



Volume 32, Number 39 Thursday, October 6, 2016

## Enduring Legacy

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](mailto:drew@thebeacher.com)*



Ron Benz, seen here at B&E Marine, believes his upbringing helped shape his lifelong work ethic. Photo by Bob Wellinski

Visionary. Hardworking. Positive. Civic-minded. Storyteller. Loves his city.

These are but a few descriptions of Ron Benz, a hometown boy taken by surprise when asked what made him stay in Michigan City.

His response is simple.

"I was born here, in the Clinic."

That reply caught me off guard, considering that, in today's society, people tend to move away from where they were born. My

follow-up question — "You never thought of leaving?" — produced a similar reaction.

"My whole family was here," he replied.

Spend a few hours with the Long Beach resident, who shares stories about his family, his love of what he does, and it becomes obvious why he stayed here, and how that decision benefited the area as well.

Benz's father, who came from a farming family from the South Dakota area, made the trek to Michigan City along with other relatives. After a brief stay in southern Wisconsin, he ended up in Michigan City, later

getting a job as a milkman at Sanitary Dairy.

"...I was 9-10 years old. I would go with him once in a while on the milk route," Benz said. "He'd see somebody moving into the house...and he'd go over, knock on the door and ask them if they would like

milk. He took good care of his customers. He'd put them (milk) in the cooler, and sometimes people would say, could you put it in my refrigerator in the shed? He made good mon-

# FRIENDS & NEIGHBORS

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A 1958 photo of Ron (right) and his family.

ey when you think of a milkman. He got paid on commission, heck, and pretty soon, they had to cut the commission because he was getting too much money.

“He worked there all his life. He was a super salesman, more than me even. That’s hard to beat.”

Benzs believes that upbringing helped shape his life. Like his father, he is a hard worker. He began working at an early age. In middle school, he worked as a stock boy for J.C. Penney, stocking shelves and at times sweeping floors after they closed. After high school, Benzs worked for NIPSCO, building towers. An engineer taught him what he needed to know and put him in charge of erecting towers from Michigan City to Valparaiso.

His uncle became extremely vocal about the direction of his career. At this point, Benzs had started a family, was racing boats and working full time for Shoemaker Construction. He also bought the Mercury Motors Outboard franchise with Roland Evette

and formed B&E Marine.

“My uncle said, You gotta have a trade under your belt,” Benzs said. “You can’t just do that boat business thing.”

Benzs listened and added trade school to an already busy schedule.

“I took on carpenter millwright apprenticeship,” Benzs said. “I went through four years of apprenticeship cuz they made me go through the whole thing, you know, all the way, and go to school over in Gary three nights a week....I finished it about 1950.”

Having spent much time in the city’s North End as a youngster, from wading through the shallow portion of Trail Creek, to racing boats in the basin, to selling boat motors, Benzs foresaw changes unfolding on the waters of Lake Michigan and surrounding area.

“I saw the guys out there in the basin,” Benzs said. “There were very few, maybe 25 people who had some money. They had round bottom wood boats.”

He then began to see an underdeveloped area spring to life, changes he believes benefited the city.

Take, for instance, B&E, which was selling Mercury Outboard motors out of Evette’s basement. A year after purchasing the franchise, they realized they needed a place to house and service the motors. They chose the north end of town on Trail Creek to lease an acre of land. By 1954, Benzs, himself, had built their first building, which was used for service and dust-free storage.

When they first started the business, Benzs and Evette had other jobs. Shortly after, however, the pace of two jobs was exhausting for Evette, so Benzs offered to buy him out. He then hired a couple of retired men to keep the business



Ron in his early years, in love with fishing.





B&E Marine in its early years,

open during the day in the summer.

As the years went by, the boating industry in Michigan City grew. Seeing that progress, as well as with the Michigan City lakefront, he changed his boat lines by incorporating cruisers into their product line.

"I always said we want to sell the best boat, not the cheapest boat," Benz said. "If you sell the cheapest boat, you gotta be able to turn your back on the people when they come in and want service."

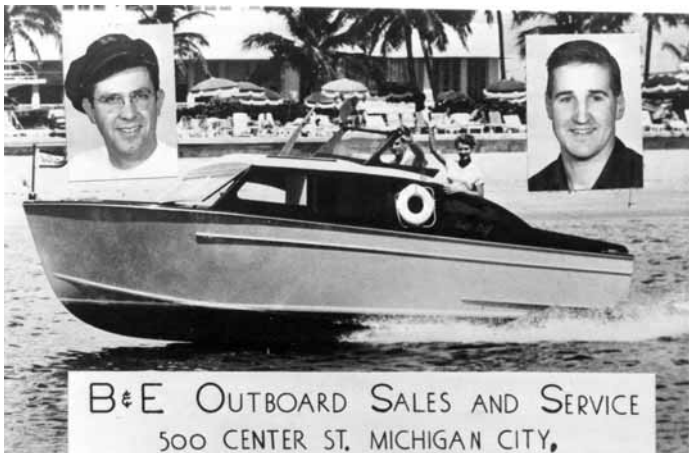
This is not something he could do.

"Everything we sold, we guaranteed at 100 percent," he said. "That was my idea when I came in here. We're going to give them good service and the best. So we had to have good boat lines so we wouldn't have to repair them all the time."

By the 1960s, B&E Marine was going strong, so Benz shifted his schedule, working full time there and part time at Shoemaker. As B&E continued growing, Benz saw a need for more space, so he began adding additional buildings, ultimately building seven on the main property.

Eventually, Benz began cleaning up the area around his parcel of land and in the water. He not only did this for his business, but also for the city as it was an eyesore. The wood pilings on both sides of

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Early promotional material for B&E featuring Ron with co-founder Roland Evette.

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## Enduring Legacy Continued from Page 3

the river had become jagged and were falling into the river. He began replacing them.

"I put a couple piers going over to the bridge and put them in by hand," Benzsz said. "Drove them in with a sledge hammer, a big 16-pound sledge. I'd walk out on a plank...I would carry these telephone poles...skinny, tall ones...I would put them on my shoulder and walk out on two planks...get it started and take a jet and jet them down for the pilings for the piers. My shoulder would be blood from the weight of carrying it out there."



Ron praises his wife, Jean, for being "a good woman who loved me a lot."

Recalling the story, Benzsz was positive, upbeat and down to earth. There was no dread in the retelling, rather laughter on his part, and a well-it-had-to-be-done attitude.

"Everybody needs to help in their city...and it would be twice the city," Benzsz said.

In time, Benzsz assembled a group of investors, which bought the land across the river from his place, which allowed them to develop the north side of Trail Creek. The development included building the condominiums across the way from the National Guard Armory, adding steel seawalls with concrete tops and more than 70 docks on that side of the river. The project was unique, as it was the first type of development in Michigan City where the dock was part of the condominium package.

Benzsz, clearly, is not averse to hard work. He is sensitive to his surroundings and has an eye on what it takes to improve a project. There were many days Benzsz worked until midnight and was up again at 6 a.m. He maintained that type of schedule for years.

"It was a good life, but it was sort of a tough life," Benzsz said. "Sort of hard on Jean (his wife) for a while. Thank goodness I had a good woman, one who loved me a lot."

Ironically, for as much time as he spent on the city's North End as a youth, and as a businessman, he did not live on the shores of Lake Michigan until the mid-1980s, when they purchased a lot and built

a new home.

Over the years, his drive, his vision and his giving nature helped not only shape the North End, but also the places where he volunteered.

He approached his volunteer projects with the same vigor as his work ethic. An idea person, Benzsz envisions projects, gets them off the ground, then prefers to turn them over to someone else to run.

Benzsz was the driving force, and one of the original founders of, the annual Hoosier Coho Club Fishing Tournament, coining it as the "Coho Capital of the World." He felt it would be economically viable for Michigan City and the boating industry. The tournament is still going strong today.

"It was for the business, but the business is Michigan City," he said. "By having that coho thing, all those people we brought into town. These restaurants, you could hardly get into them in the morning."

Benzsz also was involved in developing the annual Michigan City In-Water Boat Show, which this year celebrated its 37th anniversary. Having attended the Chicago Boat Show since the start of his boat business, he kept thinking Michigan City needed its own show. He thought one he attended in Ohio would work in Michigan City. So, he took a group that included the mayor to visit it. Everyone agreed to ask the organizers to bring the show to Michigan City. Throughout the years, the show's impact — now called the Progressive Chicagoland In-Water Boat Show at Michigan City's Washington Park — on tourism and the local economy has been extensive.

Not only was Benzsz involved in organizations linked to the boating industry, but he also used his talents and generously gave of his time to Pioneer Land at La Porte County Fairgrounds and Friendship Botanic Gardens (formerly International Friendship Gardens) in Michigan City.



Ron (left) with family members at the annual Turkey Walk at the Gardens.

With Pioneer Land, the La Porte County Fair board asked Benzsz to chair its sesquicentennial. He subsequently visited numerous fairs and returned with an idea he felt could be accomplished.



He then recommended, and was instrumental in helping create, Pioneer Land. With his expertise in construction, he helped with the general layout of buildings. Benz, along with others involved in the Pioneer Land planning stages, secured monetary and in-kind donations to get the project done. He also volunteered numerous hours to the project that now has 11 buildings.

With International Friendship Gardens, Benz rode his bike there as a child, helping with various tasks. Shortly after Benz finished with the sesqui-centennial, a group at Friendship Gardens sought his help. He assisted them by obtaining funds and designing various layouts, but the biggest help involved the plans he had drawn that would make the local attraction visible from U.S. 12. Creating a road off the highway and paving the parking lot aided in the Gardens' ongoing transformation.

Benz's philosophy on helping is simple: "When you do something, do it so it's effective."

Today, his sons, Barry and Rod, run the business. When asked about his sons continuing the legacy he helped create, you could feel his love, approval and pride in them.

"Oh, it's great. I just love it. They're doing such a great job," Benz said. "See, that's what's so important. All the work you put into this. The boys, I say thank you Lord, because they are just carrying on and doing better yet."



Having laid the groundwork for Pioneer Land, Ron is still a regular presence at the attraction within La Porte County Fairgrounds.

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## Burton Fumbles Big-Screen Adaptation of “Miss Peregrine”

by Andrew Tallackson

Though he would never publicly condemn it, Ransom Riggs *has* to be discouraged by what Tim Burton has done with “Miss Peregrine’s Home for Peculiar Children.”

