

Volume 26, Number 19 Thursday, May 20, 2010

Indiana State Prison a Part of Michigan City History

by Rick A. Richards

The Indiana State Prison isn't highlighted on any tourist brochure, but its history is intertwined with that of Michigan City. The prison, 150 years old this year, is just 24 years younger than the city.

From its starring role in the MSNBC series "Lockup" to its role as home to some of the state's most notorious criminals – bank robber John Dill-



This is how the main entrance to the Indiana State Prison looked in 1904. (Indiana Department of Correction Photo)



his was the main lobby of the Indiana State Prison in the 1940s. (Indiana Department of Correction Photo)

inger, murderer and Ku Klux Klan Grand Dragon D.C. Stephenson, and bank robber Harry Pierpont – the history of the prison is noteworthy.

Not only has it been a part of the community for a century and a half, it is one of the city's largest employers. Along with Camp Summit and the Westville Correctional Facility, LaPorte County is home to three prisons, making the Department of Correction the fifth-largest employer in the county with more than 650 employees.

Since the prison was built in 1860, meticulous records have been kept about its buildings, its wardens and superintendents, and its inmates. Unfortunately, many of those records have been scattered around the state, although most now reside in the Indiana State Archives in Indianapolis.

Some, though, are still at the prison, helping tell the prison's story to employees and special guests. Just inside the prison's Administration Building, up a flight of stairs and left down a narrow, linoleum tile hallway is the Indiana Room on the right. Inside the room, which doubles as a large conference room, a remarkable piece of Michigan City history awaits. **Prison** Continued on Page 2



The historical exhibit in the Indiana Room at the Indiana State Prison includes antique locks and keys, historic documents, photos and othe artifacts that tell the history of the prison. (Photo by Rick A. Richards)



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But not just anyone can drop by to see it. The Indiana Room isn't open to the public, except by invitation. Pamela James, a spokeswoman for the Indiana State Prison, said the small exhibit of prison artifacts has been visited by school groups, both high school and college students, as well as juvenile offenders and some civic organizations.

"The reason for this room is that our former superintendent Mr. (Ed) Buss, wanted to have a place for this," said James. Buss is now commissioner for the Indiana Department of Correction.

The collection includes old photographs, antique locks and keys, correctional officer badges, official record books documenting escapes and executions, a trunk full of old medical records, the brass bell from the original state prison in Jeffersonville (which burned in 1897), and, inside a nearly 6-foot tall glass display case, the electric chair. It was moved to the Indiana Room when it became obsolete in 1995 after the General Assembly approved lethal injection instead of electrocution as the state's method of execution.

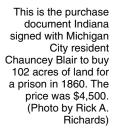


This bell was part of the original state prison, built in 1822 in Jeffersonville. When that facility burned, it was moved to the Indiana State Prison in 1897. (Photo by Rick A. Richards)

James, who has worked at the prison for 12 years, said she always learns something when she visits the exhibit, which is just across the hallway from her office.

James said that as remodeling has taken place inside the prison and storage areas organized, lots of old photographs, historical documents and other artifacts have been uncovered. One of the oddest is a round wooden pipe wrapped in metal that was found inside the old brick wall that was replaced a few years ago. James says no one knows for sure what it is, but most likely it was used as some sort of drain pipe because wood pipes were installed in the prison when it was built in 1860.

She said Buss thought it would be a good idea to put the items in a central location as a way to document the history of the prison. While not quite big enough to classify the items on display as a museum, there is plenty of information to provide a unique picture of a contained community that has been on Michigan City's west side for 150 years.





The oldest item in the collection is a copy of the land purchase agreement the state signed with Chauncey Blair. After the General Assembly approved spending \$50,000 for a prison in Michigan City in 1859, the state's Prison Board in 1860 reached a deal with Blair to buy 102 acres of land for \$4,500.

At that time it was known as Prison North to distinguish it from Prison South in Jeffersonville, the state's original prison built in 1822. In 1860, 189 prisoners were transferred from Prison South to Michigan City to help build the prison.

One of the photos on display is of inmates in black and white striped uniforms building the prison. Although there has been speculation that during the Civil War Confederate prisoners were used, James said no documentation of that has ever been found.



These are some of the inmates shipped north from Jeffersonville to help build the Indiana State Prison in the 1860s.
(Indiana Department of Correction Photo)

While the prison was under construction through 1866, the state rented a building known as the Pork House at Washington Street and Trail Creek near the Lake Michigan lakefront to house prisoners. The building was chosen because it was surrounded by a high board fence.

"From what we have been able to find out, Michigan City was chosen for Prison North because we had three railroad stations into Chicago and this was a good spot for shipping," said James. "It was a convenient place to get to."

At that time, prisoners were hired out as contract workers for local businesses as a way of providing income to the prison in order to make it self sufficient. The first contract was with Hayworth & Dewolf in 1861. Hayworth & Dewolf was a cooper firm that built wooden barrels, but received a state contract to build the furnishings for the first prison building.

One wall inside the Indiana Room contains shelves that are full of locks, keys, badges, pamphlets and trinkets related to the prison.

"All of this was material that was found in different places around the prison," said James, "so Mr. Buss said, 'Let's get it together in a central place."

Unfortunately, said James, very few of the photos have a date or any information about the people in them. She said it's an ongoing process trying figure out when the photo was taken and who is in it.

Pointing to one where a badly damaged car is shown, James said, "This is an escape way back when. We don't know exactly when, but from the looks of the car, it was the 1950s or 1960s."

There is much more detail in some of the official documents that have been compiled into books on escapes and executions.

Early on, when cells had windows and the prison walls weren't as high, several prisoners managed to escape.

Even though the escape of three men from the

prison last year drew national headlines, James said escapes are rare.

The three men – Mark Booher, Lance Battreal and Charles Smith – worked their way out through old tunnels dating back to the prison's construction in the 1860s. The three walked away on July 12, but a day later, Smith was caught near Grand Beach, Mich., about seven miles away.

Battreal was caught about a week later at his parents' house in Rockport in southern Indiana, and Booher was caught three weeks later at a motel in Indianapolis.



These books detail all of the escapes and executions at the Indiana State Prison. (Photo by Rick A. Richards)

But the most famous escape came on Sept. 26, 1933, when 10 armed inmates, most of them associated with John Dillinger's gang, escaped. It is thought the guns they used had somehow been smuggled to them by Dillinger, who had been paroled in May after serving four years on a robbery charge.

Contrary to rumor, Dillinger did not escape from the prison, although he did escape from the Allen County, Ohio, jail where the inmates who broke out of Indiana State Prison (led by Charles Makley and Harry Pierpont) broke him out of jail.

In the Ohio escape, Pierpont shot and killed Sheriff Jesse Sarber. On Jan. 25, 1934, he and Makley were captured in Tucson, Ariz., and returned to Ohio. In September, both tried to escape using soap that had been carved into the shape of a revolver and blackened with shoe polish. Makley was shot and killed and Pierpont wounded. He was later executed in Ohio.

The exhibit also has photos of Johnson Van Dyke Grigsby, one of them with former Warden Leo Jenkins, the pair holding a Johnny Cash record album.

Why? Because Cash wrote the song, "Michigan City Howdy Do," for Grigsby, who was the longest serving inmate in the United States at the time.

Grigsby, born in 1885, the son of former slaves, was sentenced to life in prison for second-degree murder following a bar fight in 1908 in Alexandria,

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Johnson Van Dyke Grigsby was one of the most famous inmates at Indiana State Prison. After serving more than 68 years, Johnny Cash wrote a song about his release, "Michigan City Howdy Do." (Indiana Department of Correction Photo)

Ind., in which he stabbed a man to death. With the exception of a two-week parole in 1974 where Grigsby couldn't adjust and voluntarily returned to prison, he remained there until 1976. In all, he served more than 68 years behind bars.

Grigsby, 91 when he was released to a nursing home, was named by the Guinness Book of World Records as the longest serving inmate in the country.

Cash recognized Grigsby's release with his song,

"Michigan City Howdy Do."

"Well Johnson Van Dyke Grigsby was paroled at 89,

"He never walked on a carpet never tasted dinner wine.

"His old eyes were slowly fadin' as he walked out of the gate,

"And he breathed the first free air he'd breathed since 19-0-8.

"Howdy do Michigan City

you're sure a pretty sight."

James pointed out that Superintendent Jack Duckworth liked Grigsby and did what he could to make sure he was taken care of when he left prison.

Among the other items on display are post cards with photos of the prison and a small glass bottle with a photo of the prison. "Someone bought those on e-Bay and gave them to us," said James.

The most solemn display is a grouping of four photos arranged around a plaque. It's a memorial for the four correctional officers who lost their life while on duty.

They are Harold Rice, the laundry foreman who was killed by offenders on Dec. 29, 1976; Phillip



This memorial is dedicate to the four men who lost their lives while on duty at the Indiana State Prison. (Photo by Rick A. Richards)

Curry, a correctional officer who was stabbed in the back by an offender on Dec. 12, 1994; Billy Eckman, a correctional sergeant who died of a heart attack on Main Street in the prison on Jan. 23, 1996; and Richard Monger, a correctional officer who died of a heart attack on his way to a watch tower on July 7, 2001.

The largest single item on display is the electric chair. "It is pretty gruesome," said James. "But you can't ignore that part of the state's history."

The largest artifact on display in the Indiana Room at the Indiana State Prison is the electric chair, which was the state's method of execution from 1913 to 1995. (Photo by Rick A. Richards)



The wooden chair, which was made by inmates, was the state's method of execution from 1913 to 1995. In all, 90 people have been executed after being sentenced to death in Indiana, although two were executed in other states for crimes they committed there, one in Ohio and one in Texas. Twelve men were hung and 18 executed by lethal injection. The rest died in the electric chair.

James points out that the Indiana State Prison is very much its own community within Michigan City. "Men live their lives – or a good portion of it – right here," said James. "It's great that things are being documented."

Indiana State Prison Timeline

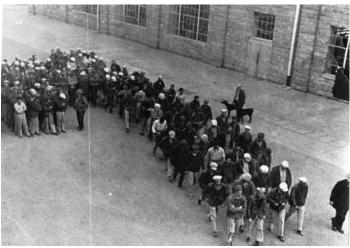
Source: Indiana Department of Correction archives.

1859 – The General Assembly agrees to spend \$50,000 for a new prison in Michigan City.

1860 – The Indiana Prison Board buys 100 acres of land from Chauncey Blair for \$4,500.

1866 – After more than five years of construction, final contracts are awarded by the state to complete walls around the prison buildings. To recoup the cost, the state charges visitors 25 cents admission.

