



CITIZEN PHOTOS AND LAYOUT/JEFF KENNEY

In Brief

Donations sought for Christmas baskets

Anyone wishing to donate funds or adopt a local family in need for this year's Christmas basket distribution in the Culver area is encouraged to contact Union Township Trustee Marlene Mahler at 574-952-0345. Culver Community Schools and Culver Academies students are assisting with making up the baskets, and Culver-Union Township Fire and EMS volunteers will help deliver them December 12.

Culver author to sign books Saturday

Culver-based children's author Douglas A. Ziesemer will sign copies of "Kenzie's Big Question" Saturday, December 11 at Cafe Max on Main Street from 1 to 3 p.m. Early copies of the book will be available for purchase, and copies may be ordered at kenzieadventures.com, where more information about the book and author is also available.

Children's Christmas party Saturday

Culver's VFW Post 6919 and Culver's Lions Club are once again teaming up with the Culver-Union Twp. Volunteer Fire Department for the annual children's Christmas movie and party, scheduled for Saturday, December 11, with the movie -- at the Uptown Cinema on Lake Shore Drive -- starting at 1 p.m. Following the free movie (title to be announced), children may visit with Santa Claus across State Street at the Culver fire station.

Jewelry for homes Saturday

Student-run Leadership Committee for Africa, an organization of the Culver Girls Academy, will offer jewelry hand-crafted from beads made by a Kenyan

See Briefs page 7

Making Christmas memories

ABOVE: Culver's annual tree lighting and caroling event gave the Christmas season a fun start Friday evening, as students from CYCO (Culver Youth Community Organization, whose members also collected funds for Culver's Make-A-Wish youngsters), made up of Culver Community High School and Culver Academies members, joined community members, Town Manager Michael Doss, and members of the local Lions Club and Knights of Columbus, among others, in the event at the town park depot. Doss (TOP RIGHT), following an introduction by Knight and emcee Rick Tompos, welcomed the audience and encouraged all to remember those less fortunate. LOWER IGHT: Culver Community Middle School students (from left) Abby Surrisi, Anna Tompos, Maria Lindvall, Margaret McKinnis, Anne Nowalk, and Jennah McCarthy led carolers at the lighting (before student and adult carolers broke into groups and serenaded Culverites at area businesses and restaurants), before Santa Claus arrived, aided by Ralph Winters. AT LEFT, Santa shares a candy cane with Sarah Christiansen, age 2. Tompos also acknowledged Leroy Bean of the Lions for setting up the depot for the event, and Bob and Ginger Budzius for stringing the tree lights.

Culver schools, Plymouth dentist join to 'pay it forward' for local student

By Jeff Kenney
Citizen editor

"Everybody did what they could do to help somebody else," says Tony Giraldi of a series of collaborations this year between students at Culver Community High School and Culver Academies, and a Plymouth dentist, which left one former CCHS student with a "new smile."

"And that's unique in the world," adds Giraldi.

Director of International Advancement at Culver Academies (and a 1975 graduate of the school) Giraldi conceived of the Academies' Building Bridges program, now in its seventh year, in part to "get kids from the Culver community and Culver Academies to work together for a common cause."

That cause, working with Habitat for Humanity to build houses for families in Mexico over spring break, led indirectly to another kind of bridge: that provided by Plymouth



PHOTOS SUBMITTED

LEFT: Tony Giraldi and Karla Hernandez, who helps him run Culver's Building Bridges program. RIGHT: Dr. Louis Plumlee.

dentist Dr. Louis Plumlee, whom Giraldi contacted after a group of CCHS students began meeting with Academies students and faculty to plan the Building Bridges mission trip which took place over spring break 2010.

Culver's Lions Club, says Giraldi, provided \$500 per student for the four CCHS participants, and Culver's Kiwanis Club added \$250 per student. The remaining costs of those students' trips were paid

See Student page 8

Academies student to appear on 'Teen Jeopardy'

By Jeff Kenney
Citizen editor

Culver Academies junior Andrew Van Duyn flew to Los Angeles last weekend to tape several episodes of the popular TV game show, "Jeopardy," for its annual "Teen Jeopardy" game series, which will air in mid-February.

Van Duyn, from Wheaton, Illinois, took an online Teen Jeopardy test last April and was invited to audition for the show in August. Jeopardy representatives called Van Duyn three weeks ago to announce he'd been selected as one of 15 teens of 25,000 across the US who had applied. During the audition, Van Duyn says he also passed a personality test which included how subtle he is with the game show "buzzer" and how he handled his presentation.

Van Duyn spent the next three weeks sharpening his trivia skills for the program, with the help of Culver Academies' Quiz Bowl coaches. That was no real departure from his regular schedule training for Quiz Bowl, in which the school has consistently scored well in competition over recent years.

See Jeopardy page 7

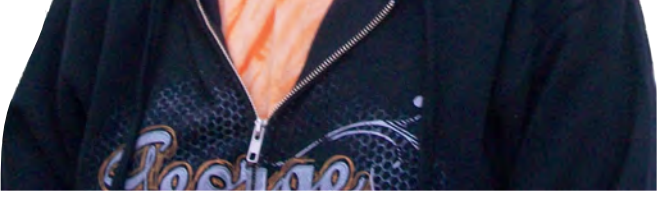
'Don't be afraid to talk to me'

Former CCHS staffer Kirkland making most of final months

Benefit this Saturday at the school

By Jeff Kenney
Citizen editor

Former Culver Community Schools cafeteria worker Shari Koehne McGraw Kirkland has many goals, but her two primary aspirations are to live long enough to see her son Jeffrey graduate from Culver Community High School in June, and to meet her youngest daughter's baby, due later that same month. If the determination in her voice is any indication, Kirkland, in defiance of saulting her body. Shores resident Kirkland, who began work at the school in 2004 as a temp, and full-time years later, was



Shari Kirkland

given this August a message by doctors that many dread: that she has just six months to a year to live.

Culver schools food services director Carin Clifton -- along with fellow former co-workers, students, and faculty, as well as supportive fellow employees of her husband at Bomarko in Plymouth -- hope to give Kirkland's family some support by way of a benefit this Saturday, December 11, from 4 to 8 p.m. at the Culver Community High School cafeteria.

The event, according to Clifton, will be an all-you-can-eat chicken and noodle dinner, and the cost for adults is \$8, children 12 and under \$5; children 6 and under are free. Carry-outs are available, and all proceeds will go to the family, whose finances Kirkland admits are tight, moreso since she stopped working in August when given her prognosis. Tickets may be obtained or questions asked at 574-842-3391 (ext 3113) or 574-780-8846.

A graduate of North Newton High School in DeMotte, Indiana, Kirkland married husband Leslie in 2007, bringing her three children from a previous marriage into the family. Counting his own children from a previous marriage, the couple has nine children and 13 grandchildren. Her large family, says Kirkland, has been a "wonderful support system" on which she's relied to get her through a difficult couple of years.

