



Volume 34, Number 9 Thursday, March 8, 2018

Schools of Hope



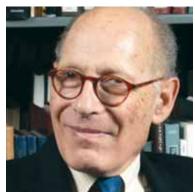
Julius Rosenwald stands with children at a school he helped become a reality.

Peter Ascoli never knew his grandfather, Julius Rosenwald. He passed away 10 years before he was born.

But Ascoli became well-versed in the life of his grandfather, a successful businessman and humble philanthropist, when he decided to research and write his story.

Growing up, Ascoli never heard his mother talk at length about her father. It just wasn't shared between parent and child. But she did mention bits of stories here and there about her father's involvement with Sears Roebuck & Co., Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry and numerous schools built for black children in the South.

Ascoli's cousin researched their grandfather, but when he passed as well, Ascoli took over the reins, delving deeper. He became fascinated, realizing Rosenwald's story needed to be told.



Peter Ascoli

Through his research, Ascoli discovered his grandfather wasn't some dour, straight-laced man. He had a powerful personality, along with a sense of humor. He was a civic leader. He was approachable. He was a great family man with numerous friends. He enjoyed the arts and sports, such as golf and tennis. He loved traveling, especially to Europe, where he maintained close relations with his own father's side of the family. He was extremely busy, leaving Peter to wonder when he ever slept.

Continued on Page 2



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It's Time To Spring Ahead

Sunday, March 11th

Schools of Hope Continued from Page 1

"He was the CEO of the largest retail establishment of the world," Peter said. "It had enormous sway and power. He was a relatively humble man who turned out to be this gifted philanthropist."

And his wealth was not something he kept. He helped build thousands of schools across the South amid segregation. But to get to that part of the story, you must first start at the beginning.

Rosenwald, or JR, as he was referred to by friends and family, was born in 1862. His parents were German-Jewish immigrants who settled in Springfield, Ill., living across the street from then-President Abraham Lincoln's home.

At 16, having completed only two years of high school, JR dropped out. He was sent to apprentice at his uncle's clothing-manufacturing business in New York City. Eventually, his brother and cousin joined him

to form their own niche business, Rosenwald and Weil, which sold lightweight men's suits in the outskirts of Chicago. Six years later, he left that business and began another partnership, selling inexpensive men's clothing. One of their largest clients was Sears.

It was during this time he met Richard Sears. An

entrepreneur, Sears was talented in writing advertisements and selling his products, but extremely disorganized. This left him struggling to fill the company's mail orders.



Julius Rosenwald and Booker T. Washington, photographed together on Feb. 22, 1915.

In 1895, the opportunity arose for JR and his brother-in-law to buy shares of Sears. It did not take long for JR's management style to quickly bring order to a chaotic shipping room and help grow the business. The innovations and changes he brought catapulted Sears into a world-renowned mail-order business.

To keep up with the company's growth, an extremely large number of laborers worked day and night to build a huge warehouse in Chicago. A new building was constructed to house machines that opened letters at 27,000 per hour and a conveyor system, where merchandise traveled through the vast new plant.

"It was the Amazon. com of its day," Ascoli said. Management expert of the time Peter Drucker described JR as "the father...of the distribution revolution which has changed the world economy in the 20th century and which is so vital a factor in economic growth."

Although JR didn't actually create the distri-

bution system at the Sears plant, his ability to trust other people led him to adopt an assembly line plan created by his associate, Otto Doering. This allowed them to turn orders around in 24 hours, and do so with accuracy.

Honesty was an important value to JR.

"To me, it speaks volumes that the first thing

that he did when he became president and CEO of Sears in 1908...was to create the first testing lab in American industry," Ascoli said, "where every product which went into the Sears

If You Go

Peter Ascoli will present the free program, "Five Thousand Schools of Hope in the Segregated South," at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 11, at Sinai Temple, 2800 Franklin S. catalog was tested to make sure the description which went into the catalog was absolutely honest."

Although Sears did not have a bad reputation, by implementing this strategy, people had faith in the company, showing customers the man leading it was trustworthy.

In a 1916 article, B.C. Forbes stated it wasn't Rosenwald's superhuman business ability, nor any phenomenal smartness in seeing and seizing mercantile opportunities that made him who he is, but rather the greatest thing was "...his character, his personality, his sincerity, his honesty...his thoughtfulness, his charity of heart...his consuming desire to help the less fortunate of his fellow creatures."

His business sense made him a multimillionaire, but it was what he did with a portion of his money that leads us to one of the best parts of his story.

It was around 1908 that JR really began turning his attention to philanthropy. He credits his mother with teaching him to be philanthropic, though Peter believes Emil Hirsch, the Reform rabbi of Sinai Temple in Chicago, played a larger role in influencing JR's philanthropy, as he mentored and guided him in his early years of giving.

One summer, Rosenwald read two biographies, one by Booker Washington, From Slavery, that tells about his life and struggles. The other was An American Citizen: The Life of William H. Baldwin Jr., the biography of a white rural magnet who was on the Tuskegee University board. Prior to his passing, Baldwin was giving both financially and of his time to help educate blacks and whites



Booker T. Washington

in the South. This biography had a profound effect on JR He even wrote to his daughter expressing his desire to emulate him.

Shortly thereafter, a delegation approached JR for a \$25,000 donation to help build a black YMCA in Chicago. He immediately said yes. He went a step further and offered the same donation amount to any large city across the country that would raise an additional \$75,000 to build a YMCA.

"Until he read these two books, blacks weren't on his horizon, even though the Springfield race riots that had taken place in 1908 were in his hometown," Ascoli said. "I have never seen any mention of the fact they made any impression on him whatsoever, which is odd but interesting...I looked through the papers and I didn't see anything. It wasn't until he



Schools of Hope Continued from Page 3

read these two books in 1910 that he began to notice African Americans in Chicago...began to see what conditions they lived in, and he decided he needed to help them. That began an entire cycle."

It was in making that YMCA donation that led JR to meet Washington, thus uniting two brilliant individuals.

Eventually, JR was asked to sit on the board of Tuskegee Institute in Alabama and began making significant donations to the college. He also contributed to black schools and colleges, and assisted the NAACP nationally and locally.

He also was getting a better understanding of what was happening to underprivileged black children in the South. He also contributed monetarily to numerous other causes, such as the University of Chicago, Jewish efforts and much more.



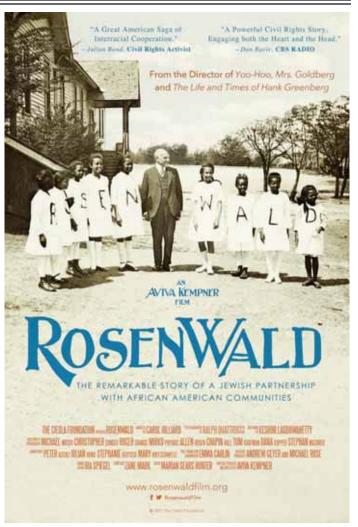
Julius Rosenwald

By 1917, the Julius Rosenwald Fund was established with a broad-based mandate. By 1927, JR changed the mandate, hired a professional to run the fund, gave it more money and established the fund to end within 25 years of his death. This concept was revolutionary and up to that point had never occurred in the world of philanthropy.

In his giving, he continued to challenge communities to take ownership in his investment by making a significant donation and then asking the community to contribute a considerable portion.

During his life, people were aware of Rosenwald's success and philanthropy. He did not brag about what he gave, nor did he like his name to be emblazoned on buildings. He did not give anonymously, as he wanted others to make monetary contributions.

On his 50th birthday, he gave \$687,500 to various organization using the slogan "Give While You Live," in hopes that others would emulate his style.



The poster for the documentary about Julius Rosenwald.

It was a \$25,000 gift to Tuskegee, with the intent of opening schools in the rural South to educate black children, that seems to be the largest part of his legacy.

In the 20 years prior to his death, the Rosenwald Fund built more than 5,300 schools, which were still in operation until the 1960s, establishing Rosenwald's greatest mark: the education of generations in these schools.

One might wonder, had he set up his fund to continue instead of extinguishing 25 years after his death, would he have done more good for a longer period of time?

