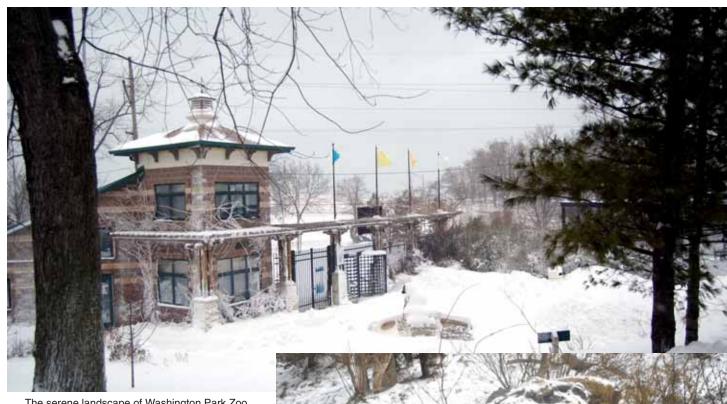




Volume 34, Number 6 Thursday, February 15, 2018

Care Amid the Cold

by Andrew Tallackson



The serene landscape of Washington Park Zoo in winter is a stark contrast to the hectic pace of summer.

A tranquil beauty engulfs Washington Park Zoo in the dead of winter. The ground is a blanket of white, nary a footprint visible. The cacophony of summer sounds — weary parents calling after excitable tykes, squeals of laughter from the nearby splash pad — has long departed.

The only noise, in fact, is the crunch of snow beneath our boots as Director Jamie Huss and Assistant Director Elizabeth Emerick guide us to an enclosure where wolves dart back and

A bobcat plays in a tree trunk.



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forth, excited to have an audience.

While much of the zoo population hunkers down for the winter in heated buildings, several animals have the option to head outside.

"Having that free choice keeps them happier," Emerick explained earlier, before we headed outside for the brief tour. "They can go outside and investigate if they want, and then come back inside."

When the zoo closes its doors Nov. 1 of each year, shuttered through the frigid winter months before reopening April 1, the entire zoo population stays put. No animals are shepherded elsewhere. And while the daily pace of operating Michigan City's popular destination point may relax a bit, Huss, Emerick and a handful of seasonal staff don't kick back to savor the downtime. They remain busy tending to the zoo's 300 animals, which Huss says represent anywhere from 85 to 100 species.

(Of the zoo's 300 animals, Huss adds, 150 are parakeets that populate the zoo's aviary.)

Care of the animals during the zoo's off-season is a well-oiled machine that takes into consideration everything from warmth, to diet, to stimulation.

Winter duties arrive amid an exciting time for the zoo. In 2017, it set an attendance record, with more than 100,000 people visiting as of October, up 2.6 percent from 2016. Of that amount, 88 percent were out-of-town visitors.

This year may prove more fruitful as 2018 marks the zoo's 90th anniversary. Many celebratory events are in the works. Improvements continue to exhibits, buildings and grounds as part of a five-year strategic plan.

The zoo began at its present location in 1928, with construction aided in the 1930s by the Works Progress Administration. Today, its emphasis is finding safe homes for rescued, exotic animals. Some suf-



Washington Park Zoo Director Jamie Huss (left) and Assistant Director Elizabeth Emerick are photographed by The Beacher's Paul Kemiel at the petting zoo area.

fered injuries that made existence in the wild impossible. Others were removed by the Department of Natural Resources.

The zoo population includes everything from bears, cougars and otters to deer, birds and zebra. In caring for these animals, especially in winter, Huss and Emerick make an ideal team. For Huss, the zoo has been a family affair since childhood. Her mother, Jan Wenig, was a zookeeper for 25 years before recently retiring. Huss has been with the zoo for 23 years, first volunteering, then working her way up to seasonal keeper and eventually to director. Emerick has been with the zoo for 19 years, starting as a seasonal zookeeper in 1999 before gradually moving up the ranks to assistant director. Their devotion to the zoo is evident in the way they lovingly speak of the animals, how it's not a job, but a task that endears itself daily to them.



The otters frequently come out to play in winter.

"I always look forward to the first heavy snowfall," Emerick said. "The tigers roll around in it. They behave really goofy with each other, shoving their faces in the snow.

"The otters still go swimming. They do belly slides. They love it."

Preparations for the forthcoming winter, Emerick said, start in the fall. If temperatures begin to drop in mid-to-late October, smaller species are moved indoors, like the parrots, parakeets, macaws and ring-tailed lemurs.

About four to five heated winter holding sites exist, Emerick said, with some enclosures for the larger animals allowing them the freedom to move from heated areas to outside play areas.

"They can come into the cold if they want to," she said.

The birds present interesting challenges. To avoid "squabbling" between species, Emerick said, zoo staff respect the hierarchy among them, grouping them appropriately. The African crowned crane, for instance, is housed with a turkey and rooster. All are doing well together, Emerick said.

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Care Amid the Cold Continued from Page 3

So far, the zoo has not lost power, although it has generators in case of emergencies. And when subzero temperatures arrive, as has been the case this year, safety measures are enacted that keep the animals indoors.

"You don't want to take any chances with them in their yards," Emerick said.

Do the animals go a bit stir crazy in winter?

"The birds do every now and then," Emerick said, "if they're not getting their toys, but we double up on the enrichment. We try to keep them busy.

"The wolves, on the other hand, love the snow. They're always running around in it. They love it."

Enrichment? As in mental and physical stimulation, the type that spurs the minds of youngsters in school? Yes, the same applies to the zoo population. In the summer, the animals are outside, the sun is shining, visitors are plentiful. Constant stimulation — the animals thrive off this. Take that away, and restlessness kicks in.

Zoo staff counteract that with what Emerick describes as enrichment. The staff hides treats for the animals to uncover, whether it be in boxes or rolled-up newspapers. Members of the Michiana Bird Society, formed in 1990 and boasting about 100 members, make bird toys, Emerick said. Primates are treated to puzzle feeders. Felines receive boxes scented with perfumes to stimulate olfactory senses.

The bears don't experience true hibernation, Emerick said, but torpor, slowing down a bit. Sleepy, less active, their appetite of fruits, vegetables and meats drops a bit.

Care of the animals isn't the only priority for zoo staff. Once Nov. 1 arrives, planning begins for next year. Enclosures are renovated so they are in tip-

top shape come opening day. New structures are built. Local companies arrive to trim trees.

Opening day each year is April 1. On rare occasion, lake effect snow has reared its ugly head. But, **Emerick** said, examples of that are pretty infrequent. However, she stressed, evening temperatures must consistent-



Jamie Huss views the cotton-top tamarins, which are small New World monkeys. Photo by Paul Kemiel

ly hover above 45 degrees for all the enclosures to open to the public. That is why some animals remain indoors on opening day.

On the day *The Beacher* visited the zoo, precarious temperatures hovered from -4 to a high of 14. Emerick, however, doesn't balk at Mother Nature's vision of work conditions. It is part of the reason she enjoys what she does.

"I love being outdoors anyway," she said. "I couldn't imagine sitting inside looking at a computer all day. To me, what we do, it's more interesting and exciting. All day."

(Visit www.washingtonparkzoo.com for more information.)



The zoo's bears don't enter true hibernation, but a form of torpor.



The wolves enjoy the chance to run about in the snow.

Longtime Businessman Ed Kis Leaves a Legacy of Community Spirit

Submitted by Julie Wozniak

Mention the name Ed Kis, and for a generation it has been synonymous with Great Lakes Catering, Top Dog Restaurant, Mainstreet Association, the Farmer's Market, best hot dog this side of Chicago, a nice man who gave back to his community.

Ed never met a stranger. To meet him was to love him.

Kis died Feb. 5 after a hardfought battle with cancer. He is survived by his devoted life partner, Jeanne Hoyle, and his sons: Matthew, Arizona, and Christopher, La-Porte.

Kis was part of the downtown landscape for more than 25 years.

Hoyle, owner of Great Lakes Catering and Top Dog Restaurant, hired him after a stint at Portfino's, and together they opened, and he managed, those businesses in La Porte County. Top Dog Restaurant was honored in 2013 and inducted, as the 75th restaurant nationwide, into the Vienna Beef Hall of Fame.

In their first six weeks of business, Kis was instrumental in having weekly profits go to six local



Long Beach residents Jeanne Hoyle and Ed Kis celebrate Top Dog Restaurant's induction into the Vienna Beef Hall of Fame in 2013.

charities. Community minded, he was generous and had long-standing relationships with the Humane Society, Mainstreet Association, Friendship Botanic Gardens, American Cancer Society, Michiana Industries, American Red Cross, Share Foundation and a wide range of student groups from the public and private sectors.

