

THE
*Beacher*TM
Weekly Newspaper

911 Franklin Street
Michigan City, IN 46360



Volume 32, Number 46 Thursday, November 24, 2016

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THE
Beacher

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Published and Printed by
THE BEACHER BUSINESS PRINTERS

Delivered weekly, free of charge to Birch Tree Farms, Duneland Beach, Grand Beach, Hidden Shores, Long Beach, Michiana Shores, Michiana MI and Shoreland Hills. The Beacher is also delivered to public places in Michigan City, New Buffalo, LaPorte and Sheridan Beach.

A Watercolorist's Journey

by Connie Kuzydym

Editor's note — This week, we continue our series, "Friends & Neighbors," which spotlights the many fascinating people in our beach communities. Recommendations for individuals to profile can be made to Editor Andrew Tallackson at (219) 879-0088 or drew@thebeacher.com



Dave Knoebber views the gardens at his New Buffalo home as a symphony that helps compose his latest piece. All photos by Paul Kemiell

Envision a brilliant fall day, driving down a wooded road in the late afternoon. The sun is streaming through the trees, the colors vibrant. What do you notice? Is it the different light the sun casts on the trees or leaves, or the color of the underbrush? Do you take a moment to absorb the beauty, or shrug it off with a "wow" remark?

For watercolorist Dave Knoebber, whose studio is in New Buffalo, Mich., hopping into his red truck and venturing out for the day with his artists' tools not only is relaxing, but a bit of heaven. Like the Impressionist painters, he captures the beauty of his surroundings.

Knoebber first came to this rural area in 1958, when there was no exit off

FRIENDS & NEIGHBORS

Interstate 94. His drive from Chicago to his in-laws' farm headed through numerous small towns. To this day, he still finds enjoyment when coming out to the farm. He appreciates the slower tempo, the lighting and the beauty the area has to offer.

Harbor Country reminds him of growing up in the Civil War town of Galena, Ill. Living along the river, his life in a way resembled that of Tom Sawyer. During World War II, specifically when he was 11 in 1944, he recalls artists from Chicago taking the Illinois Central Railroad out to Galena for the weekend. They would scatter amid the hills to paint.

"I remember I had bib overalls. I would go up and sit and watch them paint," Knoebber said. "I just found it so entertaining. So...magical. To watch them do a watercolor from the sketch, and then apply the water to the paper, I thought that was the most interesting thing I could find to do."



The gazebo on Dave's property affords another opportunity to view, and paint, the beauty of nature.

As the hours passed, one of them would ask him to run to the bakery.

"As a favor then, they would say, come on, sit down, we will teach you a little bit about watercolor," Knoebber said, "and that's how I started to learn how to do watercolors."

Beyond that, Knoebber did not have much in the way of art education, but that did not deter him. At

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A Watercolorist's Journey Continued from Page 3

16, he arranged a group of candy jars and painted them using watercolors. Seeing the completed effort, his father said, "You have to do something with your art talent."

Heading off to college, Knoebber majored in his second love — history — minored in English and took the only two art classes available.

For his first job out of college, he thought he was being hired as a history teacher. Instead, he ended up teaching art. Although he did not meet state requirements, he was able to teach under an art teacher's supervision.

"She said, you're going to love this," Knoebber recalled. "Boy, did I love it. History went into the back burner..."

It took Knoebber nearly 10 years to earn his bachelor of arts degree before pursuing a master's in visual education from Illinois Institute of Technology. As the years passed, he made a few school changes, inching closer to his goal of teaching high school art. As he was completing his master's, an opening for a ceramics teacher came up at Willowbrook High School in Villa Park, Ill. After his first year, he became the department chair, and from there, his career blossomed.

From the start of his teaching career, he was involved in two professional art organizations, then the Chicago Film Festival. He also taught at Columbia College. By the end of his high school teaching career, he had developed 27 different curriculums at Willowbrook.

"We'd talk to the kids to see what their interests were," Knoebber said. "The curriculum was developed from the student's point of view, not from the professional point of view."

Cartoon drawing and animation were classes he developed for his high school students before Columbia College asked him to develop and teach cartooning for its students. At one point, he taught high school classes by day and college classes at night until he retired from Willowbrook. He began pursuing his watercolors in earnest after retiring from Columbia.

Watercolors have always been his favorite, even though he taught other mediums during his teaching years.

"It's fresh for me. It's an adventure. Every painting is an adventure," Knoebber said. "Even though I know pretty much what the water is going



Watercolors always have been Dave's favorite medium.

to do, there's always a surprise with the pigment and the water. I never do the same painting twice. I do a variety of different styles, and I have so-called invented ways of showing watercolor."

Until his hand touches the paper, he never quite knows what he will do.

"Sometimes, I do a drawing of it. Sometimes, I just take the watercolor and start playing with it on the paper," Knoebber said. "Sometimes, it's in my head, or I look for something when I put the color on. Sometimes in the painting, the negative is as important, if not more important, than the positive. A space between something. It's like the pause in a piece of symphony music. Sometimes, that's very important, that pause, and then the next piece takes over."



One of the whimsical touches on Dave's farm: paintings of a cow and horse. Appropriately enough, the cow is named Mona and the horse Lisa.

As an artist, Knoebber makes a point to never paint the same piece twice; rather, he uses a variety of different styles.

"It's just boring to me (to paint the same painting)," Knoebber said. "That's why I hate commissions...because you're painting hoping to please somebody else's eye, not mine. They kind of handcuff me to the watercolor paper. This way, I can do my own thing. I can experiment with watercolors."

Upon retiring, Knoebber built a studio on the farm he loves, surrounded by beautiful gardens, and began finishing those half-started pieces begun while teaching.

Knoebber's life truly has been a journey. His retirement has been no different. A local art gallery, for instance, invited him to show his work. At the reception, a Discovery Channel producer who liked his work approached him.

"She said, have you ever considered painting in Europe?", Knoebber recalled. "We would like to follow you through France. If you would come over to France in June and paint, we'll



Inspiration to create art, Dave says, comes from slowing things down and taking in the world around you.

run around following you with a film crew and we'll call it a 'Watercolorist Journey.' I said OK. I went and told my wife... She said, 'That woman had one too many. She's just pulling your leg.'"

A month later, a package arrived with the necessary items to head to France. Knoebber, his wife and the film crew went throughout northern France. One highlight was painting in Monet's Gardens in Giverny.

"That's how things happen to me all through life," Knoebber said. "It's been like that, it just happens. It just happens. God, He kind of guides me around, I think, and I run into these people and it turns into these adventures. It's been that way my entire life, ever since I bumped into the artists and learned how to paint when I was 11 years old."

Without question, Knoebber's personality is reflected in his work.

"I try to make it as honest as possible, and happy," Knoebber said. "I think people enjoy looking at my

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A Watercolorist's Journey Continued from Page 5

work. I do a lot of florals because of the gardens, and I believe flowers and watercolors go hand in hand.”

Watercolors tend to have a soft feel versus the heaviness of oil or acrylics. According to Knoebber, it's also an Impressionistic form of interpretations. You can leave a little out, and the person's eye may read a little bit more into it.

“It's like a good story. You don't know who the murderer's going to be, and maybe at the end they pull the rug out and you have to determine who it was,” Knoebber said. “The story is not completely told in a watercolor...the story is never really told. It gives a little bit for the viewer to go in and say, maybe this is supposed to be, or is this supposed to be something?”



Dave stands amid the many works he's created.

Watercolors are an unforgiving medium, so many people are scared of them. Unlike oils or acrylics, which are opaque, watercolors are transparent. Basically, whatever is put down first starts to come through. Mistakes are harder to fix, although sometimes, the mistakes can become the visual effects in a painting.

“You kind of have to know, one, what kind of paper you're dealing with, what kind of paint and then leave the watercolor to do its thing,” Knoebber said. “It's going to do so much that you don't have control on. That's the crux. That's the problem people have with watercolor. They want it do something else, and the watercolor is going to do something else. They get all upset and they try to correct it, and the more they work with it, the muddier the colors get...”

Artists, indeed, have the option to manipulate the visual. According to Knoebber, paintings have a rhythm, whether it's visual, color or texture. There is a dominate element in every painting that's going to draw your attention. If the composition is good, one's eye will actually go through and pick up all the other things.



Venturing outside with his artist's tools, Dave says, is “a bit of heaven.”

Creative blocks have not been an issue, Knoebber says, because he really looks at things.

“We're in such a fast-paced world,” Knoebber said. “No one takes time to sit and say, wow, look at that color, what it looks like now. That tree is going to look a lot different when the sun sets, or it's going to look a lot different when the sun comes up, or at high noon it's going to look different.”

“If there's moisture in the air, it's going to look different, or if it's really dry, it's going to look different. I notice all of that. That's the joy, and that's what I try to impart upon my students, to start to see things differently than they've ever seen in the rest of their life.”

It is understandable, then, how his gardens, the beauty of the surrounding area and the changing light are his inspiration. He thinks of his gardens as a symphony.

“Certain flowers are the violins, certain flowers are the oboes, certain flowers are the percussion, and I see that in my garden...but that's how I look at my garden,” he said. “When it starts blooming, then I go out and I paint. Isn't it fun?”

To be around Knoebber is to be inspired. His enthusiasm is contagious. Listening to him, you feel yourself beginning to slow down, viewing the world around you through that inspired lens.



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Eye Candy Abounds, But Not Enough Story, in “Fantastic Beasts”

by Andrew Tallackson

“Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them” has everything money can buy... except a story that enchants from start to finish.

Ironic, isn't it, when you consider J.K. Rowling, herself, penned the screenplay. There are isolated moments that capture the old magic of the “Harry Potter” tales, and the craftsmanship is unparalleled. This is the year's most sumptuous eye candy. But without a fearsome villain, and enough propulsive drama to bear the weight of the visuals, the movie settles into an uncomfortable groove where it starts, then sputters. Starts, then sputters.

“Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them,” as we Muggles know, was Newt Scamander's directory of magical creatures studied by fledgling wizards and witches at Hogwarts. The character, itself, never appeared in Rowling's series...until now. Eddie Redmayne, an Oscar winner for the Stephen Hawking biopic “The Theory of Everything” (2014), inhabits the role, and it certainly embraces the actor's affection for eccentric outcasts. His take on Newt is like meeting a wizard with Asperger syndrome. Fearful of eye contact, his gaze directed downward, and oblivious of social cues, the actor invests most of his energy on Newt's tics. The character is not so much endearing as he is an oddity to be observed.