"First of all, when foundations were first set up, there were no limits about them," Ascoli said. "You could simply park your money in a foundation and let it sit there without giving away anything.

"It wasn't until the 1950s that a law was passed that a foundation had to give away 5 percent of its earnings....He didn't want it to just be parked in a foundation to sit there."

From his German-Jewish background, he understood the importance of helping those unable to help themselves.

Around the time of his death in 1932, and for almost 25 years after, the fund continued supporting

those schools and what was happening within the brick and mortar. The fund also began reaching out to various other avenues. Without monetary help from the Rosenwald Fund, many a renowned black artist, musician or doctor would not have been able to continue in their chosen field.

So what does Ascoli feel are the most important things about his grandfather's legacy?

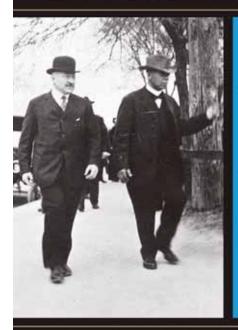
"His honesty, humility, his generosity," the grandson said of his grandfather. "These are all traits that I think are important. Some of them are in short supply these days, at least in people in power. He was someone who was willing to acknowledge that he made a mistake. He was somebody who was clearly far-sighted and was in many respects decades ahead of his time."

After nearly 13 years of researching, which took him from the University of Chicago, to the Library of Congress, to the Hoover Library and to a trove of letters in an aunt's attic in New Orleans, to writing and editing, Peter published his first biography about JR

The telling of his late grandfather's story may have started out of fascination, but in speaking with Ascoli, one senses the deep respect and pride of being able to share his grandfather's story, one that makes him wish he had known him...and leaving me wanting to know more.

Peter Ascoli's book about his grandfather.

Julius Rosenwald



The Man Who Built Sears, Roebuck and Advanced the Cause of Black Education in the American South

Page 5

Peter M. Ascoli



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Oscar-Nominated Director Announces Casting Call for New Film

The Academy Award-nominated director behind "Bang the Drum Slowly" and "Prancer" has issued an open call to actors and behind-the scenes talent for his latest movie.

John Hancock will direct "The Girls of Summer," a romantic-comedy about a girls country rock band, this summer. It's based on a script written by Tori Titmas, a student at Chicago's The Second City and an audience favorite in the director's Three Oaks sesquicentennial production, "Three Oaks Against the World." The sold-out show debuted last fall at The Acorn Theater.

Rehearsals start in June, with the 40-day shoot planned in July and August.

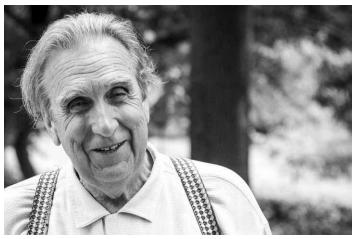
Hancock, who embraces undiscovered talent with each new project, has set auditions in LaPorte, Michigan City and Three Oaks, Mich., the three dates affording ample opportunity to get involved.

The audition dates are:

- Saturday, March 10, from noon to 4 p.m. at La-Porte County Public Library, 904 Indiana Ave.
- Sunday, March 11, from 1 to 5 p.m. EDT (noon to 4 p.m. CDT) at The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Drive.
- Sunday, March 18, from 1 to 5 p.m. at ArtSpace Uptown Artists Loft, 717 Franklin St.

Those auditioning should take a recent picture to attach to the application form. During the actual audition, individuals should expect to read from the script. Those interested in singing will be asked to perform "God Bless America." Musicians, specifically those who play guitar, piano, drum and bass, are invited to play a few bars during auditions.

Anyone interested in being an extra can fill out a form, as should anyone with technical backgrounds or wishing to join the behind-the-scenes crew. That includes costumes, sets, props and the production



John Hancock



Tori Titmas

office.

Facebook is a great way to stay updated on the movie and express interest in getting involved. Check it out at the FilmAcres page. Anyone needing more information can call (219) 778-2511 or email info@filmacres.com.



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throughout the house. The open kitchen overlooks the family room with custom marble fireplace enclosure. Owners have added a gorgeous woodaccented sunroom. Two large rooms and en suite bath, enclosed porch and balcony complete the upstairs space beautifully. The newly added one-car garage has plenty of storage and a large workshop. Enjoy quiet evenings listening to the waves on the





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More than well-maintained, this four-bedroom Long Beach home features a master bath and two other baths beautifully remodeled in 2013 with Grohe and Hansgrohe fixtures. The master is skylit with a separate ladies dressing table, double sink, step-

in shower, whirlpool and heated floors. Kitchen has been updated with stainless appliances and granite countertops. Basement rec room, office and 3/4 bath were remodeled in 2008. All on a flat .37 acre site (90' x 175'). Parking, garage and lush yard are accessed off Shady Oak Drive





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The cast rehearses a scene from "Seussical."

Marguette to Present "Seussical"

Marquette Catholic High School's Drama Department will present "Seussical the Musical" for a twoweekend run at the school's Rudy Hart Theatre, 306 W. 10th St.

Performances are at 7 p.m. March 9-10 and 16-17 and 2 p.m. March 11 and 18. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$8 for students/seniors and \$5 for children 12 and younger.

Directed by Amy Crane, the cast includes:

- Cat in the Hat: Aidan Armstrong.
- Thing 1: Kate Zientarski.
- Thing 2: Nina Kaplan.
- Horton: Javante Blakely.
- JoJo: Molly Neary.
- Mayor: Sam Salyer.
- Mayor's Wife: Grace Murphy.
- Mayzie: Cassidy Downs.
- Gertrude: CeCe Dickson.
- Bird Girls: Chloe Root, Evan Chambers, Jorden Goodwin, Natalia Ruiz, Itza Valdez, Marissa Del-
- Sour Kangaroo: Quinn Larkin.
- Wickersham Bros.: William Crane, Cal Larkin, Ben Pizarek, Jacob Zientarski.
- General Genghis Kahn Schmitz: Ben Pizarek.
- Grinch: Aurora Grott.
- Lorax: Rory Neary.
- Yertle the Turtle: Ellie Williams.
- Vlad Vladikoff: Pamela Keehn.
- Solla Sollew dance solo: Zoe Kolosci.
- WHOs: Emily Farkas, Maria Hoang, Seph Kolosci, Kacey Marovich, Mary Cate Neary, Aine Rudzevicius, Ella Taylor, Santiago Velez, Maria Verduzco, Rosemary Yurechko, Ava Zientarski.

New Friday Hours at The Beacher

The Beacher office now will close at 2 p.m. Fridays. Anyone who needs to pick up print orders, but may be late, should contact the office in advance at (219) 879-0088.







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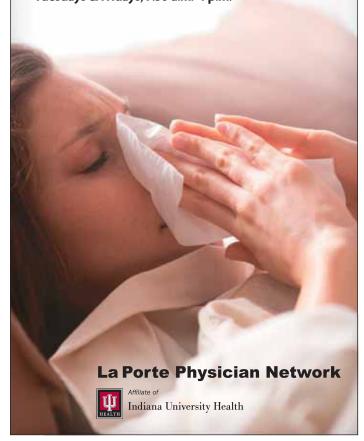
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"One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest"

La Porte Little Theatre Club, 218 ASt., continues its 93rd season with the classic dramatic-comedy "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest," which kicks off a two-weekend run Friday, March 9.

Directed by Douglas Campbell and Assistant Director Mary Watterson, the play is set in a structured asylum where order and conformity are the only indicators of sanity. When charming rogue Randle McMurphy (John Hutchinson) arrives after faking insanity to avoid prison work detail, he immediately disdains the idea of conformity.



John Watterson (from left), John Hutchinson and Tim Murphy appear in "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest."

McMurphy leads his fellow inmates, including shy mama's boy Billy (Anthony Garcia) and silent Native American Chief Bromden (Thom Nelson) — in a series of acts, including parties and revolts, to assert independence. These acts are not tolerated by the fierce, unyielding head nurse, Nurse Ratched (AvaLee Abraham).

The play features adult language and themes and is not suitable for all audiences.

Performances are March 9-11 and 16-18. Curtain is 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday. Doors open 30 minutes before showtime. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$12 for students. Reservations are strongly encouraged by calling (219) 362-5113 or visiting www.laportelittletheatreclub.com.

