

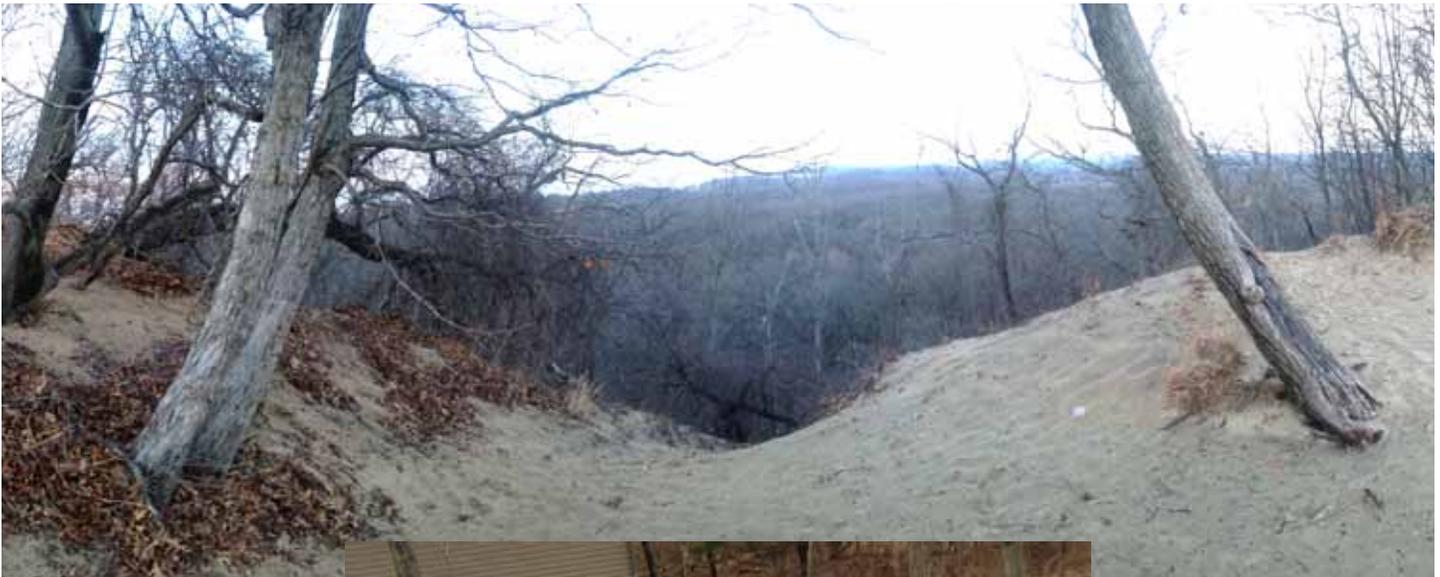


Volume 31, Number 13 Thursday, April 9, 2015

3 DUNE CHALLENGE

1.5 Mile Trail Invigorating, Breathtaking Experience

by Kevin Scott



Mount Jackson

My brother coaches baseball with Cape Cod Baseball League in Massachusetts. During his first year there, he was taking in all the scenery and landscapes the Cape has to offer when he ran into a local at one of the beaches. They started talking and my brother told him he was from Indiana.

“Pretty neat out here, huh?” the man said. “I bet you wish you had something like this in Indiana.”

My brother smiled. *Au contraire*, my friend.

Indiana Dunes State Park is an astounding place, and it’s right in our backyard. So many people come



Kevin Scott prepares to start the 3 Dune Challenge.

from all over to see the dunes, swim in Lake Michigan, camp and experience the unique ecosystems.

In June 2014, Indiana Dunes Tourism, the Friends of Indiana Dunes and the Indiana Department of Natural Resources teamed up to transform Trail 8 into the 3 Dune Challenge. In essence, it is a 1.5-

mile trail at Indiana Dunes State Park that begins at the Nature Center. The name represents the triad of dunes that awaits once your journey begins. Mount Jackson, Mount Holden and Mount Tom to-

Continued on Page 2



Published and Printed by
THE BEACHER BUSINESS PRINTERS

Delivered weekly, free of charge to Birch Tree Farms, Duneland Beach, Grand Beach, Hidden Shores, Long Beach, Michiana Shores, Michiana MI and Shoreland Hills. The Beacher is also delivered to public places in Michigan City, New Buffalo, LaPorte and Sheridan Beach.

3 DUNE CHALLENGE Continued from Page 1



While heading toward the first dune, signs indicate emergency numbers to call if needed.

gether form The Tremonts.

My niece, Alyssa, and I set out to tackle the 3 Dune Challenge in March, in a spring that, needless to say, has been on the chilly side.

I have a few helpful pointers before you set out to attack the dunes. The first is to check the weather forecast! The 1.5-mile trail starting at the Nature Center immediately puts you in beautiful surroundings, but as we headed

out on the hike, on what I thought was only an unseasonable chilly spring morning, Mother Nature decided to alter her scattered rain drops to a mixture of sleet and hail.

The second is to be prepared for the different types of environments. In certain areas, at certain times of the year, one would be asking for problems if you didn't head out with bug spray or sunscreen. Water and snacks will help keep you hydrated and fueled. Lastly, footwear should be chosen carefully. For some, this will be a great challenge to lace up your running shoes and see how you do against the trio of dunes. For others, hiking shoes will help keep sand out, and provide traction on the sandy paths. For our first time, we decided to lace up our hiking shoes and keep our backpacks light.

Alyssa and I left the Nature Center and started the challenge mid-morning. You could see a faint glimpse of spring trying to pop out in scattered green buds peeking out through the brown leaves. We approached the first sign and looked at the steep incline that faced us. This was the climb to the

first dune, Mount Jackson. Upon seeing the slope of sand, Alyssa had a brief, but noticeable moment of regret for joining her uncle on this hike. Yet, we plugged away and headed up Mount Jackson. Once we reached the top, any regret disappeared and the views taken in immediately.

Pictures cannot do justice to the panoramic views of what you see atop Mount Jackson. To the east and west, you can see miles and miles of shoreline and wooded areas. You can even distinctly see Michigan City's cooling tower. Named after Indiana Gov. Edward Jackson, Mount Jackson stands 176 feet above Lake Michigan and has a maximum slope angle of 31 degrees. The howling winds atop this dune demonstrated how the 176 foot height sticks out above the lowland around us.



Information at the top of Mount Jackson provides statistics about the dune.

After taking in all the sights of the first dune, we marched down Mount Jackson towards our next destination. What's quickly forgotten once you are hiking is that with the views you've seen and the setting around you, you still have not left Indiana. Upon completing our descent of Mount Jackson, we headed back down through the woods. In the still, gloomy early spring weather, patches



Kevin appears with a post indicating the elevation of Mount Jackson.



Kevin's niece, Alyssa, after making it to the top of Mount Jackson.

of evergreens stood out of the crowd to give some color to the woods. As we ventured onward, we came to the second dune, Mount Holden.

Again, standing at the bottom of the dune looks as if it ascends straight into the clouds. The narrow sandy trail surrounded by trees provides interesting footing below you as you hike up a step and slip back a half. Once on the top of Mount Holden, the beauty of Lake Michigan is upon you. On this day, the greenish blue waters, dune grass and a path leading directly to the beach provide playful hints of summer days to come. However, the shelf ice and whistling winds quickly jolted us back into reality.

We planned an excursion back to this point when the weather is suitable for a run directly into the water below. Mount Holden sits 184 feet above the lake and is named after Charles Holden, the Prairie Club's first president.



Kevin and Alyssa atop the second dune, Mount Holden.

Finally, we descended down Mount Holden towards our last dune. Upon leaving the roaring winds of the first two dunes, the valley below almost seemed eerily calm. That is, until the sleet and hail

Continued on Page 4



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3 DUNE CHALLENGE

Continued from Page 3

mixture pelted the woodland floor like tiny pins and needles. However, the canopy of fairly bare trees provided us with somewhat of a makeshift umbrella, giving us enough shelter to avoid Mother Nature.



The stairs ascending Mount Tom.

We then approached the final dune of the challenge, Mount Tom. It is the highest of the three dunes, standing at 194 feet above Lake Michigan. Now, spoiler alert. Mount Tom has a little surprise waiting for you at the end of the challenge. My niece's facial expression mirrored the expression she had when seeing the incline of the dunes. Tom's surprise is a 100+ staircase leading to the top of the climb. It is a treat compared to the up and down battle of the sandy paths, but it does provide for an added leg workout.

The staircase continues into a platform upon the final dune. We did it! Congratulations are in store

from the 3 Dune Challenge sign on Mount Tom. Again, the views must be experienced in person. Houses pop out through the trees to the west, and settings are visible miles down the lakeshore. Dune grass and stairs cover the head of Mount Tom, and the stairs on your descent lead back into the wooded valley below.

After completing the 3 Dune Challenge, we headed back towards the Nature Center. My niece and I talked about the scenery, the views of the lake and surrounding areas and the difference in completing the challenge in different seasons. We agree that this was something that cannot be done just once. The challenge can be completed over and over, in the ever-changing environment.

Once you finish the challenge, the Visitor Center invites you to come to their place just down the road on Indiana 49, where you will be rewarded with a free sticker and postcards commemorating your experience. You also can buy a T-shirt or sweatshirt with the 3 Dune Challenge logo on it.

From strapping on snow shoes to tackling it barefoot, from seeing unblocked views for miles away to seeing the beauty and colors of the State Park in fall, the 3 Dune Challenge is a year-round attraction that should be on everyone's to-do list in 2015 and the years to come.



A sign at the end of the 3 Dune Challenge, on Mount Tom, congratulates hikers for completing the experience.

IF YOU GO

Indiana Dunes State Park is located at 1600 N. County Road 25 East (the north end of Indiana 49), Chesterton. In-state park entry fees are \$5 per person and out-of-state fees \$10 per person. Visit <http://www.indiana-dunes.com/3dc/> or call (219) 926-1390 for more information.



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Granting a "Little Wish"



The Marsh Elementary School student council raised \$325 through a St. Patrick's Day fundraiser for the Little Wish Foundation. The students paid 25 cents per ticket for a chance to win an enormous container of Skittles or a leprechaun hat filled with Lucky Charms. They also could wear green on St. Patrick's Day for 50 cents. Thanks to donations from students and staff, the Little Wish Foundation was able to grant a boy's wish for a custom-made Radio Flyer wagon. Visit www.littlewishfoundation.org for more information on Little Wish, established by Michigan City High School alumna Liz Niemiec.



