



Volume 30, Number 40 Thursday, October 9, 2014

A Tradition Rides On

Trading Company/Museum Guiding Force Behind Cycling Event

by William Halliar



An older model bicycle wheel at the museum ...

At first glance, Dewey Cannon Trading Co. & Three Oaks Bicycle Museum might appear to be your typical small-town attraction, nestled in the heart of one of Southwest Michigan's cozy villages.

On the contrary.

Dewey Cannon Trading Co., operated by the Three Oaks Spokes Bicycle Club, offers tourist and cycling information, bicycle rentals and T-shirts. The museum caters to lovers of all things cycling. Together, they sponsor Apple Cider Century, a 41-year-old tradition and fall bicycle tour through the farm country and apple orchards of Southwest Michigan attracts nearly 6,000 riders from all over the country.



... and a modern one under repair at Apple Cider Century.

A "century," in bicycle enthusiast parlance, is a 100-mile trek. In the case of Apple Cider Century, it is a one-day event held each September: a casual tour of the countryside designed with families and folks of all ages in mind. Rather than being an endurance race, it was created to be a social and recreational tour. Riders can choose one of many trails to ride with total distances of 15, 25, 37, 50, 62, 75 or 100 miles, all with clearly marked paths. As a celebration of achievement, a certificate of completion embossed with the miles ridden is presented to each rider on completion of their tour.

Apple Cider Century 2014 was held Sunday, Sept. 28, one of those perfect fall days that we in the Midwest all long for. Riders on two- and three-wheeled human-powered vehicles of all sizes, styles and makes gathered on the grounds of the local elementary school in Three Oaks. Lines existed to register or eat, yet there didn't seem to be many complaints. Everyone was there for a bike ride in the country, and to spend the day with family and friends and other bicycle enthusiasts.

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The Dewey Cannon Trading Co. & Three Oaks Bicycle Museum.

Many riders were from the Chicago area, no doubt anxious to escape the hustle and bustle of the city, but riders from more than 30 states regularly come out to enjoy Apple Cider Century and spend a day in the fresh air.

Some arrived early the morning of the event. Registration began at 6 a.m., while others chose to make a two-day family event of it and spend the night in local hotels or campgrounds.

Folks who arrived Saturday were invited to explore the area, check out local bicycle shops and the tents of cycling accessories set up especially for the event. An afternoon ice cream social, held in the shadow of the historic Dewey Cannon, was a highlight of the day, giving everyone a chance to meet with old friends and make new ones to enjoy the ride with the next day.

On Sunday morning, an all-you-can-eat breakfast consisting of pancakes, eggs, sausage and beverages was served at the Three Oaks Fire Department.

A day of touring then began. The starting line displayed a symbol for each route designated by a different colored apple painted on the pavement.



The Apple Cider Century starting line.

There were grandmas and grandpas, excited children riding alongside. Some children rode in covered trailers behind their parents, some on tagalong trailer-like additions that attach behind the adult bicycle seat and allow the child to pedal along. Of course, there were many little ones weaving in and out between the adults, having a grand time. Everyone sported safety gear and helmets. There were tandem bikes and two- and three-wheeled recumbents, fancy and plain bikes, each surmounted by a smiling rider out for a day of fun.



Terry, Mike and Moose the Dog before Apple Cider Century begins.

Supply and Gear stations were set up along each route to supply energy drinks and an event favorite — potato soup prepared by event founder Bryan Volstorf — to anyone needing a pick-me-up. Each SAG station was equipped to help riders with repairs to their bicycles, plus emergency assistance if needed.

Departure time was up to each individual rider or group, and it ranged from anytime between daybreak for the long-distance riders to noon for the casual short-distance trips. The route varied between relatively flat 15- to 25-mile trips to longer excursions that included rolling hills.



Jeff Hojnacki and his son, Luke.





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A TRADITION RIDES ON Continued from Page 3

long ride and enjoyable morning, afternoon all-you-can spaghetlunch was served. complete with salad bar with all of the fixin's —just what was needed to top off the day. More than 800 pounds of pasta were needed to feed the hungry crowd.



Too many bicycles to count, all parked for Apple Cider Century.

Winding through fields and glades past orchards, vineyards and Elysian vistas of Berrien County, Southwest Michigan and La Porte County, Ind., can be found numerous trails to tempt bicycling and nature enthusiasts alike.



K-R Crosby DesoGroseilliers, Paula Taylor and Monique Maye prepare for Apple Cider Century to begin.

The trails of what is called the "Backroads Bikeway" were developed, and are maintained by the Three Oaks Spokes Bicycle Club headquartered in Dewey Cannon Trading Co. & Three Oaks Bicycle Museum at 3 Dewey Cannon Ave. in Three Oaks. It's across from the home of Three Oaks' famous Dewey Cannon of Spanish American War fame.

The "Backroads Bikeway" features 20 trails, diverse in their difficulty to traverse as well as in the scenery that unfolds along each route. Such picturesque names as Four Winds Trail, Forest Lawn Trail, Apple Orchard Trail and Yahoo Hill Trail, which suggests a spine-tingling ride down a steep slope, describe the trails an adventurous soul might encounter on the bikeway.

According to the Three Oaks Spokes Bicycle Club

brochure: "The 10 north trails take cyclists into Wine Country where you can enjoy a wine tasting, into

Warren Dunes State Park for a swim in Lake Michigan or enjoy a leisurely stroll through War-Woods ren State Forest. The 10 south trails take cyclists into the rolling hills of La Porte County. These routes are more challenging with some climbs, steep but beauti-

ful scenery and many remote swamps and forests teaming with wild life."

The Three Oaks Spokes Bicycle Club, a 501(c)(3) non-profit bicycling touring club, began in 1974 as the dream of its founder and current executive director, Volstorf. Since then, it has met twice a week, in good weather, for nice easy rides along the bike trails of Southwest Michigan. They gather for the camaraderie, the exercise and to enjoy the great outdoors. Often, the group will end its weekly ride at a local restaurant for an evening snack.

The club headquarters is a quaint structure that houses a meeting area for club members, as well as a gift shop with high energy refreshments, bottled water and Gatorade. The shop also stocks a wide variety of bicycle tubes and tires for the occasional emergency. At the clubhouse, a visitor can find literature on the cycling trails, as well as information on events in Michigan and surrounding states. There also is



A lounge area for Three Oaks Spokes Bicycle Club members at Dewey Cannon Trading Co. & Three Oaks Bicycle Museum.

information on area museums, restaurants and motels.

The headquarters also serves as a hub for riders out for a day of exploration on the local cycling trails. It boasts a large clean restroom and changing area and bench for those wishing to change clothes for the ride. There is a parking area where vehicles can be left during the ride. It's also the hub for many of the trails. The club offers bicycles to rent for those who do not have their own. The rental fleet includes 40 Schwinn single speed cruisers,



Some of the bicycles on display at the museum.



An old Drier's Meat Market bicycle housed at the museum.

plus a variety of trail-a-bikes for children that attach to the backs adult bikes.

Also on the premises is the bicycle museum, which is free for the public viewing pleasure. It features many historic machines, including an 1860s-era "Boneshaker," an 1890s high wheeler, an English "side-by-side" tandem and a modern-day "Monster Cruiser."

From small beginnings more than 40 years ago,

Continued on Page 6



A TRADITION RIDES ON Continued from Page 5



Three Oaks Spokes Bicycle Club founder and executive director Bryan Volstorf, who also is the founder of Apple Cider Century.

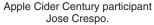
Apple Cider Century has grown to become a tradition to many riders who return each year to enjoy a fall ride in the Southwest Michigan countryside. Many families make the ride a yearly event to be shared over the generations with children and grandchildren.

(Visit www.deweycannontradingco.com for information about the bicycle museum, hours of operation or membership in the Three Oaks Spokes Bicycle Club. Visit www.applecidercentury.com or call (888) 877-2068 for information about next year's Apple Cider Century.)



Kheylin Oligee helps makes 800 pounds of spaghetti for the event.







Apple Cider Century participant John Cancialosi.

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Literary Lectures

Buchanan (Mich.) Art Center, 117 W. Front St., will host a series of week-night literary lectures at 6 p.m. EDT Monday through Thursday, Oct. 13-16.

Individual authors will present one-hour discussions, with a question-and-answer period to follow. Light refreshments will be served.

A public reception for the speakers, authors, local area book clubs and public is from 6 to 8 p.m. EDT Friday, Oct. 17.

All lectures are from 6 to 7:30 p.m. EDT. The schedule is:

- Monday, Oct. 13 Author Dorothy Tristan, La Porte, will present "Scenes Along the Way: Life as an Author, Actress and Artist."
- Tuesday, Oct. 14 Authors RoseAnna and Robert Mueller, Grand Beach, Mich., will present "Uncovering Local History."
- Wednesday, Oct. 15 Author Gabrielle Robinson, South Bend, will present "Telling Your Story: Memoir is the Only Second Chance You Get in Life."
- Thursday, Oct. 16 Author Carla Johnson, Buchanan, Mich., will present "It's the Women, Stupid: A Comprehensive Approach to Family History." Call the BAC at (269) 697-4005 or visit facebook. com/BACauthorday for more information.

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LP Community Concert Association

The Alliance Brass will perform as part of the latest La Porte Community Concert Association season at 3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 12, at La Porte High School Auditorium, 602 F St.