1897 – After Indiana Prison South in Jeffersonville burned, Indiana Prison North became known as Indiana State Prison.



Prisoners line up two-by-two to head to the dining hall in this photo taking in the early 1900s. (Indiana Department of Correction Photo)

1901 – Joseph Keith of Gibson County is hanged, the first prisoner executed at Indiana State Prison.

1908 – Prison chapel is built.

1909 – D Cellhouse is built. At five tiers and 340 cells, it is the largest in the United States. It is still in service.

1914 – On Feb. 20, John Chirka of Lake County is the first prisoner to die by electrocution.

1925 – Half an acre of land at the southwest corner of the prison wall is dedicated as a cemetery for inmates.

1927 – On June 10, Sam Thomas is the first inmate buried in the prison cemetery.

1929 – John Dillinger becomes an inmate at the Indiana State Prison on July 15. He is paroled by the governor on May 22, 1933.

1930 – License plates are made at the prison for the first time.

1933 – Ten men, most affiliated with John Dillinger's gang, escape from the prison in the single largest escape in the prison's history.

1936 - Six guard towers are erected.

1940 – Pipe organ for the prison chapel, built by inmate Jim Trees, was dedicated on July 7.

1945 – Baseball diamond is built for the prison team, The Bears.

1951 – Cornerstone for the new 9,000-square-foot Administration Building is laid.

1958 – The 21,699-square-foot Fieldhouse for recreation is dedicated on Nov. 15.

1983 – Guard towers are renovated.

1984 - Fire station addition is built.

1994 – On Dec. 8, Gregory Resnover of Marion County is the last inmate executed in the electric chair.

1995 – New Death Row area is built on second floor of I Cellhouse.

1996 – On July 18, Tommie J. Smith of Marion County is the first inmate to be executed by lethal injection.

1999-2000 - New wall erected. First prison in U.S. to replace with inmates still inside.



A small cemetery was dedicated in 1925 at the southwest corner of the prison wall.

2009 – On Dec. 11, Matthew Eric Wrinkles is the last inmate executed at the prison.



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International Friendship Gardens celebrated Mother's Day as it opened for its 75th year. Hundreds of mothers and their families strolled the Gardens and enjoyed its natural beauty. Mrs. Jean Houck, Director Emerita, welcomed everyone with a gift for each mother. She was delighted to have Mr. Leo Sharp, the world's greatest hybridizer of daylillies, as a special guest. Mr. Sharp presented Jean the newest of his hybrids, the "Lady of the Gardens," named for Jean. She has been the catalyst of the restoration of the Gardens since the death of Clarence Stauffer, last of the three founding brothers, in the 1980's. Jean said the gift of having a flower named for her is the most delightful award in her forty years with the Gardens.



Mrs. Jean Houck and Mr. Leo Sharp

The Gardens thanks Dr. and Mrs. Stephen Kroczek for 500 donated daylillies and Mr. Sharp's donation 200 plants. These will be used in our entrance display in time for the America In Bloom festivities. The daylily symbolizes many things--the ones we especially like are new growth and long life.

The Gardens are now open Wednesday through Sunday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Come visit this small "garden of Eden' on highway 12 for an afternoon of enjoyment of flowers and nature.

Basket Weaving Class

Sat., May 29, 9:15 a.m.

Margie Warner will teach this one day class at the Michigan City Public Library. The class includes all materials. A \$10 non-refundable deposit is required and prices vary. See the basket and sign up at the library circulation desk. More at 873-3049.



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National Veterans Awareness Ride

On Tues., May 25, at approximately 3:45 p.m., a convoy of motorcyclists will be traveling to Michigan City on their annual pilgrimage from Sacramento, CA to Washington, DC. This group, composed of veterans as well as non-veteran supporters, undertakes a ten (10) day journey across the United States to bring awareness and recognition to all veterans. They will have a police escort to the Danny Bruce Memorial in Washington Park for a ceremony.

On Wed., May 26, the National Veterans Awareness Ride will be leaving Michigan City from the American Legion John Franklin Miller Post 37, 756 US Hwy. 20, Michigan City. Rider's breakfast will begin 6 a.m., patriotic ceremony at 7 a.m. with the ride leaving at 8 a.m.

The riders will travel east on US Hwy 20 and south on Franklin Street. Anyone wanting to join in on the ride is more than welcome, the first stop will be at the State Veterans Home in West Lafayette, and then on to Ohio.

The mission of the National Veterans Awareness Ride (NVAR) is to remember and honor all veterans, not only those who have served, but those who are presently serving. Of equal importance to the mission are to honor those men and women who are unaccounted for, either as Prisoners of War (POW) or Missing in Action (MIA) as well as those who have been Killed in Action (KIA).

The National Veterans Awareness Ride reaches Washington DC on Memorial Day weekend. Our group's primary objective is then to participate in the annual Rolling Thunder Ride through downtown. The goal of Rolling Thunder remains to bring awareness and focus on the fact that there are still American POW's and MIA's who have not been accounted for or brought home.

The National Veterans Awareness Ride is open to anyone who wants to participate in the mission or otherwise support the group indirectly. More information on the 2010 ride at www.nyar.us

Readers Group at Coolspring Library

A Readers Group discussion on <u>The Girls from Ames</u> by Jeffrey Zaslow will be held at 7:00 p.m., on Tues., May 25 at the Coolspring Branch Library, corner of Johnson Rd. & 400N, Michigan City.

The book is a true story about 11 childhood friends from Ames, Iowa, who have remained friends for 40 years. They go through careers, marriages, divorce, having children, and the mysterious death of one of the friends. The book is available for check-out for those who wish to read it ahead of time in regular and large print.

There is no admittance charge. For more information, phone 879-3272. Phone 219/362-6156 to request signing for the hearing impaired 48 hours in advance.



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"The Importance of Being Earnest"

Oscar Wilde's "The Importance of Being Earnest" opens at Michigan City's Footlight Players at 8:00 p.m. on Fri., June 4th.

Directed by Jim Snyder the cast includes Noel Carlson (John Worthing), John Machesky (Algernon Moncrieff), Scott Lenig (Rev. Chasuble), Chuck Ponsier (Lane), Susie Richter (Lady Bracknell). Kimberly Meyne (Gwendolyn Fairfax), Elizabeth Grote (Cecily Cardew), Dani Lane (Miss Prism).



Standing (L-R) Noel Carlson, Susie Richter Seated (L-R) Kimberly Meyne, Elizabeth Lane Grote

Set in England during the late Victorian era, the play's humor derives in part from characters maintaining fictitious identities to escape unwelcome social obligations. It is replete with witty dialogue and satirizes some of the foibles and hypocrisy of late Victorian society. It has proved Wilde's most enduringly popular play. There will be a "Patron Appreciation Reception" following the Sun., June 6th performance at the neighboring Blink Art Gallery.

Other performance dates are June 5, 6, 10, 11, 12 & 13. Thursday, Friday and Saturday curtains are at 8 p.m. with Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. Doors open 15 minutes prior to curtain. All tickets are \$12. Reduced rates available for groups of 20 or more. Sorry credit cards are not accepted. Reservations are recommended and may be made by phoning 219-874-4035 or online at www.footlightplayers.org/reservations.html. Reservations will be held until 15 minutes prior to curtain unless secured by the presentation of a Footlight Season Gift Card or by prior payment in full. Footlight Theatre is located at 1705 Franklin St., Michigan City.

Gigantic Garage Sale for Charity

Gigantic Multi Family Garage Sale. May 21 and 22. 6637 W Johnson Road, LaPorte. Between Waterford Inn and Coolspring Branch library. 7 a.m.-2 p.m. 100% of ALL proceeds go to the Susan G Komen Breast Cancer 3-Day.

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Monday Musicale to Host Gala

On May 24, Monday Musicale of Michigan City will host the final event of its historic "Twice Golden" anniversary season. The public is cordially invited to attend a black tie optional gala at the First Presbyterian Church, 121 W. 9th Street, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

The evening's program will feature the Duneland Chamber Ensemble, conducted by Dan McNabb. Notably, McNabb and his Ensemble have performed for Monday Musicale audiences every spring since 1997.

Joining the chamber ensemble, sopranos Kathi R. Jones and Donna Mitchell will present a scene from the Vincenzo Bellini opera "Norma".

Noel Carlson will sing Figaro's aria from "The Barber of Seville" by Rossini, as well as a selection from the Rodgers and Hammerstein musical "Carousel."

Ann Dobie, Carol Garrett, and Lee Meyer will perform "Concerto in C Major," a J.S. Bach composition arranged for three pianos. Also on the program is a vocal octet, to include Howard Brenneman, Kathy Chase, Kathi R. Jones, Pat Larsen, Dan Moser, Ernie Ritchie, Lisa Schwingendorf, and Karol Valek.

Dan Moser will act as master of ceremonies. The program is to be preceded by a Golden Celebration Banquet, by invitation only, catered by Café Elite.

Kids' Cooking Camps

Stir up some fun this Summer! The Cracked Egg is hosting three day Cooking Camps that will meet Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 10 a.m.-noon, for kids ages 6 to 13 years. Cost for the three day camp is \$90.

All classes are hands-on. Campers will prepare a variety of new and exciting recipes. They will enjoy sitting down and eating their culinary creations. Camps start June 15th.

Check their website for a listing of camp descriptions and dates: www.crackedeggcooking.com

For more information, phone 219-210-3920 or email: crackedeggcooking@comcast.net

Polish-American Cultural Society

The Polish-American Cultural Society of Northwest Indiana will meet at 5 p.m. on Wed., June 2, at the Portage Public Library, 2665 Irving St., in Portage.

The group is led by Father Walter Rakoczy of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Michigan City.

Meetings are open to all persons of high-school age and older. Pre-registration is not required, but each participant is asked to donate \$1.00 to cover the cost of materials.

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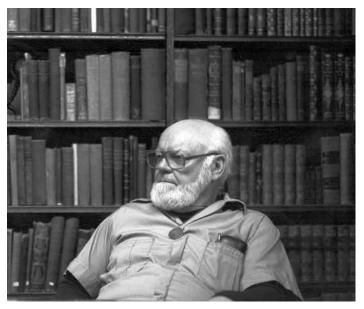


Landmark Bookshop Plans to Move

by William Keefe

The World's Greatest Bookshop is closing out the quarters it has occupied almost since time immemorial only to undergo a joyous reincarnation in a more favorable downtown location.

For those who don't remember it, the World's Greatest is Ralph Casperson Books at 1303 Niles-Buchanan Road, Niles, Michigan. The shop is adapting to total reestablishment and a Grand Opening in Town because Founder Ralph died on Saturday, February 21, 2009. His wife Doris and son Allen survived and are collaborating in the planning for the new venture.