"I have great parents and children and friends," she says. "I don't have too many 'down' people around me. I don't allow it. If you can't be upbeat, I don't say anything at all -- I

Culver connection to Air Mail, stamp history explored in new exhibit

exhibit opening at the Culver Academies Museum & Gift Shop, located at 102 South Main Street in downtown Culver.

Also displayed will be choice selections from Culver Academies’ extensive collection of rare and notable postage stamps, spanning the history of the form, as well as various aspects of stamp collecting, a hobby represented at Culver by the school’s active student Stamp Club.

A graduate of Culver Military Academy and the nephew of one of CMA’s first superintendents organized America’s first airmail service, whose first flight in 1918 led indirectly to the creation of one of the “Holy Grails” of stamp collecting. That graduate became a much-heralded pioneer of aviation in later years as well. His story -- and details on Culver’s connection to that prized stamp -- is told in the exhibit.

The exhibit debuts Saturday, December 11, during the museum’s regular weekend hours of operation, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and will continue into early spring, 2011. The museum is also open Sundays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Special tours and visits are available by appointment. These and any questions may be directed to 574-842-8842. The museum may be found online at www.culver.org/museum.

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PHOTO SUBMITTED

Two presidents

Culver’s own Jim Peterson (perhaps best known here as President of the Antiquarian and Historical Society of Culver) shared a moment with former President George W. Bush last month during a Veteran’s Day event at the Union League Club in Chicago, where Bush was the keynote speaker.



No word yet on whether the photo signals a bid for President for Peterson in 2012.

Kirkland from page 1

don’t want to hear your whining and crying!”

In July, doctors discovered a tumor on her collar bone and multiple tumors on her lungs, which led to chemo therapy and radiation. She was told she was in remission, but in December, 2009, the cancer returned -- this time to an adrenal gland -- though once more treatments brought her to a diagnosis of remission. Cancer was found again this August, now populating her liver and abdomen. She spent four days last month in the hospital for “pain crisis,” and has undergone multiple blood transfusions, biopsies, and pneumonia.

“This is what God’s handing me,” she explains, “and I’m taking it with open arms, fighting it, kicking and screaming. I will never be cured, I’m told, because (the cancer already) came back. So now you take it the next step. You deal with it.”

Though she admits she’s had days of lying in bed in tears, and Thanksgiving was difficult (“I looked at it as my last Thanksgiving,” she says), now, “my spirits are up and I’m doing really good; people see me and can’t believe I have less than a year to live.”

Her children, naturally, struggle to come to terms with her illness, and each deals with it in their own way.

“My kids get angry,” she says. “Why wouldn’t they? They try not to show it as much. But I like complete honesty.”

Her prognosis, of course, has added poignancy to each of Kirkland’s days.

“It puts more into each day,” she explains. “Each is more precious than the last. Even three years ago, before this all started, I would try to make the most of every day.”

That’s a lesson Kirkland hopes everyone -- regardless of their state of health -- will embrace.

“Enjoy everything, whatever season it is. Enjoy your family, your kids, your grandkids. Let little things go; they’re not important. Love what you have.”

Another message surely applicable to all battling a terminal illness is Kirkland’s encouragement for people not to avoid contact simply because serious illness and death are uncomfortable topics.

“I don’t want people...because I’m dying sooner than I should be, to be stand-offish,” she insists. “Some people don’t call or come by, but generally I’m not ill; I’m upbeat. Don’t be afraid to talk to me.”

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Name: FULL CULVER ISDH; Width: 41p6.333; Depth: 5 in; Color: Black plus one; File Name: 00109547; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Miller’s Health Systems; Size: 20 in

Name: SANTAS LIL HELPER; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 5 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00107068; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Pratt’s Floor Covering; Size: 10 in

Obituary

Mary Powers
March 31, 1912 – Dec. 2, 2010



CULVER — Mary Powers, 98, of Culver, passed away at 7:50 a.m. Dec. 2, 2010 in Miller’s Merry Manor, Culver.

Mary was born March 31, 1912 in Brook, Ind. She was one of seven children born to Cortland V. and Ruby T. (Bruce) McKee. After graduating high school, Mary fell in love and married Ted Powers. During their 33 years of marriage, Mary and Ted were blessed with four children. Together they owned and operated Culver Produce.

Mary was a talented seamstress who worked at Boetsma’s in Culver for many years. She also enjoyed knitting and sewing. She also served as a Noble Grand of the Maxinkuckee Rebekah Lodge of Culver.

Mary is survived by her sister, Annabelle Fisher of Bremen; brother, Don McKee; grandchildren: Doug (Shan) Farmer and Mitch (Shannon) Farmer of Illinois, Tammy (Wink) Arnett of Florida, Connie (Steve) Lapek of California, Cindy (John) Kennedy of New Mexico, Sheri (Peter) Bonneson of Tennessee, and Teddie Powers of Kansas; and nine great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband; parents; children: Joan Farmer, Ted Powers, Dwight Powers, and Marjorie Powers; four brothers; and three sisters.

A memorial service for Mary will be held at a later date.

Memorials may be made to the Maxinkuckee Rebekah Lodge in Mary’s memory.

Condolences may be sent to the family via the obituary page at www.odomfuneral-home.com. The Odom Funeral Home, Culver, is entrusted with arrangements.

Community calendar

Thurs., Dec. 9 Culver Boys & Girls Club, Kiwanis Club mtg., noon, Culver Public Library Leahy Family Christmas concert, 7:30 p.m., Culver Academies Eppley Auditorium	p.m., Culver Academies Memorial Chapel	Culver Public Library TOPS mtg., 5:30 p.m., Grace church
Mon., Dec. 13 Culver Redevelopment Committee mtg., 4 p.m., town hall Computer class, 6 p.m., Culver Public Library Culver Community School board mtg., 7 p.m., administration bldg.		Community meal, 6 p.m., Grace United Church of Christ
Sat., Dec. 11 Quilting group, 9 a.m., Culver Public Library Culver author Doug Ziesemer book signing, 1 to 3 p.m., Cafe Max, Culver Culver children’s Christmas party (free movie at Uptown Cinema, 1 p.m.; Santa at the fire station following)	Tues., Dec. 14 Story time, 10 a.m., Culver Public Library OA, AA meeting (open), 6:30 p.m., Culver Public Library Town Council mtg., 6:30 p.m., town hall	Thurs., Dec. 16 Biography book club, 10:30 a.m., Culver Public Library Culver history program (Jeff Kenney), Kiwanis Club mtg., noon, Culver Public Library Thursday Tech Time, 6 p.m., Culver Public Library Board of Zoning Appeals mtg., 6:30 p.m., town hall Culver Public Library board mtg., 7 p.m., Culver Public Library
Sun., Dec. 12 Christmas Vespers, 5	Weds., Dec. 15 Genealogy mtg., 10 a.m.,	

Library news

Thursday Tech Time

Thursday Tech Time at the Culver-Union Township Public Library will meet December 16 at 6 p.m., for a discussion on web browser comparison. Many web browsers are available today, each with its own pros and cons. The session will be a comparison of the latest web browsers, covering features, speed and add-ons. See what the future holds with previews of IE9 & Firefox 4.

