To present a first-rate Rembrandt show would be a daunting task. Chicago-area art-lovers should be delighted that it has been done so brilliantly, and so close to home.

The curator’s job would not be made easier by the fact that Rembrandt is universally known as a Dutch master, an achievement that once earned him a place on a cigar box. In recent years his star has continued to rise and so have his headline prices -- a record $2,300,000. being paid by the Metropolitan Museum of Art for what seemed a dour subject, Aristotle Contemplating The Bust Of Homer.

Even though Rembrandt was a prolific artist, his paintings and etchings are now spread far and wide, and nobody wants to part with them. To assemble an exhibition with over 200 works, representing more than half the prints he produced, has to be considered a triumph.

Rembrandt was a master story-teller who excelled in every genre that he undertook -- portraiture, self-portraits, landscapes, paintings of nudes, biblical narratives, historical paintings, intimate studies of everyday life. His output ranged from huge oil paintings covering an entire wall to tiny etchings, just a few square inches in size. Virtually every work conveyed the subtlety of the master’s touch. The major challenge facing the curators was to present a show that would do justice to an artist of this magnitude.
The pride of the Chicago Art Institute’s collection is this Old Man in a Gorget and Black Cap (1631), painted during Rembrandt’s most productive period, when he was doing one such oil portrait a month. W.W. Kimball Collection.

Rembrandt’s Flora (1654), a major oil painting depicting the goddess of springtime and flowers, is on loan from the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, gift of Archer M. Huntington.

One of the earliest works in this exhibit is Artist In His Studio (1627), painted when Rembrandt was only 21 years old.

Rembrandt’s beautiful oil painting, Holy Family With Angels (1645) has been loaned to the exhibition by the State Hermitage Museum, Saint Petersburg.
Rembrandt Continued from Page 1

Rembrandt’s Journey: Painter, Draftsman, Etcher is the title of the exhibition organized by the Art Institute of Chicago and the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, where it was shown before its journey to Chicago. An accompanying catalog, under the same title, was prepared by Boston curator Clifford S. Ackley.

Twenty major paintings are in this exhibit, and 33 original drawings, but the place of honor is held by the prints. Rembrandt was able to bring the spontaneity and forcefulness of his drawing technique to the medium of print-making. Consequently, his prints retain a freshness and immediacy that have seldom, if ever, been equalled. Even today, it is felt that Rembrandt’s etchings are unsurpassed.

In order to appreciate the quality of his workmanship, the viewer must view them close-up, and the exhibition organizers have thoughtfully provided magnifying glasses for this purpose. In other respects, the emphasis has also been placed on Rembrandt’s career as a printmaker. Original copper etching plates are displayed. Comparisons are made between the earlier and later states of a print, with special attention to the changes the artist made with each printing. Detailed information is provided about the type of paper Rembrandt used, and the type of tools. Special programs have been scheduled to demonstrate print-making. For artists specializing in print-making, this exhibit is a major learning experience.

For viewers with more general interests, other messages are absorbed. The sheer power of Rembrandt’s drawing is a marvel to behold -- the sureness of his stroke, the ingenuity of his composition, the emotion packed into the relationships between one figure and another.

Rembrandt Continued on Page 4

Rembrandt's Self-Portrait with Saskia (1636) shows the young couple in the early years of their marriage. The etching is in the Clarence Buckingham Collection of the Art Institute of Chicago.
Rembrandt  Continued from Page 3

Although serious efforts have been made to present a “balanced” show, one that covers the wide spectrum of Rembrandt’s achievements, it still turns out that the biblical works hold center stage -- and, most notably, the famous etchings depicting the passion and crucifixion of Christ. The emotions displayed by persons in the crowd, as shown in their facial expressions and body language -- the suffering of Christ -- the drama of the entire scene is presented in unforgettable images.

Rembrandt has always been a controversial figure in the field of art. Even though his extraordinary talent was perceived early in his youth, contemporaries criticized his work for being “too realistic.” Unlike other artists of his generation, he preferred not to study in Italy, and he never subscribed to Renaissance notions of “ideal beauty.” Rembrandt painted the figure with all its warts and lumps and wrinkles, and found beauty in the human body as it really was.

When portraying biblical scenes, Rembrandt brought a great deal of imagination to the subject, and sometimes injected a bit of Dutch realism. The circumcision of the child Christ was once painted as taking place in the temple -- but then again he depicted it as occurring in the humble stable, where the infant was born. Figures of beggars and other street people were first sketched as individual studies, and then incorporated into large group scenes.

The etching of Christ preaching to his followers has been nicknamed The Hundred Guilder Print, because the artist himself claimed to have once paid a hundred guilders for a copy of it. British Museum, London.

In The Virgin And Child With A Cat, Rembrandt combined domestic Dutch realism with Catholic symbolism, depicting a cat about to pounce on the snake curled at the Virgin's feet. British Museum, London.

Christ Presented to the People (1655) is one of the prints Rembrandt re-worked several times. In this later-state etching, the jeering crowd has been replaced by ominous, darkened archways in the foreground, thus focusing more attention on the bound figure of Christ. British Museum, London.
Rembrandt’s style of composition, setting off a brightly-lighted scene with deepening shadows, served very effectively to create the mood of a biblical narrative. The figure of Christ was often depicted as emanating an aura, an inner glow that signified his divinity. The artist found the medium of etching very suitable for achieving these artistic goals.

Scholarly studies of Rembrandt’s work have gone on, more or less continuously, and not always with happy results. In recent years, more than 100 works previously considered Rembrandts were discovered to have been done by other hands. One of these was a beautiful painting in the collection of the Art Institute of Chicago -- Young Woman At An Open Door. It is now attributed to Samuel van Hoogenstraten, one of Rembrandt’s students. It is still a beautiful painting, but it is no longer by Rembrandt.

Rembrandt frequently combined several small studies, as in this Three Heads of Women (1637), an etching owned by the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.

The Flute Player (1642), an etching owned by the Art Institute of Chicago, is thought by art critics to have lecherous suggestions, an impression heightened by the randy behavior of goats in the background.

Continuing scholarship sometimes yields disappointments, such as the news that this lovely portrait, long thought to be a Rembrandt painting, is now attributed to one of his students, Samuel van Hoogstraten. Young Woman At An Open Door (1645) is in the collection of the Art Institute of Chicago.

The Rembrandt exhibit will continue at the Art Institute of Chicago, 111 S. Michigan Avenue, thru May 9. Admission is free to members, but advance tickets are strongly recommended. Tickets are available by calling 312-930-4040, or on the Web at www.artic.edu. Special readings are scheduled for Thursday noon, March 25 and April 8. Lectures will be held on Tuesday evening, April 13, at 6 p.m. and Friday, May 7, at 12 noon. For additional program information, call 312-443-3680.
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Garden 1940’s Hit Parade Program

International Friendship Gardens is sponsoring a delightful musical program—“1940’s Hit Parade”—on Sun., March 28, 2-4 p.m.

There will be solos and harmony by tenor Bruce Johnson and soprano Susie Richter. They will be accompanied by pianist Rose Marie Dure.

Bruce Johnson has degrees in education from Valparaiso University and Ball State University. His most recent role was as Richard Henry Lee in “1776.” He has performed on stage at the LaPorte Little Theatre. He has also performed with “Tenors Three.”

Susie Richter is the assistant curator at the LaPorte County Historical Museum. She has been performing in community theatre for five years and also with Indiana Opera North. One of her favorite roles was as Mother Abbess in “The Sound of Music.”

Rose Marie Dure is the minister of music at First Methodist Church in LaPorte and has been the musical director for many productions at LaPorte Little Theatre. She has been the accompanist for “Tenors Three,” “Bella Voce Trio,” and many other groups. Together, the three talented musicians have performed for many fundraisers and other events. Refreshments will be served.

“1940’s Hit Parade” will be performed at the First Presbyterian Church, 121 W. 9th St., Michigan City. Admission is $10. Information: phone 878-9885.

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“New Element” to Perform March 28

The Michigan City Public Library will again host “New Element” as the band returns to Michigan City on Sun., March 28. Their unique blend of many styles of Irish/Celtic/Folk/Bluegrass and Top 40/Rock music makes for a very high energy show.

The core of this group is the Horgash brothers of Schererville, Indiana, who played together while growing up in a very musical family. They have played their unique music at such venues as the Taste of Chicago, Valparaiso’s Popcorn Festival, the Chicago Celtic Festival, the Indianapolis Irish Festival and at Chicagoland Borders Books and Music Stores. The group has a web site at www.newelement.com

Singer Paul Hannon of LaPorte will also perform as part of the program. Hannon previously has sung with “The Hartsmen” and his rendition of “Danny Boy” is truly moving.

Due to the popularity of this show, the library has moved the program to Michigan City High School’s Auditorium. Plenty of parking and good seats will be available. Doors will open at 2:15 p.m. and the show will start at 3 p.m. The program is still free and open to the public.

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“A Delicate Balance” to Open March 26

Edward Albee’s Pulitzer Prize winning play, “A Delicate Balance,” will open Fri., March 26, 8 p.m., at Michigan City’s Mainstreet Theatre, 807 Franklin St. Other performances will be Sat, March 27 and April 2 at 8 p.m. and Sun., April 3 at 2 p.m.

This play is presented as part of the Festival Players Guild’s 2004 Winter Arts Series in cooperation with Mishawaka’s Head Fine Arts.

First produced in 1997, “A Delicate Balance” focuses on the story of Agnes (Kathy Splitgerber) and Tobias (Tom Osborn), a suburban couple whose lives are turned upside down one evening when their best friends, Harry (Joel Thompson) and Edna (Michele Phillips), come to visit. Agnes and Tobias’ marriage is already challenged by Agnes’ live-in sister Claire (Melissa Zdyb) and faces further challenges when their daughter Julia (Tracy Huddlestun) arrives after experiencing her fourth failed marriage. Their quiet life is thrown out of balance and the bonds of friendship and family are pushed to the edge as each problem becomes everyone’s problem.


Director of the production is Brant Beckett.

All seats are reserved; phone 874-4269. Tickets are $10/adults, $9/senior citizens, and $5/high school age and above.

