THE Beaches

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Michigan City, IN 46360

Renaissance Man James Carter Cathcart's Career Has Caken Him From Classical Music, to Rock 'M' Roll to "Pokémon"

by Andrew Tallackson



James Carter Cathcart presented a piano recital to aid Michigan City soup kitchens in July at First Presbyterian Church.

James Carter Cathcart, you could say, *is* the voice of a generation.

For those in their 20s or 30s who grew up devouring Japanese anime such as "Pokémon," "Sonic X," "Shadow the Hedgehog," "Yu-gi-oh!" or "Slayers," they likely experienced a character Cathcart voiced or watched an episode he wrote. It takes the fans, ironically, to remind him of the impact he's had on their lives.

Voiceover work can be lonely work. Characters are recorded separately, then edited together to make the dialogue appear seamless. The actor steps into a small room — the director present on the other side of a glass window — records the dialogue, then moves on, whether it be to another character or an entirely different show.

"At times," Cathcart said, "I didn't know how popular some of these things got. Then, I'd go to these anime conventions, and it was the best thing I could have done."

He then adds, laughing, "I learned more about the stuff I did from these kids than I actually realized."

For Cathcart, 2014 has been a milestone year. He turned 60 January, briefly returning to Michigan City in July for a benefit piano recital to aid Michigan City soup kitchens. "Pokémon," which appears on Cartoon Network, is nearing the end of its 17th season. Writing for the show keeps him so busy, he rarely has time off. However, he took a

break from his hectic

schedule to speak



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with The Beacher about his career, his family and his love for his hometown: Michigan City.

Tracing Cathcart's past, it is no surprise he was drawn to the entertainment industry. His father, James — one of four brothers born in Michigan City — was an accomplished violinist, singer and bandleader who met his future wife, Mary Lyn Wilde, in 1942 through The Ray Noble Orchestra. They married in 1943. Mary Lyn Wilde appeared with her twin, Marion Lee, in nine films together, with Lyn appearing in an additional six on her own. Marion eventually wed James' brother, Tom.



Cathcart, not yet 2, listens to his father play the violin.

James eventually tired of the industry, persuaded by a friend employed with Pullman Standard to return to Michigan City, to apply his business degree — obtained from Indiana University — to work with the company. Lyn supported the move, to leave their life in California behind.

"She told my dad, 'I want to have kids, but I don't want to have them here'," Cathcart recalled.

James and Lyn moved to the area in 1952. James conducted The Michigan City Symphony, which drew huge audiences at Elston High School's auditorium, and performed in presentations of Handel's "Messiah." Lyn modeled and acted in local produc-



A Christmas photo of the Carthcart family: James E., Lyn, James Carter and Lee Ann.

tions, and was the Miss Indiana Pageant stage director in 1956, also serving throughout the state as a judge in the Miss America preliminary contests.

Carthcart was born in 1954. His jovial, welcome sense of humor is evident in the way he recalls how music was an essential element of his childhood.

"I was in the womb when (Vladimir) Horowitz's 25th anniversary record came out," Carthcart said, then adding with a laugh, "my dad was playing it constantly, so I was hearing Horowitz before I even popped out."

Michigan City, he recalls, was idyllic.

"The way of life in Michigan City, with so many businesses around, it was like Bedford Falls in 'It's a Wonderful Life'," he said. "When we came back for the recital in July, we went to Maxine's for dinner and it was great to see what's happening downtown."

Cathcart attended Barker Junior High School and in the 10th grade was accepted into Michigan's Interlochen Center for the Arts. His father was hesitant, having experienced the music industry first-hand. But Cathcart was determined. By the time he was 12, the piano was his instrument of choice — he took lessons from Mary Jane Lucas — but he also dabbled in the guitar and drums. The catalyst for him believing rock 'n' roll was here to stay? The Beatles performing "I Want to Hold Your Hand" on "The Ed Sullivan Show" in February 1964. Also when he was 12, Dan McNabb and Dale Trueax at First Presbyterian Church gave him a key to the building so he could practice the pipe organ there on

weekends. Later, he played drums in the pit, with Bill Boyd as music director, in Dunes Summer Theatre productions.



Cathcart as a young boy once received an accordion as a Christmas gift.

Music, indeed, was his passion, and his father came to peace with it after hearing his son perform during a private organ recital for him and Lucas at First Presbyterian. Carthcart would graduate as a piano mafrom Interlochen, having won several classical competitions in the He attended process. The University of Michigan for a while, but opportunities arose for him to perform in bands. He spent much of the 1970s

playing with bands that courted success by securing record deals with major labels.

By 1983, Cathcart admits he'd had enough of touring and opened a recording studio in Manhattan.

"That's when I started working with anybody and everybody," he said, jobs varying from movies and TV to jingles for advertising agencies. That's what led to him being hired for voiceover work in the early 1990s with "ABC Weekend Special," an anthology series that ran for 20 years — from 1977 to 1997 — and was hosted by an animated character, Cap'n O.G. Readmore. Cathcart's recording studio was doing music for the show, the budget for which he said was tight. Show executives wanted someone new for the voice of O.G. Cathcart told them he could do it.

Continued on Page 4



Cathcart took over the voiceover role of Cap'n O.G. Readmore on "ABC Weekend Special."

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Renaissance Man Continued from Page 3

"They loved it," Cathcart said of his work as O.G. "Little by little, I started to get more voiceover work."

That eventually led to his work in anime, the Japanese shortened pronunciation of "animation." The most enduring has been "Pokémon," released by Nintendo and unleashing a cottage industry of related merchandise, from toys and books to games and trading cards. About 48 to 52 episodes air per season in the United States.

Cathcart first landed the voiceover role of Gary Oak, Ash's first rival and based on the video game character Blue.

"Gary was a total snot. A brat," Cathcart said, laughing. "I meet kids now who are in their 20s, and when I tell them I'm Gary, it immediately takes them back to when they were, like, 8.

"That is so much fun (for me)."

The "Pokémon" series debuted in 1997. Four seasons in, the original writer quit. The creators brought in more writers, Carthcart said, but were unhappy with the results. Around that time, Cathcart separated from his first wife and obtained sole custody of his two children, who were 8 and 7 at the time. He wanted work that kept him at home so he could raise a family.

That's when the next chapter began in his life: writing "Pokémon" scripts.



Cathcart helped voice the character of Weevil in "Yû-gi-ôh."

'If you don't watch the show all the time, it doesn't make any sense," Cathcart said. "But, I told them at the time, 'Guys, I can do this. I know how they talk'."

Cathcart's work for the series, he said, is "all-consuming." At the same time, he added, he doesn't have to seek work. He's sent the Japanese version of the show and script, which is translated for him, then he rewrites it so when the American voice-over actors are edited in, the dialogue matches how the characters' lips move. The goal, he said, is to have it perfectly synced together.

"You have to come up with 900 different ways to write different jokes and keep the theme of the current story going," Cathcart said. "It's a challenge, but I've been doing it for so long, I can whip it out really quick."

Back in 2009, Cathcart decided he wanted to resurrect his classical music roots. So, he's been doing benefit recitals across the country, from New York to Texas.



Audiences listen to Cathcart perform in July at First Presbyterian Church.

His July concert in Michigan City brought him back to First Presbyterian, back to where as a youngster he honed his craft as a musician on the weekends. His mother, Lyn, who just turned 92, was there, as was his sister, Lee Ann, both of whom still live in the area. So was Bobbi Petru, the local American Red Cross community chapter executive (and first cousin to Cathcart's wife, Martha Jacobi) and a whole host of people who played an important role in Cathcart's life. The concert was a reminder that Michigan City and its people remain near and dear to his heart.

"My third-grade teacher from Marsh Elementary School was there," he said. "It was wonderful to see all these people," adding with his hearty, trademark laugh, "I was like a deer in the headlights. It fried my brain."



Cathcart has a laugh with concertgoers after his performance.



Cathcart performs in the First Presbyterian Church sanctuary.

All concert photos by Oleg Semkoff

Cathcart's mother, Lyn, attended the concert.



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Harvest Table/Day of the Dead Event

The Three Oaks Harvest Table and Day of the Dead Celebration is at 1:30 p.m. EDT Saturday, Oct. 25.

Visitors can meet at the arches of the Three Oaks Community Garden's gate in downtown Three Oaks, then in procession continue into the garden of more than 45 beds featuring herbs and vegetables.

The community is encouraged to take flowers, mementos or something found in nature to place on the Harvest Table. Food donations for the needy also will be accepted. Those present will honor loved ones — pets included — who have passed away. The occasion is modeled after the "Day of the Dead" holiday in which Mexican families build altars — called *ofrendas* — in honor of deceased ancestors or family members. They often leave items owned by the deceased or favorite food and drink.

The Three Oaks Community Garden was designed and built by Steve Shimek, Rick Tuttle and Lil Lewis, with the support of the Pokagon Fund, the Village of Three Oaks and Three Oaks Township. Residents, second-home owners, businesses and River Valley Elementary School students have grown crops. Some of the produce has been donated to food shelters and people in need. The Sunflower Garden Club Memorial Gardens frame the perimeter of the area and attract pollinators.



Sinai Forum

The Purdue University-North Central Sinai Forum continues its 61st season with author Robert Glennon speaking about America's water crisis Sunday, Oct. 26.



Glennon is the author of "Unquenchable: America's Water Crisis and What To Do About It" and "Water Follies: Groundwater Pumping and the Fate of America's Fresh Waters." In 2010, The Society of Environmental Journalists gave "Unquenchable" a Rachel Carson Book Award for Reporting on the Environment, while Trout magazine

gave it an honorable mention in its list of Must-Have Books published on the environment.

