

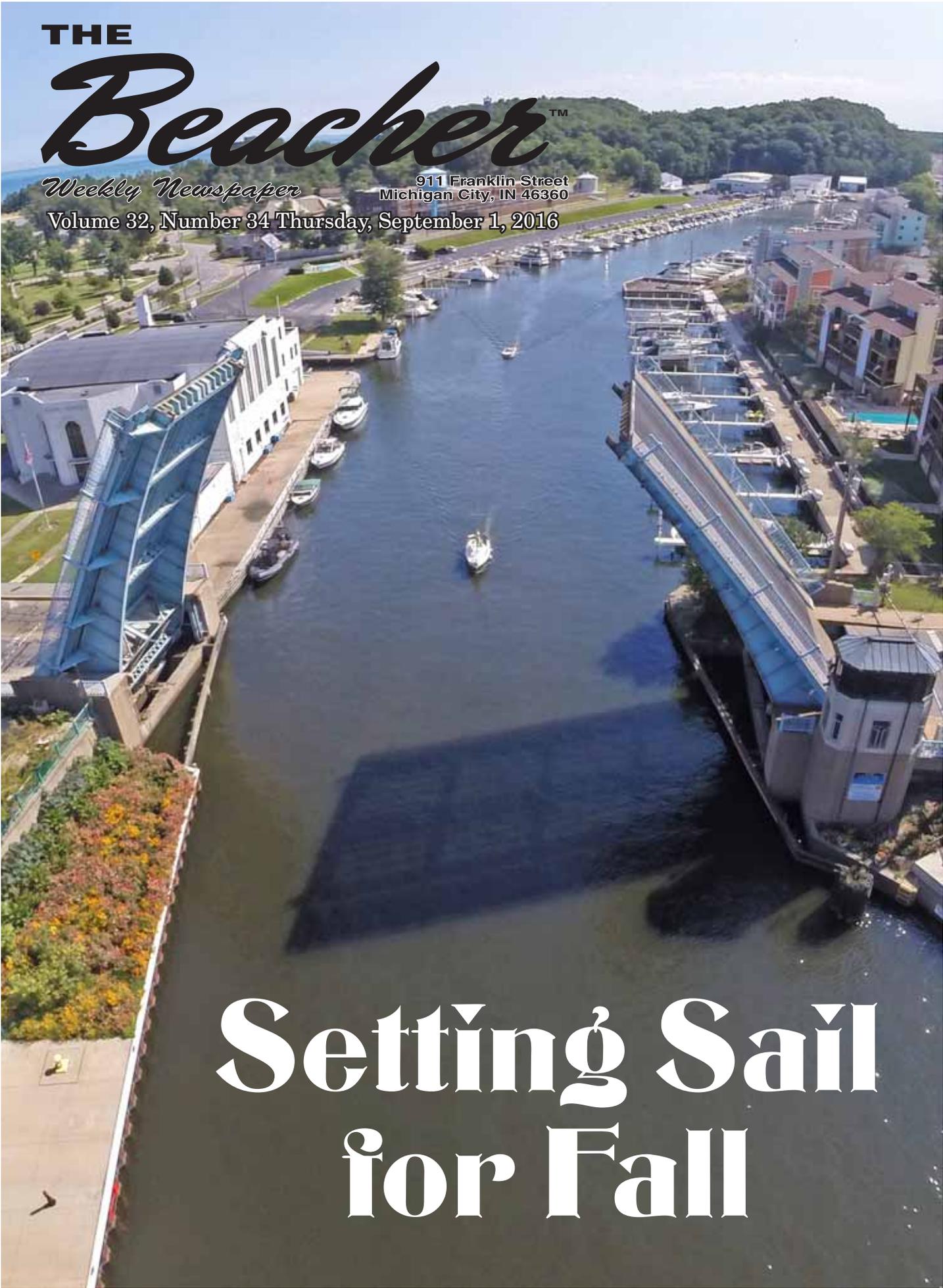
**THE**

# *Beacher*™

*Weekly Newspaper*

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Michigan City, IN 46360

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# Setting Sail for Fall

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# Room With a View

## A Glimpse into Life at the Franklin Street Bridge Tender Building

by Andrew Tallackson



Rick explains how the instrument panel works.

Mid-morning on a Tuesday in early August, the day is taking shape as a sweltering one. Projections are, the high will reach 84 degrees, with no chance of precipitation. The humidity is palpable.

A jogger, her hair in a ponytail, the cord to her iPod trailing from her ears to her waist, heads across the Franklin Street bridge, beads of sweat visible across her brow. A car passes by, the hum of its tires intensifying as it reaches the bridge. Trail Creek is serene, barely a ripple in the waters below. A few modest boats leisurely make their

Rick Partyka stands before the Franklin Street bridge tender building. All photos of Partyka and the building by Bob Wellinski. The aerial photo on the cover is by Ted Soller.



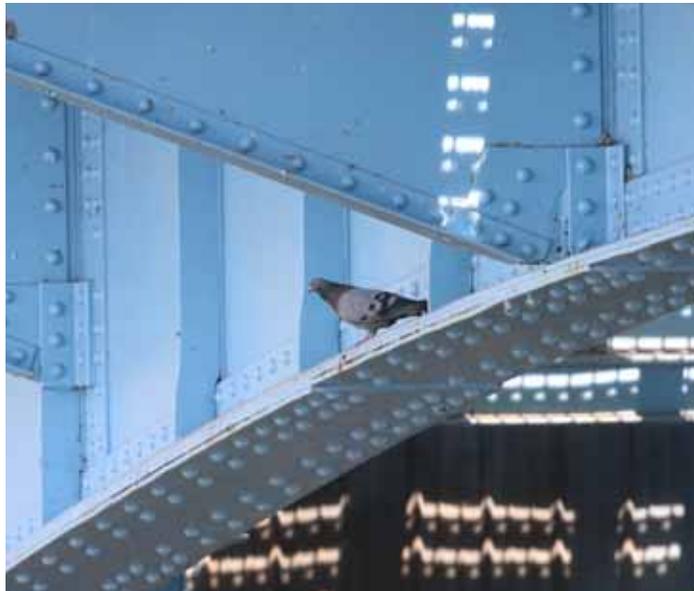
ways through the harbor.

The cooler temperatures inside the bridge tender building are a welcome respite from the heat. The air conditioning is working its charm. A steep ladder points skyward to the main observation area, where Rick Partyka presides over a patchwork of technology. The older, sizable instrument panel spread out before him is an assortment of dials and multi-colored buttons. To its right is a monitor offering views of the bridge from varying camera angles. Nearby is a brown desk, worn and tattered by age, a few papers and a pair of binoculars spread across it. Laughter and applause sound from a TV, a morning game show the culprit.

The quarters are slightly cramped, but Partyka doesn't mind. A genial, extremely good-natured fellow, he worked in the media department at Loyola University Chicago for 30 years. He's used to being in "tiny boxes," he says with a hearty laugh.

"It's a nice view here, there's fresh air, I'm not cooped up in an office," he adds. "You're pretty much your own boss up here."

Three people work three separate shifts, seven days a week, in the Franklin Street bridge tender building. Partyka is the new addition, having joined the staff in March. In that brief time, he's come to appreciate the role staff play in accommodating the many boats that pass beneath the historic Indiana bridge.



A pigeon rests on the girders beneath the bridge — a common sight.

The building is such an inconspicuous sight, visitors may not pay it much attention as they head toward the park and its glorious beachfront. But it is a vital element in the city's unfolding history, particularly its reputation as a port city thriving with commerce.

According to HistoricBridges.org, and information provided by local archivist Mike Fleming, a swing bridge that existed there in 1908 was demolished

Continued on Page 4

*Margaret Sullivan*  
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## Room With a View Continued from Page 3

and a single-leaf bascule bridge erected in its place. A bascule bridge is raised and lowered using counterweights. That structure lasted only two years when, in June 1910, the passenger ship SS United States backed into it while turning to face Chicago, the bridge subsequently collapsing and blocking the channel. It was cleared within a week. The following year, the city announced its intention to rebuild the bridge, the cost projected at \$16,400. HistoricBridges.org argues the bridge more than likely was repaired, since the structure itself cost far more, between \$35,000 and \$40,000. It reopened on June 4, 1911.

The current bridge was unveiled in 1932. Roberts Supply Co., Lima, Ohio, was the building contractor, and Chicago's Scherzer Rolling Lift Bridge Co. the engineer/design firm. It featured a metal deck girder, with a movable double leaf bascule. The main span length, according to HistoricBridges.org, is 181.8 feet, the structure length 213 feet and the roadway width 35.8 feet.



A plaque on the bridge reveals key individuals and dates involved in the bridge's history.



Rick stresses the importance of locking the bridge back in place.

The website calls it Indiana's only historic movable bridge, one with a plate girder instead of a truss. It also calls the bridge "historically complete, with railings, bridge tender building, plaques and riveted girders."

Later, it states, "Located near to a park and a historic lighthouse, and not too far from the old train station, this bridge adds to the attraction, heritage and desirability of the area."

Partyka trained for a week to get a feel for the techniques required to operate the bridge, grasping the fundamentals that require careful attention to step-by-step procedures. He also learned to take into account other variables such as heat, cold or wind when locking the bridge firmly back into place.

Barring nothing goes wrong, Partyka says, the process to raise and lower the bridge lasts anywhere from eight to 10 minutes. He sounds the siren three times, then the sequence commences of lowering the protective gates, making sure no one tries to sneak around them. If they do, and Partyka says instances of that happening are rare, he uses the building's PA system, advising them to retreat back behind the gates. Information also is transmitted to computers housed in the smaller tower at the bridge's northeast corner.

Once the bridge begins to rise, Partyka savors watching the reactions of everyone nearby. Some people sit quietly in their vehicles. Others step out, taking pictures or videos. Children gawk, pointing or giggling. A few motorists, he says, even appear hesitant, slowly backing up, as if fearful the bridge will collapse on them.

"You know what's comical?," Partyka says. "The pigeons ride up and down with it. They don't move. It's a ride for them."

Locking the bridge back into place, he continues, is the trickiest part of the operation. High winds can affect the process, while the heat and cold can expand or distress the metal.

The important thing, Partyka stressed, is that every process be followed.

"Everything must be in sequence, or it registers that there is an issue and shuts down," he said. "Then, you have to reset and start over."

It's all designed for safety. There is a reason they have all these steps in the system."

Two floors below, an actual crank exists to raise the bridge if all else fails and the process must be executed manually. The room exists below the bridge itself, the thrum of passing



vehicles more distinct, pulsing overhead.

“So then, in theory,” he’s asked, “you could raise and lower this bridge by yourself, turning this crank?” Partyka laughs, then replies, “That is correct, although I’ve never done it. I mean, look at me,” he says, chuckling harder. “I don’t know what kind of gorillas they must have had working here that could do it.”

Those staffing the bridge tender building frequently communicate with several entities, including the U.S. Coast Guard, Michigan City Port Authority, the county and B&E Marine.

How many times a day is the bridge raised? That depends. Partyka’s average is five to six times a day. The most he’s overseen is 10. On an exceptionally busy weekend, he says, it could be as high as 15 times.

That frequency gives rise to another aspect of his job: pre

Continued on Page 6



A small Starcraft boat cruises beneath the bridge.

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Motorists wait as the bridge remains in an upright position.

erving the sequence of events required to raise and lower the bridge, all amid the urgency with which motorists wish to enter or exit the park. The Great Lakes Grand Prix weekend, he said, was a perfect example. “They’re all in a hurry,” he said. “They don’t want to wait.” Partyka, however, is not deterred, maintaining proper procedure.

Partyka says he doesn’t mind working seven days a week. He and his colleagues will have time off during the winter, essentially between December and March. The job, in a way, is perfect for what he describes as the “semi-retirement” phase of his life.

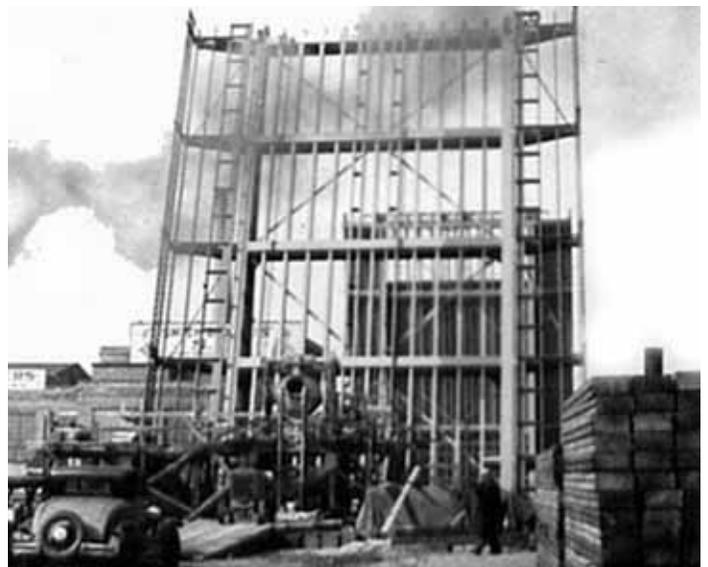
By working the 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. shift, however, Partyka says he’s missed out on one thing.

“I haven’t had a good thunderstorm yet,” he said, smiling. “The lightning show has to be incredible.”



Rick reveals the area containing the crank that can raise the bridge.

During down time, Partyka bides time catching up on paperwork, cleaning, dusting. He laughs, saying he’s put on 10 pounds since taking the job. “You munch a lot,” he says, chuckling, rubbing his slight belly to illustrate his point.

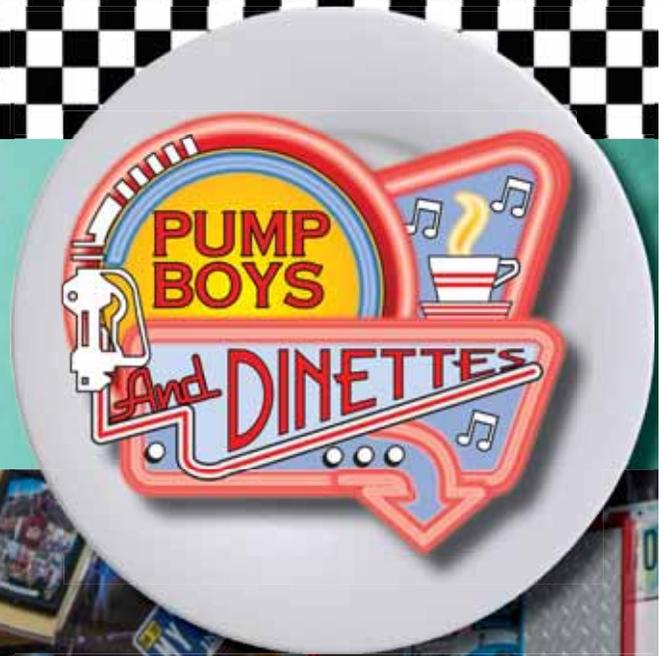


Work commences on the Franklin Street bridge around 1931.  
Photo provided by Mike Fleming



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## Festival Celebrates Live Blues Music on Labor Day Weekend

by Kim Ward

Temperatures have been falling, and many area students are back in school. Summer, nonetheless, is taking its last stand at Ship and Shore Blues Festival on Sept. 3-4 at Washington Park's Guy Foreman Amphitheater.

More than 35 musicians will stage the blues takeover during the event presented by Live Music Matters, a nonprofit arts organization that celebrates live music through performance, education and community outreach. Hours are 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday and 1 p.m. to midnight Sunday.

Festival Artistic Director John Moultrie says part of the event's mission is to preserve music that is a cultural signature of the region.

"Chicago is known as the 'home of the blues,' but the live blues experience is not accessible to many people in the area," he said. "If we don't find a way to reach young listeners, we run the risk of losing this important art form."

