



Volume 30, Number 41 Thursday, October 16, 2014

“The Mockingbird Next Door”

Writing Out Loud Speaker One of Few to Know Harper Lee, Sister Well

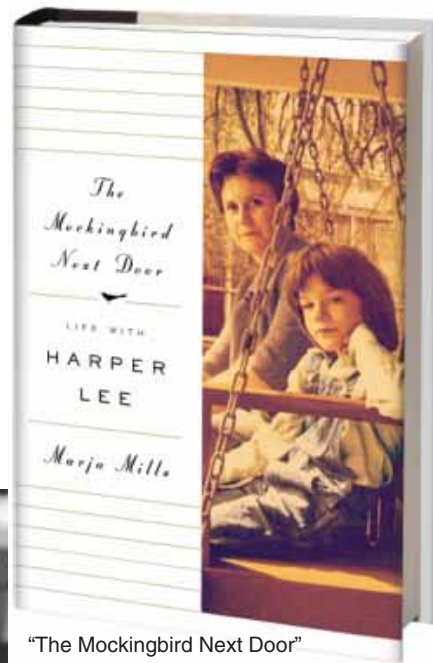
by Kayla Weiss

Harper Lee’s “To Kill a Mockingbird” has held a special place in Marja Mills’ heart since she first read it in her ninth-grade English class.

Mills grew up in Madison, Wis., attending Madison West High School before attending Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. She went on to work for The Chicago Tribune.

In the summer of 2001, Chicago Public Library chose “To Kill a Mockingbird” as a featured book. Her boss at The Chicago Tribune thought it would be a good idea to write a feature on the town that inspired Lee’s classic, Monroeville, Ala. It was common knowledge the author and her sister, Alice, were extremely private, but Mills’ editor wanted to know more about the town, for her to speak with people there about the impact Lee’s book, and its Oscar-winning screen adaptation, had on them and their town.

“The similarity between the courthouse in Alabama and the one in



“The Mockingbird Next Door”



Harper Lee, author of “To Kill a Mockingbird,” relaxes on her front porch.

the movie is striking,” Mills said. “The set was replicated exactly to match the real courthouse. People still go there to see the play based off of ‘To Kill a Mockingbird.’ The first act takes place out on the lawn of the courthouse, and the second half – the trial – unfolds in the courthouse where Harper Lee had seen her father in action as an attorney.”

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Mockingbird Continued from Page 1

On one of her last days in Monroeville, Mills stopped by the Lee sisters' house and knocked on the door, nervous about what would happen if someone answered, but knowing she had to try. To her surprise, Alice Lee answered the door and let Mills in. For the next few hours, Mills and Alice Lee had a wonderful conversation about what it was like living in a small town during the Depression.

"It was unusual for either of the Lee sisters to go on record, but Alice did," Mills said. "Not long after, while I was preparing to leave and return to Chicago, I received a call at the Best Western I was staying at from none other than Harper Lee herself."

Having made quite an impression on Alice, Harper Lee wanted to meet with Mills for their own one-on-one chat.

Mills will discuss that experience when she speaks at "Writing Out Loud" at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 18, at Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St.

"Harper Lee was truly delightful," Mills told The Beacher. "Both sisters have this great sense of fun that most people probably don't know either woman has because of their reserve when it comes to talking with the public."

Lifelong friends with Gregory Peck (who won a Best Actor Oscar for playing Atticus Finch in the film adaptation), playwright/screenwriter Horton Foote (who won the Best Adapted Screenplay Oscar for the film) and "In Cold Blood" writer Truman Capote, Harper Lee was born in April 1926 as Nelle Harper Lee, the youngest of five children born to A.C. Lee and Francis Cunningham Finch. Like the

character of Scout in her book, she was a tomboy and avid reader. Capote was her best friend. Before her father became a title lawyer, he once defended two black men — a father and son — accused of murdering a white storekeeper. Both were punished for the alleged crime.



Marja Mills autographs a copy of "The Mockingbird Next Door" at a recent book signing in her hometown of Madison, Wis. Photo by Amy Krohn

While enrolled at Monroe County High School, Harper Lee became interested in English literature. After graduating in 1944, she attended Huntington College, which deepened her love of reading and writing. She was able to get an agent in November 1956. In December, friends gave her the gift of one year's wages. The note said, "You have one year off from your job to write whatever you please. Merry Christmas."

Thus began the journey of "To Kill a

Mockingbird." She worked with an editor at JB Lippincott & Co., who oversaw 2 1/2 years of rewrites. The book was eventually released July 11, 1960, winning the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction in 1961. Today, it has sold more than 30 million copies and was voted "Best Novel of the Century" in a Library Journal poll.

After the book was published, Lee accompanied Truman Capote to Holcomb, Kan., for interviews that would form the basis for "In Cold Blood."

(Their journey together was chronicled in two films: the Oscar-winning "Capote" and "Infamous.")

Save for a few short essays, Lee never published another book, nor does she typically agree to interviews or public appearances.

She made a rare exception, however, when it came to Mills. She would not officially go on the record for Mills' article for The Chicago Tribune, but she did invite her back to Monroeville several times for friendly chats, which Mills gladly accepted. Over



Harper Lee with longtime friend Truman Capote.

their various meetings and talks, she began to form an idea for her next project, a book on the Lee sisters and her time spent with them.

Mills had known the Lee sisters for about three years when she moved to Monroeville to pursue her new project, with full cooperation from Alice and Harper Lee. For the next 18 months, until spring 2006, she rented the house directly next door to them, spending many hours with them.

"The proximity was a gift," Mills said. "We didn't ever have to do anything special. I just enjoyed watching them in their day-to-day routines. Harper would drive Alice to work every morning, always calling it 'Driving Miss Alice.' They would drive the countrysides, talking about how it used to look when they were growing up, and about their parents and grandparents' experiences growing up in the area.

"As a journalist, you don't often have the chance to get to know people on a different level, and it was such a pleasure to do so with the Lees," Mills said. "It was a glimpse into another time, whenever I spoke with them. I didn't feel entitled to anything that they didn't want to share. There were things that were off the record and I respected that, because I was so grateful that they were even talking with me. There was always such a sense of joy that came when they recounted their memories to me."

Continued on Page 4



Dill, played by John Megna in the film, was inspired by Truman Capote.

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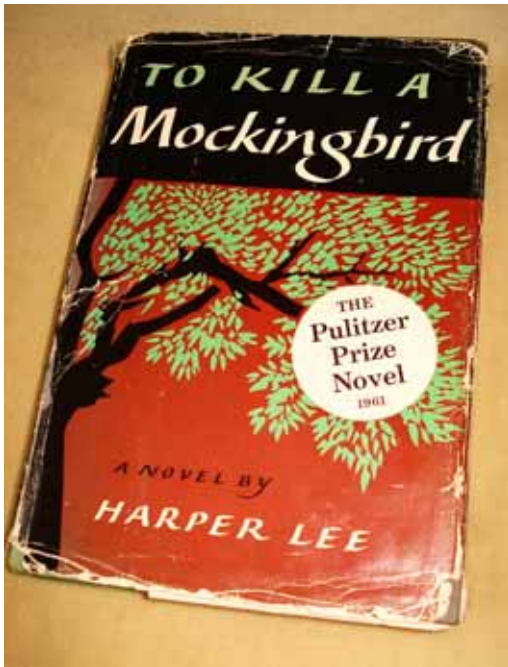
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Mockingbird

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Around the time that Mills was in Monroeville, the two Capote movies were released. The Lee sisters became intrigued and decided to see one. Harper Lee would tell Mills what she remembered about the events unfolding on the screen, even admitting that Capote spent more time in the Lee household than in his own. Together as children, Harper and Truman would write stories, passing a used typewriter back and forth between them.



An early edition of "To Kill a Mockingbird."

"Whenever Harper spoke of it, it was with sadness for the way his life ended," Mills said. "Alice remembered him as just a little boy next door who loved to spend time in their home. Their father would often say, 'Has anyone put Truman out?'"

In all of the time she spent with the Lee sisters, Mills appreciated their simple way of living and joy for life. They enjoyed learning – histories of various countries, especially – and writing letters. They



Gregory Peck won an Oscar for his portrayal of Atticus Finch in "To Kill a Mockingbird."

carried on old-fashioned correspondence with their friends and family, continuing to compose thoughtful letters.

