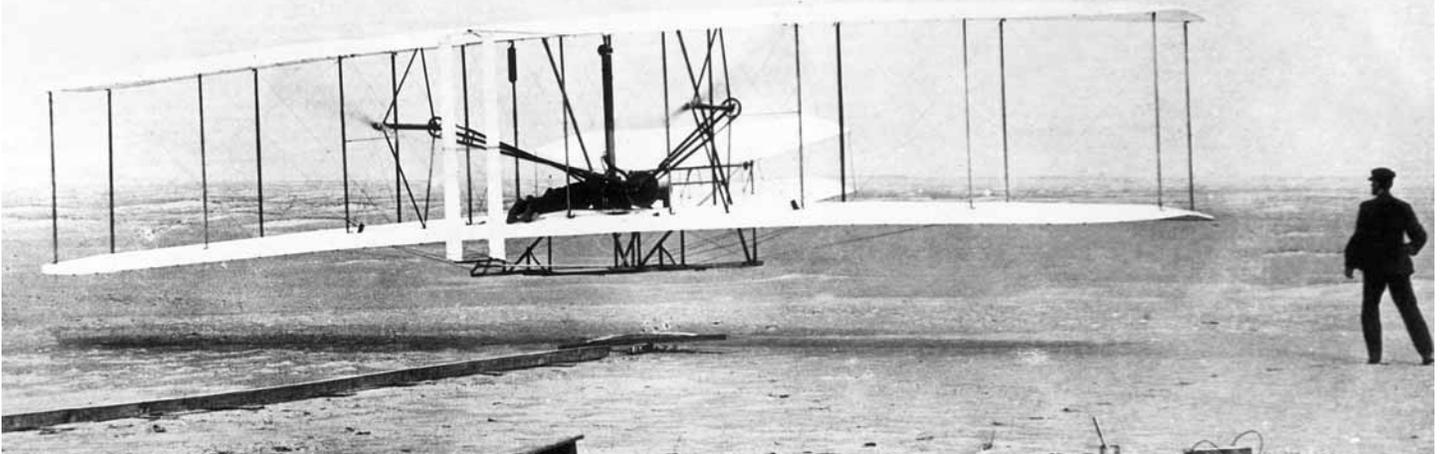




Volume 35, Number 19 Thursday, May 16, 2019

# Deconstructing History

by Andrew Tallackson



The first flight on Dec. 17, 1903, at Kitty Hawk, N.C.

*“When the legend becomes fact, print the legend.”*

That quote hails from John Ford’s classic 1962 western “The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance.” In it, James Stewart plays a senator who returns home for the funeral of a rancher (John Wayne), exposing buried truths behind the killing of an infamous outlaw. The townsfolk, ultimately, prefer legend to fact.

William Hazelgrove prefers the facts. Truth, to him, is far more tantalizing. As a writer, he’s become a champion of deconstructing history, revisiting periods in time we think we know, only to rattle preconceived notions.

In the past, he’s written about the likes of First Lady Edith Wilson, President Teddy Roosevelt and notorious gangster Al Capone. His latest,



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Wilbur (left) and Orville Wright

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## Deconstructing History Continued from Page 1

Wright Brothers, Wrong Story: How Wilbur Wright Solved the Problem of Manned Flight, is his most persuasive...and contentious. Sifting through more than a century of what he calls the “Wright Myth,” he aims to debunk the “we” legend that Wilbur and Orville Wright were equals on every front from 1900 and 1903, when dreams of flight became reality at the desolate outer banks of North Carolina.

iron fist by Orville more than three decades after Wilbur’s death from typhoid fever. Every ensuing work, including David McCullough’s celebrated 2015 account, The Wright Brothers, borrowed from a historical template Kelly established.

“What has come down to us from the Kelly biography is not what people who were alive then were thinking,” Hazelgrove told *The Beacher* in a recent interview. “They were thinking, Wilbur invented this plane, but he died in 1912, so history fell to Orville.



William Hazelgrove discusses his book during a televised interview.

Wilbur, *not* Orville, Hazelgrove argues, was the driving force that accelerated man’s ability to take to the air. The author — the son of Long Beach’s William Hazelgrove III — also delves into the private lives of the brothers, their sister, Katherine, and controlling father, Milton.

Myths surrounding the Wright Brothers, Hazelgrove argues, date back to journalist Fred Kelly’s The Wright Brothers: A Biography Authorized by Orville Wright (1943), a work controlled with an

“I read David McCullough’s book, and at the end, two things hit me. Wow, this really didn’t tell me anything I didn’t know, and second, we really don’t know much about these guys. We have this myth that has come down, and I felt, where the beef? Where’s the real beef with these guys?”

What troubled him the most about McCullough’s work?

“Everything was 50 percent,” he said. “The brothers: They walked the same, they voted the same.

Nobody is like that. No one is the same.”

By embracing that reasoning, Hazelgrove paints a complex portrait of the Wright family like few before him.



Katherine Wright, sister to Wilbur and Orville, was forced into the position of surrogate wife *and* mother by her father.

Bishop Milton Wright was an exhaustively controlling man who was rarely home, but with his wife having passed, unfairly sculpts his daughter Katherine into a surrogate wife *and* mother to her siblings. Katherine likely was a lesbian, having what Hazelgrove calls “strong relationships with other women.” Wilbur and Orville dropped out of high school and toiled as bicycle mechanics, but it was Wilbur, Hazelgrove shows,

whose wants, hopes and dreams inspired him to contact French-born civil engineer and aviation giant Octave Chanute. Wilbur also was the one who reached out to the Smithsonian Institute and National Weather Bureau, who takes the issue of “wing warping” — lateral control of a fixed-wing craft — to the next level that resulted in those successful test runs at Kitty Hawk (actually, it was the ramshackle town of Kill Devil Hills).



Octave Chanute

Orville, Hazelgrove says, was more of a businessman. A gifted inventor, true, but more hand’s on in nature. Wilbur was the artist, the dreamer. We also are introduced to Mabel Beck, Orville’s assistant — his tough-as-steel “centurion at the gate”...and secret love — and an ongoing feud between Orville and Smithsonian officials.

Hazelgrove achieves moments of inspired irony, like the how the 1903 “Wright Flyer” ended up in England, nearly destroyed by nightly *Luftwaffe* bombings in World War II. The German fighter

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## Deconstructing History Continued from Page 3

planes, it must be noted, used technology pioneered by the Wrights themselves.

It was this incredible story that Hazelgrove set out to tell, unearthed through exhaustive research through archival information.

“I was more interested in their personal life, to find out what they guys are about. They’ve been sawdust characters. They don’t seem real, and I discovered very quickly, Wilbur was the one who really invented the plane,” he said. “Orville didn’t have much to do with the fore and thrust of making this breakthrough.”

Hazelgrove’s fascination with flight, and the Wright brothers, reaches back to his first visit to Kitty Hawk back in second grade, a place he describes as “the edge of the edge of the eastern United States.” The writer would return there over the years, all the way through college.

“When you go back there,” he says, “and you are on those big sand dunes — hotter than hell, because it’s summer — you really understand, or try to understand, what it was like when they (the Wright brothers) were down there.”

Through his research, which individual did Hazelgrove find most fascinating? That would be Bishop Milton Wright.

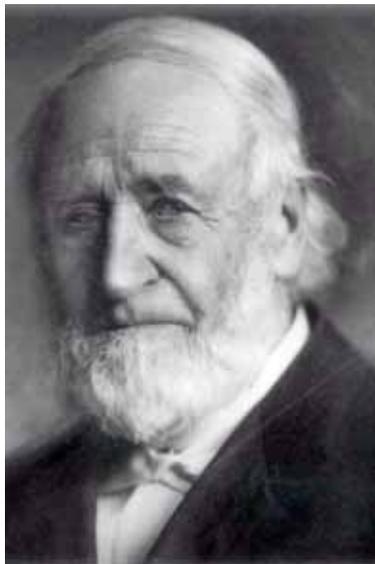
“My first thought was, Bishop Wright was a real castrating kind of guy,” Hazelgrove said. “He was the ultimate empty nester who could not stand that his kids would leave and he would come home to an empty house.

“This guy was really selfish. It was all about him: the white male patriarch, all-knowing. It would always be him first, so it was OK for him to travel and be away, but everyone in his family should be home preserving the idea of home.

“If Wilbur hadn’t pursued flight,” Hazelgrove added, “he, and his brother, would have led sad lives.”

Orville, he says, likely would be described today as metrosexual: super fastidious, to the point of bleaching his skin with lemon juice. Even when testing their creations, they dressed in the excessive, buttoned-down style of the late Victorian era.

