



**Blizzard of '78**  
Culver remembers  
30 years later

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# The Culver Citizen

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**In Brief**

**Pinewood derby**  
CULVER — On Saturday, Jan. 26, starting at 1 p.m., Culver's Cub Scout Troop #290 will hold its annual Pinewood Derby. The event will take place in the basement of the Wesley United Methodist Church on School Street in Culver (visitors should enter through the north door to the basement). Refreshments will be sold at the event as well, in order to raise funds for the ongoing activities of the Troop. All are invited to this free event.

**Blizzard stories, photos sought**  
CULVER — As the 30th anniversary of the great blizzard of late January, 1978 approaches, the *Citizen* would like to hear from readers with their memories of the big storm and how it affected them and the town over all. Those with photos of that period the *Citizen* would especially be interested in hearing from, as we would like to run some photo memories as well.

Please email editor Jeff Kenney at [citizen@culcom.net](mailto:citizen@culcom.net) or drop off written memories or photos (we can return or keep them, as you prefer) at the *Citizen's* drop box/mail box located just outside the office at 110 N. Main St. in downtown Culver. Feel free to call the office at 574-842-3229 to make any other arrangements.

**Boat slips available**  
CULVER — The Culver Parks and Recreation Dept. has a limited number of boat slips available for the summer of 2008. If interested in obtaining a boat slip at the Culver Park, please contact Kelly Young, Park Supt. at 574-842-3510, during the evening hours.

**Runners welcome**  
CULVER — Interested in running? Starting Feb. 2, join the Culver Runners on Saturdays at 8 a.m. at The Culver Coffee Company.  
Contact Karen Heim at 574-842-8914 or [karenheim@yahoo.com](mailto:karenheim@yahoo.com) for more information.

**Prom Dress Shop**  
CULVER—Tri Kappa will be hosting a Prom Dress Shop on March 15 at the Culver Cove. The group is accepting gently used prom dresses that will be "resold" for a nominal dry cleaning fee. There are girls from the Academies as well as the local high school involved.  
Contact Karen Heim at 574-842-8914 or [karenheim@yahoo.com](mailto:karenheim@yahoo.com) for more information.

**Feb. Classes at Market Basket**

CULVER — The Market Basket and Company, 12775 SR 17, Culver, announces several new classes for February, led by well-known local craftspeople Kathy Meek.

- Wednesday, Feb. 6, 12:30-2:30 p.m.: "Altered Art... cards and beaded bookmarks for Valentine's Day."
- Saturday, Feb. 9, 4 to 6 p.m.: "A Chocolate Extravaganza... Indulge in Chocolate." Enjoy chocolate sampling in a tea setting while learning how to make decadent chocolate truffles, petite fours, and a flourless chocolate cake (space is limited to 10).
- Tuesday, Feb. 12, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.: "Children's

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## Area young women change culture through fashion

By Jeff Kenney  
Editor

CULVER —The adults of the Marshall County area who are involved in Pure Fashion Michiana are among many concerned about the sexualization of young women in media and popular culture, and they decided to do some

thing about it. Last year, a group of area adults formed a local chapter of the national Pure Fashion program, which is described on the group's website ([www.purefashion.com](http://www.purefashion.com)), with a link under "Michiana" for the local chapter) as "an international faith based program designed for girls 14-18 to help young women re-discover and

re-affirm their innate value and authentic femininity." What that means for Pure Fashion Michiana coordinator in Marshall County involves an Cindy Casper, of Argos, is "helping these girls to remain pure and modest, and growing in virtue...to help them preserve (their) innocence and know their true worth. Clothing today in many ways treats the girls as objects.

(We) want them to focus on their inner beauty." Towards that end, Pure Fashion Michiana involves an eight-month formation process, says model Cassie Eberly, a Plymouth High School junior and member of St. Mary's parish in Culver. "People are like, 'Oh, it's just a fashion show.' It's a lot more than a fashion show."

Pure Fashion has already spread locally, even since last spring's first modeling show in South Bend, says Michiana Pure Fashion model formator Lori Day, of Plymouth. Models hail from Bremen, Lakeville, Argos, Culver, LaPorte, and Plymouth, says Day. "Last year we had 18 models," she says. "This year we have 30."



Pure Fashion model Deneise Vela, a Culver High School sophomore, holds the hoops for five-year-old Maria McComish of Mishawaka, at a Lincoln Junior High Pure Fashion service event.

PHOTO BY JEFF KENNEY

## Zechiel reflects on 100 years of life in Culver

By Jeff Kenney  
Editor

Culver - If one wanted a picture of life and the major events of the past 100 years in Culver, one could peruse a number of books and articles - or one could just ask Ferris Zechiel. Born in "the Burr Oak flats" 100 years ago this June, Zechiel may not have seen it all, as the saying goes, but he's certainly seen a lot.

When Ferris was quite young, his parents, Jess and Pearl Zechiel, moved to the Walter Vonnegut farm "just where the (Academy) airport is," says Ferris, so his father could work the farm, an endeavor with which young Ferris assisted. "They (Vonneguts) owned the big hardware in Indianapolis at that time," he recalls. "That farm helped set out the (famous Vonnegut) orchard. Dad set out two orchards there, and then he just worked to take care of that."

