

'Lake Water' returns -- page 4

The scoop on 'Fiddler' --page 6

Silly Safaris is coming to town -- page 3

A taste of the Taste of Culver --page 8

Council talks future manager-- page 6

The Culver Citizen

Thursday, July 17, 2008 Vol. No. 113 Issue No. 29 50¢
Serving Culver • Lake Maxinkuckee • Monterey since 1894



Culver Lake Fest
25 years
and going strong!

In Brief

Hydrilla sample on display at Lake Fest

The Lake Maxinkuckee Environmental Council has arranged for Mark Mongin of the SePRO Corporation in Carmel and the Indiana Lakes Management Society to have a live sample of hydrilla available for anyone interested in seeing it so they can help watch for it in Lake Maxinkuckee or any lake. He will be inside the front (street side) entrance of the historic railroad depot in the Culver town park from noon to 2 p.m. Saturday, July 19 during Culver's Lake Fest. All other lake associations from the region are welcome to come by, according to Kathy Clark, LMEC director.

Water ball touney set for July 19

The Culver-Union Twp. Volunteer Fire Dept. will hold a waterball tournament shortly after the Lake Fest parade Sat., July 19 just off Lake Shore Drive on State Street. Waterball involves a ball suspended via cable above the ground and competing teams — made up of various area fire departments — pushing the ball back and forth using water pressure from fire hoses. The public is invited to the event.

Lions seek school supply donations

It's almost time for school to start, and the Culver Lions are again asking for help in making sure all children have the necessary supplies for school this coming year, according to program chairman Jim Harper. Thanks to community help, no child in the Culver school system went without needed supplies last year. Back packs, pencils, pens, paper, crayons, folders, erasers, compasses, and any other object that a teacher needs for a child to be a full participant in class are welcomed. All funds collected go for supplies or student needs.

Please make checks payable to the Culver Lions. They may be mailed to: Jim Harper, 1000 S. Main, Culver, IN, 46511 or to the Culver Lions, 615 Lake Shore

See Briefs, Page 6

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Click on Citizen Tab

E-mail: citizen@culver.com



Landmark Lake Fest

This year's Lake Fest in Culver's town park will add something all the more special to the usual roster of fun and frolic: the celebration of the quarter-century anniversary of the popular annual event. See article below.

PHOTOS/BILL BIRK (AND JEFF KENNEY; KATIE CUMMINS PHOTO). GRAPHIC LAYOUT/JEFF KENNEY

Lake Fest celebrates 25th anniversary this weekend

By Rusty Nixon
Correspondent

Twenty-five years ago, the band Flock of Seagulls were making radical hairstyles and the song "I Ran" a big hit — and the band Category 5 was helping make the first Culver Lake Fest a hit.

While the hairstyles may have faded into the past, Category 5 hasn't and will be playing once again to kick off this year's Silver Anniversary of Lake Fest on July 18.

"They're a band out of North Judson and they were

one of the first ones to play at Lake Fest and we're very happy to have them back," said Susie Norwich, one of those helping to organize this year's Lake Fest.

The world has changed since the early 1980s and so has the festival, as the theme, "Down Memory Lane" depicts — although organizers are still adding new attractions and events for the whole family. This year will be the addition of L'Max, a bicycle tour that will include distances for everyone on July 20.

"There will be distances of 10, 35, 65 and even 100 miles for the most energetic riders," said Norwich. "You can choose any distance you want, you can just ride 10 miles with the family. The routes go around all the lakes even as far away as Bass Lake."

There is an entry fee for the run and everyone who participates will receive a T-shirt commemorating the event. Anyone interested can pre-register at the Lake Fest Web site www.culverlakefest.com. Since the event is

a run and not a race, participants can register between 7 a.m. and 10 a.m. at the Beach Lodge the day of the event.

The Culver firemen will also be adding a new event this year — a waterball contest with several area fire departments taking part. The event will be held in front of the fire station in Culver starting around 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, July 19. Just prior to that friendly competition will be a wakeboard show put on by Port Side Marina.

Some things haven't really changed all that much over

the years and all of the food and fun that people have come to expect next to Lake Maxinkuckee will still be there. Events like the family bass fishing tournament and fun run kick off on Saturday along with many other fun contests for the whole family.

"Almost all of our crafts people are local with hand made items," said Norwich. "We have all our great music in the shelters around the park and lots of games

See 'Lakefest' page 6



Medallion Cabinetry

CITIZEN PHOTO/JOHN K. REED

Bomb threat evacuates Culver's Medallion

By Jeff Kenney
Citizen editor

Employees of Medallion Cabinetry in Culver were temporarily evacuated Tuesday morning in response to a bomb threat left on the company's answering machine the previous evening saying "everybody's going to die," according to Culver police chief Wayne Bean.

"In response to the (bomb) threat, we contacted our local law enforcement authorities, and evacuated the building," said operations manager Dick Riel. "We take the safety of our employees very seriously. We worked with law enforcement to inspect the building

(and) will continue to work with law enforcement to apprehend the subjects responsible."

Officers from the Culver Police dept. were dispatched to the scene around 6:40 a.m. Tuesday, with officers from Kosciusko and Allen County called in short order, a Kosciusko officer making an initial sweep of the building and Allen Co. bomb-sniffing dogs arriving about 40 minutes later.

