The rain stopped and the sun came on bright and strong. The community came out in full force—a family day extradinaire. More photos appear on pages 2, 3, 34, 35, 36 & 37.

Here is our pictorial review of the fabulous 4th of July celebration in Long Beach.
Pre-Parade Activities.....

Line up the chairs, grab the kids and dogs, and make sure everything’s in place. Then, it’s just a waiting game until the police siren says it’s time to go!

To see all the 4th of July Pics in Full Color, read The Beacher on line at www.bbpnet.com
SIDEWALK DAYS
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THURSDAY, JULY 17 - ROSKOE'S, LAPORTE

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Turn Right on Alexander
Monday-Friday 10 to 6   Saturday 9:30 to 5
Improv Comedy at Acorn Theater

A two-man improv comedy team known as Monologue Ponies will perform at The Acorn Theater in Three Oaks on Fri. & Sat., July 11 & 12.

Jim Jarvis and Scott Woldman make up the Monologue Ponies and describe themselves as “a cross between a one-person play, a Martin/Lewis comedy team, improvisation, performance art and storytelling, all in one.” The thrust of the show is Jarvis and Woldman telling stories about their lives.

The performers believe one of the reasons Monologue Ponies works so well is because of the chemistry between them and their diverse backgrounds. Woldman, who is Jewish, grew up in the affluent North Shore of Chicago and now resides in Glenview. Jarvis, a Catholic whose mother is a former nun, hails from a blue-collar Chicago South Side neighborhood. He currently lives in Elmwood Park.

Jarvis has been an actor and improviser in Chicago for the past 11 years. Woldman has been an improviser, actor, screenplay writer and poet in Chicago for eight years.

The show begins at 8 p.m. and is appropriate for children over the age of 13. Tickets are $15 and can be reserved at 269/756-3879, or purchased at the door. The Acorn Theater is located in the historic Featherbone Factory at 107 Generations Drive behind the Three Oaks Post Office on North Elm Street.
11 Jamestown Drive

Just like Brand New! Well kept spacious 4 bedroom, 2½ bath family home. Maple cabinets, stainless steel appliances, fabulous layout, incredible master suite with jetted tub. Inviting and bright, beautifully maintained. Bring all your personal items and just move in!

Offered for $339,000
What are one of the highlights along the O-HI-O? No contest. For us, it was the area around Leavenworth in Crawford County that stole a chunk of our heart.

This part of Highway 62, a little south of Interstate 64, maintains its status as an Ohio River Scenic Byways Route. As we traveled east on Highway 62 from exit 92 on the Interstate, we bid good riddance to speed. We geared down to enjoy the winding two-lane that brought us to a bend in the river with an aerie-like, fairylike view. We would later learn that this stretch of road was once named the “Wonderland Trail.” Our destination was the Leavenworth Inn, a charming bed and breakfast that would offer us rest and relaxation—ingredients sorely needed to prepare us for the next leg of our adventures the following day.

Crawford County is well-known for its caves, forests, rivers, lakes, scenic drives, and friendly folks. And we had much exploring to look forward to.

With still more than an hour’s worth of sunlight left to us, we received a gracious welcome to our cozy home-for-the night by Sharon Wilson, one of the innkeepers at this turn-of-the-century-built former farmhouse. Known in the past as Forest Grove Farm, the Leavenworth Inn offered us a breathtaking view of the Ohio from our river-facing “Morning Glory” suite. We wouldn’t understand the double meaning of our room’s name until sunrise when the mist rose over the horseshoe ribbon marking our state’s southern boundary.

Our timing for breakfast turned out to be exquisite as we sat at a window table in the Overlook Restaurant looking out over the scenic bend of the Ohio. As if on cue, around the bend slid the American Queen, a sister ship of the Delta Queen. The Overlook at Leavenworth provides an O-Hi-View grander and more potent than a double jolt of caffeine. No wonder diners flock here.

Visitors past who stayed here when it was still Forest Grove Farm enjoyed the same vistas. Additionally, they had to share the grounds with spring chickens which were given the run of the expansive. We, instead, shared space with fine-feathered songbirds perched high in the trees. We forgot to ask our hostess which birds they were. While we sat taking pleasure in the view from a dainty little gazebo, our ears drank in warbler melodies that were completely unfamiliar to us.

The mist settled in that evening and the following morning, but burned off by the time we headed to the Overlook Restaurant for our breakfast. The Overlook is owned by the same family (the Breedens) who run the Leavenworth Inn. The property on which the Overlook sits high above the Ohio was at one time the O-Hi-View Poultry Farm, but the only poultry you’ll see now will be delivered to your table from the chef’s kitchen. But the Overlook still offers an O-Hi-View...
grander and more potent than a double jolt of caffeine. Our timing turned out to be exquisite as we sat at a window table looking out over the river. As if on cue, around the bend slid the American Queen, a sister ship of the Delta Queen, making a syrupy-slow voyage upriver towards Louisville. We wanted to stay longer at this magical stop at Leavenworth, but we had promises to keep further up the road at Cave Country Adventures.

Carol Groves, media person and our guide at Marengo Cave National Landmark, presented us with choices, choices, choices for a day of fun in Crawford County. Too bad we had only one day to spare. Here is the short list of activities that Carol suggested we could sample:

- Tour the Crystal Palace or the Dripstone Trail at Marengo Cave Natural Landmark.
- Wind our way through the Marengo Maze Crawl, a cave simulator imported from Belgium
- Ride the Bat zip line ( "fly" 300 feet down an aircraft cable.
- Climb and descend from a 30-foot rappelling tower
- Mine for gemstones
- Walk a nature trail
- Tour Wyandotte Cave, the third oldest show cave in the U.S and home to lots of bats
- Paddle a canoe or kayak along the scenic Blue River for seven or twelve miles.

Carol suggested that we first hike up a short trail near the gift shop to observe a little geology—specifically, a large sinkhole that signals that there is a cave below. Exactly 120 years ago, 15-year old Blanche Hiestand and her brother Orris, equipped with a few candles and plenty of courage, slipped into the sinkhole to explore. The two siblings found themselves in a large, wet, wondrous cavern that later became known as the Crystal Palace. During the past century, thousands of visitors have marveled at the mysterious-looking formations, the stalagmites and stalactites, soda-straw formations, mirror-like pools of water on the cave bottom, and flowstone formations.

The Crystal Palace has been wired for electricity for the past 80 years to make walking through the cave easy. Carol, equipped with a flashlight, led us through the cave to point out its highlights. No cave tour is complete until the guide turns off all the lights, propelling tourists into TOTAL blackness. The drip, drip, dripping, seeping water assaulted our ears as we lost our visual markers. Our exposed skin became more aware of the moist, constant 52-degree temperature underground.

Touring the cave on smoothed dirt pathways with a guide is the softer side of spelunking. Both Marengo and Wyandotte Cave systems also provide "natural adventure" spelunking with trained guides for youthful, in-shape adventurers who want to crawl, wade, climb and scramble through passages illuminated by Petzl light helmets (provided). Been there, done that—decades ago when limbs were limberer, when the brain did not register awareness of bats, bugs, and salamanders until too late, and when college kids had no use for the concept of cave guides. For the record, that was a different cave altogether.

Marengo Cave offers three walking tours daily through the Crystal Palace and the Dripstone Trail. Wyandotte Caves offers walking tours through Monument Mountain and Siberts Cave. For more information about these tours, log on to www.adventureindiana.com or phone (888) 70-CAVES.
Crawford County  Continued from Page 7

Using the greatest willpower to forgo an encounter with bats at Wyandotte and to fly like Superman down the zip line, we instead headed over to Cave Country Canoes’ Milltown base for a canoe trip down the Blue River. Sunny breezes, mild temperatures, and perfect water levels—meaning we’d encounter both riffles and gentle rapids—made our canoeing choice a no-brainer. The Cave Country Canoe staff outfitted us with the required gear and bussed us upriver to the Totten Ford put-in. From there, we paddled and floated our way downriver for a delightful seven mile, 2-hour excursion. We shared the scenic, forested waterway with a twittering of birds, log-sunning turtles, and away-from-it-all calm. We soon lost sight of other canoers and kayakers—singles, couples, families—who launched at the same spot but paddled at a different pace. We chose the shorter half-day canoe trip, although full-day and two-day trips can be arranged, rain or shine. We’re ready to return for another lazy river glide. For more information about the Blue River Canoe and Kayak trips, phone (812) 365-2705, or check out their website at www.cavecountrycanoes.com.

We bade farewell to the river and headed up the asphalt for the last leg of our southern Indiana family adventure in Orange County. But that’s another story for another issue.

To briefly recap the places mentioned above, here is a rundown of names and contact information for planning your southern Indiana getaway:

Crawford County Tourism: 1-888-846-5397; www.crawfordcountyindiana.com
Leavenworth Inn: 1-888-739-2120; www.leavenworthinn.com
The Overlook: (812) 739-4264
MAKE YOUR SUMMER ARTFUL

The Michiana Festival of the Arts is your opportunity to combine a little sand, a little sun and some artsy fun.

Join Roger Ebert, Andrew Greeley or emerging young authors for literary conversations. Take in a night of theater. Catch a film screening. Take an art course. Tour some of the most interesting homes along the shore.

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You’ll find all this and more included in the Michiana Festival of the Arts, presented by Columbia College Chicago and sponsored by Acorn Theater, Dunes Summer Theatre and Vickers Theatre.

To find out more, go to the Festival website at http://michiana.colum.edu or call the Festival hotline at 312.344.7003

Proceeds from events and activities of the Michiana Festival of the Arts support local arts programming such as the Dunes Arts Foundation, as well as scholarship funds at Columbia College Chicago, the nation’s largest visual, performing and media arts college.
1. Fritz Olsen Sculptures, Fritz and Martha will be up late to welcome you into their studio and gallery in Sawyer. Exciting new creations await you in stone and onyx, and Fritz will be exhibiting his brand new series in bronze! Our talented guest artists will be featuring their hottest mixed media works, sculptural wood furniture and remarkable, vibrant paintings. (269) 426-3003

2. The Open Trunk in the Heart of Harbert. Join us for a Grand Opening Celebration! Jewelry, art, antiques, home accents, fun stuff. (269) 469-3069

3. Harbert Antique Mall, Antiques and Collectibles from over 50 Dealers. Most diverse offering. Discounts from 10 - 20% from 6 p.m. - midnight. (269) 469-0977.

4. Charm Cottage, offering American Primitive Furniture, Art and Collectibles. A bright array of gifts, garden furniture, and beautiful gardens to walk through. Free beverages and snacks. 10% discount 8pm-12midnight. (269) 469-4100

5. Red Arrow Roadhouse, will feature decadent desserts & after dinner drinks, as well as its fabulous screen porch menu for hungry late night shoppers until midnight! Stop by to take advantage of this opportunity to enjoy a warm summer evening outdoors. (269) 469-3939

6. Abigail Heche at Home, Celebrate our Union Pier summer location. Jewelry, home accessories, furniture & gifts. We offer a 15% discount from 6:00 pm-10:00pm. (269) 469-4354

7. On the Lounge Slipcover Studio, will offer a 20% discount on all fabrics, 8pm-12midnight. (269) 469-4354

8. Patty's Picks, Join us for the shopping Madness & a glass of wine. Open 10:00 am-midnight. (269) 469-1919

9. Acorn Gallery, celebrates its 4th Anniversary. Four years of fine contemporary art by regional artists. Featuring watercolors and pastels by Fred Semmler of lake and dunes scenes near his Beverly Shores home. Fred is also doing the South Shore Line posters, a selection will be available. During our 4th anniversary reception we will also display fine crafts, glass, pottery, baskets, hand-painted silk, and a unique line of jewelry. (269) 469-5278

10. Local Color Gallery, Come and join us for our annual sale! 20% off all art work. 8pm-midnight. (269) 469-5332

11. The Plum Tree, A charming shop as featured in Architectural Digest, June 2003. Antiques, paintings, painted furniture, interesting accessories. 10% or more off everything 8pm-midnight. (269) 469-5980

This Sam Shepard play is being produced by the Community Theatre Guild at Chicago Street Theatre, Valparaiso.