Thursday Tech Time is an open discussion group for anyone interested in computers and technology. Sessions will be held from 6 to 7:30 p.m. monthly. All sessions are free and open to the public. All are encouraged to come and talk, share, listen and ask questions.

Biography Book Club

The Culver-Union Township Public Library's (CUTPL) Biography Book Club will meet Thursday, December 16, at 10:30 a.m. in the small meeting room located downstairs in the library. The selection for this month is "Mark Twain Himself," a pictorial biography by Mark Meltzer. Meltzer combines the actual words of Mark Twain with many pictures and photographs that tell the story of Mr.Twain's multi-faceted life. Patrons who have read other Mark Twain biographies are welcome to join us.

Copies of this book are available at the library's "Book Club" table. They also may be reserved by calling the library at 574-842-2941.

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Obituary

F. William “Bill” Snyder
Aug 13, 1931 – Dec 1, 2010



CULVER — F. William “Bill” Snyder, 79, a lifelong resident of Culver, passed away at 11 p.m. Dec 1, 2010 at Miller’s Merry Manor in Culver surrounded by his loving family. He was passionate about his family, the Culver community and “making the world a stronger, better place.”

He was born Aug 13, 1931 in Culver, the fourth child of Paul T. and Bernice (Crabb) Snyder and remained a lifelong resident and enthusiastic Culver community supporter.

Bill graduated from Culver High School in 1951 and studied business at North Central College in Naperville, Ill. and Indiana University in Bloomington, Ind. He proudly served in the United States Navy.

He grew up working on the family farm with his brothers and sisters and in the family restaurant at the corner of Main and Jefferson Streets in downtown Culver. In 1952, his father, Paul T. Snyder bought the hardware from O.T. Goss and renamed it the Culver Hardware. Bill purchased the store from his father in the early 1960s. In 2006, the Bostwick Braun Hardware wholesale supply celebrated more than 50 years of business with the Culver Hardware. In addition to the Culver Hardware, Bill also owned and operated the Downtown Laundromat – now owned by his son, Mike Snyder.

On October 7, 1956, Bill was united in marriage to Barbara Jean Taylor. Theirs was the second wedding to be held in the brand new Wesley United Methodist Church on School Street. They enjoyed 48 years of marriage until her passing January 18, 2005.

Bill was a Boy Scout leader, involved in the Culver Little League baseball for 20 years, and refereed for jr. high basketball games. A talented athlete in his youth, he was an ardent supporter of all Culver community sports. He was on the Culver-Union Township Advisory Board for 12 years. Bill was also active on the Culver-Union Township Volunteer Fire Department from 1974 – 2008 and was honored with their lifetime achievement award in 2008. In 2006, Bill was the recipient of the Distinguished Alumni award from the Culver Community School-Culver Kiwanis.

Bill was a member of Wesley United Methodist Church and the Culver Jaycees. He and his wife enjoyed supporting and giving to the Culver community.

Bill is survived by son Michael (Shirley) Snyder of Culver, IN; daughters Dr. Susan Snyder (Jim Kulesia) of Lafayette, IN and Lynda (Galen) Hershberger of Middlebury, IN; sisters Barbara (Ralph) Pedersen of Culver, and Joanna (Virgil) McCan of Plymouth; brother Jim (Joyce) Snyder of Dixon, Ill.; sisters-in-law Jean Snyder of Culver and Lee Snyder of Silver Springs, Md.; three grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

In addition to his parents and wife, Bill was preceded in death by two brothers – Paul Snyder Jr and Alan Snyder.

There will be a time of remembrance with the family at the Odom Funeral Home, Culver, on Friday, December 10, 2010 from 5 to 8 p.m. EDT.

A memorial service will follow Saturday, December 11, 2010 at the Wesley United Methodist Church, Culver at 1 p.m. with a one hour visitation at the church prior to the service.

As was his desire to always try to give something back – his final act of giving was to bequeath his body to science via the Indiana University School of Medicine donor program – as had his wife almost six years ago.

The Snyder family is immensely grateful for the loving care, concern and attention he received while he was a resident at Miller’s Merry Manor in Culver.

Memorial donations may be made to the Culver-Union Township Fire Department, Wesley United Methodist Church, or the Bill and Barbara Snyder Memorial Scholarship/ Marshall County Community Foundation.

Condolences may be sent to the family via the obituary page at www.odomfuneral-home.com.

The Odom Funeral Home, Culver, has been entrusted with the arrangements.

Engagement - Day/Weiger



Clifford E. Weiger Jr. and Cheri Day, Monterey, announce their engagement to be married Jan. 1, 2011 at Poplar Grove United Methodist Church, Culver.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Ray and Kim Day, South Carolina, formerly of Winamac. She is a 2007 graduate of Culver Community High School and is attending Purdue University North Central, Westville, earning a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education.

The future groom is the son of Leah and Clifford Weiger Sr., Culver.

He is a 2005 graduate of Culver Community High School and is employed as a mechanic at Shannon Auto/Truck Service, Knox.

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Name: SUPER 4; Width: 30p11.5; Depth: 5 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00108299; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Kings Jewelry; Size: 15 in

Bidding Bill good-bye

To say beloved Culver icon Bill Snyder’s passing last week marked the end of an era is not only an understatement, but only scratches the surface of what Bill and his family gave to Culver. His obituary speaks for itself: Bill Snyder loved Culver and its people, and that love was reflected in a near-endless list of his many endeavors (and I’m sure no such list could ever be complete, as many “small” contributions as he made through the years.

As outlined on page 3 in his obituary, Bill’s contributions included his roles as Boy Scout leader, with Culver’s Little League baseball program, a supporter of many local sports, a member of the Culver-Union Township Advisory Board and the Culver-Union Township Volunteer Fire Department (whose members recognized him with a lifetime achievement award in 2008), Culver’s Jaycees, and a member of Wesley United Methodist Church.

But on a day-to-day basis, his role as owner, proprietor and jack-of-all-trades at Culver’s hardware, which he took over from his father, Paul, around 1963, is how many Culver residents remember him best...so much so, in fact, that for decades the store was simply known as “Bill’s.”

I had the pleasure of interviewing him for the newspaper in 2007, after current hardware owner Dave Beggs took over ownership (though Bill -- and the iconic 1909 cash register his father inherited from early 20th century owner O.T. Goss -- stayed on for some time after the buyout), though I spoke with Bill many times through the years about the history of the hardware and other topics, and I always knew that the ‘definitive’ Bill Snyder story hadn’t been written, and could occupy pages upon pages.

Some excerpts from that article are telling about his role in the hardware.

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"I say, 'I sold (the hardware), but I'm staying,' and that makes people happy," says Snyder with a smile. He plans to work at the store, which he says he took over around 1963 from his father, Paul T. Snyder, as long as he is able and enjoys it.

