

The Culver Citizen

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Serving Culver • Lake Maxinkuckee • Monterey since 1894



CITIZEN PHOTOS AND LAYOUT / JEFF KENNEY

In Brief

Corn roast, Firemen's Fest Saturday

A many decades' tradition, Culver's annual Lions Club corn roast will take place Saturday afternoon starting at 4 p.m. in the Town Park. Fresh-roasted corn on the cob, hamburgers, and more are part of the cost of the meal, which coincides with the Culver-Union Township Volunteer Fire Department's annual Firemen's Fest, across the street on Lake Shore Drive and State Street. Games, play activities for children, and much more highlight the festival.

VFW dinners this Friday

On Friday, July 23, Culver's VFW Ladies Auxiliary will serve a choice of three dinners: six jumbo shrimp or six grilled shrimp, or shrimp scampi with rice pilaf, salad and dessert for \$8 per meal. The dinners will take place at the VFW Post 6919, 108 E. Washington St. in Culver.

Library to discuss Kerouac novel

Culver Union Township Public Library, located at 107 N. Main Street, hosts a book club dedicated to literature on or about "the road." The book club meets from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 28 at which meeting members will discuss the novel "On the Road" by Jack Kerouac. The book club is free and open to the public, and is tailored around the young or the young at heart. Copies of the novel are available for checkout at the front desk of the library. For more information on this event, contact CUTPL Director Colleen McCarty or Polly Wolf via e-mail at staff@culver.lib.in.us or by dialing 574-842-2941.

Culver VBS Aug. 7

The Culver Community Vacation Bible School will take place August 7 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., followed by a program. Children are invited to come to this wonderful day of having fun and learning some of the Heroes of the Bible. Each day at Hero Headquarters kids will participate in the large group excitement of experiencing God's Amazing Bible Heroes, create craft projects at Power Projects, enjoy snacks, and play games at Action Games. The VBS will take place at Emmanuel United Methodist Church at 401

See Briefs page 9

Lake Fest sails into success

ABOVE LEFT: The 26th annual Culver Lake Fest was all the rage last weekend in Culver. Included was a new feature, the well-attended Gong Show, emceed by Nic Elizondo (above, in tuxedo), preceded by the announcement of winners in the annual Miss Maxinkuckee Pageant. At top left is this year's Miss Max, Ashley Zehner (full results and photos from the pageant will run in next week's Citizen). At lower left, parade marshal Mick Henley (driven by Mike Overmyer) greets the crowd. *More photos page 8.*

Yellow brick road starts in Culver this weekend

Maxinkuckee Players present 'Wizard'

By Rusty Nixon
Correspondent

The Maxinkuckee Players have transformed the area into a wonderland of color as they present the classic musical *The Wizard of Oz* opening on Friday July 23 at 7:30 and continuing Sunday July 25 at 4 p.m., Friday July 30 at 7:30 p.m., Saturday July 31 at 7:30 and closing Sunday August 1 at 4 p.m. Opening night tickets are a mere \$5. Every show thereafter tickets are \$8 for adults \$4 for those under 18 and preschool children are free. All tickets are available at the door.

"This show has been a challenge," said Becky Leichty, Director of the production. "There are a lot of special effects in this one -- the tornado, fire throwing, the projection of the Wizard -- there are a lot of things that we didn't think about when we picked this show."

No matter. Leichty has found her special effects genius. "Greg Underwood from Bass Lake is doing an outstanding job for us," she said. "He's kind of a pyrotechnics, special effects guy and I think people are really going to be pleasantly surprised."

Greg has another talent that will not go unnoticed. "He's also doing a great job as the Cowardly Lion," said Leichty.

The cast includes Rick Cooper as the Tin Man, Nic Elizondo as the Scarecrow, Dan Adams as the Wizard, Brian Leichty as the Guard, Traci O'Brien as the Wicked Witch of the West, and Taylor Sears of Bremen as Glenda the Good Witch.

One role had so much talent audition that the Players had an *See Wizard page 2*

Max Country Club dedicates new building, continues illustrious history

By Jeff Kenney
Citizen editor

The Maxinkuckee Country Club -- at 1641 East Shore Drive -- which last month dedicated its new maintenance building (see photo, information on page 2) may well be one of the oldest in Indiana. It traces its history over 100 years to 1906 when it began as a three-hole course opposite the then-Coffin cottage at 1480 East Shore Drive. In July, 1908, then-owner Chas. E. Coffin opened Portledge Golf Links east (across East Shore Drive) of what was then the Portledge cottage. The course was originally designed by noted golf course architect William Langford of Chicago, who would later design the Culver Academies course. The Maxinkuckee course was the earliest of the three still-existing courses on the lake, of course (Mystic Hills is the third and latest), and it was opened by Coffin with the assistance of state golf champ Zimmer, Rev. James D. Stanley, and Kenneth Ogle, making at 18-hole foursome. Initially, the course consisted of 15 acres with six holes and a total distance of 1,500 yards, according to the Culver Citizen of the day, which added, "The grounds are rolling and there are a number of natural hazards that make the links sufficiently sporty and interesting. The course is being used daily by the golf players on the East side and all pronounce it a most valuable addition to the attractions of the lake." *See Country Club page 2*

Off to see the Players

ABOVE RIGHT: In its 30th year, the Maxinkuckee Players unveil *The Wizard of Oz* this weekend. Above, Dorothy (Christina Talley -- Amanda Haack shares the role) confronts the Wicked Witch (Traci O'Brien) aided by Good Witch Taylor Sears. Also pictured are Scarecrow Nic Elizondo, Tin Man Rick Cooper, and Professor Marvel (aka The Wizard) Dan Adams. *See story below.*

In Steinbrenner, Culver lost benefactor, neighbor

George Steinbrenner, 1930-2010

By Jeff Kenney
Citizen editor

While much of the world ponders the amazing career of late New York Yankees baseball team owner George Steinbrenner, who died in Florida last Tuesday morning at 80 -- and while Steinbrenner's image as a tough, no-nonsense businessman known for pulling no verbal or managerial punches is reviewed -- many in Culver mourn the loss not only of a great benefactor, but also an often kindly and thoughtful neighbor.



PHOTO/CULVER ACADEMIES
George Steinbrenner's 1948 Culver Military Academy yearbook photo.

Steinbrenner came to Culver, in June 1942, continuing a summer school tradition begun by his father, Henry, a 1919 graduate of the Summer Naval School. As a Woodcrafter, George excelled in virtually every activity he undertook. At CMA, he participated on many company athletic teams and lettered with the varsity football and track teams. Under legendary coach Mike Carpenter he was the star hurdler on the CMA track team. A member of the Infantry Honor Guard, he graduated a lieutenant from the Band and matriculated at Williams College. He has maintained an active involvement with Culver since his graduation. His creative and generous funding has touched nearly every facet of school life, from the athletic programs to graduation weekends to scholarships for both summer and Academies students. He is a member of the Culver Chapter of the Cum Laude Society and was named Culver Man of the Year in 1970. He served as president of The Culver Legion (alumni organization) in 1969-1970. A former trustee of The Culver Educational Foundation for many years, he also served as an emeritus trustee. In May 1994, Steinbrenner was an inaugural inductee into the Academies' Athletic Hall of Fame. In October 1997, he delivered the keynote address for the Black Horse Troop Centennial Celebration. As a result of a generous gift from he and his family, the Steinbrenner Recreation Center was dedicated in July 2000.

