



THE BEACHCOMBER

DUNE ACRES, INDIANA

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A. Henry Studebaker of Dune Acres, Indiana, died Friday, December 5th at his family home. He was 87. Henry was born September 3, 1927 at the Dune Acres home, the son of Alden Koch Studebaker and Naomi Chellberg Studebaker, both of whom preceded him in death. On June 15, 1956 at Plymouth Congregational Church in Whiting, he married Cynthia Ann Elster who preceded him in death in 2005. He is survived by his wife, Marian Frazzini, of Valparaiso, a brother, Arthur L. Studebaker of Indianapolis, and by son, Alden (Donna) Studebaker of Bright, Indiana; two daughters, Rebecca (James) Downing of Aptos, California and Amy (Scott) Dennison of Saint Joseph, Michigan, seven grandchildren, Jennifer, Nathan and Daniel Studebaker, Aidan Downing and Michael (Madison), Susan and Brent

Dennison, and great-grandson William Dennison. Son, Jonathan P. Studebaker and daughter, Bonnie Peckat also preceded him in death. Henry graduated in 1945 from Chesterton High School in Chesterton, Indiana and joined the US Navy. After serving in both World War II and the Korean War, he earned a Bachelor of Science Mechanical Engineering Degree, from Purdue University in 1954. He then began his career in engineering at Standard Oil in Chicago while he earned a Master of Business Administration Degree from the University of Chicago in 1958. In 1967 he and his family relocated to Honolulu, Hawaii where he worked as Vice President of Operations at the Bishop Museum. As a Mechanical Engineer for the U. S. Department of the Navy, he worked from January 1980 until June 2008 based in the San Francisco Bay, Port Hueneme, California and the Great Lakes Naval Station in northern Illinois. He was awarded the Naval Engineer of The Year Award in 2002. His work took him around the globe as the service-wide Boiler and Power Plant Consultant/Expert for the United States Navy and Marine Corps in all aspects of land-based boiler power plants. Henry married Marian Frazzini on April 30, 2011 at St. Paul's Catholic Church in Valparaiso. They joined their families together, enjoying many gatherings, performances and lots of grandchildren. Before and during retirement, Henry was a huge fan of all things mechanical including cars, trains and ships. He enjoyed fishing on the lakes of northern Wisconsin and working on the family cars including a few Studebakers. A lover of road trips, he always stopped to visit family and friends whenever he was "in the hemisphere."



A Story of Three Families Baillys -- Kjellbergs (Chellbergs) -- Studebakers

But for Honore-Gratien-Joseph Bailly de Messein (baptism name), Henry and Arthur Studebaker would never have come to Dune Acres because, simply, they would not have been born. It is a bit complicated but, at least to this author, a rather interesting story.

Joseph Bailly, a prominent French-Canadian fur trader, brought his family to northwest Indiana in 1822 to set up another of his fur trading posts. A few decades later, Naomi Victoria Chellberg married Alden Studebaker in a Lutheran church in Porter, Indiana. One may think these unrelated events had no bearing on each other, but that's not so.

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Elderberry Meeting, December 2, 2014. From left to right: Harry Petrakis, Clarice Gourley, Bob Hartmann, Don Koehler, Harry Studebaker, Irv Call, Joel Hull, Bill Nixon, Shirley Hull, Lois Nixon, Barbara Plampin, Ann Koehler

Henry was a wonderful part of our Elderberry Group and he will be missed more than I can say. He told us many stories about his childhood in Dune Acres, about his work with his father, whom he said was quite a task master, but whom he very much admired. He told us about his career which took him all over the world. Henry had a wonderful life.

I love to remember his face when he told us about Marian. He looked like a twenty year old guy who was madly in love, his eyes twinkling, the biggest smile you can imagine; he seemed to glow all over. He told us how he met her on the internet and all about her life, work and family. He had the greatest respect for her. They traveled a lot and enjoyed being together very much. Some of the funniest stories were when they babysat their three young grandchildren, 8 months to 5 years, for 8 or 9 months while their daughter-in-law went to medical school. They took a long vacation after that stint. Henry was an absolute joy to know and I miss him very much.

Just two weeks before he died we talked for about two hours and he told me that he had no health problems and felt great. He had had some stents put in but they were fine. What a terrible shock it was to hear of his sudden death. I will always remember Henry's smile and his joyful view of life.

- by Mary Ann Crayton

Three Families

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In the early 1800s, Native American tribes roamed the lands of central and southwest Michigan (populated mainly by Ottawa) and the southern end of Lake Michigan (a Pottawatomi stronghold). In the three northwestern most counties of Indiana, researchers have identified various Indian trails zigzagging through forests and dunes, meandering along marshes, rivers and streams, and straddling Lake Michigan's shore. It was determined that at least five major trails ran through Porter County, three of which are near the Little Calumet River, just south of Dune Acres. Professor Alfred Meyer, a geography historian, named gave the trails names -- the *Calumet Beach Trail* (Thornton to Michigan City); the *Saulk Trail* (Detroit to Rock Island); the *Lakeshore Trail* (Michigan City to Chicago); the *Dunes Trail* (Hammond to Michigan City); and the *Pottawatomi Trail* in LaPorte and Porter counties.

