



## In Brief

### Miss America, silent auction here next wk.

Katie Stam, Miss America 2009, will be participating in the Wedding Dresses Through the Ages Style Show, which takes place Sat., August 14 at 2 p.m. at the Culver Cove resort.

The silent auction takes place from noon to 2 p.m. with all proceeds going to Stam's chosen charity, Riley Hospital for Children. It is not necessary to purchase a ticket to the style show in order to participate in the silent auction, which will be on the second floor of the Culver Cove. Many local and Northern Indiana businesses have graciously donated baskets and individual items for auction.

### Culver Tennis Tournament is August 7

The 43rd annual Culver Tennis Tournament will be held August 7 and 8. Players are invited to join this friendly community competition. All levels, ages 15 and up, are invited to play. Saturday morning, August 7, is for Women's Doubles and Men's Singles, with blueberries and cream offered to players and spectators. Saturday afternoon features Men's Doubles and Women's Singles. On Sunday, August 8 it's a fun, come one, come all for Mixed Doubles. Winners and competitors alike are honored at a Sunday awards party. For further details, and to register, visit [www.culvertennis.com](http://www.culvertennis.com) or contact Jim Peterson 574-842-3940.

### 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 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

See Briefs page B4

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## BIRD soars through weekend of service

ABOVE LEFT: Culver was abuzz last weekend with student and adult volunteers from the town of Culver and Culver Academies, who spent three days cleaning, painting, and improving homes and properties as part of a service effort under the banner of BIRD (Building, Inspiring, Recreating, and Discovering). TOP LEFT: Paige Norwich (left) and Lindsey VanHorn utilize cheer stunting skills to wash windows. TOP CENTER: Aspen Kitchell and Alex Baker busy with paint brushes. BOTTOM PHOTO: \*Front row, from left: Allen Betts, Kaylee Miller, Aspen Kitchell, Alex Baker, Lindsey Van Horn, Paige Norwich, Summer Turney. Second row, Woong Lee, Levi Bennett, Joe Paolini, Jacob Cavasos, John Ahlenius, Mark Maes, Andrew Oprisek. Third row, Maeve Kline, Mary McKinnis, Steven Paolini, Jessica Hominger, Austin Sheldon. Back row, Zach Sheldon, Bethani Lewis, Julie Bess (adult sponsor), Andrea Canacci, Kylee Shipley (the back row is BIRD's planning committee). More information will appear in next week's *Citizen*.

PHOTOS/SUSIE NORWICH, \*JEFF KENNEY

## An historic penstroke

ABOVE RIGHT: Del Demaree, of Lake Maxinkuckee's Southwest Conservancy District, signs into reality a contract with town of Culver joining the south and west shores of the lake with the town's sanitary sewer system, effectively bringing an end to hazardous septic systems on the lake. See story below

CITIZEN PHOTOS AND LAYOUT /JEFF KENNEY

# Contract brings new level of lake water protection

By Jeff Kenney  
Citizen editor

A few penstrokes Saturday morning brought the area to a new plateau in the ongoing effort to preserve and promote the health of Lake Maxinkuckee. In signing an agreement to join the town of Culver's municipal sewer system, the Maxinkuckee's Southwest Conservancy District closed the largest remaining gap on the lake in transitioning away from septic sewer systems for disposal of sanitary waste, to municipal-style disposal methods which are considered to

pose a great deal less potential danger to the health of the lake's waters.

As reported in some detail in the regular meeting of Culver's Town Council earlier last week (see article on page B2, this issue), the District has been negotiating for more than a year with town representatives to make the move -- which will allow some 175 homes to join Culver's system -- to work out a contract with specifics agreeable to both parties.

Under the agreement, the District will handle creation of its own disposal

infrastructure on the south and west shores, and pipe into Culver's west shore sewer treatment plant. Ted Schenberg, representing the District, said progress on the move will begin "as soon as we walk out the door today," with hopes of the system being laid into the ground next spring, and people making use of it next summer.

Schenberg described negotiations and the resultant contract as "a family transaction, like between a brother and a brother or a sister and a sister...the lake and the town are one big,

happy family but for artificial divisions." He also thanked town representatives for their efforts.

Attending the meeting was Carol Zeglis of the Lake Maxinkuckee Environmental Fund, who said, "It's a great day for Lake Maxinkuckee...we're thrilled."

Kathy Clark, Director of the Lake Maxinkuckee Environmental Council, echoed Zeglis' sentiments. "I didn't think I'd see the entire lake go off septic. I'm ecstatic."

Concerns over potential leakage into the lake from onshore septic systems have been raised by the LMEC and related organizations for years. Ac-

cording to Clark, a study conducted by the Lake Management Committee -- the early name of the LMEC -- in 1982 pointed out a proliferation of potentially lake-hazardous septic systems on Maxinkuckee's shores. A 1993 LMEC study conducted by environmental management firm JF New included monitoring of lake water quality and called for a transition to sewer systems around Maxinkuckee's shores. This study fed into a 1996 report published by the Joint Task Force for Lake Wastewater Treatment, added Clark, making the same points.

See Contract page B1

## Couts celebrates quarter-century as 'Culver's optometrist'



Mark and Linda Coutts.

CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

By Jeff Kenney  
Citizen editor

Culver is the sort of town, as most readers are well aware, in which the practitioner of a given profession may become the only one (or perhaps one of two) of his or her kind. Dr. Mark Coutts, O.D., is just such a case, and for a quarter-century now, he's been "the" optometrist in Culver. Coutts, however, hasn't been content to rest on his laurels and take his status for granted. He's taken great pains to stay quite current with developments in his profession, and his is the only optometry office in Marshall county to offer vision therapy and to make use of a digital

See Coutts page A2

## Two arrested for Town Park dock thefts

During the early morning hours of Wednesday, July 28, the Culver Police Department was informed of unusual noises coming from the area of the Culver Park Department Boat Rental Piers.

During the investigation of the property, it was discovered that multiple boats located at this location had been tampered with and numerous items had been stolen and vandalized from the boats.

A lengthy investigation by the Culver Police Department in the next few hours led officers to an address of 450 School Street, Apartment 3, in Culver.

Upon further investigation of this residence and the occupants, several items discovered at the residence were seized in connection with the thefts of items taken from the boats docked at the Culver Town Park.

Two subjects were taken into custody, and subsequently arrested by the Culver Police Department and incarcerated in the Marshall County Jail in connection with the thefts.

Arrested were 20 year old Chaz Courtney and 18 year old Gunnar E.W. Van Horn, both of the Culver area.

The thefts are still under investigation by the Culver Police Department and also assisted by the Indiana State Police.