Hailing from Chicago, the quintet includes Chris O'Hara and Mary Galime on trumpet, Kelly Langenberg on French horn, Rachel Castellanos on trombone and William Russell on tuba. They have performed all over the world, from Canada and Mexico to Russia, the U.K. and Japan, and shared the stage with orchestras such as the Boston Symphony Orchestra, Chicago Symphony and Cleveland Orchestra. They've joined other brass quintets as well, including the Boston Brass and Synergy Brass. Their repertoire ranges from the early Renaissance to jazz.



The ensemble also is dedicated to educating the next generation of musicians, with members serving on faculty at top music institutions such as the Boston University Tanglewood Institute, DePaul University, the International Festival and Institute at Round Top.

Season tickets will be honored at the concert. Single tickets available at the door are \$15 for adults and \$5 for students through high school. Call Bill Burger at (219) 362-5292 for more information.





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"Lend a Hand"

La Porte County Extension Homemakers will host two sewing/knitting/crocheting events to help provide warmth and comfort to local residents.

Those interested can meet anytime between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. Tuesdays, Oct. 14 and Nov. 18, at the Purdue Extension Office, 2857 W. Indiana 2, La Porte. They will make comforters, baby quilts, tote bags, wheelchair bags, preemie hats and other items for La Porte County residents.



La Porte County Extension Homemakers Sharon Russ (left) and Peggy Grzesiowski display quilts and crocheted/ quilted items that will be given to local charities.

A variety of skills are needed. Anyone who can run a sewing machine, sort/cut/pin or press fabric, hand stitch, trim threads or knit/crochet, or is willing to learn, is invited. Take your own machine or use one available. Come either for an hour or for the entire day.

Donations of fabric, thread, cutting supplies, yarn, batting and other items are needed. Registration is not required, but will help with planning. Call the Extension Office at (219) 324-9407 for more information or if planning to attend.

24-Hour Theatre Festival

Festival Players Guild seeks writers, actors and directors for its second installment of "On Your Marks...' A 24-Hour Theatre Festival."

Last year's inaugural event was a huge success.

At 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, writers will gather at a local establishment and work through the night to complete a 10-15 minute, family-friendly, Christmas-themed play. They will bring their finished works to Mainstreet Theatre, 807 Franklin St., by 6 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 6. At 8 a.m., directors will arrive and be assigned one of the plays. One hour later, the actors arrive and rehearsal begins. Breaking only for a brief lunch, rehearsals continue all day, and the shows are performed for a paying audience that night.

Positions will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Anyone interested in writing, acting or directing should email brant@imaginarydoors.com

River Valley Garden Club

"Growing Orchids in the Midwest" is the subject of the next River Valley Garden Club meeting at 1 p.m. EDT Tuesday, Oct. 14, at Harbert Community Church, 6444 Harbert Road, Sawyer, Mich.

John Bannow, a retired physician and avid Michiana Orchid Society member, will lead the presentation. Anyone with an interest in gardening is invited. Guests learn more about the club's mission and projects for the coming year, including the annual May plant sale.

Contact Elizabeth Palulis at (269) 426-3513 or evpalulis@yahoo.com for more information, or visit www.rivervalleygardenclub.org

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Coveted Michiana cottage sits two blocks to Lake MI beach. 1948 refurbished two bedroom two bath home integrates charm with double pane windows, modern appliances and brand new roof. Outdoor entrance to the basement (also accessible indoors) beckons beach goers and gardeners to beach bath, washer/dryer and room for all toys. Fireplace in great-room with exposed beams and vaulted ceilings. Sun room opens to rear deck!



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SHORT WALK TO LAKE MICHIGAN BEACH! This four bedroom, two bath home is located just steps from playground. Eat-in kitchen with granite countertops and stainless appliances opens to warm living room with fireplace. Sliders lead to large deck and back yard complete with fire pit. Master bedroom has a new bath with tiled shower. Three additional bedrooms share a hall bath. Rec room, beach shower & garage finish ground level.

Bonnie Meyer @ bonnieb@1dwelling.com

Visitors Brave Unpredictable Weather to Attend Celebration of the Arts

By Jan Van Ausdal

Were you there, art fans?

Sept. 20 and 21 marked the annual Celebration of the Arts at Schoolhouse Shop, 278 E. County Road 1500 North, Furnessville. On Saturday, I arrived with my son, Rodney, before we — and the artists — were rained out. On Sunday, I attended with my son, Mark. The sun shone some, but it was partly cloudy, cool and windy. The artists, however, were looking forward to selling their works.



Carolyn George (left), Jim Ruge and Roy Krizek, Schoolhouse Shop co-owners since July 7, 1997.

Co-owners Jim Ruge and Roy Krizek were there, smiling as always. Their faithful employees, Carolyn George and Mari Hodgson, were hard at work serving the many customers, such as Carolyn Stuart from Chicago and her friend, Alyse, from Chesterton. It was George's first time at the festival, but she said she will be back.

Despite the weather, both days yielded good sales not only for the shop, but also for the 44 artists present, ready for any and all weather.

It's all in a day's work for them!

I was delighted to see my friend, Barb Neary-

Miller from Crown Point, Ind., and her daughter, Pati Neary, from Naperville, Ill., on Saturday. They were shopping as most mothers and daughters like to do. And if the weather held, they planned to visit the dunes or lakeshore. They were having a good time despite the funky weather Saturday.



Pati Neary (left) and Barb Neary-Miller look over displays at Schoolhouse Shop.

Since the rains came and came again (after the bright sun on Saturday morning), I headed home and planned to return Sunday. So, on Sunday afternoon, I brought my son, Mark, to enjoy the artists and marvelous food from Santiago's Mexican Restaurant, as well as to see for himself the great art for sale on the beautifully wooded grounds at the shop. What a great day for the crowd, artists and everyone else.

Mark enjoyed seeing the art of June Looby, who lives close by and has shown her work at the festival for many years. And, her best friend was there to visit. The gals are artists who get together, frequently sharing their latest work and taking a rest from their active lives.

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Artist June Looby shows Mark Van Ausdal her paintings.

Which other artists were present?

George Millett was showing his art for the third time. He appears in the Lakefront Art Festival in Michigan City and has shows in Michigan, Illinois, and Indiana, including his first solo show Dec. 20 at Moontree Studios in Donaldson, Ind. He has wonderful art for your home, whether you need large paintings or smaller pieces of art.



George Millet, participating in the festival for his third time, shows large landscapes and smaller pieces.



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Dolores Castilio was there with her beautiful jewelry. C'mon, gals, pick out a pair of earrings, a bracelet or a necklace from her collection. You know you can always use some more jewelry, and

Diane Perry had a great display of everything for cooler weather — needed not long in the future. She makes handwoven fashions of hats and shawls that make you want more. Sunday, indeed, was a day one could use a warm wrap or a hat to keep the wind from blowing your hair. Looby's friend bought a new hat from Perry.



Diane Perry had the right items for the weather: hats and shawls — both colorful and warm.

Artist Tony Bianco was not too busy to show me the new steps he just finished for outside the Schoolhouse Shop. He's not only an artist, but also a carpenter. What a combination! He's been a photographer for more than 30 years who does travel photography, from Valparaiso to Canada and Colorado.

Santiago's served its usual great Mexican food on the outside patio. I like quesadillas best, but it has a great selection for all palates.

Well, I've only touched the surface of the marvelous artists to visit at this annual event. Still never experienced it? It's held the third weekend in September. What are you waiting for?



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Art After Dark Gala

Chesterton Art Center will host the Sixth Annual Art After Dark Gala at 6 p.m. Friday, Nov. 7, at Sand Creek Country Club, 1001 Sand Creek Drive, Chesterton.

The event will include an open bar, dinner, dancing and silent auction, with funds supporting the center's art education programs.

Cocktails begin at 6 p.m., with dinner at 7 p.m. The silent auction and dancing are after dinner. Silent auction items include artwork, photography, jewelry and other handcrafted items from local artists, a hotel stay and a trip that includes airfare.

Tickets start at \$65 per person, or companies can sponsor a table of 10 for \$1,000. Tickets can be picked up at the art center, 115 S. Fourth St., or call (219) 926-4711 to have an invitation sent by mail.



Author to Visit Fernwood

Amy Stewart, award-winning author of six books about the natural world, including four New York Times best-sellers, will participate in two events Saturday, Oct. 11, at Fernwood Botanical Garden and Nature Preserve, 13988 Range Line Road, Niles, Mich.



Stewart, who first visited Fernwood two years ago, is back to promote her sixth book, "The Drunken Botanist: The Plants that Create the World's Best Drinks." Visitors must be at least 21 to attend.

The evening, sponsored by Edible Michiana and costing \$125 per person, begins with a botanical mixer at 6 p.m. EDT. Light hors

d'oeuvres, a free copy of "The Drunken Botanist" and admission to the following lecture complement the experience.

Stewart then will present a lecture on "The Drunken Botanist at 7:30 p.m. EDT, exploring the herbs, flowers, trees, fruits and fungi that humans have, through ingenuity, inspiration and sheer desperation, contrived to transform into alcohol. Afterward, experience live music while sampling spirits from local distilleries. The lecture costs \$50 per person, or save 25 percent when buying four or more tickets.

