well as Bev on keyboard. The group performed songs from the 1930s to the 1970s.

The first song was "I Love Coffee, I Love Tea." Then came "Lollypop" and "Roses and Lollypops." Also included on the afternoon's program were "Mississippi Mud" and "Don't Sit Under the Apple Tree With Anyone Else But Me...," as well as "Chocolate is Love," "Summertime" and "Sincerely," the last an old favorite of mine). Concluding the program was "Happy Trails to You," which the audience was invited to sing along with the group.

Back Porch Swing received hearty applause, their afternoon entertainment admired by the audience.

If You Go

Tour times for "Summer Days of Leisure" at Barker Mansion, 631 Washington St., Michigan City, are: 10 and 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Monday through Friday and 12:30 and 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. It is closed on legal holidays. There is a fee for tours. Call (219) 873-1520 for more information.

Annual Secret Garden Walk

"Here We Go Again" is the theme for Miller Garden Club's Annual Secret Garden Walk, which runs from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, July 12-13.

The walk, held in Gary's Miller Beach neighborhood, includes a tropical resort-theme garden, cottage garden, gardener's garden and a garden with bees, butterflies and birds.

The public also can visit the \$28 million renovation of Marquette Park Aquatorium, 6918 Oak Ave., where the tour begins. The aquatorium will house 12 vendors with garden products, as well as box lunches for sale and the Settler's Pond Animal Rescue Park, Beecher, Ill.

Bike tours begin at 10:30 a.m. Shuttle bus service will be available until 2 p.m. both days.

Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased from Ayers Realty, Lake Street Gallery and Miller Beach Market Place, as well as garden club members the day of the event.

Contact Joanne Stratton at (219) 939-2790 or (312) 543-1561 for more information.

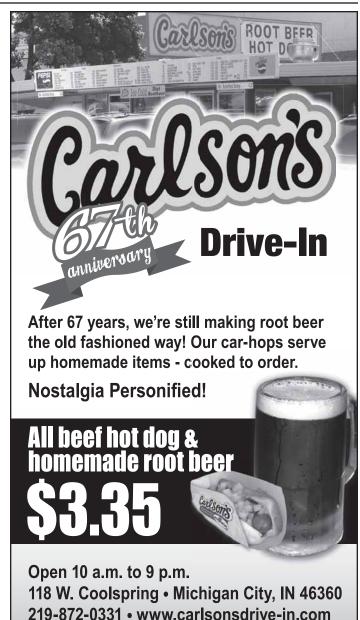
5K Run/Walk to Benefit Zoo

"Run Wild at Washington Park Zoo," a 5K Run & Walk where all proceeds benefit the zoo, is Saturday, July 12.

Pre-registration is at Ryan's Irish Pub, 401 Franklin Square, or online at www.thtiming.com

Day-of registration and race day pickup are from 7:45 to 8:50 a.m. at the pavilion across from the zoo, with the run starting at 9 a.m. The walk begins at 9:01 a.m.

Contact Johnny Stimley at (219) 229-1567 or email johnnystimley@yahoo.com for more information.





Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

The following programs are through Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore:

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

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

• Firefly Walk from 8:15 to 9:15 p.m. Friday, July 11.

View the summer firefly show, learn about firefly behavior and how climate change may affect park insects. Meet at the Bailly/Chellberg parking lot, which is off Mineral Springs Road between U.S. 12 and 20 in Porter.



Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk.

• Kayak Fishing with a Ranger from 7 to 9 a.m. Saturday, July 12, at Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk.

Join a ranger for a paddle on Lake Michigan or in Burns Waterway, and join in the pursuit for the Skamania Steelhead. Participants must provide all equipment, obey state fishing laws and wear a lifejacket. Entrance to the Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk is off U.S. 12 near Ogden Dunes.

• Junior Wildland Firefighter Program from 10 to 11 a.m. Saturday, July 12, at the campground amphitheater.

Meet the park's fire crew and learn about their jobs and equipment. Children then receive a Junior Wildland Firefighter activity book and patch.

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

• Chellberg Farm Open House from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, July 12.

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

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

• Pinhook Bog Open House from noon to 3 p.m. Sunday, July 13.

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

• "Miller Woods Hike" from 1:30 to 3 p.m. Sunday, July 13, at Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education.

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

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

Participate in hands-on family activities in the park's west end visitor center, especially the new outdoor Nature Play zone where unstructured play is encouraged. Follow the new extension trail through the rare oak savanna habitat to Lake Michigan's shoreline. Inside the center, help feed the resident turtles and fish or make a free craft.

