



Volume 31, Number 28 Thursday, July 23, 2015

Telling Stories

by Connie Kuzydym

Editor's note — This week, we kick off a new series, "Friends & Neighbors," which will spotlight the many fascinating people in our community. Recommendations for individuals to profile can be made to Editor Drew Tallackson at (219) 879-0088 or drew@thebeacher.com

Ever wonder, when driving through the country, what's in the barns that dot the landscape, especially the nondescript ones?

Nestled in rural Michigan City are three such structures. Driving by them quickly, one might miss the sign hanging on one of the buildings that hints at the magnitude of creativity within them.

FRIENDS & NEIGHBORS

Twenty five years ago, Thomas McComas decided there was no need for his business to be in a metropolitan area, where space was prohibitive and the drive a challenge. Instead, he moved his video production company, TM Productions, to the country, where his commute changed from honking horns and traffic jams to walking from his home, down a gravel driveway to one of the barns. It is a peaceful walk that helps awaken the creative juices.

And create he does.

From within his studio, TM Productions has produced more than 100 shows. Many have appeared on network TV, PBS and cable stations around the country. Clients include iconic American companies such as Ford, John Deere, Caterpillar, Boeing, Lionel Trains, Case IH and, regionally, Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry and the "I Love Toy Trains" series, which is TM's brainchild.



Tom McComas stands amid the many toy trains that have served him well over the years.

Working with these iconic companies, there is no script given to them by an ad agency, only a direction from the company on the product they would like featured in the video, such as how John Deere makes tractors.

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TM Productions takes it from there, doing research on the product and interviewing people on-site who make the product and shooting footage.

“The idea of video is to show what the person is talking about,” McComas said. “So, if he’s talking about how to put the gas tank in, you want to show a gas tank being lowered on the assembly line onto the tractor.”

Once back at the studio, they begin by logging in the footage. It takes about 50 hours of footage to produce a one-hour program.

“It’s kind of like combat footage, where you come home and you have to somehow coordinate it all so it makes sense,” McComas said. “It’s kind of challenging to take something out of nothing and make it so people want to buy it and watch it.”

From there, they listen to the interviews, write a script, set up the narration.

The basic elements for producing a video are pictures, words, music and effects. It is about being able to tell a good story.

“That’s a challenge,” he said, “because you have to keep the energy up.”

His company, which has about eight employees, is up to the challenge.

Last year, TM Productions produced Ford’s commemorative show on Mustang’s 50th Anniversary.

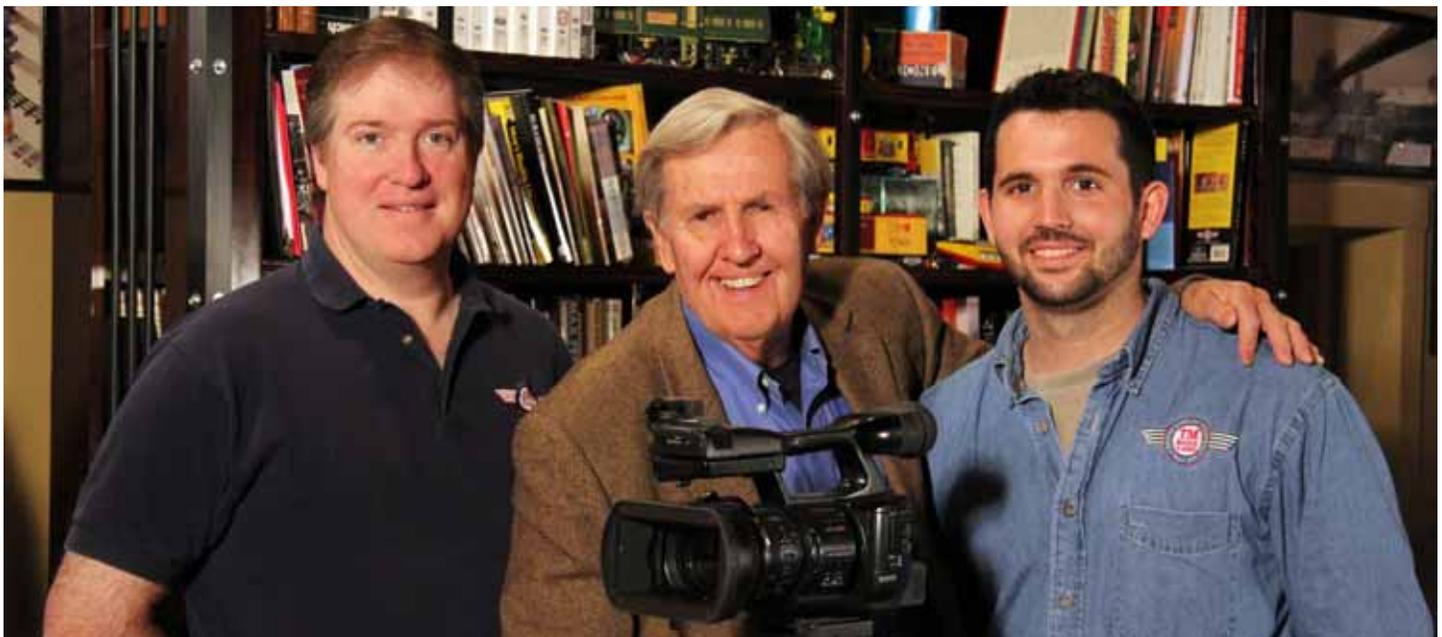
McComas’ desire to be in filmmaking began when he went to Georgetown Prep. His classmates were from the Northeast who became lawyers and investment types. He wanted something different.

Although he didn’t take any formal classes, he spent time shooting film in his 20s. He shot a lot of 8mm film and made home movies. He received a grant to make a film for the U.S. Post Office, which led to him starting his own company producing documentaries and spots for ad agencies.

“If you do it enough and you learn as you go, then it’s basically instinctive...after you learn the mechanics,” McComas said.

During this time, he produced his first film, “No Game Today.” This 11-minute black-and-white film featured a young boy who sneaks into Comiskey Park on a day when there is no Chicago White Sox game. Standing at home plate, he fantasizes what it would be like if he was the batter during a game.

The film was shown at the 1967 Chicago Film Festival. It was produced with the idea of taking it to Hollywood and using it as a sample reel, to raise money to produce a movie based on a script he had written. Like many who pursue the Hollywood dream, he returned home.



Tom McComas (center) with his son, Jeff (right), and Joe Stachler, who has worked with him for 20 years, helping write, shoot, edit and produce.

The most defining moment in McComas' career came a few years later. A friend owed him \$4,000 for producing a video for a product, which never took off. His friend was short the money, so he paid his debt by giving him four boxes of old toy trains.

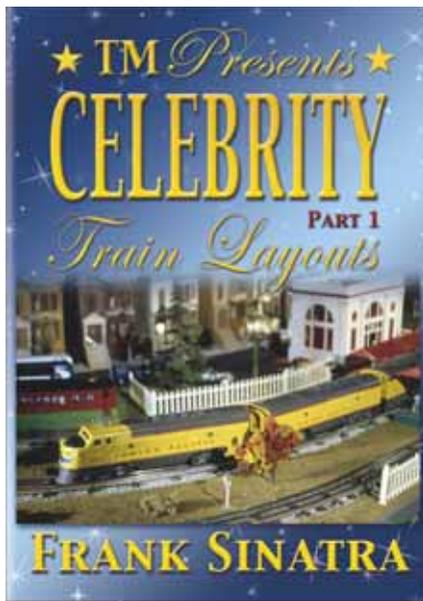
McComas didn't want the toy trains, but on the insistence of his friend took them, put them in a storage locker and forgot about them. A year later, another friend, who was a toy train collector, upon seeing them offered McComas \$7,000.

"It was at that precise moment that I got interested in toy trains," McComas said. "I was smart enough to know if he offered me \$7,000, they had to be worth 10 or 12 (thousand). So I turned him down."

McComas decided to do some research on Lionel trains. That decision changed his life forever.

"That got me into working with Lionel and eventually the "I Love Toy Train" series," McComas said. "I had no idea my life would take that turn."

McComas, along with Chicago writer James Tuohy, wrote six books covering Lionel's prewar, postwar and modern eras. The books still stand as the definitive history and collectors' guides to Lionel trains.



TM Productions produced a video on Frank Sinatra's train layout.

They also published "The Great Layout," a book on elaborate toy train layouts, including those of Frank Sinatra and two-time Academy Award winner Ward Kimball, a Disney animator who created Jiminy Cricket.

The Lionel books were the beginning of his journey back into filming.

McComas produced a video featuring layouts

from the book. In 1989, *People* magazine selected it as one of the 10-best videos of the year.

They also did a video on Sinatra's train layout.

According to McComas, after Sinatra died, his estate was sold to a Canadian businessman who kept everything exactly the way Sinatra left it, including



Two-time Academy Award winner Ward Kimball, a Disney animator at work drawing Jiminy Cricket.

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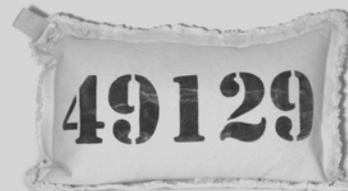
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the trains. Sinatra had created a separate building on his estate in Rancho Mirage, Calif., to house his layout and collection.

The new owner saw some correspondence between McComas and Sinatra and called, asking him if he wanted to film Sinatra's layout.

Recently, TM Productions finished shooting a Christmas train video for Lionel.

The cheery Christmas layout was in a room behind his studio along with numerous other layouts. It was difficult to not linger at each given the attention to detail and sheer magnitude and variety of trains either on the tracks or on the shelves.

One can begin to get a sense of why his youngest son Jeffery, who was very active when he was young, would stop whenever his father edited a train video.

"My wife, Charyl, suggested I make a film for Jeff. I put together trains, farm animals and peppy music and jokes, and he would stop and watch it for a half hour," McComas said. "Charyl suggested maybe other kids would like it, too."

He polished it up, called it "I Love Toy Trains," took it to Las Vegas to a video show and received orders from major retailers such as Blockbuster, Toys R Us, catalogs and video stores around the country.

Although McComas had never done a children's program, he decided to have his 5-year-old son Jeffery do the narrating.

"The ones I had seen was an old guy talking baby talk. I thought kids would listen to kids better," Mc-

Comas said. "The series kind of follows Jeff up till he was about 12. The shows got more mature as he got older."

Numerous children across the country have grown up, like Jeffrey did, with the "I Love Toy Trains" videos.

McComas recalls receiving a rewarding letter from a grandfather who wrote, "*I hope you know the joy you have brought to three generations of my family. Every one of your videos we look forward to with great anticipation, and we want to thank you for all the work you've done.*"

To date, TM Productions has sold almost 3 million copies of the 19-part series and received Parent Choice Awards. James Coffey received its gold award for his music on the video, and TM Productions received awards for being among the best kid videos of the year.

About 10 years ago, McComas opened an "I Love Toy Trains" store in New Buffalo. The business was eventually sold, then closed. The McComases recently acquired it and reopened it in one of their barns. Jeff is now 23 and plays lead guitar in a group that performs every Tuesday night at The Acorn's Theater's "Open Mic" night. His older son, Tommy, is a Hollywood stunt man whose latest film is "Terminator: Genisys," and who narrated his father's Ford Mustang 50th Anniversary DVD. And, another Ford project is in the works.

McComas' favorite film has never won any awards. Actually, it never earned a penny. He believes it is the best work he has done. It is a film about his good friend. "Frank D'Rone



Inside TM Productions is where the creativity begins.



Tom McComas' video on Frank D'Rone remains one of his proudest accomplishments.

– One Night Only” mixes a benefit performance he gave at The Acorn Theater in Three Oaks, Mich., with D'Rone's life stories.

D'Rone, who didn't have a big name, or a big hit, had a career that spanned 40 years. He was a singer's singer. He headlined at the Copacabana, was on

“The Johnny Carson Show” numerous times, performed in Vegas at the request of Frank Sinatra and toured the world with Liz Minelli.

The video is interesting in its style.

McComas explains in the late 1950s and early 1960s, he was influenced by French New Wave filmmakers such as Truffaut and Godard. In this film, he used techniques they used, which were existing lighting, lots of hand-held footage and mixing black and white and color.

Although McComas is the driving force behind TM Productions, its success is not solely his doing. He readily gives credit to his beloved wife, Charyl, who negotiates all of their contracts. She also shoots the still photography, writes, edits and does graphic arts.



Tom's wife, Charyl, who negotiates all TM Productions contracts. She also shoots the still photography, writes, edits and does graphic arts.

To become successful in anything you do, McComas believes you have to love what you do.

“A lot of young kids want to get into the creative aspect of life,” McComas said. “The best way to be a writer or filmmaker is go watch a lot of movies and read a lot of books and figure out how they do what

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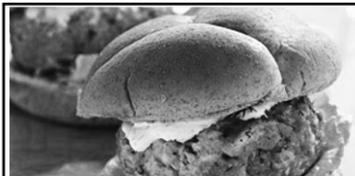


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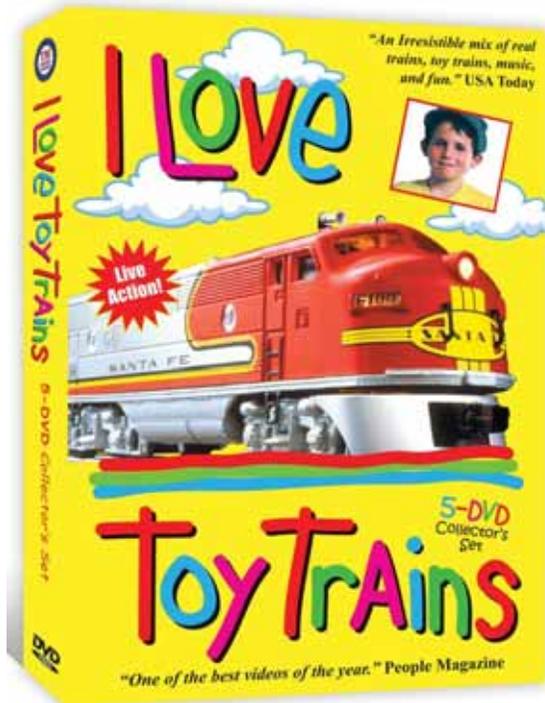
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they do. Then, take it and do your own thing with it.”

He recommends when you read a book, do not just read words superficially. Try to see what the writer is doing. Is he using the first person, is he using the third person? When you see a movie, how did they edit? Maybe see it twice: once for enjoyment, then see it again and try to figure out the technique, the devices they used, the subtle tricks.