Backgrounded by some of the books that he collected for sale in his Ralph A. Casperson Bookshop, The Man himself stands (or sits) on guard for wayward customers. Images courtesy Casperson family

Recognizing a dream in the making, Allen has assumed ownership responsibility for the bookshop and its treasuretrove of an estimated 100,000 books. With too few exceptions to be worth counting, the books are second-hand, or used. Today the books are sorted and shelved where Ralph Casperson left them--in a shed behind his home or already in their new digs. The shed, measuring 24 by 40 feet, has shelving almost from floor to ceiling.

The new shop will operate officially as A. Casperson Books. To be housed in the ideally located building at 113 North 3rd Street, Niles, it will be a throw-

back to the olden days when every bookshop looked and acted like something out of Dickens.

"We'll have a creaking front screen door," notes Allen. "A ticking wall clock will give customers and readers the correct time. Behind the facade that reminds of times past you'll be able to sit comfortably and chat or leaf through our huge Lincoln collection. You'll bask in the vintage-book scent. Best of all, you'll be able to reach out and select from a very good inventory of old, used, and rare books as well as ephemera and records."

"My Dad started the bookshop in 1972 and ran it personally, nonstop, until last year. He would be thinking also that his bookshop was just getting started last year. I plan to finish the job he and my mother started so magnificently."

He Helped Make History

Aged 89 at the time of his passing, Ralph A. Casperson carried his World War II military service with fully deserved pride. He earned a battlefield commission in historic fighting in Italy and left the service with the rank of captain.

A member of both the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion, he was also a life member and public relations officer of the National Order of Battlefield Commissions (NOBC). He was also on the NOBC board of directors.

Born and reared in Wisconsin, Mr. Casperson moved to Niles in 1949 as the Niles district manager of the Michigan Gas and Electric Companynow known as SEMCO. He retired from that career assignment after 21 years.

On February 21, 1953, he married Doris E. Short, who helped her husband and will be assisting with her son's new venture.

Active in many organizations in addition to the veterans' groups, Mr. Casperson was a member of the Niles-Buchanan Rotary Club. A 32nd degree Mason, he also belonged to the Niles Elks Lodge. A former Red Cross district chairman, he served the community of Niles as a member of the board of the Berrien County Red Cross organization.

For many years he was a camping and activities director for the White Beaver District Boy Scouts of America.





Retiring from the Gas and Electric Company in 1970, Mr. Casperson set about proving that a voracious reader can also voluntarily become a purveyor of books to other readers. Working initially with wife Doris on her home-based business projects, he set about collecting used books.

As Doris tells it, she personally built the first of three small buildings to accommodate Ralph's growing collection. "His dream was officially born at that time," she recalls. "He worked with and on his books on a daily basis for 37 years. He also wrote four books himself.

"Once he was gone I couldn't tell him this. But he died on our wedding anniversary and I think he did that so he could remain with his books and not take me out to dinner."

More seriously, Doris remembers clearly how the care and feeding of books opened worlds of fascination for her as well as her husband. "Books from the shop were shipped all over the world. Customers came from distant parts of the country and from overseas to stop at the Ralph A. Casperson Bookshop.

"First-time visitors would pass through the welcoming doors of the shop, stop and stare, and say, 'Oh my, look at all these books.' Then they'd walk into the shop and find Ralph sitting behind his desk to welcome them like old friends.

"In town he had several nicknames. He was 'The onion grower' and 'The stamp man' because he was also a philatelist; he was also 'The Gas Lamp and Grill Man,' and 'The book guy.' He was locally famous for the jumpsuit he always wore along with a necklace decorated with a silver dollar.

"Those who remember his bald head and snowwhite beard agree that he's sadly missed."

The vacuum that Ralph left will be filled, Doris believes, when son Allen "continues the shop as his father always dreamed he would. I know Ralph is looking down on Allen's ventures with a delighted smile.

"The rest is yet to come. That story will have to come from Allen and his wife Linda."

Keeper of the Dream

As keeper of his father's dream, Allen has thought and planned long and hard. "I always wanted to continue the shop," he says, "but I believed it would serve our local and long-distance customers if we could move the shop into town.

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a real soda fountain & 91 years of history temple news - coffees, ice creams & reality. 816 jefferson. laporte. 362-2676 "It has become famous among used-book shops, but I felt it was handicapped because the shed wasn't visible from Niles-Buchanan Road. So I've been searching, and now--lo and behold, the perfect building has become available. It fits all the parameters we can imagine, so we are on track to close Ralph Casperson Books and start the next chapter.



The new venue for the Ralph Casperson collection of books will be at 113 N. 3rd St., Niles, MI. The new name for the used-book shop will be A. Casperson Books.

"We're hoping-looking forward to the Grand Opening in June. Leaving the premises where my father worked for so many years will be a sad day and a difficult chore. But it will be an exciting discovery for many new customers and a pleasant revival for our uncounted old customers.

"The new A. Casperson Books place of business, 113 North 3rd Street, will be managed by myself and my wife Linda, who has been welcomed as our next Niles City Clerk. Fittingly, Linda and I live a mere block from our new bookshop location.

While drawing up plans to re-create A. Casperson Books as an antiquarian's flight of fancy, with customer comfort and interest as operational dividends, modernity will be the new shop's special watchword.

"We are developing a website, thanks to my wife," Allen adds. "We will also continue to build our online inventory on ABE Books. Much as my mother was gung-ho for Ralph Casperson Books, my wife will provide essential technical help in her spare time."

"In a nutshell, we are looking forward to providing Niles and the surrounding area with this unique business."

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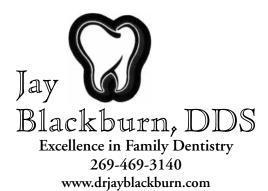
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Daley Named Athena Award Winner

Jane Daley, long time communications director with the LaPorte County Convention and Visitors Bureau, was named the 2010 Athena Award winner Tuesday by the Michigan City Area Chamber of Commerce.

The Athena Award actively supports and celebrates the Athena mission of supporting, developing and honoring women leaders, inspiring women to achieve their full potential – creating balance in leadership worldwide. The Athena Award honors individuals who strive toward the highest levels of personal and professional accomplishment, who excel in their chosen

Field and devote time and energy to their community

Daley was nominated for the award by David Dabagia, who touted Daley's long-standing presence in the community and tireless work in the propping up of tourism as a major industry in La-Porte County.

During Daley's time with the CVB she's developed programs aimed at improving customer service and creating a world-class arts community in LaPorte County, among others.

The R.O.S.E. Award (Recognition of Service Excellence), was developed by Daley as a way to improve customer service via a program honoring front-line employees through nominations made by customers.

She also developed the Heart Of Art gallery and studio tour in LaPorte County and the Art And Earth Trail, a joint effort with the Northern Indiana Tourism Development Commission, highlighting the wonderful artists and galleries along the Indiana Toll Road corridor.

Indiana Lt. Governor Becky Skillman served as the keynote speaker for the annual Athena luncheon, held at Blue Chip Hotel, Casino, and Spa, on Thursday.

For more information contact Jason Miller at the LaPorte County CVB by telephone, at 219.872.5055 or by email at Jason@laportecountycvb.com

Study Cafe at LaPorte Library

A Study Café will be held from 6:00-8:00 p.m., CDT, on Wed., May 26 in the large meeting room at La Porte County Public Library, 904 Indiana Ave., La Porte.

All 9th graders through college students are invited to come and get some help with preparing for tests and projects.

The library will provide: Tons of sources & research tools; Computers & printers; Wi-Fi; Supersmart librarians; Coffee and yummy snacks; Quick de-stressing games and activities. There is no charge and reservations are not taken. For more information, phone 219-362-6156.









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Expressive Art for Children

Expressive Art with Amy continues at Thomas Library, 200 W. Indiana Avenue, Chesterton, in the Children's Department on Saturday May 22 from 10-11:30 a.m. Space is limited, so pre-registration at the library is necessary. Children in Kindergarten through grade six are invited to sign up; parental participation is encouraged but not necessary.

Amy Messacar will focus on using art experiences for children with excessive energy. The crafts for this program will teach children a positive way to release that energy.

Children will create and explode a volcano. Following the volcano will be a collage that is made from Popsicle sticks, twigs, newspaper, etc., which the children will tear, rip and crush to create the picture they envision. Stress balls and rain sticks will also be made.

Messacar received her BA in Elementary Education from Purdue Lafayette and her MA in Counseling and Art Therapy from the Adler School of Professional Psychology in Chicago. She has been running a weekly after school program at the Hyde Park Day School for the past 5 years, focusing on relaxation, esteem building and problem solving as a group. She has also conducted a few workshops on the use of art to promote communication between parents and young children through Parents as Teachers of Porter County.

For more information about this program and other children's events, phone 219/926-7696.

Harbor Country Public Arts Initiative Benefit

It has been said that public art turns space into A Place – a place to gather, discuss, consider and dream. With this in mind, a small group of individuals set out to unite the communities of Harbor Country through public art. Just one year later, eight large-scale sculptures by internationally recognized artists have been installed in New Buffalo, Three Oaks and Chikaming Township, all at no expense to the community. The members of Harbor Country Public Arts Initiative clearly know how to get things done.

Interested? Meet the members of HCPAI and share your thoughts, ideas and questions about public art in Harbor Country at a Give-Back Dinner at Bentwood Tavern on Tuesday, May 25 from 5-10 p.m. Fifty percent of all food and beverage revenue will be donated to HCPAI.

For more information about the Give-Back Program or Bentwood Tavern, please visit www.BentwoodTavern.com. For more information about Harbor Country Public Arts Initiative, visit www.hcpai. com or the HCPAI Facebook page.

Bentwood Tavern is located on the waterfront in Marina Grand Resort, 600 West Water Street, New Buffalo. For reservations, 269.469.1699.



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Upcoming Fernwood Events

Fernwood Fitness Programs:

Member Mornings -- On Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday mornings throughout the green season, members are invited to come out to enjoy walking, photography, and birding in the early morning before Fernwood opens to the public. Gates open at 7:30 a.m. MI time; check in at the Visitor Center.

Yoga: Saturdays and Thursdays, noon-1:30 p.m.

Yoga is all-new at Fernwood this year with a new instructor and new times. Yoga instructor Deirdre Guthrie has taught yoga since 1998 in San Francisco, Chicago, and Southwest Michigan's Harbor Country. Classes are held outside when weather allows. All levels welcome. Bring your own mat and props. Fee \$10 (Members \$8).

