



Volume 33, Number 7 Thursday, February 23, 2017

Field of Dreams

by Andrew Tallackson

On Christmas morning, Jerry Weinberg sat on a plush sofa, carefully peeling away the wrapping paper from his son's Christmas gift. The present was sizable. Family quickly amassed around him, the gift bearer recording the scene nearby.

Jerry finally shed the present of its wrappings. Family members gasped. Utterances of "wow" and "oh my God" drifted throughout the room.

Jerry laughed, shaking his head in disbelief.

It was a 30x40 acrylic on canvas, painted by his son, Jay, capturing what is now one of the most iconic images in Cubs history: Anthony Rizzo, Kris Bryant, Mike Montgomery, Addison Russell and Javier Baez, on the field, seconds after clinching the World Series pennant, in a euphoric embrace.

Jerry, like all diehard Cubs fans, had waited all his life for a World Series win. His son's gift stirred something deep inside him. He placed his right hand over



A screen shot of Jerry Weinberg, moved to tears by his son's Christmas gift.



Jay Weinberg's acrylic on canvas, "Field of Dreams."

his face and, quietly, began to weep, choking out only two words. "Absolutely beautiful."

Jay's camera closed in on his father, who reached out to his son, still consumed with emotion. "It's incredible." Moments later, his father asked, "Are you serious, you did this?" From behind

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In Case Of Emergency, Dial

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Field of Dreams

 Continued from Page 1

the camera, Jay replied, “Umm hmm.”

Jay posted the video on his facebook page. Like a stone tossed into calm waters, the ripple effect stretched far beyond what he could have imagined. News outlets throughout the Chicagoland area, as well as ESPN and CubsHQ.com, picked up the story. Interest in the painting spurred a feverish demand for it. Jay’s new app, a social network/support system for artists called Artunity, leapt into the limelight.

For Jay, a longtime Valparaiso resident, personal trainer and freelance artist, widespread reaction is not something he could have foreseen.

“I wasn’t expecting this, by any means,” he said just a few days after a successful print signing at Michigan City’s Uptown Center.



Jay Weinberg holds a copy of his Cubs print at a recent signing at Michigan City’s Uptown Center. Photo by Paul Kemiell

“I’m definitely humbled.”

Born in Winamac and raised in Knox before moving to Valparaiso his freshman year of high school, Jay has been a Cubs fan for as long as he can recall. How could he not be? Growing up, his father personified the devoted, long-suffering Cubbie, a jumble of aggravation and excitement when celebrating the highs and lows, taking comfort from the notion of “Maybe next year.”

“I remember,” Jay recalled, “there was Cubs memorabilia and magazines littered throughout the house. It was mostly stuff from going to the games, nothing like high-level collectibles.”



Jerry Weinberg’s card signifying him as a member of the Die-Hard Cubs Fan International Society.

Jerry even was a card-carrying member, since 1960, of the Die-Hard Cubs Fan International Society.

His mother was equally fanatical.

“She’s got some wild stories,” Jay said, chuckling. “She was hit by home run balls two times.”

Impacting Jay the most was a life-sized mural painted by a local artist in his father’s barroom of the 1985 Cubs. Towering over him as a child were the likes of starting picture Rick Sutcliffe, who would go on to become a three-time All-Star.

The sheer scope of the mural, combined with Jay’s thriving interest in art, were the creative stimulus that set Jay on the path to life as an artist.

“I was just a kid. The players were life-sized, and it was the notion that it was painted by hand on the wall there,” he said.

“So, I was 8 years old, and I did a drawing. When someone said, ‘You did that? That’s incredible,’ the energy I got from that, I was hooked right then and there.”



Jay Weinberg, as a child, seated in his father's barroom, a portion of the Cubs mural visible to the right.

Jay graduated from Valparaiso High School in 1997, then attended Chicago's American Academy of Art. He studied illustration, working in ink and acrylics. His style, he explained, never ventured toward fine art. His paintings embraced the spirit of illustrations. In recent years, he's balanced his work as an artist with employment as a personal trainer and fitness instructor at Valparaiso Family YMCA.

The concept behind Artunity — an online social and financial platform for starving artists — was born out of Jay's own financial necessities. Strapped for cash, he found himself unable to pay a \$150 bill. He needed the money quickly, realizing online sources, especially social media and crowdfunding platforms, were the answer.

"A lot of times," he said, "if you are not at a high level of visibility as an artist, you can put 10 to 12 hours into a piece and never get \$150 for it, which is really devaluing to what you did."

Through creative online means, Jay raised the \$150, realizing untold numbers of struggling artists like himself could benefit from an app that lets them financially support themselves, where followers can support and contribute to works by artists. The goal, he said, was to "end the myth of the starving artist."

In fact, Jay was able to raise the \$100,000 needed to achieve the first leg of development for Artunity through online support.

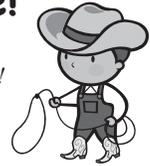
Taking such a gutsy online approach is what afforded an afterlife to Jay's Cubs print. The inspiration for it arrived as Jay sat watching the final World Series game at his girlfriend's condo. She was asleep. He, like everyone else, was on edge, biting his lip, pumping his fist into the air. The game had restored his faith in the Cubs. Things weren't the same for him after beloved third-baseman Ron Santo died in 2010 from bladder cancer and diabetes.

"It all came flooding back to me that night," Jay

Continued on Page 4

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Field of Dreams

Continued from Page 3

said of the Cubs' World Series win. And when the entire team raced out onto the field, the moment of inspiration struck him.

"I knew as soon as I saw that on TV that I was going to capture that image of it," he said. "I said to myself, 'I can't imagine it's not going to be a sculpture somewhere.'

"When I decided to do it for my dad, it's so weird, but it's the only thing that made sense. I knew I was going to paint this for Christmas."



The artwork Jay created as part of the Pop Up Gallery event in Valparaiso.

Up until then, the only large piece Jay had created was for a Pop Up Gallery event in Valparaiso that now exists permanently on one of the city's utility boxes. It took him about 100 hours to create the Cubs print. It probably would have taken him longer, had time been a luxury, but between the approaching holiday and Jay's other commitments, he called it quits after 100 hours.

Jay gave smaller copies of the image to other family members. It was his girlfriend who prompted him to sell 10 print on Valparaiso Online Garage Sale through facebook. Within seconds, he said, they were gone — sold — with 500 comments from people ranging from requests for signings to addi-



Celebrating with Jay at the Michigan City signing were (from left) his mother, Mary Lorenz, his girlfriend, Kelly, and his sister, Michelle Downs, who is friends with the Uptown Center owners. Photo by Paul Kemiell

tional prints for sale.

Through his website, jaygotgame.com, initially started to help promote a band he was involved in, Jay kept up with the demand for more copies. He's donated 20 prints to charity, including Coaches Against Cancer in Hobart, and now, he's created 25 limited-edition prints, with three already earmarked, including one for the Ron Santo Foundation, which specializes in juvenile diabetes research. All proceeds from the limited-edition prints will directly benefit Artunity.

The beauty of all it, however, rests with the name of the Cubs print. "Field of Dreams." For some, that title, lifted from the 1989 classic, speaks to the hopes of Cubs fans who saw their own World Series dreams fulfilled in 2016.

For Jay, the meaning digs deeper. He is the first to admit that, despite their shared love for the Cubs, he and his father never had what he calls "the best relationship." Today, he harbors no ill will toward him. Instead, with his gift, he created something he knew was of utmost importance to the man he's nominated to be a Cubs Ringbearer, and who turns 66 the day of the Cubs home opener.

"To me," he said, "this was a symbol of me being able to say, it doesn't matter anymore. At the end of the day, love can clean up any mess.

"That's why the painting carries so much more meaning. I'm totally at peace."

(Visit jaygotgame.com for more information on the Cubs print, and to view the recording of Jay's father opening his Christmas gift.)