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LCSO Spring Classic Concert

LaPorte County Symphony Orchestra will present "Fantasia," its 45th annual Spring Classic Concert, at 3 p.m. EDT Sunday, March 11, at Holdcraft Performing Arts Center, 1200 Spring St.

The concert marks the next-to-last performance

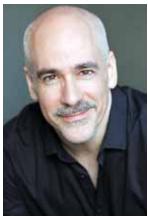
by Conductor Philip Bauman, who will step down from his post when the 2017-2018 season concludes.

"I am so proud and honored to have led the outstanding and gifted musicians of the La Porte County Symphony for 23 fantastic seasons," he said. "I invite everyone to celebrate and witness the magic of our association at our final two concerts."

Bauman brings back the works of Peter Boyer with "The Dream Lives On: A Portrait of the Kennedy Brothers," a multimedia piece celebrating the legacy of John F. Fitzgerald, Robert F. Kennedy and Edward M. Kennedy. It intertwines speeches each man gave as narrated by local performers Howard Brenneman, Nanda Danitschek, Greg Fruth and Bruce Johnson, accompanied by a wordless chorus featuring Illumination and choir director Becky Osborn.



Bauman



Boyer

The concert begins with Erich Korngold's "Much Ado about Nothing Suite." Indeed, the concert has a British-Irish undercurrent that includes "Fantasia on British Sea Songs," a staple for years of the annual Proms concerts in England, and the hidden work of Arthur Sullivan of Gilbert & Sullivan. The orchestra will explore his only Symphony, nicknamed posthumously as the "Irish," because the material came to him while on vacation in Ireland.

"Fantasia" concludes with a collection of Irish songs, giving the audience a chance to sing along.

Children and students attend for free, while adults pay \$20 and seniors 65 and older pay \$18. Tickets are available at the door and at lcso.net/concerts/fantasia. Light concessions will be available during intermission.

The concert is dedicated to the musical legacy of Katherine "Gerry" McCeary.

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Rotary Foundation Scholarship

The Rotary Club of Michigan City Foundation is offering \$2,000 scholarships to two high school seniors who exemplify Rotary's "Service Above Self" motto.

The scholarships are funded by the foundation in honor of J.M. Ruby, Robert Schwartz and A.K. Smith. To be eligible, students must:

- Submit an application and recommendation letter by April 1. The application is available at mcrotary.org
- Demonstrate "Service Above Self" in the community
- Have a minimum of a "C" average in high school. Class rank will not be considered.
- Graduate from any accredited high school before June 30.
- Live in the geographical area served by Michigan City Area Schools.
- Plan to attend post-secondary education in the fall.

The scholarship will be paid directly to the winner's post-secondary education school.

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Local Woman Named 500 Princess

A Butler University senior from Michiana Shores is among 33 college-aged women who will serve as 2018 Indianapolis 500 festival princesses.

Taylor Bowen, who graduated from Marquette Catholic High School, is majoring in Digital Media Production and Art Plus Design at Butler.



In the months leading up to May, Bowen, as a festival princess, will be involved in statewide outreach efforts, including visits to hospitals, schools and youth programs. She will attend and volunteer at all 500 festival events in May, be present at various Indianapolis Motor Speedway functions and participate in the pre-race ceremonies and Victory Circle celebration.

Bowen will receive a \$1,000 scholarship to assist with educational expenses and participate in the 500 Festival Leadership Development Program.

Those named princesses represent 14 Indiana colleges and universities and 21 cities and towns. With a cumulative GPA of 3.72, nominees were selected from hundreds of applicants based on communication skills, academic performance and community involvement.

The Indianapolis 500, a Verizon IndyCar Series event, is Sunday, May 27, at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

Genealogical Society

La Porte County Indiana Genealogical Society will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 13, at the La Porte Park Department, 250 Pine Lake Ave.

After the meeting's business portion, LaPorte County Historian Fern Eddy Shultz will present the program "A Map for All Occasions."

Guests are welcome.



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Michigan City Public Library

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

• Art à la Carte: St. Patrick's Day Craft at 3:30 p.m. Thursday, March 8.

All materials are provided. Children 4 and older, accompanied by an adult, must be present to receive craft materials.

• Coastline Children's Film Festival from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 10, in the meeting room.

The eighth annual event starts at 10 a.m. with Kid Flix 2, which features films from the New York International Children's Film Festival. It is recommended for 9 and older. Young Filmmakers at 11:30 a.m. highlights movies created by regional child filmmakers. It is recommended for all ages. Light refreshments will be served. Children 13 and younger must be accompanied by an adult.

• The Magic of Kalita at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 10, in the meeting room.

Matt Kalita returns for his annual magic show after the Michigan City St. Patrick's Day parade.

• Great Decisions at 6:30 p.m. Monday, March 12, in the meeting room.

The foreign-policy discussion program returns for its 20th season. The topic is "China and America: The New Geopolitical Equation."

• Reader's Theater: "Oleanna" at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 13, in the meeting room.

David Mamet's two-character play centers on the power struggle between a university professor and a female student who accuses him of sexual exploitation. A short discussion will follow.

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

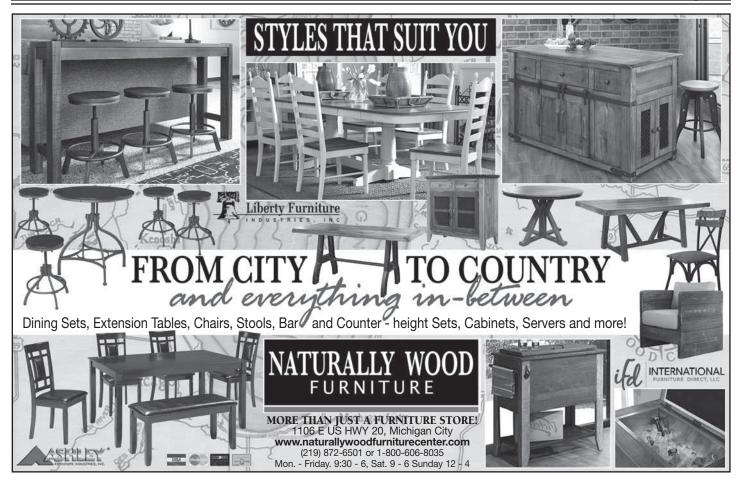
Children birth to age 5 and adults will enjoy stories, songs and crafts. Arrive a few minutes early to receive a name tag.

• Allen County Public Library bus trip.

The library and LaPorte County Genealogical Society co-sponsor the April 18 trip. The center has an extensive collection of North American genealogy resources. The cost is \$21. Send a check payable to LaPorte County Genealogical Society, c/o Patricia Harris, 504 Greenwood Ave., Michigan City, IN 46360. Paid reservations are due by April 1.

• Friends of the Library Collector's Breakfast. Tickets for the annual fundraiser, held April 21 at Full Gospel Church of Deliverance, 2700 Ohio St., are \$25. Martin Papke will share his expertise on collector items. Guests can take one item for appraisal. Portofino Grill will cater breakfast. Tickets are available from Friends' board members and at the library circulation desk.

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



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Back Pain? Sciatica? Don't suffer in silence any longer...

Brand New Back Pain And Sciatica Workshop Will Have You Back On Your Feet - In No Time.

Persistent pain is no joke...

When you have back pain or sciatica, you need to feel better - fast - so you can get back on your feet and keep on living. Our responsibilities never end: kids, grandkids, jobs, leisure activities... but back pain can stop you in your tracks.

We often take our mobility for granted. Walking, hiking, cycling, running, or the simple joys of daily life: these are all activities you may have loved in the past, but now you may be considering giving up because of back pain or sciatica.

Are you...

- Taking a couple Ibuprofen each day, hoping the pain will disappear?
- Buying expensive stop-gap solutions that only drag out the ordeal?
- Finding yourself leaning forward on the shopping cart at the store just to make it through your errands?
- Slowing down and missing out on more than you think maybe even the kids' or grandkids' sports games or school activities?

