



Volume 32, Number 29 Thursday, July 28, 2016

# A Literary Dynasty Continues

## This Muggle Can't Wait for the New "Harry Potter" Release

by Kayla Weiss



Kayla Weiss stands with a portion of her immense "Harry Potter" collection, including a copy of a newspaper article, written by future Beacher editor Andrew Tallackson, revealing her as one of the winners of a "Harry Potter" contest."

Now, 19 years later, the legacy of "the boy who lived" is more powerful than ever.

I was soon to turn 7 when the first "Harry Potter" book was released. I don't recall any buzz about the strange new children's book about a magical school named Hogwarts, nor lines of people outside of bookstores, waiting for their copies. I couldn't possibly recollect any of that, but I remember everything that came after it.



Kayla Weiss stands with James and Oliver Phelps, best known as Fred and George Weasley from the "Harry Potter" films, at the Wizard World Comic Con in Indianapolis.

**T**here was nothing about the morning of June 26, 1997, to suggest strange and mysterious events were afoot. No one had any inkling of how monumental a date it would represent in the future.

As it turned out, that day marked the beginning of a literary dynasty that would enchant and enthrall for generations to come.

of jeans, a red- and gold-striped sweater, a red cape, round glasses and an unmistakable lightning bolt drawn onto his forehead. At the time, I had no idea who he was supposed to be. Looking back on it now, it is as clear as day. Long before the movies were released, however, we had one single image of "the boy who lived," and it came from the cover of the first book.

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## A Literary Dynasty

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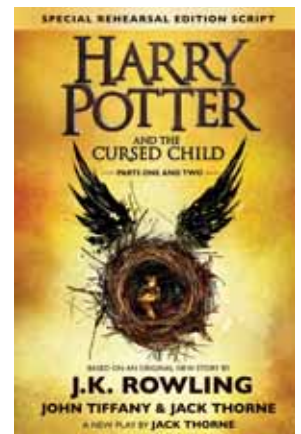
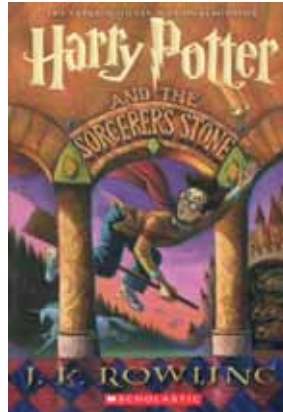
It wasn't long afterward when my mother bought "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone," reading it herself before passing it along to me. I remember first picking up this magical book, reading the first chapter and thinking, "What in the world is this?" In the first few pages, there was talk of a horrible, bitter, stern family called the Dursleys, these people called "muggles" and a strange old man wearing robes and boots walking down a dark neighborhood. It was, by far, one of the strangest books I'd started reading, but as I came to an understanding about what muggles really were, I was captured. Hook, line and sinker.

By the time the second movie was released in November 2002, the four books in the series had been released and I had read the first three at least 13 times. Thirteen times in three years. Looking back, I don't even know how I did it. As it would turn out, that year, I would express my intense devotion to the series when my mom found a "Harry Potter" contest featured

in The News-Dispatch, posted by none other than future *Beacher* Editor Andrew Tallackson, who was the newspaper's entertainment editor at the time. The contest rules were simple: In a few sentences, explain which Harry Potter you are most like and why. I chose Harry Potter. When the winners of the contest were posted in the newspaper, two other teens and myself had won a free viewing of "Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets," followed by pizza and an interview.

I remember being impressed by the final battle in the film between Harry and the great Basilisk, but sorely disappointed by the Whomping Willow's appearance...It still holds true today, almost 14 years later.

As I grew older, the books became more important to me. It wasn't just a story. Everytime I read them, I found something new to believe in, to keep in mind, a new ideal to behold. Many of them, I still keep close today, including some of Professor Dumbledore's most inspiring quotes, such as, "It is our choices that show what we truly are, far more than our abilities," and "There will be a time when we must choose between





*what it easy and what it right."*

I believe Stephen King said it best: *"Harry Potter is all about confronting fears, finding inner strength and doing what is right in the face of adversity."* That could be one of the reasons I enjoy it so much, aside from the fact that it's all about a child who receives a mysterious letter to attend a school for witches and wizards. I mean, what kid doesn't want that?

For the past nine years, we all believed the story was over. As J.K. Rowling herself wrote at the end of the seventh book, *"All was well."* Conservative efforts now place sales of the "Harry Potter" series at 400 million, making it the most successful book series in history. The films are the second-highest grossing in history, with the "Star Wars" franchise at the top.

Now, suddenly, the boy who lived is back on the market. With all of the buzz about Jack Thorne's new play, Rowling decided to release another book: *"Harry Potter and the Cursed Child."*



Andrew Tallackson interviews Kayla Weiss, then 12, after winning a newspaper "Harry Potter" contest in 2002.

Taking place 19 years after the final battle of Hogwarts, *"Harry Potter and the Cursed Child"* apparently follows one of Harry's sons, who now attends Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. What could possibly go wrong? Speaking as a writer, everything. That's the answer. Everything can and probably will go wrong. Not surprisingly, people have been tight-lipped about the plot. There isn't even a general description, just that it's based off an original idea by Rowling and picks up where Book 7, *"The Deathly Hallows,"* left off.

Many people have come to the conclusion the new release is just the play's script packaged to resemble a book. That could very well be, but for all we know, Rowling could have decided to go in and flesh it out into a full-length novel. We don't know, because anyone authorized to sell the book, such as Book Warehouse at Lighthouse Place, where I work,

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## A Literary Dynasty

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is under contract with Scholastic and not allowed to open any boxes containing "Harry Potter and the Cursed Child" until the release date on Sunday, July 31, 2016.

Play or book, I always hope for a new full-length book. Who wouldn't? But, I suppose my main concern is that the new story not ruin the legacy established by the original series. They were so well planned and carefully thought out, Rowling even had the perfect words to end the series: "*All was well.*" After everything the characters went through during their school years, I would surely hope so.

For the past 17 years, I have been devoted to the story of the young wizards and witches at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. Not only are these books wonderfully written and unbelievably imaginative, but there is something about them that makes me return to them. I start reading them every year on Sept. 1: the day the students board The Hogwarts Express on Platform 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ , finishing them sometime around Christmas.

When people hear how quickly I tear through all



Author J.K. Rowling

seven books, they can't believe it, especially when you consider some are more than 700 pages long.

For me, it's not difficult. It is as effortless as breathing, because at the end of the day, there is something about the story tucked into these pages that is comforting. For me, reading these books is like going home.



A scene from the film version of "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire."



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## Rousing Second Half of “Star Trek Beyond” Rights Earlier Wrongs

by Andrew Tallackson

It takes a good hour before “Star Trek Beyond” dares to dream big, but once it does, it’s rip-roaring entertainment.

The misfortune of the cinematic “Star Trek” label — regardless if it’s William Shatner, Patrick Stewart or Chris Pine at the helm of the USS Enterprise — is that it routinely fails to justify why we should shell out a few extra bucks to see them. Most of the films play out like extended episodes of the show, bereft of heart, humanity and heroics.

Back in 2009, J.J. Abrams checked the franchise out of retirement-home hell, exploring the birth of myth, specifically the forces that drew James T. Kirk and the crew of the Enterprise together. Lively, and paced like a runaway train, it gave the “Star Trek” universe the swift kick in the pants it needed...before collapsing into tedium four years later with “Into Darkness.”

“Beyond” has a new director (Justin Lin, the guru behind four “Fast and the Furious” pictures) and new writers (co-star Simon Pegg and Doug Jung), yet what’s interesting is how the movie opens with Kirk (Pine) feeling weary, as if he’s coasting: on the verge of promotion, yet trapped by routine.

That’s an apt description for the first half of “Beyond.” It feels as if last week’s episode is over and this week’s has begun. Kirk and crew have stopped by the starbase Yorktown (gorgeously and elaborately conceived) for a little R&R. Spock (Zachary Quinto) and Uhura (Zoe Saldana) call their relationship quits, and we’re offered a glimpse into the private life of Sulu (John Cho), who has a male partner and an adopted daughter. The “big reveal” of Sulu as gay is handled matter of factly, with far more subtlety than anticipated.

But that’s it in terms of endearing these characters to audiences. An escape pod drifts into view, a space-age Trojan horse that draws an attack by unknown enemies. Kirk’s crew shouts oodles of techno-gibberish, most of it unintelligible and designed solely to convey that the plot is amping up.

And, as is the case with each generation of “Star Trek” actors, the Enterprise suffers a massive blow, stranding the crew on a “Pandora”-like planet, but one with none of the lush eye candy of James Cameron’s masterpiece. In fact, the visuals take on a flat, drab tone, and it was at this point that I started to grow restless.

Enter Jaylah, a striking alien in white and black-striped makeup, trapped on the planet much like Kirk and crew. Jaylah is played by Sofia Boutella, an Algerian dancer and actress who has appeared mostly in bit roles, but here suggests great things are to come. Boutella is ferocious, creating a true original: a warrior laced with an aching desire for family. It’s as if Boutella single-handedly reboots the



Sofia Boutella (left) as Jaylah, seen with Simon Pegg as Scotty, gives “Star Trek Beyond” a significant boost during the film’s second half.

picture, righting all wrongs and setting a course for the rousing second half, beginning with the crew’s breathtaking takeoff in a ramshackle ship and leading to the knockout finale — brimming with old-fashioned heroics — back at Yorktown.

And it is in Yorktown that the tragic nature of the film’s villain, Krall, emerges, making him a viable threat. He’s played by Idris Elba under layers of makeup and a rubbery alien mask. Once the mask is removed, though, Elba is freed to unleash everything stored in him, making Krall a tragic exploration of desperation turned toxic. When Krall erupts with venom, we are reminded that Elba truly is one of the greats.

The added treat is Karl Urban as “Bones” McCoy. He has emerged as the reboot’s secret weapon, capturing the cadence, and cheeky humor, of DeForest Kelley with such perfection, it’s satisfying to watch the character earn more screen time.

“Beyond” is dedicated to Leonard Nimoy and Anton Yelchin, both of whom passed away during the past year, the later tragically in a car accident. The movie’s affection for them, and the cast as a whole, shines amid the wonderful final shot. These actors obviously savor each other’s company. We do, too. Dream bigger from start to finish next time around, and they’ll be unstoppable.

Contact Andrew Tallackson at [drew@thebeacher.com](mailto:drew@thebeacher.com)



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## The Search for Love Unfolds In 'Parallel Lives' at Canterbury Theatre

Canterbury Summer Theatre presents its final production of the 2016 season, "Parallel Lives," on Aug. 4-6 at Canterbury Theatre, 807 Franklin St.

The comedy features six actresses who play 40 different characters. From two supreme beings who set about to create mankind, to a barfly cowboy who sets his misguided attention on a middle-aged mother of two boys, the show presents nine sketches with a unique take on the search to find love, happiness and meaning. Sex, gender roles, changing mores, religion and political posturing are presented in an often outrageously comic fashion.

The play, which won an Obie award and was televised on HBO, was written and performed by Kathy Najimiy ("Sister Act") and Mo Gaffney ("Absolutely Fabulous").