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“Some Enchanted Evening”

Dunes Arts Foundation Unites with UAD, Barker Hall for Cabaret Event

by Connie Kuzydym

Refusing to let hard times keep it down, Dunes Arts Foundation is in a transformation stage, reaching out to the community through partnerships.

A perfect example of that is this weekend’s “Some Enchanted Evening — A Dinner Theatre Cabaret,” which is being presented in collaboration with Uptown Arts District and Barker Hall at Trinity Episcopal Church, 600 Franklin Square.

The lively evening will feature vocal performances of selections from plays performed over the years by the foundation’s Dunes Summer Theatre in Michiana Shores.

“Because we’re really growing and moving in a new direction,” DAF President Abby Schmidt said, “we wanted to take the opportunity to honor what we have done in the past.”

For more than 60 years, DAF has presented shows such as “Camelot,” “Man of La Mancha,” “Meet Me in St. Louis,” “Peter Pan” and “The Wizard of Oz.” In summer 2013, Oscar-nominated director John Hancock (“Bang the Drum Slowly,” “Prancer”) shot scenes for his upcoming film, “The Looking Glass,” at the theater.

The lineup for the cabaret’s first hour will take audience members on a journey through diverse and rich history, with performances by longtime DAF members.

“You can expect to see songs of all different genres, some funny, some serious,” Schmidt said. “I’m sure for everybody, there will be something that will trigger a chord from their upbringing or some memory they have had.”

After a short intermission, Margot Rose, a DAF member in the 1960s, will perform an original piece



Margot Rose will perform an original piece through songs and monologue during “Some Enchanted Evening — A Dinner Theatre Cabaret.”

through songs and monologue.

According to Schmidt, Rose began acting at 10 in the DAF’s Children’s Theatre program. She continued acting and working in all elements of theater until graduating from high school. She attended Interlochen Arts Academy, North Carolina School of the Arts and the Yale School of Drama. She has had a rich professional career working in theater and TV in New York and Hollywood.

“This will be a lively, robust, entertainment-packed evening in the heart of the Uptown Arts District in one of the most beautiful and historic buildings,” Schmidt said. “We have high hopes that it is the first of many projects that the DAF can put together in partnership with the Uptown Arts District and local organizations.”

IF YOU GO

“Some Enchanted Evening — A Dinner Theatre Cabaret” is Saturday, April 11, at Barker Hall at Trinity Episcopal Church, 600 Franklin Square. The evening begins at 6 p.m. with a cocktail hour and silent auction featuring works by local artists. At 7 p.m., the event moves into the ballroom for dinner, with the show starting at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$30 and include dinner and the show. Donations can be given to the wine and beer bar. Make reservations at www.dunesartsfoundation.com or by calling (219) 879-7509. Email abby.daf@gmail.com for additional information.

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PNC Theatre, Festival Players Guild to Present Elizabethan Mashup

Purdue University-North Central Theatre and Festival Players Guild will present two seldom-staged Elizabethan works in two hours, Christopher Marlowe's "Tamburlaine" and John Lyly's "Galatea," at Mainstreet Theatre, 807 Franklin St., Michigan City.

Performances are at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, April 11, 3 p.m. Sunday, April 12, and 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, April 17-18.

"I found 'Galatea' as I was working on a book about Shakespeare's Rosalind and reading around in the history of Elizabethan theater. I thought it was a tremendously subversive play and so funny, I knew I wanted to try to stage it," Director Paul Hecht, PNC associate professor of English, said.

"But I also thought that if I'm going to ask students and audiences to deal with a play from Shakespeare's time that's not by Shakespeare, I might as well do two as one. If you're skeptical that any 400-year-old English playwrights are worth reading or seeing other than Shakespeare, I might as well make two arguments at the same time."

"Tamburlaine" depicts the world-conquering adventures of a real historical figure who was famous among Europeans for having defeated Turkish forces and delaying the conquest of southern Europe. The production emphasizes the affinities of Tamburlaine's story with the American Dream. Tamburlaine begins as a shepherd who believes he is destined to become the king of Persia and conquer surrounding lands.

"Galatea" is a comedy of mistaken identities and love found in unexpected places. The characters



Cameron Fehland as Theridamas and Lillianna Pollnow as Mycetes in "Tamburlaine."

are faced with a deadly custom: every five years, the fairest and chastest maiden in the land must be bound to a tree and sacrificed to a sea monster as a peace offering to the sea god Neptune.

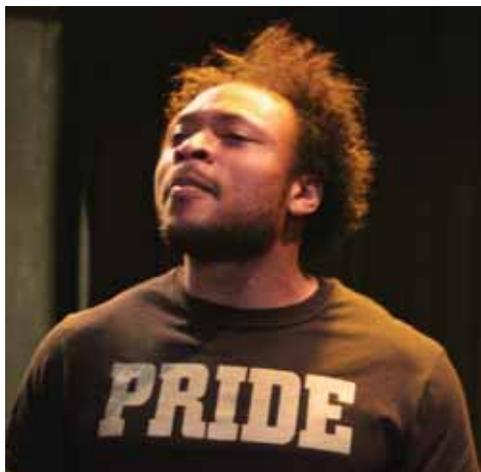
Obviously, the fathers of Galatea and Phillida, the two girls deemed the fairest, are not happy about this. To protect their daughters, the men decide separately to disguise their daughters as boys and send

them into the woods to trick the gods. Meanwhile, the gods are playing tricks of their own.

The plays feature a large cast of PNC students, including some who have appeared in performances such as Shakespeare's "The Taming of the Shrew" in April 2013 and "Henry IV, Part 1" in 2012. Senior Jeremy Harris, Michigan City, stars as Tamburlaine. In all other cases, cast members play at least two parts, some as many as five.

The cast includes Aram Arden, La Porte; Angela Barreto, New Carlisle; Aaron Collings, La Porte; Cameron Fehland, La Porte; Lamesha Harris, Chesterton; Jacob Hibbard, Chesterton; Kristen Hixon, Michigan City; Colin Janiszewski, Valparaiso; Eileen Long, Michigan City; Katelyn Mosher, Michigan City; Lillianna Pollnow, Michigan City; Kaitlin Richter, Valparaiso; Charles Trott, La Porte; Holly Trott, La Porte; Alexis Ulrich, Chesterton; Nathan Upchurch, Knox; Alice Wasick, Michigan City.

Tickets, which are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students with a valid ID, may be reserved by calling (219) 874-4269 or emailing info@festivalplayersguild.org



Jeremy Harris as "Tamburlaine."



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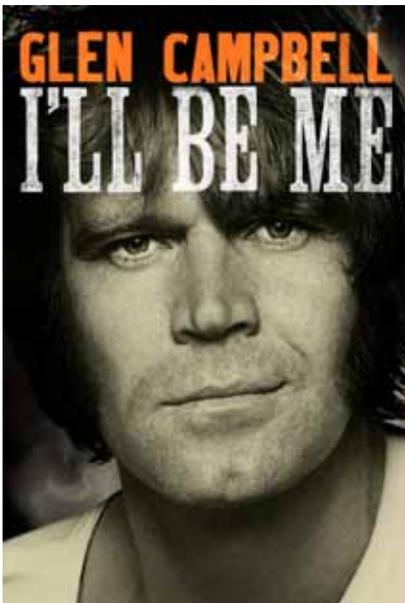
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Glen Campbell Documentary

Pines Village Retirement Communities in Valparaiso will host a screening of the Oscar-nominated documentary "Glen Campbell — I'll Be Me" at 6 p.m. Thursday, April 16.



The showing also will feature a discussion with Campbell's wife, Kim, and a performance by his children, Ashley and Shannon Campbell.

Glen Campbell, known for hits like "Rhinestone Cowboy" and "Wichita Lineman," was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease in 2011, subsequently launching with his family a Goodbye Tour chronicled in the documentary.

The screening and presentation will be at Ivy Tech Auditorium, 3100 Ivy Tech Drive, Valparaiso. Tickets, which are \$20, are available online at eventbrite.com and searching for "Glen Campbell." Doors open at 5:30 p.m. with refreshments and hors d'oeuvres. The film is 104 minutes. Before and after the film, families may stop by the Alzheimer's Association resource table for information on programs and services for Alzheimer's patients. Free parking is available, and the auditorium is accessible for people with disabilities.

Contact Pines Village Retirement Communities at (219) 465-1591 for more information.

Monday Night Ceramics

Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St., will offer a new five-week session of Monday Night Ceramics starting from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Monday, April 13.

The new instructor is Joel Pisowicz, who was raised in Porter and made his first pots at Chesterton High School, where he graduated in 2010. He has been serious about making pottery for the past three years and recently finished his training in the Ceramics Bachelor of Fine Arts program at Indiana University-Bloomington.

The class focus is basic pottery making methods, with students learning to create wheel-thrown or hand-built pottery that serves a specific function. Pisowicz will introduce some history and provide exposure to international contemporary pottery. The goal is to leave with a better understanding of ceramics — the history and the actual process.

The cost is \$135, with members receiving a \$25 discount. Students can buy 25 pounds of clay for \$25. All other supplies are included.

Call the center at (219) 926-4711 to register. Visit www.chestertonart.com for more information.

"Off the Wall" Fundraiser

A unique fundraiser that transforms leftover yard signs into works of art will help provide scholarships for the Safe Harbor after-school program.

The "Off the Wall" frames are hand-crafted message centers (chalk boards or cork boards) created from leftover yard signs — used during the November 2013 Michigan City Area Schools referendum campaign — by Safe Harbor students from Michigan Resources clients.

Anyone interested in the project, supported by Michigan City Rotary Club, can stop by Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St., between 2:30 and 7 p.m. Thursday, April 16. The recommended cost is a \$20 donation per frame. Only 250 frames will be available on first-come, first-served basis.

AAUW Lunch

Hatidza Ramic will present the program "Journey from Bosnia" during the American Association of University Women Michigan City Branch lunch at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, April 11, at Hibachi Buffet in Marquette Mall.

Anyone with an associate or higher degree from an accredited college or university can become a member. Contact Julie Kreighbaum at (219) 872-3730 if interested or to reserve a seat for the lunch.

AAUW supports equality for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research. The Michigan City branch meets monthly September through May.



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National Honor Society Inductees



Marquette Catholic High School on March 24 inducted the following students into its National Honor Society chapter: (back row, from left) Fiona Eggen, Eric Ding, Zoya Ganz, Victoria Sparkman, Alex Olesker and Nell McDonnell. The middle row is (from left) Jacob Dabkowski, Jason Liu, Daniel Malave, Abby Andert and Kevin Robson. The front row is (from left) Natalie Cloninger, Lily Giancaspro, Stephanie Parish, Jenna Szaday, Bella Kaplan and Sarah Jin.