Stewart has written for The New York Times, The Washington Post and many other newspapers and magazines. She is the co-founder of the popular blog, *GardenRant*, and is a contributing editor at Fine Gardening magazine. Since her first book was published in 2001, she has appeared on National Public Radio, "CBS Sunday Morning," "Good Morning America," the PBS documentary "The Botany of Desire" and TLC's "Cake Boss."

Among Stewart's six books are "Wicked Bugs," "Wicked Plants" and "Flower Confidential."

Call Fernwood at (269) 695-6491 or visit www. fernwoodbotanical.org to register.



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New PNC Exhibit

The Purdue University-North Central Odyssey Arts and Cultural Events Series will present "An Unlikely Hero," work by artist Kenrick McFarlane, through Dec. 13.

McFarlane is a Jamaican-American artist living and working in Chicago. A student at The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, he expects to earn his bachelor of fine arts degree in 2015. His work has been shown in galleries and shows throughout Chicago, as well as in Pittsburgh and in Jamaica. His art has been featured in several publications.



Jamaican-American artist Kenrick McFarlane.

The free exhibit is in the first-floor, north-study area of the PNC Technology Building, hours for which are: 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday during the school semester. Otherwise, the building is closed on Sunday.

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



CO Awareness Event Kit

La Porte native Lindsey O'Brien Kesling was 22 when she died in her apartment from accidental carbon monoxide poisoning.

Lindsey's family transformed their grief into the Lindsey O'Brien Kesling Wishing Tree Foundation. Part of its mission is to raise awareness about carbon monoxide poisoning and how to prevent it, particularly during winter.

To that end, the LOK Wishing Tree Foundation has created a downloadable CO Awareness event kit for organizations that wish to host an event.

Several local fire departments have signed up. First Alert, in fact, is providing a 20 percent discount on select carbon monoxide detectors as part of the kit. Any group is welcome to download and host an event, but fire stations and those involved with housing, such as real-estate agents, home inspectors and home builders, are particularly encouraged to do so.

To get involved, visit www.lokwishingtree.org to:

- Find and attend a CO Awareness event by one of the hosting organizations listed.
- Watch and share the informational video about the dangers of carbon monoxide awareness.
- Download the CO Awareness Event kit to host an event. The kit includes: coloring pages for children, First Alert 20 percent discount coupons, signage and ready-to-go social media updates to share with friends and followers.
- Install a carbon monoxide detector.

Contact Kathy Sipple at (219) 405-9482 or visit http://lokwishingtree.org for more information.

Cemetery & Research Association

The Cemetery & Research Association of La Porte County meets at 1 p.m. Monday, Oct. 13, at 8074 W. County Road 200 North.

Anyone interested is welcome. Visit www.dune-lady.com/laporte/ for more information.





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Tour de La Porte Breaks Records

It was a record-breaking weekend for Tour de La Porte this year as more than 1,300 registrants from nine different states helped raise more than \$70,000 to support cancer patients and their families in La Porte County.

The enhanced three-day event Aug. 22-24 included a new 5K trail run and Rotary spaghetti dinner Friday evening, followed by running and mountain biking events Saturday and road cycling Sunday.

Tour de La Porte is spearheaded by The Foundation in support of IU Health La Porte Hospital. All proceeds remain in the community.

Special stories this year included Jacinto Garcia, who rode his first cycling event with Dr. Aileen Stiller, who delivered him as a baby 13 years ago.

Seven individuals completed the three-day challenge – an event on all three days of the

Tour. They were: Laurel Baker, Kathleen Lang, John Ryder, Mike Steinhubel, Thor Thordarson and Keith Baker and Josh Cook. Of those, Cook logged the most miles – about 70 total — of biking and running during the course of three days.

Al's Supermarkets sponsored the food for tour participants at headquarters, and served as a SAG stop for cyclists Sunday in Michigan City. But in a special event of their own, Al's employees wore the bright pink Tour T-shirts while working and raised more than \$5,000 for the Tour by inviting shopping customers to donate and be recognized with a card

posted inside the supermarkets.

While most events went off without a hitch, Mother Nature did throw in a severe thunderstorm on Saturday that canceled the mountain biking events after only a few riders launched. Those who

couldn't bike, though, enjoyed a "Cook-In" at Cummings Lodge, the Tour de La Porte headquarters inside Soldiers Memorial Park. Warm and humid weather for the running and cycling events meant participants needed to stay well hydrated and protected from the sun.

"It was very hot, but the trail was in great shape despite all the rain before, and the run was good," said Frank Aerts, who ran the 5K trail on Friday evening. Many runners opted to have water poured on them while passing the water stations during the running events.

Cyclists this year raved about the SAG stops that provided food,

hydration and entertainment along the 5-, 15-, 25-, 40-, 60- and 100-mile bike routes. They particularly complimented the stop in New Carlisle, visited only by those doing the 100-mile ride. Larry Noel, who first came up with the idea of the Tour 13 years ago, stocked the SAG there with pasta salad, homemade breads and strawberry shortcake. Entertainment at SAGs and headquarters included James Neary and The Saucy Birds.

Race results and other information, including early registration for next year's event, can be found at www.tourdelaporte.org.



John Borman, first place overall winner of the inaugural trail run, and Paul Stofko, first place male age 30-39 bracket.



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Buchanan Art Center

Buchanan Art Center, 117 W. Front St., Buchanan, Mich., will host a public reception for three new exhibits by local artists from 2 to 4 p.m. EDT Sunday, Oct. 12.

"Landscapes Around the USA," photography by Danielle Wilborn, will be in the Roti Roti Gallery, work from BAC's "Drawing from the Model Class" in the Showplace Gallery and "The Gift," 3-D, paper-mosaic shadowboxes by Christina Vagenius will be in the Hess Gallery.

The exhibits run through Saturday, Nov. 15.

Wilborn began her creative journey as a little girl when she received a broken camera to play with by her grandparents. An avid picture-taker, her love of photography grew. Most of her darkroom skills, she attributes to her grandfather, Albert Tengelitsch. She earned a bachelor of fine arts, with a concentration in photography and a minor in art history, from Indiana University. Early in her college career, Wilborn's grandfather transferred the rights to his studio, Alten Studio, to her before he died. While finishing college, the studio sat dormant. Since then, Wilborn has been rebuilding the studio name.

The Showplace Gallery will feature work from the "Drawing from the Model Class" held Wednesday nights (spring, summer and fall) at the BAC. The brainchild of Shirley Roti Roti, who started it in 2005, the class is supported by several longtime artists and has become a staple of the BAC's class offerings to the community. Artists providing work for the show include Roti Roti, Sandy Williams, Tom Fehlner, Sue Coultas, Marilyn Shoonmaker, Clare Hoinville, Patty Rose and Donna Shoberg.



Vagenius

Vagenius is a self-taught paper-cut artist who uses books and journals to create 3-D shadowbox illustration. She is the author/illustrator of the children's book "The Gift." Constructed complete-

ly from paper, it has won several national book awards, including a silver medal from The Moon-Beam Children's Book Awards, The Independent Book Awards and a gold medal from Mom's Choice Awards.

More information about the exhibits is available by calling the center at (269) 697-4005 or visiting www.buchananartcenter.org

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Students Attend Manufacturing Show

More than 50 Michigan City High School students attended the "Smart Force Student Summit" during the International Manufacturing Technology Show on Sept. 10-12 at Chicago's McCormick Place.

The students, who are enrolled in the Freshman **MCHS** Academy or Project Lead the Way Engineering courses, attended special sessions and toured exhibits by more than 1,900 companies.

Funding for the trip was provided by the Michigan City Area Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development Corp. of Michigan City.

"My students met an astronaut, watched an electric car being

built on the showroom floor and even saw a quarterscale working model of the Mars Curiosity Rover," engineering teacher Ralph Gee said.



Students view a futuristic car on display in the exhibition hall.

machines and robots.

Dual credits are offered through Ivy Tech and Vincennes.

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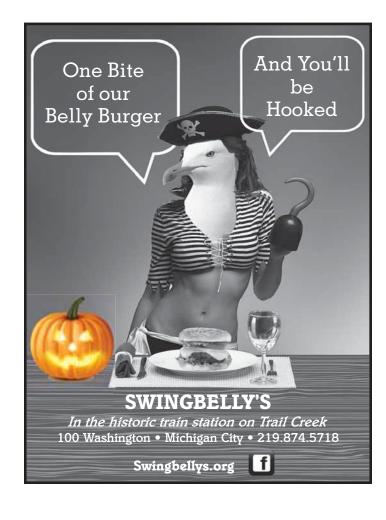
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The Past Comes Alive A

Wagon rides, outdoor cooking, crafts, demonstrations and food highlighted the 23rd annual Pioneer Days on Sept. 27-28 at Creek Ridge County Park.

Photos by Oleg Semkoff

























Michigan City Public Library

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

• Knitting Club for All Ages at 5:30 p.m. Wednesdays, Oct. 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.

• Stress Reduction, Relaxation and Mindfulness Class at 10 a.m. Saturdays, Oct. 11 and 18.

Learn simple, mindful meditation practices with Patrecia Lenore, who has studied and practiced meditation for 38 years, and taught Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction courses since 1998.

• Writing Out Loud: Susan Crandall at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 11.

Crandall is an award-winning, nationally published author of 10 novels. In her first career, she was a dental hygienist, but her love of reading evolved into a love for writing. With the exception of a seven-year stint in Chicago, she's lived her entire life in Noblesville, Ind. Her latest work is "Whistling Past the Graveyard." The Friends of the Library will host a reception and book signing after the program.