The programs of the Festival Players Guild are presented with support of the Northern Indiana Arts Association, the Indiana Arts Commission, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Barker Welfare Foundation and the Michigan City Enrichment Corporation.
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Helping Out at the IDNL, One Seedling at a Time

By Paula McHugh

We are in the greenhouse at the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore headquarters. On the other side of the door, remnants of winter wind ripple through the compound. But we are cocooned in cozy, shorts-and-shirtsleeves warmth. Long rows of flats are lined with thousands of delicate spring-green seedlings that have poked up from their trays of rich black soil. The smell of rich, dark earth is in the air.

Cheryl Eckley, Jackie Gornstein and Sue Spitler have volunteered to spend this day helping John Kwilosz and two conservation interns separate and transfer the fragile little seedlings from flats to plug trays. And considering the number of seedlings jammed together—all headed for the sunlight above, as healthy seeds are wont to do—the volunteers would be putting in a good day’s work. With fun and friendship mixed in, of course. The women come prepared. Their thermoses and brown bag lunches wait in a corner for lunch. The only things missing in this warm womb are some lounge chairs and foamy tropical drinks with little paper umbrellas, Jackie jokes.

John Kwilosz, IDNL Natural Resource Program Manager, explains that all the seedlings we see spread out before us—some 15,000 (fifteen thousand)—would be used for habitat restoration in different areas of the Park. The seedlings come from native plants. Seeds are collected in the fall, sorted, weighed, and labeled, and kept in a refrigerator in John’s office until it’s time to transfer them to flats. That usually happens in mid-February.

Cheryl Eckley, Jackie Gornstein and Sue Spitler volunteered to spend a day helping IDNL Natural Resource Program Manager John Kwilosz separate and transfer the fragile little seedlings from flats to plug trays.

John, a Summit native with a degree in biology from the University of Illinois-Chicago, uses the technological wizardry of GIS and GPS to track planting and for plant control. That way he can see exactly where plant restoration efforts within the 12,000 acres of the IDNL need to be applied. One of his current projects is restoring the 120-acre Mnoké Prairie; another is replanting former leaseback acreage to native plantings.

John explained that there is a lot of plant diversity within the Park, adding that the IDNL has a mix-
ture of plants here that are found growing in different parts of the United States. For example, the prickly pear cactus, common in the desert Southwest, also grows here in the Dunes' sandy soil.

“The cactus can grow next to Arctic barberry,” he said.

The enormous job of collecting, sorting, propagating, transferring, and planting these indigenous varieties—more than 1500 different species—could not be done without the help of individual volunteers, school groups, clubs and organizations, scout troops, and Student Conservation Corps interns. These same conservation-minded individuals also apply sweat-equity to ridding the Park of invasive, or non-native species such as garlic mustard, purple loosestrife, dame's rocket, and about 20 fast-spreading earth-invaders. While John works primarily with prairie restoration efforts, another section of the greenhouse is filled with marsh plants for wetlands restoration projects.

Michigan City High School advanced biology and environment students have raised purple loosestrife-eating Galerucella busilla beetles as a land stewardship project to help the IDNL. Chesterton High School environmental students have collected native prairie plant seeds and set up restoration plots. Other area and regional high school students have also helped with stewardship projects.

Two college interns and members of the Student Conservation Association are working in the greenhouse this day. Connie Cowan is busy separating prairie seedlings on one end of the 60-foot long (or so) enclosure, and Carrie Satkoski is at the other end, working with wetlands plants. The SCA Resource Management program provides Connie and Carrie on-the-job training, working side by side with management staff.

John Kwilosz has worked for the IDNL for the past ten years. He holds a biology degree from the University of Illinois-Chicago. John put the three Michigan City volunteers to work separating and replanting blazing star seedlings.
Jackie, Cheryl, and Sue merrily stand over flats of baby blazing star. Their eye-hand coordination and fine motor skills are getting a workout, and so are comments about the welcomed tropical atmosphere in the balmy, sun-filtered enclosure. A good place to be on a late-winter morning. By the end of their volunteer day, the three women will have transplanted 27 trays of seedlings. Jackie and Sue decide that they will return the following week for another get-your-hands-dirty-‘cause-it’s-good-stewardship-session.

A few days after their first volunteer session at the greenhouse, we asked them for comments about their experience.

Sue said that they all learned volumes about the behind-the-scenes efforts that keeps the National Park beautiful. From the professionalism (and friendliness) of the staff to the immense knowledge required by them, the three volunteers were impressed.

“Wow. (It) made me very humble,” she said.

Jackie said that walking into the greenhouse and encountering thousands of green seedlings was “mind boggling.”

“I got so excited on the way home that I stopped and bought some zinnia seeds to start indoors,” she said.

Cheryl Eckley carries one of her finished plug trays. By the end of the day, the three volunteers had completed 27 trays.

When Cheryl heard John say that some of the seedlings would be planted to restore former lease-back areas, she said she envisioned her former lease-back home surrounded by the very same native plant seedlings that she had been transferring to plug trays.

Jackie, Cheryl, and Sue agreed that their volunteer experience gave them a “whole new perspective” about the scope of the National Parks’ stewardship projects. They noted that it’s easy to take the IDNL’s beauty and presence for granted until one learns first-hand how much effort goes into each project.

Volunteers are always needed and welcomed at the IDNL and all of the nation’s National Parks, for that matter. The Volunteers-In-Parks (VIP) program nationwide has attracted over 120,000 volunteers a year logging more than 4 million hours of service. At the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, volunteers can sign up to work as Trail Workers (to help maintain the hiking trails); Animal Room Assistant (feed, handle, monitor and clean the aquariums at the Douglas Center); Information Desk Assistant (Dorothy Buell Visitor Center); and Expanded Docent Program (children’s programming)—to name just a few of the many opportunities. Volunteering is a wonderful way to “give back.” And, we might add—“give forward,” to preserve our natural surroundings for future generations.

But let’s not forget John’s department. He can always use more hands for digging in the dirt and getting ready for planting in May. VIP’s Jackie and Cheryl enjoyed the camaraderie that they shared at the greenhouse, so consider enlisting some of your friends to join you.

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On Sun., March 28, at 4 p.m., The Vesper Chorale of South Bend, will perform “The Light of the World: A Concert for Lent,” in a program sponsored by the Fine Arts Board of The Presbyterian Church of LaPorte. They will sing a varied repertoire, ranging from Gregorian chant to spirituals, including selections from Handel’s “Messiah”, unaccompanied works by Britten, Stanford, Bieble and others. The repertoire has been especially selected for the contemplative season of Lent, and to take advantage of the wonderful acoustics of the church.

Since its first concert on Good Friday of 1993, the Vesper Chorale has drawn members from a variety of backgrounds who share a common joy in performing sacred choral music. In addition to their many performances of traditional and contemporary music in the Michiana area they also have widened their program to include educational workshops, providing singers with the opportunity to work with nationally known guest conductors. Primarily appearing on college campuses and in churches, the choir has over 100 concerts to its credit.

Wishart Bell is the founding conductor of Vesper Chorale and Vesper Chamber Orchestra and serves as Director of Music Ministries at First United Methodist Church of South Bend. He is also on the music faculty of Bethel College in Mishawaka, where he teaches voice and conducting. He is former chair of the music department at Emmanuel Bible College (Canada) and his college choirs have toured in the United States and Canada. He is an active composer and has published articles on choral tone and music in worship. Dr. Bell is a graduate of Trinity College and the American Conservatory of Music.

The Presbyterian Church of La Porte is located at Kingsbury Ave. & U.S. 35 South. Childcare will be provided and the church is handicap accessible. There will be a free-will offering and a reception after the concert to meet Dr. Bell and the choir.

For more information, phone 219/362-6219 or access the Fine Arts page of the church’s web site at www.laportepresbyterian.org.

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THE Mozart Requiem Concert

The LaPorte County Symphony Orchestra will present Mozart's Requiem, a grand musical composition highlighted in the Academy award-winning film “Amadeus” and featuring the voices of four soloists and three local choirs. The concert will be at 3:30 p.m. on Sun., March 28, at Countryside Christian Church, 7056 W. 450 North, Michigan City.

Directed by Philip J. Bauman, the afternoon will begin with a salute to two other famous composers through performances of Handel's Coronation Anthem *Zadok the Priest*, and *Waft Her Angels*, an aria for tenor from “Jeptha,” as well as Bach’s Suite No. 3. As it concluded his career, so Mozart’s Requiem was chosen to conclude this grand musical event.

Mozart wrote the Requiem, a musical mass to honor a deceased person, while on his deathbed. He was only 35 years old when he died of mysterious causes. The Requiem would be finished by one of his former pupils, Franz Sussmayr.

The Requiem features the talents of four vocal soloists - a soprano, mezzo soprano, tenor and bass.

Soprano Laurel Thomas has soloed with major choral groups, chamber music organizations and orchestras throughout the U.S., Austria and Germany. She currently teaches in the music department at Saint Mary’s College in South Bend.

Tenor Henry Pleas has received distinction for his dynamic range and artistic integrity. He has taken leading tenor roles in many operatic repertoire. His first CD is a compilation of African-American spirituals woven through an original story written by Pleas.

Helene Pickett, mezzo soprano, is a Metropolitan Opera Auditions award winner and two time Milwaukee Civic Music Award recipient. She has appeared as soloist with over a dozen orchestras and has had leading roles in as many operas.

Peter Van De Graaff, bass, has sung to great acclaim throughout the world. In Europe, he recently performed and recorded with the Czech State Symphony and the Czech Philharmonic. He appeared in Berlin with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, and in Budapest, he sang with the Budapest Concert Orchestra.

Although it has four vocal soloists, there is also a chorus featured in almost every movement. The chorus will include 180 combined voices from the Northwest Indiana Symphony Chorus, the LaPorte High School Chorale and the Michigan City High School Chorale.

The orchestra will project English subtitles of the Latin text to enhance the listeners’ understanding of the Requiem. A brief discussion of the Requiem mass will precede the performance.

Tickets are available online at www.lcso.net. They may also be purchased at the door: $15/adults, $12/ seniors, $5/students. No reservations are necessary. Information: 219/ 325-0666 or email info@lcso.net.
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**Construction of the Long Beach Fitness Center** is well under way. Rooms 5, 6 and 7 is now one large space. We have installed sheets of plastic in the hallways to help keep the dust contained and to prevent heat loss as the debris is being removed from the building. Our tenants have been subject to the usual sounds of power tools and demolition noise expected during a renovation project, however, much of the work has been scheduled to take place in the evenings and on weekends. We certainly appreciate everyone’s patience and cooperation. It’s too soon to say when the Fitness Center will open for business but they have made great strides in that direction.