Glennon is regents' professor and Morris K. Udall Professor of Law and Public Policy in the Rogers College of Law at the University of Arizona. He has been a guest on "The Daily Show" with Jon Stewart, "Talk of the Nation" with Neal Conan, "The Diane Rehm Show," C-SPAN2's "Book TV" and numerous National Public Radio shows. He also has been a commentator for American Public Media's Marketplace. He is featured in the recent documentary, "Last Call at the Oasis."

Doors open at 3 p.m., with the program at 4 p.m., at Blue Chip Casino Stardust Event Center. Upcoming speakers include:

- Sunday, Nov. 16 John King, CNN's chief national correspondent and "Inside Politics" anchor.
- Sunday, Dec. 14 The Jazz Masters 101 Reunion.

Season tickets are \$100 for regular passes and \$200 for patron-level passes, which include backstage access to the speakers and an exclusive reception. Students who show a valid school I.D. are free. Tickets can be purchased at www.sinaiforum.org or at (219) 531-4200.



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Memorial Hall Rededication

The public is invited to the rededication of Memorial Hall at Memorial Opera House, 104 Indiana Ave., Valparaiso, on Saturday, Oct. 25.

The program will begin with a musical prelude by Jeff Doebler and the Valparaiso Community-University Concert Band at 9:25 a.m., with the rededication at 10 a.m. The ceremony will be conducted by members of the David D. Porter Camp 116 of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, with assistance from Memorial Opera House staff. The SU-VCW is the successor of the Grand Army of Republic formed by Union veterans after the Civil War.



Memorial Hall in 1898. This photo, published in "Headlight: Sights and Scenes Along the Grand Trunk Railway, Vol. 3, No. 6," was reproduced with permission from S. Shook

Memorial Opera House was built in 1893 by Chaplain Brown Post 106 of the Grand Army of the Republic as a memorial to Union soldiers and sailors who fought during the Civil War and given the name Memorial Hall. Post members held meetings in the building for years. As their numbers dwindled, the post transferred duties to their descendants, who organized the David D. Porter Camp.

Members of the David D. Porter Camp have been invited to once again hold meetings at Memorial Opera House. Tour the "Sons" meeting place after the ceremony. The Porter County Museum next door will be open for tours.



Indiana Dunes State Park

The following programs are offered through Indiana Dunes State Park:

Saturday, Oct. 25

• 10 a.m. — Things That Go Bump in the Night Hike.

Meet a naturalist at the Nature Center for a 45-minute stroll through fall woodlands. A test with prizes involves sounds heard in the woods at night.

• 2 p.m. — Creepy Campground Crafts.

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

• 4 to 7 p.m. — Campsite Decorating Contest.

Vote for your favorite campsite. All campers receive voting ballots at check-in, with prizes available. Winners will be posted at the campground gate after 8 p.m.

• 4 to 5:30 p.m. — Trick or Treating.

The annual tradition unfolds in the campgrounds. Expect limited vehicle traffic.

• 5:30 to 7 p.m. — Hay Rides.

The hay ride ventures through the campground and to the beach. Tickets, which are \$2 per person (children 3 and younger are free), can be purchased at the campground gate. Rides, which are at 5:30, 6 and 6:30 p.m., start at the camp store.

• 6 p.m. — Night Hikes.

Registration is limited. Signup begins at 9:30

• 8 p.m. — Owls Up Close.

Meet at the Nature Center for a look at the sawwhet owl banding project.

Sunday, Oct. 25

• 10 a.m. — Spooky 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. — 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.

• 7 p.m. — Owls Up Close.

Meet at the Nature Center for a look at the sawwhet owl banding project.

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



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ArtLights

The South Bend Museum of Art will present "ArtLights," its annual gala dinner and ArtSlam, on Thursday, Oct. 30, at Palais Royale, 105 W. Colfax Ave., South Bend.

Cocktails and a silent auction are at 6 p.m. EDT, followed by dinner at 7 p.m. EDT, then the awards and ArtSlam, a friendly competition among Rob De-Cleene, Anne Feferman, Paul Kuharic, Chris Stackowicz and Brooke Swanson. Each has selected their favorite artwork from the museum's permanent collection and is creating a work in response to it, and to be auctioned off at the event.

The awards ceremony will honor artist Gundega Penikis and Friend of the Arts Jeff Gibney.

Penikis, a ceramic artist, has nurtured area clay students for 40 years, teaching in the SBMA studios, Saint Mary's College and Indiana University-South Bend. Gibney (1949-2014) served as executive director of South Bend Heritage Foundation and South Bend's director of community and economic development.

All proceeds from the dinner and auction benefit community programming at SBMA, which is located in The Century Center, 120 S. St. Joseph St.

Tickets for "ArtLights" cost \$150. Visit www. southbendart.org/product/artlights-dinner for reservations.



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Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon

Shirley Heinze Land Trust will host a luncheon to honor its volunteers from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 25, at the Meadowbrook Nature Preserve lodge, 109 W. County Road 700 North, Valparaiso.

Anyone who has volunteered for the organization in 2014 is invited. The program includes a short hike after lunch of the new 80-acre addition to the preserve, highlighting planned reforestation efforts.



Volunteers planting plugs at Hildebrand Lake Nature Preserve.

The luncheon's main course is pork sandwiches, the side dishes potluck-style. Attendees are encouraged to take a side dish or dessert. RSVP to jerdelac@heinzetrust.org and state which dish you will bring.

Shirley Heinze Land Trust has been protecting natural land in Indiana's southern Lake Michigan watershed since 1981. It manages more than 1,400 acres in Lake, Porter, and La Porte counties. Call (219) 242-8558 or visit www.heinzetrust.org for more information.



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Time Out for Reading



Joy Elementary School celebrated national "Time Out for Reading" Day on Oct. 3. Coordinated by the Northwest Indiana Literacy Coalition, the event encouraged everyone to stop what they were doing at 10 a.m. sharp to read. Pictured are fifth-grade students with teacher Brian Vedo.



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"Greek Nite Out"

The Berrien County Orthodox Women's Association will host a "Greek Nite Out" from 4 to 9 p.m. EDT Friday and Saturday, Oct. 24-25, at The Galley Grill, 4296 Red Arrow Highway, Stevensville, Mich.

The cost is \$25 for adults and \$10 for youth. Children 5 and younger are free. The menu will include Avgolemeno Soup (chicken and rice), a village salad, bread, *dolmades* (meatballs wrapped in grape leaves), *keftedes* (baked meatballs), pastitsio, greek chicken, oven-browned potatoes, rice pilaf, coffee, tea and soft drinks. Beer and wine will be available at an additional cost.

All proceeds benefit The Greek Orthodox Church of Berrien County in New Buffalo, Mich. Tickets will be available at the door or can be purchased in advance by mailing a check to: Berrien County Orthodox Church, P.O. Box 93, New Buffalo, MI 49117. Contact Eleni Edison at (269) 465-5596 for more information. The church website is www.aapgoc.mi.goarch.org

Taltree Arboretum & Gardens

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

• Poisonous Plants from 10:30 a.m. to noon Saturday, Oct. 25.

The class introduces participants to poisonous plants and the harm they inflict. Learn how to identify the more common dark plants, such as poison ivy. The cost is \$17 for non-members and \$15 for 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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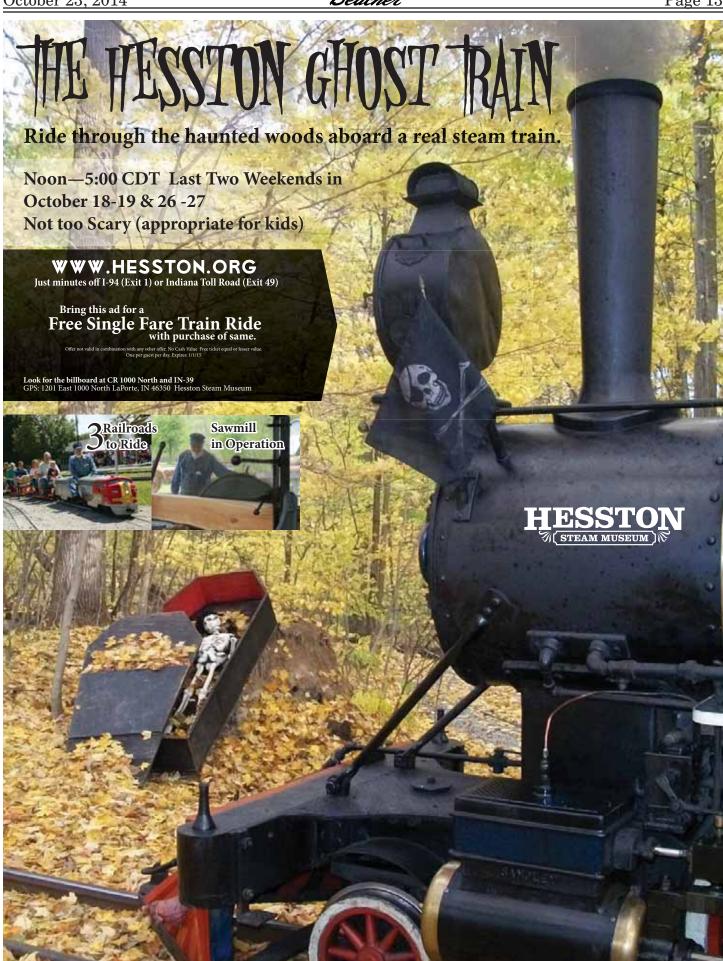
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Majestic Exit Signals the Unofficial End of Summer

Editor's note — Sandra Radoja submitted this column and photo to The Beacher.

