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# In the Spotlight

by Kayla Weiss

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ome may recognize Jeffrey Baumgartner as “the traveling artist,” prone to exploring the area and establishing his makeshift “studio” whenever and wherever the inspiration hits him.

Others may have seen his past performances with Chicago’s legendary Goodman and Steppenwolf theaters, from “King Lear” at the Goodman to “The Cherry Orchard” at Steppenwolf.

He also was one of the first tenants in Michigan City’s Artspace Uptown Artist Lofts, located in the former Warren Building and now a central point in the city’s Uptown Arts District.

These days, Baumgartner is taking on one of his most ambitious tasks: artistic director of Dunes Arts Foundation, which presides over Dunes Summer Theatre,

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Jeffrey Baumgartner sits amid the 240 seats available to theater patrons at Dunes Summer Theatre. Photo by Bob Wellinski

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## Spotlight

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an acting venue in the thick of Michiana Shores with more than 60 years of history to its credit.

“I’m really looking forward to seeing all of the hard work that we’ve been putting into the Dunes come to fruition,” Baumgartner said, relaxing for his interview with *The Beacher* at Artspace. “There have been so many people working so hard to bring the Dunes Summer Theatre back into the spotlight. It’s really great to see it paying off.”

The rich tradition behind “the Dunes,” as it is affectionately referred to, dates back to art and literature teacher Nora Tully MacAlvay, who was trained at The Art Institute of Chicago and Goodman Theatre School. In 1948, she created the Children’s Theatre of Michigan City for the area’s youth. Dunes Summer Theatre emerged in 1952. MacAlvay continued to lead youth efforts for more than 40 years, also serving as artistic director for the Dunes.

(The late Sally Montgomery, former editor of *The Beacher*, choreographed many shows at the Dunes, and helped run it as well.)

The cozy, wooded setting for the summer troupe is located on 20 acres, seating more than 240 people. An outside pavilion serves as an ideal venue for receptions. Twelve cabins once hosted summer actors and interns.

The past decade, however, has not been easy for the Dunes. Dwindling attendance and financial difficulties created a series of hardships. At one point, there was talk of the Dunes calling it quits, but a new generation of volunteers stepped in, eager to keep the much-cherished theater group alive. Little by little, with each passing year, they’ve attempted to restore some of the enthusiasm the community has for the Dunes.

Baumgartner, for those who meet him, is the definition of enthusiasm. High energy. Optimistic.

Born and raised in Fort Wayne, he received a Master of Fine Arts from the



Jeffrey Baumgartner stands outside Dunes Summer Theatre in Michiana Shores.  
Photo by Bob Wellinski

National Theatre Conservatory. He also was a member at the Tony-winning Denver Center Theatre Co.

“I always knew that I wanted to start a theater company,” Baumgartner said. “So when I had finished my graduate courses and received my MFA, I was at a crossroads, being from the Midwest. All of my mates were either going off to New York or to TV and film in California, and at the end of the day, neither of those felt right to me.

“I’m a Midwest boy,” he continued, “so I went to Chicago, never having been to Chicago, knowing absolutely nothing about Chicago, and I went in

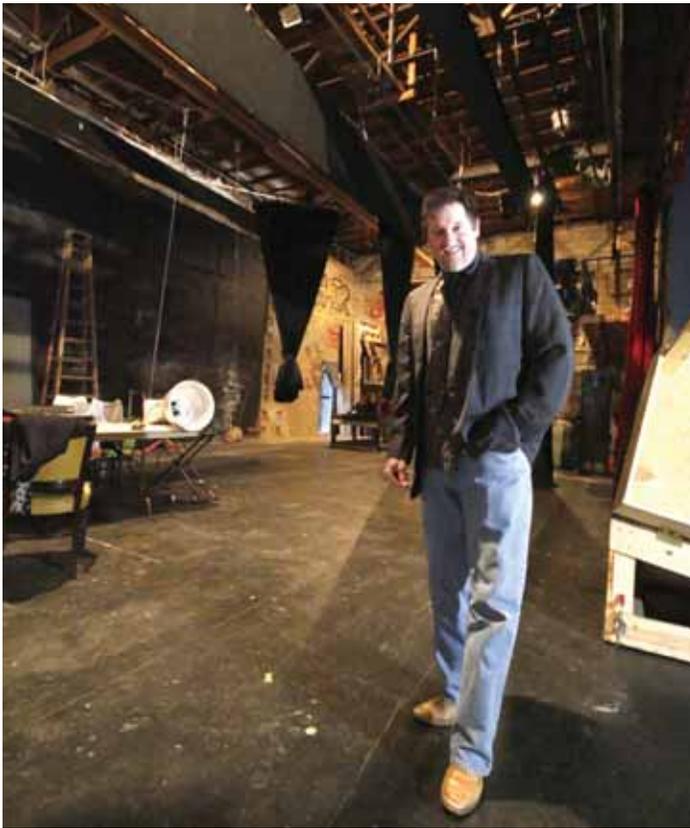
there at 25 years old. I immediately started teaching at university and had my theater company opened within a couple of years.”

After several decades of teaching and performing in Chicago, Baumgartner decided it was time for a change.

“I was in Miller Beach for

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New this summer, Jeffrey Baumgartner says, the talent will be paid a stipend. Photo by Bob Wellinski

a year about three years ago,” he said. “I had decided that I was done with my work in Chicago and wanted to paint full time, and I couldn’t afford a studio in Chicago, so I ended up here and I thought I could make it work, and it couldn’t.

“It got me introduced to the area, but I eventually went back to the city for a little bit of gainful employment as an actor. I had ended up driving and painting across country for eight weeks in 2012. It was a week through the mountains to Carmel, which is basically Big Sur, where I spent a week painting, and then took the last six week to paint my way back, ultimately ending up in Carmel, Indiana.”

Baumgartner arrived in Michigan City just in time to become part of Artspace.

“We came in waves, I would say, and I was lucky enough to be admitted into the first wave,” he said. “The first wave was very small – only a handful of us moved into the building in March (2016), and I believe I was the fifth person to officially move into Artspace. Then there was a second wave in April, and the final wave moved in on May 30.

“It’s really an incredible place to have, especially in an area like this that seems to be having a resurgence in the arts. It’s truly incredible to have something like this in the Arts District that allows local artists to foster their creativity.”

Baumgartner became involved in the theater community here when he first auditioned for a

Continued on Page 3



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# Spotlight

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Jeffrey Baumgartner considers himself a "traveling artist," setting up shop wherever the inspiration hits him.

piece performed at a Save the Dunes fundraiser last fall. As a result, he was asked to "come out of retirement" and portray the artist Mark Rothko in the upcoming Dunes Summer Theatre performance of "Red." He admits to having been a little reluctant to do so because he came here to paint, but he eventually agreed. Soon after, the position of artistic director became available,

and 24 hours later, the job was his.

Since last fall, Dunes Summer Theatre has been tended to with much-needed structural and grounds improvements to ensure an enjoyable experience. Some of the biggest improvements include sufficient, and much needed heating and cooling systems to the theater and surrounding cabins.

Bigger yet is that while Dunes Summer Theatre



Jeffrey Baumgartner appeared as Teiresias in the Goodman production of "Oedipus Complex."

remains a non-profit organization, the troupe's new management felt it was time the actors receive compensation for sharing their artistic abilities.

"We are working so hard on so many things, and I have great ideas for the future, but right now, our biggest focus is on the experience," Baumgartner said. "The goal is to have the theater properly air conditioned and heated, when needed, as well as re-vamping some of the cabins for our out-of-town actors to be able to stay in during the season.

"We would also like to have tabletops put up on the patio to create a more social setting, as opposed to the picnic tables, and have bands performing while people are waiting for the show to start, so people could make a whole afternoon or evening of it, and just really have an enjoyable time."

*(Additional reporting by Andrew Tallackson.)*

## Auditions Announced

Dunes Summer Theatre, 288 Shady Oak Drive, Michiana Shores, will hold auditions for its 2017 summer season on two Saturdays, April 8 and 29.

The slate of shows is: John Logan's "Red," Paul Rudnick's "I Hate Hamlet," Stephen Sondheim's "Company," Agatha Christie's "The Mousetrap" and A.R. Gurney's "Love Letters."

Actors are encouraged to submit headshots and resumes in advance either by email to [dunestheater@gmail.com](mailto:dunestheater@gmail.com), or by mail to The Dunes Summer Theatre, Attn: Casting, P.O. Box 384, Michigan City, 46361. Sought are actors of all types and ages. While no preparation is necessary or

required, actors should prepare two contrasting monologues: one dramatic and one comedic. For actors who don't have prepared monologues, materials will be made available that day. For musical theater auditions, singers are asked to prepare 32 measures. A second musical piece may be requested. Piano accompaniment will be provided April 29. Callbacks are in May. Actors will be paid stipends.