The “I Love Toy Trains” series remains phenomenally successful.

What makes TM Productions different than other production houses is it not only produces, but also markets some of its pieces.

“Most producers just produce and have nothing



The walls of TM Productions are lined with memorabilia.

to do with the marketing. It's really better this way. We have sold 'I Love Toy Trains' for almost 20 years. If you produced a one-time show, you were paid a fee. When you do it yourself and it continues to sell for 20 years, it's a lot better.”

Video production has changed over the years, going from film, to VHS tape and now to digital. The next change is occurring with the market moving to streaming and downloading.

With these changes, TM Productions faces challenges on how content is being distributed. Now, it's working with people like Amazon Prime, iTunes and Google Play to distribute their content.

“What you are losing (in the hard copy product) is more than made up for by the added exposure because of the Internet,” McComas said. “The image, description and trailer will appear on Amazon Prime all over the world so your market is expanded immensely. People all over the world will see it.”

Within that final sentence is the realization that inside three nondescript barns within La Porte County exists a gem of a company, led by a man whose career has spanned almost 50 years, and without question, left his mark on the industry.



The layout for a Christmas train display.



The buildings that make up TM Productions.

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Footlight Players to Host Annual Awards Ceremony

Footlight Players will host its ninth annual awards banquet Saturday, July 25, at Moose Family Center 980, 1108 Franklin St., Michigan City.

The event kicks off with cocktails at 5:30 p.m., followed by dinner at 6 p.m., then the awards presentation, with Mike McCalment as emcee and featuring highlights of the 65th season's six major productions. Ticket, which are \$20, are available at the door, or call Footlight President Bobby Komendera at (219) 879-5840.



Hall of Fame Recipient
Laura Meyer.

The awards are split into 15 categories. All shows had 17 viewers making nominations throughout the year. There initially were 117 nominations, with the final ballot secretly voted for in June.

This year's Hall of Fame Award recipient is Laura Meyer, while Komendera will announce his recipient for the President's Award. A huge silent auction is planned, with music provided by Ryan and Sherry Sweeney.

The nominees are:

Best Lead Actor

- Christian McDaniel, "Oliver."
- David Mikolajczyk, "Lend Me a Tenor."
- George Maslankowski, "Lend Me a Tenor."
- Jeremiah Souza, "Consider the Oyster."
- Robert Komendera, "Oliver."

Best Lead Actress

- Alicia Ebaugh, "Oliver."
- Deb Dashiell, "Anne of Green Gables."
- Luanne Pezel, "The Mystery of Edwin Drood."
- Molly Dashiell, "Anne of Green Gables."

Best Featured Actress

- Alice Dickey for "The Mystery of Edwin Drood."
- Amy O'Brien, "Lend Me a Tenor."
- Caitlyn Desjardins, "The Mystery of Edwin Drood."
- Debbie Bartholomew, "Oliver."
- Emily Chidalek, "God of Carnage."

Best Featured Actor

- Billy Myers, "Oliver."
- David Mikolajczyk, "Anne of Green Gables."

- Kevin Mellen, "Consider the Oyster."
- Noel Carlson, "The Mystery of Edwin Drood."

Best Newcomer

- Jeremiah Souza, "Consider the Oyster."
- Katy Gartland, "Lend Me a Tenor."
- Luanne Pezel, "The Mystery of Edwin Drood."

Best Director

- Alice Dickey, "Lend Me a Tenor."
- Eric Helmken, "Anne of Green Gables."
- John Avila, "Consider the Oyster."
- Laura Meyer, "Oliver."
- Leslie Flores, "The Mystery of Edwin Drood."

Best Musical Director

- Alexis Bratsakis, "The Mystery of Edwin Drood."
- Lee Meyer, "Oliver."

Best Choreographer

- Laura Meyer, "Oliver."
- Mary Kay Steele and Karen Arden, "The Mystery of Edwin Drood."

Best Costume Design

- Alice Dickey, "God of Carnage."
- Alice Dickey and Alicia Ebaugh, "Anne of Green Gables."
- Bonnie Quigley, Monique Fredline and Sharon Kienitz, "Lend Me a Tenor."
- Christine Wiegand, "The Mystery of Edwin Drood."
- Jan Weinig, "Oliver."

Best Lighting Design

- Anthony Holt, "Lend Me a Tenor."
- Arturo Pozos, "Consider the Oyster."
- Jim Snyder, "Oliver."
- John Avila, Arturo Pozos and Anthony Holt, "Anne of Green Gables."

Best Set Design

- John Avila and Arturo Pozos, "Consider the Oyster."
- Ken Siegfried and Bobby Komendera, "Oliver."
- Leslie Flores and Dutch Williams, "The Mystery of Edwin Drood."

Best Sound Design

- Alice Dickey, "Lend Me a Tenor."
- Alicia Ebaugh, "Consider the Oyster."
- John Avila and Drew Holt, "God of Carnage."

Best Hair Design

- Isabella Pozos, "Consider the Oyster."
- Isabella Pozos, "Anne of Green Gables."

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Old School Run Has Record Turnout

With perfect temperatures, the Long Beach Old School Run broke its participation record by just one individual, with 141 runners/walkers registered in the annual event held before the July 4 parade.

The race, sponsored by *The Beacher* and benefitting the Long Beach Community Center, is presented by the Higdon family, with a \$5 donation used to help pay for specific projects at the center. Proceeds from previous races have purchased new carpets and other needed things at the center. This year, \$755 was received — another record.

The Beacher provided certificates for all the finishers, who also received the usual “Old T-shirt.” An added attraction this year was that leaders and several other participants received a Hal Higdon running team hat until hats ran out.

Race Director Wesley Higdon made sure registrations went smoothly, and water — provided by the Town of Long Beach — was available at the finish. Runners from all over the country come into Long Beach to mingle with old friends, and numerous states were represented. Many of the people who attend do so yearly, and numerous former Beachers run or walk to catch up with yearly updates of goings on. In typically relaxed July 4th fashion, about half the participants rolled up to the starting line right at race time. Finally, all runners were lined up at the starting line in front of the Old School.

The race began with three runners, Sean Lewis, a recent Wabash College graduate and member of its cross country team, Beacher Nate Quinlan,



Youngsters participate in the children’s race.

a high-level triathlete, and Emmett McEnergy, Michigan City, separating themselves from the field. Lewis began to take charge after they went through the snake hill turn at Long Beach Golf Course into the Long Beach Cove area. Quinlan rallied back, but Lewis took charge around Hacienda and continued to keep a 20- to 30-yard separation through the finish. His time for the slightly shorter than three miles was 14:42. Quinlan kept a strong pace throughout and also finished under 15 minutes with a time of 14:56. McEnergy continued his strong run and finished with 15:16, which was 34 seconds than his second-place finishing time from the previous year. Next to finish was re-

cent Michigan City High School graduate and Class President Hondo Miller in 15:50.

The women’s race was a tight one right from the starting line as three women, Amy Medelin, Chicago and Michigan City, CJ Ayars Pavluk, Houston, Texas, and Tiffany Riley, Phoenix, continued their yearly July 4th battle as all finished in the Top 3 in 2014. All three kept close contact with each other throughout the race, but in the end, Riley was able to pull ahead with a winning time of 19:04, which was 20 seconds faster than last year’s effort. Medelin’s time of 19:08 was within a second of her winning time of the year before with Ayars Pavluk in a close third place with a time of 19:17.

Immediately after the regular race, a children’s race was held for youth 8 and younger. Approximately nine children took to the circle drive in front of the school.



The top three male finishers: Sean Lewis, Nate Quinlan and Emmett McEnergy II.



The top three female finishers: Tiffany Riley, Amy Medellin and CJ Ayars Pavluk.

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SINK OR SWIM



Photos by Matt Cunningham





The annual Cardboard Boat Dash, presented by Michigan City Port Authority and Captain Ed's, delighted Michigan City Summer Festival crowds on Saturday, July 11. Participants could only use corrugated cardboard to make their boat, with a maximum of eight people per craft allowed. Trophies were awarded for design, creativity and team spirit.



“Bette Davis: On the Edge”

Canterbury Summer Theatre continues its 2015 season with the acclaimed comedy-drama “Bette Davis: On the Edge” on July 29-Aug. 1 at Mainstreet Theatre, 807 Franklin St., Michigan City.



Christine St. John as Bette Davis.

Conceived, written and performed by London-based actress Christine St. John, the play captures the film icon one night in 1962 as she awaits the reviews for her latest film, “Whatever Happened to Baby Jane?” Realizing its success, or failure, will have a major effect on her flagging career, she reminisces about her triumphs and travails during the golden age of Hollywood.

The one-woman show had its world premiere last September at Mainstreet, garnering critical and popular acclaim for St. John’s work. It was subsequently performed in New York City, London and other locales.

The production is directed and designed by Duane Thompson. Performances are at 2 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, 8 p.m. Friday and 6:30 p.m. Saturday. Tickets are \$15 on Wednesday and Thursday and \$16 on Friday and Saturday. Call (219) 874-4269 or email info@festivalplayersguild.org for reservations.



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Entrance fee: \$45* in advance, \$55 at the gate
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Friday Night at the Movies

Friday Night at the Movies will feature the Oscar-winning Disney smash "Frozen" on Friday, July 24, in The Herald-Argus Parking Lot at State and Monroe streets.

Take blankets and chairs to the free event, with the movie shown at dusk. From 6 to 8 p.m., princesses Anna and Elsa will sign autographs and take pictures with fans. At 8:15 p.m., Hoosier Star celebrities Grace Tarnow and Shania Povlock will perform a duet of "Let it Go." Free popcorn will be available, along with free bounce houses starting at 6 p.m. Pony rides also are planned.

A limited quantity of "Frozen" T-shirts will be sold in youth and adult sizes for \$10, with all proceeds added to the fund for a new outdoor movie screen. All T-shirts will be sold at the Greater La Porte Chamber of Commerce, 803 Washington St., as well as at the screening.

Friday Night at the Movies events are organized and hosted by the Downtown La Porte Main Street Association. Call (219) 362-3178 or email cutler@lphchamber.com for more information.

Long Beach Historical Society

Long Beach Historical Society will hold a town meeting at 6 p.m. Monday, July 27, in the Long Beach Community Center auditorium.

Tamara Hemmerlein, Local History Services director for Indiana Historical Society, Indianapolis, is the featured speaker.

Guests can ask questions about Long Beach Historical Society partnering with the Unity Foundation and about its involvement with the Historical Society.



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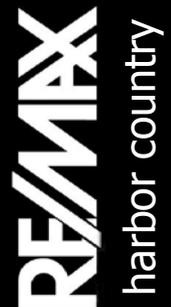


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Buchanan Art Center to Unveil New Exhibits

Buchanan Art Center, 117 W. Front St., will host an opening reception for exhibits by three local artists from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. EDT Friday, July 24.

The exhibits are: "Fight or Flight: Paintings by Pam Kirkham," in the Roti Roti Gallery; "Hollywood Illustrations" by Peg McClellan in the Showplace Gallery; and "Wings, Paws, Hooves and Petals: Paintings by Sandy Williams" in the Hess Library. Also on display is pottery by Dick Lehman in the BAC Showcases. Each opens Wednesday, July 22, and runs through Saturday, Sept. 5.



"Flame Dragonfly" by Pam Kirkham

Kirkham has been working on "Fight or Flight" for the last two years. When a close friend was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, she was inspired to create art to be used as a healing tool for those affected by cancer.

She graduated as an illustrator in 1976 from Kendall College of Art & Design, Grand Rapids, Mich. Hired over the phone in 1980, she moved to Galveston, Texas, where she worked for the University of Texas Medical Branch as an artist. She lived in Texas for 15 years, working for many major oil companies as a graphic designer/technical illustrations manager. From 1992 to 2000, she became involved in the New Mexico community as a visual artist and free-lance illustrator, an art educator through San Juan College, a vocalist and thespian. She was heavily involved with the Northwest New Mexico Arts Council between 1996 and 2000, ending her stint as president the last year. Also in 1992, she started her own business, Kirkham Fine Arts, which is still thriving today.

Between 2001 and 2004, she lived in Enid, Okla., where she created a dozen murals in churches, businesses and homes. She moved back to Southwest Michigan in 2004. She was commissioned to paint public art for downtown St. Joseph by Krasl Art Center and Lest We Forget, among others. She teaches at The Box Factory for the Arts and KAC. In 2014, she participated in ArtPrize, where she displayed

her work at Bridgewater Place, Grand Rapids.

McClellan grew up in Buchanan and graduated from Michigan State University with a Bachelor of Fine Arts. After teaching a few years in Florida, she was hired at Universal Studios as an illustrator in the art department. Her first movie was "Coal Miner's Daughter." She studied with some of the best in the business, and was trained to do storyboards, set sketches and projections (using camera angles). When a director invited her to be his art director on his first independent film, she took the opportunity and joined the Art Director's Guild as a result. Some of her Art Direction/Production Design credits include: "Melrose Place," "Quantum Leap," "Columbo" and "CSI." She is a part-time instructor for the Academy of Art University in San Francisco, teaching production design for the Motion Picture and Television Department. She also owns an interior design business. She is writing a book for Focal Press on production design, tentatively to be published in May 2016.

Williams has been an artist for 40 years and a



A garden piece by Sandy Williams.

natural science illustrator for almost 30. She grew up in Niles, Mich., in a family of gardeners, inspiring her to use flowers from the gardens of her grandmother and mother as some of her first subjects. She also had an early love for animals, especially horses, and often incorporates them into her pieces. Her work has been used on greeting cards, puzzles, ceramics (most notably for Yankee Candle), garden flags, magazines, books, toys and packaging. An Indiana University graduate and a member of the Guild of Natural Science Illustrators, she is vice president of the Niles Art Association.

During the July 25 reception, refreshments will be served and music provided by pianist David Lahm, with Kirkham singing two songs with him. Visit www.buchananartcenter.org for additional information.



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Memorial Service to Honor Those Who Lost Lives in Eastland Tragedy

by William Halliar

Dawn arrived on the morning of July 24, 1915, a cool mist and rain coming off Lake Michigan. This was the day Michigan City had eagerly anticipated for so many weeks: Western Electric Co.'s fifth annual summer cruise and picnic, the people here serving as their hosts for the day.

Many shopkeepers and business owners began arriving during the early morning hours to prepare for the 7,000 jubilant tourists who would descend on their establishments, looking forward to a day of celebration and fun. Washington Park was resplendent in bunting and flags, the peristyle whitewashed and gleaming in the watery rays of the morning sun, the beaches and singing sands swept clean.