Another generous gift resulted in the construction of the Steinbrenner Performing Arts Center, which opened in 2007.

Steinbrenner is survived by his four children -- all graduates of the Culver Academies -- and five grandchildren -- four of whom are Academy grads.

"Today, Culver Academies lost a dear friend, a generous benefactor, and a wonderful embodiment of the Culver value system. George Steinbrenner has graced Culver with his presence as a Woodcraft camper, *See Steinbrenner page 6*

PHOTO PROVIDED/CULVER ACADEMIES
Steinbrenner chats with cadets at the Academy.



Steinbrenner's generosity changed CCHS grad's life

By Jeff Kenney
Citizen editor

Media stories abound, in the wake of Yankees owner George Steinbrenner's death, of his famous temper and tough approach to business, but Culver Community High School graduate Rene Dulworth's message to the late Culver Military Academy graduate, if she had a chance to say anything, is, "thank you."

Dulworth, who today lives in California, is the adopted daughter of Jackie and Harold Elliott and granddaughter of Jan Sanders, a long-time employee of the Culver Inn which once sat on the Culver Academies campus. "I was roughly six months old when I was put into foster care," says Dulworth, who is now 23 years old. "(The Elliotts) took me in as a foster child and decided to adopt me. It cost quite a bit of money to adopt me before I was two years old, but they were afraid they would lose me. My grandmother Jan and my mom were both working at the Inn, and they knew George Steinbrenner really well. One day he was there and said, 'You look really sad.' She (Sanders) told George what was going on (and) he slipped something into grandma's pocket and said, 'Don't look at that until you get into the car.' It was a check for my adoption fees. He also sent my mom a lot of Yankees items to raise money to pay for the paperwork and expenses for my adoption: hats, jerseys, that kind of thing.

"It's such a wonderful thing he did for me and my family," Dulworth continues. "God only knows if I would be in such a good family (if he hadn't)."

Rene Dulworth says she *See Generosity page 6*

Name: FULL SPRING IS SPECTACULAR; Width: 52p1.167; Depth: 2 in; Color: Black plus one; File Name: 00090279; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Collins & Co (Plymouth); Size: 10 in

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





CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

Photo above, from left to right, Julia Baxter, Ted Dunn, Nancy Dunn, Charlie Vorm, Douglas Dunn, and Julie Steck of the Maxinkuckee Country Club at the dedication last month of the maintenance building behind them, which was constructed last fall by Bennett's contracting in Culver, who also removed the ageing, cinder block "Vonnegut building" which had for many years been the club's maintenance structure. The building was made possible through an opening contribution by the Dunn family in memory of the late Eddie Dunn, and generous members of the Maxinkuckee Country Club, says Maxinkuckee Country Club manager Paula Sturman. It was dedicated following a golf scramble, at a gala Country Club event including a party and private auction June 19.



Generosity from page 1

wrote back and forth to Steinbrenner during her childhood, and her fourth grade classmates at Culver Elementary School didn't believe she actually knew the legendary Steinbrenner -- until he sent her a World Series baseball autographed by himself and the members of the team, which was put on prominent display at the school!

"I talked to him many times over the years in Culver when he would visit," recalls Dulworth. "He was such a sweet man; he meant the world to me. He was portrayed in such a different way than the way I knew him."

Dulworth said Steinbrenner also offered to pay her way through the Culver Academy, "but it wasn't really my thing." Steinbrenner, she notes, didn't simply pay her way and let it go, but kept in contact with her family and how Rene herself was doing. Her regular correspondence with him ended in her teen years, though she did write him a letter once she was married and had her first child. By then, however, Dulworth believes Steinbrenner's health was taking a turn for the worse, and she didn't hear back from him.

"I told my mom," she says, "if there was one thing I could say to George, I would just look at him and tell him, 'Thank you. Without you I wouldn't have this family, and I have the best family in the world. I wouldn't be where I am without you.'"

Name: FULL WEEK 8; Width: 30p11.5; Depth: 10 in; Color: Black plus one; File Name: 00094859; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: First Farmers Bank & Trust; Size: 30 in

Country Club from page 1

A 1922 expansion made up the most notable change to the course, at which time the land comprising the current first and second holes was purchased from the Bradley family, and the club renamed the East Shore Country Club, though three years later it would be rechristened with its present name, the Maxinkuckee Country Club. Today the Maxinkuckee is a nine-hole, regulation length course.

The heyday of the popularity of the sport of tennis in Indiana took place in the early 20th century, when a handful of private courts were constructed by cottagers on the Lake Maxinkuckee, to which the country club would add its own facilities, visible at roadside on East Shore Drive (State Road 117). Photos from a Coffin family album show Chas Coffin playing on a dirt court which appears to be located on the course lands, as far back as 1906.

The iconic gazebo on the ridge along the course's second fairway also can be seen in family photographs as early as at least 1908, and continues to serve as a sort of the course, adorning club membership directories and the like.

Improvements through the years to the club and its facilities include recent renovations of the club house lobby and sand traps in 2008, and the construction of a new maintenance building in 2009 (dedicated this June) to replace the aged cinder block structure known as the "Vonnegut building."



PHOTOS/ANTIQUARIAN AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF CULVER

Shown in the photos below, taken from Coffin family photos, are (AT LEFT) the July, 1906 "laying of the tennis court" by family members and friends at the site of today's Maxinkuckee Country Club, then a private court and golf course, part of the Coffin family cottage on the east shore.

BELOW: The iconic gazebo which still adorns the course, shown in 1908 (in the tennis court photo at left, the gazebo is pictured two years earlier, likely as a fairly new structure).

Wizard from page 1

impossible decision to make.

"For the first time that I know of we've double cast a lead," said Leichy. "Dorothy will be played by Christina Talley of Bremen and Amanda Haack of North Judson were both so talented in that role we simply couldn't choose between them."

The cast also includes 22 Munchkins that are the highlight of the show for the Director.

"They are between the ages of 6 and 12 and it has been a lot of fun working with them because they've had so much fun," said Leichy. "We gave them the job of coming up with their own costumes and decorating their own hat and shoes. They had so much fun the night we did that together."

Munchkinland is also one of the Directors favorites.

"We do the whole first part of the show in black and white like the movie and then we go to Munchkinland," said Leichy. "It just pops with every color of the rainbow. It's bright and glittering and a real highlight."

"I have to say that none of this would have happened without my two assistants Lenore Jones and Kathy Overmyer. They took care of all the choreography and lots of the technical aspects."

Name: ALUMNI; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00098720; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Culver Academies; Size: 8 in

Name: FLYERS JAMEY; Width: 30p11.5; Depth: 6 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00096992; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Pilot News; Size: 18 in

Obituary

Richard E. Brady July 9, 2010

PLYMOUTH — Richard E. Brady, 20, of Plymouth, died Friday, July 9, 2010. He is survived by his mother, Tammy (Jeff) Beere of Plymouth; a son, Issiah Michael James Brady of Knox; a daughter, Lilly Ann Marie Brady of Knox; a sister, Crystal (Clint) Cyr of Newport News, Va.; and a brother, Jeremiah Brady of Culver. Visitation took place from 11 a.m. (EST) Wednesday, July 14 at Blissville Church of the Brethren, 6250 Spruce Trail, Plymouth. Funeral services took place at 1 p.m., (EST) Wednesday, at the church. Burial took place at the Eagle Creek Cemetery, Knox. Lakeview Funeral Home & Crematory, La Porte is assisting the family with arrangements. Memorial contributions may be made to Tammy Beere c/o Lakeview Funeral Home & Crematory, 247 W. Johnson Rd. La Porte, IN, 46350, to be used for the care of his children. Condolences may be made to the family via the funeral home's website at www.lakeviewFHC.com.

