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Photo by Ted Soller

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How Sweet It Is

The 1966 **Red Devils** Basketball
State Championship Series
Continues on Center Page

ENDURANCE TEST

Career Center Students Building Race Car for Unusual Competition

by Kayla Weiss



Devin Higginbotham (bottom) and Austin Smith bolt down the new engine.

Working on cars is nothing new for Steve Barnes' students. Enrolled in the Automotive Technology Program at La Porte County Career & Tech Education Center, they plunge through every facet of a vehicle so by the time they graduate, they have what it takes to enter their desired profession.

The vehicles that serve as their test subjects, however, typically are those brought in by family members, Michigan City Area Schools staff or Barnes himself.

This year, however, was different. A former student made a rather interesting donation: a 1996 BMW 318ti. In its heyday, the vehicle had 138 horsepower, its curb weight was 2,745 pounds and its gas mileage about 31 miles per hour on highways.



Instructor Steve Barnes watches as Devin Higginbotham and Austin Smith drop the new engine into the vehicle.



Devin Higginbotham (back) and Dylan Jensen work on the vehicle.

"My goal for this car, when we first got it," Barnes said, "was to just get it back in running order. Not necessarily perfect running order, but to at least be able to turn the key and have the car start up."

Then, another unexpected donation arrived from a student who graduated two years ago: an engine from a full-sized Chevy truck.

That's when the wheels — pun intended — started rolling.

"When we first got the engine, the kids thought it would be so cool if we could get this engine to work in this donated BMW," Barnes said. "Then, they thought, wouldn't it be cool if we could enter it in some kind of a local race?"

"Which is how we ended up getting involved in the 24 Hours of LeMons."

The race takes place in different cities across the country and isn't one of speed, but endurance. Every team that enters needs to have put no more than \$500 into their car, which means a lot of the parts

Continued on Page 4



Instructor Steve Barnes emphasizes "show over tell" when teaching.

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ENDURANCE TEST

Continued from Page 3

must be donated. The competition actually takes place over three days, not one non-stop 24-hour race. Instead, the teams compete against one another for eight hours during the three-day event. Tech inspection and track testing unfold on Friday, followed by endurance-race sessions on Saturday and Sunday. There are prizes, from cash awards to everything from marque to nationality and all-girls teams recognition.

The 24 Hours of LeMons website, www.24hoursoflemons.com, takes a good-natured, humorous approach to itself, considering the little amount of money sunk into these vehicles. Take, for example, the "What the Heck" box on the site that states: *"Endurance racing for \$500 cars. It's not just an oxymoron; it's a breeding ground for morons. It's where Pintos and Maseratis battle to lap a Le Car. It's where first-timers dice with Nomex-soiling pros."*

"There are all of these different things that the teams can win, aside from the general endurance race," Barnes said. "There are style points and all kinds of crazy things. And the judges are completely bribable – they fully encourage it with the style points competition, and some other goofy competitions that take place over the three days.

"It's really a good, fun time for the kids, and they get a confidence booster, getting to show off something that they've worked hard on for all of these months. It's great."

The biggest question raised by his students is this: Once completed, who's going to drive the car? Unfortunately, that is a tough question. None of the current students can drive it. The liability would be too great. However, all of Barnes' students are trying to persuade him to volunteer for the honor.

"I don't drive them," Barnes laughed. "I'm not in-

terested in that aspect. I like working on them more than I like actually driving them."

For the time being, though, while they try to allocate more resources while still staying under that \$500 limit, Barnes is trying to set small, short-term goals – something realistic for the students. If the car isn't finished in time for it to be entered into this year's race, Barnes plans to have students in their second year of the program work on it next year.

"I know we're all wanting to get this car to the track this year, but it may not happen, due to the price restriction," Barnes said. "But it's still great fun for the students to get to work on something like this, because they know one day something will come of it."

Whatever comes of the experience, it's all part of what students from throughout the county have come to expect from La Porte County Career & Tech Education Center, also known as the A.K. Smith Area Career Center. By using emerging and traditional technologies, classes mix learning in classrooms, labs and real-world experiences.

The Automotive Technology Program is a key component of the center.

"The automotive industry is a very broad workplace that includes careers ranging from basic mechanics to advanced electronics to business management," Barnes said. "In this program, I try to give my students the tools that they need in order to advance in the automotive industry."

The Automotive Technology program teaches students the ins and outs of maintaining cars and daily operation of a mechanic shop, the goal being to help students become Automotive Service Excellence certified. Previously taught by Ken Patterson, Barnes took

over the position in April 2014. A graduate from Lincoln Technical Institute with an associate's degree in automotive service and automotive shop management, he worked in the automotive field as a techni-



The donated engine from a full-sized Chevy truck.



Once completed, the goal is to race the car in 24 Hours of LeMons.

cian and shop manager since September 1994, and has run his own repair shop since October 2012.

Split into two separate year-long courses, students can join the Automotive Technology program as early as their sophomore year in high school. In their first year, they have the opportunity to study the many different facets of the automotive service trades, receiving training in electrical systems, brakes, suspension systems and engine performance. Starting this year, students have the chance to achieve technical proficiencies from the Indiana State Certification, which is recognized statewide.

In their second year, students continue their studies with in-depth experiences in rebuilding engines, air condition repair, manual/automatic transmission and transaxle rebuilding. They also receive advanced training in fuel injection and many specialized automotive fields.

About the Photos

Instructor Steve Barnes welcomed *The Beacher* to observe morning and afternoon sessions of his Automotive Technology classes, encompassing students from all across La Porte County. Kayla Weiss took photos at the morning session and Bob Wellinski at the afternoon session.

Barnes believes the experience of preparing for 24 Hours of LeMons will be memorable regardless of the outcome.

"This is a pretty wild event to be a part of – in a good way," Barnes said. "It's all about having fun and showing off what you've been able to make. In a race where everyone is racing cars worth \$500 or less, it's difficult to be competitive."

(Visit mcas.schoolwires.net/Page/35 for more information on the Automotive Technology program.)



Devin Higginbotham (left) and Dylan Jensen work on the vehicle.



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About the Cover

by Andrew Tallackson

If the weather forecast is grim, expect to see Ted Soller at Michigan City's lakefront.

Or maybe not.

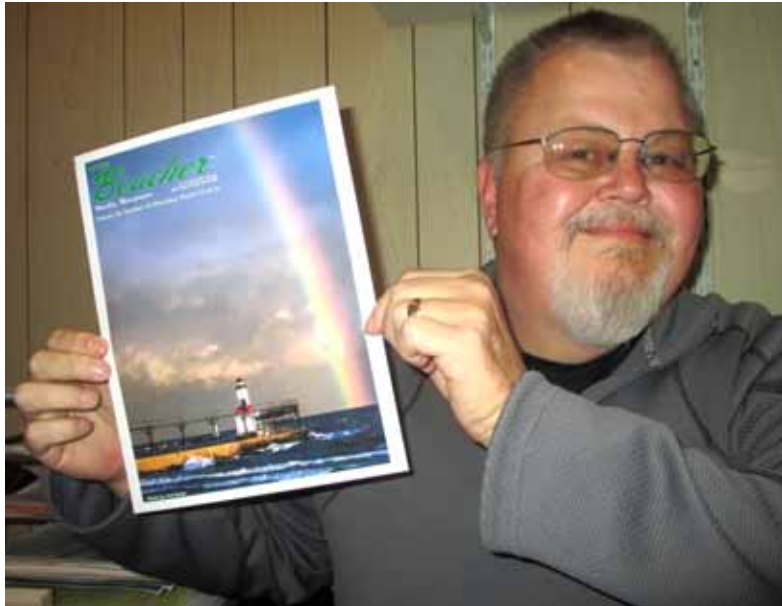
Ted, who admits he loves taking pictures of "bad weather," will roll out of bed at 2:30 in the morning, joining the likes of a precious few — typically Robb Quinn and Pat Landers — to capture images of storm fronts as they roll across Lake Michigan's southern shores.

That tenacity is what captured *The Beacher's* attention, in particular our own Janet Baines, a marvelous photographer in her own right who first saw the stunning image that graces our cover on facebook and recommended we consider it for a future edition.

Ted snapped that photo of a rainbow he says arched all the way to Mount Baldy back in early September 2015. The day before, he'd captured everything from wind surfers to waves crashing against the lighthouse pier. But the next day, he awoke early, a foot cramp the culprit. He headed to the computer and saw a weather forecast that mentioned water spouts. He'd heard the same prediction from WGN meteorologist Tom Skilling. Ted had only photographed a water

spout once. The temptation to capture his second one was too enticing.

But once at the city's lakefront, he saw not one water spout...but eventually the magnificent rainbow that appears on our cover. Having brought a camera lens that best captures distance, not width, Ted says he's slightly disappointed he wasn't able to convey the sheer magnitude of how far the rainbow stretched across the lake.



Ted Soller holds a copy of this week's cover that features his image of Michigan City's lakefront.

We at *The Beacher* are hardly disappointed. The Michigan City native and Elston High School graduate, who with his wife, Pat, has two children and two grandchildren, says he has no formal training. He's taken a couple of classes, and learned a great deal from Quinn and Landers.

He'll also continue to photograph storms as they are forecast for the area. In fact, as our interview came to a close, he mentioned his camera's batteries were charging in case

any storms emerged later that night, the lake beckoning his presence.

"If it happens," he says, a twinkle in his eyes, "there's a good chance I will be down there."

Contact Andrew Tallackson at drew@thebeacher.com

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“From Sea to Shore”

Composer/multi-instrumentalist John Mock will unite with Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra for an evening of original music, casual storytelling and new music and photographs by Laura Kraklau honoring the St. Joseph Lighthouse.

“From Sea to Shore” is at 7:30 p.m. EDT Saturday, March 19, at St. Joseph (Mich.) High School Performing Arts Center, 2521 Stadium Drive.

Mock, who performs on guitar, concertina, mandolin and tin whistle, views the ocean and its coasts as his muse. From his native New England to the shores of Ireland and Scotland, he captures in music and story the heritage of the sea.



John Mock

Mock also has worked with the likes of The Dixie Chicks, James Taylor, Dolly Parton, Nanci Griffith, Maura O'Connell, Sylvia, Kathy Mattea and Mark O'Connor. His credits as composer and featured soloist include performances with Nashville Chamber Orchestra, Nexus Chamber Orchestra, Nashville Philharmonic and National Orchestra of Ireland.



Laura Kraklau

Kraklau is a marketing and communications professional who has been telling stories of organizations and the people connected to them for nearly 20 years. Her works have been included in exhibits at the National Lighthouse Museum in Staten Island, N.Y., and throughout Southwest Michigan. She recently published “In View 366: A Year-long Visual Story of the

St. Joseph Lighthouses.”

Special concert discounts and group sales are available. Individual tickets cost:

- Zone A: adults, \$37; seniors, \$32; students, \$5.
- Zone B: adults, \$20; seniors, \$20; students, \$5.

A Pre-concert Conversation, held one hour before the program, offers insight into the composers, the context of the music and hints of what to listen for once the concert starts.

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

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“ZOOTOPIA” — An Animated Metaphor Like No Other

by Andrew Tallackson

“Zootopia” may be the first animated movie to trigger a rapid response from the ACLU, not with foaming-at-the-mouth condemnation, but with a congratulatory embrace for spreading a much-needed message about inclusive societies.

Come again, you say? You’re talking about the Disney movie with the talking animals, right?

The one with the sloths that had audiences cracking up when the trailer dropped minutes before “Star Wars Episode VII: The Force Awakens” hit the screen?

Yes, *that* “Zootopia.”

The best family films, and “Zootopia” ranks among the finest of them, succeed on more than one level. They entertain the kiddies, but speak to adults with far deeper meaning, the messages seeping into the youngsters through osmosis, a delayed reaction that kicks in after processing what they’ve experienced.

Think about it. To children, “Up” (2009) is about a cranky old guy and a Boy Scout who embark on fantastical journeys. To their parents, many of whom broke down sobbing in the first 15 minutes, it is about a love that transcends even death to inspire the pursuit of one last great adventure.

“Zootopia” wears



The sloths generate some of the film’s biggest laughs.

its political agenda on its Technicolor sleeves. Youngsters will rally behind its plucky heroine who finds herself in extraordinary circumstances. Adults will ask themselves how an animated movie, in this prickly, PC era, could take the offensive on stereotypes and racial profiling and somehow come out smelling like roses, not just with critics, but au-

diences?

