

The Culver Citizen

Thursday, August 13 2009 Vol. No. 115 Issue No. 31 50¢
Serving Culver • Lake Maxinkuckee • Monterey since 1894



CITIZEN PHOTO AND LAYOUT/JEFF KENNEY

In Brief

Community meal at Grace Aug. 15

Grace United Church of Christ will hold its monthly community meal on Saturday, August 15 at 6 p.m. All are invited to this free, ecumenical event whose purpose is to share a friendly meal in a welcoming, community atmosphere. The meals are held on the 15th day of each month in the basement of the church.

St. Mary's parish festival Aug. 14

St. Mary of the Lake Catholic church's annual parish festival kicks off Friday, August 14 at 2 p.m. with a golf outing at Mystic Hills golf course in Culver. A 7:15 p.m. Vigil Mass at the church itself will be followed by casino night in the church basement. The annual parish picnic -- following the 5:30 p.m. Mass at the church Saturday, August 15 -- will coincide with the church's annual silent auction and raffle drawing. The following morning, Sunday, August 16, following the 10:30 a.m. Mass will be a pancake and sausage breakfast in the church basement. The public is invited to all events, and proceeds go to support St. Mary's daycare ministry.

End-of-month meal at St. Mary's kicks off Aug. 30

A new offering by St. Mary of the Lake Catholic church is its end-of-month community meal, which begins August 30. On the 30th day of each month, a community meal will be provided for anyone interested in attending, with food and drinks supplied by parishioners (the format is similar to Grace United Church of Christ's mid-month meal). St. Mary of the Lake is located at 124 College Avenue in Culver. Questions may be directed to 574-842-2522.

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

A good run

Above: After more than fifty years, Hansen's sporting goods and restaurant at 614 Lake Shore Drive is up for sale, having closed its doors last year. Pictured above, at left, is Clara Hansen today, standing in front of the restaurant (it ceased operation as a sporting goods store after her husband Win's death in 1998). At right, Clara and Win Hansen photographed in front of the store in 1960, just three years after the store opened.

Celebrating 'Clara's'

Doors closed at Hansen's, longest-running single-owner business in Culver

By Jeff Kenney
Citizen editor

A Culver fixture for over 50 years has closed its doors and not -- as some have assumed -- due to the present economic situation around the state and country. Hansen's sport and bait shop and restaurant actually closed its doors in 2008, though the appearance of a "for sale" sign in the now-vacant window may have seemed a sign of the fiscal times to some passersby, one more to add to similar signs on businesses and homes around Culver and Marshall County.

No, says longtime owner and operator Clara Hansen, the underlying reason for the demise of what's likely Culver's longest-operating eatery was her health. "It was my health problems," she says. "Otherwise I wouldn't have closed it. I miss it; I miss the people."

Hansen says she originally planned to return to the restaurant after health problems forced her into

the hospital and then to take it easy at home but it was not to be, and she placed the building up for sale this spring.

Born and raised in Plymouth, the former Clara White and her husband Winfred came to town to stay in April, 1957, though she was a stranger neither to Culver nor its people by then, Clara having worked in several Plymouth businesses, including JC Penney's, and become familiar with a number of Culverites there. The late Winfred was an avid fisherman, so Clara visits were nothing new to the couple. "It was just like coming home," recalls Clara, "I don't think there was anybody in Culver I didn't know. We spent about every weekend in the summer on the lake anyway."

In spite of that, initially Clara was reticent to leave Plymouth, though she adds, "You couldn't get me out of (Culver) now!"

Originally, Hansen's -- at

614 Lake Shore Drive -- was a bait and sportsman's shop, but Clara's regular cooking there for her family led to customers suggesting she make enough they all could have some, so, she says, "we expanded" to include serving food.

Hansen recalls an empty building for the past dozen years before the couple first bought it, the previous owners having planned a lumber shop there but abandoning the project for health reasons. In years past, she says, a restaurant occupied the space called the Hollywood Café, which featured horseshoe shaped bars and began to decline when it was modernized and the management "only wanted dressed-up people -- that got rid of a lot of business."

Clara Hansen recalls sharing a Lake Shore Drive business district which included the Lake View tavern (still next door, part of the Edgewater Grille operation today), the large bowl-

ing alley and coffee shop east of that -- which burned down in a spectacular fire in 1978, eventually replaced by the Edgewater Grille), and the Lakeside grocery store owned by Pete and Pearl Onesti in the building to the east, empty for the past several years and now home to Rideon Bicycle Rentals. Bill Washburn, she recalls, operated the downstairs portion of Culver's beach lodge, where the fireplace crackled for marshmallow roasting and hot chocolate in the winter after the fire department sprayed down the ice at the beach for skating. Nearby Liberty Street was blocked off during the same season for safe sledding down "Liberty Hill."

The Maxinkuckee tour boat, operated by the Amond family, was a staple of the area, she recalls, and its captain, Frank Amond, "would gather us all; I'd go out to the middle of the lake and sit out there

drifting on a hot summer night and have a wonderful time!"

Over the years, Hansen says, the sporting goods and hardware side of the store's business -- including sales of bait and fishing and hunting licenses -- was slowly phased out, the restaurant end of things taking over after the death of her husband in 1998. Hansen's, or "Clara's," as it was known to many Culverites in recent years, was open for breakfast and lunch ("I had my afternoon bunch and my breakfast bunch," says Hansen of her customer base), its familiar west wall lined with coffee mugs, images of various facets of Culver's past, and awards and articles about the business and Clara herself. Among them: a watercolor painting of the place by well-known local artist Barbara Meeker, which was given to Hansen for Christmas in 1992 and a colorful

See Hansen page A6

Culver's EMS has 'come so far' in 30 years

Part 2 of 2

By Jeff Kenney
Citizen editor

Editor's note: The Culver-Union Township Emergency Medical Services celebrated its 30th anniversary Sunday with an open house and reunion of past members. In observance of the occasion, last week's Citizen presented the first part of an article on the history of the department, stemming largely from an interview with Sally Ricciardi -- the longest continuing member of CUTEMS, having joined the service at its inception in August, 1979 -- and longtime (former) CUTEMS ambulance dispatcher Pat Birk, whose late husband Art was the first EMT in Culver, having obtained his license several years before Culver created its EMS, while the ambulance was still operating

from Bonine funeral home. What follows is the article's conclusion.

