

The Culver Citizen

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LAKE FEST PHOTOS/JEFF KENNEY - REGATTA PHOTO/PAUL PARÉ - LAYOUT/JEFF KENNEY

CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

In Brief

Corn roast, Firemen's Fest one week away

A longtime annual tradition, the Culver Lions Club's corn roast, held in the town park, will take place Saturday evening, July 25, starting at 4 p.m. Fresh-roasted corn on the cob, hamburgers, and more are part of the cost of the meal.

The annual Firemen's Festival is also part of the lineup. Taking place outside the fire station on Lake Shore Drive, the event includes games, play activities for children, and much more.

Dembowski to visit REAL Meals

State Representative Nancy Dembowski will chat with attendees at Culver's REAL Services meal Wednesday, July 29, and those interested are invited. Lunch is served at noon with guest speakers beginning at 12:30 p.m.

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

Friends sale Aug. 1, donations sought

The Friends of the Culver-Union Twp. Public Library will hold a one-day book sale at the library Saturday, August 1 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Books may be donated at any time at the library front desk. All donations are appreciated. The next scheduled meeting of the Friends is Monday, August 3 at 1 p.m. New members are always welcome. Call 574-842-2941 for more information.

Wesley community picnic, auction return

Culver's Wesley United Methodist Church invites the community to the church's community picnic and auction Sunday, August 9 at the depot-train station at the town park. The picnic itself will 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., while a host of homemade pies and other items will go up for auction starting at 12:30 p.m. Donations for the food pantry will be welcome for the meal, and activities for children will be provided. Those with questions may call the church at 574-842-2900.

Culver tennis tournament August 8, 9

The Culver Invitational
See Briefs page B4

Lake Fests and Regattas

Above, left: Scenes from the 2009 Culver Lake Fest (left and lower center) and the annual Sunfish Regatta (upper center), all held last weekend. AT LEFT: Amanda Kurteff age 8, and Christopher Compton, age 5, enjoy the giant slide, one of various rides at the Lake Fest, held in the town park. LOWER CENTER: Lake Fest parade marshal Sharon Coffey waves to the crowd during Saturday's parade (Mike Overmyer, president of the Lake Fest committee, is driving). UPPER CENTER: Sailors in the annual Sunfish Regatta Saturday prepare to launch their boats from the Zeglis cottage on East Shore Drive.
More Lake Fest photos page B1.

'Music Man' is here this weekend

Above, right: This summer's performance of "The Music Man" by the ever-popular Maxinkuckee Players kicks off Friday night at 7:30 at the Culver Community High School auditorium. Other performances include Sunday, July 26 at 4 p.m., Wednesday, July 29 at 7:30 p.m., Friday, July 31 at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, August 1 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, August 2 at 4: p.m. Tickets are \$5 for opening night only, then \$8 for adults and \$4 for children all other performances. All tickets will be available at the door.
In the photo above, Harold Hill (played by Gregg Underwood) directs "The Quartet:" (left to right) Jim Olivarius, Kevin Mallory, Mike Overmyer, and Brian Liechty.

Culver in the pews

As local congregations join with churches in other communities, assessing Culverites' church attendance

By Jeff Kenney
Citizen editor

Editor's note: within the past month, two of Culver's longtime churches have seen their full-time pastors shifting to an arrangement in which they split their time between Culver and another community's church of the same denomination. This led the editor to conversations with several Culver-area pastors about church attendance in Culver and the role of faith and religion in local community life, the results of which follow.

The background: 'yoking' and sharing with other churches

Last month, it was announced that K.C. Dehning, pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church on Academy Road in Culver, would begin providing pastoral care to another church, St. James Lutheran in Logansport, while still maintaining his "calling" here in Culver, and dividing his Sunday morning worship services between the two.

Within weeks of Dehning's announcement, Pastor Robin Keating of Grace United Church of Christ in Culver made a similar announcement: his congregation will be "yoked" to the First United Church of Christ in Plymouth, with Keating also dividing his time between the two churches during the week and on Sunday mornings.

Dehning is quick to point out the difference in the situations, noting Trinity in Culver has historically used retired pastors or bivocational pastors (that is, pastors whose full-time, full-pay work has been in the secular world) with a brief exception, a situation the church as a body sought to remedy.

Over the course of several years, then, a portion of Trinity's offerings were set aside for savings in hopes of hiring a full-time pastor for the church with a presence in the community, though they knew funds would only allow such an arrangement for two to three years. "When (Trinity members) extended the call to me to serve them as pastor, I was very much aware of challenge...but was intrigued by the opportunity," says Dehning, who notes the congregation particularly wanted an increased presence of their church in the community, something he feels was delivered since his arrival over the past two years.

"If you look back over the past two years of newspaper editions, Trinity has made a splash trying to be a good neighbor to the community," he explains, adding Trinity has grown from 35-40 people in average Sunday morning worship attendance to about 60 during his tenure.

However, both Dehning and the Trinity congregation knew the time would come when finances would dictate a decision, so while he has emphasized to Trinity members he is still their pastor, "placed in this position by God," Dehning took on a pastoral role in Logansport, where he says St. James mem-

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Missing Culver teen found

A Culver area teenager has been found after a weekend search by area police and residents. Fourteen-year-old Paige DePalma, a student in the Culver Community School system, was reported missing as of last Thursday, July 16, at 5:30 p.m., and was listed by Fulton County police as a runaway.

Paige's mother, Cathy, and others distributed flyers throughout the weekend at Culver's Lake Fest and around the community with her photo and description, in hopes residents might spot her and report her whereabouts.

According to Cathy DePalma, the girl was picked up around 11 p.m. Sunday night by Starke County police and is now safe.

The view from Memorial Chapel

Wagner talks CMA CGA church trends

By Jeff Kenney
Citizen editor

Whatever challenges face Culver Academies chaplain Johanna Wagner as a pastor, they're certainly different than those facing the pastors of Culver's other churches.

After all, church attendance isn't really an issue per se for Wagner: all of the school's students are required to attend some sort of religious observance, be it the Sunday morning Protestant service over which Wagner presides, the Catholic Mass celebrated by the local parish priest at St. Mary of the Lake in Culver, or one of the other services — which include Jewish, Muslim, and "Sacred Silence" for students of other faiths or even no faith at all — which fulfill part of the Academies' mission of "Mind, Spirit, Body."

Instead of getting students to attend a service, Wagner told an eager audience at Culver's Kiwanis Club July 9, the challenge is

"getting kids engaged" in an active faith life they won't reject once they enter college.

Wagner also feels it's important for students to be encour-

See Wagner page 2



CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

Johanna Wagner

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Pews from page 1

bers recognize his calling is first and foremost to Trinity in Culver, which retains its own autonomy. Technically, St. James provides financial compensation to Trinity in exchange for the Culver church sharing Dehning as pastor.

Grace church, says pastor Robin Keating, has a different arrangement whereby the two churches, in Culver and Plymouth, are “yoked” together into a shared partnership, though efforts are made to be sure each maintains its own voice. Each congregation had to approve the action by at least 80 percent, with Grace’s approval well above 90 percent.

The changes in both churches, however, are clear indicators of a shift in trends, certainly from decades past, but increasingly even in recent times. In both cases, the respective pastors agree the change has not been necessitated by the present economic situation nationally and locally (in fact, Dehning notes church offerings at Trinity are actually up from three years ago), so much as by the economics and logistics of shrinking church congregations overall.

Church attendance: Culver vs. the US

This shift, as most might assume, is due to a larger trend in overall church attendance – and attitudes about religion – in Culver and the US as a whole.

According to surveys conducted by the Barna Group, even between 1996 and 2001, the number of Americans identifying themselves as Christians dropped from 86 to 77 percent. In a 2006 online Harris Poll of 2,010 US adults, only 26 percent said they attended religious services “every week or more often,” a change from days when perhaps 90 percent of the American populace could be found in the pews Sunday mornings.

Pastor Keating, using the website of demographic company Percept as a base, observes 30 percent of the approximately 4,400 people living within a five-mile radius of Culver are house-

holds with no faith involvement whatsoever, which leaves church attendance in Culver at around 70 percent, quite a bit higher than even the most generously-observed national trends.

However, notes Keating of the data in the Culver area, “you have three groups: those with no faith, at 30 percent; those who identify themselves as having a moderate faith life, at 33 percent; and those who say they have a strong faith life at 37 percent. I would interpret that as 37 percent are the individuals you would most likely see in church every Sunday.”

The preference for some form of historic or traditional Christianity, says Keating, is at about 80 percent in Culver, whose largest lifestyle group he notes is predominantly classified



Culver pastors (left to right) Saunders, Keating, and Khorman.

as “rural families,” with a seven percent Hispanic-Latino populous considered the fastest-growing population group in the area.