Bailly was familiar with the territory at the south end of Lake Michigan, having visited it numerous times. In one journey he came upon a protected, forested site where the Pottawatomi trail crossed the Little Calumet River. He thought it an excellent location for conducting his fur trading business. After two decades of trading with the Ottawa in

Fond Memories

I haven't known Henry Studebaker for more than a few years, mostly through our Elderberry meetings. He was a few years younger than me but with his husky, muscular frame and strong head seemed to radiate durability and strength. That sturdiness was balanced by his good sense and his quiet, imposing voice. When Henry spoke in those slow measured tones, one listened. A poet wrote that some men bestride the earth like mountains. Henry was one of those men. I feel his loss both for who he was and as a reminder of our own mortality. We are forced to reflect once again that Death does not ask us if the time is right.

Diane and I send our condolences to his dear wife who was able to provide him a few years of happiness and to his extended family who will miss Henry most of all.

Dr. Sherwin Nuland, in his book *How We Die* wrote, "The only dignity to be found in death is the dignity of the life that preceded it." Henry's life reflected that dignity.

- by Harry Mark Petrakis

Henry Studebaker was "A Gentle Giant" Every time I was in Henry's presence I felt I was sitting on my father's knee as I listened to him recall his many memories of the Town he and his family developed. The concrete block factory in Dune Acres was my favorite. Henry Studebaker was a gentle giant who touched our hearts.

- by Tom Roberts

In the late 50's, Henry and Cynthia and their first born, Alden, were living with Henry's mother at 30 Crest Dr. while they built their house on 4 Crest Dr. that Henry designed. A few years after they moved in, the refrigerator cord overheated and started a fire in the kitchen. No one was home that day. I don't know how the fire was reported, but the fire bell at the now Town Hall went off calling all available to help. When I got there, the fire was out, so we spent 2 days removing burned glasses, dishes, etc. from the charred shelves. No one was hurt and the house stood fast and does to this day.

We also remember their wonderful son Jonathan, born with a devastating bone disease. The bones in his head were soft and did not grow together and the bones of his body would break at the lightest pressure. He could not be held. Henry and Cynthia did a masterful job of raising him with help from the Shriners Hospitals. He lived independently as an adult and was mayor of his town in the northwest, living into his late 40's.

Henry loved Dune Acres and gave us first hand stories, history and photos that are invaluable from his birth at 30 Crest Dr. to his death at 30 Crest Dr. His memory was remarkable. He was fortunate to find sincere and complete happiness with Marian for the final years of a productive life.

- by Mary Ann and Ray Tittle

More Memories

We had the wonderful opportunity to visit with Henry Studebaker quite often as he drove past our home at 24 Crest Drive up to the Studebaker homestead. More often than not, Henry would stop in the middle of the road just to visit with us. He always had a smile and a positive attitude.

We loved to see his many cars, especially his favorite, the Studebaker Avanti. It was a beautiful futurist model, which design was way ahead of its time for the market place. He kept his car collection in a storage building along Route 12, near Michigan City. Henry loved to go there to relax and watch television in what he called his "Man Cave". Following are two conversations that should be noted in this remembrance of Henry Studebaker.

On one occasion, we were talking about the elevation of Dune Acres above sea level. He took us, as we recall, to the northwest corner of the "maintenance building" below the Clubhouse and pointed out an official looking round cast metal disc, approximately 4" in diameter, anchored in the concrete walkway. This was a United States National Geodetic Survey Marker, showing the elevation in feet above sea or lake level at that location. He said it was the only Marker of its kind in Indiana on the south shore of Lake Michigan. Time has dimmed our recollection of the exact location of and wording on that Marker, but those interested can surely locate it. Henry said that he was somehow involved in the setting of that Marker years ago.

On another visit, we were talking about the high water in Cowles Bog. We had been told that the Bog extended on both sides of Mineral Springs Road. Henry quickly corrected our misunderstanding, saying that the official Cowles Bog was only on the west side of Mineral Springs Road, and that in the "old days", before the recent high water, the east side was higher, dry ground. He went on to show us a picture of himself and Arthur making hay in a field on the east side of Mineral Springs Road, from the South Shore tracks, almost up to the tree line of Dune Acres. The small drainage creek for Cowles Bog that still runs under Mineral Springs Road used to follow the tree line to Waverly Road and out to Lake Michigan. Over the years, that creek has gotten clogged, causing the east side to also have high water now. Henry was quite emphatic that "back then" the land on the east side of Mineral Springs Road was good, dry farm land that their family used for animal grazing, hay and crops.

We loved Henry's quite dignity and his vast knowledge about so many subjects. He will be missed but not forgotten.