Pat Birk recalls late husband Art's early ambulance driver training methods. "Art put them through the misery of (making) them lay down on a cot and driving around the lake so you knew what the patient felt on a cot before you could be a good driver."

Sally Ricciardi, already a driver with the service since 1979, took her first EMT class of 80 hours' training in September, 1980 at the ambulance garage. She says training then jumped to about 120 hours, where today it's over 200 hours "just to become a basic EMT. "The class would take three months in the evenings originally," she notes. "And now it's up to half a year, which makes it more prohibitive for mem-



PHOTO SUBMITTED/SALLY RICCIARDI
Jack Easterday -- standing -- was one of many in the area volunteering labor to build the CUTEMS ambulance garage; he was also instrumental behind the scenes in getting the service started.

bers of a family to leave their kids and wife or husband and take this class."

A second ambulance was added in 1981 after another fund-raising effort including, recalls Birk, several years of "fall walks" towards its purchase. In the beginning of the service, says Ricciardi, Indiana EMS departments could use the old funeral home station wagon models, but their use was being phased out by 1980, leading to purchase of the newer vehicle. Interestingly, she says the numbers assigned each vehicle by the state reveal Culver as one of the earlier EMS departments in the state. The first ambulance in Culver was numbered 0025, making it around the twenty-fifth in Indiana since the establishment of emer-

gency medical services by the state. The second rig was numbered 0767, showing a massive leap in ambulance purchases between 1979 and 1981.

Among local organizations and individuals making formation of Culver's EMS and its early ambulances and other equipment a priority, Culver's Finney-Shilling VFW Post 6919 -- and its Ladies' and Men's Auxiliaries -- stands out in particular. As Bobbie Rhunow of the VFW points out, "We undertook this as a year long fund raising project. All proceeds from our Friday night dinners were dedicated to the fund. We held bake sales and rummage sales (and) we even sold black walnuts door to door."

The VFW's Mary Lou

See EMS page A2

www.thepilotnews.com
Click on Citizen Tab
E-mail: citizen@culcom.net

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EMS from page A1



PHOTO SUBMITTED/SALLY RICCIARDI

CUTEMS' first bona fide ambulance rig, purchased in 1979.

Wise recalls the organization receiving the prestigious National Community Activity Award -- with Ladies Auxiliary National President Vona Houtz in attendance -- for its work in fund-raising for the EMS and its ambulance.

Another important, more "behind-the-scenes" facet of CUTEMS was ambulance dispatching -- that is, monitoring and answering the ambulance phone, and dispatching EMS personnel to the scene. Once CUTEMS was formed in 1979, that job left the Bonine household and was situated at Culver's town hall during its daytime, open hours, and in the homes of a roster of dispatchers over the years on evenings and weekends.

As their EMT counterparts, dispatchers were assigned shifts by the designated department scheduler and expected to be ready for an ambulance call during any given hour of their shift. Unlike most EMTs, however, dispatchers couldn't be on the go and carrying portable radios, but were tied to the ambulance phone and radio in their homes during assigned shift hours.

During those years, recall Birk and Ricciardi, about seven dispatchers covered the 24-hour per day, seven

days per week covered by EMTs and drivers as well. The two recall a number of dispatchers over the years, including Pat Birk herself (she continued as a dispatcher even when Art retired from the service in 1983), Virginia Abair, Rosalie Bonine (at home in the pre-CUTEMS years), Julia Overmyer, Sharon Hartz, Kim Mitchell (wife of then-Culver Citizen editor Bill Mitchell), Ginny Cole, Sue Easterday, Marizetta Kenney, Susan Fout; Rita Lawson, Chris Stubblefield, Win Joice, Bea Curry, Linda Moore, and Chad Becker.

Dispatchers were limited even then, says Birk, in what assistance they could offer callers, though sometimes instructions could be given or questions asked (such as, "Do you know the Heimlich maneuver?"). One consistent challenge for dispatchers and ambulance drivers alike, she says, was discerning callers' locations when a call came in. Rural route addresses, used in the departments earlier years by the postal service, often didn't lend themselves to finding a given house on a dark night, and Ricciardi points out while a fire call often involves clearly visible smoke or flames to designate a given house as the destination, "if they say, 'I fell down the

stairs and broke my leg,' you have to go door to door to find the person. And if they give you a house number and you drive down and six houses in a row don't have numbers on them, you can get close but you don't necessarily get to house the first time, which could make a major difference in the patient's outcome."

Some problems in house-hunting were alleviated in 1998 when one of the more radical changes to CUTEMS -- and ambulance services across Marshall County -- took place: the shift to a county-wide, 911-based dispatch service, which also led to renumbering of many rural and municipal houses and an effort to ensure home addresses be more visible. That year, Pat Birk retired as a dispatcher after 15 years.

The shift to a 911 system also increased ambulance runs, Ricciardi notes. From June, 1977 to June, 1978, Culver's ambulance was called 241 times. That number rose as CUTEMS was established and became better known, to between 240 and 280 ambulance runs per year, with numbers in the 360s just before the 1998 county-wide dispatch switchover. After that shift, Culver's ambulance crew found itself receiving 480 calls the first year and 550 the next, which "just about wiped out our people," says Ricciardi. "We lost a lot of volunteers because of our run volume almost doubling."

Some of the initial spike in runs was due to 911 hang-up calls, something which was reduced after

the beginning stages.

