Nancy Chrzan’s Help Brings SMILE’s to Calcutta’s Neediest Children

By Paula McHugh

Nancy Chrzan once dreamed of joining the Peace Corps. But as happens with many a woman who walk the path into marriage and parenting, everyday responsibilities superceded the 42-year old’s desire to assist the less-fortunate of our global community.

Nancy’s dream never totally faded though. Last year she discovered the option of volunteering at a Work Camp while surfing the Web. Nancy found the homepage of the international organization known as Volunteers for Peace and discovered that there were thousands of short- and long-term programs around the globe where volunteers could make life a little brighter for people who struggle for survival.

“When I found the website, I said, ‘I want to do this, I want to do this!’ All that was standing in her way was finding three uninterrupted weeks on her family’s busy activities calendar. With two teens, a preteen, and a husband whose job takes him to places far and near, the Chrzan family calendar does not have many blank dates.

“Within that narrow three-week window, I found an opportunity for a work camp in India,” she said. The Volunteers for Peace Field Services and International Learning agency arranged for Nancy to work in Calcutta in a child enrichment program for orphans.

To backtrack just a bit, you might want to know that prior to Nancy’s first trip to Asia, the South Bend native had never left North America, had never traveled solo to another country, and had little knowledge of the language, customs, and climate of her destination. Her volunteer efforts up to then encompassed working with the Special Olympics, with rescue dogs, school programs, and organizing a soccer league. She would be the only American among the 35 other volunteers whose very tight sleeping quarters was a room with marble floors, sleeping bags, and mosquito nets. “I arrived two days early, and no food was provided for me during that time other than some crackers,” she said, adding that she lost ten pounds during her three-week stay. She cried

“I always wear an “American” shirt when I am (in India), Nancy said. “People would say, ‘ah, you’re a terrorist from America.’ I want them to see that Americans are humanitarians.”

Nancy and daughter Jasmin at home in Chesterton. They are spending the first three weeks of August back in Calcutta before Jasmin starts her first year at Chesterton High School.

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Chrzan  Continued from Page 1

her first night in her new quarters. She wondered if she had made a big mistake. Not being a quitter, Nancy adapted to her foreign living conditions and the duties she was assigned to undertake. But after a few days of bus trips with children, she and a handful of other volunteers with whom she bonded questioned why they were "enriching" group after group of well-dressed and well-fed orphans when all around them were ragged and hungry street children whose needs appeared greater. It made her angry, seeing the ragged children huddled in the streets, she said. Those children, she figured, were much more in need than the assigned groups of orphans that did not appear to be suffering.

By the end of her 3-week assignment, the spunky Chesterton resident and her new friends Mario, Bridget, Erika and Chakraborty agreed to form their own volunteer organization, which they named SMILE (Situational Management and Inter-Learning Establishment). Nancy's partners in the new venture are from Italy, Austria, Japan and India, and their mission is focused on helping the street children and the children from the slums, and administering a facility they established named Happy House. The street children curl up and sleep in corners of the train stations, whereas the children from the slums live in crude huts, but at least with a roof over their heads. Happy House serves as a permanent resource for children until they reach the age of 18.

"We feed, educate, and give medical attention to the street kids several days a week. We see them only once, because we move on to other train stations to care for other children. The slum children are transient, so we may or may not see them again. The Happy House

kids, selected by Chakraborty based on low-income, receive three meals a day and are taught rudimentary skills, songs, and the alphabet," Nancy explained. The volunteers spend five days a week rotating between the city's train stations, the slum housing, and Happy House, helping as many children as they can.

During their stays in India, the SMILE volunteers rise early several mornings a week to attend to the children sleeping in the stations. Nancy has provided much of the food—bananas and bread—from her own funds, and she also has purchased stacks of new clothes and shoes for those children who have none. Nancy and the other SMILE volunteers tend to the street children's open wounds and make sure the children are washed before moving on to another area of the city. While home in Indiana, she packs as many supplies as possible, many donated, to carry on her long plane journey.

"I always wear an "American" shirt when I am (in India)," she said. "People would say, 'ah, you’re a terrorist from America.' I want them to see that Americans are humanitarians."

One of Nancy's favorite places to visit in Calcutta when she has free time is the Temple for the Dying, which, according to Nancy, is serene and far-from-depressing. The Temple was established by Mother Teresa, and while no medical treatment is given, the patients are treated with dignity, Nancy explained.

"The atmosphere is so peaceful and loving."

After returning to the States after her first India volunteering experience, Nancy started reading books by and about Mother Teresa that she had purchased in Calcutta.

These homeless street children have just finished a meal of bananas and bread provided them by Nancy and other SMILE volunteers.
"I devoured the books, and I could relate to the places that she talked about."

Nancy and her daughter, Jasmin, are spending these first three weeks of August in Calcutta working with SMILE. Jasmin, who is a freshman at Chesterton High School, is making her second trip to India with her mother. After her first experience witnessing the plight of Calcutta’s neediest children, Jasmin returned to Chesterton with a new awareness about material possessions. Instead of insisting on a new dress for a formal school dance, the teenager told her mother that she wanted to use the equivalent to buy food, clothing, and other supplies for SMILE’s outreach program. Nancy’s son, Alex, the oldest of the three Chrzan children, has also donated money toward his mother’s cause.

Jasmin gives a young child a ride on her shoulders.
Jasmin returned to Chesterton with a new awareness about material possessions. Instead of insisting on a new dress for a formal school dance, the teenager told her mother that she wanted to use the equivalent to buy food, clothing, and other supplies for SMILE’s outreach program. Nancy’s son, Alex, the oldest of the three Chrzan children, has also donated money toward his mother’s cause.
While the other Chrzan family members—husband Keith, son Alex and daughter Francis—have no immediate plans to travel to India, they all expressed their pride in Nancy’s devotion to humanitarian causes. Keith, a statistician who works from home, takes on additional duties of housekeeping and chauffeuring Alex and Francis while his wife is gone.

The initial experience of traveling to a foreign country alone and not knowing what to expect made Nancy a more confident person, she said. After her August trip with Jasmin, she already has plans to return again to do more work in Calcutta this fall.

“You never know what you can do until you do it,” she said.

For more information about SMILE and/or work camp opportunities, contact Nancy at (219) 929-6414.
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ATMC Presents “A Midsummer Night’s Dream (The Immortals)”

Acting Theatre of Michigan City brings “A Midsummer Night’s Dream (The Immortals)” to life August 6-8, 13-15 in The Acting Theatre (215 West 10th St.). Using Shakespeare’s text, Ken Brelsfoard has written this play to concentrate on the problems in fairyland when the Queen says “no!” to the King and how a group of gypsyesque actors become involved in one of the most comical love stories ever written: that of the Queen of the Fairies with the Jackass, Nick Bottom.

Acting Theatre presents all original, or in this case, a new spin on plays and musicals. Actors, children and adults, work repertory style. As with “Dream,” each production is supervised by three professionals in their fields: General Direction (Brelsfoard), Choreography (Judith Joseph), and Diction Direction (Mary Fridh), plus the Technical Direction/Lighting Design of Tom Montgomery.

Appearing in “Dream,” which has enough charm and bawdiness for the entire family, are Joseph and Doug Moon (Queen Titania and King Oberon), Pat O’Leary (Nick Bottom), 10 year old Mara Sandroff (Puck), Fridh (Polly Quince), Helen Williams (Patricia Quince), Brelsfoard (Peter Quince), Kevin Firme (Francis Flute), Madison Chartier (Peaseblossom), Sarah Murray (Moth), Veronika Werner (Mustardseed), Madeline Rohrer (Portia, the child), Megan Daurer (Birch), Emily Murray (Oak Leaf).

Friday and Saturday performances begin at 7 p.m. Sunday performances at 4 p.m. Admission is $12/adult, $8/children 12 and under. Group rates are available; phone for reservation information, 872-4221.
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This rare Long Beach lakefront property is in an area of fine homes near Stop 25. It has 74’ of Lake Michigan frontage (standard lakefront lot size is 40’) offering magnificent sunset views and a sea wall. (2329056)

34 S. Chicago Street
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$165,000
With 3 bedrooms and 2.5 baths, there’s plenty of room for you and your guests. You can relax on the front porch, grill on the large deck or play in fenced rear yard. For those chillier times, there is a woodburning stove in the family room. It features a generous eat-in kitchen with beautiful cabinetry, central air, and a basement with built-in garage. 1700 sq. ft. with too many improvements to list. OWNER WILL LOOK AT ALL OFFERS! (2305194)

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Towering pines surround this 2 bedroom home with a 2-car garage for the toys. It is close to Lake Michigan and township beaches, yet you’ll hear more birds than traffic. Enjoy the warmth of wood floors, fireplace in family room and all appliances. (2420768)

3801 Michiana Drive
Michiana Shores
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Remarkably well maintained log home on almost 1/3 acre in Michiana and only 2 short blocks to the beach. 3 bed/2.5 baths, central air, all appliances, furniture, dinnerware, linens - turn key. Just move in and have a delightful summer. (2413768)

Galena Meadows, LaPorte
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Chose a lot nestled in the woods or one bordering a pond in this well-designed country community. The views of the gently rolling terrain are unobstructed since the utilities are underground. Lake Michigan and I-94 are mere minutes away, yet you only hear the birds. Lots are from .928 to 2.619 acres. Experience what country living should be.
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(2427999)

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Situated in Indiana just steps from the Michigan border. This wooded retro retreat was renovated in 2001. Close to New Buffalo, beaches, casino and outlet shopping. Motel consists of 12 units and much more. Courtyard has gazebo, playground and a large campfire pit surrounded with benches.
(2414278)

Vacant Land
$550,000
Farmhouse in the rolling country w/3 outbuildings on 20 private, heavily wooded acres, only 20 minutes from New Buffalo, and less than 10 minutes from Buchanan. Great for hunting, horseback riding, a camp for family and friends or your own private retreat. All farm tractors and misc. equipment included.
(2426609)

Imagine the Possibilities!
$219,000
GREAT location, just minutes from the beach, the shops, and restaurants of Union Pier. The cottage and large lot present many possibilities.
(2342391)

Great location in City of New Buffalo. On lakeside of Red Arrow, walking distance to the beach, downtown shops, & restaurants. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, and a 2-car garage with gas & water, allowing room for easy expansion. Private backyard with mature maple trees.
(2421821)

Summer is here. Call Jaye or Nora for boat slips! Whether you want to rent, buy, or sell!!!

Family home just minutes to downtown New Buffalo. Two lots allow plenty of room. Full basement (unfinished) has workshop, laundry, & pantry, it could also accommodate a 5th bedroom or study. Plenty of room to expand and build long term value for growing family.
(2417354)
Annual IFG Garden Tea

History will come alive on Sun., Aug. 15th, when Hoosier poet James Whitcomb Riley visits International Friendship Gardens for the Annual Garden Tea. During the program, sponsored by NIPSCO, actor Henry Ryder as Riley, will share the poet’s best-loved poems with his listeners including “Little Orphan Annie” and “The Raggedy Man.”

Riley (1849-1916) who was born in Greenfield, is well known to poetry lovers worldwide not only for his verse in “Hoosier dialect,” with all of its attendant “fers” and “ain’ts”, but his sensitive, lyrical poems celebrating nature, friendship, love and life. Ryder portrays Riley with a mix of seriousness and playfulness.

Henry C. Ryder is a retired partner in the Indianapolis office of Barnes & Thornburg LLP. He is of counsel to the firm. His primary practice was in the labor and employment law area.

Mr. Ryder continues to serve in various capacities for a number of business clients and not-for-profit organizations. He is trustee emeritus and former chairman of Hanover College and is on the Board of Directors of the Purdue Research Foundation and was formerly a trustee of Purdue University. Mr. Ryder is on the boards of the United States Auto Club and USAC Properties, Inc., and is president of the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra; on the Board of Directors of the Greater Indianapolis Progress Committee, for which he also served as a former chairman; and on the Board of Governors of the Heartland Film Festival. Mr. Ryder is a trustee of the Columbia Club Foundation. He is also on the Dean’s Advisory Council of Purdue School of Education and the Community Board of the IUPUI Library. He is a member of the Indiana Academy.

Harp music for the Tea will be provided by Michigan City’s own Emily Blitstein. Emily is 17 years old and has just graduated high school. She is an accomplished harper and also plays piano and bells. Emily is a frequent soloist and accompanist at First United Methodist Church of Michigan City. She has performed at Mainstreet Theatre as the intermission entertainment as well as at other local businesses and events, and most recently for the Cancer Awareness Luncheon at the Westin Hotel in Chicago.

