



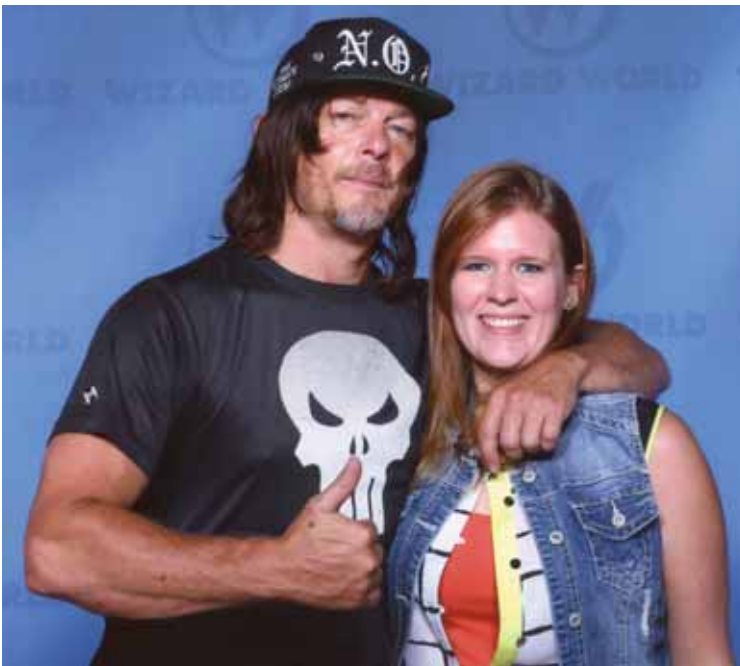
Volume 32, Number 35 Thursday, September 8, 2016

ONE FOR THE RECORD BOOKS

“Future” Cast, “Walking Dead” Star Highlight of Latest Comic Con

by Kayla Weiss

Editor's note — This is the latest installment in an ongoing series by Kayla Weiss to meet as many celebrities as possible at Comic Cons.



Kayla Weiss finally has her photo taken at Comic Con with Norman Reedus.

meeting James Marsters (“Buffy the Vampire Slayer”), Sean Astin (the “Lord of the Rings” trilogy), James and Oliver Phelps (“Harry Potter”), Carroll Spinney (Big Bird) and Tobin Bell (the “Saw” franchise).

This time would prove different. In previous years, I attempted to get a photo op with some of my favorite celebrities, but typically losing out to bad timing. Now, however, everything seemed to be falling into place. So many notable celebrities slated to attend: Carrie Fischer, Mitch Pileggi, Gillian Anderson, David Duchovny, Ralph Macchio and Sebastian Stan.

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Before attending my first Comic Con a little more than two years ago, my observation of people who attended these events either came from social media or the news media.

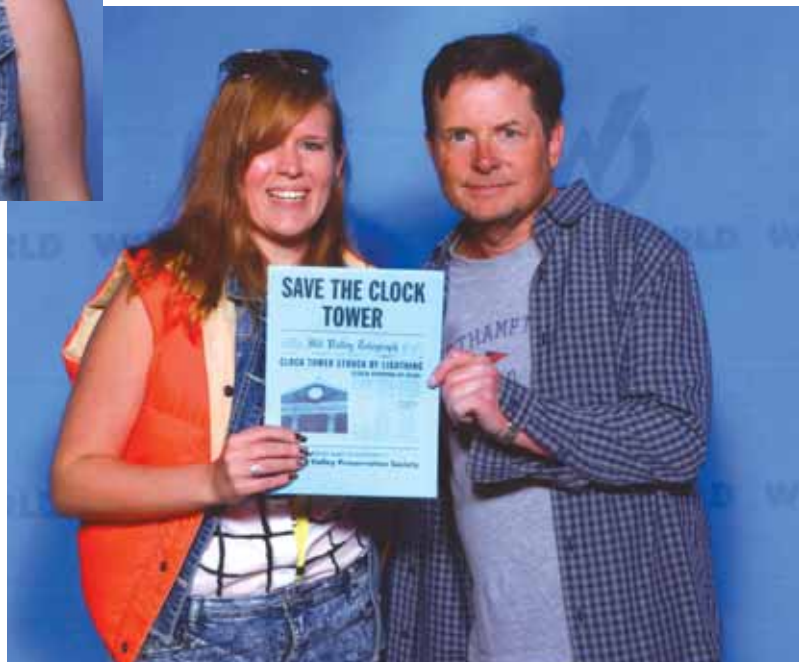
These individuals were depicted as:

1. People who dressed in elaborate costumes (true).
2. Nerds or geeks (not entirely true).
3. People who deserved to be made fun of (false).

However, when I entered my first Comic Con in March 2014, it exceeded my expectations.

I was hooked.

In my travels, I have had the pleasure of



A highlight of the Chicago Comic Con: a photo with Marty McFly himself, Michael J. Fox.

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RECORD BOOKS Continued from Page 1

I always treat myself to one photo op at Comic Con. With so many people to choose from this time out, I was holding out. I grew up watching “The X-Files,” so Duchovny was a backup. Then again, John Barrowman (one of my favorite actors from the new “Doctor Who”) was slated to be there as well.

But there was one celebrity who eluded me at previous Comic Cons.

Norman Reedus.

Daryl Dixon, himself, from “The Walking Dead.”

So, I waited...and waited. Suddenly, celebrities I never thought would end up at Comic Con were slated to appear in Chicago, including Reedus. I scooped up a photo op with him right off the bat, without the slightest hesitation.

Easy. I was done and ready for Comic Con.

Or so I thought.

A week or so later, I checked the Chicago Comic Con website to make sure Reedus hadn't canceled again this year – the unfortunate result last year. I was surprised to discover not only that he had not, but also added more photo op sessions. In ad-

dition, three new celebrities were added: Michael J. Fox, Christopher Lloyd and Lea Thompson from the “Back to the Future” trilogy, one of my favorite movies of all time.

So, I scooped up a photo op with Lloyd and the DeLorean right away. How could I not? Doc Brown with the DeLorean? Again, easy. At that point, Fox was only available for photo ops through a special VIP package priced at \$500. Ouch! Impossible... until a week before the convention and Fox was suddenly available for photos outside the VIP packages.

This was going to be one of the biggest, best conventions ever...and one of the longest.

To make it on time to my photo op with Fox — one of the first of the day — I needed to catch the 5:20 a.m. train into Chicago. To make my photo op with Lloyd and the DeLorean, I would need to stay until 6:30 p.m. It would be a long day, but that's OK. There was plenty to see and do, and three others with me wanted to see everything there.

The day began by being herded through line after line just to arrive onto the show floor, which wouldn't open until 10 a.m. Once that happened, we were quickly ushered to the photo area to await our brief moments with Fox. I was anxious. My little cousin, Hunter, was anxious...to go Lego shopping.

Dressed in jeans and an orange puffer vest, I killed time in line by putting in my contact lenses and applying a bit of eye makeup so I didn't resemble a zombie version of Marty McFly. I didn't want to scare the poor guy. The first thing we were told upon crossing through the red curtains: No shaking hands with Mr. Fox. No hugs, no gifts, no touching, keep moving. Understandable enough. All I wanted was to hold the “Save the Clocktower” flyer I'd printed off and take my photo with *the* Marty McFly.

Fox was all smiles, despite the early hour and immense amount of people filtering past him. When I held up the flyer, he got so excited, wanting to hold it, too, grabbing onto it, despite the tremor in his hands. For those few moments, I was in the presence of one



Kayla poses with Christopher Lloyd and the DeLorean in front of a replica of the movie's famous clocktower.

of my favorite actors. It was incredibly exciting and worthwhile, especially when I learned all proceeds from the photo ops, autographs and packages with the "Back to the Future" cast went to the Fox Foundation for Parkinson's.

As soon as I picked up my photo, I filtered back downstairs to rejoin the group. It wasn't hard to find them. Hunter wanted Legos, and the Lego booth was near the entrance to the show floor. Entering the area, I saw, for the briefest moment, R2-D2 cutting through the hoards of people. I wanted desperately to find him and snap a quick photo, but he was gone.

For the next few hours, we filtered through the show floor booths, taking in everything shoved in front of our faces. There was so much. It was like sensory overload. There were so many booths, most of which sell vintage comic books, rare action figures and pop vinyl figures. I was most interested in the artists, but Hunter wanted to find more Legos, so we went on the hunt for more Legos.



An artist in Artist's Alley creates super hero art in front of fans.

After a quick refuel, including eating a slice of pizza, the four of us continued on. Hunter wanted to see more before he and his mom, Lisa, left for the day, slated to catch an earlier train out of the city, leaving my boyfriend, Jeff, and I at Comic Con for a while.

While waiting for my photo with Reedus — scheduled right before the one with Lloyd — Jeff and I wandered through an area called Artists' Alley, where people set up booths with their handmade items — everything from paintings, to caricatures, to jewelry, to leather bound journals, to hand-

Continued on Page 4

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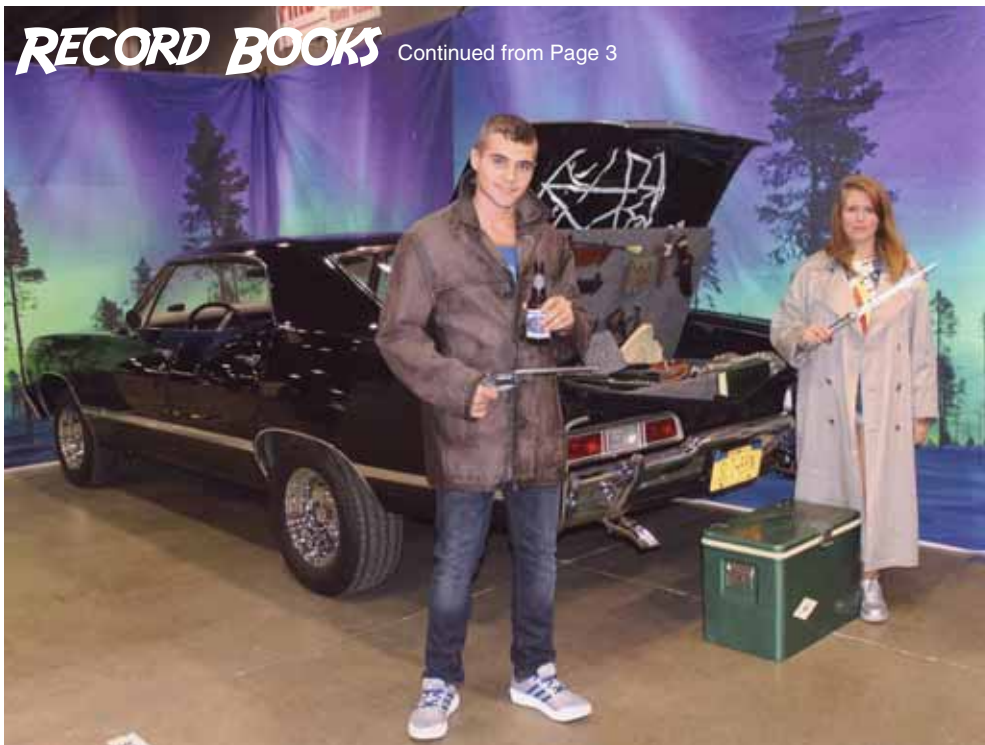
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RECORD BOOKS

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Kayla Weiss and Jeff Gifford dress as Castile and Dean from "Supernatural," posing with the 1967 Chevy Impala driven in the TV show.

stitched silk corsets, to coffee mugs. There was so much to see. So many artists do what they love. Even tattoo artists were there, ready to give someone some ink. The other booths, the ones with toys and comic books, are a dime a dozen compared to what's in Artists' Alley.

