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Incredible Milestone

by William Halliar



Jeffery Doeblar leads Michigan City Municipal Band in rehearsal. Photo by Walt Bukva

Memorial Day is a most special and sacred of holidays. In Michigan City each year, it is celebrated, in part, by a quiet, respectful service in Greenwood Cemetery where so many of our community's citizens are buried.

As has been tradition for so many years, this year's ceremony included the Michigan City Municipal Band, directed by Jeffery Doeblar.

Veterans groups, Scouts and Michigan City High School's JROTC marched solemnly through the winding paths of the old ceremony, bearing their flags and standards on high through a freshening wind. They walked to the Civil War memorial as the band played "God Bless America," "This is My Country" and "America the Beautiful," music that touched the souls of those gathered that morning.

The music of a nation, played by the Michigan City Municipal Band, set the tone for the ceremony and the day itself. The band is 150 years old this year: an incredible milestone of community service. If you consider Greenwood Cemetery opened in 1864, shortly before the band debuted, it is not inconceivable to imagine that many who are buried there must have, themselves, heard the strains of patriotic music offered by the group.

There was a time when almost every town, city or small berg had its own band, and the music of American patriotism filled the air and stirred the hearts of all who heard it. One source estimates that in 1890, there were 10,000 community bands marching in patriotic parades and playing band concerts across the land.

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The same source estimates that today, only about 100 of these municipal bands remain active. LaPorte County can boast of having two: one in Michigan City and the other in LaPorte.

It seems the tradition of community music in America began in the worship services of its early communities, especially among those founded by the Moravians in colonial America. The Moravians were a Protestant group founded in Europe around 1457, later migrating to our shores seeking religious freedom. The Moravians were some of the first settlers in America, founding cities and towns in Georgia, then Pennsylvania and finally across the eastern seaboard.

The Moravians, who had a love of brass bands, felt music should be an important part of each church service. For them, music was a necessity of life, not a luxury. It was a means to express their faith and enjoy each other's company. Their leaders were prolific composers of brass band music and hymns. Of course, this love of music spilled over into secular and finally civic life as the communities grew and the love of brass band music emerged as an American tradition. Truly, there is no sound quite like that produced by a well-tuned, well-practiced brass band.

During the Civil War, perhaps much inspired by immigrant populations such as the Moravians, marshal music led armies on their way into battle, and the sound of trumpets directed the troops through the din of gunfire. When the war ended, soldiers returned home with the music of the battlefield

in their memories and in their hearts. All of those many thousand army musicians formed bands in their hometowns, using the tunes they learned to celebrate their country and remember those whose lives perished in battle.

It was only natural that in Michigan City, a band consisting in part of veterans should be formed. In 1869, director Fred Kimball took to the podium and with a stroke of his baton, the first clear notes of

a golden trumpet were sounded and a tradition of band music in Michigan City was born.

This first brass band in Michigan City was called "The Silver Cornets" and sometimes simply "The Brass Band." Either way, the band members were dedicated to serving their "home sweet home" by inspiring friends and neighbors with the music of their history.

Over the years, the band went through many changes, including the venue, which began between Michigan and Fourth streets, then moved in 1911 to the new bandstand in Washington Park and finally to its current home.

The band also changed names, depending on its benefactor. What began in 1869 as The Silver Cornets split into the Union and Independent bands. These two later joined and became the Ames Union Band, named after George Ames, a prominent businessman and supporter.

In 1914, the name changed once again to the Haskell and Barker Band in honor of John Barker, who created an endowment to support it. In 1925, Michigan City assumed full financial support, and the group officially became known as the Michigan City Municipal Band.



The Michigan City Municipal Band is an integral part of Memorial Day ceremonies in Michigan City. Photo by Janet Baines

In 1969, on the occasion of the municipal band's 100th anniversary, the late Bill Harris, husband of local historian Pat Harris, penned a history of the band to that point, which can be found in the Old Lighthouse Museum's archives.

A curious fact of history, as mentioned in Harris' book, illustrates the important role music plays in the patriotic life of a nation. Toward the end of the Spanish-American War (April 21, 1898-Aug. 13, 1898), the Michigan City band was inducted into the Second Infantry Indiana Organized Militia. At this point, it became the Ames Second Regimental Band.

Bill Harris, who played French horn in the band for more than 50 years, passed away in 2015, but his wife lovingly recalls how much the group meant to her husband.

Pat's recollections offer an insight into the heart of the group's continued success, and speaks to the esteem with which members hold the band, its directors and the music played.



The late Bill Harris, photographed in 2013, was passionately devoted to Michigan City Municipal Band.
Photo provided by Pat Harris.

"His love of music began in the fourth grade playing cornet, but band director Fred Weber switched him to the French horn in fifth grade," Pat says of Bill.

He played the French horn through high school in band and orchestra, always using a rented school instrument. After high school, Bill spent time in the Army during the Korean War.

"The State of Indiana Korean Veterans Bonus allowed him to purchase his first French horn," Pat said. This allowed him to continue with his love of music, as he played in LaPorte County Symphony Orchestra for more than 30 years, as well as in the municipal bands of Michigan City and LaPorte for more than 50 years.

"Vacations were planned around the MCMB schedule," Pat says.

She remembers Bill saying, "It was relaxing to play his horn after a hard day at work." Bill's spirit is still with the band each time it performs. His beloved French horn is now played by longtime friend and fellow French horn player Kathleen Lang.

The tradition continues.

As Bill noted in his 100-year history that in 1969, many band members had been active with the group for more than 50 years, and that tradition rings

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Incredible Milestone Continued from Page 3

true today. Harris quotes Jim Garwood as saying, “You become addicted to music, you don’t feel right unless you are playing.”

Many members in 2018 have been a part of music making in Michigan City for many, many years. Often, husbands, wives and children play and enjoy music together. Of the 48 members today, 18 have been with the group for at least 20 years, and five have been playing for more than 50 years. Mary Riley has logged 56 years, Steve Hornyak 55 and Steve Watson 50.



The late Guy Foreman.

Roger Smith has been playing his horn with the band for 63 years, and his wife, Sue, on her oboe for 51. They took the time to share with *The Beacher* favorite memories of their experiences. Both remember the late Guy Foreman, the band’s beloved director for 60 years, started both of them on instruments in grade school.

During the years of raising a family, they took the children with them to practices where they sat and colored quietly, all while listening to the music. Roger and Sue remark that a special joy is that four of their seven children also played in the band. In one notable concert, five family members played together.

Roger and Sue have played together, so far, in 750 concerts, none of which are more memorable than the July 4th one when, as they played the “1812 Overture,” the bushes surrounding the bandstand caught on fire from the accompanying fireworks display.



Rick Carlson, who has played trumpet with the band for 44 years, is seen in the back row, fourth from the right. Photo by Walt Bukva

Rick Carlson, who has played trumpet with the band for 44 years, stresses how important support from the city and city council are to the band’s exis-



Washington Park’s Guy Foreman Bicentennial Amphitheatre is home to the band’s performances. Photo by Walt Bukva

tence, and to the fine performance venue they enjoy at Washington Park’s Guy Foreman Bicentennial Amphitheatre.

Many of the band’s current members, in fact, learned their skills and love of music from Foreman. He graduated from Elston High School in 1938 and took over leadership of the Municipal Band in 1940. He passed away March 20, 2017.

After Foreman’s retirement in 2000, Rick D’Arcangelis became the director until 2013, when the baton was passed to Doeblner. He has served as director of music education and bands at Valparaiso University since 1992, following 10 years of teaching in public schools.

“The community band is one of our great American traditions,” Doeblner says. “It is wonderful that Michigan City values the band so much. Community bands in America have always brought citizens together to share new music and old music and to celebrate our country.”

Celebration is what the band is all about. Back in 1911, when the new bandstand was dedicated in Washington Park, a crowd of 10,000 people gathered on a summer night to hear the band play a march,

If You Go

Michigan City Municipal Band concerts are at 7:30 p.m. Thursdays, June 7-Aug. 9, at Washington Park’s Guy Foreman Bicentennial Amphitheatre.

Special performances include:

- June 7 — The premiere of a commissioned work, Roger Cichy’s “Beyond the Lighted Tower.”
 - July 5 — Fourth of July celebration.
 - Aug. 2 — A guest band, Carpo Musicale Gioacchino Rossini from Palazzago, Italy.
- Visit mcmunicipalband.org for details.



A 1907 postcard showing the Washington Park bandshell.
Provided by Mike Fleming.

“Greater Michigan City,” composed by H.M. Hamm especially for the occasion. The new bandstand was declared acoustically “as nearly perfect as possible” by enthusiastic listeners.

In that grand tradition, a new composition has been commissioned to celebrate the band’s 150th anniversary. “Beyond the Lighted Tower” by Roger Cichy, a prolific composer whose works are said to paint experiences and emotions on a canvas of sound, was written specifically for the anniversary. Cichy says he chose the title because of “Michigan City’s iconic lighthouse, which has been an important landmark for years.” The real emphasis of the

piece, he suggests, is “what lays beyond the lighted tower, that being a vibrant community rich in history, culture and even a municipal band.”

“Beyond the Lighted Tower” will be featured at several of this summer’s concerts.)

Lang, it should be noted, is the head of the sesquicentennial organizing committee. She has written in light of the milestone, “Picture it: 150 seasons of summer music in the park, picnic baskets on blankets on the lawn, sparkling marches, overtures show tunes, patriotic music, even rock medleys playing while mom and dads listen contentedly and their kids chase lightning bugs, all as the sun sets slowly over the lake.”

Ah.

Home, sweet home.