"The way they lived their daily lives was such a contrast to how many people live," Mills said. "Everywhere I turned, there were stacks of books in their house. Alice always said that she had always

When I learned that Gregory Peck would play Atticus Finch in the film production of To Kill A Mockingbird, I was, of course, delighted: here was a fine actor who had made great films – what more could a writer ask for? I met him and his family and we became friends. The film was made and Gregory's performance was unforgettable. Superbly crafted with quiet artistry, he had brought to the part a quality that I could not, at the time, define, but whatever it was, it worked.

It was when our friendship deepened with the years that I began to learn some of the secrets of Gregory's Atticus. Gregory himself was a man of deep beliefs and was fearless in their defense. I watched him take career-ending risks in support of causes he believed in, and he never stopped to count the costs. His trademark was integrity. He was a man who loved deeply. His family and his friends were the beneficiaries of emotional attachments with which went his loyalty and devotion. In short, we were his heart. He was possessed with a sly sense of humor which caused unexpected double-takes. He was a man of gentleness and courtesy and quiet refinement. He was Greg.

The years told me his secret. When he played Atticus Finch, he had played himself, and time has told all of us something more: when he played himself, he touched the world.

Harper Lee



Marja Mills appears on stage with Talmage Boston, an attorney and Atticus Finch expert. Photo courtesy of Talmage Boston.

A letter Harper Lee wrote about Gregory Peck's performance in "To Kill a Mockingbird" that appeared with a 2005 DVD issue of the film.

wanted to travel, and those books were how she did it. Neither of them wanted or needed much, and it was incredible to see."

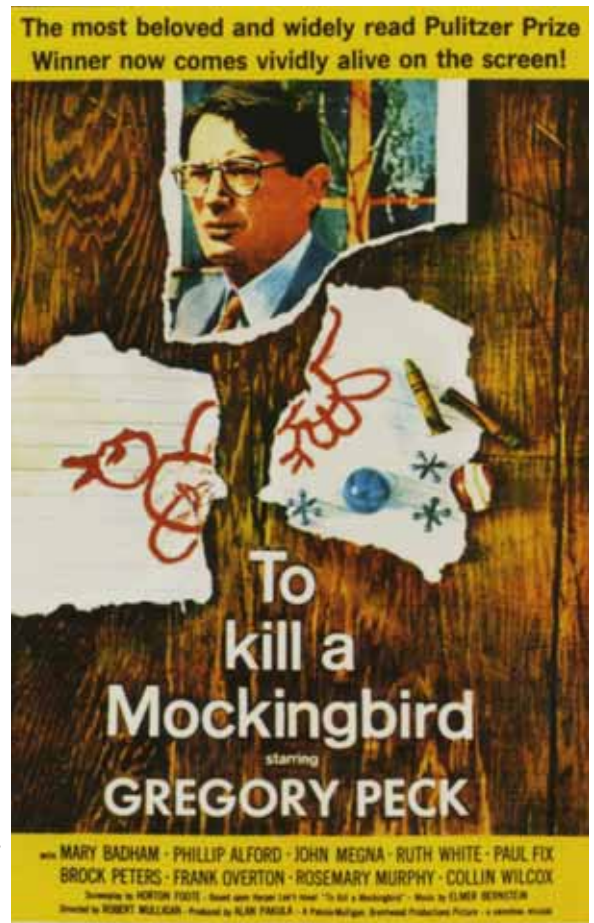
All of these stories and experiences culminated into Mills' memoir, "The Mockingbird Next Door." Published this past July, it recounts Mills' time with the Lee sisters, stories they told her, afternoons they shared together. She is on a full-time book tour to promote it.

"I'm not sure what the future holds for me," Mills said. "It's been a lot of fun. I knew it would be interesting, but I didn't know it would be this much fun."



Mary Badham (left) portrayed Scout alongside Gregory Peck's Atticus Finch in "To Kill a Mockingbird."

The official movie poster for "To Kill a Mockingbird."



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Parents Weekend at La Lumiere



The traditional jump in the lake after a football win.

La Lumiere School, 6801 N. Wilhelm Road, La Porte, welcomed families from six states and two countries to campus for its annual Parents Weekend on Sept. 26-27.

The celebration kicked off Friday night with dinner for more than 500, followed by the senior bonfire: a rite of passage students anticipate from their freshman year.

On Saturday, Laker athletics had a good day across the board, with girls' soccer beating West-

ville, volleyball defeating South Bend Trinity and football besting Elkhart Christian. As tradition dictates, a Laker football win leads to a dip in Lake La Lumiere for the players and coaches: pads and all.

Fans gathered for a barbecue served at the athletic fields. Senior athletes for fall sports were honored during a ceremony held at half time of the football game. The day ended with a Catholic Mass celebrated by Father Wayne Watts of St. John Berchem, Chicago.



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Megan Jelinek, Maddie Bratton Natalie Newell and Cecilia Crowe at the senior bonfire.



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Taltree 10K Run/Walk

Taltree Arboretum & Gardens, 450 W. County Road 100 North near Valparaiso, will host its first Taltree 10K run/walk at 9 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 1.

The 6.2-mile trail run is open to families. Awards go to top overall male and female finishers, top male and female masters and top three finishers in age groups from 14 and younger through 80 and older.

Held rain or shine, the online registration fee is \$30. Register by Friday, Oct. 24, to receive a long-sleeve race shirt. Mail-in and day of race registrations cost \$35. Pre-race packet pickup is from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 31, at Extra Mile Fitness Co., 1330 E. Lincolnway, Valparaiso. Day of registration and packet pickup begin at 8 a.m. at Taltree.

Event proceeds support Taltree's conservation endeavors. Race spectators receive free admission until 9 a.m. Visit Taltree.org or call (219) 462-0025 for more information and to register.

Also, the new Taltree run club, led by a seasoned runner, is at 10 a.m. Saturdays. Non-Taltree members can join the club for \$40 a year. Run club members receive access to the trails, race discounts, free yoga classes and seasonal hikes, class and event discounts, local shopping discounts and admission discounts to other North American arboreta and gardens.

Screening of "Swan Song"

Purdue University-North Central and Purdue University-Calumet will present a screening of Oscar-nominated director John Hancock's "Swan Song" at 5 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 28, in the Library-Student-Faculty Building Assembly Hall, Room 02.

The event is free and open to the public. Hancock will be present to discuss the film and answer questions. The screening is hosted by Jerry Holt, PNC chair of English/Modern Language and associate professor of English, and Dennis Barbour, Purdue Calumet associate professor of English.



Grace Tarnow (left) and Dorothy Tristan star in "Swan Song."

In summer 2013, Hancock spent about eight weeks shooting the film in La Porte, Michigan City, South Bend, Three Oaks, Mich., and Berrien County's Warren Dunes State Park. Most of the cast and crew were regional talent. The film is being screened to test audiences and studio officials, with the intent being theatrical distribution.

The movie stars Hancock's wife, Dorothy Tristan (who also wrote the film), and Grace Tarnow of La Porte. It centers on a troubled 13-year-old girl sent to live with her grandmother, who is suffering from the early stages of Alzheimer's disease.

Hancock also directed "Prancer," "A Piece of Eden" and "Suspended Animation."

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Fall Events at Steam Museum



Children are the big draw at fall events hosted by Hesston Steam Museum.

Hesston Steam Museum, 1201 E. County Road 1000 North, La Porte, will celebrate fall and Halloween with events Oct. 18-19 and 25-26.

The Hesston Ghost Train, appropriate even for small children, features a trip through the haunted forest aboard the Flying Dutchman Railroad.

The fall festival includes not only rides on three real steam railroads, but also the Hesston Steam Museum Cider Shed, which offers freshly squeezed apple cider. Hayride wagons carry visitors around the museum's 155-acre grounds. Other offerings include the blacksmith shop, turn-of-the-century steam-powered sawmill and snacks at Doc's Cafe.

Admission and parking are free. Train fares are \$5 for adults and \$3 for children 3-12. Trains run from noon to 5 p.m. Visit www.hesston.org for more information.

Dunebrook 25th Anniversary Gala

Dunebrook will celebrate its silver anniversary with a Silver Masquerade Gala on Saturday, Oct. 25, at Heston Hills, 1933 E. County Road 800 North, La Porte.

The evening includes feasting stations, a silent auction featuring sports collectibles, Notre Dame vs. Northwestern football tickets, fine wine and dining certificates, dancing to the music of Trouble Blind and presentation of the Lester Radke Community Service Award to Diana Dibkey.

