Skrebneski Photos Highlight Lubeznik Art Center
by Barbara Stodola

Victor Skrebneski was the first choice for the opening exhibit at the newly-remodeled Jack and Shirley Lubeznik Center for the Arts. He was also the second choice and, so far as I can tell, the only choice for this distinctive role.

It makes sense. The committee wanted a stunning exhibit, one that would show to advantage the great curving space that defines the main gallery. They wanted a celebrity-artist. And, if one could be engaged who already had established local ties, so much the better.

Twenty-five years ago, Victor was introduced to the Lubezniks by their mutual friend/designer Bruce Gregga, and he was commissioned to do a photograph of Jack Lubeznik. Victor was already famous at that time, and the photo of Lubeznik fell into the black turtleneck series that had memorialized such notables as Orson Welles, Bette Davis, Zsa Zsa Gabor, Andy Warhol and Truman Capote. As the story goes, Victor carried that black sweater around from one photo session to another, thus minimalizing the background details so as to highlight personality characteristics.

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Skrebneski  Continued from Page 1

Jack Lubeznik, here in his namesake gallery, looks larger than life. Art Center staff members, as well as Skrebneski himself, are hoping to complete that picture soon — with an accompanying photograph of Shirley Lubeznik.

Skrebneski portrait studies of actors, authors and artists are so penetrating, and so widely reproduced, that they have become identified with the subject and are referred to as “icons.” Several of these portraits are in the Michigan City exhibit, on a wall just inside the main entrance.

As for the main gallery, Skrebneski had something else in mind: Homage to Francis Bacon and Homage to Cy Twombly. Bacon and Twombly are two of his favorite artists, and the series he has produced will result in a challenging and provocative exhibit for the art center’s gala opening events. Besides selecting which photos to put in the show, Skrebneski decided upon all the other aesthetic details, right down to the type-face used on the exhibition catalog.

“We are delighted to have an artist of his stature,” said Mike Bell, vice-president of the Lubeznik Art Center and chairman of the opening exhibit committee. “He has earned the right to make these decisions.”

Mike Bell is an antiques dealer with a showroom in the Merchandise Mart and homes in Chicago and Lakeside, Michigan. He and his wife, Donna, have been friends of Victor’s for more than 50 years, thus bringing another local connection into play. Donna was one of Victor’s early subjects, when both were beginning their art-related careers, and just recently he photographed her again, as a birthday gift. They get together for special events, such as the International Film Festival held annually in Chicago.

The dramatically-lighted main gallery of the new Art Center has been completed, with days to spare before the October 23 exhibit opening.

The curving row of windows has been framed and finished, and soon will have silver lettering identifying it as Jack and Shirley Lubeznik Center for the Arts.
Donna Bell, a friend of Victor’s for 50+ years, poses with her recent portrait; notice (upper left) the snapshots added as a whimsical touch.

This year, on October 4, Victor’s book on the Chicago International Film Festival came out — bringing to ten the number of books he has published in the past 35 years. There have also been seven exhibition catalogs, issued for exhibits of his photos in Hamburg, Milan, New York, Chicago (his hometown) and Paris (his second hometown.) The Michigan City catalog, a 32-page item, will join this distinguished parade.

The Galerie Valois catalog, from Paris, made reference to “la maison Estee Lauder,” the plum commercial account that Victor landed in 1962, upon personal request of Mrs. Lauder. “This is the man I want,” she announced, after viewing his portfolio. “He has the soul of Klimt.” Victor then proceeded to establish a new standard of female beauty, as enhanced by a judicious choice of cosmetics.

Skrebneski Continued on Page 4

This widely-reproduced photograph of Vanessa Redgrave captured a pensive, private moment and a whoosh of hair.

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In this self-portrait, the famous British painter Francis Bacon blurred his facial image — a technique Skrebneski has adapted to his photographs.

In his Homage to Francis Bacon series, Skrebneski’s studies of moving figures become abstract images of light and shadow.

Cy Twombly’s paintings have been described as “graphic crossings and groupings so complex as to be almost impossible to follow.”

Victor Skrebneski’s photos of Twombly’s handwriting are enlargements of letters he received from the artist.
At his Paris exhibition, Skrebneski showed the black-and-white figures in motion that constitute his tribute to Francis Bacon, and they were described as being charged with “formidable emotion.” These are the same images that will be shown at the Lubeznik Center for the Arts. They depict a male figure, nude, starkly lighted, moving swiftly and captured with a slow shutter speed, a combination that results in ghostlike, blurry images.

“I like the look of the blur,” Skrebneski explains. “It is more painterly.” Blurred figures were among the haunting images produced by the famous British painter Francis Bacon (1909-1992). In espousing this technique, and paying homage to Bacon, Skrebneski takes his place in the international procession of artists who have been intrigued by the trade-offs between photographic and painterly methods. The blurriess evokes the sense of movement, whereas unblurred figures tend to look static, frozen in space.

As it happens, Bacon drew subject matter from the pioneering photographs of Eadweard Muybridge (c. 1850), which focused on galloping horses in order to document what actually occurs when a subject moves at a rate more rapid than the eye can follow. The work of Muybridge was also of interest to Cy Twombly, the other artist to whom Skrebneski is paying homage in this show.

Twombly and Skrebneski are contemporaries (both born in 1929), and they became pen-pals after Twombly, also an American, moved to Italy. “He wrote on Italian air-mail paper,” Victor recounted. “I took all the letters, photographed them, zoomed in on certain sections, and when I printed them up, I realized that now I had a collection of Twomblys.” Some of the best critics describe Twombly’s paintings as “scribbles,” and today they are selling for millions of dollars. If you follow that logic, Victor now has “a fortune” in Twomblys. All of his photographs are for sale.

Victor Skrebneski will be present at the opening reception in Michigan City on Saturday, October 23. He is a charming man with continental manners, an engaging conversationalist who holds forth on a multitude of topics — but prefers not to answer questions about his art, especially the same old questions. He will gladly talk to you about the park he designed around Chicago’s historic water tower, just to bring “a touch of Paris” to his neighborhood. He likes to reminisce about the early years, when he was studying at the Art Institute of Chicago and indulging in the off-site art collection at Riccardo’s Restaurant and bar. But when it comes to the subject of his own art, there it is on the wall — and he prefers that the art speak directly to you, the viewer, without the intrusion of his words or mine.
Sinai Temple Deli Day

This popular yearly event is put on by the Sinai Temple Sisterhood and will take place on Wed., Oct. 27, at the Sinai Temple, 2800 Franklin St., Michigan City. Your choice of corned beef, turkey or roast beef sandwiches will be sold for $6 each and will include pickle spear, cole slaw, noodle kugel and condiments. All sandwiches will be made on Jewish-style rye bread. Extra kugel will be available at one for $1 or 6 for $5.

Lunch will be served from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. and you can eat in or carry out. Phone orders to 874-4477 or fax to 874-4190.

Antique Appraisal Fundraiser

“Appraising Your Past to Secure Our Future” is the name of the fundraiser for the Stepping Stone Shelter for Women, Inc. The event will be held on Sat., Oct. 30, at Grace Church (the former Jefferson School building), 2722 Wabash St., Michigan City, and is being sponsored by Swanson Center.

One item will be appraised per person by well-known appraiser, Karl Gates, and there will be a dessert table and beverages for a $15 ticket price. Reservations are required by phoning 879-4615, or toll-free, 866/879-4615.

10th Annual Share Our Dreams

The Share Foundation will host their 10th annual Share Our Dreams Gala & Silent Auction on Fri., Nov. 5th, at the Center for Visual and Performing Arts in Munster, IN, from 6:30-11 p.m.

For a donation of $100 per person, guests can expect to enjoy cocktails, elegant dining, a delicious sweet table, dancing to music of the Tom Milo Band and a silent and live auction featuring an array of items up for bid. Donated from local individuals and businesses, items may include overnight vacation packages, estate items, tickets to sporting events, symphony tickets and restaurant dining packages.

The Gala is also an opportunity to entertain family or co-workers. Sponsor tables can be purchased in three levels of distinction that include a table of ten guests, recognition in the program and mention in the monthly Good News letter.

All proceeds from the evening benefit the Share Foundation, a not-for-profit, privately funded organization dedicated to serving the residential, vocational and social needs of other-abled/mentally handicapped adults. The Share Foundation runs Camp Sharing Meadows, a year round values retreat and Sharing Meadows, a permanent residential community--both for other abled adults.

Phone the Share Foundation, 219/778-2585 for reservations, or email share@sharefoundation.org
NEW CONSTRUCTION on the main street of Union Pier. Township approval for outdoor sales, 2 lots w/room to add loads of deck space for outdoor living or sale space. Lots of parking, high road exposure w/2 large ‘can be’ bedrooms upstairs w/kitchen & vaulted beamed ceilings. Quality construction, full basement, ceramic floors in the baths. Residence w/close proximity to the beach or Commercial venture. $399K
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A BEACH HOUSE IN LAKESIDE: This new construction classic lakefront home overlooks its own wide sandy private beach. Designed and constructed with exceptional quality, this home, with 5 bedrooms and 5.5 baths, is a total pleasure to behold. The lake views are breathtaking and the rooms were designed to maximize them. $3,349M
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Kimberla Lawson Roby is the next Writing Out Loud speaker.

Best-selling author Kimberla Lawson Roby will be the guest speaker at the next Writing Out Loud program at the Michigan City Public Library. The program will be held on Sat., Oct. 23, 7:30 p.m. Lawson Roby is the author of the nationally best-selling novels *Too Much of a Good Thing, A Taste of Reality, It’s a Thin Line, Casting the First Stone, Here and Now* and her debut title, *Behind Closed Doors*, which was originally self-published through her own company, Lenox Press.


The interviewer for the program is writer and teacher Patricia Klewer of Valparaiso. The program is free and open to the public. Ms. Lawson Roby will be available to sign copies of her books and the Friends of the Library will honor her with a reception following the program.

**Leadership Program at Library**

Leadership: Maintaining Peak Performance will be presented at the Michigan City Public Library, on Mon., Oct. 25, at 6:30 p.m. Take the challenge of Enrichment Strategies. Find out how you can reach your potential and how you can help your co-workers and colleagues to reach theirs. Learn simple ways that you can take your leadership to the next level.

