Casey Nicholaw is no stranger to Broadway smashes. The veteran director/choreographer took home the Tony for co-directing “The Book of Mormon” (2011), nominated as well for his choreography. He scored another Tony nod as choreographer on Monty Python’s “Spamalot” (2005), then again as director/choreographer for “The Drowsy Chaperone” (2006) and “Something Rotten!” (2015).

These past triumphs made him the ideal choice to beef up “Disney's Aladdin” for Broadway. He did not hesitate as well to kick off its North American tour in Chicago. The Windy City has served him well, especially amid pre-Broadway engagements.

“I love being here,” Nicholaw says. “What I’ve found here is that the audiences are savvy and smart. It’s nice to be somewhere where they support theater. You need to feel you know what the audience is thinking when you’re testing a show. It’s helpful to see how we need to adjust the show before it heads to Broadway.”

Continued on Page 2
In Case Of Emergency, Dial 911


On film, the story of “street rat” Aladdin, feisty Princess Jasmine and wisecracking Genie runs a scant 92 minutes. The Broadway production clocks in at 2 hours, 30 minutes. What accounts for the extra hour?

“We go back to the original musical theater aspects of the movie,” Nicholaw said. “In fact, we rewrote 1/3 of the show after Toronto. For two months, we rewrote it. We aged it up a bit, sexed it up a bit to be more about the romance.”

Characters and musical numbers cut from the film are back in the play, along with new songs penned by Oscar-winner Alan Menken, all designed to flesh out unexplored aspects of the story. That includes “Proud of Your Boy,” a soaring ballad Aladdin sang about his deceased mother in an early version of the film. When Disney scrapped the mother’s presence, out went “Proud of Your Boy,” a decision Menken in past interviews has said he regrets.

All animal sidekicks, Nicholaw said, have been...
 replaced by human compadres. Musical numbers from the original, from “Arabian Nights” to “Friend Like Me” and “Prince Ali,” are more elaborate, with eye candy sets, costumes and lighting by Tony winners Bob Crowley (“Mary Poppins”), Gregg Barnes (“Kinky Boots”) and Natasha Katz (“An American in Paris”).

The story’s setting — the mythical city of Agrabah — blurs the lines of what people expect, Nicholaw says.

“It’s Turkish, it’s Greek, it’s Bollywood,” he said. “It’s a little bit of everything. Agrabah has every ethnicity. It’s fun that way, and it keeps it magical.”

Jacobs, having originated the role of Aladdin on Broadway, scoring a Tony nomination in the process, was eager to embark on the show’s North American Tour.

“It’s great to be working with a new cast. I love the fresh new energy,” he told Lisnek. “I’m rediscovering the show with fresh new eyes.”

Repeatedly teased by Lisnek about his chiseled good looks, Jacobs admitted appearing as Aladdin on Broadway proves quite a workout.

“The show keeps me in shape,” he said, laughing. “I’m getting my cardio on stage. The show is high octane, high energy. It’s go go go right from the start.”

Anthony Murphy (right), seated next to Adam Jacobs, was allowed by Director Casey Nicholaw to put his own stamp on the role of Genie.

Born in 1983, Jacobs wasn’t yet 10 when the Disney film arrived in theaters. Like many of his generation, he grew up with the movie and its lovable characters.

“It’s a story everyone knows,” he admitted, “and we have the luxury of expanding it (with the play) and really get into the meat and potatoes of Aladdin.”

Indeed, Jacobs had the Broadway chops to tackle the role. His big break arrived as Marius in a national tour of “Les Miserables,” later appearing as Sky in “Mamma Mia!” and as Simba in “The Lion King,” each on Broadway. Acting is a family affair as well. His younger sister, Arielle, appeared as

Continued on Page 4

ALL REAL ESTATE IS REALLY LOCAL

I hear from other REALTORS® from outside our own Indiana lakefront area describing rapid increases in values, lack of inventory, multiple offers over asking price, etc.

But here is what is happening in our part of the world. I start with the entire La Porte County for the first two months of this year and last year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Units Sold</th>
<th>% change</th>
<th>Median Price</th>
<th>% change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>113 k</td>
<td>-2.8%</td>
<td>111 k</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>-1.8%</td>
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</tbody>
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I can tell you with confidence that this means there were fewer sales and the median price went down. It could be that houses lost value, or that the lower priced houses sold better. Based on previous reports, I believe the lower priced houses sold better. But the difference from year to year was negligible: the first two months of 2017 are no better than 2016.

Now, let’s consider Indiana lakefront (defined by the area between U.S. 12 and Lake Michigan from the Steel Mill to Michigan line), again comparing first two months year over year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Units Sold</th>
<th>% Change</th>
<th>Median Price</th>
<th>% change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>305 k</td>
<td>+7%</td>
<td>501 k</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>+64%</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The number of sales - up by 7% - does not mean anything because of small numbers. In a separate report, I found that the total $Volume sold went from $5.8M in 2016 to $9.9M in 2017. That was up 71%. My guess is that the high end market sold much better than the low end because the median went up 64%.

One caution. When dealing with such small numbers, the changes could be just random. But a 71% change and a 64% change are not likely to have happened by chance.

The moral of this story are: all real estate is local; beware of using the “median” to say values have changed; it is just as likely to mean the high/low end sold better; “Indiana Lakefront” values improved significantly the first two months of 2017 compared to the first two months of 2016.

Dan Coffey
Jasmine in an Australian production of “Aladdin,” while his wife, Kelly, appeared in “Mary Poppins” on Broadway.

Jacobs’ co-stars, McCalla and Murphy, share similar enthusiasm for the Disney original. Both grew up adoring the film and its strong-willed characters.

“Jasmine is a woman so ahead of her time,” McCalla told Lisnek. “She refuses to let circumstances define who she is. I love that she has this ferocious passion for adventure.”

Does she identify with Jasmine, Lisnek inquired? McCalla chuckles.

“I always felt more ‘street rat’ than ‘princess,’” but, yeah, she was my princess — everything she stood for.”

Murphy, exhibiting all the theatricality required of any actor tackling the show-stopping Genie, admits he kept pinching himself upon hearing the news he was cast in the North American tour.

“I didn’t believe it for a while until I was in the room with all these amazing people,” he said.

Was he intimidated by stepping into a role so closely defined by the late Robin Williams? Not after he realized Nicholaw wanted him to place his own spin on the role, one Disney originally conceived as voiced by Cotton Club legend Cab Calloway.

“Well, like everyone else, I’d seen the movie a million times. I grew up watching it,” he said. “But when I went to audition, they told me, ‘We want you to be you,’ and as an actor, that is one of the best things to hear from a director.”

Weir, a familiar face at Chicago’s Goodman Theatre, in productions ranging from “Candide” to “A Christmas Carol,” relishes the chance to play the nefarious Jafar, who plots against Aladdin in his quest to control Agrabah.

“I always think it’s interesting to play the guy who’s the antagonist,” he said. “It creates good drama. It’s highly satisfying to do.”

Satisfying, as well, is the warm embrace from Chicago’s theater community the entire cast says it has experienced since arriving for rehearsals.

“This is the fourth show I’ve done here,” Jacobs said. “It’s great to play a city that appreciates what we do.”

McCalla echoed that sentiment.

“The buzz around the show is kind of electric,” she said, “and that is exciting.”

More About “Aladdin”

Tickets are available at all Broadway In Chicago Box Offices (24 W. Randolph St., 151 W. Randolph St., 18 W. Monroe St. and 175 E. Chestnut), the Broadway In Chicago Ticket Line at (800) 775-2000, all Ticketmaster retail locations and online at www.BroadwayInChicago.com. Group tickets for 15 or more are available by calling Broadway In Chicago Group Sales at (312) 977-1710. Visit www.BroadwayInChicago.com for more details.
The Woodlands...1 hour to Chicago, minutes to Lake Michigan & Harbor Country. Urban casual, 3 BR/3 BA, sunlit open-floorplan, main-floor BR + 2 BR suites and spacious loft up. Carefree cedar exterior, metal roof, Pella windows, wide plank maple floors, a 5-Star Energy rated design. Share 65 acres, pool, tennis/basketball courts. Just off Tryon Road past Shady Creek Winery.   $399,000

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Natural Juice Premium Shank Portion Frick’s Ham 88¢ lb. (Butt Portion $1.08 lb.)