Young Ferris also started school nearby, in the first grade at the Maxinkuckee school, which still stands at the corner of 18B and Queen Roads. "Russel Easterday was my teacher...I walked to school. In second grade, we moved over to Poplar Grove, that schoolhouse at the bottom of the hill. I went there two years, (and) then they hauled me back to the Maxinkuckee school. I finished in sixth grade, and then my father moved us back up to Burr Oak. Mr. Behmer taught the school at Burr Oak. The Maxinkuckee school had two rooms, and Poplar Grove only one. All the grades were in that one room. There were a couple girls (there) in eighth grade, and a couple in seventh."

"When we moved back up to Burr Oak, Dad had a horse and buggy and finally got a carriage. When dad got the first



Ferris Zechiel stands in front of the Maxinkuckee School southeast of Culver, which he began attending in the first grade.

PHOTO SUBMITTED

car in 1919, when it got wintertime he let it sit. (Culver) had a blacksmith shop... Saines had a grocery store on the corner there (of Main and Jefferson Streets). The stables were somewhere down in the lumber yard area. Dad parked the horses and we walked. The next year, they hauled us back to Culver and I finished out one year where the elementary school is today."

"Kids who went to school rode a horse, and had to find a place to keep the horses. Easterday the undertaker (on Main Street) -- right back west of the bank there was a couple houses and he had a barn where he kept his horses for his undertaker business."

Around 1923, the Zechiels moved to Henry Zechiel's 330-acre farm just west of Culver, where they lived for 17 years. "I did most of the heavy work," recalls Ferris. "He'd have me shuck one corn row and he'd take two. We went to the fields by daylight to husk corn. We milked 24 head of cows. I worked with my dad all my life. Mother said I was always with my dad and she never got much work out of me!" Ferris' two sisters are well known to many Culverites. Both Marguerite and Elizabeth continue to live in Culver, and Elizabeth (wife of the late Eldon Davis) continues to work at Culver Academy after decades of service. Ferris went together with his parents and bought the farm on which he would spend most of the rest of his life, on State Road 110 south of Culver. There, through the years, they farmed the land and cared for 1,600 chickens and a number of cows for milking. Along the way, Ferris met his wife Leona, whom he married in 1932. "I got her out of the onion patch," Ferris chuckles. "She worked for her brother raising onions and potatoes." The couple celebrated their 75th wedding anniversary last fall. Ferris and Leona also had children Betty and Larry - both of whom still live in the area - and a first child who died tragically of a ruptured appendix at age two.

Along the way, Ferris also

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REMEMBERING DR. KING - Culver's Jim Harper speaks on Jan. 21 about Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., part of the town's observation of the national holiday. See story on page 3.

PHOTO BY JEFF KENNEY

## Plan commission seeks volunteers, reviews Culver construction

By Bobbie Ruhnow  
Correspondent

CULVER — The first meeting of the year for the Culver Plan Commission saw a full agenda of items to be reviewed for action in 2008. Kathryn Breyfogle will head the commission as chairman with Kelly Young in the vice-chairman position.

A review of the current zoning ordinance was a priority issue for members. Although a complete rewrite of the 2001 ordinance is not contemplated, several areas need further examination for possible revision, the commission decided.

An ad hoc committee will be formed to review and make recommendations to the commission and town council for approval. The committee will be formed with two members of the Plan Commission, a member of the town council, the town manager, a Board of Zoning Appeals member, a resident of the town, a resident of the jurisdictional area, a local contractor, and a member of the business community. The building commissioner will also be an adviser and member of the committee. Regular workshops will be scheduled by Breyfogle and volunteers are needed to

serve on this important community review.

In other business, permit and application fees were discussed with a view toward increasing the amount charged. Russ Mason, building commissioner, presented a comparison study of fees charged in Marshall County and several other communities of similar size that showed Culver's fees are lower than average. Members will review Mason's recommendations and make a decision in the near future.

New construction and remodeling projects may be in a slump in other areas of the economy, but Mason showed that, in Culver, building was alive and thriving.

Nine new homes were constructed at a total project cost of \$8,370,000. Commercial and educational construction totaled \$5,794,375, garage construction totaled \$333,000 and miscellaneous construction of decks, fences, remodeling, etc. brought the 2007 building total to \$16,204,932.

The Plan Commission's regular meetings are scheduled for the third Tuesday of each month at town hall and the public is welcome.





PHOTOS BY JEFF KENNEY  
Mary Rice, age six, prepares to pitch to Pure Fashion model Amanda Master, a freshman at Culver Girls Academy, at a recent Pure Fashion service event at Lincoln Junior High in Plymouth.

## Fashion, Cont. from front

Bend. At the show, explains Day, each girl models three outfits, loaned by area retailers for the show.

Casper says that news of Pure Fashion in the Marshall County area which is headed by a 13-member team and aided by "a lot of other people" -- has spread by word of mouth. She notes that, while many of the models are Christians, Pure Fashion is open to everyone. "One of our girls is a Buddhist foreign exchange student," notes Casper.

Day adds that donations are always welcome. The group may be contacted by reaching Beth Pare in Culver at 574-842-4321, Lori Day in Plymouth at 574-936-6516 or Sasha Pask in Argos, at 574-892-6711. "We need benefactors and sponsors," says Day.

"This is a big deal...we want to change the culture and what they're offering our girls. They're beautiful. They're innocent."