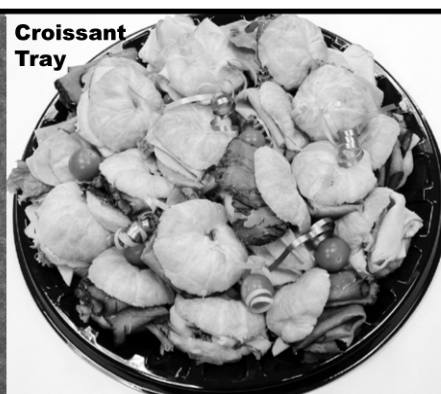
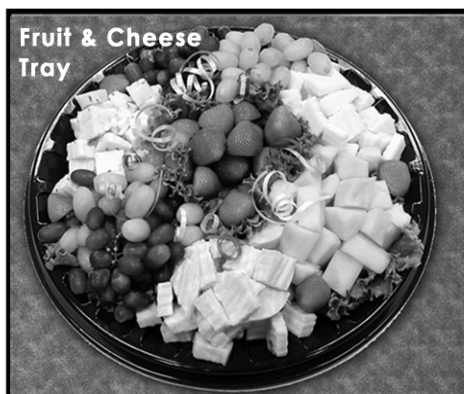


The band during a performance of one of its summer concerts.

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The 17th season of the Roosevelt Pipe Organ Series continues Wednesday, June 13, at Christ Church (the former First Congregationalist Church), 531 Washington St.

All performances are free and at 12:15 p.m. Wednesdays.



Kent Jager and the Queen of Angels Choristers.

Performing June 13 is Kent Jager and the Queen of Angels Choristers from Chicago's Queen of Angels Catholic Church. The group features 25 singers in fourth through eighth grades who are part of the Queen of Angels choral program. The primary function is to provide musical leadership at parish liturgical events. Throughout the choir season, it rehearses and sings for nearly 25 Masses at Queen of Angels. The June 13 concert is based on texts from Psalms and spans a wide range of musical styles. It also includes music by Handel, Proulx, Mendelssohn and Goodall.

The schedule, with more dates announced soon, is:

- June 20 — Stephen Schnurr.
- June 27 — Mark Sudeith.

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A United Effort

May 29 was cause for celebration as numerous groups and individuals unveiled a new picnic shelter at Washington Park's Fedders Alley.

The project's major sponsor was the Michigan City Exchange Club, led by past club president Dennis Schultz, and included students in the A.K. Smith Center Building Trades Class. Schultz not only serves with the Exchange Club, but also as a board member for A.K. Smith Center Building Trades efforts.

A.K. Smith instructor Dick Bucher also was involved, along with Central States Manufacturing, D&M Excavating Inc., Smith Ready Mix Inc., Dan's Landscaping, Von Tobel Lumber and Ryan Stimley.

All photos by Paul Kemiell



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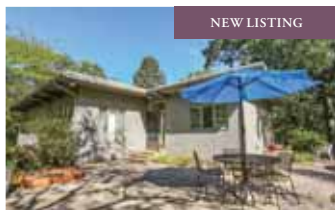
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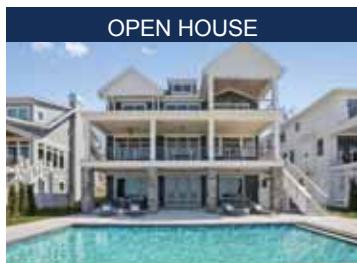
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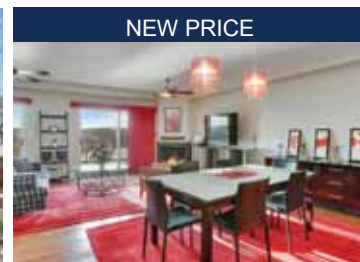
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Getting Mother to Russia

Travel is never easy, right?

I speak from experience, and the travel misadventure I write of is the trip my late mother, Hannah McKelvy, and I took to Russia in October 2007. You read about it in these pages back then, but you did not know the challenges we faced in getting my then-86-year-old mother to Russia from Chicago.

But first, let me say we went to Russia not because we are of Russian descent, but because my mother and her ad hoc travel club decided the one place they had not visited was Russia.

So, Russia it would be, and they booked a trip with Viking River Cruises called "Waterways of the Czars," by ship from Moscow to St. Petersburg.

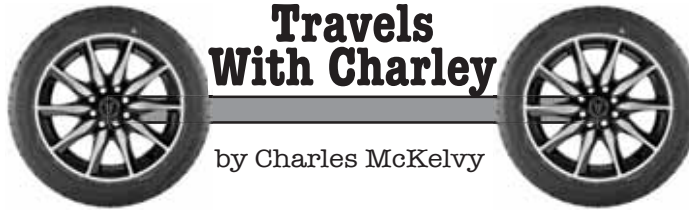
All well and good, but the challenge was to get my physically challenged mother from Chicago to the ship in Moscow that was not really designed so she could move freely from cabin to dining room. That, of course, is where I came in, and that is precisely why I was appointed by the family to accompany my mother to Russia in the first place. Either one of her children accompany her, or she was not going to Russia.

Period.

End of story.

But the story was just beginning Oct. 9, 2007, when we reported to the international terminal at O'Hare International Airport to board a non-stop Lufthansa flight to Frankfurt, Germany, where we would connect with a non-stop Lufthansa flight to Moscow.

Pretty simple, right?



Not really, because, you see, my mother always insisted on traveling first class, so she booked herself a first-class ticket on those flights and put me somewhere down below in

steorage, where I had to help hand out pillows and keep the restrooms tidy.

Welcome to my world.

Anyway, Mom and I were checked in and ready when Lufthansa welcomed first-class passengers aboard. I rolled Mom up to the jetway in her wheelchair, and Lufthansa took her from there, with the assurance all I had to do when we arrived in Frankfurt was make my way to the connecting flight to Moscow. They told me in no uncertain terms my mother was a first-class passenger and, of course, Lufthansa would easily and efficiently transport her to their Moscow flight which, after all, wasn't due to depart for more than an hour after our scheduled arrival in their hub airport of Frankfurt.

Got all that?

I thought I did, and so, when we arrived in Frankfurt, right on time I might add, I immediately saw the first-class passengers were long gone because they, of course, had been first off the plane.

The Frankfurt airport was torn up at the time due to some serious remodeling, so I had to pick my way carefully to the gate from whence our flight to Moscow would depart, but I made it there smartly,



Hannah McKelvy was rarin' to go to Russia on Oct. 9, 2007.



That's our ship, Viking Pakhomov, on the right. Her sister ship, Viking Lomonosov, is on her port side.



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and with ample time to spare.

But, wonder of wonders, my mother, the first-class passenger, was nowhere to be seen.

Where had Lufthansa taken her?

How could she not be there?

As I was soon to say in Russian, "*Ya nez nigho*," or "I don't know."

All I knew was, Lufthansa screwed up big time, and as the seconds and minutes ticked away, they seemed to have no clue as to my mother's whereabouts. They had misplaced a first-class passenger. Now, they were boarding first-class passengers for their flight to Moscow and the rest of the lot. Time was running out, so I drew on my best high-school German and told the uniformed attendant behind the counter: "*Meine Mutter wird verloren!*" You don't need a translation to know I said "my mother is lost!"

When I resorted to their *Mutter Sprache*, or mother tongue, they got on the blower and, as they were detaching the jetway from their aircraft, a yellow transport cart appeared on the fly with my distraught mother on the back, wondering what was what.

Yes, she thought I was to blame, but all I could do was sigh mightily and politely, but firmly, ask my new friends at Lufthansa to kindly reattach the jetway and to please, *please* be sure my mother's wheelchair accompany us on the flight.

No worries, or so they said, because, of course, when we arrived in Moscow, with Mother Russia sitting up there in first class and me back again in steerage, there was no sign of Mom's wheelchair. It, too, had become *verloren*.

Wheelchairs were not thick on the ground in Moscow, so I told the Lufthansa people we absolute-



Mother and son dressed for dinner in Russia. Well, mother did.



Here I am about to wheel my mother into the Kremlin. Here I am, about to have my head examined.

ly had to have Mom's wheelchair before our ship, the Viking Pakhomov, set sail for St. Petersburg in three-days time.

"*Hat keine angst*," they said.

But I did have plenty of angst, or worry, because of what had happened in Frankfurt. When we boarded our ship, I asked the concierge to keep an eye out for Mom's wheelchair, and to see if she could find a replacement for us in Moscow. She was hopeful on the former front, but glum on the latter.


So we soldiered on without a wheelchair as we toured Moscow that day and, no, Mom did not ride the famous Moscow subway as she thought she would because, after all, it was part of the package.

There are words in Russian and German for what I said to her in response, but you don't want to read them here, because this is, after all, a family newspaper.

The next day, Lufthansa coughed up Mom's wheelchair and delivered it to the ship. Crisis averted, or, as they said at Lufthansa, "*Hat keine angst*."

I had had plenty of angst, but then that's the fun of family travel, and fun family travel is what this story is all about, so let me end it by saying if you plan some big, honking adventure halfway around the world with an aging loved one, expect the unexpected, because it will happen at every turn.

Dasvidanya, komrads.



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LAKE LEVELS OR STORMS?

