The 4th of July in Long Beach: A Special Time

See Pages 2, 18, 34, 36
Pre-Parade Gathering

About an hour before parade time, the strollers, the bikers, the golf carts, the buggys, antique cars and the Parade Marshal gathered at the Old School to take time for last minute adjustments, maybe a few instructions from Dad, and a visit with the judges.
Community Theatre Guild at Chicago Street Theatre has chosen an innovative play adaptation of Rudyard Kipling’s *The Jungle Book* for their next production. Adapted by Edward Mast, the CTG production is directed by Patty Bird.

In this play, the jungles of India are played out on a children’s playground. The dialogue and action refer to the jungle, sometimes brutally, but the production draws color and style from a child’s world of playfulness, loyalty, adventure and betrayal. Mowgli, the infant “man-cub,” has miraculously escaped Sherakhan, the vicious tiger who killed his parents. Adopted and raised by the wolf pack, Mowgli must learn the law and language of the jungle and be ever watchful of Sherakhan, always waiting in the shadows. Luckily, his friends Baloo the bear and Bagheera the black panther watch over his journey into manhood. Recommended for ages 8 and up.

Performances are Fri., July 12 (7 p.m.), Sat., July 13 (3 p.m.) and Sun., July 14 (7 p.m.). All seats are $5; phone 219/464-1636. The Chicago Street Theatre is located at 154 W. Chicago St., Valparaiso. Visit their website www.ctgonline.org

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Something Fishy Going On...

by Maggie Beyer

Kids Get Into the Art Scene at Faux Fish Factory

Fish on the clothesline. . .fish on the tiles. . .fish in the fish pond at the Center for the Arts. . .fish flying down Franklin Street! It’s all been happening at the Faux Fish Factory summer art camp where 45 young artists have been working under a tent, *en plein air*, creating fish in every conceivable form from recyclable materials.

When one good idea meets another good idea, something wonderful happens. So it was when the John G. Blank Center for the Arts met the Solid Waste District of LaPorte County in a project that was a natural to meet both organization’s goals: encourage recycling and further art exploration and education for young people. They had the artist on hand, Edwin Shelton, owner of Izwin Studio who had recently taught a class on 3-D art projects for children at the Center for the Arts, created Clay Day and a parent/child workshop at Marsh School called “Paint Your Dreams”. Put it all together and you have an art experience for youngsters that will end in a celebration on July 19th from 5 to 7 pm, when the children’s Faux Fish Band (no relation to the *Phish* and the Hillbilly Winos of Open Mic fame will entertain. The public is invited to see what the Faux Fish Factory has wrought at the Center for the Arts in Michigan City.

Lelde Kalmite, executive director of the John G. Blank Center for the Arts, says: “Working with recycled material is a natural for artists.”

Lynn Water, executive director of the Solid Waste District of LaPorte County, thought the idea was also a natural combination of ideas to encourage recycling. She encouraged Lelde to submit a grant. The Waste District officers liked it so much they even upped the amount requested so that it could be tuition free for every child attending. Lynn and Lelde brainstormed with artist Edwin Shelton, considering the possibilities of a labyrinth, maybe an aviary, settled on a fish pond, and thereby the Faux Fish Factory was born.
Word was sent forth through schools and ads, assistants hired, and classes began for three age groups from 6 to 12, held in two-hour segments from 9 to 5. Karlis Kanderovskis added a little musical instrumentation to the program, teaching the kids to make drums from found objects for a taste of jazz improv; Katie Wall introduced yoga and storytime. To keep the concept going, Paul Marshall and his son, Tyler Marshall, are creating an educational video using the project as a way to teach recycling and respect for art.

"We did star fish, gold fish, flying fish, just any and every old fish." That's what Veronika Werner said last week at a session of the Faux Fish Factory Summer Camp at the John G. Blank Center for the Arts. She liked working with clay best. Classmate Marque Steinhagen liked working with paint, "especially light blue because it’s pretty, like the sky," she said. Both will be 2nd graders at Edgewood School. What assistant instructor Karlis Kanderovskis, an art major at the University of Chicago, liked were the small groups that gave instructors lots of time to work with each child.

Veronika with a “k” Werner and Veronica with a “c” d’Ebone, who will enter 1st grade at Notre Dame School this fall, share a story of Roshomon and the Ogre with assistant instructor Karlis Kanderovskis.

Kathie Wall, assistant instructor who lives in Long Beach and has a BFA from Loyola University, taught adult drawing at the BCA last winter. Here, she helps Elliott Sass who will be entering Kindergarten at St. Stan’s.

Buttons, jewelry, bits of glass, all recycled into art.

Nick Marsh, entering 1st grade this year, Marque Steinhagen and Elliott Sass create more fish for the factory.

Fishy Continued on Page 8
Fishy Continued from Page 7

“Our intent at the Faux Fish Factory was to make art using recycled materials,” Edwin Shelton explained. “We don’t need to throw everything into landfills. We can find other uses.” The children did. They used vinyl wallpaper to create fish flags that hang on a line on the Art Center grounds. They created wind socks that fly from lampposts on corners along Franklin street with money donated by Mickey Gallas. Paper donated by the Michigan City Box Company was shredded to fill the fish pond in bright colors, a great place for kids to stomp around and have fun. They used old wallpaper, paint, window screens, lawn chairs, dry wall scraps, broken china from a store at the Outlet Mall to create the mosaic tiles that ring the pond.

Though camp ends on July 12, the closing will be July 19, and the Faux Fish Factory installation will remain on the grounds of the Center for the Arts on the corner of Spring and 8th Streets through Labor Day when kids can take their creations home and all the rest will be recycled again.

Many know Izwin Studios for its whimsical ceramics, especially the “Cupheads” known nationally. Many don’t know that much goes on deep inside that whimsy. “I loved the idea of this temporary art installation,” Edwin said, “because it was true of so many spiritual traditions, like the mandala that Tibetan monks create just for their mystical beauty, and then just brush away. It’s a spiritual experience and it all gets recycled again.” (Like the beautiful symbolic paintings I had seen, that people in Antigua, Guatemala, created with colored sand and flowers on the road where the feet of those marching in Easter processions would walk over them). Edwin will also be doing what he loves, teaching art at his own summer art camp for children 6 through 12 at the Old School Community Center in Long Beach beginning July 15.

Lelde Kalmite hopes the enthusiasm of this summer will continue in the upcoming summer arts camp sponsored by Columbia College that will begin July 15 through August 8 where theater-based improv, acting, movement, music and writing will be held for children inside the Art Center and outside under a tent.

As the staff at the Center for the Arts says, “There’s something going on all the time.”
COLUMBIA 2 ART WORKSHOPS FOR ADULTS
Registration is required. For details contact: Columbia 2:
The Division of Continuing Education
at Columbia College Chicago.
Phone: 312 344 8190
E-mail: columbia2@popmail.colum.edu
Fax: 312 344 8086

Photography Workshop: Storytelling with Your Camera
(Class # C9-2000-01)
Wednesday & Thursday, July 24 & 25; 9 am - 1 pm
Cost: $100 + $20 materials fee
Instructor: Tone Stockenström
Learn how to use that camera you’ve got sitting around with
this basic workshop.

Creative Nonfiction Writing Workshop
(Class # C9-2001-01)
Monday & Wednesday, July 29 & 31, 10 am - 1 pm
Cost: $120
Instructor: Renee Hansen
Become familiar with top creative nonfiction authors and learn
to use techniques including dialogue, narration, scene con-
struction, and imagery to write about your own experiences.

Creativity, Meditation, and the Body
(Class # C9-2002-01)
Wednesday & Thursday, July 17 & 18, 9 am - noon + 2 - 5 pm
Cost: $120
Instructors: Bill & Kiyomi Hayashi
Learn methods of meditation, Hatha yoga and Chi-Gung to
unfold and sustain the spiritual and creative potential that is
our essential nature.
“Hello Dolly!” at Memorial Opera House

Memorial Theatre Company presents the musical theatre production of “Hello Dolly!” on July 13, 19, 20, 26, 27 at 8 p.m. and July 14, 21 & 28 at 2 p.m., at the Memorial Opera House, 104 Indiana Avenue in Valparaiso.

Set in the 1890s, this musical is the story of Dolly Gallagher Levi, an enterprising businesswoman who is best at matchmaking. Her enchanting personality brings several disparate, lonely people together and in the end, she even finds a match for herself. The Broadway production in 1964 won the Tony award for Best Musical.

The 23 member cast reside throughout Northwest Indiana in Porter, LaPorte and Lake counties. Kurt A. Gillins is the director and Deborah Porter is musical director and orchestra conductor.