## Zechiel, Cont. from front

saw the history of Culver evolve, and participated in his fair share of it. He recalls the well-known steamboats on Lake Maxinkuckee. "When winter time come, they took them down to the south end; there wasn't any cottages down there at all, only one house...I heard my grandparents tell (that) they used to haul logs across the lake in the wintertime on the ice."

Ferris remembers his father's and his work for the Medbourn ice house on East Jefferson Street. "A lot of men out there," he says. "A steam engine ran the conveyer that brought the ice up, and men there would switch them down into the rooms. My dad's brother worked out on the ice. They used a horse to mark it and crosscut saws to cut the ice, and they'd float them up on a channel and then ran the ice underneath the railroad tracks. When we moved to Henry's, I got big enough, so I helped put up ice about two years before they did away with it."

"I helped build that Academy airport (east of the campus on State Road 10). I had a team of horses and kept leveling the dirt off. The trucks would get stuck and they'd put a hook on and I'd pull them out of the soft dirt...back in them times, it was only 40-some cents an hour."

Ferris also helped put the newly-built O.W. Fowler -- the Academy's beloved three-masted schooner, retired in the early 1980s -- into the water.

"I remember when the bank was robbed the first time (in 1920). Dad and I came from Main Street north down past the bank, about 20 minutes after the bank got robbed...one man had a hat on and the bullet went through his hat. They killed Jake Saine (who) had the grocery store."

"The second robbery (in 1933), we lived on Henry's farm. I worked that area where (Culver's trailer court on West Jefferson Street is) now. They had Carl Adams standing on the side of the car, and they kicked him off the car. I was in the field, I seen all the cars, the people from town was going out to catch (the robbers). They got them down there in the marsh; one of them just had his head out of the water in the ditch. Some of them was back where Hatten had his garage there (on Lake Shore Dr. and School St.), and some of them hid behind his gate. The people in town tracked them down in the snow and got those guys."

Ferris Zechiel has amazed friends and family by continuing to work until quite recently, including plowing his field in 2006, at the age of 98. Today, he muses about the changes he has seen in the world through his long life: the transition from crank telephones



Above: Ferris Zechiel with wife Leona, his wife of 75 years. Below: Zechiel was still mowing his hay in 2006, at age 98.



to cell phones, \$30 monthly salaries to \$30 hourly salaries in the mechanics industry, and the use of computers, which his daughter Betty uses to bring him Bible devotions. "The good old book says that the people will grow in knowledge," he says. "There's nothing new there."



Cassie Eberly, left, a junior at PHS, and Sarah Blake of Plymouth assist Charles Storm Vice, age 20 months, from Plymouth, at a recent Pure Fashion service event at Lincoln Junior High in Plymouth.

## Culver Schools menu

**Thursday, Jan. 24:** Breakfast: Skillet fritatta or cereal, toast, juice, milk. Lunch: Burrito, green beans, applesauce, chocolate pudding cake, milk.

**Friday, Jan. 25:** Breakfast: Cinnamon roll or cereal w/cracker, juice, milk. Lunch: Cheese pizza or fish sandwich, corn, fruit, milk.

**Monday, Jan. 28:** Breakfast: Plain bagel w/jelly or cereal w/cracker, juice, milk. Lunch: Submarine sandwich, French fries, applesauce, cracker, milk.

**Tuesday, Jan. 29:** Breakfast:

Breakfast sausage bagel or cereal w/muffin, juice, milk. Lunch: Chicken and noodles, mashed potatoes, peaches, bread and margarine, milk.

**Wednesday, Jan. 30:** Breakfast: Toasted cheese or cereal, yogurt, juice, milk. Lunch: Chili w/cheese, carrot w/dip, crackers, milk.

**Thursday, Jan. 31:** Breakfast: Egg and cheese on biscuit or cereal w/cracker, juice, milk. Lunch: Turkey and cheese sandwich, baked beans, jello, fresh fruit, milk.

## Death notices

### Keith D. Ash

Jan. 20, 2008

PLYMOUTH — Keith D. Ash, 81, of Plymouth, died Sunday, Jan. 20 at Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center, Plymouth.

He is survived by daughters: Sandra L. (Matt) Lough of Culver, Toni Shinabarger of Goshen and Barbara Ash of Okeechobee, Fla.; son, Dion K. Ash of Indianapolis; two grandchildren; and sister, Alma Jean and Bill Davis of North Judson.

Visitation is Tuesday, Jan. 22 from 5 to 7 p.m. and Wednesday, Jan. 23 after 7 a.m. at the Johnson-Danielson Funeral Home, Plymouth.

Funeral services are Wednesday, Jan. 23 at 11 a.m. at the funeral home.

Burial will be in New Oakhill Cemetery, Plymouth, with military rites given by the Plymouth American Legion Post #27.

Memorials may be made to the Plymouth Church of the Brethren.

## Birth

### Denaat

Dan and Amber Denaat of Indianapolis announce the birth of a son born Nov. 29, 2007 at Clarion West, Avon.

Connor Daniel Denaat weighed 9 pounds, 6.6 ounces and was 22 inches long.

Maternal grandparents are Andy and Cheryl Arnett of Plainfield. Paternal grandparents are Kathi Denaat and Dan Denaat, both of Plymouth.



Connor Daniel Denaat

school requires insurance. There will be a \$2 fee at the door, or pay \$15 for the full season. If any questions, please call Bruce Snyder, 842-2576, or e-mail bksnyder@wildblue.net.

