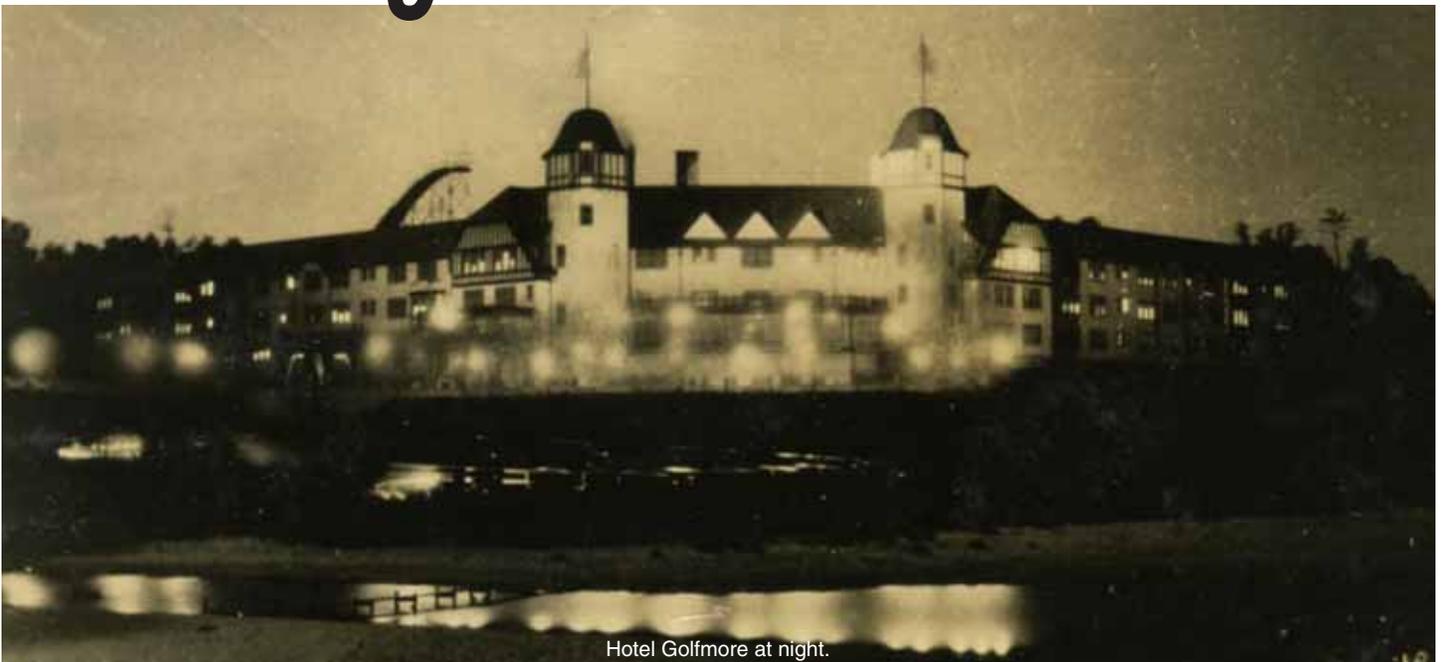




Volume 33, Number 23 Thursday, June 15, 2017

Grand Hotel

by William Halliar



Hotel Golfmore at night.

We tramped through the woods looking for a sign it once existed. A bit of foundation, a brick or stone corner post, some twisted rebar — anything that would attest to what happened here so many years ago.

I stumbled along behind Tom Suhs, these woods the home of his boyhood. He'd explored them many times as a youth. He knew what he was looking for.

Tom's family bought a summer home near here in Michiana back in 1962. He grew up in the shadow of these dunes, always with the ghost of a story in the back of his mind of the grand hotel once here, and what is perhaps an even greater legacy, the stories of the legendary sports figures who trained along the roads and trails through the dunes.

Would we find any traces of what had been, or had the passage of time, wind, rain and erosion erased all memories? Tom has spent a lifetime collecting photographs, a few articles and mementoes, but even so, little information has been uncovered.

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In a photo featured in a local newspaper clipping, Jim Braddock (right) chats with a group of radio actors, including (from left) Olan Soule, Jack Fulton, Franklyn MacCormack and Ed Prentiss.

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The story began in the “Roaring Twenties.” Chicago, in the summer, was a bustling hub of sweating humanity, a few living in great mansions along Lake Shore Drive and in the northern and western suburbs, but all too many spending sweltering summer days and nights in squalid, cramped, low-rent tenements. In 1925, Chicago was the murder capital of the world: 510 killings were recorded in the lawless metropolis. Some called this a “serious indictment of American civilization,” which had no equal in any other part of the world.

Homelessness abounded: bums, tramps and hobos roamed the streets begging for handouts from any who would respond to their plight.

The people of Chicago sought refuge, especially in the summer months, in the Indiana dunes along the southern shore of Lake Michigan and well into Michigan.

Before the advent of the automobile, the railroads brought weary city dwellers out for a day of relaxation on our clean sandy beaches, away from the crowds, smoke, trash and sweat of the city. The Chicago South Shore and South Bend Railroad was built between 1901 and 1908. For a modest fare, a traveler could ride in relative comfort from the hustle, bustle and danger of the city to the quiet, slower paced land of the dunes. Our legendary Diana of the Dunes escaped the drudgery of the city in this manner in 1915.

By the time Henry Ford built his first Model T in 1908, setting the restless American population in seemingly permanent motion, modern, paved roads began to appear in Indiana and Southwest Michigan. Early on, the Dunes Highway (U.S. 12) through Northwest Indiana became the most important connection between

Chicago and Detroit, a role it had played since the founding of these cities in the early wilderness. By 1922, the first sections of the highway were being paved.

Continuing into Southwest Michigan, the newly paved road beckoned travelers and encouraged tourists to our lake’s southern shore. The road was built with tourism in mind as a paved gateway to accommodate the influx of the tourist trade.

Early on, investors realized the importance tourism would play in the growth of La Porte County in Indiana and Berrien County in Michigan. Thus, the Grand Beach Company was founded in 1903. Company officials envisioned the resort area they would build in Berrien County as a place folks could relax on the beach, enjoy the scenery, play a round or two of golf, stay a night or two, perhaps enjoy a week’s vacation. Folks could take the Michigan Central Railroad out of Chicago and disembark at a station just outside the main gates of the community. There, they would enter the vacationland community through a whitewashed arched gate and travel down a pleasant path, past a manicured golf course. This same pleasant arch and pathway greets visitors to the community today.

Small cottages dotted the landscape where visitors could spend a day or two and enjoy the white sand beach, the golf course and perhaps a little gambling in the casino. There was a “dining hall” where visitors could slake their thirst or enjoy a



Hotel Golfmore, in all its glory, in this undated photo.

quiet repast among the dunes.

The lakeshore was always a major tourist draw, and in the 1920s a pier was built out into the waters of Lake Michigan. From here, one could watch the many moods of the lake while dining and dancing to the music of the day.

In 1921, Hotel Golfmore was added to this already bustling vacation community. It was built in Michiana and connected to the Grand Beach resort area by a bridge crossing Spring Creek, which still separates Michiana and Grand Beach.

The photos and postcards of the early 1920s and 1930s show a truly magnificent structure built to rival the architecture of Mackinac Island's Grand Hotel built in the late 1800s. It was three stories of luxury, constructed to take advantage of views of Lake Michigan and intended to be a year-round resort destination. Summertime activities were available in abundance, and for wintertime enjoyment, a sky jump was built, swooping down from the top of a nearby dune.

The Golfmore had 175 guest rooms, a fine restaurant and ballroom for dancing cooled by breezes off the lake. A beautifully illustrated brochure invited guests to the hotel which was *"just sixty-two miles from Chicago on a broad, smooth highway-in the heart of glorious wooded dunes country on the south-east shore of Lake Michigan."*

"Let's go for a swim," the brochure continued, and further boasted, *"When you first glimpse the three mile stretch of fine, broad white sand beach that borders Hotel Golfmore you will understand why it was named Grand Beach."*



Pictured training at Hotel Golfmore are Jack McCarthy (from left), Charley Massera, Doc Robb, James Braddock, Joe Gould, Bill Irby and Max Roesch.

A visitor in the 1920s also could enjoy a *"brisk canter over duneland trails."* These trails were said to lead through primitive duneland country, and it was advertised that *"a ride over these sandy knolls and hillsides gives an ever-shifting, most entrancing panoramic view of countryside and lake."*

Tourists were drawn to the Michigan lakeshore for swimming, hiking, horseback riding, golfing, the

Continued on Page 4

Cari Adams

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Grand Hotel

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night life and food, which was said, according to advertisement, to be served in "liberal" portions.

It might be curious to consider the room rates of the time, and remember, these prices include those "liberal portion meals": extra-large bedroom, dressing room and private bath, \$6, \$8 to \$10 a day single; \$13, \$15, \$17, \$18 double. Dormitory rates were \$5 per day per person.



A 1934 photo of Hotel Golfmore's chef's crew.

The writers of the brochure wax eloquent about evenings spent on a "Delightful Promontory": *"Twilight spent on the broad terrace at Golfmore are not soon forgotten. The swish-swish of dancing feet on a shimmering floor...the strumming notes of a guitar and banjo...the moon rising above the treetops...a charming environment...restful, enchanting."*

It can easily be imagined how relaxing a stay at the Golfmore would have been to weary residents of the big city during the 1920s and 1930s. When you consider the specter the Great Depression cast over the times, an escape to the dunes would have been an elixir to the soul.

The Golfmore was a welcome retreat for the rich of the city, as well as the common folk; perhaps all who met over a dinner of "liberal proportions" shared their stores of survival during such difficult economic times.

A frequent visitor to the grand hotel and lakefront was one such common man who managed to rise above the futility and desperation of the time, and by determination and pluck leave his footprints in the sands of time: a man who came to represent the hopes of all Americans during the Great Depression.

James J. Braddock.

This name would mean little to most today save

the most avid boxing fan, yet in the 1930s, his career was followed by millions of Americans, and his great success gave hope to all that with luck and determination, anyone could rise above their circumstances, no matter how harsh. So amazing was Braddock's rise to fame and success in the sport of boxing, he was dubbed the "Cinderella Man" by famed newspaper man and short story writer Damon Runyon.

In the 1930s, Braddock found himself in the dunes of Grand Beach, training on the trails, in the

clubhouse and on the grounds of the hotel, mingling with small and great alike, preparing for the fight of his lifetime against Heavyweight Champion of the World Max Baer.

Braddock's story parallels the saga of Rocky Balboa of modern cinema fame; in fact, Braddock's story inspired the 2005 film "Cinderella Man" starring Russell Crowe as Braddock. The movie was billed as a story of hope, courage and destiny, a destiny that brought Braddock to the dunes in search of a place to train for the fight of his life.

Baer was a heavy handed fighter. He hardly trained for the fight; he thought the exhibition with Braddock would be an easy win since he was considered by most to be, at best, an average fighter. Braddock, on the other hand, trained very hard, sometimes on the grounds of the Golfmore, *"I'm training for a fight...Not a dance,"* he said. He was a serious contender.

Baer thought fighting Braddock would bring an easy payday; instead, the well-trained Braddock gave Baer the thrashing of his life. On June 13, 1935, the two boxers met at Madison Square Gardens. In the beginning, Braddock took many heavy hits from Baer, who was four years his junior, but Braddock kept coming. As the fight continued and

Braddock refused to give up, Baer became confused by Braddock's ability to take a heavy punch, and to stay on his feet and keep swinging.

Braddock said, "Whether it goes 1 round or 3 rounds or 10 rounds, it will be a fight all the way." In the end, the judges gave Braddock the title of Heavy Weight Champion of the World by unanimous decision.

During a desperate time in American history, a man whose sole skill was his prowess in the ring fought to make a living for his family, and in the end made a lasting name for himself, becoming an inspiration to a beleaguered nation.