The menu for the Tea will include scones, assorted tea sandwiches, fresh fruit, chocolate and pink mini sweet things served with a delicious cup of Earl Grey Tea.

Reservations are $20 per person and can be made by phoning 872-0235. Deadline for reserving your space is Aug. 12th.

International Friendship Gardens is located on Hwy. 12 just east of Liberty Trail. For more information on the Gardens, phone 878-9885. All proceeds from this event go to the ongoing renovation of the Gardens.
Sand Castle #506

This “Great Escape” is located on the 5th floor of the Dunescape Beach Club Tower and boasts unobstructed lake views. Very well maintained, this 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo offers a covered and private lakefront balcony. All appliances included and a main level parking space (indoor) with additional storage unit. The fitness center, with indoor pool and sauna, is open year round for your added enjoyment.

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Saturday, July 17, 2004 might have just been any other day for you and yours, but it was on the special side for Michigan City's very own George Blue.

You know George Blue — he's the 75-year-old gentle giant of a man who lives near downtown without a car and is seen walking far and wide and volunteering at the Salvation Army's soup kitchen.

Anyway, while the rest of us were pressing our beach blankets into the sand on Saturday, July 17, good George Blue the Buddhist was putting on quite a show at the 2004 Twinlab Great Lakes Regional Championship in Lansing, Michigan by setting a new world's record in the men's 75-79 age division of the bench press/deadlift competition by — are you ready for this — lifting weights totaling 507.5 pounds clear off the ground.

That's right — George Blue, who suffers from high blood pressure, high cholesterol, and is 99.9 percent cured of prostate cancer, lifted a “personal best” before an amazed gallery of spectators in Lansing and, then, happily for *Beacher* readers everywhere, came back to Michigan City to tell all about it.

And then some.

I was told about George Blue by his mailman and my friend, Dan Cortese. Dan, who is no stranger to these pages thanks to yours truly, phoned me back in June and said there was this absolutely amazing guy on his route who was 75 years old and was going to go to some big weightlifting competition somewhere in the Midwest and was gunning for some big record.

Before I could even follow up on Dan’s tip, George Blue himself walked over to *The Beacher* office with the two trophies he won in Lansing on July 17 and wondered if somebody might like to do a little story on him and his many accomplishments.

Madam Editor pegged me for the job, and I glad-
ly accepted the assignment and phoned George Blue and set up an appointment at The Beacher office for Friday, July 23 at 2 p.m. sharp.

George Blue reported at 1:58 p.m., and he was in possession of those two aforementioned trophies. One, as previously indicated, was for his world record lifting of 507.5 pounds of some seriously heavy metal, and the other was a trophy naming him the “Outstanding Lifter Deadlift Master Men.”

Within minutes of meeting George Blue, I knew I was in the presence of a gentle master of men. A man who had gained his mastery over others not by brute force or because he can lift far more than can those a quarter of his age, but because he is the ultimate embodiment of what Teddy Roosevelt was talking about when he suggested that we “walk softly but carry a big stick.”

George Blue, who grew up doing farm labor in southern Indiana in the bad-old days before the Civil Rights Act, knows all about walking softly in a dangerous landscape and keeping his wits about him whilst others are losing theirs. But I digress into the poetry of Rudyard Kipling when I simply must share the pleasure of meeting George Blue with all of you.

At George's suggestion, we drove over to his “office” at the Northwest Athletic Club at 301 West Kieffer Road where he regularly arrives by city bus for his weighty duties as a world-class weightlifter.

After kibitzing with Assistant Manager Sharon Hawkes, Front Desk Manager Dawn Bluzma and others at the front desk, George took me back to an assemblage of what looked like torture devices but was actually the weightlifting area. Stopping in front of one particularly fearsome apparatus, he graciously sat for an interview and gamely posed for all the pictures I cared to take.

Here then, without further preamble, are words of worldly wisdom right out of George Blue's mouth:

When asked to describe exactly where we were at the Northwest Athletic Club, George said: “Now, we’re down at my house. I use the power rack basically for all of my exercising. I have three positions here that I use, and I’m doing them once a week.

“I've found out at my age that this is all I really need.”

When asked again how old he is, George smiled impishly and said, “Do I really have to tell?”

_The Beacher_ insisted, so he said with a laugh: “I'm 75. I was born March 6, 1929 in Boonville, Indiana. And here I am now up in the BIG city.”

George then got back to the power rack, noting “that most people don’t like to use it because you can use tremendous weight on this.”

That very morning, for example, George Blue had lifted 585 pounds from the third position on the power rack.

We’ll pause here for a moment to let that sink in — George Blue who is 75 — lifted 585 pounds on the morning of July 23, 2004 during a “routine workout” at the Northwest Athletic Club.

And didn’t think all that much of it.

Sorry, back to the interview which continued with George saying: “Everything I have ever accomplished — I give the power rack credit.”

_Weighing In_ Continued on Page 14
The Weighing In

And, as for what he had just accomplished on July 17 in Lansing, Michigan, he said: “In my division (men between 75 and 79), the world record was 349 pounds. I didn’t have an intention of lifting anything but 400 pounds because I have a very bad shoulder, but after I got there and saw that there was a very nice crowd, then the ham in me came out.

“So I went with 400 for my first lift, and the crowd was saying: ‘Again, again.’ Then I decided — well, why not break the record by a 100 pounds? So I went with 457 for my second deadlift. On my third lift, I was thinking: boy, it sure feels good, and everybody was yelling and screaming, so I said to myself: let’s try five-oh-seven-and-a-half.”

As in the aforementioned world record of 507.5 pounds.

“And,” George said, “I made it, and according to the President of the World Association of Bench Pressers and Deadlifters, that was the highest lift in the history of weightlifting ever made by anybody 70 years or older regardless of height or weight.”

For the record, George Blue weighed 220 pounds and stood at 5’11” and looked to be made completely of muscle, although he did complain that he had let his belly get a bit soft from too much apple pie.

In December 2003, he set an Indiana, national and world record by lifting 501 pounds, topping his record-setting lift of 480 pounds on July 26, 2003.

He already has his sights set on bigger lifts at the world championships in November in Reno, Nevada, and you just know he will succeed in breaking whatever goal he sets for himself.

“I’ve been pretty busy,” George said, laughing merrily at the “work” he has set out for himself in a decade of life that finds most people clipping coupons and feeding slot machines.

There is so much, much more to be said by George Blue and about George Blue, but we are fast running out of space here, so please know that gentle George is properly trained and certified to pass on his 45 years of weightlifting know-how to you as your personal trainer at the Northwest Athletic Club.

It will be hard work, he promised, but he will be beside you all the way assuring you that you can lift all you are meant to lift if you really put your mind to it. And remember, George Blue practices Buddhism, so he knows all about putting mind over matter.

For an appointment with George Blue at his “office,” please call the Northwest Athletic Club at: 219/879-4401 or stop in next time you’re cruising past 301 West Kieffer Road in Michigan City.

George Blue and the staff will be happy to put you to “work.”
My grandmother had taught me so many things...

but she never taught me how to say goodbye.

She was more than just my grandmother; she had given me a lifetime of lessons and a lifetime of love. When I was told she had terminal heart disease and there was nothing more to be done, I knew I needed to spend as much time with her as I could.

The 45 minutes I had to spend driving to the hospital were precious moments I could have spent by her side. Having a Heart Center in our community means others will be able to spend less time on the road, and more time saying goodbye.

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Lots Happening at The Acorn Theater

Take a trip through the history of Broadway when La Porte-based Swing Shift returns to The Acorn Theater on Fri., Aug. 6, at 8 p.m., with their popular swing music and vocals. On Sat., Aug. 7, also at 8 p.m., take in some edgy sketch comedy performed by the Defiant Thomas Brothers. And on Sun., Aug. 8, enjoy a 3 p.m. matinee performance of the new musical “Danny Kaye: Supreme Court Jester.”

Swing Shift will celebrate the birth of the great American musical with “From Tin Pan Alley to Broadway” featuring the music of songwriters such as Gershwin, Porter, Arlen, Hammerstein, Rogers and Hart.

The five friends who are Swing Shift have been performing in northwest Indiana and the Chicagoland area for many years, both individually and as a group. They include Bill Jenkins on guitar, Chris Holmquest on bass, percussionist Mark Jacket and vocalist Mary Kay Steele and her husband, Peter Steele, who plays piano.

The Defiant Thomas Brothers, Seth Thomas and Paul Thomas, no relation, have been described as “lean yet mighty, oafish yet agile.” Their humor has a political edge and is irreverent, but not offensive.

The Defiant Thomas Brothers also have performed in the Miami Improv Festival, Seattle Sketchfest, Chicago Sketchfest, the Los Angeles Comedy Improv Festival, the Second City Unhinged Series, and on the mainstage of the Chicago Improv Festival.

“Danny Kaye: Supreme Court Jester” has two powerful and appealing characters at its center and two other actors playing the many colorful people who influenced the lives of Danny Kaye and his wife, Sylvia.

Co-authors Joanne Koch and Sarah Cohen, nationally known for their plays and musicals, concentrate on Sylvia’s role in Danny’s rise to the position of the nation’s number one movie star and their tumultuous but incredibly productive relationship.

Songs and beloved comedy routines associated with Kaye are combined with fresh, original tunes by noted Chicago composer Mark Elliott. "Danny Kaye" is funny, moving and very satisfying show that is appealing to the widest possible audience. According to David Fink, co-owner of The Acorn.

Tickets to the performances are $15 and can be reserved by calling the theater at 269/756-3879 or purchased at the door. The Acorn Theater is located in the historic Featherbone Factory at 107 Generations Dr., behind the Three Oaks Post Office on N. Elm St.

Read The Beacher On Line
http://www.bbpnet.com/Beacher/
THE Restored, not remodeled!! The stately grace has been retained and complimented with structural, mechanical and decorative upgrades during the last two years. The gated entry welcomes you to a huge master bedroom and luxury bath with a separate make up room, 4 fireplaces, in ground heated pool, 3 family rooms, a fantastic library, 4 car garage and so much more all on 3.15 acres. #107995
Ask for Rick @ 874-2121 ext. 36

Shoreland Hills all brick ranch with newly finished full basement is ready to be yours by summer! Refinished hardwood floors, professionally painted interior and fireplace on main level. Basement level has large rec room, 3rd bedroom and 2nd bath. Enjoy the private deck, short walk to Lake Michigan and beach rights! #107522
Ask for Pam @ 874-2121 ext. 28

Well kept raised ranch in Long Beach. This home features 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, large family room (with new berber carpeting), beautiful updated kitchen, newer roof, central air and a 2 car garage. Short stroll to the beach! #107479
Ask for Rose @ 874-2121 ext. 18

Everywhere the accent’s on open space. This tri-level in Long Beach is nicely situated on a landscaped lot with a sprinkler system. Unusual floor plan offers vaulted ceilings and a wall of windows in the living/dining room. Three bedrooms, three baths and an office. Screened porch for relaxing on those lazy summer evenings. Call Sue Mohnssen to view the inside. #112855
Ask for Sue Mohnssen @ 874-2121 ext. 11

Fantastic home in Timber Ridge Subdivision in LaPorte. This is your opportunity to own this quality 5 bedroom, 5 bath home which has over 7000 sq. ft. This home has so many features. Some are a kitchen to die for, a huge master bedroom and luxury bath with a separate make up room, 4 fireplaces, in ground heated pool, 3 family rooms, a fantastic library, 4 car garage and so much more all on 3.15 acres. #107995
Ask for Larry @ 874-2121 ext. 19

Location, Location! Best Bay at the Beach. Room for your golf cart and a short walk to Stop 23 Beach goes with this newly redecorated tri-level which backs to the 14th fairway of Long Beach Country Club. All new kitchen appliances, carpet and laminate flooring. Recently new are the furnace, A/C, water heater and roof. 4 bdms, 2 1/2 baths, 2 fireplaces. Over 2600 sq. ft. of living space including finished walk-out basement. Screened in porch off living/dining room overlooks expanse of green fairways. #107785
Ask for Steve or Barb Beardslee @ 874-2121 ext. 37

This 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath home sits high on a dune, surrounded by trees overlooking woods as far as the eye can see. This spacious light and airy contemporary home has interesting formal and informal spaces to accommodate family and friends. This home has everything you would expect. Minutes to the beach! #102209
Ask for Larry @ 874-2121 ext. 19

Located, Location! Best Bay at the Beach. This unit is in excellent condition. The unit features decks and an enclosed porch looking at a dune. Appliances in the kitchen remain. This is a wonderful opportunity to live close to Lake Michigan. Great living full time or a great get away. #107878
Ask for Larry @ 874-2121 ext. 19