Maybe it is that, for all of society’s penchant for one-step forward, two-steps back behavior, an unexpected act of bravery slips through the cracks to be heard loud and clear.

“Zootopia,” however, exists not just as Disney on its animated soapbox. First order of business is to entertain, and by that standard, it exceeds tenfold. The movie envisions a vibrant, wildly imaginative world populated solely by animals. Judy Hopps (voiced by Ginnifer Goodwin), a rabbit from rural

Bunnyburrow, wants to be the first rabbit police officer at nearby Zootopia, a booming metropolis that’s sort of Tim Burton’s Gotham City meets Jurassic Park. Upon graduating from the academy, she arrives at her destination ready to symbolize change, but is relegated to parking duty because she’s viewed as too tiny to be effective.



Chief Bobo initially treats Judy with indifference during his first day on the police force.



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LAWRENCE ZIMMER

Disney has churned out enough girl-power parables ("Frozen," "Tangled") to know doing so yet again sniffs of dabbling in the same well. No, "Zootopia" unloads a far trickier agenda onto the table.

Judy tracks a suspicious-looking fox into an ice-cream parlour, only to witness the fox denied service in the presence of his infant son. An imposing sign rests on the counter: "We reserve the right to refuse service to certain customers."

In the theater where I saw the film, the proverbial pin dropped amid deafening silence. Scanning the audience, more than a few moms and dads sat with jaws dropped. My initial reaction was, "Whoah, did Disney really just go there?" Any adult seeing "Zootopia" with their child(ren) knows *exactly* what the film is referencing. And yet, the image exists not as a cheap shot at what went down last year in our Hoosier state. It is the film's launching pad to explore a world where prejudice threatens to rear its ugly head at every turn.

And rear its head prejudice does. Nick, the fox in the ice cream parlour (voiced by Jason Bateman, so deadpan, sarcasm practically oozes out of Nick's pores), isn't exactly an innocent victim. He has a few tricks up his sleeve. And with Judy having been bullied by a fox as a child, all that past hurt percolates to the surface, peppering whether or not she trusts Nick when the two join forces to investigate why 14 predatory beasts within Zootopia have gone missing.

"Zootopia" directors Byron Howard and Rich Moore assemble a lively voice cast to breathe life into Judy and Nick's pursuits, especially the great Idris Elba ("Beasts of No Nation") as Chief Bogo, imposing on the surface, wise and nurturing once the facade cracks. And as Judy grows increasingly

disillusioned amid her investigation, it is Bogo who offers the film's most prophetic reminder:

Judy: "I came here to make the world a better place, but I think I broke it."



Nick becomes Judy's unwitting ally during her police investigation.

Bogo: "The world has always been broken. That's why we need good cops."

It is Nick, by the way, who schools Judy on not making blanket generalizations about a particular species. Targeting the many based on the behavior of one, he argues, is to dismiss an entire species without giving it a chance. And when Latina pop star Gazelle (voiced by Latina pop star Shakira) issues a plea for tolerance, reminding the city's inhabitants that "this is not the Zootopia I remember from my childhood," the movie's message of open-minded inclusiveness is crystal clear, especially when she performs a song-and-dance routine

with otherwise predatory tigers as backup dancers during the closing credits.

It is remarkable, really, how "Zootopia" pulls off



Gazelle offers a plea for tolerance amid Zootopia's troubles.

this tricky high-wire act without falling flat on its face. It never feels oppressive, but light and bouncy, savoring the idea that metaphors still mean something these days.

What will kids make of it? They'll cheer Judy on, laugh at the sluggish sloths and rest comfortably knowing good prevails over evil. Heck, when Judy comforts Nick

by saying, "*Life's a little bit messy. We all make mistakes. No matter what type of animal you are, change starts with you,*" maybe they'll even leave the theater believing anything, or more to the point *anyone*, is capable of greatness. All it takes is an open mind and an open heart.

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Michigan City Has Chance to Name YMCA Pool

A new program that started with a La Porte Hospital donation to the YMCA's Elston Branch has come to fruition, and it's all about safe swimming.

Last year, La Porte Hospital contributed \$100,000 to the YMCA Michigan City Elston Branch so it could make upgrades and maintain its pool for the community. As part of the donation, the hospital received naming rights to the pool, but instead, is inviting the Michigan City community to weigh in and name the pool.

"This is a great step forward in helping us break down barriers to why children and adults may not be learning to swim," YMCA Executive Director Cindy Berchem said, having learned to swim at the YMCA. "We look forward to filling our swim lesson classes and offering swimming activities to the community for a long time with this gift."

The agreement specifies that the funds be used for pool upgrades and maintenance, and for swimming scholarships and supplies for those who otherwise may not be able to afford swim lessons.

La Porte Hospital and the YMCA Elston Branch are launching the Hometown Swim Heroes, which gives Michigan City an opportunity to name its YMCA pool. The winning story and pool name will be used as inspiration for a mural inside the pool area designed and painted by Michigan City High School art students. The event will culminate with the World's Largest Swim Lesson at the Elston Branch in June, the goal being to beat the world record for the most people participating in a swim lesson at once.

Other community partners in the effort are Boys & Girls Club and Michigan City Area Schools.

Community members fifth grade and older (including adults) can participate in the pool-naming contest by submitting a 100-word Hometown Swim Hero story, plus a suggested pool name of no more than five words. Submissions should be about any of the following topics:

- Your favorite swimming experience.
- How you learned to swim.

- What helped you decide to learn to swim.
- Someone local or famous who influenced you to swim and why.
- Your pledge to learn how to swim, if you currently don't know how.

To submit a story, visit www.lpymca.org/ and fill out the contest form. Or, print the form and submit it in person at the Elston Branch or Boys & Girls Club. March 30 is the deadline. Judges will pick two winners: a Hometown Swim Hero

story and a name for the pool. The prize will be an individual year-long membership to the YMCA, and the words from the winning story incorporated in some artistic way into the pool name mural at the Y.

In April, the committee will launch the 1,000 Drops of Water Campaign. Michigan City children in kindergarten through fourth grade can draw or decorate a drop of water and submit it to judges, who will pick 20 winners. The winning artwork will be displayed at the Michigan City Y in the halls leading to the pool. More information on that effort will be announced soon.

Visit lpymca.org or call Stacey Kellogg at La Porte Hospital at (219) 326-2354 for more information.



Barbara Eason-Watkins (right), Michigan City Area School superintendent, is a Hometown Swim Hero, having learned to swim at 59 by taking personal lessons with Bobbi Petru at the Michigan City Elston Branch.

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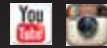


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St. Patrick's Day Scavenger Hunt

Embark on a mansion-wide scavenger hunt honoring the Barker family's Irish heritage at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 19, at Barker Mansion, 631 Washington St.

The first-time event, "Treasures of Barker Mansion," is for children and adults. Upon check-in, participants receive a clue sheet encouraging them to spot different artifacts related to Ireland, as well as shamrocks and Irish flags throughout the mansion. All attendees receive a prize.



The Fitzgeralds,
Catherine Barker's
grandparents.

Catherine Barker's grandparents, the Fitzgeralds, immigrated to the United States from Ireland in the 1800s. Participants will discover more about the Barker's legacy during the casual event.

The cost is \$5 per adult and \$2 per child. Reservations are not necessary. Visit www.BarkerMansion.com for details.

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Dunes Birding Festival

Celebrate the migration of bird life through the Indiana Dunes region during the second Indiana Dunes Birding Festival on May 5-8.

The event is a partnership with Northwest Indiana's major environmental groups, highlighting the area's biodiversity and bird watching opportunities. Organized by the Indiana Audubon Society, it includes Indiana Dunes State Park and Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore as site hosts.

Activities include nearly 50 guided field trips and car tours to view migrating birds, a vendor marketplace, more than 30 bird-related programs, from live raptor talks to species ID workshops, and special workshops for new bird watchers and educators.

Evening events include excursions for woodcocks and whip-poor-wills, and a family-friendly "birds and brews" social event on multiple nights.

The Saturday night keynote speaker is Iain Campbell of Tropical Birding Tours. He will discuss "The Mis-adventures in Bird Guiding," which details his experiences seeking birds around the world. That presentation includes dinner, a silent auction and vendor marketplace.

Registration for all four days starts at \$59 for adults and \$45 for youth 18 and younger. Registration is at indunesbirdingfestival.com

More information is available at: Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter, (219) 395-1882; Indiana Dunes State Park Nature Center at (219) 926-1390; dnr.IN.gov/parklake/2980.htm (state park) or nps.gov/indu (national lakeshore). Indiana Dunes State Park is located at 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton.

Books and Coffee Series

Purdue University-North Central will continue its "Books & Coffee" discussion series with Paula Evans' "The Isle of Iona" at 1 p.m. Wednesday, March 23.

The free program is in Library-Student-Faculty Building, Assembly Hall, Room 170A, adjacent to the cafeteria. It features a review of the book by Peggy Glennie, followed by a discussion period. The book is available in the PNC Bookstore.

Glennie, who previously taught English composition at PNC, wrote the book under a pen name. It is set in Cadymoor, Scotland, a quaint coastal village the 20th century has passed by. Residents live in fear of their selectman, Harry Nixon, with the exception of one school teacher, Heather MacIntosh.

Additional information about Books and Coffee may be obtained by contacting Jerry Holt, PNC chair of English and Modern Language, at (219) 785-5346 or jgholt@pnc.edu

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"Suffragette"

Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St., as part of its Films on DVD Series, will show "Suffragette" at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 20.

The free showing is in collaboration with Purdue University-North Central's Odyssey Arts and Cultural Events Series.



Helena Bonham
Carter stars in
"Suffragette."

Rated PG-13, the story unfolds in London in 1912 and 1913, telling the story of Maud Watts and the British activists who fought for women's right to vote in the early 20th century. By then, the 10-year-old Women's Social and Political Union, founded by Emmeline Pankhurst, had stepped up its tactics to include hunger strikes and arson. Meryl Streep appears in a cameo as Pankhurst, who has gone into hiding. Watts is a fictional composite meant to represent the women of the time.

A complete schedule of Purdue Odyssey events can be found at www.pnc.edu

Junior Sail Program

Michigan City Yacht Club again will offer its Junior Sail Program, teaching children 8 and older the skills needed to sail and race.

Classes are tailored to the age and ability of each student, emphasizing the fun of sailing. Beginning sailors are encouraged to become comfortable on the water and under sail. Intermediate and advanced students learn the finer points of boat handling and racing tactics.

The program encourages young people to stay in the sport of sailing after their "dinghy days." They are instructed in Opti's, an international youth training and one design race boat. Students with their own boat can be instructed in it. Advanced students also receive instruction on Club Rigger 420s.

The camp offers six separate morning and afternoon sessions starting June 14, June 28 and July 19. Classes meet Tuesday through Friday except July 4. Sessions are from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m.

Visit tinyurl.com/j47gvn9 or contact Program Director Jennie Girton at juniorsail@mcyc.com or (219) 929-7668. Information also is available on facebook at www.facebook.com/MichiganCityJuniorSailing or on Twitter @MCJuniorSail.

Michigan City Yacht Club is located at Washington Park Marina.



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Indiana Dunes State Park

The following programs are offered:

Saturday, March 19

• **10 a.m. — Feeling on Top of the World! Or the Dunes!**

Guest naturalist Cookie Ferguson leads a hike to the dune tops for early spring views. Meet at the Nature Center.

• **2 p.m. — Who Goes Where.**

Learn about the unique habitats that make the dunes home to special animals. Meet in the Nature Center auditorium.

Sunday, March 20

• **10 a.m. — Phoebe Time.**

Join a naturalist for a 45-minute discovery hike searching for the first Phoebes of the year. Meet at the Nature Center for the easy stroll to the Dunes Creek bridge.

• **2 p.m. — A Spring Walk.**

Meet at the Nature Center for a casual walk to the wetlands and back in search of signs of spring.

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.

Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

The following programs are available:

• **The Save the Tunes Council performs from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Friday, March 18, at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.**

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

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

Explore a different National Park Service site through films shown at 2 p.m. Saturdays at the Paul H. Douglas Center and 2 p.m. Sundays at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center. Call the park's information line at (219) 395-1882 for this week's film.