- by Nancy and John Wilhelm

Town Tid-Bits

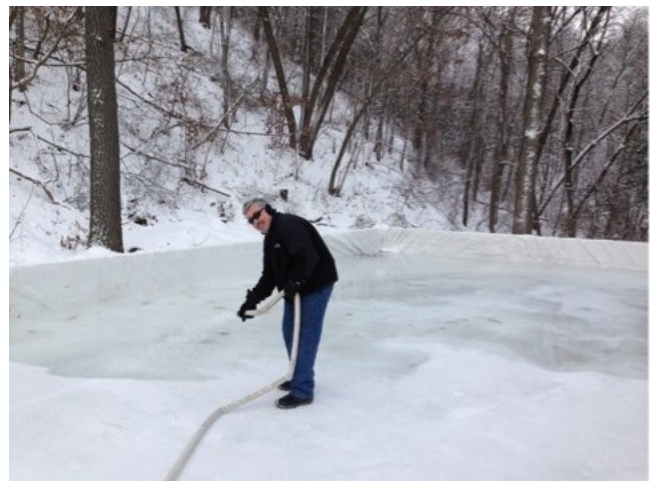
The holidays might be over, but it's never too late to thank those that made a special effort to brighten those days. Thanks go to Dave Rearick, whose lack of a fear-of-heights and his long sturdy ladder, helped our Maintenance man Mark Taylor relight a magnificent Christmas tree on the Clubhouse. Because of the beautiful restraining of the logs on the Clubhouse, the very old lights had to be taken down. The new lighted Christmas tree is brighter and better! Thanks Mark and Dave. The Menorah may be set up annually by Mark Taylor, but thanks go to the Stemers who for 8 consecutive nights lit an additional bulb to signify the 8 night of Hannukah. Thanks Dusty and Alex.

We have a new skating rink – well practically! Thanks to Parks Commissioner Kellie Klein, Roads Commissioner Mark Hull and Fun Commissioner Rob Carstens, the rink was rebuilt and made a little larger. Although the temperature has been frigid, the rink has had a lot of use. If it's going to be cold, we might as well enjoy it!

The Town Council has changed the start time of the monthly meetings to 7:00 p.m. The monthly Town Council meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at Town Hall. Now that the start time is earlier, maybe you'd like to consider attending more of them?! If there is something in Town that you aren't completely happy with you need to speak up at a meeting. And if you are happy, well the Town Council members wouldn't mind hearing about that!

- by Carolyn Mellen

Town Skating Rink Open for the Season



Rob Carstens putting on another layer of ice.

Three Families

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central Michigan, in 1822 Bailly moved his family and business to Porter County Indiana. Regional historian Powell Moore notes that by doing so, “Joseph Bailly established the first [non-Native American] permanent settlement in the Calumet Region of Indiana.” [See, *The Calumet Region, Indiana’s Last Frontier* 43, Powell A. Moore, Indiana Historical Bureau, \(1970\).](#)

When the Bailly family first came to Porter County, the Pottawatomie occupied much of the lands comprising northwest Indiana. Joseph soon befriended the tribe’s chieftains and for the next ten years the Pottawattomi and Bailly family lived together more or less in harmony. But a dark cloud was gathering all knew it.

In 1816, six years before Bailly’s resettlement, Indiana attained statehood and questions about who had rights to what lands and for what uses were bound to make relations murkier. In the states of the Old Northwest Territory (Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin and part of Minnesota), dealings between settlers and Indian tribes grew more distrustful, angry, and confrontational to the point that many felt drastic action had to be taken.

Indiana became ensnared with one of the two most historically divisive issues in American history --- “What to do with the Indians?” The federal government promised compensation to Native American tribes if they would agree to relocate, the other alternative likely leading to war consequent to a military removal. With the exception of Florida, the take-it or leave-it strategy for the most part worked.

In Indiana, Pottawatomie chieftains signed two treaties with the government – the Treaty of Mississinewa (1826) and the Treaty of Tippecanoe (1832), requiring the Pottawatomie give up all land claims and relocate west of the Mississippi River.

Not surprisingly, these treaties impacted Joseph Bailly in significant ways. Historian A. L. Spooner explains: “In the 1830s, Bailly could see the beginning of the end of the fur trading business when the Indians were forced to cede their lands” requiring them to relocate west. As a result of the treaties, Bailly was able to acquire some 2,000 acres in Westchester Township, Porter County. [See, *A.L. Spooner, The Bailly Trading Post, Muskegon River Trading Posts cited in Wikipedia, en.wikipedia jospeh bailly*](#). He platted the property and named it “Town of Bailly.” Bailly, however, never had it incorporated, dying a year or so later in 1835. Nonetheless, the name “Baillytown” was commonly used after his death to designate a small area of land near the Bailly Homestead where Swedish immigrant families came and built homes. [See, *William J. Ahrendt, Reminiscences of the Baillytown Area, Duneland Notes, Norris Cooms.,ed., Duneland Historical Society, Chesterton \(1980\).*](#)

The relocation of Indiana tribes not only dramatically impacted the country’s Native Americans; it also contributed to a growing number of immigrants coming to America’s greater Midwest from the 1840s onward. They believed that in this land of opportunity, if one worked hard and saved money, in time you could “own the soil.”