"Our main concern is everybody getting out of building," explains Bean. "We've seen this kind of thing hap-

See Medallion, page 2

Unearthing a giant Mastodon discovery at rural Culver home

By Jeff Kenney
Citizen editor

The Culver area land on which John Benedict decided to retire — in the family over 100 years and occupied by his mother Opal until her recent death — turns out to be home to at least two previous tenants from a few years

back. 10,000-12,000 years

Benedict was excavating a pond earlier this spring on the 18B Road land, east of the village of Maxinkuckee, when excavator Gary McGhee of Argos signaled Benedict to show him what Benedict describes as "the big shoulder

bone probably three feet long and 12 to 14 inches around at the ends. Then we stopped digging right away; we both had enough sense to find out what we have. I called Bill Snyder from Plymouth...he had been involved with a dig near West Elementary. He put me in touch with Ron Richards from the (Indiana) state museum."

After Richards and another museum representative explained Benedict's options — dig and sell, donate locally, or donate the bones to the state museum — Benedict discussed the matter with his brother and signed papers donating the artifacts to the state. "Not everything has to be for sale," says Benedict. "People say, 'You can get this and that for the bones.' I like idea of the bones being in a museum."

Richards, chief curator of natural history at the Indianapolis-based museum for the past 27 years, identified the bones as that of a female mastodon, probably about middle aged (Benedict says he and his brother decided to nickname the mastodon 'Opal' in honor of their mother). Richards adds that it appears a second set

See Mastodon, page 2



John Benedict, above, holds part of the skull of a 12,000 year old mastodon whose skeleton is being recovered by workers from the Indiana State Museum on Benedict's Culver area property.

CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

Annual Sunfish Regatta sets sail July 26

The sixth annual Lake Maxinkuckee Sunfish Regatta will take place July 26, bringing together a spectacular splash of Sunfish color to a free event for all ages.

Hosted at the John Zeglis cottage at 1614 East Shore Drive on Maxinkuckee's shores (that's the "flag house" flying flags of colleges and universities, exactly half way between the north and south shores of the lake, says Zeglis), the regatta launches from the Zeglis pier with registration starting at 10 a.m., a skipper's meeting at 10:30, and the race kickoff between 10:45 and 11 a.m. The event consists of two races in simple, triangular courses, followed by a return to the Zeglis home for a barbecue picnic for sailors and support crews. Ribbons and trophies are awarded for each class in the regatta: the Youth, Culver Woodcrafter, Women's, Seniors, and now a Lasers division as well.

The Sunfish Regatta concludes with a traditional candy toss for the youth in attendance, wrapping everything up by 2 p.m. "We started this on a Labor Day cruise around the lake," notes Zeglis. "We counted 58 Sunfish parked or docked on the lake, but we had never seen more than two or three of those out at once."

More information may be obtained by emailing John Zeglis at john@jzeglis.com.



The sixth annual Sunfish Regatta on Lake Maxinkuckee sets sail July 26.

PHOTO SUBMITTED

Medallion, from page A1

pen with schools before. When you've got a big building like that, it's like a school. (Medallion is) a little more open compared to a school, which is the nice thing. It's better to be safe than sorry."

Bean notes that the department has a

name they're looking into, "but nothing 100 percent as to whether that person's involved or not. We think it's possibly a disgruntled employee or somebody that's worked there."

Bean adds that employees were sent home or to early lunch until about 11 a.m., after the plant had been thoroughly searched; then workers returned and the workday proceeded as usual.

Mastodon, from page A1



Left: Ron Richards (left) and Shawn Huddleson of the Indiana State Museum (kneeling) and volunteer Karen Budd are surrounded by mastodon bones found in a pile of back dirt through which they are continuing to sift on land owned by John Benedict outside Culver. Digging crews will then turn to the nearby pond whose excavation yielded the initial bone discovery. Above: A tub of mastodon bones freshly unearthed July 9 at the dig site.

CITIZEN PHOTOS/JEFF KENNEY

of bones is also present, probably of a juvenile mastodon, though it's possible the two creatures were separated by thousands of years.

Mastodons in this area would have become extinct around 10,000-12,000 years ago. The museum plans to carbon date some of the bones to determine a precise age. The dig, Benedict says, is about 10 percent of the work. Much more will take place under a microscope in coming months to analyze details about the soil, air, and bones themselves.

The dig began July 7 and is slated to wrap up by July 19 at the latest, says Richards, who says the state museum typically goes on such digs once or twice a year, with a mastodon skeleton turning up somewhere in the state about once every other year. He says the Benedict bones are "icing on the cake" for the museum.

"We have an exhibit coming in the next few years (at the museum) of Indiana elephant graveyards," Richards explains, "and we didn't have enough material. Then up pops the Benedict mastodon. We've gotten some great mastodons over the years, but this is a female, fully adult. We want collections that show the full range. And the thing that's really

shown up is a lot of small bones, and that's often not found. We have (here) a lot of foot, throat, and tips of toes that are rare in collections. We've got kind of a super screen to put a lot of the back dirt through there."

Other than initial equipment damage to the animal's skull, which is in multiple pieces, Richards says the skeleton was well preserved. "There are great teeth, limb bones, ribs; they're displayable things, in good shape."

He adds that this part of Indiana would have been a conifer forest during the mastodon's life, as seen in northern regions today.

"Most people can visualize a mastodon, which they've seen pictures of," notes Benedict, referring to the ice age when such creatures roamed Indiana. "But people have trouble visualizing hundreds of feet of ice right here."

Richards says it's difficult to ascertain the animals' cause of death. "Some are found in former lakes and ponds after the ice retreated. Some became mired in mud, or died in a seasonal drought, or fell through the ice in winter. We almost never know. The end of the glacial period was about 10,000 years ago, so they survived glaciations, which had already left Indiana. Then there were massive die-offs. Some think it was due to a rapid change in climate, or to humans arriving, or disease, or a meteorite. I tend towards rapidly changing climate, myself."