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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Regional Math Bowl Success



Lake Hills STEM Elementary School competed at the Regional Math Bowl on Feb. 26 in Walkerton. Fourth- and fifth-grade teams received first place in their divisions, and the school's sixth-grade team placed third in its division. Pictured are all three Lake Hills teams, with third-grade teacher and Math Bowl coach Jane Shimala. STEM Specialist Shelley Deutscher also served as a coach for the team.

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Westchester Public Library

The following programs are available:

• **Bookmarks at 2 p.m. Thursday, March 17, at Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.**

Susan Swarner will review Erik Larson's "Dead Wake: The Last Crossing of the Lusitania."

• **Celebrate National Rubber Band Day from 3:45 to 4:45 p.m. Thursday, March 17, at Hageman Library.**

Children in grades two through six make rubber band accessories with Rainbow Looms. Registration is required by calling (219) 926-9080.

• **Books That Make You Think Discussion Group from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 17, at the Thomas Library Bertha Wood Meeting Room, 200 W. Indiana Ave.**

The focus is Voltaire's "Candide."

• **Anniversary Celebration of Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore and Indiana Dunes State Park from 2 to 3 p.m. Saturday, March 19, at Westchester Township History Museum.**

Curator Serena Sutliff will delve into the role the Prairie Club played in the early 1900s to save the Indiana Dunes from industrial expansion.

• **Westchester Township History Museum Staff Favorite's Exhibit Opening at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 20, at Westchester Township History Museum.**

The staff's favorite refreshments will be served.

• **AARP Driver Safety Program from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday, March 21, at the Thomas Library Bertha Wood Meeting Room.**

The cost is \$15 for AARP members and \$20 for non-members. Registration is necessary. Visit www.aarp.org/drive or call Instructor Jeanette Pike at (219) 949-6307 for more information or to register.

• **Adult Coloring Program from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Monday, March 21, at the Thomas Library Bertha Wood Meeting Room.**

Registration can be done in person or by phone at (219) 926-7696 for Thomas Library or (219) 926-9080 for Hageman Library.

• **Cupcakes and Canvas from 10 a.m. to noon or 2 to 4 p.m. Tuesday, March 22, at Westchester Township History Museum.**

Children 6-12 can paint step by step with an instructor. Parents can sign up children for either session. Wear clothes that can get messy, and a parent or guardian must accompany each child. Class size is limited to 10 children. Register at the museum or

by calling (219) 983-9715.

• **Intro to Drawing Workshop with local artist Donna Krizek from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday, March 22-24, at Thomas Library's Bertha Wood Meeting Room.**

Krizek will lead two sessions of two-hour instruction on basic drawing for teens and adults. All materials are provided. Call the library at (219) 926-7696 and choose the 11 a.m. or 2 p.m. session.

• **Battles of the American Civil War from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, March 23, and 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 26, at Thomas Library's Bertha Wood Meeting Room.**

History buff and Civil War enthusiast Thomas Murphy will discuss the Battle of Antietam.

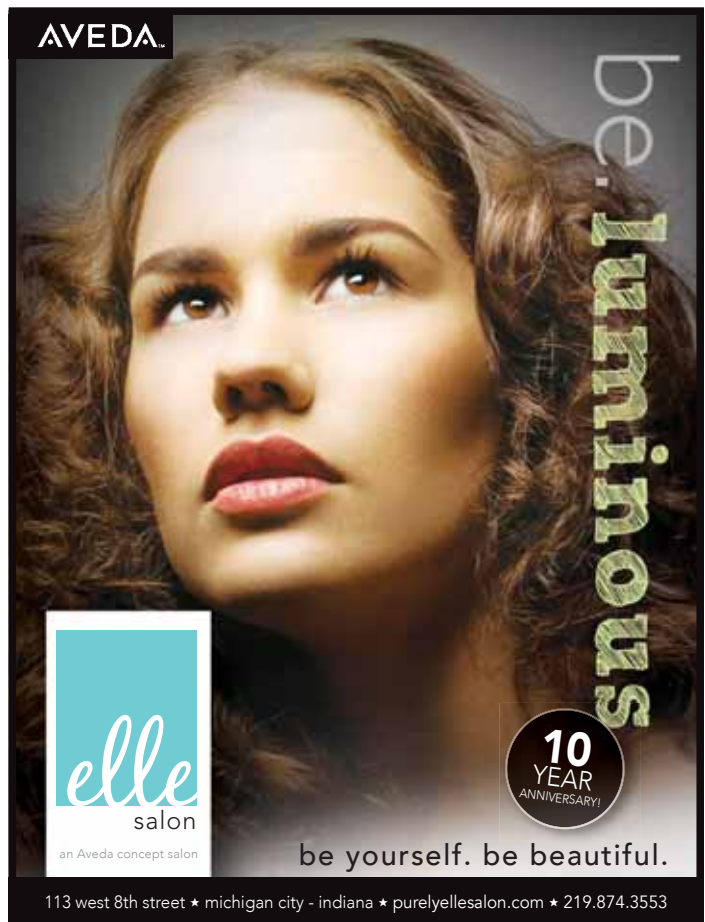
• **Pokemon League from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Tuesdays through May 24 at Thomas Library.**

The program is aimed at children in first grade and older. Attendees learn to make decks of 60 cards. They don't need to take anything unless wanting to take a starter pack of cards.

• **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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Michigan City Public Library

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

• **Art à la Carte at 3:30 p.m. Thursday, March 17.**

Plenty of materials will be available to make a spring craft. Children must be present to receive craft materials and accompanied by an adult.

• **Bookmarks: "Dead Wake" at 2 p.m. Friday, March 18.**

Susan Swarner will review Erik Larson's narrative nonfiction about the sinking of the Lusitania.

• **Basket Weaving at 9:15 a.m. Saturday, March 19.**

Margie Warner offers the one-day class. All materials are provided. Registration and a \$10 deposit are required. Stop by circulation to see the basket and verify the cost.

• **Understanding Your Dreams at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 19.**

Experienced dream therapist Terese Fabbri shares techniques on how to remember and understand dreams.

• **Films on DVD Series: "Suffragette" at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 20.**

The film is rated PG-13.

• **Angels Among Us at 3 p.m. Tuesday, March 22.**

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

• **Story Time at 10 a.m. Wednesdays, March 23 and 30.**

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.

LCSO Children's Chorus

La Porte County Symphony Orchestra Children's Chorus will present its free annual spring concert, "Bloomin' Melodies," at 3 p.m. Saturday, March 20, at Bethany Lutheran Church, 102 G. St., La Porte.

Doors open at 2:30 p.m. Directed by Mathew Nelson, the program spotlights the history of rock 'n' roll. Musical selections include works by Chuck Berry, Elvis, the Beatles, Queen and Journey.

The chorus is in its seventh season as a community choral music program. It is comprised of more than 40 students in grades 2-6 who hail from schools throughout La Porte County.

Contact LCSO at www.lcsco.net or contact Executive Director Laura Cutler at executive@lcsco.net for more information.

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Kick It with the Curator

Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St., will host "Kick It with the Curator" at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 19.



The Lubeznik Center's latest exhibits.

CarolAnn Brown, LCA curator of exhibits, will give an exclusive guided tour of the current exhibits "Meredith Setser & Jay Zerbo: Abstruse Daydreaming" and "Jonah Ortiz: Placebo." She will examine the artists' process and inspiration through a curatorial eye. The tour will last an hour, with Q&A to follow. Coffee and tea will be available.

Call the Lubeznik Center at (219) 874-4900 or visit www.lubeznikcenter.org for more information.

Rotary Club Scholarships

The Rotary Club of Michigan City Foundation is offering \$2,000 scholarships to two graduating high school seniors who exemplify Rotary's motto, "Service Above Self."

To be eligible, students must have a minimum of a "C" average in high school, graduate from any accredited high school by June 30, 2016, be a resident in the geographical area served by Michigan City Area Schools and be continuing their post-secondary education in fall 2016.

Applications are available from guidance counselors at La Lumiere School, Marquette Catholic High School, Michigan City High School and Michigan City Public Library. Applications also are available at www.mcr Rotary.org. Applications and letters of recommendation must be postmarked no later than April 1.

Annual Easter Egg Hunt

The Fourth Annual Easter Egg Hunt is from noon to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 19, in Washington Park.

Families can take children through age 12 to hunt for thousands of eggs and prizes.

The event is sponsored by Michigan City Mayor Ron Meer, Michigan City Police and Captain Ed's.



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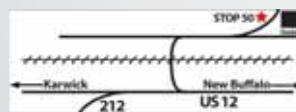
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A Little Matter of Winning

Feb. 16, 1966, the pairings for the first level of the Indiana state basketball tournament — the Sectional — were announced on the radio and published in the newspaper. Whereas 12 entrants participated in 1964 and 10 in 1965, now eight teams competed in the local Sectional, a number the IHSAA considered ideal. Two games would be played Thursday night, two games Friday night, two games Saturday afternoon and the championship game Saturday night.

The precarious ticket situation persisted. Michigan City hosted the La Porte County Sectional tournament and had to share its gymnasium — and its seats — with seven other schools. After high school students got first shot at tickets, only 300 seats remained for Michigan City's general public.

Principal Warren Jones scheduled a drawing. The parking lot and street curbs outside the high school filled with cars. Season ticketholders filed into Red Devil gym and wrote their names on cards. The hopper was placed in front of everybody, it tumbled around, cheerleaders pulled out names and Jones read the names out loud. Many fans went home disappointed and would have to listen to the tournament games on the radio.

While most Red Devils fans considered a Sectional championship a given, Coach Doug Adams took a more measured approach. When asked if this would be the year to finally win a Regional, he replied, "There's a little matter of winning the Sectional before talking about the Regional." As the Pink Imps coach, he witnessed the tiny schools of Union Mills and Rolling Prairie beat Elston to win Sectionals in 1950 and 1951. There was also the question of fellow Northern Indiana Conference member and arch rival, La Porte — Elston's main threat every year. Adams took the season one game at a time and never overlooked an opponent. Never.

Assistant Coach Al Whitlow explained.

"We always were worried (about getting out of the Sectional). When I was a junior high coach, it was my job to scout La Porte. If they played, I scouted them. Every weekend. I even remember going down to Knox to scout them," he said.

"They were considered to be our number one threat, and that's the number one rivalry. So, we wanted to make sure we knew as much about them as we possibly could, so that was one of my jobs: to scout La Porte.

"La Porte never gave me any season tickets, but I was there quite a bit," he continued. "If we weren't playing, Doug and I would go scout them. There was scouting (of other teams) going on, but not to that extent."

Elston had beaten La Porte 20 out of their last 21 meetings, and if anybody ever wondered how, or why, the extensive scouting was one big reason. As a result, the boys entered the tournament well-

prepared, and they knew not to take it for granted.

"You know, back in those days, if you were a player for Michigan City and you lost the Sectional, you might as well

transfer because you were in a lot of trouble. We knew we had to play hard, but we expected to win the Sectional," Rob McFarland said. "We got to get to Regionals because we are going to be the first team to get through the damn Regional, finally."

As the Sectional opened, reporter Bill Redfield reminded fans no confetti, noise makers or live mascots were permitted — IHSAA rules. The local newspaper opened the tournament with great fanfare. Basketball-themed ads and well wishes filled page after page.

A photo of Jim Cadwell appeared in a Chevy dealership advertisement that read, "SIZZLER! That's JIM CADWELL and the Red-Hot Hand of DEVILS from Elston High."

Herbert Mens Shop "Welcomes ALL Sectional Teams, Fans and Neighbors to Michigan City!" A picture of O'Neil Simmons shooting a basketball sat next to an ad for slim Continentals pants for only \$5.

Jim's Supermarket featured a photo of Larry Gipson.

The Spaulding Hotel welcomed "All Sectional Tourney Teams! Fans! & Neighbors to Michigan City." In the upper corner, Stan Farmer dribbled a basketball. In the lower corner, it noted that the Flosia Lee Trio would be featured in the Domino Lounge, and that all cocktails were 50 cents.

Fred LaBorn appeared on an ad that read, "Wallpaper clearance: 25 cents to 98 cents."

In the center of the newspaper was a double page pullout that included a photo of every team in the Sectional and all of the players' names. A caption read, "May the best team win and go all the way to the 1966 Indiana State Title!"

Players, fans, parents and visitors loved it.

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Players, fans, parents and visitors loved it.

How Sweet It Is

The Story Continues

by Matthew A. Werner

Editor's note — Matthew Werner's four-part series soon will appear in book form. Updates are available on facebook at Elston 66: How Sweet It Is.

