



In Brief

CRC volunteers needed

The Culver town council is looking for interested citizens to sit on our Culver Re-development Commission as three seats are needed. This commission meets on the second Monday of every month or as needed to discuss economic development issues. This seat is a one year term appointed by the Council. No party affiliation is necessary but you must be a resident of the town limits of Culver. Interested parties should send a letter of interest to the Town Hall, 200 E. Washington St., Culver, IN, 46511, no later than Tues., Jan. 27, 2009 by 4 p.m.

Lions, Council of Churches host chili supper Feb. 6

The Culver Lions Club in conjunction with the Culver Community Council of Churches will host a chili supper Friday, Feb. 6, from 5 to 7 p.m. at the railroad station-depot, 615 Lakeshore Drive in Culver. Cash donations will be accepted at the door, with all donations going to the Culver food pantry, which operates out of the Grace United Church of Christ on Plymouth Street, Culver.

Make it a special Friday evening by attending the Chili Supper and then taking in the Culver Community High School boy's basketball game, which starts at 7:30 p.m.

Culver youth soccer registration

Culver youth soccer registration will take place Sat., Jan. 17, and Sat., Jan. 24 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Culver Public Library. Registration is \$15 for preschool and kindergarten and \$20 for first through eighth grades. There are reduced prices for families of three or more, and a late fee after the Jan. 31 deadline. Contact Bruce Snyder, 574-842-2576 or bksnyder@wildblue.net.

CES Market Day benefits PTO

Culver Elementary School's Parent-Teacher Organization encourages area residents to take a look at available items from the school's involvement in the Market Day program. Order forms are due by Jan. 23 at the school or placed on the internet by noon Wed., Jan. 28. Order forms are available online but visiting www.marketday.com and searching for Culver

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Baby, it's been *cold* outside...

Temperatures nearly 20 below zero ground much of Culver to a halt last Thursday and Friday, two days during which Culver schools were closed. In the upper left photo, Culver buses sit dormant at the Culver High and Middle School bus garage, which is decorated with rows of large icicles. In the lower left photo, a chilly squirrel staves off hunger during Thursday's frigid cold thanks to a feeder at the corner of Washington and Slate Streets. In the lower right photo, Culver Academies' centennial eagle reflects the cold with what appears to be an odd catch: an icicle hanging from its beak.

PHOTOS AND IMAGE LAYOUT/JEFF KENNEY

Character and kids in Culver: two approaches

For CES second graders, developing character is key

By Jeff Kenney
Citizen editor

For several years now, second graders at Culver Elementary School have been learning to "just say no" to drugs. While second grade teachers Lisa Moise, Jean Ahlenius, and Carrie Tharp heartily support that notion, they also decided to reevaluate whether "just saying no" might be part



Culver Elementary School second-graders, from left, Sam Schaller, Samantha Smith, and Jenna Moise display some of the character traits that form the backbone of a new program at the school aimed at molding students into citizens of character.

PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

development. Those pillars were outlined by three second graders joining Moise at the meeting: Sam Schaller (of Tharp's class), Jenna Moise (Ahlenius' class), and Samantha Smith (Moise's class). The pillars, they explained, include trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, justice and

and parcel of a broader awareness of what's right and wrong...the sort of awareness that creates a child who wouldn't consider drug abuse as an option to begin with.

"In order to build these kids up so they know to say no to drugs, and not just because we told you," said Moise, addressing Culver's Kiwanis Club Jan. 8, "We looked at what kind of citizens would have a sense of well being and wouldn't want to do something like (abuse drugs). We (want) to give them more of a lesson in life skills."

The result: an "in-house" program called the "Cool Character Club" for all 66 of CES' second graders based around the six pillars of character development.

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Rhodes, familiar Culver post office face, to retire

By Jeff Kenney
Citizen editor



Bill Rhodes will retire from Culver's post office Jan. 31.

PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

When Culver postal clerk Bill Rhodes retires Jan. 31, the community will lose a familiar face over the past two-plus years, and the Plymouth community may mark the end of a postal career with which it was familiar for two decades.

Rhodes admits his appearance may be the first thing people notice about him, and what makes him most recognizable. Sporting a lengthy beard and a number of tattoos, Rhodes turned a few heads in Culver upon his arrival here. But, he says, people have been quick to warm up to him once they get to

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Gleason, Academies program stress necessity of ethical leadership

By Jeff Kenney
Citizen editor

Character and ethical leadership development is nothing new at Culver Academies. Such traits have always been fundamental to the school's approach, even in its all-male, all-military days of yore, but in recent years – particularly under the guidance of present head of schools John Buxton – ethics and service have come to the fore at the school in a manner with all the more intentionality and totality.

One successful piece of this approach has been a required course in practical ethics generated in part by retired Army officer Ray



Ray Gleason

PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

Gleason, a member of the Culver faculty for the past seven years. One of the things the school was seeking when it hired him, explains Gleason, was a junior level course required of all students for graduation, based on a concept of leadership in the context of the four cardinal virtues of wisdom, courage, moderation, and justice. To these was eventually added a fifth virtue: compassion ("Without compassion, there's no moral virtue,"

says Gleason. "Without compassion, justice is just the administration of law").

"They hired me and a fellow by the name of Emil Klatt," Gleason recalls, "a retired Marine aviator and a Lu-

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Council offers town manager position, reviews 2008

By Jeff Kenney
Citizen editor

Officially reorganized but retaining Sally Ricciardi as president, Culver's town council announced Jan. 13 it would offer the long-discussed position of town manager to Michael Doss of Lewisburg, Ohio. Doss, whom Ricciardi said "seems like an exceedingly nice man," was brought back for a second interview during which town employees and others were able to meet with him. "He's very young, very competent and outgoing," said Ricciardi of Doss, who she added is married with two children. Town clerk Casey Howard and Ricciardi -- who said she speaks for the entire council -- expressed hope Doss would accept the position.

Other discussion at the meeting focused on year-end and new year business. Town clerk Casey Howard reported the town earned roughly \$20,000 in interest and reiterated, as at the previous meeting, that the town's ending year balances are better than at the same time last year. She reported the town has \$6.6

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CES from page 1



Lisa Moise, right, accepts a check for \$300 towards CES second grade’s new “Cool Character” club from Culver Kiwanis Club president Grant Munroe.

PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

School and the past six years at Culver. In addition, she spearheaded last summer’s successful revival of girls’ softball in Culver.

She explained students say a “character pledge” each morning at the beginning of their school day, and, “Each month we talk about a pillar and celebrate it. A lot of us try to do it on a Friday afternoon. Anytime we have extra time, we discuss it. We all have posters (focusing on the pillar) and we’re putting together a badge that has each pillar, which students get at the end of each month. We also watch a movie at the end of the month about the pillar of that month.”

She added the teachers try to integrate the pillars – which themselves are part of a nationally created character development approach used in thousands of schools -- into daily life when situations arise, particularly disciplinary issues.