Contact Andrew Tallackson at drew@thebeacher.com

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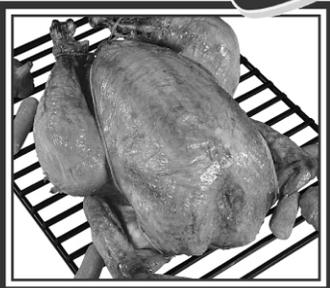
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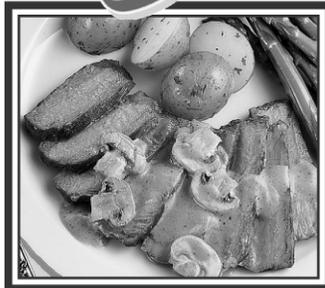
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Dunes Country Attraction: "Furnessville School House"

Editor's note — This column by Jim Morrow highlights the area's historic structures.

In 1886, the Westchester Township school system erected atop a high sand dune the two-room Furnessville schoolhouse. It was designed in the Italianate Revival style and built of locally made bricks.

In the 1920s, the school was closed and the property vacated until the mid-1940s, when T.W. (Bill) and Babs Pape became the owners, purchasing the building for \$25.

Furnessville since the late 1920s had been known as an art community. After rehabilitation, the Papes opened the structure as an art gallery to promote and sell fine art. The gallery also included a gift shop. In the 1960s, two additions were added to the back of the structure without compromising the old school.

Bill and Babs retired in 1980, the business taken over by their son, Tom, and his wife, Mauri. They operated it until 1986, when they sold it to Mary



The old school house in Furnessville.

Louise Reey. In 1997, James Ruge and Roy Krizek became the owners.

Furnessville is a trip back in time. The small settlement was named for Edwin L. Furness, who arrived and settled there in 1856. This was four years after the Michigan Central railroad was constructed, going through what would become Furnessville. Edwin was named the first agent for the railroad at its Furnessville stop. The Furness house still stands a short distance southeast of the school house near U.S. 20, and across it is the railroad right of way.

In 1865, the Michigan Central was part of the route along which the Lincoln funeral train returned the president's body for burial in Springfield, Ill. With stories about how the president's funeral train route was lined by mourners, one can only imagine who and what happened here as the train passed.

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Seeking...

“Curiosity killed the cat...”

These are but two of a hundred degrees of separation when it comes to feeling secure or taking risks. “Seeking Location: Mapping & Borders in Art” at Lubeznik Center for the Arts tests those responses, not only to personal situations, but also to what makes art *art*.

We are used to maps, to finding out where we are or how to get somewhere. The mapping shown in this exhibition is different. Curators Suzanne Cohan-Lange and Jane Cooperman put locating ourselves in the contemporary this way: *“boundaries, while always arbitrary and constantly shifting, now must contend with geopolitical spheres of influence and cultural orientations.”* These works attempt to place us in politics and our social environment.

There is another “locating” involved with this exhibit. Will these pieces let us escape from where we now are to a richer place of greater understanding — Truth — and Beauty (deeper than “prettiness”), as Art often does, or will they just leave us where we were before seeing them? Is there adventure, or just comforting confirmation of previously held understandings?

Such is the difference between Art and Entertainment.



Tom Brand's "Journeys End."

The artist Tom Brand starts us off well. His work, since it is abstract, allows us to see similarities to deeper, personal regions that might exist in our lives. “Journeys End” uses line, shapes, colors and

ART & ABOUT

Robert Stanley

composition to contrast the various territories in our emotionally and intellectually oft-divided selves.

Joel Sheesley's art asks for a bit more work from the viewer, to reconcile specifics in the pieces with one's mind. In “Oh, Geography,” we can identify a rock, a glove and a hand superimposed on the Pacific Ocean. As Surrealist art, it shows us “real” things, but in an unrealistic way or situation. What to make of “Oh, Geography” might depend on our own unconscious.



Joel Sheesley's
“Oh, Geography.”



Joel Sheesley's “Angle of a Dream.”

Likewise for “Angle of a Dream,” an installation comprising a 12-foot ladder, a painting of booted feet belonging to a person carrying a ladder reflected in a pool of water, with a miniature ladder atop the painting. Definitely makes for thinking.

In the minds of many, however, artwork that has not been put together well is not worth spending time on, much like poorly written prose or poorly played music. What makes something “put together well”? For centuries, it has been: unity, a working together in varying degrees of the content or idea; how well the technique is

Ted Perzanowski, M.Div., B.A.

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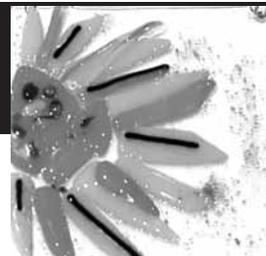
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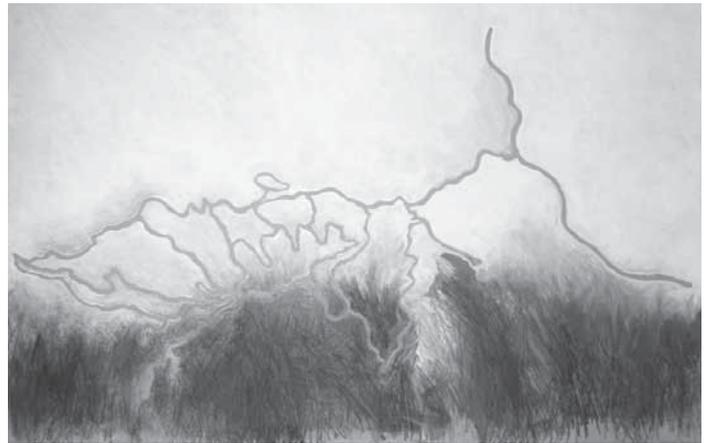
used; the shapes, the colors and composition coming together in a dynamic, but whole way to reinforce each other and the main idea. This is true of all visual forms, not just wall art. "Angle of a Dream" would be a good experience in finding whether the art is good or not — something that is often separate from whether we like it or not.



Victoria Fuller's "Our Place in the Universe."

Victoria Fuller's pieces also would be a good test about art. Her content in "Subdivision/Universe" as she states it is certainly deep: "small lives on earth viewed within a larger context." A viewer might ask if the actual piece — its objects, colors, visual content — takes us to a new height or is more an illustration for a magazine or PowerPoint slide. There are various levels of art, just as there are various levels of music. Illustration is certainly AN art, but is not Fine Art, just as a cover band is certainly music, but not classical music. "There is a time and purpose for everything," as a Biblical quote and once-popular song remind us.

In "(#3) Trail Series: Debate," Michelle Corazzo gives us the pleasure of good art (rich in technique, shape, composition) while inviting us into the human condition. There is a debate happening, as when confronted with which way to go, on a trail or in many decisions we have to make. Her piece hints at the anxiety we have, with its dark and jagged shading.



Michelle Corazzo's "(#3) Trail Series: Debate."

There are many more map excursions, from river abstractions, to expressive biological boundaries, to reimagined worlds — even works based on a map of Michigan City, with an opportunity for visitors to make their own art to take home or share. This exhibit is a great one in which to see many things, explore new horizons and, if so desired, test your skills at deciding what is good art.

There are two more exhibit at the Lubeznik. One is artwork by Carole Stodder. In her gridded, patterned paintings, she wishes to explore "personal origins relating to my background as an artist and a woman." Another exhibit, "Inspired to Inspire," features artworks by Michigan City Area Schools art teachers. There is a fine variety of experiences here.

A curious cat will likely have a pleasurable time visiting the Lubeznik Center, not at all likely to be killed by its curiosity. In fact, just the opposite. The variety is likely to provide one or two pieces that will positively lift the spirit.

A final suggestion. How well do you understand a person if you walk by them? There is only a quick judgment about what the clothes, gait, etc., reveal. In other words, not much at all.

So it is with art. Looking at a piece only to notice its surface meaning is not much of a personal experience. It is best to look through an exhibit, then walk back to a piece that caught your attention. Introduce each other. Seriously, spend about five minutes with the art, thinking about what you see, the colors, shapes, techniques and what they say to you about your experience and the artist.

Usually, that is an experience akin to listening to a good piece of music.



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Friendship Botanic Gardens, 2055 E. U.S. 12, will host a free afternoon of winter wilderness discovery at the annual Maple Sugar Time Demonstration from noon to 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 26.



Visitors watch a maple sugar demonstration at a previous event.