47 points. La Porte defeated its small school opponent, Westville, by 38. Friday night, South Central and New Carlisle won their games.

In the Saturday afternoon semifinals, Michigan City played La Porte, and it was a contrast in philosophies and manpower. The two highest scoring players in the tournament played for La Porte. They averaged 20 and 19 points per game and had scored 772 points on the season. Meanwhile, the top two scorers for Michigan City combined for 534 points, and no player on the roster ranked higher than ninth in scoring average. But four boys did average double-digit points. "There are two ways of looking at it and we hope our way is the best one," Adams said of his team's balanced scoring.

On the locker room chalkboard, Adams had posted the La Porte player's names, numbers, height and the scouting report on each one. Who was left-handed. Who didn't like to dribble to his left, who could shoot with either hand, who didn't follow his missed shot, etc., etc. He also matched his players' names with the opponent he would guard. Adams used the scouting reports and had his team prepared, as usual.

Although the La Porte Slicers jumped out to an early, 10-3 lead, the Red Devils soon took over and never looked back. Michigan City won by 21 points.

To learn just how strong and talented the Red Devils were as a team, I called Dave Krider, La Porte's sports editor at the time. "I hated that team," Krider laughed. It wasn't real hatred, but admiration.

"That was my first year at *The Herald-Argus* and they murdered us in the Sectional. We had two good players and they didn't have much support and they

The Sectional saw no surprises in 1966. All of the favorite teams won games. Thursday night, the Red Devils played its in-city rival, St. Mary's High School, and won by

just murdered us," he said. "Coming from Elkhart, where I grew up, we had a successful program and won a lot of Sectionals. That was a rude awakening."

In the second game, South Central battled New Carlisle in a game that went down to the wire. That set up a David vs. Goliath matchup for the championship game at 8:15 p.m. with Elston playing the giant's role (South Central had 220 students in grades nine through 12).

Barry Younggreen played for South Central.

"I remember the pregame speech Coach (Morrie) Goodnight gave us," he said. "They play on the same length floor, put their trunks on one leg at a time and all that. But after the game — I questioned that. They had a terrific full court press and Goodnight had it figured out. That didn't bother us — we were able to get the ball up the court. But we couldn't put it in the basket once we got down there."

The Red Devils took an early lead that grew steadily over 32 minutes of play. The Elston Red Devils breezed to victory, 88-49. After the game, the boys shook hands with their opponents. They cut down one of the nets and posed for pictures. The Elston cheerleaders, a valuable part of the team and school's efforts, cut down the other net.

And with that, Michigan City Elston won its 15th consecutive Sectional championship.

Next Year is Here

The last time the Elston Red Devils lost a Sectional, members of the senior class were 3 years old.

The last time Elston won a Regional, 16 teams advanced to the State Finals instead of just four. The game included a center jump after every made field goal. Dennis Krueger's dad, Louis, played on the team. Terry Morse and Jim Cadwell's fathers were 12-year-olds. It had been 31 years, and the dreaded hex crept into everyone's mind.

"That was on our minds all the time," Elston junior Dave Milcarek said. "The old jinx. We'd win the Sectional and that's all the further we'd go. We're not going to win the Regional. That was always the story. We always thought we were not good enough to get past the Regional."

The Regional route hadn't gotten much easier than it was in the old Calumet meat grinder. In Game One, Michigan City would play Elkhart for the third time and on Elkhart's home court. If they got past the Blue Blazers, they expected to face the No. 2 team in the state: the South Bend Central Bears. Most sportswriters favored the Bears to win the Regional and the whole statewide tournament for that matter. No, it wasn't going to be easy.

Basketball practice continued as usual. Coach Adams worked from his notecards that ticked off the minutes and what the boys worked on.



Coach Adams is surrounded by his players after the regional win.

How Sweet It Is

Continued from Page 27

Monday: fundamentals.

Tuesday: offense, defense, rebounding.

Wednesday: scrimmage.

Thursday: game plan.

The zone defense keyed the Red Devils' success through their 14-game win streak. Adams used what he had learned from the two games against Elkhart, as well as the scouting report his coaches had developed, to prepare his boys.

Since Elkhart had one of the largest gymnasiums in the nation, the ticket situation eased some. From Elston's allotment of 2,300 tickets, students, faculty and parents of the players took 1,500. That left 800 to season ticketholders.

Wednesday night, fans filed into the Red Devil Gym at 6:30 p.m. People filled out cards. An hour later, the crank on the hopper turned, cards tumbled inside, cheerleaders drew names and Warren Jones called out the lucky lottery winners.

Friday before the Regional, the school held a pep rally. The gym filled with 2,300 students, and Jones wanted to hear from them.

"Is there anybody here from City?"

Yeah!

"Are we weak?"

No!

"Are we strong?"

Yeah!

"Let's hear that Red Devil roar!"

Yaayyyy!

Coach Doug Adams dressed as King Dom in a cape and Viking-styled crown, introduced his royal court of Red Devils and addressed the subjects — err, students — of Devil Kingdom. Mayor Randall C. Miller briefly spoke. Then, the school held a short parade through town.

Although Coach Adams never talked about the Regional hex, he actually was worried. Bill Redfield visited his house that evening, and Adams told him more than once the boys "had looked too good in practice. I just wonder if we have overlooked anything." Later, he decided his boys were ready.

Saturday morning, 16 school buses filled with students left for Elkhart to cheer on the Red Devils. More than 7,000 fans attended the basketball Regional in Elkhart that year. Elston fans dressed in red and white, and nobody could miss Mayor Miller.

His goatee and waxed moustache always stood out, but he completed his ensemble with a straw skimmer hat with a giant Red Devils button on the front, a sport coat with a giant MC embroidered on it and his pants cuffs tucked into red socks.

South Bend Central and Warsaw tipped off at 11:30 a.m. Redfield's prediction that Central would

have it easier than Michigan City were quickly dispelled. Warsaw led the game after three quarters, and Central won on a basket made with two seconds left in the game. But a win is a win, and South Bend Central advanced.

Michigan City and Elkhart tipped off at 12:45 p.m. and the Red Devils quickly demonstrated that they were, indeed, prepared. They led, 19-8, and then, 35-18, at the half. In the third quarter, the lead quickly grew and Adams rested his starting five as

the team cruised to an easy victory. Things looked good, but Michigan City fans had been here before. They still faced a difficult opponent. The South Bend Central Bears had amassed 21 wins, the same as Michigan City, and would not give up without a fight.

The championship game tipped off at 7:15 p.m. and aired on Channel 22 (WSBT). Fans might have been nervous about the Regional hex, or concerned about playing the second-ranked team in the state, but the players were not rattled. They wanted to win. They wanted to break the hex. And they felt good about their chances.

Terry Morse still remembers the 1965 Regional and the scoreboard that showed South Bend Washington up by 10 points. He recalls the seniors burying their tears in towels.

"Our junior year is when we went to Elkhart for the first time, and losing there in the afternoon was probably a little fire underneath us for our senior year," he said. "It is sad when you lose the Regional and to watch the seniors cry and be emotional about it. You're emotional, but I get to come back next year. It is kind of a relief a little bit.

"When you're there your senior year, things change a little bit," he continued. "Of course, we had a better team than we had previous to that, too, but I think that year before was kind of an inspiration.

No. 2 vs. No. 5. The Regional championship on the line. In one hour, one team would advance to the Semi-state and one would go home in defeat. Outside, a blizzard raged. Inside Elkhart's Memorial



Principal Warren Jones yells "charge" as he leads a pep rally cheer.

Congratulations to Elston on this 50th Anniversary of its championship milestone!



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How Sweet It Is

Continued from Page 28

Gym, basketball heated up. Everyone focused on the 10 boys dressed in shorts, jerseys and Chuck Taylor All Star sneakers. Hands pounded. The air was hot. The game was about to begin.

From the opening tipoff, South Bend Central pressed Michigan City Elston, but Elston turned it into several easy layups and jumped out to a 10-1 lead. Central came back and led by one point. Right before the half, the game was tied, but two free throws and a field goal lifted the Red Devils at the half, 30-26.

The third quarter went back-and-forth, back-and-forth. In the fourth quarter, South Bend tied the game, 55-55. Elston responded with six points in 60 seconds. Cadwell and Morse combined for 32 of the team's 49 — yes, 49 — second-half points.

As the game concluded, South Bend Central led nearly every statistical category. They took more shots than Michigan City (85-58). They committed fewer turnovers (10-22). They outrebounded Michigan City (44-41) — something only two other teams had done all season.

Ahh, but the defense — that was the difference maker. Michigan City hit 50 percent of its field goals and held South Bend Central to only 34 percent.

Final score: Michigan City, 79 — South Bend Central, 72.

Hex, jinx, curse — call it what you want. It was over. Dead. Done. The boys had broken it.

After the game, school superintendent A.K. Smith pointed out the snow storm made the roads bad and suggested the team take it slow going home.

"We won't be on the road — we'll be flying!" Coach Adams replied.

Some of the buses struggled to get up Bendix Hill on the way home as 16 fan buses and the team bus slipped and slid through the snow back to Michigan City.

On the team bus, Al Whitlow remembers everybody being happy and one of the kids playing, "How Sweet It Is" by Marvin Gaye on a radio. The bus' tires trudged through the accumulating snow, and as the team approached Michigan City, fans turned out to greet them. An elderly woman



Cheerleader Nancy Bobinski lets the tears flow after the regional win.

held a hand-lettered sign and flicked a flashlight on and off at the passing bus. A service station fired a miniature cannon — KABOOM! Everybody knew the team was near. Porch lights flicked on and off. People stumbled out into the snow to wave at the bus.

When it arrived at the gym, a sea of people had amassed inside Red Devil Gym. An impromptu celebration kicked off at 11:30 p.m. in front of 3,000 fans. The cheerleaders grabbed Coach Adams and carried him onto the stage. Adams

laughed nervously, hoping they wouldn't tear him limb-from-limb or worse yet, drop him on the floor.

Jones emceed the event, praised the cheerleaders and fans, and turned the microphone over to the team. When he handed it to Whitlow, only one thing came to his mind: Marvin Gaye. He exclaimed, "How sweet it is!" and brought the house down as fans went crazy yelling and screaming.

"That's all I could say that night. I was speechless," Whitlow said, laughing. "People who know me know that was very rare for me."

Adams asked the fans, "Would you believe?," and told the crowd he thought the team could go all the way to the State championship. As always, Jones led a few cheers, including one he'd just invented, "Hey, hey, all the way! Hey, hey, all the way!"

"It wasn't planned," Jones told me, "it just came out at the pep rally. The kids loved it. When we had our pep session (it was a three-year high school), the sophomores would go with 'Would you believe,' the juniors would say, 'How sweet it is,' and the seniors would say, 'Hey, hey all the way!' We did that at the pep rally. It was a lot of fun."

Monday's headline read, "Next Year Is Here for the Red Devils." Thirty-one years. Nineteen Sectional championships in that span of time, including 15 in a row. Finally. Finally, the frustration had come to an end. Michigan City Elston was Regional basketball champions.

Mayor Miller ordered a sign that read, "Devils All The Way!" and strung it across Franklin Street. He suggested townspeople wear red and white all week to celebrate and support the team, and that people should decorate their cars in Elston's school colors. Citizens gleefully obliged.

"You couldn't go to a store and buy anything red and white," Dave Milcarek said. "It was all gone."



Assistant Coach Al Whitlow

Continued on Page 32

Congratulations to Elston on this
50th Anniversary of its championship
milestone!

RED DEVIL IPA

Named for the mascot of the old Michigan City Elston High School, this IPA bleeds Red Devil red through and through. The beautiful malt backbone is derived from Maris Otter and Caramel grains. Melanoiden malts are added to enhance the sweetness and the lovely red coloring. A vibrant citrus nose will suck you in to do battle with this IPA. Just like 1966 MC Red Devils Men's Basketball team – the Red Devil is State Champ!



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How Sweet It Is Continued from Page 30

Signs were everywhere. Go Big Red. State All the Way. Signs in every window of a car. Honking horns. Going up and down Franklin.”

The high school canceled classes Monday, and townspeople buzzed with excitement. Merchants ran out of anything red or white they had in stock. Paint stores shook cans of paint all day long. Print shops struggled to keep up with demand for banners and signs and anything — paper, bed sheets, cardboard boxes — anything was painted red and white as people flittered about with excitement.

