



Volume 32, Number 18 Thursday, May 12, 2016

Lighting the Way

New Children's Book Celebrates Harriet Colfax

by Connie Kuzydym

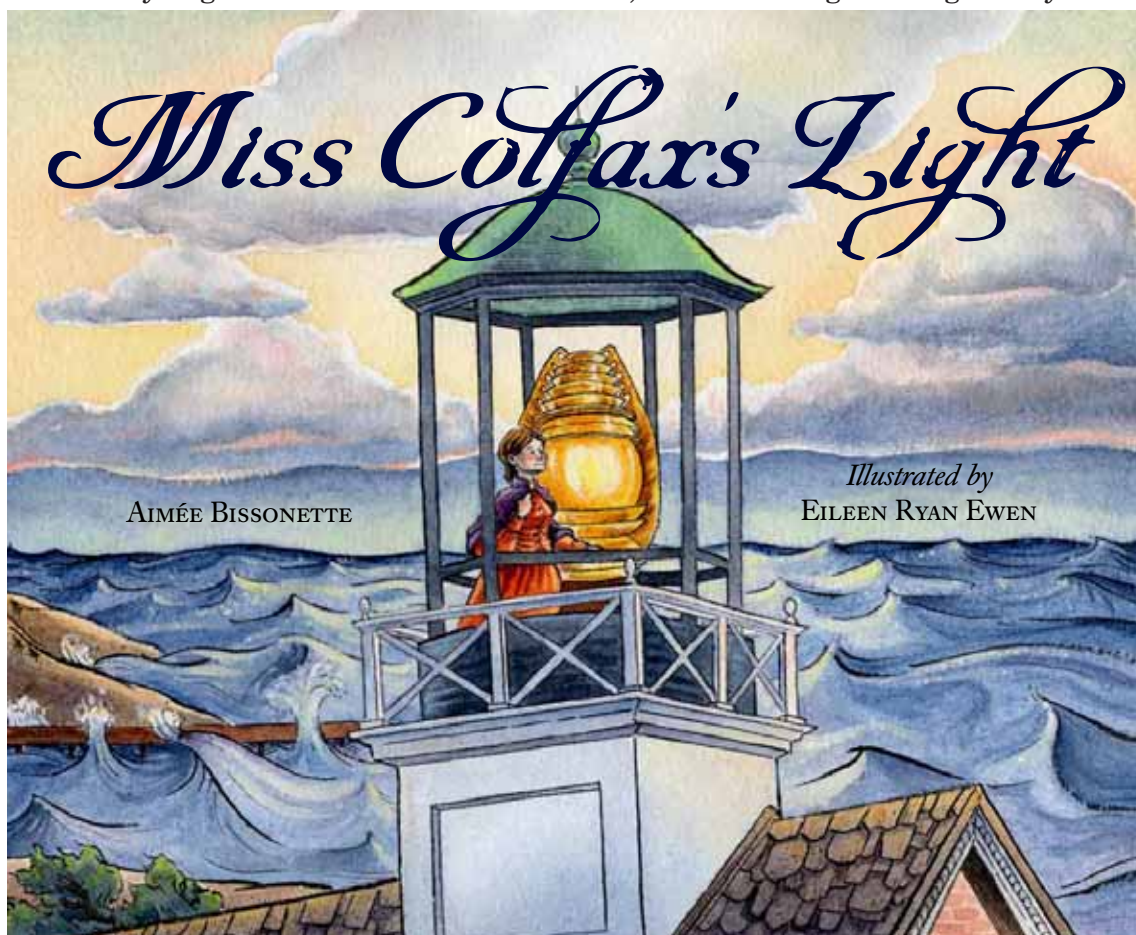
The interview began with a simple question posed to children's author Aimée Bissonette.

Why? What inspired someone who lives in Minnesota to write a children's book about Harriet Colfax, keeper of Michigan City's 1858 lighthouse.

The why begins with Bissonette's husband, who

grew up in St. Joseph, Mich., and has a love of lighthouses and the Great Lakes.

Through her longtime marriage, she has come to love both. While vacationing a few years ago, she purchased an adult book called "The Woman's Great Lakes Reader." Harriet was the first woman profiled. Bissonette couldn't believe she had not heard of her, considering the amount of times she passed through Michigan City.



AIMÉE BISSONETTE

Illustrated by
EILEEN RYAN EWEN

Harriet came to Indiana with her brother to work. When he became ill, he closed the newspaper and moved away. She chose to stay, not wanting to lose her independence, her dear friend and the beauty of Lake Michigan. Without a job or place to live, she became the lighthouse keeper in 1861. At 37, many doubted Harriet would be able to do the job, but she did for 43 years, until she was 80. Despite all the challenges, she kept the lighthouse light burning.

"I have a bias in favor of everyday heroes, especially women who stand up to challenges," Bisson-

The journey for Aimée Bissonette to release "Miss Colfax's Light" took nearly two years. The book's cover and all illustrations have been reproduced in The Beacher with the author's permission.

Continued on Page 2

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Lighting the Way Continued from Page 1

ette said. "She just fit the bill. She did this remarkable thing at a time when that job had to be incredibly hard."

Couple this with her love of non-fiction, and the idea for a children's book, "Miss Colfax's Light," came to life.

"There are all kinds of little treasures in history that are intriguing and...kids need to learn about," Bissonette said. "To me, Harriet was a really nice way for kids to be introduced to a time period they probably weren't that familiar with, to a job that they probably knew very little about, something to help raise their awareness about how important shipping is, and how far technology has come. Part of it was this educational bent I've always had, as I have taught for years. Someone like Harriet was a wonderful window into this time period."

And so began her research.

Around 1875, lighthouse keepers across the country were required to keep logs. Most of the keepers' entries stated facts such as this many ships came in, this many went out.

"Harriet was different. She was highly educated for somebody in that position," Bissonette said. "Sometimes, she had a beef with the lighthouse inspector and higher-ups, and she would put these treasures. Her log entries were just full of all kinds of rich detail about the time."

Bissonette had seen some of Harriet's log entries in secondary sources. She knew all of them were avail-

able through the National Archives and was prepared to head to Washington, D.C., when she received a pleasant surprise. A volunteer at Michigan City's Old Lighthouse Museum had transcribed all of Harriet's logs, saving her a trip.

Within them, Bissonette gained better insight into Harriet's life as a lighthouse keeper and incorporated several log entries throughout "Miss Colfax's Light."

It was extremely important to Bissonette that the book be historically accurate. The only bit of artistic licensing occurred with the phrase "I can do this." Research showed Harriet faced challenges and was very determined, but she did not find where anyone actually wrote Harriet said "I can do this."

The phrase, repeated throughout the book, has significance.

"For me, the importance is I'm at that age I benefited from a lot of woman ahead of me..." Bissonette said. "There were a lot of women who worked very hard, that enabled me to get my law degree because they broke down barriers. I see Harriet as that same kind of person who broke down barriers."

There are some questions as to how Harriet actually got the job during the Civil War. Some say she had an in because her cousin was a congressman. When the men returned after the war, she kept her job.

"It was her job," Bissonette said. "She did it well. There was no reason to give it up."

Bissonette could see Harriet's struggles and accomplishments in her own work experience and the



This photo of Harriet Colfax, provided by Jan Hoeppner of the Old Lighthouse Museum, may be the only one that still exists of her.



The lighthouse building circa 1910.

work experience of women who were her mentors.

"Sometimes, you are working in a situation where you know you are not being treated fairly or you know you need to prove that you can do it, whether because you're younger than everyone else, you are a different gender...", Bissonette said. "That sense of determination was important to me, still is important to me, but I also want to convey it to kids: You can do this, try different things, stick your neck out, prove other people wrong."

Bissonette worked directly with volunteers at Old Lighthouse Museum, crediting staff with helping ensure accuracy with the content and illustrations.

"They were priceless," she said. "Not only did they assist me with a whole bevy of questions, but they were very gracious when the illustrator came up to visit."

Once all the research was completed, it was up to Bissonette to decide what approach to use in telling the story. She decided to take a chronological approach with "Miss Colfax's Light."

"A lot of picture books are sort of a day-in-the-life kind of thing, where all you're seeing is one day, one incident," Bissonette said. "That didn't work with Harriet because I wanted to show a timeline of her life, because part of what is so impressive is she did this for more than 40 years."

Continued on Page 4



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Lighting the Way Continued from Page 3

Using Harriet's log entries as a guide, Bissonette looked for what was critical in her life.

"What got the most attention in her log entries? What was the thing that impressed her the most?" Bissonette said. "Those were the things that I tried to make sure stayed in the book."

The creative process for a picture book is different than other children's books since there is a limit to the number of words that can be used.

Harriet's story, complete with the log entries, glossary and author's note, is approximately 1,800 words, which Bissonette says is a lot.

"The hardest part for me is to pick and choose. There's so much more about Harriet that could have gone into this story," Bissonette said. "You have to think about your audience, your young readers and what might appeal to them."

At this point, there was much discussion with her editor in two areas: making sure the reading level was appropriate for elementary school kids, and due to space constraints, what text needed to go or could be handled by the illustrations.

Usually, there is little if any interaction between the illustrator and author. The illustrator is chosen by the publisher. The writer does not have direct communication with him/her, instead working through the editor or art director.

"Picture books are unique, as the end work is a collaborative thing that is more than the story itself. The art adds so much more to it," Bissonette said. "So typically, the writer is excluded when the illustrator is

working on the illustrations."

When working with historical content, though, accuracy is important. Even though Bissonette received the sketches, she did not have direct interaction with illustrator Eileen Ryan Ewen.

