

The Culver Citizen

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PHOTOS/JEFF KENNEY AND *JILL GAVLICK - LAYOUT/JEFF KENNEY

In Brief

Community meal at Grace tonight

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

Nativity pageant Friday

This year's Nativity pageant, held at St. Mary of the Lake Catholic Church in Culver, will take place Friday, Dec. 16, at 5:30 p.m. at the church, located at 124 College Avenue. A children's party with a "special guest" will take place immediately following, in the church basement. Questions may be directed to 574-842-2522.

Maxinkuckee Singers' Christmas concert dates

The Maxinkuckee Singers, under the direction of Beth Webster, will hold six performances of their annual Christmas concert. All shows (except in North Judson) will begin at 7:30 p.m. EST (6:30 CST in Knox) and there is no admission charge. A freewill offering will be accepted.

Dates are as follows: **Dec. 15** at Knox United Methodist Church in Knox; **Dec. 18** at North Judson/San Pierre High School in North Judson.

The North Judson show is a fundraiser for the high school theater and music department and will begin at 4 p.m. EST/3 p.m. CST. Admission will be charged for that performance and tickets available at the door.

REAL Meals Christmas Dec. 20

Culver's REAL Services will hold its annual Christmas meal and party on Tues., Dec. 20, starting at noon. Rather than the usual male/female gift exchange, attendees are encouraged to bring an item to donate to Culver's food pantry. Santa will be there, and as always, the meal takes place at the beach lodge on Lake Shore Drive. This year, Rev. John Houghton of Culver will discuss his recent travels abroad as part of the program. Those wishing to attend are asked to call 574-842-8878 to make a reservation by Dec. 14. A suggested donation of

It's beginning to look a lot like (a Culver) Christmas...

Christmas was breaking out all over Culver this past week, including the annual Lions Club-VFW-fire department children's party, to which Santa Claus (assisted by fireman Tyler Master) arrived in town on a Culver fire truck (LOWER LEFT) and heard Christmas wishes from scores of children, including Breanna Hamilton (age 4, UPPER LEFT). At RIGHT, VFW Ladies Auxiliary president Margaret Dehne, left, and firemen Ken VanDePutte and Jim Grover (center and right) assist Royonica (age 4) and Arien (age 3) Hunt in obtaining treat bags at the party. In the CENTER photo*, Santa paid a visit to the children of Wesley Preschool on School Street, dressed in his earlier togs as St. Nicholas and explaining to children the real-life history of the man in red and his connection to today's Christmas traditions. Pictured are (standing in the back left to right) Kaylie Gibson, Brynn Berndt, Braiden Molebash, Katie Schouten, Santa, Dash Barton, Isabelle Hunnicutt, Cory Winkler, Cassidy Banks, Jake Conroy, Connor Moon, Elisabeth Perkins. Front: Braden Keller, Lexie Myers, Chloe Salyer, Tommy Kelley, David Hite, Maggie Kelley, and Adam Walton.

Health care changes, remains the same in Culver

As the practice of medicine has changed across America, and of course with the passing of time, so has it changed in Cul-

ver as well. In fact, within the space of several short weeks, two major developments have taken place here: the joining of Cul-

ver's Lake Shore Clinic (on Lake Shore Drive) with the St. Joseph Health network on Oct. 1, and the opening of OurClinic, a new

employee-serving facility through Culver Academies on Nov. 28. To add to the changes, longtime Lake Shore Clinic nurse Shellie

Drang has also retired after 45 years of service there. In the articles below, we take a closer look at those changes.

Academies clinic hoped to be a 'win' for employees, school alike

By Jeff Kenney
Citizen editor

The largest employer in Marshall County is now also a health care provider for its many employees, and Culver Academies Human Resources Director Diane Avery couldn't be happier.

Avery says the genesis of the idea began two years ago, when she read an article about medical practice coming full circle and the rebirth of a popular trend in the 1960s for large organizations to host onsite health clinics for their staff. With today's rising health care costs, she says, institutions such as the Academies are seeking ways to keep those costs down.

Culver Head of Schools John Buxton, who had been in touch with an alumni of the school familiar with onsite clinics from his own work, liked the idea and put Avery



PHOTO/CULVER ACADEMIES COMMUNICATIONS

The staff at Culver Academies; new clinic, from left, nurse Rebecca Galbreath, Dr. Brian Johnson, and nurse Colleen Knepper.

See Academies page 6

What will end of independent clinic mean to Culverites' care?

Little or nothing, say physicians

By Jeff Kenney
Citizen editor

It was announced in an earlier issue of The Culver Citizen that, after some five decades as an independent health care clinic -- one of the last, if not the last, in Marshall County -- Lake Shore Clinic at 921 N. Lake Shore Drive, on Oct. 1 became part of the Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center's Physician Network.

Those wondering what changes the move has wrought in patient care at the longstanding clinic, says Dr. Warren Reiss, M.D., need wonder no longer. He sees no discernable changes at all in the care he and partner Dr. Michael Deery, M.D. provide.

So why the change? "Neither of us have set a retirement date yet," he explains, "but it's a logical transition at this stage of our career, with new government and payer initiatives."

"There would have been difficulty recruiting new practitioners as we choose to transition our practice," adds Reiss. "And that has impact for the town."

Changes are minimal, he says, for the average person, though "the computer system has changed." There are some additional educational opportunities for staff and physicians, by way of the merger, which



CITIZEN FILE PHOTO

Shelly Drang soon after graduating nursing school, 1965

Drang, 45-year fixture at Lake Shore Clinic, retires

By Jeff Kenney
Citizen editor

If Shellie Drang seems an indelible fixture at the Culver's longest-running medical facility, it may have something to do with the 45 years she served there before her retirement from Lake Shore Clinic, earlier this year. In fact, she predated both physicians operating there, including Dr. Michael Deery, the longest-serving of the two. Drang graduated in 1961 from Culver High School as

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Chamber honors Allyn, McInturff, Millers at annual fête

By Jeff Kenney
Citizen editor

As in years past, the chill and dark of a December evening were utterly absent from the warm confines of Cafe Max on Main Street as a number of Culver's businesspeople and community servants gathered to honor some of their own.

The Culver Chamber of Commerce's annual awards banquet and ceremony paid tribute to Volunteer and Businessperson of the year, as well as bestowing a Lifetime Achievement award.

Following a business portion of the event and a well-received dinner, Chamber president Dawn Brockey introduced Michelle Allyn, owner and proprietor of Michelle's Headquarters hair salon on Main Street, as Businessperson of the Year.