Visitors can take a self-guided nature walk through old-growth woodland trails before stopping by the maple sugaring station to learn how North America's early inhabitants produced maple syrup. Free children's crafts will be available at the welcome cabin.

Longtime garden volunteer Jude Rakowski will demonstrate the processes of harvesting and boiling Red Maple sap to make a foodstuff crucial to the survival of early settlers. Rakowski gathers and chops wood the entire year to fuel the fires used to boil the maple sap. It takes 40 gallons of sap to make just one gallon of syrup.

Call (219) 878-9885, visit friendshipgardens.org or [facebook.com/friendshipgardensindiana](https://www.facebook.com/friendshipgardensindiana) for more details.

Volunteer Birdwatchers Needed

Volunteer birdwatchers are needed at Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore to help with a scientific study called Project Feeder Watch.

The National Lakeshore's Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education has been a Feeder Watch site since November. The project combines backyard bird watchers with the needs of ornithologists studying bird populations worldwide.

Beginning and expert birdwatchers are invited. Volunteers can help by identifying the birds visiting the center's feeder. Help is needed for three-hour blocks in the morning and afternoon every Friday and Saturday through May 31. Call (219) 395-1821 if interested.

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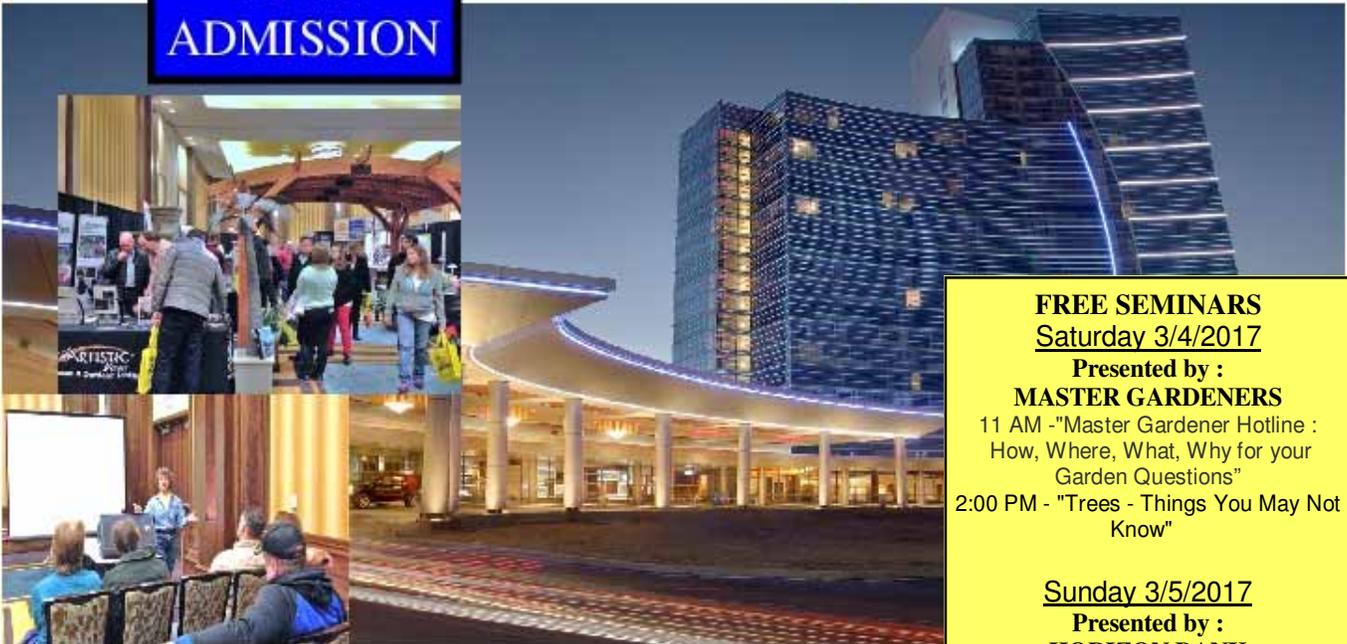
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Bootleggin' at Barker Mansion

The public is invited to relive the Prohibition era during Bootleggin' at Barker Mansion on Saturday, March 18.

Guests can expect hand-crafted cocktails, food and music while being immersed in the 160-year-old mansion's history, with staff and volunteers interpreting the Barker story to guests.

"Mr. Barker would relish whiskey and cigars in the library during his time," Director Jessica Rosier said. "And, we've heard rumors that daughter Catherine made bathtub gin during the Prohibition era.

"We'll be playing off those fun themes during this event."

Guests can sample appetizers and five themed drinks, including a Seelbach, The Mary Pickford, a Sidecar and a Classic Manhattan. A cash bar will also be available in the ballroom, along with live music. Local musician Waz will play piano in the Drawing Room.

Guests can choose two time slots: 5 to 7 p.m. and 8 to 10 p.m. Tickets, which cost \$35, must be purchased in advance through Eventbrite. Twenty percent of the proceeds will go directly to children's programming at the mansion.

The 21-and-older event is a partnership between the mansion, The Cocktail Concept, Dark Star and Dig the Dunes. Visit Bootleggin' at Barker on facebook for more details.

Fat Tuesday Spaghetti Dinner

A Fat Tuesday Spaghetti Dinner is from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 28, at St. Luke United Lutheran Church, 2000 E. Coolspring Ave.

The menu includes spaghetti with meat or without and a choice of sauce, salad, garlic bread, coffee, lemonade, water and, at an additional cost, desserts. Takeouts are available

Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$4 for children. They will be sold weekdays in the office, Sunday after service and at the door. Call the church office at (219) 879-9415 for details.



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Birding Festival Registration

Early-bird registration has begun for the third-annual Indiana Dunes Birding Festival on May 4-7.

The event, a partnership with Northwest Indiana's major environmental groups, highlights dunes-area biodiversity and bird-watching opportunities. It is organized by the Indiana Audubon Society, and includes Indiana Dunes State Park and Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore as hosts.

Activities include nearly 60 guided carpool and van tours to view migrating birds, a vendor marketplace, more than 50 bird-related programs, from live raptor talks to species-identification workshops, and workshops for new bird watchers and educators. Evening events include excursions for owls, woodcocks and whip-poor-wills, and a family-friendly "birds and brews" event on multiple nights.



The Saturday night keynote speaker is Sharon ("Birdchick") Stiteler, who will chronicle her many adventures as a paid birdwatcher and popular blogger. The presentation includes dinner, a silent auction and vendor marketplace at Sand Creek Country Club.

Early-bird registration for all four days starts at \$49 for adults and \$39 for youth 18 and younger. Registration is at indunesbirdingfestival.com

Artists and Crafters Sought

Vendor spaces are available for Swanson Activity Center for Older Adults' fourth annual Arts & Crafts Show, which is from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, June 17

All proceeds from the event, held at the center, 910 State St., La Porte, enhance its activities and programs. Vendor spaces are open to crafters and artists who specialize in quality, hand-crafted items. Only outside 10x10 spaces are available for \$35.

Last year, the event had 40 vendors from Indiana, Illinois and Michigan. The application deadline is April 1. Call (219) 393-4093 or email ddev48@hotmail.com for an application or more details.

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In Memoriam

On Feb. 1, 2017, at 98, Carter Hugh Manny Jr. made his exit from life's stage, a world he tried to improve, where he made his mark playing several roles.

He leaves behind his wife, Maya, from whom he was inseparable for more than 20 years. His four stepsons and their families greatly enhanced the last stage in his life.

He was preceded in death by his first wife of more than 50 years, Mary Alice Kellett, with whom he had two children, Elizabeth Manny (Harvard, 1968), Taos, N.M., and Carter H. Manny III (Harvard 1971) in Cumberland, Maine, and who has kept the Manny name alive with son William Manny.

Carter was born in Michigan City on Nov. 16, 1918, to Carter Hugh Manny and Ada Gage (Burnes). He attended Harvard University. Much to his own amazement, he became elected as a member of Phi Beta Kappa. He graduated *magna cum laude* and continued his architectural studies at the Graduate School of Design, where he met fellow student Philip Johnson, ex-curator for the Department of Architecture at The Museum of Modern Art.

