What do the King of Pop and a founder of U.S. Steel have in common? If you said that they both have had a profound influence on the City of Gary, you’d be right.

But, as two Indiana University Northwest undergraduate students learned during their extensive research project over the Fall 2012 semester, the thread that connects the city’s namesake, Elbert H. Gary, and hometown pop star Michael Jackson, as well as an entire city population, actually runs much deeper and reflects American culture as a whole.

The revelations uncovered by Amalia Shanks-Meile and Elizabeth LaDuke, both seniors graduating in May 2013, earned the attention of the publishers of the online South Shore Journal, a peer-reviewed journal sponsored by One Region and the IU Northwest Center for Urban and Regional Excellence (CURE). Their article will appear in a future edition.

LaDuke, an English major from Crown Point, and Shanks-Meile, a history major from Portage, studied the histories and public memories associated with two notable Gary monuments that were erected decades apart in honor of Gary and Jackson.

As the students summarize in their paper’s abstract, “Both men had a fundamental impact on the city, yet each is remembered within a starkly different historical context by the Gary public. Unlike Elbert Gary, Jackson is clearly visible in Gary’s current public, and this appears to reflect the socioeconomic changes the city has experienced. Elbert H. Gary once stood as a nationally known figure, and now his legacy has become eclipsed by the pop culture icon in the town he helped build.”

In their paper, the students explore the cultural evolution of the city of Gary and how this evolution is reflected in the city’s public memory regarding these two figures.

For two undergraduates to have their research published alongside esteemed academicians is especially noteworthy, said Associate Professor of History Christopher Young, Ph.D., who mentored the students throughout their project.

“They are building on historiography,” Young said. “When they are talking about vernacular and official culture, they are building on what others have said, but they are using that as a model to understand this local history . . . By looking at these two men and how these two men are remembered, it is really revealing about American culture. It’s revealing about local culture and history. On top of that . . . a story like this creates this awareness for people of what is around them.”

During their research, the students became intrigued by how well-kept and grandiose the monuments for Jackson and Gary were, while so many others in the city had fallen into disrepair.

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“We started to think about the differences in what Elbert Gary means and what Michael Jackson means and the fact that no one really thinks about Elbert Gary, even though he was the city’s founder, but Michael Jackson holds this deep meaning to people in Gary,” LaDuke said.

The students discovered that, though generations apart, these two figures hold much meaning together. As one example, the Shanks-Meile and LaDuke explored one city location where the two figures coalesced—an ornate but now run-down church that once reflected much of the public’s remembrance of Elbert Gary. Amidst the rubble, more modern remembrances of Jackson have surfaced, such as graffiti declaring that the city is “the home of MJ.”

“The church symbolized the struggles of Gary,” LaDuke said, “but it also symbolized how people in Gary are able to adapt their meaning in a way that is meaningful for them.”

“The whole project showed me how we use the past to define and contextualize the present and everybody does this differently. It is a very personal process.”

-Elizabeth LaDuke, IU Northwest English Major

The students set out to analyze how the past shapes the present; what the monuments mean to folks today and what they symbolize, among other things. They discovered a shift in how a culture chooses to remember its heroes. As Shanks-Meile pointed out, celebrities seem to have usurped more official positions.

“The whole project showed me how we use the past to define and contextualize the present and everybody does this differently. It is a very personal process,” LaDuke said. “As a society, we come together and make these agreements about what certain things mean, but they are based on these underlying influences that we may not even understand. For instance, Elbert Gary does affect how people in Gary think of themselves and think of the city, but not everyone necessarily realizes the ways in which that happens.”

Shanks-Meile said she walked away from this research project with a greater understanding of her own identity as an American in the 21st century.

Upon her May 2013 graduation, Shanks-Meile will apply to law school. LaDuke is applying to the Peace Corps.
Indiana University Northwest is proud to announce the campus’s involvement in the 2013 RecycleMania tournament, a national competition in which college campuses compete over eight weeks to see who can reduce, reuse and recycle the most on-campus waste.

Now through March 30, the IU Northwest Sustainability Committee will be keeping a close watch on the amount of waste generated and the amount of recyclables collected. Watch for the program’s blue bins throughout campus.

In addition to IU Northwest, nearly 525 schools, more than 4.4 million students and nearly one million faculty and staff will be participating in 47 states, the District of Columbia and Canada. Schools compete in 11 categories to see who recycles the most on a per capita basis; which produces the least amount of waste; and which recycles the largest percentage of their overall waste stream.