For weeks, bands had been practicing new tunes. Restaurant owners had been preparing special menus and laying in extra provisions. Washington Park was being groomed. The docks on Trail Creek were cleared and ready to greet fresh young faces.

The long anticipated morning had finally arrived and the work of many weeks finished. All was ready, and the people of Michigan City waited.

The breeze ruffled the bunting. At Washington Park, flags whipped over a quiet lawn. A band stood restlessly on the quay as people waited. They searched the horizon for a wisp or smudge of coal smoke that would mark the progress of the six great ships commissioned to carry partygoers to their shores along Lake Michigan.

Eleven o'clock, the scheduled time of arrival came and went, and still there were no ships visible on the horizon. The people grew restless. What had happened?

Finally, word came of the great disaster that befell so many innocents earlier that morning in the



During the ceremony, Ceil Brinkman and her brother, Tony Levendowski, the niece and nephew of Anna Kubiak, who died on the Eastland, will lay a wreath in Trail Creek where the Eastland would have docked.

Chicago River.

A mere heartbeat after shipping, the gangplanks of the first ship to leave the Chicago dock, the Eastland, Speed Queen of the Great Lakes, had capsized, the river claiming 844 lives.

Stunned, the people of Michigan City, who only moments before had stood in anticipation of welcoming so many to their city that day, gathered up all the decorations, bunting and flags set out for the celebration. They laid them in a

huge pyre and set them alight, the flames and smoke rising into the air, an expression of the shared grief for those lost and their families.

Two hundred and twenty eight teenagers lost their lives that morning along with 58 infants. Twenty two entire families were lost within moments, and many children were left orphans. No greater loss of life had ever occurred to the people of the Midwest. The event was so horrific, it was not spoken of by survivors. Very few stories have survived the years. Many today have not even heard of the events of that day.

On Saturday, July 25, the people of Michigan City and surrounding communities are invited to join Michigan City Historical Society members during a memorial service on the Old Lighthouse Museum grounds as they remember the 844 souls who lost their lives that morning 100 years ago.

Ceil Brinkman and her brother, Tony Levendowski, the niece and nephew of Anna Kubiak, a 17-year-old Michigan City resident who lost her life on the Eastland, will lay a wreath in the waters of Trail Creek at the spot where the Eastland would have docked. A memorial will be dedicated to those souls whose lives were lost that fateful day.



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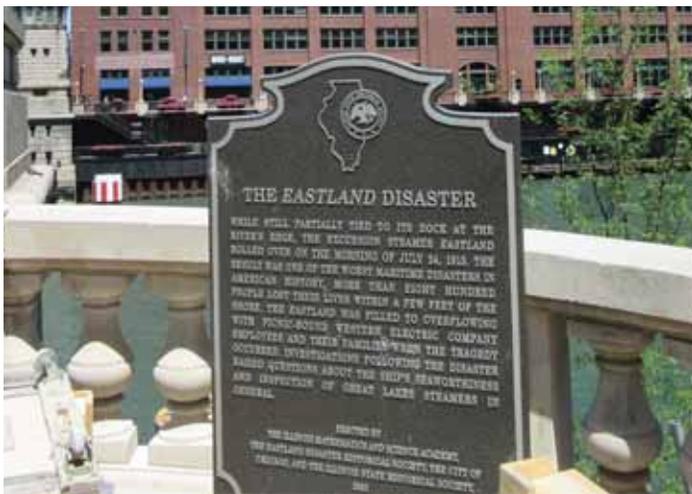


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An “unbroken” anchor chain with 844 links will be mounted on 31 steel stanchions.

An “unbroken” anchor chain with 844 links, one link for each victim, will be mounted on 31 steel stanchions bordered by a walkway on either side, with loose gravel between the posts.

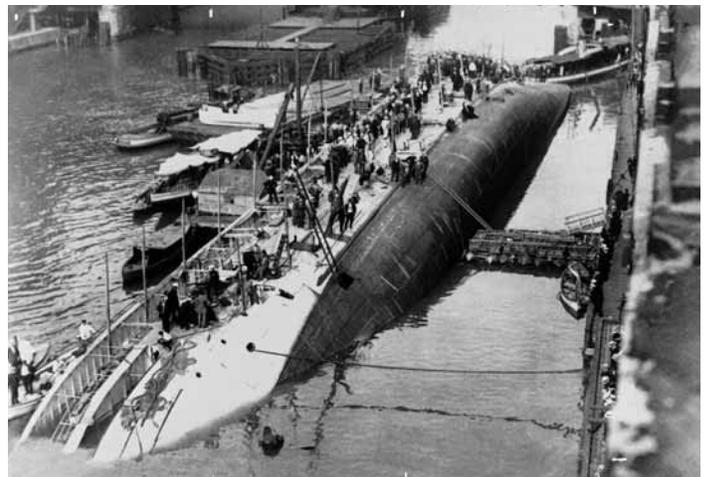


The memorial that exists today where the Eastland floundered in the Chicago River.

The festooned chain and stanchions will form a line 265 feet long, which was the length of the Eastland’s keel. The stanchions and chain will be allowed to rust, symbolizing the tragic loss of life that day in the Chicago River. Plaques describing the history of the disaster and a circular mediation bench will complete the memorial site.

At precisely 11 a.m. July 25, the time the Eastland was scheduled to dock, a ship’s bell will sound and the memorial service will begin with remembrances of the event, prayers and a concluding hymn played by bagpipe. The museum will be open, with free admission, for visitors to view the special Eastland exhibits set up for the occasion. Vintage music, played on a 1900 pump organ, will set the mood for tours of the exhibits.

“Many dedicated volunteers have worked hard to make this memorial service possible” Historical Society Co-President Jim Retseck said. “We hope that all from the city and visiting guests will take advantage of this opportunity to tour the museum and to remember the many lives lost to this tragic event so many years ago.”



Rescue officials sift through the wreckage of the Eastland in the Chicago River.



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Designer Open House to Benefit Habitat for Humanity

Like others of their generation, Matt and Sharon Kubik viewed retirement as an opportunity to downsize their home. However, due to his architectural training and passion for sustainable design, their downsizing project has taken on a classical twist.

It began when the couple purchased a smaller house at 3318 Tilden Ave., Michigan City, last October. Since then, they have been remodeling the interior in preparation for a simpler lifestyle. They've filled the home with classical Greek and Roman architectural details while using materials almost entirely from Habitat for Humanity Restores, Goodwill and, in some cases, old-fashioned Dumpster diving.

As their move-in date approaches, the Kubiks are opening their home to the public from 3 to 6 p.m. Sunday, July 26. Admission is free, but donations are encouraged to support La Porte County Habitat for Humanity.

"I couldn't have completed this project without the many materials obtained from the Habitat Restore, so this is a way to say thank you," Kubik said.

La Porte County Habitat for Humanity operates a ReStore at 10th and Huron streets in Michigan City. There, shoppers find new and gently used building materials, furniture, appliances, electrical fixtures and tools. The inventory constantly changes, with regular shoppers checking in once a week or more to see what is new. Proceeds from the ReStore, open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, help build decent, affordable homes for low- to moderate-income families. The ReStore's customers include individuals, crafters, landlords, contractors and do-it-yourself homeowners.

"During the remodel project, Kubik has been a weekly presence at the ReStore, constantly scouting for unique elements to add to his home," Bob Long, La Porte County Habitat executive director, said. "Matt and his wife have also generously donated many of the items from their existing home that they no longer need."

Kubik is a Purdue University professor emeritus. He has taught courses in architecture, interior design and construction detailing for more than 30 years at the Fort Wayne campus. His love for classical architecture has been fueled by summer trips to Rome, leading educational travel programs for students and community members.

A key focus of Kubik's architecture and design career has been an aesthetic response to the requirements for energy conservation and sustainability.



His portfolio includes designs for underground housing, passive solar design, adaptive reuse architecture and appropriate technology detailing for projects in Algeria and urban planning designs for sustainable community. He has led international workshops resulting in a statement of sustainability principles called "The Berlin Manifesto" and co-wrote the book "The Green Age: Transforming Your Life Choices for the 21st Century."

As an educator, Kubik has had a long-term relationship with Habitat for Humanity.

"In the classroom, my students would do construction drawings for Habitat houses to learn the most efficient way of construction," he said. "Later in the semester, they would be required to help build a Habitat home to apply what they learned in the classroom."

Kubik believes good design doesn't require buying all new materials.

"There is no house more sustainable than one that has already been built," he said. "The challenge is to take used and found materials and apply them in a creative way."

Materials acquired from the Restore include doors, door knobs, cabinet hardware, kitchen and bathroom tile, light fixtures, kitchen cabinets, bathroom faucets, baseboard and crown molding, paint and a new china hutch for the kitchen. Also, the Doric style classical columns in the living room came from the Restore.

"Even our dishes came from a Habitat for Humanity Restore," Kubik said.

On a trip to Kansas, he and Sharon stopped by a local Restore. An Italian restaurant in the process of remodeling had donated hand-painted dishes.

"We couldn't believe our luck. We bought them all," Kubik said, adding that some of these dishes now decorate the walls of their new kitchen. The rest are used on the table.

The remodeling project was constructed by master carpenter/craftsman Bradley Boughner. Many decorative details are inspired by Kubik's travels in Italy. One living room wall is tiled to resemble an ancient Roman style of construction called *opus reticulatum*. On another wall, marble has been applied in a pattern inspired by the walls of the Pantheon in Rome. The bathroom floor pattern was designed using several different colors and sizes of tile.

"Sustainability means doing more with less," Kubik said. "It doesn't mean we have to give up beauty and elegance."

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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, July 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 schedule is:

- July 29 — Fantastic Fish.
- Aug. 5 — Sensory Sensations.

Summer Day Camp – Tuesday Treasures

Camp, aimed at youth 6-13, is from 9 a.m. to noon at Luhr County Park. The cost is \$8 per person/per program. Each session includes arts and crafts, games and snacks. Pre-registration and payment are required one week before each program. The schedule is:

- July 28 — Fantastic Fish.
- Aug. 4 — Habitat Hunters.

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:

- Aug. 5 — “Benefits of Eating Clean.”

Pet Fest in the Park

The free annual event, co-sponsored by La Porte County Small Animal Shelter, is held rain or shine from 9 to 11:30 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 15, at Luhr County Park. Vendors will have stations along the trail. Also planned are demonstrations, a costume contest, obedience tips, adopt a new pet and animal photography. Pets can take a dip in the pool, run an agility course, play fetch and receive a treat. All animals must be on a leash, with “oops” bags provided.

Native American Heritage Day

International Friendship Gardens, 2055 U.S. 12, will present its annual free event highlighting the area's historical Potawatomi natives from noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, July 26.

A fire will be going in the sharing circle, cooking squirrel, some bison tongue and jerky, and garden-grown squash and beans seasoned with herbs and maple sugar. Flute music will be heard, as well as recorded native drumming and singing.



Jude Rakowski cooks over an open fire at a previous Native American Heritage Day.

Demonstrations are planned of flintknapping, corn grinding, gardening techniques and trapping starting at 1 p.m. Visitors can take tours of the gardens that Jude Rakowski has established using heritage seeds from the 1820s.

"The Pottawatomi Indians had hundreds of acres under cultivation up in the St. Joseph, Mich., area, where they were based, long before European contact," Rakowski said. "Our gardens are a small version of what they did."

Dogs are welcome if on a leash and sociable. The usual \$4 admission fee is waived for the event. Call the office at (219) 878-9885 for more information.

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Roosevelt Organ Concert Series

The 14th season of the Roosevelt organ concert series continues at 12:15 p.m. Wednesday, July 29, at Christ Church (the former First Congregational Church), 531 Washington St.

In the series, acclaimed organists of the wider Chicago area will play the historic 1891 Roosevelt organ. On July 29, the featured artists are Gary Powell and Kellie Cundiff.

Powell is the director of music and organist at United Church of Hyde Park. He graduated from Houston Baptist University with a Bachelor of Science in music, theater, speech and English. He then went to North Texas State for his Master's in Music. He taught high school for a number of years, as well as at the University of Texas at El Paso. He has been a musical director staging shows since he graduated from college, currently in New York and Chicago. He was the conductor and keyboardist for the Jeff Award-winning "Cats" and "The Phantom of the Opera."



Cundiff graduated *cum laude* from Louisiana State University with a music degree in vocal performance. She has worked in numerous Chicago-area theaters, including Drury Lane Theatre, Fox Valley Repertory and Actors Theater Company. She will make her West Coast debut at Norris Theatre in California this fall (Mrs. Banks in "Mary Poppins"). She has traveled throughout Europe with Oce-

ania Cruises performing her one-woman show, "The Sounds of Broadway."

Other organists this season are (in order) Mark Sudeith, Carey Scheck and Ann Dobie.

The concerts are free, with seating at noon. The church is air-conditioned. Call the directors of the series, Ann and George Dobie, at (269) 469-0051 for more information.



SATURDAY, JULY 25
WE'RE OPEN 'TIL MIDNIGHT!



Cruise shops and galleries along the Red Arrow Highway from Union Pier to Sawyer, under the full moon! We are open until Midnight for fun, shows, discounts excitement, specials and more

Start at LOCAL COLOR GALLERY for 20% to 40% off artwork. 6 p.m. - Midnight. While in Union Pier, stop at ATELIERS. Customs Imports will host this evening featuring new works by Roger Harvey, dazzling new pc's from the Glass art collection. Your doggies may come too. Shop for your four legged friends at Beachtails. Sample Nana Dee's Rum Cake while watching a presentation of Cendana Gardens and the wonders of Bali, along with "The Road to Annapurna" slides of Nepal. In Harbert stop at the HERBERT ANIQUE MALL. Sales from 10-40%. 6 p.m. - Midnight. Visit MILLIE'S ANTIQUES. Everything in the store is 20% off. Enjoy shopping from 11:00 a.m. until Midnight. Enjoy the exhibit "Some Enchanted Evening at FRITZ OLSEN SCULPTURES CONTEMPORARY FINE ART. Captivating works of art from noon on.

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Purdue University-North Central is open to visitors for picnics, walking tours of campus sculptures and hikes along its walking paths.