Precept, Keating adds, says Culver’s overall “faith receptivity level is somewhat high as opposed to the US baseline average, and the overall church program preference is community and social services.”

Culver churches and the community

That statistic is arguably also borne out in Culver, where many churches have historically sponsored popular community activities ranging from quilt shows to picnics, and community services perhaps best exemplified by the Council of Churches’ food pantry long located in the basement of Grace church itself. More recently, Keating points out, Grace church’s monthly community meals – which launched April 15, 2008, and continue to of-

fer a wide-ranging meal, catered by the church, to any and all in the community – exemplifies this sort of community activity, as does the recently-established community garden launched by Grace and assisted and hosted by Wesley United Methodist Church on School Street.

Percept’s statistics, continues Keating, suggest Culver’s overall church style preference is somewhat traditional, rather than leaning towards the contemporary, something Keating attributes at least in part to Culver’s higher age demographic, though he says several younger parishioners at Grace have made clear their “definite desire for traditional worship and music.”

Grace United Church of Christ’s membership is

around 75 people, Keating explains, with about 40 per week average attendance at its Sunday worship service. Contrary to what one might expect in a resort town like Culver, there’s not much shift in attendance during summer months at Grace, except a few members with lake homes attending less, something Keating attributes to those families preferring not to push church attendance on out-of-town, summer guests at lake homes.

Pastor Larry Saunders of Culver’s Wesley United Methodist Church says the shift in demographics in Culver each summer *does* affect Wesley’s attendance, most specifically in the lakeside service Wesley has offered for several years each Sunday morning in Culver’s town park.

“We find that, year-round, we have a healthy balance of those who are full-bore Culver residents -- either born and raised here or

who live here full-time -- or those with full-time employment with the (Culver) Academy who may or may not be longtime residents.”

The lakeside service, says Saunders, tends to be comprised of “people that have a church home somewhere else, but are looking for a place to worship while here in the summer and find themselves attracted to the outdoor, relaxed atmosphere.”

In 2008, Wesley’s average attendance was in the 120s on any given Sunday, Saunders says, with higher attendance in summer and lower in winter. Wesley’s age demographics are more skewed towards retirees, though the church does have some younger families. Most any single attendee is single as a widow or widower, he adds.

As is the case in many American denominations, national trends in both church membership and attendance are in decline in the United Methodist church, a trend Saunders says is reflected locally at Wesley.

One factor of influence in church attendance anywhere, he says, tends to be the tenure of its pastor, with more recent developments in the United Methodist church nationally tending towards aiming to keep a pastor for at least five years at the same church (Methodist pastors are moved from time to time to a new church by their bishop). Wesley has seen shorter tenures in recent years in its pastors, but in the two most recent cases, Saunders notes the pastor’s departure has been of the respective pastor’s own choosing, and not a re-assignment.

Both Saunders and Dehning point to shifting trends in children’s activities such as sports as factors in some lowering church attendance.

“Years ago when I was growing up,” says Dehning, “everything revolved around the church. Even school activities and school districts dedicated a night to a church event each week. They respected that role of the church in the commu-

nity and in society. Today our social lives revolve around ... whatever activity (our kids are) involved in and enjoy.”

Saunders also says a “slow shift from modernist philosophy to post modernism” a m o n g s t people, like himself, in their thirties and below has affected attitudes towards church drastically, though such changes tend to be further advanced in urban settings.

“I know a lot of pastors of a certain older generation that see aspects of pop culture who shake their heads and say the country’s going to hell in a hand-basket,” smiles Saunders. “I look at a lot of pop culture and while it’s quite flawed in many ways, I see in a lot of pop culture...there’s a lot of interest in, and receptiveness to, spiritual questions and experiences. The Simpsons on TV have been called America’s most religious family (and) you can use that common cultural language to talk about these topics.”

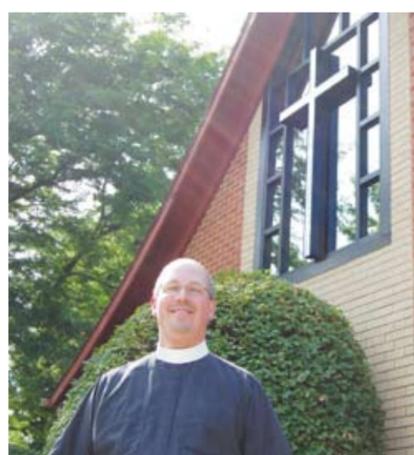
Saunders says Wesley considered a contemporary style worship service in hopes of attracting younger people, but discarded the idea not so much as “wrong” but as something which is “not necessary to attract younger families.”

Pastor Dehning points to more recent emphasis on individualized, personalized spirituality and away from the corporate worship of a church. “In the Lutheran and Roman Catholic setting,” he says, “in worship there is a presence of God that takes place...you enter into God’s presence at church, which transcends everything else. We’ve lost that way of understanding things.”

Trinity’s involvement in the Culver community has ranged from many of its members involvement in Culver’s Lions Club, to a booth at Culver’s Lake Fest in recent years, to support of the Lake Maxinkuckee Film Festival.

“We want the community to know we’re here for you with a mission and a message,” Dehning says.

Father Glenn Khorman is leaving St. Mary of the Lake Catholic Church after serving here for eight years, during which time, he says, attendance has been “pretty good.” St. Mary’s has around 260 families – which Khorman interprets as close to 800 individuals – as members, with church attendance doubling in the summertime. St. Mary’s CCD (Children’s Catechetical Development, similar to Protestant churches’ Sun-



Pastor K.C. Dehning pauses in front of Trinity Lutheran Church in Culver.

day School for children) attendance is around 100 children during the school year. Khorman says he believes attendance in the church overall has increased by about 30 families overall in recent years.

Among offerings Khorman brought to St. Mary’s since his 2001 arrival in Culver are a regular Bible study and “Pastor on the Porch” discussion series, two or three parish missions, movie nights, an annual parish picnic, establishment of a local chapter of the Knights of Columbus, and an annual parish golf outing.

Despite steady trends at St. Mary’s, Khorman is well aware of radical shifts in attitude towards church and religion in general, nationally and locally. “People often seem to me to characterize faith as, at best, a helpful myth,” he says. “At worst, as a harmful myth. (Faith is) tending to erode in many circles, and yet at the same time among the young there’s tremendous optimism...in fact my niece is entering a religious order in Ann Arbor, Michigan whose median age is 26 years old! So there are really, really bright spots in the future, too.”

A pastor since 1995 and since 2004 in Culver, Robin Keating of Grace says he told the Culver congregation at his arrival he wanted to find new ways to approach mission and ministry in Culver. Grace’s mid-month community meals, community garden, and nutrition classes were part of his approach, with full congregational support.

“I think there is a strong spiritual hunger in people,” he says, “but not so much for doctrines or rules of how to live, but rather a hunger that can be fed only in the fulfillment of making a difference in someone else’s life, which ties us back to the idea of people saying the church isn’t doing what it should be. The (Culver) Lions Club is probably the greatest force in Culver of making a difference in people’s lives. Some of the members are very faithful members of congregations, while some are not, but still go with the idea they need to be doing something to make a difference in other people’s lives.”

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Death notice

Salyer

Russell J. Salyer
July 19, 2009

ROCHESTER — Russell J. Salyer, 55, of Rochester, died at 6 a.m. Sunday, July 19, 2009 in North Judson.

He is survived by sons: Clinton (Penny Howard) Salyer of Rochester, Russell Salyer Jr. of Rochester, Matthew Salyer of Culver and Jason (Candy) Salyer of Rochester; daughter, Tonya (Jamey) Warner of Plymouth; brother, Linville Salyer of Salyersville, Ky.; sisters: Oleta (Randy) Bohec of North Judson, Geneva Burton of Knox and Betty Waldorf of Greenville, Ky.; and 12 grandchildren.

Visitation is Wednesday, July 22 from 4 to 8 p.m. at the Bonine-Odom Funeral Home, Culver, and Friday, July 24 from 4 to 8 p.m. at the Magoffin Co. Funeral Home, Salyersville, Ky. Services are Saturday, July 25 at 11 a.m. at the Carver Baptist Church, Salyersville, Ky. Burial will be at Warnie Bailey Cemetery, Salyersville, Ky.

Memorials may be made to Finney-Shilling VFW Post 6919 in Culver.

Corn roast, Firemen's fest this Saturday

An annual summer tradition in Culver takes place this weekend in the form of the Culver Lions Club's Corn Roast and Culver Fire Department's Firemen's Festival. The corn roast, as always, includes hamburgers, drinks, all the fresh-roasted corn on the cob you can eat, cotton candy, and more...all prepared and served by members of Culver's Lions Club. Proceeds from the event go to support local, state, and national Lions Club charities.