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What's New in Long Beach

The Town of Long Beach has scheduled a one week leaf pickup Monday through Friday, April 27-May 1.

All leaves must be at the street's edge by April 26. The truck will start at Stop 13 and proceed to Stop 31 until leaves are picked up. This is a contracted service, so only one pass through town is scheduled.

Large item pickup is the first two Mondays in June: June 1 and 8. Place items alongside regular refuse by 6 a.m.

Since Independence Day falls on a Saturday, there will be no next-day refuse pickup, but the normal Monday, July 6, garbage run will be in effect.

The Park and Recreation Summer Camp will begin Monday, June 15, and continue for seven weeks, ending July 31. More details are forthcoming.

The Long Beach Community Center has a new floor installed in the gym and new paint and updated lighting. Check for scheduled pickleball times, or pick up the key at the police dispatch desk. Table tennis is in LBCC Room 10 at 3 p.m. Wednesdays and 9 a.m. Saturdays.

Environmental Party

An environmental party to support the Alliance for the Great Lakes is from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Saturday, April 11, at Shady Creek Winery, 2030 Tryon Road, Michigan City.

Sponsored by the winery and Elle Salon, the event will feature music, a raffle, silent auction, fashion performance art, food and drinks.

Visit greatlakes.org for more information on the alliance.

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Lecture on Virginia Woolf, Air Power

Purdue University-North Central will host Elizabeth Evans' free lecture "Virginia Woolf's Airplanes: Air Power and Aerial Views Between the World Wars" at 6 p.m. Thursday, April 16, in Technology Building Room 301.



Evans, University of Notre Dame assistant teaching professor, will examine how the growing importance of military air power affected art and literature in Britain during the years between World War I and II. Her research focuses specifically on the work of feminist writer Virginia Woolf, who experiments with the airplane as model for novelistic point of view in "Mrs. Dalloway" and "The Years."

In a recent essay in the journal *Modern Fiction Studies* in 2013, Evans argues that Woolf is attracted to and troubled by the aerial point of view. She admired its aesthetic possibilities, but was disturbed by its seemingly necessary links to warfare.

Evans is an active member of the community of Woolf scholars and recently edited a volume of essays from the annual international conference on Woolf. She is working on a book about aerial views in British and Anglophone writing from the early 20th century to the present.

Her PNC lecture is sponsored by the Chancellor's Diversity Fund. Additional information can be obtained by contacting Heather Fielding, PNC assistant professor of English, at hfieldin@pnc.edu or (219) 785-5327.

Stained Glass Class

Judy Gregurich and Mark Montgomery will teach a six-week Stained Glass Class starting from 7 to 9 p.m. Tuesday, April 14, at Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St.

Students have the option to design and make a stained glass window, or create a 3-D, polar-style sundial that will tell local, solar time. In either instance, students will learn to cut glass and use the copper foil method with solder.

All supplies are included, but participants should take a protractor and ruler to the first class. The cost is \$110 for members and \$125 for non-members. Call (219) 926-4711 to register. Visit www.chestertonart.com for more information.

Genealogical Society

La Porte County Genealogical Society meets at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 14, at the La Porte Parks Department, 250 Pine Lake Ave., La Porte.

Felicia Thomas will present the program "Scrapbooks and Stained Glass Windows — Family History Clues in Items Left Behind by Our Ancestors."

Guests are welcome. More information is available at <http://tinyurl.com/p3wxfhq>

Kentucky Derby Celebration

The first Kentucky Derby Celebration benefitting Reins of Life is Friday, May 1, at the Blue Chip Casino Hotel & Spa Stardust Event Center.

A cash bar and silent auction are at 6 p.m. The buffet dinner and program are at 7:15 p.m., followed by dancing at 8:15 p.m. Reservations can be made by calling (574) 232-0853.

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Proceeds from the event will aid clients of the Samaritan Counseling Centers in Northwest Indiana. The Samaritan Counseling Center (SCC) is a community-based, interfaith counseling and educational service, directly benefiting the citizens of La Porte and Porter counties. In addition to fees for service, this private, not-for-profit organization is supported by charitable contributions.

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www.skedaddle.orgfor race details, start times, and
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Clean It Up Day



Volunteers from last year's cleanup pose outside Willie Milsap's City/County Resource Center.

Pitch in to clean up your neighborhood, county road or any public space from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 2, with the La Porte County Solid Waste District – and get everything you need to do it.

“Last year, we sponsored more than two dozen cleanups with more than 200 volunteers, and we’d like to have even more this year,” said Alicia Ebaugh, Solid Waste District education and public outreach coordinator. “It’s a great way to celebrate Earth Day and get children involved with community service.”

It’s the fourth year the Solid Waste District has organized Clean It Up Day (formerly known as La Porte County Community Cleanup Day) with help from local businesses, government agencies and the national non-profit group Keep America Beautiful.

People and groups who sign up to participate in

Clean It Up Day will receive garbage bags, work gloves, water and snacks that have been donated to the effort. All participants have to do is choose an area to clean up, or join one already organized. Cleanups in Michigan City include one at Washington Park beach with the Michigan City Parks Department, and one in the Fifth Ward with Willie Milsap’s City/County Resource Center volunteers.

The Michigan City Refuse Department, with Refuse Inspector Connie Adams, is picking up all litter collected in Michigan City. The Community Work Program, under the guidance of La Porte County Sheriff’s Deputy Bob Blair, will pick up litter collected elsewhere in the county.

Contact Ebaugh at (219) 326-0014 or email aebaugh@solidwastedistrict.com to sign up or donate food or materials.

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Volunteers Needed for Book Sale

The Friends of Westchester Public Library needs volunteers to help sort books and set up the Spring Book Sale from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 11, at Westchester Public Library, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

Although many books already are sorted and boxed, the Friends still has hundreds of volumes to categorize and many boxes to move and arrange on the sale tables. Books typically are sorted by the type of binding, condition and subject.

Volunteers, who don't have to be members of the Friends, are asked to come to the library's second floor to help.

Volunteers also are needed throughout the week of April 13 to help sort last-minute donations and during sale hours. The Friends Only Preview Sale is from 4 to 8 p.m. Friday, April 17. The public sale is from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, April 18 and 19.

Donations may be brought to the collection box in the library lobby. Donations are collected year round, and items are reviewed for possible addition to the library's collection before going to the sale.

Proceeds from the sale support many supplemental and special programming events. Call (219) 926-7696 for more information.



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Michigan City Public Library

The following programs are available at Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St.:

• **Story Time at 10 a.m. Wednesdays, April 8, 15, 22 and 29.**

Children birth to age 5 accompanied by an adult/guardian can participate in stories, songs and crafts. Arrive a few minutes early to receive a name tag.

• **Knitting Club for All Ages at 5:30 p.m. Wednesdays, April 8, 15, 22 and 29.**

Take size 9 straight knitting needles, worsted yarn and tape measure (optional). Contact Joanne Hale at joeyAB1971@yahoo.com or (219) 814-4398 for more information.

• **Duneland Stamp Club at 6 p.m. Thursday, April 9.**

The club meets the second Thursday of each month. New members are invited.

• **“Big Hero 6” at 10 a.m. Thursday, April 9.**

Light refreshments will be provided. Those 18 and younger have a chance to win a DVD of the movie.

• **“The Lost Pyramids of Bosnia” at 2 p.m. Saturday, April 11.**

Local traveler Donna Wozniak spent 14 days as a volunteer uncovering the structures — the first pyramids discovered in Europe.

• **Springtime Music with Steve Kowalczyk at 2 p.m. Sunday, April 12.**

Accordianist Steve Kowalczyk began playing as a child and studied in Warsaw and Berlin. He has performed worldwide, including at Taste of Polonia and Navy Pier in Chicago.

• **Great Decisions at 6:30 p.m. Mondays, April 13 and 27.**

The foreign policy discussion program is in its 17th season. Topics this month are U.S. policy toward Africa and Syria's refugee crisis.

• **Yoga with David Kipley at 5:30 p.m. Tuesdays, April 14, 21 and 28.**

Kipley is a graduate of Dancing Feet Yoga's Yoga Teacher Program. All levels are welcome. Take a mat and wear comfortable clothes.

• **“Art à la Carte: It's Spring!” at 3:30 p.m. Thursday, April 16.**

All materials are provided. The program is designed for children 4-10. A child must be present to receive craft supplies.

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



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Local Angler Makes Big Catch

Dan Rostecki didn't catch what he was after while fishing from the Michigan City pier. Instead, he hauled in a state-record lake whitefish.

"I was out there brown trout fishing on the bottom and thought I had one," Rostecki said. "It ended up being a whitefish. It's the first one I've ever caught. It was really, really a bonus."

A record bonus no less.

DNR State Record Fish Program Coordinator Jamie Smyth certified the record catch March 30. Rostecki will receive a certificate and patch from the DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife as recognition of the record.

Rostecki's catch weighed 5 pounds, 8 ounces, and topped the previous Indiana record by more than a pound. He had an inkling it might be a contender after a friend caught one a week earlier that weighed 3 pounds, 6 ounces.

Rostecki used squid and nightcrawler for bait.

Lake whitefish is a relatively new category in the DNR's State Record Fish Program. The first year it was included was 2012 after DNR fisheries biologists determined an increasing number of lake whitefish in Indiana waters of Lake Michigan required establishment of a daily bag limit of 12 fish.

Scott Nieman set the initial record at 3.05 pounds in 2012, and Donald Hans topped it later that year with one weighing 4-6.

Ken Schultz's Fishing Encyclopedia states the average size for lake whitefish is in the 1- to 2-pound range. Different accounts put the line-catch world record at 14-6 or 15-6, but the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources website cites one weighing 42.67 pounds caught in Lake Superior in 1918.

Indiana's Record Fish Program began in 1963 and now recognizes 52 species. Visit dnr.in.gov/fish-wild/3577.htm for more information.

Pageant of Drums

Drum Corps International and the Cavaliers have announced the lineup for the annual Pageant of Drums on Saturday, June 27, at Ames Field in Michigan City.

The host corps, the Cavaliers, Rosemont, Ill., will be joined by: the Cadets, Allentown, Pa.; the Boston (Mass.) Crusaders; Crossmen, San Antonio; Spirt of Atlanta; Genesis, Austin, Texas; and Legends, Kalamazoo, Mich.