Newt arrives in New York City by boat in 1926, bent on capturing a rare magical creature to join his carefully protected collection back home in Britain. He's less skilled, however, in keeping his



Oscar-winner Eddie Redmayne stars as Newt Scamander, whose magical creatures run amok in New York City.

mischievous beasts tucked away in his suitcase. They escape, prompting New York's own wizards to keep tabs on Newt, especially as sinister forces appear at work within the city.

Teaming up with Newt is Porpentina “Tina” Goldstein, a fired auror hoping to earn back the good graces of her bosses. She's played by Katherine Waterston, a relatively unknown actress who is absolutely winning here: charming, delightful and full of pluck. The same applies to Dan Fogler as Jacob, an unlucky businessman and the story's comic relief, the actor skilled at deadpan reactions to the magical chaos unraveling about him. He, by the way, finds himself enchanted

by Tina's sister, Queenie (newcomer Alison Sudol). Adults with Oscar tastes may notice that the ac-



Co-starring as magical sisters are Katherine Waterston (right) as Tina and Alison Sudol as Queenie.

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dress, from hair to makeup to costume, resembles Redmayne in transgender drag from last year's "The Danish Girl." It is jarring at first, but Sudol achieves a remarkable feat by surviving the awkward comparison to give the picture its giddy delights.

Rowling's witty stamp is all over the picture: type-writers that clack away at the keys by themselves, irons that magically press clothes, a nightclub with elves performing jazz standards. And director David Yates, who helmed the last four "Harry Potter" pictures, uses every penny of his rumored \$180 million budget to create the most ravishing depiction of New York since Peter Jackson's "King Kong"

(2005). The elaborate production design by Stuart Craig and James Hambidge is rich in detail, especially those stunning shots of the hustle and bustle of New York's busy streets, all of it bathed in peaches-and-cream lighting by cinematographer and frequent Tim Burton collaborator Philippe Rousselot.

Worth noting, too, is Carmen Ejogo — unforgettable as Coretta Scott King in "Selma" (2014) — as Seraphina Picquery, president of MACUSA, which I take it presides over the American wizarding world. With a piercing glare and curt demeanor, Ejogo is striking, the zip the story deserves.

But much of the film is simply Newt and company

chasing down his errant creatures. It feels like child's play compared to the dark, complex journeys experienced by Harry, Hermione and Ron in the original works. We crave more than playful monsters, and it doesn't take a genius to figure out who the real enemy is. We pretty much have that element wrapped

up early, reiterating that what "Fantastic Beasts" lacks is a legitimate threat to give the action urgency.

Something unexpected happens, however, during the last 15 minutes. When the mayhem subsides, and all the dust clears, the picture becomes exceedingly quiet, magic used to physically right several wrongs. Characters exchange bittersweet farewells. The score by James Newton Howard — the finest



Dan Fogler, seen here with Eddie Redmayne, provides the film's comic relief as Jacob, an unsuccessful businessman.

in this franchise since the great John Williams unveiled his classic themes in 2001 — takes on a lyrical quality. We find ourselves surprisingly touched by it all.

Obviously, Yates, Rowling and their talented cast and crew have done *something* right for us to walk away from the picture moved. If, indeed, "Fantastic Beasts" marks the beginning of a five-movie series, then let it be a lesson to everyone involved: Don't wait until the end to rediscover the heart and soul that made this franchise a global phenomenon in the first place.

Contact Andrew Tallackson at drew@thebeacher.com



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“One City One Sound” Set for Dec. 1

Festive music will fill the air as close to 1,000 vocalists and instrumentalists kick off the holiday season at Michigan City Area Schools’ “One City, One Sound” concert.

The annual performance is at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 1, at Michigan City High School’s gymnasium, 8466 Pahs Road. Admission is free; however, those attending are encouraged to take a canned good/non-perishable food item for The Salvation Army, monetary donations to which will also be accepted.

This year’s performance will feature:

- 464 voices in a chorus of sixth-graders from all eight Michigan City elementary schools.
- 200 voices in a chorus of students from Barker and Krueger middle schools.
- 115 voices in the MCHS Beginning Boys and Girls Choir, Concert Choir, Treble Chorale and “City Singers.”
- Three handbell players in the MCHS “City Ringers.”
- 93 instrumentalists in a seventh- and eighth-grade band.
- 118 instrumentalists from the MCHS Cadet, Concert and Symphonic Bands.

Each group will perform individually, and the opening and closing numbers will involve all bands and choruses in “A Holiday Sing-Along” and Han-



del’s “Hallelujah Chorus.” Other numbers include “Linus & Lucy,” “Canon in D” and “Sparklejolly-twinklejolly.” Music teachers from throughout MCAS will lead their groups; the combined numbers will be directed by MCHS choral director Michelle Howisen and band director Richard Merrick.

The concert will be broadcast live on Channel 98 educational TV, and stream live on the MCAS website at EducateMC.net. It also will air live on Michigan City radio stations WEFM (95.9 FM) and on WIMS (AM 1420) beginning at 6 p.m.

Pahs Road in the area of MCHS will be closed to westbound traffic prior to the concert from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. During this time, all traffic departing the high school will be routed east on Pahs to Johnson Road.

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The 17th Annual Christmas Candlelight Tour, presented by People Engaged in Preservation, is from 4 to 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3, and 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4.

The tour, supported by Visit Michigan City La Porte tourism bureau and the La Porte mayor's office, features five historic homes, a church and a boutique.

Tickets are \$20 in advance, or \$25 at the door. Advance tickets are available through Friday, Dec. 2, at:

- La Porte — Arbor Hill Inn, Coachman Antique Mall, CO-OP Shoppes, Judee's Boutique, La Porte County Historical Society Museum, Plain & Fancy Antiques, Posh Day Spa, Temple News Agency and Town & Country Florist.
- Michigan City — The Antique Market and Hoity Toity.
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Backstage With Musical Legends

Story and Photos by Paul Kemiel

YES is my favorite rock group of all time.

I've been a devoted fan for the past 45 years, drawn to their positive messages because of Jon Anderson's esoteric lyrics, the dazzling song structure and melody and the complex time

signatures. Their music is a full complement of sound generated by layers of synthesizers, the effect similar to a symphonic orchestra. In a concert setting, the sets are a feast for the eyes.

Anderson formed the British progressive rock group in 1968 with bassist Chris Squire, who passed away in 2015. My favorite albums are "Close to the Edge" (1972), ranked as the No. 1 progressive rock album of all time, as well as "Relayer" (1974), a three expanded song set with a jazz fusion influence, and "90125" (1983), whose No. 1 hit "Owner of a Lonely Heart" saturates the radio airwaves to this day.



ARW in performance.

Casino Resort — I was in for the surprise of a lifetime. After thoroughly enjoying the 2 1/2 hour concert, I was invited by my friend, Tim "T.J." Jahnz, to meet Jon and Rick backstage.

Having attended and photographed 12 YES con-

certs since 1972, I prepared photo packages for the two musicians from a 1978 concert in Chicago.

"I have no photos from this time period," Rick told me. "Now, I can add these to my collection."

Jon then said, "I appreciate receiving these photos, as they bring back a lot of memories. Did you photograph tonight's show? I would like to see them."

I was thrilled to meet the two musicians I have admired for more than 45 years. Upon meeting Jon and Rick, I was struck by their friendly, casual demeanor. After presenting the photos, it felt as if a kindred spirit was established.



Paul Kemiel (right) with Rick Wakeman.

Earlier this year, Anderson invited former YES members — legendary keyboard wizard Rick Wakeman and South African-born Trevor Rabin on electric and acoustic guitars — to create ARW. A studio album of new music is slated for 2017.

Having attended the group's Nov. 4 show at Four Winds



Paul shows his photos to Jon Anderson.

Ted Perzanowski, M.Div., B.A.

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A Special Rededication



As part of its 150th anniversary, St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Parish rededicated the World War I Soldiers and Sailors Monument in the church courtyard Nov. 13. The Rev. Kevin Huber conducted the service, with members of American Legion Skwiat Post 451 presenting the colors and a 21-gun salute. Photos by Matt Cunningham



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About the Cover

by Andrew Tallackson



As the first person people see when they arrive, Janet Baines has met countless individuals over the 27 years she's been with *The Beacher*.

One of her favorite customers was Jack Simmerling, who would pull up in front of the building in his convertible, his dog dutifully waiting in the vehicle while his owner frequently shared a plethora of stories, often about his family, with our staff.

Simmerling, who owned The Heritage Gallery in Chicago's Beverly neighborhood, was an acclaimed painter in love with old Chicago architecture. He would stop by *The Beacher* to have note cards, posters or holiday cards made of his works. Many of his images, in fact, graced our covers.

Simmerling passed away July 18, 2013. Nostalgic for his work, Janet recommended we use this fall scene painted by him for our Thanksgiving edition color, with permission granted by his family.

With its warm, inviting color palate, we hope you enjoy it as well. What Simmerling created beautifully represents the many images and themes we've come to associate with this special holiday.

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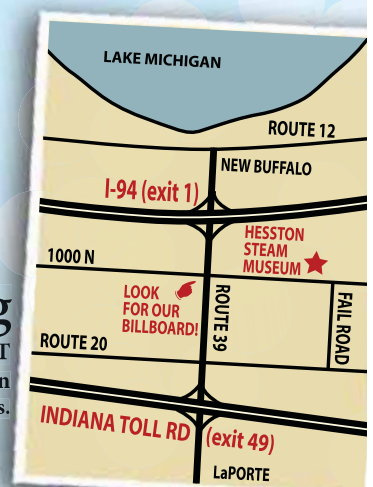
Museum Campus opens at 11:30 trains run 12:00 - 5:00 CDT

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Dorothy Tristan poses with one of her works, the theme of endangered species prevalent in many of her pieces.

New Dorothy Tristan Exhibit

by Andrew Tallackson

Ambiguity, and a melancholy sense of longing, prevail within the many paintings by actress/screenwriter Dorothy Tristan.

The Galena Township resident experiments with oils on canvas anywhere from nine to 10 hours a day, the images that emerge unraveling wherever her brush takes her.

An exhibit of her works will be on display for about a month at Judy Ferrara Gallery, 16 S. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich., with an opening reception at 6 p.m. EST Friday, Nov. 25.

Of interest these days to Tristan are endangered species inspired by images captured by her daughter, photographer Alexandra Avakian. There is a whimsical touch to these works, with Tristan often finding the connection between human and animal.