Birk says the increase also grew from the rerouting of township guidelines: whereas callers in the past might choose which EMS service to dial based on their phone number prefix ("936" calls to Plymouth and "842" calls to Culver, for example), the 911 system meant any and all residents in the defined region covered by CUTEMS -- which the service had long since decided included areas such as Monterey and King's Lake, which are much further from their respective county seat ambulance services than from Culver -- received assistance from CUTEMS.

Ricciardi also attributes the increase in ambulance runs, which eventually leveled off between 400 and 440 per year, to an ageing population and a tendency to call for an ambulance where folks might not have done so in the past. "For years it was a toss-up," she says. "Do you call the ambulance service out of the funeral home to pick up your wife that just fell down, or drag her into the car to the hospital? For years a lot of people did that. As it became more known there was an ambulance service with trained personnel, more people called the ambulance service."

And, as always has been the case, volume of calls varies, seemingly with the wind. Birk recalls one Saturday with no less than seven ambulanceruns during the day. "They didn't any more than

get back, and they'd...take the next run," she recalls.

When both CUTEMS ambulances are out on runs, Plymouth's EMS is called in, she says.

And nowadays, due largely to the aforementioned demands of training, Ricciardi says volunteers are down. "At its height, the department had 40 volunteers," she notes. "Drivers, EMTs, and advanced EMTs. Right now we're probably at our lowest. We've got ten drivers, three or four basic EMTs, and around six advanced EMTs, so that number has dropped considerably, which is why we have more paid shifts with advanced personnel from other departments."

Nor is what's encountered "on the job," so to speak, always easy for EMTs. "The worst run you can go on is when small children are sick or injured," Ricciardi says. "As parents, most of the EMTs look at that little child as, 'What if it were mine?' We've had some hard ones where they want you to save their loved ones and they've been gone an hour or two. Then there's nothing you can do except try and support them.

"There's a lot of personal trauma you have to be able

to handle that goes along with a patient's trauma."

"The dedication it takes to go on a run," says Birk, who recalls a few runs which left husband Art sleepless for nights after from the trauma, "and then come back and clean the rig and stock it for the next time -- it takes time. It's not something you do without some dedication to the service."

Any difficulties -- or even criticisms -- endured in volunteering for CUTEMS, though, adds Birk, are outweighed by "the feeling of knowing that the patient's life is so much better, or you could put them at ease in a moment of crisis: that keeps you going."

Ricciardi herself says she keeps going because "it's needed in the community and I still have the ability to do it. It does give you a sense of (the) rewards in helping people. You lose some, but you help so many more that that overshadows the ones where there wasn't anything that could be done."

"Our local service has come so far," Birk says. "How fortunate we really are with what we have in this community."

PHOTO SUBMITTED/SALLY RICCIARDI

A young Beth Combs (lower left corner) -- whose mother, Marcia, was an early member of the service -- stands outside the then-newly completed CUTEMS ambulance garage.



Letter to the editor

No charity collection for wealthy golf cart owners

I find it intriguing that those who can best weather a spike in gasoline prices believe they must spend thousands of dollars to buy a golf cart to offset the increase. These are the same people who own million dollar “lake cottages.” There are times when the wealthy do not wear their money with dignity and this is one of them. We know they are rich. They don’t need to flaunt it.

The longest drive to any point downtown by those on the lake is an 8 mile round trip. This is an additional cost of 60 cents, approximately, comparing 08 and 09 gas prices. I don’t remember cottage owners replacing their gas powered boats with row and paddle boats in 08.

We have seen misuses of

this privilege that defy belief. Pre-teenage children driving golf carts on our roads with young children, no adult supervision, hanging on. We have witnessed so many people in and hanging on a cart it brought back memories of the Keystone cops! And the topper: this past weekend we observed a passenger on Lake Shore Drive, near the park, riding in a golf cart holding a baby in her arms. Try that in a car!

Are golf carts required to have seatbelts and child restraint seats? Auto insurance? Head lights? Tail-lights? Rearview mirrors? Windshield wipers? Are the drivers required to hold driver’s license?

Ralph Nadar would surely label golf carts on our streets as “unsafe at any speed”

including zero. Crash test possibilities would suggest that golf carts are safer than only tricycles and little red wagons. They are a menace to automobiles and a tragedy waiting in the wings.

There are many ways for the rich to highlight their wealth. Driving golf carts on our streets and highways should not be one of them. Money talks but this is one time it should remain silent.

You’ll excuse me, being middle class, if I don’t take up a collection to stop the free fall of the wealthy into homelessness because of gasoline prices.

**Jonathon Penhurst
Culver area citizen**

Editor’s note: The Citizen appreciates Mr. Pen-

hurst’s well-written letter to the editor and input. In the interest of clarifying some of the complexities surrounding the golf cart issue in Culver, printed on page A8, is the text of Culver’s golf cart ordinance in full, which addresses some of the concerns Mr. Penhurst raises along with many residents of the Culver area.

In particular, the ordinance does clarify some points Mr. Penhurst discussed in his letter, such as insurance, head lights, driver’s license requirements, and others.

The ordinance may also be read on the town of Culver’s website at www.culver.org.

Death Notices

Brugh

**Joel Aaron Brugh
July 28, 2009**

ROCHESTER — Joel Aaron Brugh, 31, of Rochester, died at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 28, 2009 at Dailey Lake in Emigrant, Mont.

He is survived by his parents, Jim and Ronda Hood Brugh of Rochester; brothers: Joshua (Mandie) Brugh of South Bend, Jason (Teena) Brugh of Livingston, Mont. and Jim Brugh of Mishawaka; sister, Audra Brugh of San Diego, Calif.; and grandparents: Doris Hood of Rochester and Joseph and Mildred Brugh of Rochester.

Services were Friday, Aug. 7 at 8 p.m. at the Good Family Funeral Home, Rochester, with visitation two hours prior.

Memorials may be made to Adopt-A-Seabird, Alaska Sea Life Center, PO Box 1329, Seward, AK 99664-1329.