Beautiful 2 bedroom condo close to Lake Michigan. This unit is in excellent condition. The unit features decks and an enclosed porch looking at a dune. Appliances in the kitchen remain. There is a basement and a built in garage. This is a wonderful opportunity to live close to Lake Michigan. Great living full time or a great get away. #107878
Ask for Larry @ 874-2121 ext. 19

Well kept raised ranch in Long Beach. This home features 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, large family room (with new berber carpeting), beautiful updated kitchen, newer roof, central air and a 2 car garage. Short stroll to the beach! #107479
Ask for Rose @ 874-2121 ext. 18

Beautiful 2 bedroom condo close to Lake Michigan. This unit is in excellent condition. The unit features decks and an enclosed porch looking at a dune. Appliances in the kitchen remain. There is a basement and a built in garage. This is a wonderful opportunity to live close to Lake Michigan. Great living full time or a great get away. #107878
Ask for Larry @ 874-2121 ext. 19

Everywhere the accent’s on open space. This tri-level in Long Beach is nicely situated on a landscaped lot with a sprinkler system. Unusual floor plan offers vaulted ceilings and a wall of windows in the living/dining room. Three bedrooms, three baths and an office. Screened porch for relaxing on those lazy summer evenings. Call Sue Mohnssen to view the inside. #112855
Ask for Sue Mohnssen @ 874-2121 ext. 11

One of the most unique and quality built homes in the area. The main house has approximately 6000 square feet, 4 bedrooms, 5 baths, 4 fireplaces, new custom kitchen, Sub-Zero Refrigerator, fantastic rooms, glass and views. This house is fantastic and there is a matching 1500 square foot guesthouse, all top quality. Professional landscaping, all on 3.5 wooded acres between LaPorte and Michigan City. LaPorte Homes. #101922
Ask for Larry @ 874-2121 ext. 19

Restored, not remodeled!! The stately grace has been retained and complimented with structural, mechanical and decorative upgrades during the last two years. The gated entry welcomes you to a huge master bedroom and luxury bath with a separate make up room, 4 fireplaces, in ground heated pool, 3 family rooms, a fantastic library, 4 car garage and so much more all on 3.15 acres. #107995
Ask for Rick @ 874-2121 ext. 36
Nostalgic Musical Comedy at Mainstreet


“Do Black Patent Leather Shoes Really Reflect Up?” is based on the book by John Powers with music and lyrics by James Quinn and Alaric Jans. While focusing primarily on the romance that develops between Eddie (Clay Boney) and Becky (Melissa Myers), the charming spoof follows eight youngsters from 2nd grade to their senior prom as they come of age in the 1950’s.

As the kids grow up, Becky worries about being fat and Sister Lee (Rachael Magill) reminds her that “there are no cookie cutters in heaven.” Father O’Reilly (Jason Sofge) lectures the boys on “Private Parts” and the kids worry about “How Far is Too Far.” In high school they have to struggle with the emotional and mental consequences of their earlier lessons as experience sexual awakening and crises of faith. At the end, the song “Thank God” reminds us that age and maturity are really good things as a grown-up Eddie reflects “thank God I’ll never be young again.”

Other cast members: Stella Thompson, Daniel Boughton, Amanda Marasch, Erin Haynes, James Kilile Kristin Wetherington and Nathan O'Brien. The production is directed by Paul Fillingim with musical direction by Elizabeth West.

Performances are Wed.-Sat. at 8 p.m. with additional performances on Wed. at 2 p.m. and Sat. at 5 p.m. Tickets are $12 on Wed. & Thurs. and $13 on Fri. &d Sat. Group, student & senior citizen discounts are available. Group and individual dinner/theatre packages are available and offered in cooperation with the Michigan City Yacht Club and Galveston Steakhouse.

All seats are reserved: phone the Mainstreet Theatre Box Office 874-4269 or purchase in person at 807 Franklin Street.

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 and the Barker Welfare Foundation.
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The Michigan City Chamber Music Festival is about to begin its third season. There will be three educational programs for adults, three concerts for children and its traditional five formal performances of chamber music. The performances will be held at three locations: The Michigan City Public Library, the First Presbyterian Church and the First United Methodist Church.

All performances are free of charge and require no advance ticket reservation. Meet the artists receptions immediately follow each concert. For more information, or to order a brochure, phone 878-1965

Chamber Festival Musicians

Soprano Thea Smith, from Indiana University, Bloomington, joins the Festival for the first time this year. She has performed all over North America, most recently receiving rave reviews in Canada.

Cellist Stephen Framil is also familiar to Michigan City audiences, having performed an unaccompanied cello recital here in 2002. Framil is a world traveled soloist and recording artist, having been the first American cellist to perform in Hanoi. His next major recording project will be to record the Haydn Cello with the Czech National Philharmonic (Prague, Czechoslovakia).

Clarinetist William King from Ann Arbor, Michigan, is new to MCCMF audiences. King is an internationally renowned solo and recording artist, most recently having completed the world-premiere recording of Rudolf Haken’s “Clarinet Concerto” for Centaur Records. The recording is due for release in late 2004.

The MCCMF welcomes back pianist Robert Auler. Auler just completed his first year as Professor of Piano at SUNY. Oswego, and more recently made his Carnegie Hall debut in May. Robert has been busy performing in Europe this past year and will be the guest Artist in Residence with the locally centered LaPorte County Symphony Orchestra in 2004-2005.

Also returning is violist Rudolf Haken. He is Professor of Viola at the University of Illinois, Champaign/Urbana. He too is an active international solo and recording artist. Past accomplishments include Professor at West Virginia University and violist with the Houston Symphony. Haken performs on a 5-string “viola pomposa” made especially for him by acclaimed string luthier David Ravinus.

Purdue University North Central Office of Continuing Education is offering online courses through the program, Education 24/7.

Students can choose from more than 200 courses in a variety of subjects. Classes are offered for teachers and nurses, plus there are computer courses, financial information courses, professional development classes, certification programs in multimedia and graphic design, paralegal studies plus some courses just for fun are also available.

Classes begin once a month and run for six weeks. Upcoming start dates are Aug. 18, Sept. 15, Oct. 20, Nov. 10 and Dec. 8. Costs for the classes vary.

To register for one of these courses or other non-credit courses, visit www.pnc.edu/ce or call the Office of Continuing Education, (219) 872-0527, ext. 5343. Persons with disabilities requiring accommodations should contact ext. 5343.

---The Festival Schedule at a Glance---

**Educational Series:**
Mon., Aug. 9, 5:30 p.m. The PBS documentary “The Art of the Violin” will be shown at the MC Public Library. Followed by discussion.

Wed., Aug. 11, 5:30 p.m. Academy-award winning documentary “From Mao to Mozart.” Shown at the MC Public Library with a discussion following the screening.

Fri., Aug. 13, 1-3 p.m. “What is Chamber Music Anyway? (Or, Why Doesn’t a Piano Quartet have four pianos?)” An open discussion of everything you wanted to know and were afraid to ask.

**Children’s Concerts**
All three programs will be held at the MC Public Library and will explore “Die Forelle (The Trout),” a song by Franz Schubert, and what makes a little tune so powerful.

Tues., Aug. 17, noon will provide an introduction to the music by Thea Smith and Robert Auler.

Thurs., Aug. 19, noon. This program will focus on rhythm. Led by Diana Ford assisted by Festival musicians.

Sat., Aug. 21, noon. A real life composer, Rudolf Haken will speak and perform.

**Chamber Music Series**
Sat., Aug. 14, 7:30 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, 9th & Washington streets. All Franz Schubert program.

Mon., Aug. 16, 7:30 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church, 7th & Pine streets. “Musical Colors,” featuring Baroque songs and arias.

Wed., Aug. 18, 7:30 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church. “Winds of Change.”

Fri., Aug. 20, 7:30 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church. “The Three Bs—Music of Bach, Beethoven and Brahms.”

Sun., Aug. 22, 2:30 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church. “An Afternoon of Chamber Music.”
Chicago folk singer/songwriter Michael Smith returns to the Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, MI, on Sat., Aug. 7th, 8 p.m. (MI time). Tickets are $8 for everyone. Opening for Michael will be local favorite Kelly Jones.

Michael is a songwriter's songwriter, with songs that are poignant, mysterious or hilarious, and sometimes all three. His songs have been recorded by artists ranging from Steve Goodman to Jimmy Buffett as well as by long-time friend Anne Hills. His song, “The Dutchman,” has been recorded by over thirty artists.

He has performed live at dozens of major folk and music festivals in the United States and Canada, including the Philadelphia Folk Festival, Bethlehem Musikfest, Kerrville Folk Festival and the Owen Sound and Winnipeg Folk Festivals in Canada.

He has produced several CDs, either separately or with other musicians, including Flyiing Fish, produced by Anne Hills; Michael, Margaret, Pat and Kate, his musical autobiography which won four Joseph Jefferson awards; Pasiones: Songs of the Spanish Civil War and The Gift of the Magi with Jamie O'Reilly, and Weavermania with his wife Barbara, to name a few.

For more information on this and other Box Factory events, phone 269/983-3688 or visit their website at www.boxfactoryforthearts.org
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**Author Visit at MC Public Library**

On Thurs., Aug. 12, at 6:30 p.m., the Michigan City Public Library will host a program by author and Dunes Country native, Jacqueline Widmar Stewart. She will discuss her book The Glacier’s Treasure Trove: A Field Guide to the Lake Michigan Riviera.

In the book she covers the 42 miles of coastline from Miller, Indiana to Bridgman, Michigan, covering the glacial history, area attractions and even recipes.

Ms. Stewart will then chat with the audience. This program is free and open to the public.
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Call Donna Iwamoto 269.469.8726
Opening Reception at The Depot

On Sun., Aug. 8th, from 1-4 p.m., The Depot of Beverly Shores will hold an opening reception for a new exhibition, “Lithuanian Artists of the Dunes,” showcasing works executed in a variety of media, encompassing many decades of creative achievements by artists born on both sides of the Atlantic. The exhibition will run through Aug. 29.

These artists are unified not only by their shared heritage, but also by the common thread of having settled in, or having had a strong connection to, the Duneland area for at least a portion of their lives.

Artists who were born in Lithuania will include: Maria Ambrozaitis, painting, photo-collage & photography; Marija Meskauskas, ceramics; Jurgis Daugvila, wood sculptures & carvings; Janina Marks, fiber art & print-making; Ada Sutkus, fiber art, mosaics & watercolors.

Artists who were born in the United States will include: Rita Dagys, painter, composer & former president of the Board of Directors, Blank Center for the Arts; Rasa Sutkus, computer graphics, oil painting, watercolor; Indre Lukas, painting on glass; Julie Kasniunas, watercolor; Darius Bartkus, photography; Audi Ambrozaitis, painting, mixed media (actually born in Germany but raised in Los Angeles).

Three of the artists no longer living and whose work will be represented in this exhibition were born in Lithuania: Viktoras Petravicius, one of the most significant printmakers of the Lithuanian diaspora; Adolfas Valeska, stained glass; and Mikas Sileikis, oil painting, portraiture & landscapes.

The artistic gene as carried through two generations will be represented in this exhibition by two sets of mother/daughter participants: Maria Ambrozaitis and her daughter, Audi; and Ada Sutkus and her daughter, Rasa.

To various degrees, many of the artists represented in this show have pooled inspiration not only from Lithuanian imagery as in the strong folkloric motifs present in the work of Jurgis Daugvila and Janina Marks, but also from the natural geographic imagery of the Dunes themselves as in the landscape paintings of Mikas Sileikis and the watercolors of Julie Kasniunas.

One need only visit Lituanica Park in Beverly Shores to find evidence of the significant and permanent impact of Lithuanians and Lithuanian artists on the area. The park, designed by architect Erdvilas Masiulis, was named after the orange Ballanca single-engine airplane flown by pilots Steponas Darius and Stasys Girenas on their maiden transatlantic voyage from New York to Kaunas, Lithuania in 1933. Tragically, they crashed in a German forest on July 16th, less than four hours short of their destination. An iron sculpture by Juozas Bakis, representing the shattered remains of the airplane, stands in the park’s kidney-shaped pond.
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Visitors to Millennium Park on July 24 could not have asked for more perfect, pleasant and mild weather to drench themselves in Chicago’s showpiece attraction. The only downside was that portions of the park were closed to tourists for a VIP gala. Picture takers were out in force, and we were among them.

