

The Culver Citizen

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**HAPPY THANKSGIVING,
CULVER!**



PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY AND * MISSY TRENT

In Brief

Monterey Christmas parade, tree lighting Saturday

The town of Monterey will hold its annual Christmas parade on Saturday, Nov. 29. A tree lighting on Main Street will take place at 6 p.m., followed by the parade at 6:30. Immediately following the parade, there will be cookies and cocoa with Santa at the Monterey fire station. All are welcome.

Cafe Max Humane Society drive runs through Saturday

Culver's Café Max, 113 S. Main St., 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. The drive runs through Nov. 29.

Community meal at St. Mary's Sunday

St. Mary of the Lake Catholic Church's monthly community meal will take place Sunday, Nov. 30. On the 30th day of each month, a community meal will be provided for anyone interested in attending. St. Mary of the Lake is located at 124 College Avenue in Culver. Questions may be directed to 574-842-2522.

Adult recreational basketball starts Sunday

Adult recreational basketball will begin again this year, starting Sunday, November 30, 1 to 3 p.m. EST, at the Culver Middle School gym. This will continue each Sunday, and last day will be March 8, 2015. Cost is the same to cover insurance, \$2 per Sunday or just \$15 for all 15 sessions. Please bring your A

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A cornucopia of Culver kindness

ABOVE: Culver Comm. Middle School's student council collected and subsequently donated Thanksgiving turkeys last week, to the Culver Council of Churches food pantry located in the basement of Grace United Church of Christ on Plymouth Street, where they were received gratefully by pantry head Dennis Lewandowski (ABOVE, LEFT) and volunteer Kathy Brady (right). The donation is a welcome one, as Lewandowski says the pantry has seen an increase in usage lately and contributions haven't been keeping up. Pictured at RIGHT* are students (from left to right) Lilly Gregorash, Maranda Otteman, Isabelle Ahlenius, Sophie Michi, Dana Rodgers, and Anna Blocker.

Culver Comm. High School rattled by two consecutive bomb threats

By Jeff Kenney
Citizen editor



CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

ABOVE: Police cars line up outside the front entrance of Culver Comm. High School last Wednesday, where officers investigated a bomb threat discovered in a school restroom, the first of two such threats in a row.

Last week's occurrence of two bomb threats within two days weren't the first such threats received at the school throughout its history, but in today's climate of increased concern over school violence, they were of central concern to parents, administrators, and police.

The first bomb threat was identified at the Culver Community High School around 1 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 19, with students, faculty, and staff evacuated immediately thereafter.

Culver Community Schools superintendent Dr. Vicki McGuire told the Culver Citizen that a handwritten note on the stall in a boys' restroom said a bomb was in the building. A custodian believed the note had not been there the night before, so safety procedures were initiated and students evacuated.

Parents were contacted to pick up their children at another location, and school dismissed early, while Culver and Marshall County police began a search of the building. "I'm very proud of all the staff and students for the way they were eager to do the right thing," said McGuire, shortly after the incident. "We took care of all our students."

As a result of the situation Wednesday, the school corporation's long-planned, public strategic planning meeting was also postponed, with a new date to be announced.

The incident was still very much on the minds of many when, on Thursday evening, parents received a call from School Reach (the automated mass telephone contact service used by the school) notifying them that a second bomb threat had been identified, also hand-written in one of the boys' restrooms at the school.

Culver town marshal Wayne Bean contacted the Culver Citizen from the school building around 10:30 p.m. Thursday to

See Threat page 2

Tickets issued for trains blocking Burr Oak tracks

Safety issues among those cited

Diona Eskew and Rachael Herbert-Varchetto
MARSHALL COUNTY/ BURR OAK — Trains stopping on the railroad tracks blocking road ways presents a variety of issues for travel.

"It been in the news, especially in Dunlap, about trains blocking crossings. For some of you that don't know, I live down there in Burr Oak, we have that train track that goes through there. They have been blocking them quite regularly for a while," Marshall County Commissioner Kevin Overmyer told the commissioners during their regular meeting Monday.

The sheriff's department was called on the train and the Norfolk train conductor received a ticket. Trains cannot block a crossing for more than ten minutes according to Indiana statute. There have been reports of trains blocking the Burr Oak crossing for as long as six hours.

"The trains don't communicate with 911 and say

See Trains page 5



PHOTO/GRANT MUNROE

ABOVE: An evening train heads down the tracks at Burr Oak in this Citizen file photo.

Student donations to food pantry are much-needed boost

By Jeff Kenney
Citizen editor

Culver's food pantry is several frozen turkeys richer, thanks to a collection endeavor from the Culver Comm. Middle School student council. Their subsequent donation was a welcome one, according to pantry director Dennis Lewandowski, who took over the post from Leroy Bean some weeks ago (Lewandowski had been assisting Bean for several years prior to the latter's stepping down). Lewandowski says there's been an increase in usage of the pantry recently.

The Culver food pantry, located in the lower level of Grace United Church of Christ on Plymouth Street in Culver, is an effort of the Culver Council of Churches, and is open every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to noon. Part of its food, toiletry, and even pet supply offerings are derived from private donations (many from the local community) and part from USDA-provided items delivered regularly from South Bend.

Lewandowski says Judy Currens is now taking the lead role as his assistant at the pantry, though there are several regular volunteers (volunteer Kathy Brady, another regular, aided last Thursday night in accepting the 11 turkeys provided by the student council). He also expresses appreciation for the regular assistance of Rebecca Nifong, Dan Burke, and Larry Brockey in making the pantry happen.

The pantry, Lewandowski says, averages some 30 adults and 60 children per week, and that number is increasing by the week.

"Every week I see four or five more families," he notes.

Culver Comm. Middle School guidance counselor Missy Trent, faculty sponsor for the student council and the one who conceived the turkey donation idea, says she "just thought about all the families who might not be able to afford a turkey. The pantry is usually stocked with canned goods (and the like), but I don't think a lot of people think about donating meat. I couldn't stand to think a family might not have a turkey for Thanksgiving."

See Pantry page 5

'Holiday Hop,' town tree lighting - caroling Dec. 5



Culver's annual Culver Christmas tree lighting and caroling event will take place Friday, Dec. 5 starting at 6:30 p.m., at the train station - depot on Lake Shore Drive in Culver, and this year local businesses are encouraging shoppers and diners to take part in a "Holiday Hop" to coincide with the festivities.

Between 5 and 8 p.m., participants may pick up a special stamp card from any of the participating businesses (restaurants may be offering the cards all day), and then make a purchase at four of the participating businesses to receive a stamp on their card. Once participants have collected four stamps from four different businesses, they may take their completed card to Café Max (113 S. Main Street) before 9 p.m. Write your name and phone

See Hop page 3

A Culver History Quarterly addendum

Editor's note: the two stories on this page were inadvertently omitted from last week's "Culver History Quarterly" newsletter of the Antiquarian and Historical Society of Culver, an underwritten feature of the AHS. The AHS website may be found at www.culverahs.com, and email address is historyofculver@gmail.com.