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



## Couts from page 1

Couts began practicing with Dr. F.L. Babcock -- "the" Culver optometrist since the 1950s -- on July 2, 1985, at Babcock's Family Vision Clinics in both Culver and Argos.

Born in Plymouth, Coutts says he moved around a lot as a child but graduated from Knox High School. As a college biology major, he concluded optometry interested him more than traditional medicine, and he graduated in 1982 from optometry school at Indiana University Bloomington. A stint in the Navy Reserves included three years' active duty, during which time he practiced optometry at the Charleston, Virginia, Navy hospital.

Couts met and married Linda Griffio of Knox; the two have two daughters, Rachel (now a practicing attorney in Rochester) and Allison, an accountant who just moved back to the area from Boston to work in Plymouth. The family ended up back in the Knox-Culver area.

Couts and Babcock practiced together at 218 South Main in the mid-1990s, when Babcock retired and Coutts took over the business entirely (the Argos branch had already closed by then). Coutts had been looking for a new location, he says, for about ten years before his current location at 202 North Main Street became available. Family Vision Clinic moved to the former video store and game room in January, 2002. About five years later, the old garage at the north end of the building was torn down and a 900 square foot addition was added solely for use in vision therapy.

Linda Coutts had been working with her husband part-time for years prior to moving to her current, full-time status as the clinic's office manager four years ago. She also began training as a vision therapist when the clinic began offering the service six years ago, she explains.

“We work with vision-related learning problems, eye alignment problems, sports-related vision issues,” he notes. And being the only clinic to offer such services in this county -- and short of traveling to a larger city -- has kept Family Vision Clinic pretty busy. Courts has also worked with area teachers offering in-services and other training to help them identify vision-related learning problems in the classroom.

Last year's volume of work, he says, was pretty typical. The clinic performed 1,562 eye exams, had 420 other exams such as emergency visits and contact lens checks, and had 172 vision therapy appointments. There's an average of about 26 percent new patients per year.

"For a one-doctor practice," he adds, "that's pretty busy. So we keep our staff small; we file our own insurance claims and paperwork -- it adds up to a lot of hours. But we do that to try to keep costs down. We don't want to hire out accountants to do humdrum accounting business, and that keeps it affordable."

Clinic staff, say the Coutts, try to stay on time and not double-book patients. “We could probably make a better living (if we did),” says Mark, “But I understand people’s time is important, so I don’t like to keep people waiting. I’m always on call, and will come out for eye emergencies on Sundays evenings or whatever. And we’ve made a real effort to keep our equipment up to date.”

Couts says the practice was “really in decline when I got on board -- I hardly made a dime here my first ten years.

“You come into a town where nobody knows you, and it takes a long time to gain people’s trust. It doesn’t happen overnight. But once you get it, you’ve got to work hard to maintain it.”

Doubtless Mark Cout's 12 to 13 years as part of Culver's EMS helped familiarize many locals with him. He was, in fact, Director of the service three different times and held that position during the transition from local ambulance dispatch to the current, county-based 911 system.

Many may also recognize Coutts from his stint playing guitar (he also plays banjo) with local band Doc Rock, performing several times at Lake Fest and other local venues in years past.

He's also been known for the past dozen years as a Civil War re-enactor, something he's backed out of to a large extent as he's pared down activities to make more time to enjoy what Linda calls "a simple life" of putting their money back into the business, and caring for and riding the horses and other animals they own on their small "hobby farm" two miles south of Culver.

“We enjoy taking small motorcycle trips on the weekends,” says Mark Coutts, noting he’s decided to slow down “and enjoy living life more.”

He says “25 years have gone by like a heartbeat,” but overall they’ve been good years. The Coups plan to continue to stay here and “make things grow.” Mark says, though he’d

"I like to ice fish and cross country ski...so I like the winters here," continues Coutts. "I love this town. I love being here; I can't imagine being anyplace else."

## Thurs., Aug. 5

ciation Annual Meeting, 10  
 a.m., Culver Public Library  
 Quilting group, 9 a.m.,  
 Culver Public Library  
 Upper Camp graduation,  
 9 a.m., Culver Academies  
 End of Summer Reading  
 party, 1 p.m., Culver Public  
 Library  
 Carillon recital, 4 p.m.,  
 Culver Academies Memorial Chapel

**Sun., Aug. 8**  
Wesley United Methodist  
Church annual picnic and  
auction, 11:30 a.m., Culver  
town park and depot-train  
station

Culver Tennis Tournament (see Briefs page 1)  
Culver Academies  
St. Joseph Health Center  
golf outing, 2 p.m., Mystic  
Hills golf course  
**Mon., Aug. 9**  
Culver Redevelopment  
Commission mtg., 4 p.m.,  
town hall

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

**Tues., Aug. 10**  
Tuesday Tea and Craft, 3  
p.m., Market Basket & Co.  
OA, AA meeting (open),  
6:30 p.m., Culver Public  
Library

Town Council mtg., 6:30  
p.m., town hall

Weds., Aug. 11  
Genealogy mtg., 10 a.m.,  
Culver Public Library

Culver history program,  
REAL Services, noon,  
Culver beach lodge  
Hooked on Books dis-  
cussion group, 3:30 p.m.,  
Culver Public Library

Community garden work session, 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., corner Slate and Lewis Streets

Lions Club mtg., 6:30  
p.m. train station-depot

Culver Academies  
historic model railroad  
exhibit grand opening, 7  
p.m., Culver Academies  
Museum & Gift Shop

Knights of Columbus St.  
John Vianney Assembly  
business mtg., 7 p.m., St.  
Mary of the Lake Catholic  
Church rectory basement

**Thurs., Aug. 12**  
 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 social mtg

Name: VISIT, VIEW, PURCHASE; Width:  
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tomer Name: Amish Acres; Size: 14 in

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Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name:  
00099557; Ad Number: -; Customer Name:  
Lakeside Auto Supply; Size: 8 in

Death notices

Kruder

**Calvin E. Kruder Sr.**  
**July 25, 2010**

KNOX — Calvin E. Kruder Sr., 80, of Knox, died Sunday, July 25, 2010. He is survived by his wife Sommie; children: Calvin Kruder Jr. of Bridgeview, Ill., Beverly Novotny of Oak Lawn, Ill., Charles Kruder of Bedford; Harold Kruder of Culver, David Streets of Germany, and Steven Streets of Grovertown; a brother, Charles Kruder Jr. of California; 17 grandchildren; and 19 great-grandchildren. Visitation took place from 4 to 8 p.m. Thursday, July 29 with a rosary service at 4 p.m. at M.C. Smith Funeral Home, Knox. Funeral services took place at 11 a.m. Friday, July 30 at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church. Burial followed at Burr Oak Cemetery.