Paul T. Snyder bought the business from O.T. Goss, who was the second-ever owner of the store and ran it from 1909 until around 1944, when Snyder bought it. In fact, the original cash register which Goss used, and which goes back at least as far as Goss' taking over of the store, is still famously displayed on the sales counter, and was still the register in use until last year, when the inventory was transitioned over to a computer format and newer register.

Dave Beggs is conscious of the store's long history as one of the longest-running businesses in Culver. He points to a photo hanging near the counter showing the hardware nearer the turn of the century, before O.T. Goss ran it, and runs a finger over the shelving in the photo. "We're using the shelving from the original store," he says, walking around the corner to a shelving unit lined with metal cans that is, indeed, identical to one in the picture. "That will be our stain department."

For his part, Bill Snyder is not only aware of the history of the store, but aware that change has been a constant there over the years.

"When dad bought this, the store was only on the north side of the building, so it was half of what it is today. The south side was all storage. There were things like horse rope there, things we didn't use much anymore."

"Before 1909, when Goss came, there were ladders all along the walls. The back room was an office, but we sold some stock out of it too."

In the mid-1940s, a raging upstairs fire brought about another change. "It was quite a fire," recalls Snyder, who points to a small snapshot of the fire that hangs near the other photo. "I was in church and came out, and someone said, 'the hardware's on fire!' I came over and watched the fire all day."

The fire didn't destroy the building, but it did level the entire top floor.

When Bill took over the store from his father, people expressed doubts as to whether he could make any money with it. "We got by," he recalls with a knowing grin. "It takes time. You have to keep working, be nice to people and try to help people. Most people like

it and are glad we're here."

...Snyder says that many people seem to appreciate a small-town hardware like Culver's.

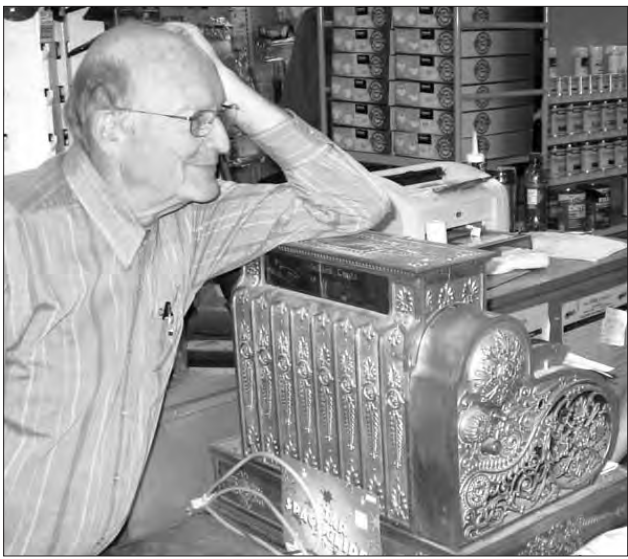
"It's nice to be able to sit here and talk to people who come visit. People come in who have kids at school (at the Culver Academies), people from the west and east coasts. It's interesting. And they like the store."

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Some months after I wrote that article, I stumbled across a tidbit in the June 3, 1909 Culver Citizen: “The Culver Cash Hardware Co. has added a National cash register to its equipment. It will do everything about the business except collect the bills and pay the rent.”

The blurb was clipped from the paper and affixed to the register at the hardware for some time, which was nice to see.

I know that Bill very much missed his dear wife Barbara, who preceded him in death, and his friends, family, and the many who knew him in Culver can take comfort in knowing they’re finally reunited.

Culver, however, will miss them both, as with Bill’s passing the town is now just a bit emptier and less “Culver” without one of its best-loved sons.



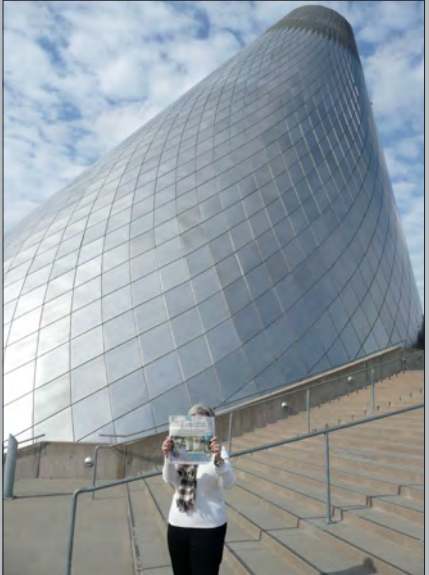
CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY
Bill Snyder in 2007 as so many remember him, with the 1909 National cash register which followed Culver’s hardware store through some 100 years of its life.

Where in the world is the Culver Citizen?

As of press time, no readers guessed the location of last week’s “Where in the World” photo (AT LEFT), which was sent by Jim and Judy Sawhook following an October trip to the Seattle area.

“In the picture,” they write, “is the imposing 90-foot-tall stainless steel cone which houses the Hot Shop Amphitheater at the Tacoma Museum of Glass in Tacoma, Washington. Visitors to the Hot Shop can watch glass being blown by hand after it is extracted from one of two large furnaces each of which holds 1,000 pounds of glass at temperatures of up to 2,400 degrees Fahrenheit. The cone itself is 100 feet in diameter at its base and it narrows to a 15-foot opening.”

Your editor encourages similar photos from other readers with the foresight to bring the *Citizen* on their travels. Such photos, or identification of this location, may be sent to the editor at citizen@culcom.net, or dropped off in our drop-box (located alternately in the upper level of the Culver Public Library), or call 574-216-0075 for other arrangements.



Name that Culver ‘citizen’

Last week’s Mystery Citizen, Terry Wakefield, was recognized by several readers. No doubt many know him through the endeavors hinted at last week: service in the Culver-Union Twp. Volunteer Fire Department, as well as various positions with Culver’s VFW Post 6919. Recognizing him were Bryce Lindvall, Lora Pinder, Maggie Nixon, Glennia Cooper, Lynn Overmyer, Scott Croy, Trent Bennett, Jim Jones, and Bill Mills.

Guessing correctly but not mentioned in last week’s paper was Judy Sawhook, who identified the previous week’s Mystery Citizen, Marizetta Kenney.

This week’s Mystery Citizen is associated with a longtime local business, among other positions.

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, Terry Wakefield, then and now Right: this week’s mystery citizen.



Name: SANTAS LIL HELPER; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 5 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00108169; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Bennett’s Contracting LLC; Size: 10 in

A Culver Christmas 2010



During the month of December, the Citizen seeks to list all public holiday-related events in this space. If your organization or entity is planning such an event, please contact the editor at 574-216-0075 or citizen@culcom.net to be included in this listing.

A Leahy Family Christmas, Thursday, December 9, 7:30 p.m., Eppley Auditorium on Culver Academies campus (www.leahymusic.com).