### Snow Routes

CULVER —The town's policy on snow routes are as follows:

- No parking after midnight when 2" or more of snow is forecasted or has fallen
- Violators may be ticketed or towed at the owners expense
- Snow routes are: South

Main Street to Chadwick Shores, Lakeshore Drive from S.R. 10 to State, School, College, Academy Rd, Mill, Ohio and Jefferson.

All merchants and tenants must follow these policies to ensure the best possible clearing of our streets. The street department starts at 3 am on snow days. First cleared are the snow routes followed by the side streets.

## In brief, Cont. from front

Valentine Class"... Have fun making a card and a gift for Valentine's Day. Small snack and drink included (limit 12 children).

There is a fee for each class. All classes must be pre-registered and pre-paid at least three days before the class to reserve a spot. Minimum of five in each class or the class is canceled and money refunded. Interested persons may go to Market Basket and sign up or phone 574-842-2145.

### Lions bingo

CULVER —Culver's Lions Club will host its monthly bingo nights on the first Mondays in February, March, and April, at the depot at Culver's town park. All are welcome to the smoke-free event, with doors opening at 6:30 and bingo starting at 7 p.m.

### Open Gym

CULVER —There will be an open gym at the Culver Middle School on Sundays until March 9. Times will be from 1PM to 3PM. Beginning this year, the

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# Remembering Martin Luther King, Jr.

## Holiday recognized by area students, citizens

The national holiday honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was observed in Culver on several fronts on Jan. 21, as students in the Culver Community school system had the day off and students at Culver Academies paused for the annual remembrance offered at the school.

One of Culver's own honored King at Culver's beach lodge, as Jim Harper addressed the audience at REAL Services there, focusing on the background to King's life and correcting the common notion that Dr. King was the beginning of the civil rights movement in America. "He's nowhere near," said Harper, who grew up in Culver. "Civil rights started at the time of slavery. If you've heard the name Harriet Tubman, she was one of the first real civil rights leaders in the U.S., and a primary leader for the Underground Railroad. I've been told that the old house just east of the hospital in Plymouth was one of the stops on the Underground Railroad."

Harper referred to activists preceding King, such as Booker T. Washington, W.E.B. Dubois (whom Harper called "one of the

best historians that the U.S. has ever had"), A. Phillip Randolph, Roy Wilkins, and Benjamin E. Mays, president of the black men's Morehouse College, "one of the names that really influenced Dr. King," according to Harper. "It was Mays who convinced (King) to go into pastoral ministry. He had influences on a whole lot of men involved in civil rights movement. I personally know several men who have gone to (Morehouse). I personally met Benjamin E. Mays in 1956. I sat at a meal with him, breaking bread together. You can be young and very stupid, and that's about what I was. I had no knowledge of the influence that man had on many men."

Harper noted that Dr. King had not intended to be a civil rights leader, but found himself president of the Atlanta NAACP in 1955. "And guess what happened? Some little old lady sat on a bus. She was tired and refused to move to the back of the bus. Rosa Parks really pushed Martin Luther King into the civil rights movement. He didn't intend to be what he ended up being, as happens

with a lot of people."

Harper recalled the historic March on Washington that King eventually led in 1963. "I was there," he said. "The mass of people scared me half to death. Can you imagine a little old country boy from Culver being in a crowd of people like that, not knowing anybody? My church I was serving at the time, the people there said, '(the March is) someplace you should be. I don't know that I made a big difference that day, but that day made a big difference to me. When I hear 'I have a dream' (King's speech), I can remember sitting in the hot sun and seeing the man who gave that speech."

"Everyone in the United States should be thankful," added Harper. "What (King) did was not only for people of color, but for all people for all time."

REAL Services site coordinator Ruth Walker added mention of current US presidential hopeful Barak Obama, who is African American, as evidence of King's legacy, and she praised Jim Harper and his wife, Ina. "The Harpers are a very, very special couple and we're privileged to

have them as members," she said.

The same day, students, faculty, and guests of Culver Academy gathered in Eppley Auditorium to celebrate the life and legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr., in sight and sound, as students read a host of works, from King's speeches to poems and self-written commentary. The Culver Academies Gospel Choir provided music, as did Humanities instructor and former Academies diversity coordinator Mitch Barnes with student players. Power Point slideshows reviewed King's life and legacy, and presented information on modern-day discrepancies between minority and non-minority life in America.

Mitch Barnes closed the Academies program by noting that, "our challenge is not just to continue the dream of Martin Luther King, Jr., but to make it come to fruition today and throughout time...step up to the challenge. It's all of our responsibilities."



PHOTO BY JEFF KENNEY  
The Culver Academies Gospel Choir performs onstage at Eppley Auditorium on Jan. 21, the national Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.

# Union Twp. Advisory Board reorganizes

Staff Report  
CULVER — The Union Township Advisory Board met to reorganize and review the annual report of the township's finances. John Benedict remains as president of the Advisory Board with Connie VanHorn as vice-president. Bobbie Ruhnow is chairman of the Finance Committee.

Marlene Mahler, trustee, reviewed the annual report and noted that of the budgeted \$268,147 for 2007, a total of \$209,143 was spent. This included an additional \$25,000

toward the township's portion of the EMS budget. Mahler also noted that the township assistance fund remained within the \$18,000 budgeted toward relief. Assistance from other sources than township funds, totalled \$3,615.20 that helped with food and clothing needs of some households.

