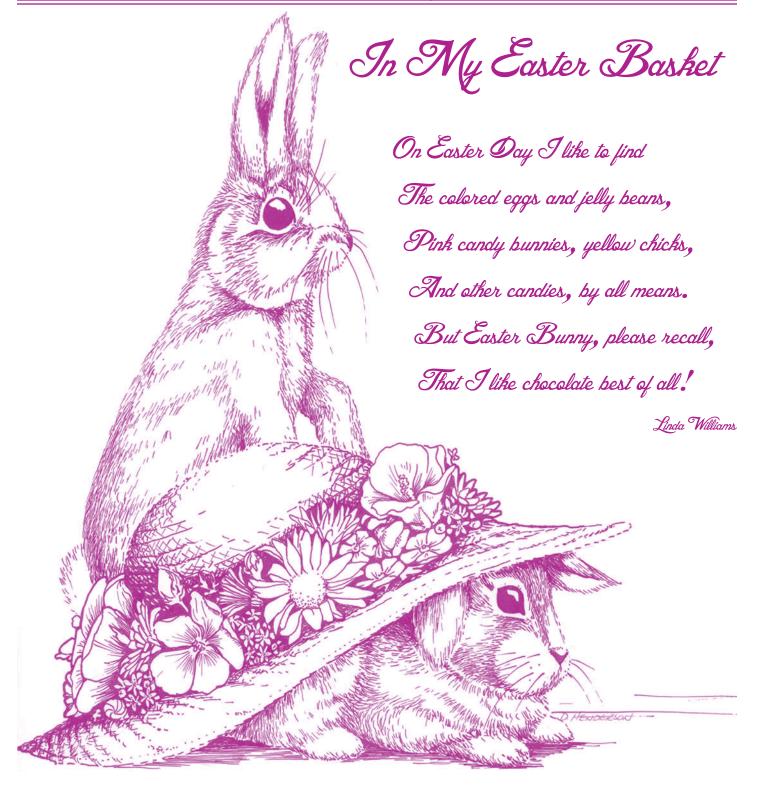


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# How Sweet It Is The Final Chapter

by Matthew A. Werner

# Hey, Hey, All the Way

Monday morning, high school students crowded the sidewalk outside Elston High School waiting

to enter the lottery to get a ticket to the State Finals. Even though Hinkle Fieldhouse at Butler University sat 14,900 people, the IHSAA gave Elston a mere 1,000 tickets.

There would be no drawing in Red Devil gym that week.

Principal Warren Jones set up 20 school buses to take the kids to the game, and a couple days in advance, Michigan City Police made a dry run, mapping out the route and coordinating gas stops for the buses. The route was kept secret to avoid potential danger if too many cars followed. The convov of student buses

would be escorted by The sign six officers in two patrol cars.

Practice resumed its normal routine.

Monday: fundamentals.

Tuesday: media day — wait, what? Yes, a change in routine! The team did take time from its usual schedule, as did all four State Finals teams, for a press day. Coach Doug Adams never let his boys talk to the press. "I will talk to the press," he told them, but on press day, he relented and the media was allowed to ask simple questions.

A sports reporter from WSBT-TV, Channel 22, out of South Bend, had a camera fixed on Terry Morse.

"All year, who was the toughest center you played against?" he asked.

"Harold Kennedy," Morse replied.

"Cut," the reporter instructed his camera man. "Who is Harold Kennedy?"

"That guy right there. No. 24. My teammate."

"No, I mean an actual player you played against."

"I play against him every day. Look at him — do you want to play against him every day?"

The reporter shook his head. "OK, let's go onto the next question."

"He was tough to get around," Morse told me. "Brutal ball."

Wednesday: scrimmage.



The sign outside St. John's United Church of Christ. Photo provided by Mike Fleming.

Thursday: game planning.

As each week passed, more and more Michigan City residents wanted to get in on all the hoopla. Red and white clothing, signs, decorated cars. There were signs displayed in windows and hanging from awnings and on walls.

The fire station used all of the window squares of

its massive garage doors to spell out, "GO, GO, GO! DEVILS ALL THE WAY!"

Junior high students painted banners that read, "2-4-6-8. Devil's going down to State!"

A storefront window had two giant devil heads and a masthead that read, "RED DEVILS A GO-GO!" Below it was a large team photo, and underneath it said, "The Incomparable Red Devils."

NIPSCO had life-sized, color, cardboard cutouts of the players, coaches, student managers, the athletic director and Principal Jones standing behind the storefront, plate glass window of its main office.

Someone painted "GO CITY" on telephone poles.

The Louis Krueger residence had a "go DEVILS" neon sign hung above a side door.

Children cut out photos of the players in the local newspaper, then pasted them into the windows of their houses.

One kid painted five large sheets of paper and hung them from his parents' front porch:

"Hey-Hey—What Ya' Say—City's Going—All the Way!"

He drew a picture of Indiana on the fifth sheet and put a star in the center for Indianapolis.

"GO-CITY-GO!"

"GOOD LUCK, CITY!"

"Victory All the Way! Nothing Can Stop Us Now!" "Hey, Hey, All the Way!"

The signs were everywhere. You couldn't move or breathe without seeing a sign. If you stuck to the streets, you'd still see signs. A couple girls painted "All the way in 66!" on their cars' fenders and "All The Way!" on the trunks.

One of the fan buses used to take students to the State championships had the players' names painted on its sides and "GOGO CITY GO!" painted on the tires. The tires!



Cheerleaders celebrate after winning State.



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# Sweet Jt Js Continued from Page 3

When the team traveled to away games, they didn't ride in a standard yellow school bus. Instead, the school chartered a commercial bus. Friday morning, the boys boarded a bus that would take them to Indianapolis for practice. Morse sniffed the air and looked around quizzically. What is that? It smelled like a new car. He and the boys took their seats. The driver boarded and made his announcement.

"Thank you for rid-Indiana Motor ing Bus. I will be taking you to Indianapolis today for the State tournament and stay with you throughout the

duration of your trip and bring you back home on Sunday. This is a brand new bus making its maiden voyage. Enjoy the ride, boys."

When the boys reached Hinkle Fieldhouse, a slew of reporters met them. The boys felt like thousands of eyeballs watched them nonstop as they practiced,



The team enters Ames Field, making its way to the victory rally.

shot around and tried to get accustomed to the playing floor. Fortunately, the boys were getting used

> to the attention, so it didn't faze them much. "And we were starting to like it," O'Neil Simmons said.

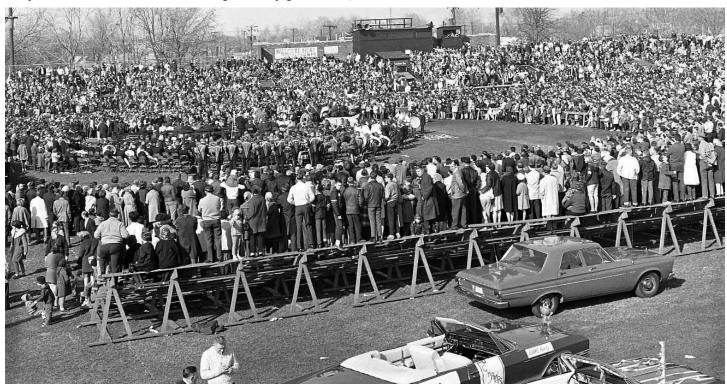
> As for Adams, he told a team of reporters, "I wouldn't mind it every year."

> It sure beat sitting home watching somebody else play.

> Adams never talked about the Regional hex because he felt they had always been beaten by better teams. Leading up to State, though, he did talk about East Chicago. He made it clear to the boys that East Chicago Washington beat Elston in the Regional four times in seven years. He wanted the

boys to know. And his message rang through loud and clear.

The two ranked teams in the State finals, fifthranked Michigan City Elston (24-3) and seventhranked East Chicago Washington (23-4), played at



The victory rally in Ames Field.

11:30 a.m. The largest high school in the state, Indianapolis Tech (24-3) with nearly 5,000 students, played Cloverdale (27-1) with 225 students at 12:45 p.m.

Elston finally became the favorite to win. Ron Gilbert, who repeatedly wrote that Anderson High School would win State, switched his pick to Michigan City. Members of the Indiana Sportswriters and Broadcasters Association held their annual meeting, and 50 of the 96 attendees chose Elston to win it all. Thirty-one voted for Indianapolis Tech. Cloverdale and East Chicago Washington got nine and six votes, respectively.

Early Saturday morning, 20 school buses left Elston High School and started the slow, steady trip to the state capital.

The long stream of yellow buses filled with students drew onlookers.

"You go through the small towns between here and Indianapolis, people would be out in the streets waving at us, cheering us on so to speak, like Francesville and Medaryville," Jones said. "We had 20 buses, so it took us awhile to get through those small towns. Each student bus had 36 students on it, two chaperones and a bus driver. So there were 39 people on each bus."



The team returns from the State Finals to discover massive community support.

But nobody got a ticket until they reached Indianapolis.

"I didn't give them a ticket until they got off the bus because I was afraid that they would scalp them to some gray-haired fella and I didn't want him in the middle of my cheer block," Jones said. "So, when they got off the bus at Butler Fieldhouse, they got a red and white pom-pom and a ticket. The way those kids barged into that Butler Fieldhouse, you would Continued on Page 6



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## How Sweet It Is Continued from Page 5

have thought they owned it. The amazing part of it all was that I got them home safe."

Meanwhile, the boys stayed at the Motor Inn in downtown Indianapolis. For breakfast, they drank milk and orange juice — everybody stayed away from the coffee. When the time arrived, they rode their charter bus to Hinkle Fieldhouse and entered the locker room. There, the boys developed an entirely new motivation to win.

Morse told the story:

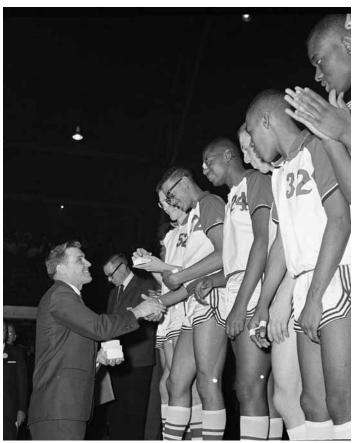
"You could only dress 10 back then and we had 12 on the team," he said. "When it comes to the Sectionals, two guys had to sit the bench. (Doug Adams) picked out Fred LaBorn and Calvin George. He told Fred that if by chance we were to get lucky and get to the State Finals, he told him he would dress for that as he was a senior starting guard at one time.