The Canterbury production is produced as part of a longstanding association with Bossier Parish Community College, where Artistic Director Ray Scott Crawford is dean of performing arts and communication. It completed its initial run in Louisiana. Crawford directs a cast that includes Lari Leber, Elise Birmingham, Taylor Brown, Allison Miller,



Elizabeth Jones (from left), Taylor Brown, Elise Birmingham, Lari Leber, Jasey Gilbert and Allison Miller (center) star in "Parallel Lives."

Elizabeth Jones and Jasey Gilbert. Scenic design is by David White, lighting by Keith Bruce and costumes by Rona Leber. John Medlin serves as production stage manager.

Performances are at 2 p.m. Thursday, 8 p.m. Friday and 6:30 p.m. Saturday. There is no Wednesday performance. Tickets are \$15 to \$16, with discounts for seniors and students. Call (219) 874-4269 or email [info@canterburytheatre.org](mailto:info@canterburytheatre.org) for reservations.



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## St. Stanislaus 125th Anniversary Festival

After a hiatus of more than a decade, the summer festival at St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish, 1506 Washington St., returns in honor of the church and school community's 125th anniversary.

The event is Saturday and Sunday, July 30-31. Saturday hours are 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Sunday hours from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. An outdoor Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Sunday.

The festival will include live entertainment, food vendors, a beer-and-wine tent, cash raffle and other adult gaming, kids games, face painters and a bounce house.

Live music scheduled for Saturday includes rock bands Stealin' the Farm from noon to 3 p.m. and The Malott Brothers from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. On Sunday, magician Matt Kalita, a St. Stans alumnus, performs at noon and Keith Stras & The Polka Confetti from 1 to 5 p.m.

Another big draw is the food. Attendees can expect elephant ears, potato blossoms, bratwursts, corn on the cob, *quesadillas* and rice, snow cones, popcorn, cotton candy and other festival fare. Cabo's Ice Cream Shop will serve frozen treats and fresh waters. Polish selections include homemade Polish sausage and *pierogi*, which a group of parishioners makes in the church hall kitchen.

Gaming will be a big part of the weekend for children and adults. More than a dozen carnival games

– a duck pond, ring toss and tic-tac-toe – will be set up for toddlers and school-aged children. Adults 21 and older can play pull-tabs and tips games, cookie dough, a money tree, prize wheel and dice game.

A cash raffle is planned with prizes of \$1,000, \$500 and \$250. The three winners will be drawn at the festival's conclusion at 6 p.m. Sunday. Winners don't have to be present to be eligible. Tickets are on sale

now at \$5 per chance. Contact the parish office at (219) 879-9281 to buy in advance.

The St. Stan's Convent Resale Shop will remain open during its regular business hours of 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, and serve as a cooling center in case of extreme heat. The St. Stan's Farmers' Market also will be open during its normal hours of 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday.

In addition to the festival, St. Stan's will welcome alumni, parishioners and other parish friends and supporters to a special dinner in their church hall Friday, July 29. Doors and a cash bar open at 5 p.m. and close at 11 p.m. Dinner, catered by Duneland Falls, will be served at 6 p.m. A D.J. will provide musical entertainment, and Monica Z Photography will offer a photo booth. Dinner tickets, which are \$30, are available in the parish office.

Visit [www.SaintStansMC125th.com](http://www.SaintStansMC125th.com), or contact Kelley Smith at [kelly.smith@saintstans.com](mailto:kelly.smith@saintstans.com) or (219) 879-9281, Ext. 218, for more information.



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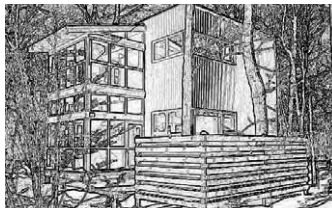


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The 25th annual car show presented by Four A's Car Club, hailed as the Harbor Country area's biggest car show, is Saturday, July 31, at American Legion Post 204, 204 W. Linden St., Three Oaks, Mich.

Registration, which costs \$15 at the gate, is from 8 a.m. to noon EDT, with awards at 3 p.m. EDT. Goodie bags go to the first 100 entries. Proceeds are donated to local charities. Those who donate a non-perishable item at registration are entered into a raffle. Spectator admission costs \$2, with children 12 and younger free. Visit [www.fourascarclub.org](http://www.fourascarclub.org) for additional information.



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## 18 Hole Women's Golf League Guest Day

The 18 Hole Women's Golf League of Long Beach Country Club celebrated Guest Day with an event co-hosted by Roxanne Warble and Kathie Mole.

It started with an Antipasti Ricezione Under the Piazza Tent and culminated with a Partita di Golf and Pranzo.

All photos provided by Warble.



The first-place team: Kathleen Beeler, June Salmon, Maureen Hochberg and Peg King.



Mary Burke, Nancy Henry, Mary Eunie Nondorf and Eunie Nondorf.



Closest to the Pin and Longest Drive winners: Amy Kurzawski and Beth Chensoff, guests of Nancy Reinert.



Diane Howard, Lis Slattery, Carolyn Middleton and Mary Weithers.



Linda Wilson and Joey Eastman.



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## Great Lakes Grand Prix Returns to Michigan City

Visit Michigan City La Porte announced the return of the Great Lakes Grand Prix for its eighth year.

"Last year's race injected over \$9 million into the local economy, and we expect to equal that, or more, for 2016," according to Jack Arnett, executive director of the tourism bureau, which hosts the race. "All the local hotels are already full, and we expect an 'overflow' crowd during the four days."

Grand Prix week is Aug. 4-7. A ribbon cutting and VIP event showcasing race boats is Thursday night at Matey's Restaurant, 110 Franklin St. The ribbon cutting is at 5:30 p.m., followed by the party from 6 to 8 p.m. A VIP event with race boats and teams is 6 to 8 p.m. Friday at Mug Shots Lounge (City Lanes), 1901 S. Woodland Ave. Attendees must have VIP credentials to attend these events; however, both restaurants will be open to the public.

VIP credentials can be purchased at the tourism bureau in Marquette Mall for the catered VIP brunch on the Washington Park boardwalk on race day and the racer's trophy event at Blue Chip Casino, Hotel & Spa on Sunday evening.

However, many events, and entrance to the race, are free.

Live entertainment is from 8 to 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday on the Washington Park boardwalk.

A food and beer garden will be available starting at 11 a.m. Friday and 9 a.m. Saturday and Sunday.

The "Taste of Michigan City" is from 5 to 11 p.m. Friday and 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday on Franklin Street between Seventh and Fourth streets, with a free shuttle loop running from Washington Park and Taste of Michigan City at Fourth and Franklin streets. A continuous free shuttle service will run from Washington Park and Blue Chip Casino, Hotel & Spa on Saturday and Sunday.

A vintage car show presented by Four A's Car Club is from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday in Washington Park. At 6:30 p.m. Saturday, the Boat Parade & Block Party begins in downtown Michigan City, traveling north on Franklin Street from 10th



Photo by Paul Kemiel Photographic

Street to Fourth Street.

On Sunday, a charity silent auction on the east end of the boardwalk next to the VIP tent is from 10 a.m. until 10 minutes after the last race. All proceeds will be split between the La Porte County Growing Up Green Program and the Michigan City High School Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps.

Racing begins at 11 a.m. Sunday, with two races.

Visit [www.greatlakesgrandprix.com](http://www.greatlakesgrandprix.com) or call the visitors center at (219) 872-5055 for more details.



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Guests can view "Metropolis," hailed as the most famous and influential silent film created, at 8 p.m. Friday, July 29, in the gardens at Barker Mansion, 631 Washington St.

Fritz Lang's movie (1927) is set in 2026, depicting a German population divided between workers who live in the dark underground and the rich who enjoy a futuristic city of splendor, complete with robots. It is suitable for ages 13 and older.

Guests can take lawn chairs, blankets and snacks. Mansion staff will have candy for sale that was popular, or invented, during Catherine Barker's era. After the screening, Heritage Interpreter T.J. Kalin will give a short talk on the film's influence for those who wish to participate. Reservations are not necessary.

Visit [www.barkermansion.com](http://www.barkermansion.com) for details.



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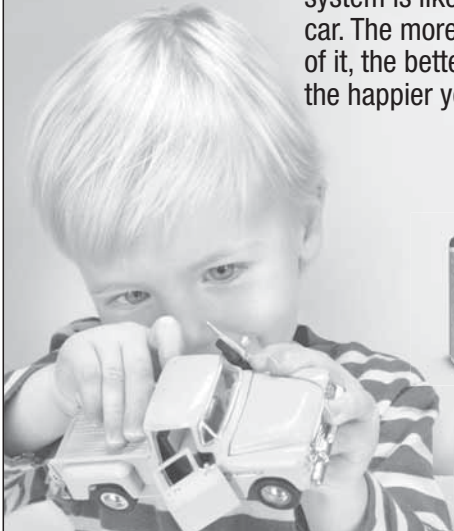
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## Roosevelt Organ Series Continues

The 15th season of the Roosevelt Pipe Organ series continues at 12:15 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 3, at Christ Church (the former First Congregational Church), 531 Washington St.

In the series, acclaimed organists of the wider Chicago area play the historic 1891 Roosevelt organ. On Aug. 3, Matt Gerhard will perform. He is the director of music at Kokomo Zion United Methodist Church, the choral assistant at Northwestern MS/HS and teaches private piano.

Gerhard earned a bachelor's degree in church music from Olivet Nazarene University (2008) and a master's degree in choral conducting from California Baptist University (2010). He has studied classical and church organ with the Rev. William Brown, Timothy Nelson and Beverly Howard. He has had coaching in theater organ and silent film accompaniment from Mark Herman, Bob Salisbury and Justin Stahl. His piano studies have been with Amy Shumway and Gerald Anderson.

He serves as recording secretary for the American Theatre Organ Society Central Indiana Chapter and registrar for the American Guild of Organists Indianapolis Chapter.

The concerts are free, with seating at noon. Donations are accepted to assist with the organ's maintenance. The church is air-conditioned. Call the directors of the series, Ann and George Dobie, at (269) 469-0051 for more information.



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## Michigan City Public Library

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

• **Summer Reading Program Grand Finale: Madcap Puppets! at 10 a.m. Thursday, July 28.**

Aesop's favorite fables are retold by a cast of puppets and the audience. Stories include "The Boy Who Cried Wolf," "The Lion and the Mouse" and "The Hare and the Tortoise."

• **Pop Up Story Time, 10 a.m. Friday, July 29.**

Children 6-12 can choose their favorite picture books and read them to other children.



Stephan James stars as Jesse Owens in "Race."

• **Friday Afternoon at the Movies: "Race" at 2 p.m. Friday, July 29.**

The drama, rated PG-13, focuses on black athlete Jesse Owens (Stephan James) and his experience at the 1936 Berlin Olympics.

• **Understanding Your Dreams at 2 p.m. Saturday, July 30.**

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

• **Angels Among Us at 3 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 2.**

Ange Benz leads the discussion on inspiring stories about the presence of angels in everyday lives.

• **Michiana Clowns at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 3.**

The program is aimed at families.

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

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## Air Disaster Topic of NB Forum

“Fatal Crossing: The Mysterious Disappearance of NWA Flight 2501 and the Quest for Answers” is the subject of the next Friends of New Buffalo Library Community Forum.

The program is at 6:30 p.m. EDT Monday, Aug. 1, at New Buffalo Township Library, 33 N. Thompson St.

