

Volume 30, Number 39 Thursday, October 2, 2014

The Woman Behind the Legend

by William Halliar

full moon appears on the horizon, rising like a specter from the gloomy, cold depths of Lake Michigan. Slowly, bursts of light spread and reflect from the troubled surface of the water, mixing with the inky blackness of the depths and creating a riot of sparkles reflected from the crests of waves. As the crimson orb continues to rise, the light seems to fill the sky, its shape changing from a small crescent, to half a circle, to the fullness of a round disk suspended in the sky.

A silhouette steps from between the tall grasses that cover the windward side of the undulating sand dunes,

the graceful, naked figure of a woman in her early 30s. Against the darkness of the night dunes, her skin reflects the rays of the rising moon and creates the illusion of a nymph carved in alabaster. She dives silently beneath the waves, then rises again, flinging sprays of water from her bobbed locks. Leaving the water and standing upon the shore, she raises arms above her head and spins in a dance, reveling in freedom and the oneness with nature. With a final shake of her head, spraying droplets of water in the light of the ever-rising moon, she moves gracefully, disappearing back into the shadows of the forest and sand.

A legend is born.

A story that began as a celebration of freedom ends in bleak tragedy: a star-crossed romance between a well-educated, well-traveled woman and her rough-and-tumble "cave man." High society, en-



Alice Gray relaxes in the sand at the Indiana Dunes.

vironmentalism, murder and romance: The story of Alice Gray, or Diana of the Dunes as she was called, still holds intrigue and mystery even after almost 100 years since her adventure began in the dunes west of Michigan City.

My first encounter with this mysterious lady came in February while I was researching another subject in Michigan City Public Library's Indiana Room. A long, low cabinet held a hanging file marked "Diana of the Dunes," thick to the point of bulging with newspaper clippings recent and yellowed with age. I began to read through these clippings to discover a kindred spirit of sorts who escaped the humdrum of the life expected of her in the city and decided to pit herself against nature: the winds and sand of the dunes and the tempests of Lake Michigan.

I must ask the reader if any have ever entertained

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The Woman Continued from Page 1

the thoughts that drove this woman, dubbed Diana, to turn her back on what society expected of a well-educated 34-year-old woman and declare that the life of a wage earner in Chicago was "slavery"? What brave inner spirit could cause her, in the fall of 1915, to board an eastbound South Shore train, with her last paycheck in hand, a few personal belongings in tow, and disembark at a stop in the dunes without shelter or plan.

Diana was looking for solitude and the freedom to live life on her own terms, without the constraints put upon her by the society in which she lived. Few men today would have the chutzpah to do what Diana did, let alone a woman, but consider being

a woman alone in the wilderness of Indiana in 1915. The people in surrounding communities were bewildered, and the local newspapers could not leave the story alone. Through their stories — real or fabricated — the legend of Diana was born. I was hooked on Diana's story and had to know more.

As with any legend, there often is a kernel of truth about it, but the more the story is repeated, the more it becomes embellished with the fantastic and the further from truth it strays. The thick



Alice Gray relaxes at the beach sometime between the years of 1915 and 1925.

file at the library told of ghost stories and murder and of a nymph dancing naked on the lakeshore. So many lurid headlines. So many conflicting tales. Who can know the truth?

Andrew Tallackson, editor at The Beacher and longtime area resident, loaned me a book he thought would shed some light on the legend and assuage my curiosity. The book was "Diana of the Dunes: The True Story of Alice Gray" by Janet Zenke Edwards. Leafing through it, I discovered it is

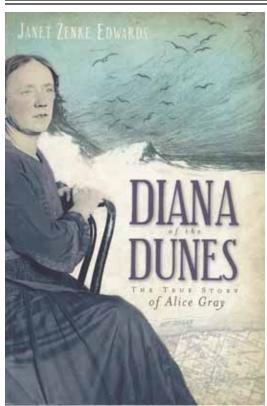
a scholarly effort that contained the result of much research over a period of 10 years.

Edwards spent the summers of her youth at a lakefront cottage in the dunes and grew up with the legend of Diana of the Dunes. Her curiosity drove her to research Diana's life and attempt to extricate fact from fiction. She interviewed many people who knew of Diana, and a few who actually met her or had known relatives.

With the aid of researcher Eva Hopkins and Jane Walsh-Brown, curator of Chesterton's Westchester Township History Museum, Edwards began to fit the pieces of the puzzle together. Sifting through many stories, articles and interviews, she began to lift Alice Gray from the mists of legend to the status of a living, breathing person, a woman of hopes, dreams and feelings.



Alice Gray stands amid the dunes, looking on at the shores of Lake Michigan that she so adored.



Janet Zenke Edwards' "Diana of the Dunes: The True Story of Alice Gray."

Edwards' book is annotated with footnotes that substantiate the chapters of Alice Gray's life. This seemed like a good place to begin to uncover the truth about the elusive Diana of the Dunes. I contacted the folks at History Press, explained my mission and they gave me Edwards' email address.

Edwards, who is a resident of the St. Louis area, also owns a home on the lakefront in the dunes. She kindly agreed to meet with me to talk about Alice Gray. We met in late summer at the Westchester County History Museum, which is housed in the retirement home of George and Charity Brown. Built in 1885, it is a charming Queen Anne-style residence, the perfect setting for our meeting.

Gathered that day were what I consider the preeminent living authorities on the subject. Meeting around the mansion's dining room table were: Hopkins, Curator Serena Sutliff, Registrar Joan Costello and Museum Educator Sue Swarner. These ladies have spent many hours gathering information, preparing a sort of dialogue about Diana that they present each year in the local schools. Their goal is to keep the story alive and discuss why Diana was an important person in our region's history, and to the history of women.

As my guest for the day, I was excited to introduce Sally Carpenter, retired editor of The Beacher, to the group. Sally's great-grandmother was the sister of Paul Wilson (Eisenblatter), Diana's "cave man," and she had stories to recount told to her.

Of course, also present was the hostess of the meeting: Janet Edwards, researcher and author.

Let's start at the beginning.

Getting Better but Improvement Not Linear

The latest 12 month numbers (09/18 to 09/17) for residential sales each year. Area is from the steel mill to the state line on the lake side of Rte. 12 minus the downtown part of Michigan City.

Yr	Sold Units	Exp Units	Sold Med Price	Total \$Volume
09- 10	78	250	\$303 k	\$26.8 M
10- 11	90	229	\$290 k	\$34.6 M
11- 12	103	230	\$290 k	\$39.5 M
12- 13	119	162	\$335 k	\$42.7 M
13- 14	122	200	\$310 k	\$55.5 M

"k" = 1, 000 "M" = 1,000,000

I really think that we would have had a better twelve months for 2013-14 if it were not for the really rough weather that stretched into April of this year. But the rest of the state and country have shown a dip for this year over last year. So it might have been more than weather.

The increase this year of expireds bothers me. Some sellers getting a bit too greedy?

The total inventory continues to outstrip the increased number of buyers. The overall absorption rate (Actives/Solds) is still 14 months, but most of the houses that have sold in the past 12 months have sold in less than 7 months. The 14 month absorption rate seems to be influenced by a group of overpriced properties that just stay on the market or go on and off the market. "Price it right and it will sell" is true.

When you compare the 12 month period for 2009-10 to the last 12 months, there is no question that things have gotten better. The improvement has been mostly at the lower end (median price dropped this year) but the "fat part" of the bell curve covered a range from \$160,000 to \$649,000 these last twelve months. The high end of the curve had not topped \$599,000 for many years. So higher priced house sales are also improving. Total sales volume for 2013-2014 is double what it was in 2009-10. That is a really a strong statistic.



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The Woman Continued from Page 3

Alice Mable Gray was born in Chicago on March 25, 1881, born of a time and place bursting with growth and industry. She came of age when women were coming into their own, breaking free from traditional roles and social mores. She was born to a family that worked hard to make it in the world. Her father was a poor lamplighter who became injured on the job. Her mother took in boarders and raised a city garden to augment their meager income.



Alice Gray at her shack she called "Driftwood" at the Indiana Dunes.

So, Alice grew up poor, but she had talent. She excelled in mathematics and had an undeniable skill in expressing herself through writing. She obviously had dreams of improving her situation because through much study, she completed high school, then college at the University of Chicago with high marks in math. After graduation from college, she moved to Washington, D.C., where she applied her skills in math as a human "computer" working at the U.S. Naval Observatory, as what we moderns might term a "number cruncher."

Edwards speculates that Alice took the job so she could raise money for the next phase of her adventure: a trip overseas to study higher mathematics at the University of Gottingen in Germany, a trip she made in 1906. After classes ended in 1908, she returned to Chicago to attend graduate school at the University of Chicago, to continue her study of mathematics and explore a new world of ideas in philosophy and political science. During this time, she worked as a book editor and possibly as a secretary as well.

In the fall of 1915, for reasons known only to her, she boarded a South Shore train in Chicago, taking only a few possessions and disembarked amid the Indiana Dunes, where her adventure continued and her life left the mundane path of the work-a-day world and took on the air of legend.

What boldness, daring or perhaps desperation of soul might have driven her can never be known, but she consciously made a break with society and headed into the wilderness, a young woman alone to, as she says in her diary, "measure myself with nature." She set up housekeeping in an abandoned fisherman's shack, which she dubbed "Driftwood," and began her search for a life of solitude close to nature.

Alice was not a recluse and often walked to Chesterton or to the library in the Miller Beach neighborhood of Gary. People sought her out and enjoyed her conversation, some thinking she was brilliant. Her voice was said to be wonderfully mellow. But she always returned to her driftwood shack, preferring the company of nature. Again, from Alice's diary, "How glorious this outdoor life is – how good life feels and tastes and smells down close to the great elemental things: this blazing fire, with white brilliance in the west, just one star (Venus or Jupiter?) high up in the southwest, the dull white snow patches in the hollow and on the southern slopes, and the snow-flecks brown of the western slope, and the light gone for writing and the time come for supper."

