



## In Brief

### VFW fish fry March 28

Culver's VFW post 6919 and its auxiliaries will host an all-you-can-eat fish fry Saturday, March 28 from 4 to 7 p.m. at its headquarters at 108 E. Washington Street in Culver. Proceeds from the event will benefit Culver's police department and Emergency Medical Services. The fish will be prepared by the Tyner I.O.O.F. Lodge, with tickets priced at \$7 adults and \$3 for children 12 and under. Tickets are available via Culver EMS or police personnel, or at Culcom, LLC, 514 W. Jefferson Street in Culver.

### Culver baseball, softball sign-ups

Culver youth baseball and softball league sign-ups will be held at the Culver Public Library on the following dates: Saturday, March 28, 10 a.m. to noon; Saturday, April 4, 10 a.m. to noon; and Sunday, April 19, 1 to 3 p.m. Those with questions may contact Francis Ellert at fellert@cckokomo.com.

### CCHS Sports Spectacular April 3

Culver Community High School will host its annual Sports Spectacular from 6 to 11 p.m. Friday, April 3 at the high school gymnasium. Doors will open at 5:30. At 6 p.m., there will be a faculty versus students volleyball game. This is followed by thirteen events that test the numerous abilities of CCHS' students. At 8 p.m., the faculty will play the students in basketball. The annual dance contest will be after the basketball game, followed by a high school dance from 9 to 11 p.m. Admission to the Sports Spectacular is \$3, and the dance will be free for high school students. All proceeds go to the Culver Community Athletic Department.

### 'Dinner and a Movie' for Relay

Culver's Edgewater Grille and Uptown Cinema will host "Dinner and a Movie" in support of Culver's Relay for Life Friday, April 11. Dinner with a special Relay menu will begin at 5 p.m. The movie, "Twilight," begins at 7:30 p.m. Proceeds from the event will go to the cancer-fighting, April 17 Relay event. To make reservations for "Dinner and a Movie," call 574-842-2234.

See Briefs page 8

## The economy hits home

Above, left: the nation's economic slump hit Culver in a number of ways, but one of the most recent is the departure of a local family from their School Street home, a home familiar to many for its displays of school and holiday spirit (see story below).

CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

## Some of Culver's athletic best

Above, right: Culver Community High School and Middle School held its annual winter athletic awards banquet March 16. Pictured above are this year's All-Conference and tournament qualifiers. Front row, left to right: Susannah Baker, Robert Molebash, Dalton Overmyer. Back row, left to right: Gwen Zehner, Zoe Bauer, and Tommy James. Other winning groups from the event are pictured on page 6, this issue.

PHOTO/PAUL PARE

# 'Good-bye School Street'

## Current economic challenges hit home for well-known Culver family

By Jeff Kenney  
Citizen editor

Last week, Sue Buschman hung one last sign on the porch of her home at 418 School Street. This one, however, wasn't another in a long line of signs and decorations cheering on Culver's football team, or celebrating a holiday or the birth of a new family member. Instead it read, "Good-bye School Street – Thanks for the memories."

Whether or not they recognize the Buschman name, most Culver residents with

much longevity will recall the regular presence of such decorations adorning the house, directly across the street from Culver Elementary School. That presence evolved over the 28 years the Buschmans occupied their former home. Today the house stands empty, a sobering testament to the nation's economic woes having hit home in Culver.

Those woes penetrated the Buschmans' lives on a Friday last October, when Sue's husband Jim left for work remarking to his wife

he felt his job was pretty safe. He came home a few hours later with the news he'd been laid off. "So we were just getting over that," recalls Sue Buschman. "On (the following) Monday I lost my job, and I said, 'This isn't looking any better.'"

By the time their January, 2009 heat bill estimate came in, Sue says the family had to tackle the difficult inevitability of foreclosure.

The Buschmans first moved into the house in 1981, renting it from long-

time Culver Community School superintendent Bill Mills. Two years into renting the home, Sue says Mills offered to sell her the house and the family enthusiastically agreed.

Over the years, six children were raised at 418 School Street: Sarah (now an aide in Culver Elementary's Title 1 program), Jay (working in sales for Braun in Winamac), Michael (a popular teacher at Culver Community High School), Jimmy (in computer programming in South Bend, though planning a move back to Culver), Amanda (in college to be a social worker), and Ben, who graduated CCHS last year.

The house's proximity to both the elementary and high school in Culver, of course, was a plus. "Jim said he'd never buy the kids a swing set," smiles Sue, "because the school (play-

ground) was right there! They walked to practice, to sports, to everything. It was wonderful. If the kids forgot something, the office would call and say, 'Sue, can you bring over Jim's homework,' or whatever it was."

This also occasionally led to situations exemplifying Culver's small-town lifestyle, such as former Culver Elementary School secretary Janet Overmyer phoning Sue one day to ask if she had a potato. "I said, 'Sure, I'll bring it right over.' Someone in the office with Jan said, 'Did you just ask her for a potato and she didn't even ask you why you needed it?' Of course, when I gave her the potato I was curious why she needed it, and she said one of the students was doing a science experiment with a potato and forgot his, so See Goodbye page 2

# 'Dark Knight' producer's journey began in Indiana

## Uslan tells Culver audience, 'believe in your work'

By Jeff Kenney  
Citizen editor



Michael Uslan, producer of last year's highly successful Batman film, "The Dark Knight" as well as five previous Batman films, chats with Culver Academies sophomore Maria Guarino after his March 3 talk at the school's Eppley Auditorium. Uslan also visited with students in several classes on campus.

CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

The man responsible for taking Batman from the pages of comic books and camp humor into serious films – the latest recently grossing one billion dollars – told an enthusiastic audience at Culver Academies' Eppley auditorium he was happy to be "back home in Indiana."

Michael Uslan, producer of the wildly successful series of "Batman" movies in the late 1980s and early 1990s as well as last year's critically acclaimed "The Dark Knight," described himself as "a kid who sat in a classroom at Indiana University in Bloomington with the dream of making the first serious, dark Batman film."

The son of a brick mason father and bookkeeper mother, Uslan said his lack of money presented

one challenge to making his dream come true, though he was determined to "keep putting my foot in the door."

Uslan grew up in New Jersey, where his voracious reading of comic books led to his amassing 35,000 of them dating back to 1936 by his college years, a collection that would eventually total over

See Uslan page 6

## Area meth epidemic has personal twist for former Academies employee

By Jeff Kenney  
Citizen editor

The problem of methamphetamine has quietly but surely become an epidemic in Marshall County, says former Culver Academies employee turned Methodist pastor Terry White, with this county ranking seventh in the state in meth arrests, a statistic that shocked many in the Culver Kiwanis Club audience at White's Feb. 26 visit.

White – who came back to Culver through former Academies coworker Julie Bess -- suggested one antidote to the rapidly growing problem of meth, especially amongst residents of largely rural, Caucasian areas like Marshall County, is the sort of affirmation too many youth are lacking. It's that lack that creates the "hole in your soul," said White, so often filled with meth or other harmful drugs and behaviors. White distributed to each audience member two ribbons with the message, " printed on them, noting they're a "piece of affirmation" she chooses to pass on to people who have made a difference or are valued in her life.

A United Methodist pastor in Twelve Mile near Rochester, White then asks the recipient to pass the ribbon on to another individual who hold some import in their own lives. The "ribboning" process is part of a program for youth White helped create called "Hoosier Friends," a group she said she and a friend were invited to represent before one of the Indiana governor's councils to request funding, which she said the group received. As a result, White and others have traveled around the state (3,500 miles that first summer) with the message that affirmation is critical to

See Meth page 2



Goodbye from page 1

they needed one!”

Possibly most memorable to many Culverites was the regular presence of several large, wooden Culver Cavaliers football players with team-supporting slogans – such as “I believe” -- and “Bubba,” a mannequin the family decorated with football gear and placed atop their house. Sue says that annual autumn tradition began when son Jay first played football for the school in the late 1980s and early 1990s.