Tickets are $13/adults, $11/students, senior citizens and groups of 20; all tickets are $2 more when purchased on the day of the performance. Box office hours are 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Mon.-Sat, and 2 hours before each performance. Phone 219/548-9137 or visit www.memorialoperahouse.com

Events held at Memorial Opera House are assisted by grants from The Porter County Visitor’s Center, The Anderson Foundation and the Indiana Arts Commission.
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Tower Announces Winner

Jennifer Dunkleberger, a 2002 graduate of Michigan City High School, has been chosen to receive the first Tower Student Scholarship Grant in the amount of $1000. Her major will be in Elementary Education and she will attend Purdue University North Central in the fall. The Tower members would like to thank all the students who applied.

Tower is a local, not-for-profit organization. The Tower Student Scholarship Grant was funded by proceeds received from the Oktoberfest.

IZWIN ART CAMP at the Long Beach Community Center

Mondays July 15th, 22, & 29
Wednesdays July 17, 24, & 31
1:00 pm to 3:00 pm
Please call Edwin Shelton for reservation:
219-874-1395
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**Hospice Hosts Doo Wop Concert**

It's time to *Yakety Yak* your way back to the 50s and *Stroll* down memory lane with your *Lil Darlin* on Sat., Aug. 17, at the St. Anthony Hospice of Michigan City fundraising Doo-Wop Concert.

This event will be held from 6-10 p.m. at the Michigan City High School Auditorium, 8466 Pahs Road, Michigan City. Proceeds from this concert will benefit patient care and services at St. Anthony Hospice.

Join St. Anthony Hospice for an evening of Rock ‘n’ Roll fun 50s style, featuring LaPorte County’s own Dr. Groovy and the Soul Surgeons as the warm up act to nationally-known bands The Diamonds and Billy Richard’s Coasters.

The Diamonds are known for such songs as *Why Do Fools Fall in Love, Little Darlin’*, and *The Stroll*, while the Coasters have recorded such songs as *Love Potion #9, Yakety Yak* and *Charlie Brown*.

Advance tickets are being sold for $35 through Aug. 12 by phoning St. Anthony Hospice at 877-2035 or the Michigan City Chamber of Commerce at 874-6221. Tickets cannot be purchased at the door.

**Summer Book Sale**

LaPorte County Public Library’s Friends of the Library will hold its annual summer book sale at the former Bernacchi’s Farm Market, 2435-1/2 Monroe Street, LaPorte from July 11-14. There will be great prices on used books, paperbacks, albums, VHS tapes, audiocassettes and more.

The sale will start with a special preview sale from 3-7 p.m. on Thurs., July 11, which is open to Friends of the Library members only. For information on becoming a member, phone 219/362-6156.

Other dates are Fri., July 12, 8 a.m.-8 p.m.; Sat., July 13, 8 a.m.-6 p.m. & Sun., July 14, noon-4 p.m.
Sleeper Sofa, Loveseat, Chair & Ottoman also on sale. Colors Available: Oyster, Green & Black.

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Matching Recliner also available. Colors Available: Burgundy, Charcoal & Galaxy.

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New Addition to Splash Down Dunes

This aerial view of Splash Down Dunes shows the new Black Cobra Tube Slide complex in the foreground.

After months of planning, building, welding, scraping, testing and re-testing, the Black Cobra Tube Slide complex has officially opened at Splash Down Dunes, Chesterton.

The 40 ft. high complex consists of two slides, each 400 feet long: a completely enclosed slide and an open raft ride. The enclosed slide takes guests through 28.7 seconds of complete darkness.

Splash Down Dunes is located on U.S. 20 at Indiana 49. It is open from 10 a.m.-8 p.m. every day of the week. Admission is $15 for guests over 4 ft. tall; $10 for guests under 4 ft. tall and free for children ages 3 and under. Tube use is included in the gate admission. The park is privately owned and operated; it is not part of any park system.

Internet & Computer Classes

The LaPorte County Public Library, 904 Indiana Ave., LaPorte, will hold the following classes which require preregistration at the Information Desk:

- Wed., July 17, Basic Mousing 9-9:30 a.m.
- Wed., July 17, Introduction to the Internet 1-2 p.m.
- Sat., July 20, PC Maintenance, 2-4 p.m.

Registration is not required for the following:

- Sat., July 20, PC Maintenance, 2-4 p.m.

Phone the library at 219/362-6156.
July 11, 2002 Page 17

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The parade steps off in fine fashion with lots of color, class and patriotism!

The Mellen family (left) and the Bernacchi family (above) both won trophies in the Best Float category. See page 20 for a complete list of winners.
Job Searching on the Internet

“Pounding the Electronic Pavement: Job Searching on the Internet” will be held from 9:30-11:30 a.m. on Thurs., July 18, at the LaPorte County Public Library. This is a chance to get lots of practical tips and tactics for looking for jobs on the Internet. Job boards, newsgroups, listserves, online classifieds and target sites will be covered.

There will be plenty of time to ask questions and share experiences. Phone 219/362-6156 for more information or to request signing for the hearing impaired 48 hours in advance.

LB Parade Winners

This year’s parade chairmen were Norm and Pat Bruemmer. Parade Marshals were members of the Bernie Brown family: Kathy (Mrs.) and children Nicole and Matt.

Winners were announced in the following categories:

**Floats**
- Bernacchi family-Life’s Always a Picnic in Long Beach
- Mellen family-United We Stand

**Costumes or Misc.**
- Singing Sands Girl Scouts
- Wall family-League of Their Own

**Golf Carts**
- Moulin Rouge
- Thomas the Tank Engine (Grams family)
- America’s Heroes (Welsh & Galada families)
- L.B. Hillbillies
- America’s Super Heroes (Balton & Hesslau families)
- L.B. Island Paradise (Carstens family)
- Scooby Doo

**Intermediate Bicycle (9 yrs. and older)**
- Kristen Gorski

**Junior Bicycle (8 yrs. and younger)**
- Lady Liberty (Elizabeth McCay)
- Jacob Lieby

**Baby Buggy, Stroller, Wagon, Trike**
- Sponge Bob Squarepants (Weber family)
- Bob the Builder

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Columbia Theater Campfire Theatre

On Saturday evenings, July 13, 20 & 27, the Columbia Theatre Department will present “Campfire Theatre” at New Buffalo’s Tall Oaks Inn. Yasmina Reza’s “ART,” will be accompanied by a cookout dinner on July 13. The production is directed by Tonika Todorova and stars Reed Meschefske, Michael Quinn and Joe Vonderhaar. Tickets are $15 per person and reservations are required by phoning the Inn, 616/469-0097 or toll-free at 800/936-0034.

The plot of “ART” revolves around the purchase of a modern painting of white stripes on a white canvas by Serge, one member of a triangle of friends. The acquisition, and Serge’s pride in his purchase, spark conflicting responses from his best friends Yvan and Marc—who have decidedly traditional tastes in the visual arts. The heated debate over the merits of modernism expands into a deep, sometimes humorous and sometimes bitter examination of art, culture, society, friendship, freedom and value.

Children’s Performing Arts Camp

Designed for youth ages 8-12, this camp will be taught by members of the Columbia Theatre Department. For more information, phone the John G. Blank Center for the Arts, 874-4900.

Poetry Corner at Deep River

Deep River Park will host a Poetry Corner on Sat., July 14, from 5-7 p.m. in the Park’s Gazebo. Set among lovely gardens, the setting is perfect for those who write, read and enjoy poetry. Discussions will follow the readings. Bring your own poetry to share during this event. The last Poetry Corner will be held on Aug. 18.

Deep River County Park is located on Old Lincoln Hwy. at County Line Road between Merrillville and Valparaiso. For details, phone 219/947-1958.
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Successful Fourth Annual 4th of July 5K Old School Run/Walk Held
by Jan Van Ausdal

On a hot, sunny morning, July 4th, 2002, the 4th Annual 5K Old School Run/Walk was held with a total sign-up of 147! Many children ran in this longer walk rather than in the kids’ race.

Hal Higdon, race founder, watched people sign up with Camille Higdon or Rose Higdon at the table in the lobby of the Old School Community Center, beginning at 6:30 a.m. They were told, “Just give me your $5 and sign your name on the sheet.” The entry fee money will benefit the center.

Outside, the early birds were doing their warm-up exercises, relaxing, and talking with friends while they awaited 7:00 a.m.—starting time of the race! With my camera, I caught Bob and Shirley Long of Michigan City with Deborah Bosco and her retired greyhound, Thriller. She’s owned Thriller for about a year and a half now. The Long’s son, Mike, and Deborah’s son, Ryan, from the Marquette Cross Country Team, would run today’s race.