Premium Smithfield Spiral Sliced Half Ham $1.88 lb. (Brown Sugar, Caramel Apple or Pecan Praline $2.48 lb.)

Cumberland Gap Whole Semi-Boneless Ham $2.28 lb. (Half Ham $2.38 lb.)

Kentucky Legend Premium Whole Boneless Ham $3.48 lb. (Half Ham $3.58 lb.)
Michigan City Public Library

The following programs are available at Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St.:
• Understanding Your Dreams at 2 p.m. Saturday, April 8. Experienced dream therapist Terese Fabbri leads the workshop for people interested in dreams and their significance.

• Ah Tu in Concert at 2 p.m. Sunday, April 9, in the Library Meeting Room. The group will present its annual community concert.

• Story Time at 1 p.m. Tuesdays, April 11, 18 and 25, and 10 a.m. Wednesdays, April 12, 19 and 26. Children birth to age 5 and adults will enjoy stories, songs and crafts. Arrive a few minutes early to receive a name tag.

The following spring break programs are planned, each at 10 a.m.:
• Words with Wings Art Project on Thursday, April 6, in Youth Services. Aimed at fans of the book, “Words with Wings,” participants can make a collage inspired by the work of Nikki Grimes.

• Spring Break Movie: “Moana” on Friday, April 7, in the library meeting room. The movie is Rated PG. Light refreshments will be served. Arrive by 10:30 a.m. for a chance to win a DVD of the movie.

Contact Robin Kohn at (219) 873-3049 for more information on library programming.

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OPEN HOUSE
Saturday, April 8th
1:00 – 3:00 PM CST

• Breathtaking views of Lake Michigan
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• Three levels of living space over 4,000 SF
• Two separate gathering areas
• Two-car garage, plenty of parking (6-7 cars)
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409 Birch Tree, Long Beach Point
$112,000
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Brick ranch in the Hills of Ridgeview boasts open floorplan, 3BRs, 2-1/2 BAs, heated floors, zoned heating, private patio, lush landscaping/irrigation system on almost 1 acre corner lot. LL adds extra sleeping, office, theater and game room. Heated 2.5 car garage, plenty parking and shed. Sophistication, Comfort, Quality!

2004 Lakeshore Drive, Long Beach, $2,199,000
Open House Saturday, April 8, 1-3 PM
BEACHFRONT Sensation with over 3,000 sq. ft., 4 BRs 4 BAs, glass throughout to capture expansive Lake MI views from North of Chicago to Sawyer, MI. Chef’s kitchen, heated floors, 2 fireplaces, cathedral ceilings, cantilevered lakeside deck, media room and unsurpassed garage for your best vehicles.

9225 N 500 E, The County
$730,000
62-plus grassy and wooded acres in Rolling Prairie with 3BR, 2BA log home and 3-car garage. Open kitchen plus LR/DR with HW, vaulted ceilings and cozy fireplace. 2 large screened porches. 8’ ceiling in full basement, emergency generator. Picturesque landscape with walking and riding trails. ALL Sports. Must see!

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- $649,000

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OPEN...

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☐ $269,000

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Saturday, April 8
1-3pm

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219.861.3702 cell
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PNW Art Exhibits

New art exhibits have debuted at Purdue University Northwest and can be viewed by the public.

“So You Wanna Be a Rock ‘n’ Roll Star” by photographer Bobby Talamine is on display in Library-Student-Faculty Building, Room 02.

Talamine has spent more than 40 years taking candid shots of popular, oftentimes iconic musicians in performance, including: Sir Paul McCartney; Bob Dylan, sporting a rare smile; Eric Clapton; Roger Waters of Pink Floyd in a dramatic shot from “The Wall”; the late Leonard Cohen; Gene Simmons of Kiss; Madonna; and Lady Gaga.

The show continues through July.

“Structured Abstraction,” select works by Tom Brand, is in the first-floor Technology Building Lounge. A noted region artist and art activist, he has produced pieces for more than 40 years, emphasizing “Structured Abstraction,” a description of contemporary art in the 21st century.

“Gallery 144” features contemporary works comprised largely of new acquisitions from gifts to PNW. Located in Library-Student-Faculty Building, Room 144, it features 20 pieces, 13 of which have been donated by William and Susan Kleinman of Indianapolis, who wanted to share their fine art with students and the PNW community.

Additional art is on display throughout the James B. Dworkin Student Services and Activity Complex.

Because the galleries are used for many purposes, Judy Jacobi, assistant vice chancellor of University Art Collections & Special Programs, recommends that anyone interested in viewing these works contact her at (219) 785-5593 or jjacobi@pnw.edu

Free group tours are available for all ages. Led by Jacobi, they may be arranged throughout the year. Any group of children and accompanying adults is treated to a pizza lunch as a way to experience a brief college visit. Tours can be arranged by calling Elizabeth Bernel, Art Collections and Special Events coordinator, at (219) 785-5719.
SAT, 4/8/17 | 1PM - 3PM  $1,195,000

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NEW PRICE

NEW LISTING

NEW PRICE

NEW PRICE

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Michigan City  $284,000
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New Buffalo  $175,000
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Long Beach  $2,750,000
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Beverly Shores  $1,799,000
827 E Lake Front Dr
4 Bedrooms/5 Baths

New Buffalo  $415,000
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Rolling Prairie  $399,900
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  - **312.860.4192**

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  - **9141 Randall Dr.**
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  - **Bailey/Wehner**
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  - **$1,150,000**
  - **3bed/4ba**
  - **David Albers**
  - **219.728.7295**

- **2A N G L E D R . I N F O**
  - **$625,000**
  - **5bed/3ba**
  - **Will Schauble**
  - **312.860.4192**

- **2210ORIOLE.INFO**
  - **$1,150,000**
  - **3bed/4ba**
  - **David Albers**
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  - **$1,150,000**
  - **3bed/4ba**
  - **Will Schauble**
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122DIANA.INFO
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World Creativity Week
by Kayla Weiss

Each year, The Center for Creative Solutions sponsors two major community events to promote creativity to the public.

One is the Forum Cornucopia, a day-long conference in the fall that introduces various aspects of creativity and innovations. The other is World Creativity Week on April 16-22.

Originating in Toronto in 2001, World Creativity Week typically starts on or around April 15 to mark the birthday of Leonardo da Vinci, the painter, inventor, mathematician, philosopher, conservationist, engineer and visionary.

This year, the Center will sponsor an art gallery presentation for middle- and high-school students in April. The “Dream Big” theme encourages students to share their creative talents with Michigan City. They will be showcased at Franklin Arts District Artists at 617 Franklin St. in Michigan City’s Uptown Arts District throughout the month.

Another effort is the first poetry contest for high-school and middle-school students on Saturday, April 15, at The Nest, 803 Franklin St. Doors open at 12:30 p.m., with poetry readings at 1 p.m.

A list of World Creativity Week events is available at www.centerforcreativesolutions.com

Lubeznik Center Poetry Slam

J.W. Baz returns to host the annual First Friday Poetry Slam from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, April 7, at Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St.

The event invites poets to showcase their works in an audience-juried event. Each poet can present one of his/her works, and in tournament style be eliminated each round until one is left standing.

The 2017 champion performs his/her winning piece during “Truly Touching Tales About Love & Marriage,” presented by Michiana Stories, at 8 p.m. that night at Artspace Uptown Artist Lofts, 717 Franklin St.

Admission is free, with a cash bar planned. Poets will start reading at 5:30 p.m.

Poets who wish to participate should prepare three original pieces, each under three minutes. They can register by contacting Hannah Hammond-Hagman at (219) 874-4900, Ext. 203, or at hhammond@lubeznikcenter.org

Baz has participated in many slams across the country. He has been a National and World Poetry Slam finalist, one half of the poetry/comedy duo Beard Fight (with Dan Sully) and has appeared on NPR, CBS, in The Chicago Tribune and in numerous literary journals. He also is executive director of the non-profit Chicago Slam Works.

Live-Lit Storytelling Review

Michiana Stories will launch its live-lit storytelling review, “Truly Touching Tales about Love and Marriage,” at 8 p.m. Friday, April 7, at ArtSpace Uptown Artists Loft, 717 Franklin St.