Moultrie notes the event was designed to appeal to all generations of music fans.

"Partnerships are what make Live Music Matters tick," he said. "We have reached out to area schools and invited young students to come out and experience live music...live blues."

Students, he continued, have been involved in all aspects of the festival, including artist selection and marketing, and will play an active role during the event on Labor Day weekend.

Festival proceeds will benefit programs that preserve and make accessible live musical performance, support musicians whose art sustains it and bolster music education.

The lineup features internationally known regional acts performing selections ranging from traditional to contemporary blues.

The lineup is:

### Saturday, Sept. 3

- Chicago Kingsnakes — Noon to 1:30 p.m.
- Hank Mowery — 2 to 3:30 p.m.
- Chicago Rhythm & Blues Kings — 4 to 5:30 p.m.
- Liz Mandeville — 6 to 7:30 p.m.
- Mississippi Heat — 8 to 10 p.m.

### Sunday, Sept. 4

- Michael Charles — 2 to 3:30 p.m.
- Ivy Ford — 4 to 5:30 p.m.
- Blue Lunch with special guests — 6 to 10 p.m.

After the musicians leave the stage Sunday night, DJ Blur will host a dance party featuring a mix of Electronic Dance Music, including a mix of disco, techno, dubstep, house, trance, hardcore, pop and industrial music.

"Many people think that EDM is just about pushing a button on a machine — something anyone can do at home. Live mixing takes a lot of skill," Moultrie said. "We want to showcase this aspect of live performance."

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Some of the event's hands-on activities include:

- **Kids Quest:** Arts and craft, face painting, singing, dancing and other activities for elementary through middle school-aged children.
- **Game Truck:** Attendees 7 and older can enjoy cutting-edge video gaming technology. The truck is staffed with an experienced team of coaches, dozens of video games and the latest consoles.
- **Musical Instrument Petting Zoo:** Curious children and adults can see, hear and touch musical instruments seen on the festival stage. Professional musicians will demonstrate how to hold and play the instruments.
- **Wine and Canvas Adult Art Experience:** Combine live jazz and the taste of wine while painting with guidance from professional artists.
- **Cookies and Canvas Children's Art Experience:** The hands-on arts experience lets children be guided through the process of painting a canvas from start to finish, all while snacking on cookies.
- **Live Art Experience:** Local artists offer live demonstrations.

The festival also will showcase some of the region's best food trucks, along with a wide range of beverages from vendors.

VIP tickets are on sale for all-day reserved seating. General admission ticketholders can take portable chairs and blankets to relax on the expansive lawn space around the stage. Online prices start at:

- Lawn Seating (21 and older) — \$10.
- Two-Day Lawn Pass (only available online) — \$15.
- VIP Gold reserved seating — \$15.
- VIP Platinum reserved seating — \$20.

General admission lawn and reserved VIP seating tickets (subject to availability) may be purchased at the gate starting at 11 a.m. Saturday and 1 p.m. Sunday. Prices start at:

- 12 and younger — free.
- 13-20 — \$5 (with valid ID).
- 21 and older — \$15.

Email [info@shipandshorebluesfestival.com](mailto:info@shipandshorebluesfestival.com) for more information, or visit [www.shipandshorebluesfestival.com](http://www.shipandshorebluesfestival.com)

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## "In Amber Moonlight" Concert to Benefit YPTC

by Andrew Tallackson

The arts have always been part of Benedict Andrew Fisher's life. Growing up, he took piano lessons and appeared in high school plays. It wasn't until he attended Andrews University, however, that he gave serious thought to pursuing music as a career.

"I had a wonderful choir director who was the first person to tell me I had a gift and that I should pursue it," he said.

"As young people, you try to figure out what you want to do in life and what you want to be. It's the most critical time of discovering your place in the world. Having something like Young People's Theatre, showing kids there is a possibility for them, if maybe one kid thinks, 'I want to do this for the rest of my life,' then that's wonderful."



Benedict Andrew Fisher

That's why Fisher will join forces with acclaimed pianist David Lahm for "In Amber Moonlight," a concert to benefit YPTC at 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 2, at Elston Performing Arts Center, 1200 Spring St. The two will present standards by artists such as Billie Holiday, Nina Simone, Nat King Cole, Frank Sinatra and Sam Cooke.



David Lahm

"It's going to be an intimate journey through jazz standards and classics," Fisher said. "It's not going to be big band style, a giant, boisterous concert, which I've done plenty of those, but an intimate, somber, sentimental look into jazz music."

"It's an opportunity to communicate jazz in the moment, to present music in a small, but simple way. One of my favorite ways, actually."

Lahm has worked with top talent, especially in Harbor Country. He hosts open mic events, often at The Acorn Theatre in Three Oaks, Mich., where attendance and participation are on the rise. He'd like to create a concert and CDs with some of those open-mic performers. Half the time, his career keeps him in New York, where he has released CDs and tackled other ambitious projects.

Fisher, who grew up in Berrien Springs, Mich., has a background in classical music. After briefly performing opera in Tampa, Fla., he returned to Southwest Michigan. Last year, he formed The Andrew Fisher Quartet, which has held a monthly "Sunday Night Jazz" concert series, as well as a Stevie Wonder tribute concert and opening for The O'Jays. AFQ specializes in jazz fusion, but Fisher adores traditional jazz.

That love may seem in conflict with his operatic background, but Fisher says the gap between jazz and opera is not as wide as people may believe.

"Even though opera is an older form of music, it's a way of telling a story," he said. "How you sang and used your voice was very important when it came to conveying emotion and character."

"With jazz, it's the same thing. You use your voice beyond an instrumental way. You're conveying story, character and emotion with how you sing. There is a lot of freedom. It's your interpretation of the music."

### If You Go

Tickets are \$10 in advance or \$12 at the door.  
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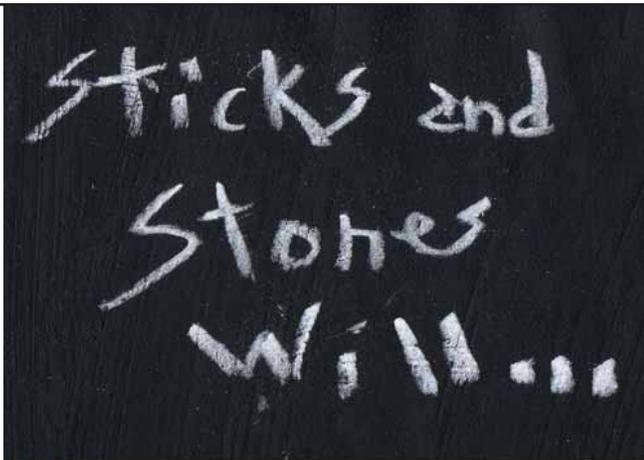
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The DAF Youth Theater and Ceramics workshops once again provided rich cultural and artistic opportunities for the children of Michigan City.

The organization has made many exciting renovations throughout the campus this season, including the theater, set shop, artist cabins and ceramics workshop.

Please note: Due to scheduling conflicts, the talented Lisa Zane has canceled her Sept. 3 concert.

Thank you for your continued support as Dunes Arts Foundation continues to thrive! Visit [www.dunesartsfoundation.com](http://www.dunesartsfoundation.com) or call (219) 879-7509 for more information.

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## A Look into the Past – Michigan City 180 Years Ago

It's hard to imagine it now, but when Michigan City was incorporated as a town in 1836, its population was larger than its lakefront competitor 26 miles across the lake: Chicago.

Despite its marshy, swampy, scrubby topography of blowing sand at the mouth of diminutive Trail Creek, the site was a land speculator's dream. Here was the crossroads of several major Indian trails that had already been selected as the terminus of Indiana's soon to be constructed north-south roadway. Where Trail Creek flowed into the lake was identified as the ideal location for a major Indiana harbor on the great inland fresh water sea. In fact, that's how the city got its name. Situated at the end of the Michigan Road connecting the southern Indiana town of Madison to the mouth of Trail Creek, the name had to be Michigan City.

In 1830, Maj. Isaac C. Elston saw the opportunity and snatched up the land as soon as it became available at a price of a \$1.25 per acre. For all the land between Wabash and Spring streets, from Fifth Street to the lake, he paid \$200. Elston, who platted his new city and quickly started selling off shares to New York investors, became a very wealthy man.

So what did those first settlers find when they arrived? The most impressive feature was the enormous sand dune dubbed Hoosier Slide that dominated the lakefront. According to Elizabeth Munger's self-published book, "Michigan City's First Hundred Years," there also were pines, cedars, beaches, oaks and sugar maple comprising the dunes ecology, interspersed with swamps, creeks and rivulets. The spot where the courthouse now is was a huckleberry marsh. Springs fed the land between Fifth and Seventh streets along what is now Franklin Street (with most of the buildings in that area still having basement water problems). The woods were famed for the number of wildflowers.

So, settlers started arriving. A plaque at Fifth and Franklin streets marks the spot of the first cabin built in 1832. In 1833, 21 voters se-

lected the first Justice of the Peace. By 1834, there were 715 residents. There already was a warehouse along the bank of the creek, a store, post office and mail route from Michigan City to La Porte.

Even though there was not yet a harbor, shipping was bringing supplies. The sandbar blocked the mouth of the creek, so boats anchored offshore. Merchandise was brought ashore by means of barges.

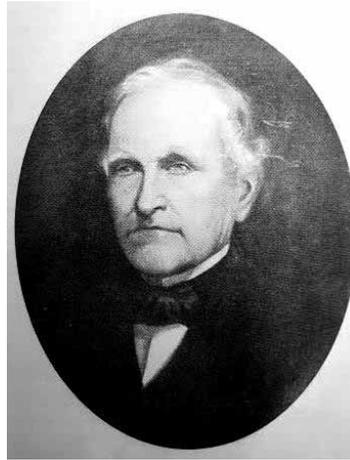
Nonetheless, young George David, who visited the infant city with his parents in 1834, was not impressed. His description can be found in the book "Travel Accounts of Indiana." Traveling from La Porte to Michigan City through October rain and mud might have affected his opinion.

**Oct. 13.** *Accomplish 7 miles more and put up in the woods. Packed the females into the wagon and boxed them up while we slept before a fire in the open air, tho' partly under shelter of a shanty in which a man, wife & children were living until their house was complete.*

**Oct. 14.** *"Thro' the woods & thro' the woods" 7 miles to Michigan city. A puny place with half a dozen houses on the edge of the lake with a creek running through the town. ... About 3 miles from the city we encountered heavy rains, steep sand hills*

*& deep mud holes together, so bad that had it not been for the casual & gracious assistance of 8 oxen we might've slept in some of them. Put up at Hughes grog shop & dried our miserable wet bodies and build our miserable empty stomachs.*

Thereafter, the town grew rapidly, serving as a supply source for those who were moving on further west. According to Munger, there was regular mail delivery on the



Isaac C. Elston.



Hoosier Slide.

### More About This Series

This is the first installment by Matt Kubik in a series of articles describing the early days of Michigan City. This year marks its 180th anniversary of incorporation, which will be celebrated Saturday, Oct. 1, at the Heritage Ball. The event starts at Barker Mansion and continues to Barker Hall at Trinity Episcopal Church for food, drink and live entertainment. Historic costumes are encouraged. Tickets, which are \$40 per person, are available at [Eventbrite.com](http://Eventbrite.com) or by calling Barker Mansion at (219) 873-1520 or Barker Hall at (219) 874-4355. Proceeds benefit preservation of the historic Barker buildings.

route between Chicago and Detroit, with as many as 15 stagecoaches a day passing along the trail carrying baggage and passengers from the east toward Chicago. There also was a tannery, blacksmith shop, four groceries, three taverns and two hotels. The first newspaper was started in 1835, setting the stage for official incorporation in 1836.

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# Landscape

## Design and Installation

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voice/text **219.210.0544**

[kristi@clarkssecretgarden.com](mailto:kristi@clarkssecretgarden.com)

Hardscape



Softscape



Plantings



Lighting

## Writing Out Loud Enters its 32nd Season

Several writers from Indiana will help honor Indiana's bicentennial during the 32nd season of Writing Out Loud at Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St.

All talks are at 7:30 p.m. Saturdays, followed by a reception and book signing hosted by the Friends of the Michigan City Public Library. The programs are supported by the Patrons of Writing Out Loud, Michigan City Public Library Endowment Fund and Friends of the Library. Book Warehouse at Lighthouse Place-Premium Outlets provides books for sale.

The schedule is:

• **Amy Reichert on Sept. 10.**

The author of "The Coincidence of Coconut Cake" and "Luck, Love & Lemon Pie," Reichert earned her Master of Arts in literature from Marquette University and honed her writing and editing skills as a technical writer. *People* magazine recently named "Luck, Love & Lemon Pie" as a Great Beach Read. She is working on another novel set to be released in spring 2017. She is a lifelong Wisconsin resident who serves on her local library's board of directors.



• **Shane Gericke on Sept. 24.**

Gericke (pronounced YER-kee) has been held at knifepoint, hit by lightning and shaken hands with Liberace. His latest thriller is "The Fury," a novel of global terrorism endorsed by Steve Berry and David Morrell, the creator of Rambo. His debut novel, "Blown Away," was selected as the year's Best First Mystery by RT Book Reviews. He is a No. 1 Kindle bestseller, and his books have been translated into German, Chinese, Turkish and Slovak. He spent two decades as a newspaper editor, most prominently at *The Chicago Sun-Times*, before turning to fiction. He keeps his hand in nonfiction by writing for digital media.



• **Lori Rader-Day, Tony Perona and Liz Dombrosky on Oct. 1.**

All mystery writers, Rader-Day, Perona and Dombrosky all hail from Indiana.

Rader-Day's debut mystery, "The Black Hour," won the 2015 Anthony Award for Best First Novel and was a finalist for the 2015 Mary Higgins Clark Award. Her second novel, "Little Pretty Things," won the 2016 Mary Higgins Clark Award. "Little Pretty Things" also was named a 2015 "most arresting crime novel" by *Kirkus Reviews* and one of the Top 10 crime novels of the year by *Booklist*. She lives in Chicago.



Perona and Dombrosky are a father-daughter duo who write under the name Liz Perona. "Murder on the Bucket List" and "Murder Under the Covered Bridge" are their first two novels together. Tony is the author of the Nick Bertetto mystery series, the standalone thriller "The Final Mayan Prophecy" and co-editor and contributor to the anthologies "Racing Can Be Murder" and "Hoosier Hoops & Hijinks." He is a member of Mystery Writers of America and Sisters-in-Crime. In his day job, he serves as assistant town manager for Plainfield, Ind.



Dombrosky graduated from Ball State University in the Honors College with a degree in teaching. She is a stay-at-home mom.

• **Jack Olesker on Oct. 22.**

Olesker was born in Chicago and attended Bradley University, majoring in journalism. He has written, produced and directed many projects around the world, from the United States and the Bahamas to France, Australia and India. He has written more than 1,200 TV episodes, sold 18 screenplays, 10 of which were produced, and published seven novels. Many of these franchises are household names, such as He-Man, Care Bears and Mighty Morphin Power Rangers. His first novel, "No Place Like Home," was a best seller. He is working and collaborating on a host of entertainment and writing projects.



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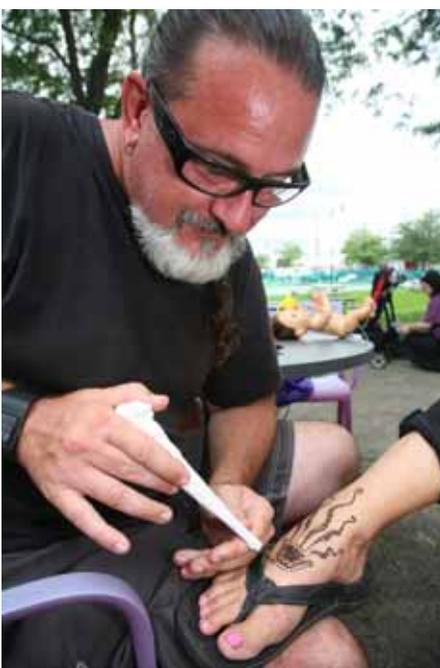
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 Saturday, Sept. 3rd    Noon - 11 pm  
 Sunday, Sept. 4th      Noon - 11 pm  
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### Celebrating Creativity

Its goal was a “dynamic celebration of creativity,” and that’s what visitors experienced at the first Lubeznik Art & Artisan Festival on Aug. 19-21 at Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St. Photographer Paul Kemiell spent the weekend at the center capturing the event’s many amazing sights.