At an age when most people are considering retirement, Kis set his sights on the old Spa Restaurant in Porter. With Hoyle at his side, they set about planning and renovating the entire facility.

If Kis were still here today, he would tell you that business will

continue as usual, so stop down and have dog.

(Ed Kis chose to be cremated, and a celebration of life service is from 4 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 22, at Speakeasy at the Spa, 333 N. Mineral Springs Road, Porter. Friends and family who wish to honor him may make a donation to Paladin for the continued care of Christopher Kis, 4315 E. Michigan Blvd., Michigan City, IN 46360.)







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Notre Dame Catholic School Helps Dunebrook

Kate Bobillo, Notre Dame Catholic School pre-kindergarten teacher, submitted this article and photos



We could not have picked a better time to support Michigan City's Dunebrook Inc. than Catholic Schools Week. Notre Dame Catholic School outdid themselves in that department.

Dunebrook Executive Director Jeanne Ann Cannon came out in the cold to see the cutest little faces running donations to the curb. The Notre Dame preschoolers were bundled up to do the job, and that they did. Many hands make light work, and little legs make it much easier.

As you can see, the worker bees were happy to do the job. They ran back and forth, filling a pickup truck and car with what we would call everyday items, but for Dunebrook, it's a load of treasures.













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Oscar Watch: Gary Oldman in "Darkest Hour"

by Andrew Tallackson

With Gary Oldman's robust turn as Winston Churchill essentially canonized months before "Darkest Hour" hit theaters, the issue is not if the hype survives the hype, but if the movie, itself, exists on the same extraordinary level.

The answer rests with a scene late in the film. Fictional, concocted from the imagination of screen-

writer Anthony Mc-Carten ("The Theory of Everything"), but stirring nonetheless. Churchill, pressured to consider peace negotiations with Nazi Germany in 1940, takes a ride on the London Underground. The passengers are awestruck, hesitant. The mood is taut as well. Countries are collapsing. Invasion appears inevitable. As Churchill questions those seated nearby, curious as to where they stand, each individual, including a young girl, presses

Churchill to fight, to refute proposed negotiations.

There is a palpable sense of country, of a people united with patriotic fervor. Call it corny, but the scene is undeniably powerful. The balance between star and material is complete.

"Darkest Hour" reflects a welcome trend in movie biopics that concentrates on specific moments in time ("Lincoln," "Selma"), rather than feebly encapsulating an entire life into a mere two hours ("Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom"). The movie, directed with typical high energy by Joe Wright ("Pride & Prejudice," "Atonement"), studies the early days of Churchill as Britain's prime minister and exists as a welcome companion piece to Christopher Nolan's "Dunkirk."

In the process, "Darkest Hour" gives Oldman the meatiest role of his career, one he devours so ferociously there is no trace of him left as a recognizable actor, but as Churchill himself.

Admittedly, I approached "Darkest Hour" with mild trepidation, admiring what the great John Lithgow achieved with Churchill in "The Crown." That was a far more subtle performance, but then again, the Netflix series depicted Churchill near the end of his career. Having said that, the scene where Queen Elizabeth admonishes Churchill for concealing the truth about his health — Lithgow's face is a road map of childlike shame and regret — will stay

with me for some time.

Oldman, challenged with portraying the prime minister amid his World War II prime, has his work cut out for him. Churchill in 1940 is facing a track record deemed questionable by many, from his World War I Gallipoli Campaign to supporting Edward VIII during the abdication process. His

"blood, toil, tears and sweat" speech does not rally the troops like he anticipates.

So, Churchill is on the defensive, and Oldman brilliantly captures not just his egofueled bluster, but also the fever pitch of a man who can rarely let his guard down. It isn't so much that Oldman pulls off a brilliant feat of mimicry, but that the performance operates at the same exhaustive level for so long.

With each new project, Wright, as a director, seems hellbent on

Gary Oldman as Winston Churchill in "Darkest Hour."

contradicting limited expectations for contemporary British film. In other words, existing as longer episodes of "Masterpiece Theater." His approach is showy, but makes for lively cinema. There are long, unbroken shots to convey what Churchill sees from the confines of his vehicle, effects sequences that combine models with digital trickery. All of it breaks up the potential monotony of historical material well covered over the years by TV and film.

A few familiar faces turn up — Ben Mendelsohn ("Rogue One") as George VI and Stephen Dillane ("Game of Thrones") as Edward Wood, 3rd Viscount Halifax — but oftentimes, Oldman is the whole show. If any woman could stand up to the actor, however, both in character and as co-star, it is Kristin Scott Thomas ("The English Patient") as Churchill's wife, Clementine. This is an actress with a fire in her belly, and the treat of "Darkest Hour" arrives when Clementine puts Winston in his place. She is the only one who can cut through the bombast, forcing him to stop, breathe and mull his next move.

"Darkest Hour" has a running time of a little over two hours, but it zips by. The film appears energized not just by Oldman, but by Wright's exuberant style. What might have been stuffy Oscar bait instead is tense, immediate and engrossing.

Contact Andrew Tallackson at drew@thebeacher.com

And the Nominees Are...

PICTURE "Call Me by Your Name" "Darkest Hour" "Dunkirk" "Get Out" "Lady Bird" "Phantom Thread" "The Post" "The Shape of Water" "Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri" SCREENPLAY "The Big Sick"	ACTOR □ Timothée Chalamet, "Call Me by Your Name □ Daniel Day-Lewis, "Phantom Thread" □ Daniel Kaluuya, "Get Out" □ Gary Oldman, "Darkest Hour" □ Denzel Washington, "Roman J. Israel, Esq ACTRESS □ Sally Hawkins, "The Shape of Water" □ Frances McDormand, "Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri" □ Margot Robbie, "I, Tonya" □ Saoirse Ronan, "Lady Bird" □ Meryl Streep, "The Post"	Fiddlehead, movie passes
□ "Get Out" □ "Lady Bird" □ "The Shape of Water" □ "Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri" ADAPTED SCREENPLAY □ "Call Me by Your Name" □ "The Disaster Artist" □ "Logan" □ "Molly's Game" □ "Mudbound" DIRECTOR □ "Dunkirk," Christopher N □ "Get Out," Jordan Peele □ "Lady Bird," Greta Gerwig □ "Phantom Thread," Paul Thomas Anderson □ "The Shape of Water," Gui ermo del Toro	☐ Lesley Manville, "Phantom Thread" ☐ Laurie Metcalf, "Lady Bird" ☐ Octavia Spencer, "The Shape of Water"	
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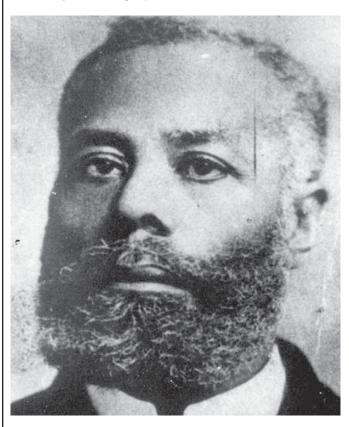


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Portraits in Black History

Editor's note — Each week in February, The Beacher will highlight an African American whose accomplishments may be lesser known, but are just as significant.



Elijah McCoy

Familiar with the expression "The Real McCoy?" Its origins date back to Candian-American inventor Elijah McCoy (May 2, 1844-Oct. 10, 1929), whose oil-drip cup invention was so preferred by railroad engineers, they insisted on making sure they had "the real McCoy system."

Born free in Ontario, McCoy was sent at 15 to Edinburgh, Scotland, to study and work an apprenticeship. He was certified there as a mechanical engineer. He subsequently returned to the United States, joining family that moved to Michigan.

Over the years, he received 57 U.S. patents, most involved with lubricating steam engines. Booker T. Washington praised McCoy for the distinction of generating more patents than any other blacks at the time.

Sadly, for the longest time, he was barely recognized for his efforts. However, he was inducted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame in 2001. In 2012, the Elijah J. McCoy Midwest Regional U.S. Patent and Trademark Office opened in Detroit.

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New Lubeznik Center Exhibits Thrive Off the Unexpected

So, there's more to the birds and the bees than we thought.

In fact, quite a few works in "The Birds and the Bees" at Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St., are not quite what we would expect.



Karen Bondarchuk's "Corvus Deflatus" and "Lassitude."