Tickets can be purchased at Visit Michigan City La Porte Convention and Visitors Bureau in Marquette Mall. The cost is \$20 per seat in the family section or general admission, and \$25 in the reserved center section. Children 6 and younger are free in the family section when accompanied by a paying adult. Call the CVB at (219) 872-5055 for more information.

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“The Maple City Four”



It's time credit was given to “The Maple City Four.” They're the ones who put La Porte on the map.

That's according to former La Porte Mayor Leigh Morris, who will speak on the topic at 1 p.m. Saturday, April 11, in the meeting room at La Porte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave., La Porte.

Morris will present a multi-media program on the quartet, explaining their rise from auditioning in La Porte to becoming famous on WLS Barn Dance, in vaudeville and movies starring Gene Autry and Roy Rogers.

Morris is impressed with the way the Maple City Four spread the word about La Porte wherever they went. He will show clips from their movies, as well as memorabilia he has collected. The Historical Society owns two of their movies on DVD and will show them that day in the Kesling Room. The spring 2015 display, “Presenting The Maple City Four,” features recordings of the group and will stay up through May.

Call (219) 324-6767 or email info@laportecounty-history.org for more information.

Fernwood Botanical Garden

The following programs are available at Fernwood Botanical Garden and Nature Preserve, 13988 Range Line Road, Niles, Mich.:

- **Tatting for Beginners from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. EDT Saturday, April 11.**

Tatting is the process of making delicate lace by looping and knotting with a single cotton thread and a small shuttle. Learn the basic tatting stitches from Shirley Woods. All materials are included. The cost is \$25 (members cost \$20). Register by April 9.

- **Creation Stations: Weaving from 1 to 3 p.m. EDT Saturday, April 11.**

The program is suitable for children 9-13. The cost is \$12 (\$10 for members). Register by April 9.

- **Fernwood Photography Club Meeting at 2 p.m. EDT Sunday, April 12.**

The club is open to all ages and experience levels, non-competitive and low-key. It combines a one-hour indoor meeting followed by an outdoor photo shoot. There is no fee, but Fernwood membership or admission fees apply.

- **Day camp registration.**

All sessions run Tuesday through Friday. New this year, all campers receive a 2015 Fernwood Summer Camps T-shirt. Enrollment is limited and programs fill quickly, so early registration is encouraged.

To receive the member discount, have a valid member code ready, or contact Fernwood if needing your member code. Registration for the general public opens at 10 a.m. EDT Wednesday, April 8. Do so at www.fernwoodbotanical.org, by phone at (269) 695-6491 or in person. Call Head Naturalist Wendy Jones at extension 220 for more information.

“Dining with Diabetes”

Purdue Extension's “Dining with Diabetes” kicks off Thursday, April 16, at Hanna United Methodist Church, 101 W. Hopper St., Hanna.

Participants can take favorite recipes for a make-over, enjoy a light meal featuring recipes from the “Dining with Diabetes” collection and learn how to make lifestyle changes. Topics include: planning a healthy meal made with “My Plate”; using sweeteners; reducing sodium, fat and carbohydrates; increasing fiber; eating out; and healthy choices at parties and celebrations.

All classes are from 4 to 5:30 p.m. at the church. Ensuing sessions are April 30, May 7 and 14. Scholarships are available for those needing financial assistance. Otherwise, the fee is \$25 per person or \$30 when attending with a friend and sharing materials. The cost includes materials and a light meal.

Contact Marcia Wolff at (219) 324-9407 or email mwolff@purdue.edu for more information.

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Westchester Public Library

The following programs are available:

- **Chesterton Writing Group meets from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursdays, April 9 and 23, in the Bertha Wood meeting room at Thomas Library, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.**

Published and unpublished fiction and non-fiction writers are welcome to share their work, learn about publishing and find support and inspiration from fellow writers. Contact group moderator Stefan Barkow at Stefan.Barkow@gmail.com or Thomas Library at (219) 926-7696 for more information.

- **Minecraft Meet-up for children 6 and older from 1:30 to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 11, at Hageman Library, 100 Francis St., Porter, and 4:30 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 15, in the Bertha Wood room at Thomas Library.**

The program allows children to play in a group setting, meet other Minecraft players, share gaming strategies and show off their skills. Parents are welcome, but required for youth 10 and younger. Registration is required and can be done in person at either branch. The WPL Gaming Policy and Rules of Conduct will be available and must be signed upon registration.

- **Knitting Together from 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday, April 12, at Westchester Township History Museum, located in Brown Mansion, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.**

The program is free, and open to those who also crochet or do needlework.

- **Unveiling of the new temporary exhibit, "Lost to Time: Duneland Ghost Towns," at 2 p.m. Sunday, April 12, at Westchester Township History Museum.**

The exhibit tells the stories of local towns that dotted this area, but are no longer part of official maps. Refreshments will be served. The exhibit runs through July 5.

- **The Illiana Garden Railway Society has a display at Hageman Library.**

The display features locomotives, garden railroad models and information about the society, which is interested in all areas of garden and modular large scale railroading.

French Outdoor Market

Episcopal Church of the Mediator, 14280 Red Arrow Highway, Harbert, Mich., is accepting space reservations through July 1 for its Annual French Outdoor Market.

The event is July 18 and open to home-based farmers, gardeners, crafters, artists or entrepreneurs. Contact the market committee at mediatorfrenchmarket@gmail.com or call Jeannine Totzke at (269) 921-1127 for more information.

Author Book Signing



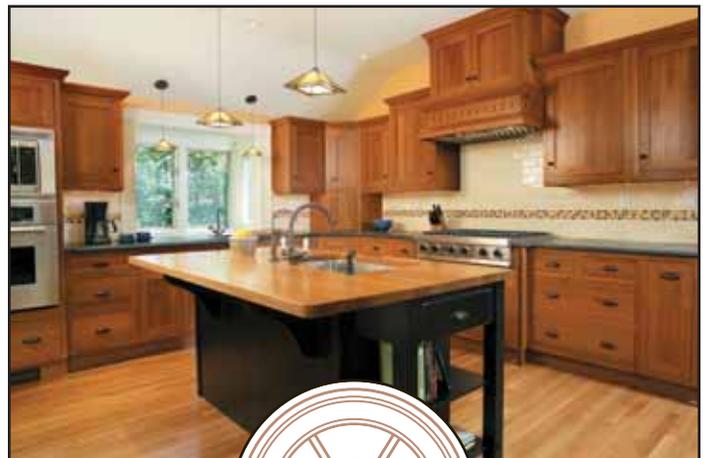
At first glance, readers might believe Nimbilasha Cushing's book, "Come This Way: There Is An Exit," to be about her 31-year flight attendant career at United Airlines.

They would be mistaken. Her story follows three generations of her family, sharecroppers who lived in Tennessee and Missouri during the 1950s and 1960s.

Cushing will have a book signing from 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday, April 11, at Book Warehouse of Michigan City 632, 1203 Light-house Place.

For the past three years, the book has been selling by word of mouth. It recently was added to the inventory of Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore.

Contact Book Warehouse at (219) 262-5040 or michigancity@book-warehouse.com for additional information.



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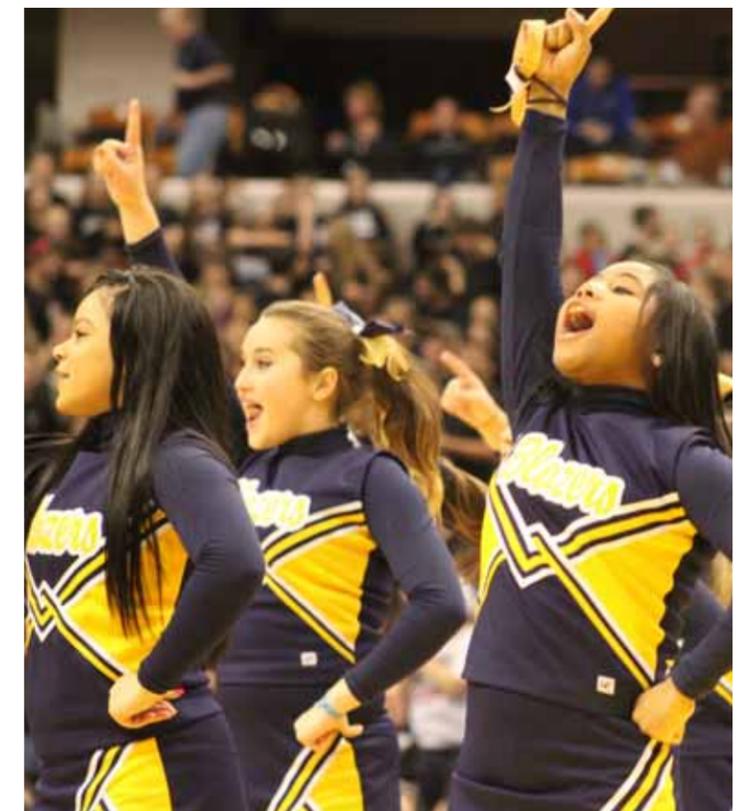
Blazer Pride



Marquette Catholic High School showed up in full force to support the Blazers as they faced Barr-Reeve in the Class A State Finals on March 28. The final score was Barr-Reeve 65, Marquette 50. Ryan Fazekas led Marquette with 18 points and Tommy Wilson 13. Cameron Hall led the Blazers with eight rebounds.



Photos by Bob Wellinski





What's Cooking

by Jim LaRocco

According to the calendar, spring is here, winter is over and warmer weather is on the way. A great majority of us spent all winter hibernating, watching TV and looking forward to warmer temperatures and added daylight hours.

I don't think too many of us, however, were looking forward to the curse of spring: spring cleaning.

Like it or not, these added chores come around every year at this time. We get to perform the most enjoyable tasks like cleaning up the yard, washing windows, thoroughly cleaning the inside of the house and, of course, getting the last remnants of winter off of the garage floor.

Spring time also is a good time to clean out your spice cabinet. Dried spices can last a long time, but they also lose color, flavor and aroma over time.



Jim LaRocco's spice cabinet after a thorough spring cleaning.

when the color is no longer bright and when the aroma is gone, throw them out. It is important to keep them sealed in a container with a tight lid in a cool, dry place, not over the dishwasher or stove.

One of the large companies that makes dried spices has set guidelines on how long spices will last. Ground spices, such as nutmeg, cinnamon and turmeric, and herbs such as basil, oregano and parsley, can last two to three years. Whole spices, seeds and extracts can last up to four years, with the exception of vanilla, which can last almost forever.

Seeds can last up to four years, with the exception of poppy and sesame seeds, which last only two years.