## Traditions Burn Bright: Cooking with Michigan City Firefighters

by M.D. Cunningham

*Cooking is at once child's play and adult joy.  
And cooking done with care is an act of love.*

Craig Claiborne, former  
*New York Times* restaurant critic



Capt. Dave Koss (left) and Jeff Bruder.

No one eats as well as firefighters. It's said they eat like kings.

It's true, but not for reasons you may think.

On this day, every man from Station Four, or South Side, in Michigan City is at the kitchen table. On the TV in the attached living room, Clint Eastwood's Josey Wales tends to his land as hooves rumble in the distance. The room grows stronger with the smell of fried chicken and ardent conversation. The men discuss upcoming work and ball games. They especially crack jokes.

*It's like The Kid doesn't eat for 48 hours!*

*The Kid has never left Indiana, never been on a plane!*

*He's turned into a Rastaman!*

*Where does he put that fourth plate?*

The Kid, the focus of the conversation, is off enjoying a vacation in Jamaica, but his name arises as conversation veers toward big eaters. Rest assured, The Kid, is well aware of how these conversations

go. This isn't some behind-your-back talk.

Capt. Dave Koss doesn't have many rules, but eating as a unit is something he values.

"We are a family. It's an extended family, obviously," Koss says, "but all of our children, spouses know each other. My wife comes in to eat almost every day. Everyone knows everyone. If one of our kids is having a special event, all the guys know about it. It's like any other family."

The reality, though, is that many meals have been abandoned. After all, these guys are first responders. When that happens, everything is switched off and they salvage what they can later.

"At any given moment, a call may arrive that puts your life into the hands of someone across the table, so if there's something on your mind, you need to say it," Koss said. "A lot of problems are solved at the dinner table."

The cook in the kitchen tonight is Brad Neulieb. He is descended from a long line of firefighters. In the late '80s, a Neulieb held every position at the Michigan City Fire Department, except for chief. Growing up, he remembers when his dad, Gene "Moose" Neulieb, who retired in '88, would sit down at the family table.



Brad Neulieb, part of the lively conversation as dinner is prepared.

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“Back when he was on the job, they ate like kings, and whenever Dad was at the station, that was when we’d have spaghetti, you know, chili or salmon patties,” he said.

“When he was home, if it wasn’t steak or a good meat, he’d turn his nose up at it. If it wasn’t a hunk of meat, he didn’t want it.”

From an early age, Neulieb was trusted with making meals for his family, crediting his mother for instilling those skills in him.

“When I was in junior high, I would come home from school,” he said, “and my mom would have pot roast or whatever thawing in the sink, and she would have directions right there to start dinner.”

Dinner at Station Four tends to revolve around a schedule. It’s simple:

- Mondays: Meatloaf.
- Tuesdays: Tacos.
- Wednesdays: Spaghetti.
- Thursdays: Burgers.
- Fridays: Fish.
- Saturdays: Pizza.
- Sundays: Chicken.

When Neulieb works, it’s no secret who’s cooking.

“We eat a lot of PB & J’s when he doesn’t,” Jeff Bruder jokes, though it later comes out through conversation that Bruder has a few tricks up his sleeve. He’s apparently an ace when it comes to making ribs.

“We’ve also got guys that don’t cook all the time,” Bruder explains, “but they have a specialty. Ralph Simms had an Italian beef that was awesome.”

Many firefighters have nicknames. It’s part of the camaraderie. There’s Lips, Splinter, a guy who’s been with the department for about 30 years who’s still called New Dude. Another is known as Fish.



Guess what his specialty is?

Koss says he’s been blessed in his career to have worked with great guys who are great cooks.

“He’s (Neulieb) right up there man, I’ll tell yah,” he said. “He takes care of me. I’ve been spoiled by some fantastic cooks.”

Nothing is off limits. The bonds at this table may be weighing heavier than usual on Koss’ mind. With 35 years under his belt, he’s got his eye on the rearview mirror. He and his

wife, Sandy, who is joining the men tonight at dinner, as she often does, are planning a move to Arizona once he retires in a handful of months.

“So, luckily that’s one of the things that stayed true for all these years,” Koss said. “We’ve got different stations, different trucks and gadgets that we’ve had to learn, but there’s one thing that hasn’t changed much, and that is we cook and we eat and we still come together at mealtimes.

“The old passes to the new,” he added, “and it just keeps going.”



Dinner for the evening is served.

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Hesston Steam Museum's four-day Labor Day Steam Show attracts as many as 12,000 visitors from nearby Chicago, northern Indiana and South-west Michigan.

That tradition continues this year when the show is held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday through Monday, Sept. 2-5, on the museum grounds, 1201 E. County Road 1000 North, La Porte.

The show includes:

- Steam train rides on three different railroads.
- Steam threshing and steam tractors.
- An operating steam-powered saw mill and 92-ton steam crane.

- Steam-powered electric generating plant. Visitors can sample traditional festival treats or popcorn from a steam-powered popcorn machine. A Labor Day flea market offers everything from antiques and railroad memorabilia to arts and crafts. Food is available at Doc's Soda Fountain, the museum's air conditioned soda fountain and restaurant, and Uncle B's Smokehouse

Admission is \$5 for adults. Children 12 and younger are free. Train fares cost \$5 for adults and \$3 for children 3-12. Friday, Sept. 2, is "Senior Day" with half-price rides for seniors.

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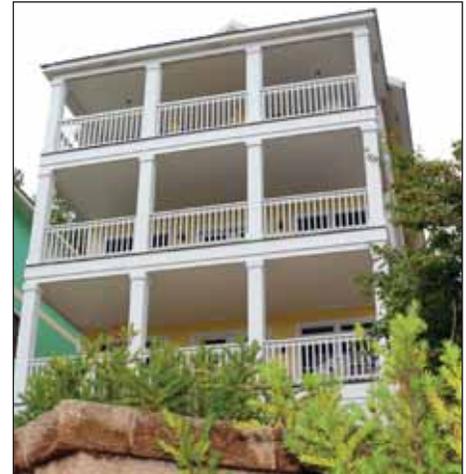
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### 1855 Lakeshore Drive Michigan City \$849,000

Gather with friends and family on three spacious decks for scenic panoramic views of the magnificent Chicago skyline. This home is located high atop the Dune with sprawling views of beautiful Lake Michigan. This five-bedroom, four-bathroom home is perfect for beach view entertaining. A spacious interior includes a gas fireplace, security system, hardwood floors, wet bar and a dumb waiter up to the kitchen to help with service to entertaining space. City sewer, city water, easy beach access! Schedule today!

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### 225 Beachwalk Lane \$629,000

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Diana Hirsch @ 219-873-6575



### 104 Moorman Road \$569,900

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Jane Cooley @ 219-873-4487





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**2507 Shorewood Drive  
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Inviting Long Beach home! Home boasts beautiful hardwood floors throughout. Kitchen has upgraded stainless appliances and granite countertops. The spacious master bedroom has French doors that lead to a large deck off master and guest bedroom. Master bath also has a steam shower and whirlpool tub. Extra entertaining space located on rear oversized screen porch and separate deck for grilling. A wooded backyard provides lots of privacy for nature's creatures along with ample sized yard for gardening and gatherings.

Tricia Meyer @ 219-871-2680



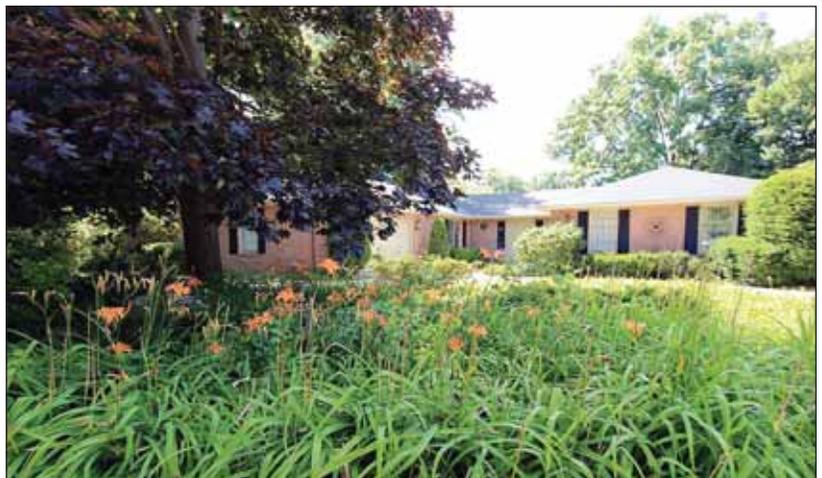
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**225 Lady Lane  
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One-level living at its finest, this brick ranch is situated on Lake Mary in Birch Tree Farms, overlooking Long Beach Golf Course. Master bedroom is en suite, complete with dressing area and large closeted full bath. 2 additional bedrooms with an accessible hall bath. Family room/study, sunken living room, kitchen with fireplace, large dining room, some carpeting, some wood flooring. Sun room has French doors that open to the backyard patio and expanse of lawn. Lush landscaping abounds. What a magnificent peaceful setting!

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Tricia Meyer @ 219-871-2680



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**903 Birch Tree Lane  
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## Conflicting Information about Growth

### Information Bit #1

The Aug. 11, 2016, *Wall Street Journal* front page above the fold announced we have a "Buyer Shortage" that has caused the rate of homeowners to be the lowest in 51 years at 62.9% this year versus 63.4% last year, and about 69% right before the crash. The nation's housing market is lagging, and new construction is slower than expected. *Downer.*

### Information Bit #2

The Aug. 14th *New York Times* reported selective spending is being recorded. People are spending on cars and vacations, but not houses. *Expands on #1.*

### Information Bit #3

I have never seen so many people in Harbor Country and lakefront Indiana before this summer. It feels like the tourist population is at least 25% higher than any previous year. All the stores and restaurant owners with whom I have spoken agree. There are more tourists and more new faces (were not here last year) than previous years. *Subjective impression.*

### Information Bit #4

Although July was a bit light, our office has been overwhelmed with offers since the beginning of August. I cannot wait to do the stats to see if the overall marketplace has jumped like our office. *Gut interpretation to be verified.*

### Information Bit #5

A good friend of mine who travels each summer to the Upper Peninsula ("U P" we say) of Michigan in early August just reported that the hotels, motels, B&Bs, restaurants and stores were all very busy, at least at the eastern end of the UP. *Subjective, but supports #1, #2, and #3.*

### Possible Interpretations

1. The 2nd home, tourist economy has recovered, but sales of second homes will be slow.
2. While the overall housing market is still lackluster, Michigan tourist areas are beginning a strong growth period that includes second-home purchases.

My report on closed sales at the end of September should confirm which hypothesis is correct.

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Sincerely,

*Drew Tallackson*

Editor Drew Tallackson

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# SEPT. 11, 2016

## Friendship Botanic Gardens

2055 East U.S. 12  
Michigan City, IN

11 a.m. – Polish English Mass  
Noon – Food and Festivities start  
Polish Band “Ampol - Airs”

Wesoly Lud Polish Folk Dancers  
and performances by the Polish School of Dance and Song  
Baked Goods from “Bakers Dozen” of South Bend, Indiana  
Pisanki Demonstrations • Cultural Displays  
Raffles • Vendors • Beer Garden

### Featuring:

Food from “Sacred Hearts Polish Country Kitchen” of La Porte, IN

**\$5 per person**  
**Children under 12 free**

[www.facebook.com/PolishHeritageFestivalMC](http://www.facebook.com/PolishHeritageFestivalMC)



# HOKKAIDO

LUNCH

Mon.-Fri.: 11am-3pm

DINNER

Mon.-Thur.: 4:30-9:30pm

Fri: 4:30-10:30pm

Sat.: 11:30am-10:30pm

Sun: Noon-9pm



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**DUNE LIFE**  
TEAM

Source: Rapattoni, Corp., Based on closed home transactions from 6/29/2015-4/11/2016. Data for real estate transactions from Rapattoni, Corp. from 6/29/2015-4/11/2016.

## Featured Listings



### 147 Shore Drive, Ogden Dunes

4 bed / 5 bath / \$1,100,000

Across the street from the beaches of Lake Michigan, this grand contemporary, cottage-style home features 3 stories of spacious floor plans totaling 5,860 SF + heated 3-car garage of 1,480 SF with huge roof deck.



### 5 Shore Drive, Ogden Dunes

Huge Lake View Lot: 120ft x 140ft / \$325,000

Across the street from Lake Michigan, house being sold as a tear down. Groundwork completed: tree removal, septic system design & permit, staked boundary survey with topography, and preliminary site plan worth total value over \$15,000.



### 4 Summit Road, Ogden Dunes

4 bed / 3.5 bath / \$374,900

Perched high on a dune, with nearly 3,000 sq ft of main level living, this streamline ranch is just a short walk to Lake Michigan and Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.



### 0 South Oval Ave, Beverly Shores

Over .5 acres of vacant land / \$170,000

Short walk to Lake Michigan - Beach Access at the end of Beach Avenue. Owner has boundary survey with topography, soil report, and proposed septic system and proposed plan for home location.