Finally, it was time for head back upstairs and stand in line for my photo with Reedus. Despite being hungry and beyond the point of exhaustion, I was super excited. Reedus was just feet away.

Finally.

Finally!

Upon entering the photo area, I was surprised to see he wasn't wearing sunglasses, like he normally does when he takes photos at Comic Con. Even better. Finally, it was my turn. I was so excited, I couldn't stop smiling. He called me "sweetheart" and pulled me in for the photo – he was a lot stronger than I thought he'd be. A quick flash of light, and it was all over. Time for me to leave, collect my photo and dash across the floor to get in yet another line, my final line of the day, where I would get to meet Lloyd and have my photo taken with him and the DeLorean.

Honestly, out of my three photo ops that day, I don't know who I was excited for the most. I never could have imagined getting to meet them all at the same convention. I can't even begin to describe how many people in that line were dressed as Marty McFly. Not just the classic Marty McFly, but all different versions and variations from the trilogy. The only person in line who likely wasn't dressed as Marty McFly was Jeff. Pretty sure I was the only one who printed up a "Save the Clocktower" flyer.

The people running his booth were more easygoing than the others. The main difference was, the other photo ops were by Wizard World, whereas those with Doc Brown and the DeLorean were by Fox Foundation volunteers. It had been a long day. They no doubt were just as tired as the rest of us. Nonetheless, they were all smiles and kind words. They took their time with each person. When it finally was my turn, I wasn't herded like an animal. Everyone was smiling and happy. Lloyd was so quiet and just as sweet as can be, and completely happy to be there.

I knew going into this Comic Con, it would be one for the record books. I was right.

Indeed, the most exciting part of my day was meeting some of my favorite actors. Reedus was one I've been trying to meet for years. I'm sure he will be at other conventions...but the other two? When will they make it to another Midwest convention, or anywhere near here? Meeting Marty McFly, Doc Brown and Daryl Dixon — that's something I will never forget.

The next big celebrity I'd like to meet, the one I always keep my eye out for — is David Tennant, the 10th Doctor on "Doctor Who" and my personal favorite. Hopefully, he makes an appearance in the future.

Believe me. I'll be on the lookout.

(Visit www.wizardworld.com for more details.)



Kayla's cousin, Hunter, takes on the raptors of "Jurassic Park."



Posing with a 10th Doctor cosplayer is a Comic Con tradition for Kayla.



Rey and BB-8 pose for photos.



A "blue fairy."

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Polish Heritage Festival Returns to Friendship Botanic Gardens

by William Halliar

Each fall, as the days grow shorter and the night air carries a crispness that heralds the change of seasons, those of Polish descent in Michigan City begin thinking of cabbage rolls, *pierogi* and polka bands.

"*Polska*." The homeland, filled with traditions, celebrations and a history passed down through the generations.

This year, the Polish Heritage Festival is Sunday, Sept. 11, in the beautifully transformed Friendship Botanic Gardens (formerly International Friendship Gardens), 2055 E. U.S. 12. It is the fifth year of the annual gathering.

Plans have been in the works for months to make the celebration more meaningful and enjoyable than ever.

The day will begin with a bilingual Mass celebrated by Bishop Donald Hying of the Gary diocese at 11 a.m. under the flower-festooned canopy of the Symphony Garden. A choir of colorfully bedecked and enthusiastic young people will accompany traditional Polish hymns.

Those who have attended the festival in the past know the Mass is accompanied by a mouth-watering aroma that floats through the beautiful fall foliage. Hints of roasting kielbasa, boiling *pierogi* with fried onions and sizzling brats make even the most devout worshipper's stomach rumble and complain with anticipation.

This year, the meal, which starts at noon, will be served by "Polish Country Kitchen" at La Porte's Sacred Heart, with desserts and breads furnished by the ever-popular "Bakers Dozen" from South Bend.

To tempt your taste buds, a sampling of what's on the menu may be in order. There will be plenteous heaps of stuffed cabbage, sauerkraut, potato dumplings, cucumber salad and mountains of steaming cheese, potato, kraut and bacon/kraut/potato *pierogi*, to name a few.

The young people of *Wesoly Lud* will be on hand,



The youth of *Wesoly Lud* entertain the crowd at Polish Heritage Festival.

dressed in traditional, colorful costumes, entertaining with the folk dances of the people. This year, a second group, The Polish Highlanders of America, will add their joyous toe-tapping music to the festivities.

In past years, the E-Z Tones filled the air with rollicking polka music. This year, it is joined by additional players and has changed its name to the Ampol-Aires to reflect their new, bigger sound.

As always, there will be vendors offering flags, T-shirts, banners and various paraphernalia celebrating Polish traditions. A booth honoring the culture of Poland will be set up, with the inimitable Janusz Duzinkiewicz as moderator of all thing Polish. A beer garden will be ensconced under a festive tent, offering domestic and Polish beers.

A raffle, always a highlight of the day, will be held and a Polish Ambassador plaque awarded to the Michigan City resident who most exemplifies the spirit of citizenship for the past year.

For a taste of the colors, music, dances and cuisine of *Polska*, don't miss the 2016 Polish Heritage Festival. The family celebration continues with gusto until 5 p.m. Admission is \$5 per person, while children 12 and younger are free. Visit www.facebook.com/PolishHeritageFestivalMC for additional information.



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Michigan City Man Driving Force Behind Amateur Baseball Program

by Mike Einstein

Editor's note — This is the next installment in our series on local ties to America's favorite pastime.

Folks who stop by Victory Lane Auto Spa often comment on the eclectic array of items on display in the lobby. Voodoo Ride car-care products. Formula Yacht brochures. NASCAR memorabilia. Freshly laundered baseball uniforms.

It is conclusive proof of a mind and body in perpetual motion. The

guilty party? Tim "TJ" Jahnz, who's also known by his aliases: Dr. Buff and The Indiana Rubber Arm.

For nearly 45 years, Jahnz has forged a life for himself that has spanned auto and boat sales. He's also developed, manufactured and distributed automotive and marine-care products.

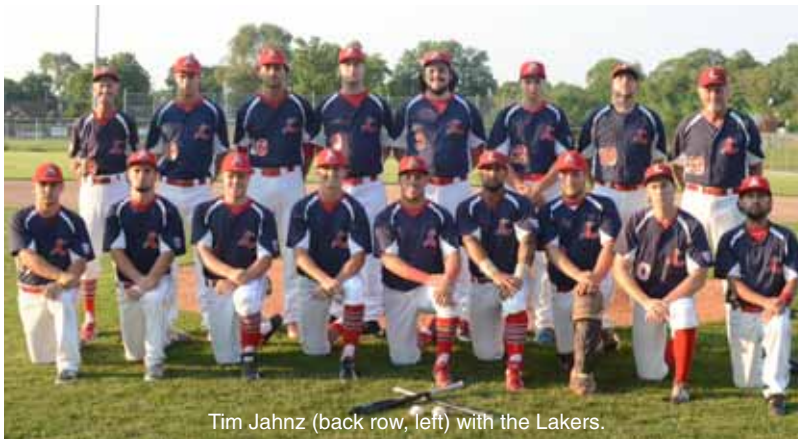
So what does a guy this busy do for fun? Donate nearly a thousand hours each year as owner, manager and coach of Indiana's oldest adult amateur baseball program.

Married for 40 years, with two children and two grandchildren, Jahnz's baseball pedigree speaks for itself. Following a cup of coffee with the Chicago Cubs single A affiliate in Iowa in 1974, he hooked up with the MC Stars, playing on and off through the late 1980s. He coached his son Ian's Little League team through 1994 and returned to the Stars as a player/coach at 49 in 2005, where he helped a local baseball legend, the late Al Shinn, resurrect a moribund program and restore it to regional prominence and a winning record.

Under Jahnz's tutelage, The Stars joined the regional Heartland League in 2006, emerging as league champions three of the first four years. He bought the Stars outright in 2010, registered it as a non-profit and changed the team name to The City Lakers. His relentless efforts culminated in last year's Regional National Amateur Baseball Federation Championship in Kankakee, Ill., and a second place finish in the 2015 NABF World Series in Battle Creek, Mich.

Nicknamed "The Indiana Rubber Arm" years ago by his players — a moniker befitting a guy who regularly throws a thousand batting practice pitches a week — his love of the game and can-do spirit set the tone for regular practices that begin in late March and fuel a 60+ game schedule from late May through July. His sole intent is to foster an atmosphere where baseball is still fun, and where teamwork and commitment pay off.

And pay off it does, with five of his players go-



Tim Jahnz (back row, left) with the Lakers.

ing pro (most recently outfielder Colin Willis) over the past several years. Jahnz also personally helped six other players obtain full-ride baseball scholarships to college.

Jahnz moved the team to Hammond's Riverside Park in Hammond this year after the longtime

home field at Diamond Cove on Indiana 212 behind Michiana Humane Society was no longer available, nor a suitable local replacement.

Nonetheless, he and the 2016 Hammond Lakers still fulfilled a 60+ game commitment amid 10 weeks that concluded with a disappointing loss in this year's Kankakee Regional and no return trip to Battle Creek. Still busy running a growing car wash/detail business, Jahnz managed to oversee ballpark and team care and maintenance: mowing the grass, chalking the lines, team provisions (including fresh fruit in the dugout and free hot dogs for everyone between games during weekend doubleheaders) and post-game uniform washing, not to mention scouting, scheduling, recruiting, coaching and managing.

Jahnz is in discussion with Hammond city officials to make the Lakers the anchor team in a co-operative new venture featuring collegiate/semi-pro hardball teams from the area next summer. His plan is to limit his on-field involvement with the Lakers and instead focus on making Riverside Park the amateur baseball destination for the region.

Jahnz is a man who works and plays 19 hours. Truth be told, he wouldn't have it any other way.