Birth - Brantley

Sondra and Troy Brantley, Plymouth, announce the birth of a son born at 4:16 p.m. July 9, 2010 at St. Joseph Regional Medical Center in Plymouth. Landon Darick Brantley weighed 8 pounds, 12 ounces, and was 19.25 inches long. He was welcomed home by siblings Seth Brantley, 10; Makenna Brantley, 5; and Ashton Brantley, 2. Maternal grandparents are Carroll and Leola Fields, Culver. Paternal grandparents are Troy and Billi Brantley and Toni Samuels, all of Plymouth.

Police warn residents to lock vehicles

Culver area residents are reminded to lock car doors and keep items of value out of vehicles when unattended, says Culver Chief of Police Wayne Bean. A handful of thefts around Lake Maxinkuckee and in the town of Culver has taken place in recent weeks, notes Bean, who adds no actual break-ins have occurred. Instead, thieves have removed objects from unlocked cars. Residents are encouraged to remove items such as cameras, laptops, or GPS devices from their vehicles and always lock car doors, especially at night. "Don't leave anything in your car that looks valuable," says Bean. To report suspicious activities or thefts, call the Culver police at 574-842-2525.

Community calendar

Thurs., July 22 Culver Academies Summer Camps homecoming weekend begins Kiwanis Club mtg., noon, Culver Public Library Story time, 10 a.m., Culver Public Library Knights of Columbus St. Mary of the Lake Council #13720 business mtg., 7 p.m., church rectory basement	tival, 4 p.m., town park area Carillon recital, 4 p.m., Culver Academies Memorial Chapel	Library Town Council mtg., 6:30 p.m., town hall
Fri., July 23 Computer class, 10 a.m., Culver Public Library Community garden work session, 5 p.m., corner Slate and Lewis Streets Maxinkuckee Players present "The Wizard of Oz" onstage, 7:30 p.m., Culver Community High School auditorium	Sun., July 25 Maxinkuckee Players present "The Wizard of Oz" onstage, 4 p.m., Culver Community High School auditorium.	Weds., July 28 Genealogy mtg., 10 a.m., Culver Public Library Community garden work session, 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., corner Slate and Lewis Streets "On the Road" discussion, 6 p.m., Culver Public Library Lions Club mtg., 6:30 p.m., train station-depot Maxinkuckee Players present "The Wizard of Oz" onstage, 7:30 p.m., Culver Community High School auditorium.
Sat., July 24 Culver Farmer's Market, 8 a.m. Culver Native American history bicycle tour, 9 a.m., departing from the Bike Barn, Lake Shore Drive Quilting group, 9 a.m., Culver Public Library Lions Club corn roast and Culver Firemen's Festival, 4 p.m., town park area	Mon., July 26 Community garden work session, 5 p.m., corner Slate and Lewis Streets DivorceCare, 7 p.m., Grace United Church of Christ Culver Community School board mtg., 7 p.m., administration building	Thurs., July 29 Kiwanis Club mtg., noon, Culver Public Library Story time, 10 a.m., Culver Public Library
Tues., July 27 Tuesday Tea and Craft, 3 p.m., Market Basket & Co. OA, AA meeting (open), 6:30 p.m., Culver Public Library	Tues., July 27 Tuesday Tea and Craft, 3 p.m., Market Basket & Co. OA, AA meeting (open), 6:30 p.m., Culver Public Library	Thurs., July 29 Kiwanis Club mtg., noon, Culver Public Library Story time, 10 a.m., Culver Public Library

Name: JULY ADS;
Width: 9p9.833;

Name: WEB; Width: 30p11.5; Depth: 5 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00097477; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Pilot News; Size: 15 in

Death notices

Eskridge

Lee Allen Eskridge July 11, 2010

LOGANSPOUR — Lee Allen Eskridge, 60, of Logansport, died at 12:43 p.m., Sunday, July 11, 2010, at Miller's Merry Manor. He is survived by his sister, Judy (Al) Jenkinson of Kewanee; brothers, Charles (Elaine) Eskridge of Beech Grove, and Arthur (Jean) Eskridge of McHenry, Ill. Visitation took place from noon to 2 p.m. Friday, July 16 at Van Gilder Funeral Home, 300 W. Madison St., Plymouth. Funeral services took place at 2 p.m. Friday at the funeral home. Burial followed at Burr Oak Cemetery, Culver. Memorial contributions may be made to the family. Condolences may be made to the family via the funeral home's website at www.vangilderfuneralhome.com.

Overmyer

Esther L. Overmyer July 13, 2010

CULVER — Esther L. Overmyer, 92, of Culver, died at 7:45 a.m. Tuesday, July 13, 2010 at Miller's Merry Manor, Culver. She is survived by her husband Russell; a daughter, Kay (Harvey) Hyland of Culver; a sister, Evelyn Bottorff of Plymouth; two grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and two nieces. Visitation took place from 10 to 11 a.m. Friday, July 16 at Odom Funeral Home, Culver. Funeral services took place at 11 a.m. Friday at the funeral home. Burial was private. Memorial contributions may be given to the Marshall County Humane Society. Condolences may be made to the family via the funeral home's website at www.odomfuneralhome.com.

Gibler

Roland L. Gibler July 14, 2010

CULVER — Roland L. Gibler, 71, of Culver, died at 10:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 14, 2010 at his residence. He is survived by his wife Kathleen; a son, Scott (Ellen) Gibler of Illinois; daughters, Robyn Van Herik and Suzanne (Terry) Wakefield, both of Culver; a brother, James Gibler of California; a sister, Marilyn Stephens of Oregon; eight grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren. There will be no visitation. A memorial service will be held at a later date. Memorial contributions may be made to the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Odom Funeral Home, Culver is assisting the family with arrangements. Condolences may be sent to the family via the funeral home's website at www.odomfuneralhome.com.

REAL Services menu

To share a meal at REAL Meals, call Ruth Walker at the nutrition site (the Culver beach lodge) before 11 a.m. the day before for reservations, at 574-842-8878. A donation is suggested for each meal.	bun, sauteed peppers and onions, peas, carrot slaw, apples, and milk.	tuce, tomato, sweet potato wedges, pasta and veggie salad, tropical fruit salad, and milk.
Thurs., July 22: Chicken breast patty, bun and mayo, red potatoes, broccoli, applesauce, and milk.	Mon., July 26: Chicken breast with gravy, mashed potatoes, spinach, bread and margarine, Mandarin oranges, cookie, and milk.	Thurs., July 29: Cook's choice/sloppy joe, corn, bun, tossed salad with tomato, ranch dressing, apricots, and milk.
Fri., July 23: Smoked sausage and	Tues., July 27: Pot Roast with gravy, rice, Brussels sprouts, corn, pears, and milk.	Fri., July 30: Chicken tortilla soup, chicken salad, applesauce, saltines, and milk.
	Weds., July 28: Deli ham and cheese, bun, lettuce, tomato, sweet potato wedges, pasta and veggie salad, tropical fruit salad, and milk.	