There's a certain sadness watching a boat get lifted out of the water.

On a recent, sunny Wednesday in New Buffalo, Mich., I was sitting outside in the early morning weather, cool and bright, when my reverie was in-

terrupted by the constant rumbling of a motor. The sound differed from that of the boats I'd heard and it stirred my curiosity. I looked across the marina at the tall contraption near the boathouse and finally understood what that blue thing did.

I know very little about boats. I know they are beautiful. I know they glisten and sparkle in the water, whether out on the lake or sitting peacefully at the dock. The marina is their summer home, decorated with boats of all

heights and girth. I know they don't stay in the water for the winter, but I've never seen the process of the coming and going of boats before because I don't live here. I only come to visit.

The motor whirred again, now more loudly. Two men could be heard calling out to each other with instructions or signals. I couldn't understand all the words over the now loud buzz coming from the blue monster. Then, I spotted one of the larger boats as it slowly made its way down the lane toward what seemed like huge arms ready to scoop her out of the water for a winter's rest.

While the men continued to run back and forth, hollering indistinguishable words, a little boat began making her way toward the same destination. For her, a small trailer was backed into the water. A building near the dock obscured my view. It was only when the little one

only when the little one got close that the trailer was backed deeper into the water and I saw it was being towed by what appeared to be a small farming tractor. That was easy. Up she went, and the tractor-trailer towed her away. Where will she spend the winter? Under a suffocating shrink-wrap somewhere down the road?

shrink-wrap somewhere down the road?

Now, the larger vessel was in place. The roaring and belching blue monster commanded attention with all its might.

I could almost hear the heaving sound my mother used to make when I was a little girl begging to be carried, even though I was already too old and too heavy for such a privilege. "Ugh, you are too big for this," she would say gently, in elongated words. That was the blue monster's tone. The big boat seemed as if it was too big.

Heave, ho. Up, up, up. Finally, the beautiful boat was suspended in the air. She was bidding goodbye to her summer home, dripping the last drops of the cool marina water from her body. She hung there with dignity, looking quite proud, as she was



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suddenly taller than all the boats in the marina. I swelled with pride for her, too. She was magnificent.

Just as I was admiring her full beauty hanging high in the air, the men started to circle her and discuss things about her, I assumed. Then, a spray hit her. It must have been steam or some kind of power wash. They carefully circled her several times and cleaned the part that had been submerged for months. They were thorough, their work eliminating any traces of summer. She remained tall and unmoving throughout the ordeal.

I wondered who owned her and if they were watching as I was. Suddenly, I was cross with the owners. Do they even care about her now that summer is over and she is only a liability rather than an asset? Will they miss her over the winter? How many times did they even come to visit her during the summer? How many hours were they together?

I wanted to walk down to the dock and ask these things, but didn't think a stranger's curiosity would be welcome. I stayed at a safe distance from their eyes and left my questions to myself and their answers to my imagination

Soon, as another motor came into earshot, the blue monster began to move, taking the beautiful boat away out of my line of vision. He inched forward toward the street. A noise, a voice or two, a rumble and a clank left me to wonder what was happening. Then, the blue monster returned, empty again, waiting for his next victim.

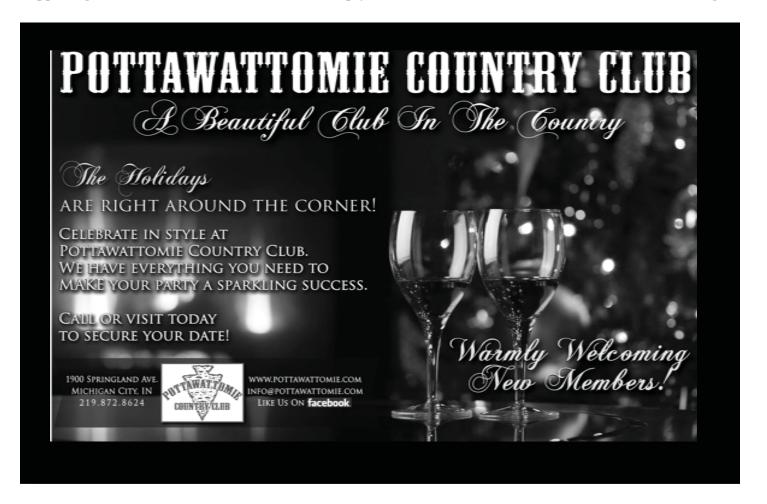
The stately lady was gone. I listened intently to the motor fading in volume as it moved down the street carrying her away.

I couldn't believe how overwhelmed I was with sadness. Summer is over. Playtime is done. The boat has gone away to its winter home, and we are left to stare at what will soon be an empty marina. Calm waters will turn choppy, temperatures will drop and ice will form during the long nights and short days. The lake will take on its unwelcoming winter cover, and we will be banned from playing there during the long cold winter ahead.

I am sad, too, for the majestic boat that went away. She is alone now. She will get a tarp thrown over her and sit by herself for months. No one will come to shine her up and take her out for a joy ride. No fisherman will go out on her filled with hope. No children will shriek with excitement as they jump in and anticipate a day of fun.

The beautiful boat is a prisoner in a warehouse most of her life. When she sees the blue monster again, he will be her friend, her gateway to summer fun and a reunion with her owner-family. He will enable her to get back into the water and be completely independent of wheels and tractors.

With any luck, I will be here next spring to see that wonderful day, the day that offers the promise of sunshine and warmth and fun on Lake Michigan.



A Real Hoot



Stella the Owl from Washington Park Zoo stopped by Joy Elementary School last week to accept a donation from students and staff, who collected \$200 for the zoo through a "jeans day" fundraiser. Stella (a 4-month-old Eurasian Eagle Owl) is pictured with (from left) Zoo Retail Manager Shawne Sheldon, Zoo Director of Operations Jamie Huss, Joy Principal Lisa Suter and Joy students Logan Murphy and Jeremiah Davis. The check was presented during an all-school assembly, which also honored students for achieving 1,727.5 points this school year through the Accelerated Reader program. Stella's next appearance will be during "Boo at the Zoo" on Saturday, Oct. 25, at Washington Park Zoo.

MASSAGE The Great Escape

Michigan City Public Library

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

• Basket Weaving at 9:15 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 25.

Margie Warner is the instructor. All materials are provided. Register at the circulation desk. A \$10 deposit is required. Stop by to see the basket and verify the class cost.

• Understanding Your Dreams at 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 25.

Experienced dream therapist Terese Fabbri leads the workshop for people interested in dreams and their significance.

• Singing the Blues with Keith Scott at 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 26.

Blues musician Keith Scott, as guitarist, performer, songwriter and bandleader, has performed around the world, and at Chicago Bulls games, Chicago Blues Fest and Hard Rock Café.

• Crazy Loops and Looms at 3:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 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. Tuesday, Oct. 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. Wednesday, Oct. 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.



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CISV Meetings

CISV, formerly known as Children's International Summer Villages, will have information meetings for students and parents interested in learning about this year's Summer Villages.

The meetings are at 6 p.m. Monday, Oct. 27, at Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St., and Wednesday, Oct. 29, at La Porte Public Library, 904 Indiana Ave.

The selection, which is the weekend of Nov. 14-16, is open to students who will be 11 at the time of their Village. Applications will be available at the meetings.

CISV programs offer young people opportunities to meet their peers from other countries and form intercultural, global friendships. Locally, programs give people the chance to learn about the cultures in their own communities and explore important themes related to peace and understanding.

Openings for the coming year include:

Villages: 11-year-olds (delegations of two boys, two girls and a leader for each location). Guatemala City, Guatemala — July 3-30, 2015; Vitoria, Brazil — Dec. 27, 2015-Jan. 23, 2016.

Step Up (formerly Summer Camp) – delegation of 14-year-olds (two boys, two girls and an adult leader). Warsaw, Poland — July 10-Aug. 1, 2015; San Jose Dos Campos, Brazil — July 3-25, 2015.

Step Up – delegation of 15-year-olds (two boys, two girls and an adult leader). San Jose, Costa Rica — Dec. 29, 2015-Jan. 20, 2016.

JC (**Junior Counselor**): 16-year-old female to Jacksonville, Fla., July 3-30, 2015.

Youth Meeting: 15 days — 16- to 18-year-old male or female. Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas — June 26-July 10, 2015.

Youth Meeting: Eight days – 16- to 18-year-old male or female. Two spots are available. Madrid, Spain — April 4-11, 2015.

Seminar Camp: 17- to 18-year-old female. Mexico City, Mexico — July 11-31, 2015.

Interchange – delegation of 12- to 13-year-olds (probably three boys, three girls and an adult leader). San Jose, Costa Rica. Tentative Dates: families hosting July 1-22, 2015, and delegation traveling Dec. 19, 2015-Jan. 9, 2016.

Visit cisvusa.org and michcity.cisvusa.org for more information, or call Jody Presser at (219) 326-6680 or 219-873-5762.





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Michiana Clowns

Michiana Clowns members attended the Midwest Clown Association Roundup in Davenport, Iowa, on Oct. 1-5.

Lynette "NettieBelle" McDonald was inducted into the Midwest Clown Hall of Fame for several years for outstanding performance in five areas of the clown arts.

Individual Michiana Clowns members earned numerous awards in addition to another first-place recognition for NettieBelle in the White Face Clown division. Irene "SlugbugZ" Spudic received third place-medals in that group, as well as in the Paradeability and Individual Skit events. Mick "Micky" Spudic earned second place in the Tramp/Hobo category. First-place winner in Paradeability was Pam "Snickers" Detterline. Sandra "Tilly" Seymour received first place and two second-place honors in various Balloon Sculpting competitions.