This free program will be conducted by Rich Nash of Enrichment Strategies.
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The “Best of Broadway” in New Buffalo

The “Best of Broadway” is coming to the New Buffalo Performing Arts Center on Saturday evening Oct. 23rd at 8 p.m. (MI time). The “Best of Broadway” marks the opening of the 2004-2005 New Buffalo Performing Artists Concert Series.

The “Best of Broadway” brings three extraordinarily talented artists to the stage for an evening of light opera and your favorites from the Broadway musical stage. The evening comes alive with the voices of soprano Sharon Quattrin and tenor Mark Eldred and the music of pianist Richard Hoskins.

The Chicago Tribune calls Sharon Quattrin “the silvery-voiced soprano.” Ms. Quattrin’s operatic credits include Gretel in “Hansel and Gretel,” Papagena in “The Magic Flute,” Anne Egerman in “A Little Night Music” and various Gilbert & Sullivan roles.

Tenor Mark Eldred made his Carnegie Hall and Orchestra Hall debuts with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra during the 20001-2002 season singing the role of Shepherd in Wagner’s “Tristan und Isolde.” Mr. Eldred returned to Orchestra Hall the following two seasons as tenor soloist with the Chicago Symphony.

Richard Hoskins was appointed Director of Music & Organist of St. Chrysostom’s Episcopal Church, Chicago in January of 1984. He conducts the 16-voice professional choir, a Children’s Choir, and a volunteer Parish Choir. He is also the Director of the Music at St. Chrysostom’s Concert Series.

Tickets for “The Best of Broadway” are $10 for adults and $5 for students. They are available at the Retro’ Café, The Villager and Country Mates in New Buffalo; the Vickers Theatre in Three Oaks and at the door. The New Buffalo Performing Arts Center is located at 1112 Clay Street in New Buffalo.

For more information or to purchase season tickets, contact the Symphony office at (269) 982.4030 or e-mail smso@smso.org.

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THE Writers, Studio Writing Weekend
The Box Factory For the Arts presents a Writers, Studio Writing Weekend on Nov. 5-7. Twelve Michigan writers and a fiddle player will team together for this inaugural event.

The program is geared to adults and high school and college students who want practical advice on improving their writing and moving toward publishing their work.

The event will kick off on Fri., Nov. 5 with a talk by Margaret Willey of Grand Haven about writing children's literature.

On Sat., Nov. 6 there will be a series of workshops with topics that include writing children's literature, writing and researching history, writing short non-fiction and fiction, publishing in traditional and non-traditional ways, playwriting, writing in college and overcoming fears that block creative writing.

Package prices for the event, which includes all three speakers, four workshops and a box lunch on Saturday, are $75 or $50 for Berrien Artist Guild members, senior citizens (60+), and students. Individual workshops and speakers are $15 and $10. Phone 269/983-3688 or log onto www.boxfactoryforthearts.org

25 Years of Quilting

For twenty-five years, volunteers have been making quilts at Wood’s Historic Grist Mill in Deep River County Park, southeast of Hobart, Indiana.

On the weekend of Oct. 23-24, all the quilts made at the Park will be exhibited and volunteers will be quilting at the frame on the current quilt.

Anyone who made blocks for past quilts is asked to meet on Sunday afternoon to reminisce about the quilt blocks and the quilts on exhibit and to talk with the public. Donors of blocks for the most recent quilt, “Goodie Jars in Grandma’s Pantry,” will be presented with a booklet describing the quilt and how it evolved, how some of the other quilts came to be and what the future may bring for the quilting program at Wood’s Mill.

Deep River Park is located between Valparaiso and Merrillville. Take US 30 west past the Deep River Water Park to the next signal light; turn right and follow the signs. For more information, phone 219/947-1958.

Season Closing Reminder

On Sun., Oct. 31, at 5 p.m., Wood’s Historic Grist Mill and the Visitor Center will close for the season. Until then you may buy their stone-ground cornmeal, pure maple syrup and apple butter daily from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission to the historic mill is free, donations are accepted. Hay rides will still be available on weekends through October at 1, 2 & 3 p.m. for $2 per person.

The gift shop next door to the mill also has Indiana souvenirs, toys, books, postcards, vintage baseball souvenirs and much more.

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Sunnycrest aptly named, as sunshine pours through a myriad of new Marvin windows and doors. Completely redone in 2003, this 4 bedroom, 3½ bath home invites entertaining or simply relaxing on one of its many decks. New kitchen with stainless steel appliances, granite countertops, antique Balinese bed island surround. All new baths, wiring, plumbing & septic system. So very close to Lake Michigan, this home offers seasonal views of the water!

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REALTOR OF THE YEAR

Randy Novak is currently the Board President for the LaPorte County Association of Realtors. He also serves as Education Chairman. He has served as Vice President, MLS Committee member, Forms Committee member and is currently serving as a Director for the Multiple Listing Service of Greater Northwest Indiana Association of REALTORS. He is also involved with Meals on Wheels, Michigan City Chamber of Commerce, Greater LaPorte Chamber of Commerce, Knights of Columbus & Moose Lodge 980. He is licensed in both Michigan & Indiana and holds ABR and GRI designations. Randy is also a captain on the Michigan City Fire Department, he is an EMT and CPR Instructor for more than 18 years. Randy resides in Long Beach with his wife, Debbie Novak, and has two children, James and Scott.
On October 8th, 9th, 10th, and 11th, 2004, a varied group of fall activities were held in Harbor Country, Michigan. With the great autumn weather during this time, many of them were quite well attended and greatly enjoyed by those present. I visited a sampling of the activities, taking photographs and talking to the people who participated.

My first visit on Saturday morning, October 8th, was to the Outdoor Farmers' Market at Kite's Kitchen in New Buffalo. This was held outside the restaurant. Tom and Kite Gosh, restaurant owners, were behind an outside table, selling sweets such as rolls, cookies, pies, and jellies, which were attracting bees to the table. Alethea and Ryan Randazza of Chicago had stopped to purchase some goodies. They told me, “This is our first time here and we’re staying in Union Pier on the recommendation of friends.”

Nearby, Todd D. McWethy, President of McWethy Farms at Three Oaks and first year supplier to Kite’s Kitchen, was selling some marvelous produce, mostly mini and large red and yellow tomatoes, from the farms. His parents, Susan & Jim, were helping at the market. McWethy’s was sold out of other produce; next year, they will also grow a wide variety of culinary herbs, greens, and lettuce. One source on the Internet is “Heirloom Sets,” a company with many, many varieties of tomatoes. Todd told me, “I received my first degree in biology at Hope College in Michigan. My next degree was in horticulture & plant science at the State University of New York in Cobbleskill, New York.”

In the parking lot behind the New Buffalo Savings Bank, pumpkin painting, face painting, and fun games were among the activities. Alexa and Ava Sato of Chicago were having fun. Ava concentrated on painting a pumpkin purple. Mom and daughter posed behind a bale of straw for a family photo. Alexa said, “We’ve purchased a condominium in New Buffalo so we’ll be coming out often.”

Soon Paul Lampkin arrived to give more “hay rides” with the wagon pulled by his horses, named Big Mom and Son. He takes the wagon and horses to Detroit to give rides at Chrysler, uses it at Ford in Chicago
Heights, for the mayor in Balewood, Illinois, and participates in various parades each year. I photographed a group of those who climbed aboard the wagon to take the approximate 30-minute ride through New Buffalo.

Outside at Michigan Thyme, Dorothy Sheehan showed children how to make bat rings. Dad Kevin Cassel brought his children Nathan, Ryan, and Sarah to visit for the day from Chicago. They posed for a photo, showing the large bat rings they had just made. Kevin told me, “We’ve been in Sleeping Bear and Traverse City, Michigan, before but this is our first time here.”

At Whittaker House, Margaret O’Leary and Lori Thordarson were involved in the inheritance trunk show. Owner, Marjorie Bloom, was not present, but Manager Ranae Sale and employees Shirley Boden, Julie Dilling, and Emily Newell were working. Emily Newell posed with Margaret O’Leary’s spring collection, holding out an aqua cashmere sweater that she really liked. Emily, a member of the New Buffalo Homecoming Court, said, “I love working here, but I’m always spending the money I make on clothes.”

Lori Thordarson stood behind the counter where her inheritance jewelry was on display. Lori, formerly from California, now lives in La Porte. Previously a dental hygienist and a landscape gardener, she finds her jewelry making the most rewarding thing she has done. Lori said, “I’ve been in this business about two years. I use semi-precious and precious stones, gold & stainless steel, and pearls are a big love of mine. There are literally thousands of stones out there. South Sea pearls and honey opals are very pretty.”
Harvest Days  Continued from Page 15

On Saturday evening, a wine tasting was being held at Timothy’s Restaurant. Restaurant Manager Andy said, “Our fall produce comes from a lot of local suppliers and we have a good selection from the harvest. We have many fresh veggies and serve apple crisp for a fall dessert. The wine tasting is in The Gallery downstairs.”

Craig Smith of Miller Beach runs The Gallery; he represents fifteen artists from all over—places such as New York, Chicago, and Miami. He travels to Paris once a year to select some art from there. Craig posed by a very colorful painting done by Sylvia Ziontz, called “In Repose.” Other artists with their work in The Gallery are Roger Harvey, Stephen Moss, and Ron Wennekes.

Debbie Wisniewski of O.K. Distributors (Dowagiac) was pouring some wine for her husband, Mark. Three other distributors: Katie Maurer, David Wilson, and Debby Lemon posed for a photograph while awaiting the arrival of guests at the wine tasting. Katie represents Domaine & Berrien Cellars of Berrien Springs, David – Tabor Hill & St. Julian, and Mollie Lemon is from Lemon Creek Wineries. Mollie would guess that there are about twenty seasonal wine tastings held in the Michigan area.

I tried to photograph Dundee, Gail Sanders’ black poodle, who moved very fast while trying to catch an apple. Dundee did select a doggie treat for a special discount coupon for his owner, Gail. Co-owner of Customs Imports, Dee Dee, told me, “This is our second year for The Doggie Apple Bobbing, which will be an annual event. Some people said it’s the best event ever in Harbor Country. Of course, these people are dog owners! We had big dogs, little dogs (so I brought out a small bowl for them) and dogs of all colors and kinds. Hudson and Bogart returned this year; they belong to Suraleah Michaels and Jess Forrest of Chicago and Grand Beach. Hudson is a labadoodle who flew over from Australia, while Bogart is a standard poodle. We had about fifteen dogs so far, and the contest is not over yet.” Dee Dee graciously offered to share her photos of the dogs participating in the annual apple bobbing. Perhaps her most fascinating shot is the one of Winston, the English bulldog, who stepped partly into the tin tub so as to get a better chance at seizing an apple in his mouth! Way to go, Winston!

