



Volume 39, Number 11 Thursday, March 23, 2023

Tradition of Champions

by Connie Kuzdym



Three generations of the Homann family involved in karate (from left): Brett and his wife, Kim, their daughter, Brooklyn, and Brett's father, Bill.
Photo by Bob Wellinski

When “The Karate Kid” hit movie theaters back in 1984, Brett Homann was a teen and part of the U.S. Junior Karate Team. Ranked third in the country, he spent a month with his teammates in Japan, competing against top schools and earning a 12-2 record.

Today, Brett is a successful karate instructor. For the past 27 years, he has owned Homann Karate Dō in Crown Point. A year ago, he opened Homann Karate Dō Michigan City on Franklin Street. He believes Netflix’s “Cobra Kai,” the streaming sequel series to “The Karate Kid,” helped save the Crown

Continued on Page 2

THE
Beacher911 Franklin Street • Michigan City, IN 46360
219/879-0088e-mail: News/Articles - drew@thebeacher.com
email: Classifieds - drew@thebeacher.com
http://www.thebeacher.com/Published and Printed by
THE BEACHER BUSINESS PRINTERS

Delivered weekly, free of charge to Birch Tree Farms, Duneland Beach, Grand Beach, Hidden Shores, Long Beach, Michiana Shores, Michiana MI and Shoreland Hills. The Beacher is also delivered to public places in Michigan City, New Buffalo, LaPorte and Sheridan Beach.

Beacher Company DirectoryDon and Tom Montgomery
Andrew Tallackson
Janet Baines
Tom Minogue
Randy Kayser
Dora Kayser
Jacquie Quinlan, Hope Costello
John Baines, Robin Fagley, Tom Montgomery**Owners**
Editor
Inside Sales/Customer Service
Sales
Pressman
Bindery
Production
Delivery

Tradition of Champions

Continued
from
Page
1

Point site. Closing due to COVID-19, he switched to Zoom, but lost half the students. Upon reopening, several young people came in for the first time, having watched “Cobra Kai” and Homann Karate Do on Zoom, and were hooked. They enrolled, are still there and thriving.

For Brett, “The Karate Kid” connection came the eve of a competition, during a beach cookout with a Japanese team. Brett was out in the ocean, then felt a tap on his shoulder. He was handed a piece of paper that read, “Are you Johnny (Lawrence) from Karate Kid?”

“It was pretty funny,” Brett said. “I looked a lot like him. I had the blond hair, off to one side. I like to say he looked like me!”

The comparison between Brett and Johnny (actor William Zabka) ends with their looks. Brett can be ruthless in the ring, but his story is upbeat.

Brett’s father, Bill, ran a successful dojo near the current Michigan City location in the early 1970s through the 1990s. Not having a babysitter, Bill brought his 4-year-old with him to work.

When Brett talks about his dad and their journey together, it is with a mixture of love, respect and laughter.

“Where kids rebel and fight against things like this...it was just me and him,” Brett said. “It was a thing we had together, a bond. We still have that bond. He was my best man at my wedding...this has been a thing that has kept us together.”

As one might expect, his dad was tough on him, being the instructor’s son. He was never “given” anything. He understands what this



Brett (right) as a youngster, in action.

did for him, crediting his charisma and success to his father.

“Every test was harder...he pushed me harder than everyone...he was my biggest cheerleader,” Brett said. “He was like, man, that was so amazing...wow, that was awesome, good job way to go...My dad was always in my corner doing whatever he could to make sure he supported me, and pushed me.”



Brett (left) at 16, having returned from Japan with the U.S. Junior Karate Team.

Brett carried that feeling with him. The better he became, the more he loved karate. He received his first-degree black belt at 16.

Brett’s talent became evident with success on national and international levels. His training schedule consisted of running five miles a day, training six days a week, four to five hours a day.

During his competitive years, he won a U.S. national championship. At the time, he was the youngest and only fighter, at 17, competing in and winning the 21-35 age division. In Greece and Dominican Republic, he claimed first place undefeated and won MVP at the Greece tournament. Costa Rico garnered him a 1st 75 kilo, 1st open division and 2nd team kumite (training against an adversary). He was undefeated and participated in two Pan American Championships, where he had two fifth-place finishes and third-team kumite. He also was one of the first practi-

tioners to train at the Olympic Training Center for Karate in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Brett had a single injury in competition from a Costa Rican fighter — a cheap shot to the nose.

“He got penalized for the illegal hit, but he broke my nose in the finals,” Brett said. “I was supposed to fight another guy from Costa Rica. If I couldn’t fight...I would have to forfeit and his guy would automatically get first place. I taped my nose, fought that guy and won the entire tournament.”

While in the stands, Bill interjected, some 20,000 people from Costa Rica and the surrounding area were booing Brett. Afterward, while on the podium with The National Anthem playing, the crowd cheered for him.



This provided photo shows Brett (far right) competing in a tournament.

Brett and Bill’s ultimate goal was the Olympics. In 1992, it seemed karate would be accepted as a sport. Being ranked No. 1 and No. 2 in the nation in two different weight classes for the Senior National Team, he trained as if he would be selected. Unfortunately, athletes around the world had their hopes dashed when the sport was denied entrance to the Barcelona games.

Europe and South America consider karate a sport. Karate tournaments are televised and sanctioned sports by universities, while athletes are compensated for competing. U.S. athletes must find their own sponsors to help defray traveling expenses. When it became exceedingly difficult to find backers, Brett retired from competition in 1995.

With optimism, Brett shifted gears and began walking in his dad’s footsteps, in search of a location to open his own dojo. He and a friend found a building with boarded-up windows and a for-rent sign in Crown Point. Typically, landlords hesitate to rent to karate schools, the perception being walls will be kicked down and the building destroyed. Undeterred, Brett called. The landlord’s response:

Continued on Page 4

GOODS & HEROES
THREE OAKS, MI

8 MAPLE STREET THREE OAKS, MI 269.340.0346
Thursday - Monday 12PM - 5PM | Closed Tuesday + Wednesday

HOLEBROOK SWEDEN
Windproof Fashion.

SO
Stockholm Objects

European Inspired Lifestyle.
13630 Red Arrow Hwy
Harbert, MI 49115
p 269.231.3508

open FRI - SUN
12-5 ET

WOMEN'S • MEN'S • HOME • GIFTS

Tradition of Champions

Continued
from
Page
3

“That’s funny, it used to be a karate school.”

A surprised Brett simply replied, “Wow!”

Talk about Karma!

Some minor modifications were made to the 1,100-square-foot space, adding mats and other sundry items. In 1996, Brett opened Homann Karate Dō.

Brett’s future wife, Kim, and her girlfriends became students at the school. While the others peeled off, Kim trained five days a week. She grew to know Brett, the parents and students well, which in time became a blessing.



Brett and Kim, pictured at the Michigan City dojo, met when she was a student at his karate school.
Photo by Bob Wellinski.

Kim earned her elementary education degree, was enrolled in a master’s program and ready to attend night classes. Brett, on the other hand, was moving to a 7,000 square foot location, on the square, in Crown Point. (Eventually, he would surprise Kim by proposing during a private lesson surrounded by family and friends.) A little over a month after opening, dojo enrollment soared from 60 to 150 students.

Until then, Brett was the only instructor. With the influx of students, naturally, he felt overwhelmed. The decision was made to divide and conquer. Brett took the older kids, Kim taught the kid’s classes. She had never actually taught karate, but Kim had a black belt and experience working with children.

Kim did not pursue her master’s degree. From that point, she was committed to the business. She

eventually created her own niche program: a class for 3- to 4-year-olds known as the Little Ninja’s. Punching shapes and colors, they learn about danger, agility, right hand left hand.

Ten years ago, the couple designed a facility in the Crown Point Sports Complex to specifically suit their needs. With the Crown Point school thriving, Brett’s student, John Zurisk, wanted to run a karate school. In partnership, they opened Zurisk Karate Academy on Franklin Street, next to Magro’s Family Shoe Store. John ran the school until he received a promotion, and different responsibilities at his day job left no time to teach karate, so the school closed.

When the time came last year for Brett and Kim to open a second location, after due diligence, they realized Michigan City was the best place. They reopened the doors of the former academy, fulfilling Brett’s dream of owning two schools.

“Our program is a really good program for making good kids... We thought that this (Michigan City) would be a good community to put our program in to really help.” Brett said. “At Crown Point...we’ve helped mold some great kids to be really successful in life outside of karate, through respect, discipline, hard work, goal setting. That’s our structure, our program.

What’s it like for Brett to come full circle and be down the street from his dad’s former place?

“I’m excited,” Brett said. “The kids I have right now that are in our program, I have so much optimism. I have really good families that are very supportive of what we are doing...every day it’s growing, we’re pleased.”

Students can attend classes between two to four days; however, they are attending the maximum

amount. To Brett, that shows enthusiasm and excitement.

“We work hard, but we try to make it fun. I’m very supportive, to where it’s about really trying to build kids up,” Brett said. “When they know they have that support, they have that belief in them... Then, kids believe in themselves more and they’ll put more effort into it and excel. That’s ultimately what we want to see, kids growing and excelling every day.”

These days, Brett splits his time between Crown Point and Michigan City. He credits amazing instructors at both schools that allow him to float between the two.

Brett’s staff in Michigan City includes his dad’s former students, George Chism (6th Degree Black Belt) and Russell Parker (5th Degree Black Belt). Both



Brett says his father, Bill, has supported him from Day One.
Photo by Bob Wellinski.

started karate with Bill at the Michigan City dojo in the early 1970s and with Nick Ignatuk a national karate champion from the Crown Point location.

Brett is excited about doing interschool tournaments and workouts together and building lasting friendships. At a tournament and pool party, this past year, that is exactly what happened.

“Pretty much the entire Michigan City school was at that tournament,” Brett said. “All the parents were there supporting it. Kids were going out to dinner afterwards. It was like a big family.”

□

As with many longtime couples, Brett’s and Kim’s conversation weaves in and out. One answering for the other, answering together, love and support flowing between them.

Asked if she has entertained the notion of completing her master’s degree, husband and wife resoundingly answer no. Kim is happy with where she is today. She is a 5th degree black belt and still works out three days a week. Her top priority is raising their 7-year-old daughter, Brooklyn, being available to take and enjoy their daughter’s involvement in various activities.

These days, her role at the school is the accounting and administrative end. That instantly brings out Kim’s teasing response, “He gets to be more fun!” Brett heartily laughs, saying with conviction, “She’s the glue.”

They hope their daughter will follow in the family footsteps. Once a super shy child, handed a challenging health issue from the start, karate is giving her the confidence to blossom. Her parents will not force her to compete, though, but instead offer gentle pushes as they see her potential.

Kim and Bill agree with Brett’s comment that they have witnessed how karate changes children’s lives, growth that made them positive and successful. Because of that, all three agree it is out of the question for Brooklyn to quit karate until she is 18 and earns her black belt.

Continued on Page 6

Adirondack Chairs Spring Sale!

35% off pre-orders for May 1st delivery.
Regular price \$1,250.

Now \$750



In the early 1900s, the first Adirondack Chair appeared on a gentle slope overlooking the Adirondack Mountains. Since that day, this iconic summertime chair has been an American classic. This design comes from a classic New England family recipe. We loved it, so we borrowed it!

While many of today’s chairs are made from Polywood, a plank of plastic wood and resin—we’re old school; we make our chairs by hand from solid wood (Mahogany or Cypress) with hand-guided tools. To us, real wood feels better, looks better and allows you to relax better.

The gently rounded seat and back complement the wide armrest and allow for relaxed and comfortable seating while reading your summer novel, sipping libations and listening to the sounds of nature. These chairs are crafted to last with silicon bronze bolts, weatherproof screws and exterior glues. We plug the screw holes, sand the chairs and coat them with two coats of Teak Furniture oil to prepare them for a lifetime of enjoyment. The Cypress chairs can be stained in whimsical colors for an additional cost.

Offer available on in-stock (low inventory at the moment) and pre-paid, pre-season orders by April 1, 2023, for delivery May 10, 2023.

Contact Dave Rearick at
Duckinthundercustomcarpentry.com

219-510-4422

Tradition of Champions

Continued
from
Page
5

Brett believes she will not want to quit.

“That was me. I got so good I couldn’t quit and now I can’t quit...now it would be a waste of all my years of knowledge, experience, ability that I’ve invested into it,” he said.

It Brooklyn becomes an elite-level athlete, he will be open to invest his time and effort for her to become part of the U.S. Karate Team’s coaching staff.

□

The Crown Point slogan, “Tradition of Champions,” is simply what the dojo represents. Well-known in the area, Kim and Brett explain with a laugh that at tournaments people are heard saying, “Oh, he’s a Homann person.” Both acknowledge it has taken a lot of work and dedication to get to this point.

“It’s inspiring to have other people, especially coaches, saying...I love watching your fighters fight, they are amazing...you always produce these really great students,” Brett said.

Brett has actively trained five days a week for 48 years. His lifelong contributions to the sport, his years of experience, how he has changed student lives, were recognized in September when he received his 10th degree black belt, making him a grand master.

“It’s a real honor to get the 10th degree, as there

More about Karate

According to Brett and Kim, the goal of karate is self-defense and self-development. It is about the search for one’s perfection of character and discipline.

Everyone has a different reason for doing karate. There are athletic students, shy ones, autistic children and those who have been bullied. Some do it to compete, others wanting to learn self-defense and self-discipline.

