Sandhill Cranes Have a Wild Time at Jasper-Pulaski

by Paula McHugh

On an early November morning an hour or so past sunrise, the sandhill crane observation tower at Jasper-Pulaski Fish and Wildlife Area was nearly empty. And the staging area for the cranes, a flat, open area of approximately 100 acres named Goose Prairie, was in the process of emptying.

The tamped-down furrows of dried mud and puddles might be the perfect place for the dancing rituals at sunrise and sunset, but breakfast awaited elsewhere. The sandhill cranes like to forage for corn and soybeans left behind from the harvest, and they don't mind the taste of mice and other vermin either. Perhaps the birds that remained had full bellies. There must have been close to a thousand lingering on the field as the sun rose higher in the sky. The birds could be heard as far back as the walking path approaching the observation deck. If a person did not already know what was up ahead, they might think they were headed toward a field where excited high school football fans were cheering like crazy.

The visitor likewise makes the assumption that all these sandhill cranes on the field have been awake for hours. Maybe they've partied all night, jiving and hooting their off-rhythm courting ritual ‘til dawn.

Cranes Continued on Page 2
Cranes Continued from Page 1

Goose prairie is not as solidly packed as one might see at sunrise or sunset. The late-night partiers here seem to be lingering before heading to the nearby farmers’ fields.

The best time for viewing the sandhill cranes at Jasper-Pulaski Fish & Wildlife area is now through early December.

Some cranes are standing next to large puddles of water, and maybe they are admiring their reflections. Maybe they are waiting to be invited by some of the other birds to fly off together for a morning bite to munch.

A crane with wings spread (middle of photo) does his dance, but it appears that the object of his attention wants to ignore him.
Maybe they are coffee-klatching instead of pursu-
ing a heartier meal. Some are standing next to large
puddles of water, and maybe they are admiring their
reflections. Maybe they are waiting to be invited by
some of the other birds to fly off together for a morn-
ing bite to munch. The birds, when they do decide to
take wing and leave this barren field, do so in flocks
of four, five, and six, maybe eight. Others return
from some not-so-far-off field, acting as food scouts,
perhaps. A few stand in the field and practice their
dance steps and wing flaps.

In past visits to Jasper-Pulaski during the cranes’
migration south, we’ve seen the field crammed with
the birds at sunset, as they return from their day’s
feeding forays. We’ve watched the ritual dances when
young and old, male and female cranes perform.
First the crane bows low and then jumps straight up
in the air. Then he (or she) bows again, and often throws
bits of leaves over its shoulder as it leaps again. This
morning, the leap of one or two birds was all the
show we were going to get within a half-hour’s time.
Sunrise and sunset is absolutely the best time for wit-
tnessing the best of the behavioral antics of these
feathered wonders. Not only did this writer witness
the twin sunset/sunrise spectacles during an overnight
stay some five years ago, the Jasper-Pulaski website
also suggests the best viewing times. No tickets are
needed and you can leave the popcorn at home. Bring-
ing a thermos of hot coffee or chocolate isn’t a
bad idea, however. And binoculars.

During our visit, we met former Michigan City
resident Jack Livings and his wife, Susan, who now
hail from Niles, Michigan. The Livings were the only
other crane viewers around, and they were journey-
ing to the Michiana area from their home in Kirksville,
Missouri to visit relatives and attend a trade show in
Chicago. Little did they expect to run into a writer/pho-
tographer for a Michigan City weekly paper. But
they graciously agreed to have their picture taken, any-
way. Then it was back to the tower to take more pic-
tures of the feathered friends below and beyond.

Former Michigan City resident Jack Livings and his wife, Susan, who
hails from Niles, Michigan, were driving back to the Michiana area from
their new home in Missouri. The Livings, besides the birds, were, ahem,
the only other living things around when we visited.

Cranes Continued on Page 4
The observation tower has two telescope viewers for visitors who have not brought along binoculars. Looking through the lens, a viewer will see that the four-foot tall cranes wear a humble, grayish coat of feathers that blend nicely with the usual, bland November surroundings in rural Northern Indiana. The younger cranes have brown feathering on the nape of their necks. But since the sandhill species tend to paint themselves with mud to blend with their late-autumn surroundings, it can be difficult figuring out which birds are the youngsters and which adults are rehearsing for breeding season. When a flock of the birds takes flight, their seven-foot wing spans allow them to float into the sky with minimal effort. The effect of a flock, however small, flying directly overhead is an exhilarating sight to experience, even for non-birders. We noticed an interesting thing, too: when pointing a camera lens into the direction of the birds overhead, the cranes appeared to speed up and fly out of range as fast as possible. Could be that they thought we were pointing a lethal weapon, because off in the distance, beyond the oboe-squawks and clacks of the birds we could hear hunters’ rifles ka-plowing at some unfortunate species of wildlife. We can’t blame the birds for keeping a safe distance from us humans.

Jasper-Pulaski is one of Indiana’s largest remaining wetland areas, and the Sandhill cranes like to stop here, as they have done for eons before continuing on to their winter playgrounds in Georgia or Florida. It could be that the weather has been still on the mild side for peak numbers to appear at their Hoosier staging grounds. As many as 30,000 of the long-necked, no-longer-endangered birds can amass on their chosen turf at Jasper-Pulaski. An article written by the International Crane Foundation (ICF) says that fossils over six million years old found in Nebraska make the sandhill crane the oldest still-living species of bird. The Greater Sandhill Crane is native to Wisconsin, and two other subspecies, the lesser, and Canadian are migratory. The Wisconsin sandhills totaled as few as 25 breeding pairs in the mid-’30s, but with protection and restoration of wetlands areas there, their population began rebounding in the ’70s. Sandhills are the most numerous of all the cranes, now numbering more than half a million. Their cousins, the Whooping cranes, guided by an ultralight from Operation Migration, stopped over in Boone County just north of Indianapolis a few weeks ago on their 1200-mile trip to winter digs in central Florida. The Whooping crane population has been increasing steadily under the watchful stewardship of Operation Migration staff. The ultralight pilots disguise themselves to look like a whooper, as the birds are nicknamed. The juvenile birds still need help with their southern flight, but others are making their way just fine. We later learned that a pair of the rarer, and taller (five feet) whooping cranes landed among the sandhills at Goose Prairie the day after our visit. The pair had settled in Michigan for the summer, and apparently is not in need of the guidance of an ultralight to fly to Florida.

Jasper-Pulaski is a straight shot down route 421, just past San Pierre. Take the second entrance into the park at Route 143 and look for the turnoff to the Sandhill Crane observation tower on your right. Other than porta-potties, you’ll find no conveniences close-at-hand. Since the deck offers little or no shelter from the wind, pack a warm jacket and a hat. If you plan to take pictures, you’ll need at least a 70-300mm lens, although our little digital point-and-shoot did surprisingly well at times. And at sunset, you’ll be shooting directly into the sun, so taking good photos can be tricky.

Before you go, check out the DNR’s website for Jasper-Pulaski Fish and Wildlife Area at www.in.gov/dnr/fishwild/publications/scranes.htm. They post updates on the numbers of Sandhills that currently populate the field. As you read this, the numbers should be at or close to their peak. Yet some birds can remain there as long as early December.

Dancing ’til dawn? Go see for yourself. Life’s too short, and so is the trip from LaPorte County, to miss this yearly spectacle.
IF YOU’RE SEEKING THE PERFECT LITTLE HIDEAWAY, THIS ONE’S A NATURAL.

Nothing against those big condo complexes, with their pools, playgrounds and parking lots. We just think there should be a place in New Buffalo for people who prefer something simpler, quieter, more traditional. Where a cottage is really a cottage, with plank cedar siding and pine floors, limestone patios and handcrafted woodwork. Not too big, not too small, just honestly proportioned and ideally designed for vacation living. We call it Walden. You’ll call it perfect. From the $270s to $400,000. To find out more, call Esperanza Realty Group at 269.469.9500

Walden
A PLACE WHOSE TIME HAS COME AGAIN
269.469.9500
445 S. Whittaker, New Buffalo, MI 49117

Photos are an interpretative representation
Potawatomi Audubon Dinner & Program

Potawatomi Audubon Society will celebrate fifty years of Christmas Bird Counts and honor their founder, Dorthy Buck, with a dinner and program on Sun., Dec. 5.

Dorthy’s friends and count participants from nearby Audubon chapters are invited to come and enjoy a catered dinner and program at the NIPSCO Training Center, Zigler Road, LaPorte, beginning at 12:30 p.m. Guests are invited to bring, as contributions to the program, a few slides, photos, clippings and recollections of the counts they have participated in over the years.

Dinner reservations with checks for $12.50 per person are due by Nov. 29 to Potawatomi Audubon Society, P.O. Box 1632, LaPorte, IN 46352. For further information, phone Mary Jo Pflum, 219/324-0649, or Marian Schoonaert, 219/872-0052.

Potawatomi Audubon will continue to conduct two Christmas counts this season. In conformity with National Audubon requirements and holiday dates, the final Southeast LaPorte County bird search will be held on Jan. 2. The Potawatomi Chapter will continue its annual Christmas counts, with its official Northeast Christmas Bird County on Dec. 18. Watch for details if you want to help continue this tradition.

Call The Beacher With Your News
(219) 879-0088

Shiloh Crossing in Concert

Shiloh Crossing will perform in concert at the Michigan City Public Library on Sun., Nov. 21, at 2 p.m. Shiloh Crossing is a small, but mighty, band with “energy unplugged.” David Allen Raby and Julietta Satter Thornton sing harmony and play guitars, fiddle, mandolin, bass mandolin and percussion. Their musical influences go back as far as the Civil War with a folk music tradition of carrying news to the common people. They are also influenced by gospel and rock music. Special guests will be Rich Hoblitzel, guitarist, and Geoff Ryan, bass player, who will bring their own unique sound to folk standards.
SHOPPING FOR A NEW HOME?

The opportunity in today’s real estate market has never been better. When you’re ready, Micky Gallas Properties can help make your move a successful one.

3322 LaSalle Trail • $339,000
Just a short stroll to private beach at Stop 33 from this totally quality renovated home. Features 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, family room in lower level with walk out to back yard, highly durable solid bamboo floors (with 25 yr. warranty) throughout main level. Brand new kitchen with light maple cabinets, ceramic tile and all new appliances. New furnace, central air and more!

407 Birch Tree Lane • $85,000
Great main floor 1 bedroom condo in Long Beach Pointe. Large living area with parquet flooring, ceramic flooring in kitchen. Very nice views from patio. Association fees paid monthly include all gas, including heat, exterior maintenance and snow removal.

2207 Bayview Drive • $249,000
Lovely 2 bedroom, 2½ bath condo at The Shores. Looking over Lake Claire, this condo features 2 levels, an updated kitchen and a fireplace in the great room. Completely updated fresh new colors, new bath, new carpeting and a very desirable location with fabulous serene lake views. Don’t miss this newly decorated and updated condo. It is beautiful!

515 Birch Tree Lane • $85,000
Very nice main floor corner unit at the west end of the 500 Building. New carpeting, updated kitchen, walk-in closet. Large living area, stack washer & dryer. Basement storage. Desirable location on the main floor, close to street side parking.

Shirl Bacztub, GRI 219/874-5642
Megan Campbell 219/861-3683
Judi Donaldson 219/879-1411
Diana Erslovas 219/874-9402
Laurie Farrell 219/874-0756
Missy Fredenburg 219/898-0785
Joe Gazarkiewicz 219/861-3750
Bill Gertner 219/874-2448
Diana Hirsch 219/363-0384
Ellen Holloway* 219/871-0936
Barb Holm-Pinks 219/325-0006
Susan Kelley* 219/874-5610
Deb Kozachenko 219/324-5805
Randy Novak*, ABR, GRI 219/874-2030
Jamie Pytynia 219/851-2164
Pat Tym*, ABR, GRI, SRES 219/872-0079

*Licensed in Indiana and Michigan
November 18, 2004

Thinking of having a Holiday Party?
Enjoy yourselves at

Martine's
Restaurant & Bar

Offering a Private Banquet room, excellent food and attentive service.
Book your parties now...
The Holiday season is approaching.

Call Megan
219.872.4500
521 Franklin Street
Michigan City, IN

“Hansel and Gretel”

On Sat., Nov. 20th, you can follow a trail of “musical breadcrumbs” to Lake Michigan College Mendel Center Mainstage to see the Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra’s new production of the opera “Hansel and Gretel.”

Fully staged and performed in English, this production features the spectacular, over-the-top, role of the Witch who lures young Hansel and Gretel to her Gingerbread House, captures them with her evil spell, and then tries to bake them into gingerbread cookies. It is the perfect entertainment for the whole family!

Tickets, starting at $15/adults and $7/students, are available through the Symphony Office at 269/982-4030 and online at www.smso.org. The performance begins at 8 p.m. (MI time), and there will be a “Meet the Witch” pre-concert talk at 7 p.m. hosted by local composer and teacher Dr. Larry Schanker.

Hansel and Gretel was premiered on Dec. 23, 1893 and has always been associated with Christmas because of its premiere date, its Fairy Tale story and the “Evening Prayer.” The opera is based on the Grimm Brothers’ Fairy Tale and began as a simple play-with-music project of Engelbert Humperdinck and his sister Adelheid Wette as neighborhood Christmas entertainment. At the time, Humperdinck was Wagner’s assistant at Festival Theater in Bayreuth and the real potential of the opera quickly became apparent to him. It was his greatest success and rapidly captured a worldwide audience.

