



Volume 32, Number 19 Thursday, May 19, 2016

REMEMBERING MICHIGAN CITY'S FOREFATHERS

Editor's note — The following article was written by Linda Williams, daughter of deceased Navy veteran Harold Tiebert, with photos by Dan Sheehan, a double Purple Heart Marine Corps Vietnam veteran.



The entrance to Greenwood Cemetery.

Memorial Day is almost here, and the most important thing we can do is give a well-deserved thank you to all who served, and are serving, in the military — living and deceased — for their selfless service and sacrifices to preserve our freedom.

This celebratory day originally was called Decoration Day because of the decorations people placed on the graves of military people. Nowadays, not only do we honor deceased veterans, which remains the No. 1 reason for the holiday, but we also honor and remember friends and loved ones who have passed. That is why I have highlighted some of our city's cemetery history, including several of Michigan City's well-known people who are buried in Green-

wood Cemetery.

Our city was established by Isaac Compton Elston, for whom the former Elston High School was named. He plotted out the land with a portion of it on the outskirts designated as a cemetery. It was called "The Buryal Ground" (1832-1864). The city grew quickly, and the original cemetery was no longer on the outskirts; however, it had become neglected and was now entirely too small. Our city fathers decided a new and larger cemetery farther out was needed. That is when Greenwood Cemetery was established, in December 1863. They additionally stated all new burials must be in Greenwood.

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REMEMBERING

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The commemorative plaque inside Elston Performing Arts Center honoring "The Burial Ground."

The bodies from the old cemetery eventually were exhumed and reinterred in Greenwood Cemetery from 1882 to 1884. It was believed at the time the transfer of remains was complete, but that turned out not to be the case as there were many additional remains found during construction at that site in multiple years, including as recent as 2003. Many of the gravestones made it to the new site, but other stones became too damaged or disconnected from the people they were meant to commemorate. Numerous remains were buried in a communal site without indicating who they were.



Some of the tombstones transferred from the older cemetery to Greenwood.

The old "Burial Ground" site later became the location of the current Elston Performing Arts Center. A plaque was placed inside the entrance to commemorate this fact.

A side note: Isaac C. Elston never lived in our town, and he is not buried here.

So how did the new cemetery get the name Greenwood? That is because Jane Greenwood was the first person to be buried there. She died in 1864.

As for some of the other famous faces interred at Greenwood?

Samuel Miller was credited by Isaac Elston as being Michigan City's first permanent resident. He was a veteran of the Indian War, a businessman, our first real-estate agent and postmaster, and the city's second mayor. He died 1844, his body later transferred to Greenwood.

Abijah Bigelow was a minuteman and is the only Revolutionary War soldier buried in Greenwood Cemetery. Michigan City became his home amid the year of its incorporation. He was an abolitionist, and after his death, his daughter owned the family home known as the Williams-Bigelow home, which became part of the underground railroad in assisting slaves who were escaping to Canada. He died in 1848, his body later transferred to Greenwood.

If Samuel Miller was the city's second mayor, then who was the first? That would be Willys Peck, a prominent city businessman of the time. He died in 1874.

Then, we have the Barkers: John Barker Sr. (died in 1878) and son, John H. Barker (died in 1910).

John Sr. was a partner in Michigan City's first major and longtime industry known



Jane Greenwood's tombstone.



Samuel Miller's tombstone.



The Sons of the American Revolution marker at Abijah Bigelow's tombstone.



Willys Peck's tombstone.



The Barker family burial site.

as the "car shops." When he joined the partnership, it was called Haskell, Barker and Aldridge Co., which mainly made boxcars. Much later, it became Haskell and Barker Co. and eventually Pullman-Standard. Its former site now is the location of Lighthouse Place-Premium Outlets. John H., the son, took over the business when his father retired and received credit for developing the assembly line production method in America. He was a major benefactor to Michigan City, and Catherine, his daughter, gave their family home, the beautiful Barker Mansion on Washington Street, to Purdue University to be temporarily used as the North Central campus. When Purdue moved to its Westville location, the house was given to the city through the Barker Welfare Foundation.

George Ames, for whom Ames Field was named, is up next. A businessman and philanthropist who loved the city schools, he made a point of giving all high school graduates a photo of their school and a



George Ames' tombstone.

photo of himself on their graduation day. He served one year as mayor of Michigan City. The community band of the time was named the Ames Union Band

Continued on Page 4

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REMEMBERING

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because he was one of its strongest supporters. He died in 1890.

John Winterbotham was a two-term Indiana senator and successful industrialist known for his manufacture of cooperage (the production of wooden barrels). He was a philanthropist who gave the city the beautiful Soldiers and Sailors monument we see each time we drive over the Franklin Street bridge into Washington Park. It was given to the city in honor of Civil War veterans and his eldest son, who fought in that war. The monument was dedicated on Decoration Day 1893, with 10,000 people in attendance. Winterbotham died in 1895.



The Winterbotham obelisk — the tallest monument in Greenwood.



Harriet Colfax's tombstone. Observe the tiny lighthouse etching on the bottom left.

Harriet Colfax was the city's famed diminutive lighthouse keeper who served 43 years in that post, never relenting on her often difficult duties. She died in 1905.

Samuel E. Miller, who died in 1912, was a dedicated educator. I am going to let his tombstone speak on his behalf:

*S.E. Miller born at Attica, Ohio
February 15, 1840
Superintendent of the
Public Schools of Michigan
City from 1867 to 1889.*

He was the first to organize

A regular course of study

For the high school. Under

His superintendency the first

Class was graduated in 1871.

Died at Michigan City, February 12, 1912

Martin T. Krueger, who died in 1945, was a lawyer who served six terms as Michigan City's beloved mayor. Among other accomplishments, he was a school board member for 12 years and served as La Porte County's state representative. Mayor Krueger was determined and successful in getting a bridge built across Trail Creek to the park he had long envisioned.

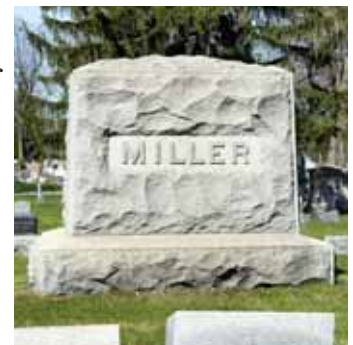
A fitting end to this article comes from a thought-provoking, haunting poem given to the cemetery by American Legion John Franklin Miller Post No. 37. It helps you realize that now is the time to enjoy your life and the wonderful freedom with which we have been blessed:

Remember friends as you pass by

As you are now so once was I

As I am now so you will be

Prepare for death and follow me



Samuel E. Miller's tombstone.



Martin T. Krueger's tombstone.



The poem given to the cemetery by American Legion John Franklin Miller Post No. 37.

More About This Article

Sources used for this article were "History of Michigan City, Indiana" by Rollo Oglesbee and Albert Hale/1908, "Michigan City-Our Heritage" booklets published by The News-Dispatch/1976 and "Michigan City, Indiana/The Life of a Town" by Gladys Bull Nicewarner/1980.



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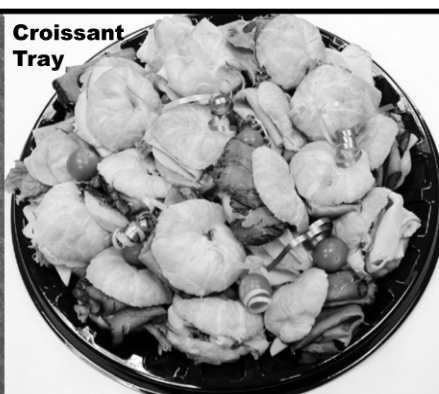
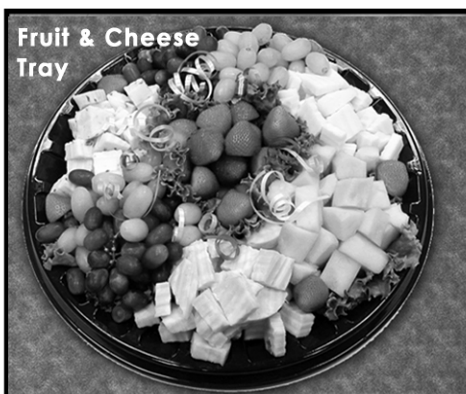
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First Spring Garden Gala a Success



President Emeritus Richard Houck and his wife, Imogene.

Friendship Botanic Gardens (formerly International Friendship Gardens) kicked off its 2016 season with its first Spring Garden Gala on Saturday, April 23, at Long Beach Country Club.

The board of directors unveiled a slate of projects under way as part of an effort to grow the Gardens into a signature destination point for Northwest Indiana. New additions include the "Trail of Lights," an illuminated pathway of street lamps that will guide visitors through the gardens after sunset. The project was made possible through financial support from NIPSCO, the NiSource Foundation and the Michigan City Redevelopment Fund. The Michigan City Board



Board member Rubia Jasinevicius.

of Public Works donated 17 Sternberg light fixtures for the trail.



Some of the information guests received at the Spring Garden Gala.

New board president John Leinweber announced construction has begun on Phase 1 of the ArcelorMittal Children's Garden: a newly founded garden centered on interactive and educational play experiences for young children. ArcelorMittal Corp. provided funds to begin the three-year project.