“People would say, ‘When’s Bubba going up?’” she recalls. “And I always made cookies for the football players as they came by on their homecoming parade route. It was tradition (and) they knew it, too. It got to where I bagged the individual cookies (because of the frenzy of players reaching into the cookie box). I’d just give them their box and step back!”

“Once my boys were out of football, we kept it up. If there wasn’t anything else in town (supporting the team), they knew our yard would have something.”

That something also included holiday decorations, from Thanksgiving

to Christmas, but especially Halloween, Sue’s favorite holiday.

The family helped prepare portions of Culver’s now-defunct Haunted Trail for several years at the town park. When that annual activity ceased, the Buschmans moved their part of it into their own home, hosting an elaborate haunted house on Halloween night for three years and decorating extensively for the season through last year, as most in Culver have seen.

Signs and decorations for a variety of occasions were the norm at the house. The family’s patriotic signs and décor – including Bubba’s retooling into an emblem of national pride and hope – made the pages of a major daily newspaper after September 11, 2001, and a plethora of births, birthdays, and other family occasions were announced to Culver via the Buschman home.

For now those occasions carry on at Sue’s father’s house near Culver, where she says there’s plenty of room for her family. The economy, she notes, is something she never paid

A visit from the chief

Culver chief of police Wayne Bean was a guest of the Wesley United Methodist preschool on School Street the week of March 12, explaining to youngsters there his job and the function of some of the equipment used by Culver police officers. Here Bean chats with junior class students (left to right) Ruth Counts, Alisa Hinds (seated), Cabot Ellert, Connor Schmiedlin, Sidd Smith, Nicky Huss, and Marcel White.

PHOTO SUBMITTED/JENNIFER LUTTRELL



much attention to before, but now she’s “scared to death...it made me feel just this much better knowing I’m not alone. But I worry about what’s going to be left for my kids.”

Most of the family gathered at the house once more, the last day before they had to vacate.

“Almost everybody (in the family) that day came and wandered around. At first we thought, ‘Why did we come here?’ It was kind of weird to see it totally empty.”

Writing scrawled in an up-

stairs closet Sue told young Sarah she could decorate years ago – since Sue planned to paint it anyway, but never did – told tales of days gone by. In fact, a litany of physical reminders around the house brought recollections of the serious, the silly, and the sublime.

“We started telling stories (that last day), and the more kids came, the more stories we told,” Sue recalls.

Before leaving, she says she left notes in each room of the house: “I was the kitchen,” “I was mom and dad’s bedroom,” and

so forth, with brief recollections of each: “I heard frightened whispers during thunderstorms” here, and “Kittens were nursed back to health in this room” there.

“That was part of the healing thing for me,” she says. “It wasn’t just a house; you look in the dictionary under ‘home,’ and see our place.”

Preparing the home for the finance company to take over, Sue says a company representative was surprised to find out locks would have to be added; in 28 years, the family

never locked the house, yet never had anything stolen, a scenario as familiar to many in Culver as were the Buschman’s decorations and signs. Then there was that last sign, saying goodbye, the family hung upon leaving for the last time. “I think people understood what I meant (with the sign),” Sue says. “They got it. It’s (about) being there for 28 years. It’s everything.”

Briefs, from page 1

For more information on Relay, visit [www.relay-forlife.org/culverin](http://www.relay-forlife.org/culverin) or call 574-842-7777.

West benefit April 5

As reported in a previous edition of the Citizen, a benefit will be held for Culver Comm. High School senior Liz West and sister Margaret, who lost unexpectedly lost both parents in December, 2008. The event takes place Sunday, April 5 from noon to 8 p.m. at the Chipewewa Bowl, 225 W Chipewewa Ave. in South Bend. Included in the \$20 donation at the door are two bowling games and shoes, all you can eat lunch or dinner (depending on the time of your visit), and live entertainment. Raffles and prizes will also be part of the festivities. Questions may be directed to Missy Trent, 574-806-1745.

Maxinkuckee Players auditions May 2

Auditions for the Maxinkuckee Players’ production of “The Music Man” will take place from 9 a.m. to noon, 1 to 4 p.m. and 5 to 9 p.m. Saturday, May 2, in the Culver Community High School Auditorium.

Anyone interested should come prepared to sing a

song of their choice and read from the script that we will provide. Piano players will be available or they may sing with a recording. There are parts available for all ages. Show dates are Friday, July 24; Sunday, July 26; Wednesday, July 29; Friday, July 31; Saturday, Aug. 1; and Sunday, Aug. 2. For more information, call director Becky Liechty at 574- 941-2343.

Culver Kindergarten Roundup

Kindergarten Roundup for Culver Elementary district students will be held Wed., April 8 at 6 p.m. in the Culver Elementary School cafeteria. Kindergarten Roundup for Monterey Elementary students will be held Tuesday, April 7 at 6 p.m. in the Monterey Elementary School cafeteria. To be eligible for kindergarten, a child must be 5 years old on or before Aug. 1, 2009. Children do not need to attend this informational meeting for parents.

Parents should bring a copy of the child’s birth certificate to verify the date of birth, and the child’s immunization record. If a parent cannot come on April 7 or April 8, contact Culver Elementary at 574-842-3389

or Monterey Elementary at 542-2601 to make other arrangements.

Census jobs available at Culver library

Representatives from the federal Census Bureau will be stationed at the Culver Public Library through the end of March on select days to take applications for census jobs. While census employment is temporary, wages are competitive and workers will have opportunities to work a number of hours.

Interested persons may inquire at the library Mondays and Thursdays between 9 a.m. and noon, and 1 and 4 p.m.

Tri Kappa butter braid sales begin

Culver’s Tri Kappa is once again offering its popular butter braids, whose proceeds go to benefit the non-profit organization, whose objective is to promote charity, culture and education.

Butter braids – ideal for Easter morning treats -- come in eight flavors (apple, blueberry cream cheese, caramel rolls, cherry, cinnamon, cream cheese, red raspberry, strawber-

ry cream cheese and the new Bavarian creme with chocolate icing), with cinnamon rolls also available. Braids are \$11 each and come frozen. Orders are due by Friday, March 13, and delivery is April 6. To order, call Jennifer Luttrell at 574-842-3862.

Moccachino is ‘Drink of the month’ for Relay

The Culver Coffee Company on Lake Shore Drive will donate all proceeds from its “drink of the month” for March to Culver’s cancer-fighting Relay for Life, which takes place in April. Culver Coffee owner Dawn Minas will share all proceeds from the CCC’s popular Moccachino drinks sold this month, with the Relay.

Budget-friendly meal programs at Grace

The Outreach Ministry at Grace United Church of Christ in Culver will present a series of nutrition and budget programs, held at the church. These will take place Tuesday mornings at 10:30 a.m. They include Skillet Meals (March 24), Healthy Snacks (March

31), Bountiful Beans (April 7), and Eating In on the Run (April 14). All programs are free and open to the public.

Help needed with community garden venture

The Outreach Ministry at Grace United Church of Christ in Culver will be using part of the Academy Road lot owned by Culver Community Schools for a community garden. Help is needed with a variety of tasks from plowing to mowing, hoeing to harvesting, and distribution of produce to the food pantry. Those with questions may contact Barb Quivey at Grace church (574-842-2331) or at home, 574-842-2329. Projects co-chair Connie Richie may be reached at 574-542-4810.

John Glenn `69 grads sought

The John Glenn High School class of 1969 will hold its 40th class reunion Aug. 1 at Christo’s Banquet Hall in Plymouth. The planning committee would like updated addresses on their classmates. If you are a 1969 graduate of JGHS or know the addresses of classmates, please forward them to Elaine Vandall at

18157 Cherokee Trail, Culver, IN 46511.

Hospice volunteers needed

SouthernCare Hospice is looking for volunteers to make a difference in terminal patients, and their family’s lives. If you have a little time to donate, and would like to make a difference in your life and others, please join this most rewarding volunteer program.

Many volunteer opportunities are offered including: Delivering goody bags, running errands, visiting with patients, being a part of a team, relieving caregiver, providing snacks, reading and writing.

To join the volunteer program, please contact Chelsey Beery, Volunteer Coordinator at 260-432-6075.