Tilly reported on the Midwest Clown Association fall meeting and reviewed proposed changes for the conduct of the competitions, as well as revisions to competition rules.

The next Michiana Clowns meeting is Nov. 10, during which a group picture and individual clown promotional photos will be taken. Tricksy will provide the educational program and Chips will supply refreshments.



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Flame + Flair Halloween Festival

Uptown Arts District will host the Third Annual Flame + Flair Halloween Festival from 5 to 10 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 25.

The free event is after Boo at the Zoo and presented by the Michigan City Mainstreet Association and other local businesses.

The schedule is:

- 5 to 7 p.m. Trick or Treating on Franklin Street from Fourth to 11th streets. Participating businesses include: Ryan's Irish Pub, Darling, General Insurance Services, Edward Jones, Joy of Flowers, Beach Bum Jewels, Urban Soles, Salon Cilla, dh2w, Paris House of Bridal, St. Paul Lutheran Church and School, First United Methodist Church, Craighead, Lange & Hough, Threadbenders Quilt Shop and The Closet by Franklin Vintage
- 5:30 p.m. "Thriller" Street Dance at Franklin and Fourth streets.
- 6 p.m. Downtown Bed Races at Franklin and Fourth streets.
- 6:30 to 8 p.m. Fire Dancers and music Franklin Street at Sixth and Seventh streets. Performers include Empyrean Fire, Crimson Pulse Fire Dancing, 3rd Coast Fire and DJ Pandora.
- 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Ryan's Haunted House on the second floor of Ryan's Irish Pub, Fourth and Franklin streets. Admission is \$3. Dates are Oct. 24-25 and 31.

Visit http://uptownartsdistrict.org/ for more information.

"Haunted Trail"

Krueger Middle School, 2001 Springland Ave., will present its "Haunted Trail" from 7 to 9 p.m. Saturdays, Oct. 25 and Nov. 1.

The school has teamed with Michigan City High School's Drama Club to create the tour held in wooded nature trails near the school. The experience is appropriate for older elementary students with a parent/older companion. The cost is \$5.

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PNC Chancellor Awarded

Purdue University-North Central Chancellor Jim Dworkin received the Purdue Alumni Association Special Boilermaker Award during a recent ceremony in West Lafayette.

The award honors a member of the Purdue faculty or staff who has helped improve the quality of life and/or educational experience for Purdue students. He was nominated by Stephen Turner, Finance & Administration vice chancellor for PNC and Purdue University-Calumet.



Dworkin joined Purdue University as a faculty member in 1976. He served as an assistant dean, associate dean and interim dean for the Purdue Krannert School of Management prior to becoming PNC's chancellor in January 2000. At the time, PNC had 3,459 students

in the 2000-2001 fall semester. By comparison, 6,177 students enrolled for the 2014 fall semester. In addition, PNC grew from offering six baccalaureate programs in 2000 to the 24 offered today.

Dworkin was the driving force behind the PNC College Bound program for qualifying students in Michigan City, La Porte and Portage. Supported by donations from local businesses and industries, it works with students from eighth grade through high school to direct them to higher education. To date, 518 students have gone through the program and 35 are enrolled at PNC. The first PNC College Bound student to earn a PNC degree will graduate in December.

In the community, he is a member of the boards of Northwest Indiana Forum, One Region: Improving the Quality of Life in Northwest Indiana, Horizon Bank, IU Health La Porte Hospital, La Porte County Economic Development Alliance, Indiana Association of United Ways and Shirley Heinze Land Trust Advisory Council. He led search committees for various school superintendents in the PNC service area. He is part of the Purdue University Executive Policy Review Committee and Human Resources Governance Council. He also is a Peer Reviewer for the Higher Learning Commission and is a Law School Accreditation Reviewer for the American Bar Association.

He received the Sagamore of the Wabash, Indiana's highest honor, the 2013 Ned E. Kalb Leadership Award through the Purdue Extension Office of La Porte County and Leadership La Porte County, the 2013 Paul Alinsky Award from the Michigan City Rotary Club, the 2012 Outstanding Community Leader given by the Northwest Indiana Business Quarterly Magazine, the Luminary Award for Outstanding Educator from NIPSCO and the Indiana Association of United Ways Castaldi Award.

PNC Open House

Purdue University-North Central will host a free campus open house for prospective students and their families Thursday, Oct. 30, in the Library-Student-Faculty Building.

The open house starts at 4:30 p.m. with specific programming for high school students now earning Purdue credits through the Concurrent Enrollment/ Dual Credit Program who intend to enroll at PNC.

The general open house is at 5:30 p.m. Campus tours are at 5:30 and 6:15 p.m. An Academic, Student Service and Activity Fair will allow students to explore majors, clubs and activities, as well as assistance PNC offers. A breakout session will provide a look at campus life through the eyes of PNC students, along with information about the basics of paying for college and financial aid. A separate breakout session will highlight the needs and interests of transfer students.

The open house is expected to conclude at 7:30 p.m. It is appropriate for high school students, community college graduates, veterans and adults thinking about attending college. Light refreshments will be served. Pre-registration is encouraged – but not required — and can be completed by email at www.pnc.edu/admissions/openhouse/

Additional information may be obtained at jwhisler@pnc.edu, (219) 785-5505 or by IM pncadmissions4 through AOL.



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PNC Breaks Ground for Student Services and Activities Complex

Purdue University-North Central officially broke ground for its Student Services and Activities Complex on Oct. 16, with a celebration that united PNC administration, faculty, staff, students, alumni and retirees, local political, business and labor leaders, donors and community members.

For the groundbreaking, PNC Chancellor Jim Dworkin applied the same pitchfork used in 1965 to break ground for the campus and the building now known as

Schwarz Hall. Its tines are painted with the names of the four primary cities in PNC's service area: Michigan City, La Porte, Westsville and Valparaiso.

The \$33.4 million building will be paid for through \$3.7 million in gifts, as well as \$5 million from student fees and state support of \$24.7 million.

Two \$1 million donations have been received. One came from an anonymous donor, the other from Dr. and Mrs. Peter Kesling of La Porte, who donated \$1 million to secure the naming rights of the gymnasium, to be named the "H.D. Kesling Gymnasium" in honor of his father. The Keslings attended the groundbreaking.

When making the donation, Kesling said his father was a talented high school basketball player, but at one time wasn't a particularly motivated student. His attitude changed when he realized he needed to maintain his grades to remain eligible to play basketball. He developed excellent study habits. He later graduated from Loyola Dental School and began practicing dentistry in La Porte in 1924.

Construction on the building will begin immediately. The Student Services and Activities Complex general contractor is Ziolkowski Construction Inc. of South Bend. It has been estimated that during construction, local businesses, vendors, suppliers, consultants and more than 250 skilled workers will be involved in various phases of the construction and finishing work. Work is expected to take about 18 months. One of the first events to be hosted in



Participating in the groundbreaking ceremony were (from left) Bill Favors of Ziolkowski Construction, PNC Vice Chancellor for Administration Stephen Turner, State Sen. Jim Arnold, State Rep. Tom Dermody, PNC Chancellor Jim Dworkin, Duneland Health Council member Gil Pontius and PNC students Matt Migliorini, Ashley Starcevich and Robert Kennedy.

the Student Services and Activities Complex will be the May 2016 commencement.

This becomes the fourth building at PNC. The current campus opened in 1967 with one. That building is now called Schwarz Hall in honor of Robert F. Schwarz, the first dean and director.

The Library-Student-Faculty building was dedicated in March 1975. The Technology building was completed in 1995.

When complete, the Student Services and Activities Complex will include:

- 102,239 gross square feet.
- A second level with a walking track and two exercise rooms.
- Gymnasium and related areas.
- Bleacher seating capacity of 1,361.
- Total event capacity of 2,065.
- Two full size basketball courts. A ceiling-hung divider can separate the courts.
- The gymnasium can accommodate net sports such as volleyball and badminton.
- Men's and women's fitness and team locker rooms.
- Student government and organization areas.
- Student study lounge.
- Wellness center.
- Game room.
- Fitness area.
- Great Hall with a seated banquet capacity of 500 and a seated event capacity of 980.
- · Catering kitchen.





Westchester Public Library

The following programs are available at Westchester Public Library:

• Celebrate squirrels with a variety of activities from 1 to 4 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 23, at Hageman Library, 100 Francis St., Porter.

The program includes showings of "Nut Job" at 1 p.m. and "Over the Hedge" at 3 p.m., as well as making a snack, finding hidden squirrels and craft projects. Popcorn will be served during the movies.

• Unveiling of Brown Mansion South Shore poster from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 24, at Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.

Refreshments will be served. The artist, Mitch Markovitz, and the library board that contracted the poster, will attend. Posters will be available for purchase.

• Free Pumpkin Hunt for children 6-12 from 2 to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 25, at Westchester Township History Museum.

Attendees help museum staff find missing pumpkins, then paint a pumpkin. Parents or guardians must accompany their children. Costumes are encouraged, but not required.

• Free movie showing, "X-Men: Days of Future Past," at 5 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 25, at the Library Service Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

Popcorn will be available.

• Bits and Bytes continues with four offerings of "Introduction to Windows 8.1" in the serials/automation department at Thomas Library, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

Classes, which are free but require registration, are from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesdays, Nov. 4 and 11, and 1 to 3 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 6 and 13.

Registration for the Nov. 4 and 6 classes is under way. Registration for the Nov. 11 and 13 classes starts Oct. 28. Visit or call the library at (219) 926-7696, Ext. 1125, to register, or visit at www.wpl.lib. in.us, then click on the Bits and Bytes link.