Day Camp Registration for Nature Camps and Art Camps - Summer nature and art day camp registration has begun. All sessions run Tuesday through Friday. Camp details are sent out approximately two weeks before the sessions begin. For nature camps, contact Seasonal Naturalist, Jill McDonald; art camps, contact Head Naturalist, Wendy Jones.

Fernwood at Buchanan Farmers' Market

Look for Fernwood at the Buchanan Farmers' Market this season in downtown Buchanan! Watch for plant sales and goodies from the Fernwood Cafe at their tent every Saturday, 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Fernwood's Annual Fundraiser and Garden Party - Saturday, June 19

Enjoy a relaxing evening in the garden, featuring cocktails and dinner prepared by Fernwood's Executive Chef, Tim Carrigan. Bid on live and silent auctions while enjoying musical entertainment. Stop by the railway garden to watch the trains running past a collection of Paul Busse-designed lighthouses and our new additions—replicas of the St. Joseph North Pier Lights (St. Joe Lighthouse) and Notre Dame's Golden Dome. Meet our special guest, renowned landscape architect, Doug Hoerr, of Hoerr Schaudt Landscape Architects in Chicago. Doug is known for designing the Michigan Avenue streetscape along Chicago's Magnificent Mile, the Tiffany Celebration Rose Garden adjacent to Chicago's Buckingham Fountain, Crate and Barrel retail store landscapes across the country, and many green roof gardens, to name just a few of his many projects. Show your support for Fernwood and the many good things we do and reserve your table today.

About Fernwood

Phone 269.695.6491. Fernwood is located near Buchanan, Michigan, at 13988 Range Line Road, Niles. Hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., and Sunday from noon-6 p.m. The Fernwood Café is open Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., and Sunday from noon-3 p.m. Fernwood is closed on Mondays.





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The Need for Speed...or Style

Some decided to go for speed while others went for style. But all the eighth graders in Mrs. Ashleigh Trumble's class created vehicles illustrating Newton's Law of Motion--"For every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction."

Of course, there were certain conditions that needed to be met. The car had to contain wheels of an unconventional material and the goal was to have the car run at least five meters powered by a balloon.



Irish Pride blew past the competition thanks to designers Erin Callaghan and Lizzie Smith.

Decorated with shamrocks, Erin Callaghan and Lizzie Smith entered their Irish Pride car. With the help of a balloon and a straw, they propelled the car across the room to take first place honors in distance. The straw allowed the car to let out air more evenly and beat the nearest competition by two feet.

Balsa wood and wooden spool wheels proved efficient enough for second place for George Koehm and Ethan Scherf. Luke Latchford and Tommy Anderson skewered two Pepsi bottles and used Pepsi bottle caps to form the body and wheels for their third place entry.

Veronica DeBone and Taylor Schaetzle had good intentions. "We tried to get it to work, but then the painting came out better," said Veronica, showing off their CD wheels and splatter-painted body to win first place in style.

"We were going for the best looking instead of the fastest," Haley Mellen explained. That meant a trip to Hobby Lobby for neon puffy paint, glitter, flowers, and boas.

Much engineering was involved as some students tested lightweight Kleenex boxes, plastic milk jugs, and wire frames. But science isn't just for geeks. Dan Miller and Tyler Ellenwood customized their car to be a tricked out "Chick Magnet."

---submitted by Lynn Delehanty

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Bookmarks at the Museum

Westchester Public Library's book review series, Bookmarks at the Museum, will meet at 2 p.m. on Thurs., May 20, at the Westchester Township History Museum, an educational service of Westchester Public Library. The museum is housed in the Brown Mansion at 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton. Kathleen Mullen will review <u>The Help</u>, written by Kathryn Stockett.

Kathryn Stockett's debut novel is set during the emerging civil rights movement in Jackson, Mississipi. Eugenia Skeeter Phelan, a recent college graduate who is anxious to be a writer, accepts advice to hone her skills by writing about what disturbs her.

Skeeter begins to collect stories of the black women on whom the country club set relies and yet distrusts. She enlists the help of Aibileen, a maid who's raised 17 children, and Aibileen's best friend Minny, who has a hard time keeping a job because she is too quick to speak her mind.

The book that results is both scathing and shocking, yet brings pride and hope to the black community and gives Skeeter the courage to pursue her dreams.

Bookmarks at the Museum will meet next on Thurs., June 17, when Pat Klewer will review the book <u>The Last Time I Saw You</u> by Elizabeth Berg.

It is not necessary to have read the books in advance to enjoy the presentation. Both Thomas and Hageman Library have copies of the books reviewed in the series. More at 219/983-9715.

Plant and Flower Sale

Two local nonprofit organizations have joined forces to raise money while helping local residents beautify their homes and gardens.

The Chicago Street Theatre and the Porter County Special Olympics have teamed up with Yeager's Greenhouses for a Plant and Flower Sale that will take place the Memorial Day weekend. Proceeds from the sale will benefit both organizations.

The sale will take place on Saturday, May 29 from 8 a.m.-3 p.m.; and Sun., May 30, noon-4 p.m.

Yeager's Greenhouses, located at 348 N 450 E, in Valparaiso offer more than 10,000 square feet of flowers, plants, herbs and vegetables.

Yeager has maintained greenhouses for more than 35 years. He was the Porter County Agricultural Agent for 31 years and has trained master gardeners throughout the area. His greenhouses offer a huge variety of flats, hanging baskets and premade pots designed for either sun or shade.

People who shop the Plant and Flower Sale will have the chance to take advantage of a huge variety at great prices while benefiting a worthy cause.

For more information on the Plant and Flower Sale, contact Jonni Pera at 219-477-8738, or visit www.chicagostreet.org



The stars are out this July as George Jones takes center stage, live in the Stardust Event Center at Blue Chip Casino, Hotel & Spa. Tickets for this must-see event are available beginning Monday, May 22nd at 10:00 a.m. Visit Ticketmaster.com or the Blue Chip Gift Box to be a part of this memorable evening.

Must be 21 years of age or older to attend concert. bluechipcasino.com

FREE PARKING ticketmaster*

8:00 p.m.

Doors open one hour prior to showtime. All times are Central Time. Don't let the game get out of hand. For assistance call 800-994-8448.

Saturday, July 10, 2010



MICHIGAN CITY, INDIANA

Notre Dame School Is Going Green

Students from pre-school to eighth grade at Notre Dame School are doing their very best to help to save our environment. As a result, lunchtime waste has gone from four full trash containers per day to only one. Paper consumption has been greatly reduced and all used paper is being recycled. How did all of this come about? Through the Going Green program.

Students and adults had been recycling paper and cans for years, but in the past few years, ink and toner cartridges as well as cell phones were added to the school's recycling efforts. After joining the Terra Cycle brigade this past year, we have expanded our program to include the following specific products: Capri Sun and Honest Kids drink pouches, Oreo cookie bags, Starbucks Coffee bags, used, but rinsed clean, Ziploc brand bags and storage containers, Colgate toothpaste boxes and empty toothpaste tubes, Scotch Brand tape dispensers and cores from



Kevin Robson and Katie Larkin follow the directions of green team members Elaina Billys and Lizzie Quinlan in sorting refuse.



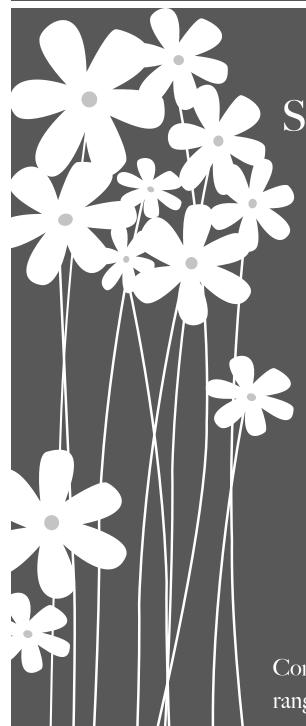
Sixth graders Cece Latchford and Lily Bardol perform lunchtime collection duties filling the new compost bin.

refills, I Can't Believe It's Not Butter tubs, Huggies diapers plastic packaging, Scott products plastic packaging, and Lunchables packaging. The Terra Cycle Company uses these items to produce such things as tote bags, lunch bags, and pencil cases which can be purchased from their website www. TerraCycle.com, The Home Depot, and Walmart.

Since even these measures did not reduce lunchtime waste enough for our standards, science teacher Ashleigh Trumble instituted a compost system with the aid of a grant from the Unity Foundation. We now have a green team of sixth grade students who daily empty food refuse collection containers from our cafeteria into the compost bin located outside near the paper and plastic recycle bin. For now, the only waste we have are scraps from meat, fish, and dairy products. Any uses for these anyone?

----submitted by teacher Lynn Delehanty





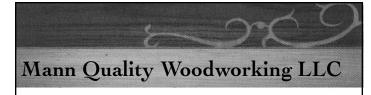
Saint Anthony Memorial
Guild of Volunteers
is sponsoring a
Memorial Day
Flower Sale

Thursday,
May 27, 2010
7:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
in the front entrance
hospital parking lot

Come see the variety of arrangements ranging from hanging baskets, potted plants, terra cotta dishes and herbs from Mark's Farm Market and Greenhouses.



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Social Media Marketing Sessions

Enrepreneur Center 422 Franklin St., Michigan City Wednesday, May 26th, 8:30-10 a.m.

Introduction to LinkedIn for Professional Networking

Participants will learn why LinkedIn has become the most popular site for professional networking and how participation can help them achieve professional goals. Attendees will learn to set up an account and build a profile on LinkedIn. (Note: attendees may wish to bring a head shot they can use for their profile; a Word document of their resume may also helpful if available.) Cost: \$35 (\$30 for Chamber members)

Building Your LinkedIn Network

10:30 a.m.-noon

Participants will learn several strategies for building their LinkedIn professional network, including: how to find and participate in relevant groups, establishing authority on their respective subject matter, asking for introductions, giving and getting recommendations and more. Tools for integrating LinkedIn with email will be shared as well as considerations for size and scope of network for optimal results. Cost: \$35 (\$30 for Chamber members).

Save when you sign up for both "LinkedIn" workshops: \$65 (\$50 for Chamber members)

Social Media "Troubleshooting" Session 1:30-4:30 p.m.

Do you have questions about Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, blogs or other social media sites? This event was designed to offer a cost-effective alternative to private consultation for those who have taken a prior social media workshop, but now are facing questions, technical challenges or just need a refresher on certain aspects. This workshop will consist primarily of questions and answers; however the instructor will also supply handouts and other resources. Cost: \$30 (\$25 for Chamber members)

Space is limited and pre-registration & pre-payment required. For more information on these or other training opportunities provided by the ECMC phone 219.809.4200 ext. 300, visit www.ec-mc.org or e-mail heather@ec-mc.org

Harbor Country Book Club

The selected book for the Tuesday, May 25 Harbor Country Book Club meeting is <u>Someone Knows</u> <u>my Name</u> by Lawrence Hill. The June book is <u>The Help</u> by Kathryn Stockett.