Dunebrook was created in 1989 as a grassroots effort to improve the well-being of children in La Porte County and the response to allegations and suspicions of child abuse. It has grown to be a family resource and child advocacy center delivering home visitation, parenting classes, playgroups and public education and forensic (investigative) interviews upon request of law enforcement and the Department of Child Services. In 2005, the Indiana Department of Child Services regionalized prevention services and named Dunebrook to lead services in Region 2, comprising La Porte, Porter, Starke, Newton, Jasper and Pulaski counties. In 2013, Dunebrook served 300 families per month in home visitation, completed 7,181 home visits, performed 267 forensic interviews and presented Body Safety Child Sexual Molest Prevention Programs to 6,491 children, parents and educators.

This year's gala will honor Dibkey with the award. In addition to serving as Dunebrook's executive director prior to her retirement, she is recognized for establishing prevention services and blending intense parent support services with early literacy.

The award, first presented to its namesake, Lester Radke, recognizes community members who help improve the lives of others. Previous winners are Angie Nelson, Bruce and Julie Manner, Fred and Sue Miller, Duane Seifert, Dave De Lau, Norm Steider, Larry Fegaras, Rebecca Fistel and Joe Coar.

Contact Pam at Dunebrook at (800) 897-0007 or pam@dunebrook.org for more information about the gala, including sponsorships, program ads and auction donations. Visit www.dunebrook.org for additional information.

Polish-American Cultural Society

The Polish-American Cultural Society of Northwest Indiana, Michigan City Chapter, will meet at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 22, at the former St. Mary's School, 321 W. 11th St.

Meetings feature beginners' Polish language sessions and informal discussion of Polish-related topics. Call Theresa Child at (219) 464-1369 or email polamnwi@yahoo.com for more information.

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Instructor's Exhibit

Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St., is hosting the Instructor's Exhibit, a collection of work from various art teachers, through Nov. 20.



One of Mark Montgomery's stained glass sundials.

Each instructor has offered a class in the last year on a regular or seasonal basis. The exhibit includes 2-D work from Helen Burkett (watercolor), Susie Rosso (oil), Jennifer Martin (oil), MaryAnn Pals (pastel), Richard Church (watercolor), Mark VanderVenne (oil), Andrew Biancardi (cartoon/caricature) and Danielle Volkman (mixed media). Three-dimensional pieces include Mark Montgomery (stained glass sundials), Mary Acton (*pysanky* eggs), Amy Miller-Hill (clay sculpture), Judy Gregurich (stained glass), Dean Hultman (clay sculpture) and Leslie Cefali (origami).

Visit www.chestertonart.com for more information.

"Dog & the Dolphin" Book Signing

Jim Dworkin will lead story time and a book signing for his new children's book, "The Dog & the Dolphin," from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 20, in the main lobby at IU Health La Porte Hospital, 1007 Lincolnway.

Children can meet Dworkin and illustrator Michael Chelich. Red, a friendly Irish setter and the book's main character, will be present for children to meet and pet courtesy of Rusty Acres Kennel in La Porte County.

Dworkin, the Purdue University-North Central chancellor, wrote the story inspired by a real experience, showing how friendships can crop up in unexpected ways. Proceeds from book sales will benefit childhood education scholarships at PNC.

Free gift bags will be available to the first 75 children. A limited number of signed books (75) will be available for purchase at a discounted price of \$8 each, with Dworkin and Chelich personalizing each book, which also is available through amazon.com for \$8.99.

Annual Fall Festival

International Friendship Gardens, 2055 U.S. 12, will hold its annual fall festival from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 19.

Master Gardeners and volunteers will lead garden tours and nature walks. Local vendors will have food, hot drinks and crafts. Musicians will perform in the afternoon.

Dogs on leads are welcome. Golf carts are available for those needing special assistance. Donations will be accepted.

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The Micky Gallas Properties family mourns the recent loss of our dear friend and colleague *Robert John Anderson.*



Robert passed away unexpectedly on October 2, 2014, leaving behind his cherished partner Randy Autry, his loving parents Frederick and Dorothy, brother Scott (Esther), nieces Isabella and Sophia and personal assistant & friend Adrienne Rodriguez.

Robert was an incredible person and an icon in the real estate industry both in Illinois and more recently in the beach area of LaPorte County. Robert was very respected as a realtor in Chicago with Baird and Warner, involved in many facets of the industry, always placing the needs of his clients, first and foremost.

Robert was such a very good friend to all that were privileged enough to know him. His light heartedness, humor and authentic self will be terribly missed. Robert branded himself with this unique logo indicating that he was "head and shoulders" above the rest. Robert will always be remembered by that brand and with such fondness.



Robert left this world much too soon. However, during our time together, we were always reminded by him of what truly mattered in life, promoting laughter each day as an integral part of living our best lives.

Thank you Robert for the time that we shared together and the lifelong lessons that you taught us. You will never be forgotten and will live in our hearts always.

Micky Gallas

Three Pianists Concert and Exhibit

ArtsBridge, a celebration of the arts, will open its fourth annual season with "Three Pianists Concert and Exhibit" at 4 p.m. EDT Sunday, Oct. 19, at First Presbyterian Church, 475 Green Ave. on Morton Hill in Benton Harbor, Mich.

Pianists Jean Prosper, Charlene Jones and Marcelo Caceres will perform, the seventh time all three have collaborated in a piano concert together at the church. Selections will include classical, jazz and gospel, as well as original compositions.

Cara Garnett will have decorative fibers on display and for sale.

A reception will follow the program in Goff Hall. Admission is free, but donations are accepted. Call (269) 925-7075 or visit First Presbyterian Church in Benton Harbor on facebook for more information.

"Window on the West"

"Window on the West: Views from the American Frontier" runs Oct. 18 through Jan. 11 at The South Bend Museum of Art, with an opening reception from 6 to 8 p.m. EDT Saturday, Oct. 18.

A collection of Arthur Phelan, the exhibit features 64 paintings and drawings by artists who were some of the first non-indigenous people to cast an eye over the western frontier. Artists include some of the most prominent American landscape and genre painters of the 19th and early 20th centuries, including John James Audubon, Albert Bierstadt, Frederick Remington, John F. Kensett and Peter Moran.

Loosely divided into three themes, the exhibit explores the ways in which America's ideas of national identity became intertwined with, and expressed through, the country's visual conception of the western frontier. "Natural Beauty, Natural Wonder" consists of landscapes sometimes painted to lure potential settlers with depictions of the wide open spaces, mountainous skylines and geological formations foreign to the native scenery of the East Coast. Similarly, views depicting "Western Settlement and Development" attempted to persuade potential settlers that frontier life, while still exotic, offered luxuries and security comparable to what they were leaving behind. A third section, "Images and Icons," documents the people who came before and after settlement began to alter the raw natural beauty of the landscape.



Albert Bierstadt's 1859 oil on canvas, "Nebraska Territory Wasatch Mountains."

During the opening reception, held in the Warner Gallery, Phelan will speak at 7 p.m. EDT.

The museum is located in The Century Center, 120 S. St. Joseph St. Email info@southbendart.org, call (574) 235-9102 or visit www.southbendart.org for more information.

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Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

The following programs are through Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore:

• **The Save the Tunes Council performs from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Friday, Oct. 17, at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.**

The group preserves and passes on folk songs in the traditional way, using instruments such as the guitar, autoharp, dulcimer, banjo, harmonica, bagpipe, penny whistle and hurdy gurdy.

• **Century of Progress Homes Tours from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 18.**

Join a ranger at the Indiana Dunes Visitor Center for a tour of four historic homes from the 1933 Chicago World's Fair. The limited tours are available by reservation only. Each lasts two hours and includes an inside look at the Cypress Log Cabin, Florida Tropical, Armco Ferro and Wieboldt-Rostone houses.

The cost is \$20. Tickets can be purchased at www.DunesNationalPark.org

• **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.

Indiana Dunes State Park

The following programs are offered through Indiana Dunes State Park:

Saturday, Oct. 18

• **10 a.m. — Sassafras Saunter.**

View the peaking fall colors during a short stroll from the Nature Center.

• **2 p.m. — How About Them Apples.**

Meet outside the Nature Center and have your apple knowledge quized as applesauce is made over the campfire.

Sunday, Oct. 19

• **10 a.m. — A Witch Hunt.**

Meet at the Nature Center for a 45-minute stroll in search of the last woodland flower of the year: the witch hazel.

• **1 p.m. — Indiana Plant ID.**

The special INPAWS program in the Nature Center Auditorium features guest speaker Kay Yatski-evych, who will highlight her work in creating the Indiana Plant ID PDF. The program is sponsored by INPAWS, but free and open to the public.

• **7 p.m. — Owls Up Close.**

Meet at the Nature Center for a look at a special saw-whet owl banding project. If conditions are right, visitors will have close views of the owl.

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.