"I would comment, not about her style, not even necessarily about the scene she was sketching, but would that clock have looked like that at that time, or would mail have been delivered at the lighthouse," Bissonette said, adding she relied on the illustrations to complete the story, which they did.

One illustration captured the gale force winds on Lake Michigan and Harriet making her way on the catwalk while the waves and winds whipped around her.

For anyone who has experienced the mighty winds of Lake Michigan, looking at that illustration makes you shiver.

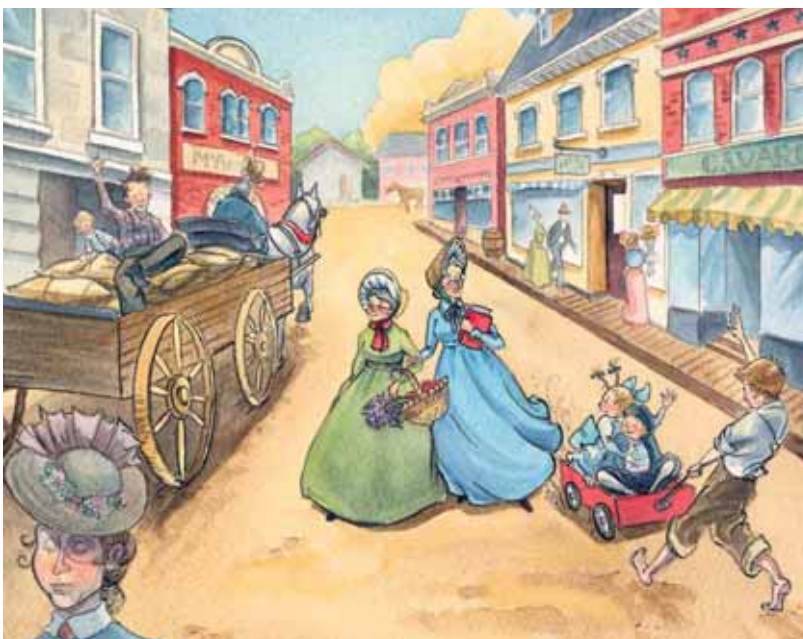
From conception until the book was published took approximately two years. The research and manuscript took almost a year, the illustrations took another. Only when the book was completed did Bissonette communicate to Ewen how thankful she was for her work.

The end product is a well-written, beautifully illustrated picture-book biography.

Although she has quite a bit of material left and could write another book on Harriet, she does not think she will. Instead, she is in the process of making the additional material available on her website for parents and teachers to access. Not only will they be able to download information about Harriet, but also other women lighthouse keepers, along with links to interactive



Harriet in the book encounters a squall during a typically difficult winter along Lake Michigan.



This illustration in the book depicts Harriet and her friend, Ann, in town.

maps of other lighthouses on the Great Lakes.

Bissonette not only created a book for young readers, learning about an amazing lady central to the beach area, but also from this experience learned more about people.

"I learned how passionate the folks are who work at these museums," Bissonette said. "You know the lighthouse museum, it's not one of these huge downtown big metropolitan-area museums, but it is a very important museum, and it is staffed by volunteers who care so much about telling people about that time in history and telling them about this incredible woman."



A drawing in the book that shows Harriet Colfax first seeing the lighthouse.

She was impressed not only with their knowledge, but also with their willingness to help.

"Miss Colfax's Light" has received positive responses from teachers and school librarians who appreciate that a lesser-known person, at least from a national perspective, was featured. By doing so, Bissonette gives children the opportunity to learn about a person, a certain time period and an occupation they might otherwise not have learned about.

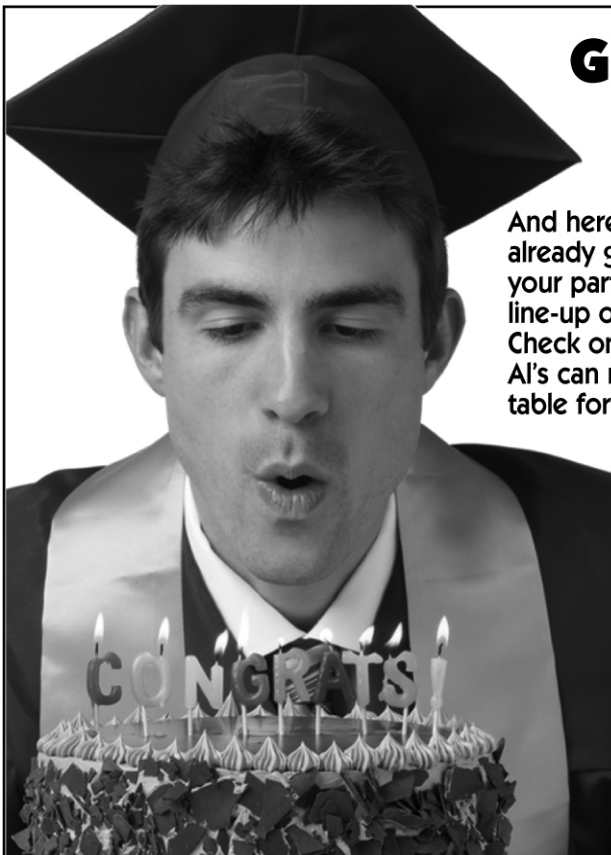
"Harriet is just priceless," Bissonette said. "I want her story to get out beyond Michigan City where you already pay her a wonderful tribute."

Perhaps it is Harriet, herself, who best described why she loved what she did. In a *Chicago Tribune* article published in 1904, she was quoted as saying, "I love the lamps, the old lighthouse, and the work. They are the habit, the home, everything dear I have known for so long....I would rather die here than live elsewhere."

Continued on Page 6

If You Go

Meet Aimée Bissonette at 2 p.m. Sunday, May 15, at the Old Lighthouse Museum in Washington Park. Pre-order copies of the book by calling (219) 872-6133. Visit www.aimeebissonette.com for more information on the author.



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Q&A With Aimée Bissonette

Aimée Bissonette was born in New Kensington, Pa., the sixth of seven children. She received an undergraduate degree in occupational therapy from Colorado State University. She knew she wanted to pursue a graduate degree and thought about medical school. But after working in a hospital, she changed her mind. A friend persuaded her to try law.

She received her law degree from the University of Minnesota. In the last 15 years, her legal practice has represented numerous artistic individuals and children's authors, illustrators, photographers, licensing work, copyright and trademarks work. Immersed in the creative community, her clients, who know she likes to write, gave her nudges towards writing her own book.

Q: Have you always wanted to write a children's book?

A: I have always written as long as I can remember. I have journals and journals. The more I worked with clients who were writing for children, the more I thought that is something I would like to pursue myself.

Q: Where did your love of reading and writing come from?

A: Certainly my mom. She was just an avid reader, always had a book in her hands and some wonderful teachers along the way. I had a particular fifth-grade teacher, who I suspect was a writer herself, she never told us that. Every day, she would stop whatever we were doing and she would give us all a writing prompt where we would have to sit and just write for 5 minutes to 10 minutes. I think a lot of teachers do that now, but at the time that was really unusual. She was instrumental in saying do this, do it often, don't worry if you produce something wonderful and finished every day, but write.

Q: What was your favorite children's book growing up?

A: So hard to answer because there were so many. I loved poetry, in addition I read every Nancy Drew and every other kind of mystery novel I could get my hands on. But I always loved poetry. When I was really little, my favorite poetry book was "Now We Are Six" (Winnie the Pooh).

Q: One of your bios said you had moved often and you went to eight different schools. Why so many moves?

A: My dad worked his whole career for Alcoa, the aluminum company. He started as a young engineer and got into management. Every time there was a promotion, it was a move. We moved all over the country. I had six siblings, so we would always arrive at our new destination en masse. It was good. You traveled in a pack, so you knew a good group of

people when you got to the new location.

Q: What was the moment you knew you wanted to write the book about Harriet? Was it when you picked up "The Woman's Great Lakes Reader"?

A: It really was, it was that quick. I have had other characters or other ideas that have come to me that way. You can find your inspiration in funny places. All the pieces (for "Miss Colfax's Light") fell together. I read that story about her. I have been to Michigan City. This is just a great story. I love anything associated with the Great Lakes, so it was that quick.

Q: How often do you come back to the area?

A: Not as often since my mother-in-law passed. Once every two years. I have brother-in-laws that live just across the Indiana border in Michigan.

Q: From what I read about and looking at your website, it seems like you are drawn to the outdoors. Was that inspired from your childhood?

A: My folks...were outdoors people. We would go camping, we would go waterskiing every weekend. I'm a big bird nut. I love to go hiking and bird watching. My husband and I have continued with our own kids, where we have gone to so many national parks. To me, it's a huge part of my life.

Q: Do you have any other books in the works?

A: I'm working on another. I have a couple of them out to publishing houses for their consideration.

Q: Will your books be outdoor-themed?

A: I think you will see...that 90 percent of what I write will be Greats Lakes oriented or outdoors. I think particularly for my children's book and my manuscripts. You're going to see a nature thread or a Greats Lakes thread.



Aimée Bissonette

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The Beacher's Janet Baines spent the morning of April 30 capturing images from Solid Waste District of La Porte County's annual Clean It Up Day. Pictured are volunteers at stops 18 and 22 in Long Beach and Michigan City's Gardena Park.



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Novel Conversations

Author Laura Bates, the Eugene & Marilyn Glick Indiana Authors Award finalist, will speak at 2 p.m. Sunday, May 15, at Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St.

The free talk is part of the Novel Conversations Speakers Program, sponsored by Indiana Humanities with support from The Glick Fund through the Central Indiana Community Foundation. The library was one of 12 state-wide that received grant funding to host the event.