Filled with enormous vitality and humor, “A Lie of the Mind” explores the destinies of two families, linked by marriage but set apart by jealousies and distrust, to probe into the human heart and the destructiveness which it can engender.

Directed by Stan Christianson and Mary Bird, the cast includes Patricia Bird, Eric Brant, Lynette Kucharski, Kari Anne Innes, Greg Pachnik, David Pera, Kate Shubert and Ron Shurte. Assistant director is Jack Hagman.

Performance dates are Fri., July 11, Sat., July 12, Fri., July 18, Sat., July 19, Sun., July 20, Thurs., July 24, Fri., July 25 and Sat., July 26. All performances are 8 p.m. except Sunday at 2:30 p.m.

Tickets are $12/adults, $10/senior citizens, $8/students; phone the box office 219/464-1636 or log onto www.ctgonline.org

The Chicago Street Theatre is located at 154 W. Chicago St., Valparaiso.

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Saturday, July 19th
featuring Hog Roast Buffet and Live Music by White Dove (3 pm-7 pm) and The Current (8 pm-12 am)
Buy your Tickets ahead of time - $15.00
Art Center Guild Meeting

Elke Zimmerman is an expert in restoring old linen at the Barker Mansion.

On June 9th, the Art Center Guild members were treated to a talk by Elke Zimmerman. Her presentation was “The Art of Restoring Linens.” Ms. Zimmerman is an expert on the restoration of fine linens at the Barker Mansion. The highlight of the program was a private tour by Ms. Zimmerman to the French Room of the mansion where observers viewed and examined her artistic dedication to the restoration of delicate, fragile, antique linen.

The next general meeting of the Art Center Guild will be July 14th at 9:30 a.m. and will be followed by the feature speaker, Dr. Ross Blythe, retired professor at Purdue University North Central. His program is entitled “Brush With the Masters” and will be presented at the Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 720 Franklin Sq., Michigan City. For more information, phone 874-4900.

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Tami Lile-Swartz .......269/428-0176
Gail Lowrie .............269/469-1098
Bonnie Meyer ............219/874-2000
Elaine Musse.............269/469-8728
Janet Lindsay ..........269/469-8736
Betty Ramsey ..........269/469-3711
Karen Strohl ..........269/469-8732
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mmer games, expansion, a new home or lot
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“State Fair” at Mainstreet Theatre

Rodgers and Hammerstein’s foot stomping celebration of a century-old tradition, “State Fair,” opens July 9 and continues through July 19 at Michigan City’s Mainstreet Theatre, 807 Franklin Square. Curtain is 8 p.m. Wednesday through Friday; 6 & 9 p.m. on Saturday. Tickets are $12 on weeknights and $13 on weekends. All seats are reserved. Group, senior citizen discounts, as well as group and individual dinner/theatre packages, are available. Information on menus and prices are available by phoning the box office at 874-4269.

“One Fair” tells the story of the Frake family and their trip to the 1946 Iowa State Fair. Romance and adventure abound as each member of the family is out for a different prize: a blue ribbon for Abel’s (James Kline) favorite pet pig; first prize for mother’s (Amy Crane) mince pie; and true love for their son (Paul Fillingim) and daughter (Melissa Myers).

First filmed in 1933, “State Fair” featured a cast headed by Will Rogers. In 1945, just after their success with “Oklahoma!” Rodgers and Hammerstein were commissioned by 20th Century Fox to turn it into a musical. It introduced American audiences to “It’s a Grand Night For Singing” and the Academy-Award winning “It Might as Well be Spring.” In a reversal of usual order—first a Broadway musical, then a film—“State Fair” appeared on Broadway fifty years after the screen version.

The Canterbury production is directed by Associate Artistic Director Joseph Ginnane; musical director is Elizabeth West. Set design is by Mark Myers.

The programs of the Festival Players Guild are presented with support from the Northern Indiana Arts Association, the Indiana Arts Commission, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Barker Welfare Foundation and the Michigan City Enrichment Corporation.

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Nora Duffy & Jaye Gintautas listing
FABULOUS BEACH LOCATION!
This spacious two story A-frame is just two blocks from the beach in Michiana. Home has 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 2 fireplaces and a wet bar. The basement is finished with a recreation room, 2 shower/dressing areas and a bathroom to accommodate the beach crowd. Call Jaye Gintautas for details. (2224539)

Reduced! $429,000

2001 Lakeshore Dr, Walkerton
This is a lovely Lakefront property on lower Fish Lake, with over 200 ft. of frontage, and great views. There are French doors leading to deck and screened porch. Landscaped for variety each season. The home has an open concept from end to end, with fireplaces in the family room and den. There is a new bath up creating a master bedroom suite. Partially furnished inside and a great pier outside. Also included a 2-car garage large enough to store the boat. This is a beautiful year round home or a great getaway. Contact Rita Beaty
MLS 81528
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**CTG’s One Night Jam Series Continues**

A longtime fixture in the Chicago music scene and a national recording artist, singer/songwriter Michael McDermott is returning to Valparaiso’s Chicago Street Theatre for his third performance on Sun., July 13th, presented by Midwest Beat magazine.

McDermott first achieved national fame in the mid-80s with his song, “A Wall I Must Climb.” Most recently, his song “20 Miles South of Nowhere” was featured in the movie “Knockaround Guys” starring John Malkovich and Dennis Hopper.

The performance starts at 7 p.m. and tickets are $18/in advance and $20/at the door, and all seats are reserved. Phone the box office at 219/464-1636. You can also log onto their website www.ctgonline.org Chicago Street Theatre is located at 154 W. Chicago St., Valparaiso.

**Arts Center Guild Plans Bus Tour**

On Thurs., July 31, Dr. L. Ross Blythe, the Arts Center Guild’s renowned tour guide, will lead a tour of historically and architecturally famous old Chicago churches.

His projected itinerary includes the Chicago Theological Seminary, Rockefeller Chapel, Fourth Presbyterian Church, and, with time, Holy Name Cathedral, and with a special luncheon stop at Fortune House in China Town.

The bus will depart the Lubeznik Building on Second Street at 9 a.m. and return at 5 p.m. Tour costs are $30 for Arts Center members and $35 for non members.

For more information, phone Greta LaFountain at 874-6359.

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Long Beach Old School Run/Walk Held on July 4, 2003
by Jan Van Ausdal

The first activity of the Fourth of July, 2003, celebration in Long Beach was the eagerly anticipated Old School Run/Walk. Participants numbered 107, and some unnumbered people signed in afterwards. Sponsored by The Beacher, the race was started by Hal Higdon, and this year it was hosted by Kevin and Camille Higdon. The $5 registration fee will be used for the “Historical Room” project at the Old School.

Registration started at 6:45 a.m., and the fun event began at 7:00 a.m. That’s really early for a holiday morning, but the weather was pleasant and the sun was shining.

Then they were off, on another 5K Run! Those who were not running chatted with friends, discussed plans for the Fourth, and patiently waited for the first runners to return to the Old School Center.

Center Director, Susan Vissing, told me that she was talking to Camille Higdon about how huge it is that the Higdon family has brought this wonderful thing (the race) to the community. Susan felt, “If other people brought what is wonderful to them and shared it with the community, how many more good things could happen!” If you have an idea of something your family would like to share, contact Susan at the Old School Community Center.

The Gathering

Sign-up was inside, with Holly & Camille Higdon, and Susan Vissing (director of the center) at the registration table. John Avila and his two sons, Andrew and Colin, were happy to take part.

Early birds were Joe Kutch, Anna Dabkowski, Amanda Bolger, and Jake Skierkowski. The two boys have been in the race before, but it was the girls’ first time.

Outside, Hal Higdon arrived on his bike, which he planned to ride in the race. Hal commented that he is still recuperating from his 50th college reunion which he and Rose attended in June.

Charles McKelvy, The Beacher team’s sole member, arrived and posed by a tree. “I do my best!” he commented. His friend and co-runner last year, Jim Veldman of Sawyer, was away and thus unable to attend. Charles came in at 20:59. “My personal best for this course!” he said.

A large group arrived to take part. Among them were mother Mary Harding with her children Elle, Al, Clare and John. Others in the group were father Bob Bruce with his son Ted, and John Westbrook. Mary said, “We all walked last year.

Other friends posed for their photograph. They were Laura Kearney, Ellie Parkerson, June Salmon, Kathy Bricker, and Joan McCormick. June’s dog, Riley, was with her. A few of them walk every day at 5:30 a.m., “so we have to walk today!”

We’re going to finish faster this year. This race is great; it gets everyone up early and then we go home and change into our red, white, and blue for the parade.”
Barbara Butler of Maryland posed with her boxer, Ruby. “I grew up here; I was a Boris. My son, Jack, 15, is running today. I set the alarm so we could make it.” Barbara also commented on the fact that Riley is a Jack Russell terrier, and that dogs of this breed are great at running and compete in races in certain areas of our country.

Kevin Higdon called the runners to get ready for the race. The course is not measured, but last year it was moved ten yards back so it’s now longer. Kevin explained the route and commented that there were arrows going both ways. “We have certificates and water for you when you finish,” he said. Times would not be recorded.

Lawrence Sullivan, chatting with Hal Higdon, was here from New Jersey to visit his son, John, and family. John, his wife, and two children were running in the race. “This is the way it used to be,” he said. “I was in the New York Marathon when there were only 300 people in it.”

David Powers and John Heidloff were visiting this year with the family of their friend, James Salmon. They attended Notre Dame with him and the three are now sharing an apartment in Chicago. David told me, “I am from San Diego, but I was here for the Fourth of July last year and it was the best July 4th of my life!”

First was Brian Ream, who has run before, and second was Steve Maves, participating for his first time.

Kevin Higdon gathered together the children 11 and under who wanted to run in the children’s race twice around the driveway. Many children had run in the regular race. Five, however, lined up to run now; Kevin explained what they should do. Then they were off! The winners were Daniel Maves, first, and Holly Higdon, second. Brothers Andrew and John Kerney also participated.

The first woman to finish the race was Theresa Gross who ran last year. The second woman to return was Tracy Mulhausen, who commented, “It’s a fun race!”

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2003 Michiana Festival of the Arts

Kicking off Columbia College Chicago's month-long arts festival, the Michiana Festival of the Arts, Dani Lane, President of the Dunes Arts Foundation will host a pre-performance party on Fri., July 11, at 6 p.m. The party will be followed by a performance of “Once on This Island” at the Dunes Summer Theatre, Michiana Shores. There will be a post-show, a Calypso-inspired party, featuring steel drums and food from the islands at 9:30 p.m. Tickets for this three-event opening night gala are $100 per person. Phone 312/663-1124, ext. 2, to purchase tickets.

“Columbia is grateful for the opportunity to bring our programs to this lakeshore community for a second year,” said Dr. Warrick L. Carter, President of Columbia College. “We’re inviting the entire community to come out and share in these festivities.”

Columbia College, in collaboration with the Acorn Theater, Dunes Summer Theatre and Vickers Theatre, is bringing this celebration of performance and communication arts which will showcase work by emerging artists, as well as appearances by established writers, literary figures, film critics and filmmakers.