Free Showing of "Chef"

Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St., as part of its Fall Film Series, will present a free showing of "Chef" at 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 19.

The movie tells the story of Carl Casper, a master chef in a trendy L.A. restaurant who goes from being a master of his kitchen to taking a loan from his ex-wife to operate a food truck. Jon Favreau (the first two "Iron Man" movies) wrote, directed and stars as Carl.

Sofia Vergara plays his well-to-do ex-wife Inez who, through a series of circumstances, provides some help thanks to her first husband (Favreau's "Iron Man" star, Robert Downey Jr.). The opportunity to refurbish a food truck and drive it from Miami to L.A. provides an unexpected opportunity for Carl to reignite his passion for food, connect with the son he has with Inez and rediscover his passion for food, and for life.

The movie, which is rated R, is offered through a collaboration with Purdue University-North Central's Odyssey Arts and Cultural Events Series.

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



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Origami Classes

Leslie Cefali will teach two origami classes at Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St.

First up is "Galaxy of Stars — Origami Stars" from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 25. Students will fold easy flat stars that can be glued to the front of handmade cards, tucked into envelopes with holiday greetings or hung on a tree as ornaments or garland. Cefali also will show how to fold 3-D stars. Students should take a lunch, along with a pack of 3-inch origami paper (colored on one side and white on the other) available at any local craft store.



Examples from the "Money Folds — Origami with Dollar Bills" class.

Cefali then will teach a "Money Folds — Origami with Dollar Bills" class from 6 to 9 p.m. Wednesdays, Oct. 29 and Nov. 5. Play money will be available for purchase, or students can bring crisp, new bills to fold. Students will learn how to turn dollars into stars, turtles, fish, shirts and houses.

The cost for each class (one-day stars class or two-week money class) is \$40 for members and \$45 for non-members. Call (219) 926-4711 to register.

Westchester Public Library

The following programs are available through Westchester Public Library:

• **Bookmarks at the Museum at 2 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 16, at Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.**

Dennis Norman will review Hilary Mantel's Thomas Cromwell trilogy. It is not necessary to read the books before attending. Copies are available at Thomas and Hageman libraries.

• **"The American Civil War: A Series on the Major Battles" continues with a look at the Battle of Chickamauga from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Oct. 18, at the Library Service Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.**

History buff and Civil War enthusiast Thomas Murphy will present the free program. No registration is required.

• **"Prescription Drug Plans: Medicare Part D" from 11 a.m. to noon Tuesday and Saturday, Oct. 21 and 25, in the Bertha Wood meeting room at Westchester Public Library, Thomas branch, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.**

RSVP and SHIP volunteer Thomas Murphy will focus on the prescription drug plan that is part of Medicare. Open enrollment for Part D runs through Dec. 7.

• **The iPad launch party, Apple iPad Day, on Saturday, Oct. 18.**

Hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Thomas Library and 1 to 2 p.m. at Hageman Library, 100 Francis St., Porter.

Attendees can try a hand-cranked apple peeler, slice red delicious apples, make an apple craft, play board games and sample apple cider.

Jim's Fiesta Villa Reunion

A Jim's Fiesta Villa reunion, open to former employees, neighbors and customers, is from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Oct. 18, in the downstairs hall at Fraternal Order of Police, 401 Johnson Road, Trail Creek.

Take cookies to share, as well as pictures and saved items. "Like" the event on Facebook at Jim's Fiesta Villa Alumni. Robin Crozier, Jeanie Hakim and Linda Weeks organized the event.

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Michigan City Public Library

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

• **Art à la Carte: OctoBOO Craft at 3:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 16.**

Decorate your own creepy house. All materials are provided. The program is appropriate for children 5 and older accompanied by an adult.

• **Bookmarks: "Wolf Hall and Bring Up the Bodies" at 2 p.m. Friday, Oct. 17.**

Dennis Norman is the reviewer.

• **Stress Reduction, Relaxation and Mindfulness Class at 10 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 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.

• **Crazy Loops and Looms at 3:30 p.m. Mondays, Oct. 20 and 27.**

Take loops and share ideas with others. A limited supply of looms and rubber loops will be available. The program is appropriate for youth 8-18.

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

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

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

ICS October Special

Independent Cat Society, 4061 S. County Line Road, Westville, will have for adoption black, orange or orange-combination cats and kittens for \$50 each in October.

The fee includes spay or neuter, current vaccinations, flea treatment, nail trim and a free initial vet visit within two weeks of the adoption.

Call (219) 785-4936 or email www.shelter@catsociety.org for more information.



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blessing of the animals

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Oleg Semkoff

Trinity Episcopal Church, 600 Franklin Square, held a low-cost vaccination clinic, as well as the Blessing of the Animals, on Oct. 4 as part of the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi.



MCHS Senior Named Semifinalist



Michigan City High School senior Alex Deutscher has been named a National Merit Scholar semifinalist by the National Merit Scholarship Corp.

Each year, high school students enter The National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. Only 16,000 students are recognized as National Merit Scholar semifinalists from among the 1.5 million taking the test in the U.S. and abroad.

A National Honor Society member, Deutscher has been involved in several academic, extracurricular and volunteer activities. He is active in Steering Committee, Science Olympiad and Stage Crew. He will be stage manager for the school musical, "Oklahoma!," in November. He attended Boys' State and is involved in the South Shore Youth Leadership for Community Engagement program through Leadership Northwest Indiana. Through SLYCE, he became involved with the Northwest Indiana Youth Employment Council.

He also attended Coolspring Elementary School and Barker Middle School. The son of Rick and Rhonda Deutscher, he helps care for beef cows on his family's farm. He also works part time at GFS as a stock clerk and sales associate, and volunteers at Lake Hills Elementary School, where he assists with after-school STEM enrichment programs. Upon graduation, he plans to major in chemistry and is considering Indiana University, Michigan, Purdue or MIT. He achieved a near-perfect score on the SAT, scoring a perfect 800 in Math.

Deutscher now is eligible for consideration as a National Merit Scholar. The distinction is based on an application and essay highlighting the student's abilities, grades, SAT scores and accomplishments. National Merit scholars may receive a variety of scholarships from colleges, corporations and the National Merit Scholar organization.

Annual Women's Fair

Those attending this year's Women's Fair should wear comfortable shoes and clothing, because the county's largest health event is getting a lot more interactive.

Set for noon to 6 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 21, at Blue Chip Casino's Stardust Event Center, the event by IU Health La Porte Hospital, and supported by The Foundation, includes free screenings for diabetes, high blood pressure, osteoporosis, hearing loss, oral cancer and breast cancer (clinical breast exams). Live cooking demonstrations featuring culinary specialist Chef Mark Anthony will include audience participation and healthy recipe sampling.

Keynote speakers include:

- 12:30 p.m., Dr. Seth Tatel – "Colonoscopy: The Prep is The Worst Part."
- 2 p.m., Nurse Practitioner Natalie Eddy – "Osteoporosis: It's Not Our Grandmother's Disease."
- 4 p.m., Heart patient Sue Clebeck and Dr. Rishi Sukhija – "How Running a Red Light Saved my Life."

Vendors will be present, and other giveaways and drawings are planned. Visit www.youngerlife.org to register in advance or for more information.

Duneland Historical Society

The Duneland Historical Society will have its fall dinner for members and guests only at 6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 16, at the Westchester Public Library Service Center, 100 West Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

The regular program — free and open to the public — starts at 7:30 p.m.

Chesterton native Jim Ton, a retired educator and principal, and a current Chesterton Town Council member, will present the history of the New York Central Railroad in Westchester Township. He will focus on the history of freight and passenger trains, changes in technology and the impact on local life. He also will present artifacts from the railroad.

Duneland Historical Society membership applications will be available. Call (219) 983-9715 for additional information.

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Historical Society Museum Releases Curator's Report

The La Porte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave., La Porte, released its September curator's report.

Visitors came from 12 counties, 16 states, Japan, Germany, Belgium and Australia. The La Salle Cadillac Club visited Sept. 25. "Who is a Hoosier?," the traveling Indiana Historical Society exhibit, ran through Oct. 7. The current fall display, "Whatzit-Deux?," continues through the end of November.

Donations included:

- Lenick's Dairy individual creamers used at Bozek's Restaurant in Rolling Prairie, 1960s, Joe Bozek.
- Wind-up dry shaver, used in World War II by Lawrence Essling, Lee Rippy.
- Victorian wedding dress from Michigan City circa 1898, Georgiana Poteet.
- Telephone directory, 1956, Carborundum filing strips used by Rumely Co., Nelson Blengeri.
- Kuhn Ice & Coal Co. ice pick, lifeguard horn, circa 1940, both from Michigan City, Gretchen Bergan.
- Oil painting by Alvin Schwinkendorf circa 1950, trombone from Roxy Music Store, Mitchell Chevrolet clipboard from 1950, Michael W. Keyworth.