Next I photographed *Beacher* correspondent, Charley McKelvy, and his friend, Jim Veldman of Sawyer, Cross Country coach at River Valley High School, in their multicolored running attire. Charley said, “Jim has coached many state champions, including his son, Joe.” Jim told me, “I’m picking Charley to win today,” but Charles said, “It will probably be one of these young whippersnappers!”

Near a tree, Ed & Jean McCabe stood with the bikes they had ridden over to watch their grandchildren, Susie, Peter, and Ted Kozelka of Stop 33 make the run. Susie had never before run any distance. Ted said, “We decided to try out The Duneland Beach Inn last night, where we had a very nice dinner. Yesterday we went through the Barker Mansion in connection with some fascinating genealogy research I’m doing. For her mother, Katherine paid for an art deco sculpture by the sculptor, Alfonso Iannolli, which is at St Mary’s Church in Michigan City. Iannolli’s wife was a Spaulding. I’m wondering whether the 14-year-old heiress who married Howard Spaulding is related to the sculptor’s wife. They both were from New York, both were born prior to the turn of the century, and both got married in 1915. Genealogy is very interesting!”
Just then, Hal Higdon announced, “Everybody start lining up behind the line. If you plan to run really fast, get in the front row.” When asked about the course of the race, he said, “We’ll go right of the black car, behind the silver car, and over the hood of the car next to that. Pick up your Beacher certificates inside after the race.”

Kevin Higdon explained the race, “It’s pretty low key and for fun. If you get lost, just turn around and come back!” For those who want to know, the course is to head east on Belle Plaine, then cross the golf course between the 2nd hole green and the 3rd hole tee to loop through the subdivisions surrounding Clare Lake. Five kilometers is just over three miles, but the course is probably a bit short.

The first runners were off before I was ready with my camera, so I shot the ones in the middle of the group. Then I got those who brought up the rear.

The runners were expected back beginning in approximately 15 minutes. Enough time to relax a bit. I was told that the buses from Portage had brought some school kids and their coach was probably running with them. Two women arrived late, but ran anyway. A grandfather chatted with his grandson. Camille would do the timing until her husband, Kevin got back.

Rose and Camille Higdon decided to get the water ready, placing some bottles inside the building on the table with the certificates donated and printed by The Beacher, one available for each participant.

Suddenly, the first place winner of the race arrived! It was Eileen Murphy of Cleveland, Ohio, who came in at 15’49”. This was the first time she had run the race.

Ryan Ream was second at 16’07” and Mike Bartdol was third at 16’21”. Mike said, “This is really fun! A well put-together race.”

I caught Jenny Koehler arriving just ahead of Charles McKelvy. Jenny told me, “This is my first time. I just took up running, like a forty-something thing. I am really excited that I finished!”

At 24’15”, Charley said it was definitely not his personal best. Friend Jim Veldman, whose time was 21’50”, mentioned that Charley had donated blood the day before “which is good for about 4 minutes!”

Charles added, “I was very amazed by the number of young people out there. Running teaches young people how to pace themselves.”

Hal Higdon slipped by me at 28’08”. Assistant Coach at Willow Creek and Fegley Middle Schools of Portage, Al Mussman, had come in at 16’54”. Scott and Beth Huffork are the coaches at these schools for 6th, 7th, and 8th graders. Al, who lives in Ogden Dunes, had two sons in the race and mentioned what a fine day it was.

Most of the participants had returned and were taking a breather with friends. The announcement came, “Kids’ race in about five minutes!” Since most of the kids had run in the 5K Race, there were only a few who lined up. It was one lap around the driveway for the smallest and two laps for those eight and above.
Continued from Page 25

Three older boys led the way and the kids were off! Winners were Ryan Vigilien and Holly Higdon. Mom, Tracey Balinao, patted son, Josh, on the back for a job well done.

I photographed the Balinao family from Chicago and the Vigilien’s from Los Angeles. Parents and grandparents are Nellie and Reuben Balinao of Long Beach. The children’s parents went to school at the Old Long Beach School. Tracey and Jeff Balinao had brought sons, Ethan and Josh, and Judy Vigilien was there with son, Ryan. They were enjoying their Fourth of July holiday.

Last, I caught Wesley Higdon pouring some water over his head, a great way to stay cool on a hot day! He said his time was twenty-something.

See you at next year’s 5K Run/Walk and at the other Long Beach Fourth of July activities!
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Open House at Yellow Brick Road

The Yellow Brick Road Gift Shop and Oz Fantasy Museum will hold an open house Sat., July 13, and Sun., July 14, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., at the store located at 109 E. Yellow Brick Road (950N), Chesterton.

Special guests on Saturday include Mary Ellen St. Aubin, whose husband, Parnell St. Aubin, was one of the leaders of the Munchkin Army in the classic MGM movie, “The Wizard of Oz.” Another guest will be Karen Bittorf, who is the official costumed character Glinda the Good Witch for the annual Chesterton Wizard of Oz Festival.

On Sunday, you can visit with racecar drive Tammi Swanson. As Indiana’s first modified female driver she finished 15th in points out of 46 cars. She drives Street Stock and Super Street UMP/IMCA Modified division.

Visitors can have their pictures taken with an Oz character life-sized canvas screen, the Duneland Working Women’s Club will be selling refreshments and Oz cookbooks with proceeds benefiting their scholarship fund. The Gift Shop and Museum will host free Museum tours during the Open House hours and there will be door prize drawings for those who attend.

The Yellow Brick Road Gift Shop and Museum is a co-op gift shop. For more info, phone 219/926-7048.
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Big Band Musical Comes to New Buffalo

Harbor Country Community Theatre, in association with The New Buffalo Fine Arts Council, will present “Strings of Pearls-The Musical” on Sat., July 20, at 8 p.m., and again on Sun., July 21, at 2 p.m., in The New Buffalo High School Performing Arts Center, 211 East Clay Street, New Buffalo, Michigan.

Featuring 40 top hit songs from the 1940s, this lively musical revue is performed by three of Florida’s Treasure Coast’s top female vocalists. Blonde, brunette and redhead, Gretchen Rose, Tania Ortega-Cowan and Jennifer Patty, ala The Andrews Sisters in three-part harmony, swing to such standards as “Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy,” “Apple Blossom Time,” “Don’t Sit Under the Apple Tree,” and “Rum & Coca Cola.”

Vero Beach, Florida’s competitive award winning owners of SwingStation Dance Studio, Joe and Shari Tessler, will tear up the stage floor with their dance renditions of “Sweet Georgia Brown,” “Begin the Beguine,” “Chiquita Banana,” and “American Patrol.”

Divided into five sections, the musical will feature big band boogie woogie favorites, sultry solos, tropical tunes, holiday harmonies and East Coast, West Coast production numbers from Broadway and Hollywood. Big Band tracked orchestral arrangements have been created by Michael on the keyboard and will highlight live percussionist Brandon Putzke.

Jon A. Putzke, artistic director, who brought “Proposals” and “The Boys in Autumn” to Harbor Country last season, has designed “Strings of Pearls” to convert the stage into a 1940s Art Deco Nightclub. The stage setting is being constructed by Kenmark Studios of Las Vegas and will feature a 16 foot lavishly decorated Christmas tree for the holiday section. With enough sequins, feathers and glitz to dazzle even the most avid cruise ship traveler, the costumes include dozens of floor length beaded gowns and rhinestone studded tuxedos.

Following each performance, the high school cafeteria, decorated like a USO Canteen with black, white and hot pink balloons and floral arrangements, will be the host site for a reception following the two-hour performance. Including a mock champagne fountain, refreshments will be served and patrons can mingle with the cast and dance to the sounds of The BBC Big Band Orchestra.

Following the New Buffalo premiere engagement of “Strings of Pearls,” the company will begin a seven month tour along the east coast of Florida starting in November.

Tickets for the production are $15 inclusive of both performance and reception and may be purchased in advance at Alliance Bank, Country Mates, Hannah’s, NB Pharmacy and NB Savings Bank. Tickets, if available, will be sold at the theatre box office beginning 1/2 hour before performance times.

Student “rush” tickets at half price will be available at the theatre box office fifteen minutes prior to performance with proper ID.
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CyberScribbles
by Paula McHugh

Surf More Local Sites
Graduations, weddings, fireworks, parades, family reunions, vacation trips. How many photos have you accumulated so far this summer? And where have you put them?

House of Memories in Michigan City can help you organize your precious photo-memories in fun and creative ways. Check out houseofmemories.net on the Web to discover the increasingly popular hobby of scrapbooking. House of Memories is celebrating its first year’s anniversary this month, providing supplies and classes for beginners and veterans, too. Log on to owner/operator Kathy Farnum’s website to get an initiation into the art of scrapbooking and check the dates for upcoming classes. House of Memories is located at 226 W. Barker Avenue, just a few blocks south of Lighthouse Place Premium Outlets.