From the 1830s through the 1870s, large numbers of Swedish immigrant farmers and craftsmen entered the United States. The majority went to Chicago, the gateway to the great Northwest Territory. Most of the newcomers ended up in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Illinois and Indiana. Among those coming through Chicago were Anders Ludwig Kjellberg, born in 1830, and Johanna Anderson, born in 1829, both from the same Swedish town of Forsellsborgsla, Vestarejotlan. Friends since childhood, Anders and Johanna married in 1857. Their son, Carhl, was born on Christmas Day 1859, and their daughter, Emily, was born in Indiana in 1867. In between the births, Anders and Johanna left their native Sweden to come to the United States.

They were not the only ones. Historian David McMahon an expert on the Swedish immigrants of the period, notes that in the 1850s they “began to settle parts of Westchester Township, Porter County, Indiana, near the sand dunes along the shores of Lake Michigan.” [See, *David McMahon, Rediscovering a Swedish Ethnic Past: The National Park Service and Baillytown, Indiana, 48 Swedish-American Historical Quarterly 26 \(Jan. 1997\)*](#). Many like the Kjellbergs (“Chellbergs”) came to the area, then known as Baillytown, while others built homes in nearby villages of Calumet (today, Chesterton) and Porter Station (today, Porter).

Prior to 1863, an older brother of Anders Kjellberg had immigrated to the United States to Chicago. His expectations of finding a good job and decent pay in exchange for hard work were met, prompting other members of his extended Swedish family to follow and follow they did.

Anders, Johanna, Carhl and two other brothers -- John and Fritz --made preparations and left Sweden in 1863 for the United States of America. It was not an easy journey. For two months, they endured treacherous and harrowing seas aboard a crowded sailing ship packed with men, women and children, all desiring first, to survive the voyage and second, to be allowed entry into America.

Beginning in the port of Gothenburg, Sweden, the ship ended its journey in Boston, Massachusetts (then one of 33 states). After being admitted into the United States, the Kjellbergs continued on to Chicago. Unfortunately, that journey was nearly as

Tiger Lily

I want to tell you about my favorite place for breakfast, lunch and a fabulous bakery in town.

I've been going there for a few years and it's been great but recently they hired a new chef and now it's even better. She is a young woman who teaches culinary arts at Ivy Tech. She's been cooking since she was a child. She says she was born loving to cook. In the beginning she learned from her grandmother and then went on to cooking school. She is very interested in healthy eating and thus all of her ingredients are of the best quality and she makes everything from scratch. You may know that most local restaurants get their food from Gordon's in Michigan City.

Her chocolate chip cookies, eclairs, pies and cakes are the best I've ever had. She also makes gluten free food.

And then there is the breakfast. Breakfast is my favorite meal so I've been to every breakfast place in the area. Hers is the best. The biscuits are exactly like my mother and grandmother made.

This may sound like I must be invested in this company but it's just that I want very much for her to succeed and in my opinion they don't do enough advertising so not many people know about it. It's Chestontown's best kept secret.

- by Mary Ann Crayton



Barbara Plampin receives 2014 Paul H. Douglas Award

The following is a reprint from the Dec. 12 edition of *The Times* newspaper:

"Barbara Plampin has received the 2014 Paul H. Douglas Award. This award is for individuals who demonstrate outstanding service to the cause of preserving and protecting the Indiana Dunes. Plampin is an advocate for natural land preservation throughout Northwest Indiana. She is also cherished as a gifted educator eager to share her knowledge with others. If the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore or the Indiana Department of Natural Resources wants to find a rare plant species, they will probably ask Barbara Plampin for help. And she usually finds what she's looking for.

Barbara Plampin moved to the Dunes in 1988 after retiring from the faculty of the Illinois Institute of Technology, where she taught English. It was here that a lifelong fascination with botany became the focus of her life. Local Dunes botanists like Lois Howes, Emma Pitcher and Noel Pavlovic (recipient of last year's Douglas Award) became her mentors, and she reached out to such luminaries as Floyd Swink at the Morton Arboretum. It wasn't long before she became recognized as an expert in her own right.

Her commitment to environmental education is also notable. She has been conducting nature walks for Shirley Heinze Land Trust for a quarter century, for the Field Museum, the Nature Conservancy and other groups. She delivers illustrated lectures for Duneland audiences and has conducted courses on basic botany for the general public. She continues to take on numerous special research projects for the National Lakeshore. And she will forever be remembered as the leading "plant detective" of the Indiana Dunes.

"Today Barbara joins an impressive list of people recognized for their outstanding service to the cause of preserving and protecting the Indiana Dunes," said Nicole Barker, Executive Director of Save the Dunes. "Through this award we express our heartfelt gratitude for Barbara's years of commitment to our Indiana Dunes."

Congratulations Barbara!

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unpleasant as the sea crossing had been earlier, this time being packed in an over-crowded railroad car that had been used to transport cattle.

After arriving in Chicago, Anders and his brothers were introduced to a man named Joel T. Wicker. They learned Wicker had an interest in forested land in an Indiana community that Swedish immigrants called Baillytown. There, Wicker operated a sawmill, ran a shop, and had built a family home and several small cabins for hired workers and families to reside. From the outset, it was clear that Wicker was an entrepreneur who aimed to make the land he cleared and managed in Baillytown suitable for farming and then, in due course, to sell it. (More about Wicker later.)