What was Burton thinking? After a string of critical and commercial misfires — although Amy Adams is an understated marvel in 2014’s “Big Eyes” — Riggs’ 2011 debut should have signified a return to form for a director once unrivaled as Hollywood’s most merry prankster.

On the page, “Miss Peregrine” might have collapsed amid the weight of its own gimmick — Riggs fashioned his tale around curious old photos accumulated at garage sales and flea markets — yet the author achieved the first Young Adult novel since “Harry Potter” to create a genuine sense of awe, wonder, terror and imagination. Its characters were society’s outcasts, their “peculiar” qualities binding them together — a recurring theme in the works of Burton, who once endeared a boy with scissors for hands to mainstream audiences.

For the big-screen adaptation of “Miss Peregrine,” Burton teamed with otherwise reliable screenwriter Jane Goldman (“X-Men: Days of Future Past,” “Kingsman: The Secret Service”), and for about an hour, they produce an adequate, if workmanlike interpretation of the novel...before taking apparent leave of their senses, discarding all the heart of the novel’s midsection in favor of a new third act that leaves any fan of the book feeling betrayed. By comparison, those new to the story may be mildly entertained, yet curious as to what all the fuss was about.

The basic outline of Riggs’ story remains. Jacob Portman (Asa Butterfield, the wide-eyed young actor from Martin Scorsese’s “Hugo”) is a lonely Florida teen enchanted by tales of monsters and magical beings culled from his grandfather’s youth. The grandfather is played by the perfectly cast Terrence Stamp, but when he’s killed off one night by a vicious creature, Jacob is carted off to a psychiatrist (Allison Janney), who recommends he head with his father (Chris O’Dowd) to the Welsh island of Cairnholm, which might offer clues to his grandfather’s past.

It is on Cairnholm that Jacob discovers a time loop, a means to travel back in time where the same day in 1943 is preserved shortly before Nazi bombs destroyed the home for “peculiar” where his grand-

father sought refuge. And it is here we meet Miss Peregrine (Eva Green) and her wards, children with remarkable abilities ranging from being invisible to levitating.

Burton, working with cinematographer Bruno Delbonnel (the director’s “Dark Shadows”), nicely captures the moody atmosphere of Cairnholm. The one showstopper is Burton’s visualization of Miss Peregrine’s ability to freeze time — shortly before the Nazi bombs meet their target — and rewind the day back to its start. The imagery is classic Burton eye candy, an explosion of light, sound and color.

Up until then, however, there is something oddly muted and detached about Burton’s approach. For a storyteller who once delighted in giving a voice to the peculiarities in his own mind, the tone and pace of “Miss Peregrine” are never as lively and vibrant as the words on the pages of Riggs’ novel. It feels slack, like cinematic Cliff’s Notes, and Green, who remains the best Bond Girl of the Daniel Craig era, lacks the maternal appeal of Miss Peregrine. A more doting presence might have been Burton’s former partner and frequent collaborator, Helena Bonham Carter.

Worth stressing as well is that the word “home” exists in the title

for a reason. In the book, the world of Miss Peregrine’s time loop represents the first time Jacob feels a sense of family, of belonging. Each “peculiar” exists as a lovable misfit, coming to embrace Jacob as one of their own. That’s not quite the case on film. We don’t spend enough time with everyone to care about them because Burton and Goldman toss out the entire last act of the book. Instead, they concoct a wildly out of control finale set largely in the present and with skeletons that appear to be a tribute to the director’s stop-motion idol, Ray Harryhausen, all of it set to weirdly inappropriate music that calls to mind the pulsating techno music in European nightclubs.

The movie, like the book, leaves the door open for the next chapter in Riggs’ series, but by tinkering with the rules established in the novel, especially with Miss Peregrine herself, the reasons for why Jacob and crew set out to sea don’t jive.

What a shame. Burton had an opportunity to create cinematic gold. He blew it.

Contact Editor Andrew Tallackson at [drew@the-beacher.com](mailto:drew@the-beacher.com)



Eva Green stars as the title character in “Miss Peregrine’s Home for Peculiar Children.”



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## What's Planned for First Friday

Michigan City Mainstreet Association will host the Uptown Arts District First Fridays Art Walk from 5 to 8 p.m. Oct. 7.

The Community Area is at Seventh and Franklin streets. Participating businesses and attractions, which often host artists and/or entertainment, are:

- **Art + Science Works, 622 Franklin St.** Create works of art in the studio.
- **Barker Mansion, 631 Washington St.** Michigan City artist Ross Moore will display pieces from his portfolio.
- **The Closet by Franklin Vintage, 717 Franklin St. Suite A.** Jewelry artist Stephanie Swanson will display her pieces.
- **Darling, 418 Franklin Square.** Chicago-based illustrator Kelly Maryanski will display inks and watercolors.
- **Down Gallery, 523 Franklin St.** Participating artists are Damon Rowley, Aurora, Ill., Michael Papp, Florida, and Kris Kiser, Michigan City.
- **FADA, 722 Franklin St.** April Lynn Photography & Encaustic Art is the featured artist.
- **First United Methodist Church, 121 E. Seventh St.** "A Retrospective of Ruth Lyness' Work" is in the church narthex. Krueger Middle School Singers will perform at 6 and 6:45 p.m. Children can decorate pumpkins. Dan Moser & Friends perform outside.
- **Lubeznik Canter for the Arts, 101 W. Second St.** "The Hunt-The Prey-The Spirit" is an all-woman show focused on the portrayal of animals.
- **ManAbout Town Haberdashery, 621 Franklin St.** Warren Smith will present handcrafted rustic furniture and industrial light fixtures.
- **The Nest, 803 Franklin St.** Ian Osbourn will demonstrate glass flame-working techniques, while local artist Robert Smeets will play hand pan drums.
- **Nest Number 4, 717 Franklin St.** In the spotlight is Michigan City business Infinite Painting &

Design.

• **Old Lighthouse Museum, Heisman Harbor Road, Washington Park.**

Yo Halliar will display mosaics and works in stained glass. *The Beacher's* Bill Halliar will play the pump organ.

• **Paris House of Bridal, 728 Franklin St.** Mary Chandler, Blue Moon Dance ballroom dance instructor, will host dance classes.

• **Patina Vintage Goods, 621 Franklin St.** Featured is Christopher Casson Photography.

• **Refinished Rescues, 825 Franklin St.**

• **Revive Consignments, 523 Franklin St.** Kris Kiser will present "Pallet Deep — Smart Art."

• **Southern Shore Art Association, 724 Franklin St.** "Light, Reflection and Illusion" features John Ryszka, Kevin Gross and Matt Kubik in a multi-media exhibit.


• **Trestle, 622 Franklin St.** Chris Grohs will showcase his long skateboards and fly fishing nets.

• **Urban Soles Inc., 624 Franklin St.** Tommy Kalil will present metal decor and scrap metal art.

Entertainment includes:


• **Maxine's, 521 Franklin St.** Me & The Boys presents jazz and blues at 9 p.m.

• **First Friday Open Stage at Mainstreet Theatre, 807 N. Franklin St.** Signup is at 7:30 p.m. Performances begin at 8 p.m. The cost is \$2 per performer and \$3 for audience members.



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## Audiences Help Solve Mystery in Footlight's "Clue: The Musical"

Six weapons. Six rooms. Six suspects who could be responsible for murdering their host.

Audiences for Footlight Theatre's production of "Clue: The Musical" will help solve this whodunit during performances Oct. 7-9, 14-16 and 20-23 at Footlight Theatre, 1705 Franklin St.

"Clue" features musical numbers and audience interaction that builds on the reputation of the popular board game of the same name. With more than 200 possible endings, the audience watches for clues dropped by cast members and attempts to figure out who killed the charismatic and handsome Mr. Boddy (Andrew Crane).

The suspects are from all walks of life. Professor Plum (Brian Brophy) is an absent-minded intellectual with a wry sense of humor. Mrs. White (Jen Williams) is Mr. Boddy's faithful old servant. Mr. Green (Dutch Williams) was raised to be a smooth-talking con man. Bachelor military veteran Colonel Mustard (Tom LeDonne) is enamored with the mysterious widow Mrs. Peacock (Debbie Bartholomew) and the sexy young gold digger Miss Scarlet (Patricia Martin). And, it's up to the detective (Amy Crane) to help the audience sort out the crime.

"All the characters have come to Mr. Boddy's manor for their own reasons, and they have their own reasons they'd like to see him dead," Director Leslie Evans said. "It's a big challenge for the cast to dupe and help the audience at the same time."

All cast members are experienced actors who have appeared on stages across Northwest Indiana,

including Amy Crane, Marquette High School's drama and vocal music director. Evans has been performing in and directing community theater productions for 40 years. She was last at the helm of Footlight's April production of "Little Women: The Musical." Lee Meyer is the music director.

"This is one of the hardest working casts that I've had the pleasure to direct," Evans said. "I love the creative ideas they've come up with."



Jen Williams (left), Debbie Bartholomew, Brian Brophy, Andrew Crane, Tom LeDonne, Patricia Martin and Dutch Williams star in "Clue: The Musical."

Performances are at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday. Doors open 45 minutes prior to curtain. Reservations are held until 15 minutes prior to curtain unless secured by a season gift card or payment.

Tickets are \$15 (two for \$25 with a coupon printed from the website), while children 12 and younger cost \$1. Call (219) 874-4035 or visit [footlightplayers.org](http://footlightplayers.org) for reservations.

## Auditions for "Seven Nuns at Las Vegas"

Footlight Players will have an open audition for "Seven Nuns at Las Vegas" from 7 to 9 p.m. Sunday and Monday, Oct. 9 and 10, at Footlight Theatre, 1705 Franklin St.

Director Anthony Holt seeks 11 women and two men 20 and older. Show dates are Dec. 2-4 and 8-11.

No onstage experience is necessary; newcomers and seasoned performers are welcome. They will be asked to read cuttings from the script with others onstage.

In the play, Sister Columba, an elderly rheumatic nun, asks St. Joseph to take her where the weather is warm after it snows in May. St. Joseph takes her and the entire convent to Nevada, just outside of Las Vegas. Sin City is a shock to the nuns and to St. Joseph, but they may have a startling effect on it.

Call the theater at (219) 874-4035 or email director Anthony Holt at [anthonyglenn1996@gmail.com](mailto:anthonyglenn1996@gmail.com) for details.