The Great Depression lasted until the United States was attacked by the Japanese at Pearl Harbor in 1941. The nation then geared up for the war effort.

The Golfmore continued serving guests through the Depression, offering a beautiful, restful place for city dwellers to unwind. The foundation of the building was made of stone, while the upper floors were framed in the wood so readily available in the



A view of the ski jump on Jan 23, 1927.



All that remains of the foundation for the ski jump.

area. Over the years, the building began to show signs of wear, a toll taken by the padding of many feet, and the wind and waves from the shore of the great lake that was its home.

In 1939, the hotel was undergoing an extensive facelift, including the installation of a sprinkler system. Then, in the still of a chill November night, a fire mysteriously broke out. The hotel was closed

Continued on Page 6



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Grand Hotel

Continued from Page 5



The cottage on the Hotel Golfmore grounds where Jim Braddock once trained.

for the season, and it must be imagined that most folks who owned vacation homes in the area had returned to their permanent residences.

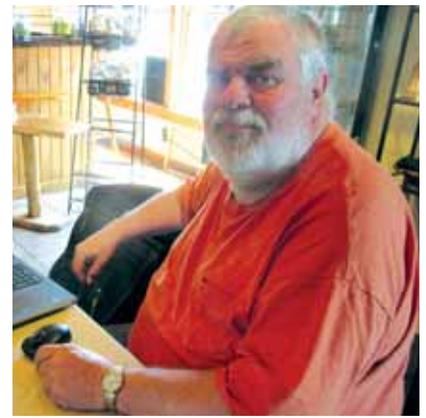
A motorist driving down U.S. 12 towards Michigan City noticed a glow in the night sky and discovered the blaze. Both the Michigan City and New Buffalo fire departments were notified, but by the time their units arrived, they were not able to contain the blaze, save keeping it from spreading to surrounding structures.

In one evening, the grand structure was reduced to smoldering ashes, and all that happened on its grand terraces and restaurants, the small and great who had enjoyed its splendor, were left to memory. Few today, even those who live in the lovely little community of Grand Beach, can remember the Golfmore.

Tom Suhs has spent a lifetime searching and bringing the old hotel to memory, but there is so little of its history recorded.

Tom and I stalked through the woods on a spring afternoon assailed by low-hanging branches and scrub grass. We found a few concrete footings, all

that remained of the ski jump enjoyed by so many. A small section of wall with arches from what was part of the building's foundation was used by an imaginative builder to create the foundation wall of one of the grand mansions of the area, but not much else remains as a witness to the old Golfmore.



Tom Suhs.

When Tom speaks to residents whose homes occupy the very space where the hotel once stood, they often say they have never heard of the Golfmore. Its ghosts have fled, and none are left to attest to the past.

A brochure illustrated with brilliant line drawings, fine etchings of a grand three-story structure, yellowed with the passage of time, invites visitors to come to the shores of Grand Beach, *"To the west, blue billows break into quiet ripples on the silver beach, bring a cool fresh breeze. Misty shadows veil winding paths that lead to the waterfront...time seems an unheeded factor in this cheery rendezvous, though it passes all too quickly."*

And now, so many years have passed since the great fire. The great hotel is no more, all but erased by time and memory.

About the Photos

The photos that appear with this article come from three sources: Tom Suhs, local archivist Michael Fleming and *The Beacher's* William Halliar. Thanks to all three for their wonderful contributions.



A lounge within Hotel Golfmore.



Jim Braddock, in a lighter moment at Hotel Golfmore.

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Why “Wonder Woman” is the Best Summer Movie So Far

by Andrew Tallackson

“Wonder Woman” is the first movie, since resurrecting my penchant for reviews, where delaying a column felt like the right move.

The film is enjoyable, yes, likely the summer’s most all-around entertaining picture thus far. But *why* is it so? You can praise the performances, the direction, the writing, but why is it refreshing when so much Hollywood entertainment is crassly commercial?

The explanation, after some excessively brainy thought — is rather elementary.

For once, someone made ‘em like they used to.

After years in development hell, victim to a boy’s club mentality that movies with female leads don’t sell, DC Comics assembled a team that fashioned a popcorn movie with brains and heart. It has the savvy to appreciate that its origin story *is* the story, not a quick prelude to mayhem. It does not assume its audience has the attention span of a hamster on crystal meth, but will await the “goods” because they are worth the wait.

“Wonder Woman” was directed by Patty Jenkins, who has only one other feature film to her credit: 2003’s “Monster,” which won Charlize Theron the Best Actress Oscar. That’s quite a resume. And unlike Kathryn Bigelow (“The Hurt Locker,” “Zero Dark Thirty”), who creates edgy, muscular action



Gal Gadot gives a star-making performance in the title role.

pictures, Jenkins is more a traditionalist with a few intriguing twists.

The Amazons in the world of Diana Prince, envisioned by Allan Heinberg’s whipsmart script, exist in hiding. These warriors fashioned by Greek gods fear retribution from Ares, so they train daily on the island of Themyscira, prepping for combat. During these early scenes, you notice a few things, subtleties that, for once, convey healthy images of women. Jen-

kins, for instance, has assembled a diverse array of women as her Amazons. She also cast Connie Nielsen (“Gladiator”) as Queen Hippolyta and Robin Wright (“Forrest Gump”) as General Antiope, two actresses who have aged with considerable grace. Jenkins’ camera celebrates the lines and wrinkles on their faces. They’ve never looked more beautiful.

Appropriate, too, that the action unfolds in the waning days of World War I. The women of Themyscira can no longer take the isolationist view when the war is thrust into their existence. A bomber crashes into the waves surrounding the island. Its pilot, American spy Steve Trevor (Chris Pine, leaving James T. Kirk in the dust), is rescued by Diana, but there is little time for goo-goo eyes between the two because German soldiers arrive in pursuit.

Take that back. After the skirmish, Diana gets to

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ogle Steve in the buff — with a woman as the hero, it's now the guy's turn to be objectified — but she realizes she can no longer sit tight, waiting for conflict. She must enter the fray with Steve.

Diana is played by Israeli actress Gal Gadot, who up until now has appeared in minor roles, most notably the “Fast and the Furious” pictures. But with “Wonder Woman,” you catch the precise moment when a star is born. Gadot is personality plus, with a killer smile and a ferocious screen presence. Once in London, and decked out in the fashion of the times, she still moves with the lithe precision of a gazelle, carefully circling her male targets.

The turning point arrives when Steve and Diana head out to the “front,” intent on stopping Ares and his cohorts. The production detail is staggering in scope, bleak to the point of recalling “All Quiet on the Western Front.” In many ways, Gadot plays Diana as an innocent, the lamb amid the slaughter, but the movie conveys the brutal truth that war is not as simple as good vs. evil. War is a confusing, ugly mess that can bruise the soul.

When Diana springs into action as Wonder Woman,



Chris Pine co-stars as American spy Steve Trevor.

an, her male companions roused into fighting, what follows is thrilling, invigorating, inspiring, bathed in hope...I've run out of options from my online thesaurus. It is a rare case where pulp moviemaking gives you a lift. You leave the sequence on a high.

Jenkins and Heinberg, however, don't give up on their audience. They continue to explore inner demons that haunt their characters, barriers whether they be racist or sexist that taunt their lives.

True, the twist over the identity of Ares does not come as quite a shock, and Jenkins amps up the effects by the end. It was likely in her contract through DC to blow up stuff real good, but the closing scene revisits the story's themes of loss, redemption and rebirth.

I've probably overthought this review, but movies prepackaged as “blockbusters” these days rarely live up to the hype. Doubtful that DVD sales of “Alien: Covenant” or the latest “Pirates of the Caribbean” dud will suggest a hearty afterlife.

“Wonder Woman” is the rare summer movie to not only trump expectations, but transcend them.

Contact Andrew Tallackson at drew@thebeacher.com



Connie Nielsen (right) briefly appears as Queen Hippolyta.

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Happy Father's Day

A father is neither an anchor to hold us back, nor a sail to take us there, but a guiding light whose love shows us the way. -Unknown

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A Look at the First Two Shows of the Canterbury Season

Canterbury Summer Theatre opens its 49th season with the romantic comedy "Last Train to Nibroc" on June 14-17 at Canterbury Theatre, 807 Franklin St.

Written by Arlene Hutton, the play is set against the backdrop of an America facing rapid change and uncertainty as it enters World War II. It opens in December 1940, on an eastbound cross-country train that carries the bodies of American writers Nathanael West and F. Scott Fitzgerald.

Also on board is a young woman, May, who shares her seat with a charming military pilot, Raleigh. Religious and bookish, May intends to be a missionary, while Raleigh has been given a medical discharge and, inspired by West and Fitzgerald, is heading to New York to be a writer.



Elise Birmingham and Christian Mouisset star in "Last Train to Nibroc."

"Last Train to Nibroc" bowed to critical acclaim at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe and Off-Broadway, leading NYTheatre.com to proclaim it "A blissfully sweet romantic play quite unlike the typical fare offered in theatres these days."

The Canterbury production stars Elise Birmingham and Christian Mouisset. Birmingham co-starred in the Canterbury productions "A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline" and "Parallel Lives." Other regional credits include "Noises Off," "The Miracle Worker" and "Dark of the Moon." Mouisset, a Canterbury newcomer, has appeared in "The North Plan," "The Seagull" and "Art." He studies in the performing arts program at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

"Last Train to Nibroc" marks the 28th production Canterbury Associate Artistic Director David Graham has directed for the troupe. Scenic design is by Ray Scott Crawford, with lighting design by Graham. Lari Renee Leber is the costume designer.

The second production, "Have a Nice Day! The '70s Musical Flashback," runs June 21-July 1. Written by Rick Lewis, it's directed by Canterbury Artistic Director Ray Scott Crawford.

The show is an affectionate parody of Up With People, the conservative youth musical organization that toured high schools and colleges in the



Christian Mouisset (clockwise, from left), Nick Mazzini, Jasey Erin Brook Gilbert, Rebecca Keeshin and Sarah Bartley star in "Have a Nice Day! The '70s Musical Flashback."

1960s and 1970s.

Kitt, Lori-Ann, Ronda, Holly and Brian are on the final farewell performance of a traveling show called "Have a Nice Day," having spent the better part of the last five years "helping America smile!"

Performing songs from 1968 through 1974, the group brings life to many popular tunes from the era, performed in a unique and sometimes comic style, while also highlighting the colorful personalities of the various members.

The cast includes Jasey Erin Brook Gilbert, Sarah Bartley, Rebecca Keeshin, Nick Mazzini and Mouisset.

Music direction is by John Berst. Scenic design is by Crawford, with lighting by Chris Brooks and costumes by Lari Renee Leber.



Canterbury performances are at 2 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays, 7:30 p.m. Fridays and 6:30 p.m. Saturdays. Tickets are \$16-\$17, with discounts for seniors and students.

For Friday and Saturday night performances, bar service will be available in the theater's upper lobby, before the show and at intermission.

Also, raffle tickets will be available for a prize package that includes a pair of seats for "Hamilton" at the PrivateBank Theatre in Chicago on Sept. 13 with VIP Suite Service, as well as a \$50 gift certificate for lunch at the Grillroom Chophouse and Wine Bar near the theater.

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Art Partnerships Offer Hands-On Learning Via Maker Madness

by M.D. Cunningham

MC Maker Madness is a weekend full of workshops by artists, craftsmen and entrepreneurs embodying the creative vibe sweeping through Michigan City's Uptown Art District.

The event's brainchild, Nichole Sheaffer, an artist and maker with Terrawood Design Co., 607 Franklin St., hopes for a successful debut June 15-18 that spurs similar events in the fall and spring.

"At the beginning of the year, I was really motivating myself to accomplish some of the ideas that I had in the back of my head," Sheaffer said. "This was one of them. I thought it would be a neat thing to bring to the community."

Witnessing the UAD's momentum, Sheaffer wanted to create an event that not only netted that spirit and energy, but also allowed the public to engage with local artists. Eschewing any doubts that linger over something new, everything has snapped together. Sheaffer is excited for the opportunities that now exist.