Before disappearing over Lake Michigan, the crossing of Flight 2501 began on June 23, 1950, with 58 passengers on board. Only human remains washing up on the beaches of west Michigan remain as evidence of the aviation disaster. More than a half century later, presenter Valerie Van Heest of the Michigan Shipwreck Research Association teamed up with author and explorer Clive Cussler to find the submerged wreck and solve the mystery of the plane's disappearance.

Van Heest will share how an unexpected meeting with a victim's son prompted a search of a different kind that she said is more illuminating than submerged sections of twisted aluminum.

Other upcoming programs in the free series include “The Latest Buzz About Bees” by beekeeper Mike Sautter on Aug. 15 and Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore's 50th anniversary by a park ranger Aug. 23.

Call the library at (269) 469-2933, follow the facebook link at [newbuffalotownshiplibrary.org](http://newbuffalotownshiplibrary.org) or email [new.buffalo.FOL@gmail.com](mailto:new.buffalo.FOL@gmail.com) for more information.

## Taste of La Porte

The Fifth Annual Taste of La Porte, which showcases some of La Porte County's finest establishments, is from 3 to 10 p.m. Saturday, July 30, at La Porte Civic Auditorium, 1001 Ridge St.

The event also features a beer garden, live entertainment and children's activities.

Admission is free, and attendees pay per taste. Visit [www.facebook.com/DowntownLaPorte](http://www.facebook.com/DowntownLaPorte) for more information.

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## New Fernwood Art Exhibit

Offering a contemporary spin on floral and figurative painting, Chicago artist Winifred Godfrey is displaying her work at Fernwood Botanical Garden and Nature Preserve, 13988 Range Line Road, Niles, Mich.



Winifred Godfrey stands alongside one of her pieces.

Godfrey's work, showcased in the Clark Art Gallery, often is described as photorealistic, although her interest is more with color and composition. She works with common subjects, but presented large.

Her pieces are included in private, corporate and museum collections, and has been exhibited throughout North America. Among her more notable exhibits are one-woman shows at the Carnegie Museum of Natural History in Pittsburgh, the Organization of American States in Washington, D.C., the Rahr-West Art Museum in Manitowoc, Wis., and the David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies at Harvard.

Godfrey's work was presented with that of Georgia O'Keefe and Marc Chagall at an exhibit of 20th-century flower paintings at the Museum of Art of Fort Lauderdale, Fla. She also has exhibited at Chicago Botanic Garden, where she won the Flora Exhibition Award of Excellence.

The exhibit runs the next two months. Call (269) 695-6491 or visit [www.fernwoodbotanical.org](http://www.fernwoodbotanical.org) for more information.

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Mary Jane Meisner was born in Michigan City 100 years ago. Her life was celebrated on Wednesday, July 20, her birthday, by friends and family at a party hosted by her daughter, Suzie Tomion, at the home of old friends Pat and Jim Parsons in Long Beach.

Seventy guests, some from as far away as Florida and even Holland, gathered to honor a life lived to the fullest, a life exemplified by great generosity, filled with the love of friends and sprinkled with great adventure. "Use your gifts," Mary Jane once told a friend. This seemed to be the guiding light of her life.

There are a fair amount of people who reach their 100th birthday these days, but few can claim to have lived a life as full of adventure as Mary Jane has.

She was born in 1916, the daughter of Clarence Mathias, recognized by many as the "Father of Long Beach." She grew up, and was educated in, the small community along Lake Michigan's shore. She met and married the gregarious Dick Meisner, also a Michigan City native, in 1936.



Attendees of the birthday celebration relax, enjoying each other's company.

"Dick was an engineering genius," said his friend, Fred Langston, who traveled from Florida to honor Mary Jane on this special day. Others described him as a renaissance man, talented in many fields who made friends easily and, in business, had the talent of finding the right man for the job at hand.

Mary Jane and Dick moved to Florida in 1937 to begin a business that included boat building, bridge design and construction. Langston tells of Dick's ingenious designs for sea walls that allowed for the reclaiming of land from the ocean. He then followed his father-in-law's tradition and developed the newly claimed land for commercial and residential use.

Mary Jane and Dick were a team, partners who supported each other in business, in life and in adventure. It seemed Dick consulted Mary Jane in



Mary Jane's daughter, Suzie Tomion.

making business decisions and respected her opinion above all others. They also shared a love of boats, of travel and of sharing the blessings of their business success with friends and family.

As they grew older, their dream of travels took on epic proportions as they made plans to build a boat and sail it around the world. This would not be just any boat. It was designed by Dick and Mary Jane, and constructed by the master ship builders of Holland. Capt. Willie Racke, who was on hand for Mary Jane's 100th birthday celebration, traveling from Holland for the occasion, quipped, "If it ain't Dutch, it ain't built."

"Tonga," their 103-foot motor yacht, was launched from shipyards in Holland, and the grand adventure began. Soon after, Dick's health began to decline, and he hired Capt. Willie to pilot his "Tonga." He impressed upon his beloved Mary Jane that no matter what, she should make the journey they had

# A Life Filled With Love and Adventure

## Friends Celebrate 100th Birthday of Daughter of Long Beach Founding Father

by William Halliar



Mary Jane Meisner is all smiles as she reads through the many birthday cards she received. All photos by William Halliar.

so long planned together. She should sail around the globe.

Dick passed from this life in 1987, and with the help of friends and the intrepid captain from Holland, Mary Jane set out on the adventure of a lifetime in her 71st year. For seven years, she and her captain and crew explored the world's oceans, rivers and seas. Often, friends and family would meet her in exotic places and share the cruise with her. Her nephew, Richard Tuttle, spent six weeks on the "Tonga," back in his college days. They were anchored off the French Riviera, and Richard recalls his aunt's great generosity towards family and friends.

"Tonga" sailed to London, Paris, the French Riviera and exotic islands in the Pacific. Mary Jane and Capt. Willie charted a course that was filled with adventure and the exploration of far-off lands. They even endured the dangers of the pirate-infested waters off the coast of Indonesia. Mary Jane went



Mary Jane poses for a picture with the celebration's many guests.

ashore and befriended the people there, winning them over by her warmth and charm. The little ship was not bothered by pirates.

"Jane was always a good sport," said Captain Willie, who considers her his "very, very, very best friend." He met his wife while "Tonga" was in port

being refitted, and she sailed along with them on their adventure. Willie tells of the time when they sailed in the port at St Petersburg Russia, still under Communist control, with a giant American flag flying from the stern of the "Tonga."

Mary Jane and Dick loved to travel. They loved to entertain. They lived large, and touched so many lives along the way. Mary Jane enjoys each day, "I am here," she exclaims with enthusiasm. She spends her days surrounded by friends, family and neighbors both in Florida and at her daughter's home in Long Beach.

Mary Jane Meisner has "lived a life filled with love," and we wish her many more happy birthdays.



Fred Langston helps entertain the gathering.



Mary Jane greets visitors.



Mary Jane's nephew, Richard Tuttle, and niece, Lynn Mathias Wood.





## Find Your Why

by Kevin Scott

When we were little, we learned the 5 Ws: who, what, where, when and why. We used them to write stories, explain topics and review books.

As we grow, we still use the 5 Ws. Four of them fall into the same category, while one stands alone. On one side: who, what, where, when. These can be answered with short answers, or most often, one-word answers. On the other side, we have the big question: why? Why didn't this work? Why did it happen to me? Why can't they understand? These questions aren't easily answered.

This is a fitness column, so let's get out of fifth-grade English class and cross over into why the WHY matters in health.

Everyone, no matter what fitness level, has a goal in mind. Sometimes, it's numerical. Sometimes, it's based on emotion, or for health reasons, or out of spite. Whatever the reason, you have set out on a journey to get healthier. Whether it's losing weight, gaining weight, putting on muscle, losing inches or defining, your goal always should be written down and clear as day.

So many people head out on their fitness journey with foggy eyes and a foggy goal. Rounded numbers that are meaningless are thrown out for weight loss goals. Lose 50 pounds, lose 25 pounds, lose 15 pounds...and do it in six months, three months, two months.

But is it attainable? Is it healthy? How does your body lose weight? How is your metabolism? How is your lifestyle? What is your current diet like? Who do you live with? Are they devoted or supportive of this lifestyle? All of these questions are valid and important to answer before you go out on your journey. But the most important question is simply "why?"

Not "why do you want to..." just why. What is the driving force pushing you to make this lifestyle change? Because deep down, if you aren't serious about it, nothing you write down, nothing you tell others, nothing you want to do will happen if you don't know why you want to and then commit to it.

Depending on your goals, the WHY can be a million different things. It can be just starting off, and your why is "I want to be healthy." It can be that you received a bad report card from your doctor, thus, "I need to exercise per my doctor." It could be you are 15 percent body fat and want to get to 10 percent. It could be your mile time is eight minutes, but you want to get it to seven. It could be that last time you played with your grandkids, you were out of breath. It could be household duties aren't as easy as they used to be.

Whatever it is, your WHY is what will carry you through. If you aren't serious about it, you will fall off like so many have before.

For all the reasons listed above, the main, resonating and mostly unsaid goal is to get healthier. Each one of those goals has the deep roots in healthier living, and trust me, it is not easy. It is not easy to go from one point to another, no matter who you are. The important thing is that you are understanding a need to change, and understanding that you have the want to change.

Now, just putting the WHY to it is the piece of the puzzle. As stated before, the WANT must come with the WHY. If you only want to lose weight, or want to drop 5 inches, you won't attain those goals. But if you add your WHY to those goals — I want to lose weight because I have high blood pressure, I want to drop 5 inches because it would boost my self-esteem — all of a sudden, you have an emotional link to your goals, and trust me, with this, you can do anything.

So, get out there and set specific goals. Set attainable goals. But find your WHY. Find the deep, driving force behind changing whatever you want to change. And get out and make the change. If your job required that you be at X pounds, would you do it? This is no different than if your doctor says you need to be at X pounds to be healthy. Healthy living is universal. It is for everyone and anyone.

Take a deep look at yourself, and find your why. A quote I once read said, "There is no challenge more challenging than the challenge to improve yourself." Recognize that it is a challenge, and nothing comes easy. Fast food may be cheap, and quick, but would you go to a doctor if he/she was known as cheap and quick?

Contact Kevin Scott at [kevinthomasscott00@gmail.com](mailto:kevinthomasscott00@gmail.com)

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## Pokagon Fund Grant Keeps Summer Day Camp Thriving

Thanks to a \$65,000 grant from The Pokagon Fund, families throughout Harbor Country have been dropping off their school-age campers at New Buffalo Middle/High School to learn, laugh and play.

Guided by college and high-school counselors, 200 enrolled in 2016 Harbor Country Summer Day Camp. Youth in grades kindergarten through seventh participate in games, dance, music, science and field trips to the New Buffalo Township Splash Pad and Stevensville Roller World.

"My kids love coming to camp," New Buffalo school teacher Melissa Lijewski said. "They talked about it for months before it even started!"

And, it isn't only campers who are learning. It appears the experience serves as preparatory school for future leaders, according to Mariah Scissom, a pre-med student at the University of Michigan.

"I hadn't worked with children before this job, and I had no idea there were so many different challenges," Scissom said, chuckling. "Camp is giving me the opportunity to learn tolerance, and now I want to find a way to incorporate working with kids in my future career as a doctor."

