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Always Learning, Always Grateful

Adam Kronk Settles In As New La Lumiere Headmaster

by M.D. Cunningham

“La Lumiere School will force me to work as hard as I can. I won’t be content to get a good job by getting a good education. I want to get the best job by getting the best education.”

17th Chief Justice John G. Roberts
in a letter he wrote in eighth grade



Adam Kronk first visited La Lumiere to hear Chief Justice John Roberts deliver a commencement address. Photo by Bob Wellinski

A few years ago, John Roberts returned to his high school alma mater to deliver the commencement address. Adam Kronk, a young professional from South Bend, listened in the crowd. He was not a La Lumiere graduate. He was there to satisfy his curiosity. He was there to listen.

At the time, Kronk was heading The University of Notre Dame’s Deloitte Center for Ethical Leadership. Today, he finds himself leading La Lumiere as its headmaster. For almost a year, he’s been preparing in the same way he spent his first moments on campus: listening. He’s met with faculty, parents,

alumni and students to prepare for what he calls the “perfect opportunity.”

“I think it’s really cool that somebody that high profile went here, but I actually think it’s more important that we send the message to people who are thinking about coming here: What you get when you come here is you’re going to be challenged and supported to become the best version of yourself that you can be,” Kronk said. “We’re here to meet the students where they are. Know who they are. Challenge them to grow in a way that is authentic to who they are. Then the rest will take care of itself.”

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Adam Kronk chats with students on campus. Photo by Bob Wellinski

Kronk succeeds Michael Kennedy as La Lumiere's seventh head of school. He officially took over the reins this past summer.

Kronk's coffee mug has red block letters that say: "Don't be a Jerk." Although he presents a fastidious manner — his hair is neat and trim, his clothes bright and immaculate — he is open, funny and engaging. His approach to life and family mirrors his thoughts on education: the focus is growth.

"If every organization could establish feedback seeking behavior as a norm," he said, "it would just make people happier human beings. It would also increase the odds of getting more done."

He discusses teaching as an organic process that doesn't ignore results, but is rooted in capitalizing on effort equally to the endgame. He is an ethicist, acutely aware actions must align with messages.

"As a parent, or as someone who is running a school, a lot of my impact is going to flow from who I really am," he said. "It's not what I say. It's who I really am and what I do, and my children watch that,

our students watch that, our faculty and staff watch that, so I think if I'm not working on being the best version of myself, then, low odds that my behavior is going to illicit that in others."

Kronk majored in English literature at Notre Dame. "Always very practical," he jokes.

He pursued literature out of love and did not focus on the career it would land him, which began with teaching in the Detroit area, where he attended high school.

"I love high school," Kronk said, calling it "the magical age where you can have an incredible impact on somebody's life trajectory, you know? You're starting to formulate your own ideas, you're starting to become your own person, you still have some idealism and you still have that ability to emulate and be shaped by your teachers."

Later, Kronk rejoined Notre Dame to work with its study abroad programs. Based in Dublin, Ireland, but with freedom to travel, he helped college students conduct service work in communities

where they were studying. In summer, he'd return to South Bend. On a whim, he decided to take on an additional AmeriCorps role with the Center for the Homeless.

"I thought, if I'm going to be a writer, I need to learn more about people who aren't like me," he said. "Yes, I'm here to serve the homeless, but it was kind of a selfish motivation: I want to learn a bunch of stories and meet a bunch of people."

Indeed, Kronk met many people there, including the woman who would become his wife, Jacqueline. During that time, he also returned to Notre Dame to earn his Master of Nonprofit Administration degree. After a handful of years, he rose to chief operating officer with the Center for the Homeless.

"That's kind of where I cut my teeth on leading an organization," he said.

After receiving his master's degree, Kronk and his wife wanted to go "essentially save the world." He called the sentiment "very self-important and naïve." The couple, who had been married for two years, joined a nonprofit that worked with "brutally under-resourced" areas in rural Cambodia.

Kronk noted many groups start their own schools in developing countries, but a recurring problem occurs when funds stop.



Adam and his wife, Jacqueline.

"When you get involved in development work," he said, "you have to constantly be asking yourself, am I being responsible about what I'm starting here? Is it going to continue? So, instead of running our own schools, we tried to work with existing schools and try to surround them with more resources and get more community investment into the schools."

It was tough to build momentum, but Kronk loved it, saying he learned how to do things the right way.

"Maybe the best thing I learned there, and I think I bring with me into this job is, you can't come in with your own plan for a place. You can't," he said.

Continued on Page 4

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"It's more about sitting down with leaders, children and various people and talking with them about their life and identify, what's lacking and help them obtain it."

Kronk and his wife moved back to South Bend to start a family. Another opportunity had arisen at Notre Dame. The consulting firm Deloitte made a gift to start a center from scratch that was going to positively impact business practices. Kronk would be in charge.

"I think people want to do the right thing," he said. "If you're put into a bunch of situations where you're going to be pushed in that way, you're just decreasing the odds of you doing what you want to do."



Adam poses in his office on the La Lumiere campus.
Photo by M.D. Cunningham

Kronk said he was fortunate to be teaching business ethics during this time as well.

"I was teaching college students, but mainly working with executives who were mid-career," he said. "It's not that it's a lost cause by the time you're 45. It's just that, from an ethical perspective, it's a much more efficient process to plant the seeds earlier on."

Kronk always felt like the best job he had was as a high school English teacher.

"For me, high school, that's the age — that's what I am supposed to be doing with my life is working on that experience, and this place," he said. "So, it's got these three pillars: character, scholarship and faith, because it overtly picks out character. That was a big draw for me. Character formation will happen whether or not you're trying, but you may as well be really intentional about it."

To Kronk, now the father of three boys, a salient feature of La Lumiere is the culture.

"Having worked with businesses and Fortune 500 companies and looking at their culture, how powerful culture is as a motivator, as a driver of behavior...there's something about the culture here that struck me that the students themselves perpetuate," he said.

"In high school, it's hard enough to be comfortable in your own skin when you're an adolescent. Usually, you have this crowd and that crowd and various pressures that exist. Here, it really doesn't feel like that, and I think to release that pressure, it's so helpful for the students to just be themselves. It increases the odds that they grow into a version of themselves that's more genuine."



Adam celebrates with two of his sons.

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Old Places Reveal New Treasures

What joy to find new treasures in old places!

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Firme Art Supply on West U.S. 12 has been in Beverly Shores since the mid-1960s. Its Michigan City store has been in various locations for about 20 years. The gallery opened about three years ago and is "open to a wide variety of media," owner Leo Firme says. "The crux is whether the piece can move the viewer's eye. Or more, their mind's eye."

The depot was a train station built by the South Shore Line in 1929. Local efforts resulted in it being included on the National Register of Historic Places in 1989 after it was slated to be torn down. It then was restored, reopening in 1998 as the Beverly Shores Depot Museum and Art Gallery.

A short trip on U.S. 12 to these new-again venues, less than a mile apart, brings together contrasting art experiences of the area. In one gallery, there is a show about nature, the other reveals the commute on steel rails in metal cars that so many make. What's compelling about these contrasts is, each goes against what we expect, as art often does.



Corey Hagelberg's "Birth of Ecology," which states, "Young dunes being born, becoming ancient shores. Lines being embraced by North South East Western species. One plant community creates the next ideal conditions for the next plant democracy." Hagelberg says, "Much of the natural beauty of this area was destroyed in the name of progress. Yet, as the lake and the wind move sand onto the shore, new dunes are formed. It is this symbol of 'rebirth' that inspires my work." The stark shapes and movement in his prints certainly do call forth the power of

ART & ABOUT

Robert Stanley

and Catherine Edelman Gallery. The photographs go against expectations. Unlike woodcut prints with their sharp contrasts and definite shapes, photography allows the artist millions of soft grays. Yet Shick's photos might at first strike the viewer as a

nature to be reborn.



Kevin Shick's "Tagged."

waste of time and camera.

Shots of commuter train windows, like "Talking"? Really? What a squandering of the dynamic possibilities of the camera. But wait, art sometimes shows us the essential underneath the everyday. Sure enough, the ability of the camera to capture subtle light and shadow reveals something going on in the faces of the "faceless" commuters.

"My work explores the human condition and the contemporary American experience by examining the public and private spaces where our interaction with each other and with nature reveals our collective culture or individual state of mind," Shick says.

About his series, "The Commute," he states, "During the commute we can be who we truly are, which is revealed by our daily routines and habits. Is our identity shaped by these habits, or are our habits determined by our lifetime of experience?"

Some of his photographs, such as "Tagged," leave even more room for interpretation.

A key way to look at art is to appreciate what the artist was allowed to do. Not "allowed" as in censorship, but allowed by the medium he chose. Just as a song played on a harp projects, or "allows," different qualities from a song played on a trumpet, so the media involved in these exhibits projects unique qualities. The artists have used their media to give a fresh, new slant to that which is around us continually: subtle tones of photography to go against the boredom of the commute, strong shapes to emphasize a less pretty view of nature.

So also the galleries in which their work is shown present something fresh: new treasures in old places.