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## Project Simple: Capturing Silent Conversations

What do you do if you find yourself in a street in a foreign land where you could touch both sides with outstretched hands? A street where you could see into homes where people were taking showers with their clothes on, where vendors were selling, where people and animals filled the space?

Chelsea Nix and Mariano Cortez stopped walking as they normally would and took the pace of the local Nepalese. The world opened up. This is the secret of their photographs, of their experiences and of their helping people in the places they visit: simple openness. Senses are overwhelmed with the plain joy of the flow of life.



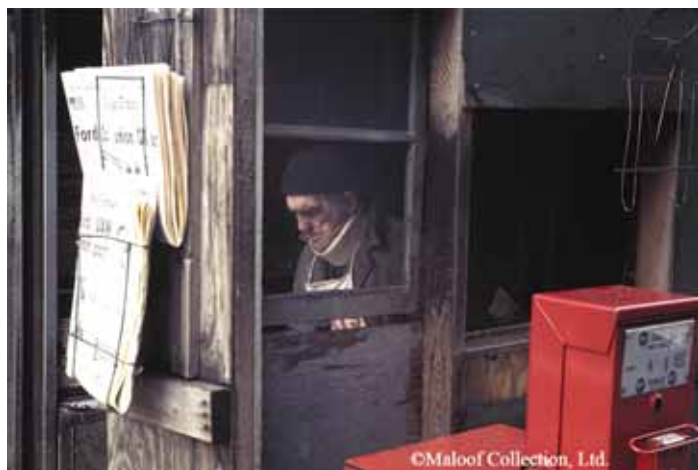
Universal Language."

"Project Simple: Capturing Silent Conversations" is a photo exhibit at Lubeznik Center for the Arts by the husband-and-wife team of Cortez and Nix. The openness and happiness of the people, even in their poverty, is brought out by the photographic techniques the pair use. Comparing their photo-

## ART&ABOUT

Robert Stanley

graph "Universal Language" to a photo by the famous artist Vivian Maier, "Chicago, October 1976," reveals some of these tools. Most obvious are depth of field (what is in focus), scale and composition. The focus in "Universal Language" clearly is on the smiling woman. The grain she is harvesting is blurred (out of focus), thus softly filling the frame with pleasant color. Compositionally, she commands the space, strongly in the center. She and the viewer/photographer are personally in the moment, warmly at ease.



Vivian Maier's "Chicago, October 1976."

Not so with "Chicago, October 1976." Here, the figure is isolated compositionally and is small in scale. His surroundings are sharply in focus, as important as the person is. He is a fulcrum on a teeter-totter of information, a person without a real connection. Thus, the photographic tools of focus, scale and composition bring added, even essential meaning to a photo.

Cortez and Nix are successful in making their ar-

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tistic statement because they relate and respect the people they photograph.



"Comfortable in Color."

"Comfortable in Color" shows someone relaxed in their own skin. The photo includes enough detailed texture for us to smell and feel the simple doorway and the sitter's possessions, which are few. That the person felt free enough to let herself and her world be revealed hints at how far respect for another will take us.

Seeing these people as they are — "poor," but at peace and basically enjoying their world — asks us, "What is it then that makes for happiness?" Perhaps the photographs provide a clue for our understanding. Asking questions and giving insights is what art often does.

Besides taking photos, the Nix/Cortez team tries to help the people in a sustainable way.

"We have found inspiring individuals in third world countries who have started their own personal projects to assist the communities in which they live," Chelsea Nix said. "Through creating relationships and friendships, we learn from them and are motivated to help continue the projects that they have dedicated their lives to.

"Once we understand their specific needs, we take action by supporting their projects in a sustainable way. Through hours of conversations and

active participation, they guide us, and together we decide how to spend any and all donations locally. We put the money back into their community by purchasing animals and supplies directly from their neighbors."

One example is a new type of wood-burning stove that does not fill the house with smoke. The lung ailments of the local people will be lowered, and since the stove uses less wood, the strain on the environment is eased. Meanwhile, the culture is preserved.

For a pleasurable visit with people we normally would not know, for an experience of openness and basic happiness, see the people and their worlds revealed in the photographs of Nix and Cortez. Don't miss the photo of the married woman's ankle bracelets and its special story, another example of the special relationship of photographer, subject and color.

### If You Go

"Project Simple: Capturing Silent Conversations" runs through Oct. 28 in the NIPSCO Education Studio at Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St. Weekday hours are from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and weekends from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. On Thursdays, the Hyndman Gallery opens at 2 p.m. Visit [lubeznikcenter.org](http://lubeznikcenter.org) or call (219) 874-4900 for more details.



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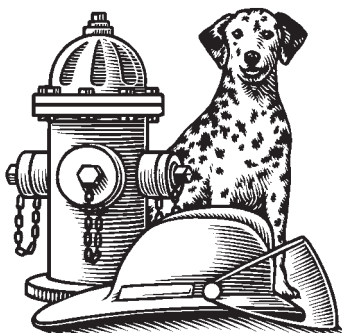
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## Michigan Doing Better than Indiana Lakefront

My inquiry about the 2016 summer marketplace began when I felt like the market had really come alive in Harbor Country in August. So I waited until just after September 15th to check out my intuitions.

The statistics for Harbor Country (Michigan between Indiana line and Warren Dunes west of I-94) showed strong improvement both when I compared June 16 through September 15 of 2016 to 2015, and when I compared June 16 through September 15 of 2016 to 2012. So naturally I wanted to find out what had happened in the Indiana lakefront (on the Lake Michigan side of U.S.12 from the Steel Mill to the Michigan state line) for the same time periods.

Here are the numbers for the three month periods for each year in the Indiana lakefront.

Year 6/16 To 9/15	# Res. sold	Aver Price	Med Price	\$Vol millions	Aver. Days On Mar
2012	41	\$446k	\$345k	\$18.3	108
2013	29	\$389k	\$385k	\$11.3	140
2014	42	\$490k	\$324k	\$20.6	158
2015	43	\$416k	\$350k	\$17.9	146
2016	49	\$380k	\$360k	\$19.1	93

The statistics for Indiana are only partly similar to Michigan. And not nearly as dramatic as Harbor Country for 2016 versus 2015, but similar for the low point to the high point in 2016.

In Harbor Country, the 2016 versus 2015 number of solds increased 24%; Indiana number of solds improved 14%. \$Volume increased 31% in Harbor Country, while in Indiana it was just 6%. Days on the market in Indiana was similar to Michigan: 83 days down from 94 days in 2015 for Michigan. In Indiana it was 93 days, but way down from 146 days in 2015.

2013 was the low in Indiana; 2012 and 2013 were both low in Michigan. The Indiana drop in 2013 was dramatic, as you can see. 2014 started the recovery in both areas.

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## Final Slate of Indiana Bicentennial Torch Run Bearers Revealed

The Indiana Bicentennial La Porte County Committee has announced the final slate of torchbearers who will help celebrate the state's bicentennial Saturday, Oct. 8.

Planned by the Indiana Office of Tourism Development, the relay is patterned after the Olympic Torch Relay and is designed to connect Hoosiers across the state and nation with their home state during the bicentennial year. The route will travel through Rolling Prairie, La Porte and Michigan City. A mid-day celebration is from noon to 4 p.m. at Younger Life Plaza 618 in La Porte and ends with an event from 5 to around 9 p.m. at Washington Park's North Point Pavilion.

The remaining torchbearers are:

- **Randy Novak** — Having lived in La Porte County since childhood, he has volunteered and supported various causes and public service. A 2012 Leadership La Porte County graduate, he has served 30 years with Michigan City Fire Department and today is its chief. He also is a La Porte County councilman and a licensed real estate broker since 1998. 
- **Dennis Siddel** — Dedicated to helping children, Siddel has coached girls and boys t-ball, girls softball and boys baseball. He was Rolling Prairie Baseball Association president, and this past season helped coach his grandson's t-ball team. Having the most far-reaching impact is his work with the Deserving Children Roofsit, which helps provide a good Christmas to deserving children in La Porte County. Many also know him as the general manager at the local radio station. 
- **Steven Teter** — The 1974 La Porte High School graduate is a past member of the La Porte Jaycees and La Porte Elks Club, and a past volunteer fundraiser for the La Porte County Family YMCA. He is a CNC machinist/tool and die maker at Untied Tool & Engineering, Mishawaka. 
- **Tom Wheatbrook** — Following in his father's footsteps, Wheatbrook joined the Kankakee Township Volunteer Fire Department as soon as he was old enough, serving for about 40 years and for almost 30 years was assistant chief or chief. He also worked at Wheatbrook Home Center — owned by his family — his entire life. He was active in many organizations, including the Rolling Prairie Business and Community Association and with his church. 





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## Harvest & Wine Fest

This time of year, New Buffalo Business Association looks to its 11th Harvest & Wine Festival as a way to bring families back to the area for Columbus weekend and celebrate the changing seasons.

The free one-day event, set for noon to 10 p.m. EDT Saturday, Oct. 8, at Lions Beachfront Park, features live music, wine/beer tastings, local cuisine, local artists, crafts, clothing and jewelry.

Tastings and wine by the glass are available from more than 12 regional wineries, along with six craft brews and six hard ciders from wineries. Participants include: 12 Corners Vineyards; Baroda Founders Wine Cellar; Domaine Berrien Cellars; Free Run Cellars; Lazy Ballerina Winery; Round Barn Winery; Tabor Hill Winery; Lemon Creek Winery; Warner Vineyards; Burgdorf's Winery; Cody Kresta Vineyard and Winery; White Pine Winery; Crane's Pie Pantry Restaurant & Winery; Blake's Hard Cider Co.; Round Barn Brewery; and Tapestry Brewing.

The children's area, sponsored by New Buffalo Arts Council, includes pumpkin painting, face painting and other activities. Free horse-drawn hayrides will be available throughout New Buffalo.

The fest also includes more than 40 vendors from around the region selling art, jewelry, soaps and handmade clothing. Food vendors include barbecue, pizza, sliders, kettle corn, English toffee and handmade marshmallows.

New to the event is a 5K Run/Walk, Harvest & Wine Hustle. The run starts at 8 a.m. EDT at the New Buffalo Public Beach and winds through the area's beachfront houses in the area. A signup fee is involved.

The music lineup is (all times Eastern):

- Hired Hands — noon.
- The Newports — 2 p.m.
- Wysiwig Band — 4 p.m.
- Slim Gypsy Baggage — 6 p.m.
- Dixie Crush — 8 p.m.