The Culver-Union Twp. Volunteer Fire Department will host a wealth of games and activities for the entire family across the street, at the corner of State Street and Lake Shore Drive adjacent to the fire station. From coin tosses to the childrens' "moon walk" ride, to name a few, families can enjoy a number of offerings after their corn roast meal.

The festivities run from 5 to 8 p.m.

Culver EMS to celebrate anniversary with open house, displays

The Culver-Union Twp. Emergency Medical Services (EMS) will hold a 30th anniversary open house Sunday, August 9 from 1 to 4 p.m. at the EMS garage on Lake Street.

There will be a display of equipment from years past, as well as current equipment used, pictures and articles showing some of the history of the service. Tours of the current building and the ambulances will be available to the public, and refreshments will be served. Department head Millie Sytsma says the EMS is hoping to see "lots of past members who helped make Culver-Union Township EMS what it is today."

The public is encouraged to attend.

Culver's EMS serves the town of Culver, Union Township, and is contracted with the town of Monterey and Tippecanoe Township to provide ambulance service to those areas as well. Culver EMS also serves a dual response area in West Township with Plymouth Fire Department, and currently averages about 400 calls a year.

A more extensive look at the history of CUTEMS will appear in the *Citizen* in the near future.

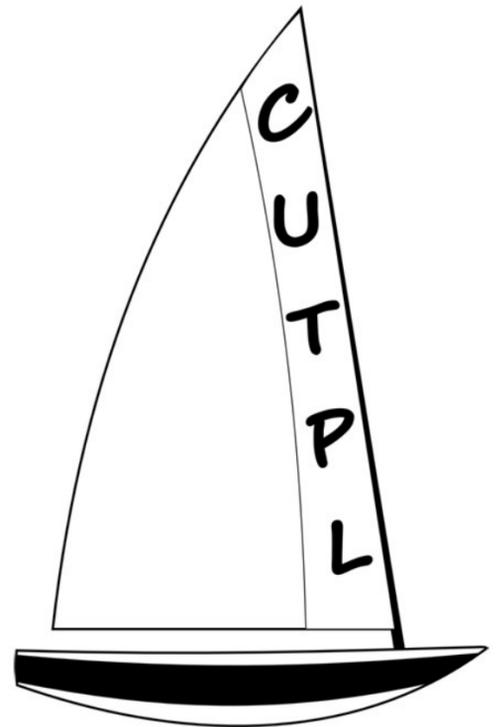
Culver sidewalk days next weekend

Culver's annual sidewalk days will take place Friday, July 31 and Saturday, August 2, in downtown Culver. As in years past, South Main Street between Jefferson and Madison Streets will be shut down and participating businesses will offer sale and special items for browsing shoppers during regular business hours.

Library logo winner

Culver-Union Township Public Library now has a new logo! Votes have been counted in the library's community vote, which gave citizens several logos to choose from, as printed in a recent edition of the *Citizen*. A new logo has been selected based on voter choice (see below). More than 100 people voted and have selected a new logo with a sailboat design.

IMAGE SUBMITTED



REAL Services menu

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

Thursday, July 23: Chicken Patty, bread, red potatoes, broccoli, peach pie, and milk.

Friday, July 24: Sloppy Joe, bun, corn, tossed salad with tomato, dressing, pears, and milk.

Monday, July 27: Chicken breast and gravy, mashed potatoes, spinach, bread and margarine, Mandarin oranges, cookie, and milk.

Tuesday, July 28: Pot roast with gravy, long grain wild rice, broccoli and cheese, corn, pears, and milk.

Wednesday, July 29: Stuffed baked potato, taco meat, cheese and sour cream, broccoli, corn with red and green peppers, blueberry muffin, fruit par-fait, and milk.

Thursday, July 30: Meatballs and noodles w/ gravy, mixed vegetables, Brussels sprouts, bread and margarine, apricots, and milk.

Friday, July 31: Potato and corn chowder soup, applesauce, chicken salad, saltines, potato wedge, and milk.

Community Calendar

Thurs., July 23

Fitness Class, 10:30 a.m., Culver Public Library
 Phil Harrison, Culver Academies, at Kiwanis Club, noon, Culver Public Library
 Yoga class, 5:30 p.m., Culver Public Library

Fri., July 24

Culver Academies Summer Schools homecoming and reunion (all weekend)
 "The Music Man," 7:30 p.m., Culver Community High School auditorium
 Woodcraft Camp Homecoming Council Fire, 9

p.m., Council Ring

Sat., July 25

Marshall County Junior Football League sign-ups, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Culver Elementary School
 Fireman's festival and Lions Club corn roast, 4 p.m., Culver town park area
 Carillon recital, 4 p.m.,

Culver Academies Memorial Chapel (see article this issue)

Sunday, July 26

Maxinkuckee Players' "The Music Man," 4 p.m., Culver Community High School auditorium
 Garrison Parade, 6:30 p.m., Culver Academies Parade Field

Mon., July 27

Yoga class, 10 a.m., Culver Public Library
 Knitting Class, 5 p.m., Culver Public Library
 Computer class, 6 p.m., Culver Public Library

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DivorceCare, 7 p.m., Grace United Church of Christ
 Culver Community School board mtg., 7 p.m., administration building

Tues., July 28

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

Weds., July 29

Genealogy mtg., 10 a.m., Culver Public Library
 State Representative Nancy Dembowski, noon, REAL Meals, beach lodge
 Maxinkuckee Players' "The Music Man," 7:30

p.m., Culver Community High School auditorium

Thurs., July 30

Fitness Class, 10:30 a.m., Culver Public Library
 Kiwanis Club, noon, Culver Public Library
 Yoga class, 5:30 p.m., Culver Public Library

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Toner Ave. at Bunker Hill

I wrote in the "April" version of this column (which actually appeared in June, an accident that may perhaps have made it that much funnier) about the various names the town has had. At a couple of points in the year, I've also mentioned in passing some street names that have changed over the years: Morris Street, which is now just "the sidewalk west of the Eppley Quadrangle"; Indiana Avenue, which, along with Houghton Avenue, was absorbed into Academy Road; and Scott Street and Toner Avenue, which were merged to become Lake Shore Drive.

There are, as you might imagine, more examples. When I was in college, for instance, having been frustrated for some years by the deletion of Houghton Avenue, on the north side of our house, I had the idea of petitioning the town board to change the name of Carl Street, east of us, to Houghton Street—which they kindly agreed to do. Fifty years or so before that, back in 1926, the residents of Helen Street requested that the Board change the name of that thoroughfare to Forrest Place. The news reports don't indicate what the homeowners had against Helen, a name which was, after all, good enough for Homer and Edgar Allen Poe: nor

do a couple of nice rows of trees along the sidewalk actually constitute a "forest." But who am I quibbling?

The renaming habit isn't restricted to the city limits. Back issues of the Citizen report at least two plans to standardize the names of county roads, the second of which actually caught on in most counties, resulting in road names like "East 575 North." Marshall, notoriously, is one of the non-conformists, with roads named for plants in alphabetical order east to west (well, mostly for plants, anyway; and the alphabetization, admittedly, only applies to first letters: Pear is on the wrong side of Peach, for example) and numbered by miles, from north to south. But some people I know still talk about the Behmer Road, instead of 14B, running north of Burr Oak, past the Behmer homestead farm. Similarly, when the 1836 commemorative rock was placed east of the Academy in 1936, people thought of the north-south road at that corner as Vonnegut Road,

rather than Queen: after all, it ran down to the Vonnegut orchard.

Even some geographical features around the lake have had their names changed. E. R. Corwin reports in "One Township's Yesterdays" that when a map of the lake came out in 1903, people were surprised to find that "Rochester Point" or "Chadwick Point" had become "Long Point." While the area had been the site of both the Chadwick and Arlington Hotels, most of the original cottagers there had been from Fulton County, giving the place its pre-1903 designation. An unofficial version of the same thing happened on the north shore, where the grounds of the old Lake View Hotel (which burned in 1929, a few months after the Culver brothers bought it) somehow became known as the "Indian Trails." And judging from the various names I have found in use on the internet, we apparently still haven't decided

whether Lake Maxinkuckee drains into Lost Lake, Little Maxinkuckee, or Hawk Lake—the Hawk family farm being on its west side.