Children’s Christmas party (Culver Fire Department, VFW, and Lions Club) featuring a free movie at the Uptown Cinema followed by a visit with Santa Claus at the fire station, Saturday, Dec. 11, starting 1 p.m.

Christmas Vespers service, Culver Academies Memorial Chapel, Sunday, Dec. 12, 5:30 p.m. (music starting at 5 p.m.)

Children’s Nativity pageant, St. Mary of the Lake Catholic Church, Friday, Dec. 17, 5:30 p.m.

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.

Thurs., Dec. 9: Chili, baked potato and sour cream, oyster crackers, cottage cheese, Mandarin oranges, and milk.

Fri., Dec. 10: Stuffed green pepper, mashed potatoes, green beans, wheat roll, fruit cup, cookie, and milk.

Mon., Dec. 13: BBQ pork on a bun, baked beans, mixed vegetables, pineapple, dessert, and milk.

Tues., Dec. 14: Oven Fried Chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, bread and margarine, applesauce, dessert, and milk.

Weds., Dec. 15: Beef stew with carrots, peas, potatoes and onions, corn, biscuit, peaches, and milk.

Thurs., Dec. 16: Meatballs and noodles with gravy, mashed potatoes, baby carrots, dinner roll and margarine, pears, and milk.

Fri., Dec. 17: Mac and cheese with ham, peas, cauliflower, bread and margarine, fruit, and milk.

Name: EXCEPT ONLY THE BEST AD; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 2 in; Color: Black;

Name: NURS - SUPER; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 5 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00108905; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Ancilla College (ROP); Size: 10 in



Sports



Bauer is the man of the hour for Cavs

By Megan Hamand
Correspondent

CULVER — Slow and steady wins the race, or in this case, the basketball game.

The visiting LaCrosse Tigers were no match for Culver Community's calm offense. Even against a LaCrosse full-court press and a defense that was trying to grab any free ball, Culver kept possession and control of the game the entire night, winning 58-41 at home Friday.

The Cavaliers started the game off strong, playing a deliberate offense that took its time passing around the perimeter. The Cavs, led by senior Zoe Bauer's game-high 30 points, waited for the pass to the inside, but didn't waste any outside chances. They started the game off with 3-pointers by sophomore Collin Stevens and Bauer within the first minute.

It took almost 4 minutes

a 6-0 run with baskets from seniors Dominick Beehler and Ryan Pahl. With only a minute to go in the first quarter, LaCrosse was within two points but another 3 by Bauer snapped the streak, and the Tigers never got any closer to the lead the entire night.

The second quarter brought out a quick game on both sides.

LaCrosse pushed the limits of Culver with its full-court press but was unable to set up offensive plays as the visitors' 15 points in the first half came mostly from fast breaks. And while LaCrosse had Culver on the run during the latter part of the half, the teamwork of Bauer and Patrick McBee kept Culver in possession of the ball and the game.

The two carried the Cavs during the quarter, scoring 12 of Culver's 14 points and the Cavs took a 28-15 halftime lead.

The Tigers came out of the locker room ready to play, quickly increasing its score with a Beehler basket and then a Pahl steal. It was Culver's turn to look like its was scrambling for a basket, but Bauer quickly silenced any doubts. Two minutes into the half, the 6-foot-2 senior broke another potential Tiger scoring streak with a 3-pointer, followed with a defensive rebound that went coast to coast for another two points.

The Tigers kept up their tough defense throughout the whole game, but it cost them fouls. The Tigers' leading scorer for the night, Beehler, had to play care-



PHOTOS/ALAN HALL
ABOVE: Culver Comm. High School's Zoe Bauer shoots during Friday's victorious battle against the LaCrosse Tigers. LEFT: Patrick McBee aims for a slam dunk for the Cavs.

fully after receiving his fourth foul with 5 minutes still left in the game. LaCrosse's other leader under the basket, 6'5" Senior Dillon Steininger, fouled out with four minutes to go, leaving the Tigers seriously wounded. Still LaCrosse kept the pressure on, continuing with the full-court press and fouls. In the fourth quarter, the Cavaliers scored mostly on free throws, with the charity tosses making up eight of their 14 points for the quarter. The Tigers slowly lost their hold in the game, though Senior Jordan Guse brightened their quarter with two impressive three-point shots. They were never able to overcome Culver's double-digit lead.

Culver was led by Bauer with an astounding 30 points and Stevens with 12. The Tigers were led by Beehler with 13 points and Guse with nine.

• CULVER 58, LACROSSE 41
At Culver
Score by quarters
Culver: 14 28 43 58
LaCrosse: 6 15 27 41
LACROSSE (41): Bryan Shoupe 0 0-0 0, Jordan Guse 3 0-0 9, Sam Culver 2 1-3 5, Riley Charlesworth 2 2-2 6, Ryan Pahl 3 0-0 6, Dillon Steininger 1 0-0 2, Dominick Beehler 6 1-2 13; Totals: 17 4-7 41.
CULVER (58): A.J. Neave 2 0-1 4, Scotty Brown 1 0-0 2, Kyle Vlach 0 0-0 0, Collin Stevens 3 5-5 12, Zoe Bauer 10 6-7 30, Patrick McBee 2 3-6 7, Larry Clingler 1 1-2 4; Totals: 19 15-21 58.
3-point goals: LaCrosse 3 (Guse 3), Culver 5 (Bauer 4, Stevens); Fouls (fouled out): LaCrosse 18 (Steininger), Culver 12 (none); Records: LaCrosse 2-1, Culver 2-1.

CMA three-peats at Plymouth Relays

By James Costello
Sports Editor

PLYMOUTH — At last year's Plymouth Swim Relays, Culver Military's boys team was still able to edge out host Plymouth 94-90 with only half a squad.

This year's young squad showed up in full, and the Eagles swept wins in seven of the 10 relays capped off by a record-breaking turn in the 400-yard freestyle relay to win the meet comfortably with a score of 126 ahead of the second-place Pilgrims' score of 80 Saturday at Plymouth.

It was CMA's third title in three years, while Plymouth's girls won a repeat championship with a tally of 114 ahead of runner-up Rochester's 84.

"Last year we had a lot of boys out so we only swam 50 percent of the relays and we won it by four points. We've got a lot of young kids so the SATs did not pull them out, and therefore we could swim all the relays," said CMA head swim coach Tom Duckett.

"It's fun, and it's a highlight. I just wish our girls could get into this. We always enjoy swimming here. This is always good competition."

CMA won all the swim relays but the 500 medley and 200 backstroke events, where the Eagles placed second behind Washington, and the diving relay, where they placed third behind first-place Plymouth and second-place Rochester.

But Duckett was less interested in a three-peat championship than he was at getting a look at his young swimmers' strengths and weaknesses Saturday.

"Our depth is better this year, but the depth is very young," Duckett said. "I wasn't too interested in the team score as much as I was interested in the performances of certain individuals... I didn't necessarily set anything up to win so much as who I wanted to look at and where they might go because obviously our ultimate objective has to be the one meet of the year, and that's sectional."