Wajda

**Bernard E. Wajda
Aug. 6, 2009**

KNOX — Bernard E. Wajda, 88, of Knox, died Thursday, Aug. 6, 2009.

He is survived by his children: Robert (Mary) Miller of Round Lake Beach, Ill., Rose (Frank) Nellis of Owensville, Christine (Rick) Baker of Culver and Albert (Joan) Wajda of Knox; sisters: Sophie Lazzara and Violet Collins of Chicago, Ill.; nine grandchildren; three great-grandchildren.

Visitation was Monday, Aug. 10 from 4 yo 8 p.m. with rosary at 4:30 p.m. at the M.C. Smith Funeral Home, Knox. Funeral Mass was Tuesday, Aug. 11 at 10 a.m. at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church.

Burial will be at Crown Hill Cemetery.

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Community Calendar

Thurs., Aug. 13

Fitness Class, 10:30 a.m., Culver Public Library
Kiwanis Club, noon, Culver Public Library
Yoga class, 5:30 p.m., Culver Public Library
Parks and recreation board mtg., 7 p.m. town hall

Fri., Aug. 14

Computer class, 6 p.m., Culver Public Library
Open microphone night with Jon Gaskill, 7 p.m., Culver Coffee Company

Sat., Aug. 15

Community meal, 6 p.m., Grace United Church of Christ, Plymouth Street-

Mon., Aug. 17

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

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

Tues., Aug. 18

Fitness class, 9 a.m., Culver Public Library
Culver Plan Commission mtg., 6:30 p.m., town hall
Culver Public Library board mtg., 7 p.m., Culver Public Library

Weds., Aug. 19

Genealogy mtg., 10 a.m., Culver Public Library
Garden Club, 6 p.m., Culver Public Library

Thurs., Aug. 20

Fitness Class, 10:30 a.m., Culver Public Library
Phil Harrison, Culver Academies board of trustees, Kiwanis Club, noon, Culver Public Library
Yoga class, 5:30 p.m., Culver Public Library
Board of Zoning Appeals

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

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p.m., church rectory base-

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.

Friday, Aug. 14: Hamburger with cheese and onion, bun, pea and cheese salad, corn, fresh fruit, and milk.

Monday, Aug. 17: Spaghetti, salad and dressing, bread sticks with margarine, French green beans, pineapple, and milk.

Tuesday, Aug. 18: Beef Manhattan, mashed potatoes and gravy, bread, beets, dessert, and milk.

Wednesday, Aug. 19: Salisbury steak, carrots, mashed potatoes and gravy, bread and margarine, strawberries, and milk.

Thursday, Aug. 20: Fish, diced red potatoes with herbs, mixed vegetables, bun, grape juice, apple pie, and milk.

Friday, Aug. 21: Chicken and noodles, mashed potatoes, green beans, bread and margarine, tropical fruit, and milk.

Name: HISTORY BOOK; Width: 52p1.167; Depth: 10 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00072973; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Pilot News; Size: 50 in

See Carts page A6

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The truth about gossip

Headline

Back to school shopping is always a feeding frenzy. I'm in a hurry, and with each daughter insisting that she "needs" the hot pink erasers or the cute Post-It Notes, I end up tossing stuff willy-nilly into the cart and making my escape.

One way to stop the feeding frenzy is to follow that tried and true formula: the three Rs.

The first R means reduce. Lori Bongiorno has written a book called "Green Greener Greenest: A Practical Guide to Making Eco-Smart Choices a Part of Your Life." She writes, "[Reducing] is a pretty simple concept, but it's often the most overlooked of the 3Rs. If you buy less stuff, then you will have fewer things to dispose of."

One way to reduce is to take inventory at home first. List in hand, I salvage what I can from last year's supplies — not difficult because the backpacks are still sitting in the exact spot they were discarded last May. I will change a battery or two, wipe off the pencil box and sharpen some pencils, but this reduces time, cost and resources. "Break the shopping habit," advises Bongiorno. "Buy only what you really need."

The second R means reuse. When I shop, I try to purchase items that have long lives and many uses. "Reusing is preferable to recycling," writes Bongiorno, "because the product doesn't need to be reprocessed before it can be used again." I may spend more up front, but it's worth it for some items. My kids' battered L. L. Bean backpacks still work despite years of school books, road trips, and airports.

Trendy, cheap clothes are a particular environmental disaster. Bongiorno points out, "Conventionally grown cotton, for example, is a huge eco-offender — it consumes enormous amounts of synthetic pesticides and fertilizers that deplete soil and pollute water." Organic clothing is getting easier to find; it's available at discount retailers, and Web sites such as the Green People Directory, www.greenpeople.org, list other places to find sustainably produced clothing. I buy the girls some decent, well-made basics like jeans, khakis, and T-shirts, maybe a sweater or two, that are easily interchangeable. Then we patronize consignment shops in town to find fun, funky clothes — even name brands — that are inexpensive and still retain the "cool" factor.

Of course, some items can't be reused. Until all the fourth-graders in my daughter's class will carry their own handkerchiefs, new Kleenex boxes are non-negotiable. But at least the boxes are recyclable, which is the third R. "Recycling is a no-brainer," writes Bongiorno. "[It] saves energy, water, and other natural resources, and reduces pollution, including the greenhouse gas emissions responsible for climate change."

Many school supplies made of paper and plastic contain at least some recycled content. Retailers such as Office Depot and Staples provide more "green" office supplies such as refillable toner and ink cartridges, recycled paper products, and even sustainably-harvested bamboo desk accessories.

Before the feeding frenzy starts, add the three Rs to your ABCs.

Marianne Peters is a freelance writer based in Plymouth. She is also a certified Master Gardener. You can send questions or comments to her through the Pilot News or her weblog: <http://hoosierwordsmith.typepad.com>.