Karate means empty hand and do means way. In America, the do was dropped and called karate. In Japan, it’s actually Karate Do in that empty hand way. It’s more of using hand and feet, high sweeps and throws.

Karate training is divided into three segments: *Kihon* (basic techniques), or the foundation of Japanese martial arts. *Kihon* not only involves practicing the techniques, but also fosters the correct spirit and attitude at all times. *Kata* (form) is a detailed pattern of martial arts movements practiced to memorize and perfect the movements being executed. *Kumite* (grappling hands) refers to forms of sparring and is the fighting segment of karate.

The object of karate is to defeat your opponent through punches, kicks and throws to score points. At the end of a karate *kumite*, the competitor with



Brett says he will support his daughter, Brooklyn, with her interests in karate. Photo by Bob Wellinski.

aren’t many in the world,” Brett said. “You can’t get it with 25 years of karate. It’s a lifer. You don’t do it to defend yourself anymore. It’s a lifestyle. It’s part of who you are. I don’t do

drugs, drink, smoke. I try to make good choices. I try to be a good role model to kids. It’s a lifestyle that becomes a part of who you are.”

Brett’s positive, enthusiastic love for his sport, schools and students is still heard in his voice and seen in his body language.

“I feel blessed that I’ve been able to do a sport... my whole life that I really love, that’s changed kids’ lives. I’m pretty blessed for what I’ve been able to do,” Brett said.

“I’ve seen kids where they are this tumbling off balance, kind of shy kid, and then I turn them into this confident, very strong, powerful, disciplined, hardworking, goal-setting, oriented kid that has a very successful life in the future...I love seeing growth. I love seeing their life change like it did for me. Karate saved me and gave me purpose and it changed my life. And that’s what I want to give to other kids. I want to give back.”

the most points or an 8-point lead over an opponent is declared the winner.

As well as being a combative physical activity, karate is highly skilled and tactical, and all competitors are required to have a high level of skill, experience, speed and dexterity to be successful in a karate competition.

Competitors are placed into categories according to their weight and age in the case of junior competitions. They wear a traditional karate suit known as a *gi*, instead of wearing the belt color that signifies their rank. One contestant wears a red belt and the other a blue belt. Karate *kumite* matches take place on a matted square of 8m x 8m, with an additional 1m on all sides called the safety area.

Tournaments use karate point fighting instead of free, full-contact sparring for obvious reasons. The goal is not to incapacitate the opponent, but to score the most points, which requires the fighter to have excellent technique, quickness, patience and balance.

The World Karate Federation, the only karate governing body recognized by the International Olympic Committee, oversees the sporting side of the martial art hosting competitions around the world.



1402 INDIANA AVENUE • LAPORTE, IN

Endless charm and character create a cozy atmosphere in this completely rehabbed Historic Home! This gorgeous Queen Ann Estate sits in the center of LaPorte's Historic District on Indiana Avenue. The inviting wrap-around front porch is a perfect spot to relax and enjoy the beautifully landscaped yard, complete with perennials while the back yard is fully fenced in and includes a fire pit to enjoy those long summer nights! The interior boasts original woodwork, trim and includes antique tiger wood floors. This home has a grand entry with high ceilings which are found throughout the house. The spacious feel is undeniable with large rooms that flow nicely for entertaining and easy living. There is plenty of room with 4 large bedrooms, that include oversized closets and built-ins. This newly rehabbed home includes fresh paint from Farrow and Ball, a new boiler, plumbing, hot water heater, insulation, windows, bathroom updates and roof with a 25 year warranty. MOVE IN AND ENJOY!

4 Bedrooms / 2 Bathrooms
Offered at \$469,900



KRISTIN SHOUB

630.362.4188
 kristin.shoub@cbrealty.com
 LineMullinsGroup.com
 10 N Whittaker Street
 New Buffalo, MI 49117



Follow us on Instagram:
@linemullinsgroup



Affiliated real estate agents are independent contractor sales associates, not employees. ©2022 Coldwell Banker. All Rights Reserved. Coldwell Banker and the Coldwell Banker logos are trademarks of Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. The Coldwell Banker® System is comprised of company owned offices which are owned by a subsidiary of Realogy Brokerage Group LLC and franchised offices which are independently owned and operated. The Coldwell Banker System fully supports the principles of the Fair Housing Act and the Equal Opportunity Act.



cool cottage!



- OPEN 3/25 Sat. 1-3C
- 3822 Hiawatha Dr.
- Michiana Shores, IN
- BIG beach 0.2 mile
- Stop 38 and more
- wooded corner
- 3 bdrm, 2-3 baths
- huge screen porch
- unfinished basement
- \$705,000



sheila carlson

selling homes inc
 219.874.1180
 219.861.3702 cell
 sheila@sellinghomesinc.com
 licensed in IN/MI

We've Moved!

Visit us at our new location at 1 N. Whittaker Street on the corner of Whittaker and Buffalo streets.

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Chicago



Move Confidently.

BHHSChicago.com



**4559 TRAILS END PATH,
ST. JOSEPH**

Stunning, 8 br, 8.5 ba on St. Joseph River with appx 408 feet of river frontage. \$3,200,000

Betty M. Biernacki 269.469.8300



**14914 LAKESHORE RD,
LAKESIDE**

Lakefront living along the finest stretch of sandy shoreline. 3 br, 3.5 ba. \$3,150,000

Rob Gow & Chris Pfauiser 269.469.8300



**8768 WARREN WOODS RD,
UNION PIER**

Nantucket-style 4 br, 3.5 ba. Tranquil pond, landscaped lot. Nearly 6 acres. \$2,750,000

Dave Camp 269.469.8300



**12 RIDGE DRIVE,
DUNE ACRES**

Stunning Lake Michigan views. Modern 3 br at Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. \$2,500,000

Rob Gow & Chris Pfauiser 269.469.8300



**2711 W 200 S,
LAPORTE**

Appx 42-acre estate. 4 br, 5 ba. Stunning stone & masonry work. Horse barn. \$1,645,000

Keith Goad 269.469.8300



**9970 TOWNLINE AVE,
UNION PIER**

Wonderful and rare multi-unit property in the heart of revitalized Union Pier. \$975,000

Dave Camp 269.469.8300



**3543 N 700 W,
LAPORTE**

Appx 5.34 wooded acres, privacy & tranquility. 3 br, 3 ba, 3 fplc. Pole barn. \$589,000

Betty Biernacki 269.469.8300



**411 OAK ST,
THREE OAKS**

One-of-a-kind country home. 4 br, 2 ba. Huge corner lot, close-to-town location. \$369,900

Sigrid Nutt 269.469.8300



**1447 71 1/2 ST,
SOUTH HAVEN**

Well-maintained 5 br, 2 ba home in a county setting 2.5 miles east of downtown. \$299,900

Gary Hardina 269.469.8300

Clarence Hulse to Receive Rotary Club Alinsky Award

Clarence Hulse, the Economic Development Corporation Michigan City executive director, is this year's recipient of the Paul J. Alinsky Excellence Award presented by Rotary Club of Michigan City.

The annual award honors Paul Alinsky, a Rotarian who passed away in 1997. It recognizes those in the community who demonstrate "Service Above Self," the club's motto.

"It is an unbelievable honor to be recognized by Rotary members in memory of Paul, who truly served our community," Hulse said in a press release.

Hulse was nominated by last year's recipient, Angie Nelson-Deutch, because of his extensive community involvement, including Lambda Alpha International-Ely Chapter, Urban Land Institute, International Council of Shopping Centers, Leadership Florida, Leadership LaPorte County, Lead-



ership Northwest Indiana, United Way of LaPorte County, Michigan City Chamber of Commerce, Dunes Art Foundation and Horizon Bank Business.

Past recipients include Les Radke, Bud Ruby, Duane Mertl, Ron Bensch, Jerry Karstens, Emerson Spartz, Glen Lubeznik, James Welborne, Kathleen Lang, Bernie Scott, Jan Radford, Tom Ringo, Jim Dworkin, Dr. Lisa

Hendricks, Marty Corley, Don Babcock, Al Whitlow, Dion Campbell, Cyndi Davis, Dr. Barbara Eason-Watkins and Rotary Service volunteers. In 2016, in honor of the club's 100th anniversary, the award recognized every Rotary Club member over the past century.

A memorial inscribed with the names of past recipients is on display at City Hall, 100 E. Michigan Blvd. Hulse's award was presented to him at the club's March 16 meeting.

More information about the Rotary Club is available at www.mcrotoary.org or by following the club on Facebook.

DUNELAND HOME & PRO Hardware
 1018 N. Karwick Rd.
 219-878-1720

ups Ship and drop off packages here.
 Authorized Service Provider

We Are Now Your Authorized UPS Shipping Provider For Your Community

Café Farina - casual old-school vintage vibe, serving up authentic Italian-American specialties and classic cocktails shaking to the beat of Italian music streaming through the restaurant. Using only the finest and freshest ingredients, both local and imported, Chef Joseph Farina features specialty Italian sandwiches, fresh pasta dishes, imported meats and cheeses, hand-cut steaks, and fresh seafood. Inspired by Chicago's neighborhood joints and renowned Italian Delis, Café Farina is bringing a taste of Italian culture to downtown Michigan City!

HOURS
 Tuesday - Thursday 11.30a - 9p
 Friday & Saturday 11.30a - 10p
 CLOSED MONDAYS

825 FRANKLIN STREET • MICHIGAN CITY
WWW.CAFEFARINA.COM • 219.249.0004

WATCH THE GAMES HERE

BIG

Easter WITH Farina's SUPPER CLUB

All your favorites along with featured Easter dishes.

make your reservations

219.874.7729
WWW.FARINASUPPERCLUB.COM
 3311 POTTAWATTOMIE TRAIL
 MICHIGAN CITY, IN 46360

Whatever You Think of Country Clubs, Think Again

think **pottawattomie**



Pottawattomie Country Club creates a welcoming atmosphere filled with incredible golf, recreational activities, a beautiful pool, pickleball, dining, social events and a true sense of community. We offer a unique membership lifestyle for you and your family. Call us and schedule a personal tour!

BOOK A TOUR TODAY!

219-872-8624 | www.pottawattomie.com | 1900 Springland Ave. | Michigan City, IN 46360



EARLY SPRING HOURS:

Friday 4-10 p.m. • Saturday 11 a.m.-10 p.m.

Sunday 11 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Our specialty is the authentic Naples Style Pizza prepared and cooked just as it was over 170 years ago in a wood fired hearth oven. This style pizza is as much a method of rich tradition as it is a food.

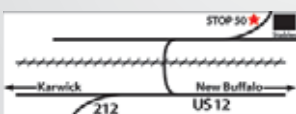
Our passion is to provide our guests this authentic Neapolitana pie along with fresh salads and refreshing house made Gelato using only the finest fresh ingredients, cooked using time honored traditions and served in a warm inviting atmosphere. We also offer the finest micro-crafted beer and wine.

Come and relax, enjoy the tradition of this fine food with a story to tell, Authentic Wood Fired Pizza.

219-879-8777

EARLY SPRING HOURS:

Friday 4-10 p.m. • Saturday 11 a.m. -10 p.m. • Sunday 11 a.m.-8 p.m.



500 S. EL PORTAL
MICHIANA SHORES, IN
INDOOR AND OUTDOOR SEATING
CARRYOUT



www.stop50woodfiredpizzeria.com

LOK Young Artists Expo

Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. Second St., and the Lindsey O'Brien Kesling Wishing Tree Foundation seek artists ages 7-18 to exhibit in the ninth annual Young Artists Expo.

Quality artwork of any style and media is welcome. The works don't have to be framed or mounted — LCA will provide that service. All artists must schedule a portfolio review before submitting any work with LCA Education Director Nelsy Marcano. The informal review can be in person or online. All reviews must be scheduled by Friday, May 5, by contacting Marcano at nmarcano@lubeznikcenter.org or (219) 874-4900

The YAE will be on display in Lubeznik Center's NIPSCO Education Studios from May 22-July 28. An opening celebration is from 5-8 p.m. Friday, June 2.

The project is supported by an ongoing collaboration between the LOK Wishing Tree Foundation and LCA. The foundation has a dual mission: carbon monoxide education and supporting young people in achieving their highest potential.

Visit www.LubeznikCenter.org or call (219) 874-4900 for more details.

Candle Making Workshop

Participants in a candle-making workshop will create an Easter-theme candle from 6-8 p.m. EDT Thursday, March 30, at Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Mich.

Presented by Denisse Santos of The Coffee Candle Co., the class is limited to 15 participants. The non-refundable workshop fee is \$50 for Berrien Art-ist Guild members and \$65 for non-members.

Visit <https://boxfactoryforthearts.org> to reserve a space.

LOCAL EXPERTISE. GLOBAL EXPOSURE.