"Most things are what is in it



Annika Kornacki, pictured with her son, Tre Toth, is excited about participating in the event.

for you," she said. "Well, the thing that's in it for me is seeing my community thrive."

The takeaway from folks who participate, she continued, is the hands-on experiences.

One of the makers, Annika Kornacki, who lives in Chesterton and operates Refinished Rescues at 835 Franklin St. with help from her



Nichole Sheaffer is the brainchild behind MC Maker Madness. Photos by James S. Conlin

son, is ecstatic as a new member of the community to be involved with something that forges connections with people.

Kornacki's workshop will involve participants making their own personal farmhouse frame signs.

"So, I'm newer here, we've just been here a year and this is my first time doing a workshop, so I'm excited to see how it goes," Kornacki said. "There was a huge response to it. We only did 10 tickets, and we sold nine of them in the first 30 minutes."

Some workshops are closed, with waiting lists, but many are still open. Complete workshop details can be found on the MC Maker Madness facebook page at www.facebook.com/MCMakerMadness/

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MCAS Honors Wall of Fame Inductees, Retirees

by Andrew Holt

Surrounded by dear friends and colleagues, Michigan City Area Schools retirees and Wall of Fame inductees were honored for making the lives of children better during the annual retirement and Wall of Fame dinner May 31 at Blue Chip Casino.

The event allowed retirees to mingle and hear speeches from Superintendent Barbara Eason-Watkins, Michigan City Education Association President Mandy Chastain, Wall of Fame honorees and their presenters.

Debuting in 1976, the Wall of Fame honors school administrators, bus drivers, custodians, food service personnel, instructional assistants, maintenance personnel, paraprofessionals, teachers and secretarial staff. To qualify, candidates must have been employed by MCAS for a minimum of 15 years.

The Wall of Fame inductees were:

- Assistant Athletic Director and Coach Bennie Edwards, having taught at Elston, Barker and Michigan City High Schools for 37 years, from 1975 to 2014.
- Coach Phil Freese, having taught at Rogers, Elston and Michigan City for 40 years, from 1971 to 2011.
- Principal Carolyn Manuel, having taught at Eastport, Niemann, Park and Coolspring elementary schools for 38 years, from 1971 to 2009.
- Principal Sally Roberts, having taught at Marsh, Knapp and Pine elementary schools for 32 combined years, from 1981 to 2010 and 2015 to 2017.
- Coach Kathy Smidt, who taught at Elston and MCHS for 43 years from 1969 to 2012.

Presenters included: Edwards' son, Reggie; Freese's longtime friend and colleague, Rick Commers; Manuel's longtime friend, former protégé and colleague, Peggy Thomas; Roberts' friend and colleague, LouAnn Porter; and Smidt's close friend and 2017 retiree, Bonnie Manuel.

Those speaking held these individuals in high esteem for not only dedicating themselves to educating the community's youth, but also for raising those children to become better, smarter people in adulthood.

"I'd like to say thank you," Carolyn Manuel said. "I love education, (and) I love children."

The honored retirees were:

- Donna Jean Ada (32 years).
- Kathy Angelo (25 years).
- Paulette Barkow (34 years).



The Wall of Fame honorees are (from left) Phil Freese, Carolyn Manuel, Sally Roberts, Kathy Smidt and Bennie Edwards. Photo by Paul Kemiell



Retirees at the banquet included (front row, from left) Kathleen Walker, Carol Loveless, Judy Troske, Sarah Blank, Sheryl Odle and Jeanne St. Peter. The back row is (from left) Patricia Risner, Phyllis Stark, LaCinda Browning, Bonnie Manuel, Kathy Angelo, Lorraine Shroyer and Lynn Mitchels. Photo by Paul Kemiell

- Sarah Blank (22 years).
- Patricia "Pat" Brennan (27 years).
- LaCinda Browning (29 years).
- Marie Carpenter (10 years).
- Carla Cooper (22 years).
- George Demchak (20 years).
- Elizabeth Edmond (18 years).
- Bobette Larson (17 years).
- Carol Loveless (25 years).
- Bonnie Manuel (12 years).
- Lynn Mitchels (25 years).
- Nancy Moldenhauer (16 years).
- Beverly Mooneyhan (23 years).
- Sheryl Odle (24 years).
- Patricia Risner (38 years).
- Jeanne St. Peter (23 years).
- Lorraine Shroyer (17 years).
- Phyllis Stark (35 years).
- Judy Troske (16 years).
- Kathleen Walker (39 years).
- John Zdravich (4 years).

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Shirley Heinze Community Hike

The public can join representatives from Shirley Heinze Land Trust, The Nature Conservancy and the Field Museum of Natural History to explore Ivanhoe South Nature Preserve from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, June 17.

Paul Labus, Northwest Indiana region director for the Indiana Chapter of The Nature Conservancy, will lead hikes and discuss the preserve's plants, animals and ecology. Mario Longoni, Urban Anthropology manager for the Field Museum's Keller Science Action Center, will share stories of nature and Gary.

Ivanhoe South features a globally rare dune-and-swale landscape. Characterized by sandy ridges alternating with long narrow wetland depressions, all running parallel to the Lake Michigan shoreline, the topography formed over the past 5,000 years as the waters receded in stages, each time leaving a sandy beach behind. The black oak savanna and interdunal wetland communities provide habitat for a wide variety of plants and animals. Over the last 20 years, restoration efforts have revived the habitat and its



diverse flora and fauna.

Light refreshments will be provided. RSVPs are not required. Take Interstate 94 to Cline Avenue north. Take Cline to Fifth Avenue (U.S. 20). Go east on U.S. 20 to the first traffic signal (Colfax Street). Follow Colfax south to the parking lot just before the railroad tracks.

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

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300 OSELKA DR, #461
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 3 BEDROOMS/3 BATHS
 Directions: Whittaker St towards the lake to Left on Oselka Dr.
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Open House Sat, June 17th, 1PM-3PM (MI Time)



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Tina Kelly is licensed in Michigan and Indiana. Whether working with sellers or buyers, she is able to help sell or help find the perfect property for you. Her five point real estate belief focuses on honesty, professionalism, integrity, customer service and hard work.



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Harbor Country Opera Show to Embrace Patriotic Theme

by Andrew Tallackson

Music has a restorative effect on Bob Swan.

Tired of crass commercialism at Christmas and sensational stories that plague TV news, Swan introduced “Christmas at the Acorn.” Singing timeless treasures, the concert reinvigorated his faith in the season.

So, too, does Swan hope that “America Sings! An Evening of Unabashed Patriotism and Nostalgia” stills the tension of the current political climate for a moment or two. It is the first patriotic-themed performance by Harbor Country Opera, requested a few years back by an audience member.

“We had this election, and all of sudden, people were deeply divided,” Swan said. “A lot of people are uninformed. I think that one of the things I can do is make music, to try to remind people when you had a love of country and patriotism, when that was really special.”

“America Sings!” is at 8 p.m. EDT Saturday, June 17, at The Acorn Theatre, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich.

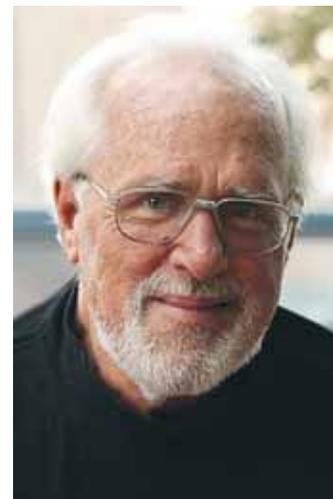
For the concert, Swan will surround himself with a few of his favorite performers as they delve into the Great American Songbook, from Steven Foster to George M. Cohan to Irving Berlin. The lineup includes sopranos Rachael Holzhausen and Sarah Hibbard, baritone John Payonk and tenor Warren Moulton, who will introduce songs such as “Beautiful Dreamer,” “76 Trombones,” “Shenandoah,” “You Are Love,” “It’s a Grand Old Flag,” “Beautiful Dreamer,” “Somewhere Over the Rainbow,” “Yankee Doodle-Andy,” “Over There” and “The Battle Hymn of the Republic.”

Opening the show is Harbor Country Singers, which will present The National Anthem.

The performance, Swan says, arrives at a perfect time: shortly after the celebrated Three Oaks Flag Day Parade and, of course, amid the village’s sesquicentennial festivities.

“If I was going to try something like this, this was a good year to do it,” he said. “If people feel a little better for a while, or if during the show they are taken back to a time when they felt pride in their country, then our job is done.”

(Tickets are \$25 and \$35. Call 269-756-3879 or visit www.acorntheater.com with reservations.)



Swan



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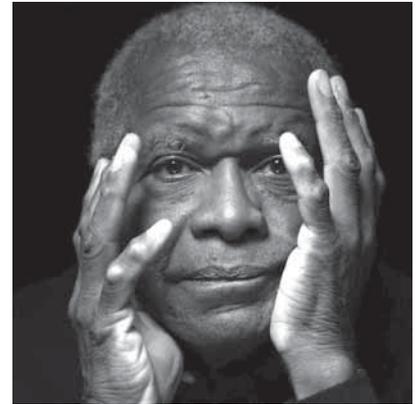
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Richard Hunt Exhibit

ARS Gallery, 147 Fifth St., Benton Harbor, Mich., will host an opening reception for an exhibit of African art from the private collection of sculptor Richard Hunt from 5 to 6 p.m. EDT Friday, June 16.



Hunt

The \$50 cost includes for a copy of the book "AFRICA

Richard Hunt Collection," with all proceeds benefiting programs for local at-risk youth at ARS Gallery-Arts & Culture Center, including summer camps, after-school classes and workshops. Attendees will receive a book, have the chance to meet Hunt, have their book signed and sample small bites and champagne refreshments.

After the reception, the public can attend the New Territory Arts Association Art Hop, which is from 6 to 9 p.m. EDT at ARS Gallery and other businesses throughout the Benton Harbor Arts District.

A native of Chicago's South Side and a graduate of The Art Institute of Chicago, Hunt has created sculptures found in numerous museums and collections worldwide. Southwest Michigan residents may be most familiar with his 50-foot stainless steel sculpture "And You, Seas," located where the St. Joseph River meets Lake Michigan at Silver Beach County Park in St. Joseph.

The display runs through July 20. Call ARS Gallery at (269) 277-5090 or visit arsartsandculture.org for reservations or more information.



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Museum Campus opens at 9:00, trains run 12:00 - 5:00 CDT

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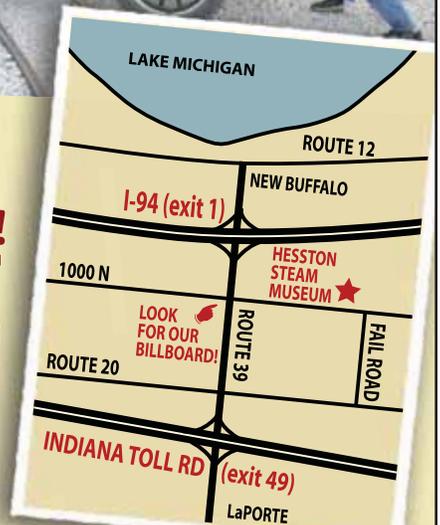
Doc's Soda Fountain opens at 9:00 for breakfast. See website for details.

www.hesston.org

Look for the billboard at CR 1000 North and IN-39

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Hesston Steam Museum



Dads ride for a dollar not valid in combination with any other offer. No Cash Value
Free ticket equal or lesser value. Valid June 17 & 18, 2017

Robert Rolfe Feddersen sits behind a chrome microphone on a folding chair that could have come from your grandmother's den. He holds his acoustic guitar backwards and strums the strings upward instead of downward. He is left-handed and years ago taught himself how to play on his sister's right-handed guitar. He's always done it this way. Nothing came easy, but he pressed on.