With each new project, does Hazelgrove intentionally set out to pen revisionist history? It would seem so, but the writer says that is not the case.



Milton Wright, depicted in Hazelgrove’s book as an excessively controlling father figure.

“All my books, I take the approach, let’s go through this story and see what it adds up to so you, the reader, can make the decision. You, as the reader, will make up your own mind, does this thesis hold up or not?”



Statues and sculpture pay tribute to the Wright brothers at Kill Devil Hills.

Considering how Wright Brothers, Wrong Story frequently casts the Smithsonian in a negative light — largely due to Orville’s epic feud — Hazelgrove was surprised when Smithsonian.com asked him to write an article about his book that posted this past December. That his book paints Wilbur as the brainchild of modern flight, not Orville, may offer some explanation,

“I think they liked the fact I was saying Orville wasn’t the main guy, and he had been a real problem for them,” Hazelgrove says. “So, for them, this was sort of a shot back at Orville.

“The controversy,” he says, laughing, “goes on.”

So, how has Hazelgrove’s book been received? From experts in the field, rave reviews.

“By far, the best published work on the Wright brothers’ personal and professional lives,” wrote Alan Carey, author of We Flew Alone: Men and Missions of the United States Navy’s B-24 Liberator Squadrons. Burt Rutan, founder of two aircraft research companies, wrote, “A brilliant work of research that tells the Wright brothers’ story much better than other books I have read about the Wrights. It is a valuable reference for those seeking the detailed truth of their historic work.”

Take a look, however, at the comments section for the book on amazon.com. Reviews convey an altogether different reaction.

“Hazelgrove uses two false statements in the first four pages of his book as the foundation to prime the reader for his rancorous portrayal of Orville Wright, manipulating his way to a tale of his own fabricated fantasy,” writes one person.

Another comment: “Hazelgrove’s hypothesis is

*emphatically wrong. Wilbur was the more articulate and cerebral of the Wright brothers, while Orville was more reflective and mechanically inclined.*"

And the most incensed: "For any newcomer to the Wright Brothers story, this book is poison."

Ouch.

Hazelgrove shrugs it off.

"I didn't say what's palatable in history to accept," he says. "I didn't want to entertain the fact that much of what they believe didn't happen."

Hazelgrove continued.

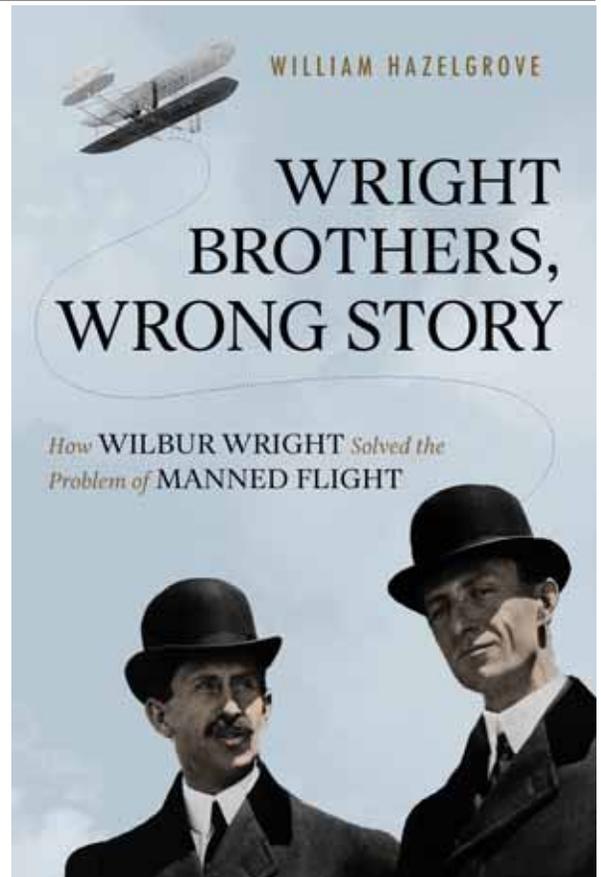
"Each book I write, I read and look at the facts. I try to get primary sources and read through it, see what is history saying about this. Then, I find the gaps between history and what really happened."

We return, it seems, to the notion of myth vs. fact, as illustrated by the quote from "The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance." What do people prefer to embrace? Hazelgrove makes no excuses, as a writer, for attempting to set the record straight.

"The myth, generally speaking, is more fun to read because we like myths...but, again, what's the real story? What I wanted to do is take away the sawdust quality to these two people: two living, breathing guys with normal dreams and desires.

"That is what you didn't get with these guys in the past. Then, they were cardboard cutouts of Americana. What I'm trying to say is, they are more like us than you know, and that makes them far more interesting."

(Visit [williamhazelgrove.com](http://williamhazelgrove.com) for more details.)



William Hazelgrove's book has garnered considerable praise, and intense scrutiny, from the public.



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## “The Wandering Earth” is American Popcorn Fare — Chinese Style

by Andrew Tallackson

“Avengers: Endgame” is exceedingly close to assuming bragging rights as all-time box-office champ. As it should be. True, you can chip away at the logic of its time-travel mechanics, but it’s a rousing, cathartic release after 11 years of Marvel storytelling.

Another film this year has shattered box-office records, but lacks the same notoriety.

“The Wandering Earth.”

Never heard of it? This is China’s bid to prove it can play with Hollywood big boys. Based on a novella by Hugo Award-winning author Liu Cixin, it carries a \$50 million budget — chump change compared to “Endgame’s” rumored \$400 million price tag — yielding non-stop action and effects.

The result:

- Worldwide box-office take surpassed \$700 million, making it China’s second highest-grossing film.
- 2019’s third highest-grossing film globally.
- One of top 20 highest-grossing science-fiction films of all time.

So, does the film, which just debuted on Netflix, survive the hype? Yes and no. As spectacle, once it revs up, which is *immediately*, it does not let up, and the visuals are breathtaking. I enjoyed it on those levels.

But this is proof the Chinese can make movies just as clunky as Americans. “The Wandering Earth” is like a Michael Bay movie: long on style, short on substance, with hectic action sequences that border on headache-inducing. There is so much more to the story the film could have explored if it wasn’t so preoccupied with making things go boom.

The plot is classic “what if” science-fiction. The sun is dying. All the nations of Earth unite, creating huge thrusters across the planet run by fusion power that will push it to another solar system.

That solution results in two problems. First, stopping the Earth’s rotation, in order to push it away from the sun, results in devastating tsunamis. Later, as Earth progresses farther from the sun, it freezes, sending the remaining survivors into vast underground cities.

Pretty cool concept, huh?

Director Frant Gwo says he was inspired to become a director after seeing James Cameron’s “Terminator 2: Judgment Day,” and that influence lingers over every image in “The Wandering Earth.” Gwo no doubt is a student of elaborate popcorn fare: His film also is influenced by “2001” and its sequel, “2010,” “Deep Impact,” “Armageddon” and go-for-broke disaster pictures by Roland Emmerich (“The Day After Tomorrow,” “2012”).

Like his inspirations, Gwo introduces characters briefly, makes them likable enough to distract from the fact that there isn’t much definition to them, then lets all hell break loose.



Chuxiao Qu stars in “The Wandering Earth.”



### “The Wandering Earth”

Running time: 125 minutes. Not Rated, but likely the equivalent of PG-13 for mild language and violence.

The sci-fi geek in me was curious as to how Earth’s inhabitants have survived or, more specifically, adapted to these cataclysmic environments, but “The Wandering Earth” isn’t really interested in that. Once Earth nears Jupiter’s atmosphere, the gravitational spike creates quakes on Earth that disable thrusters across the globe, resulting in a threat of the planet being disintegrated.

That leads to the apparent action selling point of “The Wandering Earth”: characters driving tanks while dodging collapsing ice or man-made structures. It’s frequently breathless, but hollow. Gwo, however, knows how to craft race-to-the-finish action, and his visuals are gorgeous. Many of the frozen landscapes take on the surreal quality of abstract paintings, the most haunting image being that of Jupiter reaching out with almost plant-like tendrils into the stars, sucking Earth into its wake.

The big finish is a direct paraphrase of “Armageddon,” complete with personal sacrifice, emotional farewells and explosive effects. It shouldn’t work, but in some goofy way, it does. The film is so in love with American cinema, it tosses in everything but the kitchen sink to prove itself.

It succeeds.

Contact Andrew Tallackson at [drew@thebeacher.com](mailto:drew@thebeacher.com)



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### Studies in Contrasting Styles

by Linda Weigel

The contrasting painting styles of two well-known area artists highlight this month's artistic presentations.