Families, individuals, clubs or school groups interested in a picnic may take their own food and refreshments. Picnic tables are available throughout the campus quad area. A variety of food and beverage items also is available from the PNC cafeteria in the Library-Student-Faculty Building. Summer hours are 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Picnickers and guests are asked to clean up after themselves. Trash containers are conveniently located. More information can be found at www.pnc.edu/picnic

Visitors may take a walking tour of the more than 30 sculptures included in the Odyssey Arts and Sculpture Series. A map and more information about the series are available at www.pnc.edu/odyssey/. Guided tours are available for adult and children's groups. Arrangements can be made by contacting Liz Bernel, PNC Special Events and Marketing coordinator, at (219) 785-5719 orebernel@pnc.edu

The campus is easily accessible to visitors traveling from La Porte and Michigan City thanks to the Transit Triangle commuter bus service. Two buses operate weekdays on fixed routes between La Porte and PNC, Michigan City and PNC and Michigan City and La Porte. Each route offers three morning runs and three afternoon runs between 6 a.m. and 5:57 p.m. The schedule and fare information can be found at www.TransitTriangle.com

Visitors are invited to view a number of indoor exhibits in the Library-Student-Faculty Building and Technology Building. Works by local artist Jason Poteet grace the walls of the Cybercafe, which also houses a remnant of the World Trade Center. Paintings and sculpture of George Sugarman may be viewed in the library, located on the building's third floor. Other art is located in the cafeteria and on walls throughout the building. Information may be found at www.pnc.edu/odyssey/

A map and directions to PNC are available at www.pnc.edu/maps

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Michigan City High School JROTC Attends STEM Camp

Cadets from Michigan City High School's Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps participated in a Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics camp July 5-14.

The event was conducted at The Citadel, The Military College of South Carolina, in Charleston. Cadets travelled by charter bus for 17 hours each way to receive training in the following areas: Robotics; Virtualization; Linux; Cisco; and Forensics.

Cadets started their day with physical training at 6 a.m. and did Marine-related training, such as marksmanship, after the evening meal until 9 p.m. Cadets also visited the Marine Corps Recruit Depot at Parris Island, Fort Sumter (site of the start of the Civil War) and conducted two battlefield studies. Guest speakers included the president of The Citadel, the commissioner of the Air Force Association, which sponsors the CyberPatriot program, and James Livingston, a Medal of Honor recipient and retired Marine general. The camp was conducted at no cost to the school nor the cadets, with funding provided by the Marine Corps.

The camp's objective was to prepare cadets to compete in CyberPatriot, the national computer security game where high schools react to a fictional attack on a country's or business' computer information system. The competition was simulated on the last day

of the camp. Last year, Michigan City was the state runner-up in the national competition that holds its preliminary rounds from October to December.

"We had the most cadets in our MCJROTC Region attend the camp," said Senior Marine Instructor Maj. Tom McGrath, who also was in charge of cadets from six other schools from five states. "This was a tremendous opportunity for our cadets to be exposed to a possible career in cyber security, a career that can be very rewarding, both professionally and financially."

The JROTC CyberPatriot team is advised by Ralph Gee, MCHS engineering and technology teacher.



Cadet Cpl. Allison Meeks provides guidance to her team during the simulated cyber defense competition.

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Michigan City Public Library

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

• **Knitting Club for All Ages at 5:30 p.m. Wednesdays, July 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.

• **Summer Story Time at 10 a.m. Wednesday, July 22.**

The program, aimed at children birth to age 5 with an adult, includes stories, songs and crafts. Arrive a few minutes early to receive a name tag.

• **Summer Reading Program Movie: "Chicken Little" at 10 a.m. Thursday, July 23.**

The movie is rated G. Light refreshments will be served. Those 18 and younger have a chance to win a DVD of the movie. They must be present to win.

• **Movies in Washington Park: "Big Hero 6" at 8:30 p.m. Friday, July 24.**

The library and City of Michigan City again have collaborated to show family films. The movie is rated PG.

• **Understanding Your Dreams at 2 p.m. Saturday, July 25.**

Experienced dream therapist Terese Fabbri leads the workshop for people interested in dreams and their significance.

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

Artist Reception, Painting Sale

Judy Ferrara Gallery, 16 S. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich., will host an artist reception and wet painting sale from 6 to 9 p.m. EDT Saturday, July 25.

The reception follows "David Nakabayashi Paints Three Oaks & New Buffalo," a week of plein air painting that kicked off July 18.

Nakabayashi began plein air painting in 1999 when fellow El Pasoan Robert Ardovino asked him to participate in the "Celebration of the Mountains" plein air exhibit. Painting outdoors in the real light, however, has been his biggest challenge. It also allows him to stand for hours on location, observing animals in the wilderness or passing interactions of a city's inhabitants while calmly recording how the sun illuminates these ever-changing scenes.

Since that first show, Nakabayashi has continued to paint plein air in West Texas, New Mexico and Southern Utah, as well as California, New England and now New York City. He won Best of Show at the 2011 Escalante Canyons Arts Festival and that same year participated in the Zion Plein Air Painters Invitational.

Visit www.judyferraragallery.com for additional information.

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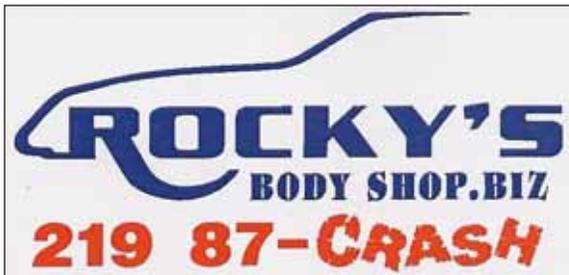
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Beneath two large tents, one containing chairs, the other a stage with speakers and musical instruments, a man introduced himself, providing the backstory to the concert we were about to see.

The performer, Johnzo West, lives in Los Angeles full time, but he and his band, The Wayward Souls, agreed to perform here for free as part of "Music Under the Stars," a benefit concert for International Friendship Gardens.

As West and his band took to the stage, the change in energy within the crowd was immediately evident. Children and their parents got up to dance. West and his band were clearly having fun with music for the sake of music. I sat in the back with several acquaintances, letting the tunes and calm environment flow over me like a wave.



Ironic, for someone like me, to live in a town for 22 years and never have visited the park down the street. But that was the case July 11 when I attended the benefit concert at the Gardens, 2055 E. U.S. 12. The event was a perfect introduction to the local attraction. Upon arrival, I grabbed a seat on a small shuttle, which afforded me an opportunity to experience

the Gardens' natural beauty. Well-manicured lawns giving way to forests. A small amphitheater lined by massive trees. A wooden bridge fording a small river. Statues everywhere, from small abstract creations to Greek-inspired feminine figures. The entire place gave off the feeling of being in an ancient, mystical wood, with little interference by man.

The clearing dominated by the tents afforded my first impression of West. He sat alone at one of the many picnic benches with a bunch of T-shirts, selling his merchandise and interacting with his many



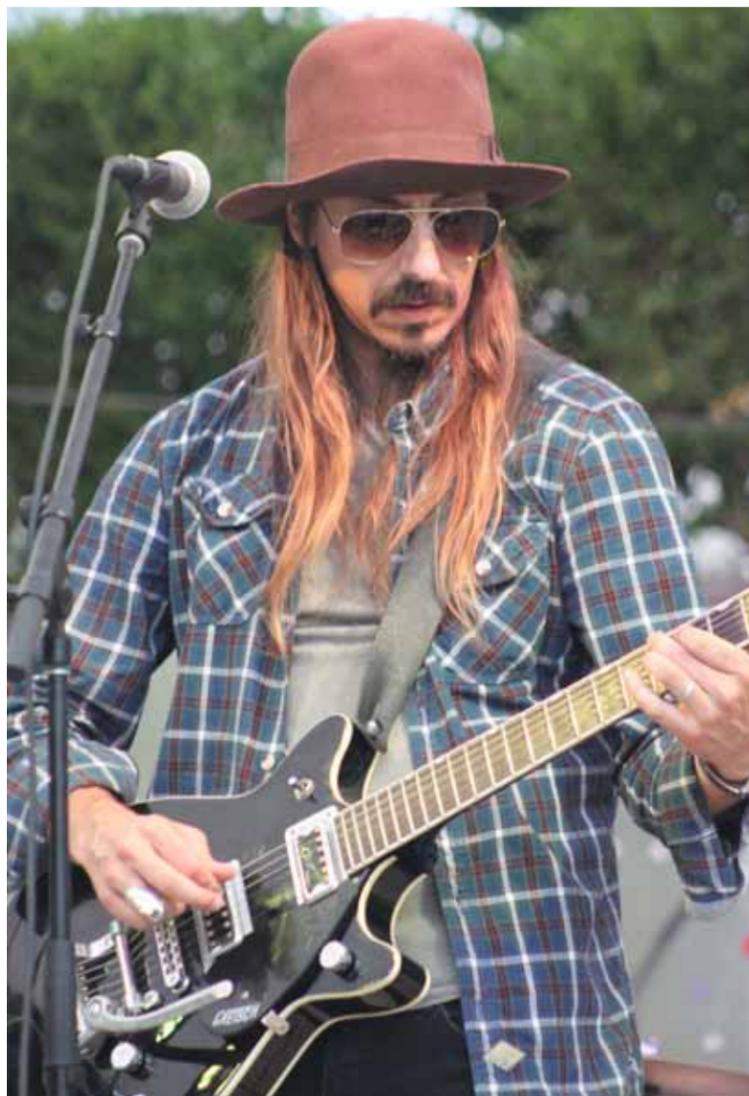
fans who'd gathered to see him perform. My brief introduction was met with a warm smile and firm handshake. Success and fame clearly hadn't made him aloof to those around him. We agreed to meet after the show and went our separate ways.

I touched base with April Fallon, one of the concert organizers and an employee at the Gardens. She took me on a short tour and answered any questions I had. We approached a large bell, which she had me ring, and which echoed off the trees.

"We have all sorts of bells from all over the world," she told me.

She introduced me to Lake Lucerne, a small, spring-fed lake where people can go fishing and enjoy nature's beauty, as well as the nearby Chinese bridge. I also learned how the Gardens is a hot spot for weddings. This year, Fallon said, there are roughly 40 weddings scheduled there.

After the concert, in which West was joined by longtime friend and local native Justin Andres, I had a chance to sit down with West. Surrounding him were friends, family and fans, all of whom he treated equally, without any indication as to which group



All photos by Bob Wellinski



Johnzo West Returns Home for Benefit Concert

by Drew Holt

was which. Family members joked with me, saying once I got him talking, he wouldn't stop.

Finally, the opportunity arrived to speak with West. Surprisingly down to earth, given his talent and claim to fame, he smiled warmly and shook my hand. Just by hearing the man talk, you could tell he has a serious passion about his art and his fans.

West graduated from New Prairie High School, but grew up in the Long Beach area. Coming from a musical family, he started in music by harmonizing around the family piano and in the car.

"My first real interest was in the drums," he said, "so I got a drum set when I was like 9 or 10, and that's what kicked it all off."

Even though he's gone from a small-town guitarist to playing for Miley Cyrus and appearing with her on "The Ellen DeGeneres Show" and "The Jimmy Kimmel Show," he says the feel of playing is the same no matter where he is.

"I mean, obviously the stakes get higher, the pressure gets greater, the exposure gets greater, but at the end of the day, it's about playing the tunes," he says. "It's not any more

nerve wracking, more or less, than playing for this benefit tonight."

When I asked what it's like coming back home, he lit up.

"It's one of the greatest treats, ever," he said. "My greatest inspiration, truly, honestly, is my family."

Indeed, it shows. The entire time I was interviewing him, his family orbited, interacting with each other and, it seemed, anxious to interact with him. The extreme sense of oneness, of closeness in this large family, showed. You could see how this energetic, kind group could inspire someone to greatness.



Asked why he did the benefit concert for free, his connection to the area and his family resurfaced.

"Any excuse to come back home and play for a good crowd, I mean, these are the best times," he said. "A huge sacrifice in doing what I do is having to live where I live. I love where I'm at, but it's hard to be away. So it's very rewarding to come home and not only perform for your friends and family, but also to soak up that love."



Michigan City In Bloom Winners Honored

by Kayla Weiss

A ceremony held July 10 at International Friendship Gardens honored businesses, schools and homeowners who participated in the sixth annual Michigan City In Bloom contest.

Winners and runners-up received a trophy, gift bag and sign to place in their gardens.

"I think it really is a very good thing for Michigan City," Julie Manner, Michigan City In Bloom chairwoman, said about the competition.

"It really enhances the beauty in the area. Mich-

igan City, like any place else, really was going through a complacent time, but once we started making changes in the city, things started taking off, starting with little things, like flowers in the planters along Franklin Street.

"It's not enough to expect the city to do everything for us," she continued. "This is our city. It's all city pride. Trying to instill pride in people, in their properties and their cities. Planting flowers and creating gardens, all to make the city more enjoyable for



Julie Manner receives a special-recognition award from Mary Rooney for her years of service.



The first-place winners and runners-up. The front row is (from left): Al Tokley, Noel Schlegelmilch, Carol Mokrycki, Barbara Thouvenall, Mary Ann Filipiak, Jamie Huss, Essie McMillon and Les Heichel. The back row is (from left) Jerry Tillman, John Tiedemann and Mary Laramore.

2015 Award Winners – Michigan City In Bloom

Private Residence

- First Place: Barbara Thouvenall, 121 Georgia Ave.
- Runner Up: Mary Ann Filipiak, 101 Woodside Drive.

Container Gardens

- First Place: Carol and Mark Mokrycki, 3729 Lexington Road.
- Runner Up: Essie McMillon, 803 Spring St.

Private Residence, Environmental

- First Place: Sharon Weiler, 606 Faulknor St.
- Runner Up: Les Heichel, 67 Farmington Drive, Terrace Acres.

School

- First Place: Fairy Gardens by the Safe Harbor program at Knapp Elementary School, 321 Bolka Ave.
- Runner Up: Ethnic Gardens by the Safe Harbor Program at Edgewood Elementary School, 502 Boyd Circle.

Both locations were supervised by John Tiedemann, Master Gardener volunteer.

Small Business (fewer than 25 employees)

- First Place: Michigan City Animal Hospital, Rex Bailey, 2525 E. Michigan Blvd.

- Runner Up: The Ritz Club, Phyllis and Richard Komasinski (owners), 124 W. Fourth St.

Large Business (more than 25 employees)

- First Place: Michigan City Parks & Recreation, 100 E. Michigan Blvd.
- Runner Up: Michigan City Port Authority, 200 Heisman Harbor Drive.

Non-Profit

- First Place: Washington Park Zoo, 115 Lakeshore Drive.
- Runner Up: Northern Indiana Education Foundation, 402 Franklin St.