Bates has a doctorate from the University of Chicago in comparative literature, with a focus on Shakespeare studies. She is professor of English at Indiana State University, where she teaches undergraduate and graduate courses on Shakespeare and world literature. For more than 25 years, she has also taught throughout the Indiana state prison system. She created the world's first Shakespeare program in supermax: the long-term solitary confinement unit. Her prison work has been featured in local and national media, including two segments on MSNBC-TV's "Lock Up."

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La Porte County Convention & Visitors Bureau presents R.O.S.E. Awards



Pictured are (seated, from left) Bunny Fisher, Joy Zigler, Laura Marie Panozzo, Kim Ramsey, Tricia Perez (Blue Chip Casino Hotel), La Porte Mayor Blair Milo and Carey Garwood. Standing are (from left) State Sen. Jim Arnold, Jeremy Kienitz (Washington Park and Beach), Brett Binversie, Thaddeus Cutler, Beth Shrader (City of La Porte Community Development and Planning Director), Mary Koselke (Fiddlehead Restaurant), Alicia Ebaugh, Patricia Segovia and Crystal Holaway (Best Western Plus La Porte Hotel) and Shawn Condes (Albano's Villa).

Visit Michigan City La Porte and Indiana Dunes Tourism on May 5 honored several businesses, organizations and individuals for providing outstanding service to the community and visitors.

The Recognition of Service Excellence Awards salute those who go the extra mile to make La Porte and Porter counties a great place to live or visit. Carrie Lambert, Indiana Tourism Association executive director, was the keynote speaker.

The awards ceremony coincides each year with National Travel and Tourism Week. The La Porte CVB co-hosted the ceremony and presented its R.O.S.E. Awards:

- Agri-Tourism Award – Garwood Orchard.
- Best Fest Award – Shelf Ice Brew Festival.
- Distinguished Artist Award – Bunny Fisher.
- Employee of the Year – Laura Marie Panozzo.
- Green Award – Alicia Ebaugh.
- Hoosier Hospitality Award – Drew Sherwood.
- Hotel of the Year – Blue Chip Casino Hotel & Spa

and Best Western La Porte Hotel & Conference Center.

- La Porte County Achievement Award – Kim Ramsey.
- Lemonade Award – Younger Life Plaza 618.
- Outstanding Elected Official Award – State Rep. Tom Dermody and State Sen. Jim Arnold.
- Quality of Life/Quality of Place Award – Thor Thordarson.
- Pizza Wars Winner/Best Pizza – Albano's Villa.
- Professional Achievement Award – Brett Binversie and Thaddeus Cutler.
- Putting La Porte County on the Map – Washington Park and Beach.
- Restaurant of the Year – Mucho Mas.
- Retailer of the Year – Reprographics Arts Inc.
- Shining Star Award – Willie Milsap.
- Team Effort Award – Fiddlehead Restaurant.
- Unsung Hero Award – Tyler Brooks.
- Volunteer of the Year Award – Joy Zigler.

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First Basketball Shot Taken at New Purdue Northwest Complex

A Purdue University Northwest milestone arrived April 29 as the ceremonial first basketball shot was taken in the new H.D. Kesling Gymnasium at the Westville campus.

The gymnasium is located in the James B. Dworkin Student Services and Activities Complex.

Taking the first shot was Austen Kesling, grandson of Peter and Charlene Kesling, who made a \$1 million donation to the center's building fund to secure the right to name the gymnasium for Peter's father. Austen, great-grandson of H.D., was a noted basketball player for La Porte High School from 2004 through 2007. He graduated from Purdue University in 2011 with a Bachelor's Degree in business management, and he continues to play basketball.

Visitors to the gymnasium will be greeted with the words "H.D. Kesling Gymnasium" emblazoned on the entryway wall. The new athletic mascot, the Pride, is the focal point of center court.

Peter Kesling said he was inspired to name the gymnasium for his father, H.D., who was an outstanding high school basketball player in Logansport and a member of the team that made it to the 1918-19 state quarterfinals. As a young student, his father realized he needed to keep his grades up

to maintain his spot on the basketball team. He soon excelled in class and in basketball.

"If it wasn't for basketball, he might have stayed down on the farm and never had the opportunity

to attend college," Peter said. "However, he continued his excellent study habits, graduated from Loyola Dental School and in 1924 began practicing dentistry in La Porte. This is why all of the Kesling family is proud to have his name associated with the new gymnasium."

The Purdue Board of Trustees recently named the Student Services and Activities Complex in honor of Jim Dworkin, who will retire as chancellor June 20. He has held that position since January 2000.

The H.D. Kesling gymnasium will have a bleacher seating capacity for 1,361, with a total event capacity of 2,065. The main basketball court can be divided into two

separate courts through the use of a ceiling-hung divider to separate them. The gymnasium can accommodate additional net sports such as volleyball and badminton.

The first events to take place in the complex will be commencement ceremonies May 16-17 in the gymnasium. A reception for the graduates will be in the building's Great Hall immediately after each night's ceremony.



Charlene and Peter Kesling, with grandson Austen, celebrate the first basketball shot taken in the H.D. Kesling Gymnasium.



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LaLu Super Bowl Team Excels

La Lumiere School's Academic Super Bowl team competed in the 30th Annual Indiana Academic Super Bowl Area Competition on April 19 at Kankakee Valley High School.

The team earned first place in English, second place in Interdisciplinary and third place in Fine Arts. Competing as a Division 4 school, the English team earned a fifth place statewide out of 69 teams, and the Interdisciplinary team earned a 10th place statewide out of 69 teams.

This performance qualified the English team, including Grace Dybing, Isaac Houston, Camryn Roberts and Sean Russell for state finals on May 7 at Purdue University.

Team members include: Dybing, a senior from La Porte; Hannah Fogel, a senior from Manteno, Ill.; Houston, a junior from Niles, Mich.; Hasan Nasar, a sophomore from Chesterton; Shivani Patel, a sophomore from Granger; Violet Potter, a senior from Chicago; Roberts, a sophomore from New Carlisle; Reyna Rodriguez, a sophomore from Cicero, Ill.; Russell, a junior from North Liberty; Noah Schuster, a junior from La Porte; Fiona Whalen, a senior from La Porte; and Walker Wroblewski, a sophomore from Michigan City.

Awards included:

- Dybing: first place in English, second place in Interdisciplinary and third place in Fine Arts.
- Fogel: third place in Fine Arts.
- Houston: first place in English.
- Potter: third place in Fine Arts.
- Roberts: first place in English and second place in Interdisciplinary.
- Russell: first place in English and second place in Interdisciplinary.
- Schuster: second place in Interdisciplinary.
- Whalen: third place in Fine Arts.
- Wroblewski: second place in Interdisciplinary.



La Lumiere's 2016 Academic Super Bowl Team: (first row, from left) Hannah Fogel, Fiona Whalen, Violet Potter and Grace Dybing. The second row is Camryn Roberts (from left), Shivani Patel and Reyna Rodriguez. The third row is Sean Russell, Noah Schuster and Isaac Houston. The fourth row is Walker Wroblewski and Hasan Nasar.



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CNC Machine Donated to La Porte County Career Center



Instructor Chris Smith, Morgan Family Foundation representative Pat Lain, Audra Peterson, La Porte County Career and Technical Education director, and students from the Modern Machine Technology class pose with the new CNC milling machine.

Students in the Modern Machine Technology program at Michigan City's A.K. Smith Career Center will use a new Computer Numerical Control mill, thanks to a \$10,000 donation from the Morgan Family Foundation.

The CNC system, a Syil X5Pro vertical milling machine, was unveiled May 3. According to Modern Machine Technology Teacher Chris Smith, it is a wonderful addition to equipment in the career center's machine technology lab.

"Our goal is to cycle older equipment out, replacing it with newer machines that students will encounter when they work for area companies or pursue additional technical training at Ivy Tech or Vincennes," he said. "We will continue to teach students fundamentals on manual mills and lathes. But this new equipment is the present and future standard for the manufacturing industry, and knowledge of its operation can lead to well-paying jobs for our graduates."

The Morgan Family Foundation was established in memory of Bill Morgan, who founded Filter Specialists Inc. of Michigan City in 1972. His passion

for his business and innovative ideas resulted in numerous patents, and fundamentally changed the filtration industry. The Foundation supports philanthropic work focusing on education, and especially non-traditional education options.



Michigan City High School junior Ameer Hoskins operates the machine.

According to Audra Peterson, La Porte County Career and Technical Education director, the Modern Machine Technology program at the career center will double in size next fall due to increased interest from students at the six county high schools served by the program. Students in this track earn dual credit and a Manufacturing Skills Standards Council industry certification after two years of coursework, which includes machining, mathematics, print reading, assembly, pneumatics, hydraulics, CAD and CAM.



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Neil Young Tribute

Canterbury Theatre, 807 Franklin St., will present veteran singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist Johnny V, who will perform "Heart of Gold — A Tribute to Neil Young" at 8 p.m. Saturday, May 14.

A native Texan, Johnny V (Vermilye) grew up in Chicago's south suburbs, where he began playing the guitar and writing music at 13. After playing several years in the popular area band Tak a Bite, comprised of Chicago and Northwest Indiana musicians, he embarked on a solo career to concentrate on his own music and has toured throughout the Midwest for the past 30 years. He plays acoustic and electric guitars, piano, mandolin and harmonica, and has been known to pick up the ukulele. To date, he has released three CDs of original works, "Wood Chips," "Inside Reality" and "Barns and Bridges," some of which will be included in his performance.

However, the Canterbury show's primary focus is Young's music. To date, the performer has released 36 albums of studio music, and has been inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame twice: once for his solo work, once as a member of Buffalo Springfield. His immense catalog of songs includes "Heart of Gold," "Old Man," "After the Gold Rush," "Like a Hurricane," "Comes a Time" and "My, My, Hey, Hey (Out of the Blue)."