Part of First Friday festivities, the event is open to the public at no charge, although donations to ArtSpace and Michiana Stories are welcome. A cash bar is planned.

Performers include veteran storytellers and founders Mary Dean Cason and Gregg Fraley, Second City alum Holly Schroeder, writer and “Prairie Home Companion” performer Jack Zimmerman, radio playwright Gail Isaacson, musician/writer Debra Sawyer, memoirist and performer Joanna Trotter and poet Michele McDannold. A special guest is the winner of Lubeznik Center for the Arts’ 2017 poetry slam, held right before the event.

Fraley is the author of “Jack’s Notebook,” a business fable about problem solving through creativity. Cason wrote “What Solomon Saw and Other Stories” and is the founder of Wine, Women & Stories, a moveable literary salon.
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✓ Best Value in Senior Living in Michigan City
✓ No Buy-ins or Long-Term Commitments
✓ Immediate Occupancy Available

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✓ Immediate Occupancy Available

SCHEDULE A TOUR TODAY! CALL 219.872.6800
La Porte County Symphony Orchestra closes its 2016-2017 season with “South Pacific: In Concert” at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, April 8, at La Porte Civic Auditorium, 1001 Ridge St.

Set in the tropics during World War II, the symphony will tell the love story of American Navy nurse Nellie Forbush (Hoosier Star 2009 Adult Winner Kyrie Anderson) and French plantation owner Emile de Becque (Chicago baritone Aaron Wardell).

They will be joined by: Bloody Mary (Diane Perigo, Illumination Choir member and Hoosier Star 2016 adult finalist), the island “lady” who provides comic relief amid serious intentions, and U.S. Marine Lt. Joe Cable (tenor Aaron Davis), who falls for beautiful island girl Liat (Hoosier Star 2016 Youth Winner Shania Povlock).

The Rodgers and Hammerstein score includes “Some Enchanting Evening,” “Younger than Springtime,” “Cockeyed Optimist,” “I’m Gonna Wash That Man Right Out of My Hair” and “Bali Ha’i.” The supporting cast includes Tim Adams, Darryn Glass, Zoey Loucks, Robert Richter and Kristen Schacht.

Tickets are available at www.lcso.net, at Roxy Music Shop or the Civic’s box office, or Visit Michigan City La Porte tourism bureau in Michigan City. Table seating costs $30 per ticket and is guaranteed when purchased online. Balcony seating can be purchased in advance or at the door. The cost is $20 for adults, $18 for seniors and free for children and students with school ID. Table seating offers a pre-sale wine by ordering online or calling (219) 362-9020. Light hors d’oeuvres will be sold and a cash bar provided.
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PNW Early Childhood Conference

The Purdue University Northwest Center for Early Learning will host its 11th Annual Early Childhood Conference from 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, April 22, in the James B. Dworkin Student Services and Activities Complex.

A pre-conference pizza party is from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, April 21, at Bellaboo's Children's Museum in Lake Station. The $10 cost includes food and drink.

The conference theme of “Full STEAM Ahead” includes activities that focus on the STEAM disciplines of science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics. Activities are intended for early childhood professionals, caregivers, child-development experts, parents, students and others interested in the education and development of young children.

PNW students may register for $15; registration for all other students is $25. Groups of five to 12 participants may register for $60 per person. Registration fees include all activities, breakfast, lunch, an interactive keynote workshop and an engineer’s tool kit.

The day begins with registration and a continental breakfast at 7 a.m. The welcome address is at 7:45 a.m. and the keynote workshop with Jean Feldman at 8 a.m. Known as Dr. Jean, Feldman has built a career of more than 40 years as an educator, author and consultant. A lunch meet and greet session is planned.

The conference also will include 21 breakout sessions. Participants may attend three afternoon sessions covering topics such as “Experiencing the Joy of Music with Young Children,” “Transform Ordinary Moments Into STEAM Concepts,” “All Aboard: Fostering Children’s Reading Development,” “The Importance of Academic Language for English Learners” and “Superhero Training – How Yoga and Mindfulness Help Students Learn.”

During a special session, “Supporting the Voices of Early Childhood Professionals,” sponsored by Defending the Early Years, participants will learn how to advocate for high quality early learning. Segments of the documentary “The Raising of America” will be shown and resources provided to increase awareness.

Registration for the conference and pre-conference events is required at tinyurl.com/ln97l7n

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ISA Certified Arborist on staff

---

C & A Arborists
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www.treephilosophy.INFO E-mail: treephilosophy@yahoo.com
Chesterton Art Center

The following exhibits and programs are available at Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St.:

- **“A Minute in Time,” an exhibit of work by children’s classes, runs in April, with an opening reception from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, April 9.**
  
  The show’s title is a nod to Salvador Dali, one of the many artists children studied throughout the year.

  The center offers nine children’s classes each week September to May. They include preschool, after school and home-school children ages 3-16. Jennifer Martin selects a different artist to study each month, and the children do projects that revolve around that artist’s style and subject matter.

  This month, Martin will showcase Spanish artist Pablo Picasso. Children will study cubism, the blue guitar and portraits.

- **Judy Gregurich and Mark Montgomery will team teach a six-week Stained Glass class starting from 7 to 9 p.m. Tuesday, April 11.**

  Students will learn the complete stained glass process using lead came construction, from the proper way to cut glass to basic construction and cementing.

  The cost is $145, with members receiving a $20 discount. All supplies are included.

- **A new session of Monday Night Ceramics starts from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. April 17.**

  During the six-week class, beginning students will develop fundamental wheel-throwing techniques, while returning students will refine their techniques to create more complex forms. Instructor Tom Cernius will perform short demonstrations while assisting students individually to improve throwing skills. Hand-building and sculpture also are encouraged. Students can try slab-building, pinch-pot hand-building and basic sculptural techniques, including figurine/small statue construction. All pieces will be glazed during the final class.

  The cost is $135, with members receiving a $25 discount. The cost of clay is $15. All other supplies are included.

  Call (219) 926-4711 to register. Visit www.chestertonart.com for details.

Friendship Gardens Seeks Volunteers

Friendship Botanic Gardens, 2055 E. U.S. 12, needs community volunteers to assist with the continued rejuvenation of the Gardens.

The local non-profit attraction is primarily volunteer-based, with many options available, including: cabin hosting at the main entrance; garden and grounds maintenance; assisting during educational events; assisting during fundraising events; and administrative projects.

Contact Tricia Roberts at (219) 878-9885 or info@friendshigardens.org if interested.
Oak Street house, the front porch dotted with jack-o’-lanterns. It’s rumored no one lives there, but when the front door opens, that is when the mystery unfolds.

The house, a Three Oaks landmark directly across from River Valley High School, has an inherent mystique that made it a perfect fit for a horror film. During the Q&A after the screening, which included a behind-the-scenes look at outtakes and antics during the marathon-paced three-day shoot, producer and production designer Don Chase said he asked the owners during a garage sale if they’d allow moviemakers to use their home. He was pleasantly surprised when they admitted they still made it to school activities, including basketball.

“Do you want to see a picture?” she asked, unable to contain her excitement as she scrolled through her phone, stopping on a picture of herself and others. “Moments before the premiere, Angelo, a sixth-grader from Watervliet, Mich., sat with two friends eating popcorn.

As Angelo eagerly waited to watch herself on the silver screen, she admitted the film was a lot of fun, but fun, and the director, Kyle Misak, who always seemed to know exactly what he wanted, was easygoing and nice about it.

“It was great working with the kids,” Misak, of Kalamazoo, said. “I always enjoy working with young actors because it reminds me of how I thought and how I perceived the world when I was younger.”

Working with children, Misak continued, allowed him to live vicariously through their imagination, which took him back to his motivations for aspiring to tell stories through film.

“They always have so much energy on set,” he said, “and it’s fun taking the journey with them as their guide.”

Misak complimented all the young actors’ hard work and dedication. He also was thankful for the house, itself, which in a way was its own character, providing an ideal backdrop for the story.

“The homeowners were so generous and gracious with us,” he said, “allowing us to basically take over the place for the weekend and shoot.”

“Screaming, spooky house,” said they usually have 12 to 18 crew members.