The war intervened, and Carter switched to Harvard Business School, feeling he would be more useful to his country that way than as a budding architect. So he did, serving at Wright's Field in Dayton, Ohio. Returning home to Indiana with his wife, he pursued his architectural studies again. He had a short apprenticeship with Frank Lloyd Wright, which left an indelible impression on him, then studied with Ludwig Mies van der Rohe.

After graduating from Illinois Institute of Technology — Chicago, Carter found a job with the Chicago architectural firm Naess & Murphy, where he became a partner and remained until his retirement in 1983. Many large projects emerged on the U.S. landscape that he oversaw as partner-in-charge or had a hand in, O'Hare Airport being the biggest one, along with: the FBI building in Washington, D.C.; Mercy Hospital; the Richard J. Daley Center; and the First National Bank in Chicago, among others, after having started with Dr. West's toothbrush factory in Iowa City. He also did some residential architecture on the side.

In Michigan City, it was Manny's ties to C.F. Mur-



phy Associates that helped bring German-American architect Helmut Jahn here to design Michigan City Public Library's Fourth Street building.

Carter's memoir of his early years, "A Boyhood Revisited," is online at The Art Institute along with his oral history. Carter was president of the Chicago Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, became a Fel-

low of the AIA and a Fellow and lifetime member of the Society of Architectural Historians. He was on many boards and committees, and received several awards, among them Architect of the Year in 1973. He served on many boards, C.F. Murphy, Citizen's Bank, Society of Architectural Historians, the 50-unit building where he lived and the Graham Foundation, where he became director and saved it from being absorbed by other institutions. He was president of the AIA and on architectural committees, not just the Arts Club in Chicago, but even in his advanced age at the Peacock Point Home Owners Association in San Rafael, Calif.

The highlight of his career, however, was the circus parade he organized for Alexander (Sandy) Calder at the installation of the stabile "the Flamingo" on Daley Plaza. To honor Calder's history celebrating circus life, Carter developed a circus theme for the parade, going so far as to procure circus wagons from Ringling Bros. and Barnum and Bailey Circus in Baraboo, Wis., along with the jugglers, clowns and unicyclists.

In 2014, a small book was published, "Their Final Place," which Carter started with Maya's help in Michigan City before their move to California a decade earlier, but had handed over to their friend, Henry Kuehn, who augmented it and got it into print.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Hospice by the Bay, 17 E. Sir Francis Drake Blvd., Larkspur, CA 94939, or hospicebythebay.org/ The family also suggests a memorial to any of the following: The Department of Architecture and Design at The Art Institute of Chicago (www.artic.edu/join-and-give/support-museum); The Society of Architectural Historians (www.sah.org/); La Porte County Historical Society Museum (www.laportecountyhistory.org/); or Michigan City Public Library (www.mclib.org/).

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And the Oscar Goes to...

by Andrew Tallackson

The good news: 2016 will go down as the definitive Oscar race in terms of quality and diversity.

The bad news: This could be a free-for-all in four categories.

Problematic for me — the “expert” — but encouraging for those who entered our second “Beat the Editor” contest. How do you choose from among the best of the best? In a perfect world, you ignore Hollywood politics and studio campaigns. Consider the work itself, then go from there.

That’s not always the case, however. So many factors come into play. Is an actor or actress overdue for an Oscar? Is a trophy in one category consolation for not receiving one elsewhere? You could spend all of eternity trying to figure it out.

For the sake of our contest, consider four of the eight categories givens, thanks in large part to the firm grip by “La La Land” on awards season. The other four? That is where you, dear reader, have the best chance of trumping me.

Readers whose picks surpass mine will be placed into a drawing for two prizes: a \$30 gift certificate to Fiddlehead restaurant and AMC movie passes. If, by some chance, no one beats me, entries with the most correct picks will be placed into the drawing.

The Oscars air Sunday night, Feb. 26. The contest winner will be announced in the March 9 edition. So, without further ado, let’s begin with the four clear winners:



“La La Land.”

Best Picture

The nominees are: “Arrival”; “Fences”; “Hacksaw Ridge”; “Hell or High Water”; “Hidden Figures”; “La La Land”; “Lion”; “Manchester by the Sea”; “Moonlight.”

Who Will Win: “La La Land” divides viewers into two camps: “love it” or “loathe it.” Hollywood adores it because the film adores old Hollywood. Its

every big moment is a love letter to the magic of movies.

Who Should Win: “Hidden Figures” was the year’s most satisfying film: an invaluable history lesson propelled by smart, funny, unstoppable real-life individuals. The film’s strong showing at the box office is gratifying. A Best Picture win would be the proverbial icing on the cake.

Best Director

The nominees are: Denis Villeneuve, “Arrival”; Mel Gibson, “Hacksaw Ridge”; Damien Chazelle, “La La Land”; Kenneth Lonergan, “Manchester by the Sea”; Barry Jenkins, “Moonlight.”

Who Will and Should Win: “La La Land” triumphs because of Chazelle. Any slip in tone, and the film might have collapsed. Chazelle, however, pulled it off. The movie feels effortless.



Emma Stone.

Best Actress

The nominees are: Isabelle Huppert, “Elle”; Ruth Negga, “Loving”; Natalie Portman, “Jackie”; Emma Stone, “La La Land”; Meryl Streep, “Florence Foster Jenkins.”

Who Will Win: Emma Stone has made one smart career move after another, carefully choosing scripts that illustrate her range. She was wonderful in “The Help,” fierce in “Birdman” and now, in “La La Land,” she’s charming, delightful and heart-breaking. However...

Who Should Win: ...how can you overlook the astonishing work by Natalie Portman in “Jackie,” which invites comparison to what Daniel-Day Lewis achieved in “Lincoln”? Why is this performance, and the film itself, not reaching a wider audience?

Best Supporting Actress

The nominees are: Viola Davis, “Fences”; Naomie Harris, “Moonlight”; Nicole Kidman,



Viola Davis.

“Lion”; Octavia Spencer, **“Hidden Figures”;** Michelle Williams, **“Manchester by the Sea”**

Who Will and Should Win: When Viola Davis finally lashed out at Denzel Washington, the Oscar race in this category was over. A career-defining moment for this generation’s Meryl Streep.

□

We arrive now at the tricky portion of our contest: The four wild cards.



Casey Affleck.

Best Actor

The nominees are: Casey Affleck, **“Manchester by the Sea”;** Andrew Garfield, **“Hacksaw Ridge”;** Ryan Gosling, **“La La Land”;** Viggo Mortensen, **“Captain Fantastic”;** Denzel Washington, **“Fences.”**

Who Will Win: Casey Affleck has coasted through the awards circuit with one trophy after another, his performance in “Manchester By the Sea” a painful exploration of unthinkable grief. Here, however, is where Hollywood politics come into play. Considerable backlash has generated against him in light of sexual harassment allegations, which means...

Who Should Win: ...Denzel Washington could be the upset, as well he should be. This was the actor’s most vital, ferocious piece of acting since his Oscar win for “Training Day.”



Mahershala Ali.

Best Supporting Actor

The nominees are: Mahershala Ali, **“Moonlight”;** Jeff Bridges, **“Hell or High Water”;** Lucas Hedges, **“Manchester by the Sea”;** Dev Patel, **“Lion”** Michael Shannon, **“Nocturnal Animals.”**

Who Will Win: The night’s most unpredictable category, with no clear favorite. Generating the most buzz is **Mahershala Ali** — exceptionally tender as the only solid influence in one child’s increasingly troubled world.

Who Should Win: Dev Patel, the Indian comic relief no longer. In “Lion,” he beautifully alternates between confidence, melancholy and hope.

Best Original Screenplay

The nominees are: “Hell or High Water”;

“La La Land”; “The Lobster”;

“Manchester by the Sea”; “20th Century Women.”

Who Will and Should Win: A toss-up between “Manchester By the Sea” and “La La Land.” This category tends to be the consolation prize for the film that doesn’t win Best Picture. So, past history suggests “Manchester By The Sea” is the victor. However, love for **“La La Land”** is so strong, this year may be a case where the Best Picture winner also takes home Best Screenplay.

Best Adapted Screenplay

The nominees are: “Arrival”;

“Fences”; “Hidden Figures”;

“Lion”; “Moonlight.”