Date	Superior*	Michigan Huron*
	Daily Mean	Daily Mean
01-MAY-2018	601.91	580.19
02-MAY-2018	601.98	580.23
03-MAY-2018	601.97	580.26
04-MAY-2018	601.96	580.30
05-MAY-2018	601.99	580.35
06-MAY-2018	602.00	580.35
07-MAY-2018	601.98	580.50
08-MAY-2018	602.03	580.37
09-MAY-2018	602.02	580.38
10-MAY-2018	602.10	580.38
11-MAY-2018	602.06	580.42
12-MAY-2018	602.05	580.42
13-MAY-2018	602.03	580.43
14-MAY-2018	602.05	580.44
15-MAY-2018	602.06	580.46
16-MAY-2018	602.06	580.48
17-MAY-2018	602.09	580.47
18-MAY-2018		
19-MAY-2018		
20-MAY-2018		
21-MAY-2018		
Mean:	602.02	580.38

May Statistics	Superior	Michigan Huron
Avg Last Month	601.94	580.00
Avg Last Year	602.24	580.05
Minimum	599.61 (1926)	576.57 (1964)
Maximum	602.82 (1986)	581.63 (1986)
Long Term Avg*	601.57	579.00

These stats come from the USACE. What interests me is that normal up and down for Lake Michigan is between 12 and 18 inches over the year. Before 2017, we were below the long-term average about a foot for at least 10 years. Now, we are above by about 1 foot.

So this latest rise in lake levels has only been about 2 feet. Does not seem like much, but it is.

Finally, even though the water is not going down, beaches in Michiana have started to accrete sand (more sand and a tiny bit wider beaches). Beaches are more about wind than water levels? Or more about water levels than winds? Or "both and or?"

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Canterbury Season Kickoff

Canterbury Summer Theatre will present the 2018 season kickoff show to its 50th anniversary season on Sunday, June 10, at Canterbury Theatre, 807 Franklin St.

A light meal will be served at 4:30 p.m., followed by the performance at 6 p.m. Admission is free, and reservations can be made by calling (219) 874-4269.



Sarah Bartley, Nick Mazzini, Becky Keeshin, Christian Mouiset and Jasey Erin Brook Gilbert appear in the 2017 production of "Have a Nice Day!"

The preview includes "Graceland" (June 13-16), "The Bikinis" (June 20-30), "End of The Rainbow" (July 5-14), "Tick, Tick...Boom!" (July 18-28) and "A Texas Romance" (Aug. 2-4). The presentation will introduce, and features performances by, the Canterbury resident company, which has been hired from a nationwide search. The performers hail from throughout the country, including Maryland, Oklahoma, New Hampshire, Illinois and Louisiana.

Artistic Director Ray Scott Crawford, Bossier Parish Community College dean of performing arts and communication, returns for his 33rd year.

Call the box office at (219) 874-4269 or visit www.canterburytheatre.org for season tickets or additional information.



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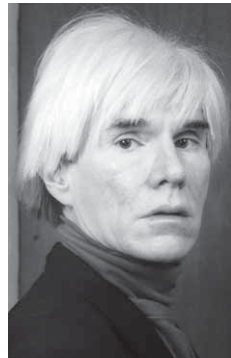
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“Warhol: Icon & Influence”

“Warhol: Icon & Influence,” which features original works on loan from Drew and Wendy Levenfeld’s collection and Valparaiso University Brauer Museum of Art, runs June 9-Oct. 13 at Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St.



A free opening reception is from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, July 6.

Warhol (1928-1987) is recognized as one of the 20th century’s most important artists. More than 50 original works will be on display, including a substantial collection of black-and-white photographs, Polaroids and large color-screen prints, including the famous Campbell Soup Can, The Moon Walk and Annie Oakley. The works span the late 1960s through the late 1980s.

In conjunction with the exhibit is an invited group of emerging and mid-career artists whose work has been guided by Warhol’s legacy. They include: Christopher Cosnowski; Dominic Sansone; Robyn Day; and C.J. Hungerman.

Visit lubeznikcenter.org for more details.

“Summer of Love” Painting Party

To kick off its “Summer of Love” 1960s-themed exhibits, a painting party with art instructor Dori Huber is at 1 p.m. Saturday, June 9, at LaPorte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave.

The \$35 cost includes museum admission and painting the peace sign specially designed by Huber. All supplies are included, and refreshments are served.

Huber has a Bachelor of Arts from Ohio State University and a Master of Education from Purdue University Northwest. She taught art in the South Central district for decades and continues to instruct students at PNW and Lubeznik Center for the Arts. She also will instruct this summer at LaPorte’s “Arts in the Park.”

Call (219) 324-6767 to make reservations.



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Day-Long Event for Flutists

The School of American Music is seeking flutists for a day-long "flute choir" on Saturday, June 30, at the Three Oaks Arts and Education Center.

The event, open to flutists of all ages and abilities, is led by SAM Flute Instructor Julie Littell.

It opens with registration from 9:30 to 10 a.m.



Littell

From 10 a.m. to noon, attendees practice in a large group, and Littell will field flute-technique questions. Lunch at a downtown Three Oaks restaurant is from noon to 1:15 p.m. From 1:30 to 3 p.m., a flute master class is scheduled, and from 3 to 3:30 p.m., attendees perform and record pieces learned.

All times are Eastern.

Littell is a seasoned performer and instructor in traditional and Suzuki-Takahashi flute methods.

She has served as head of the flute department at the Talent Education Suzuki School in Norwalk, Conn., and taught at other schools in Connecticut and California. She has a degree in flute performance from Principia College, and has studied privately with instructors in the U.S. and Japan. She also is a member of Valparaiso University's Windiana professional band.

The cost is \$50 for early registration, or \$60 after June 27. Contact SAM at (269) 409-1191 or by email at schoolofamericanmusic@gmail.com to register or for more information.

Michigan City Community Chorus

Michigan City Community Chorus will present its annual spring concert at 7 p.m. Thursday, June 7, in the Immanuel Lutheran Church community room, 1237 E. Coolspring Ave.

The free program includes music from "La La Land," "Casablanca," "O Brother, Where Art Thou," "An American in Paris," "The Phantom of the Opera," "Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory," "Skyfall," "Singin' in the Rain," "An American Tale," "The Greatest Showman" and "The Prince of Egypt."

The chorus is accompanied and directed by Lee Meyer. Singers include Mary Barr, Deborah Beien, Emma Blanchard, Joe Blanchard, Howard Brenneman, Kathy Chase, Dee Edgecomb, Bob Garner, Barb Herzinger, Diana Hirsh, Bobby Komen-dera, Tom LeDonne, Marsha Markle, Dan McNabb, Laura Meyer, Dan Nieding, Phyllis Nowatzke, Sheila Pollock, Pat Potratz, Dale Schultz, Jeanne Ticken, Linda Weeks and Carrie Zerbe.

Community Supported Art Exhibit

The Community Supported Agriculture Valpo season preview exhibit runs through July 19 at Valparaiso's The Village Gallery.

"Over the last 20 years, CSA has become a popular way for consumers to buy seasonal food directly from local farms," CSA founders Hannah Hammond Hagman and Melissa Washburn said in a press release. "With the same 'buy local' spirit in mind, the CSA Valpo project aims to support local art, artists and collectors."

The exhibit showcases artists Chris Acton, Rachel Garastik, Nick Gloom, Jessica Haug, Laurel Izard and Briana Oliveras.

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



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Leadership LaPorte County 34th Adult Class Graduation



Members of the 34th class.

Leadership LaPorte County honored its adult class at a recent luncheon attended by 70 community members at Blue Chip Casino.

For the 34th year, a group of LaPorte County citizens spent the past nine months engaging in leadership skill building, gaining information about LaPorte County and networking with local leaders. Jim Jessup again volunteered to serve as facilitator, with 20 people successfully completing the course.

Also, the Outstanding Leadership Alumni Award was presented. Each year, the board chooses a past graduate to receive the Robert J. Hiler Jr. Outstanding Alumni Award, which recognizes one alumnus who has demonstrated ongoing commitment to his/her profession and the community.



Marty Corley (right), recipient of the Outstanding Leadership Alumni Award, is pictured with Kristen Patterson (left) and Cora Cambridge.

This year's recipient is Marty Corley. A member of the 29th class (2012-2013), he is a lifelong Michigan City resident who has been employed at Michigan City Police Department since October 2000. He attended Michigan City Area Schools, obtained a Bachelor of Science degree from St. Joseph's College and is a graduate of the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy. While working at MCPD, he has been assigned to numerous positions. He is a lead advisor for the MCPD Explorer Post 75 and director of the MCPD Youth Leadership Academy.

Corley is involved in numerous commissions and boards: Stepping Stone Shelter Inc.; Michigan City Commission on the Social Status of African-American Males; Michigan City Human Rights Commission; Salvation Army of Michigan City; LaPorte County Family YMCA; Boys & Girls Club of Michigan City; PACT Inc.; and United Way of LaPorte County. He serves on the Michigan City Area Schools board, and holds membership with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Indiana Black Expo, Michigan City Moose Lodge 980, Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 75 and Freemasons (Indiana Harbor Masonic Lodge 686).

The program concluded with the formal recognition of the 34th class for completing the program, which included monthly sessions on a variety of community leadership topics, a county bus tour, a trip to the state legislature and team projects.

Recognized were Lisa Pierzakowski and Kyle Kazmierczak for outstanding extracurricular activity. Brett Kessler, Scott Novak and Brandon Cosby received Honorable Mention for their activities. Krysta Loucks received the "class spirit" award for her contributions. Scott Lanoue was selected to serve on the Leadership board. Kazmierczak announced a class donation to Leadership's youth program.

To nominate an individual for the 35th adult program beginning in September, contact Leadership LaPorte County at (219) 325-8223 or email info@leadershiplaportecounty.com

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Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

The following programs are available:

- **Campfire on the Beach from 8 to 9:30 p.m. Friday, June 8, at Kemil Beach.**

View a sunset on the beach while listening to live music. The beach parking lot is off East State Park Road.

- **Mount Baldy Summit Hike from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Friday, June 8, and 10 to 11:30 a.m. and 2:30 to 4 p.m. Sunday, June 10.**

The Mount Baldy parking lot and beach are open from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily after being closed for the last several years. The dune, however, is still closed for general public use, so the ranger-led hike offers the chance to experience the dune as much as is possible. No reservations are required. The parking lot is located off U.S. 12.