In Dorothy Graden's "Timeless Mysteries," now at The Rising Phoenix Gallery, color-infused works unite handmade/hand-colored pulp with watercolor, India ink and pastels. Her one-woman exhibit exudes confidence with a lightness of touch, as well as expressive lines and explosive color.



"Winter Journey of The Shadow Spirits," a mixed media by Dorothy Graden.

Thematically, the art relates to her extensive travels through the American West and Southwest, combining personal exploration of prehistoric rock art with innate contemporary sensibilities. Her re-interpretation of dreamlike states and ancient ancestors results in a very individualistic statement.

The show closes June 5.



Kei Constantinov's oil paintings at Ellen Firme Gallery employ a more somber, muted palette, as well as a methodology harkening back to Western art and earlier times.

"To my eyes, it's easier on the eye," Constantinov states. "I just recently came to a point to use yellow



"Dome of Heaven: The Seekers," an oil on linen by Kei Constantinov.

and purple. Anything outside the spectrum (muted tones) was too harsh to my eyes."

Constantinov is an admirer of medieval art and most especially Chinese, Persian and Moorish influences. The majority of her work is executed in oil paints using the indirect method of painting: a classical approach whereby the artist begins with a toned canvas, then continues working in a careful buildup of layers with a series of glazes on top. This particular style is more laborious, but enables the artist to create a wonderful sense of luminosity and depth.

Be sure to stop by and view the 22 fascinating artworks before the show closes June 11.



Moving on from two-dimensional works, Blink Contemporary Art opened First Friday with "Art



"Exit Left," an oil painting by Nick Bridge inspired by the paintings of Martin Hurting of University of Illinois at Chicago

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ists Do Artists,” a show featuring works inspired by other artists.

Participants selected an artist they admire and created a work of art. The resulting creations were reflective of works by Gerhard Richter, Alberto Giacometti, Martin Puryear, Japanese prints and more. The range of media was exciting and professional.

As a reminder, Blink is not a commercial gallery, but rather a studio gallery and combined working studio. Contact the gallery to view the exhibit.

SFC Gallery features the black-and-white photography of Albert George.

George does not use a digital camera; rather, his photos are made by hand “using film cameras (large and medium format; 35mm) and traditional darkroom techniques.” Subject matter ranges from still life to self-portraits and some nude portraiture. The richness and range of tones, as in his “Flower Bomb, 2016,” is palpable.



“Balancing Bear,” a black-and-white photo by Albert George.

The exhibit continues until the end of the month.

Southern Shore Art Association opened a new exhibit, “Patterns, Color and Light,” its annual all-painting exhibit, with a special section featuring the artist of the month, Ed Levitin.

The exhibit closes May 26.

**If You Go**

- The Rising Phoenix Gallery, 2803 Franklin St. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Thursday (closed Tuesday), 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. Website: [www.risingphxgallery.com](http://www.risingphxgallery.com)
- The Ellen Firme Gallery, located in Glenn L. Firme & Associates Building, 92 W. U.S. 12, Beverly Shores. Hours: 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday. Info: (219) 874-4003
- SFC Gallery, 607 Franklin St. Hours: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. Website: [www.sfcgallery.com](http://www.sfcgallery.com)
- Blink Contemporary Gallery, 1709 Franklin St. Phone: (773) 206-0426.
- Southern Shore Art Association, 724 Franklin St. Hours: noon to 5 p.m. Friday through Sunday. Website: [www.southernshoreartassociation.com](http://www.southernshoreartassociation.com)

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### Growth Spurt



Staff and students at Michigan City's Social and Learning Institute have been building a large garden box and growing vegetables. These photos were taken May 9. The effort is through a health and wellness program funded by Healthcare Foundation of LaPorte and Duneland Health Council. Lowe's Michigan City, Jeremy M. Downs Associates LLC and Modern Woodmen donated materials and time. Nutrition is a large aspect of the wellness program, so growing vegetables was seen as a vital aspect of summer curriculum. Plans also are in the works to compost and collect rainwater.

Photos provided by Stephanie Gordon



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## Chamber Music Festival Preview

“A Special Afternoon of Chamber Music,” held in anticipation of the 18th annual Michigan City Chamber Music Festival, is from 3 to 5 p.m. Sunday, June 2, at Barbara Bankoff’s home.



Chamber festival musicians perform during last year’s preview concert. Beacher file photo by Paul Kemiell.

The fundraiser includes a performance by musicians on strings and piano, and a reception of heavy hors d’oeuvres, desserts, artisan chocolates and fine wines. Tickets are \$100. Contact Judy Jacobi, MC-CMF vice president, at (219) 873-4560 for details.

This year’s season, “Witness and Legacy — Tragedy and Triumph,” is Aug. 3-11 and features classic chamber works and noted contemporary composers. Three children’s programs are included. Visit [mcmf.org](http://mcmf.org) for more information.

## Book Signing

William Bumstead will have a book signing for his new work, “No Trespassing,” from 5 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, May 16, at The Rising Phoenix Gallery, 2803 Franklin St.



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## St. Stanislaus 5K Run and Walk

St. Stanislaus Kostka Catholic Church, with cooperation from the Town of Trail Creek, will hold the seventh annual St. Stanislaus 5K (3.1 mile) run at 8 a.m. Saturday, June 1, at Nelson Park.

Race proceeds will fund much-needed repairs to the church.

Plaques are given in eight age divisions for women, men and children, and the top three overall female and male runners, as well as the top female and male walkers.

Entry forms are available at St. Stanislaus School, Trail Creek Town Hall and Robert Tylicz Appliance. Download an entry form at [ststanstc5Krunwalk.com](http://ststanstc5Krunwalk.com), or enter at [RunSignUp.com](http://RunSignUp.com), then enter the key word “St. Stans 5k.” Or, mail the completed form with payment to St. Stanislaus Parish, 109 Ann St., Michigan City, IN 46360.

Registration in person can be done at:

- St. Stanislaus Church Hall, 109 Ann St., from 3 to 7 p.m. Friday, May 31. The \$20 fee includes a T-shirt, while the cost for children 13 and younger is \$15.
- Day of the event from 6 to 7:30 a.m. June 1 at Nelson Park. The cost is \$25, but due to limited quantities, there is no guarantee of a T-shirt.

The race is sponsored by Robert Tylicz Appliance, St. Andrews Products, Members Advantage Credit Union, Ott/Haverstock Funeral Chapel, GIS Insurance, Castle Ford/Lincoln and Snyder & Associates. Call St. Stanislaus School at (219) 879-9281 or Race Director Patrick Kroehler at [pjk226@yahoo.com](mailto:pjk226@yahoo.com) for more details.

## Comic Book Convention

The South Bend Comic Book Convention is from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. EDT Saturday, May 18, at Comfort Suites, 52933 U.S. 933, South Bend.

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## Walk Against Violence

Stepping Stone Shelter will present "Missions Against Violence," its Fifth Annual Walk Against Violence, at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 18, at Kesling Park Shelter 4, LaPorte.

The event is a one-mile 5K walk/run. The organization invites people to walk a mile in high heels to stand against domestic violence and sexual assault, or walk/run the Superhero 5K dressed in costume. Heels and costumes are optional.

Stepping Stone has invited students from every local school corporation to participate in costumes in the Superhero 5K. They have asked them to consider what a "hero" looks like. The organization also has invited representatives from police and fire departments, educators, nurses and doctors to participate in work uniform, representing those who work closely with the effects of violence on a community.

The event includes children's activities, music, snacks and prizes for best heels, most creative costume and top pledgers.

Registration starts at 10 a.m. and costs \$25, including a free race T-shirt (pledges also will be accepted for registration fee). Children 10 and younger walk/run for free with a paid adult registration.

Event details can be found on Stepping Stone Shelter's Facebook page or by emailing new Executive Director Nanda Danitschek at [nanda@steppingstoneshelter.org](mailto:nanda@steppingstoneshelter.org)



Participants at the Fourth Annual Walk Against Violence on June 16, 2018.

## Michigan City Public Library

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

• **Makerspace: open lab hours at 3 p.m. Thursdays in May.**

Youth ages 6-18 can create with LEGO WeDo, Micro Bits, paper circuits and Ozobots. Children 12 and younger must have a parent or guardian attend with them.

• **Angels Among Us at 3 p.m. Thursday, May 16.**

Ange Benz, who leads the discussion, can be contacted at (219) 874-3754.

