

# The Culver Citizen



Thursday, May 28 2009 Vol. No. 115 Issue No. 20 50¢  
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CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY



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## In Brief

### Culver Bible church holds VBS

Culver Bible Church will hold its Vacation Bible School June 8-12, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. All children ages 5 through sixth grade are invited to "Super Heroes" week. A "penny" offering will be taken each night to give towards missions. The church is located at 718 S. Main Street. For more information, contact Dave and Kay at 574-936-1916 or Pastor Dan and Kathie at 574-842-3056.

### CBGC Kidstop program begins June 1

The Culver Boys & Girls Club will be closed Friday, May 29 and will re-open June 1 for the summer Kid-Stop program from 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Any questions or concerns about the KidStop program can be directed to 574-250-0103. The Culver Boys & Girls Club is located in the Culver Elementary School. The cost of the program is \$25.00 per year. There are scholarships available for those who qualify.

### Culver emergency services softball game June 28

The annual Culver Emergency Services softball game, which pits Culver's volunteer fire department against its police department and Emergency Medical Services crew, will take place this year Sunday, June 28, with the first pitch at noon. There will be four innings with 20 people per team, and the usual cookout at the fire station afterwards. As in the past, the fire department will donate the "meat and drinks" (burgers, brats, buns, sodas, water, etc.). The police and EMS will bring sides and desserts. Also as in the past, audience entry into the event is a canned or non-perishable item for Culver's food pantry.

### EMT class offered

A basic EMT class will take place July 7 through November 16 at the Culver-Union Twp. EMS base at 200 East Washington Street in Culver. The class will be lead by CUTEEMS director Millie Sytsma, PI, CCEMTP. Cost is \$525 (which includes EMT-B textbook and clinical shirt); cclass will take place two nights per week plus two Saturdays. Class size is limited.

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## A biking life

Above, left: Don Baker, left, and wife Janet Halling (with son Graham) are awash in bicycles and accessories at Culver's newest business, The Bike Barn. The couple hope the store -- at the corner of Lake Shore Drive and Main Street -- can fill a niche in Culver, promote cycling at many levels, and reunite their family.

See story below

## A day at the market

Above, right: Catherine Szymusiak (left) and Brooke Ditmire of Culver Girl Scout Troop 30472 chat with Norma Baum of Culver about products sold by the girls at Culver's Farmer's Market, now open for business for another summer. The Market, located at the corner of Ohio and Jefferson Streets (across from CVS pharmacy), is open every Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon, from May 9 through October 10, according to market coordinator Barb Linhart. Vendors offer seasonal produce, fruit, flowers, local honey, herbs, baked goods, pork products, handcrafted stained, and more. Interested vendors may contact Linhart at 574-842-2648.

# Biking back to basics

## Owners of new Culver business hope to enhance community through cycling

By Jeff Kenney  
Citizen editor

Riders taking part last week in Culver's annual Tour de Max bike ride -- and area residents in general -- undoubtedly noticed a new business in town, one whose doors opened the same day as the Tour. That's no coincidence; nor is it coincidence that Culver's newest business, The Bike Barn, was one of this year's sponsors of the long-running Tri Kappa event. It's all part of Don Baker's and his wife, Janet Halling's, vision of encouraging cycling as a viable mode of transportation around Culver and Lake Maxinkuckee.

"People in a rural setting (like ours) can't survive without a car," notes Baker, "but we can run to the store, the post office, the beach, or to school on a bike. Just because we're a mobile, automotive society doesn't mean we can't do that."

Cycling, he adds, can have an important role to play in tough economic times like these. "People are looking to get back to basics and maybe they're not going on family vacations to far off destinations,

but want to have fun close to home. Biking is affordable to get involved in. A lot of folks already have bikes, and there's no reason they can't enjoy them."

Baker stresses he and his wife came to cycling as casual riders, so customers need not fear they'll be bombarded with pressure to buy an expensive, high-end bicycle or be made to feel idiotic if they don't know how to maintain their bike. "We want to be the opposite of the stereotype of the bike shop where somebody chuckles and says, 'You need to get a new bike!' If you have an old bike in your garage that needs fixed up, we want to help you do that."

"If our customers aren't enjoying themselves and their bikes and smiling, we haven't done our job...we don't want them to have reasons to go out of town or to a discount store (to buy a bike)."

Some of Don Baker's early bicycling experiences were on the streets of Culver, where his roots run deep. His grandfather JC Beck moved here in the 1930s and built a house on

the west side of town. His mother, Janet Baker and uncles Tim and Terry Beck grew up in Culver. Though Don's early years were spent in Terre Haute, Indiana, he and his mother moved back to Culver when Don was in the fifth grade; he stayed here until his graduation from Culver Community High School in 1987. He and Janet met at Purdue before moving to northwest Indiana and eventually Chicago. Don may be remembered by many in the area for his musical talents, and indeed his playing in various bands throughout high school continued on into his Chicago move in 1997, where he stayed involved in music.

Visiting relatives in Culver a few years back led Don and Janet to realize how much they enjoyed being here and its potential as a place to raise a family, says Don. Their son Graham was born a year ago in April. Baby and mom live in Culver throughout the week, while Don continues to work in Chicago during the week, returning to Culver on weekends, which is when the Bike Barn will be

open.

"We're hoping the Bike Barn is something that will not only be a good addition to the area," Don Baker explains, "but also something that will bring Dad to Culver full-time, to reunite our family. One of the broader missions in this is a new career and direction (for me)."

Baker also praises his wife's hard work in getting the Bike Barn rolling. "She's been indispensable in a lot of details I wouldn't be able to take care of, given the distance (from Chicago to Culver)."

It was riding in the MS150 annual cycling event and multiple sclerosis fundraiser, in connection with the Chicago consulting firm for which Baker works, which propelled he and Halling into a new enjoyment of cycling.

"As an adult I realized (cycling) is great in terms of activity and spending time together," he recalls. "We're definitely on the casual side of it. A lot of people haven't been on a bike in a while, but there's no reason they can't experience that joy. A lot

of people have bikes that work fine in their garages that might need some TLC or service, or maybe a tube patched or something like that. We want to encourage people to enjoy cycling at whatever level they're comfortable."

