Waterfall Wonderment

by Cherie Davich

The waterfall adventure into Southern Indiana to capture the beauty in a camera lens was the impetus. It became two days of not just taking photographs, but hiking, running, swimming, relaxing, and two people enjoying each others’ company.

Williamsport

On Thursday, August 2nd, I stood on an observation deck or otherwise known as a platform overlooking rocks on a side of a hill. There should have been water flooding down the 90 foot drop. My husband, Jerry and I almost began the near one mile walk that would lead us to the waterfalls edge. By sheer chance, a few feet away I observed 4 teenagers standing on the wooden, manmade platform looking into the trees. I questioned them and they stated they were looking at the waterfall. What waterfall I asked. Well, due to the Wabash River’s low water level the waterfall has dried up.

We had driven approximately 120 miles to see “Williamsport Falls, Indiana’s highest freefalling waterfall.” As I stood there, my mouth literally hung down in astonishment, the kids left, and another car pulled up. Two couples exited, as they walked up, I mentioned the lack of water, thus the lack of a fall. As I photographed the rocks, both couples mentioned visiting Cataract Falls about 70 miles away. These falls actually had water pouring down them. An hour and half later, we arrived in Spencer, IN.

Waterfall Continued on Page 2
Cataract Falls

A beautiful, bright red covered bridge caught my attention. We pulled over for me to photograph its splendor. Ironically, the bridge was next to the road that led into the Lieber State Recreation Area. Driving in the park, the signs told us we had arrived at the upper and lower Cataract Falls.

The Upper Cataract Falls are to the right, after you drive past the security gate, and pay the $5 entrance fee. There is signage pointing patrons in the correct direction, left for lower and right for the upper falls. The upper falls have the majestic red bridge hovering over the flow of the water before it hits the end forcing the water down into the creek. The curved round edge has water flowing down in between the cracks crashing into the rippled creek below. As the water cascades down the waterbed, it then becomes calm and looks as if it is barely moving.

Looking into the flowing stream from beyond the bridge, a perfect reflection is seen in the tranquil watery mirror. The color of the red bridge and the brown of the wooden staircase were starkly replicated.

Staring down from atop the rocks on the Lower Cataract Falls edge, the water cascaded over and around my feet. Careful not slip on the slimy moss under my hiking boots I shot photos behind, in front, and over the falls. I took a few moments to breathe in the fresh air and appreciate the beauty and awe of the scene.

Gazing toward the small creek, a mist was descending onto the water, hovering in the trees.
There was a serene, eerie feel to the view. Dusk was upon us and as the sun was setting a shadow of a tree could be seen in the murky stream.

Even the two fishermen in the bend of the oval creek seemed to enjoy the peace and serenity of the landscape. Their laid back voices and demeanor were evident as they informed me of the path that led down to the rocky bank.

The lower and upper falls appear to be identical, but there are varying differences. The upper falls walls have slightly more color and definitely more foliage. The lower falls have fewer cracks that the water seeps into before falling. The upper falls have additional rocks under the cataract and throughout the body of wetness.

The DNR (Department of Natural Resources) conservation officer parked behind us as we were leaving. He suggested we lodge at the Canyon Inn inside McCormick Creek State Park in Spencer, just 15 minutes away.

Waterfall  Continued on Page 4
McCormick Creek State Park

It turned out that McCormick Creek State Park is Indiana's first state park. Even the original Canyon Inn has been around since 1888, first built as a sanitarium for the rich to rest and recuperate. Throughout the years, there has been various buildings and additions attached with modern amenities. The simple, charming, comfortable room was and is ideal after a long day of traveling and hiking.

McCormick Creek State Park offers a variety of activities to please every demographic. As we left on our “rugged” hike down trail three to one of the waterfalls, lodgers were seen participating in a multitude of events. There was the family swimming in the pool next to the inn. There was a couple lounging in the chairs made of wood under the shade of the trees and another couple who looked to be newlyweds playing catch.

Trail number three claimed to be rugged and it absolutely held true to its claim. Walking on a rock laden path that actually required at times climbing onto large rocks made us question whether we were truly on a trail. And we were, it led us to a stunning waterfall with another mirror image this time of the waterfall in the round pool.

The next trail, number five guides hikers to the elusive Wolf Cave, the course totaling a two mile trek. The cave requires most explorers to bend over to enter the wet, limestone domain. The cave exits at another part of the trail. Throughout the cave corridor the water drips onto the stony floor forcing travelers to steady themselves by grasping the wet walls. To successfully exit out the other end, trekkers must at one point, crawl on their bellies. At the exit, shining down through the trees, there was literally a ray of flowing light.

To contact the DNR on visiting any of the parks their website is http://www.in.gov/dnr/parklake/index.html. Or their toll-free number is 877-463-6367.
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Jazz at The Acorn Theater

Singer, composer, arranger, and producer Grazyna Auguscik will appear at The Acorn Theater on Fri., Aug. 17th, 8 p.m. MI time. Tickets are $20 and can be reserved at 269/756-3879.

She has won the praise and admiration of music critics, jazz enthusiasts and even non-jazz audiences with a singular voice that speaks a universal language. Her concert at the Acorn Theater will be filled with songs from her many albums, and will showcase the flair and technical ability this jazz star brings to the music world.

Grazyna’s professional music career began in Europe, and she completed her studies in 1992 at the prestigious Berklee College of Music in Boston. She has since become a prolific collaborator, sharing the stage with such jazz notables as Jim Hall, Michael and Randy Brecker, Bobby Enriquez, John Medeski, Paul Wertico, Kurt Rosenwinkel, Robert Irving III, Michal Urbaniak, Terry Callier, Patricia Barber, John McLean, Andrzej Jagodzinski, Jarek Bester and many others.

Grazyna has recorded, produced and distributed twelve albums; her new album Live Sounds Live was recently released, with her second release of 2007, a collaboration with Pauliho Garcia, just around the corner. Learn more at www.grazynauguscik.com

NISO Orchestra & Chorus Auditions

The Northwest Indiana Symphony Orchestra and Music Director/Conductor Kirk Muspratt announce auditions for the 2007-2008 concert season. The orchestra will be auditioning for violins and violas on Sept. 5, and principal trumpet on Sept. 6. To audition, please send a resume to Karen Dickelman, Personnel Manager, 1040 Ridge Road, Munster, IN, 46321 or e-mail Karen@NISOrchestra.org. Visit www.NISOrchestra.org for repertoire.

Auditions for the Northwest Indiana Symphony Chorus’ 2007-2008 concert season will take place on Fri., Aug. 24 from 2-9 p.m. and Fri., Aug. 31 from 2-9 p.m. at the Center for Visual and Performing Arts, 1040 Ridge Road, Munster, IN. Solo opportunities are available.

Previous choral experience is recommended. Vocal range, aural abilities, rhythmic comprehension and sight reading will be tested; no prepared vocal selection is required.

The 120-voice chorus, under the direction of Dr. Nancy Menk, performs regularly with the Northwest Indiana Symphony Orchestra. Weekly rehearsals are on Tuesday evenings, 7:30-10 p.m., at the Center for Visual and Performing Arts, and will begin on Tues., Sept. 4th.

Phone (219) 836-0525 to set up an audition.
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903 Birch Tree Lane • Long Beach Pointe
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MC Chamber Festival Continues

The 6th Annual Michigan City Chamber Music Festival continues with the balance of the concerts still to come. All are held at the First Presbyterian Church, 121 W. 9th St. in Michigan City and are free to the public. “Meet the artists” receptions follow each concert.

Wed., Aug. 15, 7:30 p.m.
VIVA ITALIA - “Italian Night”
3 songs for Clarinet and Soprano by Gordon Jacobs.
Souvenir di Florence for String Sextet by Tchaikovsky
Selected Arias for Soprano and Tenor from Italy’s most beloved operas.

Fri., Aug. 17, 7:30 p.m.
FROM THE EARTH TO THE MOON - A Mystical Musical Journey
Sonata #1 for Violin and Piano-- Sergei Prokofiev
Concerto for Clarinet and Strings--Rudolf Haken
“Timeline” for clarinet, Soprano and Piano by Andrea Clearfield
Verklarte Nacht for String Sextet by Arnold Schoenberg

Sun., Aug. 19, 3 p.m.
AN AFTERNOON IN OLD VIENNA
32 Variations for Piano by Ludwig von Beethoven
Clarinet Quintet - C.M. v Weber
Adele’s Laughing Song (die Fledermaus) by Johann Strauss
Sextet for Strings in B-flat by Johannes Brahms

Guest Performers
The performers in this year’s festival include pianist Robert Auler, cellist Wesley Baldwin, soprano Melisa Barrick, tenor Matthew Daniel, violinist Zofia Glashauser, violist Rudolf Haken, soprano Kimberly Jones, clarinetist William King, cellist David Peshlakai, violist Gabriel Schlaffer.

The Michigan City Chamber Music Festival is the brainchild of violinist Nicolas Orbovich and his wife, Sunny Gardner-Orbovich.

CONCERTS FOR CHILDREN - held at the Michigan City Public Library.
Thurs., Aug. 16, noon
STORY AND OPERA. Just what are those opera singers singing about? Find out! Features performances by Festival Musicians.
Sat., Aug. 18, noon
STORY AND STRINGS. How do instrumental pieces tell a story? String sextet performers are featured. Includes a “make and take” art activity.
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Singer/Songwriter Bonnie Koloc

The Acorn Theater presents singer/songwriter Bonnie Koloc on Sat., Aug. 18th, 8 p.m. MI time. Tickets are $20; reserve at 269/756-3879, The theater is at 107 Generations Dr., Three Oaks, MI.

“There’s only one voice like that... Bonnie is a genius when it comes to singing...”—Rick Kogan, WGN Radio

The enduring and versatile voice of Bonnie Koloc has been heard in Chicago since 1968. For a decade, Bonnie was a pivotal act at the Earl of Old Town. In time her folk-oriented style merged with jazz and blues, and her versatility took her to Mr. Kelly’s, a long-time Chicago landmark. While continuing to play at the Earl, Orphans and Holstein’s, she began appearing at festivals.

Along the way she received a Governor’s Award in 1973 for Best Singer and recorded ten albums. In 1984 she starred in the Public Theater’s production of The Human Comedy, first earning her the theatre World Bronze Award for Outstanding New Talent on Broadway and a Drama Critics Award nomination for Best Actress in a Musical.

In 1987, Bonnie returned to college to finish a B.A. in Art Education from the University of Northern Iowa. In the last eleven years she has had one-woman shows in the South and Midwest, including Chicago and Nashville. In 1999 she was distinguished by her inclusion in the National Exhibition of the Los Angeles Printmaking Society.

In 1996 Bonnie brought together her talents as a singer/songwriter and an artist in A Bestiary. A collection of linocuts, poetry, and music, A Bestiary captures thirteen beasts of the farm with a print, poem and song for each. This stunning work won Best in Show at the Iowa State Fair’s art salon in 1996. These art songs, written in the pentatonic scale, show Bonnie adding yet another dimension to her multi-faceted accomplishments.

In 1997 Bonnie created a one-woman musical commissioned by the College of Du Page in Glen Ellyn, Illinois.

For the last decade Bonnie has also been an active book illustrator, creating covers and decorations for Free River Press. In 2003 Bonnie received a grant from the Iowa Arts Council to publish a trade edition of A Bestiary, which was released with a CD in 2004. Also in 2004, Timeless, a double cd which captured the warmth and power of her performances from 1973 to 1990 (including The Earl of Old Town and The Amazing Grace) was released. Bonnie’s twelfth and latest recording Here to Sing was produced by Howard Levy and described as “the best thing that she has ever recorded,” by Rich Warren, host of the nationally syndicated “The Midnight Special.”

To learn more about Bonnie, visit her website www.bonniekoloc.com
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Many people have enjoyed the tranquility of bonding with a horse. Cultures throughout the ages have integrated these beautiful animals, embodying the fine line between what we think of “wild” and what we think of “domestic.” Once a vital aspect of work and transit in the western world, horseback riding is now largely a leisure activity. But there are a few special horses who both provide a very important service as well as a lot of fun. The horses at Reins of Life do just that.

Reins of Life is a non-profit organization providing therapeutic horseback riding for people with disabilities. It is primarily children who participate in the program, but riders have ranged in age from 2 to 78.

Executive Director Sharon Burnside explains that the benefits of horseback riding as therapy are numerous. There is something for people of all disabilities, whether physical, mental, emotional, or social. For example, the various gaits made by a horse provide three-dimensional movement for its rider, allowing the hips to sway forward, backward, and side to side, just as in walking.

Plus, it’s hard for anyone not to notice just how majestic these big, beautiful animals can be. The human-animal bond is therapy in itself and a valuable opportunity for those in need.

Since 1978, Reins of Life has been providing these services in South Bend. For years, they relied on borrowed facilities. In 1992, they were able to acquire their own. With numerous clients and full facilities, Reins of Life expanded. Now, thanks to the donation of Todd and Janice Much of Chicago, they have added a second location in the countryside area of Michigan City at Royal Acres.

Todd Much explains that he had been aware of the work at Reins of Life for many years and respected the way that the organization was able to help others. He and his wife, Janice, reside in Chicago, but have a vacation home in Michiana and built the Royal Acres facilities from scratch a decade ago. As their lives changed, they felt that they were ready to give up their stables. They got to know Sharon Burnside and while there were alternative options, Reins of Life seemed to be a perfect fit. “It felt like the right thing to do,” Much says, enjoying the opportunity to help people. “The more recognition that they get, the better it will be. The more service that they can provide, the more they can help.”