Decades of Experience in NW Indiana & SW Michigan



RICHARD REMIJAS
773.908.1969
rremijas@bhhschicago.com



JEFF REMIJAS
219.873.4085
jremijas@bhhschicago.com

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY CHICAGO
HOMESERVICES

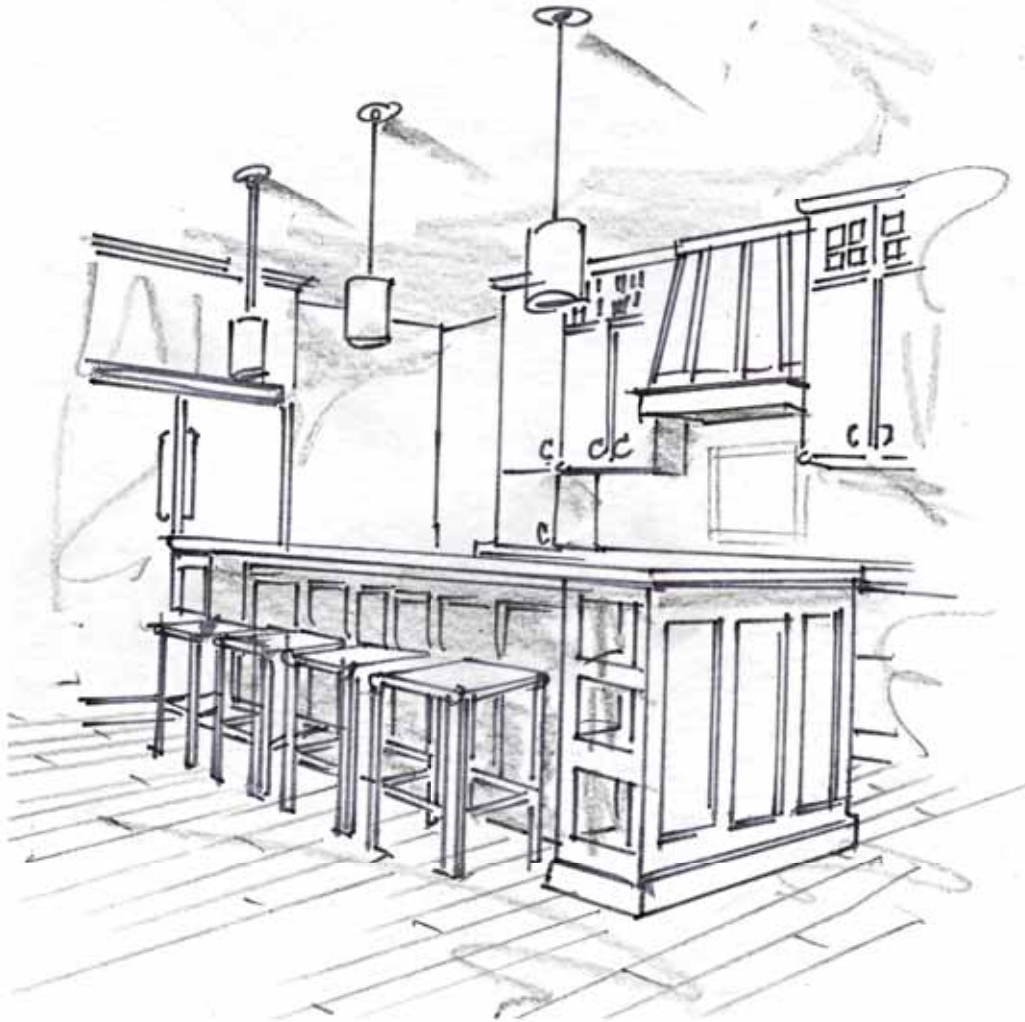
1 N Whittaker St. Suite A | New Buffalo, MI 49117

©2023 BHH Affiliates, LLC. An independently operated subsidiary of HomeServices of America, Inc., a Berkshire Hathaway affiliate, and a franchisee of BHH Affiliates, LLC. Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices and the Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices symbol are registered service marks of Columbia Insurance Company, a Berkshire Hathaway affiliate. Equal Housing Opportunity.

Tudor Floors & More

kiba | KITCHEN
STUDIOS & BATH

The local name you know and trust.



Cabinets & Countertops

Hardwood | Waterproof Vinyl | Ceramic | Carpet

Tudor Floors | Kiba Studios

www.tudorfloors.com | 401 US-30 Valparaiso, IN | 219-462-8026



24 BREWS ON TAP
OPEN 7 DAYS
 New "Grandma Style"
PIZZA

Johnny V Every TUES
 OPEN MIC Every WED

March 24 - Daniel Cole Dailey
 March 25 - PT and The Cruiser
 March 31 - Lauren Dukes
 April 1 - Cosmic Countrymen
 April 7 - Alex Akers
 April 8 - Three's Company

LIVE MUSIC



\$10 for any 10" pizza
 MON - FRI 11AM TO 5PM
 MARCH SPECIAL

HOUSE-MADE PIZZA IS HERE

605 E 9TH ST 219-243-7157

Master Gardener Community Grants

The LaPorte County Master Gardener Association is offering a Community Grant Program to LaPorte County individuals or groups for gardening/horticultural volunteer projects.

These efforts must support the community and further the association's mission to "Help Others Grow," educating about gardening.

Each grant is not to exceed \$300. The number of grants awarded is at the association's discretion and based on available money. All requests must be in writing using the application on the LPCMGA website, www.lpmastergardener.org, or at the Purdue Extension LaPorte County Office, 2857 W. Indiana 2, Suite A, LaPorte.

Only one application may be submitted per project. Two projects per organization may be submitted for consideration. Applications must be received no later than April 30.

Monday Musicale

Monday Musicale will host the sixth in its "Circle of Life" programs at 7 p.m. Monday, March 27, at First United Methodist Church, 121 E. Seventh St.

Chaired by Joe Stewart, the program will feature the senior years and autumn season. Performances include those by Michelle Alexander, Ange Benz, Frank Casorio, Joyce Craig, Steven Mast, Laura Meyer and Garth Taylor. Selections range from Chopin and John Lennon to Adele.

A social hour follows the program, with light refreshments served. Guests can attend free; however, free-will offerings to the youth scholarship fund are accepted.

Contact Ange Benz at (219) 874-3754 or Sue Cassler at (219) 362-1421 for more details.



THE BREWERY LODGE
SUPPER CLUB EXPERIENCE
 LOUNGE • HOTEL • EVENTS

Serving Dinner 7 Days a Week
 Sunday Champagne Brunch!

WINTER SPECIAL

OVERNIGHT STAY & DINNER FOR TWO
 JUST \$119
 LIMITED AVAILABILITY

OPEN TO PUBLIC!
Book Online!

STYLES THAT SUIT YOU NATURALLY

Shop our showroom and manufacturer catalogs for Stationary and Power Recline/Lift Seating, Occasional Tables, Entertainment Units, Home Office, Accessories and more!

NATURALLY WOOD FURNITURE

6 MONTHS SAME AS CASH FINANCING AND 90 DAY LAY-AWAY AVAILABLE!

VISIT US ONLINE!

www.naturallywoodfurniturecenter.com

1106 E US HWY 20, Michigan City • (219) 872-8501 Call or Text! • Open Monday-Saturday 9 am-6 pm, Sunday Noon-4 pm

A safe, no pressure shopping experience

Roofing & Seamless Gutters

Leaf Guards Repairs Soffit Fascia
Residential Commercial Industrial
Flat Roof Specialist

Moore Construction

(219) 777-0423 or (312) 995-3994

Deal directly with owner Michael Moore

Over 33 years in business

office@mooreconstruction-inc.com

“The Last of Us” Reinvents the Genre, With Room for Improvement

by Andrew Tallackson



Pedro Pascal and Bella Ramsey are the heart and soul of HBO’s “The Last of Us.”

Early on, when it wasn’t such a repetitive bore, I was an ardent fan of “The Walking Dead.” It was everything George Romero’s zombie pictures wanted to be. Epic, yet intimate. A mounting dread — no one was safe — amid deeply personal dramas.

Then, Negan arrived and, well, the show became an assault. The series exploited our affection for the characters and never recovered. Ratings tumbled, the core viewership fleeing faster than the character Morgan did when he — literally — ran from one show to the next. Each new season was a tired variation on the same theme, that humans can be more monstrous than actual monsters. The zombies, themselves, were now woke villains. Shuffling obstacles to avoid.

Unless you were living under a rock since January, you know that HBO’s “The Last of Us” quickly became the most watched, most celebrated new series...and based on Naughty Dog’s 2013 video game, no less. I don’t play video games — consider me an ’80s relics beholden to Pac-Man and Donkey Kong— but I do know bad movies. Most video game movies are bad movies. Flimsy plots, cookie cutter characters, all thrown together in lazy shoot-’em-ups.

“The Last of Us,” co-created by Craig Mazin (the mastermind behind HBO’s monumental “Chernobyl”), was seen by *everybody*. Even people who don’t like apocalyptic tales. This was the video game reinvented as prestige television, complete with a third

episode, “Long, Long Time,” now hailed as one of TV’s finest moments. Ever.

Now that the first season is complete, the question is, does it warrant the hype? Yes...but with some cautiously optimistic advice for future seasons.

Online blogs say Mazin and crew not only are exceptionally faithful to the game, recreating images, scenes and dialogue to a fault, but they also expand on themes with mature skill.

Contrary to belief, the show is not a zombie tale, but a fungal pandemic one with some basis in fact. The first episode depicts the outbreak. For me, in horror and science-fiction, there is nothing more terrifying: pure chaos, confusion, society’s collapse with no hope of rescue. The champagne examples are Brad Pitt’s “World War Z” and Will Smith’s “I Am Legend,” which exist on epic scales. “The Last of Us” comes awfully close, complete with a plane dropping from the sky. The episode ends with heart-breaking loss that defines the main character, Joel (“Mandalorian” star Pedro Pascal), for the remainder of the series.

It also explains why he’s willing to shepherd an immune teen girl, Ellie (Bella Ramsey), across the country, some 20 years after the initial outbreak, so doctors can harness her blood for a cure.

Apocalypse tales are about the ruin of society: what remains at the beginning of the end. There are spectacular shots in “The Last of Us” of collapsed

skyscrapers, streets overgrown, abandoned vehicles. But Mazin and his crew sneak in quietly affecting moments. A mycologist, two days before the worldwide outbreak, asking that she find her family before the bombs drop. The camera backing up through an open window, saying *everything* without showing anything.

And Pascal and Ramsey are one compelling team. If Pascal's "Mandalorian" character is a Teddy bear with a killer's exterior, then Joel is almost entirely cold and detached. Numb from loss, zero patience. Ramsey's Bella is the hilariously persistent thorn in his side. There is *nothing* sentimental about Ramsey's performance. An old soul in a teen's body, she has the mouth of a sailor on shore leave. Her mind never rests. She's constantly hammering away at Joel, whittling down his defenses.

The "infected," as they are called, resemble the Martians from Tim Burton's "Mars Attacks" (1996). Their heads are like oversized brains. Because the show is set 20 years after the outbreak, we don't see a lot of them, although the second episode packs in a terrifying pursuit in an abandoned building. They also play heavily into the fourth and fifth episodes, which bring out the show's best "villain": Kathleen, played by the terrific Melanie Lynskey (Showtime's "Yellowjackets"). Casting this actress spikes the danger of the character. Lynskey has the face of a soccer mom planning a bake sale. In reality, Kathleen is icy to the core, with no hesitation at wiping out others. That disconnect makes Kathleen fascinating, her final scene an action highlight. It's a street showdown involving Joel and company, Kathleen and her crew, and hoards of the infected.

And that celebrated third episode? Believe the hype. Mazin and episode director Peter Hoar provide backstory apparently not to this extent in the game: The story of how a survivalist (Nick Offerman) welcomes a stranger into his home (Murray Bartlett), the two falling in love. Real, genuine love. At 75 minutes, the episode is like a mini-movie, with Offerman ("Parks & Recreation") and Bartlett ("The White Lotus") defying all stereotype of what this relationship should be. Ironically, the episode was derided by some LGBTQ groups that argued it is another "bury the gays" storyline. Hollywood's desire to paint the LGBTQ community as tragic characters. That criticism misses the mark. These two men forge their own destiny, going out on their own terms, not because of the apocalypse.

"The Last of Us" also is moving in exploring how the apocalypse robs youth of their innocence. Of a normal childhood. A smile, a laugh from a young character is, in this series, cause for jubilation. Glimpses of what these characters might have been like under better circumstances.

As the first season enters the final four episodes, you appreciate the growth, the character arcs, of Joel and Ellie. They are *not* the same people they



Nick Offerman (left) and Murray Bartlett are outstanding in the brilliant third episode of "The Last of Us."

were at the beginning. They've dialed down their resistance to each other. As the season ends, they are very much a surrogate father and daughter.

We appreciate that relationship, because when the cannibal cultists arrive, that's when I thought, "Oh boy, here we go again. 'Walking Dead' reflux." You can feel the influence of the AMC zombie saga in the last few episodes, the message *again* being that, in an apocalypse, humans are the greater evil. Now, it is a guarantee any human crossing paths with Joel and Ellie will be despicable. And for the most part, that's what happens.

Ratings for "The Last of Us," however, burst through the roof. HBO has not had a hit like this since "Game of Thrones." The last two episodes saw a ratings increase of 74-75 percent from the debut.

My hope is that the show finds a unique balance between horror and drama. Scare us, make us care about these people. Don't fall into the same trap as "The Walking Dead," where the characters are so unpleasant, you start rooting for the monsters.

Contact Andrew Tallackson at atallackson@gmail.com

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COMPLETE REMODELING • ROOM ADDITIONS • SIDING • DECKS • GARAGES 	 <p>219-861-6341 www.hullingsconstruction.com</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NEW CONSTRUCTION • 4 SEASON ROOMS • CONCRETE • MASONRY • FLOORING
---	---	---



The “Scream” Franchise is Alive and Well

by Andrew Tallackson



Melissa Barrera and Jenna Ortega return as sisters stalked by a relentless killer in “Scream VI.”