Tickets are \$10 and can be reserved by calling the Canterbury box office at (219) 874-4269 or by email at info@canterburytheatre.org

Fernwood Botanical Garden

The following programs are available at Fernwood Botanical Garden and Nature Preserve, 13988 Range Line Road, Niles, Mich.

• **Spring Garden Festival/Plant Sale on Saturday, May 14.**

The event features local vendors specializing in unique plant material, as well as hand-crafted art and garden elements. Experts can assist with questions and growing tips. The vendor tent will be open exclusively to Fernwood members from 8:30 to 10 a.m. EDT.

• **Spring Wildflower Walk on Saturday, May 14.**

The cost is \$12, or \$10 for members. Register on Fernwood's website.

• **"Breaking Through Bias: Communication Techniques For Women to Succeed at Work" from 4:30 to 6 p.m. EDT Saturday, May 14.**

Authors Andrea Kramer and Alton Harris have focused on gender bias in the workplace with their upcoming book, "Breaking Through Bias." The event includes a book signing and reception.

Visit www.fernwoodbotanical.org to register or for more information.

Third Annual Maple City Pub Crawl

Take a stroll through downtown La Porte during the Third Annual Maple City Pub Crawl from 5 to 8 p.m. Saturday, May 14.

Participating restaurants and bars will offer specials, including tastings and entertainment. A limited-edition Pub Crawl button will be sold at all locations for \$3, with proceeds aiding efforts to buy a new screen for the free Friday Night Movies in downtown La Porte.

Visitors also can take a selfie with the Potawatomie sculpture and enter a drawing to win four tickets to the South Bend Cubs "La Porte Day" game at Four Winds Field on June 19. Send the selfie to cutler@lpchamber.com. The winning photo will be chosen at noon Monday, May 16. The sculpture is on the Michigan Street side of the courthouse lawn.

Visit www.facebook.com/DowntownLaPorte for more information, or contact Thaddeus Cutler at cutler@lpchamber.com or (219) 362-3178.

Regional History Art Display

The Region of Three Oaks Museum, 5 Featherbone Ave., will host a special display by the fifth-grade art class at River Valley Elementary School on May 14-June 20.

The students, under the direction of Lisa Van Plew Cid, have created interpretations of what they see as part of the region of Three Oaks history. First-, second- and third-place prizes will be awarded.

Museum hours are (all times Eastern) 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays and noon to 4 p.m. Sundays in May. In June, additional hours are 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Mondays and 2 to 6 p.m. Fridays. Admission is by donation.

Email trotommuseum@gmail.com for additional information.

Virtual Pilgrimage

North American Lourdes Volunteers will present a 90-minute Virtual Pilgrimage to Lourdes, France, at 1 p.m. Sunday, May 15, at St. Mary's Church, 411 W. 11th St., Michigan City.

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“Captain America: Civil War” is everything a Marvel movie should be. Big, brash and brawny, with a crafty sense of humor, the film trusts its audience to invest time and energy into the story so when the colossal action sequences do arrive, the payoffs are exhilarating.

In a way, the movie is reassuring after last year’s agreeable, yet cumbersome “Avengers: Age of Ultron.” You could feel the wheels grinding with that one, writer-director Josh Whedon feverishly, and fruitlessly, juggling too many characters with over-elaborate spectacles. When you lift an entire city into the sky, you’ve tried too hard to give everyone their money’s worth.

“Civil War,” by comparison, feels effortless, as if every element slipped into place with comparable ease. The writers, Christopher Markus and Stephen McFeely, not only have been with the “Captain America” franchise from the start, but they also wrote “Thor: The Dark World” and created TV’s terrific “Agent Carter.” They know the Marvel universe, and they get something “Age of Ultron” forgot: These movies should be fun. The story should be easily absorbed so we can savor the mythology behind the characters, how they interact, how they fit into the big picture.

The writers, reteaming with “Winter’s Solder” directors Anthony Russo and Joe Russo, two guys who know how to craft tight, adrenaline-fused action, also delve into the most intriguing exploration yet of how the Avengers fit into the hierarchy of the current world order.

As the movie opens, a new mission for Steve Rogers (Chris Evans), Natasha Romanoff (Scarlett Johansson), Sam Wilson (Anthony Mackie) and Wanda Maximoff (Elizabeth Olsen) turns deadly in Nigeria when a suicide bomber results in the deaths of Wakandan humanitarian workers. Another trail of destruction to their list of many, the incident places the Avengers under investigation by U.S. Secretary of State Thaddeus Ross (Oscar-winner William Hurt). His directive is simple: The United Nations is about to approve the Sokovia Accords, which will decide when, where and *if* the Avengers are needed. Tony Stark (Robert Downey Jr., who owns this role as if it’s ingrained in his very being), riddled with guilt over having created Ultron, embraces the pact. Rogers, however, has unfinished business with longtime buddy Bucky Barnes (Sebastian

Stan), who was brainwashed into becoming the terrorist known as the Winter Soldier. Signing the Sokovia Accords means no opportunity to save his friend.

Sides are taken within the Avengers, and that discord leads to the overlying theme of “Civil War”: Is doing what feels right to you the right thing to do when part of a greater good? What “Civil War” argues is that while the Avengers, themselves, are a crime-fighting unit, deep down, they are also a family; a reluctant one, but one forged through trust, respect and, yes, love.

There is a villain, but a most unusual one played

CIVIL WAR

is Wildly Entertaining

by Andrew Tallackson

by Daniel Brühl, whose breakout performance was as Formula 1 driver Niki Lauda in Ron Howard’s unfairly ignored “Rush” (2013). This is not the megalomaniac we’re accustomed to in big-screen comic book fare. This is quiet, understated work, the character linked — heartbreakingly so — to a previous Marvel film. There are no plans to take over the world, no cities toppled, just a quiet, devastating revelation that puts a human face on rage-fueled revenge.

What’s appealing about the first half of “Civil War” is that the big moments are not an orgy of ex-

plosions. The Russo brothers go old school with foot chases spruced up with high-tech gadgetry. Sam Wilson’s Falcon, in particular, has nifty tricks up his sleeve to enliven the pursuits.

Seeing Falcon, the first black superhero in mainstream comics, get his due, it struck me that “Civil War” does the best balancing act of all the Marvel pictures when it comes to the characters. No one feels shortchanged. This really is the first time some of these individuals have time to breathe, to develop personalities that make them endearing.

That’s true of several new additions, especially Chadwick Boseman, whose turn as Jackie Robinson in the superior “42” was *the* breakthrough accomplishment of 2013. He gives the most beautifully textured performance of “Civil War” as T’Challa, whose father, the king of Wakanda, is killed during a bombing in Vienna. Emerging as the superhero Black Panther, Boseman underplays the role, infusing it with grief, tragedy, wisdom and repose. This should make the actor a full-blooded star.

The same can be said for Tom Holland. Strong in small roles (“The Impossible,” “In the Heart of the Sea”), he puts Tobey Maguire and Andrew Garfield to shame by creating the liveliest Spider-Man to date. His approach to Spidey is bathed in innocence. He’s a kid whose gee-whiz outlook is like watching the school nerd who can’t believe he’s been invited to sit at the table with the cool kids.

In fact, it is Spidey’s presence during the film’s epic superhero smackdown that reveals why “Civil War” triumphs. Yes, there are explosions, but it’s all done with a sly wink of an eye. The characters, themselves, cannot believe they’re battling each other. When Natasha and Hawkeye (Jeremy Renner) duke it out, wrapped in a tricky embrace, Hawkeye asks his fellow Avenger, “We’re still friends after this, right?” Her response, her eyes flickering with mischief: “Depends on how hard you hit me.”

Is “Civil War” the best Marvel movie yet? Maybe. I have a soft spot for “X2: X-Men United” (2003), which existed on such a grand, operatic scale, it recalled Steven Spielberg’s earliest screen adventures. “Civil War” comes close, though, proof the Avengers, and the Marvel universe entire, have plenty of life left in them.

Contact Andrew Tallackson at drew@thebeacher.com



Captain America (Chris Evans, center) leads the charge during an epic battle between the Avengers.



Tom Holland creates the best Spider-Man to date.



Chadwick Boseman, as Black Panther, gives the film’s most textured performance.



Tony Stark (Robert Downey Jr.) comes to the aid of a friend amid battle.

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Run the Summer

by Kevin Scott

Even with the up-and-down temperatures of spring 2016, summer is right around the corner. Friends and neighbors are coming out of their cocoons and getting back outside again. The hints and smells of grills, freshly cut grass and fires are a sign warm weather is near.

Warm weather tends to mean workouts often move outside with running, biking and various summer sports.

Just about every weekend, you can find some sort of 5K run/walk, mud run, obstacle course race or charity run somewhere in the community. But with so many options, how do you know what to pick, what to do and where to start?

No fear, the fitness guy is here to help you get through this sweaty and fun running season. I will outline four quick tips to help make your first run of the summer or the first run of your life a fun one.

The first tip is finding a cause you support. Every run typically raises money for one with a great story behind it. Whether it is a local run for a local family, organization or cause, or a big run for large non-profits supporting research on prostate cancer or breast cancer, finding a cause you are passionate about ensures your dedication to the event.

My second tip to make the most out of your runs this summer is to sign up early. This gives you time to prepare. There are many great couch-to-5K plans and apps that help guide you from whatever level you are at now to finishing a 5K. How you finish it is all up to you and your preparation. If you want to knock off time from your last run, for instance, following a program will get you there. It is just like following the lesson plan your teacher had in school. Yes, it's painful, long and can drag, but if you follow it, you will pass with flying colors. Signing up early not only gives you plenty of time to get ready, but you also will have to put your money where your mouth is and pay for that race. Once you have a little dough in it, usually you have more motivation to get out there and prepare and finish.