Besides offering service and repair of bicycles, the Bike Barn, Baker says, will offer new bikes as well as a small selection of completely rebuilt vintage bicycles. The shop is an authorized dealer of Fuji bikes, which Baker points out is one of the world's oldest cycling companies, in operation since 1899. The store will carry everything from entry level cruising bikes, to mountain and hybrid bikes, with products geared toward entry level and intermediate riders as well as high-end cycling enthusiasts.

Additionally, visitors will find a full line of bike parts at the Barn: tires and tubes "of just about every size," and accessories like helmets, kickstands, grips, baskets, racks, bells, and

See Bike page 7

Members of Culver's Kiwanis Club, guests, and honorees gathered once again for the club's annual scholarship and awards banquet May 21, filling the banquet room at the City Tavern in Culver. Kiwanian Jim Weirick said the event marked the eighth year the club has awarded graduating seniors and distinguished alumni of area schools.

Barbara Winters, wife

of Kiwanian Ralph Winters, told the audience her husband chose to name the Barbara Winters Award for Excellence after her at her retirement following 42 years in education, during which she was a familiar face at the Culver Community High School.

Winters said the recipient of this year's award, Justin Master, "captured my heart because of his essay," in which Master said early lessons about hard work were learned picking straw-

berries with his mother as a young boy on hot summer days, noting rewards -- in his case strawberry jam -- often are yielded down the road instead of immediately. She added Master's letters of recommendation from past teachers showed their recognition of his hard work.

Winters, explaining Master couldn't attend the banquet due to his participation in a regional track meet that evening, said he is in the top 10 of his class, a member of

the Honor Society, a three-sport athlete, and plans to attend Purdue in the fall to major in physics.

Awarded the Club's scholarships were Kristina Klausling, who plans to attend the University of Southern Indiana to major in illustration and minor in theatre, and Kalie Thompson, planning a major in pre-law at Purdue University starting this autumn.

Ralph Winters presented the club's annual Distinguished Alumni awards

to graduates of four area schools of the past and present: the now-defunct Leiters Ford school, Monterey school (today an elementary-only facility), Culver High School (a local-only school until consolidation with Leiters Ford and Monterey in 1968), and the Culver Community High School, the latter of which represents consolidation of the previous three.

See Kiwanis page 6

Name: FULL FRONT BANNER CULVER; Width: 52p1.167; Depth: 2 in; Color: Black plus one; File Name: 00066267; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Collins & Co (Plymouth); Size: 10 in

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## Honored for their service

Tim McCarthy of the Culver-Union Twp. EMS (left) and Bill Snyder, longtime Culver-Union Twp. Volunteer Fire Department member pose with plaques presented to them by Culver's VFW Post 6919, honoring public servants of the area. The two were joined May 17 by fellow honoree John Duhnowsky of Culver's police department as part of an annual recognition of local emergency personnel by the post. Post Commander Brian Linhart – shown below presenting Snyder's award – presented the plaques, whose recipients were chosen by heads of each respective department.

PHOTO/TOM THORNBURG



## Briefs, from page 1

ited, and interested persons should sign up by June 15. For more information, call 544-527-6627 or email: millie@culcom.net.

### Golf cart registration

The town of Culver asks residents to please remember that golf carts must be registered with the town to use on public streets within corporate limits. To register a golf cart, residents must apply at the Culver Town Hall, located at 200 E. Washington Street, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, 574-842-3140. Citizens need to provide golf cart insurance, VIN number, name, address and phone number. There is a cost of \$25 for the registration and is valid for a calendar year, not the date the registration is received. Ordinance 2007-009 states the regulation of the use of golf carts and fines within town lim-

its. This ordinance may be viewed at Town Hall and is also on the town website at [www.townofculver.org](http://www.townofculver.org).

### Leaf and debris regulations

The town of Culver reminds residents not to leave leaf or brush piles intended for pickup by the town in the streets. Instead, residents are asked to leave such piles on their own property, as leaves and other debris in the street may lead to clogged storm sewer drains, flooding, and other problems. Those with questions may contact Culver's town hall at 574-842-3140.

### 'Anna and the King' at CUTPL

The Culver-Union Twp. Public Library's "A Novel Approach" for June will examine the book, "Anna and the King of Siam" by Margaret Landon and view the movie "Anna and the King" starring Jodie Foster.

The program, a book and film discussion event, will take place Wednesday, June 3 at noon. Copies of the book are available to check out at the library, where the movie will be shown after the book discussion June 3. Participants may bring a bag lunch to the program; the library will provide coffee and tea. Barb Maves of our Adult Services will host the program. The library may be contacted at 574-842-2941 or e-mailed [staff@culver.lib.in.us](mailto:staff@culver.lib.in.us) for more information.

### Indiana postal murals exhibit this month

An exhibit on Depression-era WPA and other government-sponsored projects around Culver will remain on display through the first week of June, highlighted by "Local Treasures," an exhibit on loan from the Indiana Historical Society at the Antiquarian and Historical Society of Culver's Center for Culver History, located in the Carnegie room of the Culver Public Library on Main Street. The exhibit features

Indiana's WPA post office murals, of which Culver has one. A smaller exhibit on local projects will also be featured.

### Sidewalk applications

The Town of Culver is currently accepting applications for its 2009 sidewalk and curb program. Applications as well as updated sidewalk specifications may be picked up at the town hall, 200 E. Washington Street, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. or via the town website at [www.townofculver.org](http://www.townofculver.org). A permit is needed and an inspection will need to take place prior to the project and after completion. This program is on a first come, first served basis. The deadline to receive applications is June 30, 2009. Please inquire within for more information, or call 574-842-3140.

### Wesley registration ongoing

Registration for Wesley Preschool at Wesley United Methodist Church, 511 School Street, continues.

Wesley offers two classes, a junior class and senior. To qualify for the junior class, a child must be three years old by August 1, 2009. To qualify for the senior class, a child must be four by August 1, 2009.

Currently the preschool has a staff of three and hopes to keep growing. Please contact Jennifer Luttrell with any questions, 574-250-3852.