“We just can’t reprimand them over and over for doing wrong,” Moise pointed out. “We have to teach them to do right. (When disciplinary problems arise), we ask students to tell us which pillar of character was broken, and how are you going to fix it next time? It’s incorporated into our everyday language and discipline.”

Behavior problems, Moise explained, are rising, such that there are suspensions even in elementary school. “We need to stop some of this stuff. The best thing we could think of was teaching them what is right and how to deal with it. You may not always agree with somebody, but that doesn’t mean you have to get in a fight over it. Everybody’s different, and we have to accept differences. No matter where you are, you need to act like a person with the six pillars.”

In May, CES second graders will still hold their traditional parade through downtown Culver, though this year’s chants and theme won’t be limited to rejecting drug use as in the past. Instead, the parade has been redubbed the “Cool Character Parade,” and Moise noted she and other teachers hope to obtain related t-shirts for use in the parade. She explained CES’ Lisa Allyn has an embroidery company and can embroider the chosen messages onto t-shirts – tie-dyed so each of the colors, which symbolize a different character trait, are present – for about \$10 per shirt. She explained some funding for the club comes from CES social worker Deb Stevens, as did the series of character pillar movies purchased for use in the school, but the rest comes from teachers’ pockets. With that in mind, Culver Kiwanis president Grant Munroe presented Moise a check for \$300 from the club.

Of course, lasting development of ethical character in students is a long-term process and can’t be limited to one program over one year, a fact CES’ second grade teachers recognize. They hope, said Moise, the six pillars approach might spread throughout the whole school, with the understanding that, “The younger students are trained in such values, the more likely we’re going to help build wonderful citizens.”

Rhodes from page 1

this size, so I like small town people. I like when everybody knows everybody else.”

Rhodes, who grew up in Walkerton and graduated Walkerton High School (“a year before they were John Glenn High School,” he points out), was drafted into the service as a young man and served in Vietnam before eventually

working at McCord’s in Plymouth for 13 years.

“I got tired of factory life, so when I saw an ad in the paper (for a postal position), I went for it.”

Rhodes began his postal career at Plymouth in 1986, where he was a carrier for twenty years before transferring to Culver to fill the clerk position through which many – if not most – Culverites got to know him.

Over those years, he says, he’s been bitten twice by dogs, including one painful encounter that landed him at the doctor’s office. However, gazing out the window at blizzard conditions in Culver, Rhodes notes he’s never missed a day of work due to weather; nor can he recall a time when the mail wasn’t delivered due to inclement weather. “Maybe not all the mail,” he smiles. “But some!”

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Name: Winter Sale; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 5 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00055038; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Fisher & Co. Clothiers; Size: 10 in

Gleason from page 1

theran pastor. He and I, principally with (Culver’s Major) Tom Duckett, put a course together in about two weeks.”

Gleason, Duckett, and Nancy McKinnis teach the class, whose curriculum grew from the instructors’ evaluation of critical issues of leadership theory from the service and business communities, and an effort to find the link between leadership and those virtues.

Two main issues confronting the class are putting together an approach to practical, lived ethics, and understanding whether ethical behavior is essential to leadership, says Gleason.

“There’s a wide gap between ethics as part of a philosophy course and, ‘what do I do (on a practical level)?’ The postmodern culture we have now isn’t helping much. (It tells us some things are) good for you, but not for me. Groups can’t work like that. It’s maybe good in academia, but if you’re leading an infantry unit or a company in business, it doesn’t work.”

The course addresses the difference between making decisions based on rules versus what’s good for the group. “You do a stink test,” says Gleason. “How does it make you feel? Or a ‘mom test’: what would an ethical role model say about this? We integrated these issues and called it the Culver Ethical Dilemma Resolution Paradigm. We have it on internet; that’s how other people find it.”

And find it they have.

Several universities, he says, have stumbled onto Culver’s work and approached the school about incorporating it into their own curriculum. “I’ve talked to Mr. Buxton about this; we’re not doing much to promote what we’re doing. I never realized the issue of practical ethics was such a void.”

The reason, he feels, is the simultaneous need for practical, applied ethics to be emphasized for those entering the professional world, and the lack of such teaching as a required part of college-level courses across the nation. “No one really has a plan for practical ethics, and we’re very conscious in our department that we’re not teaching religion. We try to keep our value statements as secular as we can, though much of this is consistent with our Judeo-Christian culture.”

The class, he says, gives students real-life ethical dilemmas, using literature and films and finally what he calls “the infamous roommate exercise. Would you lie for your roommate? The bad news for an ethics instructor is, yeah, they will. The good news is, now they understand they’re doing it. Hopefully what we’re doing is helping to clarify in their own minds how to identify and evaluate ethical actions. Will this create different behaviors in the future; or we hope so!”

As long as individual students understand how their actions can affect others, says Gleason, “they begin to think in terms of virtuous compassion.”

However, he notes, “You have to be careful with an over-application of compassion. I may have to do something that hurts you, like I’m a judge and you commit a crime... Robert E. Lee said (that) leadership is love: you’ve got to love what you lead. The trap is, sometimes you’ve got to hurt what you love.”

Culver Academies’ “captive audience” factor is what makes practical ethics a greater challenge in public schools than private, says Gleason. “The influence of parents will be stronger than anything a teacher can do.”

Even so, Gleason feels high school is a critical juncture in the lives of all students for reaching them ethically. “I can name all my high school teachers. If I can name six of my college professors, I’m doing good. (High school) was a more intimate connection. (High school students are) going to an environment (college and/or the world of employment) where no one cares.”

The Academies’ emphasis on leadership, Gleason points out, is central to how the school perceives itself and what it can offer students. “That’s not always taught in the classroom alone. (Students) take leadership positions in their dorms, in their units, and in the community. We have an honor code: no lying, cheating, or stealing. An honor council decides whether an offense has been committed, and that council is kids. Kids are being focused every day on what’s essentially ethical behavior.”

“I tell this to my kids on the first day of class: ‘we’re training you to take leadership positions in your society, but also to exercise your leadership in an ethical manner.’ There has to be a bond between the people in group, and leaders. They have to be able to trust their leaders...would you follow someone you don’t trust? No. Integrity is required to grant authority. Would you follow someone without compassion? Not over time. Would you follow someone incompetent? No way.

“Gandhi said tyrants always fail. You can’t sustain leadership without some vestiges of ethical behavior.”

He has seen a number of behind-the-scenes changes in the postal service over the past 20 years, particularly in that much labor – for both clerks and carriers – has become automated. “A lot of (the mail) comes presorted,” he explains. “When I first started in the post office, clerks sorted most all the mail by hand. It wasn’t as quick or accurate. That’s what we’ve traded for. The post office has had to change because of economic times. It’s managed a bit differently. The number of clerks has streamlined at each branch.”

Whereas carriers used to sort all their own mail, Rhodes says now 75 percent of carriers’ workload comes presorted. “With automation, (carriers’) street hours have lengthened, so carriers deliver more addresses than they used to.”