If You Go

- The Depot Museum and Gallery, 525 Broadway, Beverly Shores. Hours: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday through Sunday through Oct. 31.
- The Ellen Firme Gallery, 92 W. U.S. 12, Beverly Shores. Information: (219) 874-4003.

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Local Presence Strong in Dunes Blowout 2016

by Kayla Weiss

Local residents, including fourth-graders from Pine Elementary Magnet School for the Arts, will play a key role in Dunes Blowout 2016: A Festival of Performance and Ecology.

The event on Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 24-25, is planned at West Beach in honor of Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore's 50th anniversary. Save the Dunes is partnering with the National Park Service for the two-day event that pays homage to the Dunes Pageant of 1917, which helped bring national attention to saving the dunes, and commemorates the National Park Service centennial, Indiana's bicentennial and the Indiana State Parks centennial.

The 1917 pageant united artists, scientists, architects, humanitarians and musicians to show how much the dunes meant to people from different walks of life. This year's event will do the same, with a full lineup of performances.

That includes David Hoppe, who wrote the play "Sacred Sands," inspired by Ron Engels' book of the same title. A Long Beach-area native, Hoppe was active in the community, especially with Michigan City Public Library, where he created the still thriving Writing Out Loud program. Hoppe and his wife, Melli, moved back to the area three years ago and almost immediately became involved in the festival.

"It's a wonderful intellectual history of the movement to save the dunes, going back to the turn of the century, and all of the different groups that have come together in an effort to save the dunes," David Hoppe said. "In many ways, my piece is an homage to the book and very openly recognizes that his book is an inspiration."

With a cast of 14, Hoppe and director John Green have combined poetry with documentary evidence found in the books, as well as an original dramatic scene between two political rivals who were at odds about whether the dunes should be saved. Since joining the project, Green has added some additional pieces to the play, including a gospel choir from Gary.

"This has been a very gratifying experience," David Hoppe said. "The Dunes — really all of Northwest Indiana — has been a very important part of



David Hoppe

my life, and being able to participate in a retelling of this story is truly a great privilege."

Also part of the lineup is the fourth-grade class from Pine Elementary. Working closely with the students is Melli Hoppe, a teaching artist with the organization Arts for Learning. Having also grown up in the area, Melli immediately joined the Save the Dunes board when she and David returned to the area, also becoming active in the festival.

"After having been away from the area for more than two decades, when we moved back, I didn't really know anyone," Melli Hoppe said. "I've met a lot of wonderful new people by being a part of Save the Dunes, and it's been so great to work with them."

Pine's fourth-graders have been hard at work to prepare for the event. They've been learning about the Dunes for more than a year and worked on countless dunes-related projects, including writing original poetry about the dunes. At the festival, they will perform dances based on the poems they wrote about the dunes, arranged by Melli Hoppe, and to music composed by Melli's brother, Dan Schaaf.

"The students are so excited to be a part of this," she said, "and they know how important it is. It's truly incredible to see."

Other entertainment at the festival includes:

- Indiana Ballet Theatre dancing on the beach in the historic style of the 1917 pageant.
- South Shore Dance Alliance in an original contemporary ballet depicting the struggles of the dunes, with music by Indiana native Kenneth Ware.
- No Exit Performance, Indianapolis, with a family friendly ecology-based adaptation of familiar fairy tales.
- Emerson Jazz Tornadoes in a musical performance.
- Patti Shaffner with an original song about the dunes and an interactive improvisational singing circle.
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Framing Station Closing Its Doors After 32 Years in Business

by Andrew Tallackson

The beginning of the end for any business is a melancholy affair.

Take The Framing Station, 911 Franklin St. Passing through its front door on any given day, you could feel the weight of the room, if that makes sense. Walls lined with South Shore posters, sunsets over Michigan City's lake-front, nature lushly recreated in acrylics on canvas. Lively conversations, and often laughter, filling the air.

Now, the walls contain barren patches between framed pieces. Prints line the floor. Display racks sit empty. The stillness of the room emits a quiet reminder that, by the month's end, The Framing Station will be no more.

After 32 years in operation, owner Jo Ann Finney is retiring, embarking on other projects and spending more time with family. The building has been sold, as well as its contents. What becomes of the site remains to be seen, but Finney, always forthright and no-nonsense, appears more at peace than outright sentimental.

"I'm ready for the next page of my life," she said, briefly relaxing amid preparations to close the place.

"It's been fun. People come in to say they enjoyed coming in here, or that they'll miss coming in here. That makes me feel good."

Indeed, The Framing Station has been more than



Jo Ann Finney stands amid the many South Shore prints at The Framing Station.

just a gallery. Long before downtown Michigan City reinvented itself as a hub of creative inspiration, individuals shared their works with the community through Finney's enterprise. Artists ranging from Dana Dabagia and Neil Kienitz to Wendy Kermen and *The Beacher's* own Janet Baines displayed new creations on the walls of The Framing Station. Then, there were the days when Sally Golightly would coordinate silent auctions

benefitting Michiana Humane Society, artists converging at the gallery to enthusiastically unveil the latest theme to the public.

And, of course, there were the many customers who stopped by simply for the conversation.

"This is where I see everyone in town, and such a variety of artwork," said Jennifer Willey, who has worked at The Framing Station for 16 years.

It all began with Finney, a native of New Albany, Ind., who moved to the area in 1975 when her husband, George, was hired by Michigan City Area Schools as part of its adult education department. She first took a job as a receptionist at the health clinic where Ivy Tech now exists, then was hired by Danner's at Marquette Mall, where she learned the trade of framing and took an interest in it.

"I just enjoyed it," she said of the process. "Each



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piece is different. And, you could take the same piece and design it a lot of different ways.”

When Danner's closed, Finney embarked on her own, first introducing The Framing Station in 1984 with just a framing table in the back of a paint store across from the 11th Street South Shore station. The business expanded and one year later moved to Franklin Street, where Home Matters now exists. Over time, Finney became a Certified Professional Picture Framer through the Professional Picture Framer's Association.

The business settled into its current home at 911 Franklin St. in 1997.

Finney views what she and her staff achieved as a form of conservation, of protecting people's art. In the process, a few surprises popped up over the years.

Once, for example, a woman brought in her grandparent's marriage certificate. It was framed, but the woman wanted new glass for it. As Finney began the process to carefully take it apart, she discovered beneath the marriage certificate a Currier & Ives print of Abraham Lincoln on his deathbed. She immediately called the woman, saying, “You need to see what I found.” The Lincoln print was sent to Chicago for restoration, the marriage certificate framed by Finney in something entirely different.

Finney also has relished watching Michigan City's downtown reborn as the Uptown Arts District, Franklin Street now dotted with galleries, shops and, of course, Artspace Uptown Artist Lofts.



Jennifer Willey (right) has been with The Framing Station for 16 years.

“There wasn't much retail downtown, mostly lawyers and other professionals when we moved in here,” she said. “Now, I see people walking along the street. There are more things to stop and see, to take your time here.”

Finney and her husband will remain in the area, but will spend more time with their four grandchildren. Two live in Boulder, Colo., and two in Flat Rock, Mich.

So after 32 years as the driving force behind The Framing Station, what does Finney take away from it? It is the more emotional projects that resonate with her. Framing the ship manifest for a customer's ancestors when they arrived in America. Art uncovered in someone's attic. A landscape painted by a German POW on the canvas used for a tent. A customer's subsequent reaction, Finney said, is the best compliment anyone can receive.

“When they come in, and their eyes light up and they go, ‘Wow,’ that's enough,” she said, a smile spreading across her face. “They don't need to say anything else.”



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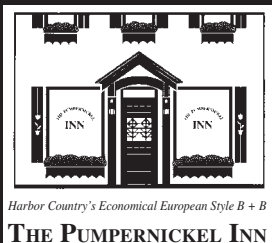


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“Clash of the Lumberjacks”

Two teams will duke it out in chopping, sawing, tree climbing, ax throwing and log rolling during “Clash of the Lumberjacks” on Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 24-25, at Hesston Steam Museum.



General Manager Ted Rita says the event complements the museum's many other attractions, which include a working turn-of-the-century steam-powered sawmill with 60-inch diameter cutting blade. The museum also features a restored 67-ton Shay logging locomotive that once operated in New Mexico and Oregon.

Three lumberjack shows are scheduled each day, and one admission per person provides free entry to all three events. Show times are at 12:30, 2:30 and 4:30 p.m.

The museum's steam-powered sawmill will operate periodically each day, while the three steam-powered railroads will operate starting at noon each day.

Show admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 3-12. Train ticket fares are \$5 for adults and \$3 for children 3-12. A package that includes admission and four-ride train ticket is offered at the gate for adults or children.

Families can meet the lumberjacks between shows and get autographs. Sessions are 30 minutes after each show. Visitors can take blankets to sit on the museum grounds.

Doc's Soda Fountain will serve breakfast starting at 9 a.m.

Hesston Steam Museum is located at 1201 E. County Road 1000 North. Visit www.hesston.org or call (219) 778-2783 on weekends for more details.

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Long Beach School Sixth-Grade Class Holds Reunion

Editor's note — The following article was submitted by Steve Bradford.



Members of the Long Beach School sixth-grade class of 1967 met Sept. 9-10 for a reunion, with some traveling from as far away as California.