"So," he continued, "we go through the Sectionals, and we go through the Regionals, and we go through the Semi-state, and we get down to State. We get to the first game and the managers are always there ahead of us, and they always had our uniforms laid out in front of the lockers for us.

"We get in there and I find mine and right next door, here's Fred's. Fred's in the corner, chewing gum, and one of us said, 'Fred, come here, here's your uniform,' and he looked at it and he said, 'I can't.' The place kind of got quiet, but Doug said, 'Remember, I promised you.' Everybody is listening and he says, 'I promised you that if we get to state you can dress."



Assistant Coach Al Whitlow and his wife, Pat.



The team receives awards after winning State.

Fred said, "Listen, we got this far with me not dressing, I'm not going to spoil it — you dress the best 10 players."

And everybody was just — wow.

LaBorn had lost his starting guard spot midway through the season. He shot well in practice, yes, but tensed up in games. Thereafter, he dutifully played the role of the opposing team's best shooter in practice, but fell to the bottom of the roster when game time came.

"That story tells you a lot about Fred and a lot about the team too," Rob McFarland said.

"Then we wanted to kick East Chicago's ass!" Morse said.

Elston beat their longtime nemesis from the northwest corner of the state, 81-64.

In the locker room after the game, LaBorn told the team, "See, I told ya!"

"That was fun," McFarland said. "It was probably the best game we played all year."

The East Chicago Washington team and head coach Johnnie Baratto entered the Red Devils' locker room after the game. Coach Baratto congratulated the Red Devils, gave a small pep talk and encouraged them to go on and win state. Each of the players wished them luck and told them they'd be rooting for them.

In the Elston cheer block, consensus among the students was clear: We beat East Chicago, now we have to win it all.



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# **Low Sweet It Is** Continued from Page 6

In the afternoon game, Indianapolis Tech Titans defeated the peoples' choice, Cloverdale, 58-51. There was nothing left for the winning players to do but go back to their hotel, eat and get some rest for the night's game. But none of them could sleep. They were too excited.

The State championship game tipped off at 7:15 p.m. Nearly 15,000 fans crowded into the fieldhouse and stared down onto the court. The sunlight that had shone through the windows from up high and gleamed off the hardwood floor during the day session had given way to darkness. No distractions remained. Nothing left to focus on now, but basketball.

Elston dressed in white uniforms with a thick stripe below the number. White socks pulled up to the knee and three red stripes midshin. Indianapolis Tech wore dark green uniforms and dark crew socks with three white stripes that peeked out just above their sneakers.

The first quarter was marked by sloppy play from both teams — stage fright and nerves showed. The ball went back and forth, up and down the court, and the boys chased after it. Great jump shots from both teams, especially Mike Price of Tech and Cadwell of Elston, interspersed the hectic play.

Jim Cadwell — 6'5", 170 pounds. Skinny as a rail, but put a ball in his hands and he became smooth. Lithe. Morse's play was solid. Krueger and Farmer had beautiful jump shots.

In the second quarter, Michigan City calmed down. Played cleaner, smoother. Talking about the guards, Simmons and Gipson, Assistant Coach Al Whitlow said, "They were so quick

Jim Cadwell (12) goes for the ball in the State Final against Indianapolis Tech.



Terry Morse on the right in white.

it was scary." He wasn't kidding. Simmons made the Tech guards look like they were moving in slow motion. He stole the ball, was gone in a flash and scored an easy layup.

Fouled as the buzzer sounded, Cadwell hit two free throws on an empty court to tie the score at halftime, 30-30.

The game was sharp in the third quarter. The back and forth picked up, the game got quicker. The boys played tighter. Passes, crisp. Rebounds cleared.

> Few mistakes. There was plenty of time to play when Cadwell sank his sixth field goal and seventh free throw for 19 points. Tech struggled to make a basket and was outscored, 18-8, in the third quarter.

48-38, Elston.

Tech started the fourth quarter with a full court press. Elston turned it over.

Tech forced another turnover, but played sloppy on its own offensive end and still couldn't make a basket.

Fast break — Cadwell to Gipson to Simmons. Rebound — two passes — two dribbles. Bang! Bang! Bang! Simmons laid it in with ease. It was a thing of beau-

56-39, Elston.

Then, Tech came back.

56-43.

56-46.

56-47.

56-48.

Fifty seconds left to play. Elston survived Tech's flurry of points. Simmons shot six for six from the free throw line in the fourth quarter and left the game with seconds to play. Fans stood and cheered as he took a seat on the bench. The game was firmly in Elston's grip.

Final score: 63-52.

Michigan City Elston — 1966 Indiana state basketball champs.

After the game, athletic director Elmer Millbranth was so excited, he raced over to the WIMS radio



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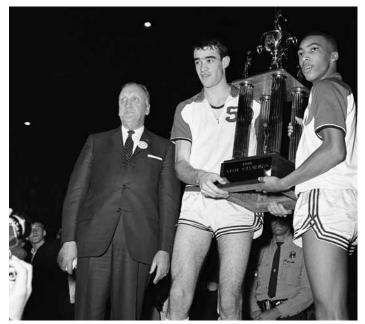
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## How Sweet It Is Continued from Page 8



Terry Morse and O'Neil Simmons, celebrating together with the championship trophy.

broadcast table and summed up what everyone in Red Devil land was feeling.

"Heyieyayeay!" Millbranth yelled into the microphone. "We did it! We are the state champs. They did a marvelous job. Twenty in a row. That's it right there! Twenty-six victories and three defeats. Tech picked us up all over the floor the last quarter, but we were able to hold them off. Right. I gotta go out there on the floor. I'll see you in Michigan City!"

Fans stayed and celebrated as the team received its championship rings and the championship trophy. Tournament officials shocked Cadwell when an IHSAA representative presented him with the Trester mental attitude award.



Jim Cadwell receives the Trester Award.

Members of the press praised Elston, but nobody captured the team's play better than The Hammond Times and Chicago Sun-Times.

"If you were going to build a perfect high school basketball team what is there about Michigan City that you would change?" asked Hammond Times sports editor Loren Tate.

The Sun-Times sports page noted, "The Red Devils of Coach Doug Adams also became only the third team in the 56-year history of Indiana's famed hardwood spectacle to win the title with a zone defense. Only Bloomington in 1919 and Jasper in 1949 went all the way with a zone and Red Devils stuck with it throughout to notch their 20th consecutive victory."

The majority of Red Devils fans were back home in Michigan City. Every house, tavern and business

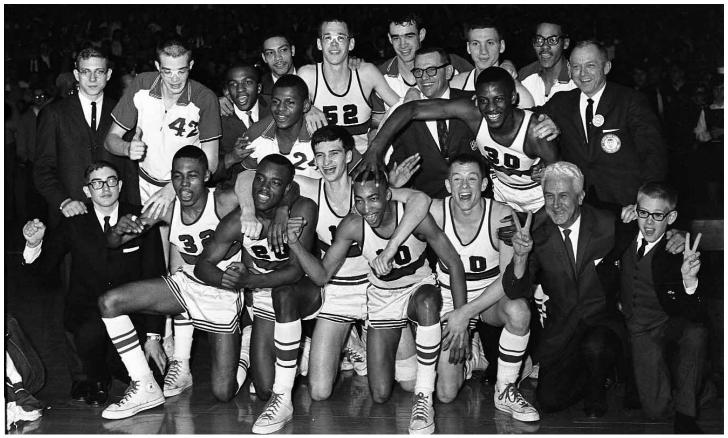


Cheerleaders Coleen Baker, Vicki Eis, Becky Fritz, Barbara Smith (devil), John Jones, Sharon Szymkowski, Nancy Bobinski and Debbie Winski. Photo by the late Bob Wilke.

tuned into the live broadcast of the basketball game on the TV or radio. As soon as the game ended, people raced outside into the spring air. They turned on all their lights and flicked porch lights on and off. They hollered at neighbors, "We did it!," yelled in the streets, "Yaaa-hooo!," danced with sparklers, lit off firecrackers and launched bottle rockets into the night sky. People and cars mobbed Franklin Street, the main business district. Everyone wanted to be there, together, to share their joy and excitement.

Vern Hundt, a graduate of South Central High School and a freshman at Purdue University, watched the game on TV in the commons area of his dormitory. As soon as it ended, he and three friends jumped in a car and raced up U.S. 421 to Michigan City just to be a part of it all. Ninety minutes after the game ended, they still found quite a scene.

"People were waiting at the high school. A lot of them were standing on the front steps of Elston. Pretty good crowd," Hundt said. "There were a lot



The championship team, posing together for a photo.

of cars running up and down Franklin. A lot of people on the sidewalks, whooping and hollering. They were celebrating!"

As the convoy of student buses made its way home and rumbled through the small towns of Indiana, people came out and waved, or honked their car horns at them. When they reached Michigan City, they couldn't believe the scene still unfolding.

It was nearing midnight, but "it was like it was the middle of the day," said cheerleader Nancy (Bobinski) White said. "It was pretty hard to believe there were that many people up and that many lights on and people greeting us. People were everywhere — in the gym, out of the gym, in the parking lot — everywhere. And the gym was just jampacked, even on the floor. We couldn't believe it."

Back in Indianapolis, the boys and their families celebrated at Motor Inn. The hotel had an indoor pool on its roof and at 2 a.m., the staff told them they could have it to themselves.

"They went swimming," Simmons pointed out. "I couldn't swim. Larry Gipson couldn't swim and we were on the side and Doug said, 'As good as you guys can play basketball, you mean to tell me that you can't swim?"

Sunday morning, the press asked the players a few final questions while they ate their breakfast and little kids asked for autographs. The team boarded their charter bus, took a lap around Memorial Circle monument in the center of Indianapolis, then headed back to Michigan City. Expecting another typical pep rally in Red Devil Gym, the boys were shocked at the scene they witnessed. When they got 27 miles from home, "There were people from La Crosse all the way up Highway 421 yelling," Cadwel said. All along the highway at every pulloff, intersection and vacant lot, cars sat with signs, fans waved, headlights flashed and horns honked.