• **Needle Arts League at 5:30 p.m. Thursdays in May.**

Membership to the group, formerly known as the Knit Club, is open to anyone interested in needle arts such as crochet, needlepoint, cross-stitch, crewel, tatting and other hand stitching. All skill levels and ages are welcome.

• **Bookmarks: Warlight and The English Patient at 2 p.m. Friday, May 17.**

Dennis Norman will review the two books by Michael Ondaatje.

• **"The Golfmore Hotel: A Grand Place" at 2 p.m. Sunday, May 19.**

Tom Suhs will discuss how, from 1923-1939, the Golfmore Hotel in the Michigan Shores/Grand Beach area was comparable in amenities, size and appearance to Mackinac Island's Grand Hotel.

• **Pokemon Go Community Day at 3 p.m. Sunday, May 19, in Youth Services.**

The library gym will have a lure placed on it, while Pokemon-themed giveaways — while supplies last — are planned. The day will feature Torchic. Call Jonathan at (219) 873-3045 for details.

• **Learning Center Volunteers Needed.**

The Learning Center needs volunteer tutors for children and adults. Students need assistance in: reading, math, high school equivalency and English as a Second Language. All supplies and training are provided. All that's required are two hours a week. Contact Jessica Hoffmaster at (219) 873-3043 or stop by the center for more information.

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

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## Indiana Dunes Birding Festival

The fifth annual Indiana Dunes Birding Festival is Thursday through Sunday, May 16-19, at Indiana Dunes State Park and Indiana Dunes National Park.

A complete list of all events is at [www.indunes-birdingfestival.com](http://www.indunes-birdingfestival.com)



Programs at the state park — both for the birding festival and as general offerings — are:

**Saturday, May 19**

• **9 a.m. to 4 p.m. — Family Birding Day.**

Celebrate National Kids to Parks Day with beginning bird hikes and programs starting every hour at the Nature Center. Planned are live raptors, bird

crafts, bird sketching, bird games, birdhouse making, owl pellet dissecting and freebies.

• **1 to 2 p.m. — Snakes of the Great Lakes.**

Snake expert Brock Struecker will introduce some snakes found within the Indiana Dunes and around the Great Lakes. Meet at the Nature Center Auditorium.

• **2:30 to 3:30 p.m. — Beekeeping 101.**

Meet at the Nature Center Auditorium to learn about pollinators of the dunes, with guest speaker Annette Hansen sharing her knowledge of beekeeping and how anyone can get started.

**Sunday, May 20**

• **2:30 to 3:30 p.m. — Birds as Symbols.**

Meet guest speaker Dan Barriball in the Nature Center Auditorium as he discusses the meanings and context of sacred bird symbols.



Call the Nature Center at (219) 926-1390 for more details.

## Indiana Dunes National Park

*The following programs are planned:*

• **The Save the Tunes Council performs from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Friday, May 17, at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.**

The group preserves folk songs in the traditional way, using guitar, autoharp, dulcimer, banjo, harmonica, bagpipe, penny whistle, hurdy gurdy and other obscure instruments.

• **Drop-In Volunteer Program from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 18.**

Projects focus on preserving the park's natural and cultural resources. Dress for the weather, and be prepared to walk off trail. All equipment and protective gear, including gloves and eye protection, will be provided. Meet at The Park Connection volunteer office, which is adjacent to the main Chellberg Farm parking lot.

• **Junior Wildland Firefighter Program from 11 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 18, at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.**

Meet IDNP'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

• **Miller Woods Hike from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Sundays through May 26 at Paul H. Douglas Center.**

The ranger-led stroll explores a rare black oak savanna, and offers views of Lake Michigan and Chicago.



*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.*

## Noon Time Talk Series

The Noon Time Talk Series continues with Eric Garton of Elkhart's Wellfield Botanic Gardens at 12:20 p.m. EDT Thursday, May 16, at Midwest Museum of American Art, 429 S. Main St., Elkhart.

Garton will discuss the soon-to-open Japanese Garden, a new sculpture and statistical insight.

Admission is \$5. Members are free. Call (574) 293-6660 for details.



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1. Don't "top" your trees. Topping is the removal of large branches to reduce the height of the tree. This causes decay that leads to large branch failures in the future.
2. Don't "spike" your trees. Spiking causes wounds that lead to infection and tree decline. Anyone who spikes trees is causing long-term damage to the trees.
3. Avoid damage to the roots. Large trucks cause soil compaction and digging up roots cause frayed wounds that can't heal and create access points for pathogens (fungi) that start root rot and weaken the trees structural stability. Lawn mowers can also cause damage to the root flares.
4. Protect the roots out to the drip line from any activity other than foot traffic. The drip line is simply the outside edge of the canopy. On a mature open grown oak, it can be a circle of 60 feet in diameter.
5. Consult an ISA Certified Arborist before doing anything to your tree.

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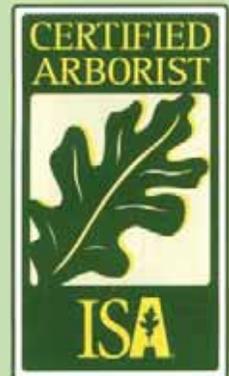
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## CTE Programs Honor Area Veteran

The LaPorte County Career and Technical Education program at A.K. Smith Career Center honored an area veteran during the annual Technical Awards and Honor Society induction program May 2 at The Holdcraft Performing Arts Center.

The veteran, Sean Smiertelny, is the stepfather of an A.K. Smith student. He served in the Army for 18 years as a combat engineer, and was deployed in Iraq for 15 months, serving there beyond his original six-month assignment.

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Sean Smiertelny (left) is photographed with his plaque along with welding instructor Ray Goss.

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Smiertelny received a plaque commemorating his service. The wood used was walnut and donated by Ed and Matt Bruder of Bruder Custom Woodworking in LaCrosse. It was finished by Dick Bucher, A.K. Smith construction technology instructor. Metal cutouts were created on a CNC plasma table in the welding lab.

The top cutout is the Army's 25th Infantry Division's patch, which signifies the combat patch Smiertelny earned while serving under the division in a combat zone. The patch's importance is that, when a soldier deploys to a combat zone for a minimum of 30 days, he/she is now authorized to wear it on the right sleeve under the American flag on the right shoulder.

The bottom cutout depicts the Combat Action Badge, which Smiertelny received during his deployment to Iraq. It goes to soldiers who are personally present, actively engaging or being engaged by the enemy, and who perform satisfactorily in accordance with the prescribed rules of engagement. The badge features an M9 bayonet and M67 grenade with an oak wreath.



**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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**La Porte County Parks**



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

**Make and Take Craft Weekends**

The free program is from 1 to 4 p.m. May 25 and 26, June 8 and 9, July 20 and 21, and Aug. 17 and 18 at Luhr Park Nature Center, 3178 S. County Road 150 West, LaPorte.

No pre-registration is required. All ages are welcome, but children must be accompanied by an adult. Crafts are available while supplies last.

**Joyful Movement, "Shake, Rattle and Move"**

Appropriate for all ages and abilities, the low-impact mindfulness program emphasizes stretching, meditation and heart pumping.

The cost is \$10 per session. Times are 4 to 4:45 p.m. Session 1 is: May 28 and 30, June 4 and 6, June 11 and 13, and June 18 and 20. Session 2 is: July 16 and 18, July 23 and 25, July 30, Aug. 1 and Aug. 6 and 8. The minimum participants required is four and the maximum 10.

Pre-registration is required by calling (219) 325-8315 one week before the session's start.

**Family Fishing Nights**

The free program is from 6 to 7:30 p.m. June 19 and July 18 at Luhr County Park.

All ages are welcome. A limited number of poles and bait are available. No fishing licenses are required, and children must be accompanied by an adult. Pre-registration is required at least one week in advance.

**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:

- June 12 — 1 Fish, 2 Fish.
- June 26 — Play Trail Adventure.
- July 17 — Butterfly Fun.

**Shelter and Hall Reservations**

Call (219) 325-8315 to make reservations for one of many picnic shelters at any of the four county parks, or Pat Smith Hall at Red Mill County Park for a family function.



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Dear Fellow NW Indiana Resident,

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And think of the look on the faces of your friends when you jitterbug or swing your way through that dance floor.

Or how would you like to tend to that garden of yours and not have to wonder if you'll get dizzy when you bend over.

*These things are possible and can come true.*

You can get steadier on your feet ...and regain your balance confidence.

### **But you need to do something...**

They say in any issue, in this case unsteadiness or dizziness, there are 3 ways to approach it.

*The first way is the worst...IGNORE it.*

Ignoring does not mean you are not vocal about it.