Burnside notes that the Muches included a tractor and all of the equipment needed to maintain the stables and riding arenas in their donation. Alongside it came Jenny Jones, who has been the Muches’ stable manager for seven years. Jones has been working with horses for her whole life, participating 4-H events. Now, she has transitioned into managing the Royal Acres facility for Reins of Life and continues boarding her own horse in the facilities.

Full-service horse boarding and riding lessons are also available for the general public.
**Open House Sat., Aug. 18 • 10 a.m.-3 p.m.**

Reins of Life will be holding an open house at Royal Acres on Saturday, August 18 from 10:00 AM until 3:00 PM Central time. Horse owners are invited to trailer their horses to the facility and try the two arenas, of which one is indoors and one is outdoors. The general public is also welcome to pay a visit to see the new facilities, which are located at 9375 W. 300 N in Michigan City, Indiana.

Instructor Elizabeth Grainger, who has 27 years of horsemanship experience, will be providing lessons at Reins of Life’s Open House. Grainger writes that she “will be offering introductory dressage, hunt seat equitation, and beginner western horsemanship lessons... We welcome students to take a trail ride around Royal Acres’ 46 beautiful acres upon completion of their lesson.” 40-minute sessions with Grainger will be provided at the reduced rate of $30.00 for owners who trailer their horse to the open house on August 18. Those interested in scheduling a lesson should call Grainger at 574-251-9694. Grainger will also provide a free demonstration lesson in training level dressage at 11:00 AM Central time.

People who choose to board their horses or take their riding lessons through Reins of Life are also helping the charity, as proceeds benefit its sustenance.

It takes many people to run the organization, between the dedicated volunteers, those who serve the staff and the Board of Directors, instructors, and those dedicated to the care of the horses, themselves.

Mary Cory, President of Reins of Life’s Board of Directors, has been volunteering for ten years. She explains that so many volunteer jobs are necessary for the function of the organization, including three able adults per disabled rider. Each time a disabled rider gets on the horse, someone stands in front to lead the horse, along with one person on each side to assist the rider if he or she were to lose balance.

A decade ago, when Cory’s children were in high school, she wanted to find an activity to donate her time to charity. She discovered Reins of Life in the newspaper and was interested, yet did not have experience. But Reins of Life provided her with orientation and training, and Cory has been donating her time as a side walker for the riders and feeding horses ever since. Four years ago, she joined the Board of Directors and has served as President for the past two years.

A volunteer training session will be held for those interested in assisting on Tuesday, August 21 from 5:30 until 8:30 PM Central time. Volunteer assistance and donations are needed now more than ever in order to maintain the expansion and continue providing equine therapy.

More information about Reins of Life can be found online at www.reinsoflife.org.
The Festival Players Guild will present Robert Hawdon’s comedy “Perfect Wedding” running Wed., Aug. 15 through Sat., Aug. 18 at Michigan City’s Mainstreet Theatre, 807 Franklin St.

“Perfect Wedding” takes place on the morning of a groom’s wedding. A ‘perfect wedding’ may have been hoped for, but a perfect wedding it certainly isn’t. In fact it’s the most imperfect wedding ever; which all helps to add to the atmosphere in this fast paced comedy.

On the morning of his wedding, Bill (Chris Bozenski) wakes up in a honeymoon suite next to a beautiful woman who is not his fiancée. Still hung over from his wild bachelor party the night before, he can’t remember how she got there. Before his fiancée Rachael (Denise Dumper) arrives in the next few minutes, Bill must come up with a believable explanation for the mess. He drafts his best man, Tom (Randy Scholz), and a hotel chamber maid (Megan O’Neil) to help him in a cover-up.

Additional cast members include Suzanne Daniels as Judy and Kim Webb as the mother, Daphne. Director of the production is Ken Loggins. Stage manager is Jered Blanchard, technical director is Corey Soignier, costumer is Jenny Nellis, lighting designer is Jamie Wroblewski and scenic designer is Ray Scott Crawford.

Curtain is 8 p.m. Wed.-Sat. plus a 2 p.m. Wed. matinee and a 5 p.m. show on Sat.

Tickets are $12.50 for Wed. & Thurs. performances and $14.00 for Fri. & Sat. performances. Senior citizen, group and student rates also are available as well as group dinner and luncheon packages offered in cooperation with Galveston Steakhouse.

Ticket reservations are available at the Box Office, (219) 874-4269 or through the Guild’s web site: www.festivalplayersguild.org.

Box office hours are noon-5 p.m. on Mon. & Tues., and from noon-8:30 p.m. on performance nights.

While “Perfect Wedding” closes the regular Canterbury Summer Theatre Season, the summer program will close Aug. 24 & 25 with “Parallel Lives,” a comedy presenting students from Bossier Parish Community College and directed by Artistic Director Ray Scott Crawford.
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Hike and Brunch to Support Indiana Dunes & Lake Michigan

Currently host to more than 1,500 native species, the Indiana Dunes, a national treasure, has extensive biodiversity.

But many areas of the Dunes, and especially wetlands such as Cowles Bog, are at risk from:
• Invasive species
• Unchecked development
• Air and water pollution

Show your support for the Indiana Dunes, and Lake Michigan, by participating in a specially arranged Dunes Advocate Awareness Hike and Brunch, Sun., Sept. 9. Participants can register for the hike, the brunch, or both- whatever works for them.

The hike will begin at 9 a.m. Participants in this free hike should meet at the Cowles Bog parking area located on Mineral Springs Road, just north of the South Shore railroad tracks and south of Dune Acres.

Learn about Cowles studies there and the challenges confronting National Park staff in restoring this national treasure. This free hike will be led by Joy Marburger, PhD, Research Coordinator, Great Lakes Research and Education Center, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.

Participants should be prepared to hike approximately two miles and wear insect repellent.

The Dunes Advocate Awareness Brunch will be from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Waterbird Lakeside Banquet and Conference Center, 526 Indian Boundary Rd., Chesterton, IN. The featured speaker will be Victor M. Cassidy, author of the biography Henry Chandler Cowles: Pioneer Ecologist. Cowles was a University of Chicago scientist who conducted groundbreaking work on the ecological succession of the Indiana Dunes.

The brunch will feature scrambled eggs, Champagne Mimosas, carved ham, cream cheese blintzes, muffins, breakfast potatoes, fresh fruit and more. The fee for the brunch is $38 before Aug. 31, and $45 after Aug. 31.

Reservations can be made by downloading and mailing the registration form on http://www.savedunes.org/images/pdf/Reservation1.doc. A copy of the brochure is also on-line at www.savedunes.org. Or, phone 219/879-3937 to request a brochure.

This event is part of Coast Week 2007, sponsored by the Lake Michigan Coastal Program (LMCP). To be held Sept. 8-16, LMCP and several other organizations are working together to host a wide variety of events to celebrate the diversity and beauty of the Lake Michigan coastal region. For more information on Coast Week visit http://www.in.gov/dnr/lakemich/news/coastweek.html.

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This wonderful Nantucket home on 90 feet of pristine beach is reminiscent of a time gone by. 3 stories of lakefront living with pine floors, French windows, huge lakeside wrap around porch, 2 magnificent stone fireplaces, and best of all this beautiful, historic lakefront house has been brought up to date in every way, with 6 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, over 3000 sq ft with additional walk out lower level. Open floor plan, outside decks, nice kitchen on beautiful Lakeview Avenue close to all Grand Beach has to offer. $1,875,000

Don’t let the front of this house fool you as well as having 47 feet of amazing beachfront (with private stairs) this vintage beach home has never been touched inside. Because everything is on one floor, the wood ceilings peak in many directions giving height and light to this cottage. Almost 2000 sq ft with 5 bedrooms, and a huge deck overlooking Lake Michigan. This home has California Architectural Digest interior. What could be better than Seaside, of course, Lakeside! $1,595,000

Enjoy all Grand Beach has to offer - the lake, a community, golf, tennis and play yard!
“She’s stepping up for River Valley.”
That was Superintendent Robert Schroeder’s ob-
servation as Trustee Vickie Wagner climbed a lad-
der outside the cafeteria at the River Valley Middle/
High School and painted the shaft of a skylight.

Wagner and Schroeder were two of many from
the community who turned to River Valley on July
28 and 29 in response to the Board of Education’s
call for a Community Work Day. (And, yes, I and my
two left thumbs were among the workers who toiled
for RV, and I am happy to report that I survived
with both left thumbs intact.)

Wagner said she was happy to endure the sauna-
like heat in the skylight shaft because it enabled
her to put a fresh coat of paint on her community’s
school.

Meanwhile, River Valley elementary school teach-
er Heidi Clark sang happy songs as she painted a
door in the girls’ locker room. Clark was working
harmoniously with her brother, Rich Zeiger, who has
assisted with coaching duties at the high school.
They were both glad to be giving back to their
alma mater, as was Beth Farhat, who was Presi-
dent of the Class of 1988. When Trustee J.C. Ger-
man, who helped organize the event, assigned Far-
hat to paint a wall at the top of the bleachers in the
gym, Farhat sportingly climbed to the top and went
to work.

It appeared on July 29, at least, that the whole
community had gone to work for River Valley, and
the photographs that accompany this article are but
a mere hint of all the collective energy expended on
behalf of RV.
Ken Seifert repairs lockers in the boys’ lockerroom.

Becky Seifert, who was Miss Three Oaks 1987, paints a door in the cafeteria.

This team of “metal benders” repaired lockers in the girls’ lockerroom. They are (from bottom to top): Leo Jovanovic, Doug Kill, and Board of Education President William Farhat.
THE

The Broadway hit, “The Full Monty,” is a musical comedy about out-of-work steelworkers trying to regain some modicum of self-respect while accepting unemployment checks, falling behind on child support and mortgages, and being supported by their families and friends. Doesn’t sound like a comedy, does it? It sure hits home in the NW Indiana region. However, it is a comedy telling the gritty reality of six unemployed men, and the jokes are not for jokes’ sake, but the humor grows out of their real lives.

This play is based on the English movie hit, “The Full Monty,” but set in Buffalo, New York... or it could be Gary, Indiana... anyplace where mills or factories have shut down or laid off able bodied working people. It hits home in a bittersweet way, but the payoff is a lot of laughs and some raunchy music mixed with lovely ballads. This is a true character-based musical.

It all begins when their various wives and girlfriends are having a raucous ‘girl’s-night-out’ at a Chippendale’s style male strip club — all in good fun, of course. One of the men gets the idea that if these women are having such a great time watching men they don’t even know strip, well, wouldn’t they have even more fun watching the men they know and love strip — and making a lot of money at the same time in order to pay-off their debts...

The six men are played by Noel Carlson, John Fetsch, Dwight Edwards, Greg Miller, Howard Brenneman, and Justin Spaeth. The six women are Sherry VerWey, Laurie Shover Hughes, Mona Loomis, Angel Hertaus, Sarah Courtwright, and Dani Lane. Other characters are played by Sue Quereconi, Kevin Murray, Griffin Carlson, Mark Ladd, Michael Mejia, and Allen Wenzel.

Directors: Stephanie Naumoff, Martha Sass; musical dir. Jim Mollin; choreography: Larry Payne.

“The Monty” runs for two more weekends through Aug. 26, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sun. at 7 p.m. Tickets are $15 ($12 for seniors and students); reserve tickets (Wed-Sun, 1-6 p.m.) at 219-879-7509. Or at www.dunessummertheatre.com

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or visit our website at www.dunescape.com for more information
Memorial Service Held

A memorial service was held in Long Beach on Wed., Aug. 15, honoring the life of long-time Long Beach resident, Amelia “Emily” Koren, born Amelia Mary Wilkos in Hartford, CT in 1919. Emily passed away in Oct., 2005, in Olney, MD. She was preceded in death by her husband of 61 years, Joseph “Joe” Koren.

While in Long Beach, Emily worked at Long Beach Elementary School and was an energetic member of several community organizations. She was also an active member of Notre Dame Catholic Church.

Emily is survived and beloved by her four children and their spouses: Janice Koren Fischer and Terry Fischer, Goldthwaite, TX; Randi Koren Schmidt and Peter Schmidt, Phillipsburg, NJ; Donna Koren Wells and Robert Wells, Stevens Point, WI; and Jonathan and Stephanie Koren, Olney, MD; as well as eight grandchildren: Russell Fischer, Atlanta, GA; Joseph and Geoffrey Schmidt, Jersey City, NJ; Amy Wells, Reston, VA; Alden Wells, Raleigh, NC; David Koren, Port Orchard, WA; Jenny and Katie Koren, Olney, MD; and one great grandchild, Gabrielle Schmidt.

Emily donated her body to the Georgetown University School of Medicine for study. Earlier this month, her remains were buried beside Joe’s in Texas.

Upcoming Class at Fernwood

Sunday, August 19; 1:00-3:00 p.m. MI time
Summer Fun: Create a Nature T-shirt
Enjoy creating a unique work of art! After a hike on the nature trails, return to the Nature Center inspired to decorate a T-shirt. Please bring a pre-washed (no fabric softener) T-shirt or pillowcase. For children ages 8-12. Please dress for walking the trails and bring a water bottle if it is hot outside. Class size is limited; phone ahead. Members $8, Public $10. Advance registration is required by 3:00 pm on Friday, August 17.

It is recommended to call Fernwood to confirm status of classes beforehand. Contact Fernwood for registration and information at (269) 695-6491.