Noting Allyn was born and raised in Culver,

Brockey said Allyn opened her business in November, 1995.

"With encouragement from her father, Ron Tusing, she became a Chamber member and has been so for all 16 years (of her business' life)," noted Brockey. "She has served on steering committees for the Culver Community Youth Center Board in 1997 (now known as the Culver Boys & Girls Club), and continued on the board, serving as chair for two terms. She served on the Culver After Prom committee for seven years, and five years served as co-chair of the Miss Maxinkuckee Pageant. She is the Culver Weight Watcher leader for the past six years, and most recently has made her business a certified salon affiliate of Hello Gorgeous, which picks a community member who is struggling with cancer to

'pamper' for the day -- from chocolates and flowers to a full makeover.

Allyn and her business have been "dependable and consistent over the 16 years," added Brockey, "and in light of her most recent selfless gift of Hello Gorgeous, Michelle Allyn was a great choice for Business Person of the Year."

Allyn, accepting the award, said she couldn't help but think her father, Ron Tusing or "Mr. T" of the drug store which for decades here bore that name, "would be pretty proud



CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

Culver Chamber president Dawn Brockey, left, presented awards last Tuesday to (from left) Ward and Esther Miller, Michelle Allyn, and Sue McInturff.

right now...I want to mention how important my dad's influence has been on me, and the strong business ethics he instilled in me have been invaluable, with his love for Culver, especially the Chamber. And my mom, for her com-

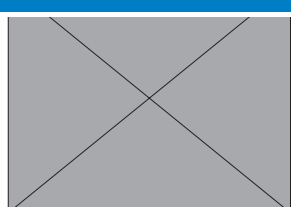
munity service and influence, and helping me get involved."

Allyn also thanked her husband and children, who she said "have been really supportive -- I couldn't run

See Chamber page 7

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Academies Quizbowl team places 2nd at 32-team tournament

PHOTO PROVIDED

The Culver Academies Quizbowl team placed second at the 32-team University of Michigan Tournament Dec. 3. On their way to the championship final, the Eagles recorded victories over Detroit Catholic Central B, Detroit Country Day, Utica, Novi and Troy, who finished third through seventh respectively. Detroit Country Day is ranked #15 in the national quizbowl rankings, DCC B #94. In the final, Culver faced national #8 Detroit Catholic Central A. The Eagles led for most of the game, but DCC A finished off the game with two strong powers to claim the title by a score of 385-335. Culver team captain Andrew Van Duyn was the tournament's MVP with a scoring average of 119 points per game. The Eagles record on the season improved to 23 wins and 4 losses. Complete stats and results for the tournament can be accessed here: hsquizbowl.org/db/tournaments/782/stats/all_games/standings.

Pictured (back row from left): Assistant coach Lauren Coil-Sherck, Claire Cunningham, Krista Trefren, Cole Grandel, Muriel Weathers, Wilson Wu, Austin Kilduff, head coach Phil Blessman. Front row, John Van Duyn, Andrew Van Duyn, Franklyn Ndubuisi-Obi, Ellery Sever.

Clinic from page 1

didn't exist before.

And while changes in staffing have taken place -- long-time nurse Shellie Drang has entered retirement (see article this issue), replaced by Tori Daugherty, and Marsha Coombs is now the clinic's business manager -- those

changes were well under way before the St. Joseph network took over.

"We have access to the same referral pattern as before, by virtue of being on the staff at Plymouth," Reiss explains. "My referral pattern has not changed.

"I think this move assures the breadth and expertise that the St. Joseph Medical Center brings to the community," he says.

Drang from page 1

ie Good, heading that June to Gary Methodist Hospital School of Nursing's three-year diploma program, fairly typical at the time (today, many nurses earn a BSN and Master's degree, such as Drang's oldest daughter, Sherrie). She had grown up on the family farm on Thorn Road, where she still lives, just down the path from her mother's parents, the Weavers (the late Allen Weaver, a familiar local name, was her uncle).

After passing her state boards, Drang found herself a registered nurse. She soon married John Drang, and the two traveled to Florida so John could get some heavy equipment training for work. Homesick Shellie, however, was anxious to get "back north," and the two returned to Culver, Shellie taking a job briefly at Parkview Hospital in Plymouth.

Soon after, however, Lake Shore Clinic doctors Howard and Rosero approached her about working in their building.

In the years leading up to this point, Culver had several medical facilities, including an osteopathic clinic at 820 Academy Road, later the site of Bick's Flicks video and today Culver Academies' Human Resources building. Dr. Powers, she says, had been operating not long before, in the Ohio Street building which would later serve as Culver Community Schools' administration building (today the Academies hosts part of its technology staff there).

Drang remembers Dr. Reed practicing from a building (which is today a private home) on College Avenue across

the street and slightly west of St. Mary of the Lake Catholic church. The Lake Shore Clinic building had been built by the late Jack Kowatch and his crew when Drang was a teen.

Shellie Drang began working at the clinic Feb. 13, 1965. Soon after, Rosero left for Kewanna and in April, 1968, Dr. Deery joined the clinic.

Various doctors came and went, she recalls, before Dr. Warren Reiss' arrival in the 1970s.

That decade also saw the shift to the Academies contracting with Reiss, rather than their own, on-staff physician.

"I remember my dad saying he told (Reiss, then a summer school student), 'You go to medical school and come back and take care of us in Culver,'" she recalls with a laugh. "Dr. Reiss kind of oversaw the Health Center there, and Dr. Deery would go over when Reiss was not around, and Deery ran the clinic in town."

Drang's 45-year run was mostly full-time but for a few part-time years when children Joel and Sarah came along. During this period, her cousin, Norma Newman, filled in two days a week. When Drang's children went to school, she says she didn't want Newman to give up her hours, so Drang began what would become a ten-year stint at Miller's Merry Manor in Culver.

"I went to the nursing home and met Patty Cleveland (then head of nurses) and asked for part time work. That was my second thing I had a passion for, so I worked about as in-service director there. My husband John and the administrator of the nursing home put all the vents together there -- John was the maintenance man at Miller's for 13 years."

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New community sign part of Lions' ongoing care of historic station

By Jeff Kenney
Citizen editor

For the few in Culver who haven't yet noticed, the Lions Club's community sign -- on Lake Shore Drive adjacent to the depot-train station the club calls home -- has had a major renovation, and is now completely electrical, with "rotating" messages, the date and time, and a much easier method of text-changing for Mike Overmyer, who operates the new technology.



CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

Members of the Culver Lions Club board with the new community sign. From left, Fred and Kathy Lintner, Leroy Bean, Dennis Lewandowski, Barbara Winters, Jim Sawhook, Mike Overmyer, Jim Harper, and Dan Adams.

len of Vanadco taught Lions Mike Overmyer, Barbara Winters, and Leroy Bean how to program the sign. Mike Overmyer is the official programmer. On Wednesday Dec. 7th, some trim and finishing touches were installed. The sign was in!

The grant application, notes Winters, reads in part, "The Lions mission statement is: 'To create and foster a spirit of understanding among all people for humanitarian needs by providing voluntary services through community involvement and international cooperation.' This sign helps to foster this spirit of understanding and its messages will reach out to all

Lions president Barbara Winters says that seeing the signs in Argos and other are towns around "made me realize that Culver did not have a sign that could do multiple messages. I looked on the internet...and was astounded at the cost. At first it seemed impossible. But then an article in the newspaper about the Marshall County Community Foundation's grant cycle caught my eye."

The sign committee, she says, included Don Freese, Jim Sawhook, Leroy Bean, Dennis Lewandowski, Mike Overmyer, and Winters herself.

The limestone and fieldstone sign Culver knows as its community sign dates back to a suggestion from Lion Jim Bonine in the summer of 2000 that the old sign be replaced. The August 21, 2001, Culver Citizen pictures an almost completed sign, which Winters says was accepted at that time by the Culver town board as a town sign.

In October, the Community Foundation granted the Culver Lions \$10,000 (the amount requested) to be used toward cleaning, repairing and updating the Culver Lions Club's community sign to a two-side programmable LED display. Winters, who actually wrote the grant, cites club members Ellen and Don Freese and Kathy Clark for their assistance in preparing the document, which also received letters of support from several area organizations.

On Dec. 5, a crew from Vanadco Signs removed the old sign board and inserted the new. Lions Leroy Bean and Don Burke helped with the electrical work and by noon the sign was operational. On Tuesday Dec. 6th, Jeff Al-

who pass by. The sign promotes service clubs and not for profit fundraisers. It helps tourism by raising awareness of events in Culver. It can save lives by posting health alerts.

"What we want to do," she adds, "is provide free community-minded messages. Our primary goal is to let the world know that there is a Hello Gorgeous event, a chili supper with the proceeds going to the Food Pantry, a benefit for a family in need, an Antiquarian event, or information from the Town. For \$10, we will post some personal messages such as congratulations for special events, happy birthday messages, welcome home signs, and such."

The alteration of the sign joins several notable improvements in the operation of the depot of late, including the addition of a permanently-mounted overhead digital projector and motorized drop-down screen for speakers, whether at Lions events or simply making use of the building.

"Actually it was embarrassing to have speakers and programs where we had to borrow equipment," Winters explains. "When the idea came to up-date, it was Don Freese who did the research to help the Lions board. We decided we wanted to keep our dollars at home and so Steve Ulery of Live Oak Electric did the wiring and installation with the help of Lions Leroy Bean and Don Burke."

Winters adds some Lions noticed at last summer's corn roast the condition of the roof of the railroad station, and upon investigation realized that, "although the roof was not very old it was in bad condition. That meant we had to go into the savings to put on a new roof. That was a set back to our finances. Fortunately when it came time to pay for the new LED sign, Vanadco gave us a break on the price so that we actually ended up with a fifty-fifty match with the Community Foundation, something we had not expected.

"Remember that the Lions have a full plate of activities and scholarships in place and all of that has to be paid for first! The Lions have a building fund for the maintenance and improvement of the Railroad Station. That was the source of the funds for these projects."

The train station dates back to 1925, when it was erected to replace the original 1880s-era station, which burned in 1920. The Lions Club -- working with many area organizations and individuals -- "saved" the station through a fundraising campaign in the early 1980s; since then, the club has called the building home, and continually cared for its upkeep and improvement.

Obituary

David Balfour Cleveland

Feb. 22, 1933-Dec. 6, 2011

CULVER — David Balfour Cleveland, 78 of Indianapolis died Dec. 6, 2011. He was born Feb. 22, 1933 in Evanston, Ill. to Ruth (Glass) and Chester W. Cleveland. Raised in Winnetka, Ill., he graduated from The Fessenden School in West Newton, Mass., New Trier High School in Winnetka, Ill. and The University of Kansas William Allen White School of Journalism. He worked for Potts Woodbury and the Spencer Chemical Company until 1963 when he joined his brother as co-owner of The Culver Citizen, Indiana Business and Industry Magazine and The Indiana press. David joined the Trust and Asset Management Group of AFNB in 1971 retiring from Banc1 as Director of Corporate communication. He was the publisher and advertising consultant for the development of the Indianapolis Convention and Visitors Association's Visitors Guide where its legacy continues today. With the blessing of Charles Schultz he created the board game Charlie Brown's All Stars which was produced by Parker Brothers.

He was a past director of The Woodstock Club and the Columbia Club and past treasurer of The Players club. He served as president of the Sigma Chi Fraternity Indianapolis Alumni Chapter and was named Hoosier Sig of the Year in 1994. He is preceded in death by his parents, his brother John and his first wife Teresa Hoffman Cleveland. He is survived by his wife of 47 years, Patricia Wilson Cleveland, two sons, Christopher and Loyal, his daughter Carroll Hannon (John) and five grandchildren: Beth, Katie, Emily, John and Lily Hannon.

Visitation was from 4 to 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 9 at Leppert Mortuary, Nora Chapel, with the White Rose of Sigma Chi ceremony at 7 p.m. The funeral service was held Saturday, Dec. 10 at 11 a.m. at Trinity Episcopal Church. Memorial Contributions may be made in David's memory to Noble of Indiana 7701 E. 21st Street, Indianapolis, IN 46219.



CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

CCMS' holiday sounds

Culver Comm. Middle School's band and choir held its annual holiday concert last Tuesday, in the Culver Comm. High School auditorium. Pictured, playing in the Jason Crittendon-directed band, from left to right, are Angie Busse, Brianna Kinyanjui (standing), Chris Zehner, Austin Jones, Collin Retschlag, Abbi Surrisi, Hunter Kephart (standing facing back), and Maddy Diaz.

A very Culver Christmas 2011

Another busy holiday season is off to a start, and we'll list holiday-related events in the Culver area, as we're aware of them, in this space through December. Please contact the editor at culvercitizen@gmail.com or 574-216-0075 to add your event.

Tues., Dec. 13: Holiday concert, Culver Academies choir, band, orchestra, 7:30 p.m., Ep-Auditorium.