Deputy trustee, Susan Herbert, reported that despite the number of property tax appeals filed, many taxpayers were not showing up for their scheduled hearings.

When the board meets,

Herbert said, it costs the taxpayers of Marshall County \$500. Meetings could be rescheduled or cancelled if taxpayers who were appealing would cancel if they weren't planning to appear.

Mahler noted that the cemetery mapping had been completed for the Burr Oak cemetery. An additional acre of land has been purchased for Burr Oak and plots are now available for sale. Mapping of the cemeteries has been a priority issue since many records had been lost or destroyed, Mahler said.

A tax distribution of 80 percent has been received for the township with the final 20 percent to be received early in 2008. The township has been able to fund the necessary expenditures for 2007 without borrowing funds, Mahler reported. The annual report is available for public review at the township trustee's office.

# CCHS to host financial aid night

CULVER — Culver Community High School will host a financial aid night Wednesday, Jan. 30 at 7 p.m. in the high school cafeteria. It is highly recommended that students who are planning or considering education or training beyond high

school attend with a parent.

Guy Fisher from Bethel College will provide valuable information on how to apply for financial aid using the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Fisher will also have a question and answer ses-

sion regarding the financial aid.

If you have any questions, contact the guidance department at 574-842-3391 or 574-542-4017.

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## Jerusalem (II)

### Should the U.S. Embassy be moved to the capital of Israel?

In a previous clarifying message we showed that before the Six-Day War in 1967, the claim that Jerusalem was a Muslim/Arab city had seldom been asserted and that such claim had come about only in modern times. The status of Jerusalem continues to be of great importance. The Arabs clamorously insist that at least the eastern part of the city should be yielded to them. The Israelis insist that Jerusalem continue as the indivisible capital of their country.

**What are the facts?**  
Jerusalem — reunited and indivisible. Ever since the creation of the State of Israel in 1948, all American governments and Congress have confirmed their conviction that Jerusalem is the capital of Israel and that, once reunited, it should remain indivisible.

Before the Six-Day War in 1967 the city was divided, the Jordanians having occupied the eastern part since the War of Liberation in 1948. During their 19-year reign, all Jewish residents were driven out and all Jewish places of worship closed or destroyed. The various Christian denominations operated under the strict control of Muslim authorities.

All this ended in 1967 with the liberation of all of Jerusalem by the Israeli Defense Forces and with the reunification of the city. Access to all holy places became available to all. The many religious bodies in the holy city (and in all of Israel) are able to pursue their activities without any restrictions. Jerusalem is today truly a free and open city. Just as the whole world rejoiced when the ugly wall dividing Berlin was torn down, so do we rejoice that the wall, the barbed wire and the machine gun emplacements dividing the city were finally torn down.

**U.S. Embassy not in Israel's capital.** While the Palestinians lay claim to the eastern part of Jerusalem and wish it to become the capital of a hoped-for Palestinian state, nobody, not even the Arabs, questions the western part of the city to be Israeli. It is remarkable therefore that, despite this universal recognition, the United States has steadfastly insisted on placing and keeping its embassy in Tel Aviv, the major commercial city, instead of in Jerusalem, Israel's capital and the seat of the Knesset (parliament), the Supreme Court, and of all government offices. It is as if a government accredited to the United States were to insist on keeping its embassy in, say, New York, rather than in Washington D.C.

With the U.S. in the lead, all other countries have also located their embassies in Tel Aviv. It is a bizarre situation: All ambassadors and their staffs must make almost daily trips to Jerusalem, because no government business is conducted in Tel Aviv. The United States maintains diplomatic relations with over 150 countries. In all of them the U.S. Embassy is located in the nation's designated capital. The only exception is Israel where, so far, our government has insisted on locating its embassy in a city other than the capital.

**Congress in favor of moving embassy to Jerusalem.** Despite the fact that, prior to their elections, both Presidents Bush and President Clinton assured the public that the U.S. Embassy would be moved to Israel's capital, the Administration has until now blocked all moves in that direction, declaring that it would jeopardize the so-called "final status" talks on Jerusalem.

Leaders of Congress — both Republican and Democratic — have introduced legislation by which the U.S. Embassy would have to be moved to Jerusalem within the next three or four years. And that was about ten years ago. That legislation has been endorsed by 93 senators. The U.S. has a lease on a 10-acre embassy lot in Talpit, a totally Jewish neighborhood in West Jerusalem. It is to be hoped therefore that, before too long, reality will prevail and that the U.S. Embassy in Israel will indeed be located in Jerusalem — the capital of one of our country's closest allies. Three of the current Republican candidates to the presidency have promised that, if elected, they would move the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem.

The main reason given for not moving the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem is that it would violate "Arab sensitivities." That might indeed be the case. But while there would be some posturing, none of the Arab states could afford to do much else. Egypt would certainly not refuse its yearly multi-billion dollar subsidy from Washington. King Abdullah of Jordan would not jeopardize the political and financial lifeline that the U.S. has extended to him. Saudi Arabia would make some perfunctory noises, but that would be just about all. The status of Jerusalem goes to the heart of the Arab-Israeli conflict. To deny the status of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel questions the legitimacy of the state. The move of the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem will signal once and for all that there will be no U.S. or world support for the division of Jerusalem and for the establishment — in any part of it — as the capital of a new Arab state.

