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The Transformation Continues

by William Halliar

By reinventing itself as Friendship Botanic Gardens, what many have known as the world-famous International Friendship Gardens is experiencing a transformation that serves as an exciting and fascinating tale of vision, imagination and teamwork.

The Gardens have been part of Michigan City's heritage since 1936, when they were developed by

Virgil and Clarence Stauffer based on their experience designing gardens for the 1933 Century of Progress International Exposition in Chicago. Land developer Frank Warren had attended Chicago's World's Fair and was so inspired by what he saw there, he invited the Stauffer brothers to design a similar exhibition in Pottawattamie Park. His vision was to create a garden dedicated to "Peace and Friendship among All Nations."

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The Persian Rose Garden is just one of the many highlights of Friendship Botanic Garden.

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The park prospered in the 1930s and grew in popularity through the 1960s, becoming a destination place for folks from around the world. Heads of state from England, Persia and other countries donated plants, bells and sculptures to decorate the ethnic gardens. Many from faraway lands visited our area to dedicate the gardens at Michigan City.

Since the late 1960s, the Gardens, like many other public venues that rely on volunteers for their growth and existence, has languished in an era of “every man for himself.” Now, they have entered into a new and exciting time that promises great growth and a new botanic theme that will catapult it through the 21st century as a destination place for the whole country. The change in name and theme, while still espousing international friendship, now stresses the botanic diversity of our Lake Michigan dunes country.

Already, Loyola University Chicago, North Dakota State University, Valparaiso University and our own Purdue University Northwest have expressed an interest in studying plant culture and helping preserve the ecosystems found in the Gardens.

All of this comes about through the vision and heart of John Leinweber, the board president of Friendship Botanic Gardens. He is a businessman, but more than that, he has great pride in Michigan City and is inspired by working with, and attracting, the most talented people to share in his projects. With this spirit in mind, he has added 17 new members to the board. And it is a very active one, indeed, including landscape archi-

fects and botanists with the skill and knowledge to breathe life back into the venerable old garden.

Sitting down with Leinweber over a cup of coffee, one cannot help but become excited about what transformations have been accomplished, and the vision of what is to come.

Officially stated, the mission of the new board is “to create an idyllic setting for outdoor recreation, meditation, momentous cultural events and environmental education programs.”

This year, the Gardens has six dedicated staff members to maintain the grounds and daily operations. They include a host for the welcome cabin, two groundskeepers, a business manager, wedding coordinator and, perhaps most importantly, a communications coordinator to let the world know of the wonderful new things happening at the old garden.

Since Leinweber took over as board president, nine accomplished professionals from diverse fields have joined in the revitalization effort. He praises the board’s work because its effort has led to many capital improvements, including the installation of several new individual gardens, and the construction of a bridal cabin donated by board member Mary Fox in memory of her late husband.

Three new sculptures now grace the verdant setting, and the new groundskeeper has installed a

new aerator and fountain in Lake Lucerne. Leinweber praises his active board members, who are not afraid to get their hands dirty in the gardens, and have personally undertaken intense cleaning, weeding and restoration.

The most exciting projects are still to come as Leinweber and his board, with a vision towards the future, plan the next stages of the garden’s growth. A new trail



Rima Binder (left), the Gardens’ botany chairwoman, with board president John Leinweber.

is planned for 2016 that will lead visitors to a hidden artesian well where groundwater can be observed bubbling out of the ground from a subsurface aquifer flowing and trickling into garden streams.

A renowned landscape architect is planning the transformation of the front entrance to the Gardens to create a stunning first impression. A garden dedicated to diabetes is being planned by board member Kevin Egan. This will expand the scope of the Gardens and give voice to a new generation of friends, opening a new way of envisioning the purpose of the local attraction.

This year also will see the unveiling of the most ambitious project the board has tackled yet: The Children's Garden. This attraction will feature state-of-the-art children's playground equipment. Other new elements are in the planning stage: a Veterans' Memorial Garden; a Cancer Survivors' Garden; a Perennial Garden on the island in Lake Lucerne; and a Labyrinth Garden.



Striking statues adorn the landscape.

In addition to the many new physical additions, it must not be forgotten that the reason for the gardens' existence is to provide an "idyllic venue for weddings and special events." Friendship Botanic Gardens is a 105-acre sanctuary for flora and fauna that "enriches the community through environmental stewardship" and appreciation of the visual and performing arts.

The nonprofit organization also hosts a number of educational events throughout the year, as well

Continued on Page 4

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Transformation Continued from Page 3

as cultural and entertainment programs. This weekend, in fact, marks the first of three concerts in the "Music Under the Stars" series. Ensuing programs are July 23 and Aug. 27.

The schedule for the remainder of 2016 includes:

- June 26: A "Bug Safari."
- July 31 — Native American Heritage Day.
- Aug. 7 — "Dragonflies Alive" education program.
- Aug. 21 — "Butterfly Education Day."
- Sept. 11 — Polish Fest.
- Oct. 16 — Oktoberfest.
- Oct. 29 — Haunted Trails and Ghost Stories.
- Nov. 24 — Thanksgiving Turkey Walk and Native American Celebration.

Attend any of these events, and you'll rediscover Friendship Botanical Gardens and, in the process, the joys of nature right in our own backyard.



The bridal cabin donated by board member Mary Fox in memory of her late husband.

If You Go

Mike Struwin and the Rootsdown Band will present an all-ages show Saturday, June 25, at Friendship Botanic Gardens, 2055 E. U.S. 12.

The performers, including the Michigan-born Struwin, blend Americana roots rock infused with world music and blues. All concert proceeds aid the Gardens' continued revitalization.

Gates open at 5 p.m. Music starts at 7 p.m. Burn 'em Brewing will serve craft beer, while The Green Machine will offer fresh, locally sourced organic cuisine. Tickets are available at www.friendshipgardens.org. Children 12 and younger are free. Advance tickets cost \$20 for members and \$22.50 for non-members. The cost at the door is \$22.50 for members and \$25 for non-members.

Visit facebook.com/friendshipgardensindiana, twitter.com/FBGIndiana and www.instagram.com/friendship_botanic_gardens, call (219) 878-9885 or email info@friendshipgardens.org for more information.



A sculpture within the Children's Garden.



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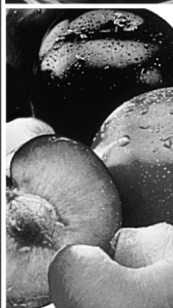
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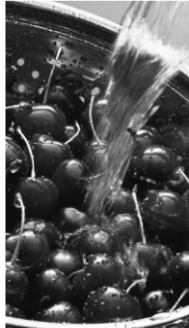
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Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra is heading “under the sea” for its first summer beach series concert, presenting “Disney’s The Little Mermaid” at 7:30 p.m. EDT Saturday, June 25, at Silver Beach’s Shadowland Pavilion in St. Joseph, Mich.