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**DUNE ACRES, IN**  
4bed/3.1ba \$1,250,000

Jack Wehner  
312.406.9258



622KILLARNEYDR.INFO

**DYER, IN**  
5bed/5.2ba \$1,250,000

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312.694.3750



3WLAKEFRONTDR.INFO

**BEVERLY SHORES, IN**  
4bed/5ba \$1,049,000

Will Schauble  
312.860.4192



30CRESTDRIIVE.INFO

**DUNE ACRES, IN**  
4bed/3ba \$869,000

Jack Wehner  
312.406.9258



3338MARQUETTETRL.INFO

**DUNELAND BEACH, IN**  
5bed/3.1ba \$724,900

Grahm Bailey  
312.694.3750



202HOOSIERDR.INFO

**MICHIGAN CITY, IN**  
4bed/4.1ba \$649,000

Will Schauble  
312.860.4192



9731RAMBLINGROSE.INFO

**ST. JOHN, IN**  
5bed/3.1ba \$599,900

Bailey / Wehner  
312.694.3750



22100RIOLE.INFO

**LONG BEACH, IN**  
3bed/2ba \$305,000

David Albers  
219.728.7295



WILL SCHAUBLE | 312.860.4192  
JACK WEHNER | 312.406.9258  
GRAHM BAILEY | 312.694.3750  
DAVID ALBERS | 219.728.7295



225 N WHITTAKER ST SUITE 4 | NEW BUFFALO



**3405 LAKE SHORE DRIVE**  
DUNELAND BEACH, INDIANA

Enjoy sunsets and sandy beaches of Lake Michigan with breathtaking views. Extra large master suite and master bath. Spacious living room with fireplace. Gourmet kitchen with Viking refrigerator, freezer, wok. State-of-the-art gym, wave pool, Otis elevator, four car garage. *Listed by Lori Osmanski*

6 bed / 6.1 bath / \$2,900,000  
3405LAKESHOREDR.INFO



**2740 FLORAL TRAIL**  
LONG BEACH, INDIANA

Spectacular, custom-built ranch, only three blocks from the beach. It has teak-wood floors throughout, a remodeled kitchen, and a new screened-in porch. This home is in pristine condition and a buildable lot is included in the price. *Listed by Lori Osmanski*

4 bed / 3.1 bath / \$489,000  
2740FLORALTRL.INFO



**2829 LAKE SHORE DRIVE**  
LONG BEACH, INDIANA

Charming, traditional Long Beach home. Spacious living room with floor to ceiling windows, den, large eat in kitchen that leads into the backyard. Extremely large front deck to enjoy the evening sunsets. Directly across from beach access. *Listed by Lori Osmanski*

3 bed / 3.1 bath / \$449,900  
2829LAKESHOREDR.INFO

PRICE LOWERED



**2520 ORIOLE TRAIL**  
LONG BEACH, INDIANA

This four bedroom/three bath home is "move-in-ready" and features recent updates that include: New kitchen cabinets, granite counter-tops, GE Cafe Series Stainless Steel appliances and Miele coffee maker. Refinished hardwood floors upper level. Living room includes custom shelves with granite counter-top. Three new bathrooms: including plumbing, tile, cabinets, counters, fan heaters, fixtures and heated floors. Velux skylight and custom storage added in the master bath. Lower level includes bath, bedroom & family room and is great for guest or related living and includes a built in granite desk, bar area with GE refrigerator, GE wine cooler, and granite counter-tops and has hand scraped engineered hardwood. Stone wood burning fireplace and custom oak mantels upstairs and downstairs. Recessed lighting and Honeywell Wi-Fi enabled thermostat for alerts and remote setting. Custom drapery & window shades in all rooms. Screen porch with ceiling fan off of the kitchen to dine alfresco. 3 blocks to Stop 26. Across the street from the Long Beach Community Center. *Listed by Kathleen Ryan-Peters*

4 bed / 3 bath / \$449,000  
2520ORIOLETRAIL.INFO



**LORI OSMANSKI**  
MOBILE: 312.391.4870  
loriosmanski@atproperties.com



**KATHLEEN RYAN-PETERS**  
MOBILE: 312.590.1177  
kryanpeters@atproperties.com



**1098 MONROE BLVD,  
SOUTH HAVEN**  
6300 sqft custom home built in a private en-  
clave w/ 169' of private beachfront. \$2,695,000  
GARY HARDINA 269.469.8300



**52015 LAKE PARK DRIVE,  
NEW BUFFALO**  
Perfect premium parcel for that dream home with  
a gentle slope toward the beach. \$2,200,000  
ROB GOW 269.469.8300



**45 BRISTOL DRIVE,  
MICHIGAN CITY**  
Rare 21 acre estate west of Rte 12 w/priv  
pond, wooded trails. 5 br, 4 ba. \$1,799,000  
CHARLES HEAVER 269.469.8300



**10500-10530 RED ARROW HWY,  
BRIDGMAN**  
High Traffic commercial site at base of I-94 exit  
16 off ramp on Red Arrow HWY \$1,490,000  
MEL VALIQUETT 269.469.8300



**18360 FOREST BEACH DR,  
NEW BUFFALO**  
Epitome of Lake living in the heart of Harbor  
Country. Just Steps from Lake MI \$1,395,000  
CHARLES HEAVER 269.469.8300



**371 ST. ANDRE DRIVE,  
VALPARAISO**  
Gated Community of Saint Andre offers this  
Federal Style home! \$1,198,000  
HILARY PENDER 269.469.8300



**5808 N WATERVLIET RD,  
WATERVLIET**  
Paw Paw Lake. Includes 11 lots of which 9 are  
build-able, 360 feet of frontage \$975,000  
SANTIAGO MORENO 269.469.8300



**11236 RIVIERA DR,  
NEW BUFFALO**  
2.04 acres has one large home, but could be  
configured for multiple home sites. \$925,000  
ROB GOW 269.469.8300



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**4127 CHEROKEE DRIVE,  
NEW BUFFALO**  
4BR+den contemporary retreat in Village of  
Michiana with deeded beach rights \$749,000  
ROB GOW & CHRIS PFAUSER 269.469.8300



**7251 BEVERLY DR,  
SOUTH HAVEN**  
Immaculate 5 bedroom, 3 bath home within the  
gated community of Beverly Shores. \$739,900  
GARY HARDINA 269.469.8300



**14773 THREE OAKS RD,  
THREE OAKS**  
This home has it all! Lots of storage space  
with large bedrooms. \$479,900  
TERRY C. VRAVIS 269.469.8300



**18485 DUNECREST DR 26,  
NEW BUFFALO**  
Forest Beach - a gated community on Lake  
Michigan offers "a carefree lifestyle" \$429,000  
BETTY M. BIERNACKI 269.469.8300



**15810 CENTER AVE RIGHT,  
UNION PIER**  
Charming 2 br, 1 ba home w/top-floor loft on  
wooded lot steps from the beach. \$397,500  
RONALD A. MORALES 269.469.8300



**16152 MERSON DR,  
BUCHANAN**  
Secluded Spacious Mini Mansion hidden on  
the 13th Fairway of Brookwood GLF \$375,000  
BETTY RAMSEY 269.469.8300



**10244 N 400 EAST,  
LAPORTE**  
A wonderful home in the country, close to  
the Michigan-Indiana border. \$289,000  
BETTY BIERNACKI 269.469.8300



**325 E MERCHANT ST,  
NEW BUFFALO**  
Buildable lot on the Lake side of Buffalo  
St/US 12. 60 x 145 lot size. \$89,500  
BETTY RAMSEY 269.469.8300



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**\$396,999**

**102 WOODSIDE DRIVE**  
**MICHIGAN CITY**

- Barker Woods
- Executive brick ranch home
- 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths
- Open concept great room
- 4 season room; bonus room



**\$125,000 NEW PRICE**

**507 BIRCH TREE LANE**  
**MICHIGAN CITY**

- Main floor unit in Long Beach Pointe
- 2 bedrooms, 1 bath
- All new carpet & fresh paint
- Garage, patio, laundry in unit
- Association pool



**\$249,900**

**6751 W. 450 N**  
**MICHIGAN CITY**

- PRIVATE 5.29 ACRES
- 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 2-story home
- 30x60 pole barn
- Lovely kitchen; formal dining room
- Living room with woodburning fireplace



**\$149,000**

**458 E. 600 N.**  
**LAPORTE**

- 6.068 ACRES
- Beautiful building site
- Huge pole barn with 2-car garage
- Efficiency apartment
- Septic and well

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**Century 21**  
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Michele Cihak  
219-861-2073  
michelecihak@yahoo.com



- 3826 PONCHARTRAIN, NEW BUFFALO, MICHIGAN • \$425,000**
- Quaint two-bedroom, one-bath cottage
  - Wonderful location in the Village of Michiana
  - Wood-burning fireplace, walk-out basement
  - Property sits on two lots; parking 6-7 cars
  - Lake Michigan is right around the corner



- 522 WABASH STREET, MICHIGAN CITY • \$84,500**
- Commercial possibilities across from Lighthouse Place
  - Opportunity in Historic District
  - Structural improvements completed w/open concept interior
  - Includes vacant lot on Northside
  - Residential or Commercial Use



- 3040 LAKESHORE DRIVE, LONG BEACH • \$1,625,000**
- BREATHTAKING VIEWS OF LAKE MICHIGAN
  - Five bedrooms, three full baths
  - Three levels of living space over 4,000 SF
  - Two separate gathering areas
  - Two-car garage, plenty of parking (6-7)



- 4200 GRAND BEACH ROAD, NEW BUFFALO • \$449,000**
- PERFECT SUMMER COTTAGE!
  - Three bedroom, three full bath ranch
  - Living room with cathedral ceilings
  - Full basement, screen porch
  - Two-car garage fits 4 cars



- 9225 N. 500 E., ROLLING PRAIRIE • \$399,000**
- Three bedrooms, 2 baths
  - A1A custom log home
  - Situated on 10 rolling & wooded acres
  - 2 large screened porches
  - Newer open kitchen; 3 car garage

**BIRCHMONT, NEW BUFFALO • \$199,000**

- 3 BLOCKS TO MICHIANA'S FINEST BEACHES
- 2 elevated wooded buildable lots
- Topographical survey has been completed
- Enjoy all that the Village of Michiana has to offer



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## New Listings... and New Homes!

See My Listings At:  
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### 2205 FAIRWAY

One level living

\$229,900

Hard to find 2 BR/2B/2-car garage, on inland lake. Short way to beach & easy access to shopping, dining, train, interstate. Great room, patio, vaulted ceilings, new flooring & furnace. Carefree low-cost association living & best area value for primary or seasonal lifestyle.



### The Woodlands NEW/ Minutes to the Lake Coming soon

Before you start that renovation, consider a new home! Over 2,000 SF, 3 BR/3 bath, main floor bedroom, private 1.6 acre site. Five star energy rated. Share community pool, basketball/tennis, minutes to Lake Michigan beaches, off Tryon Rd. past Shady Creek Winery.



### 2729 WOZNIAK

Acres/ home for RV

\$449,900

COUNTRY COMPOUND 4 BR, gated, with 1,500 SF equipment building with RV clearance, 6-stall horse barn, & related living quarters. Nearly 10 acres. Easy access Chicago/South Bend, Lake Michigan, minutes to interstate and new medical complex. Truly unique lifestyle.



### 18004 SIMA DRIVE

Heart of Harbor Country

\$319,900

New in 2006, community pool! Cottage Creek custom design & construction a short walk/bike ride to the heart of New Buffalo. Three BR, 2.5 bath, garage, deck, loft, fireplace, over 2,000 SF. Best kept Harbor Country secret. Easy commute to Chicago!



### 222 REDWING

New construction/Michiana

\$479,900

Be the first owner! Three BR/3 bath, open floorplan, private wooded lot & Michiana beaches. Over 2,200 SF, main floor BR, vaulted ceilings, stainless appliances, sunny rear deck. 5 star energy rated, Pella windows, carefree cedar exterior, metal roof & room for large garage &/or pool.

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**Bonnie "B" Meyer**  
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**Talahi Trail, Grand Beach Woodlands**  
 Nice wooded building site 192 x 105 in area with expensive homes and cottages. Perc test, soil report and survey done completed. Motivated seller. Start construction before the ground freezes!



**234 Old Mill Road, Trail Creek**  
 4 BR, 4 BA 4,000 + sq. ft. brick and cedar home, 2 wooded lots, great room with a wood burner and formal dining room, library, office, sun room, private deck and yard. HW/tile/carpet, finished basement, 2-car garage.



**2909 N 150 East, Rolling Prairie**  
 Pastoral Beauty! 6,000+ sq. ft. of vintage charm and modern amenities, 4 BRs, 5 BAs, open-concept kitchen and dining areas for entertaining, 4-stall horse barn & pole barn on 10 rolling acres of pastures, woods and trails.



**434 Maplewood Drive, Shoreland Hills**  
 Private Lake MI Beach! 3 BR, 4 BA, 3,200+ sq. ft. greatroom with wood floors/cathedral ceiling/FP, eat-in kitchen, screened porch, extra sleeping and rec room in finished basement, 2-car garage, storage all on 2.5 Shoreland Hills lots!



**906 Franklin, Michigan City**  
 Completely updated & restored. 2 stores & 2 apts. Original character remains, everything else new - boilers, electric, A/C units, windows, doors, & roof. Artspace adds to the desirability of downtown.



**2308 Lakeshore Drive, Long Beach**  
 50' beachfront lot. All building permits approved. Includes 'Ready to Build' house drawings, septic installed, plus new seawall and pristine lake views from Chicago to Sawyer.



**1005 Roeske Trail, Michigan City**  
 Views of 6th fairway! 4 BRs, 3 BAs, 3 fireplaces, in-ground pool, loads of decking, family room, 3 season room, library, living, dining room, finished laundry, rec room and 2-car garage.



**409 Birch Tree, Birch Tree Farms**  
 Main Floor 2 BR, 1 BA with garage. HW, tile, walk-in closet, all appliances included. Association POOL! Easy train ride to CHI and South Bend.



**230 Sunset Trail, Duneland Beach**  
 Private Association Beach, 1.45 acres, private drive through woods, 2000+ sq. ft., 3 BRs 3 BAs, great room, loft, balcony, deck, pristine view through floor-to-ceiling windows, 2-car garage.



**2904 Oriole Trail, Long Beach**  
 "Timber Top" Long Beach 3 BR, 3 BA 2,200 sq ft cottage/in-ground private pool, detached one-car garage. 6 minutes to Stop 28 beach!



**430 Lake Drive, New Buffalo**  
 Completely rebuilt and redesigned, extra ordinary design, construction and finishes, exceptional Lake and harbor views, 2 BRs, 2 BAs beachfront condo, covered lakeside patio, 2-car garage. Association dues only \$1,900/quarterly.



**1614 Lakeshore Drive, Sheridan Beach**  
 California style beachfront, 4 BRs, 4 BAs. 2,916 sq ft overlooks Lake Michigan. Beach path meanders through dune grass.



**1600 Oaks Court, Long Beach**  
 3 BR, 2 BA, newly refinished wood floors, arches, fireplace & bookshelves. Stop 16 offers easy paddle board access.



**205 Washington Park Blvd., Sheridan Beach**  
 3 BR, 2 BA, redone. Walk to Lake MI beach, zoo, restaurants & shopping. Affordable year-round living cottage.



**1808 Ridgemoor Court, Long Beach**  
 2 BR, 2 BA, only 3 houses from Lake MI Beach, new kitchen, screened porch, decks, & gardens.



**2223 Oriole Trail, Long Beach**  
 1/2 acre on LB Country Club 11th fairway. 3 BR, 2 BA ranch, deck off living/dining, fireplace, redone galley kitchen, walk-out lower level, office, rec room, garage. Close to Lake MI Stop 22 Beach!



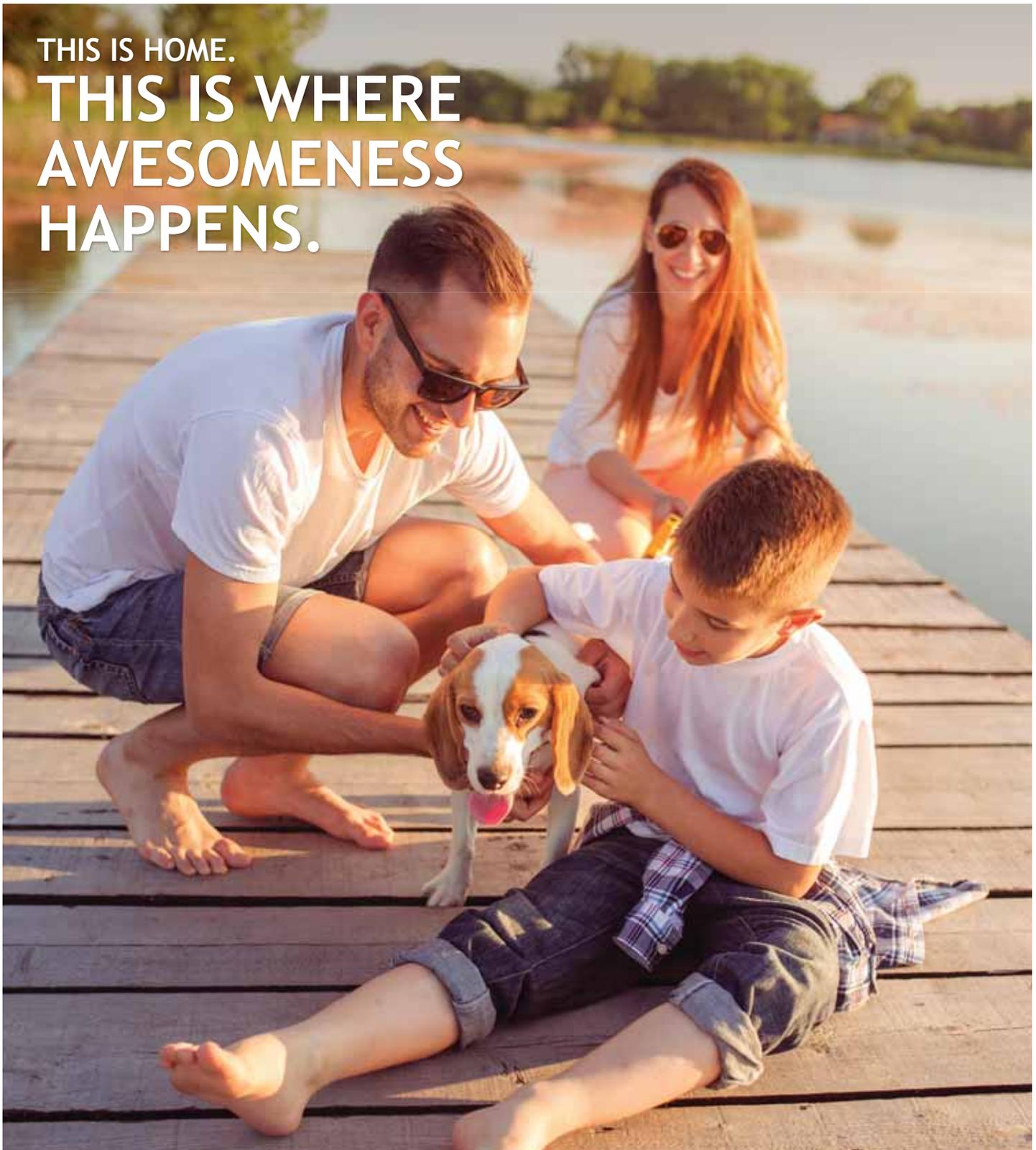
**114 Louisiana, Sheridan Beach**  
 Steps from Lake MI beach! 3 BRs 3 BAs, 2,300 sq ft, sun porch, great room open to rear deck & grassy lawn.