With today’s film landscape cluttered with re-makes, reboots and other cash grabs, the “Scream” franchise actually gets it right.

True, we don’t need the new films. The series wrapped itself up 23 years ago with the third film. But since anyone can don the Ghostface costume, and Hollywood can’t let go of the past, the movies keep coming. Difference here is, the guys behind *Scream V* and *Scream VI* know this franchise inside and out. It’s their “Star Wars.” They have so much affection for the material, the spirit of it all is alive and well.

When you think about it, this franchise is tricky. A meta high-wire act. It is a love letter to ’80s slasher pictures in the way *Stranger Things* honors ’80s sci-fi and horror. They are whodunits, with everyone being a suspect, the big reveal held off until the very end. The tone is dark comedy, the characters not only commenting on themselves, but also on the tired tropes of the genre.

The directors of the last two films, Matt Bettinelli-Olpin and Tyler Gillett, and their writers, James Vanderbilt and Guy Busick, keep the juggling act going. More self-aware than ever, the films not only comment on reboots and sequels, but also the “Scream” franchise as well.

Last year’s reboot kept the action in Woodsboro to honor the original. Round VI switches locations to New York City (actually, Montreal fills in because



“Scream VI”

Running time: 122 minutes. Rated R for strong bloody violence and language throughout, and brief drug use.

it’s cheaper to shoot there). Survivors of the last film either live, work or attend school in the Big Apple. That would be sisters Sam (Melissa Barrera) and Tara (“it” girl Jenna Ortega), their friends Mindy (Jasmin Savoy Brown), Chad (Mason Gooding) and of course, nosy journalist Gale Weathers (Courteney Cox), snooping around the carnage.

The movie acknowledges how horror sequels up the ante with gore and violence, the OGs — the old guard from the originals — no longer safe; hence, they point out, Luke Skywalker in “The Last Jedi.” The brutality this time, however, is extreme. Like NC-17 extreme. The filmmakers need to watch themselves because the brutality is uncomfortably close to “torture porn,” where the movie delights in exacting graphic violence.

That being said, “Scream VI” honors the almost adventurous tone of the attack sequences staged by the late Wes Craven in the early pictures. Action set-pieces that build to startling climaxes. Here, the franchise is unstoppable. A late-night confrontation in a convenience store. A precarious trip across a ladder used as a catwalk between build-

ings. And the best sequence: characters on two subway trains on Halloween night, crammed with people dressed as horror movie icons, Ghostface included. These scenes are dynamite in their staging, the choreography of how close killer and prey are to each other.

None of this would succeed, though, if we didn't like the characters. Barrera and Ortega make for wonderful sisters: sharp, loving, having each other's backs. Ditto Brown and Gooding as equally savvy siblings. And Cox is always good for a laugh. This time, the confrontation between her and Ghostface in her apartment is proof women hold their own with the best of them.

"Scream VI" is not for everyone. Those who found slasher movies repellent back in the day won't be



The film's subway train chase is the most thrilling sequence in the movie.

chomping at the bit to see this one. But for those who "get" it, well, you know who you are. And, you're in for a treat.



Contact Andrew Tallackson at atallackson@gmail.com



Your Pet Misses Socializing.

Bring Him to Brandt's!

BRANDT'S
—OLD FASHION—
FEED, PET & WILDLIFE
EMPORIUM, INC.

"We Have Perfected Knowledgeable Service"

 309 West US 12 • Michigan City, IN • 219.874.4188



psst!

Easter TO GO from

PATRICK'S GRILLE

Individual or Family Meals
Extra Sides, Brunch Items, Desserts
Bloody Mary Mix & Garnishes Package
Order Deadline is 5pm Friday, March 31st
Pick up 10am - 2pm Saturday, April 8th
Download order form at Patrick'sGrille.com

PATRICK'S GRILLE
4125 S. Franklin Street • Michigan City
219.873.9401 • info@patricksgrille.com

GOING GREEN



Continued on Next Page





Irish eyes were smiling as the Michigan City St. Patrick's Day parade headed north on Franklin Street on Saturday, March 11. *Beacher* photographer James Conlin was there to capture all the fun.



Learn more about the staff of The Beacher Weekly Newspaper

Meet Charley McKelvy

Area of Residence: Harbert, Mich.

Title: columnist.

Years with *The Beacher*: Since January 2001, with some time off for good behavior.

Favorite story/assignment and why: The series of columns (then called “Travels with Charley”) I wrote about the trip with my 80-something mother to Mother Russia in 2007. That was the trip of a lifetime.

□

Favorite movies: “It’s a Wonderful Life,” “The Shawshank Redemption,” “Doctor Zhivago,” “Lawrence of Arabia,” “Risen,” “Joyeux Noel,” “The Polar Express,” “Gettysburg,” “Braveheart,” “The Shape of Water,” “Fargo” and an obscure Russian war movie: “Come and See.”

Favorite books/authors: Anything by my wife and fellow author, Natalie McKelvy. “Scoop” by Evelyn Waugh, “Common Prayer” by Joan Didion, “An American Tragedy” by Theodore Dreiser, “Catch 22” by Joseph Heller, “Slaughterhouse-Five” by Kurt Vonnegut, and the collected works of Joyce Carol Oates, Edgar Allen Poe, Mark Twain, Herman Melville and John Updike.

Favorite music: Opera singer Joyce DiDonato. Clarinetist Anat Cohen. I love all types of music, but jazz became my favorite when I first listened to “Kind of Blue” by Miles Davis and “Take Five” by Dave Brubeck, when I was in high school. There was no turning back after that.

Favorite TV shows: “Rocky & Bullwinkle,” “The Three Stooges,” “Gunsmoke,” “Have Gun—Will Travel,” “Breaking Bad,” “The Chosen,” “Yellowstone,” “1883,” “The Borgias,” “Better Call Saul,” “Boardwalk Empire” and “The Vikings.”

Favorite food: My (never-to-be) famous, baked,

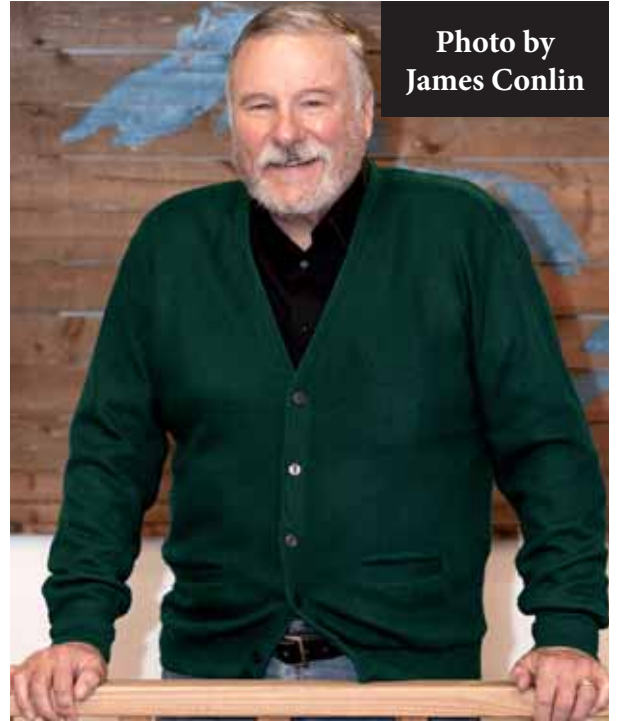


Photo by
James Conlin

oil-free and hotly seasoned “fries” I call “tasty tots.” Dipped, of course, in a ketchup/barbecue sauce blend.

Favorite sports team: Chicago White Sox. Close second: South Bend Cubs.

Reason I love living in this area: Berrien County, Mich., is second only to LaPorte County in terms of rolling roads for bicycling. Berrien County does beat out LaPorte in terms of beautiful shoreline, but the Indiana Dunes are something to write home about. And then there’s that amazing, sweetwater sea they call Michigan. And we’re on the windward side, which means cooling breezes in summer and the always delightful lake-effect snow in winter.

THE
Beacher

The People
Paper

Oscar Ceremony Results in Largely Respectable Night

by Andrew Tallackson

As boring as the Oscars are, I kinda dug this year's ceremony. Straightforward. Cohesive. Relatively scandal free. And by relatively, well, we'll get to that in a minute.

Based on widespread indifference to the Oscar heavyweights, my prediction was that ratings would plummet. A surprise, then, that viewership was up by 2 million, a 12.5 percent increase from last year. Turns out, the very accessibility through streaming that chipped away at theater attendance bolstered the Oscars. More people saw the nominated films in the comfort of their homes.

Another bit of irony: The number of reader entries in our "Beat the Editor" contest was the highest since 2018. I correctly predicted five of the six categories, assuming Best Supporting Actress would swing between Angela Bassett and Jamie Lee Curtis. I chose Bassett, who lost to Curtis.

Two readers tied with me in correctly guessing five of the six categories: Elise Carey, Long Beach, and Sam Paxton, Michigan Shores. Two readers correctly predicted all six categories. First place went to Michigan City's Jason Leslie and second place to Amanda Keeton of Niles, Mich. Leslie receives a \$25 gift card to Swingbelly's and a \$25 AMC gift card. Keeton receives a \$25 AMC gift card. Thanks to Swingbelly's for sponsoring our contest.

And now, down to the ceremony.

When "Everything Everywhere All at Once" swooped in early, scoring back-to-back wins for Best Supporting Actor (Ke Huy Quan) and Actress (Curtis), it was foreshadowing. Seven statues total, including Best Picture, Director, Actress (Michelle Yeoh), Screenplay and Editing. What struck me about each win was the acceptance speeches. A single movie had created a "family" within the cast and crew. Supportive. Humble. Gracious. Quan, in fact, was so overwhelmed, after decades of work *behind* the camera, you choked up. And Yeoh, my gosh. Breaking barriers as the first Asian woman to win Best Actress, the 60-year-old brought the audience to its feet when she said, "Ladies, don't let anyone tell you you're past your prime."

And now, down to the "relative controversy." The reaction of Angela Bassett, nominated for Best Supporting Actress, after losing to Curtis. The crestfallen look on her face — a very human reaction, mind you — followed by no applause for Curtis. Cynics pounced on her for being a "sore loser." Cancel culture drones want Curtis "canceled" for "white privilege." Dismiss these claims.

The "sore loser" attack leveled against Bassett misses the point. Heck, I was disappointed. There is history here. Bassett was 34 when she burst out of the gate, delivering a performance for the ages as Tina Turner in "What's Love Got to Do With It?" (1993). She and costar Laurence Fishburne, as Ike Turner, earned actress and actor Oscar nods, respectively. Bassett lost to Holly Hunter for "The Piano." Having revisited "What's Love Got to Do With It?" last month, the first time in decades, Bassett's performance remains one of the worst snubs in Oscar history. The actress *became* Turner, much in the way Rami Malek transformed himself into Freddie Mercury in "Bohemian Rhapsody." It



Jamie Lee Curtis is photographed with her Oscar for "Everything Everywhere All At Once."

was an astonishing piece of work.

Since her first Oscar nomination, Bassett forged a respectable career, but Hollywood let her down, denying her meatier roles. Her performance in "Wakanda Forever" ranks with some of her best. An Oscar win would have been long-overdue validation of Bassett by her own peers.

Some say the Oscar loss confirms a detached, racist attitude toward black actresses. There is truth to that — where were Danielle Deadwyler ("Till") and Viola Davis ("The Woman King") among the nominations — but the reality is, snooty Marvel backlash, much of it fueled by Martin Scorsese and Quentin Tarantino, has been so intense, Bassett never stood a chance. And Curtis, to be fair, *was* hilarious in "Everything Everywhere."

My opinion? The best performance in this area didn't even make it. That honor goes to Mariana Treviño in "A Man Called Otto." Here is a woman, cast against Tom Hanks, no less, who walked off with the entire picture. The movie is streaming and



Michelle Yeoh's acceptance speech for Best Actress was another emotional high of the evening.

available on blu-ray. Check it out. You'll see what I mean.

And the ceremony, itself? At 3 hours, 40 minutes — too darn long. Yes, we get it that Disney and Warner Bros. are celebrating their 100th anniversary. However, the Disney tribute was a shameless plug for the "Little Mermaid" update.

Jimmy Kimmel did fine as host, the Will Smith jabs over last year's "Oscar slap" expected, but not exactly knee-slappers. Grouping categories together when announcing winners added congruity to the night. The Best Original Song nominees stuck to the music itself, instead of spicing them up with ridiculous dance numbers.

All in all, a step in the right direction. Tighten this sucker up so it's on the leaner side of 3 1/2 hours, and you have an awards show worth the fuss.

Contact Andrew Tallackson at atallackson@gmail.com

Going Out of Business SALE

The Frisky Frog
 16 NORTH SMITH STREET
 NEW BUFFALO, MI 49117
 269 469 0844

70% Off

March 9-April 2

Candles, paper products, greeting cards, puzzles, Christmas items, lamps, German smokers, Nora Fleming, food products (salsas, jams), dressings, outdoor items.