This is IU Northwest’s first year participating in the competition and the campus will be participating in the “Benchmark” competition, a program which allows institutions to begin to identify what to measure and the best ways to gather that data. IU Northwest will be able to compare their data with other, similar institutions including Purdue North Central.

“Our focus for now is on waste reduction on campus,” said Erin Argyilan, Ph.D., chair of the IU Northwest Sustainability. “Students, staff and faculty will notice new blue containers that are available for ‘mixed stream’ recyclables. This means that people no longer need to sort recyclables, but can put paper, cans, and plastics #1-7 in to blue containers on campus.”

In 2012, 605 participating colleges and universities recovered more than 92 million pounds of recyclables and organic materials, which prevented the release of nearly 150,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (MTCO2E). This reduction in greenhouse gases is comparable to the annual emissions from more than 25,800 passenger cars; electricity use of more than nearly 16,400 homes; or the burning of nearly 705 railcars’ worth of coal.

The competition is made possible with the sponsorship support of the Alcoa Foundation, the American Forest & Paper Association, The Coca-Cola Company and SCA. Program management is provided by Keep America Beautiful with additional program support from the U.S. EPA’s WasteWise program and the College and University Recycling Coalition (CURC). RecycleMania is proud to partner with UNCF Special Programs, the Campus Conservation Nationals, National Wildlife Federation’s Campus Ecology and the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE).

A complete list of participants can be found at http://recyclemaniacs.org. For more information about IU Northwest’s RecycleMania program or to ask how you can get involved in sustainability efforts on campus, contact Dr. Erin Argyilan at eargyila@iun.edu.

About RecycleMania
RecycleMania was launched in 2001 as a friendly challenge between Ohio University and Miami University to increase recycling on their campuses. Today, RecycleMania is an independent program of RecycleMania, Inc. The program is made possible with sponsorship support from the Alcoa Foundation, American Forest & Paper Association, The Coca-Cola Company and SCA. Program management is provided by Keep America Beautiful with additional program support from the U.S. EPA’s WasteWise program and the College and University Recycling Coalition (CURC). RecycleMania is proud to partner with UNCF Special Programs, the Campus Conservation Nationals, National Wildlife Federation’s Campus Ecology and the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE). To learn more about RecycleMania, visit www.recyclemania.org.
Indiana University Northwest has announced that Diane White, of Westfield, Ind., will coach the Lady RedHawk volleyball team for the 2013 season.

White played college volleyball at Northern Kentucky University, where she graduated with a bachelor’s degree in social work, and she has coached the sport at various levels, including high school, for more than 20 years. In 2006, she launched Magnum Force Volleyball Club in Noblesville, Ind., at which she has coached and mentored more than 300 athletes.

“I have always wanted to coach at the college level,” said White, a married mother of two. “That was always in the cards. I was just waiting for my children to get to an age where they would be able to take care of themselves so that I would be able to do it.”

When the coaching job at IU Northwest came available following the 2012 season, White decided that it was the right opportunity at the right time.

“It’s the same type of program that I came up in when I went to Northern Kentucky University. It was a small commuter school, so it was very similar to what IU Northwest offers,” she said.

IU Northwest Athletic Director Kristofer Schnatz said that White is the right person to help re-establish RedHawk volleyball’s competitive stature.

“Diane has a history of building successful programs through player development and personal dedication. I believe that Diane’s 20 years of playing and coaching experience have her ready to take on the challenges ahead,” he said.

White inherits a team that has struggled the past few years but is poised to rebound with an experienced core of returning veteran players. The coach has set goals of 15 wins and postseason play in the Association of Independent Institutions for the 2013 season.

“I demand a lot out of the kids. And I think the girls want that,” White explained. “If you have high expectations of yourself, you’re going to deliver on those expectations and get good results. That’s the way that I coach my teams. I’m very clear in my expectations, tell them what I want, and expect them to deliver. And most of them do.”

One of White’s expectations is that her team will become more active off the court, both on campus and in the community. It’s a goal that is consistent with the university’s institutional commitment to community-based engagement and that reflects White’s personal belief that student-athletes and their teams benefit from such activities.

“We want to get the community more involved in the sport of volleyball here on campus,” the coach said. “So we’re looking at doing different fundraisers, community events, things like that, to try and get the team out there in front of people.”