Debbie Wisniewski of O.K. Distributors (Dowagiac) pours wine for her husband, Mark.

Dee Dee Duhn of Classical Imports models her favorite saree from India.

Dee Dee Duhn of Classical Imports models her favorite saree from India.
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Annual Quilt Show at Berrien Springs

The members of the Berrien Towne and Country Quilt Guild will put their artistry on display at their annual Quilt Show Oct. 23 & 24 at the Blossomland Learning Center, 711 St. Joseph Ave., Berrien Springs, MI.

Over 150 handmade quilts from one of the most skilled and prolific quilt guilds in Michigan will be the highlight of the show. People attending the show on Saturday can vote for their favorite quilt for viewers’ choice awards.

Throughout the two days of the show, the guild will present demonstrations of various quilting techniques and an opportunity to watch and join members as they “sit and stitch.” The guild also has a boutique filled with quilt-related items from the members and over a dozen vendors selling everything from fabric to quilt frames.

There will also be a silent auction in which guild members have donated miniature quilts. Money collected will be donated to the Berrien County Cancer Service to set up a fund to pay for mammograms for women in need.

The quilt show will be open from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. (MI time) both days and there is a $5 admission fee. Lunch will be available.

9th Annual Christmas Candlelight Tour

People Engaged in Preservation, a nonprofit, historic preservation group, invites the public to attend the enchanting 2004 Christmas Candlelight Tour of Historic Homes, Sat., Dec. 4th, from 4-8 p.m., and Sun., Dec. 5th, from 1-5 p.m. The tour includes five private homes, the LaPorte County Courthouse courtrooms with their lavish woodwork and richly hued stained-glass, and LaPorte’s oldest, continually operating church: the 1859 Swedenborgian/New Church.

Each site will be decorated for the Christmas season. Also offered will be live musical entertainment at all locations, refreshments at the church, plus a Victorian sleigh/carriage ride.

Advanced tickets are available for $12 each at downtown LaPorte antique malls, The Antique Market and Framing Station in Michigan City, The Village Shoppes in New Carlisle, the South Bend Chocolate Company in Valparaiso, JD Designs in downtown Chesterton, or at Country Mates in New Buffalo, Michigan. You may also send a check for $12 per person, postmarked by Nov. 27th, payable to: People Engaged in Preservation, PO Box 853, LaPorte, IN 46352.

Day-of-tour tickets ($15 each) will be available at the LaPorte County Courthouse, in downtown LaPorte. For more information, phone Timothy Stabosz at 219/324-5087, or Pam Ruminski at 219/362-5712. E-mail: tstabosz@csinet.net Website: www.kv.k12.in.us/pep/
Lakeshore & Country

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DUNE ACRES. LAKEFRONT. Enjoy uncom-
promising 180° panorama of Lake Michigan &
Chicago skyline from this very private 6900 sq.
ft. home. Indoor pool/sauna, home theatre,
wine cave & so much more. $3,200,000

PORTER BEACH. Shed style contemporary
nestles secluded behind a dune on heavily
wooded site. Open floor plan, walls of windows,
deck & stone patio, glass sunroom. $425,000

PORTER BEACH. Commanding views of
the Indiana Dunes State & National parkland.
Custom contemporary provides open floor plan
with access to great decks & ‘views’. One
block to beach. $475,000

BEVERLY SHORES. LAKEFRONT. 3 level
contemporary with sweeping views of lake &
sandy shoreline. Open floor plan offers 6 bed-
rooms/5 baths & terrific views of Chicago sky-
line. $1,500,000

BEVERLY SHORES. Lakeviews from this love-
ly treetop cedar contemporary. 4 levels that offer
warm woods, window walls, decks/balconies, 2
story fireplace, screened porch, outdoor shower &
hot tub. Half block to beach. $899,000

OGDEN DUNES. Landmark German Tudor just
steps to beach. Beautiful architectural features,
original light fixtures, restored cork flooring. One
of largest lots in Ogden Dunes. $459,000

SAND CREEK. Mission Hills townhomes. 3
beautiful 2 story units, each with their own
distinctive features. First floor masters with
private walled patios, walk out basements & easy
walk to course & clubhouse. Best buy in Sand
Creek! $349,000 to $369,000

THE FREIGHT STATION in downtown
Chesterton. Turn of century landmark brick
building features 2700 sq. ft. on main level &
additional 1000 sq. ft. of loft space. Original
planked flooring, weigh scales, slate roof.
Plenty of parking. $259,000

THE WAVERLY SCHOOLHOUSE in Porter.
Built in 1881, this 1 room schoolhouse remains
tru to its origins. Period architectural detail, orig-
inal maple floor, bell tower & outhouse. Mature
oaks & maples provide a lovely corner setting.
Additional property available. $125,000

Preview these & other fine properties on my website at www.dhofmann.com
Recipes From the Lone Star State

The Beacher’s own Jerry Montgomery, would like to share his favorite recipes from his home state of Texas.

Texas Ranch Jalapena Beans

2 lbs. of Pinto Beans
½ lb. of Bacon
2 Jalapena Peppers (Medium Size)
4 Cloves of Garlic
1 Large Onion
2 (8 oz.) cans of Tomato Paste
¾ tsp. Black Pepper
1 Tbs. Salt
Kettle of boiling water

DIRECTIONS

2. Cut bacon into small pieces. Fry until brown. Don’t burn. Combine with beans, including grease.

When the mixture comes to a boil, simmer over low heat. Cook for 3 to 3½ hours, or until beans are soft. Stir occasionally from the bottom.

Especially good when served with Jalapena Cornbread, the recipe for which follows.

Texas Ranch Jalapena Cornbread--so mouth watering delicious, you will marvel that you have survived for so long without it.

¼ cup Cornmeal
¾ cup Flour
3 teaspoons Baking Powder
1½ teaspoons Salt
1 Medium Size Onion
3 cloves of Garlic
1 cup of Milk
¼ cup Oil
2 Eggs
1 (7-8 oz.) can of Cream Corn (Drained)
2½ Jalapena Peppers (Medium Size)
3 cup Grated Cheese
½ lb. Hamburger

Heat oven to 400 degrees.
Fry hamburger until well done (crumble, pour off grease).

Put eggs, onion, garlic and jalapena peppers in blender. Blend thoroughly.

Combine cornmeal, flour, baking powder, oil, corn, cheese, salt and contents of blender in a mixing bowl. Use milk to wash out blender, then pour in mixing bowl. Add hamburger. Mix well.

Pour into pie pans - Bread is best if about ½ inch thick.

Put in preheated 400° oven. Bake until golden brown. (20 to 25 minutes)
**FALL OPEN HOUSE FESTIVITY**

Come and join us for lots of fun and great refreshments (apple cider, hot dogs, & brownies) and golf cart rides in the country!

Saturday, October 23rd from 12:00 - 3:00 IN Time

---

**9522 N 125 East, LaPorte, IN**

“A RIVER RUNS THROUGH IT”

40 beautiful acres in Galena Horse Country with woods, ravines, fields & the Galien River. Great salmon fishing & natural wildlife preserve. Even a friendly peacock visits daily. Home has 3-4 bedrooms (1 loft), huge gathering areas, family room, living/reading room, & game room. Country décor with stone wood-burner that sets the ambiance of the family room and central air. 2 car garage & small storage barn. 10 acres with some river frontage could easily be split off.

DIR: 1000 North, right on 125 East to sign

$649,000

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**3401 Morton, Rolling Prairie, IN**

“ALL AMERICAN COUNTRY LOG”

This beautiful log home offers vaulted ceilings, 2 bedrooms on main level & loft bedroom on upper level, with full walk-out unfinished basement. All situated on 5 gorgeous acres & sits on a hill surrounded by rolling country views of woods & meadows. Enjoy all the scenery from the decks & patio area that includes a built-in firepit. Variety of special landscaping enhances & sets ambience for complete privacy. This property includes 2 large buildings with water & electric that could serve as work sheds or horse barns.

DIR: 1000 North, right on 300 East, left on Morton to sign

$498,000

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**CHERRY BEACH COTTAGE**

Situated in a quiet wooded setting and enhanced with a Mediterranean style décor. Offers open and spacious rooms, fireplace, great patio and heated inground pool. Best of all, you are only 4 short blocks away from Cherry Beach! this home has much to offer and is a perfect summer retreat or investment opportunity, as it produces excellent rental income during the summer season!

DIR: 1000 North, right on 125 East to sign

$499,000

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**COTTAGE IN THE WOODS**

Very special home on 5 acres in the woods. Inspired by architecture of Spain, it resembles a chapel in the woods. Interior offers solid wood doors that are 9’6” high & rounded. The ceilings are 12’ high and give an open spacious feeling, the home offers a fireplace, ceramic heated floors, 2 marble baths, a screened-in ceramic tile room with a built-in BBQ grill which gives the home a Southwestern feeling. The exterior offers a 30 x 40 heated & insulated pole barn with gas & electric.

DIR: 1000 North, right on 300 East, left on Morton to sign

$369,000

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**HARBOR LANDINGS BOAT SLIP**

Very nice 43’ slip with adjustable access valued at $4,000.00, with umbrella and dockbox. Located in front of pool and bath house with no slips behind it. Great views of preserve and island. Association includes use of water, electric, and pool.

DIR: 1000 North, right on 300 East, left on Morton to sign

$49,000

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**PRIME DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY**

10.80 acres in nice area of Michigan City, close to shopping and schools. Zoned R-3 High Density - Multi-Family. Could be single family residence.

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$449,000

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Dear Bertha,

I'm reading more and dusting less. I'm sitting in the yard and admiring the view without fussing about the weeds in the garden. I'm spending more time with my family and friends and less time working. Whenever possible, life should be a pattern of experiences to savor, not to endure. I'm trying to recognize these moments now and cherish them.

I'm not “saving” anything; we use our good china and crystal for every special event such as losing a pound, getting the sink unstopped, or the first Amaryllis blossom.