Proceeds from events and activities of the Festival will support local arts programming such as the Dunes Arts Foundation, as well as scholarship funds at Columbia College.

In addition to the theatrical performances at the Dunes and the Acorn, and film screenings at the Vickers, ten local residences will open their doors for an Art of Home Tour on Aug. 9, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. To volunteer as a home tour guide for this event and receive two free tickets for the Tour, phone the volunteer tour hotline at 312/344-7002.

“Summer Workshops at the Shore,” is a series of workshops in the arts and communications, held at the Tall Oaks Inn, Grand Beach. Info at 312/344-8190.

Events at Dunes Summer Theatre include the following:

On Sat., July 12, join in a “Lake Shore Conversation” featuring film critic Roger Ebert, director Sheldon Patinkin and radio personality John Landecker. This event will take place from 2-4 p.m. and costs $15 per person; phone 879-7509.

Also on Sat., July 12, there will be another performance of “Once on This Island” at 8 p.m. Ticket price is $15 per person; phone 879-7509.

On Sun., July 13, at 3 p.m., there will be performance of “Cupid Players Sketch Comedy Review.” This not-for-profit theater company has played at many festivals and is dedicated to elevating the art of musical sketch comedy.

Thurs., July 17, Fri., July 18, Sat., July 19, Sun., July 20. “Bat Boy: The Musical” continues. Tickets are $15 each; phone 879-7509. Curtain is 8 p.m.

On Sat., July 19, join in another “Lake Shore Conversation” at 2 p.m. This event will feature Fr. Andrew Greeley and Chicago Sun-Times feature writer Paul Galloway. Tickets are $15.

Events at the Acorn Theater include the following:

Fri., July 18, 7 p.m. “Jails, Hospitals and Hip-Hop” and “(non)narrative” are two experimental pieces of work produced by Columbia College Chicago's Glass Curtain Gallery, Hokin Center and the Theater Department. Tickets are $15 each; phone 269/756-3879.

On Sat., July 19, 7 p.m. “notes on desire” a collection of songs, meditations, rants and dialogues. Tickets are $15 each; phone 269/756-3879.

On Sun., July 20, noon, “An Afternoon of the Spoken Word” directed by Columbia College faculty member, Jeff Ginsberg. Tickets are $15 each; phone 269/756-3879.

Events at the Vickers Theatre include the following:

Fri., Aug. 8, 7 p.m. “Film Roadshow.” This program features award-winning narrative, experimental and documentary work by women filmmakers, including recent Columbia graduates and faculty members.

A Film Roadshow post-show reception will follow at 8:30 p.m. (MI time) in the theatre lobby.

Sat., Aug. 9, 1 p.m. (MI time) “Film and Video Roadshow and Conversation.” A program featuring films by men. The screening will conclude with a question and answer hosted by Bruce Sheridan, chair of the Columbia College Film & Video Department.

For a complete Festival schedule and more information, log onto michiana.colum.edu
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Annual Butterfly Count Set for July 12

Everyone is invited to join in the 7th annual Butterfly Count in LaPorte County on July 12, beginning at 9 a.m. at Creek Ridge County Park, 7943 W 400 N, Michigan City.

Sponsored by the Potawatomi Audubon Society, the local count now is sanctioned by the North American Butterfly Association, which tabulates results. In 2002, 494 butterfly counts were held in 45 states and Washington, D.C. Count results provide abundant information about distribution and relative population sizes of butterflies. Comparisons across the years can be used to monitor changes in butterfly populations relative to effects of weather and habitat changes.

Children accompanied by adults are encouraged to help in the count by spotting and capturing briefly butterfly specimens for identification before their release. Mary Campbell, local chairperson, will be on hand to help with identification and to report results to the NABA. Last year’s count documented 17 species and 109 individuals, numbers sure to be increased with additional spotters.

While the count begins at Creek Ridge Park, car pools will visit Red Mill park and other locations within the 15-mile diameter designated for the annual event. Anyone having butterfly attractive gardens living within the circle, is encouraged to count at that location or to invite Audubon counters to check out butterflies there.

For information about the designated area and other questions about the count, phone Mary Campbell, 219/362-4043.

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<td><strong>Ogden Dunes.</strong> Landmark German Tudor</td>
<td>Just steps to beach with charming architectural features inside &amp; out. Beautifully landscaped. Private courtyard.</td>
<td>$499,000</td>
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<td><strong>Dune Acres.</strong> One level living! A winning combination: 50’s beach home with new addition that offers 16’ x 55’ family room and 2 private guest bedrooms and bath. Courtyard. Pool potential. Several blocks to beach.</td>
<td>$479,900</td>
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<td><strong>Dune Acres.</strong> A replica of the Paul Revere home nestled in the woods surrounded by Dune Acres parkland. Planked flooring, pass-thru open hearth colonial fireplace add warmth to this charming early American hideaway. Miles of Great Marsh trail just outside your door.</td>
<td>$399,000</td>
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<td><strong>Beverly shores.</strong> The ultimate in privacy!</td>
<td>High on a dune overlooking wetland preserve this quad-level offers views, lots of space, master suite with office loft, kitchen/family room combination, bedrooms w/balconies, rec room &amp; 3 car garage. Several blocks to beach.</td>
<td>$545,000</td>
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<td><strong>Beverly Shores.</strong> Newly completed Prairie style features open floor plan w/hardwood &amp; ceramic thruout, centralized 4 sided limestone fireplace in great room w/adjoining gourmet galley kitchen. Master suite &amp; 3 additional bedrooms, spacious family room in walk-out lower level.</td>
<td>$589,000</td>
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<td><strong>Beverly Shores.</strong> Soon to be completed 2.5 story with Lake Michigan views, open floor plan combines spacious great room/kitchen with fireplace, master suite w/great lake views &amp; the bonus room at the top w/balcony offers more great views.</td>
<td>$635,000</td>
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Preview these and other fine properties on my website… www.dhofmann.com
We call ourselves The Beacher community, but guess what? There is still farmland just to our south, farmland that has become farmettes of five to seven acres; others being developed into country estates; family farms that produce organic vegetables and fruit for local farm markets; and acres that produce plants for sale. Meander a little further afield off the main road and there they are.

Turn left at 200 North, go down the road a piece and find Lilies of the Field. Behind a little cottage where a deck in back overlooks a sunny slope, there is a winding path with clumps of grasses, lilies and hosta lining the way, all with names so that you can select choices as you stroll. It’s been called Lilies of the Field since 1995, from the biblical sense of “not even Solomon in his glory was arrayed such as these”. It was an answer to “what do you do with five acres”, one that Carol and Doug posed when they bought the land in 1989 and found the answer in “if you build it, they will come”. Their start at growing daylilies evolved into ornamental grasses, and now you can see a field of dozens of varieties waving in the sun, with owner Carol Wright there to tell you which can grow best, where, and why. She warms when people bring a problem, plant-wise or personal, joining them in the gazebo under the trees to talk it out. Did I say this was a special place? It is.

That sense of helping life along extends to trying out different plants in a test garden a being developed in Beverly Shores, perennial plants that might be deer-resistant and bringing in native plants from other parts of the United States to see if they will thrive. One answer to deer problems could be the delicate pink-flowered Betony Agastachys, hummingbird mint, that smells a little nasty when it’s crushed. With all the varieties of grasses around, I mentioned the Morning Light miscanthus grass I was trying in semi-shade; Carol shook her head with a sigh, and suggested some others that might do better. Chasmanthium letifolium, Northern sea oats is one; spodiopogon sibiricus is another along with calamagrostis brachytricha, Korean Feather Reed grass, that she referred to as achey-breaky.

Around the green house area you can see some of these grasses planted with other perennials to show how they might look in a garden. I would definitely put Lilies of the Field on a list of garden resources; a web-site is currently in work. Find it at 9131 W 200 N; open Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 9 to 4 pm.

Keep heading east on 200 N until you come to 675 W in the LaPorte countryside, and you will find Judy’s Daylilies at the family home of Judy and Steve Kroczek, acreage that grew from a vegetable garden to herb garden to a collection of over 600 types of daylilies, along with hundreds of hosta, daffodils and ferns growing on hills and dales in a dozen special garden areas. Michigan City’s Open Door benefits from the sales, which are limited to appointment only. Judy, a registered nurse, now shares her time as a certified health care practitioner of healing touch, an integrative therapy available through various health care resources in the community. Call 219/362-7887 for appointments.
Inside Utopia Watergardens, you can browse to the ripple of water bubbling from fountains on display. Cathy's taste goes the designer route of artists in stone with names like Stone Forest of New Mexico and Brookfield that take granite and sculpt it with unique line and form; Pescari that does enchanting bronzes of children and animals; Forge Furnishings, workers in original iron decor, that give grace to a crane ready to soar, or craft a copper butterfly bench rich with color and patina. There are new lines of what Cathy calls "goodies for the garden, like jewelry on a dress", old world look plaques, humming bird feeders in jewel colors, ornaments and lanterns, and frost-resistant garden pots from Korea where they fire the clay to 1000 degrees for hardening. These are not the containers that crack with winter's heave, or plastics to use and trash each year. Like the fountains and garden sculpture at Utopia, they speak of long life in gardens for years and years. If you don't have a water garden now, Eric can offer professional guidance and installation. Open Monday through Friday, 9 to 5; Saturday, 8 to 3 pm; 2.5 miles south of I-94 on US 421.

Back on US 421 out of Michigan City, go past 200 N to the old familiar Beatty's Corner and its newest addition, Utopia Watergardens. Don't be put off by the garden supply look of the surroundings; inside you will find some really distinctive art, a cut above the usual in garden art and fountains. Cathy Ewen and her son, Eric, took advantage of the space when Beatty's feed storage space became available, hastily did some remodeling, and opened just last Mother's Day. Eric, who designed his first water garden when he was just 14 and now custom designs professionally, set the pace for the new gallery with items he knows will work in pond upkeep, over 75 varieties of aquatic plants including hardy lotus and a sale tank of no-name water lilies, a surprise in every purchase.

Should your swing take you toward LaPorte, check out Small's Garden Center, seven miles east of I-94 on US 20. Small's Garden Center is worth checking out for its variety of perennials, shrubs and trees. The acres spread all around so choosing just the plant you want is easy with so many to compare. If you've shopped Small's gift shop, filled top to bottom on three floors with selections, you get the idea. Last year, my search for an oak leaf hydrangea ended at Small's. P.S. It's thriving. Experts offer free landscape design and estimates and Small's Garden Center carries mulch and chips and rocks as a one-stop service. Open seven days a week, Monday through Saturday from 8 to 5 pm; Sunday, 10 to 4. If you've watched ads in The Beacher, they are currently offering prices at 1/3 last year's level. Phone them at 219/778-2568.
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Christian Siewert  Tel: 269-756-2571

From the Art Center Guild

To celebrate the interim location of the Lubeznik Center for the Arts, selected merchandise of the Art Center Guild Museum Shop will be available at drastically reduced prices. The public is cordially invited to view and purchase from the 50% discount table, which features jewelry, pottery items, stationery, magnets, stick dolls and more.

The Museum Shop offers unique and quality items for both adults and children at the temporary location, 720 Franklin Square. The sale begins Thurs., July 10 and continues through Sat., July 12, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. For more information, phone 874-4900.

Lakeside Gallery Welcomes Eva Kwong

The Lakeside Gallery/Studio will be displaying recent prints and drawings by artist educator Eva Kwong. She is currently a professor of art at Kent State University in Ohio.

Her exhibit “Love Between the Atoms” features new relief prints and drawings on old paper and will continue through August 2.