In at least one case, this name-changing business has created a little confusion. For a large chunk of the last century, and perhaps even before that, folks commonly talked about "Bunker Hill." From the various references to Bunker Hill in the Citizen, it's clear that the term referred to some part of the rise north of the Vandalia Railroad park. (Indeed, some people have suggested the name began as a pun on railroad coal bunkers, which seems perfectly reasonable, though I haven't seen any other references to such things). But, since everyone knew where Bunker Hill was, the paper never had to explain. In 1917, for instance, the Citizen could refer to a signboard at the corporation limits at the top of Bunker Hill; and in 1935, it reported that the town had purchased, along with the park itself, 2.2 acres of the site of the old water tower at Bunker Hill. Which would be helpful, if we knew where the old water tower was (and, for that matter, which water tower: the town's or the railroad's?). Some of the items, however, are a bit

more helpful: another 1935 article mentions moving dirt from the town property on Bunker Hill in order to fill in the lake front—and the bank north of the town water tower does look as though dirt had been removed from it.

A short notice in the July 13, 1911, paper nails the location down. It reports that "D. A. Bradley last week sold to M. M. Stiles of Plymouth the corner lot at the foot of Bunker Hill with a frontage of 77' on the lake and 99' up the hill for \$600. Mr. Stiles intends to build a pretty home on this corner." It tells us something, I suppose, about Culver in 1911 that this was front page news. Geographically, the notice seems just impossible: even in 1911, there was no place for a 77' lake frontage between the park and Lake View Hotel grounds. The answer, though, is that the reporter used the language a bit loosely. On a plat map of the town, it turns out that the seven variously-sized lots south of College Street and north and west of Lake Shore Drive, with Bradley Court running through the middle, are the Bradley Addition to Culver City. So the building site Mr. Bradley sold to Mr. Stiles was, presumably, the corner lot or lots in Bradley's Addition—77' parallel to the railroad, rather than 77' actually "on the lake." In brief, Mr. Stile's lot now, apparently, houses the Original Root Beer Stand: and that means that Bunker Hill is definitely the hill (such as it is) on the northbound stretch of Lake Shore Drive.

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



It's still the lake water...

By John Wm. Houghton

ports in "One Township's Yesterdays" that when a map of the lake came out in 1903, people were surprised to find that "Rochester Point" or "Chadwick Point" had become "Long Point." While the area had been the site of both the Chadwick and Arlington Hotels, most of the original cottagers there had been from Fulton County, giving the place its pre-1903 designation. An unofficial version of the same thing happened on the north shore, where the grounds of the old Lake View Hotel (which burned in 1929, a few months after the Culver brothers bought it) somehow became known as the "Indian Trails." And judging from the various names I have found in use on the internet, we apparently still haven't decided

Name that Culver "citizen"



At left: Last week's Mystery Citizen, Rich Sytsma, then and now. Below: this week's mystery citizen.

We had some wrong guesses on last week's Mystery Citizen, who the editor admits was a bit difficult to figure out. So kudos (and the usual free parking downtown and editor's eternal admiration) to Connie Van Horn, Carin Clifton, Emily Watson.

This week's Mystery Citizen is of the second generation of a family which has played many roles around Culver for years.

Among other efforts these days, one might say he helps keep folks in the area (and beyond) on the ball.



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

100 year ago

July 22, 1909

Sam Medbourn is sporting a new ice delivery wagon.

Charles Asper has just completed a basin at R.A. Edwards' flowing well, and also a lot of cement walks which show real workmanship (*Editor's note: Asper, a well-known stone mason in early 20th century Culver, built a number of houses on Culver's west end.*)

The employees of the Pennsylvania Railroad in Chicago came to the lake in 13 train cars for a picnic-outing Monday.

The new one-cent piece bearing the head of Abraham Lincoln will be issued Aug. 1 from the Philadelphia Mint.

75 years ago

July 25, 1934

The Indiana Fireman's Association and a number of delegations from fire departments of this part of the state made impressive funeral rites Wednesday at Grace Reformed Church in Culver for Culver fire chief Alfred B. Cromley. Cromley was killed July 16 when the fire truck turned over on an East Side Road

run. Four other firemen were injured -- though not badly -- and the truck badly wrecked. Among other difficulties with the run, a grass fire was incorrectly reported as three cottage fires, causing the firemen to add extra hurry to their effort. Cromley, an experienced driver, was 38 years old, having been born at the Cromley homestead on the



Culver fire chief A.B. Cromley in 1934.

south end of the lake, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Cromley. Chief Cromley's bereaved family is left without a means of support, and a fund has been established, at the suggestion of an east shore cottager, to-

wards their needs.

A council of Culver churches has been established to study the needs of the community and the problems of the three churches in Culver (the Evangelical, Grace Reformed, and Methodist Episcopal churches).

Culver established a new heat record when the thermometer reached 102 degrees three separate days during the past week. The lake outlet is dry due to the drought, the first time such has occurred in the memory of some of the older residents. If it weren't for the dam at the outlet, the water level would drop until boating and bathing would become a problem.

50 years ago

July 22, 1959

There is an air of mystery, incompetence, and neglect surrounding a recurring problem once again rearing its head at Hawk Lake. Residents there awoke Thursday morning to millions of dead minnows and hundreds of thousands of dead fish floating along the shores -- bloating and rotting in the heat. By noon the odor was positively unbearable! All homes were closed up tightly and women and children confined indoors.

The usual dry midsummer heat has caused water levels in Lake Maxinkuckee -- which feeds Hawk Lake -- to lower, leaving the little lake full of stagnant water. In addition, Culver's sewage plant has been feeding Hawk Lake for the past seven years, causing extra fertilization to obnoxious plants in the lake and choking out desirable plants; the result is too little oxygen in the water for fish to exist.

25 years ago

July 25, 1984

There is to be a live television broadcast on CCI Cablevision's local originated channel 23 on Saturday, July 28, promoting both the corn roast and to raise money for the Culver park fund, said Herb Kibler, coordinator of the broadcast. A taped broadcast of the Lake Fest parade and 5k run will precede the live broadcast, he said.

Culver's Lake Fest was a huge success. State Representative Ed Cook, Senator Richard Miller, State Attorney General Linley Pearson, and US Congressman John Hiler cut the ribbon to officially start the festivities. Shelli Overmyer was crowned queen at the beach lodge Friday night and Lori Currens named first runner up.

Name: Plymouth Family Eye Care; Width:

20p4.667; Depth: 6 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00071575; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Michiana Promo/ Plymouth Eye C; Size: 12 in

Name: PPO63009-ARTS & CRAFTS; Width:

20p4.667; Depth: 5 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00071116; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Amish Acres; Size: 10 in

Maxinkuckee photo one of five finalists



PHOTO SUBMITTED

The photo above, shot by Culver summer resident Greg Furry, is one of five finalists in the "My Indiana Summer" photo contest.

INDIANAPOLIS — More than 1,700 photos were submitted for a special "My Indiana Summer photo contest," sponsored by the Indiana Office of Tourism Development.

Viewers can now log on to VisitIndiana.com through Aug. 3 and vote for their favorite of the five finalists. The winning photographer will receive an Indiana travel package and the chance to capture more great images of Indiana.

Everyone who votes can click on a link to view all of the photos that were posted to the special group.

The five Indiana locations featured in photos are:

- Central Canal, downtown Indianapolis
- Holiday World & Splashin' Safari, Santa Claus
- Indiana Dunes State Park, Chesterton
- Lake Maxinkuckee, Culver
- Wells Street Beach (Lake Michigan), Miller

Greg Furry, who lives in Granger and has a summer house in Culver, is the photographer of the Lake Maxinkuckee photo.

Posted responses to Furry's photo on visitindiana.com include:

"Love this one because it does what good photography should: It freezes a moment in time so you can reflect on it. You don't feel the adrenaline rush they must have experienced during this race, but you feel the peacefulness of the water on a summer day."

— Anne Roberts, July 13

"Great pic, Greg! I used to race those C-scows at Maxinkuckee. That is a great way to spend the day."

— Brett Overmyer, July 13

"By far the best of the five photos. I wish I was there."

— Mike Provanca, July 14

"An obvious choice. Makes me want to learn how to sail."

— Molly Gantner, July 14

Name: CULVER SUB NIE; Width: 30p11.5; Depth: 10 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00070190; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Pilot News; Size: 30 in

Wagner from page A1

aged to deepen their awareness of their — and others' — faith through study, and be allowed to ask questions, as many teens do. He explained the school's religious studies courses are channeled through the Humanities department, though she'd like to look into a separate religious studies department at some point.

"Students in this generation love taking courses on religion," she noted. "They want an opportunity to talk about it and ask questions. Worship is important, but it's passive. They need an opportunity to learn about it."