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The Path to Enlightenment When Exploring Art

At the edge of *The Beacher* universe is a planet of diamonds: Brauer Museum of Art. Located at Valparaiso University, it continually has shown outstanding artists.

This fall is no exception.

Nastiness, however, is not the first word that comes to mind when you think of art. However, the percentage of art that deals with the nasty or unpleasant is likely much higher than most think. From Dante's "Inferno," through Bosch's depiction of sin and hell in "The Garden of Earthly Delights," to Picasso's cry against the Nazi bombing of a Spanish town in "Guernica," art often confronts aching suffering.

The digital prints of Louise Witkin-Berg are another such confrontation.



"Praying Hands."

In her exhibit, "External Reflections-Internal Wars," the frightening is at first masked by beauty. Walking into the exhibit, shapes that flow beautifully and lighting that pleasantly moves from light to dark almost suggest a "romantic" mood. Moving in closer, the shapes become strange objects that almost can be revolting, as with "Praying Hands," where shapes of the body are combined with shapes



"Dante."

that look like intestines or some of the imagined creatures in Bosch's "Hell."

Another work, "Three Warring," urges the eye to move along, swan-like, until near the end at the right side are dreadful, pointed, snapping mouth-like shapes poised for battle. What to do with such art? The best idea is to respond with a question rather than hastily react. Although a quick reaction is normal, art most often intends to get beneath the obvious. So, a question perhaps emerges, "Why mix loveliness with pain?"

Another question arises. "How does that match up with my life?" As the viewer thinks about what the artist could possibly mean — given clues of shapes and colors — then refers to his/her own life, new vistas open.

Another piece appears to be self-evident at first. If it is, would that make it lesser art, with nothing deeper or new to answer? The active viewer's explorations and discoveries never end. The work is titled "Dante," and the first thought is that it represents

the hell he wrote about in "The Inferno." Is that all, that reference? Or, are there any new views

suggested by the shapes, composition or distortions? We've seen that this artist explores pain or some kind of nastiness in most works. However, this is

ART&ABOUT

Robert Stanley



The "True to Form" collection.

a much later work, 2011, compared to “Three Warring,” done in 1973, and mentioned above. Has the artist’s view changed? By surveying the entire exhibit, then picking a few works to look at in depth, personal awakenings happen.

In another gallery, sculptural works of great variety are shown. “True to Form: Works from Chicago Sculpture International” is an exhibit of 23 different sculptors. “Different” is the word here, a one-stop wide-variety experience. From a realistic bear to a slumbering pile of cast-off material, to lovely curving abstracts, this is a walking sculptural tour, without all the walking. The various works mostly summarize previous art movements, some pushing a bit to new ground, while the craftsmanship is high.



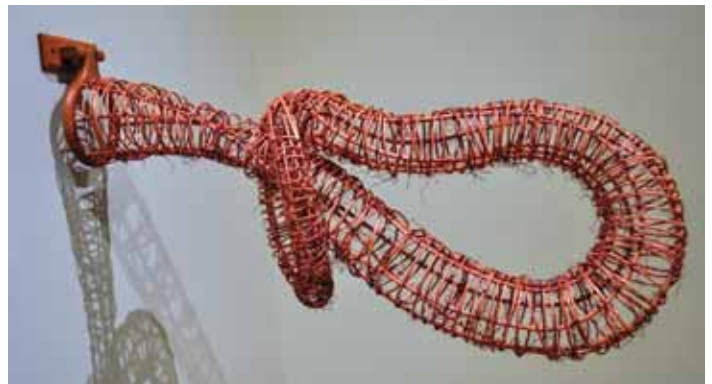
“The Conversation—Talking to Ourselves.”

Among those that give pause is one by a sculptor from *The Beacher* area, Susan Cohan-Lange. Her work here lights up the room, literally. “The Conversation: Talking to Ourselves” consists of two semi-abstract faces, with LED light ribbons. A striking piece, one wonders if the faces could have been more clearly enunciated, and why the light (the “talking”) goes from one mouth to another, with one strand coming from the back of one head just ending in the middle of nowhere.

There’s a path here to answer the questions: Use the traditional

principles of art, applying them to non-traditional works. One of the basic principles is that a work of art should be unified, but not so much that it’s boring: It is called “Unity with Variety.” Unity might be thought of as consistency or focus in shapes, color, texture, line, composition. In this piece, one can ask if the idea, often called “the statement,” is focused enough. Should the faces be clearer? Why the abstract border around the faces? Why does one light ribbon connect the two mouths, while the second just seems to lay there? Or are these clues to the artist’s statement?

Another important principle is that the idea/statement should not be trivial, but “deep,” or an extraordinary interpretation of something, a new way of understanding. How does this piece follow that principle? While some contemporary works tend to



“Figure 8/Infinity.”

ignore these principles, they have served many cultures for many centuries, reinvented or moving into new areas. It is likely these two principles, Unity with Variety, and Truth, will remain touchstones in deciding which current works are included in a future listing of great art.

Some of the other pieces that explore the principles at the highest level include Nicole Beck’s “Spectral Arc,” Donna Hapac’s “Figure 8/Infinity” and Mark Warwick’s “Family.”

These art diamonds, and more, are waiting for the next visitors to Brauer Museum. Stopping before a few, to contemplate the artist’s intent, personal questions and answers, will bring a few precious moments into life.

If You Go

Hours at Brauer Museum of Art, 1709 Chapel Drive, Valparaiso, are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday and Friday and noon to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. It is closed Monday. Call (219) 464-5365 or email gregg.hertzlieb@valpo.edu for more information.

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Troupe Plans Bicentennial Program



A Pokagon shawl dancer.

The Pottawatomie Native American Pokagon Band's Drum and Dance Troupe performs at 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 10, at Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St.

La Porte County Genealogical Society co-sponsors the program as an Indiana Bicentennial Legacy Project, and as a way to reflect the area's original inhabitants. Pokagon citizens have long sustained their culture and a connection to their homeland. They endure, in part, because of their Seven Grandfather teachings: wisdom, love, respect, courage, honesty, humility and family.

If weather permits, the group's musical traditions will be demonstrated outside, at the front of the library. If the weather is poor, the program moves inside. Call (219) 873-3049 for more details.

Friends of Library to Tour Lubeznik

The Friends of New Buffalo Library are sponsoring a private, after-hours tour of Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St., at 6:30 p.m. EDT Monday, Sept. 12.

The tour, led by Lubeznik Education Director Janet Bloch, will include works by Darryl Thetford, photography-based digital media and collage, installation art by Lucy Slivinski and minimalist paintings by Ezra Siegel.

Admission is free, but since the group size is limited, attendees should register at new.buffalo.fol@gmail.com or at the library front desk. Participants are responsible for their own transportation.

Upcoming programs in the FOL Community Forum fall series: include "Women Writers in Latin America: From Colonial Convents to the Nobel Prize" by RoseAnna Mueller on Sept. 27; and "Chasing Clouds: In Search of the Perfect Storm" by Chriss Lyon on Oct. 3.

Follow the facebook link at newbuffalotownshiplibrary.org or email new.buffalo.FOL@gmail.com for more details. The library is located at 33 N. Thompson St., New Buffalo, Mich.

Family Fun Day

A free, old-fashioned lawn party is the centerpiece of "Family Fun Day" from noon to 3 p.m. EDT Saturday, Sept. 10, at New Buffalo (Mich.) Railroad Museum, 530 S. Whittaker St., Suite B.

Guests can ride a train or participate in outdoor games. Hot dogs and ice cream will be served, while educational tours conducted by "old timers" are planned.

Call (269) 469-8010, email kwendt@newbuffalorailroadmuseum.org or visit www.newbuffalorailroadmuseum.org for more information.

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SMSO Kicks Off New Season



Illusionist Lyn Dillies.

Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra's latest season aims to celebrate "magic and wonder," its first concert, "Magic at the Symphony!," set for 7:30 p.m. EDT Saturday, Sept. 10, at Lake Michigan College, Benton Harbor, Mich.

Magical illusions will be performed by Lyn Dillies against familiar symphonic classics, from "Faran-dole" and Bizet's "L'Arlesienne," to selections from "The Wizard of Oz" and "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire."

The concert is at LMC's Mendel Mainstage, 2755 E. Napier Ave. Tickets range from \$20 to \$37, with students costing \$5. Visit smso.org for more details.

Lunch With the League

Michigan City Mayor Ron Meer will speak at League of Women Voters' Lunch With the League at noon Tuesday, Sept. 13, at its new location, Patrick's Grille, 4125 Franklin St.

Meer was first elected in 2011 and re-elected in 2015. Recent accomplishments include the Uptown Arts District, Michigan City Promise Scholarship Program and the new police station. He will answer questions during the program.

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 at (219) 874-6809 for more details.

Garwood Apple Fest

Now in its 34th year, Garwood Apple Fest returns with a host of family activities from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 10-11, at Garwood Orchards, 5911 W. County Road 50 South, La Porte.

In addition to craft vendors, the event features jewelry, ornamentals, horse- and tractor-drawn wagon rides, bakery treats, a gelato bar, apple and pumpkin picking. Bands perform from 1 to 3 p.m. each day.

Visit www.garwoodorchard.com for more details.

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Free Events Planned in Conjunction With Southern Shore Exhibit

This month, the art exhibit “Unbound and Unseen” opened at Southern Shore Art Association, 724 Franklin St. Artists within the two groups — “Unbound” and “Unseen/Seen” — are Connie Kassal, George Kassal, Linda Weigel, Susan Henshaw, Gregg Hertzlieb, Dawn Diamantopoulos, Ed Maldonado, Ginny Scott and Patty Schaefer.

The artwork encompasses either sculptural objects or 30x40 shadow boxes. All relate to the concept of image and text. The “Unbound” sculptures grew out of blocks of text, while the “Unseen/Seen” boxes reflect the artist’s reaction to the words “hidden,” “veiled” and “transparent.”

At 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 10, four of the artists will offer a series of free events open to the public. First is a fun audience-participation experience related to the “seen/unseen” concept, followed by a demonstration of reverse painting on glass. Reverse painting on glass requires a reverse in thinking. Instead of building up, you work from the top down.

Weigel will discuss her techniques in this medium, including how she uses heat to slump Plexiglas to create bowls and other curved surfaces. Connie Kassal will use her artwork to reveal how she creates a 3-D effect by layering painted glass. Then, George Kassal will explain how he created his photographic works in the exhibit. Sometimes, all of his effects are done in the



A piece by Connie Kassal.



Work by Dawn Diamantopoulos.



Work by Ed Maldonado.

camera. Sometimes, they are created by computer. At times, his colorful photographs don’t resemble photography at all.