Call (219) 879-7509 or email [dunestheater@gmail.com](mailto:dunestheater@gmail.com) to reserve an audition time or for more information. Visit [www.dunesartsfoundation.org](http://www.dunesartsfoundation.org) for more details.



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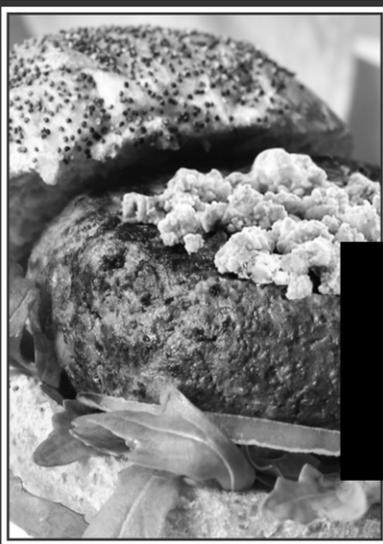
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## Historical Society Honors County Historian With Special Dedication

by William Halliar

Over the years, as untold thousands pass through a community, a few people exist who help define it, making our lives richer for having passed among us.

Fern Eddy Schultz's love of community, and her years of volunteer work to preserve its history, make her one of those special people.

Because of that, La Porte County Historical Society Museum's Research Library will forever be known as the Fern Eddy Schultz Research Library.

Historical Society members, longtime friends and the community honored Schultz, a lifetime La Porte County resident, county historian, research librarian, preservationist and author March 21 during a gala at the museum, 2405 Indiana Ave., La Porte.

Within the museum's walls are safely kept the treasures of one of Indiana's most energetic and creative counties — our home. The stories of folks small and great are remembered here, available to all of us and our children, preserved for generations to come by the dedication of volunteers like Fern.

A bronze plaque honoring her was unveiled during a reception following the Historical Society's regular business meeting. Featuring her likeness, it adorns the research library's entrance, emblazoned with the words, "*We dedicate this library to Fern Eddy Schultz in recognition of her lifetime commitment to the La Porte County Historical Society and Museum, her dedication in research and preservation of history, and the education of the La Porte County, Indiana community.*"

Schultz was born in La Porte County and still lives in the house her parents built on property that became known as Chestnut Grove Farm. She attended Center Township school and graduated from La Porte High School. While caring for her mother after she was diagnosed with cancer, she worked as a secretary at the Kingsbury Ordinance Plant, then at the Indiana State Employment Security division.

She married Charles Schultz and raised her daughter, Lanette,



Fern Eddy Schultz stands before the research library now dedicated in her name. Photo by Bob Wellinski

in La Porte County. For her, it was always "family first." Perhaps this is the reason she became interested in history and began working with the Historical Society in 1976.

Schultz soon became the "go to" person for history questions. She began organizing documents and photos in a back room of the museum that grew into a full-fledged research library. This love of history's preservation was something she learned from her father, who was ever visiting historical sites and stressing their importance to his daughter.

Schultz is a member of The Indiana Historical Society, president of Pine

Lake Cemetery and founding president of the La Porte County Genealogy Society. She was Historian of the Year in 1999, Genealogist of the Year in 2011, R.O.S.E Award winner in 2005 and the Hubert Hawkins History Award winner from the Indiana Historical Society in 2003, to name just a few honors accrued over the years.

Her publications are too numerous to mention and would cover a large tabletop in the museum's research library. Perhaps chief among her literary accomplishments is the publication of *La Porte Indiana and its Environs*.

As the dedication ceremony, Historical Society Board Member Joanne Gorecki told everyone, "Sometimes, it is easy to forget when reading history books or watching the news that someone had to report that history so that we can all remember it and value it.

"Fern's professionalism, dedication and her passion have made the dead immortal, the past present and through her re-enactments and her ability to give light and awareness for those forgotten...they will always be remembered."

Schultz said she feels humbled and always amazed that she would be honored for doing a "work of love," yet without question, she deserves the appreciation of every citizen of La Porte County.



Tim Stabosz from People Engaged in Preservation pays tribute to Fern Eddy Schultz, with Historical Society Member Joanne Gorecki looking on.

Photo by Bob Wellinski

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## Award-Winning Actresses Back on Footlight Stage

Two award-winning actresses return to the Footlight Theatre stage in "Lettice and Lovage," a tale of two women who form an unlikely friendship, on March 31-April 2 and April 6-9.

In the comedy by Peter Shaffer ("Equus," "Amadeus"), Lettice Duffet (Kali Rasala), an expert on Elizabethan cuisine and medieval weaponry, is an indefatigable, but daffy enthusiast of history and the theater. As a tour guide at Fustian House, one of the least stately of London's stately homes, she theatrically embellishes its historical past, coming up on the radar of Lotte Schon (Christine Long), a Preservation Trust inspector. Neither impressed nor entertained by Lettice's free-wheeling history lessons, Schon fires her. Not one to go without a fight, Lettice engages Lotte in an unconventional battle.

Rasala was last seen at Footlight as Amanda Wingfield in "The Glass Menagerie." Long last took the stage as Lucille in "The Cemetery Club." The show also features George Maslankowski, Steve Rohe, Shannon Wilhelm, Joy Davidson, Laura Sullivan and Emma and Joe Blanchard.

"Lettice and Lovage" explores how two main characters adapt to life and the changes that occur in their lives," Director Donald Beck said in a press release. "Do we choose to reject the past and bemoan the 'awful' present, do we merely accept the way things are or do we work at changing them?"

"I think, given our political climate, this will resonate with some audience members."

Beck has directed more than 20 plays in Chicago



Kali Rasala (left) and Christine Long star in "Lettice and Lovage."

and across the region, most recently "The Glass Menagerie" and "I Hate Hamlet" at Footlight, "Miss Julie" at Chesterton's 4th Street Theatre and "A Winnie-The-Pooh Christmas Tail" at Valparaiso's Chicago Street Theatre.

Show dates are March 31, April 1-2 and 6-9. Tickets are \$12 for adults or two for \$20 with a coupon from footlightplayers.org. Tickets for children 12 and younger, and Thursday shows, are \$10. Curtain is 7:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday. Doors open 45 minutes prior to curtain.

Reservations are held until 15 minutes prior to curtain unless secured by

a season gift card or payment. Reservations are recommended by calling (219) 874-4035 or at footlightplayers.org. An opening night 2-for-1 coupon is available on the website. Footlight Theatre is located at 1705 Franklin St.

### Auditions

Footlight Players will have auditions for "Brigadoon" from 6 to 8 p.m. Sunday and Monday, April 2-3, at Footlight Theatre, 1705 Franklin St.

Director Laura Meyer and Musical Director Lee Meyer seek 12 men, six women and two bagpipers. Take a vocal selection to the audition.

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**“Sketching Rome”**



The dome of San Andrea Del Valle.

Matthew Kubik will showcase 45 years of Rome, Italy, travel sketches during “Sketching Rome,” a “pop-up” event Friday through Sunday, March 31-April 2, at Southern Shore Art Association, 724 Franklin St.

Exhibit hours are noon to 4 p.m., with an artist’s reception from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday.

Kubik, an artist, architect and educator, began drawing Rome as a student and has visited there more than 25 times. Original sketches, paintings, rubbings and collected artifacts will be on display, along with several of Kubik’s travel sketchbooks.

Piazza Del Popolo.



At 2 p.m. Sunday, Kubik will present his personal view of Rome in the slide lecture “Frammenti: Fragments of Rome.” The lecture features humorous stories about his travel experiences while leading Rome, Italy, tours.

Kubik’s sketches have been collected in the book “Sketching Rome, An Architect’s Sketchbook.” Works include those first produced when Kubik was a young student and up to his most recent. Media include charcoal, pencil, pen and ink, color marker, water color and ink wash paintings. His photos have been collected into a book, “Frammenti.”

Kubik will autograph and sell his books. Giclee prints of ink wash paintings also will be available.

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**Michigan City Public Library**

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

• **Free Gentle Flow Yoga at 12:15 p.m. Saturday, April 1.**

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

• **Jewish Film Festival at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, April 2.**



"Dough."

The free screenings are in conjunction with the Purdue Northwest Odyssey Art Series and Irving Levin Jewish Cultural Fund of Sinai Temple. The first film, "Remember," follows an elderly Holocaust survivor who embarks on a quest to execute a Nazi commandant, but his mission is slowed by his advancing Alzheimer's. The movie is Rated R. "Dough" features a Jewish widower who hires a Muslim teen to help at his kosher bakery in London. Sales skyrocket when the latter's marijuana is accidentally mixed into the dough. The film is not rated. A refreshment break is planned between movies.