The third tip is to call yourself out. What do I mean by this? Put yourself on blast. What do I mean by this? OK, sorry, let your friends and family know you are doing this. Put it on facebook. Give your virtual world a head's up. You will have supporters and haters. Most importantly, you will have put yourself out there by saying you are going to do something. This also can give you the opportunity to find a partner who will run with you. Ask friends and family to come out for this event and participate or spectate. With a crowd of supporters, and a whole lot bigger crowd just for the race, your adrenaline is sure to kick in and get you ready to go. Follow through with

it and crush it!

The last tip was touched on in Tip Two, but it is important. The last tip is to prepare, prepare, prepare. Whether it is a 5K run/walk, a 5K mud run, a 10K, a half marathon, an obstacle course or a Krispy Kreme challenge (look it up), get ready for it by getting comfortable being uncomfortable. Whatever you challenged yourself to was at some point, somewhere in the old melon of yours important enough for you to seek out a run, research, and want to do it. Thomas Edison said, *"Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work."*

Getting ready for a run is an opportunity. When I do a run, whatever kind it is, I always have a thought at the start line: "I am lucky enough to be capable of walking and running. Don't take this for granted." Be thankful for the opportunity to be present in this situation. Edward Stanley said *"Those who think they have no time for exercise will sooner or later have to find time for illness."*

Knock two birds out with one stone and find a healthy hobby like running. Stay young, and stay active.

Contact Kevin at kevinthomasscott00@gmail.com



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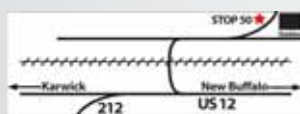
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Dancing Like A Star

Local celebrities and their professional dancer partners will face off to raise funds for the La Porte County Family YMCA scholarship fund during the second "Dancing Like a Star" on Friday, May 27, at Blue Chip Casino's Stardust Ballroom.

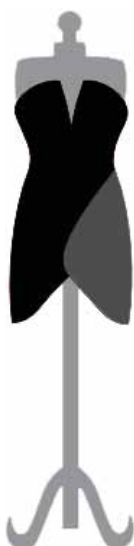
The fund assists YMCA programs such as swim classes, youth and adult sports, summer camp, pre-school and Educare.

The dancers are:

- Elizabeth Dekker, a mother and community volunteer.
- Theresa Edwards, customer service specialist and escrow tech for Meridian Title Corp.
- Shannon Hannon, La Porte Hospital director of practice management.
- Sarah Jones, Franciscan St. Anthony Health director of patient care services.
- Jim Aaron, retired business owner.
- Brandon Jones, a franchise owner with a group that owns and operates 35 Buffalo Wild Wings in eight states.
- Kevin Noland, a retired attorney and community volunteer.
- Charlie Roberts, mortgage loan officer at Horizon Bank.
- Chris Yagelski, Michigan City Police Department sergeant and Division of Professional Standards commander.

Ric Federighi of WIMS is the master of ceremony.

Doors open at 6 p.m. Tickets, which cost \$65, include a plated dinner. The cost for just the show is \$25. Contact Jessica Schutz at (219) 325-9622 or admin@lpymca.org for tickets or more information. Tickets also can be purchased from any dancer or at the YMCA's member services desks at La Porte, Long Beach and Michigan City Elston branches.



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Time to Skedaddle

The community turned out in full force for the 13th Annual Samaritan Skedaddle 5K Run/Walk on April 30 at Eighth and Washington streets. The event benefitted Samaritan Counseling Centers.



Photos by Bob Welinski

St. Stanislaus 5K

St. Stanislaus Kostka Catholic Church, with cooperation from the Town of Trail Creek, will host the Fourth Annual St. Stanislaus 5K (3.1 mile) run at 8 a.m. Saturday, June 4, at Trail Creek's Nelson Park.

Race proceeds will fund repairs to St. Stanislaus Church, one of the County's oldest Catholic churches.

Plaque awards will be given in eight different age divisions for women, men and children, and the top three overall female and male runners and top female and male walkers.

Entry forms are available at St. Stanislaus School, Trail Creek Town Hall and Robert Tyllisz Appliance. It can be downloaded at ststanstc5Krunwalk.com, or enter online at Active.com and enter "St. Stans 5K." If submitting the application by mail, send it with payment to St. Stanislaus Parish, 1506 Washington St., Michigan City, IN 46360.

Participants also can register in person:

- St. Stanislaus Church Hall from 3 to 7 p.m. Friday, June 3. The \$20 cost includes a T-shirt. Children 13 and younger cost \$15.
- Day of Event, Saturday, June 4, from 6 to 7:30 a.m. at Nelson Park. The cost is \$25, but a T-shirt is not guaranteed because of limited quantities.

Contact St. Stanislaus School at (219) 879-9281 or Race Director Patrick Kroehler at pjk226@yahoo.com for more information.

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Midwest Museum of American Art

"Garden Sculpture Safari," new to The Midwest Museum of American Art, is designed as an exhibit-within-an-exhibit that features 46 ceramic garden sculptures originally regarded as lawn ornaments, garden sprinklers and architectural decorations.

This approach of showing the works integrated within the MMAA Permanent Collection aims to reanimate the familiar and create a fun experience that runs through Sunday, Sept. 4.



One of the garden sculptures included in the exhibit.

The garden sculptures were created from the turn of the 20th century through the 1920s and 1930s by the American Art Pottery Companies, Weller, Fulper, Brush McCoy, Owens, Peters & Reed and Rookwood. With the exception of Fulper, which was located in New Jersey, and Rookwood, which was in Cincinnati, the aforementioned Art Potteries were located in Zanesville, Ohio. These companies made arts & crafts-style

vases, bowls and other utilitarian, but decorative objects. The lawn ornaments became a more sculptural line when they began to be created and sold.

The exhibit will feature turtles, frogs, birds, squirrels, rabbits and gnomes. All have been loaned from the collection of R. Douglas & Barbara Grant of Indiana. A guide has been designed to allow for maximum time to find most of the objects on display.

The museum also is resuming its "Noon Time Talks," which are from 12:20 to 1 p.m. EDT Thursdays through July. Up next is "Under the Big Top Part II" with Curator Brian Byrn on May 12.

The museum is located at 429 S. Main St., Elkhart. Hours are (all times Eastern) 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Visit www.midwestmuseum.us/ for more information.

Hazardous Waste Collections

Several opportunities exist to properly dispose of household hazardous waste through La Porte County Solid Waste District collections.

Held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., the dates are:

- May 21 — La Porte County Fairgrounds, 2581 W. Indiana 2, La Porte: 5-in-1 collection for tires, appliances, electronics, shredding and HHW.
- June 25 — La Porte County Fairgrounds.
- July 16 — Marquette Mall west parking lot.
- Aug. 13 — Marquette Mall west parking lot.
- Sept. 17 — La Porte County Fairgrounds: 5-in-1 collection for tires, appliances, electronics, shredding and HHW.
- Oct. 22 — Marquette Mall west parking lot.

Summer Adventure Camp

Safe Harbor will present Summer Adventure Camp, which will feature everything from swimming, sports and music to field trips, STEM and painting.

Targeting students entering grades one through six, the camp is from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. June 13-July 22 at Joy Elementary School, 1600 E. Cool-spring Ave.

The \$130 cost includes breakfast and lunch. Registration forms are available at Safe Harbor sites. Call (219) 873-2026 for more information, or email ssilcox@mcas.k12.in.us or aschmidt@mcas.k12.in.us

Cruis'n For a Cure for PKD

Cruis'n For a Cure for PKD, a car show and 40-mile car cruise, is from noon to 2:30 p.m. Sunday, May 15, at La Porte County Fairgrounds, 2581 W. Indiana 2, La Porte.

Held rain or shine, the event features concessions, trophies and prizes. The admission fee is \$10 per vehicle. Contact Laura Moyer at (219) 878-3062 or northernindianachapter@pkdcure.org for additional information.

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Indiana Dunes State Park

The following programs are offered through Indiana Dunes State Park:

Saturday, May 14

International Migratory Bird Day

- **9 a.m. — Birding the Indiana Dunes.**

Meet at the Nature Center for the two-hour, easy trek through Trail 2. Take binoculars to search for migrating warblers, vireos and flycatchers amid the statistical peak in songbird migration.

- **2 p.m. — Winged Migration.**

Meet at the Nature Center Auditorium for a screening of the 90-minute, Oscar-winning documentary that captured thousands of birds in their annual migration.

- **8 p.m. — Woodcock Watch.**

Meet a naturalist at the Nature Center, then carpool five minutes to a local spot to seek out the woodcock.

Sunday, May 15

- **9:30 a.m. — Mid-May Warblers.**

Take binoculars, or borrow a pair from the state park, for the one-hour hike searching for late migrating warblers and flycatchers. Meet at the Nature Center.

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

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

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

Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

The following programs are available through Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore:

- **In a Pickle or a Jam from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 14, at Chellberg Farm.**

Join Chellberg Farm cooks to learn how to preserve the “vegetable garden’s bounty” for future use. The parking lot is on Mineral Springs Road between U.S. 12 and 20, Porter.

- **Douglas Center Open House from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. every Saturday at the Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education.**

Explore the center and check out interactive exhibits, a park video and live animal room. Another option involves exploring the Miller Woods Trail.

- **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, or visit www.nps.gov/indu

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Taltree Plant Sale

An array of plants, including the Taltree Dahlia, will be on sale through Saturday, May 14, in Taltree Arboretum & Gardens' Railway Garden Depot.