Fernwood’s Café
Featuring delicious soups, soup, bread, chicken salad, fresh fruit, and desserts. Opens at 11 a.m. Tuesday-Saturday and at noon on Sunday.

Fernwood is located near Buchanan, Michigan. Take US 31 to Walton Road, exit 7. Go west 1.7 miles, then north on Range Line Road.

Fernwood is a non-profit organization that receives no direct government support. Its mission is to enrich the lives of all people by stimulating appreciation of nature, exemplifying harmony between people, plants, gardens, and wildlife, and using the distinctive natural and cultivated habitats known as Fernwood.
**9175 Gottlieb Grove - Lakeside**

JUST LISTED! 2 bedroom/1 bath unit in New Circle Beach Association. Beach access half block away! Vaulted pine ceilings, pine floors, wood burning fireplace, 33 ft private wood deck with hot tub & gas grill, storage shed, new screens, new blinds, new sump! Great rental or year round enjoyment. Won’t last at this price. $319K

Debbie Jacobson

**5306 Fox Hollow- New Carlisle**

GRACIOUS CUSTOM HOME on quiet cul-de-sac with easy access to South Bend/Notre Dame, Chicago & Lake MI’s Harbor Country. Sprawling 2 story design with vaulted ceilings, large open floorplan, custom oak finishes & two car attached garage. The walk out lower level is ready to be finished w/room for family room, wine cellar, bedrooms, baths & home theatre. $495K

Bobbie Cavic

**9951 Cottage Lane – Union Pier**

ONE OF THE FEW Lakeshore Cottages with a completely finished basement! This cottage with a total of 4 bedrooms & 3.5 baths, shows like a model home. Perfectly decorated with many upgrades. Club house & community pool complete this great weekend getaway. $634K

Teri Maki

**38 Duneridge – New Buffalo**

BRAND NEW hardwood floors, carpet, mechanicals & bath on a wooded lot that drops to a beautiful ravine. Short distance to Stop 41 Lake Michigan Beach. Guaranteed privacy. Invisible buried fence for dogs. $519K

Bonnie “B” Meyer

**7769 East Rd**

SURROUNDED BY OVER 29 ACRES of woods & open fields is this spacious brick ranch home. Large eat-in country kitchen with lots of cabinet space & granite countertops, stone fireplace in great room, 3-4 bedrooms, 3 full baths, office space, & full unfinished walkout lower level. Large pole barn with a cement floor great for all your toys or farm animals. Great open views from every window & abundant wildlife. $675K

Gail Lowrie

**15810 Center Ave – Union Pier**

THIS CHARMING WHIMSYAL Union Pier co-op has all the amenities to make it a wonderful weekend or year round retreat. With 4 bedrooms, wood ceiling & floors, front porch with swing, 11 x 13 screened porch, back deck with hot tub, & surrounded by lovely perennial gardens & trees. Comes completely furnished. This is a great rental investment, too. $499K

Donna Iwamoto

**201 Willowbend Dr - LaPorte**

TOWERING PINE TREE FLANKS the long driveway to the entrance of this secluded Union Pier Cottage on a beautiful .96 acre lot. With updated kitchen, living room, family room & decks, it’s that comfortable retreat you’ve been searching for. $299,900

Donna Iwamoto

**219 Adahi Trail**

BLOSSOMS UNDER A CANOPY of hardwoods explode surrounding this urban cottage located only .6 mile from spectacular Lake MI beach. Stylish colors & swank finishes applaud the great use of space including tree-top screened porch, two story great room with broun hardwood floors, black & white galley kitchen, 3 bedrooms, 3.5 baths & dynamite front porch. $389K

Bonnie “B” Meyer

**201 Willowbend Dr - LaPorte**

Ten acres of the finest country lifestyle, in the SPECTACULAR ARCHITECT DESIGNED CONTEMPORARY. The wooded one acre setting overlooks sparkling water. Fieldstone, cedar & glass frame the spacious two level house with soaring ceilings to compliment the massive fieldstone fireplace. Catch the cool breezes through the completely screened in-ground pool. $660K

Donna Iwamoto
Lakefront Art Festival - August 18-19

The Lubeznik Center for the Arts' 26th Annual Lakefront Art Festival will be held Aug. 18 & Aug. 19 in Washington Park in Michigan City. The Festival is a juried art show. 120 artists, including 51 newly accepted artists from throughout the country will display works that include collage, basketry, ceramics, drawing (pencil, pastels, etc.), fiber (weaving and wearable art), glass, jewelry, leather, metalwork, paintings, photography, printmaking, quilts, sculpture, watercolor, wood (furniture, carving and wood burning) and other more specific processes.

Artists Bonnie Eastwood (basketry), Jon Hook (ceramics), Clark Stoeckley (drawing), David Millar (metal sculpture) and Robert Williams (drawing) will conduct demonstrations of their artistic processes throughout both days of the festival.

An on-site food court, available to festival goers and the general public, will feature a variety of ethnic foods in addition to American fare.

The Art Time Tent, coordinated by the Lubeznik Center for the Arts, will be on site to provide art activities for visitors of ALL ages. Other children's entertainment will be provided by Michiana Clowns, who will be at the Festival both days from 1-3 p.m.

The Festival will run Sat., from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sun., from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and will be located just east of the bandstand in Washington Park in Michigan City, IN. Festival entry fees are $4 adults, $3 seniors, children under 12 admitted free. Members of the Lubeznik Center presenting a current membership card also receive free admission. For more information about the Lakefront Art Festival, call 219-874-4900 or visit http://www.lubeznikcenter.org/Special_Events/art_fest.html.

Art bucks are now available for purchase at the Lubeznik Center and at http://www.lubeznikcenter.org/Gifts_Shopping/art_bucks.html in denominations of $25, $50, and $100. They can be used for art purchases at the Festival, and are also valid for Lubeznik Center membership purchases, classes, and items in the Lubeznik Center for the Arts' galleries and Gallery Shop. Art bucks will also be available at the Lakefront Art Festival.

Free parking will be serviced by a free shuttle from three locations: the grassy area directly north of the Lubeznik Center, Michigan City City Hall parking lot, and the Michigan City Chamber of Commerce parking lot. Parking is on a first come, first-served basis. Weekend parking rates apply at Washington Park.

Basket Weaving Class at Library

Margie Warner will teach a basket weaving class in one session on Sat., Aug. 25, 9:15 a.m. at the Michigan City Public Library. The class includes all materials. A $10 non-refundable deposit is required. The basket will be on display and sign up is at the library circulation desk. Information at 873-3049.
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To discover more, call 219.712.4185 or 269.469.0505 or visit waldennewbuffalo.com.
Sam Donaldson to Open Sinai Forum

The 2007 season of the Sinai Forum presented by Purdue University North Central will open on Sept. 9 at 7:30 p.m. at Elston Middle School in Michigan City with award-winning veteran television journalist Sam Donaldson.

The 54th season of the Forum will feature nationally and internationally known speakers who will examine a diverse selection of topics. An award-winning journalist will look at our national politics; how to “live and die well” will be addressed by a national authority and best selling author in the medical field; the Chairman of the National Science Board will explore science in the future; a noted religious scholar will journey into the world of religious fundamentalism and a member of the Executive Branch family will provide an insider’s look at presidential politics.

The Sept. 9 opening program, “An Evening with Sam Donaldson,” will feature the man who is considered one of the most respected television journalists to cover the White House beat. Donaldson is known for his candor, tenacity and personality. His commentary on the top political stories of the day promises to be informative, engaging and filled with humor. The winner of four Emmy Awards, three Peabody Awards and many other honors, Donaldson has appeared before audiences around the world.

On Sept. 30, Dr. Sherwin Nuland will present “Medicine in the Next 100 Years: Can We Still Age Gracefully and in Good Health?”

A physician, surgeon, teacher, medical historian and best-selling author, Nuland will share with the audience his research, scholarship, philosophy and passion for the subject of living and dying well. He is the author of the book, “How We Die” that remained on the “New York Times” bestseller-list for 34 weeks and won the National Book Award.

His book will be available for purchase and he will be on hand to sign copies after the program. Nuland’s appearance is sponsored by The Bankoff Endowment for the Forum.

The Oct. 21 program will feature Dr. Steven Beering, former president of Purdue University and the current chairman of the National Science Board. His presentation will address Science in the Public Interest.

Beering has spoken to audiences across the country about the complexities of scientific study and presenting its relationship with the public interest in understandable, compelling terms. This presentation is sponsored by Purdue North Central.

The Nov. 11 Forum speaker will be Bruce Feiler, the award-winning author, who will speak on “Who Speaks for God: Reclaiming Religion From the Extremists.”

Hailed as one of the leading writers of his generation, Feiler combines history, religion, adventure and personal discovery in his popular and informative presentations. His 2006 PBS mini-series was the most widely watched in the station’s history. Feiler has received critical acclaim for all six of the books he has written.

He will explore the fact that from the front lines of the Middle East to Washington D.C., the world is consumed by a struggle over religion.

His books will be available for purchase and Feiler will sign copies after the program.


Cheney, the daughter of vice president Dick Cheney, offers a unique perspective and the authority of having played a key role in two national elections. She will pull back the curtain for a behind-the-scenes look into the high-intensity world of presidential politics and political campaigns.

The controversial and outspoken best-selling author has been addressing standing room only audiences across the country. Her appearance is sponsored by NIPSCO.

Her book will be available for purchase and Cheney will sign copies after the program.

All Sinai Forum programs are held at Elston Middle School, 317 Detroit St., Michigan City and begin promptly at 7:30 p.m. Subscription tickets may be purchased in person from the Michigan City Public Library, Kabelin Hardware, 512 Andrews Ave., LaPorte and at PNC - Porter County Graduate Center, 600 Vale Park Road, Valparaiso. Subscriptions may be purchased via credit card by calling (219) 785-5697. Free student tickets are available at LaPorte County high schools and Purdue North Central.

Information about the Sinai Forum presented by PNC is available at www.sinaiforum.org
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Ask for Rick Remijas @ 874-2121 ext. 36

3471 N. Karen Ct., LaPorte
Fantastic all brick home! Top of the line kitchen with ceramic, granite, limestone floor, Viking range, Sub-Zero and wine refrigerator. Living room with fireplace. Master bedroom on main floor & fantastic master bath. Second floor has 4 more bedrooms and a family room with fireplace. Third floor with an office, another bedroom and full bath. 20 x 40 inground heated pool. #184597
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2708 Duffy Ln., Long Beach
Lake Clare to the front, the Fairways of Long Beach Country Club as your backyard and short walk to Lake Michigan Beach. Enjoy this 3700 sq. ft. 4 bedroom, 3 1/2 bath home with 3 porches and all the 1st class amenities expected in a custom residence of this quality. Call us for details.
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2604 Shorewood Dr., Long Beach
This classic contemporary 3-4 bedroom was built in 2004 and is loaded with all the bells and whistles you would expect in this price range. Home offers granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, Jenn Air dual fuel oven, 85% energy efficient furnaces/AC, with a brick and cement board exterior. This beautifully designed home has an open concept design with the best of both worlds in formal and informal dining options, bonus room, inviting fireplace and large deck off great room to enjoy the private wooded view. A home you can truly live in and enjoy! #186252
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Ask for Maria Losiniecki @ 874-2121 ext. 35

50 Marine Dr. #7, Michigan City
Breathtaking views of sunsets from your deck. Condo on Lake Michigan exquisitely decorated and fully furnished. This condo has a gourmet kitchen, 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths and the best of everything in upgrades. 50’ Dock with 27,000# boat dock lift at the front of your condo. Gated entry with pool and tennis court. #180879
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Call Roger Miller @ 874-2121 ext. 38

133 Shorewood Dr., Long Beach
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$529,000
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Christine Facciponti @ 874-2121 ext. 25
Delray Brooks Named Athletic Director

La Lumiere School welcomes Delray Brooks as the new Athletic Director, replacing Chris “Doc Booms” Balawender.

Balawender, who has been on staff at La Lumiere School for 31 years, and Athletic Director for 18 years, will continue his service to the School as teacher of World History and Economics, Football and Track Coach.

Mr. Brooks, previously Head of Basketball Operations at La Lumiere School, earned the honor of “Mr. Basketball” in the State of Indiana during his senior year at Michigan City Rogers High School in 1984. Brooks was named Player of the Year by ESPN, and by USA Today.

Initially attending Indiana University and playing for coach Bobby Knight, Brooks then transferred to Providence College, playing for coach Rick Pitino. Brooks went on to serve as an Assistant Coach under Pittino at the University of Kentucky. He brings NCAA, Final Four and National Championship experience to the position. As a coach, there have been ten players that have been recruited and coached by Coach Brooks that are currently in the NBA or have played in the NBA.

“La Lumiere expects more from our students and scholar-athletes than most schools,” said Michael Kennedy, La Lumiere’s Headmaster, “and Mr. Brooks truly understands the need for balance in the lives of our students. Mr. Brooks stood out amongst the other candidates for this position which included a varsity coach at a “junior” Ivy League college, a local former Athletic Director, and a coach who is part of one of the top high school athletic programs in the country.” Coach Brooks is starting his third year at La Lumiere School. “What he has done to elevate the level of play and competition is great for the School and for the kids. He likes to win, but he understands that kids need to develop a love for the game and to be good sportsmen and women as well.” Kennedy added. “What we expect in the classroom is the same thing we expect on the playing fields. Mr. Brooks understands this and I am confident that he will elevate the whole athletic program and start to attract the areas finest scholar-athletes in the area.”