The following spring break programs are planned, each at 10 a.m.:

• **Sand Art Sculpture on Monday, April 3.**

Create a sand art sculpture.

• **ImprovPlayhouse Presents: "Hansel and Gretel" on Tuesday, April 4.**

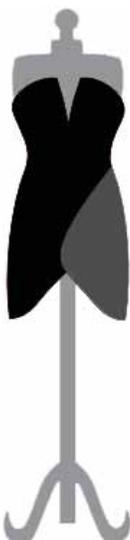
The play offers a comical take on the traditional tale.

• **Hedgehog Hannah on Wednesday, April 5.**

Animals present possibly include a wallaby, arctic fox, chinchilla, hedgehog and ferret.

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

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## Dream Big Songwriting Competition

As part of World Creativity & Innovation Week (April 16-22), The Center for Creative Solutions, Artspace and ViVace Assai Inc. are sponsoring the “Dream Big Songwriting Competition.”

Held at Artspace Uptown Artist Lofts, 717 Franklin St., the event requires an application at [www.vivaceassai.com](http://www.vivaceassai.com) (click the purple button). Finalists for the showcase and awards night will be chosen after auditions.

Contestants have the chance to win cash, secure regional performance opportunities and work with professional artists, musicians and composers networking in Northwest Indiana.

The registration deadline is April 12. The first “Critique & Analysis” Audition Night is April 19, and the “Finalists’ Showcase” Award Night concludes World Creativity & Innovation Week on April 23.

Visit [www.centerforcreativesolutions.com](http://www.centerforcreativesolutions.com), email [creativity52@comcast.net](mailto:creativity52@comcast.net) or call (219) 878-0082 for more information.

## Polish Heritage Essay Contest

Polish Heritage Association is accepting entries for its 2017 scholarship essay contest.

The competition is open to high-school seniors and full-time undergraduate students (no age limit) who live in Lake, Porter, La Porte, Starke, Jasper, Newton and St. Joseph counties.

The theme is “Polish Heritage and What It Means to Me.” Contestants don’t have to be of Polish descent; qualified students of all ethnic backgrounds can participate. The essay should combine formal research and personal experience. Researched material, including information obtained from the Internet, must be properly documented. Any essay containing plagiarized material will be automatically disqualified. The length should be a minimum of 1,000 words.

Scholarships will be awarded in denominations of \$1,000 and \$500. The submission deadline is May 3. Contact Janusz Duzinkiewicz at [jduzinkiewicz@pnw.edu](mailto:jduzinkiewicz@pnw.edu) for details.

## Lunch & Learn Series

REAL Services will continue its Lunch & Learn Series from noon to 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 4, at Rittenhouse Senior Living, 4300 Cleveland Ave.

The subject is “Handling Difficult Transitions.” The speakers are: Stefanie Olson, Rittenhouse Village senior lifestyle counselor; Vicki Skodras, REAL Services geriatric care manager; and Barbara Dzikowski, Alzheimer’s & Dementia Services program director.

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Paid for by the La Porte County Republican Party. Donations to the La Porte County Republican Party are not deductible for income tax purposes.

### Israeli Trio Concert



Israel's Atar Trio will present a free concert at 7:30 p.m. Monday, April 3, at Valparaiso University's Duesenberg Recital Hall.

The Israeli chamber ensemble, now amid its U.S. 2017 spring tour, will perform new interpretations of Jewish, Israeli and world music, along with arrangements of traditional chamber music by composers Bernstein, Bloch

and others. The program also includes a Dikla Baniel piece and Yitzhak Yedid's "Suite for Arabic Violin."

Temple Israel of Valparaiso and The Jewish Federation of Northwest Indiana are the concert sponsors. Visit [tinyurl.com/msrjghe](http://tinyurl.com/msrjghe) for reservations.

### ArtBash 2017

Early ticket sales are under way for "Havana Nights," Lubeznik Center for the Arts' ArtBash 2017, which is at 5:30 p.m. Saturday, June 24, at Blue Chip Casino's Stardust Event Center.

All event proceeds support arts programming for adults and children, acclaimed contemporary arts exhibits, academically enhanced ArtReach programs for at-risk kids and docent-led field trips for students and summer art camps.

At the fundraiser, bid by text during the interactive auction, buy a chance to grab the best bottle of wine or spirits and enjoy the Latin dance showcase. Former ABC7 anchor Ron Magers is the emcee.

Through June 9, individual tickets are available for \$150 and tables for \$1,500. After June 10, individual tickets cost \$165 and a table of 10 costs \$1,650. Tickets are available by calling (219) 874-4900 or visit [lubeznikcenter.org](http://lubeznikcenter.org)

### Greek Bake Sale

Berrien County Orthodox Women will present its Greek Bake Sale from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. EDT Saturday, April 1, at the Annunciation-St. Paraskevi Greek Orthodox Church, 18000 Behner Road, New Buffalo, Mich.

Authentic Easter pastries range from baklava to spinach or cheese pita. Call (269) 469-0081 for an order form or leave a message. Pre-orders will be ready at the sale.



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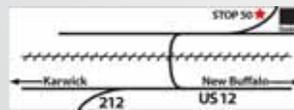
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**Farm Cooking Show**

Phil Potempa

Food columnist and author Phil Potempa will present a live, two-hour "From the Farm Cooking Show" to celebrate the 15th anniversary of his weekly "From the Farm" recipe newspaper column.

The show is at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, April 2, at Munster's Center for Visual and Performing Arts, 1040 Ridge Road. The event will include more than \$1,000 in prizes given to guests during the show.

Potempa has published more than 750 "From the Farm" columns, along with three "From the Farm" cookbooks. Through the years, he's interviewed and swapped recipes and stories with the likes of Julia Child, Martha Stewart, President Jimmy Carter and Oprah Winfrey. He also is an adjunct instructor in communications at Valparaiso University and Purdue University Northwest. He divides his time between his family's peppermint farm in Northwest Indiana and his Chicago home.

During the show, he will prepare a seven-course feast, highlighting favorite recipes from his third cookbook, "Further From the Farm: Family Recipes and Memories of a Lifetime." He also will recreate the atmosphere of his own family farm on stage, with a set design that includes a working 1938 kitchen stove he will use. Family stories will be peppered in between the food preparation.

Tickets are \$25 and available at the box office, by calling (219) 839-3255 or at [www.TheatreAtTheCenter.com](http://www.TheatreAtTheCenter.com)

**Women of the Moose Rib Dinner**

Women of the Moose will hold a rib dinner from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, April 1, at Moose Family Lodge 980, 1108 Franklin St.

The \$12 cost includes ribs, spaghetti, cole slaw, bread and dessert. Tickets are available from any Women of the Moose member or at the lodge. Call 861-2798 to place orders.

**Church Rummage Sale**

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, 7396 W. Johnson Road, will have a rummage sale from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday and Saturday, March 30-April 1.

Items include clothes (baby to adult), knick knacks, kitchen items, glassware, books, bedding items and computer items.

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Berrien County Orthodox Women (BCOW)  
P.O. Box 93, New Buffalo, MI 49117**

## Chesterton Art Center

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

• **Dick Church will offer a six-week Beginning/Intermediate Watercolor Class starting from 10 a.m. to noon Friday, March 31.**

Church will lead students through a variety of watercolor techniques. The cost is \$80, with members receiving a \$5 discount. Supplies are not included. Church will discuss supplies with all beginners to start the class.

• **Duneland Weavers Guild will host its annual Fashion Show at 2 p.m. Sunday, April 2.**

The 69-year-old fiber group consists of about 60 members interested not only in weaving, but also spinning, crocheting, knitting and felting.

During the show, guests will see handmade, wearable art, much of it for sale. Guests are encouraged to arrive early because seating is limited. Doors open at 1 p.m.

After the fashion show, the work will hang at the center through April.

• **Local painter Mark VanderVinne will host Critique Night at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 5.**

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

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

• **A Life Drawing Open Studio from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Mondays.**

A fully clothed model is the subject matter. Artists should take supplies and clean up afterwards. There is no formal instruction. The cost is \$10, plus a tip for the model.

Contact the center at (219) 926-4711 or visit [www.chestertonart.com](http://www.chestertonart.com) for more details.

## “Becoming an Outdoors-Woman”

An outdoor sports workshop targets women with courses ranging from archery to photography.

The annual “Becoming an Outdoors-Woman,” set for May 5-7 at Ross Camp in West Lafayette, is open to women 18 and older and limited to around 100 participants. It is designed to learn outdoor skills in a relaxed, low-pressure environment. Participants choose four activities from more than two dozen offerings, including fishing, archery, outdoor photography, wild edibles, wildlife tracking, shooting muzzleloader guns and outdoor cooking.