He breaks between songs to acknowledge people in the room.

"Everybody say Hi to Bill. He made the music video for 'Dave's Lament.'"

"How 'bout a big cheer for Ingrid playing on violin, everybody! C'mon now!"

"Here's to everybody who came out to see us and support original music. Thanks, everybody! This one goes to you!"

People in the audience who work hard, who are doing something creative, who are following a dream, being creative, appreciating art, patronizing small business. He shouts out to artists, writers, musicians, do-gooders, entrepreneurs, volunteers, workers and veterans.

In a me-first world, Feddersen is the antithesis. Never heard of him? You will. He's writing for you. He will win you over. One song, one performance, one fan at a time.

He launches his next song: "Milkman."

4 in the AM

Nobody's out there

Except for the stores

That are 24 hour

I am the milkman, go to gas stations

Clerks behind glass, I have to be patient

Customers line up and I'm stuck here waiting

18 more stops and my patience is fading

It could be worse, I'm not in a hearse

Driving my last mile, I have to smile –

Get back to work

Feddersen was driving his milk truck route trying to stay awake when the drudgery morphed into rhythm and lyrics in his brain. When he reached his next stop, he pulled out his notebook and pen, scratched it all on the tablet and then did what he always did — got back to work.

Day after day after day, Feddersen woke at 1:05 a.m. He arrived at the warehouse at 2 a.m. He punched his time card. Boarded his refrigerated delivery truck. Turned the key. Drove off into the darkness. He stopped at convenience stores and restocked shelves with fresh milk. He waited behind people buying lottery tickets, checking lottery tickets, buying coffee and donuts, buying gas, just to get a signature from the attendant. He climbed back into his truck. Turned the key. Turn signal. Brake. Check his mirrors. Turn. Slow down. Stop. Go.

When kitchen staff arrived at a school cafeteria, he pulled in right behind them. He opened the truck's cargo side door. He used a hook to pull the crates of milk toward him. He stacked 10 crates of milk on a dolly. Pushed the dolly into the school cafeteria. Unloaded the milk in the school's cooler. Rolled 10 empty crates back out to his truck. Put the empty crates away. Grabbed 10 full crates. Pushed them back into the school. Loaded the crates into the cooler. Rolled 10 empty crates back to the truck.

Six, 10, 20 trips. Back and forth. Full crates in, empty crates out. Back in the truck. Next stop. Grab the hook. Full crates in. Empty crates out. Six, 10, 20 trips. Back and forth.

He returned to the warehouse at 10 a.m. Punched his time card. Drove home. Drank two beers. Then fell asleep. The pay was good and the paychecks steady. Feddersen was a square peg living a round-hole existence. He

C'MON NOW!

Robert Rolfe Feddersen to Release 8th Album in Michigan City

by Matthew A. Werner



Robert Rolfe Feddersen is about to release his eighth album, a compilation of songs from his previous seven albums. All photos by Jose Rios.

continued to do it until he almost got killed on his route.

Feddersen's passion always has been music. He and his high school friends established the hard rock band Loudmouth. They played the Riviera Theater, The Vic Theater, Metro Chicago and House of Blues. They built a loyal following, and life was good. Headlining a gig at the Double Door in Chicago, Metallica showed up just to see them. When *Rolling Stone* magazine asked James Hetfield who the band was listening to, Hetfield replied, "There's a band from Chicago called Loudmouth that f-----rule." That shoutout led to three albums and tours with Metallica, Kid Rock, Creed and Megadeth. In 1997, the band recorded "Fly," the first song on the "Varsity Blues" soundtrack. The album went Platinum.

Despite the success, the bandmates grew tired and everybody wanted to move on, do something different. Robert and Terri Feddersen moved from Chicago to her hometown, Crown Point. He got his Commercial Driver's License and delivered milk. He stopped playing guitar. Stopped singing. Stopped writing lyrics. Stopped recording. He did nothing musical for five years.

The Chicago White Sox won the 2005 World Series, and the championship inspired him to write a new song, "Win or Die Trying." He recorded the song at a fledgling studio and sent it to radio personality, Steve Dahl. Dahl played it on the air and said while he liked the song, he disliked the production. Another White Sox fan was listening — Steve Albini. Albini called the station and offered to record the song in his studio. For free.

"Working with Steve was so good," Feddersen said. "Music was fun again. That got me back into playing music, recording records and doing this."

He discarded his hard rock past and returned to his roots playing folk-rock on his sister's acoustic guitar. Feddersen's music draws influence from Tom Petty, Steve Earle, John Mellencamp, Jeff Tweedy of Wilco and AA Bondy.

"I had a renewed sense of freedom not being in a band, playing solo," Feddersen said. "I didn't have to get approval from band members, or their girlfriends. A relentless passion for writing came back."

Many songs were born on a dashboard notebook while parked outside a convenience store or school cafeteria.

"You have to capture inspiration when it hits and I got a lot of ideas driving the milk route," he said. Every morning, he woke at 1:05 a.m. and delivered milk. Every afternoon, he woke again, worked on his guitar and edited lyrics.

He writes what he knows and knows what he writes. He shrugged his shoulders. "I know about struggling," he said with a laugh. He wrote "Graves of Soldiers" about poor veterans who fought for their country, then struggle throughout life and are forgotten. "Old Thumper" is a jam dedicated to his favorite beer. "The Oppressor" is about class inequality. "Leaving Indiana" sings about hope and accepting change. "I'll Save the World" is a story about an optimist who wants to be the ultimate hero and help everybody, no matter how impossible it may seem. Other songs include "The Tryer" and "How Does God Decide."

In his spare time, he recorded four albums and got a residency at Goose Island Brewing. He played there once a month until Anheuser-Busch bought them out and terminated all original artists' residencies (one of many reasons he prefers independent craft brews). He worked to find other weekend gigs. He lived for the weekend, and the weekend involved performing in front of an audience. Every Monday, he woke at 1:05 a.m. and returned to his milk route.

While driving his route in 2012 in Gary, two gunmen held up Feddersen. The crooks intended to shoot him, but decided to let him go after he sputtered about being a musician who just wanted to make music. That marked his breaking point. He quit his job, called Albini and put everything he had into a new album: "American Loser."

C'MON NOW!

Continued from Page 29

The vinyl version of the album features an Elvis-inspired rock 'n roller on the front cover swinging a mic stand. When you open the gatefold, the back cover reveals the rock 'n roller actually is holding a mop handle with a bucket at his feet.

"It's part defeated anger, part sardonic humor," Feddersen said. "Life is difficult. Nothing worth having is easy. It's a struggle, and I'm constantly trying to do the best I can, whether it's writing, playing, whatever. I always want to do better."

On the album, he sang an upbeat ditty about the unique blue-collar town of Black Oak, Ind. For "Dave's Lament," he described Dave Mustaine's comeback after being kicked out of Metallica. "American Loser" is a sarcastic response to the people who scoff at someone who dares to be different. He wrote "America" about struggling to get by, but staying true to your values in response to social pressure hell-bent on greed.



Robert appears with JoAnn Stevens, a "Fedd Head."

The album was his best solo work thus far, but he needed gigs to develop cash flow and promote the album. His first phone calls went to area craft breweries, and he begged them to book a gig.



Col. Richard Vargas is a huge fan of Robert's "Black Oak Indiana" song. Why? He's from Black Oak, of course.

"I've been a craft beer fan since the early '90s and haven't stopped," Feddersen said. "Craft breweries having original craft beer, and I thought it would be a good pairing to have original craft music."

Brewers were receptive to his pitch and took a chance. People heard him play, liked it, bought his album, told their friends, more people came out, and they came to other shows at other breweries.

He continued to record new music dedicated to the themes of life, love, work-a-day struggles, being the underdog, taking on challenges, pursuing your passions and overcoming adversity. In 2016, he released his seventh album, "My Terri Ann," dedicated to his wife.

The couple have been together for 27 years, married for 20. They were budding musicians and met at a storage facility in 1989 where Loudmouth was rehearsing. When he saw Terri Ann, he knew he wanted to talk to her. The first words he said to her: "Do you like beer?"

"I guess so," she replied.

She thought he'd be a fun guy to date, nothing more. When Robert got home that night, he wrote a song about how he wanted to marry her. Those lyr-



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ics resurfaced 25 years later and became the song, "Yes I Do."

Reflecting on his pick-up line, Robert shrugs. "Hey, it worked. And if anybody wants to use that line — feel free." He laughs.

I visited the Feddersens' home one afternoon. Robert and I talked in the living room while Terri worked in an adjacent room. Robert stepped out for a moment and I could hear her humming. It was one of their songs, and she quietly sang the chorus and kept on humming. She can't help herself. She loves this. Together, they are fulfilling their passion. The peg finally fits. They found that square hole in the board, and life is good.

Robert played a couple songs he and some friends — they've dubbed themselves the Beer Hippies — recently recorded in Chicago.

Five Albums Robert Rolfe Feddersen is Listening to Now

- Steve Earle — "The Low Highway."
- Father John Misty — "Fear Fun."
- The Record Company — "Give It Back to You."
- Gilliam Welch — "Soul Journey."
- Angela Perley & the Howlin' Moons — "Home-made Vision."

"Some people get up-tight in the studio making music," he said. "Not me. I still feel like a kid when I'm in the studio. It's magical. We're recording music that we wrote and we made! How cool is that? It's so much fun. I love it. Love it."

We listen and then talk about it. It sounded good, but he doesn't beg for approval or expect praise. He's honest about what works and what doesn't. Then, Robert slips in a tape he recently discovered. It's Terri Ann singing back in 1991.

"She's my favorite singer," he said. "I wouldn't perform with her if she wasn't any good. Seriously. Everybody says, 'Yeah, whatever, you're married to her.' True, but if she couldn't sing — nope. I wouldn't do it." He laughs. "I'd say, 'Honey, I love you but you

Continued on Page 32



Robert performs at the Goose Island Fest.

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C'MON NOW! Continued from Page 31

can't sing.' Fortunately, I don't have to. She has an incredible voice."

He was drawn to her voice 27 years ago, and it's only grown richer with time. It's more dynamic, more commanding. Her voice has a gravitational pull. At a recent show at Reggies Music Joint in Chicago, the Feddersens were the last act before the headliners, Reverend Peyton's Big Damn Band. It's a good place to be in a musical lineup, but it has its challenges. Diehard music fans stay up front, curious and listening, interested in new music they haven't heard. Further back, the audience drifted away, just waiting for the headliners to appear, and chatted noisily. The Feddersens broke into "Girl on a Train," a Motown groove that shows off Terri's writing and composition talent. She sings lead vocals and as Terri's voice drifted through the crowd, the chatter faded, cell phones dropped into pockets and eyes shifted toward the stage. Heads bobbed, shoulders moved, hips swayed. That voice! It earned a resounding applause when she finished.

When he shows up to perform, Feddersen puts everything he has into his act. He knows you want to be entertained and that's his job. When he starts the first song and says, "Alright, everybody!" He's there with you. He plays his heart out, putting everything he has into every song. He gets into that place — that place that inspired each song. He



Robert and Terri Ann have been together 27 years.



Robert says of his wife, Terri, "She's my favorite singer."

wants you to feel the frustration of falling down and the triumph of overcoming adversity. He takes you there. Strumming his strings, stretching his vocal cords, moving his feet, bobbing his head, sweating it all out, letting the music carry him away, carry you away.

"I'm with you and in the moment. It's an experience we all have together. I love that," Feddersen said.

And there's that wire-haired mop on his head. He tried short hair, but just didn't like it. It wasn't him. He calls his fans Fedd Heads, and every one of them smiles as they sport a Fedd Head T-shirt that shows off his unmistakable look.