The cost is a \$5 donation, while children 12 and younger are free. Visit [newbuffalo.org](http://newbuffalo.org), [facebook.com/newbuffalo](https://www.facebook.com/newbuffalo) or call (888) 660-6222 for more details.



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## Virtuoso Showcase

Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra will showcase pieces from Eastern Europe, and joined by trumpet soloist Jose Sibaja in Arutunian's "Trumpet Concerto," at 4 p.m. EDT Sunday, Oct. 9, at Howard Performing Arts Center, Berrien Springs, Mich.

The program also includes Dvorák's "Slavonic Dances Opus 46 1-4," Liszt's "Hungarian Rhapsody No. 2," Al Hirt's "Flight of the Green Hornet" and Kodály's "Dances of Galánta."

Sibaja is an acclaimed Costa Rican trumpet player with worldwide audiences and broadcast media in the classical, Latin, jazz and pop genres. His career ranges from international appearances as an orchestral soloist with Springfield Symphony Orchestra, *Orquesta Sinfónica Venezuela* and *Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Costa Rica* to worldwide tours with Ricky Martin for the "Vuelve" and "Living la Vida Loca" tours. He currently plays lead trumpet with the Boston Brass.

Single tickets in Zone A are \$37 for adults, \$32 for seniors 65 and older and \$5 for full-time students 21 or younger. Zone B tickets are \$20 for adults and \$5 for full-time students 21 or younger.

Pre-concert conversations, held one hour before the performance with Music Director Robin Fountain and guest artists, offer insight into the composers, context of the music and hints of what to expect. A post-concert reception is held in the lobby.

Howard Performing Arts Center is located at Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Mich. Contact the symphony office at (269) 982-4030 or visit [www.smso.org](http://www.smso.org) for more details.



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## Driving on All Four Wheels

by Kevin Scott

I think we can all agree cars drive best with four wheels. Right?

What if I told you that with health and wellness, we work just like cars. We have four main pillars, or wheels, that if working in sync can drive us closer to any goal we would like to

achieve. However, if one of these tires is flat, or if we don't focus our attention on it, we can quickly steer off course. Possibly for good.

So, what are the four wheels of fitness?

The first is nutrition. You have heard the sayings "abs are built in the kitchen" or "you can't outlift a bad diet." Both are true because no matter how hard you work in the gym, if you head out afterward and grab a fast food burger, your results will suffer.

Granted, we all must stay sane, and that is why the good Lord invented cheat meals: meals that are rewards for stringing together several good meals of healthy eating. Using tools like MyFitnessPal and reading labels when you purchase groceries can help keep this wheel straight and aimed in the right direction.

Next, we have strength training. Many people who come to a gym have the misconception that an arbitrary number on the scale is the almighty goal. By this, I mean picking a number that may not even indicate a healthy individual. Body Mass Index is a measurement found by taking an individual's weight in kilograms and dividing it by his/her height in meters squared. Then, looking at a chart, it determines how healthy someone with the terms underweight, normal, overweight and obese.

However, this measurement doesn't take into consideration how you carry your weight. An example is comparing a 6'2 250 pound NFL lineman to a 6'2 250 pound average Joe. That doesn't work out. Now, according to the BMI measurements, they will be equal. However, if we take a look at body composition, the NFL player is going to have a much higher muscle mass to body fat ratio.

Bringing this long tangent full circle to the third wheel of strength training, individuals should have a goal of a healthy muscle mass to body fat ratio. Many people come into health clubs saying they want to get more "toned," but not look like a muscle head. Well, guess what? That is not going to happen. What is going to happen is that by strength training, you will build muscle, losing body fat and getting that TONED look so many people desire. So, making sure you are eating right, plus strength training, we have just built a motorcycle. But we are going for a car. Let's get to the next one.

The next wheel on our car is cardio. The most important muscle in our body is our heart. Without cardio, you will not work out that most important muscle. Traditionally, people hear the word

cardio and associate it with treadmills or running. While this is one of the great forms of cardio, it just scratches the surface. What is most important is that you need to find what cardio is best for you.

For example, if you have bad knees and need low impact, then you would turn to our friend the elliptical. People who enjoy biking might turn to the exercise bike or spin class. But if you dread getting on any of these pieces, you can opt for weight lifting. You can do this by taking shorter breaks between sets, or even no breaks between sets and, instead, substituting another exercise during your break, or supersetting. Other forms include the battle ropes, jumping rope, burpees and rowing machine.

Now that we have three wheels on, we need the last one to put all of these other areas into practice. This last one is maybe the most important. This one is what lies between your ears. You know where I'm headed?

This is your motivation. This is your driving force. Once you get this wheel on, you can hit the gas and go. And your motivation should not be general, but specific and close to your heart. You shouldn't simply say "to lose 20 pounds" or "to get healthy." Those types of goals are everyone's goals. But, like I have written before, you need to find your why. The ever important why. The main reason you are heading out on your fitness journey. Was it a recent doctor's visit? Was it a family member who suffered an illness? Were you out of breath playing with your kids or grandkids? Did you find it hard to go up the stairs at work? Did you just get put on medication? Are you pre-diabetic? Did you just have a baby? Did you put on the freshman 15? All of these things trigger something inside you that says, "That's it. I'm making a change."

But what are you going to do about it this time?

Once that trigger goes off, how are you going to react? I urge you to think of these four pillars, these four wheels. Think about what your goals are and what they mean to you. Plan out a course of action that touches on all of these. And don't try to tackle the whole world out of the gate. You will set yourself up for failure. Put something attainable in all four spots, then keep adding to it.

Remember, exercise is an investment in your most precious possession. Your body. Take care of it.

Contact Kevin at [kevinthomasscott00@gmail.com](mailto:kevinthomasscott00@gmail.com)

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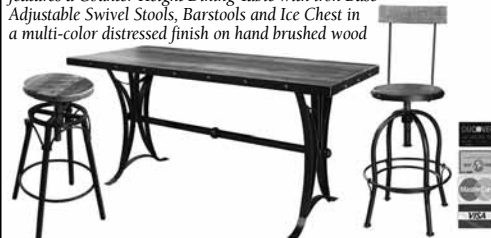
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## Marching Band Takes First Place



Michigan City High School's Wolf Pack Marching Band won first place in its division at the Concord High School Marching Band Invitational on Sept. 17. Pictured accepting the award for the MCHS show "Ozmosis" are (from left) Guard Capt. Emily Glowacki, drum majors Cassie Mason and Hannah Moore, and Guard Capt. Hannah Tubbs. The band participated in the Plymouth Invitational on Oct. 1, and will compete against 10 other bands at the ISSMA Scholastic Prelims for Class A at Fort Wayne Homestead on Oct. 8. Photo by Tracy Klingner

## New Troy Flea Market

The New Troy Indoor Flea Market kicks off its 2016-2017 season earlier than usual, starting from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. EDT Saturday, Oct. 8 and 15, and continuing the second and third Saturday of each month through March.

This season, the market is under new leadership. When former director Janna Riley stepped down, Donald Heitsch and Mary Dawson Wayne — familiar to market regulars as former vendors — took the helm. Another change is the addition of Judy's Chicago Style Hot Dogs for lunch.

The market, admission to which is free, includes antiques, tools, crafts, books, memorabilia, housewares, furniture and locally made or grown items.

The market is located at New Troy (Mich.) Community Center, 13372 California Road. Vendors spaces are available for \$13 and include a table and chair. A reduced rate is available for those who commit to the entire season. Contact Donald at (773) 803-9773 for more details. Proceeds from space rentals benefit the center, an all-volunteer facility run by the non-profit Friends of New Troy.

## New Lubeznik Center Exhibits

Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St., will host "The Hunt-The Prey-The Spirit," an all-woman show focused on the portrayal of animals, with a reception during the First Friday Art Walk from 5 to 8 p.m. Oct. 7.

Featuring 11 artists from around the country, the exhibit is in the Hyndman, Brincka/Cross and Susan Block galleries. The range of work consists of vegan and rogue taxidermy, installation, sculpture, printmaking and drawing.

The exhibit runs through Jan. 7.

Also on display are local painter Hal Higdon's "Scapes" in the NIPSCO Art Education Studios, and husband-and-wife duo Chelsea Nix and Maria-no Cortez's "Project Simple."

Visit [lubeznikcenter.org](http://lubeznikcenter.org) or call (219) 874-4900 for more details.

## 4-H Foundation Theater Event

The Berrien County 4-H Foundation Inc. will host its Autumn Theater Event, "Pump Boys and Dinettes," on Thursday, Oct. 13, at The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich.

The country music tribute includes a regional cast, including 1995 River Valley graduate Teri Sue Wines Freehling. Proceeds benefit 4-H Club programs across Berrien County.

Doors open at 6 p.m. EDT with free hors d'oeuvres, a cash bar and silent auction, followed by the show at 7:15 p.m. EDT. Tickets, which are \$35, can be purchased at the door or online at [www.acorntheater.com](http://www.acorntheater.com). Visit [www.facebook.com/BerrienCounty4HFoundationInc](http://www.facebook.com/BerrienCounty4HFoundationInc) for more details.



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## Sixty Years Later: A Record That Stands Alone

by Matt Werner

*Editor's note — This is the final story in our series on local ties to America's favorite pastime.*

Oct. 8, 1956.

Don Larsen, a 27-year-old pitcher born in Michigan City crossed the chalked white line of Yankee Stadium in the Bronx, New York City, and took the mound against the Brooklyn Dodgers in Game 5 of the World Series.

Larsen was surprised to be there.

"They didn't tell me (I was going to pitch that day)," Larsen told *The Beacher* in a recent telephone interview. "I didn't know until I went to the ballpark. That's when I found out. It was surprising. I just hoped I'd do better than the second game I started."

In the second game of the World Series, he lasted just 1 2/3 innings before Manager Casey Stengel pulled him from the game. The Yankees lost 13-8 and fell behind in the series, 0-2. Larsen didn't know if he'd start again, but Stengel sent him back out there, which turned out to be a wise decision.

Over nine innings, 27 players stepped into the batter's box to face Larsen, and 27 batters returned to the dugout defeated.

But it wasn't easy. "I was nervous," he said.

To calm his nerves, he tried to get the guys in the dugout to talk to him. In the middle of the seventh inning, he'd already retired 21 straight batters, and he chatted up teammate Mickey Mantle.

"Look at the scoreboard, Mick," Larsen told him. "Wouldn't it be something? Two more innings."