HOOSIER HABITAT: EASY WAYS TO LIVE GREEN
By MARIANNE PETERS

Gossip. How do you measure it with your moral compass? Is it nestled near the white lies and driving just nine miles over the speed limit? Are you convicted of gossiping only once in a while or is gossip so intertwined with your conversations that you have lost sight of what is actually gossip and what is actually truth?



By Andrea G. Cook

Is gossip harmless enough that you feel it is justified? Maybe you just need some comic relief. Maybe you just cannot help yourself and you need some self control. Or, maybe you don't even know gossip when you hear it — or tell it. Well, here is my attempt to expose gossip for what it really is.

It has been two years since we have lived here in Culver. While navigating this new social world of a small town, I am flabbergasted about the percentage of small talk that is fueled by gossip. Do you remember playing the game of Operator when you were a child? You sit in a circle, the first person whispers a sen-

tence into the second person's ear. One by one, they pass along this sentence and by the time it gets to the last person, the sentence is so altered that when the original sentence is compared to the final sentence that was passed around, everyone laughs out loud. This is a fun game and it is also a great testimony to the truth about gossip.

I was shocked recently while sitting with friends on two separate occasions. One friend made this comment, "<gossip, gossip>... And you know this is such a small town, if you hear the same thing from more than one person, it must be true." When she made this comment, I smiled and chuckled at her sarcasm, until I realized she was not being sarcastic. She actually believed this to be true.

Another gossip fallacy I heard just a few weeks ago was told like this:

Friend A: <Gossip, gossip, gossip...>

Friend B: That's not true.

Where did you hear that?

Friend A: <Name> told me. It has to be true. She has no reason to lie.

Pause. One eyebrow raised. Seriously? Do people really believe this? "So-and-so" may have distorted the truth just a tad as she heard it from the person she heard it from then told it slightly differently to the next person and so on and so on. Just like the game Operator, the original truth can be altered. But, when you are sharing information about someone's reputation or character that may promote public disdain or ridicule, it is not a silly game.

Gossip is hurtful, and it not only injures the victim of your conversation, but it also damages your own character while you show your lack of trustworthiness.

Gossip is sneaky. In no other topic of conversation do people huddle in, look over both their shoulders while lowering the volume of their voices into a top secret manner. While the recipients' eyes widen, deeply interested, they rub their hands together as if they are about to devour a hot juicy steak.

I admit, I am tempted at times. When a friend starts off a tid-bit of conversation with, "I don't mean to gossip but..." or, "Have you heard about ...?" I am attentive and eager to hear what

she has to say. Maybe it is my curiosity or boredom. Sometimes it is my insecurity of not wanting the person about to gossip to feel badly. But I often leave the conversation feeling more dissatisfied and the worst of it is I walk away feeling guilty.

When I told some of my friends that I was thinking about writing a column about gossip, there seemed to be an interest in the topic. People were curious to better understand what constituted gossip. One friend even shared with me a term she blames for the human need to gossip. The term "schadenfreude" is defined as delighting in others' misfortune, our mind's response to envy.

Unveiling the truth of gossip, we are now left with an awkward silence during our next dinner conversations that I do not want to be held responsible for! It is human nature to be curious, to share information, even to laugh a little bit when you see someone trip.

I am reminded of my mother's sage advice. She used to tell me, there are people who talk about people. Then, there are people who talk about things and

See Gossip page A6

Name that Culver "citizen"



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

Last week's Mystery Citizen is another of those folks who haven't changed drastically in appearance in the few short years since high school. The hint that she's "surrounded daily by memories," of course, was meant to refer to Susie Mahler's presence as owner of (and of course familiar face at) Cafe Max on Main Street in Culver. Correct guessers included Connie Van Horn, Iris Hyland, Judi Burns, and Carin Clifton. May they enjoy their free parking in downtown Culver (and we'll throw in free parking -- while supplies last -- in front of Cafe Max as an added bonus!) and bask in the editor's admiration. This week's Mystery Citizen is about to once again become a regular sight to many in the area. Can you put a name to his face?



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Name: METRO; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00072858; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: City Tavern; Size: 8 in

Name: VISIT, VIEW, PURCHASE; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 8 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00072804; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Pilot News; Size: 16 in

Name: MEDIACOM-CC; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 5 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00073428; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Indiana Newspaper Advertising; Size: 10 in

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Pilot News - Three Days Prior at 4 p.m.; Weeklies - Thursday (week prior) at 4 p.m.; all ads larger than 1/4 page need to be e-mailed, sent in a word document or dropped off on a floppy disk.

Hanen from page A1

“folk art” painting by the late, former Culver fire chief Dave Burns of the historic, long-gone station master’s home, iconic for the trees on each side of it and brick street on Lake Shore Drive.

Another wall item was a 1962 check which apparently lodged itself behind the drop box at Culver’s NIPSCO office for 38 years. Workers demolishing the building, at the corner of Washington and Main Streets, for the expansion of the Culver Public Library in the early 2000s found the check and returned it to Clara Hansen, all those years later. The incident made the newspaper and was eventually syndicated nationally, she says, which led to past customers, acquaintances, and friends clipping the piece and sending it to her. “I got letters from all over the country,” she says, still in smiling disbelief. “From Texas and California -- they sent me the clipping and I couldn’t believe

**CHOOSE FROM CULVER'S
GREATEST SELECTION
OF "MOST WANTED"
TOYS FOR CHILDREN!**

Anything for Anyone!

Santa has made "Hansen's" his headquarters. We have gifts to please every member of the family — FREE GIFT WRAPPING!

HANSEN'S

614 Lake Shore Drive — CULVER
Open Every Evening & Sundays

This late 1950s Christmas advertisement -- boasting a selection with "Anything for Anyone!" and emphasizing Hansen's toy selection, hints at the variety of items offered at the shop over the years.

it! Someone said, 'You're famous!' It was nice to get something like that instead of all bad news."