Featured in this production is Jessye Wright (Hansel), Sharon Quattrin (Gretel), and Virginia Oram (The Witch). Also: Steven Arvanites, Laurel Thomas, Susan Baushke, Holly Hetfield, the 19-member Symphony Children’s Chorus under the direction of Carole Conrad, and the Citadel Dance Theater, choreographed by Ilene Cropley.

The Mendel Mainstage is located at Lake Michigan College, 2755 E. Napier Ave., Benton Harbor, MI.
Sand Castle #204
3 bedrooms - 2 baths Center
$440,000

Sand Castle #303
2 bedrooms - 2 baths
Northwest Corner
$595,000

Sand Castle #206
3 bedrooms - 2 baths Center
$450,000

Specialists in Beach Area Condominiums!
(219) 872-0588 • (800) 578-6777
THE Ruge Art Collection Estate Sale

An important collection of fine art, including the works of Ann Ruge and also many of the region’s early painters will be offered to the public for sale during a 3-day event beginning Friday evening, Nov. 19 from 5:30 until 9 pm. The sale will continue on Sat. and Sun., Nov. 20-21, from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

The Ruge family has generously offered Ann Ruge’s collected works for a major art sale whose proceeds will go to the nonprofit Chesterton Art Center. A partial list of artists whose work will be sold include Wayne Cooper, John Correll, Les Chaney, Vivian Carman, Della Schaller and Ann Ruge.

The sale will be conducted at the Ruge residence, 1601 West Porter Avenue in Chesterton.

For more information, contact the Chesterton Art Center at (219) 926-4711.

Come Sing-Along to Handel’s Messiah

Join the Northwest Indiana Symphony Chorus and Choral Director, Dr. Nancy Menk for “Sing-Along Messiah” on Sun., Nov. 28, 2004 -- 3. p.m. at St. Michael the Archangel Church -- U.S. 30 and Anna Street, Schererville, Indiana.

By popular request there will be a sing-along Messiah on the first Sunday of Advent. Start practicing Section I with your favorite recording. Dust off your own copy of Messiah, borrow a copy from a friend, or buy a new copy at the door. Complete Messiah vocal scores will be available at the performance for $10 while quantities last. Or, you may just choose to come and listen to the glorious music in the beautiful sanctuary of St. Michael the Archangel Church in Schererville, IN.

Dr. Nancy Menk, Northwest Indiana Symphony Chorus director, and chairperson of the choral department at St. Mary’s College, South Bend, will conduct the 100-voice Northwest Indiana Symphony Chorus. Members of the Northwest Indiana Symphony Orchestra will accompany the singing.

General admission is $20. Children age 8 and over are welcome with an adult. Single tickets will be sold both in advance and at the door and can be purchased by calling the symphony office or online at www.nwisymphony.org. Take advantage of advance sale special group rates by calling the Northwest Indiana Symphony office (219) 836-0525.

Lube, Oil, Filter

Service Hours
Mon.-Fri. 7:30 am-5:00 pm
Sat. 8:00 am-12:00 pm

10% OFF SERVICE OVER $100.00

“Check Engine” Light on?
Engine Diagnostic
All Makes & Models
$60.00
With coupon

Front End Alignment
$49.95
With coupon

Automatic Transmission Service
Chrysler - Dodge - Jeep
$89.95
With coupon

23 Point Vehicle Inspection
$19.95
With coupon

Lube, Oil, Filter with 16 Point Inspection
$18.95
Most Vehicles
With coupon

Full Detail Inside & Out
$99.95
Most Vehicles
With coupon

Coupons expire 12-31-04
$365K
Call Bobbie Cavic 269-469-8748

ON QUIET WOODED one half acre in Sawyer MI, just steps from beach. 3 bedroom contemporary, vaulted ceiling, Fieldstone fireplace, decks/balconies all around, separate studio/or guest quarters  
$389,900K
Call Bobbie Cavic 269-469-8748

HERON LAKE HILLS Sixty-seven pastoral acres make up this secluded development of 8 building sites in the midst of rolling hills, woods & a peaceful 4-acre pond. The first country home has been completed and this beautiful 4 bedroom, 3600 sq ft home, of estate quality construction, combined with natural materials, will be the headquarters for all of your weekend activities. See the stunning fall colors and preview this one-of-kind country property  
$1.2M
Call Gail Lowrie 800-469-6360

THIS GARDENERS DELIGHT backs up to Blueberry Creek. Lower level walkout offers full 1596 square feet for family & friends with a total of over 3000sf. 3BR/2BA home with large deck, large garage with private association beach at Stop 31 in Shoredland Hills. Lovely lot with trees in a park-like setting.  
$395K
Call Bonnie “B” Meyer 269-469-8735

CONTEMPORARY MASTERPIECE 1 lot up from Lake Michigan on nearly 4 acres. Elevator in home. Viking & Sub Zero stainless appliances, screened in porches for relaxing off each bedroom. Panoramic views of woods from family room. 1 mile to private beach access. A rare custom find!  
$1.425M
Call Gail Lowrie 800-469-6360

FABULOUS NEW CONSTRUCTION on the lakeside of Red Arrow. Only blocks to Union Pier beaches. Log & ceder on the outside, inside 4BR/3BA w/extra bonus room for family living or bedroom. Wood floors, beadboard cabinetry, quality appliances, large screened in porch & outside shower. House to be finished late fall.  
$599,900
Call Pat Higgins Glenday or Donna Iwamoto 269-469-8300

150’ OF GORGEOUS LAKE MICHIGAN FRONTAGE. Beautiful sandy beach. Lovely wooded lot for a perfect site to build your Lake Michigan Dream. Located in a private, gated community only one hour from Chicago. This community has retained much of its forest and natural beauty, incorporating tennis, pool, & pool house with sensitivity to retaining the wilderness setting. Truly a wonderful opportunity.  
$1.500M
Call Maury E. Reed 888-800-9955

LIVE AND WORK new construction on the main street of Union Pier. Township approval for outdoor sales, 2 lots with room to add loads of deck space for outdoor living or sale space. Lots of parking, high road exposure with 2 large ‘can be’ bedrooms upstairs with kitchen and vaulted beamed ceilings. Quality construction, full basement, ceramic floors in the baths. Residence with close proximity to the beach or Commercial venture.  
$399K
Call Betty Ramsey 269-469-8743

Dunescape Villas, Lakeshore Drive, Michigan City IN. Open house Saturday and Sunday from 1-4 p.m.
Yakima

This past summer, the words “community service” took on a whole new meaning for myself and seventeen other Marquette students. For most of us, community service meant shelving books at the library, or cleaning classrooms for teachers. To be completely honest, not many of us knew what we were getting ourselves into.

The outcome, however, couldn’t have been better. For one week, we spent our days in Yakima, Washington, through a program called Young Neighbors in Action. We were split up into several groups and performed community service around the area for people in need. Some of us worked in local food banks and food warehouses, others painted houses, and some worked with children.

“The whole experience was really rewarding,” senior Katie Pontius said. Katie and several others worked on a house for an elderly disabled woman. The woman desperately needed her house to be worked on, but did not have the physical or financial means to do so. For one week, one of our groups traveled about an hour every morning to arrive at the house. There they did a number of jobs around her house, including a paint job on the house and fence, and cleaning out her backyard. Senior Carissa Warren said, “It looked like a whole new house when we were done. The woman was so thankful for all our help.”

Not only did the group work on her house, they bonded with her. The woman spoke no English, but always made it clear how thankful she was. Every day she would come out of her house and walk around with a smile on her face, nodding her head. When the kids left after a day of work, they would say “Adios!”, and she would reply with “See ya!”, a phrase she picked up from the kids.

Another group worked at a local day care. the day care program was provided for children of migrant workers who couldn’t afford to send their children to day care for such long hours. Many of the kids stayed at the center for as long as 6 in the morning to 5 o’clock at night. It was challenging work, but the group really enjoyed it.
"I liked working with the kids, and I had a great time. I just tried to give them the attention they probably didn’t get at home. I know I learned something from them, and hopefully I taught them a few things too!” Senior Brandon Mason said.

The last group of Marquette students, the one I participated in, worked at the local food banks and food warehouses. For the first few days, we worked at the Northwest Harvest food warehouse, which is a warehouse with all donated goods. Companies from around the area would donate food that wasn’t suitable for grocery store shelves, and it was our job to sort through and decide what could still be consumed.

After working at the food warehouses, we were able to work with the local food banks. There we distributed donated food, clothing, and other items. It was challenging work, the food banks were very small, and it was hot and crowded. Most of the people we helped spoke hardly any English at all, but thankfully, our group leader, Peggy Rose, spoke a little Spanish. It was all worth it in the end, the smiles on the people’s faces and the joy they got from the donations was enough for all of us, and I know we all got a lot out of the experience.

Every student who participated in this service trip will explain what a great experience it was. Although at times it proved to be challenging, it was well worth it. We’ve all agreed that we'll never forget this trip, and the lessons we’ve learned from it. I strongly recommend that anyone, Marquette student or not, get involved in something like this. It’s an experience you’ll remember the rest of your life.

--------submitted by Maggie Pontius

At the Food Bank: (l-r) Theresa Mitchell, Courtney Althoff, Lisa Pairitz, Ryan Leonard, Maggie Pontius.
It’s “Turkey Walk” time again at International Friendship Gardens on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 25. From 9 a.m.-4 p.m., the public is invited to hike the Indian and Pioneer trails which first crossed the Gardens area centuries ago.

The event is turning into a family tradition for many area residents who bring their whole families and invite their neighbors and friends. Everyone is welcome to come and see how much restoration has been accomplished since last year.

Participants may come before their traditional Thanksgiving dinner to work up an appetite or after dinner to walk off the marvelous meal. There will be a live turkey at the entrance for children to see what a turkey looks like before it is “dressed” for the table. Fun turkeys will be hidden along the trail for kids to find.

The entrance for this 7th annual event is the one a mile east of the Blue Chip Casino on Hwy. 12. There is no admission fee but donations are always welcome. Information at 878-9885 or 874-6359.

Get to know the Michigan City Yacht Club with a winter-only membership.

It may be the end of the boating season, but things are just warming up at the Michigan City Yacht Club. Find yourself with a great new place to dine in a warm and friendly private club atmosphere. Entertain family, friends and business associates. Make use of our banquet facilities. And take part in the big parties, including the best New Year’s Eve celebration in town.

To find out about special winter-only memberships call our manager Sue Martin Urback at 219.879.3363
Childers Lane - Beachwalk

3 charming cottages on a quiet wooded street in the award winning Beachwalk community. Three bedrooms & 3 full baths w/ den that could be 4th bdrm. Buy now and choose your finishes! Beachwalk assessments are only $112.70 per month! Owners and guests get the use of all of Beachwalk’s amenities: swimming pool, tennis court, basketball court, putting green, parks, interior lake & seasonal cafe.

Prices start at $429,900

Call Mike Conner at 873-1855 or 312-735-2912

2012 Melrose Dr. - Great family home just 3 blocks to beach at Stop 20 in Long Beach! 4 bdrms and a big yard for all that summer entertaining! This home has been thoroughly remodeled and is practically brand new!

Price Reduced! $289,000

Call Rudy @ 219-873-1855

Huge open floor plan make this rehabbed cottage a delight. Just 2½ blocks to the beach! Big windows let in lots of light! New fireplace in living room open through to dining room. 3 bedrooms. Nice lot and very private backyard.

$165,000

Call Rudy @ 219-873-1855
Look no further than Dan Coffey

Right in the heart of New Buffalo on a 99 x 132 lot just 3 blocks from the beach and 2 blocks from the shops and restaurants is an 1875, 3 bedroom, 3 bath house. This is the entrance through one of the 2 patio garden areas where you will find a 1 bedroom, 1 bath visitor’s cottage. $525,000

This property has 2 houses and 2 garages, but the story is all about 78 acres of dense woods, tall trees, and rolling terrain. As you enter the property, you are immediately enclosed by the trees. The drive runs back 1800’ over the slopes and through the trees of this property. $1,100,000

A classic prairie style home fits perfectly on eight acres of prairie and woods, just 5 minutes from New Buffalo, 3 bedrooms, vaulted ceilings, and special decor throughout. Careful, extensive oak trim detail. Another “children’s house” possible in the massive basement. $425,000

This dune tapestry and hand-carved toy train will be raffled off at the Holiday Bazaar this weekend.

This annual event sponsored by the Dunes Woman’s Club will be held Sat., Nov. 20 from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. and Sun., Nov. 21 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Community House in Beverly Shores, just across from the South Shore train station. Scarves and hats featured in the boutique are hand knit and many are made with imported yarns. Unique purses created from cigar boxes are sure to delight someone on your gift list.

Wonderful baked goods as well as soups, chili and sauces will be available for immediate consumption or frozen to take home and enjoy later. Holiday Raffle Prizes are exceptional this year. There is a 6-car toy train hand-carved from assorted hardwoods and donated by master carpenter, Jack Husak. In addition Marilyn Hawrylewicz, artist and master weaver donated a striking dune tapestry entitled “Solitude.” See these items displayed at Beverly Shores Ad Bldg weekdays. Tickets are $5 each, 3 for $10 or 7 for $20. Information: Judy Weidman Bishop at 219/873-9785.