- **Beginning Birding from 9 to 10:30 a.m. Saturdays through Sept. 1 at the Great Marsh Trail.**

A ranger leads the hike. Meet at the parking lot on Broadway north of the Beverly Shores train station.

- **National Get Outdoors Day from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, June 9, at Dunes Learning Center, 700 Howe Road, Porter.**

The free day of outdoor exploration includes guided hikes, science games and nature crafts. Learn about habitat restoration on campus, investigate life in the forest and check out the pollinator habitat. Dip a net into the Little Calumet River to learn about water quality. Pull on a tree-climbing harness and ascend into the canopy. Learn why some bugs are insects, but not all insects are bugs, with Franklin Pest Solutions. Get the latest details on local access, as well as safety tips, from the Northwest Indiana Paddling Association. Live music also is planned.

Visit www.duneslearningcenter.org/public to pre-register. Rain gear donations are requested.

- **Pinhook Bog Open House from noon to 3 p.m. Saturdays through Sept. 8.**

Talk a self-guided tour of the bog and talk to rangers along the trail for a better understanding of the site filled with carnivorous plants and orchids. Arrive by 2 p.m. to allow about one hour to walk the trail and tour the bog.

The bog parking lot is at 700 N. Wozniak Road in Michigan City.

- **Urban Farming Fun from 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday, June 9, at the Paul H. Douglas Center.**

Learn tips and tricks of starting a vegetable garden from park rangers and volunteers.

- **Science Saturdays from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday, June 9, at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.**

Meet scientists conducting research in IDNL. Following a short presentation, guests head outside to see their work.

- **Stargazing Through Telescopes from 8:30**

- to 10:30 p.m. Saturday, June 9, at the Kemil Beach parking lot.**

Join members from the Chicago Astronomical Society, Michiana Astronomical Society and Calumet Astronomical Society with their telescopes. Dress for the weather and, if possible, take binoculars. The beach parking lot is off East State Park Road.

- **Miller Woods Hike from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Sunday, June 10, at Paul H. Douglas Center.**

The ranger-led stroll explores a rare black oak savanna, and offers views of Lake Michigan and Chicago.

- **Feed the Farm Animals at Chellberg Farm from 4:30 to 5 p.m. Sundays through Oct. 28.**

The farm's current residents include cows, pigs and chickens. The animals are at the farm through a partnership with Dunes Learning Center, Friends of Indiana Dunes, 4-H Club of Porter County and the FFA of Westville.

Chellberg Farm is off Mineral Springs Road between U.S. 20 and 12 in Porter.

- **Bailly/Chellberg History Hike from 1 to 3 p.m. Monday, June 11.**

Explore the grounds of both historic homes, and learn about early settlers and farmers who came to the region in the 1800s. Park at the Bailly/Chellberg parking lot off Mineral Springs Road between U.S. 12 and 20 in Porter.

- **Parents and toddlers can participate in the Nature Tots program from 10 a.m. to noon Wednesday, June 13, at the Paul H. Douglas Center.**

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

- **Sunset Around the Fire at the Pavilion from 8 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, June 13, at Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk, 100 Riverwalk Road.**

Catch a Lake Michigan sunset from the pavilion, and roast marshmallows from the fireplace.

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 program is offered:

- **Summit Saturday: High Dunes Hike from 10 to 11 a.m. Saturday, June 9.**

Meet a naturalist at the nature center for a hike to the summit of the state's highest sand dune. Wear hiking shoes.

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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Michigan City Public Library

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

- **STEAM Ahead Kids: Stomp Rockets at 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. Friday, June 8.**

Make a paper rocket and watch it soar from a launch pad made with PVC pipe and a two-liter plastic bottle. Take an empty two-liter plastic bottle for launch; however, supplies will be available. The family oriented program is appropriate for children 7 and older.



"Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle"

- **Movies in Washington Park: "Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle" at about 8:30 p.m. Friday, June 8, in Washington Park's North Pointe Pavilion.**

The outdoor screening is a collaboration between the library and Michigan City Parks and Recreation Department.

- **Summer Reading Program starts June 11.**

Sign up at the Youth Services Desk beginning Monday, June 11. All ages can participate. Any kind of reading counts: books, eBooks, graphic novels, newspapers, magazines, audiobooks, reading aloud to someone else or being read to. The last day to pick up prizes is Saturday, Aug. 4.

- **Poetry SlamCamp 2018 on Monday through Friday, June 18-22.**

This summer marks the camp's seventh year. Aimed at middle-schoolers, the library collaborates with Purdue University Northwest on programming and activities, including writing and performance. Additional details will be announced soon.



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

Club Event to Benefit Depot

Dunes Woman's Club will sell ice cream cones and dishes from 8 to 10:30 a.m. Saturday, June 9, to benefit The Beverly Shores Depot Museum and Art Gallery.

Club members will be located at Janssen's Market at U.S 12. and Broadway in Beverly Shores. A portion of the sales will benefit the depot.

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Cultural Arts Contest

The LaPorte County Extension Homemakers held its annual Cultural Arts Contest on May 16.

Extension Homemakers were invited to enter handmade craft items in the areas of: paintings, sculptures, photography, fiber arts, needlework, rug making and heritage skills.

The featured project was a handmade recycled item that also was an entry category. One recycled item and one other craft were chosen as LaPorte County's entry at the Annual Home and Family Arts Conference in June in Indianapolis.

Winners are Pam Struebing from Hesston Homemakers Extension Homemaker Club with her watercolor hummingbird painting, and Ruth Lile from F.A.C.S.Y. Folks Extension Homemakers Club, who made a rope basket from fabric of her grandmother's dress. Ruth Lile received second place with a second item of a crochet baby afghan.

Contact the Purdue Extension LaPorte County office at (219) 324-9407 for more details.

Coastal Awareness Month

Coastal Awareness Month in June is a chance for Hoosiers to celebrate Northwest Indiana's natural resources and the region's importance to the rest of the state.

A lineup of activities is available at cam.dnr.IN.gov. Events include guided hikes, festivals, concerts, cruises aboard the W.G. Jackson research vessel, a conference on the environment, paddling excursions, fishing derbies, Washington Park Zoo's 90th anniversary celebration, a fun run 5K through Ogden Dunes, historical tours and talks, classes and workshops and volunteer days.

The Lake Michigan Coastal Program and its partners administer Coastal Awareness Month each year.

Dunes Discovery Camp

Dunes Learning Center, 700 Howe Road, will present its Dunes Discovery Camp for youth 9-13 on June 18-22, July 9-13 and July 23-27.

Campers explore rivers, search for salamanders, identify insects, hike through dunes, cool off in Lake Michigan and sing around the campfire.

The cost is \$450. Female cabins are sold out July 9-13, and male cabins are sold out July 23-27.

Visit duneslearningcenter.org/summer for additional details.

Dig the Dunes Passport Program

Dig the Dunes has kicked off a new passport program where, upon receiving stamps after visiting nine spots, the person receives a prize.

Passports cost \$25 and are available at DigtheDunes.com and LaPorte County Convention and Visitors Bureau.

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Lunch With the League

Jamie Miller, Unity Foundation of LaPorte County development officer, will speak at the next Lunch With the League on Tuesday, June 12, at Patrick's Grille, 4125 Franklin St.



Miller

The program is presented by the League of Women Voters of LaPorte County. Miller also is first vice president of Michiana Lions Club, through which she has worked on projects related to youth, environment, vision and hunger. Her areas of expertise include charitable gift planning, donor services and relations.

The general public is invited. Reservations are not required, but for non-members, a donation is requested. Attendees should arrive at 11:30 a.m. and can buy lunch from the menu.

Visit LWVlaporte.org, or email lwvlaporte@gmail.com for details.

"Singing Sands" Educator Workshop

Formal and non-formal educators who work with students in grades K-12 can attend a workshop focusing on the local documentary, "Shifting Sands: On the Path to Sustainability."

The screening is from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, June 23, at The Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education, 100 N. Lake St. in Gary's Miller Beach neighborhood. It is co-sponsored by Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore and Dunes Learning Center. The film explores how the Indiana Dunes region and its environmental battles offer a model for a sustainable future.

Activities will be demonstrated highlighting the new Shifting Sands Educator's Traveling Trunk. Teachers will receive lunch, a free educational guide, DVD and book for classroom use. The guide covers topics in history, environmental science and art. Indiana teachers can receive Professional Growth Points, and Illinois teachers can receive CPDUs.

Only 30 spaces are available. The fee is \$10. Pre-registration is required by Thursday, June 14. Visit www.duneslearningcenter.org/public or call Dunes Learning Center at (219) 395-9555 to register.

Genealogical Society

LaPorte County Genealogical Society's next meeting is a tour of Lambs Chapel Cemetery at 6 p.m. Tuesday, June 12.

After the tour, an informational gathering is at Little Tavern Too, 210 W. Michigan St., Rolling Prairie. Guests are welcome.

Visit lpcgs.blogspot.com/ for details.

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Day of Remembrance

The Beacher's Janet Baines made her way through Michigan City's North End on Memorial Day, May 28, beautifully capturing images from the parade and ceremonies at Greenwood Cemetery, Washington Park and the Danny Bruce Memorial.



Is your shoulder pain due to a rotator cuff tear?

FREE ROTATOR CUFF AND SHOULDER PAIN WORKSHOP REVEALS HOW TO ACCELERATE HEALING AND AVOID SURGERY

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 nights 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 your rotator cuff 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.