Name: BEST GIFT; Width: 30p11.5; Depth: 10 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00097475; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Pilot News; Size: 30 in

Name: SUMMER SALE 6; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00096143; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Fisher & Co. Clothiers; Size: 8 in

Killer

One of my many enjoyable colleagues at The Hill School is Anthony Reid, the director of our writing center. Tony's an old newspaper man, a retired editor of the Washington Post who started out on the sports beat. He's a great raconteur, and his career at the Post provided him with plenty of material. One of the things Tony likes to talk about is his work with



Its still the lake water

By John Wm. Houghton

one of the great sports columnists of all time, The Post's Shirley Povich (you may have heard of his son, Maury). Mr. Povich, if I have the story straight, got his start with the Post back in 1922, when he was a seventeen year old in Bar Harbor, Maine, caddying for the Post's publisher. Starting as a copy boy (and part time caddy), Povich moved up fast, was an editor by the time he was twenty, and kept right on, his last column being published the day after his death, aged 92, in June of 1998.

The Shirley Povich of my own time as a cub reporter here at The Citizen was, as the name of this column suggests, Robert Keller Kyle—known as "Killer" Kyle to his fellow reporters, and as "Lake Water" to readers of his regular Citizen column, "It Must Be the Lake Water." When Mr. Kyle died, on April 20, 1979, Arlene Wilder, then editor of the Citizen, reprinted a biography she had written for the South Bend Tribune the year before, and I'm relying in part on that article here.

It wasn't caddying that got Bob his start, but chicken farming. Born in 1898 over in Bourbon, where his parents, David and Edith, ran a plumbing and heating business, he began raising chickens at the age of 15—not just any old chickens, but prize-winners. (His parents eventually had the largest poultry farm in the state, Wilder says, though I am not entirely sure whether Bob got them into the business.) Like any good Hoosier boy eager to learn more about agriculture, Bob went off to Purdue. Along with his studies, he began writing for the Purdue Exponent. The university paper was published in the same building as the Lafayette Journal and Courier, and that summer Bob got a job with the Journal. Or, at least, sort of a job. The publisher couldn't actually pay him, but agreed to cover the college boy's beer tab at the saloon across the street (things were different in 1915). "Killer" persuaded the bar-keep that there was no reason to send interim bills back to the paper, and then invited his college buddies to come help drink his salary. At the end of the summer, the publisher got a bill for \$317 and the senior Kyles, back in Bourbon, got a somewhat peeved letter from the Journal-Courier. But Bob's career as a journalist had begun.

After David Kyle's death, Bob and his mother sold the farm and moved to Indianapolis. He found a job in New York City, working for a magazine called "The Field Illustrated," aimed at gentleman farmers (William DuPont was one of the directors of the publishing company, which gives you some idea of the clientele). When that magazine was bought up by the Hearst organization and combined with House Beautiful, Bob was out of a job. He went back to Indianapolis, worked briefly for the Indianapolis News, then went back to New York to try to make it as a free-

lance. He ended up with a job in re-write on the New York Tribune. When Bert Williams, the great African-American comedian of the day, died, in 1922, Bob, who had some connections in the entertainment world, wrote a biographical piece that made it onto the front page of the Tribune. He didn't get a by-line, but someone at the Hearst organization saw it and liked it, and soon Bob was working for the same people who had laid him off.

As a reporter for Hearst until 1929, Bob covered some of the biggest stories of the Roaring Twenties, such as the 1927 armed-robbery trial of Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti. The one I remember him talking to me about, though, was Tennessee vs. Scopes, the famous "Monkey Trial" of July, 1925. Kyle, who wouldn't be 27 until August, joined a press corps of over 200, including the acerbic H. L. Mencken, reporting for the Baltimore Sun. The reporters seem to have formed a sort of permanent fraternity: in 1960, Mr. Kyle wrote to Albert Hodges Morehead (a journalist and noted expert on bridge and other card games) to discuss who was the youngest reporter at the trial—Kyle, Morehead or Adolph Shelby Ochs (nephew of the owner of the New York Times). Morehead, writing back, admitted to having been only 16 and a half, and agreed with Kyle that the new play "Inherit the Wind" grossly distorted the events that had taken place in '25.



PHOTO/CITIZEN ARCHIVES
Bob Kyle in December, 1976, during interviews for a state-funded history of the Indiana General Assembly.

Always, though, he signed off with the old newspaper and telegrapher's sign for the end of an article, "-30-".

Bob's connection with Culver began with his marriage to a local girl, Mildred Busart, in 1938. Their tidy white house across from the school, built in 1939, gave him the opportunity to return to his roots in agriculture. He planted it with an assortment of dwarf fruit trees, and attracted enough attention that he was able to joke about visitors coming to Culver to see the great Kyle orchard, only to find one man's back yard. (He eventually had most of the trees removed, after a bout of cancer in 1954.)

The Kyles were always active in community affairs. Bob had, somehow, come into possession of James Whitcomb Riley's eyeglasses, and, having inserted his own lenses, gave public readings imitating the Hoosier Poet. In 1975, Mrs. Kyle was a leader in the project of converting the old Osborn Hotel into a resource for retirees, The Osborn Center; in 1976, Bob was the chairman of the Marshall

County Bicentennial observances.

So far as I can tell from a quick search, Killer Kyle's last piece for the Citizen appeared in January of 1977, after which the small syndicate that then owned the paper replaced him with a columnist shared by all their weeklies. It's a privilege, though, to keep at least a little bit of his tradition going today.

-30-

A sixth-generation native of Culver (and resident of Houghton Street), the Rev. John Wm. Houghton, Ph.D., was educated in the Culver-Union Township Schools, Woodcraft Camp, the Naval School Band, and Culver Military Academy. He holds degrees from Harvard, IU, Yale and Notre Dame. 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.

Love of children

Jesus said, "Suffer the children to come unto me and forbid them not, for of such is the Kingdom of God."

The disciples were trying to keep the kids away from Jesus and not for them to bother Jesus. This is when Jesus said these words.

Emmanuel Church loves children too, and want to help teach them the ways of Jesus, so we are having a Vacation Bible School on August 7, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. followed by a program.

We need your children to come to this wonderful day of having fun and learning some of the Heroes of the Bible. Each day at Hero Headquarters kids will participate in the large group excitement of experiencing God's Amazing Bible Heroes, create craft projects

at Power Projects, enjoy super snacks, and play games at Action Games!

This is the Culver Community Vacation Bible School sponsored by Culver Community Council of Churches and Emmanuel Church to be held at 401 S. Main Street in Culver, Indiana.

If you have a child or know of someone who wants to come, contact Ron or Cara Lewellen at 574-842-4204 or 574-216-1516 so we can get your child registered. The age is pre-kindergarten thru sixth grade.

We love children and want to have a successful V.B.S. so get on board for a one day V.B.S. August 7 from 9:30 to 4:30. See you there!

Pastor's Corner

By Ron Lewellen
Pastor, Emmanuel
United Methodist Church

Name that Culver "citizen"

Last week's Mystery Citizen, Carolyn (Boswell) Kline was another of our citizens recognized by many who have known her through the years. They include Julie Bess, Judy Sawhook, Bryce Lindvall, Sandra Middleton, Dusty Henricks, Carin Clifton, Linda Kose Hall, Betty Voreis,



Carolyn has been a familiar name, of course, in these pages this year, between a feature

Left: Last week's Mystery Citizen, Carolyn Kline, then and now
Right: this week's mystery citizen.



story this spring on the Kline family's history in the Culver area, and an alumni award given to Carolyn and husband Bob recently by Culver's Kiwanis Club.