White has already begun recruiting for the upcoming season, and she understands from her playing days at Northern Kentucky the kind of appeal that a regional campus program holds for student-athletes. IU Northwest offers students an opportunity to play competitive NAIA volleyball at a local Indiana University campus where they can earn a world-class IU degree and become part of a culturally and academically dynamic learning community.

“I think the smaller campus draws the type of athlete that we want for the NAIA programs,” she said. “We want the athlete that is not necessarily looking for the full-ride scholarship. They’re looking more for the good education. IU Northwest offers that.”

White, whose family life is rooted in Westfield, said she plans to commute from downstate for now but will make local, temporary living arrangements during the season. She continues to be heavily involved in operating and coaching at Magnum Force, and her husband, Rick, and daughters, Brianna and Jordan, are involved with the club, as well.

“As the season gets closer, and we start stacking practices back to back, I’ll stay up here,” White said. “But right now, since we’re in the offseason, I’m commuting here a couple of days a week.”
B2B, SGA, RedHawks rally to help rebuild library

Members of the IU Northwest Brother 2 Brother College Success program (also known as the Student African American Brotherhood [SAAB] organization), the IU Northwest Student Government Association and IU Northwest athletes rallied together recently to help restock the library shelves of Dunbar-Pulaski Middle School in Gary, Ind.

To assist the middle school, the student groups reached out directly to Lake County Public Library which agreed to donate more than 4,500 books to help rebuild the Dunbar-Pulaski library.

The Brother 2 Brother College Success Program is an organization established to assist IU Northwest students to excel academically, socially, culturally, professionally, and in the community. The group is primarily comprised of male African American and Latino students who strive for academic excellence and commit to planning and implementing programs that benefit their communities.

Top left: Pictured clockwise (around truck) from left: Carolyn Strickland, LCPL Asst. Director; James Wallace, Interim Director, ODEMA; Jovanny Sanchez, Freshman, SPEA; Niko Alavanja, Freshman, Biology; Andree Anderson, UTEP; Antonia (Toni) Szymanski, Education; Roy Lee Cast, Junior, General Studies; Joseph Collins, veteran, Business and Economics major, Sophomore; David Neal, Senior, SPEA; Rochelle Brock, Ph.D., UTEP; Donald Luckett, Senior, Business.

Left: Members of the IU Northwest Women’s Basketball Team (from left) Paige Finch, Paige Hickenbottom and Kelly Gross help to organize books.

Bottom Right: The IU Northwest women’s basketball team (from left) Asst. Coach Loretta Soria, Bri Wischman, Kelly Gross, Paige Hickenbottom, Megan Holland, Valerie Zulevic, Paige Finch and Head Coach Ryan Shelton lent a helping hand.

Bottom left: Joseph Collins, a veteran and a business and economics major, did much of the heavy lifting on donation day.
The Office of Marketing and Communications (OMC) has partnered with University Information Technology Services Northwest (UITS NW) to develop a new set of public calendars, accessible from the homepage and in some cases, featured on individual departmental web pages.

IU Bloomington developed a calendar system available through the OneStart system. Bloomington as well as other regional campuses have been using this system with great success. Currently, OMC and UITS NW are working to bring the calendars developed by IUB to the Northwest campus.

To get a better idea of how a calendar system might operate once it is fully functional, please browse the public calendars of IU Bloomington. Once implemented, expected by this summer, IU Northwest’s calendar will look and operate much like this.

The new calendar will keep visitors to the IU Northwest web pages informed of upcoming events or deadlines. Those with an IUN user ID will also be able to request that your item be included on other calendars maintained by other departments.

For example, a student organization may want to list its next meeting on the calendar accessible through Student Activities webpage. The group’s representative may submit the item via a form in OneStart. Once approved by the calendar’s owner, the item would appear on the calendar.

The process for scheduling an event through the Event Scheduler will remain unchanged, but having your event appear on a public calendar accessible from the website will be a separate, additional process.

In the coming weeks, the OMC and UITS will contact key users about individual training and give them an opportunity to test drive the calendars and provide feedback before the calendars are put into use.

IU NORTHWEST
IN THE NEWS

Indiana University Northwest appears in the news on a daily basis. For a recap of some of those news stories featuring IU Northwest faculty, staff, students, and academic programs, please visit the media coverage section of the Office of Marketing and Communications’ web pages, accessible here.

FACULTY & STAFF UPDATE

Please welcome the following individual who recently joined the IU Northwest campus:

- James E. Larson, III, Adjunct Faculty, Computer Information Systems (CIS)
ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Alumna proves it is never too late to go to college

At 51, Linda Eyermann earned her fine arts degree; a decade later, her career is going strong.