Like every other business, he says, the post office has struggled under recent economic woes. “The post office is basically self-sufficient. We use no tax money. So it’s not really your tax dollars at work!”

Rhodes, a Plymouth resident, says he and Nancy -- his wife of 35 years -- are planning a trip to Florida soon after his retirement, though they won’t be moving there. “My wife won’t leave the grandkids!” he laughs. “Some of them live right next door to us.”

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Culverites contribute to Marshall County bridal fair

By Angel Perkins
Staff Writer

PLYMOUTH — The popular new film “27 Dresses” may be about the life of a wedding attendant, but the 33 dresses featured at the Marshall County Bridal Fair — which included 13 wedding gowns, flower girl dresses, formals and tuxedos — were the life of the fashion show. While owner of Treat’s Squire Shop and The Bridal Shoppe, Gary Treat, had said that the 2009 fair is at least the 15th he has been involved in, The Bridal Shoppe Manager Linda Shay said she has been involved with it, including her tenure while under the directive of the business’ previous owner, for at least 23 years.

This year’s event featured 30 vendors – no more than three vendors in each of the 19 wedding-associated categories which included caterers, invitation and paper suppliers, resorts, disc jockeys, florists, jewelers, reception and banquet hall facilitators, bakers, photographers, cosmetic consultants, gift registrars, tanning and beauty salons,



PILOT PHOTOS/ANGEL PERKINS

Beth Pare, harpist, played throughout the Marshall County Bridal Fair. The Culver musician has been playing since 1983 after learning the instrument during her years in college at Indiana University Bloomington. She said this is her first Marshall County Bridal Fair.

offer.

Mimi Yeakey, The Bridal Shoppe’s bridal consultant, said this was her third year working for the business and her third bridal fair. She also performed emcee duties during the fashion show.

Elizabeth’s Garden, of Culver, supplied the colorful bouquets the models carried down the runway.

travel agencies, fitness/spa services, kitchen and cookware representatives and even Culver harpist Beth Paré.

All vendors featured showed displays of their best, gave out information and took reservations from the (estimated) crowd of 250 attendees of the fair.

Gary Treat, family members and several of his employees were on hand to help future brides or to model the attire his businesses

ISP to investigate Peltz murder in wake of novel

By Carol Anders
Staff Writer

ARGOS — Reality shows on television depicting criminal cases that have been investigated years later and solved have provided viewers with both entertainment and a better understanding of how investigations work.

Now a real-life cold case that has gone unsolved for over 20 years is a focus of the Indiana State Police.

A dramatized novel released a few months ago, based on the murder in 1986 of Brandie Peltz of Argos, has brought the once deemed cold case to the surface. Thomas Crowel, author of “The Passerby,” spent more than two years researching the particulars of the case for his book.

Crowel said he has now talked to ISP Detective Tom Littlefield, who is now looking into the matter. Crowel said he has given him information that he had gathered.

Indiana State Police Public Information Officer Trent Smith clarified the ISP’s involvement with the case.

Smith said, “Prior to last Friday (Jan. 9), our involvement was nothing. When a department is investigating, we set some ground rules at some point. We don’t get involved until there is a request.”

Smith said his department researched back as far as talking with detectives who were active at the time (and have since retired) to see if any remembered any involvement. According to Smith, they also checked their files for any paperwork concerning the case.

Smith said they are acting now on a request to investigate from the Marshall County Prosecutor’s Office.

Marshall County Prosecuting Attorney Dave Holmes was not in his office Tuesday for comment.

Smith said, “Sometimes a fresh set of eyes can find something. Technology has changed in 20 years as well.”

He added, “There are literally thousands of cases unsolved and will remain unsolved.”

Jon VanVactor, Marshall County sheriff, said he does not have a comment on the case.

The ISP is asking the public to contact Detective Tom Littlefield at 800-552-2959 with any information that they may have concerning the case.

Culver grad named asst. superintendent



DAYTON, Ohio — Oakwood School District in Dayton, Ohio recently named Pam Taiclet as its assistant superintendent which is Director of Educational Services beginning Jan. 5.

Taiclet has served as principal of Ankeney School in Beavercreek, Ohio for the last nine years. The school has received several State awards during Taiclet’s leadership.

Prior to this position, Taiclet was a special education supervisor for 11 years, a counselor, and a special education teacher. She has administrative licensure, an MS in counseling from the University of Dayton, a BS in special education from Miami University at Oxford, Ohio and she is a graduate from Culver Community High School.

She was selected from a field of 25 candidates.

Death notice - Ketcham

Ruth June Ketcham
Jan. 12, 2009

WALKERTON — Ruth June Ketcham, 82, of Walkerton died Monday, Jan. 12, 2009 in Walkerton.

Survivors include: son, Edward Rans of Knox; daughter, Lucile Dickson of Walkerton; stepsons: John Ketcham of Hamlet, James Ketcham of Culver and Ronald Ketcham of Star City; step-daughters: Sharon Williams and Marilyn Rowe, both of Plymouth, Linda Townley of Curtis, Mich. and Brenda Tharpe of Knox; brothers: Glen Wagner of Knox and Elmer Wagner of Argos; sister, Lois Scoolman of Plymouth; stepbrother, Leo Losey of LaPorte and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were Thursday, Jan. 15 at 2 p.m. at Rannells Funeral Home, Hamlet Chapel. Burial was at the Grovertown Cemetery. Visitation was Thursday from 10 a.m. until the time of services at the funeral home.

Memorial contributions may be given to the family.

New *Citizen* contact info

Drop-off boxes for community news are located upstairs at the Culver-Union Township Public Library, 107 N. Main St.; and the Culver Coffee Company, 634 E. Lake Shore Dr. These drop-off boxes will be accessible during the locations’ normal business hours.

News drop-off no longer will be accepted at The Culver Citizen’s former storefront location on North Main Street. Citizen editor Jeff Kenney may be reached at 574-216-0075. News can be sent by e-mail to: citizen@culcom.net and mailed to: The Culver Citizen, c/o The Pilot News, P.O. Box 220, Plymouth, IN 46563. Faxes may be sent to 574-936-3844.

Community Calendar

Thursday, Jan. 22

Fitness Class, 10:30 a.m., Culver Public Library
Kiwanis Club mtg., noon, Culver Public Library
Alcoholics Anonymous Mtg., 6:30 p.m., Culver Public Library

Saturday, Jan. 24

Culver youth soccer sign-up, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., Culver Public Library

Sunday, Jan. 25

Open gym, 1 p.m., Culver Middle School gymnasium

Monday, Jan. 26

Knitting Class, 10 a.m., Culver Public Library
‘The Big Read’ planning mtg., 4:30 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
DivorceCare, 7 p.m., Grace United Church of Christ
Culver Comm. School board mtg., 7 p.m., administration building

Tuesday, Jan. 27

Fitness class, 9 a.m., Culver Public Library
Town council mtg., 6:30 p.m., town hall

Wednesday, Jan. 28

Genealogy mtg., 10 a.m., Culver Public Library
Lions Club mtg., 6:30 p.m., train station/depot

Thursday, Jan. 29

Fitness Class, 10:30 a.m., Culver Public Library
Kiwanis Club mtg., noon, Culver Public Library
Alcoholics Anonymous Mtg., 6:30 p.m., Culver Public Library

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00051820; Ad Number: -; Customer Name:

Culcom, LLC; Size: 8 in

Death notice - Holaday

Ruby L. Holaday
Jan. 17 ,2009

CULVER — Ruby L. Holaday, 87, of Culver, Ind. died at 12:15 a.m. Jan 17, 2009 at Miller’s Merry Manor, Culver.