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## Directions

All of us have things that challenge us. I am a math teacher, and I get to hear a lot about how people have just never been able to do math. I nod and say 'Oh yes, but you did not have me for a math teacher.' This gets a laugh at coffee hour, but the fact is that not everyone will be able to do calculus. It is a sad fact of life for a math guy, but facts are facts.



*Pastor's  
Corner*

By Tom Haynes  
Culver Academies

A challenge of mine is with directions. My father was a navigator in the Navy during WWII, so I am claiming I got it from my Mom's side of the family. I have a terrible time with oral directions, and I have to write them down with a drawn map. I still get lost.

Last Christmas I got a GPS - Global Positioning System - from Santa, and it has changed my life. It is absolutely amazing. I can just punch in an address, and it will tell me when I have a turn coming up. If I go in the wrong direction, it says 'recalculating' and then tells me how to turn around.

One of the characteristics of the GPS that I have thought about is that it only lives in the present. It gives you a small window on the world. You don't get to see where you have come from, and you don't really get to see where you are headed. All you get is a quarter mile or so ahead and the little voice that says 'turn right 200 yards.'

Our lives seem so much more complicated than the next turn. We have baggage, and we make decisions in the context of that baggage. Some of us make very bad decisions.

Now we are told in the Declaration of Independence that "all men are created equal" and I don't think many of us believe these words. We want to believe that in court perhaps we are all equal, but even there we suspect cynically that some of us are more equal than others. Are we all equal on the playing field? Are we all equal in the math classroom?

My ability to navigate is worse than most. I don't think all of us were created equally in terms of our ability to follow directions without getting lost. I am going to suggest however that the completely level playing field is with Jesus. We are all equal at the foot of the cross. All of us have fallen short of God's will for us, and there is nothing much to say but "God, be merciful to me a sinner!"

Each of us is faced with the presence of God in our lives. We come from a different set of circumstances. We have different histories, and we have different futures. As we stand before God though, each of us is equal.

I want you to think about that window in the GPS unit. You don't get the big picture or a complex background to confuse you. All you know and all you need to know is that the next turn is coming up, and you need to make the right decision. Our lives as Christians also are a series of decisions. We make one after another, and we either make the right one or the little voice tells us to turn around. It is all very simple in one way, and it is horribly complex as we live our lives sometimes.

My prayer is that your next decision is the one God intends you to make. Just in case though, remember that He is merciful, and we are truly equal in our need for that mercy.

Amen to the Culver Academies!  
*Tom Haynes, Interim Director of Religious Programs*

## REAL Services menu

Those interested in sharing a meal at REAL Meals are asked to call Ruth Walker at the nutrition site (the Culver beach lodge) before 11 a.m. on the day before for reservations, at 574-842-8878. There is a suggested donation of \$3.50 for each meal.

**Thursday, Jan. 24:** Cheesy potatoes w/ham, carrots, applesauce, bread and margarine, cookie, milk

**Friday, Jan. 25:** Hamburger w/bun and cheese, ketchup/mustard packets, apricots, peas, tossed salad w/dressing, milk

**Monday, Jan. 28:** Hot dog, mashed potatoes, cabbage, bread and margarine, pineapple, milk

**Tuesday, Jan. 29:** Beef stew, biscuit and margarine, squash, fruit cup, peach cobbler, milk

**Wednesday, Jan. 30:** Pork loin, lima beans, cottage cheese, bread and margarine, pears, milk

**Thursday, Jan. 31:** Chicken cutlets and gravy, creamed potato w/cheese, vegetable salad, tropical fruit salad, bread and margarine, milk

**Friday, Feb. 1:** Hamburger gravy, noodles, mixed vegetables, brussel sprouts, roll and margarine, fresh fruit, milk.

## The Culver Citizen

(USPS 422-330)

### HOW TO REACH US:

If you do not receive your paper by 5 p.m. Thursday, please call the circulation department at (800) 933-0356 up to 6 p.m. and we will deliver your newspaper that day.

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Bremen Enquirer, Nappanee Advance News, Culver Citizen,  
Bourbon News-Mirror, The Leader - Thursday at 5:00 p.m.  
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To Place A Classified Ad call 1-800-933-0356 or 574-936-3101.

# 'A monstrous storm'

## The blizzard of '78, 30 years later



*View  
from Main  
Street*

By Jeff Kenney  
Editor

### Next week:

Culver's Warrick recalls brush with death in blizzard of 1978.

Most Hoosiers have tales to tell of the infamous "blizzard of '78," the worst snowstorm in recent memory which struck 30 years ago, starting late on Jan. 25, 1978 and dumping up to 20 inches of snow all across the Midwest (South Bend recorded 15.5 inches in a 24-hour period starting on the 26th). Raging winds with wind chills of 40 to 50 below zero created massive snow drifts of 10 to 20 feet. All of this prompted Indiana Governor Otis R. Bowen to declare a "snow emergency" throughout Indiana on the 26th. The National Weather Service declared the storm "monstrous" and "of extremely dangerous magnitude."

The area in and around Culver, like much of the state, ground to a halt, citizens gazing out their windows in awe at the sheer size of the drifts and everyone's overwhelming powerlessness to do anything but wait. By Friday the 27th, police were still urging people to stay off of the roads, as county plows - grounded like everything else - were just beginning to work on old US 30 and 31. All area schools and most businesses remained closed that day, according to the Pilot News. Several area structures met the same fate as the Argos Lumber Company warehouse and the office of Hehr International on Oak Road in Plymouth, whose roofs collapsed under the weight of the heavy snow. By the 28th, at least 11 deaths were reported in Indiana due to the storm.