Wilkins

**Geoffrey T. Wilkins**  
**July 28, 2010**

CULVER — Geoffrey T. Wilkins, 48, of Culver, died at 2:40 a.m. Wednesday, July 28, 2010 at Center for Hospice Care, Elkhart. He is survived by his mother, Frances Wilkins of Culver; brother, George T. Wilkins III of Lee’s Summit, Mo.; and sisters, Elizabeth Wilkins of Dekalb, Ill. and Cheryl Wilkins Bird of Fishers. Visitation took place from 1 to 5 p.m. (EDT) Sunday, Aug. 1 at Culver Academies Memorial Chapel. Funeral services took place at 11 a.m. Monday, Aug. 2 at Culver Academies Memorial Chapel. Burial followed at Culver Masonic Cemetery, Culver. Memorial contributions may be made to the Culver Educational Foundation at Culver Academies or to the Center for Hospice and Palliative Care, 112 S. Center Street, Plymouth, IN, 46563. Condolences may be made to the family via the funeral home's website at www.odom-funeralhome.com.

72nd Birk reunion

The 72nd annual George A. Birk family reunion will be held for all family members Aug. 22 at Centennial Park, Plymouth at the Freyman covered pavilion. George and Elizabeth Furher Birk and children all came from Germany in 1852 and includes descendants of: Jacob and Regina Hoss Birk, Catherine Birk and William Nelson, George and Mary Ann Kling Birk, and Louis and Mary Shearer Birk. Members are invited to come from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. with an old fashioned carry-in taking place at 12:30 p.m. There will be games for children and adults and family history information available for review. For more information contact Robert L. Birk at 888-833-2821 or 888-833-4461.

40th wedding anniversary - Huhn



Dan and Kathie Huhn, Culver, will be celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary August 8. The Huhns were married in the Roaring Spring Mennonite Church, Roaring Spring, Pa., by the late Rev. John Kulp. The couple met while attending Lancaster School of the Bible in Lancaster, Pa. (now Lancaster Bible College). Dan is pastor of Culver Bible Church, and also works part time at Culver Tool and Engineering in Plymouth. Kathie is a homemaker and enjoys working with her husband in the ministry, and babysitting grandchildren. The couple have two children: Andrew (Susan) Huhn, Greenfield, Ind., and Jonathan (Melissa) Huhn, South Bend, Ind., and six grandchildren. They plan on taking a trip to Michigan later in the summer.

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.	matoes, scalloped potatoes, percent juice, and milk. peach cobbler, and milk.
<b>Mon., Aug. 2:</b> Chopped steak with gravy, succotash, wheat bread and margarine, cook’s choice dessert, and milk.	<b>Weds., Aug. 4:</b> BBQ chicken, potato salad, corn, wheat bread and margarine, pudding, and milk.
<b>Tues., Aug. 3:</b> Pork fritter with mayo, bun, stewed to-	<b>Thurs., Aug. 5:</b> Liver and onions with gravy, mashed potatoes, pinto beans, Mandarin oranges, wheat roll, and milk.
	<b>Fri., Aug. 6:</b> Break-fast sandwich, egg, turkey sausage, cheese, English muffin, coffee cake, warm cinnamon peaches. 100

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Letters to the editor

Congratulations to Culver Police

Congratulations to our Police Department(Officer Bill, Officer Chad, Chief Wayne) for doing a fantastic job in apprehending the culprits responsible for damage to and theft from several boats parked in Park District piers! Gentlemen, you did a great job!

**Jim Green**  
**Culver**

Lions seeking school supplies

To the people of Culver, It is almost time for school to restart, and some of the students will need supplies as in the past. The Culver Lions have been most appreciative of your help in supplying the need, and ask that you again pitch in. Your generosity in the past has helped the students, we are asking that you do so again this year. You can give to any Lion, or you may contact Lion Jim Harper, 574-842-2962, or Lion Leroy Bean, 574-842-3460.

**Jim Harper**  
**Culver**

95th birthday - Liette



Eleanor Liette will celebrate her 95th birthday Saturday, July 31, 2010 from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Culver Depot on Lakeshore Dr. Culver. She requests guests bring no gifts.

Culver students on Ball State Dean’s list

MUNCIE — Elyse Kelly, Samantha Lee and Scarlett Russell of Culver were acknowledged on the dean’s list at Ball State University for the Spring 2010 semester:

Name: SUMMER SALE 8; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00096883; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Fisher & Co. Clothiers; Size: 8 in

Name: MEMBER-SHIP RECRUIT-MENT; Width:

Name: CULVER SUBSCRIPTION/NIE; Width: 30p11.5; Depth: 10 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00099856; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Pilot News; Size: 30 in

Name: GUNDER AUCTION RE ONLY; Width: 30p11.5; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00099863; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: RE/MAX Oak Crest Auctions; Size: 12 in



Around town

It’s been too long since I sat down and wrote a column, but I keep hearing many agree that this summer has flown by. As I type this, we’re just a few weeks from the start of school for Culver Community students, and just a week from the end of Culver Academies Summer Schools. This is a particularly meaningful start of school for us, as oldest daughter Cecilia will be entering middle school, which means the dreaded move to the imposing “big” building two blocks north. I have many memories of that move in my own youth -- some of them

best left unwritten here! -- but I must commend the school on some of the many changes made since those days. I write this obviously a few weeks from Cecilia’s entry into CCMS, but I think few people would disagree that the addition of the separate middle school building is a great change from the days when we wee seventh graders rubbed shoulders with skyscraper-like seniors, among other challenges. Further, from what I’ve seen I’m impressed also with the notion of Camp Crossley, in which new seventh graders spend an overnight at the camp and are given a number of opportunities to bond, build trust, and ease the transition into middle school life. I’m not sure how much any of this eases my daughter’s nervousness, but all I can do is reassure her: these will make things much easier than when I was there!

In other matters, I hope everyone got a chance to see last week’s special “A Day in the Life of Culver” insert. Already we’ve had positive feedback on it. I especially want to thank local photographers Paul Pare’, Bob Nowalk, Larry Saunders, and Grant Munroe for helping me “cover” the twenty-four hours in Culver, and do so in a way which incorporated some of the diversity and charm of the area. We could have easily filled another insert, I believe, with the many photos we all took, and some of the shots they shared were amazing. I commend Paul for his going well above and beyond the “call of duty” (and he really had no actual “duty” in the matter,

just a willingness to help out!) in seeking out unusual shots during the periods we needed covered and with which I had some difficulty (his, for example, were the 5 and 6 a.m. shots of Academies dining hall staff preparing food, a true “slice of life”). Bob also outdid himself and shot something for every of the late-night hours, midnight through 4 a.m. Someday his evocative shots of a sleeping Cul-

given person being the only practitioner of his or her trade, and that certainly fit Hammer. From the 1930s through the 1950s, at least, Culver had around 10 service stations (if you count the Maxinkuckee Village), and it amazes me that most all of them weren’t just “gas stations” but full-service repair shops! Times changed radically, and by the 1990s -- and up to today -- Hammer’s Garage was the only place in town, and as we all know, Hammer handled our vehicular difficulties with small-town charity and helpfulness. After he passed, stories popped up on Facebook of his aid to this Culverite and that (and his refusal to accept payment for some “small” task which was a large one to the vehicle owner), and I’m sure many more abound. He will be missed, though as his obituary points out, his assistant Ron James will thankfully carry on in Hammer’s stead.