Our Lower Back and Sciatica Workshop teaches you about the latest NATURAL treatment techniques. Learn from our experts how other sufferers cured their back pain - ONCE AND FOR ALL.

"When I first came in, I had so much back pain. It hurt to go from sitting to standing, and I couldn't stand straight. I could barely walk or stand for any length of time. I couldn't even sleep. I was usually up pacing all night...but now that I'm done (with treatment) I feel great! I have my life back without the pain. After trying 2 chiropractors before coming here, I wish I would have known to come here first."—Karie B.

Hi -

I'm Dr. Arlan Alburo, Physical Therapist and Co-Founder here at Orthopedic and Balance Therapy Specialists.

I am hosting the Lower Back Pain and Sciatica Workshop here at Orthopedic and Balance Therapy on the following dates and locations:

• La Porte office: Tuesday March 13th at 5:00 PM -1405 E. Lincolnway Suite B (next to All Star Auto, across Route 2 from Walmart)

• Valparaiso office: Thursday March 15th at 6:00 PM -3125 Calumet Avenue Suite 8 (next to the YMCA)

If you have back pain... sciatica... or are worried about them happening in the future... or just want to find out more... here's some of the things you'll learn:

- The ONE Everyday Activity Sufferers are Doing WRONG which Blocks Healing and Actually Makes Back Pain WORSE...
- The 3 Most Common Causes of Lower Back Pain and Sciatica
- How Sciatica Affects the Health of the Rest of Your Body
- A 100% Natural, Permanent and Safe Solution Exists and How You Can Access It!

Register NOW - Call Our Office at 219-380-0809 in La Porte or 219-202-2502 in Valpo

When you register, we will mail you a copy of the Lower Back Pain and Sciatica Worksheet. You will bring it with you to the event to make sure you catch all of the key information and tips from our experts.

The workshop is completely FREE but is limited to only 20 attendees at each location due to the interactive nature of this workshop.

See you there!

June 7

Dr. Arlan Alburo, PT, DPT, MTC

P.S. Don't delay - register now! Call our office to save your seat: 219-380-0809 in La Porte or 219-202-2502 in Valpo

<u>P.P.S.</u> This event is limited to 20 people - first come, first served. BUT, if your registration is successful, you may bring a guest for support.

<u>P.P.P.S.</u> As a bonus, the first 10 registrants for the Lower Back Pain and Sciatica Workshop will receive a Special Report: "The Top 10 Burning Questions for Sciatica".

VINCENNES RIVET





BLAZE OF GLORY

On Feb. 24, Marquette Catholic High School's Lady Blazers achieved a first — a girls basketball state championship. The school beat Class A No. 2 Vincennes Rivet in the IHSAA Class A game at Bankers Life Fieldhouse in Indianapolis. The score was 38-31. *The Beacher's* Bob Wellinski captured all the excitement.











Unity Foundation Community Scholarship Application Available Online

Applications are available online for the 2018 Unity Foundation of La Porte County cycle of scholarships and awards.

The submission deadline is March 31. Scholarships and awards ranging from \$250 to \$2,500 are awarded through more than 50 funds at Unity. Scholarship opportunities are available for graduating seniors and students already in college.

To make the application process easier, applicants can log into www.uflc.net to complete and submit applications and documentation. The pro-

cess was designed to allow students to apply for several different scholarships through one application. The common application evaluates the responses provided and matches applicants with

application evaluates the responses provided and Unity Foundation of La Porte County

the scholarships for which they may be eligible. Students should begin the process early because transcripts must be downloaded before the application is submitted, and some scholarships require verification of club involvement or activities.

In 2017, more than 140 La Porte County students received Unity Foundation scholarships totaling \$180,000 to support college tuition. That amount was in addition to the Lilly Endowment Community Scholarships, which cover all tuition for two La Porte County students for four years of college.

Two specialty awards also can be found online. Some require nominations of deserving students or adults:

Diane K. Bamberth Memorial Award (Nomination Deadline: March 31)

This award goes to current graduating La Porte High School seniors pursuing an undergraduate bachelor degree from an accredited, tax-exempt col-

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March 20
1-4:00

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of Michigan City

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219-872-7251

lege or university.

Applicants demonstrate Bamberth's courage and character through community service, leadership, humility, courage and tenacity. They also exhibit strength through diversity, and a strong moral fiber.

Recipients must enroll as full-time students. Nominators may be: colleague, clergy, community member, family member, professor/teacher.

Jan Nona Environmental Stewardship Award (Nomination Deadline: March 31)

This award goes to residents of La Porte or Por-

ter counties who demonstrate success in moving beyond ordinary citizenship to be an activist in environmental protection. Nominators may be: community member, family member, professor/teacher, self

Additional printable scholarship applications are available on Unity's website:

• The Michigan City Chapter of the Drifters Scholarship Application (postmark deadline: April 15).

The scholarship financially assists a distinguished African-American and/or other minority undergraduate student of Michigan City High School pursuing higher education. Applications must be downloaded and mailed to: Michigan City Drifters Scholarship Committee, P.O. Box 73, Michigan City, IN 46361.

• New Day Foundation's Connie Yagelski-Marhanka Music Scholarship (postmark deadline: April 6).

These scholarships go to graduating high school seniors from La Porte County who include music in their studies towards a degree or career. Applicants must download the scholarship application and mail the printed version, essay and transcript to: New Day Foundation, Scholarship Committee, 31 Karwick Glen, Michigan City, IN 46360.

• Susan Hay Hemminger Scholarship Foundation Application (postmark deadline: April 15).

There are four award criteria: financial need; academic achievement; community service/leadership; and ability and commitment. Applicants must be legal La Porte County residents, graduates of a high school district that includes La Porte County in its boundaries, and accepted/enrolled in a two- or four-year undergraduate program at an accredited institution.

Applications must be downloaded and mailed to: Susan Hay Hemminger Scholarship, P.O. Box 9242, Michigan City, IN 46361.

Have a story idea? Call us at (219) 879-0088 ATTENTION: NW Indiana residents age 50-80 considering Total Knee Replacement OR you've had knee replacement but still having issues

HOW TO PREVENT STIFF KNEE SYNDROME

Free Check Up Event Reveals the Single Biggest #1 Secret To Ensure Successful Recovery from Total Knee Replacement

Dear Fellow NW Indiana Resident,

Has your knee finally had it?

- ... walking has gotten so excruciating?
- ...stairs have become intimidating?
- ...and you just can't stand for any length of time anymore?
- ...or have you had knee replacement and still suffering?

Stiff Knee Syndrome (in medical lingo, Arthrofibrosis)

So how do you know if you have stiff knee syndrome?

- You walk with a bent knee
- There is increased amount of pain which could be the result of stiff knee syndrome, especially when it occurs along with reduced flexibility.
- There is swelling in the soft tissue around your knee.

Successful Recovery from Total Knee Replacement FREE Check Up Event

So by request, I'm hosting our 2nd Annual "Successful Recovery from Total Knee Replacement FREE Check Up Event" here at Orthopedic and Balance Therapy Specialists:

Tuesday March 20, 2018 from 1:00 to 5:00 PM La Porte location at 1405 E. Lincolnway Suite B (across Route 2 from Walmart)

Here's some of what you'll learn during the event:

- ➤ The #1 risk factor for developing severe stiffness and how you can combat this
- The top 3 things you can do to prevent Stiff Knee Syndrome and not have to worry about it
- ➤ Why this one thing you do <u>before</u> surgery can improve your chances of a quicker recovery by 29%
- ➤ The 3 most effective simple do-it-yourself techniques to ensure successful recovery from total knee replacement
- ➤ And how NASA Technology can help get you to the "new" you quickly and easily following total knee replacement

So call my office now at 219-380-0809 in La Porte to reserve your spot. Due to the interactive nature of this event, we are limiting attendance to only 12 spots.

Sincerely,

Dr. Michael Pfeifer, PT, DPT, ATC

PS-Call my office NOW at **219-380-0809 in La Porte** to reserve your spot for the Successful Recovery from Total Knee Replacement FREE Check Up Event on Tuesday March 20 from 1-5 PM at my La Porte office.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

New Troy Class Space Available

New Troy Community Center is offering classroom space to anyone interested in teaching a class or workshop.