The Lady Pilgrims grabbed six first-place finishes and two second-place results as they defended their 2009 title Saturday.

The relay-formatted meet gave the team a chance for some more light-hearted competition and team building before it jumps into its Northern Lakes Conference swim schedule Tuesday.

"This is supposed to be a fun meet," said Plymouth head coach Chelsea Bramfield. "It's relaxing, it's kind of off-kilter. It is a lot of fun. It gives girls who maybe don't swim those



PHOTO/JAMES COSTELLO
Culver Military Academy shows off its Plymouth Relays trophy following a swim meet Saturday at Plymouth High School.

events normally a chance to do that, plus it definitely brings the team together. In a relay you have to bond together with the team. Even though it was a fun meet, again they swam their best times."

While the Plymouth boys may have finished second behind the champion Eagles, head coach Leanne Senter was happy to see her team edge out another Warsaw Sectional rival in Rochester, which finished just four points behind the Pilgrims.

"I'm very happy to come out in second place. I mean, you always strive to win, but there's just a lot of depth at the Academies. Next year we'll have some experience; we'll be bigger, we'll be stronger, but everybody swam very well and did an awesome job," she said.

"I did (expect it to be close with Rochester) so I was happy to come out on top because that program has really built up, girls and boys. And as the age group coach also I see what's coming so we're going to have to stay on top of it to keep ahead of them."

Meanwhile at the meet, Oregon-Davis' fledgling girls program — which boasts just eight team members — was able to capture a win in the girls diving relay with a 151.45 score ahead of Plymouth's 124.05. The win was even more impressive considering it was the first ever competition for two of the Lady Bobcats.

"We compete with what we have, and our girls did a really nice job. I'm surprised that we won the diving today with two divers that have never dived," said head coach Tod Briles. "Overall a real good day for Oregon-Davis."

• PLYMOUTH SWIM RELAYS
At Plymouth
Girls results
Team standings: PLYMOUTH 114, ROCHESTER 84, NORTH JUDSON 70, WASHINGTON 68, OREGON-DAVIS 36, TIPPECANOE VALLEY 26
200 medley relay: 1. Plymouth (Hannah Eads, Katelyn Brown, Katelynn Brashere, Kaley Brower) 2:10.74, 2. Rochester (Erica Abbott, Audrey Zeyen, Carly Shultz, Shailly Cripe) 2:15.83, 3. N. Judson 2:31.83, 4. Tippy Valley 2:38.04; 500 medley relay: 1. Washington (Ashley Kinyon, Jessica Urban, Brooke Williams, Alyssa Sater) 5:22.53, 2. Plymouth (Ella Portteus, Holly Overmyer, Lexi Fetter, Kenzie Miller) 5:23.52, 3. Rochester 6:30.76, 4. N. Judson 6:55.06; 100 freestyle relay: 1. Plymouth (Alayana Holmqvist, Melissa Pedavoli, Ashley Combs, Kaley Brower) 59.10, 2. Rochester (Arlin Johnson, Alex Lease, Anna Frantz, Allison Webb) 1:03.71, 3. O-D 1:07.00, 4. N. Judson 1:09.27; 200 butterfly relay: 1. Plymouth (Lexi Fetter, Sidney Listenberger, Kanika Chairs, Katelynn Brashere) 2:16.33, 2. Washington (Urban, Trina Lampo, Williams, Sater) 2:18.55, 3. Rochester 2:20.66, 4. N. Judson 2:53.95; 1 meter diving relay: 1. O-D 151.45, 2. Plymouth 124.05, 3. Tippy Valley 121.5, 4. Rochester 117.00; 200 breaststroke relay: 1. Rochester (Cathy Seiler, Allison Webb, Elise Razzano, Zeyen) 2:46.6, 2. Plymouth (Portteus, Listenberger, Megan Senter, Brown) 2:47.31, 3. N. Judson 3:19.83, 4. Washington 3:40.41; 200 backstroke relay: 1. N. Judson (Shania Stiller, Madison Osborne, Mandy Haack, Carrigan Baxter) 2:43.48, 2. Washington (Makenzie Connors, Ashley O'Donnell, Melissa Konter, Alexis Rodriguez) 3:23.43; 400 medley relay: 1. Plymouth (Listenberger, Brashere, Senter, Miller) 4:52.06, 2. Washington (Maya Williams, Urban, B. Williams, Sater) 5:13.72, 3. Rochester 5:34.59, 4. N. Judson 6:49.00; 200 freestyle relay: 1. Plymouth (Kaley Brower, Senter, Overmyer, Eads) 1:59.28, 2. Rochester (Alex Williamson, Arin Johnson, Ali Seiler, Taylor Showley) 2:15.25, 3. N. Judson 2:30.11, 4. O-D 2:40.22; 400 freestyle relay: 1. Plymouth (Brown, Fetter, Chairs, Holly Overmyer) 4:23.95, 2. Rochester (Zeyen, Abbott, Cripe, Shultz) 4:24.4, 3. N. Judson 4:46.9, 4. O-D 5:04.93.
Boys results
Team standings: CULVER MILITARY ACADEMY 126, PLYMOUTH 80, ROCHESTER 76, WASHINGTON 56, TIPPECANOE VALLEY 36
At Plymouth
200 medley relay: 1. CMA (David DeVries, Bryan DeVries, Matt Adams, Zach Grant) 1:50.25, 2. Rochester (Matt Zeyen, Richie Ulrey, Patrick Kays, AJ Hudkins) 1:57.35, 3. Plymouth 2:01.5, 4. Tippy Valley 2:04.38; 500 medley relay: 1. Washington (Ben Eger, Windsor Hay, Gabe Lee, Nick Tetzlaff) 4:44.53 (new meet record), 2. CMA (Jose Herrera, Jorge De La Vega, Nik Kasper, D. DeVries) 4:46.01, 3. Plymouth 5:11.35, 4. Rochester 6:03.13; 100 freestyle relay: 1. CMA (Harris Allen, Peter Brotherton, Adan Beltrones, Pablo Padilla) 50.11, 2. Rochester (Austin Fultz, Taylor Campbell, Niles Berry, Tyler Smoker) 55.99, 3. Washington 57.75, 4. Plymouth 1:00.41; 200 butterfly relay: 1. CMA (Leopoldo Burguete, Javier Bravo, Beltrones, Adams) 1:56.51, 2. Plymouth (Blake Milliser, Joe Brennan, Clayton Maddox, Tom Serf) 2:26.65; 1 meter diving relay: 1. Plymouth 149.4, 2. Rochester 134.55, 3. CMA 113.95, 4. Washington 100.25; 200 breaststroke relay: 1. CMA (B. DeVries, Bravo, Padilla, Burguete) 2:12.91, 2. Rochester (Zeyen, Fultz, Jonah Brooks, Ulrey) 2:22.74, 3. Tippy Valley 2:26.63; 200 backstroke relay: 1. Washington (Eger, Hay, Lee, Tetzlaff) 1:55.25, 2. CMA (Beltrones, Brotherton, De La Vega, Grant) 1:59.42, 3. Plymouth 2:16.77.