Shooting the film in Three Oaks was all about the location of the big, spooky house. Misak added he immediately fell in love with the small towns I would see in my favoritemovies growing up. It just has a quality about it that is hard to put into words, but it makes for a great backdrop and canvas to tell a story.”

Misak said the pastoral nostalgia of Three Oaks invoked memories of movies he loved, like “The Goonies,” “Home Alone,” “Hoosiers” and “Footloose.”

Shooting at the house was perfect because of the location, he said, adding he hopes to return to shoot films because of its character, and a community he describes as “incredibly welcoming and generous.”

“It’s fun being involved with a community that is so supportive,” he said.

Lindblom added he’s always thrilled to showcase work by local filmmakers. Local films, he stressed, eventually will play a role in the canon of history like no other medium.

“Stories, newspaper articles, museums all contribute, and film is a very popular way to represent where we were, are — who we are,” he said, “and even the ‘here and now’ will someday be history.”

A scene from “The House on Oak Street” featuring its many young actors.

The house in the film is a Three Oaks landmark.

Hollywood of Harbor Country

Short Horror Film Debuts at Vickers Theatre

by M.D. Cunningham

A member of the press interviews Director Kyle Misak. Photo by Matt Cunningham

Director Kyle Misak describes Three Oaks as having a “great, classic look.”

The cast and crew discuss the film at the Vickers Theatre screening. Photo by Matt Cunningham


Granted, the picturesque Michigan village probably won’t be adding any “stars” to its main street anytime soon, but that doesn’t mean something special isn’t unfolding.

Lindblom introduced a special Vickers Theatre screening of “The House on Oak Street,” a short movie filmed entirely in Three Oaks last November on an estimated $3,000 budget and using local child actors, including Bradlee Curtis-Chase, Avery Marshall, Aiden Sokol, Alysse Angelo and Conner Thompson.

Moments before the premiere, Angelo, a sixth-grader from Watervliet, Mich., sat with two friends eating popcorn.

The house used in the film is a Three Oaks landmark.
Westchester Public Library
The following programs are available:

- **Knit Wits and Pearls of Wisdom** at 9 a.m.
  Thursdays at Hageman Library, 100 Francis St., Porter.
  The weekly meeting is open to the skilled and novices, with no registration required.
- **Bits & Bytes series, Picture This!**, from 1 to 3 p.m. Thursday, April 6, in the Serials/Automation Department at Thomas Library, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.
  Registration is required by visiting or calling the IT Department at (219) 926-7696, or registering at www.wpl.lib.in.us. Click on the Bits & Bytes link.
- **Teen Library Council** from 4 to 5 p.m. Thursday, April 6, in the Thomas Library Bertha Wood Meeting Room.
  Teens in grades 6-12 can recommend library programs, books and other programs for Teen Services. Community service hours are available.
- **Chesterton Writing Group** at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, April 6, in the Thomas Library Bertha Wood Meeting Room.
  The group is open to adult writers — fiction or nonfiction — of all levels, whether published or unpublished. Attendees share their work and learn about publishing.
- **Make N Take Kids Craft Time** on Saturday, April 8, at Thomas Library.
  Children can stop by the Children’s Department anytime during the day (while supplies last) to make a frilly lamb to celebrate springtime.
- **Everybody Has a Story Writing Workshop** from 10 a.m. to noon Mondays, April 10 and May 8, at Thomas Library.
  Professional writer Mo Vear will present lessons, inspirations and tips on preserving memories through writing. Register in person at the Thomas Reference Department or by calling (219) 926-7696.
- **Bits & Bytes series, Excel with Bruce**, from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, April 11, and 1 to 3 p.m. Thursday, April 13, in the Thomas Library Serials/Automation Department.
  Registration is required by visiting or calling the IT Department at (219) 926-7696, or registering at www.wpl.lib.in.us. Click on the Bits & Bytes link.
- **Bifocal Bookies** at 1 p.m. Tuesday, April 11, at Hageman Library.
  The focus is Rebecca Skloot’s “The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks.” Copies are available on a first-come, first-served basis.
- **The Alzheimer’s Association** will present “Know the 10 Signs: Early Detection Matters” from 3 to 4 p.m. Tuesday, April 11, in the Thomas Library Bertha Wood Meeting Room.
  The program explains the difference between age-related memory loss and Alzheimer’s. It also recommends what to do if he/she or someone he/she knows shows signs of the disease.
- **Pokemon League** from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays at Thomas Library.
  The program is aimed at children in first grade and older. Attendees learn to make decks of 60 cards. They don’t need to take anything unless wanting to take a starter pack of cards.
- **Mad About Mysteries** at 2 p.m. Wednesday, April 12, at Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.
  Joan Costello will present Hannah Reed’s Queen Bee mysteries. Light refreshments will be served.
- **Children’s Crochet Club** from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Wednesdays in the Thomas Library Bertha Wood Meeting Room.
  Aimed at children in third grade and older, attendees learn beginning crochet from Sadie Steciuch. Children should take a size G crochet hook and skein of medium weight yarn. Class size is limited, and registration is required by calling (219) 926-7696.
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THE INDIANA DUNES NATIONAL LAKESHORE

The following program is available at Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore:

- Gardening at Chellberg Farm from 9 a.m. to noon Saturdays, April 8 and 22.
  
  Join staff and gardening enthusiasts working in the Chellberg Farm garden. Wear comfortable clothes; work gloves and equipment are provided. Insect repellent and sunscreen are recommended.

  Chellberg Farm is located on Mineral Springs Road between U.S. 12 and 20.

  The Visitor Center is at 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. The Paul H. Douglas Center is at 100 N. Lake St. in Gary's Miller Beach neighborhood. Call (219) 395-1882 for more information.

INDIANA DUNES STATE PARK

The following program is offered through Indiana Dunes State Park:

- The Friends of Indiana Dunes' 21st Annual Native Plant Sale from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 8, at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.
  
  Pre-order forms are available at the front desk. Contact zrolson@comcast.net for more details.

  Indiana Dunes State Park is at 1600 N. County Road 25 East (the north end of Indiana 49), Chesterton. Call (219) 926-1390 for more information.

LA PORTE COUNTY PARKS

All registrations/questions go through the Red Mill County Park Administrative Office, 0185 S. Holmesville Road, La Porte. Call (219) 325-8315 or visit www.laportecounty parks.org for more details.

NATURE'S TINY TOTS

Designed for parents and grandparents, explore nature with toddlers and preschoolers. Enjoy music, dancing, storytelling and, weather permitting, hiking.

The free program is from 10 to 11 a.m. April 10, May 1, June 5 and 19, July 10 and 24, and Aug. 7, 21 and 28 at Luhr County Park Nature Center, 3178 S. County Road 150 West. Call (219) 325-8315 at least one week in advance to register.

PARENT & CHILD DISCOVERY DAYS

The program includes arts and crafts, games and snacks. All activities are related to the topic. Programs are appropriate for children 3 to 8, with an adult required to participate. Times are from 6 to 7:15 p.m. at Luhr County Park. The cost is $5 per child/per program. Pre-registration and payment are required at least one week in advance or until full, whichever comes first. The next program is:

- April 12 — It's Feeding Time.
- April 19 — Tree Treasures.

SENIOR LIFESTYLES

Join the free 55+ Club, a social club designed for adults 55 and older to learn and explore various types of nature. Free coffee is served to participants. The group meets from 9 to 10 a.m. at Luhr County Park Nature Center. Call at least one week in advance to register. The schedule is:

- May 3 — “Landscaping Your Yard, Where to Begin” with Sacha Gee-Burns, Sunkissed Organics.
- June 7 — Learn what’s new in La Porte, Mayor Blair Milo.
- July 12 — Pulmonary health by La Porte Hospital staff.
- Aug. 2 — La Porte County Genealogical Society, President Dorothy Palmer.

ATTENTION HOME-SCHOOL PARTICIPANTS

Preregistration is under way for the program “Pond Life” from 10 to 11 a.m. Tuesday, April 11, at Luhr County Park. The program is appropriate for children 6-13 and accompanied by an adult. Call (219) 325-8315 to sign up.

SHELTER AND HALL RESERVATIONS

Call (219) 325-8315 to make reservations for one of many picnic shelters at any of the four county parks, or Pat Smith Hall at Red Mill County Park for a family function.
Dwyer employees saw their hard work, determination and innovative thinking rewarded when The Society of Innovators of Northwest Indiana toured the plant March 15.