An opening reception will be held on Sat., July 12, 3-8 p.m. (MI time) at 15486 Red ArrowHwy., Lakeside, Michigan. Open to the public and refreshments will be served. Info: 269/469-3022 or log onto www.lakesidegalleries.com

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42nd Annual Krasl Art Fair

The bluff overlooking Lake Michigan in St. Joseph, Michigan, will transform into an open-air art gallery during the 42nd Annual Krasl Art Fair on the Bluff, Sat. & Sun., July 12 & 13. The event will take place in downtown St. Joseph from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. on Saturday and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. on Sunday.

Over 200 of the best national artists will be on hand offering a wide variety of fine arts and crafts including two and three dimensional artworks such as drawings/pastels, paintings, printmaking, jewelry, sculpture, pottery, metals, photography, fibers, glass and wood.

What once began as a “clothesline art fair” in the early 60s, is now nationally recognized and critically acclaimed by artists, experts and patrons. The fair was ranked among the best shows in the country by readers of Sunshine Artist magazine, America’s premier show and festival guide.

The Krasl Art Fair on the Bluff will feature a variety of food concessions. Admission to the fair is free and it is handicapped accessible. Free parking is located around Lake Bluff Park and shuttle service will also be available. For more information, phone 269/983-0271 or log onto www.krasl.org

Smooth Jazz at Sunset

At 8:30 p.m. on Sat., July 12, renowned smooth jazz guitarist, Craig Chaquico, will perform at the Shadowland Pavilion on St. Joe’s Silver Beach, as part of the Krasl Art Fair.

This rare concert event is an artistic and cultural partnership between Krasl Art Fair and Smooth Jazz at Night on Cosy 98.3, and will become an annual part of the Krasl Art Fair.

Ticket information is available online at www.ticketsplus.net or by phone: Tickets Plus, 800/585-3737.

Two New Exhibitions at Lubeznik Center

The Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 720 Franklin Sq., Michigan City, will be hosting an opening reception for two new exhibits on Sat., July 12, 7-9 p.m. The public is invited to attend and meet the artists and listen to musical and literary performances.

The new exhibits are: “3rd Annual Emerging Artists From Michigan City & Vicinity” and “Reflections: Recent Work by Area Artists Association.”

For more information, phone 874-4900.

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"Amber Landscapes"

This collection of watercolor paintings by Pat Lansford will be featured at an opening reception for the artist at the Musikantow Gallery-Studio in Hesston. The event will take place on Sat., July 12, from 3-7 p.m. The Musikantow Gallery is located at 10411 North 200 East, about a half block north of the Heston Bar & Grill.

This series of paintings by Lansford shows a new direction of work for the artist. The work combines the purity of design found in Japanese minimalist paintings with the mystery and subtle use of light present in the brooding landscapes from the 1800s.

Lansford is a resident of LaPorte. She has shows in several local galleries and her work is in many private collections. For more information, phone 219/778-9828 or 219/778-8121.

Enjoying lunch recently at Hannah's Restaurant are (l-r) Irene Shippets, Carol Fitzgerald, Lynn Doherty, Carol Delaney, Elaine Link and Janet Birmingham. Nice chapeaus ladies!

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Watercolor Florals

The newest exhibit at the Vickers Theatre features beautiful spring and summer watercolor florals by David Knoebber. This is Dave's third annual one man show. Knoebber is an art educator and artist who enjoys exploring the medium of watercolor. This year’s exhibit will feature an array of subject matter including florals and landscapes. His work will be on exhibit through July 28.

An Artist Reception will be held on Sat., July 12, 1:30-3:30 p.m. (MI time). Refreshments will be served. Vickers Theatre is located at 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Michigan. For more information, phone 269/756-3544 or log onto www.vickerstheatre.com

Shakespeare and Dreams

“Time and Timelessness in Shakespeare’s Dreams” will be presented at the Michigan City Public Library on Thurs., July 10, at 6:30 p.m. The program is a Summer Reading event for adults. Ann Steed Carver will present the program about what Shakespeare wrote about dreams. How are we to act upon the voice of the dream? William Shakespeare had the answer.

Carver holds a bachelor’s degree in English and a master’s in English literature. She taught at Purdue North Central and is currently living and working in Chicago. Shakespeare’s plays are her special area of interest. The program is free and open to the public.

BBQ Experts to Compete

On Sun., July 13, noon-4 p.m. (MI time), Panozzo’s Pantry’s annual Grill Off competition will take place in New Buffalo. Under the big tent, local amateur chefs will compete for best barbecue. Guests will taste and then vote for their favorite. Live music and a representative from Charlie Trotter’s Chicago Restaurant will be serving samples of “Charlie Trotter’s Gourmet Sauces.” Recipes will be available on the spot or log onto anewetofeed.com.

Panozzo’s Pantry is located at 19135 W. US 12, New Buffalo; phone 269/469-9408.
AL FRESCO!

Enjoy drinks and dining on our beautiful garden patio accented by lush landscaping & a tranquil lily pond with a fountain & waterfall. Fresh grilled food & a wonderfully relaxed ambiance is now there for your pleasure. Dinner daily and lunch all afternoon, Friday thru Monday.

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DIRECTIONS: Take Franklin Street to Marina Park (just before drawbridge). Turn right. Condo located on the 2nd level of the 6th building.

1122 N 475 East, Chesterton $799,000
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OPEN HOUSE
Sunday, July 13th • 1-3 p.m.
The parade stepped off at 10 a.m. with the full wail of police sirens. It started with the baby buggies, bicycles and wagons—cute as could be! Then came the scooters, floats, decorated golf carts and cars.

The kids were dressed up in all their patriotic finery. Red, white and blue was the theme of the day.

Parade Winners listed on Page 38.
Post Parade - Time to Gather and Meet Friends You Haven't Seen All Year
Long Beach Parade Winners

The Long Beach 4th of July festivities were sponsored by the Long Beach Civic Association, made up of 27 Long Beach families. Chairmen for the event were Pat and Norm Bruegger. Parade Marshalls were Tom and Judy Ringer.

Parade Winners:

**Bikes**
- Intermediate- "Rockets Red Glare" by Jacob Leiby Jr. (8 and under) - Megan Ryder

**Baby Buggies**
- Airplane Statue - Jack & Billy Leiby
- "Aloha Long Beach" - Grace Luethemeyer
- Iraq theme - Shinn family
- "SS Krueger" - Madison & Lanny Krueger

**Floats**
- "Tiki Pride" - French family
- "We Found Nemo at Stop 23" - Mellen family

**Costumes & Misc.**
- "Ride the Adirondack Express" - Bernacchi family
- "Dumb & Dumber" - Clare Tiedeman & Megan Applegate
- "Viva Las Vegas" - O’Brien family
- "Martha Stewart" - Levy family
- "Osbournes" - Kelly family
- "Hogwart’s" - Linnen family
- "U.S. Navy" - Danville family
- "Calliope" - Mackey family

**Golf Carts**
- "Viva Las Vegas" - O’Brien family
- "Martha Stewart" - Levy family
- "Osbournes" - Kelly family
- "Hogwart’s" - Linnen family
- "U.S. Navy" - Danville family
- "Calliope" - Mackey family

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-Mikail Pinette

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-Mikail Pinette
foodstuff

by carolyn mc'connell

Surrounding abounding astounding outdoor markets

If you’re a foodie like me, you love the soft “plunk” sound when you split open a fresh pea pod, the delicate beauty of a zucchini blossom that you plan to dip in light egg wash and flour, then sauté until golden. You never tire of the scent of peaches right off the tree, or tomatoes off the vine. God bless farmers’ markets.

Early this June I made the rounds. I always hit our own Michigan City market – it’s lovely and I have my weekly favorites there. When I decided to head out of town one Saturday, I began my discovery of surrounding markets. I’d heard about Chesterton’s European Market and that was my target. But first, meandering up Route 12, I decided to stop and look over Furnesseville’s produce on the way. I’d been there several times and enjoyed it, but never this early in the season. Oh my, I’m glad I did – my timing was perfect. There wasn’t much to choose from this time of year, but I got the most beautiful lettuce I’ve ever seen. Marilyn Kolosei, owner of Marilyn’s Garden, told me it’s red iceberg but it sure didn’t look like that scrappy little pale globe of iceberg you buy at the grocery.

It was enormous, colorful, crunchy and like a huge floral piece. Yes, it tasted marvelous, too. If you have a foodstuff calendar, be sure and mark 2d and 3d week in June ‘04 – check Marilyn’s lettuce in Furnesseville. There will be lots more than lovely lettuce soon, of course, as the growing season progresses. Marilyn will soon have her popular purple cauliflower and Heirloom tomatoes, one brand of many off her 554 tomato plants.

Then I headed to Chesterton and that European Market. No problem for this lady that gets lost all the time – I went right to it in the center of town. My first impression was how pretty it is. There’s a large area full of pristine white canvas tenting with foliage and flowers marking each vendor’s display. There’s more than food at this market – you’ll find collectibles, antiques, and artwork, but of course, I barreled in on the food.

My first European Market stop was the booth of the Regal Rabbit, gourmet gifts for the home. The Regal Rabbit is brand new in Chesterton, their shop is located at 206 S. Calumet. They offer a 20% discount during Saturday’s European Market! I sampled a great imported cheese spread while I spoke with Maribeth Conyne, the proprietor of the shop. (I later headed over there, just a couple blocks away. It’s a fantastic place – full of European goods themselves, like LeCreuset cookware, Bon Jour products, Cuisipro kitchen utensils. I could’ve enjoyed staying there all day.)

I explored the counter of baked goods from Marilyn’s Bakery in Hobart and found some handsome biscuits. The fellow there said no, those aren’t biscuits, they’re shortbreads. Having recently drooled over a new recipe for fresh peach and rhubarb shortbreads, I quickly bought two packages to throw in the freezer until our peach season opens. It won’t be long. (Yes, you’ll find that recipe below.)

Around the corner there was another baker with a block-long line of people inching up to its table. I’ve never seen such a patient crowd at one vendor in my entire farmers’ market life. It was our familiar neighboring Bit of Swiss and it proves again how popular the breads of worldly, award-winning baker Tim Foley, in Stevensville, continue to be.

My next discovery was Terra Spice Company. The Chesterton European Market is the only place their products are offered to the public. It’s strictly a wholesale company for chefs and restaurants. Their ware is beautiful – every spice and seasoning one can think of, each housed in an attractive tin. There are also rubs, dressings, broths and bar-b-q spices. It’s all so appealing to me, I believe you’ll be reading about the Terra Spice Company some day soon, in The Beacher.

Oops, I forgot there was one non-food stand that got my full attention. The Land of Milk & Honey produces gourmet soap. I was attracted by a goat milk soap that looks like a creamy white peony-about-to-open. I haven’t yet used it, but it certainly is a pleasure to look at.
There were lots of other booths, but it was time for me to move on. Next stop – LaPorte. Ha ha. It didn’t take long to discover LaPorte doesn’t have a farmers market these days. Their former Saturday site is now under construction. What a disappointment.

A few days later, my neighbor Pat Thorne and I headed for Chicago’s Green Market in Lincoln Park for the first time this year. There, too, it was noticeable that it’s early in the season – in fact, some of my favorite vendors weren’t even there. I stopped at Kinnikinnick Farms booth (from Caledonia, IL) and bought a small carton of teensie arugula – tiny greenery but with the same peppery taste of regular arugula – and so pretty on salads. A new vendor, Maude’s, is a Chicago maker of delicious carrot cake with cream cheese frosting. They call it “just good cake!” with no nuts, raisins or pineapple. Another vendor I hadn’t seen before in my few trips to the Green Market is Rita’s Catering & Event Planning in Chicago. They were making crepes filled with fruits. They looked great, but I was saving my appetite for an outstanding lunch by an outstanding chef at an outstanding restaurant.