The 20x40 room, suitable for day and evening dance or exercise classes, can be furnished with tables and chairs. It has new, solid-surface flooring and is equipped with a wall-mounted, computer-compatible screen.

Instructors are charged 50 percent of their class fee, up to and not exceeding \$25 per session. For example, if a class attracts 10 participants at \$10 each, the instructor would pay \$25 for the space rental, keeping \$75 for themselves.

Rental fees benefit the center, 13372 California Road, an all-volunteer facility run by the non-profit Friends of New Troy. Call or text (269) 405-6857, or visit the center from 5:30 to 7 p.m. EST Thursday or 10 a.m. to noon EST Saturday.

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Barker Students Earn Awards

Three Barker Middle School students received awards at Valparaiso University's Regional Science & Engineering Fair on Saturday, Feb. 24.



Kyra Krachinski (from left), Riley Steinhiser and Eric Wroblewski



Ricardo Huizar (from left), Mason Piper, Jeremiah Clanton, Halle Hood, Vionney Taylor, Vada Kennedy and Kendra Lamberg.

The students are:

- Kyra Krachinski, who received an honorable mention in the Biological Division.
- Riley Steinhiser, who placed third in the Physical Science Division. He also received the Broadcom MASTERS Award for Rising Stars in STEM. He has been invited to submit an application to the national Broadcom MASTERS challenge.
- Eric Wroblewski, who placed second in the Biological Division. He advances to the Hoosier State Science & Engineering Fair, which is March 24 at IUPUI in Indianapolis.

Barker Curriculum Coach Amy Hamann coordinated the STEM Fair for Barker, and accompanied the students to the regional contest.

Barker students also competed in a History Day Fair on Saturday, Feb. 24, at St. Mary's College.

Several students will advance to the state-level competition on April 14 in Indianapolis.

The competing students were:

- Ricardo Huizar, Mason Piper and Jeremiah Clanton, who produced a group documentary.
- Halle Hood and Vionney Taylor, who also produced a group documentary.
- Vada Kennedy, who advanced in the Exhibit Board competition.
- Kendra Lamberg, who participated in Individual Research Paper.

ArtsBridge Choral Concert and Exhibit

ArtsBridge will present a "Choral Concert and Exhibit" at 4 p.m. EDT Sunday, March 11, at First Presbyterian Church, 475 Green Ave., Benton Harbor, Mich.

The program includes Southwestern Michigan College Select Voices with conductor David Carew and guest tenor Andrew Fisher. Brian Cooley's ink drawings will be on display and for sale.

Carew is in his 13th year as director of choral activities at SMC, where he conducts four ensembles,

teaches aural skills and coordinates applied voice instruction. Before SMC, he taught middle and high school choral music in the Dowagiac and Edwardsburg school districts for seven years.

This year, Carew celebrates 20 years of choral music. He received his bachelor's degree from Western Michigan University in 1998 and completed a master's degree in conducting from Michigan State University in 2005. He



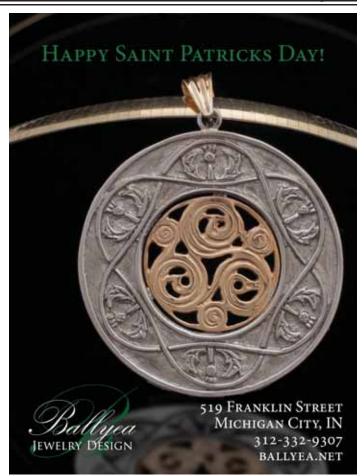
is the director and co-founder of Dogwood Chorale, a semiprofessional ensemble that operates through the Dowagiac Dogwood Fine Arts Festival. The ensemble facilitates a 6-12 grade choral camp in July that has served more than 250 young singers from several area schools. He has sung with the St. Joseph Valley Camerata for five seasons, and appeared with them at the American Choral Directors Association regional conference in Grand Rapids. He lives in Buchanan and has two children: Jacob, 15, and Laura, 10.

SMC Select Voices is an auditioned chamber ensemble, specializing primarily in a cappella music spanning several centuries.

Fisher, born in Hinsdale, Ill., moved with his family to Berrien Springs when he was 7. He began taking piano lessons at 5, sang tenor in churches, even played trumpet in band. After studying music at Andrews University and SMC, he performed and sang with various music organizations in Southwest Michigan. Years later, he did a brief stint singing opera in Florida, then returned to Michigan in 2015. He felt the call to perform jazz, reached out to his fellow musicians and founded the Andrew Fisher Quartet, of which he's the lead vocalist.

Cooley, a 43-year-old autistic New Buffalo resident, showcases his art at Chartreuse Gallery in downtown St. Joseph. His art, often presented in storyboard fashion using India ink and oil-based paint markers, usually features collections of whimsical people, creatures and objects.

A reception follows Sunday's program. Call (269) 925-7075 or visit firstpresbh.org for details.





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A.K. Smith Students Advance to State

LaPorte County Career and Technical Education students from the A.K. Smith Career Center participated in the Feb. 24 SkillsUSA Indiana Region 1 competition, with several among the top finishers advancing to the April 14 state competition.

The Welding Fabrication Team placed second. Team members included: Mandy Cannan of Michigan City High School; Cameron Perkins of LaPorte High School; and Gage Koepke of LaPorte High School. In the individual Welding competition, Alex Toth of Westville High School placed third and Rylan Epple of LaPorte High School placed fourth. Both advance to State.

Raymond Goss is the Welding instructor.



Construction students participate in the SkillsUSA Regional 1 competition.

In Construction Technology, two local students will advance to State: Cade Howard of LaCrosse High School and Ashton Wollum of Michigan City High School.

Dick Bucher is the Construction Technology instructor.

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Monday Musicale Student Contest

Monday Musicale is accepting applications for its annual Student Awards Competition, with auditions set for 1 p.m. Sunday, April 8, at First Presbyterian Church, 121 W. Ninth St.

Applicants must live or attend school in LaPorte County, or take private lessons from a LaPorte County resident or Monday Musicale member. Students in grades four through 12 (or the homeschooled equivalent) can apply through March 31.

A \$100 cash award goes to the highest scoring Junior Division candidate (grades 4-8). Senior Division participants (grades 9-12) are eligible for several \$300 awards in the categories of solo performance, accompaniment and/or musical improvisation, with one outstanding candidate receiving a \$500 scholarship.

One award, the James J. Guerrucci Music Achievement Award (\$300), is open to any LaPorte County resident fourth grade through adult. Funded by Unity Foundation of LaPorte County, it is awarded to a keyboard player who must perform a self-selected solo and demonstrate improvisational skills on a hymn chosen by the Monday Musicale Scholarship Committee.

Contact Sue Cassler at (219) 362-1421 or susan. cassler@comcast.net for an application and a complete list of rules. Visit the club's Facebook page, Monday Musicale Michigan City, for more details.

Humane Society Spring Fling

Michiana Humane Society & SPCA Inc. will host the 20th Annual Spring Fling on Saturday, March 24, at The Uptown Center, 907 Franklin St.

Proceeds aid the care of more than 1,000 animals. Guests can bid on items in a live auction over dessert. In between is a silent auction and dinner.

Preregister at www.michianahumanesociety. org. Once set up, those interested can bid on silent auction items starting Monday, March 19. Those who can't attend the event can make contributions through the website.

Tickets are \$135 per person and include an open bar, appetizers, dinner and dessert. Tables of eight may be reserved. Reservations are required by March 14 by calling (219) 872-4499 or through the website.



Lunch With the League

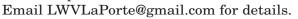
Ken Layton will speak during Lunch/Dinner With the League at 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 13, at Patrick's Grille, 4125 Franklin St.

The program is sponsored by League of Women Voters of La-Porte County.

Layton worked for 30 years with LaPorte County Sheriff's Office, and many years as a county commissioner. Now retired, he remains active with civic groups, local events and issues.

The general public is invited, and reservations are not required. A donation is required from nonmembers. Attendees should ar-

rive at 5:30 p.m. to order dinner from the menu.



Community Spell Bowl

Teams are sought for READ La Porte County's Community Spell Bowl, which is Thursday, March 28, at the LaPorte Veterans of Foreign Wars Hall, 181 W. McClung Road.