Wagner noted one existing Humanities course is World Religions, which intends to introduce students to the various faith traditions of the world. She noted a poster in her office in recent years pointed out every religion includes a form of the traditional "Golden Rule" ("Do unto others as you would have them do unto you") well known to Christians. She also noted the Muslim Koran has many of the same stories as the Hebrew scriptures and Christian New Testament.

"The other thing we're working on at Culver is, we have a unique opportunity partly because the school emphasizes leadership. So how do you prepare leaders for tomorrow in a multicultural, multi-faith environment? You don't have to believe all of (what is taught in other religions) is equally good, but you need to know about it and not see it as something that threatens you."

Asked about how the many cultural ethnicities at Culver Academies approach specific faith traditions, Wagner said a number of the school's Korean population are comprised of Presbyterians, the tradition from which Wagner's own ordination and faith formation came. Many of Culver's Chinese students, she said, "come to Culver and are like, 'What is this?' There's a woman on the faculty named Ning Schultz who's Chinese, and we've asked her, 'What do we do to prepare them?'"

Name: WEEK 1; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00069603; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Lakeside Auto Supply; Size: 8 in

Name: METRO; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00069794; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: City Tavern; Size: 8 in

Some Chinese students, she added, take note of Culver's "Mind, Spirit, Body" mission. "When they hear that, ('Spirit' is) part of the spirit world in Chinese religion...the concept of spirit so important in Christianity and Judaism is not a spirit that's stealing your keys from you, which is what they think of when they hear that word, and they think we're crazy! We're trying to figure out a way to see this as part of a program of cultural enrichment, and for them to begin to understand religion in our country."

Wagner added the "Sacred Silence" option available to students, which she said "needs work," does provide a venue for meditation and reflection, perhaps a bit more familiar to some students' traditions.

There are 46 Muslim students at Culver Academies this summer, said Wagner, though the number is somewhat less in the winter school. "They are the hardest population to serve

serve as Academies priest. She said she has tried to communicate with the bishop of the Catholic diocese serving the Fort Wayne-South Bend area, noting, "The Catholic youth that come to Culver will be the movers and shakers that come to this country and other countries. The great thing about (the new priest) is that he's from Uganda. We have a huge interest in Africa in the winter school, with the Leadership Committee for Africa."

Wagner also noted Debbie Foersch, wife of Academies deputy commandant Warren Foersch, will take over this fall as Catholic liaison to the school from past liaison Bob Nowalk.

All told, Wagner said, Culver Academies has five weekly religious services: besides the aforementioned Protestant and Catholic services Sunday mornings, a Jewish Shabbat service takes place Friday evening, Muslim prayer Friday afternoon, and the former

"Sacred Silence" period will be "Alternative Spiritualities next year."

"One part (of that service) will be a seeker service," she says. "For kids not from any tradition, it will be a guided tour of the various services we offer. The religious prefect from the Culver Girls Academy side came up with this as a Senior Service Project. Seekers go to one service one

week, and then meet with a panel from that service. Then an ongoing component as well is meditation, contemplative prayer, walking the labyrinth, and so on. We had over 100 kids (at that service) last year. Imagine keeping them quiet for half an hour!"

"There is interest among some of the students in learning how to meditate and having quiet time. This generation is so over-stimulated (and) attached to technology. One student said she spends seven hours a day online!"

Wagner said student preferences regarding worship styles are split on the Catholic end of the spectrum between more traditional and more contemporary approaches in music and other attributes, while Protestant students, she said, are "all over the map. One of the issues is trying to find something where there's a comfort level where no one contingency feels left out... if we can build a blended service that's meeting students' needs, they're getting a more balanced view of the Protestant world. That's going to be five year project!"

For her part, Wagner says she tries to "preach the bible" in her sermons and then "build a bridge" between the bible and her audience.

She notes students in panel discussions about Culver's religious life program are "looking for something. Teenagers are very spiritual, provided they don't feel they're being forced."

Culver, notes Wagner, is the only boarding school in the country outside of denominational-affiliated private schools which requires its students to attend church.

"The thing about boarding schools," she says, "is, if it's not required, it doesn't happen. Culver is well within its rights to require church attendance. It requires athletics, academics, and it doesn't require anyone to come here. But if we're going to require it, we have to make it good or we turn the kids against. That's the challenge, but that's what makes it fun. I'm convinced it can be done."

"How do you prepare leaders for tomorrow in a multicultural, multi-faith environment? You don't have to believe all of (what is taught in other religions) is equally good, but you need to know about it and not see it as something that threatens you."

-Johanna Wagner

Culver Lake Fest 2009: in pictures



Culver's 26th annual Lake Fest was marked by record cool temperatures which replaced some of the brutal heat of years past. Only occasional rain showers -- though a steady stream of threatening clouds -- interrupted the festivities, from the food booths, live music, rides, kids' games, and car show at the town park, to the traditional parade through Culver Saturday morning, to the annual burn out contest on West Mill Street Sunday afternoon (which was put briefly on hold for several minutes of heavy rain).

The festival's theme this year, "Stars Over Maxinkuckee," was aptly demonstrated by -- among other things -- Saturday night's spectacular fireworks show over the lake.

A complete rundown of winners in the various contests and activities from the weekend will appear in a future Culver Citizen. What follows on this page are scenes from some of the festival's many offerings.

A young parade-goer -- at right -- covers his ears as he undergoes an eternal struggle: whether to get closer to the noisy fire truck passing by, or miss the chance to collect the candy he's been gathering on North Main Street throughout the parade.

CITIZEN PHOTOS/JEFF KENNEY



PHOTOS/JEFF KENNEY EXCEPT *GREGORY FISHER AND ** PHOTO SUBMITTED

TOP ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT: Left: Five-year-old Sydney Denham of Culver enjoys the face painting of Rhonda Wilson of Elkhart. Center: Town council president and Academies/Lake Patrol security officer Sally Ricciardi greets parade-goers Saturday. Right: Dave McKee of the Culver Fire Department waves from one of the department's parade trucks.



SECOND ROW: Left: Runners and walkers Saturday morning in the festival's annual walk/run.* Right: Scott Louk, left, mother Helen Louk, middle, and Bob Louk with a 1979 Didge Cordoba belonging to Bob and Scott's brother, Andy Louk, who died last July. The car, an entry in this year's car show, is a tribute to him.



THIRD ROW: Left: Members of the Culver Academies Woodcraft Drum and Bugle corps spell out "CULVER." Right: Doyle Keller of Culver examines one of the car show entries alongside his sons Ashton (age 10, left) and Weston (age 8, right).



FOURTH ROW: Left: Connor Moon, age two, enjoys a pony ride at the festival with help from Shai Britton of KD Stables. Right: Father and son team Andrew (left) and Rick Baker of Culver with their entries in the car show.

FIFTH ROW: Left: Justin Croy of Culver won the Lake Fest watermelon eating contest for his age group.** Right: Justin Braasch of Monterey adds to the smoke at the Burn-out contest Sunday afternoon in his 1994 GMC truck.



SIXTH ROW: Left: Firemen from Monterey (team at left) and Culver compete during the Culver Fire Department's second annual waterball contest on State Street outside the fire station. Right: Colin Barkley, left (age 7), Trystan Barkley (age 9), and Austin Vanderaa (age 7) display a bucket crammed full of frogs they caught near their home for use in the Lake Fest's annual frog jumping contest. Brother Andrew Barkley, age 10, put one frog to good use in winning the contest in his age category.



Culver's Weddington aids in Post 27 win

By James Costello
Sports Editor

PLYMOUTH — Nate Wottring may have set the tone, but plenty of Post 27 batters followed his lead as the team rapped out 14 hits — including four doubles

and an RBI, and lead-off hitter Steve Cornett recorded two hits with two runs scored for Plymouth Tuesday.

Wottring drove in Post 27's first run following a lead-off double by Cornett

tion with a hard-hit single through short. With the pressure mounting,

Bowers scored on a wild pitch, and Bloom drove in Weddington on a ground-out following a six-pitch at-bat. Wottring led off the third with his solo shot, and first baseman Damon Howe dropped a fly into left for Post 27's third double of the night, scoring on a mishandled Weddington single in left. Bowers plated Weddington with a fly single to left, and Post 27 held onto a 6-nil cushion before Post 303 reliever David Coppens could stop the bleeding.