Attending the camp for the first time is Christien Fanta, a lively third-grader who can't wait to arrive



Youngsters engage in play as part of Harbor Country Summer Day Camp.

each morning.

"I'd much rather be at camp than sitting around at home," he said. "I love the science experiments, like turning whipping cream into butter. We made parachutes out of coffee filters and launched them off the balcony in the high school gym. It was super fun!"

The camp debuted in 2011 when The Pokagon Fund aimed to provide safe, wholesome summer activities for children from New Buffalo Area Schools and River Valley School District. It runs for five consecutive weeks from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. EDT daily.

In the past five years, the Pokagon Fund has given more than \$550,000 to support the camp. The fund is a nonprofit private foundation located in New Buffalo and supported by revenue from Four Winds Casino Resort.



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## Indiana Dunes State Park

*The following programs are offered through Indiana Dunes State Park:*

### Thursday, July 28

• **10 a.m. — Dunes Creek Crossing.**

Meet at the campground gate, and prepare for off-trail creek walking and to get wet.

• **3 p.m. — Who Pooped in the Park!**

Meet at the Nature Center to study the science of scatology, complete with games and prizes.

### Friday, July 29

• **10 a.m. — High Dunes Hiking.**

Wear hiking shoes and meet at the campground shelter by site 113 for the one-hour trek to Indiana's highest sand dune.

• **3 p.m. — Nature Crafts.**

Create a make-it, take-it craft at the Nature Center.

• **8 p.m. — Evening Campground Fun.**

Meet at the campground shelter by site 113 for the program that involves everything from nature crafts to story time.

### Saturday, July 30

• **10 a.m. — Woodland Wander.**

Meet at the Nature Center for the 45-minute stroll through back dunes forests.

• **3 p.m. — Compass Skills.**

Meet at the Nature Center to try old-fashioned navigating, with a chance to win prizes.

• **2 p.m. — 100th Anniversary of State Parks.**

Meet at the Nature Center auditorium for the 45-minute PBS documentary.

### Sunday, July 31

• **10 a.m. — Sassafras Saunter.**

Explore the popular sassafras tree and its uses.

• **3 p.m. — Dune Critters.**

Meet at the Nature Center to learn about the diversity of dune mammals.

### Monday, Aug. 1

• **10 a.m. — Woodland Wander.**

Meet at the Nature Center for the 45-minute stroll through back dunes forests.

• **3 p.m. — Just a Few Furs.**

Learn about the variety of dunes animals during the interactive 45-minute program at the Nature Center.

### Tuesday, Aug. 2

• **10 a.m. — Busy Beaver Walk.**

Meet at the campground gate for the short walk, and prepare for off-trail walking.

• **3 p.m. — Dunes Through Four Seasons.**

Explore the dunes during the naturalist slide show tour at the Nature Center.

### Wednesday, Aug. 3

• **10 a.m. — Beach House Blowout Bound.**

Meet a naturalist at the Nature Center for the one-hour moderate hike to the Beach House Blowout.

• **3 p.m. — Scales and Tales.**

Meet at the Nature Center for a look at reptiles of Indiana Dunes, with live animals present.

### Daily

• **Beach Yoga — 9 to 10 a.m.**

The Duneland and Valparaiso YMCAs have partnered to offer beach yoga at the main beach by the pavilion. The cost is \$10 per session. Five class passes are available for \$40. Call (219) 462-4185 or visit [valpoymca.org](http://valpoymca.org) to register, or just show up.

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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## Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

*The following programs are available:*

- **Mount Baldy Hike at 5 p.m. most Fridays and at 10 a.m. Sundays.**

While Mount Baldy remains closed to unrestricted public access, visitors can join a ranger for a special guided hike along a trail on the dune's western edge found to be free of holes. The program starts at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter, then follows a ranger to Mount Baldy. Reservations are required by calling (219) 395-1882.

- **Beginning Birding Program from 9 to 10:30 a.m. Saturdays at the Great Marsh Trail.**

The hike is perfect for beginners. The trail's parking lot is located on Broadway north of the Beverly Shores train station.

- **Campground Program at 8 p.m. Saturday, July 30, at Dunewood Campground.**

Join a ranger around the campfire to learn about the diversity of park resources encountered on the Dunes Scavenger Hunt. The campground is at Broadway and U.S. 12 in Beverly Shores.

- **Pinhook Bog Open House from noon to 3 p.m. Saturdays through Sept. 10.**

Tour the bog and talk to rangers stationed along the trail who explain the unique area filled with carnivorous plants. Arrive by 2 p.m. to allow about one hour to walk the trail and tour the bog. The bog parking lot is located at 700 N. Wozniak Road, Michigan City.

- **Find Your Park Film Series on Saturdays and Sundays.**

The year-long series celebrates the National Park Service's 100th anniversary and the National Lakeshore's 50th anniversary. Times are 2 p.m. Saturdays at the Paul H. Douglas Center and 2 p.m. Sundays at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.

- **Family-friendly activities and exhibits from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays at the Paul H. Douglas Center.**

Included is the outdoors Nature Play Zone. Visitors also can help feed the center's resident turtles and fish. At 1:30 p.m. Sundays, a ranger leads a guided hike through Miller Woods.

- **Bailly Homestead and Chellberg Farm Open House from 1 to 4 p.m. Sundays through Sept. 4.**

Tour the Chellberg Farmhouse and Bailly Homestead to learn about the lives of early Duneland farm families. The parking lot is on Mineral Springs Road between U.S. 20 and 12 in Porter.

- **Miller Woods Hike at 1:30 p.m. Sundays through Aug. 21.**

Join a park ranger for a hike through an oak savanna. The hike varies in length depending on the interest and abilities of visitors. Wear sturdy shoes, and take water and insect repellent.

- **Try Out a Kayak from 9 to 11 a.m. Wednesdays along the Kemil and Dunbar Beach areas.**

A ranger will be along the beach with a kayak and life jackets in tow. The program is not a formal lesson, and time in the kayak is limited so everyone gets a turn. The parking lot is located at 27 N. East State Park Road, one mile north of U.S. 12.

*The Visitor Center is at 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. The Paul H. Douglas Center is on Lake Street in Gary. Call (219) 395-1882 for more information.*

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## Husband and Wife Exhibit



Stephanie and Roger Carnell will showcase their work through the exhibit "Real & Imagined, Imagine & Reality" through Aug. 31 at Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St.

An opening reception is from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, July 31.

The exhibit includes Roger's photos and Stephanie's prints (monotype and intaglio). Roger's photos are the "real," taken within a short radius of their house near Porter Beach. Stephanie's prints are the "imagined," born of her reflection on the world.

The Carnells are center members, with Stephanie being a former board member. The two hang many exhibits in the gallery space.

Visit [www.chestertonart.com](http://www.chestertonart.com) for more details.

## Lilly Scholarship Application

The Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship application is available on Unity Foundation of La Porte County's website at [www.ulfc.net](http://www.ulfc.net).

The scholarship's timeline has moved from winter to fall, the result of a "compelling recommendation" from community foundations that participated in a statewide evaluation of the program conducted by Lilly Endowment in 2015. During the process, a number of community foundations suggested identifying Lilly scholars earlier in the school year affords more time for them to decide which college or university to attend.

Through support of Independent Colleges of Indiana and Lilly Endowment, Unity Foundation is offering two full-tuition, four-year college scholarships to benefit La Porte County residents. They provide full tuition, required fees and a special allocation of up to \$900 per year for required books and equipment for four years of undergraduate study, leading to a baccalaureate degree at any accredited Indiana public or private college or university.

To be eligible, students must:

- Be a La Porte County resident.
- Have graduated from an accredited high school that serves La Porte County by June 30, 2017.
- Intend to pursue a full-time baccalaureate course of study beginning in fall 2017 at an accredited Indiana college or university.
- Submit a complete online application at [www.ulfc.net](http://www.ulfc.net) to the Unity Foundation by 11:59 p.m. Aug. 26.

Scholarships will be awarded based on academic achievement, demonstrated service to others, leadership ability, commitment and motivation to succeed in academics, employment history and financial need. A personal interview will assist in determining scholarship recipients. Non-traditional students — those who have been out of high school for any period of time — are encouraged to call Unity at (219) 879-0327 to see if they meet eligibility requirements.

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## Waves of Laughter

Eve Landsman Wierzbicki and Colleen Brennan grew up as friends and neighbors in Long Beach.

Setting up stages in Wierzbicki's basement, the girls, their siblings and neighborhood friends created shows to entertain themselves and the neighborhood throughout their childhood summers. They practiced, made flyers, sold tickets and performed.



Colleen Brennan and Eve Landsman Wierzbicki performing together as kids.

Now, more than 30 years later, their passion has stayed alive with "Waves of Laughter." Set for Friday, Aug. 5, at The Uptown Center, 907 Franklin St., it's the first show they are producing together as adults, and which they chose to do as a benefit.

Both women have kept busy promoting the arts and performing in their spare time. Along with a career in advertising and graphic art, Wierzbicki has created Dig the Dunes (digthedunes.com), a website and social media platform dedicated to celebrating and promoting everything from trails and beaches, to places, events, even people in the dunes. Brennan, a pediatric speech-language pathologist and owner of Brennan Speech Services Limited, studied improv and stand-up comedy through Second City and the Feminine Comique in Chicago. She now performs standup comedy regularly throughout the Chicago area.

"Waves of Laughter" features six of Chicago's best standup comedians, with a large portion of the proceeds aiding Unity Foundation of La Porte County. Doors open at 7:30 p.m., with the show starting at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are available through Eventbrite at [tinyurl.com/zwf43sf](http://tinyurl.com/zwf43sf), Unity Foundation of La Porte County, 115 E. Fourth St., and Lakefront Salon and Day Spa, 524 Franklin St.

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## Westchester Public Library

*The following programs are available:*

• **Game On from 6 to 7 p.m. Thursday, July 28, at Thomas Library, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.**

A different game is featured each month, with snacks provided.

• **Rainbow Loom from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Friday, July 29, at Thomas Library Children's Department.**

Children in grades 3-6 create rainbow loom bracelets. Looms and rubber bands are supplied, but participants can take their own. Supplies are limited. Registration is required in person or by calling (219) 926-7696.

• **Summer Concert & Movie Series at 7 p.m. Friday, July 29, at the Thomas Park bandstand in downtown Chesterton.**

South Shore Brass performs, followed by "Pan." In case of rain, both events move to the Library Service Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

• **The Unnamed Guild of Gamers from 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday, July 31, at Thomas Library's Bertha Wood Meeting Room.**

Events will include a fifth edition Dungeons & Dragons campaign, as well as "Settlers of Catan" and "Pandemic."

• **Popular Books at 2 p.m. Monday, Aug. 1, at Thomas Library.**

The focus is Mohja Kahf's "The Girl in the Tangerine Scarf."

• **Adult Coloring Program from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 2, at Hageman Library, 100 Francis St., Porter.**

Registration can be done in person or by phone at (219) 926-9080.

• **Bits & Bytes series, Home Networking, from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 2, and 1 to 3 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 4, in the Serials/Automation Department at Thomas Library.**

Registration is required by visiting or calling the IT Department at (219) 926-7696, or registering at [www.wpl.lib.in.us](http://www.wpl.lib.in.us). Click on the Bits & Bytes link.