People tend to blame age...thinking that unsteadiness is normal as we get older.

They say they don't have time...and their balance is nothing to be concerned about.

**However, deep inside, they know something is wrong.**

*The second way people approach a balance issue is to PATCH it.*

Patching in its' worst form is giving up on the things we love to do.

I've met a lot of patients who have given up...

Walking...hiking...golfing...dancing...shopping...

*And all the simple things in their daily life they used to enjoy...all because they are unsteady.*

If only people knew...

**There is a best way to approach a balance, unsteadiness or dizziness issue...**

**HANDLE it!**

But how do you handle it?

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It starts with attending my FREE Balance and Dizziness Workshop.

During the workshop, I will discuss in detail:

- The 3 components of balance control that help keep you steady.
- How to know if each component is working properly the way it's supposed to (these are simple tests you can do on your own without any expensive equipment. The 3<sup>rd</sup> test is what people usually fail the most).
- Simple techniques to strengthen all 3 components (we will do them together during the workshop; one of them you would have never thought would make such a big difference).
- Top 3 things you can do to decrease your risk of falling (people who fail the tests and don't do anything about it are at 3x higher risk of falling)

**So call my office now at (219) 380-0809 in LaPorte** and secure your spot for my Balance and Dizziness Workshop..

- Orthopedic and Balance Therapy Specialists- LaPorte office **Tuesday, May 21, from 5-6 PM** at 1405 E. Lincolnway Suite B (across Indiana 2 from Walmart, in the same building as Hair Fitness).

This workshop is FREE, but I am only taking 20 attendees due to space constraints.

Sincerely,



Dr. Arlan Albuero, PT, DPT, MTC  
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**P.S.** As a bonus, all attendees receive a copy of my most recently published report on the **Top 8 Secrets to Improve Balance and Prevent falling.**

**P.P.S.** Call (219) 380-0809 in LaPorte now to secure your spot for my Balance and Dizziness Workshop on **Tuesday, May 21.**

### Shipwrecks on the Great Lakes



The Eastland, after capsizing in the Chicago River.

“Insights at Night: Shipwrecks on the Great Lakes” is at 7 p.m. EDT Wednesday, May 22, at South Bend’s The History Museum.

The program is by Director of Education Travis Childs. Flavored coffees will be offered and photos of Great Lakes shipwrecks displayed. A guided tour of the photos is planned.

Admission is \$5, or \$4 for members. Reservations are required by May 20 at [historymuseumSB.org](http://historymuseumSB.org) or by calling (574) 235-9664.

The museum is located at 808 W. Washington St.

### Music Festival/Pulled Pork Dinner

Rolling Prairie United Methodist Church, 3444 U.S. 20, will present its third annual Community Music Festival and Pulled Pork Dinner on Saturday, May 18.

The free family event, held on the church lawn, kicks off at 3:30 p.m. with the New Prairie High School Jazz Band. The ensuing schedule is:

- 4 p.m. — Down By the Dock Jazz Band.
- 5 p.m. — Portage High School Jazz String Orchestra.
- 5:30 p.m. — PHS Jazz Combo.
- 6 p.m. — PHS Choraliers Vocal Jazz.
- 6:30 p.m. — Old Tyme Bluegrass Band.

The groups feature more than 150 musicians performing music ranging from jazz to bluegrass.

Take lawn chairs and blankets. In case of inclement weather, the event moves indoors. The directors of the PHS ensembles are Carrie Ann Carlson, William Timmerman and Jordan Dollins. The director of the New Prairie High School Jazz Band is Patrick Teykl. Rick Sprague conducts the New Prairie area jazz band, and Michigan City Senior Center sponsors the Old Tyme Blue Grass Band.

The church will offer dinners for sale that include pulled pork, baked beans, potato salad, Cole slaw, bread, pickles and desserts. The cost is \$10 for adults, \$7 for students 6-12 and free for children 5 and younger. Pre-sale, at-door and carry-outs are available. Contact the church office at (219) 778-2910 for reserve tickets or more information.

### Silk Stocking Row Walking Tour

Barker Mansion’s first summer walking tour for 2019 explores the architecture and history of the neighborhood around the mansion, called “Silk Stocking Row” in the Barkers’ time.

The tour is from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Saturday, May 25, starting at the mansion, 631 Washington St. It highlights millionaires and movers of historic Michigan City, as well as the immigrant workers who built their fortunes and the city.

The tour covers approximately one mile. In the event of rain, a special mansion tour will be offered. Tickets, which are \$5, can be purchased on Eventbrite or by calling the mansion at (219) 873-1520. Visit [www.barkermansion.com](http://www.barkermansion.com) for details.

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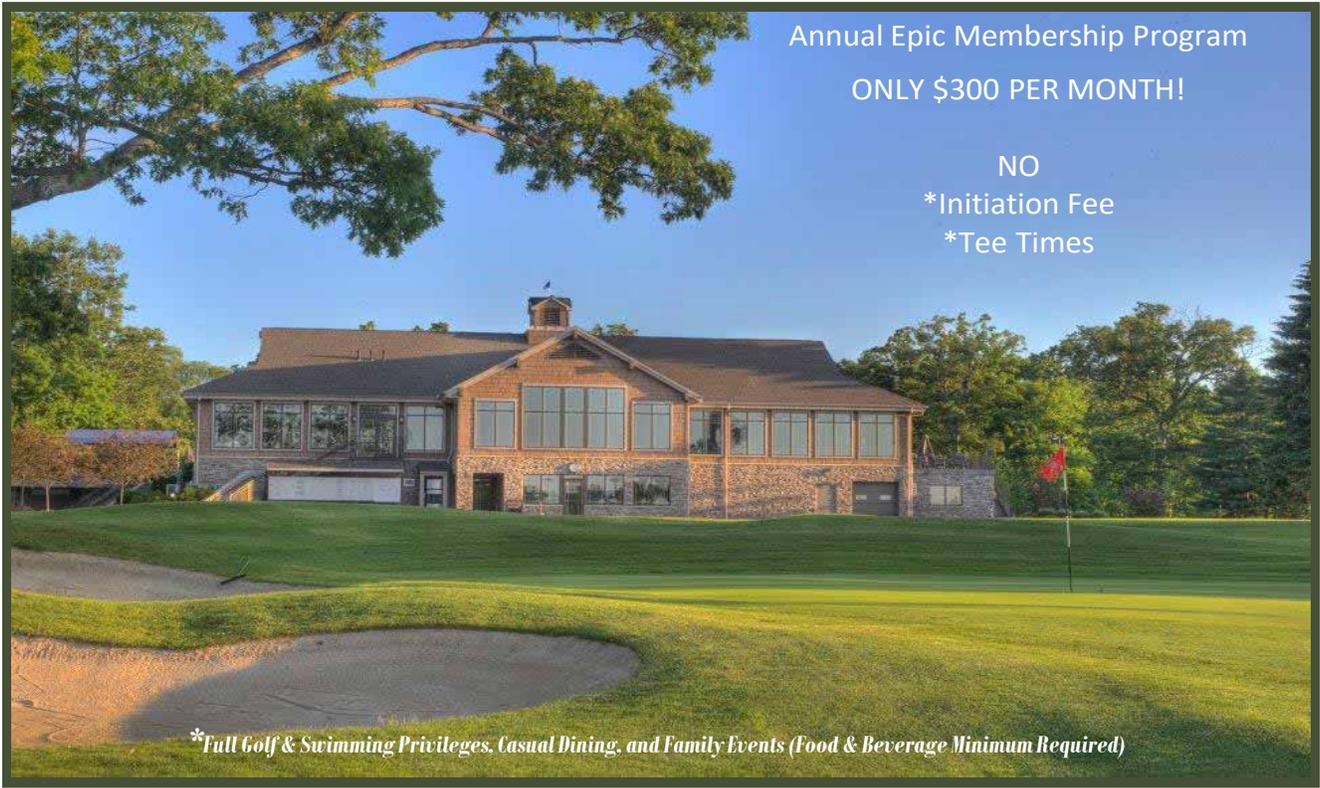
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**LaPorte County Public Library**

The following programs are at the main branch of LaPorte County Public Library, 904 Indiana Ave.:

- **Stories & More from 10 to 10:30 a.m. Fridays.**

Children ages 3-5 with their caregivers experience stories, songs, crafts and activities that include using iPads to build early literacy skills.

- **Tinker Tuesdays from 3 to 7 p.m. Tuesdays.**

Teens and adults can use the Cricut Maker, the complete Adobe Creative Cloud, including Photoshop, Illustrator, Spark and Lightroom, and the 3-D printer.