Changes made to the South Shore exit at Randolph lead directly to Michigan Avenue now. Immediately across the street, the Wrigley Square peristyle stands in view. Currently, photographer Uwe Ommer’s Family Album, featuring 110 photos, is on exhibit. The photographer traveled 160,000 miles in four years across five continents and met more than 1200 families during his album project. The four by five-foot portraits instruct and remind us about the diverse lifestyles among our global family. For example, a family in Japan was photographed in their home and all have their shoes removed. A French Gypsy King and his wife posed inside their caravan. In addition to the visual art exhibit, Wrigley Square will be featuring noontime music concerts, too. And no doubt the fountain at the peristyle will likely become another meeting spot tradition, just as has waiting under the Marshall Field clock.

Walking towards the Crown Fountain, we felt an immediate drop in temperature—the closer we came to the towering glass wall of falling water, the more noticeable the change in temperature. This would be an ideal place to cool off on a hot day. The plaza between the two fountains was filled with barefoot children, and a few barefoot adults. The interactivity of feet splashing and watching the faces blink and smile makes the Crown Fountain area a happy—and possibly hazardous place to linger. Hazardous, because a person might get a little wet if they are not watching what others around them are doing. Of course, every-

A family in Japan was photographed in their home and all have their shoes removed, as is custom.
Millennium Park  
by Paula McHugh

one standing around wanted to see the fountain effect—the stream of water pouring out of a huge-sized mouth. One could look at newspaper images of the Crown Fountain, but it is definitely not the same as witnessing the effect in person. Experience it in person, and you will understand what we mean.

Access to the Anish Kapoor Sculpture, which seems to be quickly picking up the nickname, “the bean sculpture,” was off-limits during this particular Saturday visit. The Pritzker Pavilion was off-limits too, but visitors could get glimpses of both from various vantage points that were not roped off. On the BP bridge east of the Pritzker Pavilion, we heard strains of Carmen coming from a practicing Chicago Symphony. And the curves of Gehry’s sculpture, we observed, lend a softness and a welcome compliment to the rectangular skyline.

With easy walking access from the South Shore at Randolph or at the Van Buren stations, make a visit to Millennium Park part of your to-do list.
On Sun., Aug. 15th, from 1-4 p.m., a reception will be held for June Krsek and John Krsek at 18 Artists Studio and Gallery, 540 Indian Boundary Rd., Chesterton. The artists are mother and son and the title of the show is “Earth and Other World Scenery.” The exhibit will be on display throughout the month of August.

June is a traditional artist, painting the things that she loves most and definitely planted on the earth, with family, flowers and animals. She studied drawing and perspective at Valparaiso University and has attended several work shops and classes. She is a board member of 18 Artist Gallery and her work hangs in private homes, schools and churches.

June works in watercolor, also does calligraphy and drawings of homes in ink. For this show she will exhibit watercolor painted on clayboard, a technique that allows the painting to be protected with a fixative and not need glass.

John’s work consists of a mixture of photography and computer altered imagery for the production of fantasy content. He has a graduate degree in computer science and bachelor degrees in both physics and chemistry and has been an ardent photographer since childhood. He has produced several computer graphics software programs used by dentists, plastic surgeons and jewelers. Artistically he has produced a variety of both still and animated media including a projected backdrop for Emerald City for the Indianapolis Civic Theatre and an animated midget race car for Stealth motor sports.

John’s exhibit will feature images consisting of both earthly and other worldly scenery. There are a number of large formal images of flowers produced using novel digital techniques. Also, there will be fun greeting cards that come with 3D glasses for true 3D viewing. For more information, phone 219/926-6306.
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Local Winner in National Competition

Marianne Olsaker’s winning entry in the Norwegian-style Knifemaking competition was held during Decorah’s (Iowa) Nordic Fest, July 23-24.

Olsaker won the ribbon with a knife that had a damascus blade and a birch-burl handle.

This juried exhibition also included competitions in rosemaling (Norwegian decorative painting), woodworking in the Norwegian tradition, and weaving in the Norwegian tradition. Some of the best practitioners of these traditional arts enter the exhibitions, which attract national attention.

Vesterheim Norwegian-American Museum embodies the living heritage of Norwegian immigrants to America. By sharing this cultural legacy, Vesterheim seeks to inspire people of all backgrounds to celebrate tradition.

Vesterheim has a main complex of 16 historic buildings in downtown Decorah, Iowa, a farmstead and country church about seven miles outside the city, and the Vesterheim Genealogical Center and Næsæth Library in Madison, Wisconsin. The museum houses over 24,000 artifacts and preserves living traditions through classes in Norwegian culture and folk art, annual special events, tours, and educational programs for children and adults.

For more information on the museum’s exhibits, activities and membership, log onto www.vesterheim.org
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Betsy Berry has spent a lifetime promoting civil rights causes and now, for her 85th birthday, a roomful of admirers gathered in Michigan City to celebrate the occasion. Chief among them were her children, who have given her the greatest joy and feeling of accomplishment.

Besides raising a family, Betsy Berry can look back on a lifetime of adventures. "The 60's were a very exciting time," she recalled, with special mention of the march in Selma, Alabama with the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King. Her husband Edwin Berry, who was director of the Chicago Urban League, did not want her coming along, but she talked him into it "because the ladies needed help preparing food. There were so many out-of-towners expected."

So Betsy Berry went to Selma, Alabama, to fry chicken -- the only problem being that she didn't know how to cut up a chicken. Her mother's family were all southerners, and when she was growing up, the cooking was usually done by the hired help. She learned how to deal with the chicken, but ended up being arrested with a group standing outside of Sheriff Clark's house. "How can you get arrested for frying chicken?" her husband wanted to know.

It was not the first time Betsy's patrician upbringing had stood in the way of what she wanted to do. Back in the 1940's, when she had joined the U.S. Navy, Betsy was told to "swab the deck. But I didn't know how to cut up a chicken -- the only problem being that she didn't know how to do it."

While serving in the Navy, she overheard a comment that made up her mind to become involved in civil rights. "A few of the WAVES were conversing, "she said, "and they were very agitated over the rumor that black women might be allowed into the service. They wondered what they were going to do. And I thought, now, isn't this ridiculous."

After completing her Navy service, Betsy graduated from Roosevelt University, and then met her husband-to-be while volunteering at the Chicago Urban League. Together they worked for equal rights, economically and educationally, for black people. Their special focus at that time was on the blacks coming up from southern states into the city. They made memorable acquaintances. Studs Terkel, who has been a friend since the 1960's, was acting in local theatre at the time; Quentin Young was their family doctor. Later, her husband hosted a talk show on WGN-TV -- "People to People." He was instrumental in the election of Mayor Harold Washington.

Edwin Berry died in 1987. The oldest of their five adopted children has also died; he was a judge in Detroit. The others all came to town for the 85th birthday party -- daughters Westina Matthews, who works for Merrill Lynch in New York and Melanie Berry, who is in the Junior League's national office in New Jersey; and sons Joseph Berry and Charles Carter, both retired and living in the Chicago area. They gathered at her home in Kimball Woods, which is the first home Betsy has ever owned, and then they had dinner at Maxine's. Eight grandchildren were also there, and several neighbors.

"The party was fabulous," Betsy said, but now it is back to work. "So much has been accomplished, but there is still so much to do." And as long as she has the energy, she keeps on doing.

Today, Betsy Berry is a board member of the North Central Community Action Agency, an activist group that helps lower-income people with energy costs and other housing situations. She is also on the advisory board of the Michigan City Public Library, where she tutors English as a second language. She is a mentor in the "Hours to Ours" program at the Michigan City schools. She works with the Three Oaks Food Pantry. She volunteers at the Homeless Shelter. She is, in the words of one neighbor, "an inspiration to all of us."
Reach for the Stars at Indiana Dunes!

Head to the beach to learn about the stars. Aug. 8-13 will be a week full of astronomy based programs at Indiana Dunes State Park. A naturalist will be at the pavilion at 11 a.m. on Sun., Aug. 8 to talk about UV rays, and hand out eads that change color in the sunlight. Find her and take some of the magic beads home. At 1 p.m. that afternoon, meet in the Nature Center Auditorium to discover moon folklore during the “13 Moons” talk.

Create an astronomy craft on the Nature Center deck at 1 p.m. on Tues., Aug. 10 and Wed., Aug. 11. These crafts are designed for a wide range of ages, so take the whole family.

Join the Calumet Astronomical Society from 8-11 p.m. on a night of stargazing on Wed., Aug. 11. Meet at the Pavilion on the beach to view the Perseid meteor shower. Take blankets or chairs to sit on, snack to munch, and prepare to be astounded by the night sky. Remember the beach closes at 6 p.m., so there will be no swimming.

On Thurs., Aug. 12, you are invited to gather at 2 p.m. on the Nature Center’s deck for another astounding astronomy craft. On Fri., Aug. 13, Astro-Bingo makes its long awaited return to the Nature Center at 3 p.m. Take the whole family to play an astronomy version of this favorite game.

There are no fees for these programs. Children 14 and under must be accompanied by an adult. There is an entrance fee of $4 for in-state vehicles and $8 for out-of-state vehicles to enter Indiana Dunes State Park. For more information, phone 219/926-1390.

Final Firefly Festival Concert

The Grammy Award-winning group, BeauSoleil avec Michael Doucet will close the 2004 Firefly season on Sat., Aug. 7th. Gates open at 5 p.m., the concert begins at 8 p.m.

Dubbed the “best Cajun band in the world” by Garrison Keillor, BeauSoleil has performed in concert halls around the world, including Carnegie Hall. Their performance at the Grammy Awards received rave reviews and Doucet’s song “Zydeco Gris-Gris” was featured in the best-selling soundtrack to the movie The Big Easy starring Dennis Quaid. This high-spirited group is sure to bring the audience to their feet.

Firefly Festival concerts are held at the outdoor stage at St. Patrick’s County Park, near the Indiana/Michigan state line in South Bend, IN. The park charges a $3 parking fee at the gate. Bring blankets or chairs for hillside seating. Concession stands will be open.

Tickets are $15 in advance or $20 at the gate. Youth ages 6-16 tickets are $5. Phone 574/288-3478 or email firefly@fireflyfestival.com or log onto www.fireflyfestival.com

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More Tactics for the Kitchen

Smashing garlic: If you have a large amount of garlic to chop, peel the cloves and place them in a resealable freezer bag. Then, with the smooth side of a meat mallet, lightly pound the cloves until they're chopped.

Need citrus zest? Always peel the rind off citrus before juicing or using the fruit, then store the rind in a resealable plastic bag in the refrigerator. You'll always have zest on hand for recipes even if you don't have the fruit itself. (Once you have that zest, treasure 1 teaspoon for the recipe below. Yum.)

Oyster dressing isn't always happily accepted. I read somewhere that one hostess put the oysters through the food processor until they were liquefied, then the taste is more evenly distributed and even the people who dislike oysters loved the dressing. I'm going to try it.

The best way to store Parmesan. Unlike soft- er cheeses, Parmesan does not spoil quickly - it can, however, dry out. To maintain moisture, divide the Parmesan into wedges, wrapping each one (rind attached) in wax paper, then foil and place chunks on the bottom shelf of the refrigerator. Check the cheese periodically. If you notice the golden color fading to white, wrap it in damp cheesecloth, cover it with foil and put back in the refrigerator overnight. Then remove the damp cloth and rewrap in wax paper and foil.

The secret to keeping a fruit pie crust from getting soggy is egg white. The proteins bond together and form a wall that prevents the filing's juices from seeping into the crust. Lightly beat an egg white, then brush it over the inside of the uncooked shell before baking. The coating will set as the pie bakes and keep your dessert crisp.

The best way to dry herbs such as thyme, rosemary, sage and oregano: Wait for a dry day (avoid humid- ity) or work in a room that is warm, dark and dry. Cut next, long sprigs of the herbs and lay them flat, in the same direction, on a large screen or drying rack and dry out. To maintain moisture, divide the herbs and place them in a resealable plastic bag in the refrigerator. You'll always have zest on hand for recipes even if you don't have the fruit itself. (Once you have that zest, treasure 1 teaspoon for the recipe below. Yum.)

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Ah, sweet onions. Here's how to handle them, according to the magazine Cooking Light. Keep them cool, dry and separate from each other. Try these options. Wrap each onion individually in foil and refrigerate. They will last up to a year this way. Wow! A year? Pantyhose are handy subs if you don't have mesh bags. Place the onions in legs of pantyhose, tying a knot between each onion to keep them from touching. Store the onions in a cool, dry place.

Big one: Change smoke alarm batteries annually - doing it, early fall, when the time changes is a good reminder.
Do you love coffee as much as I do? I am torn between two brands – one is served by Brewster’s in New Buffalo and can also be bought by the pound. The other is Intelligentsia from the Harbor Muse this side of New Buffalo on Route 12. Over the years, I’ve learned that coffee beans stored at room temp, particularly in a rubber-ring-sealed lid, is of the best flavor. Also, that a couple weeks supply is just right for room temp - any longer, it should be frozen.