• **Creative Writing for Teens on Aug. 2-4 at the Thomas Library Bertha Wood Meeting Room.**

Professional writer and published author Heather Augustyn will lead the introduction to creative writing for teens in grades six through 12. Register at the Thomas Reference Department or call (219) 926-7696.

• **Young Adult "Divergent" Book Battle from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 3, at Hageman Library.**

Fans of Veronica Roth's "Divergent" series can show off their knowledge, match wits and win prizes based on questions about the books.

• **Minecraft Meet-up from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 3, at Thomas Library.**

Registration is required and must be done in person. The WPL Gaming Policy and Rules of Conduct must be signed upon registration as well. Parents are welcome to attend, but required for youth 10 and younger.

• **Creative Tweens from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Wednesdays at the Library Service Center.**

No crafting talent is necessary, and all materials are provided. Registration is required for each session. Call (219) 926-7696 or (219) 926-9080 to register.



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## "Songs From The Heart"

Song stylist Jenna Mammina will join Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra for an evening of songs by some of the best women in music.

"Songs From The Heart" is at 7:30 p.m. EDT Saturday, July 30, at Jean Klock Park in Benton Harbor, Mich.

Mammina combines folk music, pop and jazz to cover a wide range of music. The program includes some of her original compositions, as well as songs made famous by Bonnie Raitt, Karen Carpenter, Joni Mitchell and Linda Ronstadt.

Multi-instrumentalist Isaac Narell did all the orchestrations and will join her on stage to play piano and saxophone. Brandon Miesse will play cello, while Benedict Andrew Fisher will lend his voice to several pieces.

Selections include "Blue Bayou," "Time After Time," "Where Life Will Take You," "Moonlight Duet," "Here You Come Again," "Close to You" and "Contradictio."

Lawn seating is \$15 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and younger. Tickets cost \$5 more the day of the concert. Take a chair or blanket. Reserved seating costs \$25. A reserved table costs \$300.

Contact the Symphony office at (269) 982-4030 or visit [www.smsso.org](http://www.smsso.org) for more information.



## New Teacher Luncheon

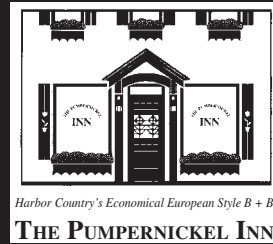
The Michigan City Area Chamber of Commerce, in conjunction with its young professionals group, the Lakefront Career Network, will host a New Teacher Luncheon on Friday, Aug. 12, at Pottawatomie Country Club.

New teachers and administrators from Michigan City Area Schools, Marquette High School, Notre Dame Catholic School, St. Stanislaus Kostka School, St. Paul Lutheran School and Queen of All Saints Catholic School will be treated to lunch and welcomed by area businesses and organizations.

Lakefront Career Network is soliciting sponsors, as well as items included in resource bags for attending teachers and featuring useful items and coupons from local businesses.

Anyone who would like to sponsor a table, treat a teacher to lunch or donate items should visit [MichiganCityChamber.com](http://MichiganCityChamber.com) for the registration link and sponsorship information, or call (219) 874-6221.

The event is open to chamber members and the public, with pre-payment and registration required.



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## LaLu Alumnus on National Team

La Lumiere School alumnus James Banks was one of 12 members to play for the 2016 USA Men's U18 National Team.

He traveled to Valdivia, Chile, to compete in the 2016 FIBA Americas U18 Championship on July 19-23.

Team USA played July 19 against Puerto Rico (as a part of Group B), against Chile on July 20 and the U.S. Virgin Islands on July 21 in group play. The top two teams from each group advanced to semifinals July 22. Winners of the semifinal games were to compete for the gold medal July 23.

James played for La Lumiere's 2015-2016 Varsity White basketball team under head coach Shane Heirman, and helped lead the Laker boys to the Dick's Sporting Goods High School Nationals championship game, a first in La Lumiere history. An incoming freshman this fall at the University of Texas, he will play Longhorn basketball as a forward.



## Citywide School Supply Drive

Local organizations have announced a community-wide school supply drive through Aug. 9, with contributions distributed to area students in need of materials to start the school year.

Many area businesses, including major retailers such as Al's Supermarkets and Walmart, have set up collection bins to accept donations from their employees and the public. Additional collection sites are located at Avenue Family Center (Elston Building Door A), Beyond the Beach Salon, Captain Ed's Candy Island & Furniture Showroom, First Trust Credit Union, Jazzercise, Life Care Center of Michigan City, the Michigan City Area Schools Administration Building, Members Advantage Credit Union, City Hall, The News-Dispatch and St. John United Church of Christ.

Businesses, churches and other organizations are invited to join in the drive. Supplies collected by community organizations and individuals may be brought to the Elston cafeteria (enter on the building's west side near the Performing Arts Center) from 9 a.m. to noon Tuesday, Aug. 9.

Suggested donations include: pencils, black pens, spiral notebooks and three-hole notebook paper (especially college rule), markers (washable), dry erase markers, glue sticks, erasers, pencil boxes, two-pocket folders, antibacterial wipes, facial tissues, backpacks (new or gently used), "Ziploc" sandwich bags, rulers, highlighters, composition books, calculators, flash drives, ear buds/headphones and three-ring binders/organizers.

Distribution of the supplies is planned during a Citywide Back-to-School Rally from 3 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 11, at Elston's Gill Field. The event is a collaborative effort supported by numerous community agencies. This year, the rally's organizing committee includes representatives from Indiana Black Expo, the La Porte County NAACP, MDWise, Covering Kids and Families La Porte County, Deliverance and Victory Outreach Ministries, Michigan City Area Schools, HealthLinc, La Porte County Family YMCA, Sodexo, American Licorice and Purdue University Northwest.

Volunteers are needed Aug. 9-10 to assist in sorting school supplies and Aug. 11 for the Back-to-School Rally. Information on volunteering, sponsorships and exhibiting at the rally may be found at <http://educateMC.net/backtoschoolrally>.

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## "The Rise of the Graphic Image"

"The Rise of the Graphic Image," the latest exhibit at Elkhart's Midwest Museum of American Art, emphasizes the processes artists pioneered to create images on wood, blocks of stone or metal plates from 1860 to 1980.

The exhibit, which runs through Oct. 2, has been curated from the museum's holdings of more than 700 graphic works on paper.



"The Life of a Fireman."

The 95 works on display represent 89 artists from American art history who contributed to the discussion and transformation of printing technologies over a 120-year period. Some of these artists were painters and/or sculptors; others were exclusively printmakers. Most learned the techniques of creating original hand-drawn prints such as etchings, engravings, lithographs, woodcuts or serigraphs (silk screens). These four areas are the basis of fine art printmaking in university programs across America today. In postmodern times, however, many artists now combine these techniques with other media and/or art actions, such as art environments, performance art and other conceptual events.

The exhibit shown in three galleries represents the evolution of American art, from the beginning of the Civil War through the Industrial Revolution, two World Wars, the Space Age and the beginning of the digital era. Newsworthy events were conveyed through illustrated newspapers and later magazines. The Golden Age of American Illustration saw the influence that could be wielded by a well-drawn or painted image. It sold Americans goods and services, and defined cultural associations for big ideas like patriotism and later the American dream.

MMAA is located at 429 S. Main St. Visit [midwestmuseum.us/](http://midwestmuseum.us/) for more information.

## Old Car Show

La Porte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave., will host its ninth annual Old Car Show from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, July 30.

Registration begins at 8 a.m. The cost is \$10 per vehicle. Admission is \$5 per car load. Visit <http://laportecountyhistory.org/> for more information.

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## Taltree Opens New Playground

Children now can engage in active play when visiting Taltree thanks to a donation of train-themed playground equipment in the nonprofit's Railway Garden.

The two-piece playground features climbing and crawling features, a slide and pretend play. The anonymous donor contributed \$13,000 for the project, the bulk of which was used for the equipment. Remaining funds were used for landscaping, and earmarked for future maintenance and benches.



Taltree Arboretum & Gardens' Camp Quercus campers were the first to use newly donated train-themed playground equipment.

"The donor had never visited Taltree, but found us online," Executive Director Stephanie Blackstock said. "After talking with his family, he learned his grandkids visit Taltree, and he wanted to help create something they could play on and enjoy."

Taltree hosted a grand opening July 15 with participants in the nonprofit's Camp Quercus day camps and their families. The children, ranging in age from 6-12, were first to use the equipment before it opened to the public.

Taltree's grounds and horticulture teams worked for weeks planning for the new equipment, installing it and planting the flower beds around it. The Camp Quercus children made a thank-you card for the staff, who were onhand for the grand opening, in gratitude for their work in preparing the playground.

Taltree is located at 450 W. County Road 100 North near Valparaiso. Visit [www.taltree.org](http://www.taltree.org) for additional details.

## Harbor Country Book Club

Harbor Country Book Club has a new time, location and date, now meeting at 6:30 p.m. EDT the last Thursday of the month at New Buffalo Township Library, 33 N. Thompson St.

The July 28 selection is Paula Huntley's "The Hemingway Book Club of Kosovo."

Club meetings are open to the public.

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## American Red Cross

*The American Red Cross La Porte County Chapter will sponsor the following bloodmobiles:*

- Evergreen Baptist Church, 2005 E. Coolspring Ave., Michigan City, 2:30 to 7 p.m. Thursday, July 28.
- Purdue University Northwest Library Student Faculty Building, 1401 S. U.S. 421, Westville, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, July 28.
- IU Health La Porte Hospital, 1007 W. Lincolnway, La Porte, 8 a.m. to noon Friday, July 29.
- Christ Church, 802 Indiana Ave., La Porte, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, July 30.
- Family Life Center, 154 Main St., Westville, 8 a.m. to noon Saturday, July 30.
- St. John's United Church of Christ, 101 St. John Road, Michigan City, noon to 6 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 2.

*Donors must be in good general health and feeling well, at least 17 (16 with parental consent) and weigh at least 110 pounds. Call (800) 733-2767 or visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) for more information.*

## New Carlisle Hometown Days

New Carlisle Hometown Days, which features everything from vendors to food to rides, is Friday through Sunday, July 29-31, at Memorial Park in the 300 block of U.S. 20.

The event also includes a car show, Whiffle Ball contest, water wars and other family activities. Fireworks are at dusk Friday, with the parade at noon Saturday.

Hours are noon to 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, all Eastern time. Visit [www.hometowndays.net](http://www.hometowndays.net) for more information.

## PNW Club Earns Merit Award

The Purdue University Northwest student chapter of the Society for Human Resource Management has received the 2015-2016 Student Chapter Merit Award designation.

The SHRM award program began in 1972 to encourage ongoing excellence in requirements, operations, programming and professional development of members, support of the human resource profession and SHRM engagement.

SHRM represents more than 275,000 professional and 20,000 student members in 160 countries.

The North Central Campus chapter is known as the Business Leadership Club. During the 2015-2016 academic year, students initiated various projects that promoted student professionalism. They also volunteered their service and expertise to the university and Northwest Indiana communities.



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## Nest Cam Barn Owls

A pair of barn owls in Indiana whose nest is visible through a webcam has laid a second round of eggs after the first round failed.