The \$210 cost includes all equipment, meals and lodging. Register at [IndianaBOW.com](http://IndianaBOW.com).

On Arbor Day (Saturday, April 29) between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. EDT, C&A Arborists Inc. will host an Arbor Day celebration at Chikaming Township Park and Preserve. Our certified arborist, Christian Siewert, will present a speech to promote tree education to adults and children, a walk to identify local trees and a demonstration on how to properly climb trees. Of course, we also will plant a tree. Extremely kid friendly! The first 50 people will receive a White Pine sapling or Bur Oak acorn seedling.



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**NB Library Art Contest**

March 31 is the deadline for Friends of the New Buffalo Library’s first Design a Bookmark Contest.

Open to kindergartners through 12th-graders in New Buffalo and New Buffalo Township, entry forms and card-stock design forms cut to approximate bookmark size are available at area schools and at both circulation desks at New Buffalo Township Library, 33 N. Thompson St. Artwork can be submitted in pen, crayon, ink, magic marker, colored pencils, water colors or paint. Only one entry per student will be accepted.

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

Judging by a panel that will include a local artist and Friends of the Library members is in early April, followed by a short awards ceremony at the library. Monetary awards are \$25 for first place, \$15 for second place and \$10 for third place in three categories: kindergarten through fourth grade; fifth through eighth grades; and ninth through 12th grades.

All entries will be displayed at the library, space permitting, and first-place bookmark winners will have their entries laminated and made available to library patrons while supplies last.

**“Visual Storytelling” Series**

The free series “Unframe: Visual Storytelling with Films” is at noon EDT Thursday, April 6, at Krasl Art Center, 707 Lake Blvd., St. Joseph, Mich.

Leslie Sullivan, Coastline Children’s Film Festival curator, will lead a brief introduction and discussion afterward. She will be joined by KAC Curator Tami Miller or a guest filmmaker.

The April 6 screening is “Deaf Jam 2011.” American Sign Language poetry changes Aneta Brodski’s life, a deaf teen who enters the spoken word slam scene. An Israeli immigrant living in the Queens section of New York City, she eventually meets Tahani, a hearing Palestinian slam poet. The two women embark on a collaboration/performance duet.

Visit [www.krasl.org](http://www.krasl.org) for more details.

**Washington Park Zoo Opening**

Washington Park Zoo, 115 Lakeshore Drive, opens for the season from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, April 1.

Depending on the weather, certain species may remain indoors until warmer temperatures. Also weather permitting, a train ride and the free-flight Parakeet aviary will be available.

Visit [www.washingtonparkzoo.com](http://www.washingtonparkzoo.com) for details.

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**LaLu Seniors Receive Scholarships**



Richard McNamee (from left), Bella Kaplan and Jack Ruszkowski at the Evans Scholarship final selection meeting at Long Beach Country Club.

La Lumiere School seniors Bella Kaplan and Jack Ruszkowski, both of Michigan City, have received the Evans Scholarship for caddies after a final selection meeting held at Long Beach Country Club.

The two are among 14 seniors selected from Indiana who will receive full, four-year housing and tuition college grants: Kaplan for Purdue University-West Lafayette and Ruszkowski for Indiana University-Bloomington.

Kaplan and Ruszkowski are caddies at Long Beach Country Club under the guidance of WGA Director Richard McNamee. Both describe him as an excellent mentor and guide as caddies and throughout the scholarship application process.

At La Lumiere, Kaplan is a member of the National Honor Society and Spanish Honor Society. She also plays soccer and basketball, and plans to study veterinary medicine at Purdue University in the fall. Ruszkowski is a member of the National Honor Society and Science Olympiad team at La Lumiere, and has played football for the last four years. He plans to study business and chemistry at Indiana University.

A record 935 caddies are enrolled in 20 universities across the nation as Evans Scholars, and more than 10,400 caddies have graduated as Evans Scholars since the program was founded by famed Chicago amateur golfer Charles "Chick" Evans Jr.

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# The Magic of Kalita



All photos by Bob Wellinski



Local illusionist Matt Kalita on March 18 presented his 10th annual show at Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St., wowing the audience with numerous feats.



## Westchester Public Library

The following programs are available:

• **Knit Wits and Pearls of Wisdom at 9 a.m. Thursdays at Hageman Library, 100 Francis St., Porter.**

The weekly meeting is open to the skilled and novices, with no registration required.

• **Bits & Bytes series, Computer Security: Part 1, from 1 to 3 p.m. Thursday, March 30, in the Thomas Library Serials/Automation Department, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.**

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

• **Rainbow Loom on Friday, March 31, at Thomas Library Children's Department.**

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

• **Children's Sensory Friendly Movie: "The BFG" at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 1, at the Baughner Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.**

The screening will include the captions turned on, lights turned up, sound turned down and attendees invited to get up, dance, walk or shout. A craft and free popcorn are planned.

• **Knitting Together from 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday, April 2, at Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.**

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

• **Popular Books, 2 p.m. Monday, April 3, in the Thomas Library Bertha Wood Meeting Room.**

The focus is Ron Rash's "Serena." Extra copies of the book are available at the Thomas Branch.

• **Adult Coloring Program from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 4, at Hageman Library.**

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

• **Bits & Bytes series, Picture This!, from 6 to**

**8 p.m. Tuesday, April 4, and 1 to 3 p.m. Thursday, April 6, in the Serials/Automation Department at Thomas Library.**

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

• **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.

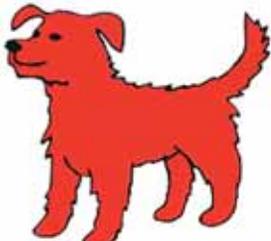
• **Children's Crochet Club from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Wednesdays in the Thomas Library Bertha Wood Meeting Room.**

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

• **Minecraft Meet-up from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays, April 5 and 19, 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.

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Submit the photo to The Beacher by 5 p.m. each Wednesday. We'll contact you by 5 p.m. Thursday if the photo is chosen to appear on our facebook page by noon Friday.



Email high-resolution photos to [drew@thebeacher.com](mailto:drew@thebeacher.com)

## Waste District Expands Litter Cleanup Program

The La Porte County Solid Waste District is expanding its annual Clean It Up Day into a Clean It Up program.

Instead of just one day, groups can choose any date in April or May most convenient for them or their organization.

Now in its sixth year, Clean It Up is assisted by several government agencies, as well as donations from local businesses and the national non-profit group Keep America Beautiful. More than 2.3 million people volunteer each year for KAB's Great American Cleanup activities in more than 15,000 communities throughout the U.S.

To participate, select a place to clean up and a date to do it in April or May. The district will arrange for the collected trash to be picked up, if needed. Signups continue through May 1.

Participants receive garbage bags, bottled water and snacks. The district also will have work gloves and visibility vests for those who need them, thanks to donations from Republic Services, Waste Management, Michigan City Fifth Ward Councilwoman Sharon Carnes and NIPSCO. Other donors include Family Express and American Licorice.

Rewards for volunteers include a coupon for a



Krueger Middle School teachers Kathryn Triemstra and Kevin Jones supervised a group of students and parents picking up litter last year along Karwick Road and Springland Avenue.

free pizza donated by Domino's in Michigan City or Wana Pizza at all of its La Porte County locations. Rewards will be issued to people or groups that take photos during the cleanup, including a group shot with the collected trash, and send them to the district by text or email after the cleanup is completed.

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

### Places Needing Litter Cleanup

- Trail Creek Greenway Trail – Litter cleanup.
- Gardena Park – Limbs, sticks, leaves along the ball field fences, garbage in wood lines.
- Fedders – Limbs, sticks, leaves and garbage throughout Fedders, and in a brush area north of the parking lot (towards the beach).
- Westcott – Flower cut backs, weeding, leaves and garbage on the hill and along wood lines.
- Water Tower – Limbs, sticks, leaves and garbage in and along wood lines.
- Washington Park (not the beach) – Limbs, sticks, garbage, shelters.
- Senior Center – Garbage in the dune grass around the entire building and out the back door area.
- Liberty Trail – Garbage along the road. Rake and cleanup around trees along Liberty Trail.
- Oak Hills – Limbs, sticks, leaves, garbage and play area.
- Hansen – Limbs, sticks, leaves and garbage throughout the park and wood lines.
- All of Woodland Avenue (Michigan Boulevard area moving south to Pahs Road).
- Barker Avenue (two corners on at Barker and Woodland avenues).
- Barker Road (from Woodland to Cleveland avenues).
- Corner area south of Petco and east of Ross.
- Ohio Street north of St. John Road (small wooded area).
- St. John Road (from Franklin Street to Ohio Street) and behind old Marquette Theatre.
- Cleveland Avenue Corridor (from U.S. 20 and moving south).
- Meijer Avenue/ Timm Road/ AMC theater area.
- Small corridor from Franklin Street going to Walmart by Denny's.
- Empty lot across the street from Panera Bread (next to the former Ryan's) and small wooded area moving west.
- Empty lot just north of Al's on Franklin Street.
- Small area on Johnson Road in between U.S. 20 and Pahs Road across from farmer's field.