**2700 Oriole Trail, Long Beach**  
 3 BR, 5 BA, Long Beach manor house. Grand foyer, stainless appliances, 2 FPs, sunroom, den master w/ marble spa bath.

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**New Buffalo \$2,975,000**

16580 Westway Dr  
7 Bedrooms/5 Full, 2 Half Baths



**Long Beach \$2,750,000**

2120 Lakeshore Dr  
4 Bedrooms/5 Baths



**Union Pier \$1,899,000**

15826 Lakeshore Rd  
6 Bedrooms/3 Baths



**Long Beach \$1,695,000**

2121 Lake Shore Dr  
4 Bedrooms/5 Baths



**New Buffalo \$1,650,000**

47021 Lakeview Ave  
4 Bedrooms/3.5 Baths



**Long Beach \$1,195,000**

1512 Lake Shore Dr  
4 Bedrooms/3 Baths



**New Buffalo 1,049,000**

712 North Dr  
4 Bedrooms/2 Baths



**Long Beach \$749,000**

1510 Lake Shore Dr  
4 Bedrooms/1.75 Baths



**Grand Beach \$710,000**

51113 Main Dr  
4 Bedrooms/4 Baths



**Union Pier \$489,000**

16021 Goodwin, #9  
4 Bedrooms/3 Baths



**Three Oaks \$425,000**

8497 E US 12 Hwy  
4 Bedrooms/2 Baths/12 - 115 Acres



**New Buffalo \$379,000**

19623 Dogwood  
4 Bedrooms/3 Baths



**New Buffalo \$239,000**

14451 Woodcrest Ln  
2 Bedrooms/2 Baths



**New Buffalo \$234,000**

14281 Tulip Tree Dr  
2 Bedrooms/2.5 Baths



**Bridgman \$129,900**

9575 Pine St  
2 Bedrooms/1 Bath



**Bridgman \$94,500**

3775 Lake St  
2 Bedrooms/1 Bath

For vacation rentals, visit **LIGHT HARBOR RENTALS** at [LightHarborRentals.com](http://LightHarborRentals.com)

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# Almost LAKEFRONT ... Steps to the BEACH!

**11080 Marquette Drive  
New Buffalo**

**STURGEON BEACH** — Over one ACRE directly ACROSS the STREET from LAKE MICHIGAN & adjoining the PRIVATE DEEDED BEACH access. Whole parcel is 1.286 Acres, and can be up to 3 separate building sites. Offer on whole or part. **WHOLE PARCEL w/home \$ 1,097,000.**



**ANGIE GERMAN**  
(269) 266-2262  
angella.german@cexchange.com

*As a New Buffalo native with 16+ years of real estate experience, I am the local expert that you can trust. I bring a wealth of knowledge and expertise about buying and selling real estate in our local market. I am here, and happy, to serve all of your real estate needs!*

-AG



10 N. Whittaker St.  
New Buffalo  
MI 49117



**Craftsman Lovers' Delight!** Solid brick bungalow on a DOUBLE CORNER lot offers Craftsman details throughout... stain glass windows, amazing woodwork, hardwood floors, 6 BEDROOMS, 3 BATHS, upper guest quarters with kitchenette, finished FULL basement with family room, detached garage & EXTRA FULL LOT! Located in the City of New Buffalo, only one mile to the BEACH! Enjoy relaxing walks to downtown & all that small town city life offers. Huge potential for VACATION RENTALS.

34 S. Berrien Street, New Buffalo **\$ 299,500.**



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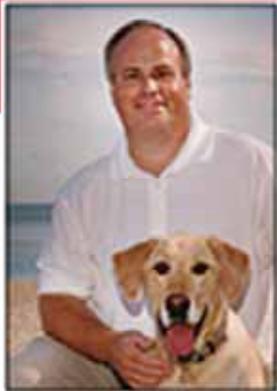
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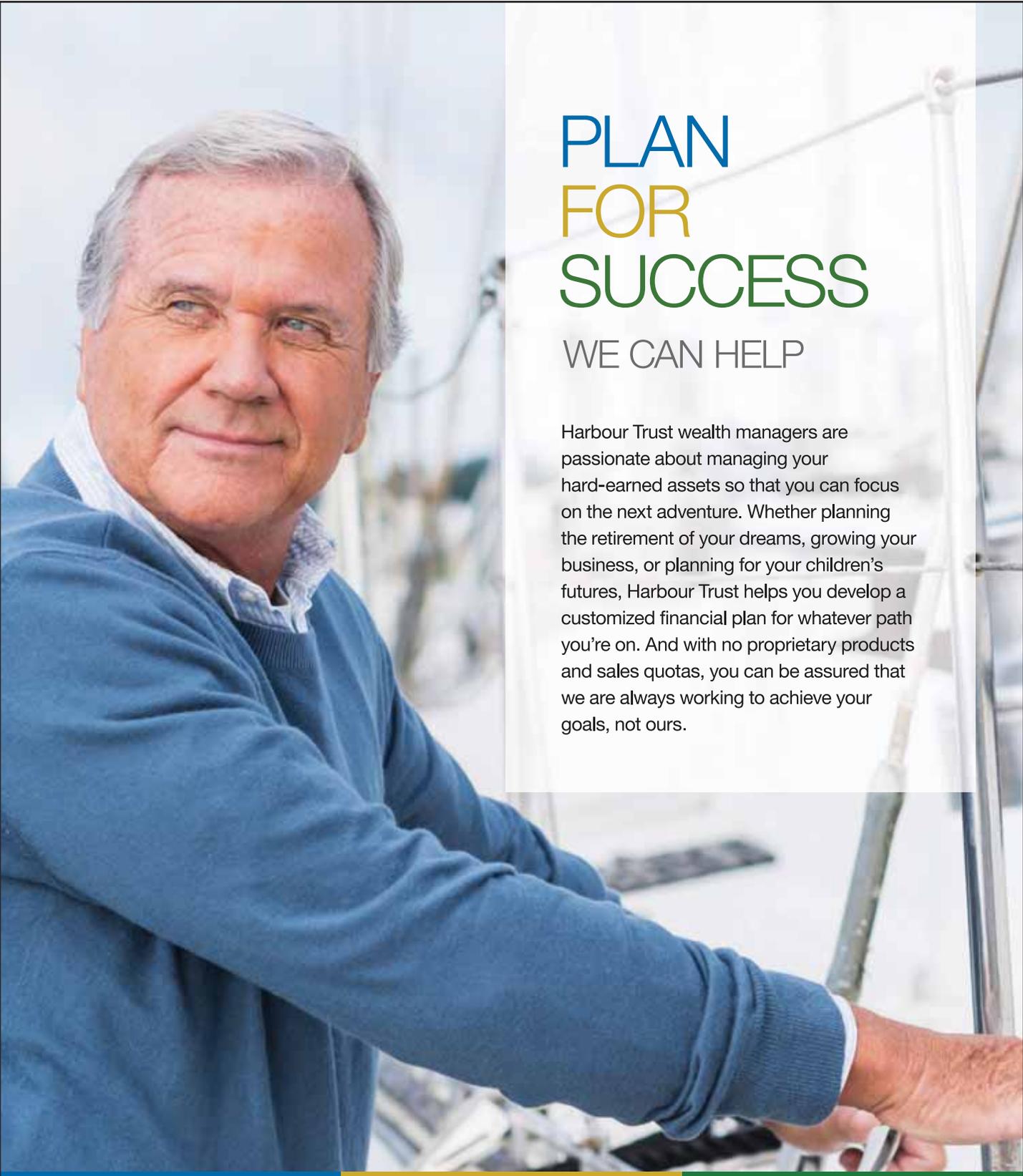
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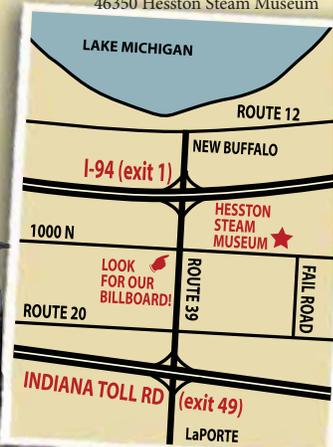
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**1835 Lake Shore Drive**  
**Sheridan Beach • \$979,000**

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**1604 Lake Shore Drive**  
**Long Beach • \$695,000**

40 ft LAKE FRONT lot at Stop 16 in Long Beach offering a great beach & beautiful sunsets to enjoy. Great building site. State & County septic permit is in place. Potential building plan can be viewed in listing office.

## You're the Key to Our 20 Years of Success



**2032 Oriole Trail**  
**Long Beach • \$419,000**

3 bedrooms, 3.5 baths. Great room, 18ft ceiling, French doors to deck, fieldstone & slate fireplace, hardwood floors throughout. Walk-out lower level with bathroom & rooms for sleeping space. Just 3 blocks to beach!



**NEW PRICE**

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**1806-A Ridgemoor**  
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**2756 Floral Trail**  
**Long Beach • \$429,000**

3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Vaulted ceiling & fireplace in living room. Rec room with bar in lower level. Expansive decking with steel beams for complete structural integrity. Incredible golf course views & easy walk to beach.

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**Lake Shore Drive - Stop 21**  
**Long Beach • \$310,000**

40 ft hillside lot across the street from Stop 21 beach access. Alley running at the rear of the lot for an opportunity for rear access. All permits needed. Buy now & complete your home before next year's summer season begins.



**SALE PENDING**

**2306 Florimond Avenue**  
**Long Beach • \$209,000**

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## **3317 Marquette Trail • Duneland Beach**

Completely updated 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath home, close enough to Lake Michigan to hear the breaking waves yet quiet & peaceful. Heated in-ground pool, beautiful gardens, stone patio, hot tub & fire pit.

Living room with wood floors, new kitchen.  
Rec room with fireplace. Windows galore!

**Offered for \$899,000**



## **2416 Florimond Avenue • Long Beach**

Lovely 5 bedroom home sited high overlooking LBCC golf course. Close to community center, tennis courts & park. Just three blocks to the beach.  
Refinished hardwood floors in dining room.

Two fireplaces, new kitchen, family room, new master bedroom & bath. Sun room & wet bar.

**Offered for \$695,000**



## **204-B California Avenue • Sheridan Beach**

Just steps to Sunset's own beach on miles of Lake Michigan beaches. Only 8 units in this complex & plenty of additional parking for guests. Low association fees. Private boardwalk leads to private association beach.

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# MICKY GALLAS PROPERTIES

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## *2905 Roslyn Trail* *Long Beach*

Charming 4 bedroom, 2 bath ranch. Tastefully decorated with fireplace in living room & wood floors. Dining room with lovely windows to let natural light gracefully shine in.



Finished lower level with rec room, bathroom & 4th bedroom. Beautiful, expansive lot with a little over a half acre of land offering beautiful landscaping, stone surrounding firepit & two car detached garage. Walking distance to the beautiful shores of Lake Michigan. **\$399,000**



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### *29 Mohawk Drive*

**Michiana Village • \$1,100,000**

Charming 4 bedroom, 3 bath log home and 2 bedroom, 2 bath pool house. Many updates, high ceilings, stone fireplace, wood floors, granite & stainless finishes in kitchen. In-ground pool & just 1.5 blocks to the beach.



### *1720 Lake Shore Drive*

**Sheridan Beach • \$795,000**

3 bedroom, 2 bath cottage with expansive lake views. Open living/dining room, 2-sided fireplace, beamed ceiling. Beautiful landscaping & private path to beach. Adjacent vacant parcel available to purchase.



### *415 Dreamwold*

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3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Open concept kitchen/dining/family room. Well appointed kitchen with granite, stainless appliances, hardwood floors, wood burning fireplace. Deck, screen porch, firepit. Private, wooded setting.

# Heroes, Champions and Scoundrels at Ames Field

by William Halliar

*Editor's note — This is the next installment in our series on local ties to America's favorite pastime.*

Ames Field, even after 80 years, remains Michigan City's own field of dreams.

"If you build it, they will come," the movie's famous line goes, and come they did. Football teams, baseball leagues, wrestling matches, demolition derbies. The "Best Ball Field in the Midwest," as some called it, drew players from the Midwest League to play our own Michigan City White Caps in the late 1950s. Harmon Kilbrew, Satchel Paige, even the legendary



Babe Ruth.

"Babe" Ruth took to the field under azure Michigan City summer skies. They demonstrated their prowess and wowed fans with their powerful swings and amazing catches.

When the circus came to town, what better place to set up than within the walled enclosure of the old Ames Field?



Jou Louis.

The famous Joe Louis even made an appearance at Ames Field as a referee for a wrestling match.

But what did all this hoopla mean to generations of young people who grew up in this grand little city on Lake Michigan's shores? Their memories are likely of meeting up with their buddies and trying to sneak over

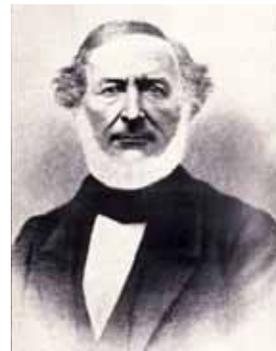
the wall to see the animal acts at the circus, or the night their Michigan City Wolves creamed the rival La Porte Slicers. The girls might remember meeting that special fellow there in the stands and holding hands through a chilly fall evening while cheering on their team.

So many memories, all encompassed within a small field that became Michigan City's backyard. Over time, two stadiums stood on either side of that few acres of land, and to remember the times spent there, shoulder to shoulder with neighbors as a community, brings smiles to the faces of those who grew up here.

The story of Ames Field, how it came to be and the characters who wrote their names into its history is a colorful one. It is the story of heroes, cham-

pions and a few scoundrels. It is written in blood, sweat and heroic struggle. It is brought back to memory by the sweet smell of freshly popped corn, the taste of soda pop on a warm summer Sunday afternoon, or the crunch of fallen leaves on the first frosty afternoon of fall.

To set the stage for this story, we must look at the first hero of the saga: George Ames.



George Ames.