Church

- First Place: Immanuel Lutheran, 1237 E. Cool-spring Ave.
- Runner Up: Queen of All Saints, 606 S. Woodland Ave.

Special Recognition

- Larry Joyner, 326 Hawthorne Drive.
- Sara Carlisle, 133 Shorewood Drive.
- Long Beach Cove Condominium Association (Ron Faloon).
- Judy Mutchler.
- Kasey Leake.
- Joyce Topa, 836 Henry Street.



Those receiving special recognition included (from left) Ron Faloon, Sara Carlisle, Judy Mutchler, Joyce Topa and Larry Joyner. Not pictured is Kasey Leake.

everyone living here and visiting.”

Manner and a board of judges (Mary Rooney, Jaye Recupido and Nancy Janel Barnes) visited the nearly 30 properties that applied. Applicants were judged on a special 20-point system that included categories such as tidiness, flower choice and balance. Applicants also earned bonus points for including the city flower (the day lily) and city rose (the nearly wild rose).

Applicants did not learn the results until the July 10 ceremony. After tallying the scores, the winners and runners-up were called and told they are in line for some kind of recognition, but that’s all.

Altogether, there are eight categories: private residence; container gardens; private residence (environmental); school; small business (fewer than 25 employees); large business (more than 25 employees); non-profit; and church. Each category awarded a first place and runner-up, resulting in 16 contestants honored.

Each summer, everyone is welcome to enter their gardens into the competition. Visit tinyurl.com/nb869eq or tinyurl.com/nmbtuqk for additional information.

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Gene "Daddy G" Barge Still Keeping Company With Blues Legends

by Steen Burke

The 1950s ushered in a new sound that changed the entire musical landscape in America. That sound was rhythm and blues.

A natural product of the integration of swinging jazz and rhythmic blues, legendary saxophonist and composer Gene "Daddy G" Barge is considered one of the pioneers of this new sound.

Born in Norfolk, Va., he moved to Chicago in the early 1960s. He began working for the world-renowned Chess Records, where he produced, composed and recorded with musical icons such as Fats Domino, Little Milton, Bo Diddley and Muddy Waters, just to name a few.

Subsequent to his tenure at Chess Records, Barge continued to work with musical giants like Natalie Cole, Buddy Guy and The Rolling Stones, and even secured acting roles in eight major films, including "Code of Silence," "Above the Law," "Under Siege," "The Package" and "The Fugitive."

Today, Barge is still keeping company with legends. The Chicago Rhythm and Blues Kings have been belting out Windy City Blues for more than 20 years, and Barge, who produced three of their albums, plays select gigs with the band. This August, Gene "Daddy G" Barge will join the band on the main stage of New Buffalo's Ship and Shore Blues Festival.

With such an astonishing resume, iRockJazz spoke to the legendary sax man about his historic career.

A+T: You've had an interesting career. Where did music start

Art+Times

More About Our New Column

The Beacher has entered into a partnership with iRock Jazz to provide Art+Times, a biweekly column that highlights how art and culture intersect today. This week's column was written by Steen Burke, an author and freelance writer from Cleveland. As an avid music lover and indie artist enthusiast, she has published numerous in-depth articles and interviews about some of the most exciting independent recording artists in the world.

football powers in that area and they needed to start the band again, so we started the band. So that's basically how I got started. But I was more interested in sports than I was in music at the time.

A+T: R&B started around 1953, correct?

GB: Well yes, but it actually started before that.

A+T: What type of music were you playing before 1953?

GB: I was playing light jazz. I was in the college jazz band and I was in the marching band and I was a music major at West Virginia State College. Then I started playing with a band called the Griffin Brothers, which was an R&B and blues band back in the early 50s.

A+T: When artists transition from one genre of music to another, or when a new genre of music is created like R&B, there is usually some kind of disruption. Did you experience any backlash or were people receptive to this then new genre of music known as R&B?

GB: Well, you know, this transition was just natural. Back in them days, you had the Griffin



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Brothers and the guys that were playing like the swing jazz and the blues. It was like a fusion of music had blossomed into a form of music that is now known as rhythm and blues. The media and a lot of those guys named it rhythm and blues. It was a few years after the war and people were out dancing, and jazz music in our community was kind of fading a little, and then this music pops up and the small groups and the small combos and Milburn and all of these singers rose out of it. So there you have the rhythm and blues in the '50s going full blast. Fats Domino came on the scene, and all of a sudden you have all of these blues groups, and eventually it went into a sophisticated blues, which is R&B.

A+T: Over the years, jazz has had to struggle to stay relevant. Blues seems to be dealing with that same issue.

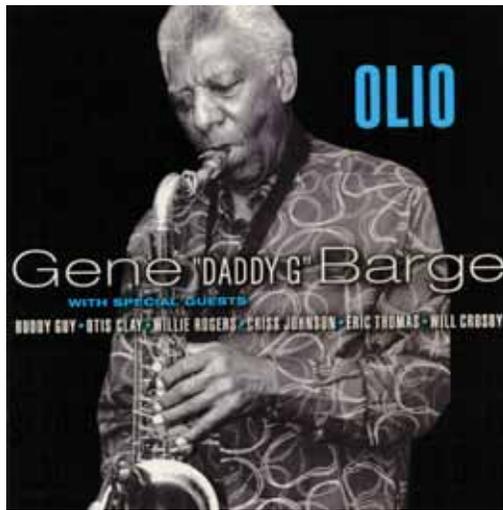
GB: Well, blues has been mostly saved by white people now. White people in their 40s and 50s, those seem to be the ones that turn out for the blues. My people, they are more or less into the more popular R&B and hip hop.

A+T: Why do you think that is, considering the fact that blues was created by African Americans?

GB: Well you know the blues is more of a folk music. It tells a story. White people are more into folk music because they brought that (folk music) over from Ireland and Scotland and different parts of Europe, and that evolved into country music. Country music is folk music. They started telling all of these stories, all of these tales in a different ethnic light, and that is what became country western music. Our music came from our time singing in the church, from gospel music. Gospel music is what influenced rhythm and blues music.

A+T: A lot of the jazz musicians during the civil rights movement participated in the movement by creating music that can be considered anthems for those who fought for civil rights. Did blues musicians do the same thing?

GB: Sure, most definitely. You've got those in the blues and in rhythm and blues who were some of



the most rebellious guys against the system. But most of the early rhythm and blues guys were rural musicians that came off of farms into music. They came out of the agricultural system and share cropping in the south, so they were definitely more rebellious and very vocal about the movement.

A+T: Let's talk about your time working at Chess Records in the '60s. Isn't it true that Minnie Riperton started out as a receptionist and then became a background singer at Chess when you

were there?

GB: Back in 1964, Minnie was in high school. And she was in a little group called the Gems. And they came by Chess Records, I think, to try to get a recording deal, and right away they couldn't get signed. But Billy Davis, who was the head of music at Chess at the time, kind of took them in and encouraged them to hang out to practice and rehearse and let them hang out. And then eventually, every once in a while, they started using them as background voices on some of the other artists that were recording at the time. So Minnie was very talented on backgrounds. She could sing various parts on background. So they eventually recorded the group that she was in, but the group didn't obtain any type of popularity as they had hoped, and Minnie stuck around as a background singer.

A+T: At Chess Records, you worked with legends like Little Milton, Billy Stuart, The Dells, Muddy Waters, just to name a few. What was it like being a part of that? That was almost like working at Motown, wasn't it?

GB: Well, it was. In fact, Motown evolved out of what Chess was doing. The early association that Barry Gordy had with Chess was with the Barry Strong record "Money, That's What I Want." Billy Davis was working with one of Barry Gordy's song writing partners at the moment along with Smoky (Robinson), and they were back and forth out of Chicago. So when Motown got hot in the '60s, Chess got hot, too, so they were like competition. They were

Continued on Page 34



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Art+Times Continued from Page 33

very competitive with each other. Motown evolved out of Barry's ideas and his way of doing things, but the in-house rhythm section — we had the in house rhythm section.

A+T: You began working with Marvin Yancy in the early '70s and had the opportunity to record on some of Natalie Cole's early hits, including "Sophisticated Lady," for which you won a Grammy. How did you meet Natalie and come to work with her early in her career?

GB: Marvin Yancy was a young kid, around 20 or 21, and Inez Andrews, the gospel singer, had invited me over to her house to possibly do something with her. So I said, "Well, I've never heard you sing." So she said OK, and called upstairs and downstairs came Marvin Yancy. He was hanging out with her daughter. So he and Inez's young son, he was about 11 or 12 years old and is currently playing with Aretha Franklin now. He's her dependable keyboardist, Richard Gibbs. So Marvin came down and played, and that's when I met Marvin. Then Marvin hooked up with Jesse Jackson's brother, Chuck Jackson, and they became the team that ended up with Natalie Cole. I ended up with them doing the very first demo session with Natalie, downtown Chicago, at Universal Studios doing the four songs that got her started.

A+T: Were you surprised that you won the Grammy, and did anything change after that for you?

GB: I had been nominated for Grammys before because I had worked with Muddy Waters and Little Milton. These people were at the top of the charts then. I had gotten nominated with the John

Clema jazz album at Chess and we didn't win, but I was nominated, which was close. And I was involved with the Grammys. I was the vice president of the Chicago chapter, so I was involved with it for a long time. So it was like some of the stuff that goes with the business, I guess.

A+T: You also got to play in the rhythm section of The Rolling Stones. What was it like traveling with The Stones? And how much of an influence has blues had on their music, if any?

GB: Ahmet Ertegun, who was the president of Atlantic Records, and I had become friends. So he decided that he wanted to come to Chicago and do some blues, and he called me and asked me what studio he could use because the Chess studios were closing. So I set up the session and everything for



him. And before he came in, he said, "Incidentally, I'm bringing Mick Jagger with me. He's going to hang out while I'm in Chicago." So we recorded for a week, and Mick and I hung out for a week, and that's how I got to know him. So when he (Mick Jagger) left Chicago, I wrote him a letter and told him that if he ever needed a saxophone player

to let me know. Ironically, in 1981, Ernie Watts, the great saxophone player, did the American tour for The Rolling Stones and he quit. Around the time the tour was over, Mick decided that he wanted to tour Europe, and Ernie Watts didn't want to make that tour. So Mick called me himself and asked me would I do it and that's how it happened.

Here's the thing about The Stones: Mick Jagger and them had been listening to and were influenced by the early recordings on Chess Records. In fact, Willie Dixon, one of the greatest blues writers ever, wrote a song called "Rolling Stone," which they took

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their name from. And when they came to Chicago, they used the Chicago studios to try to capture some of that sound, and they got their first single hit out of Chicago. They came back again the next year in 1964. I wasn't there at the time. I was still in Virginia. I was destined to come a few weeks later. But they recorded "I Miss You" with Sugar Blue on the harmonica, which was one of the big singles that helped to get them over in terms of worldwide popularity. So they were strongly influenced by what was going on at Chess.

A+T: Buddy Guy is probably one of the most influential names in jazz today. How did you end up meeting him?

GB: Buddy Guy was hanging out at Chess trying to get a deal, and he did some sessions with Willy Dixon. They were good friends. My association with Buddy came when Willie brought us together. One of the things we did together was "Wang, Dang, Doodle." And from that point on, Buddy formed a band, and I was in Buddy's band, and we performed in all of the clubs in and around Chicago. He wanted to do an album. He had already done some recordings, but he wanted to do an album. So I produced his first really good album called "I Left My Blues in San Francisco." Buddy and I are really, really good friends.

A+T: We lost "Big Time Sarah" (Sarah Streeter) recently. Do you have any stories about Sarah?

GB: Well, there are a lot of stories about Big Time Sarah. She used to come in and sit in with our band. This isn't too long ago. We were playing a club called Blues down on Halsted, and Big Time Sarah used to



love to come in and sit in and sing with our band. She would walk in the door and want to sing a song with us. Big Time Sarah was a real character. She knew everybody, she had a few recordings and she used to walk around and sell her records. I didn't socialize with her on a personal basis, so I don't know all of the Big Time Sarah stories. But I knew

her as a singer really well, and she liked my playing. I really liked Sarah.

A+T: How does blues stay relevant with the younger generation?

GB: Blues influences the music today. It's not the favorite music of the young folks today, but the music that they listen to is influenced by it, they just don't realize it. The blues has been merged and integrated into the sound we have today. And the blues will always be with us, it will always be there. It just won't be as basic as it was in the '40s and '50s. Who knows where the evolution of the music will end up?

A+T: The Chicago Rhythm and Blues Kings will be playing at the Ship and Shore Blues Festival in August. Tell us what audiences can expect to hear.

GB: The Chicago Rhythm and Blues Kings is an evolution of Big Twists and Mellow Fellows. This is a hard-hitting blues band that does R&B and the blues. It's a band that does music from the past with a modern twist to it. We think we play really well.

(Visit shipandshorebluesfestival.com/ for more information on the upcoming festival, which is Saturday, Aug. 8, at New Buffalo's Lions Beachfront Park.)



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4A's Antique Car Show

by William Halliar



Mark your calendar to attend Harbor Country's biggest car show of the year. In an area known for antique car enthusiasts, this is the premier event of the summer.

Sunday, July 26, is the day, and Three Oaks, Mich., is the place — rain or shine — for the 24th annual 4A's Car Club antique car show at American Legion Post 204 on Legion Drive off U.S. 12.

The fun starts at 8 a.m. EDT and continues with music, food, raffles and door prizes, not to mention the fabulous collection of historic automobiles on display.

Jerry Denton, one of the club's founders, is excited about this year's show.

"Michigan City merchants have been very generous in supporting the show," he said, adding he looks forward to a larger turnout than usual this year.

There will be 19 classes of cars entered, and each class will be awarded first, second and third prize at 3 p.m. EDT.

Denton stresses that although the goal of the day is for everyone to have fun, every penny collected from the event goes to charity.

A new feature this year is the "Just for the Hell of it Cruise" through Southwest Michigan and La Porte County. The parade of cars leaves the American Legion Post at 7 p.m. EDT Friday, July 24, winding its way through the dunes of Harbor Country and ending at MoCo Floors and More, 19615 U.S. 12, New Buffalo, where the tables will be set and music warmed up in preparation for an old-fashioned mid-summer party.

Antique car enthusiasts and owners also will want to make note of the Aug. 1 car show, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. CDT in Michigan City's Washington Park, held in conjunction with the annual boat show. Participants in the show can be in the grand parade that kicks off the weekend.

So on July 26, don't miss this once-a-year opportunity to see the finest collection of vintage cars in the area. Visit www.fourascarclub.org or call (219) 861-6357 for more information.