Monthly meetings are at 7:30 p.m. MI time on the last Tuesday of the month at the Harbor Grand Hotel in New Buffalo and are open to anyone interested in joining members to discuss the book. Copies of <u>Someone Knows my Name</u> and <u>The Help</u> can be purchased at New Buffalo Books.



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Art Barn 17th Juried Art Exhibition Draws Large Crowd

by Jan Van Ausdal

The 17th Annual Art Barn Juried Art Exhibition was held at 7 p.m. on Saturday, May 8th, and attended by a large crowd. There were one hundred entries in the show, while \$3,250 in prize money was awarded for Best in Show and Merit and Purchase Awards. Many artists had two or three of their works on exhibit at the Art Barn, near Valparaiso.

The highlight of the evening was the fact that the Best of Show Award (\$500) went to Ryan Pickart of Portage who is only twenty-three years old! His portrait, Anja, won this prize. He attended Grace College, a Liberal Arts School, majoring in drawing and painting. As an undergraduate, Ryan entered art shows, but this is the first show he entered since becoming a college graduate. Three of Ryan's oil portraits of women were juried into the show--Anja, Charlotte, and June. He uses the technique of gessoing so oil doesn't ruin the paper.



Ryan Pickart next to his Best of Show oil, Anja.

Ryan's grandparents, Oscar and Joyce Jolly and grandmother, Beverly Pickart, attended as did his parents, Dave and Diana Pickart. It was thought by some present that his mother was his sister.

Next, I interviewed and photographed Colleen Gallagher from the Michigan City Art League. Her mixed media, *Reflective Steady Streams*, was chosen for the exhibit. She was excited because she was juried into this art show, the first time she's entered.



Colleen Gallagher with her mixed media, Reflective Steady Streams.

Colleen has been painting for her whole life. She learned to paint in oils, but ten years ago, her asthma got very bad and she couldn't paint in oils any longer. She now does a mixed media with water color, acrylic, and pastel together. She took a course with Wendy Wilcox, Pat Mershon was her high school art teacher, and Rose Peterson is her current teacher. Colleen's husband, Michael, and her friend, Kathy Lazarra, were with her.

Jan Sullivan, who had a good winter in Mexico, had three oil paintings juried into the show. Besides *Red Boot Reflection* (which I photographed), the others were *Garden Wall* and *Countryside Evening*.



Jan Sullivan with her oil, Red Boat Reflection.

Next I photographed Virginia Phillips who won both Purchase and Merit Awards for her oil, *Sky Lake and Dunes*.



Virginia Phillips who won Merit and Purchase Awards for her oil, *Sky Lake and Dunes*.

Geri McDaniel of Valparaiso won a Purchase Award for her acrylic, *Shirley Poppy*. She's been entering the show the last four years.

Gordon Ligocki won a Merit Award for his mixed media, *Wood Nymph*.

Geri McDaniel with her acrylic, *Shirley Poppy.*





Gordon Ligocki with his mixed media, Wood Nymph.

Julie Kasniunas had an Honorable Mention and a Purchase Award for her oil, *Dunes Sunset - Winter*. She painted it outdoors standing at 1000 North at the overpass. More than twenty-five people stopped and talked to her while she was painting.



Julie Kasniunas with her oil, Blueberry Field in Autumn.

Jeanneen Anderson also won a Purchase Award and an Honorable Mention for her oil, *Golden Field*. She's used oil for the last two years. Since about age 13, she'd used acrylics.

Ray Noldin's oil, *Bouquet*, won a Merit Award. He's been painting quite a while and has entered this show quite a few times.



Jeannene Anderson by her oil, Golden Field.



Bruce Seidelman with his oil, Bouquet.

Various refreshments were available throughout the evening. Everyone present seemed to enjoy visiting with old friends and making new ones.

The show committee members were: Janey Bartos-Eddy, Julia Holmaas, Mark Mysliwiec, Alice Moss, William T. Wilson, and Roger Carlson.

Judge Ron Monsma said, "It was a real pleasure judging this year's Art Barn School of Art Competition. The high quality of many of the works and the incredible diversity in styles made the selection process challenging but exciting. My choice of award winners was based on a number of factors which included a confident handling of the medium, imagination, composition and handling of space and form, and an overall esthetic sense in presenting a unified vision."

Roger Carlson served as Master of Ceremonies for the presentation of all the awards. He introduced Jan Sullivan, "the lady who made all of this possible and who has donated this property."

Jan said, "I'm glad you're all here. I appreciate your support."

The current show runs till June 16th. The Art Barn is located at 695 North 400 East, Valparaiso, Tel.: 219-462-9009. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mon. - Sat. and by appointment on Sunday.

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La Porte Regional Health System offers free monthly seminars to help you understand the causes of knee and hip pain, exercises to help relieve pain as well as the latest treatments, medication and nutrition for your joints.

Wed., May 26 8 – 9 a.m. La Porte Hospital 4th floor Clubhouse



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"Nunsense!" at Memorial Opera House

"Nunsense" is a hilarious spoof about the misadventures of five nuns trying to manage a fundraiser. Sadly, the rest of the sisterhood died from botulism after eating vichyssoise prepared by Sister Julia. Thus, the remaining nuns — ballet-loving Sister Leo, street-wise Sister Robert Anne, befuddled Sister Mary Amnesia, the Mother Superior Sister Regina, and mistress of the novices Sister Mary Hubert — stage a talent show in order to raise the money to bury their dearly departed. Nunsense is filled with tap and ballet dancin, an audience quiz, and comedic surprises along with some hand clappin music!



The idea for "Nunsense" came from a line of greeting cards and was then adapted into a live performance by Dan Goggin. It originally started as a cabaret show and eventually expanded into a full-length theater production. It opened as an off-Broadway show in 1985 and became the second-longest running off-Broadway show in history with 3,672 performances. It has been translated into 26 languages with more than 6,000 productions world-wide.

Performance Dates: Friday & Saturdays, June 4, 5, 11, 12 @ 8 p.m. & Sundays, June 6 & 13 @ 2 p.m. Tickets are \$20/adults and \$17/seniors & students. Group rates are also available.

Tickets are available through the Memorial Opera House Box Office, by phone at 219-548-9137, or in person. The Memorial Opera House, 104 Indiana Ave., Valparaiso. Box office hours: Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m.-2 p.m. You may also visit www.mohlive.com

Audubon Program at MC Library

The Potawatomi Chapter of Audubon is sponsoring a program at the Michigan City Public Library on Thurs., May 20 at 6 p.m.

Liz Ridenour is a long time member of the City of LaPorte Tree Commission and will be speaking on "Landscaping Your Yard for Energy Conservation."

The public is invited free of charge and refreshments will be served. Phone 872-0052 for more information.



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New Arts & Crafts Show in New Buffalo

A new Arts and Crafts Show in beautiful Harbor Country Michigan promises something for everyone! Come and enjoy a variety of quality art of all kinds, and unique handcrafted items on Sat., May 29th, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. MI time, at St. John United Church of Christ, 200 W. Buffalo, in New Buffalo, Michigan.



Pictured are a few of the artists and crafters who will participate:

Dee DeVincent, LaPorte, IN, watercolor paintings, Hope Roberts and
Joanna Huff, Valparaiso, IN, bottle cap jewelry, barrettes, and
headbands, and mother-daughter team from Sawyer, MI, Lorri
Hildebrandt etched glassware, and daughter Megan jewelry.

With artists and crafters from Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, and Ohio, shoppers will find everything from fine art, wood sculptures and watercolor paintings, to 100% hand-crafted children's clothes and baby items. Home decor, such as wooden benches, and silk arrangements, and bags and purses in contemporary fabrics, even eco-friendly crocheted plastic, will be sure to please. Jewelry of all kinds, some crafted with semi-precious stones and sterling silver, glass and wood beads, others with colorful polymer clay, will be featured. Doll furniture and clothes for 18 inch dolls (like American Girl) will also be available. This is a show you won't want to miss!

There is no charge for admission, and the main hall is ADA compliant. Additional spaces are outdoors and in the church annex. Snacks and lunch items will be available for purchase. For more information, visit www.eventlister.com

Sinai Temple Deli Day

Wed., May 26 - 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Eat in or carry out at the Sinai Temple Deli Day, 2800 Franklin St., Michigan City. Phone orders: 874-4477, fax to 874-4190 or stop by.

Order corned beef, turkey or roast beef sandwiches for \$7.50 each which includes Jewish-style rye bread and pickle spear, coleslaw, noodle kugel and condiments. Extra kugel is \$1 each or 6/\$5. This event supports the Sinai Temple Sisterhood.

Preschool Spanish Immersion Class

St. Stanislaus School, 1506 Washington St., is offering the first pre-school Spanish Immersion class in La Porte County, starting in the 2010-11 school year.

The class is intended for children ages 3 and 4, and will meet Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8 a.m. to noon. Students may purchase a daily lunch from the Michigan City Area Schools system.

Enrollment is underway and is limited to 10 children at a tuition cost of about \$12 per session.

Dr. Sue Bryant, St. Stan's principal, said research has shown that young children respond well to the immersion approach to learning a language. Unlike regular instruction that teaches words, students in the immersion class will be learning in a Spanish speaking environment.

"The children won't have formal lessons in Spanish," Bryant said. "They will be in a class that, for the most part, will be taught all in Spanish. They will exist in the language."

Norma Zarate, a native of Mexico, will teach the St. Stan's Spanish Immersion class. She has been a bilingual speaker of English and Spanish since the age of five. Before moving to Michigan City, she was a translator for medical students at the University of Illinois in Chicago.

Zarate will begin by speaking to students almost entirely in Spanish, while they listen. They will start speaking Spanish by playing games and singing songs.

"It's a way for children to start developing a second language at a time when their brain development can support another language," Zarate said.

She hopes to have Spanish-speaking parents volunteer to converse with her in class so that students can hear typical dialogues.

Dr. Bryant said her goals in offering the class are to help children develop fluency in Spanish and to honor the sizable number of Spanish-speaking residents in the county. St. Stanislaus Roman Catholic Church serves these residents by holding a Spanish mass every Sunday at 5:30 p.m.

For more information about the class, phone St. Stan's at 219-872-2258 between 8 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Preschool Open House

Chesteron Montessori School will open its doors to the public for its annual Preschool Open House on Sat., May 22, 2–4 p.m. This fall will mark the 28th year for Chesterton Montessori, a highly regarded learning academy for toddlers through grade 6.