He loves his followers and strives to convert people hearing him for the first time into fans. He knows you came to see him, and he's grateful you're

CD Release Parties

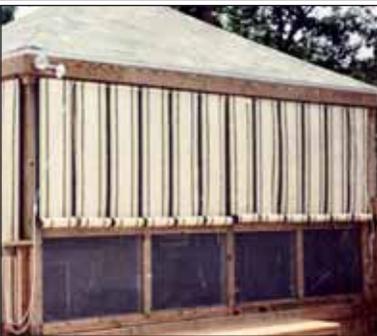
- June 20, 8 to 10 p.m., Burn 'Em Brewing, 718 Freyer Road, Michigan City. He'll perform live after Vinyl Night.
- June 23, 7 p.m. EDT, Boatyard Brewing Company, 432 E. Patterson St., Kalamazoo, Mich.



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there. He shouts out people in the crowd — old friends and new acquaintances. He loves to interact with them, to share his stories.

“He’s moved by a lot of things,” Terri said. “When we visited the Ernie Pyle museum — that touched him and then he wrote a song, ‘Ernie Pyle.’ He writes what he knows. That’s why people connect with him. He’s real — in his performance, in his recording, in real life.”

The Feddersens performed 157 shows last year and expect to do at least 160 this year. They also host 52 radio shows, and Robert spins vinyl records 52 nights. Life for them isn’t a Dire-Straits-“Money for Nothing” music video. Every morning, Robert jumps on the treadmill to exercise. Then, he makes coffee, sits down and writes. He strives to put the ideas in his head into lyrics on the page. Then, he grabs the guitar and puts some chords to the fresh words while Terri records the session. The lyrics and the video get stored for future reference. Some turn into new songs, some get discarded, others sit on the shelf for years, only to resurrect as new music such as “Yes I Do,” which he originally wrote in 1989 and appeared on his last album, “My Terri Ann.”

Booking shows, signing contracts, scheduling events, meeting and talking to people. CDs and concert posters need to be mailed out. Travel plans must be arranged. Accounting, bookkeeping, marketing, promoting, communicating with the public. Terri and Robert do it all themselves during the day. Tuesday, Robert spins vinyl records at Burn ‘Em Brewing from 4 to 8 p.m. On Wednesday, he and Terri host their radio show, “Left of Center,” on WVLP, 103.1 from 6 to 8 p.m. They must book guests, prepare for guests and pick records to play. Thursday, they play a gig. Friday, a gig. Saturday, another gig. Sunday oftentimes is filled with an afternoon gig, or it is their first opportunity to take

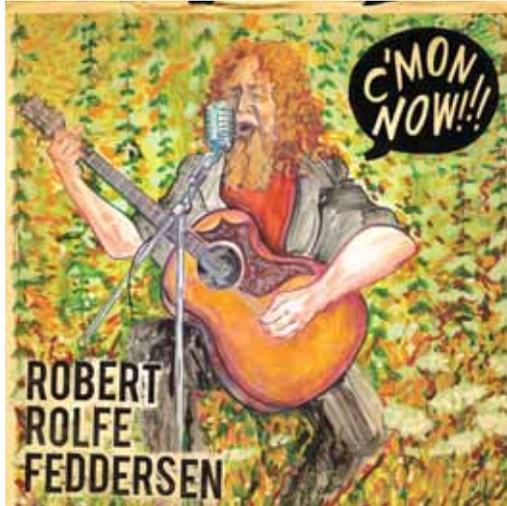
stock of the previous week and put everything back together. Get organized. Look to the week ahead. Plan, prepare and do it all again.

It’s a lot of hard work, but that hard work is starting to pay off. Chicago’s finest rock station, WXRT, recognized “My Terri Ann” as one of the best local albums of the year. Now, Feddersen finds himself in a new position: rather than calling and begging for gigs, venues are calling him, asking him if he will come and play. Fans have embraced him. His style, his art and his message resonate with the people of Northwest Indiana, Southwest Michigan and Chicago. He will keep writing, keep performing original music, keep recording and keep making records.

“I take nothing for granted,” Feddersen said. “I’m constantly working. There is a job to do and by God, get it done.” Just like his milk route. The only difference now is that he’s fulfilling his life’s passion and doing what he loves with the woman he loves. And Feddersen is still surrounded by milk crates. He doesn’t hook them out of the back of a truck or schlep them across a parking lot anymore. Today, the milk crates haul vinyl records, RCA jacks, microphones, audio cords and power strips from one show to the next.

Feddersen releases his eighth album, “C’MON NOW!!!,” on June 20. It’s a compilation of songs from his previous seven albums. It’s your opportunity to hear what he’s been doing the past 11 years.

Now, you’ve heard of him. Now, you know his story. He’s writing for you. He will win you over. One song, one performance, one fan at a time.



Robert’s new CD, “C’MON NOW!!!”

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Water's Edge Summer Beach Series

Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra will present The Psychedelic Orchestra at 7:30 p.m. EDT Saturday, June 17, at Jean Klock Park, Benton Harbor, Mich.

The concert kicks off the Water's Edge Summer Beach Series. Celebrating the 50th anniversary of "The Summer of Love," the concert features Cathy Richardson, lead vocalist of Jefferson Starship, and violinist Anne Harris.



Richardson



Harris

The lineup features: "White Rabbit," "Somebody to Love," "Summertime," "Piece of My Heart," "All You Need is Love," "With a Little Help," "Woodstock," "Hey Joe," "I Shall Be Released" and "Star Spangled Banner." Also planned are selections from "Hair" and the music of Simon and Garfunkel.

Gates open at 6:30 p.m. EDT. Tickets are \$25 for reserved spots, \$15 for lawn seats and \$5 for children 12 and younger (lawn only). The cost is \$5 higher the day of the show. Table seating for 10 people, plus two parking passes, costs \$300.

No alcohol is allowed. The Mendel Center at Lake Michigan College, Benton Harbor, Mich, is the rain location. Call the SMSO at (269) 982-4030 with reservations.



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Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

The following programs are available at Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore:

• **Junior Wildland Firefighter Program from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, June 17, at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.**

Meet the IDNL's fire crew and learn about their jobs and equipment. Children then receive a Junior Wildland Firefighter activity book and patch. The 30-minute program is repeated throughout the day.

• **Stewardship Opportunity from 9 a.m.-noon Saturday, June 17, at Hobart Prairie Grove.**

Help remove invasive plant species. No special knowledge or training is required. Wear comfortable clothes; work gloves and other protective equipment will be provided. Hobart Prairie Grove's parking lot is located at Robinson Lake, 5227 S. Liverpool Road.

• **Historic Toys Program from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, June 17, at Chellberg Farm.**

Join staff and volunteers in playing traditional games from the early 1900s on the front lawn of the Chellberg farmhouse. Afterwards, check out the animals returned to Chellberg Farm, which is off Mineral Springs Road between U.S. 20 and 12 in Porter.

• **Amphibian Program from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, June 17, at the Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education.**

Professor Bob Brodman of St. Joseph College will showcase snakes and amphibians.

• **Beginning Birding Programs from 9 to 10:30 a.m. Saturdays in June.**

The leisurely hike spotlights the Great Marsh Trail. No birding experience is required. A spotting scope and binoculars are provided.

The program begins at the southern gravel parking lot, followed by a short hike to the Great Marsh observation deck to search for herons, egrets, ducks and other birds. If arriving late, hike to the observation deck to join the event. The south parking lot is on Broadway Avenue, about 1/4 mile north of U.S. 12, in Beverly Shores.

• **Pinhook Bog Open House from noon to 3 p.m. Saturdays through Sept. 23.**

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 1:30-4 p.m. Sundays.**

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.

• **Miller Woods Hike from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Sundays through Aug. 20.**

Join a park ranger for a hike through an oak savanna. The hike varies in length depending on the interest and abilities of visitors. Wear sturdy shoes, and take water and insect repellent.

• **Mount Baldy Solstice Sunset Hike from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Tuesday, June 20.**

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, then follows a ranger to Mount Baldy. Reservations are required by calling (219) 395-1882.

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

Indiana Dunes State Park

The following programs are offered:

• **Dunes Edibles Walk from 3 to 3:45 p.m. Friday, June 16.**

Visit the Nature Center for a short stroll in search of wild edibles.

• **Campground Critter Fun from 8 to 9 p.m. Fridays, June 16 and 23.**

Meet at the campground shelter to explore a variety of dune critters.

• **Tragedy Beneath the Waves at 3 p.m. Saturday, June 17.**

Meet at Nature Center to learn about the wreck of the J.D. Marshall more than 100 years ago off Indiana's coast, and now protected as a state dedicated nature preserve.

• **Beach House Blowout Bound! at 10 a.m. Wednesday, June 21.**

Meet at the Nature Center for a moderate hike to the Beach House Blowout.

Sunday/Tuesday/Thursday through Sept. 3.

• **Beach Yoga — 9 to 10 a.m.**

The Duneland YMCA will offer beach yoga at the main beach by the pavilion. The cost is \$10 per session. Call (219) 926-4204 to register, or just show up.

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

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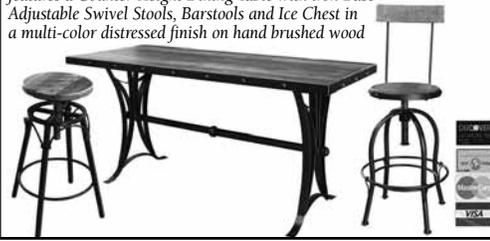
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Northwest Indiana Green Drinks

Steve Sass will discuss “What is Beautiful is Not Always Colorful? Consider the Moth!” during the Northwest Indiana Green Drinks meeting at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, June 15, at Shoreline Brewery, 208 Wabash St.



Steve Sass, in his element.

Sass will explore the moth's physiology, lore and taxonomy. He is a lifelong northern Indiana resident, environmental activist and amateur ecologist. He co-founded the “IN Nature” Facebook page and serves as president of the Indiana Plant and Wildlife Society North Chapter.

Green Drinks will take a break in July so participants can enjoy the outdoors. The next meeting is Aug. 17. Events are sponsored by Save the Dunes and supported by 219 GreenConnect. The suggested donation is \$5, or \$2 for students. Call (219) 874-4076 for details.

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Michigan City Public Library

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

• **Magician Jim Merrills: Summer Reading Program Kick-Off Celebration at 10 a.m. Thursday, June 15.**

The program is aimed at the entire family.

• **National Flip-Flop Day Craft for Kids at 1 p.m. Friday, June 16, in Youth Services.**

Children 3-12 accompanied by an adult can make a “flip-flop” photo frame. All materials are provided. Children must be present to receive craft materials.

• **Bookmarks at 2 p.m. Friday, June 16, in the library meeting room.**

Dennis Norman will review Sinclair Lewis' “It Can't Happen Here.”

• **Movies in Washington Park: “Monster Trucks” at 8:30 p.m. Friday, June 16, in Washington Park's North Pointe Pavilion.**

The library collaborates with the Michigan City Parks and Recreation Department to present the summer series. Upcoming films include “Moana” (July 14) and “The Lego Batman Movie” (Aug. 18).

• **Story Time at 10 a.m. Wednesdays, June 21 and 28.**

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

• **Poetry Slam Camp on June 19-23.**

The library will celebrate the sixth year of Poetry Slam Camp for middle-schoolers, collaborating with Purdue University Northwest on programming and activities such as writing, performance and video-making. Sign up at Slam Camp 2017 on Facebook or at Evenbrite.com.

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

Relay for life

The American Cancer Society will host the 22nd Annual Relay for Life on Saturday, June 17, at La Porte County Fairgrounds, 2581 W. Indiana 2.

Several events are planned, including Canvas For a Cure from 1 to 4 p.m. No experience is necessary. Those present will paint a starfish on the shore. Organizers will furnish an 11x14 canvas, paints, brushes and step-by-step instructions from a local artist. Food and beverages will be available for a donation. A free kids area and other family friendly activities are planned. The cost is \$25 per person, and is limited to the first 40 participants who pre-register by calling (574) 520-8460.

Another event is a Cureoke Contest at 4:30 p.m. There is a \$5 entry fee. Open to the public and free to attend, voting is by monetary donations.

Call Shea at (219) 608-8920 for more details.