A 1956 Ford T-Bird bequeathed by Clifford Gliva to the La Porte County Historical Society Museum.

- La Porte Slicer license plate from 1982, photos of opening of Martin Oil Service Co. from 1989, Morris Hope.
- Truck fire bell from Station 1, Vicky Gauger for the Swanson Center.
- Aprons, sugar and creamer, hankies, toddler boys outfit, 1950, ladies' collars, Elizabeth Gautier.
- Mink pill-box hat from 1960s, June Reeves.
- La Porte Little Theatre memorabilia, Bonnie Quigley.
- Elstonian, Susan Wolf.
- Archival information, Doug Strieter, Michael Keyworth, Ron Harder and Jean Chlupacek.
- Items for the sale table, Doug Strieter, Michael Keyworth, Thomas J. Lay for Jack Lay, Jean Chlupacek and Fran Mellinthin.

A Halloween event is being planned for Oct. 25. Visitors can write down a scary experience that may or may not have involved a ghost in La Porte County. The museum will have a program where each story will be read, then kept on file. Refreshments will be served.

The Historical Society took possession of a 1956 Ford T-Bird bequeathed by Clifford Gliva. Anyone interested in volunteering at the museum can call (219) 324-6767.



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Elkhart Juried Regional Exhibit

The Midwest Museum of American Art, 429 S. Main St., Elkhart, will present the 36th Elkhart Juried Regional Exhibit through Sunday, Dec. 7.

The competition is a survey of current trends by artists from 18 northern Indiana counties and four southern Michigan counties. This year, 250 artists submitted 434 works in all media for consideration. The exhibit features 197 works by 153 artists.

Awards presented to artists total \$29,100. Judges were Steven Conant, art collector from Indianapolis, and Rachel Perry, curator of art emeritus at Indiana State Museum, Indianapolis.

Local winners were:

- Ken and Kathy Zienty Merit Award — “What Ever Happened to the Seven Dwarfs,” a mixed-media assemblage by Marcia Sindone, La Porte.
- \$900 Purchase Award — Daniel and Linda Burns, Elkhart, for “White Vase with Fruit,” an oil on paper by Frances Cox, Michiana Shores.
- \$700 Purchase Award — Connie Fulmer, Elkhart, for “Japanese Window,” a watercolor by Judith Rein, La Porte.

The museum is open from (all times Eastern) 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$4 for students 5 and older. Family admission for groups of three or more is \$10. Sunday is Free Family Day. Visit www.midwestMuseum.US for more information.

“Dunes and Blooms” Exhibit

Valparaiso University’s Brauer Museum of Art will present color photographs by Pete Doherty and Joanne Markiewicz through Feb. 27.

Doherty is a former bank marketing executive who launched Doherty Images in 2005. A freelance photographer, he specializes in photographing the Indiana Dunes and Chicago lakefront. He also provides commercial photography to clients throughout Northwest Indiana and Chicago. His work has been exhibited in galleries throughout Northwest Indiana and appeared in publications such as Chicago Life Magazine, USA Today, Forbes Magazine, Golf Now Chicago, Northwest Indiana Business Quarterly Magazine and “Dreams of Duneland,” a pictorial book by local author Ken Schoon.

Markiewicz worked in the medical field for more than 25 years. She is intrigued by flowers’ beauty and life cycles. A self-taught photographer, she has worked with professionals in the field, including National Geographic photographers, and counts Doherty as one of her main influences. Her work has been on display throughout Northwest Indiana, with 100 percent of proceeds benefitting the Hospice of the Calumet Area.

Contact Kristen Knoerzer at kristen.knoerzer@valpo.edu for more information.



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Second Author Day

Buchanan Art Center will present more than 20 local authors as part of Author Day 2014 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. EDT Saturday, Oct. 18, at the Buchanan Area Senior Center, 810 N. Ryneerson Ave., Buchanan, Mich.

The "meet and greet" features book signings and excerpts from select books read by the authors. The readings start at 10 a.m. EDT. Books may be purchased and signed, and select titles will be awarded as door prizes.

Authors scheduled to participate are: Nan Baker; Bobby Blaylock; Amy Braat; Dayle Brown; Tara Carlsen; Merry B. Clark; Rosemary Gard; Dr. Carla Johnson; Doris Kelly; Peggy McGee; Melody Muckenfuss; Michele Phillips; Margaret Reule; Gabrielle Robinson; Patricia Rose; Shallow End Gals; Maris Soule; Dorothy Tristan; Christina Vagenius; Anne Vandermolen; Walter Ward; and B.I. Woollet.

Food will be available for purchase. The event is free, but donations will be accepted. Call the Buchanan Art Center at (269) 697-4005 or visit facebook.com/BACauthorDay for more information.

Green Drinks in Michigan City

Northwest Indiana Green Drinks in Michigan City will host the program "Promoting Global Worming: How Your Votes Can Fund a Project and Save our Planet!" at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 16, at Shoreline Brewery, 208 Wabash St., Michigan City.

Kathy Sipple of 219 GreenConnect and My Social Media Coach has entered her worm project into a national competition for funding so she can share her knowledge of vermicomposting through local workshops. Visit <http://mfpp.ymca.net/project/community-worm-project> to vote daily to support her efforts.

Sipple earned the Master Recycler/Composter designation through the Porter County Recycling and Waste Reduction District, the first program of its kind in Indiana.

Northwest Indiana Green Drinks in Michigan City meets the third Thursday of each month at Shoreline Brewery. Events are supported by 219 GreenConnect and sponsored by Save the Dunes. The suggested donation is \$5, or \$2 for students. Call (219) 874-6809 for more information.

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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. Wednesday, Oct. 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.

• **Project Wild: Environmental Education from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 18.**

Project Wild provides K-12 educators with the tools to teach wildlife and ecology. Themes include animal habitat games, population ecology and endangered species. The program can be a CEU credit course. The cost is \$35 for non-members and \$30 for members. Visit Taltree.org or call (219) 462-0025 for more information or to register.

• **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.

Three Oaks Wurstfest

Aimed at families, and celebrating fall and local businesses, the second Three Oaks Wurstfest is from noon to 7 p.m. EDT Saturday, Oct. 18.

Held on Elm Street between Linden and Central, the free event will feature kids games, live entertainment, food and an adult beverage tent. Local vendors include Southwest Michigan Buttery LLC, The Rotary Club of Harbor Country, RVSD Blessings in a Backpack, The Region of Three Oaks Museum and Drier's Meat Market.

Entertainment includes Old Style Band, Venetia Sekema and Gina McLaughlin.

Visit www.facebook.com/threeoakswurstfest or call the Three Oaks Flag Day Committee at (269) 612-2015 for more information.

Pork Roast Dinner

St. Mary of the Lake Altar and Rosary Society will have its annual Pork Roast Dinner from noon to 3 p.m. EDT Sunday, Oct. 19, at St. Mary of the Lake Catholic Church, 718 W. Buffalo St., New Buffalo, Mich.

Held in the lower-level church hall, dinner will include roast pork, gravy, dumplings, cabbage casserole, sauerkraut, rye bread, pie and beverages. The cost is \$10 for adults and \$3 for children 10 and younger. Takeout is available.

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Alzheimer's Walk Raises \$27,500+

More than 200 residents from La Porte and surrounding counties joined the Oct. 5 Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's in Washington Park.

Totals are being finalized, but initial numbers indicate participants raised more than \$27,500 to fund Alzheimer's care, support and research.

Walk participants did more than complete the one-mile walk. They learned more about the disease and the association's role in the fight against it, including the latest about Alzheimer's research and current clinical trials, how they can become involved in advocacy efforts at home and in Washington, D.C., and the association's support programs and services. The event also included a tribute to those who have experienced or are experiencing the disease.

Donations to the walk are still being accepted to reach the \$50,000 fundraising goal. Visit alz.org/Indiana or call (800) 272.3900 to donate or for additional information.



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Brats and Bulbs Sale

The sixth Annual Fall Brats and Bulbs Sale is from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 18, at the Marquette Park Aquatorium, 6918 Oak Ave. in the Miller Beach neighborhood of Gary.

The event, sponsored by the Miller Garden Club, features more than 30 varieties of spring bulbs, as well as pumpkins, chrysanthemums and corn stalks. Live bluegrass music is planned, along with traditional fall fare of a brats sandwich, chips and a cold beverage for \$4.