Take one teaspoon of your frozen orange zest for this superb chicken recipe:

**ASIAN STYLE ORANGE CHICKEN**

2 T soy sauce  
2 T brown sugar  
2 T thawed orange juice concentrate  
2 garlic cloves, minced  
1 tsp finely grated orange zest  
1 tsp minced fresh ginger  
1 tsp salt  
1/2 tsp pepper

Preheat oven to 500 degrees. In bowl, mix all of the above together, then add the four bone-in chicken breast halves, with skin. (I marinated same for a couple hours, but they don’t tell you to.) Transfer the chicken to a baking dish, skin side up.

Roast in center of oven for 25 minutes, basting with the sauce several times, until the chicken is just cooked through and nicely glazed. Turn on the broiler and broil the chicken until browned, about two minutes.

Happy tactics, Beacher cooks.
The Old School Community Center

879-3845

2501 Oriole Trail, Long Beach

The Beach Garden Club is sponsoring a Garden Tool Drive for International Friendship Gardens on Aug. 21st from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. here at the Community Center. It’s a great opportunity to help out by contributing a used tool in good condition or purchasing a new one. Your donation will be greatly appreciated and is tax deductible. There are “wish list” flyers available on our information table located directly inside the front doors of the center. They hope to receive the obvious items such as rakes, shovels, gardening gloves, sprinklers and lawn mowers, however, they are also in need of a gas generator, chain saw, wood benches, a refrigerator and much more. Please take the time to add an item to your shopping cart or glance around the garage and see what treasures you are no longer using that could make a difference to the volunteers at Friendship Gardens.

Mary Chandler, our resident dance instructor, will be back on Aug. 11th to begin a new 6-week series in Ballroom Dance. She has taught several classes here with rave reviews. Her beginning students have enjoyed their experience so much that they prompted her to teach intermediate and advanced lessons. If you have ever thought about taking ballroom dance classes, it’s the perfect time to follow through. Look for more details on dates and times next week.

The Long Beach Fitness Center plans to offer aerobic and toning classes here this fall. We are pleased to provide the extra space needed to facilitate classes and are currently negotiating a lease. We will keep you posted on details as they unfold. For membership information, phone 879-1395.

PNC Real Estate Licensing Courses

Purdue University North Central Office of Continuing Education will again feature the Real Estate Licensing for Salespersons course this fall. Instructor Tim McColly, a licensed real estate broker, will prepare students to take the Indiana Real Estate Licensing Examination and become a licensed real estate salesperson.

Students may enroll in one of two sessions offered. The first session meets Tues. and Thurs., Aug. 17 through Oct. 14, from 6 to 9 p.m. The second session meets Sat., Oct. 16 through Dec. 18, from 9 a.m. through 4 p.m. with an hour break for lunch. The fee is $369 and textbook is included.

Information about these or other courses is available through PNC’s Office of Continuing Education, (219) 872-0527, ext. 5343, or at www.pnc.edu/ce. Persons with disabilities requiring accommodations should contact ext. 5343.
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Long Beach

$2,125,000
Just listed, this 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath all brick home sits on 80 feet of the largest beach in the area. The water's edge is over 350 feet from your back door. For added enjoyment, there are two fireplaces and a 552 square foot deck overlooking the beach and lakefront. The walk-out lower level offers a family room, bar area and a second kitchen and dining area to enjoy the beach to its fullest. Properties like this don't come on the market very often.
Water Safety Stressed By Corps of Engineers
by William F. Keefe

The rain in May fell mostly to help boaters play. That's the word from the U.S. Corps of Engineers, which has issued a July report indicating that “May 2004 brought record rainfall to much of the Great Lakes basin.” Adds the CoE: “An unusually stagnant weather pattern that persisted across the midde of the . . . basin set up the record-setting conditions.”

Elements of the “stagnant pattern” were “several weak cold fronts” that encountered and were enhanced by “warm, muggy, unstable air from the south.”

With the Lake Michigan-Huron basin absorbing most of the May rainfall, precipitation records in the region fell on a wide front. As good news for owners of pleasure craft, “The heavy rains. . . have had a significant effect on Great Lakes water levels,” with CoE Station Detroit reporting a rise of 8.46 inches and Muskegon, Michigan seeing a lake rise of 9.59 inches.

As a kind of corollary to the positive news, the Corps of Engineers cautioned that both boaters and beachgoers should “Remember safety first at the lakeshore.”

In particular, the CoE bulletin said, navigation structures such as piers, jetties, and breakwaters were designed to “tame wave action,” not for use as recreational structures. In periods of high seas and strong winds, “Surfaces can become wet and slippery,” and “unseen hazards are just below the water surface.”

In addition to broken concrete and stone weighing up to 40 tons, the hazards include powerful currents that often flow around the structures. Such factors make these areas “particularly dangerous for swimming. Swimmers risk hitting rocks or getting thrown against them by strong waves.”

**Rip Currents Equally Hazardous**

Warning that rip currents are “another hidden danger” along Great Lakes shorelines, the CoE notes that such currents form during periods of high surf conditions “when waves break near the shore, piling up water near the beach.” Depending on the under-
water topography, a sandbar or other off-shore obstruction may prevent the piled-up water from immediately returning to the lake.

“When enough water has piled up, the water will force itself back out to the lake by forming a river-like current of water moving strongly away from the shore.”

Like the U.S. Lifesaving Association, the U.S. Coast Guard, and other organizations, the Corps of Engineers has specific recommendations for persons who find themselves caught in a rip current. “If this happens to you, it’s important to relax and not panic,” says the CoE.

To escape the current, “do NOT fight it by trying to swim to shore. Instead, swim parallel to shore until you are no longer caught in the current.” Then you can swim to shore safely.

The Corps adds that many people drown while trying to save others caught in rip currents. “It is safest to throw the... victim something that floats and shout directions to the person on how to escape the current.”

Rip currents, according to Coast Guard officials, were responsible for nearly all of the seven deaths that occurred July 4, 2003 on Harbor Country beaches. The deaths were reported within a few hours and all took place while red warning flags were in plain view.

Similar risk-taking has been reported on Michigan City beaches on “swimming days” over the past few weeks, according to police reports.
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PNC New Student Orientation Aug. 21st

“GET 2 KNOW U” is the theme for Purdue University North Central’s New Student Orientation, on Sat., Aug. 21, from 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m. at the PNC campus.

The orientation session will give new students an opportunity to become more knowledgeable about the PNC campus and college life. This event is intended for all students who will begin classes at the campus this fall, along with their families and friends.

“New student orientation is designed to be a fun way for students to familiarize themselves with their new campus, mingle with faculty, and learn more about the many educational opportunities and extra-curricular activities that Purdue North Central has to offer,” said Gary Demski, director of student activities and orientation co-chairperson.

The day will be fun, casual and informative. A continental breakfast will be served.

Students and parents will follow a “Purdue Program” which will guide them to informational sessions, and computer lab orientations. They will have an opportunity to visit information tents for academic sections and student organizations. Faculty members as well as student organization representatives will be available to talk with students and their families. Students are encouraged to ask questions, get to know the key people on campus and become familiar with the PNC buildings and classrooms, so they can ease their transition as PNC students.

The event is free, but registration is requested. For more information phone (219) 872-0527, ext. 5660. Persons with disabilities requiring accommodations should contact ext. 5660.

PNC Golf Course for Adults and Children

Purdue University North Central Office of Continuing Education will offer classes for golfers of all ages in August. Golfers may choose from a session of *Beginning Golf* that meets Tuesdays, Aug. 24 through Sept. 28, from 6-7 p.m., or a class that meets Thursdays, Aug. 26 through Sept. 30, from 7-8 p.m.

PNC will offer a new golf class for adults and children so they can learn the basics of golf together. Golfers may choose from two class sessions for this course as well. The first session meets on Tuesdays, Aug. 24-Sept. 28, from 7-8 p.m. Another session is offered on Thursdays, Aug. 26-Sept. 30, from 6-7 p.m.

All sessions will meet at The Clubhouse in Michigan City. Golf pro Don Butler will teach etiquette, rules, proper stance, grip and swing fundamentals. Golf balls and clubs are provided or participants may bring their own. The course fee is $109. Class size is limited to 8 students.

To register, phone 872-0527, ext. 5343 or log onto www.pnc.edu

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LBCC 18-Hole Women Golfer’s Guest Day “Let’s Have a Picnic”

Putting Contest Marshall Kevin Crepeau with finalists Sue Luegers, Hope Christmann, Mary Lou Sheedy and Fran Lysaught.

Winning baskets of goodies is the first place team of Susan Kelley, Marian Burns, Kathy Kenefick and Nancy Prior.

Guests in the third place winning foursome Joey Eastmann and Lolita Didrickson.


Guests in the second place winning foursome Char Madden and Donna Mulchrone.

Hole 16 closest-to-the-pin winner Kathy Osborne.

Cynthia Levy won the long drive for a member on Hole 1.

Kris Lowes, winner of the long-drive for guests on Hole 17.

Mary Ann Johnson collected her basket as the closest-to-the-pin winner on Hole 5.
“Let’s Have a Picnic”

“Let’s Have a Picnic” was the theme of the Long Beach Country Club 18-Hole Women Golfer’s Guest Day held on July 19-20.

It is now a tradition at LBCC guest days to hold a pre-party the night before golf, and this year, golfers and their guests enjoyed a Monday evening picnic with all of the trimmings at the home of Missy Grams. Grams’ yard was a picture out of Midwest Living magazine, featuring round tables with white linen tablecloths and beautiful floral centerpieces. The serving tables were covered in gingham, and tiki torches stationed throughout the lush backyard helped set the tone.

Following dinner, all golfers gathered on the 10th green, adjacent to Grams’ yard, for a putting contest. The competition was marshalled by Kevin Crepeau. Four finalists emerged from the first level and went on to challenge each other on the 13th green. Guest Mary Lou Sheedy took home the top honors.

Tuesday morning a gourmet continental breakfast was held in the clubhouse dining room, and after golfers received their goody bags, pictures were taken of each foursome. PGA professional Brian Godfrey explained the format of the day and the various events that would be taking place on the course, and it was on to a beautiful day of golf.

After golf, members and guests gathered under the tent on the club patio for a picnic luncheon with tables covered in red and white gingham. A picnic would not be complete without ants, and guest day co-chairs Missy Grams and Nancy Neil made sure there were plenty of the little creatures. Golfers encountered ants on the fabric that covered the red tee box markers on the golf course, as well as the beautiful centerpieces at lunch. The spectacular centerpieces on each luncheon table featured large vases of daisies and six-inch wrought-iron ants that sat on a golfing green, complete with a sand bunker and miniature golf ball.

The luncheon picnic menu, created by Executive Chef Jim Galligan, featured a grilled vegetable platter with crustini, picnic BBQ chicken, jicama slaw, hot chips with blue cheese, and a summer sundae for dessert. This mouth-watering dessert with dips of both mango and raspberry sorbet, vanilla ice cream, fresh blueberries, pecans and carmel sauce is from Grams’ recipe collection.

Prior to lunch, prizes were awarded to the following foursome winners of the two-person net best ball event. First place went to Kathy Kenefick, Nancy Prior, Susan Kelley and Marian Burns with a score of 122. 2nd place winners with a 124 were Mary Sheridan, Char Madden, Gloria Caine and Donna Mulchrone. Taking home 3rd place were Janet Plecki, Lolita Didrickson, Linda Wilson and Joey Eastman with a score of 127.

There was no rain on the day of this picnic! Hats off to Grams and Neil for their style, elegance and attention to detail for the 2004 Invitational.

—submitted by Marci Meyer
The CyberScribbles
by Paula McHugh


Travel with A-1 photography, music, beauty, and office fun. What more could you want from a leisurely spin around the Web?

Notes From the Road. If more personal home pages were to take a cue from Erik Gaugher, most of our surfing experiences would be sheer delight. The Minnetonka, Minnesota native is a traveler, a photographer, and a genius at designing a website that is a joy to see and to read. Notesfromtheroad.com is Gaugher's personal project in experimental travel writing. But do not expect the usual brand of travel writing, because Gaugher captures a true sense of place in the regions he has visited. When you first log on to his website, the beauty of his photographic images will overcome you. He carries around 40 pounds of equipment—uses a large format camera—and shoots as well as any of the expert National Geographic photographers. Plus, Gaugher is an excellent writer. He spells words correctly, too—and any seasoned web surfer knows how rare that is! Notes From the Road has won tons of awards, well deserved. His readers, he says, are National Geographic photographers, ecologists, politicians, authors and painters. Gaugher has designed a website so visually appealing, so interesting to read, that the rest of us might do well to take a cue from him and improve our own personal pages. Yes, his website is that good. (And no, I do not get any kickbacks for saying that).