- Speaking of commendation, kudos are rolling in by phone and letter to Culver’s Police Department and Chief Wayne Bean for their speedy apprehension of suspects in the thefts which took place last week. Details appear on page 1.
- Further kudos to the Maxinkuckee Players for outdoing themselves onstage with their production this summer of “The Wizard of Oz,” which those who attended know was something of a technical masterpiece with its use of flames, tornados, and melting witches. When a live performance can earn gasps of enjoyment and stand on its own next to such a cultural touchstone as the MGM classic Oz movie, it’s worthy of some praise.
- And if you can stomach more cheerfulness, praise is owed the local youth -- both Culver Academies and Culver Community High School students -- who spearheaded, and adults who participated in, last weekend’s BIRD community service series of events. It can be added to an ever-growing list of rather amazing accomplishments on the part of local youth, who keep defying negative stereotypes of teenagers and impressing all of us with their zeal and initiative in serving their community and fellow man.

View from Main Street

By Jeff Kenney  
Citizen Editor



ver at night deserve publication. Bob, in fact, was questioned by one of our local police officers (wandering the streets around 3 a.m. as he was!) and told them he was taking pictures for me, which was enough said. Another reason to love Culver. Grant’s photos are always high quality; his capturing the lights and colors and nostalgia of the Original Root Beer Stand at night was a favorite of mine (a beautiful photo of a train coming through Burr Oak at twilight didn’t make the final layout, but is another favorite of mine). Thanks also to Maggie Nixon at the Pilot News for sifting through all the photos and handling layout of the insert. A fun project we could repeat in another year.

- A few of the photos in the insert were taken at a very nice function at the Sheskey cottage on the east shore which many folks agreed evoked the “golden age” of life on the lake 100 years ago or so. I make mention of this partly as an excuse to fulfill at least one request to reference former Citizen editor (in the 1980s) Bill Mitchell’s classic reminiscences of similar events during his own tenure: “They were stacked like cordwood at the Ford cottage Saturday night!” The “Bill’s Ballyhoo” tradition continues.
- Condolences go out to Susie Mahler and the rest of the family and friends of “Culver’s mechanic,” Larry “Hammer” Mahler, who passed away weekend before last after a long battle with cancer. In this week’s Citizen, I refer to the small-town phenomenon of a

The Great Lakes Western

In writing about the Nickel Plate Railroad a few months ago, I mentioned that I have a model railroad of my own, a second-hand N-scale layout. N scale is quite small (1:160)--pretty much the limit of my co-ordination, and, increasingly, of my trifocals. When I was a kid at home, we had American Flyer trains (1:64), the great competitor of Lionel: but those were so large that it was hard to get very much track in the space



Its still the lake water

By John Wm. Houghton

just down the road, to one of the nation’s outstanding model railroad systems, certainly the most elaborate one meant for the use of teen-agers rather than adult modelers. This layout was Culver Military Academy’s Great Lakes Western Railway System, and it was substantially the work of one person, Edward Tilden Payson (though the Colonel was always quick to give credit to other faculty members who had assisted him over the years). Colonel Payson was, professionally, a musician. A 1922 graduate of the Academy, educated at Harvard and the College of Wooster, he taught at Culver for 40 years (I was lucky enough to play under his baton in the Naval School Band in the summer of 1968). His own instrument was the ‘cello, and he played with a string quartet and with the South Bend Symphony. He composed music, as well: but his most lasting musical impact has surely been in the 1942 invention of Maxinkuckee’s annual “Moonlight Serenade.” He retired



PHOTO/CULVER ACADEMIES ARCHIVES  
Col. Edward Payson and an unnamed youngster take in some of the sights of the Great Lakes Western Railroad in Culver.

eisenhard\_payson\_legacy.htm.) Another of his great passions, though, was model railroading, and it was that interest that led to the Great Lakes Western.

In 1948, Colonel Payson built the school’s first model railroad in the basement of the Legion Memorial Building. As he wrote for a 1971 article in the magazine “Model Railroader,” the layout took up so much of the space in this room that when a film-maker came to photograph it for a movie meant to promote the hobby, the cameraman had to stand outside and shoot the pictures through the window. In 1952-3, however, the model railroad club moved to the northwest end of the Dining Hall basement, adjacent (then) to the Bowling Alley and the Canteen. The space was, at first, 17’ x 41’; about 1964, a 17’ x 24’ space was added. Modeled in HO, the layout included over a quarter of a real mile of mainline track (more than 20 scale miles), with yard space for 600 freight cars and at least nine passenger trains.

The layout had dramatic scenery—particularly in the south end of the original room, where three levels of track ran through Rainbow Canyon: a four track mainline in the bottom of the canyon, a second single track along the cliff edge, and, high up, a pair of trestle bridges. At the north end, a huge Union Terminal hotel spanned ten tracks of passenger service. And of course there were passenger depots, water towers, coaling stations, and engine servicing facilities here and there all over the layout. A painted backdrop at the west end of the room concealed the McKinley freight yard and parts of the mainlines.

The trains that ran through this scenery covered the whole history of railroading, even including some European models. There were old-fashioned

See Western page B

Name: AUG AD; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 2.5 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00099463; Ad

Name: New; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00099801; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: BIKE BARN; Size: 8 in

Name that Culver “citizen”

It’s no surprise to the editor that last week’s Mystery Citizen, Janet Overmyer, was recognized by several readers. Her high school photo instantly registers as the way she appeared to generations of students at Culver Elementary School who knew her as the lady in the front office, she of the phone calls home to mom for medicine,



the forgotten homework, or a ride home. Among those who recognized her: Scott Croy, LeRoy Bean, Betty Voreis, Larry Miller, Carin Clifton

This week’s Mystery Citizen is also a lifelong Culverite quite visible around town today.

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.



Left: Last week’s Mystery Citizen, Janet Overmyer, then and now Right: this week’s mystery citizen.