Monday Night Art Classes

The Art Barn School of Art announces Monday night art classes with instructors Marlies Glickauf and Jan Sullivan. You can sign up and bring along a friend for half price. Learn to paint fall and winter landscapes and still life. Classes meet Mondays from 6:30-9 p.m. Cost is $75 for six sessions and includes supplies. The Art Barn is located at 695 N 400 E, Valparaiso. Phone 219/462-9009, to register.

Library Holiday Closings

The Michigan City Public Library will close at 8 p.m. on Wed., Nov. 24, and reopen on Fri., Nov. 26 at 9 a.m. in honor of the Thanksgiving holiday.

All LaPorte County Public Library locations and the bookmobile will close at 1 p.m. on Wed., Nov. 24 and will reopen on Fri., Nov. 26.
MILLENNIUM PORTICA in GALAXY - also available in BLACK or NUTMEG
OTTOMAN $349 CHAIR $499 ROCKER RECLINER $499 LOVESEAT $649 SOFA $699

MILLENNIUM SOHO in BUTTERNUT
CHAISE OTTOMAN $549

MILLENNIUM TRIBECA in STONE
LOVESEAT $789 SOFA $799

MILLENNIUM LANCASTER in BLACK
OTTOMAN $299 CHAIR $369 LOVESEAT $499 SOFA $549

Stop in today! More Millennium sets by Ashley are on Sale Now!
Birthe Moe, a native of Denmark, will lead Danish Night at the Sat., Nov. 20th meeting of Sons of Norway Scandiana Chapter. There will also be a Christmas cookie exchange. The 7 p.m. program follows a potluck supper at 6 p.m. The meeting place is the Westchester Library Annex, 100 W. Indiana St., Chesterton. Visitors are welcome to attend.

The Acorn Theater will present human beatbox and vocal magician Yuri Lane in “From Tel Aviv to Ramallah,” a hip-hop travelogue of peace, on Fri. & Sat., Nov. 19 & 20.

The show is part hip-hop performance, part street-wise documentary in which Lane weaves a vox-pop tapestry of Palestinian and Israeli voices into a mosaic of the Middle East. Against a backdrop of muezzin calls and Tel Aviv traffic, the lives of Khalid and Amir progress with a hip-hop beat and intersect at a West Bank checkpoint.

The play evolved from Lane’s 1999 travels from Tel Aviv to Ramallah by bus, taxi and foot to visit friends on both sides of the Green Line. On his return from Ramallah, Uri was caught in a riot that foreshadowed the current Intifada. He also discovered the cultural divide between Israelis and Palestinians as well as the numerous commonalities of the two cultures.

“From Tel Aviv to Ramallah” telescopes the lives of Amir, a Tel Aviv DJ and delivery boy, and Khalid, a Palestinian Internet cafe owner. The show shuttles back and forth between a day in the life of Amir and Khalid and portrays the urban youth cultures of Israel and Palestine. As audiences visit a Tel Aviv rave, a Ramallah internet cafe and the bustling marketplaces of both cities, they see the struggle and the humor of life in the midst of conflict.

The show begins at 8 p.m. (MI time). Tickets are $15 and can be reserved by phoning 269/756-3879 or purchased at the door. The Acorn Theater is located at 107 Generations Dr., Three Oaks, MI.
What was to be a wonderful evening of celebration, suddenly turned into a life threatening event.

HEART ATTACKS HAPPEN

We were about to leave for a dinner honoring our 50th wedding anniversary when Joe had his heart attack. We were told he’d have to be taken to another hospital for the critical care he needed.

The ambulance ride to an unfamiliar hospital and being cared for by physicians we didn’t know, added to the stress.

We rest easier knowing La Porte Hospital now provides advanced cardiac care within our community and if it happens again, he’ll be cared for close to home, by physicians we know.

The HEART CENTER at La PORTE HOSPITAL
When Seconds Count... Count on Us
The Georgian-Lakeside Connection

John Wilson, past president and founder of the Chicago International Art Exposition (held every spring at Navy Pier in Chicago), and who has hosted artists from around the globe at his Lakeside Studio, in Lakeside, MI, was invited by the Republic of Georgia to attend and give a presentation on “Market Formation and Art Business Development” at a seminar in Tbilisi, the capital city of the Republic of Georgia.

Mr. Wilson, who is retired from active exposition planning, is considered an expert in the field, and also attended the China Art Business Forum in Beijing in 2002 as a guest of the China Cultural Ministry.

Being awarded a U.S. Speaker and Specialist Grant by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of International Information Programs, to attend this meeting brings with it numerous possibilities, but definitely one possibility was a special exhibit of the works of Georgian artisans at the Lakeside Gallery. This exhibit opened Oct. 15 and features past artists in residence from the Republic of Georgia and some newer works arranged from the trip. The Lakeside Gallery is located at 15486 Red Arrow Hwy., Lakeside, MI. For more information, phone 269/469-3022 or log onto www.lakesidegalleries.com

The seminar “Art Caucasus 2004” which was held Oct 1-3 in Tbilisi, Georgia, also included artists from the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Republic of Armenia. Possibilities of including artists from these areas will be explored in the future.

Harbor Country Book Club

The Harbor Country Book Club will meet on Tues., Nov. 30, at the Harbor Grand Hotel, New Buffalo, MI, at 7:30 p.m. (MI time). The public is invited to attend meetings; you do not have to have read the books. There is always a brief biography of the author and a book review before the discussion.

Selections for November: fiction, The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini; and non-fiction, Leap of Faith: Memoirs of an Unexpected Life by Queen Noor.
Panozzo’s Pantry

Our shelves are stocked and our Pantry is filled with all sorts of gourmet foods & comfort goods.

Holiday Open House

Sat & Sun. Nov. 20 & 21 ~ Noon – 5:00 MI

2 miles west of downtown New Buffalo on Rt. 12
877 RECIPE2 ~ 269 469-9408
Magical Saturdays Start Nov. 20

Area business associations and the Harbor Country Chamber of Commerce, serving eight communities in southwest Michigan, have joined forces to provide a diverse celebration of the coming Holiday Season. Called “Magical Saturdays,” a variety of events has been scheduled for each Saturday beginning Nov. 20 and continuing until Dec. 18.

On Nov. 20, Three Oaks comes alive with its Gallery Walk from 5-11 p.m. (MI time). Performers and carolers will take their places along the route from the Featherbone complex and then south along Elm St.

A number of area shops will be hosting special events and sales all day. They include Treasure House and Block Fine Art in Three Oaks; Catherine Doll Clothing and Sawyer Garden Center in Sawyer; The Party’s Here in Harbert; The Cool Pepper and You’re Invited in New Buffalo; and Patty’s Picks and Acorn Gallery in Union Pier.

Information: www.harborcountry.org/christmas

Do You Want A New Countertop For The Holidays?

Santa says....
Choose from Hi-Macs, Meganite or Gemstone and get a FREE Sink - Savings of up to $500.00!!!!

Visit Our Showroom
Call for FREE Estimate

AA Cabinets & Countertops
219 878-9914
205 Tilden Avenue • Michigan City
Across from Greenwood Cemetery
www.aacabinets.com

New Exhibit at 18 Artists

18 Artists Gallery is featuring award-winning watercolor artist Graydon Cafarella during the month of November.

Graydon is a graduate of the American Academy of Arts and studied with many renowned artists (Irving Shapiro, Tom Lynch and others). He has participated in numerous group shows, had some solo shows and won many awards. His favorite subject matter is landscapes.

“....To me, watercolor seems to be the perfect medium for painting nature. The transparency of the colors, and the way the paint flows on the paper provide the qualities that are needed to capture the scenes that I paint. I like to feature dramatic lighting in many of my paintings, to provide a strong focal point, and catch the viewer’s eye.”

Visit 18 Artists Gallery, 540 Indian Boundary Road, Chesterton, to meet Graydon at his reception Sun., Nov. 21, 1-4 p.m. Refreshments will be served.
Jennifer DePalma has seen her share of delivery rooms. Her son, Parker, age four, was born in San Francisco. Two-year-old Kathryn was born in Berkeley, CA. Last November, Jennifer and husband Steve celebrated the arrival of Caroline at St. Anthony Memorial Health Centers’ Family Birthing Center. “Hands down, St. Anthony’s has been the best experience!” Jennifer exclaims.

“The staff and Dr. Pamintuan were extremely caring and they did whatever needed to make me comfortable. The look, feel, and atmosphere of the Family Birthing Center enhanced Jennifer’s experience. “The room was perfect. It was extremely clean and quiet,” she says. Although Jennifer and Steve met on the West Coast, they wanted to raise their family in the Midwest. The care their family received at St. Anthony Memorial has helped validate their decision. At St. Anthony Memorial Health Centers, exceptional people are truly the best medicine.

— Jennifer DePalma, Mother of Three
“The Laws” at Box Factory for the Arts

“The Laws,” a musical duo from Canada, will be at the Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, MI, for a performance on Fri., Nov. 19 at 8 p.m. (MI time). They will be preparing crab cakes and Caesar salad from their very own cookbook and performing their tight-as-a-glove harmony. Tickets at the door are $12 and $10.

John and Michele Law, husband and wife singers, songwriters and first class instrumentalists present a blend of roots country, bluegrass, folk and blues, with harmonies that’ll give you goosebumps; lyrics that touch your heart; and a live show that will leave you wanting more.

Recently featured on CMT as one of Canada’s “undiscovered” treasures, The Laws have made the road their home for the past four years performing at some of the most prestigious festivals around the world: Kerrville Folk Festival (Texas); Winnipeg Folk Festival (Canada) and the National Folk Festival (Australia, 2005).

They have recently combined their love of music with their love of food. They produced a cookbook last year and have been cooking up their recipes across the country. Their evening at The Box Factory will include The Laws signature crab cakes and Caesar salad—and everyone gets to have a taste.

For more information, phone 269/983-3688 or log onto www.boxfactoryforthearts.org

Merrion & Associates Realtors
707 Washington • Michigan City
IN 46360
(219) 872-4000 ext 115
Cell: 219-861-2073
Email: michelemeden@ameritech.net
www.merrionandassocc.com
Making the Moves in Real Estate.
Schoolhouse Shop
At Furnessville

Marilyn’s Bakery
goods now at
Schoolhouse Shop

278 E. 1500 N. • Chesterton, IN 46304
(219) 926-1551

Closed Tuesdays

November 18, 2004 Page 25

Schoolhouse Shop
At Furnessville

Marilyn’s Bakery
goods now at
Schoolhouse Shop

278 E. 1500 N. • Chesterton, IN 46304
(219) 926-1551

Closed Tuesdays

Professional Auto Service
You Can Trust

For the past 21 years I have specialized in your fine
European car and in you, the European car owner. From
dealer training to years of experience, we know you and
your car. We are dedicated to making you happy and
keeping your car running to perfection.

- Mikail Pinette
OWNER
A BOSCH AUTHORIZED SERVICE CENTER

Mercedes, BMW, Volvo, Porsche,
Audi, Saab, and Jaguar Owners:
Specialized Independent Service Just For You!

The Dealership Alternative
Except for warranty work and recall, you never have to go back to the dealership
for service or maintenance. We can do it all, right here.
• 100% Customer Satisfaction
• Personal Service
• Honesty and Integrity
• Shuttle Service
• Family owned and operated

E-mail: classicimports@triton.net

Mercedes, BMW, Volvo, Porsche,
Audi, Saab, and Jaguar Owners:
Specialized Independent Service Just For You!

The Dealership Alternative
Except for warranty work and recall, you never have to go back to the dealership
for service or maintenance. We can do it all, right here.
• 100% Customer Satisfaction
• Personal Service
• Honesty and Integrity
• Shuttle Service
• Family owned and operated

E-mail: classicimports@triton.net
Jacqui Schiewe and Cheryl Klonoski belong to a new breed of beach resident: creative women who, in the second half of their lives, have put their entrepreneurial skills to work for themselves. They consider this experience “wonderful.” They have found many new friends, all different but still the same, all “wonderful.” Last weekend they are co-hosted the 10-year anniversary of “Wonderful Women’s Weekend,” an occasion where they gather friends together to celebrate their shared experience, their joie de vivre.

The celebration is centered around their homes in Duneland Beach and, in addition to local friends and neighbors, the Schiewe/Klonoski event brings in enthusiastic guests from Michigan, Colorado, California—places where friends have scattered as life rolls on. Altogether, there will be 40 or 50 women this year—artists and authors, managers and marketers, realtors and decorators, professional women who are well-traveled and who love their days-off at the beach.

Jacqui Schiewe owns the Wine Sellers shop in Union Pier, and travels to Europe twice a year studying wines. Cheryl Klonoski has become a free-lance photographer, after years of being a producer and production coordinator in corporate and broadcast video. It was a fabulous job, one that took her on many adventures, such as filming surgery at a medical mission in Peru. The friendship between the two women dates back 30 years, to their neighborhood in the Chicago suburb of River Forest.

“Out here in Indiana,” Cheryl observed, “we’ve all reinvented ourselves. We’ve already gone through the stage of stressful careers in the city with long hours and long commutes. We’ve raised our families.” Their families include Cheryl’s two children and seven grandchildren and Jacqui’s five children and three grandchildren.