Richards says the state museum has conducted numerous digs around the Rochester and Plymouth area, and that digs associated with Bill Snyder of Plymouth "tend to be good digs. He gets us a lot of help in this part of Indiana. And the landowners are gracious, great hosts. I think (Snyder) learns a lot each time. It's just a real good situation for everybody."

The dig, says Benedict, continues from morning 'til night, even in the rain. And it's obvious that the find resonates with Benedict, whose family has been working this land - and recording its changes - back to the days when draining land that was once wooded for farming was done with mules and manual equipment. "You think about farming corn and beans around here for the past 100 years," he muses, with a contemplative smile, "and then you realize something like this was walking around right here 10,000 years ago. This (last 100 years) is a very insignificant piece of time."

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Tickets are one (1) ticket for \$20 and three (3) tickets for \$50 and can be purchased from any Culver Kiwanis Club member or selected Culver Merchants. For tickets or additional information call Dick Swenson, President, Culver Kiwanis Club at (574) 842-2197.

For tickets by mail, please complete the form at the bottom of this page and send a check payable to "2008 Kiwanis Car Raffle":
ATTN: Larry Miller
Fanco's Bank and Trust
101 Main Street
Culver, IN 46511

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If 1,000 tickets are sold by noon, July 31, 2008 (Culver, Indiana) we'll have a drawing for the first one of 1,000 tickets sold by noon September 1, 2008 we'll give away a second GEM Electric Car over Labor Day Weekend! *No refunds. Need not be present to win. Two drawings with 100 tickets. Winner responsible for taxes, title and license costs, etc. Street legal on streets with posted speed limit of 35 MPH or less.

*In the event of less than 1,000 tickets sold by 7/20/08, there will be no drawing on the date. Tickets will still be valid as payment on the "topper" until 12/31/08. At each time, the Culver Kiwanis Board will conduct a drawing for 1 or 2 GEM cars or a discount cash prize based on the total number of tickets sold. If less than 1,000 total tickets are sold between 6/1/08 and noon 6/1/08, the drawing will be a consolation as determined by the Culver Kiwanis Board.

Culver Kiwanis Club GEM Car Raffle

Full Name: _____
Street Address: _____
City, State and Zip: _____
Telephone Number: _____
Number of tickets desired _____ (1 for \$20 or 3 for \$50) Amount Enclosed _____

Culver Tri Kappa welcomes new members

The Epsilon Nu chapter of Tri Kappa recently held its June initiation meeting at the City Tavern restaurant. Hosted by Colleen Denham, Ginny Monroe, and Jennifer Luttrell, the Epsilon Nu chapter proudly presented its seven newest Tri Kappa members at the meeting: Karen Boland, Andrea Cook, Carol Jackson, Bethany Pilarski, Moira Ruhly, Chris Sheppard, and Judy Sawhook.



PHOTO SUBMITTED
Above: New Tri Kappa members include, from left to right: Judy Sawhook, Chris Sheppard, Bethany Pilarski, Andrea Cook, Carol Jackson, and Karen Boland.

The officers for the 2008-2009 fiscal year are: President: Colleen Denham; Vice President: Susan Richeson;

Treasurer: Jo Surrisi; Corresponding Secretary: Tina Pare', and Recording Secretary: Jessye Gilley.

The friendship basket was made by Marilyn Day and won by Cassie Gunder.

The next meeting will be

held August 18 and will be hosted by our new members.

Tri Kappa is a philanthropic organization with the objective of supporting programs in charity, culture, and education.

SillySafaristo bring exotic animals to Culver Library

As part of its ongoing summer reading program, the Culver-Union Twp. Public Library will play host to Indianapolis-based Silly Safaris at 10 a.m. on Weds., July

30. The group has visited the library before and always evokes squeals and gasps as animals ranging -- in the past -- from scorpions to large snakes, skunks to alligators

are brought forth and often shared for petting and one-on-one interactions.

The event is free and open to the public of all ages.

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, July 17: Ham and beans, coleslaw, cornbread and margarine, greens, diced onion, apricots, and milk.

Friday, July 18: Spaghetti

and meat sauce, tossed salad and dressing, garlic bread, Italian beans, pineapple, and milk. and margarine, jello with fruit, and milk.

Monday, July 21: BBQ Chicken Breast, cauliflower, bread & margarine, corn, chocolate pudding, and milk.

Tuesday, July 22: Hot Dog, mashed potatoes, Mandarin oranges, cabbages, and milk.

Wednesday, July 23: Pork

Choppette & bun, stewed tomatoes, macaroni & cheese, peach cobbler, and milk.

Thursday, July 24: Chopped Steak w/ Gravy, bread & butter, lima beans, mashed potatoes, dessert, and milk.

Friday, July 25: Scrambled Eggs, sausage patty, biscuit & country gravy, hash browns, orange juice, fruit cup, and milk.

Anniversary

Master

Paul and Sandy Master of Plymouth will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary with their children and grandchildren July 24-27 in Chicago. The couple was married June 21, 1958.

Their children are: Rick of Plymouth, Randy of Lexington, Ky., Marla of Plymouth and Jim of Lexington, Ky. They also have four grandchildren Paul is retired from Sprint as a semi driver. Sandy is a housewife.

They are members of the Moose, Elks and Eagles.

Community Calendar

Friday, July 18

Kiwanis golf outing, noon, Mystic Hills golf course
Culver Lake Fest kickoff including live band Category 5, 7-10 p.m., town park
Woodcraft Camp Homecoming Council fire dance, 9 p.m., Culver Academies

Saturday, July 19

Culver Lake Fest incl. breakfast (6 a.m.), bass fishing tournament (7 a.m.), fun run (7:15 a.m.), parade (10 a.m.), waterball tourney (after parade), kids' games, wakeboard show (1 p.m.), live music with Culver Pipes and Drums (11:30 a.m.), Sound Wave (2 p.m.), Steve Foresman (7 p.m.), fireworks (10 p.m.), and more. Town park.