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](mailto:citizen@culcom.net).

Name: Weekly Ad CC; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 2.5 in; Color: Black; File Name:

healthy emotional development – and thus avoid-

Name: Weekly Ad; Width: 9p9.833;

ance of drugs – in young people’s lives.

White shared the story of one student whose name appeared on a bulletin board at one Indiana elementary school, on which he was described as

could only hope her affirmation of the young boy made a difference in his life, “What about all the other ‘Billys’ of the world? There’s no 25 cent price tag on being positive. We all have the ability to make a difference to someone.”

White explained the desire to fill emotional emptiness in many youth often leads directly to addiction. Marshall County continues to experience worsening problems with the drugs, having seen 41 meth-related arrests last year, with at least 11 so far this year.

“With the economy going down, you’ll see even more meth production,” she added, noting there are increasingly easy ways for addicts and



Terri White discussed the meth epidemic at a recent visit to Culver’s Kiwanis Club.

CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

a largely worthless member of the class, a description teachers and administrators at the school openly shared, as did the student himself.

“I ‘ribboned’ Billy that day,” she said. Though she

sellers to “cook” – or manufacture – the drug, including mixing it in two-liter soft drink bottles. “Whenever you see a pop bottle with a hose coming out of it, or a fire extinguisher or

anhydrous ammonia tank along the roadside, call the authorities. There’s a fear for our kids of kicking or hitting it.”

The meth epidemic for White – who was invited to take part in Plymouth mayor Mark Senter’s recent meth task force – has a personal side: her own son, who graduated from high school with honors and showed no signs of the sort of emotional issues that often lead to addiction, “fell in with the wrong crowd” and became a meth addict. Happily, she said, he’s been “clean” of the drug for three years now.

White showed the audience a 12-minute video about David Parnell, a meth addict who eventually attempted suicide by shooting himself in the face. Parnell survived and went on to become a powerful speaker to students across the country, said White, who added her organization is bringing Parnell to several area schools at a cost of \$1,500 (he charges \$500 to speak to schools, White noted). She expressed hope the Culver schools might consider bringing him here as well.





PHOTO SUBMITTED/ANN BUTTS

## ‘Little Culver’ in Florida?

The Southwest Florida Culver community brunch was again organized by Dusty Henricks to celebrate another snowless day in Florida. As usual, in order to maximize exposure to the sun, this year’s brunch was held on the beach at the Turtle Club in Naples, Florida March 3. Over 40 Culverites from Naples, Fort Myers, Venice, Sanibel and Captiva Islands, Jupiter and other locations attended. In the photo on left: Tom Barnes, Jack Cunningham, Alan Becker. At right, Mike Hudson, Dick Brantingham and Steve Spaw.

### Death notice - Trent

**Ronald B. Trent**  
**March 14, 2009**

LECANTO, Fla. — Ronald B. Trent, 51, of Lecanto, Fla., formerly of Culver, passed away Saturday, March 14, 2009 in Hamlet.

Survivors include three sons: Ronald J. of Waterford, Va., Joshua and Jeremy, both of Salyersville, Ky.; four brothers: Jeff (Missy) Trent and Ray Trent, all of North Judson, Kenny Trent and Tom (November) Cole, all of Plymouth; five sisters: Patty Fletcher of Lecanto, Fla., Tina (Mike) Bailey of Plymouth, Tabitha (Don) Higdon of Goshen, Vicki (Doug) Magurean of Knox and Becky Brewer of Culver.

Friends may call Wednesday one hour prior to the service. Services was March 18 at 11 a.m. (CDT) at Rannells Funeral Home, Hamlet Chapel, with the Rev. Paul Bagley officiating.

Burial was in the Highland Cemetery, North Judson.

### Death notice - Cissna

**John D. Cissna**  
**March 19, 2009**

LEITERS FORD — John D. Cissna, 40, of Leiters Ford, died Thursday, March 19, 2009.

He is survived by his parents, Dan and Alpha Cissna of Leiters Ford; brother, Mike (Michelle) Cissna of Plymouth; and sisters: Lisa Clement of Logansport and Patty (Dave) Caruana of Rockford, Ill.

Visitation was Monday, March 23 from 4 to 8 p.m. at the Bonine-Odom Funeral Home in Culver. Funeral services were Tuesday, March 24 at 2 p.m. at the funeral home. Burial followed at the Leiters Ford IOOF Cemetery.

Memorials can be made to the Mental Health Association.

## Cissna drowns at Leiters Ford

John D. Cissna, age 40, of 4136 N. 750 West in Rochester, a former Culver Community High School student, died March 19 as a result of drowning in the swollen Tippecanoe River, where his body was found. The Fulton County Sheriff’s Department suspects no foul play. The body was found after being spotted in the river at the public access site near Leiters Ford, according to WSBT-TV and the *Rochester Sentinel*. Cissna was discovered by his sister, who said he left home Thursday morning and didn’t return. She saw his van parked near the river and noticed the body under a log jam in the water. The Aubbeenaubbee Township and Rochester fire departments, and Fulton County EMS assisted at the scene.

# A Garden Court for Culver?

By Kevin L. Berger

*Editor’s note: Kevin Berger is nearly a life-long resident of Culver and is active in the Culver Chamber of Commerce, Plymouth Chamber of Commerce, Associated Builders and Contractors (director), Lake Maxinkuckee Environmental Fund (director), and the Marshall County Economic Development Corporation (vice president). He is also with Easterday Construction Co., Inc. in Culver, which built the last five Garden Court projects in Argos, Bourbon, Knox, Plymouth and Mentone. Berger presented to Culver’s town council recently a letter concerning the need for a Garden Court senior apartment complex in Culver. At the Culver Citizen’s request, he discusses here the background of the project.*

Garden Court, Inc. would like to place one of its facilities in Culver. Reverend Ronald Liechty, president of Garden Court, Inc., came before the Culver town council several years ago to request their assistance in finding a location and partnering in obtaining a grant to fund this project. At that time, the Council gave their blessing to the pursuit of this project. Meetings were held with the Plan Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals to confirm their support of the project. Everything was in place except a parcel of land on which to place the facility. Garden Court worked with the Culver town manager to identify potential parcels and those property owners were contacted. Unfortunately, none of those property owners were inclined to sell at that time.

That’s where the project has stalled for the last five years or more. This year Garden Court has decided to attempt to tackle this need in Culver again. Discussions have been held with town council members and they have reaffirmed their support. All of the community leaders contacted agree that there is a need. It once again comes down to the issue of land.

A Garden Court in Culver would require a parcel of land approximately 1.5 to 2 acres in size, depending on shape and topography. While not required to be within the town limits, it is required to have access to municipal water and sewer. It also must have its own access to a dedicated street. Seven properties have been identified in Culver as potential sites and those property owners have been contacted.

The facility is envisioned to be approximately 15 units on one floor with a community room, laundry room and management office. They would be built on a central corridor system with controlled access. The facility would

## About Garden Court

Garden Court is a not-for-profit group that came together in Plymouth for the expressed purpose of providing affordable housing for the elderly. A team of like-minded professionals representing management, legal, architectural and grant administration was formed to pursue this goal. Their research led them to pursue HUD 202 grants to fund these programs.

Reverend Ronald Liechty has been on the Garden Court board of directors since 1988 and has been the president of Garden Court, Inc. since 1990. He describes their goal as being, “to provide quality housing for qualified seniors.” They have worked hard towards this goal in Plymouth through the construction of five separate Garden Court facilities, the latest being Fairfield Garden Court, Inc. built in the Fairfield Farms subdivision.

Garden Court’s success was noticed by neighboring communities and they began to be approached to help these communities serve their needs. HUD officials also encouraged them to expand their services and help other communities in need. The Garden Court board made the decision that this fit within their mission. They started by expanding into other Marshall County communities with facilities in Argos and Bourbon. Recently their reach has expanded further to include facilities in Knox and Mentone.