Dwyer, 102 Indiana 212, was elected to the Society in 2016 for its invention and manufacture of the Smart Air Hood, a device used by HVAC technicians to balance air flow in large buildings. Hailed by industry leaders worldwide, it was designed and prototyped in Michigan City using state-of-the-art computer modeling and simulation software. It combines not only improved efficiency in design, but also cutting-edge software to analyze data.

“The company's greatest asset is the caliber of people that choose to put their best foot forward daily,” Dwyer President Mark Fisher said.

That dedication to quality design and invention has led Dwyer to acquire more than 650 patents and keep the company relevant in the industry for more than 85 years.

Of special interest to the Society is the climate of innovation and invention Dwyer not only encourages, but also celebrates. That spirit is evident in the actions and enthusiasm of everyone from the company president to the smiling employees in the shipping line. It is that spark of inspiration and willingness to try and fail and try again that makes Dwyer not only a great company that contributes to a growing Northwest Indiana economy, but also a great place to work.

Dwyer designs and manufactures controls, sensors and instrumentation solutions for HVAC and process automation markets.
Taltree Easter Bunny Visits

The Easter Bunny, accompanied by a professional photographer, will participate in family photos April 8, 9 and 15 at Taltree Arboretum & Gardens.
Photos are from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Taltree’s Depot, where families can view the Easter Village with model trains and various railroad history exhibits. Afterward, families can head outside to the Railway Garden or Children’s Adventure Garden.
Along with photos, Taltree’s first free Easter Egg Hunt for toddlers through 12-year-olds is at 11 a.m. Saturday, April 15. Parents are asked to accompany young children. Those who turn in their empty eggs at the end of the hunt receive a special prize. The goal is to recycle the eggs for future use. No registration is necessary.
Arboretum admission on April 8, 9 and 15 is $10 per non-member carload and free for Taltree members. Photo costs are $10 per one 5x7 print or four wallet prints. There also is an option for an emailed digital image for $10.
Taltree is located at 450 W. County Road 100 North near Valparaiso. Visit www.taltree.org for details.

Tutor Training

READ La Porte County Inc. will host a tutor training from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, April 7, in Meeting Room B at La Porte County Public Library, 904 Indiana Ave., La Porte.
The morning starts with an overview on tutoring children in schools and outside of school time, then tutoring English speaking adults in reading. A break that includes a free lunch is at noon. At 1 p.m., the focus is tutoring adults who grew up speaking a language other than English.
A waiting list exists of students of all ages who want to be tutored, so volunteers are greatly needed. There is no registration charge, but registrations by emailing mhedge8@comcast.net are encouraged. Visit www.readlaportecounty.org for more details.

New Troy Indoor Flea Market

New Troy (Mich.) Community Center, 13372 California Road, will wrap up its Indoor Flea Market season from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. EDT Saturdays, April 8 and 15.
Admission is free. Antiques, tools, crafts, books, memorabilia, housewares, furniture and locally made or grown items will be available. The final market features a potluck. Take a contribution and eat for free.
Vendor spaces are $13 and include a table and chair. Proceeds from space rentals benefit the center, an all-volunteer facility run by the non-profit organization Friends of New Troy.
Contact Donald at (773) 803-9773 for details.
“Pioneers of the Sky”

“Pioneers of the Sky,” a local twist on the history of aviation, marks the next Community Forum program at 6:30 p.m. EDT Monday, April 10, at New Buffalo Township Library, 33 N. Thompson St.

Historical Society of Michigan's Bob Myers will discuss the early history flight, from the experiments of Hiram Maxim and Clement Ader to Samuel Langley and the Wright Brothers, along with an account of St. Joseph resident Augustus Herring’s airplane flight over Silver Beach in 1898.

Upcoming programs in the free series include: “The Day Lincoln Died” on Tuesday, April 18; “Hummingbirds: Small and Feisty” on Tuesday, May 2; “What IS That? A Guide to Beach Glass, Fossils, Whale Burps and Other Beach Treasures” on Tuesday, May 16; “Estate Planning for Everyone” on Monday, June 12; and “Exploring Lake Michigan: A 1,000-Mile Walk on the Beach” on Monday, June 19.

All programs begin at 6:30 p.m. EDT in the Pokagon Community Room. Call the library at (269) 469-2933, follow the facebook link at newbuffalotownshiplibrary.org or email new.buffalo.FOL@gmail.com for more details.

Coastal Awareness Month

Northwest Indiana organizations can celebrate Coastal Awareness Month in June by developing an event that highlights Lake Michigan and its coastal resources.

The DNR Lake Michigan Coastal Program is seeking partners to host events throughout June that portray the diversity and beauty of the coastal region, which consists of Lake, Porter and La Porte counties. Events should highlight natural, cultural and historic resources.

Organizations should visit cam.dnr.IN.gov to provide information by April 30 so the events can be included in the Coastal Awareness Month schedule and advertising.

Contact LMCP Educator Dorreen Carey at (219) 250-5402 or dcarey@dnr.IN.gov for details. Visit dnr.IN.gov/lakemich for additional information.

Krasl Art Center

Two spring break programs are planned from 9 a.m. to noon EDT Friday, April 7, at Krasl Art Center, 707 Lake Blvd., St. Joseph, Mich:
• Ages 5-7: “Print Like Paley.”
    Exhibiting artist Albert Paley will show how to use organic forms to create colorful prints.
• Ages 8-12: “Sculpt Like Paley.”
    Paley will show how to build off of wire armatures using mixed media. Organic shapes that reference plants and animals will be used to create abstract sculptures.

Visit www.krasl.org for more details.
THE Zoolibble Reservations are under way for “Flight Night,” Washington Park Zoo’s Zoobilee fundraiser, which is from 6 to 10 p.m. Saturday, April 22, at Michigan City Municipal Airport, 1300 Indiana 212 North.

The 21-and-older event includes food and drink stations, as well as games. Visit tinyurl.com/ljaxeql for reservations. Visit www.facebook.com/WPZooSociety for additional information.

Networking in the Vine

“Networking in the Vine,” a Women in Leadership of La Porte County event that includes wine tastings, door prizes and giveaways, is from 5 to 7 p.m. CDT Thursday, April 27, at St. Julian Winery, 9145 Union Pier Road, Union Pier, Mich.

Take business cards, marketing items and “leave behinds” that can be contributed to 50 swag bags. The first 50 who attend receive one of the bags. The first 30 who attend receive a copy of “Breaking Through Bias: Communication Techniques for Women to Succeed at Work” by Andrea Kramer and Alton Harris.

The menu includes food prepared by Flagship Specialty Foods & Fish Market, which is among the following event sponsors: St. Julian Winery; General Insurance Services; R Squared Strategies; Lake Photography; Indiana Tech; Alicia Glossinger/Prime Real Estate; and Erica Young/Bank of England.

The cost is $20 per person. Register at www.women-in-leadership.com. Email board@women-in-leadership.com for more details.

Tri Kappa Scholarship

Tri Kappa, Michigan City Delta Mu Chapter, is offering a $500 scholarship, the submission deadline being May 5.

Applicants must:
• Be a graduating high school senior educated within Michigan City.
• Participate as a volunteer within the community.
• Have a minimum 2.5 grade-point average.
• Have a post-secondary education plan.

Contact Scholarship Committee Chairwoman Rhonda Kowalski at (219) 898-5088 or rhonda@standrewscorp.com for an application or additional information.

Zoolibble

Reservations are under way for “Flight Night,” Washington Park Zoo’s Zoobilee fundraiser, which is from 6 to 10 p.m. Saturday, April 22, at Michigan City Municipal Airport, 1300 Indiana 212 North.

The 21-and-older event includes food and drink stations, as well as games. Visit tinyurl.com/ljaxeql for reservations. Visit www.facebook.com/WPZooSociety for additional information.
New School Display

La Porte County Historical Society Museum’s new permanent display highlights La Porte County schools — some still around, others gone, but not forgotten.

By 1875, the county hired 202 teachers. In 1914, that number increased to 309 with 120 schoolhouses in the county, including nine high schools. The county boasted 12 public high schools in 1935, which did not include La Porte or Michigan City.

