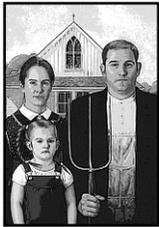


ART ADVENTURE | SAM DALKILIC-MIESTOWSKI



Vocalo shares local stories

Recently the Steeple Gallery was featured on a new and upcoming local radio station, www.vocalo.org. Founded in 2007, Vocalo.org (89.5 FM) is a sister station to WBEZ (91.5 FM) in Chicago. I asked Sarah Lu, one of the radio station's producers, to explain the concept of Vocalo.org.

"For the community as a whole, Vocalo.org 89.5 FM is a gathering place, on-air, on the web, and in the neighborhood. It's also a new way to celebrate the communities of the Chicago, Northwest Indiana, and the World.

"Vocalo listeners collaborate with hosts while they're on the air; uploading audio to Vocalo.org, making additions to the playlist, rating uploaded videos or photo essays. Listeners can start their own blog, upload their photos, audio, stories. Our hosts want to share the air with the community.

"We spotlight stories untold in the community, and serve as a starting point for conversations (about memory, about possibility, about change)."

"But what could Vocalo be?"

"Vocalo offers an opportunity for established organizations — small businesses, non-profits, even record labels — to gain a new means of exposure. The barbershop that's a staple in their community, the youth group with a recording studio (or maybe just a Mac), the local record label, someone with a recorder and an idea — all of these groups (and countless more) could potentially benefit from a platform, educational assistance, or even simply a venue.

"Vocalo's hosts come from diverse backgrounds (for instance, one's a filmmaker, one a comedian). They arrived in the same place,



Shantell Jamison, a producer and radio host on vocalo.org, interviews a guest. Jamison recently visited Steeple Gallery for a story on its Ann Singer exhibit. — PHOTO PROVIDED

often having to find a way to understand each other's point-of-reference. Take

this as a metaphor for what Vocalo is trying to do: bring seemingly unrelated people (and stories) to the same place, with open ears (and, maybe minds).

"Vocalo is a gathering place, but what Vocalo can be is up to you. You can listen to 89.5 FM on your radio, or at www.vocalo.org/stream."

You may also email producer Sara Lu at sara@vocalo.org or call 312-893-2981."



Sarah Lu

Shantell Jamison, another of the radio station's producers, visited the Steeple Gallery before the opening of the "Ann Singer — A Tribute" art exhibition. She completed an audio interview with Ann Singer's daughter, Aviva Duggan, and me regarding the late artist's work. To listen to the audio tour, please visit www.vocalo.org/overdrive/2010-10/art-show. Several photos of Ann Singer's work can also be viewed.

Samantha Dalkilic-Miestowski, own and operates The Steeple Gallery, Ltd. in St. John, IN. If you know if any local artist in the Crown Point area who would like to be known, please contact Samown-er@sbcglobal.net.

AMERICAN HERITAGE HOME RENOVATIONS



Expert remodeling with competitive pricing. A trustworthy, locally based company with four generations of experience. Don't let a handyman ruin your holiday remodeling. Contact the contractor you can trust for quality home renovations.

(219) 663-2700 www.AmHeritage.net

Start your Star subscription today.
Call 663-4212.

Local Business Update

Prepared By County News, Inc. ©2010 All Rights Reserved



Colonial Nursing & Rehab Center, at 119 North Indiana Avenue in Crown Point, phone (219) 663-2532, offers care to the people who cannot be cared for at home. They focus on helping each resident live at the highest functional level possible with self-esteem, pride and enjoyment of life. Their nursing center offers responsive 24-hour professional nursing care and offers speech, physical and occupational therapy programs for their residents. This skilled nursing and rehabilitation center equipped with an emergency call system and modern fire and smoke alarms were designed to provide safety and comfort for the elderly. This center shows their commitment to providing excellence in health care by recognizing the worth and potential of each resident, the residents' family and their staff. They offer spacious, climate controlled private and semi-private Medicare, Medicaid and Private Insurance. **We, the editors of this 2010 Holiday Local Business Update, suggest you call or visit Colonial Nursing & Rehab Center today for more information or to schedule a complete tour of their accommodations. Visit their website at colonialnursingandrehab.com. The staff of Colonial Nursing & Rehab Center would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy and joyous upcoming holiday season!**