Disney’s interpretation of the Hans Christian Andersen tale features music by eight-time Academy Award winner Alan Menken, lyrics by Howard Ashman and Glenn Slater and book by Doug Wright. Songs include the Oscar-winning “Under the Sea,” “Kiss the Girl” and “Part of Your World.” Children are encouraged to wear costumes.

Paul Mow is the stage director, Madeline Schrock is Ariel, Lauren Kunkel is Ursula, Cameron Hampton is Sebastian the Crab, Jonathan Beyer is Prince Eric and Brandon Cedel is King Triton.

The Curious Kids Museum will provide musical instruments for concertgoers to handle and touch as part of a musical petting zoo at 6:15 p.m. EDT and located along the sidewalk leading to the stage and viewing area.

Also along the sidewalk, Jenni Bush and Gina Newsum will paint faces starting at 6:15 p.m. EDT.

Lawn seating costs \$15 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and younger. The cost is an additional \$5 the day of the concert. Take a chair or blanket. The reserved seating area costs \$25 for all ages, with chairs provided. A reserved table, which costs \$300, includes 10 tickets and two VIP parking passes.

No coolers, alcohol, food or drink carry-ins are allowed. Beer, wine, water, soda and food will be sold.

Contact the Symphony office at (269) 982-4030 or visit www.smso.org for more information.

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“Finding Dory” Nearly as Charming as the Pixar Original

by Andrew Tallackson

Over the years, Pixar has elevated its stature to degrees so faultless, we arrive at each new exquisitely crafted entertainment with the expectation of perfection.

It is an unfair measure of anticipation, especially for the sequels, which must preserve the essence of the first picture, while enticing a relatively new generation of youngsters and their families.

“Finding Dory” exists as prequel and sequel to 2003’s now-classic “Finding Nemo.” It shifts the focus from not-ready-to-cut-the-cord Marlin, a clown fish, and his exceedingly curious son, Nemo, to Dory, a bubbly Blue Tang fish with crippled short-term memory.

Dory, of course, was brought to life in the original by Ellen DeGeneres in a voice-over performance that rescued her stalled career from cardiac arrest. With her immeasurable comedic talents at the helm of the sequel, Dory is more than capable of dominating a story of her own. But after the wrenching first 15 minutes of “Finding Dory,” we get the feeling we’ve seen this before, and we have. The movie is the exact same story as the original...until the last half hour when it soars toward a finish that is as clever, invigorating and heart-rending as anything Pixar has achieved.

Technically, the wizards at Pixar find ways to top themselves. Some of the ingenuity is so subtle, you might miss it, as when Nemo and Marlin squabble, their reflections rippling across the ocean surface above them. It is meticulous, gorgeous artistry.

The story setup is flawless — lively, emotional and terrifying as returning director/co-writer Andrew Stanton establishes Dory’s back story. As a tiny young thing, her parents (voiced by Eugene Levy and Diane Keaton) drill safety measures into her forgetful mind, while carefully attempting to boost her sense of independence.

(The movie is equally about family as it is living life to the fullest amid a permanent disability.)

Dory is, of course, sepa-



Dory’s search for her parents kicks off the character’s latest adventure.

rated from her parents, and as she cowers in a tiny alcove, composer Thomas Newman emphasizes a solo string instrument that conveys such aching loneliness, anyone who doesn’t choke up at the image has a heart set in stone.

We learn how and why Dory’s path crossed with Marlin’s, but the bulk

of the action unravels one year later. Triggers exist within Dory’s mind — imaginatively conveyed by Stanton as the camera whips around her to reveal the character at a younger age — that suggest it’s time for her to search for her parents. Marlin and Nemo are willing to lend a hand, and the trio ends up at a California aquarium, complete with a spectacularly funny running gag involving a famous voice overheard on the loudspeakers.

The hurdles that arise, however, in locating Dory’s mother and father lack the effortless zeal of the original. Even with Ed O’Neill lending gruff appeal to the role of a cantankerous octopus, you can feel the wheels grinding, the complications one too many. In some cases, they are, well, they’re blah, like the near-sighted whale and her insecure beluga whale companion.

Even so, Stanton knows these characters have endeared themselves to us, and he lets them cast their spell on us all over again. It is during the quiet moments, in fact, when Nemo has a heart to heart with his father, or Marlin reminds Dory of why they’re friends, that the movie achieves a state of grace.

Which is a good thing, because when the closing act arrives, Stanton whips up a breathless climax that bounces along between laugh-out-loud ingenuity, carefully choreographed action and deeply felt sentiment. You’re so invigorated by the big finish, any prior quibbles feel insignificant. There is so much heart and imagination up there on the big screen, how anyone could walk away from “Finding Dory” unsatisfied remains a mystery.

Contact Andrew Tallackson
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Ed O’Neill voices a cantankerous octopus.



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Hesston Steam Museum

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The museum, 1201 E. County Road 1000 North, will have all three live-steam railroads operating the entire weekend.

The museum also is a showcase for a working steam-powered sawmill with a 60-inch blade, La Porte's first electric generator and a blacksmith shop where iron is turned into handcrafted works of art. Hand-scooped ice cream treats and sodas made from traditional recipes are for sale in the restored vintage soda fountain and ice cream parlor, Doc's Soda Fountain. All food is created on site by Spire Farm-to-Fork Restaurant, La Porte. Breakfast also is served at Doc's from 9 to 11 a.m.

The museum officially opens at 11:30 a.m. and runs through 5 p.m. Fares are \$5 for adults and \$3 for children 3-12. Visit www.hesston.org or call (219) 778-2783 on the weekends for more information.



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“Alice in Wonderland”



Young People's Theatre Co. gave Michigan City a sneak preview of its upcoming summer show, “Alice in Wonderland,” during the June 16 Michigan City Municipal Band concert at Washington Park's Guy Foreman Amphitheatre. The preview included two sets of casts that will present the show. Cast One performs at 7 p.m. June 24-25 and 2 p.m. June 26, while Cast Two performs at 7 p.m. June 23 and 2 p.m. June 25. All performances are at the Elston auditorium off Spring Street. Tickets are available at www.yptcinc.com/#!tickets/c1lq3

“Sketching with Leonardo”

Purdue University Northwest will offer “Sketching with Leonardo,” which provides self-paced, interactive instruction to artists who want to incorporate Leonardo da Vinci's style and techniques into their work.

The non-credit, online, continuing education course is July 11-Aug. 15. The \$175 per-person registration must be paid by July 1.

Participants work at their own pace and will not be required to participate in activities on specific days or at specific times. They will learn and practice observation techniques, line value, ink hatching, pencil and charcoal. They also will explore da Vinci's graphic language of plan, section, isometric and perspective views through drawings from his notebooks, works of other Renaissance masters and the instructor's personal sketchbooks developed through years of travel.