If your spices have been around since General Motors was a corporal, or you can't remember how long they have been sitting in your cabinet, then you might want to get rid of them. Some people use the six-month rule, but that can get expensive.

For me,

Buying spices in those small jars at the grocery store is expensive, so I buy mine in bulk. There is a large selection at health food stores, and at some grocery stores, you can buy them in large quantities or just enough for that special dish.

For example, a one pound bag of organic fennel seed costs around \$15 in bulk compared to \$30 or more to buy the same amount in those convenient small jars at the grocery store. I use a minimum of four pounds of fennel seed a year, so I save quite a bit buying in bulk.

I keep my spices in canning jars in the cabinet and vacuum seal the rest in quart jars and store them in the pantry. A good quality vacuum sealer is helpful in keeping all your bulk foods fresh. If you don't want another small appliance or don't have the extra space to store it, many grocery stores sell a small battery operated version along with different sizes of ready made bags that work well.



A one pound bag of organic fennel seed.

I prefer to use organic spices, vanilla beans and extracts. The flavor is better, and you will not be adding unwanted chemicals into your dishes.

One spice company even has a Fresh Taster feature on its website where you can type in the code from your spice jar to find out how old it is.

What type of spices do well-stocked kitchens have? It depends on the type of dishes you cook.

For some reason, Italian dishes are a favorite in our house, so oregano, anise, Italian seasoning, garlic powder and fennel seed are always on hand. For chicken, you might want ginger, marjoram, oregano, paprika, rosemary, sage and thyme. The spices commonly used in cooking beef are bay leaf, marjoram, nutmeg, onion, pepper, sage, thyme and garlic. With pork, you need garlic, sage, pepper and oregano. The popular spices for fish are curry powder, dill, dry mustard, marjoram, paprika and pepper.

Spices are great on vegetables, too. Spices used on potatoes are garlic, dill, rosemary and paprika. Basil, bay leaf, dill, marjoram, onion, oregano, parsley and pepper are great on fresh tomatoes topped with fresh mozzarella cheese, a summertime favor-

ite at our house.

Don't forget the chili powder, garlic powder, pink Himalayan salt and peppercorns.

For baking, you will need clove, nutmeg, cinnamon, ginger, cream of tartar, baking soda and baking powder.

Spices are natural antioxidants, with many of them having more antioxidant power per gram than fruits or vegetables. Those with the highest amount of antioxidants are oregano, sweet bay, dill, thyme, rosemary and sage.

The latest research on the use of spices for medicinal purposes is promising. Hot pepper has the potential to suppress some cancer cells. Cinnamon may help regulate blood sugar levels. Sage might help protect brain cells and preserve memory. Cloves can ease toothaches and has been used for years as a breath freshener. Turmeric may be useful in treating Alzheimer's disease, reducing headaches and damage from strokes.

Here is a tip for adding fresh herbs to your dishes. Chop them and add them to your dish right before you serve it. This way, it will keep its bright vibrant color and won't wilt.



An example of how stores arrange their bulk spice storage space.

In your travels, don't forget to stop in those little hole-in-the-wall spice shops. They have some really good blended spices, Citrus Poultry, Blood Orange Pepper, Raspberry Chipotle and Cranberry Maple rubs. There are many smoky blends of spices for that extra

kick, and in varying degrees of heat.

So if you thought parsley, sage, rosemary and thyme was just a song by Simon & Garfunkel, think again. Spices not only make our dishes more aromatic and flavorful, but they may be the key to keeping us healthy.

Until next time, enjoy.

*Purdue University North Central Theatre
and Festival Players Guild
will present two Elizabethan plays in two hours*



"Galatea"
by John Lyly

"Tamburlaine"
by Christopher Marlowe

Saturday, April 11, at 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, April 12, at 3 p.m.
Friday, April 17, at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 18, at 7:30 p.m.

Mainstreet Theater

807 Franklin St., Michigan City

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Reservations: (219) 874-4269, info@festivalplayersguild.org



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Jerry Peters Memorial Fund

Festival Players Guild has received a major grant from the Jerry Peters Memorial Fund for improvements to Mainstreet Theatre, 807 Franklin St., Michigan City.

The \$5,100, donated through Unity Foundation of La Porte County, will help buy a new, much-needed lighting board for the theater.



Peters, in whose memory the fund was created, was the longtime president of, and major force behind, the guild for several decades before his death in 2012. He also spent his career teaching in Michigan City schools, as well as being a local business owner and an advocate for civic improvements.

“Our current lighting board is antiquated and beyond repair,” Guild President Jan Dick said. “For the last several years, it has been patched together ...to coax it through yet another season.

“The Festival Players Guild is extremely grateful to this generous donor.”

Ray Scott Crawford, who has served as Canterbury Summer Theatre’s artistic director for the past 30 years, added, “This award is absolutely wonderful. Jerry would be proud.”

The guild administers two initiatives: the Canterbury Winter Arts series, which focuses on local and area programming, as well as Canterbury Summer Theatre, one of the Midwest’s oldest professional summer-theater companies, which will present its 47th season this summer.

Call (219) 874-4269 or visit www.festivalplayers-guild.org for more information.

PNC Open House

Purdue University-North Central will host a free campus open house for all prospective students and their families Thursday, April 16, in the Library-Student-Faculty Building.

The general open house for all prospective students begins at 5:30 p.m. Campus tours are at 5:30 and 6 p.m. An Academic, Student Service and Activity Fair will continue throughout the evening, where students can explore majors, clubs and activities, as well as the types of assistance PNC offers.

Two breakout sessions are at 6:15 p.m. One features a student panel that will explore campus life through the eyes of PNC students, along with the basics of financial aid. The second will explain the transfer process and academic opportunities.

The event is appropriate for high school students, students with previous college credit, community college graduates, veterans and adults thinking about attending college. Families are welcome. Light refreshments will be served.

Pre-registration is encouraged, but not required, by April 14 and can be completed by email at www.pnc.edu/admissions/openhouse. Additional information may be obtained by email at abishel@pnc.edu, by phone at (219) 785-5200, Ext. 5505, or by IM abishel@pnc.edu through AOL.

Gardens Seeks Vendors

International Friendship Gardens is seeking environmentally friendly crafters, plant sellers, food crafters and green organizations to participate in its Earth Day-Arbor Day event Sunday, April 26.

The Gardens, 2055 U.S. 12, will be open from noon to 4 p.m. for the free event that will feature trail walks, children’s crafts and environmentally friendly crafts, oils and foods.

Call (219) 878-9885 if interested and leave a message for Dennis B. or Nancy J, or send an email to internationalfriendshipgardens@yahoo.com

Pysanky Egg Classes

Mary Acton will host two Pysanky egg classes from 6 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, April 15, and 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 18, at Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St.

Students will learn the art of Pysanky egg dying while creating egg ornaments. Participants may choose from a variety of spring designs or create their own. By the end, each guest will have completed an egg or two.

Each class costs \$50, with members receiving a \$5 discount. Call (219) 926-4711 to register. Visit www.chestertonart.com for more information.

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Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

The following programs are available:

- **Ranger-led nature hikes through Pinhook Bog at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. Saturday, April 11.**

Because of the bog's fragility, tours are limited to 15 people. Meet at the visitor center, then caravan to the bog. Reservations are required by calling (219) 395-1882.

- **Douglas Center Open House from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturdays at the Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education.**

Explore the center and view interactive exhibits, a park video and live animal room.

- **The free Junior Ranger Program from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily at the Indiana Dunes Visitor Center and Paul H. Douglas Center.**

A variety of Junior Ranger programs exist, from a short Beachcombers Activity Page to an extensive Junior Rangers Booklet. Complete a program and earn a prize. Stop by the Visitor Center or Douglas Center to pick up a free program booklet.

- **"Kid's Rule" from 1 to 3 p.m. Sundays at the Visitor Center.**

Join a ranger in the Visitor Center's activity room for stories and activities. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

- **Parents and toddlers can participate in the new Nature Tot's program from 10 a.m. to noon the second Wednesday of each month at the Paul H. Douglas Center.**

Children 2-4 will learn about nature through a ranger-led story time, crafts and outdoor play.

The Visitor Center is at 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. The Paul H. Douglas Center is on Lake Street north of U.S. 12 in the Miller Beach neighborhood of Gary. Call (219) 395-1882 for more information.

Community Spell Bowl Results

Eighteen teams participated in READ La Porte County Inc.'s 2015 Community Spell Bowl on March 25 at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Hall in La Porte.

Mary Fridh, READ's board president, acted as scorekeeper.

First-place honors went to New Prairie High School's team (Jim Groendyke, Sandy Murray, Jeff Suttor and Patrick Tekyl). The team representing La Porte County Public Library (Jan Ebsch, Stephanie Ebsch, Elizabeth Johnson and Stephanie Murphy) placed second. The spirit award went to Kingsford Heights Elementary School's team.

READ La Porte County is a United Way agency that helps increase reading, math, English and digital literacy skills through free tutoring to children, adult learners and individuals learning English as a Second Language. Visit www.readlaportecounty.org for more information.

Student Accepted to Honors Choir



Krueger Middle School eighth-grader Neva Panayi has been accepted to perform in the 2015 Middle School Honors Performance Series choir.

The choir will rehearse for several days in New York City and perform a concert at Carnegie Hall on June 27. The choir, which features 200 middle-school performers from across

the U.S., Canada and select international schools, will be directed by Greg Gilpin, Jeffrey Grogan and Charles Peltz.

Panayi, a soprano, auditioned for the choir earlier this school year. She submitted her solo CD of "Sky Above the Roof" by Ralph Vaughan Williams, along with a recommendation from her chorus teacher, Shirley Allen. She is an academic honors student at Krueger taking advanced classes in humanities, biology and algebra. Next year, she plans to continue with advanced studies at Michigan City High School and join the Treble Chorale.

A member of the KMS Singers show choir, Panayi performed in the 2015 Circle the State with Song Festival Choir. Earlier this year, she also took part in the ISSMA solo and ensemble contest, earning gold medals for a small ensemble performance (level 4) and for a solo (level 3).

Panayi has set up a "Go Fund Me" page at www.EducateMC.net/neva to defray travel and other expenses for the Carnegie Honors Choir experience.

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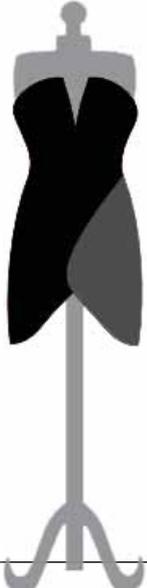
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Come See Us!