There is still time to register for **Ballroom Dance Class** with professional dance instructor Mary Chandler. The six week sessions begin this week with Ballroom Dance II for intermediates scheduled Wednesday night March 24th at 6:30 p.m., and Ballroom Dance I beginning Sat., March 27th at 1:30 p.m. To join the fun, phone Mary at 219/680-9261.

The Long Beach Performing Arts is offering a variety of music and voice lessons for children and adults. The instructors customize a program suited to your individual needs and ability. For more information, or to reserve a class time, phone Christina at Long Beach Spa, 874-4674.

**Cub Scouts Troop 802** Blue and Gold Achievement Awards Banquet was held in the gym last week with 70 in attendance. The Scouts received their rank merit badges and had a pizza party to celebrate. We are looking forward to their help with our annual spring clean-up. Jim Clevenger and the boys are planning on shaping up the courtyard and doing a little painting.

**Joann Saxon, Director of the Dunes Arts Foundation Children’s Theatre, and Robert Eric West, Assistant Director,** would like to thank the cast and crew of “Androcles and the Lion” for all their hard work and dedication in making their spring production a huge success. The show was well received by the children of Michigan City After School Program with over 250 attending during special performances.

COMMUNITY = COMMUNICATION IN UNITY

**Preschool Storytime**

LaPorte County Public Library offers a Preschool Storytime on Wed., March 31, at 10 a.m. in Children’s Services at the main branch, 904 Indiana Ave., downtown LaPorte. There will be 30-40 minutes of stories, music and crafts for 3-5 year olds. There is no cost or registration. Information: 219/362-7128.

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**Footlight Presents “Side by Side by Side”**

Footlight Players of Michigan City will present Stephen Sondheim’s musical review “Side by Side by Sondheim” beginning Fri., April 2nd at Footlight Theatre, 1705 Franklin Street.

The sophistication, wit, insight, heart and genius of Broadway’s most innovative and influential artist is at the center of this tribute to composer-lyricist Stephen Sondheim. The production is being directed by veteran actor/director Bryan Conger. The ensemble cast includes Rebecca Martin from LaPorte, Amy Douglas, Craig Golbesky, and Tracy Ritter all from Valparaiso, and Rhonda Janowski and Allen Horner of Chesterton.

The dazzling review includes an array of some of Sondheim’s best-known songs and features numbers from landmark shows that revolutionized the musical theatre with their masterful craft and astounding creativity: “Company,” “Follies,” “A Little Night Music,” “A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum,” “Anyone Can Whistle” and “Pacific Overtures,” not to mention the classics written with musical theatre giants Leonard Bernstein, Jule Styne and Richard Rodgers, “West Side Story,” “Gypsy” and “Do I Hear A Waltz?” Also included are delectable rarities from the television musical “Evening Primrose,” and the film “The Seven Percent Solution”.

Additional performances will be held on Sun., April 4th (Sat. the 3rd is sold out), April 9th & 10th (no show Easter Sunday), and April 16th -18th. All tickets are $10. Friday and Saturday performances are at 8 p.m. with Sunday matinee at 2 p.m. Doors open 45 minutes prior to curtain. Early reservations are strongly recommended and may be made by calling 874-4035. Presented by special arrangement with Music Theater International, Inc.
New Spring Offerings

**MICHIANA SHORES.** One level living in this contemporary ‘like new’ cedar & stone home within easy walk to beach, summer theatre & riding stables. $375,000

**BEVERLY SHORES.** New construction. Beautiful 2 story w/extraordinary design & floor plan. Great treetop views & just couple of blocks to beach. $589,900

**BEVERLY SHORES.** LAKEFRONT. A portfolio property! Incredible views, space, site offering privacy & great entertaining. One level living w/walk-out LL. 6 bedrooms, 1.07 acre. Steps to beach. $1,250,000

**BEVERLY SHORES.** Leaseback to expire in 2010 w/lakeviews & steps to best beach. Plenty of sleep space. House in good condition. $84,900

**PORTER BEACH.** A New England Cape Cod that offers fabulous ‘over the treetops’ views. Warm pine woods, great design, 3000 sf of decking. One of the loveliest homes in P.B. $525,000

**DUNE ACRES.** No need for window treatments here. Treehouse living in this lovely quad-level perched high on a dune w/great lake & woods views. Comfortable, private & easy walk to great beach. $525,000

**OGDEN DUNES.** If you love vintage homes, you’ll definitely want to see this beautiful German Tudor. Lovingly restored & landscaped. Just steps to beach. Great architectural features. $499,000

**RAILLYTOWN IN PORTER.** Spacious & gracious English country house on .84 acre adjoining the Indiana Dunes Natl. Lakeshore. Built in 1998, this 5000 sf 3 level home has all the amenities. $525,000

**SAND CREEK COUNTRY CLUB COMMUNITY.** Sophisticated styling, sundrenched spaces, beautifully landscaped & treelined yard. Easy walk to course & clubhouse. Duneland Schools. $499,000

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Grissom Air Museum Acquires Jet

Half a century ago, Cold War tensions were high, and America had the need for increased speed and firepower in the air. One of the aircraft answering that call was the F-84F, called the “Thunderstreak.” On March 3rd, Grissom Air Museum acquired a F-84F “Thunderstreak” from the U.S. Air Force. The Thunderstreak is the 22nd historic aircraft to be put on permanent outdoor display at Grissom.

Introduced in 1954 and outfitted with a more powerful engine, the Thunderstreak was faster, longer-ranged and could carry three times the ordnance of its predecessor including six machine guns, 24 rockets and 6,000 pounds of bombs.

The jet’s wings are swept back at a racy 45-degree angle instead of the straight wings of the past. It was a heavily modified version of the “Thunderjet” and was a mainstay of U.S. and NATO tactical air power from 1954-60.

“The Thunderstreak is an aircraft from a very innovative time period,” said John Marsh, Grissom Air Museum executive director. “The swept-wing jets looked and performed very differently from the WWII planes of just ten years before.”

John Ensign and Jerry Fox, Grissom volunteers, disassembled the 13,000-pound aircraft in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, where it was stored. A Kokomo moving company, Guyer, the Mover of Kokomo, provided the transportation to move the parts and donated the cost.

The Grissom Air Museum is part of the Department of Natural Resources Division of State Museums & Historic Sites with 14 sites throughout the state. The museum is located about 60 miles north of Indianapolis on Hwy. 31.

Museum hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tues. through Sun., except January and holidays. Admission is $3/adults, $2/veterans, senior citizens, and students ages 7-18. Children 6 and under and museum members are free. For more information, phone 765/689-8011 or log onto www.GrissomAirMuseum.com
Secluded A-Frame amongst 8 acres. Enjoy the views from the wall of windows or from your front or rear decks. This 3 bedroom, 3 bath home also features 2 fireplaces, sunken conversation area, central air, vaulted ceilings, a 3 car garage and a polebarn. Only 13 years old and very well maintained. #102209
Ask for Rose @ 874-2121 ext. 18
$299,900

LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION!!! Enjoy the gentle breezes in this 3 bedroom home on Lake Shore Drive situated on deep lot. Possibly divide into two lots for mini sub-division, subject to planning commission review. #100791
Ask for Dianne @ 874-2121 ext. 49
$200,000

This is what you have been waiting for!!! Beautiful waterfront and non-waterfront lots in Long Beach. This area on Lake Claire is fabulous with panoramic views and waiting for you to build your new home. Michigan City water and sewer. Lots are selling fast! Call today for details!

LONG BEACH COVE!!!
$200,000

New construction in Long Beach Cove. Quality built 4 bedrooms, 2.1 bath home. Vaulted ceiling in great room, French door to dining room, double doors leading to master suite, pella windows, 3 zone heat, full basement and an attached 2 car garage. #100450
Ask for Rose @ 874-2121 ext. 18
$399,000

One of the most unique and quality built homes in the area. The main house has approximately 6000 square feet, 4 bedrooms, 5.5 baths, 4 fireplaces, new custom kitchen, sub-zero refrigerator, fantastic rooms, glass and views. This home is fantastic and there is a matching 1500 square foot guesthouse, all on 3.5 wooded acres between LaPorte and Michigan City. LaPorte Schools. #100152
Ask for Larry @ 874-2121 ext. 19
$779,000

LONG BEACH COVE!!!
PNC’s Women’s History Month Event

The 9th annual Purdue University North Central Women’s History Month event will be presented Thurs., March 25, from noon-2 p.m. in Library-Student-Faculty Building Room 144 (the former bookstore). The tea is free and open to the public. Guests may stay for as long as they are able. This year’s event will be a wedding reception, complete with a costumed “bride” and “groom” celebrating with a customary wedding reception meal and wedding cake. The theme will center on a presentation by Dr. Katherine Jellison of Ohio University – Athens who will speak about, “Marriages and the Movies: The Twentieth-Century Wedding as Portrayed in ‘Father of the Bride.’”

She will examine scenes from both the 1950 and 1991 versions of the movie, “Father of the Bride” to trace the changing gender roles as they reflect marriage in the United States during the latter part of the 20th century.

Jellison, who teaches history at Ohio University, has published articles and book chapters on the topics of the commercialization of weddings, gender and Amish households, suffragism and feminism and is completing the book, “It’s My Day: Gender, Class and the American White Wedding.”

Information: Dr. Joanne Urschel, associate professor of psychology at (219) 872-0527, ext. 5524.
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Our Big, Fat, Mexican Vacation
by Hal Higdon

March 25, 2004

MARINO'S DIRECTIONS WERE PRECISE: 'Drive south from the Cancun airport 20 minutes past Playa del Carmen. You'll see a PEMEX gasoline station. Exactly 1 kilometer further, you will spot an ugly billboard perched on a rock. The billboard says SE VENDE ESTE TERRENO in red letters. Turn right and follow our bumpy dirt road for 3 kilometers. You have arrived at Taninah.' Taninah recently provided our family with its Big, Fat, Mexican Vacation. The private jungle retreat is owned and operated by Marino and Kathy Tomacelli, who describe it as 'a spectacular retreat whose essence is rooted in a harmonious and balanced coexistence with the environment, while at the same time providing us with unsurpassed comfort, exotic beauty, unparalleled privacy, blessed peace and delightful tranquility.'