Carillon recital, 4 p.m., Culver Academies Memorial Chapel
Stitch in Time quilt show,

10 a.m. - 6 p.m., Wesley United Methodist church.

Homecoming garrison parade, 8 p.m., Culver Academies parade field

Sunday, July 20

Culver Lake Fest concludes, with breakfast (6 a.m.), LMax bike ride (7 a.m.), community church service (8 a.m.), car show (9 a.m.), ski show (1 p.m.), bun-rout contest on W. Mill St. (3 p.m.).

GEM car raffle drawing, 3 p.m., town park

Stitch in Time quilt show, noon - 4 p.m., Wesley United Methodist church.

Monday, July 21

Knitting Class, 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., Culver Public Library

Al-Anon Mtg., 5:30 p.m., Culver Public Library
Overeaters Anonymous

Mtg., 6:30 p.m., Culver Public Library

Tuesday, July 22

Fitness class, 9 a.m., Culver Public Library

Yoga, 10 a.m., Culver Public Library

Town council mtg., 6:30 p.m., town hall

Wednesday, July 23

Genealogy mtg., 10 a.m., Culver Public Library

Lions club mtg., 6:30 p.m., depot/train station

Thursday, July 24

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

Fred Karst, Center for Culver History/AHS, Kiwanis Club mtg., noon, Culver Public Library

Yoga, 6 p.m., Culver Public Library

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

Death notice

Anna T. Esch

July 8, 2008

CULVER — Anna Theresa Esch, 104, of Culver, died Tuesday, July 8, 2008 at Miller's Merry Manor.

She is survived by a niece, Wilma Craft of Plymouth; nephew, John Abert of Cherokee Village, Ark.; and seven great nieces.

Visitation was Saturday, July 12 from 10 to 11 a.m. at Braman & Son Memorial Chapel, Knox. Funeral services were Saturday at 11 a.m. at the funeral home. Burial was be at Burr Oak Cemetery.

121 Culver Legals

STATE OF INDIANA MARSHALL COUNTY

IN THE MARSHALL CIRCUIT COURT

NOTICE OF HEARING

In re: the Guardianship of: Gerald E. Shomo
Cause number: 50001-0808-GU-00025

You are hereby notified that Real Services did, on the 24th day of 2008, file a Petition for Appointment of Guardianship of the above named individual.

Said Petition is set for hearing in Circuit Court, 211 W. Madison St., Plymouth, IN on the 25th day of July, 2008, at 11:00 a.m.

You are notified to appear at the above stated time personally or by attorney to defend said petition or else be defaulted and have judgment taken against you.

Dated this 30th day of June, 2008.

Julie A. Fox
Clerk of Marshall Circuit Court

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Players' 'Fiddler' opens this weekend

This summer the Maxinkuckee Players will once again be visiting Anatevka, a small village in Russia, where local residents Tevye and Golde are raising their five daughters. It has been twenty-three years since the Players have delighted audiences with the comedy, heart-wrenching drama, beautiful music, and unforgettable characters of this production. It has always been a favorite of cast and audiences alike.

The roles of Tevye and Golde will be recreated by our original cast members, Dan Adams and Beth Webster. Dan no longer needs spray to make his hair gray, but the talent and vocal ability of both of these characters are unchanged. Other familiar faces include Judy Patton as Yente, the matchmaker, Kathy Overmyer as daughter, Hodel, and Vicky Shumowsky as Grandma Tzeitel. In addition, there are many new members adding their talents to this major undertaking. Charlie Weaver of Knox debuts as Lazar Wolf, the butcher, along with Plymouth residents Heather Aikins as Tzeitel, Matt Slaydon as Motel, Ben Jeffers as Perchik, and Bremen resident Shelby Dirrim as Chava. Rounding out the main characters are "Rabbi" Ed Hasnerl of Knox and Laura Bash of Argos as the late Fruma Sarah.

The performance is being directed by veteran Player



Dan Adams (left) as "Tevye" joins Beth Webster (right) as "Golde" reprise their roles in the Maxinkuckee Players' annual play, "Fiddler on the Roof." Elise Pare, center, plays the role of the "fiddler."

PHOTO/PAUL PARE

Becky Liechty with assistance from Debbie Jaquay and Director of Music, Kathy Overmyer. Sharon Coffey is in charge of costumes and Betty Martens of Rochester and Andrea Malloy of Plymouth are on keyboards. We are also pleased to have Elise Pare of Culver as "the fiddler."

This is the largest cast to appear on our stage in a long time, with approximately 50 people involved. Things are moving along very well, and the directors are pleased with the cooperation, devotion,

and talents of this year's collection of would-be stars.

The performances will take place in the Culver Community High School auditorium Friday, July 25, Sunday, July 27, Wednesday, July 30, Friday, Aug. 1, Saturday, Aug. 2, and Sunday, Aug. 3. Sunday performances are at 4 p.m. and all others at 7:30 p.m. Tickets will be available at the door at a cost of \$4 for children 18 and under, and adults \$8. The Players are featuring a special "opening night" price of \$5 for all seats Friday, July 25 only.

Lake Fest, from page A1

for kids. It's just a wonderful relaxing day around the lake."

Some very popular items for the kids will return once again.

"We've got the turtle race and the frog jumping contest that are always big favorites," said Norwich.

The parade has also been a big favorite over

the years. One Culver resident, Ryan Tusing, even used the event as a way to propose to his girlfriend, Allison Day, in the 1994 parade. She said yes and the two have been married since.