PLYMOUTH

POST 27 9,
MISHAWAKA POST 303 1
At Bill Nixon Field
Post 27: 123 002 10x — 9 14 2
Post 303: 000 100 00 — 1 7 2
Zak Soberalski (L), David Coppens (3), Kyle Ryan (7), Joey Schuster (8) and Josh Frey; Tyler Shook (W), Chase Byerly (5), Brett Houlihan (8), Kory Hinz (9) and Mo Weddington, Cody Bucher (5), Kyle Cartwright
2B: Weddington, Nate Wottring (P), Damon Howe (P), Jake Bloom (P)
HR: Wottring
Records: Plymouth Post 27 19-6, Mishawaka Post 303 2-13



PHOTO/JAMES COSTELLO

Post 27 player and Culver Military product Mo Weddington, left, slides into second, while Mishawaka Post 303's Joey Schuster, right, tries to turn a double play during an American Legion Sectional baseball game Saturday. Weddington had two hits, including a home run at the doubleheader to help lift Post 27 to a sectional title.

— against Mishawaka's beleaguered pitching staff as Plymouth closed its regular season with

a 9-1 drumming of visiting Mishawaka Post 303 Tuesday at Bill Nixon Field.

Starting catcher Mo Weddington, a Culver Military Academy graduate, went 2 for 2 with a double and two runs scored, while number nine batter Jake Bloom went 2 for 4 with a double

and a Joel Solis single that advanced him to third top put the home team up 1-0 going into the second, and Plymouth kept pouring on the runs with five more in the next two frames.

Weddington led off the second with another lead-off double down the left field line, Marc Bowers drew a walk in the next at-bat, and designated hitter Brent Easterday moved both into scoring posi-

Post 27 coasts to sectional title

By James Costello
Sports Editor

PLYMOUTH — In the two weeks leading into the state tournament, Post 27 was struggling to rediscover its identity at the plate.

Plymouth got a little help from second baseman Nate Wottring in the team's regular season-closer with Mishawaka Post 303, and fellow middle infielder Brandon Elliott returned from a weekend stint at the North-South All-Star baseball and football games to give the team an added lift in its Plymouth Sectional against Mishawaka. With Elliott back in the three spot in Post 27's order, Plymouth shelled Post 303 for 29 total hits and a pair of seven-inning wins Saturday, topping the home team on the scoreboard 18-0 and 14-1 to win a repeat Ameri-

can Legion Baseball Sectional championship and earn itself a spot at the Plymouth Regional next weekend.

Post 27 batters collected 19 hits in the opener, more than half for extra bases as Plymouth cranking eight doubles, as well as a triple and a home run in the game.

The team improves to 21-6 with the repeat championship, won from a sectional field that was shortened from three teams to two after Churubusco withdrew in the wake of the tragic death of one of its young players last week.

The Plymouth Regional starts with two games Friday, followed by three games on Saturday with a championship to be played Sunday.

PLYMOUTH AMERICAN LEGION

BASEBALL SECTIONAL

At Bill Nixon Field

Game two

• PLYMOUTH POST 27 14,

MISHAWAKA POST 303 1 (7

innings)

Plymouth: 210 074 0 — 14 10 1

Mishawaka: 000 000 1 — 1 5 2

Matt Austin (L), David Coppens (5),

Erik Forslund (7) and Josh Fry;

Tyler Shook (W) and Mo

Weddington, Cody Bucher (6).

2B: Nate Wottring (P), Marc Bowers

(P), Damon Allen (P)

3B: Brandon Elliott (P)

Records: Mishawaka Post 303 2-19

(final), Plymouth Post 27 21-6

Game one

• PLYMOUTH POST 27 18,

MISHAWAKA POST 303 0 (7

innings)

Plymouth: 140 632 2 — 18 19 2

Mishawaka: 000 000 0 — 0 2 3

Danny Eggleston (L), Keegan

Standridge (4), Zak Soberalski (5)

and

Josh Fry; Chase Byerly (W, 6-0) and

Mo Weddington, Cody Bucher (5)

2B: Brandon Elliott (P) 3, Nate

Wottring (P), Joel Solis (P), Jake

Bloom (P), Steve Cornett (P),

Bucher

3B: Bloom

HR: Weddington

Golf

Bremen makes strong showing at Round Barn

Bremen golfers made a strong showing with a win in the Boys 14-15 division and runners-up finishes in three other divisions at a Marshall County Junior Golf Tour event at Round Barn Golf Course over the weekend.

Taylor Fanning fired off an 80 to win the Boys 14-15 age group, while Max Kipfer claimed second behind Rochester's Trey Stoll in the Boys 16-17 division. Camden Lindsey shot a 30 for second place in the boys 10-11 group behind Culver's Addyson Allyns and ahead of Triton's Gregory Music in third, while Lauren Read finished three strokes behind St. Michael's Lauren Kolter with a 28 for runner up in the Girls 8-11 division.

LaVille's Matt Butler and Aaron Berger went one-two in the Boys 8-9 contest with dual 23s followed closely by Plymouth's John Schenk with a 24, while fellow LaVille student Zach Gurtner claimed best in the Boys 12-13 group with a 37.

Plymouth's Erin Kinney logged another Marshall County Girls 15-17 win with an 87 for the round, while Mandy McPherron shot a 61 in third in the Girls 12-14 division, and another Plymouth golfer Payne Davis came in two strokes back of Fanning for second in the 14-15 Boys group.

Culver Community Schools' registration, opening begins soon

Elementary school (Gr. K-6) registration at Culver Elementary School will take place Wednesday, August 5 from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. and noon to 3 p.m.; Thursday, August 6 from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 to 6 p.m.; and Friday, August 7 from 8 to 11 a.m. (the office will be closed after 11). Monterey Elementary School will take place Wednesday, August 5, from 8 to 11 a.m. and noon to 3 p.m.; Thursday, August 6 from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday, August 7, from 8

to 11 a.m. A Back to School Open House Night will be held at Culver Elementary Monday, August 17 from 6 to 7 p.m. and at Monterey Elementary Tuesday, August 25 from 6 to 7 p.m.

Middle school (grades 7 to 8) registration will be in the Middle School entry way Tuesday, August 11 and Wednesday, August 12 from 8 to 11 a.m., noon to 4 p.m., and 5 to 8 p.m. The Middle School office will be closed Friday, August 14.

High school (grades 9 to 12) registration will be

in the High School Bookstore Tuesday, August 11 and Wednesday, August 12 from 8 to 11 a.m., noon to 4 p.m., and 5 to 8 p.m. The High School office will be closed Friday, August 14.

During registration, students and parents must pay book fees, purchase PE uniforms and get class schedules. If there is an error in class schedules, corrections must be made prior to payment of book fees. Errors or other matters may be discussed by appointment with the guidance counselors from August 3 to 7.

Orientation for parents of seventh grade students and students new to Culver Community Schools Cor-

poration will be Tuesday, August 11 at 6 p.m. in the Middle School gym. Orientation for seventh and eighth grade students will be Tuesday, August 18, the first day of school, in the Middle School gymnasium. Orientation for grades 9 to 12 students will be Tuesday, August 18, the first day of school, in the High School auditorium at 8 a.m. the bell will ring at 7:45 a.m. (EST) for the students to enter the building. Students must register prior to orientation.

Parents and guardians of all kindergarten students, all seventh grade students, and all other students in any grade, who are new to Cul-

ver Community Schools, must provide a written statement of a child's immunizations, accompanied by the physician's certificate or other documentation. This can be accomplished by a physical and/or a statement showing the record of immunization.

Textbook rental for full-day kindergarten will be \$104; first grade \$130, second grade \$136, third grade \$129, fourth grade \$126, fifth grade \$116, sixth grade \$123; and seventh grade for the core classes will be \$70.45 plus related arts fees, eighth grade for the core classes will be \$76.30 plus related arts fees. Grades 9 to 12 fees

are dependent upon course schedules.

Breakfast and lunch costs are: Grades K to 6, breakfast \$1.65, lunch \$2.40; grades 7 to 12 breakfast \$1.75, lunch \$2.50; grades K-12 milk 35 cents; reduced breakfast all grades 30 cents, reduced lunch 40 cents; adult breakfast \$1.75, adult lunch \$3.00, and adult milk 40 cents.

Culver Community Schools' first full student day of school will take place Tuesday, August 18 (teachers' first full day is Monday, August 17).

This information can also be found at the school corporation's web site, www.culver.k12.in.us.

Name: VISIT, VIEW, PURCHASE; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 8 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00070193; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Pilot News; Size: 16 in

Name: WKLY ADS; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 3 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00069816; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Overmyer Soft

Name: bump; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 3 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00070197; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Bremen Chevrolet

Name: JULY ADS; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00069477; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Family Vision Clinic; Size: 8 in

Name: Summer Camp Alumni; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00071550; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Culver Academies; Size: 8 in

Ledbetter has 'Serenaded' Culver for quarter-century

Last weekend's Moonlight Serenade marked 25th anniversary for iconic boat

By Jeff Kenney
Culver Citizen

When the Culver Academies fifty-five foot schooner the R.H. Ledbetter sailed along the shores of Lake Maxinkuckee – carrying performing members of Culver's summer Naval School band – a milestone was quietly reached for the celebrated vessel, which was dedicated and first graced Maxinkuckee waters 25 years ago this summer. That's in addition to the fact that this year's annual Moonlight Serenade from the deck of the boat marks the sixty-sixth year for the event, which began during World War II in 1943.