Rose went surfing on the Internet and discovered 'eco-tourism' began to catch our attention to the Yucatan Peninsula area of Mexico's Caribbean coast. Several beachfront properties were such that the seventeen of us could occupy the property, picked up their rental cars and headed south from the airport along a four-lane expressway that eventually narrowed to two lanes. Marino and Kathy greeted us when we arrived and offered a tour of the property, which proved very bit as charming as shown on the Internet. Several animals were permanent Taninah tenants, including a cow and a pair of deer plus three donkeys, whose braying awakened us each morning just before dawn. The palapa Rose and I chose offered hardwood slat shutters for walls. It was like sleeping outdoors. I loved to lie awake in bed and listen to the jungle come alive, the piercing whistles of birds accompanied by the trickle of rain on the thatch roof. Worrismetly, rain had been predicted for the first three days of our stay, but Marino promised that it seldom rained all day, plus it did rain heavily here and be clear a few miles away. He was right. The only day it rained for a long period, half our group was looking for your long-lost shaker of salt. A lost shaker of salt. A future destination, two ropes stretching parallel over the water. At one point, 13-year-old Wesley was hanging upside down with his head in the water, but still managed to hang on.

Back in the compound, three-year-old David amused us all driving a battery-powered car on the grass. David drove well straight ahead, but hadn't quite figured out steering. When he came to a tree or other object, one of the other grandkids had to turn him around. We enjoyed the interplay between children from three families; the older getting along with the younger and vice versa.

Each morning several groups would go running, often more on the dirt road leading into the property rather than the path around it. Kevin trained with his son, 15-year-old Kyle, who runs on his high school track team. Although David is more a tennis player, he ran regularly too as did Laura. I brought up the rear. Best runner was Taninah's dog, Luna, who met every challenge. Rose normally cares little for pets, but Marino promised that it seldom rained all day, plus it did rain heavily here and be clear a few miles away. He was right. The only day it rained for a long period, half our group was looking for your long-lost shaker of salt. A lost shaker of salt. A future destination, two ropes stretching parallel over the water. At one point, 13-year-old Wesley was hanging upside down with his head in the water, but still managed to hang on.

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Tuesday, two of the families decided the three-hour drive to the Mayan ruins in Chichen Itza might prove too long for the youngest children. We piled the older ones into two cars, following a two-lane highway where every few miles, and while passing through small villages, we encountered topes, that being the Mexican name for speed-bumps. But topes were unlike speed-bumps you might encounter in a typical American suburb. Huge ridges, or sometimes metal balls imbedded in the pavement, they seemed designed to bring even a Humvee to a screeching halt, or maybe they were planned to slow traffic so roadside peddlers could hawk their wares.

“Chicken Pizza,” as our nine-year-old grandson Nicholas renamed Chichen Itza, proved the high point of the trip for me, both literally and figuratively. Central to the ruins was a single pyramid that screamed to be climbed despite warnings in both English and Spanish that anyone over the age of 60 should think twice before doing so. So steep was the slope that I felt like Spider-Man clinging to a skyscraper. On top, the view was spectacular, but gusting winds threatened to suck me into space. I descended fearfully, sitting on each step and praying to whatever Mayan gods remained for salvation.

Wednesday’s destination was Xcaret (say “Esh-care-ate”), another ecological/recreational park, where we snorkeled down a half-mile-long underground river, then stayed for a musical extravaganza that included a field hockey game with fireballs. One by one, the younger grandchildren fell asleep and were transported home early. After three hectic days of touring, I needed rest myself, so chose Thursday to do nothing much, content to lie around the compound reading a book and sipping Sol Beer, a local favorite.
To help us celebrate not only Rose’s birthday, but February birthdays of Sophie (seven), Holly (10) and Holly’s mother Camille (undisclosed), Marino appeared with a piñata. He hung it from a zip line, normally used by the grandkids to streak through space from one tree to another. With Marino tugging the piñata up and down, each grandkid except one-year-old Daniel took turns swinging away with a bat until the piñata exploded in a shower of candy.

That same afternoon, Kyle and his younger brother Wesley got into a barefoot soccer game on the lawn with two of the Mexican workers. It was a friendly game with a lot of passing back and forth and shooting through goals marked by beach sandals. Afterwards, I noticed Kyle favoring a bruised toe. “Your track coach isn’t going to be happy,” I scolded him.

We spent most of Friday on the beach at Akumal, a few miles down the road. Returning to Taninah, we made one last visit to the cenote with its slide into the underground river. Marino seemed impressed that Grandma Rose and Grandpa Hal made the biggest splashes. That night after dinner, we sat around beside a blazing fire next to the duck hut talking, telling and retelling stories, both eager to head home, yet wishing our big, fat, Mexican vacation would never end. Saturday, it was time to head for the airport even though I still had not found my long lost shaker of salt.

Hal Higdon is a resident of Long Beach. More of his writing can be found on the Internet at: www.halhigdon.com. For more information on Taninah, go to: www.taninah.org.
This wonderful stage play adaptation by Kathryn Schultz Miller contains all the magic and enchantment that fairy tales hold over children (and adults!). It is being presented by the Community Theatre Guild at Chicago Street Theatre, 154 W. Chicago St., Valparaiso.

The play begins as Prince Harry is being pursued by several maidens wishing to marry him, but he is reluctant because he does not love them. However, the pressure is on because Harry must marry a true princess before his father, King Ulstead, dies. If he does not, the kingdom will pass on to Harry’s evil and dim-witted brother. A mysterious yet beautiful girl stumbles into the castle, out of the rain and into Harry’s arms. Is she the true princess he has been searching for? And how far will Edgar and his wicked wife Greta go to make sure she is not? On the way to the true test involving a mountain of mattresses and a small pea, there are laughs, magic and fun for the entire family. Directed by Jan Rees and Kelly Hite.

Performances dates & Ticket Information
Sat., March 27, at 11 a.m. & 2 p.m.; Sun., March 28 at 6 p.m.; Sat., April 3, at 11 a.m. & 2 p.m.; Sun., April 4 at 2 p.m.

Tickets are $5, general admission, reserved seating. Reservations may be made by phoning the box office at 219/464-1636, or visit their web site at www.ctgonline.org
March 25, 2004

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Vampires are perhaps the only known bipeds who don’t love garlic. Most of us mortals are so mad for the stuff that we’ve been known to host parades and festivals in its honor. It even has a fan club, “The Order of The Stinking Rose” — that’s the definition of garlic in one of my favorite cookbooks Chic Simple Cooking by Kim Johnson Gross and Jeff Stone. Then, in an old Saveur magazine, I read “...garlic will knock your socks off in tarts served with blue cheese, racks of lamb with mashed potatoes and ice cream with Parmesan tuiles... You’ll be resistant to sniffles all winter.”

The kind of garlic found in a produce department depends on the time of year. California garlic is available throughout the winter. Garlic from Mexico and Chile generally arrive from March through June. If you visit our neighboring Chesterton farmers market in the summertime, you’ll find Roy Navardauskas, the garlic king, with an abundant supply from his own garlic gardens. Did you know the refrigerator is a bad place for garlic? Nor should we store in sunlight. A covered crock with holes that allow air to circulate is ideal. Properly stored, garlic will keep for up to eight weeks, but if in a hot kitchen, will dry out more quickly.

Cutting or crushing releases the oils that give garlic pungency. Adding a little salt when mincing not only keeps it from sticking to the knife, it adds additional flavor as the salt will absorb oils that might otherwise stay on your cutting board. As for the cutting board — if possible, keep a separate one just for garlic and onions. If not, rub your all-purpose cutting board with salt and lemon juice after garlic and onions perfume it, then wash with a mild soap and rinse thoroughly. Oh yes, Martha Stewart suggests holding your hands under running water while rubbing them with a stainless steel spoon, then wash with soap and water. Nope, I haven’t tried that.

The longer garlic cooks, the milder its flavor becomes. Whole heads (or unpeeled cloves) roasted for about an hour are aromatic and not too pungent, produce a creamy texture that spreads well and is delicious on toasted or grilled bread. As it roasts, the garlic caramelizes, becoming sweet. Poached in water for 15 to 20 minutes, it also has a distinct, smooth flavor.

Want to freshen your breath after eating the recipe below? Chew a coffee bean or fresh parsley or sip some lemon or lime juice (more fun to eat a sorbet of those citrus flavors — that’s supposed to work, too).

I’ve been making this for years — it seems to be my family’s 1st-choice appetizer.

**BAKED GARLIC WITH ROQUEFORT AND ROSEMARY**

6 whole heads of garlic
3 T. butter, cut into 6 slices
1/4 c. olive oil
1 can chicken broth
1/4 c. dry white wine
2 tsp. chopped fresh rosemary
about 4 oz. crumbled Roquefort cheese

Preheat oven to 375

Cut 1/2 inch off top end of each garlic head, leaving root end intact. Remove any loose papery outer skin. Place garlic, cut side up, in non-aluminum baking dish. Dot with butter. Pour oil over. Add 1 can broth and the wine to dish. Sprinkle chopped rosemary over garlic. Place two rosemary sprigs win dish. Can be made to this point 8 hours ahead. Cover and chill. Bring to room temp, then bake uncovered until garlic is tender, basting every 15 minutes with pan juices and adding more broth if necessary to maintain some sauce in dish. Will be in oven about 1 hour 15 minutes.

Add Roquefort to dish and continue baking until almost melted, about 10 minutes. Discard cooked rosemary sprigs. Serve warm, with chunks of crusty bread.

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**The 1st Annual Samaritan Skedaddle**

On Sat., April 24th, there will be a community 5K Run/Walk to benefit the Samaritan Counseling Centers, Inc. of Michigan City. There will be a 9 a.m. start from 8th and Washington streets. Participants will follow Pine Street to Washington Park, past the Lighthouse, the marina and the harbor, and then back to 8th and Washington Street.

All preregistered participants will receive an official Skedaddle long-sleeve logo t-shirt and a goody bag. Grab your bib number and goody bag on Fri., April 23rd, from 4-8 p.m. at the Samaritan office, on the second floor of the First Presbyterian Church, 9th and Washington streets, Michigan City. Or you can sign up on April 24th, 7:30-8:30 a.m. at the “Finish Line Tent” at 8th and Washington.