Wed., Dec. 14: Maxinkuckee Singers holiday show, 6 p.m., Grace United Church of Christ, Culver

Fri., Dec. 16: Nativity pageant, 5:30 p.m. (followed by party and Santa visit), St. Mary of the Lake Catholic Church.

Tues., Dec. 20: REAL Meals Christmas party, noon, Culver beach lodge.



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Historic tour of Culver's churches concluded with holiday concert

Staff report
The Antiquarian and Historical Society of Culver teamed up with several area churches Dec. 4 for a bus-driven tour of several of the churches of the town of Culver area, led by AHS member Jeff Kenney (and, at Trinity Lutheran, Jim Harper), and followed by a Christmas and Advent-themed service of carols and prayers at Wesley United Methodist Church, at which most of the churches were represented.

The event began at Wesley itself, where Kenney noted over 54 churches have served Culver and the immediate four township areas since 1836, the first being a log cabin chapel said to be constructed by the first Catholic priest ordained in the U.S., and built for use of the Potawatomi Indians at Twin Lakes, north of Culver. By 1985, 23 to 25 churches served the area, according to Bob Rust's history of Grace church, though that number has reduced since then. Between 1850 and 1860, worship was conducted in homes and in the school house.

In 1850, the Poplar Grove Methodist Church had its beginning; it's located today on State Road 10 east of Culver.

The Marmont (today's Culver) Methodist Congregation was active in the year 1863, though likely it began earlier. The first Methodist Church edifice was built in 1868 and rebuilt in brick 1898 and '99, at the southwest corner of Washington and Main Streets. The 1898 building was 56 x 48 with an 18 foot ceiling. Construction began on the current church building in April, 1954, the old one demolished around the same time. The new building opened 1955 as Wesley Church (the denomination merged in 1968 with the United Brethren church to form the United Methodist Church).

In March, 1885, the Marmont Congregation of the Reformed Church of America was launched, Grace church erected in the fall of 1890. The Reformed and Evangelical Churches united in 1934 to form the Evangelical and Reformed Church, and in 1957, the United Church of Christ

was formed with the merger of the Congregational Christian Church and the Evangelical and Reformed Church.

1934 saw the formation locally of the Culver-Union Township Council of Churches; in 1935 over 330 men joined for the first Good Friday luncheon sponsored by the Council of Churches.

On June 6, 1969, a late afternoon fire extensively damaged the basement and sanctuary above, where the Chancel, ceiling, furniture and windows were badly affected. On June 6, 1971, the new portion of the building was dedicated.

In, "The Emmanuel Church, of the Evangelical Association" started not far south of Lost Lake, called the "Albright church." This original church edifice, built in 1842, was moved in 1899 to its present home on South Main Street. It was brick veneered and renovated in 1924.

The first Catholic Church in the area was built in 1897 at the northeast corner of Lakeview Street and Lake Shore Drive. In September, 1905, a lightning strike burned it to the ground. In 1948, Fr. Joseph Lenk moved to Culver and set up St. Mary of the Lake in a quonset hut, which burned in January, 1954. The present building was opened in 1955.

Trinity Lutheran Church on Academy Road held its first worship service Nov. 30, 1958 in the basement of the Culver Public Library. The church's charter was signed March 1, 1959. By the end of 1968, the Culver Public Library said it needed more space, and the hunt began for land. In May, 1967, the present land was purchased, with the first service in the newly-built structure taking place Nov. 1, 1970.

Jim Harper, leading the historical lesson in Trinity, also commented on the oddness of Culver not having a Lutheran church up to the 1950s, since enough of a German populace existed that several area churches, including Emmanuel, offered German services well into the 1930s.



CITIZEN PHOTOS/JEFF KENNEY
FAR LEFT: Jim Harper speaks at Trinity Lutheran Church. At the closing concert Dec. 4 at Wesley church, Grace United Church of Christ was represented (CENTER PHOTO) by Mike Overmyer and Dan Adams; and (FAR RIGHT) by (from left) Deanna Allyn, Vickie Dearth, Sandra Middleton, and Dolly Martindale.
ROW 2: St Mary of the Lake Catholic Church choir members included, from left, (choir director Beth Pare') Vern Chmielewski, Jim Walsh, Jerry Haney,



and Irene Forest. ROW 3: Wesley United Methodist Church choir included (partially visible, front row, left to right): Hannah Boland, Connie Overmyer, Eileen Wright, Kay Mallory; back row: Sue Schumerth, Phil Mallory, Latham Lawson, and choir director David Kitchell.
BOTTOM PHOTO: Trinity Lutheran Church choir included (back row, from left) Bei Wang, Bao Wang, Rebecca Sorg, Randi Fischer, Chuck Fischer, Kim Kephart, Logan Kepar, and Hunter Kepar. Front row, Madyson Sorg, Jordyn Sorg, and Kaleigh Kepar.



Name that Culver 'citizen'

Several readers will reap free parking for their sharp-eyed recognition of last week's Mystery Citizen, longtime Culver resident, businessperson (with JMC Engineers), and community servant (through Lions Club, Lake Fest, Maxinkuckee Players, Wesley church, and any number of other endeavors) Connie Overmyer (husband Mike has served at least as much here as well). Among our "winners" were Jill Neidlinger, Linda Hall, Lora Pinder, Amy Adams Ruzzkowski, Connie Van Horn, Phyllis Lindvall, Cynthia Bonine Goss, Kathy Allyn, Wanda Miller, Marilee McCormack, Jeanette Geiselman, Regina Anderson, Jim, Linda and Kyle Daugherty,

This week's Mystery Citizen



BELOW: Last week's Mystery Citizen, Connie Overmyer has also been part of the community for decades and has served in several nonprofit organizations, besides contributions of a different sort in more recent years, including a new one very recently.



Guesses may be emailed to culvercitizen@gmail.com or call the editor at 574-216-0075.



CGA trumps CCHS in OT in rough crosstown contest

By James Costello
Sports Editor

CULVER — If she were a basketball coach, Gertrude Stein might have described Wednesday's crosstown rivalry game between Culver Community and Culver Girls Academy like this: 'A win is a win is a win.'

Anyway, that's how CGA Head Coach Gary Christlieb summed up his team's overtime victory against Culver Community at home at The Academies.

In an intensely physical game where neither team's offense was clicking and with Lady Eagles starters Andrijana Cvitkovic and Victoria Christlieb both fouled out, CGA's reserves held tough, and junior guard Saralena Barry beat the buzzer with the game-winning pull-up to seal a 36-35 win over the Cavaliers as Academies fans poured onto the floor.