The club's mission is to help beautify the lake-front, stimulate the knowledge of gardening among members and help protect native trees and plants in the community.



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Historical Society

The La Porte County Historical Society Inc. will meet Tuesday, Oct. 21, in the meeting room at La Porte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave., La Porte.

The meeting is at 7 p.m., followed by the program "La Porte County Hauntings." La Porte County Historian Fern Eddy Schultz will share tales of Michigan City's West Beach Ghost, the Orr Lake Road legend, the lore of La Porte's Woman in White on Michigan Avenue and the "I" Street Andrew-Zimmerman House.

Guests are welcome. Visit www.laportecountyhistory.org, email info@laportecountyhistory.org or call (219) 324-6767 for more information.



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TEAM STANDING

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2. Pin-ettes	12	8
3. Gutter Golfers	10	10
3. Striking Beauties	10	10
3. Bowling Goddesses	10	10
3. Lady Strikers	10	10

HIGH INDIVIDUAL GAMES

	SCORE
1. June Salmon	181
2. Ellie Parkerson	157
3. Mary Lou McFadden	156
4. Ann Bogart	153
5. Heidi Jaffee	147

THREE IN A ROW

Ellie Parkerson, June Salmon

SPLITS

1. June Salmon	6-7-9
2. Ellie Parkerson	3-10

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

"Eurydice"

Valparaiso University Department of Theatre will present "Eurydice" through Oct. 19 in the Studio Theatre at VU's Center for the Arts.

Writer Sarah Ruhl reimagines the classic myth of Orpheus through the eyes of its heroine. Dying too young on her wedding day, Eurydice must journey to the underworld, where she reunites with her father and struggles to remember her lost love.

The production is directed by Lee Orchard, theater professor and department chair.

Performances are at 8 p.m. Oct. 16-17 and 2 p.m. Oct. 18-19. Contact Kristen Knoerzer at kristen.knoerzer@valpo.edu for more information.

Chapter Leader Attends Conference

The country's largest women's shooting organization held its National Shooting Chapter Leader Conference on Oct. 3-5 in St. Louis.

Linda Levan, the Local Well Armed Woman Shooting Chapter leader, attended the event.

The Northwest Indiana chapter meets monthly at Michigan City Rifle Club to provide a woman-friendly environment to learn and grow as shooters. Contact Levan at ladypistol007@gmail.com for more information.

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Prescribed Fires

The National Park Service is planning five prescribed fires this fall within Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.

Approximately 1,106 acres will be burned as a tool for the park's long-term restoration efforts.

On the east end of Beverly Shores, 186 acres will be burned between Montana Avenue and Central Avenue Beach to help create a buffer that lowers the threat of wildfire on the town's east end.

On the west side of Dune Acres, 583 acres in the Cowles Bog area will be burned. The area is between Dune Acres and the NIPSCO Bailly Generating Station. Prescribed fire will help protect and renew the areas once studied by Henry Chandler Cowles for his theories on ecological succession.

Not far from the park headquarters in Porter, 196 acres of the Mnoke Prairie will be affected.

Approximately 125 acres on the east side of Ogden Dunes, within the area of the Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk, are to be burned. The purpose is to reduce the threat of wildfires on the community by reducing available fuels on National Park Service and Ogden Dunes lands.

In Gary, 16 acres in Miller Woods are slated to be burned. The area immediately surrounds the Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education and serves to protect the center from the threat of wildfires. By park staff intentionally burning the leaves, brush and other forest debris, there is less fuel on the ground for a wildfire to burn, resulting in decreased threat to the facility.

The program is conducted by trained and experienced National Park Service fire personnel. Smoke dispersal is a primary concern, and park staff will do everything possible to limit smoke in the area by monitoring wind and atmospheric conditions prior to ignitions. However, smoke drifting in and around park lands and roadways is possible.

Clear management goals and objectives have been established for each burn unit. Weather conditions will be monitored throughout the duration of the burn to ensure the fire is completed safely.

La Porte County Parks



All registrations and questions go through the Red Mill County Park Administrative Office, 0185 S. Holmesville Road, La Porte. Call (219) 325-8315 or visit www.laportecountyparks.org for more information.

Stroller, Baby and You

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

The free program is from 10 to 11 a.m. Monday, Oct. 20, Nov. 10, Dec. 8 and 15 at Red Mill County Park. Call at least one week in advance to register.

Parent & Child Discovery Days

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

Programs are from 6 to 7:15 p.m. at Red Mill County Park. The cost is \$5 per child/per program. Pre-registration and payment are required at least one week in advance or until full, whichever comes first.

The lineup is:

- Oct. 22 — Halloween Fun (Come in Costume).
- Nov. 5 — Who, Who, Who.
- Nov. 12 — They Live Where?
- Dec. 3 — Let it Snow.

Senior Lifestyles

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

The group meets from 9 to 10 a.m. at Red Mill County Park. The schedule is:

- Nov. 5 — La Porte County Historian Fern Eddy Schultz discusses Indiana historical markers in La Porte County.

Teachers-Groups-Scout Leaders

Free environmental education programs are offered to groups throughout the year. Programs last one hour or longer depending on the group size and age. Programs can be scheduled at Creek Ridge, Bluhm or Red Mill parks. Call (219) 325-8315 for more information or to make a reservation.

Shelter and Hall Reservations

Call (219) 325-8315 to make reservations for one of many picnic shelters at any of the four county parks, or Pat Smith Hall at Red Mill County Park for a family function.

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Scrabble Tournament Winners

READ La Porte County has announced the winners of its annual Scrabble Tournament, held Sept. 25, at La Porte's Best Western Plus La Porte Hotel & Conference Center.

This year's event nearly sold out, with 36 teams in attendance. Senior Judge Steven King presided over the event. Tournament winners were:

- First Place: David Wittchen, Pat Tucker.
- Second Place: Jane Spirgel, Chris Perry.
- Third Place: Connie Conjalka, Jane Wickstrom.
- High Word Score: Jane Spirgel, Chris Perry.

Tournament proceeds will benefit READ La Porte County Inc., a United Way agency whose mission is to increase reading, math, English and digital literacy skills in the community. It offers free tutoring to children, adult learners and individuals learning English as a second language. Sessions are held at the library, in area schools and at the Community Corrections Center. Last year, READ saw 37 students from ages 6 to 66 benefit from its programs.

Library Poetry Event

New Buffalo Township Public Library, 33 N. Thompson St., will present an evening of poetry, snacks and the chance to connect with writers from around the U.S. from 7 to 9 p.m. EDT Saturday, Oct. 18.

Held in the library's Pokagon Room (the remainder of the library will not be open), the event will include a short reading from each poet, then time to chat with each one.

Poets confirmed to attend include: Marci Rae Johnson, Tania Runyan, Nathaniel Hansen, Brad Fruhauff, Dave Harrity, Dan Bowman, Nathan Gower and Thom Caraway.

Advanced Video Editing Workshop

The Purdue University-North Central Office of Graduate and Extended Learning and Department of Communication will offer non-credit Advanced Video Editing Topics workshops from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays, Nov. 1 and Nov. 8.

Participants learn to use settings, filters and special effects found in Sony Vegas video-editing software, covering topics such as multiple line editing and stacking, color adjustment, audio and visual envelopes and other features found in most package editing software. The workshop is taught by PNC Associate Professor of Communication Jeff Shires.

PNC will provide the video equipment and software; however, Shires recommends participants bring the devices they intend to use to capture video footage after the program ends so he can reveal how to maximize their capabilities. Personal video equipment might include camcorders, smartphones, camera phones and flip cameras.

The registration is \$139 per person. Special rates are available for PNC students, alumni and employees. The registration deadline is 4 p.m. Oct. 28. Visit www.pnc.edu/gel or contact the PNC Office of Graduate and Extended Learning at (219) 785-5343 for more information or to register.

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Activities to Explore

In the Local Area:

October 16 — Bookmarks at the Museum: Hilary Mantel's Thomas Cromwell trilogy, 2 p.m., Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.

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.

October 16-20 — Vickers Theatre, 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. *Now showing*: "My Old Lady." Rated PG-13. Times: 6 p.m. Thurs.-Mon. *Also*: "One Chance." Rated PG-13. Times: 9 p.m. Thurs.-Mon., also 3 p.m. Sat.-Sun. All times Eastern. Info: vick-erstheatre.com

October 17 — Bookmarks: "Wolf Hall and Bring Up the Bodies," 2 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

October 17 — The Save the Tunes Council, 7:30-9 p.m., Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. Info: (219) 395-1882.