While all of this went on, a serious matter needed to be addressed. For years, Bill Redfield and his assistant, Roger Bixler, had driven U.S. 20 to the Calumet Regional tournament. Every year, they passed The Spa, a high end restaurant in Porter, tucked next to the Little Calumet River. Redfield would say that if only they'd won the Regional, they could have stopped there to celebrate. If we do ever win, he told Bixler, I'll buy dinner.

Year in and year out, the two men drove to the Calumet Regional. Year in and year out, Redfield made the claim. Year in and year out, they lost.

Well, it finally happened and Bixler reminded Redfield of his promise. Redfield tried to wiggle out of it, “Well, I meant the Calumet Regional. We won the Elkhart Regional,” he protested. But Bixler wouldn't let up and Redfield relented.

Monday night when basketball practice ended,

Redfield, Bixler, Doug Adams and their wives loaded into a large, square sedan and drove to The Spa on a cold, foggy night. They enjoyed appetizers, salads and steaks. Surely, Redfield must have grown a little nervous by the mounting bill, but he lucked out on the bar tab. The restaurant owner knew who they were and what they were celebrating. Every time the party ordered a drink, the owner delivered it with a flourish:

“This round is from the mayor of La Porte!”

“This round is from the mayor of Elkhart!”

“This round is from the mayor of South Bend!”

The party of six laughed, and cried and had a great time. After all, it wasn't every year you won a Regional.

Coffee, Anyone?

Michigan City received 1,844 tickets for the Fort Wayne Semi-state. Many people expected student ticket requests to drop from the Regional, but there was no such luck. Twelve-hundred students — more than half the student body — paid for tickets to attend the Semi-state tournament 120 miles away.

When somebody asked Warren Jones about tickets — and somebody was always asking about tickets — he had a ready response: “Just be there for the drawing.” After Jones took care of students, parents, faculty and the school

board, only 300 tickets remained for the adult drawing held Thursday night. The cards, the hopper, the cheerleaders drawing names — it was a familiar routine. Many fans went home disappointed that night.



City cheerleaders display the flag proclaiming Michigan City a 1966 state finalist.



City Pride!
*The 2016 Wolves salute the
1966 Red Devils*

The state basketball tournament continued like clockwork. The teams had one week to prepare for the next level. As far as basketball practice was concerned, nothing changed at Elston High School.

Monday: fundamentals.

Tuesday: offense, defense, rebounding.

Wednesday: scrimmage.

Thursday: game planning.

The classrooms were another story as teachers improvised their lesson plans to accommodate students who were just too excited.

"Next week in classes, you really didn't have to do anything," Rob McFarland said. "They wanted us to be rested. A lot of attention. They shut down the school for the pep sessions when we left for Semi-state."

Friday morning, the school held a pep rally at 9 a.m. Sophomores, juniors and seniors chanted the school's new cheer.

Would you believe!

How sweet it is!

Hey, hey, all the way!

Would you believe!

How sweet it is!

Hey, hey, all the way!

Afterward, the team boarded a bus and headed east. When they reached Warsaw, they saw a sign from U.S. 30 that read, "Go, Go Michigan City!" The bus pulled in and the team ate at Horn's Restau-

rant where former Elston Coach Ick Osborne joined them and wished them luck. Then, they were off to Fort Wayne.

The team felt good about its chances of winning.

"We were just a bunch of dumb high school kids just going out and playing," McFarland said. "I think we certainly didn't go there to lose and I think we had a lot of confidence. You know, after getting all of the scout reports and all the rest of the stuff. I don't even remember being afraid of playing a team or thinking we are the underdogs."

"We always came in like we were going to win," O'Neil Simmons added. We always thought they were after us."

"Exactly," McFarland said. "Adams never talked about if we were underdogs. We did our zone, we ran our offense, we did our thing and they adjusted to us."

The Associated Press' top basketball reporter, Ron Gilbert, wasn't convinced Michigan City had the upper hand. He picked them to beat Kokomo in the afternoon game, sure, but chose Anderson to beat them in the championship game Saturday night.

It was a strange weekend for the boys. When they returned from practice at the Memorial Coliseum, somebody threw a bowling ball through a small window to one of the boys' rooms.

"That was kind of weird," Terry Morse said. "The

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ELSTON

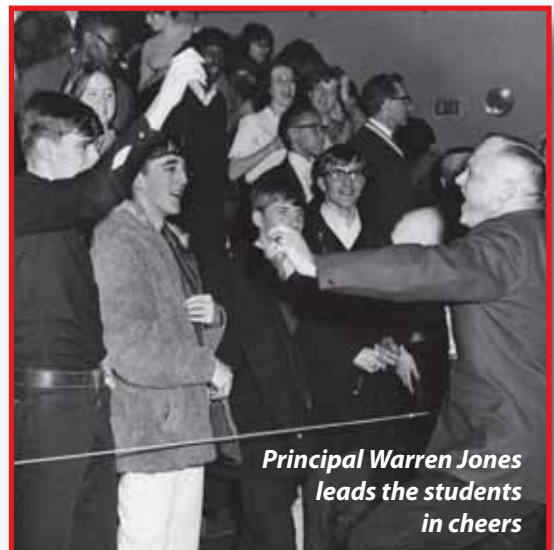


"Is there anybody here from CITY?"

- Warren Jones

As **The Old Lighthouse Museum** prepares to open its doors to a new season of sharing history, there is a very special exhibit taking shape. The subject of the revolving exhibit for this 43rd season is Elston Senior High School and the 1966 State Champion Red Devils. If you were an Elston student, this is the perfect time to visit The Old Lighthouse! While you reminisce about the good ole days, you will also have a chance to learn about the other great exhibits that exist within the walls of our old lighthouse.

Tuesday through Sunday, 1-4 PM admission fees apply
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*Principal Warren Jones
leads the students
in cheers*

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100 Heisman Harbor Road in Washington Park next to Millennium Park in Michigan City, IN
As you drive over the bridge into Washington Park, look for the 1858 on the side of the museum!

How Sweet It Is

Continued from Page 33

other thing that was weird was when we went to the practice. The Coliseum was an ice rink. We never played there. They had a hockey team, and there's ice and it's cold!"

"They had pallets of stuff, and they were only a couple inches thick, well, they're putting a floor up and stuff to walk on — on the ice. You were walking on ice," Jim Cadwell said.

Employees hadn't finished covering the ice rink with the basketball floor yet. The air was cold and uncomfortable as the boys shot around and went through their drills.

"It looked like it was a postage stamp, and all the way around, there was nothing but ice," Morse said.

A couple of errant basketballs left the court and bounced out into the rink. When the student managers chased the balls down, they slipped on the ice and fell on their butts.

"I thought, 'I am not looking forward to this tomorrow,'" Morse said.

Anderson High School played Fort Wayne South in the 11:30 a.m. game Saturday morning. Michigan City played the Kokomo High School Wildcats, who appeared in their eighth Semi-state in nine years. The Wildcats were led by 6'7" center Mark Gabriel, who averaged 19 points and 17 rebounds per game.

"The only thing I remember about going to the Semi-state is another bus trip, which we were used to, and then breakfast and for some reason — who

decided that it was the right time to start drinking coffee?" McFarland asked.

"Might've been me. Toast and coffee," Jim Cadwell laughed as he shook his head.

"I just remember at the pre-game we had coffee because we were running big guys in and out of there like crazy. What the hell is wrong? And Whitlow was like, 'They had coffee, COFFEE? Who drinks coffee?'"

"That is when our bench really came together," Morse said.

"I had four fouls in the first half," Simmons said.

Perhaps the biggest game in Elston basketball history up to that date, and the morning of the games the boys decided to introduce coffee to their teenage metabolism for the first time in their lives. Yep, just a bunch of dumb high school kids, alright.

As the boys got dressed in the locker room and prepared to take the floor for their game against Kokomo, they still expected to skate across ice in a cold coliseum to reach the playing floor. When a voice announced the team over the loud speaker, the boys ran out and things looked different. The ice was gone. It had been covered with a floor and seats. And the air was warm, not cold. The boys liked it much better and relaxed.

But the coffee didn't pay any good dividends to the Red Devils. In the first half of the game, they got outrebounded and shot a paltry 31 percent from the floor. Guards Simmons and Gipson kept the team in the game as the big men started out shooting a collective 0-16.

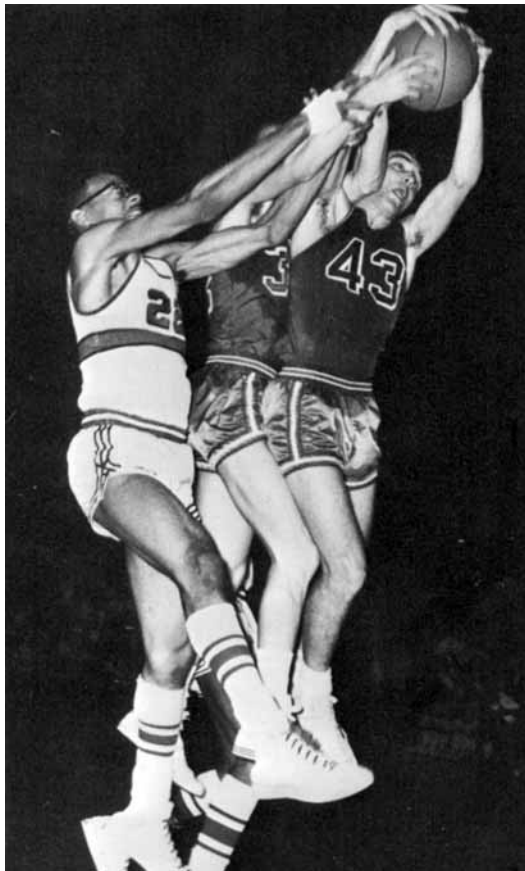


Elston teens give their famous battle cry "charge" as Kokomo supporters calmly look on during the semi.

"I was not having a good game," Cadwell said. "I couldn't hit anything! I don't know what the hell! Probably that damn coffee!"

Kokomo led by five points at halftime. After believing this was the year they could win it all, and saying so publicly at the post-Regional victory rally, Coach Adams' team was not playing up to its potential. In the locker room, the boys dodged bits and pieces of chalk that ricocheted off the chalkboard.

"We were struggling a little bit with Kokomo for a while there and here again, that bench came through for us," Al Whitlow said. "I remember Stan Farmer coming off the bench, grabbing some rebounds, getting fouled, throwing down about four free throws in a row. We just had fluidity on that team and everything was working right. Some guy's having a tough night and put somebody else in — that's why you call it team."



Stan Farmer proves himself a formidable opponent against Kokomo.

Team, indeed. Farmer and Dennis Krueger came off the bench and made the difference in the game. In the second half, Farmer held Kokomo's 6'7" center to three points, while Krueger scored 10 points and grabbed 13 rebounds. Late in the third quarter, Michigan City finally took a one-point lead and eventually won, 90-81.

The night game didn't get any easier.

"Quite honestly, I think Anderson was the best team we played that year," Whitlow said. "At least they were that night. Boy, they were good. Those teams were all good."

Anderson High School had a rich basketball history with three State championships and a pair of runner-up finishes. They finished the regular season ranked fourth in the state in 1966.

More than 9,000 people attended the Semi-state game that

Continued on Page 36

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Delivery available.
Check online or call for details.

How Sweet It Is

Continued from Page 35

night in Fort Wayne. While the teams ran through their pre-game warmups for the championship game, Anderson's mascot dressed in a traditional Indian costume, including a marvelous head-dress that extended to the floor, stood with his arms crossed in the center circle of Memorial Coliseum. Elston cheerleader Nancy Bobinski turned to Barbara Smith, the team's Red Devil mascot, and asked her, "Are you going to let them get away with that?"

Dressed in a red and white houndstooth outfit and sporting little devil horns and a tail, "the world's most heavenly devil" made her way out to the center circle. She eyed the majestic Anderson mascot and made a circle around him. Then, she stepped into the circle, bumped him in the behind with her hip, forcing him to take a step forward and share the spotlight. Red Devil fans roared. No doubt, Kokomo and Fort Wayne South got a kick out of it, too.