It was a beautiful spring day. The temperature touched 60 degrees. By noon, Franklin Street again choked with cars as people headed downtown to join the upcoming victory rally and celebrate the state championship. Cars had new signs painted on their windows.

"STATE CHAMPS!"

"WE'RE #1."

"GO DEVILS GO!"

Red Devil pennants waved from car antennas. Signs in town had changed from "Hey, Hey! All the Way!" to "Hey, Hey! We WENT All the Way!"

The excitement, the enthusiasm, the energy — it was everywhere! The sidewalks jammed with people — dancing, laughing, cheering and singing. Smiles, yes, the smiles! Everyone was smiling everywhere!

Dave Milcarek and a dozen friends had formed a snake line along the sidewalk, weaving through the crowd. When traffic stopped on the street, the head of the line opened the back passenger door of a large sedan, crawled through, opened the other back door and crawled out. The other 12 people in the line fol-

# **How Sweet It Is** Continued from Page 11

lowed suit. Students' cars, adults' cars — it didn't matter. They did it again and again. Drivers laughed and traffic stood still until the snake line had completed its journey through the backseat.

When the team finally reached the city limits, they disembarked the bus and immediately were surrounded by a mob of people waving, cheering and smiling. The cheerleaders met them and everyone climbed onto the ladder of a fire engine ladder truck.

"Now that was a shocker to me," Simmons said.

fire engine proceeded not to Red Devil Gym, but the football stadium: Ames Field. All along  $_{\mathrm{the}}$ route, people cheered and hollered. The boys couldn't believe it.

"We got to Ames Field, it was packed. Packed!" Simmons said.

"The bus barely made itthrough," Morse said. "We had to snake it through. Oh my God! How many people were there?"

A lot. One source estimated as many as 40,000 people turned out to greet the team, and 12,000 people

crowded into Ames Field for the victory rally.

During the 75-minute rally, the cheerleaders cheered, a banner was unveiled, a giant cake bearing multiple American flags was delivered, Warren Jones gave his battle cry:

Hey, hey, all the way!

Hey, hey, all the way!

One person after another paraded in front of the microphone to say a few words, and fans wanted to hear from the players, too.

"Everybody had to say something," Morse said. "That was not really cool. What were we going to say? After the first guy says it was a total team effort, it blows it for the other 11 guys."

What were they supposed to say?

Perhaps they should have talked about Brutal Ball. Told everybody about Fred LaBorn, Stanley Farmer or Calvin George. Maybe mention that crowded ninth-grade basketball game or getting to sweep the basketball court when they were in junior high. What it meant to be a Red Devil. They had the greatest fans. What it felt like to run through that iron hoop at a home game and hear the fans' yells. Maybe they should have talked about the up-andovers, how much they believed in their coach and how much he really, truly loved them.

Would that have been too much? Would anybody have known what any of that meant? Their experiences — the fans and the players — were far different, and yet it was all built around a shared geography, pride in their school and a love of basketball. For the boys, it ended in Hinkle Fieldhouse. It was over. They had done what they set out to do: win. The fanfare surprised them. For the fans, it

> wasn't over. It meant something to them, too. And they would ensure it lived on for years to come.

> "People do remember, and it is flattering. They talk about how that was the golden age of Michigan City, etcetera, and I am actually not jealous at all," Rob McFarland said. His daughter won a volleyball state championship for Michigan City High School in 1996. He'd love to see the high school win another state championship.

> "I wish somebody else would win the state championship

Doug Adams and Al Whitlow at the victory rally.

and bring it to town and do what we did. It would be great."

"They did get one," Simmons pointed out. "Marquette (Catholic High School) won, but you know, they tried to discredit it as it wasn't the same with all this class A, B, etc. But they still won, though. It was a state championship."

"My wife says to this day, 'Don't you ever get enough of that?' I said, 'Not really. I can live with it," Morse said with a smile. "The whole thing was amazing, building up to it, going through it and the 50 years since then has been amazing because so many people still remember."

Simmons, Cadwell, McFarland, Morse, Gipson, LaBorn, Krueger, Farmer, George, Kennedy, Adams, Garrett. They played as one. They stepped up when asked to do so, and sat down on the bench when they had to. They cheered on their teammates. They believed in one another. They trusted one another. They practiced hard together. They played together and worked together, down to the last player on the team.

There was no star player. None of them have been enshrined in the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame. None of them ever will be. It's hard to win State. Fewer than 10 percent of all Indiana high schools have won it. And it's rare for a team to win it all and not have a single member in the Hall of Fame.

Remember Jim Cadwell's words? They reflect the spirit of that team.

"We didn't really much care who scored, we just wanted to win."

Does your heart not sing when you read those words?

The men who played on that team are in their 60s today, but Al Whitlow still refers to them as "the kids." He paused to think about the kids, to try to describe them. A smile spread across his face, and he leaned forward.

"They all had good senses of humor. Fun group of guys. Hard workers. I was really thrilled. It was a real pleasure to spend so much time with those guys. I had a lot of time with some of them." The tone in Whitlow's voice punctuated his sincerity.

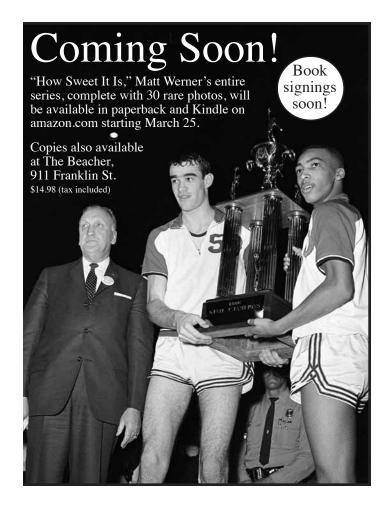
The '66 Michigan City Elston Red Devils: a group of fun, selfless, hard-working, goofy kids.

A team through and through. One of the best.

No. 1 in Indiana in 1966.

How sweet it is, Al.

How sweet it is.



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### The Girl on the Train

Editor's note — This is the first in a series of columns exploring upcoming film adaptations of popular books.

by Andrew Tallackson

The challenge for any film adaptation of "The Girl on the Train" is this: How do you make someone unlikable on the page tolerable on the big screen?

The titular character of Paula Hawkins' phenomenally successful debut novel is frustrating to the point of being maddening. An alcoholic, her binge drinking alienates her from everyone. Her lies to cover past lies trip over each other like a child turning cartwheels. Her fixation on the lives of others veers into the sociopathic.



Emily Blunt scored the lead role in "The Girl on the Train."

Why should we care about her? I'm not sure Hawkins, herself, approves of her...but she does make us understand her, and *that* is what Tate Taylor's eagerly awaited film version, arriving in theaters Oct. 6, must achieve: If we're going to spend two hours or so with this character, then we have to feel our time with her was well spent.

Hailed as the next "Gone Girl," Hawkins' novel

dominated the United Kingdom's hardback book chart longer than any other work. When it arrived in the United States in January 2015, it was an instant smash. To date, it has sold upwards of 3.5 to 4 million copies.

The comparisons to "Gone Girl," Gillian Flynn's monster hit, are on the mark. The writing is acidic, with not much sympathy for either gender.

she concocts fantasy lives about the people she views from the safety of her seat on the train. When it appears something is amiss with one of the couples she frequently observes, she decides to become an amateur sleuth. There's just one problem. Rachel's excessive drinking leads to blackouts, with no memories buried whatsoever in her murky brain. To uncover the truth, she'll have to dig for it herself.

The irony is, should *she* be the one doing the digging... and is she responsible for any of it?

The women are toxic,

vengeful, damaged. The

men are idiots motivat-

ed solely by their repro-

ductive organ. Twists lurk around every cor-

ner — some juicy, oth-

ers foregone conclu-

about "The Girl on the

Train" is that it's a

hypnotic page-turner. Rachel Watson is a

who conceals the truth from her flatmate —

her drinking cost her

her job — by taking

the train into London

each day as if headed to

work. To bide the time,

alcoholic

What you can't deny

sions.

32-year-old

It's classic Hitchcock, with heavy shades of "Rear Window" and "The Man Who Knew Too Much." And, it had Hollywood foaming at the mouth, scrambling to acquire the rights before it even hit the streets. Reese Witherspoon lobbied hard for it, much as she did for Gillian Flynn's



The story's setting has been shifted from London to New York City.

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"Gone Girl" and "Dark Places." The much coveted role ultimately went to Emily Blunt, who should be the film's ace in the hole. She's perfect for the role because she can pull off just about anything. Her stellar comedic chops revealed themselves in "The Devil Wears Prada" (2006). She kicked serious ass in "Edge of Tomorrow" (2014) and "Sicario" (2015). And, she was lovely, with a delicate soprano voice, in Rob Marshall's big-screen adaptation of Stephen Sondheim's "Into the Woods" (2014). This is an actress up to the challenge of delving into the complexity of Rachel, of exploring what makes her tick and, in the end, why we should care about her.

The other intriguing casting choice Justin Theroux as Rachel's exhusband, Tom. Known in celebrity rags as Mr. Jennifer Aniston, he's proven himself a ferocious talent on "The HBO's Leftovers." His performance as small-town sheriff fearful he's succumbed



Justin Theroux stars as Tom and Rebecca Ferguson as Anna.

to mental illness has emerged as bold, daring work, the sign of a great actor willing to take chances.

Taylor, as director, is drawn to character-driven works, but lately, he's batting 1-2. In 2011, he delivered a near-perfect adaptation of Kathryn Stockett's "The Help" that scored Oscar nominations for three of his actresses, including one win for Octavia Spencer. Three years later, he stumbled terribly with the James Brown biopic "Get On Up," a movie so random and disjointed, it appears to have been edited by a dyslexic wielding a chain saw.

What concerns me is that Taylor and screenwriter Erin Cressida Wilson have shifted the action from London to New York City, justifying their decision by saying doing so makes Rachel more of an outsider. To me, it smacks of concerns about box-office potential, cuz ya know, we dumb Americans don't like them foreign movies, especially those ones with,



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whatcha call them? Oh yeah, subtitles.