Both Pat and I bought stuff at Green Acres Farm which is located in nearby North Judson, Indiana. Pat chose a bag of beautiful mixed salad greens and I, my beloved beets. We did not have much time at the Green Market this trip, as we were meeting my daughter Jane for lunch, then going up north to conduct a Beacher interview with a famous chef whom many of you readers know. More about that, below. I will return to the Green Market soon and give you a much fuller report in the coming weeks.

And so! To North Pond – one of Chicago’s finest, well-known for their fresh sustainable produce, mostly from the Green Market we’d just visited. Chef Bruce Sherman has had a number of outstanding reviews by local food columnists. At last, I’d arrived at my dream restaurant. Pat and Jane, too, were impressed with the handsome décor, the formal sparkling place settings and the view of, yes, Lincoln Park’s North Pond. Some of their lunch menu items: mushroom panini sandwich, lobster roll sandwich (Jane’s choice, yum), rainbow trout with beets as a first course.

Foodstuff Continued on Page 42
I’ve got to tell you what I had – quail. Why? Because I’d never even seen quail on a plate, but have been curious about it for years. Up to now, I’ve had some strange food, like those organ meats (some of which, as you know, are actually named sweetbreads), even kangaroo meat, but never quail. Well, I didn’t enjoy that tiny pale bird – difficult to tackle, more bone than meat, hard to cut but too small to use the fingers. But, you know, I’m glad I ordered it. In the future, I can say: “yes, of course, I’ve had quail, haven’t you?”

That’s my quail. Can you find it?

Served on little-gem-romaine-Caesar-salad, it was a great food experience. Interested? 2610 N. Cannon Drive, near the far end of Lincoln Park. 773-477-5845. First, check your bank balance, then check their web-site. www.northpondrestaurant.com.

That covers just a few of the bevy of surrounding, abounding, astounding farmers markets all the way from Michigan City to Chicago. I’m sure there are dozens more I’m not yet aware of. But now, Beacher Readers, it’s time to get ready for next week’s foodstuff story about the noted Chicago chef who grew up in these parts, even chef-ed here at neighborhood restaurants. Can you guess who it is? The prize? I’ll email your reservation for dinner in his beautiful Chicago restaurant (but you’ll have to pick up the check yourself). Nope, his menu doesn’t include quail.

RHUBARB-PEACH SHORTCAKE

(If you can’t get Marilyn’s Bakery’s shortcakes at Chesterton’s European Market, use prepared biscuits)

3/4 lb. rhubarb, trimmed and cut into 1/2” pieces (about 3 cups)
1/2 cup sugar
1 T. fresh lemon juice
2 ripe peaches
3/4 c. whipping cream
1 c. nonfat vanilla yogurt

In medium saucepan, stir together rhubarb, sugar and lemon juice. Bring to a simmer over low heat. Cook, uncovered for 1 minute. With a slotted spoon, transfer the rhubarb to a bowl. Increase heat to medium and boil the liquid until it is syrupy, about 2 minutes. Add the syrup to the reserved rhubarb and set aside.

Blanch peaches in boiling water for 1 minute. Remove and refresh under cold water. Slip off skins. Cut peaches in half, remove pits and thinly slice. Add to the rhubarb and stir gently to mix. In a chilled bowl, ship cream until firm peaks form, and fold into yogurt.

To serve, place half a biscuit or shortbread on plate and spoon on fruit filling. Place other half of biscuit on top, spoon more filling around plate and finish with a dollop of whipped cream.

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Nature and Landscape Guides

Just finished reading about some companies burying their CO2 in rocks deep underwater as a way to lessen their pollution taxes and as a benefit to us all, to lessen the impact of global warming. Imagine fifty years from now the waters around us fizzing like soda pop. Oooops! Does this sound like an editorial? It’s meant as an indirect segue into the topic of natural landscaping.

I’ve not yet seen much media attention focused on lesslawn.com, but in my opinion, this website deserves it. Having once lived way, way out in the country—in a more or less “wild place,” I had no need of a lawn. When I returned to Indiana I became the tender of a one-acre lawn, not mine, and not exactly by choice. My ranting about letting some of that land grow “natural” fell on deaf ears. “What would the neighbors think?” was the response. The happy news is that more and more people are embracing the idea of natural landscaping and using native plantings. And lesslawn.com’s motto is: “Shrink your lawn, grow your pleasure.” The site offers tips on how to create sustainable landscapes. The webmaster-gardeners “go out of their way to avoid chemical pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers, engine noise, fumes, and strict monocultures.” Here, you’ll find techniques, designs, opinions, resources, even quizzes to reveal how attuned to nature you really are. They tell you how to keep geese off your lawn, for example—and the solution is low-maintenance and organic. They offer an email newsletter, too.

You’ll have to go to their website to find the solution to your geese problem (if you have that problem), but I will reveal one interesting fact that I learned at the site. If you’re ever in a place without your thermometer and you want to calculate the air temperature, listen for a snowy tree cricket. Count the number of chirps in 14 seconds and then add 40. You’ll have an approximation of how warm—or cold it is. Tell that one to your favorite TV weatherman!

Now that you’ve mowed your lawn more than you’ve wanted to this summer, you can log on to lesslawn.com and learn how to ditch the mower and, uh, have more fun at the beach.

You may already know about enature.com, a website produced by the National Wildlife Foundation. Enature.com won the 2002 Webby Award as the “Best Educational Website.” This site is a good one to bookmark for reference. You can identify butterflies by zip code—now that’s really neat. Birders will find tons of material here to help them on their sighting or identifying quests. But you don’t have to be a birder to enjoy the more than 550 North American birds audio section. When you hear an unfamiliar chirp or warble in your backyard, you can fire up your computer and use enature, bird audio section for identifying your mystery bird. Enature.com also provides habitat guides and field guides by geographical region. As one media
Once Upon A Time a lovely beach cottage was carefully crafted with many charming and quaint touches. Many people tried to copy this style and it became typical of homes of the era in Long Beach. This is the real deal, an enchanting and comfortable hideaway to enjoy with family and friends.

This authentic Long Beach cottage has been lovingly expanded and updated to blend new with the fabulous original.

SPECIAL FEATURES INCLUDE:
• Great room and adjoining dining room with lovely arched windows, wood floors and beamed ceiling,
• Fireplace, wood burning stove and a unique master suite gas stove
• Built-in bookcases, nooks and crannies galore
• Huge master suite with library and private, screened deck/sleeping porch
• Private hilltop site overlooking 40 acres of wooded park land
• 3 Blocks to Lake

Once Upon A Time listed: $389,000

Bluegrass Legend at Firefly Festival

The Firefly Festival presents Grammy Award winner Sam Bush on Sat., July 12, 8 p.m. Bush, who has been described as a “one man party,” is recognized as one of contemporary string music’s most compelling performers. A virtuoso mandolin, guitar, and fiddle player, Bush has been dubbed “the cosmic glue” of the annual Telluride Bluegrass Festival.

At age 19, Sam Bush founded the influential New Grass Revival, a group of musicians who for 18 years challenged preconceived notions of traditional bluegrass music by fusing such diverse styles as gospel, rock, pop, reggae, jazz and country. After NGR disbanded, Bush went on to lead Emmylou Harris’ Nash Ramblers for five years. Now, in addition to performing with his own band, Bush enjoys collaborating with such artists as Bela Fleck, David Grisman, Joshua Bell, Lyle Lovett and Dolly Parton.

The Nashville-based group, HeartStrings, opens for Bush at 6:45 p.m.

All Firefly Festival performances are held at St. Patrick County Park in South Bend, 50651 Laurel Road near the Indiana/Michigan state line. The park charges a $3/car parking fee. The hillside has areas for chairs and blankets. The gates open at 5 p.m. Picnics are welcome. A vendor for the St. Joseph County Parks will sell beer and wine.

Tickets are $12 in advance and $16 day of the show; ages 6-16 are $5 each and under age 6, admitted free. For tickets, phone 574/288-3472. Their website is www.fireflyfestival.com

“Hat Etiquette” at Garden Party

“Hat Etiquette” will be the program for the Barker Civic Center Guild’s annual Garden Party on Wed., July 9. The speaker is Carol Estes who has had a special interest in, and love for, vintage clothing. She is the owner of the Antique Junction Mall in LaPorte.

Guests are welcome to attend. The Garden Party will take place in the garden pergola at the Barker Mansion starting at 7 p.m. Information: 873-1520.
“Proud to be an American” Theme For the Michigan City Summer Festival Parade

Michigan City High School Marching Wolfpack Band stepped off smartly.

(above) MC Police Department Color Guard
(below) LaPorte County Draft Horse Club

(below) Kids join in the chalk drawing contest before the parade along Franklin Street.
18th Annual Juried Art Competition

The Jack & Shirley Lubeznik (formerly John G. Blank) Center for the Arts announces its 18th annual Juried Art Competition, open to any artist living or having a studio within a 175-mile radius of Michigan City.

Artists are encouraged to phone 874-4900 for an application. The deadline for receipt of applications is August 25. The opening reception and awards ceremony will take place September 20 in the Lubeznik Center’s spacious and well-lit interim exhibition space at 720 Franklin Square in downtown Michigan City.

This year’s judges include Herbert George, professor of art at the University of Chicago; Marva Jolly, professor at Chicago State University; and, Rod Slemmons, Director of the Museum of Contemporary Photography at Columbia College.

Cash prizes as well as purchase awards make this one of the most exciting events of the artistic season in the Michigan City vicinity, and an excellent opportunity for the public to view a representative sampling of contemporary art.

Good Time Charley Dance

The next Good Time Charley dance is set for Fri., July 11, 8 p.m., at the Hobart Elks Lodge, 3580 W. 61st Ave., Hobart. These dances are limited to ages 32 and up and a strict dress code is enforced: no tennis shoes, t-shirts or jeans are allowed. The cost of admission is $7 per person. Info: Ron 219/465-6258.

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Summer Book Sale at County Library

Friends of the LaPorte County Public Library will be having a Summer Book Sale on July 11, 12 and 13 at Maple Lane Mall, LaPorte. Times are Friday, 8 a.m.-8 p.m.; Saturday, 8 a.m.-7 p.m.; and, Sunday, noon-4 p.m.

Used hardback books, paperback books, records, videotapes, audio-cassettes, and much more will be available at reasonable prices. All items will be pre-sorted into categories to make it easier for browsers to find just what they’re looking for.

Prices are: adult hardcover $1/each, $5/for six; children’s books 50 cents/each or $2/for five; paperbacks 50 cents each.

During sale hours on Sunday, July 13, a bag of books will be $3 per bag.

This book sale is the primary fundraiser for the Friends of the Library. Proceeds support various library projects and events throughout the year, and at all library locations; these include the foreign film series and the summer reading programs for all ages.

For more information, phone 219/362-6156.

Free Stop Smoking Clinic

St. Anthony Memorial Health Centers of Michigan City will offer a free six-session stop-smoking clinic in July and August.

Called “No Ifs, Ands, or Butts,” the clinic will take place in the hospital’s administrative conference room on Tuesdays and Thursdays—July 15, 17, 22, 24, 29 and August 5, from 6:30-8 p.m. each evening. It will be facilitated by Mike Christensen, exercise physiologist in Cardiac Services.