About La Lumiere School—La Lumiere is a coeducational lay Catholic boarding and day school that provides a comprehensive college-preparatory, high school education for qualified young men and women from a rich diversity of backgrounds. It seeks to develop character, scholarship, and faith, while remaining both independently accredited and faithful to its Catholic heritage. Current enrollment is 160 students. It is situated on a beautiful rural estate 8 miles from La Porte, Michigan City, and New Buffalo. Visit www.lalumiere.org for information.

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**Keenan Baxter to Perform at TalTree**

On Fri., Aug. 17th, at 6:30 p.m., local composer and classical jazz musician Keenan Baxter will perform on keyboards with jazz vocalist Nikki George at the TalTree Arboretum located at 71 N and 500 W in Valparaiso Indiana. Performance is inside the Gazebo, entrance is only $5 per person, and patrons should bring a lawn chair.

Although Keenan Baxter (from Valparaiso) has performed local concerts before, he has been preparing some very special songs that have never been heard before or released to perform at the Taltree. Keenan (a Grammy Contender in 2006) was recently added to the Chicago Cultural Center’s Fall Performance Series, and had a song placed on MTV's TV Show “My Sweet Sixteen.” He was also recently accepted by the Hollywood’s elite talent agency, A&R Select, to be added to their music catalog.

Keenan will perform his classically styled “Tapestry of Freedom,” a song dedicated to the troops in Iraq, which is also aired each week by the radio Station KOPN 89.5 for their weekly Talk Show about Iraq. The song also appears on the military website www.americasupportsyou.mil. Many other songs Keenan has picked come from the best of his classical jazz originals that are both inspiring and easy to listen to, but have been especially prepared for this concert.

To add some vocals to the concert, a special guest appearance will be by local vocalist, Nikki George out for Crown Point and the Chicago Jazz Association. One song, Nikki George will perform is “Extreme Temperature” which is from Keenan’s Grammy Contender 2006 cd. In addition, concert goers will hear several original songs that Nikki and Keenan have composed together, some from rhythm and blues genres.

Keenan will be appearing on Tues., Aug. 21st at the Portage Parks Concert Series, and Sat., Aug. 25th at HotorNot Restaurant in Portage.

For further information, you may contact Taltree Arboretum at 219-462-0025, or check out their website at www.taltree.org. To hear Keenan Baxter’s music, you can check out I-Tunes, Rhapsody, Music Match, cdbaby, or Broadjam. Keenan’s personal website is www.keenanbaxter.com

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Bryan Lubeck to Open Boat Show

Chicago-based artist, Bryan Lubeck, will open this year’s Boat Show on Aug. 23. A powerhouse of fierce Latin guitar music and cool urban grooves, Lubeck will play at the Washington Park Marina from 2-6 p.m. in celebration of Michigan City’s 27th Annual In-Water Boat Show.

Lubeck has been a featured artist on WNUA Chicago with his high-energy performances and unique combination of flamenco-style Spanish guitar and modern urban sounds.

“Bryan is an incredible world-musician and performer and we are thrilled to have him opening this year’s Boat Show. This is a hot performance that will encourage everyone to gear up for the high-energy concert on the 25th. Come ready to party!” stated Bernie Scott, Smooth Jazz at South Shore and local event coordinator.

Internationally recognized, Lubeck has performed at several high profile concerts including Smooth Jazz at South Shore. Lubeck will be joined by fellow musician, sax player, Nick Bisesi (best known from Ramsey Lewis’ Urban Knights,) as well as Joey Edwin on guitar, Nate Lacny on drums and Paul Thomas on bass.

For more information or to buy Boat Show tickets, phone the Lake Erie Marine Trades Association at (440) 899-5009 or e-mail lemta@aol.com

Sons of Norway

Sons of Norway, Scandiana Lodge, will meet at the Westchester Library Center, 100 West Indiana Street, Chesterton Aug. 18, 6 p.m. for a carry-in dinner.

A select group of girl singers from Hobart High School Choirs will entertain with popular songs from the 1930’s through the 1960’s. The group’s repertoire also includes show tunes as well as patriotic and country music selections. They have performed throughout Chicagoland and NW Indiana and was also featured on the Channel 7 Morning News in Chicago. The entertainment will start at 7 p.m.

Anyone who is interested in the Scandinavian Countries is always welcome. For more information phone 219/926-7443 or 219/324-2327.

Bookmarks at Noon

The next Bookmarks at Noon at the Michigan City Public Library will take place on Aug. 17 and will feature Dennis Norman reviewing A Thousand Splendid Suns by Khaled Hosseini. The program is free and open to the public.

The story is at once an incredible chronicle of thirty years of Afghan history and a deeply moving story of family, friendship, faith, and the salvation to be found in love.
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Tenor Paul Mow and Friends in Concert

The Southwest Michigan Symphony’s Summer Casual Classics Series at the Heritage Center, St. Joseph, MI, concludes on Thurs., Aug. 16th at 6 p.m. MI time with New York City Opera tenor, Paul Mow and Friends performing Broadway and Brahms.

Joining Paul for this extraordinary evening of music are soprano, Sarah Miller; mezzo-soprano, Barbara LeMay; Baritone Galen Scott Bowen and pianist, Paul Flyger.

The evening begins with a wine reception beginning at 6 p.m. followed by a light summer supper at 6:30 p.m. The reception will feature Tabor Hill wines and the summer supper is provided by Panera Bread.

A Coloma native, Paul Mow holds a bachelor’s degree in Voice Performance from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. He has won numerous awards, and in 2002 won the George London Award for the Kirstin Flagstad Memorial Prize as well as the Eastern Regional of the Metropolitan Opera Competition in New York City. Paul’s debut album “Brahms’ – Die Schone Magelone” was recorded in New York City’s historic Town Hall and is available on Lyrichord Records and at paulmow.com.

Baritone Galen Scott Bower received his Master of Music degree in 1997 and Artist Diploma in 1998 from Yale University. He is a native of Greensburg, Indiana. Galen is the recipient of several distinguished grants and awards.

Mezzo-soprano Barbara LeMay divides her time between the Indianapolis, Indiana area, and New York City. After acquiring a Bachelor of Science in History from Ball State University, Ms. LeMay earned her Master of Music and Artists Diploma from Yale University. She also participated in Glimmerglass Opera’s prestigious Young American Artists Program, where she created the role of the Nurse in the “Strawberry Fields” act of Central Park, which aired on PBS and earned an Emmy nomination.

Sarah Miller has been described by Michael Redmond of The Newark Star-Ledger as possessing “...a monumental voice of unusually lustrous quality.” She holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Art History from Columbia College. She is the recipient of two Encouragement Awards from the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions.

Tickets for Paul Mow and Friends are $35 including reception and dinner and can be purchased at (269) 982.4030 or at www.smoso.org.
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Harold Neulieb translates his visions of the dunes on canvas, and more recently, in words.

His landscapes, rendered in watercolors and pastels, reside in numerous private collections of dune lovers. His paintings feature dunes from Central Beach, a favorite location of his, as well as the lighthouse and harbor. And many more.

“I’ve painted and sketched the dunes from Michigan City all the way to Miller Beach,” he said.

While he continues to paint on canvas, the artist has currently assembled a collection of his early sketches and photographs into a hand-bound book titled, “Lake & Dunescapes.” The book allows collectors of his work, as well as others, to gain an appreciation of how the lakeshore and surrounding dune hills have shifted and changed over the years. They also can see how the artist’s finished canvases evolved from his pencil and film originals.

In his introduction, Harold has penned a rhyme reflecting his relief that the ever-shifting dunescapes are protected by the Park Service. His rhymes, fashioned after the style of Hoosier poet James Whitcomb Riley, also appear in an earlier work, “Art Rhymes.” A copy of the latter can be found in the Indiana Collection at the Michigan City Public Library and has been placed in the Indiana State Library.

The Michigan City artist, who grew up on the east side when neighborhood residents kept chickens, ducks, rabbits, and even a cow or two, said he initially encountered the beauty of the dunes during visits to his grandparents’ home on the west side of town at West Sixth Street.

“My dad took us over the dunes to show us where people had boat shanties. That’s the first real good look I had of the dunes.” Harold explained that the area where he first roamed is now restricted from access by the NIPSCO plant.

The self-taught artist began painting in earnest more than thirty years ago. Picking up hints from fellow artists and from Tom Lynch’s televised art instruction programs, Harold’s main body of work is rendered in watercolors, although in the past few years he has added pastels to his preferred mediums. One of his dunescapes was featured in a 3-month exhibition at the Governor’s Mansion during the O’Bannon administration. That event was nowhere on the radar screen of the artist who started out as a photographer who developed his black and white prints in his darkroom.

“I used to do hand-tinted photographs a long time ago, but today, especially with digital cameras, it’s harder to find the materials for hand-tinting,” he said, adding that using a darkroom today is very labor-intensive.

And yet the editions of “Lake & Dunescapes” that Harold has been assembling with hand-stitched bindings are also labor intensive.

“It’s time-consuming and leaves me no time to paint.” He said that his next project—when he gets around to it—will be another scene of Michigan City’s harbor.

The limited edition books, as well as his paintings, are available at the Chesterton Art Center, where Harold has been a member since the early 1970’s. For more information phone (219) 926-4711.
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-Mikail Pinette
I have children, but they can’t be called children anymore – they’re settling into middle-ages. At our recent Small Plates supper club at my place, I invited my children’s former baby sitter and her husband. Carol and Dick Purdy moved from Oak Park, where we’d all lived when my kids were little, to just across the Michigan line. And that was about when I’d moved back to Indiana. The Purdys are great company these days, with another member in their family – a lovely and polite black dog named Maggie who joined us that evening. Our Small Plates group now consists of Pat Latchford, another neighbor Donna Hennard and me. And, as always when we meet (generally every two months or so), whoever is hostess invites two friends of her own. We’ve certainly met some interesting people, just as Pat and Donna did at this party. And, oh my, the food. Carol wanted to bring the entree – an unusual offer – and we each enjoyed a truly interesting and inviting lamb and rice dish. Actually, all recipes below are interesting and inviting.....

One of the two hors d’oeuvre Donna Hennard offered us:

**SHRIMP, CUCUMBER AND DILL BUTTER CANAPES**

\[ \frac{1}{2} \text{ cup dry white wine} \]
\[ 1 \text{ T kosher salt} \]
\[ 12 \text{ medium shrimp, heads removed} \]
\[ 6 \text{ very thin slices white sandwich bread, crusts removed} \]
\[ 3 \text{ oz butter plus sprinkling of diced shallots} \]
\[ 1 \text{ seedless cucumber} \]
\[ 1 \text{ small bunch fresh dill, sprigs removed} \]

Place the wine, 2 cups water and the salt in a medium saucepan. Bring to a simmer and add the shrimp. Cook, covered, until the shrimp are opaque and cooked through, about 1 minute. Drain the shrimp. Set aside to cool, then peel and devein. Heat the oven to 300 degrees F. Arrange the bread slices on a baking sheet. Place the bread slices in the oven dry out and toast slightly, 5 to 7 minutes per side. Transfer to cool on a wire rack. Spread each bread slice with butter and sprinkling of shallots. Using a mandoline or vegetable peeler, thinly slice the cucumber lengthwise. Place 2 cucumber slices side by side to cover the surface of the bread slice. Trim the crusts. Arrange sprigs of dill over the cucumber. Cut 2 shrimp in half lengthwise and evenly space the 4 shrimp halves on the slice. Cut each piece of bread into quarters. Repeat with the remaining ingredients and serve.

**CHEESY TORTILLA SPIRALS**

1 pkg (11 oz.) Classic Meals creamed chipped beef (frozen food section), defrosted
2 pkg (3 oz each) cream cheese, at room temp
\[ \frac{1}{2} \text{ cup shredded cheddar cheese} \]
2 tsp lime juice
1 tsp ground chili powder
1 tsp ground cumin
2 T chopped fresh cilantro
2 T chopped green onion
10 (8”) soft flour tortillas
\[ \frac{1}{4} \text{ cup shredded cheddar cheese (if baking)} \]

Preheat oven to 400 degrees (if serving baked method). Combine cream cheese, \( \frac{1}{4} \) cup cheddar cheese, lime juice, chili powder and cumin in medium bowl; stir in creamed beef, cilantro and green onion. Evenly divide mixture among tortillas, spreading to cover each tortilla. Roll up and place rolled tortillas, seam side down on baking sheet. If baking, sprinkle with \( \frac{1}{4} \) cup shredded cheddar and bake for 7 minutes or until cheese is melted. Let stand for 3 to 5 minutes; slice into 1” pieces. Serve hot.

OR: can be served without baking. Omit cheese topping; refrigerate filled and rolled tortillas for at least 1 hour before slicing about \( \frac{1}{2} \)” pieces.

**STRAWBERRY PROSECCO SOUP**

1 lb strawberries, chopped (3 cups)
1 cup Prosecco
2 tsp chopped fresh tarragon
\[ \frac{1}{2} \text{ tsp salt} \]
2 T sugar
\[ \frac{3}{4} \text{ cup vanilla yogurt} \]
Garnish: cracked black pepper

Toss berries with Prosecco, tarragon, salt and sugar. Let macerate, chilled and covered, one hour. Puree mixture in blender until smooth, then set aside 1 cup puree. Blend remaining mixture with yogurt and sugar to taste. Serve soup drizzled with reserved puree.
**AFRICAN LAMB BY MAURICE**
*(Carol’s excellent entree)*

**Marinade:**
- 125 ml (approx ½ cup) red wine vinegar
- 125 ml (approx ½ cup) oil
- 125 ml (approx ½ cup) red wine
- 2 cloves garlic, crushed
- 4 black pepper corns
- 4 bay leaves, crushed
- 6 whole cloves
- 15 ml (1 T) sugar

Combine all ingredients and use to marinade for four hours or overnight.