Windows Symphony. This may be my first and only review of music in a CyberScribbles column, but I had to mention it. You may or may not know that you can fiddle around with your Windows sounds (sorry, Mac users), but no one I know of has taken that as far as the guy who created Windows Symphony (geocities.com/clownstaples/swf/winnoise.html). The composer has taken short clips of chord.wav, ding.wav, chimes.wav, and the "Microsoft sound" and has mixed them together to present a very pleasant little composition. While you are listening to the, um, pleasant noise, you watch screenshots of the chord, ding, chimes, and the "Microsoft sound" and has mixed them together to present a very pleasant little composition. The Flash presentation lets you see how the composer created his symphony. The first thing that will go through your mind is that "this guy has too much time on his hands." Yet he obviously knows what he is doing, and the result is extremely creative. Log on, lend your ears, and marvel at the ingenuity.

Makeup411. I feel like I am taking a huge step down after reviewing the two websites above. Teenage girls will probably like this website, if they have not already discovered it. They can find out exactly what brands and blends of cosmetics a particular movie star wore in a movie in case they wanted to emulate that particular look. Product reviews and giveaways are...
another feature of this website. So, if you want to know the no longer secret of a celebrity’s makeup palette, this is the website for you. Makeup411.com.

**Instant Bureaucracy.** This page of silliness lets you download a choice of government-sounding forms for spoofing friends. Among the choices are the Acquaintance Termination Form, Personal Favor Form, and Verbal Communication Request. Just take care if you plan to do more than just read them for a laugh. If you actually print and use the Acquaintance Termination Form for example, be prepared for any untoward consequences. Find it at chickenhead.com/features/instant/index.asp.

Send your questions, comments, and/or pet peeves to cyberscribbles101@yahoo.com. Read Cyberscribbles online (with instant links) at geocities.com/cyberscribbles101/index.html.

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**Shake ’n Chill at TGIF**

The Shake ’n Chill Blues Band will be featured at TGIF: Music in the Gardens, taking place from 5-8:30 p.m. on Fri., Aug. 6th., at the Northern Indiana Center for History, 808 W. Washington St., South Bend. Admission is $5.

First-floor tours of the Oliver Mansion will be offered that evening from 5-7:30 p.m. for $5.

The Shake ’n Chill Blues Band is quickly becoming a favorite at clubs and festivals in northern Indiana. The band plays a mix of blues classics and originals. Shake ’n Chill has just released their first CD, “Down to Money,” which features the song writing, guitar and vocals of Rob Hutt, masterful harmonica-playing by Freddy Gabriel, and the solid rhythm of Brian Reedstrom on piano, Tony Weaver on bass and Mark Schmid on drums.

Rob Hutt, new to the northern Indiana music scene, is a veteran player from the Washington D.C. area where he was with such acts as the Johnny Seaton Band, which performed regularly in the D.C., Philadelphia and New York City areas. Rob also worked with guitar legend Danny Gatton, playing several shows in the D.C. and Baltimore areas. Other credits include working with the variety band, Fast Break, which did U.S.O. tours of Europe and the Caribbean.

The lush grounds of Copshaholm provide a perfect setting for TGIF: Music in the Gardens. Copshaholm is the 1896 home built for industrialist J.D. Oliver and his family. The mansion’s surrounding 2-1/2 acres of gardens, in full bloom at this time of year, offer a fragrant backdrop to the evening of music.

Guests are invited to bring lawn chairs or blankets. Food and beverage will be sold. No carry-in foods or beverages are permitted. The event will be held rain or shine.

For more information, phone 574/235-9664 or log onto www.centerforhistory.org.
LaPorte Little Theatre Auditions

“Footloose” will be the opening production for LaPorte Little Theatre’s 80th season. The cast includes 15-20 high school age students and 8 adults 40ish or older. Everyone sings and most dance.

Auditions will be held Aug. 7th, 9 a.m.-noon; Aug. 8th 1-4 p.m.; and Aug. 9, 6-8 p.m. at the playhouse, corner of A and 3rd St. in LaPorte. (You only need to attend one of the auditions).

 Actors should be prepared to sing, dance and read. An accompanist will be there as well as a choreographer to teach a few simple dance steps. Nothing needs to be prepared as the directors will tell you what they want you to do. Phone Pam Barber Steele, codirector, if you have any questions. 219/608-4101 or 219/362-5462.

Gardening Club at Deep River Park

The Lake County Park Department’s Gardening Club will meet on Tues., Aug. 10, at 6:30 p.m. in the Visitor Center at Deep River County Park.

Members will learn about gardening in our region from the Department’s Horticulturist, Bryan McKay. Bring your questions, your gardening problems and your concerns. Adults interested in any aspect of gardening or lawn care are invited to attend.

This is a free program. There are no dues or obligations to belong to this club. Deep River County Park is located off US 30 between Valparaiso and Merrillville. Take US 30 west past the Deep River Water Park to the next signal light; turn right and follow signs to the County Park. For more information, phone 219/947-1958.

Lake Co. Park Dept. Photography Club

The Lake County Park Department’s Photography Club will meet on Wed., Aug. 11, at 7 p.m. in the Visitor Center at Deep River County Park.

Adults interested in photography are invited to attend. Attending a meeting makes you a member. There are no dues or obligations to attend. Members learn about contests, exhibitions and seminars. They schedule outings and enjoy showing their photos and slides at meetings and receive a monthly newsletter.

Topic for the meeting is to show photos and slides of Weather.

Deep River County Park is located off US 30 between Valparaiso and Merrillville. Take US 30 west past Deep River Water Park to the next signal light. Turn right and follow the signs.

Rendezvous with French Cinema

As part of the Provence in LaPorte County program, the Michigan City Public Library will be showing the film “Sunday in the Country.” The screening will take place Thurs., Aug. 5 at 7 p.m. It is free and open to the public.
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Summer Chess Tournaments
Summer Chess Tournaments will be held at LaPorte County Public Library on Fri., Aug. 13, in the Large Meeting Room. Grades 4-6 should meet at 11 a.m., followed by grades K-3 at 2 p.m., and 7th grade and up at 4 p.m. Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd & 3rd place in each round.

There is no charge, but registration is necessary by phoning 219/362-7128. The LaPorte County Public Library is located at 904 Indiana Ave., in downtown LaPorte.

Shirley Heinze Educational Hike
The Shirley Heinze Land Trust continues its 19th annual series of educational hikes and outings. The Heinze Land Trust is dedicated to preserving natural areas for future generations and to educating the public about the unique ecology of the dunes. Outings are planned to be a pleasure as well as an education about some facet of our natural heritage in Northwest Indiana and surrounding areas.

On Sat., Aug. 7th, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., venture into Illinois to visit the largest and finest black soil prairie in the state, Wolf Road Prairie. Valerie Spale, Executive Director of Save the Prairie Society, will lead the tour of the prairie and savanna and Prairie House, a 19th century farmhouse containing the structure of a 1852 Lutheran schoolhouse.

The cost of the hike is $20. Contact the Shirley Heinze Land Trust Office at 879-4725 to sign up and to obtain details and directions.

Gaia Invitational Fine Arts Fair
Gaia Gallery, a cooperative gallery featuring area artists, will hold a Gaia Invitational Fine Arts Fair on Sat., Aug. 7, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. (MI time). This art fair is open to the public and features fine paintings, prints, photography and jewelry.

Many artists have already signed up, including renown painter Brian Justice who last exhibited at the Lincoln Park Cultural Center’s Summer Art Faire.

Gaia Gallery is located in the Shaker Cottage Complex, 19135 W. U.S. 12, New Buffalo, MI.

“Frontier Music”
This free program will be held at the LaPorte County Public Library, 904 Indiana Ave., LaPorte, on Mon., Aug. 9, 6 p.m. There is no cost or registration.

Mark and Liza Woolever will lead participants in songs and dances of the frontier period. There will also be a chance to play some unusual instruments. All ages are welcome.

For more information, phone the library at 219/362-7128. For signing for the hearing impaired, phone 219/362-6156 two days in advance of the program.

Summer Chess Tournaments
Summer Chess Tournaments will be held at LaPorte County Public Library on Fri., Aug. 13, in the Large Meeting Room. Grades 4-6 should meet at 11 a.m., followed by grades K-3 at 2 p.m., and 7th grade and up at 4 p.m. Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd & 3rd place in each round.

There is no charge, but registration is necessary by phoning 219/362-7128. The LaPorte County Public Library is located at 904 Indiana Ave., in downtown LaPorte.
Current Displays at Historical Museum

The following displays are currently on exhibit at the LaPorte County Historical Society Museum, located in the County Complex in downtown LaPorte. Museum hours are Tues.-Sat., 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Admission is free; donations are welcome. For more information, phone 873-7014, ext. 276 or log onto www.lapcohistsoc.org

By Water’s Edge: Summer Past on LaPorte County’s Lakes

This exhibit of vintage photographs shows LaPorte County residents from the late 19th century through the 1950s relaxing by the area’s many lakes. Images include show steamboats on the waters of Pine Lake, the concession stand in the Fox Park pavilion, the roller coaster at Washington Park in Michigan City, summer cottages in the Chautauqua-style Weller’s Grove on Stone Lake, and church picnic groups near the lakes.

Also in this display is a group of swimwear from the 1890s to the 1940s.

Beginning French: La Salle to La Porte

In conjunction with the Provence at Purdue North Central Festival, the museum is featuring a “petite” display explaining the French connections in the founding and naming of LaPorte. This exhibit tells about the famed explorer Robert LaSalle, as well as the fur trader Madore Cratee who bestowed upon LaPorte its elegant French name.

Page Turners Book Discussion Group

The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd will be discussed in the next Page Turners book discussion from noon-1 p.m. on Tues., Aug. 10, in the small meeting room at LaPorte County Public Library, 904 Indiana Ave., downtown LaPorte. Everyone is welcome; there is no charge or registration. Light refreshments appropriate to the book will be provided. Participants may bring a lunch if they wish.

The book is a best seller about a girl who ends up in the home of bee-keeping women as she tries to find out about her mother in South Carolina. Copies of the book to read ahead of time are available at the library in regular and large print and on audio tape.

Page Turners will meet next on Tues., Sept. 14 at noon to discuss The Whale Rider by Witi Ihimaera, the One Book, One Community selection for September. For more information, phone 219/362-6156.

Concert and Family Film in Chesterton

The Westchester Public Library’s free Concert and Family Film Series will continue this Fri., Aug. 6th at Thomas Centennial Park, downtown Chesterton.

The concert “Swing Trio With Vocalist” will be performed by the Uptown Trio at 7 p.m., and the family film, “Home on the Range” (rated PG) will be shown directly after the concert.
On July 15th, Catholic Charities sponsored a dinner at Bridges Waterfront Cafe on Pioneer Pier, 508 E. 2nd St., Michigan City. The dinner was followed by a sunset cruise on Lake Michigan from 6:30-9 p.m. The proceeds of the event will benefit the needs of the local communities.
August 5, 2004

Jeff and Judy Smith depart with their guests Kathy and Bill Corbett, Maggie Keane, Ed Cammire and Sheryl Klonoski on “Flapper” for the lake cruise.

Great weather and a perfect sunset made for a lovely trip to New Buffalo and back to Michigan City.

All good things must come to an end and Bill Wadlington relaxes on the back deck of “Breakaway” with daughter, Beth Foldesi, as the boat heads back to port.

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Garden of Beasts: A Novel of Berlin 1936 by Jeffery Deaver

Paul Schumann was on his way to work. Not a very auspicious beginning to our story, except for the fact that Paul is a “button man.” That’s street talk for a hit man. Apparently Paul is very good. He’s known for his systemic, careful, almost scientific approach to his job. But on this day in New York City in the year 1936, Paul is caught by some feds. He had been set up because the government had an assignment for him. It’s his choice: go to Germany and snuff out the man masterminding Hitler’s plans, or go to Sing-Sing.

The German-American Paul soon finds himself on a ship carrying the American athletes to the 1936 Summer Olympics. His cover is that of a freelance sports writer. He meets Jesse Owens and Ralph Metcalf on board. The two men are suspicious of Paul’s real reason for the trip to Germany, especially when they observe him sparring with another athlete in the gym.

Paul is a big man with a signature western-style hat that makes him stand out despite his flawless German. He meets up with his contact once on land who is forced to shoot and kill a Stormtrooper in Paul’s presence. Paul covers his tracks, so he thinks, and then finds himself walking the streets of Berlin, getting the lay of the land and wondering about this home of his ancestors and how twisted the politics have become.