1. 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 your 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

Due to overwhelming requests from the NW Indiana community, Orthopedic and Balance Therapy Specialists will host our Rotator Cuff and Shoulder Pain Workshop on the following dates and locations:

- Tuesday 6:00 PM June 12, 2018 at our La Porte office (1405 E. Lincolnway, Suite B)
- Thursday 6:30 PM June 14, 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 each location. **To hold your spot, please call:**

- **219-380-0809 in La Porte**
- **219-202-2500 in Valparaiso**

Sincerely,



Dr. Arlan Alburo, PT, DPT, MTC

Orthopedic and Balance Therapy Specialists

PS-Call 219-380-0809 in La Porte OR 219-202-2500 in Valpo to hold your spot for the FREE Rotator Cuff and Shoulder Pain Workshop on Tuesday June 12th in La Porte, and Thursday June 14th in Valpo.

Mapping the Michigan Leg of the Marquette Greenway

Editor's note — The following column was submitted by Ed Lawler of Michiana, Mich.

No longer will bicyclists from Michiana, Grand Beach and Forest Beach risk the white-knuckle ride along the narrow, debris-strewn shoulder of U.S. 12 to pedal into a revitalized downtown New Buffalo.

That's if plans continue to take shape for the Michigan portion of the Marquette Greenway, the 58-mile non-motorized bicycle and walking trail from Chicago's southeast side to New Buffalo.

Funds are being raised, government and private grants secured and easements negotiated as the route of the 3.8-mile leg of the trail from the Indiana state line to New Buffalo is being finalized.

Bicyclists, walkers and joggers could begin enjoying the trail by 2020 if progress remains apace, according to Caroline Ramsay, a member of a New Buffalo community support team for the trail.

"We're delighted with the progress, and we appreciate the groundswell of grassroots support for the final leg of the trail," Ramsay says. "People are beginning to realize what an asset the trail will be for our community."

Improved safety for bicyclists is just one of the benefits of a non-motorized bicycle and walking trail.



An artist's rendering of the trail along Grand Beach Road, with the railroad on the right and the trail on the left.

"National studies say that proximity to a bike trail can boost residential and commercial property values from 5 to 20 percent, and we trend the same way," says Julie Clark, Traverse Area Recreation and Transportation Trails executive director.

TART research found that visitors using its network of 100 miles of bicycle/walking paths on

eight trails in the Traverse City region spend an average of \$22 per trip. Nearby restaurants, breweries, wineries and the local lodging industry see more traffic thanks to the trails.

"Most people attribute part of the Traverse region's success and vibrancy to the trails," Clark says.

The TART trails have prompted more outdoor exercise among area residents.

"According to our survey, 90 percent of respondents say they are getting more exercise because of the trails," Clark says. "That translates to a healthier population."

The trail network has the additional benefit of drawing neighborhoods and communities closer together, Clark says.

The biggest proponents of the trails, according to TART research, are retirees and millennials.



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"Both groups have a choice of where they choose to live," Clark says. "They can live anywhere, but if you don't offer quality-of-life amenities like outdoor trails, the retirees and the millennials will choose to live elsewhere."

In Fort Wayne, the city's trail network — the Rivergreenway — has become enormously popular and is a point of civic pride, says Don Stoneburner, a former Fort Wayne resident and avid bicyclist who now lives full time in New Buffalo. He's been encouraging Harbor Country leaders to take a similar route and get behind the Michigan portion of the Marquette Greenway.

In 2008, when Fort Wayne proposed building a portion of a new trail — now known as the Towpath — that skirted past Stoneburner's condominium complex, a majority of the 71 homeowners were opposed. Many cited security and privacy concerns, and others didn't like that the path would cross the complex's main entrance. Some were concerned the path would cut into the bank of a nearby private pond.

Stoneburner, president of his condo association at the time, thought his fellow residents were being shortsighted, overlooking a raft of economic, environmental and recreational benefits the path would create. He persuaded the association's board to grant an easement to the city to create that portion of the Towpath. It was completed in 2012.

"Many of those who opposed the path and their families are now regular users of the trail system," Stoneburner says. "The trail has given the residents walking and riding access to schools, parks and downtown, not to mention access to many other activities and locations in Fort Wayne."

There have been no incidents of vandalism nor other crimes along the path adjacent to the condos, Stoneburner says. Nor have there been any accidents along the path where it intersects with the

condo association entrance. The association's proximity to the trail has helped increase buyer demand for the units, he adds.

Heather Gradowski, a Realtor and member of the New Buffalo support team for the Marquette Greenway, is certain homes and businesses with proximity to the trail will see enhanced values. Gradowski noted, for example, that real estate ads in the South Haven area near the Kal-Haven Trail tout a property's proximity to the pathway.

A wealth of studies throughout the country indicates higher residential and commercial property values based on their proximity to a biking/hiking trail, Gradowski notes. A community's enhanced tax base can provide the funds to maintain the trails without a millage or bond issue.

Longer range, she notes a proposal to build a trail from Stevensville to St. Joseph and possibly extend it from there up to South Haven to connect with the Kal-Haven.

"Trails seem to be coming at us from either direction," she says with a laugh. "Now's our time to get onboard."

The community support team estimates the Michigan leg of the Marquette Greenway will cost \$3.6 million, with much of that amount in the form of federal and state grants. However, grassroots support is important, and the team is hoping the community and local grants will raise \$650,000 over the next couple of years, with \$120,000 in private donations needed by Oct. 1.

Donors should visit the website of Harbor Country Trails, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, at www.harborcountrytrails.org

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Friday at Noon is the deadline for the following week's issue. (219) 879-0088

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Long Beach Summer Camp

Applications available June 1, 2018!

Dates: June 18 - August 3

Days: Monday - Friday

Time: 9:00 - 11:30

Location: Long Beach Community Center

Ages: 3-11

Fee: Resident Full Camp: \$100.00

Non-Resident Full Camp: \$175.00

Resident Weekly: \$40.00

Non-Resident Weekly: \$65.00

Weekly Themes

Week 1: High Note

Week 2: Forest Ranger

Week 3: Things That Go BOOM!
(No Camp July 4-5)

Week 4: Score!

Week 5: Sweet Stuff

Week 6: Racing

Week 7: Jungle

Long Beach Summer Tennis Camp

Dates: June 19 - August 2

Days: Tuesday and Thursday

Time: 8:00 - 9:00

Location: Long Beach Community Center
Tennis Courts

Ages: 6-11

Fee: Resident: \$50.00

Non-Resident: \$60.00

The 15 openings for Tennis Camp will be filled on first-come, first-serves basis. Tennis balls are provided for all lessons and extra rackets on first-come, first-serve basis.

All registrations forms are available at the Long Beach Town Hall, Long Beach Community Center, and online at longbeachin.org beginning June 1, 2018. Any questions please call 219-873-3773 or email longbeachsummercamp@gmail.com.

Fernwood Botanical Garden

The following programs are through Fernwood Botanical Garden and Nature Preserve, 13988 Range Line Road, Niles, Mich.:

• **Tallgrass Prairie Walk from 10 to 11:30 a.m. EDT Saturday, June 9.**

The hike showcases new flowers in bloom. The cost is \$12, or \$10 for members, while children 10 and younger are free.

• **Growing and Displaying Herbs from 1 to 2:30 p.m. EDT Sunday, June 10.**

The focus is how growing herbs can be a way to address this year's theme of water-wise gardening. The cost is \$12, or \$10 for members.

• **Second Sunday Concert from 4 to 5 p.m. EDT Sunday, June 10.**

WAUS Radio and Fernwood present another season of Second Sunday Concerts through September on Fernwood's Green. The performers are The Three Divas. Admission to the garden is free after 3:30 p.m.

• **Summer Yoga from 12:15 to 1:30 and 5:30 to 6:45 p.m. EDT Wednesday, June 13.**

All levels are welcome, with the class incorporating yang (energetic movement) and yin (restorative) poses. The cost is \$12, or \$10 for members.

• **Diane Tesler's "Back Home Again" through Sunday, July 29.**

Tesler, an East Coast painter and Hoosier-born artist, is known for still lifes and landscape paintings. Visit www.diantetesler.com to view her work.



Call (269) 695-6491 or visit www.fernwoodbotanical.org for more information and to confirm the status of classes.

Hanna Ohlund Memorial Golf Outing

The third annual Hanna Ohlund Memorial Golf Outing is Friday, June 15, at Legacy Hills Golf Club, 299 W. Johnson Road, LaPorte.

The shotgun tee-off is at 1 p.m. The \$75 cost per golfer includes greens fees and a golf cart, food and beverages. Proceeds are donated to the LaPorte County Fairgrounds Rebel Pavilion in honor of Ohlund.

Visit www.hestonsupperclub.com/GolfOuting for details.

LaPorte County Public Library

The following program is at the main branch of LaPorte County Public Library, 904 Indiana Ave.:

• **Bonus Sized Workshop on Friday, June 8.**

From 2 to 3 p.m., build bicycles for local foster children. From 3 to 4 p.m., 3-D print mini-puzzles for residents in local care facilities.



Visit www.laportelibrary.org for more details.

Hoosier State Delegates

Four Michigan City High School juniors have been selected as delegates for the 2018 Hoosier Boys and Girls State programs.

The week-long experience takes place mid-June at Trine University in Angola, Ind.



Girls delegates are Natalie Parker (left) and Julia Miller.



Boys delegates are Tommy Komay (left) and Riley Shreve.

Hoosier State programs educate young men and women in the duties, privileges, rights and responsibilities of citizenship. They work with more than 600 other high school students from across Indiana, creating their own version of state, city and county governments. They also attend special sessions centered on leadership, law, media and other fields.

Michigan City's delegates are sponsored by John Franklin Miller American Legion Post 37 and American Legion Auxiliary Unit 37. Selection is made by high school faculty. Criteria includes leadership abilities, academic achievement and strong character.