The course is taught by Matthew Kubik, associate professor emeritus of interior design at Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne and an award-winning architect. A partner in Michigan City's design/build firm StudioRoma, he developed a passion for da Vinci while studying architecture and training in England and Italy.

Visit <http://www.pnw.edu/ceao> or contact the PNW Office of Continuing Education & Academic Outreach at (219) 785-5200, Ext. 5343, to register or for more information.

Bug Safari

“Bug Safari,” a day long exploration of invertebrate life found in and around Friendship Botanic Gardens, is from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, June 26.

Children and families can collect and examine live insect specimens in diverse habitats found at the 105-acre garden park. Free children's crafts also are planned.

The event is free. The gardens are located at 2055 E. U.S. 12. Call (219) 878-9885 or visit www.friendshipgardens.org/ for more information.

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Skamania Mania

The big steelhead fishing contest Skamania Mania is Saturday and Sunday, June 25-26, in Washington Park.

The all-day event is free and open to the public. No preregistration is required. Contact Mike McKee at (219) 872-6261 or visit www.nwsteelheaders.org for more information.

4th of July Run

Kiwanis Club of La Porte will host its annual 4th of July Run prior to the La Porte 4th of July Parade.

Registration starts at 7 a.m. in the Aldi parking lot on La Porte's west end. The race start time is 9 a.m. The entry fee is \$25. The event will be chip-timed. Register at tinyurl.com/z2nfv37

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Shirley Heinze Land Trust Celebrates 35th Anniversary at Annual Benefit

Shirley Heinze Land Trust celebrated 35 years of land conservation in Northwest Indiana on June 4 at Valparaiso University's Harre Union, with more than 400 supporters and guests in attendance.

Michael Puente, Northwest Indiana correspondent for WBEZ Chicago Public Radio, was the master of ceremonies. Board President John Swanson noted other significant anniversaries this year, including the 50th anniversary of Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore and the National Park Service's centennial.

Headlining the program was Sir Peter Crane, former director of the Field Museum of Natural History of Chicago and the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew, England. He now is dean of the School of Forestry and Environmental Studies and professor of botany at Yale University.

Crane noted there are many reasons to engage in conservation.

"For some, it is about protecting critical watersheds, for others it is about maintaining habitat for birds, plants and other wildlife, and for others it is just about securing the glory of nature for future generations," he said.

"For me, it is about all these things and many more. But for every one of us, whether we are acting as private citizens or as representatives of not-for-profit organizations, or even businesses, secur-

ing and conserving for the future, it is a profoundly altruistic and forward-looking act. Northwest Indiana is already a wonderful example, to our region and to the world, of purposeful conservation action.

The work of the Shirley Heinze Land Trust is vital to that continuing effort."

Kris Krouse, Shirley Heinze Land Trust executive director, paid tribute to those who played a role in the organization's 35-year history, including the founding benefactors and past donors, board members, volunteers and staff.

She also spoke of the organization's plans

for the future, which include geographic expansion to include St. Joseph, Marshall and Starke counties, and doubling the amount of protected acreage. Funds raised during the evening's "Funding the Future" paddle auction will be used to support the plan.

As part of its five-year strategic plan, she continued, the organization aims to increase staff, collaborate with partners in land conservation and develop long-term financial security.

Shirley Heinze Land Trust has been protecting natural land in the southern Lake Michigan watershed since 1981. More than 1,900 acres in Lake, Porter and La Porte counties have been preserved for the public's benefit. Visit www.heinzetrust.org or call (219) 242-8558 for more information.



Sir Peter Crane addresses the more than 400 people present during the celebration.



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Solo Exhibit Opens at Village Gallery

A meet-the-artist reception for painter Don Kegarise is at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, June 26, at Valparaiso's The Village Gallery.

Working mainly in acrylics, the solo exhibit features old grain elevators along the Michigan Trail, from Rosston to Rochester. Many have been torn down in the past years.

Mesmerized by the vast expanse of flat land and large sky, Kegarise decided Indiana was a perfect place for an artist to live. He moved from western Pennsylvania, and soon he and his family settled in Kewanna, Ind.



Don Kegarise appears with one of his works.

As a self-taught artist, Kegarise began drawing as a young child. He received his first oil paints at 14, beginning his career in oils, but has since worked with pencil, pen and ink, colored pencil, watercolors and now mainly acrylics. His works feature landscapes, old barns, farms, vehicles and buildings. His work is scattered throughout the U.S., Europe and South Asia.

In addition to his many paintings, Kegarise has created calendars and coloring books for the Indiana Department of Natural Resources featuring pen and ink drawings of state park inns. He also is a talented woodcarver; his miniature replica of the Cass County Gustav Dentzel Carousel will be on display. He created the 1/12 scale model of the historic carousel, carving and painting each of the 43 animals in the originals' likeness. The animals carved from basswood feature giraffes, deer, horses, rams, a lion and tiger, as well as two sleds.

The Village Gallery is located at Pines Village Retirement Communities off Calumet Avenue north of Cumberland Crossing. Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Call (219) 465-1591 for more information.



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Community Aviation Night

To celebrate its 40th anniversary, La Porte Aero Club will present Community Aviation Night from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. Friday, June 24, at La Porte Municipal Airport, 2341 S. Indiana 39.

The featured speaker is Gen. Dan Cherry, author of "My Enemy, My Friend," a story of reconciliation from the Vietnam War. The book chronicles an intense 1972 dogfight between Cherry's F-4 Phantom and a North Vietnamese MiG-21, and his subsequent meeting and friendship with the MiG pilot, Nguyen Hong My.



Visitors also can browse aircraft ranging from warbirds to helicopters to experimental. Pilots can answer questions and tell stories. Local military personnel will be honored as well.

Admission and parking are free. Email Diane Schwarz at diane@laportearport.com or call (219) 324-3393 for more information.

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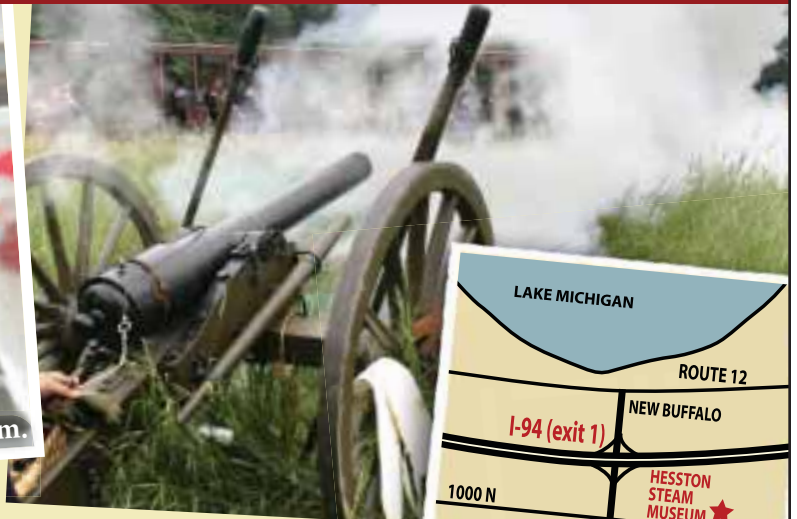
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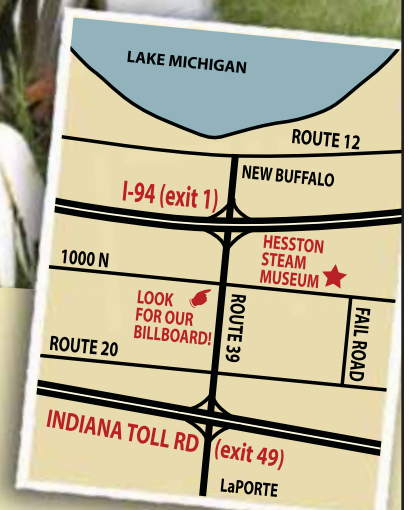
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Footloose 5K in Burns Harbor