Mary, Mary, quite contrary, how does your garden grow? If Mary has been to Beachside Gardens, then chances are that this nursery rhyme character has learned all about “Dunes Scaping.” Design, installation and maintenance services are sure to eliminate any contrary Mary’s who choose to consult with the specialists here. Beachside Gardens offers greenhouse tours the second Tuesday of each month, something I learned about by logging on to their website, beachsidegardens.com. In addition to a Calendar of Events, you’ll learn about the business’ landscape design services (specializing in dunes landscape), view lovely photos of garden retaining wall systems, perennials and more, and have questions answered through a Discussion Group link. You can also download a file of information about perennials. Beachside Gardens is still adding to its website, and will soon have information about its water feature services online. The website also contains a helpful and easy-to-read map.

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pinpointing their location on U.S. 12 (east of Karwick and west of Hwy 212). Another nice touch on their homepage is a local weather link with current temperature. And if you have to make a choice to boot up your computer to check out the website or to get in your car and drive over to see what’s blooming at Beachside Gardens, always, always choose the latter option, OK?

Once you have your outdoor landscaping needs taken care of, you may be thinking about redoing some interior “landscaping.” Is your favorite chair becoming shabby? Is it time to do something about that great auction find that you shoved into a dark corner of your basement? Did you know that Lou Butcher’s Furniture Werks specializes in restoration, repair, and upholstery? Lou Butcher practices the European tradition of careful handwork, learned from his father, and from his grandfather. When you visit furniturewerks.com, Lou provides you with a “Tip of the Month,” before-and-after photos of a completed project, an impressive list of interior designers who have used or recommended Furniture Werks to clients, and more. Take your own “before” snapshot of that auction “find,” then after allowing Lou and staff to transform it into a treasure, take another snapshot of the fine results. Be sure to add it to the scrapbook you’ll be hooked on making after visiting House of Memories. Same goes for a before-and-after picture of your home’s landscaping.

A final question for you before I wrap up this week’s column: what does food, (glorious food), coffee breaks, and Bloody Mary have in common? If you guessed the Canterbury Summer Theater, pat yourself on the back. Oliver, South Pacific, and How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying are on toe-tap at the Mainstreet Theater. Log on to festivalplayersguild.org for more information and prepare for many enchanted evenings (or matinees) throughout the summer season.
After the Parade---the Fun Just Goes On and On!

There was plenty of food, games for the kids, and the adults too; music to entertain and trophies awarded. And lots of conversation!

Parade Marshals this year were the Brown family: Kathy Brown and children Nicole and Matt.
Are these people having a good time? You betcha!

Another “take my picture” picture.

The “take my picture kids” from Long Beach School (above and below) come back every year for another picture!

Visitors from Alabama.

Tom Ringo (R) receives an award.

The Long Beach Marching Band.
Adult Tennis Program

A free adult tennis program is being formed in Michigan City. Any adult in the Michigan City area interested in playing singles, doubles, or mixed doubles should phone Neil Sheehan, 874-3174 for more information.

Seasons Come to Light” Exhibit

This series of watercolor paintings by James F. McComb will be featured at an opening/reception for the artist at the Musikantow Gallery-Studio in Hesston, Indiana on Sat., July 13, 3-6 p.m. The show will run through August 7. The Musikantow Gallery is located in Hesston at 10411 N 200 East, about 1/2 mile north of the Heston Bar and Grill on the grounds of a retired riding stable.

McComb’s paintings have a particular resonance in this Michiana area as they speak to what really pleases us about this locale. They present the ever changing quality of light, water and seasons with a quiet look at a style of life that is quickly vanishing.

Six of McComb’s previous works were selected for installation in the new Northwestern Hospital complex when it opened. Other works hang in private and corporate collections from Chicago to Mexico City. Recent shows include a one-man show in the Washington County Museum in Maryland, and a successful show at the Wood Street Gallery in Chicago. One of the featured paintings was purchased for the new Booth Library at Eastern Illinois University. Locally, McComb is teaching regular watercolor workshops at his Union Pier Studio throughout the summer.

McComb and his wife, Alene Valkanas, divide time between their home in Chicago, where she directs The Illinois Arts Alliance, and their Union Pier home in Michigan.

For more information, phone 219/778-9828 or 616/469-6434.

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The Other Side of the Lake, Carolyn McConnell

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Blues Fest in Three Oaks

Blues lovers, mark your calendars for a special festival of Blues & More, including food from local restaurants and a beer and wine tent. The 4th Annual Harbor Country Blues Fest is set for Sat., July 13, at Watkins Park in Three Oaks, Michigan. The doors will open at 4 p.m. with the music lasting until midnight.

Here’s the line-up:
5:00 p.m. “Jane,” a South Bend solo acoustic folk and blues artist.
5:30 p.m. “Junior & the Ignitors,” a jumping blues, swinging roll-a-billy power trio.
6:45 p.m. “Carolyn Koehl’s World Jazz”
7:45 p.m. “Li’l Frank Band” featuring Tom Moore
9:15 p.m. “Swingtime” a jazz/swing quartet
10:30 p.m. “Elwood Splinters Blues Band” featuring Ol’ Harv’

“We urge folks not to miss out on a great night of fun and music and help support this event to continue the tradition,” said Karen Gear, one of the event’s organizers. And don’t forget, the times listed above are Michigan time.

Tickets are $10 per person. Attendees must be at least 21 years of age. Coolers and picnic baskets are not allowed. Blankets and lawn chairs are welcome.

For more information, phone the Harbor Country Chamber of Commerce at 800/362-7251 or visit www.harborcountry.org


2nd Annual Artists at Center of the World

Explore the art and experience the skill and vision of a wide range of nationally recognized artists and craftspeople at the 2nd Annual Artists at the Center of the World. This event will take place outdoors on Sat. & Sun., July 13 & 14, from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. (MI time).

The Center of the World Workshop is located at 13400 Red Arrow Hwy., Harbert, Michigan; 616/469-5687.

Day Camp

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$5 discount for attending more than one week.
The Old School Community Center
E-mail: community@lbrealty.net
879-3845
2501 Oriole Trail, Long Beach

Thank you to all those 5K 4th of July runners and to Hal Higdon and family for making the Old School Run a success. We sincerely appreciate the entry fee donation to the Community Center and plan to purchase volleyball equipment with the funds. If you are interested in coordinating a volleyball team for the Old School or in becoming a member of one, let us know so we can add your name to the list of interested participants.

Lee Ann Peterson, RN of Franciscan Community Services will be providing a special one hour informational meeting along with a free blood pressure screening at the Community Center on Tues., July 16, from 11 a.m.-noon. She will be focusing on caregiver relief services available in our community and will discuss the new Guardian Monitor System which is an electronic necklace/bracelet alert alarm. Come down and pick up your free “day of the week pill box” and take advantage of this great opportunity to ask any health care related questions you may have.

Project Experience Music Camp, the hands on journey through all areas of music for ages 10-16 is accepting registration for the week of July 15. The 5-day workshop from noon-4 p.m. focuses on a variety of activities from playing to recording and encourages young artists to explore their own creative musical abilities. Anyone interested in more information about the camp and additional summer music workshops may phone the Community Center during office hours from 1-5 p.m., or phone Dawn Gram at 312/324-4657.

Izwin Art Camp for Kids will be held in the Community Room at the Old School on Mondays and Wednesdays from noon-3 p.m. during the month of July starting on the 15th. For more information, phone Edwin or Laurel at 874-1395.
**foodstuff** by carolyn m'connell

Wouldn't it be lovely to have your very own chef in your very own kitchen? – all sorts of delectable meals suddenly appearing on your very own table? All with no grocery shopping, no produce to wash, no utensils to soak, no pots and pans to scour? There is a way. Read on.

Have you heard about Dinner's Ready Personal Chef Service? This group's mobile chefs customize meals to their clients' tastes. The meals are prepared in the client's kitchen, but with the chef's own carried-in cooking equipment. Those meals, usually 9 or 10 entrées with several sides, are packaged and stored in the client's freezer section with implicit instructions for their reheating.

Beginning in 1991 with just five members, the United States Personal Chef Association (hereafter, USPCA) has mushroomed to over 5,000 today, usually with 10 to 20 customers per chef. New clients are mostly attracted simply by word-of-mouth referrals. Satisfied customers are the best advertising, and there seem to be many. Those satisfied customers are not families wallowing in wealth, but simply busy moms and dads, even singles. These personal chefs generally charge from $10-$15 per individual meal, will do all the grocery shopping, then clean up the kitchen after their hours of preparation.