Community Leadership Award Winner

Diana Werner received the fourth annual Ned E. Kalb Community Leadership Award during the Purdue Extension La Porte County Annual Meeting at Tracy United Methodist Church, Hamlet.

Werner received a plaque and will have her name added to the permanent plaque, donated by Dick Reel, that hangs in the Extension Office.



Diana Werner (second from left) receives her award from Jason Henderson, Cooperative Extension Service director and associate dean, Monica Komasinski, Leadership La Porte County executive director, and Hugh Tonagel, extension director, La Porte County.

Werner and her husband, Otto, have run a family farm in Hanna their entire lives. They have raised a family, and now their children and grandchildren carry on the tradition. The family has been an important part of Hanna First Lutheran Church for their entire life in Hanna. She has been a Sunday school teacher and still serves as the church treasurer after 23 years.

She has volunteered with the South County Food Pantry, which is located in Hanna, but serves a wide area of south La Porte County and beyond. She single-handedly runs the pantry, from stocking to serving as treasurer, to keeping records, to filing the required government paperwork. She also is the liaison between the pantry and Northern Indiana Food Bank in South Bend. Working closely with 14 area churches also is part of her duties.

The annual leadership award is a partnership between the Purdue Extension La Porte County office and Leadership La Porte County. Ned Kalb served as extension director for many years and was a catalyst for the formation of Leadership La Porte County. He died in November 2011, and the award was created soon after to honor his memory. John Coulter received the award in 2012, Purdue University-North Central Chancellor James Dworikin in 2013 and George and Dory Morley in 2014.

Nominations for the next award will be taken beginning in January 2016.



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Special Thanks

On behalf of Roger and Karen Herrbach and all their family, I want to thank the hundreds of wonderful people who came to the "Hugs for the Herrbachs" fundraiser Saturday, March 28. We think more than 800 friends, family and neighbors came to share the evening with Roger and Karen and each other. We were blown away by the outpouring of love and support for a wonderful hometown couple.

It was truly a night to remember, a celebration of good wishes for the healing of Roger and Karen, but also a celebration of the joy of being part of a small-town community. As someone said, "This is the New Buffalo we know and love!"

We saw a beautiful sense of community pride and cooperation emerging from people who felt separated, lonely and adrift. We think the evening helped mend bodies, hearts and spirits, as well as our beloved New Buffalo area community.

Sincerely,

Judi Herrbach Lowe, Chuck Covert and the "Hugs for New Buffalo" Committee

Sharing Camp Memories

Anyone with fond memories of summer camp can share them on facebook this month for a chance to win a week at Dunes Learning Center.

To enter to win, "like" Dunes Learning Center at Facebook.com/DunesLearningCenter and share weekly the camp photo tagged #DunesCamp<3 with a statement on why you love camp. Winners will be announced on Fridays.

Guests also can win at the camp open house from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 11. The free event lets families explore the campus, meet staff, ask questions and register for camp.

Overnight and day camps are available for ages six to 17. Sessions begin June 22 and include activities such as night hikes, crafts, photography, campfire sing-alongs and beach outings.

Dunes Learning Center is located at 700 Howe Road in Chesterton. Call (219) 395-9555 or visit DunesLearningCenter.org for more information.

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American Red Cross

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

- IBEW 531, 2751 N. Old Indiana 39, La Porte, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, April 11.
- Conservation Club House, 1 Mill Pond Road, Union Mills, 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sunday, April 12.
- First Church of God, 2020 E. Lincolnway, La Porte, noon to 6 p.m. Monday, April 13.

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 for more information.

Railroad Museum Fundraiser

New Buffalo Railroad Museum will host a fundraiser Friday, April 17, at Skip's Restaurant, 16710 Lakeshore Road.

The evening will feature celebrity servers, music, live and silent auctions. All proceeds benefit the museum, 530 S. Whittaker St., Suite B.

More information, especially ticket prices, is available at www.newbuffalorailroadmuseum.org or call (269) 469-8010.

Sarett Nature Center

Sarett Nature Center, 2300 Benton Center Road, Benton Harbor, Mich., will host Third Thursday Restoration Rangers at 1 p.m. EDT Thursday, April 16.

Participants remove invasive plants threatening Sarett's habitats. Call (269) 927-4832 to register.

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2014 Good Samaritan Service Award

The Samaritan Counseling Centers board has named Dr. Richard J. Houck its 2014 Good Samaritan Service Award winner.



Richard Houck (right) receives his award from board member the Rev. Evan Lash.

Houck was born in Michigan City and graduated from Isaac C. Elston Senior High School in 1950. After studying pre-med courses at DePauw University in Greencastle, he received his Doctor of Medicine from Indiana School of Medicine in June 1957.

After a general internship at Orange County General Hospital, Orange, Calif., he entered the Air Force in September 1958. In 1959, he completed the course and was designated a flight surgeon responsible for the health of flight personnel. While on active duty, he completed a residency in ophthalmology at Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, and at Brooke General Hospital, Fort Sam Houston (San Antonio), Texas. He left active duty and returned to Michigan City to open a private practice, but remained in the Air Force Reserve and retired in 1992. His last assignment was commander, 434 Tactical Hospital, Grissom Air Force Base, Peru, Ind.

Along with his wife, Jean, he has been a volunteer at International Friendship Gardens since 1970, serving as board president for the past six years. In 1972, he and Jean co-founded Northern Indiana Association for Children with Learning Disabilities. He has served as president of the medical staff at St. Anthony Hospital, president of the La Porte County Medical Society, trustee for Thirteenth District of the Indiana State Medical Association and assistant treasurer of the Indiana State Medical Association. In 2006, Gov. Mitch Daniels designated him a Distinguished Hoosier for his community service.

To commemorate the 2014 service award, Houck received an inscribed and framed work by artist He Qi (He Qi Arts LLC) that interprets the Good Samaritan parable.

Heart Healthy Breakfast

Rittenhouse Senior Living of Michigan City, 4300 Cleveland Ave., will host a free heart-healthy breakfast and presentation by Dr. Minesh Patel at 9:30 a.m. Friday, April 17.

Patel will discuss how to control risk factors, life after a heart attack and how to care for your heart. Make reservations by calling (219) 872-6800.

LaLu Students Tour London

Several La Lumiere School students traveled to London during spring break as part of the School's Trips and Exchanges program.

The travel opportunities provide academic or service credit in addition to cultural immersion. As part of the one-semester credit course, "London: History and Culture," students and chaperones learned about architecture, history, government, theater, dining and English culture. They toured the city in a double-decker bus and saw Buckingham Palace, Big Ben and the London Bridge. They visited Westminster Abbey and enjoyed a trip to the British Museum, where they viewed Chinese, African and Korean ceramics and artifacts, handwritten music by Mozart and Bach and pages from Leonardo Da Vinci's journal.



Damaris Smith (from left), Jenny Xue, Sarah Gillen, Christy Gong, Sasha Lyubashevsky and Livia Gazzolo visit the Tower of London.

Their experience included a walk through the Churchill War Rooms, where major decisions were made by the British government during World War II, and a tour of Shakespeare's Globe Theatre, Shakespeare's birthplace and his gravesite in Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire, England.

The students enjoyed walking across the Tower Bridge and a tour of the Tower of London, where the Crown Jewels are kept. They toured the House of Parliament and British Library, which holds Bronte's original handwritten copy of Jane Eyre.

To complete their trip, students rode the London Eye Ferris wheel, also known as the Millennium Wheel, and attended Anglican Mass at St. Paul's Cathedral.

To receive credit for the course, students are required to chronicle their adventures through a personal blog and a reflection paper upon their return.

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Indiana Dunes State Park

The following programs are offered:

Saturday, April 11

• **8 a.m. — 19th Annual Friends Native Plant Sale at Indiana Dunes Tourism, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter.**

More than 100 species of hard-to-find native plants will be on sale.

• **10 a.m. — A Salamander Saunter.**

Wear hiking shoes and meet at the Nature Center for a 45-minute stroll through dune forests to search for various amphibians.

• **2 p.m. — Scales and Tales.**

Meet a naturalist at the Nature Center for a 45-minute program on snakes, frogs and salamanders.

• **7:30 p.m. — Bogsucker Ballet.**

Meet at the main entrance parking lot for a 45-minute stealth hike in search of the bogsucker, also known as the woodcock, and its spring courtship dance. Dress for the weather and prepare for off-trail hiking.

Sunday, April 12

• **10 a.m. — Feed the Birds.**

Join a naturalist outside the Nature Center for the daily feeding. Get close views of chickadees, cardinals and woodpeckers.

• **2 p.m. — Sand Dune Trek.**

Meet at the Nature Center for an hour walk into the high dunes.

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.

Duneland Weavers Guild

Betty Burian will present the program "Exploring Crackle" during the Duneland Weavers Guild meeting at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 11, at the Westchester Public Library Annex, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

Visitors are welcome. Each meeting begins with Show 'n Tell.

The guild meets the second Saturday of the month. Visit www.dunelandweaversguild.org for more information.

Military Drill Clinic

The Michigan City High School Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps conducted a military drill clinic Saturday, March 28, in the high school gym.

The clinic focused on armed exhibition drill, modeled after the Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon. It is "fancy" drill, with an emphasis on showmanship through the spinning and throwing/catching of rifles, along with creative drill movements not found in the Marine Corps Drill Manual.



Cadets work on their routine during the military drill clinic.

Eighteen cadets participated in the clinic led by Rob Rodriguez, Portage, who was a JROTC cadet as a student at Portage High School. In his senior year, Portage earned a third-place finish in the JROTC National Drill Competition in Daytona, Fla. Individually, he and a partner took third in Duet, while he earned fifth place in solo competitions. He then enlisted in the Marine Corps. While stationed in Hawaii, he moonlighted with the Kings Guard, an armed exhibition drill unit that performed for tourists and was paid by the Hawaii Bureau of Tourism. Today, he volunteers as the coach for Portage High School's drill team.

"I was impressed with how quickly these Michigan City cadets caught on to some difficult drill movements," Rodriguez said. "These kids have a great attitude and really want to represent Michigan City well at these drill competitions."

The cadets' final drill competition is April 11 at Eisenhower High School, Blue Island, Ill. They also have numerous community service activities prior to graduation. Cadets also will participate in two summer camps. The first is at the St. John's Northwestern Military Academy in Delafield, Wis., from June 8-13. The second is a Science, Technology, Engineering and Math camp at The Citadel in Charleston, S.C., from July 5-14. Both are conducted at no cost to the cadets or Michigan City Area Schools. They are funded by the Marine Corps and donations from the JROTC Booster Club and local organizations.