Families looking for cost-effective, all-day family events can attend the third annual Footloose 5K on Saturday, June 25, at Burns Harbor's Lakeland Park.

Hosted by the Burns Harbor Park Department as a fundraiser, all proceeds support the town's five recreational locations and public amenities. Lakeland Park, located off of U.S. 20 behind the Interstate 94 interchange, offers residents and regional visitors swimming, fishing and paddling in the seven-acre Harbor Lake, a newly refurbished baseball/softball field, basketball court, playground, running/walking path, gazebo to host weddings and entertainment and five rental shelters.

Proceeds also support the Park Department's programs and events.



A runner celebrates before crossing the finish line at last year's event.

Named the biggest first-time event by local media, Footloose united 400 to 500 attendees in its first year, despite inclement weather. This year's event is expected to gather an even larger crowd. Those interested should sign up early. Shirts are offered on a first-come, first-served basis. Sign up at tinyurl.com/h4vd36p

Festivities include:

- 3:30 p.m. – Race day signup and packet pickup, along with a DJ and family-friendly activities.
- 5 p.m. – Food and refreshments from area vendors; Burns Harbor Fire Department opens.
- 5:15 p.m. – Free 1K kids fun run (ages 3-11).
- 6 p.m. – Footloose 5K run/walk (8 and older).
- Nawty performs live.
- Race medals and awards, bounce houses, silent auctions and 50/50 raffle.

A family party tent with adult beverages is available. Fireworks begin at dusk.

Park admission is free. The cost to participate in the 5K without a shirt is \$25 and \$30 with a shirt. The kids run without a shirt is free and \$10 with a shirt. Call (219) 787-8126, like www.facebook.com/footloose5K or follow www.twitter.com/burnsharborin for more information.



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Chesterton Art Center

The following programs are available at Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St.:

• **Jennifer Martin will host a summer coastal edition of Cookies and Canvas on Friday, June 24.**

Children 3-7 can attend from 5 to 6:30 p.m. and ages 8-14 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. The evening includes an 8x10 beach-themed, stretched canvas painting, as well as cookies and juice. The cost is \$10 per child, or \$5 for members. All interested students must register no later than Thursday, June 23.

• **Herb Helm will offer a two-day watercolor workshop focusing on a sunflower from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, June 27-28.**

The workshop is designed for an advanced beginning painter and beyond. The scene will require a number of techniques, including pouring, splattering, blowing and possibly throwing paint. Class will incorporate negative painting, which will require students to pull (or paint) elements out of their pouring. On the other end of the spectrum, participants will be asked to use tighter, more controlled techniques. The cost is \$85, with members receiving a \$5 discount. A lunch break is offered each day, and participants can take a lunch or step out. A supply list will be provided.

• **Suzie Rosso will teach a Zentangle class from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 29.**

Zentangle is a form of structured doodling that has become popular. Easily learned, with simple tools, students will work in color. Two booklets with inspirational patterns and the history of the designs will be included, along with a special bleed-proof paper and the recommended pen. The cost is \$30, with members receiving a \$5 discount.

• **George Kassal, Long Beach, will teach a three-week "Photographing the Dunes" class starting from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, June 30.**

Students will meet at the center for the first session, then travel to the dunes to apply the skills and techniques learned. Each participant must take a camera and manual. The cost is \$45, with members receiving a \$5 discount.

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

Drum & Bugle Corps Show

Drum corps from around the country will participate in the 56th Annual Drum Corps International Pageant of Drums from 7 to 10 p.m. Sunday, June 26, at Ames Field, 2501 Franklin St.

Tickets are available at Visit Michigan City La Porte tourism bureau in Marquette Mall. Visit www.dci.org for more information.

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

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 for more information.

Nature's Tiny Tots

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

The free program is from 10 to 11 a.m. at Luhr County Park, 3178 S. County Road 150 West. Dates are: June 27, July 11 and 25, and 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 schedule is:

- June 28 — It's Feeding Time.
- July 19 — Hello Down There.
- July 26 — Night Time Explorers.
- 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 schedule is:

- July 20 — Night Time Explorers.
- July 27 — Beautiful Butterflies.
- 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, 3178 S. County Road 150 West. Call at least one week in advance to register. The schedule is:

- July 6 — Ways to improve balance in the older years, Becky Allwood-Wallace, physical therapist.
- Aug. 3 — Eye health, cataract care and eye warning signs, Dr. Sethi Patel, ophthalmology.
- Sept. 14 — What to grow in the fall with Sacha Burns, Sunkissed Organics.

Long Beach Summer Camp

Registration Open for the Summer

Dates: June 20 – August 5

Days: Monday – Friday

Time: 9:00 – 11:30

Location: Long Beach Community Center

Ages: 3-11

Fee: Resident Full Camp: \$100.00

Non-Resident Full Camp: \$175.00

Resident Weekly: \$40.00

Non-Resident Weekly: \$65.00

Weekly Themes

Week 1: Galactic Travels

Week 2: The Big Screen

Week 3: Myths and Legends

(No Camp July 4-5)

Week 4: Pet Project

Week 5: Happy Holidays

Week 6: Sail Away

Week 7: Olympics

Long Beach Summer Tennis Camp

Dates: June 21 – August 4

Days: Tuesday and Thursday

Time: 8:00 – 9:00

Location: Long Beach Community Center
Tennis Courts

Ages: 6-11

Fee: Resident : \$50.00

Non-Resident: \$60.00

The 15 openings for Tennis Camp will be filled on first-come, first-served basis. Tennis balls are provided for all lessons and extra rackets on first-come, first-served bases.

All registration forms are available at the Long Beach Town Hall, Long Beach Community Center, and online at longbeachin.org. Any questions please call 219-873-3773 or email longbeachsummercamp@gmail.com.