Would you expect two human-size dead ravens? These two are made from rubber, wood and steel scraps — convincingly so and quite startling. If art is to take the ordinary and let us in on a deep feeling or idea, then Karen Bondarchuk's "Corvus Deflatus" and "Lassitude" compel you to think of death, nature and the fleeting qualities of all things. That's a great way, ironically, to be uplifted to an appreciation of the mo-

ment. Bondarchuk's large wall pieces depicting ravens are not as powerful, because the red background words distract rather than add to the central point, although one viewer disagreed, saying the words describing raven behaviors made the experience richer. The artist's statement says the works are about "sustainability (played) out under human direction although it is a pan-species issue."



Kristina Knowski "Tenebrous Flight (Passenger Pigeon)."

Artist Kristina Knowski uses her backgrounds well, even when the background is empty. Knowski knows abstraction, and her "Falling Eminence (Sandhill Crane)" shows a twisted, falling bird against a white ground, letting the full impact of color and shape "pop." Her "Tenebrous Flight (Passenger Pigeon)" uses the background of a painful red and black sunset to add to the sweep of the passenger pigeons as they begin to disappear, on their way to extinction.



Stephanie Metz's "Pygmy Pouter."

stands out in several ways. Stephanie Metz sees birds metaphorically, almost as caricatures of human beings, and she uses a unique medium: wool threaded through paper to create line and shading. This combination of technique and idea reinforces each other, contributing to an uncomfortable feeling in the viewer, asking us

artist

Another

to identify why we think/feel the way we do, then giving aesthetic pleasure at the cleverness and craft of the artworks.





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Other artists in the exhibit also use unusual mediums, but they are more often clever and creative than meaningful.

An artist with great technique, but a worrisome focus and composition in some works, is Ladislav Hanka. His first-floor works are beautiful etchings combined with honeycomb. Beehives have such a presence of their own — both in real life and with their strong visual hexagonal pattern — that they distract visually from the prints, which are full of great animal spirit. Also, the compositions created by the honeycomb, randomly scattered, do not add to the sense of the works. The artist seems to disagree, stating, "honeycomb flowing down the fronts of my etchings…are profoundly aesthetic."

The second floor is a different story, where Hanka's prints are displayed as prints only. Also, a beautiful book is available, giving full pleasure in participating with the title, "In Pursuit of Birds." I would add "pursuit of drawing and printmaking." Absolutely powerful.

This exhibit also has well-made realistic and decorative art, a broad range of art to view.



"Hothouse Cuttings" by Amiee Beaubien

There is one more surprise, an artwork that caused me to rethink. "Hothouse Cuttings" by Amiee Beaubien is a room full of cut-up inkjet prints, vintage c-prints, parachute cord, carabiners, miniature clothespins, hammock, swings and grow lights on fabric cord with "dried botanical matter." Having first seen it on a Lubeznik Center promotional, my thought was, "eye candy." The lighting seemed so pretty, the objects overwhelming, designed to go with the sensory overload of today's media. However, experiencing the piece, actually walking into it, I began to doubt my first judgment. Yes, the colors are princess-pretty, but I began to see them as part

of the focus of the piece, a "hook" as in a song or book, something to get a person involved so they'd stay for deeper experiences. A key for me in looking at pieces I don't get is to see if they are well made — aesthetic. Aesthetic means for me that the color, shapes and placement give pleasure, not merely being thrown together whimsically. In this work, the basic artistic principle of "unity with variety" is well-played. Also, the piece sticks with me, sometimes a sign of good art. There is a connectedness about it. As film director Stanley Kubrick said, "If da Vinci had said of the Mona Lisa, 'She is smiling because she is hiding a secret from her lover, it would have ruined the work forever." Beaubien's work merits experiencing.

Two other exhibits are at the Lubeznik.

Jay Zerbe has a show, "eCollage," digital collages constructed in Photoshop using elements from painting and drawings. They are interesting and nicely done. Also on view is "Absorbing the Abstract: Student Works From LCA," with several very strong pieces — a show worth seeing. If you don't get abstract art, try playing the art as if it were music. It is easier to comprehend and enjoy. Eventually, abstract shapes and colors move you easily. Exhibiting artists are: Kim Androlowicz, Tom Francia, Stacy Gagle, Irene Hirt, Judith Holtz, Katryna Gagle Jeffrey, Judy Kasniunas, Charyl McComas, Tim Rodeghier, Susan Snell and Kevin Zurik

This usually stolid month has a good amount of excitement out and about. Please remember to notice the color scheme, shapes, lines and brightness or darkness — see how the artists are increasing the impact of what you are looking at. Also suggested is walking through the whole exhibit, then coming back to a piece you like or hate, and spending five minutes looking deeper into subject and art elements. Really going into the art that's out and about.

If You Go

- "Birds and Bees" continues through June 2 in the Hyndman, Brinka/Cross and Susan Block galleries.
- eCollage runs through Feb. 27 in the Area Artists' Association Gallery.
- "Absorbing the Abstract: Student Works From LCA" runs through Feb. 24 in the NIPSCO Education Studio.

Visit www.lubeznikcenter.org for more details.

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Thriller Makes Debut

Footlight Players will present the debut of Robert Komendera's thriller "Fan Mail" on Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 17-18, at Footlight Theatre, 1705 Franklin St.

The story centers on accomplished Broadway star Gayle Hart (Laura Meyer) and her biggest fan, Lawrence Biggs (Alexander Bonner). While Gayle is in rehearsals for her new show, she is bombarded with fan mail from her ardent and obsessive fan.

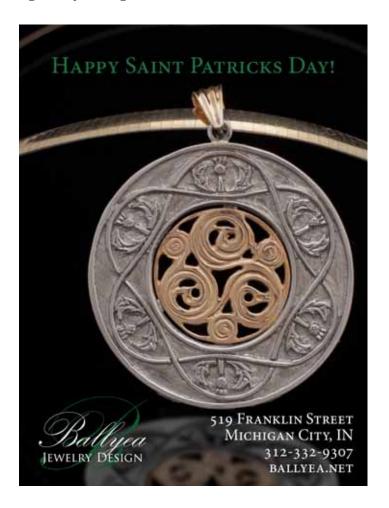
Rounding out the cast of characters are her secretary, Eve Singleton (Emma Blanchard), exhusband, Mike (Thom



Laura Meyer and Alexander Bonner star in "Fan Mail."

Nelson), and friends, Celeste (Bobbi-Ann Lauritsen) and Paul (Joe Blanchard).

Performances are at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 17 and 2 p.m. Feb. 18. Tickets are \$15. Gift cards or discount coupons are not eligible. Make reservations by calling the theater at (219) 874-4035 or visiting www.FootlightPlayers.org



Michigan City Public Library

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

• Bookmarks: "The Blood of Emmett Till" at 2 p.m. Friday, Feb. 16, in the library meeting room.

Tori Binelli will review Timothy B. Tyson's exploration of the lynching of 14-year-old Emmett Till in 1955, and the impact it had on the Civil Rights movement.

• Films on DVD Series: "Victoria & Abdul" at 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 18, in the library meeting room.

The Films on DVD Series returns with the movie that stars Oscar-winner Judi Dench. The screening is in collaboration with Purdue University Northwest's Odyssey Arts and Cultural program.

• Ozobots at 4:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 19, in the meeting room.

Program Ozobot robots using color codes and block-based coding with the Ozoblockly app. Advance registration is required. Register at the Youth Services desk. Call Dave at (219) 873-3045 for more information.

• Story Time at 1 p.m. Tuesdays, Feb. 20 and 27, and 10 a.m. Wednesdays, Feb. 21 and 28.

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

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

Cabin Fever Ham Fest

Cabin Fever Ham Fest is from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 24, at LaPorte Civic Auditorium, 1001 Ridge St.

Sponsored by the LaPorte County Amateur Radio Club, the event includes VE testing at 9 a.m., door prizes, food and free parking.

Tables cost \$15 per table (the first table includes one free admission). An electric site costs an additional \$5 per vendor, with limited access. Advance registration must be paid by Feb. 17 and mailed to LPCARC, P.O. Box 148, Michigan City IN 46361.

General admission is \$7. Call (219) 851-2133 or visit lpcarc.org/hamfest for more details.





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"Victoria and Abdul"

A free screening of "Victoria and Abdul" is at 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 18, at Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St.

The showing is part of a collaboration with Purdue University Northwest's Odyssey Arts and Cultural Events Series.



The movie, rated PG-13, stars Oscar-winner Judi Dench in the true story of a friendship between England's Queen Victoria and her Indian Muslim servant, Abdul Karim. Dench received a Golden Globe nomination for Best Actress, while the costumes received an Academy Award nomination.

Contact Judy Jacobi, PNW assistant vice chancellor of University Art Collection & Special Programs, at (219) 785-5593 for more details.



River Valley Garden Club

Sue Nuti will give the demonstration "Paper Creations from Dried Plant Leaves" during River Valley Garden Club's first 2018 meeting.