*Places identified in need of litter cleanup in the La Porte area:*

- Fox Park (especially along wooded areas).
- Kesling Park (especially along east and south park boundaries).
- All of Johnson Road, from U.S. 20 moving south toward Summit Farm

### Easter Shopping Trip

Polish-American Cultural Society of Northwest Indiana will host an Easter “*Swieconka*” shopping trip Tuesday, April 4.

The bus meets passengers at 9 a.m. at Marquette Catholic High School, 306 W. 10th St., then at 9:30 a.m. at Nativity of Our Savior Catholic Church, 2949 Willowcreek Road, Portage. Transportation is a “school bus” with no restroom.

The group will visit Shop & Save Market, Bridgview, Ill., which features Polish and ethnic foods, from 10 a.m. to noon, then lunch from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. at Old Town Restaurant (Polish cuisine), Lemont, Ill.

If time permits, and everyone is interested, the group will stop at Polish-owned Celina’s Market in Lemont. The target arrival time home is around 4 p.m. to Portage and 4:30 p.m. to Michigan City.

Participants should take coolers and shopping bags. Seating is limited to provide room for everyone’s purchases.

The \$30 cost includes lunch, tips and transportation. Reservations are due April 1 and must be called in to Theresa Child at (219) 464-1369.

### Meditative Program Series

A series of meditative programs with Shangpa Rinpoche are planned in early April at Manjushree Hermitage, 10303 E. U.S. 12, Michigan City

The schedule is:

- Teaching on 37 practices of a Bodhisattva, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday and Monday, April 2-3.
- Shamatha (calm abiding) meditation, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, April 5-6.
- Vipashyana (insight) meditation, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and Saturday, April 7-8.
- Introduction to Mahamudra, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, April 9.

Visit [manjushreefoundation.com](http://manjushreefoundation.com), email [manjushreehermitage@gmail.com](mailto:manjushreehermitage@gmail.com) or call (219) 879-7940 to register or for more details.

### Long Beach News

Spring leaf pickup is April 24-28 in Long Beach.

More information on refuse toter rules and restrictions is available at [www.longbeachin.org](http://www.longbeachin.org)

Available for review at Long Beach Town Hall is information on the 30-day rental ordinance.



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### JROTC Earns Awards at Event



Michigan City High School's Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps earned awards at the Concordia High School Military Drill Meet held at Indiana University/Purdue University at Fort Wayne.

The competition involved 15 teams, with MCHS finishing second in Color Guard, third in Unarmed Platoon and fifth in unarmed exhibition platoon and squad. All but the Unarmed Platoon were commanded by 1st Lt. Ana Nowatzke. Second Lt. James Steinhagen commanded the Unarmed Platoon.

The Wolves competed in nine events, fielding two teams in three of them.

"All of the cadets on the team drilled in at least two events, and most did three or more," Senior Marine Instructor Maj. Tom McGrath said. "Additionally, because our primary commanders were focusing on the drill cards for the MCJROTC National Drill Comp (for which MCHS was not selected), we had younger cadets command some of the units.



"I think what those cadets showed today in such a competitive meet gives us great optimism for next year."

The event was the last drill meet of the year. The cadets will continue supporting school and community functions for the remainder of the school year, including track meets and graduation.

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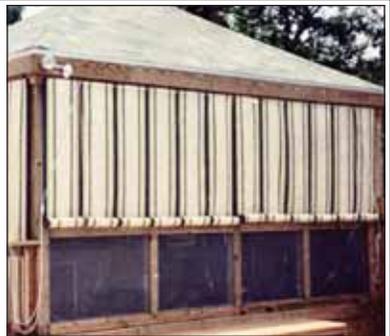
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### Gatorade Honors LaLu Student

Gatorade announced Brian Bowen of La Lumiere School as its 2016-2017 Gatorade Indiana Boys Basketball Player of the Year, a first for the school.



The award recognizes athletic excellence, academic achievement and exemplary character on and off the court. That makes him eligible for Gatorade National Boys Basketball Player of the Year.

The 6-foot-7, 195-pound senior guard and forward led the Lakers to a 24-1 record and No. 2 ranking in the *USA Today* High School Sports Expert Rankings. He averaged 22 points, six rebounds and three assists per game while shooting 59 percent from inside the arc. A 2017 McDonald's All-American Game selection and a Naismith Trophy High School Player of the Year semifinalist, ESPN ranks him as the nation's No. 12 recruit in the Class of 2017.

Bowen has volunteered locally on behalf of Goodwill Industries International Inc., Boys & Girls Clubs of St. Joseph County and as a youth basketball coach. He has maintained a 3.50 grade-point average.

As Player of the Year, Bowen can select a national or local youth sports organization to receive a grant as part of the Gatorade Play It Forward program. Every state winner receives a \$1,000 grant to donate and can enter for an additional \$10,000 spotlight grant by writing a brief essay explaining why the selected organization deserves additional support. Twelve spotlight grants – one for each sport – will be announced throughout the year.



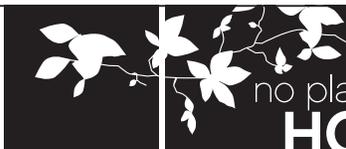
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## United in Outreach



Women from Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church and First Presbyterian Church met March 12 to assemble health packs for Health Linc, Swanson Center and Keys to Hope. According to Nila Williams, Health Linc outreach and enrollment specialist, "women have a particular need of supplies when they are living homeless." Together, members from the two churches donated and assembled more than 70 health bags consisting of soap, toothbrushes, tooth paste, tampons or sanitary napkins, antibacterial hand sanitizer, shampoo and conditioner, adhesive bandages and granola bars. Plans for another activity or project are in the works.

## Bowl for Worthy Women

Registration and sponsorships are under way for Worthy Women Recovery Home's Ninth Annual Bowl for Worthy Women.

The event is from noon to 3 p.m., with day-of registration at 11:30 a.m., on Saturday, April 8, at Casey's Lanes, 610 Colfax Ave., La Porte.

Purple T-shirts are available for \$15, but must be prepaid at [www.worthyrecovery.org](http://www.worthyrecovery.org), or call Sunshine at (219) 405-7006. The cost is \$100 per team (six-member maximum). Lanes are reserved, with \$100 minimum pre-paid registration. Sponsorship opportunities are available.

A traveling trophy and prizes will be awarded to the registered team with the most pledges. The pledge submission deadline is April 7.

## Volunteer Expo

Vendor applications and sponsorships are available for Leadership La Porte County's "Volunteer Expo," which is from 4:30 to 7 p.m. Thursday, April 20, at La Porte County Fairgrounds' Small Projects Building.

The expo aims to raise awareness of volunteer opportunities for La Porte County youth and adults. Non-profit organizations seeking volunteers should contact Leadership La Porte County to request an exhibit-space application. Organizations should include specific information about their volunteer opportunities, including any age restrictions, requirements and task description.

The booth space fee is \$25. Sponsorship costs \$250 and include name mention in all event materials, as well as a sponsor table at the event.

Contact Leadership La Porte County at (219) 325-8223, at [info@leadershiplaportecounty.com](mailto:info@leadershiplaportecounty.com) or visit [www.leadershiplaportecounty.com](http://www.leadershiplaportecounty.com) to register or for more details.

## Upcoming Lubeznik Exhibit

April 17 is the deadline for consideration in Lubeznik Center for the Arts' upcoming exhibit, "Home."

The national juried exhibit explores the concept of home in all media, including installation. A variety of interpretations are possible, such as shelter, family, immigration, homelessness, nostalgia, architecture, domesticity and Earth itself.

More information is available at [tinyurl.com/hrty9oc](http://tinyurl.com/hrty9oc). Lubeznik Center for the Arts is located at 101 W. Second St.

## April Fool's Egg Hunt

Independent Cat Society will host an April Fool's Egg Hunt from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 1, at Valparaiso's Rogers Lakewood Park, 5502 Campbell St.

More than 500 eggs will be hidden for families to find. Also planned are baked goods, snacks and ICS merchandise and cat toys. Weather permitting, adoptable cats will be present.

Visit [www.catsociety.org](http://www.catsociety.org) for more details.



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### Committee Donates to Festival

The Michigan City Public Art Committee has donated \$2,500 to Lubeznik Center for the Arts so families involved in after-school programs can attend for free the Lubeznik Art & Artisan Festival.