Limited spaces are available for 2010-2011, and the school is now accepting applications for toddlers and preschool.

Chesterton Montessori is located at 270 East Burdick Rd., Chesterton. (219) 926-2359.



Sinai Temple DELI DAY

WEDNESDAY, May 26, 2010 FAX ORDER TO 219-874-4190

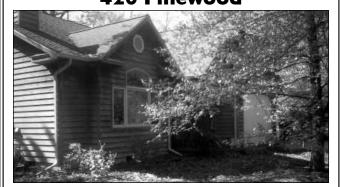
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Program on Cuba's Birds at State Park

A special presentation titled "Birding Somewhere South of Miami: a look at conservation in Cuba" will be offered at Indiana Dunes State Park on Sat., May 22nd.

The program will take place in the Nature Center Auditorium starting at 2 p.m. Participants will take a photographic journey through the Cuban countryside exploring the birds of Cuba.

Early this year, park interpretive naturalist Brad Bumgardner spent two weeks exploring Cuba's birds, conservation, and culture as part of an official bird survey with Caribbean Conservation Trust, gaining an insight into the culture, conservation practices, and birding diversity on the largest island in the Caribbean. Many of the same bird species we see in Indiana pass through or spend winters in Cuba.

The program is free after paying the normal park weekend daily entrance fees of \$5 per in-state vehicle and \$10 per out-of-state vehicle. For more information about this program or any other programs at the state park, phone (219) 926-1390.

DNR's Caves to Remain Closed

The closure of caves on state properties that began in May 2009 remains in effect while the DNR assesses the appropriate length of time to keep them closed. These closures continue are a precaution against the uncontrolled spread of white-nosed syndrome (WNS).

WNS has now been found in at least 12 states, and continues to kill bats in record numbers but is not a threat to humans.

The lone DNR-owned exception to the closure is Twin Caves at Spring Mill State Park, a wet cave in which all visitors are transported in boats. Entry to other caves may be allowed in some circumstances by those issued scientific research permits by DNR.

Privately owned commercial caves in Indiana such as Squire Boone Caverns, Marengo Cave and Blue Springs Caverns remain open.

Hoosier National Forest, Illinois and Iowa announced cave closures beginning May 3 of this year, and Missouri announced its plans for cave closures on May 5 of this year.

For more, see www.dnr.IN.gov\batdisease

Enjoy Some "Mo' Beat Blues"

Sun., May 23, 2 p.m.

Michigan City Public Library

Do you enjoy the blues, jazz, soul, R & B, country rock, swing, and the Rat Pack? This unique high energy show at the Michigan City Public Library has something for music enthusiasts of all ages.

The program is free and open to the public. For more information, phone 873-3049.

Jazz and Art Merge at the Box Factory

Enjoy a new twist on jazz and art merged when The Major Trio performs at the Box Factory for the Arts Sat., May 22, 8 p.m. MI time. Audiences will enjoy the mix of modern jazz, with tinges of swing and bebop from The Major Trio, combined with live art created by Joshua Mason and Adam Jones. Members of The Major Trio include: founder Anthony Nicholas Major (guitar), Michael Nelson (bass), and Matt Sypian (percussion). The three have performed in several other bands in the area and are excited about their first exploration into jazz.



The Major Trio

The Major Trio has performed locally at The Venetian Festival, Papa Vino's Restaurant and The Livery. Visual artists appearing with The Major Trio include: installation artist and painter Joshua Mason, owner of the design and art company IAERUO and painter and percussionist Adam Jones. They plan on painting visual interpretations of the music onstage while it's being performed. Guest musicians include vocalist Quinn Zoschke of the band Reverend. Attendees are encouraged, but not required, to dress in formal attire for this very unique evening.

Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Michigan. Tickets are \$8/adults, \$6/students and seniors. For more information, phone 269-983-3688 or visit www.boxfactoryforthearts.org

Bookmarks at MC Public Library

Fri., May 21, 2 p.m.

The Help by Kathryn Stockett will be reviewed by Kathleen Mullen. Be prepared to meet three unforgettable women: 22 year old Skeeter, who's back home after graduating from Old Miss. She is missing Constantine, the black maid who helped raise her and has disappeared. Aibileen is a black maid devoted to the little girl she looked after, though she knows both their hearts may be broken. Minny, Aibileen's best friend, is perhaps the sassiest woman in Mississippi who can't mind her tongue.

This novel brings new depth to the moral issues and the social awakening seen frm both sides of the American racial divide.

The program is free and open to the public.

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Independent Cat Society Fundraiser

The Independent Cat Society is holding a 50/50 Raffle. The tickets will be on sale at the shelter during adoption hours (Sat., 10 a.m.-4 p.m., and Sun., 1-4 p.m., for \$2/per ticket or 3/\$5 and the proceeds will help to pay fo the rising costs of medical care for the cats.

Tickets can also be purchased by mail by sending the ticket request to the ICS, 50/50 Raffle, P.O. Box 735, Westville, IN 46391.

Please make the check payable to the ICS with a notation on the memo line "50/50 Raffle". Also include your name, address, and telephone number and the tickets will be returned to you by mail. The drawing will be held on July 18, 2010 at the Shelter. Winner need not be present to win. Any questions, contact the ICS at (219) 785-4936.

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Doggie Paw Painting



Here's one of the doggie paw participants that attended Classic Imports' Art Attack Weekend event.

Dee Dee Duhn said it was a huge success with 14 doggies participating and loving every minute of it, well, at least their owners loved it!

Summer Academic Programs

Open to all High School Students

La Lumiere School announces its academic program for Summer 2010. In addition to enrichment programs for incoming students, La Lumiere School will open enrollment for summer academic classes to students from all high schools.

The summer academic offerings, which satisfy the Indiana Core 40 requirements include: Government and Economics from June 16-July 2 and Geometry from June 16-July 16. A semester's credit will be awarded upon successful completion of the Government and Economics courses and a full year's credit will be awarded for the Geometry course.

Raise your SAT scores in a short period of time. A rigorous SAT Boot Camp will be offered on campus Monday and Wednesday evenings from 6:30-9:00 pm from June 14-July 14.

Registration is required by June 4. Registration forms are available at www.lalumiere.org, by emailing summer@lalumiere.org, or by phoning the School at 219.326.7450.

Fun Time for Middle Schoolers

A Lock-In for middle schoolers will be held from 5:00-10:00 p.m., on Sat., May 22 at La Porte County Public Library, 904 Indiana Ave., La Porte.

Zombie games, video games, crafts, and pizza will be included.

Those attending must pick up a permission slip from the library ahead of time.

There is no charge. Phone 219/362-6156 for more information.

Long Beach Community Center

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The Spring Girlfriend Sale was a big success and a lot of fun! As always, it took a village of volunteers to put it all together and run the event. A big thank you goes to Jane Ellis, Shelia Stein, Barbro Colbert, Sig Rodrick, Sue Spitler, Tish Prangl, Linda Strohl, Carol Sizer, Elaine Schultz, Helga Lake Mark, Susan Henshaw, Lori Gustafson, Nancy Saxon, Helen Westort, Ruth Palomis, Sherri Bone, Kayla Vodnoy, Kathleen Westling, and Paula Bartholome. Appointments are now being scheduled to submit furniture and houseware items for The Good Things Sale: phone Susan Vissing at 219-861-6188.

Blue Streak Imaging and Multimedia-Blue Streak offers website design and photography for all occasions. Call 219-369-4955 or visit www. bluestreakim.com. Stop by ROOM #10.

Beach Access Vacations, LLC, Hiedi Brooks, Vacation Rentals, Bike & Kayak rentals and more... Opening Memorial Day. Stop by ROOM #2.

Rising Star Performing Arts – Call Emily Cass: 219-871-9438 or emily.cass@bethelcollege.edu. Emily will be teaching ballet, tap and movement. The program is for all ages and levels in addition to little ones. Classes start in July.

Spanish Classes For Kids – Starting June 16 & 17th for 6 weeks--12:30-2:30 p.m. Shelly McGuire will be teaching with Rosetta Stone and doing fun activities in class. 219-873-5875.

New to Yoga? Try your first class free, yoga mats and props are provided! Class times: Beginner Flow -Wed. & Fri., 10 a.m.; Gentle Inter. Flow - Tues., 6:15 p.m.; Thurs., 6:15 p.m. Restorative yoga and meditation; Sun., 10 a.m. Mixed level flow class. Lauralee Sikorski: 219-861-7394 or email lauraleesikorski@vahoo.com *New Students please call ahead * ROOM #8.

Giggle-n- Go- 45 minute music & movement classes for kids birth-5 yrs.and their caregiver is located in ROOM #7. Four week session/\$32. Call Beth at 219.210.6796 or visit www.gigglengo.com

Long Beach Fitness Center - Membership Sale – 3 mo./\$100, 6 mo./\$200; buy now-start when you want! Pilate classes with Shari Bohac: 8 wk. session, Mon. & Wed., 5-6 p.m. \$5/members, \$8/nonmember. Call Cindy 219-879-1358.

Park Program starts June 28th--registration forms are available at Town Hall!

The Long Beach Community Center has space for rent--for more information phone Anne Heywood at the Long Beach Town Hall at 219-874-6616.

----submitted by Anne Heywood



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Activities to Explore

In the Local Area:

May -- NATIONAL MILITARY APPRECIATION MONTH

May 20 -- "Landscaping Your Yard for Energy Conservation." Presented by Audubon member Liz Ridenour at the MC Public Library. 6 pm. Free, open to the public.

May 20 -- Bookmarks at the Museum. 2 pm at Westchester Twp History Museum, 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton. <u>The Help</u> by Kathryn Stockett will be reviewed by Kathleen Mullen. Free, open to the public. Info: 219/983-9715.

May 20 -- Duneland Historical Society meeting. 7:30 pm at Library Service Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton, IN. History of Gary presented by History Professor Emeritus James Lane. Public invited; refreshments will be served.

May 20-24 -- At the Vickers Theatre: "Greenberg." Starring Ben Stiller, Greta Gerwig and Rhys Ifans. Thurs/Fri 9:15 pm; Sat/Sun 3:30 & 9:15 pm; Mon 9:15 pm. MI time. Rated R. "The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo." Starring Noomi Rapace and Michael Nyqvist. Winner at the Palm Springs International Film Festival. Based on the bestselling novel. Not Rated. Swedish language with Eng. subtitles. Thurs thru Mon 6:15 pm MI time. Vickers Theatre, 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks, MI. 269/756-3522 or www. vickerstheatre.com

May 21 -- NATIONAL BIKE TO WORK DAY

May 21 -- Bookmarks at MC Public Library. 2 pm. <u>The Help</u> by Kathryn Stockett will be reviewed by Kathleen Mullen. Free, open to the public.