### Play all six Marshall courses with \$50 United Way Golf Card

PLYMOUTH – Area golfers can receive green fees for 18-hole rounds of golf at each of Marshall County's six golf courses for a total of just \$50 by purchasing the United Way of Marshall County's Golf Card. All proceeds from tax-deductible Golf Card sales will be directed to United Way. The card is available at all county golf courses: Indiana National Golf Club at Swan Lake, Mystic Hills Golf Club at Culver, Plymouth Country Club, Plymouth Rock Golf Course, Sprig O'Mint Golf Club, and Tri-Way Golf Club. In addition to the golf courses, the Golf Card is

available at the United Way office at KeyBank, the Pilot News, WTCA radio station, or by contacting a United Way board member. Only 500 cards are available for sale. The value of playing all six courses is over \$200. Scheduled tee times are required and some dates and times may be restricted due to other events at the courses.

Marshall County United Way's mission is to mobilize the caring power of our county community, particularly in the areas of income, education and health. For more information contact Jennifer S. Maddox, executive director, United Way of Marshall County at 574-936-3366 or visit the web site at <http://www.marshallcountyuw.org/>.

### 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](mailto:citizen@culcom.net).

Name: Spring Sale; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00065850; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Fisher & Co. Clothiers; Size: 8 in

Name: WE BUY SCRAP GOLD; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 3 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00066137; Ad Number: -; Customer

Name: Culver weekly ad; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 2.5 in; Color: Black; File Name:

Name: full-weekly ad; Width: 62p8; Depth: 7.5 in; Color: Black plus one; File Name: 00063586; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: First Stage Greenhouses; Size: 45 in



Hilary Sopata at the International Antiques Fair in Chicago. PHOTO SUBMITTED

## Culver's Sopata makes waves on TV, beyond

By Michelle Chircop

Hilary Sopata, a Culver native and currently a registered interior designer from Park Ridge, Illinois, has been very busy within the past few months with a television spot and attending events that have showcased her innovative design sense and passion for green design.

Currently president of the American Society of Interior Designers Illinois Chapter and on the 2009 Advisory Board for Home Fashion and Furniture Trends Magazine, Sopata attended the International Antiques Fair at the Merchandise Mart in downtown Chicago. Chosen as one of Chicago's leading designers, Sopata scoured the Fair to find a piece that inspired her creative design aesthetic.

Those flipping channels for home improvement shows may have seen Sopata on NBC's nationally broadcast pro-

## Obituary

### Christine Diana Bayley Bennett May 17, 2009



Christine Diana Bayley Bennett, age 48 of Carmel, Ind. passed away peacefully Saturday, May 17, 2009. Chris was a devoted wife, mother, daughter and sister and she will be deeply missed by all who loved her. She graduated from Indiana University in the class of 1983 and was a member of Pi Beta Phi Sorority. Chris was a paralegal with the law firm of Cline, Farrell, Christie and Lee for 15 years.

Chris is survived by her husband; Trent and their children (Trent Bennett grew up in Culver and is the son of Leon and the late Sondra Bennett); Blake and Kyle Bennett. Her parents; L. H. and Dianne Bayley and her siblings; Kim (Jeff) Fisher and Mike Bayley.

Her grandmother; Aurelia Oros also survives. The family wishes to thank the following doctors for their care and compassion for Chris the past seven years; Dr. Patrick Loehrer, Dr. Chris Leagre, Dr. Richard Freeman, Dr. Jean-Pierre Mobosser, Dr. Richard Fogel, Dr. David Josephson and Dr. Robert Strawbridge. They also want to thank the St. Vincent Hospice Center for their kindness and care.

Family and friends gathered Wednesday, May 19 from 4 to 8 p.m. in the Leppert Mortuary, Smith Carmel Chapel, 900 N. Rangeline Road, Carmel. Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Thursday, May 20 at 10 a.m. in St. Luke Catholic Church, 75th and Illinois Street, Indianapolis. Interment followed at Our Lady of Peace Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, Chris requested memorial contribution to St. Vincent Foundation, 8402 Harcourt Road Suite 210, Indianapolis, IN 46260 or IU Foundation/IU Simon Cancer Center, c/o Thymoma Research, PO Box 660245, Indianapolis, IN 46266-0245.

Friends are invited to visit the website [www.leppertmortuary.com](http://www.leppertmortuary.com) to share a personal memory of Chris or sign the guest book.

PHOTO/ALFRED NYBY

## Play ball?

This eager-looking squirrel was spotted -- and captured -- on film -- recently by Alfred Nyby of Culver, who noticed the critter ready to "play ball" on his property.



## Community Calendar

### Thurs., May 28

Fitness Class, 10:30 a.m., Culver Public Library  
Kiwanis Club awards banquet, 6:30 p.m.

Board of Zoning Appeals mtg., 6:30 p.m., town hall  
Knights of Columbus St. Mary of the Lake Council #13720 business mtg., 7 p.m., rectory basement

### Sat., May 30

"Godspell," Culver Academies Spring Musical, 7:30 p.m., Eppley Auditorium

### Sun., May 31

"Godspell," Culver Academies Spring Musical, 2 p.m., Eppley Auditorium

### Mon., June 1

Knitting Class, 5 p.m., Culver Public Library

DivorceCare, 7 p.m., Grace United Church of Christ

### Tues., June 2

Fitness class, 9 a.m., Culver Public Library  
Culver Chamber of Commerce mtg., 6:30 p.m.

### Weds., June 3

Genealogy mtg., 10 a.m., Culver Public Library  
Euchre club, 6 - 8 p.m., Culver Public Library

### Thurs., June 4

Fitness Class, 10:30 a.m., Culver Public Library  
Knights of Columbus St. Mary of the Lake Council #13720 social mtg., 7 p.m., rectory basement  
"Godspell," Culver Academies Spring Musical, 7:30 p.m., Eppley Auditorium

Name: Week 1; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00065738; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Lakeside Auto Supply; Size: 8 in

Name: May ads; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00063816; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Family Vision Clinic; Size: 8 in

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Name: Ask The Experts; Width: 62p8; Depth: 9 in; Color: Black; File Name: -; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Ask The Experts; Size: 54 in

## What makes CBGC unique?

What makes a Boys & Girls Club unique? The philosophy underlying Boys & Girls Club programming is our Youth Development Strategy is its key to success. This strategy defines how our youth development professionals and volunteers interact with young people. All programs and activities are designed to maximize opportunities for young people to acquire four basic "senses" which help them build self-esteem and grow into responsible and caring citizens. These four "senses" are:



**CULVER  
BOYS & GIRLS CLUB**  
By Jennifer Wright, M.S.

**A sense of competence:** the feeling there is something boys and girls can do as well.

**A sense of usefulness:** the opportunity to do something of value for other people.

**A sense of belonging:** a setting where young people know the "fit" and are accepted.

**A sense of influence:** a chance to be heard and to influence decisions.

When this strategy is fully implemented, self-esteem is enhanced and the environment is created which helps boys and girls achieve their full potential.