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LaLu Senior Named Academic All Star

La Lumiere School senior Emily Beach has been named a Regional Academic All Star by the Indiana Association of School Principals.



Students are recognized for academic achievement, extracurricular activities and community service. They also are asked to nominate an influential educator during the application process. Beach nominated her AP English teacher, Stacey Lingle, writing, "Mrs. Lingle pushed me to my limits each and every day in her class, challenging me to find the puzzles presented in great works of literature."

Beach is the daughter of Barbara Tenney, South Bend, and Douglas Beach, Granger.

Pine Benefits from Grant

Arts for Learning has received a \$10,000 grant from the Indiana Arts Commission's Partnering Arts, Communities and Education program.

The two-year grant will fund an extensive arts-integrated literacy program lead by teaching artist Melli Hoppe at Pine Elementary, Michigan City's arts magnet school.

Hoppe will collaborate with Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore and Westchester Township History Museum staff to lead third- and fourth-grade students in a research project that includes a children's book. The teachers also will be involved by engaging in professional development training led by Hoppe to explore how to integrate dance into curriculum.

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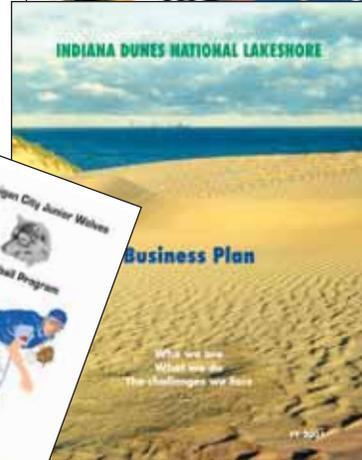
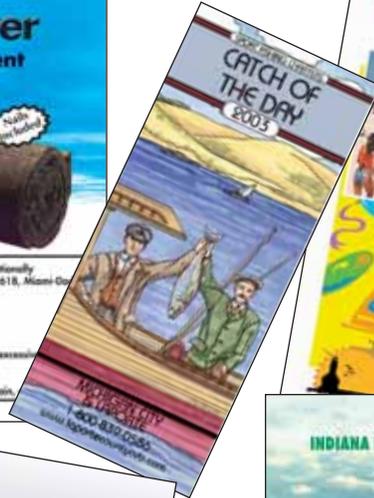


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La Porte County Parks



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.laportecountyparks.org for more information.

Stroller, Baby and You

Aimed at toddlers and preschoolers, programs include music, dance, storytelling and a hike (weather permitting).

The free program is from 10 to 11 a.m. Mondays, April 13 and 27, May 18, June 1, 15 and 29, July 13 and 27 and Aug. 3, 17 and 31 at Luhr County Park, 3178 S. County Road 150 West. Call 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 Red Mill 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, "Spring Has Sprung," is April 15.

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 6 — "Gardening," Sacha Burns of Sunkissed Organics.
- June 3 — "Brain Fit," learn tricks to help with your memory, Regina Welsch of IU Health La Porte Hospital.
- July 1 — "Chair Yoga," Danielle Kessler of IU Health.
- Aug. 5 — "Benefits of Eating Clean," Kessler.
- Sept. 2 — "Understanding Medicare" (handouts available from Medicare and State Health Insurance Assistance Program), Denise Holmes.

Spring Stroll

Join a naturalist for an easy, 45-minute stroll through the woods in search of signs of spring at 9 a.m. Wednesday, April 29 at Bluhm County Park, 3855 S. County Road 1100 West, Westville.

Hikers will use ADA-accessible paths. Pre-registration is required at least one week in advance. Children must be accompanied by an adult. The free hike will include a minimum of five and a maximum of 20 people. Call (219) 325-8315 to reserve a spot.

Visit



-- submitted by the LaPorte County Convention and Visitors Bureau

Third Annual Maple City Grand Prix

The U.S. F1 Powerboat Tour is heading back to La Porte for the Third Annual Maple City Grand Prix.

Visit Michigan City La Porte and U.S. F1 announced the nation's premier tunnel-boat racing series will unfold on La Porte's Stone Lake on May 29-31. The Grand Prix will kick off the U.S. F1 series.

According to tourism and race officials, the annual event attracted nearly 20,000 spectators and pumped more than \$1.5 million into the local economy. That tops the first year's inaugural numbers of 15,000 and \$1 million.

The event once again will feature VIP and meet-the-racers events, a Friday boat parade and downtown events in La Porte, music and fireworks at the beach on Saturday and, of course, great racing all weekend on beautiful Stone Lake. Race schedules are ready now, so pick up a copy at our office in Marquette Mall or view it online at www.MapleCityGrandPrix.com. Also, don't forget to download the free official race application with live streaming and up-to-date action direct to your mobile device. The app is available for download at the App Store and Google Play.

"Registrations are already topping last year's number," F1 President Jose Mendana Jr. said. "U.S. F1 is excited to kick off its season in La Porte with over 40 race teams. New this year is Junior Hydroplanes Junior Class racing. This is the ultimate sport for aspiring racers 9 years old and up

Jack Arnett, Visit Michigan City La Porte executive director, said, "We couldn't have been happier with this race in La Porte. The race exceeded our expectations last year and was a huge success. The economic impact was strong, and we look forward to adding to that this year."

Contact Jane Daley or Rick Wright at (219) 872-5055 or jane@michigancitylaporte.com or rick@michigancitylaporte.com for more information.

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Activities to Explore

In the Local Area:

April 9 — Free showing, "Big Hero 6," 10 a.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

April 10-13 — Vickers Theatre, 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. *Now showing:* "Gett, the Trial of Viviane Amsalem." Not rated. In Hebrew, French and Arabic with English subtitles. Times: 6 p.m. Fri.-Mon. Also: "Queen & Country." Not rated. Times: 9 p.m. Fri.-Sat., 3 p.m. Sat.-Sun. All times Eastern. Info: vickerstheatre.com

April 11 — "The Lost Pyramids of Bosnia," 2 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

April 11 — Program, "The Maple City Four," 1 p.m., La Porte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave., La Porte. Info: (219) 324-6767, info@laportecountyhistory.org

April 11 — Mad About Mysteries, 2 p.m., Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.

April 11 — Ranger-led Pinhook Bog hikes, 9 a.m. & 1 p.m., Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore Visitor Center, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. Reservations: (219) 395-1882.

April 11 — A Salamander Saunter, 10 a.m., Nature Center @ Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East (north end of Indiana 49), Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

April 11 — Author book signing, Nimbilasha Cushing's "Come This Way: There Is An Exit," 1-3 p.m., Book Warehouse of Michigan City 632, 1203 Lighthouse Place. Info: (219) 262-5040.

April 11 — "Some Enchanted Evening — A Dinner Theatre Cabaret," 6 p.m., Barker Hall at Trinity Episcopal Church, 600 Franklin Square. Cost for dinner and show: \$30. Reservations: (219) 879-7509, www.dunesartsfoundation.com

April 11 — Environmental party to support Alliance for the Great Lakes, 6:30-9:30 p.m., Shady Creek Winery, 2030 Tryon Road, Michigan City. Info: greatlakes.org

April 11 — "Kashmir: The Led Zeppelin Show!," 8 p.m. EDT, The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: \$15. Info: www.acorntheater.com, (269) 756-3879.

April 11 — Friends 19th Annual Native Plant Sale, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., Indiana Dunes Tourism visitor center, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. Info/preorders: www.friendofindianadunes.org

April 11-18 — PNC Theatre mashup of "Tamburlaine" and "Galatea," Mainstreet Theatre, 807 Franklin St., Michigan City. Times: 7:30 p.m. April 11, 3 p.m. April 12, 7:30 p.m. April 17-18. Tickets: \$10/adults, \$5/students with valid ID. Reservations: (219) 874-4269, info@festivalplayersguild.org

April 12 — Springtime Music with Steve Kowalczyk, 2 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E.

Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

April 12 — Sand Dune Trek, 2 p.m., Nature Center @ Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East (north end of Indiana 49), Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

April 12 — Temporary exhibit unveiling, “Lost to Time: Duneland Ghost Towns,” 2 p.m., Westchester Township History Museum, located in Brown Mansion, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.

April 12 — Meet-the-artist reception, botanical artist Ann Tompkins, 1:30 p.m., Pines Village Retirement Communities, 3303 Pines Village Circle, Valparaiso. Info: (219) 465-1591.

April 13 — Great Decisions, 6:30 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

April 16 — Free lecture, “Virginia Woolf’s Airplanes: Air Power and Aerial Views Between the World Wars” by Elizabeth Evans, 6 p.m., PNC Technology Building Room 301. Info: (219) 785-5327.

April 16 — Screening, “Glen Campbell — I’ll Be Me,” 6 p.m., Ivy Tech Auditorium, 3100 Ivy Tech Drive, Valparaiso. Tickets: \$20. Registration: eventbrite.com

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

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

Farther Afield:

April 9 — Free gallery talk (“An Artist’s STILL LIFE”), 12:15 p.m. EDT, The Midwest Museum of American Art, 429 S. Main St., Elkhart. Info: www.MidwestMuseum.US, (574) 293-6660.

April 10-19 — Stephen Sondheim’s “Assassins,” Elkhart Civic Theatre at Bristol (Ind.) Opera House, 210 E. Vistula St. Times (EDT): 7:30 p.m. Fri.-Sat., 3 p.m. Sun. Tickets: \$17/adults, \$15/students & seniors 62+. Reservations: www.elkhartcivictheatre.org, (574) 848-4116.

April 11 — Tatting for Beginners, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. EDT, Fernwood Botanical Garden and Nature Preserve, 13988 Range Line Road, Niles, Mich. Cost: \$25 (members \$20). Registration: (269) 695-6491.

April 11 — Mark Dvorak with Opener Andy Burd, 7:30 p.m. EDT, The Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Mich. Tickets: \$10/general admission, \$8/students and seniors, free/children 12 and younger. Info/reservations: (269) 983-3688, info@boxfactoryforthearts.org, www.boxfactoryforthearts.org

April 14 — Staged Readings by Elkhart Civic Theatre’s Second Stage, Jessica Dickey’s “Row After Row,” 7:30 p.m. EDT, The Old General Store, 110 E. Vistula St., Bristol. Tickets: \$10. Reservations: (574) 848-4116, www.elkhartcivictheatre.org

April 16 — Third Thursday Restoration Rangers, 1 p.m. EDT, Sarett Nature Center, 2300 Benton Center Road, Benton Harbor, Mich. Registration: (269) 927-4832.



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**THIS
WEEK
IN
HISTORY**



On April 9, 1833, the first tax-supported library in the U.S. was founded in Peterborough, NH.