Guests at the gala enjoyed dinner, drinks and silent and live auctions of artwork and prize packages donated by local community members. Attendees also viewed a garden retrospective that showcased historic photographs of the grounds in their mid-20th century heyday.



Board member Rima Binder and new board president John Leinweber.



The Friendship Botanic Gardens board of directors.

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An Insurance Policy for Innovation in Education

by M.D. Cunningham

To some, school is boring. To have students sit, mostly still, alert and focused for several hours is to ignore signals that fire off in their bodies and minds.

Fortunately, local teachers are exploring creative, and in some cases practical solutions to opportunities and challenges inside and outside the classroom.

Teachers spend money out of pocket to support their lesson plans; however, a showcase May 4 at Barker Mansion highlighted teachers who received Michigan City Education Foundation grants to support multifaceted educational efforts, including programs emphasizing exercise and focus, support for under-resourced parents and a myriad of innovative endeavors.

In the mid-1990s, the Michigan City Area Chamber of Commerce, Mary Lou Linnen and June and the late Bud Ruby created a permanent endowment — now in its 22nd year — that has grown to more than \$250,000. The fund makes grants available to private and public schools from kindergarten to eighth grade. Unity Foundation of La Porte County



Shirley Allen immerses her Krueger Middle School choir students in the roots of Chicago jazz.

oversees the fund, allowing committee volunteers to focus on selection, evaluation and visits to the teacher-led projects.

This past year, \$9,932 was issued in the form of 35 grants to projects by 56 teachers. An estimated



Local teachers participate in an exercise meant to refocus student attention. All photos by M.D. Cunningham.

3,556 students directly benefitted. Forty-two applications were received, with Barker, Edgewood, Joy, Knapp, Krueger, Lake Hills, Marsh, Pine, Notre Dame and St. Paul Lutheran schools all boasting teachers who received grants.

Indeed, the ceremony honored and applauded some of the community's best teachers. There was a palpable air of enthusiasm for learning in the room. Perhaps, it

was the growth mindset educators embody.

After welcoming remarks from Anne Robson, a volunteer with the grant-selection committee, Michigan City Area Schools Superintendent Barbara Eason-Watkins called for another round of applause for teachers affecting lives of young folks. She noted the program is growing, and complimented teachers for sharing their ideas in an area (Michigan City) that has a “buzz” and is on the cusp of resurgence.

Unity Foundation President Maggi Spartz said she loves attending the event.

“I haven’t missed one in all the years we’ve had them,” she said. “I enjoy seeing educators explain their process of identifying and responding to the needs of their students...The MCEF funds give them a chance to take risks, try new things or follow a hunch.”

Spartz noted the impact the \$350 grants have is “incremental.”

“If you reach directly, say, 3,500 students annually, the projects raise everyone’s game,” she said. “In some cases, you see teachers and students alike being surprised and delighted by what they learn together.”



Unity Foundation President Maggi Spartz addresses the attendees.

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The Evolution of Alex Bugnon

by Kim Ward

Alex Bugnon was born into the world of jazz.

He grew up in Montreux, Switzerland, home of the great Montreux Jazz Festival. He is the nephew of the late jazz trumpeter Donald Byrd. Jazz legends such as Milton Jackson and Clark Terry would come by his house to hang out with his parents.

"I was in the world of jazz, and the absolute top jazz musicians came out once a year to Montreux, like Miles Davis and Donald Byrd," he

said, adding with a laugh, "half of my family is musical — my father's side...and my mother's side is tone deaf. It was a good balance, and a good place to grow up."

At 5, he lived with Byrd for a month and observed the life of a musician: the rehearsals, the practicing, the time spent analyzing music and the composer's styles. This was the beginning of Bugnon's musical evolution.

"I fell in love quickly and never turned back," he confessed.

Bugnon is one of the musicians slated to perform at the July 9 Lighthouse Jazz Festival.

When asked why he decided to play piano, Bugnon said, "I had no choice but to play the piano. Music education in Europe is toward the piano. Piano practice was like homework, you had no choice, and no one played any other instrument. If they did, I didn't know them."

"My beast is piano. I can express myself, and my feelings come out best on acoustic piano. I don't enjoy synthesizers, except when played by a select few. To me, there is nothing better in the world than to play the acoustic piano. The Fender Rhodes (piano) — I love the sound, and it blends well with the band. It's organic and can take the role of the synthesizer."

The pianist attended the Paris Conservatory of Music for two years before moving to the United States. While attending Berklee School of Music, he performed as an accompanist for several gospel groups. After moving to New York, he spent four



Alex Bugnon performs during the sold out Friday Night Jazz & Wine concert at Fort Sam Houston Theatre.

years working as a session musician, backing urban and jazz performers such as Patti Austin, Freddie Jackson, James Ingram and Keith Sweat.

Bugnon released his debut album, "Love Season," in 1989. That album reached the pop charts and the Top 40 of the R&B charts, as did its followup, 1990's "Head Over Heels." Subsequent releases, "107 Degrees in the Shade" (1991), "This Time Around" (1993) and "Tales From the

Bright Side" (1995) all placed in the R&B charts. After five years away from recording under his own name, Bugnon signed to the jazz division of the now-defunct Narada Records, which marketed him as a jazz artist.

While his name is now synonymous with Smooth Jazz, Bugnon refuses to color within the lines.

"(My music) evolves because for each album, I have been trying to push the envelope a little bit more while still retaining accessibility to a wider audience," he said. "I always try to stick more traditional music in there. (I) try to keep where the music came from in mind and try to put it in my music. That is basically what I try to do."

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"Not the Flavor of the Day"

With changes to Smooth Jazz over the past decade, many artists have come and gone. Bugnon, however, remains relevant in the industry.

"I always did what I wanted to do," he says. "I don't believe in the flavor of the day. I believe in mega trends, but not the flavor of the day. Smooth Jazz is watered down now, and people have lost interest. There aren't a lot of musicians who can write a tune that is unforgettable like Herbie Hancock, Grover Washington Jr., Duke Ellington or Count Basie. With technology, anybody can come out and be on the radio. There is no amount of legitimacy."

Inspired by the likes of McCoy Tyner, Joe Sample, Wynton Kelly, Hancock and Patrice Rushen, Bugnon took what he learned from each and formed

his own style of playing the keys.

What separates him from the rest?

"I have an addictive personality like many musicians. I have wide hands, and I am left handed, which helps when playing the piano," he says with a chuckle.

Although he has recorded professionally for more than 20 years, he says assuredly, "My skills are better today than yesterday." A turning point arrived when his mother became ill and passed away, along with the breakup of a long-term relationship. Those events brought him to a place of quiet reflection.

"Right now, today, I love where I am musically. What I play and how I play, that has never happened," he confided. "Being with my mother in her last days put me in such a peace musically. Even now, I play my earlier compositions in a new, fresh and exciting way, which is important when you have to play them night after night."

Keeping pace with today's fickle music fans is not an easy task.

"I try to stay current, but I don't stray away from the core of my music. I write what I write and that's it. I don't worry about whether people like it. I don't try to bow to the audience. The audience that knows me will enjoy it. I know it. I am confident of that," he said. "So I just keep writing what I write. I'm not going to produce something with an '80s sound like I did on my first album that came out in '89. I can't even listen to that record. People still love it, but I can't listen it. The production, to me, is so far from what I would be doing today. In that sense — the production and sound that I get on a recording... that might evolve with time, but the core of what I do is the same. It's my music. It comes from me."

A Call to Action

The recent death of the music legend Prince was a call-to-action for many musicians, but a reminder to Bugnon that to be successful in the music industry, artists have to take control, be more independent and own their music.

"I've owned my own publishing company since the first song I had recorded," he said. "I have never had anybody else besides my publishing company. Now, as far as record companies, when they used to give us a huge budget, it made sense to be signed with a record company.

"But now...I'd rather do it myself and reap all the benefits. Even if I have to spend some money for promotions, for the radio for marketing... I'd



Alex Bugnon grew up in Montreux, Switzerland, home of the Montreux Jazz Festival.

rather do it that way because the return is so much greater. Prince has done that, and he went to war with the giants (Warner Brothers). Back then, that was unheard of. That took a lot of courage."

Why Does Live Music Matter?

Maintaining a healthy tour schedule keeps Bugnon connected to his fans.

"Live music is everything to me. You cannot live with live music, unless you are a little puff act with everything prerecorded, including your own voice," he jokes. "Then, you go on stage and dance around and act like you are singing. That's different.

"A live performance is what separates somebody with a career. I see so many guys that are trading the No. 1 song (on the charts), especially Smooth Jazz. I don't understand why they don't spend more time trying to get something live happening instead of trading that No. 1 song spot on radio.

"We hardly make any money from the radio airplay like we used to," he continued. "You can't make a career by just being on the radio. You have to be out. That is where you earn your legitimacy, by putting on a good show and building your core audience that is going to come see you time after time, year after year."

In his upcoming performance at Michigan City's Lighthouse Jazz Festival, Bugnon promises fans will hear many of his "greatest hits," along with some new songs from his upcoming album.

"My fans know what kind of show I put on," he said. "I leave everything on stage. I always try to play by the motto of Thelonious Monk. He said, 'Always play like it's the last time' and that's what I do. I've been playing like that for years."