October 17 — "The Signal: A Doo Wop Rhapsody," 8 p.m. EDT, The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: \$25. Info: www.acorntheater.com, (269) 756-3879.

October 17-19 — "Oliver!," Footlight Theatre, 1705 Franklin St. Times: 7:30 p.m. Fri.-Sat., 2 & 6 p.m. Sun. Tickets: \$15/adults, \$10/12 & younger. Info/reservations: (219) 874-4035, www.footlight-players.org

October 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, lapor-telec@yahoo.com

October 18 — 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 18 — La Porte Urban Enterprise Association Farmers Market, Lincolnway and Monroe Street, through October. Info: (219) 362-8260.

October 18 — Writing Out Loud: Marja Mills, 7:30 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

October 18 — Jim's Fiesta Villa reunion, 9 a.m.-noon, downstairs hall, Fraternal Order of Police, 401 Johnson Road, Trail Creek. Info: Facebook at Jim's Fiesta Villa Alumni.

October 18 — Century of Progress Homes Tours, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Starting point: Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. Cost: \$20. Tickets: www.DunesNationalPark.org

October 18 — Poetry event, 7-9 p.m. EDT, New Buffalo Township Public Library, 33 N. Thompson St.

October 18-19 — Pottery sale/open house, 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Paul Jeselskis Pottery, 619 Eastwood Road, Michigan City. Info: (219) 873-9543.

October 18-19 and 25-26 — Hesston Ghost Train, Fall Festival, Hesston Steam Museum, 1201 E. County Road 1000 North, La Porte. Admission/parking: free. Train fares: \$5/adults, \$3/children 3-12. Trains run noon-5 p.m. Info: www.hesston.org

October 19 — Free showing, "Chef," 2 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

October 19 — Annual fall festival, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., International Friendship Gardens, 2055 U.S. 12. Donations accepted. Info: (219) 878-9885.

October 20 — "The Dog & the Dolphin" reading/book signing, 4:30-5:30 p.m., main lobby at IU Health La Porte Hospital, 1007 Lincolnway.

October 21 — Women's Fair, 6 p.m., Blue Chip Casino's Stardust Event Center. Info/registration: www.youngerlife.org

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 18 — Sixth Annual Fall Brats and Bulbs Sale, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Marquette Park Aquatorium, 6918 Oak Ave., Gary's Miller Beach neighborhood.

October 18 — Buchanan Art Center's Author Day, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. EDT, Buchanan Area Senior Center, 810 N. Ryneerson Ave., Buchanan, Mich. Free, but donations accepted. Info: (269) 697-4005, facebook.com/BACauthorday

October 18 — Three Oaks Wurstfest, noon-7 p.m. EDT, Elm Street between Linden and Central, Three Oaks, Mich. Free. Info: www.facebook.com/threeoakswurstfest, (269) 612-2015.

October 18 — Texas in the Midwest Variety Show, 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 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

October 19 — St. Mary of the Lake Altar and Rosary Society annual Pork Roast Dinner, noon-3 p.m. EDT, St. Mary of the Lake Catholic Church, 718 W. Buffalo St., New Buffalo, Mich.

October 19 — Three Pianists Concert and Exhibit, 4 p.m. EDT, First Presbyterian Church, 475 Green Ave. on Morton Hill in Benton Harbor, Mich. Free, but donations accepted. Info: (269) 925-7075, First Presbyterian Church in Benton Harbor on facebook.



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HISTORY**



On October 16, 1793, during the French Revolution, France's Queen Marie Antoinette was beheaded.

On October 16, 1846, at Boston's Massachusetts General Hospital, Dr. John C. Warren performed the first public operation with the patient under the anesthetic effects of ether.

On October 16, 1943, Chicago's Mayor Edward J. Kelly officially opened the city's new subway system.

On October 16, 1962, the Cuban missile crisis was under way as President John Kennedy was informed that photographs revealed the presence of Soviet missile bases in Cuba.

On October 16, 1964, with an announcement that it had tested its first atomic bomb, China became the world's fifth nuclear power.

On October 16, 1969, the New York Mets, who started the season as 100 to 1 long shots to win the National League championship, defeated the Baltimore Orioles to win the World Series in five games.

On October 17, 1824, New York City's boarding-house keepers, because of the high cost of living, banded together and voted to serve their boarders only four prunes for breakfast.

On October 17, 1931, a federal court in Chicago convicted mobster Al Capone of income tax invasion. He was sentenced to 11 years in prison and fined \$50,000.

On October 17, 1939, Frank Capra's "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington" premiered in the nation's capital.

On October 17, 1968, former First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy announced that she would marry Greek shipping tycoon Aristotle Onassis.

On October 17, 1979, Mother Teresa was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for her 30 years of work among the destitute in Calcutta.

On October 18, 1767, the Mason-Dixon Line was established as the boundary between Maryland and Pennsylvania. The line was based on the computations of surveyors Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon, and was to become, for practical purposes, the dividing line between the North and the South.

On October 18, 1982, Bess Truman, widow of former President Harry Truman, died in Independence, MO, at the age of 97.

On October 19, 1879, Thomas Edison conducted the first successful demonstration of his electric light.

On October 19, 1944, Marlon Brando made his stage debut in Broadway's "I Remember Mama."

On October 19, 1973, John Dean, former White

House counsel, admitted he lied about the Watergate break-in and agreed to be a prosecution witness.

On October 19, 1977, the supersonic Concorde made its first landing in New York.

On October 20, 1873, P.T. Barnum opened the New York Hippodrome as the home for his "Greatest Show on Earth."

On October 20, 1882, actor Bela Lugosi was born in present day Lugoj, Romania.

On October 20, 1910, a baseball with a cork center was used for the first time in a World Series game.

On October 20, 1944, during World War II, General Douglas MacArthur stepped ashore in the Philippines, 2-1/2 years after his famous statement, "I shall return."

On October 20, 1954 "Peter Pan," starring Mary Martin as Peter Pan, opened on Broadway.

On October 20, 1994, screen star Burt Lancaster, who won an Oscar for his role in "Elmer Gantry," died, in Los Angeles, at the age of 80.

On October 21, 1797, the frigate *U.S. Constitution*, better known as "Old Ironsides," was launched at a Boston shipyard.

On October 21, 1906, Chicago's last cable car made its final run on Cottage Grove Avenue.

On October 21, 1964, the movie musical "My Fair Lady," starring Audrey Hepburn and Rex Harrison, opened in New York.

On October 21, 1976, Chicago author Saul Bellow was awarded the Nobel Prize for literature, the first American honored since John Steinbeck in 1962.

On October 22, 1721, Peter the Great took for himself the title of "Emperor of all Russia."

On October 22, 1811, Hungarian composer Franz Liszt, the most celebrated pianist of the 1800s, was born at Raiding.

On October 22, 1883, the original Metropolitan Opera House opened in New York City.

On October 22, 1934, bank robber Charles "Pretty Boy" Floyd was shot and killed by federal agents near East Liverpool, OH.

On October 22, 1939, the first televised pro football game, the Brooklyn Dodgers against the Philadelphia Eagles, was aired by NBC from Brooklyn's Ebbets Field.

On October 22, 1962, following the discovery of Soviet missile bases in Cuba; President John Kennedy announced that he had ordered United States air and naval forces to blockade the island nation.

On October 22, 1968, after 11 days in space, Apollo 7 astronauts Walter Schirra, Don Eisele, and Ronnie Cunningham, splashed down in the Atlantic Ocean.

On October 22, 1975, the Cincinnati Reds won the World Series, beating Boston 4 to 3 in game seven.

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FOR SALE: New Whites Prizm IV metal detector & headphones, hide-a-bed & matching chair. **Call (219) 872-5980 after 7 pm.**

GARAGE SALES, ESTATE SALES, ETC.

The Fabulous Fall Girlfriend Sale, your ultimate woman's resale clothing event. Plus, a bonus ½ price sale Sat., Oct. 25.
There are over 100 participants who have cleaned their 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. 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!

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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.

ESTATE SALE. ONE DAY ONLY

Saturday, Oct. 18, 9-5 EDT

Antique dressing tables, bureaus, desks, lamps, rugs. Stunning cane couch. Beautiful twin wood bed sets with box springs and mattresses. Kitchen utensils, metal tables and cabinets, collectibles, artwork, bicycles, books, toys and so much more. 14581 Lakeshore Road, Lakeside, Mich.