Festivities begin on Friday, July 18 and run through Sunday, July 20.

Briefs, from page A1

Dr., Culver, IN 46511.

Culver Coffee's Lake Fest beer garden

The Culver Coffee Company's second annual Lake Fest Beer Garden will take place Fri., July 18 from 4 - 11 p.m., accompanied by the band Different Strings from 8 - 11 p.m. The garden will be open Sat., July 19 from noon to 11 p.m. and will include music from the band Best Kept Secret from 7 - 11 p.m.

Included will be pizza, smoked chicken wings, beer, wine, wine coolers, cornhole (beanbags), and fun! The garden enjoys a perfect view of the Lake Fest fireworks. Tickets are \$1 each or \$10 for 12 tickets. Visitors must be 21 years old to enter, with ID checked at the entrance.

Public Records reminder from town

The town of Culver reminds the public that requests for public records may be made at the town hall via the town clerk's office, located at 200 E. Washington St. in Culver; phone is 574-842-3140.

Kiwanis golf outing

Culver's Kiwanis Club will hold its 11th annual Charity Golf Scramble Friday, July 18 to benefit local children's related charities. Registration is from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Entry fees — \$260 per foursome or \$65 per individual — include 18 holes of golf, food, soft drinks, awards reception, door prizes, favors, good times and great camaraderie. Entry forms — which should be submitted by July 16 — may be obtained by calling Dusty Henricks at 574-842-4280 or Julie Bess at 865-603-2241.

Plan Commission

volunteer sought
The Town of Culver is accepting letters of interest for the Culver Plan Commission with a term ending on 12/31/11. Interested parties must send a letter of interest to the Culver Town Hall, 200 E Washington St, Culver, IN, 46511. This volunteer position must be a democrat, town resident and 18 years of age and is appointed by the Town Council President. The Plan Commission meets the third Tuesday of each

month. This is a nine member board and is politically balanced. Please address any questions to the Town Hall at 574-842-3140.

Market Basket offers summer classes

The Market Basket and Company, 13775 S.R. 17 Culver, is offering several summer classes.

Children's Classes: All children's classes are Thursdays, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Aug. 8: Paper Craft (design cards, bookmarks, and a journal).

Other Classes: All adult classes are Wednesdays from 1-3 p.m. July 16: Bead and wire art — decorate serving utensils, stemmed ware and other items. All classes have a requirement of five students and a maximum of 10-12; every class must be prepaid at least three days in advance (fee will be refunded if minimum not met). All classes are \$15 per person and include all supplies. Please call 574-842.2145 for more information.

Citizen cell phone

Culver Citizen editor Jeff Kenney may be reached by cell phone at 574-261-7887.

Culver council talks manager selection, other business

By Jeff Kenney
Citizen editor

In response to questions posed by audience member Jean Rakich at its July 8 meeting, Culver's town council affirmed that departed town manager Sean McDermott's contract was bought out, the remaining four months of pay issued to McDermott, who resigned last month. Council member Ed Pinder said he has confirmed the buyout to "three or four people" in town who asked him, with council member Lynn Overmyer adding, "I don't think it's a big secret."

The council also briefly discussed whether various boards under the town banner, such as plan commission or BZA, assign tasks to the manager, with the conclusion being that only the town council is authorized to do so. The required or expected frequency of the manager's attendance to meetings of other boards in town was also discussed, with note being made that the manager can't be expected to attend every public meeting.

Town clerk Casey Howard said she has been asked by two citizens if the council plans to create a sub-committee to glean public input on the hiring process for McDermott's replacement; the town's various department heads also wonder if their input will be included in the process. Overmyer said the council will probably handle the hiring process without forming any sub-committees, with council member Ginny Munroe adding that the council has discussed having manager candidates meet department heads during the second interview in the process.

Town attorney Ron Gifford expressed concern about phrasing in a few lines of the town manager position description submitted by the council, noting he felt it should be made clear the next

town manager has no budget responsibilities (which are handled by the town clerk, he noted) but only makes budget recommendations. Gifford also asked for better definition of the manager's authority over various department heads. The council plans to define the job description before advertising the position.

In other discussion, the council affirmed, in reply to an audience query, that there are no state or local statues requiring users of golf carts to wear seatbelts.

The council discussed town properties alleged to be eyesores, with Howard informing the council she has not written letters to homeowners but she instead viewed the sites in person and didn't feel letters were necessary. Discussion was held as to whether the town can dictate what objects are allowed on homeowner's porches, so long as no danger is posed by them.

At its next meeting, the council will hold the third reading of ordinance 2008-006, better known as the "grease trap ordinance," which amends sewer use in restaurants and institutions that prepare food in quantity such as the Culver High School and Culver Academies, the latter of which asked for best management practices to be defined by the town. Gifford presented sample practices for the council to look over.

Carin Clifton, foods director for Culver Community Schools, was on hand to report on the school's food preparation practices. She noted the high school has one fryer only (the elementary has none), which the school hopes to phase out. She added that grease is not sent down drains but is picked up monthly at about three to four gallons per month.

Best management practices will go to the various restaurants and food prep entities

in Culver in the near future.

The council approved spending \$2,9231.76 for purchase of hand held water meters to replace the obsolete units in use now. The 100 readers included in the purchase can read meters remotely, part of a long-range plan in effect over the past decade to gradually replace old readers with those capable of reading meters from the street, said street department head Bob Porter.

Porter also received permission to redo the yellow center lines on Lake Shore Drive following its repaving; thermal tape will be used for the line and for parking spaces on the streets, all of which should be done by July 17.

The Culver fire department's insurance company approved the water ball tournament planned for immediately after Lakefest parade, said fire chief Mike Grover. Several area departments will compete.