See CMA page 7

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Name: HYDRAULIC HOSES; Width: 20p4.667; Depth: 4 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00109174; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Lakeside Auto Supply; Size: 8 in



BEAM-ing with holiday spirit

Culver Community High School students Kaylee Miller and Kayla Shaffer (far right) joined fellow members of BEAM (from left) Brooklyn Kelley (John Glenn HS), T.J. Mechling (Grace Baptist), Wes Doodly (LaVille HS), in decorating the Christmas tree at Miller's Senior Living Community November 28.

BEAM (Bettering Every Aspect of Marshall County) is a youth service group — part of the Marshall County Community Foundation — with a vision for everyone in the community to have a passion for active service involvement. Several BEAM members spent the afternoon decorating a Christmas tree, taking pictures of residents for ornaments, and enjoying good conversations and stories shared by the residents.

CMA from page 6

4. Rochester 2:33.19; 400 medley relay: 1. CMA (Burguete, Bravo, Brotherton, Adams) 4:24.15, 2. Plymouth (Serf, Maddox, Milliser, Brandon Brashere) 4:53.13, 3. Rochester 5:21.29; 200 freestyle relay: 1. CMA (B. DeVries, De La Vega, Padilla, Herrera) 1:41.48, 2. Rochester (Hudkins, Ulrey, Zeyen, Kays) 1:43.67, 3. Plymouth 1:45.9, 4. Tippy Valley 1:50.58; 400 freestyle relay: 1. CMA (Zach Grant, Herrera, Kasper, D. DeVries) 3:37.92 (new meet record), 2. Washington (Lee, Eger, Hay, Tetzlaff) 3:40.79, 3. Plymouth 3:52.99, 4. Rochester 4:32.49.

Briefs from page 1

women's fair trade business, to benefit New Life Homes Kenyan orphanages and Christel House South Africa school. The items will be available this Saturday, Dec. 11, between noon and 4 p.m., at the Culver Coffee Company on Lake Shore Drive.

Christmas Vespers Sunday

Culver Academies annual Christmas Vespers service will take place Sunday, December 12 at 5:30 p.m. (music begins at 5 p.m.), at the Memorial Chapel on the Academies campus. Traditional Christmas readings, prayer, a homily, and performances by the school's choir, brass, winds, strings,

organ, and carillon will make up the service. All are welcome.

Donations sought for 'Coaches vs. Cancer'

Local Culver Girls Academy senior Alexis Christlieb is seeking donations towards "Coaches vs. Cancer," a fund-raiser for the American Cancer Society as part of the CGA basketball game on January 15, 2011, at 7:30 p.m. Local sponsors and donors are sought to purchase a Wall of Hope Donation card, or make a donation of their choice, by contacting Christlieb via 574-842-7032 or at Alexis Christ-

lieb, 1300 Academy Road, Culver, IN 46511.

Library board changes meeting date

The Culver-Union Township Public Library board will meet on Thursday, December 16 at 7 p.m., rather than the following week as would be normally scheduled. The meeting will take place in the large meeting room of the library.

Culver Make-A-Wish donations accepted

Donations are welcome for two Culver area children fighting serious illnesses and hoping their wishes will come true for

Boys basketball

Cavs win

Senior star Zoe Bauer tossed in 22 points to lead Culver Community's boys basketball team to a 59-45 win at Frontier Saturday.

Sophomore point guard Collin Stevens reached double figures for the third straight game with 15 points for the Cavs, and Scotty Brown added 10 points.

Culver trailed 26-24 at halftime, but outscored the Falcons 17-2 in the third quarter to seize command.

• CULVER COMMUNITY 59, FRONTIER 45
At Chalmers
Score by quarters
Culver: 19 24 41 59
Frontier: 13 26 28 45
CULVER (59): AJ Neace 3 0-0 6, Scotty Brown 5 0-0 10, Collin Stevens 5 4-4 15, Zoe Bauer 6 6-8 22, Patrick McBee 1 0-0 2, Larry Clingler 0 4-6 4. TOTALS: 20 14-18 59.
FRONTIER (45): Woods 4 2-2 12, Gallenger 4 0-0 10, Whitlow 0 0-0 0, Cain 2 0-2 4, Morgan 2 1-2 7, Zarse 0 0-0 0, Lehe 0 0-0 0, Harplett 2 0-0 5, Maxwell 0 0-0 0, Demuriey 2 2-4 7. TOTALS: 16 5-10 45.
3-point goals: Culver 5 (Bauer 4, Stevens), Frontier 8 (Woods 2, Gallenger 2, Morgan 2, Harplett, Demuriey); Turnovers: Culver 17, Frontier 19; Rebounds: Culver 25, Frontier 18; Assists: Culver 12, Frontier 10; Steals: Culver 10, Frontier 9; Fouls (fouled out): Culver

trips to Disney World in early 2010. Donors are encouraged to give up through January, 2011 by contacting Make-A-Wish volunteer Tina Stacy through the Culver Community High School, at 574-842-3391.

Free bowling for students

PLYMOUTH — Campus Life and Quick's Lanes of Plymouth, are partnering for a free bowl for all Marshall County high school students Tuesday, Dec. 21 from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Students are invited to challenge their teacher, youth pastor, or friends to a bowling competition. For more information contact Bob Beck at 574-936-2325.

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Sports briefs

11 (Clingler), Frontier 14 (none); Records: Culver 3-1, Frontier 1-2. JV score: Culver 32, Frontier 26.

Girls basketball

Lady Cavs stay perfect

Senior center Gwen Zehner scored 29 points to power unbeaten Culver Community past Bremen 54-38 in a Northern State Conference girls basketball game Saturday at John R. Nelson Gymnasium.

Defensively, the Cavs held Bremen to a 24 percent mark from the field.

Lerin Studt and Kailee Feldman scored 10 points apiece for the Lions.

• CULVER COMMUNITY 54, BREMEN 38
At Culver
Score by quarters
Culver: 8 17 29 38
Bremen: 8 17 29 38
Culver: 9 23 43 54
BREMEN (38): Janessa Morris 1 0-0 2, Brittney Pittman 2 3-5 7, Jenna Pfeiffer 2 1-5 5, Lerin Studt 3 4-6

Jeopardy from page 1



CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY
Andrew Van Duyn is poised to "buzz in" during rehearsals at Culver Academies for episodes of Teen Jeopardy which will air in mid-February.

Quiz Bowl head coach Phil Blessman

says the coaching team plays against Quiz Bowl team captain Van Duyn. "Most of the time he wins!" smiles Blessman. "We were all very excited when we found out he got in (to Teen Jeopardy), and we wanted to help him out. "The school is really excited to have him there; we're proud to have him represent our team." Quiz Bowl, according to Van Duyn, is actually more difficult, and requires deeper knowledge of its subject matter, than Teen Jeopardy, though Jeopardy covers a broader range of topics. "If you're good at Quiz Bowl," he adds, "you'll be good at Jeopardy."