2 kg (4 to 5 lbs) lamb cubes marinated
- 1 T curry powder
- 1 tsp garam masala
- 1 tsp paprika
- 1 T tomato paste
- 1 T tomato puree
- 3 cooking apples, peeled and cut into cubes
- 2 sticks of celery
- 2 cups chicken stock
- 2 T fresh rosemary

Brown the marinated lamb in bunches. Add all the spices into the prepared pot with the browned lamb and mix well. Cook over high heat for three to four minutes. Stir in the tomato paste, puree and chicken stock. Bring to a boil, cover and simmer for two hours. Add apples, celery and fresh rosemary. Cook for another 30 minutes or until tender.

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**RED POTATO SKEWERS WITH GARLIC**

1½ lbs small red-skinned new potatoes (about 1 to 1½ inches in diameter) scrubbed, halved
- 3 T olive oil
- 3 T Dijon mustard
- 3 garlic cloves, minced
- 1½ T finely chopped fresh rosemary
- ½ tsp salt
- ½ tsp pepper
- 2 slices crumbled cooked bacon
- 6 metal skewers (if wooden, soak in water 30 minutes)

Line baking sheet with heavy duty foil. Cook potatoes in large pot of boiling salted water just until tender when pierced with sharp knife, about 10 minutes. Drain, cool 10 minutes.

Meanwhile, whisk oil and next 5 ingredients in large bowl to blend. Add potatoes to dressing and toss to coat. Roll in crumbled bacon. Thread potatoes on skewers, cut side up. Place on prepared baking sheet. (Skewers can be assembled 4 hours ahead. Cover; let stand at room temp)

Preheat broiler, positioning rack 6 inches from heat source. Broil potato skewers until browned and bubbly; turning halfway through the cooking time, about 10 minutes total.

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**BERRIES WITH CUSTARD SAUCE**

1¼ cups whipping cream
½ cup sugar
1 T cornstarch
4 egg yolks
2 tsp vanilla

Fresh raspberries, strawberries and blueberries

In 2 quart saucepan cook cream over medium heat until just comes to a boil (6 to 8 minutes). Remove from heat. Meanwhile, in medium bowl gradually whisk sugar and cornstarch into egg yolks. Whisk until mixture is light and creamy (3 to 4 minutes). Gradually whisk hot cream into egg mixture. Return to saucepan and add vanilla. Cook over medium heat, stirring constantly, until custard is thick enough to coat back of metal spoon (3 to 4 min). (Do not boil because egg yolks will curdle.) Serve warm or cool over fresh berries. Makes 2 cups.

---

**BUTTER PECAN TURTLE BARS**

**Crust:** 2 c flour, 1 c brown sugar, ¼ c butter, softened, and 1¼ c pecan halves

**Topping:** ½ cup butter, ½ cup brown sugar, ¼ cup chocolate chips

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In large mixing bowl, combine flour, 1 cup brown sugar and softened butter. Beat at medium speed 2 to 3 minutes. Press into ungreased 13x9 inch pan. Put pecan halves evenly into unbaked crust.

In small heavy saucepan, combine butter and brown sugar. Cook over medium heat until mixture boils. Boil 1 minute, stirring constantly. Pour over crust. Bake in center of oven 18 to 22 minutes or until topping is bubbly and crust is light brown. Remove from oven. Sprinkle on chips but do not spread. Cool on wire rack. Cut into bars. Enjoy! (We certainly did.)

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Latchford supplied us with two amazing desserts.

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Pat’s delightful desserts
The Amarillo Star Country Western Dance will be held Sat., Aug. 18, at the American Legion Skwiat Post 451, 121 Legion Skwiat Ave., Michigan City, from 7-10:30 p.m.

Cost: A/S members $5.00; Non-members $7.00

Everyone is welcome. There will be line/partner dancing to DJ music. For more information, phone Chris 219/874-3624.
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Cyberscribbles
by Paula McHugh

Gamers can spend enormous amounts of time playing online. These are the sophisticated—animation-wise—varieties. Compared to them, the few I ran across online are as sophisticated as Pac Man, best as short diversions in your day. There are some that show off your knowledge, or help you learn, and they are not necessarily affiliated with education websites. (I can hear the gamers out there protesting loudly about eye-hand coordination and problem-solving skills learned from playing those bloody shoot-em-up video games). I know my bias shows. Meanwhile, I’ll stick to the milder versions of games to be found online.

Purpose Games (www.purposegames.com). This rightly-named site offers more than eye-hand coordination. It tests your knowledge of history, science, English and foreign languages and more. I tried my hand at identifying architectural styles and timed in at 8 seconds (the questions were easy). Next, I tried identifying French words for items in Van Gogh’s bedroom. Although I took two years’ of French, I stumbled. Took me about 12 minutes to identify 14 items, but the experience did help me revisit some basic French words I had forgotten. There are dozens of different games to play. If you register (free), you can post your score and see how you compare to other players. The only sad note was my discovery of relatively few players for most games: only a few hundred. For the Web in general, less than a thousand is a poor showing.

Girl Sense (www.girlsense.com/). I went straight to the games link and did not hang around the other links for this pre-teen targeted website. This is the age that would most enjoy these games. Boys would not enjoy them at all. Playing a game called “Bad Hair Day” clued me in to the much faster mouse-related eye-hand coordination of youngsters. The bubbles in the game were moving way too fast for me to click my mouse on time. Instead of points, I kept getting “blown away” by a huge hair dryer. I gave up after the fifth time. I blame it on my slow mouse.

Eight Principles (www.eightprinciples.com). Maybe you received a link to this site from an e-mail friend. It is a flash presentation, a cute one, that reminds us to access our inner child and let that child out to play. As in the games mentioned above. Anyone needing to get unstuck from that swirling, adult merry-go-round of worries can be reminded of some gentle wisdom. In addition, you can sign up for the “Outside the Lines” e-newsletter after you are finished reading the Eight Principles. Be sure you spell “principles” correctly when you access the URL, or you’ll be fighting in vain to read the eight principals, whose schools may or may not be out
there in cyberspace.

**The Cool Hunter** ([www.thecoolhunter.net](http://www.thecoolhunter.net)). This is not a game site. It is a trend watcher’s place for the hip, with-it cats or dudes or whatever the latest slang happens to be. It is a fun site to look at, for sure. Pick one or all of these categories: design, lifestyle, music, books, art, gadgets, fashion, eco world, kids, food and dining, architecture, bars and clubs, travel, houses, transportation, stores or events. Soon to be a television program, the Cool Hunter brings us plenty of extraordinary, up-to-the-minute information about cool stuff. I especially enjoyed the chic hotels photos in the travel section. I want to visit every one of them, just for the experience. Most are under the current radar of travel writers, I assume. The other sections of this website are just as entertaining, and certainly informative. This is a spot to savor browsing, so set aside enough time to have a thorough look around.

**Summer Music Series Continues**

Lighthouse Place Premium Outlet Mall is continuing to offer free musical entertainment to visitors at the Michigan City location. Here is the schedule of performers you can see now through Labor Day.

**Cripple Creek Quartet** - Sat, Aug 18: 3-6 p.m. in the Gazebo. Prepare to be entertained by the crowd pleasing blend of voices of this talented group with songs ranging from gospel to pop.

**Classical Guitarist Mario Moreno** - Sun, Aug 19: 1-4 p.m. in the Courtyard.

**Kent Arnsbarger on the Steel Drum** - Sat, Aug 25: Noon - 4 p.m. in the Courtyard. Ever popular Kent returns with pleasing sounds of the Caribbean style.

**Deb Moulton** - Sun, Aug 26: 2-5 p.m. in the Gazebo. Vocalist/guitarist offering an eclectic blend.

**The Merry Notes** - Sat, Sept 1: 2-5 p.m. in the Gazebo. “In the Mood” for a big band sound? Search no further!

**Kent Arnsbarger on the Steel Drum** - Sun, Sept 2: 1-5 p.m. in the Courtyard. “Yellow Bird” and all your favorites in Kent’s Caribbean style.

**White Dove** - Mon, Sept 3: 1-5 p.m. in the Gazebo. Performing in all white this group will soothe your soul with their smooth sound.

**Kent Arnsbarger on the Steel Drum** - Sun, Sept 3: 1-5 p.m. in the Courtyard.

**Writing Your Memoirs**

If you are writing your memoirs, you are invited to discussions on memoirs with other amateur writers at 1 p.m. on Thurs., Aug. 17 in the small meeting room at LaPorte County Public Library, 904 Indiana Ave., LaPorte. There is no admittance charge or registration. Please phone 219/362-6156 for more information or to request signing for the hearing impaired 48 hours in advance.

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Save the Date --September 15
A Richard Hunt Retrospective Opening Benefit will take place on Sat., Sept. 15, 6-10 p.m. at the Lubeznik Center for the Arts in Michigan City.
This fundraising event will celebrate the work of internationally recognized sculptor Richard Hunt. Proceeds will support the Lubeznik Center for the Arts educational programming and United Negro College Fund scholarships in Northwest Indiana.
Admission and reservations required; tickets $100 per person, LCA members $75. Order tickets at www.lubeznikcenter.org or phone 219-874-4900.

Brown Bag Concert
Lee Meyer, director of the Artistic Outreach Ministry for the First Congregational Church, 531 Washington St., announces the 3rd concert in the summer series of three concerts, featuring the St. Paul’s Praise Band, performing contemporary gospel songs.
This group provides most of the music for the contemporary service at 10 a.m. at St. Paul’s Church on Sunday mornings. They are under the leadership of Jerry Tannehill who is also the keyboardist, along with Mark Tannehill on guitar and Jacob Tannehill on bass guitar, Dave Prybylla on percussion and singers Amy Warren, Jim Cobie and Stacie Crozier. The concert will include some sing-a-long with the audience.
This concert will be Sat., Aug. 18 at noon and the concert is held outdoors on the southwest lawn of the church. In case of inclement weather, it will be held in the church parlor.
The audience is encouraged to bring their own lounge chair and lunch, or may obtain a brown bag lunch for a nominal donation.

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People Who Called Potato Creek “Home”

Jan Shupert-Arick will be the guest speaker at The Friends of Potato Creek State Park monthly meeting on Tues., Aug. 21 at 7 p.m. (EST) at the Potato Creek State Park Nature Center. Shupert-Arick is a member of the fifth generation of Shupert descendants in the Potato Creek area. Her talk will include insights into the people who settled the land we know today as Potato Creek State Park.

Jan will share artifacts, maps, photos, and stories of the land and the people who once called this place “home.” A special invitation is extended to families who owned land within the park or who are descendants. Bring your photos and stories to share. The meeting and talk are open to the public and free of additional charge once the park entry fee is paid. For more information about the Friends of Potato Creek, visit www.friendsofpotatocreek.org.

The Umbrellas of Harbert Auction

The gaily painted umbrellas that have been displayed along Red Arrow Highway this summer will go on auction this Sat., Aug. 18th to benefit Harbor Country Radio (WRHC).

Wine, live music by Garth Taylor and food by Dinner’s Ready will compliment the hand-painted umbrellas that will be available for purchase by silent auction. The event will take place at the Center of the World Showroom, 13400 Red Arrow Hwy., from 4:30-7:30 p.m. MI time. More information at www.harbert-michigan.com or 269-876-7879.

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The Michiana Day of the Arts

What could be a better setting for a village art exhibit and concert than the beautiful warm day that arrived on Saturday, August 5th and the rustic Michiana log Community Center building?

This third annual Michiana Day of the Arts featured mixed-media art work of local artists, including paintings in acrylic, oil, chalk, pastels and water colors of more than eight artists. Photographs displayed were the work of several residents, some of which were winning entries in previous juried shows. The sculptures of two artists, Roy Quiriconi and his granddaughter Gina, were show highlights, and two residents displayed their hand-made jewelry utilizing materials unique to this area – one using beautifully polished beach stones and the other featuring the local crinoids.

The Day of the Arts was organized by Barbara Opie, a local artist and musician who is part of the Gaia Artist Cooperative as well as a member of Michiana Music, a chamber group that performs at events in this area. Susan Willis and Jacqueline Stewart, both of whose work was on display, assisted Barbara in coordinating this year’s event. Several other volunteers helped during the day as greeters.

Jacqueline Stewart and her husband Blair stand beside two of her photographs which were on display. Jacqueline is the author of the highly acclaimed The Glaciers’ Treasure Trove: A Field Guide to the Lake Michigan Riviera.
Marianne Gosswiller volunteered as a greeter at the Day of the Arts exhibit. She is welcoming John Opie whose photographs were on exhibit.

Poet Joel Brussell entertained the audience with his poetic rambling about a departed, favorite uncle.

Art done by the children enrolled in the Michiana Day Camp this summer was featured on the porch of the Community Center. Included were paintings, sculptured works and tie-dyed t-shirts.