Harley-Davidson of Valparaiso

Dear Santa,

This year, instead of the elves loading the sleigh with socks and underwear, how about you have them pack it with new motorcycles from **Harley-Davidson of Valparaiso** - Maybe the classic 2011 *Heritage*, sleek and sporty *Street Glide*, or perhaps the new 2011 *Road Glide Ultra*. Oh yeah, and don't forget about the huge selection of parts, accessories and Motorclothes for the entire family! **Harley-Davidson of Valparaiso** has a great inventory to choose from.

The staff at **Harley-Davidson of Valparaiso** takes pride in providing quality service to their customers. They will take their time to make sure that special someone will love their gift. Not sure about a size? Ask one of the Motorclothes girls. Not sure exactly what model of bike your husband has? The parts guys will be glad to help.

Oh and Santa, it's been a year, so in case you don't remember, **Harley-Davidson of Valparaiso** is still located at **1151 West US Hwy 30 in Valparaiso**, and their phone number is (219) 462-2223. I've been really good this year, so maybe you'll bring me two?

P.S. Santa - Just how will you get those motorcycles down the chimney?

The authors of this 2010 Holiday Local Business Update urge all of our readers to begin this year's Christmas wish list at Harley-Davidson of Valparaiso, open seven days a week!

Frank Tolley's Auto Service, Inc.

Serving the Area with Over 40 Years of Experience

Is your car in need of repair or scheduled maintenance? If so, **Frank Tolley's Auto Service** is the area's #1 auto repair shop, located at **1020 East Summit (Behind Liss Car Star) in Crown Point**. They believe in keeping your service and repair costs down while offering the best service in the industry. When repairs are necessary, you can rest assured knowing that they use the best parts to insure long life. They understand the importance of a quick turn-around, and pay special attention to minimize your down time. Specializing in all aspects of automotive repair, **Frank Tolley's Auto Service** offers a number of additional services for all classes of vehicles, foreign and domestic. Their technicians are some of the most experienced in the area and understand how to maximize mileage without sacrificing handling or safety. Don't let car troubles keep you from your daily routine. **They are open Monday through Friday from 8am to 5pm. The authors of this 2010 Holiday Local Business Update urge all of our readers to call Frank Tolley's Auto Service, Inc. today at (219) 663-4459 and let them get you back on the road again, safely. The staff of Frank Tolley's Auto Service would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy and joyous upcoming holiday season!**

The Butcher Block, Inc.

The Butcher Block is a small family business with the experience and knowledge of four generations of meat cutters, which take great pride and effort to ensure their customers receive the finest products available. They have been processing both retail and custom cut wholesale beef, pork and lamb at their current location since 1977. All orders prepared by **The Butcher Block** are custom cut to your specifications for convenience and packaged in a double wrapping to prevent both freezer-burn and protect against contamination. Orders are then blast frozen at sub-zero temperatures to preserve your product's quality and freshness. Another reassurance of quality comes from this plant's operation under a H.A.C.C.P. plan for sanitary procedures, where every step of productions is overseen by the Indiana State Board of Animal Health. However small this plant may be, the uniqueness of its operations are unrivaled by using methods common to only a few small meat processors. With all of its smoked meat products processed with modern equipment, by a person schooled and trained in the fine arts of curing and smoking meats, customers are sure to experience flavors of true originality. Pork is cut as soon as possible to preserve its freshness and only the finest quality ingredients are used to create their wonderful sausages; whereas, beef is dry aged in order to enhance flavor and add a much improved tenderness to your cuts. The courteous and helpful staff at **The Butcher Block** will be more than delighted to answer any meat question you might have, by calling (219) 696-9111. Or stop in and visit their facilities at **17918 Grant Street in Lowell** between the hours of 8:00am and 5:00pm Monday through Friday, and on Saturday from 8:00am until noon. The staff of **The Butcher Block** would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy and joyous upcoming holiday season!