Shelving, Tables, Display Units as Marked

11 a.m.-5 p.m. EST Mon, Thurs, Fri, Sat

Noon-5 p.m. EST Sunday

Closed Tuesday & Wednesday

Michiana's Yoga Oasis

Classes Everyday
 Drop Ins Welcome
 Student/Senior Discounts
 Private Instruction
 Teacher Training

Visit our website for class times and events at DancingFeetYoga.Com

19135 West US Highway 12
 New Buffalo, Michigan
 269-469-1966

SAVE **Duneland Home & Hardware** Find us on Facebook **Open 7 Days!**

Design Center & Showroom
 1600 N. BARRICK RD
 Holland, MI 49423
 269-939-0100

STEP 1 Crabgrass Preventer → **STEP 2** Weed & Feed → **STEP 3** Lawn Food → **STEP 4** Winterize

4-STEP 5,000 SQFT LAWCARE PROGRAM

PURCHASE ALL 4 STEPS FOR ONLY \$56.99

Made in Knot, IN

MCHS Students Place Third in Statewide Japanese Olympiad

Michigan City High School students Destiny Meneweather and Mia Zemrowski placed third in the state at the Feb. 25 Japanese Olympiad at Indiana University-Bloomington.

The duo competed at Level 4 for students in their fourth year of Japanese.

“As seniors, Destiny and Mia made their rookie appearance at the Japanese Olympiad this year because the competition was canceled throughout their freshman, sophomore and junior years,” MCHS Japanese Teacher Mike Tsugawa said in a press release. “They competed well, and we are proud of them.”

MCHS also competed at levels 2 and 3. At Level 3, MCHS was represented by Kamar Scully, Lorenzo Panozzo and Malkiyel Woodard. Competing on Level 2 teams were Aaverie Wingard,

Natalie White, Zoe Brooks, Nathan Groszek and Vivian Taylor.

“Level 2 is the hardest level to break through since it has the biggest field,” Tsugawa said. “All of our students at Level 2 are sophomores getting their first experience in this competition, but all of our



Pictured are (from left) Professor Keiko Kuriyama (a competition judge) of IUPUI, Mike Tsugawa, Michigan City High School Japanese teacher, Meneweather and Zemrowski, and Allen Kidd (event emcee and Japanese teacher from Muncie Central).

students did great, and we hope they will be back.”

The olympiad is an annual, day-long academic tournament. Nearly 100 students participated this year from nine high schools, including Avon, Bloomington North, Chesterton, Fort Wayne Carroll, Highland, Wabash, Michigan City, Muncie Central and Penn. The event places students in a playoff against other competing schools at the same level, with only three scoring teams advancing to the finals. It is judged by Japanese professors — all native speakers — from IU-Bloomington, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, Purdue University-West Lafayette, DePauw and Earlham College.

The experience allowed students and spectators to learn more about Japanese culture through a traditional dance from Okinawa. They also could gather information about Japanese studies at several Indiana colleges and universities.

Wake Up the Gardens Day

Wake Up the Gardens Volunteer Day is from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, March 25, at Friendship Botanic Gardens, 2055 E. U.S. 12.

The community can help rake or haul leaves, pick up garbage and sticks, and prep the attraction for the season. If possible, take gloves and rakes, and dress for the weather. Light refreshments will be provided.


RSVP at <https://tinyurl.com/v9afc2xy>

A casual neighborhood gathering place

JOHNNY V!
SUNDAYS 10-12



BEST BREAKFAST IN TOWN!



Now Open
Year Round!

Dine-in - Curbside - Catering

**Daily House-made Soups & Chili with Cornbread
...and of course all of our amazing menu items!

Benedict * Corned Beef Hash * Biscuits & Gravy * Harvest Chicken Salad * Reuben *
Turkey Avocado BLT * Gourmet Grilled Cheese * To Die for Blueberry Muffins

PRE-ORDERS:

Large Muffin Orders
Whole Quiche
Whole Chicken Pot Pie
Holiday Pies
Lasagna

...just to name a few!

Chicken Pot Pie every Thursday!

...Whole or by the piece!

PRIVATE ROOM!

- *Business Meetings
- *Rehearsal Dinners
- *Baby Showers

Like us on Facebook to follow our daily SPECIALS!

Open Wed-Sun 8-2
CLOSED Monday and Tuesday

201 Center Street Sheridan Beach IN
219-809-6592

Helping Create a Better World



Sophie Rizzo (left) and Maleeah Jackson, the Joy Elementary School student council president and vice president, respectively, are photographed with one of two food pantry boxes created last year as part of the school-wide "Better World Day" project. Families in need may take food from the boxes or help restock them. One box is located in front of the school near the parking lot, the other on the west side of the school near the transportation building.

POSH BOUTIQUE
 109 N. BARTON
 NEW BUFFALO, MI
 269-469-0505

NOW BOOKING
 SPRING CONSIGNMENT
 APPOINTMENTS!

OPEN
 NOON-5PM EST
 CLOSED TUESDAYS

@POSHNEWBUFFALO

**KITCHEN & BATH
 CABINET SALE!**
 DUNELAND HOME & PRO HARDWARE
 219-878-1720

**Get in Touch With Northwest
 Indiana & Southwest Michigan's
 HVAC Experts Today**

- Furnace & AC Repair & Maintenance
- Furnace & AC Installation
- Humidifiers & Dehumidifiers
- Air Duct Cleaning

**Michiana
 Mechanical**
 HEATING & COOLING

219.200.0158 michianamechanical.com

Schoolhouse Shop
 At Furnessville

*We're Open with a
 Completely New Look!*

278 E. 1500 N. • Chesterton, IN 46304
 (219) 926-5001

Closed Tuesdays

Michigan City Public Library

Michigan City Public Library's circulation/front lobby area is open to the public. Public seating is available, and the computer lab is open. Hours are: 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday-Saturday and closed Sundays.

The library is changing overhead lighting to LED fixtures. They will feature automatic ambient lighting, centralized controls for turning on and off and conservation in unoccupied public areas. The library will remain open during all phases of the project, but reserves the right to close if necessary. Areas under the work zone will be closed. The goal is to minimize closure time to its collections and services. The meeting rooms will close while work is done.

The following programs are scheduled:

- **Cooking for One at 1 p.m. Thursday, March 23.** With March being Nutrition Awareness Month, Crystal Hallwood, a trained chef and REAL Services nutrition manager, will offer tricks for healthy meals for one, and provide food samples and recipe handouts.
- **Bad Art Night for Adults from 5-7 p.m. Thursday, March 23.** Designed as a way to unwind and create, the library provides the paint, canvas and pompoms. An award goes to the piece voted Worst Art. No registration is required.
- **Great Decisions at 6:30 p.m. Monday, March**

27. The foreign-policy discussion program continues its 25th season. The discussion is economic warfare. Reading material is available at the circulation desk. Call 873-3049 for more details.

- **Needle Arts Club to Warm Up America Joining Night at 5:30 p.m. Thursdays in March.** Membership 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. Also, the group has organized a local chapter of the Warm Up America Foundation. Volunteers are knitting and crocheting handmade squares (7x9 inch) that will be joined together to make full-size afghans.
- **Sesame Street Scavenger Hunt in March.** Search for Bert, Ernie, Super Grover, Cookie Monster and Oscar the Grouch in Youth Services.
- **Weekly Crafts for Kids & Teens weekly in March.** Each week offers a different project. Take-home craft kits are available, or create some in the Makerspace. Supplies are limited.
- **Story Time at 10 a.m. Wednesdays.** Children birth to age 5 and adults will enjoy stories, songs and crafts. Check out previous story time videos through the library's YouTube channel, Facebook page and website.

□

The library seeks volunteers to help at least one day a week during tax season (through April) through the IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program. The IRS provides some training, and volunteers must pass the VITA test through the intermediate level. Testing and training are online. Call (219) 873-3049 for details.

□

Volunteer genealogists can answer questions from 1-4 p.m. Tuesdays (Pat Harris) and 11 a.m.-2 p.m. the last Saturday of the month (Colleen Miltenberger).

□

Michigan City Public Library is located at 100 E. Fourth St. Visit www.mclib.org for more details.

hoity toity shop! sell!
Fun * Funky * Furniture
furniture home decor architectural salvage industrial items and MUCH more!
Furniture Consignment
219.809.9249
731 Franklin Street
Michigan City IN 46360
hoitytoityconsignments@hotmail.com

Monday - Saturday
Brazilian Blowouts
Kevin Murphy Products
Haircuts & Color
Manicures
Pedicures

the Salon
at 10th and Pine
128 East 10th Street
Michigan City, IN
219.809.9632

Jose Lawn Care
872-230-6531

FULLY INSURED! • Free Estimates
Spring & Fall Cleanup, Grass Cutting
Weed control, Trimming, Power Washing
Clean Gutters

Michigan City, Indiana
Fertilizing, Planting, Mulch, Power Rake,
Shrubs, Snow Plowing, Etc.
Concrete small walking sides, driveways

Illumine Trio



Illumine Trio features (from left) Sarah Moyer, Katie Lynch Koglin and Chris O'Hara.

The award-winning Illumine Trio marks the next LaPorte Community Concert Association program at 7 p.m. Monday, March 27, at Kesling Intermediate School's auditorium, 306 E. 18th St., LaPorte.

The group features trumpet (Chris O'Hara), harp (Katie Lynch Koglin) and soprano (Sarah Moyer). The three friends met as performers in Boston, each with experience across the musical spectrum, from internationally touring brass ensembles to musical theater, orchestra and Grammy-nominated vocal ensembles.

The concert is included with season tickets. The public can buy tickets at the door for \$20 for adults and \$5 for students through high school age. Call (219) 362-5292 for more details.



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

- Eaton Chiropractic, 8690 Pahs Road, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday, March 27.
- Northwest Health Heart and Vascular Building, 901 Lincolnway, LaPorte, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Tuesday, March 28.
- Uptown Social, 907 Franklin St., 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Wednesday, March 29.

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 www.redcrossblood.org for more details.

QUALIFIED EXPERIENCED REASONABLE ESTATE PLANNING ATTORNEY



- Practicing attorney for 40+ years
- Concentrating in estate planning
- Licensed in Indiana, Michigan and Illinois
- LaPorte County resident for 45 years

Michael V. Riley
Harbour Trust Building
1024 N Karwick
Michigan City, IN 46360

Phone: 219-879-4925
Website: mvrileylaw.com



**Drive
home the
savings.**

Jim Eriksson, Agent
405 Johnson Road
Michigan City, IN 46360
Bus: 219-874-6360
jim.eriksson.gyxq@statefarm.com

Car and home combo.

Combine your homeowners and car policies and save big-time.

**Like a good neighbor,
State Farm is there.®**

CALL ME TODAY.



State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company
State Farm Indemnity Company, State Farm Fire and Casualty Company
State Farm General Insurance Company
0901133.1
Bloomington, IL

Indiana Dunes National Park

- **Drop-In Volunteer Program (Trash Trekkers) from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. daily in March at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center.** Trash Trekkers is a no-hassle volunteer option that helps keep trails and beaches clean. Temporary passes are available. Visit tinyurl.com/2p83798v for more details.
- **Bailly/Chellberg History Hike from 2-4 p.m. Saturdays in March.** Explore the grounds of both historic homes, and learn about early settlers and farmers who came to the region in the 1800s. After the hike, help the ranger feed the Chellberg Farm animals from 4:30-5 p.m. Park at the Bailly/Chellberg parking lot off Mineral Springs Road between U.S. 12 and 20 in Porter. Passes are required.
- **Trout Trek from 1-3 p.m. Sunday, March 26, at Heron Rookery, 1336 County Road 600 East, Michigan City.** Explore the Little Calumet River flood plain with a ranger, and look for trout species in the east arm of the river. Meet in the rookery's east parking lot. Prepare for muddy conditions.
- **Chellberg Farm Open House from 2-4 p.m. Saturdays-Sundays in March.** Rangers and volunteers share the area's history as visitors tour the farmhouse and garden and visit the animals. Passes are required. The parking lot is off Mineral

Springs Road between U.S. 12 and 20 in Porter.

- **Miller Woods Hike from 1:30-3:30 p.m. Sundays in March at Paul H. Douglas Center.** The ranger-led stroll explores a rare black oak savanna, and offers views of Lake Michigan and Chicago. □

The National Park Service seeks short-term housing in nearby communities for the seasonal workforce of park rangers, guides, maintenance workers and research aides.

IDNP is willing to lease housing for up to one year. Furnished multiple-bedroom units are preferred, but all proposals will be considered. Contact Todd Fletcher at (219) 395-1751 or todd_fletcher@nps.gov

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 or visit www.nps.gov/indu for details.

Indiana Dunes State Park

- **The J.D. Marshall Shipwreck Today and Long Ago at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 25.** Meet at the Nature Center to learn about the sinking of the J.D. Marshall just offshore of IDSP.
- **Walk with the Timberdoodles at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, March 25.** Join a naturalist on the west side of the beach pavilion to search for shorebirds often called woodcocks, bogsuckers or timberdoodles. The hike is moderate and just more than one-mile long.
- **Snakes Alive! at 10 a.m. Sunday, March 26.** Meet at the Nature Center to view snakes and learn more about them.

Indiana Dunes State Park is at 1600 N. County Road 25 East (the north end of Indiana 49), Chesterton. Call (219) 926-1390 to register for programs.