Taltree Horticulturalist George Reid will be on hand during the Fairy Gardening Class to meet with patrons, and offer gardening tips and best planting and care practices.

The Taltree Dahlia was a chance cross in Reid's garden. He selected and propagated it in 2008 and named the dahlia cultivar "The Taltree Dahlia." He has donated a limited quantity to the non-profit's fundraising efforts. It is cherry red with a yellow center and has chocolaty, purple-tinged foliage. The plant grows in full sun and is great in containers 3- to 5-inches tall. It is being offered exclusively through the sale in limited quantities for \$10 each.

Other items include iris, geranium, coleus, sedum, monkshood, turtlehead "hot lips," rosemary, basil and parsley. Prices range from \$3 to \$5.

Taltree is located at 450 W. County Road 100 North near Valparaiso. It is open 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily. Visit www.taltree.org or call (219) 462-0025 for more information.

Michigan City Public Library

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

• **Duneland Stamp Club at 6 p.m. Thursday, May 12.**

The club meets the second Thursday of each month. New members are invited.

• **Novel Conversations with Author Laura Bates at 2 p.m. Sunday, May 15.**

The program is made possible by a grant from The Glick Fund through Central Indiana Community Foundation.

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

Fellowship Fest 2016

The Sixth Annual Fellowship Fest is Friday through Sunday, May 13-15, at Pioneer Land at La Porte County Fairgrounds, 2581 W. Indiana 2, La Porte.

From 5 to 9 p.m. Friday, a coffeehouse theme is planned, with four bands and free food. Saturday's events run from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. A pancake breakfast is from 7 to 10 a.m. and a 5K Walk/Run at 8 a.m. A chili cookoff is from 11 a.m. to noon. Free food, horse-drawn wagon rides, kids games and 12 bands are scheduled. Sunday's events run from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. A church service is at 10 a.m.

Call Mike Altman at (219) 851-2383 or Nate Ward at (219) 841-1694 for more information.

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Pokagon Fund Awards Scholarships

The Pokagon Fund has awarded \$50,000 in adult scholarships to Harbor Country recipients.

The Adults Students in Scholastic Transition program was launched in 2012 by The Pokagon Fund to provide scholarships to residents of Chikaming, Three Oaks and New Buffalo townships, as well as the cities and villages therein. Amounts vary each year and may be renewable for multiple-year programs.

Since the program's inception, The Pokagon Fund has awarded more than \$250,000 to adult students either just beginning or already enrolled within a post-secondary program. Funds may be used for professional certificate programs, licensure, two- and four-year undergraduate degrees, professional certificate programs and graduate schools.

The latest recipients are:

- \$6,000 to Colin Kenny, New Buffalo, to complete a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology at Purdue University Northwest.
- \$8,000 to Eric Zavesky, New Buffalo, to pursue a nursing degree at Lake Michigan College.
- \$8,000 to Michelle Nicely, Three Oaks, to complete a Bachelor of Social Work at Western Michigan University.
- \$4,800 to Cassandra Strauss, Three Oaks, to pursue a nursing degree at Lake Michigan College.
- \$8,900 to Emma Brewster, New Buffalo, to pursue a Master's Degree in Business Administration at Goshen College.
- \$4,600 to JoAnn Calo, New Buffalo, to complete a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration at Central Michigan University.
- \$3,400 to Jourdan Thompson, Three Oaks, to complete a criminal justice degree at Western Michigan University.
- \$5,500 to Sam Covert, New Buffalo, to pursue a general studies degree at Lake Michigan College.
- \$800 to Bonnie Christopher, Sawyer, to participate in two 12-week Online SANE Training Programs through the International Association of Forensic Nurses.



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PNW Spring Bus Trip

The Purdue Northwest Women's Association will take its spring bus trip to Chicago on Saturday, May 14, to see the musical "Chicago," complete with an opportunity for lunch and shopping.

The cost is \$80 for association members and \$90 for non-members. The day starts at 7 a.m. with a Dunkin' Donuts toasted bagel-and-donut continental breakfast in the Schwarz Hall Vending Room. The group then will board a luxury coach and leave campus at 8 a.m. sharp.

The first stop is at Trader Joe's for shopping. Purchases can be stowed in the secure storage area under the bus. Participants then are free to explore the city and stop somewhere for lunch.

The group will meet the bus outside Cadillac Palace Theatre at 1:30 p.m. to stow any purchases. The performance of "Chicago" begins at 2 p.m. Seats are in the lower center balcony.

Reservations are held by pre-payment only. Send a check payable to "PNCWA" to Liz Bernel, Room 154 Schwarz Hall, Purdue University Northwest, North Central Campus, 1401 S. U.S. 421, Westville, IN, 46391. Include contact information to receive confirmation of payment. Those wishing to be seated together at the theater should indicate so at the time of payment. Anyone cancelling a reservation will receive a full refund only if the seat is resold. There usually is a waiting list of potential buyers.

Contact Liz Bernel at (219) 785-5719 or ebernel@pnw.edu for more information.

Help Scientists During BioBlitz

The general public is invited to assist scientists during a BioBlitz on Saturday, May 21, at Miller Woods.

A BioBlitz is a fun, collaborative race against the clock to discover as many species of plants and animals within a set location. Scientists will lead species counting groups, with each having a specialized focus. Some will look for birds, plants, amphibians or a number of other categories.

Partners in the event include Dunes Learning Center, Marquette Park Pavilion, the U.S. Geological Survey and more than 25 scientists and other experts who are donating their time to lead counting teams.

Explorers of all ages are needed. The Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education will serve as base camp and include other activities and learning stations.

Advance registration is required to participate in a scientist-led counting team. No expertise or experience is needed. Space is limited, so advance registration is required at tinyurl.com/j36upjn. Advance registration is not required to participate in the learning stations and exhibits, including a live animal room at the Douglas Center.

Parking is available at Lake Street Beach, with free shuttles to the Douglas Center. The center is at 100 N. Lake St. in Gary's Miller Beach neighborhood. Call (219) 395-1882 for more information.

St. Stanislaus Farmers Market

The new farmers market at St. Stanislaus Catholic Church, 1506 Washington St., runs through October in the parking lot next to the tennis courts.

Crafters and vendors from La Porte County are welcome to showcase products they make or sell.

The market is open from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Contact Mary Jo Dennis at (219) 851-1785 or ssmc-farmersmarket@gmail.com for more information.

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LBCC Women's Golf Leagues**18-Hole League****May 3, 2016****Event: Regular Golf****"A" Flight**

Low Gross: Sue Luegers
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Low Putts: Sue Luegers

"B" Flight

Low Gross: Jane Irvine
Low Net: Jane Irvine
Low Putts: Mary Weithers

"C" Flight

Low Gross: Mary O'Neil, Barbara Beardslee
Low Net: Barbara Beardslee
Low Putts: Mary O'Neil

Sunken Approach

Sue Luegers Hole 8

**American
Red Cross**

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

- Immanuel Lutheran Church, 1237 E. Coolspring Ave., Michigan City, 3 to 6:30 p.m. Thursday, May 12.
- St. John Kanty, 7012 N. County Road 600 East, Rolling Prairie, 1:30 to 5:30 p.m. Monday, May 16.

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.

Maple City Madness BPA Tournament

The BPA Maple City Madness tournament is Friday through Sunday, May 13-15, at Kesling Park's four-diamond complex, 2150 A St., La Porte.

The tournament, for Bronze teams only, includes travel divisions for 12 and younger, 11 and younger, 10 and younger and 9 and younger, with a three-game guarantee.

Contact Pam Carroll at pcarroll@cityoflaporte.com or (219) 326-9600 for more information.

Depot Friday

Beverly Shores Museum and Gallery, 525 Broadway, will host Depot Friday from 5 to 7 p.m. May 13.

This month's feature is "Pathways and Places," a new exhibit by Emilie Beadle.

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Activities to Explore

In the Local Area:

May 12 — Music at the Museum, The Flashbacks, 2-3:30 p.m., Westchester Township Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.

May 12 — Senior Center Spring Card Party, 5-9 p.m., Michigan City Senior Center, 2 on the Lake. Cost: \$7/advance, \$8/door. Info: www.emichigancity.com

May 12 — Marquette Catholic High School music department spring concert, "Movie Melodies," 7 p.m., MQT Rudy Hart Theatre, 306 W. 10th St. Tickets: \$8/adults, \$5/students & seniors, \$3/children 12 & younger.

May 13 — Depot Friday, 5-7 p.m., Beverly Shores Museum and Gallery, 525 Broadway.

May 13 — Vintage blues group Mississippi Heat, 8 p.m. EDT, The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Info: www.acorntheater.com, (269) 756-3879.

May 13-15 — "The Mousetrap," La Porte Little Theatre Club, 218 A St., La Porte. Times: 7:30 p.m. Fri.-Sat., 2 p.m. Sun. Tickets: \$12. Reservations: (219) 362-5113, www.laportelittletheatreclub.com

May 13-15 — Sixth Annual Fellowship Fest, Pioneer Land @ La Porte County Fairgrounds, 2581 W. Indiana 2, La Porte. Info: (219) 851-2383, (219) 841-1694.

May 13-15 — BPA Maple City Madness tournament, Kesling Park's four-diamond complex, 2150 A St., La Porte. Info: (219) 326-9600.

May 13-16 — Vickers Theatre, 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. *Now showing:* "Krisha." Rated R. Times: 6:30 p.m. Fri.-Mon. *Also:* "Hello, My Name is Doris." Rated R. Times: 9 p.m. Fri.-Sat., 3:30 p.m. Sat.-Sun. All times Eastern. Info: vickerstheatre.com

May 14 — Birding the Indiana Dunes, 9 a.m., Nature Center @ Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

May 14 — In a Pickle or a Jam, 1-4 p.m., Chellberg Farm, Mineral Springs Road between U.S. 12 and 20, Porter. Info: (219) 395-1882.