We have a Personal Chef in our neighborhood. Diane Botica works out of both New Buffalo and Chicago, year round. She trained extensively at the USPCA in Phoenix just a few years ago and obviously loves her work. Prior to becoming a chef, she labored as a court liaison in a government job for 14 years, spending a great deal of time, particularly overtime, in felony court – now, that's not near as much fun as "laboring" in the kitchen. When her husband Rob Olszowka, who was also once a member of the food industry, suggested she quit working at such a frantic unending pace and turn to what she loves most, she gave it a great deal of thought and in time, she did it! Diane has loved food and its preparation most of her life. Her mother was her mentor, fixing and serving beautiful, nourishing meals for her family. Diane was making soufflés by the time she turned 11. (Uh, to this day, I can't be sure a soufflé of mine is going to be successful and I'm way, way past 11-years-old.) She's a very careful chef; she uses ground beef with a fat ratio of 80-20, prefers brown eggs, free-range chickens, all the really good stuff. Fresh produce must be up to her standards or will be substituted. If any client has a health problem, Diane immediately talks it over with a nutritionist colleague, before making any further arrangements.

Chef Diane works with her regular clients on an average of every two weeks, but doesn't repeat any dishes during a 6-month time period unless they are requested. Wow, that sounds like a LOT of recipes. She has also designed a program (basically for a group of four, but easily adjustable) for renters and week-enders – popular populists in this neighborhood. Her cottage-renter brochure explains: “Come to Michigan to relax! Dinner's Ready solves your meal needs. All meals are ready to grill, warm or enjoy as is. Place your order one week prior to arrival and your food will be delivered the following Friday, prepared and ready for your Michigan vacation. Dinner party services are also available. I look forward to creating wonderful meals for you.” – and adds a long list of available delectable menus for all sorts of meals, even breakfast.

Diane Botica, The Happy Chef.
tenderloin, grilled and served with couscous and a fresh seasonal vegetable. And on her food questionnaire, she wants people like the Pomegranates to list any vegetables or fruits they never want to even lay eyes on, and whatever food allergies they have, etc. It is a very complete interview, that first meeting. It sets the chef’s pace for a long and satisfying period with the Pomegranates, their family and, sometimes, their guests.

Then, the action begins. Diane drives her Personal Chef logo-ed SUV to various local groceries (just one store per cooking session is almost never enough), gets out that lovely computer-produced shopping list and makes the rounds. She always has, at her heels, large labeled containers, all sorts of wraps and foils, coolers on wheels, bags and sponges. She calls herself “sticky.” (I like that word; I think it’s Diane’s word for perfectionist.) Once she’s in the Pomegranates’ kitchen she immediately turns on the oven (yes, Personal Chefs always first check the temp to be sure it’s correct), then prepares various ice baths for cooling the finished products so they can quickly snuggle up in the freezer. Diane doesn’t use the Pomegranates’ pots and pans, she brings her own, along with portable garbage cans and liners. Interesting, all the countless prep details are professional, speedy and thorough. When those pots are all bubbling away on three or four burners at once, she calls it an “orchestra.” Note: It’s easy to see this woman really does love to cook; I wonder if she warbles to her orchestrating food, too? The usual time spent, preparing those entrees for the Pomegranate family is about four hours. When she walks out of the spotless kitchen, she often leaves a surprise gift, such as her widely admired key lime pie or delicate round-of-scones, on the Pomegranates’ countertop.

Fine Dining
Continued on Page 42

Please note the Personal Chef’s personal license plate” DNRZRDY

Dinner’s Readym CRANBERRY CHICKEN:
(serves 6-8)
3 lb. chicken breasts, boneless
1/4 c. vegetable oil
1/2 c. celery, chopped
salt/pepper to taste
1/4 c. parsley, chopped
1 c. cranberry sauce, whole berry, canned
1/2 c. ketchup
2 T. lemon juice,
1 T. brown sugar
1 T. Worcestershire sauce
1 T. mustard
1 T. vinegar
In hot oiled skillet, sauté breasts 4 to 5 minutes per side til golden. Season with salt and pepper. Place in baking dish. Cover to keep warm. Set aside.
In same skillet, sauté onion and celery 5 minutes. Add 1/4 c. parsley, cranberry sauce and rest of ingredients. Heat through, skimming oil if necessary. Pour sauce over chicken. Bake in preheated 350° oven 25-30 minutes, basting once.
Dinner’s Ready, Personal Chef Services
Diane Botica, Harborcountryparties@attbi.com
Phone 616-469-1702 or cell 312-914-8079
A few weeks ago I drove over to Diane’s house-in-the-woods to accompany her around the corner to a neighbor/client’s house. Once there, I would watch her prepare meals, and get some photos, during the preparation, for The Beacher. Seeing Diane’s own kitchen for the first time, I turned bright green. It is a dream – huge, professional, handsome. It was recently renovated from a much smaller room and is used to test-drive recipes and menus for her clients. After admiring that stylish laboratory, I then helped her carry some stuff to the Dinner’s Ready SUV and we went a short distance to the neighbor’s kitchen and unloaded. There, Diane prepared a dinner for four as I gazed in wonder. She made a South-of-France baked fish entrée, described as ‘a carefree cuisine dish, rustic and flavorful, served alongside risotto with sun-dried tomatoes, green beans and topped with Feta cheese.’ When she began putting together her key lime pie to be topped with freshly whipped cream, I took off, and, of course, drooled all the way home.

Now, say, if the Pomegranates invite the Egg FooYoungs, the Morels and the Gorgonzolas over for Saturday night dinner, they can prearrange with Chef Diane to prepare that company dinner. There is an extra charge, of course, but all that time-consuming intricate work is completed and the Pomegranates have only to serve it – and, along with their guests, to enjoy it.

Yes, it’s a whole new world, having one’s very own chef, even temporarily! Do I hear your tummy growling?
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The East Shore of Pine Lake

The 5th Dimension at Firefly Festival

Grammy-awarding sensation, The 5th Dimension, will next appear at the Firefly Festival in South Bend on Sat., July 13, at St. Patrick’s County Park. Local favorite, The Robert Henry Orchestra, will open the show at 7 p.m. and The 5th Dimension will perform at 8 p.m. The amphitheater gates open at 5 p.m.

In 1967, a little-known group dubbed The 5th Dimension recorded a song called “Up, Up and Away” which became one of the biggest smash hits in music history. The single won several Grammy Awards, catapulting the group to stardom. Today, the group remains one of the most popular ensembles in the world, with over a dozen hit albums and 14 gold records. Their classics include “Aquarius/Let the Sun Shine In,” “Never My Love,” “Wedding Bell Blues,” and “Go Where You Wanna Go.” The group also made theatrical history as the first musical group ever to perform a Broadway show in its entirety, starring in the national tour of the Tony-Award winning musical “Ain’t Misbehavin’.”

Tickets are $18 in advance and $23 the day of the show; ages 6-16 are $5 each and under age 6 admitted free. Phone 574/288-3472 or visit the website www.fireflyfestival.com

St. Patrick County Park is located at 50651 Laurel Road, South Bend, near the Michigan/Indiana state line. There is a parking fee of $3 and you may bring your own chairs or blankets to sit on the hillside. Picnics are welcome, but no glass containers or alcoholic beverages may be brought into the park. A vendor for the St. Joseph County Parks will sell beer and wine as well as food items.

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FRIDAY, JULY 12
8:15-9:15 p.m. WINGS OVER THE DUNES. Bird watching in the Indiana dunes is interesting year round, as each season brings on a new wave of migrants. You never know when you’re going to get a glimpse of that rare bird that you have not seen before. Join a ranger for a visual presentation featuring our splendid, feathered friends. Learn where the birding hot spots are in and around the park. Meet at the National Lakeshore Campground Amphitheater.

SATURDAY, JULY 13
8:15-9:15 p.m. HERE TODAY, GONE TOMORROW? Of all the national parks, the Indiana Dunes ranks fourth in plant diversity. Participate in a game to make decisions that will affect the survival of species. Relax to music and slides of our native species. Meet at the National Lakeshore Campground Amphitheater.

SUNDAY, JULY 14
8:30-11 a.m. SEARCHING FOR DUNELAND’S RAINBOW (TROUT, THAT IS!) Join a ranger for this 2-hour catch-and-release fishing program for native rainbow and brown trout. Bring small, light tackle such as a bobber, split shot, hook and some form of live bait. All Indiana fishing regulations apply. Bring plenty of mosquito spray and wear good boots for walking in the mud. Waders are optional. Meet at Dorothy Buell Memorial Visitor Center.

For more information, phone 926-7561, ext. 225.