Doors open at 6 p.m., with the event starting at 6:30 p.m. The Spirit Award will be presented to the table with the most spirited table decorations/team representing their business or organization.

Teams can have up to four members. The cost is \$50 for non-profits and \$100 for all other businesses. March 22 is the registration deadline. Visit www.readlaportecounty.org for details.

Power of the Purse

The local Women United chapter will present "Power of the Purse" from 6 to 9 p.m. Thursday, March 15, at Pottawatomie Country Club, 1900 Springland Ave.

The annual dinner features a silent auction of new and gently used purses. Proceeds help fight generational poverty in LaPorte County.

Tickets cost \$65, with registration ending March 15. Visit tinyurl.com/jhnyc7w to register, or contact Executive Director Kris Pate at kris@unitedwaylpc. org or (219) 210-3534.

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Audra Peterson (center), LaPorte County Career and Technical Education director, is photographed with Jacob Parkman and Tina Randall.

CTE Student, Counselor Honored

A LaPorte County Career and Technical Education student and an area guidance counselor have received Indiana's highest CTE award, the "Award for Excellence."

Westville High School senior Jacob Parkman was selected as one of 21 distinguished CTE students from across Indiana during the 2018 recognition program Feb. 8 at the Indiana Government Complex in Indianapolis. Also honored was South Central Jr./Sr. High School Counselor Tina Randall, one of only two counselors in the state cited for ongoing efforts to support CTE programs.

Parkman is a second-year student in the Welding Technology program based at the A.K. Smith Career Center. He is an honor student at Westville who is active in extracurricular activities such as volleyball and basketball. He enrolled in the welding program to hone skills used on his family's farm.

Randall has been instrumental in developing CTE options for South Central students. As guidance counselor, she has established career fairs, brought in speakers to help students explore career options and taken students on field trips to both the A.K. Smith Center and at the post-secondary level.

The Awards for Excellence program is sponsored by the Indiana Association of CTE Districts, in partnership with the Indiana Department of Education.



Westchester Public Library

The following programs are available:

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

Interested patrons also can receive help calculating Body Mass Index.

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

The Flashbacks will perform. Members are: Suzanne Keldsen, playing guitar, recorders and fiddle; Julietta Raby, playing fiddle, mandolin and guitar; Nancy Cairns on dulcimer and ukulele; Paul Mache playing guitar and banjo; and Marti Pizzini on autoharp, dulcimer and guitar.

• Intro to the Ukulele from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Sundays, March 11, 18 and 25, at the Thomas Library Bertha Wood Meeting Room.

Learn basic chords, rhythm and ukulele history. Ukuleles will be provided, although participants can take their own and should indicate so during registration. No experience is necessary, and space is limited. Register at the Thomas Branch Reference Department or by calling (219) 926-7696.

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

The focus is Lynn Cullen's "I Am Rembrandt's Daughter." Copies are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

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

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

• Mad About Mysteries at 2 p.m. Wednesday, March 14, at Westchester Township History Museum.

Museum Curator Serena Ard will discuss Kay Hooper, *New York Times* best-selling author of the Bishop/Special Crimes Unit series. Light refreshments will be served.

Preschool Open House

La Porte County Public Library, 904 Indiana Ave., will host its annual Preschool Open House from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 13.

Representatives from area preschools will be present with information on curriculums, tuition costs and enrollment procedures.

Visit laportelibrary.org or call (219) 362-6156 for details.



Long Beach Women's Bowling

Feb. 27, 2018

TEAM STANDING	WON	LOST
1. Diagonal Divas	26	6
2. Queen Pins	19	13
3. Wrecking Balls	18.5	13.5
HIGH INDIVIDUAL GAMES		SCORE
1. Sue Labovitz		232
2. Sue Luegers		162
2. Cindy Beck		162
3. Nancy Klausner		161
3. Ginny Hogan		161
4. Margie Midkiff		160
5. Kathy Osborne		159
6. Mary Lou McFadden		156
7. Ellie Parkerson		152
8. Sarah Blank		150
9. Ann Bogart (series)		430
SPLITS		
1. Ellie Parkerson		2-7
2. Mary Lou McFadden		4-5
STRIKES		

1. Sue Labovitz — 6

2. Nancy Klausner, Kathy Osborne, Dale Maher (first ever) — 3.

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

International Women's Day

The Michigan City Commission for Women will celebrate International Women's Day with a free program at 5 p.m. Thursday, March 8, in the City Hall Council Chambers.

The evening includes guest speakers, a short video and an outdoor interactive piece.

The theme is "Time is Now: Rural and Urban Activists Transforming Women's Lives." Speakers include Dani Lane and Bunny Fisher. Guests can celebrate a woman who inspires them by sharing their name on a purple silk flower. The flowers will be displayed in front of Matthew Hoffman's "You Are Beautiful" sculpture next to City Hall.

Contact Dalia Zygas at daliazygas@gmail.com or (219) 214-1839 for details.



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LaPorte County Parks Awards







King



Blair

LaPorte County Parks staff, the board and foundation presented their annual community awards during the February board meeting at Red Mill County Park.

The "Organization of the Year" recipient was Healthcare Foundation of LaPorte, which helps improve the community by funding projects. Its most recent beneficiary is construction of a half-mile trail at Luhr County Park to be built this year.

The "Outstanding Park Service Award" recipient was park foundation member Steve King. Each year, he takes care of several landscaping beds at Luhr. He also was instrumental in spearheading a project in which the foundation donated a framed LaPorte County Parks poster to each public school in LaPorte County.

The "Volunteer of the Year" recipient was Delia Blair, a steady volunteer at Pioneer Days. She volunteers at any station and greets park patrons. She also helps with other programs throughout the year, and is a caretaker at Red Mill, cleaning the hall and restrooms on weekends.



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Hoosier Star Auditions

Auditions are set for La Porte County Symphony Orchestra's 13th annual Hoosier Star, a benefitcompetition open to amateur singers of all musical styles and age groups from throughout Indiana.

Auditions are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, March 24, and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, March 25, at La Porte Little Theatre, 218 A St.

Contestants are divided into two age groups: youth 17 and younger, and adults 18 and older at the time of auditions. Ten finalists — five in each age group — advance from there. Duet performers will be considered one finalist per each duet group. The 10 finalists perform with the LCSO, conducted by Philip Bauman on Saturday, Sept. 8, at LaPorte Civic Auditorium, 1001 Ridge St. The audience chooses the two winners in each age division. First and second place in the Youth Division receive \$500 and \$250, respectively. First and second place in the Adult Division receive \$1,000 and \$500, respectively.

Registration forms are available at HoosierSTAR. com. Contestants are encouraged to pre-register for a guaranteed time slot. The audition fee is \$20 per person or duet. If a competitor would like to audition as a soloist and a duet, he/she must submit two separate audition forms, including separate fees. Audition applications must be postmarked by March 16 to receive a guaranteed time slot. Walkins are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis during the audition dates.

No group performances may enter, and both competitors in a duet must be from the same age division. For auditions, applicants may provide their own accompanist, use a CD with no lead vocals, supply a digital mp3 capable device or sing a cappella.

Call (219) 362-9020 or email HoosierSTAR2018@ gmail.com for more details.



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Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

The following programs are available:

• Maple Sugar Time 2018 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, March 10-11, at Chellberg Farm.

Take a self-guided tour to learn how maple tree sap has been used for hundreds of years. Park staff will be at each trail stop to show how American Indians first boiled maple sap into sugar, and how later, settlers used large iron kettles to make the sap into syrup. Afterward, stand in the sugar shack where sap is still boiled down the way the Chellbergs did.

Visitors also can drill a tap hole or use an old-fashioned yoke to carry heavy sap buckets. Samples of pure maple syrup can be compared to "artificially flavored" syrup.

Admission is free, and pure maple syrup and related products will be sold.

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

• Stargazing from 6 to 8 p.m. Saturday, March 10, at the Kemil Beach parking area.

Members from Chicago Astronomical Society, Michiana Astronomical Society and Calumet Astronomical Society will attend with telescopes. Dress for the weather. Take binoculars. The Kemil Beach parking lot is located at 27 N. East State Park Road, Chesterton.