• Chicago Lyric Opera Lecture: "Il Trovatore" at 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 12.

Charlie DeWitt will lead the Chicago Lyric Opera talk.

• Yoga with David Kipley at 5:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Oct. 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.

• Dr. Margie: Getting the Most Wear from Your Genes at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 16.

Margie Williams, professor of nursing at Blessing-Rieman College, Quincy, Ill., will lead the humorous, informative seminar to help people understand the interaction between diet, genetic history and disease risk.

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

Genealogical Society

The La Porte County Indiana Genealogical Society will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 14, at the La Porte Parks Department, 250 Pine Lake Ave.

The program by County Historian Fern Eddy Schultz, held after the business meeting, highlights the way to find answers to genealogy questions through the La Porte County Courthouse(s).

Guests are welcome, and assistance offered to find information about ancestors.

Visit www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~inlcigs/ or the blog http://lpcgs.blogspot.com/



Have you ever been told to go to that place full of fire and brimstone?

We all have.

My wife, Sue, and I made our trip this past summer. It was hot as...well, you get the picture. We made a short rest stop on our trip to the Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village.

Our destination? Hell...Michigan. The trip was just short of three hours, and we arrived at this little spot on the map with a population of 70 people, or should I say, souls.

It has a gift shop, restaurant and "The Bridge of Eternal Love."

Let me tell you about this bridge. Before we left, my wife asked me if we had any spare padlocks. I went out into my pole barn/man cave and got one. Sue proceeded to write our first names on one side and our last name on the other with nail polish.

Now, most women will think this next part is romantic. You take your "lock of love" and attach it to the fence on "The Bridge of Eternal Love."

After placing your lock on the bridge, you throw the key into Hell Creek and kiss. This is to ensure your love will last forever. I already knew ours would, and to me it was a waste of a perfectly good lock and key.

There is a grassy area with plywood cutouts and pictures painted on the front. You know the ones. You stick your head through the cutout. Sue insisted we get our picture taken in the one that said, "Until Death Do Us Part." We asked a worker to take a picture, and they were happy to oblige. Of course, I put up token resistance, but it was our 11th anniversary, so...



Sue and I posing with the "Until Death Do Us Part" cutout.

Next, we headed for the restaurant. It was around noon and we hadn't had lunch yet, so we decided to share a banana split. Yes, I know! It was called The Grave Digger. The cost is an eerie \$6.66 and well worth every penny. They placed some Oreo cookie crumbs on the bottom of the dish to simulate dirt and made a body out of the bananas, put on a face and candy hair.

The second best part was choosing your ice cream and toppings. Ours were Butter Pecan, Burgun-

dy Cherry and Chocolate. We chose pineapple, hot fudge, strawberries and, of course, whipped cream and nuts.

What was the best thing about ordering The Grave Digger? Eating it, of course. If you finish it all, you receive a death certificate stating you "killed off" THE GRAVE DIGGER.



The Grave Digger.

They even serve your sandwich in a coffin-shaped box. My question is, why would you want a sandwich when you can have The Grave Digger?

Hell, Michigan, has its own post office, so we decided to send some postcards. The neat part is, the postcards are lit on fire and quickly put out so it leaves scorch marks: a clever touch. Then, you send the cards to your friends, scorched by the heat of Hell, Michigan, with the Hell, Michigan, postmark affixed.

Next time someone tells you to go to that place of fire and brimstone, don't get upset. Just let me know and I'll give you directions.

Until next time, enjoy.

Contact Jim at jim@jimlarocco.com





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Swanson Center Golf Outing

Swanson Center's Activity Center for Older Adults recently held its first golf outing at Beechwood Golf Course, La Porte.

The first-place winning team consisted of Alex Friedman, Shaw Friedman, Nelson Pichardo and Kevin Tran representing Friedman & Associates.

The day featured a hole-in-one contest, the Weakest Link contest, raffle items and games.



The first-place team from Friedman & Associates: Kevin Tran (from left), Nelson Pichardo, Alex Friedman and Shaw Friedman.

The Activity Center for Older Adults provides educational and recreational programs and activities for older adults. It serves as a centralized meeting place for seniors in La Porte and the surrounding community. Visit SwansonCenter.org for additional information.

Dollar General Aids Knapp School

Dollar General Literacy Foundation has awarded Michigan City's Knapp Elementary School with a \$3,000 youth literacy grant to support its Read and Relax Program.

The foundation's grants provide teachers, schools and organizations with funding and resources to properly begin the school year. This month, it awarded approximately \$4 million in youth literacy grants to an estimated 825 schools, non-profit organizations, libraries and community groups. In the past 21 years, it has awarded more than \$97 million in grants to non-profit organizations.

A complete list of grant recipients is available at www.dgliteracy.org. Applications for adult, family, summer and youth literacy grants will be available in January.





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Westchester Public Library

The following programs are available through Westchester Public Library:

• Mad About Mysteries fifth anniversary celebration at 3 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 8, at Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.

The first program featured an introduction to the mystery genre by museum registrar and mystery buff Joan Costello. The celebration features cake, punch and a brief recap of Costello's original presentation.

• History Discussion Group from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 11, at Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.

Theodore "Teddy" Roosevelt is the topic. No registration is required.

• Sunday Matinee, "Edge of Tomorrow," at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 12, at the Library Service Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

The movie is rated PG-13. The showing is free.

• Temporary exhibit, "Indiana Dunes Prairie Club Excursions," through Nov. 2 in the Brown Mansion, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.

The collection was created by 12 Ball State University students last spring. Professor Christopher Baas mentored the group through the research and project development. The students worked with the Department of Natural Resources, Indiana Dunes State Park and Westchester Township History Museum's Prairie Club Archives to create 11 film and animated shorts, artwork for each short and two children's books. The works highlight the experiences of the Prairie Club in the Indiana Dunes and its role in creating Indiana Dunes State Park.

The project included students from Landscape Architecture, Planning, Art, Biology, History, Music and Telecommunications.

• Expanded Tech Help Desk hours in Serials/Automation Department at Thomas Library, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

The free one-on-one technology help on a first-come, first-served basis is from 5 to 6 p.m. Mondays, 5 to 6 p.m. Wednesdays, 10 to 11 a.m. Fridays and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays. If the problem is severe enough, staff may recommend a computer professional to solve the problem.

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Harvest & Wine Festival

The Eighth Annual Harvest & Wine Festival is from noon to 10 p.m. EDT Saturday, Oct. 11, at Lion's Beachfront Park in downtown New Buffalo, Mich.

Tastings and wine by the glass will be available from local wineries, including Baroda Founders Wine Cellar, Warner Vineyards, Round Barn Winery, Free Run Cellars and Domaine Berrien Cellars and Winery.

Children's activities include a bounce house, pumpkin painting and horse-drawn hay rides.

The entertainment schedule (Eastern time) is:

- Noon to 1 p.m. Everyday People.
- 1:30 to 3:15 p.m. Rebecca Anne.
- 3:45 to 5 p.m. Slim Gypsy Baggage.
- 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. 5 O'Clock Somewhere.
- 8 to 9:30 p.m. Neverly Brothers.

The cost is a suggested \$5 donation per adult at the gate, while children 12 and younger are free.

Visit http://newbuffalo.org/event/view/harvest-and-wine-festival for more information.

"90 Years in 90 Minutes"

La Porte Little Theatre Club, 218 A St., will present "90 Years in 90 Minutes: The 90th Review Show" for a two-weekend run starting Friday, Oct. 10.

The revue of past musical performances includes "Annie," "The Music Man," "Brigadoon," "Fiddler on the Roof," "Anything Goes" and "The Sound of Music." Performances are Oct. 10-12 and 17-19.

Times are 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$12. The box office opens 30 minutes prior to curtain.

Call (219) 362-5113 or email laporteltc@yahoo. com for reservations.



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Local Speakers at Career Event

La Porte County residents were among the speakers at READY NWI's "Update on Career Pathways," which was held Thursday, Sept. 11, at Valparaiso University.

Sponsored by the Region 1 Works Council, the event attracted 150 guests, including secondary and post-secondary teachers, counselors, administrators, employers and economic developers.



Audra Peterson, director of La Porte County Career and Technical Education, appears with Advanced Manufacturing student Quentin Coulter.

A.K. Smith Advanced Manufacturing student Quentin Coulter, a Westville High School senior, spoke during a panel on Career and Technical Education. He discussed the high-tech, hands-on experience he is gaining in the classroom, adding he looks forward to a career in manufacturing technology. Coulter credits his CTE program with helping him succeed in his academic classes.

After his presentation, representatives from two area companies approached him to discuss potential internships, said Audra Peterson, director of La Porte County CTE at A.K. Smith. He later accepted an internship with Urschel Laboratories in Valparaiso.

Also, Deb Reason, the parent of an A.K. Smith 2014 graduate, was present to share her views about CTE coursework. Her daughter, Jessica, received a certification in Early Childhood Education while still in high school and is pursuing a bachelor's degree in education.





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Taltree Arboretum & Gardens

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

• 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.

• Fall Colors Hike from noon to 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 11.

Led by a trained naturalist, visitors experience how fall color affects the woodland, wetland and prairie landscapes. The program 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.

• Haunted Railroad & Fall Festival through Oct. 31.