Alice lived quietly for several years until she was noticed by local fishermen. It seems they'd taken notice of her habit of bathing in the waters of Lake Michigan, then dancing in the wind to dry herself. Alice says of her custom, in a journal entry on Saturday, Dec. 4, 1917, "Just don't imagine that I spend my days and nights up here going in bathing (I did go in yesterday, but I'd like to see myself going in just now with the frost still in the air), climbing hills to gaze at views and wiggling my toes before the fire."

Chicago newspapers got word of the story of a young girl living alone in the dunes when a local sporting goods store sold out of binoculars. Alice was dubbed "Diana" by a reporter after Diana, Roman goddess of the moon...and the legend was born. This

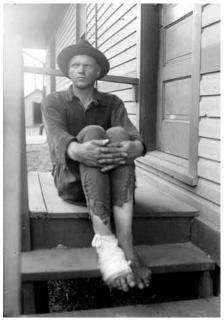


"Driftwood," the abandoned fisherman's shack where Alice Gray took residence.

mysterious voung girl made good copy for the tabloids, and Alice was hounded by reporters and sightseers wishing to catch a glimpse of her. An article in 1916 in the Lake County Times said, "Cleaving the water like a milk white dolphin came a mermaid. She made the shallows, rose up out of the water, then like a fabled nymph, flitted off into the shadows."

This kind of copy sold newspapers.

Alice did not run from the name Diana, but embraced it and made it a part of her persona, using her notoriety as a child of the dunes to join the fight to save the lakefront as the national preserve that it is today. In a speech at Fullerton Hall at The Art Institute of Chicago in 1917, Alice joined other dunes preservation activists in telling the world, "Besides



Paul Wilson, Alice Gray's "cave man."

nearnessitsChicago and its beauty, its spiritual power, there is between the Dune Country and the city a more than sentimental bond a family tie. To see the Dunes destroyed would be for Chicago the sacrilegious sinwhich is not forgiven."

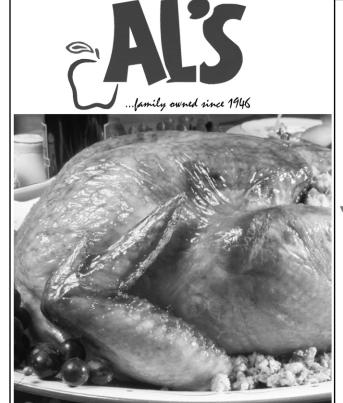
During this time, Alice became acquainted with Paul Wilson, who was describe by The Evening Messenger as "Giant in stature, an eye like an eagle with revolver or gun, he was a man to be feared." Alice and Paul became companions and moved in together in a shelter they dubbed "Wren's Nest." According to Edwards, "they relied on each other, complemented each other's survival skills and remained constantly loyal in difficult, sometimes dire, circumstances." He became her "cave man."

Paul called Alice "Diana," and they lived together in a common-law arrangement. Carpenter is convinced that Paul and Alice loved each other, and that rumors of abuse are false. According to her great-grandmother's accounts, the two were always affectionate towards each other. Carpenter is convinced that if the paparazzi had left them alone, the couple would have lived out their lives happily in the wilderness of the dunes...but it was not to be.

The couple was hounded by press and tourists, their "Wren's Nest" ransacked and Alice's diaries and writings stolen. Paul, because of his questionable background, was blamed for local petty crimes and break-ins. When a man was found murdered in the dunes near their cabin, he was arrested and accused of the crime, but eventually exonerated. The stress, however, was overwhelming.

Towards the end of her life, Alice and Paul filed a libel suit against several Chicago newspapers, but never received justice. In 1925, at age 44, Al-

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The Woman Continued from Page 5

ice Gray, "Diana of the Dunes," died in the arms of her "Cave Man," Paul Wilson. Her death certificate lists the cause of death as uremic poisoning, likely caused, Edwards says, from malnutrition.

Alice's funeral was as celebrated as her later life. It is said that, although it was meant to be a private family affair, a large and curious crowd gathered, some even going so far as to sell souvenirs of the Dunes during the service. Paul Wilson was barred

from the funeral, though he did show up with a revolver and threatened relatives. He reportedly was heard to say, "Diana. I'll get that damned newspaperman." Paul Wilson was arrested by Gary police. Alice is buried in Gary, and her headstone reads, "Diana of the Dunes, Alice Gray Wilson."

Alice Gray became a legend while she lived. Her life was a chronicle of struggle and adventure, but it also was a life lived to the fullest, a life lived by her own wits and standards. Not everyone who wanders is lost. Alice Gray, Diana of the Dunes, wandered the world in search of life and found herself, and

her soul, in the Indiana Dunes. Does her spirit still haunt the lakeshore on chilly fall evenings? Carpenter and Edwards think not. They prefer to believe she found her happiness and meaning in the arms of her lover and rests in peace.



Assembled for the discussion on Alice Gray were (from left) Janet Zenke Edwards, author of "Diana of the Dunes," Sally Carpenter, retired editor of The Beacher, and from Westchester Township History Museum Researcher Eva Hopkins, Curator Serena Sutliff, Registrar Joan Costello and Educator Sue Swarner.



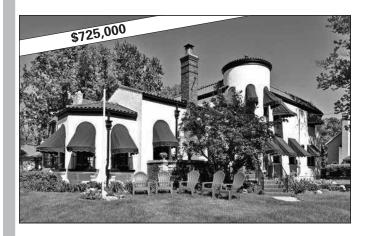
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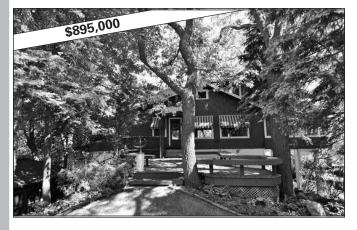
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2002 Lakeshore Drive, Long Beach

Lake Michigan with sandy shoreline to the North offers plenty of parking street-side. Main floor bedroom joins new main floor bath with low rise shower. Upstairs there are 4 more bedrooms (2 with lake views) that share two baths. A den on the main floor could convert to another bedroom when needed. Living room with fireplace and dining room have lake views. In addition to the main kitchen, there's beach access dining and cooking in the lower level with rec room, 4th bath, laundry and storage. Perfect Lake Michigan Living!

Bonnie Meyer @ bonnieb@1dwelling.com

Classic Musical "Oliver!" Up Next at Footlight Theatre

Lose yourself in the gritty backstreets of Victorian-era London during Footlight Theatre's upcoming performance of the musical, "Oliver!"

Presented the first three weekends in October, "Oliver!" is based on the Charles Dickens classic about the orphaned Oliver Twist McDaniel), (Christian who goes from mistreatment in the London workhouses to falling in with a gang of pickpockets led by the roguish Fagin (Bobby Komendera), the kindhearted Nancy (Alicia Ebaugh) and the menacing Bill Skyes (Billy Myers).

"Oliver!" boasts one of the largest casts to take

the Footlight stage: 43 adults and children from across the region. Komendera and Ebaugh are Footlight regulars, along with Steve Rohe (Mr. Bumble), Emil Cripe (Mr. Sowerberry) and John Avila (Dr. Grimwig, also serving as the show's stage manager). Several of the young actors got their start with Michigan City's Young People's Theatre Co.

Other cast members are: Debbie Bartholomew (Widow Corney); Drew Holt (Artful Dodger); Val Pudlo (Mrs. Sowerberrry); Glen Percifeld (Mr. Brownlow); Isabell Pozos (Bet); Janice Rice (Mrs. Bedwin); Anthony Holt (Noah); Mira McDaniel (Charlotte); Colin Nittner (Charley); Karen Arden; Gary Bartholomew; Joy Davidson; Alexandra Dines; Kathi Jones; Amy McDaniel; Karol Valek; William Crane; Eleanor Crane; Cole Antrim; Kalea Collins; Liam Gowan; Madison Gresham; Aliviah K. Miller; Chase Lowery; Emily Nittner; Heidi Nittner; Leah Nittner; Paige Nittner; Armand Pozos; Isabella Shula; Cheyenne Sims; Josie Smith; William Tallackson; Veronica Thomas; Miykhi Woodard; and Makayla Wysocki.



Christian McDaniel (from left) stars as Oliver, Drew Holt as Artful Dodger and Bobby Komendera as Fagin in Footlight Players' production of "Oliver!"

Director Laura Meyer has helmed the musical before both at Footlight and elsewhere, with her husband, Lee Meyer, providing musical direction. Violinist Lena Levi and drummer Noel Carlson will round out the band.

> Performances are Oct. 3-5, 10-12 and 17-19 at Footlight Theatre, 1705 Franklin St. Curtain is at 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays. Doors open 45 minutes prior to curtain. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for ages 12 and younger. Reser-

vations will be held until 15 minutes prior to curtain unless secured by a season gift card or payment in full. Reservations are recommended by calling (219) 874-4035 or at www.footlightplayers.org. A 2-for-1 coupon is available through the website for opening night. Artwork by Pine Elementary School students will be shown in the theater's lobby during the run of the show.

Auditions

Footlight Players will have auditions for "Anne of Green Gables" at 6 p.m. Sunday and Monday, Oct. 12-13, at Footlight Theatre, 1705 Franklin St.

Director Eric Helmken seeks three boys and four girls between the ages of 12 and 16, as well as several men and women of all ages. Stage managers and other volunteers also are needed.

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"Beaches to Barns"



Ginny Takacs' "Spring Forward."

"Beaches to Barns...En Plein Air," an exhibit by Duneland Plein Air Painters, runs Oct. 3 through Nov. 2, with an opening reception from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 3, at the Southern Shore Art Association Gallery, 724 Franklin St.

