

The Lockport Legend

LOCKPORT'S AWARD-WINNING HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER LockportLegend.com . December 13, 2018 · Vol. 9 No. 41 · \$1





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ews COVER STORY

## Lockport group dedicated to the art of storytelling

MARY COMPTON, Freelance Reporter

Everyone has a story to tell. Lisa Colleen and Barbara Eberhard, cohosts of the new storytelling group (art) Inspired! live lit, are well aware of this.

The group gathers for storytelling nights the first Tuesday of each month, excluding holidays, at Public Landing Restaurant inside the Gaylord Building, 200 W. 8th St. in Lockport. Storytellers at the Dec. 4 event were Colleen, Eunice Jarrett, Richard Pniewski, Mike Speller and Paul Teodo.

"We started this in October," Colleen said. "... We love everything about stories and how they connect people. Barbara runs Gallery Seven, so we're banking on the local artists being interested in this."

Gallery Seven is also located in the Gaylord Building. Some of the artists have mixed their storytelling with various art mediums.

"It's art inspired, Gallery seven sponsors us," Colleen explained. "For each performance, the storyteller picks a painting or photograph that connects or is inspired by their story. I love how stories help people It's very popular in Chicago. These heal, it also helps them connect with others. There are story telling events stories are serious some are funny every night in Chicago, I wanted to and they have one thing in common: bring it to Lockport so that the local community can experience this."

rytelling shows. They begin with music at 6:30 p.m. and the storytellgeared for teens and adults.

storyteller in April.

"I am part of Gallery Seven," Velt- hope, have peace somewhere in us." man said. "I encouraged Barb and There are to be upcoming story-Lisa to bring the storytelling to the telling classes at Gallery Seven in gallery here in Lockport. The In- January and February. To enroll in spired! live lit is inspiring the sto- the classes or for more information happens in a lot of communities. inspiredlivelit.com.



Barbara Eberhard, co-host of (art) Inspired! live lit, speaks at one of the group's storytelling events Dec. 4 at the Gaylord Building. PHOTOS BY MARY COMPTON/22ND CENTURY MEDIA

people are so talented, some of their they're all moving.

According to Veltman's website There is no cost to attend the sto- on his "Peace Project," he explains his art and his story.

"The Peace Project stems from an ing begins at 7 p.m.. The show is article study bearing the same name that compares people and cultures Lockport resident Michael Velt- from Chicago, Illinois and from the man has traveled around a few coun- other side of the planet in Jakarta, tries and has a few stories of his Indonesia in the hope to understand own. In Gallery Seven, Veltman has and discover our similarities and our a collage of photographs of people universal hope for peace," the webfrom Chicago and Jakarta, Indone- site states. "... Maybe someday we sia featuring people from Nashville, will figure out that we are all human Liberia, Peru and Japan. He calls it and understand how much we actu-"Peace Project." Veltman is to be the ally have in common. That there is a oneness to mankind and we all. I



Lockport resident Michael Veltman shows his art project at Gallery Seven ries being told. It's something that on (art) Inspired! live lit, visit www. inside the Gaylord Building Dec. 4. Veltman is to be taking part in an (art) Inspired! live lit storytelling event in the near future.



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by T. Andrew Coyle Attorney at Law

With winter here, it's time to hovel their sidewalk, though, that they could 'get in trouble' someone slips and falls on a sidewalk that they tried to clear. Fortunately, in Illinois we have the Snow and Ice Removal Act which shields property owners, tenants, and neighbors' from liability for anyone who slips or falls on a sidewalk that they tried to clear of snow or ice. Basically, the because they think they might get sued. If, however, your sidewalks are dangerous because of an Act would not protect you there. Other than that, feel free to shovel away and help out your elderly or disabled neighbors this winter without fear of liability! you have legal questions

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