The Kjellberg brothers had to be happy to meet up with Joel Wicker and visa versa. Whether the meeting had been previously arranged or was merely serendipitous, in either case, the result was what the brothers were seeking, work, good pay, decent housing, and opportunities to move upward.

Wicker too was satisfied. Beginning in the 1850s, he and other business owners scouted Chicago's Swedish neighborhoods to recruit immigrants to fill jobs as the economy was expanding. In Wicker's case, this meant finding people who would help him run his sawmill and clear his lands. Swedish scholar McMahon notes that historians emphasize that Swedish families during this period were considered "[T]he best kind of immigrants, [being] Northern-European, Protestant, who adapted quickly to American ways, [and who were] admired

for their willingness to work and save money."

Within this normative perspective, Wicker sought out Swedish immigrants to come to Baillytown. Francis R. Howe, granddaughter of Joseph Bailly, wrote in a history of the her family: "Joel Wicker was the one who first who induced Swedish immigrants to settle in Westchester Township of Porter County." See, [Francis R. Howe, The Story of a French Homestead, in the Old Northwest, Nitschke Bros. Press \(Columbus Ohio, 1907\) \(out of print\).](#)

The Anders and Johanna Kjellberg accepted Wicker's offer, came to Baillytown in 1863, worked hard over the next eleven years, and were active in their Lutheran church and local the Swedish community. They were also frugal and saved money. As a result, when the land went up for sale in 1874, they bought it, lock, stock and barrel, thereby fulfilling a dream -- that someday they would own productive soil on which they could raise their family. Author Martha Miller outs the dream in the family's historical context: Having one's own productive land in America was "something [the Kjellbergs] had dreamed about when they were farming a small piece of rocky ground in Sweden." See [Martha Miller, The Chellberg Family – The Chellberg Farm, Miller Publications, Chesterton, Indiana \(1985\).](#)

The second generation of the now-anglicized "Chellberg" family included Anders and Johanna's daughter Emily (who left after a few years) and their son Cahrl (a.k.a. "C.L.") who married OttoMina

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Spotted in DA!



Chicago Bears new head coach Mr. Fox spotted outside the Mellen's house.



The Studebaker family – from left: Arthur, Naomi, Alden and Henry.

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Peterson. Cahrl and OttoMina raised four children on the farm: Frank, born in 1903 (died in 1904); Ruth Mildred, born in 1904; Naomi Victoria, born in 1907 (later mother of Henry and Arthur Studebaker); and Carl Lewis, born in 1913.

Ruth, Naomi and Carl grew up on the Chellberg farm. Besides going to church and attending school, the children were part of the family enterprise – farming. Author Miller describes the their chores: in addition to help feed and milk a dozen cows, “the children fed and watered the horses, pigs, chickens, ducks and geese, . . . gathered the eggs [and filled] kindling boxes for the wood cooking and heating stoves.” From March through November each year, they assisted their elders in working the fields.

Though three years different in age Ruth and Naomi attended high school in Chesterton during the same time period, 1922-1926. Getting there and back was an adventure. Author Miller: “Every morning the two girls hitched up the horse and buggy, rode to Chesterton, unhitched the horse and put him in a rented barn, fed him his lunch of hay and grain, [attended classes and afterwards] hitched the horse up and went home.” Naomi and Ruth graduated from the Chesterton High School in May 1926. One month later, Naomi, now 19, would leave the farm and marry Alden Studebaker.

Jumping back three years, in 1923, William Wirt and four other Gary businessmen started a company named Dune Acres, Inc. Its purpose was to develop a town in the Indiana dunes about two miles north of the Chellberg farm. Wirt was seeking a man to supervise the building of roads, homes and other structures. His wife’s nephew, Alden Koch Studebaker, was a construction superintendent at the Standard Oil Company in Whiting, Indiana. Having superb qualifications (and *possibly* influenced by Alden’s relatives – the Studebaker wagon and carmakers in South Bend) Wirt hired Alden. Town historians Margaret Doyle and James Newman describe in their 75th Dune Acres Anniversary History, Alden’s entrance: “He arrived in Dune Acres by motorcycle on Armistice Day, Nov. 11, 1924, to take over the supervisory role.” [see story on page 10]

When Alden was overseeing construction of the Dune Acres Clubhouse during 1924-26, he met Naomi Victoria Chellberg. At that time he was living in the kitchen area while the upper two stories of the Oregon cedar log Clubhouse were being completed. They fell in love and married on June 24, 1926, in Porter’s Augsburg Lutheran Church where the Chellbergs were members. Author Miller notes: “[T]he choir that Naomi had belonged to for so many years, sang at their wedding.” Over 150

guests came to the reception in the new Dune Acres Clubhouse. After congratulations, the bridal couple departed in an Oldsmobile sedan for their honeymoon.

In gratitude for all of Alden’s work, William Wirt, President of Dune Acres, Inc., him a lot at 32 Crest Drive as partial compensation for his work. There, Alden built a home in which he and Naomi lived and in which they had their two sons: Henry, born in 1927, and Arthur, born in 1929.