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

Children 6-12 learn about the lakeshore while enjoying self-guided activities. A variety of Junior Ranger programs exist, from a short Beachcombers Activity Page to an extensive Junior Rangers Booklet. Complete a program and earn a prize. Stop by the Visitor Center or Douglas Center to pick up a free program booklet.

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

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

• "Kid's Rule" from 1 to 3 p.m. 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 Visitor Center is at 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. The Paul H. Douglas Center is on Lake Street north of U.S. 12 in the Miller Beach neighborhood of Gary. Call (219) 395-1882 for more information.



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Children's Choir Concert

The Children's Choir Summer Institute Concert is at 6 p.m. Friday, July 11, at First Presbyterian Church, 121 W. Ninth St., Michigan City.

The program will include songs from "Wicked," "The Wiz" and Katy Perry, along with ancient hymns in Latin, Greek and Arabic. A reception follows the performance.

Contact Sunny Gardner Orbovich at (219) 561-1939 or sunnyjogardner@yahoo.com for additional information.

Area Contest Featured in Magazine

Outdoor Indiana's July-August issue features Indiana Dunes State Park's annual Sand Sculpture Contest.

The article looks back at last year's event. This year's contest is July 12. To view a video about the event, visit youtube.com/idnrvideos and select the State Parks and Reservoirs tab.

Outdoor Indiana is available at most DNR properties. Visit OutdoorIndiana.org to read article excerpts.

Moonlight Madness

Visitors can cruise shops and galleries along Red Arrow Highway, from Union Pier to Sawyer, Mich., during Moonlight Madness on Saturday July 12.

Businesses remaining open until midnight include: Local Color Gallery, Craig Smith Gallery, Harbert Antique Mall, Millie's Antiques, Peacock Place Gallery & Gifts, Fritz Olsen Sculptures Contemporary Fine Art, Catherine Doll Fashion for Green Living and Sweet Pea Studio.

Visit http://www.harborcountry.org/moonlight madness/ to download a full brochure.



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Indiana Dunes State Park

The following programs are offered through Indiana Dunes State Park:

Friday, July 11

• 10 a.m. — Dunes Creek Crossing.

Meet at the campground gate for the one-hour tour. Prepare for off-trail creek walking.

• 3 p.m. — Naturalist Beach Break.

Watch for the naturalist with animals of the dunes near the beach pavilion.

• 7 p.m. — Sunset Beach Yoga.

Bleu Lotus Yoga will offer a chance to stretch on the dunes beach. Registration is required and includes a \$10 fee. Classes are canceled in case of inclement weather. Visit www.bleulotusyoga.com to register.

• 8 p.m. — Sunset Climb.

Join a naturalist at the campground shelter by site 116 to climb the highest dune in Indiana, then view the sunset before re-



Visitors make a sea horse during last year's sand sculpture contest.

turning through the darkening forest.

Saturday, July 12

Indiana Dunes 16th Annual Sand Sculpture Contest

Join the Friends of the Dunes for the 16th annual event. This year's theme is "Into the Wild." The registration table opens at 9 a.m., but groups may begin as early as 7 a.m. Judging starts after 11:30 a.m., with awards after 12:30 p.m. Whether building or not, vote in the "People's Choice Award."

• 4 p.m. — Sand Crafts.

Meet at the Nature Center for a make it-take it sand craft.

Sunday, July 13

• 8:30 a.m. — Informal church service at the campground shelter.

• 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.

• 3 p.m. — Scatology!

Meet at the Nature Center for tips on turds, data

on dung and facts on feces. Prizes are awarded during the 45-minute program.

Monday, July 14

• 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.

• 3 p.m. — A Scratch 'n' Sniff Saunter.

Explore the smells and their uses during the short hike from the Nature Center.

Tuesday, July 15

Dunes Nature Summer Camps are this week. More information is available at the Nature Center.

• 10 a.m. — Mommy Fitness Hour.

Take water, sunscreen and a blanket or mat. Participants also may take a short hike. Meet at the campground shelter.

• 3 p.m. — 100 Years of Indiana State Parks.

Meet at the Nature Center auditorium for the 50-min-

ute documentary produced in 2009 by PBS.

Wednesday, July 16

10 a.m. — Bird Banding Demonstrations.

Meet at the Nature Center to get a close look at birds of the Indiana Dunes.

• 3 p.m. — Scales and Tales.