(More artists slated to perform in the Lighthouse Jazz Festival will be featured in upcoming installments of Art+Times. Visit www.lighthousejazzfestival.com for more information.)



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It was a cold, rainy night, but that didn't stop people from attending Long Beach Historical Society's first official meeting.

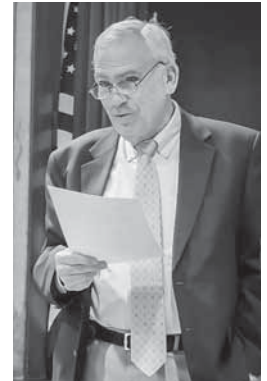
Gathering at Long Beach Community Center, Dennis Kelley presided, with Mike Riley reading an update on the group's legal status. Historian Debbie Steele-Semla reviewed donations and collections, and revealed a generous offer Don Parrillo and Doug Waters made to the society.

Sandy Gleim from Unity Foundation updated the group on grants and matchings, with Kelley ending the meeting by explaining the Heritage Grant.

The meeting was interspersed with trivia about Long Beach, whereby winners would take potted flowers home. People had refreshments while viewing a PowerPoint presentation by Paula Trout on preservation.

State Rep. Scott Pelath, a former Long Beach Elementary School student, attended the meeting.

Anyone interesting in joining the Society should contact Steele-Semla at larrysemala@yahoo.com



Mike Riley talks to Long Beach Historical Society about its legal status.
Photo by George Kassal



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Northwest Indiana Green Drinks

Michigan City native Dominique Edwards will discuss "Revitalizing Deindustrialized Cities with Urban Agriculture," a plan she recently presented at Harvard University, during the next Northwest Indiana Green Drinks in Michigan City meeting.

The program is at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, May 19, in the reserved room at Shoreline Brewery, 208 Wabash St.

Deindustrialization, globalization, advancements in technology, population flight and more have led to decay in cities such as Gary, Detroit, Youngstown, Ohio, and Camden, N.J. Michigan City has suffered a less dramatic, yet significant history with its Pullman Standard plant and other former factory sites.



Dominique Edwards

Such areas also have given rise to crime and a massive decrease in the housing market, making most of these areas unsuitable and hard to market for appropriate economic development. They've also created brownfields — old industrial sites and vacant lots that are contaminated or "perceived" to be contaminated with hazardous waste materials left from previous operations.

Through sustainable revitalization efforts, however, some of these cities are coming back to life, which will be the program's focus.

Edwards graduated from Michigan City High School in 2005 and will earn a master's degree in Sustainable Urban Development, with a certificate in Community Development, from DePaul University in June. She works in the nonprofit sector and is on the board of the newly formed Northwest Indiana Food Council. She was raised in the Eastport neighborhood, where her father hosted a neighborhood garden.

The program is sponsored by Save the Dunes and supported by 219 GreenConnect. The suggested donation is \$5, or \$2 for students. Call (219) 874-4076 for more information.

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Clean It Up Day Again Proves Successful

The La Porte County Solid Waste District's fifth annual Clean It Up Day was a huge success, with hundreds of volunteers participating in 38 cleanups countywide.

In Michigan City, alone, volunteers collected 200 bags of trash in areas such as Meijer Drive, U.S. 12, Pahs Road, Karwick Road and Hitchcock Road. Another two truckloads of litter were removed from La Porte's downtown, parks and neighborhoods, as well as county roads in surrounding areas. About 350 people participated in the event, according to Alicia Ebaugh, district education and public outreach coordinator.

Park Zoo.

- The Michigan City Refuse Department, which picked up all the litter collected in Michigan City.
- La Porte area volunteer groups: Alcoa; American Licorice; Agape Christian Church; Northwest Chapter of the Indiana Environmental Health Association; Rolling Prairie Business and Community Association; LC Sacred Heart Apostolic School; the Scipio Sensations 4-H Club; Terra Verde Garden Club; the Kiwanis Club of La Porte; Sean McKiel and family; Blake McKiel and family; Tim Vaughan and the Stock family; Ashley Wisnieski and friends; Lora and Paul



Clean It Up Day volunteers pose for a photo after their cleanups during a thank you lunch at North Pointe Pavilion at Washington Park beach.

Those involved included:

- Michigan City area volunteer groups: Michigan City High School; Krueger Middle School; The North Face staff; Crystal Castro and family; Fifth Ward Councilwoman Sharon Carnes and family; At-Large Councilman Don Przybylinski and family; Evergreen Baptist Church's youth group; Michigan City North End Advocacy Team; Not 2 Young 2 Work; Elston Grove Neighborhood Association; the Greater Michigan City GOP Club; Nora Schultz, Tracey Pollock and family; Samantha Chapala and family; Sue and Louie Almanza; Jane Neulieb and all Long Beach volunteers; Charmaine Tompkins and family; Levi's and Verizon staff; Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints' youth group; Patricia Howard and family; Michelle Basta, Andi Jahnz-Davis and Mark Dever.
- Washington Park Zoo, which allowed all volunteers free entry to the zoo after the cleanup.
- The Michigan City Parks and Recreation Department, which hosted the volunteer thank you lunch at the new North Pointe Pavilion, and Assistant Superintendent Shannon Eason, who supervised all of the volunteers who cleaned up Washington

Brooks; Donna and Byron Marben; Sheryl Bede and family; Connie Justice, Phil Liverman, Nina Rogowski and Girl Scout troops led by Deb Gordon, Jessica Duch, Pamela Stanfield, Kim Zapala and Kristin Nunez.

- The Greater La Porte Chamber of Commerce, which hosted a cleanup in downtown La Porte and the city's thank you luncheon under the guidance of Marketing and Communication Director Drew Gesse.
- The La Porte Park and Recreation Department, which picked up litter, leaves and other items collected from La Porte's parks.
- Local businesses that made donations: Domino's Pizza; Wana Pizza; Michigan City Fifth Ward Councilwoman Sharon Carnes; Family Express; Waste Management; Republic Services; Phart's Phat Macs and Custom Cakes; Momma Sue's Cafeteria and Catering; Overboard at the Marina; Arturo's Baked Goods and More; Nora Schultz; Yacht Brite Detailing; and AIM Water.

The cleanup day is organized in conjunction with Keep America Beautiful's Great American Cleanup, with trash bags donated by Glad.



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MCHS Student Project Selected for NASA Research



MCHS Engineering students on the NASA project team included Eryn Sitar (from left), Nicole Pomeroy, Rhiggs Thomas and Zach Gault. They are pictured with Engineering Technology Teacher Ralph Gee.

A project designed by four Michigan City High School students has been selected for microgravity testing in Oregon as part of a NASA effort.

The Capillary Effects on Liquids Exploratory Research Experiments (CELERE) challenge is a joint program of NASA and Portland State University that enables students to participate in microgravity research similar to that conducted on the International Space Station. Using CAD software, the MCHS students submitted drawings for pieces that were later created in Oregon using a computer-controlled laser cutter. Silicon oil was placed on these pieces, which were dropped five stories in 2.1 seconds at PSU's Dryden Drop Tower to simulate near weightlessness.

The MCHS entry for the challenge was the only experiment selected from Indiana. It was designed by students Eryn Sitar, Nicole Pomeroy, Rhiggs Thomas and Zach Gault. Data from the experiment has been sent back to the student team, and their interpretation of the results will be shared with

NASA and PSU.

"The experiment was basically about how liquids travel in space," MCHS Engineering Technology teacher Ralph Gee said. "The entire experience has been a valuable one for these students, from applying to NASA for the opportunity, to seeing the scientific research process in action. It is exciting for them to see video footage of their experiment and to help NASA interpret the results."

The MCHS team is part of a new "Maker Space" club that has formed at the high school. According to Gee, the club has between five and 10 members who meet informally after school in the MCHS engineering lab to pursue ideas and projects they find interesting and typically go beyond the scope of classroom work.

MCHS offers "Project Lead the Way" courses in Engineering, Biomedical Science and Civil Engineering & Architecture. In fall 2016, Computer Integrated Manufacturing will be added.

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Thank You Michigan City

When we decided to actually send our twins to La Lumiere School, the decision came with many puzzle pieces. See, we live in Chicago, so how were we going to do it?? As it turns out, with the help of many people. Starting with my in-laws, Dr. Brian and Margaret Potter, who allowed us the use of their Duneland Beach house for the last four years. With the living arrangement set, now what?

I moved in knowing hardly a soul. With my husband commuting here only for weekends, and the kids in school until 6 pm, I found myself alone. A lot. But thankfully, not for long! I have been lucky enough to have found the most wonderful friends and community here in this little corner of the world.

So, I would like to thank a few of the many people who helped me live here for the last four years.

I would like to thank my BFF's, Kathleen and Michele, for all of their love and support. Traute for being a surrogate Grandma. Andy and Diane for being more than just neighbors. The Cutters for all the laughs. Amy for trying to keep me in shape. Annette for always keeping me in the loop. Margaret Ellen for my mail. Melissa, Nettie and Jay for the coffee. Tony for always having time for my car. Mick for the snow blowing. Chris for my SOS calls. The Kennedy family for their warmth and hospitality. The La Lumiere maintenance team, especially Pat, for saving me in a snow storm.

And of course, La Lumiere School for giving my children the education and confidence that will take them anywhere they want to go!

I really could not have done it without you....