The exhibit not only has sculptures in glass, but also in clay, paper and wood. The shadow boxes are sometimes sculptural, too. In her shadow box sculptural work, Connie Kassal uses the medium, itself, to create the experience of a particular word. For example, for her piece called “Unseen: Veiled,” she painted glass using interference paint. There are particles in this paint that cause the color to appear differently, depending on the angle from which it is viewed. From one direction, it appears gold, from another green. And, the image casts a shadow on the wall of the box. The image is hidden from different directions; hence, it is veiled.

Henshaw strikes out into the unconscious in her work. Using a white pen and black background, she begins to doodle, never knowing where the doodled image will take her. Hertzlieb’s quirky figurative paintings refer to history and science. Maldonado’s sculptures are simple forms that explore psychological impressions. Shape, color and texture communicate on an unconscious level in Scott’s and Diamantopoulos’s work. Schaefer creates 3-D images from normally flat, white paper.

Working in groups stimulates experimentation and exploration. Connie Kassal pulled the two groups together,

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Work by George Kassal.

over a period of several years, by asking a few artists to gather and share concepts. "For Unseen/Seen," the artists were asked to creatively



Work by Ginny Scott.

formance piece based on the disappearance of books on paper. From that, two more concepts using text quotations developed. And, sculpture



Work by Gregg Hertzlieb.

respond to those actual words using a large shadow box format. Many times, this was different from how the artists were used to working. "Unbound" first met several years ago and ended up creating a per-

became the vehicle.

("Unbound and Unseen" runs through Sept. 25. The gallery is open from noon to 5 p.m. Friday through Sunday.)



A piece by Linda Weigel.



A piece by Patty Mershon-Schaefer.



Work by Susan Henshaw.



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Trail of Scarecrows Contest

Taltree Arboretum & Gardens invites children in kindergarten through fifth grade to participate in its annual Trail of Scarecrows contest.



An entry in a previous Trail of Scarecrows.

Youth between 6 and 12 can create a scarecrow based on a storybook, and write an essay detailing how their scarecrow represents the story or character. Registration is free.

The entries will be displayed across from the Railway Garden Depot in October. Guests will vote on their favorite scarecrows, with the top three revealed at an awards ceremony

at 5:30 p.m. Nov. 1. All participants are invited to the ceremony for free.

The Trail of Scarecrows is open to school groups, community organizations, homeschool co-ops, churches and families. Groups must have a minimum of five children between 6 and 12 and be led by one adult. All registrations and essays are due by Sept. 26, with scarecrows due by Oct. 1.

Visit www.taltree.org or contact Programs Manager Ellen Kapitan at ekapitan@taltree.org or (219) 742-8147 for registration forms or more details. Taltree is located at 450 W. County Road 100 North near Valparaiso.

Door Village Harvest Festival

The 24th Door Village Harvest Festival is Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 10-11, at Scipio Township Park, 3501 W. Joliet Road.

There is no admission charge; however, there is a parking fee. All proceeds help improve and maintain the park.

Expect many returning favorites. Veterans of Foreign Wars, for instance, will host Saturday's opening ceremony to recognize all branches of the military. Another Saturday event is the Antique Automobile and Tractor Show and Parade.

Grandma's Parlor will feature demonstrations of handmade crafts, while Grandpa's Woodshed will demonstrate wood carving and wood working. Grandpa's Barnyard will include farm animals, while children can have their faces painted and ride ponies. The Collector's Corner showcases memorabilia ranging from military to agriculture. Many craft vendors are scheduled.

Bruce Johnson will narrate the Horse and Wagon Tours of History, driven by Tammy Heinen, on Saturday and Sunday. It highlights facts about Door Village, including the 1832 fort, Air Line Railroad and many local homes and businesses of the past and present.

Saturday morning will feature the annual pancake breakfast, while Sunday includes a pork chop dinner. A variety of foods will be available from local vendors at the food court, along with homemade baked goods from the Country Bake Shop, old-fashioned baked beans and ham and chicken and noodles.

Visitors can walk through the 1832 Pioneer Village encampment and Civil War camp, viewing reenactors dressed in clothes of the era as they share and demonstrate artifacts commonly used at the time. The Potawatomi Village will feature local people in traditional Native American clothing demonstrating life skills and historical artifacts.

Cripple Creek will perform country and gospel music Sunday. Other entertainment during the weekend includes Phil and Dustin Anderson, Home-made Jamm, the Good Timing Barbershop Quartet and Folk Grass.

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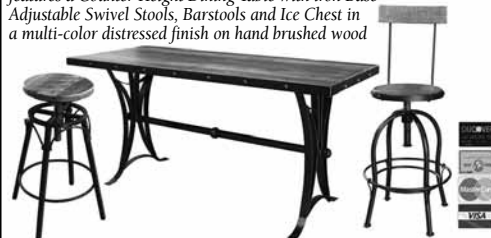
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As known by every Stephen King fan, and we number in the untold millions, Hollywood’s track record in adapting the author’s works can be exhilarating *and* agonizing. Exhilarating when Hollywood gets it right. Agonizing when Hollywood mucks it all up.

“11.22.63,” the eight-part mini-series of the writer’s sprawling tease of a thriller, debuted in February on Hulu and was just released on DVD and Blu-ray. It is a frustrating illustration of the exhilarating *and* the agonizing.

The obstacle for any filmmaker who take on King is that his tales exist in the realm of the supernatural. He creates worlds where bad things happen to good, and sometimes not so good, individuals. He asks readers to take leaps of faith, carefully spinning chapters so the reader’s imagination takes flight. Typically, Hollywood’s response is to literalize the frights with cheap scare tactics. For every cinematic standout early in King’s career like “Carrie,” “The Shining” and “The Dead Zone,” there was negligible garbage like “Graveyard Shift” and “Children of the Corn.”

As the author grew brave with age, the horrors he explored infiltrated everyday life: Death, domestic abuse, fanaticism, spiritual and physical incarceration. The emphasis being character, Hollywood now could do King justice. “Stand By Me.” “Misery.” “The Shawshank Redemption.” “Dolores Claiborne.” “The Green Mile.” “Hearts in Atlantis.” These films hold up with repeat viewings. By respecting King’s vision, justice was served.

“11.22.63.” was a test for Hulu — which primarily airs current and past episodes of TV shows — to see if it might attract viewers with original “event” programming. King, along with J.J. Abrams (“Star Wars Episode VII: The Force Awakens”), served as executive producers. Bridget Carpenter, a producer



Jake Epping (James Franco) and Sadie Dunhill (Sarah Gadon) attempt to thwart the assassination of John F. Kennedy in “11.22.63.”



Author Stephen King.

and writer boasting credentials such as “Friday Night Lights” and “Parenthood,” was the guiding force in adapting King’s work to the small screen: the perfect medium to afford enough breathing room for the writer’s 849-page book.

For the unfamiliar, the premise behind “11.22.63,” which had been rolling around in King’s mind since before “Carrie” (1974) was published, is a tantalizing “what if” exploration of John F. Kennedy’s assassination. What if you could go back in time and prevent a death that, for so many, marked the loss of innocence for generations of Americans. What would the ramifications be? Would life have turned out for better or for worse? That’s the dangerous Pandora’s box that lonely, divorced high school teacher Jake Epping opens after a dying friend coaxes him to enter a time portal in the back of his grease-pit diner. King’s variation on the old time-travel plot device is intriguing. Each new trip to the



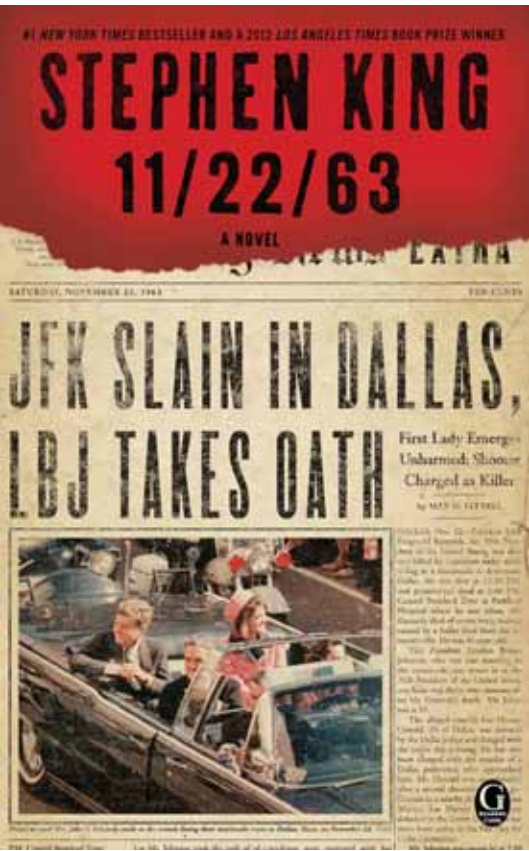
Josh Duhamel (left) co-stars as Frank Dunning, a small role in the book amplified to an entire episode.

past exists as the equivalent of a reset button. If you didn’t get it right the first time, simply return to the present and the past rights itself. The time traveler starts over again, and again, and again, until he or she gets it just as he or she pleases. Trouble is, the past does not prefer to be changed and fights back.

King is juggling quite a bit here: wistful nostal-

The Failure and Brilliance of “11.22.63.”

by Andrew Tallackson



gia (his beloved stomping ground), conspiracy theories and the socio-political climate of a country on the brink of change. At its heart, however, “11.22.63.” is a love story as Jake, posing as a teacher at a school near Dallas so he can keep tabs on Oswald, falls for Sadie Dunhill, the school’s librarian. Sadie has her own dark past, but she and Jake become two halves of one whole. They need each other, thrive off each other. Together, they represent one of the great love stories in contemporary American fiction of the past 10 years.

I don’t know Bridget Carpenter. She’s probably a very nice person. Smart. Well educated. Talented. All it took, however, was two episodes into “11.22.63.” and I was burning her name in effigy with coarse vocabulary unprintable in a family newspaper. Like “Under the Dome,” another TV botch of a lengthy King masterwork, “11.23.63.” cobbles together the bare bones of the author’s story before embarking on its own flight of fancy.

Characters briefly introduced in the book now command greater screen time. New scenarios come out of nowhere, limply replacing the deeper, more meaningful passages of King’s work. Much of what



Bill Turcotte (George MacKay, left) is another small character heightened to key supporting role.

Carpenter and crew achieve has a “what were they thinking?” air to it.

Casting James Franco as Epping is another head-scratcher...*at first*. I’ve feared for some time that the actor — once exciting in Oscar-nominated work like “127 Hours” (2011) — smokes too much weed with fellow hemp enthusiast Seth Rogen. Often, Franco’s performance in “11.22.63.” has a flat, unaffected feel. He’s there, but *not* there, never propelling the

drama forward.