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Please help keep Long Beach stops beautiful and clutter free by bringing your beach gear home with you each day.

Items left on Long Beach town property will be carefully removed and taken to the maintenance area off of Karwick Road for pickup. Items will remain for a minimum of 1 week.

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Westchester Public Library

The following programs are available:

• **Bits & Bytes series, Android: Part 1, from 1 to 3 p.m. Thursday, June 7, in the Thomas Library Serials/Automation Department, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.**

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

• **Teen Library Council from 4 to 5 p.m. Thursday, June 7, in the Thomas Library Bertha Wood Meeting Room.**

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

• **Lego Club from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Friday, June 8, at the Thomas Children's Department.**

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

• **Bandstand Concert & Movie Series on Friday, June 8, at Hawthorne Park, 500 Ackerman Drive, Porter.**

The Valparaiso Community/University Concert Band performs at 7 p.m., followed by a screening of "Beauty and the Beast" at 8 p.m. The program moves to the community building if it rains.

• **Sunday Matinee: "Game Night" at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, June 10, at The Baugher Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.**

The movie is Rated R. Free popcorn is available.

• **Exhibit Opening, "Westchester Township in the Jazz Age: 1920-1929," from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, June 10, at Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.**

The 1920s-style outside garden party (weather permitting) includes music, refreshments and costumes. Period-appropriate costumes are encour-

aged, but not required. Refreshments include 1920s inventions such as Reese's Peanut Butter Cups, Twizzlers and popsicles, as well as '20s-themed games and contests.

• **Ukulele Rocks from 3 to 4 p.m. Sundays, June 10, 17 and 24, in the Thomas Library Bertha Wood Meeting Room.**

The program targets students 10-17 who finished the Intro to Ukulele Class. A new song is taught each week: June 10, "Thunder" by Imagine Dragons; June 17, "Hallelujah" by Leonard Cohen; and June 24, "I'm Yours" by Jason Mraz or "Stitches" by Shawn Mendes. Space is limited, and registration is required. The library has ukuleles that can be checked out; however, those with ukuleles should indicate so. Call (219) 926-7696 to register.

• **Tinker, Create, Invent and Have Fun! from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Monday, June 11, at Hageman Library, 100 Francis St., Porter.**

Classes revolve around science, design, engineering and art through project-based work. Space is limited to 12 children, and registration is required by visiting the library or calling (219) 926-9080.

• **The Messier The Better for 9-30 Months at 10 a.m. Tuesdays at Hageman Library.**

Dress to get messy and head outside.

• **Bifocal Bookies at 1 p.m. Tuesday, June 12, at Hageman Library.**

The focus is Andrea Levy's "Small Island." Copies are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

• **Alzheimer's Association Presents "The Basics of Memory Loss, Dementia and Alzheimer's Disease" from 3 to 4 p.m. Tuesday, June 12, in the Thomas Library Bertha Wood Meeting Room.**

The program is designed to help understand the difference between normal age-related memory changes and more serious memory problems that should be evaluated by a medical professional.

• **Firefly Storytime at 8 p.m. Tuesday, June 12, in the Hawthorne Park gazebo, Porter.**

The program involves sharing stories, making a firefly craft and providing jars to catch fireflies.

• **Mad About Mysteries at 2 p.m. Wednesday, June 13, at Westchester Township museum.**

Museum Curator Serena Ard will present Indiana native Lori Rader-Day's psychological thrillers. Light refreshments will be served.

• **Tween Dance Craft Revolution for children 8-12 on Wednesdays.**

Each week, participants create a craft and learn a dance or game from a different period in music history. The schedule is: June 13, 3 p.m., Hageman, the Disco era; June 20, 6 p.m., Thomas Children's Department, the 1980s; June 27, 6 p.m., Thomas, music of today; July 11, 3 p.m., Hageman, country-western. Registration is required. Call (219) 926-7696.

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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 details.

Joyful Movement, "Shake, Rattle and Move"

The 45-minute, low-impact mindfulness program starts at 7:45 a.m. and meets at Luhr County Park Nature Center, 3178 S. County Road 150 West, La-Porte. Dates are:

- June 11, 13, 18, 20, 25 and 27.
- July 9, 16, 18, 23, 25 and 30.
- Aug. 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 22, 27 and 29.

The free program is self-paced and ideal for all ages. Participants can sit or stand. The emphasis is stretching, meditation, heart pumping and balance.

Call one week in advance of each date.

Tuesday Treasures

The program aimed at 6- to 13-year-olds meets from 9 a.m. to noon Tuesdays at Luhr County Park.

All programs include arts and crafts. Parents are not required to participate or stay. The cost is \$8 per person per program. Pre-registration and payment are required one week before each program. The schedule is:

- June 12 — "A Drop Around the World," the water cycle.
- June 19 — "Sweet As Honey," bees.
- June 26 — "What's Under The Canopy?," forest animals.
- July 17 — "Connecting Habitats," effects on animal homes.

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 schedule is:

- June 13 — Water, Water, Everywhere.
- June 20 — Sweet as Honey.
- June 27 — Creepy Crawlers.

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.

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Special Thanks



To celebrate its 15th anniversary, Ron Papke, owner of longtime Beacher advertiser Quality Carpet Care, gave the entire staff of Michigan City's police and fire departments \$50 Quality Carpet gift certificates to thank them for their service to the community. Pictured are Papke (center) with Police Chief Mark Swistek (left) and Fire Chief Randy Novak. Swistek told The Beacher, "We truly appreciate this and Ron's willingness to thank those who serve their community by protecting it. It was very thoughtful."

New Buffalo Streetscape Project

New Buffalo, in partnership with the New Buffalo Downtown Development Authority, is in the final phase of making improvements to the community's downtown area.

The work will replace water and sewer lines, and create a new streetscape.

With construction in the final weeks, most of the roadway within project limits will be closed to through traffic. Intermittent sidewalk closures will be necessary. Abonmarche will work with residents and businesses, to the extent feasible, to minimize disruptions.

Question: Please describe the landscape improvements that are planned for the Downtown Streetscape Project.

Answer: The landscape improvements will be extensive, including shade and ornamental trees and a multitude of plants, grasses and shrubs. All shade and ornamental trees will be nursery grown and of specimen quality. Trees will be pruned to achieve street form no more than 5 to 6 feet.

Twenty four trees will be planted. More than 750 perennials, grasses and shrubs will be planted. The palette of plant materials were chosen to provide a range of color, texture and seasonal interest. Common names for the trees are: Redpointe Red Maple, Princeton Sentry Maidenhair, Armstrong Maple, Stredkeeper Honeylocust, Autumn Brilliance Amelanchier and Pyramidal European Hornbean.

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Unity Community Grant Application

Applications are online for Unity Foundation of LaPorte County's 2018 Community Fund Grants, also known as "Power for Good" grants.

In 2017, more than \$137,000 was awarded to more than 80 local nonprofits. The grants are supported by earnings from unrestricted "Community Funds."

The application is available at bbpnet.com/x22c to all nonprofits located in or serving LaPorte County residents. A committee of volunteers from throughout the county evaluates and awards grants of up to \$3,000 each. Eligible projects and programs fall into numerous categories, including arts and culture, health, human services, environment, education and projects that strengthen LaPorte County in meaningful ways. The deadline is 11:59 p.m. Sunday, July 1. Organizations may submit two separate project grants for consideration.



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JROTC Honors Fallen Heroes

Michigan City High School's Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps participated in four Memorial Day events that honored those who died serving their country.

The events involved: placing flags on veterans graves at Greenwood Cemetery; being an honor guard for the Rolling Thunder veterans motorcycle groups; providing a color guard and marching platoon for the Michigan City Memorial Day Parade; and providing the color guard for the Michigan City Memorial Day ceremony at Greenwood Cemetery, where Maj. Tom McGrath, the senior Marine instructor, was the featured speaker.



Cpl. Jessica Wilhelm and Lance Cpl. Josh Wilhelm place flags on veterans graves at Greenwood Cemetery.

The week of Memorial Day is the last one of the school year. That only begins a busy summer for the cadets. They will attend a leadership camp at St. John's Military Camp in Delafield, Wis., the following week. Cadets will march in the Michigan City Kiddie Parade and Summer Festival Parade.

Among the community service activities they will support are the LaPorte County Fireworks Display, Grand Prix Boat Races, Drum Corps International competitions and preparations for, and supporting, the Back-to-School rally in August.

The drill team will practice over the summer with the goal of returning to, and winning, the National MCJROTC championship. Michigan City drilled well at the 2018 meet, placing first in the unarmed platoon category. The 2019 meet is in the Washington, D.C., area. All costs for the trip are funded by the Marine Corps.

Aunt Kitty's Yard Sale

Independent Cat Society, 4061 S. County Line Road, Westville, will host its Aunt Kitty's Yard Sale from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, June 9-10.

The event includes yard sale items, a bake sale and cat toys. All proceeds support shelter cats and kittens. Call (219) 785-4936, email shelter@catsociety.org or visit www.catsociety.org for details.



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Air Compressor Academy

Sullair is donating a ShopTek industrial air compressor, to be installed at Michigan City High School, so students better learn about industrial equipment usage, servicing and repair.

Over the summer, shop instructors will receive education and training on using, troubleshooting and repair of compressors. Beginning with the fall semester, compressor training will become part of the shop curriculum. The new program – Air Compressor Academy – will help build the skill set in students that employers seek.

"The academy will have great focus on job training and building additional industry partnerships," Clarence Hulse, Economic Development Corp. Michigan City executive director, said in a press release.

Paladin Talent Show

Paladin Inc. will present its talent show from 5 to 9 p.m. Friday, June 8, at Lakeview Christian Center, 1704 County Line Road.