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

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



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Friends of the Library Book Sale

The Friends of Westchester Public Library will hold its Fall Friends of the Library Book Sale on Friday through Sunday, Oct. 17-19, at Thomas Library, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton,

The sale begins Friday, Oct. 17, with the Friends Only Preview Sale from 4 to 8 p.m. Only current Friends members will be admitted, but memberships will be sold at the door for \$5.

The public sale is from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 18-19. On Sunday, all items will be sold for \$3 a bag. No scanners will be allowed.

Prices for newer and special books will be individually marked. A large selection of hardcover books will be sold for \$1 each and paperback books for 50 cents each.

Patrons donating materials to the sale are encouraged to take their donations to the collection box in the Thomas Library lobby. The library cannot use damaged books or books without covers, smelly or water-mildewed books, textbooks or encyclopedia and reference sets more than 10 years old.

The Friends needs volunteers to help sort materials for the sale at 9 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 11, and for volunteers to help staff the sale.

Proceeds are donated to the library and help fund supplemental and special programming efforts, such as film series, children's programs, book discussions and staff-recognition events.

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Bird Banding Program

Join Indiana Dunes State Park Interpretive Naturalist Brad Bumgardner for a bird-banding program from 9 to 11 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 11, at the Coffee Creek Watershed Preserve pavilion, 178 E. Sidewalk Road, Chesterton.

The free family program is part of Coffee Creek's monthly Stewardship Saturday series.

Bumgardner, who has banded more than 500 birds since bringing his program to Indiana Dunes State Park, will share his ornithological expertise. Participants will get a close look at the feathered friends who make their homes in the 157-acre Coffee Creek Watershed Preserve, and who are passing through during the fall migration season.

Bird banding provides data vital for scientific research into birding populations and their conservation and management. Fall monitoring events have found a Lincoln's Sparrow, Indigo Bunting, Palm Warblers and Tennessee Warbler. A complete list of birds spotted during the fall migration season is at www.coffeecreekwc.org

Registration is not required, but recommended. Contact Executive Director Katie Rizer at (219) 926-1842 to register or for more information.

La Lumiere Open House

La Lumiere School, 6801 N. Wilhelm Road, La Porte, will present an open house for prospective students and their parents from 8:15 a.m. to noon Saturday, Oct. 18.

The morning's events include a continental breakfast, interactive classes, tours of campus and small group question-and-answer sessions.

Reservations are required by Thursday, Oct. 16, by calling (219) 326-7450 or emailing admissions@lalumiere.org



Indiana Dunes State Park

The following programs are offered through Indiana Dunes State Park:

Friday, Oct. 10

• 6 p.m. — Campground Crafts.

Join a naturalist at the campground shelter by site 113 for make-it, take-it crafts.

• 7 p.m. — Fun Stories, Songs and Sing Along! Meet the Northwest Indiana Storytelling Guild for an hour of stories and folk songs at the campground shelter by site 113. The program is a kickoff to the NWI Storytelling Festival.

Saturday, Oct. 11

25th Annual NWI Storytelling Festival

• 10 a.m. — Dune Stories Through Time Hike.

Join a naturalist at the Nature Center for a one-hour morning trek to Mount Tom.

• 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. — NWI Storytelling Festival.

Stop by the Nature Center to experience some of Indiana's best storytellers. Sessions include: 10:30 a.m. to noon — Stories for children of all ages; 1 to 2:30 p.m. — Storytellers' Favorite Stories; 2:30 to 3 p.m. — Stories from Around the World & Open Mic.

• 3 p.m. — Animal Stories in the Sand.

Take the 45-minute, easy stroll through the dune forest. Meet at the Nature Center.

• 5:30 and 7 p.m. — Ghost Stories.

Take a blanket and a friend as NWI Storytellers leads the sessions at Wilson Shelter. The first session is for younger children and their parents, while the second is for older children and adults. Apple cider and snacks will be available courtesy of the Friends of Indiana Dunes. The program is free, but donations are accepted.

Sunday, Oct. 12

• 10 a.m. — Feed the Birds.

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

• 2 p.m. — Peak Fall Color from Mount Jack-

Check out the dunes' great view from atop Mount Jackson. Meet at the Nature Center for the 45-minute, moderate hike.

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.



Boo at the Zoo

Washington Park Zoo's popular Boo at the Zoo returns for two sessions Saturday, Oct. 25.

Visitors can trick-or-treat from local businesssponsored booths while viewing the animals along decorated zoo paths.

Due to large crowds, two sessions are offered to avoid long lines and keep everyone safe:

- Session One: Gates are open from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m., with trick-or-treating ending at 3 p.m. and the zoo closing at 3:30 p.m.
- Session Two: Gates are open from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., with trick-or-treating ending at 7 p.m. and the zoo closing at 7:30 p.m.

Advance tickets are encouraged since there will be a cutoff of ticket sales once maximum occupancy is reached.

Tickets will be on sale daily at the zoo office on a first-come, first-served basis. It is not anticipated there will be tickets available for sale the day of the event. The cost is:

- Zoo members: \$2.
- Non-member adult (12 and older) \$6.
- Non-member children (3-11) \$4.
- Children 2 and younger: Free.

Tickets will be honored only for the time session purchased. Each person entering the event, held rain or shine, needs a ticket. No outside food and beverages are allowed.

Station sponsors are still needed. If interested, or if wanting to reserve tickets, call (219) 873-1510 or visit www.washingtonparkzoo.com

Legends & Lore Bus Tour

The Porter County Legends & Lore Bus Tour will start at Valparaiso's Porter County Museum, 153 S. Franklin St., and travel to four sites throughout the county.

Tours, which run from 6 to 10 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays, Oct. 15-16, 22-23 and 29-30, include stories, snacks and drinks.

The cost is a \$75 donation per person, with a \$10 discount for PoCo Muse members. Seating is limited. Visit http://pocomuse.org/ to register or for additional information.

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Zentangles



Fourth-graders at Pine Fine Arts Magnet Elementary have been learning about the element of line and the principle of pattern by creating a popular style of art called Zentangles. Eleven pieces of student art were chosen for a special display at Footlight Theatre during its performances of "Oliver," which continues Oct. 10-12 and 17-19.



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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.

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MCAS Receives "Luminary" Award

Michigan City Area Schools was among the recipients in NIPSCO's third annual Luminary Awards, which recognizes leaders and organizations for helping strengthen local communities.

The awards were created in 2012 in celebration of the utility's 100-year anniversary. Recipients have demonstrated outstanding commitment in five key areas: education, environmental stewardship, economic development, emergency response and community leadership.

MCAS received the Education Award during the reception held Sept. 25. It was recognized for preparing students for future careers. The K-6 Lake Hills Elementary Magnet STEM School was selected as one of 44 schools nationally to pilot the newest STEM curriculum, Project Lead the Way. The school system also has maximized opportunities for vocational educational by partnering with organizations such as The Regional Council of Carpenters, the Economic Development Corp. of Michigan City and Ivy Tech to offer students a new Construction Technology program to prepare them for apprenticeship positions.

NIPSCO also highlighted the creation of an Energy Academy: a joint venture with NIPSCO and the A.K. Smith Area Career Center to prepare students for jobs in the electronics, energy and utility industry: the only initiative of its kind in Indiana.

NIPSCO is making a \$1,000 contribution to each award winner's charity of choice. MCAS Superintendent Barbara Eason-Watkins said the funds will be donated to Safe Harbor's Michigan City Robotics program to support extracurricular STEM opportunities for students.

Lunch With the League

Fire Marshal Mark Baker of the Michigan City Fire Department is the featured speaker at Lunch With the League at noon Tuesday, Oct. 14, at Lindo's Restaurant, 3940 Franklin St.

During the monthly League of Women Voters of La Porte County program, Baker will discuss his responsibilities with the department. He enforces provisions of the Fire Prevention code, as well as laws and regulations pertaining to fire prevention and protection. He inspects buildings and premises in Michigan City, reviews building plans to assure firecode requirements are met and investigates all fires to determine the origin and cause. He supervises the training and activities of the Michigan City Fire Investigation Team, and provides information to the business community and public upon request.

Reservations are not required. Attendees buy lunch from the menu. Call Sue Webster at (219) 874-6809 or visit www.lwvlaporte.org for additional information.

Carbon Offset Tree Giveaway

Nobody knows the value of a tree better than a woodworker.

But when a woodworker is concerned about the environment, cutting down trees to make furniture creates something of a dilemma.

To this end, Center of World Woodshop, 13400 Red Arrow Highway, Harbert, Mich., again has partnered with Possibility Place Nursery to give away trees during the fifth annual Carbon Offset Tree Giveaway.

People concerned about the environment sometimes purchase carbon offsets, in which they pay someone else to replace whatever resource they're consuming. With this event, Center of the World offers people a chance to offset their carbon usage directly by planting a tree.

This year's offerings consist of three varieties of oak trees: fast-growing red oaks; slower-growing, but urban-tolerant bur oaks; and chinquapin oaks, which thrive in any type of well-drained soil. The saplings, which stand 2 to 3 feet tall, come with planting instructions.

The giveaway is conducted in conjunction with the annual Harbor Country Harvest Days celebration on Oct. 11-13. Twenty trees will be given to Center of the World visitors. No purchase is necessary.

Possibility Place Nursery, Monee, Ill., has specialized in indigenous trees since 1978.

Contact Center of the World at (269) 469-5687 for more information.