Brick buildings predominated, with frame construction next; however, there still were five log schoolhouses in Indiana in 1911. Information about the structures, the curriculum offered and operation of the early schools is featured.

The display is located in the lower level of the museum, 2405 Indiana Ave. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Visit www.laportecountyhistory.org or email info@laportecountyhistory.org for admission prices and more information.
### Long Beach

**Women’s Bowling**

March 28, 2017

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**HIGH INDIVIDUAL GAMES**

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<td>Tammy Vouri</td>
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<td>Sue Labovitz</td>
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<td>Nancy Klausner</td>
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<td>Carrie Alexander</td>
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<td>Tammy Nelmar</td>
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<td>Linda Neulieb (series)</td>
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**SPLITS**

- Polly Fletcher: 1-3-7
- Tammy Vouri: 4-5-7
- Holly Dres: 8-10
- Sue Luegers: 2-7
- Sue Labovitz: 4-6
- Nancy Klausner, Mary McDonald: 3-10
- Cindy Beck

**STRIKES (THREE IN A ROW)**

- Ellie Parkerson, Nancy Klausner, Sue Labovitz

More bowlers are invited when teams meet at 12:30 p.m. Tuesdays at City Lanes.

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**Monday Musicale**

Monday Musicale met March 27 at Barker Mansion, with Deborah Beien hosting the program “The Scots-Irish Influence in Indiana.”

Baritone Karol Valek opened the program singing “Father O’Flynn” and “I’ll Take You Home Again, Kathleen.” Contralto Sue Cassler sang the children’s song “Beidh Aonach Amárach (There’s a Fair Tomorrow),” alternating between Gaelic and English lyrics. Soprano Beien shared the Irish love song “I Will Walk With My Love.”

Flutist Merry Johnson played several pieces, accompanied by Lee Meyer on piano. They included “Brian Boru’s March” and the traditional Irish air “Believe Me If All Those Endearing Young Charms.” Later in the program, Johnson shared “The Belfast Hornpipe” and “The Irish Washerwoman” — a familiar jig — on her piccolo.

Howard Brenneman, Noel Carlson, Dan Moser and Valek crooned “My Wild Irish Rose” and “The Rose of Tralee” as a barbershop quartet. The vocal trio Back Porch Swing (Beien, Cassler and Lisa Schwingendorf) performed two Scottish ballads: “Go, Lassie, Go” and “The Water Is Wide.” The audience clapped along as the trio sang the upbeat Irish folk song “I’ll Tell Me Ma.”

Moser invited audience participation as he sang “The Unicorn Song,” “Whiskey in the Jar” and “Brennan On the Moor” while accompanying himself on guitar.

Instrumentalists Bob and Sheila Thompson played a medley, “Red-Haired Boy” and “Fisher’s Hornpipe,” on mandolin and guitar. Switching to guitar and hammered dulcimer, they performed “Over the Waterfall” and “Whiskey Before Breakfast.” As the program finale, the duo played a banjo and guitar arrangement of “Auld Lang Syne.”

After the program, Schwingendorf’s hosting committee served refreshments in the dining room.

On April 9, Monday Musicale will host its annual Junior-Senior Competition for area music students in grades four through 12. Winners will perform at the free Student Awards Concert at 2 p.m. Sunday, April 23, at First United Methodist Church, 121 E. Seventh St. Contact Ange Benz at (219) 874-3754 or Sue Cassler at (219) 362-1421 for details.

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**The American Red Cross**

The American Red Cross La Porte County Chapter will sponsor the following bloodmobiles:

- Conservation Club House, 1 Mill Pond Road, Union Mills, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, April 9.
- First Church of God, 2020 E. Lincolnway, La Porte, noon to 6 p.m. Monday, April 10.
- Ivy Tech Community College, 3714 Franklin St., Michigan City, 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday, April 10.

Donors must be in good general health and feeling well, at least 17 (16 with parental consent) and weigh at least 110 pounds. Call (800) 733-2767 or visit redcrossblood.org for more details.

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**Dancing Feet Yoga**

Two workshops are planned at Dancing Feet Yoga, 19135 W. U.S. 12, New Buffalo, Mich.

“Yoga for Athletes” with Ken Ramsay is April 8, followed April 9 by a Yoga and writing workshop with Caroline Ramsay and Barbara Simpson.

Also, free Yoga classes are from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. EDT Tuesdays through May 2.

Visit www.dancingfeetyoga.com/events for details and registration.
Mario Rosa began his presentation with a simple question: “How many of you know someone with diabetes?”

Every student in the classroom raised a hand, then shared stories of teen friends with insulin pumps, relatives who lost limbs or toes, neighbors who died.

That’s why for five weeks in February and March, Rosa, Minority Health Coalition of La Porte County program coordinator, visited the A.K. Smith Career Center in Michigan City, presenting 35-minute sessions to close to 60 La Porte County Career and Technical Education students in the Health Academy 1 and 2 classes.

Sessions in the Minority Health Coalition’s “Diabetes Education Program” not only gave facts and statistics about diabetes, but also discussed the tie between diabetes and smoking, and the importance of good nutrition and exercise in fighting the disease. Students also learned how to calculate their body mass index and monitor their blood pressure, which are essential to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

“The incidence of diabetes is especially high in the minority community,” Rosa said. “The vast majority of these Health Academy students will pursue a career in the medical field, and it is important for them to start out with a strong knowledge base about one of the chronic diseases that profoundly affects the minority community.”

Rosa, who is diabetic, also shared his experiences with students.

“I lost my father and several other family members due to complications that were brought on by diabetes,” he said. “It’s so important to share information with young people who can make changes to their own lifestyles and will be in a position to influence others to do the same.”
Immanuel Lutheran Anniversary

Immanuel Lutheran Church, 1237 E. Coolspring Ave., will celebrate the 50th anniversary of its sanctuary at 3 p.m. Sunday, April 9.

Visit immanuelmc.com or call the church office at (219) 872-4419 for details.

Footlight Youth Acting Workshop

Footlight Players will conduct a youth workshop for anyone between the ages of 10 and 17 interested in theater from 1 to 4 p.m. July 10-Aug. 27 at Footlight Theatre, 1705 Franklin St.

No experience is necessary, nor is there any charge, thanks to financial assistance from Michigan City Enrichment Corp.

Leading the workshop are Robert Komendera, Lee Meyer and Debbie Bartholomew. Each has more than 40 years experience in music and community theater. They will focus on stage presence, character development, music appreciation, the art of auditioning, hair and makeup design and staging a full-length musical production.

To showcase the students’ endeavors, a production of “The Death and Good Times of Julius Caesar: A Tragic Farce” is at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 25, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 27.

Anyone needing more information or requesting an application can visit www.FootlightPlayers.org or call Komendera at (219) 879-5840. The program is limited to the first 30 applicants, with June 11 designated the cut-off date.

Awareness/Prevention Walk

Dunebrook will host its “No Excuse For Child Abuse” Awareness and Prevention Walk at 6 p.m. Friday, April 7.

More than 100 walkers are expected to participate, meeting at Ames Field for the round trip walk to Al’s Supermarket, 3535 Franklin St.

La Porte County suffered 373 substantiated cases of child sexual abuse, physical abuse and neglect in 2016, according to the Indiana Department of Child Services.

The event kicks off April as Child Abuse Prevention Month. Visit www.dunebrook.org and www.facebook.com/dunebrook/ for a full listing of Dunebrook’s April activities.

Fawn Run Farm Season Opening

The season opener at Rolling Prairie’s Fawn Run Farm Mercantile is from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, April 8-9.

The mercantile, 3883 E. County Road 700 North, offers primitives and handcrafted gifts, decorations and home goods.

Visit www.fawnrunfarmprimitives.com for more information.

Easter Egg Hunt

The Fifth Annual Easter Egg Hunt is Saturday, April 8, in Washington Park’s Fedders Alley.

Captain Ed Beutner, Ric Federighi (WIMS), Mayor Ron Meer and Michigan City Police Department are the hosts. Federighi, Captain Ed and staff from Washington Park Zoo will entertain families at 11 a.m., with the egg hunt at noon sharp.

Families are encouraged to arrive because of the traffic.