Registration fee is $20 or $1-$19 for those under 20 yrs. (pay your age). Mail to Samaritan Counseling Centers, Inc., P.O. Box 9090, Michigan City, IN 46361. You can register on line at www.signmeupsports.com. Same day registration will be accepted at $25 per participant (t-shirt and goody bag not guaranteed).

For more information, contact race director James White at 873-0010.

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**PNC Women’s Association Trip**

The Purdue North Central Women’s Association will take its spring bus trip to Chicago on Sat., April 3. The cost is $40 per person and the public is invited.

The bus will leave PNC at Schwarz Hall at 8 a.m. and return by 5 p.m. Destinations include Frank Lloyd Wright’s Robie House, The Smart Museum, the University of Chicago and Marshall Field’s.

A continental breakfast will be available in Schwarz Hall, starting at 7:15 a.m. The morning destinations are all on the University of Chicago campus, a treasure trove of arts. First stop is the Robie House, a Frank Lloyd Wright home that has undergone major restoration. There will be a visit to the gift shop.

Next is a walk around the corner to the University of Chicago Rockefeller Memorial Chapel, followed by a walk to The Smart Museum of Art, founded by the Smart Brothers, the publishers of Esquire Magazine. The museum houses a collection of mostly contemporary works, but mixes Oriental and other decorative items. It, too, has a small gift shop and a cappuccino and espresso bar.

The group will go the Fox & Obel for lunch and to shop for delights and delicacies. To save time, lunch can be pre-ordered. Assorted drinks will be available.

At 1:30 p.m., the group will arrive for a brief tour of the newly restored Marshall Field’s State Street store, followed by shopping. The bus will depart at 4 p.m. to return to campus.

Seating is limited. To make a reservation, and to note one’s lunch preference, phone Lou Ann Robinson at PNC at (219) 872-0527 ext. 5225.

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**Spinning Through the Ages**

Fri., April 23, 3:00 p.m., with Dixie Schrader

Nature Photography
Sat., April 24, noon, with Vicky Pfauth

Woodworking & Design
Sat., April 24, 2:00, with Terry Hanover

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Final Offering in Travelogue Series

Closing the 2003-2004 travelogue series season will be Clint Denn with his film on Germany. The program will be held on Thurs., April 1, 7:30 p.m., in the Elston Theatre, Michigan City.

A year ago, Denn was in town with a film on Switzerland. This year it is Germany with its long history, varied land and its location in the heart of Europe. Verdant, fertile valleys, rushing rivers, spectacular mountains and the North Atlantic Ocean are key settings that have helped develop one of the world's top five economic nations.

History has not always been kind to the German people, but their great spirit shines through and lights up everyday life. Carnivals, country festivals, art shows, Medieval Fairs and outdoor markets are outward symbols of a warm and open people. From the Black Forest to the North Sea, from the Rhine River to the Blue Danube, Germany is an adventure of discovery in a rich and ancient land.

Single tickets for this program are $5 at the door. Additional information is available from Marcia Averitt; phone 874-5608 in the afternoon.

“Hometown Heroes” on Exhibit

Compelling images of war from the camera of local journalist Fred Dodd, who was embedded for 2-1/2 months with the local Marine Corps reserve unit in Iraq and Kuwait, are featured in the exhibit “Hometown Heroes” on view now through June 20 at the Northern Indiana Center for History, 808 W. Washington St., South Bend.

The exhibit plunges visitors into the world of war that American soldiers were fighting in the spring of 2003 and fight yet today.

Dodd will sign copies of his book on Sat., April 3, from 1-3 p.m.

The museum is open 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Tues.-Sat., and noon-5 p.m. on Sun. Admission is $5, with discounts for senior citizens and children. For more information, phone 574/235-9664 or log onto www.centerforhistory.org.
The snow drops are blooming, the first sign of Spring. So, of course, there has to be snow. Just sprinkles of snow dust to be sure, but still the white stuff that knows how to be April fools and say gotcha. You thought Spring was really here, didn’t you? The first hints of Spring came to me this year in Florida this February when I went to a garden center with my daughter who was out to buy caladium bulbs. She just puts them in the earth where they obey their innate divine command to divide and multiply and fill the earth with their rainbows of varied colored leaves. Sun, shade, sand, clay, what care have they. The world is theirs.
know this. It happens every time when we try to squeeze in our gift purchases on the way home. I packed once. I packed twice. I simply wasn’t going to make it. The morning of my return flight, I gave up, began tossing some of those clothes out, along with the bulbs (I took the Teddy Bear) and asked Jan to please mail the box to me after I’d gone. Good daughter that she is, she did and they arrived last week. When I opened the box, what must I have been thinking? Each bag of caladium held a half dozen bulbs. I was going to have enough caladium to carpet the back yard. If...I can get the bulbs going. If...I can bring in some pots and potting soil into the porch to get them started early enough. And early enough is NOW. Constant readers can be assured that there will be more on the saga of the caladium in this column.

Now, however, is the time to welcome Spring and its April foolery. When the snow drops pop their blossoms, other heads pop through the earth to notice. The greening of plants begins as the sun waves its brush of warming light a little higher in the sky. I thought a poem might be in order. Inspiration was nibbling at the back of my mind. Then I received a mailing from Norb Blei, author and writing workshop mentor at The Clearing in Door County. It was a mailing announcing a new book of poetry from his Cross+Roads Press. We who are wont to do a little poetry, often find the aha! moment of inspiration in the work of others. As I did in a poem from the book called “A Blessing of Trees” by Alice D’Alessio. The image of those sturdy oaks, flexing their shoulders, flaunting knuckled joints, seemed so right after a winter that no matter its joys, seemed hard. The poem was a hymn to aging and grace, strength and renewal, as if the oak tree was saying, okay, life, you’ve tried the spirit, but I’m still here, waving and swaying with the dance of life, ready to give spring’s renewal another chance. I was going to write my own, but Alice said it all; here’s her poem:

**Naked Dancers**

I love the honesty of oaks in winter
how they shed pretense
bend to the whim
of the willful choreographer
buttress the pale horizon
with clean-limned bodies
stretch wide shoulders
how they balance the sky
on squinny fingertips
flaunting every knuckled joint

*by Alice D’Alessio*

Ron Wallace, Professor of Poetry at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, heralded her debut book as embracing the land ethic and environmental stewardship in the mode of Loren Eiseley, Wendell Berry and Annie Dillard. Those who might want a copy of the 48 page bound book can contact Cross+Roads Press, P.O. Box 33, Ellison Bay, WI 54210. Copies are $11.50 including postage.
THEICS Sponsor-a-Cat Program

Many people would like to have a pet, but allergies or living situations prevent them from adopting one. Unfortunately, they miss the joys and rewards of caring for an animal who provides unconditional love and companionship.

The Independent Cat Society offers an easy solution for those who can’t have pets: Sponsor-A-Cat. Sponsors donate $10 or more each month for the care of a specific cat at the shelter. In return, the ICS sends sponsors a color photograph and a short biography of their cat. The donated money helps pay for food and medical care for the sponsored cat.

“This program is a lot of fun for those who cannot afford to care for a cat or cannot have a pet,” said Claudia Nay, a volunteer who coordinates the program. “It’s even great for businesses. One of our cats is sponsored by a law office.”

Information: (219) 785-4936.

PNC Offers Beginning Golf

Purdue University North Central’s Office of Continuing Education will again offer Beginning and Intermediate Golf classes.

Golfers may choose from two sessions of **Beginning Golf**. One session meets Tuesdays, April 20-May 25, from 6-7 p.m.; the other beginning session meets Thursdays, April 22-May 27, from 7-8 p.m. The registration deadline is April 8.

Golfers may attend one of two **Intermediate sessions**. One session meets Tuesdays, April 20-May 25, 7-8 p.m.; the other intermediate session meets Thursdays, April 22-May 27, 6-7 p.m. Registration deadline is April 8.

All sessions will meet at The Clubhouse in Michigan City. Golf Pro Don Butler, teaches etiquette, rules, proper stance, grip and swing fundamentals. Golf balls and clubs are provided, or participants may bring their own. The course fee is $119. Class size is limited to eight.

To register for these courses phone the Office of Continuing Education, (219) 872-0527, ext. 5343, or visit the PNC Office of Continuing Education Web site at www.pnc.edu/ce. Participants receive a 10% discount when registering for more than one course; a 10% discount is also given when two or more friends register for Continuing Education courses.

Monday Art Classes

The Art Barn announces that Marlies Glickauf and Jan Sullivan, the Monday night teachers, are back from their annual Mexican painting trip. This means the Monday night classes have begun, from 6:30-9 p.m. Join the class and learn creative exploration in watercolor using a variety of art techniques.

The cost is $75 for six sessions. Phone 219/462-9009 to register or for more information. The Art Barn is located at 695 North 400 East, Valparaiso.

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Information: (219) 785-4936.
Spring into Art: Classes & Workshops

The Jack and Shirley Lubeznik Center for the Arts will offer the Spring Art Classes and Workshops beginning the week of March 22nd. The session will run for eight weeks. Classes are designed for children, adolescents, and adults. The courses range from painting, drawing, and ceramics.

The Sampler class for adults will be offered for the first time. Almost every week, a different medium will be introduced. This is an opportunity for someone who would like to see what approach to art appeals to them the most.

Mr. John Molinaro will teach Italian again. Here is a chance to begin a language and become familiar with this culture.

Life Drawing provides a wonderful way to learn how to see form, light and shadows.

Drawing for Adolescents provides a visual learning experience from another professional artist.

Stimulating Style allows someone who paints to experiment with the techniques of the masters.

Art for Children allows expression of creativity with a variety of materials. A parent/guardian and children can create together in Family Clay class.

The art workshops would be wonderful for anyone to experience. Members of the Jack and Shirley Lubeznik Center for the Arts receive a ten percent discount. Description of the Spring Art Classes and Workshops can be found at www.lubeznikcenter.org or call 219-874-4900.

Workshop at Chesterton Art Center

Teacher Bill Aitcheson of Hickory Hills, Illinois, is teaching a workshop called “Art of Marbleizing on Sun., March 28th, from noon-4 p.m. Learn hand-painted finishes in this hands-on workshop. Marble, tortoise shell, and granite finishes will be demonstrated. Students will create their own sample board. All material is included. The cost of this workshop is $30 for members and $35 for non-members.