Other pieces contemplate the uncertainty of aging and death, best represented in her works by roads that wander into the distance.

The ultimate goal, Tristan says, is to tell stories without being obvious, letting the observer complete the journey.

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#2

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Purdue Northwest Unveils Latest Additions to Odyssey Series

They've done it again!

More strange, yet beautiful objects have turned up along U.S. 421 in Westville and just off Interstate 94 in Hammond. The instigator of these appearances is Purdue University Northwest (name-change alert: formerly Purdue North Central and Purdue Calumet) and due to the efforts of Judy Jacobi, assistant vice chancellor of University Art Collections and Special Programs.

This year, there are 15 new sculptures as part of its Odyssey series: five at the Westville campus and 10 at the Hammond campus.

At Westville are:

- **"Birdman" by the Zhou Brothers.** This mighty, tall piece stands for "Feeling and Liberty," according to the Zhou (pronounced "Joe") Brothers. They also gave 12 paintings and small sculptures to be displayed at both campuses.
- **"In Atlantic Avenue Tumble" by Ken Thompson,** which portrays homes tossed about by Hurricane Sandy. The houses are suspended from spindly, rickety legs in empty space.
- **"Rosa Parks Bench" by James Gallucci** includes Parks' advice, that "Each person should live their life as a model for others." It honors the role of Parks in the 1955-1956 Birmingham, Ala., bus boycott.



"Birdman" by the Zhou Brothers.

ART&ABOUT

Robert Stanley

- **"The Underwater Guy" by Matthew Berg.** Painted steel, aluminum and copper are "an homage to the power of weather systems, fueled in part by the oceans," Jacobi says.



John Habela's "Castaway."

- **"Castaway" by John Habela** suggests isolation and abandonment. This abstract, 6-foot piece is beautifully carved, its many shapes a viewer's delight.

At the Hammond Campus are:



Boyan Marinov's "Boundless."



John Adduci's "Major."

- **"Major" by John Adduci,** which portrays in beautiful aluminum the motions of a drum major in a marching band. It is fun for the eyes and mind.
- **"Boundless" by Boyan Marinov,** a life-size figure made of 600 feet of steel chain. "The shackles we wear and the weight they bear have a powerful pull, but in all of us is the strength to break free," Marinov says.



Terrence Karpowicz's "Woman with a Hat."

- **"Woman with a Hat" by Terrence Karpowicz,** a playful piece, delighting in its materials of steel, granite and industrial polymer.
- **"Dancing Lady" by Tom Scarff.** While a large abstract work, it captures the graceful movements of a person spinning and moving.
- **"Atheon's Light" by Dan Shaughnessy.** A unique inspiration exists: the character Atheon in the video game "Destiny." At night, it ema-

nates light.

- **"Vessel #111" by Eric Stephenson**, which looks mysterious, perhaps even alien. The artist created a segmented monolith vessel in stainless steel punctuated by red glass.
- **"Two in the Hand" by Michael Young**. Brushed aluminum, with strong shapes suggesting human and plant life that dance around each other.
- **"In Chicago Street Sign Rescue Project" by Michelle Wiser** uses fragments of thrown out and run over street signs to create a 6-foot square piece that combines found objects (*"objet trouve"*) with quilting design for a unique, jumpy and colorful experience.
- **"The Readers Corner" by Christine Perri** evokes storytelling from ancient times to the experience of reading books today. It is a carved wood diorama of figures and objects.
- **"The Offering" by Tom Olesker**. If a 6-foot Mexican Huichol Indian god of creation would impress you, then Olesker's painted sculptural interpretation, made of wood, papier-mâché and found objects, will certainly rouse you.

These new sculptures, combined with those already on campus, and the paintings, prints and other two-dimensional work in the halls provide a fine boost to the spirit.

"Now that our campuses are unified," Jacobi said, "we have space to develop extensive collections... Our goal is to open up great art to be part of everyone's experience."



Tom Scarff's "Dancing Lady."

If You Go

People are invited to view the campus art during university hours. Free customized tours are available for adults and children. Contact Elizabeth Bernel, University Art Collections and Special Events coordinator, at (219) 785-5719 or ebernel@pnw.edu to arrange a tour.

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Jack Albano
“Cliffhanger Thanksgiving”

First thing is first. Get a turkey by driving to the supermarket. Oh, I need to steer around all the pot holes. I’m probably going to get stuck. There’s almost 100% chance I’ll get stuck. Look! It’s a turkey! Wait, it’s a peacock, a wild one too! No, it just escaped from the zoo a mile from here. I want to pet it. OW! OW! It’s pecking me in the face! I’m relieved that’s over.



“I’ll get revenge on you if it’s the last thing I do!” I shouted aloud. I wonder why it did that. Maybe it thought I would be mean to it. Wait! I’m still driving. I’m going to smash into that wall! BOOM! BANG! I hit the brick wall. Why do I have a turkey in my arms? It has a letter on it. I opened the letter, and it said, “This turkey is a gift. Cook it, and we will both eat.”

I whispered, “I’m going to call for some help to clean up this car wreck.” Triple A is here! That was quick. One hour later, the job was done, and they drove home. But I didn’t, I had to walk home.

When I got home, I started to cook. I put the oven on 150 degrees. Then, I put the turkey in the oven. I left the turkey in the oven for an hour.

Let’s get the turkey out of the oven. What is the next thing to do? I’ll look in the cookbook. It could be hard to get it down off the shelf. Well, I have to get it. OW! It hit me in the face. Well, I have it now. It says to chop the turkey, so I chopped it. Done chopping it.

Now, let’s make the mashed potatoes. So, I got a hammer, and I mashed the potatoes. Now, I will set up the table and chairs.

Next, I need people. So, I went outside, and yelled, “People, come eat my turkey!” Why did no one come? Who sent the note? Was it the peacock?

We may never know!

Giannis Fegaras
“Adventures of the Ghost Turkey”



I live in a secret hut surrounded by small boulders and a red car propped up against a metal slab and wooden board. I can only reach civilization by snaking through a maze of pipes under the city.

One day, I peeked out of a manhole near a grocery store and something caught my eye. I saw a roasty-brown object behind the window of

the grocery store. It was a turkey! The grocery store wanted to charge \$100,000,000, but I only had \$20 on me, so I went back into the manhole, through the pipes and home to my secret hut.

That night, I dreamt of eating turkey. I decided to capture a turkey, since I couldn’t afford the one in the store. In the morning, I went turkey hunting, but when I got it home, it refused to get in the oven, and the oven exploded! “Fire!”, I shouted, and grabbed the fire extinguisher. FOOOOSH! The fire was gone, and so was the oven. So, I made a solar powered laser to cook the turkey. But, the turkey ran away. “Hey, didn’t I cook you already?”

“Ha! But you can only really cook a turkey with marinara sauce,” he sneered. So I got a sling shot, put in a salt water balloon and got him! “Ha!” the turkey said, “I am a ghost turkey. You have to turn into a ghost!” So I stood on top of the red car and jumped off it, SWOOOOOOSH! I could feel the air poof! I hit the ground. Everything was black. I couldn’t see a thing. Then, I could feel my soul rising up. I could see again, and I saw my body... wait, no time to waste!

So I snatched the ghost turkey and put it in the solar powered laser and got out gravy, macaroni, pudding, apple sauce and bread. I locked the turkey inside the solar powered laser. ZAP! “AAAAA!” exclaimed the turkey because it was very hot.

Because this was a ghost turkey, it went right through me when I tried to eat it. I guess I’ll save up for that \$100,000,000 turkey for next year.

Julien Hernandez
“The Turkey Blow-Up”



It was my turn to cook the Thanksgiving turkey. I didn’t know how. So my mom found a cookbook, and I found the recipe, but I didn’t have a turkey. So I asked to go get one, but I didn’t have enough money. So I had to do chores. I got a turkey and stuffed it, but not with stuffing. I stuffed it with TNT. I screamed, “I stuffed it with TNT because my family wouldn’t even help a little with the turkey. So now they’ll get blown-up turkey for Thanksgiving.”

I hollered, “Time for dinner!” After it blew up, I regretted it, but it was too late, ‘cause now the house was in chaos. I had to run and run. My family was mad. After that, I apologized and made a real turkey with my family’s help.

How to Cook a Turkey

Stories from Notre Dame Elementary School third-graders on how to cook a turkey are a Thanksgiving tradition at *The Beacher*. They never fail to make us smile: A perfect start to the holiday season. Thanks to teacher Jennifer Scriba for sharing the stories with us. Enjoy!

Kai Keehn
“Bye-bye 30 Hour Turkey”

Once upon a time, on a November day, I got out of bed. I went to Al’s Supermarket to get the turkey for Thanksgiving. When I got home, my friends Giannis, Sam and Jackson came over. Then, we added mustard, apples, salad, stuffing, turkey and mashed potatoes and gravy. After that, we set the oven to 3,000,000,000 degrees, and the timer for 30 hours. When the timer was done, the oven exploded, “BOOM!!!” Luckily, we survived. After that, we put the turkey on the table. Right before we ate, the turkey caught on FIRE!!!

AWWWWHHH!!!! COME ON! THAT TOOK FOREVER TO MAKE!!!



Oliviah Kereszturi
“The Swimming Turkey”



Once upon a time, I decided to go to the store, because I wanted to make a turkey for Thanksgiving. So, I went to Walmart, and they were out of turkey! But, I spied one turkey left. I touched the turkey, and it jumped over me! The turkey dashed to Long Beach, so I sprinted to my car and chased after it. The turkey dove into the lake. I had to swim to the bottom of the lake after it. I finally grabbed the turkey! I swam back to shore, and I shoved and stuffed the turkey into the trunk. I drove to my house, and I started the oven. I set it on 200 degrees. I put the turkey in the oven for half of an hour. After that, the turkey said, “Don’t eat me!” Then I ate the turkey. Yummy!



November 24, 2016

Sebastian Kozaczka
“The Talking Turkey”

Once upon a time, I was hunting for a turkey with a bow and arrow. The turkey ran, but I jumped on him. After I jumped on him, I dragged the turkey home and started baking.



The turkey said, “Please don’t eat me!”

I said, “Wait! You talk?”
The turkey said, “Yes, I do talk!”
I shouted, “Get him!”
Then I ate him.

Leighton Kurtich
“The Friendly Magical Turkey”



Once upon a time, I was going to the store. They were playing my favorite song, and so I started dancing in public! But then a turkey pulled me back. He said, “My name is Andy, and I’m here to help you not be embarrassed. See?”