He was born in Bridgewater, Mass., on Jan. 30, 1804. The Ames family was public spirited, and over the years gained a favorable reputation in the communities in which they settled for their business and political savvy.

In an obituary at the time of George Ames' death, it was written, "*The advantages of good birth and careful early training in industry and thrifty business habits were early recognized and improved upon.*" He was born a farmer's son, but early on went to work in his father's shovel factory. Through



Baseball action at Ames Field in the 1950s.  
Photo provided by Mike Fleming

hard work and thrift, he saved enough money to set out on his own on an adventure to the west.

He made his home in Michigan City in 1834 and began buying property and building sturdy homes made of brick, something new to a populace used to frame houses built from the wood of trees growing in local forests. Ames and his brother, Fisher, set themselves up in the mercantile business, supplying goods and services to a growing Michigan City. He partnered with Dr. Holliday and purchased the only drugstore in town, a business that was to serve the community for more than 30 years.

As the city grew, it became apparent a bank was needed, and Ames became the first stockholder in the "Michigan City Branch of the Indiana state bank." He soon was elected bank president, a position he held until his death in 1890. Through "prudent economy, patient industry and honest dealing," George Ames became a very rich man."

Ames loved Michigan City, his adopted new hometown. One obituary states, *"As a citizen, Mr. Ames was public spirited, and to plans for public improvement he lent his influence and gave of his means generously."* He especially enjoyed observing and encouraging young people being raised to give of themselves to their community. *"He delighted also in young men and would seem to exalt in the prosperity of young men who through temperance, economy and industry got on in the world."*

Ames served as mayor of Michigan City for one year, 1849-1850, and gave of his considerable influence and wealth to the building of the harbor and creation of Michigan City's high school. No worthy cause was abandoned. As mayor, he planted many trees and shrubs in the city, believing his hometown should be a jewel at Lake Michigan's southern shore. He even helped found the municipal band, which went on to glory playing for troops in training during the Spanish American War.

At the time of Ames' death, the whole town shut down so everyone could attend the funeral service in honor of their great benefactor. But his legacy had only just begun. In his will, he left \$5,000 to Michigan City for the founding of a public library, an institution that today still influences young minds and points the way toward a useful life. Ames, although forgotten by many today, still influences young minds through the legacy of his generous gifts in a positive direction. He was a true hero of Michigan City history.

Forty-four years after his death, a second hero



Rheinhart "Hemp" Fedder.

came on the scene, Rheinhart "Hemp" Fedder, a man who also loved Michigan City. Fedder served two terms as Michigan City mayor, first from 1934-1938, then again from 1942-1947. These were dark years in American history and, indeed, the history of the world. To begin with, a worldwide Depression was strangling the entire world, and a dust bowl in the western United States drove thousands of farmers off their land. Then, there was a terrible world war. England had Churchill, America had Roosevelt and Michigan City had Fedder.

During the Depression, more than 8.5 million men were out of work in America. President Franklin Roosevelt formed several relief organizations to put people back to work and get them off the relief rolls. In 1933, the Works Progress Administration was formed using federal funds to encourage the use of people's talents and skills to build projects for the public's benefit.

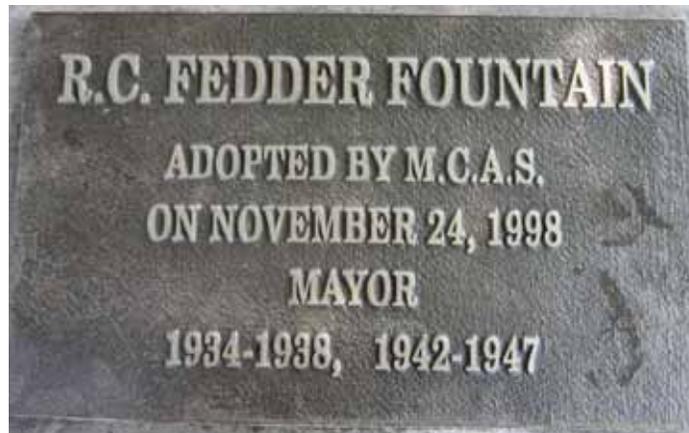
A strong man, a hero and champion was needed to inspire the citizens of Michigan City, and Fedder realized that to take advantage of the federal WPA programs, he would have to let those in control of funds know Michigan City existed. He traveled to Washington, D.C., to make the case of his citi-

zens known. Subsequently, WPA money and talent began to flow into Michigan City.

Many projects were completed in Michigan City during this time, including the zoo and observation tower, improvements such as park benches in Washington Park, and a favorite project of Fedder's: a stadium to match any in the Midwest.

Material was donated — steel, scrap concrete and stone, wood — and from this mixed bag of what could easily have been overlooked as junk was built many fine structures in Michigan City, including the Naval Amory and a new stadium constructed at "Rotary Field," a sandy lot south of the city. The WPA was a work-relief program that gave meaningful employment to many and created structures we still enjoy today. Fedder was considered a champion in seeking out and securing federal funds to do the job.

The new stadium would be named Ames Field, a *"Large and suitable area for athletic games...to be*



The Ames Field plaque paying tribute to Rheinhart "Hemp" Fedder.

# Heroes, Champions Continued from Page 63

known as Ames field in memory of George Ames who in his lifetime was ever a friend of Michigan City..." Architects and planners designed, and the muscle power of Michigan City's men worked to build. A new stadium took shape.

The stadium could seat 3,200 people and included playgrounds, a skating rink, running track, football field and baseball diamonds. A fountain even graced its grounds.

The Dec. 30, 1935, edition of *The Michigan City News* stated that "the stadium will be of entirely reinforced concrete and is on the same style as the Notre Dame Stadium, except on a smaller scale." It was to be 400 feet long and 35 feet wide. It also boasted a single dugout at a lower level of the stadium for the use of the players.

When all was said and done and the dust had settled, the WPA workers of Michigan City had built a stadium for their city valued at \$100,000 for just \$15,000 in actual money paid out.

Now, enter the "champions" of the story — the men and women, boys and girls who have played their hearts out on that field, giving their best to carry the day for their team or earn honors and set records in their sport.

The first game played in "Hemp" Fedder's new Ames Field was on Thanksgiving Day in 1936. Leroy Neulieb had the honor of sending the first kickoff into the Michigan City Sky. Ames Field was to become the home to semi-professional football teams. That first game was played between the Michigan City Coca-Cola Raiders and the Hoosier Beers of

South Bend. Of course, Michigan City ended up on top that day.

As fall approaches and baseball fans think "World Series," it must be noted our own Ames Field was home to the sport in the game's early days. What became known as America's Game was invented in New York in the days before the Civil War. During the war, when camp life could be boring for days on end, the men began to play the game using sticks for bats. When the armies were retired after 1865, young men returned to their homes across the nation and brought the new game of baseball along with them.

In Michigan City, the game took hold and every available sand lot was turned into a makeshift diamond. When Ames Field opened in 1936 with a professional diamond, dugout and locker room, it soon became the prime venue for semi-professional baseball in Northwest Indiana.

A Northern Indiana Baseball League was formed, and teams were sponsored by local businesses. By 1900, there were 18 teams in the city all in uniform. Al "Nitch" Gielow, who played ball at Ames Field in the early years, even coming up against a young George Halas, told *The Beacher* last year there was no safety equipment, and that Ames

Field was the best in the Midwest for baseball.

Now, enter the "scoundrels."

Semi-pro ball continued at Ames Field until certain un-named city councilmen discovered there was money to be made in the process. According to Gielow, the teams disbanded "on account of the city itself, because after a while we got new councilmen and stuff. They put pressure on them (the teams),



An old promotional item for a baseball game at Ames Field.

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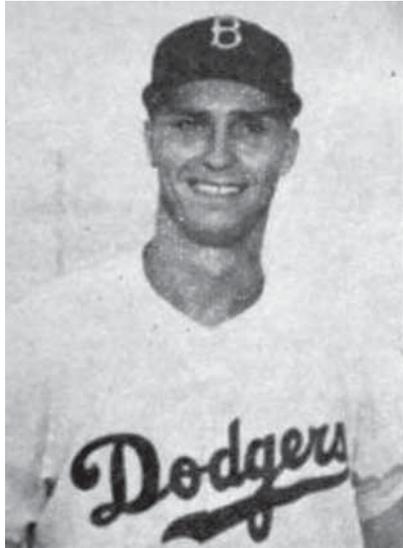
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they wanted to raise the rent on it (Ames Field)... they wanted (free) passes for the ballpark and even a little divvy (kickback) from it because it was making big money and it drew tremendously.”

But another hero for old Ames Field entered the scene in 1956, this time by happy accident. Al Shinn played for the New York Giants in 1951 and had a .400 batting average. As pitcher, he injured his arm and was traded to the Brooklyn Dodgers. During a Dodgers game, he was hit in the head by a ball. The team offered him the opportunity to coach their minor league team in the Midwest League headquartered in Hannibal Mo.

Here, the happy accident occurred and Georgiana Shinn’s name was added to the hero list for Ames Field. On a train trip for the team, Al Shinn, the bachelor, met the radiant Georgiana of Michigan City and fell madly in love. They were married and moved to Michigan City, where Shinn was introduced to the Midwest’s best ballfield.



Al Shinn.

Shinn talked the Giants organization into moving its minor league franchise here, and the Michigan City White Caps were born in 1956. They called Ames Field their home from 1956-1959, playing many an exciting game and producing several outstanding players, including Juan Marichal, who in 1958 won Pitcher of the Year for the league and went on to a notable Major League career.

Shinn passed way this past June.

I will insert, at this point, another sad “scoundrel” story. Everyone likes to talk about the day “Babe” Ruth came to town on June 15, 1940. Neulieb who,



Juan Marichal.

at times, pitched to Ruth during batting practice, likes to recall Ruth as a man “who really cared for the fans, especially little children. If a kid hollered at him, he’d walk over and shake hands.”

Neulieb also recalls that the “Babe” had “an amazing capacity for ice cold beer.” On that Friday night in June, Ames Field had a soldout crowd. Ruth was sched-

uled to hit a few balls for the fans. On the Wednesday evening before, Joe Heinsen, who was the booking agent for Ruth, was told the player would not be able to make his Friday night appearance. Heinsen headed for Chicago, where Ruth and his wife had an apartment, to try to fix the problem.

When he reached the Edgewater Beach Hotel, where the Ruths were staying, he found the “Babe” passed out on the floor, drunk. By this time in his career, Ruth was in desperate need of cash and had already been paid \$215 for his Michigan City appearance. His wife guaranteed he would make his date, but that he would have to be watched closely at a golf outing he was attending earlier in the day.

Michigan City Mayor Fred Parker sent two police officers to Chicago to personally escort Ruth to Ames Field. By the time they reached the field, Ruth was pretty much “blitzed” and had to be escorted to the diamond by the officers. Sadly, the kids cheered wildly as he was led to home plate.

The “Babe” hit the first pitch, a grounder. The second hit was down the first base line. When the third pitch soared over the plate, Ruth swung, then fell flat on his face. He had to be carried from the field. The fans were shocked as they watched their hero turn to a scoundrel in front of their faces. Unable to cope with life and the pressure of fame, Babe Ruth had crumbled.

Continued on Page 66

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## Heroes, Champions Continued from Page 65



Ames Field today.

By 1992, Ames Field had been the scene of many ups and downs among the champions of Michigan City, and been loved by its heroes and the common man as well, but the old stadium had definitely seen better days. In November 1992, Henry Lange wrote in a newspaper column after a tour of the field, *“What I saw wasn’t a lot different from the last update — cracking, chipping concrete, large separations where ancient construction can’t be repaired, the dark dingy locker rooms that, by today’s standards are pretty repulsive.”*

Something definitely had to be done. It all came to a head when a visiting team from Merrillville almost refused to play in the stadium. The estimated cost of repairs to the structure was between \$2.5 and \$4 million.

The city and school system debated the question, Would Ames Field continue to be the “Best in the Midwest”? How would the project be paid for, from what fund would the money come? Our modern financial world and laws are complex, indeed. Scoundrels all too often create complex rules for their own

gain rather than for the good of the people.

Would it be more economical to repair the old stadium or start from scratch with a new one? Town folk read their daily papers anxiously. So many emotions and memories were connected with the old field. What would be its fate?

As all who drive by Ames Field today can see, heroes rose once again and spoke for the people. In 1995, a new stadium was completed and dedicated, once again to the spirit of George Ames, and the games continue. The new brick structure stands ready to be the field of dreams for a new generation, and for many more to come.

There is so much more history wrapped up in Ames Field, and indeed, in Michigan City itself. I encourage everyone to make use of resources at Old Lighthouse Museum, Michigan City Public Library and La Porte County Historical Society Museum. History is filled with heroes, scoundrels and exciting stories.

*(Our series continues in next week’s edition.)*



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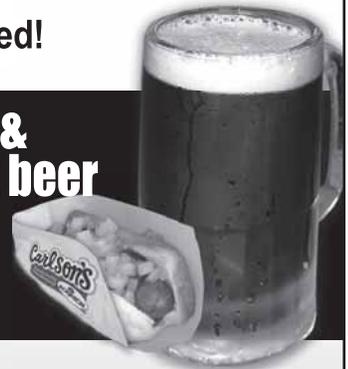
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### New Hal Higdon Exhibit



One of Hal Higdon's pieces in the new exhibit.

"Scapes," the new exhibit of landscapes and seascapes by Hal Higdon, debuts during the First Friday Art Walk on Sept. 2 at Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St.

The display, showcased in the NIPSCO Gallery, includes paintings from Ireland and Florida, as well as Long Beach.

"While in Florida, I study under the supervision of Allison Watson, a gifted Jacksonville landscape painter," Higdon said. "She provided the inspiration for this show."

Higdon will greet people and discuss his art at 5 p.m. during First Friday. The exhibit continues through the October First Friday.

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\*All SBHA meetings are held from 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. at “the Circle” at Beachwalk (Stop 7)

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### Pet Fest in the Park

Despite the soggy weather, plenty of pets and their owners turned out for the annual Pet Fest in the Park on Aug. 20 at Luhr County Park. The event, co-sponsored by La Porte County Parks and La Porte County Small Animal Shelter, included vendors, demonstrations, contests, obedience tips, photos and adoptions. All photos by Bob Wellinski





## Free Train Rides for First Responders

To show appreciation for their service to the community, the South Shore Line invites first responders to ride the train free on Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 10-11.

First responders must present valid active duty identification. That includes police officers, firefighters, paramedics and emergency medical technicians.

Throughout the year, the SSL has offered free round-trip transportation on designated days. In the near future, the train will offer free transportation for groups such as daily commuters and military veterans. Visit [mysouthshoreline.com](http://mysouthshoreline.com) or download the SSL app (available for iPhone and Android) for more details.



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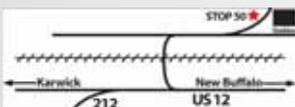
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## Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

*The following programs are available:*

• **Mount Baldy Hike at 5 p.m. most Fridays and at 10 a.m. Sundays.**

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 starts at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter, then follows a ranger to Mount Baldy. Reservations are required by calling (219) 395-1882.

• **Monthly Stargazing Program on Saturday, Sept. 3, at the Kemil Beach parking area.**

Chicago Astronomical Society members will take telescopes so visitors can get a closer look at the night sky. Guests can take binoculars, and should dress appropriately for the weather. Times vary, so call (219) 395-1821 for more details. The Kemil Beach parking lot is located at 27 N. East State Park Road, Chesterton.

• **Campground Program at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 3, at Dunewood Campground.**

Join a ranger around the campfire to learn about the diversity of park resources encountered on the Dunes Scavenger Hunt. The campground is at Broadway and U.S. 12 in Beverly Shores.

• **Pinhook Bog Open House from noon to 3 p.m. Saturdays through Sept. 10.**

Tour the bog and talk to rangers stationed along the trail who explain the unique area filled with carnivorous plants. Arrive by 2 p.m. to allow about one hour to walk the trail and tour the bog. The bog parking lot is located at 700 N. Wozniak Road, Michigan City.