Advance tickets are \$4, or a single bundle (one ticket, one drink and one slice of pizza) for \$6. The cost at the door is \$5, or a family pack is \$20 for five. Raffle tickets and food also are available. The bundle option is available only as an advance purchase.

Online ticket sales run through Wednesday, June 6. Food and drink may be bought separately the night of the show. Contact Lorrie at (219) 874-4288, Ext. 302, or events@paladin.care for details.

Visit www.paladin.care/talent-show.html for reservations.

Mom2Mom Sale/Book Fair

New Troy's first Mom2Mom Sale is from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. EDT Saturday, June 9, at New Troy (Mich.) Community Center, 13372 California Road.

Gently used baby and children's clothing and equipment will be available, with a large-item room for items too large to fit on a table. Crafters and other vendors also will offer family-specific merchandise.

Registration fees benefit the center, an all-volunteer facility run by the non-profit Friends of New Troy. Email Mom2MomFONT@gmail.com or call Mandi at (269) 338-5302 for more information.

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Partnering for Patriot Park

An agreement between two local groups and the Indiana branch of the National Softball Association is expected to enhance the softball tournament experience for players and fans at Patriot Park.



Pictured are (from left) Jeremy Kienitz, Michigan City parks superintendent, NSA State Director Karl Swihart, CVB Board President Pat Harris, CVB Marketing Director Linda Simmons, park board president Phil Latchford, park board member Larry Silvestri and CVB Executive Director Jack Arnett.

The LaPorte County Convention & Visitors Bureau and Michigan City park department have entered into an agreement in which the Indiana National Softball Association/Baseball Players Association will manage softball tournaments at the park and increase maintenance support.

Tournaments will be most weekends through October, with around 24 multi-day tournaments held at Patriot Park each year.

Players range in age from 9 to 18. Association staff also will provide additional maintenance, including hand raking the fields after games and helping chalk them.

As part of the agreement, the LaPorte County CVB presented the Michigan City Parks Department with a \$10,000 check that will help support the effort.

Blessing of Mission Garden

St. Luke United Lutheran Church, 2000 E. Cool-spring Ave., will host a special service, a blessing of the Katie Luther Mission Garden, at 10 a.m. Sunday, June 10.

The garden was created to serve the community, with all produce donated to The Salvation Army. Thrivent and the Unity Foundation provided donations and grants for the 2018 season.



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Field Trip Grants Available

Educators interested in taking students grades K-12 on field trips to an Indiana state park or state-managed lake in the 2018-2019 school year can receive financial help through the Indiana Natural Resources Foundation.

Grants from the Discover the Outdoors Fund are available for public, private, parochial or home-school educators. Since the program's inception in 2013, 111 grants have been awarded, with more than 8,000 students visiting state parks at a lesser cost to the schools and students.

Indiana has 24 state parks and eight state-managed lakes eligible for field trip funding that will engage students in learning about Indiana's fish, forest, wildlife, natural habitats and conservation.

The maximum grant award is \$250 per application. Applications must be postmarked no later than June 30 prior to the school year for which the grant is requested.

Applicants will be notified by Aug. 15 regarding potential grant awards. The application is at IN.gov/inrf/educate.html. A video explaining the program is at youtu.be/uC4QjhsBLO8

The INRF is accepting donations to the fund from individuals, businesses or anyone who supports the idea of getting kids outdoors. The fund was established in memory of Tom Huck, a longtime DNR employee who was an ardent supporter of outdoor experiences for children. Email DiscoverOutdoors-Grants@dnr.IN.gov if interested.

Fencing Lab Coming to New Troy

New Troy (Mich.) Community Center will offer an "Introduction to Fencing Lab" in June.

Coach Rebecca Schneider teaches students to fence in a full fitness and strategic way. After demonstrations and instruction, they will be led through practice moves using foam swords.

With 21 years of fencing experience, Schneider is certified by the U.S. Fencing Coaches Association and has served as head coach at Point Fencing Club and Culver Academies.

The three-session lab is from 1:30 to 2:45 p.m. EDT June 21-23. The cost is \$50. Advance registration is recommended because space is limited to 12 students. After that, names will be placed on a waiting list for a second lab. All ages are welcome. Walk-ins are accepted if space is available. No equipment is necessary. Take water bottles and wear loose, athletic clothing (no jeans) and tennis shoes.

A portion of the lab fee will benefit the center, an all-volunteer facility run by the non-profit organization Friends of New Troy. The center is located at 13372 California Road. A map is available on www.facebook.com/Friends-of-New-Troy.

Call Rebecca at (217) 352-0722 for more details.



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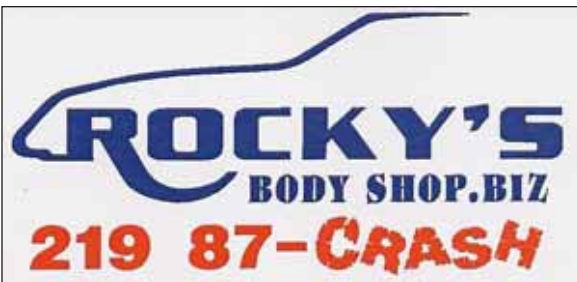
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- LaPorte County Annex, 809 State St., 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, June 8. This is a Fallen Officer Blood Drive.
- City Hall, 100 E. Michigan Blvd., Michigan City, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, June 8. This is a Fallen Officer Blood Drive.
- First Church of God, 2020 E. Lincolnway, LaPorte, noon to 6 p.m. Monday, June 11.

Donate and receive a \$5 Amazon.com gift card courtesy of Suburban Propane. 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.

Beach Cleanup

Long Beach Parks Department, the Michigan City park department and Alliance for the Great Lakes will host an Adopt-A-Beach Day/Beach Cleanup at 9 a.m. Saturday, June 9.

The focus is a five-mile stretch of beach from Washington Park to the Michigan border. Trash bags will be placed at the top of all Long Beach stops, along with gloves. Leave the filled trash bags at the top of the stops. The waste will be transported back to Washington Park for proper disposal.

Any large items, such as snow fences and logs, can be gathered at beach level into a pile and will be removed if possible.

Email longbeachparkboard@gmail.com with questions.

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**"A" Flight**

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Low Net: Donna Hennard
Low Putts: Eunie Nondorf

"B" Flight

Event: Linda Wilson
Low Net: Janet Andreotti
Low Putts: Marci Meyer

"C" Flight

Event: Dottie Healy
Low Net: Alison Kolb
Low Putts: Kathy Hanley

"D" Flight

Event: Jeannie Muldowney/Adele O'Donnell
Low Net: Line Mullins
Low Putts: Jeannie Muldowney

9-Hole League

May 31, 2018

Event: Low Net

"A" Flight

Event: Carol Excel
Low Net: Sue Luegers
Low Putts: Jane Irvine

"B" Flight

Event: Mary Weithers
Low Net: Marge Walsh
Low Putts: Donna Hennard

"C" Flight

Event: Sarah Blank
Low Net: Tina Sonderby
Low Putts: Kathy Hanley

"D" Flight

Event: Regina Bradley
Low Net: Barb Hall
Low Putts: Jeanne St. Peter

Birdies

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Sue Luegers Hole 12
Sarah Blank Hole 5

Sunken Approach

Marci Meyer Hole 8
Linda Sperling Hole 6
Mary Pat Reilly Hole 1

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(Never known to fail.)

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

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

Have a story idea for The Beacher?

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LBCC Women's Golf Leagues**18-Hole League***May 29, 2018**Event: Regular Golf***"A" Flight**

Low Gross: Peg King
Low Net: Carol Excel
Low Putts: Sue Luegers

"B" Flight

Low Gross: Connie Sullivan
Low Net: Linda Wilson and Eileen Miller
Low Putts: Janet Andreotti

"C" Flight

Low Gross: Diane Rubey
Low Net: Tina Sonderby
Low Putts: Rima Binder

Sunken Approach

Rima Binder Hole 6
 Janet Andreotti Hole 10
 Susan Keeley Hole 1
 Melanie Davis Hole 2
 Peg King Hole 18

Birdies

Cindy Levy Hole 3
 Peg King Hole 12

Networking in the Vine

Women in Leadership of LaPorte County will present "Networking in the Vine" from 5 to 7 p.m. CDT Wednesday, June 13, at St. Julian Winery, 9145 Union Pier Road, Union Pier, Mich.

The \$20 cost includes wine tasting and hors d'oeuvres. A swag bag goes to the first 30 in attendance. Register at www.women-in-leadership.com or on the Women in Leadership of LaPorte County Facebook page: special event. Email board@women-in-leadership.com for more details.

Paws & Pints Dog Walk

Michiana Humane Society will host the first "Paws & Pints" dog walk, 2 to 5 p.m. Sunday, June 10, at Friendship Botanic Gardens, 2055 E. U.S. 12.

The \$10 admission includes beer from Burn 'Em Brewing and animal treats. Children 12 and younger are free. Proceeds support Michiana Humane Society. Visit bbpnet.com/x22a for more details.

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Blessed Virgin***(Never known to fail.)*

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

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

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Activities to Explore

In the Area:

June 6-7 — Arts in the Park, La Porte's Fox Park. June 6: La Porte City Band/June 7: The Singing Company. Pre-show music/6:15 p.m., concerts/7 p.m. Info: www.artsintheparklaporte.com

June 7 — Michigan City Community Chorus spring concert, 7 p.m., Immanuel Lutheran Church community room, 1237 E. Coolspring Ave. Free.