Safe Harbor families create art at Pine Elementary School in 2016.

The event is Aug. 19-20 at Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St. It features contemporary art, artist activations, beer, wine and food, drawing repeat visitors from Chicago, South Bend and Northwest Indiana, as well as Harbor Country.

All proceeds are invested back into the community through the LCA's artistic and educational programs.

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**Prayer to the Blessed Virgin**  
(Never known to fail.)  
Oh, most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh, Star of the 'Sea, help me and show me, herein you are my mother. Oh Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth! I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in this necessity. There are none that can withstand your power. Oh, show me herein you are my mother. Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3x). Holy Mother, I place this cause in your hands (3x). Holy Spirit, you who solve all problems, light all roads so that I can attain my goal. You who gave me the divine gift to forgive and forget all evil against me and that in all instances in my life you are with me. I want in this short prayer to thank you for all things as you confirm once again that I never want to be separated from you in Eternal Glory. Thank you for your mercy toward me and mine. The person must say this prayer 3 consecutive days. After 3 days, the request will be granted. This prayer must be published after the favor is granted.

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## MCAS Receives \$50K Planning Grant

Michigan City Area Schools has received a \$50,000 planning grant through Lilly Endowment Inc.'s Comprehensive Counseling Initiative for Indiana K-12 Students.

The initiative aims to increase the number of Indiana students who are emotionally healthy, achieve academic success and graduate from high school prepared for postsecondary opportunities.

MCAS is one of more than 280 Indiana public school corporations and charter schools receiving the grants. They will help recipients prepare competitive proposals for a larger Lilly Endowment counseling implementation grant due this spring. The implementation grants will award up to \$100 per enrolled student to school districts to aid them in strengthening counseling programs.

MCAS will use its grant to develop a "cradle to career continuum" proposal for K-12 counseling services. Funds will support a comprehensive data analysis, best-practices study groups and conferences, site visits and listening sessions involving staff, students, parents and community partners.

## Kids Ride Free Program

With spring break right around the corner, the South Shore Line reminds riders about its Kids Ride Free program.

Up to three children younger than 14 may ride the train for free with each parent or guardian on all weekend/holiday trains and off-peak weekday trains. Off-peak trains are those arriving at Millennium Station after 9:30 a.m. and departing the station before 3:30 p.m. and after 6:30 p.m.

Visit [tinyurl.com/ktxfx4s](http://tinyurl.com/ktxfx4s) for details.



### Prayer to the Blessed Virgin

(Never known to fail.)

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

this necessity. There are none that can withstand your power. Oh, show me herein you are my mother. Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3x). Holy Mother, I place this cause in your hands (3x). Holy Spirit, you who solve all problems, light all roads so that I can attain my goal. You who gave me the divine gift to forgive and forget all evil against me and that in all instances in my life you are with me. I want in this short prayer to thank you for all things as you confirm once again that I never want to be separated from you in Eternal Glory. Thank you for your mercy toward me and mine. The person must say this prayer 3 consecutive days. After 3 days, the request will be granted. This prayer must be published after the favor is granted.

## Veterans Hall of Fame

The Indiana Military Veterans Hall of Fame seeks nominations for its fourth class of honorees.

The non-profit organization honors Hoosier veterans for service during and after active duty. To date, it has recognized 46 men and women for outstanding military and civilian service.

Up to 15 veterans will be honored for military service achievements and/or community contributions. Nominees must meet any of these criteria:

- Born in Indiana.
- Entered military service in Indiana.
- Lived in Indiana a minimum of eight years.

All branches of the U.S. Armed Forces, all ages, living or deceased and males and females will be considered. The induction ceremony is Nov. 3 at Fort Benjamin Harrison in Lawrence, Ind.

The complete nomination packet and criteria are available at [imvhof.com/nominate/](http://imvhof.com/nominate/) and will be accepted through Aug. 1.

The IMVHOF broke ground on a permanent building Sept. 11, 2016, near the American Legion's Department of Indiana Headquarters in Lawrence. The building will pay tribute to all five branches of the military, and recognize veterans who have been inducted into the Hall of Fame. The IMVHOF has partnered with Indiana Credit Unions to raise funds for construction and plans to begin building this spring. Tax-deductible donations can be made by check or money order made payable to IMVHOF and sent to IMVHOF, P.O. Box 269098, Indianapolis, IN 46226. Online donations can be made at [www.imvhof.com](http://www.imvhof.com)

## Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

*The following site is available at  
Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore:*

### • Dunewood Campground Opening Day 2017 on Saturday, April 1.

Open through Oct. 31, Dunewood Campground 645 Broadway Ave., Beverly Shores, has 66 campsites: 54 drive-in sites and 12 walk-in sites, with four fully accessible. Visit [tinyurl.com/m6co2hs](http://tinyurl.com/m6co2hs) for more information.

*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.*



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## La Porte County Parks



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

### Nature's Tiny Tots

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

The free program is from 10 to 11 a.m. Monday, April 3, at Luhr County Park Nature Center, 3178 S. County Road 150 West. Call (219) 325-8315 at least one week in advance to register.

### Parent & Child Discovery Days

The program includes arts and crafts, games and snacks. All activities are related to the topic. Programs are appropriate for children 3 to 8, with an adult required to participate. Times are from 6 to 7:15 p.m. at Luhr County Park. The cost is \$5 per child/per program. Pre-registration and payment are required at least one week in advance or until full, whichever comes first. The schedule is:

- April 12 — It's Feeding Time.
- April 19 — Tree Treasures.

### Senior Lifestyles

Join the free 55+ Club, a social club designed for adults 55 and older to learn and explore various types of nature. Free coffee is served to participants. The group meets from 9 to 10 a.m. at Luhr County Park Nature Center. Call at least one week in advance to register. The schedule is:

- April 5 — "Birds and Their Adaptations" by Potawatomi Audubon Society.
- May 3 — "Landscaping Your Yard, Where to Begin" with Sacha Gee-Burns, Sunkissed Organics.

### Attention Home-School Participants

Preregistration is under way for the program "Pond Life" from 10 to 11 a.m. Tuesday, April 11, at Luhr County Park.

The program is appropriate for children 6-13 and accompanied by an adult. Call (219) 325-8315 to sign up.

### Teachers-Groups-Scout Leaders

Free environmental education programs are offered to groups throughout the year. Programs last one hour or longer depending on the group size and age. Programs can be scheduled at Creek Ridge, Luhr, Bluhm or Red Mill parks. Call (219) 325-8315 for more information or to make a reservation.



## Long Beach Women's Bowling

March 21, 2017

### TEAM STANDING

	WON	LOST
1. IncrediBowls	29.5	14.5
2. Lady Strikers	25.5	18.5
3. Wine-ettes	25	19

### HIGH INDIVIDUAL GAMES

	SCORE
1. Tammy Vouri	208
2. Susan Kieffer	183
3. Cindy Beck	165
4. Barb McCorkel	156
5. Liz Lutterbach	155
6. Tammy Nelmar	151
7. Kathy Osborne (series)	414
8. Sue Labovitz (series)	405
9. Nancy Kubath (series)	404
10. Barb Macudzinski (series)	403

### SPLITS

Sue Woodland	4-5
Dottie Brinckman	5-7
Carolyn Wiggins	2-7
Kathy Osborne	3-10
Tina Sonderby	2-7-8

### STRIKES (THREE IN A ROW)

Tammy Vouri, Susan Kieffer, Barb McCorkel  
 More bowlers are invited when teams meet at 12:30 p.m. Tuesdays at City Lanes.

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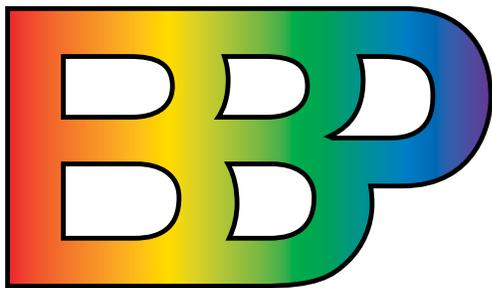
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## Barn Owls Pair Up in Nest Box

A show of companionship and survival will play out live in the newly positioned DNR barn owl nest cam, which allows a rare view of the state-endangered species.

Barn owls have a distinct heart-shaped face, dark eyes and white- to golden-grown feathers. This owl pair has been living in a DNR-built nest box inside a metal pole barn in southern Indiana since 2009.

The webcam's goal is to promote public interest in birds and raise awareness about efforts to support barn owls.

Barn owls were once common in the Midwest, living in hollow trees and wooden barns, and hunting hayfields, idle grain fields, pastures and other grasslands for meadow voles. But many wooden barns are being torn down, and few modern farms offer the land a barn owl needs for hunting.