The program is Tuesday, Feb. 20, at Harbert Community Church, 6444 Harbert Road, Sawyer, Mich. A potluck luncheon is at noon EST, followed by a short business meeting, then the demonstration at about 1:30 p.m. EST.

Nuti will use plant material from her own garden, such as iris, daffodils and daylilies, to create handmade paper. She also will sell some of her creations. Anyone with an interest in gardening or papermaking can attend.

Club members also are planning for the annual plant sale from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. EST Saturday, May 19, at Harbert Community Park. Members dig a variety of perennials, ground covers, bushes and small trees from their own gardens. Baked goods will be sold.

Club membership is open to interested gardeners. Contact Elizabeth Palulis at (269) 426-3513 or email evpalulis@yahoo.com for details. Visit www.rivervalleygardenclub.org for more information.

Maple Sugaring Time Demonstration

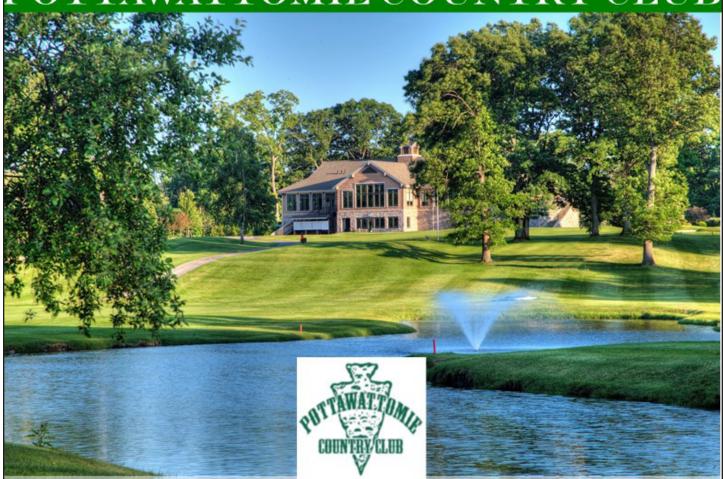
Friendship Botanic Gardens, 2055 E. U.S. 12, will host "Maple Sugaring Time Demonstration" from noon to 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 18.

During the free event, visitors can take a self-guided nature walk through old-growth woodland trails before stopping by the maple sugaring station. There, they will learn how North America's early inhabitants produced maple syrup. Free children's crafts are in the welcome cabin.

The event is dependent on weather conditions. Visit www.friendshipgardens.org for details.



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Is your shoulder pain due to a rotator cuff tear?

FREE ROTATOR CUFF AND SHOULDER PAIN WORKSHOP REVEALS HOW TO ACCELERATE HEALING USING NATURAL TECHNIQUES

Do you have shoulder pain with any of the following day-to-day activities?

- · Reaching Overhead?
- Reaching into the Back Seat?
- · Reaching Behind Your Back?
- While you Sleep?

Dear Fellow NW Indiana Resident,

If you answered yes to any of the questions above, you surely know that shoulder pain can be such a menace...

It can ruin a good night's sleep... and when you lack sleep, you get cranky.

It can change the way you put on your shirt...or for the ladies, your bra...because it's just too painful to do it the way you used to.

It can stop you from enjoying daily simple tasks...making you frustrated...forcing you to take more pain pills than you would care to admit.

And for golfers out there...it can ruin your game...getting scores you're too embarrassed to tell...your friends are probably wondering why you even care to play!

Is it your rotator cuff that's the culprit?

The rotator cuff is a group of four muscles that run from our shoulder blade into the top end of our bone in our arm. They help keep the ball end of our arm bone centered in the shoulder socket.

When healthy, the rotator cuff allows us to reach in all directions smoothly and without pain.

If you experience pain, weakness or difficulty during the tests mentioned here, it is highly likely that you are suffering from a rotator cuff tear.

 This first test is called the Drop Arm Test. With your arm relaxed by your side, turn your arm out so your thumb faces directly to the side. Slowly raise your arm to the side, then slowly lower the arm. Test is positive if the arm suddenly drops or you experience severe pain on the way up or down.

- 2. The Lateral Jobe Test. In this test for the right shoulder, raise you right arm out to the side by lifting your right elbow to 90 degrees, with your hand hanging down, fingers pointed to the ground, your thumb pointing to your tummy. With your left hand, push down on the right arm just above the elbow. Test is positive if you experience pain or weakness.
- 3. The 3rd test is called Lift-Off Test. The hand of the affected arm is placed on the lower back. Now try lifting the hand off the back without straightening your elbow. Test is positive if you're unable to lift the hand off.

Now you may be asking...can a rotator cuff tear heal and pain subside without medications, injections, or surgery?

In most cases, yes...but it depends on but not limited to the following factors.

- What is the grade of the tear? There are 3 grades.
- Which of the 4 muscles of the rotator cuff is torn.
- How old is the tear.

FREE Rotator Cuff And Shoulder Pain Workshop Feb 27 and March 1

Due to overwhelming request from our fellow La Porte County residents, Orthopedic and Balance Therapy Specialists will host our Rotator Cuff and Shoulder Pain Workshop in La Porte on the following date and location:

- Tuesday 5:00 PM Feb 27th, 2018 at our La Porte office (1405 E. Lincolnway, Suite B)
- Thursday 6:00 PM March 1st, 2018 at our Valparaiso office (3125 Calumet Ave., Suite 8)

Here's what you'll learn during the workshop:

- Know which rotator cuff muscle is affected and the grade of the tear
- Correct the cause of your pain and speed up the healing process
- Prevent your shoulder from getting worse, and avoid the single biggest mistake shoulder pain sufferers make

Due to the interactive nature of this workshop, there are only 20 spots available for this workshop. **To hold your spot, please call 219-380-0809 in La Porte or 219-202-2500 in Valparaiso.**

Sincerely,

Dr. Mike Pfeifer, PT, DPT, ATC

Orthopedic and Balance Therapy Specialists

PS-Call **219-380-0809** in La Porte or **219-202-2500** in Valparaiso to hold your spot for the FREE Rotator Cuff and Shoulder Pain Workshop.

PPS- Due to the interactive nature of this workshop, there are only 20 spots available for this workshop.



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Jessica Heinzerling



Sue Hultgren



Darlene Jongkind-Perkins



Pam Kieft



Robin Marshall



Gail Odle



Kathy Sass



Ronda Van Voorhis

Theatre at the Center Announces Cast for "Steel Magnolias"

"Steel Magnolias," Robert Harling's beloved play set in a Louisiana beauty shop, kicks off with previews Feb. 22, then runs Feb. 25-March 25 at Munster's Theatre at the Center.

The play explores the hopes, dreams, triumphs and tragedies of six characters. It inspired the 1989 Oscar-nominated film that starred Julia Roberts, Sally Field, Shirley MacLaine, Daryl Hannah, Olympia Dukakis and Dolly Parton.

Director Linda Fortunato guides a cast that includes Cory Goodrich as M'Lynn, Landree Fleming as Shelby, Heidi Kettenring as Truvy, Joslyn Yvonne Jones as Ouiser,

Jeannie Affelder as Clairee and Myesha-Tiara as Annelle.

Goodrich returns to TATC for her 13th production, having previously appeared in "Women On the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown" and "Ring of Fire: The Music of Johnny Cash." Kettenring also returns, having appeared in "Annie Warbucks," "I Do! I Do!" and "Here's Love!"

Making their TATC debuts are:

- Jones, who appeared in "Once on This Island" at Marriott Lincolnshire.
- Affelder, who appeared in "Silent Sky" at First Folio and "The Little Flower of East Orange" at Eclipse.
- Myesha-Tiara, who was seen in "The Wedding Band" at The Artistic Home and appeared in the Oscar-winning film "12 Years a Slave."

Fortunato has been involved with more than a dozen shows at TATC, including directing "Big River," "The Tin Woman," "Cabaret," "Annie Warbucks"



and "A Christmas Story." She choreographed "Spamalot," "Big Fish," "A Christmas Carol," "Guys and Dolls," "Crazy for You" and "Fiddler on the Roof."

The creative team includes Scenic Designer Greg Pinsoneault, Lighting Designer Michael Trudeau, Costume Designer Brenda Winstead, Wig and Hair Designer Kevin Barthel, Prop Designer Brittney O'Keefe and Sound Designer Barry Funderburg. Jessica Banaszak is the stage manager.