Preregister by phoning Mike, 877-1557.
There is a new trend in gardening that has an eye on nurturing the earth. It’s called Zeriscaping and started in the Southwest where water use can have its problems. The concept developed with water conservation and is based on using plants that are natural to the area, plants that have survived over time by adapting to the resources of the earth in which they grow. In our own area, it’s the same idea of using low maintenance plants that can thrive in natural rainfall and our native soil.

It’s sometimes called Ecoscaping, or Nature-scaping, or even Xeroscaping from the Greek word Xeros that means “dry”. But what’s in a name, a rose by any other name would still smell as sweet; so it is with the concept of zeriscaping. I see examples of it in many places, beach area as well as in town and I think, now there’s a trendy gardener that knows how to live in the place they’re planted. I see some examples that go overboard, like a home on the hill side that has replaced the entire slope in front of the house with rocks. No grass to cut, but also nothing to hold a waterfall of rain. Plants have the power of holding soil in place for vegetation. Think of the arid deserts left behind by ancient civilizations that have cut down their trees and turned their arable soil to salt.

A good example of zeriscaping is the home of Jack and Therese Luce nestled amid dune grass at the corner of Lake Shore and Michiana drives. A river birch and pine tree balance clumps of cone flowers, rudbeckia, and a variety of grasses all natural to our area that require minimal doses of extra watering, fertilizer, plants that have proved they can cope with our fluctuations in temperature, resist disease and pests. For gardeners hungry for more color and variety, do as the Luce’s do and plant container boxes that scale the natural slope along side of their home. Another example I applaud is what the home of Bud and Jo Waller in Pottawatomie Park where they’ve said begone to...
constant battle of a tree-shaded lawn in front and replaced it with native plants along mulched walkways with a bit of driftwood here to catch the eye, a whimsy sculpture tucked over there for a smile, all very natural, very much a personal expression. The landscaping at both homes is water-smart and environmentally friendly. Mother Nature would smile. It’s not that lawns can’t be a picturesque setting for homes and gardens; but there is another way.

It’s also common sense. Why battle with exotics from climates that are radically different from ours? Most never fulfill their promise and squander water and time. I read recently of a “party motivator”, a new profession where a person is hired by the hour to keep a party going with a bright, lively air, (I am not making this up), getting people to mix, adding a bon vivant feeling the gathering. I thought that would be a good idea for gardens. What if I could plant a garden motivator, one that would get in there and give the plants a rousing pep-talk: come on kids, let’s get going, it would say each morning. Spread those leaves, shoot up those flowers, the other kids in the neighborhood are way ahead of you. You can do it. Give it a go.

I would like my garden motivator to focus especially on some water plants I’ve added recently from Clark’s Secret Garden. I’m still iffy on the water lilies I plan to add, but some encouragement from Mike helped me settle on a water plant called Thalia, or Spearwort, that has a waxy yellow flower like a buttercup, a flower that comes to its name naturally from the Ranunculus family. When I asked how many plants my little pond might support, Mike said: “You can’t have too many”. So Thalia is my beginning. I bought the filter pots to plant it in, planted the Thalia in pea gravel and popped them in the water. Just hours later, the water seemed to clear and that’s what water plants do. It’s called Phyto Filtration and the people at Clark’s Secret Garden, especially Mike, the water plant guru, know all about it.

In their Aquatic House, you can follow the progression of water plants throughout a season and see how aquatic plants act as filters and form an ecological cycle with the fish. With Phyto (that means plant) Filtration, good bacteria colonies form on the surface of gravel to break down organic matter; then the plants thrive on the nitrates from the byproduct of the bacteria’s work. Clark’s doesn’t hold with chemicals to control water quality and that goes for the eight ponds outside where you can choose from over 1500 varieties of water plants. If you want to explain the cycle of life to kids, here’s a great place to do it. Right now I’m just working with my Thalia. I liked the name; Thalia is the muse of comedy and playful poetry. It was also the name of a movie theater in the old Pilsen neighborhood of Chicago that my mother said she used to go to as a child. That should be enough to get my Thalia motivated. Go, girl, go.

And so it is.
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2nd Low Net: Linda Wilson
Low Putts: Sue Luegers
Event: Marge Hurley

\textbf{“A” Flight}
Low Net: Nancy Henry
2nd Low Net: Joan Lincke
Low Putts: Joan Carey
Event: Jan Duffy, Gloria Caine (tie)

\textbf{“B” Flight}
Low Net: Anne Robson
2nd Low Net: Seanne Heffernan, Pam Weinberger
(tie)
Low Putts: Betty Duggan
Event: Jane Tiffen

\textbf{“C” Flight}
Low Net: Vangie Kuhn
2nd Low Net: Judy Curtin, Lori Diemand (tie)
Low Putts: Bobbie Blank
Event: Pat Weiss

\textbf{Sunken Approaches:}
Linda Wilson #14, Peg King #12, June Salmon #13, Betty Duggan #14

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Long Beach Open Mic will be held in room #4 this Saturday evening from 7-9 p.m. Our featured artist will be musician/comedian “Captain” Craig Darnell. The singer/songwriter flies the friendly skies for United Airlines by day and entertains around LaPorte and Porter counties by night. The doors open around 6:45 p.m. for set up and performers will be scheduled on a first come first served basis. Admission is a $2 donation, all performing artists are welcome. Little Giant Pizza delivers, and drinks will be available for purchase. Come share your talent or join the audience and enjoy the show.

You are invited to the opening of an exhibition— “Pastels and Paintings”—by Shaun Armour on Sat., July 12, from 2-4 p.m. and from 7-9 p.m. in our future historical room. Barbara Stodola will be on hand to sign her new book Michigan City Area Beach Communities and to entertain us with her extensive knowledge about our community. Join us for lite refreshments, meet the artist, and reminisce.

Well-known artist and resident of the Community Center, Ron Wennekes, is offering accelerated learning techniques used by the masters of various disciplines. The class will be held on Thursday evening from 7-10 p.m. beginning July 24th and continuing through August 28th. This class is designed to challenge seasoned artists while gently guiding beginners. The cost for all eight, three hour classes, is $130 and includes models fees. Phone the Community Center and leave a message to register at 879-3845. Space is limited.

COMMUNITY = COMMUNICATION IN UNITY
Creators Revisit their “Windows to Heaven” at St. Agnes
by Charles McKevey

Architect Rod Thomson and glass artists Joan Hector and Toni Smith did not promise the people of Saint Agnes Church in Sawyer a rose garden when they undertook a major renovation in 2001.

No, the threesome aimed for something more on the order of a “jewel box.”

In fact those were the exact two words that Thomson used back in 2000 when he predicted what the church would look like for the “Homecoming Mass” on July 1, 2001.

installed 25 stained glass windows.

Having served in the Peace Corps as an architect in Iran and practiced privately here, Thomson has seen a host of all the good, bad and ugly that modern architecture has to offer.

He put Saint Agnes solidly in the good camp and praised Hector and Smith “for turning out something superb.”

Indeed, as Thomson showed slides of the renovation project, the setting sun streamed through the slab glass, or “dalles de verre,” windows on the west wall on the church.

Prisms of color cascaded across the wooden pews, and everyone was transfixed by the beauty of it all, which is exactly what Thomson, Hector and Smith intended.

Joan Hector basked for a moment and said: “This building has come home. It is now what it was intended to be and has gone full circle.”

Noting that the church’s present beauty was the result of a team effort, Hector admitted that she was depressed the first time she walked into the church to discuss the renovation.

Long-time members readily agreed with her that the church’s original charms had been hidden by the previous renovation, and they certainly nodded and smiled when Hector said she had been inspired by Thomson’s vision and imagination.

“I picked up on it, and I was moved by it,” Hector said.

She and her colleague Toni Smith were so moved that they worked under an almost impossible deadline to design and create an entirely new set of stained glass windows for the church.

Actually “parade” would be a better word because Hector demonstrated on May 24 that the windows on both the east and west sides of the sanctuary liter-
ally parade the eye from darkness to light with the culmination coming in the Central Window behind the altar with a burst of golden light radiating out from the center.

“It’s a story being told and going forward toward the sacred space of the altar,” Hector said.

According to Hector and Smith, the windows in Saint Agnes Church are designed to express the Christian story, with the windows on the east side of the church drawing on themes from the New Testament and those on the west deriving from the Old Testament.

Rod Thomson was particularly struck by a window on the west side called “The Sixth Day,” and said he admired how Hector and Smith had portrayed Adam and Eve as silhouettes in a colorful glass Garden of Eden.

The facial features of both man and woman were clearly visible as the surrounding slabs of glass, or dalles, flashed in the evening sunlight.

Hector said she was merely doing what her predecessors had done during the Middle Ages — namely to tell the Christian story in churches and cathedrals with glass pictures.

“And how you create that is to use color and a sense of movement,” she said.

The group then adjourned to the church hall where Toni Smith conducted a master’s class in creating faceted stained glass.

Noting that each window at Saint Agnes took some 40 hours to create, Smith then demonstrated that various hammers and an anvil were the best means by which to work the glass.

Smith said the thicker stained glass now found in Saint Agnes was introduced by the French after World War II when much reconstruction was being done.

Each slab is almost an inch thick and is made in a standard eight-inch by twelve-inch format.

For the Saint Agnes project, Hector and Smith brought back 3,000 pounds of glass slabs of many colors from Blenko Glass in West Virginia. Smith said her mini-van’s suspension has never been the same.

Smith and Hector then made a panel of slab glass by using sand Smith had collected from the beach in Harbert and an epoxy cement. The sand provided a finish to the epoxy matrix which appeared dark against back lighting.

Smith said the dark background is important in balancing the richness of the vibrant glass, which glows mysteriously even after the sun has set.

Indeed, motorists passing Saint Agnes on nights when there is a church function are struck by its resemblance to a glittering jewel box.

Which is just as Rod Thomson, Joan Hector and Toni Smith intended.

For more information, please contact Rod Thomson in care of: 269/428-4445, Joan Hector at 269/279-5492 and Toni Smith at 269/684-1868.
Chicago Street Theatre Audition Call

CTG will be presenting a musical for children—“Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day” by Judith Viorst the first weekend in September.

The cast includes roles for 4 men and 3 women. Directors Stephany Mullen, Marcia Gienapp, and musical director Deb Porter are holding auditions for persons age 10 and older to be a part of this story.

Auditions will be held at the Chicago Street Theatre, 154 W. Chicago St., Valparaiso, on Sat., July 12 at 2 p.m. and Mon., July 14, at 7:30 p.m.

For more information, phone 219/464-1636.

The Great Tie-Dye Experience

The Great Tie-Dye Adventure on Sat., July 12, starting at 10 a.m. and continuing throughout the day, is intended to bring families, friends and kids of all ages together in an ambitious fete honoring the wonder of nature by mounting what could be the largest tie-dyed art piece in the world high into the stand of trees at Three Oaks Dewey Cannon Park. Volunteer participation is welcomed to create a permanent installation piece for public display to remind us of the sanctity of water and the green earth and to rejoice in their gifts while we protect those resources for all future generations.

Maria and Kathlynn, the ladies of The Seeded Earth Shop (Lawrence, Michigan) will be on hand early to train and entertain the little ones needed to assist in the creation of this visionary work. Music in the evening will be provided by Chicago's Dorian Taj.

The Great Tie-Dye Experience will take place in downtown Three Oaks in the Dewey Cannon Park, next to the train tracks. Information: 269/756-3544.

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7:30-8:30 p.m. SURVIVOR: INDIANA DUNES NATIONAL LAKESHORE. Adaptation is something all living species must do to survive. Get a glimpse of how the plants and animals of Dune Country survive this beautiful and sometimes harsh environment. Join a ranger for this indoor slide presentation with fun-filled activities for kids of all ages. Meet at Dorothy Buell Memorial Visitor Center.