"You've got to give credit to the kids at the end," said Christlieb. "We had a hodgepodge lineup on the floor; Victoria and Andrijana had both fouled out. We were able to stem the tide and then get a big rebound off a missed free throw, we got it into Saralena's hands to the air as Culver Girls Academy's Lindsey Haller (#32) and she got a great read and just took it to the basket. We

were kidding her, we thought it was too hard and she was going to miss it, but it rattled in."

"It was not a pretty game I don't think on either side," he continued. "Offensive play was definitely very limited, although we did execute a couple of times in our stagnant offense that we ran pretty well. Defensively we hung tough and tried to do some things that we needed to do, got some stops. It's typical; it's an emotional game, it always has been, and I'm sure it always will be. You can sit there and say, it wasn't the greatest or prettiest win that you have, but a win's a win's a win. But you can take away a lot of things. People say you need to learn from a loss, but we can learn an awful lot from this victory too."

After taking an initial 4-0 advantage and swapping leads five times with CGA, Culver trailed most of the second half.

A big 3 from Barry at the 4:47 mark of the third quarter sparked a 7-0 run that gave the Eagles a 24-18 lead, and the Cavs trailed until junior guard Ali Overmyer banked in the game's only other 3 from the corner with 7.3 seconds left in regulation, sophomore guard Kayla Shaffer ran down a CGA turnover on an inbound pass, and sophomore forward Donna Zehner split a pair of free throws with a second on the clock to knot the score at 34-all and force overtime.

Culver Community sophomore Abby James split another pair of free throws at the 3:49 mark of the extra period

to give the Cavs a tentative 35-34 advantage, but the visitors went 0 for 4 from the stripe in two trips to the line after that, setting the stage for Barry's last-second heroics.

"She was pretty excited after she made that first one, and I was hoping that she would knock down that second one so we could go home because the kids were tired," said Culver Community Head Coach Tony Scheub of Zehner's overtime-forcing freebie. "I'm really excited about how they played. We're going to have to figure out a different way to work on our free throws. We try different times in practice, we try to shoot them twice in practice, so we'll change it up and see what we can do."

Zehner stepped up big in the absence of fellow Culver freshman forward Mickella Hardy, who sat out Wednesday's game with concussion-like symptoms. Zehner finished with a game-high 18 points, including 14 in the second half, and a team-leading seven rebounds.

"She just stepped up with Mickella out, and I don't know if she felt like she needed to step her game up, but she was posting up strong," said Scheub. "Coach (Shane) Lowry and Coach (Heather) Overmyer have been really working with the post and getting them to be more physical. It's paying off right now. I'm excited; I think she took a big step forward today. The way she played I'm hoping that she gets confidence from this and it carries over."

CGA was led by Cvitkovic's double-double of 14 points and 18 rebounds, but the agile 6-3 junior was plagued by foul trouble in a contest which featured 36 total fouls, and she fouled out just 11 seconds into overtime at the game. Given the physicality of play, neither team looked great from the floor as Culver Community finished 13 for 58 and CGA was little better at 17 for 55 from the field. Free throw shooting was even more woeful at the emotional contest as Culver went 8 for 23 from the stripe, and the Eagles were a negligent 1 for 9.

"I think you can see our offensive struggles," said Christlieb. "We missed a lot of shots. Shooting percentage was not very good, and that came down to some execution. We really struggled and they just scrapped. You've got to give them credit; you know they're going to play hard in this game, and they did. We were able to take a couple things away. "Kids have to get into a rhythm. They took us out of the rhythm, and that's what made it difficult for us to get anything going offensively. Very physical game, lots of hand checking and our kids have got marks all over up and down our sides from scratching us and stuff. That takes you out of your rhythm, but that's the way the game was officiated,

See CGA page 7



PHOTO/PAUL PARÉ

Culver Comm. High School freshman Tatum Schultz, left, takes a shot as Culver Girls Academy's Lindsey Haller (#32) and Victoria Christlieb (#2) work to stop her.

Sports briefs

Boys basketball

Culver beats Knox in 2OT

Culver opened Northern State Conference play at Knox Saturday, surviving the host Redskins in double overtime, 80-72.

Trent Elliott scored a team-high 23 points, while Allen Biggers put up 16, Jacoda Anderson had 14, and Johnny Anderson had 11 for the Cavs, who rallied back from a 30-18 halftime deficit.

Elliott Coad scored a game-high 25 for Knox, while Steven Graman scored 15, and Austin Hansen finished with 14.

Knox remains winless at 0-4 with an 0-1 NSC start, while Culver stayed unbeaten at 5-0 with a 1-0 start.

• CULVER 80, KNOX 72 2OT
At Knox

CMA falls to West Lafayette

Culver Military took a 56-25 loss at home versus West Lafayette Saturday.

The Eagles got off to a slow start, falling behind 21-9 at the first quarter break in the loss, which leaves the team winless at 0-4.

CMA was led by eight points each from Hayes Barnes and Eljay Murray, while West Lafayette was led by Drake Danforth's game-high 24 points.

• WEST LAFAYETTE 56, CULVER MILITARY 25
At Culver

CMA loses to Memorial

Culver Military fell to 0-3 with an 83-40 loss to Elkhart Memorial at home Friday.

Todd Johnson scored 23 points for the Chargers to lead all scorers.

Hayes Barnes and Sebastian Litchfield each put up eight points to lead CMA.

The Eagles host West Lafayette Saturday. Tip-off is scheduled for 7:30 p.m.

• ELKHART MEMORIAL 83,
CULVER MILITARY 40
At Culver

Girls basketball

CGA wins at Riley

Culver Girls Academy ticked off its second win of the week with a 50-29 victory on the road at South Bend Riley Saturday.

Andrijana Cvitkovic put up a game-high 19 to lead CGA, which moved to 8-1 on the year.

Reiley was led by Kerria Columbus' 13 points and fell to 1-7.

• CULVER GIRLS ACADEMY 50,
SOUTH BEND RILEY 29
At South Bend

Boys hockey

CMA routs Penn, 12-1

Culver Military Academy's high school varsity hockey squad routed Penn 12-1 at home Tuesday.

Brandon Grieves had a hat trick with three goals, while Brock Frazer finished with two goals and three assists in the win, and Daniel Vaughn scored twice.

• CULVER MILITARY (HS Varsity) 12, PENN 1
At Culver

See Sports page 7

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Culver Comm. Middle School students head to Knox for dose of 'Reality'

Culver Community Middle School 8th graders headed to Knox Middle School last month for a little dose of "reality."

Specifically, CCMS was one of four schools (North Judson, Knox, and Oregon Davis were the others) whose counselors arranged and organized the Reality Store, a one-day event with some 25 community volunteers and high school students assisting students throughout the day.