Each facility is established as its own entity as a 501c(3) corporation. Community participation is required in the form of a monetary stipend to pay for start up costs with 99.5% of the funding for the actual facility coming from HUD. Each facility retains the services of a management company to serve the residents, maintain the property and handle the HUD paperwork involved with resident applications.

be single story with off-street parking provided. All of the units have ADA accessible entrances, corridors and rooms with the infrastructure necessary to allow fixture changes necessary to make them completely ADA accessible if the tenant has those needs.

The town council has directed town manager Michael Doss to assist in finding a site for this project. Hopefully there will be some buzz around the community regarding this. If you have a potential site, please contact Mr. Doss. If you know someone who might have a potential site, talk to them about it and encourage them to entertain participating in this project.

### Citizen contact info

Drop-off boxes for community news are located at the Culver-Union Township Public Library and the Culver Coffee Company on Lake Shore Dr. These boxes will be accessible during the locations’ normal business hours.

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.

Name: Added Value - CC; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 5 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00059163; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Morrow Insurance Agency; Size: 10 in

Name: Open Early-mg- 2x5; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 5 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00060392; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Cafe Max; Size: 10 in

## 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, March 26:** Meatballs and noodles with gravy, mixed vegetables, brussels sprouts, roll & margarine, apricots, and milk.

**Friday, March 27:** Spaghetti with meat sauce, tossed salad and dressing, green beans, garlic bread & margarine, pineapple, and milk.

**Monday, March 30:** BBQ chicken breast, broccoli, carrots, bread & margarine, pudding, and milk.

**Tuesday, March 31:** Pork fritter, bread, stewed tomatoes, scalloped potatoes,

fruit cocktail, and milk.

**Wednesday, April 1:** Chopped steak with gravy, succotash, bread & margarine, peach cobbler, apple juice, and milk.

**Thursday, April 2:** Western omelet, pastry, diced potatoes, fresh green pepper strips, orange, margarine, and milk.

**Friday, April 3:** Liver and onions, dressing, mashed potatoes, sliced apples, bread & margarine, and milk.

Name: Weekly Ad; Width: 9p9.833;



# Culver library part of rich Hoosier legacy

*“Free libraries maintained by the people are cradles of democracy, and their spread can never fail to extend and strengthen the democratic idea, the equality of the citizen, the royalty of man. They are emphatically fruits of the true American ideal.”-Andrew Carnegie*

April 12-18 is National Library Week and it seems like a good time to look at libraries in general, and your Library in particular,



## From the Other Side of the Book Drop

By Colleen McCarty  
Director, Culver-Union Twp. Public Library

in this month’s column.

According to the American Library Association (ALA) website, since 1958 National Library Week has been sponsored by the ALA and libraries across the country each April.

In the mid-1950s, research showed that Americans were spending less on books and more on radios, televisions and musical instruments. Concerned that Americans were reading less, the ALA and the American Book Publishers formed a nonprofit citizens’ organization called the National Book Committee in 1954. The committee’s

goals were ambitious. They ranged from "encouraging people to read in their increasing leisure time" to "improving incomes and health" and "developing strong and happy family life."

In 1957, the committee developed a plan for National Library Week based on the idea that once people were motivated to read, they would support and use libraries. With the cooperation of ALA and with help from the Advertising Council, the first National Library Week was observed in 1958 with the theme "Wake Up and Read!"

National Library Week was observed again in 1959, and the ALA Council voted to continue the annual celebration. When the National Book Committee disbanded in 1974, ALA assumed full sponsorship. National Library Week is observed each year in April. This year’s theme is: Worlds connect @your library.

Culver-Union Township Public Library has a rich history, linked locally to its Culver founders and nationally to philanthropist Andrew Carnegie. Your Library is nearing its centennial: the Library was opened to the public on December 30, 1915

with a \$10,000 grant from the Carnegie Foundation. Theodore Jones, author of Carnegie Libraries Across America, tells us the Scottish born Carnegie was a self-made man of the industrial age who amassed a fortune in steel manufacturing. He decided to use his wealth to benefit the public, particularly those who would help themselves. Libraries were a natural outlet for his philanthropy, because he believed that the self-motivated reader was a person who would indeed better himself. Between 1886 and 1919 Carnegie financed 1,689 public libraries throughout the country. Interestingly, Indiana has more Carnegie-funded libraries than any other state: we have 164. California ranks second with 142 and Illinois holds third place with 106.

I am rather persuaded that one reason why Indiana ranks first is well-expressed by Alan McPherson in his book Temples of Knowledge: Andrew Carnegie’s Gift to Indiana: “On the grassroots level, community pride ranks high in the motivation of local library boards and their constituents to pursue the Carnegie Library building gift. Libraries, after all, were intellectual and democratic institutions that were ‘free to all,’ cherished by free-thinking Hoosiers.”

Yes, Culverites in the early years of the twentieth century decided to fulfill

formation of the library in 1914 and leading up to its construction and opening in 1915.” The URL is: [http://www.culver.lib.in.us/library\\_vintage\\_documents.htm](http://www.culver.lib.in.us/library_vintage_documents.htm)

A copy of Hispanic American painter F. Luis Mora’s portrait of Andrew Carnegie was given to the Library in 1935 by the Carnegie Foundation of New York and it hangs over the mantel’s fireplace in our periodical room.

Do come to browse or read a newspaper or magazine, and see this portrait of the one-time bobbin boy who became “the patron saint of libraries” and whose grant continues to benefit Culver citizens?

In a Harris Poll of 2,710 U.S. adults surveyed online between August 11 and 17, 2008 by Harris Interactive®, almost all Americans (92 percent) say they view their local library as an important education resource. Seven in ten agreed their local library is a pillar of the community (72 percent), a community center (71 percent), a family destination (70 percent), and a cultural center (69 percent).

Here in Culver in 2008, your library circulated 63,993 items to 3344 library card holders. The items included books, magazines, DVDs, audio books and music CDs. We counted 10,573 computer logins and 1776 reference transactions. National Library Week is the perfect time to discover how worlds connect @ your [Carnegie] library!

And just a reminder to our readers: next month CUTPL will again offer free computer classes for beginners and for those who wish to learn more about E-mail, Internet Searching, Microsoft Office, Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Publisher. And Andrew Baker’s Computer Building class will be the final class for this session. Classes will be held on Monday evenings and Friday mornings, so be sure and take advantage of free computer classes at your library.

### Check it out:

Jones, Theodore. Carnegie Libraries Across America: A Public Legacy. New York: John Wiley & Sons, 1997. CUTPL call number: 027.473 JON

McPherson, Allen. Temples of Knowledge: Andrew Carnegie’s Gift to Indiana. Kewanna, IN: Hoosier’s Nest Press: 2003. CUTPL call number 027.473 MCP

Krass, Peter. Carnegie. New York: Wiley & Sons, 2002. CUTPL call number: BIO CAR-A KRA-P

Nasaw, David. Andrew Carnegie. New York: Penguin Press, 2006. CUTPL call number: BIO CAR-A NAS-D

in -- among other activities club, Hi-Y, and industrial

the grant requirements by demonstrating the public’s need for a library, providing a building site and agreeing to maintain and support the library with annual tax funds of 10 percent of the original grant.

For those who are interested in viewing some primary sources, on your library webpage we have scanned images of “the full text of the land abstract for the tract on which the library was built, beginning in the 1850s and going up to 1914, when the land was formally purchased for library use.” Also included are “several very early documents pertinent to the

# Letting the Spirit take root

Earlier this month, I placed an order with Stark Brothers nursery for some items – flowers, etc., and ever since it has had me thinking spring! The shift in mindset has me taking several steps to get ready. For example, since we are going to plant a little garden at the parsonage this year, my wife and I have gotten out our left-over vegetable seeds from last year’s garden, and my mother-in-law gave us some extra seeds as well. Soon we’ll get some of them started in our basement so they’ll be ready to go in the ground. I need to get into our strawberry bed and pull out the dead stuff that accumulated over the winter, and maybe add a little fertilizer to the ground.