This is not quite the end of the story. We must return to Joel T. Wicker, the man who hired the first generation of American Chellbergs to clear and farm the land back in 1863. Who was he? What did he do?

Wicker was a highly successful land developer and Chicago businessman who, with his brother Charles, purchased large parcels of land within the city that they developed, one being “Wicker Park” that bears the family name. Joel Wicker has been described as quite wealthy and caring about the well-being and employment opportunities of immigrants. But a question remains? How did this Chicagoan end up in Porter County Indiana overseeing the clearing of land near where Joseph Bailly’s descendents resided?

Well, it turns out that Joel T. Wicker was a son-in-law of Joseph Bailly. In 1853, Wicker married Josephine Hortense, one of Bailly’s daughters in Chicago, ten years before the Kjellbergs came to work for him in Baillytown. Josephine’s mother and Bailly’s second wife was Marie de La Vigne, the daughter of a Pottawatomi mother, and was born in 1819 in Michilimackinac, today known as Mackinac Island, Michigan.

It is questionable whether Wicker ever owned the land that Kjellbergs came and worked for him on 1863, which makes this story more interesting. No document has been found by this author that confirms ownership of the property prior to 1874. Martha Miller in her history of the Chellberg family, notes that the Kjellbergs bought 80 acres of Bailly property from a “Mr. McVickers,” who, Miller claims, was a son-in-law of Joseph Bailly. Doesn’t seem so. The son-in-law involved was Joel Wicker, not McVickers. It is more likely that if Joel Wicker had rights in the property the Kjellbergs purchased, they would have passed to his wife, Josephine who could have passed them on to her husband. Under American in those days married women were not allowed to enter into contracts. But it really doesn’t matter.

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What does matter is the bigger story of how hard working, ambitious, courageous and frugal individuals became interconnected in serendipitous fashion. These three inspiring families – the Baillys, Chellbergs, and Studebakers -- over a century and a half exemplified what the fulfilling of the coming-to-American dream was all about.

Finally, we return to the bold assertion made in this story's first sentence – that, but for Joseph Bailly, Henry and Arthur Studebaker would never have come to Dune Acres because, simply they would not have been born.

A recap proves it true. Without Joseph Bailly, there would have been no Josephine; without Josephine there would be no Wicker to intrude into this story; without Wicker, Kjellbergs would not have come to Baillytown; without the Kjellbergs leaving Sweden, coming and then *remaining* in Indiana, Naomi Chellberg would never have met her husband, Alden Studebaker, and without Alden, well, Henry and Arthur would never have been born.

The author thanks all the people who helped in this project especially John Wilhelm, Heidi Studebaker, Arthur Studebaker, Bev Hubbs, Howard Silverman, Pete Bomberger, Carolyn Mellen, Irene Newman and Dianne Swygert, I could never had done it without you all. Thank you.

-by Mike Swygert



Mr. & Mrs. Alden Studebaker (Naomi Chellberg of Chellberg farm) of 32 Crest Dr. Alden supervised the building of the Clubhouse, built the log houses on Circle and many other houses in Dune Acres and owner of the cement plant.



Chellberg great-great-great grandchildren celebrate Christmas in the Dunes at Chellberg Farm in December, 2007. Left: Marissa Sullivan, a fifth grader at Liberty Intermediate School. Right: Cara Sullivan, a third grader at Jackson Elementary. (Photos by Dana Gilbertson in the December 10, 2007 Post-Tribune.)

Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Chellberg
request the honor of your presence at
the marriage of their daughter
Naomi Victoria
to
Mr. Alden E. Studebaker
Thursday evening, June twenty-fourth
Nineteen hundred twenty-six
at eight o'clock
at the Ev. Lutheran Augsburg Church
Porter, Indiana

Reception
after ceremony at the
Dune Acres Club House

“Studie” - Dune Acres’ Masterbuilder

The first task of the Corporation was construction of the roads, utilities, and water lines. Wirt found a talented right-hand man in his wife's nephew, Alden Studebaker. He arrived in Dune Acres by motorcycle on Armistice Day (November 11, 1924) to take over the supervisory role. His sons state that he stayed in the Clubhouse, which must have been the first building erected in Dune Acres. He built a house for himself at 32 Crest Drive in 1925 and married Naomi Chellberg of the Chellberg farm family in 1926. They had two sons Henry and Arthur who were born and raised in Dune Acres. Studebaker worked for the Dune Acres Corporation until the Depression in the early thirties. The Corporation then sold their construction material and equipment to him. And he worked as a general contractor until the beginning of World War II. Almost all the houses constructed in Dune Acres through 1941 were built by Alden Studebaker, and he was also the designer of many of them.

Building the original roads was in itself a complicated challenge. These roads were usually built on a base of hauled-in clays, which was then given a top coating of stones or crushed rock. The stones used for the top coating were brought by the South Shore Railroad to a Mineral Springs siding, hand shoveled off onto trucks and hauled across the swamp. The road across the swamp kept sinking since it rested on peat, and additional material frequently had to be placed on top. By the mid-thirties, the road had become so bad that massive action was called for--forty carloads of stone were brought in and the road finally stabilized. It was still at risk from time to time, however, from hazards such as beavers who built dams nearby, causing the road to flood.