Meet at the Nature Center to view reptiles up close, and hear the stories behind them, during the 45-minute program.

Thursday, July 17

• 9:30 a.m. — Beach Yoga.

Bleu Lotus Yoga will offer the program every Thursday this summer. Registration is required and includes a \$10 fee. Classes are canceled in case of inclement weather. Visit www.bleulotusyoga.com to register.

• 3 p.m. — Nature Crafts.

Visit the Nature Center for a make-it/take-it craft: styrofoam spiders.

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

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Arts in Bloom Garden Walk

Visit gardens in Mishawaka during "Be Inspired: 25th Arts in Bloom Garden Walk" from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. EDT Wednesday, July 9.

The event also features artist demonstrations and free refreshments. It is sponsored by the Art League, with proceeds supporting ongoing projects at the South Bend Museum of Art.

Tickets, which are \$10, are available the day of the walk from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. EDT at Hospice Foundation, 501 Comfort Place, Mishawaka. Visit www.southbendart.org for more information.

ArtBash 2014

Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St., will present ArtBash 2014 at 6 p.m. Saturday, July 12.

The event will feature food and drinks, a DJ, artists creating their works, interactive performances and a celebration of honoree Don Babcock.

Those attending must have tickets because seating is limited. Call (219) 874-4900 or visit lubeznikcenter.org for details or more information.

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40th Annual Play Day Golf Outing

The Greater La Porte Chamber of Commerce will host the 40th Annual Play Day Golf Outing on Thursday, July 24, at Beechwood Golf Club, 2222 Woodlawn Drive, La Porte.

The event also marks the chamber's fourth annual Big Cup Tournament, which features larger holes. Registration is at 11 a.m., followed by lunch. A shotgun start for golfers is at noon, with dinner at 5 p.m. The cost to participate is \$130 per golfer or \$530 for a team of four for members and \$150 per golfer or \$610 for a team of four for non-members.

The golf outing will feature several contests, including two hole-in-one contests, a longest drive contest, fastest hole contest and putting contest.

Proceeds maintain and foster chamber programs, such as business retention and expansion efforts, governmental affairs, workshops and enhancing networking opportunities.

Contact the chamber at (219) 362-3178 for more information or to register a team.

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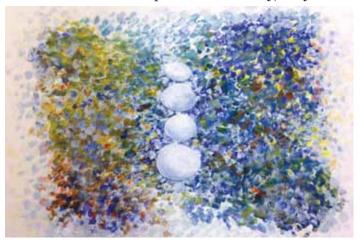
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Public Reception for New Exhibits

Buchanan (Mich.) Art Center, 117 W. Front St., will have a public reception for three exhibits by local artists from 2 to 4 p.m. EDT Sunday, July 13.



"Cairn," a monotype by Anne Vandermolen

The exhibits are: "Recapturing Joy," mixed-media paintings by Maureen Sylvia Lighthall in the Roti Roti Gallery; "Imagination and Whimsy," monotypes and etchings by Anne Vandermolen in the Showplace Gallery; and "Reflections of Time," photography by Vasilisa (Lisa) Kiselevich. The exhibits run through Saturday, Aug. 16.



"Interiors," a mixed media by Maureen Sylvia Lighthall.

Lighthall layers her art with varied mediums of resin, watercolor, encaustic and acrylic on paper, canvas or mylar. She has exhibited in many juried art shows in Illinois, Indiana and Michigan, and her work is in many corporate and personal collections.

For the last seven years, Vandermolen has worked on printing monotypes on the Brand

press at The Box Factory for the Arts in St. Joseph, Mich. An admirer of French impressionist painters, she applies oil paint in small daubs to a zinc plate. Her images, generally, are non-representational.

Kiselevich came to the U.S. from Moscow and is based in Chicago and Buchanan. She is a member of the Chicago Photographic Society and the owner of "The Essence of Light" photography business. Her fine-art photography is rooted in centuries of Russian and European arts and culture.

Call (269) 697-4005 or visit www.buchananart-center.org for more information.



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JROTC Cadets Participate in Camp

Twenty five cadets from the Michigan City High School Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps participated in a basic leadership camp June 9-14 at the Ransburg Boy Scout Reservation in Bloomington, Ind.

The camp provides leadership opportunities for cadets in a field environment that included archery, shooting, horseback riding, wilderness survival, canoeing/kayaking, rappelling/wall climbing, mountain biking and a leadership reaction course. Cadets also did service projects to help the camp staff.