Paul comes upon some Brownshirts kicking around a bookstore owner and his wife, destroying the shop and the books that are deemed unfit for good Germans to read. Temporarily forgetting where he’s at, Paul reacts to the bullies by beating them up. Not a smart thing to do in Nazi Germany, where everyone is spied upon and speakers spew out propaganda like an erupting volcano.

Now starts a two-way race for more than Olympic gold. A German homicide detective, Willi Kohl, is put on the case to find out who killed the Stormtrooper and finds a correlation between that and the Brownshirt beatings. Now it comes down to who will get the job done first? Will Paul complete his assignment before his cover is blown? Or will the German detective discover his identity first.

This story is so well written, it almost defies description. Black and white news reel footage of World War II crossed my mind as I read with increasing fear and trepidation for Paul. Sure, he’s a paid assassin, but he’s an American in Nazi Germany, too. Paul is the consummate anti-hero. You know he’s in the wrong business, but you’re on his side all the way.

Author Deaver has woven an exciting story within one of the world’s most shameful periods. I was feeling kind of sheepish about all the chick lit I have been reading lately, but this one will more than make up to all the lovers of wartime drama.

Till next time, happy reading!
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Activities to Explore

In the Local Area:


August 5 — Rendezvous with French Cinema: “Sunday in the Country.” 7 pm at the Michigan City Public Library. Free & open to the public.

August 5 — MC Municipal Band Concerts. 8 pm at the Guy Foreman Amphitheater in Washington Park. Free. Benches avail. or bring chairs or blankets.

August 5-11 — “Fahrenheit 9/11.” Rated R. Thurs. & Fri., 6:15 & 9 pm; Sat. & Sun. 3:30 & 6:15 & 9 pm; Mon & Tues 6:15 & 9 pm (EST); Wed TBA. Vickers Theatre, 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, MI. 269/756-3522 or www.vicketrthestheatre.com

August 6 — “Swing Shift.” Performing “From Tin Pan Alley to Broadway.” 8 pm. See story this issue. Tix $15; reservations 269/756-3879 or at the door. The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Dr., Three Oaks.

August 6-7 — Farmer’s Market at the Schoolhouse Shop, Furnessville. 10 am-4 pm.


August 7 — The Defiant Thomas Brothers in concert. Improv artists with a political edge; irreverent, but not offensive. The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Dr., Three Oaks, MI. Tix $15 at the door or phone 269/756-3879 or phone 269/469-5409 or log onto www.threeoaks.org.

August 7 — Shirley Heinze Educational Hike. 10 am-1 pm. A visit to Wolf Road Prairie in Illinois. Cost of the hike is $20. Phone 879-4725 to sign up.

August 7 — Gaia Invitational Fine Arts Fair. 11 am-6 pm (MI time). Held at Gaia Gallery, located in the Shaker Complex, 19135 W. US 12, New Buffalo, MI.


August 8 — Open air market in Beachwalk's Village
August 5, 2004

Square. Vegetables, fruit, artwork, etc. Stop 7, Sheridan Beach, Michigan City. Info: 879-7874.

August 8 — Opening reception for “Lithuanian Artists of the Dunes.” The Depot of Beverly Shores. 1-4 pm. The exhibition will run through Aug. 29.

August 9 — Lubeznik Center for the Arts Guild meeting. 9:30 am at the Beverly Shores Community House. Auxiliary parking at the Beverly Shores’ Depot. “The Calumet Duo” of Phyllis Blythe and Nancy Cairnes will perform. No fee for the program; guests are invited to attend. Museum Shop merchandise will be available. Info: 874-4900.

August 9 — Noon Organ Recitals at the First Congregational Church, 6th & Washington streets, Michigan City. Lasts approx. 45 min. Free & open to the public. Various organists will be participating.


August 10 - Page Turners Book discussion group at the LaPorte Public Library, 904 Indiana Ave., LaPorte. Noon-1 pm. The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd will be discussed. No charge or registration nec. Refreshments will be served; bring your lunch. Info: 219/362-6156.

Places to Visit:

- Barker Mansion, 631 Washington St., Michigan City. Adm. $4/adults, $2/kids 18 and under, free/kids under 3. Guided tours Mon-Fri 10 am, 11:30 am, 1 pm; Sat & Sun noon & 2 pm. 873-1520.
- 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.
- Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. 2nd St., Michigan City. Tues.-Fri., 10 am-4 pm; Sat. 10 am-2 pm. Phone 874-4900.
- 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.

Farther Afield:

August 7 — Firefly Festival presents BeauSoleil avec Michael Doucet. Zydeco music concert by the Grammy award-winning artists. Gates open 5 pm; show starts at 8 pm. Tix $15 in advance, $20 at the gate; $5 for youths 6-16. Held at St. Patrick’s County Park, 5-651 Laurel Rd., South Bend, near the Michigan/Indiana state line. See story this issue.
On August 5, 1833, Chicago, with a population of 200, was incorporated as a village.

On August 5, 1864, during the Civil War, Admiral David Farragut is said to have given his famous order, "Damn the torpedoes, full speed ahead!" The remark was made as he successfully led his Union fleet against Confederates forces defending Alabama's Mobile Bay.

On August 5, 1884, on Bedloe Island, visible to all ships who entered New York Harbor, the cornerstone was laid for the Statue of Liberty.

On August 5, 1885, the trans-Atlantic cable, connecting the United States and Europe, was completed.

On August 5, 1914, the first electric traffic lights were installed in Cleveland, Ohio.

On August 5, 1957, "American Bandstand," hosted by Dick Clark, made its network television debut on ABC.

On August 6, 1787, the "Constitutional Convention," meeting in Philadelphia, began debating the articles contained in a draft of the United States Constitution.

On August 6, 1926, New York's Gertrude Ederle became the first American woman to swim the English Channel. She accomplished the feat in 14 1/2 hours.

On August 7, 1782, George Washington created the Order of the Purple Heart, a decoration to recognize exceptional merit in the actions of enlisted men and non-commissioned officers.

On August 7, 1882, the famous feud between the Hatfields, of West Virginia; and the McCoys, of Eastern Kentucky, broke out. Hundreds would be killed or wounded before the struggle finally ended.

On August 7, 1927, the Peace Bridge, joining the United States and Canada, was dedicated. The ceremony was attended by Vice President Charles Dawes, and by Britain’s Prince of Wales.

On August 7, 1959, the Explorer-6 satellite transmitted man’s first view of Earth from space.


On August 8, 1673, the Dutch recaptured New York and New Jersey from the British.

On August 8, 1786, on Bedloe Island, visible to all ships who entered New York Harbor, the cornerstone was laid for the Statue of Liberty.

On August 8, 1815, Napoleon Bonaparte set sail for St. Helena, spending the remainder of his life in exile.
**On August 8, 1896**, Pulitzer prizewinning novelist Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings was born in Washington, D.C.

**On August 8, 1923**, Benny Goodman, at age 14, received his first professional job as a musician. He was hired as a clarinet player with a band on a Chicago excursion boat.

**On August 9, 1593**, English author Izaak Walton, who was best known for his classic writings on fishing, was born in Stafford.

**On August 9, 1631**, English poet and dramatist John Dryden, the dominating figure in the literary life of England during the “Restoration” (from 1660 to 1700), was born in Northhamptonshire.

**On August 9, 1842**, border disputes between the United States and Canada were settled with the signing of the “Webster-Ashburton Treaty.”

**On August 9, 1811**, the first American train to be powered by a steam locomotive made a run between Albany and Schenectady, New York.

**On August 9, 1884**, border disputes between the United States and Canada were settled with the signing of the “Webster-Ashburton Treaty.”

**On August 10, 1675**, England’s King Charles II ordered the construction of an astronomical observatory at Greenwich, the center from which the world’s time is regulated.

**On August 10, 1790**, the U.S.S. Columbia, under the command of Robert Gray, completed a voyage around the world; the first by a ship flying the American flag.

**On August 10, 1821**, Missouri became the 24th state to join the Union.

**On August 10, 1845**, the United States Naval Academy was established at Annapolis, Maryland.

**On August 10, 1846**, Congress chartered the Smithsonian Institution. Known as the “nation’s attic,” it was named for Joseph Smithson, whose bequest of $500,000 made it all possible.

**On August 10, 1874**, Herbert Hoover, 31st president of the United States, was born in West Branch, Iowa.

**On August 10, 1885**, America’s first commercially operated electric streetcar service, designed by Leo Daft, began operating in Baltimore.

**On August 10, 1949**, the United States War Department was renamed the Department of Defense.

**On August 10, 1976**, New York suffered millions of dollars in property damage as Hurricane Belle swept into the city.

**On August 11, 1851**, Isaac Singer obtained a patent for his sewing machine invention, and, with capital of $40, started in business in Boston.

**On August 11, 1860**, the first successful silver mill in the United States began operations near Virginia City, Nevada.

**On August 11, 1924**, newsreels, for the first time, filmed the nominees for United States president.
Against my better judgment, I made a business appointment for what turned out to be an absolutely splendid summer Sunday afternoon.

Natalie was disappointed because, it was a perfect afternoon for a long, leisurely bike ride around southern Berrien County.

My friend Jim Thomas was likewise, let down because he had been after me all summer to put in some quality Sunday afternoon time playing tennis.

But, no, I had to work.

And so off I went to my business appointment, and when I got there, the party who had made the date was nowhere to be found. I rang the doorbell at one entrance, pounded on another door, and called and called.

No response.

And then, in the sylvan silence of that golden summer afternoon, came the most angelic of sounds — the sonorous siren call of a genuine coal-burning steam locomotive.

It was more than a call from some mythical past that caught my attention that over-booked Sunday afternoon, it was a summons from the nearby Hesston Steam Museum to get myself right over there and sit back and take a relaxing 2.5-mile rail journey through meadows and farm fields, and deep into the woods on the very edge of Indiana.

I did, and was I ever happy that I did.

The CSK locomotive was awaiting passengers at Hesston Junction with two open-air carriages, and I gladly shelled out $5 for my mental health. With all due respect to the helpful field of psychology, I found that a $5 train ride was just what my over-booked psyche needed.

I bought a bag of popcorn for a buck and settled on a bench in the second car and relaxed.

No calls, no worries — nothing but pleasure as Engineer Mike Lagness moved all the way from Frankenmuth, Michigan to Sister Lakes, Michigan so he could be closer to Hesston.

The ride was absolutely restorative for me, and, yes, I did find time that afternoon to play three sets of tennis with my buddy Jim Thomas. He thrashed me, of course, but I didn’t care, because I had had all the hot air steamed out of me at Hesston.

And I know it was the same for those around me on the steam train that afternoon. Everyone had a good time and everyone talked about coming back for the annual Hesston Steam & Power Show on Labor Day Weekend, and on the last two weekends in October to ride the Halloween Ghost Train, and on the first two weekends in December to cruise through the snow-dappled woods aboard Santa’s Candy Cane Express.
I know I plan to be on hand at Hesston on Labor Day to interview the owner of the famous Hesston steamboat, one Jim Kincaide.

You may recall from the September 11, 2003 edition of *The Beacher* that I went last Labor Day in search of Mr. Kincaide and arrived just as he was being taken to the hospital for treatment of the cut he had received when he fell on his rain-slicked deck.

Mr. Kincaide, I was assured during my recent Sunday afternoon visit, is fully recovered and is planning on a full Labor Day Weekend's worth of steam ing about Duck Lake on lifeboat number 4 from the Great Lakes steamer *Alabama*.

But rather than waiting around for that story to appear, why not take mental health holiday any weekend between now and Labor Day at the Hesston Steam Museum. Passenger trains run between noon and 5 p.m. (CDT) every Saturday, Sunday and holiday from Memorial Day to Labor Day and on Sundays from Labor Day through October.