Something invigorating occurs, however, once Sarah Gadon enters the fray as Sadie. A Canadian actress now appearing in the big-screen adaptation of Philip Roth’s “Indignation,” this is a star-making performance that transcends television to herald a major talent. Had Gadon been around during the 1950s or 1960s, Hitchcock would have scooped her up as one of his leading ladies. She exists on another plane from everyone else in “11.22.63.” Astonishingly beautiful, with deep-rooted intelligence, strength and goodness, she awakens Franco from whatever slumber kept him aloof. In the fifth episode, lifted directly from King’s novel and directed no less by Franco himself, the mini-series achieves a rare state of queasy terror as Sadie’s ex-husband (T.R. Knight) threatens her idyllic bond with Jake through a frenzy of violence. The episode has a dire urgency lacking in the early episodes. We realize as well that Jake and Sadie are not two people thrown together for the sake of including a love story. There is genuine chemistry — a pull, an electricity — between Franco and Gadon.

Their searing bond propels the series to the eighth and heartbreaking final episode, set on the day of Kennedy’s assassination. Carpenter is exceedingly faithful to King’s work, right down to the dialogue of the closing moments. The emotions amplify, escalating to the most powerful, lump-in-your-throat finale since “The Green Mile” and “The Shawshank Redemption.” Even as I write this, images haunt me, and may continue to do so for days to come.

The lesson learned from the finale is obvious. Stick to King’s story, and you deliver the goods. There is a reason he remains one of America’s most popular writers. The man knows how to tell a story.

King, in fact, is rather busy these days. His seminal ‘80s work “It” is making its journey to the big screen, the original incarnation a popular 1980s TV mini-series. His “Mr. Mercedes” trilogy is in the works for television. A plethora of short stories are in preproduction. Will they be any good? The answer depends on how true they remain to their source.

If not then, well, forget about it. We are in for a whole heap of disappointment.

Contact Andrew Tallackson at drew@thebeacher.com



Sarah Gadon, as Sadie, pulls the best out of James Franco's performance.

Michigan City Life — 180 Years Ago

From the arrival of the first inhabitants in 1832 to the time of its incorporation in 1836, Michigan City grew rapidly.

City founder and land entrepreneur Isaac Elston was an absent influence. He attended his business interest through Samuel Miller, his Michigan City agent. Miller definitely was a man of his times: pioneer adventurer, opportunist, entrepreneur, merchant, builder and, when necessary, a fighter. His early life was spent as a trader with the Indians along the shores of Lake Michigan near Fort Dearborn and the future site of Chicago. He married Elizabeth Kinsey, daughter of the first white settler in that area. He picked up arms to defend his new homestead during the Black Hawk uprising of Native Americans. Shortly thereafter, Elizabeth died and the widower found his new life and fortune in Michigan City. There, he became first resident and ultimately its second mayor. The location of his cabin is marked at Fifth and Franklin streets, and his grave can be found in Greenwood Cemetery.



While Elston owned the land, Miller sold it for him, so Miller might be considered our pioneer founder and town builder. He opened businesses and made it possible for other new settlers to survive by providing supplies. He built his own warehouse on the banks of Trail Creek, and by 1834 was importing salt and other supplies and exporting grain and farm produce. He established the first post office, too.

The rapid growth provided for incorporation in 1836. That same year, the fledgling city was visited and described by British travel writer Harriet Martineau. Her account was published in her book *Society in America*. She visited the United States from 1834 to 1836 and in her book vividly describes an adventurous stagecoach trip from Detroit to Chicago. Her travel party left Detroit on June 15, 1836, arriving in Michigan City six days later. The arduous trip included rain, mud and rutted roads so jarring, the travelers were forced to transport a dozen eggs by each one holding an egg in their hands for the entire length of a day's journey. The travelers faced near tragedy halfway between La Porte and Michigan City when they encountered a washed out bridge across the boggy land. The bridge was rapidly rebuilt to allow tentative crossing by heavy wagons. Finally, with clearing skies on the first day of summer, the party approached the young city on the shores of Lake Michigan with high spirits.

The following account is excerpted from Martineau's journal.



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"The drive was so exciting and pleasant, the rain having ceased, that I was taken by surprise by our arrival at Michigan City. The driver announced our approach by a series of flourishes on one note of his common horn, which made the most ludicrous music I ever listened to. How many minutes he went on, I dare not say, but we were so convulsed with laughter that we could not alight with becoming gravity, amidst the groups in the piazza of the hotel. The man must be first cousin to Paganini.

Such a city as this was surely never before seen. It is three years since it was begun; and it is said to have 1,500 inhabitants. It is cut out of the forest, and curiously interspersed with little swamps, which we no doubt saw in their worst condition after the heavy rains. New, good houses, some only half finished, stood in the midst of the thick wood. A large area was half cleared. The finished stores were scattered about; and the streets were littered with stumps.

More About This Series

This is the second installment by Matt Kubik in a series of articles describing the early days of Michigan City. This year marks its 180th anniversary of incorporation, which will be celebrated Saturday, Oct. 1, at the Heritage Ball. The event starts with champagne with Mayor Ron Meer at Barker Mansion and continues to Barker Hall at Trinity Episcopal Church for food, drink and live entertainment. Historic costumes are encouraged. Tickets, which are \$40 per person, are available at Eventbrite.com or by calling Barker Mansion at (219) 873-1520 or Barker Hall at (219) 874-4355. Proceeds benefit preservation of the historic Barker buildings.

The situation was beautiful. The undulations of the ground, within and about it, and it's being close in by lake or forest on every side, render it unique. An appropriation has been made by Government for a harbour; and two piers are to be built out beyond the sand, as far as the clay soil of the lake.

Mr L and I were anxious to see the mighty freshwater sea. We made inquiry in the Piazza; and the sandy hill, close by, covered with the pea vine, was pointed out to us. We ran up it, and

there beheld what we had come so far to see. There it was, deep green, and swelling on the horizon, and, whitening into a broad and heavy surf as it rolled in toward the shore. Hence, too we could make out the geography of the city. The whole scene stands undulating in my memory as absolutely singular; and, at this distance of time, scarcely credible ... Such emotions as are caused by the sight of that enormous body of tumultuous waters rolling in apparently upon the helpless forest - everywhere else so majestic."



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Westchester Public Library

The following programs are available:

• **NorthShore Health Center free blood-pressure screenings from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 8, at Hageman Library, 100 Francis St., Porter, and 10 a.m. to noon Wednesday, Sept. 21, in the Thomas Library Bertha Wood Meeting Room, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.**

Interested patrons also can receive help calculating Body Mass Index.

• **Music at the Museum from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 8, at Westchester Township Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.**

The Flashbacks will perform.

• **Bits & Bytes series, Intro to Facebook, from 1 to 3 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 8, in the Thomas Library Serials/Automation Department.**

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

• **Lego Club from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 9, at the Thomas Library Children's Department.**

Children build around a different theme using the library's Legos. Registration is required by calling (219) 926-7696.

• **Nerf Battle: Capture the Flag from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 10, at Hageman Library.**

Registration is required, and a parent permission slip must be filled out. All materials are provided. Call (219) 926-9080 to register.

• **Sunday Matinee: "Me Before You" at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 11, at the Library Service Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.**

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

• **Popular Books at 2 p.m. Monday, Sept. 12, at the Thomas Library Bertha Wood Meeting Room.**

The focus is John Steinbeck's "East of Eden."

• **New Crochet Club from 6 to 8 p.m. Monday, Sept. 12, at Thomas Library.**

Beginners and skilled crocheters 18 and older can join instructor Amber Erazo.

• **Bifocal Bookies at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 13, at Hageman Library.**

The focus is Elena Ferrante's "My Brilliant Friend." Copies are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

• **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, Sept. 14, at Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.**



"Me Before You."

The group will discuss recently received prepublication books. Light refreshments will be served.

• **Battles of the American Civil War from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 14, and 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Sept. 17, at Thomas Library's Bertha Wood Meeting Room.**

History buff and Civil War enthusiast Thomas Murphy will discuss the battle of Fredericksburg.

• **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.

• **Creative Tweens from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Wednesdays at the Library Service Center.**

No crafting talent is necessary, and all materials are provided. Registration is required for each session. Call (219) 926-7696 or (219) 926-9080 to register.

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Lubeznik Center Fall Classes

Registration is under way for fall classes open to children, teens and adults at Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St.

Weekly sessions and workshops are available. Classes fill up quickly, so registration is encouraged.

Adult Classes

Discover a range of concepts, strategies and processes in "Abstract Painting" with Jay Zerbe, who exhibited at LCA earlier this year. Other classes include: "Photography" with George Kassal; "Drawing Bootcamp" for artists of all levels with Michelle Wiser; and "Sandcastle Writers" with Jo Pilecki.

Young Artists

LCA provides classes for young artists ranging in age from 4 to 18. Choose from "Cookies & Canvas" with Dori Huber and "3-D for Teens" with Hannah Hammond-Hagman.

The Michigan City Public Art Committee directs a certain amount of money to its Children's Scholarship Fund, which covers art classes for children in Michigan City. The scholarship is for residents 5 to 18. The process includes a simple one-page application found at www.lubeznikcenter.org.

Workshops

Single-session workshops include "Crystals & Wire Wrapping" and the new "Crystals & Point Wrapping." Participants experience the "point" or "cage" wrapping technique while learning about crystals with instructor Sam Lakin.

"Fused Glass" with Twyla Butler will introduce the fundamentals of glass fusing, creating a tile and jewelry. "Zentangle on Wood" is a new workshop with certified Zentangle instructor Patti Shaffner. The method is known to increase focus and creativity, along with a heightened sense of personal well-being. Huber teaches "Masters & Merlot."

Visiting Artist Workshop

Artist Jeff Hirst will visit Michigan City for two days to offer "Encaustic Collagraph." Participants will learn to paint with encaustic (wax) medium onto acrylic plates. The plates are manipulated through additive and subtractive processes, then inked with a non-toxic ink and printed onto paper by running through an etching press.

Registration

Visit lubeznikcenter.org for a full list of classes and to register. Details about faculty are featured through the "Instructor Bios" link under the "Education" drop-down menu. Call (219) 874-4900 for more details.



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JROTC Supports Community, School During Summer

The Michigan City High School Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps participated in numerous community events during the summer.

Cadets supported the Grand Prix Super Boat races at Washington Park beach, the Drum Corps International competition at Ames Field, the Citywide Back-to-School Rally at Elston and the La Porte County Health Department Child Car Seat Installation at Elston's parking lot.

The Grand Prix was two days and the DCI competition three days. The Back-to-School Rally involved two days of preparation, then the rally Aug. 11 that provided free school supplies to more than 1,900 Michigan City students. Cadets did much physical work for the rally as the heat index hovered close to 100 degrees.