EMS head Millie Sysma announced a work day set for July 27 for anyone interested in helping clean up, paint, and improve the ambulance garage and facilities. She also reported the new computer charting program approved at last council meeting is installed and training started, the department hoping to go "live" with the program by Sept. 1.

Clerk Howard reported that after looking at water department income and expenses, she has concluded that in 2006, the department came out ahead, but took a cut in 2007, with an even larger cut in 2008. Water rate increases, she said, are needed and haven't been initiated since 2001, with the previous increase 17 years earlier. She suggested a regular rate change every five years "like most communities, so it's not such a huge increase."

She added that Culver's rate is lower than any surrounding communities.



Maxinkuckee moon

Flanked by appreciative boters, the Culver Academies' schooner the R.H. Ledbetter made its annual rounds last weekend with the naval band performing as part of the Moonlight Serenade, a tradition since the World War II years in Culver. This photo was taken July 12 from the town park.

CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

Culver Coffee Company 2nd Annual Lake Fest Beer Garden

Friday, July 18
4:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m.
Featured Band:
Different Strings

Saturday, July 19
12:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m.
Featured Band:
Best Kept Secret

**Beers, Wine, Pizza,
Smoke Chicken
Wings**

\$1 a ticket or 12 for \$10
Must be 21 or older
with ID



**Located in the Bahama
Mama/Renfrow's Parking Lot
630 Lake Shore Drive**

Woodcraft history: Choosing the sites

Culver summerschools: Culver Academies' historian looks back - part five in a series

"We found the perfect location in our back yard!"
-Bertram B. Culver, 1963

By Robert B.D. Hartman
Culver Academies historian

The Culver Academy's Woodcraft program prospered, but it was obvious that expansion was a major issue. The board of trustees, particularly Bertram B. (Bud) Culver, the chairman, and his cousin, Edwin, began to examine alternative sites. Chapel architect, Fred Larson from his office in New York City, suggested a lakefront camp east of the Naval Building and envisioned an Indian encampment complete with live-in tepees. While it had a visual appeal, the ground level, just slightly higher than the lake itself, was totally unsuitable and was rejected out-of-hand.

Larson, after designing the Naval Building, the Memorial Chapel, and Beason Hall, ended his association with the Academy in 1951 and all architectural responsibilities passed to William B. Ittner in St. Louis. Ittner was enamored with the wooded 15 acres west of the Culver Inn overlooking the lake. Though visually impressive, the so-called Indian Trail bluff was rejected because there was little room to expand and access to the lake was difficult.

Having lost this battle, Ittner tried again. He drew up a full set of plans for a site north of Indiana 10 in the general area of today's baseball and soccer fields. Newly installed Superintendent Major General Delmar T. Spivey embraced the new design and urged the Board to authorize final drawings and move the project forward.

Bud and Ed Culver were less sanguine about the site. They recalled in their institutional memory that an earlier road had blocked expansion of the Woodcraft Camp and saw such a move as creating even more issues. If a highway through the campus created traffic and safety issues in 1929, the multiplier effect would be horrendous 30 years later. Woodcrafters would have to cross the highway to reach the main campus, the Chapel, the Mess Hall, and the Recreation Building! Worse still, they would have a long distance to travel to reach the waterfront.

The Culvers also questioned Ittner's evaluation of the site. It was little more than a flat field with little contour, few trees, and nothing to inspire a vision of what they thought a Woodcraft Camp should be. Spivey saw the folly of staying with a losing position and deserted Ittner forthwith. The



Above: Site of today's Woodcraft camp in the early 1960s, just before work began on the camp as it stands today.
Right: Groundbreaking ceremony in 1962 for the new camp. Left to right: Maj. Gen. Delmar T. Spivey, Jeff Fisher, E.R. Culver Jr., Jack Allen, B.B. Culver Jr., Rear Admiral John W. Bays. Kneeling are Woodcrafters Hal Benham and Albert Pare'.

PHOTOS/CULVER ACADEMIES ARCHIVES



Culvers turned to Lester Heckle, an architect in Ittner's firm, for whom they enjoyed confidence and the project was transferred to him.

The four men began a tour of Academy property in the spring of 1960.

They commandeered a jeep from the Military Science Department and began to cover the hills and dales. Almost in complete surprise, Bud recounts that: "We found the perfect location in our backyard!"

East of Indiana 117 (Lake Shore Drive) and diagonally across from Henry Harrison Culver's first residence, the "Farmhouse," was a sweeping parcel of land containing two wonderful stands of trees, a sweeping meadow, and much hilly terrain. It was protected to the south by holes one and two of the Academy Golf Course and to the west by 117. Indiana 10, long the bugaboo for the campers, was well to the north of the projected site, and at the easternmost extreme was the Academy airfield. There was ample room for expansion. Indeed, it was almost perfect.

The most obvious problem was the distance from the main campus; too far to use the Mess Hall. The other concern was for lake activities west of Indiana 117 and, therefore, a safety issue for campers who would have to cross the road. The latter was quickly solved when a tunnel was constructed under

the highway near the boat sheds. Feeding the campers posed a greater logistical problem. The new camp required a large on-site dining facility.

Rather than attempt construction of a second kitchen, food was prepared in the main Dining Hall and transported in portable food warmers to the Woodcraft Camp.

In their conception of the new facility, Bertram and Edwin rejected the canvas-and-screen cabins of the old camp (left). Though they had provided well for countless campers for five decades, they were labor intensive and had to be assembled and disassembled each year. Lester Heckle was given a mandate to design permanent structures that would stand the test of time. Heckle was in seventh heaven as he working on a new creation.