The second clutch of eggs has produced five owlets. The nest cam, accessed at [wildlife.IN.gov/8183.htm](http://wildlife.IN.gov/8183.htm), is run by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources Division of Fish & Wildlife.

Earlier this year, the nesting pair hatched three owlets; however, none survived. The pair mated again and laid eggs in May. At least two eggs have hatched, producing owlets visible on the webcam.

One owlet looks larger. Typically, owl siblings hatch at different times, producing chicks of different ages and sizes. This is called hatching asynchrony.

The barn owl pair has been living in a DNR-built nest box inside a metal pole barn since 2009. In 2013, the nest was one of only 18 known barn owl nests in the state.

Nest boxes for barn owls have been placed by the Wildlife Diversity Program of the DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife since 1984. Information on the program is at [wildlife.IN.gov/2356.htm](http://wildlife.IN.gov/2356.htm).

Barn owls are endangered in Indiana due to habitat loss. They need large areas of pasture, hayfields, grasslands or wet meadows for hunting meadow voles — their favorite food. For breeding habitat, feeding areas must be near a suitable nest site, usually a tree cavity or man-made substitute like a nest box. Modern farms consist of large corn and soybean fields, with few idle areas or pasture for hunting. Furthermore, old wooden barns are disappearing and being replaced by pole barns, with fewer access points for owls.

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## Parks Welcome Pokemon Go Players

Indiana's state parks are welcoming a new group of visitors as interested in spotting a fictional Pika-chu or Venomoth as they are in seeing a raccoon or scarlet tanager.

These visitors are playing the widely popular Pokemon Go mobile game, which has resulted in increased traffic to state parks, which are a natural fit for the location-based augmented reality game. Most of the game's action takes place outdoors while walking. Players use a smartphone camera to identify "PokeStops" and "gyms," and collect fictional animals.

Indiana's 24 state parks and eight reservoir properties now are home to more than 200 locations for the game. State forests also have locations. The number of locations will continue to grow.

Walking around a park or forest while staring at a smartphone screen, however, can be dangerous. Potential hazards at Indiana state parks include road traffic, cliffs and other rough terrain, wild animals and poison ivy. Pay attention to the surroundings. On hiking trails, be on the lookout for rocks, roots and other hazards.

Pokemon players also must follow property rules. This includes observing park hours, which are from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. at most Indiana state parks. Players should not enter after regular hours of operation. They also should stay on designated trails. Walking off-trail can damage sensitive natural areas and animal habitats. Players should leave no trace behind.

## College Night

Lighthouse Place-Premium Outlets will host its first College Night on Thursday, July 28.

The outlet mall will have extended hours, and from 7 to 10 p.m., perspective students can enjoy shopping, music with a live DJ, games, prizes and more as they receive information from Purdue University Northwest. Additionally, various outlet mall merchants will offer teacher and student discounts.

Visit [premiumoutlets.com/lighthouseplace](http://premiumoutlets.com/lighthouseplace) for additional information.

## Program on MGM Stars

Richard Klein will present a free slide and film-clip lecture on MGM's great dancing ladies at 6:30 p.m. EDT Tuesday, Aug. 2, at New Buffalo Public Library, 33 N. Thompson St.

Klein will focus on stars such as Eleanor Powell, Ann Miller and Cyd Charisse.

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## La Porte County Parks



*All registrations/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](http://www.laportecountyparks.org) for more information.*

### Nature's Tiny Tots

Designed for parents and grandparents, explore nature with toddlers and preschoolers. Enjoy music, dancing, storytelling and, weather permitting, hiking.

The free program is from 10 to 11 a.m. at Luhr County Park Nature Center, 3178 S. County Road 150 West. Dates are Aug. 1, 15 and 29. Call (219) 325-8315 at least one week in advance to register.

### Tuesday Treasures

The program aimed at 6- to 13-year-olds meets from 9 a.m. to noon Tuesdays at Luhr County Park.

All programs include arts and crafts. Parents are not required to participate or stay. The cost is \$8 per person per program. Pre-registration and payment are required one week before each program. The next program is: Aug. 2 — Beautiful Butterflies.

### Parent & Child Discovery Days

The program includes arts and crafts, games and snacks. All activities are related to the topic. Programs are appropriate for children 3 to 8, with an adult required to participate. Times are from 6 to 7:15 p.m. at Luhr 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 next program is: Aug. 3 — It's Feeding Time.

### 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 Luhr County Park Nature Center. Call at least one week in advance to register. The schedule is:

- Aug. 3 — Eye health, cataract care and eye warning signs, Dr. Sethi Patel, ophthalmology.

### Pet Fest in the Park

The free event, co-sponsored by La Porte County Small Animal Shelter, will be held rain or shine from 9 to 11:30 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 20, at Luhr County Park.

No pre-registration is required. Vendors will have stations along the trail. Also planned are demonstrations, a costume contest, obedience tips, adopt a new pet and animal photography. Pets can take a dip in the pool, run an agility course and play fetch.

## Children's Art Scholarship

Money remains in the Michigan City Public Art Committee children's art scholarship fund.

The committee, created by the City Council in 2011, uses the fund to assist Michigan City children in taking art instruction. Visual art classes or individual art instruction for qualified children between 5 and 18 will be funded. The maximum grant request per individual is \$200. Funds will be available for instruction in painting, drawing, printmaking, sculpture, ceramics, collage, crafts, such as beading, mosaic work and weaving, art camps or any combination of these taught by a legitimate instructor.

New this year is the youth glassblowing workshop with artist and instructor Ian Osborne at The Nest in Michigan City.

The committee will not fund music, writing, dance or drama instruction.

Applicants must show financial need and take instruction from an art provider in city limits. The deadline for applying is at least 30 days before instruction begins. Applications are available at Visit Michigan City La Porte in Marquette Mall. Submission can be made to Jane Daley, or contact her at [jane@michigancitylaporte.com](mailto:jane@michigancitylaporte.com) and the application will be sent by email.

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## Activities to Explore

### In the Local Area:

**July 27-30** — "Tenderly: The Rosemary Clooney Musical," Canterbury Theatre, 807 Franklin St. Times: 2 p.m. Wed./Thur., 8 p.m. Fri., 6:30 p.m. Sat. Tickets: \$15-\$16. Reservations: (219) 874-4269, info@canterburytheatre.org

**July 27-Aug. 1** — Vickers Theatre, 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. *Now showing:* Documentary, "The Messenger." Presented by Chikaming Open Lands and Fernwood Botanical Garden & Nature Preserve as part of second Environmental Film Festival. Time: 7 p.m. July 27. Cost: \$10 (\$8 for COL and/or Fernwood members) Registration: (269) 695-6491. *Also:* "Last Cab to Darwin." Not rated. Times: 6 p.m. Fri.-Mon. *Also:* "Dark Horse." Rated PG. Times: 9 p.m. Fri.-Mon., 3:15 p.m. Sat.-Sun. All times Eastern. Info: vickerstheatre.com

**July 28** — Harbor Country Book Club, Paula Huntley's "The Hemingway Book Club of Kosovo," 6:30 p.m. EDT, New Buffalo Township Library, 33 N. Thompson St.

**July 29** — High Dunes Hiking, 10 a.m., campground shelter @ Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

**July 29** — Friday Afternoon at the Movies: "Race," 2 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

**July 29** — Summer Concert & Movie Series, 7 p.m., Thomas Park bandstand, downtown Chesterton.

**July 29** — Miles Nielsen & The Rusted Hearts with opener Linsay and Russell John, 8 p.m. EDT, The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Info: www.acorntheater.com, (269) 756-3879.

**July 29** — Free movie screening, "Metropolis," 8 p.m., gardens @ Barker Mansion, 631 Washington St. Info: www.barkermansion.com

**July 29-31** — New Carlisle Hometown Days, Memorial Park in 300 block of U.S. 20. Info: www.hometowndays.net

**July 30** — St. Stanislaus Catholic Church farmers market, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., parking lot next to tennis courts. Info: ssmcfarmersmarket@gmail.com, (219) 851-1785.

**July 30** — Music in the Park, Archtop Brownie, 6:30 p.m. EDT, Dewey Cannon Park, Three Oaks, Mich. Free.

**July 30, Aug. 3** — Michigan City Mainstreet Association Farmers Market, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Sat./4-8 p.m. Wed., Eighth and Washington streets. Info: tinyurl.com/hhaajz2

**July 30** — Old Car Show, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., La Porte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave. Registration: 8 a.m. Cost: \$10/vehicle. Admission: \$5/car load. Info: http://laportecountyhistory.org/

**July 30** — Eyes on the Pies benefit, 10 a.m.-4

p.m., Independent Cat Society, 4061 S. County Line Road, Westville. Info: [www.catsociety.org](http://www.catsociety.org)

**July 30** — Taste of La Porte, 3-10 p.m., La Porte Civic Auditorium, 1001 Ridge St. Free. Info: [www.facebook.com/DowntownLaPorte](http://www.facebook.com/DowntownLaPorte)

**July 30-31** — 125th anniversary festival, St. Stanislaus Kostka Church, 1506 Washington St. Info: <https://saintstansmc125th.com>

**July 31** — Four A's Car Club 25th annual car show, American Legion Post 204, 204 W. Linden St., Three Oaks, Mich. Info: [www.fourascarclub.org](http://www.fourascarclub.org)

**July 31** — Opening reception, "Real & Imagined, Imagine & Reality," 2 to 4 p.m., Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St. Info: [www.chestertonart.com](http://www.chestertonart.com)

**Aug. 1** — "Fatal Crossing: The Mysterious Disappearance of NWA Flight 2501 and the Quest for Answers," 6:30 p.m. EDT, New Buffalo Township Library, 33 N. Thompson St. Info: (269) 469-2933.

**Aug. 2** — Free Richard Klein lecture, MGM's great dancing ladies, 6:30 p.m. EDT, New Buffalo Public Library, 33 N. Thompson St.

**Aug. 3** — Roosevelt Pipe Organ Series, Matt Gerhard, 12:15 p.m., Christ Church (formerly First Congregational Church), 531 Washington St. Info: (269) 469-0051.

**Aug. 4-6** — "Parallel Lives," Canterbury Theatre, 807 Franklin St. Times: 2 p.m. Thur., 8 p.m. Fri., 6:30 p.m. Sat. Tickets: \$15-\$16. Reservations: (219) 874-4269, [info@canterburytheatre.org](mailto:info@canterburytheatre.org)

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

**Wednesdays** — Al-Anon meetings, 6-7 p.m., Franciscan Alliance-St. Anthony Health. Info: (708) 927-5287.

**Through Aug. 7** — Area Artists Association exhibit, "An Artist's Journey," Valparaiso University's Brauer Museum of Art.

**Through Sept. 8** — Merchant Street Market, 4-8 p.m. EDT Thursday, Whittaker & Merchant streets, downtown New Buffalo. Info: [www.newbuffalo.org](http://www.newbuffalo.org)

**Saturdays through Sept. 10** — Pinhook Bog Open House, noon-3 p.m., 700 N. Wozniak Road, Michigan City. Info: (219) 395-1882.