The exhibit features work completed during the past two years. The artists will present "field pieces" painted outdoors — "in the open air" — utilizing the optimal lighting of early morning or late afternoon. There also will be examples of studio paintings based on some of the plein air field work. These studio and field pieces will be exhibited side by side, examples of "field to finish" work.

Participating artists are: Sandy Appleby, Laurie Schirmer Carpenter, Kei Constantinov, Bunny Dimke, Pat Herman, Julia Holmaas, Julie Kasni-



Julie Kasniunas' "Firefly Farm Pasture."

unas, Lynn Lyon, Jim May, Claire Merrill, Mary Lou Quinn, Nancy Ranquist, Ginny Takacs, Linda Weigel, Liz Williams and Sandra Yamhure.

Members of Duneland Plein Air Painters hail from Indiana and Michigan, painting together on Thursdays from April through October. They work primarily in oils, acrylics and watercolors.

The opening reception is part of the Uptown Arts District First Friday. First Friday gallery hours are from noon to 8 p.m. Regular gallery hours are from noon to 5 p.m. Friday through Sunday.

Contact Pat Herman at patherman35@gmail. com for more information on Duneland Plein Air Painters. Call (219) 879-4980 or visit www.SouthernShoreArtAssociation.com for more information on SSAA.



Nancy Ranquist's "The Pavilion at Barker Mansion."



Kei Constantinov's "Nouveau Bison Lupine."



Linda Weigel's "Summer Bouquet Sawyer Market."



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"Belle Gunness Day"

It was 106 years ago that serial killer Belle Gunness performed her notorious deeds on the outskirts of La Porte.

Did she succeed in getting away with murder? Or, did she die in the fire at her home on April 28, 1908? Or, was she convicted killer Esther Carlson of California?

Norway resident Knut Eric Jensen will share his theory of whether Esther Carlson, accused of killing her employer in 1931, was really Gunness using a different identity on Saturday, Oct. 4, at La Porte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave., La Porte.



Esther Carlson (left) and Belle Gunness.

La Porte County Historical Society President Bruce Johnson has been instrumental in relocating and redesigning a new "home" for the museum's Gunness exhibit. Visitors now can read and understand the story simply by walking through the new space. Original documents and photos have been copied, while more artifacts have been added.

At 1 p.m., a dedication of the new exhibit is planned, followed by Jensen's program at 1:30 p.m. Afterward is a showing of the documentary "The Gunness Mystery," followed by a light reception. Refreshments will be served.

Call (219) 324-6767 or visit www.laportecountyhistory.org and click on the facebook page for additional information.



First Friday

The Uptown Arts District First Friday Art Walk is from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 3, in downtown Michigan City.

Participating businesses and attractions are:

- Old Lighthouse Museum in Washington Park Michigan City Fire Department exhibit and photography of Jan Hoeppner.
- Revive Consignments & Revive HIM, 523 Franklin St. — Artist Jim Smeltzer.
- Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St.
 Burn 'Em Brewing and musician James Cannon.
- Joy of Flowers, 613 Franklin St. Artist Neil Kienitz.
- Beach Bum Jewels, 621 Franklin St. Leanne Voss, who creates beach-inspired home décor.
- Darling, 418 Franklin St. Lisa Filipek and Julie Biehl. Filipek makes chairs and home décor from recycled pieces and Biehl jewelry.
- Urban Soles Inc., 624 Franklin St. Artists Hollie Bingham and Chris Acton, along with The Green Machine parked outside.
- First United Methodist Church, 121 E. Seventh St. Artist Merry Johnson's paintings and sculptures. The Pastor's Pumpkin Patch with free pumpkin decorating is planned, and music by Dan Moser and Friends. A showing of "Heaven Is for Real" is at 7 p.m. and includes free popcorn.
- Luxe Boutique, 904 Franklin St. Photographer Jamie Kessler.
- Southern Shore Art Association, 724 Franklin St. Opening reception, "Beaches to Barns...En Plein Air."
- The Closet by Franklin Vintage, 1011 Franklin St. Works by Julia Nielsen.
- St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 818 Franklin Square
 Lutheran World Relief Quilt Display.
 Entertainment includes:
- Maxine's Restaurant, 521 Franklin St. Patti Shaffner and her trio, 8 to 11 p.m.
- Mainstreet Theatre, 807 Franklin St. First Friday Open Stage with host For The Record. Performer signup is at 7:30 p.m. and the performance at 8 p.m. Admission is \$2 for performers and \$3 for audience members.

More information on First Friday is available at michigancitymainstreet@hotmail.com or (219) 561-6991.



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Display of Quilts



The group at St. Paul Lutheran Church that makes quilts as part of Lutheran World Relief efforts.

The Quilt Group at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 818 Franklin St., will display its quilts Friday through Sunday, Oct. 3-5.

During the year, the group, headed by Marcia Meads, makes approximately 75 to 100 quilts. It meets every fourth Tuesday in the church basement. Individual quilters do a considerable amount of work in their homes as well.

The average cost to make a quilt is \$60; however, group members get discounts to lower the cost to around \$30, an effort totalling \$3,000 a year and funded by women of the church. Donations and memorials to the Quilt Fund offset expenses.

The quilts are not sold, but shipped to various countries where they are needed.

Every October, the church celebrates Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Sunday. After the quilts are displayed, they are packed up and shipped, along with quilts from other ELCA Lutheran churches, to various countries. The Lutheran World Relief Quilt Campaign hopes to send 500,000 Mission Quilts this year.



First Friday at Lubeznik Center

Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St., will present musician James Cannon and beer by Michigan City's Burn 'Em Brewing from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 3, as part of Uptown Arts District's First Friday.

Cannon is a singer/songwriter steeped in Americana/folk/old-time music, presenting autobiographical material, traditional standards and contemporary covers. His performance style involves stripped-down finger style and flatpicking acoustic guitar, along with harmonica accompaniment.

Also during First Friday, stop by the NIPSCO Large Art Education Studio for the opening reception of "Fantastic Ark & Great Distinction Zoo," an exhibit by artists from The Social & Learning Institute and Michiana Resources facilitated by art educator Debra Sawyer. The Lubeznik Center provides weekly art programming for these groups.

The exhibit, which runs through Nov. 7, features mythical and magical creatures sculpted in clay or papier-mâché. Each artist created his/her own creature, then combined the concept with a partner artist's concept, the two collaborating to create a new and unique hybrid. The creatures were inspired by mythical gods and magical creatures from religious and cultural stories.

Another new exhibit is Carol Block's "It's a Circus" in the Area Artists Association Gallery. Diane Wheat is the curator-caterer.

First Friday also marks the chance to see the exhibits "Invasive Species," "Transformation" and "Aquatic Kaleidoscopes" before they close Oct. 18.

Call (219) 874-4900, visit lubeznikcenter.org or email artinfo@lubeznikcenter.org for additional information.







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Taltree Arboretum & Gardens

The following programs are available at Taltree Arboretum & Gardens, 450 W. County Road 100 North, Valparaiso:

• Fall Fungi Hike from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Oct. 4.

The hike, which encompasses the woodlands area along Cardinal Trail, is free with general admission, which is \$10 for adults (13 and older), \$8 for seniors (55 and older), \$5 for children (5-12) and free for children 4 and younger and Taltree members.

• Art in Nature - Oil Painting from 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 5.

Learn how to use oil paints with Heron Pond and Heron Trail as inspiration. All supplies are included. Call Taltree for the class cost.

• A night hike from 8 to 9 p.m. Wednesdays, Oct. 8 and 15.

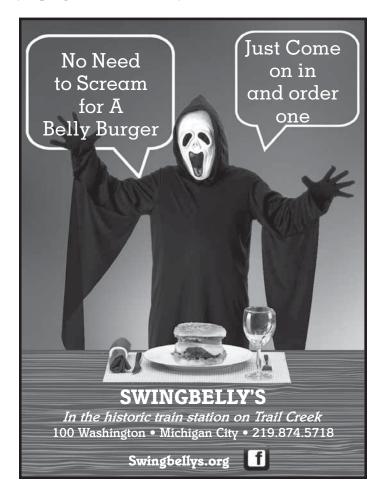
The cost is \$7 for adults (13 and older), and \$5 for seniors (55 and older) and children (12 and younger). Taltree member discounts are available.

• Haunted Railroad & Fall Festival through Oct. 31.

The family friendly event features a haunted Railway Garden. Special children's activities, such as creepy crafts, will be available Saturdays.

The festival is free with general admission.

Visit Taltree.org or call (219) 462-0025 to register for programs or more information.



"Wash Off" Challenge



Michigan City Police Department Assistant Chief Tim Richardson (from left), Chief Mark Swistek and Officer/School Board Member Marty Corley wash the Michigan City Area Schools activity bus as Superintendent Barbara Eason-Watkins enjoys lunch during last year's event.

Michigan City Area Schools again will challenge the Michigan City Police Department to a "wash off" on Friday, Oct. 3.

Administrators, Michigan City High School basketball players, Safe Harbor/Hours for Ours staff and FRIENDS will wash cars from 2:30 to 6 p.m. at MCK Car Wash at U.S. 20 and Woodland Avenue. Donations of any amount will be accepted, with all proceeds given to local United Way-supported groups, including Safe Harbor, Open Door and Hours for Ours.