Linda Eyermann was 45 years old when she first walked into an Indiana University Northwest classroom. Then a stay-at-home mom to four children who were growing up fast, Eyermann, of Valparaiso, had no intention of pursuing a degree at first. Rather, she simply wanted to improve her drawing skills.

But Eyermann enjoyed that first class with Professor David Klamen so much, that one class turned into another, and another. It was an art history class that hooked her, she said, and her appetite for learning, it seemed, was insatiable.

After three years, she had enough credits to call herself a sophomore, so Eyermann began pondering the idea of pursuing a degree. But at her age, she admitted, that notion was unsettling.

“Quite frankly, I thought I was past the time of going back to school,” she said.

But then a good friend nudged her with a powerful statement.

“I had said that I would be 51 when I graduate,” she recalled. “She said, ‘You’ll be 51 whether you graduate or not.’”

Eyermann thought about that and then formally enrolled at IU Northwest full-time.

“I know that I am a hard worker and an ethical person and a creative person,” she said. “I knew that there was a place for me in the world. I had no doubts that I would find something. I wasn’t sure that it would be so closely related to my degree, working in the arts, but this is perfect. I was very fortunate to find something that makes me feel fulfilled.”

The perfect job she found was as Director of Education for the South Shore Arts and the Northwest Indiana Symphony.

“It was really a perfect fit because I get to do so many of the things that I enjoy doing,” Eyermann said.

One of her favorite responsibilities is to facilitate an art appreciation program called “Art in Focus.” Eyermann said she shares a lot in common with the folks who participate in this program. Much like her, they are art lovers, many of them retired, who simply want to learn more.

On the other side of the spectrum, she also loves working with kids. Taking a literacy-based art program into the schools is one example of the many outreach activities that South Shore Arts provides.

“We serve more than 28,000 children with education, programs, performances, exhibitions, and more,” Eyermann said.

It seems that no day or task is ever the same at Eyermann’s workplace, something she appreciates almost as much as her college education.

The grandmother of four said she received more from her college experience than just a fine arts education.

“I really loved IU Northwest because of the diverse student population,” Eyermann said. “There are so many different people. I learned a lot from my peers, my fellow students.”

- Linda Eyermann

“I really loved IU Northwest because of the diverse student population,” Eyermann said. “There are so many different people. I learned a lot from my peers, my fellow students. There were students of all ages, of all different socio-economic backgrounds and races. It was shocking to me how naïve I was about so many things here in Northwest Indiana. I think sometimes we live in sheltered silos ... When you are exposed to new things, not only in the classroom curriculum but the different experiences and the people you meet, it is eye opening.”
IU Northwest hosts 2013 Science Olympiad

Middle and high school students from 17 schools in Lake, Porter and LaPorte counties demonstrated their science and engineering talents at the 2013 Science Olympiad Regional Tournament.

Young scientists from across the region gathered on campus February 23 to flex their academic muscle in dozens of carefully planned science and engineering events, such as designing robots, building vehicles, performing chemistry experiments and more.

Competing middle schools included Grimmer, Clifford Pierce, Colonel John Wheeler, Fegely, St. Patrick, Thomas Jefferson, St. Michael and St. Mary’s. Competing high schools included Crown Point, Chesterton, Marquette Catholic, Merrillville, Michigan City, Portage, Highland and Valparaiso.

As a national non-profit organization launched in 1982, Science Olympiad is dedicated to improving K-12 science education. Science Olympiad represents an ideal opportunity for middle and high school students to meet and interact with scientists, academicians, college students, local engineers, and community members in a competitive yet enjoyable setting. Tournaments are designed to: emphasize problem-solving aspects of science and the understanding of scientific concepts; develop teamwork and cooperative learning strategies among students; and demonstrate that American students can perform at levels that surpass expectations of even practicing scientists and engineers.
The former Office of Diversity Programming recently consolidated with the Office of Multicultural Affairs to form the Office of Diversity, Equity and Multicultural Affairs (ODEMA). This change occurred as a result of recommendations made by the IU Council and will allow the campus to be more strategic in how our campus addresses issues of diversity, equity and inclusion.

Toward that end, ODEMA welcomes Henrietta Moore to its staff. Moore previously served The Office from Student Affairs. Her new role as the Multicultural Programs Coordinator will allow ODEMA to provide targeted support to multicultural student groups while developing and promoting programs that enrich students’ educational, social and cultural experiences. Please join us in welcoming her in this new role.