But Mantle didn't say a word.



Don Larsen visits Michigan City in December 1956.  
Archive photo by Bob Wilkie

"He walked away from me," Larsen said. "He wouldn't talk to me. Nobody would talk to me. It was a little uncomfortable."

"The dugout is nice and fun. But it gets serious sometimes. They wouldn't talk to me later in the game because everybody's afraid of jinxes, but I don't believe in that. It wasn't easy for me. Too quiet!"

Larsen felt the pressure, but labored on. With his 97th pitch, he struck out the final batter. Yogi Berra ran out and leapt into Larsen's arms, creating one of the most iconic images in baseball history.

"It worked out pretty good, actually, for everyone," Larsen said.

The Yankees went on to win the World Series in seven games, and Larsen received the World Series Most Valuable Player award. It was the

first no hitter and the first perfect game in World Series history. Two months later, Michigan City merchants flew Larsen and his family back to Michigan City to honor him at the Spaulding Hotel.

"They had a little dinner for me. My mother and father were there. It was enjoyed, of course, a long time between drinks, you might say, but we had a good time. I didn't need all that help anyway. I'm going to have fun all the time! Why not?"

When I spoke with Larsen, he recalled his early days growing up in Michigan City.

"It was a regular neighborhood on the south side. Superior Street. We had fun. It was unpaved."

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Don Larsen (far left) visits with old pals at the Spaulding Hotel in December 1956. They are Eugene Jasicki, Bob Wilkie, Roger Schultz, Fran Nespo, Gus Gallas, Dave Lau and Eugene Skabinski.

They had the old car barns down in that area," he recalled. "The street car used to come by our place a long time ago. Everybody knew each other. We played baseball. Pickup games."

Boys from his neighborhood would challenge boys from other parts of town, such as the north side kids.

"The fields we picked were just there, and it was a little tough because we had no organization, but we had fun," he said. "Everybody wanted to play, and we didn't have the best facilities. Bats were broken, full of nails and screws. Anything we could find for a base. And we shared with the gloves and the baseballs."

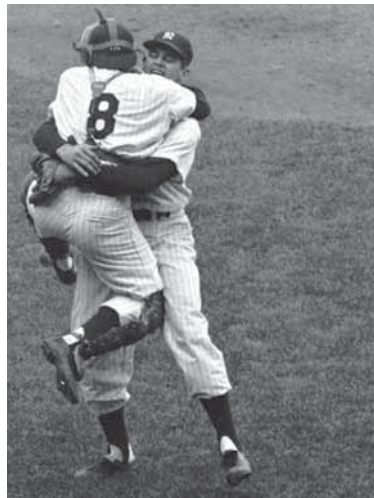
"The baseballs always started normal, but they never finished normal size. They were either too small or too big with a lot of tape on them."

He continued.

"There wasn't any American Legion baseball or anything in those days. We had a CYA — Catholic Youth Organization — later on that was a little better organized. A guy by the name of Joe LaRocco helped us. He was driving a Pepsi-Cola truck, and he took a lot of time out to help us kids. He was a pretty good guy with us."

The lakefront, he said, "was the best place to go. They had the zoo out there and everything. It was wonderful. The sand dunes — it was good sand. We did tobogganing and beaching, fishing and frogging — we did it all."

"I shoveled snow and picked berries — made enough money to buy comic books and popsicles," he



Yogi Berra leaps into Don Larsen's arms, creating one of the most iconic images in baseball history.

said. Larsen attended Jefferson School and started at Elston High School, but then his family moved to San Diego mid-school year when his dad got a job working on military aircraft bomb sights.

"I was a better basketball player than baseball player in school in San Diego," Larsen said. "I made all-southern California."

But, he made his fame in baseball. To this day, it is the only

perfect game and no-hitter in World Series history.

"Did you ever think your record would last this long," I asked?

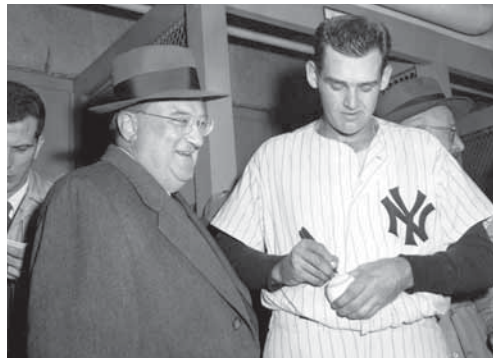
"No, it's surprising," he replied. "There are a lot of good pitchers out there. Managers don't let them go that far any more in the Series. They'd rather get that win, which I don't blame them. They got relievers getting paid a helluva' lot of money to do what they do. They put them in there and try to get that win."

Larsen, who now lives in Hayden, Idaho, retired from baseball in 1967 with 81 wins and 91 losses. He then worked in San Jose, Calif., for a paper company for 25 years.

"I did a good job for them. Making a good living and supporting the family," Larsen said.

As for his greatest accomplishment in life?

"The perfect game," he said. "It's still hanging in there."



Don Larsen signs autographs after pitching the no-hitter.



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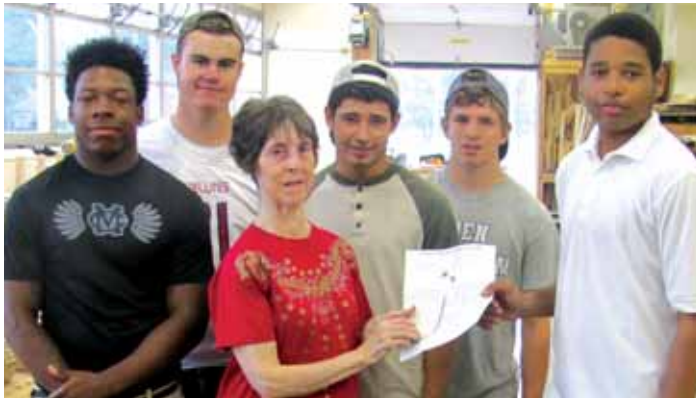
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## Construction Students Lend a Hand

Construction Technology students at A.K. Smith Career Center presented a \$4,411 donation Sept. 23 to Claudette Harrison, founder of "A Hand Up."

The non-profit, Michigan City-based group provides transitional housing and other services for female veterans and other single women. The A.K. Smith class has been helping the organization renovate a Buffalo Street home that will open next spring to serve homeless women.



Seniors from the morning Construction Technology class at A.K. Smith Career Center presented the checks to A Hand Up. Pictured are (from left): Aryuan Cain-Veasey (MCHS), C.J. Hawkins (South Central), Claudette Harrison (A Hand Up), James Hendricks (MCHS), Kannen Martinez (MCHS) and Scott Orzech (MCHS).

Construction Technology teacher Dick Bucher said his students were set to participate in the Homeward Bound Epic Shopping Cart Walk on Sept. 17 to support A Hand Up, but bowed out due to last-minute conflicts.

"We knew the most important aspect of the shopping cart event was fundraising," Bucher said, "and the students didn't want to let that go."

Students received a large donation from Road Sprinklerfitters, a pipefitters union, but the majority of the funds were raised through individual donors. The 29 students in the class attend high schools from across La Porte County, including Michigan City High School. They expected to collect another \$600 the following week, raising the pledges collected to just more than \$5,000.

Harrison said the donation will be earmarked for the building fund, purchasing windows and other supplies for renovation projects the students are assisting with, including a closet and the basement ceiling. Visit [www.ahandup.us](http://www.ahandup.us) for more details.

## Indiana Dunes State Park

*The following programs are offered:*

### Saturday, Oct. 8

#### • 10 a.m. — Fall Birding.

Meet at the Nature Center for a 60-minute stroll searching for late migrating warblers, sparrows and early winter finches. Take binoculars, or borrow a pair from the park.

#### • 2 p.m. — Dunes through Four Seasons.

View the changing seasons during a 45-minute slide show at the Nature Center.

#### • 5 to 8 p.m. — Twilight: A Photography Open House.

Local photographer Jesse Meyer will showcase his view of the dunes after dark in the month-long exhibit. The program is part of the 2016 Arts in the Parks series.

### Sunday, Oct 9

#### • 10 a.m. — Peak Fall Color from Mount Tom.

Meet at the campground shelter for the moderate, 60-minute jaunt to experience the view from atop Mount Tom.

#### • 2 p.m. — Just a Few Furs.

Learn about the variety of dunes critters during the interactive 45-minute program at the Nature Center.

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

## Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

*The following programs are available:*

#### • A free Great Lakes concert by singer-songwriter Lee Murdock at 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 8, at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.

Murdock has been performing folk music for more than three decades throughout the Great Lakes region. The concert is part of the year-long celebration of Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore's 50th anniversary and the National Park Service centennial.

#### • Parents and toddlers can participate in the Nature Tots program from 10 a.m. to noon Wednesday, Oct. 12, at the Paul H. Douglas Center.

Children 2-4 will learn about nature through a ranger-led story time, crafts and outdoor play.

*The Visitor Center is at 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. The Paul H. Douglas Center is on Lake Street in Gary. Call (219) 395-1882 for more information.*

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## Duneland Weavers Guild

Duneland Weavers Guild meets at 10 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 8, at Westchester Public Library Annex, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

After Show 'n Tell, Priscilla Lynch will present "Painting with Wool," followed by a workshop. Visit [dunelandweaversguild.org](http://dunelandweaversguild.org) for more details.

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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](mailto:drew@thebeacher.com)



## Clash of the Lumberjacks

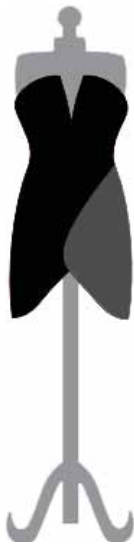
The first-time event at Hesston Steam Museum on Sept. 24-25 lived up to its title, with lumberjacks Tom and Wil of Ketchikan, Alaska, providing spectacular feats for the crowds. The events in order of performance were the single buck, ax throw, spring board chop, hot saw, speed climb and log roll. Photos by Paul Kemiell











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## Westchester Public Library

*The following programs are available:*

- **Bits & Bytes series, Spooky 3-D Design, from 1 to 3 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 6, in the Thomas Library Serials/Automation Department, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.**

Registration is required by visiting or calling the IT Department at (219) 926-7696, or registering at [www.wpl.lib.in.us](http://www.wpl.lib.in.us). Click on the Bits & Bytes link.