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:

• Running' with the Irish 5K from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. Saturday, March 17.

This year marks the 18th annual family-friendly event in which the competitive run and non-competitive walk head through the park. Visit tinyurl.com/y9t6zurx to register.

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.

Invasive Species Program

Jared Harmon of the Berrien County Conservation District will speak on invasive species management from 1 to 2 p.m. EDT Sunday, March 11, at Fernwood Botanical Gardens and Nature Preserve, 13988 Range Line Road, Niles, Mich.

Invasive species can include garlic mustard, Japanese knotweed and honeysuckle. Harmon will focus on how to identify and properly manage them, particularly those impacting, and likely to impact in the future, areas in Southwest Michigan.

Visit www.fernwoodbotanical.org for details.







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Dunes Summer Theatre Auditions

Dunes Arts Foundation will hold general non-equity auditions for the 2018 Dunes Summer Theatre season Saturday, March 10, and Monday, March 19.

Actors and singers should request an audition time at DunesTheatre@gmail.com, Attention Casting 2018. Attach a current headshot/resume. Singers should perform at least 32 bars of a song, but be prepared to perform the full version. Optional is a brief monologue. Accompaniment will be provided.

Non-singers/actors should prepare two contrasting brief monologues.

Callbacks are at the end of March.

The season includes: "Greater Tuna" (comedy); "The Spitfire Grill" (musical); "Noises Off" (farce); "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" (musical); "Charlotte's Web" (Theater for Young Audiences); "Wait Until Dark" (thriller); the one-man "Seeking Paul McCartney" (a new work by local playwright David Hoppe); and a concert version of "Man of La Mancha" featuring regional talent.

Directors include: Steve Scott of Goodman Theater; Leigh Selting, chairman of the University of Wyoming's theater/dance department; John Green, chairman of Columbia College-Chicago's graduate program; and Dunes artistic director Jeffrey Baumgartner.

The season runs April 27-Sept. 23.

Contact Amy Black at (219) 879-7509 or visit DunesArtsFoundation.org for more details.

Krasl Art Fair on the Bluff

The jurying process has begun for Krasl Art Center's Art Fair on the Bluff, now in its 57th year.

The event on July 14-15 highlights 200 artists along Lake Bluff Park overlooking Lake Michigan.

More than 800 artists applied for the 2018 fair. Scoring applicants on the full-day jury Feb. 21 were:

- Richard Burd, retired professor from Governors State University, College of Arts & Sciences.
- Mary Burke, artist.
- Brian Edlefson, KAC board member and global design manager, KitchenAid Marketing.
- Daniel Juzwiak, jewelry designer and artist.
- Mark McCrone, business owner and woodworking artist.

KAC is located at 707 Lake Blvd., St. Joseph, Mich. Visit www.krasl.org for more details.



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American Red Cross

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

- Michiana Hematology Oncology, 1668 S. U.S. 421, Westville, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, March 8.
- First Church of God, 2020 E. Lincolnway, La Porte, noon to 6 p.m. Monday, March 12.
- Bethany Lutheran Church, 102 G St., La Porte, 1 to 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 13.

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.

Brown Bag Gardening Series

La Porte County Master Gardeners continues its Brown Bag Gardening Series with "A Vegetable Garden: One Man's Journey" from noon to 1 p.m. Wednesday, March 14, at Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St.

The \$5 cost includes informational handouts. Guests can take lunch. No preregistration is required. Call Purdue Extension-LaPorte County at (219) 324-9407 or visit www.lpmastergardener.com for details.

The final program, "Importance of Bees for Gardens," is from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 18, at La Porte County Extension Office, 2857 W. Indiana 2, LaPorte.

Luau Party

LaPorte County Association of Realtors will host its Luau Party fundraiser at 3 p.m. Saturday, March 10, at LaPorte Moose Lodge 492, 925 Boyd Blvd.

Point'N Fingers will perform, with an all-youcan-eat "Cheeseburger in Paradise" burger buffet, silent auction and margaritas.

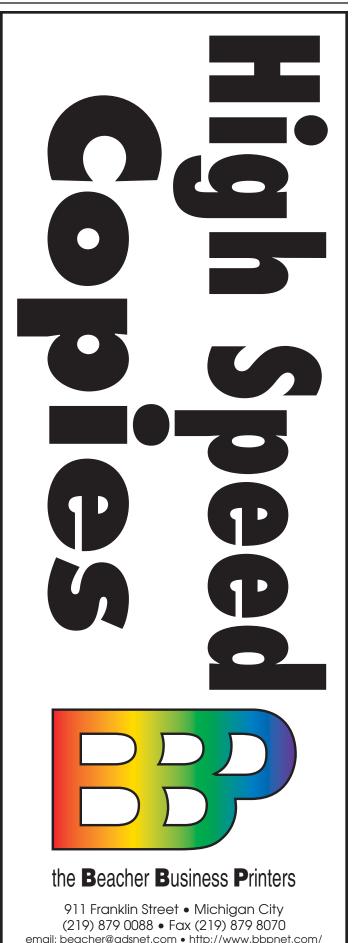
The event raises funds for the Deserving Children Christmas Shopping Tour. The cost is \$25 per person. Call Rosie Michaels at (219) 363-9435 for more information.

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Activities to Explore

In the Area:

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

March 8 — Art à la Carte: St. Patrick's Day Craft, 3:30 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

March 8 — Michigan City High School Choral and Band departments, "Classics Night II" concert, 7 p.m., MCHS auditorium, 8466 Pahs Road. Admission: \$3/adults, \$2/students, \$10/family.

March 9 — Kennedy's Kitchen, 8 p.m. EST, The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: adults/\$20, children/\$10. Info: www. acorntheater.com, (269) 756-3879.

March 9-12 — Vickers Theatre, 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. *Now showing*: "The Shape of Water." Rated R. Times: 6 p.m. Fri.-Mon., 2:45 p.m. Sat.-Sun. All times Eastern. Info: vickerstheatre.com

March 9-11, 16-18 — Marquette Catholic High School Drama Department, "Seussical the Musical," Rudy Hart Theatre, 306 W. 10th St. Times: 7 p.m. March 9-10, 16-17/2 p.m. March 11 & 18. Tickets: \$10/adults, \$8/students & seniors, \$5/children 12 & younger.

March 9-11, 16-18 — "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest," La Porte Little Theatre Club, 218 A St. Times: 7:30 p.m. Fri.-Sat./2 p.m. Sun. Tickets: \$15/adults, \$12/students. Reservations: (219) 362-5113, www.laportelittletheatreclub

March 9-25 — "Ordinary Days," 4th Street Theater, 125 N. Fourth St. Times: 8 p.m. Fri.-Sat., 3 p.m. Sun. General admission: \$20. Reservations: (219) 926-7875, online at Brown Paper Tickets.

March 10 — Spa Day at the Park, 10 a.m.-noon, Red Mill County Park's Pat Smith Hall, 0185 S. Holmesville Road, La Porte.

March 10 — Coastline Children's Film Festival, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

March 10 — Michigan City St. Patrick's Day Parade, 1 p.m., Uptown Arts District (10th Street to Fourth Street).

March 10 — The Magic of Kalita, 2 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

March 10 — La Porte County Association of Realtors Luau Party fundraiser, 3 p.m., La Porte Moose Lodge 492, 925 Boyd Blvd. Cost: \$25. Info: (219) 363-9435.

March 10 — "Wild Women and Wine," 7 p.m., Barker Mansion, 631 Washington St. Tickets: \$28/\$20 without alcohol. Reservations: Eventbrite, (219) 873-1520.

March 10 — Stargazing, 6-8 p.m., Kemil Beach parking area, 27 N. East State Park Road, Chesterton. Info: (219) 395-1882.

March 10-11 — Maple Sugar Time 2018, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Chellberg Farm, Mineral Springs Road between U.S. 12/20, Porter. Free. Info: (219) 395-1882.

March 11 — "Five Thousand Schools of Hope in the Segregated South," 2 p.m., Sinai Temple, 2800 Franklin St. Free. Light refreshments.