#### **Farther Afield:**

**July 30** — Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra, "Songs From The Heart," 7:30 p.m. EDT, Jean Klock Park in Benton Harbor, Mich. Tickets/reservations: (269) 982-4030, [www.smsso.org](http://www.smsso.org)

**July 31** — Anne Hills, 2 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](mailto:info@boxfactoryforthearts.org), [www.boxfactoryforthearts.org](http://www.boxfactoryforthearts.org)

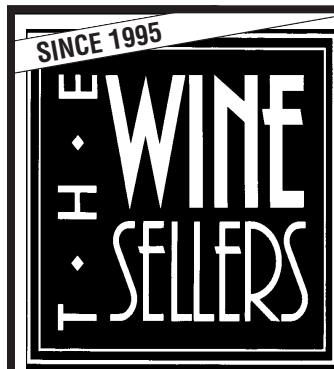
**Through Aug. 14** — "The Odd Couple," Theatre at the Center, 1040 Ridge Road, Munster. Times: 2 p.m. Wed./Thur.; 7:30 p.m. Fri./Sat.; 2:30 p.m. Sun.; select matinees. Tickets: \$40-\$44. Reservations: (219) 836-3255, (800) 511-1552.



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## THIS WEEK IN HISTORY



**On July 28, 1750,** Johann Sebastian Bach, German composer and organist, who is regarded as one of the greatest composers of all time, died at 65 in Leipzig, Germany.

**On July 28, 1825,** John Kinzie, who was referred to as the "First Citizen of Chicago," was appointed as the city's first justice of the peace.

**On July 28, 1859,** Chicago's "Rosehill Cemetery" was officially dedicated.

**On July 28, 1927,** 27 passengers drowned when the "Favorite," a Lake Michigan cruise ship, capsized in a sudden squall off Chicago's North Avenue.

**On July 29, 1850,** *La Traviata*, the first opera to be performed in Chicago, opened at the Rice Theater.

**On July 29, 1914,** transcontinental telephone service began with the first phone conversation between New York and San Francisco.

**On July 29, 1957,** Jack Paar made his debut as host of NBC's "Tonight Show."

**On July 29, 1958,** NASA came into being when President Eisenhower signed the National Aeronautics and Space Act.

**On July 29, 1977,** the first oil began flowing through the 800-mile long Alaska pipeline.

**On July 29, 1978,** Penny Dean set a new record (7 hours & 42 minutes) for swimming the English Channel.

**On July 30, 1880,** Robert R. McCormick, who would become the editor and publisher of "The Chicago Tribune," was born in Chicago.

**On July 30, 1890,** baseball legend Casey Stengel was born in Kansas City, Mo.

**On July 30, 1909,** the U.S. Government paid \$30,000 for its first airplane, a Wright biplane.

**On July 30, 1971,** Chicago's famous Union Stockyards were permanently closed.

**On July 30, 1971,** *Apollo 15* astronauts David Scott and James Irwin landed on the Moon.

**On July 30, 1976,** Bruce Jenner won the gold medal in the decathlon at the Summer Olympics in Montreal.

**On July 31, 1498,** Christopher Columbus discovered the island of Trinidad on his third voyage to the Western Hemisphere.

**On July 31, 1790,** the U.S. government issued its first patent. It went to Vermont's Samuel Hopkins for a process for making potash and pearl ash.

**On July 31, 1792,** the cornerstone of the U.S. Mint, the first building erected by the federal government

for public use, was laid in Philadelphia.

**On July 31, 1877**, Thomas Edison took out a patent leading to the development of the phonograph.

**On July 31, 1948**, the "New York International Airport" (changed in 1963 to the John F. Kennedy Airport) was dedicated by President Harry Truman and New York Governor Thomas Dewey.

**On August 1, 1774**, British scientist Joseph Priestly became the first person to succeed in separating oxygen from air.

**On August 1, 1790**, the first U.S. census (taken to determine state representation in Congress) was completed. It showed a population of almost 4 million people in 13 states.

**On August 1, 1873**, Andrew Hallidie successfully demonstrated a cable car he designed for San Francisco.

**On August 1, 1977**, Francis Gary Powers was killed when his helicopter crashed in Los Angeles. Powers gained fame in 1960 as the U-2 pilot shot down over the Soviet Union.

**On August 1, 1981**, the rock music video channel MTV made its debut.

**On August 2, 1858**, an ordinance was passed by the Chicago City Council providing for the city's first paid fire department.

**On August 2, 1858**, New York and Boston received the nation's first street letterboxes for mail collection.

**On August 2, 1876**, in the village of Deadwood, located in the Dakota Territory, "Wild Bill" Hickok was fatally shot from behind while playing poker in a saloon. His poker hand consisted of two aces and two eights, a combination that become known as the "dead man's hand."

**On August 2, 1909**, the first Lincoln penny was issued by the U.S. Mint.

**On August 2, 1921**, after two hours of deliberation, the jury in the "Black Sox" trial of eight White Sox players returned a verdict of not guilty in the plot to fix the 1919 World Series. However, Judge Kenesaw Mountain Landis banned for life the players involved.

**On August 3, 1926**, singer Tony Bennett was born in New York.

**On August 3, 1949**, the National Basketball Association was formed.

**On August 3, 1993**, the Senate voted 96 to 3 to confirm Supreme Court nominee Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

**On August 3, 1996**, Mary Thompson, said to be at least 120 years old, died of a heart attack at her Orlando, FL home.

**On August 3, 2004**, the Statue of Liberty pedestal in New York reopened to the public for the first time since the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.



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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

**Vinegar Girl by Anne Tyler** (hardcover, \$25 in bookstores and online; also available as an eBook)

Smile. Grin. Giggle. Laugh. Chortle. Sigh. That's how I reacted to this amazing retelling of Shakespeare's The Taming of the Shrew. Time to get ready for the best summer read of 2016!

Playwright Ben Jonson described the Bard best: "*He was not of an age, but for all time.*"

And that sentiment has proven true as all of Shakespeare's works have been retold and reinterpreted over the ages and in many forms. The Hogarth Press came up with the idea in 2012 to start the Hogarth Shakespeare Project. This would unite the best and brightest novelists of our time to retell the Bard's work in a 21st-century setting.

Picking Anne Tyler for this particular play was a stroke of genius. With her wry ability to show us the nature of modern family dynamics and the interpersonal relationship between male and female, Tyler and Shakespeare's The Taming of the Shrew are a perfect fit.

Let me explain...

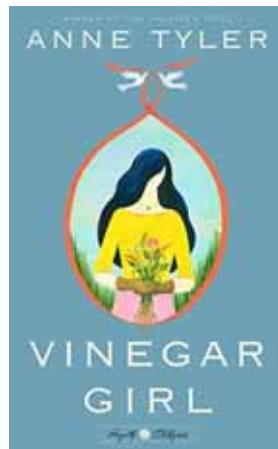
The setting is Baltimore. Kate Battista lives with her father and sister, Bunny. There's a 12-year age difference between the girls; their mother died only one year after Bunny was born. Dr. Battista is a research scientist and the perfect example of the absent-minded professor. Which explains the strange home life the girls grew up in.

Kate is now 29, running the house and working for a day care center. Bunny is in high school and your typical teenager — impossible to understand half the time and convinced of her own grown-up intelligence. But Bunny is cute as a button and, therefore, most people overlook her shortcomings.

Kate's job is, well, it gives her a paycheck! She's in the 4-year-old room, and the kids seem to like her just fine, but their parents don't always understand her. She is a little too forthright in her opinions and has been called into the office on many occasions to explain her seemingly sharp remarks to a parent.

Kate's sharp tongue is part of her inability to keep friends or even meet men. And anyway, how can you meet any eligible men while working in day care?

The one man she has met and doesn't want to get to know is her father's research assistant, Pyotr. He's here on a visa from Russia and soon must marry or be shipped back home, where he has no family or future. Dr. Battista's research into the autoimmune system is making real progress due in part to Pyotr's help. So, the good doctor, with his usual analytical reasoning, has the perfect solution. If Pyotr



marries Kate, he can stay in the States permanently and Dr. Battista won't lose the best assistant ever!

Of course, it takes two to get married, and Kate shows no interest in Pyotr.

So, Dr. Battista tries to throw the two together. He invites Pyotr to supper, sends him out to run into Kate accidentally and, well, frankly it's not going so well. Kate makes snide remarks, offers excuses to get away from him and generally makes herself as unattractive as possible. Strangely, it's not working. Pyotr doesn't seem put off by Kate's shenanigans and continues to try being companionable.

Without going into the oh so amusing details, suffice it to say, eventually Kate decides that if it's not to be a real marriage — there would be separate bedrooms — and she can divorce him after a certain period when Immigration is no longer checking on them, well, then, she would give in and marry Pyotr to help her father.

Now, the marriage.

Kate wants only herself, Pyotr, Bunny and her father at the ceremony. Aunt Thelma is appalled! No bridesmaids?! No vases and vases of flowers?! But there may not be a ceremony yet as Pyotr is AWOL. He's off on a man hunt...actually it's a mouse hunt. It seems someone has entered Battista's lab and stolen the test mice! No sign of a break-in — someone had a key. Bunny? Kate may change her mind about a wedding as Pyotr tells the police he accuses his future sister-in-law of mice-napping!

Let me say, the matter is swiftly resolved, but not without a lot of gnashing of teeth, nasty epithets thrown around by all sides and a quick, but far from serene, wedding.

Then we have the wedding dinner after the ceremony. Kate acquiesced to her aunt on this one. Aunt Thelma simply had to do something. If I try to explain this gathering, I will surely lose it! This is no dinner party like any other. Trust me. Talk about family dynamics! *Oy vey!*

Can I put a "happily ever after" on this story? I never read and tell!

*People* magazine wrote: "Tyler's eye and ear for familial give and take is unerring, her humanity irresistible." I couldn't agree more.

Tyler graduated from Duke University and did graduate work at Columbia University. She is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters. She also is the author of 20 bestselling novels. A Spool of Blue Thread was short-listed for the Man Booker Prize, and Breathing Lessons received the Pulitzer Prize in 1988.

Till next time, happy reading!

## Food Vendors Sought for IDNL Events

The National Park Service is seeking food trucks or other self-contained food-service vendors for special events in celebration of Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore's 50th anniversary and the National Park Service centennial.

Events include an anniversary concert at West Beach on Aug. 27, the Apples, Apples, Apples Festival at Chellberg Farm on Sept. 17-18 and the Dunes Blowout at West Beach on Sept. 24-25.

The three events each are expected to draw between 500 and 1,000 visitors per day.

Federal regulations require any individuals or groups selling food or other items in a national park to obtain a Commercial Use Authorization permit. Completed applications for a permit include a \$65 payment to cover the costs of processing the request. Vendors selling food also must comply with county and federal health regulations. Vendors may apply to operate at one event or all of them under the same Commercial Use Authorization.

All inquiries are welcome. Call or email Amber Siewin at (219) 395-1859 or [Amber\\_Siewin@nps.gov](mailto:Amber_Siewin@nps.gov) for more details or to get an application, which must be received no later than Aug. 15. Selected applicants will be notified, then required to complete a Commercial Use Authorization that includes an application fee, proof of insurance and a possible performance bond.

## Brain Freeze



Spotted Cow scored an enthusiastic response to its first ice cream-eating contest, held July 17 at Lighthouse Place-Premium Outlets. Beacher photographer Bob Wellinski reported nearly 20 youth entered the 13-and-younger division and about a dozen in the 14-and-older division. The grand prize was new assembled bicycles, with additional awards bestowed as well. Winning bicycles were Joseph Sims, Michigan City, in the 13-and-younger group and Larry Johnson Sr., Michigan City, in the 14 and older group.