Van Duyn said he would spend the weekend and the next few days in L.A. taping the show, returning Wednesday.

The number of episodes he personally will participate in depends on how well he does in the competition. There's certainly incentive enough to succeed. The grand prize is \$75,000, while each contestant is guaranteed at least \$5,000 in winnings, with amounts increasing in increments depending on success. He says his whole family, including his fourth classman (freshman) brother John, will fly to California with him.

The month after the show airs, notes Van Duyn, he'll appear another important function perhaps not as high profile: he'll discuss his experiences on the show with Plymouth's Rotary Club at a meeting in March.

10, Kirstyn Buck 0 0-0 0, Allison Shorter 0 0-0 0, Brooke Baker 0 0-0 0, Kailee Feldman 3 3-4 10, Shayna Graverson 0 0-0 0, Hope Jordan 2 0-0 4. TOTALS: 13 11-20 38.
CULVER (54): Nicole Carnegie 0 0-0 0, Ali Overmyer 0 0-0 0, Suzie Guard 1 0-0 2, Patrice McBee 2 2-2 6, Whitney Sanders 2 0-6 6, Alison Zehner 2 1-4 6, Kayla Shaffer 2 1-2 5, Gwen Zehner 12 5-6 29, Chelsey Jones 0 0-0 0, Abby James 0 0-0 0. TOTALS: 21 9-20 54.
3-point goals: Bremen 1 (Feldman), Culver 3 (Sanders 2, A. Zehner); Turnovers: Bremen 14, Bremen 16; Fouls (fouled out): Bremen 20 (Studt), Culver 19 (none); Records: Bremen 2-5 (0-1 NSC), Culver 7-0 (1-0 NSC). JV score: Bremen 28, Culver 9

Eagles lose

CGA lost at Cleveland St. Joseph Academy 66-46 in a girls basketball game Saturday.

Victoria Christlieb and Andrijana Cvitkovic scored nine points apiece for CGA.

CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

Running the numbers on Culver’s JMC

Jim Balmer, left, Vice President of Culver-based JMC Engineers, shows a piece of coax cable to the audience at Culver’s Kiwanis Club during a recent visit to the Club. With him, at right, is JMC’s President, Mike Overmyer (not pictured is CEO and “major owner of the company,” Mike’s wife Connie). The two discussed the phenomenal growth of JMC since it opened in downtown Culver in 2007, where today it employs 20 people in addition to eight others in Indiana, 15 in Illinois, and one each in Wisconsin and Georgia. JMC attained \$4 million in revenue this year, said Overmyer, and counts AT&T as one of its biggest clients. Also discussed was the company’s work, which includes coordination of -- and overseeing of work on -- removal of coax cable placed underground in the 1980s, across the Midwest and beyond, for replacement with fiber optic cable (Overmyer said coax cable could handle 17,000 calls per second, compared to 50,000 with fiber optic). JMC competes with about nine other companies nationwide, and four or five statewide, for the work, said Balmer, a longtime Culver resident (and former Town Councilman here) who today lives and works for the company near Bloomington, Ind. JMC’s Culver office serves as corporate headquarters, and the company employs a number of former Ameritech and AT&T employees, including retirees who “help train the younger people coming along,” according to Balmer. Overmyer added the company has “a young staff that’s phenomenal.”

Student from page 1

via fund raising Giraldi conducts through the Academies’ alumni base, various foundations, and other sources.

In fact, four more CCHS students will head to Mexico with the program this March, in a 10-day work effort which will leave several Mexican families with house keys in their hands for the first time in their lives.

During the meetings leading up to this year’s trip, Giral-di but noticed one CCHS student with whom he was im-pressed, was in great need of corrective work to his teeth.

“I knew we had to do something,” recalls Giraldi. “Lou-is Plumlee popped into my head immediately. We talked to (the student)...we didn’t only approach it as a cosmetic need, but talked to him about health issues and the need to be successful in relationships, and professionally with interviews. We asked would (corrective surgery) be OK with him? He was very happy about it.”

Plumlee, whose business is celebrating 25 years as a fixture in downtown Plymouth this year, says the stu-dent’s teeth were “soft” and would require a number of appointments (around eight, as it turned out) which nor-mally would cost many thousands of dollars. The dentist

performed the procedures on his “off” hours (with the aid of his assistant Rhonda Hummel) and besides giving a discounted rate, asked that the money be given not to Plumlee himself, but to the nonprofit Campus Outreach organization, which works at four universities in Indiana and many more around the world.

“They go onto campuses and try to help college kids understand there can be a rock in their life as far as Je-sus goes,” explains Plumlee. “They’re trying to get to the kids who are the future leaders of this country...to think about what is really important to them in their lives. My son (Plymouth High School and Grace College graduate Kyle) has a passion for it as does his new wife.”

Giraldi says Plumlee “didn’t hesitate at all” to agree to make the student’s surgeries happen.

“The cost would have been very high to do this if some-body would have gone in somewhere and paid full price,” Giraldi notes. He contacted two Culver Academies alumni -- both of whom happened to be from Oklahoma -- who readily agreed to cover the reduced cost Plumlee offered, and the checks were made out to Campus Outreach.

“It’s interesting,” Giraldi says. “You’ve got Campus Outreach, who wants to ed-

ucate the future leaders of the world and teach young men and women to be responsible citizens, and then you’ve got Culver Academies, whose mission is to teach kids to be responsible citizens. The end result of this great project is (support of) an organization that does same thing. Louis is in the middle being the conduit who makes it happen.

“We hope the student will pay it forward,” he adds. “There are all these different irons in the fire: Louis Plum-lee, with a practice in Plymouth, helping a kid in Culver; and folks who live in Oklahoma helping someone from Culver (who is) getting work done in Plymouth. It goes to show you the world is still a pretty good place. There are people still out there wanting to help others however they can.”

“I never really considered saying no,” recalls Plumlee. “It takes a lot for somebody to grab a hold of a situation (as Giraldi did) and say, ‘I’m going to get this done.’ I was just somebody that could do the work.”

In a series of multi-hour procedures over the summer and wrapping up in October, those of the student’s teeth which were diseased beyond repair were removed, a root canal performed, and multiple crowns and a six-unit bridge put into place.

“That restored his bite to proper functioning and also gave him a new smile at the same time,” Plumlee says, noting the overall decay the student had was at a level that is “not common.”

“He’s (the student is) ex-tremely appreciative. You can see it when he smiles. He’s a different kid now.”

Plumlee points out the student’s oral health situa-tion didn’t impede him from heading to Mexico “to give to others on a mission trip.”

“He’s an amazing kid,” Giraldi concurs. “He made an impression on us (during preparation for the mission trip). One thing that led me to start this process was, if he had this opportunity, it would change his life.”

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