When the game began, the score was tight from start to finish and everybody pitched in. Sam Garrett came off the bench and helped guide the team to a lead after Simmons committed three fouls in forty-five seconds. Morse hit six of six field goals in

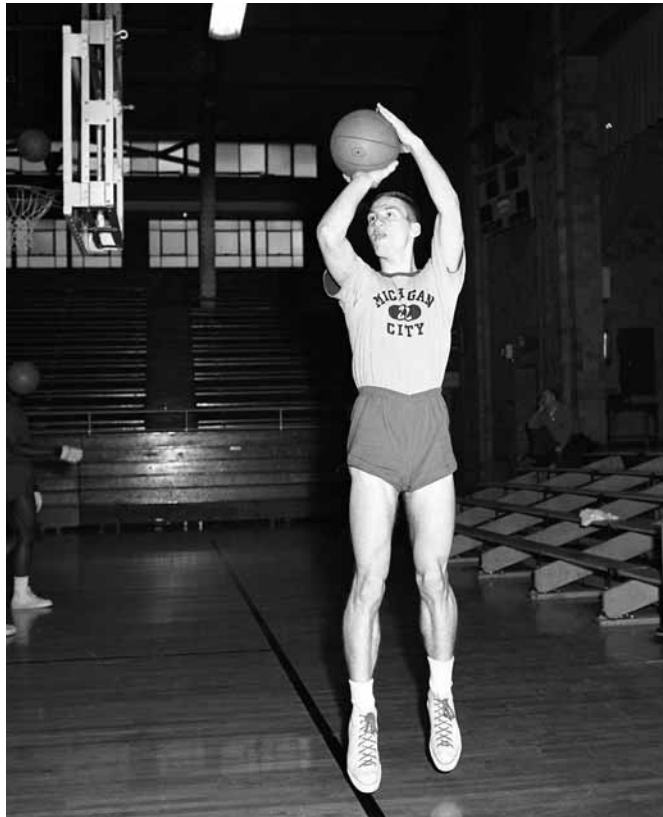
the last quarter and grabbed 11 rebounds. Gipson went a perfect 10 for 10 from the free throw line.

The team led at the end of every quarter: 28-24, 49-44, 69-66, 90-80.

Elston won its 18 straight game and was headed to the State Final Four for the first time in school history.

It was a momentous event and fans everywhere listened in. Elston graduates as far away as Buffalo, N.Y., and Atlanta, Ga., picked up the live broadcast on WOWO radio out of Fort Wayne. After the game, they called friends and relatives back home.

In Michigan City, the entire city tuned into the local radio station, or turned on Channel 22, which aired both games. As soon as they had won, everybody knew it and the celebrations commenced. By the time the team returned home, Michigan City hadn't stopped



Fred LaBorn.

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celebrating, and they were eager to see the boys return. Another late-night celebration awaited. A late, late night celebration.

It was 1:30 a.m. and people burned flares, waved sparklers and honked horns as the team bus rolled into town. Five thousand people filled Red Devil Gym. Waiting. Most of them had arrived before midnight. It was standing room only. All of the seats were taken, the concourse filled with fans and more people crowded onto the gym floor. A small group of band members marked the team's arrival and played their instruments as the players squeezed through the packed auditorium to get to the stage. Someone held a giant sign that read, "ET TU BARATTO!" It alluded to East Chicago Washington head coach Johnnie Baratto, Michigan City's next opponent and bitter rival.

The boys couldn't believe the scene. It was the middle of the night, they thought. Didn't these people have someplace to be?



Dennis Krueger and Terry Morse.

"They were on the floor, this solid mass of humanity. It was crazy. It was nuts!," Morse said.

Due to the late hour, only three members of the team addressed the audience: student manager Bob Hampton, Al Whitlow and Doug Adams. Adams said he was happy he did "a better job of guessing" to lead the team to victory. Superintendent A.K. Smith sent word that Monday's classes at the high school were canceled yet again in honor of the team's victory.

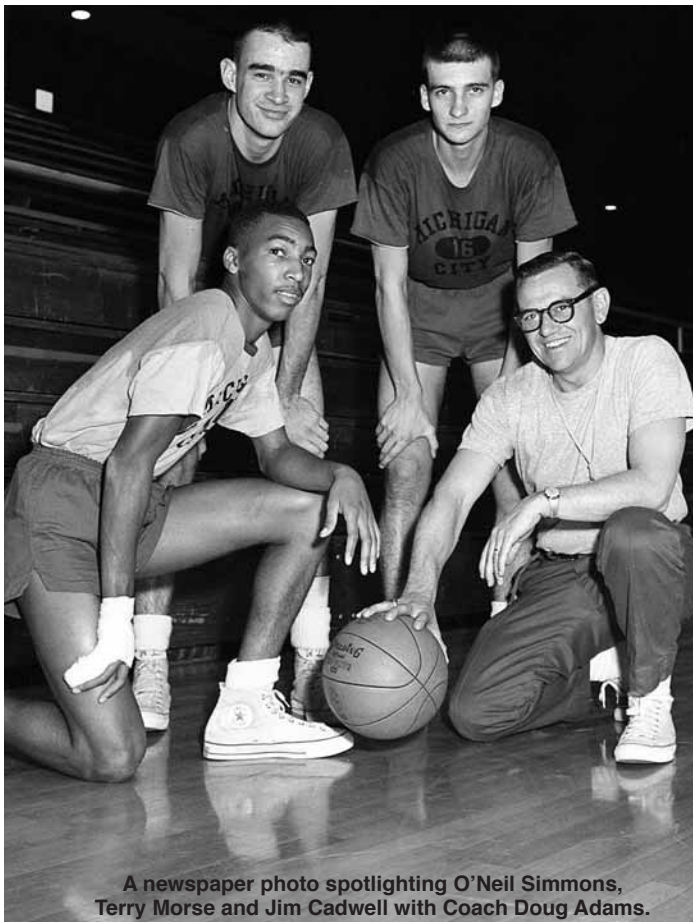
"I will tell you, the whole next week, there was no school, there was a couple of days off, it was ridiculous," McFarland added.

"That is why we were so

popular," Morse laughed.

"I'd get that question, 'You think if we win state, we'll get Monday off?' Yeah. I know I will!," McFarland laughed.

(The final entry in our four-part series will appear in next week's Beacher.)



A newspaper photo spotlighting O'Neil Simmons, Terry Morse and Jim Cadwell with Coach Doug Adams.

From all of us at The Beacher, we salute Elston's 1966 team on this milestone year, along with guest writer Matt Werner for sharing his wonderful series with us.

**Don't miss our March 24 edition
The Final Chapter in the Series!**



Matt Werner

ASL Club Coffeehouse/Game Night

The Purdue University-North Central American Sign Language Club will host an ASL Coffeehouse from 5 to 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 18, at Uptown Café, 1400 E. Lincolnway, Valparaiso.

The coffeehouse is open to ASL students and community members. Children can attend with a parent or adult. Participants are asked to use ASL for conversation. Coffee, food and drink may be ordered. A speaker, if one is scheduled, starts at about 6 p.m. If not, guests may take decks of cards and games to play.

Also, a free ASL Game Night is from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 24, in the Library-Student-Faculty Building, Room 144.

The evening will have an Easter theme. Pizza and drinks will be served. ASL games for children and adults are planned. Hearing and deaf children are invited. The evening is casual and features ASL humor, storytelling and games. Children are welcome to attend with a parent or an adult. Guests with all ASL abilities are welcome.

Contact Karen Donah, PNC continuing lecturer and American Sign Language coordinator, at (219) 785-5432 or kdonah@pnc.edu for more information.

**Call The Beacher With Your News
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Students Qualify for Geographic Bee

The National Geographic Society has notified two local middle-schoolers that they are semifinalists eligible to compete in the 2016 Indiana National Geographic State Bee.



Evan Ewy

Evan Ewy, a Barker Middle School eighth-grader, and Michael Lakin, a Krueger Middle School seventh-grader, will compete in the contest Friday, April 1, at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis.

This is the second level of the event now in its 28th year. School bees were held in middle schools across the state to determine each school champion, who then took an online qualifying test.

The National Geographic Society has invited up to 100 of the top-scoring students in each of the 50 states, District of Columbia, Department of Defense Dependents Schools and U.S. territories to compete in the state bees.

Each state champion will receive \$100, the National Geographic book "The National Parks: An Illustrated History" and a medal, and will head to Washington, D.C., to represent their state in the National Geographic Bee Championship at National Geographic Society headquarters on May 22-25. The national champion will receive a \$50,000 college scholarship and lifetime membership in the National Geographic Society. The national champion also will travel (along with one parent or guardian and all expenses paid) on a Lindblad expedition to Southeast Alaska aboard National Geographic Sea Lion, including Glacier Bay National Park, in recognition of the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service.

The 2016 National Geographic Bee Championship final round, moderated for the first time by journalist and humorist Mo Rocca, will air on the National Geographic Channel and Nat Geo WILD at 8 p.m. EDT Friday, May 27, and later on public television stations. Check local listings for the air date and time.



Michael Lakin

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Stroller, Baby and You

Aimed at toddlers and preschoolers, the free programs include music, dance, storytelling and a hike (weather permitting). It is held from 10 to 11 a.m. Monday, April 4 and 18, at Luhr County Park, 3178 S. County Road 150 West. Call at least one week in advance to register.

Parent & Child Discovery Days

The program includes arts and crafts, games and snacks. All activities are related to the 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:

- April 6 — Flower Power.
- April 13 — 1 Bird, 2 Birds, 3 Birds.

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:

- April 6 — "Birds and How to Attract Them to Your Home," Potawatomi Audubon Society.
- May 4 — Gardening with Sacha Burns of Sunkissed Organics.

Tea Party

Take a favorite cup and enjoy tea or lemonade inside the Nature Center from 10 to 11:15 a.m. Saturday, April 9, at Luhr County Park.

A storyteller, continental breakfast and arts and crafts are planned for children 4 and older accompanied by an adult. The cost is \$15 per couple and \$5 for each additional child. The program allows a maximum of 24 people. Pre-registration and payment are required at least one week in advance or until full.

Teachers-Groups-Scout Leaders

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

"Vision/Revision"

Area Artists Association will present "Vision/Revision" on March 18 through May 29, with a meet-the-artist reception from 1 to 3 p.m. Sunday, March 20, at The Center for the Visual and Performing Arts Atrium Gallery, 1040 Ridge Road, Munster.

The exhibit, sponsored by South Shore Arts, will include the following artists: Carol Block, Tom Brand, Stephanie Carnell, Laurie Schirmer Carpenter, Kevin Gross, Julia Holmaas, Laurel Izard, Larry Jensen, Julie Kasniunas, Connie Kassal, George Kassal, Rich Manalis, George Millet, Ginny Scott and Carole Stodder.

Duneland Historical Society

Duneland Historical Society meets at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 17, at Westchester Public Library Service Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

Todd Zieger, director of Indiana Landmarks in South Bend's Northern Regional Office, will discuss the 1933 Century of Progress homes in Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore near Beverly Shores.

All monthly programs are free. Memberships are available at the presentation. Call (219) 983-9715 for additional information.



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Genealogical Society

The La Porte County Genealogical Society met March 8 at the La Porte City Park Department Headquarters, 250 Pine Lake Ave.

Gloria Arndt and President Dorothy Palmer reported on the first film of the society's Indiana Bicentennial project. "Black Robe" was shown March 6 in cooperation with Michigan City Public Library. Society members Patricia Harris, Arndt and Palmer gave introductions, and displays helped explain how the fictionalized account connected to La Porte County's early history.

Also in celebration of Indiana's bicentennial, the program committee has a theme, "Ethnic Groups Which Have Shaped Our State."

With St. Patrick's Day being in March, the society heard a program on "The Challenges of Irish Genealogy," presented by Don Glossinger, longtime genealogist and director of Michigan City Public Library. Glossinger's paternal ancestors were from Ireland, and he found it difficult to trace them because so many census and church records were destroyed in the "troubles of 1922," when resistance to the British rule led to a civil war. There are, however, ways around this barrier, and Glossinger illustrated them with examples from his own research.

Visit tinyurl.com/ndooe7s for more information.



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Chesterton Art Center

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

• **The "Black, White & Shades of Great Photography Exhibit" continues in March.**

While all entries had to be in black and white, the method (digital or dark room) or subject matter were not restricted. The show includes more than 40 entries from local photographers.

George Kassal, Long Beach, was the juror. The winners were: Sharon Victor with "Skylight & Staircase" (Best in Show); James Conrad with "Tulips" (First Place); Amy Metrich with "View Through Monument Valley" (Second Place); and Michael Kobe with "Aspen Leaves" (Third Place).