Beginner Origami Class

Leslie Cefali will offer a “Very Beginner, Absolute Beginner, Very Basic Paper/Origami Class” from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday, July 28, at Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St.

Students will be introduced to origami one step at a time, ensuring each person grasps the process. Many models taught can be used in making notecards, greeting cards and holiday cards.

The cost is \$40, with members receiving a \$5 discount. Information about the kind of paper to take will be sent to students once registered, or paper can be purchased from the instructor for \$5 the day of the class.

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

Teen Poetry Contest

New Buffalo Township Library, 33 N. Thompson St., will host a teen poetry contest open to middle- and high-school students, with July 31 being the deadline to submit entries.

Poems will be judged on originality, use of language and technical skill. There is a limit of two entries per person. They must be typed and no longer than 40 lines. Names should not be placed on the submission but instead on an attached entry form available at the Youth Service Circulation Desk.

Prizes will be awarded during a poetry slam at 6 p.m. EDT Thursday, Aug. 6, at the library’s Pokagon Room.

Call (269) 469-2933 for more information.

“Little Shop of Horrors”

Young People’s Theatre Co. will present the musical-comedy “Little Shop of Horrors” for a two-week-end run at the Elston Performing Arts Center, 317 Detroit St.

Directed by Aaron Garrett, the show runs July 24-26, and July 31 and Aug 1-2. Times are 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday. Tickets, which are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students K-12, are available at the door or in advance at www.yptcinc.com

Annual Pancake Breakfast

St. Ann of the Dunes, 433 E. Golfwood Road, Beverly Shores, will host its annual all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast from 8:30 a.m. to noon Sunday, July 26.

The menu includes pancakes, sausage, juice and coffee for \$6. Children 4-10 cost \$2 and children 4 and younger are free. The breakfast is held rain or shine under three large tents. Call (219) 879-7565 for more information.

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Setting Goals

by Kevin Scott

Editor's Note — "The Fitness Rebellion," written by staff at Michigan City's Anytime Fitness, appears every other week in The Beacher. This column was written by Manager Kevin Scott.

Well, summer is in full swing. You will see a lot of people out and about enjoying the weather. During this time of year, a lot of people take their workouts outside. It is a good time to check where you are with the goals you set in January.

Yes, I will play the bad guy for a minute and remind you of the goals you set out to achieve just six short months ago when the new year began.

Take a look back at your resolutions. Was it to lose X amount of pounds? Was it to run your first 5K? Was it to lose X amount of inches on your waist? Was it to cut out fast food? If you have accomplished your goal, great. But be hungry for more, and learn how to adjust and adapt. We will touch on that in a minute. If you haven't accomplished your goal yet, think about the reasons why. Make a list of the top reasons that stopped you from reaching this goal, whether it was time, commitment, financial restraints, focus or just lost interest.

Now, grab a sharpie and write down your goal again. Stick it on your mirror or somewhere you look every single day. Do something every day, no matter how big or small, that will move you towards attaining your goal. This can be something as small as taking the stairs instead of the elevator, or packing a lunch instead of going out to eat.

Something that keeps you going forward.

Once you have done this, set a realistic strategy of how you plan to go at it differently this time. If you didn't accomplish your resolution yet, and it was due to any of the above reasons, you are in luck. These are all obstacles that can be overcome with just a little guidance and structure.

Commitment can be reinforced by having someone hold you accountable, whether it is on a professional level or a friend. Just remember, it is a professional's job to make you reach your goals. I believe time and focus go hand in hand. Prep your weeks beforehand so you accommodate time to exercise. Yes, I know, things will come up. But the more you are prepared for your week, the better you will be able to handle what life throws at you.

Finally, financial restraints are usually the toughest to tackle, but take a realistic approach. Sit down and take a look at your bank statement and see where you can cut out excess spending. The first item that is best to eliminate if you are trying to get healthier is eating out. The savings can be huge.

Lastly, and I said I would come back to this earlier, if you have accomplished your goal, soak it in,

enjoy it and cherish the victory. Then, move on and set the next one. A common problem we see with most people is they set unrealistic goals. People set goals that are attached to a rounded number, or a specific weight they have seen someone else lift. But realistically, is it attainable? Most certainly it is, but in our society of instant gratification, we want it to happen now. It might just take a little while longer.

Let's break down one example.

Let's say you finished your last 5K in 27:45. You're glad you did it, but now you want to do better and get it below 27 minutes. Mathematically, you would have to shave off 15 seconds each of the three miles. Fifteen seconds may save you money on your car insurance, but 15 seconds off a mile is a good amount of time, and would require you to really kick it into gear. Instead, train, practice and test your times before you set out again, and have a more concrete number to shoot for. The other will come.

So now that we are in July and halfway through the year, if you have lost focus on what you set out to achieve, it's never too late to get back on track. Restate your goals and figure out what stopped you from achieving them. Refocus and prepare a strategy that includes a plan, along with a battle plan when obstacles are thrown your way.

Lastly, trap that excitement and determination you had in the beginning of the year, and go out and do it. I will leave you this week with this quote by Confucius: *"When it is obvious that the goals cannot be reached, don't just adjust the goals, adjust the steps."*

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WEDNESDAY PIPE ORGAN CONCERT SERIES

Regional musical artists will be featured organists at the noon **Wednesday Pipe Organ Concert Series** at the First Congregational Church of Michigan City, Indiana. The Church is home to an 1891 Roosevelt tracker pipe organ. **The church is located at 531 Washington Street. The noon concerts begin at 12:15 pm central time.**



The fourteenth season pipe organ concert series will last until mid August. Performing organists include Ann Taylor Dobie, Stephen Schnurr, Mark Sudeith, Gary Powell, Carol Garrett, Kent Jager, Br. Ben Basile, Derek Nickels, Wolfgang Rubsam and Carey Scheck.

The portrait of Ann Dobie was painted by Michigan City artist Connie Kassal.

Last Saturdays on the Common

Nathan Williams and the Zydeco Cha-Chas will perform during the free Last Saturdays on the Common outdoor concert series at 7 p.m. EDT Saturday, July 25, in the heart of Buchanan's Historic and Arts District.

This is the fourth year for the series that presents shows the last Saturdays of June, July and August. Past concerts have included blues artists, Grammy winners and national touring artists.



Nathan Williams

Williams received the 2012 Zydeco Music Associations Lifetime Achievement Award and the 2012 Big Easy Award for Best Zydeco Bands.

The Common is bordered by McCoy's Creek, the Buchanan Farmer's Market and Pears Mill.

Visit www.buchanancommon.org for additional information.



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Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

The following programs are available:

- **Learn to Kayak from 9 to 11 a.m. Thursdays through Sept. 3, as well as Saturday, July 25.**

Kayak and safety equipment will be provided. Meet at the Kemil Beach parking lot, 27 N. East State Park Road.

- **Mount Baldy Guided Hike from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Fridays through Sept. 4.**

While Mount Baldy remains closed to unrestricted public access, visitors can join a ranger for a special guided hike along a trail on the dune's western edge found to be free of holes. The program begins at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center. Reservations are required by calling (219) 395-1882.

- **Campground Program from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. Friday, July 24, at Dunewood Campground.**

Learn about the diversity of park resources found on the Dunes Scavenger Hunt. The campground is at Broadway and U.S. 12 in Beverly Shores.

- **Junior Wildland Firefighter Program from 11 a.m. to noon Saturday, July 25, at West Beach Contact Station.**

Meet the park's fire crew and learn about their jobs and equipment. Afterward, children receive a Junior Wildland Firefighter activity book and Junior Wildland Firefighter patch. West Beach is 1/4 mile north of U.S. 12 on County Line Road in Portage. There is a \$6 per vehicle entrance charge until 6:30 p.m.

- **Pinhook Bog Open House from noon to 3 p.m. Saturdays through Sept. 12.**

Take a self-guided tour of the bog and talk to rangers stationed along the trail. Arrive by 2 p.m. to allow about one hour to walk the trail and tour the bog. The parking lot is located at 700 N. Wozniak Road in Michigan City.

- **Stewardship Days from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, July 25, at Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education.**

Help staff cut brush and remove invasive plants to restore a rare oak savanna habitat.

- **Sunset Hike from 7:45 to 8:45 p.m. Satur-**



Central Beach.

- **day, July 25, at Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk.**

Take a stroll with a ranger and watch the sunset over Lake Michigan. The riverwalk is located off Indiana 249 north of Interstate 94.

- **Family Fishing Time from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, July 25, at Marquette Park Lagoon.**

Learn basic fishing skills and drop a line in Marquette Park Lagoon, located in Gary's Miller

Beach neighborhood. Equipment will be provided, or take your own. Children 18 and younger do not need a fishing license.

- **Bike Ride with a Ranger from 9 to 11 a.m. Sundays through Sept. 6.**

Join a ranger for a bike ride starting at the campground and travel along the Calumet Bike Trail. Meet at the Dunewood Campground.

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

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

- **Bailly Homestead and Chellberg Farm Open House from 1 to 4 p.m. Sundays through Sept. 6.**

Tour the Chellberg Farmhouse and Bailly Homestead to learn about the lives of early Duneland farm families. The parking lot is on Mineral Springs Road between U.S. 12 and 20 in Porter.

- **Miller Woods Hike from 1:30 to 3 p.m. Sundays through Aug. 23.**

Take an afternoon ranger-led stroll through Miller Woods. The hike's length can vary from a 1/2 mile to three miles if hiking to Lake Michigan. Call (219) 395-1821 for details of the week's hike.

- **Central Beach Sunset Hike at 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays through Sept. 2.**

Enjoy a sunset stroll with a ranger and learn about the threats faced by the dunes. Central Beach parking lot.

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.



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Westchester Public Library

The following programs are available:

- **Summer Concert Series/Family Film Series on Friday, July 24, at the Thomas Centennial Park bandstand in downtown Chesterton.**

The Fairhaven Baptist Concert Orchestra performs at 7 p.m., followed by a showing of "How to Train Your Dragon 2" at about 8 p.m. If it rains, both events move to the Library Service Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

- **Summer Reading Wrapup — Party in the Park from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, July 25, at Chesterton's Thomas Centennial Park.**

Children ages 2 through fifth grade are invited. They can meet Super Why from Lakeshore Public Media, make a candy capsule necklace, play games on the lawn, have their face painted and race in a giant inflatable obstacle course.

- **A lecture on Chicago's Eastland Disaster at 2 p.m. Saturday, July 25, at Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.**

Andy Johnsen, whose grandfather was a diver at the disaster site, is the speaker.

- **Teen Movie: "Maggie" at 5 p.m. Saturday, July 25, at the Library Service Center.**

The movie is rated PG-13. Free popcorn will be served.

- **The Unnamed Guild of Gamers meets from 1:30 to 5 p.m. Sunday, July 26, in the Bertha Wood room at Thomas Library, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.**

Adventurers, players and storytellers are invited. The event will include a 5th edition "Dungeons & Dragons" campaign, along with other games such as "Settlers of Catan" and "Pandemic."

- **Teen Maker Mondays from 3 to 5 p.m. Monday, July 27, at Thomas Library.**

Teens in grades 6-12 will create 8 bit art.

- **Eating Well for Healthy Living Series, "Fantastic Fiber Facts," from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 28, in the Bertha Wood meeting room at Thomas Library.**

Registered Dietetic Technician Gia DeMartinis will lead the program. Registration is required in person at the reference department or by phone at (219) 926-7696.

- **Bits & Bytes Series, "Intro to Presentations," from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, July 28, in the Serials/Automation Department at Thomas Library.**

Registration is required by visiting or calling the Serials Department at (219) 926-7696, or at www.wpl.lib.in.us. Click on the Bits & Bytes link.

- **Good Old Summertime Trivia at 7 p.m. Tuesday, July 28, at Westchester Township History Museum.**

All questions revolve around summer. Teams of one to four people can vie for a prize.

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Indiana Dunes State Park

The following programs are offered:

Thursday, July 23

- **9:30 a.m. — Beach Yoga.**

Bleu Lotus Yoga will offer the program every Thursday this summer. Registration is required and includes a \$10 fee. Classes are canceled in case of inclement weather. Visit www.bleulotusyoga.com to register.

- **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.

- **3 p.m. — The Masked Bandit.**

Meet at the Nature Center to learn more about the infamous park critter.

Friday, July 24

- **9:30 a.m. — Beach Yoga.**

Bleu Lotus Yoga will offer the program every Friday this summer. Registration is required and includes a \$10 fee. Classes are canceled in case of inclement weather. Visit www.bleulotusyoga.com to register.

- **10 a.m. — Dunes Creek Crossing.**

Meet at the campground gate for the one-hour tour. Prepare for off-trail creek walking.

- **3 p.m. — Fire on the Prairie.**

Meet at the Nature Center for the hour-long program exploring how prescribed fire is used to aid habitats, then help a naturalist start a fire if conditions are right. Children 12 and younger must be accompanied by a parent.

- **6:30 p.m. — Sunset Beach Yoga.**

Bleu Lotus Yoga will offer a chance to stretch on the dunes beach. Registration is required and includes a \$10 fee. Classes are canceled in case of inclement weather. Visit www.bleulotusyoga.com to

register.

- **8 p.m. — Bat Chat.**

Meet at the Nature Center outdoor program area for a look at bats using iPad apps to detect and identify them.

Saturday, July 25

- **9:30 a.m. — Breakfast with the Birds.**

Meet a guest naturalist at the Nature Center for morning coffee and a donut break to watch the birds visit the feeders. A small bird-feeder craft for children is planned.

- **10 a.m. — 3 Dune Challenge Hike.**

Meet at the campground shelter for the rugged hike through the park's three highest dunes, then pick up a free sticker at Dunes Visitor Center.

- **3 p.m. — Naturalist Beach Break.**

Watch a naturalist near the beach pavilion interact with a few critters.

- **7:30 p.m. — Campfire on the Beach.**

Meet a naturalist on the beach for an evening of storytelling and games. Gather near the pavilion, but east of Dunes Creek. Take a blanket or chair.

Sunday, July 26

- **8:30 a.m. — Informal church service at the campground shelter.**

- **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.

- **3 p.m. — Sand Crafts.**

Meet at the Nature Center for a make it-take it sand craft.

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.