I wear my good blazer to the market. My theory is if I look prosperous, I can shell out $28.49 for one small bag of groceries.

I'm not saving my good perfume for special parties, but wearing it for clerks in the hardware store and tellers at the bank.

“Someday” and “one of these days” are losing their grip on my vocabulary; if it's worth seeing or hearing or doing, I want to see and hear and do it now.

I'm not sure what others would’ve done had they known they wouldn’t be here for the tomorrow that we all take for granted.

I think they would have called family members and a few close friends. They might have called a few former friends to apologize and mend fences for past squabbles.

I like to think they would have gone out for a Chinese dinner or for whatever their favorite food was.

I'm guessing; I'll never know.

It's those little things left undone that would make me angry if I knew my hours were limited. Angry because I hadn't written certain letters that I intended to write one of these days. Angry and sorry that I didn't tell my husband and parents often enough how much I truly love them. I'm trying very hard not to put off, hold back, or save anything that would add laughter and luster to our lives.

And every morning when I open my eyes, I tell myself that it is special. Every day, every minute, every breath truly is a gift from God.

If you received this, it is because someone cares for you.

If you're too busy to take the few minutes that it takes right now to forward this, would it be the first time you didn't do the little thing that would make a difference in your relationships? I can tell you it certainly won't be the last.

“People say true friends must always hold hands, but true friends don't need to hold hands because they know the other hand will always be there.”

I don't believe in miracles. I rely on them.

Life may not be the party we hoped for, but while we are here..... we might as well dance.

Submitted by Maggie Beyer

---

**El Nopal Restaurant**

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Formerly Santiago's

Open for Lunch and Dinner

110 W. 9th St. (1/2 blk. west of Franklin St.)

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**The Sunset Years**

Bob Canavan from Stop 29 in Long Beach often brings his digital camera and joins the sunset watchers at Stop 37. Here’s one of his wonderful shots. He also shared this e-mail with a sentiment many of us can share.

*This was written by an 83 year old...The last line says it all.*
October 21, 2004 Page 23

10/06/04

Dear Bob,
It’s been a great summer in Sheridan Beach.
There is one Lakeview Villa left—just think
of what we can do with the extra million you
save by not buying on the lake!
Mike & Family

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Doggie Day!!

Halloween HOLLO‘WOOF’!!
Doggie Day at Panozzo’s Oct. 30, 11-4:00 MI
Outdoor “Rubber Duckie” Pond
Frisbees ~ Romp Area ~ Doggie & PeopleTreats!
The Petz CARLTON owner Helen Fasano will give pet tips
Hallo‘woof’ costumes, optional. Fun guaranteed!!

Recipe

Cheese Bacon Bit Dog Biscuits
To a mixing bowl, add: 1 1/2 C. Whole wheat Flour, 1 1/2 C Cheddar Cheese*, grated, 1/2 C. Bacon bits, 1/4 C. Oil, 1 clove garlic. Stir together and add enough milk or broth to form a ball. Chill. Roll out. Use DOGGIE CUTTERS* to cut out. Bake on cookie sheet with a SILICONE MAT*. Bake at 350 degrees until firm and lightly toasted, 15-30 minutes depending on size. ~ *Available at PANOZZO’S*
Wine Tasting on November 7

Do you like wine, beer, and cordials but find yourself serving the same types of beverages to your family and friends over and over again? Do you fill your cart with your favorites each week because you have not sampled the other varieties of wine, beer, and cordials that you know exist? Do you think Pinot Grigot is the name of the little monkey that appeared on the Ed Sullivan Show? If you answered yes to any of these questions, mark your calendar for a wine tasting extravaganza!

The Duneland Exchange Club will host a holiday wine tasting on Sun., Nov. 7, 2004 from 3-6 p.m. at the Sand Creek Country Club in Chesterton. At this event, which is co-sponsored by CJ’s Discount Liquors in Portage, over 100 wines, cordials, and beers will be available to sample and purchase. Several varieties of delicious hot and cold hors d’oeuvres will be served to complement the beverages. Many items will be available to bid on through a live and silent auction, and entertainment will be provided.

The tickets, which are $30 each, are available at Horizon Bank, 423 Roosevelt, Chesterton; Centier Bank, 103 Broadway & 1600 S. Calumet, Chesterton; and Peter DeWitt State Farm Insurance, 3141 Willowcreek, Portage. You must be 21 years of age to attend the wine tasting, and tickets will not be sold at the door.

For additional information, contact one of the Wine Tasting Committee Co-Chairs, Susan Thode (219/926-3781) or Bob Pawlik (219/926-5313).

Proceeds from this event will be used to support child abuse prevention and youth development efforts in Porter County.

Bookmarks at Noon

The next Bookmarks at Noon at the Michigan City Public Library will be Fri., Oct. 22. Orphans Preferred: The Twisted Truth and Lasting Legend of the Pony Express by Christopher Corbett will be reviewed by Dennis Norman.

The Pony Express of the mid 1800s was one of the most colorful chapters in the history of Western development, yet it lasted less than two years. In this fascinating book, Corbett gives a rollicking account of the Express as it was. The program is free and open to the public. Coffee, tea and cookies will be served.

Hours: 10:30 to 6
269/469-6151

The Villager

GIFTS • ACCESSORIES

100 N. Whittaker Street New Buffalo, MI
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We will remove your old set for you!

* with $599 or higher set purchase

**INSTANT CASH REBATE ON ALL PERFECT SLEEPER MODELS**

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**$399 QUEEN SET**

**$599 QN, $499 T, $799 K**

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PNC Women in Engineering Program

The Purdue University North Central Women in Engineering and Technology will meet on Thurs., Oct. 21, from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Library-Student-Faculty Building Assembly Hall, Room 02. The program is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served.

Guest speaker will be Jennifer Savaiano, who will present the program, “Women in the Workforce.” A 2003 graduate of Purdue University with a bachelor’s degree in chemical engineering, Savaiano is employed by Eli Lilly and Company as a process engineer and has served internships with Eli Lilly, Kimberly-Clark, and Abbott Laboratories.

Women in Engineering and Technology is dedicated to recruiting and retaining female students to enrich the engineering and technology profession and making the gender participation in technology fields more equitable. The program encourages female students to succeed academically, personally and professionally through seminars, talks and discussion with guest speakers from alumni, industry and academia. The program provides mentoring opportunities through “one-to-one” contact that allows students to find support from professionals and to ask questions and learn more about their professions.

More information can be obtained by contacting Martha Garcia-Saenz, assistant professor of Building Construction Management Technology and Women in Engineering and Technology advisor, at (219) 872-0527 ext. 5522 or mgarcia@pnc.edu. Persons with disabilities needing accommodations should contact Carol Connelly at (219) 872-0527 ext. 5267.

Auditions for Festival Players Guild

The Festival Players Guild will hold auditions for its holiday one act plays on Sat., Oct. 23, at 11 a.m. and on Sun., Oct. 24, at 6 p.m. Auditions will be held at the Guild’s Mainstreet Theatre, 807 Franklin Street in Michigan City.

The first of the two one act plays is an adaptation of O. Henry’s “The Gift the Magi.” Parts include Jim, Della, the narrator (adults) and a number of roles for high school age students.

The second of the plays is “A Visit from St. Nicholas or the Night Before Christmas.” Three adult roles and four elementary/middle school age students will be cast. Production dates are December 3, 4, 10 and 11.

Further information is available by phoning the Mainstreet Theatre at (219) 874-4269.

Roast Pork and Dumpling Dinner

The Altar and Rosary Society of St. Mary’s of the Lake Church in New Buffalo, MI, is having a Roast Pork and Dumpling Dinner on Sun., Oct. 24, from 4-6 p.m. (MI time), in the Parish Hall. Tickets are $7/adults, $3.50/children 12 and under.
We’d talked about raising our children... but we never talked about raising them alone.

HEART ATTACKS HAPPEN

Lilly was making dinner when she had her heart attack. The paramedics came right away, but the closest cardiac care center was in the next county. Unfortunately, that wasn’t close enough. Nothing can change what happened, but having a hometown heart center, can help it from happening to another family.
**You're Invited to a**

**Holiday Housewalk**

to benefit

The Michiana Humane Society

Friday, November 12
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

&

Saturday, November 13
11:00 am - 5:00 pm

Catch an early glimpse of the Holiday Season as you tour nine Michigan City homes featuring decorative assistance from:

- Wright's Flowers
- Berg's Floral & Gift Shop
- Flowers with Jazz
- Joy of Flowers

- The Framing Station
- City Flowers
- The Plaid Rabbit

Tickets available at the above Michigan City businesses and
Maple Lane Eye Care - Maple Lane Mall, LaPorte
Whittaker House - New Buffalo, MI
& The Humane Society - 722 Hwy. 212, Michigan City

Your $25 donation helps feed and care for the animals awaiting adoption at The Michiana Humane Society
For additional information call MHS (219) 872-4499

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**18 Artist Gallery News**

Sun., Oct. 24th, 18 Artists Gallery and Studio will be celebrating their 10th Anniversary. A reception with refreshments and free drawings will last from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Included in this special day of celebration will be a drawing for pieces of original art painted by the gallery artists and some wonderful donations by local business people.

Ten years ago, in 1994, a group of artists came together in Northwest Indiana, combining their talents and forming a cooperative gallery and studio. Their goal was to have a wide range of art works and styles as well as a wide range of prices.

The founders decided that 18 artists would be the ideal number to have in their membership, for the amount space and other needs that the gallery would require to exist.

Each member makes a financial and time commitment. For ten years 18 Artists Studio and Gallery has been in the Shoppes of Indian Oak Mall in Chesterton at 540 Indian Boundary Road. Some of the artists have changed and more categories of membership have been added, but the goal of providing fine art to the area stays the same. Today there is an owner membership of ten artists as well as several other categories, with Jack Hagman as president. There are three original members still on the board: They are Rose Ray, Betty Kupke Wagner and Jan Stewart.

---

**Watercolor Workshop**

Jacqueline Gnott, whose watercolors are currently featured in the Fall 2004 issue of *American Artist’s Watercolor*, will be giving a one-day workshop on Sat., Nov. 6, at the Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St., Chesterton.