Preparation of roadbeds within the town required heavy machinery, not bulldozers as one might expect, but machines pulled by huge draft horses. Horses were also used to pull big slips full of gravel from the beach for the manufacturing of cement blocks. The horses and slips, also 'Fresnos' and wagons, were used in excavating for houses, as well as for road building. The horses were pastured in a fenced-in area on Fern Lane, which at that time was platted through from Ridge Drive to East Road. This part of Fern Lane was vacated in the early 1960's. The horse pasture was in the low flat area behind 16, 18, and 20 Crest Drive.

This area had other uses too. A small storage shed was located there, and for a while a cement block operation was carried on at this site. The Corporation also had a large construction shed (about 20' by 50') on East Road, near Lupine Lane. This building had an office in it; and for a number of years in the mid-thirties one of Studebaker's employees, Gus Anderson (usually known as 'Old Gus') lived there. Alden Studebaker had from the beginning made his own cement blocks. At first many were made right on the beach. Later gravel from the beach was brought to the site on Fern Lane, and an employee was kept busy full

time making blocks. These early blocks were hand tamped by Old Gus and the other workers, who were all from the local area--mostly farmers.

In 1937 Studebaker moved the cement block operation to a mini-industrial area adjoining the rear of lots 68, 69, and 70 on East Road. This land was leased from a Mr. Tackett [who built the first house in the west end]. A new plant was built on this site, and a machine with a motor driven power tamper and belt feeder was installed. Henry and Alden Studebaker have described the operation of the plant, which "could be operated with as many as two people up to five, depending on how fast you wanted to make the blocks. The top production rate was two per minute or 120 per hour. One thousand per day was the record."

At first, the plant was used primarily for making blocks for Studebaker's contracting business in Dune Acres. Before long, however, the blocks were in demand by outside builders also, and the plant functioned on a larger scale. A public school in Hebron, a number of houses in Michigan City, and a garage in Valparaiso were built from 'Studie' blocks--a name by which local workers still refer to the cement blocks from the Dune Acres plant. The last year of any significant production was 1947. The plant was destroyed by the forest fire of 1949.

Almost all of the log houses in Dune Acres, except for the Clubhouse, were built by Alden Studebaker. The logs came from Oregon and had to be precise in shape and taper to fit together properly. The logs were hauled from the South Shore in a specially devised rig, piled along the road at the building site, then lifted into place by a 'gin pole'--a pulley device about twenty or thirty feet tall. For houses at high elevations along the ridges--for example, along East Road, Circle Drive, and Beach Drive--railroad tracks were built on which carts carried the logs and other materials to the top, power provided by a one-and-one-half ton truck.

No houses were built in Dune Acres during World War II. During this time, Studebaker gradually slowed down to farming and left the Dune Acres building and maintenance to others. Bob Greer took over the snow plowing and road maintenance contracts during the World War II, and when the town expanded west of Mineral Springs Road, he built the roads. By then Dune Acres was a well-established community.

Dune Acres presented special challenges to a builder, and Alden Studebaker showed great ingenuity in meeting them. He put the infrastructure and built the original houses. He was a suitable match for his equally remarkable uncle, William Wirt, and for other Dune Acres pioneers.

- reprinted from Doyle and Newman's 75th Anniversary
History of Dune Acres

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

I am updating the Neighbors Helping Neighbors page in the phone book. It is on page 14. Please review the tasks that are offered and let me know if:

- * you wish to remain on or be taken off the list
- * you will drive at night
- * what months you are out of town
- * other services you would like to provide

It is expected that our services are time limited so you are not committed for weeks at a time. The rule is that if you are not available to be of help at that time, the resident will call the next person on the list and that we all share in providing whatever services we can.

Please contact me at maryanncrayton@earthlink.net if you have any suggestions regarding this service to our neighbors.

by Mary Ann Crayton

Neighbors Needing Help

Dune Acres prides itself on being a unique community. Now, at the beginning of what could be another harsh winter, we'd like to make sure that our town seniors are as well looked after as possible. To make sure that we have identified all those who might require help, would you please submit your own name if such need exists, the name of any senior couple, or any senior living alone, anyone, in fact, who might use some help with doctor's visits, shopping for groceries or picking up medical prescriptions. Replies with names and addresses can be mailed to Harry Mark Petrakis, 80 East Road, Chesterton, IN 46304 emailed to hmp801@comcast.net or left with the Guard at the Gate.

- by Harry Petrakis

In addition to the Neighbors Helping Neighbors list in our phone book, there are **two transportation services** that will pick you up at your home and take you anywhere in Porter County.

Trips need to be scheduled a couple of weeks in advance. Doctor and clinic appointments are the priority. Making them a month in advance is the best. The service is available for three round trips a week.

PORTER COUNTY AGING AND COMMUNITY SERVICE - Transportation Program

For over 50 years, Porter County Aging & Community Services has been providing a relatively low cost demand response transportation service for senior citizens and people with disabilities in Porter County. These services are open to the public and door to door, meaning clients can be picked up at their homes, dropped off at their desired destination and returned to their homes. Trips can be arranged to dialysis treatments, doctor appointments, work, even the bank or grocery store. Drivers can help the elderly and those with disabilities get on the bus, carry groceries to their door and handle wheel chairs and car seats when needed.