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Music Festival Raises \$10,000



In its second year, everything about the Lightning Bug Music Festival got bigger. Five bands took the stage at Sunset Hill Farm County Park, providing 1,300 attendees with a day of music while raising \$10,000 to send children to summer camp at nearby Dunes Learning Center. Backstage, band members signed concert posters and donated albums, which will be auctioned at Dunes Learning Center's annual fundraising gala in September, along with tickets to Lightning Bug Music Fest 2016, which is Sunday, July 3. Learn more at www.duneslearningcenter.org. Pictured are (from left) event organizers Andrea Georgion and Jim Chaddock, along with Geof Benson with Mighty Acorns campers at Dunes Learning Center.



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PNC Learning Trail

The Purdue University-North Central Nancy Dworkin Born Learning Trail is open to the public.

The trail, located on the southeast side of the Library-Student-Faculty Building, bears the name of PNC's First Lady, who suggested having one and played an instrumental role in its creation. It marks the first such attraction on a university campus in Indiana.

The trail features 10 interactive outdoor games that will help adults create learning opportunities for a young child. As adults walk through the trail with a youngster, they encounter various signs that ask questions, suggest activities and encourage interaction between the adult, child and their natural surroundings. It also will give adults tips and ideas for follow-up learning.

The trail is part of the Northwest Indiana United Way Success By 6 initiative, which is intended to help parents, caregivers and communities support early learning. It was supported by a donation from the PNC Women's Association, Success By 6 and the student organization Purdue Learning About Young Children in Education.

PNC Early Childhood Education students will use the trail in their own learning activities as they undertake a range of projects with area schools to create learning activities for students, parents and teachers.

Old Car Show

La Porte County Historical Society will host the Eighth Annual Old Car Show from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, July 25, at the museum, 2405 Indiana Ave., La Porte.

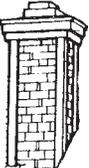
The event is open to cars 30 years old and older. Nearly 100 classics, muscle cars and collectible cars of all eras will be on display.



Vehicle owners can take their vehicles to the museum starting at 8 a.m., with registration continuing through 11 a.m. The fee is \$10 per vehicle, and owners receive this year's custom dash plaque, as well as other items in their "Goodie Bag," and a chance at winning one of six different trophies. Categories include La Porte Mayor's Choice, Sheriff's Choice, Curator's Choice and a Preservation Award. Plaques also will be given for five Owner's Choice Awards and five Public's Choice Awards. Vehicle owners will be eligible to win a door prize from local vendors.

Public viewing starts at 9 a.m. The \$5 per carload cost includes admittance to the show and the museum that day only. Those attending will receive ballots to vote for the Public's Choice Awards. Ballots need to be cast by 2 p.m., with trophies presented at 2:30 p.m. On-site food will be available from T-Berry's Diner at the back of the building.

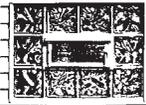
Some of the automobiles in the Kesling collection on permanent display in the museum include a Duesenberg and a Delorean, as well as Tucker No. 12. Visit www.laportecountyhistory.org or call (219) 324-6767 for more information.



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Diane Tesler Exhibit

The Midwest Museum of American Art will host "A Place Remembered: The Paintings of Diane Tesler" through Sunday, Oct. 4, its second exhibit in 15 years exploring works by an Indiana-born artist.

After 20 years of commuting to the Torpedo Factory in Alexandria, Va., where she continues to teach painting, Tesler moved full time to Kewanna, Ind., where she has established an art colony of sorts. She owns several buildings in town, including the 1889 Odd Fellows lodge hall she purchased in 1998 as studio space & gallery, along with a Masonic lodge she has renovated.

Forty-two paintings, gouaches and monotypes are included in the museum exhibit. Her works of abandoned houses, vehicles and the people of small Hoosier towns are filled with light, color and love for the people, places and things people drive by, but sometimes never notice.

The museum is located at 429 S. Main St., Elkhart. Visit www.MidwestMuseum.US for more information.

Deep River Grinders

The Deep River Grinders will face off against the Springfield Long Nines at 2 p.m. Sunday, July 26, at Deep River County Park.

The teams play baseball according to the original rules of 1858, where the striker is out if the ball is caught on the fly or on one bound, fair or foul. There are no called strikes, and a foul ball does not count as a strike. The rover/shortstop may play anywhere on the field.

The game is free. Families can take lawn chairs or blankets for seating. Games are played on Grinder Field across the river from the Grist Mill.

Deep River County Park is located at 9410 Old Lincoln Highway, Hobart.

Barbecue Dinner at Moose Lodge

Moose Family Center 980, 1108 Franklin St., Michigan City, will have a barbecue rib dinner from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 1.

The menu includes barbecue ribs, spaghetti, Cole slaw and dessert. The cost is \$10 per person.

Call Durbin Lyons at (219) 561-4047 or Theresa Edwards at (219) 861-2798 for more information.

Irish Bourse Stamp Show

The Northwest Indiana Philatelic Society will hold its Irish Bourse Stamp Show from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. EDT Sunday, July 26, at Comfort Suites Hotel, 52939 Indiana 933 North, South Bend.

Seven stamp dealers will be present to buy and sell postage stamps, as well as a variety of other philatelic-related materials. Admission and parking are free.

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July 14, 2015



"A" Flight

Low Gross: Jennifer Gronceski
Low Net: Sue Luegers
Low Putts: Pat Kelley

"B" Flight

Low Gross: Donna Hennard
Low Net: Melanie Davis
Low Putts: Mary Weithers

"C" Flight

Low Gross: Tina Sonderby
Low Net: Barbara Beardslee
Low Putts: Kathy Chlystun

Sunken Approach

Roxanne Warble Hole 11
 June Salmon Hole 18
 Mary Weithers Hole 13 & 2
 Susan Keeley Hole 3

Birdies

Sue Luegers Hole 10



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SUN 11-4PM
MON 10-2PM
EASTERN TIME

Activities to Explore

In the Local Area:

July 22-25 — “A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline,” Mainstreet Theatre, 807 Franklin St., Michigan City. Times: 2 p.m. Wed./Thur., 8 p.m. Fri., 6:30 p.m. Sat. Tickets: \$15/Wed. & Thur., \$16/Fri. & Sat. Reservations: (219) 874-4269, info@festivalplayersguild.org

July 22-23 — Arts in the Park, 7 p.m., La Porte’s Fox Park. July 22: La Porte City Band/July 23: Trouble Blind.

July 23 — Summer Reading Program Movie: “Chicken Little,” 10 a.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

July 23 — Cracker, 8 p.m. EDT, The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: floor & stadium seating/\$50, side seating/\$40. Info: www.acorntheater.com, (269) 756-3879.

July 24 — Movies in Washington Park: “Big Hero 6,” 8:30 p.m. Info: (219) 873-3049.

July 24-30 — Vickers Theatre, 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. *Now showing:* “Testament of Youth.” Rated PG-13. Times: 6 p.m. Fri.-Mon. *Also:* “The Wolfpack.” The documentary has a Three Oaks connection: The Wolfpack brothers recently met their maternal grandmother, who lives in Three Oaks, as seen on “20/20.” Not rated. Times: 9 p.m. Thur.-Sat. and 3:15 p.m. Sun. *Also:* “Iris.” Rated PG-13. Time: 3:30 p.m. Sat. and 9 p.m. Sun.-Mon. *Also:* “Last Call at the Oasis.” Rated PG-13. Time: 7 p.m. Tues. Free film/discussion presented in conjunction with Harbor Country Progress. *Also:* “Damnation.” Not rated. Time: 7 p.m. Thur. Sponsored by Chikaming Open Lands & Fernwood Botanical Garden & Nature Preserve. All times Eastern. Info: vickerstheatre.com

July 24-Aug. 2 — Young People’s Theatre Co., “Little Shop of Horrors,” Elston Performing Arts Center, 317 Detroit St. Times: 7:30 p.m. Fri. & Sat., 2 p.m. Sun. Tickets: \$10/adults, \$5/students K-12, @ door or www.yptcinc.com

July 24 — Fire on the Prairie, 3 p.m., Nature Center @ Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East. Info: (219) 926-1390.

July 25 — Michigan City Mainstreet Association Farmers Market, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., Eighth and Washington streets, through Oct. 31. PEO Chapter DF of Michigan City bake sale. Info: www.michigancityfarmersmarket.com

July 25 — La Porte County Historical Society Eighth Annual Old Car Show, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave., La Porte. Admission: \$5 per carload. Info: (219) 324-6767.

July 25 — Lecture on Chicago’s Eastland Disaster, 2 p.m., Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.

July 25 — 3 Dune Challenge Hike, 10 a.m., campground shelter @ Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East. Info: (219) 926-1390.

July 25 — Teen Movie: “Maggie,” 5 p.m., West-

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Chester Public Library Service Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

July 25 — Music in the Park, Van Dyke Revue, 6:30 p.m. EDT, Dewey Cannon Park, Three Oaks, Mich. Free; donations accepted.

July 26 — Free Native American Heritage Days, noon-4 p.m., International Friendship Gardens, 2055 U.S. 12. Info: (219) 878-9885.

July 26 — AYCE pancake breakfast, 8:30 a.m.-noon, St. Ann of the Dunes, 433 E. Golfwood Road, Beverly Shores. Cost: \$6, \$2/children 4-10, free/children 4 & younger. Info: (219) 879-7565.

July 26 — Designer open house (Habitat for Humanity benefit), 3-6 p.m., 3318 Tilden Ave., Michigan City. Free, Habitat donation accepted.

July 29 — Roosevelt organ concert series, Gary Powell and Guest, 12:15 p.m., Christ Church (the former First Congregational Church), 531 Washington St. Free. Info: (269) 469-0051.

July 29 — Harbor Country Book Club, Amy Bloom's "Lucky Us," 7 p.m. EDT, Harbor Grand Hotel, 111 W. Water St., New Buffalo, Mich.

July 29-Aug. 1 — "Bette Davis: On the Edge," Mainstreet Theatre, 807 Franklin St., Michigan City. Times: 2 p.m. Wed./Thur., 8 p.m. Fri., 6:30 p.m. Sat. Tickets: \$15/Wed. & Thur., \$16/Fri. & Sat. Reservations: (219) 874-4269, info@festivalplayersguild.org

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.

Saturdays through Sept. 12 — Pinhook Bog Open House, noon-3 p.m., 700 N. Wozniak Road, Michigan City. Info: (219) 395-1882.

Farther Afield:

July 24 — Opening reception, 3 new exhibits, 6:30-8:30 p.m. EDT, Buchanan Art Center, 117 W. Front St. Info: www.buchananartcenter.org

July 24-26 — Musical-horror comedy "Zombie Prom," Elkhart Civic Theatre @ Bristol (Ind.) Opera House, 210 E. Vistula St. Times (Eastern): 7:30 p.m. July 17, 18, 24, 25, 3 p.m. July 19. Tickets: \$17/adults, \$15/students & seniors 65+. Reservations: (574) 848-4116.

July 24-26 — "Ghost: The Musical," The Genesis Guild of First United Methodist Church of Hammond, 6635 Hohman Ave. Times: 8 p.m. Fri. and Sat., 3 p.m. Sun. Tickets: \$15/adults, \$13/seniors & students high-school age or younger. Reservations: (877) 724-7715.

July 25 — Last Saturdays on the Common, Nathan Williams and the Zydeco Cha-Chas, 7 p.m. EDT, Buchanan, Mich. Free. Info: www.buchanan-common.org

July 26 — Deep River Grinders vs. Springfield Long Nines, 2 p.m., Deep River County Park, 9410 Old Lincoln Highway, Hobart.

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**THIS
WEEK
IN
HISTORY**



On July 23, 1829, William Burt, of Mt. Vernon, MI, received a patent for a machine called a “Typographer.” The name was later changed to typewriter.

On July 23, 1846, Henry David Thoreau was sent to jail for refusing to pay his poll tax. The ordeal inspired him to write his most famous novel, *Civil Disobedience*.

On July 23, 1904, in St. Louis, the ice cream cone was invented by Charles E. Menches.

On July 23, 1962, a *Telstar* communications satellite relayed the first live television programs from the United States to Europe.

On July 23, 1999, space shuttle *Columbia* blasted off with Eileen Collins, the first woman to command a U.S. space flight.

On July 23, 2000, Tiger Woods, 24, became the youngest player to win the career Grand Slam with a record-breaking performance in the British Open.

On July 24, 1847, Mormon leader Brigham Young and his followers arrived at Utah’s Great Salt Lake.

On July 24, 1870, the first railroad car from the Pacific Coast reached New York, marking the beginning of transcontinental rail service.

On July 24, 1946, off the Pacific Ocean’s Bikini Atoll, the United States conducted the first underwater test of an atomic bomb.

On July 24, 1969, after completing the first manned landing on the Moon, the *Apollo 11* astronauts made a safe “splash-down” in the Pacific.

On July 24, 1974, the Supreme Court ordered President Nixon to turn over White House documents subpoenaed for the Watergate investigation.

On July 25, 1866, Ulysses S. Grant, victorious Union general in the Civil War, was named to the five-star rank of “General of the Armies,” the first officer to be so honored.

On July 25, 1885, Louis Pasteur inoculated the first human being against rabies. The patient, Joseph Meister, who was bitten by a rabid dog, later became superintendent of the Pasteur Institute.

On July 25, 1956, 51-people were killed when the Italian liner *Andrea Dora* sank after colliding with the Swedish ship *Stockholm*. The collision occurred off the New England coast, just south of Nantucket Island. The two ships carried a total of more than 16,000 passengers.

On July 26, 1775, the Continental Congress appointed Benjamin Franklin to be the nation’s first postmaster general.

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On July 26, 1943, Rolling Stones lead singer Mick Jagger was born in Dartford, England.

On July 26, 1965, the Reverend Martin Luther King led a civil rights march on Chicago's City Hall.

On July 26, 2005, Cubs pitcher Greg Maddux recorded his 3,000th career strikeout against San Francisco in the third inning of a 3-2, 11-inning victory for the Giants.

On July 27, 1905, Hall of Famer baseball player manager Leo Durocher, whose long career included a stint as Cubs skipper from 1966-1972, was born in West Springfield, MA.

On July 27, 1909, Orville Wright set a world record by keeping his airplane aloft for 72 minutes and 40 seconds.

On July 27, 1929, future First Lady Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy was born in Southampton, NY.

On July 27, 1940, Bugs Bunny made his "official" debut in the Warner Bro. cartoon "A Wild Hare."

On July 28, 1825, John Kinzie, who was referred to as the "First Citizen of Chicago," was appointed as the city's first justice of the peace.

On July 28, 1859, Chicago's "Rosehill Cemetery" was officially dedicated.

On July 28, 1896, Florida's city of Miami was incorporated.