On April 9, 1928, Mae West made her New York debut in a play called *Diamond Lil*. Critics described the play as “shocking,” “suggestive,” and in “questionable taste.” Such reviews, naturally, made the play a huge success.

On April 9, 1959, NASA announced the selection of America's first seven astronauts. They were: Scott Carpenter, Gordon Cooper, John Glenn, Gus Grissom, Wally Schirra, Alan Shepard, and Donald Slayton.

On April 9, 1965, the newly built Houston Astrodome hosted its first baseball game, an exhibition between the Astros and the New York Yankees.

On April 9, 2005, Britain's Prince Charles married longtime love Camilla Parker Bowles, who took the title Duchess of Cornwall.

On April 10, 1912, the luxury liner *Titanic*, on its ill-fated maiden voyage to New York, set sail from the English port of Southampton with 2,224 people aboard.

On April 10, 1925, F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby* was published.

On April 10, 1947, Brooklyn Dodgers President Branch Rickey announced he purchased the minor league contract of Jackie Robinson, who would become the first black player in Major League Baseball.

On April 10, 1953, the first feature length color 3-D movie *House of Wax*, premiered in New York.

On April 10, 2005, Tiger Woods won his fourth Masters tournament.

On April 11, 1921, Iowa became the first state to impose a tax on cigarettes.

On April 11, 1931, Dorothy Parker retired as drama critic for *The New Yorker*, thus ending her self-described “Reign of Terror.”

On April 11, 1991, the musical “Miss Saigon” opened on Broadway.

On April 12, 1934, *Tender is the Night*, by F. Scott Fitzgerald, was published.

On April 12, 1940, jazz musician Herbie Hancock was born in Chicago.

On April 12, 1947, television talk show host David Letterman was born in Indianapolis.

On April 12, 1981, the space shuttle *Columbia* blasted off on its first test flight.

On April 12, 1983, Harold Washington was elected Chicago's first black mayor, defeating Republican

Bernard Epton.

On April 13, 1598, the “Edict of Nantes,” one of the most momentous royal decrees in history, was signed by France’s King Henry IV. By this order, the French Protestants (better known as the Huguenots), were allowed complete freedom of worship in about 75 towns, and were also given equal rights with French Catholics as citizens.

On April 13, 1796, the first elephant (a gift from India) to see the New World arrived in New York.

On April 13, 1870, the Metropolitan Museum of Art was founded in New York.

On April 13, 1923, the Illinois legislators voted to give women the right to serve on juries.

On April 13, 1943, President Franklin Roosevelt dedicated Washington’s Jefferson Memorial.

On April 13, 1958, Van Cliburn became the first American to win the Moscow’s “Tchaikovsky International Piano Contest.”

On April 13, 1964, voted as best actor for his work in “Lilies of the Field,” Sidney Poitier became the first black actor to win an Academy Award.

On April 13, 1970, already four/fifths of the way to the moon, astronauts aboard *Apollo 13* reported that the spacecraft was crippled by the bursting of a tank carrying liquid oxygen. The crew splashed down safely in the Pacific four days later.

On April 13, 1992, a breach in the floor of the Chicago River caused a massive flooding of downtown Chicago businesses, including the Chicago Board of Trade.

On April 14, 1828, the first edition of *Noah Webster’s American Dictionary of the English Language* was published.

On April 14, 1865, while attending the comedy *Our American Cousin* at Washington’s Ford’s Theatre, President Abraham Lincoln was shot and killed by actor John Wilkes Booth. The President died the next morning.

On April 14, 1912, the British luxury liner *Titanic* struck an iceberg in the North Atlantic off Newfoundland on its debut voyage to New York. Early the next morning it sank with the loss of 1,500 lives.

On April 14, 1939, John Steinbeck’s novel *The Grapes of Wrath* was published.

On April 15, 1817, the first American school for the deaf was opened in Hartford, CT.,

On April 15, 1947, Jackie Robinson became baseball’s first African-American major-league player when he debuted with the Brooklyn Dodgers on opening day.

On April 15, 2004, in the finale to the first edition of the NBC reality show “The Apprentice,” Donald Trump “hired” Chicagoan Bill Rancic during a live broadcast.



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Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter

Murder on the Champ de Mars
by Cara Black (hardcover, \$27.95;
available in bookstores and online;
also available as an eBook)

"April in Paris--Whom can I run to?"

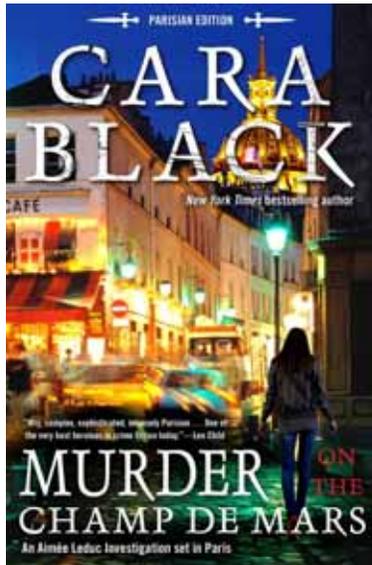
So say the lyrics to the song made famous by the likes of Frank Sinatra and Ella Fitzgerald. In this week's recommendation, I say run to Aimée Leduc in this her 15th adventure in the City of Lights. Black has come up with a heroine whose lasting success is due to how likable, clever and very chic she is! I don't mean that to seem trite, only that Aimée loves the haute couture she buys in smart resale shops. YSL, Louboutin and Chanel slips off her lips as easily as naming the streets in her beloved city. However, in this story, Aimée is now a mother. Onesies, diapers and sleep deprivation are the order of the day.

Scratch below the surface of smartly dressed single mother Aimée and you will find a clever business woman with a successful computer security company and detective agency. She runs it with her partner, Rene Friant, a 4-foot dwarf who is a computer genius and totally devoted to Aimée. The company originally was started by her grandfather and father, both former police officers in the city. What Aimée learned from them over the years, plus help from best friend and journalist Martine and other contacts, have made Leduc Detective Agency the success it is.

In this installment, Aimée has a 6-month-old daughter, Chloe, who is about to be baptized. Leaving the church, she is approached by Nicu, a young *manouche* (gypsy) man who says his dying mother must talk to Aimée about her father's death in a car explosion 10 years ago. It was deemed a murder, but no one was apprehended. Her father's death has haunted Aimée all these years, and she goes to the hospital to meet Drina Constantin.

Upon arriving, Drina seems to have disappeared. Nico's uncle is yelling, other family members are getting vocal, so Aimée slips away to investigate since the police are not happy to have to deal with the gypsies. Aimée is sure Drina has been abducted, but who wants to abduct a dying gypsy? Drina is on medication keeping her alive--will Aimée be able to find her before her time runs out?

Of course, that's not all that is going on in Aimée's life. Rene has been working on a lucrative computer security contract, and Aimée is doing surveillance work for a rich businessman who thinks someone in



his company is selling his secrets. A full plate for Aimée and Rene, indeed!

Just when things are beginning to fall together, Nicu is killed in a busy street in a bold drive-by. Aimée is in shock--who would want to kill Nicu? True, feelings run high against the gypsy community, but he is a young man destined to begin college.

Aimée must reach out to her father's former colleagues for help in going back in time to her father's death. What she finds out is that Drina is not Nicu's real mother, but his aunt. His real mother, Djanko, was her father's confidential informant who had an affair with a minister in the government, Pascal, and had a baby with him--Nicu. Later, Djanko was killed and Pascal died by suicide. Coincidence? I think not.

Wow! Lots of information for Aimée to swallow, and maybe some things she doesn't really want to know. And getting information from the tight-lipped gypsies is even harder than getting information from the officials.

Black takes Aimée Leduc in a different *arrondissement* of Paris in each installment and makes her stories all the more exciting. Her wonderful description of each area, its culture and heritage, gives a better understanding of the city and a perfect setting for this multidimensional character. You simply won't find another writer with the knowledge and ability to bring a place to life.

I hope there will be more Aimée Leduc books to come. After all, she's only been to 15 of the 22 *arrondissements* of Paris!

You'll love this book--*C'est si bon!*

From *Kirkus Review* (a starred review): "Aimée's 15th outing is a killer, with all the suspense, all the surprise and all the Parisian flavor you'd expect from Black."

San Francisco Chronicle wrote: "If you're looking for a page-turner crime novel that takes you through the ins and outs of Paris, Black has enough material to keep a reader busy for quite a while."

Till next time, happy reading!



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New Listings are Popping like Flowers in the Spring!



NEW LISTING!

136 Maplewood Trail Shoreland Hills



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Bright living/dining room with gas fireplace & two sets of French doors opening to deck. Updated kitchen with stainless steel appliances. Lower level offering an open wood staircase adding charm to the family room. Lovely screened porch off back with fireplace provides the feel of being on vacation in your own home. 2-car garage & nicely landscaped yard. **\$369,000**



NEW LISTING!

2718 Duffy Lane • Hidden Shores \$419,000

3 bedrooms, 3 baths. Completely updated; Open floor plan. Hardwood floors. Beautiful kitchen has granite counters & stainless steel appliances. Partially finished basement, newer roof & in-ground sprinklers. 3-season porch & new stone patio. Nothing to do but move in.



NEW LISTING!

202 Friendship Trail • Pottawattomie Park \$225,000

3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Stone fireplace, custom euro-style cabinetry in kitchen, open concept family room/dining room off kitchen. Screen porch & 3-car garage. New roof, electric, heating & air, duct work & more. Completely renovated with retro appeal for today's lifestyle.

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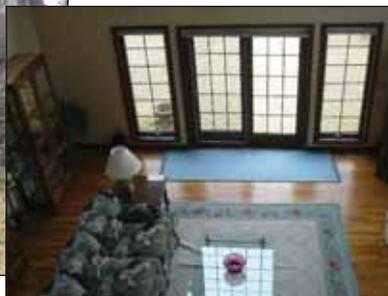
333 Lake Shore Drive, Unit #2-A

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3223 Lake Shore Drive

Spacious home with spectacular, unobstructed panoramic lake views includes four bedrooms, four baths. Large patio hosts a beach shower to keep the sand outdoors and not on the Berber carpeting throughout the home. Kitchen opens up to the living room and dining room combination that boasts Pella windows that open all the way to the cathedral ceiling. Enjoy private beach access at Duneland Beach Stop 33. One-car garage plus plenty of off-street parking. Second floor has connected bedrooms plus a lofted area overlooking the living room and taking in the views. **\$1,850,000**



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