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

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# Beloved Culver train layout showcased in exhibit next week

For the first time in a quarter-century, the public will have a chance to view part of the Culver Academies historic model railroad collection beginning Wednesday, August 11 with a 7 p.m. grand opening gala and continuing through November 10.

The exhibit will be located at the Culver Academies Museum & Gift Shop, 102 South Main Street in downtown Culver, and the grand opening will include the Rev. John Houghton, who led the Great Lakes Western Railroad club at the school as a cadet and then took it over as a Culver faculty member from the late Col. Edward Payson, Academies band director, originator of the annual Moonlight Serenade, and faculty overseer of the club for some three decades. Also present for the grand opening will be the late Col. Payson's daughter, Martha Ryman, and grandchildren, two of whom are part of Culver's present-day faculty.

Col. Payson's model train collection was and remains legendary, occupying 24 by 18 feet of layout including a myriad of buildings and hundreds of rare and historic trains on Culver's campus. With provision for eight simultaneous operators at a time, for much of its lifetime the layout was the largest student-operated model railroad in the United States and was prominently featured in *Model Railroader* magazine and other publications.

Included in the train collection were a number of trains related to US and railroad history such as the first passenger train in operation and the Abraham Lincoln funeral train. Combining with Payson's acumen for creating miniatures (some of which will be showcased in the display as well), Culver cadets and at times local youth were taught to assemble and operate railroad cars and track hands-on. A number of area school children past will remember tak-

ing school-sponsored tours of the beloved railroad room.

Under Payson's watchful direction, Culver students shared in the work of the club starting in 1948. Following Houghton's tenure as faculty sponsor of the train club, present-day Culver resident Phil Mallory took it over and remained in charge of it until the layout was dismantled in the mid-1980s when Culver's dining center (in the lower level of which the layout resided) was renovated.

A handful of the original buildings and other memorabilia, and most of the trains themselves, were preserved and have been in storage ever since. While the entirety of the extensive train collection cannot be exhibited, a number of the most historically significant and unusual pieces will make up the display, along with other artifacts from the club and layout.

Following the grand opening, which will include refreshments and to which the public is invited, the exhibit will remain available for viewing during the museum's



PHOTO/CULVER ACADEMIES ARCHIVES

Col. Edward Payson, left, shares the massive Great Lakes Western Railroad model train layout which occupied part of the lower level of the school's dining hall, with a group of local students.

regular hours, which currently are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays through Fridays, and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays (the museum is closed Tuesdays). Information is available online at [www.culver.org/museum](http://www.culver.org/museum) or by phone at 574-842-8842.



PHOTOS SUBMITTED/JANET HALLING

## Cycling through the past

Some 25 riders joined the Bike Barn of Culver, in conjunction with the Antiquarian and Historical Society of Culver, for a bicycle tour of historic sites related to Culver's Native American history led by Jeff Kenney of the Society (PHOTO AT RIGHT).

Entertaining riders at the Chief Menominee monument near Twin Lakes with songs of local Native Americans (and the joys of bicycling) was Marshall County songwriter and musician George Schricker (LEFT HAND PHOTO).

A follow-up tour of historic sites of the Culver Academies campus is slated for August 14.

## Academies historic bicycle tour hits the road Aug. 14

The Bike Barn in Culver is teaming up with Culver Academies to present another in the BB's ongoing series of Culver history bike tours on Saturday, August 14, starting at 9 a.m.

The tour will begin at the Bike Barn, 103 E. Lake Shore Drive, and journey just down the street to the Culver Academies Museum & Gift Shop (102 South Main Street) for an introductory tour of the museum and opening remarks by museum curator Jeff Kenney.

Riders will then proceed to the 1894-launched Academies, where they will journey through the early years and continuing development of the school's stately and historic, 1,800-acre campus, which includes the Woodcraft Camp, Summer Naval area, and the many iconic buildings and landmarks which have long made Culver a destination for travelers and the "hidden gem" of architectural and aesthetic charm that it is.

Included will be historical vignettes of places, people, and events, all concluding with a ride back to the Bike Barn for refreshments. Total distance will be approximately five miles round trip.

The event is free and open to the public. Riders will need to bring their own bicycles, and use of helmets is strongly encouraged. All riders ride at their own risk.

For more information, contact the Bike Barn at 574-842-3606 or email [don@bikebarn-culver.com](mailto:don@bikebarn-culver.com). The Bike Barn's website is [www.bikebarnculver.com](http://www.bikebarnculver.com), and the Academies Museum & Gift Shop's website is [www.culver.org/museum](http://www.culver.org/museum) (the museum may be reached by phone at 574-842-8442).

## Western from page A4

Wild West trains (including the Sierra Railroad #3, the engine used in hundreds of Hollywood western movies) and the latest Amtrak and Conrail equipment. The Civil War's Great Train Chase was represented, as was the train which carried Lincoln's body from Washington back home to Springfield. Casey Jones's ill-fated Illinois Central had at least two copies. There were the great named passenger trains: *The Broadway Limited*, *The Empire Builder*, *The Hiawatha*. Diesel was present in all its forms, alongside the mammoth articulated engines from the heyday of steam.

What the Colonel was rightly proud of, however, was the sheer operability of all of this. With one or two dozen cadets in the club each year, he had to allow for new blood as well as for a few old hands. His solution was to arrange the layout in eight divisions, each with its own controls; five of these were relatively simple to operate, one was of medium difficulty, and the last two, which shared single tracks over those high Rainbow Canyon trestles, required careful attention and co-operation between the two student engineers (or a lot of co-ordination from one cadet running the pair of them at once). So, on any given Friday night, eight boys could be detailed to run trains around their divisions; all of the divisions connected to each other, though, and if there were enough skilled operators available, they could take on the more challenging task of managing a series of trains, starting from the McKinley Yards or Union Station and running through all eight divisions. The result of all this was that whatever else might be going on, the club was able to meet and run trains week in and week out for something like 35 years.

Colonel Payson withdrew from active work with the railroad in 1975, and died in May, 1977. I had the privilege of heading the Great Lakes Western in 1975-1976, and Philip K. Mallory, Master Instructor, Chair of the Science Department, and holder of the Eppley Chair in Science, succeeded me. When reconstruction of the Dining Hall into the Lay Memorial Dining Center in 1985 finally required disassembly of the layout, it fell to Mr. Mallory to inventory wrap and box all the rolling stock. It remains in the basement of the Culver Academies Museum downtown, evidence of one of our town's most widely known adventures in railroading.