- **Summer Reading Program Signup and Bingo from 3 to 4 p.m. Monday, May 20.**

Play Bingo to win prizes, and learn about the Summer Reading Program.

- **Coffee and Canvas from 5 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 21.**

Investigate the life of Frida Kahlo, make a flower crown and create a study of her style and color palette. Register at [laportelibrary.org](http://laportelibrary.org)

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

**5-in-1 Recycling**

LaPorte County Solid Waste District will host its spring 5-in-1 Dropoff from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, May 18, at LaPorte County Fairgrounds, 2581 W. Indiana 2.

The event will accept appliances, electronics, household hazardous waste, tires and shredding. All items are free for dropoff, excluding tires. That pricing is:

- First four passenger car/truck tires are free per resident.
- Each additional car/truck tire is charged \$1 for each.
- Semi/tractor tires are \$5, while tires 54" or larger tread to tread are charged \$75.

Call (219) 326-0014 for more details.

**Educational Hemp Seminar**

An Educational Hemp Seminar, hosted by Berrien Conservation District, MSU Extension and Guest Speaker Milan Kluko, is from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. EDT Tuesday, May 21.

The location is the Southwest Michigan Research and Extension Center, 1791 Hillandale Road, Benton Harbor, Mich. The \$35 cost includes snacks and lunch. Kluko is an established grower in Oregon and a vertical farmer in Southwest Michigan along with Eric Anderson, field crops educator from Michigan State University Extension.

Space is limited to 65 attendees, and tickets are only available on EventBrite.

## Harbor Country Hikers

Harbor Country Hikers will visit Mud Lake Bog for a lesson on ecological restoration at 10 a.m. EDT Saturday, May 18.

Jack Pizzo will lead the group through the bog near Buchanan, Mich. It began as a kettle lake created when the last glaciers retreated about 17,000 years ago. It has evolved through all the stages, or successions, of a bog. Before becoming a nature preserve in the 1970s, it was used as a dump: officially at some point, unofficially at others. The bog also has survived floods and fires.



Pizzo

Pizzo is a landscape architect and ecologist in Three Oaks with more than 30-years experience in ecosystem restoration. The one-mile, approximately two-hour hike includes boardwalks. Comfortable hiking gear and insect repellent are advised.

The Mud Lake Bog Preserve is at 905 E. Elm Valley Road, Buchanan, between Wells and Clear Lake roads, with parking on Elm Valley Road.

HCH events are open to the public, and children are welcome if accompanied by an adult. Membership costs \$20 for individuals or \$30 for families. Visit harborcountryhikers.com for details.

## NB Library Community Forum

Spiders are the topic of the next Friends of New Buffalo Library Community Forum at 6 p.m. EDT Tuesday, May 21, in the library Pokagon Room, 33 N. Thompson St.

Known as "The Spider Lady," Linda Strain is a retired public-school educator with a master's degree in environmental education from the University of Michigan. Her program is appropriate for children and adults.

Upcoming topics include: "Weather, Climate Changes and the Environments of the Future" on Tuesday, June 11; and "Walking the Camino de Santiago" on Monday, June 24.

The series is underwritten in part by The Pokagon Fund. Call the library at (269) 469-2933, follow the Facebook link at newbuffalotownshiplibrary.org or email new.buffalo.FOL@gmail.com



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## Fernwood Botanical Garden

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

• **Broadcast Seed Garden from 1 to 2 p.m. EDT Saturday, May 18.**

The program focuses on how reseeding annuals is an inexpensive way to augment summer color, provide nectar for butterflies and hummingbirds, and cut flowers for summer arrangements.

The cost is \$15, or \$12 for members.

• **“Nature Nuggets: Talk and Book Signing” from 2:30 to 4 p.m. EDT Saturday, May 18.**

Chuck Nelson, formerly of Sarett Nature Center, and Dick Schinkel, authors of *Nature Nuggets*, will read excerpts from the book and sign copies for sale.

The cost is \$12, or \$10 for Fernwood and Sarett members.

• **Field Identification of Native Shrubs from 1 to 2:30 p.m. EDT Sunday, May 19.**

Participants examine the distinguishing features of 20 genera or so of native shrubs, then hike through the garden to see examples.

The cost is \$12, or \$10 for members. Register by May 17.

• **Storytime at the Education Center from 2 to 3 p.m. EDT Sunday, May 19.**

A reading of Lois Ehler’s *Planting a Rainbow* is followed by an exploration of bulbs and seeds. Participation is free with admission.

• **Make a Trough Planter from 2 to 3:30 p.m. EDT Sunday, May 19.**

The making of hypertufa troughs or imitation stone planters is a long-standing tradition at Fernwood. All materials are provided.

The cost is \$40, or \$32 for members. Register by May 16.



Call (269) 695-6491 or visit [www.fernwoodbotanical.org](http://www.fernwoodbotanical.org) for more information and to confirm the status of classes.

## Public Art Committee

The Michigan City Public Art Committee meets at 10 a.m. Thursday, May 16, in the City Hall Mayor’s Conference Room, 100 E. Michigan Blvd.

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## Spring Out to Sunset Festival

Joseph "Mojo" Morganfield, son of legendary Chicago Blues musician Muddy Waters, is the headliner at the annual "Spring Out to Sunset" festival Saturday, May 18, at Sunset Hill Farm County Park.

The performance will feature tracks from Morganfield's debut EP, "Mojo Risin," as well many Muddy Waters favorites. His band, The Mannish Boyz, includes Alligator recording artist Maurice John Vaughn and guitarist Rick Kreher, a member of Muddy Waters' band.



Morganfield

Morganfield is an inductee into the Chicago Blues Hall of Fame.

The event also includes the Kansas City BBQ Society competition. Food vendors, a beer garden, face painting, crafts, farm-animal visits and bounce houses also are planned.

The festival portion of the day is from noon to 4 p.m., which is when opening act James Gedda and Jack Whittle perform.

Tickets, which are \$10, are available at [www.portercountyparks.org/springconcert](http://www.portercountyparks.org/springconcert). Entrance to the park, 775 Meridian Road, Valparaiso, is \$5 per car.

## Barker Mansion Hours

After months of extensive cleaning and restoration, Barker Mansion, 631 Washington St., has resumed normal hours of operation.

Through Memorial Day, guided tours are at 1 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday. On Saturday and Sunday, self-guided tours are from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., with the last entry at 2:30 p.m.

From Memorial Day to Labor Day, times are: guided tours at 1 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday, with self-guided tours from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday.

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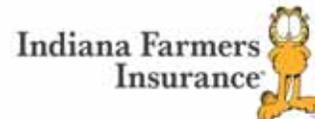
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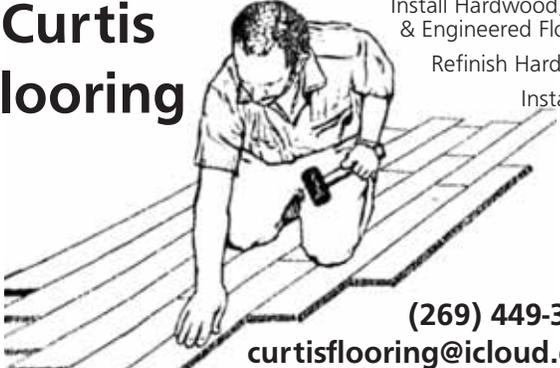
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**American Red Cross**

*The American Red Cross LaPorte County Chapter will sponsor the following bloodmobiles:*

- Queen of All Saints, 606 S. Woodland Ave., 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday, May 19. Cedar Fair coupons are available as gifts.
- Bethany Lutheran Church, 102 G St., LaPorte, 1-6 p.m. Tuesday, May 21.
- St. John Kanty, 7012 N. County Road 600 East, Rolling Prairie, 1-6 p.m. Tuesday, May 21.

*Give through June 10 and get a \$5 Amazon.com Gift Card by email. Donors must be in good general health and feeling well, at least 17 (16 with parental consent) and weigh at least 110 pounds. Call (800) 733-2767 or visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) for more details.*

**Westchester Public Library**

*The following programs are available:*

- **Bookmarks at the Museum at 2 p.m. Thursday, May 16, at Westchester Township History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton.**

Dennis Norman will review Michael Ondaatje's The English Patient and Warlight.

- **Saturday Crafternoons from 2 to 4 p.m. May 18 at Hageman Library, 100 Francis St., Porter.**

Children ages 2-5 can make a seasonal craft with Miss Ronnie.

- **WPL Movies in May: "Aquaman" at 3 p.m. Saturday, May 18, at The Baugher Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave.**

The film is Rated PG-13. Free popcorn is served.