Another framed photo on the wall showed Clara among those signing the part of the lands making up today's town park over to the town of Culver in the early 1980s, the result of

hard-fought community efforts to purchase the tract of land still owned by the railroad to add to the surrounding park lands. Hansen, very active for years with Culver's Lions Club, was especially helpful in fund raising. In fact, for many years, requests to rent the Lions-owned Culver depot across the street were directed to Hansen's.

The photos and awards along the wall went on: Clara Hansen honored in 1991 as Culver Lake Fest parade marshal (she helped found the festival, in fact, in 1983), a 1977 award from the Lions Club, awards from the Maxinkuckee International Order of Odd Fellows (the "Good Citizenship" award) and the now-defunct Culver Eagle's lodge, and one of the highest awards Lions

Club International bestows, the WP Woods Fellow, in September, 2005. She also catered: everything from east shore cottage parties to Lions Club meetings for years, to the VFW senior citizens' and wild game dinners; in fact, she only stopped catering a few years ago.

She was active in the Lions (as she is still today) for over four decades, spearheading its regular flea markets and 'jail-a-thons,' among other efforts. "I guess I don't know the word 'no,'" she smiles.

At the restaurant, Clara Hansen was not in it for the money, she says, though she liked to "make enough to pay the bills." Instead, she's always enjoyed the people, her faith in her customers paying off as they found their way in from Culver, of course, but also from out of town, some from South Bend, Chicago, and "all over."

Customers have come and gone, and Hansen muses about "all the people that used to come in here that are gone. People used to tell me, 'You lose one customer and you gain another somewhere else,' and it was true. I (would have) people here back for vacation, and they would always stop in. It was so nice to hear from them. That's what makes the world go around."

Hansen was in the res-

taurant business since the sixth grade, all told, she says, recalling being let out of school early in the afternoons in high school to work in a Plymouth restaurant. "I always said I wouldn't get in the restaurant business, but I did. I thought I had all of it that I wanted. But I loved it (at Hansen's). I outlasted a lot

of the businesses around here.

"We've got some great people in Culver," she adds reflectively. "One thing that draws people to Culver is the small town atmosphere here. People are friendlier. In big cities they don't even know their neighbor. You get in trouble (in Culver), they're there to help you."

Drew Norwich named to Purdue Dean's List

Drew Norwich, son of Susie and Dean Norwich of Culver was recently named to the Dean's List for the spring semester at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Ind.

Drew achieved this honor with a GPA of 3.7 based on a possible 4.0 grading scale.

Drew is a 2008 graduate of Culver Community High School. He will be returning to the Purdue campus in the fall to continue his studies in the Krannert School of Management.

Gossip from page A4

places. And then, there are people who talk about ideas. She used to challenge me to be the kind of person who discusses ideas. Even though she and I would enjoy talking about people, places and things from time to time, we knew deep down inside, we both longed to be people who aspired for more interesting topics of conversations.

Correction

The photograph of Alexis Howard in last week's Culver Citizen ("Howard receives Wells scholarship") should have been credited to Indiana University. The Citizen regrets the omission.

Name: internet trade; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00068504; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Culcom, LLC; Size: 8 in

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'Serious problem' of storm water requires proactive approach, says Doss

By Jeff Kenney
Citizen editor

Storm water has been a topic of some discussion and concern in recent months – and intermittently for years -- in Culver, and town manager Michael Doss wants to be sure residents feel informed as to why that's the case.

"There's obviously a critical storm water issue in Culver," Doss told the Citizen. "You can drive around town on any rainy day and see issues of safety with water buildup on the streets and flooding of cars and individual's properties. It's time for the town to address these critical needs."

Any Culverite who's passed by the west end of Lake Shore Drive, just south of Culver Elementary School, during or just after a downpour can grasp what Doss and Culver's town council mean: a number of areas in Culver become veritable flood zones when cloudbursts strike.

Storm water – that is, any water falling from the sky as opposed to sanitary sewage coming from inside homes and businesses – also affects Culver's sanitary sewer, says Doss, in that several areas in Culver mix the two sewer sources, resulting in an increase to the capacity of the town's

sewer plant, even as much as 15 to 20 percent.

A study by the Indiana University Center for Urban Policy and the Environment makes it clear many Indiana communities face similar problems to Culver's, and many have historically – like Culver – seen storm water drainage as a totally separate issue from sanitary sewer, and often minimized its impact and relevance to the health of the community's infrastructure.

According to the report, Indiana officials, however, have been more recently confronted with the fact that storm sewer runoff "contributes significantly to water pollution problems," with both the US Environmental Protection Agency and Indiana Department of Environmental Management "requiring municipalities to address water quality problems cause by combined (storm and sanitary) sewers."

A grant using Disaster Recover 2 stimulus money was applied for by Culver earlier this year to fund overhaul of Culver's storm

the stimulus grant and required by the OCRA grant without draining funds from other areas of the town budget (as of this writing, Doss and the town have not received an answer on the Disaster Recovery 2 grant, which is due any day; the O C R A g r a n t would be applied for in late August).

D o s s points out many Indiana communities, including nearby Plymouth, already have storm water fees in place, a needed asset particularly where antiquated storm sewers are plaguing drainage situations.

"Culver is fortunate to have pretty good separation in most areas between our sanitary and storm water systems," Doss explains.

"But the storm water fee will enable antiquated, broken down storm water tile to be upgraded. Some of it's old and basically built to accommodate older Culver. Some of those lines are a little bit overburdened."

All this discussion, he says, indicates Culver's council is "uniquely progressive" in its efforts to address storm water issues. He adds a storm water fee will be "very small" and "will not be of significant impact to our citizens in this economy. But if we can store money to encumber later on and appropriate for these projects' needs, it's a starting point."

Acknowledging storm water maintenance and overhauling is expensive, Doss says the town doesn't want to take funds for such endeavors from paving and concrete needs, or any other projects in town. Having monies in reserve earmarked just for storm water will allow the town not to sacrifice those other projects, he adds.