This week's Mystery Citizen is a longtime Culverite who is visible in the community serving fellow Culverites in times of need.

Guesses may be emailed to citizen@culcom.net, dropped off in one of our drop boxes (located at the Culver Public Library and Culver Coffee

Company), or call the editor at 574-216-0075.

Where in the world is the Culver Citizen?

PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Judy Sawhook and Patty Stallings recognized the location of last week's "Where in the World" photo, the White House in Washington DC (LEFT), submitted by reader Eric Morgan, who was there attending the American Library Association Annual Meeting there recently. This week's photo hails from a different sort of landmark. Can you pinpoint where? Guesses as to the location of this week's photo -- and submissions of other photos of the Citizen on its many jourmies -- may be emailed to citizen@culcom.net, dropped off in one of our drop boxes (located at the Culver Public Library and Culver Coffee Company), or call the editor at 574-216-0075.



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

Name: RESERVATIONS; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 2 in; Color: Black; File Name:

Name: SUMMER CAMPAIGN; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 2 in; Color: Black; File

Name: OPEN ENROLLMENT; Width: 41p6.333; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00098261; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: PLYMOUTH SCHOOL CORPORATION; Size: 16 in



CITIZEN PHOTOS/JEFF KENNEY

Lake Fest's 'Gong Show' brings out best and worst

Debuted at this year's Lake Fest was the first annual "Gong Show" talent contest Friday night, emceed by Nic Elizondo of Culver (whom audiences will also recognize onstage this weekend in the Maxinkuckee Players production of "The Wizard of Oz" as the Scarecrow). The contest portion of the program, of course, was played strictly for fun (winners received \$49.39 as prizes, for example). TOP ROW, FROM LEFT: Contestants Michelle Ferro (who twirled batons); "plant" Kathy Overmyer, who drew laughs (in costume) singing of her romantic search for "Taylor the Latte Boy," returned later with a more serious jazz number; young Sarah Drake, who won in her age group with her rendition of "I Am a Promise;" and "Blind Lou Melon" (Gary Lewellan), who played harmonica and was assisted onstage by neighbors and helpers Kaitlyn Comiskey (left) and Shannon Deery. AT RIGHT: Judges included (from left) Cameron Parker of Mentone, and Cory Barnes and Chuck Diller from Culver.



Legacy from page A1



PHOTO PROVIDED/CULVER ACADEMIES

George Steinbrenner, third from left, during track and field days at Culver, flanked by fellow cadets (left to right) George Steiner, Loid Atkinson, and Don Anderson.

a cadet member of the Band, an athlete of significant skill and accomplishment, a Trustee, a father, and a grandfather, but most importantly as a loyal and devoted friend since the early 1940's," Academies' officials said in a released statement.

"The Steinbrenner Recreation Center, the Steinbrenner Track, and the Steinbrenner Performing Arts Center stand on the campus as the obvious symbols of his commitment to Culver, but he contributed so much more to Culver than these impressive structures."

The release continues, "He believed so much in this school that he entrusted his four children to it. They in turn entrusted their children to Culver; and the result has been a special family affair with one school that now spans generations."

Steinbrenner earned his nickname, "The Boss," over more than 37 years as owner of the New York Yankees baseball team, during which he led the team to an amazing seven World Series championships, 11 American League pennants and 16 AL East titles, and this from a team lagging 11 years from its last championship when he bought it for around \$10 million in 1973. Steinbrenner also changed the Yankees and sports overall by starting his own TV network and ballpark food company. Today, the Yankees are valued just behind Manchester United and the

Dallas Cowboys as third most valuable sports franchise, at \$1.6 billion.

Steinbrenner made headlines over the course of his entire career as Yankees owner, and he was an often controversial, larger-than-life figure New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg recently said had more impact on the city than most anyone over the past forty years. Known as a demanding boss with obsessive attention to detail, Steinbrenner's fame extended to his being fictionalized on the hit sitcom "Seinfeld" (which he was reported to have enjoyed) and hosting sketch comedy show "Saturday Night Live," all evidence of his legendary status as icon beyond that of just another businessman.

But many in the Culver area have fond recollections of a lesser-known but very real side of "the Boss," that of gentle and generous benefactor.

Jolene Westafer was a neighbor while living in Culver on West Terrace. "I told him I wasn't real happy that he bought the house," she recalls, "because he was never there to borrow sugar from. He just laughed and gave me his cap after he signed it!"

"Also one afternoon when I was having a Cadet Girl Scout meeting at our house, the girls saw that George had arrived at the house. They begged me to let them go over to meet him. I said no, I didn't want them to bother him. While I was in the kitchen getting refreshments, they took off across the road and met him at his front door. When I discovered they were over there, I...apologized, (but) he was thrilled they came over. He had me give him each of the girls' addresses and names and he had Yankees things sent to each of the girls: pictures, bumper stickers, key rings, etc."

"Once, George attended a girls' basketball game at another school," says Culver Girls Academy graduate Ginny Munroe, "and found that the opposing team did not have a JV team because they couldn't afford to field a team. Mr. Steinbrenner asked my dad -- who was athletic director at the Academy at the time -- to meet with the other athletic director. He wrote the school a check, anonymously, and told the athletic director to field a girls' JV team the next year, so that he could watch two games. From what I remember, it was a very large check."

"I don't know that too many people know just how generous he was. I imagine that athletic director became a Yankees fan, as they did have a JV team the following year!"

Academies historian Bob Hartman knew Steinbrenner over many years and recalls his putting one longtime Academies employees' son through Culver's Woodcraft camp, as well as Steinbrenner's decision that the Culver Inn dining room needed some sprucing up. Steinbrenner supplied new furniture, paint, and more, and added a large portrait of late Culver band director Col. Edward Payson to the room, which was rechristened the Payson Room.

"He was a paradox," observes Hartman, referring to Steinbrenner's tough reputation as a boss and businessman. "He loved to go to the basketball games at the Academy, and the co-eds would sell popcorn in the hall. He would go buy popcorn and give the girl a \$100 bill. She would say, 'Well sir, we dont have change for that,' and he'd say, 'Just keep it!'"

Hartman chuckles at the memory of his encountering Steinbrenner one evening not long after the Yankees owner had refurbished the Academies baseball diamond. Steinbrenner, says Hartman, was stooped over at the diamond. "I said, 'Are you alright, George?' He said, 'I'm picking up these damn pebbles!' George had a whole handful of pebbles (which had collected on the diamond) and he walked over and threw them away and walked back and picked up more. He said to me, 'Don't just stand

there -- pick up some damn pebbles!' So there were George Steinbrenner and Bob Hartman picking up pebbles at the baseball diamond!"

Steinbrenner also hired legendary former Academies football coach Russ Oliver as a Yankees scout in the 1970s, but Oliver never got a chance to work for Steinbrenner before his untimely death. However, says Hartman, when the Yankees won the World Series for the first time and Steinbrenner sent World Series pendants to players' wives, he also sent one to Oliver's widow Myra. "That was the kind of thing George did," Hartman adds.

CMA grad Grant Munroe agrees, noting the Academies had planned not to send Black Horse Troopers to the 1981 presidential inaugural parade due to finances. A phone call to Steinbrenner from the Culver Club President at the time -- Grant's father Bruce -- coincided with an anonymous donation facilitating the trip after all.