HONORING OLD GLORY



Photos by Bob Wellinski



Michigan City Elks Lodge 432 held a Flag Day program June 11 at Millennium Plaza that included flag history, a flag-folding ceremony and a special Liberty Bell ceremony.



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.

- **Midsummer Celebration from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, June 25, at Chellberg Farm.**

Celebrate the longest day of the year, and learn about the traditions of Swedish immigrants, including music, dance and food associated with the special day. Visitors also can check out the farm's new chickens.

The Chellberg/Bailly parking lot is on Mineral Springs Road between U.S. 20 and 12 in Porter.

- **Summer Solstice Evening Concert from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Saturday, June 25, at Chellberg Farm.**

Offered in partnership with Friends of Indiana Dunes, the outdoor concert features Chris Vallillo, a nationally acclaimed singer/songwriter and folk musician. Take a blanket or folding chairs, and perhaps a picnic dinner. The Chellberg/Bailly parking lot is on Mineral Springs Road between U.S. 20 and 12 in Porter.

- **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.

- **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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Indiana Dunes State Park

The following programs are offered through Indiana Dunes State Park:

Thursday, June 23

- **Another Dam Hike — 10 to 11 a.m.**

Take an exploratory hike along Dunes Creek in search of beavers. Meet at the campground gate.

- **Reptile Review — 3 p.m.**

The 45-minute discovery program, held at the Nature Center outside program area, includes discussion on turtles, snakes and lizards.

- **Sunset Beach Yoga — 7 to 8 p.m.**

The Duneland and Valparaiso YMCAs have partnered with Indiana Dunes State Park 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 valpoyymca.org to register, or just show up. Classes are cancelled during inclement weather.

Friday, June 24

- **10 a.m. — Dunes History Hike.**

Traverse high dunes while exploring the area's rich history. Meet at the campground shelter for the hike, part of the 100 programs for 100 years centennial celebration. MC

- **3 p.m. — Nature Crafts.**

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

- **8 p.m. — Animals of the Night.**

Test your dunes animal knowledge at the campground shelter, with prizes awarded.

Saturday, June 25

- **10 a.m. — Mount Tom Bound.**

Wear hiking boots for a moderate, one-hour jaunt to Indiana's highest sand dune. Meet at the campground shelter by site 116.

- **3 p.m. — Turtle Time.**

Meet at the Nature Center for a look at turtles that live in the dunes, then get in a circle and let them crawl around.

- **4 p.m. — Naturalist Beach Break.**

Watch for the naturalist with animals of the

dunes near the beach pavilion.

- **8 p.m. — Moonbug Meander.**

Hike through the dunes in search of lightning bugs. Meet at the campground gate. Children 12 and younger must be accompanied by a parent.

Sunday, June 26

- **10 a.m. — Feed the Birds.**

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

- **3 p.m. — Snakes Alive.**

Meet at the Nature Center for an educational look at snakes and their myths.

Daily

- **Beach Yoga — 9 to 10 a.m.**

The Duneland and Valparaiso YMCAs have partnered with Indiana Dunes State Park 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 valpoyymca.org to register, or just show up. Classes are cancelled during inclement weather.

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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Thanks

June 4 was the Fourth Annual St. Stanislaus 5K Run/Walk held in cooperation with The Town of Trail Creek at Nelson Park.

For the third consecutive year, standout Michigan City Wolves runner Bryon Berg won the race in a record-setting time of 15:10. The female winner, who also was a repeat winner, was Michele Carey, South Bend, with a time of 20:56.

We want to thank The Town of Trail Creek for its support and cooperation and Town Marshal Stephen Dick, Deputy Marshal Todd Klosinski and also Junior from the Trail Creek Street Department.

We want to thank all of our sponsors, the 129 race participants and many volunteers. This fundraiser was for the Parish Renaissance Campaign for needed church repairs.

Special thanks to our sponsors: St. Andrews Products, Robert Tylisz Appliance for Robert's donation of the beautiful plaque awards he handcrafted, Members Advantage Credit Union, Ott/Haverstock Funeral Chapel, Sauers Ford/Lincoln, Snyder Insurance Agency Inc., Snyder & Associates, Rowley & Co. LLP, Dr. Chanbo Sim, MC Sports and Michigan City Meijer.

We also want to thank the many volunteers, including photographers Norman Stahoviak and Jill Wozniak. We could not have held this event without all of their help.

Results have been posted at www.astiming.com by clicking on races, then results.

Hope to see you again next year June 3, 2017.

Patrick Kroehler

St. Stans 5K race director

Brother Shaun Gray

Committee Member

Irma Schroeder and Linda Pliske

Committee Members

Susan Snyder and Anna Kroehler

Committee Members

Dick McGill

Committee Member

Lakeside Garden Walk

Featuring eight unique gardens representing Harbor Country, the Lakeside (Mich.) Garden Walk is from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. EDT Saturday, June 25.

Within short driving distances of each other — one to six miles — participants will experience lake views, cottages, meadows, vegetable gardens, patios and water features.

Sponsored by The Lakeside Association of Harbor Country's Lakeside, Michigan, all proceeds benefit a scholarship fund for River Valley School District high school seniors.

Tickets are \$35 in advance and \$45 the day of the walk. Visit www.thelakesideassociation.com or call (773) 343-1680 for tickets or more information.

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Barker Leaving Save the Dunes

Nicole Barker is leaving her post as Save the Dunes executive director, assuming the position of director of capital investment and implementation for Northern Indiana Commuter Transit District's South Shore Line in mid-July.



Now, the regional non-profit has the bittersweet task of finding someone to replace her. Barker, however, remains committed to working with the organization as a volunteer.

"It has been an absolute honor for me to work for an organization as important and impactful as Save the Dunes," Barker said.

Over the past six years, Save the Dunes has addressed many threats to the dunes. It brought \$1 million in funding to restore more than 1,100 acres of globally-imperiled black oak savanna at Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore and Indiana Dunes State Park. It has acquired more than 100 acres of land for future donation to the National Lakeshore. It also is in the final stages of developing a manual for nearshore dunes community residents to remove invasive species.

Under Barker's leadership, Save the Dunes also convened a team called the Indiana Dunes Ecosystem Alliance to consider the dunes ecosystem as a whole — blurring the lines of ownership — and set priorities together. That group included government agency representatives, scientists, nonprofits and NIPSCO.

For 2017, a project will begin in partnership with Chicago's Field Museum to create a climate adaptation strategy for the Indiana Dunes.

Information about the executive director position is available at tinyurl.com/gpa23vc. The deadline to apply is 5 p.m. Friday, July 15. Visit www.save-dunes.org for additional details.

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Michiana Annual Arts Competition

The 14th Michiana Annual Arts Competition runs through Saturday, Aug. 13, in all three galleries at The Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Mich.

The exhibit has 210 pieces. Judges were Linda Walker, Centerville, Mich., and Claire Covacs, Rock Island, Ill.