For all the preparation that it takes to get a great garden, I have to live with the fact that I really cannot control the outcome of how fruitful the garden will be. All kinds of factors affect its fruitfulness – the seed and soil quality, the weather, insects and other pests, and those pesky weeds all contribute in some way to the ultimate quality of the results we will get. So we have to make a choice to do the best to control the variables we can – water on a regular basis, pull the weeds up, prune back where necessary, and take steps to discourage pests from bothering the plants. The clear goal is having fresh, delicious veggies in the late summer, with some left to set aside in the freezer or preserved in cans to last through the winter as much as possible.

As I read the Apostle Paul’s encouragement to allow the fruits of the Spirit to take root, I realize how I need to be cultivating the parts of my life that give them the greatest chance for success. In his letter to the Galatians, Paul writes:

“Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. . . the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. There is no law against such things”

*Galatians 5:16, 22-23*

In nurturing these qualities, and giving them the room to flourish by protecting them from those desires of the flesh (Paul makes clear he means such things as idolatry, strife, drunkenness, “and things like these”), you may well find your life yielding the fruit that Christ desires we all would have.

## Nostalgia

### 50 years ago March 25, 1959

- A Marshall County circuit court jury delivered a verdict in favor of rural Culver couple Alvin L. and Wilma Zechiel, resolving their dispute with the State of Indiana over compensation owed the couple for a tract of their land condemned in the State Road 17 relocation project. The couple was awarded \$21,500 by the jury; the Zechiels filed suit after they and the state couldn’t agree on the amount of compensation owed them.
- The Culver Chamber of Commerce will once again cooperate with the Culver Council of Churches by asking area businesses to close from noon to 2 p.m. Good Friday in honor of joint church observances at Grace church and the annual Good Friday men’s luncheon.
- Culver’s fire department was called to no less than eight grass fires this past week, including conflagrations at the Morgan residence on Clymax Street Thursday afternoon, the Doll Road Friday evening, the Oscar Anderson farm on State Road 8 Sunday morning, the Norman LuMunion farm on the Doll Road Sunday morning, the Academy Circle Sunday afternoon, the Kenneth Tasch farm on Newman Road Monday morning, the Academy airport Monday

afternoon, and the Ralph Condon farm north of Burr Oak Tuesday afternoon.

- The return of the robins, the unusual number of grass fires, the melting of the ice on the lake, and the appearance of hula hoops and marbles are sure signs that spring has arrived in the area. As further proof, Mrs. Russell McFarland called the Citizen office yesterday saying her crocus and glory-of-the-snow flowers have been in bloom since St. Patrick’s Day.

### 25 years ago March 28, 1984

- The air around Miller’s Merry Manor was filled with balloons as kindergarten and first grade students at Culver Elementary school released them as part of the Weekly Reader Great Balloon Race. The event is sponsored by Weekly Reader magazine, which awards \$500 to the school whose balloon travels the farthest. Employees of the residence home, members of the Future Educators and Future Homemakers of America (respectively), the Culver Rough and Hilly Young Farmers, and Gordon Food Service assisted in the effort.

- Elizabeth Vorveis, full time salesperson at Hook’s Drugs in Culver was guest of honor at Hooks Drugs, Inc. annual Salute to Service Awards in Indianapolis for her years of service.

## Pastor’s Corner

By Pastor Larry Saunders  
Wesley United Methodist Church



Name: Culver Masthead; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 7.5 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00053078; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Pilot News; Size: 15 in

Name: Family Vision; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00058478; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Family Vision Clinic; Size: 8 in

Name: Week 4; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00058043; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Lakeside Auto Supply; Size: 8 in







# Sports



## High school, middle school winter sports honorees

Culver Community High School and Middle School celebrated their winter athletes March 16 with the schools' annual sports awards banquet. Pictured in the upper left photo are Culver Community High School honor roll athletes. Front row, left to right: Shannon Dunfee, Kalie Thompson, and Paige Norwich. Middle row: Joe Krsek, Aspen Kitchell, Kalee Miller, and Cindy Miller. Back row: Justin Master, Myles Pinder, Adam Neace, and Clarissa Baker. Pictured in the top row, right hand photo are seventh grade honor roll athletes (front row, left to right) Dylan Bennett, Shakkira Harris, Michael Skiles, Katelyn Bau, and Shane Comiskey. Middle row, Hayes Barnes, Chris Zehner, Denisha Brown, Abby James, and Caleb Nash. Back row: Trent Elliott, Kayla Shaeffer, and Tori Christleb. Pictured in the photo at left (front row, left to right), Morgan Osborn, Clare Hartman, and Abby Van Horn. Middle row, Allen Betts, Michelle Elam, Erin Bau, and Alex Baker. Back row, Micah Budzinski, Collin Stevens, and Austin Sheldon. Culver Community High School All-Conference and tournament qualifiers are pictured on page 1.

PHOTOS/PAUL PARÉ

# Choosing a bike for Tour de Max

## Tour de Max '09 - Part 2 of a four-part series

By Karen Heim  
Culver Tri Kappa/Tour de Max  
Maybe you were a teenager the last time you bought a new bike. Your 10-speed is now uncomfortable to ride as your knees rise above your waist as you try to pedal. You've decided it is time for a new bicycle, but what do you buy?  
Today, there are so many choices: road, touring, mountain, hybrid, cruiser, and moto-cross bikes just to name a few.  
"A road bike has a light frame and a wide range of gears for speed and high performance," says Don Baker, owner of the Bike Barn of Culver. These are the modern day version of what your 10-speed probably looks like with the horn type handlebars.  
"A touring bike is a lot like a road bike, but it is meant to be ridden over long distances comfortably while hauling extra gear," he says.  
"A mountain bike gives the rider the ability to ride off-road on an uneven terrain with extra low gearing," explains Baker. They usually have wide, knobby

tires and straight handlebars.  
"And a hybrid bike combines the larger wheels of a road bike with the comfortable riding position and upright handlebars of a mountain bike." Some hybrids come equipped with wider seats, and front and/or seat suspension for a very smooth ride.  
"The cruiser bike harkens back to the days of one-speed Schwinn with balloon tires and retro style. Now cruisers can be equipped with three, seven or even eight speeds for easier pedaling over hills and varied terrain."  
"Let's not forget BMX bikes, also called moto-cross bikes. These are one-speed bikes with 20-inch wheels meant for serious off-road riding and hill jumping," Baker adds. "BMX bikes are ridden by kids and adults, alike. There's also the dirt-jumping bike, a variation of the BMX style meant specifically for jumping over dirt hills.  
With all of these options, where do you start? Baker suggests, "The main thing

to consider is how you intend to ride your bike."  
"If you plan to ride in long distance charity rides, for example, you may not be able to keep up with the pack on an all-terrain mountain bike with its knobby tires and lower gearing. A lightweight road bike or comfortable touring bike with their higher gearing and smoother, narrower tires would be better choices.  
"Or, if you prefer short trips in town or around the lake, and you aren't planning on racing, perhaps an upright hybrid or multi-speed cruiser would meet your needs," he says.  
Once you've settled on a type of bike, make sure you get the right size. The wrong size frame will make riding rather uncomfortable.  
"A basic measurement of bike fit is the 'standover height' or the distance from the ground to the top tube," said Baker. "It's important for the rider to have a tall enough inseam to be able to comfortably stand over the top tube of the bike."  
According to Baker, one way to determine your ide-

al frame size is to multiply your inseam length by 0.67. "For example," says Baker. "My inseam is 32 inches. Multiplying by 0.67 gives me an ideal frame size of 21.4 inches or 54 cm, which is a medium size frame."  
Adjusting the height of the seat and handlebars to your particular dimensions and riding preferences will help make your ride more enjoyable as well.  
There are plenty of accessories to add to your new bicycle but the most important one is a helmet. "Look for a model that meets the Consumer Products Safety Commission (CPSC) standard," Baker notes. "A helmet is required for Tour de Max and most organized bike events."  
A quality bike tire pump is another good accessory to have. "A model such as the Park Tool PFP-3 can inflate tubes with both Schrader and Presta valves, and the integrated pressure gauge eliminates any guesswork in inflating to the right pressure," he says.  
For families, there are child carriers or bicycle trailers to bring the chil-

dren along. "And for those interested in fitness, a bike computer keeps track of the rider's speed, distance, trip time, current temperature, and other helpful figures," Baker adds.  
Now you are ready to get some miles in on your bike. You may not need to do a lot of training if you want to ride the 10-mile loop around the, but if you plan to do the 30 or 63 mile routes in Tour de Max, you might want to do a bit of training. Next week, we'll give some suggestions to get you ready to ride the distance.  
Tour de Max begins at 7 a.m., Saturday, May 16 and offers riders a choice of a 10-, 30-, or 63-mile bike route through Marshall County. Registration forms for Tour de Max can be found at local businesses or at [www.geocities.com/tour\\_de\\_max](http://www.geocities.com/tour_de_max). Registrations will be accepted the day of the ride. Cost for the ride is \$20 through May 1, and includes a t-shirt. After May 1, the cost is \$25.  
Proceeds from the event go to causes supported by Culver Tri Kappa.