Maureen Potter

Michigan City Public Library

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

• **Bookmarks: Ron Chernow's "Alexander Hamilton" at 2 p.m. Friday, May 20.**

Dennis Norman is the reviewer.

• **Mother-Daughter Book Club at 4 p.m. Friday, May 20.**

The book club for women and their daughters (ages 8-12) will discuss Sarah Weeks' "Pie," with a slice of pie included as part of the meeting. Each child will receive a copy of the book. Registration is limited and required at the Youth Services Desk or by calling (219) 873-3045.

• **Genealogy Speaker: Michael Lacopo at 1 p.m. Saturday, May 21.**

La Porte County Genealogical Society and the library are cosponsoring the talk, "Methods of Identifying the German Origins of America Immigrants."

• **Celebrating National Music Month with Andy & Judy at 2 p.m. Sunday, May 22.**

The couple's music elicits sing-a-longs through old favorites, while also introducing original works. In addition to classical guitar, their music includes the



Andy and Judy Daigle.

mandolin, banjo, piano and harmonica. Visit andyjudysing.com for more information.

• **Night Time Story Time at 6 p.m. Tuesday, May 24.**

Children and adults can wear pajamas and snuggle while engaging in stories, songs and crafts. The program is appropriate for children through age 5 accompanied by an adult.

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



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If I Could Write a Screenplay...

Editor's note — This is the last in a series of columns exploring book-to-film adaptations.
by Andrew Tallackson

Every writer has grandiose dreams. It may not be the next Great American Novel, heck, not even a summer beach read, but *something* embraced by a widespread audience.

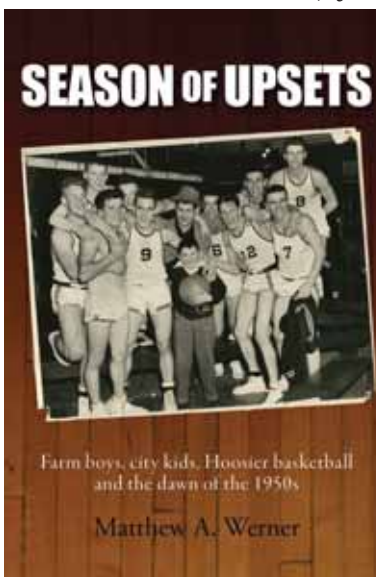
A screenplay lingers on my bucket list. Oh, I dabbled in non-fiction writing once. Four years ago, to be precise. Eighty pages, lighthearted in tone, of a parent bewildered by his unconventional son. Trouble is, the journey for me was still unfolding. There was no perspective, no context. And, it rambled. Lacking focus, the book went on indefinite hold.

The idea of a screenplay, however, taps into my affection for film. The cinema is a powerful tool, immersing viewers in worlds familiar and unexplored. It can alter and affect perceptions heretofore set in stone. I recall the words of a speech therapist, interviewed amid the awards-season hubbub for "The King's Speech" (2010), who said the picture did more to advance the significance of speech therapy than the past 100 years entire.

My screenwriting aspirations have never been as lofty. And, each pocket of alleged ingenuity culminated in someone else beating me to the punch. The first was an adaptation of David Sedaris' hilariously subversive "Santaland Diaries," which recounted his experience as a Christmas elf at Macy's. The second was Richard Peck's tender novel in stories, "A Long Way from Chicago." Each spoke to me. Apparently, they spoke to a whole host of people as well. Both works have been adapted into successful stage shows. The lesson learned? You snooze, you lose.

Matt Werner's "Season of Upsets" has been rattling around in my brain for about a year as a screenplay, and it couldn't be further from my comfort zone.

First, it is about basketball. Sports are not my forte. Let's just say my career in Little League went into swift cardiac arrest after my coach resigned me to playing deep, deep, DEEP



right field. Even at a tender young age, I could take the hint.

Secondly, it is drawn from fact. Movies are frequently criticized for taking liberties with the truth. Tackling an impeccably researched work is daunting enough. Add to it a sense of responsibility to accurately depict the lives of those told in the work, and the pressure is insurmountable.

But something about Werner's book keeps swirling around in my thoughts. Like Erik Larson's "The Devil in the White City" and Laura Hillenbrand's "Seabiscuit" and "Unbroken," it is fact that reads like fiction. But why tell "Season of Upsets" when so many before Werner have spun stories similar to it? How do you make La Porte County relevant to the rest of the planet? And why write another basketball movie set in Indiana when "Hoosiers" (1986) is regarded as one of the greatest sports movies ever?

Because "Season of Upsets" is about so much more than basketball. If you're not familiar with it, it is the book that inspired us at *The Beacher* to contact Werner, who grew up in Union Mills, to write our four-part series about the 1966 Elston state basketball championship. "Season of Upsets," released in late 2014, proved Werner is a born storyteller. Fascinated by a picture



The photo of the 1950 Millers that inspired Matt Werner to write "Season of Upsets."

from 1950 of his uncle Dean and fellow Union Mills "Millers" in a celebratory victory embrace, he embarked on a journey to uncover the story behind it. What he discovered was not just a classic underdog tale of small-town basketball players and their coach, but also a snapshot of a specific period in time.

The book depicts La Porte County at a pivotal turning point in American history, a post World War II society before schools consolidated, where former U.S. military servicemen were reborn as basketball coaches, and where the ongoing saga involving coal miners and

labor contract talks threatened the American way of life. The Civil Rights movement was starting to take hold. And for small-town kids, basketball was an escape, a shared communal experience that united the entire county.

The stories Werner unearthed are downright captivating. Legendary sports writers who shape how readers digest the actions of their favorite teams. Farm kids who brave lake effect storms on tractors to attend basketball games. Springfield Township School — victorious one day, devastated the next when a fire levels the building. Michigan City rolling out the red carpet for visitors when it hosted the sectional. The Union Mills Millers defeat-



Matt Werner.

ing La Porte and Michigan City, unheard of in those days.

Every story thread of "Season of Upsets" can't be told in one movie. Obviously. It's too much for one movie. The elements would have to be pared down, but the framework, to extend its appeal beyond La Porte County, must be within a larger context, that of a slice of Americana. A nation evolving, its values changing. It's all there in Werner's book. The task is picking and choosing which elements best tell the story.

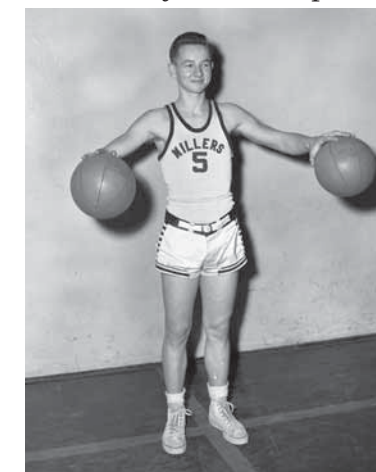
I envision what's called a wraparound story as the framing device. Not familiar with the term? It is a way to start and finish a movie in the present, using flashbacks to convey the meat and potatoes of the story. Steven Spielberg applied that device to "Saving Private Ryan" (1998), opening with husband and wife arriving at a military cemetery, then dissolving to the past, where we encounter the arduous journey for Tom Hanks and crew, before revisiting the couple by the end.

"Wraparounds" may be sentimental in nature, but they effectively lure an audience into a tale. There is an air of mystery. Why are we drawn into this remembrance of the past?

I envision the movie opening with Matt gazing at the picture of his uncle on the wall, removing it, then gazing off into space, his eyes conveying that the wheels are in motion. The image of Matt dissolves, and we are transported back to Hoosier basketball in La Porte County. When that incredible saga arrives at its moving end, we return to Matt, still holding the picture. We now know the story he is destined to tell. He places the picture back on the wall, heads over to his computer, turns it on, smiles again and begins to write. Fade to black.

Believe me. There is a movie crying out to be made.

Contact Andrew Tallackson at drew@thebeacher.com



Matt Werner's uncle, Dean.

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Valpo Car Show

The Valpo Car Show and Swap Meet is from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, May 22, at the Porter County Expo Center, 215 Division Road, Valparaiso.



The Valpo Car Show and Swap Meet includes 53 award categories.

Admission is \$5, but it's free to show or sell a vehicle. About 200 to 400 cars are expected. There are 53 award categories, with winners announced at 2 p.m. Four to five food vendors will sell hot dogs, hamburgers, funnel cakes and other refreshments.

Car registration begins at 8 a.m. The Swap Meet area opens to vendors for setup at 6 a.m., with a \$10 pre-registration fee for a 10x10x25 space. Registration is available the day of the show for \$15. To pre-register, send a check to M&S Enterprises, P.O. Box 2055, Valparaiso, IN 46384. Visit www.valpo-freecarshows.com for more information.

River Valley Garden Club Annual Sale

River Valley Garden Club's ninth annual plant sale will brim with homegrown plants, homemade baked goods and handmade bird feeders from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. EDT Saturday, May 21, at Harbert Community Park, 13300 Red Arrow Highway.

The bird feeders are included with the variety of perennials, bushes, trees and native grasses available. Members dig the plants from their own gardens to sell at the sale. Gardening books and magazines also will be available. The sale is held rain or shine. A large shelter is used so all plants and baked goods are protected.

More information is available at www.rivervalleygardenclub.org, or call Elizabeth Palulis at (269) 426-3513.