-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, and has taught in Culver Summer Camps and the Academies, as well as at independent schools in Fort Wayne, St. Louis, and Baton Rouge. A fellow of the Episcopal Church Foundation and an Episcopal priest, he is Chaplain and Chair of the Department of Religious Studies at the Hill School in Pottstown, PA. He has published a number of academic articles on theology, medieval studies, and J. R. R. Tolkien, and is author of a novel, *Rough Magicke*, and of *Falconry and Other Poems*.

## Contract from page A1

Much of the east shore of Lake Maxinkuckee replaced its septic systems with a private, municipal-style system through the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission in the early 2000s. Combined with Culver Academies' waste disposal through the town of Culver's system, all of the lake will have transitioned away from septic once the Southwest Conservancy work is completed, but for a few scant properties.

Clark, along with members of the Southwest Conservancy District, lauded District member Dick Dugger for his long-running efforts to bring the change into fruition.

At the special session, Dugger said his involvement began 11 or 12 years ago, noting with a laugh he and wife Jo spent the previous morning at the laundromat due to water problems stemming from the Southwest area's current setup, something which should be alleviated with next year's change. Dugger praised the District committee for its efforts, noting debate among some residents of the area led to the matter heading to the Appeals and Supreme Courts. He said, however, that the agreement with the town is a "win-win" for both parties.

"The septic problems are to the point that (District area residents) can't enjoy their homes," said Del Demaree of the District. "The sooner we get (the new system) functional, the sooner they'll be happy Culver people."

Kathy Clark told the Citizen it's rare for a body of water Maxinkuckee's size -- and not recently man-made, such as in a reservoir situation -- to be virtually septic-free. "For a huge lake, we've done terrific," she added.



# Culver, Southwest contract approved

## Council brakes on zoning changes, approves EMS garage addition

By Jeff Kenney  
Citizen editor

After many months of negotiations and planning, a contract has been approved by Culver’s Town Council facilitating the joining of the Southwest Conservancy District of Lake Maxinkuckee with the town of Culver’s municipal sewer system. The move includes homes in the District becoming part of a sanitary sewer system replacing any existing septic systems in the area, which encompasses much of the west and south shores of the lake including Venetian Village.

A total of 175 residences make up the agreed area, said town attorney Jim Clevenger at the Council’s regular July 27 meeting. He noted the District will have a cap of 55,000 gallons per day of flow to the treatment plant. Cleavenger also explained a number of provisions will be in place to test the volume and type of flow coming from the District, including surcharges should flow exceed the defined limit during peak periods. The District will maintain its own sewer system until flow reaches the plant, it was noted, after which the town will take responsibility. The District will share in costs of future improvements to the treatment plant unless improvements are capacity-related, something the District will pay for via a one-time fee.

Ted Schenberg of the Southwest Conservancy District, in discussing the agreement with the Citizen, called it a “win-win” for the District and town, allowing excess capacity to profit the town of Culver, while eliminating sewer issues for the District and most critically, protecting the resources of Lake Maxinkuckee. Concerns over the safety of sometimes-antiquated septic systems have arisen over the years around the lake in general, and those concerns will be alleviated in the District area by the present agreement. Schenberg added District members are excited about the move, and that town representatives “have been a dream to work with” in negotiating the contract over the course of many months.

In other matters, after some discussion the Council tabled further action on second and third readings of Ordinance 2010-007, which would revise and amend Culver’s zoning ordinances following a lengthy revision process on the part of a sub-committee of Culver’s Plan Commission.

At issue was language in both the original and revised ordinances concerning definitions of non-conforming lots when under one ownership for zoning and selling purposes, a concern raised by Council President Sally Ricciardi and echoed by many Council members. The Plan Commission will examine the issue at its August 17 meeting.

Passed by Council was phase one of a contract with Commonwealth Engineering to extend Culver’s sewer and water to one of three properties recently annexed into Culver. The McGhee property is slated for construction of a Garden Court senior living facility within two years, and estimated cost of infrastructure extension there is \$120,000, part of the total \$300,000 cost for all three properties.

The Council also gave the go-ahead to Culver’s Second Century Committee, a sub-committee of the Culver

Chamber of Commerce, to move forward with creation of signage for a bicycling route through Culver and around Lake Maxinkuckee.

Jack Cunningham, representing Second Century, said Town Manager Michael Doss “should be patted strongly on the back” for his efforts and support of the initiative, which is part of a broader Second Century endeavor to bring to fruition Culver’s Charette -- or long-range plan -- of some years past. Related efforts have included extending sidewalks around town such as on Academy Road and Lake Shore Drive, among others.

Cunningham reminded the Council of an unsuccessful

seek emergency help.

Culver’s EMS will add a 31 by 13 foot addition to its existing garage to better accommodate personnel needing to stay overnight at the garage, following Council approval of a proposal by EMS Director Chuck Dilts and member Bobby Cooper. Funding is not to exceed \$20,000, half of which will come from Union Township, it was noted. The new bunk space could handle up to four personnel (a fifth could utilize the EMS area’s existing couch), with designated areas for male and female members, said Dilts, who noted the frequency of personnel needing to stay overnight has increased of late.



CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

Members of Lake Maxinkuckee’s Southwest Conservancy District were on hand Saturday to present a check for \$725,000 to the town of Culver to cover costs of the District joining its municipal-style sewer, slated for construction next year, to Culver’s system. Pictured here are (front row, left to right) Culver Town Council members Ginny Munroe, Sally Ricciardi (President), Southwest’s Del Demaree Katheryn Densborn. Second row: Carol Zeglis (Lake Maxinkuckee Environmental Fund), Council member Lynn Overmyer, Dick Dugger (Southwest), Council member Ralph Winters, and Chuck Norman of Southwest. Back row: Kathy Clark (Lake Maxinkuckee Environmental Council Director), Culver Town Manager Michael Doss, Council member Ed Pinder, Ted Schenberg (Southwest), Dan Yates (Southwest).

attempt some years ago to establish a recreational bike path around Lake Maxinkuckee, which he said was “much more elaborate” than the present proposal. He also said initial hopes had been to tie in bike paths and routes to the Safe Routes to School grant program spearheaded by the Committee over the past year. That project will focus more on sidewalk enhancements than bike-pertinent changes.

Noting “there are a lot of bicyclists coming through Culver” during summer weekends, Cunningham said the Committee plans to place signs along Lake Shore Drive -- with the town park as a starting point and possible bicycle parking area -- and continue routing bicyclists clockwise around the lake, with a total of 25 site locations marked in part with a Culver bicycling logo the Committee has contracted to have designed.

He noted the county and state will need to be approached for approval for signs on roads belonging to those respective entities. The hope, he added, is to have signs in place by this fall.