St. John Summer Luncheon

A summer luncheon is being planned by St. John United Church of Christ Women’s Fellowship. The church is located at the corner of Buffalo (US 12) and Barker in New Buffalo, Michigan.

The luncheon will be held on Sat., July 20, from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. in Frohne Hall at the church. The menu will consist of a main course, salads, dessert and beverage. Suggested donation for the event is $5/adults, $2.50/children under 12, and free to those under 5. Take-outs will be available and tickets are available now from members of the church or at the door on the day of the luncheon.

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Farther Afield....

Francesville, Indiana will be hosting their Annual Spirit Day on Sat., July 13 with town-wide garage sales and food served at the downtown Fire Station. You’re invited to enjoy the friendly community and find some bargains. Maps will be available at the Fire Station listing the 65 and more sale locations.

Francesville is located south of Michigan City on Hwy. 421 in Pulaski County.

Park Patch Program at State Park

Visitors to Indiana Dunes State Park can learn about nature, become involved with the park, and earn a patch all at the same time. The Park Patch Program is a special program that is offered at state parks throughout Indiana. Three separate patches can be earned and the requirements for each are tailored to different age and ability levels. The Smokey Friends Patch is designed for children ages 5-7. The Junior Naturalist Patch is designed for people 8 years up through adults. The most advanced patch is the Hoosier Ecologist Patch and it can be earned by anyone who has already completed the Junior naturalist program.

People interested in earning a patch should attend a Park patch Program to learn more details. At Indiana Dunes state Park, these programs are offered Wednesday through Friday at 1 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday at 10 a.m. throughout the summer season at the Nature Center.

The Park Patch Program is free of charge although there is a $4/instate vehicle and $5/out-of-state vehicle charge to enter the park. Annual passes are also available. They run $22 for instate residents and $26 for out-of-state residents. For more information, phone 926-1390.

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Francesville is located south of Michigan City on Hwy. 421 in Pulaski County.
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Former Resident Passes Away

Many residents may remember Cheryl Lee Preihs, the former beacher, who died on June 24th, at the Alvarado Hospital, San Diego, California.

She was born in Chicago on Dec. 17, 1924 to Harvey and Evelyn Olsen. She was preceded in death by her husband Russell Preihs. She is survived by four sons: Gregory, Jeffrey, Michael, and James, and five grandchildren.

Graveside services will be held on July 26th, 10:30 a.m., at the Greenwood Cemetery, Michigan City.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to San Diego Hospice, 4311 Third Ave., San Diego, CA 92103.

Page Turners Book Discussion

The Girls by Helen Yglesias will be discussed in the next Page Turners book discussion at the LaPorte County Library, 904 Indiana Ave., LaPorte. The event will take place on Tues., July 16, noon-1 p.m. Everyone is welcome and there is no charge or registration. Light refreshments will be served. Bring your lunch if you wish.

The title is available for check-out from the library. It is about Jenny, age 80, who goes to Florida to help her older sisters, ages 85, 90 and 95. Each sister’s unique personality is exposed, and we learn about their past lives as well as how family helps with their uncertain final journey.

For more information, phone 219/362-6156.

Canterbury Theatre Auditions

The Canterbury Summer Theatre will conduct an audition session on Sat., July 13, for adult ensemble members for its upcoming musicals “South Pacific” (July 24-August 3) and “How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying” (Aug. 7-17). Time of the session will be 1:30-3 p.m. at the Mainstreet Theatre, 807 Franklin St. Chorus members as well as several non-singing roles will be cast.

Associate Artistic Director Joseph Ginnane and Musical Director Eric Skiles will conduct the session. Auditionees may bring their own music or may choose from selections at the session.

For more information, phone the theatre box office at 874-4269.

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by Philip R. Craig

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References Available

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Visitors and residents were treated to two parades last week! After the Long Beach 4th of July parade, the Summer Festival annual parade stepped off on Sat., July 6. A new route down Washington Street had to replace the usual Franklin Street route because of construction. After the parade was over, however, most everyone agreed that the new route was quite pleasant and a nice change from Franklin Street.
Activities to Explore

In the Local Area:

- **July 11** — Spaghetti Dinner. 4-7 pm. MC Senior Center, Washington Park. Ticket req’d.
- **July 11-13, 17-20** — “Oliver!” Festival Players Guild’s Canterbury Summer Theatre Season production at Mainstreet Theatre, 807 Franklin St., Michigan City. 8 pm Wed-Fri; 6 & 9 Sat.; Wed matinee 2 pm on July 17. Tix $12/$13. Student & senior Citizen discounts available. 874-4269.
- **July 12** — MC Summer Festival Event: Luau Fish Fry. 4-7 pm. Washington Park park office lower level. Tix $7, available at City Flowers.
- **July 12-14** — Summer Book Sale sponsored by Friends of the LaPorte County Public Library. Held at the former Bernacchi Farm Market, 2435-1/2 Monroe St., LaPorte. Fri. 8 am-8 pm; Sat, 8 am-6 pm; Sun, noon-4 pm.
- **July 12-14** — “The Jungal Book.” Adaptation of the Rudyard Kipling classic presented by Community Theatre Guild of Chicago Street Theatre, 154 W. Chicago St., Valparaiso. Fri & Sun @ 7 pm; Sat @ 3 pm. Tix $5; 219/464-1636.
- **July 13** — 5K Run & Walk to benefit the Washington Park Zoo. Run at 9 am, walk at 9:01 am. Register 7:45 am-8:50 am across from the Zoo. Info 873-1510.
- **July 13** — Farmer’s Market. corner 8th & Washington streets, Michigan City. 8 am-sellout
- **July 13** — Summer Festival events:
  - Shake, Rattle & Roll Car Cruise. 4 pm from Sullair, 3700 E. Michigan Blvd.
  - Fun Days in the Park. noon-midnight
  - Tri Kappa of LaPorte Garden Walk. 10 a.m.-4 pm. Tickets & may at Angelo Bernacchi Greenhouses, 1010 Fox St., LaPorte, or Thimbleberry’s, 247 Johnson Rd.
- **July 13, 20 & 27** — Campfire Theatre at New Buffalo’s Tall Oaks Inn. Yasmina Reza’s “ART” will
be accompanied by a cookout dinner. Tix 15; 616/469-0097 or 800/936-0034. See story this issue.

July 14 — Summer Festival events: Fun Days in the Park followed by Fireworks Show at dusk at Washington Park.


July 17 — Blood Pressure Screening. 11:30 am at the MC Public Library. Bring your list of meds & blood pressure card. Free.

July 17 — Great Books. 6 pm at the MC Public Library. Love’s Labour’s Lost by Wm. Shakespeare will be discussed. New members invited.

Places to Visit:

Barker Mansion, 631 Washington St., Michigan City. Guided tours on Mon-Fri, 10 am, 11:30 am. Adm. $4/adults, $2/kids 18 and under, free/kids under 3.


Door Prairie Auto Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave., LaPorte (one mi. south of LaPorte on US 35). Open Tues-Sat, 10 am-4:30 pm; Sun, noon-4:30 pm; closed Mon & holidays. Adm. chg.; phone 219/326-1337 for more info. or visit www.dpautomuseum.com

Great Lakes Museum of Military History, 360 Dunes Plaza, Michigan City. Info 872-2702 or on the web at www.militaryhistorymuseum.org

LaPorte County Historical Museum, county complex in downtown LaPorte, Indiana. Hours 10 am-4:30 pm, Tues-Sat. Adm. free; donations welcome. 219/326-6808, ext. 276 or www.lapcohistsoc.org.

New Buffalo Railroad Museum, 530 S. Whittaker St., New Buffalo, MI. Open Mon-Fri, 9 am-5 pm; Sat-Sun, 10 am-3 pm (MI time). Info 616/469-5409.

John G. Blank Center for the Arts, 312 E. 8th St., Michigan City. Gallery hours Mon-Fri, 9 am-4 pm; Sat, 10 am-2 pm. 874-4900. New exhibits: “Four Artists” and “The Art of Columbia College Goes to Harbor Country” runs through Aug. 15.


Farther Afield:

July 13 — Firefly Festival Presents The 5th Dimension in concert. 8 pm. St. Patrick’s County Park (near the Indiana/Michigan state line), South Bend. Tix $18/$23. 219/288-3472. See story this issue.

July 13-14 — 41st Annual Krasl Art Fair on the Bluff, St. Joseph, MI. Sat 10-6; Sun 10-5. Info 616/983-0271 or www.krasl.org
Another Summer Festival Event--Pro-Am Volleyball Tourney
Here are Some Highlights of the Championship Match
Meet Police Dog Jupp

You can meet Police Dog Jupp on Tues., July 16, 10 a.m., in the large meeting room of the LaPorte County Public Library, 904 Indiana Ave., LaPorte. Those in attendance will find out what it is like to be a police dog from Jupp’s human partners, Officer Biggs and Officer Kluge. There will also be an opportunity to enjoy a patriotic craft. This is a free program; no reservations are necessary. For more information, phone 219/362-7128.