June 7-10 — Queen of All Saints Parish Festival, 606 S. Woodland Ave. Info: www.qas.org

June 7-10 — "Parade," 4th Street Theater, 125 N. Fourth St., Chesterton. Times: 8 p.m. Thur.-Sat., 3 p.m. Sun. Tickets: \$20. Reservations: (219) 926-7875, Brown Paper Tickets online.

June 8 — STEAM Ahead Kids: Stomp Rockets, 11 a.m. & 4 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

June 8 — Enchanted Forest Walk, 7-9 p.m., LaPorte County Family YMCA Andrew Avenue Outdoor Facility, 901 Michigan Ave. Cost: \$2/person, \$5/family. Rain date: June 15. Info: (219) 325-9622.

June 8 — Movies in Washington Park: "Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle," about 8:30 p.m., Washington Park's North Pointe Pavilion. Info: (219) 873-3049.

June 8-10 — "The Spitfire Grill," Dunes Summer Theatre, 288 Shady Oak Drive, Michiana Shores. Times: 7 p.m. Fri.-Sat., 2 p.m. Sun. Tickets: \$18/general admission, \$15/students & seniors. Info/tickets: dunesartsfoundation.org, (219) 879-7509.

June 8-10 and 15-17 — "The Drowsy Chaperone," Footlight Theatre, 1705 Franklin St. Times: 7:30 p.m. Fri.-Sat., 2 p.m. Sun. Tickets: \$15, \$10/12 & younger. Reservations: www.footlightplayers.org, (219) 874-4035.

June 8-13 — Vickers Theatre, 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. *Now showing:* "Little Pink House." Not Rated. Times: 6 p.m. Fri.-Mon., 7 p.m. Tue. *Also Showing:* "Journey's End." Rated R. Times: 9 p.m. Fri.-Sat., 3 p.m. Sat.-Sun. *Also Showing:* "Miracle." Not Rated. In Lithuanian with English subtitles. Time: Noon June 10. *Also Showing:* "1945." Not Rated. In Hungarian and Russian with subtitles. Time: 6 p.m. June 13. All times Eastern. Info: vickerstheatre.com

June 9 — Summit Saturday: High Dunes Hike, 10-11 a.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

June 9 — National Get Outdoors Day, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Dunes Learning Center, 700 Howe Road, Porter. Free. Registration: www.duneslearningcenter.org/

June 9 — "Summer of Love" painting party, 1 p.m., LaPorte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave. Cost: \$35. Reservations: (219) 324-6767.

June 9 — Brew at the Zoo, 5-8 p.m., Washington Park Zoo. Ticket: \$50/\$15 designated driver. Reservations: www.washingtonparkzoo.com

June 9-Oct. 13 — "Warhol: Icon & Influence,"

Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St.
Info: www.lubeznikcenter.org

June 9-10 — Aunt Kitty's Yard Sale, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Independent Cat Society, 4061 S. County Line Road, Westville. Info: (219) 785-4936.

June 10 — "Paws & Pints" dog walk, 2-5 p.m., Friendship Botanic Gardens, 2055 E. U.S. 12. Cost: \$10. Info: bbpnet.com/x22a

June 10 — Exhibit Opening, "Westchester Township in the Jazz Age: 1920-1929," 2-4 p.m., Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.

June 10 — Canterbury Summer Theatre 2018 season kickoff, 4:30 p.m., Canterbury Theatre, 807 Franklin St. Reservations: (219) 874-4269, www.canterburytheatre.org

June 11 — Bailly/Chellberg History Hike, 1-3 p.m. & 1-3 p.m., Mineral Springs Road between U.S. 12 and 20 in Porter. Info: (219) 395-1882.

June 13 — Roosevelt Pipe Organ Series, Kent Jager and the Queen of Angels Choristers, 12:15 p.m., Christ Church (the former First Congregationalist Church), 531 Washington St. Free. Info: (219) 608-5358.

Through June 29 — Chesterton Woman's Club Annual Art Show, Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St. Info: www.chestertonart.com

Saturdays — St. Stanislaus of Michigan City farmers market, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. through Oct. 27, parking lot next to tennis courts. Info: ssmcfarmersmarket@gmail.com, (219) 851-1785.

Saturdays — Michigan City Farmers Market, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., Eighth and Washington streets. Through October.

Saturdays — La Porte Farmers Market, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., Lincolnway & Monroe. Info: www.facebook.com/laportefarmersmarket

In the Region

June 7 — Gallery After Dark, 7 p.m. EDT, The History Museum, 808 W. Washington St., South Bend. Tickets: \$16/general, \$14/member. Reservations: (574) 235-9664, Ext. 233.

June 9 — Mom2Mom Sale, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. EDT, New Troy (Mich.) Community Center, 13372 California Road. Info: Mom2MomFONT@gmail.com, (269) 338-5302.

June 10 — Second Sunday Concert, 4-5 p.m. EDT, Fernwood Botanical Garden and Nature Preserve, 13988 Range Line Road, Niles, Mich. Admission to garden free after 3:30 p.m. EDT. Info: (269) 695-6491.

Through July 19 — Community Supported Agriculture Valpo season preview exhibit, The Village Gallery @ Pines Village Retirement Communities, Valparaiso. Info: (219) 465-1591.

Through Aug. 5 — "New Acquisitions: Selections from the Permanent Collection," Valparaiso University's Brauer Museum of Art. Summer hours: noon-5 p.m. Tues.-Sun. Info: (219) 464-5276.

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Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter

The Crooked Staircase by Dean Koontz (hardcover, \$28 retail in bookstores and online; also available as an eBook)

How does he do it? Koontz has written another blockbuster that is equal to, maybe even better than, his last.

Two books ago, he introduced a new character to his wide-ranging ensemble: Jane Hawk, former FBI and now America's most wanted. First came The Silent Corner, then The Whispering Room. Reading the first two helps, but Koontz offers enough background to understand Jane's mission. Here's the lowdown on this latest thriller that will leave you gasping for more...

"The new world coming will be shaped by those who...are most equipped to identify and correct all the errors to which human beings are so prone."

That is the philosophy of the Arcadians, a small, but growing group that thinks, no, is convinced it is the future leader of the world. Its members are working toward a new world order in which a few people believe they know best how the world should be run. This is no small-time rebellious group with a hare-brained scheme. Oh no, they have the technology, the inroads to government and law enforcement, and one more thing...the most dangerous thing of all: Their scientists have developed a control mechanism, a weblike nano machine that is inserted via a shot in the neck and scrambles the brain to take away all those nasty thoughts like free will or morality. The worst part is that the subjects remember nothing and see themselves as before; they become minions through a certain phrase that triggers the mechanism in their brain.

Some will be programmed to commit suicide, others are made assassins. The rest are reprogrammed to do their master's bidding, enslaved and used as cheap labor, if you will, with no conscious thought.

The Arcadians have figured out that those who can influence others with wrong ideas (as determined by them, of course) should first be eliminated. These people are on the Hamlet List and will be made to commit suicide.

Enter Jane Hawk. Her husband, ex-Army, committed suicide last year. He left a cryptic note that made no sense. Jane knew her husband was not capable of suicide and started her research. Statistics revealed a significant rise in suicides throughout the country, and they were all people who had every

reason to live.

Having earlier discovered the existence of the Arcadians, she is now on the trail of one of their leaders. Having thought originally one man led the band, she has discovered that like the Hydra, this group has many heads.

Since the Arcadians have infiltrated all phases of government and law enforcement, Jane cannot take her knowledge to the police or FBI. Because they have threatened her child, she has had to hide him with friends. In The Crooked Staircase, it appears Jane may have underestimated her enemies...

It's a wild ride through California, Nevada and Utah as Jane is hot on the trail of Booth Hendrickson, another of the Hydra's heads. She starts with his half-brother, Simon Yegg. Fascinating, how Jane operates. No wonder she was one of the FBI's finest. It's important to remember that interrogation is her specialty.

"Persuading" Simon to help her, Jane races off to her next destination with

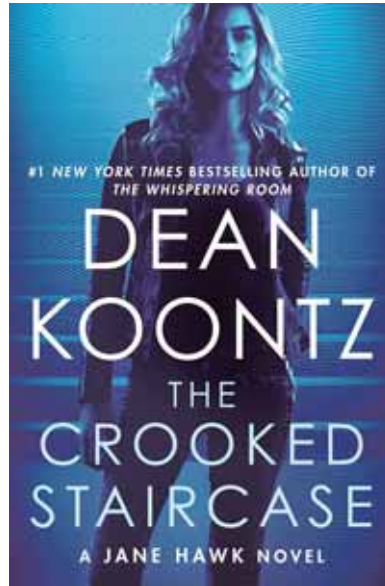
Simon in tow. He leads her to the crooked staircase: a place of darkness and sorrow. What's there is the stuff of nightmares. At the same time, Jane has no knowledge of what is happening at the home of Gavin and Jessica, where her son, little Travis, is being hidden. Gavin sights a drone circling in the distance...should he be afraid? Remember, Gavin, discretion is the better part of valor. Run!

The Arcadians are incensed Jane has made it as far as she has and are determined to kill her or make her last hours pure hell. But finding her is proving more difficult. The chase is on! But the question remains — is she the pursued or the pursuer?

The first two books showed a woman who has carefully planned each step of the way. In this book, we see a Jane who is a little more frazzled, and who makes a few missteps. Ah, but the way she recovers her strength and purpose is what makes this story exciting from beginning to end.

These three books have been among, if not *the* most exciting I have read. Maybe a little sci-fi, maybe not? All this social media, all this "transparency" makes all more vulnerable than ever. After all, don't bullies exert a kind of mind control over their victims? Making them feel alone, useless and often times leading them to suicide? OK, this story may be more sci-fi, but the analogy is there. See what you think. I give this book two enthusiastic thumbs up! Make that 10 toes, too.

Till next time, happy reading!




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