Everyone feels a strong bond to this school and community. We feel so fortunate to have grown up in Long Beach.

The festivities started Friday night at Swingbelly's, followed Saturday by a tour of the former Long Beach School and later dinner at Long Beach Country Club. A beach party was canceled due to rain.

Present for Saturday's dinner was Joan Elizabeth Blanchard, Stop 14, Lake Shore Drive. The fourth-grade class in 1964 was her first as a new teacher. She recently retired after 48 years of teaching. She sang to her class, just as she did in 1964.

Pictured here during the tour are (from left starting with back row) Keith Robbins, Linda Ragosta, Susan (Minshall) Thomas, Monna O'Brien, Debi (Spencer) Curtis, Kim (Waldron) Millhorn, Gina Gilmore, Janice Johnson, Bert Carstens. First Row, Pat (Kerr) Rawling, Steve Bradford, Becky (Hammond) Natale, Barbara (Anderson) Carter and Stephan Strang.

Class members present, but not pictured, include John Stark, Gail (Miller) Blubaugh, James Clark, James Pendergast, Stephen Westphal, Sally (Krentz) Finck, John Hoskam and Daryl Heiser.

Debbie (Steele) Semla of the Long Beach Historical Society hosted the tour of the former school.

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Grafton Michigan City Mural



The full scope of the mural.

In commemoration of Michigan City's 180th anniversary of incorporation, area residents have a rare opportunity to view the Robert Grafton mural from 3 to 5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 24.

Southern Shore Art Association is sponsoring the viewing.

The mural is hung in the entryway to the Elston Performing Arts Building, 1200 Spring St. Generations of Michigan City high school students knew the mural well, as it dominated the wall of the Elston High School study hall until 1979, when it was removed for restoration. In 1984, the mural was rehung in the remodeled Elston Middle School. Since the school's closing, the mural is not generally available for viewing.

Painted by well-known artist Robert Grafton, the mural is one of Michigan City's artistic and historic treasures. The 32-foot

long painting with two side panels depicts the industry, commerce and natural setting of Michigan City. A major feature is the great sand dune known as Hoosier Slide, stretching across two of the panels. Populated by fishermen, dockworkers and Native Americans, the painting romantically illustrates life on the Lake Michigan waterfront in the 1830s.

The mural was painted in the 1930s with financial support from the local Rotary Club. Local school teachers and citizens served as models for the figures depicted in the painting. Grafton even included a self-portrait of himself as a gentleman walking with his daughter along the edge of the dune. Others who appear in the painting include A.J. Parsons, who taught history, and Lois (Redding) Parsons, who taught first grade at nearby Central School, and Mr. Troyer.



The mural in its original location in Elston High School study hall.

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Pioneers' Religious Zeal Builds a City

Michigan City's first settlers may not have brought much with them in the way of worldly goods, but one thing they carried with them was their faith.

The 1830s were a time of missionary zeal and fervent evangelism known as the Second Great Awakening. The movement provided spiritual sustenance and moral justification for the new settlers' dominance over the unsullied nature before them.

One of those who carried the religious fervor into the wilderness was an Episcopal priest, the Rev. Philander Chase.

On a cool spring day in 1834, nearly every person in Michigan City gathered together. It wasn't a sports event or even a party. It was a visit by Chase, who had called the community together to pray. Chase was on his way to Illinois to assume the position of Episcopal bishop. According to his memoirs, Chase relied on "a pair of fine horses, and the Quaker wagon" as his means of transportation down the St. Joseph River to the town of Niles, then on to Michigan City.

When Chase stopped here, the pioneer city was barely two years old. It was described by another 1834 traveler quoted in The History of Michigan City by Oglsbee and Hale. Charles Cleaver stayed in the local tavern and wrote that in Michigan City, "The buildings consisted of one small brick tavern, a frame one opposite, a blacksmith shop and half dozen houses built in, on, above and below the sand. It then contained about fifty inhabitants."

Chase writes that he "preached the first sermon ever delivered there from an Episcopal minister. This was in a large school-house, well filled with avid attentive auditors." Chase stayed long enough to provide pastoral care for a few residents and tour the already famous dunes along the southern shores of Lake Michigan.

Trinity Episcopal Church dates its founding to Chase's 1834 Michigan City visit. By then, the city's civic structure had been established through the



A sketch from 1836 of Trinity Episcopal Church at Fourth and Pine streets.

election of a justice of the peace and the naming of a postmaster. The stagecoach was running through the town three times each week. There may have been a school, but there was no church building. The Episcopal congregation built the city's first church and the first Trinity Episcopal Church building in 1836 — the same year as the city's incorporation. A sketch of that building can be found in the Trinity archives.

Other church buildings soon followed as the city grew. According to Elizabeth Munger's Michigan City's First Hundred

Years, the Methodists built their church in 1838 on a plot of land given by the city's founder, Isaac C. Elston. Michigan City's first mayor, Willy Peck, was a founder of the first Congregational church built in 1843. Munger writes that in 1836, Roman Catholic Bishop Brule of Vincennes also visited Michigan City and determined a mission be established. In 1839, the Roman Catholics moved into a warehouse on the southeast corner of Second and Washington streets and fitted it as a church.

By the 1850s, the religious zeal of the Second Great Awakening was past its peak. However, the movement helped provide the energy to make Michigan City a worshiping community of many denominations and churches.

More About This Series

This year marks Michigan City's 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 are \$40 per person, available at Eventbrite.com, Barker Mansion, (219) 873-1520 or Barker Hall at (219) 874-4355. Proceeds benefit preservation of the historic Barker buildings.



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Notre Dame School Celebrates New Garden, Outdoor Classroom

Editor's note — The following article and photos were submitted by Notre Dame School.



As the sun rose, the rain poured, but the skies eventually cleared and the ground dried up just enough for Notre Dame preschoolers to participate in "The Blessing of the Garden" on Sept. 8 with Bishop Donald Hying.

The project at hand was the school's raised garden and outdoor classroom.

Last school year, Notre Dame Preschool Teacher Kate Bobillo received a \$350 Unity Foundation grant. She also called on a few community members to help. Steve Radtke of Pioneer Lumber, for example, was all in when he heard the plan, donating lumber to make two raised beds. County Commissioner Michael Bohacek delivered and dumped donated soil/compost. Notre Dame parents Mike and Nora Liss built the beds. Master Gardener Donna

Vilser came out one morning to help Bobillo plant the garden. In four hours, everything was planted and ready to grow.

Bobillo and her mini gardeners weeded, watered and loved the garden all summer. The herb garden proved successful, especially chives, oregano, parsley, cilantro and basil. The students plan to make fresh pesto from the remaining basil.

In the same bed grows pickle-size cucumbers and beautiful flowers. Sunflowers grow high, zinnias stand proud and tall and shasta daisies and cone flowers are perfectly perfect. In the other bed are tomatoes, green peppers, pumpkins, gourds, watermelon and eggplant.

The teachers and students have learned so much about growing their garden. Google has been a



beautiful thing. They asked it how to get a pumpkin from green to orange. The answer: Cut away the leaves blocking the sun, of course. Pumpkins need sun to ripen, just like the tomatoes. The leaves for these things are huge, and it seems Google was right! They are turning orange.

The students have cut flowers and delivered them to many friends at school. They have brought home flowers to people they love. After harvesting, they have added the results to their snack for the day.

An added bonus is the outdoor classroom. Bobillo brought 20 stumps to school. A preschool dad, Brendan Duffner, offered to take them home and create things of beauty, which he did. Each stump looks gorgeous, and any person — big or small — can sit and enjoy the area. Thanks to Julie Godfrey, shade sails were installed to bring much-needed cover to the area. For extra seating, two benches were used from the big school playground. Those benches were

made from recycled plastic caps. The Notre Dame School community saved caps for the project, and they are scattered throughout the property.

The entire school — preschool through eighth grade — participated in the Blessing. Everyone was thankful to Hying for visiting the outdoor haven and blessing it. Bobillo had a gift bag filled with tomatoes, green peppers, cucumbers and a flower for guests.

It was wonderful to see so many parents and grandparents present. When the blessing concluded, the entire Notre Dame School walked over to celebrate Mass with the Rev. Keith McClellan.

The garden will continue to grow this fall, and the children will continue to harvest as long as it allows them to. The excitement of the outdoor classroom and the love of learning that will occur is immeasurable.



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Oh, what a day. A gloriously beautiful fall day!
Bells rang out across lush carpets of green lawns. Towering pines of every shape, description and variant of green embraced everyone as music filled Friendship Botanic Gardens and a spirit of Polish pride washed over the verdant landscape.
It was Sunday, Sept. 11, an anniversary never to be forgotten. A day to hold memories of families, friends and traditions closer.
This was also a day of celebration.
“Is everyone out there enjoying this day?,” Eddie Sienkowski, irrepressible leader of Ampol-Aires, called out as bells pealed and music of the Polish people filled the gardens.