The year-round professional theater is located at The Center for Visual and Performing Arts, 1040 Ridge Road. Performances are at 2 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays, 7:30 p.m. Fridays, 3 and 7:30 p.m. Saturdays, 3 p.m. Sundays, with select Thursday and Sunday night performances. Discounts are available for group 11 or more. Individual tickets range from \$42 to \$46. Call the box office at (219) 836-3255 or Tickets.com at (800) 511-1532 for reservations. Visit www.TheatreAtTheCenter.com for more details.



Attention: Neck Pain Sufferers of La Porte County!

Neck Pain FREE Check Up Event Reveals How to Naturally Get Rid of Your Neck Pain Without Medications, Injections, or Surgery.

Dear La Porte County Neighbor,

By request, we're hosting the Neck Pain FREE Check Up Event here at Orthopedic and Balance Therapy Specialists:

 LaPorte Office: Tuesday February 20th- 1405 E. Lincolnway Suite B (across Route 2 from Walmart)

Neck Pain FREE Check Up All Day Event Tuesday February 20

During the event, you'll receive a 20-minute one-on-one appointment with one of our neck pain specialist physical therapists. You will also learn during your consult:

- How to determine the cause of your neck pain without an expensive MRI (Did you know that up to 85% of people over the age of 50 who have no symptoms of neck pain will show up with a bulging disc on an MRI? That's right...they have no symptoms and yet the MRI shows a bulging disc!)
- How to match the right treatment to the exact cause of your symptoms (this is where most patients get poor results... when the correct treatment is not matched to the correct cause).
- Simple self-help techniques that will help you handle your neck pain without medications, injections, or surgery including the newest revolutionary noninvasive technology available in the market today

The date and location of the free consultations are as follows:

• LaPorte: Tuesday February 20. Call 219-380-0809.

We have only 13 free consultation slots and we expect to fill those slots quickly so call ASAP!

Sincerely,

Jul J

Dr. Arlan Alburo, PT, DPT, MTC

Orthopedic and Balance Therapy Specialists

P.P.S. Call 219-380-0809 in LaPorte now to secure your spot for our Neck Pain FREE Check Up All Day Event on Tuesday February 20.

Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

The following programs are available:

• The Save the Tunes Council performs from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Friday, Feb. 16, at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.

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

• Stewardship Program: "Waking Up the Sugar Bush" from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Feb. 18.

Join staff and fellow volunteers to help prepare for the 40th annual Maple Sugar Time. Wear warm, comfortable clothes; work gloves and equipment will be provided. Meet at the main Chellberg Farm/ Bailly Homestead visitor center, which is off Mineral Springs Road between U.S. 12 and 20 in Porter.

• Stopping Invasive Plants Talk from 12:30 to 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 18, at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.

Expert botanist Ellen Jacquart from The Nature Conservancy will discuss efforts to stop the continued selling of invasive plant species for landscaping.

• Snowshoe Hike from 1 to 3 p.m. Sundays at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.

Learn about nature in winter and how to explore its on snowshoes. Then, try snowshoes during a ranger-led hike through fields and woods surround-

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State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company State Farm Indemnity Company, State Farm Fire and Casualty Company State Farm General Insurance Company Bloomington, IL ing the center. A traditional hike is planned if there is not enough snow. A limited number of snowshoes are available for free, or take a pair.

• Free movie showing from 2 to 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 18, at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.

The documentary is "Mount Rushmore, Crazy Horse and the Black Hills."

The Visitor Center is at 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. The Paul H. Douglas Center is at 100 N. Lake St. in Gary's Miller Beach neighborhood. Call (219) 395-1882 for more information.

Indiana Dunes State Park

The following programs are offered:

• Bird Buffet from 10 to 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 17.

Help naturalists fill bird feeders, and learn how to attract birds to your backyard.

• Naturalist on the Move! from 2 to 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 17.

Find the naturalist outside the Nature Center, at the intersection of trails 8 and 9, with props of things visitors might see on a hike. Hot cocoa will be provided.

• To the Beach & Back Hike from 10 to 11 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 18.

Join a naturalist at the Nature Center to embark on the moderate hike.

• Critter Feeding from 2 to 2:45 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 18.

Stop by the Nature Center to watch resident reptiles and amphibians eat their worms, minnows and crickets.

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





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In Memoriam

Mary (Gudlauskas) Trusha passed away Jan. 29, 2018, at 105 of natural causes.

Mary was born to Lithuanian immigrants, Mon-



ica and Agaton Gudlauskas, in East Chicago, Ind., in 1912. She graduated from Washington High School in East Chicago in 1930. She wed Frank Trusha in 1935 and enjoyed year-round residency in New Buffalo, Mich., for 58 years.

She was preceded in death by her husband; a son, Michael Trusha; and brothers Gus and Frank. She is sur-

vived by a daughter, Maris Karahalios; a daughterin-law, Gail Trusha; grandchildren, Pat Trusha, Tammy Ryan (Karahalios), Brian Trusha, Jimmy Karahalios, Christy Deuberry (Karahalios) and Rachel Toms (Karahalios); and 13 great-grandchildren.

From birth until death, Mary remained consistent in character, generosity and social graces. She loved to laugh, was dedicated to her family and friends, and loved to entertain on her porch. She was artistic, loved to oil paint, cook, beach comb and visit flea markets for treasures, refurbishing her finds before it was trendy to do so. Having lived through the Great Depression and numerous wars, she was remarkable at bring thrifty.

Mary was an active member of St. Mary's of the Lake Rosary Society and the Civic Club Ladies of Michiana until she was 92.

A memorial service is at 11 a.m. EDT Saturday, March 24, at St. Mary's of the Lake Church, New Buffalo, with burial at Pine Grove Cemetery, New Buffalo

The family extends its heartfelt gratitude to Carol's Home in New Buffalo and the staff for the loving care they provided. Mary was dearly loved by her family, leaving them rich with memories.

Attention Beacher Readers: We Need Your Help!

For the past few months, someone has been putting *Beachers* in Long Beach-area mailboxes instead of our blue delivery tubes.

If you see anyone putting *Beachers* in mailboxes, any information you can provide us with is greatly appreciated. *Beachers* are delivered Tuesday afternoon. If you could check your mailbox Wednesday and Thursday morning to see if a *Beacher* is there, let us know. Also, hold on to that edition. We will want to pick it up.

Contact Editor Drew Tallackson at (219) 879-0088 or drew@thebeacher.com with information or for more details.

LCA Partners With Library

Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St., has teamed up with Michigan City Public Library to provide Story Time, an interactive event geared towards infants-age 5 and their parents or guardians.



Miss Trish and Miss Pat from Michigan City Public Library read to children and adults at Lubeznik Center for the Arts.

The library's Story Time Crew leads stories and songs, and guides a craft project. Future programs are from 11 a.m. to noon March 5, April 9 and May 7, with additional dates to be announced.

During the first Story Time at LCA, the library crew greeted visitors with an appropriate classical musical introduction, Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov's "Flight of the Bumblebee," and led two stories related to the new exhibit "Birds & Bees," in which 10 artists share personal interpretations and connections to birds or bees through drawings, printmaking, painting, sculpture, mixed media, installation and video.

Following the stories, visitors were led through a valentine bee craft and received bee finger puppets.

Visit www.lubeznikcenter.org or call (219) 874-4900 for more information.

Trivia Night

The Pax Center will host Trivia Night at 6 p.m. Friday, Feb. 23, at State Street Community Church, 209 State St., La Porte.

The night includes raffles and a silent auction. Concessions will be available. No outside food or drinks are allowed, but pizza can be pre-ordered on the registration form, which is available at tinyurl. com/y9xqx54b

Email Krysta Loucks at krystaloucks@gmail.com for details.

Public Art Committee

The Michigan City Public Art Committee meets at 10 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 15, in the City Hall Mayor's Conference Room.

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Tuesday, February 27 • 4 p.m., 5 p.m. or 6 p.m.

La Porte Hospital's Heart & Vascular Building, First Floor (across the street from main hospital), 901 Lincolnway,

La Porte To register for this free event, call 219-326-2309 or visit listentoyourlegs.eventbrite.com

A tour of La Porte Hospital's Cardiac Rehabilitation Center will follow the presentation.

La Porte Hospital





Westchester Public Library

The following programs are available:

• Knit Wits and Purls of Wisdom at 9 a.m. Thursdays, Feb. 15 and 22, at Hageman Library, 100 Francis St., Porter.

The weekly meeting is open to the skilled and novices, with no registration required.

• NorthShore Health Center free blood-pressure screenings from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 15, at Hageman Library and 10 a.m. to noon Wednesday, Feb. 21, in the Thomas Library Bertha Wood Meeting Room, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

Interested patrons also can receive help calculating Body Mass Index.