Arrangements are pending with the Bonine-Odom Funeral Home, Culver, 104 E. Lakeshore Dr.

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File Name: 00053553; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Pilot News;

Size: 30 in

Name: Weekly Ad; Width: 30p11.5; Depth: 5 in; Color: Black; File

Name: 00053515; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Morrow Insurance

Agency; Size: 15 in

Letters From Home

In March of 1901, the Plymouth Democrat ran an article about an "ancient letter"—one written in 1822 by John Houghton (later to be the first Marshall County Treasurer), from Ben Davis Creek in Fayette County, to his family back in England. In the letter, dated May 13, John told his family of his marriage to Rachel Logan (which had taken place back in January) and invited his younger brother—my three-times-great-grandfather—to follow him over to the States. About a third of the article is devoted simply to description of how the eighty-year old letter, written with homemade ink and a goose quill, was folded, sealed, and carried to Connersville to be postage-paid (the 1820s being before envelopes and stamps): it seems clear that the reporter is impressed by how much communication has changed in eighty years.

A hundred and eight years farther on, I have just had an e-mail exchange with an old pen-pal from Australia named Warren. This summer, as I was cleaning out my attic (again), I came across a Christmas card Warren had sent me in 1963—probably the last communication we exchanged. As it was hot and I was looking for an excuse to get out of the attic anyway, I went downstairs, turned on the laptop, and Googled Warren's name: Australia being, after all, a continent, I got several hits. I e-mailed the first one on the list, and, allowing for the fact that it was then three o'clock in the morning of the next day in Australia, I had an almost immediate response from my correspondent of four decades ago. It's a far cry from great-great-great-uncle-John's goose-quill and wax seal, and a far cry from anything the 1901 Democrat could have imagined, as well.

We're getting used to this sort of thing, of course—indeed, it's so old hat that one of my students told me the other day that she only uses e-mail "to write to old people." For them, communication happens by text messaging on their cell phones and over social networking sites, things like Facebook and MySpace. These networking sites build on connections between people: you set up a page of your own, and then you look to see who else you know has a page, inviting those people to make a connection with you; then you can make connections with people those people

have connections with, and so on. Some of my Facebook friends—mostly the young ones—have more friends of their own than the Citizen has subscribers.

The networking sites allow people to keep in touch almost minute-by-minute, if they choose to do so: once I identify someone as a friend on Facebook, I get "status updates" on my webpage as often as the friend chooses to post them. These can be just little notes about what the person happens to be doing, links to something on the Web that the friend thinks all of his friends



It's *still* the lake water...

By John Wm. Houghton

the Citizen," and I just got a note from The Editor to say (in the friendliest way possible: The Editor has excellent manners) that it's about time.

Now, I have to admit, this status information is mostly useless. No one really needs to know what I'm doing at 8:59 on January 2nd, particularly not at the very moment I'm doing it. But somehow the posting of such trivial things on the Web reminds me of the old days here at the paper: not so much when I first wrote for the Citizen back in the 70s, but twenty or fifty years before that, and all the way back into the nineteenth century, into the days of the Marmont Herald. The farther back you go in the history of small-town papers, the more you find that the paper served as a channel of national and international news. Before TV and radio, people in our villages found out the latest news from Australia and other such places by reading about it in the local papers. The other information in the papers back then, though, was local news: some of it news in the usual sense—what happened in the town council, whose dog had gotten loose, and so forth—but a lot of it social

news. The Times of London reported (and still reports) where the Queen went for lunch, The New York Times reported when Mrs. Astor left the city for Newport, and the Citizen reported who went up to Hibbard to catch the "Nickel Plate Limited." I don't imagine that everyone read these social columns from top to bottom, anymore than I think that my former students regularly read all the updates from all eight hundred of their friends, but I suppose a few people did: and I'm quite sure that most took at least a glance every now and then.

I can't help thinking that Facebook and the other sites like it are doing the same thing that the social columns used to do for newspaper readers around the country. Not necessarily passing on facts a person needs for daily business, nor even news that will make people better citizens but rather the bits of information that keep us tied into each other in a community. The networking sites, the social columns, the gossip around the town well a couple of centuries ago are all in their ways like those little side-long glances we take to reassure ourselves that the person we've been talking to as we drive down the highway really still is there in the other seat. We need to be able to remind ourselves that the village is still there for us, whether the outskirts of the village stretch to Hibbard or to Australia.

-30-
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 Magicke, and of Falconry and Other Poems.

The cold, the `net, and odds and ends

- The topic on the lips of virtually every Culverite this past week has, of course, been the weather, which was the coldest it's been in some time and ground lots of things to a halt, including school, most extracurricular activities, and it's safe to say a good number of people's cars. I was looking, Thursday and Friday for the "perfect photo" that conveyed the brutal temperatures and -- since most people wisely stayed inside instead of standing around outside waiting for me to photograph them looking cold -- I concluded the best way to convey the cold might have been a photo of a thermometer. They don't often look quite like they did last week. In lieu of that, our front cover this issue is something of a hodgepodge of icicles and cold critters, of which there were plenty last week. Since then, 20 degrees has seemed like a heatwave.
- None of this has stopped one-eighth of the student body of Culver Academies from making the journey to Washington, D.C., to be a part of the historic inauguration of Barack Obama.
- As I write this, it's Martin Luther King, Jr., day, and I've returned from taking my kids (and my camera -- you'll see a photo next week) to the annual observation of that day at the Academy. We spent some time, the kids and I, looking at footage of Dr. King on Youtube and discussing why and how he did what he did. And of course many of us around the nation are contemplating the fact that the Martin Luther King, Jr. falls exactly one day before the election of America's first African-American president. Whether you agree with his politics or not, that's pretty

amazing, and seems to bring some things full circle that Dr. King fought for.

- On a different note entirely, last winter's much-discussed bald eagle (or apparently now, eagles plural) have been spotted again near the West Shore boat landing. I have a good lead on a photo of one of these birds...you'll be the first to know, if that works out!
- John Houghton's column on this page makes a

great point about the role played by websites like Facebook in community dialog and social networking, replacing the old Culver Citizen gossip columns of yore.

The elephant in the room for newspapers around the country is just what to do about the internet as a source of community news,

information, and discussion, and how to find a balance between any publication's print and digital titles.