Attendees must have some computer knowledge and know how to use a mouse. Typing skills are preferred, but not necessary.

"Howl-o-ween"

The Michigan City High School Athletic Department will present "Howl-o-ween" from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 30, at Ames Field.

Offering a safe location to trick-or-treat, the free event will include more than 30 stations of activities, games, prizes and candy.

Open to children through age 13, visitors are encouraged to wear a costume. Parents are welcome. Call (219) 873-2044, Ext. 4439, for more information.

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Eighth Annual Harvest and Wine Festival

The Oct. 11 event in downtown New Buffalo, Mich., also featured children's activities, pumpkin painting, horse-drawn hay rides and entertainment.

> Photos by Oleg Semkoff























Delta Mu

Delta Mu met Oct. 11 at St. Paul Lutheran Church, with Vice President Shirley St. Arnaud presiding.

The group discussed plans for the coming year. The annual nut sale begins the end of October. Nuts will be sold from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 8, at Al's Karwick. Nuts can be ordered/purchased by calling Mary Lou McFadden at (219) 879-5581.

Members signed up for the men's shelter dinners to be made monthly. Hacienda Night was Oct. 8. Booklets were distributed for Carson's Community Days on Nov. 14-15.

Lori Cabanaw reported that Delta Mu will sponsor four Family Nights this year at the Lubeznik Center for the Arts. Membership in the Riley's Cheer Guild was renewed.

After the meeting, adjourned members made fleece blankets to send to Riley Hospital for Children, Indianapolis.

The next meeting is Monday, Nov. 3, at Barker Mansion. This is a mandatory meeting with state inspection. Members are reminded to wear black and white.

Delta Mu is the Michigan City chapter of Tri Kappa, a philanthropic organization in Indiana. New members are welcome. Contact St. Arnaud at (219) 393-9606 for more information.



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Fernwood Botanical Garden

The following programs are offered through Fernwood Botanical Garden and Nature Preserve, 13988 Range Line Road, Niles, Mich.:

• Owen Deutsch: "Birds of the Americas" runs Friday, Oct. 24, through Sunday, Dec. 7, with an opening reception from 3 to 5 p.m. EDT Sunday, Oct. 26.

Deutsch will exhibit about 30 of his favorite prints. His photos often are found on the National Geographic website celebrating top bird photos. His image of a bald eagle chasing a great blue heron was named a North American Nature Photography Association 2011 Top 10 Showcase Winner. It also was cited in USA Today this past March for the excitement it caused in birding circles.

Deutsch is donating his commissions to the American Bird Conservancy to support bird conservation.

• Mythical Monsters for Kids from 10 a.m. to noon EDT Saturday, Oct. 25.

Children 10-12 discover lore and legends of bats and owls from around the world. Register by Thursday, Oct. 23. The cost is \$15, or \$12 for members.

• The Fernwood Book Group — "Beyond the 100th Meridian: John Wesley Powell & the Second Opening of the West" by Wallace Stegner at 10:30 a.m. EDT Saturday, Oct. 25.

Visitors who have and have not read the book are invited to the program, which is free with paid Fernwood admission.

• Enjoy Halloween at Fernwood from 6:30 to 8 p.m. EDT Saturday, Oct. 25.

Dress in costume for the event that features trick or treating in the gardens, pumpkin decorating, spooky creatures and stories. Admission is free.

Call (269) 695-6491 or visit www.fernwoodbotanical.org for more information or to confirm the status of classes.



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Local Gardeners Honored

The Friends of Shirley Heinze bestowed "Bringing Nature Home" Awards to three area gardeners for including native plants in their landscaping during the annual donor appreciation hike and luncheon Oct. 11 in Valparaiso.



Jan Koss and Barbara Merton of rural La Porte County receive their award from Warren Buckler.

Jan Koss and Barbara Merten of rural La Porte County landscaped for color, texture, layering and visual appeal. Their major focus this year was to foster monarch butterflies, going to great lengths to provide adequate milkweed plants for attracting monarchs and feeding caterpillars. The butterflies lay eggs on the plants, which provide food for the caterpillars. Koss and Merten raised the insects from egg to adult butterfly and released 130 monarchs this year.

Alexia Trzyna's garden, which spreads across her front yard atop a dune in Ogden Dunes, attracted many butterfly species, including great spangled fritillaries, red admirals, giant swallowtails and black swallowtails.

Portage resident Joanne Keilman has been gradually adding native plants to her suburban yard for the last decade. Her trees and shrubs include elderberry, sassafras, dogwoods, filbert, redbud, witch hazel, bur oak and juneberry: all wildlife friendly. A thriving basswood, or American linden, anchors and shades her front yard. Not only do squirrels and other small mammals feast on its seeds, but this species also supports more than 150 species of caterpillars.

Shirley Heinze Land Trust hosts its annual donor appreciation hike and luncheon to thank them for their support and inform them about the work the organization has accomplished during the year. The event also serves as the venue for the presentation of the Individual "Bringing Nature Home" awards. The Corporate/Civic category awards will be presented at the community luncheon Nov. 7 in Michigan City. Visit www.heinzetrust.org for more information.

Oil Painting Classes

New oil painting classes taught by Dana Dabagia run from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturdays through Nov. 29 at Long Beach Community Center, 2501 Oriole Trail.

New students are welcome, with individual attention given to each student.

An award-winning artist, Dabagia has studied oil painting through private instruction, workshops, dozens of instructional books, the Internet and videos. She will fast-track students to work in oil on canvas, foregoing stumbles along the way she experienced while learning.

Aimed at beginning and intermediate students, the cost is \$155. Pre-registration is requested at d2211@comcast.net. A complete list of supplies will be sent upon registration.

New DNR White-Tailed Deer Site

A new DNR Web page provides detailed information on white-tailed deer in Indiana.

Deer.dnr.IN.gov spotlights deer hunting, deer biology, how to respond to nuisance deer, the state's deer management strategy and scientific reports on topics such as harvest trends and disease.



Polonica Pilgrimage Society Trip

The Polonica Pilgrimage Society bus trip to Chicago is Wednesday, Nov. 12.

The luxury coach will pick up passengers at 8:30 a.m. from Nativity of Our Savior Catholic Church, Portage, then at 9 a.m. from All Saints Catholic Church, Hammond.

The tour will feature Holy Trinity Catholic Church and St. Mary of the Lake Catholic Church (both in Chicago), lunch at the Old Warsaw Restaurant in Harwood Heights and shopping at the Avenue Food Mart and Dom Itp, which features Polish imports.

The approximate return times are 5 p.m. to Hammond and 5:30 p.m. to Portage. Reservations, which cost \$55 per person, are due by Oct. 31 and can be called in to Theresa Child at (219) 464-1369.

Honoring Sisters of the Holy Cross

The Sisters of the Holy Cross will be honored for 160 years of service to Catholic education (1854-2014) at St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception during the 10 a.m. Mass on Sunday, Oct. 26, at the parish, 411 W. 11th St.

Displays will depict the various buildings the sisters taught in, as well as photos of the many teachers. A reception is planned after the Mass.



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Service League

Service League of Michigan City held its monthly meeting Tuesday, Oct. 14.

President Katherine Brennan called the meeting to order, with 19 active members present. The group approved minutes from the September meeting as published. It also received a thank you note for services and a \$100 donation from Betty Locke.

The collections committee reported sending 15 first cards, 12 second cards and two letters to remind clients to return overdue equipment. Members were reminded to check the "Do Not Loan" list before loaning out items.

From Sept. 1-30, the League served 76 patients. Ninety five items were loaned, two items taken out of inventory and five donations received. Dressings distributed in September included 17 packages of 4-by-4 gauze, seven boxes of 5-by-9 pads and 47.5 dozen chux. Twenty five patients were served, including 10 new patients.

The November schedule is completed and has been emailed to members. Seven thank you notes for donations were sent.

Members are selling Carson's Community Days coupon books as a fundraiser. Books, which are \$5 and may be used Nov. 14-15, are available at the Service League office, 301 E. Garfield St., or from any active member.

Vivian Zellers was voted in as an active sustaining member. New members Audrey Claussen and Kaye Moriarty were voted into membership. Their training begins as soon as it is convenient for them.

The next meeting is at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 11. Upcoming events include the holiday luncheon at Pottawattomie Country Club on Tuesday, Dec. 9, and the spring luncheon Tuesday, May 12, 2015, at Long Beach Country Club.

The League is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization that loans medical equipment, such as wheelchairs, walkers, shower chairs and toilet aids, to residents for a three-month period who live within the Michigan City Area Schools district. Call 872-1144 for more information, or stop by the office between 9 a.m. and noon and 1 and 4 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday. It is closed holidays.

Fall Brewery Tour

The Marquette Fall Brewery Tour leaves at 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 1, from Shoreline Brewery, 208 Wabash St.

The tour will include Tapistry Brewery, Greenbush Brewery and Journeymen Distillery before returning to Shoreline at about 5:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$25 for the public and \$20 for Marquette alumni. Snacks and road beverages will be provided. Email mrichardson@marquette-hs.org or call (219) 210-4507 to RSVP. Space is limited.