## Sports brief

### Boys lacrosse

#### CMA wins twice

Culver Military Academy's lacrosse team opened the season Saturday with a pair of wins — 18-6 at Park Tudor, and 18-3 at Noblesville.  
Bud Lowans finished the day with nine goals and two assists for the Eagles, while Brandon Benn added eight goals and four assists.  
• CULVER MILITARY 18, PARK TUDOR 6  
At Indianapolis  
CMA Goals/Assists: Bud Lowans 4/2, Brandon Benn 3/3, Tommy Ott 5/1, Blake Saylor 1/2, Pierce Leonard 1/2, John Sabo 1/0, Josh Berger 1/0, Cameron Garrison 1/0, Connor Eustace 1/0, Dominic Panetta 0/2, Cameron Dabir 0/2, Sean Thompson 0.2. Totals: 18 Goals/16 Assists.  
Saves: Robb Harrison (CMA) 4.  
CMA shots: 46. Face-offs won: John Sabo (CMA) 24/26. Records: CMA 1-0, Park Tudor 1-1. CULVER MILITARY 18, NOBLESVILLE 3  
At Noblesville  
CMA Goals/Assists: Brandon Benn 5/1, Bud Lowans 5/1, Pierce Leonard 2/1, Tommy Ott 1/4, Josh Berger 0/1, Blake Saylor 2/2, Cameron Dabir 1/1, James McCluskey 1/0, Alex Feighan 0/1, Tim Zacher 1/0. Saves: Coltan Armitage (CMA) 11. Face-offs: John Sabo 20/26 Records: CMA 2-0, Noblesville 1-1.

## Academies' Turner makes All-State

Culver Academies' cadet James Turner '09 was named to the Indiana Football Coaches Association Academic All-State Team. James is the son of James and Michelle Turner Jr. of LaPorte, Indiana.  
Those named to the IFCA Academic All-State Team must be a senior, have played in at least 70% of their school's games, have a minimum GPA of 3.4, and must have a minimum SAT score of 1660 or minimum ACT of 24.  
"Being named to the all-state team is an amazing honor," Turner said. "Looking at the list of other players who were named, just having my name voted to be among them is amazing and I am thankful for the recognition. At Culver, football taught me an amazing amount of discipline, both on and off the field. The coaches were extremely conscientious about grades and if a player was struggling, the player's responsibility was to seek academic help and he would be excused from practice to do that. This support from the coaches allowed me to consistently excel at Culver and hopefully I will carry that determination and self-discipline over into college when I attend the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis."  
Andrew Dorrel, Culver's Varsity football coach said, "In addition to James being named to the IFCA Academic All-State team, he

See Turner page 8

## Uslan from page 1

donated 45,000 comics to the Lilly Library at Indiana University for researcher access.  
Uslan's first break, he said, came in the early 1970s when he pitched an experimental curriculum to IU's College of Arts and Sciences which focused on comic books as a matter of course study, reflecting popular culture and a uniquely American mythos. Comics, insisted Uslan, "have shown us the mores, slang, biases, and prejudices (of America) on a weekly basis since the 1930s. They're contemporary American folklore. The ancient gods of Greece and Rome today wear spandex and capes. One character...the Greeks called him Hermes, the Romans called him Mercury. I call him The Flash. Another the Greeks called Posiden and the Romans

called Neptune. I call him Aquaman."  
The dean of the department, initially rejecting Uslan's course idea as absurd, finally reneged when Uslan asked him to describe the respective stories of Moses and Superman, emphasizing the uncanny parallels between the two stories and their enduring cultural legacies.  
Once the course was approved, an international frenzy of press concerning his class was so fierce Uslan could recall no class session without some television or magazine cameras and reporters present. The attention netted him a job offer from the vice president of Superman and Batman publishers, DC Comics in New York.  
Eventually, Uslan got a crack at writing tales of his all-time favorite hero, Bat-

man, in the pages of DC comics, and found himself "back at IU, writing 'Batman' instead of studying! I made 'Ripley's Believe it or Not' teaching that course (on comics). My mother was so proud!"  
Uslan's dream of a serious Batman on the big screen languished while he established himself in Hollywood, eventually working on the early "Rocky" movies and films like "Raging Bull" and "Apocalypse Now," among others. In spite of offers of a salary increase and medical plan — and a pregnant wife at home — Uslan said he quit his job at United Artists Pictures and bought the rights from DC for a "Batman" movie, in order to stay focused on his dream. "The worst thing I could picture was coming here to speak to all of you to say (what) 'I could have

been...I could have done,'" said Uslan.  
Rejected for ten years by Hollywood studios when he pitched the idea of his dark Batman film, Uslan in 1986 secured the cooperation of "a young genius named Tim Burton" for his project.  
Burton shared Uslan's vision and coupled it with a production designer's innovative vision of Batman's Gotham City, bringing aboard Jack Nicholson as the Joker and Michael Keaton as a "psychotic, obsessed" Batman.  
With the 1989 release of the movie "Batman," every box office record was broken, an event repeated with last year's "The Dark Knight."  
"Don't believe them when they tell you how bad you are and how terrible your ideas are," Uslan

told Culver students and guests. "And don't believe them when they tell you how great you and ideas are. Just believe in yourself and your work. Doors will slam in your face. You can cry and go home or you can pick yourself up and dust yourself off and knock again and again...until your knuckles bleed."  
Uslan described the pleasure of working with the team that created "The Dark Knight," including the late Heath Ledger, who won an Oscar for his performance in the film, and who Uslan described as "a consummate actor and a gentleman."  
Noting his "journey started in Indiana," Uslan told the audience he's pleased to see appreciation of the comic book medium about which he's so passionate has grown in leaps and

bounds in popular culture.  
"I believed they were literate, that they were our mythology...twice recently I've had the chance to speak to the Smithsonian about comic books. The New York Metropolitan Museum of Art put my comics on the wall (and brought) honor and respect to these creative people from the 1930s through the 1970s and recognized as valuable their contribution to American art. That's just as important to me as making the movies."  
Quoting Robert Frost, Uslan said of his professional career, "I took the (road) less traveled by, and that has made all the difference."



## Culver Academies' Quizbowl team wins Indiana State Championship

Culver Academies' Quizbowl team defeated St. Joseph's High School of South Bend 385-315 in the final of the Indiana State Championship on Saturday, March 14, to claim the Academies' first ever Quizbowl State title. Culver's co-captain Kirsten Paff '10 clinched the Championship with six questions to go by correctly identifying the President whose name was paired with "Flag" as a name for an empty pocket turned inside out: Herbert Hoover ("Hoover Flag").



Members of Culver Academies' Quizbowl team include (left to right) Andrew Van Duyn, Eric Faust, coach Phil Blessman, Kirsten Paff, and Stephen Wilson.

PHOTO SUBMITTED

When asked about the championship, Paff said, "We were all ecstatic about winning, because we had practiced very hard for this tournament. I couldn't stop smiling afterwards, and (Academies Quizbowl coach Phil) Blessman started doing a little celebratory dance. It was great."