May 21 -- Save the Tunes Council (folk music). 7:30-9 pm at Dorothy Buell Memorial Visitor Center, Hwy 49 off US 20, Chesterton, IN.

May 21-23, 28-30 -- "Something's Afoot." LaPorte Little Theatre production. Musical in the style of Agatha Christie's novel. 218 ASt., LaPorte. Tix \$10; reserve at 219-362-5113 or www.laportelittletheater.com

May 22 -- NATIONAL MARITIME DAY

May 22 -- Mainstreet Association Farmer's Market, 8th & Washington streets, MC. 8 am-noon or sell-out.

May 22 -- "Everything I Wanted to Know, I Learned Being Mentally Ill." A play celebrating the human experience through stories and music. 7:30 pm at Sinai Temple Auditorium, 2800 Franklin St., MC. Tix \$15; reserve at 269-231-5296 or www.thegiftofmentalillness.com

May 22 -- 6th Annual Night in Venice, premier fundraiser for the Lubeznik Center. Featuring comedian Aaron Freeman, refreshments, auction and more. Held at The Allure, 301 B St., LaPorte. Tix \$135; reserve at 874-4900 or www.lubeznikcenter. org

May 22 -- Question Gravity. A circus and vaude-

ville experience at The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Dr., Three Oaks, MI. 8 pm MI time. Tix \$15/adults, \$5/kids 16 yrs. and under. 269/756-3879 or www.acorntheater.com

May 22-28 -- NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK

May 22-23 -- Skip's Open Air European Farmers Market at Skip's Restaurant, New Buffalo. 9 am-2:30 pm MI time. Info: 269/469-3330.

May 23 -- "Mo' Beat Blues" - music program at MC Public Library. 2 pm. Free, open to public. More at 873-3049.

May 25 -- NATIONAL TAP DANCE DAY

May 25 -- Harbor Country Book Club. <u>Someone Knows My Name</u> by Lawrence Hill will be discussed. 7:30 pm MI time at the Harbor Grand Hotel, New Buffalo. New members invited to attend.

May 26 -- Sinai Temple Deli Day. Corned beef, turkey or roast beef sandwiches w/extras \$7.50 ea. 11 am-1 pm. 874-4477, fax 874-4190 or stop by. Eat in or carry out. 2800 Franklin St., MC.

May 27-31 -- St. Mary of the Lake Festival. 704 W. Merchant St., New Buffalo, MI. Rides, games, food, music, beer tent, book fair, silent auction.

May 29 -- INTERNATIONAL JAZZ DAY

May 29 -- 2 BigHearts Foundation 5K Run/Walk. 9 am start at Long Beach Community Center. \$25 preregister at www.2bighearts.org or \$30/day of race. \$10/children 12 yrs. and under.

May 29 -- Basket Weaving Class taught by Margie Warner. 9:15 am at MC Public Library. \$10 non-refundable deposit must be made at circulation desk. Baskets on display. Info: 873-3049.

June 4-6, 10-13 -- "The Importance of Being Earnest." Thurs/Fri/Sat 8 pm; Sun 2 pm. Tix \$12. Footlight Theatre, 1705 Franklin St., MC. 874-4035.

June 4-6, 11-13 -- "Nunsense" at Memorial Opera House, 104 Indiana Ave., Valparaiso. Fri/Sat 8 pm; sun 2 pm. Tix \$20/adults, \$17/seniors & students. 219-548-9137 or www.mohlive.com

June 10-13 -- Queen of All Saints Festival. Woodland & E. Barker Ave., Michigan City.

June 12 -- Rock the Runway at Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W. 2nd St., MC. 4 pm. A fashion showdown by designers from local fashion programs, juried by an all-star panel. Info: 874-4900 or log onto www.lubeznikcenter.org

Farther Afield:

May 20 -- A Cole Porter Celebration with the Northwest Indiana Symphony Orchestra. 7:30 pm at Star Plaza Theatre, Merrillville, IN. Tix \$20-\$60, students \$10. Reserve at 219-836-0525 or www. NISOrchestra.org

May 22 -- The Major Trio (jazz, swing, bebop music) in concert at The Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, MI. Visual art interpretation of the music onstage during performance. 8 pm MI time. Tix \$8/asults, \$6/students & seniors. 269/983-3688 or www.boxfactoryforthearts.org



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18 Hole League

May 4, 2010 Event: Regular Golf

"A" Flight

Low Net: Sue Luegers Low Putts: Sue Leugers

"B" Flight

Low Net: Mary Weithers
Low Putts: Mary Weithers

"C" Flight

Low Net: Rima Binder Low Putts: Marge Walsh

"D" Flight

Low Net: Nancy Henry Low Putts: Nancy Henry

Sunken Approaches: Nancy Henry #16
Birdies: Nancy Henry #16

9 Hole League May 6, 2010 Event: Regular Golf

Championship Flight

Low Gross:Sue LuegersLow Net:Donna HennardPutts:Linda Wilson

"A" Flight

Low Gross:Marge WalshLow Net:June SalmonPutts:Adele O'Donnell

"B" Flight

Low Gross: Barb Beardslee

"C" Flight

Low Gross:Betty DugganLow Net:Vangie KuhnPutts:Kathie Mole

Sunken Approaches: June Salmon #16

Barb Beardslee #8

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OFFICE SUITE. 3 private offices and reception area. Expenses, except phone, paid. Well maintained, high traffic area. 2811 E. Michigan Blvd., Michigan City. (219) 879-9188, 879-2700.

RENTALS INDIANA

HOUSE FOR RENT IN LONG BEACH

3/BR. Across from lake. Great view & beach. Call 219/874-8692. LONG BEACH COZY 3/BR HOUSE AT STOP 15 (Across from Beach) Fireplace and Large Deck. No pets. Call 708/370-1745.

***** **DUNESCAPE BEACH CLUB** LAKEFRONT CONDOS -- 2 and 3 bedrooms. Oct.-May -- \$1,100 to \$2,000 per mo. **DUNESCAPE REALTY - 219/872-0588.**

HOUSE FOR RENT-OGDEN DUNES. Quiet semi-private beach community. 3BR, 1.5BA, sleeps 6+2. Gas BBQ, big deck, screened porch, A/C, Satellite TV, stereo, all linens. Sat/Sun rentals \$1200. Great family location. Cell 219-730-6486, H 219-763-3088.

> **CALL FOR RENTAL INFORMATION Merrion & Associates Realtors** 219-872-4000 or 866-496-1752 www.MerrionRealty.com

HOUSE FOR RENT ON LAKE SHORE DRIVE 3/BR, 2BA. A/C. Frpl., W/D. Summer rentals avail.

Also avail Sept thru May. \$850/mo + util. Call 708/227-8756.

HOUSE FOR RENT LAKE SHORE DR. 4BR, 2BA, deck, lake views. All amenities. Select summer rentals avail., also winter '10-'11. \$850/mo. + utilities. Call 708-349-0442.

CHARMING LONG BEACH TWO STORY HOME Stop 20 - Newly redone - 4/BR, 2/Bath. Furnished - No Pets. Washer/dryer. 1/4 Block to beach. \$850/mo + utilities. Avail Sept'09 - June '10 - Call 708/717-8883.

CHARMING VINTAGE MICHIANA HOME - 1/4 blk. from lake, Stop 37. Furn., delightful décor, 3BR, 2BA, New beds & pillows, sleeps 8-9, C/A, frpl, screen porch off lg. kitchen, deck off master BR, all util except phone. Avail 6/26-7/10; 8/7-8/21. For info email jvwestern@yahoo.com / Phone Judy 847-814-8215.

SHERIDAN BEACH - charming knotty pine cottage. 4BR, 2BA. C/A, cable. ½ blk. to beach. Close to park, zoo and shopping. Ping pong and foosball for those rainy days. \$1,200/wk. Call Pam 708-383-2635.

"BEACH HOUSE" at Stop 33. 2 blocks from beach. Charming décor, beautiful surroundings, 4BR, 2BA, family room with fireplace. Patio, deck, sun porch. A/C, W/D. June thru September. No pets, no smoking. Call 708-784-9866.

LONG BEACH BEAUTIFUL LAKE FRONT HOME. 3BR, 2.5BA, W/D, Cable, A/C. By the week or month. Please call Jim 773-405-9879.

LONG BEACH EXECUTIVE HOUSE RENTAL, SUMMER 2010.

Stop 29, overlooking lake. Fantastic decks/views. 3BR, 2BA, A/C W/D, cable TV, WIFI, WIFI internet, and more. NO PETS/NO SMOKING. Choice weeks avail. as low as \$2200/wk. 2WK & MNTH RATES Avail. VRBO #168866 or call 630-337-6220

MEMORIAL DAY AVAIL. COZY 2BR MICHIANA COTTAGE:

Sleeps 4-5. Fieldstone Fireplace. A/C, screen porch, deck, grill. Near beach and park. \$800 wkly. \$135 daily. Monthly \$2,900. Last minute deals made if avail! 219-229-4806 or Michianarental@ gmail.com for info or photos

Small, fully-equipped 2BR cottage at beautiful Saugany Lake, Rolling Prairie, IN, available weekdays from Sunday 6 p.m. until Friday 2 p.m. \$400.00; from Friday 6 p.m. until Sunday 2 p.m., \$175.00.TV local channels only, equipped to play DVDs/ One BR w/full bed; second BR w/ bunk bed. Cottage 1-1/2 blks. from the lake. 219-778-9352.

WOODLANDS COACH HOUSE (Tryon Rd., MC). 1BR, 1BA, hrdwd. flrs., granite counters, partial kitchen, wooded setting, use of pool, tennis ct., etc. \$550/mo. Call 312-670-6797.

CHARMING COTTAGE just blk. from great beach. Michiana Shores 80 mins. from Chicago, recently modernized, wooded area, new appliances, A/C, broadband, HDTV, bbq, 2 decks, 2BR, 2BA Rental/wk. June-Sept. No pets, no smoking. 773-835-8345. Photos: mintzdds.com/michiana

HOUSE FOR LEASE at the Woodlands Development (Tryon Rd., MC). 2BR, 2BA. Screened in porch, deck, W/D, vaulted ceiling, hrdwd. flrs. Use of pool, tennis ct., wooded setting. \$1700/mo. + util. 1 yr. lease. Call 312-670-6797.