Gift of Warmth

Dusty Henricks organized our contribution to the Film Fest last Sept 1, 2014 with his usual good humor and good sense. Ice cream and root beer were served to all who came to our booth next to the food service. Many thanks to Francis Ellert and E. P. Severns, who donated the root beer, and to Lydia Osborne for donating half the cost of the cakes.

Dusty also wants to thank the members who spent time serving the young and old who came for their dessert. Bob and Becky Kreuzberger, Fred and Judy Karst, Lois Curtis, Larry and Joan Bess, Dave Baker, Terry Muford, Gary and Katy Lewalyn, Carol Saft, Jim Hahn, Diane Osborne, and Jim and Dorothy Peterson.

President's Report

Jim Peterson

"How many Antiquarians does it take to change a light bulb? The answer is, "three." One to change the bulb and two to talk about how great the old one was."

To many people, the Antiquarians represent the two people that are just reminiscing about the old bulb. In fact the volunteers and members of AHS are more representative of the person changing the bulb (because they are providing new light, as well as insuring that the old light is properly appreciated), because they are changing the bulb, provided that the story of the old bulb is preserved and shared.

Years ago, Fred Karst wrote in the Culver Citizen, "Isn't it ironic that the most forward thinking organization in Culver is the Antiquarian and Historical Society of Culver?"

That observation is still true today because only by understanding the past can we plan sensibly for the future. Through AHS programs and activities we are bringing an understanding of Culver's history to our members and to the community in general. Heritage Park and the Light-house are excellent symbols of our past, the Museum of Culver and Lake Maxinkuckee History brings to life stories from our past, our meetings and events focus on our history, and our publications, such as the newsletter in the Culver Citizen, our web page and

Threat from page 1

assure social media and Internet readers that police were searching the building and planning to bring a bomb-sniffing dog. School officials were also on the scene or in communication with police, Bean affirmed.

School officials confirmed that night, through Bean, that those students choosing to stay home from school Friday due to the incident, would not have that absence counted against them, though school proceeded as usual.

Superintendent McGuire confirmed attendance was down on Friday at the school. "We may have had 25 percent of students in school today," she acknowledged, adding, "It was a perfectly safe and unremarkable day."

The decision to proceed with school Friday came after police searched it Thursday night and gave an "all-clear." As of this writing, school was planned to take place as usual on Monday as well.

"Again, our staff has done an outstanding job of ensuring the safety of our children," said McGuire on Friday. Administrators have spent their entire days and nights ensuring student safety. We have worked with officials and even consulted with safety specialists. We want to thank students for behaving in an orderly fashion during this time. Parents are also to be commended for their understanding and efforts."

Parental and community reaction to the incidents was mixed on social media -- specifically the Culver Citizen's Facebook page -- with some suggesting the threats are merely pranks or efforts by a student or students to avoid classes, and some seeing the situation as indicative of increasing concerns over school violence and danger. The majority of those commenting said they felt the school was doing all it could, though some suggested increased security measures at the school.

Whether police believe the threats were made with any seriousness, they -- and administrators -- are following every precaution regardless.

"We're acting on it as a serious concern," said Bean. "We're doing what we can within our means."

Bean urged anyone with information on either incident -- whether Wednesday's or Thursday's bomb threat -- to contact the Culver police department at 574-842-2525.

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Thankful for Culver

In honor of the Thanksgiving holiday, the Citizen asked online readers to submit answers as to why they're thankful to live in (or have lived in, or frequently visit) Culver. Following are some of their responses.



Pam Baker

Pam Baker: It's a wonderful community to raise children. I have worked and lived here since 1970 and feel a wonderful connection to the people who live in Culver. No pun intended but it's a place where it seems like everyone knows your name. I always feel wonderful when new people buy homes here in Culver, especially those that really don't have a clue how great our community is. I already know they're going to love it here.

Gerry Schlabach Burkett: I am thankful for the quietness, the natural beauty, family and friends that live here and the common thread that runs through each of us, which connects us in one way or another, to each other. I am thankful to have Culver as my home.



Gerry Burkett

Anna Campbell: I am thankful for my great-grandparents that made a small investment in 1952, purchasing a piece of paradise. Of all the places in the world, I am fortunate to know and love and live in this community. Culver, the lake, the natural beauty, the charm, it is addicting beyond measure.



Marina Cavazos

Marina Cavazos: We are so thankful to live in this wonderful little town. We moved here 18 years ago and the

people of Culver welcomed us and embraced us! We will always be thankful and grateful to Steve Randolph, who knocked at our door and presented us with a turkey and all the trimmings! Turned out to be the best Thanksgiving ever!

Dawn Sperry Clemons: I grew up in Culver. Back then it was a town and not so much a resort. Quiet and never any crime.



Karen Lee

Karen Lee: When my family moved here in 1991, all I could think about was my escape back to Chicago. As a teenager I did not understand why my mother took our family out of the inner city Chicago to Culver. It was such a change to what we were used to.

Not long after high school I started my own family and then began to understand exactly why my mother chose Culver.

While I never was able to "escape" Culver, it has become my home. I am raising three of the most important people in my life in this community. My older boys are involved in sports and each have jobs at local restaurants. This is their home and I am thankful each and every day that they do not have a life like the one I left behind in the city.

This is a community that cares about each other and helps each other, and it all comes from the heart. I know that my boys are safe waking into town or staying after school while waiting for the local sports event to start. I have never taken advantage of the fact that we are safe here in Culver. Not everyone is as lucky as we are.

I count my blessings every day my mother made the move in 1991.

Shannon (Shepherd) Moors: I am thankful that I was able to give Emmalee 16 amazing years in Culver. That she was able to experience the same things I did growing

up. I have so many amazing memories growing up in Culver and no matter where we are, it will always be home to Emmalee and I.

Barbara Napier I grew up on a farm in Culver. And I have many fond memories of this quaint little town. I remember when you could buy just about anything up town. Another great feature was the lake. It is alot different now, more of a resort town, but it is still a wonderful town. I'm proud to say that I'm from Culver.



Barbara Napier

Bobbi Schrimsher: I always appreciated living in Culver. It is a town like no other: totally country but with a strong cosmopolitan flair, a fascinating mix of people from every part of the world and an amazing beauty that keeps drawing people back. Since we moved to Indianapolis I have recently come to understand another truth that makes Culver a place I was thankful to call home and miss dearly: the strong sense of community.

People know and care about each other in Culver. They pull together in times of trouble. They celebrate each other's triumphs. They support each other. They look out for each other's kids. Sure, it can sometimes be annoying that everyone knows everyone else's business but I now realize there is actually comfort in knowing the people around you care enough to be nosy!! Down here in Indy, I am just another face in a crowd. No one here cares what happens to me or mine. It's an "every man for himself" attitude. I miss Culver.

I strongly urge all citizens in Culver, when they sit down to say grace this Thanksgiving, to remember to give thanks for their very special community.