The event, says guidance counselor Tara Anderson, is designed to help the students "live" a month within a budget of a 24 year old, with a specific job and salary. Anderson spent part of a day with all the 8th graders doing a Career Interest Inventory and having them look up jobs in which they were interested. Next, they selected their top job choices, and Anderson later assigned them all jobs and salaries, and prepared their Reality Store Booklets.

The next school day, jobs were reviewed again and stu-

dents discussed upcoming choices they would be faced with making on their field trip day. Each student, explains Anderson, also draws a slip of paper to find out if they are married or single, and if they have any children (up to three). The "Reality Store" day was based upon their income and family size. A student payroll check factors in their annual salary, finds their monthly salary, takes out taxes, and finally discerns their "net pay."

The students visited 12 required booths: banking, student loans, housing, utilities, phone, furniture, transportation, insurance, groceries, life's unexpected events, child care, and clothing. Other available booths included financial consultants (if a second job is needed), travel/electronics, pet/vet, beauty/fitness/health care, and legal (if students received a ticket or fine from Life's Unexpected Events).



PHOTO PROVIDED/TARA ANDERSON

Culver middle school students, from left, Zach Sage, Addy Allyn, Henry Back, Debbie Combs, Courtney Black, and Jillyn Kline participating in last month's "Reality Store" in Knox.

Academies from page 1

together with the alum.

"John just said, 'Sure, go with it,'" Avery recalls. "To me, he's boss of the decade to let an idea like that go forward. So we did, and here we are. If anybody wants a study in how to work as a team, it was (the school's) HR department, Facilities, Communications, Tech Services, Accounting -- we all worked together and got this thing going."

The clinic is managed by OurHealth, an independent, clinically-driven provider of health management for employers. OurHealth is a third party entity not associated with any established hospital, health system, or insurer.

The clinic will offer primary, preventative, and other medical services such as annual physicals, care for common conditions such as sinus, bronchial, and allergy problems, flu, and the like, care for minor injuries, and routine care to monitor chronic health conditions. It will also dispense over 65 generic prescription medications, as well as outside physicians' prescriptions following consultation. Most routine lab work is possible at the clinic, which can also provide referrals to specialists.

Use of the facility is optional for all the Academies' benefit-eligible employees and spouses of those who carry the school's health insurance, though Avery notes pedi-



PHOTO/CULVER ACADEMIES COMMUNICATIONS

Academies HR Director Diane Avery, center, cuts the new clinic ribbon flanked by nurses Colleen Knepper (left) and Rebecca Galbreath (right).

ered at the clinic, which as of last week was booked well into January.

An onsite physician, Dr. Brian Johnson of Winamac, has come to the clinic as its full-time doctor, joining a registered nurse (the clinic is searching for a nurse practitioner), with the two slated to split hours such that someone will be on staff from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

"We've had several people transfer all their medical

atrics is not part of the clinic's offerings. The school will continue to operate its Health Center, for Academies students, as a totally separate entity, still staffed by Drs. Warren Reiss and Michael Deery of Lake Shore Clinic.

Already an expansion of hours is being consid-

files over there," Avery says. "It's great for me. I doctor in Elkhart, so the coordination between my doc and this one will save a lot of drive time and company costs for me being gone from the office."

The school's use of insurance provider Anthem will, of course, go down significantly, she points out, and "ultimately insurance costs will go down."

Those seeing specialists, for example, on a monthly basis for blood pressure, may have their blood pressure taken at the clinic and the results sent to the specialists, rather than visiting the specialist's office for that service, saving significant costs all around.

All care is free to employees, though Avery emphasizes the clinic isn't designed to be an urgent care facility.

Culver Academies employs some 580 people during its winter school months, and over 800 in the summer.

"If you factor in that 85 percent of employees have our insurance, so with spouses using it, then it's a sizable number," Avery adds.

The Academy Road-based clinic was converted from the old Officer's Club, more recently used as apartments.

"You just can't place a value on it," she says. "You're talking to somebody who, when I was hired here, had to ask three times, 'So I get a free meal, and now free medical care?' There's not a company in the U.S. that's as employee-friendly as we are. I love it; it's a dream place."

Briefs from page 1

\$3 per meal is welcome but not required.

Cafe Max collecting for Humane Society

Culver's Café Max is once again sponsoring its annual "Thanksgiving for the Homeless" drive, in which contributions of supplies and money benefit the Marshall County Humane Society.

The shelter wish list includes monetary contributions, used towels and blankets, stamps, stamped post cards, bleach, laundry detergent, clay cat litter (non-scoopable), paper towels, heavy duty 33-gal. garbage bags, cat toys, brand-name kitten and puppy food, AAA batteries for pagers.

Café Max will accept donations during open hours. The Café is located at 113 S. Main St. in Culver and may be reached at 574-842-2511 The supply drive will end December 22.

Donations sought for Jan. 14 benefit for Culver family

A benefit will take place for the family of Culver native Rob Reinhold, 42, who has been diagnosed with ALS, Saturday, January 14, from 2 to 6 p.m., at Mystic Hills Golf Course. There will be a hog roast, and \$20 per person includes dinner, music, one drink, and entry into a raffle. A silent auction will be held during the hours of the event, at Mystic Hills. Tickets will be sold at Culver Coffee Company, Michelle's Headquarters, and Brockey Insurance. Checks should be made payable to "Wesley United Methodist/Reinhold Benefit."

Those wishing to help or give a donation should contact Dawn and Larry Brockey at 219-670-5584 or 574-933-1100, or dawnbrockey@gmail.com.

CHS yearbooks display at museum

The Center for Culver History has a new display showcasing historical aspects of the Culver High School's yearbooks, located in the display case outside the museum doors, in the lower level of the Culver-Union Twp. Public Library. The museum is open from Tuesday to Friday,

noon to 6 p.m., and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Adult basketball at MES gym

The Culver adult winter basketball program will start once again Sunday, November 27, from 1 to 3 p.m. EST, at the Culver Middle School gym.

It will continue at the same time every Sunday, excluding December 25, until March 18, the last session.

The cost is the same as always: \$2 per Sunday, or \$15 for the entire season, which includes 15 sessions.

As always, please, please bring your good sportsmanship, and do not bring your children. Questions should be directed to Ken VanDePutte at 574-274-9942.