To schedule a ride

- You MUST call 462-4302 between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday thru Friday at least 48 HOURS prior to when the ride is needed.
- Buses run from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday thru FridayCost
- One Way Trip: \$1.00, Round Trip: \$2.00

To make reservations contact:

Melinda, Transportation Director 462-4302.

Another option:

Opportunity Enterprise

OE Express Transportation is a transit service provided by trained staff members to anyone who lives in and around Porter County. All that is required in order to request a ride includes:

- Destination address
- Requested arrival and departure time
- If you will be traveling with a personal care attendant or need a lift to board.
- There is no limit on trips.
- * Hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 7:30am-4:30pm.
- * Must call 2 hours in advance to cancel requested pick-up.
- * Fares are \$7.50 one-way within Porter County and \$10 one-way outside of Porter County. Cash and checks are accepted for all trips.
- * They need 4 weeks in advance when possible.
- It is the responsibility of the driver to deliver you from your pick-up location to your destination. They will deploy the lift upon request; however, if you need assistance, a personal assistant may accompany you free of charge. The driver cannot enter your home or any other establishment.
- To make an appointment call: 464-9621 ext 5



For information on Gypsy Moth and treatments in Indiana, visit: www.entm.purdue.edu/GM

For information on Gypsy Moth Treatments, visit: gypsymoth.IN.gov
or call the Indiana DNR toll-free at 1-866 NO EXOTIC (1-866-663-9684)

We appreciate your cooperation in this important effort to protect Indiana's rural and urban forests from this devastating pest. Please contact us with any questions.

Cheryl T. Marshall
Division Director



Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Division of Entomology & Plant Pathology
402 W. Washington St, Room W-290
Indianapolis, IN 46204

THIS IS AN OFFICIAL NOTICE FROM THE INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES REGARDING PUBLIC MEETINGS FOR AERIAL TREATMENTS FOR GYPSY MOTHS

To Residents Within or Near a Proposed Gypsy Moth Treatment Site in 2015:

Gypsy moth (GM), an invasive insect that defoliates trees, has been found in or near your locale. The Indiana DNR proposes to treat strategic sites within the **counties listed below** with either aerial applications of "Btk", a biological agent that kills GM caterpillars, or application of gypsy moth pheromone to disrupt the mating of adult moths. **Public meetings to discuss proposed treatments will be held at the following locations and times:**

Lake	Tue. Jan 27	Lake County Library Hobart Branch 100 Main Street, Hobart	6:00 pm Central
St. Joseph	Thu. Jan 29	Potato Creek State Park Nature Center 25601 State Road 4, North Liberty	3:00 pm Eastern 6:00 pm Eastern
Porter	Wed. Feb 4	Indiana Dunes Visitor Center 1215 N State Road 49, Porter	6:00 pm Central
Porter	Tue. Feb 10	Porter County Library Valparaiso Branch 103 Jefferson St., Valparaiso	6:00pm Central



Continued on other side...

E-mail Notifications

Are you receiving e-mail notifications of changes to the Dune Acres web site, upcoming Town and social events, and other matters of interest to Dune Acres residents? You may also read past e-mail notifications. It is the best and most convenient method for the Town to keep you informed.



If you are not already receiving the notifications, please sign up at <http://www.duneacres.org/emailnotifications.html>.

Thanks to the following people who made this issue happen:

Mary Ann Crayton
Carolyn Mellen
Lou Mellen
Irene Newman
Harry Mark Petrakis
Lou Roberts
Tom Roberts

Howard Silverman
Mike Swygert
Mary Ann Tittle
Ray Tittle
John Wilhelm
Nancy Wilhelm

If you would like to contribute a story, photo, poem, art, something from your children or grandchildren, etc,

The deadline for the next issue is March 10!

A New Year, a New Directory

It's time to start thinking about changes to be made to your Dune Acres phone directory listing. Please look at your info in the directory listing and check for updates or additional info to be added. Email any changes to me at tomlou25@aol.com. Work will begin in February on the new edition. Your input is appreciated.

If anyone is interested in contacting local businesses for advertisements in the directory, please volunteer. This advertising income helps the town offset the cost of printing the book and it's a handy way to look up a source for services you may need.

- by Lou Roberts

A few copies of The Beachcomber, printed in black and white, are available every month at the Gate House and



The Fine Print: *The Beachcomber* is published on-line monthly during the summer and periodically during the winter. All information, news, creative contributions, articles, reports, corrections, suggestions, Letters to the Editor, art work, comments and otherwise are welcomed and encouraged. *The Beachcomber* is a grass roots publication not officially affiliated with either the Town of Dune Acres or the Dune Acres Civic Improvement Foundation, Inc. (DACIF). All content is believed to be reasonably accurate and reliable but not "guaranteed!"

Editorial Board: Carolyn Mellen, Irene Newman and Mike Swygert.

Email submissions to inewman680@aol.com. Please use "Beachcomber," in the subject line.