Besides community service, cadets also marched in three summer parades: the Michigan City Kiddie Parade on July 1, the Michigan City Summer Festival Parade on July 2 and the La Porte Independence Parade on July 4.



Gunnery Sgt. James Steinhagen, Cpl. Dylan Gleason, PFC Stefen Glade and PFC Jacob Powless help work the Grand Prix Super Boat races.

Cadets ran a leadership camp for three other schools, as well as MCHS, on June 8-13 at St. John's Northwestern Military Academy, Delafield, Wis. Later that month, cadets visited Washington, D.C., touring historic sites such as the National Museum of the Marine Corps, Arlington National Cemetery and the Lincoln, Vietnam and Korean memorials. Cadets also attended the Friday Evening Parade at Marine Barracks in Washington. The camp and trip, just like all other JROTC activities, were conducted at no cost to MCAS or the cadets. They were funded by the Marine Corps, donations from Michigan City veterans groups and fundraising.

Maj. Tom McGrath, the senior Marine instructor, is optimistic this will be a banner year for MCJROTC.

"Based on the enthusiasm of our cadets who came in to drill over the summer," he said, "I think that we will have a very strong drill team. I anticipate our other major extracurriculars — marksmanship and Cyber Patriot — will also do well."



Cadets offload school supplies for the Back to School rally, which they helped assemble the previous day.



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Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

The following programs are available:

- **Mount Baldy Hike at 5 p.m. most Fridays and at 10 a.m. Sundays.**

While Mount Baldy remains closed to unrestricted public access, visitors can join a ranger for a special guided hike along a trail on the dune's western edge found to be free of holes. The program starts at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter, then follows a ranger to Mount Baldy. Reservations are required by calling (219) 395-1882.

- **Pinhook Bog Open House from noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 10.**

Tour the bog and talk to rangers stationed along the trail who explain the unique area filled with carnivorous plants. Arrive by 2 p.m. to allow about one hour to walk the trail and tour the bog. The bog parking lot is located at 700 N. Wozniak Road, Michigan City.

- **Parents and toddlers can participate in the Nature Tots program from 10 a.m. to noon Wednesday, Sept. 14, 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.

History Comes Alive Weekend

Indiana Dunes State Park will celebrate "History Comes Alive Weekend" on Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 10-11, with programming focused on unique history of the Indiana Dunes

The event includes the landing of the Ojibwa Brigade along Lake Michigan's beaches. Other special programs are planned throughout the weekend at various park locations.

Portraying French-Canadian voyageurs of the 1700s, the Ojibwa Brigade emphasizes authenticity of dress, food and general lifestyle. The group encampment will be located near the beach pavilion and available for visitors to experience. Interpretive naturalists will lead hikes to the encampment from the nature center at 10 a.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Call the nature center at (219) 926-1390 for more details. The park is located at 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton.

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Theatre at the Center Announces 2017 Season

Under new Artistic Director Linda Fortunato's leadership, Theatre at the Center's 2017 season features works ranging from Broadway musicals to a Chicagoland premiere.

Fortunato has been nominated for five Joseph Jefferson Awards as choreographer and director. She received the Equity and Non-Equity Jeff Award for Outstanding Choreography in the 2013-2014 season, garnering Theatre at the Center its first award for her



Linda Fortunato.
Photo by Maia Rosenfeld

choreography of "42nd Street." She also has been involved in more than a dozen shows at Theatre at the Center, including choreographing "Spamalot," "Big Fish," "A Christmas Carol," "Guys and Dolls," "Crazy for You" and "Fiddler on the Roof."

Leading off the season is "My Way: A Musical Tribute to Frank Sinatra," which traces the performer's career as four actors share more than 50 hits, including "Fly Me to the Moon," "Chicago," "New York, New York," "The Way You Look Tonight" and "That's Life." Directed and choreographed by Brenda Didier, it runs Feb. 9 through March 19.

Next up is the Tony-winning Broadway musical "Cabaret." Set at the Kit Kat Klub in 1930s Berlin, a mischievous emcee invites the audience to join cabaret singer Sally Bowles and an American writer searching for inspiration in a world on the brink. Fortunato will choreograph and direct the show,

which runs May 4 through June 4.

Summer audiences can experience "The Tin Woman," the new play from Sean Grennan, whose comedy "Making God Laugh" was presented at the theater in 2012. Inspired by a true story, Joy has had a heart transplant and questions her second chance in life. When she connects with the donor's family, they learn what it means to truly give one's heart. Fortunato will direct the Chicagoland premiere, which runs July 13 through Aug. 13.

Next up is "Big River: The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn," which won seven Tonys, including Best Musical, Best Book and Best Score. The musical telling of Mark Twain's tale features songs and music by Roger Miller. Fortunato will direct and Chris Carter choreograph. The show runs Sept. 14 through Oct. 15.

Ushering in the holiday season is "A Wonderful Life: The Musical." With the play, Pulitzer Prize and Tony winner Sheldon Harnick ("Fiddler on the Roof") captures the magic of Frank Capra's holiday classic, which runs Nov. 16 through Dec. 23.

William Underwood will serve as the season's music director. Brenda Winstead is the resident costume designer, Barry Funderburg the resident sound designer, Ann Davis the production manager/technical director and Richard Friedman the general manager.

The 2017 season subscription renewals began Aug. 21. New subscriptions will be available starting Oct. 11. Individual tickets go on sale in December. Discounts are available for groups of 11 or more, and gift certificates can be purchased.

The theater is located in The Center for Visual and Performing Arts, 1040 Ridge Road, Munster. Call the box office at (219) 836-3255 or visit TheatreAtTheCenter.com for more details.



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Sinai Forum

The 63rd season of Purdue University Northwest Sinai Forum features noted TV news journalist Ted Koppel at 4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 11, in the James B. Dworkin Student Services and Activities Complex.



Doors open at 3 p.m. Koppel will discuss his book, Lights Out: A Cyberattack, A Nation Unprepared, Surviving the Aftermath. His presentation will offer a detailed, research-backed case for what he believes is the likelihood of an overwhelming cyberattack on the United States, and the nation's ability to deal with the consequences

that could arise.

A journalist for more than 50 years and a 42-year veteran of ABC News, Koppel is one of the most honored reporters in that network's history. He was named among the top 100 American journalists of the past 100 years and has received 42 Emmys, including one for lifetime achievement. He has covered events that include John F. Kennedy's funeral in 1963, Martin Luther King Jr.'s civil rights march from Selma to Montgomery in 1965 and Richard Nixon's visit to the People's Republic of China in 1972. He was the first journalist to interview Nelson Mandela upon his release from 26 years in prison.

A book signing follows the program.

Regular season tickets are \$75, which includes general seating for all five programs. A Patron Season ticket is \$200, which includes reserved section seating for all five programs and exclusive receptions with the speakers before each program beginning at 2:30 p.m. Students who show a valid school ID are admitted for free.

Tickets can be purchased by credit card at www.pnw.edu/sinai-forum or by cash or check at: Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St., Michigan City; Kabelin Hardware, 512 Andrew Ave., La Porte; and Porter County Community Foundation, 1401 Calumet Ave., Valparaiso.

The second speaker of the 2016 season is researcher and author Kelly Turner at 4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 25. She is the author of Radical Remission, Surviving Cancer Against All Odds, which summarizes her research into cases of statistically unlikely cancer remission.

Runnin' for Prestin

Runnin' for Prestin and All Kids, a 5K/10K run and walk, is at 8 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 17, in Washington Park.

The event honors Prestin Butcher, a local youth, and all children who have battled, or are in the fight against, pediatric cancer. All proceeds benefit pediatric cancer research at Riley Hospital for Children. Last year's donation was \$7,000, with this year's goal being to match or exceed that amount.

The race is chip-timed, with age group awards planned. Registration includes a T-shirt and refreshments. The course will be lined with signs in honor and memory of those with cancer. A special recognition ceremony is prior to the race honoring all super heroes (children who have or had cancer). With pre-registration, one can designate a hero he/she would like to honor with a sign on the course.

Race day also will commemorate Prestin's fourth anniversary of being cancer free, as well as others who have reached significant milestones in their fight against cancer.

Registration and details are available at www.runninfoprestin.com, or on Facebook at Runnin' for Prestin. Early packet pickup and registration are from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 16, at Coolspring Township Volunteer Fire Department. Race-day registration is from 6:45 to 7:45 a.m.



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Game Day Tailgate Party

Michigan City High School's athletic department will host a Port-a-Pit tailgate party from 3 to 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 9, for the home game against the Valparaiso Vikings.

Joining the athletic department in hosting the event are MCHS alumni, students and parents, as well as Elston and Rogers alumni. In addition to chicken sales, a DJ, cornhole games, face painting and children's games are planned.

All activities will be held in the former Al's parking lot across from Ames Field. Tickets are available through the MCHS Athletic Office at (219) 873-2044. The \$10 cost includes a 1/2 chicken, beverage and side.

Show & Shine for the Shelter

As a fundraiser for Stepping Stone Shelter for Women, Office Max, 118 Dunes Plaza, will host "Show & Shine for the Shelter" from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 11.

The open-class event, which includes a \$10 registration fee, can include cars, trucks and motorcycles from any year. Registration is at 10 a.m., followed by judging at 2 p.m. and the awards presentation at 3 p.m.

Michigan City Public Library

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

• **Duneland Stamp Club at 6 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 8.**

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

• **Potawatomi Drum and Dance Troupe at 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 10.**

The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Drum and Dance Troupe will perform as part of an Indiana Bicentennial Legacy Project.



• **Writing Out Loud: Author Amy Reichert at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 10.**

The 32nd season kicks off with the author of "The Coincidence of Coconut Cake" and "Luck, Love & Lemon Pie."

• **Local Author Nancy Nau Sullivan at 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 11.**

Sullivan has written a memoir, "The Last Cadillac," a tribute to her family.

• **Story Time at 1 p.m. Tuesdays, Sept. 13, 20 and 27, and 10 a.m. Wednesdays, Sept. 14, 21 and 28.**

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.

Aquatic Invasives Teacher Workshop

Staff from the Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore and Dunes Learning Center will host a professional development workshop on aquatic invaders.

The free program is from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 10, at the Paul H. Douglas Center, 100 N. Lake St., Gary's Miller Beach neighborhood. Stipends are available to educators who get their students involved in stewardship activities.

The workshop will involve activities, outdoor exploration along Lake Michigan and lunch. Participants can register with Dunes Learning Center at duneslearningcenter.org/adults/

Contact the park at (219) 395-1882 or visit www.nps.gov/indu for more details.

Take Home Your Copy of the Award-Winning Movie!

Oscar-nominee John Hancock ("Prancer") directs this moving tale, shot in Northwest Indiana and Southwest Michigan, that stars Dorothy Tristan (*Best Actress, River Bend Film Festival*) and La Porte's Grace Tarnow. Co-produced by Beacher Editor Andrew Tallackson.