“NO!” I whispered, because everyone was staring at me.

“Well then,” he said, “I am a magical turkey.” He snapped his claws like fingers, and POOF, we were home. “Now, do you believe me?” He had his wings like fists on his waist.

“Whoa!” I shouted.

We were back home with a fully cooked turkey. The oven was on 300 degrees Fahrenheit (heat), and there were a lot of sides, and stuffing inside the cooked turkey. In the meantime, Andy, the magical turkey, sat on my couch and decided to read the book, *How to Cook a Turkey*.

Then the guests (my fighting cousins Ava and Elle, my aunts and uncles) arrived and tried the cooked turkey. Andy said, “Why are all these people here? Is it Thanksgiving?”

As my family tried the cooked turkey, they asked me, “Mmmmmm, did you make this?”

“NO,” I replied.
“Then, who did?” my cousins Ava and Elle asked simultaneously.

“Hey, I was going to say that first!” groused Elle.

“I was going to say it first, but you interrupted my sentence,” grumbled Ava.

“Stop fighting, stop fighting, stop fighting...,” I shouted too many times. Then, I answered their question, “It was Andy, the Magical Turkey who cooked THIS turkey.”

“NO Way!” they fainted on each other.

“GET OFF ME!” Ava shouted
Elle said, “I’m sorry.” Then they shook hands and made amends.

Andy the turkey tip-toed over silently, and said pleasantly, “Hello girls.”

My cousins screeched, “AAAAAAA!”
Andy quickly said, “Don’t be afraid, I’m not here to hurt you.”

I said, “This is Andy, the Magical Turkey who baked this lovely Thanksgiving turkey that you are all eating.”

My Aunt Connie asked Andy to join us for Thanksgiving.

It was a most magical Thanksgiving.

Claire Leniski
“Turkey Robbery”

I was walking to the park, and I could see big fat turkeys. It was almost Thanksgiving. I didn’t feel like getting a turkey. But suddenly, a turkey jumped out of nowhere! I screamed like I was going to explode!!! That turkey tied me up to a tree, and the turkey said, “Give me your bike, house, oven, and everything you own.”

I said, “No,” because I wanted to eat the turkey. Fortunately, there were scissors on the ground next to me, and I cut the rope. I told the turkey, “I’m going to eat you.”

“Please, no, we can just be friends,” begged the turkey.

I disagreed, because after all, it was almost Thanksgiving and he just tried to rob me! I was thirsty and hungry. So, I ran as fast as I could, and jumped on the turkey. I tied him up with the rope, and I brought him home. I put him in the oven at 3:00 a.m. I went back to the park for 11 hours. When I got home, the turkey was still alive. I forgot to turn on the oven! I put it back in the oven for 11 more minutes at 1000 degrees. THEN it was cooked!

I used a carving knife and cut it into pieces. I stuffed it with gravy, meat, potatoes, pumpkin sauce, cranberry sauce, sushi, macaroni, cranberries, and veggies. And I ate it. Yummy, yummy, yummy, yummy, yummy, yummy, yummy, yummy!



Jack McCarthy
“Trouble Turkey”



Once upon a time, there was a bad turkey. His name was Trouble Turkey, and he did lots of bad stuff. For example, he set the oven on fire. Another time, he slapped the cook with a spatula. He also skateboarded through the halls of the White House and threw pumpkin pie at the First Family.

My sister Morgan and I needed to cook Thanksgiving dinner. We went to the grocery store, and we purchased the stuffing, the turkey baster, ham, cranberry sauce, corn, pumpkin pie, Albano’s pizza, and Coca-Cola. Wait! We need a turkey.

I went to the meadow to find a turkey. I captured a turkey with my net. Little did I know, that it was none other than Trouble Turkey! I walked home with my turkey. When I got home, I put the turkey in the oven. But when I put it in the oven, he started knocking on the oven window. He jumped out of the oven and escaped.

“Oh no!” I exclaimed, “I have to get a new turkey. So, I walked to the grocery store with Morgan and purchased a new turkey.

Then, we were inviting our family members, and it was Thanksgiving Day. Our guests were coming in 2 hours and Oh! Grandma and Grandpa! Oh! Even better! Aunts, uncles, and cousins! And they were all here. We went to get the turkey out of the oven, and just wait a second! I looked out in the yard. It was Trouble Turkey! And he was setting a bomb on the house. BOOM! BOOM! And we were covered in ash, black as coal, and the turkey wrote my name in it, and my dad said, “You’re grounded until you rebuild the house, and me and your sister and mom are going to a hotel in California!”

And the turkey was grinning at me, and said “Good luck building the house, kid!”

“Oh gravy brother!” I exclaimed.

Aeden McKee
“Turkey vs. Me”

One day, I was hunting for a turkey. When I got to the woods, I saw a turkey. I thought, “That was easy.”

So I snuck up on the turkey, and shot it, but I realized that I filled the gun with pizza last time I used it! The turkey started to eat the pizza! Then, he picked me up and started to take me to the kitchen!



Then he put me in the oven and said, "If you don't stay in there, I'll beat you with my beating stick. Mwahahaha-haha!"

I got so hot, I thought I might die. When he took me out, Hershey (my guinea pig) came and tried to save me, but the turkey beat him with his beating stick and tied him to the ground. He screamed and squealed, but the turkey said, "You'll never get out of the sticky rope!" The turkey took me to the table and when he was about to take his first bite, Hershey shot him, picked me up and put me in the freezer to get cool. When I was in the freezer, Hershey cooked the turkey, and then we had dinner.

Charlie Meyer "The Galactic Turkey Hunt"



Once upon a time, I was looking for a turkey to eat for Thanksgiving dinner. I searched far and wide, high and low, but I could NOT find a turkey. So I decided to go to outer space. I hopped into my flying saucer, and zoomed off to Mars.

I landed on the red planet, and I saw something. It was a Mars base. I went to go take a look, and inside there was a Martian turkey. I ran through the door, and around the Martian base, trying to catch it.

First, I tried tackling it, but I face-planted (that's where you trip and plant your face on the ground). Then, I tried to build a trap. The turkey walked on it, but it didn't work. Then, I walked on the trap, thinking, "I wonder why this doesn't work?" Suddenly, it trapped me! I was crying. But then, I saw a light saber, and I cut through the bars.

Next, I chased the turkey with the light saber. The turkey was wearing a cloak. He took it off, and it wasn't a turkey, it was Darth Vader! The turkey happened to be taking a bath in the hot tub. So, then I threw Darth Vader into a trashcan, and threw the trash out into space. I ran into the bathroom, and tackled the turkey in the hot tub. SPLASH!

I ran, with the turkey in my hands to the Martian kitchen. But there was no oven or stove, so I went back to my flying saucer and drove back to Earth. That took a couple of weeks of course. But then, we finally got back to Earth, and it turned out that turkeys had taken over the world.

I continued running around with the turkey, looking for a stove. But then, out of nowhere, a trashcan came flying down, and Darth Vader was inside. He said, "What are you doing?"

And I said, "I'm trying to look for a

stove, so I can cook my Thanksgiving dinner.

He said, "I'll help you find one, but you have to let me have some of this delicious turkey."

We finally found a stove, after a couple weeks. We threw the turkey into the oven, but there was no oil. So, Darth Vader pulled out his light saber and we cooked it with that! So we had a Thanksgiving dinner, but Thanksgiving was over a month ago! But whatever! Happy Thanksgiving!

Sam Miltenberger "How I Made a Turkey"

On Thanksgiving Day, I needed a turkey. But, I didn't have one. So, I went to the woods. And then I found one. I ran over the turkey with my motorcycle, scooped up the road kill, and put it on the back of my bike, and then drove back to my house.

I plucked all the feathers off, marinated it, stuffed it, and barbecued it. Then, I put it in the oven. I got a little tired, and I fell asleep. The turkey alarm went off, but I still slept. A few minutes later, I smelled smoke!

I got up, and I saw that my oven was on fire! And I couldn't find my fire extinguisher. So, I drove as fast as I could to the store. I tried to get a fire extinguisher, but I only found a banana. I drove back, and I was going to throw the banana at the oven, but when I got back, MY HOUSE WAS ON FIRE! So I threw the banana at the house, and it went through a window hitting the oven, turning the oven off.

The fire department came, sprayed down my house with their hoses, and then they handed me my turkey. Fortunately, the turkey was fine, even though it was a little wet. So then I ate it.

Max Olesker "The Turkeys Strike Back"



I was hungry. I decided to buy a turkey at Meijer's. I was searching through Meijer's and found it in Aisle 8. So, I was on my way to the cash register, when...I saw Tootsie Rolls! I love them, so I bought them all! As I was on my way to the car, Al Capone snatched my turkey! I started running after him. I saw a bucket on the street, caught up with the gangster, and plopped it on his head so he couldn't see. He ran into a wall, and the police came and arrested him.

I continued on my way home with the turkey and tootsie rolls. I set up

some dynamite to cook the turkey, and then...3...2...1... BOOM! More than the turkey got cooked; THERE'S A FIRE!

After the fire department put out the fire, I noticed that the turkey was in many pieces, so I made myself turkey sandwiches. But before I could eat them... "Knock, knock..."

I opened the door to see a BUNCH OF TURKEYS!!! They kidnapped me! They put me in a dungeon. But it was a weapon room. I grabbed TNT, and blew them up. Then I ate a nice dinner.

The End.

McKenzie Pitchford "Grumpy Kat Splat Attack!"

Once upon a time, I decided to make a turkey so I could eat it for Thanksgiving. But, I needed to get one first. So, I was going to the farm, and somehow, when I was walking through the corn maze, I spied a turkey. I found a stick and chased him through the maze and back to my house. I wrapped him in duct tape and put him in the freezer.

After 500 days, it was finally frozen. So I needed to thaw it in the sink. While it was thawing, I removed the duct tape, which fortunately plucked out all the feathers. Then, I put marshmallows, apple juice, and cranberry sauce. Somehow, Grumpy Kat snuck into the kitchen, and SPLAT! He jumped on the turkey, snatched it, and then ran away with it. Now I have to make another turkey, unless I can catch Grumpy Kat and retrieve the turkey.

I drove to the hardware store, bought some gates and fencing, and quickly put it up around my house. I found Grumpy Kat's favorite toy, threw it next to him, and he dropped the turkey! I snatched the turkey back and rushed to put it in the oven.