Everywhere I turned, there were displays of Polish pride: family fun, laughter, music and the sizzle of Polish sausage. Young men and women strolled across finely manicured lawns in colorful traditional costumes, the boys in pantaloons and polished boots. Girls twirled in long colorful skirts, spinning until their hems swirled high in the air like colorful blossoms, their hair braided and intertwined with laurels of flowers in all colors of the pallet.
Together, young and old sang “The Blue Skirt Waltz” in unity and with great gusto.
It was a day meant for dancing!
Smiling people strolled past vendors displaying colorful scarves, amber jewelry, hammered brass, painted eggs and red T-shirts displaying slogans of Polish pride.
Traditions, language, faith, family and music bind the Polish community together for the annual fall festival in beautiful Friendship Botanic Gardens. It was a day of flags flying at half-mast in remembrance of 9/11, yet it also was a day filled with exuberance for life.

Editor’s note — Paul Kemiell took the photos of the festival, while the picture of George Neagu is by William Halliar.

As has become tradition, this glorious September day began with a bilingual Catholic Mass. An overflow crowd gathered under the canopy of the wedding garden and spilled into adjacent spaces. *Polo Nijna Orkiestra Ludowa* (the Polish Folk Orchestra) breathed new life into the ancient words of the hymns the people sang. “Alleluia” voices raised in unison, “As another day is dawning, to you sing the earth and the oceans.”

The Mass having concluded, the 20-piece brass and woodwind folk orchestra led congregants out of the wedding gardens and down flowered paths to the beat of traditional Polish marches. Music set the tone of the day as colorfully garbed members of *Wesoly Lud*, the “happy young people,” led everyone across the bridge over Trail Creek. They were drawn by the sights and smells of a waiting traditional Polish feast.

The folk orchestra and color guard from the Michigan City High School Junior ROTC led the



Dancers swayed and stomped on stage to their favorite polkas as everyone settled in with a plate full of goodies and a cold polish brew.
In conjunction with the festival, the Polish Heritage Association of Michigan City sponsors an essay contest each year for graduating seniors at Northwest Indiana high schools, asking, “What does your Polish heritage mean to you?” The answers this year were revealing, offering insight into the bond that holds the Polish people so close to their heritage,

gathered throng in a tribute to those who lost their lives on Sept. 11, 2001. There was silence across the gardens as Taps was played to conclude the service.

Hungry festival-goers jostled good-naturedly in line for a delicious repast served by the energetic and age-diverse members of La Porte’s Sacred Heart Polish Country Kitchen. The lines were long, the sun bright on our heads, but everyone waited patiently, some dancing and swaying in line to the beat of Ampol-Aires.



and makes them appreciative, contributing citizens of America, their much loved and adopted home.
“America is a land of opportunities, diversity, heritage and rich culture,” one young person wrote. From another: “I am happy about my heritage; it is a wonderful mixture of nationalities.”
The joy on the faces of the young people who performed — singing and dancing — was expressed by one young person as he wrote, “Poland is not just where my family comes from. It is a part of my life, It is what I have known since I was little. It is who I am.”
Two groups of dancers graced the festival stage this year. *Wesoly Lud*, which is a group of young people who dance, sing and twirl, bringing life to the folk dances of Poland with color, joy and enthusiasm. The Polish School of Song and Dance added a live traditional orchestra to their performance and sang together with gusto, stomping and swinging across the stage with great vigor. In a day and age when it seems there is a gulf between young and old, such youthful dedication to the traditions of the homeland caused an inspired festival attendee to comment, “How refreshing it is to see young people carry on the language and traditions of Poland.” How refreshing, indeed!



A highlight was the presentation of two awards, the first being the Polish Ambassador Award. It went to George Neagu for “persistence and guidance in giving a supportive role in helping others, advancing ethnicity, equality and preservation, especially in the Polish culture.” It was Neagu who suggested the idea of a Polish Heritage Festival many years ago. Originally from Gary, he became interested in International Friendship Gardens when he and his wife, Jeanette, moved to Michigan City in 1979. The idea espoused by the gardens of “peace towards all nations” intrigued him.
He and Jeanette became active members of the Gardens, and George eventually became vice president of the governing organization. Although Romanian by lineage, George has always supported cooperation and peace between all nationalities. He he especially enjoys seeing what Polish people have contributed to Michigan City. As a member of the garden board, he created a Romanian Garden, the largest in any public site in the U.S. He and Jeanette still enjoy working in that garden today.

A Perfect Day

Continued from Page 25



A second award for heroism read, "With sincere appreciation we honor Brian Sadowski for his life-saving actions — June 27, 2016." Brian saved the lives of four people from the waters of Lake Michigan this summer. An ArcelorMittel employee, he and his wife, Michelle, like many of us, enjoy the Washington Park beach on a summer's day.

Brian becomes visibly emotional when thinking of the lives he saved. The story of his first rescue is recounted by Michelle: "We were walking on the breakwater to the lighthouse when I noticed a young boy obviously in trouble in the water." Michelle recounts with great pride of her husband who, without second thought, jumped into heavy waves to pull the boy to safety, fighting riptides to bring him to shore.

It must be said of George and Brian that their wives took as much pride from their accomplishments as they did.



John Leinweber, president of Friendship Botanic Gardens' board, was on hand to greet festivalgoers. He and a staff of volunteers also "picked up" after the crowd and were surprised to find the area remained "neat and clean." There was nothing to pick up as each person looked after his/her own trash. Perhaps, as observed in one of the award-winning essays, "Grandma was always passing on her 'old country' ways"...including cleaning up after yourself. Indeed, traditions run deep.

Although there was a beer garden, and the golden amber liquid flowed freely throughout the day,



Leinweber said there was never anything but good fun and laughter that accompanied the tradition of Polish beer.

As the day wound to a close, people were laughing, hugging and speaking Polish everywhere. Each person left the gardens filled with the joy of a perfect day, looking forward to next year's festival on Sept. 17, 2017.

(Contact Janusz Duzinkiewicz at jduzinkiewicz@pnw.edu or call (219) 785-5523 for more details on the 2017 essay contest.)



ArcelorMittal Helps Safe Harbor Expand Robotics Program

ArcelorMittal has awarded a Community Investment Grant to Michigan City's Safe Harbor afterschool program to help expand local robotics programming.

The grant will help nearly triple the number of robotics teams available to local youth as part of afterschool enrichment programming.

Safe Harbor has operated a robotics team at the high school level for the past five years, and two robotics teams for fifth- and sixth-graders during the past four years, Program Director Sherri Silcox said, adding it now can offer one at the middle school level and three new teams at the elementary level for third- and fourth-graders. That pushes the total number of teams to eight.

"With these new teams," Silcox said, "we have closed the afterschool robotics programming gap in the early elementary grades and in middle school."

Of the grants, Jolice Pojeta, ArcelorMittal manager of corporate responsibility and communica-



High School Robotics Student Lillie Kessler teaches a Lake Hills elementary student how to write computer code.

tions, said "We firmly believe in the many benefits students receive by participating in these afterschool activities.

"Such science, technology, engineering and mathematics opportunities are critical to pave the way for a successful future for these young people."

Lead Michigan City Robotics Mentor Al Walus said expanding the program complements its long-term goal of informing youth about STEM career opportunities.

"Research published by Indiana University identifies two critical factors that impact the choice of pursuing STEM careers: an initial experience that sparks an interest in STEM and then sustained STEM activities over time that maintain that initial spark of interest," he said.

"The ArcelorMittal grant leverages the Safe Harbor afterschool program infrastructure to add age-appropriate robotics programming in order to initiate and then maintain youth interest in possible STEM careers."

Photo of the Week Contest

Help Us Capture Life Along the Beach!

Snap a high-resolution photo of a friend or family member, place, event...even the beautiful scenery. Include the day, time and location of the photo.

Submit the photo to The Beacher by 5 p.m. each Wednesday. We'll contact you by 5 p.m. Thursday if the photo is chosen to appear in an upcoming edition.



Traditions Come Alive



The Pottawatomí Native American Pokagon Band's Drum and Dance Troupe performed Sept. 10 at Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. The program, which highlighted their musical traditions, was co-sponsored by La Porte County Genealogical Society as an Indiana Bicentennial Legacy Project.

Photos by Paul Kemiell



PNW Sinai Forum

Best-selling author Kelly Turner will discuss her book, "Radical Remission: Surviving Cancer Against All Odds," at 4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 25, in the Purdue University Northwest James B. Dworkin Student Services and Activities Complex.

The program is part of the Purdue University Northwest Sinai Forum. Doors open at 3 p.m.

Turner's book summarizes her research into cases of statistically unlikely cancer remission, called a "radical remission," found during her decade of research. A radical remission occurs when someone heals from cancer without Western medicine, or after Western medicine has done all it can. Turner conducted research in 10 countries and analyzed more than 1,500 cases of radical remission. She will share her findings of nine common healing factors that radical remission survivors use to help their bodies heal, and will outline the latest research in integrative oncology. She also is developing a nine-part docuseries based on her research.

A book signing will follow the PNW program.

Regular season tickets are \$75. A \$200 patron season ticket includes reserved section seating for all programs and exclusive receptions with the speakers before each program beginning at 2:30 p.m. Students who show a valid school I.D. are admitted free to each program.

Tickets can be purchased by credit card online 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 third speaker of the 2016 season is Lt. Col. Jason Amerine at 4 p.m. Oct. 23. Amerine will share his story of going from war hero to whistle-blower.