@SLIPCOVERS
and more

slipcovers, cushions, pillows
& more

BY APPOINTMENT

email: jodi@atslipcovers.com
www.atslipcovers.com | 269.586.3795
 12 S. Norton, New Buffalo, MI

2nd Location at 16201 Red Arrow Highway, Union Pier, MI



NWI AIRPORT EXPRESS
 24/7/365 | Door to Door Service
BOOK TODAY!
219-232-9000 TEXT OR CALL

AIRPORT

- Weddings
- Wine/ Brew Tours
- Chicago Trips
- Concerts
- Casinos
- Games
- Nights Out
- Doctor Appts
- Guided Tours

Serving NW Indiana | SW Michigan | Chicagoland Area

Lend-A-Hand Day

The Steady Stitchers Club of LaPorte County Extension Homemakers will host a Lend-A-Hand Day from 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Wednesday, March 29, at the Steady Stitchers Studio, 1640 1st St., LaPorte.

No specific abilities are required. Anyone who can sew, cut, sort, pin, stuff or tie can help. All items made are donated to local non-profits, with materials and instruction provided. Helpers can take a sewing machine; however, some machines will be provided. Lunch and dinner are provided. Any amount of time is appreciated.



Also, the group will accept donations of fabric and sewing supplies, which can be delivered to the studio during the day. A donation box for shoes is planned. All types of shoes and any in condition are accepted and will be donated to "Changing Footprints." Shoes will be cleaned and donated to organizations and people needing them. Well-used and mismatched ones will be reused for other purposes.

Call the Purdue Extension LaPorte County Office at (219) 324-9407 or email kulman@purdue.edu for more details.

LaPorte 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 for more details.

Migratory Bird & Scavenger Hunt

Stop by Luhr County Park Nature Center, 3178 S. County Road 150 West, LaPorte, to pick up a free, self-guided scavenger hunt anytime Thursday, March 30.

Participants can listen for songbirds and see spring flowers budding. No pre-registration is required.

Field Trips

Educators, Scout leaders and groups can schedule a free organized program for students or group at any county park.

The programs on various topics meet state standards and patch requirements.

Call (219) 324-5855, visit www.laportecountyparks.org or email natureniki@csinet.net for details.

Free Estimates
Install Hardwood, Vinyl & Engineered Flooring
Refinish Hardwood
Install Tile

Curtis Flooring

(269) 449-3404
curtisflooring@icloud.com

DYE PLUMBING & HEATING

1600 Lake St., La Porte
219-362-6251
Toll Free 1-800-393-4449

Specializing in Plumbing, Heating, Air Conditioning, Heat Pumps, Radiant Heat Boilers, Water Heaters, & Sewer Services

Serving You Since 1939

• Residential • Commercial • Industrial
"Big Enough To Serve You...
Small Enough To Know You..."

Warren Attar, Agent
1902 E US 20, Evergreen Plaza
Michigan City, IN 46360
Bus: 219-874-4256
Fax: 219-874-5430
warren.attar.hawq@statefarm.com

Your home and car are more than just things. They're where you make your memories – and they deserve the right protection. I get it. It's why I'm here.
LET'S TALK TODAY.

State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company, State Farm Fire and Casualty Company
1706811
Bloomington, IL

LCSO Chair Named for Percussionist



Principal Percussionist Brad Staats.

LaPorte County Symphony Orchestra Principal Percussionist Brad Staats now has a chair named in his honor by longtime LCSO supporters Leigh and Marcia Morris.

Staats has been with LCSO for 32 years.

“Brad Staats is an inspiration to us and many others because he’s not only a consummate professional musician that’s dedicated to the LCSO, but he’s also one of the nicest persons you’d ever want to meet,” the Morrisises said in a press release.

The named chairs are a result of LCSO’s 50th anniversary “Music Forever” campaign. More information is available at www.lcso.net, (219) 362-9020 or executive@lcso.net

Community Leader Award

The Westville Area Chamber of Commerce is accepting nominations for its Community Leader Award through Friday, April 7.

The goal is to recognize an individual, group or organization that makes a positive impact on the Westville-area community. Nominations are open to the public and voted on by the chamber’s board of directors. Complete the nomination form in its entirety. One additional page may be submitted if needed. The winner(s) will be honored at the Westville Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner, which is from 5:30-7 p.m. Friday, April 21, at Blue Moon Vintage Market.

Nomination forms are posted at www.westvillechamber.org, on the chamber’s Facebook page or at Westville Public Library, 153 W. Main St. Forms can be submitted by email at info@westvillechamber.org or mail to P.O. Box 215, Westville, IN 46391.

New Buffalo Township Library

- **New Buffalo Township Library Book Club at 10 a.m. EDT Tuesday, March 28.** The focus is Andrey Kurkov’s “The Gray Bees.”
- **“Signs of Spring, and Why They Happen” at 6:30 p.m. EDT Tuesday, March 28.**

Weekly programs:

- Craft Time all day Wednesday while supplies last.
- Read to a Dog Sessions for all ages from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Tuesday and 4-4:45 p.m. Wednesday.
- Story Time at 4 p.m. Thursday.
- Lego Club all day Saturday.

All times are Eastern. New Buffalo Township Library is located at 33 N. Thompson St. Call (269) 469-2933 for more details.



DREAM HOMES
START WITH
DREAM SERVICE.

Kelly Guhlstorf
Mortgage Advisor
(219) 650-6525



**LIVE TALK
RADIO
CALL IN LINE
219-861-1632
DURING LIVE SHOWS**



Office: 219-809-0445 • Fax: 219-879-9813

We Stream Live 24/7 All Over the World!

wimsradio.com

GRASS ROOTS SALON



By Appointment Only
Angila Keeney
(219) 871-9340
708 Freyer Road,
Michigan City

New Clients:
20% OFF
your 1st
Hair Care Service

Hair Care, Nails & Facial Waxing

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



An effective alternative to
counseling and psychotherapy for
individuals, couples, and families

219.879.9155
www.talktotedinc.com
ted@talktotedinc.com

Platinum Sponsor



For the 18th year in a row, Horizon Bank is a platinum sponsor for LaPorte County Symphony Orchestra's Hoosier Star. The competition-fundraiser is Saturday, Sept. 9, at LaPorte Civic Auditorium. Pictured are LCSO Executive Director Tim King (left) and Horizon Bank NW Region President Steve Kring.

CARPET & FLOORING SALE!
 DUNELAND HOME & PRO HARDWARE
 219-878-1720

SPACE PLANNING
 FURNISHING
 DECORATING
 SINCE 1991

no place like
HOME

312 • 343 • 9143 northern IN • southwest MI • metro Chicago
nplhinc.com **LAWRENCE ZIMMER**

Friendship Botanic Gardens is hiring a Seasonal Grounds Crew Member!

40 hours a week \$17/hour
 April-October
 Work outside in a beautiful environment and help The Gardens grow!

Contact
 info@friendshipbotanicgardens.org
 or call (219)-878-9885 for more information



2055 East U.S. Highway 12
 Michigan City, IN 46360
 www.friendshipbotanicgardens.org

the Gardens

Welcome to LITTLE GIANT Real Chicago Pizza Country
Since 1986

37 Years of
LITTLE GIANT REAL PIZZA
 of Long Beach

CARRY-OUT OR DELIVERY ONLY

87G-IANT
 219-874-4268

\$1.00 off any 10" SMALL, 14" MEDIUM or 16" LARGE

valuable coupon
 Name & Address _____
 Phone Number: _____

NOT VALID WITH OTHER OFFERS

Carry Out or Delivery Only
Home of the never disappointing REAL PIZZA
<https://tinyurl.com/3z55wyy2>
 Stop 24, Long Beach, 46360 - 500 feet from the Beach



ProElite
 WINDOW CLEANING
Free Estimates

Window Cleaning, Gutter Cleaning, Pressure Washing
 Lakefront-Residential-Commercial
(800) 228-3928 • (317) 727-2361

Abiney's Oriental Rug & Carpet Cleaning Company

Oriental Rug Cleaning, Repair, Restoration and Refringing
FREE PICKUP and DELIVERY SERVICE

- Carpet Cleaning
- Upholstery Cleaning
- House Cleaning Services
- Drapery & Blind Cleaning (as they hang)
- Window Washing

All Rugs are cleaned by hand with a specially designed chemical process



HARDWOOD FLOORS - Hand Polishing & High Speed Buffing
 1645 N. Pine Ridge Dr., LaPorte, IN 219-325-3363



In the Area

March 23 — Cooking for One, 1 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

March 23 — Bad Art Night for Adults, 5-7 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

March 25 — Wake Up the Gardens Volunteer Day, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Friendship Botanic Gardens, 2055 E. U.S. 12. Registration: <https://tinyurl.com/v9afc2xy>

March 26 — Trout Trek, 1-3 p.m., Heron Rookery, 1336 County Road 600 East, Michigan City. Info: (219) 395-1882, www.nps.gov/indu

March 27 — Family Pajama Storytime, 6-6:30 p.m., LaPorte County Public Library, 904 Indiana Ave. Info: www.laportelibrary.org

March 27 — Great Decisions, 6:30 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3049.

March 27 — Monday Musicale, 7 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 121 E. Seventh St. Info: (219) 874-3754, (219) 362-1421.

March 27 — Illumine Trio (LaPorte Community Concert Association), 7 p.m., Kesling Intermediate School's auditorium, 306 E. 18th St., LaPorte. Tickets @ door: \$20/adults, \$5/students through high school age. Info: (219) 362-5292.

March 28 — Readers Corner-Book Club, 6-7 p.m., Coolspring Library Branch Meeting Room, 6925 W. County Road 400 North. Info: www.laportelibrary.org

March 28 — Virtual Author Talk with Pam Jenoff (adults 19+), 6-7 p.m., through LaPorte County Public Library. Registration: <https://libraryc.org/laportelibrary/24911>

March 29 — Steady Stitchers Club of LaPorte County Extension Homemakers Lend-A-Hand Day, 9 a.m.-8 p.m., Steady Stitchers Studio, 1640 1st St., LaPorte. Info: (219) 324-9407, kulman@purdue.edu

Through March 31 — Artwork by Madeleine Schooley/the late Barbara Fedder, The Legacy Center Gallery at Queen of All Saints Catholic Church, 1719 E. Barker Ave. Gallery hours: 6 a.m.-8 p.m. Mon.-Thur., 6 a.m.-6 p.m. Fri.-Sat., 6 a.m.-3 p.m. Sun. Info: (219) 872-9196.

First and Third Mondays — Singing Sands Toastmasters Club, 6:30-8 p.m., Senior Health/

Wellness Center (old hospital ER, Barker/Buffalo).

Mondays in Michigan City — Bingo, Moose Family Lodge 980, 2107 Welnetz Road. Doors open/8:30 a.m., early birds/9:30 a.m., regular Bingo/10 a.m.

Tuesdays — Bingo, St. Stanislaus Kostka Catholic Church, 109 Ann St. Doors open: 3:30 p.m. Bingo: 6 p.m. Starting Feb. 7: \$45 entrance fee (includes all cards). Info: (219) 336-3099.

Thursdays — Needle Arts Club to Warm Up America Joining Night, 5:30 p.m., Michigan City Public Library, 100 E. Fourth St. Info: (219) 873-3045.

In the Region

March 24 — Paul Thorn, 8 p.m. EDT, The Acorn, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: \$40 + \$6 convenience fee, \$65 + \$6 convenience fee (reserved). Reservations: www.acornlive.org

March 25 — The J.D. Marshall Shipwreck Today and Long Ago, 2 p.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

March 25 — Walk with the Timberdoodles, 6:30 p.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

March 26 — Snakes Alive!, 10 a.m., Indiana Dunes State Park, 1600 N. County Road 25 East, Chesterton. Info: (219) 926-1390.

March 28 — New Buffalo Township Library Book Club, 10 a.m. EDT, New Buffalo Township Library, 33 N. Thompson St. Info: (269) 469-2933.

March 28 — “Signs of Spring, and Why They Happen,” 6:30 p.m. EDT, New Buffalo Township Library, 33 N. Thompson St. Info: (269) 469-2933.

March 29 — Tommy Castro & The Painkillers, 7 p.m. EDT, The Acorn, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks, Mich. Tickets: \$30 + \$5 convenience fee, \$55 + \$5 convenience fee (reserved). Reservations: www.acornlive.org

Through March 24 — Group exhibit, “Sense and Sensibility: Poetry in Painting,” South Shore Arts, 1040 Ridge Road, Munster.

Through April 12 — Anneke Dekker solo show, Pines Village Retirement Communities, 3303 Pines Village Circle, Valparaiso.

Through April 16 — Exhibit, artist-poet-artificial intelligence researcher Sasha Stiles, Krasl Art Center, 707 Lake Blvd., St. Joseph, Mich. Info: www.krasl.org

Through April 30 — 2023 Community Student Art Exhibitions, Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Mich. Receptions: elementary/6-8 p.m. EDT March 16; middle-, high-school/ 6-8 p.m. EDT April 20. Info: (269) 983-0271, www.krasl.org

Through May 29 — “Built to Last: Studebaker Buildings Past & Present,” The Studebaker National Museum, 201 Chapin St., South Bend. Hours (Eastern): 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Sat., noon-5 p.m. Sun. Admission: \$11 - adults, \$9.50 - seniors 60+, \$7 - youth ages 6-18. Info: (574) 235-9714, www.studebakermuseum.org

Mondays — Pickleball, 5:30 p.m. EST, New Troy (Mich.) Community Center, 13372 California Road. Free, donations welcome. Info: (269) 426-3909, friendsofnewtroy@yahoo.com

Saturdays in March — Bailly/Chellberg History Hike, 2-4 p.m., Bailly/Chellberg parking lot off Mineral Springs Road between U.S. 12/20, Porter. Info: (219) 395-1882, www.nps.gov/indu

Saturdays-Sundays in March — Chellberg Farm Open House, 2-4 p.m. Meet at parking lot off Mineral Springs Road between U.S. 12/20, Porter. Info: (219) 395-1882, www.nps.gov/indu

Sundays in March — Miller Woods Hike, 1:30-3:30 p.m., Paul H. Douglas Center, 100 N. Lake St., Gary's Miller Beach neighborhood. Info: (219) 395-1882, visit www.nps.gov/indu

Vickers Theatre — *Now Showing:* "Living." Rated PG-13. Times: 7 p.m. March 23, 4 p.m. March 24, 7 p.m. March 25-26. *Also:* "Puss in Boots: The Last Wish." Rated PG. Times: 4 p.m. March 23, 7 p.m. March 24, 4 p.m. March 25-26. All times Eastern. Theater address: 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. Info: www.vickerstheatre.com, (269) 756-3522.