• **Judy Gregurich and Mark Montgomery will teach a six-week Stained Glass Class starting from 7 to 9 p.m. Tuesday, March 15.**

The class will continue the study of alternate glass techniques. Students will build an original piece using the lead came technique. Lead came was used exclusively to build windows for hundreds of years before Tiffany invented the foiling technique normally used in class.

All supplies are included. The cost is \$110 for members and \$125 for non-members.

• **Marsha Browne will offer a children's art class, "Mystical Medieval," from 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday, March 19.**

Children ages 5-12 can explore the art of Great Britain and Ireland. The cost is \$25, with members receiving a \$5 discount. All supplies are included.

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



Long Beach Women's Bowling

March 8, 2016

TEAM STANDING

	WON	LOST
1. Queen Pins	27	9
2. Gutter Golfers	24.5	11.5
3. Lady Strikers	22	14

HIGH INDIVIDUAL GAMES

	SCORE
1. Mary Lou McFadden	163
2. Cindy Beck	161
2. Barb Macudzinski	161
3. Sue Labovitz	158
4. Barb McCorkel	152
5. Liz Lutterbach (series)	404
6. Dottie Brinkman (series)	404

SPLITS

Liz Lutterbach	4-7-9
Nancy Klausner	2-7

New South Shore Arts Exhibit

South Shore Arts has united two Chicago-area artists for an exhibit that explores the structures and habitats of their world.



Jacqueline Moses' phototransfer and oil on canvas, "China Restructuring Shanghai."

"Dwellings, Cathedrals, Shanties and the Like: The Art of Tim Bruce and Jacqueline Moses" aims to challenge notions of house, home and the occupants imagined within.

The exhibit runs through April 10 at The Center for Visual and Performing Arts, 1040 Ridge Road, Munster.



Tim Bruce's mixed-media piece, "No Smoking."

Regular viewing hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday. Visit www.southshoreartsonline.org for more information.

Lakeside Association Egg Hunt

The Lakeside Association Egg Hunt is earlier this year, scheduled for 1 p.m. EDT Saturday, March 19, at Lakeside Gazebo on Red Arrow Highway.

Take a camera for a picture with the Easter Bunny and a basket for eggs.

Contact Janet Schrader at sandpirate@sbcglobal.net or (269) 405-5772 for more information.

Science Conference at Ivy Tech

The public is invited to the 2016 Indiana Dunes Science Conference from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday, April 6, at Ivy Tech Community College's Valparaiso Campus.

During the free event, more than 20 scientists will highlight previous and ongoing research conducted within Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, and explore how it can help inform park management decisions.

The conference is part of a year-long celebration of the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service and the 50th anniversary of Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. These celebrations are reflected in the conference theme, "Celebrating 100 Years of Research in the Indiana Dunes." The conference agenda is available at tinyurl.com/heddyul

On Thursday, April 7, conference participants may choose to attend a field trip to learn from experts about the ecology of particular habitats and restoration projects in the National Lakeshore. Destinations will include Cowles Bog, the Great Marsh and the oak savanna in Miller Woods. Field trips begin at 8 a.m. and end by 1 p.m.

Conference registration for April 6 is open until the day of the event. Pre-registration for the field trip is required by March 25, and registration is limited. Email wendy_w_smith@nps.gov or call (219) 395-1987 to register or for more information.



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Careers Up Close



Springfield Elementary School fifth- and sixth-graders are hosting career speakers this spring, learning about different professions, required education, job responsibilities and expectations. The first speaker was Michael Martinez, product manager for World's Finest Chocolates in Chicago.

Indoor Flea Market

The New Troy Indoor Flea Market continues on Saturdays, March 19 and 26.

The market features antiques, tools, crafts, books, memorabilia, housewares and furniture. It runs from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. EDT the last two Saturdays of each month through March at the New Troy (Mich.) Community Center, 13372 California Road.

Admission is free, and lunch is available for sale. Vendor spaces cost \$13 and include a table and chair. A reduced rate is available for vendors who commit to the entire season. Call or text Janna at (773) 275-1514 for reservations or more information. Proceeds from space rentals benefit the Community Center, an all-volunteer facility run by the non-profit organization Friends of New Troy.

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Academic Super Bowl Winners

Purdue University-Northwest recently hosted the eighth annual La Porte County and Beyond Senior Academic Super Bowl Open Invitational, drawing teams from throughout Northwest Indiana.

The competition, held at PNC, concluded with the Home Scholars team of home-schooled students from Lake, Porter and La Porte counties taking first place overall. Second place overall went to the team from North White High School and third place to La Porte High School.

Participating schools were: La Porte High School; Marquette High School; La Crosse High School; Oregon-Davis High School; South Central High School; Elkhart Christian Academy; Clay High School; North White High School; and Home Scholars.

The competition theme was "Hoosier Heritage" and covered English, science, fine arts, social studies, math and interdisciplinary. The winners in each round were:

- Math: first – Home Scholars; second – North White; third – La Porte.
- English: first – Home Scholars; second – Elkhart Christian Academy; third – North White.
- Science: first – La Porte; second – South Central; third – Home Scholars.
- Fine Arts: first – Home Scholars; second – La Crosse; third – Marquette.
- Social Studies: first – Home Scholars; second – South Central; third – North White.
- Interdisciplinary: first – North White; second – Elkhart Christian; third place – South Central.



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

- Evergreen Baptist Church, 2005 E. Coolspring Ave., Michigan City, 2:30-7 p.m. Thursday, March 17.
- St. John Kanty, 7012 N. County Road 600 East, Rolling Prairie, 1:30-5:30 p.m. Monday, March 21.

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 for more information.

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February Curator's Report

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

Visitors came from six states and seven Indiana counties. The Indiana Bicentennial Display, "Prominent People of La Porte County," will remain on display throughout the year.

County Historian Fern Eddy Schultz presented the program "The Rest of the Story," which highlighted biographies of different individuals from La Porte County not included in the bicentennial display. She will give more talks throughout the year.

The Historical Society's collection of vintage valentines was removed. Several period rooms have been relocated to afford space on the lower level for a permanent display combining sports with schools.

Donations included:

- 1943 Valentine card, Joyce Koselke.
- Vintage photographs of La Porte County from the early 1950s, David Spence.
- Christmas ornament, plate and greeting card commemorating Sacred Heart Church's diamond jubilee, 1988, Judy Herenza.
- Various programs, including the PEP Candlelight Tour, La Porte Little Theatre and La Porte County Symphony, Sandy Fairman.
- Little girl's dress and shoes from the 1950s, La Porte County photographs, Sue Culberson.
- La Porte High School class of 1946 commencement program, Thomas and Cindy Hynek.
- Smith Chevrolet advertising ruler, Cliff Arnold pamphlet, Marian Fleming.
- Documentary DVD on architect George Wood Allen, Peter Steele.
- Archival information, Barb Szabo.
- Items for the sale table, Door Village Church, Marian Fleming and Phyllis Nichols.

The spring 2016 exhibit, "Bits of Time: A Look at La Porte County Scrapbooks," is on display through the end of May. A white glove station has been set up for anyone wishing to look through the scrapbooks. A reception is April 16 for the public to meet some of the "prominent people" in the display. A History Day Camp is being planned for mid-July for children in grades 3-5. Registration will open soon.

Call (219) 324-6767 or visit www.laportecounty-history.org for more information.



Among the February donations: a commemorative plate from La Porte's Sacred Heart Church issued during the 1988 diamond jubilee celebration.

Social Sciences Colloquium

Purdue University-North Central will present a free Social Sciences Colloquium with Kim Scipes, associate professor of Sociology, speaking on "Building Workers' Power in the Philippines: The Kilusang Mayo Uno" from 2 to 3 p.m. Tuesday, March 22.

The program is in the Library-Student-Faculty Building Assembly Hall, Room 02.

Since 1986, Scipes has been studying how workers in the Philippines have created one of the most developed and dynamic labor movements in the world.

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Activities to Explore

In the Local Area:

March 17 — ST. PATRICK'S DAY.

March 17 — Art à la Carte, 3:30 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

March 17 — Books That Make You Think Discussion Group, Voltaire's "Candide," 6-7:30 p.m., Westchester Public Library, 200 W. Indiana Ave.

March 18 — Bookmarks: "Dead Wake," 2 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

March 18 — Purdue University-North Central American Sign Language Club Coffeehouse, 5-7:30 p.m., Uptown Café, 1400 E. Lincolnway, Valparaiso. Info: www.nwidhnc.com/

March 18 — Save the Tunes Council, 7:30-9 p.m., Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. Info: (219) 395-1882.

March 18 — "Heart Like a Wheel: No Fuss & Feathers Celebrates Linda Ronstadt," 8 p.m. EDT, The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Cost: \$20. Info: www.acorntheater.com, (269) 756-3879.

March 18-20 — "Godspell," Marquette Catholic High School Rudy Hart Theatre, 306 W. 10th St. Times: 7 p.m. March 18-19, 2 p.m. March 20. Tickets: \$10/adults, \$8/students & seniors, \$5/children 12 & younger.

March 18-21 — Vickers Theatre, 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. *Now showing:* "45 Years." Rated R. Times: 6:15 p.m. Fri.-Mon. *Also:* "Son of Saul." Rated R. In Hungarian, Yiddish, German, Russian, Polish, French, Greek and Slovak with English subtitles. Times: 9 p.m. Fri-Sat., 3 p.m. Sat.-Sun. All times Eastern. Info: vickerstheatre.com

March 19 — La Porte County Master Gardeners Spring Garden Show, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Michigan City High School, 8466 Pals Road. Cost: \$10/free for children 12 & younger. Info: (219) 324-9407.

March 19 — Fourth Annual Easter Egg Hunt, noon-1 p.m., Washington Park.

March 19 — "Treasures of Barker Mansion," 1 p.m., Barker Mansion, 631 Washington St. Cost: \$5/adult, \$2/child. Info: www.BarkerMansion.com

March 19 — "Kick It with the Curator," 11 a.m., Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St. Info: (219) 874-4900, www.lubeznikcenter.org

March 19 — Anniversary Celebration of Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore and Indiana Dunes State Park, 2-3 p.m., Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.

March 19 — "Feeling on Top of the World! Or the Dunes!," 10 a.m., Nature Center @ Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

March 20 — SPRING BEGINS.

March 20 — Films on DVD Series: "Suffragette," 2 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth

St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

March 20 — La Porte County Symphony Orchestra Children's Chorus free annual spring concert, "Bloomin' Melodies," 3 p.m., Bethany Lutheran Church, 102 G. St., La Porte. Info: www.lscn.net

March 20 — Spring Walk, 2 p.m., Nature Center @ Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

March 23, 26 — Battles of the American Civil War, 6-8 p.m. March 23, 10 a.m.-noon March 26 at Westchester Public Library, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

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.

Farther Afield:

March 19 — Miller Garden Club, 10 a.m., Marquette Park Aquatorium, 6918 Oak Ave., Gary.

March 19 — Lakeside Association Egg Hunt, 1 p.m. EDT, Lakeside Gazebo on Red Arrow Highway. Info: sandpirate@sbcglobal.net, (269) 405-5772.

March 19 — "Family Day: Egg Stravaganza," 1-4 p.m. EDT, South Bend Museum of Art, located in The Century Center, 120 S. St. Joseph St. Info: (574) 235-9102, www.southbendart.org

March 19 — Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra, 7:30 p.m. EDT, St. Joseph High (Mich.) School Performing Arts Center, 2521 Stadium Drive. Tickets/info: (269) 982-4030, www.smso.org

March 19, 26 — Indoor Flea Market, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. EDT, New Troy (Mich.) Community Center, 13372 California Road. Info: (773) 275-1514.

March 20 — Artist reception, Area Artists Association exhibit, "Vision/Revision," 1-3 p.m. The Center for the Visual and Performing Arts Atrium Gallery, 1040 Ridge Road, Munster.

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Prayer to the Blessed Virgin

(Never known to fail.)

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

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



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St. Patrick's Day Facts

As long as you celebrate safely, St. Patrick's Day can be fun for all. Here are a few facts about the Irish holiday:

- St. Patrick's Day celebrates the traditional religious feast day of St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland.
- The first St. Patrick's Day parade took place not in Ireland, but in the United States on March 17, 1737, in Boston.
- More than 100 St. Patrick's Day parades are held across the U.S. New York City and Boston host the largest.
- There are roughly 35 million U.S. residents with Irish ancestry, more than seven times the population of Ireland itself.
- You may hear some phrases in Gaelic/Irish on St. Patrick's Day. The most common: Erin go braugh = Ireland forever; slainte = good health/cheers



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GARAGE SALES, ESTATE SALES, ETC.