The camp was conducted at no cost to Michigan City Area Schools or the cadets, with funding primarily by the U.S. Marine Corps and boosted through fundraising.

Master Sgt. Jeff Benak said cadets responded well to the camp's challenges.

"This camp really tired our cadets out, as they were going from before sunrise with physical training to after sunset with leadership activities," he said in a press release. "All of our cadets preserved and pushed themselves much further than they thought they could go if we were back at the school."

Maj. Tom McGrath, the senior Marine instructor, noted how many cadets improved their leadership skills from the beginning of the week to the end.

Most cadets echoed that sentiment.

"This really tired me out," Cadet Capt. Cody Joseph said. "But I feel a whole lot better for having gone through this camp, having pushed myself and the other cadets."

This was the first of three camps cadets will attend this summer. Selected cadets will attend a Senior Leadership Camp at the end of June and a Science, Technology, Mathematics and Engineering (STEM) Camp in July. Both camps will not cost the school district or cadets, who also will do community service projects and participate in numerous parades and ceremonies this summer.



Cadets build a shelter during wilderness survival instruction.

ASL Club Coffeehouse

The Purdue University-North Central American Sign Language Club will host an ASL Coffeehouse from 5 to 7:30 p.m. Friday, July 18, at Uptown Café, 1400 E. Lincolnway, Valparaiso.

The coffeehouse is open to ASL students, community members and children accompanied by a parent or adult. Participants are asked to use ASL. Coffee, food and drinks may be ordered throughout the night.

Information about the club is available at www. aslclub.info. Information about other events in the community is at www.nwideaf.org. Contact Joanna Witulski, limited term lecturer in American Sign Language, at pncaslwitulski@yahoo.com for information about the coffeehouse.

Artists to Discuss Their Works

Local artists Tom Brand and Carole Stodder, whose works are on display at Valparaiso University's Brauer Museum of Art through Aug. 10, will discuss their works at 7 p.m. Wednesday, July 16, at the museum, 1709 Chapel Drive.

Contact Museum Director/Curator Gregg Hertzlieb at (219) 464-5761 or email gregg.hertzlieb@valpo.edu for more information.



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Marquette Questers

The Marquette Questers met June 11 at Jackie Glidden's home, with nine of 14 members present.

Margaret Novak gave the historical program on Marshall Field Co. This is a short excerpt: "Marshal Field was born in 1835, the fourth of eight children. He was the son of a farmer who wanted nothing to do with farming. The store's grand opening was in 1868."

The rest is history.

During the business meeting, it was decided to start bringing hygiene products for area homeless shelters to the next meeting, which was July 9 at Joanna Droskocil's home.

Call Joyce Dalton at 874-5832 or Maryanne Garon at 872-3905 for more information.

Deep River Grinders

The Deep River Grinders will face off against the Lemont Quarrymen at 2 p.m. Sunday, July 13, at Deep River County Park.

The teams play baseball according to the original rules of 1858, where the striker is out if the ball is caught on the fly or on one bound, fair or foul. There are no called strikes, and a foul ball does not count as a strike. The rover/shortstop may play anywhere on the field.

The game is free. Families can take lawn chairs or blankets for seating. Games are played on Grinder Field across the river from the Grist Mill.

Deep River County Park is located at 9410 Old Lincoln Highway, Hobart.

Read The Beacher On Line http://www.thebeacher.com/





"A Slice of Summer 2014"

St. Mary of the Lake School, 718 W. Buffalo St., New Buffalo, Mich., is presenting "A Slice of Summer 2014," camps for students ages 6-12.

Led by Amanda Pietrzak and Shannon Callinan, the camps run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. EDT Monday through Thursday.

The schedule is:

• Curtain Call — July 14-17.

Youth will make instruments, create songs and perform a play on July 17. No experience is necessary.

• Wild About Water — July 21-24.

Campers experience a week of water games and activities.

Call Pietrzak at (574) 532-0567 or Callinan at (203) 513-0628 for more information.

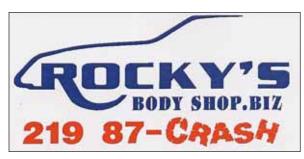




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Activities to Explore

In the Local Area:

July 9-10, 16-17 — Free Arts in the Park. La Porte City Band (July 9, 16), Eric Lambert & Friends (July 10), Me & the Boys (July 17). All concerts 7 p.m., Fox Park Dennis Smith Amphitheater, La Porte.