DNR's Wildlife Diversity Program has been placing nest boxes since 1984. The boxes, like the one the webcam owls use, give owls a safe place to raise their young. More information about nest boxes is at [wildlife.IN.gov/3382.htm](http://wildlife.IN.gov/3382.htm).

The barn owl webcam can accommodate 20 viewers at a time and is at [wildlife.IN.gov/8183.htm](http://wildlife.IN.gov/8183.htm)

The barn owl is one of more than 750 animal species, including many rare and endangered animals, supported by the DNR's Wildlife Diversity Program. WDP depends on donations to the DNR Nongame Fund, which can be made at [EndangeredWildlife.IN.gov](http://EndangeredWildlife.IN.gov). Donations also can be done on Indiana state taxes through Schedule 5/Schedule IN-Donate, using the code "200."

## Hospice Volunteers Needed

Hospice Franciscan Communities is seeking volunteers who can provide companionship, answer phones or do light clerical work.

No experience is necessary, and no nursing duties are performed. The schedule involves considerable flexibility. All necessary trainings and screenings are provided. Call (219) 877-1605 for details.

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

- St. John's United Church of Christ, 101 St. John Road, Michigan City, noon to 6 p.m. Tuesday, April 4.

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.

### Youth Shooting Camp

Michigan City Rifle Club, 4801 U.S. 20, will host a Youth Shooting Camp for fifth- through 12-graders from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, June 19-23.

The camp, conducted by NRA-certified instructors, introduces students to the knowledge, skills and attitude to safely and responsibly use firearms.

Each student receives NRA student packets. The camp concludes Friday afternoon, June 23, with a family picnic and awards ceremony. Adult family members can try their hand at shooting sports.

The camp size is limited. The cost is \$175 and includes a daily lunch. Through a Friends of the NRA grant, the rifle club will provide firearms, ammunition, targets, eye and hearing protection.

Email jotto32@gmail.com or call (219) 369-3577 for more details.

### Read The Beacher On Line

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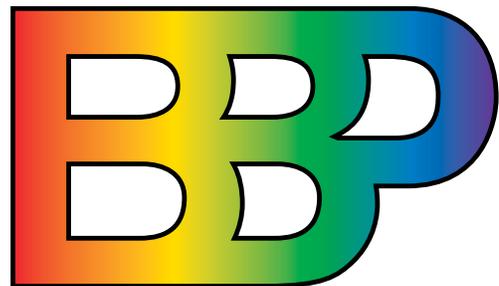
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**Activities to Explore**

**In the Area:**

**March 31** — Wild Women and Wine, 7-9 p.m., Barker Mansion, 631 Washington St. Cost: \$25. Registration: Eventbrite, (219) 873-1520.

**March 31** — Artist reception, “Sketching Rome,” 5-7 p.m., Southern Shore Art Association, 724 Franklin St. Related program: slide lecture, “Frammenti: Fragments of Rome,” 2 p.m. April 2.

**March 31** — Chris Jones & The Night Drivers, 8 p.m. EDT, The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Ticket: adults/\$20, children/\$15. Info: www.acorntheater.com, (269) 756-3879.

**March 31-April 3** — Vickers Theatre, 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. *Now showing:* “The Founder.” Rated PG-13. Times: 6 p.m. Fri.-Mon. *Also:* “The Salesman.” Rated PG-13. In Farsi with English subtitles. Times: 9 p.m. Fri.-Sat., 2:45 p.m. Sat.-Sun. Info: vickerstheatre.com

**March 31-April 2, April 6-9** — “Lettice and Lovage,” Footlight Theatre, 1705 Franklin St. Times: 7:30 p.m. Thur.-Sat., 2 p.m. Sun. Tickets: \$12/adults, two/\$20 with coupon @ website, 12 & younger & Thursday/\$10. Reservations: (219) 874-4035/footlightplayers.org

**April 1 — April Fool’s Day.**

**April 1** — Berrien County Orthodox Women Greek Bake Sale, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. EDT, Annunciation-St. Paraskevi Greek Orthodox Church, 18000 Behner Road, New Buffalo, Mich. Info/orders: (269) 469-0081.

**April 1** — Children’s Sensory Friendly Movie: “The BFG,” 10 a.m., Baugher Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

**April 1** — Season opening, Washington Park Zoo, 115 Lakeshore Drive, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Info: www.washingtonparkzoo.com

**April 1** — Women of the Moose rib dinner, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Moose Family Lodge 980, 1108 Franklin St. Cost: \$12. Orders: 861-2798.

**April 2** — Jewish Film Festival, 1:30 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

**April 2** — Duneland Weavers Guild annual Fashion Show, 2 p.m., Chesterton Art Center, 115 S. Fourth St. Info: www.chestertonart.com, (219) 926-4711.

**April 3** — Sand Art Sculpture, 10 a.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

**April 3** — Popular Books, Ron Rash’s “Serena,” 2 p.m., Westchester Public Library, 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton.

**April 4** — ImprovPlayhouse Presents: “Hansel and Gretel,” 10 a.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

**April 5** — Hedgehog Hannah, 10 a.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219)

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**March 30 is Deadline to Submit Easter Photos to The Beacher**

Do you have photos of yourself, or your children, on Easter egg hunts or with the Easter Bunny?

Was the experience with the Easter Bunny adorable...or hilariously awful?

Send your photos to [drew@thebeacher.com](mailto:drew@thebeacher.com), or drop them off at our office, 911 Franklin St. Our favorites will appear on the cover of the April 13 Easter edition. Photos dropped off at our office will be scanned and returned to the person submitting them. Include with the photo a brief description of who's in it, and where and when the photo was taken.

March 30 is the submission deadline. Contact Editor Drew Tallackson at (219) 879-0088 or [drew@thebeacher.com](mailto:drew@thebeacher.com) for more details.

873-3049.

**Through April 2** — Temporary Exhibit: "The Invisible Project," Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.

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

**In the Region**

**April 1** — Independent Cat Society April Fool's Egg Hunt, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Valparaiso's Rogers Lakewood Park, 5502 Campbell St. Info: [www.catsociety.org](http://www.catsociety.org)

**April 1** — Comedy Criminals Improv Festival and Competition, 7:30 p.m. EDT, Bristol (Ind.) Opera House, 210 E. Vistula St. Tickets: \$15. Reservations: (574) 848-4116, [elkhartcivictheatre.org](http://elkhartcivictheatre.org)

**April 3** — Israel's Atar Trio, 7:30 p.m., Valparaiso University's Duesenberg Recital Hall. Free. Info/reservations: [tinyurl.com/msrjghe](http://tinyurl.com/msrjghe)

**Support Groups**

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

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

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

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

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**The Spring Girlfriend Sale**, your ultimate woman's resale clothing event, is scheduling appointments through April 24 to consign up to 30 items for resale. To participate email [thegirlfriendsale@gmail.com](mailto:thegirlfriendsale@gmail.com) or call Susan Vissing at (219) 861-6188 and leave a message with a few alternate dates and times you can come in with your items. Appointments are scheduled every 1/2 hour M-F 10 a.m.-4 p.m., plus weekend dates Sat., April 8, & Sun., April 23. Be sure to take a spring jacket, sweater or handbag to donate, with proceeds benefiting the Samaritan Center.

For more details ask for the "participation guidelines."

**Shopping dates:**

Friday, April 28, 6-9 p.m. for participants and friends

Saturday, April 29 & May 6, 10a.m.-2 p.m. open to the public

Sunday, May 7, Noon-4 p.m. famous 1/2 price day

Saturday, May 13, 10a.m.-2 p.m. second chance 1/2 price day.

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**State Park Summer Camps**

Indiana Dunes State Park, Chesterton, will offer a nature-related summer day camp for students 6-13.

Two sessions of the Dunes State Park Explorer Camp are planned, each tailored to different age groups. They explore the dunes, its plants and animals and man's connection to the land.

Registration is required, with space limited per session. Each camp costs \$29 and includes snacks, Friday's lunch, crafts and park entrance fees.

The session for campers 6-10 runs July 10-14. The session for campers 9-13 runs July 24-28. Times are 9 a.m. to noon Monday through Thursday and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday.

A camp flyer and registration form are at the park office or nature center, or email [bbumgardner@dnr.in.gov](mailto:bbumgardner@dnr.in.gov) for a digital copy. Call the park's nature center at (219) 926-1390 for more details.

**State Parks Annual Awards**

Indiana Dunes State Park was among the honorees when the Department of Natural Resources recognized volunteers and employees for their commitment to conservation in 2016.

Indiana State Parks Director Dan Bortner presented the annual awards March 8 at the Division Leadership Conference at Abe Martin Lodge in Brown County State Park.