• Bits & Bytes series, "5 Things You Can Do To Be More Secure," from 1 to 3 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 15, 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.

• Bookmarks at the Museum at 2 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 15, at Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.

Tori Binelli will review Timothy B. Tyson's "The Blood of Emmett Till."

• Books That Make You Think Discussion Group from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 15, at Thomas Library's Bertha Wood Meeting Room.

The selection is Mary Shelley's "Frankenstein." Register at the reference desk, at the upstairs computer classroom or by calling (219) 926-7696. Copies of the book are available for checkout.

• Toddler Prom from 5 to 6 and 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 17, at The Baugher Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

Toddlers ages 1-4 and their caregivers can dance, and enjoy pizza, punch and cookies. A free ticket required for admittance can be picked up in the children's departments at Thomas and Hageman libraries.

• Saturday Crafternoons from 2 to 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 17, at Hageman Library.

Children 2 to 4 will make paper plate polar bears with Miss Ronnie.

• Sunday Matinee: "Lucky" at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 18, in The Baugher Center.

The film is not rated. Free popcorn is available.

• Children's Crochet Club from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Tuesdays through April 24 in the Thomas Library Children's Department.

Children in grades 3 and older learn beginning crochet from instructor Sadie Steciuch. They should take a size G crochet hook and skein of medium weight yarn. Call (219) 926-7696 to register.

• Bits & Bytes series, "Super Passwords," from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 20, and 1 to 3 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 22, in the Thomas Library Seri-



Harry Dean Stanton in "Lucky."

als/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.

• "Peaceful People" from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays through Feb. 27 at the Thomas Library children's department.

Aimed at children 6 and older, and their caregivers, each session opens with a short exercise to become aware of breathing, followed by a book or two that stress empathy or kindness. Activities are designed to increase feelings of peace and well-being, including mandala construction, gratitude journaling and painting kindness rocks. Registration is required because space is limited. Call the Children's Department at (219) 926-7696 or visit the library.

• Graphic Novel Book Club from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 21, in the Thomas Library Bertha Wood Meeting Room.

The focus is Brian K. Vaughn's "Y: The Last Man Vol. 1." Register in person with the IT department or by phone at (219) 926-7696.

• Pizza Pajama Book Club for Teens from 7 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 21, in the Thomas Library Young Adult Room.

Teens in grades 6-12 can discuss books they have read or are reading. The focus is Rick Riordan's "The Sword of Summer."

• Photography exhibit, "David Larson: 50 Years of Photography in the Indiana Dunes," through April 29 at Westchester Township History Museum.

Larson captures the changing dunes, including some that no longer exist, such as Howling Hill.

Holiday Closings.

Both library branches, Westchester Township History Museum, The Baugher Center, Chesterton Adult Learning Center and Westchester Township Trustee's Office will be closed Monday, Feb. 19, for President's Day. Regular hours resume Feb. 20.

New MMAA Exhibit

Through September, Midwest Museum of American Art will present another spotlight exhibit, "The American West: Vision & Revision."

An adjunct experience to the "Story of American Art" survey of 200 years, the exhibit features 33 objects created by contemporary Southwest artists. Chronologically, the never-before-seen works from the museum's permanent collection range from 1964 to 2000. They call into question cross-cultural ideas of religion, ethnicity, politics of water and the American West landscape.



'Indian Tree," a 1994 mixed media by Jaune Quick-To-See Smith.

Included works by nationally famous artists such as Jaune Quick-to-See Smith, Ann Coe, Gerry Metz, John Doyle, Joel William Coplin, Schenck, Bruce Kimberling and Garo Antresian. addition to paintings and othmixed-media works, the exhibit features 20 Kachina dolls from 1950 to 1970 and two

Native American pine log drums.

The museum is located at 429 S. Main St. in Elkhart. Hours are (all Eastern) 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Sunday is Free Family Day through March 31. Call (574) 293-6660 or visit www.MidwestMuseum.US for details.



American Red Cross

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

- Golden Living Center-Fountainview Terrace, 1900 Andrew Ave., LaPorte, noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 18.
- Marquette Catholic High School, 306 W. 10th St., noon to 6 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 22.

Donors must be in good general health and feeling well, at least 17 (16 with parental consent) and weigh at least 110 pounds. Call (800) 733-2767 or visit redcrossblood.org for more details.

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LaLu Students Receive Art Awards

Two La Lumiere School students have received awards through the Scholastic Art Awards program at South Bend Museum of Art.



Qingyuan (Season) Wu

Senior Qingyuan (Season) Wu, of Beijing, China, and junior Zhuohao (Chris) Li, of Guangzhou, China, received six and three regional awards, respectively. Among their combined nine regional awards are three Gold Key-winning awards, which will be judged for national-level recognition. Wu's paintings, titled "Empty" and "Hand," and Li's photograph, titled "Boston Street," were Gold Key recipients.



Zhuohao (Chris) Li

Both students, according to art teacher Katie Wall, are regularly featured in La Lumiere's Fine Art Friday events, which showcase student work.

Wu also won five regional Scholastic Art awards in 2016 and three in 2017. Among her 2017 awards was a painting that received Best of Show, given to only five pieces in the entire exhibit.

The 2017 Scholastic Art Awards exhibit runs through March 11 in the Warner and Community galleries at SBMA, which is located in The Century Center in downtown South Bend.



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NAACP to Honor Trailblazers

The Michigan City NAACP Chapter will honor six people who advanced the rights of all people Saturday, Feb. 17, at Michigan City Senior Center, 2 on the Lake.

The six people are: Jillian Ashley, Robert Bell, Laverne Dunlap, City Councilman Gene Simmons, the late Allan Whitlow, Allen Williams and a surprise honoree.

Open to the community, the event starts with cocktails (cash bar) and social hour from 6 to 7:30 p.m., followed by dinner and the program from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Dancing starts at 9:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$40 per person. A sponsor table seats 10 for \$500, with mention in all publications for the event.

Contact Cora Cambridge at (219) 561-1808 or Floretha Kelly at (219) 872-8779 for tickets or more details. The NAACP chapter meets from 6:30 to 8 p.m. the fourth Thursday of each month at Ivy Tech Community College, 3714 Franklin St.

Karstens' Club Chili Cook Off

The 14th Annual Karstens' Club Challenge Chili Cook Off is from noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 17, at American Legion Post 37, 756 U.S. 20.

The event is presented by the Jerry Karstens' Athletic Scholarship Board. Tickets are a \$5 donation at the door. Vote for the best chili to place the top three clubs in the finals, with one club winning the Karstens' Chili-Head Traveling Trophy.

The Jerry Karstens' Athletic Scholarship Fund was created in 2003 in memory of Karstens, who devoted nearly 50 years to Michigan City sports. The cook-off helps support it. Contact Jeremy Kienitz at (219) 873-1506 for more details.

Speed Networking

Greater LaPorte Chamber of Commerce will present Chamber Coffee Talk-Speed Networking at 7:30 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 20, at The Presbyterian Church, 307 Kingsbury Ave., LaPorte.

Attendees talk to each other one-on-one for two minutes at a time.

The event is free, with free coffee served. Register by calling (219) 362-3178 or visit tinyurl.com/ybgfblhs

Call for Artists

Lubeznik Center for the Arts is seeking artists for its Zine & Small Press Fest, which is from 1 to 5 p.m. Saturday, April 21.

The cost is \$20 for a full table, or \$10 to share half a table. The registration deadline is March 16, or when tables are filled.

Visit tinyurl.com/y9pybsqj for a registration form. The center is located at 101 W. Second St.

Boys & Girls Club Unveils Al Whitlow Experience Mentoring Program

The legacy of the late Allan "Al" Whitlow continues through the new Al Whitlow Experience mentoring program through Boys & Girls Club of Michigan City.

Whitlow, who unexpectedly passed away Nov. 19, served as the club's executive director for 13 years, from 2001 to 2014. His long list of achievements that impacted Michigan City people and programs includes service as a Michigan City Area Schools

teacher, assistant principal, principal and assistant superintendent. He coached the area's youth, and was an at-large Common Council member for two years upon his death at 78.

Although the club has offered a successful mentoring program for years, first formed under Whitlow's direction, AWE will encompass and expand elements in place and allow for more members to be reached.



Chamyah, 13, talks with her mentor, Allison Harvey, who is the Westcott site leader for Boys & Girls Club of Michigan City.

AWE now will be offered for children 5-18 at all three club locations: the Charles R. Westcott Club in the former Elston Middle School, 321 Detroit St., and club extensions at Pine and Springfield elementary schools. The goal is a weekly, 60-minute, one-on-one mentoring session.