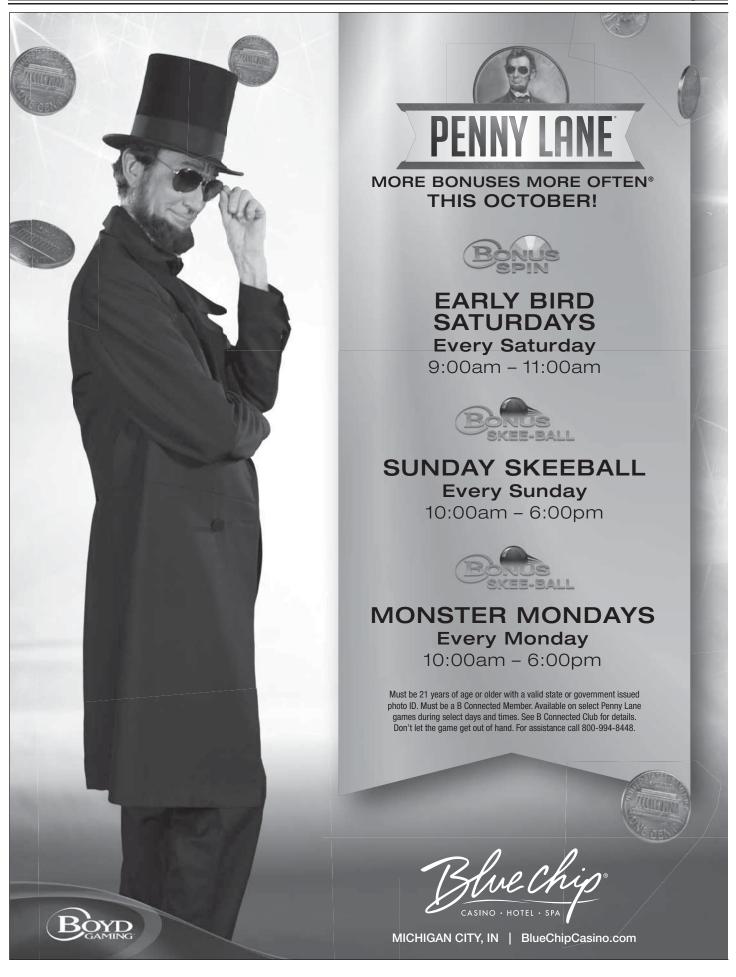
Capt. Ed will be present with his pirate ship and hand out free candy. Popcorn and refreshments will be available.

Visit http://educatemc.net/carwash for info.



Shredder (John Beutner, left) and Capt. Ed (Beutner) with their party boat at last year's event.





Silent Film Seminars

Purdue University-North Central, through its Office of Graduate and Extended Learning and Department of English and Modern Languages, has partnered with Michigan City Community Arts Society of Trinity to host a silent film seminar series.

PNC Associate Professor of English Jerry Holt will host the three-part seminar exploring the diversity of the silent film age.

Each event begins at about 7 p.m. in the 1929 Renaissance Revival-style Barker Hall, 600 Franklin St, Michigan City. The schedule is:

- Oct. 3 "Sherlock Jr." (1924), starring Buster Keaton.
- Oct. 10 "Sunrise" (1927), directed by F.W. Murnau.
- Oct. 17 "The Penalty" (1920), starring Lon Chaney.

Series tickets, which cost \$40 per person, can be purchased at www.pnc.edu/gel. Single event tickets, which cost \$15, can be purchased online or at the door. Additional information is available at www.pnc.edu/gel or contact Cassandra Boehlke, Graduate and Extended Learning coordinator, at (219) 785-5748 or cboehlke@pnc.edu



One of the original posters for F.W. Murnau's "Sunrise."



Buster Keaton in a scene from "Sherlock Jr."







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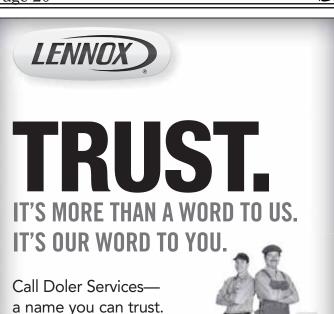


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"Emerging Artists" Exhibit

Substation No. 9, South Shore Arts' downtown Hammond branch located at 435 Fayette St., will present "Touch. No Touch. Burn. Repeat: Emerging Artists of Northwest Indiana" through Nov. 22, with an opening reception from 5 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 2.

The exhibit features works by six Indiana University-Northwest alumni and soon-to-be bachelor of fine arts graduates: Keith Bond, Jeffrey Brink, Richard Contreras, Veronica Napoli, Eric Roldan and Red Woodville. Live music and video installation are part of the opening-night festivities, with the artists in attendance.



Jeffrey Brink and Eric Roldan's ink and spraypaint, "Woman 2."

Multi-layered large-scale prints, heavily applied oil-painted figurations, burnt surfaces and paint carved down to the canvas are some of the experimental processes used in the works.

Bond has used painting to understand and interpret the world around him. Brink and Roldan have worked collaboratively for the exhibit, focusing on printmaking inspired by street art, pop art, collage and design. Contreras has explored painting, experimenting with combinations of incompatible mediums. Napoli is intrigued by art history and the traditions of oil painting. Those interests drove her to break those traditions by violating them with gasoline and fire. Woodville is a figurative abstract painter inspired by political art, world and domestic movements and social behaviors.

Regular viewing hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday. Visit www.southshoreartsonline.org for more information.

Community Forum Series

The Friends of New Buffalo Township Library has announced the lineup for the inaugural season of its Community Forum series.

Most of the programs will be held in the library's Pokagon Community Room, which can seat up to 100 and remain open beyond normal library hours when needed. The programs are free to the community or offered at a nominal fee to cover costs. The library is located at 33 N. Thompson St. Registration is recommended by calling (269) 469-2933.

The schedule (all Eastern time) is:

- "My Old House: Researching Your Home's History," 6 to 7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 13. Robert Myers, Berrien County Historical Association curator, will present the lesson in using property deeds, tax rolls, plat maps and other sources to research the story of a house.
- "Cosmology: Expand Your Universe," 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 21. Timm Pschigoda of Lake Michigan College will explore theories and techniques astronomers have developed to explain phenomena such as the Big Bang and black holes.
- "Michigan Woodlands of the Pre-Settlement Era," 6:30 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 28. Ralph Reitz. Fernwood Botanical Garden and Nature Preserve horticulturalist and botanist, will lead the slide program showing what pre-settlement forests were like before droughts, fires and natural disturbances.
- "Grocery Store Botany," 6:30 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 6. Reitz will offer the botanical tour of the grocery store.
- "Watergate Remembered," 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Nov. 15. Tim Moor of Lake Michigan College will offer the look at the Watergate scandal, the role of the media and the long-term effects on the nation's political system.
- "Gangsters in Berrien County," 6 to 7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 17. Myers will offer the illustrated program explaining the history of the gangster era and some of the local sites that still exist.
- "Southwest Michigan and the RMS Titanic," 1 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 6. An exploration of Titanic's history, from construction to maiden voyage, with a local twist focusing on the role of Sen. William Alden Smith, Dowagiac, Mich., who chaired the U.S. Senate inquiry into the disaster.
- "Holiday Caroling with All the Trimmings," Sunday, Dec. 14, time to be announced. A family singalong led by The School of American Music.

Additional details are available through the facebook link on the library's website at www.newbuffalo.michlibrary.org

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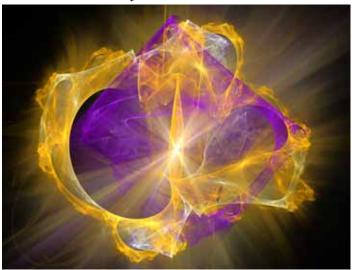
The Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Mich., will open the Robert Williams, Heartha Whitlow and Riverwalk galleries with four new art exhibits.

A free opening reception, during which light refreshments will be served, is from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. EDT Friday, Oct. 3. The show, itself, runs through Nov. 15.

The Robert Williams Gallery will feature sculptures by Dora Natella, who was born in Venezuela and raised and educated in Italy. She studied figurative sculpture at the Academy of

Fine Arts in Naples. She earned a master of fine arts in sculpture at Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo. Today, she is head of the Indiana University-South Bend sculpture department.

Also in the Robert Williams Gallery are works by Marc Ullom, a professional photographer and educator who lives and works in Michigan. He earned his master of fine arts in photography from the Academy of Art University and teaches full time at Andrews University.



Kevin Gross' fractal art, "Redemption."



Marc Ullom's "Evidence."



Dora Natella's "Lightness of Being."

In the Heartha Whitlow Gallery

are works by Sara Sokol, a 2004 Southwestern Michigan College graduate who has won multiple scholarships for her work. A multi-media artist, she now works in the Arts District of Benton Harbor at 210 Water St.

In the Riverwalk Gallery is fractal art of Kevin Gross. Born in South Dakota, he is a self-taught artist living in Goshen.

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VU Department of Theatre Season

The Valparaiso University Department of Theatre has announced its 2014-2015 season.

Major performances include:

- "Eurydice," Oct. 9-10 and 16-17 at 8 p.m. and Oct. 11-12 and 18-19 at 2 p.m., Studio Theatre. Sarah Ruhl reimagines the classic myth of Orpheus through the eyes of its heroine.
- "Dido and Aeneas," Nov. 12-14 at 8 p.m. and Nov. 15-16 at 2 p.m., University Theatre. A special five-day performance includes music by Henry Purcell and libretto by Nahum Tate.
- "The Directing Showcase," Dec. 8-10 at 8 p.m., Studio Theatre. Titles will be determined and consist of 12 one-acts directed by senior theater majors. Admission is free with reserved tickets.
- Dance Ensemble, Jan. 29-30 at 8 p.m. and Jan. 31-Feb. 1 at 2 p.m., University Theatre. Faculty and student choreographers are featured in the annual concert by the Valparaiso University Dance Ensemble.
- Actors From The London Stage Residency, Feb. 2-7. Presented by Christ College The Honors College, Actors from the London Stage will return for a residency Feb. 2-7, which includes a performance of William Shakespeare's "Macbeth" on Feb. 5-7. Ticket information and additional events will be announced soon.
- "An Evening of Short Plays by Beckett," Feb. 18-20 at 8 p.m. and Feb. 21-22 at 2 p.m., Studio Theatre. The production will consist of one-act plays by absurdist playwright Samuel Beckett.
- "The School for Lies," April 15-17 at 8 p.m. and April 18-19 at 2 p.m., University Theatre. The farce runs variations on Moliere's "The Misanthrope," which inspired it.
- "The Student Showcase Production," May 1-2 at 8 p.m., Studio Theatre. Each spring, a senior enrolled in the directing class is selected to showcase a production on the main stage. It is free and open to the public.