High speed rail talk continues

By Rachael Herbert-Varchetto
Staff writer

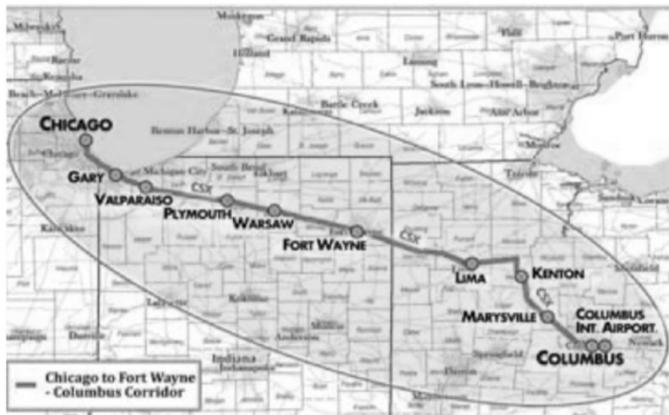
PLYMOUTH – The plans for a high speed rail line through northern Indiana are still in place after a recent meeting between regional mayors in Lima, Ohio.

"The mayor and I went over to Lima and had a meeting with the mayor, David Berger. There's a group that's been trying to work on it the last few years. The hope is that by 2020 it would actually be functioning," said City Attorney Sean Surrisi.

The proposed project will run on the existing CSX rail lines that generally cater to freight rail. It will connect Chicago to Cincinnati with six train stops in Plymouth. Surrisi stated that after speaking with the mayor of Lima and other developments, the work to be done would mostly include improvements to the existing line and the construction of stations if none exist at the various drop off points. He estimates that work should start within the next four to five years after two environmental studies have been completed. The meeting served as an opportunity to further cement the relationship between the cities and update on where the project was currently situated.

"Just recently, [Ohio regional planning association] applied for a federal rail road administration grant for about \$2 million to do the tier one environmental impact study that needs to be done to move forward with the projects," he explained.

Projections for the rail line estimate that the system will create more than 26,000 jobs. Household income is projected to increase by \$7.1 billion in 2012 dollars, with property values estimated to an increase of \$2.6 billion



The proposed route for the CSX rail line.

by 2050 with a population growth to 12.5 million in the region.

"It's a major draw in terms of economic development. You can have folks that live in Chicago and if you want to come do business here in Plymouth, it's very convenient to be connected in that way and vice versa," said Surrisi. "If you have people that want to make their home in Marshall County and their business takes them to Columbus three days a week, if they can be there in two hours on a train, doing work through wifi instead of driving, it can make it a reality for someone who wants to live here in Marshall County."

"We're at least five years away I would say," commented Mayor Mark Senter. "It seems like the Indiana part is farther along than the Ohio part, but I don't know exactly why."

According to Senter, support for the rail project has been positive across the region, even extending from Governor Mike Pence. Senter however intoned that Indiana seemed more supportive of the project as a whole, with the majority of inter-regional meetings taking place in Indiana.

"It seems like a lot of the meetings we've had have been the Indiana portion. It seems that our whole leadership over here has been very strong, especially coming out of the Fort Wayne area. It's gonna happen, just a matter of time," he said.

The future of the project currently hinges on the granting of the federal grant for the environmental study.

"If we get this grant, the city of Fort Wayne has agreed to be along with INDOT as the lead agencies for administering a grant and making sure the environmental study gets done in a timely manner," explained Surrisi.

As the end point comes closer, Surrisi stated there would likely be a draft of an intergovernmental agreement reached between all participating cities and counties between the three states.

Report from page 2

other brochures and pamphlets, add to our understanding of that unique history.

It is through our board members and the AHS volunteers that we tell our story and increase understanding of our history. These volunteers help tell the story in an entertaining and informative way.

Some of these forward thinking, young-at-heart and hard-working volunteers include:

Membership Committee: Diana Mitchell, Dianne Osborne and Tom Curtis

Events and Meetings Committee: Ginny Gibson, Sherrill Fujimura, Marsha Bilsland, Janet Kline, Krista and Bill Furry, Jim Hendricks and Dorothy Peterson.

Museum Committee: George Duncan, Joan Bess, Sandy and Joe Baughn, Mike Overmyer, Julie Hollowell, Mark Damore, Jr. Jeff Kenney, Bob Kreuzberger and Tom Curtis.

Heritage Park: Becky and Bob Kreuzberger

Newsletter and Communications: Agnes Bramfeld, Fred Karst and Jeff Kenney

Publications Sales: Dusty Henricks.

Legal and Financial Affairs: John Nash and Alan Loehr

These and many other volunteers, our staff and supporters have made AHS a significant organization in the Culver/ Lake Maxinkuckee Community. The AHS organization as a whole owes these volunteers a debt of gratitude for their outstanding service.

Please join these volunteers in their committee assignments. Together we can make more history come alive for our past, present and future residents.

Check out Culver news daily online at www.culvercitizen.com and facebook.com/culvercitizen

Sullivan becomes first Culver Academies grad to win Senate seat

Republican Dan Sullivan (Culver Military Academy class of 1983) became the first Culver Academies alumnus to win a United States Senate race when he defeated incumbent Democrat



The Dan Sullivan family photo from his election committee's Facebook page.

Mark Begich in Alaska. Sullivan was not officially declared the winner until last week when state election officials counted absentee and questioned ballots and determined Begich could not overcome Sullivan's 8,100 vote election night lead.

Sullivan, a first-time candidate, ran a confident campaign and received

help from Texas Sen. Ted Cruz and 2012 GOP presidential nominee Mitt Romney in the closing days before the election. Sullivan pledged to fight federal overreach, and talked about the need for an energy renewal in the United States.

Sullivan, originally from Ohio, is married to Alaska native Julie Fate Sullivan. They have three daughters. His ties to the state date back to the 1990s. He was away from the state for nearly seven years for military service and work in Washington, D.C., that included working as an assistant secretary of state. He returned to Alaska in 2009 after being appointed attorney general by then-Gov. Sarah Palin.

He most recently served as Alaska's natural resources commissioner, a post he left in September 2013 to make his first run for public office. Sullivan said he was humbled by the support he received. Among those supporting Sullivan was Alaska's senior Senator, Republican Lisa Murkowski, who endorsed Sullivan after he won a hotly contested three-way primary race.

Details taken from the Nov. 12 issue of USA Today
This story appears courtesy of news.culver.org.

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Hop from page 1

number on the back of your card and you'll be entered to win a \$300 shopping spree. The spree includes gift certificates from all of the participating businesses.

As part of the tree lighting event, student members of the Culver Youth Community Organization (CYCO) from Culver Community Schools and Culver Academies will lead caroling groups to various businesses to sing, and attendees are invited to take part. Santa is expected to arrive

in town that evening, and treats will be served and the town Christmas tree lit.

CYCO is also placing cans in area businesses to collect money to support local families in need this holiday season. They will collect the cans when they visit establishments on that evening.