July 9-12 — "Closer Than Ever," Mainstreet Theatre, 807 Franklin St. Tickets: \$15/Wed. & Thurs., \$16/Fri. & Sat. Senior/group/student discounts available. Times: 2 p.m. Wed. & Thurs., 8 p.m. Fri., 6:30 p.m. Sat. Reservations: (219) 874-4269, info@ festivalplayersguild.org

July 10 — Catholic Charities annual Sunset Cruise, 5:30-9 p.m., Water's Edge restaurant, 12 on the Lake, Washington Park. Tickets: \$60. Reservations: (219) 886-3565, Ext. 331, (219) 879-9312.

July 10 — Metamorphis Traveling Theatre, "The Shooting of Dan McGrew" with Michigan City Municipal Band, 7 p.m., Washington Park's Guy Foreman Bicentennial Amphitheatre.

July 10-14 — Vickers Theatre, 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. Now showing: "Belle." Rated PG. Times: 6 p.m. Thurs.-Fri. and Sun.-Mon., also noon Sat. Also: "Chef." Rated R. Times: 9 p.m. Thurs.-Fri. and Sun.-Mon, also 3:15 p.m. Sat.-Sun. Also, "Walking the Camino: Six Ways to Santiago." Not rated. Times: 7 p.m. July 15/12:30 p.m. July 19. All times Eastern. Info: vickerstheatre.com

July 11 — Depot Friday Reception, sculptor John Habela, 5-7 p.m., Beverly Shores Museum and Art Gallery, 525 Broadway.

July 11 — "Summer of Art" opening reception, 5-8 p.m., Southern Shore Art Association gallery, 724 Franklin St. Info: www.SouthernShoreArtAssociation.com

July 11-13, 18-20 — Young People's Theatre Co. production, "Xanadu," Elston Performing Arts Center, 317 Detroit St., Michigan City. Times: 7:30 p.m. Fri./Sat., 2:30 p.m. Sun. Cost: \$10. Reservations: www.yptcinc.com, (219) 873-2070.

July 12 — Michigan City Mainstreet Association Farmers Market, 8 a.m.-2 p.m., Eighth and Washington streets, through October. Second Saturdays, (chef's demonstrations, special market activities, food truck, artists, music), 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

July 12 — La Porte Urban Enterprise Association Farmers Market, Lincolnway and Monroe Street, through October. Info: (219) 362-8260.

July 12 — Michigan City Mainstreet Association Chalk Walk, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Michigan City's Uptown Arts District.

July 12 — "Run Wild at Washington Park Zoo," pavilion across from the zoo. Day-of registration: 7:45-8:50 a.m. Info: (219) 229-1567. Advance registration: Ryan's Irish Pub, 401 Franklin Square, www.thtiming.com

July 12 — Kayak Fishing with a Ranger, 7-9 a.m., Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk, Info: (219) 395-1882.

July 12 — "Isola Jones and Friends" (Harbor Country Opera), 8 p.m. EDT, New Buffalo (Mich.) Performing Arts Center, 1112 Clay St. Tickets: \$25. Reservations/advance tickets: harborcountryopera. org, David's Delicatessen and Coffee, 30 N. Whittaker St., Michigan Thyme, 107 N. Whittaker St., and New Buffalo Savings, 45 N. Whittaker St., or (269) 231-0027.

July 12 — Artist reception/book signing for Dorothy Tristan, 6-9 p.m. EDT, Vincent, 11 S. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. Info: (269) 612-7308.

July 12 — Comedy hypnotist Dan Lornitis, 8 p.m. EDT, The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Cost: \$25. Info: www.acorntheater.com, (269) 756-3879.

July 12 — Three Oaks Theater Festival benefit performance, staged reading of Larry Kramer's "The Normal Heart," 7 p.m. EDT, Vickers Theatre, 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: \$50. Info: www.threeoaksfestival.com, (866) 811-4111.

July 16 — Roosevelt Pipe Organ Series, Stephen Schnurr and Gary Powell, 12:15 p.m., First Congregational Church, 531 Washington St. Free. Info: (269) 469-0051.