With the exception of events related to the Actors From The London Stage residency, tickets are \$15 for adults, \$10 for seniors and non-Valpo students and free for Valpo students, faculty and staff. Visit valpo.edu/theatre for additional information.

Parents Without Partners

Val-Porte-City 193 Parents Without Partners will host a country and western potluck at 6:30 p.m., followed by a dance from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m., on Saturday, Oct. 4, at American Legion Skwiat Post 451, 121 Skwiat Legion Ave., Michigan City.

Admission is \$8. Dave of Loco Motion will provide music. Call (269) 489-4062 for more information.



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Eighth Annual Walk for PKD

Thanks to more than 200 participants and 16 teams, the Eighth Annual Northern Indiana Walk for Polycystic Kidney Disease raised just more than \$11,500 of its \$12,000 goal.

The event, held Sept. 20 at Creek Ridge County Park, is the signature fundraising and public-awareness event for the PKD Foundation and the largest gathering of PKD patients, family, friends and supporters. Proceeds support the PKD Foundation's efforts to fund research to find treatments and a cure.

The PKD Foundation and volunteer committee will continue to raise funds through December.

Polycystic Kidney Disease affects more than 600,000 Americans and 12.5 million children and adults worldwide. There is no treatment or cure, but there is hope, said Walk Coordinator Laura Moyer, who has PKD and received a kidney transplant in December 2011.

Photos by Oleg Serpkoff



























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"Spooky Friday Nights"

Westchester Public Library will hold its free "Spooky Friday Nights" series in October.

The schedule is:

- Oct. 3 Meet at 6:30 p.m. at the Library Service Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton, and watch "Scooby Doo: Frankencreepy." The showing includes free popcorn.
- Oct. 10 Creepy Crawler Lego Club at 6:30 p.m. in the Children's Department at Thomas Library, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton. The Lego Club requires registration.
- Oct. 17 Creepy Petting Zoo (meet Tom McCarthy's boa constrictors) at 6:30 p.m. in the Children's Department at Thomas Library.
- Oct. 24 Stop by between 4 and 6 p.m. in costume to trick-or-treat on the lower level at Thomas Library as part of the Chamber of Commerce's Downtown Trick or Treat Night.
- Oct. 31 Stop by the library in costume between 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. to trick-or-treat on the lower level of Thomas Library as part of Chesterton's trick-or-treat hours.

Contact the Thomas Library Children's Department at (219) 926-7696 for more information.

PNC Enrollment Day

Purdue University-North Central invites prospective students to Enrollment Day from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 8.

The event welcomes current and prospective students who want to register for the 2015 spring semester. Prospective students can fill out an application, get admitted, take an assessment test (if needed) and receive financial-aid information.

Official transcripts must be submitted to be evaluated for admission. Once admitted, students will meet with an academic advisor to discuss their plan of study and register for courses.

A sign-in table will be located at the north entrance of the Technology Building, near the lounge adjacent to Room 157.

No registration is required, and students will be helped on a first-come, first-served basis. Family members are welcome.

Additional information may be obtained by contacting Janice Whisler at jwhisler@pnc.edu or (219) 785-5415.



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Westchester Public Library

The following programs are available through Westchester Public Library:

• The drop-in craft program, The Art Box, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays, Oct. 4 and 11, in the Children's Department at Thomas Library, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

Peek into the art box to learn the project for the day, then create it. Children accompanied by adults are welcome. No registration is necessary.

• Knitting Together from 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 5, in the Brown Mansion parlor, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.

The free program also is open to those who crochet or do needlework.

• Children 4-6 and their parent/caregiver can meet local author James Dworkin at one of two story times.

Sessions are at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 7, in the Children's Department at Thomas Library and 10 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 22, at Hageman Library, 100 Francis St., Porter.

Dworkin, a Chesterton resident and the chancellor at Purdue University-North Central, will present his first children's book, "The Dog and the Dolphin." No registration is necessary. Copies of the book courtesy of Horizon Bank will be available for children to take home.

- iPad mini launch party Saturday, Oct. 18. Hours are 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. at Thomas Library and 1 and 2 p.m. at Hageman Library.
- Block Parties for children 2-5 and their caregivers at 11 a.m. Wednesdays at Hageman Library.

Block Party includes a story and music before creating something. Materials will be supplied. Registration is not required. Cookies will be served.

Pre-Columbian Native Americans Focus of School Project

Fifth-graders at Pine Fine Arts Magnet Elementary School, as part of Fine Arts Fridays, have been studying pre-Columbian Native Americans in Social Studies.

Fine Arts Fridays is a month of arts-infused lessons designed to enhance classroom learning. Depending on the grade level, teachers may integrate the arts into science, social studies, language arts and math.



Fifth-graders at Pine Fine Arts Magnet Elementary School make Native American fire pits.

Students have made Native American fire pits. They've also made clay pots with art teacher Holly Beadles, then used a technique like the early Native Americans used to fire the pots. The project inspired students to discuss how the variation in colors on their pots were derived from the materials used to create smoke in the fire.

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Krueger Principal Honored



Krueger Middle Principal Vera Jones has received the 2014 Lorin A. Burt Outstanding Educator Award.

The annual award is presented by the Indiana School Boards Association to one Indiana educator to recognize a significant contribution to Indiana public education or to education in his/her community. Teachers, administrators, college professors and

other educators are eligible.

Jones received the award at the 2014 ISBA Fall Conference in Indianapolis on Sept. 15, during a general session attended by hundreds of school board members and other school leaders from across the state. She has been instrumental in transforming Krueger's curricular focus and campus into an Environmental Science Outdoor Learning Center. Several grants, including two Indiana Coastal Grants, have funded the creation of two trail systems and a savanna prairie at the school, and a wetlands restoration project is under way. Work on a marsh area and storm water management will begin soon.

Michigan City Area Schools Board Member Deborah Chubb nominated Jones for the award.

Krueger has received several awards for its innovative programming. Last school year, it received an Indiana Governors' Award from the Indiana Department of Environmental Management, and was honored with a Magna Award honorable mention from the National School Boards Association. Jones received an Environmental Education Award from the Calumet Summit, sponsored by Chicago's Field Museum.

Jones was named principal of Krueger in 2013, after serving as its assistant principal. She also has been a teacher of environmental science, physics and integrated chemistry for MCAS.





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Low-Cost Pet Vaccination Clinic

To help owners keep their dogs and cats healthy, and comply with animal-control ordinance, Trinity Episcopal Church will offer a low-cost pet vaccination clinic from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 4, which is the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi.

Licensed veterinarian Julie Wheeler will give the vaccinations. Services are available to all pet owners. The cost for basic vaccinations is \$18 each. An additional service available at a slightly higher price includes puppy vaccinations and heartworm tests.

Vaccinations available for dogs are rabies, distemper and Bordatella. Vaccinations for cats are rabies, distemper and feline leukemia. Those attending the clinic are asked to pick up a number at the door, then wait in their cars with their pets until called. All dogs must be on leashes and all cats in carriers or secured containers.

A Blessing of the Pets, in honor of the Italian saint known for his love of all of God's creatures, follows the clinic at the church, Sixth and Franklin streets.

It is the law in Michigan City that "all dogs and cats over 3 months of age must have shots protecting them against contracting rabies." Pets also must wear tags at all times. Owners not in compliance are subject to expensive fines.

Michigan City pet regulations are:

- A dog may not run at large and must be kept on a leash unless in a fenced area.
- No more than three dogs and/or cats are allowed in a single residential unit.
- Pet owners must remove any animal waste deposited by their pet on public or private property immediately.
- All dogs and cats older than 3 months must have shots protecting them against rabies.
- All dogs and cats must wear tags at all times.
- Animals are prohibited on school grounds while school is in session, and in city parks and cemeteries at all times.
- Owners must keep dogs and cats in a clean, sanitary area where they are adequately sheltered.
- Owners must provide veterinarian care when needed.
- Dogs barking, molesting passersby, chasing vehicles or attacking domestic animals are considered "creating a nuisance" and will result in a fine and/or impounding of the animal.
- It is unlawful for a person to knowingly or recklessly abandon or neglect an animal.
- It is unlawful for an owner to conceal animals from law enforcement officers.
- It is unlawful to torture or kill animals.

Have a story idea for The Beacher? Email drew@thebeacher.com









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Michigan City Public Library

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

• "Free Gentle Flow Yoga" at 12:15 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 4.

Certified yoga instructor Lauralee Sikorski leads gentle flow yoga with an emphasis on deep breathing and releasing stress. Wear comfortable attire and arrive on an empty stomach. Take a mat because extras are limited.

• "From the Delta to the Prairie" at 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 5.

Urban Blues guitarist Jim "Ang" Anderson received his blues education on Chicago's South Side, playing with Buddy Guy, Junior Wells and Koko Taylor. His program provides a musical journey from the Mississippi Delta to Chicago, including humorous inside jokes and scandalous stories behind the lyrics and lives of great musicmakers.

• Knitting Club for All Ages at 5:30 p.m. Wednesdays, Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29.

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

• Yoga with David Kipley at 5:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Oct. 7, 14, 21 and 28.

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.

• Celebrate the Library's Birthday with Cake at 11 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 9.

To celebrate the library's 117th birthday, have cake and cider, and sing "Happy Birthday" to the library.