If the conventional wisdom is that all newspapers -- this one included -- ought to be looking towards a non-print future and getting on the bandwagon, I think we still have a while before that's going to be the case, if at all. I feel safe in saying a great many of our readers aren't willing, desiring, or in some cases able, to trade in their weekly Culver Citizen, in-hand, for a web address.

I'm hardly a technophobe here, as those who sat in the computer classes I used to teach, can attest. I do realize the Citizen's online content is valued and used by a number of people (who have told me as much), and I don't think anyone's unaware that, as time moves forward, we'll be serving our readers by expanding our online, digital offerings. In fact, I confess I'm pretty excited about all the possibilities that technology will offer myself as editor and all of you as readers.

However, there's one thing the internet isn't likely to offer readers anytime soon, which the newspaper can, and that's an individual or staff whose whole function it is to cover community events, interview people locally with stories to tell, and gather all of this -- and more, I think -- into one hopefully readable package on a regular basis. As great as the "ireporter" opportunities afforded by the internet are, it's tough for folks to accomplish the above in their "spare time." So, I'd like to think the Citizen -- digital and in-print alike -- still fills an important need for Culver.

Speaking of community news, keep dropping yours off in our new drop boxes at the library and Culver Coffee Company. I think, slowly but surely, the new arrangement is catching on, as I've received items at both locations now. Especially spread the word about the new Citizen cell phone number, which is still the best way to reach me. That number -- 574-216-0075 -- should be reprinted in the 'briefs' column each issue, if you need to find it in a hurry.

- Of course, still on the minds of many is the tragic death recently of Culver's Ron King, in one of those occasions when our beloved lake, which gives so many of us so much enjoyment, reminds us of its power. I recall a few years ago when two young Fulton County men died while boating on the lake one autumn, my wife and I -- who then lived closer to the lake and spent even more time on or in it than we have lately -- were commenting on how strange it is that such a benign and welcoming entity as the lake can take a life. Walking by it, Beth mused, "the lake almost seems mean right now."

The lake seemed almost "mean" last week, in the wake of Mr. King's death. Our condolences to his family and friends.

As was discussed at Culver's most recent town council meeting (see page 7), the emergency personnel involved in the ice boating incident and retrieval of the boat are to be commended. They came across as every bit as professional as I gather they really were, on the television news coverage of the event.

- I also was not able, in these pages, to express my regrets as to the passing of Charlie Duff, who I had the opportunity to interview and get to know a bit better in 2005 as well as the years before and after. He will, of course, be missed, and our whole community is much the poorer for his passing.

One thing struck me at Charlie's funeral: the line from the twenty-third Psalm, "He makes me to lie down in green pastures."

That seemed apt for Charlie, who had such appreciation of nature, and sparked a memory that's stuck with me of him, probably from the early 2000s when our family was getting ready for an autumn hike at the Woodcraft camp. The sun was bathing everything in gold that evening, and the colors of the leaves were especially vivid, and as we crossed the bridge at Wilson ditch and headed east, there was Charlie, easel set up and brush in hand, capturing the colors and the moment on canvas and looking almost iconic. That picture seemed then and it does now a great way to remember Charles Duff.

Name: Nursing 2x5; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 5 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00052546; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Ancilla College (ROP); Size: 10 in

Name: PUB NIGHT; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 5 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00054494; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Edgewater Grille; Size: 10 in



Sports



Lady Cavs shut out Triton

By Dee Grenert
Sports Editor

BOURBON — Culver Community's girls basketball team enjoyed a little Miller time Saturday.

Junior sniper Cindy Miller drilled each of her three 3-point attempts all during the fourth quarter — to boost the visiting Cavs to a 42-37 Northern State Conference win over Triton at The Trojan Trench.

“(Miller) came in and hit some clutch 3-pointers,” Culver Community head coach Ashli Faulker, a former Triton standout, said. “I hope that gets her confidence up. You could see just as soon as she started hitting that it lifted our game.”

With Triton's 3-2 zone paying close attention to 6-foot-1 Gwen Zehner and 6-3 Patrice McBee, Miller and sophomore guard Alison Zehner combined to go 5-for-5 from behind the 3-point arc during a 21-6 second-half run that staked the Cavs to a 38-26 lead with 3:12 left in the game.

“We talked about Miller, and that the 3-pointer is her specialty,” Triton head coach Adam Heckaman said. “Three times we left her alone, and to her credit she hit them all.”

The first 3 in the long-range quintet — an Alison Zehner bomb from the left corner — put the Cavs up 22-20 with 36 seconds left in the third quarter.

“Amazing,” Faulkner said of Alison Zehner. “Ali played huge. She not only hit 3s, but she deflected a lot of basketballs and did a pretty good job taking care of the ball.”

“We told our guards that they were going to have to hit some shots,” she continued. “It's no secret that we want the ball to go to the post. With 6-1 and 6-3, who wouldn't? We told the guards, ‘It's up to you to hit shots and open up lanes to the post.’ Our dribble penetration was also huge.”

And while a rash of late turnovers allowed Triton to trim its deficit to three points — 40-37 with 31.2 seconds to play in the game — Culver's Whitney Sanders sealed the game with a pair of charity tosses at the 18.1-second stop to give her team its fourth straight win and a .500 record at 7-7.

Gwen Zehner topped the Cavs' scoring chart with 11 points to go along with nine rebounds, despite battling second-half foul trouble. In her absence, freshman Breanna Powers scored a bucket, grabbed two rebounds and provided a steady hand inside.

“Breanna was phenomenal,” Faulkner said. “We know as sectional time approaches that we have to bring up some JV kids because we're short on the bench. It's huge to see (Powers) do such a fine job.”

For the Trojans, Brittany Wallace knocked down a game-high 12 points before fouling out. Paige Davis chipped in nine points, and Savannah Stutzman pulled in seven rebounds and nabbed five steals.

However, Triton struggled to an 11-for-46 performance — 23.9 percent — from the field.

“That's been a frustration and a struggle all year,” Heckaman said. “We get a lot of shots we want, we just don't hit them. We're still trying to figure that out. We've increased the amount of time we spend shooting in practice, we're running drills harder. We get in a game and we get in a little bit of a rush, and a little nervous.”

Triton also allowed 12 offensive rebounds and 10 second-chance points against the taller Cavs.

“Zehner and McBee are big girls who use their size well,” Heckaman said. “We wanted to make it hard on them when they did get the rebound. We didn't do that very well. Instead of trying to strip it or send them to the line, we watched until they scored.”

Both teams return to the home hardwood Tuesday. Culver hosts Oregon-Davis in first-round Bi-County action, while Triton welcomes Plymouth.