Long Beach Large Item Pickup

Long Beach will offer large item pickup on Mondays, May 23 and June 6.

Dispose of all unwanted items along with regular Monday refuse. Have everything at the roadside by 6 a.m. for pickup. Tape glass to prevent shattering. Tie or bundle to 4 foot length anything longer than 4 feet, such as carpet pieces, small amounts of construction debris (2 yards total) or small limbs.

Not acceptable are paint, chemicals, appliances with Freon, batteries, tires, concrete and leaves.

Polish-American Cultural Society

Polish-American Cultural Society of Northwest Indiana, Michigan City Chapter, will meet at 5 p.m. Wednesday, May 25, at the former St. Mary School, 321 W. 11th St.

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

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Free Day at Barker Mansion

Barker Mansion, 631 Washington St., will open its doors free of charge to Michigan City residents from 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday, May 21.

All entry fees will be waived for visitors displaying a valid ID with a Michigan City address. Any children living in the ID holder's household will receive free admission as well. Regular tour fees of \$5 per adult and \$2 per child apply.

Visitors can participate in a self-guided tour of all three floors of the 38-room mansion. Volunteers and staff members will be stationed throughout the home to answer questions and relay information.

Reservations are not needed. Visit www.Barker-Mansion.com for details.



Barker Mansion's morning room.

Spring Craft Show

Barker Middle School, 319 Barker Road, will host its Spring Craft Show and Book Fair from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, May 21.

Students with the Morning Announcement Crew are raising money to update equipment. The first-time event will feature community members and businesses selling products. Concessions and raffles are planned.

Enter through the front entrance on Barker Road. Additional parking is in back. Contact Kristi Steinhiser at ksteinhiser01@mcas.k12.in.us or (219) 877-7263 for more information.

Quilting Classes

Three sessions of quilting classes, specifically the stack and whack design, are from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesdays, May 18, 25 and June 1, at Michigan City Senior Center in Washington Park.

The class is sponsored by the Michigan City Parks & Recreation Department. Jan Weinig is the instructor. The cost is \$40 for all three sessions. Register at the park office from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Call (219) 873-1506 for more information.

Movie Night

St. Luke United Lutheran Church, 2000 E. Cool-spring Ave., will host "Movie Night" at 6 p.m. Friday, May 20.

The movie is "The Intern" starring Anne Hathaway and Robert De Niro. The showing will include homemade pizza, salad, popcorn and lemonade or water. The cost is \$10, or \$5 for children 12 and younger.

Call the church office at (219) 879-9415 to purchase tickets.

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La Porte County Barn/Shop Hop

Tour six La Porte County shops offering antiques, folk art, handcrafts, salvage, repurposed, vintage, primitives, furniture and yard art during the La Porte County Barn/Shop Hop from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday through Sunday, May 20-22.

Pick up a rack card at participating shops, visit all six to have the card punched, then enter a drawing for gift certificates. A map is available. The shops are:

- Barn Style, 2194 E. Indiana 2, Rolling Prairie.
- Fawn Run Farm Mercantile, 3883 E. County Road 700 North, Rolling Prairie.
- It's All About The Barn, 0744 E. County Road 900 North, La Porte.
- Prairie Farm Antiques, 4511 N. County Road 600 East, Rolling Prairie.
- Plain and Fancy, 5395 W. Johnson Road, La Porte.
- Never Enough Thyme, 2353 N. County Road 600 East, Rolling Prairie.

Contact Marcy Dailey at fawnrunfarm@gmail.com or (219) 778-2809 for more information.

Music Concert at Niles Church

An organ, flute and choral concert is at 4 p.m. EDT Sunday, May 22, at First Presbyterian Church, 13 S. Fourth St., Niles, Mich.

The program will feature guest organist Sharon Simons Hettinger, Lawrence, Kan., originally from Niles, while Walter Ginter will conduct the choir with accompaniment by Sarai St. Jayne on organ. Flutist Carol Stauffer Bosler also will perform.

Call (269) 683-7600 for more information.

St. Luke Book Club

St. Luke United Lutheran Church, 2000 E. Cool-spring Ave., is starting a book club, with the first meeting at 10 a.m. Thursday, May 19.

The group will read contemporary books, classics and bestsellers. Anyone is invited. The group will pick its reading material at the first meeting.



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Genealogy Program

La Porte County Genealogical Society and Michigan City Public Library will present Michael Lacopo speaking on "Methods of Identifying the German Origins of American Immigrants" at 1 p.m. Saturday, May 21, in the library meeting room, 100 E. Fourth St.

Lacopo was born and raised in northern Indiana, surrounded by extended family telling tall tales. Intrigued by his maternal family's claim to be kinfolk of Abraham Lincoln, and his paternal family's stories of murder and mayhem, he took to genealogical research in 1980 to substantiate the stories. A budding genealogist in the 1980s, he completed his doctorate in veterinary medicine in 1991, while still honing his research skills. Befitting a doctor, he treats his genealogical research as he would medicine: carefully, methodically and completely. In 2013, he retired from his medical career to pursue genealogical research full time as a profession.

His first published work appeared in 1985 with several books, journal articles and published contributions following. He appeared in *USA Today* and has lectured locally, regionally, nationally and internationally. He has a varied ancestry and is comfortable with records in German, French and Italian. He is proficient in reading German script and has a particular interest in immigrant ancestry.

He also is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists, National Genealogical Society, Genealogical Speakers Guild, Ohio Genealogical Society, The Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania and the Indiana Genealogical Society.



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How Sweet It Is



Members of the 1966 Elston state championship basketball season helped celebrate the latest book signing for "How Sweet It Is" author Matt Werner on May 7 at Knuckleheads. Appearing at the event were (from left) O'Neil Simmons, Harold Kennedy, Werner, Terry Morse, Jim Cadwell and Nancy (Bobinski) White. Photo by Paul Kemiell

Duneland Historical Society

Duneland Historical Society will meet at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 19, at Westchester Public Library Service Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

Cliff Goins, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore special events and fee manager, and a Society member, will explore the park's history, and explain the many events celebrating its 50th anniversary.

Serena Sutliff will discuss the upcoming Westchester Township History Museum exhibit, "The Bailly Family and Homestead," presented in collaboration with the National Lakeshore as part of its anniversary celebration. She will offer a sneak preview of some of the artifacts, and relate stories that will be told, as part of the display.

The meeting is free and open to the public. Memberships are available. Call (219) 983-9715 for additional information.

Garden Club Plant Sale

The Miller Garden Club will host its annual plant sale from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, May 21, at Marquette Park Aquatorium, 6918 Oak Ave., Gary.

This year's sale will feature shorter and faster checkout-lines, a variety of plants and herbs and a curated array of treasures. Box lunches and baked goods will be available.

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.



Waste District Collection Season

The La Porte County Solid Waste District's 2016 collection season soon will be under way, with an important change limiting the size of household hazardous waste containers allowed for recycling.

The first hazardous waste collection of the year is from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, May 21, at La Porte County Fairgrounds, 2581 W. Indiana 2, La Porte. It's a 5-in-1 collection, where tires, appliances and electronics also will be accepted along with confidential document shredding. All collections are free except for tires, and are meant for residents only.

The district's hazardous waste collections are a free way to get rid of chemicals, household cleaners, Sharps (medical needles) and other hazardous materials. However, in response to rising costs to process hazardous waste, limits have been set on the size of containers that can be accepted.

"We are still accepting everything we have traditionally accepted, but we are now only able to accept those items in containers that hold five gallons or less of materials," said Tom Buford, director of the Lake Michigan District Household Hazardous Waste program. "This thankfully shouldn't affect many of our residents because our program is only meant to collect hazardous waste from homes, and most items we see at our collections are within this range."

The Hazardous Waste program used to have a contract with a company that came toward the end of each collection to empty 55-gallon drums of oil and antifreeze, but Buford said this service became too expensive. Everything now has to be emptied into recycling and disposal containers by hand, which necessitated the size limit of five gallons or less.

Five more collections are planned this year, with the next hazardous waste-only collection on June 25 at La Porte County Fairgrounds. Call (219) 326-0014, visit solidwastedistrict.com or email aebaugh@solidwastedistrict.com for more information.



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

- New Hope Missionary Baptist Church, 730 W. Sixth St., Michigan City, 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Saturday, May 21.
- Pine Elementary School, 1660 County Line Road, Michigan City, 1:30 to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 24. Each student who recruits one presenting donor receives a slapwatch while supplies last.

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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LaLu Takes State Champ Title



La Lumiere's 2016 Academic Super Bowl English Championship Team are (from left) Grace Dybing, Camryn Roberts and Sean Russell.

La Lumiere School brought home the state championship title in the English Class 4 category of the 30th Annual Indiana Academic Super Bowl state finals on Saturday, May 7.

Led by physics and precalculus teacher Jaime Frankle, students Grace Dybing, a senior from La Porte, Camryn Roberts, a sophomore from New Carlisle, and Sean Russell, a junior from North Liberty, earned a score of 19 out of 25 possible points to bring home first place and the championship title. Isaac Houston, a junior from Niles, Mich., competed with the English team at the area competition to earn the team a spot at the state finals, but was unable to compete.

Teams from 99 high schools throughout Indiana competed at the state finals.