Ed and Lora Pinder - who at the time ran Pinder's Restaurant in Culver - recall the snow being above the restaurant roof for over a month. "There was no way to get out of house," recalls Lora. "Nothing on the roads, and even snowmobiles were having trouble getting through."

On Saturday, the streets clear enough to drive the restaurant, Ed left his car parked in the street and "waded in about 10 feet high (snowdrifts), and I pried the door open to check our equipment, which was running fine."

"By Sunday," recalls Lora, "the highways were getting opened up and we decided to open the restaurant...we had a few customers. This elderly couple in their 70s or 80s came from Winamac! The rest were locals. We were just euphoric just to get out of the house."

Lynn Overmyer recalls that her husband, Lance, loaded heavy salt bags into the back of his truck as the storm was beginning. "He called older women in town and went around and got groceries for them," she recalls. "There was a mound of snow between the neighbors' and our houses that was so tall that the kids built tunnels through it, and we were afraid the snow would cave in on them. So Lance walked across the top, and it was as solid as a rock! The kids...crawled through the tunnels all day."

She also recalls that a car broken down in front of their Academy Road house was so buried in snow that a snowmobiler mistook it for a snow drift and drove over it, breaking his arm as a result. When State Road 10 was finally clear enough to drive on, says Overmyer, "it was just like driving through a cave, the snow was so high."

Sherrill Fujimura recalled that her husband, Tom, was working as maitre d' at the Culver Inn when the storm hit, and she worried that he wouldn't make it home. He got close, but found their driveway closed by snow, so a neighbor pulled his

car through the nearby field to bring him home. "I thought, here Tom was all dressed up with no hat, so I went to take him a hat and a blast of wind came around the corner of the garage and blew me off my feet. I heard a crack like a breaking branch, and I knew I had broken my ankle."

"We called the pharmacy, Hook's Drugs at the time, and they filled a prescription



Taken from Academy Road, this photo shows Forest Place - or what used to be Forest Place - to the left of the phone pole, completely buried under snow after the Jan. 25, 1978 blizzard.

PHOTO SUBMITTED BY CONNIE VAN HORN

for painkillers, but there was nobody to get it to me. We called Marty Sellers, and he got the painkillers and drove through our field to bring them. I was supposed to go in (to the doctor) the next day. Tom had to put me on a sled and take me down that hill to get me to the car."

One memorable story in the area took place on Friday the 27th, when Mrs. Kenny Nifong, who lived east of Maple Grove cemetery in the Argos area, went into labor. Marshall County Sheriff's Dept. 4-wheel-drive vehicles gave up, leaving only a snowmobile to take Nifong to Parkview hospital - a 90-minute ride under the circumstances - where her daughter, Sarah Elizabeth, was born on Jan. 28 at 11:12 am.

Interestingly, life went on almost as usual at Culver Academy, says Academy historian Bob Hartman. "As I recall, we knew this was coming. I believe that Lt. Col. William Crise took three or four rooms in the (Academy) motel and put crews in there...he kept them on almost all night long to keep ahead of (the blizzard). He wasn't waiting until dawn to see what the damage was. I think the campus was remarkably good considering what was disaster on the outside. We had classes on that Friday and in the midst of the blizzard."

One of the most dramatic stories surrounding the Academy was that of Academy staff members Tim Warrick and Pete Salvadore, who were trapped on the

canned goods. Park N' Shop manager Tom Sturdevant reported that the store had sold 120 gallons of milk on Sunday the 29th, and had 40 gallons left "along with some bread." Quality Grocery owner Jim James said that most people had been good about buying only what they needed and that his store had managed to keep milk in supply "99 percent of the time," and that two bread deliveries had helped replenish that supply as well. However, some areas were not so lucky; it was reported on Jan. 31 that the state was considering airlifting food supplies into isolated areas of Indiana where supplies were virtually exhausted.

Culver was among the schools debating whether to reopen on Weds., Feb. 1 - an entire week after snow began to fall - while several area corporations had already reported that they would remain closed at least through the 1st.

Slowly but surely, of course, Culver and Indiana in general recovered and life returned to normal again. But few who experienced it will forget the worst blizzard in Indiana history.



CMA sophomore John Beall is transported by sled to the infirmary with a broken ankle sustained from a fall on the ice, during the blizzard of 1978.

PHOTO COURTESY ACADEMIES ARCHIVES

Below: Ron and Connie Van Horn's house on Academy Road was typical of many area homes, which saw snow drifts up to - and in some cases higher than - their windows due to the blizzard.

PHOTO SUBMITTED BY CONNIE VAN HORN



## Community Calendar

### Thursday, Jan. 24

Fitness Class, 10:30 a.m., Culver Public Library

Brad Schuldt, Superintendent of Culver Schools, Kiwanis Club meeting, noon, Culver Public Library

Alcoholics Anonymous meeting, 6:30 p.m., Culver Public Library

### Friday, Jan. 25

Lions Club and Culver Council of Churches Chili Supper, 4:30 to 8 p.m., Depot, Town Park.