The proposed storm water fee is intended to be simple and fair and keep citizens'

and businesses' costs low. Doss explains, avoiding complex formulas used in some communities based on square footage of properties and amount of concrete in a given area, even though such considerations do impact storm water runoff. Instead, however, a flat fee – likely one for single residential property owners and one for business-commercial – is planned to avoid being cumbersome to all.

A comprehensive storm water plan will go along with the fee, putting to use analysis of other communities' plans and fees. Doss says the hope is to have both a plan and fees in place by the end of the year, though various readings and public hearings will be necessary to formalize any of it.

In the meantime, Culver may hopefully look forward to some relief from flooding in historically waterlogged areas, and a long-range plan to address Culver's storm drainage, which Doss calls "a very, very important issue in town and a serious problem."



PHOTO/KEVIN BERGER

Flooding in the Culver area due to storm water – such as this photo of School Street taken earlier this summer – is behind the Culver town council and town manager's recent discussion of a storm water policy and fee.

drainage on the west side of town, Doss points out, with a grant from the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs possible should the stimulus money not pan out. He notes a storm water policy and fee discussed at recent meetings of Culver's town council would help the town pay some of the matching funds offered for

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LOCAL

Culver's golf cart ordinance

Complete text of local law may clarify some confusion

Editor's note: In response to many readers raising questions and issues concerning local golf cart ordinances -- and recent state legislation clarifying what's legal and what isn't on Indiana roads and highways (see recent issues of the Citizen) like Mr. Penhurst, whose letter about the matter is printed on page 3 of this edition, the Citizen prints here in full Culver's golf cart ordinance, in hopes it may clarify some of the specifics concerning use of the vehicles in town. Please note these laws apply only to the town of Culver proper, whose jurisdiction ends at the town limits. The ordinance may be read online at www.townofculver.org, from which its text was derived.

Ordinance No. 2007-009: An ordinance to regulate the use of golf carts and animal drawn vehicles operated for business purposes within the corporate limits of the town of Culver.

Whereas, there has been an increase in use of golf carts and animal drawn vehicles operated for business purposes on public streets, roads, alleys, and walkways within the Town of Culver, Indiana; and

Whereas, the Town Council believes that in order to help preserve the health and safety of its citizens that it is necessary to regulate the

use of golf carts and animal drawn vehicles operated for business purposes on streets, roads, alleys and walkways within the Town limits.

Now, therefore, be it ordained by the town council of the town of Culver, Indiana, as follows:

Section 1. For purposes of this Ordinance, a golf cart shall be included in the definition of a slow moving vehicle as the same is defined in I.C. 9-21-9-1 as a "vehicle that is (1) pulled; (2) towed; (3) self-propelled; or (4) animal drawn; that is not under ordinary circumstances moved, operated, or driven at a speed greater than 25 miles per hour."

Section 2. In order to operate a golf cart or an animal drawn vehicle operated for business purposes on any street, alley, road, or walkway within the limits of the Town of Culver, a driver of such a golf cart or animal drawn vehicle operated for business purposes must be a licensed driver under Indiana law and have such license on his or her person at all times during the operation of said golf cart or animal drawn vehicle operated for business purposes

Section 3. All golf carts must have insurance on said golf cart and have proof of such insurance in the golf

cart at all times during the operation of said golf carts in the Town of Culver.

Section 4. All golf carts animal drawn vehicles operated for business purposes must display a red or amber flashing light at times when headlamps are necessary for other motor vehicles, which light must be visible from a distance of no less than 500 feet from the rear of the golf cart or vehicle. In addition, if said golf cart or is operated at times when headlamps are necessary, said golf cart or animal drawn vehicles operated for business purposes must be equipped with both headlights and taillights that are in working order.

In addition, all golf carts and animal drawn vehicles operated for business purposes must be equipped with a rear view mirror.

Section 5. While operating said golf cart or animal drawn vehicles operated for business purposes within the Town of Culver, any operator of the same must abide by all State traffic laws in the operator of said golf cart or animal drawn vehicles operated for business purposes.

Section 6. All provisions of the Slow Moving Vehicle Statute of the State of Indiana found as I.C. 9-21-9 shall If adhered to at all times by those operating a golf cart or animal

drawn vehicles operated for business purposes with the Town of Culver Section 7. Any person who wishes to operate a golf cart or animal drawn vehicles operated for business purposes in the Town of Culver must register the same Police the Culver Police department and pay a registration fee of Twenty-five Dollars (\$25) on an annual basis and have attached to said golf cart or animal drawn vehicle operated for business purposes a sticker provided by said Town noting said vehicle has been properly registered with the Town.

Section 8. While in operation such golf carts or and/or drawn vehicles operated for business purposes must carry no more passengers than such got cart or animal drawn vehicles operated for business purposes are equipped to handle and as

passengers must be seated at all times.

Section 9. No golf cart or animal drawn vehicles operated for business purposes shall be allowed in any area of Town designated as a Park without the prior approval of the Park Department Chief Operating Officer

Section 10. In the event that a person cannot meet any of the above criteria that person may make a written request with the Town Council for an exception to the provisions of this Ordinance. Such written request shall set forth the item or items that cannot be met by said persons and the reasons for that, and shall state why the Town Council should allow an exception to any of the terms and provisions of this ordinance.

The Town Council shall have the authority to grant

or deny any such exception following the receipt of such a written request and the appearance of the person making such request at a Town Council meets by establishing in writing the reasons for in granting or denying of the exemption(s) so requested.

Section 11. Any one violating any of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be subject to a fine of Twenty-five Dollars (\$25) for a first violation Fifty Dollars (\$50) for a second violation and Seventy-five Dollars (\$75) for a third violation. If a person is cited for a violation of this Ordinance more than three (3) times the registration shall be revoked and said golf cart or animal drawn vehicle operated for business purposes shall no longer be allowed to operate in the limits of the Town of Culver.