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DRAGONS ON STONE LAKE





The staff at Dunebrook estimate 800 to 1,000 people turned out to view 19 teams compete in its annual Dragon Boat Races on Saturday, Sept. 10, on La Porte's Stone Lake. While the numbers are still being tallied, the funds raised aid Dunebrook's mission to build stronger, healthier families, like the 300 families in six counties who benefit from home visits. Winning in Division A, and proving the fastest team, was UPS. Division B went to Jumbalaya, which included representatives from Alcoa and Edward Jones/Tim Gartland. Division C went to Midwest Eye Consultants. The Spirit Award, bestowed on the team with the most energy, went to LifeVantage. All photos by Bob Wellinski

Birth Announcement



John and Becky Tiedeman, Long Beach, received a special gift June 22 when their first granddaughter, Emily Elizabeth LaHayne was born. She weighed 7 pounds, 12 ounces.

Emily's parents are former Beacher Abbey Tiedeman-LaHayne and Ryan LaHayne, Harmony, Fla. Emily joins her 3-year-old brother, Andrew.

Paternal grandparents are Judy and Ross Brady, Pismo Beach, Calif., and Doug and Tammy LaHayne, La Porte. The great-grandparents are Beacher Jan Wildhart and the late John Wildhart.

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Historical Trivia Night

A Trivia Night Fundraiser that tests player knowledge of Indiana and La Porte County is at 7 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 24, at La Porte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave.

Questions range from the name of Belle Gunness' handyman to the "King of Pop" from Gary. A maximum of eight people can complete a team or table. The cost is \$10 per person, regardless of the team's size. The fee also serves as museum admission. Reservations are needed by calling (219) 324-6767 and will be taken until every table is full.

Refreshments will not be furnished, but participants can take their own. No crock pots, open drinks or any other "messy" snack will be allowed. Small bags, wrapped items and canned drinks are encouraged and must remain at the team table.

Doors open at 6 p.m. Visitors are welcome to peruse the many displays.

Presented by the Historical Society, the event will help raise funds to buy a new LED highway sign. Also as a fundraiser, raffle tickets for an American Girl Doll are for sale. They cost \$1, or six for \$5.

Senior Health Fair

Franciscan Alliance will host a senior health fair, complete with free health screenings, presentations, refreshments and giveaways, from 1 to 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 28, at Blue Chip Casino's Stardust Event Center.

The schedule is:

- 1 to 2 p.m. — Free health screenings and area vendors.
- 2 p.m. — "Healthy Recipes" and "Exercise for Everyone" by Franciscan Omni Health & Fitness.
- 2:45 p.m. — "Pathway to Healthy Living" by Dr. Samuel West.

Registration is required. Call (800) 931-3322.

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MCAS Superintendent Woman of Year



The Michigan City Women's Commission will honor Michigan City Area Schools Superintendent Barbara Eason-Watkins as its Woman of the Year at the annual "Celebrating Women and the Arts" fundraiser Friday, Oct. 7, at Uptown Theater for the Performing Arts, 907 Franklin St.

Eason-Watkins was chosen for her leadership in raising the level of education in the school district. She has led efforts to establish elementary magnet schools in the arts and Science, Technology, Engineering and Math, and instituted programs for gifted and talented students. She has spent her entire professional career working with schools, students, teachers, parents and community members to improve the quality of public education.

Dinner and drinks start at 5:30 p.m., with the program at 6:30 p.m. Judy Jacobi, assistant vice chancellor of University Art Collections and Special Programs at Purdue University Northwest, will serve as the evening's honorary chair. The event also will showcase some of the area's women artists, singers, musicians, dancers, poets, sculptors and photographers.

Dinner is catered by Scartozzi's. Tickets are \$45, and reservations can be made at MichiganCity-Women@gmail.com. Space is limited, so make reservations by Sunday, Sept. 25.

Golf Outing to Benefit Gardens

La Porte's Briar Leaf Golf Club and the Briar Leaf Men's Club will host a four-person scramble Friday, Sept. 30, to benefit Friendship Botanic Gardens' continuing maintenance and revitalization.

The entry fee is \$400 per foursome and an additional \$20 to include a spouse for Portofino's prime rib dinner. The entrance fee includes golf, a cart, range balls, dinner and two tickets to a concert in the "Music Under the Stars" 2017 summer performance series.

Players can win \$1,000 in prize money (dependent on the number of players). Other prizes include dinner, concert tickets and golf rounds.

Entrants must register by Friday, Sept. 23.

The event also features a Skin's Game — separate from main entry fee — and a hole-in-one contest. Call Briar Leaf, 3233 N. Indiana 39, at (219) 326-1992 to enter.



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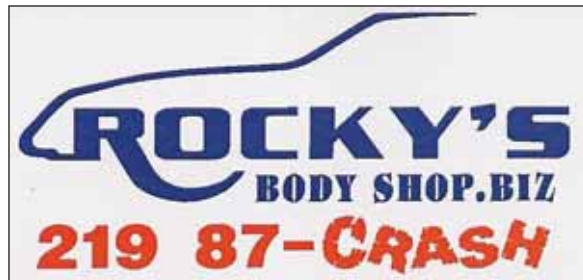
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Gallery Showcases Photography

The Village Gallery in Valparaiso will feature "Through the Lens Naturally," nature photography by Barb Lucas, through Oct. 27.



A Yellow Warbler featured in "Through the Lens Naturally."

After a 37-year career in public education, Lucas started photographing birds and nature. After learning about the decline of the Monarch Butterfly, she began raising the butterflies at her Rensselaer home. This attracted other butterfly species, and she became mesmerized by the distinctive markings captured by her camera.

The exhibit at The Village Gallery showcases images of birds and butterflies in flight and in their natural habitats.

Lucas' works have been on display at the Indiana Dunes Birding Festival, Talltree Arboretum & Gardens and Prairie Arts Council Fine Arts Show. Lucas also presents nature programs at area libraries, state parks, civic groups, arts organizations, Audubon Society and the Kankakee Sands Nature Conservancy.

The Village Gallery is located at Pines Village Retirement Communities, 3303 Pines Village Circle (off Calumet Avenue just north of Cumberland Crossing). Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Call (219) 465-1591 for details.

Monday Musicale

The public is invited to the inaugural meeting of Monday Musicale's 2016-2017 season, which will celebrate Indiana's bicentennial, at 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 26, at First Presbyterian Church, 121 W. Ninth St.

The evening's program, chaired by Felicia Thomas, is a musical tribute to Hoosier songwriters Cole Porter and Hoagy Carmichael. Porter (1891-1964) is best known as a Broadway composer/lyricist, creating songs such as "Begin the Beguine," "I Get a Kick Out of You," "It's De-lovely," "Night and Day" and "My Heart Belongs to Daddy." Carmichael (1899-1981) composed numerous pop standards, including "Stardust," "The Nearness of You," "Heart and Soul," "Skylark" and "Georgia On My Mind."

The performers include Ange Benz (vocals and dance), Frank Casorio (vocals and dance), George Maslankowski (vocals and clarinet), Thomas (vocals and trumpet), Karol Valek (vocals), Carrie Zerbe (vocals) and accompanist Lee Meyer.

The group also has added active members Candace Archer (voice), Beverly Griffith (keyboard), Anthony Holt (voice and keyboard) and Julie Littell (flute), as well as associate members Carol Lloyd, Donna Mitchell and Lewis Timberlake.

A social hour follows the program, with light refreshments provided by Kathy Chase's hosting committee. There is no charge to attend, but donations to the club's scholarship fund are appreciated. Contact Benz at (219) 874-3754 or Sue Cassler at (219) 362-1421 for more details.

Banned Books Week

Since 1990, the American Library Association's Office for Intellectual Freedom has recorded more than 10,000 book challenges. A challenge is a formal, written complaint requesting a book be removed from library shelves or school curriculum.

It is because of librarians, teachers, parents and students that most challenges are unsuccessful, and reading material like "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings," "Slaughterhouse Five" and the Harry Potter series remain available.

The ALA and New Buffalo Township Library are sponsoring Banned Books Week on Monday through Saturday, Sept. 26 through Oct. 1. It is an annual celebration of the right to access books without censorship. This year's observance commemorates "Diversity and Celebrating the Freedom to Read."

New Buffalo Township Library, 33 N. Thompson St., will display banned books that celebrate diversity on the main floor, and banned books for children and teens in Youth Services. In Youth Services, patrons can take their "mug shot" with a banned book, and enter drawings for teens and children.

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Collages in Dimension

The Purdue University Northwest Odyssey Arts and Cultural Events Series will present "Collages in Dimension," which features work by Michael Koscielniak, through December.

Koscielniak, Michigan City, describes his exhibit as a combination of collage and acrylic painting, created by spritzing an orange-peel organic household cleaner onto photos from *National Geographic*. After completing the several-step preparation process, Koscielniak says he "looks at what the pages are saying to me," according to a press release, and paints the pages, allowing his imagination to create subjects for the viewer to discover.

After attending the Chicago Academy of Fine Arts, Koscielniak worked in advertising. Following his service in the Army, he returned home and became an in-house graphics designer for World's Finest Chocolate Co. in Chicago. His work has been exhibited in galleries throughout the Midwest.