- Angels Among Us at 3 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 9. Listen to, and share, inspiring stories, with Ange Benz leading the discussion.
- Duneland Stamp Club at 6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 9.

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

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

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MQT Commended Students

Marquette Catholic High School announced two members of the Class of 2015 have been named National Merit Commended Students.

High performers on the SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test are being named as Commended Students on the basis of a national selection index score, one applicable to all program participants. Students who scored at or above the commended level, but below their state or selection unit's semifinalist qualifying score, are Commended Students.

Marquette's Commended Students are seniors T. Luke Cloninger and Patrick McDonnell.



Cloninger, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Cloninger, Michigan City, graduated from St. Patrick School, Chesterton. He is a member of the Michigan City Robotics Team, Science Olympiad, Academic Super Bowl teams, National Honor Society, student government and the drama department.

McDonnell, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Barry McDonnell, graduated from Queen of All Saints School, Michigan City. He is a member of the tennis and golf teams and the drama department. He is the school's media specialist, and a member of National Honor Society and student government.



VU Coffee Hour

Valparaiso University will host Coffee Hour with Andrew Nunemaker, an alum and VU Board of Directors member, at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 1, at the university's Brauer Museum of Art.

Nunemaker has assembled a collection of works demonstrating his interest in the contemporary scene, as well as modern masters.

An entrepreneur and philanthropist, he is CEO of Dynamis Software Corp., a firm specializing in software solutions for health insurance brokers nationwide. He serves on numerous non-profit boards, including the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, Milwaukee Art Museum, Young Presidents Organization and Marcus Center for Performing Arts. He has a bachelor of science in electric engineering from VU, a master of electrical engineering from Georgia Tech and a master's of business administration from Harvard Business School, where he was student body president.

Contact Nicole Niemi at nicole.niemi@valpo.edu for more information.

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Indiana Dunes State Park

The following programs are offered through Indiana Dunes State Park:

Saturday, Oct. 4

• 10 a.m. — Fall Color Stroll.

Explore the peaking fall color and other sights during the easy, 45-minute stroll through the sassafras woodlands and button bush swamp. Meet at the Nature Center.

• 2 p.m. — Snake's Alive!

Meet at the Nature Center to explore the adaptations snakes have to prepare for the long hibernation ahead.

Sunday, Oct. 5

• 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. Afterwards, make a little bird feeder.

• 2 p.m. — Nature Center Critter Time.

Help feed the Nature Center's snakes, turtles, salamanders and frogs.

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.

Deep River Grinders

The Deep River Grinders will play its last home game of the season against the Rock Springs Ground Squirrels at 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 5, 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.

"Family Days" at SBMA

"Family Days" returns with "Kids' Night Out" from 5 to 9 p.m. EDT Friday, Oct. 3, in the galleries at The South Bend Museum of Art.

Meet artist Christi Ziebarth and help make colorful, personalized buttons. On the way out, make a cup and ball game to take home.

The museum is located in The Century Center, 120 S. St. Joseph St. Admission to museum galleries is free, with a suggested donation of \$5 for non-members.

Visit southbendart.org, email info@southbendart.org or call (574) 235-9102 for more information.

Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

The following programs are through Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore:

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

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 at the Paul H. Douglas Center.

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

• "Kid's Rule" from 1 to 3 p.m. Sunday 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.

Chesterton Cemetery Tour

Westchester Township History Museum will host the Chesterton Cemetery Tour from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 5.

Attendees will be led on a guided tour of a portion of the cemetery and learn about eight different families and individuals from the area. Each tour lasts about 40 minutes and requires walking over some uneven ground. Tours begin every 10 minutes, with the last tour starting at 3:10 p.m.

Parking will not be available at the cemetery. Attendees must park in front of, or behind, Hopkins Small Engine Repair at the northeast corner of Calumet Road and Porter Avenue. Volunteers will shuttle people between the repair shop and cemetery. Those who choose to park in Morgan Park must walk to the cemetery. There is no charge for parking or entrance. The event will be changed to Oct. 12 if the weather is poor.

Call the museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton, at (219) 983-9715 for more information.

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ASL Club Silent Dinner

Purdue University-North Central American Sign Language Club will host a Silent Dinner from 5 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 2, at Culver's Restaurant, 3966 Frontage Road, Michigan City.

The event is open to ASL students and community members. Culver's will donate a portion of the proceeds to the PNC ASL Club.

The evening will feature a meet and greet using conversational ASL. Silent Dinner participants are asked to use ASL only for conversation and to place orders. A student may translate orders into English for the server, or participants may point to the menu or write out an order. Participants can be ASL beginners or fluent, or individuals interested in knowing more about ASL.

Information about the club may be found at www. aslclub.info. Information about other community events is posted at www.nwideaf.org. Additional information about the Silent Dinner may be obtained by contacting Karen Donah, PNC continuing lecturer and coordinator of American Sign Language, at (219) 785-5200, Ext. 5432, or kdonah@pnc.edu



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2	. Wine-ettes	7	5
F	HIGH INDIVIDUAL GAMES		SCORE
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3	. Sue Luegers		166
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Monday Musicale

Members and friends of Monday Musicale gathered Sept. 22 at Barker Mansion, marking the start of the club's 105th season in Michigan City.

The group welcomed five new members: violinists Connie Hendricks and Elaine Shumway; vocalist Alicia Ebaugh; and associate members Lorraine Fox and Colette Holkan. Newly elected president Dee Edgcomb announced the theme for the 2014-2015 season, "Music Inspired by the Sister Arts."

Deborah Beien presided over a program of music inspired by Baroque and Classical paintings. She pointed out the simplicity and order characteristic of the Neoclassical movement (1775-1825), in contrast with the drama and ostentation of the earlier Baroque period (1600-1750).

Beien and Howard Brenneman then performed solos and duets written by Henry Purcell, G.F. Handel, Joseph Haydn and a selection from W.A. Mozart's "The Magic Flute."

Pianist Lisa Schwingendorf played "Solfeggietto" by Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach (son of J.S. Bach). Elaine Hornyak and Lee Meyer performed Handel's "Sonata No. 3 in G Major for Flute and Piano."

After the program, guests enjoyed a social hour, with refreshments prepared by Kathy Chase and her committee.

The next meeting on Oct. 27 will showcase music inspired by fashion of the 20th century. Members are encouraged to dress accordingly. Contact Ange Benz at (219) 874-3754 or Sue Cassler at (219) 362-1421 for more information.

ICS Fall Yard Sale

Independent Cat Society, 4061 S. County Line Road, Westville, will hold its annual Aunt Kitty's Trash and Treasure Fall Yard Sale from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 4-5.

Along with yard-sale items, cat-related supplies will be sold, including homegrown catnip, catnip toys, catnip mats, T-shirts, car magnets, jewelry and homebaked goods.

Donations are needed for the yard sale, so items can be dropped off from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, Oct. 3. All donations are tax deductible. Also, The 3 Old Cat Ladies Café will have food for sale.

All proceeds benefit the shelter. Contact the ICS at (219) 785-4936 or email www.shelter@catsociety. org for more information.





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Unity Foundation Awards Grants to Benefit La Porte County Non-Profits

Unity Foundation of La Porte County will support 55 local non-profit projects by awarding more than \$107,000 in community grants at its Oct. 14 annual meeting luncheon.

Seventy three applications were received in the areas of human services, youth development, home repair programs and animal care.

The organizations will be recognized at Unity's annual meeting in the lower-level banquet hall at La Porte Civic Auditorium, 1001 Ridge St.

The complete list is:

- A Hand Up Inc. The Changing Room, \$1,800.
- American Red Cross La Porte County Chapter Technology Upgrades, \$1,700.
- Arts for Learning, The Indiana Affiliate of Young Audiences School Partners in Michigan City, \$1,000.
- Boys & Girls Club of Michigan City Club Tech, \$1,800.
- Boy Scouts of America LaSalle Council Safe Harbor After School Scouting Program, \$1,800.
- Catholic Charities Diocese of Gary Inc. Preventing Homelessness through Financial Assistance & Self-Sufficiency Workshop, \$2,250.
- Citizens Concerned for the Homeless Inc. ABC'S to Self-Sufficiency, \$1,800.
- Citizens Concerned for the Homeless Inc. Grace Learning Center's Job Preparation and Retention Program, \$1,800.
- Citizens Concerned for the Homeless Inc. Sand Castle Shelter Learn and Earn Program, \$1,800.
- Committee for Garner Foundation Holiday Meals, \$1,000.
- Dunebrook Inc. Stewards of Children, \$3,000.
- Dunebrook Inc. Body Safety, \$2,250.
- Dunebrook Inc. Family Depot, \$1,800.
- Frontline Foundations Inc. Certified Treatment Center Program Expansion in La Porte County, \$3,000.
- Hailmann Elementary School Together We Achieve, \$1,800.
- Hanna Lions Club Inc. Community Improvement Conversations: Hanna Tomorrow, \$375.
- Harmony House/CASA Program of La Porte County Inc. Community Training Opportunity, \$1,350.
- Housing Opportunities Inc. Michigan City Housing Security Lighting, \$1,800.
- Independent Cat Society Community Cats: Spay and Neuter, \$1,705.
- Junior Achievement Serving La Porte County 3rd Grade Elementary Program, \$2,150.
- Lake Hills STEM Magnet Elementary School Implementing an Integrated, Innovative STEM Curriculum with iPADS, \$2,250.
- La Porte Family YMCA Child Care and Learning Center Enhancement, \$1,800.
- La Porte County Meals on Wheels The Meals They Are A Changin', \$500.
- Leadership La Porte County Inc. High School Program, \$2,000.
- Marquette Catholic High School Marquette Community Garden, \$500.
- Michiana Marine Detachment No. 1348 —2014 Toys for Tots Campaign, \$1,000.
- Michigan City Area Schools Hours for Ours High School Program, \$2,250.
- Michigan City Area Schools Dress for Success Program, \$1.800.
- New Prairie Middle School Mentoring Program, \$2,595.
- Open Door Adolescent Health Center Student Success

Team, Violent Behavior Intervention \$3,000.