May 14 — Third Annual Maple City Pub Crawl, 5-8 p.m., downtown La Porte. Info: (219) 362-3178, cutler@lpchamber.com

May 14 — Teen Movie Night: "Daddy's Home," 5 p.m., Westchester Public Library Service Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

May 14 — "Heart of Gold — A Tribute to Neil Young," 8 p.m., Canterbury Theatre, 807 Franklin St. Tickets: \$10. Reservations: (219) 874-4269, info@canterburytheatre.org

May 14 — St. Stanislaus Catholic Church farmers market, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., parking lot next to tennis courts. Info: ssmcfarmersmarket@gmail.com, (219) 851-1785.

May 14, 18 — Michigan City Mainstreet Association Farmers Market, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Sat./4-8 p.m.

Wed., Eighth and Washington streets. Info: tinyurl.com/hhaajz2

May 14-June 20 — Regional history art display, River Valley Elementary School fifth-graders, The Region of Three Oaks Museum, 5 Featherbone Ave. Info: trotommuseum@gmail.com

May 15 — Mid-May Warblers, 9:30 a.m., Nature Center @ Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

May 15 — Cruis'n For a Cure for PKD, noon-2:30 p.m., La Porte County Fairgrounds, 2581 W. Indiana 2, La Porte. Info: (219) 878-3062, northernindianachapter@pkdcure.org

May 15 — Book signing/talk, "Miss Colfax's Light" author Aimée Bisonette, 2 p.m., Old Lighthouse Museum, Washington Park. Pre-orders: (219) 872-6133.

May 15 — Novel Conversations Speakers Program, Laura Bates, 2 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Free. Info: (219) 873-3049.

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:

May 13-22 — "The Dixie Swim Club," Elkhart Civic Theatre @ Bristol (Ind.) Opera House, 210 E. Vistula St. Times (Eastern): 7:30 p.m. May 13, 14, 20 & 21, 3 p.m. May 15, 22. Tickets: \$19/adults, \$17/students & seniors 62+. Reservations: (574) 848-4116, www.elkhartcivictheatre.org

May 13th-June 5 — "The Who's Tommy," 4th Street Theater, 125 N. Fourth St., Chesterton. Times: 8 p.m. Fri.-Sat./3 p.m. Sun. Tickets: \$18. Reservations: 4thstreetncca.org, (219) 926-7875.

May 14 — Spring Garden Festival/Plant Sale, Fernwood Botanical Garden and Nature Preserve, 13988 Range Line Road, Niles, Mich. Info: www.fernwoodbotanical.org

May 14 — Women of Riversong Music Society, 7:30 p.m. EDT, The Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Mich. Tickets: \$10/general admission, \$8/students and seniors, free/children 12 and younger. Info/reservations: (269) 983-3688, info@boxfactoryforthearts.org, www.boxfactoryforthearts.org

Through June 5 — "Nice Work If You Can Get It," Theatre at the Center, Munster. Performances: 2 p.m. Wed./Thur., 7:30 p.m. Fri./Sat., 2:30 p.m. Sun., select Thurs./Sun. evenings & Sat. matinees. Tickets: \$40-\$44. Reservations: (219) 836-3255, Tickets.com, (800) 511-1552.

Through Sept. 4 — "Garden Sculpture Safari," The Midwest Museum of American Art, 429 S. Main St., Elkhart. Info: www.midwestmuseum.us/

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Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter

Clawback by J.A. Jance
(hardcover, \$25.99 in bookstores and online; also available as an eBook)

I learned a new word this week! *Clawback*: “Proceeds from an investment that are found to be fraudulent are confiscated and then redistributed to all investors on a proportional basis.”

This is an Ali Reynolds novel, one of four different series this *New York Times* bestselling author has written over the years. How many books? Let’s just say the publisher had to use more than two pages to list all her titles. I think we can safely say Jance has made her mark in the world of publishing!

In this, her 13th novel featuring Ali, the story begins with her parents center stage. Bob and Edie Larson are now retired. They ran the Sugarloaf Cafe in Sedona, Ariz., for many years. It was a popular place to eat. Now, they can rest easy, having done all the right things — bought insurance policies and invested their hard-earned money with a life-long friend, Dan Frazier, and his company, Ocotillo Fund Management. Edie questioned her husband about putting all their money, some \$1 million, into one place, but he reassured her Dan wouldn’t steer them wrong.

Wrong.

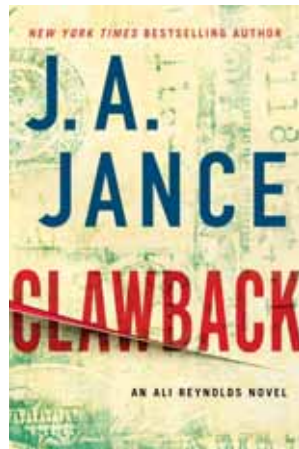
One morning, Bob turns on the morning news to hear the SEC has closed OFM for a full investigation. It soon becomes evident the Larsons are victims of a Ponzi scheme.

Dan started out in business as an insurance agent and only recently hooked up with Jason McKinzie — “a young hotshot financial wizard specializing in wealth management who had taken central Arizona by storm.”

Bob can’t let Edie know what has happened until he can talk face to face with Dan. Bad idea. When Bob gets to Dan’s home, the security gate is wide open, Dan is slumped over the wheel of his car in the garage, bleeding, and his wife is face down in a pool of blood in the kitchen. Dan’s final words are that two men were responsible.

When police arrive to find Bob covered in blood, they ask no questions and take him into custody.

Enter stage left—Ali and husband B. (there’s a funny story about how that name came about). They run a successful cutting-edge cyber security firm. Ali and B. hire a defense attorney as soon as they find out what has happened to Bob.



Meanwhile, Ali and B. have decided to use their skills to identify not only who murdered the Fraziers and clear Bob’s name, but also track down Jason, who is now off the map. No surprise there.

Ali and B.’s first priority, though, is to get back as much money as they can for her parents and others taken by Jason. Little do they know how desperate Dan’s former partner is to keep the money and skip the country. Could there be more murders to come?

This is my first read by J.A. Jance, and I enjoyed the storyline immensely. She picks a current topic and gives it enough twists to keep you glued to your chair.

Kirkus Reviews: “Ali’s good heart and sense of justice combine with well-paced suspense to create a satisfying whole.”

Death of a Nurse by M.C. Beaton
(hardcover, \$25 in bookstores and online; also available as an eBook)

I can’t get enough of this big, red-headed cop from the Scottish Highlands known as Hamish Macbeth. This is the latest in the series about him and the raw highland countryside he loves so dearly, he has turned down promotions to stay in the little town of Lochdubh, the center of his universe. Hamish has trouble with the ladies—the only thorn in his otherwise perfect life.

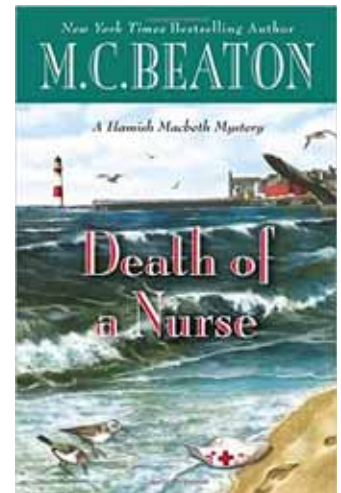
Hamish has a new partner, Charlie, who is a giant of a man, gentle as a kitten and clumsy as a bull in a china shop. He has even made an impression on Pricilla, Hamish’s former girlfriend. Go figure!

When a good-looking nurse, Gloria Dainty, comes to town, Hamish asks her out to dinner. When she fails to show up at the appointed hour, Hamish figures his luck has run out once again until several days later when Gloria’s body is found. She was strangled to death.

It doesn’t take long for two more women to come up dead, and Hamish is hip deep in murder, motives and means. Rich old men and their money—is that the underlying theme? That theory just might be too obvious...

This is Beaton’s best Hamish Macbeth story to date. Like Jance, both authors provide rather quick, but satisfying reads that come through with interesting and engaging storylines.

Till next time, happy reading!



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Essential Cleaning is looking for hardworking, dependable individuals to join our team. Full time and part time. Please call 219-617-7746 for more information.

The Beacher is seeking a part-time employee to help collate the newspaper on Tuesdays. Call Dora Kayser at (219) 879-0088 if interested.

Rolling Prairie woman needs help in her home. References, experience and a willing-to-please attitude. Send information to The Beacher, 911 Franklin St., Michigan City, IN, 46360, attn: housekeeper ad.

Long Beach Country Club is now hiring:

AM/PM Banquet and Dining Room Server

(Must be 21, experience preferred)

Prep Cook • Grill Cook • Dishwasher

Must be a team player and dependable. Shifts vary depending on clubhouse needs. Apply in person, Tues – Sat, noon-3pm or download and mail application:

www.longbeachcc.org

2309 Larchmont Ave.

Long Beach, IN 46360

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.

Rattan 6-piece set sofa, 2 chairs, 2 end tables with glass top and ottoman. \$400. Call (219) 326-5011/(219) 871-9744

Schwinn Airdyne exercise bicycle in excellent condition. \$125.
Call (219) 872-9843.

Golf cart for sale. Good condition, newer batteries. \$2,500 OBO.
Call (219) 872-2141.

GARAGE SALES, ESTATE SALES, ETC.