CULVER COMMUNITY 42, TRITON 37
At Bourbon
Score by quarters
Culver: 5 9 22 42
Triton: 10 16 20 37
CULVER (42): Nicole Carnegie 3 0-0 6, Susannah Baker 0 0-0 0, Patrice McBee 2 0-6 4, Whitney Sanders 1 2-2 4, Yocum 2 3-4 8, Logan Brune 0 0-0 0, Anna Wilcoxson 0 2-2 2, Lindsey Bowser 7 2-3 19, Bethany Prinsen 3 4-4 10, Shanna Messmore 1 0-2 2. TOTALS: 15 11-15 45.
CULVER (56): Alexis Christlieb 1 0-0 2, Katie Gawor 0 0-0 0, Moira Kelley 0 0-0 0, Kylee Shipley 6 3-4 16, Emily Loehmer 4 0-0 8, Erica Sims 2 2-2 6, Cassie Felton 7 0-0 14, Katie Barnes 4 2-5 10, Monica Weaser 0 0-0 0. TOTALS: 24 7-11 56.
3-point goals: LC 4 (Bowser 3, Yocum), CGA 1 (Shipley); Field-goal percentage: LC 24 percent (15-of-63), CGA 42 percent (24-of-57); Free-throw percentage: LC 73 percent (11-of-15), CGA 64 percent (7-of-11). Rebounds: LC 40 (Prinsen 5, Wilcoxson 5), CGA 45 (Felton 6, Barnes 6). Turnovers: LC 12, CGA 16. Assists: LC 3 (Yocum), CGA 16 (Barnes 11). Records: CGA 9-4.

CGA wins

Culver Girls Academy's basketball team snapped a modest two-game losing streak with a 47-35 win over West Central Tuesday at Fleet Gymnasium.

Sophomore guard Kylee Shipley rattled off game highs with 19 points and eight rebounds to lead the Eagles. Senior point guard Katie Barnes, who missed CGA's game against Oregon-Davis Saturday with a foot injury, added nine points and seven assists.

CGA 47, WEST CENTRAL 35
At Culver

Score by quarters
WC: 8 16 25 35
CGA: 6 19 31 47
WEST CENTRAL (35): Caitly Sams 2 0-0 4, Rylie Pfedderer 3 3-6 9, Vanessa Wuertner 1 0-1 2 Sabrina Risner 0 0-0 0, Courtney Nelson 2 3-6 7, Alysha Faler 0 0-0 0, Makenna Hamilton 0 0-0 0, Riley Cervenka 4 1-2 9, Justine Kruger 0 0-0 0, Karissa Niehouser 0 0-0 0, Hannah Hooker 1 2-2 4. TOTALS: 13 9-16 35.
CGA (47): Alexis Christlieb 2 0-0 4, Katie Gawor 2 2-2 6, Moira Kelley 0 0-0 0, Kylee Shipley 7 5-7 19, Emily Loehmer 2 5-6 9, Cassie Felton 1 0-2 2, Katie Barnes 3 3-4 9, Erica Sims 0 0-0 0. TOTALS: 16 15-21 47.
3-point goals: WC 0, CGA 0. Free throws: WC 9-16 (56 percent); CGA 15-21 (71 percent). Shooting: WC 13-of-56 (23 percent); CGA 16-of-42 (38 percent). Fouls (fouled out): WC 16 (none), CGA 16 (none). Rebounds: WC 42 (Cervenka 7), CGA 35 (Shipley 8). Assists: WC 3 (Wuertner, Faler, Hamilton), CGA 11 (Barnes 7). Turnovers: WC 14, CGA 10. Records: West Central 4-9, CGA 8-4. JV score: West Central 23 (Kruger 8), CGA 21 (Weaser 6), OT.

Wrestling

Bremen hosts super dual
Jimtown, led by three

Culver boys fall to Triton in tough b-ball battle

By Dee Grenert
Sports Editor

BOURBON — Senior Colton Keel missed the punctuating layup on Triton's final pre-game warm-up drill Saturday.

The heavily partisan Triton crowd groaned; the 6-foot-4 Keel smiled sheepishly.

Just moments later, the star forward returned to his normal, dominating form,

during the first six minutes.

“The big thing we talked about before the game was getting off to a good start,” Groves said. “We only had one practice this week, so we haven't spent a lot of time on the court. We wanted to be aggressive. We wanted to take it to the basket, and we did a good job doing that.”

“I thought the press was pretty effective, more so

found many ways to score. Joel did a nice job on Bauer. Joel does good things defensively that I think a lot of people don't notice, and he scores, too. Dustin Kreft came off the bench and did a good job, and Ben Montalbano did a nice job running the point. It was a good, balanced effort.”

For the Cavs, Bauer finished with a team-best 12 points and seven rebounds.

Junior guard Patrick Mulvihill added nine points — highlighted by a pair of slick drives through the lane — and handed out three assists.

“We're very proud of Pat's effort,” Elliott said. “He's been in a little shooting slump, but he came out and was aggressive with the basketball, driving the lane and hitting open shots. I'm very proud of the way all of the kids competed. It wasn't lack of effort; it was lack of execution in the first quarter.”

Following Triton's initial explosion, the Cavs settled in and played three fairly solid quarters.

“We expected a press,” Elliott said. “We got on our heels and we didn't have kids step up and execute. We got in a hole right from the get go. It was a six-point margin over the next three quarters, but when you spot a team that much, that's tough. Playing even isn't good enough.”

“We played three pretty good quarters,” he concluded. “Unfortunately they keep score for four.”

Triton hosts Elkhart Christian Friday, while Culver opens Bi-County play Tuesday at home.

TRITON 56, CULVER COMMUNITY 36
At Bourbon
Score by quarters
Culver: 8 16 29 36
Triton: 22 33 46 56
CULVER (36): Nick Peterson 0 0-0 0, Brock Elliott 1 1-4 3, Justin Master 2 2-2 6, Zoe Bauer 6 0-3 12, Patrick Mulvihill 4 0-0 9, Kyle Pugh 0 0-0 0, AJ Neace 1 0-0 2, Larry Clinger 2 0-0 4, Nate Niswander 0 0-0 0. TOTALS: 16 3-9 36.
TRITON (56): Curtis Nordmann 0 0-0 0, Ben Montalbano 3 0-0 6, Joel Meister 5 0-1 10, Dustin Kreft 0 0-0 0, Camron Garey 0 0-0 0, Cody Carpenter 0 0-0 0, Austin Davis 0 0-0 0, Taran Holderman 1 0-0 2, Griffyn Carpenter 5 1-2 12, Kreig Voreis 0 0-0 0, Jordan Everett 0 0-0 0, Colton Keel 8 5-6 23, Zac Moriarty 1 1-3 3. TOTALS: 23 7-12 56.
3-point goals: Culver 1 (Mulvihill), Triton 3 (Keel 2, G. Carpenter); Turnovers: Culver 15, Triton 11; Rebounds: Culver 21 (Bauer 7), Triton 34 (Keel 12); Assists: Culver 8 (Mulvihill 3), Triton 13 (Montalbano 5); Steals: Culver 3, Triton 7 (Meister 4); Fouls (fouled out): Culver 13 (none), Triton 16 (none); Records: Culver 3-7 (0-2 NSC), Triton 10-0 (2-0 NSC).