LONG BEACH WOMEN'S BOWLING



March 14, 2023

TEAM STANDING

	WON	LOST
1. Striking Beauties	27	9
2. Gutter Gals	20	16
2. Diagonal Divas	20	16

HIGH INDIVIDUAL GAMES

	SCORE
1. Kathy Staninger	177
2. Mimi Troller	159
3. Mary Lou McFadden	158
4. Nancy Kubath	154

SPLITS

June Salmon	4-5
Dottie Brinckman	3-10
Susan Kieffer	4-5

FOUR STRIKES IN A ROW

Kathy Straninger

Lefty's Pro Shop
Quality Used

All Things Golf
Doug Robinson

2707 Wabash St
Michigan City, IN
46360

**BUY
SELL
TRADE**

(219) 873-0858

Best Prices In Area

LaPorte County Public Library

LaPorte County Public Library has updated its curbside pickup service using meeScan.

New users can download the meeScan app through options such as Apple and Google Play. Then, place holds on items using a customer account. Once at the library, check in using the app and clicking Pick-up from the bottom of the screen (or calling the library location). An appointment no longer is needed. Add the parking space on the app if picking up from the main location. Enter information in the instructions box if picking up holds placed on more than one account, or if needing additional assistance. A staff member brings held items to the vehicle. Customers using the app receive updates as their requests are processed. Returns can be placed in book drops and be checked in within 24 to 72 hours. At this time, there is no limit to the number of items customers can reserve and pick up during curbside.

- Coolspring Branch: Monday/Wednesday/Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Main Library: Tuesday/Thursday (10 a.m. to 6 p.m.) and Saturday (10 a.m. to 4 p.m.).



Patrons are no longer charged daily overdue fines. Customers only will be charged for items they damage, lose or never return.



The following programs are planned:

- **Stories & More from 10-10:30 a.m. Friday, March 23, at the main library.** Children ages 3-5 with their caregivers experience stories, songs, crafts and activities.
- **Google Docs for Beginners (adults 19+) from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Friday, March 24, in Meeting Room B at the main library.** Learn the basics of the program.
- **Family Pajama Storytime from 6-6:30 p.m. Monday, March 27, in the main library multipurpose room.** The program focuses on stories and songs. Guests can wear pajamas and take a favorite stuffed animal.
- **Readers Corner-Book Club from 6-7 p.m. Tuesday, March 28, at the Coolspring Branch Meeting Room.** Refreshments will not be served, but participants may take coffee or tea.
- **Virtual Author Talk with Pam Jenoff (adults 19+) from 6-7 p.m. Tuesday, March 28.** Jenoff is a *New York Times* bestselling historical fiction author. Register at <https://library.org/laportelibrary/24911>

LaPorte County Public Library is located at 904 Indiana Ave. The Coolspring Branch is located at 6925 W. County Road 400 North. Visit www.laportelibrary.org for more details, including programming through the Exchange building.

The Beacher: Your Community Connection!

CLASSIFIED**PERSONAL**

Looking for a live-in caretaker.

Please call Shelly at (219) 873-5875

Seeking commercial kitchen space to rent.

Call (773) 630-6625 and ask for Lina.

PERSONAL SERVICES

THE LAUNDRY DROP. A wash-dry-fold service for your busy lifestyle. Dry cleaning accepted. Located at 16170 Red Arrow Highway, Suite C5, Union Pier, Mich. **Call (269) 231-5469.**

Authorized IRS e-file provider: Single-Married/No Dependents, (1) state included: IN, IL or MI, **\$100.** Single-Married/with Dependents, **\$125.** If (2) states are needed (add **\$35**). Capital Gains (add **\$100**). Rental properties up to 3 (add **\$150**). Business no employees (add **\$150**). Business with employees (add **\$250**). Corp K-1 (add **\$100**).

Howard Feder: (219) 814-4266, federaltaxsvc@sbcglobal.net

BUSINESS SERVICES

8-10-12-15 & 20 yard dumpster rentals

Lakeshore Rolloff and Demolition • (269) 426-3868

THE BOOKWORM, 11576 W. U.S. 30, Suite B, Wanatah

Hours: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Daily/Closed Thurs. & Sun.

Happy St. Patrick's Day. March specials: guy stuff & anything green, 50% off. **(219) 733-2403**

www.bookwormwanatah.com

HOME HEALTH – CAREGIVERS**COMFORT KEEPERS**

Providing Comforting Solutions For In-Home Care

Homemakers, attendants, companions

From 2 to 24 hours a day (including live-ins)

Personal emergency response systems

All of our compassionate caregivers are screened, bonded, insured, and supervised.

Call us at (877) 711-9800

Or visit www.comfortkeepers.com

KV-Staffing is offering private home care services from 1-24 hr of service, can start immediately. All staff is licensed, insured and supervised, with a nurse on call 24-7. Services offered: daily living skills, errands, small meal prep, light house cleaning and more.

Please call KV Staffing Agency at (219) 243-7160 or (219) 249-7567

IN-HOME CAREGIVERS

Experience in Dementia, Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, Cancer and Stroke Clients. Specializing in after hospital stay. 24/7 care.

Call for more info at (219) 809-8183.

CLEANING - HOUSEKEEPING

CLEANING SOLUTIONS. Home & office cleaning services, 27 yrs. exp. Insured, free estimates. **Call (219) 210-0580**

FINISHING TOUCH: Residential/Commercial/Specialty Cleaning Service Professional - Insured - Bonded - Uninformed
#1 in Customer Satisfaction. Phone **(219) 872-8817.**

BRIDGET'S QUALITY CLEANING • Satisfaction Guaranteed!!

Serving the community for years. Insured.

Homes • Rentals • Offices • Receive your free estimate today!

Bridget 219-241-9341 or email

BridgetsQualityCleaning@yahoo.com

OLD FASHIONED WINDOW CLEANING • (219) 945-9520

Full-time professional window cleaning, gutter cleaning and vinyl porch panel and screen cleaning experts! Check out my 5-star ratings online or ask your neighbors!

ProElite Window Cleaning • (800) 228-3928/(317) 727-2361 (cell)

Lakefront-Residential-Commercial • Free Estimates

Window Cleaning, Gutter Cleaning, Pressure Washing

Haro's House Cleaning: Daily, Weekly, Bi-Weekly, Monthly,

One Time. Free estimate. Insured. (219) 249-2239,

haroshousecleaning08@gmail.com

Rosa's House Cleaning: Residentials, one time, weekly, bi-weekly, airbnb, offices. **Call Rosa at (219) 814-3781 or**

rosahousecleaning08@gmail.com

Attention second homeowners: Non-toxic house cleaning, trustworthy, references available. **Call (219) 877-5622.**

WONDERFUL CLEANING LADY. Thorough, honest, reliable. Excellent references, reasonable rates. Bonded/insured. **Call (269) 469-4624.**

Kathleen would love to clean your home, office or vacation rental property. Call (269) 336-9154.

PK Precise Cleaning: Your Space, My Masterpiece

Residential, offices, airbnb, condo cleans, deep cleans.

References upon request. **Call Pamela @ (219) 393-0959**

HANDYMAN-HOME REPAIR-PLUMBING

H & H HOME REPAIR • skipnewman4444@yahoo.com

We specialize in: • Carpentry • Finished Basements • New Baths • Decks • Electrical • Plumbing • Flooring • Ceramic Tile • Drywall/Painting • Power Washing. **Jeffery Human, owner – (219) 861-1990.**

HP Electric LLC

(219) 363-9069

Licensed / Bonded / Insured

Residential • Light Commercial • Whole House Rewires

Rehab • New Construction • EV 50 Amp Service Install

HANDYMEN AT YOUR SERVICE. We can do most anything. Serving Northern Indiana since 1989. **Call Finishing Touch, Inc. (219) 872-8817.**

SERRANO HANDYMAN SERVICE

• Snow removal • Power Washing • Window Cleaning • Gutter Cleaning • Garage Organizer • Painting • And Much More • Free estimates. 20 years exp. We are not the only ones, we've decided to be the best ones...

Recommendations available. Insured.

Call (574) 855-0666

SERRANO HANDYMAN SERVICE: The Deck Specialist

We do full line of deck restoration. Window cleaning. Pressure washing and much more. 20-years experience. **Insured. Free estimates.**

Call (574) 855-0666.

DECK & FENCE REPAIRS, RESTORATION. STAINING/PAINTING.

EXTERIOR REPAIRS. 30 YEARS IN WOOD RESTORATION. INSURED

Bob @ (219) 400-0455. Text for fastest response

BILL SMART • (269) 231-0599

Renovations • Carpenter • Electrician • Painting & Tile

Handyman: I fix most domestic appliances, assemble kit furniture & barbecues, HVAC & much more. References. **Call (219) 369-7214.**

Kevin's Lawnmower & Small Equipment Repair

Starting April 1, get your lawnmower tuned up and ready for the season.

Blades sharpened and cleaned up.

Push mower \$35 (pickup and delivery available) • Riders \$50

Additional services available. **Call (219) 898-0490**

Top Notch: Handymen at Your Service

25+ years of experience puts your home in good hands and perfect working order. Inside and outside jobs. Painting, tiling, all home maintenance.

Free estimates. References available. Insured.

Contact Ed at (269) 635-9760 or at operations@handytopnotch.com

PAINTING-DRYWALL-WALLPAPER

JEFFERY J. HUMAN INTERIOR/EXTERIOR PAINTING & STAINING

Custom Decorating - Custom Woodwork -

Hang/Finish Drywall - Wallpaper Removal

Insured. **Ph. (219) 861-1990. Skipnewman4444@yahoo.com**

DUNIVAN PAINTING & POWERWASHING

Interior/Exterior • Deck washing/staining • Drywall Patch & Repair

Local. Exp. Insured. Reasonable Rates. **Call Brian at (219) 741-0481.**

C. MAJKOWSKI: Plastering & Drywall • Eifs • Stucco • Stone.

Commercial/residential. Chimney restoration. Licensed/bonded.

Call (219) 229-2352.

PETERSEN PAINTING

Serving the Michiana area. **Interior/Exterior painting.** Services include:

walls, ceilings, trim, all aspects of interior painting. Siding, soffits, win-

dows. House & deck washing/staining. Drywall replacement/repair.

Customer satisfaction our No. 1 Priority - Ref. Avail. **(574) 279-1408.**

Alpha Power Washing & Painting LLC

Professional interior/exterior painting of any kind, power washing houses/porches/cement patios, and staining decks. **Call Steve Sacks for a free estimate at (219) 809-1365 or email alphapainting223@gmail.com**

Looking for new or older house to paint from top to bottom.

Great time to call! Doors, windows, trim, walls. Specialty applications possible. We leave houses clean and tidy every day. 40+ yrs. exp. Very reasonable. I have a full crew. **We would be very appreciative to work in your home. Call me at (219) 393-0529.**

THE DECK DOCTOR

Wood's expensive, protect your deck so it lasts! Power wash, stain/seal, exterior wood care. Serving Harbor Country/Michiana/Northwest Indiana since 1993. **Call (219) 299-9461.**

WAYNE'S PAINTING. Interior/Exterior painting and staining. Power washing decks, siding and more. **Call (219) 363-7877.**

 **LANDSCAPE-Lawns-Clean Up, Etc.** 

HEALY'S LANDSCAPING
(219) 879-5150 • dhealy5150@gmail.com
218 Indiana 212, Michigan City, IN

Visit Healy's Landscaping & Materials on Facebook

RENT-A-MAN MAINTENANCE INC.

Interior painting, power washing (decks, houses, concrete) & deck staining — gutters — mulching — trim bushes/yard work — hauling. Serving your community since 2003. Free estimates: insured, bonded, licensed
Call us at (219) 229-4474

Snow removal. Lawn mowing, yard work, mulching, weeding, odd jobs!
Call ABE at (219) 210-0064. [Facebook.com/abeslawncare](https://www.facebook.com/abeslawncare)

CONSCIENTIOUS HOME & GARDEN

Private Gardening Service
Perennial Care / Containers / Design
FOR INQUIRIES (219) 229-4542
dawn@conscientioushomegarden.com

MOTA'S LAWN CARE LLC. • Full Landscape/Hardscape Services
Tree service. Fully Insured. (219) 871-9413 or
motaslawncaresllc@gmail.com

MAINSTREET LANDSCAPE SERVICE

Snow removal. Firewood for sale. Mowing, edging, trim, hedging, mulch, weeding. Gutter cleaning, small tree removal. Haul away debris. Power washing. Tine dethatching. Spike aerating. Free estimates. Insured.
(219) 336-4569, mainstreetlandscapeservice@gmail.com

EUSEBIO'S LANDSCAPING: Mowing, planting, mulch, weeding, tree trimming/removal, leaf removal, flower beds, any yardwork/spring cleanup. Free estimates. Insured. (219) 229-2767

Avila's Lawn Care • (219) 210-9752 • avilaslawncare16@gmail.com
Mowing, mulching, trimming, cleanups, snow removal. Fully Insured.