I turned the oven on to 6500 degrees, and set the timer for 1 month. After cooking for a month, I took the turkey out of the oven and the turkey was crispy golden brown.

Yummy, yummy turkey!



Katelyn Schulp "Tur-Mike"



Once upon a time, I was making a turkey. First, I had to go to Al's Supermarket. Then, I went down aisle 3 and found lettuce, sour cream, and cheese. Next, I went down aisle 4 and there was glue.

That's a great ingredient for keeping the turkey together. After that, I went down aisle 20 and found a 100 inch turkey. I bought my groceries, and left for home.

On my way home, I spotted a severe thunderstorm. Since I didn't want to get caught in a tornado, I sped up and my car crashed into a tree. I had to get out and run home with my turkey.

When I got home, the turkey would not fit in the oven. I trimmed it with my carving knife, and put in cheese, sour cream, lettuce, and glue. I turned the oven on to 1000 degrees, and set the timer for 1 year.

When I took the turkey out, it came alive and ate the state of Texas! Then, the turkey was fat. All of sudden, a giant jumped out of the sky. His name was Mike. I originally met him at Indiana Beach. Mike thought the turkey was stuffed, so he started eating it. Some glue started oozing out of the turkey while he ate it.

So I ran back to the store, and grabbed the fattest turkey there, paid for it, and raced back home (over the train tracks). When I got there, I heard a knock on the door. I opened the door, and there was a GIANT turkey wrecking my house. Where's Mike?

To be continued next year...

Jackson Smith "The Sleeping Sparkler Trickster Turkey"

One day, I was getting ready for Thanksgiving until my neighbors told me it was Christmas, but later that afternoon, I looked outside and saw no snow! So, I told those sneaky neighbors that it wasn't Christmas. They just dashed away laughing and startling me.



But anyway, I was going to hunt a turkey. I collected my trusty sword, and my bow and arrows, and my lucky charm. Then, I got a group of turkey hunters. They all had bows, so we had 42 people. We all shot arrows at the same time in the turkey filled woods. We killed 14 turkeys.

I got one and covered it with gravy and gave it to my neighbors for a gift, like I do every year, except I filled this

one with sparklers for a prank! It'll be revenge for all the years they burned my turkey by putting sparklers in MY turkey and setting it on fire!

I walked over to my neighbors with the sparkler turkey, handed it to them. They put it on their table, and FWOOSH and TSSSSSSSS! It blasted with sparkly flames and blinded them for a day.

I took the now cooked turkey back home, put it on my table, and stuffed it with gravy, chairs, and anesthesia. I called my neighbors, and told them we should have a truce. I invited them over to share this delicious turkey meal.

We ate the turkey and had a 90 year sleep. Happy Thanksgiving!

Matthew T. Sperling "The Turkey Attack: Turkey Borg Strikes Back"



Once upon a time, my friend named Jackson and I jumped into a volcano. Then we became the Almighty Lava Brothers. When it was Thanksgiving, somebody called, and we answered. It was our friend Jack M! We said, "What's wrong?"

"I am trying to get a turkey, but it is crazy!" exclaimed Jack M.

"We will be right over," I said.

"Let's go!" said Jackson.

(Music plays: Duna Nuna Nuna!)

"WAIT!" I said.

"What?" said Jackson.

"We have to get our sidekick!" I said.

(Zoom! Zoom!)

"Hi Sebastian!" (aka S'bashon).

"Hi!" he replied.

"Now we can go," I said.

(Music plays: Duna Nuna Nuna!)

"I should have known! The Turkey Borg!" I shouted.

"Yes, beep bop," the Turkey Borg replied.

"Attack!" I exclaimed.

"Wait, we need a plan," said Jackson.

(Whispering ensues: "Psss, psss, psss...")

"Okay Sebastian, now!" Jackson said.

Zoom! Sebastian raced to the Turkey Borg, and ...

"Hey! You ran right over my cyborg laser eye!" malfunctioned the Turkey Borg. "Now it's my turn," he said. BOOM! He threw a bomb at us.

"Pick it up Jackson," I said.

"On it," said Jackson. He grabbed the bomb and threw it back at the Turkey Borg.

Fsh, fsh! Jackson and I threw fireballs.

"NOOOOOO!" the Turkey Borg

screamed.

So then, Sebastian, Jackson, Jack M. and I had a nice Thanksgiving Feast. We've been picking robot pieces out of our teeth since then.

Jazlyn Tajero "A Bizarre Thanksgiving"



Once upon a time, it was almost Thanksgiving Day. So I went to Walmart. Once I got there, I shopped for food. But I noticed that the store didn't have a TURKEY! I was so amazed! So I gathered the food

and the cashier looked at me like I was crazy with a "capital K." I know that a kid with ten boxes of ice cream isn't something you see everyday (my family doesn't like pumpkin pie).

So I drove home, and on the way, I got pulled over by a... a... a... beautiful turkey in a police car! I never knew a turkey could be a cop. But who cares? Not me! So, I jumped on him, and took his handcuffs and handcuffed him. Then I took him home, shaved all of the feathers off, and seasoned him with butter and pepper.

The turkey said, "Please don't hurt a poor, tiny turkey."

So I said, "I'm not going to hurt you."

Then the turkey said, "Oh, thank you."

Then I said, "Of course not, I'm going to eat you. Calm down or else you're going to make the meat chewy." So I thawed him in the oven, and cooked him at about 100 degrees. Meanwhile, I helped mom set up the table. Then, family came, and we ate all the food, especially the turkey.

I asked my family, "How did the turkey taste?"

My mom responded, "The meat was a little too chewy."

"Let's move on to dessert then," I replied. I went to the freezer, took out the ice cream, and headed back toward the dining room. Suddenly, I tripped over my shoelaces. The ice cream landed in my mom's face!

"Give me something to wipe off this ice cream," groused my mother.

This has been a bizarre Thanksgiving. Next year, I think I will wrap the turkey in tape so the meat's not chewy, and I will try to keep my shoes tied.





THANK YOU!

We at Stop 50 would like to thank all our guests, both near and far, for a great tenth season.

We appreciate all your support and patronage, and wish each of you a very blessed Holiday.

Our tenth season ends on Sunday, November 27. We will be closed till beginning of March, 2017.

Thank you again, and we look forward to seeing everyone again in March 2017.

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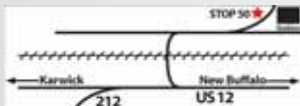
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Maya Williams "Turkey Tastrophe!"

Once upon a time, my sister Kaley, my dad, mom, and I were going to make the Thanksgiving turkey. The whole family was driving to the woods to hunt a turkey. We couldn't count on my sisters Destiny and Bella to help hunt or cook, because they always spent too much time on their phones.

We arrived in the woods, and we all piled out of the car. I yelled, "Dad! Look! A turkey!" Dad turned around and tried to tackle the turkey, and then the turkey turned on him and started chasing my dad! Suddenly, the turkey turned and started chasing Destiny, but she was oblivious, because she was on her phone, as usual.

"Ca CAW, ca CAW!" gobbled the turkey. He reached Destiny and started clawing at her phone. The turkey's claw found its mark in Destiny's phone, and it broke. She screeched, "My phone!" Her face was steaming red.

"Your face is red," I observed.

She turned to me, her teeth clenched. Knowing that she'd be dead meat if she hit me, she turned back to the turkey and tackled it, beating it with her fists. Fortunately, she is very strong when her adrenaline kicks in.

"Wow!" the rest of us said in surprise.

I grabbed the now pummeled turkey, and said, "Well, this is how we got our 2016 Thanksgiving turkey!"

We drove home, turkey in the trunk, kids buckled in. We got home, and shoved the whole, badly pummeled turkey into the oven. Mom turned on the oven to 400 degrees Fahrenheit...1 hour later ...

"Maya, get the turkey on the table," Mom told me.

I put on my oven mittens and grabbed the turkey. "Uh, oh. We never de-feathered the turkey! We'll have to feed it to the dog," I sighed.



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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.



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Email high-resolution photos to drew@thebeacher.com

JROTC Supports Veterans Day Events; Cyber Patriot Begins

The Michigan City High School Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps participated in 11 different Veterans Day ceremonies.

Those events were:

- Nov. 4 — Military Ball.
- Nov. 5 — Veterans breakfast at Michigan City Veterans of Foreign Wars.
- Nov. 5 — Veterans Parade in Michigan City.
- Nov. 9 — St. Paul Lutheran School, Michigan City.
- Nov. 9 — Edgewood Elementary School for students.
- Nov. 9 — Edgewood Elementary School for parents.
- Nov. 10 — Rittenhouse Senior Living Center.
- Nov. 10 — Marine Corps League Birthday Celebration.
- Nov. 11 — Purdue University Northwest Veterans Day Ceremony.
- Nov. 11 — Michigan City High School Veterans Day Ceremony.
- Nov. 11 — First Presbyterian Church, Michigan City, Veterans Day Ceremony.



Cadets perform the Marine birthday ceremony as part of the Marine Corps' 241st birthday.



Faculty Advisor Ralph Gee provides guidance to the JROTC cadets prior to competing in Cyber Patriot.

Maj. Tom McGrath, the senior Marine instructor, complimented the cadets on their dedication.

"The cadets who participated in these ceremonies are on the drill team, which practices every morning at 5:45 a.m.," he said. "Some of them are also on our rifle team and Cyber Patriot teams, which practice after school. They really exhibit the leadership traits of unselfishness."

The cadets hosted a military skills competition Saturday, Nov. 19, with 10 schools competing in drill, marksmanship, academics and physical fitness at the MCHS gym. They also competed in the first six-hour round of Cyber Patriot, a national cyber security game sponsored by the Air Force Association and open to all high school students, on Saturday, Nov. 12, at MCHS. Two more rounds are in December and January. If MCHS qualifies for the national round, it will travel to Washington, D.C., in March. All costs incurred during the competition are covered by the Marine Corps.

Michigan City Public Library

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

• Holiday Hours

The library will be closed Thursday, Nov. 24, for the Thanksgiving holiday.

• **STEAM Ahead Kids: Rubber Band Car at 4:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 28.**

Children 7 and older can make a rubber band-powered car. All materials are provided, and children must be present to receive materials.

• **Story Time at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 29, and 10 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 30.**

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

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

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Westchester Public Library

The following programs are available:

- **Holiday Hours.**

All branches of Westchester Public Library, the Baugher Center and Westchester Township History Museum, as well as the Westchester Township Trustee office, will close Thursday, Nov. 24, for Thanksgiving. Regular hours resume Friday, Nov. 25.