- **Knitting Together from 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday, May 19, at Westchester Township museum.**

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

**SAM Spring Recital**

The School of American Music will present its free annual spring recital for students and instructors at 3 p.m. EDT Sunday, May 19, at Three Oaks Arts & Education Center, 14 Maple St.

The recital gives SAM students — children and adults — live performance experience, in addition to the training they receive in the school's studios.

SAM offers instruction to more than 100 students with experienced teachers. Lessons includes guitar, violin, baritone ukulele, bass guitar, piano, mountain dulcimer, slide guitar and flute.

Incorporated in 2012, SAM is in its seventh year.

## Steak & Burger Fundraiser

The Boys & Girls Club of Michigan City will hold a Steak & Burger fundraiser at 5:30 p.m. Friday, May 17, at St. Joseph Young Men's Society, 2001 Franklin St.



Dinkins

The event draws local civic and community leaders, club members and staff. With the children eating steaks and the adults eating burgers, the event's motto is, "Nothing But The Best For Our Kids!"

The keynote speaker is Brian Dinkins, an educational leader who has served as a teacher, coach and principal in urban schools the last 17 years. Based in Indianapolis, he also is the founder of the National Institute for Child Empowerment, a non-profit that supports and develops the social, emotional and academic needs of parents, students and communities.

Tickets, which cost \$25, are available by calling (219) 873-2298 or visiting [www.bgclubmc.org/event/steakburger2018](http://www.bgclubmc.org/event/steakburger2018).

## Garden Club Plant Sale

The 12th annual River Valley Garden Club plant sale is from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. EDT Saturday, May 18, at Harbert (Mich.) Community Park, 13300 Red Arrow Highway.

Locally grown perennials, bushes, trees and native grasses will be available, all propagated by club members. Also planned are gardening books, magazines and home-baked goods.

The event is held rain or shine, with a large shelter in place. Visit [www.rivervalleygardenclub.org](http://www.rivervalleygardenclub.org) for details.

## Polish-American Cultural Society

Polish-American Cultural Society of Northwest Indiana, Michigan City Chapter, meets at 5 p.m. Wednesday, May 22, at the former St. Mary School, 321 W. 10th St.

The facilitator is the Rev. Walter Rakoczy. Membership is free and open to anyone wanting to learn about the Polish language, culture and traditions.

Call Theresa Child at (219) 464-1369, email [polamnwi@yahoo.com](mailto:polamnwi@yahoo.com) or visit "Polish-American Cultural Society of Northwest Indiana" on Facebook for more details.

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## Activities to Explore

### In the Area:

**May 16-19** — Indiana Dunes Birding Festival, Indiana Dunes State Park/Indiana Dunes National Park. Info: [www.indunesbirdingfestival.com](http://www.indunesbirdingfestival.com)

**May 17** — Bookmarks: Warlight & The English Patient, 2 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

**May 17** — Boys & Girls Club of Michigan City Steak & Burger fundraiser, 5:30 p.m., St. Joseph Young Men's Society, 2001 Franklin St. Tickets: \$25. Info/reservations: (219) 873-2298.

**May 17** — The Save the Tunes Council, 7:30-9 p.m., Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, 1215 N. Indiana 49, Porter. Info: (219) 395-1882.

**May 17** — The Furious Bongos Play the Music of Frank Zappa, 8 p.m. EDT, The Acorn Theatre, 107 Generation Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: \$20. Info: [acornlive.org](http://acornlive.org)

**May 17-19** — "Musical of Musicals, the Musical," Footlight Theatre, 1705 Franklin St. Times: Fri.-Sat./7:30 p.m., Sun./2 p.m. Tickets: \$15, \$10/children 12 & younger. Reservations: (219) 874-4035, [www.footlightplayers.org](http://www.footlightplayers.org)

**May 17-20** — Vickers Theatre, 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. *Now showing:* "The Best of Enemies." Rated PG-13. Times: 6 p.m. Fri.-Mon. *Also:* "Diane." Not Rated. Times: 3 & 9:15 p.m. Sat./3 p.m. Sun. All times Eastern. Info: [vickerstheatre.com](http://vickerstheatre.com), (269) 756-3522.

**May 18** — Stepping Stone Shelter Fifth Annual Walk Against Violence, 11 a.m., Kesling Park Shelter 4, LaPorte. Info: [nanda@steppingstoneshelter.org](mailto:nanda@steppingstoneshelter.org)

**May 18** — Third annual Community Music Festival and Pulled Pork Dinner, 3:30 p.m., Rolling Prairie United Methodist Church, 3444 U.S. 20. Info: (219) 778-2910.

**May 18** — WPL Movies in May: "Aquaman," 3 p.m., The Baugher Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave.

**May 19** — The Golfmore Hotel: A Grand Place," 2 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

**May 19** — Pokemon Go Community Day, 3 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

**May 19** — School of American Music free annual spring recital, 3 p.m. EDT, Three Oaks Arts & Education Center, 14 Maple St.

**May 21** — Coffee and Canvas, 5-7 p.m., LaPorte County Public Library, 904 Indiana Ave. Register: [www.laportelibrary.org](http://www.laportelibrary.org)

**Saturdays through October** — Michigan City Mainstreet Association Farmers Market, 8 a.m.-noon, Eighth & Washington streets.

### In the Region

**May 17** — The all-female Dacia Bridges Project, 6 p.m. EDT, The Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Mich. Cost: \$10/advance, \$12/door.

Reservations: [boxfactoryforthearts.org](http://boxfactoryforthearts.org)

**May 17-19** — “The Clean House,” Elkhart Civic Theatre @ Bristol (Ind.) Opera House, 210 E. Vista St. Times (Eastern): 7:30 p.m. May 17, 18/3 p.m. May 19. Tickets: adults/\$21, students & seniors (62+)/\$19. Reservations: (574) 848-4116, [elkhartcivictheatre.org/tickets](http://elkhartcivictheatre.org/tickets)

**May 18** — Harbor Country Hikers, 10 a.m. EDT, Mud Lake Bog, 905 E. Elm Valley Road, Buchanan, Mich. Info: [harborcountryhikers.com](http://harborcountryhikers.com)

**May 18** — River Valley Garden Club plant sale, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. EDT, Harbert (Mich.) Community Park, 13300 Red Arrow Highway. Info: [www.river-valleygardenclub.org](http://www.river-valleygardenclub.org)

**May 18** — South Bend Comic Book Convention, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. EDT, Comfort Suites, 52933 U.S. 933, South Bend. Info: (309) 657-1599.

**May 18** — “Spring Out to Sunset” festival, noon, Sunset Hill Farm County Park, 775 Meridian Road, Valparaiso. Tickets/\$10. Entrance fee/\$5. Reservations: [www.portercountyparks.org/springconcert](http://www.portercountyparks.org/springconcert)

**May 18** — “Nature Nuggets” talk & book signing, 2:30-4 p.m. EDT, Fernwood Botanical Garden and Nature Preserve, 13988 Range Line Road, Niles, Mich. Cost: \$12, \$10/Fernwood & Sarett members. Info: (269) 695-6491.

**May 19** — Opening reception, Kathy Los-Rathburn’s “Regional Industrial Insights,” 1:30 p.m., The Village Gallery @ Pines Village Retirement Communities, 3303 Pines Village Circle, Valparaiso. Info: (219) 465-1591.

**May 21** — Friends of New Buffalo Library Community Forum, 6 p.m. EDT, library Pokagon Room, 33 N. Thompson St. Info: (269) 469-2933.

**Sundays through May 26** — Miller Woods Hike, 1:30-3:30 p.m., Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education, Lake Street, north of U.S. 12, Gary’s Miller Beach neighborhood. Info: (219) 395-1882.

#### 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 Hospital Clair of Assisi Room, 3500 Franciscan Way; 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.

**Thursdays** — Adult Children of Alcoholics and Dysfunctional Families, 6 p.m., Franciscan Health Michigan City, Maria Theresia Conference Room C, 3500 Franciscan Way. Info: (219) 801-1296.

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## THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

**On May 16, 1866**, Congress authorized the Treasury Department to manufacture and circulate the first 5-cent piece. Referred to as the “nickel,” it contained 25 percent nickel and 75 percent copper.

**On May 16, 1868**, the Senate failed by one vote to convict President Andrew Johnson as it took its first vote, on one of 11 articles of impeachment, against him.

**On May 16, 1920**, Joan of Arc was canonized in Rome.

**On May 16, 1929**, the Academy Awards were given out for the first time. “Wings” won the award for best movie, Emil Jennings for best actor and Janet Gaynor for best actress.