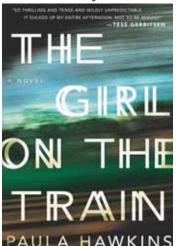
Setting "The Girl on the Train" in and around contemporary London made it refreshing. So much of what we see of British culture on TV and in film is period pieces, with women in corsets and men vying to be the next Mr. Darcy. Hawkins' novel,



Author Paula Hawkins.

by comparison, reveals Brits struggling with the same dysfunctional issues as their American counterparts, proving the cultural gap between the two countries is not as wide as we've been led to believe.

Will "The Girl on the Train" survive the move to the U.S.? Will the material be as effective, or will the more box-office friendly setting cheapen it so it comes across as just another thriller? That's the million-dollar question. Some works have survived the transition, most notably Nick Hornby's "High Fidelity" and "Fever Pitch," but that's because the U.K. author thinks like all men, regardless of what continent they call home.



To date, "The Girl on the Train" has sold between 3.5 and 4 million copies.

With Taylor, as director, willing to explore the universally dark themes of Hawkins' novel, all propelled by Emily Blunt likely giving 110 percent to the role of Rachel, "The Girl on the Train" may have a chance of doing justice to its source.

Fingers crossed.

(Next up: Tim Burton's eagerly awaited bigscreen version of "Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children.")



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### **Trumpeter Swans Preparing for Move to Spring, Summer Home**

Taltree Arboretum & Gardens' trumpeter swans received a clean bill health of spring at their checkup March 16 in preparation for their upcoming move to their spring and summer home in the non-profit's wetlands, representatives said.

While Taltree is open year-round, the march of the swans each spring

swans each spring

Manager Cha
is one of many events marking the beginning of the
busy season at Taltree's 330-acre property.

The male and female pair came to Taltree to spend the winter months in their enclosure near the Railway Garden. The pair have yet to reproduce, but staff members are hoping this will be the year for new additions.

"Last year, they started showing signs that they were ready, doing a mating dance and building a nest for the first time," said Chad Cronin, Taltree's grounds and facilities manager.

Taltree is taking steps to assist and encourage

nesting by providing straw, hay, twigs and sticks at their spring and summer home in the wetlands. The nests can be as large as 4 or 5 feet in diameter.

"She's just reaching the age where she wants to be a mom," Dr. Larry McAfee, a retired Valparaiso veterinarian who donates



Dr. Larry McAfee (right) conducts a wellness check on a male trumpeter swan with the assistance of Taltree Arborist Craig Gress (left) and Taltree Grounds and Facilities Manager Chad Cronin (center).

care for Taltree's animals, said during his wellness check of the birds.

Any offspring produced will be relocated to

services to

Any offspring produced will be relocated to Florida with the assistance of the Trumpeter Swan Society, where they will be integrated into a migrating flock, Cronin said.

McAfee said trumpeter swans were on the fed-

eral endangered species list, but were delisted and now are a protected species. The protected status requires Taltree to maintain state and federal permits to house and care for the birds.

Both of the birds received physicals March 16, as well as deworming agents. Both were found to be in exceptionally good health, McAfee said as he praised Cronin for his feeding regimen over the winter.

"Neither is too thin or too fat," McAfee said. "Their flesh is perfect."

The pair will move to their spring and summer home in Taltree's Window to the Wetlands within

the next few weeks. Cronin and his staff will ensure there is plenty of duck weed on the pond on which the trumpeter swans can feed before the move is made.

Taltree is located at 450 W. County Road 100 North near Valparaiso. Visit www.taltree. org for more information.



Taltree's trumpeter swan pair wait in their winter enclosure for their spring checkup.

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### 20th Annual Native Plant Sale

The Friends' 20th Annual Native Plant Sale is from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 9, the ongoing changes to the State Park Pavilion again shifting the location to Indiana Dunes Tourism, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter, Ind.



Friends volunteers Roy Olson, Porter, and Pete Wilder, Chesterton, fill a plant sale pre-order.

At the visitor center, space for native plants is limited, so pre-orders are encouraged. The supply of plants the day of the sale is determined by their popularity as a pre-order item. Pre-orders are filled in the sequence in which they are received. Every year, several varieties sell out before the day of the sale because of pre-orders. Forms are available at the State Park office. Chesterton Feed and Garden Center and Indiana Dunes Tourism, or they can be downloaded at www.friendofindianadunes.org. To request a form sent by mail, contact Zella Olson at (219) 926-3833. The submission deadline is April 1.

Open shopping of all plant material still is planned. Gardening consultants can answer questions. Free leaflets on planting with wildflowers and the many benefits of going native will be available. All sale profits support Friends of Indiana Dunes.

More than 100 native plant species, including: woodland flowering plants and ferns; dry, medium and wet prairie flowering plants; grasses, shrubs and trees are planned. All varieties come in pots and are native to Northwest Indiana, Northeast Illinois and Southwest Michigan.

### **PoetryPalooza**

The Purdue University-Northwest English Club will present its sixth annual PoetryPalooza Competition and Open Mic from 7 to 9 p.m. Tuesday, March 29, at Library-Student-Faculty Building Assembly Hall, Room 02.

The event kicks off the club's celebration of April as National Poetry Month. All area poets can enter a maximum of three original works of poetry, three minutes or less in length. A \$5 entry fee is charged at the door for each competitor. Spectators and open mic participants may attend for \$1.

Monetary prizes will be awarded: \$75 for first place, \$50 for second place and \$25 for third place. There also is a "crowd favorite" prize.

During the competition, poets will read their works for the audience and a panel of three judges. Afterward, the judges will adjourn to make their decisions, during which an open mic is planned for anyone who would like to share poetry, music or other original works. At the conclusion, the judges will announce the winners.

To pre-register for the event, send an email including name, a few sentences about the poet and an attachment of the poem(s) to Bethany Lee, continuing lecturer of English, at btlee@pnc.edu, with POETRY RSVP in the email subject line. Pre-registration is not required; additional entries will be accepted at the event.

Coffeehouse-style refreshments will be available. Anyone with additional questions should contact Lee or the English and Modern Languages Department Office at (219) 785-5202.

### Harbor Country Book Club

Harbor Country Book Club will discuss Daniel Brown's "The Boys in the Boat" at 7 p.m. EDT Tuesday, March 29, at The Harbor Grand, 111 W. Water St., New Buffalo, Mich.

The April 26 selection is Harper Lee's "Go Set a Watchman." Meetings are open to the public.



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### **About the Cover**

by Andrew Tallackson

Linda Williams walks into a room, and within minutes, her vivacious spirit wins you over.

Honored to have her poem selected for this week's cover, she reveals her past ties to The Beacher in giddy succession. Her daughter, Amy Weik, not only wrote for The Beacher in the 1990s, but also helped deliver it. Linda, herself, saw an article she wrote on John Winterbotham grace the cover of our edition on May 23, 1996.



Linda Williams holds a copy of The Beacher from May 23, 1996, that features a story she wrote.

Then, with breathless precision, she reveals how much she loves the community. The Michigan City native, Elston High School graduate and Purdue University graduate has lived in Long Beach for 43 years. She was a teacher for 40 years, 34 of those in Michigan City, including at Elston, Rogers and Michigan City High School. She officially retired two years ago.

She's also a lifelong member of the local Historical Society, loves Michigan City history, gives cemetery tours and writes frequently.

Her charming poem appears with the delightful drawing by local artist Deb Henderson. We at The Beacher thank both of them for sharing their wonderful talents with us.





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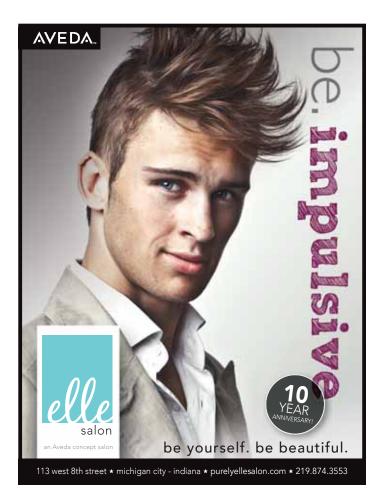
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### **Spring Break History Camp**

Barker Mansion, 631 Washington St., will hold its first Spring Break History Camp from April 4-7.

The camp is ideal for ages 8 and older, though everyone is welcome to attend. Mansion staff will facilitate hands-on activities, including an "off-limits" tour, where kids venture behind the scenes of the historic building. A scavenger hunt and a field trip to Old Lighthouse Museum also are on the agenda.



Youngsters attend one of the many events for children at Barker Mansion.

The camp runs from 9 to 11:30 a.m. Monday through Wednesday and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday. Craft materials and snacks are provided each day, and lunch is included Thursday.

The \$45 fee includes all activities and materials, plus a Barker Mansion T-shirt. Registration is required by calling (219) 873-1520. Guardians must sign a consent form at Monday morning camper drop-off. Visit www.BarkerMansion.com for more information.

### "Bits of Time" Scrapbook Display

La Porte County Historical Society Museum's latest display, "Bits of Time," celebrates the art of making scrapbooks.

A portion of the society's vast collection will remain on display through May. Some date back to the late 1800s, while others are more recent. Different clubs and organizations kept track of their histories by pasting photos and clippings into a book. There are numerous books showing the histories of sports teams, hospitals, school memories and military honor rolls.

Because most of the books are fragile, White Glove Stations have been set up around the display area. The museum has tried to show a good representation of scrapbooks and placed them in categories in the exhibit area.

The museum is located at 2405 Indiana Ave., La Porte. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Call (219) 324-6767 or visit www. laportecountyhistory.org for admission fees or more information.

### Zoobilee

Washington Park Zoological Society's "Zoobilee — Night of the Roaring Twenties" is from 6 to 11 p.m. Saturday, April 2, at Orak Shrine Temple, 3848 Frontage Road, Michigan City.

Tickets are \$75 per person. The fundraiser includes cocktails, dinner, live and silent auction and dancing. An open bar with beer and wine are from 6 to 8 p.m. Corey Dennison Band will provide live music. Attire from the 1920s is encouraged, or business casual dress.

Call (219) 873-1510 or visit www.washington-parkzoo.com for tickets.



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### La Porte County Parks



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

### Stroller, Baby and You

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

The free program is from 10 to 11 a.m. Monday, 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.