The computer is what made it possible for people like Cheryl to start working from home. Others home-based businesswomen in the area are Judith Ann Paul, a Michigan City CPA, and Ann Stillwell, who runs a national brokerage company, selling skids and palettes, besides doing professional ballroom dancing on the side. Sue Spiteri’s computer holds center stage in her Long Beach kitchen, where she bakes pies with one hand and writes cookbooks with the other.

“We’re always meeting new people to invite to our Sunday brunch,” Cheryl said. New to this year’s event will be Maggie Galloway, a Michiana artist, who has made a career of re-doing houses that are for sale, to make them more marketable. Other marketing specialists are Judy Jacobi from PNC and Polly Liebig, owner of Figment Creative Group. Terri Carlton is manager of meetings and corporate travel for BlueCross & Blue Shield Ass’n. Mary McPherson, who operated Destination Management—and also did Jesuit missionary work in Mobile, Alabama—now works for Catholic Charities in Michigan City. Gwynne Winsberg holds a Ph.D. in neurobiology from the University of Chicago and now is doing photography and composing music at her home/studio in Rolling Prairie.

November 18, 2004 Page 27

Wonderful Women Celebrate 10th Anniversary Weekend by Barbara Stodola

Jacqui Schiewe (left), co-hostess of the festivities and owner of the Wine Sellers, pictured with Hillary Bubb, a new Buffalo realtor.

Up a wonderfully winding staircase, the women pose for the photographer who is documenting their wonderful weekend.

Jacqui Schiewe owns the Wine Sellers shop in Union Pier, and travels to Europe twice a year studying wines. Cheryl Klonoski has become a free-lance photographer, after years of being a producer and production coordinator in corporate and broadcast video. It was a fabulous job, one that took her on many adventures, such as filming surgery at a medical mission in Peru. The friendship between the two women dates back 30 years, to their neighborhood in the Chicago suburb of River Forest.

“Out here in Indiana,” Cheryl observed, “we’ve all reinvented ourselves. We’ve already gone through the stage of stressful careers in the city with long hours and long commutes. We’ve raised our families.” Their families include Cheryl’s two children and seven grandchildren and Jacqui’s five children and three grandchildren.

“The computer is what made it possible for people like Cheryl to start working from home. Others home-based businesswomen in the area are Judith Ann Paul, a Michigan City CPA, and Ann Stillwell, who runs a national brokerage company, selling skids and palettes, besides doing professional ballroom dancing on the side. Sue Spiteri’s computer holds center stage in her Long Beach kitchen, where she bakes pies with one hand and writes cookbooks with the other.

“We’re always meeting new people to invite to our Sunday brunch,” Cheryl said. New to this year’s event will be Maggie Galloway, a Michiana artist, who has made a career of re-doing houses that are for sale, to make them more marketable. Other marketing specialists are Judy Jacobi from PNC and Polly Liebig, owner of Figment Creative Group. Terri Carlton is manager of meetings and corporate travel for BlueCross & Blue Shield Ass’n. Mary McPherson, who operated Destination Management—and also did Jesuit missionary work in Mobile, Alabama—now works for Catholic Charities in Michigan City. Gwynne Winsberg holds a Ph.D. in neurobiology from the University of Chicago and now is doing photography and composing music at her home/studio in Rolling Prairie.

November 18, 2004 Page 27

Wonderful Women Celebrate 10th Anniversary Weekend by Barbara Stodola

Jacqui Schiewe (left), co-hostess of the festivities and owner of the Wine Sellers, is pictured with Hillary Bubb, a new Buffalo realtor.

Photos from previous years’ gatherings provided by Cheryl Klonoski.
"What we have in common," Cheryl ventured to say, "is our joie de vivre. We celebrate the milestones in each other's lives. We support one another during the tough times, and rejoice during the happy times. We love the dance of life." This dance has come to include fine dining experiences, since many of the participants have taken on gourmet cooking as their second-most favorite thing. For a breather, the weekend guests may go antique hunting, or settle in for a massage with the therapist engaged for the afternoon. This weekend is all about feeling good.

When Saturday night rolls around, the gourmet experience reaches a new height. This year, the wonderful women paid tribute to Julia Child, the most wonderful gourmet of them all, who died last year. In her honor, they had a special dinner catered at the Duneland Beach Inn by master chefs Ron White and Shawn Ward. The guests dined on pork with port and prunes and pear tart in creme brulee, all prepared from recipes in Mastering the Art of French Cooking. They will toast, Au Revoir, Julia! and then again, Bon Appetit!

One year it snowed, in early November, and this happening provided a little fun for Linda Carlton, a visitor from Oak Park.

Another year, a pair of squirrels got into the house to nibble on leftovers, and Kenneth Waltz got them back outside.
The Old School Community Center

879-3845

2501 Oriole Trail, Long Beach

Thanks to all the participants and supporters of the Girlfriend Sale for making our fall sale possible and for making it a continued successful fund raiser for the Community Center. Lots of fabulous outfits exchanged closets or found new homes. Our favorite phrase, “I got it at the Girlfriend Sale” has already been reported circulating around town.

A special thank you goes to the volunteers: Elaine Chilton, Tammy Mullins, Sheila Stein, Elaine Schultz, Kathy Dennis, Kris Daniels, Sonya Risner, Kathy Brown, Lori Gustafson, Lori Wink, Alicia McFarland, Julie Wilson, Kim Blowers, Amy Baker, Helga mark, Stephanie Medlock and Jim Clevenger for giving their time, energy, enthusiasm.

Due to popular demand, we are accepting the $10 registration fee early for the spring Sale scheduled to be held in May. Our goal is to be prepared to accommodate the growing list of participants. If you’re interested in reserving a spot for the Spring Sale, phone the Center at 879-3845.

The Long Beach Fitness Center is offering free promotional fitness classes in their new Activity Room. High-low aerobics will be held on Wed., Nov. 17th at 9:15 a.m. and assorted fitness on Mon., Nov. 22 at 5:30 p.m. Membership to the LB Fitness Center is not required. Mark your calendar for a mat-based Pilates on Wednesdays starting Dec. 1st with certified instructor Shari Bohac. For class fees and more information, phone 879-1395.

The Community Center gymnasium has been a very busy place. The Town of Long Beach hosted a Chili Supper to recognize the volunteers who serve on the many boards and commissions of the Town, to recognize the Long Beach Civic Association for their continued volunteer efforts and fund raising, and to honor the contributions of the Long Beach Volunteer Fire Department. Blake Vissing and the Brad Morton family entertained their friends during the Halloween weekend. The Boy Scouts and Mary Chandler, dance instructor, were in every week with different workshops and activities. Sharon Applegate family had a big birthday bash. The cast and crew of the feature film, "The 7th Floor," shot several scenes and Leslie from the Fitness Center organized a fun Holiday Arts and Crafts Sale for the community. Dates in November and December are being booked in advance, so call to make your reservations early. Last year, several people rented the gym for just a few hours to play ball or have a Pizza Party during the holidays. COMMUNITY = COMMUNICATION IN UNITY

Support those who advertise in the Beacher! Tell them you saw their Ad!

LaPorte Little Theatre presents...

The Velveteen Rabbit
A beautiful children’s story performed by children for children from 3 to 103!!!

November 26, 27, & 28
December 3, 4 & 5
Friday and Saturday Curtain: 7:30 p.m.
Sunday Curtain: 2:00 p.m.
Doors Open ½ hour before curtain
TICKETS: $8.00 for Students & Seniors
$10.00 for Adults
RESERVATIONS ENCOURAGED
219-362-5113

No Ordinary Jewelry Store
Creative Hands
DESIGNER OF FINE JEWELRY

REDESIGN SHOW
“Saturday Morning with Joe”
November 20th • 10 am – 2 pm
Remount...Custom Design
Bring in Grandma’s Jewels
Save the Date - HOLIDAY PARTY
Saturday, December 4th
Details to follow

The Community Center gymnasium has been a very busy place. The Town of Long Beach hosted a Chili Supper to recognize the volunteers who serve on the many boards and commissions of the Town, to recognize the Long Beach Civic Association for their continued volunteer efforts and fund raising, and to honor the contributions of the Long Beach Volunteer Fire Department. Blake Vissing and the Brad Morton family entertained their friends during the Halloween weekend. The Boy Scouts and Mary Chandler, dance instructor, were in every week with different workshops and activities. Sharon Applegate family had a big birthday bash. The cast and crew of the feature film, “The 7th Floor,” shot several scenes and Leslie from the Fitness Center organized a fun Holiday Arts and Crafts Sale for the community. Dates in November and December are being booked in advance, so call to make your reservations early. Last year, several people rented the gym for just a few hours to play ball or have a Pizza Party during the holidays. COMMUNITY = COMMUNICATION IN UNITY

Support those who advertise in the Beacher! Tell them you saw their Ad!

Creative Hands
Since 1987
DESIGNER OF FINE JEWELRY

REDESIGN SHOW
“Saturday Morning with Joe”
November 20th • 10 am – 2 pm
Remount...Custom Design
Bring in Grandma’s Jewels
Save the Date - HOLIDAY PARTY
Saturday, December 4th
Details to follow

1722 Franklin St.
Michigan City
(219) 879-6100
Mon. - Fri 10-5
Sat 10-2
Gift Certificates, Layaway, MasterCard and Visa Cards Accepted

Support those who advertise in the Beacher! Tell them you saw their Ad!
Bye, Toronto

Time really does fly when you’re having fun, doesn’t it? If you’ve read my three previous Beacher stories about this trip, I hope you’ll enjoy this last one - that last day appeared so quickly. So, after another fine breakfast at the Intercontinental dining room, I found my way to the underground trolley station several blocks away, then I trod a bunch more blocks underground, with lots of subterranean shops and restaurants along the way. A pleasant walk, both under and above ground and so was the trolley ride. The whole time I was there, I never came across a Toronto-ian who was not pleasant, polite and helpful - in this case, the trolley driver told me exactly where to disembark and then where to head, on foot, several blocks away.

I was going to the Kensington Market, an immense marketplace with a vibrant ethnic mix - Caribbean foods, South American delicacies, Portuguese bakeries and that’s only a few. My favorite shop was Cheese Magic (I got a chunk of something there - not sure what it was, except it was grand) and My Market Bakery with delicate pastries. Lots of restaurants in that neighborhood, but I was there the wrong time of day for an exotic meal. There were several fish markets, all sorts of fish that were fresh or salted, all handsomely displayed. Fresh produce galore. Very artsy surroundings included clothing shops and antiques, along with all the food. A century ago this was known as the Jewish Market with closely packed homes that were later converted into these storefronts - and now, a display of Toronto’s multi-culturalism. Ah, still another pleasant food visit.
Later, after lunch back at the hotel, I took a long walk through an interesting business territory full of home decor shops, cool boutiques, etc. (also the Hockey Hall of Fame), on the way to the colorful St. Lawrence Market, another famous Canadian food source. It has existed in one form or another since 1803 and hosts a year-round outdoor farmers market, but I missed it, it's only on Saturday mornings. The huge historic building was once Toronto’s city hall and the building itself goes on forever. During that pleasant forever, I found their fresh meats, seafood and produce simply gorgeous.

They also supply various kitchen utensils and equipment, like the works for make-your-own wines and beers. Enormous, spotless and brightly-lit, I could’ve spent a full day there admiring all that stuff. It was difficult to walk out empty handed, but what can you do with a perfect filet of salmon or a juicy cut of beef when you’re in a kitchen-less hotel room? Yes, I should return to Toronto periodically - and with a long-distance cooler.

After that pleasant last day, I left for home early the next morning - no trouble getting out of the city even though the rush-hour traffic was extremely heavy. This time, I took the route through Detroit, below my entry at Port Huron a few days ago, hoping to avoid any long lines at Customs. It worked. I had achieved the perfect road trip to and from the perfect place.

Toronto, the North American city of rare openness, energy and style, is a fashion capital, has an endless array of nightclubs and lounges, is said to be an exploding arts scene, a museum-goer’s paradise, and of course, great food - though I actually saw very little of it. ‘bye Toronto, ‘bye Jane, ‘bye Latchfords and thanks to you all for a lovely visit in a lovely city...
**THE BEACHER**

**Holiday Open House Times Three**

Panozzo’s Pantry, Harbor Muse and Glad Rags, Too, in New Buffalo (2 miles west of downtown), are hosting a warm and festive Holiday Open House on Sat. & Sun., Nov. 20 & 21, noon-5 p.m. (MI time).

There will be something for everyone with each shop offering uniquely wonderful gifts. Chef and food expert, Patty Panozzo of Panozzo’s Pantry will be cooking up some delectable dishes using some of her gourmet foods, like Roast Turkey with Pumpkin Chipolte Sauce, Sweet Potatoes with Cranberries and Wild Rice Stuffing. Sample these while you sip hot spiced cider. Information, phone 269/469-9408.

**African Odyssey at Krasl Art Center**

The Krasl Art Center, 707 Lake Blvd., St. Joseph, MI, will present an “African Odyssey for All” program on Sat., Nov. 20, at 1 p.m. (MI time). Kerry Binnington, one of Krasl’s teachers, will share the ArtTouch “traveling exhibition” with the public in this complement to the current exhibition: Sculptor’s Choice: Making and Collecting. Learn about the customs and culture of Africa and be able to touch the objects in Krasl’s collection while Binnington reveals their significance. Included in the hands-on collection are clothes, beadwork, carvings, basketry, masks and musical instruments.