Cunningham agreed with audience member Doris Breyfogle as to the possible value of assigning each sign a visible number as a means of helping bicyclists navigate their location or

Dilts also told Council the EMS had 35 ambulance runs in June, with 44 calls so far in July, for a total of 236 runs thus far this year.

The Council approved a contract with DLZ Engineering towards Culver’s downtown revitalization, work which will be largely funded by a grant announced early this year by the Indiana Department of Transportation. Funds up to \$64,000 for the design phase of the work were approved, with an additional \$12,000 allotted should DLZ need to make added provisions in the area of historic preservation.

Also approved was \$1,500 to Priority Project Resources to fund their application for a Community Focus Fund grant on behalf of Culver for a massive improvement of the town’s west side stormwater system.

Work on Culver’s Lakeview Street will take place August 9 through 20, said Town Manager Doss, with portions of Academy Road to be repaved starting August 23. The Council approved parking restrictions in conjunction with the paving projects. Doss also noted brick repairs took place near State Street and College Avenue where a large “dip” in the pavement had been.

Updating the Council on last month’s transition to town-wide trash hauling service, Doss said complaints have been very few. He explained pickup for large items such as appliances -- included as part of the contract-established trash fee for all residents -- takes place monthly on the last Friday of the month (as opposed to the regular pickup day of Monday). However, residents with large items to dispose of should contact trash hauling company Allied Waste before the pickup day to notify them of the need.

Audience member Jim Hahn congratulated the Council on the willingness of Marshall County to contribute \$35,000 towards replacement of a decrepid culvert at Lake Maxinkuckee’s West Shore Drive outlet. Ricciardi added the Council’s appreciation for the funding.

## Culver’s Schultz wins fair race

The Marshall County 4-H Fair Annual Barrel Race Contest was held on a bright sunny evening with 10 enthusiastic individuals vying to see who would win, racing a red barrel around (with a tractor) to make a figure eight. The times ranged from 1.01 minutes to 2.14 minutes. Dale Schultz of Culver drove his way to Championship with the 1.01 minute race. The antique tractors included Farmall H, John Deere Model 50, Alas Chalmers and Oliver 77. The tractors were on display the entire week, and included a nightly parade enjoyed by fair attendees.

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Name: August Ads; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00099720; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Family Vision Clinic; Size: 8 in

Name: Congrats Woodcraft; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00099803; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Culver Academies; Size: 8 in



Briefs from page 1

to register the child. The age is pre-kindergarten thru sixth grade.

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.

Golf outing for Health Center Aug. 8

The St. Joseph Health Center will sponsor a golf outing Sunday, August 8 starting at 2 p.m. at Mystic Hills golf course, SR 117 and 20B Road in Culver. Fees are \$260 per foursome or \$65 per golfer. Holes may be sponsored for \$100. Fees include 18 holes of golf with cart, dinner, door prizes, and there will be hole-in-one prizes awarded. All proceeds go to support the St. Joseph Health Center, 116 East Washington Street in Plymouth. Those with questions may contact Ginny Buchman at 574-842-3513.

‘Tweet’ along with Culver

Culverites can now keep up to date on the town of Culver by way of Town Manager Michael Doss’ Twitter page, at [www.twitter.com/culvertm](http://www.twitter.com/culvertm). Doss encourages readers to become “followers” at the site and keep up with his end of Culver’s goings-on.

Reading club awards day Aug. 11

The Adult Summer Reading Program at Culver-Union Township Library, 107 N. Main, Culver, will have its Award’s Day Wednesday, Aug. 11, at 10 a.m. at the main circulation desk. Participants should turn in their tally sheet with earned points to the main desk by Aug. 7 before 4 p.m. Special prizes will be given for first and second place winners, but all participants will receive a grab bag prize. The winner of the book review will be announced and a prize awarded. Call the library at 574-842-2941 with questions.

Culver Comm. schools in session Aug. 17

Tuesday Aug. 17 is the first day of school for students attending Culver Community Schools. A “Back to School Open House Night” will be held at Culver Elementary Monday Aug. 16 from 6 to 7 p.m. and at Monterey Elementary, Tuesday Aug. 24 from 6 to 7 p.m. Middle school registration will be in the middle school/high school Media Center Tuesday Aug 10 and Wednesday Aug. 11 from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. High school registration will be in the high school media center Tuesday Aug. 10 and Wednesday Aug. 11 from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. The high school office will be closed Friday Aug. 13.

Friday release time will be adjusted this year to allow for Professional Development of staff. Elementary schools will be released at 2:30 p.m. and the middle school/high school will be released at 2:45 p.m.

Information can also be found at the corporation’s website, [www.culver.k12.-in.us](http://www.culver.k12.-in.us).

Large item trash pickup

The Town of Culver would like to advise individuals that “large pick up” items will be collected by Allied Waste on the last Friday of each month. Those residential properties with a large item should call Allied Waste at 574-842-3003 to be added to the pick up list each month.

Library computer classes

Culver-Union Township Public Library continues its session of free computer classes in August, held Monday evenings at 6 p.m. and Friday mornings at 10 a.m. Sessions include: Microsoft Excel (Friday, August 6, 10 a.m.), Microsoft PowerPoint (August 9, 6 p.m., and Friday, August 13, 10 a.m.), Microsoft Publisher (August 16, 6 p.m., and Friday, August 20, 10 a.m.), Computer building (August 26, 6 p.m., and Friday, August 30, 10 a.m.). If you have your own laptop computer, feel free to bring it to the classes. For more information, call the Culver Library at 574-842-2941, visit our website at [www.culver.lib.in.us](http://www.culver.lib.in.us) or e-mail [abaker@culver.lib.in.us](mailto:abaker@culver.lib.in.us).

Street paving work this month

During the month of August, the Town of Culver Street Department will commence with their 2010 street paving and concrete projects. Street milling and paving work is scheduled to start Monday, August 23 and continue until Friday, August 27 (weather permitting). At that time, the Town requests that all parked vehicles be removed from the following streets: Lakeview Street, Lake Street, Academy Road between Lakeshore Drive, and State Street during the hours between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Note: The streets should be opened for vehicular parking in the evening hours. If you have any questions regarding this capital improvement project, please call Town Hall at 574-842-3140.

Culver looking to fill Board of Zoning seat

The Town of Culver is accepting letters of interest for the Culver Board of Zoning. Those interested are asked to send letters of intent to the Town of Culver, 200 E. Washington St, Culver, IN, 46511 no later than Aug. 9, by 4 p.m. The Culver Board of Zoning is in need of one appointment that resides within the jurisdictional area, is a Democrat and who does not hold any other elective or appointive office in municipal, county, or state government. This appointment will be made by the town council at the town council meeting Aug. 10, at 6:30 p.m.

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.

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.