5th Annual Scramble Amble 5K

This event, sponsored by the Washington Township Senators Athletic Booster Club is billed as a Calumet Region Striders Gold Cup Series Race. It will take place on Sat., July 20, with registration and packet pick-up beginning at 6:15 a.m. and the race beginning at 7:30 a.m. An award ceremony will take place at 8:30 a.m.

The race will be held on the Porter County Fairgrounds, 215 E. Division St., Valparaiso (south of US 30), while the fair is going on. All proceeds will benefit the Washington Township Athletic Booster Club.

Overall male and female winners will receive 1st, 2nd and 3rd place trophies respectively. Trophies will also be awarded to the top three winners in each age group beginning with 15-under and including Clydesdale division (men 210 lbs. +) and Athena division (women 160 lbs. +). 1st, 2nd & 3rd place overall for men and women for the 5K walk will also be awarded.

$12 to pre-register until July 12 (T-shirt included) or $15 race day registration (T-shirt not guaranteed on race day). For questions, or to register, phone Steve Mallonee at 219/477-5323 or email scramble@attbi.com

Registration is also available on-line at www.active.com
Travels with Charley:

A Trip to Malaysia by Way of Chicago’s Wentworth Avenue

by Charles McKelvey

K.L. for Julie was heaven on earth as was the rest of Malaysia, particularly the nearby island of Penang which she had occasion to explore while she was “in country.” She loved the tropical weather, the fragrant flowers which bloomed throughout the year, and most especially the cuisine which she says “is a wonderful medley of Indian, Chinese, and local Malay influences.”

Julie just rued the fact that there was no Malaysian restaurant anywhere near her summer or winter homes. And then, while watching the news from Chicago one night in early 2001, she caught a favorable review of a new Malaysian restaurant in the heart of Chicago’s Chinatown.

Our friend and neighbor Julie Holmes worked for the State Department from when Dwight D. Eisenhower was President to the tenure of one William Jefferson Clinton.

If ever there was a woman who has truly “been there and done that,” it is Julie Holmes who summers in Harbert, Michigan and winters on Sanibel Island, Florida. Julie, you see, was posted to U.S. embassies everywhere from Lisbon, Portugal to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 1956 to 1994 as Secretary to the Ambassador.

She says she was a mere secretary to all those many ambassadors over those years, but we sense from many fascinating debriefings with her that she was really running the show.

Anyway, the whole point of introducing you to Madam Holmes is to inform you that her favorite posting of all was in the aforementioned Kuala Lumpur, which she refers to as simply “K.L.”

We went to the Penang at 2201 S. Wentworth Avenue for my birthday last year and had a wonderful time working our way through such delights as: Roti Canai which is a Malaysian crispy Indian style pancake served with curry chicken as dipping sauce and Ayam Redang which is chicken cooked over low heat in lemon grass and chili paste.

To top it all off, of course, we ordered two surprisingly tantalizing desserts: Pulut Hitam which is creamy black sticky rice with coconut milk and Ice Kacang which is shaved ice with red bean, corn, palm seeds, jelly, red rose syrup and milk. (It was totally yummy — honestly!!)

We had such a great time that we vowed to return to the Penang restaurant at least once a year, and just such an opportunity recently presented itself on a drizzly, gray day.

Julie invited her good friend Carol Gapen to join us, and the four of us set off on the South Shore for what Carol Gapen called “a day of wonders.”
Although she has had a summer place in Harbert for some time, Carol Gapen had never before ridden the South Shore into Chicago, having always driven to her home in the suburbs. So this boarding of the exotic silver-sided electric train at a place called “Shops” was really quite the grand adventure for Carol.

We had great fun pointing out all the landmarks along the way into Chicago, and Carol told us how her grandparents had survived the infamous Eastland disaster on the Chicago River on July 24, 1915. Betrothed at the time, the two were among the 2,500 Western Electric workers who had happily boarded the ship for a company excursion to Michigan City.

For reasons that are still unclear, the ship capsized at the dock, killing 835.

Carol Gapen said her grandfather saved his fiancee by holding her head above water until they could both be rescued.

“They went back to work the next day at the Hawthorne plant on the South Side, and there were whole sections of the factory with no workers because they had been drowned the day before,” Carol said. “It must have been just like New York after September 11th.”

We all reflected somberly on that for a while and then cheered ourselves with the prospect of a proper Malaysian feast. Which, I am happy to report, we enjoyed for a good two hours while it drizzled steadily on Wentworth Avenue and vicinity.

After revisiting many of the past year’s culinary delights, we toured much of Chinatown where Julie bought some lovely bowls for her niece, and Carol shopped for bracelets and other jewelry. As Carol is a student of classical Greek theater, the three of us decided to serve as the Greek chorus as she was puzzleing over which bracelet to buy.

“Buy the one with the Mah Jong symbols, Carol,” we chorused.

“Oh hush,” she said, refusing to heed our classical wisdom.

Then we returned to the Loop via the CTA’s nearby Red Line and parted company for a time so Julie could buy books and chocolates at various venues, Carol could continue her jewelry shopping along Wabash Avenue, and Natalie and I could have one of our good long walks in, around, over, and through the center city and its environs.

We reassembled at Randolph and Michigan in time for the evening rush hour and then made our way back to a South Shore train that was more than happy to give us a delightful dash through the dunes to the “Shops” of Michigan City.

Although you’re not going to believe this, we actually were hungry enough when we hit New Buffalo on the way home to Harbert to stop for some potstickers, hot-and-sour soup and other delights.

As Carol Gapen so aptly put it, “it was a day of wonders,” and we all slept like itty bitty babies that night with wondrous visions of creamy black sticky rice floating in heads full of coconut milk.
On July 11, 1780, French General Comte de Rochambeau, along with 5,500 French soldiers, arrived in Newport, Rhode Island, to aid the Americans in their war with England.

On July 11, 1798, an act of Congress created the United States Marine Corps.

On July 11, 1936, New York’s Triborough Bridge, linking Manhattan, the Bronx, and Queens, was officially opened.

On July 12, 1862, during the Civil War, Congress authorized the issuance of the “Medal of Honor.”

On July 12, 1895, author Oscar Hammerstein II, who would become famous as a writer of words for songs and musical plays, was born in New York City.

On July 12, 1988, Joshua Logan, who directed such Broadway shows as “South Pacific,” “Annie Get Your Gun,” and “Mister Roberts,” died at the age of 79.

On July 13, 1787, Congress adopted the Northwest Ordinance, an act setting up the rules for governing the vast Northwest Territory.

On July 13, 1919, Britain’s R-34, the first dirigible to cross the Atlantic Ocean, completed a round trip between London and New York.

On July 13, 1988, Samuel L. Mendel, the nation’s oldest war veteran, and the last surviving veteran of the Spanish-American War, died at the age of 104.

On July 13, 1995, Chicago’s high temperature for the day reached 106 degrees, breaking a 61 year old record, and was the herald of the second hottest summer in city history.

On July 14, 1853, Commodore Matthew Perry presented a letter from President Fillmore to the Emperor of Japan. His diplomacy, plus a show of force, convinced the Japanese to open up their markets to world trade.

On July 14, 1857, a British brigantine, the Madeira Pet, became the first ship to arrive in Chicago from an overseas port.

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On July 14, 1881, in the New Mexico town of Fort Sumner, outlaw William Boney Jr., alias “Billy the Kid,” was shot and killed by Sheriff Pat Garrett.

On July 15, 1606, Dutch painter Rembrandt van Rijn was born in Leiden, the Netherlands.

On July 15, 1965, U.S. scientists showed the first close-up photographs, taken by spacecraft Mariner IV, of the planet Mars.

On July 15, 1971, President Richard Nixon announced that he would visit China to seek a “normalization of relations.”

On July 15, 1975, three American astronauts blasted off aboard Apollo 18 for a mission that would include a linkup in space with a Soviet Soyuz 19 spacecraft.

On July 16, 1790, Congress established the District of Columbia as the permanent seat of the United States government.

On July 16, 1862, David Farragut became the Navy’s first rear admiral.

On July 16, 1867, D.R. Averill, of Newburg, Ohio, was granted a patent for ready-mixed paint.

On July 16, 1872, Norwegian polar explorer Roald Amundsen was born in a small village near Oslo, Norway.

On July 16, 1935, the nation’s first automatic parking meters were installed in Oklahoma City.