Then at 2 p.m., join local musician, artist and Krasl teacher Adam Jones in an “African Drumming Demonstration.” With your help, Jones will use his drums and the African Odyssey musical instruments to highlight traditional African rhythms and demonstrate their influence on modern western drumming. You will also observe how interlocking patterns are a fundamental feature of both African art and music.

This presentation is open to the public at no charge. Refreshments will be served. Phone the Education Department, 269/983-0271, to register or for more information. Or check the web site at www.krasl.org

**VU Jazz Band**

The Valparaiso University Jazz Band will perform pieces by jazz legends and contemporary artists during a Wed., Nov. 17 concert at the VU Center for the Arts on campus. The concert begins at 7:30 p.m. in the University Theatre and is free and open to the public.

Several student soloists will be featured as the band performs songs by Duke Ellington, Benny Carter, Bill Holman, Mongo Santamaria and Errol Garner.

The VU Jazz Band is an auditioned “big band” which performs both traditional and contemporary jazz, and is directed by Jeffrey C. Brown, coordinator of jazz studies, with student director Michael Ross, a senior music education major from Gurnee, IL.

**Discover the Power of Pain Management... in Yourself!**

The reality is, most adults experience acute or chronic pain, and the anxiety that often goes with it. Pain management, through the Massage Therapy & Wellness Center, gives you self-care tools to eliminate pain or lessen its debilitating impact in your life.

1026 North Karwick Road
Michigan City, Indiana 46360
219-879-5722
At The Harbor Grand Hotel
888-605-6800
www.wellness-specialists.com

**VU Jazz Band**

The Valparaiso University Jazz Band will perform pieces by jazz legends and contemporary artists during a Wed., Nov. 17 concert at the VU Center for the Arts on campus. The concert begins at 7:30 p.m. in the University Theatre and is free and open to the public.

Several student soloists will be featured as the band performs songs by Duke Ellington, Benny Carter, Bill Holman, Mongo Santamaria and Errol Garner.

The VU Jazz Band is an auditioned “big band” which performs both traditional and contemporary jazz, and is directed by Jeffrey C. Brown, coordinator of jazz studies, with student director Michael Ross, a senior music education major from Gurnee, IL.

**Holiday Open House Times Three**

Panozzo’s Pantry, Harbor Muse and Glad Rags, Too, in New Buffalo (2 miles west of downtown), are hosting a warm and festive Holiday Open House on Sat. & Sun., Nov. 20 & 21, noon-5 p.m. (MI time).

There will be something for everyone with each shop offering uniquely wonderful gifts. Chef and food expert, Patty Panozzo of Panozzo’s Pantry will be cooking up some delectable dishes using some of her gourmet foods, like Roast Turkey with Pumpkin Chipolte Sauce, Sweet Potatoes with Cranberries and Wild Rice Stuffing. Sample these while you sip hot spiced cider. Information, phone 269/469-9408.
“The Velveteen Rabbit” Opens in LaPorte

LaPorte Little Theatre’s next production, The Velveteen Rabbit will be presented Nov. 26, 27, 28 and Dec. 3, 4 & 5. Friday and Saturday curtain time is 7:30 p.m., Sunday is 2 p.m. The doors open 1/2 hr. before curtain time. Tickets are $8/students and seniors and $10/adults. Reservations can be made by phoning the playhouse at 219/362-5113. The Playhouse is located at the corner of A and 3rd Streets in LaPorte.

This is a classic story of a stuffed toy rabbit made real by a boys tenderness and magic. You will laugh at the antics of the living rabbits and cry at the Velveteen Rabbit lying discarded in the rubbish heap and be moved when the boy declares his toy is real and the nursery magic fairy turns this love into a miracle.

The cast, which is all children, includes Jake Cornett, Annamaria Sirugo, James Turner, Emily Krentz, Emily Snyder, Nathan Turner, Tricia Murray, Danny Schellinger, Zack Vanes, Kristen Lang, Kent Turner, Alexia Zarantonello, Rachel Carriveau, Caitlyn Tuholski, Janael Weist, Rachel Wright and Ben Turner. Directors are Sylvia Fee and Ruth Radtke.

Holiday Videos at Krasl Art Center

The Krasl Art Center, 707 Lake Blvd., St. Joseph, MI will offer a holiday video series starting on Fri., Nov. 26. Bring a lunch, if you’d like. Coffee will be served. The programs begin at noon (MI time). Phone the Education Department at 269/983-0271 for more information, or log onto www.krasl.org

Here’s the schedule of programs:

 Fri., Nov. 26: The Three Tenors Christmas. Jose Carreras, Placido Domingo and Luciano Pavarotti join forces for the holidays. This film finds them in peak form, taking on a wide breadth of material, from the spiritual to the secular. 81 mins. long.

 Fri., Dec. 3: In the Christmas Spirit: A Celebration of Music and Light. This film celebrates America as it lights up the holidays. This stroll through winter wonders of holiday lights features over twenty classic Christmas tunes. 60 mins. long.

 Fri., Dec. 10: A Naxos Musical Journey: Christmas Goes Baroque—Scenes From Switzerland. Zurich’s bustling holiday shoppers; twinkling lights in window displays; the famed Toy Museum in Nuremberg; a Christmas feast; an elaborate Nativity scene and the snow covered landscape of Switzerland, backed up by Christmas favorites performed in the baroque style of Bach, Handel and Vivaldi. 52 mins. long.

 Fri., Dec. 17: Sister Wendy’s Pains of Glass. Join Sister Wendy at the monumental stained glass Passion Windows at the Cathedral of King’s College in Cambridge, England, where she will interpret each window’s story against the backdrop of scriptural readings and chorale music. 75 mins. long.

LaPorte Little Theatre’s next production, The Velveteen Rabbit will be presented Nov. 26, 27, 28 and Dec. 3, 4 & 5. Friday and Saturday curtain time is 7:30 p.m., Sunday is 2 p.m. The doors open 1/2 hr. before curtain time. Tickets are $8/students and seniors and $10/adults. Reservations can be made by phoning the playhouse at 219/362-5113. The Playhouse is located at the corner of A and 3rd Streets in LaPorte.

This is a classic story of a stuffed toy rabbit made real by a boys tenderness and magic. You will laugh at the antics of the living rabbits and cry at the Velveteen Rabbit lying discarded in the rubbish heap and be moved when the boy declares his toy is real and the nursery magic fairy turns this love into a miracle.

The cast, which is all children, includes Jake Cornett, Annamaria Sirugo, James Turner, Emily Krentz, Emily Snyder, Nathan Turner, Tricia Murray, Danny Schellinger, Zack Vanes, Kristen Lang, Kent Turner, Alexia Zarantonello, Rachel Carriveau, Caitlyn Tuholski, Janael Weist, Rachel Wright and Ben Turner. Directors are Sylvia Fee and Ruth Radtke.

Holiday Videos at Krasl Art Center

The Krasl Art Center, 707 Lake Blvd., St. Joseph, MI will offer a holiday video series starting on Fri., Nov. 26. Bring a lunch, if you’d like. Coffee will be served. The programs begin at noon (MI time). Phone the Education Department at 269/983-0271 for more information, or log onto www.krasl.org

Here’s the schedule of programs:

 Fri., Nov. 26: The Three Tenors Christmas. Jose Carreras, Placido Domingo and Luciano Pavarotti join forces for the holidays. This film finds them in peak form, taking on a wide breadth of material, from the spiritual to the secular. 81 mins. long.

 Fri., Dec. 3: In the Christmas Spirit: A Celebration of Music and Light. This film celebrates America as it lights up the holidays. This stroll through winter wonders of holiday lights features over twenty classic Christmas tunes. 60 mins. long.

 Fri., Dec. 10: A Naxos Musical Journey: Christmas Goes Baroque—Scenes From Switzerland. Zurich’s bustling holiday shoppers; twinkling lights in window displays; the famed Toy Museum in Nuremberg; a Christmas feast; an elaborate Nativity scene and the snow covered landscape of Switzerland, backed up by Christmas favorites performed in the baroque style of Bach, Handel and Vivaldi. 52 mins. long.

 Fri., Dec. 17: Sister Wendy’s Pains of Glass. Join Sister Wendy at the monumental stained glass Passion Windows at the Cathedral of King’s College in Cambridge, England, where she will interpret each window’s story against the backdrop of scriptural readings and chorale music. 75 mins. long.

LaPorte Little Theatre’s next production, The Velveteen Rabbit will be presented Nov. 26, 27, 28 and Dec. 3, 4 & 5. Friday and Saturday curtain time is 7:30 p.m., Sunday is 2 p.m. The doors open 1/2 hr. before curtain time. Tickets are $8/students and seniors and $10/adults. Reservations can be made by phoning the playhouse at 219/362-5113. The Playhouse is located at the corner of A and 3rd Streets in LaPorte.

This is a classic story of a stuffed toy rabbit made real by a boys tenderness and magic. You will laugh at the antics of the living rabbits and cry at the Velveteen Rabbit lying discarded in the rubbish heap and be moved when the boy declares his toy is real and the nursery magic fairy turns this love into a miracle.

The cast, which is all children, includes Jake Cornett, Annamaria Sirugo, James Turner, Emily Krentz, Emily Snyder, Nathan Turner, Tricia Murray, Danny Schellinger, Zack Vanes, Kristen Lang, Kent Turner, Alexia Zarantonello, Rachel Carriveau, Caitlyn Tuholski, Janael Weist, Rachel Wright and Ben Turner. Directors are Sylvia Fee and Ruth Radtke.

Holiday Videos at Krasl Art Center

The Krasl Art Center, 707 Lake Blvd., St. Joseph, MI will offer a holiday video series starting on Fri., Nov. 26. Bring a lunch, if you’d like. Coffee will be served. The programs begin at noon (MI time). Phone the Education Department at 269/983-0271 for more information, or log onto www.krasl.org

Here’s the schedule of programs:

 Fri., Nov. 26: The Three Tenors Christmas. Jose Carreras, Placido Domingo and Luciano Pavarotti join forces for the holidays. This film finds them in peak form, taking on a wide breadth of material, from the spiritual to the secular. 81 mins. long.

 Fri., Dec. 3: In the Christmas Spirit: A Celebration of Music and Light. This film celebrates America as it lights up the holidays. This stroll through winter wonders of holiday lights features over twenty classic Christmas tunes. 60 mins. long.

 Fri., Dec. 10: A Naxos Musical Journey: Christmas Goes Baroque—Scenes From Switzerland. Zurich’s bustling holiday shoppers; twinkling lights in window displays; the famed Toy Museum in Nuremberg; a Christmas feast; an elaborate Nativity scene and the snow covered landscape of Switzerland, backed up by Christmas favorites performed in the baroque style of Bach, Handel and Vivaldi. 52 mins. long.

 Fri., Dec. 17: Sister Wendy’s Pains of Glass. Join Sister Wendy at the monumental stained glass Passion Windows at the Cathedral of King’s College in Cambridge, England, where she will interpret each window’s story against the backdrop of scriptural readings and chorale music. 75 mins. long.
THE
Custom Granite & Marble Products
Kitchen & Bath Countertops
Fireplace Hearths & Surrounds
Slabbed Tub Decks
Shower Surrounds
24 Industrial Parkway 1-219-326-8589
P.O. Box 249 Toll Free 1-866-206-6161
La Porte, IN 46352 Fax 1-219-325-3604

Diggin' in the Earth
with Maggie Beyer

Now the roar of leaf blowers doth cover the land. They leave behind giant ridges of crispy leaves lining the roads, waiting to be sucked up into equally infernal machines by road crews waiting in the wings. It is almost beyond endurance to resist jumping into them as one did as a child, snipping and cracking the leaf piles underfoot. One is reminded of Gene Kelly, Singing in the Rain, stamping out puddles of water as he splashed around. My own leaves still cover the land, rising higher than boot tops now, waiting for my blower to show up with the roar and flurry of his own machines. Should he leave a pile behind after the blowing, I might yet give into the urge to stamp around.

When I read a recent article about leaves in the Chicago Tribune, I felt, however, that I was wading in over my head. Let me warn gentle readers that the next five hundred words are my own interpretation of the science explored therein. If you feel you know everything about leaves you want to know, leave off now.

It seems there is a major shift, or more than one, in reasons as to why leaves turn those glorious colors of red and gold that make us sing a Deo Gratias in the autumn.

It seems that conventional thinking is that leaves go through this breath-taking transformation because they are dying, one great hallelujah before they fade away, casting off the chlorophyll that has kept them alive. The colors are unmasked when some of the components are drawn back into tree tissues. In the converse of what happens to humans, autumn leaves are a tree’s gray hair.

That was too simple for young scientists to settle for; they began to develop some new theories as uppity young whippersnappers are wont to do. The colors are not unmasked, one scientist declaims, they are actually created in autumn.

Yellow leaves get their color from carotenoids, those healthy things we find in our own foods. Who can look at a carrot or sweet potato or squash these days without thinking, ah, you are full of carotenoid, so healthy for my heart, so I will eat you every day and feel smug and smiling as I do the right thing. Other molecules, the anthocyanins, produce orange and red, and guess what? In autumn leaves actually start producing a lot of new anthocyanin. If not for survival, then what, reasoned the scientists.