Culver through the years

Just how old is the 'old jail'?

By Jeff Kenney
Citizen editor

It might seem an odd time to focus on something which doesn't enter many of our minds until the final weeks of July each year, but several requests have come down the line to clarify a question about an alleged Culver artifact familiar to many: the "old jail" utilized in the Culver Lions Club's annual corn roast (a tradition dating back to the 1940s, though its been in more recent decades that the event became the public one it is today, as opposed to "members only").

Those requests became more frequent and interested, in recent months, so the editor undertook a fact-finding mission to (hopefully) clear up the story on the small jail cell from which corn roast attendees are encouraged to solicit modest financial contributions from friends and acquaintances in order to be "freed."

The assumption in the minds of some seemed to be that Culver only ever had one jail, almost at the beginning of its existence, and that the Lions Club cell was it. Just looking at its construction -- both the materials used and their assembly -- cast more than a little doubt on that claim.

The actual truth of the history of the Lions Club's jail is arguably almost as interesting, however.

Let's start with the jail which really was Culver's oldest (or at least the oldest of which we're aware).

Edwin Corwin's indispensable "One Township's Yesterdays," published in the 1930s, explains that the "old jail" (that is, the likely first one, rather than the corn roast model) in Culver stood originally on Harding Court between Lake Shore Drive and Washington Street, "just about where Rollins Chapel of the A. M. E. Church is today located."

Modern readers will find an empty lot there, just south of the building most recently known as the City Diner, on Lake Shore Drive. Corwin says the jail was built there and moved "some years ago" to a different site, though even in 1901, "there was not much use for it then, except maybe when some one came in on an excursion and got a little tight and had to be put in there to sober up."

Interestingly, by the days of the Depression, the jail structure itself was still standing, though by then "doing duty as a coal and wood shed, close to the rear of a house on Lakeview Street, the property of A. L. Warner. No one seems to remember the date of its removal. But there it is, a structure 14 feet, 6 inches square, and nine feet high on the high side, with a four-inch fall. It is made of two-by-fours laid flat, something like a log house. Old square nails were used in it, heavy ones."

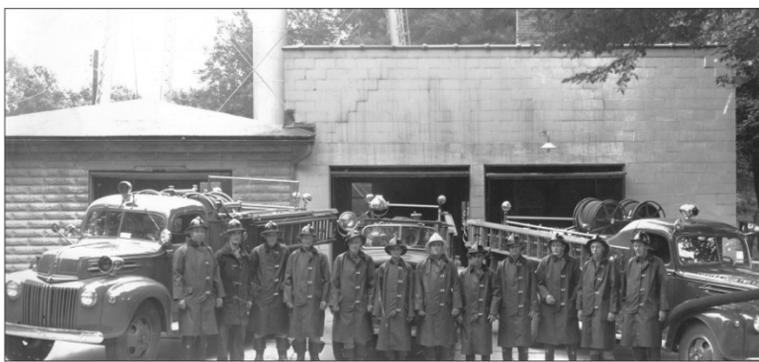
ABOVE: Members of Culver's fire department (including then-chief Dave Burns, in white hat) stand in front of the former town hall-fire station, the long-time (now former) site of the "old jail" used in many a Culver Lions Club corn roast.

LEFT: The old jail is transported into place by tractor, ahead of a corn roast several years ago.

BELOW: A "prisoner" pleads for donations to be set free during a recent roast.

Corwin goes on to describe the construction of the jail in intricate detail (which can be read online at the Culver Public Library's website, www.culver.lib.in.us, where

See Jail page 8



Beware the dreaded Maxinkuckee catawompus!

By Jeff Kenney
Citizen editor

Among things to contemplate while digesting leftover turkey on this chilly Thanksgiving evening is the prospect of bumping into a 20-foot, crocodile-esque monster -- with horn on head, faster than a fast horse, bear feet, and almost metallic scales -- at Lake Maxinkuckee one day.

As much as this sounds like something conceived by a first grader on "free" day during art class, Capt. Edward Gardner tackled (and killed) such a creature at the lake in 1884. Or so we're told.

No doubt none of us would be begrudged a healthy bit of skepticism.

The story comes to us under the headline, "Fierce Catawompus Slain," from the Culver Citizen (originally derived from the Cuervo, New Mexico, Clipper newspaper) in December, 1915.

Frankly, the piece reads like an April Fool's joke, though apparently it was intended, at least, to be taken seriously. Everything about it, after all, would sound pretty serious, except for the description of the animal itself. Here's the tale:

"A catawompus, a hideous animal rarely seen in North America was overpowered and killed by a party of cowboys and hunters Thursday in Rattlesnake Canyon, back of Cuervo.

"It was a terrific battle, during which high power guns, lariats and dogs were used to dispatch the monster. Its shrill, trumpet-like cries could have been heard for miles around.

"...The monster resembles a crocodile, except that it has a long neck and a long narrow head with a single sharp horn extending out of the crown. Its teeth are long and sharp, and its large brilliant eyes stand out on either side of its head, not unlike those of a giraffe. Its legs are much

longer than those of a crocodile, enabling it to travel at a rapid rate of speed, so fast that it would require a speedy horse to keep pace with it. Its tail is about eight feet long, tapering down to a sharp point at the end. Nearly two feet of the point of the tail is a hard, bone-line substance, which is used by the animal as a weapon of offense and defense. Its four feet resemble those of a bear, the toes having long, sharp claws. The animal's back and sides are covered with circular, oval like plates of various sizes, not unlike an old Roman shield, from the center of which extends a spear-like point.

"The monster measured twenty-one feet from tip of nose to tip of tail.

"...A party engaged on a government geological survey purchased the carcass of the catawompus and shipped it to the Smithsonian institute at Washington, D.C.

"This is the second catawompus known to have been killed in North America. The first was killed by the late Capt. Edward Gardner, at Lake Maxinkuckee, Indiana, in 1884."

One wonders if this spectacular carcass still resides in the Smithsonian. Or perhaps it's in Area 51 or somewhere about.

Naturally, your editor spent a fair amount of time digging around for any evidence of what should have been the story of the year (the killing, right here on the lake, of such an incredible monster). The matter is complicated by the fact that Culver didn't have its own local paper until 1894. However, both Logansport and Plymouth had newspapers by 1884 which regularly covered Lake Maxinkuckee news, and certainly would have made mention of such an accomplishment. And many of those papers are search-able online (as mentioned in last week's Citizen, the Library of Congress, for example, hosts an extensive array of those papers in its "Chronicling America" portal).

That's not to say there's definitely not an article about the incident floating around out there, or that something wasn't killed by Capt. Edward Gardner here (whatever that something was). But matters are even more complicated by the fact that various searches so far haven't

See Catawompus page 11

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Big three lead Falcons to 75-35 win over Culver

By Doug Giffiths
Staff writer

WALKERTON — On Nov. 18 John Glenn scored an impressive 75-35 victory over visiting Culver Academy. The Falcons' three starting seniors — Tyler Columbia, Natalie Shetler and Loren Vukovits — combined for 58 points. The team improved to 3-0.