Speaking of student organizations, the Brother 2 Brother Student Success Program has been quite busy lately. In addition to collaborating with the Student Government Association to conduct the very successful Dunbar Pulaski Book Drive, four student members will traveled to the Indiana Latino Leadership Conference on March 1.

The theme of the March 1 conference was “LatiKnow Yourself! I Am...Much More.” The student group, which is comprised of Brandon Karcher, Jaylen Smith, Jesse Diaz, and Arturo Estrada, presented a workshop entitled “The Diversity within an Ethnicity” in which they explained the difference between race, ethnicity, and cultural tradition as it relates to Hispanics; explored the vast diversity within the Hispanic ethnicity; and discussed the impact of interracial marriage on the Hispanic community. Members of our campus Latino fraternity Delta Pi Rho also attended the conference.

On March 8, in conjunction with the Women and Gender Studies Department, ODEMA will co-sponsor a visit to campus by Magdalen Hsu-Li, an internationally acclaimed feminist, Asian-American, musician, visual artist, speaker, and cultural activist who speaks on such topics related to the redefinition of identity including understanding our own diversity, the influence of family, community, and the environment, and lessening the gap between our beliefs of who we are and our actual behaviors.

On April 12, ODEMA will host a cultural competency workshop with Dr. Chandra Gill, founder of Blackademically speaking. In conjunction with the METAS Latino Student Success Project, colleagues from Purdue University Calumet, Ivy Tech, and Calumet College of St. Joseph will visit campus for a workshop to understand the needs of underrepresented students within the region. The event will take place 10 a.m. in the Bergland Auditorium. Please reserve your seat at the event by contacting Phyllis Barlow at plbarlow@iun.edu.

On April 15-18, ODEMA and the Connectionz student group will co-sponsor a week of Silence in support of the LGBT community. Activities will include SAFE Zone Training, a sit-in, and a visit by the Aliveness Project (free AIDS testing and counseling).

Griffith Detective Greg Mance (B.S. Criminal Justice, 1999 and M.P.A., 2007) has been promoted to police chief of the Griffith Police Department. Mance is a Griffith resident and has been on the Griffith force for 14 years. His police resume includes service in the patrol division as a patrol supervisor and in crime investigations, where he most recently served as the unit commander. Mance has been honored three times by the Northwest Indiana Public Information Officers Association. Read it here.
NOTES OF DISTINCTION

Congratulations to Tin-Chun Lin, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Economics, who has been recently informed his paper entitled “Empirical Evidence of Students’ Post-Exam Effect” has been accepted for publication in the Empirical Economics Review, which is a refereed journal and is indexed by the Cabell’s and the Journal of Economics Literature.

Congratulations to Professor of Marketing Subir Bandyopadhyay, Ph.D. and Associate Professor of Business Administration Ranjan Kini, Ph.D., who have recently been informed that their paper, “Factors Driving Computer Referrals and Usage: An Empirical Study in Banking Sector,” has been accepted for publication at the International Journal of Computer and Information Technology.

The paper includes another author from Thailand, Orose Leelakulthanit.

Tanice Foltz, Ph.D., Professor of Sociology and Director of the Women’s and Gender Studies program, has been informed that she will be receiving the Sylvia E. Bowman Distinguished Teaching Award at the Founder’s Day awards ceremony at IU Bloomington on April 5.

This award calls attention to the importance of teaching as well as recognizing demonstrated excellence in a wide range of pedagogical activities. The Sylvia E. Bowman is awarded to a limited number of qualified faculty members who focus on some area of American civilization.

Foltz’s academic career comes full circle with the announcement of this honor as she began her college career at IU Bloomington. Foltz’s name will be engraved on a plaque that will hang in the Indiana University Memorial Union.

Foltz also received a New Frontiers Exploratory Travel Fellowship for her current research project on drumming circles with traumatized populations. She will also be presenting a paper on teaching at the North Central Sociological Association (NCSA) annual meeting in April.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Click on the BOLD title for a link to more information.

March 7
Women’s and Gender Studies Conference

March 7
University Center College Fair

March 9
Calumet Regional Science Fair

March 13, April 17
S.G.A.-Led Book Discussions for One Book ... Reading Initiative

March 18 – 21
Big One-Dollar Book Sale

March 20
Spring Preview

March 20
SPEA Research Forum

March 21
Writer’s workshop by Chicana writer

March 30
Deadline for IHCPP applications