ASL Club Coffeehouse

The Purdue University-Northwest American Sign Language Club will host its final ASL Coffeehouse of the spring semester from 5 to 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 20, at Uptown Café, 1400 E. Lincolnway, Valparaiso.

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

Contact Karen Donah, PNW continuing lecturer and American Sign Language coordinator, at kdonah@pnw.edu for more information.

Calumet Outdoors Series

The Calumet Outdoors Series, hikes organized by the Calumet Stewardship Initiative, continues Saturday, May 21, at Dan Ryan Woods.

The hike is led by Laura Milkert, of Friends of The Forest Preserve. Contact Series Coordinator Eric Neagu at (773) 403-5237 or ericneagu@gmail.com for additional information.

The Calumet Stewardship Initiative is a coalition of more than 40 organizations that promotes a sustainable relationship between people and nature in the Calumet region of Northwest Indiana and Northeast Illinois. Visit <http://calumetstewardship.org/events> for additional information.

Radio Harbor Country BikeNBrunch

The fourth annual Radio Harbor Country BikeNBrunch is at 8:30 a.m. EDT Sunday, June 5.

Departing from the private home/studio of a local artist, riders of all levels can choose 15-, 30- or 45-mile loops through Harbor Country backroads. At the end, participants will have a gourmet brunch of locally grown and prepared food.

The event, held rain or shine, is limited to the first 100 registrants. Register online at radioharborcountry.com or email bikenbrunch.wrhc@gmail.com. Proceeds aid Radio Harbor Country.

Birding in the Gardens

Susan Bagby, a Michigan City birder with 25 years experience, will lead the hike "Birding in the Gardens" at 8 a.m. Saturday, May 21, at Friendship Botanic Gardens (formerly International Friendship Gardens), 2055 E. U.S. 12.

Dress for the weather. The program will be held unless the weather appears threatening. Call (219) 878-9885 for more information.

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Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

The following programs are available through Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore:

- **Miller Woods BioBlitz on Friday and Saturday, May 20-21.**

The event will record as many living organisms in the Miller Woods area as possible in two days. "Explorers" of all ages can help scientists find flora and fauna. The Douglas Center will serve as "base camp." Registration is required to participate in a counting team. Ongoing base camp activities are open to walk-in visitors. Visit tinyurl.com/gqxe9x2 to register. Parking is available at Lake Street Beach, with free shuttles to the Douglas Center.

- **The Save the Tunes Council performs from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Friday, May 20, at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.**

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

- **Logs to Lustrons Tour at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, May 21.**

The ranger-led presentation and tour highlights 150 years of architecture in the dunes. The cost is \$30. Visit tinyurl.com/jva4a8h to register.

- **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

Indiana Dunes State Park

The following programs are offered through Indiana Dunes State Park:

Saturday, May 21

- **10 a.m. — Just a Dam Hike.**

Meet at the campground gate for the first official spring hike through the beaver domain.

- **2 p.m. — Who Pooped in the Park!**

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

Sunday, May 22

- **10 a.m. — Wetland Safari.**

Explore the bio-diverse area of a wetland, including aquatic life below the water.

- **2 p.m. — Scales and Tales.**

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

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

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Mother-Daughter Duo Exhibit

With May honoring mothers, The Village Gallery continues that celebration with a new exhibit by the mother-daughter duo DeBorah and Matzie Stipanovich through June 23.

Matzie studied at The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, expanding her techniques through instructors Renee Nagle and Dale Fleming and membership in the Gary Artist's League. Working in multiple mediums, her pieces include Indiana dunes landscapes, regional scenes and subjects, along with contemporary abstracts. Her paintings and German Dutch tole painting in freehand style have been exhibited throughout the Midwest, earning numerous awards.



DeBorah Stipanovich's "Bailly Homestead."

DeBorah's first art instructor was her mother, following in her footsteps by studying at the Art Institute, as well as at Valparaiso University. Her works depicting Amish country landscapes, and the intricate detail of quilt design, have garnered numerous awards and recognition. Working mainly in acrylics, she also creates in oil, pen and ink.

Living in Chesterton, both women have been actively involved in the Chesterton Women's Club Annual Art Show, as well as being members of the Midwest Museum of American Art.

The Village Gallery is located at Pines Village Retirement Communities, 3303 Pines Village Circle (off Calumet Avenue just north of Cumberland Crossing) in Valparaiso. Call (219) 465-1591 for more information.

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.

Women Only Fishing Instruction

Women 18 and older can learn how to fish in a relaxed environment from 9 to 11 a.m. Saturday, May 21, at Luhr County Park, 3178 S. County Road 150 West, La Porte.

Poles and bait will be provided. No fishing license is needed. Pre-registration is required by calling (219) 325-8315.

Free Program for Home-Schoolers

Learn about animals and what they eat during the program led by park staff and for children 6-13 from 10 to 11 a.m. Monday, May 23, at Luhr County Park.

Participants learn through hands-on activities. All supplies are provided. Pre-registration is required by Monday, May 16, with 40 youth being the maximum. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Call (219) 325-8315 to register.

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:

- June 1 — Age spots and common skin problems, Dr. Sonam Chouksey, internal medicine.
- July 6 — Ways to improve balance in the older years, Becky Allwood-Wallace, physical therapist.
- Aug. 3 — Eye health, cataract care and eye warning signs, Dr. Sethi Patel, ophthalmology.
- Sept. 14 — What to grow in the fall with Sacha Burns, Sunkissed Organics.

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:

- June 8 — Creepy Crawlers.
- June 22 — Water, Water, Everywhere.
- July 20 — Night Time Explorers.
- July 27 — Beautiful Butterflies.
- Aug. 3 — It's Feeding Time.



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LaLu Senior Named All-Star

La Lumiere School senior Rachael Yemc is one of only 50 Regional Academic All-Stars in Indiana.

All 50 students, along with a school representative chosen by the student, were honored during a luncheon April 26 at the Indiana Roof Ballroom, Indianapolis. Yemc chose AP Physics and AP Calculus teacher Ken Andert as her most influential educator.



In addition to her academic achievement, Yemc has been active as captain of the soccer team, a member of the tennis team and head of the yearbook staff. She has volunteered for several community service projects, and traveled to Nicaragua with the school to volunteer with Fabretto Children's Foundation. She plans to attend the University of Notre Dame in the fall, and has been accepted into the Mendoza College of Business.

The Indiana Academic All-Stars is a program of the Indiana Association of School Principals, Department of Student Programs, with sponsorship by Franklin College, Indiana University, Marian University and Purdue University. Each school is invited to nominate one deserving senior. This year, 284 students received commendations as school nominees, which is 34 more nominations than in 2015; the largest group recognized in 20 years.

State Park Summer Camp

Indiana Dunes State Park will offer a nature-related day camp for students ages 6-13.

Two sessions of the Dunes State Park Explorer Camp are planned, each tailored to different age groups. The camps explore the dunes, its plants and animals and our connection to the land.

Registration is required, and space is limited for each session. Each camp costs \$25 per camper. The fee includes snacks, lunch on Friday, crafts and park entrance fees.

The session for campers ages 6-9 runs July 18-22. The session for campers ages 10-13 runs Aug. 1-5. Camps meet from 9 a.m. to noon Monday through Thursday and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Fridays.

Campers wishing to register can pick up a camp flyer and registration form at the park office or nature center, or email dunesnc@dnr.IN.gov for an electronic copy.

Funding for the summer camp comes from the Friends of Indiana Dunes State Park group. Call the park's nature center at (219) 926-1390 for more information.

South Bend Comic Book Convention

The South Bend Comic Book Convention is from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. EDT Saturday, May 21, at Comfort Suites, 52933 U.S. 933 (Cleveland and U.S. 31), South Bend.

The free convention is open to the public. Dealers will have comics from the golden age to the present, along with collectible items. Dealers also will buy comics. Call Alan at (309) 657-1599 or visit www.epguides.com/comics for more information.

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Shirley Heinze Anniversary Benefit

Shirley Heinze Land Trust will host its 35th anniversary benefit at 5:30 p.m. Saturday, June 4, at Valparaiso University's Harre Union.

Headlining the event is Sir Peter Crane, former director of the Field Museum of Natural History of Chicago and the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew, England. He currently is dean of the School of Forestry and Environmental Studies and professor of botany at Yale University. He will speak about his connections to Northwest Indiana, the significance of the region's ecology and the importance of engaging in local conservation action.

Michael Puente, Northwest Indiana correspondent for WBEZ Chicago Public Radio, will act as master of ceremonies.

The evening also will feature a reception with hors d'oeuvres and dinner. Guests can participate in live and silent auctions.

This year's "Funding the Future" program will raise money to enhance and expand the group's work, including restoration and increased public access in project areas such as Ambler Flatwoods, the Little Calumet River Corridor and Meadowbrook.

Tickets and sponsorships may be purchased through www.heinzetrust.org or by contacting Bonnie Hawksworth at (219) 242-8558 or bhawksworth@heinzetrust.org. Live and silent auction items are also available for preview on the site.

Shirley Heinze Land Trust has been protecting natural land in the southern Lake Michigan watershed of Indiana since 1981.



1,000 Drops of Water Campaign

A wave contains thousands of drops of water, all coming together to move forward and touch the shore. Likewise, our community comes together to learn how to swim safely and have fun in the water.