In 2004 and 2005, Boys & Girls Clubs of America embarked on an intensive research effort to identify key elements of positive youth development. They found that the level of impact a Club has on young people depends on: 1) the frequency of their participation and 2) the degree to which the Club implements five key elements in its operations.

These key elements will drive all of our efforts to have a lasting impact on youth.

**A Safe, Positive Environment:** The Club is a safe haven where members feel physically and emotionally secure at all times.

**Fun:** The Club facility, staff and program offerings create a welcoming, positive environment that allows members to engage in play, enjoy their play time and be happy and eager to come to the Club.

**Supportive Relationships:** The Club ensures that every young person feels connected to one or more adults and has friendships with peers.

**Opportunities and Expectations:** Club staff and programs consistently communicate the expectation that every child has the potential to excel, be productive and succeed at the Club and in life.

**Recognition:** The Club takes every opportunity to recognize and validate Club members' achievements and accomplishments.

Boys & Girls Clubs of America found that when the five key elements are intentionally infused in a Club's programs and operations, the Club creates a developmentally rich environment that leads to deepening impact. At the Culver Boys & Girls Club we strive to retain these key elements to have the highest level of impact on the lives of our young people.

## Culver history highlights

This week in **1914:** Steps were being taken to secure free mail delivery to Culver.

Culver was introduced into larger company last Thursday (May 21) evening at 7:40 when electric current from the Plymouth Electric Light and Power Company's plant was flashed along the intervening 12 miles of wire and blazed forth on every street corner in town.

In **1932**, the Linco Oil Company started work on a new service station on the site of J. Saine & Son store. The station at the southeast corner of Main and Jefferson Streets would later be a Marathon station and then Mary's Shoppe.

Also in 1932, the Universal Film Company completed local shots for its "Tom Brown of Culver" feature film.

In **1937**, Culver's beach lodge was opened for the first time to the public.

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00053078; Ad Number: -; Customer Name:  
Pilot News; Size: 15 in

*"Just because it's a cliché doesn't mean it's any less insightful: You really can see the whole the world at your local library." Jay Walljasper*

It's May and we all look forward to lazy summer days at beautiful Lake Max, a Culver-special time. What could be more pleasant than finally getting the opportunity to pick up that novel you did not have time to read through the busy winter months, and to sit by the Lake for a summer read?

For the youngsters, who are out of school for a few months, your Library has some very fine programs and activities planned for the summer. Summer reading programs have proven successful in attracting children to libraries during June, July and August. Scientifically-based research indicates that children who continue to read during their long vacation perform better in the fall when school resumes. Summer reading programs make educational reading activities fun and appealing to young people.

According to Johns Hopkins School of Education research, "all young people experience learning losses when they do not engage in educational activities during the summer. Research spanning 100 years shows that students typically score lower on standardized tests at the end of summer vacation than they do on the same tests at the beginning of the summer (White, 1906; Heyns, 1978; Entwisle & Alexander 1992; Cooper, 1996; Downey et al, 2004)."

Nationally known reading expert Stephen Krashen has found that reading helps improve writing style, and that children read more when they listen and discuss stories. In his

classic study *The Power of Reading* (Libraries Unlimited. Second edition 2004), Krashen reports on research demonstrating the value of free voluntary reading in the development of reading, writing and spelling skills. He makes a strong statement: "Free voluntary reading is one of the most powerful tools we have in language education, and... is the missing ingredient in first language 'language arts' as well as in interme-

lion words a year, at least one thousand words will be added to their vocabulary. (One study found this could easily be accomplished by letting children and teens read any format reading material they wanted, including comic books and teen romances.)

Studies also showed that spelling improved the more kids read.

In summary, Krashen found that free voluntary reading resulted in better reading comprehension, writing style, vocabulary, spelling, and grammatical development.

I am indebted to the New York Statewide Summer Reading program for this summary of Krasden's findings, which confirm

many of our own observations in the Library. To encourage free voluntary reading, each year your Library sponsors a summer reading program with a particular subject which many public libraries throughout the country also adopt. This year's theme focuses on creativity: the topic for grades K-6 is "Be Creative @ at Your Library", while the theme for grades 7-12 is "Express Yourself @ Your Library." Scheduled programs and events for both groups are focused on the creative arts: drawing, music, writing. Summer reading activities are free and open to all children and teens. Those who sign up will receive reading logs to keep track of what they read. Do check our website for more information.

Children's Associate Ali Gaskill is very excited about this year's program. She tells us, "A calendar of summer reading events can be found in the children's room of the Culver Public Library. Sign up for summer reading begins Satur-

day, June 6th at the library. Be sure to get in on this exciting program, and see all the great books available at the Culver Public Library!"

While our adult population is not returning back-to-school in August, they too may participate in a summer reading program. This year Polly Thompson Wolf is again coordinating our adult program. In keeping with the creativity theme, the program is called "Be a Master of the Arts @ Your Library." Events include a reading contest, a carving class in July, and a mini concert. Participants are encouraged to read books about the arts, and will receive more "points" for them.

I'd like to close with these "Seven Easy Ways to Get Your Kids to Read this Summer" for Culver parents and grandparents and caregivers:

Come to your Library and have your child apply for a library card.

Encourage your child to sign up for this year's summer reading program and enjoy free programs with fun activities, storytelling, reading contests, crafts and more.

Read to your child every day. Take advantage of "waiting time" to share books: on trips, at the doctor's office, in line at the grocery store.