The workshop will be held at The Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. 4th St., Chesterton. For more information, or to sign up, phone 219/926-4711.

LaPorte County Symphony Orchestra

Mozart Requiem

3:30 p.m. March 28, 2004
Countryside Christian Church, Michigan City

Phillip J. Bauman, Music Director
Also performing works by Handel & Bach

New this year! Tickets available online at www.lcso.net
$15 adults, $12 seniors, $5 students, also available at door
(219) 325-0666 info@lcso.net

Northwest Indiana Symphony Chorus
Laurel Thomas Soprano
Helene Pickett Mezzo-Soprano

LaPorte High School Chorale
Henry Pleas Tenor
Peter Van De Graaff Bass

Michigan City High School Chorale
March 25, 2004

THE

CyberScribbles
by Paula McHugh


I happened to look in my fonts file recently to see what I had in there. And what I have is over 250 font styles taking up about 23 megabytes of space. I use maybe five out of those 250 on an occasional basis. So why do I keep the ones I don’t use on my hard drive?

Good question. I am not a graphics designer but I do some website designing. I can find interesting new fonts to download from freebie web graphics sites (eg. coolarchive.com). That is how I found—and designed—the current CyberScribbles logo on the website. I’m really wasting space on my computer and so are you if you are not using the fonts that came packed with MS Word or similar programs. And, if your font file stretches to 1000 or more, then you might consider it a source of computer glitches when you go about troubleshooting problems with certain programs. I learned this, and other useful information at Woody’s Web Watch and Woody’s Windows Watch. Woodyswatch.com is one of several computer tip sites that you may want to take a look at.

Tips: I will be mentioning a number of other computer and web tip sites in future columns. While I’m on the subject, I want to remind you of one of my favorites, which I mentioned here about two years ago: NeatNetTricks.com. It’s an easy read, suitable for newbies or more experienced users, and you can subscribe to the free or paid e-newsletter if you forget to log on to the website at least monthly. I always find something useful in Neat Net Tricks and I don’t get bombarded with spam, either.

Geek Central: Another computer help resource that I’ve mentioned before is Fred Langa’s Langalist.com. A newbie might at first feel lost reading his e-newsletter, but if you stick with it and read each newsletter in order, things start to make sense. Keep on reading them and you might turn into a regular geek. A more recent website find of mine is TheElderGeek.com, who keeps XP users up-to-date on that system’s issues. Not to be confused with Geek.com. The latter website is a haven for techies, supergeeks, and yes, even geek wannabes. You would do well to have a look at the site. If you want good information about buying your next computer, building your own computer, or finding information about the latest tech gadgets, use Geek.com for reference. You can read a newsfeed about anything concerning microchips, and
that is saying a lot. The Geek cartoons are fun, and lurking on the rant board is both fun and informative.

**Sound Art Project:** Now on to some really fun stuff. Imagine writing a few lines of poetry, or even a few sentences and then having your, um, composition put to music. One Eric Bunger has been immersed in a “Sound Art Project.” Bunger was educated in electroacoustic composition from the Royal Academy of Music in Stockholm and Kunste University in Berlin. His project is “built...on the program's ability to memorize words and songs and be able to put them together to create new meanings and contexts.” In other words, write your ditty—it does not have to be anything close to a masterpiece and can be only a short sentence. Then follow the instructions at the website (sr.se/src/sing/default.asp?key). Wait a few seconds and your words (one word at a time) will be sung—or more precisely—strung together—using lyrics from mostly recognizable songs and singers. It’s hard for me to describe. Sorry. Go to the website and see and hear for yourself. One final comment: I'm not sure how far Bunger will go with his education in electroacoustic composition, based on what he’s put together at his website. Don’t expect any of the songs that you co-create there to hit the Top Ten.

**CyberScribbles101:** Have you logged on to CyberScribbles on the Web yet? Okay, so you'll be reading last week's column when you get there. But, all the websites mentioned at the site are a very convenient mouse click away. I plan to add some extra items and surprises on the website that you won't find here in the printed version. Have a look. (geocities.com/cyberscribbles101/index.html).

**Help Your Eyes:** One last tip: For those of you who encounter problems with reading small type on your XP operating system, you can customize your settings to make the type larger. Go to the Control Panel and click “Display.” Click the “Appearances” tab and be sure to set it for XP style. Next, click the font size you want: Normal, Large, or Extra Large. If you want your icons and everything else to be displayed larger, click the “Settings” tab, click “advanced”, and change the DPI setting upwards (normal setting is 96). After you reset the DPI, you will be prompted to restart your computer to allow the new settings to go into effect. If you have eyesight problems and use Windows XP, give yourself a break and try out this tip. It makes a big difference. You’ll see!

(Send your questions, pet peeves, and other comments to cyberscribbles101@yahoo.com).
Activities to Explore

In the Local Area:


March 26-28, April 1-3 — “The Cripple of Inishmann.” Presented by the Community Theatre Guild at Chicago Street Theatre, 154 W. Chicago St., Valparaiso. Curtain Fri. & Sat. @ 8 pm; Sun., March 28 @ 2:30 pm. Tix $12/adults, $10/sen. cit., $8/students. Reservations 219/464-1636.


March 27-28, April 3-4 — “The Princess and the Pea.” Presented by the Community Theatre Guild at Chicago Street Theatre, 154 W. Chicago St., Valparaiso. Curtain Sat. 11 am & 2 pm; Sun., March 28 @ 6 pm; Sun., April 4 @ 2 pm. For the entire family. Tix $5 gen. adm., reserved seating; phone 219/464-1636. or log onto www.ctgonline.org

March 28 — Great Books. 2 pm at the Michigan City Public Library. Man’s Fate by Andre Malraux to be discussed. New members invited to attend.


March 28 — “The Light of the World.” Vesper Chorale Lenten Concert. 4 pm at the Presbyterian Church of LaPorte, Kingsbury Ave. & U.S. 35 South, LaPorte. Featuring the Vesper Chorale of South Bend. Freewill offering will be taken.

March 28 — “New Element” in concert featuring Irish/Celtic/Folk/Bluegrass & Top 40 music. 3 pm at
Audition Notice

Steve Rohe will be conducting auditions for Footlight Players’ June production of “The Sunshine Boys” at Footlight Theatre, 1705 Franklin Street, on Sun. April 4th and Mon., April 5th from 7-9 p.m. Cast requirements call for 5 men and 2 women. The production will be presented the first 3 weekends of June. For more information, phone 874-4035.
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On March 25, 1867, Italian conductor Arturo Toscanini, who would lead some of the world’s foremost orchestras and opera companies, was born in Parma.

On March 25, 1867, the cornerstone was laid for Chicago’s famous Water Tower.

On March 25, 1871, sculptor Gutzon Borgium, best remembered for the Mt. Rushmore project, was born in the Idaho Territory.

On March 25, 1873, Italian singer Enrico Caruso, considered to have been one of the greatest tenors of all time, was born in Naples.

On March 25, 1913, the Palace Theatre, which was to become known as The Home of Vaudeville, opened in New York.

On March 26, 1804, land acquired from France in the Louisiana Purchase was divided into the District of Orleans and the Territory of Louisiana.

On March 26, 1846, William Frederick "Buffalo Bill" Cody, America frontiersman and showman, was born in Scott County, Iowa.

On March 26, 1980, Mt. St. Helens, a Washington state volcano that had been dormant since 1857, spewed steam and ashes in the first stages of what would become a major eruption.

On March 26, 1982, in Washington, groundbreaking ceremonies took place for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial - two black granite walls bearing the names of Americans killed or missing in the war.

On March 27, 1794, acting on the recommendation of President George Washington, Congress approved the establishment of the United States Navy.

On March 27, 1807, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, who would become the most influential poet of his day, was born in Portland, Maine.

On March 27, 1884, the first long-distance telephone call (between the managers of the Bell Telephone Company in Boston and New York) was made.

On March 27, 1899, Guglielmo Marconi sent the first long-distance radio signals across the English Channel.

On March 27, 1920, movie fans waxed ecstatic over the wedding of Hollywood’s two most popular stars, Mary Pickford “America’s Sweetheart,” and Douglas Fairbanks.

On March 28, 1925, the Chicago Tribune moved into the newly completed Tribune Tower.

On March 28, 1979, the nation’s worst commercial nuclear accident occurred when a cooling system malfunctioned at Pennsylvania’s Three Mile Island power plant.
On March 28, 1987, Maria von Trapp, whose life was the inspiration for the musical, "The Sound of Music," died, in Morrisville, Vermont, at the age of 87.

On March 29, 1638, Swedish colonists settled in the area of present-day Delaware.

On March 29, 1812, the first White House wedding took place when Lucy Payne Washington, sister-in-law of President James Madison, married supreme Court Justice Thomas Todd.

On March 29, 1848, mighty Niagara Falls stopped falling when an ice jam on Lake Erie blocked the flow of water to the Niagara River. It was 30 hours before the ice broke, and the falls were once more the delight of honeymooners.

On March 29, 1932, vaudeville comedian Jack Benny made his radio debut with these words, "Ladies and gentlemen, this is Jack Benny. There will be a slight pause while you say, `Jack who'?"

On March 29, 1976, the movie "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" won Academy Awards for best picture, best actor, best actress, and best director.

On March 30, 1791, Maryland ceded the District of Columbia to the federal government.

On March 30, 1858, Philadelphia's Hyman Lipman was granted a patent for a pencil equipped with an eraser.

On March 30, 1867, U.S. Secretary of State William Seward reached an agreement with Russia for the purchase of Alaska. Even though the entire area cost only $7.2 million, the deal was ridiculed in the U.S. press as "Seward's Folly," or "Seward's Icebox."

On March 30, 1942, a federal directive required that, for the duration of World War II, men's suits be manufactured without cuffs, pleats, or patch pockets.

On March 30, 1981, while leaving a Washington hotel, President Reagan was shot by John Hinckley, Jr. Also shot was White House Press Secretary, James Brady; a secret service agent, and a Washington police officer.

On March 31, 1880, Wabash, Indiana, became the first town to be completely illuminated by electricity.

On March 31, 1889, the Eiffel Tower was officially opened in Paris.

On March 31, 1917, following their purchase from Denmark, the United States officially took possession of the Danish West Indies, renaming them the Virgin Islands.