Susi Quiriconi, currently appearing in “The Full Monty” at the Dunes Summer Theatre, treated the audience to two vocal numbers. She performed “I Dreamed a Dream” and “Tonight” from West Side Story. The concert closed with several jazz presentations by Michiana Music, including an original composition, “Playtime” by Gail Sonkin. In the first set by the musical group, another original composition by Sonkin was presented. It was the debut for that number which, according to its composer, is still a work in progress. At the conclusion of that piece, Sonkin asked the audience if she still needed to do some “tweaking.” The applause told her that it was perfect the way it was!

------submitted By Beverly Bruesch

The art was on display throughout the afternoon, and, as a finale to the show, Michiana Music's Gail Sonkin, who plays keyboard and oboe, and Barbara Opie on the flute presented a free concert at the close of the exhibit. Other talented residents were invited to perform. Joel Brussell, Michiana resident poet, read two of his original poems, one in praise of his departed uncle and the other a humorous look at a medical ailment bingo game. Brussell can be heard regularly on WRHC Radio out of Three Oaks, Michigan on his show The I Hate Poetry Poetry Hour Half-Hour broadcast on Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. EST and Saturdays at 9:30 p.m. EST.
Pre-Licensing for Home Inspectors Course

Purdue University North Central Office of Continuing Education will offer a course to prepare students to take the Indiana Home Inspector Examination and become licensed home inspectors in Indiana.

This course will teach students about the intricacies of building structures and systems and demonstrate investigative techniques needed to complete inspections of homes and businesses.

“Pre-licensing for Home Inspectors” will meet at Portage High School on Tuesdays and Thursdays, Aug. 28-Nov. 7, from 6-9 p.m. Registration is $999 and a textbook is included.

To register or to obtain further information, phone PNC-Porter County at 219/531-4200, ext. 4207, or visit www.pnc.edu/ce.

From the Michigan City YMCA

Youth Outdoor Flag Football

Boys and Girls grades K-5 can sign up for Youth Outdoor Flag Football at the Michigan City YMCA now until Aug. 31st.

Games will be played on Saturdays, Sept. 8 thru Oct 20 at the Michigan City YMCA, 1001 E. Coolspring Ave. The cost is $25 for Y members and $50 for non-members. There will be a coach’s meeting on Thurs., Sept. 6th at the Y.

Youth Outdoor Soccer

Boys and Girls 3 yrs. through 1st grade can sign up for Youth Outdoor Soccer at the MC YMCA from now until Aug. 31. Games will be played on Saturdays, Sept. 8 thru Oct. 20. Cost is $25 for Y members and $50 for non-members. There will be a coach’s meeting on Fri., Sept. 7th at 6 p.m. at the Y.

More information at 872-9622.

Ivy Tech Students’ Day

Ivy Tech Community College Northwest will host Ivy Tech Day with the Gary Southshore RailCats on Fri., Sept. 7 at 5:30 p.m. at the Steelyard Stadium. The game will be the first game of the playoffs and will include a picnic and fireworks.

All students, alumni, staff and friends of Ivy Tech are invited. Deadline for tickets is Aug. 23. For more information, contact the business office at each campus or phone 219.981.1111.

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Buckley Corn Maze

The Buckley Homestead Corn Maze will open on Sat., Aug. 25. Make your way through a life-size puzzle of corn when more than ten acres of cornfield are cut into a maze featuring the Buckley Homestead One-Room Schoolhouse. Join the challenge by finding all the clues and answering the multiple choice questions. Divide into teams and see who finds their way our first. See which team can answer the most Buckley Challenge Questions.

For weekday group reservations phone 219/769-PARK, 219/755-3685 or 219/945-0543. The maze is open to the public on weekends, Aug. 25-Oct. 28 and on Labor Day, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. For safety reasons, everyone must be out of the maze by 5 p.m.

Admission is $5 per person, $4 for children ages 5-12. Children under age five are free. Children under 12 must be accompanied by someone over 18. Smoking, alcohol, glass, or dogs are not permitted in the corn maze. It generally takes a little more than an hour to find all the clues. The Corn Maze is located north of the picnic shelters at the parking lot on Hendricks St. For information, phone 219/769-PARK or see www.lakecountyparks.com where rules and a copy of the map are posted.

Opera at the Acorn, Sat., September 1

On Sat., Sept. 1, Robert Swan presents the final concert in the series Opera at the Acorn at the Acorn Theater in Three Oaks, Michigan.

Soprano Christine Steyer, who will be remembered for her magnificent “La Traviata” this summer, and tenor John Concepcion, who wowed audiences in last year’s “Christmas at the Acorn,” will join Robert Swan for an evening of great American songs.

The program features favorite spirituals, folk-songs, and some of the greatest songs by composers like Cole Porter, Kurt Weill, Johnny Mercer, Sigmund Romberg, and Oscar Hammerstein. This deeply satisfying musical evening will be highlighted with the presentation of beautifully dramatic scenes from one of the greatest American operas ever written, “Susannah,” by Carlisle Floyd.

The concert is at 8 p.m. MI time, and tickets may be reserved for $20 at 269/756-3879. Visit their website at www.acorntheater.com
**Website Boot Camp**

An Introduction to Establishing an Internet Presence. Web Pages, Domains & Email ... Oh My!

This class is designed to help you better understand the real purpose of having a website, how to maximize your Internet presence and learn some additional strategies that will increase traffic to your sites. You will also be led through the process of selecting and registering an Internet domain name, establishing an email account and building a basic website to advertise your business. You will learn the complicated terminology, options and security issues facing the small business person and offered guidelines to simplify the process.

At the end of the class, you will have a better fundamental understanding of the impact of a website, have a working website and the ability to enhance or expand the website as your business grows. As a bonus for taking this class, you will receive about $900 worth of software suitable for making future enhancements to your website along with numerous vouchers that can be used for online marketing and a guidebook for online success. Students should also come with a credit card and be prepared to spend approximately $40 online for web fees.

This class, sponsored by the Northwest Indiana Small Business Development Center, Lightning Communication Systems, Inc. and Advanced Systems, is composed of 2, 3-hour sessions for a fee of $99. Included in the admission fee is online instruction, a reference guide utilized to assist you in increasing your comprehension of all many of the nuances involved within your websites and lunch.

The sessions will be held on Thursdays, Aug. 23 and Aug. 30th from 9 a.m.-noon at the Entrepreneur Center Michigan City located at 422 Franklin St., Michigan City.

Funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration, the State of Indiana, and our many local partners. All opinions, conclusions or recommendations expressed are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the SBA.

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**“A Renaissance in Nudes”**

As part of the Summer Saturdays series, Cowley Fine Art will present the gallery artists’ interpretation of the nude.

Long celebrated by prior generations of artists as a subject worthy of expression, the nude will once again be honored as an art form. The show will open Sat., Aug. 18th, and extend through September.

Cowley Fine Art Gallery, 105B N. Whittaker St., New Buffalo, MI. Phone: 269-469-2039.

**Read The Beacher On Line**

http://www.thebeacher.com/
**Symphony Announces Auditions**

The LaPorte County Symphony and Music Director Philip Bauman announces auditions for the 2007-2008 season will take place Sept. 4.

The orchestra is seeking qualified musicians to fill the vacancies in the following string positions: concertmaster, assistant principal second violin, assistant principal viola, section cello and section violin. In the brass section, the orchestra has positions for French horn, trumpet and bass trombone. Vocalists who would like to be considered for solo roles in classical and popular repertory are also invited to audition.

The La Porte County Symphony Orchestra has a unique apprentice program, which places highly skilled high school students along side of seasoned professionals. These paid positions offer advanced and motivated students a chance to learn first hand the discipline, motivation, character and musicianship necessary to perform at a professional level. A limited number of Student Apprentice positions are available. A private teacher recommendation is requested to secure an audition time. Please contact the LCSO Personnel Manager for more information and availability.

The 2007-2008 season will feature a Children's concert, two classical concerts, chamber concert, and an April pops concert. Notable works this season include Symphony No. 9 by Beethoven, the Tchaikovsky violin concerto performed by Isabel Ong, the 2007 Florence Andrew Young Artist Competition winner, the world premiere of “Indiana Suite” by Indiana composer Carl Linden and Carmina Burana by Carl Orff.

The La Porte County Symphony Orchestra is a per service orchestra offering contracts on an annual basis offering over 12 concerts and 40 services per season. All positions are paid and mileage is paid for non-La Porte County residents. The 60 piece orchestra, led by music director Philip Bauman includes musicians from Michigan City, La Porte, Chesterton, Valparaiso, Merrillville, South Bend and Michigan. The La Porte County Symphony Orchestra is celebrating its 35th season of bringing the joy of live music to residents of La Porte County and the surrounding areas.

More information, including specific audition requirements may be found at www.LCSO.net or by contacting Lee Rardin, personnel manager at personnel@lcso.net Musicians must sign up for an audition time in advance, preferably online or through email.

**Learning Center Needs Tutors**

If you can volunteer an hour or two a week, the Learning Center at Michigan City Public Library needs math and reading tutors for children. Phone 873-3043 for more information.
Women Artists Featured In Exhibitions

A pair of exhibitions focusing on the themes explored by contemporary female artists will open at Valparaiso University’s Brauer Museum of Art on Aug. 21 and run through Nov. 18. The exhibits “Ellen Lanyon: A Wonder Production” and “Fitted Together: Collage Paintings by Sandra Perlow,” also feature two artists whose formative years growing up in Chicago shaped their work.

An opening reception with Lanyon and Perlow in attendance will take place at 2 p.m. Sept. 9, and is open to the public.

Gregg Hertzlieb, director of the museum, said more than 70 works from Lanyon’s personal collection are being displayed in “A Wonder Production,” including working proofs that offer insights into the artist’s creative process from the conception of a work to its completion. Many of the works selected for the exhibition – which will include paintings, collages, prints and a sculpture – feature birds and other animals. Often possessing a fantastical tinge, Lanyon’s art raises questions about the mysteries of nature and effects of humans on the environment.

Lanyon, born in Chicago in 1926, studied at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and later won a Fulbright grant to study early Italian paintings in London. She has won numerous grants and awards, including a Florsheim Foundation Grant and two grants in painting from the National Endowment for the Arts. Her artwork is found in the collections of dozens of museums, including the Art Institute of Chicago, Metropolitan Museum of Art, Museum of Contemporary Art (Chicago), Museum of Modern Art (New York), Smithsonian American Art Museum and the Milwaukee Art Museum. She is a director emeritus of the Ox-box summer artist workshop and has been a professor at The Cooper Union School of Art.

Displaying Lanyon’s art next to works by Perlow – a respected artist working in Chicago who is an emerging artist on the national scene – will allow visitors to compare the artistic vision of two female artists who grew up in the same city.

“We have a lot of female art majors and art faculty at Valparaiso, and it seemed a good time to show the works of two influential female artists and think about the themes explored by women artists today,” Hertzlieb said. “The idea of presenting a one-two combination of contemporary women who are doing exciting things seemed to be a plan that could be inspiring to both female artists and people in general.”

For “Fitted Together,” Brauer Museum chose to feature Perlow’s smaller works on paper.

“Perlow’s abstract work is about the language of the art material itself, which is an interesting contrast to the more realistic images of Lanyon,” Hertzlieb said.
Perlow, born in Chicago in 1940, has studied at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and Illinois Institute of Design. Her work shuns traditional notions of beauty for more idiosyncratic approaches that challenge the perceptions of viewers, paying homage to the works of modernist poets such as T.S. Eliot.

Galleries and museums across the country have featured Perlow’s art, and she has won grants and fellowships from the American Academy in Rome, the Artigas Foundation in Spain and the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts.

Several events are planned at Brauer Museum in conjunction with “A Wonder Production” and “Fitted Together.” Each of the following events is free and open to the public:

• Sept. 12 – Gallery talk with Ellen Lanyon, 7 p.m.
• Sept. 14 – Poetry reading with Julia Kasdorf, an award-winning poet and winner of the Modern Language Association Conference on Christianity and Literature’s Book of the Year Award, 4 p.m.
• Sept. 26 – Poetry reading with Gary Gildner, a nationally-known poet and author, 8 p.m.
• Oct. 3 – Gallery talk with Sandra Perlow, 7 p.m.
• Oct. 30 – Poetry reading with Vince Wixon, author of “The Square Grove,” 7 p.m.
• Nov. 7 – Coffee hour and video art presentation, 7 p.m.

Teachers from the region also are invited to attend a Brauer Museum Teacher Workshop on Oct. 9. Packets of information about the Perlow and Lanyon exhibits will be distributed at no charge to teachers for use in classes. Teachers should call (219) 464-5276 for information or to sign up.

More information about Brauer Museum’s 2007-2008 season, including a complete list of exhibition-related events, is available online at valpo.edu/artmuseum. Brauer Museum is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday and Friday; 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, and noon to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday during the academic year. Admission to the museum and all events is free. Group tours may be arranged by calling 219/465-7926.

Lanyon is represented by Printworks Gallery and Valerie Carberry Gallery in Chicago and Perlow is represented by Alfedena Gallery in Chicago.

Located in the state-of-art Valparaiso University Center for the Arts, Brauer Museum of Art is home to a nationally recognized collection of 19th- and 20th-century American art and includes works by Frederic Edwin Church, Asher B. Durand, Childe Hassam, Georgia O’Keeffe, and Ed Paschke. Brauer Museum possesses the largest collection of works by Junius R. Sloan, a prominent Hudson River School painter who lived and worked in the Midwest. Other focus areas within a collection of more than 2,800 works include world religious art and Midwestern regional art.
It’s said by many that if you are looking for any item, it’s likely that you will find it in Mexico at The Tuesday Market! Even if you don’t find that special item (I didn’t see any waffle irons), you will enjoy your time shopping there and certainly return home with a number of things that you bought. While I am in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico, I usually visit the Tuesday Market. So let me tell you about my recent excursions there.