Her one-day workshops explore facets of a complete painting. Her work is known for beautiful lace and exquisite glasswork. Students will receive a line drawing of the painting about two weeks prior to the class. On the day of the class, students will receive a photograph of the painting. Classes will begin promptly at 9:30 a.m. and will last until 4:30 p.m.

The cost of the workshop is $30/Art Center members and $35/non-members. An individual membership cost is $20 per year and the cost for a family is $25 per year.

For more information, or to sign up, phone the Center at 219/926-4711.

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**“Whale Rider” to be Shown in LaPorte**

A free showing of the movie “Whale Rider” will take place at 7 p.m. on Wed., Oct. 27 in the large meeting room of the LaPorte County Public Library, 904 Indiana Ave., LaPorte. There is no charge and refreshments will be served. It is funded by a grant from Unity Foundation.
Like most of us, Audrey Lipinski views medical exams and tests with a sense of trepidation. “I did not have a mammogram for years because I hated them,” she says.

A story about the Women’s Comprehensive Health Center® in St. Anthony Memorial’s Outlook prompted her to call for an appointment.

“I was amazed that I got an appointment immediately. If I hadn’t, I probably would have changed my mind,” she admits. “I couldn’t believe it - on time appointments!”

“During the exam, Lyn Stevens, the nurse practitioner, was observant and thorough. By the end of my appointment, I felt that Lyn knew me as a person. She made me feel so at ease. The mammography technician was also informative and gentle. She explained what was going on, and made sure I was comfortable. I’m so glad I came. It was a new medical experience for me. This has changed my way of thinking, and I’ve told all my lady friends as well.”

“I will take much better care of myself and call Ms. Stevens whenever I have a concern. She made me feel very comfortable. I had lots of questions and she had the answers.”

At St. Anthony Memorial Health Centers, exceptional people are truly the best medicine.

— Audrey Lipinski,
patient, Women’s Comprehensive Health Center®

Michigan City 877.8646 • LaPorte 362.2900 • Chesterton 395.2125
When you want a facial and shoulder rub, we recommend one of our many local spas. When you want clinically-based therapy, programs, seminars and classes from the area’s finest therapists, healers and physicians, choose the Massage Therapy & Wellness Center.

The directors of the Center, Patsi Gately, BA, CMT, and Phyllis Baker, RN, BSN, have years of experience and advanced skills in massage therapy. Patsi has advanced education in bioenergy field balancing. Phyllis is a registered nurse. Patients come from across the country to the Ayurvedic Medical Clinic, and businesses love our energy-boosting seminars. You’ll appreciate the difference!

Experience Like Ours is Hard to Find... So Easy to Appreciate!

Complementary therapy is the latest trend—try our energy-boosting seminars. For the ayurvedic experience, you must register.

Two Daughters by Carolyn McConnell

I recently told you about two English ladies - now I want to tell you a short story of two daughters. Many of you know my neighbor Pat Latchford - if not as a local school teacher, then during her many other activities here in Michigan City. And if you often read the Beacher you’ll know Pat attends other food story assignments with me and is a member of our Five-Star Supper Club. Now, as for daughters, Pat has a daughter named Cecelia and mine is Jane.

You’ve also read, over time, something in the foodstuff column about Jane, or saw her picture on the Beacher pages. Jane Jerrard, a freelance writer, covers lots of territory - lots of territory in subject matter as well as location. One of her biggest recurring jobs is traveling to various places, such as New Orleans, San Francisco, Baltimore, San Diego, Minneapolis, San Antonio, Indy, and Denver, to attend IBM sessions and publish a daily newsletter to the hundreds of attendees. Those attendees are professionals who use midrange IBM computers - they’re called computer geeks who keep all sorts of businesses running smoothly. Now Jane’s off to Toronto, her 14th semiannual conference with this client, and I’ll have the pleasure of joining her for four or five days. I’ll be writing Toronto food stories for you guys while Jane writes daily newsletters for all the guys at this brisk and extensive convention. Of course, I won’t see much of my daughter, as each long day is incredibly busy for her.

Ready for the big two-daughter surprise? Get this. Jane grew up in Oak Park and Geneva, IL, and now married, lives in Chicago. Cecelia grew up in Michigan City, married and moved to Connecticut. Guess what, folks. Pat’s daughter Cecelia Latchford Marrese is the IBM Vice President of Marketing out of New York. IBM sponsors these conferences that my daughter Jane is hired to write up (actually, Cecelia as v.p. sponsors them). Now, is that what’s called a small world? Pat and I met three years ago when I moved in one block from her; Jane and Cecelia live hundreds of miles apart and never laid eyes on each other during all those hectic, crowded conferences....

Cecelia was born and raised in Michigan City. She attended Niemann, Krueger and Rogers and was the first girl ever elected president of a senior class there. Cele was on the swim team and was lifeguard at Long Beach Country Club for several years. She presently credits her business successes to the fact that she is tough, really tough, having survived growing up in a house with four brothers.

Coming up, starting next week, my stories of the Toronto visit. The two daughters will grace Beacher pages, too. Amazing, small world indeed.
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I mostly write about foodstuff, as you know. This time, I’m writing only a little bit about foodstuff and lots and lots about friendly-stuff, elegant-stuff, luxury-stuff, as well as comfort-stuff. My good friend Diane Botica, the personal chef you’re surely familiar with by now, invited me to a Chamber Mixer which she was catering. Held at the grand Grand Beach Inn in New Buffalo, it promised one of my favorite meals - the cocktail party.

Before enjoying the food, I explored the spectacular vintage 1914 building. I met the owner Tim O’Neil and his look-alike brother Ted (sales manager for Lake Shore Cabins, another resort-style property). I was also introduced to Julia Mead who formerly owned the inn and now continues her stay as manager. Tim O’Neil has added attractive improvements to the sprawling building – an inviting front porch, a new-floored living room and garden room. The bedrooms, continually decorated over the years by Julia, are stunning and many of those sixteen ‘bedrooms’ are suites - complete with fireplaces, decks, Jacuzzi tubs, some overlooking the outdoor heated pool. Each room/suite has a name, like Cat’s Ear, Jungle Room, Texas Blue Bonnet, Southwest Suite.

Hard to believe, in the early 1900’s this vast building was a logging camp. Seventy-some years later, it was sold to innkeepers - and years later, Julia Mead bought it and began the handsome redecorating. The present grounds are a short walk to the beach, and the building comfortably accommodates from 15 to 45 guests - groups of family members or colleagues - on four acres of land. The huge professional kitchen can be included in a group’s rental or innkeeper Mead (herself, a hospitality and catering graduate) will provide meal options during their stay. The inn’s brochure suggests the hiring of Chef Diane Botica, and describes her as the creme de la creme - a ‘traveling chef’ doing special dinners and commemorative events.

Well, Diane certainly did a commemorative event the evening I was there at the Chamber Mixer. Yes, I was a mixer, too, mixing among loads of people I’d never met before. I did see a few familiar faces - like Janet Clark of Michigan Thyme, Mira Poncin (editor of the Other Side of the Lake and the Gazette out of Three Oaks) and Robert Kemper, owner of The Harbor Grand and fine wine connoisseur in New Buffalo. I
soon elbowed my way through that crowd, who were hovering over the shrimp bowl.

That shrimp bowl was amazing. Nope, that's a professional recipe and though I threatened all sorts of dire punishment, Chef Diane refused to share it. She calls it ginger shrimp with Thai dipping sauce (try to design that recipe in your own kitchens, folks, and if you reach perfection, let me know at once.) It's truly heavenly. Next, there was pat de Maison-Poulet - a lovely brick of smoothed chicken livers surrounded by various wafers and crunchy vegetables. Other perfect appetizers were fancy little tarts filled with goat cheese flavored with lavender, others piped with delicate salmon mousse. Indeed the perfect meal, as far as I'm concerned.

The entire outing was altogether perfect. If you’re a member of a large group that wants to get away to beautiful countryside and beaches for a weekend or a week, call the grand Grand Beach Inn at 800-936-0034 for information and directions. ‘When it comes to groups, we provide reasonable pricing compared to weekly cottage, house and hotel rentals. And you have the entire place to yourself’

Here’s a recipe Chef Diane did indeed provide for us and, folks, it’s great, ALMOST as good as that damn secret shrimp bowl.

### PROVENCALE TARTS
- 1 puff pastry sheet, thawed
- 1/3 c tapenade (scratch or bottled)
- 8 cherry tomatoes, quartered
- 4 oz feta cheese, crumbled
- fresh herb sprigs for decorating

Thaw pastry according to directions. Cut into 2-1/2 inch squares. Place in 2-1/2 inch muffin cups. Place 1 tsp of tapenade on each square. Top with cherry tomato quarters and feta cheese. Bake at 425 degrees for 12-15 minutes or until puffed and golden. Remove from cups, garnish with sprigs and serve warm. Makes 16 appetizers.

Coming soon, Beacher readers - vivid descriptions of me and my jeep road-trip-ing up through Ann Arbor, MI, then a week in Toronto before we roadtrip back home, with delectable foodstuff the entire time. Yum.
Meeting the Wayfarers. Musical Theatre. Smile. SP2 again.

Our visit with Gannon, Hunter, Josh and Alon from the America at 10 mph cross-country tour was, in a word, delightful. The crew made Michigan City its only stop in Indiana and those who came to the Beacher reception had an opportunity to try out the Segway HT. The crew had their cameras out for posting snippets on their website and also for the documentary that Josh and Hunter will be editing as part of Spinning Blue’s project. We took plenty of pictures, too, and they will be in next week’s Beacher. But for now, when you log on to 10mph.com, you can read (and view) some of the highlights of the team’s visit in our little corner of the world. None of the excitement and fun that we had with the crew would have happened had it not been for the wonders of the World Wide Web. We wonder if Dr. Seuss had the Internet in mind when he wrote, “oh the places you’ll go, the things you’ll see…”

Musical Theatre. We have covered plenty of art and photography sites in our column over the years, yet until now we have shortchanged fans of musical theatre. My bad, as a younger generation might say. But wait no more. Head to musicals101.com if you have not discovered this website on your own, because you will find a cornucopia of information. Some may want to head straight to the reviews of current shows, and other readers might want to delve into the history and evolution of musical productions. Interested in researching the names of the entire cast, crew, and even the understudies of a particular show? Find it here, along with biographies of Who’s Who in Musicals. Read, too, their Dean’s List Awards for the Best and Worst productions, a rating and review alternative to the Tony Awards. Read the website’s advice on “best” shows for high school groups to present, and learn about copyright technicalities, too. Follow links to Curtainup.com and glean even more information about current shows, new openings, closings—not only in New York, but in Chicago and other regional theaters across the United States. Other good websites that fans of musical theatre will want to check out are Theatrictopia (saintmarys.edu/~jjobgood/Jill/musicals.html) and Talkin’ Broadway (talkinbroadway.com). There are enough links on each of these websites to keep you reading for a long, long time.