## Eyes on the Pies

The second Eyes on the Pies, which raises funds for medical supplies for shelter kittens, is from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, July 30, at Independent Cat Society, 4061 S. County Line Road, Westville.

The event features pies, baked goods and ICS merchandise. Visit [www.catsociety.org](http://www.catsociety.org) for additional information.

## Photo of the Week Contest

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Full Service Irrigation Company

Startups. Backflow testing/certification-water saving upgrades-repairs-  
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**Down To Earth, Inc. (219) 778-4642****STANDRING ROOFING & CONSTRUCTION.** Complete roof tear offs,  
vinyl siding, soffits, fascia & gutters, vinyl replacement windows.**Fully insured. 630-726-6466. Ask for Terry. 38 yrs. experience.****KAYFABE CLEANING (219) 841-1340****WINDOW CLEANING GUTTER CLEANING****DRYER VENT CLEANING** Free Estimates, Insured**\*\*\*\*\*EASTCO BUILDERS/REMODLERS\*\*\*\*\***New/remodel, additions, garages, decks porches, kitchens, bath-  
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Interior/Exterior • Deck washing/staining • Drywall Patch & Repair  
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20-YEARS EXPERIENCE. Also Power Wash, Seal & Paint Decks.  
Seniors (65+) 10% off labor. References. Reasonable.  
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**JOSEPH PAINTING.** Interior/Exterior. Power Washing. Drywall Repairs.  
Wallpaper Removal. Insured/Bonded. Free estimate.  
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### YOUR #1 STOP FOR ALL YOUR LANDSCAPING NEEDS!

**RENT-A-MAN MAINTENANCE INC.**  
Power Washing (decks, houses, concrete) – gutters –  
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Serving your community since 2003.  
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### RB's SERVICES

Removals – trees, bushes, leaves. Tree removal, fall cleanup and snow removal, haul away debris and other landscaping needs, leaf cleanup in fall, handyman and carpentry needs. Power washing. In business 29 yrs.  
Roger 219-561-4008.

**ISAAC'S LAWN & LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE**  
Weekly lawn maintenance, spring/fall cleanups, power washing, weeding, mowing, trimming, mulching, edging, leaf cleanup and more! Insured. Call (219) 878-1985 for estimates.

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

House cleaning service looking for top-notch cleaners working independently and having an attention to detail. Integrity, honesty a must. Background check required. Call (219) 241-9341 and leave a message, or email [BridgetsQualityCleaning@yahoo.com](mailto:BridgetsQualityCleaning@yahoo.com)

Senior woman needs help with housework in Rolling Prairie home. Minimum three hours, three days a week. Good pay for reliable, helpful person. If interested, send information and/or resume to The Beacher, attention Housework Ad, 911 Franklin St., Michigan City, IN 46360.

Residential cleaning position: Min. 2 years exp., transportation required, full/part time. Call (219) 878-9311 after 9 a.m.

## WANT TO SELL

**ART SUPPLY GIFT SETS FOR BUDDING ARTISTS – FIRME'S**  
(2 Stores) 11th & Franklin Streets, Michigan City - 219/874-3455  
Hwy 12, Beverly Shores - Just West of Traffic Light - 219/874-4003.

Audi A5 Coupe, silver exterior, black interior, 88,000 highway miles, loaded, great shape \$17,400. Call (815) 693-1400.

Toro self-propelled lawnmower, like new, \$305. 10-horsepower chipper/leaf shredder, \$255. Call (708) 609-7065.

Comotion Tandem Bicycle with couplers. Excellent condition.  
Asking \$1,500 OBO. (312) 213-5808.

14 South Shore posters, framed, brand new. Originally \$160, selling for \$75. Call (219) 873-7802.

Stiga table tennis table. Perfect condition. Folds in half for storage.  
Sale includes paddles/ping pong balls. \$175.  
Call Jodi @ (219) 874-7416

## GARAGE SALES, ESTATE SALES, ETC.

**MULTI-FAMILY moving/garage sale**  
Fri.-Sat., July 29-30, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m.  
1510-1512 Lake Shore Drive, Stop 15, LB  
Bikes, wicker, Minifish sailboat, vintage furniture, household items and much more.

**GARAGE SALE OF THE CENTURY!**  
Come see for yourself. Loads of neat stuff.  
Fri.-Sat., July 29-30, 8 a.m.- ?  
2203 Fairway Drive, across from Hacienda

**HUGE YARD SALE**  
Saturday, July 30, 9 am-3 pm EDT  
25 S. Townsend, New Buffalo  
Loads of high quality clothing: preteen to women's size. Men's clothing XL-XXL. Household items, furniture, electronics, etc!

**GARAGE SALE**  
July 28-30, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 122 Northbrook Drive  
Cleaning out storage locker. Antiques, art, collectibles, furniture, vintage magazines, etc.

## WANT TO BUY

**WANTED:** I buy all types of antiques and collectibles, including toys, advertising, military items and more. Call Matt at (219) 794-6500.

## REAL ESTATE

### COMMERCIAL – RENTALS/LEASE/SELL

**Equilibrium Vacation Rentals LLC**  
We provide full service property management.  
(219) 898-1060 • [equilibriumrentals@yahoo.com](http://equilibriumrentals@yahoo.com)

### RENTALS INDIANA

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

Long Beach charming updated beachfront home ready for a great family experience. Sleeps up to 14, with all the amenities and gathering places. Large solarium with ping-pong and foosball tables. Fenced-in backyard is your only separation from some of the best beach in Long Beach. Call to discuss your monthly rental possibility. Call (708) 359-5535.

**Long Beach Stop 31 3 BR/4BA home with lake views and steps from beach. \$2,200 a week. Also, weekends available. (773) 718-5547.**

5BR/2.5BA furnished home for rent at 2817 Roslyn Trail, Long Beach, 1.5 blocks from Lake Michigan beach. \$1,800/month. Seasonal rentals available, pictures on [Zillow.com](http://Zillow.com)

**Long Beach home for rent this season. Four bedroom, 11 beds, 2 baths, recent renovation and gut remodel, available July 23-Sept. 30. Near Stop 26 beach in central Long Beach. Contact Rick at Century 21 Middleton Co. at (773) 908-1969 or [rremijas@hotmail.com](mailto:rremijas@hotmail.com)**

### STOP 39, JUST STEPS AWAY FROM THE BEACH

3 BR/2BA furnished house, WiFi, phone, water, W/D, A/C, heat, garage used for storage. \$795/month. Mid-August to mid-June.  
Call (786) 223-6000.

**SHERIDAN BEACH:** Year-round, 1 BR, quiet building, laundry, off-street parking, no smoking, no pets, \$625/month, references required, utilities included.  
Call (219) 879-2195.

### SEASONAL FALL/WINTER FURNISHED RENTAL

Available Sept. 15-May; Stop 20 Lake Shore Drive, 3 BR/2BA, \$1,100/mo + utilities. Call/text Cari @ Merriion Realty (219) 898-5412

### SEASONAL FALL/WINTER FURNISHED RENTAL

Available Sept. 15-May; Stop 30 Mayfield Way, 4 BR/3BA, \$1,100/mo + utilities. Call/text Cari @ Merriion Realty (219) 898-5412

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**Micky Gallas**  
Broker / Owner  
ABR, CRB, CRS,  
e-PRO, GRI, SRES  
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# MICKY GALLAS PROPERTIES



2411 St. Lawrence Avenue  
Long Beach, IN 46360

219.874.7070 | [www.MickyGallasProperties.com](http://www.MickyGallasProperties.com) |    

#BeachCityCountry

## Let's Go to the Beach



### *1707 Wildomor Avenue* **Long Beach • \$499,000**

One of the most unique pieces of land in Long Beach. This 3 bedroom, 2.75 bath home is situated on over a 20,000 square foot lot. The possibilities with this home/land are plentiful. Includes rear access, limestone fireplace, hardwood floors, wooded privacy or potential private walk path to Lake Shore Drive.



### *2015 Lake Shore Drive* **Long Beach • \$385,000**

Incredible value on Lake Shore Drive, complete with lake views! This perfect beach cottage has 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, wrap around deck and rear patio for extra outdoor living. Living room, dining & kitchen all open to one another. Just steps to the beach entrance at Stop 20. Plenty of room for your beach guests.



**Braedan Gallas**  
219.229.1951

**Micky Gallas Properties**  
is pleased to announce  
***Braedan Gallas & Anna Radtke***  
as its two newest agents.



**Anna Radtke**  
219.221.0920

We are happy to welcome Braedan & Anna to our wonderful team of sales professionals.

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Anna Radtke 219.221.0920  
Pat Tym\*, ABR, CRS, GRI, SRES 219.210.0324  
\*Licensed in Indiana and Michigan



**Micky Gallas**  
Broker / Owner  
ABR, CRB, CRS,  
e-PRO, GRI, SRES  
C: 219.861.6012



# MICKY GALLAS PROPERTIES



2411 St. Lawrence Avenue  
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**2756 Floral Trail  
Long Beach  
\$429,000**

**Feel Like Nature is Beckoning  
through your Front Door!**



This wonderful property is surrounded with lush trees and incredible views of Long Beach Country Club's 2nd and 3rd fairways and greens. Serene and private setting with an easy walk or bike ride to the beach.



This 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath home is bright with an abundance of natural light, expansive decking with steel beams for complete structural integrity, lofted over the sloping dune below.



Vaulted ceiling & fireplace in living room. Main floor family room & main bedroom bath. Lower level offers a recreational space and if an additional bedroom is needed, a wall can easily be added to create that original use. Every season will be enjoyed with the expansive windows.



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## LONG BEACH REALTY

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219.874.5209 ~ 219.872.1432

[www.longbeachrealty.net](http://www.longbeachrealty.net)

*Family Owned and Operated Since 1920*



### OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY, July 31st • 1-4pm

#### 1819 Lake Shore Drive, Long Beach

**\$829,000**

Beautifully renovated classic 1948 beach home on the hillside of Lake Shore Drive. 5 large bedrooms, 4 baths, gathering room, media room and game room. Situated on a double corner lot, you not only feel the breezes from the lake, but you also have views of the water. Furnishings included.



#### 2027 Oriole Trail, Long Beach

**\$349,000**

This wonderful 3-bedroom, 2-bath newly remodeled home has amenities that include new kitchen, beautiful oak flooring, large fireplace in living room and a remarkable open floorplan. Walking distance to Lake Michigan.



#### 601 Lake Shore Drive, Sheridan Beach

**\$399,000**

This 4-bedroom, 3-bath remodeled home has spectacular lake views, direct access to the beach and plenty of private parking.



Doug Waters\*  
GRI  
Principal Broker

Doug Waters\*, Principal Broker, GRI 219-877-7290  
Sandy Rubenstein\*, Managing Broker, 219-879-7525  
June Livinghouse\*, Broker, ABR, GRI 219-878-3888  
Zakaria Elhidaoui, Broker, 219-448-1052



Tom Cappy\*, Broker, 773-220-7196  
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\*Licensed in Michigan and Indiana

\*\*Licensed in Illinois and Indiana



Sandy  
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