S&C LANDSCAPE SERVICES – (219) 916-0622, (219) 878-1985
MOWING, EDGING, MULCH, HEDGING – SPRING & FALL CLEANUP – TREE SERVICE - PRESSURE WASHING & MORE. FREE ESTIMATES.
landscapeservices46360@gmail.com

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Miller Pizza By the Beach, 1012 N. Karwick Road, is taking applications for employment. Apply within. No phone calls, please.

Do you sell insurance?

You can earn lucrative commissions selling seniors Advantage Plans. Part time or full time. **Call Roy at (219) 224-3348**

Needed: Sheridan Beach house cleaner to flip rental.

Weekday/ends. No regular set check in/out days. Min 2-night stay.
christyconaway@hotmail.com

Friendship Botanic Gardens seeking Seasonal Grounds Crew Member

Work outside in a beautiful environment!
40 hours/week, \$17/hour, April-October

Contact info@friendshipbotanicgardens.org or (219) 878-9885

Hiring Now!!! Pottawattomie Country Club

Chefs, bartenders, servers, admin. Competitive pay. Interested, call Matt Wooldridge at (219) 872-8624

FOR SALE

FOR SALE: 1 Vendo 44 Coke machine (restored); collection of 20 to 25 green and blue antique glass bottles; 8 vintage tobacco tins; 1 like-new full size pool table with all equipment. Best offer for individual items or as a lot. **Call Burt at (773) 255-6150.**

WANT TO BUY

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

Looking to purchase two burial plots at Greenwood Cemetery.
Contact Jeff at (219) 861-2628.

Want to buy an adult size tricycle.
Call (219) 872-0112

GARAGE SALES, AUCTIONS, ETC.

Estate Sales by Jackpot: "We clear homes"
I buy all types of jewelry, sterling flatware, coins.
Call Lorelei at (312) 953-7306.

Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property

Notice is hereby given that the self-storage units listed below will be sold on a public website by competitive bidding ending at 10 a.m. March 31, 2023, at www.lockerfox.com for the property at:

Storage Solutions

4901 U.S. 12
Michigan City, IN 46360
(219) 872-4247

No. 237 — Debra Allen.

Payments must be made with cash only and paid at the facility within 72 hrs. All goods are sold as is and must be removed at the time of payment. Sale is subjected to adjournment.

The Town of Long Beach is accepting sealed bids on a Black 2013 Ford Taurus/Police Interceptor with an ECO-Boost Turbo engine. **VIN # 1FAHP2MT9DG144827.** Milage: 74,825 miles. Bids will be accepted from the date of first publication until 4 p.m. Monday, April 10, 2023. Bids received after this time will not be considered. All qualifying bids will be opened at the Long Beach Town Council meeting to be held at 7 p.m. Monday April 10, 2023. This vehicle is sold as is, and there is no warranty expressed, written or implied. Please note the vehicle has minor shifting concerns in the transmission at times. The Town of Long Beach reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids. The vehicle can be inspected at the Long Beach Police Department, 2400 Oriole Trail, Long Beach, IN 46360. Bids can be dropped off, or mailed, to the Town Hall at 2400 Oriole Trail, Long Beach, IN 46360. Please write, "Auction Bid Ford" on the outside of all envelopes. Questions should be directed to Chief Mark Swistek at (219) 874-4243 or chief@lbpdin.org

The Town of Long Beach is accepting sealed bids on a Red 1996 Chevy Suburban. **VIN # 1GNGK26J1TJ321359.** Milage: 14,906 miles. Bids will be accepted from the date of first publication until 4 p.m. Monday, April 10, 2023. Bids received after this time will not be considered. All qualifying bids will be opened at the Long Beach Town Council meeting at 7 p.m. Monday, April 10, 2023. This vehicle was used by the Long Beach Volunteer Fire Department as the department rescue truck and has very low milage. This vehicle is sold as is, and there is no warranty expressed, written or implied. The Town of Long Beach reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids. The vehicle can be inspected at the Long Beach Police Department, 2400 Oriole Trail, Long Beach, IN 46360. Bids can be dropped off, or mailed, to the Town Hall at 2400 Oriole Trail, Long Beach, IN 46360. Please write, "Auction Bid Chevy" on the outside of all envelopes. Questions should be directed to Chief Mark Swistek at (219) 874-4243 or chief@lbpdin.org

HOME WATCH

NOW IN OUR SIXTH YEAR! • HOME WATCH SERVICES

Home Watch of Southwest Michigan provides periodic house checks to 2nd homes, ensuring peace of mind while you're away. **INSURED, ACCREDITED, BONDED.** For a courtesy visit and free quote, contact us today! info@mihomewatch.com • (269) 281-4584 • www.mihomewatch.com
Serving Berrien & LaPorte counties along the shores of Lake Michigan

Infinity Home Services LLC • Home Watch Services & More

Home services specialist for home watch, property checks, short-term rental maintenance, general repairs/maintenance, small projects and more. Trust IHS to watch over your property with care and attention. Fully Insured. Serving Berrien & LaPorte counties and portions of Porter County. Contact us today. (269) 259-1127 • jim@infinitymichiana.com • www.infinitymichiana.com

REAL ESTATE

COMMERCIAL – RENTALS/LEASE/SELL

Storefront/office space for rent on Wabash Street. Good location accessible during construction. 945 square feet. Newly decorated. Off-street parking. **Call (219) 861-3720.**

RENTALS INDIANA

Sheridan Beach home for rent. Bi-level, 2BR, 2FBA, unfurnished. Spectacular lake view, short walk to beach! \$1,600/mo + utilities.
Call (630) 881-2420

3BR for rent in Sheridan Beach. Short walk to the lake.
Call (312) 593-1861

 **REAL ESTATE FOR SALE** 

BOAT SLIP FOR RENT

50' slip with lift. Marina Park South, Michigan City
May 1-Oct. 15. \$3,700. **Call (708) 296-6133.**

The Personal Librarian by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray (hardcover, \$27, or paperback, \$17, in bookstores and online; also available as an eBook and an audiobook. 338 pages.)

“Changing your name is easy. Changing your soul is impossible.”

This week, I combine Black History Month with Women’s History Month for a work of historical fiction about little-known Belle Da Costa Greene, a black woman (1883-1950) who lived her life as a white woman.

Not a lot is known about Belle, but Benedict and Murray do an outstanding job of taking what is known and combining it with morals and prejudices of the time.

Belle da Costa Greene was known in the first half of the 20th century as the personal librarian to Mr. J.P. Morgan, financier and one of the richest, most influential men at the time. Belle’s father, Richard Greener, was the first African American to graduate from Harvard University. She had two sisters, Louise and Ethel, who became teachers, and a brother, Russell, who would become an engineer. Teddy, her youngest sister, became a teacher as well.

In the book, Belle’s real name is Belle Marion Greener, which wouldn’t do for a white girl, so the change is made. Her light skin tone and straight hair enable her to pass for white. Her mother and siblings have the same light features. Her mother knows the only opportunities for her children to be successful are to embrace being white. Their father, however, is proud of being an educated black man. He is a proponent of equal rights and equal opportunities. He lectures and makes speeches, even writing several books about segregation and the plight of African Americans after the Civil War.

He does understand, however, that if his children are to succeed, they must live the life of a white person. It is this contradiction that becomes impossible for him to live with, and he leaves his family and America.

The story picks up in 1905 when Belle is working as a librarian at Princeton University — an all-white, and male, institution.

She meets Junius Morgan, nephew to the financier J.P. Morgan. They share a love of art and ancient manuscripts. He also is a contributor to the library. He tells Belle he is going to recommend her to his uncle for the position of supervisor librarian for his personal art and manuscript collection.

Suffice it to say, she makes an impression on J.P.

Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter



and gets the job. And, it means moving her and her family to New York City, a place she dearly loves.

She immediately begins cataloging and organizing shelves of art and manuscripts while advising on acquisitions and attending social events, like operas and dinners, even balls.

As the years go by, Belle makes an impression

on the art dealers and high society moving in and out of the Morgan house. Morgan sends her to auctions, often giving her carte blanche on her bidding for a dearly wanted item. Then, she meets Bernard Berenson, a Renaissance art expert who steals her heart. Can’t give a spoiler alert on that one — you have to read it for yourself. But the specter of her skin color is always looming like a storm cloud on the horizon. Will Bernard discover her secret? Or will she discover his?

Her expertise and knowledge of the books and *objets d’art* that Morgan covets open many doors for her, making her indispensable to him. She also is smart enough to keep an ear open for gossip among the crowd she is part of, and isn’t afraid to use it to leverage a deal. She becomes quite adept at flirting and knowing just what dress or outfit to wear to any occasion to make her stand out. Hiding her “dark” secret in plain sight seems to work. Belle considers every move she makes, proving an apt student of human nature.

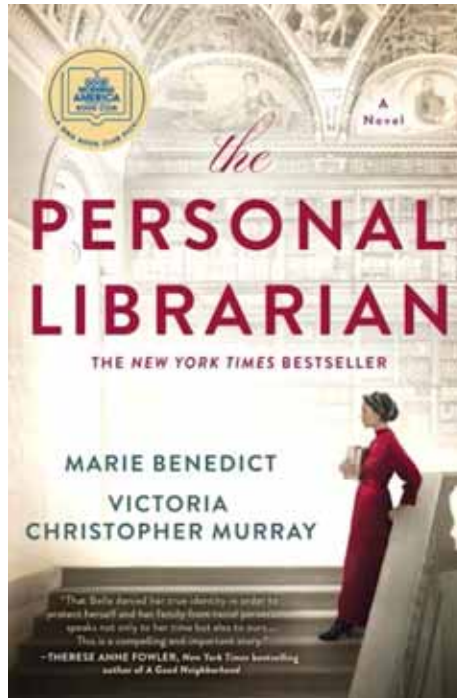
But there is always that fear that somehow, someday, Morgan will find out her secret and send her packing.

I thought the story would end with J.P.’s death in 1913, but that would be anticlimactic. Belle still has much to tell...

Her story is told sublimely: a study in determination, contemplation and hard work. It’s hard to imagine life in another skin color, especially with the prejudices that go along with it. Benedict and Murray cover the subject with finesse that gives a true picture without maudlin stereotypes.

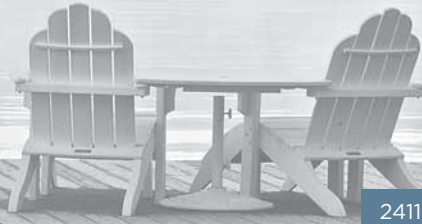
Final word: A gently written story in Belle’s voice. No offensive language here, and one sex scene that could only be rated PG by today’s standard.

Till next time, happy reading!



@properties®

CHRISTIE'S
INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE



2411 St Lawrence Ave • Long Beach, IN 46360



LAPORTE

5br/3.1ba / \$2,375,000
Renny Mills • 312.243.0716
676E700North.info



LONG BEACH

3br/2.1ba / \$699,000
Anna Radtke • 219.221.0920
2946MountClair.info



GALENA TOWNSHIP

2br/2.1ba / \$595,000
Mills/Roch • 312.243.0716
6865Nature4.info



MICHIGAN CITY

4br/3.1ba / \$549,900
David Albers • 219.728.7295
3015Maple.info



MICHIGAN CITY

4br/2.1ba / \$525,000
Micky Gallas • 219.861.6012
601PinewoodTrail.info



MICHIGAN CITY

2br/2ba / \$465,000
Kathleen Ryan-Peters • 312.590.1177
123LakeShoreDrive.info



OGDEN DUNES

3br/2ba / \$425,000
Michael Bill Smith • 219.921.9227
139Shore.info



MICHIGAN CITY

3br/1ba / \$360,000
Gus Tsaparikos • 219.873.6837
10724W400N.info



TRAIL CREEK

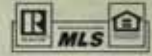
4br/2ba / \$275,000
Barb Holm-Pinks • 574.876.5967
2118RedOakDrive.info

Call today for a free
property management evaluation

219-246-2642 mtmpremier@gmail.com
@MTMPremierServices
www.mtmpremier.com



Full Service Vacation Rental Management



Top Producer for February

Jari Lynn Troth
219-363-9203
troth2727@comcast.net

"Jari did so much for me that I could not begin to mention them all. She was the absolute best. She went (above) and beyond in helping me, advising me. She was perfect. For anyone wanting to sell their home or a first time buyer, call Jari Lynn Troth. You won't be sorry."

- Client Review



Most Transactions for February

Meghan Maddox
219-877-5795
meghanmaddoxrealtor@gmail.com

"Meghan did a great job helping us to get the best price for the property. She gave advice on things we should do to make the property more appealing for the buyer. Even without being a high value property, I still received her time and patience."

- Client Review

1401 Lake Shore Drive | 219-874-5209.

3100 Lake Shore Drive | 219-872-1432

Follow us! @MTMRealty

www.makethemovegroup.com