Who Will Win: Again, this tends to be the consolation category. **“Moonlight”** won’t win Best Picture, so a screenplay trophy is the Academy’s way of saying, “We still admire your efforts.”

Who Should Win: **“Hidden Figures”** gave heart and definition to every single character, without simplifying their struggles, nor dumbing down the math, science and engineering involved in NASA’s early days.

Contact Andrew Tallackson at drew@thebeacher.com

Westchester Public Library

The following programs are available:

• **Graphic Novel Book Club from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 23, in the Thomas Library Bertha Wood Meeting Room, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.**

The focus is Hayao Miyazaki's "Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind." Register in person with the IT department or by phone at (219) 926-7696.

• **Rainbow Loom on Friday, Feb. 24, at the Thomas Library Children's Department.**

Children in grades 3-6 create rainbow loom bracelets. Looms and rubber bands are supplied, but participants can take their own. Supplies are limited. Advanced loomers should attend from 6 to 6:45 p.m. and beginner loomers from 6:30 to 7:15 p.m. Registration is required in person or by calling (219) 926-7696.

• **Battles of the American Civil War from noon Saturday, Feb. 25, at Thomas Library's Bertha Wood Meeting Room.**

History buff and Civil War enthusiast Thomas Murphy will discuss the Battle of Chickamauga/Chattanooga.

• **The Unnamed Guild of Gamers from 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 26, at Thomas Library's Bertha Wood Meeting Room.**

Events will include a fifth edition Dungeons & Dragons campaign, as well as "Munchkin," "Ultimate Werewolf," "Settlers of Catan" and "Pandemic."

• **Bits & Bytes series, Intro to Computers & Windows 10, from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 28, and 1-3 p.m. Thursday, March 2, in the Thomas Library Serials/Automation Department.**

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

• **Food & Nutrition: Fresh & Fit Weight Loss**

from 6 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 28, in the Thomas Library Bertha Wood Meeting Room.

Registered Dietetic Technician Gia DeMartinis will lead the program. Registration can be done in person at the Thomas Reference Department or by calling (219) 926-7696.

• **Pokemon League from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays at Thomas Library.**

The program is aimed at children in first grade and older. Attendees learn to make decks of 60 cards. They don't need to take anything unless wanting to take a starter pack of cards.

• **Hamilton Trivia Night from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 28, at Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.**

Teams of one to four people can vie for the prize by answering questions about the musical "Hamilton," Lin-Manuel Miranda, the founding fathers and U.S. currency. Refreshments will be served.

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

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



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Future Wolves



Players from Michigan City High School's girls and boys basketball teams visited all eight Michigan City Area Schools buildings this month to have lunch with students playing on the elementary school basketball teams. The visits were part of the district's "Future Wolves" elementary athletics program, which emphasizes good sportsmanship, academics and character. Pictured are players with students at Joy Elementary School.

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World War I Exhibit

This year marks the 100th anniversary that the United States entered “The Great War,” or as it came to be known, World War I.

Staff at La Porte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave., are marking the anniversary with a year-long display of La Porte County artifacts commemorating the “War to End All Wars,” as President Wilson called it.

Uniforms, ammunition, helmets, medals and other artifacts will be shown. A list of all La Porte County soldiers who served, as well as copies of letters written by a relative of Historical Society President Bruce Johnson, are included.

Intern Alex Morlan and volunteer Chris Zuber coordinated the display located on the museum’s lower level.

Museum hours are 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Call (219) 324-6767 or visit www.laportecountyhistory.org for more details.



A dough boy uniform included in the display.

Danitschek New LCSO Director

Nanda Danitschek will take over as La Porte County Symphony Orchestra’s executive director.

Danitschek has performed with LCSO since 2005 as a chorus member and soloist, was the adult winner of Hoosier Star 2010 and champion of Hoosier Star of Stars 2015. She has coordinated Hoosier Star July 4th events since 2010, and co-chaired the event with Sheryl Edwards in 2014 and Jeremiah Souza in 2016.

Danitschek has performed throughout Northwest Indiana in theater, National Anthem performances and as a vocalist with the Nickle & Dime acoustic duo. She is an active member and recording secretary for La Porte Service League and the Arts in the Park concessions and volunteer coordinator.

Danitschek has a Bachelor of Science in psychology with a concentration in Organizational Leadership from Purdue Northwest, and is working on her Master of Arts in Industrial Organizational Psychology at Chicago’s Adler University.

She also serves La Porte County youth as a mentor, substitute teacher and performance coach.

Danitschek will succeed Laura Cutler, who has been pivotal to LCSO’s success the last 16 months.



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Chesterton Art Center

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

- **Jennifer Martin will showcase American landscape painter Winslow Homer as the March artist in children's classes.**

Children will study famous seascapes by Homer (1836-1910), and do projects reflecting his technique and subject matter.

Children 3-16 (including home-schoolers) can participate in, and start, classes at any point during the school year.

- **George Kassal, Long Beach, will teach a three-week SmartPhone Photography Class starting from 6 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, March 1.**

The purpose is to help students take better pictures using a smartphone, regardless of the make or model. They will learn how to achieve clear and properly exposed photos, as well as how to best use editing apps and photo-sharing services, such as Instagram. Class is designed for beginners and those with some experience. The cost is \$50, with members receiving a \$5 discount.

- **Local painter Mark VanderVinne will host Critique Night at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 1.**

Guests are welcome, with no prior registration required. All ability levels and artistic styles are encouraged to attend. While VanderVinne is a painter, he can advise artists in other mediums as well.

Guests may sit and listen; however, participation is encouraged. Artists can take in a piece of work at any stage, from conception to the final version. The critique unfolds in a safe, friendly environment, but it will involve VanderVinne and others providing advice and insight into the effectiveness of the work or artistic concept.

- **MaryAnn Pals will teach a six-week session of Beginning/Intermediate Pastels starting from 7 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, March 8.**

Participating students must have some drawing experience, but no previous pastel experience is required. Pals will cover the basic techniques of using pastels and help students feel comfortable with the materials. The cost is \$75, with members receiving a \$5 discount.

- **Jennifer Martin will host a St. Patrick's Day edition of Cookies and Canvas on Friday, March 10.**

Children 3-7 can attend from 5 to 6:30 p.m. and ages 8-14 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. The evening includes an 8x10 green-themed, stretched-canvas painting, as well as cookies and juice.

The cost is \$10 per child, or \$5 for members. Those interested must register no later than Thursday, March 9.

Call (219) 926-4711 to register or for more details.

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Paint with the Past

The public is invited to "Paint with the Past," a painting class paired with wine, at 7 p.m. Saturday, March 4, at Barker Mansion, 631 Washington St.

Participants will create a painting of the mansion gardens under Valparaiso artist Leah Birhanu's instruction. No prior artistic experience is necessary.

"I wanted to team up with Leah for this event because it brings history and creativity together," Heritage Interpreter Austin Pittman said.

"Paint with the Past" will be held in classroom space in the mansion's newly remodeled basement; however, a mansion tour of the remaining three floors is planned during break time. Guests will see furnishings hand-selected from Europe, ornate woodwork and a fireplace hailing from a castle in France.

Tickets are on sale through Eventbrite or by calling the mansion at (219) 873-1520. A \$48 ticket includes all instruction, supplies, two glasses of wine, light refreshments and a mansion tour. Participants 21 and younger, or those not wishing to drink wine, can buy a discounted ticket at \$38. The minimum age for the activity is 13; those 18 and younger must be accompanied by an adult.

Visit www.barkermansion.com or like Barker Mansion on facebook for more details.



The Barker Mansion gardens as painted by Leah Birhanu.

Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

The following programs are available at Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore:

- **"Exploring Science" from 7 to 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 24, at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.**

Learn how science works with Megan Korte, a U.S. Geological Survey researcher investigating an endangered species in the National Lakeshore. Visitors also will learn about scientific investigations within Great Lakes national parks.

- **Octave Chanute Talk from 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday Feb. 25, at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.**

Simine Short, author of "Locomotive to Aeromotive: Octave Chanute and the Transportation Revolution," will discuss the major figure in developing aviation, and a contributor to the Wright brothers' success.