Smile. Back in August, the Beacher covered a story about Chesterton resident Nancy Chrzan’s volunteer work in India helping homeless and destitute children. The organization she help create, Situational Management and Interlearning Establishment Society (Smile Society) has a website explaining the mission of the program. Although the website is far from polished—meaning that the site’s content writer apparently has learned English as a second language—the Smile program deserves mention because of its local connection and because of its humanitarian purpose. Find it at geocities.com/smileindia NGO2003/.

SP2 again. Just a brief mention that I received my XP Service Pack 2 cd in the mail and downloaded it—after applying the recommended procedures. Those procedures included running my spyware program not once, but twice, backing up my important files, and updating my computer’s BIOS. I had dreaded the idea of having to perform all these tasks, but all went smoothly. For someone with a slow dial-up connection, the SP2 CD-ROM lets you download everything offline at a time that is convenient to you. That’s especially important if you have a time-limited Internet service. For more information about Windows XP Service Pack 2, go to Microsoft.com/windowsxp/sp2.

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

NEW at the MC Public Library

New Emerging Writers (NEW) will perform in concert on Sun., Oct. 24, at 2 p.m., at the Michigan City Public Library. Poet and troubadour Richard Fammeree will host new writers and performers of all ages featuring Melissa Dittmann and others. NEW is a concert series for emerging writers and performers to share their work in a positive and supportive environment. The concert is free.
This local team recently won the Tournament Consultants ASA Fall Classic II, held in Elgin, IL. The title qualifies the X-Rays for ASA 2005 Nationals. Members of the team pictured are:
(front row): Eliza Scanlon (McCutcheon), Kate Golden (Lake Central), Sarah Grams (MC Marquette), Lauren Wallace (Lafayette Jefferson), Brittany Smother (Lake Central), and Melissa Shofroth (Lake Central).
(back row): Sam Abrego (T.F. North), Amanda Miles (Bishop Noll), Christine Natarelli (Lake Central), Lauren Mendez (Lake Central), Julie Farmer (Chesterton).
Not pictured is Nicole Gamblin.

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Competition for Young Musicians

Auditions for the 2004 Florence Andrew Young Artist Competition, sponsored by the LaPorte County Symphony Orchestra, will be from 1-6 p.m., on Sun., Nov. 6, at the LaPorte Presbyterian Church, 307 Kingsbury Ave., LaPorte. The winner(s) will perform at the Movie Magic Classic Concert on March 19, 2005. They will also receive a $200 cash award.

The competition is open to any young instrumental musician through grade 12. A student must be a full-time resident in Northwest Indiana or Southwest Michigan and be enrolled in a school music program or private instruction. Entries will be asked to perform a movement from a concerto or other standard orchestral work of his or her choice. All pieces must be auditioned from memory.

The entry fee is $15 and entries must be postmarked by Oct. 27. For an application, or more information, contact Marcia Morris, Chairperson, Young Artist Competition, at 219/362-4998 or 219/325-0666. You can also log onto www.lcso.net

Halloween at the Duneland Family YMCA

On Sat., Oct. 30 from 4:30-6:30pm, the Duneland Family YMCA in Chesterton will host a community Halloween fun time for the whole family. There will be crafts, a spook house for younger children and a separate one for older children, special decorations, and of course candy!!!

The event is free and everyone is invited. Phone 219/926-4204 for further information.

LBCC Ladies Bridge

September 2004
1st place: Betty Madigan & Jean Murray 3440
2nd place: June Salmon & Sue Luegers 3410
3rd place: Linda Wilson & Isabelle Willis 3330

Art Exhibition Oct. 23 & 24

The artists of the Southern Shore Art Association will host an exhibit of their work on Sat., Oct. 23, and Sun., Oct. 24, from noon-5 p.m. The exhibit will be on display at 722 Franklin St., Michigan City, next door to the Prince Gallery. Refreshments will be served.
“Art From the Republics” Exhibit

The Lakeside Gallery, 15486 Red Arrow Hwy., Lakeside, MI, is hosting an exhibition of east European art from the Republic of Georgia.

This event was made possible when John Wilson, past president and founder of the Chicago International Art Exposition, 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.

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 brought with it numerous possibilities, but definitely one possibility was to bring a special exhibit of the works of Georgian artisans to the Lakeside Gallery.

The exhibition will continue through Nov. 15. Gallery hours are Fri.-Sun., noon-3 p.m. (MI time). For more information, phone 269/469-3022 or log onto www.lakesidegalleries.com

Dunes History & Culture Program

Learn about Indiana dunes history and culture when Dr. Kenneth Schoon presents a program for the Potawatomi Audubon Society on Thurs., Oct. 21, at 7:30 p.m. at the NIPSCO Training Center, Zigler Road, LaPorte.

The public is invited to hear this popular professor of geology at Indiana University Northwest speak about his book, Calumet Beginnings: Ancient Shorelines and Settlements at the South End of Lake Michigan. He will also make himself available for a book signing.

Dr. Schoon will be offering a sampling of the presentation he will give at a three-day History and Culture Teacher Workshop, beginning Oct. 24 at the Indiana Dunes Environmental Learning Center. Tailored for teachers, the workshop will also offer graduate credits through IU Northwest. For information on this workshop, contact Carol Cook at the Save the Dunes Conservation Fund, 219/879-3564.

The first Audubon field trip of the season will take place on Oct. 23, when participants will seek out migrating ducks and other waterfowl. Meet at the Cummings Lodge parking lot off Waverly Road at 9 a.m. Bring Binoculars and dress for the weather.
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**Diggin' in the Earth**

*with Maggie Beyer*

For Rent: Michiana log cabin, nestled in the trees, just one block from the lake. Brand new construction. Full season rental. All the amenities; children welcome.

Wouldn’t you think that would bring some response? I’ve had nary a nibble this year to the new birdhouses I’ve placed around my cottage. When next season comes around will I have to add carpeting and decorate in order to lure some tenants? There are bright red berries on the shrubs to provide a winter feast, a pond to offer a drink. What more do these picky birds want. I caught the birdhouse bug from a friend down the road who set a birdhouse out and immediately had a family move in. I am thereby placing this official notice in The Beacher, the bible for buyers, sellers and renters in this area, that there is a vacancy, three in fact, ready and waiting to be filled.

I know you are there, little birds, because you come to my feeders and a few years ago a thrush found a nesting spot in the eaves of the sun porch, hatched five brown speckled green eggs into fledglings. Old dad sang up a storm in resounding trills as he told the world about the wonders he and his mate had wrought, but sadly they never came again. People who have birdhouses who are occupied on a regular basis know that different birds like different kinds of houses. As they, and any architect know, you have to meet the needs of your clients. An entrance to an enclosed birdhouse with a round opening of about an inch and a half will do well for small birds like the chickadee, wren, swallow, and titmouse who also like their homes lined with woodchips; the little larger nuthatch can use a hole a little larger, and the red-headed woodpecker larger still, up to two inches in diameter. An open shelf box will work for robins, blackbirds and the mourning dove if it has a partition in front just
deep enough to keep the nest in place. A screech owl might be attracted to an open-ended box high up, 10 to 30 feet, where they can view the scurrying down below and keep the mouse population in check. Cliff or barn swallows often build nests beneath gutters and eaves, but can be tempted into a pied a terre of a bowl nest and half a coconut shell works. I am not making this up, but using my handy dandy Audubon handbook as a guide.

Then, of course, there is the maintenance that goes with birdhouses. Like gardens, there is spring and fall housekeeping to be done. When the new brood of fledglings has left, it’s time to clean up the mess they might have made, and my handbook suggests that it might be wise to spray a poultry-dusting powder as an extra precaution to keep any blood-sucking parasites from attacking and weakening next year’s brood of babies. My little start at developing a subdivision for birds wouldn’t make this a big problem, but the friend I mentioned has just bought an antique birdhouse that is a carousel of separate rooms in the round. Utterly charming, it’s a condominium for birds that would need a cleaning crew of its own. It’s probably meant for the communal living of purple martins and you can often see these multi-story birdhouses in gardens. Purple martins, though they like congregate living, also like to be surrounded by open spaces, so you usually see them up high on an open field or large expanse of lawn. These are often the birds you see perched like sentinels on overhead wires ominously watching the world below ala Alfred Hitchcock’s legendary movie. The male Purple Martin makes survey of available accommodations for his mate, and when he chooses, makes a big thing about protecting his rights. Start with one family of Purple Martins and soon a horde of other nesters will follow, if not the first year, then the next, and the next, until a major colony is formed. Purple Martin houses can be elaborate Victorian affairs or as simple as the gourds that American Indians used, and that can still be used as a simple nest to attract them. Almost anything goes when it comes to nesting. Make them from scraps of wood or buy them in an antique shop, birdhouses are a test of faith. If you build it, they will come. And so it is.
Scrapbooking Classes

The Michigan City Parks and Recreation Department will hold a five-week session of Scrapbooking classes. From Beginner to Advanced, create wonderful keepsake photo albums. No more boxes of loose photos and albums with yellowed pictures; this class will teach you how to uniquely display and preserve your photos.

Scrapbook instructor, Judy Studer, will teach a new technique each week, Oct. 19 through Nov. 16, from 6-8:30 p.m. in the lower level of the Parks Department Office. Registration fees are $29 for the five-week session and includes your first sheet of acid free paper and use of supplies and tools (cutting tools, circle cutter, corner rounder, templates, paper trimmers, stickers and lots of page ideas). Additional supplies (stickers, papers, pens, tapes, etc.) will be available for purchase at class.

You can join this class late; phone 873-1506 for more information.

5th Annual Costume Ball

Harmony House, LaPorte, will be holding its 5th annual Costume Ball, “Dare to Enter the Crypt,” on Fri., Oct. 29, at the LaPorte Civic Auditorium on Ridge St. The event will begin at 7 p.m. and includes appetizers, a cash bar, and music by The Current, raffle drawing, and costume contests. Cost for the event is $35 and tickets may be purchased or reserved at Harmony House.