On March 31, 1943, "Oklahoma," the long-running Rodgers and Hammerstein musical, opened on Broadway.

On March 31, 1949, Newfoundland became Canada's 10th province.
Travels with Charley:

Catching a Butterfly by the Chicago River Gently Flowing

by Charles McKelvy

When Natalie and I recently informed Madam Editor that we were off to Chicago in two days to see the Lyric Opera of Chicago's production of Giacomo Puccini's timeless "Madama Butterfly," she suggested we focus on something other than the opera.

After all, Paula McHugh had just taken us all behind the scenes at the Lyric Opera in her fascinating cover story in the February 26 edition of The Beacher, and I have been known over the years to write large about various operas I have seen at the Lyric.

So, said Madam Editor, it was time to focus on something else in downtown Chicago.

We assured her we would be taking the South Shore into town and would have plenty of time for exploration prior to the 2 p.m. curtain at the Lyric for the matinee performance of "Butterfly."

Now, Natalie and I are nothing if we are not a pair of happy hikers. We buy all our shoes at Magro's in Michigan City and so are properly shod for many happy miles of tramping about the dunes of Michigan Indiana and the sidewalks of Chicago.

City. We wanted to buy a book for my brother as a retirement gift, so we reckoned we'd have to head a few blocks here and there to find the right bookstore, and we sort of thought we'd do a progress report on the Millennium Park project, but — well — we got the book buying business done sooner than expected, and, since we had packed a lunch, we figured the only proper place in which to eat it was at the cafe at the Randolph Street end of the Chicago Cultural Center.

Yes, I speak fondly of our non-exclusive club in the city — that wondrous castle of culture that graces Michigan Avenue between Randolph and Washington with her stately presence, with easy access from Randolph Street Station.

Speaking of the latter, we must report that there are actually spanking-new-clean-and-modern restrooms open for your convenience at Randolph Street Station.

Yes, shock of shock, our conductor told us that we didn't have to race to the Cultural Center or Marshall Field's to use the facilities because such facilities now exist in the world's longest running construction project, otherwise known as Randolph Street Station.

We were so shocked and awed, that I even snapped a photo of Natalie partaking of the new drinking fountain.

And then we went and did our book business and then we went and had a delightful brown-bag lunch at the Cultural Center, all the while realizing that it is the only place in downtown Chicago where one can just plop down in an indoor space with comfortable tables and chairs and eat one's own lunch in peace and quiet.

Yes, the Chicago Cultural Center is truly the only club we would ever join in downtown Chicago because it is truly open to one and to all.

That's what we love about it, and I could run my tank dry gassing on about all we saw and did that fine day before the opera, but I am obliged to report that the Museum of Broadcast Communications, which occupied space at the Washington Street end, was indeed closed. There was even a notice on the door of a "one-of-a-kind" auction set for March 6 from 10 a.m. to noon.
for museum members and noon to 8 p.m. for non-members.

Sad.

But there was so much glad art to see elsewhere in the Cultural Center that day that we really didn’t have time to get bummed out.

In the Michigan Avenue Galleries, for instance, we found a fascinating group exhibition called “Perfect” that featured, among other things, a canvas covered entirely by black ink and another work that traced the artist’s movements within the city of Chicago over a period of years.

Don’t worry, fans of far-out, you have until March 21 to make an appointment with perfection.

Moving right along, we moved right on up to the Sidney R. Yates Gallery on the fourth floor on the Randolph Street side where we explored the last wild places in the world with such world-class photographers as Annie Leibovitz, Fazal Sheikh, and Sally Mann. The major traveling exhibition presents 124 photographs commissioned by the Nature Conservancy and will hanging around the Cultural Center until March 28, so head on over to Carroll Avenue soon and let the South Shore whisk you off to the wilderness looming over Randolph Street Station.

As you are surmising from the growing length of this discourse on the Cultural Center, Natalie and I chewed up nearly all of our allotted pre-opera free time wandering about the Cultural Center.

So we had to quick-march west to the Lyric on Wacker Drive between Madison and Washington.

We made such good time marching cross-town that we arrived at what Paula McHugh described as Samuel Insull’s grand Civic Opera Building with enough time for a few more photographs. It being a sunny day in late winter with the promise of butterflies in the air, we headed across the south branch of the gently flowing Chicago River on the architec-

utarly significant Washington Boulevard Bridge and positioned ourselves in the plaza across the river from the Civic Opera Building.

From that perspective, we could easily see that Insull had designed his 45-story office tower to appear as a throne to anyone looking at it from across the river. We looked, snapped, took a quick side-trip through CitiCorp Center at Madison and Canal to see what a proper commuter train station should look like, and then followed the happy herd into the Lyric for our appointment with the ill-fated Japanese Butterfly and the philandering American naval officer who done her wrong.

And, just so you know, we had plenty of time to:
1. Give French soprano Sylvie Valayre a prolonged standing ovation for fully realizing one of opera’s most demanding roles,
2. Grab some victuals at a fast-food place on Washington,
3. Catch the 5:58 train for home.
Tough work, but somebody had to do it!
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Long Beach
Women’s Bowling

March 16, 2004

Team Standings

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<tr>
<td>Alley Cats</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>16</td>
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<td>Graceful Gutters</td>
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High Team Game

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High Team Series

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High Individual Games

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High Series Scratch

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<td>Becky Pendergast</td>
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<td>Helen Stephenson</td>
<td>479</td>
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Splits:

- 3-7 split picked up by Ruth Werdine
- 2-7 split picked up by Billie McCanish

Strikes:

- 6 in a row: Kim Fellows
- 3 in a row: Tami Mullins & Leighann Murray

FRIDAY, MARCH 26

6-8 p.m. EVENING EXPLORATIONS. Owls and beavers and bats, oh my...things really do go “bump” in the night at Indiana Dunes! Join a ranger for a two mile nighttime hiking adventure along the Little Calumet River. Listen for frogs chorusing and experiment with your night vision as you discover what some nocturnal inhabitants of the park are up to. Dress for the weather. Boots are recommended. Meet at Mnoke Prairie parking lot.

SUNDAY, MARCH 28

1:30-3 p.m. FANTASTIC FROGS. The peeps, trills, and twangs of singing frogs herald the coming of spring. These fascinating creatures have adaptations ranging from unbelievable to downright bizarre. Hop on over to the Dorothy Buell Memorial Visitor Center to learn more about these amazing amphibians. This a great program for beginners and families.

For more information, phone 219/926-7561, ext. 225.
CLASSIFIED

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Cleaning tailored to fit our customer’s needs. We insure that each client receives consistent, thorough service. We will beat, or meet, any competitor’s bid & offer. Senior discounts. Ref. avail. - 219/878-0474.

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Is your list of household repair & maintenance projects growing?
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TOP RESTAURANT JOBS NOW AVAILABLE

All positions are now available as the area’s finest restaurant reopens for the season. Take advantage of these opportunities for servers, bartenders, server’s assistants, sous chef and line cooks.

Excellent income, great working conditions
and wonderful clientele!

APPLY IN PERSON
2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. (EST)
Friday, March 26  -  Saturday, March 27

MILLER'S
COUNTRY HOUSE
RED ARROW HWY., UNION PIER, MI
THE A & L PAINTING COMPANY -- INTERIOR & EXTERIOR
20-YEARS EXPERIENCE. References. Reasonable.
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Landscape Design & Installation
Brick & flagstone patios, walks, retaining walls, timber. -- Fieldstone, ledgerock, sod, hydroseeding, clean-ups, trimming.
LOW PRICES ON MULCHES, PULVERIZED SOIL, 12 TYPES DECORATIVE ROCKS, FLAGSTONE. - 13-Acre Garden Center. 7,000 Sq. Ft. Gift Store.
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Dependability is (your) #1 priority
SMALL’S GARDEN CENTER
Landscape Design & Installation
Brick & flagstone patios, walks, retaining walls, timber. -- Fieldstone, ledgerock, sod, hydroseeding, clean-ups, trimming.
LOW PRICES ON MULCHES, PULVERIZED SOIL, 12 TYPES DECORATIVE ROCKS, FLAGSTONE. - 13-Acre Garden Center. 7,000 Sq. Ft. Gift Store.
FREE ESTIMATES. - 219/778-2568.

CHUCK’S LANDSCAPING AND TREE SERVICE.
Custom landscape design & installation. Tree & shrub planting.
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Brick Patios - Driveway Designs -- Parking Problems? Resolved!
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ONE CALL DOES IT ALL
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FREE Hall Rental Monday-Thursday

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Specializing in lawn maintenance, sod, seed, retaining walls, and more. Celebrating 10 years in business. Call now to receive 10% discount on all landscaping and lawn maintenance needs. Office 219/879-7829.
Cell 219/871-9182. - Ron Deutsch, Owner/Landscaper.

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ATTENTION DRIVERS - NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!
TMC Transportation needs drivers. Guaranteed weekly earnings. Premium equipment and benefits. Excellent earning potential, and still be OFF WEEKENDS! It’s not a job, it’s a future.
FOR CDL Training. Call today. - 1-800-882-7364
ACO064

TAKING APPLICATIONS for two part-time sales persons at local landscape nursery. Candidates must have strong desire to work in nursery environment. Weekends a must. Approximately 30/hr week. $7.00 per hour. Apply CLARK’S SECRET GARDEN, 594 Eastwood Road, Michigan City. Fax resume to 219/873-7263, or Email paula@clarkssecretgarden.com

WANT TO BUY OR SELL
ART & OFFICE SUPPLIES (FIRME’S)
(2 Stores) 11th & Franklin Streets, Michigan City - 219/874-3455
Highway 12, Beverly Shores - Just West of Traffic Light.

FOR SALE -- TWO WAVERUNNERS w/duel trailers. 1997 Arctic Cat Tigershark. 768 CC. 90 HP. 1994 Yamaha Pro VXR. 701 CC. 63 HP.
Take them all at $3,900. - Phone 219/872-5611.

REAL ESTATE

REAL ESTATE WANTED - BUY OR RENT
BUYER DESIRES TO PURCHASE SMALL COTTAGE OR HOUSE
Call 312/255-9680.