SATURDAY, JULY 12
9:30-11:30 a.m. OUR PRECIOUS RESOURCES: SEED COLLECTION AT MNOKE PRAIRIE. Help restore Mnoke Prairie by collecting seeds from prairie sedges to be used for future planting. Join National Lakeshore Resource Management staff at the Mnoke Prairie parking lot south of the Little Calumet River on Howe Road. Be prepared to walk through high vegetation in the sun and heat. Wear long pants and sturdy shoes, and bring drinking water. Phone 219/926-7561, ext. 225 for directions.

1-2:30 p.m. IS IT A BIRDIE OR AN EAGLE? Join a ranger for “tee time” on this hike through the former Beverly Shores golf course. See how Mother Nature has reclaimed the fairways, greens and sand traps. Meet at the National Lakeshore Campground Fee Station.

7-8 p.m. LIVE LIGHTLY ON THE PLANET. Share ideas about helping Mother Earth by walking lightly upon her. Join in on family-oriented activities and see innovative ways people are helping our planet. Meet at the National Lakeshore Campground Amphitheater.

SUNDAY, JULY 13
Noon-3 p.m. HORSING AROUND: BINDING GRAIN. Whether plowing, discing, cultivating or mowing, draft horses play an important part at Chellberg Farm. Observe horse power first-hand as Farmer Jim gets Mollie, Linda and/or Amber harnessed, hitched and headed out to the fields (weather permitting). Park at Bailly/Chellberg parking lot.

For more information, phone 926-7561, ext. 225.
Activities to Explore

In the Local Area:
July 9 — Barker Civic Center Guild meeting. 7 pm. “Hat Etiquette” will be the program presented by Carol Estes. 631 Washington St. Guests are welcome to attend. 873-1520.

July 9-12, 16-19 — “State Fair.” Festival Players Guild production at the Mainstreet Theatre, 807 Franklin St. Wed-Fri @ 8 pm; Sat @ 6 & 9 pm. Wed. matinee @ 2 pm. Tix $12/weekdays; $13/Fri & Sat. Discount tix available; phone 874-4269.

July 9 & 16 — Noon Organ Recital at the First Congregational Church, Washington at 6th Street, Michigan City. Free and open to the public. Music begins at 12:15 p.m. for approx. 45 minutes. Info, George Dobie, Trustee, at 219/778-9802.

July 10 — Spaghetti Dinner at the Senior Center, Washington Park, Michigan City, 4-7 pm.

July 10 — “Time and Timelessness in Shakespeare’s Dreams.” 6:30 pm at the MC Public Library. Presented by Ann Steed Carver as part of the Summer Reading program for adults. Free and open to the public.

July 10 — Michigan City Municipal Band concert. 8 pm at the Guy Foreman Amphitheatre, Washington Park. Free. Featuring Dennis Michaels, baritone

July 10-12 — Special Sale at the Lubeznik Center for the Arts Museum Shop. 10 am-2 pm. 720 Franklin Square, Michigan City. Info 874-4900.

July 10-14 — “Spellbound.” Academy Award nominee Best Documentary. Winner at 10 film festivals. Rated G. Thurs. 6:30 pm; Fri, Sat, Sun 4:30 & 7 pm; Mon 6:30 pm. Vickers Theatre, 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, MI. 269/756-3522. www.vickerstheatre.com


July 11 — Improv Comedy at Acorn Theater, Three Oaks, Michigan. Featuring Jim Jarvis and Scott Woldman. Appropriate for those over 13 yrs. 8 pm. Tix $15; 269/756-3879 or at the door.

July 11-12 — Friends of the LaPorte County Public Library Book Sale. Held at Maple Lane Mall, LaPorte. Fri. 8 am-8 pm; Sat 8 am-6 pm; Sun noon-4 pm

July 11-26 — “Lie of the Mind.” A play by Sam Shepard presented by Community Theatre Guild at Chicago Street Theatre, 154 W. Chicago St., Valparaiso. Fri & Sat @ 8 pm; Sun @ 2:30 pm. Tix $12/adults, $10/sen. cit., $8/students. 219/464-1636 or www.ctgonline.org

July 12 — Farmer’s Market. 8th & Washington streets, Michigan City. 8 am-1 pm.

July 12 — Sand Sculpture Contest at Indiana Dunes State Park. Register 9 am; judging at 11:30 am. Various age groups from 7 yrs. to family groups. 219/926-1390 for more info.

July 12 — Opening reception “Pastels and Paintings” by Shaun Armour. 2-4 pm at the Old School Community Center, Long Beach. Show and sale through July 23.

July 12 — Watercolors by David Knoebber at Vicker’s Theatre, Three Oaks, Michigan. Opening reception to meet the artist 12:30-2:30 pm (MI time). On exhibit through the month of July.


July 12 — 3rd Annual “Emerging Artists” and “Recent Works by Area Artists Association” exhibitions at the Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 720 Franklin St. Opening reception for both 7-9 pm. Also featuring musical & literary performances by regional young artists. Free and open to the public. 874-4900.

July 12 — Long Beach Open Mic at the Old School. Set up 6:45 pm; performances 7-9 pm. Adm. $2 donation. Info 879-3845.


July 13 — Fun Days in the (Washington) Park continues. South Shore Band 12:30-2:30 pm; Shannon Raye 3:5-3:30 pm; Run for Cover 6-9 pm. Info 874-3630.

July 13 — Grill Off BBQ Competition at Panozzo’s Pantry, New Buffalo. Noon-4 pm (MI time). Taste and vote on your favorite amateur chef. Live music; recipes will be available. 269/469-9408.


July 14 — Art Center Guild meeting. 9:30 am at the Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 720 Franklin Sq. Program “Brush with the Masters” presented by Ross Blythe. Info 874-4900.

July 16 — Blood Pressure Screening at the Michigan City Public Library. Free. Bring your list of meds and blood-pressure card.

July 16 — Travel the World: Turkey. 6:30 pm at the Michigan City Public Library. Slide presentation by Sonia and Bob Lawrentz. Free & open to the public.

July 17-20, 25-27 — “Bat Boy-the Musical” at the Dunes Summer Theatre, Michiana Shores. Curtain Fri & Sat at 8 pm; Sun. at 7 pm. Tix $15/adults, $12/students & senior citizens. Subscriptions also available; phone 879-7509.

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. Located one mile south
of LaPorte on US 35. Hours 10 am-4:30 pm, Tues-Sat; noon-4:30 pm Sun. 219/326-1337 or 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 269/469-5409.


The Depot of Beverly Shores Museum and Art Gallery, 525 Broadway, Beverly Shores, IN. Adm. free, donations welcome. Open Sat. & Sun, 1-4 pm from May-November. Info about museum, 874-5322; info about gallery, 872-4185.

Farther Afield:

July 12 — Firefly Festival presents Sam Bush in concert. Bluegrass mandolin master and Grammy Award winner. 8 pm. Held at St. Patrick’s County Park, South Bend. Tix $12/$16/$5. 574/288-3472 or www.fireflyfestival.com

July 12 — “Come Walk With Me: Outdoors with Jake Webster.” Indiana sculptor on display at Fernwood Botanical Garden & Nature Preserve. 2 pm (MI time). 13988 Range Line Rd., Niles, MI. 269/695-6491 or log onto fernwoodbotanical.org


July 12-13 — Krasl Art Fair on the Bluff. St. Joseph, Michigan. Sat 10 am-6 pm; Sun 10 am-5 pm. Smooth jazz concert 8:30 pm on Sat. 269/983-0271. See story this issue.

Through September 14 — “Linda McCartney’s Sixties Portrait of an Era.” Photo exhibit by the late wife of Beatle Paul McCartney. At the Ella Sharp Museum, 3225 4th St., Jackson, MI. 517/787-2320 or log onto www.ellasharp.org

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On July 10, 1890, Wyoming became the 44th state to be admitted to the Union.

On July 10, 1913, in the hottest day ever recorded in the United States, the temperature rose to 134 degrees Fahrenheit in California’s Death Valley.

On July 10, 1938, Howard Hughes, accompanied by a crew of four, completed a flight around the world.

On July 10, 1962, the Telstar Communications Satellite, designed to relay TV and telephone signals between the United States and Europe, was launched from Cape Canaveral.

On July 11, 1767, John Quincy Adams, who would become the sixth President of the United States, was born in Braintree (now Quincy), Massachusetts.

On July 11, 1804, in a pistol duel near the New Jersey town of Weehawken, Aaron Burr fatally wounded former Treasury Secretary Alexander Hamilton.

On July 11, 1955, the new Air Force Academy was dedicated at Colorado’s “Lowry Air Force Base.”

On July 11, 1979, an abandoned Skylab space station burned in the earth’s atmosphere, showering debris over the Indian Ocean and Australia.

On July 11, 1989, British actor Sir Lawrence Olivier, whose renditions of Hamlet and Henry V defined Shakespeare for modern mass audiences, died at the age of 82.

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

On July 13, 1977, a massive power blackout virtually paralyzed New York City.
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.

On July 14, 1860, American novelist Owen Wister, who is best known for his Western novel, The Virginian, was born in Philadelphia.

On July 14, 1914, scientist Robert Goddard was granted a patent for a liquid-fueled rocket.

On July 14, 1944, during World War II, Italy declared war on Japan, its former Axis partner.

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

On July 15, 1779, American author Clement Clarke Moore, who wrote one of the most popular of our Christmas poems, “A Visit from Saint Nicholas,” was born in New York City.

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

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, 1957, Marine Major John Glenn set a transcontinental speed record when he flew a jet from California to New York in 3 hours 23 minutes and 8 seconds.

On July 16, 1969, Apollo 11, the first moon-landing mission, was launched from Florida’s Kennedy Space Center.
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Less than 400 steps to Beach. Some weeks avail July & August - $1,000/wk. A/C. 2/BR & loft, 2/Bath. Sleeps 6 Call 219/879-0813, or janetg1@adsnet.com

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SHERIDAN BEACH HOUSE RENTAL: 2 bikes from the beach at Stop 2. 3/4 mi. from zoo, 1.5 mi. from outlet malls & 2 mi. from Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore & State Park. 3 BR house with screened porch and fenced backyard. Pets possible, children welcome. Sleeps 4-6. $900/week or $250/weekend and $250 security deposit. 312-907-2117

SUMMER RENTAL AT STOP 36

Steps away from the lake, this large contemporary home is nestled in the woods and sleeps up to 12. There are three living spaces, a large front deck and a gorgeous screened porch looking at the woods. It has all amenities with W/D, D/W, A/C, Jacuzzi tub and a fireplace. Perfect for a large family or a few small ones. $2500/week still has availability for summer ’03. Visit our website @ www.e-g-r.com or call Executive Group Realty 219-874-1122.

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SHERIDAN BEACH - Spectacular 3 bedroom house overlooking lake. 4 decks, fireplace, 2 car garage w/storage. Long-term rental starting Sept. 1 $1,400/mo. Unfurnished. 630-852-5414

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MICHIGAN, GRAND BEACH. Lake front home, just 42 steps down to a private beach on Lake Michigan. Enjoy magnificent sunsets from this lake-front deck. Golf course and tennis courts are within walking distance. This cozy 3/BR is air-conditioned, and equipped with a washer & dryer. Avail July & August for $1,700/wk, or June & Sept. for $950/wk. - Call 708/848-1025 for viewing appointment.


NEW BUFFALO 4BR. 2.5 bath retreat. Just steps to private beach. W/D & DW. Lg. deck & yard for family fun. Email: marycoong@aol.com or 269 469-8181.