On July 16, 1969, Apollo 11, the first moon-landing mission, was launched from Florida’s Kennedy Space Center.

On July 17, 1821, Spain formally transferred Florida to the United States.

On July 17, 1906, the Northwest Indiana town of Gary was incorporated.

On July 17, 1955, Disneyland officially opened in Anaheim, California.

On July 17, 1955, Arco, Idaho (population 1,200) became the first community in the world to receive electricity generated by atomic power.

On July 17, 1975, in the first link-up of its kind, an American Apollo spaceship docked with a Russian Soyuz spacecraft in orbit.
FRIDAY, JULY 12
1 p.m. JUST FUR FUN. Figure out which animal is which by feeling fur swatches. Meet at the campground shelter. 1/2 hr. program.
3 p.m. ROVING NATURALIST. Keep your eye out for the roving naturalist near the Beach Pavilion. She'll have some exciting things to show you.

SATURDAY, JULY 13
9:30 a.m. SAND SCULPTURE CONTEST. The fun will begin with preregistration from 9:30-10 a.m. under a small canopy on the beach just west of the Beach Pavilion. Access this area on foot from the Beach Pavilion, or by driving to the westernmost parking lot near the look-out tower. Participants may begin building their creations at 10 a.m. and must have them completed so that the judging can begin at 11:30 a.m. The event is open to people of all ages. Be sure to vote for your favorite sculpture. Winners will be announced and prizes awarded at 12:15 p.m.
1 p.m. FLIGHT. Meet at the Nature Center Auditorium to learn how birds and insects inspired humans to build some of today's sophisticated machines. The video will last 35 minutes.
8 p.m. NIGHT PROWL. You've hear of things that go “flash in the night?” Bring your flashlight and become one of them. Preregister for this program at the Nature Center or phone 926-1390. Limit: 15 people.

SUNDAY, JULY 14
Noon. DUNES ORIENTATION SLIDE SHOW. Join State Park Interpreter Fern Waternov as she leads you on a slide show/exploration through the beautiful Indiana Dunes. Meet in the Nature Center Auditorium.
2 p.m. NATURAL TREASURE HUNT. Hunt for clues and follow the yellow (well, actually beige) trick road to find some special wonders in the dunes. Meet at the Nature Center entrance.
For more information, phone 926-1390 or 926-1952.

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**RENTALS FLORIDA**

“When we came home, there was a cop at the head of our driveway and an ambulance was pulling out and heading toward the hospital in Oak Bluffs. I turned into something made of ice.”

With those words, from the opening lines of Vineyard Shadows by Philip R. Craig, I thought that I had found the perfect take-along summer novel: rather short (249 pages), an interesting locale (Martha’s Vineyard) and a mystery to boot. What more could I ask for? Well, I could ask for more action, but wait, I’m getting ahead of myself, and the story.

J.W. Jackson, narrator of the story, is an ex-Boston cop on disability pension and now househusband to wife Zee and children Diana and Joshua. The kicker in this seemingly happy and normal all-American family is that Zee, a nurse by trade, is an expert with firearms. So good, in fact, that her teacher says she is a “natural” and wants her to enter some shooting competitions.

After taking off one morning to do some clamming with Joshua, J.W. comes home to the scene mentioned above. It seems that two thugs, looking for someone named Tom Rimini, were told he was at the Jackson’s house. After being roughed up, and seeing her daughter with a knife to her throat, Zee manages to reach her pistol and blow away one thug, while doing serious damage to the other. Wow, that scene had me on the edge of my chair. Sounds like the beginning of a taut storyline. Well, maybe.

The twist is that this Rimini is a schoolteacher married to, you guessed it, J.W.’s ex-wife, Carla. It seems he picked up a nasty gambling habit and is now in over his head in debt to the mob. Carla has sent him to J.W. to hide him, but of course, the mob finds out first. So what does a man do? Help his ex and her spouse get out of trouble, or tend to his own wife who is experiencing a moral dilemma? Zee cannot accept the fact that she had to take a human life, even if it was in self-defense.

Of course, there is more to Rimini’s story than he has told J.W. Calling in favors from newspaper friends and cops from various departments, J.W. puts together a nasty story of double cross and murder.

Maybe I’m being too demanding, but, while Philip Craig sets up a good story, it just seems that there is too much talk and not enough action here, even when the head of Boston’s underworld brings his entourage to the island.

The author has written at least six other Martha’s Vineyard mysteries, and to me, continuity suggests success. Make sense to you? There must be more meat in his other Vineyard books to have made him popular enough to continue on with this series.

Fact: This is not the latest installment by the author. The newest book in this series is actually Vineyard Enigma. I didn’t know that at the time I picked up Vineyard Shadows in hardback, that it is now available in paperback. It’s not unusual for an author to publish a new novel while releasing a paperback of his last book at about the same time.

Philip Craig lives in Martha’s Vineyard and there is a map of the area in front of the book. Several things struck me about Mr. Craig: one, that he loves to describe the Vineyard, and two, that he loves to describe cooking the seafood he catches off the coast of the island. In fact, there are three recipes at the back of the book: Quick Coq au Vin, Grilled Vegetables and Clam Chowder.

There you have it; I can’t give you two enthusiastic thumbs up on this one, but I could go one.

I’ll be taking vacation next week, back on July 25. Till next time, happy reading!
CALL IT HOME! Another beautiful Pottawattomie Park home, offering 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths and an extra large lot! What a great place to watch your family grow! This one owner traditional home features 2 fireplaces, a finished basement and an underground sprinkler system to keep the professionally landscaped yard green and growing. Call Jim McGah for a peek today! $179,900

ESCAPE TO MICHIANA! The quiet woods which surround this spacious cottage will give you the peace you’ve been seeking in your quest for a summer get-away. Over 2800 sq ft includes formal living & dining rooms, a second story great room with cathedral ceilings & deck, a huge master suite and shaded Florida room. Beautiful hardwood floors throughout. Call Ed. $379,000

DON’T SELL THE FARM! Though you’ll want to once you’ve seen this beautiful 78.6 acre property located just minutes from New Buffalo, Lake Michigan and I-94. An updated turn-of-the-century brick farm house commands 360 degree views of the 48 tillable & 30 wooded acres. The original 1852 farmstead is now a guest house. Multiple barns & outbuildings; even a pond. Call Ed Merrion today! $579,000

CAN’T SAY ENOUGH ABOUT IT! This beautiful Pottawattomie Park home has designer written all over it! Newer hardwood, tile and carpeted floors will lead you through the 2660 sq ft single level floor plan. The chef’s kitchen is to smile for: maple cabinetry, convection oven, Kohler fixtures & spectacular lighting. This home offers 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, a great family room & a screened in garden porch. Ask John Hayes for a tour! $210,000

Liv Markle, CRS, GRI
Jim McGah, Broker Associate
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Ed Merrion, CRS, GRI
WONDERFUL GARDEN LANDSCAPING with brick walks front & back yards leads to charming Mignery built 3 bedroom, 3 bath home. French doors open to bright screened porch & very private landscaped patio & garden. Living room with fireplace, second fireplace in family room with adjoining bathroom which could double as 4th bedroom. Plenty of space for crafts & projects in open basement. Central air. Large 2 car garage with extra storage. 66417 $255,000

“ED-MOR” - AN ORIGINAL LONG BEACH COTTAGE beautifully restored & expanded from the vintage screened porch with awnings to the modern patio. 3 bedrooms include lovely new master suite with sitting room on second floor, new kitchen with Swanstone countertops, all hardwood floors. The 60 ft. lot has mature landscaping. Just around the corner from historic Stop 20, the beach is great. 66426 $299,000

GREAT START BY THE BEACH. Woodburning fireplace in living room of bright ranch near schools, shops, and sandy beaches. Vaulted ceilings, large kitchen with plenty of dining space. 3 bedrooms. Partially fenced yard with dog house. Patio. Double garage. 66432 $64,900

ON SPACIOUS CORNER LOT a short 1½ blocks from the beach, immaculate Long Beach home built in 1950 and lovingly maintained & upgraded by the present owners. Hardwood & carpeted floors. Stone fireplace in living room, 3 generous sized bedrooms include master. Large kitchen, separate dining area. New shingles & septic in 1992. Finished rec room, utility room on lower level. Garage, central air. Large deck on back. 66268 $229,500

“AT THE SIGN OF THE SAILBOAT” - AN ORIGINAL LONG BEACH COTTAGE beautifully restored & expanded from the vintage screened porch with awnings to the modern patio. 3 bedrooms include lovely new master suite with sitting room on second floor, new kitchen with Swanstone countertops, all hardwood floors. The 60 ft. lot has mature landscaping. Just around the corner from historic Stop 20, the beach is great. 66417 $255,000

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