The PNW exhibit, free and open to the public, is in the Technology Building's first-floor, north-study area. Building hours are 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Contact Judy Jacobi, assistant vice chancellor of University Art Collections & Special Programs, at (219) 785-5593 or jjacobi@pnw.edu for more information.

13th Annual Scrabble Tournament

READ La Porte County Inc. will host its 13th Annual Scrabble Tournament on Thursday, Sept. 29, at Best Western Plus La Porte Hotel & Conference Center, 444 Pine Lake Ave., La Porte.

Two-person teams can compete in a two-round tournament. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., with the tournament starting at 7 p.m. Arrive by 6:50 p.m. to participate in the lightning round. Prizes go to the top three teams. A silent auction is planned.

Early registration runs through Sept. 19 and costs \$25 per player. Late registration runs Sept. 20 through the tournament date and costs \$30 per player. The registration fee includes appetizers, while a cash bar will be available.

A form is available at tinyurl.com/gorkp3o, then mail it to Mary Hedge: READ La Porte County Inc., 904 Indiana Ave., La Porte, IN 46350. The form also can be scanned and emailed to readlaportecounty@gmail.com Call (219) 325-0875 for more details.

Dancing Feet Yoga

Dancing Feet Yoga, 19135 W. U.S. 12, New Buffalo, Mich., is offering a four-week series on Feldenkrais Method starting from 6 to 7 p.m. EDT Friday, Sept. 23.

Visit www.dancingfeetyoga.com or call (269) 469-1966 for more details.

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Westchester Public Library

The following programs are available:

• **Bits & Bytes series, Emails Basics, from 1 to 3 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 22, 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.

• **Graphic Novel Book Club from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 22, in the Thomas Library Bertha Wood Meeting Room, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.**

The focus this month is Alan Moore's "Batman: The Killing Joke." Register in person with the IT department or by phone at (219) 926-7696.

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

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

• **Rainbow Loom from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 23, at Thomas Library Children's Department.**

Children in grades 3-6 create rainbow loom bracelets. Looms and rubber bands are supplied, but participants can take their own. Supplies are limited. Registration is required in person or by calling (219) 926-7696.

• **Children's Movie, "Zootopia," at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 24, at the Thomas Library Children's Department.**

The movie is rated PG. Free popcorn will be served.

• **The Unnamed Guild of Gamers from 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 25, at Thomas Library's Bertha Wood Meeting Room.**

Events include a fifth edition Dungeons & Dragons campaign, as well as "Settlers of Catan" and "Pandemic."

• **In-be-TWEEN Book Club from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 26, at the Thomas Library Children's Department.**

Aimed at tweens 9-12, the first selection is Svetlana Chmakov's "Awkward." Discuss the book and attempt a science project mixing vinegar and milk to make plastic. Space is limited, and registration must be done in person in the Children's Department.

• **New Crochet Club from 6 to 8 p.m. Monday, Sept. 26, at Thomas Library.**

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

• **Eating Well for Healthy Living Series from 6 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 27, in the Thomas Library Bertha Wood Meeting Room.**

Registered Dietetic Technician Gia DeMartinis will discuss "Revitalize Your Recipes." Registration can be done in person or by calling (219) 926-7696.

• **"Unusual Connections" Trivia Night from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 27, at Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.**

Teams of one to four people can vie for a prize. Refreshments will be served.

• **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.

• **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.



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Indiana Dunes State Park

The following programs are offered:

Saturday, Sept. 24

• 8 a.m. — Early Morning Dunes Creek Stroll.

Meet at the campground gate for the 60-minute jaunt along Dunes Creek.

• 10 a.m. — History in the High Dunes.

Meet guest naturalist Jessica Rosier at the campground shelter by site 113 for a trek over Mount Tom, past the old governor's cabin site and into the valley called Ecology Cove. Hikers return on Trail 7. Wear hiking shoes.

• 2 p.m. — Dunes Through Four Seasons.

Meet at the Nature Center for a 45-minute naturalist-led slide show.

• 7 p.m. — Singing Sands Star Show.

Meet Calumet Astronomical Society members for the annual night of star gazing. Special telescopes will be set up, as well as periodic constellation talks. Take a blanket and meet at the main beach near the pavilion. Activities last through 11 p.m. Optimal star gazing begins after 8 p.m.

Sunday, Sept. 25

• 10 a.m. — Feed the Birds.

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

2 p.m. — Dune Critters.

Meet at the Nature Center to learn about the diversity of dune mammals.

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

FOL Community Forum

Friends of New Buffalo Library will host "Women Writers in Latin America: From Colonial Convents to the Nobel Prize" at 6:30 p.m. EDT Tuesday, Sept. 27, in the Pokagon Room at New Buffalo Public Library, 33 N. Thompson St.

Local resident and author RoseAnna Mueller, professor emerita at Columbia College Chicago, is the speaker. She will examine nearly 400 years of Latin American women writers and highlight key figures in the group, such as Chilean Nobel Prize-winner Gabriela Mistral.

Upcoming programs in the FOL Community Forum fall lineup include: "Chasing Clouds: In Search of the Perfect Storm" by Chriss Lyon on Oct. 3; "Dish Gardens, Terrariums and Fairy Gardens" on Oct. 17; and "Public Gardens – Why They Matter" by Fernwood Botanical Garden Executive Director Carol Line on Oct. 24.

Call the library at (269) 469-2933, follow the facebook link at newbuffalotownshiplibrary.org or email new.buffalo.FOL@gmail.com for more details.

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Michigan City Public Library

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

• **Robot Suncatchers at 3:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 22.**

Children 4-10 accompanied by an adult can design a robot suncatcher. All materials are provided, and children must be present to receive them.

• **Writing Out Loud: Author Shane Gericke at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 24.**

Gericke's latest is "The Fury," a novel of global terrorism endorsed by Steve Berry and David Morrell, the creators of Rambo.

• **Story Time at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 27, and 10 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 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.



Gericke

Day of Mindfulness

Peacemakers' Sangha's 15th Day of Mindfulness is Saturday, Sept. 24, at LaMaPa LaPrairie Museum & Park, located at the Petersen Farm, 2215 E. County Road 350 North, La Porte.

The event, whose focus is enjoying nature, involves sitting and walking meditation, Qigong and a meal. Take lunch, water and a meditation cushion or chair.

Day-of registration is at 9:30 a.m., with the event itself from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The cost is a \$15 donation. Preregistration is requested by contacting Ange Benz at (219) 874-3754 or Lee Malizia at leemalizia@gmail.com



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Latest Inn at Harbor Shores Exhibit

"Sky Pads — Water Lily Interpretations by Alli Farkas" runs Sept. 23-Jan. 16 at The Inn at Harbor Shores, St. Joseph, Mich., with an opening reception from 5 to 7:30 p.m. EDT Thursday, Oct. 13.

Farkas' works are the result of thin layers glazed over one another, attempting to create depth through transparency, color and light.

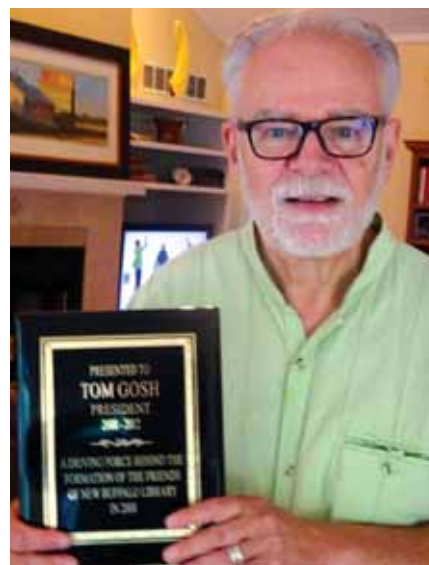
Living near Mill Pond in Dowagiac, Mich., she served on the board of Artist Co-op 7, a group of independent artists that united to facilitate solo and group exhibits in restaurants and public buildings in the greater Los Angeles area. She also was one of its founding members in 1989.

In 1993, she became a member of LAart, an artists' alliance with five galleries in the Los Angeles area. In 1994, she joined the Topanga Canyon Gallery artists' cooperative. In 2015, she co-founded Cass Area Artists in Southwest Michigan. Her work has been accepted into national and international juried competitions and received awards, most recently first place in the watercolor division of River Art, sponsored by Sunbury Press and West Shore Gallery in 2011. She is a member of the Institute of Equine Artists. Published books featuring her paintings are "Woodlands and Waterways" in 1994 and "River Art" in 2011.

The Gallery highlights Michigan artists in rotating exhibits on the second floor of The Inn at Harbor Shores, 800 Whitwam Drive. The art program has two components: a permanent collection displayed in rooms and public areas, and rotating exhibits in The Gallery curated by Susan Wilczak.

Visit www.innatharborshores.com, email susan@susanwilczak.com or call (269) 449-3231 for more details.

Gosh Honored by FOL



The Friends of New Buffalo Library presented a lifetime membership and plaque to founding member Tom Gosh before his recent move to Mexico with his wife, Judy. Gosh was recognized for his foresight and energy in forming the support group to New Buffalo Township Library, and his leadership and active participation over the years. The plaque, which will be permanently mounted on the Friends' bookcase in the new library at 33 N. Thompson St. reads: Tom Gosh, President 2008-2012, A driving force behind the formation of the Friends of New Buffalo Library in 2008.