Quizbowl is an interscholastic team competition which pits two teams of four against each other to answer questions from all fields, including literature, history, science, mathematics, the arts, and current events.

Before the final against St. Joe's, Culver had won

six straight games in the 22-team State Championship Tournament held at Harrison High School in W. Lafayette. On their path to the Championship match, the Eagles defeated North Central (Indianapolis), Harrison (W. Lafayette), Andrean (Merrillville), Zionsville, Fishers, and Penn (Mishawaka). Culver was led by senior co-captain Eric Faust (Charlottesville, VA) with 84.3 points per game (ppg). Supporting Faust's efforts were freshman Andrew Van Duyn (Wheaton, IL) with 55.7 ppg, junior Kirsten Paff (Rochester, IN) with 45.0 ppg, and junior Stephen Wilson (Newark, OH) with 18.6 ppg.

Culver now moves on to the Midwest Championship on May 9 and the National Championship over Memorial Day weekend.

## Mahler discusses area boards, Kernan Shepard

Bobbie Washburn Ruhnow Township Advisory Boards, Library Boards, Township Trustees, planning and zoning boards, local school boards etc., may soon be as extinct as the Dodo bird if the Kernan Shepard Report recommendations become law.

At the recent monthly dinner meeting of the Chamber of Commerce in Culver, Greg Fassett, president of the group, introduced Marlene Mahler, Union Township Trustee who spoke on the effects of the recommendations.

Mahler noted that the report strongly favors centralized government. There would be a County Executive Officer who would serve in conjunction with the County Council that would budget for the townships. Along with the County Council, elected county officials would be limited to the County Clerk, Sheriff, and Auditor. The Treasurer, Coroner, and Recorder's positions would be appointed.

Presently, Culver and Union Township share costs for fire and EMT emergency services and are able to maintain quality equipment and personnel to the local area. Mahler told the group that through conservative budgeting, the township was able to pay for their share of a new ambulance in cash. Instead of borrowing the

money, Mahler continued, the township avoided interest and was able to secure a discount of over \$2,000 on the price. The township and town were also able to purchase a six-man emergency response truck without borrowing the money. By going to a centralized system, Culver and Union Township's emergency needs would be on a priority basis with the rest of the county.

Further, Mahler said, the Treasurer, Coroner, and Recorder's positions would still be paid, so any cost saving in that area would be moot. The Advisory Board members receive a small yearly stipend, and library boards and planning and zoning boards are on a volunteer basis, so again, cost saving is inconsequential and takes decisions out of the authority of the local boards.

Finally, Mahler noted the recent decision to remove the duties of assessing from the office of the township trustees had resulted in the Assessor's office hiring four full-time employees and enlisting five trustees to assist in property taxes. The result of this action as a money saving decision made little or no sense as Mahler noted, the taxpayers had already paid for trustees' certification to assess and trustees are being paid as elected officials whose duties included assessing.

In other business, Fassett noted that some local groups which include Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, Little League and more, would no longer receive funding from the Marshall County United Way. Fassett said he had been contacted by a concerned citizen who hoped the Chamber of Commerce in Culver could alert their members to discuss finding a way to continue the funding for these important activities.

Michael Doss, Culver town manager, was introduced and welcomed as the newest member of the Chamber.

A "Wine and Nine" golf outing will be scheduled for May at the Mystic Hills golf course. The event will be held to showcase the benefit of membership in the Culver Chamber.

Name: Weekly Ad CC; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 2.5 in; Color: Black; File Name:

Name: Cash In; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00059830; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Pilot News; Size: 8 in

Name: internet trade; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00059467; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Culcom, LLC; Size: 8 in

## Library discusses plan to expand patron options

By Jeff Kenney  
Citizen editor

The Culver-Union Twp. Public Library may greatly expand availability of materials for its patrons if the board and director opt to join a growing number of public libraries using Evergreen Indiana, an Indiana State Library sponsored online database program which will link member libraries and their collections.

At its March 17 meeting, the board heard from Jessica Jacko of the State Library's Professional Development office, who used a Power Point presentation to explain the benefits of membership in the program. Those benefits include full-time technical support from the state, backup of Culver's library catalog information, and a host of options currently unavailable to users of the library's current online catalog.

If Culver became an Evergreen library, said Jacko, local patrons would be issued a new library card granting them full access to materials at any other Evergreen library in Indiana. Further, Culver patrons could search catalogs of participating libraries across the state and order books (audio-visual materials are not part of the Evergreen borrowing program at present) from any of those libraries to borrow, with deliveries twice per week. This service would be in addition to the inter-library loan borrowing service currently in place at the Culver library. There would be no additional charge to patrons or the library for the service, Jacko added.

Other features of the online catalog expected later in 2009, said Jacko, include a new component allowing patrons to browse newest titles added to Culver's collection, credit card payments for overdue or lost books, and a module to help library staff keep easy track of what's been ordered to date.

Library director Colleen McCarty, asked by board president Jim Hahn if she's comfortable with the possibility of transitioning from Follett, the library's current catalog system, to Evergreen, said she sent staff member Theresa Hudson to the nearby Fulton County Public Library in Rochester, which already uses Evergreen. Hudson was impressed with the system, noted McCarty. Board member Melanie Robertson said she felt members Rita Lawson and Alfred Nyby – both absent from the meeting – would be enthused about Evergreen, but should have a chance to hear about it before the board makes a decision. The board agreed to discuss the possibility more at a future meeting.

Also at the meeting, the board decided to cash in a \$40,000 CD maturing this month in order to compensate for \$32,000 owed the library's operating fund by its Library Improvement Reserve Fund (or LIRF). A bill for \$2,800 owed architectural firm the Troyer Group from last year's installation of children's room furniture will be paid from the CD's remaining balance in the LIRF fund, the board agreed. Library bookkeeper Jim Faulkner noted Troyer had neglected to bill them the \$2,800 last year, and only just sent in the bill.

Faulkner also explained Marshall County has informed the library it – and other libraries – were overpaid due to a county error in distribution of the county's CAGIT funds, part of which are to go to jails and part to other taxing units like libraries according to state law. Therefore, said Fulkner, the Culver library won't receive CAGIT monies until the county compensates for that error. The library's Rainy Day fund is derived from CAGIT money, Faulkner noted.

McCarty informed the board handyman Sean Doty is working on several

needed projects around the library, including repairing ballasts and some plumbing work.

She also told the board no current board or staff members have official access to a library safety deposit box at First Farmers Bank, prompting a board vote to allow all board members as well as McCarty and Faulkner access to the box. At least two authorized persons, however, will be required to gain access, according to the board decision.

McCarty noted circulation of items was higher in February than January, at 184 items per day in February versus 176 in January. She also said DVD check-out numbers have fallen and book circulation has increased, possibly due to the library ordering a number of new books recently, after several months' ordering freeze. She also noted the children's room has had 570 visitors over 23 days.

The board briefly discussed policy for the library's public meeting rooms, which preclude any "social event" without specific consent of the board. The board voted to allow exceptions for two requested events, a baby shower in March and 60<sup>th</sup> birthday party in June.

McCarty also said full-time library employees have been required by the state to be enrolled in the Public Employees Retirement Fund, which puts a small percentage of their salary -- and a larger percent from the library -- into the fund, but employees to recently had not been enrolled in the program, something now rectified. The library, however, will probably have to make back payments into the fund for current full-time employees who have worked for the library over recent years but weren't enrolled in PERF.

## Pipes & Drums win Best Marching award

Congratulations to Culver Academies Pipes and Drums, who participated in the Saint Patrick's Day Parade in South Bend and won the Best Marching Group award.

The event took place in downtown South Bend Saturday morning, March 14, and included "dying" the St. Joseph River green with environmentally-friendly dye.

The Culver Pipes and Drums have been in existence in the Culver area for several years and welcome new members. Those interested in more information may contact Deb Foley at 574-842-4543.