July 16 — Talk by local artists Tom Brand and Carole Stodder, 7 p.m., Valparaiso University's Brauer Museum of Art, 1709 Chapel Drive. Free. Info: (219) 464-5761, gregg.hertzlieb@valpo.edu

July 18 — Purdue University-North Central American Sign Language Club ASL Coffeehouse, 5-7:30 p.m., Uptown Café, 1400 E. Lincolnway, Valparaiso. Info: www.aslclub.info

July 19 —Northwest Indiana Mudathlon, 7:45 a.m., Graeber Family Farms, 236 S. County Road 200 West, Valparaiso. Registration: www.signmeup.com/site/online-event-registration/94865

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

Farther Afield:

July 12-13 — Miller Garden Club's Annual Secret Garden Walk, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Start of tour: Marquette Park Aquatorium, 6918 Oak Ave. Tickets: \$10, available at Ayers Realty, Lake Street Gallery and Miller Beach Market Place, & club members day of event. Info: (219) 939-2790, (312) 543-1561.

July 13 — Deep River Grinders vs. Lemont Quarrymen, 2 p.m., Deep River County Park, 9410 Old Lincoln Highway, Hobart.

July 13 — Opening reception, three exhibits, 2-4 p.m. EDT, Buchanan (Mich.) Art Center, 117 W. Front St. Info: www.buchananartcenter.org, (269) 697-4005.

Through July 20 — "Shrek: The Musical," Elkhart Civic Theatre, 210 E. Vistula St., Bristol, Ind. Times (Eastern): 8 p.m. July 11, 3 & 7:30 p.m. July 13, 8 p.m. July 18, 3 and 8 p.m. July 19, 3 p.m. July 20. Tickets: Adults/\$17, students and seniors 62 and older/\$15. Reservations: (574) 848-4116, www.elkhartcivictheatre.org



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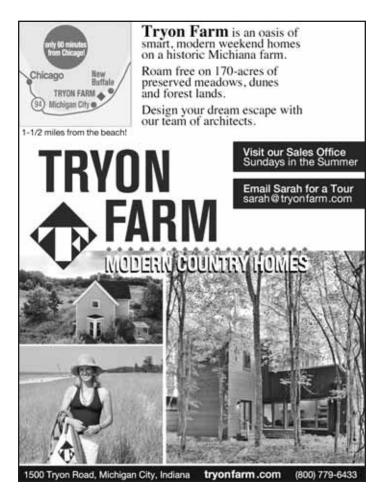
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THIS WEEK HISTORY



On July 10, 1553, Lady Jane Grey was proclaimed queen of England.

On July 10, 1850, upon the death of President Zachary Taylor, Vice President Millard Fillmore succeeded to the presidency.

On July 10, 1913, in the hottest day ever recorded in the United States, the temperature rose to 134 degrees Fahrenheit in California's Death Valley.

On July 10, 1938, Howard Hughes, accompanied by a crew of four, completed a flight around the world.

On July 10, 1962, the *Telstar Communications Satellite*, designed to relay TV and telephone signals between the United States and Europe, was launched from Cape Canaveral.

On July 10, 1985, bowing to pressure from irate customers, Coca-Cola Co. said it would resume selling old-formula Coke while continuing to sell New Coke.

On July 11, 1899, E.B. White, author of children's books such as "Charlotte's Web," was born in Mt. Vernon, NY.

On July 11, 1934, President Franklin Roosevelt became the first chief executive to travel through the Panama Canal.

On July 11, 1936, New York's Tribourough Bridge, linking Manhattan, the Bronx, and Queens, was officially opened.

On July 11, 1977, the Medal of Freedom was awarded posthumously to Martin Luther King Jr.

On July 11, 1979, an abandoned *Skylab* space station burned in the earth's atmosphere, showering debris over the Indian Ocean and Australia.

On July 11, 1985, the Houston Astro's Nolan Ryan struck out his 4,000th hitter, the first pitcher in major league baseball to achieve this feat.

On July 11, 2000, the African Methodist Church, the nation's oldest black church, elected Rev. Vashti McKenzie of Baltimore its first female bishop.

On July 12, 100 B.C., future Roman general and statesman Julius Caesar, considered to have been one of the greatest and most influential men in world history, was born in Rome.

On July 12, 1862, during the Civil War, Congress authorized the issuance of the "Medal of Honor."

On July 12, 1984, Walter Mondale, Democratic candidate for president, announced that Representative Geraldine Ferraro, of New York, would be his running mate. Mrs. Ferraro became the first woman to be on a major party presidential ticket.

On July 12, 1991, a Japanese professor who had translated Salman Rushdie's *The Satanic Verses* was found stabbed to death.

On July 12, 2003, the *USS Ronald Reagan*, the first carrier named for a living president, was commissioned in Norfolk, VA.