- **Documentary, "Lake Michigan in a Dugout," from 1 to 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 26, at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.**

The documentary tells the story of 2 young women who built a dugout canoe and successfully paddled and sailed around the entire shore of Lake Michigan.

- **Winter Fun from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays in February at Paul H. Douglas Center.**

If there's enough snow, borrow some of the center's cross-country skis or snowshoes and explore Miller Woods. Then, warm up inside the center with free hot chocolate, help feed the resident turtles and fish, or explore the indoor exhibits.

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.

Indiana Dunes State Park

The following programs are offered at Indiana Dunes State Park:

- **Snowshoe Shuffle from 10 to 11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 25, at the Nature Center.**

Meet a park interpreter for an introduction to the winter transportation, then try a pair for a short walk through the woods. A short hike will be offered if there isn't enough snow.

- **First Flowers of the Spring! from 2 to 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 26, at the Nature Center.**

Join a naturalist for a hike to find the first flower of spring. Dress for the weather.

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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Monday Musicale

Monday Musicale will highlight classical music by noted Eastern European composers at 7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 27, at First Presbyterian Church, 121 W. Ninth St.

A string quartet comprised of Elaine Shumway (violin), Sara Miller (violin), Connie Hendricks (viola) and Judith Sawyer (cello) will perform "Two Waltzes, Opus 54" by Czech composer Antonin Dvorák (1841-1904). They will be joined by program chairman Lee Meyer on piano for Ernst von Dohnányi's "Piano Quintet in C Minor, Opus 1." Von Dohnányi (1877-1960) was a Hungarian composer, pianist and conductor.

In his homeland, Bedrich Smetana (1824-1884) is regarded as "the father of Czech music." Tenor Howard Brenneman will present Jeník's aria from Smetana's best-known work, "The Bartered Bride."

Soprano Krystal Levi will perform the aria "Song to the Moon" from the Dvorák opera "Rusalka."

Vocalist Ange Benz will share two of Dvorák's Gypsy Songs, including "Songs My Mother Taught Me," and "One Who Has Yearn'd, Alone" by Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (Russian, 1840-1893).

Rounding out the program is a selection of tunes from the Broadway musical "Kismet." The score is an adaptation of music by the Russian Romantic composer Alexander Borodin (1833-1887). Brenneman and Levi will sing "Stranger in Paradise" and "Bubbles, Bangles, and Beads."

Light refreshments will be served during a social hour following the program. Barb and Stan Holdcraft are the host committee chairs.

There is no admission charge; however, donations to the club's scholarship fund are appreciated. Contact Ange Benz at (219) 874-3754 or Sue Cassler at (219) 362-1421 for more details.

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NB Library Art Contest

The Friends of the New Buffalo Library have introduced a new art contest open to all school-age students in New Buffalo and New Buffalo Township.

The first Design a Bookmark Contest runs March 1-31 and is open to children in kindergarten through 12th grade. Monetary awards of \$25 for first place, \$15 for second place and \$10 for third place will be presented in April in three categories: kindergarten through fourth grade; fifth through eighth grades; and ninth through 12th grades.

Entry forms and card-stock design forms cut to approximate bookmark size will be available at area schools and at both circulation desks at New Buffalo Township Library, 33 N. Thompson St., beginning March 1. Artwork can be submitted in pen, crayon, ink, magic marker, colored pencils, water colors or paint. Only one entry per student will be accepted.

Artwork should be strictly or loosely based on a favorite character or theme from a favorite book, but no trademarked images or computer art will be allowed. For example, a tracing of a trademarked Harry Potter character image is prohibited.

Judging by a panel that will include a local artist and Friends of the Library members is in early April, followed by a short awards ceremony at the library. All entries will be displayed at the library, space permitting, and first-place bookmark winners will have their entries laminated and made available to library patrons while supplies last.



Prayer to the Blessed Virgin

(Never known to fail.)

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

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



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

- A.K. Smith Career Center, 817 Lafayette St., Michigan City, 7:45 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 23.
- Marquette High School, 306 W. 10th St., Michigan City, noon to 6 p.m. Friday, Feb. 24.

All presenting donors through Feb. 26 receive a \$5 Amazon.com gift card by email. Donors must be in good general health and feeling well, at least 17 (16 with parental consent) and weigh at least 110 pounds. Call (800) 733-2767 or visit redcrossblood.org for more details.

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2. Sue Luegers	169	
2. Dottie Brinckman	169	
3. Mary Lou McFadden	162	
4. Carrie Alexander	159	
5. Peg King	155	
6. Kathy Osborne	154	
SPLITS		
Susan Kieffer	5-6	
Tina Sonderby	1-2-7	
Linda Neulieb	4-5-7	
STRIKES (THREE IN A ROW)		
Carrie Alexander, June Salmon		

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

New Dunes Summer Season

Dunes Arts Foundation has launched its new website, the 2017 summer season and youth educational programs.

The Dunes Summer Theatre season includes "Red," "I Hate Hamlet," "Company," "The Mousetrap," "Barrymore's Ghost" and "Love Letters." Show dates and times can be found on the updated website at www.dunesartsfoundation.org

Youth programs include "Broadway Music Kids," Youth Choral taught by Chicago Lyric Opera Singers members, Prenatal Play for parents to be, Kids Yoga, Youth Acrylic Painting and Creative Dramatics.

Dunes Summer Theatre also will offer Young Adult actor-training for students 12-18 with a performance opportunity.

Foundation Benefit

Chef Brad Hindsley will lead a cooking demonstration to benefit A Boy and His Dream Foundation from 7 to 9 p.m. Saturday, March 11, at Lakeside Wealth Management Group LLC, 3100 Village Point, No. 200, Chesterton

Tickets are \$75 and include dinner, recipes, dessert, beer and wine. Seating is limited to 40. Visit tinyurl.com/h7ueq3m for tickets.

A Boy and His Dream Foundation was created by author Ambrose Okosun to help children at his village in Nigeria. His book, "A Boy and His Dream," details the struggles he endured, and how he tried to overcome them through education and by emigrating to the United States.

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Michigan City Public Library

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

• **Dream Big and Engineer On! from 2 to 6 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 23.**

Participate in free activities — all materials are provided — related to engineering. The program is recommended for children 2-8 accompanied by an adult.

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

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

• **"Metropolis" with Original Score by Dan Schaaf at 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 26.**

The screening offers a chance not only to view the film, but also to meet Schaaf. The film is considered the first great science-fiction film, with vast sets, 25,000 extras and elaborate special effects.

• **STEAM Ahead Kids: Ozobots at 4:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 27.**

The program aimed at youth 7-18 involves programming robots using color-coding and block-based coding with the Ozoblockly app. Register at the Youth Services desk. Call (219) 873-3055 or (219) 873-3045 and ask for Dave if requiring more information.

• **Great Decisions at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 27.**

The foreign-policy discussion program returns for its 19th season. Discussions this month are "The Future of Europe" and "Trade and Politics." Reading material is available at the circulation desk.

• **Story Time at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 28.**

Children birth to age 5 and adults will enjoy stories, songs and crafts. Arrive a few minutes early to receive a name tag.

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

Genealogy Bus Trip

April 1 is the registration deadline for the bus trip to Allen County Public Library's The Genealogy Center, one of the country's largest genealogical collections.

The bus leaves at 7 a.m. from the former Marquette Theatre by Marquette Mall, then stops by Kabelin Ace Hardware in La Porte at 7:30 a.m. The bus leaves Allen County Public Library at 4 p.m. for the return trip to Michigan City.

The trip is co-sponsored with La Porte County Genealogical Society. The cost is \$21. Send the reservation form and payment to: Patricia Harris, 504 Greenwood Ave., Michigan City, IN 46360-5426. Make checks payable to La Porte County Genealogical Society.

Rittenhouse Event Nears Record



Rittenhouse Senior Living, 4300 Cleveland Ave., hosted its Eighth Annual Valentine's Bazaar on Saturday, Feb. 11, raising a second-highest record of \$2,222 for Alzheimer's & Dementia Services of Northern Indiana. More than 25 craft vendors participated, with Rittenhouse presenting its annual valentine treats table and a breakfast prepared by Executive Chef Andersen, which served more than 100 people in one hour. Rittenhouse donates all proceeds from the breakfast, bake sale and vendor fees to Alzheimer and Dementia Service of Northern Indiana.