Taking the \$1,200 Best of Show was Debra Eiswald, Constantine, Mich. She won for the pastel portrait "Logan Outside."

Six category awards were presented for a \$300 prize each. They are:

- Watercolor – Kathy Los-Rathburn, "Ivy," Griffith, Ind.
- Photography – Todd Hoover, "In the Garden of Eden," South Bend.
- Drawing /Pastel – Linda Isakson, "Bold Sky," Mattawan, Mich.
- Painting – Thomas Fehlner, "Fairy Tales Gone Wild," Buchanan, Mich.
- 3-D (Ceramics, Glass, Sculpture) – Becky Rotter, "Receptacle for a Legacy," Sodus, Mich.
- Miscellaneous – Carol Myers, "Sand and Dunes," Watervliet, Mich.

Call (269) 983-3688 for more information.

2016 Talent Show

Parents and Friends Inc. and Michiana Resources Inc. will present the 2016 Talent Show from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, June 24, at Lakeview Christian Center, 1704 County Line Road, Michigan City.

The show will include La Porte County adults with developmental disabilities helping raise funds to give back to the community. Refreshments and snacks are included in the \$10 ticket price. Children 12 and younger are free.

Advance tickets can be purchased at Parents and Friends, Michiana Resources and Lakeview Christian Center. Call Jeff Rupe at (219) 324-0656, Ext. 1127, or Cassandra Dunn at (219) 874-4288, Ext. 302, for more information.

Free Document Shredding

La Porte County Solid Waste District will offer free document shredding from 8 a.m. to noon, or until the truck fills up, on Tuesday, June 28, at the SWD office, 2857 W. Indiana 2.

The event aims to make up for running out of space on the document shredding truck during the last 5-in-1 recycling. There are no limits to the amount of shredding people take, but participation is limited to residents only.

Call the office at (219) 326-0014 or email aebaugh@solidwastedistrict.com for details.



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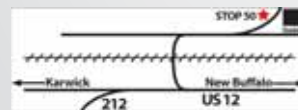
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Westchester Public Library*The following programs are available:*

- **Firefly Storytime at 8 p.m. Thursday, June 23, at Hawthorne Millennium Park, Porter.**

Meet at the gazebo to hear firefly stories, make a pinecone craft and use a bug-catching necklace to wear a firefly.

- **Nerf Battle: Capture the Flag from 7 to 8 p.m. Friday, June 24, at Hageman Library, 100 Francis St., Porter.**

Registration is required, and a parent permission slip must be filled out. All materials are provided. Call (219) 926-9080 to register.

- **Summer Concert & Movie Series at 7 p.m. Friday, June 24, at the Thomas Park bandstand in downtown Chesterton.**

Mo' Beat Blues performs, followed by "Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Road Chip" at dusk. In case of rain, both events move to the Library Service Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

- **Children's Movie: "Open Season Scared Silly" at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, June 25, at Thomas Library Children's Department, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.**



The movie is Rated PG. Free popcorn will be available.

- **The Unnamed Guild of Gamers from 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday, June 26, 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."

- **Eating Well for Healthy Living Series from**

- 6 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 28, in the Thomas Library Bertha Wood Meeting Room.**

Registered Dietetic Technician Gia DeMartinis will discuss "Garden Gourmet." Registration can be done in person or by calling (219) 926-7696.

- **'90s Toons Trivia Night at 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 28, at Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.**

Teams of one to four people can vie for a prize. Refreshments will be served.

- **The Messier The Better for 9- to 24-month-olds at 10 a.m. Tuesdays, June 28 and July 12 and 26, at Hageman Library.**

Miss Ronnie will lead children in singing songs and an art experience. Dress to get messy. The focus June 14 is bottle sponge painting.

- **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.

- **Creative Kids from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays at Thomas Library's Children's Department.**

Children 5-7 learn about different artists and try a new technique each week. The focus June 29 is Abstract Art. Visit Thomas Library or call (219) 926-7696 to register.

- **Children's Crochet Club from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Wednesdays through June 29 in the Children's Department at Thomas Library.**

Attendees learn beginning crochet from instructor Sadie Steciuch. Children should take a size G crochet hook and skein of medium weight yarn. Register by calling (219) 926-7696.

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Queen of All Saints Festival

Families turned out in droves to the annual Queen of All Saints Festival on June 9-12, sampling everything from the rides to kids games.



Photos by Bob Wellinski





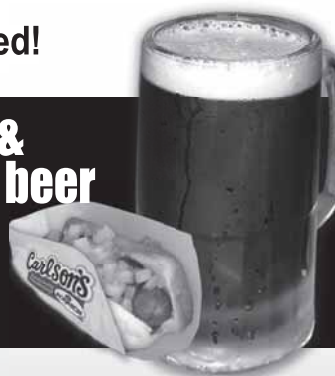
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Michigan City Public Library

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

• **Film Showing: Disney's "Hercules" at 10 a.m. Thursday, June 23.**

The movie is Rated G. Light refreshments will be served. Children 18 and younger have a chance to win a DVD of the movie.

• **Friday Afternoon at the Movies: "The Big Short" at 2 p.m. Friday, June 24.**

The Oscar-winning film is an adaptation of Michael Lewis' nonfiction book that explores the 2008 financial crisis. It is Rated R.

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

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



• **Film Showing: "Labyrinth" 30th anniversary at 3:30 p.m. Monday, June 27.**

The movie is Rated PG. Light refreshments will be served. Children 18 and younger have a chance to win a DVD of the movie.

• **Story Time at 10 a.m. Wednesday, June 29.**

Children birth to age 5 and adults will enjoy stories, songs and crafts. Arrive a few minutes early to receive a name tag.

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

Jr. Spike N' Splash

With 24 sand volleyball courts, Washington Park beach will host the Jr. Spike N'Splash on Saturday, June 25.

This year marks EVP Academies' 16th season. The day-long series attracts levels for 8U, 10U, 12U, 14U, 16U and adult men and women. Junior and adult teams that finish first and second are awarded a bid to compete in the Aug. 7 Chicago Pro Am Championships at North Avenue Beach.

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Kids Programs Return to Barker



Curious children 10 and younger are invited to summer programming at Barker Mansion, 631 Washington St.

Kids' Nature Play in the Garden is at 9 a.m. June 23, July 14 and Aug. 11, with each event taking a different theme. The 90-minute programs encourage youth to explore the garden just as Catherine Barker might have done as a young girl. Activities, held in the outdoor garden, include a story, art project and snack.

Indiana Master Naturalist Cookie Ferguson leads the interactive sessions. A \$2 fee per child applies; each accompanying adult is free. Registration is not necessary. The program moves indoors if it rains.

Visit www.barkermansion.com for details.

A.K. Smith Alumni Honored

Four A.K. Smith Career Center alumni were honored May 19 at Northwest Indiana Works Council's "21 Under 21" awards.