Waste not, want not, is a law of nature.
Another group of scientists begged to differ: the colors of autumn leaves are a warning to insects to stay away. In the fall, aphids and other insects choose trees where they will lay their eggs. Eggs hatching in the spring can produce disastrous results for tree in spring. The bright colors of autumn leaves warn the insects, “I am a mighty tree. I am strong. I am hardy. Stay away”. (I am paraphrasing, of course, the scientific jargon of the article about gene preference for survival which will be obvious, of course, to any science teacher). Anyway, insects evolved to avoid the brightest leaves, and by natural selection, the trees became even brighter.

So the scientists formulated hypotheses, one said it was “a beautiful idea”, made mathematical models, tested and observed all over the world, and found in one study about birches that yes, those with strong color in fall tended (and that’s a crucial word) to suffer less damage from insects the following spring.

Compelling, but wrong, said other scientists. If you are up in the northern reaches, by the time that leaves change, all the insects that feed on foliage are gone. It’s not insect protection that comes with the changing colors. The colors are mainly a sunscreen. When all that photosynthesis is being dismantled, its nutrients like nitrogen and phosphorus are being shipped into the tissues of the tree and takes a lot of energy. But the equipment to do it, which having been dismantled, isn’t there anymore. It’s leftover and can damage the trees. It’s the bright color that protects the trees as they prepare for winter. The argument concludes that the changing color could do both: protect from marauding insects and act as sunscreen. They do agree that the debate has been useful because “it has given them (the scientists) a deeper reverence for this time of year.”

We could have told them that right at the beginning. Even with the sniffing and snuffling and roaring of leaf blowers to cloud the air, it’s a small price to pay for the glory of a few weeks when canopies of light-capturing color erupt in the woods. Caught in the wonder of it, we don’t ask why as we drink just drank in the awesome glory of it. The heart even wants to whisper a thank you to the crispy, crackling of leaves now underfoot for bowing out with grace after the magnificence of their final curtain call.

David Wilkinson, an evolutionary ecologist from England, and H. Martin Schaefer, an evolutionary biologist from Germany put forth their views with those of professors from Harvard and other universities in the United States. In a paper to be published in Trends in Ecology & Evolution, Wilkinson said: “People sometimes say that science makes the world less interesting and awesome by just explaining things away. But with autumn leaves, the more you know about them, the more amazed you are.” And so it is.
Beaujolais Nouveau

Beaujolais Nouveau, a wine lover’s annual treat, will be featured in New Buffalo, Michigan, on the very evening this wine is allowed by French law to be released. Every year, this young wine is shipped throughout the world by jet express from Paris to be opened on the third Thursday of November.

And it’s on Thurs., Nov. 18, from 5-7 p.m. (MI time), that the 2004 vintage will be poured at The Harbor Grand, accompanied by a lavish assortment of cheeses, including Brie and Camembert, from Berrien County’s Old Europe Cheese, Inc.

Those who enjoy blending good fun with civic spirit will be glad to know that the event, sponsored by New Buffalo Community Partnership, will raise funds for movable goals at the city’s newly surfaced and seeded soccer field in Oselka Park, a project funded and just completed by NBCP.

The palatable cost for this wine and food frolic is just $20. To reserve a ticket, phone The Harbor Grand at (269) 469-7700. Tickets may also be purchased in New Buffalo at Michigan Thyme and Women’s Wellness Spa at New Buffalo Inn & Spa.

Gingerbread House Exhibit

The Chesterton Art Center is seeking entries for its annual Gingerbread House exhibit, which will open on Fri., Nov. 26 and run through Fri., Dec. 17.

Plan now to create a gingerbread architectural masterpiece, using whatever edible adornments strike your imagination. Past entrants have displayed forts, villages, cabins, churches and castles. There is no fee to enter and prizes will be awarded in three categories: children up to 12; adults; and family or groups.

Entries must be brought to the Art Center no sooner than Sat., Nov. 20 and no later than Wed., Nov. 24.

The Gingerbread House exhibit runs in tandem with the town of Chesterton’s Hometown Christmas celebration. Holiday visitors to the Chesterton Art Center enjoy voting for their favorite entry while treating their senses to the sweet aroma drifting through the gallery.

Information: contact the Art Center, 219/926-4711.
Long Beach
Women’s Bowling

November 9, 2004

TEAM STANDING WON LOST
1. Chickaming Chicks 26 10
2. MC Smiles 23 13
   Graceful Gutters 23 13
3. Gutter Golfers 22 14

HIGH TEAM GAME SCORE
1. Audio Visual DJs 632
2. MC Smiles 627
3. The Hopefuls 624

HIGH TEAM SERIES SCORE
1. McInerney #2 1855
2. No Shows 1782
3. Mc Smiles 1778

HIGH INDIVIDUAL GAME SCORE
1. Char Cook 200
2. Kim Johnson 191
3. Sue Kuegers 171
4. June Johnson 171
5. Becky Pendergast 168

HIGH SERIES SCRATCH SCORE
1. Kim Johnson 541
2. Char Cook 452
3. Becky Pendergast 450
   Bev Else 450
4. Dottie Brinkman 439

SPLITS:
3-10 split picked up by Bev Else, Dottie Brinkman
2-7 split picked up by Dottie Brinkman

Long Beach Ladies Bridge

October 2004
1st place: Eve Wolff & Florence Gately 4850
2nd place: June Salmon & Sue Luegers 4220
3rd place: Mary Rose Berger & Adelle O’Donnell 3460

Pet Salon
Full Service Grooming All Breeds
For the Dog Who Has Everything
PDGA Trained Groomer
Solid Gold Health Products

For Dog Jewelry, Bling Bling, Leather Collars
All Natural Homemade Doggie Cookies
2336 US 35 North, La Porte, Indiana • (219) 324-5000
(Next to Port Stop)

mc-interiors.com
Since 1950 Quality Products at Competitive Prices
1102 Franklin St., Michigan City 219-872-7236 • 1-800-949-4530

Architecture
Interiors
Residential - Commercial
Saugatuck - Douglas Michigan
Servicing Indiana & Michigan Lakeshore Communities
269.857.8035
www.vdharchitects.com

Get Up, Call FINISHING TOUCH CLEANING SERVICE
219-872-8817
15 Years of Excellence 1989-2004
CyberScribbles
by Paula McHugh


This week I’m alerting you to several options for staying anonymous on the Web and preventing future spam. And for all deep thinkers, here is a website that is a must.

Bypass login. How many times have you happened upon a website where you had to log in first before you could access its features? We’re talking about sites as online newspapers and such. I’ve often been able to access a New York Times article via a Google search without having to log in to the Times’ site, and it is because I’ve learned how to read the fine print of Google search results. An easier way is to head over to bugmenot.com any time you are faced with a similar compulsory login page. You will use a right-click context menu when you download this free file. Before you do, be sure to read the Terms of Use, because there are some logins you cannot use this utility with.

Dummy Address. There will be plenty of times you will not want to use your real email address, such as for those “special offers” that you know will fill up your mailbox with spam. Spambob is one of several products that provides free dummy email addresses. Spambob is free, and comes in two flavors: @spambob.com is an on-the-fly way to create a disposable address. For example, type any word followed by @spambob.com when you need a quick dummy address. Then go to the website and check for emails you receive. They are public, so anyone can read them. The other flavor is to use @spambob.net, which you activate in advance. This secretly forwards your @spambob.net mail to your real email inbox, so it is kept private. If your interest is piqued yet if I have thoroughly confused you, go to @spambob.com to learn more.

There are many other similar dummy e-mail services, such as dodgeit.com. spamgourmet.com, and mailboxator.net. Look around to find the one that best works for you. While you are at it, head over to http://spam.abuse.net/ and read about additional ways to reduce spam. In addition to dozens of other listed programs like the ones mentioned above, this website has loads of helpful information and links.

One way NOT to reduce spam is using those opt-out links at the bottom of unsolicited commercial emails. I learned my lesson on that one. So, take my advice and do not use the opt-out link. Often, these opt-out links take you to a page with malicious code that can infect your computer with a Trojan. Instead of using the opt-out, just simply delete the uninvited email message.

Great Thoughts. If you are a deep thinker and prefer to use the Internet for something more stimulating than online tic-tac-toe, you already might have discovered the Edge.org. It is a gathering place for brilliant minds from the worlds of science (physical,
behavioral computer, biological, anthropological, psychological, etc) philosophy, and writing. This “Third Culture” consists of “those scientists and other thinkers in the empirical world who, through their work and expository writing, are taking the place of the traditional intellectual in rendering visible the deeper meanings of our lives, redefining who and what we are.” Having followed the work of Martin Seligman since my grad school days, I especially recommend reading his “Eudamonia—The Good Life” while you are visiting this website. A companion website, which I mentioned in this column many, many moons ago, is Arts & Letters Daily, found at aldaily.com.

**Sp2 Firewall.** I just noticed on my machine that the new Sp2 firewall turns off after I have shut down Windows. Wanted to give you a heads up on this in case you are assuming that it is always running. When you fire up your computer, go to your Control Panel and click on Windows Firewall (assuming you have loaded Sp2). Make sure the radio button shows that the firewall is running. And if you do not already have it, give your computer an extra security boost by downloading ZoneAlarm. You can get a free version or a more complete version at zonelabs.com. Zone Alarm lets you surf “under the radar”, and it warns you about potential firewall breaches and attempts to access your hard-drive’s programs.

Send your comments, questions, and pet peeves to cyberscribbles101@yahoo.com and read CyberScribbles online at www.geocities.com/cyberscribbles101/.

**Bookmarks at Noon**

The Michigan City Public Library will host Bookmarks at Noon on Fri., Nov. 19. The Hoax by Robert K. Tanenbaum will be reviewed by Janice Custer. Not for the faint of heart, Tanenbaum’s new crime thriller dives into the heart of evil in New York City. This, his 15th Butch Karp adventure, has Manhattan DA Karp dealing with a sociopath who is running for mayor, arms sales, extortion, money laundering, insider trading, as well as the usual drugs and prostitution.

The program is free and open to the public. Bring your lunch if you wish.

**Country Western Dance**

Amarillo Star’s monthly country western dance will be held Sat., Nov. 20, 7-10:30 p.m., at the Skwiat American Legion Post, Michigan City. Everyone is welcome to attend; there will be line and couple dancing to DJ music. Admission is $3 for Amarillo Star members and $5 for non-members. For more information, phone Chris, 874-3624.

**Read The Beacher On Line**

http://www.bbpnet.com/
Activities to Explore

In the Local Area:

November 18 — Flying Carpet Travelogue series: The New Zealand Experience presented by Grant Foster. 7:30 pm at the Elston Middle School Performing Arts Center, 317 Detroit St., MC. Tix $5 at the door; season tix $18/adults, $8/students also at door.


November 18-22 — “Being Julia.” Winner Toronto & Telluride Film Festivals. Thurs, Fri 6:30 pm; Sat, Sun 3:45 & 6:30 pm; Mon 6:30 pm. (MI time). Also showing: “Primer.” Winner Grand Jury Prize Sundance Film Festival. 9 pm only. Vickers Theatre, 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, MI. 269/756-3522 or www.vickers-theatre.com


November 19-20 — Craft & Bake Sale at Grace Church, 2722 Wabash St., MC. 9 am-3 pm ea. day. Hot lunch will be served. Raffles held hourly.

November 19-20 — “From Tel Aviv to Ramallah.” One-man show presented by Yuri Lane at The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Dr., Three Oaks, MI. Curtain 8 pm (MI time). Tix $15 at the door or 269/756-3879.


November 20 — Santa arrives at Marquette Mall, MC at 11 am. Info: 879-8375.


November 20 — Sons of Norway Scandiana Chapter meeting. 6 pm potluck supper, followed by Danish Night led by Birthe Moe. Christmas cookie exchange. Visitors welcome to attend. Held at the Westchester Library Annex, 100 W. Indiana St., Chesterton.


November 20-21 — “Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat.” Presented by the New Buffalo
Drama Club. Sat. 7 pm, Sun., 3 pm (MI time). Tix $5 in adv.; $6 at door. 269/469-7876. Performing Arts Center, 1112 E. Clay St., New Buffalo.

November 21 — Shiloh Crossing will be in concert at the Michigan City Public Library at 2 pm. Special guests Rich Hoblitzel and Geoff Ryan. Free & open to the public.

November 25 — HAPPY THANKSGIVING! MC Public Library closed for the holiday. Also all LaPorte County Public Library locations and the bookmobile will close at 1 pm on Wed., Nov. 24. All will reopen on Fri. for normal hrs. of operation.

November 25 — 7th Annual Turkey Walk at Friendship Gardens. 9 am-4 pm. Walk off all that turkey! Free adm.; donations welcome. Kids can see a real turkey or hunt for fun turkeys along the trail. Info: 878-9885.

November 30 — Coolspring Readers Group. 7 pm. Women of Spirit edited by Katherine Martin will be discussed. Free & open to the public. The Coolspring Branch Library is located at the corner of Johnson Rd & 400N in MC. 879-3272.