Having taken heart from the successful campaign to raise funds for the Chapel (1951) and the three buildings of the Gignilliat Quadrangle (1956-57), the administration began a campaign to raise the estimated \$1 million dollars required to complete the Woodcraft project. Among those contacted was Ralph Smith, a lumber magnate from Kansas City. He became the major enabler when he pledged \$250,000.

A prototype cabin was constructed at the main entrance to the old Woodcraft Camp. It was completely furnished and

See Woodcraft, page 8



YOUR COMPLETE GUIDE TO THE GREEN

Putting starts with a properly installed grip

BY BRUCE REARICK
DIRECTOR OF INSTRUCTION
UNITED STATES GOLF
ACADEMY



Bruce Rearick

Last week we hosted the Pepsi Age Group Championship at the Indiana National Golf Club. There were 400 participants over two days competing against the best players of their age in the state.

Most enjoyable for me was to have the opportunity to discuss putting strategies with many of these good, young players. I literally spent all day on Friday working with competitors on their putting strokes.

We have reached a milestone of sorts at the United States Golf Academy at Swan Lake Resort as we have measured more than 12,000 putting strokes with our diagnostic technology. With this knowledge we are often asked about common errors in putting.

Without question, the most frequent problem observed at the Academy is the negative influence of a poorly installed putter grip with a flat surface. If the flat portion of the grip is not perpendicular to the putter face or at the very least does not match the player's perception of the target, any number of problems can occur.

Most golfers aim the putter visually. Sometimes they use a line on the putter and maybe even a line on

the ball as visual references — or for many just the appearance of the face of the putter and their perception of direction. When the flat portion of the grip is off, the aim is often altered as the hand position twists the putter slightly as they re-address the putter after they grip the club. Most times this changed is unnoticed by the player.

Even if the aim is unaffected by the grip, when the

putter swings, the position of the thumbs on a flat side of the grip often interferes with the natural rotation of the putter face as it opens and closes slightly during the stroke. Once the putter is in motion -- and if you have your thumbs on the flat portion of the grip — the thumbs want to go to a 12 o'clock position as you look down. If the flat portion of the grip does not correlate to the face angle of the putter, at impact the face will be open or closed to the aim position. At 12 feet an error of 1.5 degrees in face angle could cause a missed putt. All your work to aim is for naught.

The best way to see how a flat-sided grip affects your stroke is to experiment with a putter with a round grip. Without the flat reminder

on the grip, the hands are placed on the putter matching where the putter has been aimed visually. When the putter swings it does so without influence from the grip.

I am sure you will find a comparison of your stroke with a flat grip to a round quite educational and thought provoking. Give it a try!

Bruce Rearick is the Director of Instruction at the United States Golf Academy at Swan Lake Resort in Plymouth. He can be reached by email at brearick@swanlakeresort.com



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A taste of the Taste'

Scenes from last Saturday's third annual Taste of Culver festival, sponsored by the Culver Public Library and held on Main St. Top row, from left: Artist Gary Thorne decorates the face of Julie Bickel as friend Kim Irsa, already painted, looks on. Dawn Minas takes a break from serving customers at her Culver Coffee Co. tent to have a snack. Jennifer Luttrell of Culver shares her food with her children Sam, left, and Sarah. Rhonda Anderson of Culver checks out the fare with refreshment in hand to combat the warm sun. Bottom row, from left: Mark Damore, owner of the Original Root Beer Stand, prepares more hot dogs for customers. Three members of the festival's band, Half Pint Jones, ham it up onstage...from left, bassist Jayson Sites, guitarist Justin Ross, and sax player Chris Olivier.

CITIZEN PHOTOS/JEFF KENNEY

Woodcraft, from page A7

became a showpiece to demonstrate its features to campers and visitors during the 1962 season. In February of 1963, the six-ton cabin was towed east on Indiana 10 and onto the grounds of the new camp.

The trustees approved the construction of 60 cabins, a din-

ing hall, a headquarters building, a library, and a museum. They also placed their blessing on Heckle's recommendation for materials and design - vertical cedar boards from floor-to-window level, translucent plastic windows which swung out for ventilation and to allow breezes to enter, and what became the camp's trademark, a steeply pitched roof sheathed in thick cedar shakes.

Ground was broken during the summer of 1962 by Woodcraft Regimental Commander David Breech CMA '66 (left) while Superintendent Spivey and Director of the Summer Schools Admiral Bays supervised.

Throughout one of Culver's worst winters in memory, heavy equipment leveled cabin sites, hauled in gravel, poured concrete foundations, contoured the hills into walking paths and covered them with tons of tan bark (most of which washed out in the first big summer rain - but not before turning counselors' and campers' shoes, socks, and feet a deep shade of crimson). But they struggled to meet the most important deadline: Opening Day. As spring arrived, the big enemy became mud. Tractors and trucks rutted the landscape and Spivey joined with the trustees in insisting that damage be held to a minimum and schedules be kept.

For campers and counselors who had been part of the original Woodcraft Camp it was a bittersweet transition from the old to the new. Young camper Albert Paré CMA '67 wrote in the Vedette that alumni "watched with a saddened heart" as the camp was demolished. He noted, prophetically that some of these same alumni "may warm with enthusiasm this winter at Football Bonfires using the same wood."

As June drew closer, everyone heaved a sigh of relief when it appeared goals would be met and the Woodcraft Camp would ready for the 648 boys who were registered. In May, Spivey announced that the new facility would be dedicated on July 26-27 during the Summer School reunion weekend. Camp officials went into

overdrive to ensure the weekend went without a hitch. Colonel M.A. Estey, the Woodcraft Camp director, anticipating a sizeable crowd for the event, forwarded a memo to all parents requesting that they not disrupt the traffic flow by blocking driveways and that they use the designated parking areas. Alas, the architects planned only a single driveway into the camp and ignored the need for an egress road. A huge traffic jam resulted and tempers flared as parents headed for dinner in town, the Culver Inn, or at the Three Sisters.