- Open Door Community Alliance Inc. Medication Assistance Program, \$3,000.
- Parents and Friends Inc. Residential Living Day Camp & Y Membership, \$1,800.
- Parents and Friends Inc. Nonviolent Intervention Program, \$1,800.
- Purdue University-North Central Center for Early Learning
 — Library Sprouts, \$1,800.
- READ La Porte County Inc. English Language Classes, \$2.250
- REAL Services Inc. Neighbors Helping Neighbors, \$2,500.
- Rebuilding Together La Porte County Inc. Startup Costs, \$2,250.
- St. Francis Ministry of Sacred Heart Catholic Church Food Pantry, \$1,000.
- The Salvation Army of La Porte Christmas Food Boxes, \$1,800.
- The Salvation Army of La Porte Backpack Food For Kids, \$3,000
- The Salvation Army of La Porte Senior Feeding and Fellowship Program, \$2,665.
- The Salvation Army of Michigan City Homeless Men's Shelter Program, \$3,000.
- The Salvation Army of Michigan City Salvation Army/ MCAS Backpack Feeding Program, \$3,000.
- The Salvation Army of Michigan City Diaper Bank, \$500.
- Samaritan Counseling Centers Inc. Counseling for Student Behavior Modification and Success, \$2,250.
- The Social and Learning Institute Music Therapy Program, \$1,800.
- State Street Community Church Health Choice Food Pantry Program, \$3,000.
- Stepping Stone Shelter for Women Inc. Strengthening Families, \$3,000.
- Stepping Stone Shelter for Women Inc. Shelter Food Assistance, \$3,000.
- Supplemental United Pantry Inc. Winter Full Pantry, \$1,000.
- Swanson Center Emergency Housing, \$500.
- Worthy Recovery Inc. Domestic Violence Intervention Training, \$2,250.
- Youth Service Bureau Big Brothers Big Sisters of La Porte County Inc. – School Buddies, \$2,250.
- Youth Service Bureau Big Brothers Big Sisters of La Porte County Inc. — Kids On The Block, \$2,250.

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First Friday in the Chapel Series

About 15 years ago, a few musical members of Wanatah's Sacred Heart Church decided to take their musical talents out into the community.

Today, The Spirit Singers are thriving with members from several area churches.

The seven-member group, including two guitarists and a keyboard player, will headline First Friday in the Chapel at noon Friday, Oct. 3, at the La Porte Hospital Family Chapel, 1007 Lincolnway, La Porte. The program is free, and visitors can take lunches.

The Spirit Singers hail from La Crosse, Hanna and Union Mills. They're often heard at local area festivals, and assisted living and skilled nursing facilities.

The First Friday in the Chapel series offers musical performances every month. Call (219) 326-2333 for more information.

"Little Faces" Solo Exhibit

The Scarlet Macaw Community Art Centers Gallery will present "Little Faces," the first solo exhibit by Sawyer, Mich., artist Doug Miller II, with an opening reception from 6 to 8 p.m. EDT Saturday, Oct. 4.

Born in 1981 in St. Joseph, Mich., Miller was raised, and continues to live, in Sawyer. Essentially a self-taught artist, he integrates global characteristics of graffiti art with a fluid painting process.

Refreshments will be served during the free event. The exhibit runs through Nov. 2. The center is located at 5888 Sawyer Road, Sawyer. Call (269) 363-1832, email ScarletMacawCAC@aol.com or visit facebook at Scarlet Macaw Community Art Center for additional information.

Book Club

Wendy Levenfeld will facilitate a book club that meets quarterly at Barnes & Noble Booksellers, 150 Silhavy Road, Valparaiso.

Sessions are held at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. Levenfeld is a local book-group facilitator, novelist, columnist and lecturer. The schedule is:

- Oct. 6 Herman Koch's "The Dinner."
- Jan. 12, 2015 Carol Anshaw's "Carry the One."
- April 13, 2015 —Amy Waldman's "The Submission."
- July 13, 2015 Ben Fountain's "Billie Lynn's Long Halftime Walk."

The cost is \$10 per session or \$25 for all four. Contact Levenfeld at (219) 363-6050 or Barnes & Noble at (219) 531-6551 for more information.

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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.



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:

October 1 — Valparaiso University Coffee Hour with Andrew Nunemaker, 7 p.m., VU Brauer Museum of Art. Info: nicole.niemi@valpo.edu

October 2 — Purdue University-North Central American Sign Language Club Silent Dinner, 5-8 p.m., Culver's Restaurant, 3966 Frontage Road, Michigan City. Info: www.aslclub.info

October 2-6 — Vickers Theatre, 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. *Now showing*: "Calvary." Rated R. Times: 6 p.m. Thurs.-Mon. *Also*: "Land Ho!" Rated R. Times: 9 p.m. Thurs.-Mon, also 3:30 p.m. Sat.-Sun. All times Eastern. Info: vickerstheatre.com

October 3 — "Wash Off," Michigan City Area Schools vs. Michigan City Police Department, 2:30 -6 p.m., MCK Car Wash, U.S. 20/Woodland Ave. Donations accepted. Info: http://educatemc.net/carwash

October 3 — The Purdue University-North Central Alpha Mu Pi English Club book club, 10 a.m., Library-Student Faculty Building Assembly Hall, Room 02. Topic: Emily Bronte's "Wuthering Heights."

October 3 — Musician James Cannon, opening reception, "Fantastic Ark & Great Distinction Zoo," 5-8 p.m., Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St. Info: (219) 874-4900, lubeznikcenter.org

October 3 — Opening reception, "Beaches to Barns...En Plein Air," 5-8 p.m., Southern Shore Art Association Gallery, 724 Franklin St. Info: (219) 879-4980, www.SouthernShoreArtAssociation.com

October 3 — Crystal Bowersox, 8 p.m. EDT, The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. General Admission: \$30. Meet & Greet (6 p.m. EDT): \$80. Info: www.acorntheater.com, (269) 756-3879.

October 3-5, 10-12 and 17-19 — "Oliver!," Footlight Theatre, 1705 Franklin St. Times: 7:30 p.m. Fri.-Sat., 2 p.m. Sun. Tickets: \$15/adults, \$10/12 & younger. Info/reservations: (219) 874-4035, www. footlightplayers.org

October 4 —YOM KIPPUR.

October 4 — 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.

October 4 — La Porte Urban Enterprise Association Farmers Market, Lincolnway and Monroe Street, through October. Info: (219) 362-8260.

October 4 — "Belle Gunness Day," 1 p.m., La Porte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave., La Porte. Info: (219) 324-6767.

October 4 — Art in Nature – Oil Painting, 1-4 p.m., Taltree Arboretum & Gardens, 450 W. County Road 100 North, Valparaiso. Info/registration: Taltree.org, (219) 462-0025.

October 4 — Harvest Fest, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.,

St. Stanislaus Convent Shop, 1501 Franklin St.

October 4-5 — Annual Aunt Kitty's Trash and Treasure Fall Yard Sale, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Independent Cat Society, 4061 S. County Line Road, Westville. Info: (219) 785-4936, www.shelter@catsociety.org

October 5 — "From the Delta to the Prairie," 2 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

October 5 — La Porte Community Concert Association concert, Norwegian concert pianist Knut Erik Jensen, 3 p.m., La Porte High School Auditorium, 602 F St. Season tickets honored. Public tickets: \$15/adults, \$5/students through high school. Info: (219) 362-5292.

October 7 — Book reading with PNC Chancellor James Dworkin, "The Dog and the Dolphin," 10 a.m., Westchester Public Library Children's Department, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

October 9 — Celebrate the Library's Birthday with Cake, 11 a.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

Through October 7 — "Who is a Hoosier?," an Indiana Historical Society traveling exhibit, The La Porte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave., La Porte. Info: (219) 324-6767.

Through October 12 — "ND Theatre NOW!," Philbin Studio Theatre at the University of Notre Dame DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Times (eastern): 7:30 p.m. Oct. 2-3, 7:30 p.m. Oct. 7-10, 2:30 p.m. Oct. 5 and 12. Tickets: \$7/students, \$12 for faculty/staff/seniors 65 and older, \$15/general admission. Info/reservations: http://performingarts.nd.edu, (574) 631-2800.

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

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

Farther Afield:

October 3 — "Kids' Night Out," 5-9 p.m. EDT, The South Bend Museum of Art in The Century Center, 120 S. St. Joseph St. Info: southbendart.org, (574) 235-9102.

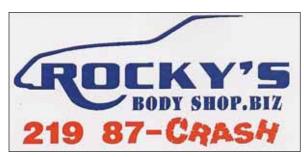
October 3-5 — "Dear Edwina, Jr." (Elkhart Civic Team Youth Musical), Bristol (Ind.) Opera House, 210 E. Vistula St. Times (Eastern): 7 p.m. Oct. 3/4, 3 p.m. Oct. 5. Tickets: www.elkhartcivictheatre.org, (574) 848-4116.

October 4 — HA! MAN (Francois le Roux), 7:30 p.m. EDT, The Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Mich. Tickets: \$10/general admission, \$8/students and seniors, free/children 12 and younger. Info/reservations: (269) 983-3688, info@boxfactoryforthearts.org, www.boxfactoryforthearts.org

October 4-5 — Southwest Michigan Stamp Club, River Valley Senior Center, 13321 Red Arrow Highway, Harbert, Mich. Times (Eastern): 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sat./10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sun. Admission/parking: free.







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On October 2, 1919, President Woodrow Wilson suffered a stroke that paralyzed the left side of his

On October 2, 1938, in a game against the Detroit Tigers, Cleveland Indian's pitcher Bob Feller struck out 18 batters, a record that was to stand until 1974.