Introducing the 1,000 Drops of Water campaign.

The fun, colorful activity for children in fourth grade and younger lets them review safe-swimming tips on one side of the education sheet, then color or artistically decorate the other side. Afterward, they can turn them into the Michigan City YMCA Elston Branch or La Porte Hospital by June 1. Submissions could be chosen as winners to decorate the hallways leading to the pool at the Elston branch.

The campaign is the second leg of a months-long water-safety effort in Michigan City. Last year, La Porte Hospital contributed \$100,000 to the YMCA Michigan City Elston Branch so it could make upgrades and maintain its pool for the community. The gift also covers scholarships for those who cannot afford swim lessons, and supplies such as caps and goggles.

As part of the donation, the hospital received naming rights to the pool, but opted to invite the Michigan City community to name it instead. The Home Town Swim Hero contest to name the pool has concluded, and results will be revealed in June at the World's Largest Swim Lesson event at the Elston Branch.

In the meantime, the 1,000 Drops of Water Campaign is a way to get the community's youngest children involved in discussing safe swimming.

Visit tinyurl.com/jl79nkq to download one of three different designs to decorate. Read the lesson together as a family, and have children color the artwork on the back. Submit the completed pages to the Elston Branch or La Porte Hospital (attention Stacey Kellogg). Call her at (219) 326-2354 for more information.

Business After Hours

Northwest Indiana Online Auctions, 1720 E. Lincolnway, La Porte, will host a Business After Hours from 4 to 6 p.m. Thursday, May 26.

Administered by the Greater La Porte Chamber of Commerce, the event will afford NWIOA the chance to showcase what it offers at its monthly auctions. Registration is encouraged by calling (219) 362-3178.

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Beach Garden Club

Beach Garden Club members kicked off their 2016 season April 26 at Long Beach Community Center, with Barb Macudzinski and Dolly Millick serving treats.

President Rima Binder gave a PowerPoint presentation on the history of Friendship Botanic Gardens. A revitalizing of the grounds and facilities, which opened in 1936, is under way. Last fall, club members donated tools and gardening items to be used by volunteers at the gardens. Several members also volunteered to help with revitalizing efforts.

With the club's mission being the beach area's beautification, service projects begin each May with the planting and care of flowers at Long Beach Town Hall, Long Beach Community Center, The Pump House on Lake Shore Drive, The Veterans Memorial in Long Beach Park and the welcome sign at Moore Road and Oriole Trail.

Club members also care for the gardens at Michiana Humane Society every Monday morning May through September.

Pat Latchford and Dee Caulfield will represent the club on The Long Beach Park Board for the 2016 season.

The next meeting is the Founder's Day Luncheon on May 26 at Long Beach Country Club.

Area Writer Takes Top Prize

Chesterton's Chrissy Vagenius received first place for Best Middle-Grade Manuscript from among 500 participants during the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrator's Midwest Conference.

The event was held April 29-May 1 in Naperville, Ill. Speakers included Newberry medalist Linda Sue Park ("A Long Walk to Water"), editors and agents from national publishers, children's authors and Candice Fleming, whose books include "The Family Romanov" and "Bulldozer's Big Day."

Vagenius specializes in illustrations created from papercut shadowboxes, weaving stories of hope and wonder between assembled dioramas. She self-published an independent book in 2011, "The Gift," which received several awards, including silver medals from The Moonbeam Children's Book Awards and The Independent Children's Book Awards.

"This is my first attempt at writing a novel," Vagenius said. "The award has given me newfound inspiration to continue writing future novels and pursuing publication with this manuscript."

CALL THE BEACHER WITH YOUR NEWS!

Friday at Noon is the deadline for the following week's issue. (219) 879-0088

LBCC Women's Golf Leagues

9-Hole League

May 12, 2016

Event: Low Putts



Championship Flight

Event: Eunie Nondorf

A Flight

Event: Linda Wilson

Low Net: Pat Kelley, Donna Hennard

"B" Flight

Event: Mary Weithers

Low Net: Marge Walsh

Low Putts: Rima Binder

"C" Flight

Event: Adele O'Donnell

Low Putts: Tina Sonderby

Low Putts: Barbara Beardslee

LBCC Women's Golf Leagues

9-Hole League

May 5, 2016

Event: Regular Golf Low Net

All Flights

Event: Tina Sonderby

Low Net: Kathie Mole

Low Putts: Rima Binder

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Activities to Explore

In the Local Area:

May 19 — New book club meeting, 10 a.m., St. Luke United Lutheran Church, 2000 E. Coolspring Ave.

May 19 — Northwest Indiana Green Drinks in Michigan City, 6:30 p.m., Shoreline Brewery, 208 Wabash St. Suggested donation: \$5, \$2/students. Info: (219) 874-4076.

May 20 — Bookmarks: Ron Chernow's "Alexander Hamilton," 2 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

May 20 — Mother-Daughter Book Club, 4 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

May 20 — Movie Night, "The Intern," 6 p.m., St. Luke United Lutheran Church, 2000 E. Coolspring Ave. Cost: \$10, \$5/children 12 & younger. Tickets: (219) 879-9415.

May 20 — Save the Tunes Council, 7:30-9 p.m., Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. Info: (219) 395-1882.

May 20-22 — La Porte County Barn/Shop Hop, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Info: fawnrunfarm@gmail.com, (219) 778-2809.

May 20-23 — Vickers Theatre, 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. *Now showing*: "Eye in the Sky." Rated R. Times: 6 p.m. Fri.-Mon. *Also*: "Krisha." Rated R. Times: 9 p.m. Fri.-Sat., 3:30 p.m. Sat.-Sun. All times Eastern. Info: vickerstheatre.com

May 21 — Free admission, Barker Mansion, 631 Washington St. Info: www.BarkerMansion.com

May 21 — "Birding in the Gardens" hike, 8 a.m., Friendship Botanic Gardens, 2055 E. U.S. 12. Info: (219) 878-9885.

May 21 — Spring Craft Show and Book Fair, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Barker Middle School, 319 Barker Road. Info: ksteinhiser01@mcas.k12.in.us, (219) 877-7263.

May 21 — Logs to Lustrons Tour, 8:30 a.m., Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. Cost: \$30. Registration: tinyurl.com/jva4a8h

May 21 — Just a Dam Hike, 10 a.m., Nature Center @ Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

May 21 — "Methods of Identifying the German Origins of American Immigrants," 1 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St.

May 21 — Nerf Battle: Capture the Flag Program for Teens, 6-7:30 p.m., Westchester Public Library, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

May 21 — 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 21, 25 — 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 22 — Wetland Safari, 10 a.m., Nature Center @ Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

May 22 — Celebrating National Music Month with Andy & Judy, 2 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

May 24 — New Buffalo Community Forum Series, stormy weather, 6:30 p.m. EDT, New Buffalo Township Library, 33 N. Thompson St. Info: (269) 469-2933.

May 25 — Deli Day, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Sinai Temple, 2800 Franklin St. Day of call-in orders: (219) 874-4477, (219) 877-7541

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 20 — Purdue University-Northwest American Sign Language Club Coffeehouse, 5-7:30 p.m., Uptown Café, 1400 E. Lincolnway, Valparaiso.

May 20-21 — Miller Woods BioBlitz, Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education, Gary's Miller Beach neighborhood. Registration: tinyurl.com/gqxe9x2

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

May 21 — River Valley Garden Club ninth annual plant sale, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. EDT, Harbert (Mich.) Community Park, 13300 Red Arrow Highway. Info: (269) 426-3513.

May 21 — Jim Cooper Quartet, 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

May 22 — Organ, flute & choral concert, 4 p.m. EDT, First Presbyterian Church, 13 S. Fourth St., Niles, Mich. Info: (269) 683-7600.

Through 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.

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.

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



THIS WEEK IN HISTORY



On May 19, 1536, England's Queen Anne Boleyn, second of King Henry VIII's many wives, and mother of Queen Elizabeth I, was beheaded after being convicted of the crime of adultery.

On May 19, 1780, in the early afternoon, much of New England, as well as parts of Canada, were enveloped in a sudden inexplicable darkness. What triggered this event has never been determined.

On May 19, 1906, the Federated Boys' Clubs, forerunner of Boys Clubs of America, were organized.

On May 19, 1935, T. E. Lawrence, a British archaeologist, soldier and writer better known as "Lawrence of Arabia," died at 46 as the result of a motorcycle accident.

On May 19, 1962, during a Democratic fundraiser in New York actress Marilyn Monroe performed a sultry rendition of "Happy Birthday" for President John F. Kennedy.

On May 19, 1992, Vice President Dan Quayle criticized the CBS sitcom "Murphy Brown" for having its title character bear a child out of wedlock.

On May 19, 1999, the much anticipated "Star Wars: Episode One – The Phantom Menace" opened.

On May 20, 1927, Charles Lindberg, flying the *Spirit of St. Louis*, took off from New York's Long Island for his non-stop flight to Paris.

On May 20, 1932, Amelia Earhart took off from Newfoundland for Ireland, becoming the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean.

On May 20, 1942, Glenn Miller and His Orchestra recorded ("I've Got a Gal in Kalamazoo") at Victor Studios in Hollywood.

On May 20, 1993, 93 million people tuned in for the final first-run episode of "Cheers" on NBC.

On May 21, 1852, the first train on the Michigan Central Railroad arrived in Chicago.