"My Old House"

Friends of New Buffalo Township Library will offer a program on researching the history of an old house from 6 to 7 p.m. EDT Monday, Oct. 13, at the library, 33 N. Thompson St., New Buffalo, Mich.

Robert Myers, Berrien County Historical Association curator, will share techniques for using property deeds, tax rolls, plat maps and other sources to research the story behind a house, including who built it and when and who lived there.

The program is free, but registration is suggested by calling the library at (269) 469-2933. Follow the facebook link at www.newbuffalo.michlibrary.org or email new.buffalo.FOL@gmail.com for additional information.



Ceramics Class

Dean Hultman will present a five-week ceramics class starting from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 13, at Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St.

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

The cost is \$100 for members and \$125 for non-members. Students can buy 25 pounds of clay for \$25. All other supplies are included.

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

Gallery to Host Potter

The Courtyard Gallery, 813 E. Buffalo St., New Buffalo, Mich., will present Howard Wilder from noon to 4 p.m. EDT Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 11-12.

For 35 years, Wilder has been a successful potter; however, for the past 15 years he has been creating Asian/Native American Indian raku pottery. His numerous trips to New Mexico have enabled him to work and learn from Indian potters.

Refreshments will be served during the event. Email courtyardgallery@sbcglobal.net or call (800) 291-9287 for more information.



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Benefit Dressage Show

Reins of Life, 9375 W. County Road 300 North, Michigan City, will hold its fourth Benefit Dressage Show from 8:30 a.m. to about 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 11-12.

Proceeds benefit ROL. Area dressage riders and trainers will participate and learn more about the organization. ROL Para Equestrian Dressage Team members also will compete.

The event is recognized by the Michiana Dressage Club and Indiana Dressage Society. Dressage trainer and MDC member Elizabeth Grainger is the show secretary and was the volunteer event organizer for the 2011 show at the South Bend facility.

Dressage — a French term, most commonly translated to mean "training" — is a competitive equestrian sport. Events are held at all levels, from amateur to the Olympics and the World Equestrian Games. Its purpose is to develop, through standardized progressive training methods, a horse's natural athletic ability and willingness to perform. Dressage occasionally is referred to as "Horse Ballet."

ROL serves children and adults with disabilities at its facilities in South Bend and Michigan City. It provides 3,000 hours of therapeutic horseback riding lessons for 500 riders each year, a mini-horse visitation program and PATH-certified Instructor-In-Training. Call (574) 292-6259 or email theponygirl@sbcglobal.net for more information.

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"A Harvest of Herbs"

The La Porte County Extension Homemakers will present the Fourth Annual "A Taste of Extension Homemakers" on Thursday, Oct. 16, at the La Porte County Fairgrounds Community Building, 2581 W. Indiana 2, La Porte.

Registration starts at 6 p.m., with the program at 6:30 p.m. Demonstrations, refreshments and door prizes are planned.

The keynote speaker is Marcy Dailey, local entrepreneur, Master Gardener and member of Hesston Homemakers Extension Club, Extension Homemakers from Evening Stars and Homespun Harmony. She will demonstrate ways to use herbs in cooking and everyday activities. A booklet with recipes and ideas will be available for \$1.

The meeting is free, but reservations are requested so the club can plan for how many people attend. Call (219) 324-9407.

Sarett Nature Center

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

• The Country Fair from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. EDT Saturday, Oct. 11.

Children's activities, wagon rides, food and a rummage sale are planned, with all profits supporting Sarett's education programs.

• Trivia Night on Saturday, Oct. 18.

Teams of 10 can register for \$100, or individuals for \$10 each. The doors open at 6 p.m. EDT for potluck snacks, with trivia starting at 7 p.m. EDT.

Reservations and pre-payment are required.

• A hike at Saugatuck Dunes guided by a Sarett naturalist at 1 p.m. EDT Sunday, Oct. 19.

The fee is \$5.

Call (269) 927-4832 to register, or for more information, on any of the programs.

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The League is seeking more bowlers. Anyone interested should join the group at 12:30 p.m. Tuesdays or call (219) 879-5581.

Country Fall Weekend

Tryon Farm, 1500 Tryon Road, Michigan City, will hold its Crescent Moon Country Fall Weekend on Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 11-12.

The schedule is:

SATURDAY

- 5 to 8 p.m. Bonfire/pasta bar.
- 7:30 p.m. Drum Circle.
- 6 p.m. Outdoor movies at the 1896 dairy barn.
 Take blankets and chairs. The schedule is: "Babe" at 6 p.m. and "Ferris Bueller's Day Off" at 8 p.m.

SUNDAY

- 9 a.m. Early bird activity involving a trail run/walk/ride.
- Noon to 3 p.m. House tours. Meet at the barn on the hour.
- Noon to 3 p.m. Pumpkins, hayrides and ecocrafts.
- The Green Machine will serve food and drinks. Contact info@tryonfarm.com or (219) 872-FARM for more information.

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4-H Foundation Autumn Theater Event

The Berrien County 4-H Foundation Inc. Autumn Theater Event will feature The Deep Fried Pickle Project on Thursday, Oct. 16, at The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich.

The group has worked across the country, from festivals to fairgrounds, playshops to workshops, and PBS to Bravo.

The social gathering starts at 6 p.m. EDT, with the concert at 7:30 p.m. EDT. Tickets, which cost \$35, include the concert, heavy hors d'oeuvres, wine/beer and dessert. Contact event co-chairs Vickie Hamilton at (269) 983-7828 or hamilton5654@att. net, or Vickie Wagner at (269) 756-9812 or vickie. wagner@yahoo.com, for ticket information or sponsor opportunities.

Proceeds from the event support 4-H programs across Berrien County.

Taltree OAKtoberfest

Tickets are on sale for the first OAKtoberfest, which is from 2 to 5 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 25, at Taltree Arboretum & Gardens, 450 W. County Road 100 North near Valparaiso.

The outdoor event celebrates oak-aged brews in a fall setting. The menu features a variety of brews, hard ciders and appetizers. Guests can rank their tastings. The five most popular brew and food pairings will be featured at OAKtoberfest 2015. Guests will be entered to win an annual Taltree membership. Proceeds support Taltree's environmental restoration, conservation and education initiatives.

Unlimited brew and food tickets are \$45, and designated driver tickets are \$20. Only advanced ticket sales are available. Purchase by Friday, Oct. 17.

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



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Indoor Flea Market Vendors Sought

Vendors are needed for New Troy's Indoor Flea Market, which resumes Saturday, Oct. 18, at the New Troy Community Center and continues the last two Saturdays of each month through March.

Past flea markets have included local food products, books, plants, tools, antiques, jewelry, photography, crafts, furniture and other housewares.

Vendor spaces are \$10 each and include a table and chair. The center will be open for dealer setup from 6 to 7 p.m. EDT Friday and 8 a.m. EDT Saturday. Doors open to the public from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. EDT. Admission is free.

Proceeds from space rentals benefit The New Troy Community Center, 13372 California Road, New Troy, Mich., an all-volunteer facility run by the non-profit group Friends of New Troy. Contact Janna at (773) 275-1514 or info@centeroftheworld. net for more information or to reserve a space.

"The Marriage of Bette and Boo"

Festival Players Guild will present the second show of its 2014-2015 Winter Arts Series, Christopher Durang's "The Marriage of Bette and Boo."

Winner of the Obie Award for Best Play, the show opens as Bette and Boo are united in matrimony, surrounded by beaming families. But as the progress of their marriage is chronicled, it becomes clear things are not working out. Conveyed in a series of interconnected scenes, the play moves through three decades of divorce, alcoholism, madness and fatal illness.

Recommended for audiences 16 and older, the play opens at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 10, at Mainstreet Theatre, 807 Franklin St., Michigan City, with additional performances at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 11, 17 and 18. Admission is \$16, with discounts available for seniors and students. Call (219) 874-4269 for reservations and more information.

Art Education Resource Fair

Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St., will host an Art Education Resource Fair from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 11.

Sponsored by South Shore Arts, the fair is a professional development opportunity for elementary educators and administrators in public, private and homeschool organizations. All attendees will create an art project and receive resources to use in the classroom. Attendees receive a certificate for two Professional Growth Plan creditable hours towards license renewal.

The program is free, and a complimentary lunch will be provided. Space is limited. Make reservations at www.lubeznikcenter.org/ or call (219) 874-4900. Contact Janet Bloch at jbloch@lubeznikcenter.org for more information.

Third Annual Pet Prayer Service



Sinai Temple, 2800 Franklin St., recently held its "Third Annual Pet Prayer Service," with Rabbi Reni Dickman leading the prayers.

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Activities to Explore

In the Local Area:

October 9-12 — Vickers Theatre, 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. *Now showing*: "One Chance." Rated PG-13. Times: 6 p.m. Fri.-Mon. *Also*: "Calvary." Rated R. Times: 9 p.m. Thurs.-Mon., 2 p.m. Sat. (includes a discussion with Professor Judd Chesler) and 3 p.m. Sun. All times Eastern. Info: vickerstheatre.com

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

October 10 — Depot Friday, 5-7 p.m, 525 Broadway, Beverly Shores. Featured artist: Michelle Wiser.