There will be prizes for the scariest costume, silliest costume, best couple, best group, most creative costume and the judge’s choice. The winner of the raffle will receive one week’s accommodations at any RCI Gold Crown Resort (travel not included).

For more information about the supervised visitation and monitored exchanges programs at Harmony House, or more information about the Costume Ball, phone 219/362-0312, or stop by Harmony House, 1005 Michigan Ave., LaPorte.

Support those who advertise in the Beacher! Tell them you saw their Ad!
Michiana La Leche League has announced that meetings are now being held in LaPorte the second Thursday of each month at 10 a.m. at First Apostolic Church, 1930 Boyd Blvd. For more information, phone Carol at 219/872-6201 or Susan at 269/469-2904. LLL is an international, non-profit, non-sectarian organization created to provide breast-feeding information and support to all interested women.

PNC to Open Simmer Coffee

Purdue University North Central will celebrate the opening of Simmer Coffee on Oct. 27, giving students and visitors the opportunity to enjoy espresso, gourmet coffees, iced beverages and light desserts.

Simmer Coffee will be located on the first floor of the Library-Student-Faculty Building and will be open from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 8 a.m.-1 p.m. on Friday. It is owned and operated by Michigan City residents Tiana Key and her husband, Nathan.

Simmer Coffee will provide “quality coffee at reasonable prices,” said Nathan Key. The couple plans to open another Simmer Coffee location at 613 Franklin Square in Michigan City in the spring.

In the meantime, they are looking forward to being an integral part of the campus, said Key. “We want students to have the feeling that they are welcome to stop by and enjoy a cup of coffee and conversation. We want to enhance the atmosphere at PNC.”

Guests to campus are welcome to enjoy a beverage and snack, he said, noting that many visitors come to PNC to enjoy lectures, presentations, films and exhibits, to tour the sculpture garden or to use the nature trails and walking paths.

Menu items will include espresso, caffe latte, cappuccino, gourmet coffees, flavored teas, hot chocolate and iced fruit teas, iced latte, iced mocha and Italian soda. Baked desserts will include scones, muffins, cakes, breads, dessert bars, cookies, bagels and stuffed pretzels. There will also be a “children’s menu.”
Activities to Explore

In the Local Area:

October 21-22, 24 — “The Good War.” Oral history of WWII with music of the era. 4th Street Theatre, 125 N. 4th St., Chesterton. Tix $10; group rates available; 219/926-7875. Based on the book by Studs Terkel.

October 21-25 — “What the Bleep Do We Know.” A quantum fable and winner of the Sedona, Houston, Ashland and Maui Film Festivals. Not rated. Thurs, Fri 6:30 pm; Sat, Sun 4 & 6:30 pm; Mon 6:30 pm. (MI time). Also showing: “Bright Young Things.” 9 pm. Vickers Theatre, 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, MI. 269/756-3522 or www.vickerstheatre.com

October 22 – Bookmarks at Noon. Orphans Preferred: The Twisted Truth and Lasting Legend of the Pony Express by Christopher Corbett will be reviewed by Dennis Norman. Free & open to the public at the MC Public Library.

October 22 — Free oil painting lesson for senior citizens. 1-3 pm at the Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St., Chesterton. Presented by Ken Goodman, painting instructor. To sign up, phone 219/926-4711.

October 22 — “I Love a Mystery Dinner.” 6-8:30 pm at the MC Public Library. For high school students, grades 9-12. Presented by the Youth Services Dept. at the Library. Dinner will be served. To sign up, phone 873-3045.

October 22-23 — Farmer’s Market at the Schoolhouse Shop, Furnessville. 10 am-4 pm.


October 22-23, 29-30 — The musical story of “Sleepy Hollow” done as a puppet show featuring twelve 4-ft. tall puppets described as part American folk tale and part Japanese kabuki. See story this issue. Curtain 8 pm (MI time). Tix $15; reservations taken at 269/756-3879 or purchase at the door. The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Dr., Three Oaks, MI.

October 23 — Glass Bead making demonstration by Linda Thomas. 2 pm at the Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. 4th St., Chesterton. Free, open to the public.

October 23 -- NEW Concert. 2 pm at the MC Public Library.
Library. Poet and troubadour Richard Fammeree will host new writers and performers of all ages. Free & open to the public.

October 25 -- Leadership: Maintaining Peak Performance. 6:30 pm. Take the challenge of Enrichment Strategies. Learn simple ways that you can take your leadership to the next level. Free & open to the public at the MC Public Library. 873-3049.

October 26 — Coolspring Readers group. 7 pm at the Coolspring branch of the LaPorte County Public Library, corner Johnson Rd & 400N, MC. The Jane Austen Book Club by Karen Joy Fowler will be discussed. Free & open to the public.

October 26 — Harbor Country Book Club. 7:30 pm (MI time) at the Harbor Grand Hotel, New Buffalo. All invited to attend. Selections: Dive From Clausen’s Pier by Ann Packer and Ship of Gold by Gary Kinder.

October 29 -- One Book/One Community Discussion & Film: Whale Rider. At 1 pm, Susan Meyer will lead a discussion about the book, and at 4 pm there will be a film screening of the movie. Free & open to the public at the MC Public Library.

October 30 — “Unmask the Music.” Benefit for the LaPorte County Symphony Orchestra. 7 pm at the Heston Hills Banquet and Conference Center, 1933 e 800N, LaPorte. Music, cocktails, hors d’oeuvres, silent & live auction. Black tie or costume optional. Tix $75; phone 219/325-0666 or log onto www.lcso.net

October 30-31 — “Halloween Classics” at Footlight Theatre. Presented by storyteller Grant Fitch and featuring scary stories, ghostly yarns & tales of suspense. 6 pm Sat & 2 pm Sun. Tix $5; reservations 874-4035. 1705 Franklin St., Michigan City.

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. Oct 24: opening reception for Victor Skrebneski exhibition. 1 pm.

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.


On October 21, 1772, English poet Samuel Taylor Coleridge was born at Ottery St. Mary, Devonshire. Some of his poems, such as “The Rime of the Ancient Mariner,” “Christabel,” and “Kubla Kahn,” rank among the true masterpieces of English poetry.

On October 21, 1797, the frigate U.S. Constitution, better known as “Old Ironsides,” was launched at a Boston shipyard.

On October 21, 1833, Alfred Nobel, Swedish philanthropist and chemist, inventor of dynamite, and founder of the Nobel Prizes, was born in Stockholm.

On October 21, 1879, after 14 months of experimenting, Thomas Edison produced a workable electric light.

On October 21, 1906, Chicago’s last cable car made its final run on Cottage Grove Avenue.

On October 22, 1746, New Jersey’s Princeton University received its charter.

On October 22, 1797, at Monceau Park in Paris, Andre Jacques Garnerin executed the first successful parachute jump from a balloon.

On October 22, 1811, Hungarian composer Franz Liszt, the most celebrated pianist of the 1800’s, was born at Raiding.

On October 22, 1836, General Sam Houston was inaugurated as the first President of the new Republic of Texas.

On October 22, 1883, the Metropolitan Opera House opened in New York City.

On October 22, 1906, Chicago’s last cable car made its final run on Cottage Grove Avenue.

On October 22, 1968, after 11 days in space, Apollo 7 astronauts Walter Schirra, Don Eisle, and Ronnie Cunningham, splashed down in the Atlantic Ocean.

On October 23, 1910, in Fort Wayne, Indiana, Blanche Scott became the first woman to make a solo flight in an airplane. She reached a height of 12 feet, a noteworthy achievement in 1910.

On October 23, 1946, the United Nations convened in New York for the first time.

On October 23, 1977, Panamanians voted approval of the Panama Canal Treaty with the United States.

On October 24, 1861, a message from California Chief Justice Stephen Field to President Abraham Lincoln was the first telegram to be transmitted across the United States.

On October 24, 1901, in an effort to raise money to pay off a debt, Mrs. Anna E. Taylor agreed to go over Niagara Falls in a barrel, becoming the first person to survive the plunge.
On October 24, 1931, the George Washington Bridge, connecting New York and New Jersey, was officially opened to traffic.

On October 24, 1939, in Wilmington, Delaware, the first nylon stockings went on sale.

On October 24, 1964, Northern Rhodesia became the independent republic of Zambia.

On October 24, 1972, Jackie Robinson, Brooklyn Dodger member of the baseball hall of fame, and the first Negro to play in the major leagues, died at the age of 53.

On October 25, 1825, the Erie Canal, linking the Great Lakes with the Atlantic Ocean, was officially opened.

On October 25, 1854, during the Crimean War, two-thirds of approximately 670 men of the English light calvary brigade were killed when they charged a heavily fortified Russian position. This ill-designed attack was the inspiration for Alfred Lord Tennyson's poem *The Charge of the Light Brigade*.

On October 25, 1940, bushy-browed John L. Lewis, president of the Congress of Industrial Organization, vowed to resign if his archenemy Franklin Roosevelt should be elected president for a third term. Roosevelt was, and Lewis did.

On October 25, 1975, the Soviet Union landed a second spacecraft on the surface of Venus. The probe sent back pictures showing a terrain far different from the rock-covered landing site of the first craft.

On October 26, 1774, the First Continental Congress opened in Philadelphia.

On October 26, 1785, the first mules in the United States arrived from Spain, gifts to George Washington from King Charles III.

On October 26, 1958, Pan American Airways flew its first Boeing 707 jetliner from New York to Paris. The trip took eight hours and 41 minutes.

On October 27, 1795, the "Treaty of San Lorenzo," which settled Florida's northern border, was signed by representatives of the United States and Spain.

On October 27, 1858, Theodore Roosevelt, who would become the 26th President of the United States, was born in New York City.

On October 27, 1904, the New York subway (America's first) opened for business. It ran from the Brooklyn Bridge to downtown Manhattan.

On October 27, 1938, Du Point announced that it had chosen a name for its new synthetic yarn. The world was to know it as nylon.

On October 27, 1947, the radio show "You Bet Your Life," starring Groucho Marx, premiered on ABC.

On October 27, 1954, Walt Disney's first television program, titled "Disneyland," premiered on NBC.
For the second season in a row, I have been gainfully employed on fall Friday nights as a football correspondent for the Southcounty Gazette in Three Oaks.

