



# Dunes Echo

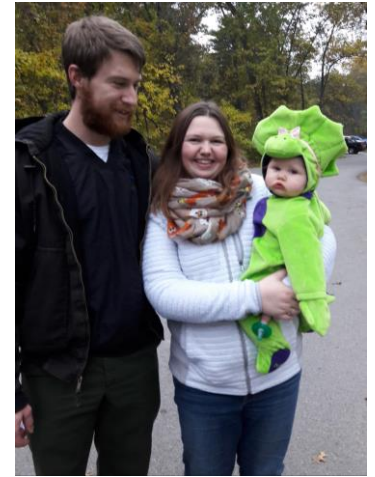
Winter 2019 ~ Vol. XII #1

Enhancing the Visitor Experience Today and Tomorrow

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## Indiana Dunes State Park Welcomes New Assistant Property Manager

Jake McEvoy started at the Indiana Dunes State Park last August as the new Assistant Property Manager after the previous Assistant Manager, Mickey Rea, was appointed the State Park's new Property Manager. Jake is originally from Bluffton, Indiana and his wife Kaylin is originally from Kouts. They both met while studying at St. Joseph's College where Jake received his undergraduate degree in wildlife biology. Jake began his career with the Indiana DNR as a seasonal laborer at Ouabache State Park. His first full-time position was at Turkey Run State Park as their Assistant Property Manager before transferring to the Indiana Dunes. Jake and Kaylin welcomed their first beautiful baby girl, Aurora, last spring and are now enjoying her first Christmas this year. In Jake's spare time he enjoys lifting weights, fishing, eating junk food, and spending time with family. He and his family enjoys nature and are excited to be here at the State Park.



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## State Park Bird Observation Tower Dedication



It was a beautiful windy day for the dedication of the new Bird Observation Tower. On October 4, over 100 people gathered to celebrate the official occasion from partnering agencies, INDNR dignitaries, area school children, and State Park employees. This architectural tower masterpiece is located next to Trail 3 up from the West Beach parking lot. The celebration included a ceremony led by Indiana DNR State Parks Director, Daniel Bortner, with the help of Discovery Charter School and Liberty Elementary School Hobart students. Humane Indiana Wildlife brought their live educational red-tail hawk, refreshments were served by the Indiana Audubon and the Friends of the Indiana Dunes. Park volunteers helped pass out programs and lead participants in making a bird tower memory bookmark. Thank you to the Friends of Indiana Dunes for providing a luncheon for the dignitaries at this ceremony.

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## Maple Sugar Time – March 2, 3, 9 and 10, 2019



Enjoy an early taste of spring at the National Lakeshore's annual Maple Sugar Time festival. In addition to the free, ranger-led tours of the sugaring operation at the historic Chellberg Farm, a pancake breakfast will be available for purchase. The farm will be bustling with maple sugaring activities from 10am– 4pm. One-hour tours start every 20 minutes each day. Join one to learn how American Indians first boiled maple sap into sugar and how early settlers used large iron kettles to make syrup. Stand in the warm steam of the sugar shack where sap is still boiled down the way the Chellberg family did it back in the 1930s. Try your hand at drilling a tap hole, lugging heavy sap buckets using an old-fashioned yoke, or just enjoying a free taste of pure maple syrup! Warm up in the farm house and collect recipes featuring maple syrup. Pure maple syrup and related products will be for sale on site.

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### Mark Your Calendar

## 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Native Plant Sale – April 13, 2019

Volunteer help is always needed for the set-up of the plants and pre-order filling on Friday, April 12 from 9am to 4pm. On April 13, the day of sale, help will be needed from 7:30am until 1:30pm. Interested in helping, please contact Chair Angel Gochee-Goins at her email address ([agochee@iun.edu](mailto:agochee@iun.edu)) with your available times.

# Programs at National Lakeshore

For more information, call 219-395-1882 or check at [www.nps.gov/indu](http://www.nps.gov/indu). All programs are free.



## **Bus Tour – Sunday January 20, Saturday February 2, Sunday March 24 and Sunday April 14 from 1 to 3pm**

Join a ranger at the Visitor Center for a two-hour tour of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore in one of the park's 15-passenger shuttle buses. The tour is free, but reservations are required as space is limited. Call 219-395-1882.

## **Music Heritage Series Concert – Fridays January 18, February 15, March 15 and April 20 from 7:30 to 9pm**

Come out to the Visitor Center for a night of music and song. The Save the Tunes Council is a group of local musicians devoted to preserving and passing on folk songs using a variety of traditional musical instruments.

## **Movie Screening – Sundays January 6, 13 & 27 and February 3, 10, 17 & 24 from 2 to 3pm**

Join a ranger at either the Visitor Center or at the Douglas Center for a screening of a national park or outdoor-related documentary.

## **Snowshoe Hike – Sundays January 6 & 27 and February 10 & 17 from 1 to 3pm**

Try out snowshoeing at the Visitor Center on a ranger-led hike. A limited number of snowshoes are available for loan or you can bring your own. If there is not enough snow, we will offer a traditional hike instead.