COMMERCIAL - RENTALS/LEASE/SELL

GOLDEN SANDES STORE AND LOCK
OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE IN POPULAR HACIENDA BUILDING
Sizes from 720 SF up to 1750 SF.
For more information call 219/874-8748

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 in March -- Call 219/872-0318

RENTAL INDIANA

HOUSE FOR RENT IN LONG BEACH

LONG BEACH COZY 4/BR HOUSE AT STOP 15 (Across from Beach)
Firepit, pond. Large Deck

DUNESCAPE BEACH CLUB
LAKEFRONT CONDOS -- 2 and 3 bedrooms. Winter Rentals -- $1,250 to $1,600 per month
DUNESCAPE REALTY - 219/872-0588.

SEASONAL & YEAR-ROUND HOMES FOR LEASE
4/BR, 3/BATH 2 STORY HOME - Just 3 doors from the beach at Stop 26. Available, furnished or unfurnished, on a one year basis. $1,200/mo plus utilities.
3/BR, 2/BATH FURNISHED HOME - Sheridan Beach, just 1 door from the lake. Available for seasonal lease for $1,000/mo plus utilities.
1/BR CONDO IN MARINA PARK. Available, seasonally, for $800/mo, or year-round for $1,200/mo plus utilities.

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2521 GLENDALE WAY, LONG BEACH

For more information, please visit www.mickygallasproperties.com.

MICKY GALLAS PROPERTIES -- 219/874-7070

DUNESCAPE BEACH CLUB
Gorgeous 3-year-old, 2-story, 2-car garage, fireplace, 3/BR, 2 and 1/2 bath. Beautifully FURNISHED and decorated. The beach and all club amenities, including indoor pool and workout facilities, are just steps away. Avail Immediately through May 31 (June negotiable). $900/month. Call (865) 384-8104.


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 + Bdms. Avail June thru Sept. by the week.
Call 773/935-1855 days, or 773/248-3265 evenings.

SHERIDAN BEACH - Large, luxury 3/BR, 1 1/2 Bath. Across from Beach. Cent/Air. W/D. Avail Apr 1st. $1,000/mo. 219/872-4446.


PARADISE VILLAS
Beach & Vacation Rentals
MAKE YOUR VACATION RESERVATIONS NOW!
Step off the back deck onto the sandy beaches of Lake Michigan in Sheridan beach. Beautiful cottage, exceptionally clean, sleeps six. - $2,500 wkly rental.
219/879-2104, 219/20-0259, 219/861-6328, wwwparadisevillas.biz

LONG BEACH HOUSE FOR RENT - Great location, very close to beach and parks. 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 312/953-9570.

LONG BEACH HOUSE RENTAL
Call now to reserve Summer '04 weekly rental of this JUST refurbished 3BR house. Sleeps 10. Includes new kitchen, lighting, furniture, beds & paint. Only one block from Stop 22 beach. No Pets.
For info/rates - call Tim at 773/975-1291

BEAUTIFUL BEACH HOUSE WITH LAKE VIEWS - Avail April 1st for full summer or one year lease. New kitchen (stainless appliances, granite countertops & bath. 1/BR + Den. Fireplace. For summer lease, $2,800/month. One year lease, $975/month - Call 219/873-1180.

INDIANA & MICHIGAN - Vacation Rentals - One to 8 bedrooms on or near the lake. Call Executive Group Sales & Rentals Realty, LLC 269/469-9813, or www.eqrsales.com


DESIRABLE BEACH HOUSE ON 2 LOVELY WOODED LOTS.
1/4 Block from lake (Stop 37) Michiana Shores. 3/BR + loft. Sleeps 8 comfortably. Cent/Air. Screened back porch & wrap around deck, + porch off master bedroom. All utilities & cable included, except phone calls. Avail weekly or monthly. Phone Mike @ 847/321-8661, or Judy @ 847/967-8215. -- Email: jvwestern@comcast.net.

RENTALS MICHIGAN
Call Gary at 269/449-2168 to see more.

BEAUTIFUL VINTAGE MICHIANA COTTAGE FOR SUMMER RENTAL

INDIANA & MICHIGAN - Vacation Rentals - One to eight bedrooms on or near the lake. Call Executive Group Sales & Rentals Realty, LLC 269/469-9813, or www.eqrsales.com


MICHIGAN - GRAND BEACH -- Lake front home, just 42 steps down to a private beach on Lake Michigan. Enjoy magnificent sunsets from this lake-front deck. Golf course and tennis courts are within walking distance. This cozy 3/BR is air-conditioned and equipped with a washer & dryer. For $1,750/mo., or June & Sept. for $975/wk. Call 708/848-1025 for a viewing appointment.

FLORIDA RENTALS
FLORIDA KEY'S OCEANFRONT CONDO AVAIL FOR RENT

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE
WOODED, 88 X 120, HOMESITE. City water & sewer. Birch Drive, Michigan, IN area. $65,000. - Broker/Owner - 239/283-2437.

GRAND BEACH, MI - By Owner. "Detail & photos at www.gonehome.com, ad# 061928." Close to private beach, tennis, golf, etc. Ph. 269/469-3944 for showing. Buyer's agent commission, $725.00.

MICHIANA SHORES - New Construction - 1700 Sq. Ft. Cape Cod. Invest or own. Great deal from builder. Will be completed by July.
Please call 708/288-2481.

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Off the Book Shelf
by Sally Carpenter

3rd Degree by James Patterson and Andrew Gross

It was a clear, calm, lazy April morning, the day
the worst week of my life began.”

So begins novel number twenty-something for
James Patterson. I have never read this mainstream
author before and it’s easy to see why he’s so popu-
lar. The book practically reads itself to you...well, that
might be exaggerating just a little, but the point is that
the story opens with a bang (literally) and carries you
along like a high speed Amtrak.

3rd Degree is the third book in Patterson’s Women’s
Murder Club series. Other titles are 1st to Die and
Second Chance. The stories revolve around four
friends: Lindsay Boxer, homicide lieutenant on the San
Francisco Police Department; Jill Bernhardt, assis-
tant district attorney; Claire Washburn, San Francisco’s
chief medical officer; and Cindy Thomas, crime
reporter for the San Francisco Chronicle. Four beau-
tiful young women...but don’t mistake them for
“Charlie’s Angels.” These gals are educated and intel-
ligent and go about their jobs not with flying karate
moves and a swing of their gorgeous hair, but with sci-
entific reasoning and common good sense.

In this story, most of the narrative is spoken by
Lindsay Boxer. Our story starts with Lindsay having
a morning run with her border collie, Martha, and one
of her friends, Jill. An explosion rocks the neighbor-
hood as the pair pass a building that blows apart and
Lindsay rushes in looking for survivors. She finds
a little boy and barely manages to get him out before
becoming asphyxiated. The victims are the boy’s par-
ents, a high powered executive type and his wife. Their
six month old baby, however, is missing.

A group, or person, calling itself August Spies
claims responsibility and soon there is another mur-
der.....and another bombing. The group makes references
to corporate greed, AIDS in Africa, etc. They want a
scheduled meeting of the G-8, an international eco-
nomic conference, to be canceled. They promise a
killing every three days if their demands are not
met. When a bomb goes off in a busy mall during lunch
hour, things heat up and the police bring in Joe
Molinari, deputy director of Homeland Security....and
a bit of a hunk to boot......not that Lindsay noticed of
course.

Woven into this story is the secret that friend Jill
has been hiding for possibly years. Lindsay sees
some bruises on Jill that she doesn’t explain very well.
Later, the truth about her abusive husband, Steve,
comes out and becomes just one more frustration in
Lt. Boxer’s life. Do you confront the jerk and let him
know that you’re watching him, or do you stay out of
their marriage all together? That’s a tough choice that
will come to haunt Lindsay when Jill goes missing.

The subject matter in 3rd Degree is relevant today
and chillingly possible. The image of a madman calm-
ly putting together a bomb in his living room burns
a mental image in the reader’s mind that seems all
too real in today’s crazed world of terrorists and
extremists.

There are a few twists and turns in this story to keep
you on your toes, and all in all, it makes for a fast and
satisfying read.

Till next time, happy reading!

---

Flowers With Jazz

Spring is here!!
This week’s special -
Daffodil bunches $2.50
(10 Stems)

1099 N. Karwick Road
Michigan City, IN 46360
(Inside Tinkers Dam)
219-872-5668
Free Delivery To All Of Long Beach

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American Express-Discover
Monday-Friday 8:30-5:00
Saturday 8:30-3:00
OPEN SUNDAY FROM 1-3 pm.

3606 MICHINDA

DUNELAND BEACH SPECIAL! You can enjoy lake views from the patio around your own in-ground pool with this sparkling clean limestone and redwood tri-level home at Stop 36. Built in 1958 for the daughter of Chicago businessman Paul “the waiter” Ricca, comfort is the key to this well-maintained home.

The north wall of the main level is all glass, providing views of Lake Michigan to a spacious living room that also features an Indiana limestone fireplace. A convenient eat-in kitchen has updated appliances and is open to a family room with its own limestone fireplace and entry to the privacy of the pool and patio.

There are four really large bedrooms on the upper level, including a master bedroom with bath. Downstairs, a family room/library has beautiful built-in shelves, cabinetry and desk. With its own full bath and entry from the garage, it could serve as perfect guest quarters.

The yard is about 4/10 of an acre and situated above the street so that your family’s privacy is never an issue. The roof and gutters are brand new. Located just 2 doors from the beach at Stop 36, this home will bring you years of enjoyment as it and you appreciate in value! Call Michele Meden for your view of the Lake!

$724,500

DIRECTIONS: Take Lake Shore Drive to Stop 36. Turn inland and go to house at top of the street. You’re there!
BARBECUE, BEACH PARTIES, and sunsets over Lake Michigan make entertaining easy in Indiana Limestone and Redwood ranch on 3 hillside Long Beach lots. Walls of windows in living room, dining room and family room frame constantly changing Lake Michigan views.

See through Indiana limestone fireplace in family room is shared with the living room, as are panoramic views of Lake Michigan.

The patio off the kitchen is great for outdoor meals or just relaxing in privacy. Another patio overlooks the lake.

New Pergo hardwood floors, new ceramic floors. Bedroom or den and bath in lower level also new. New fascia and soffits in the living room. Beautifully maintained, it is ready to move in at any time. $888,000

SUMMER RENTALS!!
Many summer rentals are now available!! All shapes and sizes available for your enjoyment. For more information please call: 219-874-5209