Mentors are needed from "a diverse crosssection of people who believe in our kids," Executive Director Brandi Lewis said.

Those interested can complete an application at the Charles R. Westcott Club or apply at www. bgclubmc.org. Prospective mentors receive a background check. Donations can be made through the website, or mail checks to: AWE Program, 321 Detroit St., Michigan City, IN 46360. More details are available by calling the club administrative office at (219) 873-2298, or check "The Boys and Girls Club of Michigan City" on facebook.

Shelf Ice Brewfest

Now in its fourth year, with more than 40 breweries lined up, Shelf Ice Brewfest is from 1 to 5 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 17, in Michigan City's Uptown Arts District.

Vendors will be located along Franklin Street between Sixth and Eighth streets. Visitors can sample brewers from across the Midwest, including La-Porte County's Zorn Brew Works, Shoreline Brewery, Burn 'Em Brewing and Back Road Brewery,

Festivalgoers can sample food from Fiddlehead, Miller Pizza By the Beach, Arturo's Baked Goods & More and Smokey G's BBQ.

VIP ticketholders are granted entry at noon. Free parking and shuttle service are available. Proceeds support the Michigan City Mainstreet Association.

General admission is \$45, with VIP tickets at \$70. Visit tinyurl.com/y8hwwu8o for reservations.





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Novena to St. Jude

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

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



Long Beach Women's Bowling

Feb. 6, 2018

TEAM STANDING	WON	LOST
1. Diagonal Divas	15	5
2. Alley Katz	14	6
3. Queen Pins	13	7
HIGH INDIVIDUAL GAMES		SCORE
1. Sarah Blank		169
2. Margie Midkiff		168
3. Sue Labovitz		162
4. Lenore Hadaway		159
5. Pat Collado		158
6. Ann Bogart		156
7. Dale Maher		155
7. Mary Lou McFadden		155
8. Carolyn Wiggins		154
9. Linda Neulieb		151
10. Cindy Beck (series)		431
11. Dottie Brinckman (series)		410
SPLITS		
1. Linda Sperling		3-7
2. Mary Lou McFadden		2-7
3. Ellie Parkerson		3-10
THREE STRIKES		

THREE STRIKES

Dottie Brinckman

Team Turkey sixth-frame third game: Diagonal Divas

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

Scholarship Targets Medical Students

March 31 is the submission deadline for the Kelly-Prentiss Scholarship, which helps students completing their third year at an accredited medical or osteopathic school.

Available through Unity Foundation of La Porte County, the scholarship was established nearly 40 years ago by Ruth May Prentiss. It memorializes her, her husband, Delbert, and her parents, William T. and Lottie Kelly. Students must be current or former La Porte County residents, having graduated from a high school serving La Porte County.

The scholarship is one of many offered through Unity. Scholarships and awards range from \$250 to \$2,500, available through more than 50 funds at Unity. Scholarship opportunities are available for graduating seniors and students in college. Visit www.uflc.net/scholarship to begin applying for the 2018 cycle of scholarships and awards. Also available are a list of scholarships, descriptions and eligibility requirements.

Call (219) 879-0327 for more details.

JROTC Earns Awards at Event



Cadets pose with trophies earned at the Chicagoland Military Drill Meet on Feb. 3.

Michigan City High School's Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps Drill Team competed Feb. 3 in the Chicagoland Military Drill Meet in Arlington Heights, Ill.

Twenty three schools from Illinois, Indiana and Ohio participated, including perennial Navy Nationals finalists East Aurora (Ill.), Zion Benton (Ill.) and Northmont (Ohio).

MCHS earned first place in Color Guard, second place in Armed Basic, fourth place in Unarmed Basic and third place in First Year Squad. Those units were commanded by Gunnery Sgt. Griffin Williams, 1st Lt. Tyler Stockley, Maj. James Steinhagen and Lance Cpl. Julia Ringstead, respectively.

"To compete at such a high level, with so many excellent schools, is really a tribute to our cadets," Maj. Tom McGrath, the senior Marine instructor, said. "There is not much room for error when competing against schools like East Aurora, Zion Benton and Northmont, so our cadets were really on their game today."

Master Sgt. Jeff Benak, the Marine instructor, complimented the cadets on overcoming adversity.

"We were missing two starters due to sickness, but we had younger cadets step up," he said. "Everyone, starters and backups, works hard in practice, and that hard work paid off today."

The cadets' next meet is March 3 at Pike High School, Indianapolis. That will be the first big event in a busy month that includes the regional basketball tournament, Disabled American Veterans Awards Night and another drill competition at Fort Wayne's Concordia High School.





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Activities to Explore

In the Area:

Feb. 15 – Books That Make You Think Discussion Group, "Frankenstein," 6-7:30 p.m., Westchester Public Library, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

Feb. 16 — Bookmarks: "The Blood of Emmett Till," 2 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

Feb. 16 — Save the Tunes Council, 7:30-9 p.m., Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. Info: (219) 395-1882.

Feb. 16 — Crystal Bowersox Alive and On Tour, 8 p.m. EST, The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: \$35. Info: www. acorntheater.com, (269) 756-3879.

Feb. 17 — Scout-sponsored craft show/indoor garage sale, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Queen of All Saints, 606 S. Woodland Ave.

Feb. 17 — Karstens' Club Challenge Chili Cook Off, noon-3 p.m., American Legion Post 37, 756 U.S. 20. Cost: \$5 donation. Info: (219) 873-1506.

Feb. 17 — Shelf Ice Brewfest, 1-5 p.m., Uptown Arts District. Tickets: \$45-\$70. Reservations: tinyurl.com/y8hwwu8o

Feb. 17 — Naturalist on the Move!, 2-3 p.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

Feb. 17-18 — "Fan Mail," Footlight Theatre, 1705 Franklin St. Times: 7:30 p.m. Feb. 17/2 p.m. Feb. 18. Tickets: \$15. Reservations: (219) 874-4035, www.FootlightPlayers.org

Feb. 18 — To the Beach & Back Hike, 10-11 a.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

Feb. 18 — "Maple Sugaring Time Demonstration," noon-3 p.m., Friendship Botanic Gardens, 2055 E. U.S. 12. Info: www.friendshipgardens.org

Feb. 18 — Snowshoe Hike, 1-3 p.m., Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. Info: (219) 395-1882.

Feb. 18 — Sunday matinee: "Lucky," 1:30 p.m., The Baugher Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

Feb. 18 — Films on DVD Series: "Victoria & Abdul," 2 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

Feb. 18 — Free movie showing, "Mount Rushmore, Crazy Horse and the Black Hills," 2-3 p.m., Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. Info: (219) 395-1882.

Feb. 19 — Ozobots, 4:30 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

Feb. 21 — Brown Bag Gardening Session, "Trees, What You May Not Know," 6:30-7:30 p.m., LaPorte County Public Library, 904 Indiana Ave.

Through Feb. 24 — "Absorbing the Abstract: Student Works from LCA," Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St. Info: lubeznikcenter.org.

Through Feb. 27 — Jay Zerbe's "eCollage," Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St. Info: lubeznikcenter.org

Through April 29 — Photography exhibit, "David Larson: 50 Years of Photography in the Indiana Dunes," Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.

In the Region

Feb. 16 — Portrait-drawing event, 6-9 p.m. EST, The Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Mich. Info: (269) 983-3688, info@boxfactoryforthearts.org, www.boxfactoryforthearts.org

Feb. 16-18 — Great Backyard Bird Count, Taltree Arboretum & Gardens, 71 N. County Road 500 West near Valparaiso. Info: info@taltree.org, (219) 462-0025.

Feb. 17 — Indoor flea market, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. EST, New Troy (Mich.) Community Center, 13372 California Road. Vendor space/info: (773) 803-9773.

Feb. 20 — River Valley Garden Club, noon EST, Harbert Community Church, 6444 Harbert Road, Sawyer, Mich. Info: www.rivervalleygardenclub. org, (269) 426-3513.

Through Feb. 25 — "Here and There: Intimate and Large Scale Views in Photography," Midwest Museum of American Art, 429 S. Main St., Elkhart. Info: (574) 293-6660, www.MidwestMuseum.US

Through March 3 — "Sherwood Snyder: A Retrospective," Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Mich. Info: www.boxfactoryforthearts.org, (269) 983-3688.

Through May 7 — Paintings by Michael Rippey, Inn at Harbor Shores, St. Joseph, Mich. Info: www. harborshoreslife.com, www.innatharborshores.com

Support Groups

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

Mondays, Fridays — Overeaters Anonymous, 7 p.m. Mon./Franciscan St. Anthony Health, 301 W. Homer St., 9 a.m. Fri./First United Methodist Church, 121 E. Seventh St. Info: https://oa.org, (219) 879-0300.