On May 21, 1881, Clara Barton founded the American Red Cross, also serving as its first president.

On May 21, 1919, the U.S. House of Representatives passed a proposed constitutional amendment that would give women the right to vote.

On May 21, 1927, Charles Lindberg landed his plane (*The Spirit of St. Louis*) outside Paris, completing the first solo flight across the Atlantic Ocean. He had been in the air for 33-1/2 hours, and had covered a distance of 3,600 miles.

On May 21, 1959, the musical "Gypsy" opened on Broadway.

On May 21, 1999, Susan Lucci won a Daytime

Emmy Award for Best Actress on her 19th try.

On May 22, 1761, the first life insurance policy in the United States was issued in Philadelphia.

On May 22, 1819, the *Savannah*, the first steam propelled vessel to cross the Atlantic, departed from Savannah, Ga.

On May 22, 1859, "Sherlock Holmes" creator Sir Arthur Conan Doyle was born in Edinburgh, Scotland.

On May 22, 1868, the Reno gang made off with \$96,000 in cash, gold and bonds in the Great Train Robbery near Seymour, Ind.

On May 22, 1992, after a reign of nearly 30 years, Johnny Carson stepped down as host of NBC's "Tonight" show.

On May 22, 2006, Braxton Bilbrey, 7, Arizona, swam from Alcatraz Island to San Francisco in 47 minutes.

On May 23, 1430, Joan of Arc was captured by the Burgundians, who sold her to England.

On May 23, 1455, the Battle of St. Albans was fought in England's "War of the Roses."

On May 23, 1785, Benjamin Franklin mentioned in a letter that he had invented bifocal glasses.

On May 23, 1984, U.S. Surgeon General Everett Koop said "very solid evidence showed lung disease could result from nonsmokers' exposure to cigarette smoke."

On May 23, 1994, "Pulp Fiction" by American director Quentin Tarantino won the Palme d'Or, or Golden Palm, for best film at the 47th Cannes Film Festival.

On May 24, 1844, Samuel Morse transmitted the first public message by telegraph, a short statement sent from Washington to Baltimore.

On May 24, 1883, the Brooklyn Bridge, a masterpiece of engineering linking Brooklyn and Manhattan, was opened.

On May 24, 1935, the National League's Cincinnati Reds hosted the Philadelphia Phillies in the major league's first night baseball game.

On May 24, 1962, Scott Carpenter became the second U.S. astronaut launched into orbit.

On May 25, 1844, a reporter for the *Baltimore Patriot* became the first newsman to transmit a story by telegraph, reporting on a vote by the House of Representatives.

On May 25, 1878, Gilbert and Sullivan's "HMS Pinafore" premiered in London.

On May 25, 1935, Jesse Owens, competing in four events in 45 minutes, sets three world records and ties a fourth.

On May 25, 1961, President John Kennedy asked the nation to work toward putting a man on the moon by the end of the decade.



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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:

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 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

Golf cart for sale. Good condition, newer batteries. \$2,500 OBO.
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WANTED: I buy all types of antiques and collectibles, including toys, advertising, military items and more. Call Matt at (219) 794-6500.

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FOR RENT: 306 Sunset, Michiana Shores. 3BR/3BA, three blocks to the lake. \$1,800/mo long term. May consider short term.
 Call (219) 872-8345.

Lake Michigan Rental, Michigan City, Dunescape Condo
 Association beach, indoor pool, available for a short-term summer or long-term tenant. Beginning July 1. Call Patty or Chuck at (708) 603-4220 or (708) 422-0895 for details.

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.

Public Art Committee

The Michigan City Public Art Committee will meet at 2 p.m. Thursday, May 19, in the City Hall Mayor's Conference Room.



Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter

After You by Jojo Moyes (hardcover, \$26.95 in bookstores and online; also available as an eBook)

"It was what we all wanted, ultimately, to be freed from our grief. To be released from this underworld of the dead, half our hearts lost underground, or trapped in little porcelain urns."

That is Louisa Clark speaking of the Moving On support group she joins at the urging of a friend. Will these people help Louisa move on from her loss? Only time can tell. Here's how she got there...

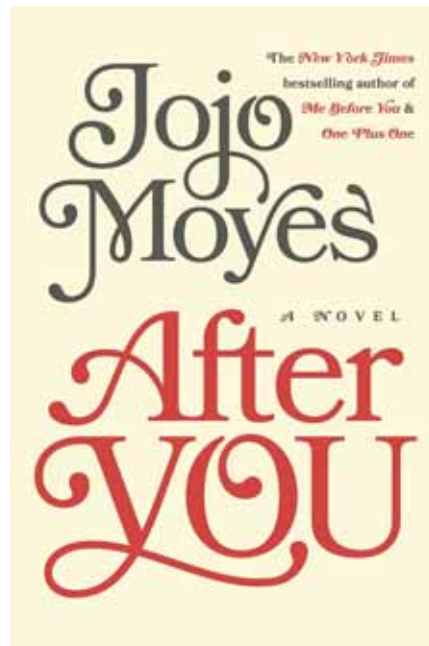
If you are familiar with Moyes' previous book, Me Before You, then you know something of Louisa's story. If not, here's the Cliff's Notes version: Louisa was hired by the wealthy Trainer family to be the companion to their paraplegic son, Will, who was injured in a motorcycle accident. He was the young, handsome, rising star in the London business market and now, confined to a wheelchair, could only move his head. What a life — having someone feed you, bathe you, dress you. Every personal thing you take for granted — until the ability is taken away from you.

Against her better judgement, Louisa fell in love with Will. But with all her attempts to make him see life, Will could only see the utter uselessness of his future. He made up his mind to die and nothing, not even Louisa's love, could change his mind.

Me Before You has been made into a movie that will be released in June. But, please, read the book first, if you can. What makes a book so good doesn't always translate well to the big screen.

After You picks up a year or so after Will's death. Louisa did some traveling with the money Will left her, lived in Paris awhile and finally landed in London, a short distance from her family home in Stortfold. She finds a job waitressing in a bar at the airport, gets a small apartment and, well, just exists.

A horrible accident lands Louisa in the hospital. The paramedic, Sam, who takes her to the hospital, is kind, adept at his job and a looker to boot! But how can she think about another man when she can't leave Will and the past behind? She continues to go to the support group because...well, because she really doesn't know why she keeps going. The sessions she attends are very poignant, giving an insightful look into how we process loss. The various stories told by the attendees show the author's ability to look into the human heart with grace and



understanding. She shows in each character the survival mechanism we employ to face another day without the ones we loved and lost.

Then one fateful day, a 16-year-old girl shows up on Louisa's doorstep and announces she is Will's daughter. What?! Surely Will would have told her he had a daughter. Suffice it to say, Lily proves she is, indeed, Will's daughter. Her mother never told Will she was pregnant and went on to marry someone else after Lily was born.

Lily is, to say the least, a handful. Rude, sloppy, demanding and yet... there is something of Will about her. Or is Louisa imagining it, hoping to find a little of Will still in this world. After meeting Lily's mother — a real piece of work — she decides to

take Lily in...for a short period. This bonding period proves to require the patience of Job for Louisa to keep from strangling the girl as she wanders in and out of the apartment...and Louisa's life.

For all her exasperating ways, Lily makes a point that Louisa's life is going nowhere: her drab apartment, drab clothes and a nowhere job working for a man whose insults she takes as if she deserves them. Will Lily and the Moving On group help Louisa truly "move on"? And will she let Sam into her life and realize she is not denigrating Will's memory?

This story actually is a celebration of life, not death. Yes, there are sad, reflective moments, but there are funny ones, too, as when Louisa's mother discovers feminism and makes the decision to stop shaving her legs, much to her husband's dismay! And this is the marvel of Moyes' writing — her unerring look at relationships and family dynamics makes a story worthy of your interest and a desire to read more of her work. I have read four of her books now and never been disappointed.

USA Today (4 stars): "Funny and moving but never predictable."

Kirkus Reviews: "Moyes is a Maeve Binchy for the 21st century, and she has the formula down pat: an understanding of family dynamics, a nod to social issues, plenty of moral uplift, and a sentimental streak, all buoyed by a rollicking sense of humor."

Moyes is *The New York Times* bestselling author of seven previous books. She lives on a farm in Essex, England, with her husband and three children. Her website is www.JojoMoyes.com

Till next time, happy reading!



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4701 Westgate Way • Shoreland Hills

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3001 Loma Portal Way, Long Beach \$475,000

This vintage Long Beach home is so close to the lake, you can see and hear the waves and enjoy the wonderful lake breezes. Situated on two lots, this home has been well maintained so you can enjoy as it is or modernize.

4201 Hillside Trail, Michiana, MI	\$525,000	2959 Lake Shore Drive, Long Beach	\$829,900
8401 Lake Shore Drive, Miller Beach	\$665,000	1200 Springland Avenue, Michigan City	\$379,000
3008 Northmoor Trail, Long Beach	\$480,000	1629 Lake Shore Drive, Sheridan Beach	\$975,000
805 Birch Tree Lane, Michigan City	\$189,000	119 Maplewood Trail, Shoreland Hills	\$299,500
1819 Lake Shore Drive, Long Beach	\$849,000	601 Lake Shore Drive, Sheridan Beach	\$399,000



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