NEW BUFFALO MICHIGAN - SchoolHouse Cottage opening mid-July. 3/BR, 2/Baths. In-town location. A/C, washer & dryer, refrigerator, microwave, toaster, oven, stove, coffee maker, TV, fireplace, kitchen appliances, 3 month summer rental. $1,000/mo. References and security deposit required, no pets. Call 708/865-0594.

EXECUTIVE COUPLE WANTED - IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY
unique 2 story, 2 BR home, 2 car attached garage, Grand Beach area, beach rights, fireplace, kitchen appliances, 3 month summer rental. $1,000/mo. References and security deposit required, no pets. Week days 269-469-0300; evenings & weekends 269-469-2943

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LAKE HILLS AREA 4 BR bi-level - hardwood flrs, new appliances, new carpeting, new roof, completely decorated. $3000 dn. $575 Principle & Interest Mortgage. INDIANA LAKE SHORE REAL ESTATE 219-874-4023.

LAKEFRONT VISTA (lakefront property)

You have the house completely built in your head. A great kitchen, fireplace, living room, game room, everything you have always dreamed have and now you have it completely pictured in your mind! The only thing missing is a lakefront property. The rest of your dream can now come true. A lake front vista that comes not only with view but . . . with a seawall as well. Complete your dream and see this choice piece of lakefront located on Lake Shore Drive. Price: $1,850,000.

Call 312-332-2545.

CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITIES! Michiana Shores mixed-use three-unit income property in wooded setting. Within walking distance to beaches. Occupy luxury apartment, while tenants help pay your mortgage, or launch your business up front while enjoying income year round, or seasonally, from apartment. Important renovation features include: Gable roof. New plumbing, including water line to main, connection to city sewer. Separate utilities. Central air. Tasteful redecoration of storefront/offices. The apartment features custom designed kitchen and storage. Deluxe appliances. New windows w/custom treatments. Two beautifully tiled baths, ceramic flooring throughout. In-unit laundry facilities. Charming dining room/sun porch leading to paver patio garden area. Spacious bedroom with custom fitted closet, plus private access to one of two lower level garage spaces. Clean heated basement with ample storage, including 26x9 walk-in closet. Easy care professional perennial landscaping. Low taxes and utilities. A complete furnishing package will be offered separately. Great for business or professional, retail, café, antique shop, book store, real estate. Call for allowed uses. A wonderful building in turnkey condition. - $209,000. Offered by Broker-Owner Cheryl Culbertson. For appointment call - 219/879-0811.

WOODED BUILDING SITE-MICHIANA INDIANA AREA:

88X 120 foot homesite on quiet lane. City sewer connection has been brought to site. Walking distance to beaches. Perfect for log cabin. $46,000.

Broker-Owner. - 219/879-0811.


HOT UNION PIER! - Walking distance to the lake. 64.5x146.25 Buildable lot. $8,500 city sewer and municipal water tap fee already paid. Ready to build. $135,000.

LAKESIDE - Beautiful, wooded, half-acre lot. Close to the beach, with private deeded beach rights. It doesn't get any better than this! - $250,000.

One of Ken Gosh's signature roosters

For more information, and brochures, call 312/371-6454.

Art Gallery Sold

Ken Gosh has sold his gallery, Rabbit Run, and is moving to Mexico to paint full time. His paintings will continue to be shown at Acorn Gallery, 16142 Red Arrow Hwy., Union Pier (269/469-5278) and Crescent Moon Gallery, Phoenix Road, downtown South Haven, Michigan (269/637-5119).

Plan to Attend “Movies in the Park”

This is a collaboration between the City of Michigan City and the Michigan City Public Library. The first in this series of free movies in Washington Park features “Harry and the Hendersons.”

This PG-rated movie is free and will be shown on a screen at the Jaycee Stage. Michiana Resources will have a concession stand open. Sit at the picnic tables or bring your own chairs. The movie will start at dusk on Wed., July 30.

Upcoming dates for other movies are Aug. 13 (Some Like it Hot) & Sept. 12 (The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers).
Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix by J.K. Rowling

We all stayed up till midnight on June 20th to buy the book, went home and immediately started reading, and kept reading until we were bleary eyed. Everyone wanted to be the first to finish the latest Harry Potter installment. Was it worth it? Of course! Everyone I talked to who has read the book agrees it’s great. That seems to be a given. Why? First of all, the writing is as smooth as chocolate pudding and just as satisfying. Face it, Harry Potter has become a household word. Let’s recap for a moment....

We met Harry when he was all of ten years old, beaten down by an overbearing aunt and uncle and constantly picked on by an obnoxious cousin. A wizard by the name of Hagrid appears one day and takes Harry to Hogwarts’ School of Wizardry and tells him the real story (at least part of it) of who his parents were and how they really died. Improbable adventures come to Harry, he meets two new friends, and we follow him through the school year. Subsequent books take us through the next three years of Harry’s life and education. Now, Harry is 15 years old, in his fifth year of wizardry school, and facing all the fears and excitement that only a teenager can bring, not to mention having to deal with he-who-must-not-be-named.

I believe that this continuity is one of the underlying reasons Rowling’s books have been so popular. Haven’t you read other books that made you want to know what happened past the back cover? I have. Many times. That’s why sequels are found in such abundance.

Okay, now let’s look at several other elements that make Harry so readable. First off, let’s consider the names the author has come up with. Harry Potter sounds like a respectable, intelligent name, unlike Draco Malfoy which just drips off the tongue like so much snake venom. Ron Weasley sounds like a side-kicks name, and Hermione Granger sounds sophisticated and smart. The names of places and creatures all set up mental pictures in our brains; there is an element of immediate recognition. All the names Rowling has come up with are, first and foremost, pronounceable and second, easy to remember; unlike other science-fiction or fantasy books I have picked up and almost immediately put down because I couldn’t pronounce any of the names in the book.

I’ve read some reviewers are bothered with Harry seeming to be so angry in this book. Hello! He’s 15 years old, had his first crush, is feeling the weight of harder subjects in school, and has to keep looking over his shoulder for you-know-who. That’s enough to make any teenager touchy, don’t you think? Kids reading this book can identify with Harry’s growing pains; in fact, all of us, no matter what our age, can remember having to deal with peer pressure, school and social anxiety, and what we wanted to be when we grew up.

And, we all had our dreams and fantasies. This is what author Rowling has built her series on.

Then there’s the fairy tale part: Consider the popularity of Cinderella or Snow White. They, like Harry, were simple people who found out that they were destined to be more than they ever dreamed possible.

It all sounds so simple, but it took J.K. Rowling to take all the elements of a fairy tale, coupled with real life growing up, and mix up a thoroughly palatable dish to be enjoyed by millions of kids and adults alike. Can’t wait for the next book!

Hunger by Elise Blackwell

For those of you out there who have no interest in Harry Potter (improbable as that seems to me), I would like to offer another recommendation this week. Very far removed from Harry Potter is this story that takes us back to the siege of Leningrad in World War II and is based on fact, although a work of fiction.

It wasn’t bad enough that the Russian people had to live in fear under the ruthless regime of Stalin, but then Hitler came along. He thought he would have an easy time of conquering the country. Boy, did he underestimate the Russians (and their winters). In the fall of 1941, Nazi troops surrounded Leningrad and kept the entire population captive for the next 900 days.

Our unnamed narrator reflects on his past life from present day New York City. He was a botanist, part of a group in a scientific institute in Leningrad who had traveled the world to collect seeds, grains and tubers for study and research. Their collection was one of the best in the world. When the Nazis arrived, the scientists knew that food would soon run out and their precious seeds would be stolen. They made a pact that they would guard their collection against all, to the death if necessary.

Our narrator, however, was more interested in living and so would take a few grains or seeds for himself while he was on guard duty. He knew his wife wouldn’t eat them if he gave them to her, and so, after that first hard winter, she died like so many of the others. Our narrator makes no excuses for what he has done, and even questions what is the difference between a coward and a hero.

The story rolls back and forth between the narrator’s life before he was married and the time of the siege. He seems to be seeking answers to his own life by spreading it out on the table before us. But he is not wordy, he uses such sparse language, that we know those years from ‘41-’43 took away more than just his food and wife.

He quotes a poem from a sailor that I think is the key to his story:

“The ones who drown never change the facts, but those who survive the sea in their lungs must send their stories on words, words like small leaky boats....”

Not a book for everyone. But then, neither is Harry Potter.

Till next time, happy reading!
Handyman Special!!! Talk about a great way to build equity! This 2200 sq ft Long Beach home needs everything you can imagine. Current floor plan has 4 bedrooms and 2 full baths. But with your creative genius and a little elbow grease, there is no limit to what will take shape! Beautiful site measures 111 x 142, has newer septic system and is just 1.5 blocks to the beach! Call Michele, quick!

$199,000

There are Buildable Lots in Michiana!!! And we know where they are! Two building sites on Dreamwald in Michiana Shores measure 82 x 122 and 103.48 x 122 and are priced at $50,000 and $60,000, respectively. Both sites are wooded, with some very large “keeper” trees. Buildable site on El Portal measures 66 x 110 and has city sewer & water, priced at $29,000. Call Michele Meden for these and other building sites.

509 Oakdale

Michiana Calls You! Contemporary style is geared for relaxation! Parquet floors grace living & dining rooms. Quiet screen porch overlooks the heated in-ground swimming pool, 4 bedrooms, 2 full baths, 3 car garage & huge fenced yard. Directions: Michiana Drive (State line) to El Portal; south to Meadow; west to Oakdale. Or call Michele today for your own appointment!

$349,000

38 Dune Ridge

Michiana, Michigan Contemporary offers the peace and solitude you’ve been looking for! Three bedroom, 2.5 bath 2-story was built on 2 lots and a third lot was purchased for privacy. A 48’ long deck on the back of the home looks out over woods and dunes, because the street was never put through. Located just a peaceful walk from the beach! Directions: Lake Shore Drive to Stop 41 (Tahoma); east to Hillside; north to Dune Ridge; east to home.

Look for us on the internet! • www.merrionandassoc.com
LARGE LOT on Stop 20 overlooking wooded ravine in Long Beach. Sited on short circular street opposite small park, privacy is complete. Topo, staked survey, soil test all included, just bring your contractor. $79,000

ONE OF THE FEW lots left in Long Beach, so near Lake Michigan. It is level and easily built on. Staked survey is ordered and usual set-backs required are listed. $200,000

TWO LAKE SHORE DRIVE lots backing up to high dune. Health department approval and engineer’s report are needed. $450,000

WANTED a family who needs a 5 bedroom, 2½ bath on a quiet cul-de-sac across from the elementary school. Inviting foyer leads to bright living room, formal dining room, and family room with fireplace. Fantastic kitchen has ceramic floor, cabinets galore, and spacious bar for afternoon snacks. There’s a cheerful year round garden room with 3 walls of glass, vaulted ceilings and hot tub. The large workshop in the basement has a carpenter table, room for all your tools, bright lights, and still space left over. Oversized 2 car garage. Beautifully maintained, it’s a joy to see. $305,000

LARGE LAKE FRONT lot (55 x 225) in Sheridan Beach with 2 cottages. Keep one for income; demolish one and build to suit your lifestyle. $850,000

CELEBRATE ALL SEASONS in this 1996 Contemporary on a high dune surrounded by woods giving the deck and hammock privacy. Vaulted ceilings, fans, skylights, and wall of glass brighten each room. Ground cover and beach grass eliminate yard work leaving more time for the beach. There are 3 spacious bedrooms, 2½ baths, family room, separate utility room and oversized 2 car garage. Just a pleasant stroll to Stop 31 beach. $310,000