Culver Academy had no answer for Columbia and Shetler and it had no answer for the 6-foot-1 Vukovits.

"We just have no size," said Eagles head coach Gary Christlieb, whose roster features no one taller than 5-9. "Vukovits was a huge difference in the game. We struggled to contain her in the lane, which we knew we would."

"They're loaded. They're senior-laden. They've been aiming for this season for a long time."

Unlike Glenn that shot around 60 percent for the game, Culver Academy really struggled shooting it. In fairness though, the Eagles were without a pair of starting guards — Tori Styers and Jordi Blackburne.

Blackburne will miss between two to four weeks with a dislocated thumb, while Styers is day-to-day with a sprained knee.

The Eagles, who fell to 0-3 on the season, got a solid performance from guard/forward Marie Steiner.

The junior poured in a game-high 22 points.

"Marie Steiner really played well tonight," Christlieb said. "She was efficient. She was a thorn in their side the whole night."

Christlieb didn't find fault whatsoever with his team's effort.

"I thought our kids played hard," he said. "With our second- and third-leading scorer out of the game, it makes it a little tough. Coming into the game, we knew we were going to be shorthanded. It's like taking a knife to a gunfight."

"We're young and building some things. We'll get better."

Christlieb's Eagles trailed 28-8 after the opening quarter and 42-23 at the break. Heading into the fourth quarter, the lead had grown to 28.

Glenn, now ranked 11th in the coaches polls, returned to action Friday night when it traveled to North Judson, while that night Culver Academy played at Bowman Academy.



PHOTOS/KAREN LEE PHOTOGRAPHY

LEFT: Courtney Salyer prepares to pass the ball at the Lady Cavaliers' victorious game against Winamac Nov. 18. RIGHT: Culver's Tatum Schulz takes a shot during the Winamac game.

Cavs top Wabash

Culver Community's girls basketball team handed Wabash a 48-39 defeat on Nov. 20. Mickella Hardy led the Cavaliers with 13 points and eight rebounds. Donna Zehner finished with 12 points and seven rebounds in a one-two punch for Culver. Complete stats were not available for the game.

Culver Community claimed a 50-36 win over Winamac Nov. 18.

Donna Zehner led Culver with 14 points followed by Angela Lewellen's 13 and Mickella Hardy's 10 points.

Tatum Schultz finished with nine points, six rebounds and six steals. Zehner notched seven rebounds and Hardy finished with six, meanwhile.

Complete stats were unavailable for the game.



PHOTO/PAUL PARÉ

Eagles take flight

LEFT: CMA junior Ignas Masiulionis of Vilnius, Lithuania, goes up for a shot against South Bend Washington's Quincy Johnson in a pre-regular-season home scrimmage last Friday evening.

Scoring for the scrimmage was done a quarter at a time. Washington scored more points in three out of the four quarters and many non-starters for both teams got a chance to play.

Trains from page 1

"Hey, I'm down here on State Road 17 in Burr Oak and we'll be down for an hour or two hours," said Sheriff Tom Chamberlin. "My concern is that, there are a lot of paramedics that travel from Culver and ambulances travel that road and they don't know a train is blocking 17 it becomes a life issue."

Marshall County Sheriff Tom Chamberlin added, "I think that, well I don't know how long it takes to break trains up at an inter-section and then reattach them but I think for the safety aspect of it. We do have a lot of assists, especially on the EMS side. They have to get through."

The sheriff department will continue to monitor the tracks and hand out citations as necessary. The Marshall County Sheriff's Department received a complaint that Norfolk and Southern had blocked the crossing in excess of 10 minutes. Officers drove to the site and spoke to the conductor of the train. The conductor stated that they had been waiting for an extremely long train from Fort Wayne to pass. The officer issued the train a citation for Indiana Code 8-6-7.5.1.

The blockage raises concerns for State Road 17 as it is the main roadway in an out of the area. Further issues may arise in the event that first responders, fire trucks, police, and ambulances cannot get through.

The code states that "it shall be unlawful for a railroad cooperation to permit any train, railroad car or engine to obstruct public travel at a railroad-highway grade crossing for a period in excess of ten (10) minutes," with the exception that by extenuating circumstances that are beyond the company's control.

According to the sheriff's department report, this is the fourth infraction since October for the company, including blocking a crossing in excess of three hours and breaking down on the crossing at State Road 17 and blocking the intersection again. Further infractions would result in citations to Norfolk and Southern Railroad.

Pantry from page 1

Trent says the students were "so pumped" about the endeavor.

"After it was over, they asked if we could do another one next month...it was really a good feeling to watch these kids be excited about helping other people. Of course, I've worked with many students on service projects, and I have never worked with one who didn't enjoy helping other people."

Trent adds that the group is thinking of doing a food drive next month because they've heard the pantry is low on items.

If that's the case, it's a safe bet that Dennis Lewandowski will be pleased. He encourages other groups and individuals to donate. Those needing to arrange a drop-off may do so by calling him at 574-341-9525.

Submit Culver news any time at
culvercitizen@gmail.com or 574-216-0075.

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PHOTO/KATIE BLOCKER.

ABOVE: Culver Comm. High School's National Honor Society inducted new members recently.

National Honor Society recognizes new members at CCHS ceremony

By Katie Blocker
Culver Comm. High School

The annual awards ceremony and the National Honor Society induction were held October 20 in the Culver Community High School auditorium.

NHS is an organization comprised of students who not only exhibit the qualities of scholarship, but also of service, leadership, and character. Present members spoke on the qualities of being a part of the Society as new members were sworn in.

Those inducted include seniors Jerrod Betts, Lauren Large, Elizabeth McElroy, and Donna Zehner. Junior inductees included Aaron Becker, Megan Brady, Justine Dexter, Lindsay Emery, Madeline Justis, Maria Lindvall, Jennah McCarthy, Jade Overmyer, Kelsey Shaffer, Cody Valiquet, and Rebecca Rainey.

Along with the NHS induction was the presentation of academic awards, earned when a student achieves five of six honor rolls from the previous school year.

Receiving the Academic 'C' was freshman Sydney Pritz.

Receiving the Academic Lamp were freshmen Jasmynne Fowler, Tracey Lindvall, Cody Rieckhoff, RT Roberts, Dillion Salyer, and Ethan Shuman. Sophomores Brennin Betts, Brandon Havron, Joshua Krsek, Morgan Keen, Courtney Salyer, Roman Vantwoud, Tanner Hoffman and Hailey Jones were awarded the Academic 'C'.

Juniors Aaron Becker, Daniel Bettinelli, Megan Brady, Justine Dexter, Madeline Justis, Maria Lindvall, Jennah McCarthy, Rebecca Rainey, Justin Schaub, Kelsey Shaffer, and Cody Valiquet. Juniors Lindsay Emery and Renae Johnson received the Academic 'C'.