#### **Shelter and Hall Reservations**

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

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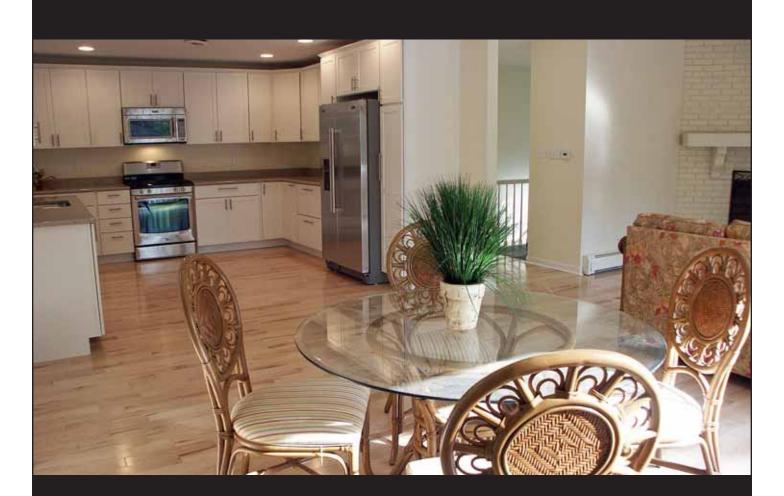
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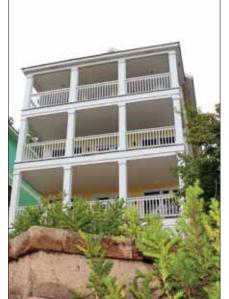
# 1616 Lake Shore Drive NEWLY LISTED! Open House SATURDAY March 26 • 1 - 3 pm \$1,450,000

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Tricia Meyer @ 219-871-2680







### 1855 Lake Shore Drive

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Cari Adams Gee @ 219-898-5412







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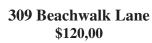
802 Washington Park Blvd. \$98,900

3 BR, 1 BA, spacious rooms, fenced yard Diana Hirsch @ 219-873-6575



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Steps from Lake MI beach! 3BRs 3BAs, 2300 sq ft, sun porch, great room open to rear deck & grassy lawn



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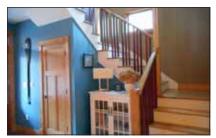




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3952 Ponchartrain Dr 2 Buildable Lots



1501 W Water St, #22 2 Bedrooms/2.5 Baths



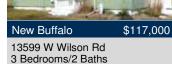
Michiana Shores 210 Sunset Trail 2 Bedroom/1 Bath



227 Townsend, #101 2 Bedrooms/2 Baths



\$219,000



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- Wood Burning Fireplace, Walk-out basement
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- VIEWS, VIEWS, VIEWS OF LAKE MICHIGAN
- Four bedroom, two full baths
- Two separate gathering areas
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- Relax and listen to the waves

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## 900 W. Buffalo St., New Buffalo, Michigan

- Located in the heart of New Buffalo
- Cute & Charming Two Story
- Oak flooring throughout
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  Full basement workshop
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- · Wooded building site
- · Total of 3 lots
- Close to Lake Michigan beaches
- Nearly level makes for easy build





#### North Oak Street, Otis

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# **Micky Gallas Properties**

Pat Tym, Broker Associate ABR, CRS, GRI, SRES (219) 210-0324

Licensed in Indiana & Michigan







3317 Marquette Trail • Duneland Beach \$899,000

4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths. Living room offers wood floors, wet bar with wine cooler & extra refrigerator. New kitchen, lower level rec room with fireplace, all baths have been redone. Heated in-ground pool with automatic cover. Beautiful gardens, stone patio, hot tub & gas fed firepit. Close to beach.





2416 Florimond Avenue • Long Beach \$695,000

5 bedrooms, 3 full & 2 half baths. Two fireplaces, formal living room, formal dining room, family room. New kitchen with breakfast nook. Sun room offers walls of windows, skylights, wet bar & tile floor. Close to playground, tennis courts & community center. Just 3 blocks to the beach.



## Micky Gallas Properties

Karen Kmiecik-Pavy, GRI Broker Associate (219) 210-0494 www.MickyGallasProperties.com







21 Bristol Drive • Kimball Woods \$429,000

4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Hardwood floors, vaulted ceiling & fireplace in living room. Kitchen boasts custom cabinets, new granite counters, re-designed new island & all new appliances.

Main level master suite, California space organizers, main floor laundry. Heated garage, in-ground sprinklers, rear deck.





2923 Roslyn Trail • Long Beach \$289,000

3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Two fireplaces, spacious kitchen with new hardwood floors, cabinets & appliances. Walk-out lower level with rec room. Most of windows are new Pella windows. Updates include entire plumbing system, boiler, on-demand hot water, roof, soffit, gutters, fascia, flooring & light fixtures.



# Micky Gallas Properties

Tina Kelly, Broker Associate

Licensed in Indiana & Michigan

Cell: (219) 873-3680 TinaKelly@MickyGallasProperties.com





### 1720 Lake Shore Drive • Sheridan Beach

At a quarter of an acre, this is one of the few available parcels of this size presently on Lake Michigan. Beautifully landscaped with flagstone patios, pond, limestone walkways & private path to the beach.

Open living room & dining room separated by 2-sided brick fireplace. Expansive lake views.





Offered for \$1,475,000



### 29 Mohawk Drive • Michiana Village

Charming classic Michiana log home with all of the updates of 2016! So unassuming from the street, this property features 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, in-ground pool, 15x17 screened room & 2 bedroom, 2 bath pool house.

Stone fireplace, knotty pine & wood floors retain vintage charm. Just 1.5 blocks to beach.





Offered for \$1,100,000



### 2817 Roslyn Trail • Long Beach

This 5 bedroom, 2.5 bath home is within walking distance to Stop 28 beach. Wall of sliders in living room, beautifully redone kitchen, master bedroom suite, brick fireplace, new staircase leads to remodeled walk-out lower level.

Rear deck & wooded privacy. Circular drive with carport allows for plenty of parking.





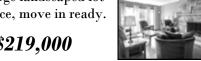
Offered for \$299,000



### 217 Garden Trail • Pottawattomie Park

Spacious 3 bedroom, 2 bath home in desirable area. Living room with wood floor & 2-sided stone fireplace. Formal dining room, ceramic tiled kitchen with eating area. Baths redone. Rec room in basement with bar & fireplace.

Vaulted screened porch. Large landscaped lot hosts single story convenience, move in ready.





**Offered for \$219,000** 

# Long Beach, IN



### 2318 Lake Shore Drive

Wake up to the sound of waves lapping along the shore of Lake Michigan in this 4 bedroom, 4.5 bath luxury home.
Grilling deck, walk-out lower level, lake side patio, expansive lake views. Being only 1 hour from Chicago, your new beach house will be the ultimate get away destination. This home features the finest in finishes and craftsmanship.



\$2,385,000





### Hazelwood Trail

\$455,000

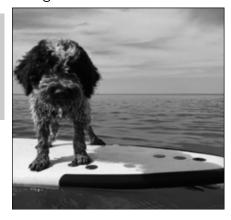
YOUR DREAMS CAN COME TRUE at a great price! New gorgeous, contemporary house, steps from 150' frontage of private Shoreland Hills beach. HUGE GREAT ROOM with an abundance of light, fireplace, dry bar & extra large kitchen overlooking HUGE south facing deck in private back yard, nestled into extra large wooded lot. This 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath house with 2-car garage has nine & ten foot ceilings. Large master en-suite has ample closets & large private deck facing the west sunsets & calming sounds of Lake Michigan.





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Micky Gallas Properties

### Lakeshore Educator's Workshop

Area educators are invited to a workshop on conducting outdoor field investigations from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 16, at the Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education.

Participants will try hands-on activities they can use with students, and are designed to sharpen skills in observation, questioning and designing investigations. Additional projects involve wildlife monitoring and phenology (the timing of specific biological events in relation to changes in season and climate). Educators will use and receive materials from the Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies' Toolkit for Conservation Education.

The workshop is suitable for teachers of all age groups, but is most appropriate for those teaching grades 6-12. It is conducted in partnership with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources Division of Fish and Wildlife, the Great Lakes Research and Education Center, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore and Dunes Learning Center.

There is a \$35 registration fee. Pre-registration is required, and registration is limited. Visit dunes-learningcenter.org/adults/ or call (219) 395-9555 prior to April 1. Indiana teachers can receive professional growth experience points. Illinois teachers can receive Continuing Education Units.

The center is located on Lake Street north of U.S. 12 in Gary's Miller Beach neighborhood.

### **Washington Park Annual Stickers**

The Michigan City Park Department will begin issuing annual Washington Park parking stickers Friday, April 1, in the Clerk's Office at City Hall, 100 E. Michigan Blvd.

Hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday (excluding holidays). The fees are:

- Free Civil city residents.
- \$25 La Porte County residents.
- \$40 Indiana residents.
- \$100 Out of state.
- \$23 Senior Center member (must show a current membership card).
  - Stickers also will be distributed:
- During Michigan City Senior Center's annual Trash n' Treasure sale, which is from 8 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 2.
- From 9 a.m. to noon Saturdays at Michigan City Port Authority in Washington Park from May 7 to July 30.

Take a current vehicle registration. A certificate of registration will not be accepted. Anyone who owns civil city property, but lives outside of civil city limits, must take a utility bill or tax bill (the name on the bill must match the name on the vehicle registration) for the city property.

Contact the Michigan City Parks & Recreation Department at (219) 873-1506 for more information.

# Photo of the Week Contest

# Help Us Capture Life Along the Beach!

Snap a high-resolution photo of a friend or family member, place, event...even the beautiful scenery. Include the day, time and location of the photo.

Submit the photo to The Beacher by 5 p.m. each Wednesday. We'll contact you by 5 p.m. Thursday if the photo is chosen to appear in an upcoming edition.





Email high-resolution photos to <a href="mailto:drew@thebeacher.com">drew@thebeacher.com</a>



# 412 Marquette Trail, Pottawattamie Park

Great location, all brick home in Pottawattamie Park with endless possibilities. Hardwood floors, updated bath, screen porch, large living room with fireplace, partially finished basement with additional fireplace offers additional living space. Lots of storage.

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The Fitness Rebellion

# **Movement Progressions**

by Kevin Scott

When we were babies, learning to walk was the first steps — pun intended — toward become a toddler. In a sense, we graduated from crawling on all fours as our way of getting around. By no means were we ready for a walk around the park at this time, but we moved further along as we practiced, fell down and learned.