In those days, the Ledbetter was years off, and its predecessor, the O.W. Fowler, made the beloved musical journey, which was the brainchild of Academy band director Col. Edward Payson (his granddaughter, Emily Payson Ryman, serves today as Assistant



Above: The Ledbetter Sunday night journeys towards Lake Maxinkuckee's east shore for its 25th Moonlight Serenade. At right: Culver Academies Summer Naval band members, horns in tow, prepare to board the Ledbetter for Sunday night's performance.

Thanks to the Wayne and Brenda Sheldon family for photo assistance.

Director of Culver's Upper Camps in the summer, among other roles at the school).

Those Culverites visiting the town hall on Washington Street these days will, from time to time, find Edna Craft

there, and may or may not know her connection to the roots of the Ledbetter. Her father-in-law, Wilfred "Bud" Craft, served as boat shop foreman at the Academies (he was also Culver town board president at one point, but that's another story) from 1919 to 1966. In 1940 and 1941, Bud Craft "got the biggest



CITIZEN PHOTOS/JEFF KENNEY



PHOTOS/CULVER ACADEMIES ARCHIVES
Bud Craft at Culver in the 1950s (left) and hard at work in the 1940s on the Fowler (right).



kick and most fun of my life," he told the Academies Alumnus magazine in 1957, when he designed and built the Fowler after having spent 21 years here as an apprentice carpenter and boat-builder. The original ship was "an exact replica in reduced scale of the famous clipper ships of early days," wrote the Vedette.

"I was so interested and excited about the marine architectural problems of the Fowler," said Craft, who would later

build the school's now-defunct replica destroyer the Admiral Yarnell, "that I used to wake up in the middle of the night and dash to the drawing board with what I thought might be a solution to some problem of stress and strain on the yards and masts."

The result was a 60-foot long, 14 foot wide boat which evoked the romance of the sea hundreds of miles from a drop of saltwater: the O.W. Fowler – particularly in its role in the Moonlight Serenade – helped put Culver on the map, literally. The Serenade, in the 1950s and later, became one of the few events in the area to merit mention and promotion on a tourism map produced annually by the state of Indiana. The event, to this day, garners occasional

bursts of press notice, and it certainly elicited awe from spectators by the hundreds who crowded the park each year to hear music played from the Fowler's decks.

The July 2, 1984 Vedette noted "last summer it was very sad news to us all when we heard that the S.S. Fowler...was condemned unseaworthy...the hull of the great ship...was rotting away and had to be replaced."

Thankfully, Culver Naval and winter school graduate Robert H. Ledbetter and his family stepped forward and made possible a replica of the Fowler, this time custom built at the T.D. Vinette shipyard in Escaraba, Michigan at "about the same size

See Ledbetter page B4

Culver and Hoosier auto history on tap August 1

Indiana's surprisingly important role in the automobile industry – and its connections to Culver and the Lake Maxinkuckee area

of the AHS.

The program – which is free and open to the public – will take place at the Uptown Cinema on Lake

company built the first car to win the Indianapolis 500) of Lake Maxinkuckee, along with a look at the history of transportation in the Culver

Culver-Union Township Public Library, is "Auto Indiana," an exhibit on loan from the Indiana Historical Society in Indianapolis.

From Elwood Haynes's early machine to today's numerous parts manufacturers, the exhibition examines the role of the automobile in the Hoosier state. Indiana was one of the leaders in automobile production until the 1930s when Detroit emerged as the nation's technological and industrial giant.

The exhibit focuses on such topics as Haynes's life and career as an inventor in Kokomo, an early assembly line at the Revere Motor Car Corporation plant in Logansport, samples of the Studebaker Corporation's advertising literature, and the automobile's effects – both positive and negative – on society.

The exhibit may be viewed during the Center's open hours, Tuesdays through Fridays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. There is no fee for the exhibit.



PHOTO/ANTIQUARIAN AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF CULVER ARCHIVES

D.W. Miller's livery and garage on Lake Shore Drive in Culver was photographed here between 1910 and 1920, in a time of transition in Indiana and the nation towards automotive dominance.

– will be showcased via a program and ongoing exhibit starting Saturday, August 1 at 10 a.m., when the Antiquarian and Historical Society presents a program on Culver's automobile-related past by Jeff Kenney

Shore Drive in Culver. Examined via a talk and Power Point will be Culver auto connections from the Hillis family (descendants of early Hoosier auto pioneer Elwood Haynes) to the Marmon family (whose

area, including fondly remembered gas and service stations and auto dealers of the community's past.

In conjunction with the program, ongoing at the Center for Culver History in the lower level of the

Briefs, from page 1

Tennis Tournament will be held at the Academies' tennis courts and invites all interested tennis players to join us for this friendly community competition. The tournament is for beginner intermediate and advanced players, age 15 and up. The fee is \$10 per player. Play on Saturday, August 8 is for women's doubles, women's singles, men's doubles and men's singles. It's mixed doubles Sunday, August 9, and trophies are presented. The "Friends of Tennis" provide Wimbledon style blueberries and cream and the awards pot luck dinner is a great way to recap the highlights of the weekend. If interested visit the event website at www.culvertennis.com or contact Jodie Schroeder at 574-842-3940 or jodieschroe@aol.com

Lake Maxinkuckee Association to meet

The Lake Maxinkuckee Association will hold its annual meeting Saturday, August 8, at 10 a.m. at the Culver-Union Township Public Library's lower level meeting room.

el meeting room.

Free computer classes at Culver Public Library

The Culver-Union Township Public Library will offer a summer session of computer classes for beginners. The classes last four weeks and cover basic operation of a computer, using the Internet, and E-Mail. Classes are scheduled for Monday evenings at 6 p.m. and Friday mornings at 10 a.m.; each class session lasts two hours. For details, call the Culver Library at 574-842-2941, visit its website at www.culver.lib.in.us or e-mail abaker@culver.lib.in.us.

Wood carving, rag dolls at library

As part of the Culver-Union Township Library's Adult summer reading program, "Master the Art of Reading," Cary Flora of Culver will demonstrate wood carving techniques Saturday, July 18, at 2 p.m.. Attendees will learn how to

carve into a bar of soap and also a sweet potato.

Marizetta Kenney will show her collection of rag dolls gathered over the years and demonstrate how to make a doll from plain cotton fabric Saturday, August 1, at 2:30 p.m. All library programs are free and open to the public and will take place in the large meeting room at 107 N. Main Street. For more information, call 574-842-2941.

Town accepting credit, debit cards

The Town of Culver will be accepting credit and debit cards. This service can be utilized within the Clerk's Office located at Town Hall, by phone at 1-866-480-8552, or web page at www.townofculver.org. Please know that you must have your utility account number, ticket number, etc. The town will accept Visa, MasterCard and Discover. A convenience fee is assessed to each credit and debit card transaction.

Book and film group

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meets August 5

The Culver-Union Twp. Public Library's monthly program, "A Novel Approach," will take place Wednesday, August 5 at 12:15 p.m. The book, "Girl with a Pearl Earring" by Tracy Chevalier, will be discussed and the movie of the same title screened at the library. The book club meets at the library's large meeting room, located downstairs by the computer lab. Participants may bring a bag lunch to the program; the library will provide coffee and tea. Call the Culver Library at 574-842-2941 for more information or e-mail staff@culver.lib.in.us.

Wesley preschool registration

Wesley Preschool, a non-denominational preschool, has openings in its senior and junior year program. Seniors must be age four by Aug. 1 and juniors age three by Aug. 1. Wesley helps ease the transition for children to begin kindergarten by starting them in its

Briefs, from page 1

as the Fowler," but with a steel hull to prevent the rotting which ended the Fowler's life, at a cost – reported the Vedette – of around \$100,000.

The newly-built Ledbetter was trucked to Culver from Escaraba, a new Cummins engine in place (the Fowler's engine too deteriorated for use) and the forty-foot mainmast and two smaller masts from the Fowler put into place.

R.H. Ledbetter himself, of Rome, Georgia, graduated from the Naval school in 1951 and winter school in 1954, with sons Robert Junior, Wright, and David also attending the Naval or winter schools. Mrs. Ledbetter actually christened the new vessel 25 years ago this month, on July 7, 1984.