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WEDNESDAY PIPE ORGAN CONCERT SERIES

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



The 16th season concert series runs June 7 through Aug. 30, 2017. Performing organists include Ann Taylor Dobie, Stephen Schnurr, Mark Sudeith, Carol Garrett, Kent Jager, Derek Nickels, Matt Gerhard, Lee Meyer, Stephen Buzard, Jeremy Kiobassa and guests.

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

First A.K. Smith Students Entering Carpentry Apprenticeship Program



The front row is (from left) Scott Cooley, Lucas Grams, C.J. Hawkins, Joe Coar, Kannen Martinez and Audra Peterson. The back row is (from left) Dale Newlin, Scottaries Orzech, James Henrich, John Carr and Dick Bucher. Not available for the photo was JaMieriea Woodard.

Representatives from the Indiana/Kentucky/Ohio Regional Council of Carpenters recently visited the A.K. Smith Career Center to congratulate the first La Porte County Career and Technical Education students to complete “Career Connections.”

The program is the first in Indiana to offer the curriculum developed by the Carpenters Joint Apprenticeship and Training Fund, a program of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters. It combines hands-on carpentry projects with “soft skills,” such as decision making and goal setting. Students successfully completing the two-year course earn 14 dual college credits through Ivy Tech and fulfill requirements of six months of the Carpenters’ apprenticeship training program. They also are eligible for direct entry into the four-year Carpentry apprenticeship.

The curriculum supplements units of study in the A.K. Smith Construction Technology program, which includes carpentry, plumbing, heating, masonry, drywall, roofing, insulation, electricity, interior decorating and finishing.

Six students completed all requirements, including: Lucas Grams, James Henrich, Kannen Marti-

nez, Scottaries Orzech and JaMieriea Woodard of Michigan City High School, and C.J. Hawkins of South Central High School. Grams and Hawkins have accepted the offer of direct entry into the apprenticeship program, which is based in Hobart at the IKO training center. The other students are pursuing construction management majors in college or pursuing other related career fields.

According to Scott Cooley, IKO Regional Council representative who was on hand to honor the students, apprentices “earn while they learn,” working at job sites during the day while attending tuition-free evening courses to earn an associate’s degree in applied sciences.

“This is a win-win for the students and for employers,” said Joe Coar, vice president of Tonn & Blank Construction, who was instrumental in establishing the partnership three years ago.

“There’s been a shortage of qualified applicants for the apprenticeship program in recent years, and the workforce is aging. These students will be in high demand and will make a great wage.”

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Hesston Steam Museum

As a Father's Day treat, Hesston Steam Museum will offer rides to fathers for only \$1 with a paid child's ticket.

The museum, 1201 E. County Road 1000 North, will have all three live-steam railroads operating Saturday and Sunday, June 17-18.

An antique truck show, presented by the American Truck Historical Society Northwest Indiana Chapter, is planned. Restored trucks can be viewed throughout the grounds. Uncle B's BBQ Smokehouse will feature brisket and pulled pork, among other cuts of meat.

The museum also is a showcase for a working steam-powered sawmill with a 60-inch blade, La Porte's first electric generator and a blacksmith shop where iron is turned into handcrafted works of art. Hand-scooped ice cream treats and sodas made from traditional recipes are for sale in the restored vintage soda fountain and ice cream parlor, Doc's Soda Fountain. Breakfast also is served at Doc's from 9 to 11 a.m. On June 18 only, all-you-can-eat pancakes will be available for breakfast.

The museum officially opens at 11:30 a.m. and runs through 5 p.m. Fares are \$5 for adults and \$3 for children 3-12. Visit www.hesston.org or call (219) 778-2783 on the weekends for more information.

Gardena Park Ceremony

The Michigan City Parks and Recreation Department will host a ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the completion of Garden Park upgrades.

The ceremony, set for 11 a.m. Saturday, June 17, is in conjunction with Immanuel Lutheran Church's "Gather at Gardena" picnic with crafts, games and food.

In addition to Americans With Disabilities Act improvements and safety upgrades, the project included the Kenneth Scott Vietnam Memorial and ship playground area. The Scott family has been part of the Gardena neighborhood for years and donated to the effort. The new ship playground is engraved with U.S.S. Scott.

The event is free and open to the public. Contact Shannon Eason at (219) 873-1506 or season@emichiganacity.com for details.



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Junior Master Gardeners

The Safe Harbor After School Junior Master Gardener Program has certified 32 students at Knapp, Joy, Edgewood and Marsh elementary schools.

That brings the total to 126 certified students since the Junior Master Gardener Program began three years ago. Sponsored by the Purdue Cooperative Extension office and modeled after the adult Master Gardener program, it is a 4-H Club youth gardening project. Level 1 is designed for children in grades 3-5. Level 2 is for middle-schoolers and The Gold Series for high-schoolers.



Pictured at the certification ceremony at Knapp Elementary School are Knapp students, John Tiedeman and volunteer Master Gardener Greta Soleim.

Students experience an eight month/eight-chapter horticultural and environmental science education, emphasizing leadership and life-skills development through activities. It incorporates group and individual activities, and is supported by a youth handbook and teacher/leader guide.

The youth use and maintain seven themed gardens at Knapp, Joy, Edgewood and Marsh.

John Tiedeman, Long Beach, is the Safe Harbor After School Enrichment Program horticulture coordinator. He also is a Purdue Advanced Porter County Master Gardener. His staff includes volunteer Master Gardeners Joann Johnson-Campbell, Greta Soleim, Carol Parker, Patti Sullivan and Annette Young.

Call (219) 873-2026 for more details.



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NB Library Community Forum

Author Loreen Niewenhuis will recall exploring Lake Michigan's shores during the next Friends of New Buffalo Library Community Forum at 6:30 p.m. EDT Monday, June 19, at New Buffalo Township Library, 33 N. Thompson St.

In 2009, Niewenhuis, who has a master's degree in biological sciences, took a 1,000-mile walk around Lake Michigan. She will share videos and photos, discussing the lake's geology, natural history and biology, as well as what's threatening the massive ecosystem. A book signing will follow.

Upcoming programs include "One Family's Saga of Commercial Fishing and Maritime Construction in Lake Michigan" at 6:30 p.m. EDT Tuesday, July 11, and a "Flower Arranging Workshop" from 1 to 3 p.m. EDT Saturday, July 22.

Call the library at (269) 469-2933, follow the Facebook link at newbuffalotownshiplibrary.org or email new.buffalo.FOL@gmail.com for details.

Walk a Mile in Her Shoes

Lighthouse Place-Premium Outlets will host the third annual Walk a Mile in Her Shoes at 10 a.m. Saturday, June 17, to bring awareness and funding to the fight against domestic violence.

To kick off the event, men are encouraged to "Walk a Mile" in women's high heeled shoes across the shopping center to show their support. Men can register on site beginning at 9 a.m. near the main courtyard gazebo. Pre-registration also is available by visiting www.steppingstoneshelter.org and clicking the events tab. The cost is \$20 per person.

The walk also will raise funds for programs at Stepping Stone Shelter for Women.

Krasl Art Fair Volunteers

Volunteers are needed for the 56th Krasl Art Fair, which is Saturday and Sunday, July 8-9.

More than 400 volunteers participate in the event rated one of the country's top art fairs. High school students can receive credit toward volunteer hours.

Contact the volunteer coordinator at (269) 983-0271, Ext. 112, or volunteer@krasl.org for details.

Krasl Art Center is located at 707 Lake Blvd., St. Joseph, Mich.

Writing Workshop

The Nest, 803 Franklin St., will host a two-day writing workshop with author Robert Wolf from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, June 17-18.

The workshop focuses on creating humorous short stories based on participants' experiences. It includes a free Friday night reading of the humorous stories. Call (219) 262-5200 to register.

Cinderella Ball

After last year’s successful debut, Taltree Arboretum and Gardens again will host its Cinderella Ball from 4 to 6 p.m. Saturday, June 17, and 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 4, in the outdoor pavilion area.

The dance will feature princesses and a prince,



The mini-horses prepare to make their appearance at last year’s ball. mini horses and a horse-drawn carriage provided by the Carriage and Sleigh Association of Northwest Indiana for photo opportunities. Light appetizers will be served while guests enjoy a performance by Indiana Ballet Theatre.

Tickets are \$10 for adult members, \$5 for child members, \$15 for adult non-members and \$10 for child non-members.

Call (219) 462-0025 or visit www.taltree.org to register. Taltree is located at 71 N. County Road 500 West near Valparaiso.

Coastline Children’s Film Festival

Coastline Children’s Film Festival will present a free summer series for families at Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Mich.

The award-winning, international feature films are screened the third Thursday of each month. An informal discussion is afterward.

The first film is “Nelly’s Adventure” at 7 p.m. EDT Thursday, June 15. Directed by Dominik Wessely, it introduces 13-year-old Nelly, whose holiday in Romania takes a dramatic turn when she accidentally discovers her family’s secret plan to relocate there.

Appropriate for children 10 and older, the movie is in German and Romanian with English subtitles.

Visit www.coastlinechildrensfilmfestival.com for more details.

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Adult Ed Teacher Releases Book

Janice Chamberlin, a teacher in the La Porte County Adult Education Program at A.K. Smith Center, has released a new book, "Teaching the High School Equivalency Test: Practical Advice for Instructors of the GED, TASC or HiSet Tests."

The book is intended as a resource for adult-education instructors and offers strategies in passing the high school equivalency test.

Chamberlin has more than 20 years experience in the adult-education field, and has been teaching adult learners at A.K. Smith for five years.

This is Chamberlin's second book. Her first, "Locked Up with Success," recounted her experiences teaching inmates for 15 years at Westville Correctional Facility. She has been an educator in public and private schools, and a case manager for child welfare. Her undergraduate and graduate degrees are from Indiana University, and she earned an All-Building Administrative license from Indiana Wesleyan University.



Lake Michigan Shore Wine Festival

The Lake Michigan Shore Wine Trail will celebrate Lake Michigan Shore Wine Festival's 12th anniversary from 1 to 10 p.m. EDT Saturday, June 17, at Weko Beach.

The event is co-presented with The Greater Bridgman Area Chamber of Commerce and Growth Alliance and Traffic PR & Marketing.

Because of a possible sell-out, tickets are available only in advance for \$20 (plus a service fee) through June 16 at brownpapertickets.com or at Harding's Friendly Market, Bridgman, Mich. All admission sales end at midnight EDT Friday, June 16. If tickets are still available, the cost at the door is \$25.

All attendees receive a souvenir wine glass. Wine tasting tickets cost \$1 per ticket (one to two tickets per tasting and six to 10 tickets per glass of wine). Food booths are cash only. No outside coolers are allowed.

The entertainment schedule is (all times EDT).

- 1 to 2:15 p.m. — Rebecca Anne Band.
- 2:30 to 3:45 p.m. — The Empty Pockets.
- 4:15 to 5:45 p.m. — Top Secret Band.
- 6:15 to 7:45 p.m. — Joanna Connor.
- 8:15 to 10 p.m. — The Rock Show.

Weko Beach is located off of Interstate 94 at Exit 16. Free parking and shuttle buses are available at designated lots in Bridgman. Visit www.lakemichiganwinefest.com, www.swmichigan.org or call (269) 925-6301 for more details.

United Way Golf Outing

The 13th annual United Way of La Porte County golf outing is Monday, Aug. 14, at Pottawattomie Country Club, 1900 Springland Ave.

Registration and lunch are at 11 a.m., followed by a noon shotgun tee time. A prime rib dinner and awards are at 5 p.m.

An individual game bundle costs \$225. The four-some "team game bundle," which costs \$900, includes: 18 holes of golf with a cart; a lunch buffet; a prime rib dinner; games; prizes; awards and trophies; free water and soft drinks; open bar carts on the course; beverage sampling booths; and cigars.

Aug. 21 is the rain date. Visit tinyurl.com/ojla9dy to register.