MICHIANA SHORES. 2.5 blk. to beach. Lg. 6BR family home. Great for family reunion, Ig. yard. Avail. 6/13-6/26 \$2500/wk. Call 708-352-6787 or email wducy@yahoo.com

MICHIANA SHORES, IN. LOG CABIN IN THE WOODS. 3BR, 2BA, screen porch, C/A, W/D, fully updated cabin. Secluded, wooded and quiet. Lg. yard. Long or short term lease, furn. or unfurn. NO PETS. Near tennis courts, park & beach. 219-898-9105.

NEWLY REMODELED full equipped 1BR in Beverly Shores. A/C, W/D, grill, deck, Dish TV. Short walk to beach. Sleeps 4. No pets. \$750/wk. Avail. June-Sept. Call 219-871-0410.

SUMMER RENTAL - STOP 20. Home on hillside at Lake Shore & Golden Gate Dr. 5BR, 1.5BA plus beach shower. A/C, W/D, BBQ, front patio w/lake views & large lawn. Linens, beach chairs, towels. \$2250/wk. Call 773-456-1182.

ADORABLE 3BR, 2BA fully furnished. W/D, D/W, screen porch, patio. 1 blk. to private beach. Linens included. \$1,000/wk. Call 708-763-9611.

RENTALS MICHIGAN

MICHIGAN, New Buffalo, Village of Grand Beach. Lake front home. 3BR, just 42 steps down to this private beach on Lake MI. Enjoy sunsets from this lakeside deck. View property on mysite. Verizon.net/greenrentals or call 708-212-1637. MICHIANA, 3767 Ponchartrain. 2BR, 1 blk. from lake. A/C. No pets. Avail. May-Oct. \$725/wk. Call 269-469-4749.

্র্র্র REAL ESTATE FOR SALE ্র্র্

For Sale one prime buildable lot in Michiana Shores Indiana located high and dry at the end of a short dead end road, this lot has the full view of the back woods and horse pasture; with city water, sewage, gas & elec. Lot is 41.51x123.19 ft. **Asking price #59,900.00. Call 219-874-8133.**

For sale prime buildable double lot in Michiana Shores Indiana located high and dry, in a very quiet location remote from the main road, with city water, sewage, gas & elec. Double lot 40 ft.x120 ft. each, the two lots will be sold as one site. Asking price \$129,900.00. Call 219-874-8133.

MICHIANA SHORES AREA, IN, 80 ft. x 130 ft. wooded bldg. sites. City sewer & water. \$89,000. Broker/owner 239-283-2437.

EXECUTIVE HOME FOR SALE on the lake in Long Beach. Lg. open main level opens to large deck and beautiful private beach. 5BR, 3.5BA, granite countertops in kitchen and baths. Lower level bar/family room newly renovated with granite tops and new cabinets. Call 708-361-5560 wkdays or 219-872-6363 wkends.

LAKEFRONT CONDOS. Beautiful, brand new condos, 2 or 3BR, 2 full BA, fitness center, pool, boardwalk, boat docks and balconies overlooking Pine Lake. Starting at just \$239,900. Call Laurel at Outlook Cove Condos, LaPorte, IN (219) 362-7722.

Potato Creek Celebrate Birds Festival

Migratory birds certainly are a cause for excitement and celebration in this spring season. All are invited to come to Potato Creek State Park on Sat., June 5th where there will be many fun bird-themed activities offered throughout the day. 8:30 a.m. will offer visitors a chance to see live birds up close with bird banding demonstrations followed by a live owl presentation by raptor rehabilitator Carol Riewe at the park's Nature Center. The afternoon programs will offer a time to explore various educational booths, a chance to compete and see how you would compare to birds in the Avian Olympics, and then a park naturalist will lead a night owl-hootin' hike. 25601 State Rd 4, North Liberty, IN. (574) 656-8186.



Off the Book Shelf

by Sally Carpenter

Hell Gate by Linda Fairstein

Best selling author Lee Child said "Linda Fairstein is the queen of intelligent suspense." I couldn't agree more. Linda's writing makes all the difference between reading excellent detective stories and some contrived, hokey story, too much of which lines bookstore shelves today.

I love to watch all the versions of "Law & Order" on TV. Not only am I impressed that the filming takes place on location in New York City, but that each episode covers all strata of life there and pulls no punches when it comes to the reality of crime and its outcome. It's not always the low class scum bug who's to blame, but some-

times people at the top, and the good guy doesn't always win.

In this book, author Fairstein brings us the twelfth installment of her series about New York County Assistant District Attorney Alex Cooper.

Alex is single, and rather better off financially than her friends in the DA's office due to her affluent upbringing as the daughter of a brilliant and inventive doctor. Her love life is something else, however. Her first love was killed in an accident, followed by less than fulfilling affairs, until she met Luc, the charming and handsome owner of a successful restaurant in France. But can a romance sustain itself with time differences and thousands of miles between them? And then there's Mike...

Mike Chapman is a NYPD detective that Alex has worked with and known for some years now.

"I had wonderfully loyal and devoted girlfriends, but he was the man I had become closer to in the last ten years than any of the guys I had dated. I had fallen madly in love with Luc a year ago, but I loved Mike too--although I thought in a way that was not romantic."

Hmmm.

Could be she's been fooling herself for some time now...but that's contemplation for another dayright now our girl has more to worry about...

Alex is called out one morning to view a freighter, the *Golden Voyage*, gone aground some three hundred yards out in the Atlantic. But instead of freight spilling out into the ocean, the ship gave up a human cargo. Some three hundred people had been on board, many of them jumping off and trying to swim to shore when they panicked after seeing a Coast Guard boat approaching.

They were Ukranians and an initial attempt at conversation proved they didn't speak English. That was problem number one. Problem number two was



the dead who didn't make it to shore and couldn't or wouldn't be identified. Problem number three was that one of the dead was a woman who was obviously killed. What's her story?

Alex begins the laborious process of finding translators and then trying to gain the refugees' trust to find out the names of the scum bags dealing in human trafficking.

Alex starts out with two teenage girls, separating them to better gain their trust and get some information. The first girl's story is a horror of being sold to a farmer as his wife, then running away only to be picked up by a man who put her in a bar dancing and prostituting herself to the

customers, and finally believing another man who promised her a great new life in America. She was only sixteen...

Think that's all? I got news for you...

A congressman from Manhattan's Upper West Side, Ethan Leighton, was picked up the night before after a drunk driving accident and his leaving the scene. The press loves a good story about a bad politician! But that's not all the congressman's troubles. It's been revealed he has a girlfriend, Salma Zunega, not much older than his oldest child, and a baby by her. She's being reported as mentally unstable, making frequent 9-1-1 calls that she then denies having made. She and the baby disappear one night and...well things can only get more complicated from here on out, right?

Two separate incidents--or are they? And why is the mayor so concerned? Sometimes circumstances make for strange bed fellows...

I love Linda Fairstein! Her style of writing is crisp, to the point, and intriguing. And did I mention? In real life she has led the Sex Crimes Unit of the DA's office in Manhattan for twenty-five years, making her an expert on crimes of sexual assault and domestic violence. Her knowledge of her subjects makes the story and her characters all the more understandable and an amazing read.

She also makes New York City come to life, describing places and making you feel you're right there in the thick of things. I have never felt so connected to a place since author Cara Black who can make the sights and sounds of Paris come to vivid life.

Till next time, happy reading and get the grill ready for next weekend!

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Debbie Burke Principal Broker / Owner



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Indiana and Michigan



3602 Lake Shore Drive

YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS will love you forever for obtaining this fantastic find across the street from Lake Michigan. Stunning views greet you throughout the 4 bed, 2.5 bath home. Brazilian wood floors, an outstanding kitchen, and a long deck are only a few of the goodies this house has to offer. \$1,160,000

See it this Sunday from 1-3 pm!



Birchmont in New Buffalo

COME BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME in the heart of Michiana. Only 3 blocks up from the beach, this elevated site has frontage on two streets – Birchmont and Cherokee. Get this land now and make the home you've always wanted.

\$259,000

Call Michele to make an offer 219-861-2073



1026 Lake Shore Drive

A TRUE 1915 BEACH HOME! Come get your rest and relaxation here with an open living room centered by a warm brick fireplace; a screen porch where the sounds of the waves & wind will lull you to sleep; six upper level bedrooms with cedar floors and a whole-house fan to keep things cool. \$597,500

Discuss the details with Ed this Sunday 1-3.



204 Maplewood

COME MOVE INTO beautiful Shoreland Hills with deeded beach rights by owning this 3 bed, 3 bath delight. Features include vaulted ceiling, skylights, 2 fireplaces & 3 decks for all those BBQ's. Gorgeous kitchen has granite counters & stainless steel appliances. \$345,000

Call Michele for a private tour. 219-861-2073



2220 Island

YOU NEED TO SEE the floors in this kitchen! Decorative designs make this room stand out. Add to that 2 bedrooms & 2 baths, and you'll love this great condo located on Lake Claire. You'll also find a fireplace, and newer carpets, roof and window treatments! \$179,000

Call Dave before this condo is gone. 219-898-7009



1904 Lake Shore Drive

ENJOY THIS WEEKEND by checking out this gorgeous Lake Michigan home. Spacious Great Room with vaulted ceilings make the home feel twice as large. Enjoy a formal dining area, living room, and exquisite kitchen on the main level, or head downstairs to rest in 1 of the extra bedrooms or to relax in the rec room. \$1,198,500

See it Sunday from 1-3 or call Éd now! 219-898-6428

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Debbie Burke, GRI, ABR, RECS

Ed Merrion*, CRS, GRI Michele Cihak*, ABR Cathy Blum Jim Laughlin Tricia Meyer Debbie Mengel Dave Angus JuliAnn Merrion Nancy Nunn *Licensed in IN & MI



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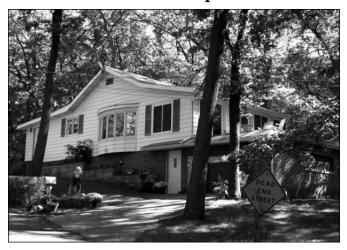
1.5 BLOCKS TO BEACH. Updated kitchen and bath, screened porch. 3 bedrooms, 2 bath. A perfect getaway. \$342,500

410 Lake Hills Road



HEATED IN GROUND POOL comes with a 2 bedroom ranch in the Lake Hills area. Full basement, near Washington Park. \$169,000

1612 Indianapolis



BEAUTIFUL WOOD FLOORS, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. 2 Blocks to the beach. Beautifully landscaped lot. \$294,000

205 California



MOTIVATED SELLER. Great for investment. 4 bedroom cottage with parking for 8 cars. Only 3 doors from the beach. \$293,000

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