Luckily, I could usually ride there on the outskirts of town with my neighbor, Janice, fairly early on Tuesday morning. There is a large parking lot and spaces are easier to find early in the day. Vendors are busy unloading their wares. There are many colorful sights to behold.

Near the parking lot are puppies for sale, black and white and also some light brown, probably mixed breeds. Two women were selecting a black puppy to take home. There are many lookers but not so many buyers of these puppies.

There are a lot of stalls under blue, tent-like coverings. The market covers a large-sized area for walking, and there are at least three separate, enclosed areas. As I entered one of these areas, I saw dark wood dining room furniture and behind it, many fruits and vegetables.

Then, in an area between enclosures, two men were unloading natural wood furniture from their truck. The furniture was large, shelf type units.

In the next area, I saw women looking at knitting supplies and embroidery materials. Behind them were hanging a lot of the colorful, plastic bags used by many Mexicans and also by visitors to contain their shopping purchases.

Nearby, a man had pansies and rosebushes for sale. I, however, purchased some cut flowers (an assorted bouquet), which I put in my plastic bag. Fresh flowers always perk up a house or condo.
Another man held open a plastic bag, wanting to sell me some of the strawberries (fresas) at his stand. I purchased a kilo (2.2046 pounds). On this day, they were twelve pesos per kilo and they were usually very sweet and tasty.

Going to another fruit and vegetable stand, I selected a small quantity of green beans, and some cauliflower. Good eating!

Many people were watching women who were crocheting. Large amaryllis blooms were for sale next to these women.

I walked to the very back of the Tuesday Market, looking for some new clothing to wear. I saw some artist friends who were also browsing a booth there, looking at women’s blouses. I selected a dark green linen sleeveless dress made by Ralph Lauren and priced very reasonably.

Choosing some children’s clothing for 10 pesos each (less than $1). T-shirts to take back to my young great-grandchildren. And it’s a good day when such bargains are available!

Not far away, a young Mexican boy was dancing to a CD but standing next to his mother. When I took out my camera, he hid behind her back. So, instead of taking a photo of him, I took a picture of his mother with a younger child she was holding. Was this baby a girl or a boy? Hard to say, but certainly an adorable, dark-eyed and dark-haired Mexican child.

Well, the day was getting hot and I was tired! So it was time to meet Janice back at her car in the parking lot and leave more Tuesday Market shopping until the next Tuesday. That certainly makes for a fun day when you’re in Mexico and love to shop as I do!
Activities to Explore

In the Local Area:

**August 15** -- Organ Recital at First Congregational Church, 6th & Washington streets, MC. Noon. Free & open to public. This week: Stephen Schurr.

**August 15-18** -- “Perfect Wedding” at Mainstreet Theatre, 807 Franklin St., MC. Canterbury Summer Season production. Wed 2 & 8 pm; Thurs/Fri 8 pm; Sat 5 & 8 pm. Tix $6.25-$14; at 874-4269.

**August 16** -- Michigan City Municipal Band concert. 8 pm at the Guy Foreman Amphitheater, Washington Park. Free, but parking fees apply.

**August 16-20** -- At the Vickers Theatre: “Once” starring Glen Hansard and Marketa Irglova. Rated R. Thurs/Fri 6:30 pm; Sat/Sun 4, 6:30 pm; Mon 6:30 pm MI time. "La Vie En Rose" starring Marion Cotillard. Story of Edith Piaf. Rated PG-13. 9 pm only. Vickers Theater, 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, MI. 269/756-3522 or www.vickerstheatre.com

**August 17** -- Bookmarks at Noon at the MC Public Library. Dennis Norman will review A Thousand Splendid Suns by Khaled Hosseini. Free & open to the public.

**August 17** -- Jazz singer Grazyna Auguscik in concert at The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Dr., Three Oaks, MI. 8 pm MI time. Tix $20; reserve at 269/756-3879.

**August 17-18** -- Farmer’s Market at the Schoolhouse Shop, Furnessville, IN. 10 am-4 pm each day. 219/926-1551.

**August 17-19, 24-26** -- “The Full Monty” at Dunes Summer Theatre, Michiana Shores. Fri/Sat 8pm; Sun 7pm. Tix $15/adults, $12/students & seniors. 879-7509.

**August 17-19, 24-26** -- “Kiss Me Kate” at the Memorial Opera House, 104 Indiana Ave., Valparaiso, IN. Fri/Sat 8pm; Sun 2pm. Tix $16/adults, $13/students & seniors. 219-548-9137 or www.memorialoperahouse.com

**August 18** -- Farmer’s Market, 8th & Washington streets, MC. 8 am-noon.

**August 18** -- Farmer’s Market, County Courthouse grounds, LaPorte. 7 am-noon.

**August 18** -- Brown Bag Concert on grounds of First Congregational Church, 531 Washington St., MC. Noon. Bring chair and lunch or purchase lunch there.

**August 18** -- Sons of Norway Scandiana Lodge meeting at the Westchester Library Center, 100 W. Indiana St., Chesterton. Carry-in dinner 6 pm; program follows. Story this issue.

**August 18** -- Music in the Park. Live music in Dewey Cannon Park, Three Oaks, MI. 7 pm MI time. Free. This week: The Giving Tree Band.

**August 18** -- Amarillo Star monthly country/western dance. 7-10:30 pm at Skwiat Amer. Legion Post, MC. Adm. $5/AS members; $7/non-members. Line and partner dancing to DJ music. 219/874-3624.
August 18 -- Singer/songwriter Bonnie Koloc in concert at The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Dr., Three Oaks, MI. 8 pm MI time. Tix $20; reserve at 269/756-3879.

August 18-19 -- 26th Annual Lakefront Art Festival, Washington Park, MC. Sat 10am-6pm; Sun 10am-5pm. Adm. $4/adults, $3/seniors, free/kids under 12 yrs.

August 20 -- Margo Channing Theater Project at International Friendship Gardens. This week: “Clockwork” (jazz series). 6 pm. Tix $15; reserve at 219/879-6711 or box office: 602 Lake Shore Dr., MC

Every Monday -- New Buffalo Chess Club. 6 pm (MI time) at the New Buffalo Public Library, 33 N. Thompson, New Buffalo. Open to all ages and skill levels. John Calo, 269/469-6507 or email jscalolocalnet.com

Places to Visit:
Barker Mansion, 631 Washington St., Michigan City. Adm. $4/adults, $2/kids 18 & under, free/kids under 3. Guided tours--weekdays 10 am, 11:30 am & 1 pm; weekends noon & 2 pm. 219-873-1520.


Great Lakes Museum of Military History, 360 Dunes Plaza, Michigan City. Open 9 am-4 pm, Tues-Fri; 10 am-4 pm Sat; closed Sun & Mon. Adm. $3/adults, $2/vets & senior citizens, $1/ages 8-18, and free to under 8 and active military personnel. Info 872-2702 or www.militaryhistorymuseum.org

LaPorte County Historical Museum. 2405 Indiana Ave., LaPorte. Adm. $3/LaP. Co. resident; $5/out-of-county; $3/kids 12-17; free/under 12 yrs. 219/324-6767 or www.laportecountyhistory.org

Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. 2nd St., Michigan City. Tues.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat-Sun, 11 am-4 pm. Closed Mon. Phone 874-4900.

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


Farther Afield:
August 18 -- Singer/songwriter Riely O’Connor in concert at The Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, MI. 8 pm MI time. Tix $8/adults, $6/students & seniors; free/kids under 12 yrs. Purchase at the door. Info: 269/983-3688.
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In the March 23, 2006 edition of The Beacher I stated that Saint Joseph is to summer what a waffle cone is to ice cream.

By that I meant that the Michigan city on the lake holds one totally cool and delicious event after another from June ‘til September.

And then I went off on a host of other tangents, and I never once returned to tell you about all those totally cool summer events in sizzling St. Joe.

Well, sorry about that, and sorry you had to wait until now to read all about what a hot town Saint Joseph is in summer. It is, to paraphrase myself, what a spoon is to ice cold Italian Ice. But more about that in a moment, and meanwhile on to this summer, which been exceptionally sensational.

And, yes, Natalie and I made it to the annual Krasl Art Fair on the Bluff in July, and, yes, we were transfixed, along with a host of other art patrons, when an artist from Down Under gave an impromptu concert with his hand-carved didgeridoo.

You could not have tied us down, sport, because we found once again that the world is always our oyster in Saint Joe in summer.

And, yes, we even caught a slice of Venetian Festival this July, and in past summers we have run the run, swum the swim, and beheld the fireworks and lighted boats.

But what we have caught every time we’ve gone up to Saint Joe this summer is a savory slice of the sizzling season at its best.

As the ice cream bike guy at Saint Joe’s Silver Beach said the other summer day: “Where else could you go in this country and find such a great place to be in the summer? Or fall? Or winter? Or spring?”

I speak of Saint Joe’s native son, Tom Bongiorno, who has been happily selling Italian Ice and other frozen delights from his bicycle cart since he retired from duty as a cardio-pulmonary technologist.

Natalie and I happily happened upon Tom Bongiorno and his enticing bicycle-born business on a sensationally sizzling summer afternoon as we were taking one of our typical strolls up one side of the town and down the other. Meaning that we had started on top of the bluff with some errands along State Street, and then had descended to lake level to check out all the action on Silver Beach.

Natalie, so you know, is the one who looks at all those young people in those skimpy bathing suits. Not me!! Way past that! Really. Well . . .

Any way, we were on our way to passing out from heat prostration when we saw Tom Bongiorno’s beach umbrella shimmering in the heat waves at the end of our walk along Silver Beach County Park.

“Italian Ice,” one of us muttered, “must have Italian Ice.”

The other allowed as how there just might be funds available in the budget for such an extravagant impulse purchase, and, in no time flat, we were sharing a cup of cooling summer comfort food.

Better still, we were getting to know Tom Bongiorno, who, in addition to selling ice cream at the beach in summer, plays the guitar, sings, and writes books. Tom has released an album of songs about Saint Joseph called “Silver Beach Romance” and he says it is available for purchase at the Box Factory in St. Joseph. He also announced that he is going to publish a novel of the same title next year and said it will be full of stories of growing up in Saint Joe during the early ‘60s. Look to the Beacher for further word on that, and look at all the pretty pictures that accompany this article for encouragement to mount your own late summer’s tour of the town that has it all.

As native son Tom Bongiorno said: “We don’t have earthquakes, floods, forest fires, hurricanes, or tidal waves. And it’s so beautiful here that people come from all over to be here.”
And there he was at the end of the walk along Silver Beach – pointing at what can arguably called one of the prettiest beaches in the country. I said that I had been to beaches up and down both coasts of this country and had not found one to rival Silver Beach in Saint Joseph, and Tom Bongiorno said that’s because the sand crystals along the eastern shore of Lake Michigan are shaped in such a way as to – well, he waxed a bit more poetic than I am prepared to dictate here, so I’ll leave it to you to track him down some sizzling afternoon in the present season and have him finish the lecture while you enjoy an ice-cold Italian Ice while taking in the view of Silver Beach.

Silver Beach County Park in Saint Joseph, Michigan is as good as it gets in summer. Or fall. Or winter. Or spring.

Sound like a plan?

Absolutely, and remember that summer’s not over until summer’s over on September 23. Silver Beach will be there to behold any day you care to behold it, even if you wait until fall.

And fall is a fabulous time to walk upper and lower Saint Joseph.

Same with winter.

And I have certainly made that clear time and again in these pages.

But do give yourself one final summer treat by taking someone sweet to Saint Joseph, Michigan for a day of Italian Ice at Silver Beach and window shopping on State Street and a last lingering look at this summer’s swim wear.

And to find out what’s happening in town, please call the friendly folks at St. Joseph Today at: 269/985-1111 or e-mail them at: info@sjtoday.org.

And when you see Tom Bongiorno on the beach, tell him “bon giorno” for me.

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636 Longwood Drive, Michigan City

On August 16, 1845, Gabriel Lippman, the inventor of color photography, was born in Holleric, Luxembourg.

On August 16, 1861, President Abraham Lincoln prohibited the states of the Union from trading with the states of the Confederacy.

On August 16, 1896, following the discovery of gold in Alaska’s Bonanza Creek, the famous “Klondike Gold Rush” was on.

On August 16, 1977, at his home in Memphis, singer Elvis Presley died at the age of 42.

On August 16, 1989, Amanda Blake, who played the kindhearted Miss Kitty on the television series “Gunsmoke,” died at the age of 60.

On August 17, 1786, legendary frontiersman Davy Crockett, who (in 1836) would die in Texas’s “Battle of the Alamo,” was born in Tennessee’s Greene County.

On August 17, 1790, New York lost its role as the nation’s capital when the federal government moved to Philadelphia. The capitol has, at various times, been in New York, Philadelphia, York and Lancaster, Pennsylvania; Trenton and Princeton, New Jersey; Baltimore and Annapolis, Maryland; and, finally, the District of Columbia.

On August 17, 1807, Robert Fulton’s steamboat, the Clermont, set out from New York on its maiden voyage up the Hudson River to Albany. The 150 mile trip took 32 hours.

On August 17, 1939, the MGM movie, The Wizard of Oz, opened in New York at Loew’s Capitol Theater.