- **Teen Library Council from 4 to 5 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 6, in the Thomas Library Bertha Wood Meeting Room.**

Teens in grades 6-12 can recommend library programs, books and other programs for Teen Services. Community service hours are available.

- **Chesterton Writing Group from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 6, in the Thomas Library Bertha Wood Meeting Room.**

The group is open to adult writers – fiction or nonfiction — of all levels, whether published or unpublished. Attendees share their work and learn about publishing.

- **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.

- **Teen Movie Night: “X Men: Apocalypse” at 5 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 8, at the Library Service Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.**

The movie is rated PG-13. Free popcorn will be available.

- **Bifocal Bookies at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 11, at Hageman Library.**

The focus is Kim van Alkemade’s “Orphan #8.”

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

- **Mad About Mysteries at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 12, and Saturday, Oct. 15, at Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.**

Pat Klewer will review mysteries by Diane Chamberlain. Light refreshments will be served.

- **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 instructor 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.

**Classifieds work!**  
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## Box Factory Play Auditions

Auditions for "Shutting Down Christmas," written by award-winning South Haven, Mich., playwright/author Linda LaRocque, are at 1 p.m. EDT Saturday, Oct. 8, and 2 p.m. EDT Sunday, Oct. 9, at Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph.

LaRocque's plays have been produced in theaters throughout the United States. Her dramatic works are published by Playscripts and Art Age Publishing Companies. In addition, she has written numerous short stories for *Guideposts*, *Signs of The Times* and the *Chicken Soup for the Soul* series.

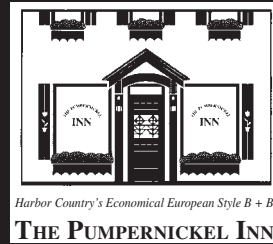
Box Factory performances are Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 10-11. Faith Schroeder-Smith is the director. It's preferred adults and children audition both days, but that is not required. The production team will look for strengths in vocal projection, facial expression and characterization.

The two-act play begins with Santa and Christmas Spirit meeting for coffee at a North Pole diner. Santa and Spirit are sad because children and adults don't seem to appreciate the Christmas season anymore. Both characters are ready to give up on Christmas, but then Belle the waitress comes over and reminds Spirit and Santa about how they saved a young family and their holiday spirit.

The play includes 11 characters, all of various ages and personality types. Santa, Spirit, Elf, Mrs. Crouch and Belle are aged from teen to adult. Mrs. Crouch has a hearing problem and is the next door neighbor to the young family, which includes three children of elementary school age. Their character names are Travis, Trent and Tara. Their parents are Tommy and Laurie.

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## Fall FOL Book Sale

The Friends of Westchester Public Library needs volunteers to sort materials for its Fall Book Sale at 9 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 8.

Anyone interested should contact Julia at (219) 926-7696.

The sale is Friday through Sunday, Oct. 14-16, at Chesterton's Thomas Library, 200 W. Indiana Ave. It begins with a Friends Only Preview Sale from 4 to 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 14, during which Friends of the Library memberships will be sold for \$5 and allow entrance to the event.

The public sale is from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 15-16. On Sunday, all items will be sold for \$3 a bag.

Prices for newer and special books will be individually marked. A large selection of hardcover books will be sold for \$1 each and paperback books for 50 cents each. Children's and Young Adult books cost 25 cents.

Patrons donating materials for the sale should take them to the collection box in the lobby. The library cannot use damaged books or books without covers, smelly or water-mildewed books, textbooks or encyclopedia and reference sets more than 10 years old.

Proceeds from the sales are donated to the library and help fund supplemental and special programming, such as film series, children's programs, book discussions and staff recognition events.

## “Cookout with a Cop”

Purdue University Northwest will host “Cookout with a Cop” from noon to 2 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 12, on the Westville campus.

Local residents, students, faculty and staff are invited to the free event held in the center of campus at the plaza near the fountain.

The cookout is the latest in a series of meet-and-mingle events initiated by new PNW Police Chief Patricia Nowak to nurture positive relationships between the PNW Police Department and the campus communities and local areas they serve.

Visit [www.pnw.edu](http://www.pnw.edu) for more details.

## Lunch With the League

Leigh Morris and Jim Jessup of Better Government Study Group will speak at League of Women Voters of La Porte County Lunch With the League at noon Tuesday, Oct. 11, at Patrick's Grille, 4125 Franklin St., Michigan City.

Morris and Jessup will welcome questions from attendees. Reservations are not required. Attendees, who don't have to be League members, may buy lunch from the menu. Orders are taken at noon. Call Sue Webster at (219) 874-6809 for more details.

## Town of Long Beach Updates

Long Beach will offer large item pickup Monday, Oct. 10.

Republic Services will pick up large items along with regular garbage pickup. Have all items at the street's edge along with toters by 6 a.m. Do not discard concrete, tires, appliances with Freon, batteries, TVs, chemicals or oil paint. Latex paint only will be taken if the can is opened and the latex dried out.

Items such as carpet pieces, tree branches, pool liners or anything longer than 4 feet must be cut down to 4 feet, bundled or strapped for pickup.

Leaf pickup begins Oct. 24.

Also, the Street Department will spray for mosquitoes typically between 7 p.m. and 1 a.m. Sundays, Tuesdays and/or Thursdays, depending on weather conditions.

## "The Adventures of Prince Achmed"

Dan Schaaf will unveil his new soundtrack for "The Adventures of Prince Achmed," Lotte Reiniger's animated film in silhouette, as part of the Silent Film Series at 2 p.m. Saturday Oct. 8, at The Nest, 803 Franklin St.

The movie is the oldest surviving full-length animated film. It was made in Germany in 1925 and employed many of Germany's leading Bauhaus and avant-garde film artists. The story is based on several tales from "1001 Arabian Nights," including a retelling of the Aladdin story.

Schaaf's score includes narrative voice-overs by area actors, including Mayre Williams (Beverly Shores), Sandy Gleim (La Porte), Jeff Baumgartner (Chicago) and Jeff Schmidt (Portage).

The cost is \$5.

## La Lumiere Fall Visit Day

La Lumiere School, 6801 N. Wilhelm Road, La Porte, will host its annual fall Visit Day from 8:30 a.m. to noon Saturday, Oct. 8.

Parents and students can participate in interactive classroom sessions, tour campus led by current students and ask questions of campus leaders. Family members and friends can attend.

Register online at [www.lalumiere.org](http://www.lalumiere.org), by calling the school at (219) 326-7450 or by emailing [admissions@lalumiere.org](mailto:admissions@lalumiere.org)



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## Genealogical Society

The La Porte County Genealogical Society will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 11, at the La Porte Parks & Recreation Building, 250 Pine Lake Ave.

Guests are welcome. After the business meeting, La Porte County Historian Fern Eddy Schultz will present the program "Rest of the Story: Chapter IV," which is linked to the "Prominent People in La Porte County" display. These are individuals who have not received adequate recognition for their efforts. Included in the presentation is information about Kenneth Roger Larsen, Benjamin Franklin Taylor and Linda Parker.

The Society, in conjunction with Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St., will show John Hancock's "A Piece of Eden" at 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 30, at the library. The locally shot movie celebrates immigrants and La Porte County's apple orchards. Society members will be available after the film to answer questions. A week prior to and after the event, a display of books, maps, posters and artifacts relevant to the film will be on display near the library's child and young adult sections. The movie is the final partnered program in the series.

Both events are free and open to the public. Visit [www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~incigs/](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~incigs/) for additional information.

## ASL Club Silent Dinner

The Purdue University Northwest American Sign Language Club will host an ASL Silent Dinner from 5 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 6, at Culver's Restaurant, 3966 Frontage Road, Michigan City.

The casual event, open to ASL students and community members, is for participants or observers. Coffee, food and drink may be ordered. Participants are asked to use ASL only for conversation and to place orders. A student may translate orders into English for the server, or participants may point to the menu or write out an order. Children are welcome to attend with a parent or adult.

Culver's will donate a percentage of the sales to an ASL Club fundraising activity of sponsoring a child for deaf camp.

Contact Karen Donah, PNW continuing lecturer and American Sign Language coordinator, at [kdonah@pnw.edu](mailto:kdonah@pnw.edu) for more details.

## Barns of La Porte County

La Porte County Historical Society Museum's new photo display, "Barns of La Porte County," marks the culmination of 58 entries submitted by area photographers.



Winners in the contest are  
(from left) Kobi Stutsman, Linda Cromey and Frank Muller.

Trophies went to the top three winners. First place went to 13-year-old Kobi Stutsman, Granger, second place to Linda Cromey, Wanatah, and third place to Frank Muller, La Porte. Judges were County Historian Fern Eddy Schultz, art instructor Dori Huber and photographer Bob Wellinski.



Kobi Stutsman's winning entry.

"Barns of La Porte County" continues through November. The public is asked to choose its favorite of all the entries for a special Public's Choice trophy awarded in November. Ballots are available at the front desk. After the display is removed, the photos will become a permanent part of the Historical Society's archive.

The museum is located at 2405 Indiana Ave., La Porte. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Visit [www.laportecountyhistory.org](http://www.laportecountyhistory.org) or call (219) 324-6767 for more details.

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## Michigan City Public Library

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

• **South Shore Scribes at 6 p.m. Thursdays, Oct. 6 and 20.**

The writing group meets the first and third Thursdays each month.

• **Celebrate Our Birthday with Cake & a Kindle at 11 a.m. Monday, Oct. 10.**

Sunday, Oct. 9, is the library's 119th birthday. Monday's celebration includes cake, cider and singing Happy Birthday. Sign up at the circulation desk to win a free kindle. The drawing is at 11 a.m. Monday, Oct. 10. Participants don't have to be present to win.

• **STEAM Ahead Kids: Art à la Carte at 3:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 10.**

Participants design an autumnal wall banner.

• **Story Time at 1 p.m. Tuesdays, Oct. 11, 18 and 25, and 10 a.m. Wednesdays, Oct. 12 and 19.**

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.

## Fall Barn/Shop Hop

The second La Porte County Fall Barn/Shop Hop, which showcases six shops with everything from antiques and folk art to vintage, primitives and furniture, is from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday through Sunday, Oct. 7-9.

Included in the event are: Plain and Fancy, 5395 W. Johnson Road, La Porte; Barn Style, 2194 E. Indiana 2, Rolling Prairie; Fawn Run Farm Mercantile, 3883 E. County Road 700 North, Rolling Prairie; It's All About The Barn, 0744 E. County Road 900 North, La Porte; Prairie Farm Antiques, 4511 N. County Road 600 East, Rolling Prairie; and Freckle Farm, 1412 N. Orr Lake Road, La Porte.