Set a good example: read on your own and talk to your child about what you are reading, (a wonderful way to communicate).

Have books everywhere—in the car, in front of the TV, in the kitchen, on the porch.

Keep a list on the refrigerator of the books everyone has read during the summer.

Bring some library books to the park, sit by the Lake and read, read, read!



### From the Other Side of the Book Drop

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

diate second and foreign language instruction." The book then reviews studies that illustrate how free voluntary reading benefits student achievement, including these highlights:

Children read more when they see other people reading.

The longer free voluntary reading is practiced, the more consistent and positive the results.

People who read more, write better.

Reading as a leisure activity is the best predictor of comprehension, vocabulary and reading speed.

Skill-based reading exercises (in two studies) did not help comprehension levels.

Outstanding high school writers reported extensive summer reading.

The relationship between free voluntary reading and literacy is extremely consistent, even when different tests, different methods of reading habits and different definitions of free reading are used.

If children read one mil-

## Name that Culver "citizen"



At left: Last week's Mystery Citizen, Chris Stevens, then and now. Right: this week's mystery citizen.

Last week's mystery citizen, for those who didn't figure it out, was none other than Culver Community High School Spanish teacher Chris Stevens, also a graduate of that same school and Culver Elementary School, from whose yearbook the mystery photo came. The editor hoped the "amigo" reference last week might serve as a hint.

There were several correct guesses, presented here in their usual "first-come-first-

served" order: Brian Brockey, Maggie Nixon, Kim Irsa, Dina Flenner, Carin Clifton

The editor notices a number of vehicles parked downtown on weekend evenings. Some would suggest this is due to the proliferation of diners at our popular downtown restaurants, which may be so. But the editor is sure it's also related to all those free parking passes given to winners of the "Name that Culver citizen" contest. Right?

This week's mystery citizen is also a Culver Elementary and High School alum (that narrows it down, eh?), whose work has special significance to all our readers.



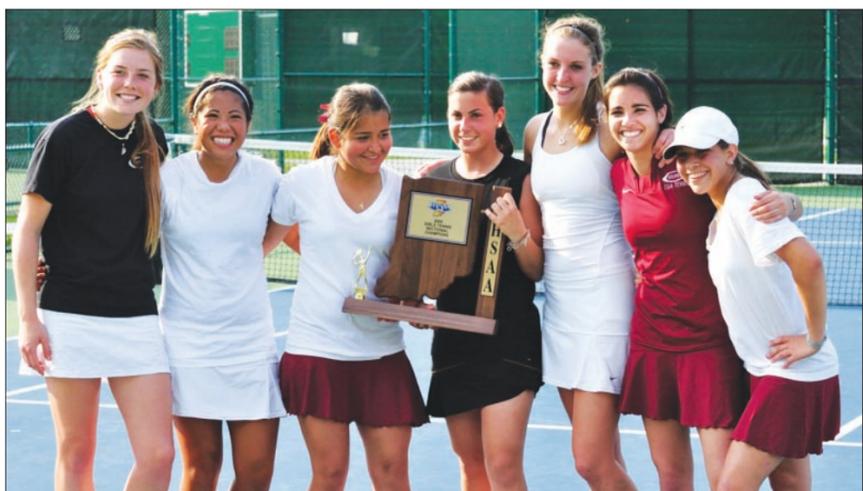
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Name: We Have No Problem; Width: 9p9.833; Depth: 6.5 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00063729; Ad





# Sports



PHOTO/GRANT MUNROE

## Lady Eagles are sectional champs

The Culver Girls Academy tennis team captured its sixth straight sectional crown May 22 and will meet Penn in the Regional Semifinal May 26 at Leeper Park in South Bend, according to coach Alan Loehr. Pictured, left to right, are team members Brady Banks of Culver, Jill Sitjar of Rochester, Ind., Ioanna Aguilar of Mexico, Angelina Garcia of Mexico, Brindy Hamstra of Wheatfield, Ind., Jessica Simon of Ft. Wayne, and Andrea Simon of Ft. Wayne.

## Kiwanis from page 1



CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

Left: Bobbie Cummins Washburn Ruhnow accepts a Distinguished Alumni award from Culver Kiwanian Ralph Winters.

Culver Community High School, the latter of which represents consolidation of the previous three.

The late Paul "Red" Davidson -- a 1935 Leites Ford graduate -- was first honored, with his wife of 57 years, Rosemary (Ault), accepting the award. After a turn from 1941 to 1945 in the Army, Davidson ran the general store in Leites Ford and was for 36 years the postmaster there before his 1986 retirement, explained Winters. Several small books and publications bear his poetry, and he was a Boy Scout leader for many years, work-

ing with Don Good from Monterey, another Kiwanis honoree. Davidson was a Culver Community School board member representing Leites Ford and the Aubbeenaubee Township community besides being a founding member of the Leites Ford/Aubbeenaubee Fire Department (whose first truck was purchased with Davidson's and a handful of friends' personal funds).

Rosemary Davidson said her husband would have enjoyed the award and noted with a smile he had perfect attendance throughout his school years excepting one

stance of playing "hooky" his senior year.

Monterey's Don Good was honored as well. Good -- husband to Mary Sparks of San Pierre for 54 years before his death in 2007 -- started with Standard Oil in 1941 before serving 39 months in the Army in Europe before the close of World War II. Afterwards, he returned to Monterey and continued with Standard Oil through its many changes and consolidations. His son, Don Jr., continues to operate Good Oil, noted Winters. Good was



Christina Klausung



Kalie Thompsom



Don Good Jr.



Rosemary Davidson



Dick Swennemumson

Conservation and Development.

Bobetta "Bobbie" Cummins Washburn Ruhnow, a 1947 graduate of Culver High School, was honored next. Ruhnow worked at Culver Academies in a number of offices. After leaving the school, she worked in a variety of local firms "which all went out of business," Winters joked. Ruhnow was Culver's clerk-treasurer for three separate terms and is active with the VFW Auxiliary, the Culver Plan Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals, the Union

Township Advisory Board, and the Chamber of Commerce in Culver. She is also a regular correspondent for the Culver Citizen.