As we got older, we perfected walking, started running, jumping and climbing. All of these steps required some painful lessons along the way. But we were young and didn't know any better This was the start of learning movement progressions.

Fast forward about 30-40 years into your adulthood. As we have since (hopefully) mastered the fine arts of walking and running, we still are getting hurt, as if we were a noodle-legged toddler in a diaper. Granted, it may not be with the same ease as years ago, but we still are constantly hurting and aching. Why? Can it just be attributed to getting older? Then why are men and women in their 80s and 90s running 400m sprints?

I have touched on quality of life before and continue to bring it up because many people don't truly understand how in control they are of their quality of life, especially in the future. In our instant-gratification society, if it doesn't affect our lives in the near future (and for some it can be as short as days/ weeks), then we tend not to bat an eye at possible side effects. Pick a vice, and I am sure we can find a large population of people avoiding the already mentioned negatives to this vice.

So, we still have the sad news that the magic pill for rapid weight loss, rapid healing, rapid results isn't here. But, good news, one thing that can help a quality life now and later is daily exercise. But where to start? Starting with the basics is the exact place to start. So many folks come to us and want to be like "Sally Joe" down the road and again, want it to happen overnight. Or, they come in and say I am in a wedding in four weeks and need to lose 30 pounds. It is absolutely true that what comes easy won't last, and what lasts won't come easy.

You cannot build a house without a solid foundation, just as you cannot build a healthy body without a solid foundation. And this starts from square one with the functional movement progression. Just as we needed to progress in slow steps as a child, as adults, we still need to take progressions in the gym as if they were our first on two legs. Learn to crawl before you walk, learn to walk before you run. Imagine the importance of those steps once you introduce variables such as weight, lateral movement, explosive force and speed.

Progression refers to overloading the body's systems and increasing the training stimulus over a period of time to increase fitness adaptations. There are five stages to functional progression.

The first focuses on isolating muscles and education. Exercises are typically done supine or prone, with most of the body supported by a bench or floor. The main form of resistance applied in this stage is typically gravity before form progresses enough to add weights.

Stage Two adds external resistance to the mix. With the addition of tools such as machines, weights and bands, difficulty is on the rise, but safely due to the foundation built in stages one and two. These introductions add resistance to some of the exercises found in Stage One, but not introducing the use of stabilizing muscles, which appear in the next stage.

In Stage Three, we add functional training, including free weights into the mix. At this point, your stabilizing muscles are active, making your body work in different ways than with machines and isolation exercises. Typically, exercises in this stage will be performed seated or standing. In Stage Four, function increases, as does resistance. What this means is that gravity will be more of a factor, as well as external weights. As we go up each level, think of it as a high rise. We must complete floors one through four before getting started on the next one.

Stage Five adds balance, speed and rotation, as



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well as kicking up the notch on functional aspects. Single leg exercises are used here, as well as BOSU balls, or physioballs. This can be effective especially for athletes, but not limited to them. With balance, speed and rotation, this stage should be reached with caution. We always ask our clients, "What is your goal?" Typically, responses are lose weight, get stronger, lose certain areas, etc... But why? What is the real reason? Beneath the surface lies answers such as wanting to play with their kids without losing their breath, preparing for an upcoming hiking trip with friends, getting ready for the next class reunion. Whatever the goal is, your journey needs to reflect that. This means, if you want a six pack, you better set up a tent in your kitchen and get used to meal prepping, eating healthy and getting strict on grocery shopping. Your workout should also reflect this, meaning if you want to play with your kids, there is a good chance you probably won't have to bench 225 pounds.

These five stages ensure that whatever goal you have is done safely and correctly. Before you run, you need to learn how to walk. So before you squat, you need to properly learn the form. Don't simply rely on machines to get the results. Again, remember that what comes easy won't last, and what lasts won't come easy. If you are comfortable doing an exercise, you need to get out of your comfort zone and learn some new exercises. BUT, with guidance and support. Take pride in those training wheels because soon, you will unscrew them and be cruising around town on two wheels like a boss!

 ${\it Contact~Kevin~Scott~at~kevinthomasscott} 00@\\ {\it gmail.com}$ 

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# **National Disability Awareness Program**

Former Ball State Disability Services Director Richard Harris will present the program "Was Franklin Delano Roosevelt Elected In Spite of or Because of Disability?" from 2 to 3 p.m. Tuesday, March 29.



Franklin Delano Roosevelt

The program, held in celebration of National Disability Awareness Month, is in Purdue University-North Central's Library-Student-Faculty Building, Assembly Hall, Room 02.

Harris is a founding member of the Association of Higher Education and Disability, the professional organization for dis-

ability services professionals. He has co-taught colloquiums on the Roosevelts as part of the Ball State Honors College.

Using rare pictures and historical material, Harris will examine FDR's diagnosis of polio and how it influenced his journey in life, as well as his relationships with the media and his wife, Eleanor.

The event is sponsored by the PNC Chancellor's Diversity Fund as part of its Diversity Makes a Difference Initiative.

Any accommodation needs because of disability should be directed to Donelle Henderlong, Disability Services coordinator and coordinator of the event, at (219) 785-5374.

# **Fairy Garden Workshop**

St. Stanislaus Convent Shop, 1501 Franklin St., will host a Fairy Garden Workshop from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, April 8.

The focus is creating and maintaining a miniature fairy garden. The \$20 cost includes a private demonstration, container, potting soil and a plant.

Seating is limited. Reservation with deposit is required. Stop by the Resale Shop to make a \$10, non-refundable payment. That deposit will be deducted from the \$20 fee.

Appetizers and refreshments are included.

# **China Trip Meeting**

Michigan City Area Chamber of Commerce, 200 E. Michigan Blvd., will host a free informational meeting from 5 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, March 29, about its Oct. 9 trip to China.

Chamber members will share their tour experience and answer questions. Details of the cities and attractions included in the nine-day tour, costs and travel documentation required will be covered.

Refreshments will be served. Registration is appreciated by calling (219) 874-6221.

# Life Drawing Open Studio

Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St., is offering Life Drawing Open Studio from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Mondays.

Each participating artist must take their own supplies and clean up afterwards. A fully clothed model will be provided as the subject matter. No formal instruction is included.

The cost of each session is \$10, plus a tip for the model. Contact the center at (219) 926-4711 for more information.



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### **Indiana Dunes State Park**

The following programs are offered:

#### Saturday, March 26

### •10 a.m. — Spring into Action for the Birds.

Visit the Nature Center to help with the morning bird feeding, followed by making a bird feeder to take home.

# • 2 to 4 p.m. — Spring Wire Wrapping Workshops.

Join state park naturalists at the Nature Center auditorium for an introduction to wire wrapping by creating beach glass wire-wrapped pendants or necklaces. A \$5 registration fee is payable the day of the workshop. Call the Nature Center at (219) 926-1390 to register.

#### Sunday, March 27

#### • 10 a.m. — Lion or Lamb Walk.

Meet at the Nature Center for the hour-long hike. Wear hiking shoes. Take binoculars, or borrow a pair.

# ullet 2 to 4 p.m. — Spring Wire Wrapping Workshops.

Join state park naturalists at the Nature Center auditorium for an introduction to wire wrapping by creating beach glass wire-wrapped pendants or necklaces. A \$5 registration fee is payable the day of the workshop. Call the Nature Center at (219) 926-1390 to register.

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:

• Scientist Bob Brodman will discuss amphibians based on his National Lakeshore research at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, March 26, at Paul H. Douglas Center.

Brodman's talk will include restoration of fragmented habitats, using amphibian-friendly plants or crops and identifying environmentally friendly herbicides. The program will be repeated June 18 at the Douglas Center.

# • 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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# When Irish Eyes Are Smiling



Taking advantage of the wonderful spring weather, crowds lined Franklin Street on Saturday, March 12, to enjoy the annual St. Patrick's Day parade.



Photos by Janet Baines













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# **Westchester Public Library**

The following programs are available:

• Knit Wits and Pearls of Wisdom at 9 a.m. Thursdays, March 24 and 31, at Hageman Library, 100 Francis St., Porter.

The weekly meeting is open to the skilled and novices, with no registration required.

• Duplo Club from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Saturday, March 26, at Thomas Library's Children's Department, 200 W. Indiana Ave.

Geared towards preschoolers ages 2-5, registration is required by calling (219) 926-7696.

• Battles of the American Civil War from 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.

• Both branches of Westchester Public Library, Westchester Township History Museum and the Library Service Center will be closed on Good Friday, March 25, and Easter Sunday, March 27.

The library and museum will be open regular hours Saturday, March 26. The Westchester Township Trustee's office, located in the Library Service Center, also will be closed Good Friday. All buildings resume regular hours Monday, March 28.

• Teen Movie Night: "The Hunger Games Mockingjay Part 2" at 5 p.m. Saturday, March 26, at the Library Service Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

The movie is Rated PG-13. Free popcorn will be served.

• Eating Well for Healthy Living Series from 6 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 29, in the Thomas Library Bertha Wood Meeting Room.

Registered Dietetic Technician Gia DeMartinis will discuss "How to Read Nutrition Facts Labels." Registration can be done in person or by calling (219) 926-7696.

• '90s Trivia Night at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 29, at Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.

All questions revolve around events, inventions and pop culture of the 1990s. Teams of 14 people can vie for the prize. Refreshments will be served.

• 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.

# Friends of NB Library Forum

The Civil Rights Movement's peaceful protests and violent outbursts will be discussed at the next Friends of New Buffalo Library Community Forum at 6:30 p.m. EDT Tuesday, March 29, at the library, 33 N. Thompson St.

Tim Moore of Lake Michigan College will highlight the struggle for racial equality during "The Civil Rights Movement, 1945-1965." The talk will include a look at how the Civil Rights Movement sought to dismantle Jim Crow in the South.

Other free programs in the forum, all set for 6:30 p.m. EDT except for "American Songbook," include:

- "The Archeology of Southwest Michigan" by local archeologist William Mangold on Monday, April 18.
- "The American Songbook" presented by the School of American Music musicians and singers at 3 p.m. EDT Sunday, April 24.
- "How to Write Your Family History So That Someone Will Want to Read It" on Tuesday, May 10, by Aloma Custer of Berrien County Genealogical Society.
- "Personal Safety and Scams" on Tuesday, May 17, by Kelly Laesch.
- "Stormy Weather" on Tuesday, May 24, by Timm Pschigoda of Lake Michigan College.