Shirley Heinze New Board Members

The Shirley Heinze Land Trust Board of Directors announced the election of six new board members to three-year terms.

They are:

- James Dworkin, chancellor emeritus at Purdue University-North Central (Purdue Northwest).
- Mike Keen, principal of Thrive Michiana, a sustainability consulting and services firm.
- Larry Stanton, an independent consultant helping clients in education development and implementation strategies for change.
- Therese Vande Hey, associate general counsel with ArcelorMittal USA LLC.
- Matt Vessely, regional president for 1st Source Bank in Porter and La Porte counties.
- Margaret Williford, returning after a one-year hiatus.

Shirley Heinze Land Trust has been protecting and preserving natural land since 1981.

LP Chamber Annual Meeting

The Greater La Porte Chamber of Commerce will host its annual meeting Friday, March 3, at Best Western Plus, 444 Pine Lake Ave., La Porte.

Registration begins at 11 a.m., with lunch starting at 11:30 a.m. The cost is \$33 for Chamber members. This year's event will offer a review of 2016, including the Chamber's significant events and accomplishments. Awards include Ambassador of the Year and Business Person of the Year.

The lunch also will feature a speech by Craig Dwight, who became chairman and chief executive officer of Horizon Bank in 2003. He has served on several area boards and in 2016 became an Indiana Chamber of Commerce board member.

Registration is encouraged by calling (219) 362-3178 or emailing gesse@lpchamber.com.

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Activities to Explore

In the Area:

Feb. 23 — Dream Big and Engineer On!, 2-6 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

Feb. 23 — Graphic Novel Book Club, Hayao Miyazaki's "Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind," 6-7:30 p.m., Westchester Public Library, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

Feb. 24 — "Exploring Science," 7-8 p.m., Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. Info: (219) 395-1882.

Feb. 25 — Octave Chanute Talk, 1-3 p.m., Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. Info: (219) 395-1882.

Feb. 26 — Maple Sugar Time Demonstration, noon-3 p.m., Friendship Botanic Gardens, 2055 E. U.S. 12. Free. Info: friendshipgardens.org, (219) 878-9885.

Feb. 26 — "Metropolis" with Original Score by Dan Schaaf, 2 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

Feb. 26 — First Flowers of the Spring!, 2-3 p.m., Nature Center @ Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

Feb. 26 — Documentary, "Lake Michigan in a Dugout," 1-2 p.m., Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. Info: (219) 395-1882.

Feb. 27 — STEAM Ahead Kids: Ozobots, 4:30 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

Feb. 27 — Monday Musicale, 7 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 121 W. Ninth St. Free; donations to scholarship fund accepted. Info: (219) 874-3754, (219) 362-1421.

Feb. 28 — Fat Tuesday Spaghetti Dinner, 4:30-6:30 p.m., St. Luke United Lutheran Church, 2000 E. Coolspring Ave. Tickets: \$8/adults, \$4/children. Info: (219) 879-9415.

Feb. 28 — Hamilton Trivia Night, 7-8:30 p.m., Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.

Through Feb. 28 — "The Bill of Rights and You" Pop-up Exhibit, Westchester Public Library, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

March 1 — ASH WEDNESDAY.

Through February — Vintage Valentine display, La Porte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave., La Porte. Info: www.laportecountyhistory.org, (219) 324-6767.

Through February — Traveling Indiana Historical Society exhibit, "Auto Indiana," La Porte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave. Info: www.laportecountyhistory.org, (219) 324-6767.

Through March 18 — Michigan City Area Schools art-teacher exhibit, "Inspired to Inspire,"



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Through December — World War I exhibit, La Porte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave. Info: www.laportecountyhistory.org, (219) 324-6767.

In the Region

Feb. 24-25, March 3-5, 10-11 — “The Great American Trailer Park Musical,” Elkhart Civic Theatre @ Bristol (Ind.) Opera House, 210 E. Vistula St. All times 7:30 p.m. EST/March 5 — 3 p.m. EST. Tickets: \$19/adults, \$17/students. Info: (574) 848-4116, elkhartcivictheatre.org

February 27-28 — Auditions, Agatha Christie’s “Go Back for Murder,” 7 p.m. EST, Elkhart Civic Theatre @ Bristol (Ind.) Opera House, 210 E. Vistula St. Info: (574) 848-4116, elkhartcivictheatre.org

Support Groups

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

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

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

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

Footlight Players Seeks Volunteers

Footlight Players seeks volunteers to help with various aspects of the community theater group.

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Marquette Catholic has an open position for certified ENL teacher/dean. Full-time day schedule with benefits and housing, if needed.

Email resume to mrichardson@marquette-hs.org

Marquette Catholic High School seeks: Girls JV Basketball Coach; Boys Volleyball Coach; Girls Volleyball Coach. Teaching/staff positions available. Send resume to katie.collignon@marquette-hs.org; jwhite@marquette-hs.org

Marquette Catholic High School seeks development/alumni coordinator. Proven experience in philanthropic endeavors. Degreed and/or appropriately certified in philanthropic work. Full-time w/benefits. Highlight experience in field. Resume to jwhite@marquette-hs.org

NOW HIRING CAREGIVERS

Caring, dependable caregivers needed to provide in-home care to seniors. Positions available in Michigan City, La Porte and surrounding areas. Call (219) 662-2999 or visit <http://www.seniorhelpers.com/michigancity-in>

HOUSEKEEPERS WANTED!

Seeking experienced, proactive, self-starters for summer rental season. Must work weekends (Friday, Saturday, Sunday) 10 a.m.-4 p.m. June-August, \$20-\$30/hr plus other potential bonuses! Call (269) 588-9600 for interview appointment.

Long Beach Country Club

Now Seeking Outgoing & Dependable Team Members
Begin to train & work in March/April

Hiring for:

Lunch/Dinner Dining Room & Patio Servers

Bartender (FT & PT shifts)

Prep Cook

*Front of the House Team Members receive individual gratuity + hourly rate

Shifts vary depending on clubhouse needs.

We conduct previous employer verifications.

Apply in person Tues-Fri, noon -3pm; Sat, 2-5pm

Or download and mail application to:

www.longbeachcc.org

2309 Larchmont Ave.

Long Beach, IN 46360

The Hair Gallery has chair rental available for independent stylist.
\$85/week. Call (219) 872-1324 or (219) 229-8707.

Elks Lodge, 416 E. U.S. 20, is accepting applications for cook, janitor, bartenders, wait staff, busers and dish washer. Openings will be filled as they become available. Apply in person to have your application kept on file.

GARAGE SALES, ESTATE SALES, ETC.

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Thoughtful estate liquidation. We're glad to offer perspective, ideas on process. Call us at (219) 393-4609

The Good Things Sale

is scheduling participation appointments now for item dropoff through Wed., Mar. 8

We accept all kinds of household items, furniture, lamps, linens, sporting goods, bikes, tools, gardening items, dishes, small appliances, electronics, etc.

Sale Dates:

Sat., March 11, 10a.m.-2 p.m. Shop first for the best selection.
Sun., March 12, Noon-4 p.m. Discount day with most items 1/2 off
Sat., March 18, 10a.m.-Noon
Fundraiser Sale with proceeds to benefit the Samaritan Center.

Long Beach Community Center.

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WANTED: I buy all types of antiques and collectibles, including toys, advertising, military items and more. Call Matt at (219) 794-6500.

REAL ESTATE

COMMERCIAL – RENTALS/LEASE/SELL

For Sale: Mini, Maxi, Outside Storage Facility on 5 acres with 3 BR habitable house. 5 miles S of New Buffalo. \$225,000. (219) 362-8817.

RENTALS INDIANA

Stop 31. Nicely furn. 3BR, 2BA with 3-season porch. Family room. WiFi. Winter/spring available for \$895/mo +util. Short or long term. \$1,850/wk. summer rental avail. W/D. No smoking, no pets. 4-min. walk to beautiful beach. See VRBO #372192. Call Pat at 708-361-8240.