November 30 — Harbor Country Book Club. 7:30 pm (MI time) at the Harbor Grand Hotel, New Buffalo, MI. The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini and Leap of Faith by Queen Noor will be discussed.

Places to Visit:

Barker Mansion, 631 Washington St., Michigan City. Adm. $4/adults, $2/kids 18 and under, free/kids under 3. Guided tours Mon-Fri 10 am, 11:30 am, 1 pm; Sat & Sun noon & 2 pm. 873-1520.

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

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

Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. 2nd St., Michigan City. Tues.-Fri., 10 am-4 pm; Sat. 10 am-2 pm. Phone 874-4900.

New Buffalo Railroad Museum, 530 S. Whittaker St., New Buffalo, MI. Open Mon-Fri, 9 am-5 pm; Sat-Sun, 10 am-3 pm (MI time). Info 269/469-5409.


Farther Afield:

November 20-January 9, 2005 — International Trees on exhibit at Northern Indiana Center for History, 808 W. Washington St., South Bend. Featuring cultures from around the world. Tues.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., noon-5 pm (Eastern time). Adm. $5. Sen.cit. & student disc. available. 574/235-9664 or centerforhistory.org
Calling All Poets

The Village of Three Oaks is seeking submissions of original poetry for selection to appoint the official position of Poet Laureate for the Village of Three Oaks. Upon selection and appointment, the Poet Laureate will be awarded a $500 Honorarium and will hold the position from January through December, 2005.

Submission of (3-5) original poems should be made to: Poetry Board of Three Oaks, c/o Vickers Theatre, 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, MI 49128.

Submission deadline is Dec. 31, 2004, and must include: name, address and telephone number. The Poetry Board will reserve the right to publish the submitted works.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19

7:30-9 p.m. MUSIC HERITAGE SERIES: A TIME TO REMEMBER. Enjoy nostalgic songs of days gone by. Campfire, Scouting, and parlor tunes will help warm the heart. Meet at Dorothy Buell Memorial Visitor Center.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20

1-3 p.m. OLD MAN WINTER IS A-COMING. With winter just around the corner, the flora and fauna of Dune Country prepare for Old Man Winter. In doing so, they have developed special adaptations for survival. Meet a ranger at the Calumet Bike Trail parking lot off Mineral Springs Road for this discussion and hike.

3 p.m. FEEDING TIME AT CHELLBERG FARM. Help a ranger feed the animals. Meet at Chellberg Farm barn.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21

3 p.m. FEEDING TIME AT CHELLBERG FARM.

For more information, phone 219/926-7561, ext. 225.
Looking for a Holiday Gift Idea?  
Give a  
Personalized  
2005 Gift Calendar  

Bring 13 of your favorite photos and we’ll create a beautiful full color calendar personalized for you.  

$24.95 plus tax
Travels with Charley:

Sending Young Mr. Linscheid Off to Washington as a House Page

by Charles McKelvy

Having had the privilege of meeting many fine young people at River Valley High School near Three Oaks, I would like to introduce you to one who is about to do something quite extraordinary:

Having distinguished himself at River Valley High School as a student and an athlete, Peter Linscheid is about to step up to the Capitol as a Page in the U.S. House of Representatives.

A junior, Peter Linscheid was recently among 66 young men and women from around the nation to be appointed by their Member of Congress for the prestigious program. Peter, who was sponsored by Congressman Fred Upton, will serve as one of 44 Republican Pages from January to June.

Peter is well aware that Pages are employees of the U.S. House of Representatives and are an important part of the legislative process, and he said during a recent interview at his home in Sawyer that his two seasons running cross-country for River Valley have prepared him for all the running around the Capitol he expects to do once he arrives in Washington.

He noted that Pages serve primarily as messengers, delivering legislative material between the various buildings of Capitol Hill. “I guess I’ll be doing a lot of running around Washington,” Peter said.

As a School Semester Page, Peter will begin his weekdays promptly at 6:45 a.m. with classes that will last until 9 a.m. when the House is in session and 11:30 a.m. when the House is not in session, and extend to at least 5 p.m., or until the House adjourns for the day.

Peter will live in at the Page Residence Hall which is within walking distance of Capitol Hill, and he will attend classes in the Library of Congress at what is officially known as the Office of the Clerk, U.S. House of Representatives Page School.

He said there will be no time for organized sports like the cross-country and wrestling he enjoyed at River Valley, but he said he will take his running shoes to Washington and be prepared to run with any office holder, including President Bush, who might invite him to head out for a jog around the nation’s capital.

“But I’ve heard that President Bush can run a 5 K under 20 minutes, and I’ve never gone that fast,” Peter said.

Peter Linscheid is the son of the Rev. Bruce Linscheid who is an Evangelical Covenant Minister and Sue Linscheid who works as a Registered Nurse at Lakeland Medical Center in St. Joseph. His brother David is a sophomore at River Valley, and his youngest brother Luke is being home-schooled as a seventh grader at what the family jokingly calls the “Linscheid Academy.”

A serious young man with a mind to a possible career as an officer in either the Air Force or Army, Peter
Linscheid said he hopes his semester as a House Page will help his chances of getting accepted at either the Air Force Academy or West Point.

He said he has pretty much ruled out the Naval Academy at Annapolis because he doesn’t like the idea of bouncing around the middle of the ocean on a ship, but he did not that the first field trip his group of Pages will take will be to Annapolis.

They will also be taken to various sites around Washington, D.C. as well as to Williamsburg, Virginia and Gettysburg and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Peter said he learned of the program through a friend in California who served as a Page. “I thought it would be worth doing, so I called Congressman Fred Upton’s office during my sophomore year and asked for an application,” Peter said.

Along with the application and a transcript from River Valley, Peter had to submit a signed parental consent form, a 50-100 word essay on why he wanted to be a Republican Page, a resume of extra-curricular activities, three letters of recommendation, and a letter of support from Fred Upton as a Republican Member of Congress.

Noting that there was a “hurry-up-and-wait” aspect to the whole process, Peter admitted that he wondered until the last minute if he was going to be accepted, especially after Upton’s office lost his application. So he called Upton’s office to see what had happened.

“They told me that they would get right on it, and they did. Congressman Upton himself called me and apologized about a month ago. Then the principal from the Page school called and she interviewed me by phone, and a few weeks after that they called and asked me to call them back because I was at cross-country practice. When I came home I called, and they told me I was accepted,” Peter said.

His whole family, as you can imagine, are mighty proud of him, especially his mother Sue who said: “I am really excited that Peter gets to do this. This is a real privilege, and I just think this will open his eyes a lot about how our government works.”

Peter is looking forward to going to Washington in January to work as a Page in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Peter limbers up for his trip to Washington.

Peter limbers up for his trip to Washington.

Portrait of a Republican Page.
On November 18, 1883, in an effort to eliminate a plethora of local time regions across the continent, the United States and Canada adopted a system of Standard Time Zones.

On November 18, 1928, Walt Disney’s *Steamboat Willie*, the first animated-cartoon talking picture, appeared on the screen of New York City’s Colony Theatre. This was the show that marked the debut of Mickey Mouse.

On November 19, 1874, the “Women’s Christian Temperance Union” was organized in Cleveland.

On November 19, 1893, the “*New York World*” became the first newspaper to issue a color supplement, four pages printed in five colors.

On November 19, 1988, Sheilah Graham, one of Hollywood’s most feared and powerful gossip columnists, died at the age of 84.

On November 20, 1789, New Jersey became the first state to ratify the Bill of Rights.

On November 20, 1873, the rival cities of Buda and Pest were united to form Budapest, the capital of Hungary.

On November 20, 1942, the Alaska Highway, linking Fairbanks with British Columbia’s Dawson Creek, was officially opened.

On November 20, 1766, the first permanent theater building in the United States, Philadelphia’s Southwark, opened with a production of "*The Gamester.*"

On November 21, 1964, the "Verrazano Narrows," linking the New York boroughs of Brooklyn and Staten Island -- the world’s longest suspension bridge at the time -- officially opened to traffic.

On November 22, 1963, President John Kennedy was assassinated as he rode in a Dallas motorcade. Texas Governor John Connally, riding in the same car as the president, was seriously wounded.

On November 22, 1977, the supersonic jet “Concorde” began passenger service to New York from London and Paris.

On November 23, 1945, wartime rationing of most food items ended in the United States.

On November 23, 1969, the world’s first earth-to-space news conference was held on board the Apollo 12 Space Ship.

On November 24, 1976, George Bush announced his resignation as head of the Central Intelligence Agency.

On November 24, 1977, an archaeologist said a tomb uncovered near Salonika, Greece was that of King Philip II of Macedon, the father of Alexander the Great.
C&A Arborists

Quality Firewood

Guaranteed <20% Moisture Content
Supplies Limited

269-756-2571
- or -
chrisarborist@triton.net

C&A Arborists

Quality Firewood

Guaranteed <20% Moisture Content

Supplies Limited

269-756-2571
- or -
chrisarborist@triton.net

Giving Furniture New Life Since 1939

Lou Butcher’s

FURNITURE
WERKS

INC

Refinish • Upholster • Restore

Guaranteed Craftsmanship • Pick-Up & Delivery in IL, IN, MI
Visit Our Showroom with Over 15,000 Designer Fabric Choices

219-872-1700

4980 W. Hwy 20 • In “The Pines” • Michigan City, IN 46360

www.furniturewerks.com
THE A & L PAINTING COMPANY -- INTERIOR & EXTERIOR
20-YEARS EXPERIENCE References. Reasonable.
We also provide Water Wash, Seal & Paint Decks. Ph. 219/778-4145.
WISTHOFF PAINTING -- REFERENCES
Small Jobs Welcome - Call 219/874-5279
JEFFERY J. HUMAN INTERIOR/EXTERIOR PAINTING & STAINING
Custom Decorating - Custom Woodwork - Hang/Finish Drywall
Custom Suede and Faux Finishes
HALDY BROTHERS PAINTING - Interior & Exterior. Licensed &
Insured. Experienced & Reliable - Call 1-866/255-9266
SNYDER PROFESSIONAL FINISHING
Painting - Staining - Dry Wall - Trim Carpentry - Restoration -
Renovation - 20+ Years of experience. References avail. -
Call 219/874-6615

ALL BRIGHT PAINTING - Interior/exterior. Satisfaction guaranteed.
Free estimates. Licensed & insured. 219/879-7199.

MICHIANA PAINTING & PRESSURE CLEANING
Insured - References - Call 219/861-0355

AFFORDABLE INTERIOR PAINTING - Senior Discounts Available.
Call 219/325-8701, Leave Message

INTERIOR DECORATING
PRICELESS BY DESIGN -- 219/871-1431
Decorating and accessorizing, inside & out, from theme rooms,
paint schemes, furniture, fixtures, decorations and much more.

LANDSCAPE-Lawns-Clean Up, Etc.

H & D TREE SERVICE and LANDSCAPING, INC. --
Full service tree and shrub care. Trimming, planting, removal.
Firewood, snowplowing, excavating, -- Call 872-7290.

FREE ESTIMATES
HEALY'S LANDSCAPING & STONE
219/879-5150 -- FAX 219-879-5344
http://www.healyland.com - d.healy@comcast.net

LARGEST Supplier of Natural Stone
New Items
Kewanee flat skippers -- Irish Celtic Stone -- Building veneers.

★ JIM'S LAWN SERVICE -- Spring Cleanup - Gutter Cleaning --★
Call 219/874-2715. Leave message

★★ H&S SERVICES -- 2621 E. US HIGHWAY 12 ★★
Let Us Be Your One Stop Shop
Colored Mulch - Topsoil - River Rock
Retaining Wall Blocks - Natural Stone

CAPPY'S LAWN CARE
FREE ESTIMATES • FALL CLEAN UP • FULLY INSURED
219/874-3580

••• PAT’S TREE SERVICE •••
A complete tree service. Experts in Storm Damage - Fully Insured
Free Estimates available 7 days a week. Call 219/362-5058

CHUCK’S LANDSCAPING AND TREE SERVICE.
Custom landscape design & installation. Tree & shrub planting.
Complete Lawn Renovation, i.e., Seed & Sod - Mulch & River Rock.
Retaining Walls & Planters: Rock, Block Flagstone Timbers.
Railroad ties,
Drain Tile Installation for Water Control
Brick Patios -- Driveway Designs -- Parking Problems? Resolved!
High tolerance tree and stump removal -- Tree and bush removal
Insured and References - Senior Discount.

ONE CALL DOES IT ALL
219/874-8765

ADDIE'S LAWN MAINTENANCE • POWER WASH
Call 219/331-3571, or 219-879-2017 - Leave message.

MICHIANA YARD CLEAN-UP
Free Estimates -- Call 219/861-0355.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
ATTENTION DRIVERS willing to train to obtain CDLI NO EXPERI-
ENCE NECESSARY! TMC Transportation needs drivers. Guaranteed
weekly earnings. Premium equipment and benefits. Excellent earn-
ing potential and still be OFF WEEKENDS! It’s not a job, it’s a
future! FOR CDL Training through Commercial Driver Institute in
South Bend, IN.
Call today - 1-800-882-7364 AC0064

REAL ESTATE
COMMERCIAL - RENTALS/LEASE/SELL
OFFICE SPACE AVAIL IN BEAUTIFUL SETTING, located on the east-
ern edge of Michigan City. Rent includes all util, + common area
maintenance. For more information phone Jerry at 219/874-8748

De Vries Tire Co. 1260 E. Michigan Blvd.
Michigan City, IN
Serving the Michigan City Area since 1968 219 874-4261
Firestone Tires
specializing in:
Computerized Alignments
Air Conditioning Repairs
Mechanical Repairs
GOLDEN SANDES STORE AND LOCK
FOR LEASE - Two Office Suites, approximately 900 and 1,500
square feet respectively, at 1411 S. Woodland Ave., Michigan City,
IN. Modern, contemporary, energy efficient & ample drive up parking
at the door.
Available now -- Call 219/872-0318.