Call the library at (269) 469-2933, follow the face-book link at newbuffalotownshiplibrary.org or email new.buffalo.FOL@gmail.com for more information.

# **Disability Awareness Event**

The Lakeshore Center for Independent Living and the City of Michigan City will host talks in honor of Disability Awareness Month on Thursday, March 31, at City Hall, 100 E. Michigan Blvd.

Michigan City Mayor Ron Meer will officiate. Presentations run from 10 a.m. to noon, then are repeated from 1 to 3 p.m. The lineup includes:

- Introducing Independent Living to Michigan City
   — Allen Piening.
- Entrepreneurship for the Blind Kane Brolin.
- Technology Makes the Blind Competitive Jennifer Piening.
- Community Engagement for Inclusion Zully JFAlvarado.

### Women of the Moose

The Women of the Moose will host its annual Spring Appreciation Dinner on Monday, April 4, at Moose Family Center 980, 1108 Franklin St.

Cocktails are at 5:30 p.m., with dinner at 6 p.m. Call Durbin Lyons at (219) 561-4047, Natalie Ness at (269) 469-3196 or Yvonne Baron at (219) 874-4738 for reservations, which are due by Monday, March 28.



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# **NPS to Hire Youth Workers**

Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore has jobs for 12 teens this summer through the Youth Conservation Corps, a work-learn-earn program for 15- to 18-year-olds.

The application deadline is April 22, and participants are paid \$7.25 an hour for a 40-hour work week. The program runs June 6 to Aug. 13, and applicants should be prepared to work the entire length of the program. Jobs include working as part of a crew to do manual labor tasks, normally outdoors, such as staining, painting and caulking the exterior of park buildings, and work as grounds maintenance (mowing grass, picking up trash, cleaning restrooms) and trails rehabilitation.

No experience is necessary. Participants will be selected by random draw from the pool of applications. They must be U.S. citizens and 15 before June 6, but not turn 19 before Aug. 13. The application form is available through high school guidance offices or the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore Office at (219) 395-8585, Ext. 1772. The forms also are available at tinyurl.com/mf539u2

# **Watercolor Class**

Dick Church will offer a six-week Beginning/Intermediate Watercolor Class starting from 10 a.m. to noon Friday, April 1, at Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St.

Church will lead students through a variety of watercolor techniques. The cost is \$70, with members receiving a \$5 discount. There also is a \$10 board and pattern fee. Other supplies are not included. Church will discuss supplies with all beginners to start the class.

Contact the center at (219) 926-4711 to register or for more information.

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# **Monday Musicale**

Monday Musicale will celebrate songs of the American West, co-hosted by Dan Moser and Howard Brenneman, at 7 p.m. Monday, March 28, at Barker Mansion. 631 Washington St.

While there is no admission charge, donations to the club's scholarship fund are appreciated.

A number of ensembles will be featured. Debra Sawyer, Dot Pakan and Moser, performing as the trio Ah Tu, will sing "Shenandoah," "Buffalo Gals" and "Streets of Laredo." Their instruments include harp, accordion, bass and guitar.

Selections by women's trio Back Porch Swing, with members Deborah Beien, Sue Cassler and Lisa Schwingendorf, include "I Found My Straight Shootin' Cowboy" and "Jealous Hearted Me." Noel Carlson will join Brenneman and Moser in singing "Rawhide" and "Don't Fence Me In." The men and women will come together to share Western favorites such as "Red River Valley," "Ghost Riders in the Sky," "Colorado Trail" and "The Yellow Rose of Texas," accompanied by Lee Meyer on piano.

Moser (on bass and vocal harmonies) will sit in with the duo Rusty Strings — new members Robert and Sheila Thompson — as they perform on mandolin, guitar and hammered dulcimer. Their playlist will include "Believe Me (If All Those Endearing Young Charms)," "Redwing" and "Home on the Range." Also on the program are vocal selections from "Oklahoma" and "State Fair" by soloists Carlson and Carrie Zerbe, Brenneman's rendition of "Along the Santa Fe Trail" and fiddle tunes by Sara Miller. The evening will conclude with a social hour, with refreshments provided by Phyllis Nowatzke and her hosting committee.

Call Ange Benz at (219) 874-3754 or Sue Cassler at (219) 362-1421 for more information.

#### National Lakeshore Pendleton Blanket

A special limited-edition Pendleton blanket has been produced to commemorate Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore's 50th anniversary.

The 100 percent wool blanket measures 60x80, and only 250 have been produced. It features bands of color that evoke the lake, sky and dunes. The discounted price is \$200, with all net proceeds benefitting the National Lakeshore.

Orders can be placed at tinyurl.com/zmn7mb6

# **Polish-American Cultural Society**

Polish-American Cultural Society of Northwest Indiana, Michigan City Chapter, will meet at 5 p.m. Wednesday, March 30, at the former St. Mary's School, 321 W. 11th St.

Call Theresa Child at (219) 464-1369 for additional information.

### **Prescribed Fires**

The National Park Service is planning five prescribed fires this spring at Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, with about 818 acres to be burned.

On the park's west end in Gary, 411 acres are to be burned west of Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education on North Lake Street. Three different parcels make up the burn area and are part of an area being restored to an Oak Savanah habitat.

Near County Line Road and Fifth Avenue, just south of U.S. 12, 62 acres will be burned in the Woodlake Dunes Savanah.

At West Beach in Portage, 154 acres are to be burned along the entrance road and the east side of the property along the Ogden Dunes town limit. Burning there helps reduce the threat of wildfires by limiting the amount of materials that could potentially burn.

In Porter, 191 acres of the Mnoké Prairie along West Beam Street will be burned as part of a longterm prairie restoration project.

The National Lakeshore announces prescribed fire activity on its facebook page, www.facebook. com/IndianaDunesNL. The program is conducted by trained and experienced personnel. Smoke dispersal is a primary concern, and park staff will do everything possible to limit smoke in the area by monitoring wind and atmospheric conditions prior to ignitions. However, smoke drifting in and around park lands and roadways is possible.

Clear management goals and objectives have been established for each burn unit.

# **Camp Downtown Spring Break 2016**

Several local agencies have united to present "Bridges to Your Future: Camp Downtown Spring Break 2016."

The interactive week targets Michigan City youth in grades K-8 during spring break. Modeled after Safe Harbor Summer Camp, it is set for 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, April 4-8.

The sponsoring groups are Safe Harbor, Boys & Girls Club, The Salvation Army, Michigan City Mainstreet Association, YMCA and Purdue Extension. Daily themes include art and literature, nature, science, robotics, food/nutrition/agriculture, walking tours, interactive experiences with local businesses.

Primary locations include: A.K. Smith Career Center, Michigan City Public Library, The Salvation Army, Moose Family Center 980 and the YMCA Elston branch.

The cost is \$25. Registration forms are available at Mullen Center, 100 Manny Court. The registration and payment deadline are Friday, March 24. Call (219) 873-2026 for more information.

# **Dining With Diabetes**

La Porte County Extension Office, 2857 W. Indiana 2, Suite A, La Porte, will host the program "Dining With Diabetes" at 4 p.m. Thursdays, March 31 and April 14, 21 and 28.

The program helps participants select and prepare healthy, easy, tasty meals. Take favorite recipes for a makeover, enjoy a light meal featuring recipes from the Dining with Diabetes collection and learn how to make a positive lifestyle change.

Each program is 90 minutes. The cost is \$25 per person or \$35 when attending with a friend and sharing materials. Registration is required by calling (219) 324-9407.

# **Mighty Acorns Nature Camps**

Youngsters interested in the five-day, four-night Mighty Acorns Nature Camps have until Friday, April 8, to submit an application.

Targeted at youth ages 8-12, the camp runs July 11-15 and 25-29. An \$88 registration fee is due once accepted and registered, but there is no application fee. Acceptance notifications and registration information will be sent April 15.

Visit duneslearningcenter.org/summer to register or for more information.







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# Prayer to the Blessed Virgin

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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.

#### **Investment Seminar**

The Northwest Indiana Forum, Economic Development Corp. Michigan City and BMG Capital group invite business and government leaders to an EB-5 Investment Seminar on Friday, April 1, at Blue Chip Casino.

Registration begins at 7:30 a.m., with the presentation from 8 to 9:30 a.m. at Blue Chip's Sun Coast Room. The program will answer questions such as:

- What is the EB-5 program?
- How does it work?
- How can it benefit your community.
- How to access overseas investors.
- The requirements of EB-5 funding.
- Hear from professionals with EB-5 experience.

BMG Capital has worked on many EB-5 projects that include a variety of industries, including medical, hospitality and entertainment. Recent projects include an automobile dealership, an ATV cycle shop, multiple family centers, a hotel and a craft brewery. These projects have been in Illinois, Indiana and Ohio.

Visit tinyurl.com/zkat4uu to RSVP or call the EDCMC at (219) 873-1211.

# **Indiana Dunes in Competition**

Indiana Dunes' beaches will compete in a bracket-style event to crown the 2016 Best Beach in America.

The event is organized by *Coastal Living*, with voting available at www.coastalliving.com/beach-bracket. The magazine's Indiana entry is the 15-mile stretch of shoreline that includes Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore and Indiana Dunes State Park beaches.

Voting in Round One ended March 17, with Round Two ending March 23. Ensuing rounds go through March 28, then March 28-31 and March 31-April 3. The winner will be announced April 4.

#### **Pastel Class**

Mary Ann Pals will teach a six-week Beginning & Intermediate Pastel Class starting from 7 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, March 30, at Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St.

Beginning students learn the basics of pastel drawing, working from a still life set-up, while intermediate students can work from their own reference materials. Because class size is limited to eight people, each student will receive individual attention. Some drawing experience is required.

The cost is \$75, with members receiving a \$5 discount. A suggested supply list will be available to registrants upon request. Call (219) 926-4711 for more information.

# Input Shapes DNR Strategic Plan

The DNR Division of Forestry has released its revised Strategic Plan for 2015-2019, with considerable public input having shaped revisions to the initial plan released last year.

The revised plan and a public comment summary (Strategic Plan Public Input Process) are available at tinyurl.com/jssv8zh.