Youth fitness classes offered

PLYMOUTH — Fitness Forum Sports and Wellness at LifePlex is offering free summer sports camp Aug. 9 through Aug. 13 from 1 to 4 p.m. for kids ages 8 to 12. The program is led by camp counselor Nathan Ferch, Manchester College basketball player. Monday they will focus on P.E. games; Tuesday, volleyball; Wednesday, baseball and softball; Thursday, basketball; and Friday’s focus is soccer. All kids are invited to play. Those that don’t know how to play can come to learn and have fun. Register at the front desk at 2855 Miller Dr., Suite 101, Plymouth or call 57-936-2333.

Heart and Hands seeking volunteers for

ESL classes

PLYMOUTH — Heart and Hands is looking for friendly, supportive, and reliable people who are interested in becoming class facilitators for our English as a Second Language (ESL) classes. These classes are free weekly programs offered at Heart and Hands which helps other language speakers learn English and learn more about the North American culture.

Those interested in volunteering or learning more about the program, can contact Becky Griffy 574-935-3846 or by e-mail at [heartandhandsinc@embarqmail.com](mailto:heartandhandsinc@embarqmail.com).





PHOTO SUBMITTED/DON FREESE

## New Culver Lions

ABOVE: The Culver Lions Club took into membership Lion Russ Bjornstad, Lion Emma Bjornstad and Lion Bob Hoskins at a recently held Lion's regular meeting. Pictured left to right are Russ Bjornstad, Emma Bjornstad, Kathryn Breyfogle (the Culver Lions Secretary), and Bob Hoskins. The evening was dedicated to a celebration of the Culver Lion's 67th anniversary. Kathryn Breyfogle gave a special presentation and slide-show in commemoration. Also accepted at a separate, recent meeting as a new Lions member was Carolyn Saft (left).



PHOTO SUBMITTED

## Medallion receives award

Culver's Medallion Cabinetry, a Division of Elkay Manufacturing Company, recently received the 2009 President's Safe Workplace Award recognizing substantial improvement to the safety culture by leadership and employee awareness. Here, members of the Emergency Response Team accept the award on behalf of the Culver facility. Pictured (front row, from left) are Ron Katz, Elkay Chairman; Leslie Clark, VP of Manufacturing and Engineering; Karen Bostain; Trula Amich; Steve Rogers, Chief Operations Officer; Vicki Slomka, Chief Human Resources Officer. Back row, Donna Louk, plant HR Manager; Brandon Warren; Marilyn Thayer; James Kraftor; Tony Bradley; Tim Lindsey; and Don Fosler, plant Operations Manager.

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# Third place

*The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go. ~ Theodor "Dr. Seuss" Geisel*

It's midsummer by the calendar and we are in the midst of our summer activities here in Culver: boating, swimming, sitting by the Lake enjoying soft summer breezes which give respite to the hot and humid days of summer. You still have time to pick up a "beach read"



### From the Other Side of the Book Drop

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

over? We have many choices for you!

CUTPL Technology Clerk and Editor Jon Gaskill has put the finishing touches on our new quarterly newsletter, The Maxinkuckee Reed. We have paper copies available at the Circulation Desk at the library or you may access the newsletter online at our webpage: [www.culver.lib.in.us](http://www.culver.lib.in.us). In it you will have the opportunity to read about some of the many happenings at your Library. There's information about new items, upcoming programs, tech news, Children's Department reports and a special "Meet the Staff" interview and photo. We want you to get acquainted with the people you see when you visit your Library.

This year the theme was water, and our Children, Young Adult and Adult Summer Reading programs have been very well-attended. Children's Assistant Ali Gaskill is very enthusiastic about the program and tells us: "Summer Reading was a huge success this year with over 150 kids participating! The library is extending an invitation to all participants to attend our End-of-Summer Reading Party on August 7th from 1-3 pm. We will have pizzas, soda, games and prizes! Sign-up for this event is required and can be done at the Circulation Desk in the Children's Department. Be sure and sign-up by August 6th!!!!".

The finale of our Adult Summer reading program is also coming soon: Award's Day will take place on Wednesday, August 11, at 10 am at the main Circulation Desk. Library Clerk Fran Kent says "Participants should turn in their tally sheet with earned points to the Circ. desk by August 7 before 4 pm. Special prizes will be given to first and second place winners, but all participants will receive a grab bag prize. The winner of the book review will also be announced and a prize awarded." This year we have had 23 participants in the adult program. Please come in and get your tally sheet updated before Award's Day. We plan to publish your book reviews from the Adult Summer Reading Program in our next newsletter edition in the fall.

Lastly, as we prepare our Long-Range Plan, we want to say thank you to all of you who participated in our survey and planning forum: we will take your concerns and suggestions to heart in the planning process. And this seems to be a fitting occasion to reflect upon the public library's place in our community in our time. In the library world there is at present much discussion about the concept of library-as-place. The general concept of "place" is rich with meaning. A place can be a geographic location, as well as someone's usual seating position, or it may mean a location with a specific purpose, or a person's responsibility by virtue of his/her role. I think that the notion of the "third place" might be a good paradigm for our conception of our public library. We're not talking about the third place the Red Sox currently occupy (the day I write this they are no. 3 in the East behind the Yankees and Tampa Bay—David Ortiz's multihomer on Monday ties him with Hall of Famer Jim Rice at 33 for second on the team's all-time multihomer list, just behind Ted Williams at 35—we can hope! Sorry, I couldn't resist my New England digression.) Here we are using the term "third place" as urban sociologist Ray Oldenburg defines it in his 1991 book, The Great Good Place. For each of us our "first place" is our home, the place and the people who are there. Our "second place" is where we work alongside our co-workers. Our "third place" is where we go in our community to engage with others on a more informal basis. As Oldenburg describes it, the "third place" has several characteristics: it is free or inexpensive, and usually nearby. It is also a welcoming and comfortable place where both new and old friends can be found. The "third place" serves as an intellectual forum where people may not necessarily agree with each other's opinions, but are free to express their own. For these reasons, the "third place" serves to promote social equality, facilitate community engagement, and provide a sense of wellbeing and belonging to individuals and communities. Lofty ideals indeed. The public library can fit these criteria. I think that Darien Public Library Director Louise Berry articulated the essence of how the public library can fulfill the "third place" role in the community when she says: "We hope you believe the Library is the third important place in your life, after work and home. We want it to be the heart and intellectual center of our community, and the place where you can meet your friends, discuss your interests, and continue life-long learning and enjoyment." This is our hope for Culver-Union Township Public Library also. We want to be your "third place".

See you on "the other side of the book drop"!

Name: WEB; Width: 30p11.5; Depth: 5 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00099857; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Pilot News; Size: 15 in