October 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 10-12 and 17-19 — "90 Years in 90 Minutes: The 90th Review Show," La Porte Little Theatre Club, 218 A St. Times: 7:30 p.m. Fri./Sat., 2 p.m. Sun. Tickets: \$12. Reservations: (219) 362-5113, laporteltc@yahoo.com

October 11 — 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 11 — La Porte Urban Enterprise Association Farmers Market, Lincolnway and Monroe Street, through October. Info: (219) 362-8260.

October 11 — Writing Out Loud: Susan Crandall, 7:30 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

October 11 — Eighth Annual Harvest & Wine Festival, noon-10 p.m. EDT, Lion's Beachfront Park in downtown New Buffalo, Mich. Cost: Suggested \$5 donation per adult at gate, children 12 & younger free. Info: http://newbuffalo.org/event/view/harvest-and-wine-festival

October 11 — Award-winning children's song-writer/entertainer Joel Frankel, 2 and 3 p.m. EDT, The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Cost: \$5. Info: www.acorntheater.com, (269) 756-3879.

October 11 — Northwest Indiana Storytelling Festival, 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m., Nature Center at Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. CR 25 East (north end of Ind. 49), Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

October 11 — The band Upsidedown and Backwards, 10 p.m. EDT, Shoreline Brewery, 208 Wabash St., Michigan City. Info: (219) 879-4677, www. shorelinebrewrey.com

October 11 — Bird-banding program, 9-11 a.m., Coffee Creek Watershed Preserve pavilion, 178 E. Sidewalk Road, Chesterton. Registration: (219) 926-1842.

October 11-12 — Fourth Benefit Dressage Show

8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Reins of Life, 9375 W. County Road 300 North, Michigan City. Info: (574) 292-6259, email theponygirl@sbcglobal.net

October 11-12 — Crescent Moon Country Fall Weekend, Tryon Farm Modern Country Homes, 1500 Tryon Road, Michigan City. Info: info@tryonfarm.com

October 12 — Chicago Lyric Opera Lecture: "Il Trovatore," 2 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

October 12 — La Porte Community Concert Association, The Alliance Brass, 3 p.m., La Porte High School Auditorium, 602 F St. Tickets: \$15/adults, \$5/students through high school. Info: (219) 362-5292.

October 12 — Sunday Matinee, "Edge of Tomorrow," 1:30 p.m., Westchester Public Library Service Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

October 13 — COLUMBUS DAY.

October 14 — Lunch With the League, noon, Lindo's Restaurant, 3940 Franklin St. Info: (219) 874-6809, www.lwvlaporte.org

October 16 — The Deep Fried Pickle Project (Berrien County 4-H Foundation Inc. Autumn Theater Event), The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Social gathering: 6 p.m. EDT/concert 7:30 p.m. EDT. Tickets: \$35. Info: (269) 983-7828, (269) 756-9812.

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:

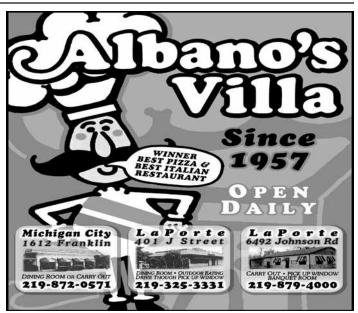
October 10-12 — 2014 Indiana Elvis Fantasy Festival, "Red, Hot and Blue," Woodland Park Community Center, 2100 Willowcreek Road, Portage. Tickets start at \$20. Packages start at \$69. Info: http://www.elvisfantasyfest.com/ticket-information/

October 11 — Author Amy Stewart, Fernwood Botanical Garden and Nature Preserve, 13988 Range Line Road, Niles, Mich. Botanical mixer/6 p.m. EDT, lecture/7:30 p.m. EDT. Cost: \$125/mixer & lecture/\$50 for lecture. Info/reservations: (269) 695-6491, www.fernwoodbotanical.org

October 11 — The Riversong Music Society presents The Napier Men's Quartet, 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 12 — Public reception, three new exhibits, 2-4 p.m. EDT, Buchanan Art Center, 117 W. Front St., Buchanan, Mich. Info: (269) 697-4005, www.buchananartcenter.org

October 18, 25 — Indoor Flea Market, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. EDT, The New Troy Community Center, 13372 California Road, New Troy, Mich. Free admission. Info: (773) 275-1514, info@centeroftheworld.net



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Prayer to the Blessed Virgin

(Never known to fail.)

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

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



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On October 9, 1002, Norwegian explorer Leif Ericson is believed to have discovered Vinland (North America). Some historians maintain he landed somewhere in the area of New England.

On October 9, 1635, religious dissident Roger Williams was banished from the Massachusetts Bay Colony. He would become a founder of Rhode Island.

On October 9, 1701, the Collegiate School of Connecticut (later changed to Yale College) was chartered in New Haven.

On October 9, 1888, the Washington Monument was opened to the public.

On October 9, 1930, Laura Ingalls became the first woman to fly across the United States. She completed a journey from Roosevelt Field, NY, to Glendale, CA, making nine stops along the way.

On October 9, 1947, the first telephone conversation between a moving automobile and an airplane took place.

On October 9, 2003, a 9-day trash haulers strike ended in Chicago, with an estimated 135,000 tons of garbage awaiting pickup.

On October 10, 1935, the American opera "Porgy and Bess," with music by George and Ira Gershwin, opened on Broadway.

On October 10, 1978, President Jimmy Carter signed a bill authorizing the minting of the ill-advised Susan B. Anthony" dollar.

On October 10, 2004, actor Christopher Reeve, star of the movie "Superman" who became a quadriplegic after a May 1995 horse riding accident, died in Mt. Kisco, NY; he was 52.

On October 11, 1811, the first steam ferry (which was invented by John Stevens) commenced operation between New York City and Hoboken, NJ.

On October 11, 1868, Thomas Edison filed for a patent for his first invention, an electrical voice recorder to tabulate votes in Congress more quickly. Congress refused to use it.

On October 11, 1958, Pioneer I (the first lunar probe) was launched from Florida's Cape Canaveral.

On October 11, 1968, Apollo 7, the first manned Apollo mission, was launched from Florida's Cape Kennedy with astronauts Wally Schirra, Donn Eisele and R. Walter Cunningham.

On October 11, 1975, with comedian George Carlin as host, "Saturday Night Live" made its debut on NBC.

On October 11, 1984, astronaut Kathy Sullivan

became the first American woman to walk in space.

On October 12, 1492, a sailor aboard the *Pinta*, one of three vessels in an armada led by Christopher Columbus, first sighted land in the new world.

On October 12, 1868, Marshall Field and Levi Leiter opened a department store at Chicago's State and Washington Streets.

On October 12, 1971, the rock opera "Jesus Christ Superstar" opened on Broadway.

On October 12, 1997, 53-year-old John Denver, popular singer-environmentalist, was killed when his ultra light plane crashed in Monterey (CA) Bay.

On October 13, 1843, B'nai B'rith, a Jewish organization, was founded in New York.

On October 13, 1903, the Boston Pilgrims (now the Red Sox) won the first modern World Series, defeating the Pittsburg Pirates five games to three.

On October 13, 1962, Edward Albee's play, Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?, opened, on Broadway, to rave reviews by the New York critics.

On October 14, 1906, the Chicago White Sox beat the Chicago Cubs 8-3, winning the only World Series ever played between the two cross-town rivals.

On October 14, 1912, former President Theodore Roosevelt, while campaigning in Milwaukee, for a third term, was shot and wounded. He spoke at a scheduled rally, went to a hospital and had his wound treated, and then traveled to Chicago.

On October 14, 1916, the first Professional Golfers Association tournament (played at Mt. Vernon, NY) was won by James Barnes of Philadelphia.

On October 14, 1930, singer Ethel Merman gained fame of sorts when she, while singing "I Got Rhythm," held a high C for 16 bars.

On October 14, 1968, *Apollo 7* transmitted the first live telecast from a manned spacecraft.

On October 14, 1986, Auschwitz concentration camp survivor Elie Wiesel, who devoted his life to promoting human rights, received the Nobel Peace Prize.

On October 15, 1860, 11-year-old Grace Bedell of Westfield, NY, wrote a letter to presidential candidate Abraham Lincoln, suggesting he could improve his appearance by growing a beard.

On October 15, 1928, the German dirigible *Graf Zeppelin* made the first commercial flight across the Atlantic, landing in Lakehurst, NJ.

On October 15, 1939, New York Municipal Airport, later renamed LaGuardia Airport, was dedicated.

On October 15, 1951, the television series, *I Love Lucy*, starring Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz, premiered on CBS.

On October 15, 1976, in the first debate of its kind between vice-presidential nominees, Democrat Walter Mondale and Republican Bob Dole faced off in Houston.



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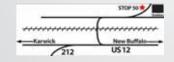
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Prayer to the Blessed Virgin

(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

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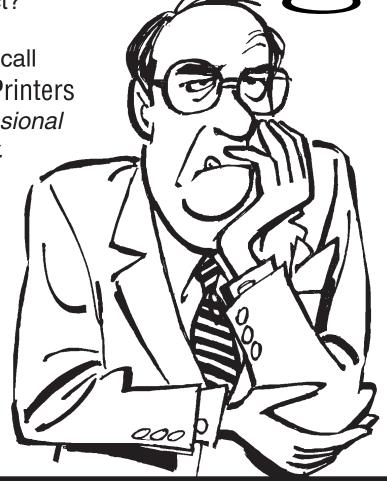
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FOR SALE – Sundance Optima hot tub. Seats 7-8 adults; asking \$500 OBO. Michiana Shores: (630) 308-8538

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There are over 100 participants who have cleaned there closets and collectively submitted 4,000 + items of clothing, from petit to generous sizes, jewelry, hats, scarves, shoes and boots, professional business, comfy casual, dressy evening wear, sweaters, coats, jackets, jeans, dress pants, T- shirts, blouses, short & long sleeve shirts, leather and fabric hand bags, all priced at \$5, \$10, \$15 and up. You also will find a HUGE new & never worn specialty section with RACKS and RACKS of spectacular designer clothing from Filoni, Oak Park, IL, Dora Jane's, Harbert MI, and others, all deeply discounted.