On July 13, 1919, Britain's *R-34*, the first dirigible to cross the Atlantic Ocean, completed a round trip between London and New York.

On July 13, 1977, a massive power blackout virtually paralyzed New York City for 25 hours. More than 3,700 people were arrested for looting and rioting during and after the blackout.

On July 13, 1985, Live Aid concerts were held in Philadelphia and London to raise money for African famine relief.

On July 13, 1995, Chicago's high temperature for the day reached 106 degrees, breaking a 61-year-old record, and was the herald of the second hottest summer in city history.

On July 14, 1877, Chicago's Humboldt Park was officially dedicated.

On July 14, 1912, folk singer/songwriter Woody Guthrie was born in Okemah, OK.

On July 14, 1965, the American space probe *Mariner 4* flew by Mars, sending back photographs of the planet.

On July 15, 1870, Georgia became the last Confederate state to be readmitted to the Union.

On July 15, 1918, World War I's "Second Battle of the Marne" began.

On July 15, 1975, three American astronauts blasted off aboard *Apollo 18* for a mission that would include a linkup in space with a Soviet Soyuz 19 spacecraft.

On July 15, 1996, MSNBC made its debut on cable and the Internet.

On July 16, 1790, Congress established the District of Columbia as the permanent seat of the United States government.

On July 16, 1862, David Farragut became the Navy's first rear admiral.

On July 16, 1935, the nation's first automatic parking meters were installed in Oklahoma City.

On July 16, 1945, the first atomic bomb was exploded in the desert near Alamogordo, NM.

On July 16, 1951, J.D. Salinger's novel "The Catcher in the Rye" was published.

On July 16, 1957, Marine Major John Glenn set a transcontinental speed record when he flew a jet from California to New York in 3 hours 23 minutes and 8 seconds.

On July 16, 2004, Millennium Park in Chicago was opened to the public.



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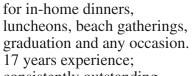


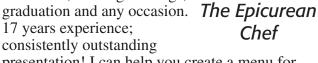
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Sarett Nature Center

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

• Learn about the federally endangered Mitchell Satyr Butterfly at 2 p.m. EDT Saturday, July 13.

Admission is \$3 for adults.

• Learn about the center's turtles at 3 p.m. EDT Thursday, July 17.

Admission is \$3 for adults.

 Join restoration rangers to remove invasive species threatening Sarett's ecosystems.

Call (269) 927-4832 to register or more information on any of these program.

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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.

Pilot Program Targets Teens

From suturing a pig foot to learning cardio pulmonary resuscitation, local students recently immersed themselves in the health-care field during IU Health La Porte Hospital's first Health Care Careers Camp.



Austin Howell and Kyleigh Werner of South Central High School suture a pig foot during IU Health La Porte Hospital's Health Care Careers Camp.

The pilot program, organized by the hospital's volunteer services department, accepted 11 juniors or seniors to help broaden their knowledge of career opportunities in health care. The teens interacted with executives, physicians and health-care providers, and had direct access to observing patient care. Students in the group intend to pursue careers in nursing, pharmacy and optometry, to name a few.

Topics covered throughout the week-long camp were: how to become a physician; professionalism in the workplace; how to do sutures; diagnostic imaging; the workings of pharmacy; physical therapy; how to do blood pressures; CPR; heart and vascular care and sonography; La Porte County EMS; Life-Line helicopter; sports medicine; hand hygiene; and meeting with the hospital executive team

"I signed up for Health Care Careers Camp because I wanted to see what sparked my interest," Cameron Wells, La Porte, said. "I don't really know what I want to do with my life, so I came here to see if I do like it – if I like radiology, or want to be an EMT, or whatever."

IU Health La Porte Hospital also offers youth and adult volunteer opportunities. Visit iuhealth. org/laporte/about/volunteer-opportunities for more information.

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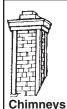
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The Good Things Sale, resale at its best, is accepting consignment items of furniture, housewares, decorative items, art, lamps, linens, pillows, dishes, baskets, small appliances and electronics, tools, sporting equipment, patio furniture, toys, etc. for the next sale. To participate, email Susan Vissing at whatsnexta@comcast.net or phone (219) 861-6188 to make an appointment to drop off up to 25 items for resale. Leave a message with your name, phone number, a few alternate dates and times you are available and you will receive a call or email with a scheduled appointment. Appointments are scheduled every hour Monday-Friday,10 a.m.- 5 p.m., with a few evening and weekend appointments through July 15.There is a \$10 fee to participate, and you will receive 50% of the price of your sold items. Space is limited, so please book your appointment now! Shopping dates: July 19, 10-2 p.m., shop first for the best selection, July 20, 12-4 p.m., take it away day, up to 50% discounts and considering offers.