## **Miller Woods Hike – Every Sunday in January and February, March 17, 24 & 31, and April 7 & 14 from 1:30 to 3:30pm**

Meet at the Paul H. Douglas Center for a ranger-led hike through Miller Woods to the shore of Lake Michigan. This amazing hike goes through a globally rare black oak savannah and around towering sand dunes and interdunal wetlands.

## **Stargazing Through Telescopes – Saturday Jan 26 from 5 to 7pm, Feb 23 from 5:30 to 7:30pm, and Mar 23 from 7 to 9pm**

Join fellow astronomy lovers and enjoy our night sky from one of the darkest spots in the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. Telescopes will be provided for your viewing pleasure.

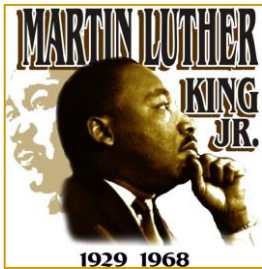
## **Winterfest - Saturday January 12 from 10am to 3pm**

Celebrate the season when you don't have to worry about mosquitoes! Join park staff and partners for a variety of hikes, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, and more. Fun will be had by all, with or without snow. Check the park's website and Facebook for more details and locations of the various activities.



## **Art in the National Lakeshore – Saturday Jan 12, Feb 9, Mar 9 and Apr 13 from 2 to 4pm**

Meet local artists who use the dunes as inspiration to create their art. Learn how they photograph, paint, draw, and write. Programs may be inside the Visitor Center or outside. Please call 219-395-1882 for more information.



## **In the Footsteps of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. – Saturday January 19 from 11am to Noon and 1:30 to 2:30pm**

Celebrate and honor the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and other civil rights leaders. Join a Douglas Center ranger for a presentation of some of the national park sites that commemorate the struggle for civil rights.

## **Civil Rights Film Festival – Sunday January 20 from 1 to 4pm**

Celebrate the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the many other civil rights leaders through a variety of short films based on stories told at our National Parks. Learn about some of the parks that tell our country's Civil Rights history and participate in discussions between the films at the Douglas Center.

## **Cabin Fever Festival/Groundhog Day – Saturday, February 2 from 9am to 3:30pm**

Tired of winter and hoping that the Groundhog doesn't see his shadow? Then get out of the house and enjoy a day of fun, mostly indoor activities at both the Indiana Dunes Visitor Center and Paul H. Douglas Center. There will be a ton of fun activities for young and old along with free movies and music throughout the day. You can also join a ranger for an outdoor adventure hike or borrow some snowshoes or skis and explore Miller Woods on your own. For a detailed schedule, go to [nps.gov/indu](http://nps.gov/indu) or call the information desk at 219-395-1882.



## **Migration Birding Hike with the Indiana Audubon Society – Saturday March 9 and April 13 from 8 to 10am**

Join birding expert and Indiana Audubon Society Executive Director Brad Bumgardner for the start of his migration birding series. Meet at the Visitor Center and car pool to the birding spot of the month. Bring binoculars and dress for the weather.

**Where to Fish in the National Lakeshore – Sat Mar 30 at Douglas Center and Sun March 31 at Visitor Center from 1:30 to 2:30pm** Join local fishing expert and park ranger Ryan Koepke to learn some of the best fishing locations in the National Lakeshore and surrounding areas.





# Dunes Learning Center Programs

**Winter Open House - Saturday, January 12 from 11am until 3pm**

Join Learning Center naturalists for an afternoon of outdoor fun, plus an indoor "campfire" featuring live music and cocoa.

**Saturday, January 26, 9:30am-3:30pm: Art and Literature in the Dunes Bus Tour**

See some of the places that have inspired local artists, including Frank Dudley and Edwin Way Teale. Tour includes some short hikes and a box lunch. \$35, register online at [DunesLearningCenter.org/events](http://DunesLearningCenter.org/events).

**Saturday, March 30, 9:30am-3:30pm: Bad-Ass Women of the Dunes Bus Tour**

Learn the legacies of women such as Marie Bailly, Alice Mabel Gray, May Watts, Bess Sheehan and others who made history... but might not be talked about in the history books! Tour includes some short hikes and a box lunch. \$35, register online at [DunesLearningCenter.org/events](http://DunesLearningCenter.org/events).

**Saturday, April 6, 11am-3pm: Summer Camp Open House**

Explore Dunes Learning Center's campus and celebrate spring with a day of fun in the dunes! Sample popular camp activities, tour camp facilities, meet the staff, and ask questions about the upcoming summer camp season at this annual camp kick off event. Free admission, RSVP online at [DunesLearningCenter.org/events](http://DunesLearningCenter.org/events)

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## State Park Activities

For more information contact the Nature Center at 219-926-1390 or [www.interpretiveservices.in.gov](http://www.interpretiveservices.in.gov).