The Academic Bar was awarded to seniors Jerrod Betts, Mickella Hardy, Haley Klimaszewski, Elizabeth McElroy, Summer Moore, Dustie Pier, Brendon Pinder, and Tatum Schultz.

Editor's note: This article originally appeared in The Caval Crier, Culver Comm. High School's monthly newspaper, and is reprinted here by permission of faculty sponsor Vickie Benner.

Sen. Head highlights Culver Comm. Schools

By Kathy Botorff

Indiana Senator Randy Head, representing the 18th district wanted to highlight one of the school corporations in his district.

The corporation recently received an "A" grade from the Indiana Department of Education, and Culver High School has earned the recognition of being named a Four Star School.

Senator Head said, "Culver's teachers and administrators have worked hard to focus efforts on students' reading comprehension with their program, Achieve 3000."

Additionally, the school has incorporated qualified teachers into remediation efforts so students can gain the best possible assistance to pass and improve their standardized test scores.

Culver High School has worked to increase its dual credit course opportunities. The school's academic counselors engage young high school students in an open dialogue about dual credit options so they can better plan for their educational future.

Head commented, "As a corporation, open communication between Culver's teachers and parents has been key to its strengthened initiative to monitor school attendance."

Culver Community School Corporation's hard work and dedication toward the future of its students is evident and exemplary.

Senator Head closed by saying, "I look forward to watching Culver continue to thrive."

This story appears courtesy am1050.com.

CES Students of the Month

Culver Elementary School has released its Students of the Month for October.

Kindergarten: Kherin Duli (teacher: Amy Bonine), Mariah Palm (Heather Overmyer), Donnie Gilliland (Stephanie Smith).

1st grade: Brady Standfast (Andrea Berndt), Aurora Caudill (Kelly Dickerhoff), Xavier Whipple (April Jefferies), Nathan Marek (Kelly Young).

2nd grade: Jalynn Hopkins (Lisa Elliott), Mason West (Lori Nash), Isabelle Hunnicutt (Janele VanDePutte), Ethan Binion (Gayle Kinzie and Mike Elliott), Graham Baker (Mrs. Weiger).

3rd grade: Willow Harrington (Valerie Cultice), Avery Garland (Jill DeSalle), Mackenzie Metz (Carrie Tharp).

4th grade: Olivia Compton (Tim Daughtery), Landon Kuykendoll (Mrs. Miller), Brianna Bailey (Chris Reneker), Haylie Rizor (Kris Arvelo).

5th grade: Alina Pizur (Elizabeth Breeden), Jordan Porter (Raeanne Stevens), Cole Reickhoff (Steve Young), Austin Reed (Jason Crittendon), Matthew Bailey (Becky Risner), Tucker Fisher (Teri Zechiel).

6th grade: Josh Havron (Jean Ahlenius), Jake Abair (Pam Craft), Taylor Lewandowski (Todd Shafer), Jessica Perdomo (Ms. Kinney).

Check out Culver news daily online at
www.culvercitizen.com and
[facebook.com/culvercitizen](https://www.facebook.com/culvercitizen)

CCHS teacher Klotz Is "Foodie at Heart"

By Alecia Rearick
Culver Comm. High School



Why are boys looking pregnant and what is that amazing aroma coming from the Spanish hallway at Culver Comm. High School?

The new Foods and Child Development teacher, Adina Klotz, is responsible, as she involves her students in valuable activities for their education.

Klotz worked at Logansport middle school, a smaller school, as her first job. Then she moved to a larger school, Elkhart Memorial. Elkhart Memorial is a huge building, and unless a teacher was in

the same hallway or in the department next to hers, Klotz claimed she wouldn't know the other staff members. She missed being at a smaller school, which led her to Culver.

In high school, Klotz took all of the FACS classes. Her senior year, the FACS teacher told her that they would like to hand down all of their books to her, but she only saw it as an "empty compliment" at the time.

After graduation, Klotz was planning to attend the Culinary Institute of America located in New York but decided to take a break and do voluntary work in Europe. After a while, the light bulb clicked and Klotz realized she was meant to be a teacher. She needed to stop fighting it, and she also knew that getting the summer off would be a bonus.

Klotz attended two colleges. She first went to Vincennes University to get her Associates Degree and then to Indiana State to complete her Bachelors and get her teaching license. Mrs. Klotz claims she is a "foodie at heart" and loves Chinese, Italian, and Greek cuisines. Her major plan for this year is having her baby, which will arrive in a couple of months.

In her free time, she enjoys cooking, photography, playing with her dogs, and traveling.

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Mattix Joins Math Department

By Morgan Keen
Culver Comm. High School

At the start of the current school year, Suzan Mattix began her second full time teaching job as the new 8th grade Algebra and Pre-Algebra teacher, as well as the Cross Country coach at Culver Comm. High School.

She hopes to make a difference in the world of teaching, as her main goals are to help her students enjoy and learn the important concepts in math, as well as to pass Indiana standardized tests, known as ISTEP.

This math lover graduated from IUSB with a Bachelor Degree in Education.

"Math is everywhere in the world, and it's fun to solve math problems," Mattix said.

One of her teachers is the reason Mattix was inspired to become a teacher. Specifically, she became a middle school math teacher because she believes middle school math is crucial in the transition of students into high school level math, and she wants to help with that transition.

Mattix is one of many teachers that have joined the Culver faculty this year, and she commented that the experience has been, "very good, everyone is very helpful."

Editor's note: This article originally appeared in The Caval Crier, Culver Comm. High School's monthly newspaper, and is reprinted here by permission of faculty sponsor Vickie Benner.



CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

Culver Club event provides variety of updates

LEFT: Tracy Fox (center), a nutrition consultant with Culver Academies, speaks to the

crowd Nov. 14 at an open house hosted by the Culver Club of Culver at the Culver Academies Museum & Gift Shop on South Main Street in Culver. Fox discussed the email-based news group she and her husband – Culver Summer Schools and Camps director Don Fox (far right) – started earlier this year to share community news, questions, and general information. Dubbed, “Town, Gown, and Lake” (to indicate that the group is open to, and inclusive of, all facets of the Culver area), the group may be joined by anyone via email at towngownandlake@gmail.com.

After an introduction by Dick Swennumson of the Culver Club (left), Don Fox himself updated attendees on the summer program, which he said will continue with the major scheduling changes instituted last summer, and which he noted is already nearly full for the summer of 2015.

Museum curator Jeff Kenney also presented a brief program highlighting cartoons and comic strips published through the decades in Culver publications and satirizing campus life and events, many telling of the history of the school in a humorous and artistic manner.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Brand new Lion

ABOVE: The newest member of Culver's Lions Club, Von McGuire, was inducted into the club at a recent meeting, by president Susan Elizondo, right. The club meets the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at the train station - depot on Lake Shore Drive, and may also be found online at culverlions.net.