RENTALS INDIANA

RENTALS INDIANA

FOR LEASE

HOUSE FOR RENT IN LONG BEACH

LONG BEACH COZY 4/BR HOUSE AT STOP 15 (Across from Beach)
Fireplace and Large Deck. Call 708/579-1745.

DUNESCAPE BEACH CLUB

DUNESCAPE BEACH CLUB

LAKEFRONT CONDOS -- 2 and 3 bedrooms.
Winter Rentals -- $1,200 to $1,600 per month.
DUNESCAPE REALTY - 219/872-0588.

SHORELAND HILLS WINTER RENTAL

SHORELAND HILLS WINTER RENTAL

Aval $10/01/04 to 6/30/05. $725 per month includes lawn/leaf maint.,
but not utilities. No pets. Call Bob N. at 800/899-2699,  or Clare N. at
708/579-1193. "Recently Remodeled. Must See to Appreciate."

BEAUTIFUL VINTAGE MICHIANA COTTAGE FOR FALL RENTAL
One block from beautiful Lake Michigan Beach at Stop 39. Fully
furnished--Charming Deco decor. Air conditioned, forty windows to
catch lake breezes. Sleeps up to eight persons. Three bedrooms.
Two full baths. Two woodburning fireplaces. New kitchen. Secluded
onto through October and selected winter holidays. Pets wel-

SHERIDAN BEACH YEAR ROUND RENTAL - Private, with
spectacular views, and large wrap around deck. Luxury 3/BR,

SHERIDAN BEACH WINTER RENTAL

SHERIDAN BEACH WINTER RENTAL

3/BR, 2/Bath. Fully furnished. On Beach. $1,100/mo. + utilities.
STUDIO - 1/BR. Fully furnished. On beach. $600/mo. 312/560-5122.

SHERIDAN BEACH

SHERIDAN BEACH

Contemporary, spacious, furnished 3/BR home. 2-Car garage.
Outstanding Lake Vistas.  Short or long term.
630/852-5414. Email mess6008@msn.com

LAKE TERRACE CONDO - Rent monthly or longer term.
Convenient to shopping, restaurants and casino. Fully furn.
Large 1/BR suite.
Avail to June 1. Call 219/873-9645, or 941/809-5702.

SEASONAL RENTAL IN DUNESCAPE HIGHRISE --Indoor pool
and parking. $1,500/month plus utilities. Please call 219/878-6894.
LOOKING FOR ON-SITE MANAGER for three unit apt. bldg. Rent
with option to buy. Call 219/874-5729. Leave message.

THE PERFECT BEACH HOUSE IN SHERIDAN BEACH
Fireplace. 2 Decks w/ gas grill. Satellite TV w/DVR, DVD, VCR.
Washer/Dryer. REALLY COMFY BEDS! Sleeps 10. Avail Memorial
Day to Labor Day, $1,900/wk. Off-season rates negotiable. Contact
Stacy, 312/282-1535, or email sticsay@yahoo.com for pictures &
more info.

CHARMING MICHIANA SHORES COTTAGE IN WOODED AREA
A little over a block to great beach. New w/rustic charm. Fireplace.
2/Bath, 2+BR. A/C. D/W. By month or longer/ by week in summer.
773/935-1855 days, or 773/248-3265 evenings.

STOP 19 LAKEFRONT HOME
for year round rent -- Call 630/571-2001, ext. 230

NEWLY RENOVATED HOMES. Winter/summer availability.
Weekly/monthly rentals
•• 4/BR, 3/Bath ranch on 1/2 acre with new inground pool & hot tub.
2 1/2 blocks from beach.
•• 4/BR, 2/Bath tri-level. New appliances & hardwood floors. 1 block
from beach.

RENTALS MICHIGAN

HOUSE FOR RENT - NEW BUFFALO - Convenient "in town"
location. 16 S. Townsend. Take the first right after Jackson's Market
window treatments. 2 Bedroom. Full dry basement. Large yard and
at the door.

FOREIGN RESORT PROPERTY - RENTAL

ACAPULCO, MEXICO BEACH FRONT CONDO
Deluxe/br , living/rm, dining/rm, kitchen. Balcony w/view of Acapulco Bay &
mountains. Bottle purified drinking water. Fresh water pool. 24 hr security.
219/879-9360.

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

MICHIANA HOME BY OWNER
Enjoy deck, screened porch, great room with massive fireplace, large
enclosed back porch, sun porch, large foyer, 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths on
a large corner lot with total privacy. Lake Shore Drive to Michiana Drive
(Stop 37) to Comanche Trail, left to 4043 Comanche.
$399,000. 269-469-4295.

3-UNIT APARTMENT BUILDING in Michigan City. Great condition.
Completely rented. $89,900, by owner. 219/947-5729.

ST. ANDREWS VILLAGE BY OWNER
Single family home in gated condo, community with pool. 3 Bedrooms
(large walk-in closet in master br), Screened all season porch, large deck.
Wooden floor in great room, dining room, kitchen, & kitchen nook. Fire-
place. 2 1/2 Car garage. Kitchen is exquisite w/many extras. Very nice home.
$319,000 269-469-4295

BEAUTIFUL LONG BEACH POINTE CONDO - completely renovated in
2000. 2/BR w/hardwood floors. All appliances stay. Private patio.
Completely furnished. Close to beach & Notre Dame school. GARAGE.
$130,000. -- 219/874-5765 for appointment

Make Your List? Check It Twice!
Get Your Holiday Partyware Reservation in NOW.
at GENERAL RENTAL

for Tables, Chairs, Dishes Linens, Glassware and
even Santa's Suit

225 E. Garfield 872-9177
Sammy's Hill: A Novel by Kristen Gore

Chick-lit alert! Girls, this is the book to read now! Are you feeling post-election let-down? Miss all those great debates and wonderfully refreshing commercials?! Of course you do, like you miss a toothache. Well, I have a different approach to politics with my book recommendation this week. Want to take a peek at behind the smiling, waving, baby-kissing and hip-hip hooraying speeches? This book about life in the Washington fast lane will have you laughing out loud and wearing a permanent grin on your face.

Samantha (Sammy to her friends) is a twenty-six year old ball of energy working for Senator Robert Gary (from her home state of Ohio) as his domestic policy adviser. Quite an important job for one so young, but Sammy is more than intellectually suited for the work...it’s just her personal life that keeps running amok and spilling over into her professional life.

“The good thing about working for a senator I respected was that I felt like I had a chance to make a positive difference in the world every day. The bad thing was that I worked so hard I didn’t have time to notice things like the fact that I was wearing two different shoes until I was already on the Red Line, rapidly approaching my stop.”

Sammy has a lot on her plate, which makes us forgive her her small fashion faux paxs.

She raises Japanese fighting fish (one at a time....they keep dying on her), has a best friend, Liza, to commiserate with, and celebrates all kinds of holidays and anniversaries taken from a book she discovered while in high school. “What had started as an art-house resolution to celebrate the less-popular holidays like Arbor Day and Janitor Appreciation Day had gradually grown into an ongoing fascination with obscure anniversaries.....the joyous upshot was that every day became a holiday for something.” Clever girl, our Sammy! She is also a bit of a hypochondriac, which makes for some interesting conversations with herself.

She is also an idealistic, caring person who is still looking for Mr. Right. One night, Sammy and Liza are in a bar when Liza catches the eye of the cute bartender and Sammy is noticed by Aaron, a hunk who turns out to be the head speech writer for Senator Bramen, Senator Gary’s nemesis. “Senior senator from New Jersey, ranking member on the most powerful committee in the Senate, early front-runner in the presidential race...a jerk by most accounts, but an extremely successful one.” Does that make his head speech writer all bad, too?

The very next day, Senator Gary calls Sammy in his office to tell her that Senator Bramen has agreed to cosponsor his new health care legislation, but... “I wish we didn’t have to work with him, because he can’t be trusted. And neither can his staff.” Oops. Not the message that Sammy wanted to hear at that moment: “But do you think that every single member of Bramen’s staff is untrustworthy?” The senator’s look made Sammy know that if she wanted her relationship with Aaron to grow it would have to be kept a secret...in the meantime she could work on getting him to get another job!

The months go by and Sammy is blissfully in lust with Aaron. They spend as much time together as they can when both are in Washington and not on the road with their respective bosses. We accompany Sammy on these trips, attending to last minute details, putting out fires before they happen, and spending long, satisfying hours lost in her research. There is a real sense of political life in this book, from the floor of Senate hearings to the open door community forums in Ohio. Despite, or perhaps because of, Sammy’s quirkiness, many disasters that could effect the Senator negatively are staved off with her quick thinking and quick wit.

And what about her budding romance? Can someone be too good to be true? Personally, I didn’t like Aaron from the beginning...he was just too smooth. Six months into the romance and Sammy does some sneaky checking on her own and finds out......well, you’ll just have to read the book to find out for yourself. It’s well worth it.

Quite simply, this book is a hoot! You must know that Kristen Gore is the daughter of our last Vice-President, Al Gore. This book proves that Kristen kept her eyes open and her very witty wit about her as she must have taken copious notes while in the capitol. She has a delicious sense of humor and is not afraid to make Sammy both capable and vulnerable at the same time; I think that’s the reason I like this story so much. Kristen Gore has a smooth as silk style of writing with characterization that jumps off the page.

Till next time, happy reading!
IF LOVE OF THE GREAT OUTDOORS is your forte, then come immerse yourself in the rugged feel of this beautiful Michiana Shores lodge. Over 3300 sq ft includes 3 bedrooms, sleeping lofts, a Redwood spa room with hot tub & sauna, Coppes kitchen & imported tile floors. The highlight of this home is the 21’ tall, pine-panelled Great Room with a southern wall of windows which gathers the sun & exposes you to views of woods & wetlands. Come see! $779,000

DIRECTIONS: Take El Portal to Hiawatha; go west to intersection with Powhatan.

EXCEPTIONALLY CHARMING IRISH COTTAGE overlooks the entryway to the “old section” of Grand Beach. This meticulously maintained 4 bedroom home is a “lace curtain” cottage with 147’ of road frontage. There is a wrap-around enclosed porch, great party patio & excellent parking. Located “by the side of the road,” just 1/2 block from the beach. Call Jim McGah @ (219) 874-5927 for your showing. $464,900

IT’S A SHORT WALK to the deeded beach rights which come with this 4 bedroom, 2 bath split level home on White Creek. Hardwood and ceramic tile floors, along with pine and honey birch stained trim & doors give character to the sparkling clean interior. The maintenance-free brick & vinyl exterior will allow you to enjoy the beautiful yard and views of the creek & wetlands beyond. Over 2500 sq ft; low utility bills average $136/month. $343,500

OVERLOOKING THE NEIGHBORHOOD, with the Moon Valley nature preserve at its back door, this gracious raised ranch offers the privacy & yard space you want in a summer home! 3 bedrooms, 1 full & 2 half baths, an updated galley kitchen and large living & dining rooms are joined by a lower level family room. Front and rear decks allow for large parties or private sunning. It’s a quick walk to the beach at Stop 20! $369,000

DIRECTIONS: Oriole Trail west to Melrose; across street from Town Park

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

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

Julie Gring
Bill Moldenhauer
Michele Meden, ABR
Dave Walsh

Jim Laughlin
Jerry Lambert
Jeff Meyer
Tricia Meyer

Debbie Mengel
Pat Elliott
Joan Brown
Heather Melnyk

Jessica Storey
Susan Carter
No Gimmicks, just a lovely brick and stone bi-level solidly constructed, with spacious master suite on main floor opening to completely private deck. A second kitchen in the lower level is great for live-in relatives or friends. 5 bedrooms, 3 baths, 2 fireplaces. 2 car garage. On 2 lots landscaped for privacy. $399,000

You Can Have It All in Michiana cabin on 3 country lots just a pleasant walk from Lake Michigan’s beach dedicated to Michiana Park residents. Wood burning fireplace in large living room and adjoining T.V. room. Family sized kitchen and separate dinning room. 3 bedrooms, 1 bath. Private front porch. $249,000

Take a Look while the remodeling is still in process. You’ll love the beautiful oak floors bordered by walnut and cherry strips and the maple cabinets in the new kitchen. The marble fireplace in the living room is planned for an oak mantel. It’s an easy walk to the beach. Three bedrooms, 2 baths. $369,000

Who Says you can’t buy your second home first? Move in immediately to redecorated lakefront corner unit condo with views over the water from Chicago to Michigan. High-end G.E. appliances in remodeled kitchen. Washer, dryer, and extra storage unit. 2 bedrooms, 2½ baths. Large deck overlooking the water. Private Community beach. Clubhouse pool, exercise equipment. Garage. $550,000