Ryan Tusing, whose father Ron owned and operated Mr. T's Drug Store in Culver, has fond memories of getting Steinbrenner's autograph at Culver Community High School when he was there watching CCHS and CMA play basketball. "I also remember him being a customer at my father's store...and waiting on him when I was 15. He had his World Series ring on too! For all the bad press that man received, he sure was a nice man in Culver. Several times when he came into the drug store...he was so nice, and he did give away several Yankee items to employees."

Susie Mahler, another Culver businessperson and owner of Café Max, remembers Steinbrenner as a regular customer who "loved our spinach salad. His family would take him some when they were flying home. He was always very gracious."

People in Culver often didn't recognize him, continues Mahler, and he seemed to enjoy his relative anonymity here. In a story printed earlier this month in the Citizen Mahler recalled Steinbrenner waiting in line at the Café along with other customers. "George comes in," she said, "and it's a packed waiting line. I brought (his party) in and showed them their seat...I didn't know who the guy was! With a smile on his face and in a kind way, he said, 'Wow, even in New York at Club 54, I don't have to wait in line, but in Culver, Indiana, I wait in line!' I spun around and with a smile and said, 'See that little gray-haired lady down the way? That's my grandmother, and she waited in line!' I think that's why he (Steinbrenner) loved the Café. He and his wife and kids and grandkids always came in."

Steinbrenner was also a known fan of Culver's Corn-dance Cafe, especially its fried chicken; a photo of him with Corn-dance owner George Pesek adorns the bar of the restaurant.

In 2007, Steinbrenner wrote in a letter to the president of the Culver Board of Trustees -- a man who was his personal friend -- that, "I was extremely fortunate to have had parents with the courage and the foresight to send me to Culver Military Academy. Culver had a huge impact on me and I will remain faithful forever and my commitment will never waver. I have had a great deal of good fortune in my life and being in a position to share that good fortune has been a privilege and an honor."

"Our hearts are with the members of his family today," continued Culver Academies in its official release. "They lost a father and a grandfather who anchored their strong family. Culver lost a graduate who understood the power and influence of a school like Culver and who was willing to sacrifice personally to support and improve it. The world lost a 'character guy' who did more than his fair share of helping those less fortunate than he was. We all are saddened by his passing, and we will miss him."

Correspondent Rusty Nixon also contributed to this article.

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Vermillion Systems; Size: 8 in

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Name: 00087288; Ad Number: -; Customer
Name: Culcom, LLC; Size: 8 in

Name: AD 4- BRAKE ROTORS; Width:
20p4.667; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File
Name: 00097509; Ad Number: -; Customer
Name: Lakeside Auto Supply; Size: 8 in

Name: JULY ADS; Width: 20p4.667; Depth:
4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00097557; Ad
Number: -; Customer Name: Family Vision
Clinic; Size: 8 in

Council learns Culver Garden Court is official

By Jeff Kenney
Citizen editor

Work may be complete and Culver's Garden Court senior living facility ready for occupancy by February, 2012, according to Ronald Liechty, president of Garden Court's Board of Directors. Liechty shared the news at the July 13 meeting of Culver's Town Council, during which he said the \$1,445,600 needed to make the proposed South Main Street facility a reality was officially awarded, and a development team has already put into action steps needed to move the project forward, including drawings and specs being completed as well as some required legal documents put into motion. Various work will be done prior to specifications for the facility delivered to the Department of Housing and Urban Development around January, 2011. Construction is hoped to begin in April of the same year with completion about 10 months later. A real estate management corporation will then advertise for those hoping to be added to the waiting list for occupancy in the 14-unit facility. Rent will be set by HUD, added Liechty, and will be determined by income in the area and individual occupants' needs.

Ten Garden Court facilities of varying sizes currently operate in Marshall, Starke and Kosciusko Counties at present, Liechty said, and each facility has its own waiting list with approximately 85 percent of occupants originating from the community in which the facility operates.

In other discussion, Council President Sally Ricciardi answered a query from Gail Craft of Culver concerning the emergency siren on Culver's south side by noting the signal has been fixed and was tested the previous afternoon. Craft asked if all sirens in town could be used when a fire call is sent out, rather than only in event of hazardous weather as is the current agreement. Over the past few years, resident complaints led in part to Culver transitioning sirens on the north and south sides of town to severe weather-only signals, while a downtown siren at the town hall is utilized for fires and the noon whistle as well as weather alerts. Craft suggested the lack of siren could make it more difficult for residents to be on the lookout for fire trucks dispatched to an emergency.

Ricciardi noted the EMS, police, and fire all have to watch for traffic when traveling on-call. She added a regular test of all fire signals in town is something to consider instituting.

"The one siren blew probably three days before (the tornado warning during which it failed)," noted Ricciardi. "Even if you test them every day -- and I don't think people would want to listen to that every single day -- that doesn't necessarily mean they will function when the (severe weather) occurs."

Culver Fire Chief Mike Grover noted newer sirens can

be tested electronically without actually blowing the siren.

During a public hearing over ordinance 2010-007, which proposes to revise and restate some of Culver's zoning ordinances, audience member Kathy Clark told the Council she missed a public hearing held by Culver's Plan Commission, whose subcommittee has spent the past few years revising the zoning ordinances, and that she wasn't called upon during a recent Plan Commission meeting to discuss the proposed changes.

Plan Commission member William Cleavenger, also in the audience, noted the amendments were made publicly available and work has been progressing over the past two years. "I think everybody's had a chance (to comment)," he added, though Ricciardi noted the public hearing was being held to allow for questions and comments on the ordinance.

Clark raised several questions and concerns about proposed changes in ordinances, including a change in maximum height allowed for an industrial building from 35 to 50 feet. "I find it odd," she said, "That only one project came before the BZA (in which the petitioner) asked for a 50 foot height, and it was denied. I find that (proposed change) a little bit distressing."

She also raised questions about language concerning Planned Unit Developments and the potential to detract from local businesses by PUDs creating "a new town," and asked why language had apparently been changed from requiring PUDs to be completed within two years of approval, to "each phase" of PUD development being allowed two years to complete, apparently greatly lengthening the time allotted for developers to finish PUD work. Also questioned was language concerning water runoff containment and other specifics.

Russ Mason of the Plan Commission noted several people made the proposed changes rather than any one individual. Cleavenger suggested Clark's questions should go back to the sub committee proposing the changes, with Mason adding the group should go over the matter at the next Plan Commission meeting.

About 25 calls came in the previous week from Culver residents saying their trash wasn't picked up under the new town-wide trash hauling system put into place July 5, according to Town Manager Michael Doss. He noted waste hauler Allied Waste has been working with the town, and Town Clerk Casey Howard said she didn't feel the number of concerns was high considering the scope of the transition.

The town of Culver will take action to alleviate storm water issues in the area of Davis Street and Peru Court, where Davis Street resident Frank Stealy -- in attendance at the meeting -- proposed work be done to alleviate ongoing flood problems during heavy rains. Doss noted such

problems are part of the reason for the Council's creation last year of a storm water fee, and suggested the town change the size of the manhole and drain pipes in the area, as well as reroute water flow. Stealy and other area property owners would need to grant the town easements to make the necessary changes, it was noted.