Briefs from page 1

game, good sportsmanship, but not your kids. Questions can be directed to Ken VanDePutte, 574-274-9942

Maxinkuckee Singers seek director

Maxinkuckee Singers is accepting resumes for director for the 2015 season. Send your resume to P.O. Box 45, Culver, IN 46511. Deadline is Dec. 1.

St. Mary's Christmas pageant rehearsals Dec. 5, 12

St. Mary of the Lake Catholic Church's annual Christmas pageant will take place Sunday, Dec. 21, at 6 p.m., and children aged 3 to 12 are invited to participate. Practices will be held Fridays, Dec. 5 and 12 at 3:30 p.m. Reader and pageant roles will be assigned Dec. 5. Questions may be directed to 574-933-2188 or 574-780-3064.

UMW cookie walk Dec. 6

The annual Wesley United Methodist Women's cookie walk will be held Saturday, Dec. 6, from 9 a.m. to noon, in the church basement. The church is located at 511 School St., between the elementary and high schools. Please enter through the front doors of the church and come downstairs.

Homemade cookies will be sold for \$6 a pound. You may choose your cookies from the thousands available. Sweet treats of candy and such will also be sold.

Friends book sale Dec. 6

The Friends of the Culver Library will have a book sale on Saturday, December 6 from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. in the Carnegie Room of the Culver Public Library. Winter is almost here, pick up some books to enjoy over the next few months. Book donations can be dropped off at the circulation desk during library hours.

Historic St. Nick part of all-ages party here Dec. 6

Saint Nicholas, in-person, will return to Culver for a community-wide, all-ages party on Saturday, Dec. 6 at 10:30 a.m. St. Nicholas, a Christian bishop during the fourth century, has been a beloved figure in Christian and nonchristian circles since his own lifetime, and has evolved in more modern years into “Santa Claus” (a derivative of the Dutch “Sinter Klauss,” which means, “St. Nicholas”). Everyone is invited to this free, ecumenical event for all ages. The party will take place in the upper level of the town park beach lodge on Lake Shore Drive in Culver.

Pancake breakfast for Cavs b-ball Dec. 6

A pancake breakfast will be held Sat., Dec. 6 from 7 to 10 a.m. at the Culver Comm. High School cafeteria to support the school's men's and women's basketball teams. The cost is \$5 per person pre-sale, or \$6 per person at the door. All are welcome.

Library holiday event, centennial kickoff Dec. 6

Starting at 9 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, the Culver-Union Twp. Public Library's Jill Gavlick will read a Christmas story and lead Christmas carols at Miller's Merry Manor, 730 School Street in Culver. Immediately following, the library will host its Holiday Open House and Centennial

year celebration kickoff. Santa will visit from 10 a.m. to noon. For more information, contact Youth Services Manager Jill Gavlick at 574-842-2941 or jgavlick@culver.lib.in.us. The library's street address is 107 N. Main St. in Culver. This program is free and open to the public.

Dancevision on stage Dec. 6, 7

Culver Academies Dancevision performance will take place Saturday, Dec. 6, at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 7 at 2:30 p.m., onstage at Eppley Auditorium on the Academies campus. The performance is free and the public is welcome.

Academies musicians to perform at Ancilla Dec. 7

Culver Academies musicians will perform a Christmas concert at the Ancilla Domini Chapel on the campus of Ancilla College in Donaldson, Ind. on Sunday, Dec. 7 at 5 p.m. The concert will feature students in Culvers' Band, Choir, Orchestra, Saxophone Choir, and Low Brass Ensemble. This event is free of charge and open to the public.

Children's Christmas party Dec. 13

The annual Culver children's Christmas party will take place Saturday December 13 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Culver Elementary School cafeteria. The event will include crafts, cookie decorating, and visiting with Santa. The party is a joint event with the Culver Lions Club, Culver VFW, and Culver Fire Department.

Board, commission members needed

There are several openings on town boards and commissions in Culver. If anyone is willing to serve on the Plan Commission, Board of Zoning Appeals, Park Board, Culver Redevelopment Commission, Library Board or Tree Commission, please write a letter of interest addressed to the Town Council, 200 East Washington, Culver, IN 46511.

Texas Hold-Em at VFW Dec. 14

The Culver VFW Post 6919 holds Texas Hold-Em tournaments on the second Sunday of each month, with tournaments scheduled for Dec. 14 and Jan. 11. The Post is located at 108 E. Washington St. in Culver (contact 574-842-3886). Doors open at 11 a.m. and the tournament begins at 1 p.m. There is a \$50 buy-in (no re-buys) and \$12,000 in chips (25 percent to the house, 75 in the pot). License #129586. The public is welcome.

Community meal at Grace Dec. 15

Grace United Church of Christ will hold its monthly community meal on Monday, 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.

Police seek info on Culver burglary

Marshall County Police are asking the public's help about a burglary that occurred during the day at a residence in the 1300 block of SR 17. An unknown suspect or suspects entered the home and took a RCA 55 inch flat screen television. The crime occurred on Thursday, Oct. 24 while the homeowner was away during the day. Anyone who may have information on this crime is asked

to call Marshall County Sheriff's department at 574-936-3187

Bell ringers in Culver needed

The Culver Council of Churches is requesting residents' help this Christmas holiday season. The Salvation Army will have their donation kettles setup at Park N' Shop grocery store on Lake Shore Drive and CVS Drug Store on Ohio Street, in Culver, to collect donations to the Salvation Army. All donations given at these locations will stay in Culver, and be used in the Culver area.

To receive these donations, the Salvation Army needs volunteers to help as bell ringers at these locations for a one or two hour session on the day or days you are available. Hours are from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The weekend days where help is needed include: Saturdays and Sundays, Nov. 29 and 30, Dec. 6 and 9, Dec. 13 and 14, Dec. 20 and 21. Please contact Mrs. Jean Rakich to schedule a slot, at 574-842-2725.

Culver leaf pick-up underway

Leaf pick-up in Culver is underway. Leaves should be raked to the curb for pick up, NOT into the street as this may cause issues with the storm water drains. Also, please do not mix sticks and branches in the leaves and do not include pumpkins, rocks, etc. Pick-up will continue through December. Please direct any questions to Town Hall, 574-842-3140, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Property tax calls are scams

Several Culver residents have received phone calls that they owe taxes (property or otherwise) and the police are on their way to serve a warrant, according to town clerk Karen Heim. These calls are a scam. Residents are instructed to not provide any personal information, and instead hang up.

Zumba Wednesday nights

A Zumba class meets every Wednesday night starting at 6:15 p.m. for a nominal fee, at the Culver park beach lodge, 819 Lake Shore Drive. Contact Marc Hayden, Culver park superintendent, at park@townofculver.org with questions, or to talk about availability and ideas for other events/classes.

Euchre, pinochle club on Fridays

The public is welcome to take part in a new euchre and pinochle club meeting Fridays from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at the Culver Park Beach Lodge, 819 Lake Shore Drive. Have fun playing cards, make new friends, enjoy beautiful Lake Maxinkuckee and our fine restaurants and city.