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



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## Chesterton Art Center

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

• **Andrew Biancardi will teach a Beginning Acrylic Painting workshop from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 8.**

Biancardi will provide a broad introduction to acrylic paints, including the tools, properties and techniques used in creating landscapes, portraits and still lifes. The cost is \$40, with members receiving a \$5 discount. A supply list will be provided after registering.

• **Jennifer Martin will showcase Canadian artist Emily Carr as the October artist in children's classes.**

Carr was a Modernist and Post Impressionist artist who lived from 1871 to 1945. Children will study her landscapes, particularly her forests.

Children 3-16 (including home-schoolers) can participate and may start classes at any point during the school year.

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## La Porte County Parks



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

### Nature's Tiny Tots

Designed for parents and grandparents, explore nature with toddlers and preschoolers. Enjoy music, dancing, storytelling and, weather permitting, hiking.

The free program is from 10 to 11 a.m. Oct. 17 and 31 (come in costume), Nov. 14 and 28, and Dec. 5, 12 and 19 at Luhr County Park Nature Center, 3178 S. County Road 150 West. Call (219) 325-8315 at least one week in advance to register.

### Poochapalooza Halloween Dog Social

Dress dogs in costumes for the free event at 5:45 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 12, at Creek Ridge County Park, 7943 W. County Road 400 North.

Held in the No Leash Bark Park, contests include best homemade costume, scariest and best owner/pet combination. A minimum of five dogs is required. Pre-registration is required at least one week in advance. Call (219) 325-8315.

### Women Only Fishing Instruction

Women 18 and older can learn basic fishing skills during the free program from 9 to 11 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 15, at Luhr County Park.

Poles and bait will be provided. No fishing license is needed. Pre-registration is required by Oct. 6. Call (219) 325-8315.

### Mom and Son Dance — "Halloween Style"

The evening of friendly games, treasures, a costume contest, night hike (weather dependent) and light refreshments is from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 28, at Red Mill County Park.

The cost is \$15 per couple and \$5 for each additional son. Pre-registration and payment are required at least one week in advance or until full, whichever comes first.

### Parent & Child Discovery Days

The program includes arts and crafts, games and snacks. All activities are related to the topic. Programs are appropriate for children 3 to 8, with an adult required to participate. Times are from 6 to 7:15 p.m. at Luhr County Park. The cost is \$5 per child/per program. Pre-registration and payment are required at least one week in advance or until full, whichever comes first. The next program is:

- Oct. 26 — Halloween Fun (come in costume).
- Nov. 16 — Turkey Time.
- Dec. 7 — Let It Snow.



## Long Beach Women's Bowling

Sept. 27, 2016

### TEAM STANDING

	WON	LOST
1. Blue Shoes	10	2
2. Bitchin Bowlers	9	3
3. Alley Katz	8	4

### HIGH INDIVIDUAL GAMES

	SCORE
1. Dottie Brinkman	168
2. Cindy Beck	158
3. Tammy Vouri	155
3. Sue Labovitz	155
4. Carrie Alexander	151

### SPLITS

1. Celena Byrnes	3-8-10
2. Susan Oconor	1-2-8-10
3. Barb Macudzinski	2-7

### STRIKES

Cindy Beck 3 in a row

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



## American Red Cross

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

- Sacred Heart Church, 201 Bach St., La Porte, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 9.
- First Church of God, 2020 E. Lincolnway, La Porte, noon to 6 p.m. Monday, Oct. 10.

*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](http://redcrossblood.org) for more details.*

## Historical Society

La Porte County Historical Society, at a recent meeting, saw Fern Eddy Schultz present an Honorary Life Membership to Barbara Bass, who has supported the Historical Society for years.

Also at the meeting, board member Marty Corley presented the program "The Patch: Historical Roundtable of an African-American Community." Participants included former Patch residents Spencer Wright Jr., Allen Williams and Bennie Edwards.

Committee chair Bonnie De Wolf reported the Society has 444 members: 363 general, 18 patron, four students, 20 sustaining and 39 life.

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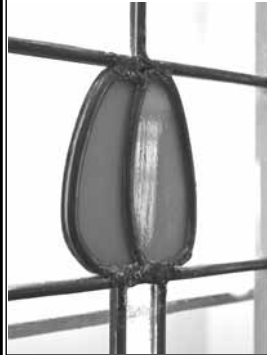
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### Prayer to the Blessed Virgin

(Never known to fail.)

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

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



### Novena to St. Jude

Holy Saint Jude, Apostle and Martyr, great in virtue and rich in miracles, near kinsman of Jesus Christ, Faithful intercessor of all who invoke your special patronage in time of need. To you I have recourse from the depths of my heart and humbly

beg to whom God has given such great power To come to my assistance. Help me in my present and urgent petition, In return I promise to make your name known and cause you to come to my assistance. Say 3 Our Fathers, 3 Hail Mary's and 3 Glory Be's. Publication must be promised. St. Jude pray for us and all who invoke your aid. Amen. This Novena has never been known to fail. This Novena must be said for 9 consecutive days.

## Activities to Explore

### In the Local Area:

**Oct. 7** — First Friday in the Chapel, La Porte High School Chorale, noon, La Porte Hospital Family Chapel, 1007 Lincolnway. Info: (219) 326-2333.

**Oct. 7** — First Friday Art Walk, 5-8 p.m., Uptown Arts District (downtown Michigan City).

**Oct. 7** — Opening reception, "The Hunt-The Prey-The Spirit," 5-8 p.m., Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St. Info: lubeznikcenter.org, (219) 874-4900.

**Oct. 7-9** — "Bye Bye Birdie!," La Porte Little Theatre Club, 218 A St., La Porte. Times: 7:30 p.m. Oct. 7-8, 2 p.m. Oct. 9. Tickets: \$15, students/\$12. Info: www.laportelittletheatreclub.com

**Oct. 7-9** — La Porte County Fall Barn/Shop Hop, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Info: fawnrunfarm@gmail.com, (219) 778-2809.

**Oct. 7-10** — Vickers Theatre, 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. *Now showing:* "Equity." Rated R. Times: 6 p.m. Fri.-Mon. *Also:* "Don't Think Twice." Rated PG. Times: 9 p.m. Fri.-Mon., 3:15 p.m.-Sat.-Sun. All times Eastern. Info: vickerstheatre.com

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

**Oct. 8** — Harvest & Wine Festival, noon-10 p.m. EDT, Lions Beachfront Park. Cost: \$5 donation, 12 & younger/free. Info: newbuffalo.org, (888) 660-6222.

**Oct. 8** — New Dan Schaaf soundtrack, "The Adventures of Prince Achmed," 2 p.m., The Nest, 803 Franklin St. Cost: \$5.

**Oct. 8** — Twilight: A Photography Open House, 5-8 p.m., Nature Center @ Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

**Oct. 8** — Teen Movie Night: "X Men: Apocalypse," 5 p.m., Westchester Public Library Service Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

**Oct. 8** — Free Great Lakes concert, singer-songwriter Lee Murdock, 7 p.m., Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. Info: (219) 395-1882.

**Oct. 8-9** — "Words in Motion and Color," 12:30-5 p.m. EDT, The Courtyard Gallery, 813 E. Buffalo St., New Buffalo, Mich. Info: (800) 291-9287.

**Oct. 8, 12** — Michigan City Mainstreet Association Farmers Market, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Sat./4-8 p.m. Wed., Eighth and Washington streets. Info: tinyurl.com/hhaajz2

**Oct. 9** — Peak Fall Color from Mount Tom, 10 a.m., campground shelter @ Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

**Oct. 10** — Celebrate Our Birthday with Cake & a Kindle, 11 a.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

**Oct. 10** — STEAM Ahead Kids: Art à la Carte, 3:30 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

**Oct. 11** — League of Women Voters of La Porte County Lunch With the League, noon, Patrick's Grille, 4125 Franklin St., Michigan City. Info: (219) 874-6809.

**Oct. 12** — Mad About Mysteries, 2 p.m., Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.

**Oct. 13** — Berrien County 4-H Foundation Autumn Theater Event, "Pump Boys and Dinettes," The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Doors open/6 p.m. EDT, show/7:15 p.m. EDT. Tickets: \$35. Reservations: [www.acorntheater.com](http://www.acorntheater.com)

**Mondays** — Codependents Anonymous (CoDA), 6 p.m., Franciscan Alliance-St. Anthony Health. Info: (219) 879-3817.

**Wednesdays** — Al-Anon meetings, 6-7 p.m., Franciscan Alliance-St. Anthony Health. Info: (708) 927-5287.

**Through December** — Michael Koscielniak's "Collages in Dimension," Purdue University Northwest Technology Building first-floor, north-study area. Building hours: 7 a.m.-11 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 7 a.m.-5 p.m. Sat., 7 a.m.-5 p.m. Sun. Info: (219) 785-5593, [jnjacobi@pnw.edu](mailto:jnjacobi@pnw.edu)

#### **Farther Afield:**

**Oct. 7-9** — Elkhart Civic Theatre ECTeam youth, "James and the Giant Peach Jr.," Elkhart Civic Theatre @ Bristol (Ind.) Opera House, 210 E. Vistula St. Times (Eastern): 7 p.m. Oct. 7-8, 3 p.m. Oct. 9. Tickets: adults/\$12, students/seniors 62+/\$10. Reservations: (574) 848-4116, [elkhartcivictheatre.org](http://elkhartcivictheatre.org).

**Oct. 8, 15** — New Troy (Mich.) Indoor Flea Market, 9 a.m. EDT, New Troy (Mich.) Community Center, 13372 California Road. Info: (773) 803-9773.

**Oct. 9** — Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra, 4 p.m. EDT, Howard Performing Arts Center, Berrien Springs, Mich. Tickets/info: (269) 982-4030, [www.smsso.org](http://www.smsso.org)

**Oct. 11** — Elkhart Civic Theatre staged readings series, "Come Back Little Sheba," 7:30 p.m. EDT, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 1732 Garden St., Elkhart. Tickets: \$10. Reservations/info: (574) 848-4116, [elkhartcivictheatre.org](http://elkhartcivictheatre.org)

**Oct. 12-14** — Actors From The London Stage, "Richard III," University of Notre Dame's Washington Hall. Times: 7:30 p.m. EDT. Tickets: \$25/\$12 for students, free/18 & younger. Reservations: (574) 631-2800, [dpactickets.nd.edu](http://dpactickets.nd.edu)

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Join our team! Miller Pizza By the Beach is taking applications at 1012 N. Karwick Road, MC. Full and part time. Apply within.