Wednesdays — Alzheimer's/Dementia Support Group for Caregivers, 2 p.m., third Wednesday of each month, Rittenhouse Senior Living, 4300 Cleveland Ave. Info: (888) 303-0180.

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

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Furnished 1BR apartment over garage, quiet wooded setting among \$500K homes, granite, hardwood floors, shared pool, tennis, basketball. Kitchenette. Utilities included. \$800, 1-yr lease, no smoking, no pets. (312) 399-5341.

UPSCALE LOFT FOR RENT: 1 huge bedroom with walk-in closet, W/D, large deck, off-street parking, wood floors. Just steps from 11th Street South Shore station. \$650/mo. + utilities. Call (219) 872-9111.

Summer rental. Stop 37. 4BR/3BA, AC, WiFi/cable. 300 ft to beach access. Contact jmebeachouse@yahoo.com

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

CONDOMINIUM WITH UNIVERSAL APPEAL IN THE SHORES! 2BR/2.5BA/main-floor den, at 2210 Bayview Drive. \$224,500. Sale by owner. Household items, furniture items available by appointment. (219) 393-4609.

Support those who advertise in the Beacher! Tell them you saw their Ad!

Portrait Drawing Event



Watch local portrait artists in action, painting and drawing from live models, during a special event from 6 to 9 p.m. EST Friday, Feb. 16, at The Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Mich. Guests can see how each artist interprets the same model. Wine and local craft beer will be available. The suggested donation is \$5 per person. Call (269) 983-3688 or visit boxfactoryforthearts.org/ for details.

Two-Day Guitar Workshop

A two-day guitar workshop with Ron Spears is from 2 to 4:30 p.m. EST Saturday and Sunday, March 3 and 4, at Three Oaks Arts & Education Center, 14 Maple St.

Spears is a well-known guitarist and member of Ah Tu, a popular acoustic group that plays in Southwest Michigan and Northwest Indiana. He has studied under Tony do Rosario, a Chicago jazz guitarist, Jorma Kaukonen of Jefferson Airplane and Hot Tuna, and Garth Taylor, School of American Music founder.

The workshop is open to intermediate and advanced guitarists 15 and older. It will explore chord/melody approaches to solo and accompanist performances, with emphasis on right-hand picking techniques and using jazz standards and old-time blues guitar tunes. Students must have a good understanding of chord forms and progressions, and be able to play up and down the neck of the guitar.

The workshop is limited to eight students. Students must take a guitar, notepad, pen or pencil. A smartphone with video capability is recommended. The cost is \$35 for both days, or \$20 for Saturday only. Since the second day builds on the first, Sunday-only registration is not available. The registration deadline is Thursday, March 1. Contact Spears at chateauspears@comcast.net.



Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter

<u>Before We Were Yours</u> by Lisa Wingate (hard-cover, \$26 retail in bookstores and online; also available as an eBook)

"...grab my hair and pull until it hurts. I want to pull all of it out. Every single piece. I want a pain I understand instead of the one I don't. I want a pain that has a beginning and an end, not one that goes on forever and cuts all the way to the bone."

This is an emotional roller coaster of a story, tug-

ging at your heartstrings because it involves our most precious possession — our children.

From the 1930s to 1950, a woman named Georgia Tann ran the Tennessee Children's Home Society in Memphis. She supposedly took in orphans — abandoned and unwanted children and placed them in homes with "good families." Many times, she tricked parents into signing over their babies, especially if they were the blond-hair, blue-eyed variety much in demand. Not surprisingly, Tann was in it for the money. The children faced brutal living conditions, poor food and little medical attention. Over the years of the home, up to some 500 children disappeared — died, or maybe killed.

Meticulously researched and realistically told, Lisa Wingate has given us an all-too real picture of what these children endured, told through the story of two fictional women: one who lived in the Tennessee Children's Home in 1939, and one in the present who unwittingly uncovers her own family's secret...

The story unfolds in chapters alternately told by Rill Foss, a river gypsy child, and Avery Stafford, federal prosecutor and daughter of a state senator.

Rill is 12 and lives with her parents and four siblings on a Mississippi riverboat. It's a hardscrabble life, but a loving one. One stormy night, the local midwife is called in to deliver Rill's newest brother or sister. Something is wrong, however, and the midwife tells Rill's father to get his wife to a hospital before she and the baby die.

After a scary night alone, Rill's father has not returned. A policeman and other men come knocking on the door and haul out Rill and her siblings without an explanation and take them to the Tennessee Children's Home. At 12, Rill is the oldest and feels in charge of her brothers and sisters. But what can she do? She is lead to believe they are staying there

until their parents can come get them. Lie No. 1 — soon to be followed by more.

They soon learn there are consequences for perceived bad behavior, like a beating or the loss of a meal, or worse still, a few hours in a dark, locked closet. They receive old clothes to wear, but worse, they are given new names. Rill is told her name now is May Crandall.

Rill/May figures out her parents are not coming for them as one sister and her brother are taken away to new homes. Her other sister, Camellia, the

> only dark-haired one? Well, she fights her captors mightily and disappears one day, never to be seen again.

> Meanwhile, in the present, Avery is dealing with the dementia of her beloved grandmother, Judy, and the declining health of her father, Sen. Stafford of South Carolina.

Avery has a chance meeting at a nursing home with a strange woman who steals her bracelet, a gift from her grandmother. The woman's name is May. Curiosity about her sets Avery on a journey that may change her life forever and bring devastation, or maybe redemption, to the Stafford family.

Wingate does a great job showing how Avery's link to a political dynasty is a difficult road to follow. Is she her own person? Or, is she expected

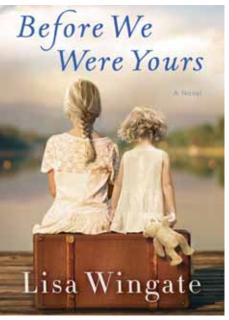
to step into her father's footsteps when he has to retire from the Senate? A far different life from that of May Crandall.

Rill and Avery may be fictional characters, but their stories mirror those Wingate discovered in her meticulous research. Unfortunately for the victims, Georgia Tann died of cancer shortly after her horrible story was brought to light, and before she could be brought to justice. Maybe the cancer was punishment enough. Wingate, in her acknowledgments, tells us many children were reunited with family during the investigation, and many were placed with good families who gave the children what they might not have had, but the lesson learned here is that no one should be able to use children as commodities. Keep the tissues handy for this one.

The Huffington Post: "One of the year's best books . . . It is almost a cliché to say a book is 'lovingly written' but that phrase applies clearly..."

Wingate is a former journalist, an inspirational speaker and the bestselling author of more than 20 novels. Website: lisawingate.com; FB: LisaWingate-AuthorPage

Till next time, happy reading!



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You'll Fall In Love With These Properties!





302 Birch Tree Lane, Michigan City • \$114,000

This wonderful condo has updated kitchen, crown molding and tasteful neutral decor. Affordable living with many amenities! Enjoy the pool or trek on down to the beach! Association dues include heat, water and common-area maintenance.



3307 Calumet Trail, Duneland Beach ● \$439,900

Living is easy in this generously proportioned 2-story residence on a double lot in desirable Duneland Beach. 4 spacious bedrooms, three bathrooms and a kitchen that flows to the eating area. The master bedroom is complete with walk-in closet and master bath. Large living room and rec room on main floor, finished basement. Wonderful screened-in porch overlooks expansive yard and deck. Perfect for a year-round family or as a summer retreat, this home is a 4-minute walk to the beach!



333 Lake Shore Drive, Sheridan Beach ● \$220,000

Beautiful condo with lake views and walking distance to Lake Michigan! 2-bed, 2-bath unit with a beautiful kitchen, living room, dining area and den. Attached garage and storage is under unit. Wonderful viewing deck with pool and hot tub. Walking distance to Washington Park, zoo, marina, lighthouse, restaurants and more.



805 Birch Tree Lane, Michigan City • \$176,000

Best of both worlds! Enjoy low maintenance 3-bedroom 3-bath condo living within a beach community! Only one of four units this size. Wonderful amenities include garage, private patio and pool area. Beautiful common area. Association fee includes gas, trash, water, grass, snow removal and all of the pool maintenance.



202 N. Lake Ave. #East, Sheridan Beach ● \$625,000 202 N. Lake Ave. #West, Sheridan Beach ● \$525,000

Welcome to Dune House! Both East and West units overlook Lake Michigan and include 3 stories of quality workmanship with multiple decking and rooftop. These well-maintained 3-bedroom, 4-bath homes are ready for their new owner!





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