March 11 — LaPorte County Symphony Orchestra, Spring Classic Concert, 3 p.m., Holdcraft Performing Arts Center, 1200 Spring St. Children & students/free, adults/\$20, seniors 65+/\$18. Reservations: @ door, lcso.net/concerts/fantasia

March 13 — Reader's Theater: "Oleanna," 5:30 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

March 13 — Lunch/Dinner With the League, speaker Ken Layton, 6 p.m., Patrick's Grille, 4125 Franklin St. Info: LWVLaPorte@gmail.com

March 14 — La Porte County Master Gardeners Brown Bag Gardening Series, "A Vegetable Garden: One Man's Journey," noon-1 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Cost: \$5. Info: (219) 324-9407, www.lpmastergardener.com

March 14 — Michigan City High School Choral and Band departments, "Swing Night" concert, 7 p.m., MCHS auditorium, 8466 Pahs Road. Admission: \$3/adults, \$2/students, \$10/family.

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

In the Region

March 10, 17 — Indoor flea market, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. EST, New Troy (Mich.) Community Center, 13372 California Road. Vendor info: (773) 803-9773.

March 11 — ArtsBridge "Choral Concert and Exhibit," 4 p.m. EDT, First Presbyterian Church, 475 Green Ave., Benton Harbor, Mich. Info: (269) 925-7075, firstpresbh.org

Through March 17 — "No Way to Treat a Lady," Elkhart Civic Theatre @ Bristol (Ind.) Opera House, 210 E. Vistula St. Times (Eastern): 7:30 p.m. March 9-10 and 16-17, 3 p.m. March 11. Tickets: adults, \$21, seniors & students/\$19. Reservations: (574) 848-4116, elkhartcivictheatre.org

Support Groups

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

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

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

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



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Photos With Easter Bunny

Families are invited to take photos with the Easter Bunny at Gabis Arboretum (formerly Taltree).

Photos are scheduled from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 17-18 and 24-31. The Railway Depot will be set up with two backdrops, each with live, seasonal plants. Visitors also can check out the Railway Garden, explore indoor decorations, visit with animals in the Adventure Garden or stay for a craft.

The cost is \$20 per carload. That price does not apply to individual admission or members. Advance tickets are not required.

Easter egg hunts are each hour, starting at 10:30 a.m., on Sunday, March 25. Children 10 and younger are welcome.

All proceeds aid the arboretum's mission of environmental education, conservation, restoration and sustainability. It is located at 71 N. County Road 500 West near Valparaiso.

Visit Taltree.org for more details.

Annual R.O.S.E. Nominations Sought

Visit Michigan City LaPorte tourism bureau will observe National Tourism Week when it unites with Indiana Dunes Tourism to present the 18th Annual R.O.S.E. Awards Luncheon.

The event is Wednesday, May 9, at LaPorte Civic Auditorium, 1001 Ridge St. The luncheon starts at 11:30 a.m., with Tom Dermody serving as keynote speaker.

Nominations are sought to honor LaPorte County residents, organizations and businesses for providing excellent service. The deadline is April 5.

Nominations can be emailed to jane@michigancitylaporte.com, or visit tinyurl.com/ycj32p2o

Michigan City Chamber Gala

This year marks the Michigan City Area Chamber of Commerce's 100th anniversary, and the first celebratory event is from 5:30 to 11 p.m. Saturday, March 24, at Blue Chip Casino's Stardust Event Center.

The gala will honor longtime members, and emphasize the chamber's role in the community. Cocktails, dining and live music are planned.

The RSVP deadline is March 14. The cost is \$100 per person. Pre-registration and payment are required at MichiganCityChamber.com or call (219) 874-6221.



Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter

<u>Force of Nature</u> by Jane Harper (hardcover, \$25.99 retail in bookstores and online; also available as an eBook)

"Later, the four remaining women could fully agree on only two things. One: No one saw the bushland swallow up Alice Russell. And two: Alice had a mean streak so sharp it could cut you."

Corporate retreats. Big companies like to book them to promote team spirit, cooperation, trust in each other — blah, blah, blah. Do they work? See what you think after reading about this one...

The story takes us to Melbourne, Australia, where BaileyTennents arranges for such an outing to the bushland some three hours' travel out of the city. It is to last Friday night to Sunday evening. A group of five women and another group of five men leave town in separate vehicles and meet up at the lodge of Executive Adventures. They have backpacks filled with supplies and tents, and a map showing the route they must take and where to end up Sunday afternoon.

The women's team includes leader Jill Bailey, whose brother owns the company, plus Alice Russell, Lauren Shaw and twins Beth and Bree McKenzie. Lauren and Alice went to school together. Jill at 50+ years is the oldest. The twins couldn't be more different — maybe. Harper feeds us the women's lives bit by bit, giving us stories within the story.

Everyone knows the weekend will boil down to a race to see if the men can outdo the women, but it is the women's trail we follow. Here's why...

Sunday afternoon, the men, as expected, come in first. As evening approaches, with no sign of the women, everyone is angry, then concerned as to their whereabouts. Finally, four women come into view: two holding up one with a snake bite and the other with a bloody gash on her forehead. Where's No. 5? What has happened to Alice? Suddenly, the weekend retreat has become a search-and-rescue mission...

Fade back to Friday evening as all seems friendly enough when the women start out, but it doesn't take long before hiking in the bushland becomes real work and not play. Chapters following the five women show the breakdown of communication and eventual squabbles about — well, everything, from reading the map to setting up camp. It's a fascinating character study that shows how the meek can find their voice and the A-type personalities clash in physical and verbal ways when placed in isolated

circumstances.

Alternating chapters take us to Federal Agents Aaron Falk and Carmen Cooper. They have been called to the Executive Adventures lodge Sunday night after it's discovered Alice is missing. Why are they interested? Well, it seems BaileyTennents is a boutique accounting firm the feds have been following for money laundering. "The firm was a cog in a larger network"...and Alice is their inside contact

for retrieving incriminating evidence.

As Falk and Carmen interview the four women, inconsistencies arise in their stories. One thing the four women agree on, though, is that the men's group, led by Daniel Bailey, chief exec of BaileyTennents, made an unscheduled stop at the women's camp Friday night. Daniel was seen talking privately to Alice. Falk fears she's been compromised.

As Falk's investigation takes him into learning more about Alice's life for the past few weeks, events at the women's camp escalate to an impossible situation. The story's pace picks up — tempers not only flare, they break out into all out war. Fear can turn to desperation, especially when the women have strayed off the

map trail and become hopelessly lost. Until they find this creepy cabin...You can bet staying there is not a good idea.

As in her first book, <u>The Dry</u>, Harper makes use of nature as a metaphor... as the rain and wind escalate, so do the emotions and frustrations of the five women.

Alice finally has enough. Was waiting around to be rescued really a good idea or a recipe for disaster?

So what happened then? There's lots more to this story than you think — moments when your jaw will drop to your chest!

As Lauren puts it, "It wasn't any one thing that went wrong; it was a hundred little things." Will they find Alice wandering the bush, or will they find her cold, dead body? No matter what happened, the outcome is not the publicity Executive Adventures expects nor wants.

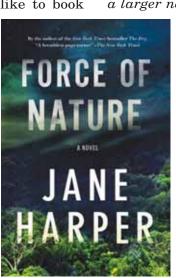
Booklist (starred review): "Riveting, tension-driven thriller...Perfect for fans of Tana French and readers who enjoy literary page-turners."

Publishers Weekly: "Harper once again shows herself to be a storytelling force to be reckoned with."

Kirkus Reviews: "A spooky, compelling read."

Harper worked as a print journalist for 13 years before writing her first novel, <u>The Dry</u>, a No. 1 international bestseller. Originally from the U.K., she lives in Melbourne.

Till next time, happy reading!









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2 bathrooms and an office/laundry room completes the upper level. Lower level boasts a large 4th bedroom with an en suite bathroom, perfect for your guests. Spacious deck overlooking Floral Trail and a back patio surrounded by trees provide a secluded and private lot that is great for entertaining. Large 2 car built-in garage has an ample amount of storage for all of your beach toys. Bonus driveway parking as well. Welcome Home to 2726 Floral Trail!













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