Long Beach Country Club is now hiring: AM/PM Banquet and Dining Room Server (must be 21, experience preferred). Must be a team player and dependable. Shifts vary depending on clubhouse needs. Pay ranging from \$9 - \$22/hour (availability dependent). Apply in person, Tues-Sat, noon-3pm. Or download and mail application: [www.longbeachcc.org](http://www.longbeachcc.org), 2309 Larchmont Ave., Long Beach, IN 46360

## **WANT TO SELL**

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(2 Stores) 11th & Franklin Streets, Michigan City - 219/874-3455  
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**Call (219) 840-4949.**

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## **GARAGE SALES, ESTATE SALES, ETC.**

**The Fall Girlfriend Sale**, your ultimate woman's resale clothing event, is scheduling appointments now through Oct. 7 to consign up to 30 items for resale. To participate email [whatsnexta@comcast.net](mailto:whatsnexta@comcast.net) or call Susan Vissing at (219) 861-6188 and leave a message with a few alternate dates and times you can come in with your items. Appointments are scheduled every 1/2 hour M-F, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Be sure to bring a fall coat, jacket, sweater or handbag to donate, with proceeds benefiting Samaritan Center. For more details ask for the "participation guidelines."

### **Shopping dates:**

Friday, Oct. 14, 6-9 p.m. for participants and friends.  
Saturday, Oct. 15 & 22, 10-2 p.m. open to the public  
Sunday, Oct. 23, Noon-4 p.m. famous 1/2 price day  
Saturday, Oct. 29, 10-2 p.m. second chance 1/2 price day.  
Long Beach Community Center  
Studio # 11  
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## **WANT TO BUY**

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

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Beachwalk Resort at STOP 7 has fully furnished homes, ranging from studio to 5 bedrooms available for monthly rent between Sept. 15 and May 15. Monthly rates \$900 to \$2,500, INCLUDES utilities, cable and Internet. Please call (800) 814-7501 or email [Julia@beachwalkresort.com](mailto:Julia@beachwalkresort.com) for more information.

**FOR SALE:** Encore Consignment Boutique, 815 Franklin St., in Uptown Arts District. All furniture/equipment included. Low rent. Info: (708) 372-6898, facebook @ Encore Consignment Boutique.

### **REAL ESTATE INVESTING**

**INVESTOR WANTED TO DEVELOP PRIME BEACH PROPERTY IN MICHIGAN CITY.** [sunterra@comcast.net](mailto:sunterra@comcast.net), 219-872-4446.

### **RENTALS INDIANA**

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

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

**Long Beach home for rent this season. Four bedroom, 11 beds, 2 baths, recent renovation and gut remodel, available July 23-Sept. 30. Near Stop 26 beach in central Long Beach. Contact Rick at Century 21 Middleton Co. at (773) 908-1969 or [remijas@hotmail.com](mailto:remijas@hotmail.com)**

**SHERIDAN BEACH:** Year-round, 1 BR, quiet building, laundry, off-street parking, no smoking, no pets, \$625/month, references required, utilities included.  
**Call (219) 879-2195.**

**WATERFRONT APTS** for rent in MC. Utilities furnished. WiFi/TV incl. 1BR \$875/mo., Sec. dep. Call Pete at (219) 871-9187.

**Beautiful, totally remodeled apartments for 7-month lease, Oct.-May.** Completely furnished, all utilities included (electric/gas/water/sewer) plus TV. 2BR/\$900, 1BR/\$850; Studio/\$800. Great location. Directly across from Lighthouse Place at 402 W. Eighth St. Rents in summer for \$110 or \$150 per night. **Call Darlene at (954) 816-7765.**

**Sheridan Beach 1BR apartment, three blocks to the beach. Available Nov. 1. \$600/month. Call (219) 814-7051.**

**Beautiful fully furnished ranch-style lake house in Sheridan Beach area. 3BR/2BA, galley kitchen, also has skylight, vaulted ceiling with bay window and a huge outside deck. Big family room with complimentary laundry room. No pets, no smoking. \$1,700/mo, includes utilities. Available Oct.-May. Call Bob at (630) 886-3986.**

### **RENTALS MICHIGAN**

**FOR RENT long or short term:** rustic family retreat, Michiana, MI, 1 block to beach. No smokers, no pets. All amenities, huge in-ground pool. (773) 870-0918.

**New Buffalo apartment, 1BR/1BA, large, open, second floor, no pets, no smoking. \$575/month (includes water). Call (269) 612-2889.**

**New Buffalo rental: 3BR/1BA, cottage-style home. Completely remodeled. No smoking, no pets. \$875/month. Call (269) 612-2889.**

## **REAL ESTATE FOR SALE**

**Lakeside condo in Michigan City. 7<sup>th</sup> floor, three bedrooms, indoor parking, swimming pool, whirlpool, sauna, exercise room. Price reduced to \$325,000. [rvmid2@email.com](mailto:rvmid2@email.com) • (708) 302-9116 or (630) 456-3887.**

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## Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter

**Girl Waits With Gun** by Amy Stewart (hardcover, \$27, in bookstores and online; also available as an eBook)

Rather a provocative title, don't you think? Actually, it's a newspaper headline. But provocative title aside, this is a work of historical fiction — the main characters and most of the events described actually happened. Join me in discovering the true story of America's first female deputy sheriff. It all began in 1914 in New Jersey...

Since the death of their mother, the three Kopp sisters — Constance, Norma and Fleurette — have lived alone on the family farm outside Paterson, N.J. Constance is the oldest, and at almost 6 feet tall and solidly built, the most intimidating. Norma is the reclusive, stay-at-home middle sister (*"Norma had all the girlish charm of a boulder..."*), and Fleurette is the very pretty, very spoiled sister. She loves theater, singing and dancing, and is a fine seamstress.

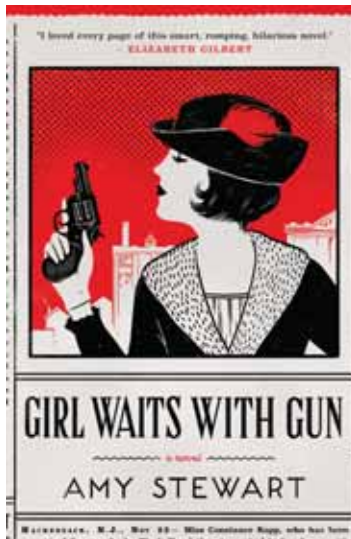
As they enter the city one day in July of 1914, one of those new-fangled automobiles comes roaring out of nowhere and t-bones the Kopp buggy. Horse, buggy and girls all go flying into the street, ending up in a heap. Thankfully, no one is seriously hurt.

The driver of the car is one Henry Kaufman, owner of a silk dyeing company in town. The haughty, self-important Kaufman tries to blame the buggy for getting in his way! The three men with Kaufman all look like thugs, but Constance holds her ground and tells him the buggy damages must be paid by him. She will send him an invoice. All she gets from Kaufman is derision.

After several letters to Kaufman are ignored, Constance decides it is time to go to the man's factory and deliver the bill in person. Constance's barging into Kaufman's office demanding to see him is an unprecedented act. Of course, it does not go well, and now the Kopp sisters are in his crosshairs.

This is where Amy Stewart shines in setting the stage: She gives the reader a clear view as to not only the physical features of 1914 life, but also the politics of the time when men ruled the country, and rich men ruled with an iron hand by their own rules. Women were almost invisible, and those forced to work outside the home often found factory work. Stewart brings up efforts by factory workers to strike for better conditions and pay, and how the owners hired violent men to threaten and beat up workers, cowing them into going back to these unsafe jobs and working in unbearable conditions.

It isn't long before a brick comes crashing through



a window at the Kopps' home with a note attached threatening the women. Then come bullets hitting the side of the house and more letters. The Kopp sisters soon find out the local police want nothing to do with their case. The sheriff overhears their story and takes the case under his jurisdiction.

As the threats and broken windows continue, even an attempt to start a fire in the house, Sheriff Heath sets guards around the house, but no one can be caught nor prosecuted. At this point, Heath gives the girls guns and teaches them how to shoot.

There is a side story about a girl named Lucy who works for Kaufman. Constance meets her after that ill-fated

meeting at the factory. She tells Constance of being seduced by Kaufman and having his baby, which was taken away from her. Can Constance help?

It is here that Constance, the narrator of the story, realizes her mother's teaching of dealing with the world by hiding away can't work anymore...

*"...the realization that we have to be a part of the world in which we live. We don't scurry away when we're in trouble, or when someone else is. We don't run and hide."*

Yes, it was a far different world the Kopp sisters lived in from 2016. It's hard for us to imagine what they went through, fearing Kaufman would burn their house down or follow through on his threat to abduct Fleurette. Especially when Sheriff Heath is the only one who believes in them and sticks by them until the end. Is there an end? Oh, yes. One that shows even though the Kopp sisters think they are alone in the world, there is one lawman willing to go the distance and see justice done.

This is a story with heart, humor and history. It sent me scurrying to the Internet to find what I could about Constance, and I found photos of both her and Fleurette. No photo of Norma has survived.

*"Well-written with sharply drawn characters and the occasional plot twist... It's a solid book, and Stewart's helpful notes allow readers to appreciate just how much of the tale is true."*— *Associated Press*.

Stewart is the award-winning author of six books. She and her husband own a bookstore in Eureka, Calif., called — no surprise — Eureka Books. *Girl Waits With Gun* was a national bestseller last year, and Stewart has written a follow-up, *Lady Cop Makes Trouble*, now available in bookstores and online. Visit [www.amystewart.com](http://www.amystewart.com)

Till next time, happy reading!



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**NEW PRICE**

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### 2903 Mt. Claire Way Long Beach • \$125,000

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### 4201 Hillside Trail, Michiana, MI \$525,000

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### 601 Lake Shore Drive, Sheridan Beach \$399,000

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### 3008 Northmoor Trail, Long Beach \$450,000

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211 Lake Ave., Sheridan Beach	<b>\$499,000</b>	16 E Mechanic St., New Buffalo, MI	<b>\$499,000</b>
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