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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:

- Oct. 5 — Fantastic Fall.
- Oct. 26 — Halloween Fun (come in costume).

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:

- 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.

25th Annual Pioneer Days

The festival runs from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sept. 24-25 at Creek Ridge County Park, 7943 W. County Road 400 North, Michigan City.

Experience wagon rides, outdoor cooking, crafts and food. Visit with historically clad vendors, and try fun, educational activities. Admission is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children or seniors.

Teachers-Groups-Scout Leaders

Free environmental education programs are offered to groups throughout the year. Programs last one hour or longer depending on the group size and age. Programs can be scheduled at Creek Ridge, Luhr, Bluhm or Red Mill parks. Call (219) 325-8315 for more information or to make a reservation.

Physicians Honored



Ear, nose and throat specialist David Miller (left) was one of numerous honorees at a Franciscan Health Michigan City Physician Service Awards Dinner on Sept. 8 at Sand Creek Country Club, Chesterton. Miller received his 35-year service certificate from Dean Mazzoni, hospital president and chief executive officer. Among other speakers were Anil Chawla, hospital vice president of medical affairs, who emceed the event, and medical staff president Matthew Troy. Besides Miller, 42 other physicians were honored, for 30, 25, 20, 15, 10 and five years of service.

Bicentennial History Talks

Northwest Indiana Next, free bicentennial history talks with Valparaiso University students, is from 7 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 22, at Barker Mansion, 631 Washington St.

The focus is wealth and the economy, evidenced strongly in Barker Mansion. Also, Storyville Coffee will offer free samples.

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New Krasl Art Exhibit

Krasl Art Center, 707 Lake Blvd., St. Joseph, Mich., will present "The Yard Show," its annual members show, Sept. 23-Nov. 13, with an opening reception from 6 to 8 p.m. EDT Friday, Sept. 23.

Every year, the exhibit attracts local and regional artists of all ages and skills who work in a variety of media and styles and are supporting KAC members.

For the show, KAC issues a challenge to participating artists. Due to the high number of entries in years past, this year's challenge is one of scale. All artists were asked to submit one work, no larger than 1 yard by 1 yard by 1 yard (3' x 3' x 3'), hence the tagline "The Yard Show." The works must have been created within 12 months of the show's opening, with never-before-shown pieces encouraged.

New this year:

- People's Choice and Kid's Choice Awards. Guests can vote on their favorite artwork. Award-winning artists receive quirky prizes made for them.
- Artwork by students 17 and younger on view in the artlab gallery. A maker space is planned within the artlab.

As part of the exhibit, "Coffee with the Crew" is at 9 a.m. EDT Monday, Sept. 26. Staff and member artists participate in the behind-the-scenes tour in the galleries. Also, a Members' Show Artist Talk is at 7 p.m. EDT Thursday, Oct. 20. The event gives participating artists the chance to share stories, inspiration and skill required to create their work.

Call (269) 983-0271 or visit www.krasl.org for more details.



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

- Immanuel Lutheran Church, 1237 E. Coolspring Ave., Michigan City, 3 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 22. Donate and receive a free admission voucher to Hysterium or the Haunted Hotel.
- IU Health La Porte Hospital, 1007 W. Lincolnway, La Porte, 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday, Sept. 26.
- St. Stanislaus, 1506 Washington St., Michigan City, 2 to 6 p.m. Monday, Sept. 26. Students who recruit one presenting donor receive a Red Cross flashlight while supplies last.
- Bethany Lutheran Church, 102 G St., La Porte, 1 to 6 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 27.

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.



Long Beach Women's Bowling

Sept. 13, 2016

TEAM STANDING

	WON	LOST
1. Wine-ettes	4	0
2. Pin Ball Wizards	3	0
2. Team 13	3	0

HIGH INDIVIDUAL GAMES

	SCORE
1. Barb Macudzinski	183
2. June Salmon	182
3. Dottie Brinkman	170
3. Kathy Osborne	170
4. Ann Bogart	169
5. Sue Luegers	158
6. Sue Lavbovitz	152
7. Tammy Nelmar (series)	415

STRIKES IN A ROW

June Salmon	4
Kathy Osborne, Barb Macudzinski	3

SPLITS

1. Tina Sonderby	2-7
------------------	-----

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

Art Exhibit at Visitor Center

A reception for the new collection of Indiana Dunes paintings by Duneland Plein Air Painters is from 10:30 a.m. to noon Sunday, Sept. 25, at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter.

The public can meet some of the artists and enjoy light refreshments during the reception.

Members of Duneland Plein Air Painters meet once a week, often in the dunes, to paint outdoors. Weather permitting, they paint every Thursday, either in the morning or afternoon. The artists choose their own subject and paint for three to four hours, after which they critique each other's work. All artists are welcome.

The exhibit runs through January. Call (219) 395-1882 or visit www.nps.gov/indu for more details.

Wanatah Scarecrow Festival

The 22nd Annual Wanatah Scarecrow Festival is Friday through Sunday, Sept. 23-25, at Scarecrow Square, U.S. 30 and 421.

The all-day event features arts and crafts, children's rides, pork chop dinner, fish fry, pancake breakfast, parade, scarecrow sculpting, fun runs for children and adults, music, variety acts, car show and bingo.

Visit www.scarecrowfest.org for more details.

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Prayer to the Blessed Virgin

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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.

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Activities to Explore

In the Local Area:

Sept. 22 — Robot Suncatchers, 3:30 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

Sept. 22 — Graphic Novel Book Club, Alan Moore's "Batman: The Killing Joke," 6-7:30 p.m., Westchester Public Library, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

Sept. 22 — Northwest Indiana Next (free bicentennial history talk with Valparaiso University students), 7-8 p.m., Barker Mansion, 631 Washington St.

Sept. 23 — Baby Boomer Comedy Show, 7 p.m. EDT, The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: \$25. Info: www.acorn-theater.com, (269) 756-3879.

Sept. 23-25 — Wanatah Scarecrow Festival, Scarecrow Square, U.S. 30 & 421. Info: www.scarecrowfest.org

Sept. 23-26 — Vickers Theatre, 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. *Now showing*: "Little Men." Rated PG. Times: 6:15 p.m. Fri.-Mon. *Also*: "Indignation." Rated R. Times: 9 p.m. Fri.-Mon., 3:15 p.m. Sat.-Sun. All times Eastern. Info: vickerstheatre.com

Sept. 24 — 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. 24 — Frontline Foundations Hooked on Art Live street-art festival, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Chesterton's Thomas Centennial Park.

Sept. 24 — History in the High Dunes, 10 a.m., campground shelter by site 113, Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

Sept. 24 — Children's Movie, "Zootopia," 10:30 a.m., Westchester Public Library, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

Sept. 24 — Jeff Lieb trunk show, 1-5 p.m. EDT, Indian Summer Boutique, 439 S. Whittaker St. Reservations: (269) 469-9994.

Sept. 24 — Viewing Robert Grafton mural, 3-5 p.m., Elston Performing Arts Building, 1200 Spring St.

Sept. 24 — Singing Sands Star Show, 7 p.m., main beach near pavilion, Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

Sept. 24 — Writing Out Loud: Author Shane Gericke, 7:30 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

Sept. 24-25 — "Clash of the Lumberjacks," Hess-ton Steam Museum, 1201 E. County Road 1000 North. Show times: 12:30, 2:30 & 4:30 p.m. Admission: \$10/adults, \$5/children 3-12. Train fares: \$5/adults, \$3/children 3-12. Info: www.hesston.org, (219) 778-2783

Sept. 24, 28 — Michigan City Mainstreet Asso-

ciation Farmers Market, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Sat./4-8 p.m. Wed., Eighth and Washington streets. Info: tinyurl.com/hhaajz2

Sept. 24 — Pokémon Go History Hike, 5 p.m., Barker Mansion, 631 Washington St. Cost: \$2. Info: www.barkermansion.com

Sept. 24 — Trivia Night Fundraiser, 7 p.m., La Porte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave. Cost: \$10. Reservations: (219) 324-6767.

Sept. 25 — Reception, Indiana Dunes paintings by Duneland Plein Air Painters, 10:30 a.m.-noon, Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. Info: (219) 395-1882, www.nps.gov/indu

Sept. 25 — Seventh Chain of Lakes Paddle, 1 p.m., La Porte's Stone Lake. Info: (219) 873-6753.

Sept. 25 — Purdue University Northwest Sinai Forum, "Radical Remission: Surviving Cancer Against All Odds," 4 p.m., Purdue James B. Dworkin Student Services and Activities Complex. Info: www.pnw.edu/sinai-forum

Sept. 26 — Monday Musicales, 7 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 121 W. Ninth St. Info: (219) 874-3754, (219) 362-1421.

Sept. 27 — "Women Writers in Latin America: From Colonial Convents to the Nobel Prize," 6:30 p.m. EDT, Pokagon Room @ New Buffalo Public Library, 33 N. Thompson St. Info: (269) 469-2933.

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

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

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

Farther Afield:

Sept. 23 — Art Bash, 6-11 p.m. EDT, The Box Factory for the Arts, St. Joseph, Mich. Tickets: \$25, \$40/couple. Info/registration: boxfactoryforthearts.org, (269) 983-3771.