Leaf pick-up

The Town of Culver has begun leaf pick-up. All leaves must be placed in the ter race not in the street. Please separate your leaves from the sticks and brush. Pumpkins, rocks, etc. are not acceptable debris for pick-up. Leaf pick-up will continue through December. The leaf crew will move from the north end of town to the south end of town and then repeat. All questions should be directed to the Town Hall at 574-842-3140 between 8a.m. to 4 p.m.

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Pictured, from left, are Terry Wakefield, Donna McKee, and food pantry director Leroy Bean, accepting the check.

CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

VFW soup event feeds participants, food pantry patrons

A number of Culverites were full and satisfied, and Culver's food pantry \$165 richer, following the Culver VFW Post 6919 Men's Auxiliary's annual soup cook-off, which offered eight home-made soups competing for the winner designation. Diners made donations towards the pantry in order to enjoy samples of the various soups, of which Donna McKee's beef mushroom barley took first place (Sandra Kelso's black chicken lemon orzo was a close second, by just one vote), according to Terry Wakefield of the Auxiliary.

"I did it for the cause," smiles Ladies Auxiliary member McKee, who adds, "The VFW does a lot of charity work."

McKee's recipe is presented below.

Beef mushroom barley soup

Ingredients: 1 1/2 pounds boneless beef chuck, cut into 3/4 inch cubes; 1 tbs vegetable oil; 2 cups finely chopped onions; 1 cup diced carrots, 1/2 cup sliced celery; 1 pound fresh mushrooms, sliced; 2 garlic cloves, minced; 1/2 tsp dried thyme; 1 can (14.5 ounces) beef broth; 1 can (14.5 ounces) chicken broth; 2 cups water (may use up to 2 cups more water); 1/2 cup medium pearl barley; 1 tsp salt; 1/2 tsp pepper; 3 tbsp fresh, chopped parsley (dried will work); "a little bit of this, a little bit of that."

In soup kettle, brown meat in oil. Remove meat and set aside. Saute' onions, carrots, and celery in meat drippings over medium heat until tender, about five minutes. Add mushrooms, garlic, and thyme. Cook and stir for three minutes. Add broth, water, barley, salt, and pepper. Return meat to pot. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat, cover, and simmer 1.5 to two hours. May need to add additional water if too thick, and "a little bit of this, a little bit of that."

Chamber from page 1

a business without their support. "And my coworker, Susan Elizondo -- I couldn't be successful without her...we're a good team. I also would not be here without the support of the community in this wonderful town of Culver."

Volunteer of the Year Sue McInturff, who grew up on a farm south of Culver and graduated from Aubbeenaubee High School in Leipers Ford, also attended International Business College in Fort Wayne, returning to receive a B.S. in Business and going to work for then GTE, now Verizon, in 1979. Brockey said McInturff married and divorced and has a 23 year old son who lives in Fort Wayne today.

"In August 2006, after the recent passing of their

mother," explained Brockey, "Sue and her sister Ursula, on their way to breakfast, parked in front of a soon to be vacant store at 109 S. Main St., in Culver. The idea of opening a gift shop seemed to come from nowhere (and) after several months of tearing down wallpaper, repainting, making buying trips and setting up merchandise, Diva opened on March 30, 2007."

The store doubled its floor space in September, 2010, growing to a wide-ranging women's accessories, home décor and general gifts destination store.

After retiring from Verizon, McInturff moved to Culver in June, 2010, after which she immediately became active in the Chamber and has been on the Chamber board since January 2011.

Brockey added McInturff's tenure has included the Nine and Wine committee, developing an event package to promote local businesses, and spearheading the first annual "Christmas in Culver" last month, "making it one of the biggest sales days for several businesses."

McInturff, accepting the award, said she enjoys being involved in many different ways, "especially ways that promote businesses in town...the Chamber is a great group of people. I appreciate it."

The Lifetime Achievement Award was particularly appropriate in that its recipients, Ward and Esther Miller of The Painter and the Poet, recently moved from Culver after decades of documenting its sights and essence in poetry and on canvas.

Esther Miller, explained Brockey, began drawing before she learned to read or write, and after high school married and attended Kansas City Art Institute for two years, then

pausing to raise four children, all the while dabbling in art.

"In her late 30s, she had the unexpected good fortune to come across a watercolor workshop (and) was hooked...a few years later she divorced and opted for a change-a real estate career, all the while wishing she were painting. She continued to look at the world around her and continued to dream.

"Ward wrote his first poem in 1951, walking guard during the Korean War. Esther and Ward were introduced in South Bend, and after their second date Ward sent her a poem. She was hooked. After some years of traveling and selling paintings, they were looking for a more set lifestyle, and decided on this little town of Culver, where they opened The Painter and the Poet Gallery."

Brockey noted the couple is "setting sail for other shores," in this case those of Winona Lake, "where they can enjoy the rest of their retirement and continue to paint all of the watercolors that are still in Esther's head—maybe Ward will write her a new poem or two about their new home.

"Their paintings and poems have been enjoyed by so many people who live, or visited, our community, and are cherished memories for many. Although they will be greatly missed in Culver, we wish them well on their new journey and hope they know how truly deserved this Lifetime Achievement Award is."

Esther Miller, recalling she and Ward started the Painter and the Poet at age 60, said the choice to move from Culver "was a head decision -- our hearts are still here."

Ward promised the couple will be back for visits. "We're not abandoning Culver at all; we feel this is our home."

Sports from page 5

Wrestling

7th-rated CMA goes 4-1 at Logan

The Culver Military Academy wrestling team went 4-1 at the Logansport Invitational Saturday.

CMA beat Benton Central — which entered the meet at 9-1 — Rochester, Peru and edged out Class 2A, seventh-ranked Delphi 39-33 but sustained its first loss of the year to host Logan by six to move to 15-1 on the season.

The Eagles now move into the No. 7 spot in the 2A polls.

LOGANSPORT INVITATIONAL
At Logansport
CMA results: CMA 39, Benton Central 33; CMA 55 vs Rochester 22; CMA 39, Delphi 33; Logansport 40, CMA 34; CMA 33, Peru 27
CMA record: 15-1

CMA stays perfect vs LaVille

Culver Military Academy won seven matches by pinfall and nine total matches in a 52-24 dual meet victory over visiting LaVille at the Academies Thursday.

Kayla Miracle, Carlos Salinas, Anthony McHugh, Pascal Brun, Edward Hogan, Edmond Hogan and Collin Parker all scored pinfall victories for the Eagles, who remained unbeaten on the year at 11-0.

Garrett Lead scored LaVille's lone pinfall win in 2:28 at 195 pounds.

CULVER MILITARY 52, LAVILLE 24

At Culver

Men's college basketball

Holy Cross loses to Davenport

Holy Cross lost a 105-57 game at home against undefeated Davenport Michigan Thursday.