**On May 16, 1946**, the musical “Annie Get Your Gun” opened on Broadway.

**On May 17, 1792**, the New York Stock Exchange was founded by brokers meeting under a tree located on what is now Wall Street.

**On May 17, 1875**, in the first running of the Kentucky Derby, Astrides won by two lengths.

**On May 17, 1954**, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that racial segregation in public schools was unconstitutional.

**On May 17, 1983**, Lebanon and Israel signed a pact ending their 35-year long war.

**On May 17, 1998**, Yankees pitcher David Wells became the 13th player in modern major league baseball history to throw a perfect game as he retired all 27 batters he faced in a 4-0 victory over the Minnesota Twins.

**On May 18, 1852**, Massachusetts became the first state to make school attendance mandatory for children between the ages of 8 and 14.

**On May 18, 1910**, Halley’s comet disappeared from earthly view as it moved across the face of the sun.

**On May 18, 1933**, Congress created the Tennessee Valley Authority for the purpose of flood control and rural electrification.

**On May 18, 1980**, the biggest eruption in 123 years took place on Washington’s Mount Helens. The blast took 1,300 feet off the top of the mountain, leaving at least 57 dead or missing. Ash from the explosion traveled completely around the world.

**On May 18, 1985**, Patti Cooksey, the first female jockey to ride in the Preakness, finished sixth aboard Tajawa.

**On May 18, 2003**, “Les Miserables” closed on Broadway after more than 16 years and 6,680 performances.

**On May 19, 1780**, in the early afternoon, much of

New England, as well as parts of Canada, were enveloped in a sudden inexplicable darkness. What triggered this event has never been determined.

**On May 19, 1906**, the Federated Boys' Clubs, forerunner of the Boys' Clubs of America, were organized.

**On May 19, 1962**, during a Democratic fundraiser in New York actress Marilyn Monroe performed a sultry rendition of "Happy Birthday" for President John F. Kennedy.

**On May 19, 1992**, Vice President Dan Quayle criticized the CBS sitcom "Murphy Brown" for having its title character bear a child out of wedlock.

**On May 20, 1506**, 53-year old "Admiral of the Open Sea" Christopher Columbus, the "Discoverer of America," died (in poverty and disgrace) in an unpretentious dwelling in the Spanish village of Valladolid.

**On May 20, 1830**, the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad published the first railway timetable.

**On May 20, 1852**, the first Illinois Central train ran from Randolph Street to the depot at 12th Street and Roosevelt Road.

**On May 20, 1927**, Charles Lindberg, flying the Spirit of St. Louis, took off from New York's Long Island for his non-stop flight to Paris.

**On May 20, 1927**, in Washington, D.C., J.W. Marriott opened the first of his "hotshoppes," the forerunner of the giant Marriott Corp.

**On May 20, 1932**, Amelia Earhart took off from Newfoundland for Ireland, becoming the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean.

**On May 21, 1852**, the first train on the Michigan Central Railroad arrived in Chicago.

**On May 21, 1881**, Clara Barton founded the American Red Cross, also serving as its first president.

**On May 21, 1919**, the U.S. House of Representatives passed a proposed constitutional amendment which would give women the right to vote.

**On May 21, 1927**, Charles Lindberg landed his plane (The Spirit of St. Louis) outside Paris, completing the first solo flight across the Atlantic Ocean. He had been in the air for 33-1/2 hours, and had covered a distance of 3,600 miles.

**On May 22, 1761**, the first life insurance policy in the United States was issued in Philadelphia.

**On May 22, 1859**, "Sherlock Holmes" creator Sir Arthur Conan Doyle was born in Edinburgh, Scotland.

**On May 22, 1868**, the Reno gang made off with \$96,000 in cash, gold and bonds in the Great Train Robbery near Seymour, Ind.

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## Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter

**Who Killed the Fonz? by James Boice** (\$26 retail in bookstores and online; also available as an eBook. 198 pages)

It's nostalgia time! Time to "Rock Around the Clock" with Ritchie Cunningham and crew and, of course, the Fonz. I'm talking about "Happy Days," that iconic sitcom about growing up in Milwaukee in the 1950s and early 1960s that ran for 11 seasons (1974-1984).

It was a simpler time, a fun time for friends like Potsie and Ralph, and hanging out at Arnold's Drive In. Now, James Boice has taken the cast of the series and dropped them down in the early 1980s, imagining what the gang has been up to the last 20 years or so.

Ritchie Cunningham, now called Richard, is living in Hollywood as a screenwriter. His agent told him the studios would take him seriously if he were Richard instead of Ritchie: No one takes notice of a man with a childish name. Whether that worked or not, Richard eventually was nominated for an Oscar for his screenplay "Welcome to Henderson County." He didn't win, but to the family and friends back in Wisconsin, he was a hit. He married high school sweetheart Lori Beth, and they have two children. Since his father died several years ago, his mother, Marion, has been living with them in California. The family home in Milwaukee is occupied by his sister, Joanie, and her husband, Chachi.

The story starts with a sad moment. The Fonz — Mr. Cool, Arthur Fonzarelli — has been killed in a street accident on his vintage Triumph motorcycle in Milwaukee. The Fonz gone? It's an impossible notion, but the newspaper account says he skidded on a bridge, hit the guardrail and catapulted into the river. A body has not been found.

Richard flies alone to Wisconsin for the memorial service. He soon meets up with good friends Ralph Malph and Potsie Weber at Arnold's Drive In, still owned and operated by Al Delvecchio. At first, Ralph and Potsie seem cold. They feel their friend deserted them all those years ago, but how long can you stay mad at someone who meant so much to you for so many years?

Of course, they soon catch up on each other's lives since the old days. *"Then it fell quiet again. There were so many years between them... They had shared so much once. Then they had shared nothing. It made Richard feel upside down."*

But, of course, they shared Fonzie. Richard pro-

poses a toast to their lost friend, then the memories start flowing...

A commotion at the door to Arnold's gets their attention as Martin Sealock, candidate for the upcoming governor's race, appears. He seems down to earth, and he pays his respects at Fonzie's photo on the wall. Fonzie was the mechanic on Sealock's cars. It seems they became friends.

Richard is taken with Sealock, and surprised when Sealock recognizes him and introduces himself. He talks Richard into staying in town until the end of the week to make a short TV commercial for him. Richard thinks it can't hurt to stay around a little while longer and accepts the job.

His next stop is the bridge where Fonzie met his fate and, later, a chance drive by an auto junkyard sees him staring at Fonzie's motorcycle — he has to take a look. Question: why is there blue paint on the back fender when the bike supposedly hit the side rail head on? Richard is convinced this was no accident.

A trip to the police station proves disturbing: The policeman who hustled Fonzie and all the high school boys years ago is in charge of the investigation. He makes it clear he still has no use for Fonzie and doesn't accept Richard's theory of his death.

Richard goes back to Sealock and tells him about the paint on the bike, and the police not wanting to reopen the accident. Sealock tells him to revisit the bridge that night when no one is around, and if he finds any more evidence, bring it back to him.

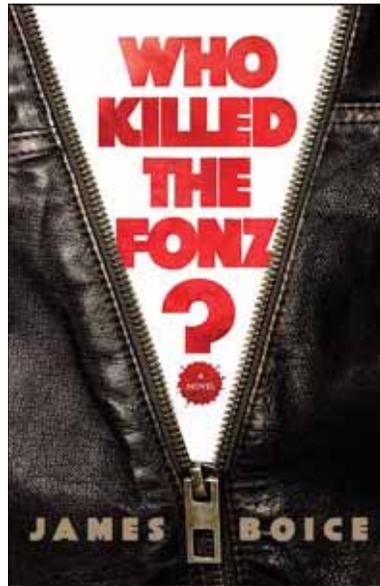
Well, things start happening after that. Back at Arnold's, Richard visits the men's restroom — the place the Fonz used as his private office back in the day. On the wall is a message — "Sit on it" — a phrase he knew could only come from Fonzie.

Now, he's committed to finding out the truth of his friend's death. And what he finds out will almost be the end of Richard Cunningham.

This is a great walk down memory lane, especially if you watched the show in its heyday, or as reruns on one of the nostalgia cable channels today. Yes, the time of "Happy Days" was simpler. One of good friends, harmless jokes and standing around the jukebox at Arnold's.

Boice does a great job putting together a "what-if" story for those of us who enjoy getting together with old friends and old memories. Gotta love it!

Till next time, happy days and happy reading!





# OPEN HOUSE TOUR!

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