A few changes in the plan are:

- Providing assistance to other DNR Divisions with forest management and health issues.
- Providing a balance in forest age structure, especially young forest conditions.
- · Increased emphasis on wildlife habitat management of state forests.
- Sustained emphasis on land acquisition, including acquiring additional state forest acreage.
- · Increased emphasis on development and management of recreational areas.
- Provide additional primitive cross-country/backpack trail hiking opportunities on six to seven state forests.
- Increased emphasis on control of exotic invasive species.
- System-wide initiative to improve trails.
- Selectively opening State Forest caves based on the needs of threatened and endangered cave species.
- Improvement of hunter access to areas in need of better deer population management.

As part of DNR Forestry's planning process, comments were received on proposed state forest recreation fees and private lands-management fees. The Division will continue to accept comments and recommendations on the proposed fees through November. Comments can be submitted through the questions/comments link at tinyurl.com/jssv8zh.

The plan also addresses DNR Forestry's private forest land-assistance programs and the strategic direction for tree nursery operation and hardwood economic development. Visit tinyurl.com/jssv8zh for more information.

# Ivy Tech Spring Fundraiser

The Ivy Tech Foundation will hold the 12th annual Spring Fundraising Event at 5:30 p.m. Friday, April 1, at Aberdeen Manor, Valparaiso.

The event includes dinner, a silent auction and entertainment by Felix and Fingers Dueling Pianos, a song-request show.

Tickets are \$75, \$40 of which is tax deductible. Proceeds support program improvements at campuses in East Chicago, Gary, Michigan City and Valparaiso. Contact Cindy Hall at (219) 476-4710 or cjhall@ivytech.edu for reservations by Friday, March 25.





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# **Activities to Explore**

#### In the Local Area:

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 26 — Spring into Action for the Birds, 10 a.m., Nature Center @ Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

March 26 — Program on amphibians, 1:30 p.m., Paul H. Douglas Center, 100 N. Lake St., Gary's Miller Beach neighborhood. Info: (219) 395-1882.

March 26 — Teen Movie Night: "The Hunger Games Mockingjay Part 2," 5 p.m., Library Service Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

March 26-27 — Spring Wire Wrapping Workshops, 2-4 p.m., Nature Center @ Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Cost: \$5. Info: (219) 926-1390.

March 28 — Monday Musicale, 7 p.m., Barker Mansion, 631 Washington St. Free-will donation. Info: (219) 874-3754, (219) 362-1421.

March 29 — "The Four Principles of Life: A Life Changing Event" with Ron Papke, 6 p.m., La Porte County Library, 904 Indiana Ave., La Porte. Cost: \$24.20. Reservations: tinyurl.com/huzyydt

March 29 — Friends of New Buffalo Library Community Forum, "The Civil Rights Movement, 1945-1965," 6:30 p.m. EDT, New Buffalo Township Public Library, 33 N. Thompson St. Info: (269) 469-2933.

March 29 — PoetryPalooza/Open Mic, 7-9 p.m., PNC Library-Student-Faculty Building Assembly Hall, Room 02. Cost: \$5 entry fee @ door for each competitor, \$1 for spectators/open mic participants. Registration/info: btlee@pnc.edu

March 29 — Harbor Country Book Club, Daniel Brown's "The Boys in the Boat," 7 p.m. EDT, The Harbor Grand, 111 W. Water St., New Buffalo, Mich.

**March 29** — '90s Trivia Night, 7 p.m., Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter 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.

**Through May** — "Bits of Time" display, La Porte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave. Hours: 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Tues.-Sat. Info: www.laportecountyhistory.org, (219) 324-6767.

#### **Farther Afield:**

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



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March 15, 2016

TEAM STANDING	WON	LOST
1. Queen Pins	31	9
2. IncrediBowls	25	15
3. Gutter Golfers	25.5	15.5
HIGH INDIVIDUAL GAMES		SCORE
1. Cindy Beck		186
2. Tammy Vouri		184
3. Dottie Brinckman		179
4. Debra Smith		158
5. Barb Macduzinski		155
5. Sue Labovitz		155
6. Judy Yagodnik		150
6. Margie Midkiff		150
7. Tammy Nelmar (series)		407
8. Diana Holt (series)		404

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Dottie Brinckman Barb Macudzinski

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- Springfield Elementary School, 3054 W. County Road 800 North, Michigan City, 1:30 to 6:30 p.m. Thursday, March 24. Each student who recruits one presenting donor will receive a slapwatch while supplies last.
- IU Health La Porte Hospital, 1007 W. Lincolnway, La Porte, 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, March 25.
   Receive a Marcos Pizza coupon for free cheeztbread or Cinnasquares while supplies last.
- St. Paul Lutheran Church & School, 818 Franklin St., Michigan City, 2 to 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 29. 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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Wanted: Light home health and housekeeping in north Portage area.

Call (219) 762-5477.

Lakefront Salon and Spa is seeking stylists to join our team as we expand our hours. Call Dianna at (219) 879-6168 to fill out an application.

#### **WANT TO SELL**

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

### WANT TO BUY

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#### REAL ESTATE

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

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### REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

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Open house: noon-2pm April 2-3

# **Community Spell Bowl**

READ La Porte County Inc. will hold its Community Spell Bowl on Wednesday, March 30, at Veterans of Foreign Wars, 181 W. McClung Road, La Porte.

Adult teams can have up to four players who confer and use paper and pencil in their deliberations. Teams compete against each other by accumulating points for each correctly spelled word. Word lists are available in preparation for the competition. Teams also are encouraged to decorate their tables to compete for the Spirit Award.

Doors open at 6 p.m. for registration, with the tournament at 6:30 p.m. Free refreshments and a cash bar for teams and fans are planned.

Visit www.readlaportecounty.org/spell-bowl/ to register or for more information.



# Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter

The Swans of Fifth Avenue by Melanie Benjamin (hardcover, \$28 in bookstores and online, also available as an eBook)

"When he was young, back in 1955, when they were all young—or, at least, younger—when fame was new and friendships fledgling, fueled by champagne and caviar and gifts from Tiffany's, Truman Capote was a hell of a lot of fun to be around."

A small group of New York socialites, the kind we would call "trophy wives" today, once took Truman Capote under their collective wings and treated him like a pocket pet.

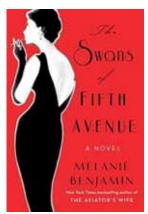
To understand why Capote's select coterie were called swans, consider the bird itself: it has long been looked at as symbols of fidelity and devotion. These women certainly fit that description nicely as they petted him, fed him, bought him baubles and shared their secrets and gossip with him. And their husbands felt no threat because everyone knew he was a "fag."

Let me introduce these "swans": Slim Keith, C.Z. Guest, Gloria Guinness, Pamela Churchill Harriman, Marella Agnelli and the shining head of all New York socialites of the day—Babe Paley, wife of William Paley, founder of the CBS empire. The rest were all married to captains of industry, and one, Agnelli, was a bona fide Italian princess married to the heir of the Fiat fortune. Most attended finishing school and had mothers who made sure they traveled in the right circles and attracted the right potential mates.

But it was Babe Paley who was the undisputed queen of the swans. Her name should have been in the dictionary next to "style" and "grace." Her fashion sense was followed and copied by women everywhere. Born into money, her father was a brain surgeon, she attended the posh Westover School, debuted in 1934 and became a fashion editor at *Vogue*. Her second marriage to William Paley, a Jew, was a bit of a shock, but he was extremely wealthy and that made it OK. He kept her in jewels and couture clothing, but left her emotionally broke. She, on the other hand, got him into clubs and social circles where Jews at the time were not allowed.

In Capote, Babe found a real soulmate. He was rejected by his mother, a fact that haunted him all his life, and forever sought the approval of the women from whom he used to get the juicy gossip featured in his later writing.

But Babe was a different situation. Benjamin portrays theirs as a meeting of the mind and soul, someone each could count on to understand their loneliness and true feelings. Benjamin spends a lot



of time exploring Babe's upbringing and adult life as a beautiful, perfect wife, but not a perfect mother. Indeed, she spent as little time with her four children as possible

Capote first was a successful magazine writer, then he came out with <u>Breakfast at Tiffany's</u>. Wildly loved, now Capote's star was truly a bright light in the Manhattan skyline. After <u>In Cold Blood</u> was published, Capote was a god.

At the height of his popularity, he decided to give a Black and White Ball. It would have been a faux pas to make it in his own

honor, so he chose Kay Graham, widow of Phil Graham, owner of *The Washington Post*. Dowdy Kay, so surprised to be Capote's guest of honor. No expense was spared. The guest list was a glittering array of New York's best, brightest and richest, along with politicians and Hollywood stars. Dropping names like bread crumbs along the yellow brick road, Benjamin describes a party the likes of which New York had seldom seen or would see again. But it was 1966, and the times they were soon a'changin'.

Everything never seemed enough for Capote. Maybe that's because what he was seeking was out of his control. So, he took to more drinking, gaining weight and getting older. By 1975, Random House was hounding him for his next book. He offered up his sneak peek into his new book, Answered Prayers, with a story in *Esquire* magazine. The swans were speechless. All the nasty gossip, all the private stories they had told them over the years were there for the public to read. What did they expect? He was a snake in the grass, slithering around them, storing up their dirty little secrets. Finally, Babe, along with the other swans, decided enough was enough and cut Capote out of their lives forever.

After that, Capote's life fell apart. And to make matters worse, Babe Paley's two-pack-a-day cigarette habit finally caught up with her. Capote was devastated...

This story had me totally involved. The opulence of the time, the deep emotional bond between Babe and Truman and the hold he had over his swans is mesmerizing. But underneath, there was heartbreak, longing and a lot of emptiness covered up with lunches, parties, charity events and lots of shopping—a lot of everything except a meaningful life.

The Swans of Fifth Avenue has garnered much praise. It has been named *People*'s Book of the Week, *U.S. Today*'s No. 1 "New and Noteworthy" Book, *Entertainment Weekly*'s Must List and *LibraryRead*'s Top Ten Pick.

Till next time, happy reading!



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# 1586 W. Kama Drive, La Porte

This beautiful 4,300 sq ft tri-level has 6 bedrooms, 3 full bathrooms and 3 car garage. Sliding glass doors off the kitchen take you to a nice deck and open clean yard. This home is located at Briar Leaf golf course and Crichfield school district. \$330,000



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