Girlfriend Sale, 2 hours only, Super Sale

Saturday, May 14, 10am-noon

The remaining racks and racks of consignment clothing, plus accessories, shoes and jewelry are being offered for sale at 1/2 off, one last time, to raise funds for the Samaritan Center, with a bonus discount on purchases over \$100. The selection and quality of inventory remaining is amazing.

This is a great opportunity to return and find all those great items you've missed. Call all your friends, stop off for some cash, and come enjoy one last fabulous girlfriend shopping experience for the season.

Long Beach Community Center

2501 Oriole Trail

Long Beach IN 46360

ESTATE SALE: Friday & Saturday, May 13-14, 8am-4pm

Rain or shine. Everything must go. Tools, garden tools, yard equipment, furniture, exercise equipment and household items, too numerous to list.
6284 W. Bleck Road, La Porte (All Sales are Cash Only)

WANT TO BUY

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

REAL ESTATE

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

Summer rental. Stop 37. 4BR/3BA, AC, WiFi/cable. 300 ft to beach access. Contact nmarkey11@hotmail.com

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.

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

SUMMER RENTAL. 3BR, 2BA, clean, updated, WiFi, cable, C/A, Flatscreen TVs, large deck, 110 yards to beach. Call **708-205-5100.**

RENTALS MICHIGAN

Newer, partially furnished 2BR/2BA apartment. Quiet building, W/D, hardwood floors, cathedral ceiling, downtown New Buffalo. Walk to beach/shops, includes water, trash, electricity, heat, air. Security deposit required. No pets, no smoking. \$1,100/mo. Year lease. Call (312) 925-0753.

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

Waterfront home for sale by owner on Lake Clare.

3 BR, 2 full BA, hardwood floors, 2.5 car garage, gas fireplace, radiant floor heat, central A/C, 400 sq. ft. Patio with screened 10x10 gazebo. \$349,900. **219-898-5433. 141 Shorewood Dr.**

Open house: 11-2pm May 7-8

Summer Reading Program

Westchester Public Library will kick off its “Rev Up to Read” 2016 Summer Reading Program on May 22 for adults 18 and older and teens in grades six through 12.

The program is starting earlier than normal to celebrate the 100th running of the Indy 500 race and Indiana’s bicentennial. It will continue through June 20 at Thomas Library, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton, and Hageman Library 100 Francis St., Porter. No preregistration is required, but a valid Westchester library card is necessary.

Read or listen to a book checked out from the library, including ebooks from OverDrive and audiobooks from OverDrive and Hoopla. Participants will fill out a review card for each book read and return it to the circulation desk at Thomas or Hageman libraries. Homebound residents will give their completed forms to their Homebound service provider.

Each review card is an entry to win a gift card in one of the weekly Monday drawings. Those for adults will be at Hageman and Thomas libraries. Weekly drawings for Homebound and young adult participants will be at Thomas Library. Young adult winners can pick up their prizes at Thomas Library.

To celebrate the Indy 500 centennial race, the library will give out Indy car racer Graham Rahal swag while supplies last.

Adult reviews will be displayed at both libraries. All young adult and Homebound reviews will be displayed at Thomas Library. Call Thomas Library at (219) 926-7696 or Hageman Library at (219) 926-9080 for more information.

Dancing With the Symphony Stars

Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra will host “Dancing with the Symphony Stars,” an evening of cocktails, dinner, live and silent auctions and dancing, at 5:30 p.m. EDT Saturday, May 14, at The Inn at Harbor Shores, 800 Whitwam Drive, St. Joseph, Mich.

Local celebrities will be paired with dancers from The Citadel Dance & Music Center to compete for the Mirrored Ball Award. The dancers are:

- Whitney Behnke, executive director of St. Joseph Today.
- Lisa Cripps-Downey, Berrien Community Foundation president and Upton Foundation director.
- Todd Dockerty, COO of Dockerty Health Care Services, which owns and operates Woodland Terrace Senior Living Communities in Bridgman, Niles and Coloma, Mich.
- Alex Grumbine, director of business and industry at Kinexus.
- Patricia Muellen, chamber of commerce director.
- Mary Ann Pater, vice president, legal and general counsel at Lakeland Health.
- Randy Reimers, vice president at Fifth Third Bank.
- Greg Zyjewski, organist and director of music at St. Joseph Catholic Church.

The instructors are Christin Davis, Susan Dennison and Jake Wilson. The judges are Julia Gourley, Pat Moody and Lynn Todman. The emcee is Denise Bohn Stewart and Jeff Noel the auctioneer.

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

Purdue Northwest Day of Giving

Purdue University Northwest’s first Purdue Day of Giving turned into a day of giving galore.

By generating \$693,515 during the April 27 fundraising event, PNW’s two campuses — North Central at Westville and Calumet at Hammond — combined to more than triple the university’s original \$185,000 goal. The 24-hour online, social media-driven event spurred alumni, students, parents, faculty, staff, friends, businesses and other organizations across the Purdue system to participate in support of students and programs.

Some 356 donor gifts to PNW contributed to a record-setting, single day giving total of \$18.3 million to Purdue campuses, colleges and programs. The monetary amount is believed to be the greatest total raised for higher education during a single-day campaign.

Gifts to PNW, as designated by the donors, will be used to support student scholarships, academic programs, athletics and other university strategic initiatives.



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One Look Will Do



OPEN HOUSE • Sat., May 14th, 10am-1pm



1512 Lake Shore Drive Long Beach • \$1,195,000

Perched right on the beautiful sugar sand beach & only 1 hour from Chicago, this timeless 4 bedroom, 3 bath beach house boasts panoramic views from all levels. Hardwood floors, newer kitchen with stainless appliances. No bluff & no steps. Three car garage now included across the street with plenty of parking.



3000 Northmoor Trail Long Beach • \$929,000

Love this charming 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath home that has been completely updated throughout. Views are unbelievable with about 120 feet on Lake Shore Drive by Stop 30. Beautiful kitchen, hardwood floors, newer baths, lots of land & amazing deck. Ready to move in & enjoy the summer with expansive lake views.



1850 Lake Shore Drive Sheridan Beach • \$749,000

Wonderful opportunity to be on the beach at the start of the summer! Completely restored 4 bedroom, 2 bath home directly on the sand. New sliders from the main floor living area to new deck perfect for entertaining. Inviting kitchen, fireplace & great room. New deck on lower level, walk out directly to great lake side yard.

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Jamie Follmer (219) 851-2164
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Tina Kelly* (219) 873-3680
Karen Kmiecik-Pavy, GRI (219) 210-0494

Daiva Mockaitis, GRI (219) 670-0982
Line Mullins** (708) 790-3676
Barb Pinks (574) 876-5967
Pat Tym*, ABR, CRS, GRI, SRES (219) 210-0324

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Follow Your Instincts



NEW PRICE

2318 Lake Shore Drive • Long Beach

\$2,249,000

4 bedrooms, 4.5 baths. New construction just completed, only one hour from Chicago. This home features the finest in finishes & craftsmanship, offering an open concept floor plan and a coastal design. Highest quality construction.



NEW PRICE

1808 Lake Shore Drive • Long Beach

\$1,200,000

4 bedrooms, 1-full & 2-half baths. Two fireplaces, rec room, walk-out lower level, two beach showers, sun room, great decks. Two car garage & driveway make for plenty of parking. Solidly built, all brick home located directly on Lake Michigan.



NEW LISTING

3022 Mayfield Way • Long Beach

\$795,000

4 bedrooms, 3 baths. Great family room opens to newer kitchen. Vaulted ceilings, large living spaces, newer baths, freshly painted & new carpets. Outdoor hot tub, in-ground saltwater pool, large decks, 2-car garage & very private lot.



NEW PRICE

2817 Roslyn Trail • Long Beach

\$289,000

5 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. French doors lead to living room with wall of sliders to full deck. Master bedroom suite, beautifully redone kitchen opens to dining area & sliders to back deck. Brick fireplace, walk-out lower level & plenty of parking.



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OPEN HOUSES - SUNDAY, MAY 15th



1629 Lake Shore Drive, Sheridan Beach 1-4 pm

Situated on 2 lots, this 5-bedroom 3-bath home is the versatile residence that offers more than meets the eye! Just steps from the sandy beaches of Lake Michigan.
\$975,000

1819 Lake Shore Drive, Long Beach 1-4 pm

Completely renovated Long Beach classic hillside home. 5 bedrooms, 4 baths, plenty of parking, lots of room for indoor & outdoor entertaining and beach access across the street. Does it get better than this? YES, this is turnkey!
\$849,000



2959 Lake Shore Drive, Long Beach 1-3 pm

Classic updated Long Beach home at popular Stop 30 beach. 3 bedrooms, 2-1/2 baths.
Asking \$829,900

3008 Northmoor Trail, Long Beach 1-3 pm

Hidden Treasure with lake views! This home offers 3 bedrooms, 4 baths, 2 fireplaces, sliding glass doors to wonderful patio, and much, much more!
\$480,000



CALL LONG BEACH REALTY FOR YOUR PERSONAL SHOWING ON THESE AND OTHER PROPERTIES

2027 Oriole Trail, Long Beach	\$349,000	3001 Loma Portal Way, Long Beach	\$475,000
4201 Hillside Trail, Michiana, MI	\$525,000	1200 Springland Avenue, Michigan City	\$379,000
8401 Lake Shore Drive, Miller Beach	\$665,000	119 Maplewood Trail, Shoreland Hills	\$299,500
3008 Northmoor Trail, Long Beach	\$480,000	601 Lake Shore Drive, Sheridan Beach	\$399,000
805 Birch Tree Lane, Michigan City	\$189,000	3987 Lake Shore Drive, Michiana, MI	\$1,800,000



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GRI
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