**Nature Center's Snowshoe Rentals: Wednesdays through Sundays this winter, 9:30 to 4:30pm**

Thanks to the Friends of Indiana Dunes, the Indiana Dunes State Park Nature Center offers snowshoe rental for all ages!

As long as there is 6 inches of snow on the ground, one can explore the dunes with this fun outdoor recreational equipment. A driver's license is needed and the cost is \$5.00 for the entire day. Reservations cannot be made. Call 219-926-1390 with questions about snow conditions.

**Snowshoe Shuffles: January 13 & 27, February 9 & 16**

Enjoy a Naturalist-led snowshoe exercise hike on two select mornings in January and February starting at 10am at the Nature Center. These free hikes offer a chance to learn the history and techniques of snowshoeing. Snowshoes will be available on a first-come-first-serve basis. In case of too little snow, we will still enjoy a winter hike nearby!

**Dunes Geocache Adventure 2019 – Artists of the Dunes: January 19, 10:30am to 4:30pm**

This is a fun annual geocaching event that lets any level of geocachers come together to compete and enjoy the beauty of our Indiana Dunes region. If you are a beginner or advanced geocacher, this program will not disappoint with its fun prizes and challenges. All you need is a GPS unit or the geocaching app on your cell phone along with a sense of adventure. Full details are located at [www.geocaching.com](http://www.geocaching.com), search zipcode 46304 for the event page.

**Lunar Eclipse Party: January 20, 2018 from 9am to Midnight**

Join the Naturalists and volunteer astronomers for this special night program at the Indiana Dunes State Park Beach. We will take a look at the changing color of the moon from our telescopes as it comes into a full eclipse. Lunar treats will be provided thanks to the Friends of Indiana Dunes.



**Banding for Wintering Birds with the Indiana Audubon: January 26, 10 to 12:30pm**

Stop in the Nature Center's library any time this morning to see wintering songbird residents up close, including the elusive winter finches. The Indiana Audubon will be assisting in catching birds visiting the Nature Center's bird feeders and bringing them inside for visitors to see as they study and record their measurements and put a research band on their ankles before releasing them back out into the woods.

**Running with the Irish 5K Race: March 16**

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day weekend this year by joining the St. Patrick's Parish in its 19<sup>th</sup> annual pre-spring event! Over 1,000 people enjoy a relaxing walk or run on the Dunes State Park's roads with glimpses of beautiful Lake Michigan. Visit <http://www.stpatsparish.org/5k-run/> for more information as it becomes available. *Note: Park roads will be congested before and during the event.*

**Full Moon Hikes: March 23, April 19, June 17, July 16, August 15, September 15**

Enjoy the beautiful moon with us on these special full-moon night hikes from the Nature Center to Lake Michigan and back. Stories about our moon, up-close views, and "stellar" treats will be shared thanks to the Friends of Indiana Dunes. The start times will vary for these hikes. Call the nature center at 219-926-1390 for more information or questions.

**Dunes Explorer Day Camps Returning in 2019!** Children 6-13 years of age can enjoy a week in the dunes exploring the various plants and animals and exciting habitats in the park during the Dunes Explorer Day Camp. Each camp meets from 9am-12pm daily (until 3pm on Friday) and features a different themed day during this one week low-cost camp adventure sponsored by the Friends of Indiana Dunes. Camp costs are \$30. Registration is going on now for the two summer sessions, July 15-19 (6-8 year olds) and July 22-26 (9-11 year olds). Call the nature center at 219-926-1390 for more information or to sign up.

**FRIENDS OF  
INDIANA DUNES**

P.O. Box 166  
Beverly Shores, IN 46301

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Permit No. 37  
Michigan City, IN 46360

*Our mission is to enhance and foster understanding, appreciation, and enjoyment of the Indiana Dunes through financial and volunteer support of the state and national parks.*

**Friends Board Members**

**Chair:** Angel Goins      **Vice-Chair:** Roz Potter  
**Secretary:** Kathy Wilder      **Treasurer:** Zella Olson  
Tyler Botbyl      Pat Carlisle      Andrea Huntington  
Dorothy Meyers      Roy Olson      Paul Stofko  
**Newsletter Editor:** Cliff Goins  
[www.friendofindiandunes.org](http://www.friendofindiandunes.org) 219-628-4954

Since 1982, our Friends organization has supported the interpretive and resource management programs of the Indiana Dunes. The Friends sponsor the kind of interpretive programs that make a visit to the Indiana Dunes informative and fun.

Membership in the Friends is vital to creating this positive impact.

Please support the Indiana Dunes by joining the Friends today.

Your financial contribution is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Your support will make a difference and assure that our important work continues.

**NOTE: Current Friends Members will receive a renewal form in the mail when your renewal is due.**

**New, Friends Membership Application**

P. O. Box 166 ~ Beverly Shores, IN 46301-0166

- Senior Citizen      \$ 15
- Individual/Family      \$ 20
- Sustaining Family      \$ 40
- Business/Corporation      \$100

Mail completed form to the address above.

Additional Contribution \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Interested in Volunteering \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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