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

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. 20 and 12 in Porter.

*The Visitor Center is at 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. The Paul H. Douglas Center is on Lake Street in Gary. Call (219) 395-1882 for more information.*

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**Indiana Dunes State Park**

*The following programs are offered:*

**Thursday, Sept. 1**

- **10 a.m. — Dunes Creek Crossing.**

Meet at the campground gate, and prepare for off-trail creek walking and to get wet.

- **3 p.m. — Who Pooped in the Park!**

Meet at the Nature Center to study the science of scatology, complete with games and prizes.

**Friday, Sept. 2**

- **10 a.m. — High Dunes Hiking.**

Wear hiking shoes and meet at the campground shelter by site 113 for the one-hour trek to Indiana's highest sand dune.

- **3 p.m. — Nature Crafts.**

Create a make-it, take-it craft at the Nature Center.

- **8 p.m. — Evening Campground Fun.**

Meet at the campground shelter by site 113 for everything from nature crafts to story time.

**Saturday, Sept. 3**

- **10 a.m. — Wetland Safari.**

Explore the bio-diverse area of a wetland, including aquatic life below the water.

- **3 p.m. — Shipwreck Stories.**

Meet at the Nature Center for the interactive program about Lake Michigan shipwrecks.

- **5 p.m. — 100th Anniversary of State Parks.**

Meet at the Nature Center auditorium for the 45-minute PBS documentary.

- **8 p.m. — Owl Prowl.**

Meet at the Nature Center for the hour jaunt through the forest to seek out owls, bats, flying squirrels and other nocturnal wildlife. Children 12 and younger must be accompanied by an adult.

**Sunday, Sept. 4**

- **10 a.m. — Journey to Ecology Cove.**

Wear hiking boots for a moderate jaunt up to Indiana's highest sand dune. Meet at the campground shelter by site 116.

- **3 p.m. — Get Lost.**

Learn how to use a compass during the 30-minute hands-on activity outside the Nature Center.

- **7 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.

**Monday, Sept. 5**

- **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. — Scales and Tales.**

Meet at the Nature Center for a look at reptiles of Indiana Dunes, with live animals present.

*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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## American Red Cross

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

- St. John's United Church of Christ, 101 St. John Road, Michigan City, noon to 6 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 6. Get a Red Cross duffle bag while supplies last.

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](http://redcrossblood.org) for more information.

## A Harvest of Folk Art

Fawn Run Farm Mercantile, 3883 E. County Road 700 North, Rolling Prairie, will host "A Harvest of Folk Art" from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 3-4.

Proprietor/folk artist Marcy Dailey highlights seasonal decorating goods. Refreshments, door prizes and an early buying privilege are from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 2. Visit [www.fawnrunfarmprimitives.com](http://www.fawnrunfarmprimitives.com) for more details.

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## "Unbound and Unseen/Seen"

Southern Shore Art Association, 724 Franklin St., will unveil "Unbound and Unseen/Seen," projects involving two groups of artists, during the First Friday Art Walk from 5 to 8 p.m. Sept. 2.

The artists, from individual and collective viewpoints, created works inspired in part by texts ranging from works of literature and poetry to personal writings and statements by other artists.

The six artists in "Unseen/Seen" (Dawn Diamantopoulos, Connie Kassal, George Kassal, Susan Henshaw, Gregg Hertzlieb and Linda Weigel) are regional artists working in a range of styles and media. They chose to work with a shadow box format, each artist creating three boxes corresponding to the selected themes of the hidden, the veiled and the transparent.

The six artists in "Unbound" (the Kassals, Ed Maldonado, Ginny Scott, Patty Schaefer and Weigel) explore the physical relationship of art and text primarily using sculpture as their vehicle.

An audience participation event led by Diamantopoulos is at 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 10, followed by a demonstration on reverse painting on glass by Weigel. The exhibits run through Sunday, Sept. 25. Gallery hours are noon to 5 p.m. Friday through Sunday. Visit [www.southernshoreartassociation.com](http://www.southernshoreartassociation.com) for more details.

## Outsiders Outside Art Fair

The 21st Outsiders Outside Art Fair, which celebrates folk and outsider art under big top tents, is Labor Day weekend at Judith Racht Gallery, 13698 Prairie Road, Harbert, Mich.

Embracing the theme "Harbert We Own," participants include Ellison Art Studio, Paul Hart, The Pardee Collection and Harvey's Art and Antiques. Newcomers include Scott Covert, Jeff Matejovsky, Mike Heavner and Carrie Kirby.

The Opening Night Preview is from 6 to 9 p.m. EDT Friday, Sept. 2, and costs \$25. Performances include Jimmie Fastiggi's vocals and guitar Willie Cherry's gospel music.

Food will be available Friday through Sunday. Hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. EDT Saturday and Sunday. General admission is \$10, while children 12 and younger are free.

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## Shirley Heinze Land Trust

Shirley Heinze Land Trust will host its annual Appreciation Hike and Luncheon on Saturday, Sept. 17, at Meadowbrook Nature Preserve, 109 W. County Road 700 North, Valparaiso.

Guided hikes begin at 10 a.m., occurring every 15 minutes, with the last departure at 11:30 a.m. A free luncheon starts at noon in the Meadowbrook lodge that includes homemade chili, salads and desserts, followed by the "Bringing Nature Home" native landscaping awards.

Meadowbrook Nature Preserve is a 154-acre property located just north of Valparaiso in Liberty Township. Home to the Shirley Heinze Land Trust headquarters, a portion of it is a former Girl Scout Camp. The property includes five miles of trails that traverse woods, wetlands, streams, prairie pockets and former agricultural land planted with more than 20,000 trees through a project to restore the moraine forest that once grew there.

Anyone interested in learning more about Shirley Heinze Land Trust is invited. RSVPs are requested no later than Friday, Sept. 9, to Bonnie Hawksworth at [bhawksworth@heinzetrust.org](mailto:bhawksworth@heinzetrust.org) by calling the (219) 242-8558. Or, fill out the RSVP form online at [www.heinzetrust.org](http://www.heinzetrust.org).



Meadowbrook Nature Preserve in Valparaiso.

Shirley Heinze Land Trust has been protecting and preserving natural land since 1981. More than 2,100 acres in Lake, Porter, La Porte and St. Joseph counties have been preserved. Five properties – Cressmoor Prairie, Seidner Dune & Swale, John Merle Coulter Preserve, Barker Woods and Ambler Flatwoods – have been dedicated as state nature preserves.

## Greek Fest 2016

The Annunciation and Agia Paraskevi Greek Orthodox Church will host its annual Greek Fest on Friday through Sunday, Sept. 2-4, at the American Hellenic Cultural Center, 17760 Behner Road, New Buffalo, Mich.

Tony Mamouzellos of Formal Fork will prepare authentic Greek food. Greek pastries and coffee will be available, along with Greek and American music. A Hellenic dance troupe will perform folk dances, and children's entertainment is planned. Visitors can tour the Byzantine-style church, under the Rev. Paul Martin's direction.

Festival hours are (all times Eastern) 5 to 11 p.m. Friday, Sept. 2, and noon to 11 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 3-4. Admission and parking are free. Call (269) 469-0081 for more details.

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## Elkhart Juried Regional

The Midwest Museum of American Art has issued a "call for entries" to the 38th Elkhart Juried Regional Art Exhibition, which runs Oct. 7-Dec. 4.

The all-media competition, sponsored by Elkhart County Conventions & Visitors Bureau, is open to artists 18 and older who live in Allen, DeKalb, Elkhart, Fulton, Jasper, Kosciusko, Lake, LaGrange, La Porte, Marshall, Newton, Noble, Porter, Pulaski, St. Joseph, Starke, Steuben or Whitley counties in Indiana, as well as Berrien, Branch, Cass or St. Joseph counties in Michigan.

Each entrant may submit one work in any media for \$25. A \$40 fee covers two works. Any art submitted for judging must be original in concept and execution, created within the last two years, not completed under instruction and not previously exhibited at the Midwest Museum or any other competition in the Michiana region. They must be hand delivered and prepared for installation.

Awards of more than \$30,000 will be made by Jurors and Purchase Award patrons. A prospectus with the rules and entry form is available at [MidwestMuseum.US](http://MidwestMuseum.US) (click on the Elkhart Juried Regional tab) or from the museum. Call (574) 293-6660, or write to MMAA, 429 S. Main St., Elkhart, IN 46516.

## Fundraiser Tribute Dinner

Parents and Friends Inc. and Michiana Resources will present a 1940s fundraising tribute dinner from 5:30 to 10 p.m. Friday, Sept. 9, at Blue Chip Casino, 777 Blue Chip Drive.

The groups will honor Judge Thomas Alevizos with the Disability Champion Award for services and assistance to the Guardianship Program.

Those attending are encouraged to wear suspenders, fedoras or pearls. All silent auction proceeds benefit adults with intellectual disabilities in the community.

Visit [www.pafinclp.org/](http://www.pafinclp.org/) for ticket information.

## La Porte County Parks



All registrations/questions go through the Red Mill County Park Administrative Office, 0185 S. Holmesville Road, La Porte. Call (219) 325-8315 or visit [www.laportecountyparks.org](http://www.laportecountyparks.org) for more information.

### Nature's Tiny Tots

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

The free program is from 10 to 11 a.m. Oct. 3, 17 and 31 (come in costume), Nov. 14 and 28, and Dec. 5, 12 and 19 at Luhr County Park Nature Center, 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 Luhr County Park. The cost is \$5 per child/per program. Pre-registration and payment are required at least one week in advance or until full, whichever comes first. The next program is:

- Sept. 7 — Sounds of Nature.
- Sept. 14 — Jumpin' Jiminy.
- Oct. 5 — Fantastic Fall.
- Oct. 26 — Halloween Fun (come in costume).
- Nov. 16 — Turkey Time.
- Dec. 7 — Let It Snow.

### 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:

- Sept. 14 — What to grow in the fall with Sacha Burns, Sunkissed Organics.
- Oct. 5 — Medicare and navigating its website, [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov).
- Nov. 2 — Nutrition facts on food labels, clean eating and diabetes, and how it affects the body's health, Registered Dietitian Stephanie Mahan.

### Homeschool Participants

Fishing Fun is from 9 to 10:30 a.m. Monday, Sept. 12, at Luhr County Park.

The program is aimed at children 6-13. A minimum of five children and a maximum of 25 are allowed, with adult assistance appreciated. Pre-register by Sept. 7.

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## Dunes Country Attraction

*Editor's note — Jim Morrow will periodically submit articles that highlight significant historic structures.*

South of Furnessville off U.S. 20 in Porter County are fantastic flower gardens planted and maintained by Bill Brincka and Basil Cross for more than 40 years.

More than 10,000 daffodils, 400 types of hostas, 25 kinds of crab trees, 25 kinds of ornamental grasses and 25 varieties of forsythias exist in the gardens. They are arranged so they blossom from spring to fall.

Walking trails lead to these flowerbeds throughout the 23 heavily wooded acres. The Frank Lloyd Wright-inspired dwelling is surrounded by flower gardens. It is designed to accommodate meetings. It is in excellent condition, with the interior finished in many types of wood paneling. It has cathedral ceilings with wood paneling and heavy beams. In addition to a unique entrance door, it has several sliding glass doors on the sides. The meeting rooms, found on the first and second floors, are adequate for 50 guests.



The Brincka-Cross Gardens.

Brincka was a professor at The School of The Art Institute of Chicago for more than 30 years. Cross, his companion, was an antique buyer for Marshall Field's who also conducted classes in horticulture. The garden was their life's work.

Today, the property is owned by the Porter County Parks Department, which welcomes visitors to take a self-guided tour through the gardens. To get there, take U.S. 20 to County Road 365 East. Proceed across the railroad tracks and follow the directional sign. Go one half-mile on Furness Road to the garden site. Call (219) 548-0221 or visit [www.portercountyparks.org](http://www.portercountyparks.org) for more details.

### CALL THE BEACHER WITH YOUR NEWS!

Friday at Noon is the deadline for the following week's issue. (219) 879-0088

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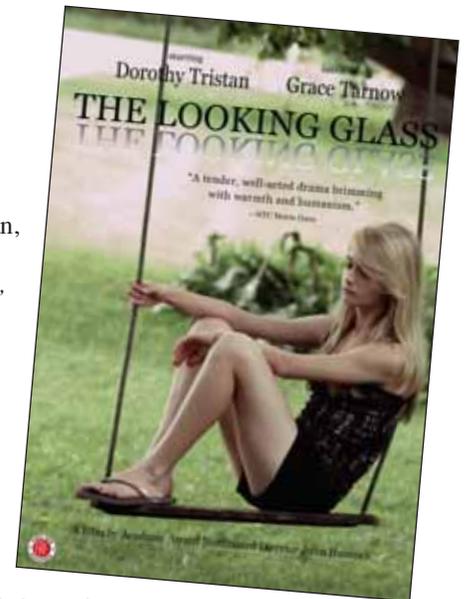
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## Take Home Your Copy of the Award-Winning Movie!

Oscar-nominee John Hancock ("Prancer") directs this moving tale, shot in Northwest Indiana and Southwest Michigan, that stars Dorothy Tristan (*Best Actress, River Bend Film Festival*) and La Porte's Grace Tarnow. Co-produced by Beacher Editor Andrew Tallackson.



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## Michigan City Art League

Michigan City Art League will continue offering art classes as it enters its 84th year.

Classes are from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Tuesdays in the former pre-school building across the drive from Faith City Assembly of God, 1314 S. Woodland Ave.

The class schedule is:

- **Sept. 6 and 13 — Sue Hughes, "Beginning Landscape Watercolor."** Participants learn about watercolor paints, paper and design, and how to create landscapes. Other lessons include: mixing colors on paper; reflections; glazing; using a palette knife; and how to place people, trees and rocks into paintings. Materials include watercolor supplies, as well as Arches 140 watercolor paper, which will be sold for the class. Brushes suggested are No. 12 round, 1/2 to 3/4 inch flat-edged brush and a small round brush. Take a table easel if having one. Some are available at the class.
  - **Sept. 20 and 27 — Susan Rosso, "Watercolor, The Next Steps."** Bring a few pictures that can be transformed into paintings. Take watercolor supplies and No. 140 watercolor paper.
  - **Oct. 4 and 11 — Wendy Wilcox Kermen, "Pastels on Watercolor."** Participants will work on two paintings using pastels on a watercolor background: a lighthouse and water. Kermen will bring reference photos. She recommends using watercolor board, which will be sold at the class.
  - **Oct. 18 and 25 — Paul Ortega, "Fun With Watercolor and Alcohol."** The class introduces techniques using rubbing alcohol with watercolor, discovering new tools and being loose with the medium. Watercolor paper and alcohol will be supplied. Participants should take their regular supplies.
  - **Nov. 1 and 8 — Julia Holmaas, "Watercolors — Light, Dark and Bold."** Her focus will be the light and dark contrast of a painting, and bold uses of color. Take watercolor supplies along with quality 140 paper.
  - **Nov. 22 — Colleen Gallagher, "Member Spotlight."** The program will be followed by viewing work done in class over the semester. The auction is a White Elephant Sale. Take a gently used wrapped item. All proceeds benefit Art League supplies.
- Not confirmed yet is a program by John Lucas on cartooning.
- Annual membership dues are \$25. The semester class fee now is \$35 for 12 weeks. Membership and class fees may be mailed to: Michigan City Art League, P.O. Box 9720, Michigan City, IN 46360, or paid the day of class. Call Betty Thomas at (219) 879-0903 for more details.