It was a wonderfully clear weekend as dignitaries and parents gathered for the official opening. The first promotion order announced that Steve Miller and Ron Rubin (rear row) and Ken Blaine and Bill Brennan (front row) had marched off with top honors.

The ever-proud Color Guard composed of J.E. and T.C. Everhard and Randy Smith and David Hoesel presented the National and Culver Flags with great pride, and the Drum and Bugle Corps, directed by Major K.E. Kurtz, prepared for another stellar presentation at the Garrison Parade. Not lost in the festivities was the presentation of "The Death of White Dog," directed by a Culver legend, "Chief" Myers, the director of Indian Lore, at the Saturday night Council Fire.

The site for the new camp was perfect. The open meadow in front of the Dining Hall and Headquarters Building surveyed a lovely vista to the west. The cabins, clustered in the woods on either side of the meadow, were shaded and provided comfortable venues for over six hundred boys. There was no shortage of land for expansion and facilities for a museum, hobby and craft shops, and an extensive Boy Scout camping area, were easily accommodated to the east. Safety concerns were satisfied by the tunnel under Indiana 117 that made the lake and its waterfront activities readily accessible to the campers.

As the Woodcraft Camp completes its 42nd year it's hard to understand how such a magnificent site escaped the Culver family for so many years. "Bud" Culver was right, "the perfect location was in our backyard!"

August 3rd-7th 2008

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For a camp brochure or more information contact: Chief Marshall at (773) 440-6072 or email: marshall@culver.org

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Smooth sailing

Workers completed the repaving of Lake Shore Drive last week in short order and with crowd-pleasing efficiency, easing any concerns that much-needed milling and paving of the pothole-infested street might create traffic snags for this weekend's Lake Fest. By last weekend, Culverites and visitors were cruising on smooth asphalt.

CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

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Zimmerman will present Council Fire history July 26

Culver Academies Woodcraft camp Indian Lore Council Fire head "Chief" Dick Zimmerman will share his recollections of the history of the program's beloved summertime Council Fire dances, held each Saturday night during camp, as part of the Antiquarian and Historical Society of Culver's July meeting.

Zimmerman, who has been with the Woodcraft program for over 50 years (more than 40 of them leading Council Fires), saw a number of changes and milestones in the Council Fire programs, including the creation of the set currently used in the popular program's council ring.

Culver's summer council fires have taken place since at least the 1930s, with the present format -- a dramatic performance with narrative and dances in authentic garb -- beginning in the 1940s.

Besides the history of the program itself, Zimmerman will share behind-the-scenes information on the various authentic Indian dances taught to and performed by campers through the years. Also on hand will be dance instructors to sample some of the steps and techniques used.

The event, free and open to the public, will take place Saturday, July 26, starting at 10 a.m., in the AHS' Center for Culver History,



Above: A 1945 Council Fire gathering.

PHOTO/CULVER ACADEMIES ARCHIVES

located in the historic Carnegie room of the Culver-Union Twp. Public library, 107 N. Main St. in downtown Culver.

Anniversary, from page 4

opened through this part of the state, and that only to such an extent as to make it passable by cutting down the trees and bushes along the line and bridging over the worst places with brush, poles and logs. The country through which the road ran at that time was for the most part thickly timbered, and all along was an abundance of wild game and fruits of all kinds, which the hunters of the little band brought into camp.... There were seldom any springs along the way and the water for drinking and cooking purposes was mostly from stagnant ponds and small streams which were not much better. Every night on the way they camped wherever darkness overtook them, slept in the wagons and under the trees, the cattle and horses browsing about the camp and resting from the day's toil as best they could. (67-68)

McDonald says that "the tired and worn-out caravan" arrived at the lake late on the afternoon of Tuesday, July 26. They camped at, roughly, the intersection of Queen Road and Highway 10, where a monument bearing some of the family names still stands. The first order of business was to notify Vincent Brownlee, one of the advance party who had remained behind, that the main body had arrived. A signal had been arranged before the leaders went south to pick up their families.

And this is the point that the Editor and I were thinking of. These settlers signalled to

Mr. Brownlee not with a good loud yodel, nor with a gun shot (which was, I think, what Brownlee used to respond), nor even with a biblical ram's horn. Here in the middle of the wilderness, hundreds of miles from the sea, the settlers signalled their arrival by blowing a conch shell. And, indeed, a conch-shell horn was used to signal the opening of old settlers' meetings for many decades thereafter. So if you hear, this weekend, some faint sound that reminds you of *Hawaii Five-O* or *The Lord of the Flies*, spare a thought for the weary band getting their first view of a Maxinkuckee sunset 172 years ago.

A sixth-generation native of Culver (and resident of Houghton Street), the Rev. John Wm. Houghton, Ph.D., was educated in the Culver-Union Township Schools, Woodcraft Camp, the Naval School Band, and Culver Military Academy. He holds degrees from Harvard, IU, Yale and Notre Dame, and has taught in Culver Summer Camps and the Academies, as well as at independent schools in Fort Wayne, St. Louis, and Baton Rouge. A fellow of the Episcopal Church Foundation and an Episcopal priest, he is Chaplain and Chair of the Department of Religious Studies at the Hill School in Pottstown, PA. He has published a number of academic articles on theology, medieval studies, and J. R. R. Tolkien, and is author of a novel, *Rough Magic*, and of *Falconry and Other Poems*.

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