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Roosevelt Pipe Organ Series

The 16th season of the Roosevelt Pipe Organ Series continues June 21 at Christ Church (the former First Congregationalist Church), 531 Washington St.

All performances are free and at 12:15 p.m. Wednesdays. The schedule is:

- June 21 — Matt Gerhard.
- June 28 — Derek Nickels.
- July 6 — Carol Garrett.
- July 12 — Ann Taylor Dobie.
- July 19 — Mark Sudeith.
- July 26 — Kent Jager.
- Aug. 2 — Jeremy Kiolbassa.
- Aug. 9 — Lee Meyer.
- Aug. 16, 23, 30 — To be announced.

Also of note, the 1891 Roosevelt Opus 506 tracker organ is in need of a new home. Call Ann and George Dobie at (269) 469-0051 for details.

Gerhard is Kokomo Zion United Methodist Church director of music, choral assistant at Northwestern MS/HS and teaches private piano. He earned a bachelor's degree in church music from Olivet Nazarene University (2008) and a master's degree in choral conducting from California Baptist University (2010).



As a recitalist, he has performed regularly for the Central Indiana Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society, the Fine Arts Series at Christ Lutheran Church, Kokomo, Calvary Baptist Church's Gospel Hour in Kokomo and Timbercrest Senior Living Center in North Manchester.

He serves as first vice president of the Central Indiana Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, registrar of the Indianapolis Chapter of the American Guild of Organists and is a member of the Indiana Chapter of the American Choral Directors Association.

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The Finishing Touches



Students from the A.K. Smith Career Center Welding and Manufacturing Technology classes gathered for a group photo at Michigan City's Millennium Park on May 25 with Welding Teacher Ray Goss (front row, left, kneeling). The students fabricated stands for 12 life rings installed by Michigan City Fire Department along Trail Creek near the park and marina. Goss said the MCFD asked the classes to assist in making stands to mount the life rings earlier this year. Welding students designed and welded them, and manufacturing students machined the holes to mount the rings to the stands and to the ground.

River Valley Garden Club

River Valley Garden Club's June 20 meeting will feature a presentation on herbs and using them to make vinaigrettes.

The meeting is at 1 p.m. EDT at Harbert Community Church, 6444 Harbert Road, Sawyer, Mich.

Anyone with an interest in gardening is encouraged to attend. Contact Elizabeth Palulis at evpalulis@yahoo.com or visit www.rivervalleygardenclub.org for more details.

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Chesterton Art Center

The following programs are offered through Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St.:

Jennifer Martin will teach five summer art camps for children starting Monday, June 19.

Each camp is Monday through Thursday and includes three to four projects with a canvas painting related to the week's theme. Classes for children 4-7 are from 9 to 11 a.m. and classes for children 8 and older from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

The calendar is:

- Week 1 — June 19-22, Japanese theme.
- Week 2 — June 26-29, Renaissance theme.
- Week 3 — July 10-13, Disney art.
- Week 4 — July 17-20, musical art.
- Week 5 — July 31-Aug. 3, Indiana Dunes and the lake.

The cost for each week is \$65, with members receiving a \$5 discount.



The Chesterton Woman's Club opened the 66th Annual Art Show on Sunday, June 4.

Winners are:

- Best of Show — Kristina Knowski, "Northern Flicker," watercolor.
- First Place — Kathy Los-Rathburn, "Insights on Industry," watercolor.
- Second Place — Aaron Melendez, "The Red in a Titmouse," watercolor.
- Second Place — Pat Carnett, "Along R.R. 1," colored pencil.
- Third Place — Fred Holly, "The Gathering," acrylic.
- Third Place — Mary Ann Van Soest, "Sunset on Cedar Ridge," mixed media.
- Fourth Place — Charles Capek, "Reflections and Refreshments," mixed media.
- Fourth Place — Claire Reed, "Diseased Sea Fan," watercolor.
- Fourth Place — Larry Jensen, "Holy Grain," 3-D sculpture.
- Fifth Place — Carol Kehler Hemdal, "Endangered (Bobcat)," scratchboard.
- Fifth Place — Ronald Stec, "Paradise Cove," oil.
- Fifth Place — Lorelei Brown, "Romantic Pond," photography.

Honorable Mentions went to: Christian Donner, Julia Holmaas, MaryAnn Pals, Gerrie Govert, Pat Carnett, Dennis DeKoker, John Mullin, Ken Zaboriski, Al Lukasek and Gail Woolever.

Merit Awards were given to Al Lukasek, Susan Snell (2), Ivan Chermel, Kathy Los-Rathburn, Paul Ortego, Jean Head and Janet Killion. A Purchase Award went to Larry Brechner by the Tom Lipinski Family.

The show hangs through June 30.



Call (219) 926-4711 or visit www.chestertonart.com for more information.

Westchester Public Library

The following programs are available:

• **Bookmarks at the Museum at 2 p.m. Thursday, June 15, at Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.**

Dennis Norman will review Sinclair Lewis' "It Can't Happen Here" and Frederic C. Rich's "Christian Nation."

• **Bandstand Concert & Family Film Series on Friday, June 16, at Thomas Centennial Park bandstand in downtown Chesterton.**

The Song Sisters performs at 7 p.m., followed by "Sing" at around 8 p.m. If it rains, both events move to The Baugher Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

• **Duplo Club from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Saturday, June 17, at Thomas Library's Children's Department, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.**

Geared towards preschoolers ages 2-5, registration is required by calling (219) 926-7696.

• **Teen Movie Night: "Princess Mononoke" at 5 p.m. Saturday, June 17, at The Baugher Center.**

The movie is rated PG-13.

• **Maker Mondays from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Monday, June 19, in the Thomas Library upstairs IT classroom.**

Local software engineer Adam Johnson will lead a hands-on program, appropriate for patrons 12 and older, about Arduino circuit devices.

• **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.

• **Tween Crafternoons from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Wednesdays through July 12 in the Thomas Library Bertha Wood Meeting Room.**

Tweens 8-12 learn a new craft each week. The schedule is: splatter paint picture frames — June 21; duct tape birdhouse — June 28; galaxy T-shirts — July 5; string art — July 12. Register by calling (219) 926-7696.

• **Minecraft Meet-up from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 21, 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.

• **Pizza Pajama Book Club for Teens from 7 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, June 21, in the Thomas Library Young Adult Room.**

Teens in grades 6-12 can discuss books they have read or are reading. The focus is "Lumberjanes Vol. 1" by Shannon Watters and Grace Ellis. Pizza will be provided. Registration is required by calling (219) 926-7696 or visiting the library.

MCAS Assistant Honored

Indiana State Teachers Association has named Pam Uryga, a Coolspring Elementary School instructional assistant for the past 17 years, Indiana's 2017 Education Support Professional of the Year.

"I am so honored and thankful to everyone I work with, all the teachers and the staff," she said. "I've learned by observing them, so this isn't just for me, it's for all of us."

Uryga said she's especially grateful to her husband and son for their support. In fact, it was Uryga's son, Alex, a Bicentennial James Madison Fellow and aspiring social studies teacher, who secretly nominated her for the award.

As the state's winner, Uryga will be honored June 15-17 at the ISTA Summer Conference in Indianapolis, when she will receive a plaque recognizing her accomplishments.

This is the second time a Michigan City Area Schools professional has been named the state's ESP of the Year since the award's inception in 1991. The first was Robin Endris in 2013.



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Fernwood Botanical Garden

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

• **Volunteer Educators Schedule: Tallgrass Prairie from 1 to 3 p.m. EDT Thursday, June 15.**

Volunteer educators bolster youth programs by leading nature walks and assisting with public programming. Dress for walking the trails. Head Naturalist Wendy Jones is the contact.

• **Fernwood Book Group from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. EDT Saturday, June 17.**

This month's read is Hope Jahren's "Lab Girl: A Scientist's Memoir of a Gritty, Fascinating Life." The program is free with paid admission.

• **"Mindfulness in Nature: How to Cultivate Presence Through Awakening Our Senses" from 1 to 4 p.m. EDT Saturday, June 17.**

Deirdre Guthrie, yoga teacher and University of Notre Dame well-being research professor, is the instructor. The cost is \$35, or \$28 for members.

• **Family Nature Station: Owls from 2 to 4 p.m. EDT Saturday, June 17.**

The family-friendly program is free with paid admission.

• **Garden Party at 6 p.m. EDT Saturday, June 17.**

Held in the South Vista Garden, the evening features a small plates menu, beer and wine selections, with live and silent auctions. Visit www.fernwoodbotanical.org to buy tickets.

Call (269) 695-6491 or visit www.fernwoodbotanical.org for more information, and to confirm the status of classes.

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LBCC Women's Golf Leagues



18-Hole League

May 30, 2017

Event: Regular Golf

"A" Flight

Low Net: Carol Excel
Low Putts: Sue Luegers

"B" Flight

Low Gross: Jane Irvine
Low Net: Jean Guerin
Low Putts: Pat Kelley

"C" Flight

Low Gross: Mary O'Neil
Low Net: Gloria McMahon
Low Putts: June Salmon

"D" Flight

Low Gross: Nancy Reinert
Low Net: Alison Kolb
Low Putts: Kathie Mole

Sunken Approach

Jean Guerin Hole 3
Mary O'Neil Hole 13

Variety Show 2017

The yearly variety show is at 7 p.m. Saturday, June 17, at La Porte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave., La Porte.

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the United States entering World War I, so the theme is "Music from World War I and a Little Beyond." Songs include "It's a Long Way to Tipperary," "Shine on Harvest Moon" and "If I'm Not at the Roll Call, Kiss Mother Good-Bye for Me." Rose Marie Dure will accompany the local talent.

On display is a World War I exhibit, running this year only and rotating La Porte County memorabilia every few months.

Doors open at 6 p.m. Regular museum admission is charged. Call (219) 324-6767 or visit www.laportecountyhistory.org for more details.

Story Steppers

La Porte Park and Recreation Department and La Porte County Public Library have united to create a new twist on a book club.

Story Steppers involves getting out and moving while listening to audiobooks and meeting new friends. After walking together, share highlights of the audiobook with other Story Steppers. Playaway audiobooks will be provided, or take a device.

The program is at 8 a.m. every first and third Thursday in June and July at Kesling Park (one mile). Meet at the 18th Street parking lot

At Fox Park (1/2 mile), meet at 8 a.m. June 15 and July 20 at the skate park parking lot.

Contact the library at (219) 362-6156, visit laportelibrary.org or follow social media accounts for updates.

LBCC Women's Golf Leagues



9-Hole League

June 1, 2017
Event: Low Net

"A" Flight

Event: Eunie Nondorf
Low Net: Donna Hennard
Low Putts: Eunie Nondorf

"B" Flight

Event: Pat Kelley
Low Net: Jean Guerin
Low Putts: Marge Walsh

"C" Flight

Event: Tina Sonderby
Low Net: Tina Sonderby
Low Putts: Tina Sonderby

"D" Flight

Event: Barbara Beardslee
Low Net: Kathie Mole, Carol Sullivan
Low Putts: Barbara Beardslee

Sunken Approach

Marge Walsh Hole 11

June 8, 2017

Event: Low Net - 4 Even Holes

"A" Flight

Event: Carol Excel
Low Net: Jane Irvine
Low Putts: Kathy Kenefick

"B" Flight

Event: Pat Kelley
Low Net: Jean Guerin
Low Putts: Jean Guerin

"C" Flight

Event: Tina Sonderby
Low Net: Babs Ward, Rima Binder
Low Putts: Tina Sonderby

"D" Flight

Event: Alison Kolb
Low Net: Alison Kolb
Low Putts: Nancy Thill

Birdies

Peg King Hole 5

Sunken Approach

Joan Carey Hole 16
Pat Kelley Hole 8

Polish-American Cultural Society

Polish-American Cultural Society of North-west Indiana, Michigan City Chapter, meets at 5 p.m. Wednesday, June 21, at the former St. Mary's School, 321 W. 11th St.