That means they actually pay me good money to go to River Valley High School football games and report on the results.

For home games, I simply have to hop in the car and drive not so very far to the high school on Three Oaks Road, show my press pass, snap a few shots from the sidelines while there is still light, and then head on up to the press box where I get to talk sports with the likes of statistician Tom Tompkins, time-keeper Jim Culverhouse, and announcer Matt Ford.

Half-times are the best because that’s when Graziano Pizza in Three Oaks sends over some of their hot pies for the game officials to eat. Usually there is a spare slice or two for a hungry Gazette correspondent to enjoy.

Hey, life doesn’t get better than that, does it?

No, ma’am.

Road games are just as fun because it means I get to try and find places like River Forest High School in Hobart, Indiana and Brandywine High School on the southeast side of Niles, Michigan. I always make a wrong turn somewhere, but I always somehow manage to get to the games in time to figure out who won and why.

Admission to River Valley home games is a mere $3, and you can attend the last game of their regular season on Friday, October 22 when they face the Bees of Bridgman High School in a game beginning at 7:30 p.m. (Eastern) or 6:30 p.m. (Central).

The River Valley Mustangs and the Bridgman Bees have both been struggling this season, but that final game of the regular season should be a good one because it pits two long-time rivals in a Lakeland Conference game. Plus you’ll get a concert from the River Valley Marching Band as a bonus and all the cheerleading you could ever hope to see.
In short, it’s a great way to spend a Friday evening, even if you don’t get paid for it.

And now, to give you a flavor for what I do on Friday nights in fall, here is my report of River Valley’s homecoming game against Buchanan on October 1:

(Three Oaks, Mich.)...The River Valley Mustangs gamely gave Buchanan Bucks Coach Joe Austin his 100th career victory at their homecoming game on October 1.

By beating the Mustangs 76-0, the Bucks also qualified for the play-offs for the first time in Buchanan High School history.

The Bucks who were to face Bridgman on October 8 and had Berrien Springs and Cassopolis to look forward to on October 15 and 22 respectively, went home from River Valley’s homecoming game with a 4-0 record in Lakeland Conference play, and a 6-0 tally overall.

River Valley, which gave the Bucks a hard-hitting game all four quarters, was 0-4 in conference stats after the game and 0-6 overall. The Mustangs were to have played the Comets at Coloma on October 8 before winding up the regular season with an away game at Cassopolis on October 15 and a Parents’ Night contest at home against Bridgman on October 22.

The River Valley defense kept the hard-charging Bucks offense in check until 11:47 remained on the clock in the first quarter when running back Dennis Williams broke through the middle for a 52-yard scoring run. Doug Summers drilled the extra point, and the Buchanan scoring drive was underway with the Bucks racking up 28 in the first quarter, 28 in the second, 13 in the third, and 7 in the fourth for a total of 76 unanswered points.

Observers in the press box were impressed with Coach Joe Austin’s sportmanship in the second half when, with the fast clock running, he put in his second team to face the young River Valley squad.

Former River Valley Coach Tom Palen said that showed real class.

Despite the fact that his Bucks bounded some 409 yards across the Mustangs’ field as River Valley turned over the ball five times, Coach Joe Austin said in a post-game interview that he had nothing but respect for Coach John Norton and his young Mustangs.

“They’re a young bunch, and John’s doing a great job with those kids, and they never gave up. We’ve been there before, and we had our twos (string) in the whole second half, and you can’t tell them not to run hard. We had them a little out-manned right from the git-go, but they hung in there tough. They have nothing to be ashamed of, that’s for sure,” Coach Austin said.

He added that his Bucks had everything to be proud of as he saluted them for clinching a play-off berth with three games remaining in the regular schedule. “That was a hard-hitting game with some real hits out there tonight. I’m proud of the way those kids hit. They’re a pretty fired-up bunch right now.”
Coach Austin said it felt great to have 100 wins under his belt. “I sure am thankful to the good Lord that he has enabled me to coach this great game for as long as he has.”

Despite the scoring gap, Coach Austin said it was a great game “because these kids all know each other so well” and because former Galien High School players like Buchanan’s Denny Williams, Nathan Brewer, Tony Olmstead and Nathan Schlutt and River Valley’s Bubba Creekmore and Nathan Payne found themselves facing one another on the gridiron.

River Valley Coach John Norton praised Buchanan in his post-game assessment, noting “that’s a good football team, and I wish them the best. I think it’s a class program with a class individual running it. I hope Mr. Austin and the Bucks do something in the post-season. They played well tonight.”

Coach Norton was pleased with how his team contained Buchanan’s first string in the first quarter and noted that the Bucks’ first score came as a result of Dennis Williams breaking a tackle behind the line of scrimmage.

“We were down right away, and as a young team we have to learn that we make mistakes and that we have to hang in there and keep going. We got the ball and we put a nice drive together, and we moved the ball,” Coach Norton said.

He added that what River Valley lacks in experience “we make up for in heart. Some of these kids are playing on one leg. They have a lot of pride in this program, and they’re going to do what they have to do make things respectable. We lost to a great team tonight. I think a whole lot of Joe Austin, and I hope they do a lot this year.”

It being River Valley’s homecoming game, a whole lot was done during half-time to celebrate the occasion, complete with the crowning of Jill Hauch as Homecoming Queen and Ryan Murphy as Homecoming King. They were driven around the field in a car donated for the occasion by Corvette Central.

In keeping with the holiday theme for homecoming, each of the four classes presented floats decorated for four different holidays. The seniors won with their Halloween float; the sophomores were second with their Christmas creation; the freshmen were third with Thanksgiving, and the juniors were fourth with 4th of July.

Again, River Valley was to have faced the Comets October 8 in a game at Coloma, and this Friday, October 15, they will travel to Cassopolis for a 7:30 p.m. game against the Rangers. Coloma, so you know, beat Cassopolis 7-6 on October 1.
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HIGH TEAM GAME
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2. Graceful Gutters 638
3. Gutter Golfers 616

HIGH TEAM SERIES
1. Graceful Gutters 1838
2. Gutter Golfers 1832
3. Chickaming Chicks 1777

HIGH INDIVIDUAL GAME
1. Dottie Brinkman 183
2. Becky Pendergast 183
3. Laurel Byrne 177
4. Sandy Hagman 176
5. Kim Johnson 174
6. Leighann Murray 174

HIGH SERIES SCRATCH
1. Sue Luegers 495
2. Kim Johnson 477
3. Bev Else 469
4. Leighann Murray 174

STRIKES
4 in a row: Becky Pendergast
3 in a row: Barb Macudzinski, Margaret Haviland, Laurel Byrne

SPLITS
2-7 split picked up by Becky Pendergast
5-10 split picked up by Kathy Osborne
4-10 split picked up by Kim Stokes
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Trace by Patricia Cornwell

It’s not too many people who get called in to consult at the job they were fired from five years ago. But that’s exactly what happened to Kay Scarpetta, former chief medical officer for the state of Virginia, and now on her way back to Richmond at the special request of the new chief.

This is the thirteenth installment of Cornwell’s stories of forensic expert Kay Scarpetta. Here I am, breaking the rule I made just last week about not reading the umpteenth story in any author’s series. But, the truth of the matter is that after watching CSI on TV for the first time, I was fascinated by the role crime scene investigators have and how they go about their work and Kay Scarpetta just seemed like the perfect character to turn to in my next reading adventure. I was also intrigued because this book has been on the bestseller lists since its publication last month.

Back to the storyline......

Kay has moved on to Florida to freelance and help her niece run a detective agency after getting the boot in Virginia. Now the new chief examiner has called her in to consult on the death of a 14 year old girl. When Kay gets to town, she first discovers that the building she worked so hard in for so many years is being torn down to build a car park, and her replacement, Dr. Marcus, is a dry fish who only called Scarpetta in on the case because he was told to. Wonderful way to return to your former life, wouldn’t you say?

Gilly Paulsson, the dead teenager, had had the flu, but that didn’t kill her. And neither did anything else, according to the police and Dr. Fielding, Scarpetta’s former right hand man in Virginia. Kay brings along her sidekick, Pete Marino, a former cop and no, not a lover, just someone she can trust and works well with: Smart alec, wise crackin’, but information getter, and a good man to have in a fight. What the pair find out first is that the Paulssons, now divorced, were into some kinky sex, both with each other and a select group of visitors to their home...could this have a bearing on the case?

The same day Scarpetta and Marino hit town, a workman on the demolition project is killed when his tractor runs him over. Now this incident and the death of Gilly seem to be two totally different cases until Scarpetta finds “trace” evidence, the smallest of similar microscopic dust, in both victims. The dead may not be able to talk, but they can leave volumes of clues, if one knows where to look. Only a first rate writer could take two such dissimilar deaths and find a way to connect them. I was totally taken by the whole investigative process and the way author Cornwell weaves together several storylines and then neatly ties them all together.

The other storylines include following the obviously unhinged killer, looking at life through his eyes and discovering his connection to Scarpetta. It seems that he had worked in the morgue when Scarpetta was chief examiner. I think that too many years of working below ground with only the dead for company, cremating the bodies of the unclaimed, well that just doesn’t sound too healthy, does it? The third element to this story involves Kay’s niece Lucy, her friend Henri (short for Henrietta), and Kay’s lover, Dr. Benton. It seems an intruder tried to kill Henri in Lucy’s palatial estate in Florida.....tie in to what’s happening in Virginia?

It may sound complicated, but in the hands of Patricia Cornwell, all is laid out as meticulously as a Kay Scarpetta autopsy.

Patricia Cornwell is not only a prolific writer, she is a prolific award winner. Her Postmortem is the only novel to have won the Edgar, Creasey, Anthony, and Macavity awards as well as the French Prix du Roman d’Aventure all in one year. Quite an achievement. In 1993, her Cruel and Unusual won Britain’s Gold Dagger Award for the year’s best crime novel, and in 1999, Cornwell’s fictional Kay Scarpetta was awarded the Sherlock Award for best detective created by an American author.

Patricia Cornwell also helped to establish the Virginia Institute of Forensic Science and Medicine of which she is now the Chairman of the Board. For more information on the Institute, log onto www.vifsm.org or Patricia’s own website at www.patricecornwell.com

Till next time, happy reading!
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