The program, which honors career and technical education graduates succeeding in college and careers, was held at Ivy Tech's Valparaiso campus. The four A.K. Smith alumni were:

• **Tyler Bohle, a Michigan City High School graduate.** In high school, he was a member of the Future Farmers of America and Envirothon Team. He played for the soccer team for four years, and refereed a youth league for five years. He was a student mentor, Technical Honor Society member and worked for the welding shop, where he worked on the Purdue University Northwest (North Central campus) go-kart in 2014. He placed third in the American Welding Society Mid-West Welding Tournament, Indiana Regional SkillsUSA Welding Competition and Indiana State SkillsUSA Welding Competition. He completed an internship at E&L Paving & Construction in La Porte, and attends Hobart Institute of Welding Technology.

• **Guy Gainer, a New Prairie High School graduate.** He has been an FFA member for five years and a 4-H Club member for six years. At A.K. Smith, he served as a student mentor and leader. During high school, he worked part time for Advanced Auto. He was a Technical Honor Society member and received the Kenneth Patterson Scholarship. He was sponsored by Knox John Deere for Vincennes University's John Deere Agricultural Technology program. While at Vincennes, he worked part time for GreenMark Equipment. He graduated with his associate's degree this spring and continues to work for GreenMark.

• **Ryan Kellogg, an MCHS graduate.** After a few months in the A.K. Smith culinary program, he discovered his passion for the culinary arts. He became ServSafe certified and volunteered for several activities at A.K. Smith, many that included catering. In addition to being in the CTE Technical Honor Society, he was Culinary Student of the Semester and Year. He now attends Sullivan University, where he majors in Culinary Arts.

• **Marcus Walker, a South Central High School graduate.** He was a student in the automotive program, where he served as a student mentor and became a Technical Honor Society member. He earned a scholarship to Lincoln College of Technology of Indianapolis, where he received a degree in diesel technology. He now works with the Indiana Department of Transportation as a diesel technician.



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Rotary Club Aids Clean Water Effort

Michigan City Rotary Club has donated \$1,000 to help buy a new water tank system for Central Mexico school children.

Matching dollars from District 6540, which encompasses 55 clubs, including Michigan City, and the Rotary Foundation helped fund the \$3,500 cost for each system.

Since 2004, the Heart 2 Heart program has been undertaking humanitarian projects, such as providing clean water to schools in Mexico City and the surrounding rural areas.

The water tank system primarily consists of a 2,600 gallon tank connected to a school's internal plumbing system to supply water to faucets for drinking (it includes a filtering system) and to bathrooms for toilet flushing and hand washing. Each school's plumbing varies, and often the Rotarians and school parents have to rework (and add to) the existing plumbing to accommodate the new water system. The average school size for the recipients of Heart 2 Heart tanks to date is about 800 to 1,500 students per school, and the tanks all have been placed in grade schools.

A typical tank primarily is steel, weighs about 2,200 pounds and has an expected life of 30 to 40 years or more, depending on the average quality of water in the tank and the average quality of maintenance. Plastic tanks are not used because they are subject to more damage and vandalism, can be easily moved if empty, have a shorter life span and can weaken with harsh weather.

Indiana Trails Board Wins Award

The Indiana Trails Advisory Board has been named 2016 Outstanding State Recreational Trails Advisory Committee.

The award is part of the Coalition for Recreational Trails Annual Achievement Awards. The winner is chosen by the National Association for State Parks Directors awards committee.

The TAB is composed of 15 volunteer board members who represent various trail-user groups. The Indiana TAB ensures the state receives more than \$1.2 million annually in Federal Highway Administration grants for the Recreational Trail Program.

The DNR Division of Outdoor Recreation administers the grants to applicants for non-motorized and motorized trail-development projects. Since 1994, nearly \$19 million in Recreational Trails funds have been invested in Indiana trails.

The Indiana TAB also advises DNR Director Cam Clark on important trail matters. It meets four times a year to discuss issues and share ideas, resources and news. Meetings are held throughout the state so the board can see different trail projects and participate in outdoor recreation activities.



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Low Net: Kathleen Whitfield
Low Putts: Donna Hennard

"B" Flight

Event: Babs Ward
Low Net: Mary Weithers, Joan Carey
Low Putts: Jane Irvine

"C" Flight

Event: Regina Bradley
Low Net: Vangie Kuhn
Low Putts: Kathie Mole

Sunken Approach

Regina Bradley

Hole 14

*Week of June 16, 2016**Event: Long Beach Waltz***"A" Flight**

Event: Lisbeth Slattery
Low Net: Lisbeth Slattery
Low Putts: Eunie Nondorf

"B" Flight

Event: Mary O'Neil
Low Net: Pat Kelley
Low Putts: Marge Walsh

"C" Flight

Event: Kathleen Hanley
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Activities to Explore

In the Local Area:

June 22-July 2 — Canterbury Summer Theatre, "The Marvelous Wonderettes," 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

June 23 — Film Showing: Disney's "Hercules," 10 a.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

June 24 — Dunes History Hike, 10 a.m., campground shelter @ Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

June 24 — Friday Afternoon at the Movies: "The Big Short," 2 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

June 24 — La Porte Aero Club's Community Aviation Night, 4:30-7:30 p.m., La Porte Municipal Airport, 2341 S. Indiana 39. Free. Info: (219) 324-3393.

June 24 — Parents and Friends Inc./Michiana Resources Inc. 2016 Talent Show, 5-8 p.m., Lakeview Christian Center, 1704 County Line Road, Michigan City. Tickets: \$10, 12 & younger/free. Info: (219) 324-0656, Ext. 1127, (219) 874-4288, Ext. 302.

June 24 — An Evening of Chapin Music featuring The Steve Chapin Band, 8 p.m. EDT, The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Info: www.acorntheater.com, (269) 756-3879.

June 24-26 — "Marvin's Room," Dunes Summer Theatre, 288 Shady Oak Drive, Michiana Shores. Tickets/info: (219) 879-7509.

June 24-27 — Vickers Theatre, 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. *Now showing:* "Sing Street." Rated PG-13. Times: 6 p.m. Fri.-Mon. *Also:* "Viva." Rated R. In Spanish with English subtitles. Times: 9 p.m. Fri.-Mon., 3 p.m. Sat.-Sun. All times Eastern. Info: vickerstheatre.com

June 25 — 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.

June 25 — Jr. Spike N'Splash, Washington Park beach. Info: (312) 287-5988, www.evptour.com

June 25 — Children's Movie: "Open Season Scared Silly," 10:30 a.m., Westchester Public Library Children's Department, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

June 25 — Midsummer Celebration, 1-4 p.m., Chellberg Farm, Mineral Springs Road between U.S. 20 & 12, Porter. Info: (219) 395-1882.

June 25 — Music in the Park, Brad Cole and Friends, 6:30 p.m. EDT, Dewey Cannon Park, Three Oaks, Mich. Free.