SHERIDAN BEACH: Year-round, 1 BR, quiet building, laundry, off-street parking, no smoking, no pets, \$625/month, references required, utilities included.

Call (219) 879-2195.

WATERFRONT APTS for rent in MC. Utilities furnished. WiFi/TV incl. 1BR \$725/mo., Sec. dep. Call Pete at (219) 871-9187.

Just one block from the lake! 3BR/1BA year-round apartment in Sheridan Beach. Lake facing deck, in-unit laundry, ample parking, A/C. \$800/mo. + utilities. Call Tom at (773) 339-8141.

NEWLY REMODELED: Midtown location near Barker Cemetery. 1107 Maple. 1BR. \$425/mo. + utilities. Call (219) 814-7051.

Charming, quiet 1BR loft-style apartment on grounds of riding stables in Michiana Shores. Hardwood floors, pine paneling, GFA, A/C unit cool entire apartment. Large open kitchen, full-updated bath with W/D. Front private terrace and parking. Very safe area with access to private beach. Watch horses from your front door! \$515/month+utilities, available March 1. Call/text (312) 560-2129.

Arts District 1,500 SF Vintage Apartment/Office

3BR/1.5BA, FR, W/D, screen porch, large deck w/lake & city views. No kids, dogs. Parking. \$1,200/mo. Dep. + 1 yr. lease. Ref. req. Avail. 4/1. (847) 846-2835 • fourelevenllc@gmail.com • Facebook: Four Eleven LLC

RENTALS MICHIGAN

Newer, partially furnished 2BR/2BA apartment. Quiet building, W/D, hardwood floors, cathedral ceiling, downtown New Buffalo. Walk to beach/shops, includes water, trash, electricity, heat, air. Security deposit required. No pets, no smoking. \$1,100/mo. Year lease. Call (312) 925-0753.

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

Charming cottage in Michiana Shores (Stop 37), 811 Elmwood Dr. 2BR/1BA, \$193,500. (312) 909-1956.

Free Community Yoga

Free community Yoga classes are from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. EST Tuesdays through April 25 at Dancing Feet Yoga, 19135 W. U.S. 12, New Buffalo, Mich.

All levels are welcome. Visit www.dancingfeetyoga.com or call (269) 469-1966 for details.



Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter

Another Brooklyn by Jacqueline Woodson (hardcover, \$22.99 in bookstores and online; also available as an eBook)

“For a long time, my mother wasn’t dead yet. Mine could have been a more tragic story. My father could have given in to the bottle or the needle or a woman and left my brother and me to care for ourselves—or worse, in the care of New York City Children’s Services, where, my father said, there was seldom a happy ending. But this didn’t happen. I know now that what is tragic isn’t the moment. It is the memory.”

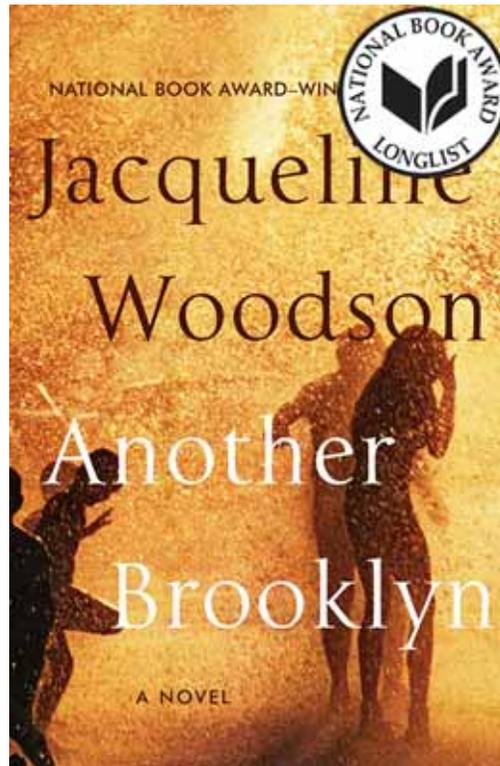
And memories are what we get from our narrator, August, a young black woman who grew up in Brooklyn during the 1970s. Yes, this is fiction, but what we learn from August in the telling of her youth is that memories make us who we are.

This story hits a personal note — the story of growing up and learning — sometimes the hard way — about friendships, family, love and loss, everyday dangers and more, through prose that is achingly beautiful and as fluid as a fast-moving stream. I heard a soft spoken woman’s voice in my head as I read, pouring out her memories to me...

February is Black History Month. That is why I have chosen this National Book Award finalist, which has more heart and understanding than any history book could provide. The themes are universal. I discovered I have a lot in common with August — her childhood experience, the wonders, the fears, the friendships we make and lose along the way; those first tentative steps toward adulthood, when the possibilities for the future sometimes appear impossible and sometimes just around the corner.

The story begins with the funeral for August’s father. On a subway, she sees her old friend, Sylvia, now both of them 20 years older. It brings back memories of a sweeter, more innocent time when friendship was everything...

August’s story actually starts in SweetGrove, Tenn., where the four of them — August, her younger brother, mother and father — are happy. Poor, but happy. Then, her mother’s beloved brother is killed in Vietnam and she is never the same. Throughout the story, August cannot accept her mother’s eventual death. After their father takes them back to Brooklyn where he grew up, August always tells her



brother that their mother will be coming “*tomorrow and tomorrow and tomorrow.*”

From an 8-year-old girl to college graduate, we see August’s life through her memories: first watching the three girls passing by her building every day, to becoming fast friends with them, then seeing how their friendship grows, the aches and pains of school, of boyfriends, of singing and dancing to the music of the ’70s, of taking a drag on their first joint, of deciding whether to succumb to, or hold back on, sex. Then, there is the period when her father brings home Sister Sonja, the Muslim lady who teaches August about Allah, cleanliness and cleansing their bodies with the right foods. And yet, she can’t bring herself to adhere to Sister Sonja’s Muslim laws. “*My Muslim beliefs lived*

just left of my heart. I was leaving space for something more promising.”

As she enters the teen years, August finds her life revolved around her friends: “*Sylvia, Angela, Gigi, August. We were four girls together, amazingly, beautiful and terrifyingly alone.*”

This isn’t a story about slavery, abolitionists or Black Panthers.

It’s about Gigi, who at 12 is raped in her apartment building and afraid to tell her mother because she knew she will blame her. Gigi dreams of becoming an actress some day.

It’s about Angela, who just wants to dance: “*Whenever a good song came on, she swayed like water being poured and we watched her, breath caught in our throats...*”

It’s about Sylvia, trying hard to be the person her parents want her to be, but failing. When the girls ask her what she loves, Sylvia replies, “*I’m not the boss of me. How the hell would I even know. My father said study law first...Then everything I love can follow that.*”

Of course, it’s mostly about August, the girl whose memories make up this unforgettable story.

Beautifully written, lovingly told.

Woodson is the author of more than 24 award-winning books. Her *Girl Dreaming* won the 2014 National Book Award, the Coretta Scott King Award, a Newberry Honor Award, an NAACP Image Award and the Sibert Honor Award. She lives in Brooklyn.

Till next time, happy reading!



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DID YOU KNOW.....

Many years ago, Long Beach Realty made a commitment to support through donations and volunteer hours many non-profit and charitable organizations in La Porte County. Many of our local and beach residents are not familiar with some of these wonderful organizations available to us.

Through our DID YOU KNOW Series, we would like to periodically bring you a touch of nostalgia, awareness of programs and local events you might find interesting.



This week, the focus is Harmony House, which falls under the umbrella of Family Advocates. There are locations in Michigan City and La Porte. Family Advocates began as The La Porte County CASA Program Inc. in 1990, providing special advocate volunteers for children in need of services through the court. Harmony House acts as a champion for children and families. The home-like setting encourages positive family relationships during supervised visitations and exchanges.

“One of the great privileges of running a small business like Long Beach Realty is being able to give generously to community organizations and charitable causes that matter to us,” said Doug Waters, owner of Long Beach Realty and Family Advocate board member since 2006.



Family Advocates is constantly looking for funding to help accomplish its goals. For more information about becoming a volunteer or donating, Please contact Cheryl Highsmith - Harmony House Program Director at chighsmith@lpcasa.com or (219) 324-3385.



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