Funding for replacement of the culvert at Lake Maxinkuckee's main outlet on the west shore was another topic of discussion, with Council member Ralph Winters noting recent repairs to the pipes there have improved their stability, but total replacement is needed in the near future. Town Clerk Howard noted TIF money may not be used for the project, though it could be used for a planned downtown streetscaping project, which would free up funds for use at the outlet. It was agreed Doss will speak with the Culver Redevelopment Committee about the proposal, and seek other sources of funding via the township and county.

Howard was granted Council permission to advertise for a replacement for Jim Boswell on Culver's Board of Zoning Appeals after his last meeting, in July. A politically balanced board, the BZA must fill Boswell's vacancy with a registered Democrat.

Doss informed the Council 17 trees have been removed thus far this year in Culver, while the Council approved a \$2,500 payment for removal of downed trees following a severe windstorm in the area some weeks earlier. Also approved was \$7,089.50 to Hall Signs to replace Culver's approximately 200 stop signs with more reflective signs meeting federal standards required by 2013. A water pump and motor on one of Culver's wells will also be replaced by Ortman Drilling for \$12,329.40.

Ricciardi also reported an agreement is expected in the very near future with Lake Maxinkuckee's Southwest Conservancy District, which will contract to join Culver's existing municipal sewer system.

Council member Ed Pinder noted the Council also wished to compliment Culver's street department on its efforts the night of the aforementioned wind storm, in addition to already reported compliments to Culver's police, EMS, and fire departments.

Winters noted the town of Culver is fortunate compared to other area communities in how little funding will be lost due to "circuit breaker" laws enacted by state legislature capping property taxes, a primary source of revenue for many public entities. Howard said Culver will lose just \$739 this year due to the changes, while Argos alone is losing some \$40,000 in funding. High property values in Culver, explained Winters, create low tax rates; he added the town is "trying to manage our money responsibly." He also invited residents to attend upcoming budget meetings for the town.

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Sailing through Lake Fest 2010

A rain-free (albiet at times hot) weather wooed crowds to the 26th annual Culver Lake Fest last weekend, with its theme of "Sailing Through Summer." As in years past, Saturday morning's parade -- this year marked by participation from a plethora of vintage military vehicles, several from the WWII era -- and very well-received fireworks display Saturday evening over Lake Maxinkuckee, were highlights of the festivities.



CITIZEN PHOTOS/JEFF KENNEY
At the parade. LEFT: Susan Becker steers a float with young Mia (age 5) and Jason (8). RIGHT: The Culver Bible Church float included (left to right) Daniel and Nathan Johnson, Diane Anderson, Melissa Johnson, Emily Huhn, and Pastor Dan Huhn. BELOW, LEFT: Lisa Whitcraft draws laughs as she water-guns her brother, Culver fireman Dave Cooper, who leapt from a parade fire truck to counter-attack. BELOW, CENTER: Pearl Harbor veteran and Culverite Jim DeWitt (left) rides with Culver's Jon Schmidt in Schmidt's World War II era jeep, one of a number of WWII and other vintage military vehicles new this year in the parade. BELOW RIGHT: Alexis Roberts (in car), a senior this fall at Culver's Wesley Preschool, with dad William.



LEFT: Members of Culver Academies Equestriennes all-female riding unit. RIGHT: Representing Culver's upcoming Vacation Bible School are (from left) Maddie Coby, Angela Lewellen, Derek Simms, Tia Romig, Owen, other side is Nicki Cooper, Alonnia Montgomery, Emmalee Sheperd, Madison Porter, and Max Neidlinger. LOWER LEFT: Tom Schmidt, Post Commander of Culver's VFW, provides a sight not often seen in downtown Culver as he strolls down Main Street with machine gun in hand, after the parade. LOWER RIGHT: Austin Vanderna, age 8 (at left) and Zacary Stiller, age 10, prepare for a candy catch from a float passing by (they're sons of Jessica Stiller and great-grandsons of Culver's Verl Shaffer.



Coverage and results of Lake Fest parade, burnout contest, Miss Maxinkuckee pageant and more next issue.

PHOTO/BILL BIRK

AT LEFT: Bill Birk captured this scene of a mass of runners who braved Saturday morning's humidity to take part in this year's Fun Run.

CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

BELOW: Culver's Leon Bennett during the Lake Fest car show Sunday morning seated in his 1932 Plymouth PB Coupe, a vehicle he bought for \$75 in 1955 and drove to school at Culver High School (initially it was put in his father's name since Leon was too young to drive it). Moved from barns to garages, the car was eventually restored with help from Todd Kleckner of Plymouth in 1997. It took first place in its class at the 1997 Plymouth Owner's Club Spring Meet, 42 years to the day after Bennett bought it, and was written up with a two-page spread in the Plymouth Owner's Club Bulletin magazine. Bennett is shown at left as a teenager with the vehicle.



Name: VISIT, VIEW, PURCHASE; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 8 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00097474; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Pilot News; Size: 16 in

Name: JULY AD; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 2.5 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00097011;

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'Termite' celebrates 80 years a Culverite

By Jeff Kenney
Citizen editor

Marge 'Termite' Baker, one of Culver's well-known life-long residents, celebrated her 80th birthday June 5 alongside more than 60 well-wishers at the Wesley United Methodist Church in Culver. Surrounded by photos, display boards, trophies, and other mementos of her many activities and experiences locally,

"The people that came (to the party) weren't just Wesley church members," she explains. "They were from all over the town. After all the people came -- and I brought my camera -- I forgot to get my camera and take pictures of some of them!"

Baker shared refreshments and memories with friends throughout the afternoon.

Some of her most memorable experiences were during her tenure at the Maxinkuckee Inn (later the Culver Inn,

on the campus of Culver Academies), where she worked from October, 1942 to September, 1956, when she left to attend business school in South Bend.

"I've lived here most of my life," she says. "I spent some of my time in Hibbard. I lived at the Maxinkuckee Inn from my sophomore year until 1955."

Undoubtedly her greatest memory at the Inn was meeting her favorite Hollywood movie star, June Allyson, and husband Dick Powell, who spent the weekend there with Allyson's brother Arthur Peters, then a cadet at Culver Military Academy. As reported in a past issue of the Citizen, Baker assisted Allyson with her dress during her June, 1951 visit, and was remembered fondly by the star -- who Baker still describes as her favorite actress -- the next day. Allyson also smilingly told the young Culverite she and Powell were fond enough of Lake Maxinkuckee they planned to take it back with them to Hollywood!

Baker also notes she rented her house to Culver Academy families for some years and still continues to hear from several of them.

Baker also notes her father, Edward Baker, was one of the builders of the OW Fowler, the Culver Academies three-masted schooner which was replicated as today's RH Ledbetter.

Marge Baker has fond memories, too, of her brothers, Charles and Norman. The latter won a host of medals in World War II, including the bronze star, Combat Infantry badge, and the World War II Victory medal. Charles, she says, flew on the US airplane behind one of the planes which dropped atomic bombs on Nagasaki in Japan. A sister, Dorothy, enjoyed a successful nursing career.

Marjorie Baker was a member of Culver High School's class of 1948, and has fond memories of her senior trip, and classmates carrying her -- due to a leg bandaged from ankle to knee -- up the many steps of the Lincoln Memorial in Kentucky.

Baker also took the initiative, years after graduation, to find the addresses of the entire class of 40 alums, only one of whom, Richard Lewis, she never found (and hopes a reader might know of his whereabouts).