Fernwood Botanical Garden

Families can color Easter eggs during “Marbled Eggs” from 2 to 3 p.m. EDT Saturday, April 8, at Fernwood Botanical Garden and Nature Preserve, 13988 Range Line Road, Niles, Mich.

Participants can use whipped cream and food dye to create whimsical eggs. Take 10 to 21 hardboiled eggs. All additional materials are provided.

The cost is $15, or $12 for Fernwood members. Call (269) 695-6491 or visit www.fernwoodbotanical.org for details or to register.

Northern Indiana Artists Exhibit

Elkhart’s Midwest Museum of American Art will present The Northern Indiana Artists exhibit “Envisioning a Future, Remembering a Past: 75 Years Creating, Exhibiting & Educating the Public About Art” on April 7-July 9.

The closing date marks the museum’s 38th anniversary.

Curator Brian Byrn selected more than 80 works representing a large contingency of the NIA’s overall membership. Many of the artists have produced professional works for decades in Michiana; however, several are younger artists at the beginning of their careers.

The museum is located at 429 S. Main St. Hours are (all times Eastern) 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Call (574) 293-6660 for more details.
JROTC Takes Physical Fitness Test

Michigan City High School’s Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps recently took the Physical Fitness Test.

The examination consists of a 300-meter shuttle run, pull-ups, stomach crunches, push-ups and the standing long jump. The top six male scores and top six female scores are sent to the MCJROTC Headquarters. If MCHS has the top scores in the region, those cadets compete at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego for the National MCJROTC Physical Fitness Championship.

That trip would be conducted at no cost to MCHS nor the cadets, funded instead by the Marine Corps.

“The object of the physical fitness portion of our program is not to prepare cadets for Marine Corps Boot Camp,” Senior Marine Instructor Maj. Tom McGrath said. “It is to motivate cadets to incorporate physical fitness into their daily routine.”

The cadets will attend their Leadership Camp on June 5-9 at St. John’s Northwestern Military Academy, Delafield, Wis. The day starts at 5:30 a.m. with physical training. The week, itself, is filled with swimming, canoeing, land navigation and negotiating various obstacle courses. It culminates in three leadership scenarios that will test the cadets mentally and physically.

The camp also is funded by the U.S. Marine Corps.

Lunch With the League

Kay Hill, Stepping Stone Shelter for Women director, will speak during Lunch With the League at noon Tuesday, April 11, at Patrick’s Grille, 4125 Franklin St.

Stepping Stone Shelter provides victims of domestic violence and sexual assault with services that include 24/7 crisis lines and intervention, temporary shelter, clothing and food, transitional housing, counseling, support groups and advocacy.

Lunch With the League, sponsored by The League of Women Voters of La Porte County, is open to the public. Reservations are not required. Attendees may buy lunch from the menu. Doors open at 11:30 a.m., and orders will be taken as tables fill up, so arrive by noon for the presentation.

Email LWVLaporte@gmail.com for details.
Activities to Explore

In the Area:


April 6 — Words with Wings Art Project, 10 a.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

April 6-9 — “Lettice and Lovage,” Footlight Theatre, 1705 Franklin St. Times: 7:30 p.m. Thur.-Sat., 2 p.m. Sun. Tickets: $12/adults, two/$20 with coupon @ website, 12 & younger & Thursday/$10. Reservations: (219) 874-4035/footlightplayers.org

April 7 — Spring Break Movie: “Moana,” 10 a.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

April 7 — First Friday Art Walk, 5-8 p.m., Uptown Arts District (downtown Michigan City).

April 7 — First Friday Poetry Slam, 5-8 p.m., Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St. Info/registration: hhammond@lubeznikcenter.org, (219) 874-4900, Ext. 203.

April 7 — “Truly Touching Tales about Love and Marriage,” 8 p.m., ArtSpace Uptown Artists Loft, 717 Franklin St. Free-will donations.

April 8 — Gardening at Chellberg Farm, 9 a.m.-noon, Mineral Springs Road between U.S. 12/20. Info: (219) 395-1882.

April 8 — The Friends of Indiana Dunes’ 21st Annual Native Plant Sale, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. Info: zrolson@comcast.net

April 8 — Fifth Annual Easter Egg Hunt, 11 a.m., Washington Park’s Fedders Alley.

April 8 — Seventh Annual Blue Chip Brewfest, 1:30-5 p.m., Blue Chip Casino. Info: Ticketmaster.com, Blue Chip Gift Box.

April 8 — La Porte County Symphony Orchestra, “South Pacific!,” 7:30 p.m., La Porte Civic Auditorium, 1001 Ridge St. Info/tickets: www.lcso.net


April 8-9 — Season opener, Fawn Run Farm Mercantile, 3883 E. County Road 700 North, Rolling Prairie, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Info: www.fawnrungfarm-primitives.com

April 9 — PALM SUNDAY.

April 9 — Ah Tu in Concert, 2 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

April 9 — Opening reception, children’s exhibit, “A Minute in Time,” 2-4 p.m., Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St. Info: (219) 926-4711.

April 10 — PASSOVER BEGINS.

April 10 — “Pioneers of the Sky,” 6:30 p.m. EDT,
New Buffalo Township Library, 33 N. Thompson St.
Free. Info: (269) 469-2933.

April 11 — Lunch With the League, noon, Patrick’s Grille, 4125 Franklin St. Info: LWVLaPorte@gmail.com

April 11 — Bifocal Bookies, Rebecca Skloot’s “The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks,” 1 p.m., Hageman Library, 100 Francis St., Porter.

April 12 — Mad About Mysteries, 2 p.m., Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.


In the Region


April 11 — Kennedy’s Kitchen, 7:30-9:30 p.m. EDT, Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Mich. Tickets: $10. Reservations: (269) 983-3688, boxfactoryforthear.ts.org/

April 8, 15 — Indoor Flea Market, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. EDT, New Troy (Mich.) Community Center, 13372 California Road. Free admission. Potluck lunch. Info: (773) 803-9773.

April 7-July 9 — The Northern Indiana Artists exhibit “Envisioning a Future, Remembering a Past: 75 Years Creating, Exhibiting & Educating the Public About Art,” Midwest Museum of American Art, 429 S. Main St., Elkhart. Info: (574) 293-6660.

April 11 — Staged Readings, Elkhart Civic Theatre’s Second Stage, David and Amy Sedaris’ “The Book of Liz,” 7:30 p.m. EDT, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 1732 Garden St., Elkhart. Tickets: $10. Reservations: (574) 848-4116.

Support Groups

Mondays — Codependents Anonymous (CoDA), 6 p.m., Franciscan Alliance-St. Anthony Health. Info: (219) 879-3817.

Mondays, Fridays — Overeaters Anonymous, 7 p.m. Mon./Franciscan St. Anthony Health, 301 W. Homer St., 9 a.m. Fri./First United Methodist Church, 121 E. Seventh St. Info: https://oa.org, (219) 879-0300.

Wednesdays — Alzheimer’s/Dementia Support Group for Caregivers, 2 p.m., third Wednesday of each month, Rittenhouse Senior Living, 4300 Cleveland Ave. Info: (888) 303-0180.

Wednesdays — Al-Anon meetings, 6-7 p.m., Franciscan Alliance-St. Anthony Health. Info: (708) 927-5287.

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Marquette Catholic High School has a job opening for the 2017-2018 school year: Life Science teacher. Biology/anatomy, master’s required. Send resume to jwhite@marquettehs.org (219) 210-0064.

NOW HIRING CAREGIVERS

Caring, dependable caregivers needed to provide in-home care to seniors. Positions available in Michigan City, La Porte and surrounding areas. Call (219) 662-2999 or visit http://www.seniorhelpers.com/michigancity-in Full-time office help needed. We can use Word office help or secretarial help. Email sona@powerdrive.com or call 872-3000, Ext. 115.

Long Beach Summer Camp is hiring directors and counselors for the 2017-2018 school year: Life Science teacher. Biology/anatomy, master’s required. Call (219) 794-2051.

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The Spring Girlfriend Sale, your ultimate woman’s resale clothing event, is scheduling appointments thru April 24 to consign up to 30 items for resale. To participate email thegirlfriendsale@gmail.com or call Susan Vissing at (219) 861-6188 and leave a message with a few alternate dates and times you can come in with your items. Appointments are scheduled every 1/2 hour M-F 10 a.m.-4 p.m., plus weekend dates Sat., April 8 & Sun., April 23. Be sure to take a spring jacket, sweater or handbag to donate, with proceeds benefiting the Samaritan Center.