Ruhnow, remarking on the many attributes of Culver and its many "organizations that do so much good," said her "greatest resources" are her husband Emil ("Bud") and her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. She added to audience laughter she has also "closed businesses" in Argos, Bremen, South Bend, and several other area communities.

Culver Community High School principal Albert Hanselman was also honored as a Distinguished Alumni, in his case of the same school of which he is principal. Winters noted Hanselman's entire academic career has been in Culver schools, with the exception of his four years at St. Joseph's College Rensselaer as well as studies via Indiana University, from which he received his Master's in Administration while still working in Culver schools.

Hanselman told the audience he has received other awards, but local recognition means the most to

him. Thanking the Kiwanians and congratulating the evening's honored students from his school, Hanselman cited his wife Joyce, whom he said worked at home with the couple's two children through a busy life for him in which he sometimes left home at 7 a.m. and didn't return until 10 p.m. He also thanked his parents, noting his father -- an iron worker -- encouraged him to pursue education in order to use his mind, not his back, in his career life. Hanselman added thanks to retired Culver teachers Latham and Rita Lawson and Barbara Winters, in whose classrooms he said he sat as a student.

Recognition as Kiwanian of the Year was sprung on an unsuspecting Dick Swennemumson, past president of the club, by current president Grant Munroe. Swennemumson, Munroe said, has committed many hours and a great deal of energy and creativity to the organization's efforts, greatly increasing its fundraising especially during last year's electric car raffle. Swennemumson said the award was "undeserved" and praised Hanselman and CCHS' awarded students, as well as the efforts of other Kiwanis members.



CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

## Cleaning up Culver

Culver Community High School senior Nate Niswander, left, and Joel Florek of Culver Academies lift another load May 9 during Culver's town-wide cleanup. Under the supervision of Culver street department head Bob Porter, rotating crews of students from both schools (the CAVS club at CCHS and service club at the Academies, assisted by the CYCO organization which unites both clubs) and members of the street department helped citizens two and a half dumpsters' worth of junk. The clean-up was a follow-up to last year's successful fall cleanup, and is expected to be a regular event twice yearly.

## Carr, known in Monterey, Leiters Ford, convicted of murder

By John Reed  
Correspondent  
ROCHESTER — Winamac newsman James Carr has been convicted of killing his friend, Roy Shaffer, in Fulton County Nov. 4, 2006.

On April 30, a Fulton Superior Court jury convicted Carr of murder.

Alan Burke, Carr's attorney, said he would "absolutely" appeal the verdict. Sentencing is to be at 1:30 p.m. May 20.

Fulton County Prosecutor Rick Brown did not ask for the death penalty. Carr faces 45 to 65 years in prison. He's been in jail since his arrest Nov. 5, 2006.

Carr had been a reporter for the Pulaski County Journal and had worked for other publications in the area, including Starke County.

After the murder, he went to a bar in Monterey, catching the attention of patrons because of the blood all over his clothing.

Shaffer's death, Brown said during closing arguments, was without doubt intentional.

"This man took this gun, cocked it, jammed it in the face of Roy Allen Shaffer and pulled the trigger," Brown said. "There is not a hint of evidence in this case that would suggest this was an accident," he said.

Carr did not take the witness stand.

The defense called one witness. Dr. John Pless, a forensic pathologist, who said Shaffer's death could have happened by accident.

Brown said Shaffer was found dead of a gunshot wound to the head in a wheelbarrow outside the home he rented from Carr at 10270 W. Fulton County Road 200 North; there was a gun in the house; there was a bullet hole in the wall and a bullet was recovered; there was a lot of blood in the kitchen-dining area where Shaffer was shot;

Carr's jacket was at the scene; Carr was found at his 681 N. U.S. 35 Winamac home; Carr's bloody pants and a shotgun shell were found at his home; Shaffer's blood was on a coffee can near the killing site and on Carr's pants; the shell found at Carr's home was fired from Carr's gun.

Carr's defense attorneys, Alan Burke and Jim Voyles, told jurors nobody will ever know exactly what happened. Did Shaffer grab the gun? Did he stumble and fall? Nobody knows, they said.

Both Burke and Voyles pointed out Carr's character, repeating testimony he was second in his high school class at Aubbeenaubee Township High School, was a teacher, a librarian and worked in a youth home, and was nice enough to pay Shaffer's rent and loan him a car to get to work.

## CCHS book drive benefits 'Invisible Children'

By Steven Metzger  
Culver Comm. High School  
From April 8 to April 27, the Culver Community High School CYCO students and CAVS Club worked together to sponsor the Invisible Children Book Drive. The program collected books for children in developing countries.

The book drive gathered books from each SRT class to send to Uganda, an African country in need of education. The books are either sent straight to Uganda to the needy children, or they

are sent to a bookstore in South Bend to sell to raise money for the children.

"The Uganda children really want an education," said CCHS counselor and CYCO/CAVS Club sponsor Brenda Sheldon. "They're almost choosing books over bread!"

The book drive collected over 1,000 books as a result. The charity event was performed jointly with Culver Academies, which brought in about 2,000 books. "They are twice as big as we are," said Sheldon, "so

we did okay."

The book drive was organized into the homeroom class competition. The class that brought in the most books was awarded with an ice cream party by the CAVS Club and CYCO students. CCHS teachers Cristyn Cottone's and Robert Konzelman's SRT classes donated the most books.

"Our goal for this drive was to help our world family and maybe even focus on gratitude for all we have here in our country," Sheldon said.

## 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, May 28:** Fish, diced red potatoes with herbs, mixed vegetables, bun, grape juice, apple pie,

and milk.

**Friday, June 1:** Chicken and noodles, mashed potatoes, green beans, bread and margarine, tropical fruit, and milk.

**Monday, June 2:** Apple stuffed pork chopettepeas, wax beans, bread and margarine, fruit cocktail, and milk.

**Tuesday, June 3:** Salmon Patty, sweet potato patties, cornbread and margarine,

apple crisp, and milk.