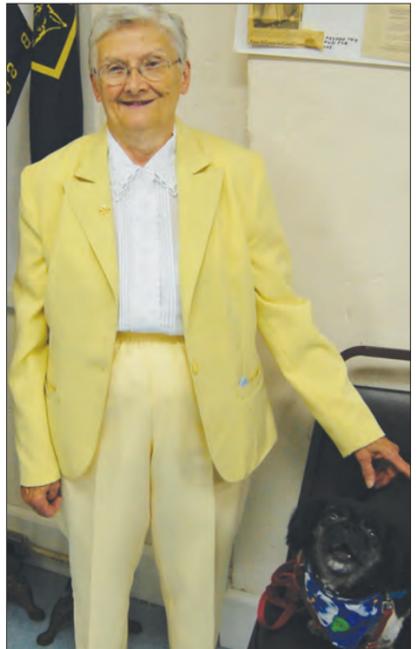
Also prominently displayed were highlights from Baker's involvement in local sports, including the ladies softball team of Culver, with whom she hit a "grand slam" in Lapaz, Indiana (the team won). The women's bowling league on which she played also made waves, heading to the state tournament in Marion in 1964 among other achievements. Baker continued her involvement in Culver leagues well into the 1980s.

Marge Baker is also known locally for her beloved pekanese dogs, of which she has had several through the years. The June event served not only as a celebration of Baker's birthday (which was actually June 2), but of her pure-bred dog, Ching-A-Ling's as well (he was born June 8, and is seven now).

Important, too, were various items of recognition from the Wesley United Methodist Church, of which Baker is a member, as well as photographic memories of friends from Culver's REAL Services nutrition site, at which she is also not only a regular attendee but active in a support and assistance role as well.

Marge Baker continues to be visible in Culver, where locals can see her -- as she puts it -- "riding off into the sunset on my bicycle!"

"Thanks to everybody here who's been my friend these many years. I would never want to live any other place than dear old Culver."



CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY
LEFT: Marge 'Termite' Baker and beloved dog Cing-a-Ling-Ling.

Briefs from page 1

S. Main Street in Culver. Those with a child or who know someone who wants to come, contact Pastor Ron or Cara Lewellen at 574-842-4204 or 574-216-1516 to register the child. The age is pre-kindergarten thru sixth grade.

Native American history tour July 24

The Bike Barn at 103 E. Lake Shore Drive in Culver, and the Antiquarian and Historical Society of Culver will sponsor a Native American History Bike Tour of several of the Culver area's historic Native American-related sites, led by Jeff Kenney of the Society. The tour will begin at 9 a.m. Saturday, July 24, starting at the Bike Barn. The event is free and open to the public.

Musicians Liza and Mark Woolover will be on hand for a brief musical performance at the Menominee monument on the tour. All are asked to bring their own bicycles and helmets. Call 574-842-3606 or email don@bikebarnculver.com with questions.

Lake Association to meet Aug. 7

The Lake Maxinkuckee Association will hold its Annual Meeting Saturday, August 7 at 10 a.m. at the Culver-Union Township Public Library's Lower Level Large Meeting Room.

SR 17 closure through Aug. 4

The Indiana Department of Transportation has announced that it will close Indiana 17 between Indiana 8 and U.S. 30 from 6:30 a.m. July 6 to 6:30 p.m. Aug. 4.

The closure -- about three miles south of Plymouth and 10 miles north of Culver -- is for reconstruction of roadway for a new intersection at Indiana 17 and Pioneer (Pine) Road.

Yard sale sign ordinance

The Culver Plan Commission wishes to remind area residents of the Culver Zoning Ordinance as it pertains to displaying and placing of yard sale signs.

Sec. 5.3 of the ordinance in item 9 prohibits persons from attaching signs to any

utility structure such as street signs, utility poles, fences and trees. Violators can be subject to fines of \$25 per day per occurrence. The Plan Commission appreciates your cooperation.

Culver sewer line jetting

In an effort to assure proper sewage flow, the Town of Culver will be conducting sewer line maintenance during the months of July and August. This process requires pressure water jetting of problematic sewer lines in town. If you have any questions regarding this preventive maintenance project, please feel free to contact Town Hall during normal office business hours at 574-842-3140.

Susanna Quilters display this month

The Susanna Circle Quilters of Wesley United Methodist Church will offer a display of their personal quilts at the Culver Public Library in downtown Culver, for all to see and admire, through the month of July. These quilts are for display only, not for sale.

Miss America, historic dresses Aug. 14

Miss America 2009, Katie Stam, will be in Culver as part of "Wedding Dresses Through the Ages," sponsored by Trinity Lutheran Church, Saturday, August 14 at the Culver Cove. Young ladies from the Culver Community High School will model some 36 wedding dresses dating from as far back as 1888 so far, and as current as 2009. The event includes a silent auction whose proceeds will benefit the Riley Hospital for Children in Indianapolis. The silent auction begins at 12 p.m. that day, and the style show at 2 p.m. Tickets to the event are \$35 and may be purchased in Culver from the First National Bank of Monterey (Culver branch), the Culver Coffee Company, and Fisher and Company Clothiers. Questions may be directed to Lois Broeker at 574-842-4005.

Jet ski, golf cart raffled for charity

Culver's Kiwanis Club

this summer is raffling off a 2010 Ultra LX jet ski (with lift and trailer) valued just under \$14,000 as well as a 2010 EZ-Go ST Sport golf cart valued at more than \$7,000. Raffle tickets are \$20 (one ticket) and \$50 (three tickets or multiples thereof). If enough tickets are sold by noon on September 6 (Labor Day Monday), a drawing for each item will take place at the town park in Culver. Proceeds will benefit Kiwanis and other local organizations assisting in the raffle, including Culver's Chamber of Commerce, the Lake Fest committee, and the Knights of Columbus. Tickets are available at Osborn's Mini-mart and Park N' Shop in Culver, or from any Culver Kiwanis member.

Children, caregivers invited to meals

Carin Clifton, Food Services Director for Culver Community Schools, reminds area residents of the FREE breakfasts and lunches provided via the school this summer. Any child 18 and under (or those with disabilities involved in a special education program, regardless of age) can eat FREE at the Culver Elementary School and other sites listed below. No income guidelines are required, and one doesn't have to be in the school district to enjoy a meal. Caregivers may purchase a lunch for \$3.25 and/or a breakfast for \$1.85, so, says Clifton, "Stop by and enjoy breakfast or lunch."

Sites and dates are: Culver Elementary School (through August 13) breakfast, 7:45-8:45 a.m.; lunch, 11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; Culver Community High School (August 2 through 12) breakfast, 7 to 7:30 a.m.; lunch, 11 to 11:30 a.m.; Monterey Elementary School (August 2 through 6) breakfast, 7:45 to 8:15 a.m.; lunch, noon to 12:45 p.m.

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Thursday Tech Time this week

Culver-Union Twp. Public Library's Thursday Tech Time will take place Thursday, July 22 at 6 p.m., and will focus on security software comparison. There are many different types of security software: anti-virus, anti-spyware, firewalls, etc. Learn about security features built-in to Windows and about additional security software. We will look at the features and pricing of several pieces of security software and evaluate their features, plus their impact on the performance of the computer. Thursday Tech Time is an open discussion group for anyone interested in computers and technology. Come and talk, share, listen and ask questions! Sessions will be held from 6 to 7:30 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of each month. All sessions are free and open to the public.

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