As for the Fowler, its railing, it was reported, was cut into blocks and sold along with prints of the old boat to help with maintenance costs for the Ledbetter.

The boat made a bit of a national splash in 2002 when the Culver Summer Naval School observed its centennial in style by trucking the Ledbetter to Palm Beach, Florida and launching a tour of the east coast, with stops for gala alumni affairs along the way at Cocoa and Jacksonville, Florida; Sea Island, Georgia; Beaufort, South Carolina; Wrightsville Beach, North Carolina; Norfolk, Virginia; and concluding in Washington, D.C.

So it was the R.H. Ledbetter has traversed the salty sea in addition to its home on Maxinkuckee's waters, where it has sailed -- as it did this summer -- for the past quarter-century now. It's a fitting coincidence, then, that the cover of the May-June, 2009 edition of Outdoor Indiana magazine was graced by a beautiful shot of the three-masted boat as well as a photo essay pertaining to its use in the summer in Culver (the magazine may be viewed in part online at www.in.gov/dnr/5377.htm), sharing a bit of the beauty and mystique of the ship with readers in Indiana and beyond.

exceptional preschool. Call Jennifer Luttrell, Director, at (574) 250-3852.

MCJFL sign-ups

The Marshall County Junior Football League will hold only two more sign-ups for junior football and junior cheerleading. The date is July 25 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Culver Elementary School. To sign up, interested persons must have a birth certificate. Any questions, please call Angel at 574-242-8175.

Culver Basketball Skill Camp

There is still time to register for the Culver Basketball Skill Camp, to be held August 9-13. For the past five years, over 100 campers yearly have enjoyed NBA- and College-level instruction on the campus of the Culver Academies. Coaches Kevin Wilson, All-American, Detroit Pistons and University of Minnesota coach; Todd Landrum CBA, college and Minnesota Timberwolves coach; along with a group of for-

mer players and coaches, will be instructing on the courts of the five indoor gyms at Culver. Day Campers and Overnight Campers, both boys and girls ages 10-13, are welcome. Camp includes nearly eight hours daily of instruction, t-shirt, camp ball, camper evaluation, meals, swimming and lots of fun. Call Chet Marshall 574 842-8072 or email marshac@culver.org to sign up or for more information. Group and family discounts are available.

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.

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Name: The Music Man; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00070351; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Maxinkuckee Players; Size: 8 in



PHOTOS/PAUL PARÉ

Sunshine on a cloudy day...

Threatening clouds and a few raindrops early on didn't dissuade Sunfish sailboat sailors and crew from taking part in the annual Sunfish Regatta on Lake Maxinkuckee, launched from the Zeglis cottage on East Shore Drive Saturday morning. Sailors of all ages and classes competed, enjoying lunch and the traditional candy toss at the close of the event.

Council discusses sidewalk repair, other issues

By Jeff Kenney
Citizen editor

Culver's town council approved further improvements to Culver sidewalks previously targeted as deteriorated to the point of being potentially dangerous at its July 14 meeting, adding permission for town manager Michael Doss and street department head Bob Porter to use their discretion in adding to the list of sidewalks needing repair or replacement.

The move comes after a spate of spring and early summer sidewalk replacements in areas suggested by a group of Culver-area ladies who regularly walk the sidewalks for exercise, and approved by Doss, Porter, and the council. Doss requested permission after noting the 2009 sidewalk sharing program – which sets aside funds annually to allow residents to request a portion of their sidewalk replacement costs be paid by the town – ended June 30, leaving funds available for community sidewalk projects. Any money left after the newest round of work, said Doss, should be encumbered for next year's sharing program.

Town council member Ralph Winters asked about the possibility of repairing curbs on some of Culver's brick streets as a potential use of funds, but agreed with Doss' suggestion the town hold off on those curbs while investigating possible use next year of a machine which could lay out curbs more efficiently than the town presently can do so, and at a greatly reduced cost.

Bayside water usage

In other discussion, Mike Hudson, representing Culver's Bayside Condominiums Owner's Association, asked the council about changing Bayside's present water meter setup, replacing the existing 10-meter system, which charges in-

dividual condo owners a minimum water fee regardless of water usage amount, to a single-meter system. Hudson explained each unit pays a \$60 minimum fee monthly, even if no water is used, and the building was constructed with a one-inch water tap as opposed to a more standard, ¾ inch tap, which council president Sally Ricciardi acknowledged amounts to a "massive difference" in water usage.

Winters said the town presently has no official policy on the matter, adding various town employees in years past may have answered queries as to town policy in differing ways. Council member Lynn Overmyer noted all town residents have to pay a minimum fee for water usage regardless of actual usage.

"We're not talking about using more or less water," said Hudson. "We're more than willing to pay for the water we use. We're paying our fair share of the town. We just don't want to pay for water we don't use."

A shift from the 10-meter to a one-meter system would still require a minimum usage fee, but would incur a single fee rather than ten separate fees.

Ricciardi said Doss and the council would do some checking on the matter.

Culver fire Chief Mike Grover offered an apology to Ricciardi – a longtime member of Culver's EMS -- for the fire department's actions at a town budget meeting the previous week, during which a "mock" fire department budget was presented the council, which Grover said was meant to emphasize the equality of all emergency services departments in the area of training levels. Grover added fire department members don't feel their training is less stringent than advanced-level EMS members, but the move was

"not intending insult in any way."

Grover said some communication since the meeting has taken place which he felt implied fire department training is overly simple and its members "don't have to do anything."

Ricciardi told the Citizen the mock budget related to the EMS' request this year for a budget increase, which she said was due to a shortage of certified EMT volunteers. Some of Culver's Basic-Advanced EMTs retired recently, leaving a shortage of advanced EMTs to cover each shift without hiring from outside the volunteer service, Ricciardi added. To remain certified as an advanced ambulance service, an advanced EMT must be on Culver's first-out ambulance 24 hours per day.

The town manager reports

During the town manager's report, Michael Doss reported he has been working with fire department representatives Mike Grover and Dave Cooper in submitting an online grant application for federal stimulus money to demolish the existing Culver fire station and erect a new, two-story building. The grant would supply \$750,000 of the total \$850,000 cost of the project. Letters of support are coming, said Doss, from State Representative Joe Donnelly and Senator Evan Bayh.

The council also approved hiring Bennett's contracting to install a new furnace and air conditioning unit in the Culver EMS garage; Bennett's bid of \$4,843 came in lower than the \$6,000 bid put in by Mike's Maintenance.

The council approved any necessary after-the-fact spending to repair Culver's backhoe, which Doss said is used frequently and an-

appears to have fuel-related issues. An after-the-fact approval for just over \$3,000 to replace impeller pumps at the town water plant also took place, after problems were discovered during cleaning and improving the well there.

Sewer and the Southwest district

Doss explained to the council he'd spoken with Ted Schenberg, a representative of the Southwest Conservancy District representing the southwest shores of Lake Maxinkuckee and with whom talks have taken place for some months regarding that group hooking into Culver's sanitary sewer system. Doss said talks have been ongoing with Culver Academies towards resolving outflow issues from the school, and it will likely be some time before all of those issues are worked out, while the Conservancy District needs an answer in the near future. The council agreed to move forward with talks with the Conservancy District towards hooking up to the town sewer.

Expanding two-hour parking?

The council discussed a citizen request to enact a two-hour parking limit on the block of South Main Street just south of downtown, on which Collins and Culver Lodging real estate buildings, as well as Culver Auto Supply and the Main Street Manor sit. Concern was raised by the citizen, said Doss, of vehicles

parking in front of buildings there for long periods of time.

Culver police chief Wayne Bean pointed out most businesses on the block have off-street parking, adding concern as to the parking needs of residential homes on the west side of the street should a two-hour limit be imposed. Ricciardi said such a limit would add to the time and labor of the police department as well, requiring regular chalking of tires on the block.

"Generally when two-hour parking is enacted, it's when there's no other parking on the street," added Bean. The council agreed not to pursue the time limit.

Doss told the council a Forest Place resident has complained of nuisance over an abundance of feral cats in his neighborhood. Doss said Culver has a stray dog ordinance, but none dealing specifically

with cats. Bean, responding to a query from Munroe, said the Humane Society charges the town \$40 per animal to pick up strays. The council agreed to look into the matter.

The council approved replacement of an alternator on one of Culver's ambulance units and said it would look into audience member Jean Rakich's concerns over noise generated by a mobile ice cream business parking of late in the lot of Osborn's Mini-mart of Lake Shore Drive. Munroe, who has replaced Ed Pinder as council representative on the Second Century Committee, asked Doss to join the committee in examining use of technology – specifically the possibility of online social networking sites – to foster better communication between entities in the Culver area, which Doss agreed to do.

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