- **Family Coloring Friday Nights from 5 to 7 p.m. Fridays at Hageman Library, 100 Francis St., Porter.**

Materials are provided, but patrons can take their own. No registration is necessary.

- **Rainbow Loom on Friday, Nov. 25, at Thomas Library Children's Department, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.**

Advanced loomers can attend from 6 to 6:45 p.m., while beginner loomers should attend from 6:30 to 7:15 p.m. Looms and rubber bands are supplied, but participants can take their own. Supplies are limited. Registration is required in person or by calling (219) 926-7696.

- **Children's Movie: "The Angry Birds Movie" at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 26, at the Thomas Library Children's Department.**

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

- **Eating Well for Healthy Living Series from 6 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 29, at Thomas Library's Bertha Wood Meeting Room.**

Registered Dietetic Technician Gia DeMartinis will discuss "Healthy Holidays." Registration is required by calling (219) 926-7696.

- **Photo Identification Trivia Night from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 29, at Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.**

Teams of one to four people must identify photos, including movie scenes, album covers and geographic locations. Refreshments will be served.

- **Pokemon League from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Tues-**



"The Angry Birds Movie."

days at Thomas Library.

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

- **Children's Crochet Club from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Wednesdays in the Thomas Library Bertha Wood Meeting Room.**

Aimed at children in third grade and older, attendees learn beginning crochet from Sadie Steciuch. Children should take a size G crochet hook and skein of medium weight yarn. Class size is limited, and registration is required by calling (219) 926-7696.

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PNW Homecoming Royalty

Two international students were crowned Purdue University Northwest's first queen and king during the university's recent homecoming festivities.

PNW students, faculty and staff, alumni of Purdue University North Central and Purdue University Calumet and community members commemorated homecoming with a two-day basketball tournament, bonfire and tailgate party at the Westville campus.

Selected as queen was Shikha Duggal, a graduate student in technology with dual concentrations in computer information technology and industrial engineering technology. A native of Pune, India, she has worked as a graduate project manager, tutor, supplemental instruction leader and undergraduate course instructor. She volunteers for several student organizations, including the Purdue Indian Student Association, and is a graduate administrative professional at the Hammond Campus Welcome Center.

Selected as king was Goutham Gopal, a sophomore majoring in information systems with a concentration in computer information systems management and a minor in organizational leadership and supervision. A resident of Chennai, India, he has been part of the National Society of Leadership and Success, the Environmental Club, the Purdue Indian Student Association and the Ping Pong Club. He plays intramural sports and volunteers on campus.



The Purdue University Northwest 2016 homecoming king Goutham Gopal and homecoming queen Shikha Duggal.

Christmas Parade

New Buffalo Business Association will host an old-fashioned Christmas parade at 3:30 p.m. EST Saturday, Nov. 26.

The parade kicks off at the New Buffalo True Value on South Whittaker Street and heads through downtown to Mechanic Street. Sought are costumed elves, Christmas characters, moving objects, such as bikes, pets and choirs, as well as bands and businesses. Treat bags will be available for children.

The complete schedule for the day is (all times Eastern):

- 9 to 11 a.m. — Breakfast With Santa at New Buffalo Yacht Club, 500 W. Water St. Reservations are recommended by calling (269) 469-9808.
- 9 a.m. to noon — Bake sale at New Buffalo Yacht Club, provided by New Buffalo Service League.
- 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. — Christmas tree and wreath sales at Lakeview Video, 400 S. Whittaker St., throughout the season.
- 11 a.m. — Small Business Saturday Kickoff. Visit Facebook.com/New Buffalo for details.
- 2 p.m. — Gingerbread house decorating at Jackie's Cafe, 801 W. Buffalo St. Free, but reservations are required by calling (269) 469-1800.
- 3:30 p.m. — The parade.
- 4 p.m. — Visit with Santa at the NBBA information booth at Whittaker and Merchant streets.
- 5 p.m. — Hot cocoa and cookies at PJ's, 9 S. Mechanic St.
- 6 p.m. — Tree lighting and caroling at Whittaker and Mechanic streets.

Call (312) 965-9114 for more details.

History of Freemasonry

The Free & Accepted Masons of Excelsior No. 41 will present "A History of Freemasonry in La Porte, Indiana" from 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 26, at La Porte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave.

The Freemasons have been active in La Porte since 1838. Masons will answer questions about the fraternity, and the artifacts on display dating as far back as the mid-19th century. There is no additional fee for the program and display; however, regular museum admission will be charged.

Call (219) 324-6767 or email info@laportecounty-history.org for more information.

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Eighth Annual Madrigal Dinner

First United Methodist Church, 121 E. Seventh St., will present its eighth annual Madrigal Dinner, a contemporary recreation of a Renaissance feast, on Friday and Saturday, Dec. 2-3.

Helming the production is veteran stage director George Maslankowski.



A few of the cast members involved in the Madrigal Dinner.

Madrigal dinners were held in England's baronial halls during the Christmas Twelfth Night season. Everyone received a part to play, including butlers, maids and other servants.

The First United production will feature five meal courses interspersed with pageantry, period music and entertainment provided by musicians and singers, instrumentalists, dancers, mimes and court jesters.

Seating begins at 6 p.m., with festivities starting promptly at 6:30 p.m. The five-course dinner and program last about two hours. Tickets are \$35, or \$240 for a table for eight. Seats fill up quickly, so reservations are recommended by calling Sue Cassler at (219) 362-1421.

As part of Uptown Arts District First Friday activities, the Dec. 2 performance only will feature a Renaissance marketplace in the church Narthex. Doors open for shopping at 5 p.m.

Unity Aids Hunger Relief Effort

The Unity Foundation of La Porte County has helped partially fund Hoosiers Feeding the Hungry's "Meat" the Need program with a \$1,475 grant.

The funds will help pay processing fees for approximately 1,100 pounds of donated meat in La Porte County, which will be distributed to area hunger-relief agencies, providing more than 4,300 meals to residents in need.

Hoosiers Feeding the Hungry pays the processing fees on large game and livestock donated by hunters and farmers to the "Meat" the Need program. Local hunger-relief agencies will be contacted for pickup and distribution, including Humanitarian Distribution Center, Food Bank of Northern Indiana, East-side Meats and Lange's Meat Market.

Visit www.HoosiersFeedingtheHungry.org for more information.

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Foreign Language Educator Honored

Michigan City High School Japanese Teacher Mike Tsugawa has been named 2016 Indiana Secondary Foreign Language Teacher of the Year.

Tsugawa received the award from the Indiana Foreign Language Teachers Association at its annual conference Nov. 5. He was chosen based on a review of a portfolio of his work and qualifications by a panel representing all of Indiana's foreign language teaching organizations. He was nominated by the Association of Indiana Teachers of Japanese, which also selected him as its Secondary Teacher of the Year.

Tsugawa has been an MCHS teacher since 2002, teaching Japanese levels I through IV. He was instrumental in establishing a dual credit agreement with Ball State University, which allows MCHS students studying Japanese III and IV to earn college credits. He coordinates an annual program in which students from Zama Sogo High School in Japan visit MCHS. He also coaches the school's teams at the Japanese Olympiad of Indiana, many of which have won championships at the state level.

Tsugawa supports many curricular and extracurricular programs at school, is the advisor of the Japanese Club and Ping Pong Club and coaches Boys' Tennis for the Wolves.



Mike Tsugawa holds his award as Indiana's Secondary Foreign Language Teacher of the Year.

Monday Musicale

Monday Musicale will commemorate the 200th anniversary of Indiana's statehood with its November program, "Happy Birthday, Indiana!"

The group will meet at 7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 28, at First Presbyterian Church, 121 W. Ninth St. There is no cost; however, donations to the club's scholarship fund are appreciated.

Former Indiana history teacher Carol Garrett will chair the program, designed to appeal to a variety of musical tastes. Vocalists Howard Brenneman, Deb Campanella, Noel Carlson, Kathy Chase, Kathi Jones, Dan Moser, Lisa Schwingendorf and Karol Valek will perform solo and ensemble numbers accompanied by Lee Meyer.

Brenneman, Carlson and Jones will share selections from "The Barber of Seville." The Rossini opera premiered in 1816, the same year Indiana joined the union on Dec. 11.

A sampling of American folk song arrangements by Steven Mark Kohn will be presented, including "Wanderin'," "On the Other Shore" and "The Farmer's Curst Wife."

Commemorating the slaves who migrated to Indiana, the women will sing "Wade in the Water" and "Steal Away." A men's ensemble also is planned. Regional favorites such as "Michigan City, Indiana," "Back Home Again in Indiana" and "On the Banks of the Wabash, Far Away" round out the program.

The celebration then moves to the Edith Boyd Lounge for refreshments served by Deborah Beien's hosting committee.

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

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Santa Parade/Kris Kringle Blitz

La Porte's annual Santa Parade runs from noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 26, starting at Lincolnway and Teegarden Street and ending at the Greater La Porte Chamber of Commerce on Washington Street.

The parade features more than 30 entries, carolers and hot cocoa. Afterward, Santa will enter the Santa Chalet to hear Christmas lists from children.

The Kris Kringle Blitz is a full costume, one-mile fun run that kicks off the parade at 11:15 a.m. Participation costs \$20. Register by calling the chamber at (219) 362-3178.

Chesterton Art Center

A Creativity & Canvas evening is from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 2, at Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St.

Participants will paint a winter cardinal. The \$35 cost includes all materials, light snacks and beverages. The event size is limited, so call (219) 926-4711 to register.

"The Dog and the Jet Ski"

James Dworkin, Purdue University-North Central chancellor emeritus, will host a signing for his new children's book, "The Dog and the Jet Ski," from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 30.

The reception is in the campus bookstore on the lower level of the Library-Student-Faculty Building. Books will be available for purchase.

This is Dworkin's second children's book, following the exploits of Red the Irish setter from his first children's book, "The Dog and the Dolphin."

As with the first book, actual events inspired the writing of "The Dog and the Jet Ski." Dworkin, a Chesterton resident, said several years ago he heard an announcement at a Lake Michigan beach that warned, "Clear the beach, there's a mad dog on a jet ski." That announcement triggered his imagination as to how the dog ended up on the personal watercraft and if the animal made it to safety.