**Wednesday, June 4:** Cheeseburger w/ Pickle, applesauce, green beans, bun, juice, cookie, and milk.

**Thursday, June 5:** Sliced Turkey, bun, mayo, sliced tomato, potato salad, fruit salad, and milk.

**Friday, June 6:** Ham, cheesy Mashed Potatoes, Stewed Tomatoes, bread and margarine, pears, and milk.

## Police blotter

**Gregory J. Collins** was charged April 27 with Theft of beer on the property of Park N Shop, Culver.

**Monica A. Smith**, 18, of Rochester was issued a citation April 18 for exceeding the posted speed limit, 90 mph in a 55 mph zone.

**Robert J. Brettin II**, 24, of New Waverly, Ind. was issued a citation April 18 for exceeding the posted speed limit, 70 mph in a 55 mph zone.

**Lorin E. Gorman**, 18, of Warsaw was issued a citation April 19 for exceeding the posted speed limit, 70 mph in a 55 mph zone and for failure to carry registration.

**Adam T. Kreig** was charged with public intoxication and resisting law enforcement April 23 at 824 Lake Shore Drive, Culver.

**Deanna D. Hicks**, 51, of Leesburg, Ind. was issued a citation April 24 for exceeding the posted speed limit, 34 mph in a 20 mph zone.

**Alexander R. Sage**, 18, of Culver was issued a citation April 26 for failure to signal.

**Logan M. Reinhold** was charged April 27 with operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated and with an ACE of .15 or more, on

18B at Queen Road, Culver.

**Hollis D. France** was charged April 28 with operating a vehicle while intoxicated, driving left of center, and speeding, 41 mph in a 20 mph zone, on Mill Street in Culver.

**Amanda N. Vires**, 23, of North Judson was issued a citation April 30 for driving while suspended.

**Harold E. Brown**, 53, of Kewana was issued a cita-

tion May 2 for a seatbelt violation.

Calin I. Bente, 41, of Skokle, Ill., was issued a citation May 2 for exceeding the posted speed limit, 70 mph in a 55 mph zone.

**Mogan M. Malek**, 25, of South Bend was issued a citation May 3 for a seatbelt violation.

**Roylee T. Bean** was charged May 4 with driving while suspended at Lake Shore Drive and For-

est Place, Culver.

**Michael G. Faylor Jr.**, 29, of Culver was issued a citation May 7 for an expired drivers license.

**Justin W. Loehmer**, 19, of Culver was issued a citation May 11 for a seatbelt violation.

**James P. Downey**, 20, of

Culver was issued a citation May 11 for a seatbelt violation.

**Jamie L. Ransom**, 26, of Knox was issued a citation May 12 for a seatbelt violation.

**Ashley Powell**, 21, of Plymouth was issued a citation May 12 for a seatbelt

violation.

**Eugene D. Vabynck III**, 38, of Plymouth, was issued a citation May 13 for exceeding the posted speed limit, 41 mph in a 20 mph zone.

Name: CHAD WEEK 9; Width: 30p11.5; Depth: 5 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00066145; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: First Farmers Bank & Trust; Size: 15 in

Name: PIZZA; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00066255; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Culver Coffee Company; Size: 8 in

Name: WPA Exhibit; Width: 30p11.5; Depth: 10 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00065726; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Antiquarian Historical Society; Size: 30 in

# Busy days at Culver Elementary



CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

## Character on parade

Above, left: Culver Elementary School second graders braved the sprinkling rain May 14 for the Cool Character Club parade, a revised form of the annual Just Say No parade from years past. The club, according to second grade teacher Lisa Moise, emphasizes the six pillars of character and is intended to build a foundation from which children can “just say no” to drugs and a host of harmful behaviors by becoming citizens of character. Moise says teachers feel the club has been successful this year, utilizing monthly movies about character, the reciting of a character pledge each morning, and reinforcement of the pillars in day to day approaches to students interaction and classroom discipline. A state police officer and K-9 dog also visited students to emphasize character. In the photo above, holding the banner are (left to right) students Leland Crull, Trenton Jones, and Jenna Moise, and CES second grade teacher Jean Ahlenius.



CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

## Books on the menu

Above, right: CES first grade teacher Tina Bailey’s reading class held its first-ever “Reader’s Café” May 17, during which first grade students took positions of “waiters,” “greeters,” and “readers,” serving snacks and reading books to parents, teachers, and kindergarteners. Waiters delivered chips to guest tables and took orders from a “menu” of available books, circling the chosen title from their chart. Readers then read the order ticket, placed it in a basket, and chose the correct title from their bin. Readers took their book to their assigned table to share the title, author and illustrator information with the guest before reading the book and sharing the pictures, said Bailey. Pictured here are kindergarteners Kaydence Crane, left, and Abbi Richard, served by first grade “waiters” Caden Grove and Hunter Manns.



CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

## Spelling her way to the top

CES first grader Savannah Cook won her grade’s annual Spelling Bee May 20 by correctly spelling the words “beautiful” and “meet,” according to first grade teacher Tina Bailey. The top five spellers from each of the school’s four first grade classes were chosen to compete in the Bee, during which they were required to repeat and spell the word, and use it in a sentence or define it. Cook and Owen Valiquet were the finalists in the event. Cook is the daughter of Phil and Andrea Cook of Culver.



CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

## Future Citizen writers?

Culver Elementary School fourth through sixth graders debuted the “Elementary Times” newspaper last month, under the direction of fifth grade teacher Raeanne Stevens as part of the school’s Voyagers program. The group, says Stevens, met for two and three days for two weeks to produce each issue of the paper, two of which were printed by the end of the school year. The newspaper’s title was suggested by Jacob Awls and voted in by the staff. Article topics ranged from this summer’s upcoming Maxinkuckee Players production, to renovations at Culver’s Park N’ Shop, to essays on the environment and other topics. Stevens says she plans to continue the project this fall, hopefully with one edition of the paper each nine weeks. Pictured here are “Elementary Times” staffers (front row, left to right) Megan Brady, Clare Nowalk, Kelsey Shaffer, Trista Vela, Cheyenne Durbin, Jennah McCarthy, Alyssa Stockberger. Back row, Jake Awls, Brandon Sellers, Josh Vela, Brandon Havron, John Hopple (John White, another member, was absent).