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, 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. Preregistration 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, Luhr, 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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EDCMC Awards Celebration

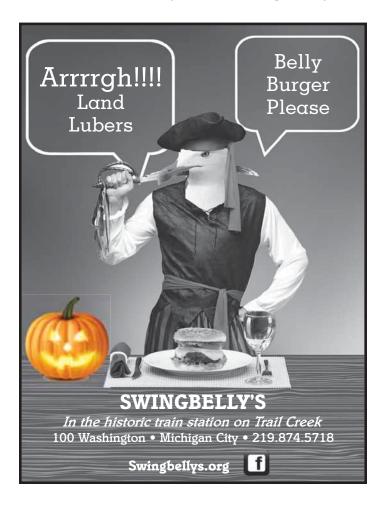
The Economic Development Corp. Michigan City hosted its 2014 Business Investment & Anniversary Awards Ceremony on Oct. 9 at Blue Chip Casino Hotel & Spa in Michigan City.

The dinner event, held every two years, recognized local companies that have made substantial investments in their business during 2013 and 2014, and honored businesses celebrating special anniversaries in 2014 and 2015.

Companies receiving Business Investment Awards included: Calumet Pallet; D. Martin Enterprises; Gypsum Express; Midwest Metal Products; Mikropor America; NIPSCO Generating Station; Sager Metal Strip Co.; Sandin Manufacturing; Sandusky Chicago Abrasive Wheel Co.; U.S. Army Reserve Center; and Key Development Partners.

Companies achieving special anniversaries are: 10 years — Power Drive; 30 years — Fi-Tech, Crismar Graphics, Sullivan Palatek, Wozniak Tool Die; 40 years — Cadence Environmental Energy; 50 years — Sullair Corp.; 60 years — Dage-MTI, Dwyer Instruments, Stranco; 90 years — Foster Printing Service, Meyer Glass & Mirror.

Extra special anniversaries are: 100 years — Josam; 110 years — Michigan City Paper Box Co., Franciscan St. Anthony Health-Michigan City.



Deli Day

Sinai Temple, 2800 Franklin St., will present its "Deli Day" fundraiser from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 29.

Diners can eat at the temple or order carryouts. Free delivery service within a limited area for orders of five or more is available. Lunch will include a corned beef or turkey sandwich, cole slaw, kugel and pickle for \$10.

Orders, and additional menu items, are available by calling (219) 874-4477 or (219) 872-7541. Orders also can be faxed to (219) 874-4190.

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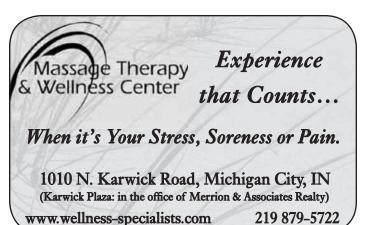
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School Bus Safety Week



Michigan City Area Schools has marked National School Bus Safety Week (Oct. 20-24) by emphasizing safety with students. They have conducted emergency evacuation drills, and discussed topics such as safe behavior while boarding the bus, proper procedures at railroad crossings and bullying prevention. Also, MCAS has partnered with Indiana State Police, Michigan City Police Department and La Porte County Sheriff's Office to heighten awareness of school bus stop-arm violations. Officers will continue to partor bus routes, particularly in areas identified by bus drivers as locations where frequent violations occur. Pictured with MCAS school bus driver Deb Sharp are (from left): Master Trooper Dale Morgan, Indiana State Police; Senior Trooper Nathan Sherer, Indiana State Police; Sgt. Ken Havlin, Michigan City Police, and Maj. John Boyd, La Porte County Sheriff's Office.

Race Silent Auction Aids Groups

Because of its Sixth Annual Great Lakes Grand Prix race, Visit Michigan City La Porte provided a fiscal boost to La Porte County Family YMCA and the Michigan City High School Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps.

CVB Executive Director Jack Arnett presented Maj. Thomas McGrath, senior marine instructor for the JROTC, with a \$1,090 check. CVB Community Relations Manager Jane Daley presented a check for the same amount to Cindy Bercham, La Porte County Family YMCA executive director.

The money was raised through an annual silent auction through the Great Lakes Grand Prix.

Contact the CVB at (219) 872-5055 for more information on the race's annual charity auction.



Marquette Questers

The Marquette Questers Chapter 139 met Oct. 8 at Michigan City Christian Church and Academy, with Kaye Martin as hostess.

Ten members attended. Kathy Lewis presented the program "Century of Progress: The Chicago World's Fair." The following is an excerpt:

"The Chicago World's Fair was held from 1933-1934. It was just shortly after the Great Depression of 1929. It was believed to be a symbol of hope, showing both scientific as well as technological advancements. A time to look forward after many dismal years. A \$10 million bond was issued on Oct. 29, 1929, a day before the stock market crashed. But, by the time the fair closed in 1934, the fair had completely paid for itself! The first time in international fair history. Rebuilding public trust. In fact, it closed with a profit and the money went to fund Chicago's wonderful museums! The cost to get into the fair was 25 cents for a child and 50 cents for an adult. To stay at the Drake Hotel while you visited was \$3 for a single and \$5 for a double with a bath. A round trip ride on Lake Michigan from Michigan City to Chicago cost \$1. The fair had 48,769,227 visitors. At that time, 60 percent of America's population lived within an hour's ride of Chicago. Thus contributing to the fair's popularity."

The business meeting was held after the program. It was decided the Questers will donate new children's books to local charities for Christmas.

Quester meetings are held the second Wednesday of every month from spring to fall, taking the winter months off with the exception of a dinner together for Christmas. Call Maryanne Garon at 872-3905 or Joyce Dalton at 874-5832 for more information, or if you would like to have someone speak at your organization.

The Marquette Questers has been instrumental in restoring and maintaining Washington Park's bandstand. It is working with the park department to acquire funds for repairs to the landmark.

Chili Cookoff

Rittenhouse Senior Living, 4300 Cleveland Ave., Michigan City, will host a chili cookoff open to the public at 2 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 30.

The winner who receives the most votes for first place receives a \$50 gift card. A second-place winner receives a \$35 gift card and the third-place winner a \$25 gift card. Anyone interested in tasting the chili can vote for his/her favorite contestant. Refreshments will be available.

The cost is \$4 per person to taste and vote. There is no entry fee for those making chili. There are limited number of contestant slots. Call Rittenhouse at (219) 872-6800 to register.

Michigan Woodlands Forum Topic

"Michigan Woodlands of the Pre-Settlement Era – A Virtual Tour" is the topic for Friends of New Buffalo Library's free Community Forum from 6:30 to 8 p.m. EDT Tuesday, Oct. 28, at the library, 33 N. Thompson St., New Buffalo, Mich.

The slide program, presented by Ralph Reitz, horticulturalist and botanist at Fernwood Botanical Garden & Nature Preserve, Niles, Mich., shows what pre-settlement forests were like before droughts, fires and natural disturbances.

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.

CAC Watercolor Class

Dick Church will offer a six-week Beginning/Intermediate Watercolor Class starting from 10 a.m. to noon Friday, Oct. 31, at Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St.

Church will lead students through watercolor techniques appropriate for first-timers or the mildly experienced. The cost is \$60 for members and \$65 for non-members. Supplies are not included. Church will discuss supplies with all beginners to start the class. Call (219) 926-4711 to register.

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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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Discovering "Invasive Species"



Thanks to an Indiana Arts Commission grant, Discovery Art Program first-through fourth-graders visited Michigan City's Lubeznik Center for the Arts to view the "Invasive Species" exhibit. The exhibit featured art made from items that otherwise would have been sent to a landfill. A favorite part of the experience was a room filled with backlit styrofoam packaging, reminding many of a science-fiction movie. In the main gallery, "Warriors" made from old mannequins and cast-away items reminded youngsters of the Transformers. Along with docent-led gallery tours, students made their own art in the Lubeznik workshop with art educator Janet Bloch.

Fall Economic Briefing

The Fall Economic Briefing hosted by the Greater La Porte Chamber of Commerce, Michigan City Area Chamber of Commerce and Purdue University-North Central is Tuesday, Oct. 28.

The program will include: an economic outlook by Derek Bjonback, PNC associate professor of economics; labor trends for La Porte County and the region by Anthony Sindone, PNC continuing lecturer of economics; and guest speakers Clarence Hulse, executive director of Michigan City's Economic Development Corp., and Audra Peterson, director of Career and Technical Education, La Porte County.

The program will be held in PNC's LSF Building 144. A continental breakfast and refreshments are included. Registration is at 7 a.m., and breakfast and the program at 7:30 a.m. The cost is \$15 for chamber members and \$20 for non-members.

Contact hawkins@lpchamber.com for additional information.

Library Clubs

The New Buffalo Township Library Scrabble Club meets from 6 to 8 p.m. EDT Thursdays at the new library, 33 N. Thompson St.

All levels are welcome.

A Chess Club for all ages and skills meets at 6 p.m. EDT Tuesdays, while the Lego Club meets biweekly from 12:30 to 2 p.m. EDT Saturdays throughout the school year.

Call the library at (269) 469-2933 or email new-buffalokids@gmail.com for more information.

Footlight Fall Craft Sale

Footlight Players will hold its fall craft sale from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 26, at Footlight Theatre, 1705 Franklin St., Michigan City.

Visitors will find everything from scarves and jewelry to baby clothes, paintings and photographs. The vendors are:

- Sherry VerWey Sweeney's Gypsysoul Creations.
- Candles by Christine Wiegand.
- T-shirts by Alice Dickey.
- Paintings by Chris Whybrew.
- Baby and toddler clothing by Laura Meyer.
- Nut rolls by Pat Mekola.
- Photography by William Wild.
- Patricia Martin's Luna Jewelry Design.
- Crafts by Marcie Bradford.
- Terrycloth cakes by Carmen Judge.
- Wire art and painting by Emil Cripe.
- Pillows, shopping bags by Sharon Kienitz.
- Quilts and purses by Lovell McFadden.

Also planned is a bake sale, with items made by members, in the lobby.

Call 874-4035 for more information.