"The Dog and the Jet Ski" tells a story of friendship, diversity and helping others in times of need as the story's main characters form an unlikely, yet unmistakable bond. The book is illustrated by Michael Chelich, Munster, who also created the images for "The Dog and the Dolphin."

Dworkin and Chelich included members of the Dworkin family in the book. Henry and Theo, two boys mentioned, are named for Dworkin's grandsons. An illustration of a crowd on the beach includes a depiction of Dworkin, his grandson, Jimmy, and granddaughters Ally and Abby. A careful look even reveals a glimpse of Chelich.

The book also is available through Archway Publishing at bookstore.archwaypublishing.com, Amazon.com, Barnes and Noble and www.thedogandthedolphin.com. Visit www.thedogandthedolphin.com to arrange a group reading.



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PNW Earns Special Distinction

Purdue University Northwest has been named to the 2017 Military Friendly Schools list as compiled by Victory Media Inc.

The list honors the nation's top schools that welcome America's military service members, veterans and spouses as students, and ensure their success on campus.

PNW is one of more than 1,200 institutions earning the designation. More than 8,000 schools nationwide were evaluated using criteria that includes retention, persistence and graduation rates, job-placement success, loan repayment and loan default rates for all students, specifically veterans.

Purdue University North Central and Purdue University Calumet each previously earned the designation prior to unifying as Purdue University Northwest.

Through the PNW Veterans Services program, veterans have a community of university personnel, students and community agencies available to provide individual support and services.



Long Beach Women's Bowling

Nov. 15, 2016

TEAM STANDING

	WON	LOST
1. Bitchin Bowlers	32	8
2. Striking Beauties	27	13
3. Alley Katz	26	14

HIGH INDIVIDUAL GAMES

	SCORE
1. Sue Luegers	186
2. Kathy Osborne	167
3. Barb Macudzinski	160
4. Cindy Beck	158
5. Tammy Vouri	150
6. Dottie Brinkman (series)	439
7. June Salmon (series)	422
8. Lenore Hadaway	418

SPLITS

Linda Sperling	6-7-9
MaryLou McFadden	1-2-7-9
Holly Dres	5-8-10

STRIKES (THREE IN A ROW)

Sue Luegers (2)
Holly Dres



More bowlers are invited when teams meet at 12:30 p.m. Tuesdays at City Lanes.



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

- IU Health La Porte Hospital, 1007 W. Lincolnway, La Porte, 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, Nov. 25. Those who donate receive a Celebrity Chef electronic recipe card set.

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 details.

Sullair Group Christmas Party

Sullair Disconnected Employees will hold its Christmas party at 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 8, at Galveston Steakhouse, 10 Commerce Square.

Appetizers, a 50/50 drawing, door awards and a cash bar are planned. A \$10 cover charge is payable at the door. Spouses and guests are welcome.

Reservations are asked by Dec. 2 to sdch.reunion@gmail.com

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Springfield Shines in Contest



The participants' names are (back row, from left) Kade Fandrei, Skylar Henderson, Jack Barnes, Jackson Cowgill, Jayson Kempf and Tyler Gault. The front row is (from left) Kivontae Toy, Marasia Wallace and Melanie Padilla. Not pictured is Eliza Kestner.

Ten Springfield Elementary School sixth-graders participated in the "Name That Book" competition presented by La Porte County Public Library on Nov. 24.

Springfield was the only Michigan City area school that participated, with one group advancing to the championship round.

The program had students read 15 books within a team of five to seven children so when the competition arrived, they could answer questions on those texts. There were three regular rounds, each with 45 questions. After the third round, the three scores were calculated and the top six teams with the highest amount of points made it to the championship round. One of Springfield's teams, Team Notre Dame, made it onward.

Call for Entries

Artists 18 and older from Indiana, Illinois and Michigan are invited to submit entries in the 3DD (Three Dimensional December) exhibit at Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St.

The exhibit runs Dec. 3 through Jan. 2, 2017. Artists can take up to three pieces, with the weight not exceeding 20 pounds each. Work will be accepted between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. Nov. 29 and 30 at the center. The cost is \$30, with members receiving a \$5 discount (this is per person, not per piece).

The exhibit's purpose is to strengthen the development of individual artists, and stimulate and expand audiences for the arts in the region. Copies of the full prospectus are available at the center, or can be downloaded from www.chestertonart.com. The opening reception is from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3, with awards granted at 3 p.m.

Call the center at (219) 926-4711 for details.

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New PEO Chapter Member



PEO Chapter DF members have formally welcomed Carol Spreitzer as a new member. Longstanding member Luella Ensign nominated Spreitzer, a new Michigan City resident who moved here during the past year to live and help operate Trestle, an Uptown Arts District retail shop. Spreitzer (right) is pictured with Ensign, who is wearing her costume for the upcoming Madrigal Dinner at First United Methodist Church. After the initiation ceremony, madrigal dinner members performed a musical interlude.

Drone 101 Seminar

Commercial drone operator Keith Baker will teach a "Drone 101 Seminar" from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 29, at La Porte Municipal Airport, 2341 S. Indiana 39.

Baker will speak primarily to drone hobbyists, but can answer questions from those thinking about starting a drone business. A local FAA flight examiner will help those interested in obtaining a commercial certificate.

The class is free but pre-registration is required due to space limitations. Call (219) 324-3393 or email diane@laportearport.com

5K Turkey Trot

The La Porte Educational Development Foundation will host its annual 5K Turkey Trot from 8 to 9 a.m. Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 24, at La Porte County Family YMCA, 901 Michigan Ave.

Registration begins at 7:15 a.m., followed by the race at 8 a.m. The cost is \$25, or \$20 for early signup. All proceeds benefit Hailmann Elementary School's "Meyer's Mile."

Visit www.active.com for details.

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Talk By PNW Fulbright Scholar



Purdue University Northwest's first Fulbright student scholar will discuss his recent experience teaching in Africa at 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 1, at the Westville campus.

Jonathon Wilson, who earned a 2015-2016 Fulbright before graduating from Purdue University Calumet in 2015, will present his free talk in Room 230 of Schwarz Hall.

Wilson spent his nine-month Fulbright experience during late 2015/early 2016 teaching secondary education in the West African country of Cote d'Ivoire, as well as traveling to several other African nations. As a selected Fulbright student scholar, he participated in the U.S. flagship educational exchange program, representing his nation as a cultural ambassador.

Now a schoolteacher in Chicago, he also is active in social justice initiatives.

Artspace Grand Opening

An official grand opening for Artspace Uptown Artist Lofts, 717 Franklin St., is from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 1.

After a brief program, a reception, entertainment and open studios are planned.

The celebration is free. Visit Artspace on facebook at www.facebook.com/ArtspaceUptownArtistLofts/ for more details.

Women of the Moose Dinner

Women of the Moose 935 will host the annual Christmas dinner for current members on Monday, Dec. 5, at Moose Family Lodge 980, 1108 Franklin St.

Cocktails are at 5:30 p.m., followed by dinner at 6 p.m. The cost is \$15. The reservation deadline is Nov. 25. Call Yvonne Baron at (219) 874-7438 or Karen Durnell at (219) 872-6623 for reservations.



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Activities to Explore

In the Area:

Nov. 24 — HAPPY THANKSGIVING.

Nov. 24 — 5K Turkey Trot, 8-9 a.m., La Porte County Family YMCA, 901 Michigan Ave. Registration: 7:15 a.m. Cost: \$25, \$20/early signup. Registration: www.active.com

Nov. 25-28 — Vickers Theatre, 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. *Now showing:* "Coming Through the Rye." Rated PG-13. Times: 6 p.m. Fri.-Mon. *Also:* "A Man Called Ove." Rated PG-13. In Swedish with English subtitles. Times: 9 p.m. Fri.-Sat., 3 p.m. Sat.-Sun. All times Eastern. Info: vickerstheatre.com

Nov. 26 — Winter Wetlands Wander, 10 a.m., Nature Center @ Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton.

Nov. 26 — Children's Movie: "The Angry Birds Movie," 10:30 a.m., Westchester Public Library, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

Nov. 26 — La Porte Santa Parade/Kris Kringle Blitz, noon-3 p.m., Lincolnway & Teegarden Street. Info: (219) 362-3178.

Nov. 26 — "A History of Freemasonry in La Porte, Indiana," 1-3 p.m., La Porte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave. Info: (219) 324-6767.

Nov. 26 — New Buffalo Business Association old-fashioned Christmas parade, 3:30 p.m. EST, downtown New Buffalo, Mich. Info: (312) 965-9114.

Nov. 26 — Snowflake Stroll, 5-8 p.m. EST, Three Oaks, Mich.

Nov. 26 — Matt Giraud, 8 p.m. EST, The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: \$25/adults, \$15/18 & younger. Info: www.acorntheater.com, (269) 756-3879.

Nov. 27 — Holiday Beach Glass Wire-Wrapping Workshop, 2 p.m., Nature Center @ Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

Nov. 28 — STEAM Ahead Kids: Rubber Band Car, 4:30 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

Nov. 28 — Monday Musicale, 7 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 121 W. Ninth St. Free; scholarship fund donations appreciated. Info: (219) 874-3754, (219) 362-1421.

Nov. 29 — Photo Identification Trivia Night, 7-8:30 p.m., Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.

Nov. 30 — Book signing, James Dworkin's "The Dog and the Jet Ski," 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., campus bookstore/Library-Student-Faculty Building/Purdue University Northwest.

Through Dec. 28 — Holiday Artisan Market, Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St. Info: lubeznikcenter.org, (219) 874-4900.

Through Jan. 6, 2017 — Exhibit, Dorothy Graden, Laurel Izard & Edwin Shelton, Visit Michigan City La Porte. Opening reception: 5-8 p.m. Nov. 18.

Indiana Dunes State Park

The following programs are offered:

Saturday, Nov. 26

- **10 a.m. — Winter Wetlands Wander.**

Meet at the Nature Center for the morning trek to view the special habitat.

- **2 p.m. — 100 Years of Indiana State Parks.**

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

Sunday, Nov. 27

- **10 a.m. — Feed the Birds.**

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

- **2 p.m. — Holiday Beach Glass Wire-Wrapping Workshop.**

Register for the 90-minute workshop where participants make beach glass or stone jewelry. Space is limited. The cost is \$5.

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 program is available:

- **Black Friday Hike from 1 to 3 p.m. Friday, Nov. 25, at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.**

The ranger will pick the hike based on weather and trail conditions.