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STORAGE UNITS FOR RENT: 10 by 10 - \$40; 10 by 20 (can store car for the winter) - \$65. **Call (219) 363-5736.**

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Stop 31. Nicely furn. 3BR, 2BA with 3-season porch. Family room. Wi-Fi. \$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.**

Long Beach 8-month rental, 5BR/3BA, furnished, two fireplaces, 200 ft. to lake, \$875 per month+utilities. C/A, heat.

Call Tom at (708) 606-4614.

FALL/WINTER RENTAL at Stop 33.

2 blocks from beach. Charming décor, beautiful surroundings, 4BR, 2BA, family room with remote fireplace. Patio, deck, sun porch. A/C, W/D. September to June. No pets, no smoking. **\$890/mo. + util. Weekend rentals also available. See at VRBO.com #262805. Call 708-784-9866.**

SHERIDAN BEACH: Small 3 BR house, no smoking, no pets. Year-round rental. One car garage. Fenced-in yard. \$725 + utilities.
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Luxury 2035 SF Townhome avail. for rent. Hardwood flrs., Master Suite & laundry on 1st flr. Granite, Stainless Steel Appliances, guest bedroom, open loft, fireplace, basement, and 2-car attached garage. \$1,800/mo. Prefer 3 yr. lease. Inquire about Option to Purchase Credit. **Located at Beautiful Briar Leaf Golf Course between La Porte and New Buffalo.**
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THREE BLOCKS TO BEACH YEARLY RENTAL: Cute, clean 2 BR/2BA remodeled 2-unit, private deck, stove, fridge, W/D, off-street parking, \$850/mo.+utilities, no pets, credit checks, broker-owner, (219) 363-6818.

Sheridan Beach 2 bedroom 1 bath unfurnished apt. with washer/dryer. Lake views from living room & shared rooftop deck. \$750/mo + 1 mo. sec deposit. 1-yr. lease required. One unit avail Oct. 1. Must have references, and employment will be verified. No smoking, no pets.
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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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LONG BEACH WINTER RENTAL. Clean & nicely decorated. 3BR, 2BA, John Lloyd Wright home. Fully furn., remodeled kitchen, hardwood floors. Flatscreen TV, WiFi, C/A, lg. double tiered deck, garage.
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RENTALS MICHIGAN

Heart of New Buffalo: 2BR/1BA condo with a large private deck and one private parking spot located in a residential area in the heart of New Buffalo, MI. The unit is a 3-minute walk to shops and a 10-minute walk to the lake. The building is well lit, and the surrounding area is quiet and safe. Rent is \$550 per month and does not include utilities. Please contact Milt for more information. (708) 334-9955. Apply for this property at www.terrafirmainvestments.org.

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.

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

Computer Class for Beginners

The Purdue University-North Central Office of Graduate and Extended Learning will offer the non-credit computer workshop for beginners, "So You've Never Touched a Computer."

The four-day workshop, which introduces the basics of using a computer with Windows 7, is from 5 to 7 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays, Nov. 3-11. The \$159 registration fee includes reference materials and a textbook, which the students can use to study the material in more detail from home. The registration deadline is 4 p.m. Friday, Oct. 17.

The hands-on workshop covers topics such as understanding the equipment, basic computer terminology, working with files and folders, working with email and the Internet, downloading images from digital cameras and printing.

Call the Office of Graduate and Extended Learning at (219) 785-5343, or toll free at (800) 872-1231, Ext. 5343 (inside Indiana), or visit <http://www.pnc.edu/gel> for more information or to register.

Boy Scout Holiday Sale

Long Beach Boy Scout Troop 802 is selling wreaths and other items for Thanksgiving delivery.

Wreaths (24, 36, 48 and 60 inches), roping (25 inches), mailbox swags or door sprays and crosses (24 and 36 inches) are made from Balsam Evergreens and heavy gauge wiring.

Orders are due Sunday, Nov. 3, to ensure delivery the week of Thanksgiving. Payment can be made at the time of delivery.

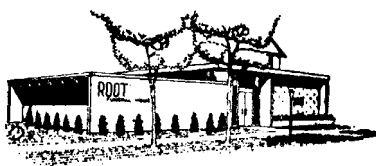
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Prayer to the Blessed Virgin

(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.



Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter

Shotgun Lovesongs by Nickolas Butler (hardcover, \$25.99 online and in bookstores)

Come with me this week to Little Wing, Wis., a fictional town set near Eau Claire, on the western side of the state. This is pure Midwest, from the fields and farms to the solid, family oriented people who live there, people like Leland, Ronny, Kip, Henry and Beth. All in their 30s now, each has a story to tell. Amazing, isn't it, that John Lennon was right all along when he said, *"Life is what happens when you're making other plans."*

Let me introduce you to our players.

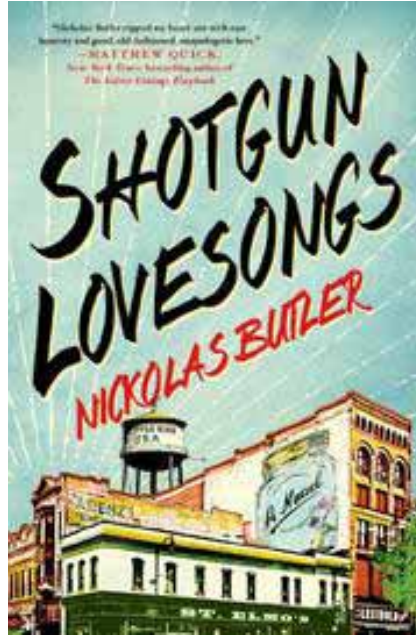
Henry stayed in Little Wing and took over the family farm. He married Beth, his childhood sweetheart, and they have two children. He is the solid one of the bunch: loyal, loving and committed to the land.

Beth has loved Henry since she was a little girl. She also loves their way of life and wouldn't change it for the world. Would she?

Ronny is the fun guy, the one in every social group who loves life and plays his part to the hilt. He's also an alcoholic. Ronny left town to become a bull rider on the rodeo circuit: lots of wins, lots of cash, lots of girlfriends and booze. And yet, he always came back to Little Wing to rest from his many wounds and reconnect with his friends. Then, there was that unfortunate incident that would change him forever.

Growing up, Lee always heard music. He heard it in the wind, felt it in the colors of nature around Little Wing and finally turned his passion into a multi-million selling album that granted him fame and kept him touring all over the world. But like Ronny, he always felt the pull of his hometown. He even bought a house outside of Little Wing to come back to when he needed to recuperate from the excesses of the road: *"...I was never in love with New York, or any other city for that matter. None of the cities I ever toured in. Here, life unfurls with the seasons...Here, I can hear things, the world throbs differently, silence thrums like a chord strummed eons ago, music in the aspen trees and in the firs and burr oaks and even in the fields of drying corn."*

Kip took himself to Chicago and made a name for himself in commodities trading. Now, he is back in Little Wing and about to get married, and bring his bride-to-be home for the biggest celebration the town has seen. And, a big production it was. However, *"The bachelor party was a mess."*



'Nuff said about that.

And then, there was the paparazzi that just happened to show up when Kip leaked it to the press that Lee would be singing at his wedding. Could the gang forgive him for that breach of friendship?

Kip then decides to buy the old boarded-up feed mill downtown with its six-story grain silos and remodel it into something new. Here was a chance to bring back some hope and activity to the town that suffered so much in the past years.

"Within ten months Kip had restored most of the mill...Old men came there to park their rusted trucks in the gravel lot and drink wan coffee as they leaned against their still warm vehicles, engines ticking down...They liked the new action that had accumulated around the mill. The delivery trucks, sales representatives, construction crews."

Life in a small farming community sound dull to you? The story proves it is anything but dull. Like the changing Wisconsin seasons, so beautifully described in Butler's simple prose, these five friends will see their relationships change and evolve into something more mature and stronger, but not before they encounter the storms and icy winds that test us all.

So there you have it: love and laughter, hurt and shame and a fitting ending at the local Veterans of Foreign Wars post that has to do with a stolen barrel of pickled eggs. Now that's something folks in Little Wing can talk about for years to come — maybe you, too.

My English teacher once told me: "Write what you know about." That's exactly what Butler did — it's a literary tribute to middle America and a vanishing way of life.

People wrote: "Sparkles in every way. A love letter to the open lonely American heartland...A must-read."

Kirkus Reviews gave a starred review, and *Christian Science Monitor* wrote: "Using different narrators for the various characters is a brilliant move. Each is polished and well worth hearing."

Shotgun Lovesongs is the winner of five literary awards and was an Amazon Best Book of the Month for March 2014.

Butler was born in Pennsylvania, but raised in Eau Claire, Wis. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin and the Iowa Writers' Workshop.

Till next time, happy reading!



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