On October 2, 1950, "Peanuts," a comic strip produced by Charles Schulz, was first published.

On October 2, 1967, Thurgood Marshall was sworn in as an associate justice of the United States Supreme Court, the first black to be so honored.

On October 2, 2002, Enron executive Andrew Fastow was charged with inflating the energy giant's profits and siphoning off millions for himself.

On October 3, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln designated the last Thursday in November as the day in which the nation should celebrate Thanksgiving.

On October 3, 1951, the New York Giants' Bobby Thompson homered in the ninth inning (against the Brooklyn Dodgers) to win the National League pen-

On October 3, 1954, "Father Knows Best," a television series starring Robert Young and Jane Wyatt, premiered on CBS.

On October 3, 1955, Captain Kangaroo and The Mickey Mouse Club made their debuts on CBS and ABC, respectively.

On October 3, 1960, "The Andy Griffith Show" premiered on CBS.

On October 3, 1962, astronaut Wally Schirra blasted off from Cape Canaveral aboard the Sigma 7 on a nine-hour flight.

On October 3, 2003, a tiger attacked magician Roy Horn of Siegfried & Roy during a performance in Las Vegas, leaving the illusionist in critical condition on his 59th birthday.

On October 4, 1931, the New York News carried the first "Dick Tracy" comic strip.

On October 4, 1957, television's "Leave it to Beaver," starring Hugh Beaumont as Beaver's dad, premiered on CBS.

On October 4, 1957, Russia ushered in the space age as Sputnik, the first man-made satellite, orbited the earth. Its radio continued to transmit for 21

On October 4, 1958, the first trans-Atlantic passenger jetliner service was begun by British Overseas Airways Corp. with flights between London and New York.

On October 4, 1959, the Los Angeles Dodgers defeated the Chicago White Sox in the first World Series baseball game to be played west of St. Louis.

On October 5, 1854, in Springfield, OH, 127 babies were entered in the nation's first baby show.

On October 5, 1892, the infamous "Dalton Gang" simultaneously held up two banks in the Kansas town of Coffeyville. The holdup resulted in the deaths of four citizens and four of the bandits; practically wiping out the Dalton Gang.

On October 5, 1921, the World Series was broadcast by radio for the first time. Those few who had a radio, or had access to one, could hear a play-by-play description by sports writer Grantland Rice.

On October 5, 1931, Clyde Pangborn and Hugh Herndon completed the first non-stop flight across the Pacific Ocean, arriving in the state of Washington 41 hours after taking off from Japan.

On October 5, 1962, the Beatles' first hit "Love Me Do," was released in the U.K.

On October 6, 1927, *The Jazz Singer*, starring Al Jolson — the first motion picture to use sound track — premiered in New York City. While there were only 291 spoken words, the movie marked the beginning of a new era in filmmaking.

On October 6, 1931, the federal tax-evasion trial of mobster Al Capone opened in Chicago.

On October 6, 1942, the White Sox beat the Cubs (4 to 1) to win the last City Series between Chicago's two baseball teams.

On October 6, 1989, screen legend Bette Davis, who appeared in more than 80 films, including "Jezebel," "All About Eve," and "Of Human Bondage," died at the age of 81.

On October 6, 1993, after nine years with the Chicago Bulls, Michael Jordan, considered by many to be the best basketball player of all time, announced his retirement. (He returned to the Bulls after playing one season of minor league baseball).

On October 7, 1957, "American Bandstand," hosted by Dick Clark, made its debut on ABC.

On October 7, 1968, the Motion Picture Association of America adopted its film-rating system.

On October 8, 1944, "The Adventures of Ozzie and Harriet" made its radio debut on CBS.

On October 8, 1945, President Truman announced that the secrets for manufacturing an atomic bomb would be shared only with England and Canada.

On October 8, 1983, the Baltimore Orioles defeated the Chicago White Sox 3 to 0, winning the American League playoffs three games to one.

On October 8, 2004, Martha Stewart reported to the Alderson Federal Prison Camp in West Virginia to begin serving her sentence for lying about a stock sale.



Customer Satisfaction



Rod and Barry Bensz (center, from left) accept an award from Sea Ray on behalf of B&E Marine for being one of only four dealers worldwide to achieve 100 percent customer satisfaction for 2014. B&E was the only dealer in the Midwest to receive the award this year. The Benszes are pictured with Sea Ray President Tim Schiek and Dave O'Connell, Sea Ray vice president of global sales



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Maker Monday

Children 8-11 can register for Maker Monday, a new creative program that starts at 6:30 p.m. Oct. 6 at Westchester Public Library, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

"Makerism" is learning-through-doing in a social environment. Attendees will be presented with a craft, skill or new technology in collaboration with other children.

Registration for each session is necessary. Check wpl.lib.in.us or the Children's Facebook page -Westchester Public Library Children's Department - for the project of the week.

Call (219) 926-7696 for more information.

Implementation Strategy Meeting

Breakfast with Michigan City NOW will present the Lake Michigan Gateway Implementation Strategy on Wednesday, Oct. 8, at Blue Chip Casino, Hotel and Spa, 777 Blue Chip Drive, Michigan City.

A free breakfast is at 7:30 a.m., with the presentation at 8 a.m. Make reservations by email to connect@michigancitynow.com

Harvest Fest

St. Stanislaus Convent Shop, 1501 Franklin St., will present a Harvest Fest from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 4.

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Shopping dates:

Friday, Oct. 10, 6-9 p.m., for participants and friends Saturday, Oct. 11 and 18, 10-2 p.m., open to the public Sunday, Oct. 19, 12-4 p.m., famous 1/2 price day Saturday, Oct. 25, 10-2 p.m., second chance 1/2 price day.

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A REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

Vacant land sale in Porter County at Rainbow Estates on County Line Road. Was \$28,000 an acre, now \$10,000 an acre. Total cash sale, \$85,000. Call Marjie at (219) 879-9275.







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Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter

<u>Midnight in Europe</u> by Alan Furst (hardcover, \$27 retail in bookstores and online)

A more apt title for this novel would be hard to find. It covers the time period from December 1937 through September 1938, when the dark shadows of war were closer to covering all of Europe. To the people who lived there, it must have seen like the lights all went out.

Furst revolves his story around The Spanish Civil War, the threeyear war between The Republicans, who were loyal to the elected Spanish Republic, with Russia as their sometime ally, and The Nationalists, led by Gen. Franco, who had Nazi Germany and Italy on their side. If The Nationalists won, that

would give Germany a firm footstep into France.

And so begins our story.

In 1937, many Europeans, as well as most Americans, didn't think another major war was in the offing, even though Hitler was making his first tentative steps toward his "1,000 year Reich." Spies were everywhere, and the selling of tanks, guns and ammunition on the black market was a busy, brisk business.

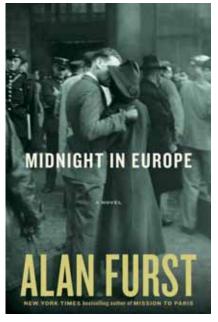
"The international news was as usual: marches, riots, assassinations, street brawls, arsons, political warfare was tearing Europe apart. Real war was coming, this was merely the overture."

Most Americans overlooked the international news. They figured Europe had its own problems. We were staying out of it.

First, we meet Castillo, a former curator at the Prado, Spain's national art museum, and now living in Paris. Wanting to help the Spanish cause, he agrees to become a spy. When he is told a spy named Francesca is missing, he returns to Madrid to find or rescue her. His heart may be in the right place, but we all know good deeds never go unpunished.

Next, we meet Cristián Ferrar. He was one of those people who believed the Spanish Civil War was just another stepping stone in Hitler's mad plan. Born in Barcelona, 40 and handsome, he's now living in Paris and working as a lawyer for the Coudert Frères international law firm. He sees a lot of the legal nightmares the Spanish war is causing people.

A call from Señor Molina at the Spanish embassy leads to a meeting in which Ferrar agrees to help the Spanish cause in any way he can, as long as it doesn't interfere with his work at Coudert. Molina tells him he could use his help at the Technical Of-



fice, which procures weapons. This leads to a visit with head of security, Col. Zaguan, which leads to a meeting with Max de Lyon — a man with "connections." Turns out, a lot of connections, some not so savory; but times like these make for strange bedfellows.

Ferrar must continue his legal work in-between spy work with Max, which brings him in contact with some interesting clients, like the beautiful marquesa whose legal request makes Ferrar suspicious. Could she be a spy? One thing life is teaching him these days is that no one is who they appear to be, no matter how beautiful.

One day, after Ferrar returns from a short "vacation" (code word

— arms procurement), the senior partner at Coudert calls him in his office and asks if he stole a Polish train since a formal protest has been made by the Polish government. Technically, no, he says, it was more like borrowed.

Just another day in the life of a part-time spy.

There are more adventures, more devious characters and a lot more danger.

True to the author's style, the best adventure is left for last: Russian munitions are loaded aboard a Mexican freighter in Odessa, not exactly legally. Just when de Leon and Ferrar think they're in safe waters...suffice it to say, you might get seasick from the wild chase. Will it be the last of them? You'll have to find out for yourself. I don't read and tell!

Furst is widely acknowledged as the master of the historical espionage novel. He has written 13 other books, all covering the years leading up to World War II, each story a different perspective on that troubling time. There are few authors who can match Furst's amazing ability to fill the reader with the atmosphere and tension of the 1930s to 1940s.

The New York Daily News said, "Furst delivers edgy eloquence and menace lurking everywhere in the night and fog."

From the BBC: "Furst is a master at creating the ominous prelude to destruction."

The author has had his books translated into 18 languages. He was born in New York, lived many years in Paris and now lives on Long Island. Learn more about him at www.alanfurst.net

Till next time, happy reading!

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