PHOTO/DEANNA L. GRENERT

Culver Community's Patrick Mulvihill, left, drives against Triton's Ben Montalbano, right, Saturday at The Trojan Trench.

piling up 23 points, 12 rebounds, three assists and two blocked shots during Class A No. 1 Triton's 56-36 Northern State Conference boys basketball win over visiting Culver Community at The Trojan Trench.

Keel, starting with a second-chance 3-pointer in the Trojans' first trip down the floor, registered 11 points during a 20-4 game-opening outburst that put the defending state champions in command from the opening tip.

“(Keel) did a nice job finishing, and he hit his free throws,” Triton head coach Jason Groves, whose team beat Culver 68-48 during the Caston Holiday Tournament last month, said. “He played well tonight.”

Altogether, the Trojans scored eight second-chance points and — led by a swarming full-court press — four more off turnovers

than the first time we played them,” he added. “We covered the cutter this time.”

For the game, Triton tallied 13 points off 11 offensive rebounds.

“We worked on some rebounding drills, but we absolutely got dominated on the boards,” Culver Community head coach Kyle Elliott said. “Triton got offensive boards, and was able to convert on them.”

Triton sophomore sharpshooter Griffyn Carpenter kicked in 12 points in the first half before heading to the bench with what Groves believed to be just a bruised knee. Defensive wizard Joel Meister, who made life difficult for Culver standout Zoe Bauer, swiped four steals and also added 10 points, and point guard Ben Montalbano dished out five assists.

“We had a lot of guys step up,” Groves said. “We

Sports briefs

weight-class champions, won the six-team Bremen Super Dual Saturday.

Justin Bogart finished in a three-way tie for individual champion at 130 to lead the hosts. Triton's Matt Lindsey won the individual crown at 103.

• BREMEN SUPER DUAL
At Bremen
Round 1: Concord over Triton 58-22, Bremen over Culver 42-30, Jimtown over New Prairie 38-25;
Round 2: Jimtown over Concord 33-29, Bremen over Triton 34-30, New Prairie over Culver 66-16;
Round 3: Triton over Culver 60-12, Jimtown over Bremen 54-18, New Prairie over Concord 36-26;
Round 4: Jimtown over Triton 62-14, New Prairie over Bremen 57-14, Concord over Culver 60-24;
Round 5: Jimtown over Culver 69-10, Concord over Bremen 54-22, New Prairie over Triton 62-12.
Team Champion: Jimtown
Individual Champions: 103 — Matt Lindsey, Triton; 112 — Aaron Alexander, Concord; 119 — Fulvio DeSantiago, Concord; 125 — Steven Ross, Concord; 130 — John Moore, Jimtown; Joe Zigler, New Prairie; Justin Bogart, Bremen; 135 — Jeremy Hill, Jimtown; 140 —

Dillan Escobedo, New Prairie; 145 — Niles Goodman, New Prairie; 152 — Jose Gonzales, Concord; 160 — Ryan Balanow, New Prairie; 171 — Zach Spurgeon, Jimtown; 189 — Eric Singleton, New Prairie; 215 — Kannon Keigley, New Prairie; 275 — Stephen Irving, Concord.

Skins triumph

Knox finished a perfect 5-0 at the Culver New Year Super Duals at CMA Saturday.

Danny Bradley (119), Kyle Hernandez (125), Devann Biddle (130), Jimmy Krause (160) and Alex Windbigler (189) all finished undefeated for the Redskins.

Zak Hewitt (145), Daniel Young (152) and Jack Crawford (215) were all perfect for CMA.

• CULVER NEW YEAR SUPER DUALS
At Culver
TEAM RECORDS: Knox 5-0, Logansport 4-1, Culver Military Academy 2-3, Indianapolis Broad Ripple 2-3, Lafayette Central Catholic 1-4, North Judson 0-5. UNDEFEATED WRESTLERS: 103 —

Brandon Preston (L), 112 — Cody Schrader (CC), 119 — Danny Bradley (K), 125 — Kyle Hernandez (K), 130 — Devann Biddle (K), 135 — Ritchie Clark (NJ), 140 — Adrian Shelton (BR), 145 — Zak Hewitt (CMA), 152 — Daniel Young (CMA), 160 — Jimmy Krause (K), 171 — Derek Rowe (L), 189 — Alex Windbigler (K), 215 — Jack Crawford (CMA), 285 — Kegan Clark (L).

MATCH SCORES:
First Round: CMA 47, Broad Ripple 36; Knox 66, North Judson 16; Logansport 52, Central Catholic 18;
Second Round: Knox 52, CMA 18; Logansport 66, North Judson 10; Broad Ripple 42, Central Catholic 36;
Third Round: CMA 54, North Judson 30; Logansport 68, Broad Ripple 6; Knox 75, Central Catholic 6;
Fourth Round: Logansport 57, CMA 21; Central Catholic 40, North Judson 18; Knox 71, Broad Ripple 9;
Fifth Round: Central Catholic 52, CMA 30; Broad Ripple 40, North Judson 30; Knox 32, Logansport 30.

Hockey

CMA blanked

Indianapolis Jr. Ice shut out CMA 3-0 Friday.

Council offers town manager position, reviews 2008

By Jeff Kenney
Citizen editor

Officially reorganized but retaining Sally Ricciardi as president, Culver’s town council announced Jan. 13 it would offer the long-discussed position of town manager to Michael Doss of Lewisburg, Ohio. Doss, whom Ricciardi said “seems like an exceedingly nice man,” was brought back for a second interview during which town employees and others were able to meet with him. “He’s very young, very competent and outgoing,” said Ricciardi of Doss, who she added is married with two children. Town clerk Casey Howard and Ricciardi -- who said she speaks for the entire council -- expressed hope Doss would accept the position.

Other discussion at the meeting focused on year-end and new year business. Town clerk Casey Howard reported the town earned roughly \$20,000 in interest and reiterated, as at the previous meeting, that the town’s ending year balances are better than at the same time last year. She reported the town has \$6.6 million in debt, due largely to the purchase last year of a new vactor truck. She noted the town paid off a few small debts, with another to be paid off this year.

Funds related to the town’s tree commission have depleted, she added, noting that commission has hired a forester to apply for a new grant this year. The council also reappointed Judy Sawhook and Dick Brantingham to the tree commission.

Howard added she hopes to make necessary arrangements for the town to begin accepting debit and credit card payments from the public, something the council urged her to investigate.

Town building inspector Russ Mason said 2008 was a “record year in terms of building permits...but not in terms of project costs.”

While 153 permits were issued last year, he explained, only five new homes were built in 2008, compared with a number of such projects in 2007. The town wouldn’t have had many accessory building projects in 2008, he said, if not for Culver Academies’ horse barn renovation project.

Council member Ralph Winters noted much building work is conducted in Union Township, outside the town of Culver proper, and asked if discussion should take place, in the future, of the township taking on part of the cost of building inspection.

Kathy Clark addressed the council with the annual report of the Culver Redevelopment Commission, from which she is retiring after five years as president. Clark noted the CRC did a great deal of work in Culver’s TIF District 2, “and I think with very little money.”