Meetings are open to anyone interested in learning more about the Polish language, history and culture. Call Theresa Child at (219) 464-1369 or email polamnwi@yahoo.com for details.



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Activities to Explore

In the Area:

June 14-15 — Arts in the Park, La Porte's Fox Park. June 14: La Porte City Band/June 15: Me & the Boys. Pre-show music/6:15 p.m., concerts/7 p.m. Info: www.artsintheparklaporte.com

June 14-17 — "Last Train to Nibroc," Canterbury Theatre, 807 Franklin St. Times: 2 p.m. Wed.-Thur., 7:30 p.m. Fri., 6:30 p.m. Sat. Tickets: \$16-\$17. Reservations: info@canterburytheatre.org, (219) 874-4269.

June 16 — National Flip-Flop Day Craft for Kids, 1 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

June 16 — Bookmarks, Sinclair Lewis' "It Can't Happen Here," 2 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

June 16 — Movies in Washington Park: "Monster Trucks," 8:30 p.m., Washington Park's North Pointe Pavilion.

June 16-18 — "Brigadoon," Footlight Theatre, 1705 Franklin St. Times: 7:30 p.m. Fri.-Sat., 2 p.m. Sun. Cost: \$15, \$10/children 12 or younger. Info: www.FootlightPlayers.org, (219) 874-4035.

June 16-21 — Vickers Theatre, 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. *Now showing:* "A Quiet Passion." Rated PG-13. Times: 5:45 p.m. Fri.-Mon., 7 p.m. Tue.-Wed. Also: "Norman: The Moderate Rise and Tragic Fall of a New York Fixer." Rated R. Times: 9 p.m. Fri.-Mon., 2:45 p.m. Sat.-Sun. All times Eastern. Info: vickerstheatre.com

June 17 — Fourth annual Arts & Crafts Show, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Swanson Activity Center, 910 State St., La Porte. Info: (219) 326-5354.

June 17 — Gardena Park ribbon-cutting ceremony, 11 a.m. Free. Info: (219) 873-1506.

June 17 — Historic Toys Program, 1-4 p.m., Chellberg Farm, Mineral Springs Road between U.S. 20/12. Porter. Info: (219) 395-1882.

June 17 — Tragedy Beneath the Waves, 3 p.m., Nature Center @ Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

June 17 — Variety show, 7 p.m., La Porte County Historical Society Museum, 2405 Indiana Ave., La Porte. Info: (219) 324-6767.

June 17 — "America Sings! An Evening of Unabashed Patriotism and Nostalgia," 8 p.m. EDT, The Acorn Theatre, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: \$25/\$35. Reservations: (269) 756-3879, www.acorntheater.com

June 18 — FATHER'S DAY.

June 19 — Community Forum, author Loreen Niewenhuis, 6:30 p.m. EDT, New Buffalo Township Library, 33 N. Thompson St. Info: (269) 469-2933.

June 20 — Mount Baldy Solstice Sunset Hike, 7:30-9 p.m., Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. Reservations: (219) 395-1882.

June 21 — FIRST DAY OF SUMMER.

June 21 — Roosevelt Pipe Organ Series, Matt Gerhard, 12:15 p.m., Christ Church (former First Congregationalist Church), 531 Washington St. Free. Info: (269) 469-0051.

June 21-July 1 — “Have a Nice Day! The ’70s Musical Flashback,” Canterbury Theatre, 807 Franklin St. Times: 2 p.m. Wed.-Thur., 7:30 p.m. Fri., 6:30 p.m. Sat. Tickets: \$16-\$17. Reservations: info@canterburytheatre.org, (219) 874-4269.

Saturdays — 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.

Saturdays — La Porte Farmers Market, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., Lincolnway & Monroe. Info: www.facebook.com/laportefarmersmarket

Saturdays — Pinhook Bog Open House, noon-3 p.m., 700 N. Wozniak Road, Michigan City. Through Sept. 23. Info: (219) 395-1882.

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

June 15 — Coastline Children’s Film Festival, “Nelly’s Adventure,” 7 p.m. EDT, Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Mich. Free. Info: www.coastlinechildrensfilmfestival.com

June 16 — Opening reception, Richard Hunt exhibit, 5-6 p.m. EDT, ARS Gallery, 147 Fifth St., Benton Harbor, Mich. Info/reservations: (269) 277-5090, arsartsandculture.org

June 17 — Lake Michigan Shore Wine Festival, 1-10 p.m. EDT, Weko Beach. Info: www.lakemichiganwinefest.com, (269) 925-6301.

June 17 — Amphibian Program, 1:30-2:30 p.m., Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education, 100 N. Lake St., Gary. Info: (219) 395-1882.

June 17 — Family Nature Station: Owls, 2-4 p.m. EDT, Fernwood Botanical Garden and Nature Preserve, 13988 Range Line Road, Niles, Mich. Info: www.fernwoodbotanical.org

June 17 — Cinderella Ball, 4-6 p.m., Taltree Arboretum and Gardens, 71 N. County Road 500 West near Valparaiso. Tickets: www.taltree.org, (219) 462-0025.

June 17 — Garden Party, 6 p.m. EDT, Fernwood Botanical Garden and Nature Preserve, 13988 Range Line Road, Niles, Mich. Tickets: www.fernwoodbotanical.org

June 17 — Water’s Edge Summer Beach Series, The Psychedelic Orchestra, 7:30 p.m. EDT, Jean Klock Park, Benton Harbor, Mich. Tickets: (269) 982-4030.

June 17 — Lake Effect Jazz Band, 7:30-9:30 p.m. EDT, The Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Mich. Tickets: \$10. Info/reservations: (269) 983-3688, info@boxfactoryforthearts.org, www.boxfactoryforthearts.org

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- La Porte Hospital, 1007 W. Lincolnway, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, June 16.

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.



Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter

Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI by David Grann (*hardcover, \$28.95 retail in bookstores and online; also available as an eBook*)

Here is my second non-fiction choice of the year, a story so shocking, I was spellbound and unable to put it down. The story of the Indians and the white man has always been a blight on American history, but this goes beyond that.

“The killings of Anna Brown and Charles Whitehorn caused a sensation. A banner headline in the Pawhuska Daily Capital read, ‘Two Separate Murder Cases are Unearthed Almost at Same Time.’”

It was May of 1921 when that headline appeared. Pawhuska was the capital of the Osage nation reservation in northern Oklahoma. The Osage had been removed from Kansas in the late 1800s and now, hopefully, would not have to move again. The government held back money — given in the form of clothing and food rations — to force the Indians to become farmers. The children were forced to go to boarding schools, where they had to wear white man’s clothing and speak only English. As Grann explained, *“U.S. policy shifted from containment to forced assimilation.”*

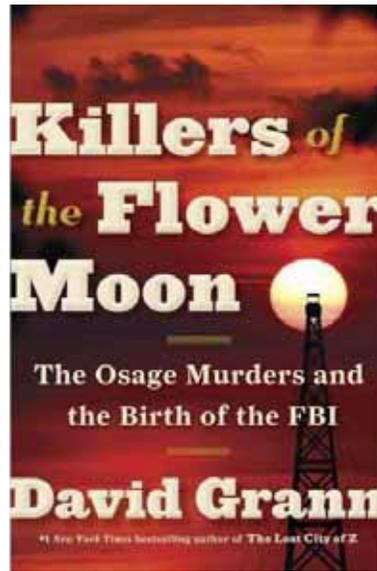
Before Oklahoma was broken up into lots and counties, pre-statehood, the Osage got the government to allot each member of the tribe a parcel of land, with one strange stipulation — *“That the oil, gas, coal, or other minerals covered by the lands... are hereby reserved to the Osage Tribe.”* This was called a headright, and they couldn’t be bought or sold, only inherited.

Guess what? Those Indians were sharp. They knew oil deposits were under their land. But how much oil? The tribe began leasing areas to white prospectors, and the oil began to flow. By the early 1920s, the Osage Tribe were the richest people per capita in the world.

This background is essential to understanding what happened next...

In May of 1921, Charles Whitehorn’s body was found, and three days later, the body of Anna Smith, both Osage. They had been shot, execution style. Several months later, Lizzie, Anna’s mother, died, poisoned. And that wasn’t the end of it. William Stepson, poisoned; Osage woman, poisoned; Joe Bates, poisoned. In August, the deaths climbed to more than two dozen. And that was just the beginning of more unsolved deaths to come.

Mollie Burkhart, Anna Smith’s sister, was wor-



ried for her own life. Mother poisoned, sister Anna shot. Soon, Henry Roan, Mollie’s first husband, was shot and Mollie’s sister, Rita, and husband, Bill Smith, killed when their house was blown up.

Even Mollie, a diabetic, was getting sicker. Maybe those shots she was getting for her illness...?

When word got out about all the strange killings, newspapers soon dubbed it “Osage Reign of Terror.” Local police, sheriff’s men, even state police were unable, or didn’t care to do, much investigating. Lawmen and judges could be easily paid off, witnesses had poor memories.

Follow the money is the old adage no one seemed to follow here: the government had a white man assigned to each Osage family with a headright, and they had power over how the money was spent, ergo — eliminating family members until the only one left was the white man in charge...well, you don’t have to be a brain surgeon to figure that out.

Enter the Bureau of Investigation in Washington, D.C. In 1926, the second head of the bureau, J. Edgar Hoover, came along. He was a man with big ideas and even bigger ambition. When the Osage killings came across his desk, he assigned an agent, Tom White, former Texas Ranger, to investigate the Anna Smith and Charles Whitehorn murders. Tom was a man of conviction and honesty, unlike the other lawmen before him. White was thorough, and his findings into the murders would give Hoover the respectability his agency needed on the path to becoming the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

This story is like a spider’s web — many threads all connected to the center. And the center was the money to be had from the Osage headrights. As the story unfolds like the pedals of a flower, it all begins to make sense.

The book is filled with dozens of photos of people connected to the murders, bringing the story to a reality not achieved by words alone. To look into the faces of these people, the victims and the murderers, brings home the sad fact that this really happened. It’s not just a dime novel.

Bestselling author Louise Erdrich said: “Through meticulous detective work, Grann rescues unbearable truth.”

Grann is a staff writer at *The New Yorker* and the author of the bestseller *The Lost City of Z*. His website is www.davidgrann.com or visit [Facebook.com/DavidGrannAuthor](https://www.facebook.com/DavidGrannAuthor)

Till next time, happy reading!



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3302 Algonquin Trail, Duneland Beach • \$389,000
You'll love this charming, bi-level cottage with spectacular wooded views. This 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom home with large 2-car garage will give you 2,300 sq ft of generous space to move about (without losing that quaint, cozy atmosphere when it's time to cuddle up by the fireplace with a good book). Wake up each morning to tranquil sounds of nature, and end your evening with a beautiful sunset at the beach! Situated within the friendly Duneland Beach community.



106 Hazelwood, Shoreland Hills • \$289,000
Classic 2-bedroom, 2-bath ranch home on double wooded lots in desirable Shoreland Hills! Enjoy this remodeled gem. Oversized 2-car garage, newer siding and roof. Wonderful 24x12 screened-in porch overlooking private yard with professional landscaping and privacy fencing. Easy walk to the beach to spend the day or enjoy the sunset!



2707 Belle Plaine Trail, Long Beach • \$515,000
Classic Mediterranean-style Long Beach home. Built in 1927, this historic gem has retained its original charm. Four bedrooms and 2 bathrooms on two levels of living space. Gorgeous golf course views, enclosed porch and more than three-quarters of an acre make this a magnificent retreat from the real world.



1026 Lake Shore Drive, Sheridan Beach • \$710,000
The Crooked Cottage is a cozy 100-year-old hideaway with everything you need for your enjoyment. An original Sheridan Beach home from 1915 it is as authentic as it gets. Ample parking, direct path to the beach, outdoor shower and large deck are just a few of the wonderful amenities. In addition, this 6-bedroom home has great rental potential for large family gatherings! This house is as close as it gets to the beach.

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