The Long Beach Community Center, Studio 11, 2501 Oriole Trail, Long Beach, IN. Home of the Girlfriend Sale

Long Beach garage sale, 9 am-noon, Sat., July 12, 2424 Hideaway Point. 807 Lyndale Way. Sat., July 12, 8am-noon. Big garage 4-family sale. Tools, china, antique cabinets, toys, children's clothes, clocks & more.

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The Depot Friday Reception featuring sculptor John Habela is from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, July 11, at Beverly Shores Museum and Art Gallery, 525 Broadway.



Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter

<u>The Never List</u> by Koethi Zan (paperback, \$16 retail in bookstores and online)

I'm sure we all have daily safety checklists. Like making sure all doors and windows are locked each night or when we go away. Or not driving at night on unfamiliar streets or deserted roads. Or, for us ladies, keeping our purses close by when in crowds.

That's the precautions friends Sarah and Jennifer took each day in The Never List. It all started after a horrible car accident took the life of Jennifer's mother and landed the two girls in the hospital. From then on, they started compiling information that lead to writing a "never list."

"When we got out of the hospital, we worked on our project in earnest. At the school library, we found almanacs, medical journals, and even a book of actuarial tables from 1987. We gathered data, we computed, and we recorded, filling up line after line with the raw evidence of human vulnerability."

By the time the two went off to college, they had a list they checked over and over again. They were prepared for every contingency...until that one night.

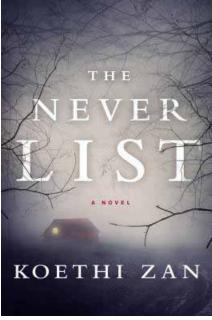
Sarah and Jennifer used a car service to pick them up after parties. One night after deciding they'd "pushed the limit far enough," they called the service. Soon, a car pulled up and they got in…and that's where the nightmare started.

The story is told through Sarah. No third-person voice could tell this horrific tale, no third-person voice could explain how being kidnapped and held hostage for three years changes everything.

The story starts 10 years after Sarah escaped from the lovely A-frame home in the woods whose cellar contained hellish secrets. And the charming University of Oregon psychology professor, Jack Derber, was arrested and charged with holding Jennifer and Sarah, and Tracy and Christine, for three long years. But Jennifer disappeared. One day, Jack took her from the cellar and she never came back.

Now, Derber is up for a parole hearing and Sarah is asked to testify to make sure he doesn't get out of jail. Ever. Sounds easy enough, but Sarah has spent the past 10 years avoiding people, living a solitary life on the 11th floor of an apartment building where she could send out for food and work from home.

I could hear Sarah's soft voice in my head as I read



of her daily struggles, all caused by a madman who used torture, rape and mind control to his own ends.

What's worse, somehow Derber has been getting letters out of prison and sent to her. Taunting letters that hinted of things Sarah needed to know, like what really happened to Jennifer. She finally resolves to face her fears and reach out to Tracy, to follow the leads and get to the bottom of Derber's freak show. She has decided he couldn't have done everything without help. And how many other girls were there before the four of them?

Zan thankfully doesn't go into all the sordid details of what happened in that cellar. Enough hints exist to make you understand what horror these girls went through, and how

lucky they were to come out of it alive. The amazing thing the author does, however, is take us into the head of a survivor, making us understand, with compassion and insight, how hard it was to slip back into society and live a normal life after three hellish years. The dynamics of the girls' relationships also is explored, revealing how hard it was for Sarah to reach out to Tracy and Christine after what happened.

This book does not allow you to put it down. Each chapter makes you want to understand more and see Sarah succeed in making sure a madman won't see the light of day again as a free man. Zan has done an amazing job putting us in the mind of a victim whose daily struggles we cannot begin to comprehend.

The book serves as a reminder that caution is not a word to be taken lightly. It could save your life.

The story, while fiction, recalls the real-life terror of three girls found last year in a house in Ohio, where they had been kept for more than 10 years. One of the girls, Michelle Knight, has written her own account of the ideal, <u>Finding Me</u>, which is available in hardback for \$24.99.

Till next time, happy reading!





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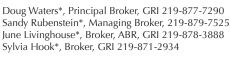
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