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“B” Flight

Low Gross: June Salmon
Low Net: Nancy Henry

“C” Flight

Low Gross: Laurie Wink
Low Net: Dorie Mertz
Low Putts: Bobbie Blank

Birdies: Eunie Nondorf #5, Sue Luegers #12, Ann Nicolosi #16, Missy Grams #5

Sunken Approaches: Missy Grams #13

FRIDAY, AUGUST 6

6:45-8:15 p.m. FOSSILS AMONG US. Stroll along Kemil Beach to find ancient fossils that tell a story of long ago. Learn of other Lake Michigan lake levels and find rocks with a geologic tale. The adventure concludes with a beautiful sunset over Chicago’s dramatic skyline. Meet at Kemil Beach parking lot.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7

7:30-8:30 p.m. THE SMOKEY BEAR STORY. Perhaps the most famous ranger in history, Smokey Bear has been a public figure for 60 years. Just who is (or was) Smokey, and how did he get involved in fire prevention? How would you like to meet him face-to-face? Join Smokey Bear around the campfire to hear how his message has changed over the years, and why it has special significance today at Indiana Dunes. Meet at National Lakeshore Campground Amphitheater.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 10

6:30-8:00 p.m. SUNSET SAUNTER: CENTRAL AVENUE BEACH. Learn of the forces that shaped the Indiana Dunes or watch the feeding frenzy of the tiny sand swallow. Search for fossils amidst the sand grains or admire the tenacity of duneland plants. Any of these adventures await you on this “anything goes” ranger-led hike. The fun concludes with a beautiful sunset over Lake Michigan. Meet at Central Avenue Beach in Beverly Shores.

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PAT'S TREE SERVICE  

WHAT'S NOT TO LOVE ABOUT A CONVERTIBLE?  
I'll put you in one today! VW Cabrio tomato red convertible. Great engine. Lots of fun. Great for college, beach, etc. A steal at $2,400 or best offer. Free test drive. - 219-874-0121.

THREE YEAR OLD BURGUNDY LEATHER SOFA  
Almost new - Barely used - Asking $225.00. - 219-874-2217.

YARD SALE - 3319 CALUMET TRAIL - DUNELAND BEACH  
Fri, 6/8 & Sat 8/7 - 8:30 ’til 3:30. Patio furn/20’s library table/Arts & Crafts, chair/other old & newer furniture. Gently used. Much misc., inc. TV/bedding/glassware/dishes/etc. -FOLLOW SIGNS.

USED BARNETT 1400 SAILBOAT  

COMMERCIAL - RENTALS/LEASE/SELL  
GOLDEN SANDES STORE AND LOCK  

OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE IN POPULAR HACIENDA BUILDING  
Sizes from 720 SF up to 1,750 SF.

FOR LEASE - Two Office Suites, approximately 900 and 1,500 square feet respectively, at 1411 S. Woodland Ave., Michigan City, IN. Modern, contemporary, energy efficient & ample drive up parking at the door.

Available now - Call 219/872-0318.

OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY - includes 6 work stations, conference room, reception area, phone system, networked & more. Corner location, main floor at 1715 Franklin Street, Michigan City, IN. - $750/mo. Call 219/879-8433.

RENTAL INDIANA  
HOUSE FOR RENT IN LONG BEACH  

LONG BEACH COZY 4/BR HOUSE AT TOP 15 (Across from Beach)  
Fireplace and Large Deck. No pets. Call 708/579-1745.

DUNESCAPE BEACH CLUB  
LAKEFRONT CONDOS -- 2 and 3 bedrooms.  
Summer Rentals - $1,400 to $2,000 per week.

One Month Minimum - DUNESCAPE REALTY - 219-872-0588.

SHERIDAN BEACH:  
111 Carolina - 3 BR, 2/BA, sleeps 10. 1-door to beach!  
200 Hilltop - 5/BR. Panoramic Views! - 1/2 Bath  
611 Cottage - 3/BR, 1.5/BA. Sleeps 6. On 1st floor!  
1004 LSD - 3-4/BR, 2/BA. Sleeps 8. Over Dune to Beach!  
1537B LSD - 3-4/BR, 2/BA Sleeps 8. Cross street to beach!  
4259 Hillside, Michigan, MI. 3/BR, 1/Bath furnished.  
Summer - $600/wk., year round $800/mo + utilities.  
LONG BEACH - 1/2 Shore Dr. (4/BR, 2.5/BA. Walk out lower deck to beach. Sleeps 8. Avail August.  
BOAT SLIP ON TRAIL CREEK, 50' - $1,500 for the season.  
Call Debbie Burke @ 219-872-4000.

MERRION & ASSOCIATES REALTORS  
- 219-872-4000, or toll free 1-866/496-1752 www.merrionandassoc.com

RENTAL - $875/Month - 3/Bedroom, 2/Bath Ranch. Eat-in-kitchen.  
Call MERRION & ASSOCIATES REALTORS - 219-872-4000

LONG BEACH HOUSE FOR RENT - Great location, very close to beach and park. 4/BR, 2/Bath. A/C. W/D. New kitchen w/DW. Deck w/BBQ. Cable TV. - Avail after 8/15/04 - Short/Long term. - Call 312/953-5570.
FLINT LAKE-VALPARAISO - Enchanting cottage named "Trollwood" by its creator in late '20s. Family owned & renovated. Cozy & charming on wooded hillside. Spacious living room w/fireplace. Country Kitchen. 1/BR. Glassed in study. Steps to the beach. Peaceful & inspirational. Ideal for special person(s) - possibly writer, artist, or loving couple. Only 1/ hr to Chicago. 10 Minutes to Valparaiso University. $630/month. -- Call 219/771-2779, or 210/398-0603.

CHARMING MICHIANA SHORES COTTAGE IN WOODED AREA A little over a block from great beach. Rustic charm with modern conveniences. 2-New baths and kitchen. Fireplace. Air/Cond. Beach Shower, BBQ. Dishwasher. 2 + Bdrms. Weeks avail. 6/26-7/7; 7/10-7/17; 7/24-7/31; 7/31-8/7; 8/7-14/82; 8/21-8/28. Call 773/935-1855 days, or 773/242-3656 evenings. F-2940


SHERIDAN BEACH - SPECTACULAR LAKE VIEWS. Large 3/BR, 2.5 Bath. Square footage term: $1,500/wk. Longterm $1,400/mo. - Call 630/852-5414.


DUNELAND BEACH - STOP 33 - SUMMER RENTAL 4/BR. Short walk to private beach. Cable. Local phone. Sleeps 12. Weeked rentals or longer. Avail thru Sept. Call 219/874-4660, or 219/861-7964 - Email: d.healy@comcast.net

STOP 26 RENTAL - 3/BR, 1 1/2 Bath - Hot Tub - Deck - Central Air. One minute walk to beach - Large parking area. Country Club - Golf - Tennis very close. - 219/879-3619.

APARTMENT FOR RENT Beautiful 2-floor unit. Lots of room with wood cabinetry, + trim, throughout. One block from St. Anthony Hospital. Garage & laundry included. $600/mo + utilities. - Call 773/238-4420.


GREAT YEAR-ROUND BEACH HOME & AREA 2/BR, 1 Block to beach. Off street parking. NO PETS. $580/mo. + Deposit & utilities. - 219-879-2155.

RENTALS MICHIGAN


MICHIGAN - GRAND BEACH - Lake front home, just 42 steps down to 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 $1,750/wk, or June & Sept. for $975/wk. Call 708/848-1025 for a viewing appointment.


5/BR, 4/BATH FURNISHED - Sleeps 14. Washer/dryer. 2 blocks from beach (3-5 min.) $1,500/wk. thru Labor Day. Also avail immediately for year round. $1,600/mo. + utilities. 269/469-0219, or 219/448-1638.

1/BR APARTMENTS - IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY. References and security deposit required. No Pets - No Smoking. Week days 269/469-0300; evenings & weekends 269/469-2943


FLORIDA RENTALS


REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

SPACIOUS CONVERTIBLE STUDIO, lake view, hardwood floors, pool, health club, parking, grocery, restaurant, observation room, best of all in the heart of the Magnificent Mile. 260 E. Chestnut. - 219/879-3454.

VILLAGE OF GRAND BEACH, 50211 Hicks Ave. Phone 269-469-6676 in the heart of the Magnificent Mile. 260 E. Chestnut. - 219/879-3454.

MICHIANA SHORES - 3BR, 2 1/2 Bath. 2 blocks from beach. Cable. Local phone. Screened porch. Laundry. $400/wk. 2 Blocks from beach. Also available for year round. $1,600/mo. + utilities. 269/469-0219, or 219/448-1638.


MICHIANA SHORES - 3BR, 2 1/2 Bath. 2-car garage. Large deck. Screened porch. 3 Lots. $425,000. Call 773/575-9780.

LONG BEACH - HOUSE FOR SALE - $300,000. Recently Remodeled. Must See to Appreciate. - 219/879-0628.
HIGH QUALITY COMFORT IN AN EXQUISITE SETTING!

FROM THE HARDWOOD OAK FLOORS in the Great Room and formal dining room to the marble in the master bathroom, this beautiful home in Long Beach Cove speaks of quality throughout. Situated on a .95 acre double lot at the base of one of Lake Claire’s fingertip waterways, the views from every window are peaceful and breathtaking. This 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath home has 2 main floor bedroom suites, a spacious family room with cathedral ceilings and skylites, and a Great Room with 11’ windows to the water and a floor-to-ceiling slate fireplace and chimney. There are too many features to present here; call Ed Merrion for your color brochure.

$880,000

LOOK FOR US ON THE INTERNET! • www.merrionandassoc.com

Debbie Burke, GRI, ABR
Liv Markle, CRS, GRI
Jim McGah, Broker Associate
Fran Merrion, GRI, ABR
John Hayes, GRI, ABR

Julie Gring
Bill Moldenhauer
Michele Meden, ABR
Dave Walsh

Ed Merrion, CRS, GRI
Jim Laughlin
Jerry Lambert
Jeff Meyer
Trisha Meyer

Debbie Mengel
Pat Elliott
Joan Brown
Heather Melnyk
SUMMER TIME SIZZLES AS VALUES SOAR!!!

WHY PAY TOP DOLLAR AND THEN HAVE TO FIX-UP? The price is reduced on this totally new cottage located just 2 blocks from the lake at Stop 19! Just about everything but the foundation & the framing has been replaced: roof, windows, floors, furnace, AC, plumbing, kitchen, baths, septic... With 5 bedrooms & 2 full baths, there’s plenty of room for everyone! Call Ed Merrion today! $399,900

ROOM FOR A GROWING FAMILY! This 1944 sq ft bilevel has all the room you’ll need, today and 10 years from now! Four bedrooms and two full baths are accompanied by a beautiful country kitchen, living and dining rooms. A 1998 sun room addition is bright, cheerful and watches over a very private yard. Lower level family room adjoins a great workshop with its own entrance. Call John Hayes for a look. $330,000

READY FOR THE COUNTRY? This delightful 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath contemporary home is ready for you! Situated on a .83 acre lot in Shorewood Hills, the yard is perfect for an in-ground pool (the hot tub is already there)! Hilites include cathedral ceiling living room with skylites, formal dining room and main floor bedroom. A fully finished basement has a rec room with fireplace plus a guest bedroom. Call Frannie Merrion today! $253,000

YOU’LL BE AMAZED at the space this distinctive home has to offer! Hardwood floors on the main level lead from spacious living room to sunken dining room & 3 guest bedrooms. For your privacy, a full master suite is separate from the other bedrooms. The full, finished basement hosts a huge knotty pine family room designed for BIG parties & lots of people! The landscaping is as distinctive as the Roman brick exterior and the interior finish. Don’t miss this opportunity. Call Jim McGah today! $469,000

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Michele Meden, ABR
Dave Walsh

Ed Merrion, CRS, GRI
Jim Laughlin
Jerry Lambert
Jeff Meyer
Trisha Meyer

Debbie Mengel
Pat Elliott
Joan Brown
Heather Melnyk
NEW OAK HARDWOOD FLOORS with cherry and walnut borders in window walled living room; marble surround and oak mantle on fireplace. Two bedrooms, 2 baths with remodeling begun on additional bedrooms. New kitchen with maple cabinets, garage. Short walk to the Lake Michigan beach.  

$389,000

BIG AS A HOUSE condominium in delightful gate-guarded location overlooking acres of well-mowed Long Beach Golf Course. French doors open to huge deck on the golf course. Fireplace in living room. Three double sized bedrooms or use one as a family room. Double garage. Walk to lake.  

$334,000

UNIQUE COUNTRY RETREAT on almost 4 acres adjoining Pottawatomie Park with landscape lighting, sculptures, pond & creek. Main level living room has fieldstone fireplace, beamed ceiling. Adjoining family room has fireplace, French doors to patio overlooking gardens, pond & creek. 4 bedrooms, 4½ baths, garage and studio. Arrange flex rooms to fit your lifestyle and enjoy.  

$525,000

PERFECTIONIST QUALITY in new log cabin on 3 lots in Michigan just a short walk from Lake Michigan beach. Two story stone fireplace with raised hearth and high vaulted ceilings in great room. Bright kitchen has breakfast bar & terra cota tile floor. 3 bedrooms include master in separate wing. Beautiful ash hardwood floor. Large screened porch off great room. Must see.  

$435,000