Name: Legals; Width: 30p11.5; Depth: 9.5 in; Color: Black; File Name: -; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Legals; Size: 28.5 in

## Bike from page 1

horns. Baby seats and child seats will be available with plans to carry child bike trailers as well as helmets for toddlers through adults. “We decided not to carry bike locks,” Baker adds with a chuckle, “since this is Culver. But we can order those for you!”

‘Baker says the shop wasn’t originally planning to feature bike rentals, but “almost everyone we talked to has asked us about rentals.” As a result, a number of bicycles are available for rent.

And word of mouth has been building buzz about the store locally amongst casual riders as well as serious bicycling enthusiasts. “People who really like bikes are coming out of the woodwork and telling us how excited they are not to have to drive out of town or to a discount store or go to the internet,” says Baker.

Name: WEEKLY AD; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 3.5 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00064334; Ad Number: -; Customer Name:

Name: Reservations/ Gifts; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00064387; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Culver Reservations; Size: 8 in

He and Janet are not alone, then, in hopes the store’s existence can open a number of options related to cycling in Culver, from the potential for classes and instruction, to the possibility of special group rides, be they oriented towards families, children, “hard-core” cyclists, or historical rides and the like. The couple feels Culver is an especially advantageous spot for cycling, with the beautiful ride around Lake Maxinkuckee and Marshall County and Plymouth’s “underutilized” cycling routes, of which Baker praises and whose use he hopes to encourage.

If it isn’t clear so far, the owners of the Bike Barn intend to be a small-town, community-oriented store. “If it’s a matter of taking extra time to offer the service, we’re willing to do it,” Baker notes. “It’s a matter of listening to the customer and finding out what their need is.”

The Bike Barn is located at the corner of Main Street and Lake Shore Drive, and is open Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sundays from noon to 4 p.m. The store can be reached at 574-842-3606 and is online at www.bike-barnculver.com.



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



TEXT/MEGAN M. MYERS, CCHS. PHOTO SUBMITTED

## Prom enchants guests

The 2009 Junior/Senior Prom was held at Christos's Banquet Center in Plymouth Saturday, May 2. The evening's activities included a formal dance, dinner and dessert. The theme for the 2009 Prom was 'Midnight Masquerade.'

The title of Prom King went to senior Justin Master (above, right) and Prom Queen went to senior Beth Wojdyla (left). The court consisted of seniors Kalie Thompson, escorted by Master; Wojdyla, escorted by Adam Neace and Myles Pinder; Alex Hnatusko, escorted by Jeff Clifton; Whitney Banfield, escorted by Drew Cultice; and Alyssa Allen, escorted by Ryan Carter. The Prom Prince was Robert Molebash and Prom Princess was Shae Harris, both juniors. Prom Prince and Princess Court included Sarah Bailey escorted by Brock Elliott, Shae Harris escorted by Robert Molebash, Kaitlyn Looney escorted by Nick Peterson, Amanda Rabeneau escorted by Kyle Pugh, and Ashley Zehner and Nicole Ziaja escorted by George Vansky.

Following the Prom, students made their way to the Plymouth Lifeplex Center for After-Prom.

Name: May- Gallery ad; Width: 20p4.667;  
Depth: 2 in; Color: Black; File Name:



CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

## Helping kids to READ

Culver Elementary School kindergarten teacher Janna VanDePutte, left, accepts a \$500 donation from Culver VFW Post 6919 Men's Auxiliary members (from left) Dave McKee, Doug Bernhardt, Terry Wakefield, and Glenn Whitmarsh. The money was used to fund a trip to Culver's Uptown Cinema, part of a reading incentive for all grades' students at CES in the school's READ (Reading Encourages Adventures and Dreams) program. 375 students, spread over three separate shows, attended the movie "Despero" May 18 and 19 as part of the reward for their fourth nine weeks' worth of reading.

## Library will shift to expanded system, board discusses resignation

By Jeff Kenney  
Citizen editor

Patrons of the Culver-Union Twp. Public Library will soon see greatly expanded possibilities in borrowing books, both locally and around Indiana, thanks to a formal vote from the library's board of trustees, at its May 19 meeting, for the library to join the Evergreen consortium. Evergreen is the name of a piece of open-source computer software – which means its usage is free and can be adapted, also for free, as needed by individual libraries and collectively – offered by Indiana's State Library.

At its March 17 meeting,

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

the board heard from Jessica Jacko of the State Library's Professional Development office, who explained Evergreen's benefits to CUTPL, including 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. Under the Evergreen system, local patrons will be issued a new library card granting full access to materials at any of the many other Evergreen libraries in Indiana, whose catalogs Culver patrons can access online and order books (audio-visual materials are not part of the Evergreen borrowing program at present), with deliveries twice per week. Other features expected later in 2009, said Jacko, include 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, having reviewed the software and consortium with staff members, recommended the library sign on, noting funding for the program is federal, but Evergreen's open source nature will allow indefinite use of the platform even if funding runs out.

The board also voted to accept the resignation, tendered late last month, of board member Alfred Nyby, who told the Citizen recently he resigned with concerns as to handling of library funds in recent years and after a resolution at the board's April meeting expressing the board take no action with regards to a probable upcoming audit by the state.

Board members Rita Lawson, James Hahn, Peg Schuldt, and McCarty praised Nyby's work on the board, citing in particular his efforts in shoring up library finances. Audience member Connie Van Horn added her agreement, commenting, "I think he deserves a lot of credit for this library to be where it is today. Everybody's comfort-

able to come here again."

Board member Carol Saft added frustration over Nyby's resignation. "To lose such a valued member of the board," she said. "I can't put into words, and it's all over one issue this board can't get their act together on...it's a very, very sad day when we can't get this one problem solved and keep a valued member of this community on the board."

The board, with the exception of Saft, voted to accept the resignation.

The library board also voted to reimburse library technology head Andrew Baker \$500 towards college courses, and raised the library's non-resident fee from \$128 to \$150, per state requirements.

Saft also congratulated McCarty for her "wonderful job" keeping library expenses under control, with Hahn echoing her praise and adding she and library bookkeeper Jim Faulkner are doing "very good work."

Name: GOLF TODAY; Width: 62p8; Depth: 11 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00062491; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Pilot News; Size: 66 in