Indiana Dunes State Park received the Natural Resources Award for conservation projects that included removing invasive species, addressing unauthorized trails in the fragile Dunes ecosystem, carrying out the saw-whet owl banding program and helping host the Indiana Dunes Birding Festival.



## Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter

**Midnight Sun** by Jo Nesbø  
(paperback, \$15 retail in bookstores and online; also available as an eBook)

*"How are we to start this story? I wish I could say that we'll start at the beginning. But I don't know where it starts. Just like everyone else, I'm not truly aware of the real sequence of cause and effect in my life."*

That's the voice of Ulf. Not his real name, of course, "it seemed as good a name as any." Ulf is running away from his life in Oslo, Norway. That's OK, because it wasn't a good life to begin with. Ulf was a "fixer" for The Fisherman, criminal kingpin of the city. Now, he wants Ulf killed for various reasons, chief among them Ulf's crisis of conscience that led him to double-cross the boss. How did he cross him? I won't spoil that part for you. Suffice it to say, it involved an incomplete job and some missing money The Fisherman figured Ulf owed him.

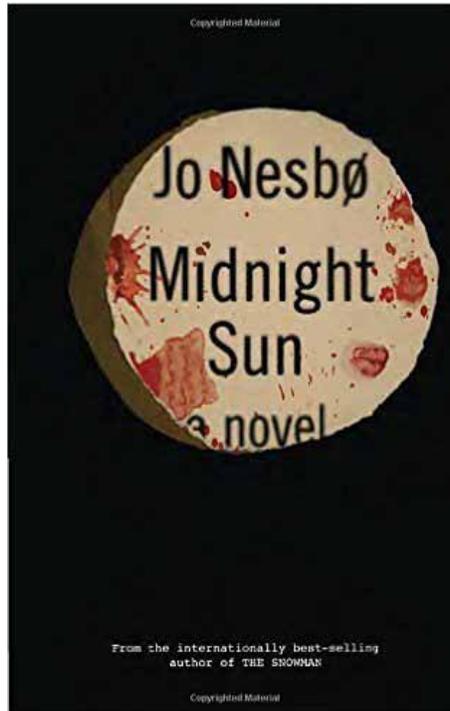
That's why Ulf is on a bus headed far north to the land of the Sámi (Lapps) and midnight sun. Nothing up there but a lot of reindeer and some fishing... who would think to look for Ulf there? At least, that's his plan.

Redemption. That's what Ulf really wants. A chance to redeem himself from all the horrible things he's done to stay alive and make a new beginning somewhere far from Oslo.

Finally, the bus approaches a sign for the village of Kåsund. It sounds as good as any, so Ulf gets off the bus and heads for the town. He meets Mattis, who looks like someone straight out of a Norwegian folk story. *"His face was broad, his grin wide, and his eyes at something of a slant. If you piled up all the cliches people in Oslo have about what a Sami or native Laplander looked like, you'd end up with this bloke."*

He tells Ulf there is no hotel or rooms to rent. You could go to any house and knock, and they would let you in, no questions asked. Ulf doesn't understand this concept and heads instead for a church, where he lies down on the floor and falls asleep.

He's greeted in the morning by a 10-year-old boy who says his name is Knut. His mother is Lea and his grandfather, Jakob Sara, is the minister. They are members of the Lutheran revival movement called *Laestadianism*. Does that make him safe in this village? Or will these people turn him in as soon as The Fisherman's man shows up to kill him?



Lea allows Ulf to stay in a hunting cabin outside of town, even giving him a shotgun since he says he is there to hunt, but his gun was sent to the wrong town...Even I wouldn't believe that story.

Ulf now has time to reflect on his life and remember everything that led him here. *"I couldn't help thinking about mankind's persistent inventiveness and capacity to survive. And our willingness to do terrible things if need be."*

His past life is brought out piecemeal as the days pass and Knut becomes his constant companion. Mattis stops by, shows him where to buy food, even offers him liquid refreshment. Ulf is excited about that until he tastes it, almost throws up and learns it was made from "fermented reindeer milk." Yum.

Lea and Ulf spend time talking about her faith and way of life. He questions her way of looking at sin and what constitutes sending you to Hell. I like her answer: *"Reason lives in the head, and faith in the heart. They're not always good neighbors."*

Ulf starts thinking there may be a chance for him, until the inevitable day the stranger shows up in town looking for him.

An exciting climax will surprise you and Ulf's future is decided from an unexpected source. This is a fascinating look at how choices we make in life eventually catch up with us, making us take a hard look at where we want to go from here.

Written by one of my favorite Scandinavian writers of crime fiction, *Midnight Sun* is off the norm for Nesbø, who has had much success with his Harry Hole character, who has appeared in 10 novels. Harry works for the government and is a Scandinavian James Bond. This thoughtful story of a man seeking a new beginning makes us ponder if you can ever run away from your past.

*Publishers Weekly* gave *Midnight Sun* a starred review: "Immaculately plotted and perfectly paced, the book is also darkly funny and deadly serious."

*The New York Times Book Review* calls this a "forcefully written story of personal defeat, despair and salvation..."

*Kirkus Reviews* wrote: "Wasting not a word, Nesbø paints an indelible portrait of a criminal."

Nesbø is a musician, songwriter, economist and author who lives in Oslo, Norway. His books have been translated into 47 languages.

Till next time, happy reading!



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# MICKY GALLAS PROPERTIES



2411 St. Lawrence Avenue  
 Long Beach, IN 46360

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#BeachCityCountry

## March Madness on Duffy Lane!



New Listing

### 2716 Duffy Lane

#### Long Beach

A show stopping 5 bedroom, 3.5 bath Long Beach Colonial! Situated just off Long Beach Country Club's 8th tee, this home has been meticulously cared for and appointed.



Completely rehabbed in 2010 with a fully finished basement in 2016. Kitchen features granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, custom built-ins, and hickory flooring. 3 car garage for your beach toys or golf cart. A relaxing deck overlooking the golf course. Move right in! **\$629,000**



New Listing

### 2718 Duffy Lane

#### Long Beach

Long Beach living at its finest! Completely updated 3 bedroom, 3 bath ranch that has all the bells and whistles. Open main floor with beautiful hardwood flooring throughout.



Kitchen includes granite counter tops and stainless steel appliances. Enjoy your summer nights in the three season room or stone patio. Cozy up in the winter with a double sided gas fireplace. Let the in-ground irrigation system add to your peace of mind and ease of living. **\$449,000**

## Your True Beach, City and Country Connection

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# LONG BEACH REALTY

1401 Lake Shore Drive ~ 3100 Lake Shore Drive  
219.874.5209 ~ 219.872.1432  
[www.longbeachrealty.net](http://www.longbeachrealty.net)



Family Owned and Operated Since 1920

## WE DO HOME RIGHT! Let Long Beach Realty help find the best home for you.



**1629 Lake Shore Drive  
Sheridan Beach  
\$975,000**

Large brick home with walkout basement and seasonal views of Lake Michigan. Sets high on dune with 142.5 ft of frontage property. 5 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, great 2nd floor deck for entertaining or relaxing and plenty more.



**2919 Loma Portal Way, Long Beach  
\$360,000**

So many updates have taken place at this home recently. All you need to do is add your personal touch! Additions include electrical, insulation, furnace, humidifier, A/C, water heater, siding, soffits, fascia, gutters, roof, garage door, interior painting and more! All appliances included.



**106½ California • \$249,000**

Sun-filled year-round cottage in perfect location! Just down the street from the beach and walking distance to Washington Park, zoo, marina and restaurants. Ideal location in Sheridan Beach! House has 2 spacious bedrooms, living room, dining room and kitchen with a wrap-around deck for outside living. An adjacent corner lot is included that provides exceptional yard space. The cottage is perfect as a primary residence, 2nd home or as an investment with proven rental history (vrbo.com). Newer windows, siding, roof, central air and heat. A must see at a great price!

**208 Oriole Trail, Trail Creek • \$136,500**



This 4-bedroom, 2-bath house has been rehabbed top to bottom. Caledonia granite countertop in the kitchen and wood Pergo flooring throughout the entire house. New electric, plumbing, insulation, walls, bathrooms, siding. New septic will be installed prior to closing. Enjoy the sunset room that leads to a nice open yard, plenty of parking.

**805 Birch Tree Lane, Michigan City • \$179,500**



Best of both worlds! Enjoy low-maintenance 3-bedroom 3-bath condo living within a beach community! Only one of four units this size. Wonderful amenities include garage, private patio and pool area. Beautiful common area. Association fee includes gas, trash, water, grass, snow removal and all of the pool maintenance.

## CALL LONG BEACH REALTY FOR YOUR PERSONAL SHOWING ON THESE AND OTHER PROPERTIES



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