The Good Things Sale is this weekend only! Resale at its best.

Sat., March 19, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., shop first for the best selection.

Sun., March 20, Noon-4 p.m., take it away day with marked discounts, most items at 50% off, and considering offers.

Location: Long Beach Community Center, Studio 11,
2501 Oriole Trail, Long Beach. Susan's phone **219-861-6188**.

More than 40 participants have cleaned their homes, garages and storage units and submitted 1,500-plus items for resale.

Come shop for everything! Nice selection of framed original artwork, photos, prints, posters, wool area rugs, quality pillows, linens, table cloths, comforters, sheet sets all sizes, like-new raw silk upholstered loveseat, candles & holders, many sets of glasses from crystal to every day, collectible and stoneware dish sets, 30 cup coffee pot, bent rattan dining table with 8 upholstered chairs, 19 x11 black and cream patterned rug, tools, drills, work bench, Asian imported large chest with painted tiger, 8 bent back wood dining chairs, large black clean line TV cabinet with drawers, contemporary tall multi drawer cabinets, velvet upholstered swivel chairs, long and tall mid-century wood dressers, knoll metal frame long sofa, 3- 5' paper umbrellas, lots of decorative fish, several sets of burgundy drapes, Kirby vacuum, flatscreen TV, VCR and DVD player, educational DVD box set collections, books on tape, spring floral bouquets, 50 potatoes chip retro stackable chairs, teak mid-century chairs, baskets, big selection office storage units, lamps, pots and pans, mirrors, microwave, air cleaner, beautiful solid wood Davis furniture headboard, 2 night stands, desk and wardrobe, stained glass, Bose wave radio, 6 ceiling mount Bose speakers, 12x12 new roll of carpeting, large hinged frame posters displays, aquarium with lighted hood, McGuire coffee and end table, the absolute best variety of new merchandise from our favorite boutiques, soooooo much more!!!!!! Doors open on time, speedy cash check out and all items are priced at just \$5, \$10, \$15 and up.

ESTATE SALE: 50-75% OFF

Thursday, March 17, 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Wine & Hors d'oeuvres

Friday-Sunday, March 18-20 • 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

MANY NEW PIECES, INCLUDING PATIO & SUMMER PORCH FURNITURE, AND OUTSIDE GARDEN ART PIECES. Conference tables, dining room tables, area rugs, chandeliers, silver serving pieces; furniture & accessories from antiques to modern to traditional. Also, Amish-crafted solid woodwork stations & computer armoires of various sizes for home or office. DELL COMPUTERS, exercise equipment & much more.

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Saturday and Sunday, March 19-20, 9am-4pm

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1999 Buick Park Avenue, primitives, vintage Roper stove, antique furniture, old glassware, kitchenware, bedroom sets, farm collectibles, two cast-iron stoves, old games, comic books, jewelry, appliances. For partial pictured listing go to FindUpcomingEstateSalesUsingEstateSales.NET (search Indiana, then Roda Farm Estate). Hosted by Chad & Nancy Addie, Mended Hearts Collectibles.

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WATERFRONT APTS for rent in MC. Furnished-utilities, WiFi/TV incl. 1BR \$775/mo., 2BR \$975/mo. Sec. dep. Call Pete at (219) 871-9187.

Summer rental. Stop 37. 4BR/3BA, AC, WiFi/cable. 300 ft to beach access. Contact umarkey11@hotmail.com

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Apply for this property at www.terrafirmainvestments.org.

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

Waterfront home for sale by owner on Lake Clare.

3 BR, 2 full BA, hardwood floors, 2.5 car garage, gas fireplace, radiant floor heat, central A/C, 400 sq. ft. Patio with screened 10x10 gazebo.

\$349,900. 219-898-5433. 141 Shorewood Dr.

Open house: noon-2pm March 19-20

Dream Workshop

Billie Dempsey, a Pokagon Potawatomie enrolled citizen, will lead a two-day workshop that helps people gain a better understanding of dreams from emotional, physical, mental and spiritual aspects.

The workshop runs from 9 a.m. Saturday, March 19, to 3 p.m. Sunday, March 20, at Dunes Learning Center, 700 Howe Road, Porter.

With a background in biology and native medicine, Dempsey will offer a cultural and western standpoint on dreaming. Participants learn tools to understand and enhance dreaming, including natural foods, teas, plants, seasonal and wind influence, meditation and dream documentation. Sociologist and lecturer Ezekiel Flannery will speak as well.

A campfire and night hike are planned. Meals are served family-style in Cowles Lodge. Lodging is in shared, modern cabins at the Learning Center.

Single tickets are \$95. Reservations for a cabin of four cost \$300 (additional cabinmates up to eight cost \$75 each).

Register at duneslearningcenter.org/adults

Miller Garden Club

The Miller Garden Club will hold its first general meeting of the year at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 19, at Marquette Park Aquatorium, 6918 Oak Ave., Gary.

The featured speaker is Master Gardener Darryl Dorton, who will address how to identify weeds and destroy them. He has been a Master Gardener through Lake County Purdue Extension since 2004.

Monday Musicale

Members and guests of Monday Musicale met Feb. 29 at Barker Mansion.

President Dee Edgcomb welcomed Mary Kintzele, the mansion's recently retired executive housekeeper, presenting her with tokens of appreciation for the help, support and kindness shown to club members during her 24 years on the job.

Scholarship committee chairwoman Carol Garrett announced applications for the Student Awards Competition on April 10 are available. Vocal and instrumental music students in grades four through 12 who live in La Porte County are invited to audition for various awards and scholarships. Contact Sue Cassler at (219) 362-1421 for more information.

The evening's program, "Take Me for a Ride," was dedicated to Kintzele. Laura Meyer and program chairwoman Kathy Chase opened with 1940s pop tunes "Sentimental Journey" and "Far Away Places," performing as a vocal duo. Baritone Karol Valek sang "Slow Boat to China" and "The Trolley Song," also from that era, and "Paddlin' Madeline Home," reminiscent of a canoe ride in the 1920s.

Chase and accompanist Lee Meyer led the audience in singing "Bicycle Built for Two."

Soprano Alicia Ebaugh sang "The Surrey with the Fringe on Top" from Rodgers and Hammerstein's "Oklahoma!" She was accompanied by an instrumental ensemble consisting of Elaine Shumway and guest performer Sydney Sawyier on violin, Connie Hendricks on viola, Judith Sawyier on cello and Lee Meyer at the piano. Chase joined the ensemble in a performance of the jazz standard "Caravan" by Juan Tizol, Duke Ellington and Irving Mills. The ensemble received a standing ovation following their presentation of two movements from Antonín Dvorák's "Piano Quintet No. 2 in A Major."

Ebaugh shared the art song "Love Went a-Riding" — a Mary Coleridge poem set to music by Frank Bridge — accompanied by Meyer. Guests then adjourned to the mansion's dining room for light refreshments served by Lisa Schwingendorf's hosting committee.

An open meeting is at 7 p.m. Monday, March 28, at Barker Mansion. The public is invited to attend the program "Going West." While there is no charge, donations to the scholarship fund are appreciated.

SBMA Family Day

South Bend Museum of Art will host "Family Day: Egg Stravaganza" from 1 to 4 p.m. EDT Saturday, March 19, in the museum's upper-level studios.

The program is free. Families can make silly spring facinator hats, bow ties and other items.

SBMA is located in The Century Center, 120 S. St. Joseph St. Call (574) 235-9102 or visit www.southbendart.org for more information.



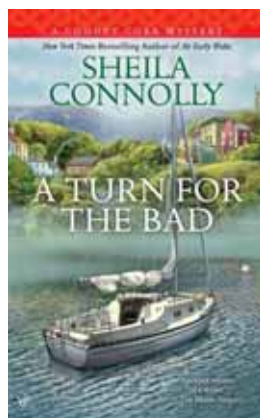
Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter

Last week was busy for me — not a lot of time for reading. But that doesn't mean I read nothing — *au contraire, mon ami!* I just turned to my library's "fast read" section and picked out "cozy" mysteries, so called because they are shorter, more lightweight in content. Not to say they're uninteresting. Each writer gives a story that is enjoyable, but downplays bad language, with no gratuitous sex or stomach-churning violence.

Luckily, I had some extra time over the weekend and managed to read two books, each taking place in a different part of the British Isles.

A Turn For the Bad by Sheila Connolly (paperback, \$7.99, available online and in bookstores; also available as an eBook)



I choose this author because of all the cozy writers I've encountered, she's one of the best. She's a *New York Times* bestselling author who was nominated for the prestigious Agatha Award. She combines fleshed-out characters with interesting locales, wrapping them up in a mystery worthy of your attention.

Connolly has stories in several series. This week's recommendation comes from her County Cork Mysteries. This is Book Four in the series featuring Maura Donovan, a young woman from Boston now living in County Cork, Ireland, after inheriting a house and pub from a distant relative.

The small village of Leap has now been Maura's home for almost a year. She's been too busy to make many friends, but everyone knows everyone's business, and patrons of Sullivan's Pub are eager to share with the new owner.

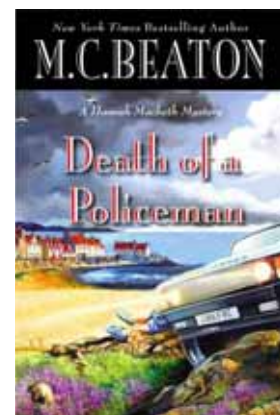
More than anything, the story shows Maura trying to connect with a way of life very different from America. So when word comes in that a local farmer, John Tully, is missing, Maura joins in with the rest of the village in hoping to find him alive and well. He went walking along the ocean with his young son, who later was found alone on the beach and could only say a boat took his dad away. Several days later, a body washes up on shore, but it turns out to be a stranger, not Tully. Now, the mystery turns deeper and disturbing as Maura finds out these two incidents may be connected and mixed up with drug smuggling along the coast.

As Maura confides to old Billy— "*And now I feel like an idiot for letting myself think this was just a pretty, peaceful place.*" To which Billy replies, "*Have you not read any Irish history?*"

But what can Maura do to help? She makes a bold decision that may or may not work, but she feels she cannot just stand by and do nothing. It could turn out to be the most foolish and dangerous thing she has done...

A better feel for the Irish countryside would be hard to find. Connolly's love of the land and people of Ireland are evident, and she does an excellent job conveying Maura's eagerness to assimilate into a different culture and way of life.

Death of a Policeman by M.C. Beaton (paperback, \$8, available online and in bookstores; also available as an eBook)



In this book, No. 29 in the Hamish Macbeth series, we go to the Highlands of Scotland. Hamish is a police sergeant who runs a station in the small village of Lochdubh with his partner, Dick Fraser. They have living quarters behind the station they share with a wild cat named Sonsie and a dog named Lugs.

Rumor now has it that Scotland is trying to save money by shutting down some of the unnecessary police stations. Hamish knows that might include Lochdubh because Detective Chief Inspector Blair has no use for him and would love to get him transferred far away. To persuade his superior to close Lochdubh, he must come up with a good reason. Luckily, Blair has some damaging information on policeman Cyril Sessions, which he uses to blackmail the man with the choice of helping him get rid of Hamish or lose his job. Not much of a choice.

Since Hamish doesn't know Cyril, he comes into town as a tourist under an assumed name and starts to prod people into giving him something to use against Hamish. It doesn't take Hamish long to figure out who Cyril is and what he is up to.

Things go south fast as one day Cyril is found down by the loch. Enjoying the scenery? No, he's dead from a shotgun blast to the chest. Why would someone want to shoot him? Especially since no one in Lochdubh knew who he really was. Or did they?

Now comes the best part — characters abound as Hamish must deal with a psychotic librarian, a shady restaurateur, an even shadier estate agent and Inspector Blair, who is determined to prove Hamish is somehow involved in the murder.

Hamish Macbeth is a great character, and it's easy to see why his adventures go on and on.

Till next time, happy reading!



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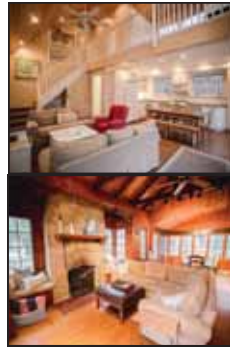
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