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Railroad Museum Holiday Gifts

The New Buffalo Railroad Museum, 530 S. Whittaker St., has items available it suggests would make great holiday gifts.

"The New Buffalo Story: 1834-1976," originally published by the New Buffalo Area Bicentennial Committee, documents the history of the New Buffalo area through narrative and rare photos through 1976. That edition has been reprinted. A new edition, "The New Buffalo Story: 1977-2012," highlights major historical changes in the area since 1977.

Also available are a limited number of watercolor prints of the historic New Buffalo High School by Ronald Ferguson, a retired New Buffalo High School art teacher.

Call (269) 469-8010 or visit http://new-buffalorailroad-museum.org/shop-the-museum-store/ costs or more information.

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

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Fernwood Lecture

Marie Lynn Miranda will present the lecture "Of Mice and Moms: How the Environment Affects Human Health" at 6 p.m. EDT Thursday, Oct. 23, at Fernwood Botanical Garden and Nature Preserve, 13988 Range Line Road, Niles.

The dinner event is co-sponsored by Fernwood and the League of Women Voters of Berrien and Cass counties.

Miranda, the dean of The School of Natural Resources and Environment at the University of Michigan, is a Michigan native who attended Duke University and Harvard. At U of M, she also holds an appointment in the Department of Pediatrics. She has a long interest in children's health and is the founding director of the Children's Environmental Health Initiative, a research, education and outreach program. At Duke, where she was on the faculty for 20 years, she received the university's highest award for teaching excellence.

The cost for the lecture and dinner is \$29. Specify if you want the vegetarian option. Guests will be welcomed at 5:30 p.m. EDT, with the lecture at 6 p.m. EDT, then dinner. Make reservations at www. fernwoodbotanical.org or call (269) 695-6491.

Fall Leaf Colors Mostly on Schedule

The fall color display for trees is on schedule across most of Indiana, although cool, rainy, windy weather likely will slow the color change and knock leaves from trees, according to DNR Community and Urban Forester Carrie Tauscher.

The result could be a shorter viewing season.

"Across Indiana, we're seeing yellows and oranges now," Tauscher said in a press release. "Tulip poplar sycamore, sweetgum, cottonwood and some of the understory trees like sasafrass are starting to turn and give some great gold colors."

Tauscher said sugar maples will come into full color, along with the oaks, between now and early November.

Leaves produce pigments that give them color. During spring and summer, the green pigment, chlorophyll, is dominant. When days become shorter, other pigments in the leaf become visible as the amount of chlorophyll dwindles.

Best fall color formation happens when there are bright, warm days, cool nights and moist soils.

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HIGH INDIVIDUAL GAMES		SCORE
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2. Mary Lou McFadden		160
3. Sue LaBovitz		150
4. Nancy Kubath (series score)		402

SPLITS

1. Ann Klosinski	1-3-5-10
2. Terry Deming	3-10

DNR: Life Jackets For All Seasons

As the weather cools, wearing an overcoat becomes a nearly automatic choice for enjoying the outdoors.

At the same time, many people recreating around water seem to forget about wearing another, more vital type of jacket: a life jacket.

That's a mistake that can be life threatening during a season when many enjoy kayaking or canoeing, duck hunting from a johnboat or taking a latewinter ice-fishing trip, according to the Department of Natural Resources.

Water temperatures plummet, increasing the chance of hypothermia and the risk of drowning, particularly if a person goes overboard while not wearing a life jacket.

Indiana law requires all vessels to carry one wearable U.S. Coast Guard-approved personal flotation device for each person on board. In addition, vessels 16 feet in length or longer (except a canoe or kayak) must have one USCG-approved PFD on board and readily accessible.

Sarett Nature Center

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

 Explore the trails anytime between 6 and 7:30 p.m. EDT Saturday, Oct. 25.

Children should take a flashlight and an adult.

• "Geocaching Made Easy (and Cheap!)" at 3 p.m. EDT Sunday, Oct. 26.

The fee is \$3 for adults. Children are free. Call (269) 927-4832 to register.



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Activities to Explore

In the Local Area:

October 23-27 — Vickers Theatre, 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. Now showing: "Love is Strange." Rated R. Times: 6:15 p.m. Thurs.-Mon. Also: "My Old Lady." Rated PG-13. Times: 9 p.m. Thurs.-Mon., also 3:15 p.m. Sat.-Sun. All times Eastern. Info: vickerstheatre.com

October 24 — Unveiling of Brown Mansion South Shore poster, 5:30-7 p.m., Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.

October 25 — Understanding Your Dreams, 2 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

October 25 — 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 25 — La Porte Urban Enterprise Association Farmers Market, Lincolnway and Monroe Street, through October. Info: (219) 362-8260.

October 25 — Poisonous Plants, 10:30 a.m.noon, Taltree Arboretum & Gardens, 450 W. County Road 100 North, Valparaiso. Cost: \$17/non-members, \$15/members. Info/registration: Taltree.org, (219) 462-0025.

October 25 — Third Annual HauseFest (Ronald McDonald House Charities of Chicagoland and Northwest Indiana benefit), 7:30 p.m. EDT, The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Cost: \$50. Info: www.acorntheater.com, (269) 756-3879.

October 25 — Rededication of Memorial Hall at Memorial Opera House, 104 Indiana Ave., Valparaiso. Musical prelude/9:25 a.m., rededication/10 a.m.

October 25 — Shirley Heinze Land Trust luncheon, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Meadowbrook Nature Preserve lodge, 109 W. County Road 700 North, Valparaiso. Reservations: jerdelac@heinzetrust.org

October 25 — The Three Oaks Harvest Table and Day of the Dead Celebration, 1:30 p.m. EDT, Three Oaks Community Garden's gate, downtown Three Oaks.

October 25 — Third Annual Flame + Flair Halloween Festival, 5-10 p.m., Uptown Arts District (downtown Michigan City). Info: http://uptownartsdistrict.org/

October 25 — Free Pumpkin Hunt for children 6-12, 2-3 p.m., Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.

October 25 — Free movie showing, "X-Men: Days of Future Past," 5 p.m., Westchester Public Library Service Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

October 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 26 — Singing the Blues with Keith Scott, 2 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

October 26 — Purdue University-North Central Sinai Forum: Robert Glennon, 4 p.m., Blue Chip Casino Stardust Event Center. Season tickets/\$100, patron-level passes/\$200, students with valid school I.D./free. Reservations: www.sinaiforum.org, (219) 531-4200.

October 28 — "Michigan Woodlands of the Pre-Settlement Era – A Virtual Tour," 6:30-8 p.m. EDT, New Buffalo Township Library, 33 N. Thompson St., New Buffalo, Mich. Registration: (269) 469-2933.

October 29 — "Deli Day" fundraiser, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Sinai Temple, 2800 Franklin St. Info/orders: (219) 874-4477, (219) 872-7541

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 23 — "Of Mice and Moms: How the Environment Affects Human Health," 6 p.m. EDT, Fernwood Botanical Garden and Nature Preserve, 13988 Range Line Road, Niles. Cost for lecture/dinner: \$29. Reservations: www.fernwoodbotanical. org, (269) 695-6491.

October 24 — Chorus Angelorum 29th annual concert, 8 p.m., St. Mary of the Lake Church, 6060 Miller Ave., Gary's Miller Beach neighborhood. Info: (219) 473-9327, www.ChorusAngelorumNWI.org

October 24-25 — Berrien County Orthodox Women's Association "Greek Nite Out," 4-9 p.m. EDT, The Galley Grill, 4296 Red Arrow Highway, Stevensville, Mich. Cost: \$25/adults, \$10/youth, free/children 5 & younger. Info: (269) 465-5596.

October 24-Nov. 8 — "Young Frankenstein," Elkhart Civic Theatre at Bristol (Ind.) Opera House, 210 E. Vistula St. Times (Eastern): 7:30 p.m. Oct. 24-25, 31, Nov. 1, 7-8, and 3 p.m. Oct. 26, Nov. 2. Tickets: \$17/adults, \$15/students & seniors 62+. Reservations: (574) 848-4116, www.elkhartcivictheatre.org

October 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 25 — The Blue Water Ramblers, 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

Through November 2 — "The Odd Couple" (female version, Crown Point Community Theatre, 1125 Merrillville Road. Times: 8 p.m. Fri./Sat., 3 p.m. Sun. & Oct. 25. Tickets: \$15/adults, \$12/students & seniors. Reservations: (219) 805-4255.



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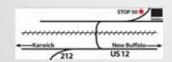
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(Never known to fail.)

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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WEEK HISTORY



On October 23, 1869, John William Heisman, the coach who revolutionized the game of college football, was born in Cleveland, OH.

On October 23, 1871, martial law in Chicago, which was declared after the Great Fire was extinguished, was ended.

On October 23, 1910, in Fort Wayne, Blanche Scott became the first woman to make a solo flight in an airplane. She reached a height of 12 feet, a noteworthy achievement in 1910.

On October 23, 1915, 25,000 women marched in New York City demanding the right to vote.

On October 23, 1929, stock prices fell sharply on Wall Street, a prelude to the "Great Crash" that was to follow six days later.

On October 24, 1901, to raise money to pay off a debt, Anna E. Taylor agreed to go over Niagara Falls in a barrel, becoming the first person to survive the plunge.

On October 24, 1939, in Wilmington, DE, the first nylon stockings went on sale.

On October 24, 1990, Nicola "Nick" Perrino, a pioneer in introducing pizza to America, and founder of the "Home Run Inn Pizza" chain, died at 79.

On October 24, 2003, three Concordes swooped into London's Heathrow Airport, joining in a spectacular finale to the era of luxury supersonic jet travel.