On July 28, 1927, 27 passengers drowned when the "Favorite," a Lake Michigan cruise ship, capsized in a sudden squall off Chicago's North Avenue.

On July 28, 1996, former Chicago native Harold Fox, designer of the wide-shouldered, narrow-cuffed "Zoot Suit," popular in the '30s and '40s, died, in Siesta Key, FL, at the age of 86.

On July 29, 1850, *La Traviata*, the first opera to be performed in Chicago, opened at the Rice Theater.

On July 29, 1914, transcontinental telephone service began with the first phone conversation between New York and San Francisco.

On July 29, 1957, Jack Paar made his debut as host of NBC's "Tonight Show."

On July 29, 1958, NASA came into being when President Eisenhower signed the National Aeronautics and Space Act.

On July 29, 1975, President Gerald Ford became the first U.S. President to visit the site of Poland's Auschwitz concentration camp.

On July 29, 1977, the first oil began flowing through the 800-mile long Alaska pipeline.

On July 29, 1978, Penny Dean set a new record (7 hours & 42 minutes) for swimming the English Channel.

On July 29, 1988, Pete Drake, Grammy Award-winning musician and record producer, who introduced the "talking" steel guitar style, died at 55.



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American Red Cross

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

- Aperia Care Arbors Michigan City, 1101 Cool-spring Ave., 1-4 p.m. Friday, July 24.
- VNA Services of IU Health La Porte Hospital, 901 S. Woodland Ave., Michigan City, 9-11 a.m. Friday, July 24.
- New Hope Missionary Baptist Church, 730 W. Sixth St., Michigan City, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, July 25.
- Family Life Center, 154 Main St., Westville, 8 a.m.-noon Saturday, July 25.
- Queen of All Saints, 606 S. Woodland Ave., Michigan City, 2:30-6:30 p.m. Monday, July 27.
- Bethany Lutheran Church, 102 G St., La Porte, 1-6 p.m. Tuesday, July 28.

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 information.

Commission Awards Scholarship

The Michigan City Commission on the Social Status of African-American Males has awarded James Edward Lane III the \$1,000 Rev. Bill J. Ashley Memorial Education Scholarship.

This is the first year this scholarship was presented. The commission collaborated with The Northwest Indiana Ministerial Alliance to seek an awardee. Lane III is a 2015 Michigan City High School graduate who will pursue an engineering degree at Purdue University.



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Intermediate Origami Class

Leslie Cefali will offer the intermediate class "Origami for Kids and Brave Adults" from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday, July 29, at Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St.

The class is designed for children 9 and older, along with interested adults. Everyone must have some experience. Most origami models incorporate square pieces of paper. Students will use pentagons and hexagons, along with the basic shapes. They also will be challenged to fold beyond the square. The first 30 minutes of class will be earmarked for show 'n tell, so participants are encouraged to take already completed work.

The cost is \$40, with members receiving a \$5 discount. Information about the kind of paper to take will be sent to students once registered, or paper can be purchased from the instructor for \$5 the day of the class. Call (219) 926-4711 to register. Visit www.chestertonart.com for more information.

Elkhart Civic Theatre Auditions

Auditions for Elkhart Civic Theatre's youth production of "Disney's Beauty and the Beast Jr." are at 9:30 a.m. EDT Saturday, July 25, and 6:30 p.m. EDT Monday, July 27.

Brock Butler is the director, with vocal direction by Sandy Hill and choreography by Kristen Kinder. Performances are Oct. 9-11.

Butler seeks a cast of 30 to 35 youth from ages 8 to 18, including eight principle girls and eight principle boys. Auditions consist of a short vocal and dance audition, followed by possible readings from the script and further singing.

Auditions are at Elkhart Civic Theatre, which is located at Bristol (Ind.) Opera House, 210 E. Vista St. Visit www.elkhartcivictheatre.org or call (574) 848-5853 for more information.

Harbor Country Book Club

Harbor Country Book Club will discuss Amy Bloom's "Lucky Us" at 7 p.m. EDT Tuesday, July 29, at Harbor Grand Hotel, 111 W. Water St., New Buffalo, Mich.

The public is welcome. Playwright Joel Drake Johnson will discuss his work "The Boys Room" on Aug. 25.

Bake Sale at Farmers Market

PEO Chapter DF of Michigan City will have a bake sale from 8 a.m. to noon Saturday, July 25, at the Farmers Market, Eighth and Washington streets.

Funds benefit women returning to college or pursuing advanced education.

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The Summer Good Things Sale will accept contributions of furniture, household items, linens, art, tools, games, toys, small electronics, dishes, pots and pans, bikes, gardening items, patio furniture etc. To submit up to 25 items on consignment into the sale, make an appointment by emailing Susan Vissing at whatsnexta@comcast.net or call (219) 861-6188. Leave a message with your name, phone number, a few alternate dates and times you are available and you will receive a call or email with a scheduled appointment. Appointments are scheduled every hour Mon.-Fri. from 10-4 p.m., with a few evening and weekend appointments upon request. Large furniture items accepted by appointment.

Sale shopping dates will be scheduled towards the end of August.

Long Beach Community Center
2501 Oriole Trail
Long Beach IN

Everything must go. Furniture, home decor. Fri & Sat., July 24-25. 9am-1pm. 3010 Moore Road, Long Beach.

ESTATE SALE: Fri., July 24, 9am-3pm EDT, Sat., July 25, 9am-2 pm. EDT. 10 N. Whittaker St. (behind Coldwell Realty). Many years of mother's antiques and collectibles.

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REAL ESTATE

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For Sale or Rent: 1101 Pine St., formerly Hair Studio New York. Commercial property with a bedroom, part of Uptown Arts District. Great for those who commute. Rental: \$750/mo. Call for sale price if interested. **(219) 210-2583.**

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Rustic Sheridan Beach hillside cabin on Lakeshore Drive w/lake view at Stop 8. One week minimum stay. \$2,000/week. Call/text Cari @ Merrion Realty @ (219) 898-5412.

Easy walk to beach. Long Beach Pointe Condo. 2 BR/1BA, 1,232 square feet. Newly updated, all utilities except electric, stainless appliances, W/D, deck and pool, no smoking, pets optional. \$950/mo. (219) 861-7756 • zillow.com

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Duneland Drive, Duneland Beach, 1 year furnished rental. 4BR/3BA, 2-car garage. \$1,600/mo add + utilities \$1,600/mo. Call/text Cari @ Merrion @ 219-898-5412.

SUMMER BEACHFRONT RENTAL. Stop 30. 5/BR, 3.5/BA, 2-Car Garage + Additional Parking. 30 x 30 family room on lower level. Two decks + patio. Kick back and relax! Call/text Cari @ Merrion Realty @ 219-898-5412 for rental availability and pricing.

LONG BEACH WINTER RENTAL 6-8 Months. Clean & nicely decorated. 3BR, 2BA, John Lloyd Wright home. Fully furn., remodeled kitchen, hardwood floors. Flatscreen TV, WiFi, C/A, lg. double tiered deck, garage. 130 yards from beach. \$895/mo. Call Janet 708-205-5100.

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Long Beach fall/winter rental, 5BR/3BA, furnished, two fireplaces, 165 ft. to lake, \$975 per month+utilities. C/A, heat. Call Tom at (708) 606-4614.

Long Beach Stop 31 3 BR/4BA home with lake views and steps from beach. \$1,800 a week. Avail July-Aug. (773) 718-5546.

Fall rental near lake in Michiana Shores. Full furnished 2BR/1BA, fireplace, heat, A/C. \$750 + utilities. (219) 229-4806.

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VACANT LAND FOR SALE: Two 50x100 lots on Maplewood Drive in Shoreland Hills, a pleasant 2-block walk from Stop 33 beach. A great opportunity to build 1 large or 2 smaller homes in a very desirable neighborhood. Priced to sell by owner at \$89,500 per lot. Contact Bob N. at (312) 726-2699 if interested.

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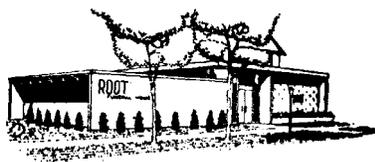
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(Never known to fail.)

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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, you 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. J.S.



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

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Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter

Child 44 by Tom Rob Smith (*paperback, \$16, in bookstores and online; also available as an eBook*)

This week's recommendation takes us to Soviet Russia in 1953, in the months just before and after Joseph Stalin's death. I'm not sure how to begin this review. I do know I spent all 436 pages with my mouth open wide in wonderment, totally gone from my living room, transported to another place and time so different from everything I know and believe in, yet knowing what I was reading, even though a novel, is based on fact. So, let me take you back in time to where this story really begins...

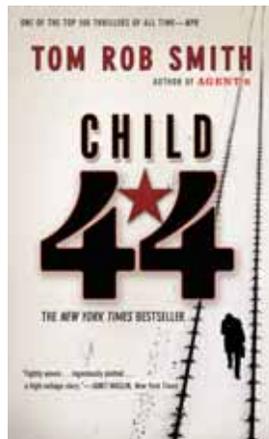
It's 1933 in a small Russian village where the disappearance of a young boy has to do with him chasing a cat into the woods; the last live animal left that could provide his family with a meal — possibly their last as almost everyone else has already starved to death. It's a cruel picture, one you must tuck away in your memory because you know it will play into something bigger later on. Smith's precise prose, told with no forgiveness, introduces you to the "perfect" Communist society, the one hidden from the rest of the world, the one under Stalin's iron rule.

Next, it's 1953 and we meet Leo Demidov, World War II war hero and now investigator for MGB — the State Security Force. His bravery has given him and his wife, Raisa, a comfortable apartment and a good life. She is a teacher in a local state-run school in Moscow. They have good clothes, good food — even Leo's parents are enjoying their son's fortunes. And yet, Leo is not so stupid as to believe all this couldn't be taken away from him in an instant.

His job is to investigate people who might be spies for the West. He then takes them to Lubyanka, the MGB headquarters, where confessions were always forthcoming because Leo knew "*confessions were the bedrock of the judicial system.*" Communist thinking was, "*better to let ten innocent men suffer than one spy escape,*" because undermining the Communist system was the worst crime possible. Offenses such as rape, robbery and murder were symptoms of the corrupt capitalistic West, not Communism.

One day, Leo is ordered to talk to fellow MGB officer Fyodor Andreev about the death of his son. The man is convinced the boy was murdered by a man seen walking along the railroad tracks where the boy's body was found. It is Leo's job to persuade Fyodor the boy merely fell in front of the train--there is no murder here!

Soon, another incident occurs in which Leo chases an accused spy into the countryside, saves him



from drowning in an icy river, only to turn him over to the interrogators at Lubyanka who, of course, kill him during the course of his questioning. These two incidents set Leo off thinking about his part in all this, and when he learns of another dead child, he begins to think that Fyodor's boy might just have been murdered, too. Especially when he checks the records and finds out there have been 43 other children murdered. Each one has been passed off as an aberration, not having anything to do with the others, even though the bizarre method of killing is always the same.

For having the audacity to think on his own, Leo soon finds himself being the one interrogated, Raisa is accused of being a spy, but instead of being executed, they are sent far east of Moscow to a small town where he is assigned to the local militia, a small band of crude, stupid, but strong men who handle local matters. Remember? There is no capitalist crime in the perfect USSR.

The rest of the book is a thrilling, can't-put-the-book-down sequence of events that will take Leo and Raisa on a dangerous path to find the killer of children before the MGB finds them. At the same time, Leo will question his beliefs and values, and even though they could have defected to the West, he still loves his country and doesn't want to leave.

Was Stalin more of a madman than Hitler? Many scholars believe so. Never in a novel about this period of time have I read such a thorough explanation of life under Joseph Stalin's Communism. Imagine living in a society where you don't want to draw attention to yourself because it is the safest way to stay alive. Anyone could accuse you of being a spy, and the rule was, "*if an allegation contained only 1% truth, it was better to consider the entire allegation true than to dismiss it.*"

Simply an amazing story.

Among its many honors, *Child 44* won the ITW 2009 Thriller Award for Best First Novel, The Strand Magazine 2008 Critics Award for Best First Novel, the CWA Ian Fleming Steel Dagger Award and was longlisted for the Man Booker Prize. A film version was released in the United Kingdom in April, but a U.S. release date has not been announced.

From *Entertainment Weekly*: "Sensational... crackling...Smith's prose is propulsive...his real genius is his careful plotting...an elaborate mystery."

From *The Chicago Tribune*: "One of the rare pleasures of the book-reviewing trade is first hearing all sorts of advance hype about a novel and then finding out that every word was true."

Till next time, happy reading!



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4 bedrooms, 2 baths. Bright sunny living room & large kitchen with sliders to 17x7 deck for easy grilling. New 19x15 sun room with tile floor & three walls of windows. Lower level office or family room to patio. Extra large garage offering room for storage. Sited on a corner lot with large side lawn.



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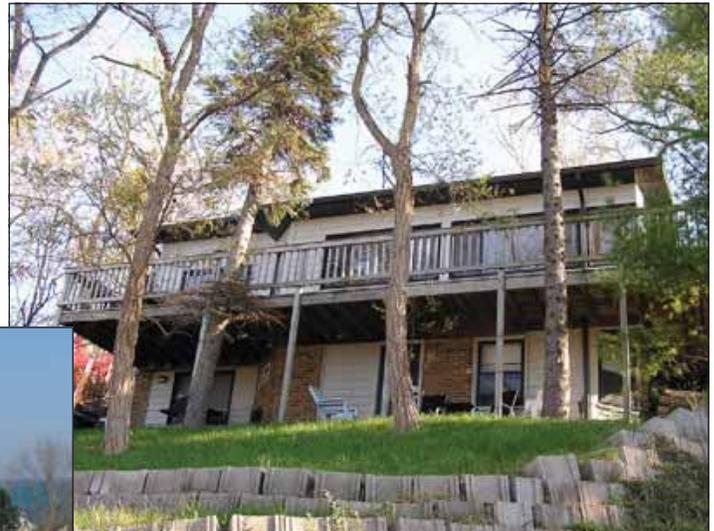
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601 Lake Shore Drive

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\$399,000



125 Childers Lane

This house in Beachwalk sits on a quiet street, yet is close to all the amenities. It is also within walking distance to the beach. The main house features 3 bedrooms on the main floor with an open concept floor kitchen, dining and living rooms. The fourth bedroom is in the finished basement with huge rec room. Enjoy the screen porch after a nice day in the pool or the beach. Complete with a guest house for year-round enjoyment, as well as income opportunities if you are looking for a special investment.

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