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### Friday, Sept. 2

First Friday — Sun King Brewery Tap Takeover with Live Music by On the Rocks. Featured beer: Sunlight Cream Ale, Wee Mac Scottish-Style Ale, Osiris Pale Ale, Fistfull of Hops and Seasonal Surprises. Free Samples and giveaways. 7:30 p.m.

### Saturday, Sept. 3, and Friday, Sept. 9

Live Music on the Patio — Denny Folis

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## Student-Volunteer Earns Scholarship



Recent Marquette High School graduate Natalie Riley (third from the left), Michigan City, has received a \$2,000 scholarship from the Franciscan St. Anthony Health-Michigan City Guild of Volunteers. Among other qualifications, she served as a hospital junior volunteer. She plans to attend Butler University in hopes of becoming a pharmacist. High school awards and honors include Summa Cum Laude Honor Roll, Presidential Service Award and National Honor Society. She graduated with Summa Cum Laude distinction for maintaining a 4.0 (or above) grade point average. Also shown are (from left) guild board members Judi Day, Gift Shoppe treasurer, Angie Kmiecik, vice president, Caryn Glossinger, corresponding secretary, Kathleen Nicholson, secretary, Sheila Ito, president, and Shirley Sjoberg, manager.

## Michigan City Public Library

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

- **South Shore Scribes at 6 p.m. Thursdays, Sept. 1 and 15.**

The writing group meets the first and third Thursdays each month.

- **Free Gentle Flow Yoga at 12:15 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 3.**

Certified yoga instructor Lauralee Sikorski emphasizes deep breathing and releasing stress. Take a mat and wear comfortable attire, and come on an empty stomach.

- **Angels Among Us at 3 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 7.**

Ange Benz leads the discussion on inspiring stories about the presence of angels in everyday lives.

- **The library is closed Sunday and Monday, Sept. 3-4, in observance of the Labor Day holiday.**

Normal hours resume Tuesday, Sept. 6.

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



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## Westchester Public Library

The following programs are available:

• **Teen Library Council from 4 to 5 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 1, in the Thomas Library Bertha Wood Meeting Room, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.**

Teens in grades 6-12 can recommend library programs, books and other programs for Teen Services. Community service hours are available.

• **Chesterton Writing Group from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 1, in the Thomas Library Bertha Wood Meeting Room.**

The group is open to adult writers – fiction or nonfiction — of all levels, whether published or unpublished. Attendees share their work and learn about publishing.

• **Outdoor screening, "The Wizard of Oz," at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 2, at Porter's Hawthorne Centennial Park.**

Dress as a character from the movie and enter the costume contest. Face painting and activities start at 6:30 p.m. The Chesterton-Porter Rotary Club will pop popcorn, and sell water and soda.

• **Knitting Together from 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 4, at Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.**

Area knitters, and those who crochet or do needlework, are invited.

• **Adult Coloring Program from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 6, at Hageman Library, 100 Francis St., Porter.**

Registration is necessary and can be done in person or by calling (219) 926-9080.

• **Children's Crochet Club from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Wednesdays in the Thomas Library Bertha Wood Meeting Room.**

Aimed at children in third grade and older, attendees learn beginning crochet from instructor Sadie Steciuch. Children should take a size G crochet hook and skein of medium weight yarn. Class size is limited, and registration is required by calling (219) 926-7696.

• **Minecraft Meet-up from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 7, at Thomas Library.**

Registration is required and must be done in person. The WPL Gaming Policy and Rules of Conduct must be signed upon registration as well. Parents are welcome to attend, but required for youth 10 and younger.

• **Creative Tweens from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Wednesdays at the Library Service Center.**

No crafting talent is necessary, and all materials are provided. Registration is required for each session. Call (219) 926-7696 or (219) 926-9080 to register.

• **Holiday closings.**

Both library branches, the Library Service Center, Westchester Township History Museum and Westchester Township Trustee office will be closed Monday, Sept. 5. Normal hours resume Tuesday.

**LBCC Women's Golf Leagues**



**18-Hole League**

*Aug. 23, 2016*

**Event: Strike-3**

**"A" Flight**

**Event:** Peg King, Sue Luegers  
**Low Gross:** Carol Excel  
**Low Net:** Peg King  
**Low Putts:** Lisbeth Slattery

**"B" Flight**

**Event:** Donna Hennard  
**Low Gross:** Donna Hennard  
**Low Net:** Linda Wilson  
**Low Putts:** Linda Wilson, Donna Hennard

**"C" Flight**

**Event:** Nancy Trainor  
**Low Gross:** Gloria McMahan  
**Low Net:** Joan Carey  
**Low Putts:** Joan Carey

**"D" Flight**

**Low Event:** Tina Sonderby  
**Low Gross:** Adele O'Donnell  
**Low Net:** Adele O'Donnell  
**Low Putts:** Barbara Beardslee

**Sunken Approach**

Gloria McMahan Hole 12  
 Joan Carey Hole 14

**Birdies**

Carol Excel Hole 10  
 Jennifer Gronceski Hole 17

**LBCC Women's Golf Leagues**



**9-Hole League**

*Aug. 25, 2016*

**Event: Front-Odd Hole Net**

**"A" Flight**

**Event:** Eunie Nondorf  
**Low Net:** Mary Sheridan  
**Low Putts:** Peg King

**"B" Flight**

**Event:** Kathy Kenefick  
**Low Net:** Marge Walsh  
**Low Putts:** Donna Hennard, Kathy Kenefick, Susan Keeley, Paulette Harnuch, Joan Carey

**"C" Flight**

**Event:** Tina Sonderby  
**Low Net:** Rima Binder  
**Low Putts:** Kathy Hanley

**"D" Flight**

**Event:** Alison Kolb, Regina Bradley  
**Low Net:** Adele O'Donnell  
**Low Putts:** Nancy Thill

**Sunken Approach**

Marge Walsh Hole 6  
 Mary Sheridan Hole 6  
 Peg King Hole 5

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**Activities to Explore**

**In the Local Area:**

**Sept. 2** — First Friday Art Walk, 5-8 p.m., Uptown Arts District (downtown Michigan City).

**Sept. 2** — Debut, Hal Higdon "Scapes," 5-8 p.m., Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St.

**Sept. 2** — Debut, "Unbound and Unseen/Seen," 5-8 p.m., Southern Shore Art Association, 724 Franklin St. Info: www.southernshoreartassociation.com

**Sept. 2** — Opening reception, "Sticks and Stones," 6-8:30 p.m., Blink Contemporary Art, 1709 Franklin St. Info: (219) 879-2994.

**Sept. 2** — "In Amber Moonlight," benefit concert for Young People's Theatre Co., 7 p.m., Elston Performing Arts Center, 1200 Spring St. Tickets: \$10/advance, \$12/door. Reservations: www.yptcinc.com.

**Sept. 2** — Outdoor screening, "The Wizard of Oz," 7:30 p.m., Porter's Hawthorne Centennial Park.

**Sept. 2** — As Waters (Tristan Avakian), 8 p.m. EDT, The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: \$25. Info: www.acorn-theater.com, (269) 756-3879.

**Sept. 2-4** — Greek Fest, American Hellenic Cultural Center, 17760 Behner Road, New Buffalo, Mich. Hours (Eastern): 5-11 p.m. Sept. 2, noon-11 p.m. Sept. 3-4. Free admission/parking. Info: (269) 469-0081.

**Sept. 2-4** — "6x10 Play Festival: An Evening of Original Ten-Minute Plays," 4th Street Theater, 125 N. Fourth St. Times: 8 p.m. Fri./Sat., 3 p.m. Sun. Tickets: \$15. Reservations: www.4thstreetncca.org, (219) 926-7875.

**Sept. 2-5** — Labor Day Steam Show, Hesston Steam Museum, 1201 E. County Road 1000 North, La Porte. Fares: \$5/adults, \$3/children 3-12. Sept. 2: "Senior Day," half-price rides for seniors. Info: www.hesston.org

**Sept. 2-5** — Vickers Theatre, 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. *Now showing:* "Hunt for the Wilderpeople." Rated PG-13. Times: 6 p.m. Fri.-Mon. *Also:* "Cafe Society." Rated PG-13. Times: 9 p.m. Fri.-Mon., 3:15 p.m. Sat.-Sun. All times Eastern. Info: vickerstheatre.com

**Sept. 3** — St. Stanislaus Catholic Church farmers market, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., parking lot next to tennis courts. Info: ssmcfarmersmarket@gmail.com, (219) 851-1785.

**Sept. 3** — Shipwreck Stories, 3 p.m., Nature Center @ Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

**Sept. 3** — Monthly Stargazing Program, Kemil Beach parking area, 27 N. East State Park Road, Chesterton. Time: (219) 395-1821.

**Sept. 3-4** — Ship and Shore Blues Festival, Washington Park's Guy Foreman Amphitheater. Hours: 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Sat./1 p.m.-midnight Sun. Info/reservations: info@shipandshorebluesfestival.com, www.shipandshorebluesfestival.com

**Sept. 3-4** — "A Harvest of Folk Art," 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Fawn Run Farm Mercantile, 3883 E. County

Road 700 North, Rolling Prairie. Info: [www.fawn-runfarmprimitives.com](http://www.fawn-runfarmprimitives.com)

**Sept. 4** — Journey to Ecology Cove, 10 a.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

**Sept. 3** — Music in the Park, Columbia College — Dod Kalm, 6:30 p.m. EDT, Dewey Cannon Park, Three Oaks, Mich. Free.

**Sept. 3, 7** — Michigan City Mainstreet Association Farmers Market, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Sat./4-8 p.m. Wed., Eighth and Washington streets. Info: [tinyurl.com/hhaajz2](http://tinyurl.com/hhaajz2)

**Sept. 5 — LABOR DAY.**

**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.

**Through Sept. 5** — 9/11 Never Forget Mobile Exhibit, Blue Chip Casino, Hotel & Spa. Free. Hours: noon-7 p.m. daily in front parking lot. Info: [tinyurl.com/jb6cvx4](http://tinyurl.com/jb6cvx4)

**Through Sept. 8** — Merchant Street Market, 4-8 p.m. EDT Thursday, Whittaker & Merchant streets, downtown New Buffalo. Info: [www.newbuffalo.org](http://www.newbuffalo.org)

**Saturdays through Sept. 10** — Pinhook Bog Open House, noon-3 p.m., 700 N. Wozniak Road, Michigan City. Info: (219) 395-1882.

**Farther Afield:**

**Sept. 2-5** — 21st Outsiders Outside Art Fair, Judith Racht Gallery, 13698 Prairie Road, Harbert, Mich. Opening Night Preview: 6-9 p.m. EDT Sept. 2. Cost: \$25. Hours: 11 a.m.-5 p.m. EDT Sat./Sun. General admission: \$10, children 12 & younger/free. Info: (269) 469-1080.

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Oh, most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh, Star of the 'Sea, help me and show me, herein you are my mother. Oh Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth! I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in

this necessity. There are none that can withstand your power. Oh, show me herein you are my mother. Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3x). Holy Mother, I place this cause in your hands (3x). Holy Spirit, 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.



## Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter

**Russian Winter** by Daphne Kalotay (paperback, \$14.99, retail in bookstores and online; also available as an eBook)

The title brings to mind cold, crisp, snow-covered landscapes ala Dostoyevsky or Tolstoy, but winter also can be a state of mind, right?

Warning: Don't pick up this book if you're looking for a quick read. The story is complex and layered, but holds the reader mesmerized page by page as the tale of a Russian ballerina during the Stalin era unfolds slowly, counterbalanced with a modern-day story in the States. However, as with all stories, it's best to start at the beginning...

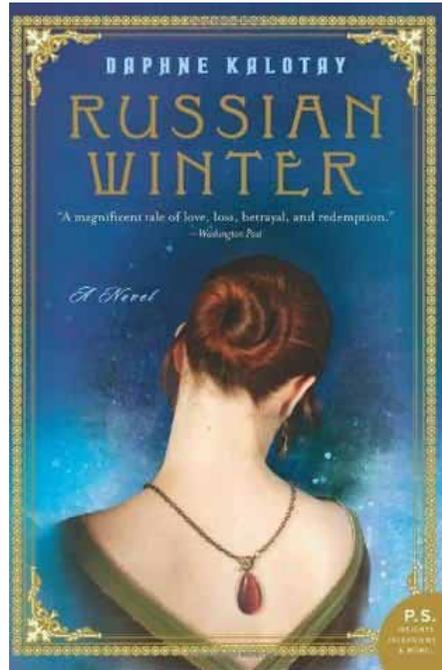
It is present-day Boston, and former Bolshoi ballerina Nina Revskaya (she was called "the Butterfly" in her day) is about to auction off her extensive jewelry collection, with the proceeds to benefit the Boston Ballet Foundation.

Reserved, near 80, confined to a wheelchair and having put her Russian days behind her (so she thought), Nina is not prepared to meet the young, inquisitive associate of the auction house handling the sale of the jewels.

Drew Brooks is much taken by the variety and beauty of Nina's collection and wants to write a supplemental brochure to go with the auction catalog. You know, more information about the provenance of the jewels, how and when Nina received them, photos of her wearing the various pieces — anything historical that would put more interest in the sale. But delving into her past is one thing Nina wants nothing to do with.

Each chapter starts with the catalog description of a piece of jewelry. The story then moves back and forth, weaving the threads of time and place into a puzzle that eventually will fall into place, leaving you with a sense of looking into a keyhole and spying on someone, sort of like Stalin's secret police...

Before the reader delves into Nina's past, there is one more character you meet in Boston: Grigori Solodin, a professor of Russian language. He is some 20 years younger than Nina and came to America when he was 16. He holds a piece of amber jewelry that matches some pieces in Nina's collection. Grigori takes the piece to Drew at the auction house and offers it to be included in Nina's sale. Drew's research shows the piece belongs to Nina's set, but Nina denies ever seeing it. In fact, she won't talk to Grigori, who believes that somehow, this jewelry



holds some sort of connection to his own questionable past.

The story moves back in time to when Nina and her best friend, Vera, were 10 in pre-World War II, the author creating a realistic look at life under the dictator Stalin. It's not a pretty picture — your neighbor could be visited one night by the secret police and disappear, never to be heard from again. Housing became a premium, and people were forced to live in small apartments with one shared bathroom for a whole floor of families. Everyone was fearful, knowing your neighbor could turn you in for the least misplaced word or action.

It was this year that Vera and Nina auditioned for the ballet school, but Vera's parents were two of those secreted away one night and Vera was made to leave the city with her grandmother. Nina, however, was accepted to the school and eventually grew into a talented ballerina...she didn't hear from Vera again for years, but that's another part of the story.

Nina meets the poet Viktor Elsin, and for the first time in her life, thinks of something other than ballet. They marry, and she moves in with Viktor and his mother. His apartment is one room, on one side a plywood wall he made to give his mother some privacy.

How Nina leaves Russia, goes to France and eventually America not only is a powerful story, but also a clear, concise look at the politics and way of life of Russia in the 1940s and 1950s.

Can't tell you more, but Nina's story will move you and reveal acts of both love and betrayal that will bring about life-changing consequences for all involved.

*Kirkus Reviews* (starred review): "An auspicious first novel, elegantly written and without a false note."

A beautiful story, beautifully written. Highly recommended.

*Russian Winter* won the 2011 Writers' League of Texas Fiction Award, was a finalist for the James Jones First Novel competition and made it onto a *Wall Street Journal* "Five Best" list. Long-listed for the 2012 International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award, it has been published in 23 foreign editions.

Learn more about Daphne Kalotay at [www.daphnekalotay.com](http://www.daphnekalotay.com)

Till next time, happy reading!



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Just think, next year you could be spending your Labor Day here! Beautiful setting, as well as great location. This wonderful 3-bedroom, 2-bath newly remodeled home has amenities that include new kitchen, beautiful oak flooring, large fireplace in living room and a remarkable open floorplan. Walking distance to Lake Michigan.



### 8401 Lake Shore Drive, Miller Beach \$635,000

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