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Gillespie is Ambassador of Month

Franciscan St. Anthony Health-Michigan City named Barbara Gillespie, a 42-year food and nutrition department member, its September Ambassador of the Month.

The hospital's Social and Recognition Committee has presented the award since 1988, recognizing employees who exhibit the Franciscan Alliance mission and values, including compassion for those in need and respect for life, as well as courtesy, proper attitude and enthusiasm for work.

Gillespie, who lives in Michigan City, was nominated by a colleague, who wrote, *"She greets everyone with a warm and caring smile, and is kind and compassionate to everyone entering the cafeteria."*

Gillespie was surprised, overwhelmed and humbled by the honor.

"I want to thank Lynette Sims for getting me the job and Kathy Kesling, my present manager, for preparing the department to the transition to our new hospital in 2018," she said. "The dietary team is one, big happy family."

Gillespie's hobbies include gardening, Jazzercise and volunteering at her church kitchen.

In recognition, she was honored with a special billboard display for the month, a privileged parking spot, an Ambassador badge holder, a photo on the Ambassador of the Month wall that displays the previous 12 months' winners and \$150.



Gillespie

Genealogical Society

La Porte County Indiana Genealogical Society will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 13, at the La Porte Park Department headquarters.

Recipients of certificates for early residency in La Porte County will be honored. Guests and questions are welcome.

Like the society on facebook, or visit tinyurl.com/p3wxfhq for more details.

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Green Drinks Awarded

Sustainable Indiana 2016 and the Indiana Bicentennial Commission presented Northwest Indiana Green Drinks, one of 200 groups across Indiana, with its Green Lights Award on Aug. 28 at South Bend's Pinhook Park.



Northwest Indiana Green Drinks members accepting the honor are Rachel Veronesi (from left), Nancy Moldenhauer and Kathy Legner Sipple.

The award is part of the group's bicentennial mission to recognize homegrown solutions to the changing climate.

Northwest Indiana Green Drinks also will be inducted into Indiana's Bicentennial Green Legacy Hall of Fame. It consists of regular meetups in Michigan City, Valparaiso and Gary. Since early 2011, the group has hosted hundreds of environmentally-focused programs featuring subject matter experts. Topics vary from regional importance to attendees' interests. It teams with My Social Media Coach and 219GreenConnect, which provides the social media and web platforms.

Historical Society

La Porte County Historical Society's first fall meeting is Tuesday, Sept. 20, at First Baptist Church, 802 Indiana Ave., La Porte.

Take a covered dish (salad, vegetable, dessert). Chicken and table service will be provided. Social time starts at 6 p.m., with dinner at 6:30 p.m. The meeting is at 7:15 p.m., followed by the program.

Reservations for dinner are required. Call (219) 324-6767, email info@laportecountyhistory.org or stop by the museum, 2405 Indiana Ave., La Porte, before 4:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 16.

Guests are welcome, and the facility is accessible for people with disabilities. Parking is available.

New Business Success Series

Harbor Country Chamber of Commerce has developed a series of interactive learning experiences for small business owners and their employees.

The Business Success Series consists of 10 sessions covering topics such as sales and branding, customer service, social media, financial performance and accounting, fraud prevention and employee recruitment/retention.

The sessions are designed to encourage peer-to-peer sharing of best practices and problem solving for specific challenges. They are facilitated by local experts and open to any business in or near Harbor Country. The series includes:

- "The Language of Customer Relationships" with Mark Strauss of Strauss Training, Harbert, Mich.
- "The Art of the Menu & The Server Who Sells: with Allison Strauss of Strauss Training, Harbert.
- "Achieving Your Financial Goals" with Becky Gloe of Advantage Accounting, Sawyer, Mich.
- "Intermediate Accounting & Cash Flow" with Bryan Baily, in partnership with Cornerstone Alliance Women's Business Center, Benton Harbor, Mich.
- "Fraud: Here to Stay...How to Deal With It!" with Karen Poff and Stephanie Fisher of Horizon Bank, New Buffalo, Mich.
- "How to Use Facebook Insights" with Cathi and Tim Rogers of Fusion Design, New Buffalo, Mich.
- "Hiring for Success" with Susan Sheahan and Jim Hubbard of SCORE/Northwest Indiana.

The cost per session is \$20 for Chamber members and \$25 for non-members. Visit HarborCountry.Org or call (269) 469-5409 for more details.

Rittenhouse Collecting Donations

Rittenhouse Village Senior Living, 4300 Cleveland Ave., Michigan City, is collecting items for donation to the American Red Cross to help tornado victims in Kokomo.

Items requested include bottled water, non-perishable canned or packaged goods, paper goods, cleaning supplies, diapers and baby formula. Anyone interested in a cash donation can visit www.redcross.org. Call (219) 872-6800 or visit www.rittenhousevillages.com for more details.

Grandparents Day at Zoo

Grandparents Day at Washington Park Zoo, which offers free admission to grandparents with paid child admission, is Sunday, Sept. 11.

The zoo is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., with the last admission sold at 3 p.m. Regular admission is \$7 for adults (12-61), \$6 for seniors 62 and older and children 3-11 and free for children 2 and younger.

The zoo is located at 115 Lakeshore Drive. Visit www.washingtonparkzoo.com for more details.



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La Porte County Parks



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

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. 3, 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.

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:

- Sept. 14 — Jumpin' Jiminy.
- Oct. 5 — Fantastic Fall.
- Oct. 26 — Halloween Fun (come in costume).
- Nov. 16 — Turkey Time.
- Dec. 7 — Let It Snow.

Senior Lifestyles

Join the free 55+ Club, a social club designed for adults 55 and older to learn and explore various types of nature. Free coffee is served to participants. The group meets from 9 to 10 a.m. at Luhr County Park Nature Center. Call at least one week in advance to register. The schedule is:

- Sept. 14 — What to grow in the fall with Sacha Burns, Sunkissed Organics.
- Oct. 5 — Medicare and navigating its website, www.medicare.gov.
- Nov. 2 — Nutrition facts on food labels, clean eating and diabetes, and how it affects the body's health, Registered Dietician Stephanie Mahan.

Northern Indiana Walk for PKD

The two-mile walk to assist Polycystic Kidney Disease Foundation is Saturday, Sept. 17, at Creek Ridge County Park, 7943 W. County Road 400 North, Michigan City

Check-in is at 9 a.m., followed by the walk at 10 a.m. Participants can walk, form a team or help with the committee. Registering online offers special features, such as tracking team progress and fundraising tools. Visit www.walkforpkd.org/north-ernindiana for more details.

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Marquette Questers

Marquette Questers Chapter 139 offered a recap of recent meetings.

The group in May attended a band concert in Washington Park. In June, it met at Sara McNabb's home for Linda Ferry's program on the national parks, which is celebrating a milestone this year. The group, which has been in the community for 54 years, also consolidated its many scrapbooks and news clippings. In August, members held a "show something special that you collect or that interests you" event at McNabb's home.

The group next will meet Sept. 14. Jackie Glidden will present the program on Little Dolls."

The Marquette Questers will distribute small, child-friendly coloring and information booklets and crayons regarding the Washington Park bandstand to area elementary schools. The Questers have been responsible for the renovation and upkeep of the bandstand until this year, when the Michigan City Parks Department took over.

The group meets the second Wednesday of each month spring through fall. Anyone interested in attending a meeting should call MaryAnne Garon at (219) 872-3905 or Joyce Dalton at (219) 874-5832.

New Troy Story Hour

New Troy (Mich.) Community Center, 13372 California Road, will offer a weekly story hour during the school year starting from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. EDT Tuesday, Sept. 13.

Children 3 and older accompanied by an adult can engage in stories, projects, games, crafts and other learning experiences led by former elementary school teacher Ollie Rosenthal. Attendees don't have to be New Troy residents. Friends of New Troy is seeking Story Hour sponsors to provide snacks, drinks and other materials.

Call Terry at (269) 426-4199 for details.



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Indiana Archaeology Month

Indiana will host events this month as part of the 21st annual statewide celebration of archaeology.

Archaeology Month, coordinated by the DNR Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology, is an opportunity for Hoosier history buffs to meet archaeologists and learn about the state's past. Events are held every September by universities, museums, organizations and individuals.

Indiana Archaeology Month 2016 also coincides with 200 years of statehood. So, this year's slate of archaeology programs has been designated an official Indiana Bicentennial Legacy Project. The commemorative poster focuses on Corydon, Indiana's first state capital, and the archaeology that has been conducted there.

Commemorative posters and shirts are available. Shirts cost \$10 and can be purchased from the DNR Customer Service Center at (317) 232-4200 or toll-free at (877) 463-6367.

A schedule of events and additional information are available at dnr.IN.gov/historic, or by contacting Amy Johnson at ajohnson@dnr.IN.gov or (317) 232-6982.

Wreath Project Aids Library

The staff at New Buffalo Township Library, 33 N. Thompson St., have invited the public to create and donate a wreath for a silent auction supporting the library's needs.

The library encourages wreaths for all themes, seasons and occasions, with no limits to any one holiday, or any holiday at all.

The wreaths will be displayed Nov. 15-19, with open bidding held then. Bidding and a small reception will close the auction from 1:30 to 3 p.m. Nov. 19 in the library Pokagon Room. Wreaths will be accepted in preparation for the auction during business hours Nov. 12 and 14.

More information and submission packets are available at the library front desk, or download the information at www.newbuffalotownshiplibrary.org or send questions to nbtlevnts@gmail.com. More details about bidding times and the auction reception will be posted closer to the event in November.

Duneland Weavers Guild

Duneland Weavers Guild will hold its first monthly meeting of the fall at 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 10, at Westchester Public Library Annex, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

Show n' Tell involving summer weaving and knitting is planned, including an exchange of woven dish towels. Visit dunelandweaversguild.org for details.

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American Red Cross

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

- First Church of God, 2020 E. Lincolnway, La Porte, noon to 6 p.m. Monday, Sept. 12.

Donate through Sept. 30 and receive a free haircut from Sports Clips. Donors must be in good general health and feeling well, at least 17 (16 with parental consent) and weigh at least 110 pounds. Call (800) 733-2767 or visit redcrossblood.org for more details.



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

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

Activities to Explore

In the Local Area:

Sept. 8 — Music at the Museum, 2-3:30 p.m., Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.

Sept. 9 — Michigan City High School Port-a-Pit tailgate party, 3-7 p.m., former Al's parking lot across from Ames Field. Tickets: \$10. Reservations/info: (219) 873-2044.