On August 17, 1978, three Americans, Maxie Anderson, Ben Abruzzo, and Larry Newman, became the first to complete a transatlantic trip by balloon. They left from Maine’s Presque Isle on August 11, traveled 3,120 miles, and landed at Miserey, France.

On August 18, 1774, explorer Meriwether Lewis, a leader of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, was born in Albemarle County, Virginia.

On August 18, 1838, the first marine expedition sponsored by the U. S. government, whose goal was to explore the Pacific Ocean and South Seas, set sail from Hampton Roads, Virginia.

On August 19, 1812, the United States frigate Constitution (Old Ironsides) fought a victorious battle with the British frigate Guerriere. The British had ridiculed the Constitution as “a bundle of pine boards sailing under a bit of striped bunting.”

On August 19, 1871, aviation pioneer Orville Wright was born in Dayton, Ohio.
On August 19, 1890, the DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution) was formed. The organization consisted of women with at least one ancestor who aided in American independence.

On August 19, 1906, engineer Philo T. Farnsworth, whose pioneering inventions in electronics led to the development of television, was born in Beaver, Utah.

On August 19, 1929, the long running comedy program “Amos ‘n’ Andy,” starring Freeman Gosden and Charles Correll, made its coast to coast radio debut on NBC.

On August 20, 1785, American naval officer Oliver Hazard Perry, who gained fame by defeating a much larger British fleet on Lake Erie during the war of 1812, was born in South Kingston, Rhode Island.

On August 20, 1833, Benjamin Harrison, 23rd President of the United States, was born in North Bend, Ohio.

On August 20, 1866, President Andrew Johnson formally declared the Civil War to be over.

On August 20, 1887, Philadelphia Phillies Dan Casey, who struck out in the ninth inning of a game against the New York Giants, became the inspiration for Ernest Thayer’s poem “Casey at the Bat.”

On August 20, 1970, the United States and Mexico signed an agreement which specified that the center line of the Rio Grande was the official border between the two countries.

On August 21, 1858, the first of the famous Lincoln-Douglas debates took place.

On August 21, 1878, in Saratoga, New York, a group of lawyers, law professors, and judges founded the American Bar Association.

On August 21, 1951, Congress authorized construction of the “Nautilus,” the world’s first atomic-powered submarine.

On August 21, 1959, President Eisenhower officially proclaimed Hawaii to be the fiftieth state of the United States, and a new 50 star flag was unfurled at the White House.

On August 22, 1762, Rhode Island’s Ann Franklin (Benjamin Franklin’s sister-in-law) was appointed editor of the “Newport Mercury,” the first woman to edit an American newspaper.

On August 22, 1846, the Territory of New Mexico, formerly part of Mexico, was annexed by the United States.

On August 22, 1910, Japan annexed Korea, which remained under Japanese colonial rule until 1945.

On August 22, 1911, in Paris, Leonardo da Vinci’s “Mona Lisa” was stolen from the Louvre. The painting was recovered two years later in Italy.
Fourth Annual Great Lakes Surf Luau

Sat., Aug. 18 has been slated as the official date of the day-long Fourth Annual Great Lakes Surf Luau. Held at New Buffalo City Beach and Third Coast Surf Shop, this family friendly, free-to-the-public event draws visitors from throughout the country.

The event kicks off at 11 a.m. MI time with paddleboard race registration at New Buffalo City Beach before the races start at noon. The paddleboard races are a unique event in the Great Lakes region and are sure to provide plenty of action. A beach clean up will follow at 2 p.m., giving local residents and visitors alike a chance to help keep the beaches and lake clean.

New to the schedule of events this year is the Open House at Third Coast Surf Shop. Activities will include live Hawaiian music, an outdoor cookout, a chance to meet national surf gear sales representatives, regionally-inspired surf art by local surfers, and a dusk screening of a surprise surf film on a large outdoor screen.

Throughout the day at the shop, $5 tickets will be sold for a raffle of surf-related prizes, including a new Modern longboard surfboard. Winners must be present for the 7 p.m. drawing. Prizes will also be given for the wildest Hawaiian shirt and the Great Lakes Surfing Photo of the Year before the film begins at 9 p.m. Admission is free.

For more information about the Fourth Annual Great Lakes Surf Luau and a complete schedule of events, go to www.thirdcoastsurfshop.com or phone 269-932-4575.

BabyTALK Lapsit at Coolspring

A BabyTALK Lapsit, a free read and play time, will be held for children aged 0-36 months and their caregivers on Tues., Aug. 21 at 9:30 a.m. at the Coolspring Branch Library of the LaPorte County Public Library, corner of 400 N. and Johnson Rd., Michigan City.

There is no cost or registration. More information at 879-3272. Phone 219/326-6156 to request signing for the hearing impaired 48 hours in advance.

Dolls Come to Buckley Homestead

“Back to School for Samantha”
Sat., Sept. 1 & Sun., Sept. 2, noon-4 p.m.
Adm. $2 per person, $1 under 12 and over 60
Learn Spenserian writing in the Buckley Homestead one room schoolhouse, gather wildflowers, and learn how to make a press to keep them in. Learn what inventions where made around 1904. It will be an afternoon of new and old experiences. Come in costume and bring your American Girl doll Samantha or any special doll you have. Reservations at 219-PARK or 219/755-3685.
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Fall Theatre Schedule at VU

Season tickets are on sale for Valparaiso University’s 2007-2008 theatre season, featuring Stephen Sondheim’s musical fairy tale melting pot “Into the Woods,” a Baby Boomer’s search for identity and fulfillment, and a story of class divisions and lust.

The season opens in October with the production “A Phoenix Too Frequent,” guest directed by alumnus Zachary Davis, artistic director of Chicago’s Appelte Theatre Company. The story of a pious widow – and her maid – who mourns the death of her recently deceased husband was written by British playwright Christopher Fry.

Performances are 8 p.m. Oct. 5, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Oct. 6 and 7 p.m. Oct. 7 in the Studio Theatre.

Dr. Lee Orchard, a professor of theatre, will direct “Into the Woods” at the University Theatre. Sondheim’s award-winning musical weaves together several Brothers Grimm fairy tales in a story about community responsibility and the stories we tell our children.

For more information, phone (219) 464-5162 or online at valpo.edu/vuca/valpoartsmedia.
Evil, Inc. by Glenn Kaplan

Living the American Dream...does that entail murder?

Ken Olson thought he had it all. A loving wife and cute little baby girl and now he's made an impression on senior executive Tom Pennington who announces Ken's promotion to Divisional Director of the Dayton, Ohio operation of Ayvil Industries, even though top execs at the company usually came from the ranks of the engineers and Ken was in marketing. Wow. No more moving all over the country from assignment to assignment. The Olson’s could finally put down roots and Ken could show the corporate world what he was made of.

What do they say? If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is?

Ken's wife, Sandy, has been quietly sending out Ken's resume to head hunters all over the country, and finally got him an interview with ADF in Cleveland, a smaller company she researched very carefully. See, Sandy wasn't convinced of all of Pennington’s “for the greater good” speeches and constant smiling.

“Ken, it just doesn’t seem real to me. There's something they're not telling you.”

Smart girl, that Sandy. Ken listens to his wife for once and gets on the plane to Cleveland. He's actually impressed with the company and leaves with mixed feelings about his future.

“Sandy was right: this young new company was everything Ayvil was not.”

On the plane back to Dayton, however, his world is shattered forever...

The TV screen over Ken's head on the airplane started scrolling “Special Bulletin: Industrial Disaster...Mass death as an explosion and fire destroyed this plant and, from all reports, everyone who worked here.” That's one thousand people. At Ayvil Industries. And did I mention that Sandy worked in the day care center in the facility so she could work and still be with her infant daughter?

It was the worst industrial disaster in American history. As Ken raced back to Dayton to get news of the true extent of the explosion, his head swirled with thoughts of what could have gone so horribly wrong.

Pennington stroked the news cameras with his sincere talk of taking care of the families of the dead employees as a tear ran down his cheek. The handsome young executive looked very convincing to the viewing audience, but, as the Shadow once said, “Who knows what evil lurks in the hearts of men?” Indeed.

Ken is crushed to have Ayvil, and especially Pennington, accuse him of negligence in the matter of the explosion, and the company auditors show Ken proof that he has been siphoning off money into offshore accounts. Everything came from Ken's office. Air-tight case. The auditors tells Ken he can take a generous severance package and leave quietly. Mr. Pennington has authorized it, of course.

So much for the American Dream. What does a man do when he has lost it all? When success and everything he ever dreamed of was within his grasp? Ken knows something is very wrong and decides he has no other choice but to find out what really happened at Ayvil and exactly which person or persons is responsible.

Ken moves to New York City to be near the heart of Ayvil Industries and do some investigating with the help of his brother-in-law, Phil, who works for Medusa, a private investigation company that works mostly for corporations. He also has a background in defense intelligence. In other words, a handy man to have around, especially when you're snooping around a huge conglomerate.

Things start breaking in New York, almost immediately as an explosion, attributed to a faulty gas main, blows up Ken's apartment. Then he meets a girl who lives in the same building who reminds him so much of his dead wife that he finds himself attracted to her. She offers him the extra bedroom in her apartment and Ken moves in. Cindy seems to be just what the doctor ordered. Or is she, too, too good to be true?

When greed and power become the ruling force in a man's life, how far will he go to insure his own future? Ken only knows that person or persons must be brought to justice, not only for the men and women who died that day at Ayvil, but to prevent it from happening again.

With all the hype in the news lately about companies like Enron and the millions and even billions that top executives are skimming off their corporations, this book reads like a CNN headline.

Author Glenn Kaplan spent over twenty years in advertising, creating campaigns for fortune 500 companies. He interviewed over three hundred top executives in many fields and wrote a non-fiction book, The Big Time, which examines what constitutes success in big business.

Till next time, happy reading!
TOP OF THE LINE!!!

1209 Lake Shore Drive

THREE LEVELS OF LAKE MICHIGAN VIEWS!
High quality construction shows through-out this 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath home on the hillside of Lake Shore Drive! Immaculately kept 3-story has an open Great Room with gas fireplace, 2 screen porches and a deck from which you’ll enjoy panoramic views of the lake. The kitchen is bright, open & stacked with top-of-the-line appliances. The master suite has its own fireplace & lake views! Call Debbie today! $829,000

2901 Oriole

LOADED WITH CHARACTER!!! Oak floors with cherry & walnut accents; barred ceiling living room centered on a marble fireplace; a library with bench seats; bright sun room; sheltered screen porch. These features which will linger in your mind once you’ve toured this 1928 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home, built by one of the founders of Long Beach. The cherry wood kitchen is a delight! Heating system boiler, AC condenser, roof & windows are all upgrades. $648,500

3402 Iroquois

MIXING CHARM WITH COUTURE... The charm of vaulted ceilings & pegged oak floors is matched by the brilliance of an architect-designed kitchen & state-of-the-art baths in this 4 bedroom, 2½ bath Duneland Beach home. Italian porcelain and marble walls & floors host Phillip Starke series Duravit fixtures in the baths, while the American porcelain & Carrara marble kitchen has an Electrolux icon refrigerator, Fisher & Paykel range-top, Dacor oven & more. Over 3900 sq ft finished living area; just 1 door off the lake at Stop 34. $49,000

2101 Lake Shore Drive

DESIGNED WITH ELEGANCE IN MIND... With permanent views of Lake Michigan framed in front picture windows, this charming all brick ranch will captivate your imagination! The rooms are all spacious, w/hardwood oak floors beneath newer carpeting. The family room has heated ceramic tile floors & centers around a beautiful fireplace. An upgraded kitchen shines w/granite counters. Fenced yard; finished basement; parking for over 10 cars; Stop 21 Beach Club membership; what are you waiting for? $1,435,000

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614 Forrester Rd N LaPorte

FANTASTIC, PICTURESQUE, BEAUTIFUL year round cottage overlooking Swede Lake nestled on over 1 secluded acre just minutes from I-94 and the Toll Rd. New windows, storm doors, refrigerator, washer, dryer and stove. Enjoy the summer on the large deck watching the bass jump. $124,900

2043 Lake Shore Drive

REDESIGNED RANCH on 3 hillside lots with panoramic views of Lake Michigan. Oak floors throughout, cathedral ceilings, kitchen has lake views. Fireplace in family room and living room plus another fireplace in lower level den. Three spacious bedrooms on main floor, 2 baths. Third bath in lower level. Oversized garage. $979,000

2801 Lake Shore Drive

SWEEPING VIEWS OF LAKE MICHIGAN from completely renovated two story opposite a vacant lot owned by the Town of Long Beach. Spacious living room overlooks the water. Huge master suite on upper level has master bath, walk in closets. Four bedrooms include master on upper level, two bedrooms on main floor. Unique hardwood floors in living room. Granite family kitchen also with new hardwood floors. Top of the line new appliances, new siding, new windows, balcony, basement, garage. $1,199,000

222 Lady Lane

CENTER HALL COLONIAL on large corner lot has wide slate floored entry leading to family room with brick fireplace, formal dining room, kitchen with room for family meetings, parquet floors. Large bright basement great for indoor games. Four bedrooms upstairs include master with walk in cedar closet, private bath. Main floor office or 5th bedroom off back entry. Walk to Lake Michigan. $289,000

SUMMER RENTALS
SUMMER RENTAL. 4 bedrooms, 4 baths, family room, double garage. 2 blocks from Lake Michigan. By week or month
SUMMER RENTAL. 2 bedrooms, great room, large deck overlooks Lake Michigan. By week or month

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