Sept. 23 — Opening reception, "The Yard Show," 6-8 p.m. EDT, Krasl Art Center, 707 Lake Blvd., St. Joseph, Mich. Info: (269) 983-0271, www.krasl.org

Sept. 24 — Fall harvest supper, 4:30-7 p.m. EDT, Community of Christ Church, 110 S. Cleveland Ave., Galien, Mich. Cost: \$9/12 & older, \$5/5-11, free/4 & younger. Dessert: additional \$1. Info: (269) 426-4640.

Sept. 24 — Gemini and All God's Children Choir, 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. 24-25 — Dunes Blowout, noon to 7 p.m., West Beach off County Line Road, Portage. Info: (219) 395-1882.

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(2 Stores) 11th & Franklin Streets, Michigan City - 219/874-3455
Hwy 12, Beverly Shores - Just West of Traffic Light - 219/874-4003.

Large-sized pet crate. Paid \$170, but will take \$100.

Call (219) 840-4949.

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.

Long Beach Community Center

Studio # 11

2501 Oriole Trail.

WANT TO BUY

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

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

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

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.

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

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

Lakeside condo in Michigan City. 7th floor, three bedrooms, indoor parking, swimming pool, whirlpool, sauna, exercise room. Price reduced to \$325,000. rvmlid2@email.com • (708) 302-9116 or (630) 456-3887.

Hooked on Art Live

Frontline Foundations will present its annual Hooked on Art Live street-art festival from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 24, at Chesterton's Thomas Centennial Park.

The festival is a community event that celebrates art in many forms, including chalk art competitions, music, kids-art activities and food.

Frontline Foundations is a certified outpatient substance-abuse treatment center with offices in Chesterton and La Porte. The message of its annual event is: Family time is prevention time.



Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter

***The Dollhouse* by Fiona Davis**
(hardcover, \$26, retail in bookstores and online; also available as an eBook)

No, I'm not talking about a child's toy. The Dollhouse is the nickname for the Barbizon Hotel for Women in New York City. From its inception in 1926 through the 1960s, it had an impeccable reputation for housing glamorous, single young women in a well-disciplined environment. No men were allowed above the ground floor, curfews were enforced and clothing requirements had to be met. In other words, all residents were required to live up to the standard of poise, etiquette and unquestionable reputation at all times. Many of the girls wanted to become models at the famous Eileen Ford Agency or learn to be secretaries at the Catherine Gibbs School. Some famous women lived there for a time, Sylvia Plath probably the most talked about.

While this is a novel, the story of Darby McLaughlin and Esme Castillo could have been that of many other girls who came and went over the years at the Barbizon. The author has taken a New York City landmark and breathed new life into it while giving the reader an interesting story and a look into the different lifestyle of 1953.

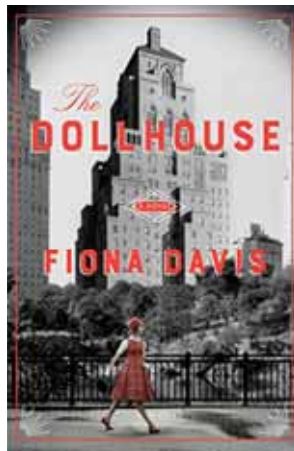
Today, the Barbizon has been remodeled — fact, not fiction — and turned into luxury apartments with luxury prices to match. It's here in 2016 that our story actually begins...

Rose Lewin is living in the Barbizon with boyfriend Griff, deputy mayor of New York City. She was a well-known TV news anchor who lost her job in a crazy series of events. Now, she works for a media start-up called WordMerge, a downgrade, but at least she can pursue her writing.

In an unexpected move, Griff announces he is going back to his ex-wife and two daughters. Rose will have to move! Oh, there's more to this side story, which I'll leave for your reading pleasure. Let's just say, Griff is a jerk!

While mulling her fate one day, and where's she going to move to, she meets an intriguing older woman in the elevator, noticeable because of a hat she's wearing with a veil covering her face. Trying to strike up a conversation doesn't work. Lucky for her, Patrick, the Irish doorman, has all the lowdown on everyone and gives her the scoop: The lady with the veil is Darby McLaughlin, one of a number of old women who have lived at the Barbizon for years. When the renovation began, all these longtime residents were moved to the fourth floor on rent control.

Patrick says Darby was disfigured — hence the veil — many years ago in an incident with a knife



and a hotel maid who fell to her death from the terrace. Now, Rose's journalistic nose for news perks up and she has to find out more. Not on your life. Darby refuses to answer her door.

Rose later meets another of the older Barbizon women named Stella. She tells her Darby has gone away, and she is taking care of her dog. Rose persuades Stella to tell her story of the hotel in the 1950s after lying about talking to Darby. There are 14 old ladies on the fourth floor, and Rose persuades seven of them to tell their story of life at the Barbizon. This could be the story to restart her career!

In a twist of fate, Stella falls ill and calls Rose to take the dog until Darby comes back. After all, they know each other, right? In a complete breakdown of common sense, Rose moves into Darby's apartment — she was kicked out of Griff's, remember?

This is when the story starts moving back and forth in time, and we begin to find out how Darby came to New York in 1953...

Darby came from Ohio to attend secretarial school. Arriving at the Barbizon, a mistake in rooms puts her on the floor with all the would-be models. Not a good place for a girl with low self-esteem!

Stella, one of the models, sets her up with a blind date her first weekend in town. He starts out shy and attentive and ends up almost raping her. Welcome to New York! That makes Darby even more of an introvert as she spends her time trying to blend into the woodwork. Until she meets Esme, that is...

Esme is the Puerto Rican girl who works at the Barbizon as a maid. She sees how Darby is being treated and takes her under her wing to show her the real New York! Against all the Barbizon rules, Darby and Esme go out one night to a jazz club called the Slatted Fifth. Darby is mesmerized by the atmosphere and jazz musicians. Sam, chef and son of the club's owner, is mesmerized by Darby.

Darby finds out there may be more to life than typing and shorthand. Seems Esme is a singer, and she persuades Darby to be her backup singer. It's an up-and-down ride for Darby: What should she do? More importantly, what will she do?

This is what storytelling is all about! I give it 5 out of 5 stars.

Publishers Weekly gave a starred review: "Davis' impeccably structured debut is equal parts mystery, tribute to midcentury New York City and classic love story."

This is Davis' first novel. Learn more about her at www.fionadavis.net or on facebook at FionaDavisAuthor.

Till next time, happy reading!



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29 Mohawk Drive • Michiana Village **\$995,000**

Charming classic log home with all of the updates of 2016. Property features 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, in-ground pool, screened room & 2 bedroom, 2 bath pool house. Stone fireplace, vaulted ceiling, granite & stainless finishes and updated tiled baths. Just 1.5 blocks to Lake Michigan.



2905 Roslyn Trail • Long Beach **\$399,000**

Charming 4 bedroom, 2 bath ranch within walking distance to beach. Wood floors, fireplace in living room, finished lower level with rec room, bath & 4th bedroom. Expansive lot with a little over a half acre offering beautiful landscaping, firepit & two car detached garage.



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NEW PRICE

Lake Shore Drive, Lot 109 **Sheridan Beach • \$695,000**

45 foot frontage on Lake Michigan with city water & sewer available. Big dune and wide beach. Drive by to envision building your dream home on this lake front lot.



2756 Floral Trail **Long Beach • \$429,000**

This 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath home offers expansive decking & incredible golf course views. Fireplace, high ceilings in living room, family room, rec room with bar. Classic Long Beach home with an extraordinary setting.



204-B California Avenue **Sheridan Beach • \$330,000**

Just steps to Sunset's own beach, this 3 bedroom, 3.5 bath condo offers glimpses of lake from each bedroom & a lake view from the deck. Fireplace, hardwood floors, generous storage & plenty of additional parking for guests.

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2027 Oriole Trail, Long Beach \$349,000

This wonderful 3-bedroom, 2-bath newly remodeled home has amenities that include new kitchen, beautiful oak flooring, large fireplace in living room and a remarkable open floorplan. Walking distance to Lake Michigan.



8401 Lake Shore Drive, Miller Beach \$635,000

Upscale 4-bedroom, 4-bath lakefront home located on the fabulous shores of Miller Beach. Inviting over-sized kitchen includes 4 skylights, high-end appliances, heated floors, pantry and custom cabinetry. Well-appointed rooms and 2.5-car finished garage with additional storage.



2968 Lake Shore Drive, Long Beach \$1,750,000

Remarkable Casa Rosa! 5-bedroom, 4.5-bath lakefront home. Great architectural detail, gorgeous three-state view. Screen porch & walk-out lower level. Plenty of parking, including a two-car attached garage. This is a must see! Unlimited potential.



2919 Loma Portal Way Long Beach \$360,000

So many updates have taken place at this home recently, so please pardon the dust! Additions include electrical, insulation, furnace, humidifier, A/C, water heater, siding, soffits, fascia, gutters, roof, garage door, interior painting, and carpet! All appliances included. Oak floors upstairs. Indiana limestone inside and out. Add your own touches to this bright and airy home just a block away from the beach.



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