Sept. 9-12 — Vickers Theatre, 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. *Now showing:* "Captain Fantastic." Rated R. Times: 6 p.m. Fri.-Mon. *Also:* "Hunt for the Wilderpeople." Rated PG-13. Times: 9 p.m. Fri.-Mon, 3 p.m. Sat.-Sun. All times Eastern. Info: vickerstheatre.com

Sept. 10 — 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.

Sept. 10 — Dunebrook Third Annual Dragon Boat Races, 9 a.m., La Porte's Stone Lake. Free. Info: dunebrook.org

Sept. 10 — Duneland Weavers Guild, 10 a.m., Westchester Public Library Annex, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton. Info: dunelandweaversguild.org

Sept. 10 — Izaak Walton League of America-Porter County Chapter Fairy Festival, "Gnomes Day Out," 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Frame Family Little Calumet Conservation Area, 1288 County Line Road. Info: facebook.com/gnomesdayout

Sept. 10 — The Pottawatomie Native American Pokagon Band's Drum and Dance Troupe, 1 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

Sept. 10 — "Family Fun Day," noon-3 p.m. EDT, New Buffalo (Mich.) Railroad Museum, 530 S. Whitaker St., Suite B. Info: www.newbuffalorailroadmuseum.org, (269) 469-8010.

Sept. 10 — Free art programs ("Unbound" and "Unseen/Seen" exhibit), 1 p.m., Southern Shore Art Association, 724 Franklin St.

Sept. 10 — Nerf Battle: Capture the Flag, 5:30-7 p.m., Hageman Library, 100 Francis St., Porter.

Sept. 10 — Writing Out Loud: Author Amy Reichert, 7:30 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

Sept. 10 — Grassroots Festival & Fundraiser for the Acorn, 6:30 p.m. EDT, The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: \$35, \$100/VIP+drinks. Info: www.acorntheater.com, (269) 756-3879.

Sept. 10-11 — "History Comes Alive Weekend," Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Times/info: (219) 926-1390.

Sept. 10-11 — Garwood Apple Fest, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Garwood Orchards, 5911 W. County Road 50 South, La Porte. Info: www.garwoodorchard.com

Sept. 10-11 — 24th Door Village Harvest Festival, Scipio Township Park, 3501 W. Joliet Road.

Free admission. Cost for parking.

Sept. 10, 14 — 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

Sept. 11 — "Show & Shine for the Shelter," 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Office Max, 118 Dunes Plaza. Registration: \$10.

Sept. 11 — Grandparents Day at Washington Park Zoo, 115 Lakeshore Drive, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free grandparent admission with paid child admission. Info: www.washingtonparkzoo.com

Sept. 11 — Polish Heritage Festival, noon-5 p.m., Friendship Botanic Gardens (formerly International Friendship Gardens), 2055 E. U.S. 12. Mass @ 11 a.m. Admission: \$5, free/children 12 @ younger. Info: www.facebook.com/PolishHeritageFestivalMC

Sept. 11 — Sunday Matinee: "Me Before You," 1:30 p.m., Westchester Public Library Service Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

Sept. 11 — Local Author Nancy Nau Sullivan, 2 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

Sept. 13 — League of Women Voters' Lunch With the League, Michigan City Mayor Ron Meer, noon, Patrick's Grille, 4125 Franklin St. Info: (219) 874-6809.

Sept. 13 — Bifocal Bookies, Elena Ferrante's "My Brilliant Friend," 1 p.m., Hageman Library, 100 Francis St., Porter.

Sept. 14 — Mad About Mysteries, 2 p.m., Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.

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

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

Saturdays through Sept. 10 — Pinhook Bog Open House, noon-3 p.m., 700 N. Wozniak Road, Michigan City. Info: (219) 395-1882.

Farther Afield:

Sept. 9-18 — "Unnecessary Farce," Elkhart Civic Theatre @ Bristol (Ind.) Opera House, 210 E. Vista St. Times (Eastern): 7:30 p.m. Sept. 9-10, 16-17, 3 p.m. Sept. 11 & 18. Tickets: \$19/adults, \$17/students & seniors 62+. Reservations: (574) 848-4116, www.elkhartcivictheatre.org

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

Sept. 10 — Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra, "Magic at the Symphony!," 7:30 p.m. EDT, Lake Michigan College, Benton Harbor, Mich. Tickets: \$20-\$37, students/\$5. Info: smso.org



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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 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., plus weekend dates of Sun., Sept. 25, and Sat., Oct. 1. 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.

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Studio # 11

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

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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

Help needed with housework in Rolling Prairie. Approx. 12 hours per week. Send resume/information attn: Housework ad to The Beacher, 911 Franklin St., Michigan City, IN 46360.

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, 2309 Larchmont Ave., Long Beach, IN 46360

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Weekend rentals, Notre Dame weekends, three-night packages, all at Long Beach beachfront home. Call (708) 359-5535.

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

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

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.

STOP 39, JUST STEPS AWAY FROM THE BEACH

3 BR/2BA furnished house, WiFi, phone, water, W/D, A/C, heat, garage used for storage. \$795/month. Mid-August to mid-June. **Call (786) 223-6000.**

Seasonal Rental Fall-Winter-Spring — Furnished**Stop 30, Lake Shore Drive - Great Lake Views**

Available Sept.15-May 31. 3 BR/2 1/2 Baths. Kitchen. WiFi. Rent: \$1,250 plus NIPSCO-Gas/Electric. Also available for summer-seasonal rates. (317) 748-0849.

WATERFRONT APTS for rent in MC. Furnished-common utilities, WiFi/TV incl. 1BR \$775/mo., 2BR \$975/mo. Sec. dep. Call Pete at (219) 871-9187.

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Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter

Pontifical Swiss Guard presents The Vatican Cookbook (oversize hardback, \$34.99; available online and also as an eBook)

Food. We need it to exist. But over the millennium, our ancestors discovered food is much more than just sustenance. Food is for the body *and* soul.

This is possibly The. Most. Beautiful. Book. I've. Ever. Seen. It is artistically assembled, with gorgeous photographs, history, information and so many recipes with simple-to-follow directions.

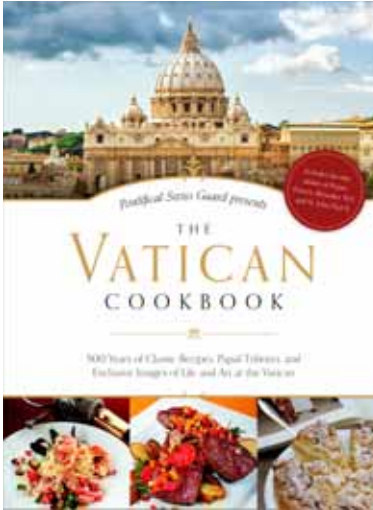
It's a joy to find a book like this to curl up with in a favorite chair and get lost in the beauty of it. The Vatican Cookbook is the whole package. But stay with me, because there is so much more to talk about than just recipes...

It was the Pontifical Swiss Guard — 110 men responsible for the safety and security of the Pope and Vatican — whose vision brought this book to fruition. There is a brief history of the Guard explaining how May 6 is its special day, featuring the swearing in of new members and celebrating a rich history that goes back some 500 years to the *Sacco di Roma* (Sack of Rome) in 1527. Other chapters feature short bios of Guard personnel and life in the Guard, both at work and play, as well as a piece on the unique Guard uniform.

Photos throughout the book show the Guard at work in scenes such as marching across the plaza at eventide, two Guards receiving a blessing from Pope Benedict and my favorite, a single guard standing by the open doors to the Sistine Chapel with the famous ceiling floating above his head.

As the old saying goes, "A picture is worth a thousand words." I could write pages about these photographs and still not convey the breathstopping experience of seeing them in this 9-1/2 inch x 12 inch format. Full page photos of art, architecture and sculpture fit in nicely as the book shows it is far more than just a cookbook, although the recipes and their accompanying photos are mouthwatering!

The book features favorite dishes of the three most recent popes: Pope John Paul II (1978-2005), Pope Benedict XVI (2005-2013) and current Pope Francis (2013-). Each is featured with a photo and short bio of his life and tidbits of information. Some favorite recipes of each pope follows: no surprise, the Polish Pope John Paul II has recipes from his native land such as Polish *Fleischvogel* and *Pierogi*. The German Pope Benedict recipes include Suckling Pig and Dumplings and Regensburg Sausage Salad. Pope Francis has favorites from both Argentina and Italy, such as Argentine Empanadas on



Pepper Salad and *Dulce de Leche*.

Other recipes were provided by members of the Swiss Guard: Monk-fish and Monk's Bread Greens, Braised Pork Roast, Polenta Towers & Chicken and others.

And there is more! Delicious desserts like Chocolate Amaretto Cake, Pistachio Terrine and Tiramisu. Christmas recipes include *Grittebänze* and Chocolate Gingerbread.

To make this wonderful book even more wonderful, there are other fascinating bits of information and wonderment. The chapter "Special Places" takes us to the Sistine Chapel, Castel Gandolfo and St. Peter's Basilica, all with a few special recipes at each location. There also is a nod to holidays at the Vatican, Easter and Christmas being at the top of the list. Again, the amazing photography takes your breath away.

How did this Swiss publication make its way to America? It's an interesting story...

Michael Dunigan, born in Illinois and whose family has summered in our beach community since the 1930s, is at the heart of this venture. He now spends his time between Switzerland and Long Beach. His wife, Katharina, worked for a Swiss publisher responsible for this cookbook, originally titled Buon Appetite by the Pontifical Swiss Guard. She took Michael to the



launch party. Soon after, conversation turned to how they could get the book published globally. Using his business acumen, Dunigan enlisted the help of media people and business associates to secure the international publishing rights. A few changes were made from the original, such as the necessary translations, and the addition of a dedication by Boston's Cardinal O'Malley.

A forward by Col. Christoph Graf, commander of the Pontifical Swiss Guard, explains the book's origin as a means of highlighting its effort to stop world-wide hunger. He quotes what Pope Francis has said, that "*food is a basic human right*."

The Guard supports the "One Human Family, Food for All" program to end world hunger. A two-page explanation of it, and how to learn more, is at the back of the book. Hats off to the Pontifical Swiss Guard for supporting this program and bringing us this special book to share and cherish.

As a side note, this book was one of only three to accompany the "Vatican Splendors" exhibit now through Sept. 11 at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library in Simi Valley, Calif.

Till next time, happy reading and *buon appetite*!



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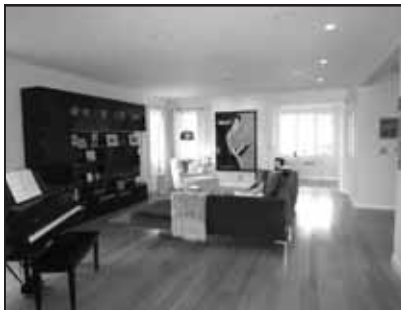
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