On October 25, 1881, world renowned painter Pablo Picasso was born in Malaga, Spain.

On October 25, 1955, the Tappan Stove Co. introduced the first electronic range designed for home use. It was priced at \$1,200, and could cook bacon in 90 seconds.

On October 25, 1962, writer John Steinbeck was awarded the Nobel Prize in literature.

On October 26, 1774, the First Continental Congress opened in Philadelphia.

On October 26, 1977, the experimental space shuttle *Enterprise* glided to a bumpy but successful landing at Edwards Air Force Base in California.

On October 27, 1858, Theodore Roosevelt, who would become the 26th President of the United States, was born in New York City.

On October 27, 1904, the New York subway (America's first) opened for business. It ran from the Brooklyn Bridge to downtown Manhattan.

On October 27, 1938, DuPont announced that it had a chosen a name for its new synthetic yarn. The world was to know it as nylon.

On October 27, 1947, the radio show, "You Bet Your Life," starring Groucho Marx, premiered on ABC Radio. It later became a TV show on NBC.

On October 27, 1954, Walt Disney's first TV program, titled "Disneyland," premiered on ABC.

On October 28, 1492, Christopher Columbus, on his first voyage to the New World, discovered the Island of Cuba.

On October 28, 1793, Eli Whitney applied for a patent for his cotton gin. It was granted six months later.

On October 28, 1886, the Statue of Liberty was dedicated in New York harbor.

On October 28, 1893, disappointed office seeker Patrick Prendergast killed Chicago's Mayor Carter Harrison.

On October 28, 1919, prohibition became a reality (at least on paper) with the passage, over President Wilson's veto, of the Volstead Prohibition Enforcement Act.

On October 28, 1967, actress Julia Roberts was born in Smyrna, GA.

On October 28, 1981, the Los Angeles won the World Series, defeating the New York Yankees 9 to 2 in game 6.

On October 28, 2004, Boston Red Sox fans turned out by the tens of thousands near historic Fenway Park to celebrate their World Series champion team, the city's first since 1918.

On October 29, 1911, newspaper publisher Joseph Pulitzer died in Charleston, SC; he was 64.

On October 29, 1929, the New York Stock Market crashed. Known as "Black Tuesday," it would take World War II to bring the nation out of the depression that followed.

On October 29, 1964, thieves made off with the Star of India and other gems from the American Museum of Natural History in New York. The Star and most of the other gems were recovered; three men were convicted in the case.

On October 29, 1967, the musical "Hair" opened off Broadway.

On October 29, 1979, Chicago's State Street Mall was officially dedicated.

On October 29, 1982, in Los Angeles, a federal grand jury indicted automaker John DeLorean of charges of drug trafficking and racketeering.

On October 29, 1998, at age 77, Sen. John Glenn (D-Ohio) roared back into space aboard the shuttle Discovery, retracing the trail he blazed as an astronaut 36 years earlier.

On October 29, 2003, a powerful geomagnetic storm walloped the Earth, knocking out some airline communications but apparently causing no large power outages or other major problems.

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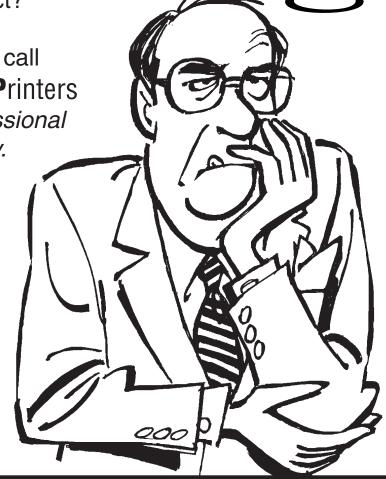
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Limited tickets remain. Register at http://tinyurl.com/l95np25

Contact Dushan Nikolovski at (219) 989-3159 or Derek Bjonback at (219) 785-5694 for additional information.

SAT Prep Programs

The Purdue University-North Central Office of Graduate and Extended Learning will offer SAT preparation programs.

Held in partnership with the Mathematics/Statistics/Physics Department and Department of English and Modern Languages, the program will meet from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesday, Nov. 3-19. The instructor, Jerry DeGroot, has been a PNC continuing lecturer of math for 12 years and has more than 20 years experience teaching math. The \$149 program fee includes a textbook and materials. The registration deadline is 4 p.m. Oct. 22.

Students will learn the most common math topics on the SAT, including operations, algebra, functions, geometry and measurement, data analysis, statistics and probability. They also will learn test-taking skills such as how to read and interpret math questions, how to avoid the most common mistakes, how and when to make educated guesses, how to use the reference information and how to use a calculator effectively. DeGroot will present practice problems and examinations to familiarize students with test and question formatting, the pace at which they need to answer questions and the techniques to earn a high score.

The English program will meet from 9 a.m. to noon Saturdays, Nov. 8-22. Instructor Tamara O'Hearn has taught college English for 20 years and college preparatory school English for nine. She has experience working for Pearson Education, where she evaluated test takers' essay responses on the SAT. The \$139 program cost includes a textbook and all other materials. The registration deadline is 4 p.m. Oct. 27.

Students taking the English program will learn about, and practice, critical reading, sentence completion, proper grammar and word usage. Students' vocabularies, grammar skills, reading comprehension and writing abilities will be challenged and expanded through in-class and take-home activities, timed recall tests and graded essays. Students will become familiar with the format of the exam, learning the types of questions on the English portion of the exam and the amount of time allotted for each. They will be coached on successful test taking strategies and taught effective techniques for writing high-scoring essays while under pressure. Time will be devoted to practice problems similar to those on the SAT. The program will prepare students for both the reading and writing portions of the exam.

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.

Have a story idea? Call The Beacher at (219) 879-0088



Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter

Rooms by Lauren Oliver (hard-back, \$25.99 in bookstores and online, also available as an eBook)

Don't you love this time of year? Trips to the apple orchard, falling into piles of fallen leaves, telling ghost stories around the fire. What I have for you today is a different kind of ghost story, something you just might find as fascinating as I did.

Here goes.

What are ghosts? Are they spectral figures silently gliding through the air, moaning and shaking chains? Not in this story. Ghosts Alice and Sandra have been part of Richard Walker's house for many years, although he was never consciously aware of them.

They are trapped in the house and, although no one notices, make their presence known by the sounds of the house itself — creaking floors, an exploded lightbulb, a slight shadow in the corner — things that have gone unnoticed...until Walker dies and Alice expresses their feelings:

"For a time, the house falls into quiet. It is ours again, mine and Sandra's. Its corners are elbows, its stairways our skeleton pieces, splinters of bone and spine. In the quietness we drift...We hover in the light coming through the windows, with the dust; we spin, dizzy in the silence."

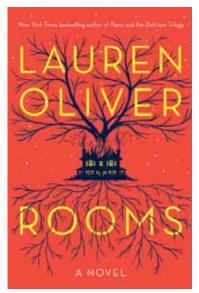
And then, the rest of the Walkers descend on the house and nothing will be the same again.

Caroline was married to Richard for 20-some years before they divorced. They had two children, Minna and Trenton. Now, having been notified of his death, they have been called back to the house for the reading of his will, collect their inheritance and leave. Yeah, they think it will be that easy.

Walker was a collector of "things," the house filled with a lifetime of stuff worthy and worthless. Minna, Trenton and Minna's 6-year-old daughter, Amy, wander the big house amazed at what their father saved, with Caroline silently figuring how much money it would all bring.

Ghosts Alice and Sandra discuss and bicker with each other about everything, including their past lives and observations about the Walkers. They fade into the house itself, sometimes a shadow in a room, sometimes dissolving into the very walls, knowing they are safe from exposure...or are they? We learn slowly of their painful lives and how they became the restless ghosts they are.

One day, another ghost enters the house. This one is female, probably a teenager, but not very talkative to Alice and Sandra. The same day, the police



arrive to inform the Walkers a girl has gone missing and to be on the lookout for her. Her name is Vivian. They don't know if she is dead or alive. Alice and Sandra can't get the girl to tell them her name or anything about herself, but one thing is for sure: Trenton can hear her! That really surprises the ghosts, not to mention Trenton, who doesn't know whether to be scared out of his mind or curious enough to get to know her.

At the same time, another girl shows up at the door. Not a ghost, thank goodness. She says her name is Katie and lives close by. She's a free-spirit type who mesmerizes the socially awkward Trenton and persuades him to hold a seance in the attic, with

candles, of course. Sound like a recipe for disaster?

There are many stories to tell, but as time goes by, the reality of how the ghosts relate to each other and the house will become abundantly clear. Then there's the sexual exploits of Minna, the vodka exploits of Caroline and the hoped-for sexual exploits of Trenton, all culminating in the memorial service and attempted burial of Walker's ashes in the backyard. Oops, did I say "attempted"?

This story is like being a fly on the walls of the Walker house: seeing things from the living and non-living perspectives. Will any one of them find what they're looking for? Redemption? Love? Forgiveness? Only time will tell!

Author Emma Straub said: "Rooms is mysterious and mournful and incantatory, so well done that it feels that the pages may actually ignite."

Author Lev Grossman said: "Rooms is a magnificent gothic fugue on the themes of long and buried secrets."

Oliver is the author of the young adult novels <u>Before I Fall</u> and <u>Panic</u>, as well as the Delirium trilogy — <u>Delirium</u>, <u>Pandemonium</u> and <u>Requiem</u> — which have been translated into more than 30 languages and are *New York Times* and international best-sellers. <u>Rooms</u> is her first novel for adults. She is a graduate of the University of Chicago.

Till next time, happy reading!





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