“We’re really pleased as a commission to have contributed almost \$1 million to the town of Culver for water and sewer projects,” Clark said. “We’ve got a good shot at having almost \$300,000 in Tif (Tax Increment Financing) District 1 by this time next year, and we should collect \$200-\$300,000 in the next few years.”

She added the CRC feels a sidewalk to businesses on

State Road 10 could be a worthy project.

Ricciardi thanked Clark as well as Chet Marshall and Jim Weirick, also retiring from the CRC. The council also opted to discuss new appointments to the CRC at its next meeting, in the wake of low response (just two letters of interest) to recent advertisement for new commission members; the advertisement will be re-published before the next council meeting.

The council also opted to re-advertise for bids for purchase of a new ambulance for Culver’s EMS, as only one bid was received after the previous advertisement.

Clerk Howard and some council members expressed surprise that the Marshall County Economic Development Corporation asked for a \$10,000 commitment from Culver, emphasizing they understood last year’s similar commitment was a one-time expenditure. Noting he was aware the commitment was annual, Ralph Winters said he understood activities like those undertaken by MCEDC – represented at the meeting by Kevin Berger, who said the group hoped this time for a two-year contract – take time to get off the ground. “I suggest we give them three years,” said Winters. “If we don’t get anywhere, then we pull the carpet out from under them.”

Berger praised the work of MCEDC head Tom Turner, explaining some of the projects on which the group is working, such as running high-speed, fiber optic lines from South Bend down State Road 17 to Culver. “For Culver, we’re looking at trying to get more high tech industries, and they all want high-speed internet. We have to provide things companies are looking for before we can make their ‘short list’ (of potential development sites).” Berger said.

Culver police chief Wayne Bean told the council his department received three radios -- \$8,500 worth – free of charge as part of its compliance with National Incident Management System (or NIMS, a federally mandated program) standards.

Culver-Union Twp. EMS vice-director Tim McCarthy reported the department had 388 ambulance runs in 2008 and added three new volunteers to its roster as drivers, one basic EMT became an advanced EMT with state certification, one driver has finished the Basic EMT course and another is awaiting state certification. Three new PRN advanced personnel were added last year as well.

McCarthy and Ricciardi agreed the various emergency response personnel involved in the pervious weekend’s tragic iceboat accident worked well together and handled the situation admirably.

Town attorney Jim Clevenger – whom the council also voted to hire as its 2009 attorney – reported a pretrial conference had taken place that morning regarding an appeal from the Ratcliff party on Lake Maxinkuckee’s south shore regarding a zoning issue. He also noted a public hearing on Culver’s new water rate ordinance will take place Jan. 27 at the council’s regular, 6:30 p.m. meeting.

In response to a query from council member Lynn Overmyer, clerk Howard said the new emergency siren planned for installation at the town hall has not yet arrived, though it has been ordered and paid for. Ricciardi noted fire chief Mike Grover,

who couldn’t attend the meeting, is working on setting a date for installation of the siren pole.

Discussion was held as to the best approach to the local Southwest Conservancy District’s request to bring sewer service to that district from Culver. Council president Ricciardi said representatives of that group would like to meet with representatives of the town. Ralph Winters, Russ Mason, and council member Ginny Munroe – who was listening and responding from out of town by speakerphone – expressed concern that the Conservancy District likely can’t be annexed into Culver in the future. “Once you sign that agreement with them,” noted Mason, “your expansion is gone. If this town’s going to survive, it’s got to grow. I’m not against the revenue. I would rather have them do that than build their own (sewer) plant.”

“I think annexation is the big white elephant in the room,” agreed Munroe, “and it seems to be a dirty word.”

Clerk Howard noted Culver’s present sewer plant is at 90 percent capacity now.

Winters also raised concerns about a 190-foot tower erected on town property near Culver’s street garage six to eight years ago, noting no emergency services use the tower; instead, he said, the only entity using it is high-speed internet company Fourway, from Bremen.

“Our (local) internet providers were quite piqued that Fourway (was) getting this tower and not others....it’s evidently one of those things that never quite came off as anticipated.”

Ricciardi agreed the matter should be investigated.

In other actions, the council also approved replacement of a heater at the town water plant, reappointed Tammy Shaffer to the park board, and noted Bill Cleavenger, now Marshall County coroner, must be replaced on the Board of Zoning Appeals.



Fond farewell

Indiana Congressman Joe Donnelly dropped by Culver Academies Jan. 16 for a pizza party and well wishes for the school’s Black Horse Troop and Equestriennes, preparing to depart the next morning for Washington, DC, to ride in president-elect Barack Obama’s inaugural parade Jan. 20. In the photo above, Donnelly shares a moment with Lillian Hogan (left), a sophomore from Plymouth, and Michelina Carbone, a freshman from South Bend.

PHOTO/GARY MILLS, CULVER ACADEMIES COMMUNICATIONS DEPT.

Briefs, from page 1

Elementary School. Pick up day is Tues., Feb. 3 from 5 - 6 p.m. at the school. All funds raised go towards PTO and are returned to the children of CES with the intention of benefitting all CES students. Those with questions are encouraged to call the school at 574-842-3389 and ask for Lisa Moise or Lisa Allyn or volunteer Stephanie Schaller at 574-842-4264.

Culver HS basketball history book on sale

Culver High School’s Business Professionals of America is selling copies of the Culver Community boys and girls basketball record book. The book is a compilation of statistics from teams from 1968 through the present. It includes coaches’ and players’ individual and team records, awards, and year-by-year, team-by-team scores. The cost of the book is \$10. Anyone who has followed basketball here over the years will want this novel idea for a Christmas gift. Copies may be purchased at the Culver High School.

Winter open gym

An open gym will be held for adults at the Culver Middle School gym this winter, Sundays from 1 to 3 p.m., through March 1. Cost is \$2 per Sunday, or \$15 for the entire winter. Questions can be directed to Ken VanDePutte at 574-274-9942.

Center for Culver

History needs items

The Center for Culver History museum room in the Culver library will be open Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. until noon. Visitors can see the concept for the museum, view a few of the artifacts which will be in the museum and purchase any of the items the Antiquarian and Historical Society has for sale. The Center is also always in need of area artifacts to display in the space; items may be dropped off at the Culver Public Library.

Soup-er Bowl Sun-

day Luncheon

A Soup-er Bowl Sunday Luncheon will be held Feb. 1, 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m., at Pretty Lake Trinity United Methodist Church, 8985 State Rd 17, about three miles west of the hospital at Redwood Rd. There will be five kinds of soup, sandwiches, veggies, desserts, and drinks. Adults: \$7.50, Children 6-12: \$4, Children under 6: free.

Citizen cell phone

Please note our new contract information and cell phone number on page 3. Citizen editor Jeff Kenney may now be reached at a new cell number, 574-216-0075. Please submit e-mail news items to the longstanding address, citizen@culcom.net.

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Name: Classifieds; Width: 62p8; Depth: 21 in; Color: Black; File Name: -; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Classifieds; Size: 126 in

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