- **"Turkey Trot" Hike from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 26, at the Calumet Dunes parking lot.**

Hike along the Calumet shoreline and through forested dunes and small blowouts.

Meet at the Calumet Dunes Trail parking lot, County Road 300 East (Kemil Road) off U.S. 12 near Beverly Shores.

- **Pinhook Bog Upland Trail Hike from 1 to 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 27.**

The hike showcases the bog's watershed while hiking a ravine, crossing a bridge over a secluded pond that feeds the bog and through stands of towering trees.

Meet at the Pinhook Bog parking lot at 920 N. Wozniak Road, Michigan City.

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.

Snowflake Stroll

Three Oaks, Mich., will kick off the holiday season with a Snowflake Stroll from 5 to 8 p.m. EST Saturday, Nov. 26.

Many local businesses are involved in the event, which includes luminaries lining the streets, carolers, food and drinks, and special offers and discounts at participating locations.



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THIS WEEK IN HISTORY



On November 24, 1859, British naturalist Charles Darwin published *On the Origin of Species*, explaining his theory of evolution through natural selection.

On November 24, 1869, women from 21 states gathered in Cleveland, to draw up plans for organizing the "American Women Suffrage Association."

On November 24, 1874, Joseph Glidden, De Kalb, Ill., was granted a patent for barbed wire.

On November 24, 1963, in Dallas, Lee Harvey Oswald, the accused assassin of President John Kennedy, was shot to death by Jack Ruby.

On November 24, 1971, a hijacker, who went by the name of "Dan Cooper," parachuted from a Boeing 727 over Washington state with \$200,000 in ransom money. Cooper, who is popularly — albeit incorrectly — referred to as "D.B. Cooper," has not been heard from since.

On November 25, 1920, radio station WTAW, College Station, Texas, broadcast the first play-by-play description of a college football game. The game was between Texas A & M and the University of Texas.

On November 25, 1952, Agatha Christie's *The Mousetrap*, which would become the world's longest running play, opened in London.

On November 25, 1984, William Schroeder, of Jasper, Ind., became the second human recipient of an artificial heart.

On November 26, 1789, the first national Thanksgiving Day in the United States was proclaimed by President George Washington. He asked the nation to observe the day as one of thanksgiving for the adoption of the United States Constitution.

On November 26, 1832, with the fare was set at 12 1/2 cents, public streetcar service began in New York City. The streetcar was the horse drawn John Mason, publicly unveiled 12 days earlier.

On November 26, 1833, Chicago's first newspaper, the *Chicago Democrat*, was published by John Calhoun, a printer from New York.

On November 26, 1925, many Americans looked forward to becoming "a motorist" when the price of the Ford "roadster" was lowered to \$260.

On November 26, 1942, the film "Casablanca," starring Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman, had its world premiere in New York.

On November 27, 1889, Curtis Bradley received the first permit to drive an automobile through Central Park. The permit was issued on the condition that Bradley pledge to "exert the greatest care to avoid frightening horses."

On November 27, 1910, New York's Pennsylvania Railroad Station was officially opened. It was, at the time, the world's largest railway terminal.

On November 27, 1926, Chicago hosted its first Army-Navy football game, played at Soldiers Field, and which ended in a 21-21 tie.

On November 28, 1839, Thanksgiving was observed for the first time in Chicago.

On November 28, 1895, America's first automobile race got under way when six cars, over snow-covered roads, started a 55-mile round-trip course from Chicago to Waukegan. Two of the cars were electric, and four were powered by gasoline engines. The winner was Frank Duryea, who traveled at an average speed of 7 miles per hour. The Duryea car used 3.5 gallons of gasoline and 19 gallons of water. The prize, which was donated by the *Chicago Times-Herald* was \$2,000.

On November 28, 1922, over New York's Times Square, Royal Air Force Capt. Cyril Turner gave the first skywriting presentation. His message, "Hello USA. Call Vanderbilt 7200." New York's telephone switchboards were jammed as in excess of 47,000 people did just that.

On November 28, 1925, the Grand Ole Opry, Nashville's famed home of country music, made its radio debut.

On November 29, 1825, Rossini's "Barber of Seville," the first Italian opera to be performed in the United States, opened in New York City.

On November 29, 1886, Chicago's first fireboat, the \$39,000 "Geyser," was commissioned on the Chicago River.

On November 29, 1890, the first Army-Navy football game was held at West Point, NY. Navy won 24 -0.

On November 29, 1929, Navy Lt. Commander Richard E. Byrd flew over the South Pole in his trimotored Fokker plane, becoming the only person to have flown over both the North and South Poles.

On November 29, 1948, the long-running "Kukla, Fran and Ollie", starring Fran Allison, premiered on NBC-TV.

On November 30, 1887, the first reported game of softball, a game invented by George Hancock, was played at Chicago's Farragut Boat Club.

On November 30, 1900, at 46, Irish author Oscar Wilde died in Paris. His last remark, a comment concerning his distaste for the wallpaper in his room, was, "One of us has to go."

On November 30, 1936, flames destroyed London's Crystal Palace, which had been built for the International Exhibition of 1851.

On November 30, 2004, "Jeopardy!" fans got to see Ken Jennings end his 74 game winning streak as he lost to real estate agent Nancy Zerg.

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A launch seminar hosted by chambers of com-
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Triple R Marketing, Bloomington, Ind., will lead
the seminar, after which a certificate of completion
will be given. A laptop is required.

Topics include: optimizing a website; social me-
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experience.

Visit tinyurl.com/jpg5a79 to register.

Realty Accepts Toys for Tots Items

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Koenig Rubl-
off Realty Group's New Buffalo office, 30 W. Buffalo
St., will serve as a Toys for Tots drop-off site until
Dec. 9.

The Marine Toys for Tots Foundation collects
new, unwrapped toys each year, then delivers them
to less-fortunate children.



Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter

The Bookshop on the Corner by **Jenny Colgan** (paperback, \$14.99 or hardcover \$25.99, in bookstores and online; also available as an eBook)

Happy Thanksgiving, *Beacher* readers! This is a day to put aside differences, enjoy each other's company while stuffing ourselves with turkey, kick around fall leaves in an afternoon walk, or maybe curl up with a good book...

To hopefully enhance this traditional day, I have picked out a book to lower your blood pressure and take you away to a simpler place with a feel-good story. Please take a trip with me that starts out in Birmingham, England, and ends up in the Scottish Highlands...

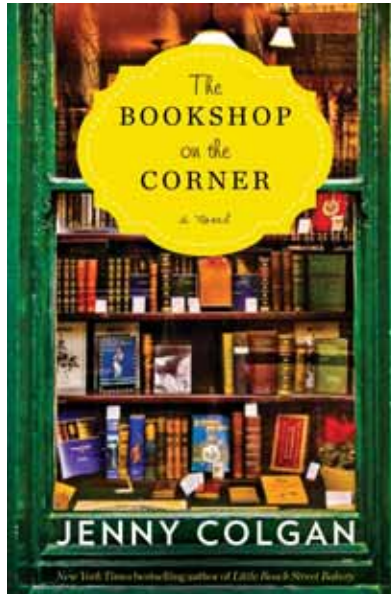
Twenty nine-year-old Nina Redmond is scared. She's about to lose her job at the local library — not because of anything she did — oh no, it's just the modernization process. The building is being sold, and people will have to travel farther into the city to a “hub, with a multimedia experience zone and a coffee shop and an intersensory experience, whatever that was...”

Well, not a traditional library, but a look to the future of what? No more paperbound editions to carry off and enjoy? Will everything be a “multimedia experience”? Nina knows she will not fit in this new library. Real books have been her constant companion since she was a little girl.

Since the books are being sold off or given away, she starts bringing boxes of them to the house she shares with friend Surinder, who is convinced all those books will bring down the ceiling or worse! Don't worry, Surinder, Nina has come up with a plan: She will get a van and fix it up to be a moving bookshop. What a clever idea! She even starts looking in the papers for used vans. She finds the perfect one: “*The van was white, boxy, old-fashioned, with big headlights...It looked retro and rather lovely...*”

Problem is, it's located in a small village in Scotland. Time to take the train north. She falls in love with the van but almost doesn't buy it from the old Scot who thinks the diminutive young woman won't be able to handle it! Without going into some very funny details best read by yourself, she finally gets the van and drives it back to Birmingham...well, almost. But that's another sideline to the story that involves a train crossing and a handsome Latvian engineer.

So, back in Birmingham, things seem to come together until the city of Birmingham says it won't give her a permit. Now what? Nina thinks about



that beautiful little village in the Highlands and decides there is only one choice — move to Scotland.

A bold decision by Nina, to be sure. Arriving back at Kirrinfief, Nina makes friends with a couple of locals who help her find a place to live. A farmer, John Lennox, has a renovated barn on his property that is for rent. It is perfect. Lennox is not. Oh, he is cranky, uncommunicative and very handsome. OK, that last one is a plus, not a minus.

As time goes on, Nina finds the villagers happy to have a bookshop. With no library and the nearest bookshop miles away, Nina finds that wherever she parks her van, people stop by. Nina's best asset is her ability to size up

a customer and pick out the best book for them. It certainly is a gift. Soon, she even fixes up a corner of the van into a children's area and gives toddler reading sessions several times a week. Life is good.

There still is something missing to Nina's story. Now that she has established herself with a job, what about the future? Will she ever meet Mister Right? Maybe that will happen when she least expects it...

Colgan has a magical way of bringing the Scottish Highlands off the pages and into your head. The beauty of the countryside, the dances and festivals, the friendliness of the villagers, not to mention their nosiness, makes you feel you're right there alongside Nina.

This is a book lover's story: endearing, funny and full of hope.

From *Library Journal*: “Colgan's latest gently acknowledges the UK's recent library funding problem as well as the new roles libraries are assuming. Scotland is a bonny setting for this funny, winsome novel that will appeal to fans of Nina George's *The Little Paris Bookshop*.”

From *Kirkus Reviews*: “With a keen eye for the cinematic, Colgan is a deft mistress of romantic comedy; Nina's story is laced with clever dialogue and scenes set like jewels, just begging to be filmed.”

Colgan is the *New York Times* bestselling author of books such as *Christmas at the Cupcake Cafe*, *Little Beach Street Bakery* and *Meet Me at the Cupcake Cafe* — all international bestsellers. She is married, has three children and lives in London and Scotland. Her website is jennycolgan.com and her facebook page is www.facebook.com/jennycolganbooks/

Till next time, happy reading, and happy holiday shopping!

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