Name: Weekly Ad; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 3.5 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00057122; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Maxinkuckee

Name: Reservations/ gifts- 2x4; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00059653; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Culver Reservations; Size: 8 in





## Signed, sealed, and delivered to CES

Maria Lindvall (standing) holds her copy of “Strange Happenings,” a hardcover collection of creative fiction compiled of stories written by members of Culver Elementary School fifth grade teacher Raeanne Stevens’ reading class. Preparing to sign Lindvall’s copy is classmate Kenny VanDePutte, flanked by Jacob Awls. The project is an annual effort by Stevens, who has the books professionally printed and bound as a memento for students and parents, all of whom are invited to a gala “book signing” event in the CES media center-library, which took place this year March 16 and included snacks and drinks, with parents invited to attend. This year’s theme of “strange happenings” provided the basis for each students’ approximately one page short story, each accompanied by a photo students shot with a digital camera.

CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

## SAT, ACT tests, prep classes in Culver

S.A.T. and A.C.T. preparation classes at Culver Community High School will begin in April. Beginning Tuesday March 31, Mrs. Vickie Benner will work on the verbal portion and continue every Tuesday and Thursday at 7:20 a.m. Beginning Wednesday April 1, Mr. Mike Buschman will work on the math portion and continue every Wednesday and Friday at 7:20 a.m. The S.A.T. test will be offered on May 2 at Culver Academies. The A.C.T. test will be offered on June 13 at Kokomo, South Bend and Elkhart. The registration deadline for the S.A.T. is March 31; late registration until April 9. Registration packets are available in Culver's guidance office. There also is an alternate S.A.T. testing date on June 6 taking place at the Culver Academies.

Culver Academies band and orchestra students who earned gold medals in Group 1 of the Indiana State School Music Association District Contest qualified to enter the State Contest.

**Group 1 Gold Solos:** Ting Ya Lee and Ji Young Lim, flute; Christine Burke, Cassie Felton and Haesock Lee, clarinet; Josh Fender and Hao Wu, alto saxophone; Alberto Maiocco, tenor saxophone; Chris Trennepohl, French horn; and Katie Barnes and Stephanie Thompson, marimba.

**Group 1 Gold Ensembles:** Violin Quartet: Audrey Abrell, Clarissa Boggs-Blake, Min-Joo

Name: Save Money; Width: 9p9.833; Depth: 6.5 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00058042; Ad Number: -;

Kim and Kelly Lee; Saxophone Quartet, Christine Burke, Josh Fender, Alberto Maiocco and Hao Wu; French Horn Quartet: Ryan Benczik, Chris Trennepohl, Kent Turner and Steven Wilson.

**Group 1 Silver Solos:** Ryan Benczik, French horn.

**Group 1 Silver Ensemble:** Horn Trio, Ryan Benczik, Chris Trennepohl and Kent Turner.

**Group 2 Gold Solo:** Stephanie Thompson, marimba.

**Group 2 Gold Ensemble:** Saxophone Trio, Nicolas Elizondo, Bryan Espiritu and David Golubski.

### Culver internal contest

In order to accommodate the schedule of Academies students, an internal contest was held recently with judges who have previously judged ISSMA events using ISSMA score cards.

**Group 1 Gold Solos:**

Name: Fish Fry 2x5; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 5 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00060116; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Monterey Fire Department; Size: 10 in

## Monterey Elementary honor roll

Monterey Elementary School has announced its honor roll students for the third grading period

### All A's

- Grade 1: Sarah Keller
- Grade 2: Alyssa Kinyanjul
- Grade 3: Kristin Heise, Rachel Kunce, Deanna Lewis, Taylor Thomas
- Grade 4: Hailey Jones
- Grade 6: Whitney Hopkins, Summer Moore

### A/B Honor Roll

- Grade 1: Alexis Bajer, Destiny Bajer, Wyatt Binion, Jasmine Felds, Rafael Jimenez, Alysa Penicaro, Autumn Smith, Amber Watts, Nikki Watts, Nathan Wood
- Grade 2: Alyssa Bailey, Ryan Bradley, Zachery Moore, Jebediah Smith, Olivia Weaver
- Grade 3: Lance Beaver, Melissa Bradley, Selina Cunningham, Wyatt Loehmer, Bryce Reynolds, Dillon Salyer, Landon Tibbett, Cole Weldon
- Grade 4: Katie Garland, Brianna Kinyanjul
- Grade 5: Rebecca Rainey, Zaria Salary, Victoria Shank, Taylor Smith
- Grade 6: Kailey Heise, Austin Kelly, Larissa Krelscher, Elizabeth McElroy, Alecia Rearick, Donna Zehner

## Monterey Elementary BUGS

MONTEREY — Monterey Elementary School has announced its BUGS (Bringing Up Grades Successfully) for the third quarter.

- Grade 1:** Alexis Bajer, Destiney Bajer, Wyatt Binion, Jasmine Felda, Rafael Jimenez, Sarah Keller, Alysa Penicaro, Autumn Smith, Amber Watts, Nikki Watts, Nathan Wood
- Grade 2:** Rayanane Northcutt
- Grade 3:** Andrew Barkley, Lance Beaver, Melissa Bradley, Nathan Clinger, Selina Cunningham, Emily Fisher, Kristin Heise, Jordan Hopkins, Rachel Kunce, Deanna Lewis, Thorn Loehmer, Wyatt Loehmer, Raven Reese, Bryce Reynold, Kia Riale, Dillon Salyers, Taylor Thomas, Landon Tibbett, Cole Weldon
- **Grade 4:** Dawson Bettinelli, Kendra Binion, Katie Garland, Hailey Jones, Brianna Kinyanjui, Jesse Lamberson, Courtney Salyer, Chris Zehner, Jill Zehner
- **Grade 5:** Rebecca Rainey, Victoria Shank, Zaria Salary, Taylor Smith, Henry Back, Justin Brown, Kyle Kunce, Lilly Linch
- **Grade 6:** Darcy Allen, Josie Allen, Jose Castaneda, Kailey Heise, Brandon Hendrickson, Trevor Hopkins, Whitney Hopkins, Austin Kelly, Larissa Kreischer, Marcus Manns, Elizabeth McElroy, Summer Moore, Alecia Rearick, Jessica Riley, Kylie Sanchez, Jaymin Siple, Shanna Travis, Donna Zehner

## Hermanson earns academic award

Kacie Hermanson, the daughter of Jeff and Kathy Hermanson of Culver, Indiana has earned a Gold A Award with a GPA of 4.0 at the Culver Academies.

Attained with a grade-



Kacie Hermanson

PHOTO SUBMITTED

point average of 3.7 or better, the award is the highest academic honor available during combined grading terms.

Kacie also participates on the Varsity Speech Team, Choir, and the Track Team.

## Turner from page 6

has also earned the highest GPA as a member of the Culver Academy football team in his respective class each of the past four seasons. James epitomized the type of young man in who the football program takes great pride. Not only is James a stellar student, but as a football player who has made the most of his athletic ability and was able to maximize his opportunities as he developed into a key contributor for the Eagles."

bles:

**String Quartet:** Christa Finley, Connor Hague, Phoebe Hall and Ashley Taylor.

**Woodwind Trio:** Chyenenne Jackson, Ji Hwan Lee and Hong Bo Ye.

**Cello Duet:** Jake Kang and Eric Lee.

**Percussion Quartet:** West Houseton, Bobby Maiocco, Will Stackhouse and Kevin VanHorn.

**String Duet:** Alise Pare and Ariel Pare.

**Group 3 Silver Solo:** Jake Kang, cello.

**Group 3 Silver Ensemble:** Clarinet Duet: Amanda Master and Madeleine Slykas.

**Group 3 Bronze Ensemble:** Brass Sextet, Mitchell Allen, Carl Ardissono, Douglas Van Putten, Jong-Ihl Jeong, Christian Tulungen and Andrew Walker.

**Percussion Trio:** Nick Ahlers, Andrew Cole and Kenneth Tse.

**Group 4 Gold Solo:** Hong Bo Ye, violin; and Cynthia Morgan, flute.

**Group 5 Gold Solo:** Dana Anzalone, violin; and Kathy Burke, flute.

Name: wanted - Culver; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4.5 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00060189; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Erie Construction; Size: 9 in







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



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



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