SJRM/C/Plymouth's Cath Lab brings "unprecedented heart health" to community

Monday, August 10, was another milestone day in healthcare provided to Marshall County and the surrounding communities by Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center/Plymouth. The hospital will open its new Cardiac Catheterization and Interventional Radiology Laboratory (Cath Lab).

Saint Joseph Physicians, Administrators, Board Members, Staff, as well as the general public honored the occasion with an Open House and Blessing of the new Cath Lab August 4.

"This is wonderful for the heart health of this community," said Dr. Josephine Randazzo, D.O., FACOI, of SJRMC. "This will allow us to treat many more patients here near their homes with the use of better images and faster and more accurate diagnosis."

SJRM/C/Plymouth's Cath Lab will feature the latest in medical technology combined with compassionate, caring, and convenient patient experience. Three-dimensional images will be obtained in high resolution without the distortion common with conventional x-ray techniques. Fine blood vessels and interventional devices will be visualized in precise detail from almost any angle. Time-consuming and uncomfortable patient repositioning will be eliminated, making the procedure faster and less stressful for the patient.

"Our Cath Lab is the only one of its kind in the Marshall County Community and surrounding area and is a great addition to the care of patients here," said Lee Jaeger, SJRMC/Plymouth's Executive Vice President of Administration. "When the Lab opens, it will bring an unprecedented level of heart health and advanced medical technology to our community."

Heart disease is still America's number one killer. Bringing statistics closer to home, a recent study by the American Heart Association breaks down heart disease death rates by state, including Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia. Indiana ranked 15th, meaning there are 37 healthier states or territories regarding heart health.

"The two most common diseases in the United States are cardiac and oncology-related," said Nancy Hellyer, SJRMC's CEO. "With the addition of our Cath Lab, we are well suited to handle those problems right here. We have no higher priority at Saint Joseph than delivering quality care to all the patients we serve, and the opening of this Cath Lab here in Plymouth is a testament to that."

Name: CULVER SUBSCRIPTION; Width: 30p11.5; Depth: 10 in;
Color: Black; File Name: 00072807; Ad Number: -; Customer Name:
Pilot News; Size: 30 in

Briefs from page A1

Indiana basketball author to visit Culver

Indiana author Emerson Houck visit the Culver library Wednesday, September 23 at 1 p.m. He hopes to meet old-time and newer players and fans and see their memorabilia – photos, posters, pennants, newspaper articles, etc. – towards a scrapbook to give to the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame titled "The All-time All-star Hoosier High School Alumni Basketball Team," which will be kept on permanent display at the Hall. Houck's new book, "Hoosiers All: Indiana High School Basketball, Team Names, Glory

Season, Boys and Girls, Past and Present, Large and Small," can be ordered from Hawthorne Publishing, 15601 Oak Road, Carmel IN 46033 pre-paid \$30 including shipping. Those ordering before September 15 will receive a \$3 discount on the book price and can call 317-867-5183 for information.

Bremen Chiropractic open

BREMEN — The Country Chiropractic Center officially opened at 414 W. Plymouth St., Bremen Aug. 3. "The Country Chiropractic Center offers affordable ranges in tough economic times at \$18 for adults and \$10 for children 14 and

younger," officials said. For the first two weeks, country Chiropractic Center is offering additional discounts. Bremen natives Dr. Anneka Parks and Dr. Brent Hayes offer a variety of chiropractic services and therapeutic rehabilitation.

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.

Name: Hometown Hours; Width: 30p11.5; Depth: 2.5 in; Color: Black;
File Name: 00073638; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Bob Cultice;

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File Name: 00073528; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Miller's Health
Systems; Size: 18 in



CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

Tour Culver's history by bicycle August 22

Those wishing for a hands-on, up-close view of Culver's history will have a chance when The Bike Barn, at 103 Lake Shore Drive in Culver launches what store owner Don Baker hopes is the first of many Culver History Bike Tours.

Bicyclists are invited to bring their own bikes and meet at the Bike Barn Saturday, August 22 at 10 a.m. for the free event, which will be led by Jeff Kenney of the Antiquarian and Historical Society of Culver and is expected to cover no more than four to five miles of riding. The Bike Barn will not be supplying bicycles for the event, so cyclists should come prepared with a bike and any necessary gear for the ride.

Slated for the event are stops at historic sites within the town of Culver itself, where discussion of the history of each chosen site will be shared alongside photos from each location in the past. The end result, says Baker, should be an historical overview of some of the unique aspects of Culver's rich history made all the richer by the sense of presence evoked from being on-site.

"These may be places we all drive by in our cars regularly," notes Baker, "but there's just something about the immediacy of riding to these sites on a bicycle and being there in person that you just don't get from driving by."

Helmets are encouraged for all riders in the event, which should take an hour or less and will encompass -- among other destinations -- historic sites on Culver's south side (the site of the once-heavily attended Maxinkuckee Chautauqua Assembly), Culver's downtown district, and the Lake Shore Drive-town park area, all with their rich legacies of popular hotels, railroad excursions, events which have gone down in the annals of area history, and more.

Baker hints that, after this debut history tour has taken place, there may be other such rides to historic sites outside the town of Culver proper.

"Culver has such a rich history," he says. "And this is something I've wanted to do as just a community event that everyone can enjoy."

Homemade wares

Thirteen-year-old Culver Community Schools student Lodge Burgess (right) came up with the idea of this strategically-placed lemonade stand on the corner of Main Street and Lake Shore Drive August 5. He and visiting nephew Cole Fair, age 7 (middle) worked together to mix up a batch of lemonade as well as the plate of homemade cookies on the table. The two were joined by friend and Culver Community Schools student Stephen Paolini, also age 13, at what Paolini described as "a cool, shady spot near a busy corner." Lemonade sold for 25 cents a cup, and since the new enterprise was just opening up when this photographer happened by, there's no word yet on the volume of proceeds.

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Name: ICE CREAM; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00073619; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Culver Coffee Company; Size: 8 in

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