Shopping Dates:

Sat., Oct. 11, 10-2 PM, the very best selection Sat., Oct. 18, 10-2 PM sale with additional merchandise Sun., Oct. 19, 12-4 PM famous ½ price sale day.

Sat., Oct. 25,10-2 PM second chance bonus ½ price sale.

There will often be a "cash only" speedy checkout so stop off at the ATM before you come. Don't miss this one ladies!!!! Call your friends and come shop for unbelievable bargains plus a whole lot of fun!

Long Beach Community Center 2501 Oriole Trail, Long Beach IN 219-861-6188

Parking at the Community Center may be an issue. You are welcome to park on the grassy triangle in front of the building, but all 4 tires must be off the pavement. Please pull in leaving room for others, regard the no parking signs that are posted, and do not park down any side street on residents property. Thank you for your cooperation.

MOVING SALE: All must go! Furniture, kitchen ware, decor, tools, lamps, barware, toys, snow blower, patio furniture and much more. Fri.-Sat., Oct. 10-11, 8:30am-3:30pm. 2809 Roslyn Trail, Long Beach, IN.

ESTATE SALE: Beverly Shores, 103 Clearwater, Fri.-Sat., Oct. 10-11, 9am-3pm. Antique mission dining room, Biedermeier chairs, French marbletop nightstands, side-by-side secretary, gateleg tables, Amish rockers, bookcases, stemware, Sterling, full kitchen, Longaberger baskets, professional women's designer wardrobe (sizes 10-12). Items of interest from a life well lived. JS

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Stop 31. Nicely furn. 3BR, 2BA with 3-season porch. Family room. WiFi. \$1,850/wk. Fall/Winter rental avail. for \$895/mo +util. Short or long term. W/D. No smoking, no pets. 4-min. walk to beautiful beach. See VRBO #372192. Call Pat at 708-361-8240.

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Stop 33. Charming 4BR/2BA house close to beach and Duneland Beach Inn. Weekly and weekend rentals. Call (773) 977-9080.

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্র্র্র REAL ESTATE FOR SALE ্র্র্

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.

Big Tree Register Submissions

The 2012 drought and other circumstances have knocked some of Indiana's state champion trees out of contention for the 2015 Big Tree Register.

Published every five years, the register is a list of the largest known native trees in the state, known as state champion trees.

The DNR is accepting nominations for the 2015 Big Tree Register through Oct. 31.

The application requires three measurements of a tree: total circumference, in inches, at 4.5 feet above the ground; total height, in feet; and average crown spread, in feet.

The total size of a tree is calculated using a points system. The tree of each species with the highest total is Indiana's largest.

Each tree nominated is verified for species and size before acceptance in the register.

More information, the online directory of Indiana big trees, the nomination form and directions on how to make tree measurements is at dnr.IN.gov/forestry/8169.htm.

Contact district forester Janet Eger at (812) 247-2479 or jeger@dnr.IN.gov for more information about nominating a tree for the register or to receive a nomination form.

Raffle and Chicken Dinner

St. Mary's annual raffle and chicken dinner is Sunday, Oct. 12, at Elks Lodge 432, 416 E. U.S. 20, Michigan City.

Doors open at noon. Advance tickets are \$13, or \$15 at the door. The child portion costs \$9. Reservations are advised by calling (219) 878-1835 or (219) 871-2725.



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Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter

Below Stairs by Margaret Powell (paperback, \$14.99 online and in bookstores; also available as ebook)

This book is subtitled "The Classic Kitchen Maid's Memoir That Inspired 'Upstairs, Downstairs' and 'Downton Abbey."

"Downton Abbey," the hit BBC production that begins a new season come January on PBS, has had tongues wagging and reviewers' keyboards singing for some years now. "Upstairs, Downstairs" was the BBC series that aired back in the 1970s. Both show the day-to-day drama of not only the rich estate owners upstairs, but also the house staff downstairs and how they interacted with each other.

Both programs were inspired by Margaret Powell, who entered service as a teenager and pulled no punches when she wrote of her experiences and the people she met along the way. Her book gave me a better understanding of life in service in England during the first half of the 19th century. If you plan on watching the new season of "Downton Abbey," you might find this a good primer into the lives of those who served "downstairs."

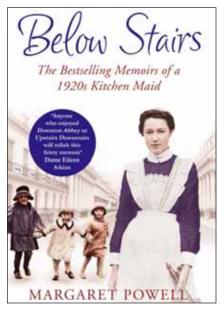
"I was born in 1907 in Hove, the second child of a family of seven. My earliest recollection is that other children seemed to be better off than we were."

So starts Powell's memoir, which was first published in England in 1968 to instant success, transforming her into a celebrity among the average Brits, although my research showed some of the upper class tried to deny her memories. Powell died in 1984, but not before she wrote a total of 31 titles.

So we start out in "Below Stairs" with Powell's life as a child with six brothers and sisters, and a father who was a painter and out of work much of the time. She tells of never having enough to eat, always wearing mended clothing. By 7, she was looking after the other children because her mother had to find work to supplement her husband's hitand-miss jobs.

Powell loved to read and at 13 received a scholarship for higher education. However, going to school meant she would not be able to contribute any money to the household until her education was complete and she got a job. So, by 14, she was working in a laundry, from which she was let go at 15 so the laundry wouldn't have to give her a pay raise.

Powell's mother told her there was nothing else but for her to go into domestic service. Since she



couldn't do needlework, the only job choice for her was as a kitchen maid, the lowest job in any household. But she had high hopes that she would learn from the cook and someday be head cook herself. Ha! She soon discovered cooks liked to keep their cooking secrets to themselves.

Powell tells of her jobs in a plain voice, mostly devoid of emotion. She speaks of people and events in her life not in self-pity, but a no-nonsense, "this is the way it was" voice.

She writes, of course, of the inequality of a domestic's job during her years working from 1922 through the 1940s, and the sometimes eccentric and demanding lords and ladies. She writes with candor

of the good times and bad, and you will be pleased to know she never let the bad times keep her down for long. Work for the kitchen maid started at 5:30 a.m. and didn't stop until dark. It all boiled down to "us" against "them," and if you couldn't stand the heat, you'd better find another type of work to do. Oh, no, that wouldn't happen since work at that time was hard to come by; however, two world wars would soon change that caste system dramatically.

This is an exceptional book about a long-ago time that we as Americans cannot possibly comprehend. I found myself cheering for Powell every step of the way, knowing that she was a strong-willed woman of her time and would persevere.

Also, I found an interesting article from *BBC News Magazine* (www.bbc.com/news/magazine-19544309) that lays out the domestic help and their position and responsibilities from 100 years ago. It appeared in that publication on Sept. 21, 2012.

Julian Fellowes, the creator of "Downton Abbey" said, "Margaret Powell was the first person outside my family to introduce me to that world...where servants and their employers would live their vividly different lives under one roof...Her memories... haunted me...I certainly owe her a great debt."

<u>Kirkus Reviews</u> wrote, "An irresistible inside account of life 'in service' and a fascinating document of a vanished time and place."

<u>Library Journal</u> wrote: "Great fun, but also the personal details of history that are often hidden."

Till next time happy reading!

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2139 Chastleton Drive Long Beach • \$335,000

4 bedrooms, 2 full & 2 half baths. Hardwood floors, fireplace, updated kitchen, private master bath. Finished lower level with rec room. Beautiful front view of Long Beach Country Club golf course & private rear yard with patio. Short walk to the beach.



113 Kaye Lane Shoreland Hills • \$195,000

3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Living room with door to deck. Bright four season room with skylights that could be used for additional sleeping space if desired. Lower level family room has walk-out to patio. Very private setting close to the beach at Stop 31.



3414 Iroquois Trail Duneland Beach • \$439,000

4 bedrooms, 2 baths. Screened porch in back off rec room. New furnace/AC, new roof & spacious front deck. Well maintained home with plenty of sunlit rooms. Two car built-in garage. Just three houses to the beach. Listing agent is relative of property owner.



16142 First Lane Union Pier • \$244,000

3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Cathedral ceiling, skylights, fireplace & hardwood floors. Two screened porches & back deck. Large lot offering great privacy. Delightful & bright home in perfect condition within a short distance to the beach.



510 Washington Park Blvd. Lake Hills • \$92,700

3 bedrooms, 1 bath. Living room open to kitchen with eating area. Laminate flooring in living room & kitchen. New hot water heater July'13. Central air, nice lot, fenced yard, newer back deck, storage shed & garage. Short walk to the beach.

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Lake Avenue

There are few commercial lots available in the beach area, making this a unique investment opportunity. This parcel has many possibilities: mixed use, multi-unit residential, retail, dining. All permits required. \$499,000



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