For more details ask for the “participation guidelines.”

Shopping dates:
Friday, April 28, 6-9 p.m. for participants and friends
Saturday, April 29 & May 6, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. open to the public
Sunday, May 7, Noon-4 p.m. famous 1/2 price day
Saturday, May 13, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. second chance 1/2 price day.

Long Beach Community Center
Studio #11
2501 Oriole Trail.
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Huge Downsizing Sale • April 7, 8 and 9th
Three Sister’s Cottage, 16321 1st St., Union Pier, MI
10 a.m.-5 p.m. E/D each day
Terms: Cash or Check with ID

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Prayer to the Blessed Virgin

(Never known to fail.)

Oh, most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity.

Oh, Star of the Sea, help me and show me, herein you are my mother. Oh Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth! I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in this necessity. There are none that can withstand your power. Oh, show me herein you are my mother. Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3x). Holy Mother, I place this cause in your hands (3x). Holy Spirit, who solve all problems, light all roads so that I can attain my goal. You who gave me the divine gift to forgive and forget all evil against me and that in all instances in my life you are with me. I want in this short prayer to thank you for all things as you confirm once again that I never want to be separated from you in Eternal Glory. Thank you for your mercy toward me and mine. The person must say this prayer 3 consecutive days. After 3 days, the request will be granted. This prayer must be published after the favor is granted.
The Orphan’s Tale by Pam Jenoff (paperback, $15.99 retail in bookstores and online; also available as an eBook)

Running away to join the circus. Ever consider it when you were a kid? In this week’s recommendation, a teenage girl runs into a circus by mistake. And, it turns out to be the best decision of her life. Let me explain…

It’s 1944. World War II is raging in Europe, but the Nazis have allowed some traveling circuses to perform in certain cities — on a schedule of their choosing, of course.

The Prologue piques your interest with its many unanswered questions, but the real excitement begins in Chapter One — January 1944, somewhere in Germany…

Seventeen-year-old Noa lives and works as a cleaner at a train station. Dutch by birth, she was kicked out of her house because she was pregnant. The worst part was that the baby’s father was a German soldier billeted in her family’s home by Nazi order. Noa was young and inexperienced with men, falling for his charming words. Her mother stood by helplessly as Noa’s father made her leave with only the clothes on her back.

Noa ends up in Germany in a home for unwed mothers, told her baby will go to a good family. But the baby comes out with “dark eyes and olive skin,” looking nothing like Noa with her blond hair and gymnast’s body, which the Nazis favor as the perfect Aryan type. She never learns what happened to her baby and has to leave the home shortly thereafter.

Fate takes Noa to the train station where, several months later, she hears a “buzzing” sound coming from a railcar. Sneaking over to it, she discovers a boxcar full of babies. “There are babies, tiny bodies, too many to count, lying on the hay-covered floor of the railcar, packed close and atop one another. Most do not move…”

Noa makes the totally irrational decision to pick up one baby and take it back to her room above the train station. She can’t stay there any longer — the soldiers are after her — so in fear for her life and the baby’s, Noa takes the child and runs through the night until she can’t run anymore, falling in the snow, clutching the baby.

She wakes up in a warm room, the baby clean and fed. She is in the house of Herr Neuhoff, owner of a traveling circus. Seeing her youth, beauty and gymnastic ability, he says he will keep her and the baby safe if she becomes an aerialist. Astrid, star of the flying trapeze, will teach her, reluctantly, before they go on the road.

Alternating chapters are first in the voice of Noa, then Astrid. The two women initially are suspicious of each other. Astrid, now in her late 30s, sees Noa as a rival, but time and circumstances bring about a friendship, with baby Theo the glue that binds them together. And no, Astrid doesn’t believe Theo is Noa’s brother. And at first, Noa doesn’t know Astrid is a Jew. Herr Neuhoff has been protecting her since her family disappeared. They lived nearby and also had a traveling circus until the Nazis shut them down and the family disappeared — probably to a death camp.

Astrid lost more than just her family. She was living in Berlin with her husband, an officer in the German Army, since their marriage in 1932. He came home one day and said they were divorced, by order of the Nazis, and she must leave immediately to save her life. Heartbroken, she returned to a family that no longer existed. That’s when Herr Neuhoff came to Astrid’s rescue and gave her a home.

Secrets begin to emerge and almost cost Noa and Astrid their fragile friendship.

It is interesting to see how something that might appear as trivial as a traveling circus could have such a profound effect on the villages they visit. As Astrid notes: “Adults watch us with the wonder of children. The circus has always brought light to the places it visited. Now it is a lifeline.”

Although set in the darkest days of World War II, this is a story largely about friendship — its cost as well as its rewards. In the end, something good comes of it all in the form of self-sacrifice, that unknown moment when protecting someone other than ourselves kicks in and gives us not only an eye-wideing, horrific climax, but a renewal in the faith of humanity. My advice: Keep the tissues handy.

From The Globe and Mail (Canada): “The author was moved to begin writing this type of historical fiction because of her years spent working at the Pentagon and as a diplomat for the U.S. State Department handling Holocaust issues in Poland. One might find oneself wishing someone so intent on telling the stories of Holocaust survivors still worked there now, but her writing is just as much of a gift as her public service.”

Till next time happy reading!
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2305 Oakenwald Drive • Long Beach
$289,000
3 bedroom, 2 bath home in the heart of Long Beach. Living/dining room with wood burning fireplace. Main floor family room, hardwood floors under carpet in most rooms on main floor. Hardwood floors in bedrooms. Large deck, multi-level rear patio & plenty of yard space for summer fun!

15 Lighthouse Point • New Buffalo
$129,000
A 50 ft boat slip offers room for your boat, jet skis, kayaks & other water toys! Kitchen with open living area and glass sliders to the outside. Bath & small bunk room for guests. A 24x19 deck overlooks the dock. Association Pool. Enjoy the spectacular sunsets!

2903 Mount Claire Way • Long Beach
$125,000
Hilltop Long Beach lot on 0.32 acre of land with seasonal lake views. Driveway access on Summit Drive. Septic can be located at bottom of the hill on Mr. Claire Way. Owner will provide plat survey, soil test and 5-bedroom house design to serious buyers.

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1629 Lake Shore Drive
Sheridan Beach
$975,000
Large brick home with walkout basement and seasonal views of Lake Michigan. Sets high on dune with 142.5 ft of frontage property. 5 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, great 2nd floor deck for entertaining or relaxing and plenty more.

2919 Loma Portal Way, Long Beach
$360,000
So many updates have taken place at this home recently. All you need to do is add your personal touch! Additions include electrical, insulation, furnace, humidifier, A/C, water heater, siding, soffits, fascia, gutters, roof, garage door, interior painting and more! All appliances included.

106½ California • $249,000
Sun-filled year-round cottage in perfect location! Just down the street from the beach and walking distance to Washington Park, zoo, marina and restaurants. Ideal location in Sheridan Beach! House has 2 spacious bedrooms, living room, dining room and kitchen with a wrap-around deck for outside living. An adjacent corner lot is included that provides exceptional yard space. The cottage is perfect as a primary residence, 2nd home or as an investment with proven rental history (vrbocom). Newer windows, siding, roof, central air and heat. A must see at a great price!

208 Oriole Trail, Trail Creek • $136,500
This 4-bedroom, 2-bath house has been rehabbed top to bottom. Caledonia granite countertop in the kitchen and wood Pergo flooring throughout the entire house. New electric, plumbing, insulation, walls, bathrooms, siding. New septic will be installed prior to closing. Enjoy the sunset room that leads to a nice open yard, plenty of parking.

805 Birch Tree Lane, Michigan City • $179,500
Best of both worlds! Enjoy low-maintenance 3-bedroom 3-bath condo living within a beach community! Only one of four units this size. Wonderful amenities include garage, private patio and pool area. Beautiful common area. Association fee includes gas, trash, water, grass, snow removal and all of the pool maintenance.

CALL LONG BEACH REALTY FOR YOUR PERSONAL SHOWING ON THESE AND OTHER PROPERTIES

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