### Sunday, Jan. 27

Open gym, 1 to 3 p.m., Culver Middle School gym

### Monday, Jan. 28

Knitting Class, 10 a.m., Culver Public Library

AI-Anon meeting, 5:30 p.m., Culver Public Library

Overeaters Anonymous meeting, 6:30 p.m., Culver Public Library

### Tuesday, Jan. 29

Fitness class, 9 a.m., Culver Public Library  
Jay Johnson: Two and Only performance, 7:30 p.m., Eppley Auditorium, Culver

Academies

### Thursday, Jan. 31

Fitness Class, 10:30 a.m., Culver Public Library

Albert Hanselman, CHS principal, Kiwanis Club meeting, noon, Culver Public Library

Alcoholics Anonymous meeting, 6:30 p.m., Culver Public Library

### Upcoming highlights, Feb., 2008:

Complexions Dance Co., Huffington Concert Series, Culver Academy, Feb. 26



# Rags to riches: Barnes leads speech team to victory

By Jeff Kenney  
Editor

CULVER — When Culver Academies instructor Mitch Barnes entered the school's English department in the fall of 1996, he was asked to take over the speech team of five students. Recalled Barnes with a smile, "my response was like, 'what's a speech team?'"

One of Barnes' first moves was to meet with Plymouth High School's Dan Tyree, who headed up that school's incredibly successful speech team. "Once I figured out that many of the events were 'competitive theater,' I was like ok. Having done theater throughout my high school and college days, I could draw on that."

The five students on the speech team at the time had never actually participated in a speech program before, and Barnes quickly recruited two interns to assist him. Barnes drew on his coaching and athletic experience to instill a competitive drive in the students' effort, and the team started to practice and travel to weekly meets. "We were starting to place," says Barnes. "We won a team trophy during the last meet of the season. We got our first state qualifier. We actually had captains the next year, one of whom was Angie Fulton, who's back at culver as a counselor now and is one of our (speech) coaches."

"The next thing you know, we went on an eight-trophy run. They usually give trophies for first to tenth place. We'd take fourth or seventh or fifth. We ended our first season with 16 trophies. Our second season we ended with 20. Amy Summerville was our first state champion in Impromptu in 1998, our second season. It was like, wow!"

By the 1998-99 season, the school's team had 24 students, and won its first tournament. Every year, says Barnes, the team got incrementally better. "You always suspect as a coach you'll have a plateau year or a

down year. We never really experienced that."

The IHSFA (Indiana High School Forensics Association, which oversees competitive speech) breaks the state's sections into size classifications: AAA, AA, and A. "Culver's always on the bubble between A and AA," notes Barnes. "In 2001, we were state runner up in class A. In 2002, we were bumped up into AA."

That classification change meant some fierce competition for the Academies' growing team. "Plymouth (High School) has been a juggernaut (in speech competitions)," says Barnes. "They were not only AA state champs, but overall state champs from 1997 to 2004. We ended up getting a state champ (in) Impromptu in 2003. Nifty Ovuworie was the kid. We were fourth in AA in 2002, 2003, and 2004, but we were still in good company behind powerhouses like Plymouth and Munster, still finishing in the top ten statewide."

Having lost some veteran members, the Academies team was small in 2004, but did well. Based on that success, the team's numbers jumped to around 30 students. The team won the class

A state championship in 2005. "That day we were doing really well," Barnes explains. "We had a state champ in Prose, state runner up in Discussion, three kids in the Poetry final. In 2006, we decided to make another run for state championship...we ended up repeating in 2006 as class A state champs."

In the 2006-2007 season, the team had over 50 students, 21 of whom became state qualifiers, the team's largest number. "We still took third in our sectionals. Our sectional is arguably the toughest sectional in the state. Our state champ in Prose barely qualified in the sectionals. If we can get through the sectionals, let's see what we can do at state."

"This past season," says Barnes, "we got notice that we were bumped up into AA class... overall, we were state runner up in AA, only 14 points behind Plymouth. For us to go into AA and move up (that high) is great." This season, the team is off to what Barnes calls its "best start." They've won every tournament in which they've competed up to now, and the team that was once a struggling, five-student effort



Culver Speech team co-captains Jake Mesches (L) and Matt Edwards (R) rehearse a comedic memorized duo interpretation piece.

PHOTO PROVIDED.

is over 60 teammates strong. So strong, in fact, that the school has to contact potential tournaments and ask if they can have 40 entries to compete for trophies and 20 extras that won't count. "I don't want to leave kids at home," says Barnes. "It's been a nice problem to have, a team that's too big. But we've never cut kids, I don't want to

start that."

The team has a handful of tournaments before the sectionals, which occur the first weekend in March. Mitch Barnes says that interested persons can follow the teams progress online at [www.culver.org](http://www.culver.org).

**121 Culver Legals**

VFW Post #6919 has applied for an Annual Bingo License, under I.C. 4-32.2-4-7.5.

The Bingo events will be held at the VFW Post #6919, located at 108 E. Washington St., Culver, IN 46511.

The names of the operators and officers are as follows: Richard Kelso, L.B. Montgomery, Herbert Newman, Sr. and Edward Miller.

Any person can protest the proposed issuance of the Annual Bingo License. All protests must be postmarked within two weeks of the date of this posting.

The Gaming Commission shall hold a public hearing if ten (10) written and signed protest letters are received by the commission. Concerns about the issuance of this license can be sent to:

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