Culver Community graduate Zoe Bauer scored five points with three rebounds in the loss, as Holy Cross slipped to 2-7.

Boys swimming

Culver Military dominates Marian

Culver Military Academy earned a dominant 130-49 victory over visiting Mishawaka Marian in a dual swim meet Saturday at The Academies.

The Eagles went one-two in seven total events, including the 200 medley relay.

Leopoldo Burguete and Zach Grant each finished with three wins for CMA, while Bryan DeVries and Jorge de la Vega each finished with two wins for the Eagles.

CULVER MILITARY 130, MISHAWAKA MARIAN 49

Girls swimming

CGA routs Marian

Culver Girls Academy handed visiting Mishawaka Marian a lopsided 133-39 loss at home at The Academies Saturday.

Natalie Bittles, Rory Byrne and Jaclyn Schutjer each recorded three wins for the Lady Eagles, who swept the top spot in every event and the top two positions in eight different events at the dual meet.

CULVER GIRLS ACADEMY 133, MISHAWAKA MARIAN 39

CGA from page 5

and you've got to adjust to that."

Culver Girls Academy improves to 7-1 rebounding from its first loss of the season a 45-31 road defeat at the hands of Saint Joseph's of Ohio Saturday. The Eagles host South Bend Riley Saturday at 7:30 p.m.

"Games like this only make you better," said Christlieb. "Throw the records out, this is always going to be a game like this, and you have to be ready. We've got some things to work on, but we got the 'W', and we had some great moments. Saralena puts a game-winning shot into her repertoire of life experiences. How many kids get an opportunity to do that?"

Culver Community slides to 4-5 with a third straight loss, meanwhile, but while he was disappointed with the outcome, Scheub wasn't entirely unhappy with his team's performance at the game, and he's hoping some of the lessons learned will carry over to Saturday's Northern State Conference game at Knox.

"As much as I hate to say this — and I hate losing more than anything just like anyone else — but it was a great game," said the Culver skipper. "We had situations where we needed a stop, we had situations where we had to knock down free throws, we had situations where we needed a basket, so we got a lot of work out of this game."

CULVER GIRLS ACADEMY 36, CULVER COMMUNITY 35, OT

At Culver Academies

Culver: 6 12 22 34 35

CGA: 8 13 26 34 36

CULVER (35): Abby James 0 1-2

1, Angela Lewellen 1 0-0 2, Ali

Overmyer 1 0-2 3, Tatum Schultz 0 3-6 3, Kayla Shaffer 3 2-5 8, Donna

Zehner 8 2-8 18; Totals: 13 8-23 35.

CGA (36): Victoria Christlieb 2 0-0 4, Andrijana Cvitkovic 7 0-5 14, Andrea

Lin 0 0-0 0, Alle Baker 0 0-2 0, Lindsay Haller 2 1-2 5, Saralena Barry 3 0-0 7,

Monique Novoa 1 0-0 2, Rita Zambon 2 0-0 0; Totals: 17 1-9 36.

3-pointers: Culver 1 (Overmyer), CGA 1 (Barry); Turnovers: Culver 20, CGA

29; Rebounds: Culver 36 (Zehner 7), CGA 47 (Cvitkovic 18); Assists: Culver

9 (Schultz 8), CGA 6 (Christlieb 2, Cvitkovic 2, Haller 2); Steals: Culver

11 (Schultz 4, Shaffer 4); Fouls (fouled out): Culver 14 (none), CGA 22

(Christlieb, Cvitkovic).

Records: Culver 4-5, CGA 7-1.

JV score: CGA 41 (Helen Weinberg 16), Culver 23 (Lonnia Montgomery 13)

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Hundreds of purses sold for *Hello Gorgeous!* cause at Friday event

The line literally wound down the street Friday night for the long-awaited Great Purse Extravaganza sponsored by Michelle's Headquarters salon on Main Street to raise funds for Hello Gorgeous!, a South Bend-based nonprofit which arranges "pampering" spa experiences for women fighting cancer. Michelle's, owned by Michelle Allyn, became certified as a Hello Gorgeous! salon -- and "pampered" its first recipient -- earlier this year, and simultaneously began planning the event, in which community members were invited to donate new or gently-used purses for a gala event, complete with wine, cheese, refreshments, and even a special silent auction for a select handful of particularly valuable purses.

CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY AND *PHOTO PROVIDED Pictured ABOVE, LEFT at the Great Purse Extravaganza are (from left) Michelle Allyn, Hello Gorgeous co-founder Kim Becker, and event co-organizers and workers Susan Elizondo and Marilyn Speicher-Rans. At RIGHT, eager shoppers began lining up down the block from the start of the event last Friday evening.

That event -- the brainchild of Michelle's customer Rita Shireman -- took place Friday evening, and organizers say calling it a success is an understatement. Some 600 purses were donated, over 400 of which sold during the three-hour event. Frank Elizondo, whose husband Susan is Allyn's co-worker at the salon and in organizing the event, stood guard outside to keep the throngs of interested buyers and supporters (and the fire marshal, due to the overwhelming numbers) at bay while others shopped.

Get Your Team Ready For Best Loser 2012

Registration Deadline is January 9th
Contest Runs January 16-March 21

Contest Regulations:

- Each team consists of 2 participants with a \$40 entry fee
- Each participant must sign a waiver & agree to the contest rules & regulations
- Participants under the age of 18 must have a parent or guardian sign the waiver
- Participants may not have had any type of weight loss surgery in the last year or currently pregnant

Contest Rules:

- The \$40 team entry fee must be paid on Monday, January 16th at weigh-in time
- Weigh-ins are taken without shoes and wearing a single layer of clothing
- All weigh-ins must take place at Fitness Forum during each of the three designated weigh-in periods
- Teams will be disqualified if all weigh-ins are not completed
- We will only release the team's total percentage of weight lost, not individual or team weights or body fat %

Contest Incentives:

- \$1,000 Cash Prize will be awarded to the team losing the greatest percentage of total weight
- A free 30-minute massage at Serenity Spa will be given to the top individual who loses the most body fat %
- Winners will be announced on Saturday, April 7th



PHOTO PROVIDED/RACHEL MEADE

Christmas at the library

Jessica Saunders of Culver, with daughter Anna in her arms, listens as Beth Pare' plays harp during the Culver-Union Twp. Public Library's Christmas open house Saturday. The Friends of the Library provided refreshments and local concert pianist Jerrod Drake provided piano music for the event. The Friends also decorated the library's Christmas tree, visible here.

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