June 25 — Music Under the Stars, 7 p.m., Friendship Botanic Gardens, 2055 E. U.S. 12. Advance tickets: members/\$20, non-members/\$22.50. @ door: members/\$22.50, non-members/\$25. Children 12 & younger/free. Reservations: www.friendshipgardens.org

June 25 — Summer Solstice Evening Concert, 7:30-8:30 p.m., Chellberg Farm, Mineral Springs Road between U.S. 20 & 12, Porter. Info: (219) 395-1882.

June 25-26 — Skamania Mania, Washington Park. Free. Info: www.nwsteelheaders.com, (219) 872-6261.

June 25-26 — Civil War weekend, Hesston Steam Museum, 1201 E. County Road 1000 North. Times: 11:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Fares: \$5/adults, \$3/children 3-12. Info: www.hesston.org, (219) 778-2783.

June 25-26 — "Abstract Visions Frozen in Time" by Daniel Stevens, noon-5 p.m. EDT, The Courtyard Gallery, 813 E. Buffalo St., New Buffalo, Mich. Info: (800) 291-9287.

June 25, 29 — 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

June 26 — "Bug Safari," 2-4 p.m., Friendship Botanic Gardens, 2055 E. U.S. 12. Info: 878-9885.

June 26 — Drum Corps International Pageant of Drums, 7-10 p.m., Ames Field, 2501 Franklin St. Info: www.dci.org

June 27 — Film Showing: "Labyrinth" 30th anniversary, 3:30 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

June 28 — '90s Toons Trivia Night, 7 p.m., Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.

June 29 — Roosevelt Pipe Organ Series, Ann Dobie, 12:15 p.m., Christ Church (formerly First Congregational Church), 531 Washington St. Info: (269) 469-0051.

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.

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

Through Sept. 8 — Merchant Street Market, 4-8 p.m. EDT Thursday, Whittaker & Merchant streets, downtown New Buffalo. Info: www.newbuffalo.org

Farther Afield:

June 25 — Lakeside (Mich.) Garden Walk, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. EDT. Tickets: \$35/advance, \$45/day of. Reservations/info: www.thelakesideassociation.com, (773) 343-1680.

June 25 — Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra, "The Little Mermaid," 7:30 p.m. EDT, Silver Beach's Shadowland Pavilion in St. Joseph, Mich. Tickets/info: www.smso.org, (269) 982-4030.

June 25 — Lake Effect Jazz Big Band, 7:30 p.m. EDT, The Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Mich. Tickets: \$10/general admission, \$8/students and seniors, free/children 12 and younger. Info/reservations: (269) 983-3688, info@boxfactoryforthearts.org, www.boxfactoryforthearts.org



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

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Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter

Shaker: A Novel by Scott Frank
(hardcover, \$26.95 in bookstores and on-line; also available as an eBook)

Earthquake hits Los Angeles. Disrupts cell service, buckles highways, and just when you think it's over, there's the aftershocks. About a week later, Roy Cooper flies into LAX from New York. He's there to take out Martin Shine. What's he to Cooper? Nothing. Cooper doesn't even know him. It's just another hit job.

Earthquakes, hit men, OK, nothing so different so far, right? Here's where it gets interesting.

After picking up his rental car, Cooper heads out with written directions to Shine's house. He has trouble finding the apartment building, so he is forced to park his car and walks around the block, eventually finding the address. He goes in, does his job and heads out to his car. Yeah, the car. Where is it? Cooper can't find his rental car. Strange city, it's dark, there are a dozen excuses he could use. So he keeps on walking.

Coming around a corner, he finds an old white guy in a jogging suit being harassed by several young black boys. And yes, they have guns.

Decision time, Cooper. Does he turn around and pretend he didn't see what was going on, or does he go to the old man's defense? No time to work out the logistics as a gun is put to Cooper's head by another black kid who sneaks up behind him. Rookie mistake, Cooper. I'll save the details for your reading pleasure and just say a rent-a-cop stumbles in the middle, shots are fired and Cooper is down with several gunshot wounds thanks to the wild shots of the overzealous cop.

Here's one of life's great ironies. Cooper is declared a hero thanks to a cell phone video shot by a nearby neighbor — a grainy picture that seems to show Cooper trying to help the old guy out of a very bad situation. And the old guy, who is killed by the boys, turns out to be a mayoral candidate!

But this is only the beginning of Cooper's problems! OK, he's not a nice person, but how can a professional hit man make such a muddle of one simple job?!

Then, we meet Kelly Maguire, an LAPD cop in bad graces because of her "anger management" problems. Then, there is Mayor Miguel Santiago, who isn't well-liked and now has been accused of having his opponent killed! So, he has to find a way to make this whole thing an opportunity. Don't you love politics? And, of course, there's Science, the gangbanger and shooter who wants to keep Cooper



from identifying him and his friends. Oops, I almost forgot. When word gets back to New York and Cooper's associate, Albert Budin, finds out about what went down in L.A., he's on the next plane to silence Cooper forever for his incompetence.

In one memorable sequence of events, Scott Frank shows his uncanny ability to set up a scene so absurd that, well, it's just perfect! Here's what happens: The mayor decides to visit Cooper in the hospital at the same time Science and his friends decide the same thing (only for very different reasons, of course!).

The mayor and the boys meet in the hallway, and the mayor sees a photo op as one of the boys is in a wheelchair. So, he has a photo taken of himself with the boys after they tell him they're there to see their dying mother. How will the mayor's staff spin that one when they find out they are Cooper's shooters?!

Flashbacks are well used to explain Cooper's early life, his abusive father and indifferent mother, and his years in juvenile detentions for a crime he didn't commit.

The story moves on to more uproarious escapades, hits and misses, until you can't stop laughing at the absurdities one minute and gasping at the cruelty the next. The climax comes at a baseball game where all participants converge not knowing each other is there: some to kill Cooper, some to kill Science, some to arrest Cooper and Science and, well, some to watch the ball game. But that might be hard to do...

The climax is about as thrilling as it gets. Frank's description of mass mayhem will have you on the edge of your seat—I guarantee it! This is entertainment with a capital "E."

Frank is a well-known Hollywood screenplay writer. This is his first novel, and I can easily see it being made into a movie. Frank wrote "Little Man Tate" and "Dead Again," while his screenplay adaptation for Elmore Lenard's "Get Shorty" was nominated for a Golden Globe and Writers Guild Award. He's written screenplays for "Heaven's Prisoners," "Minority Report," "The Interpreter," "Marly & Me" and "The Wolverine."

Publishers Weekly: "Screenwriter Frank's well-plotted first novel will remind readers of Tom Wolfe's novel *The Bonfire of the Vanities*."

From bestselling author Linda Fairstein: "Scott Frank brings an exciting new literary voice to the crime genre — totally unique, with a hint of homage to the great Elmore Leonard."

Till next time, happy reading!



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