Exercise for seniors at CUTPL

Culver-Union Township Public Library is offering Exercise for Seniors. This free exercise class will meet three times a week and offer easy, seated exercises. The program is scheduled for Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 10 a.m. and will meet downstairs in the large meeting room. For more information, call the Culver-Union Township Public Library at 574-842-2941 or e-mail dthomas@culver.lib.in.us. The library's street address is 107 N. Main St.



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Jail from page 4

the entire book is available).

Corwin also suggests the old jail was past its prime in those 1930s days of "wholesale jail-breaks and mass deliveries of desperate criminals" (after all, there had been Prohibition, the Mafia, and even a Culver bank robbery by the time of Corwin's writing).

The origins of the "corn roast jail," then, are a bit more recent, but still go back a ways.

As some Culverites will recall, the present town hall at Plymouth and Washington Streets has not always called that location home (that present town hall building, in fact, was constructed as the old Culver Citizen press building back in the 1940s).

Instead, the earliest known locale for the town hall was in what is today the parking lot east of Grace United Church of Christ, also on Plymouth Street, but a block north of today's town hall. The old town hall was a rather decrepid-looking (even by the standards of its day) cinder block building which also housed the fire and police departments, as well as -- yes, the town jail.

Earlier in the century, the site seems to have only been home to the Culver fire station alone (the fire station moved there around 1914, and Sanborn fire maps from 1914 and 1922 list it there, but make no mention of the town hall).

The building definitely housed the town hall by the 1930s, however. In fact, an October, 1938 reference in the Citizen

mentions an additional doorway being built into the west wall of the town hall, and says that "the (fire department's) chemical truck has been housed in a shed in back of the town hall but with the clearing of the land to make room for the new water tower it was necessary to find a new home for the township's fire apparatus").

Bottom line: it seems reasonable to presume that the Lions Club's jail dates back at least to the 1930s, and probably not much earlier.

Margaret Bean, who has lived north of that site since the 1960s, recalls the jail portion of the town hall existing as attached to, but not part of, the main town hall itself (which makes sense), but she remembers it still being in existence when she and husband Leroy moved to their house. She -- and others -- recall it being occasionally used perhaps as an overnight or less than 24-hour "drunk tank" or other holding cell, even into the 1960s.

By then, it had long been the practice of Culver police to transport serious offenders headed for trial to the Marshall County jail in Plymouth, as it is today.

The town hall relocated, after many decades of life at Plymouth and Cass, in 1966 to the building that today houses the Culver fire station, at Lake Shore Drive and State Street (the former Nelson Equipment building). It stayed there for around a decade, moving in 1976 to its present home.

The editor's mother, former clerk treasurer Marizetta Kenney (who worked in the last two iterations of the town hall) recalls the former town hall at Cass and Plymouth being converted into the town street garage after the 1966 town hall relocation. No major changes were made to the building during those years, so the jail sat in its same old spot, by then used only for storage.

By the 1976 move to the present town hall, it was apparent some changes were needed. The old water tower was deteriorating and needed removal for safety reasons (it was taken down in 1980), and the old town hall/fire station structure had become insufficient for the street department's needs (it seems likely that it, too, had deteriorated sufficiently as well).

In 1979, the State Exchange Bank paid towards bonds to finance the new street garage, with McGill's manufacturing on Mill Street donating land for its new (and still-current) location (in the Citizen article about the bonds, bank president W.O. Osborn, by then in his 90s, noted he hadn't missed a day of work during the great blizzard of the year before, which he accomplished by driving behind the snow plow from his house!).

Soon thereafter, the old block building at Cass and Plymouth gave way to the wrecking ball, with Grace United Church of Christ purchasing the land for use -- as it is, still today -- as a parking lot.

Jim Bonine of Culver provided the editor with the final (and critical) missing link in what happened to the old jail between the razing of the former town hall, and its use today in Lions Club corn roasts. He clarified that longtime Culver Lions member Jacob "Jake" Siple (who passed away in 2006) purchased the jail when the old town hall teardown took place, and transported it to his barn, with the express purpose of using it to benefit the Lions Club.

Mr. Bonine added that the old jail went into play immediately at the corn roast's "jail-a-thon" (for lack of a better term) at the time, in the early 1980s, with Siple transporting it to the roast from his farm -- and back again -- year after year. Of course it has continued in its fund-raising role to today.

Corn roast attendees, then, can enjoy knowing that the cell is a bona fide Culver artifact, and may have held their ancestors or neighbors' ancestors, at least on an overnight basis. Think of the possibilities!

Perhaps Culver's police department could borrow it back on an "as-needed" basis. Undoubtedly many residents can think of some potential customers.

Northam Invitational brings 500 competitors to Culver

By Jan Garrison, Culver Academies

Culver Academies played host to 20 high school speech teams and 500 individual competitors at the annual Col. William F. Northam Memorial Speech Invitational on Saturday, Nov. 15. The Academies finished third overall with 30 of 52 individual entries placing in the top eight spots.

Alice Dendy, a senior from Oxford, England, won the novice radio category. Taking second in their categories were: Ian Bardwell, novice impromptu; Dana Brown, poetry interpretation; and Peter Talbot, varsity radio.

Third place finishers included: Lauren Engelbrecht, varsity poetry interpretation; Jesus Mancha, novice po-



LEFT: The Lay Dining Hall served as base camp for the 500 speech competitors participating in the Northam Invitational Saturday.

PHOTO/JAN GARRISON

etry; James Wu, novice discussion; and Charles Zhang, varsity discussion. Four place finishers included: Katie Bevil/Kirsten Pressler, varsity scripted Duo; and Sarina McCabe, novice original performance.

Fifth place finishers were: David Brown, varsity impromptu and U.S. extemporaneous; and Riley Reinhold, novice radio. Sixth place finishers were: Dana Brown/Lauren Engelbrecht, varsity scripted duo; Erin Luck, varsity prose interpretation; Calvin Petrucelli, novice U.S. extemporaneous; Tyler Sorg, varsity radio; Yifan Xu, international extemporaneous; and Frank Zhang, varsity international extemporaneous.

Finishing in seventh place were: Ivy Chen, novice declamation; George Devries, Novice U.S. Extemporaneous; Caleb Isom, novice impromptu; and Makenna Kayla Ker-

shaw/Alaina Smith, varsity scripted duo. Taking eighth were: Aurora Arndt, novice international extemporaneous; Morgan Hartman, varsity original performance; Sarah Hickey/Meranda Ma, varsity scripted duo; Harry Kang, varsity international extemporaneous; Sarina McCabe, novice prose; Maya Panicker, varsity declamation; and Sandra Smith, varsity discussion.

The speech team's next Indiana High School Forensic Association competition is at Valparaiso High School on Saturday, Dec. 6.

This story appears courtesy news.culver.org.

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Catawompus from page 4

turned up evidence that there even was a Capt. Edward Gardner operating on the lake (there was a conductor with that name on the railroad from Logansport, but that's hardly the same thing).

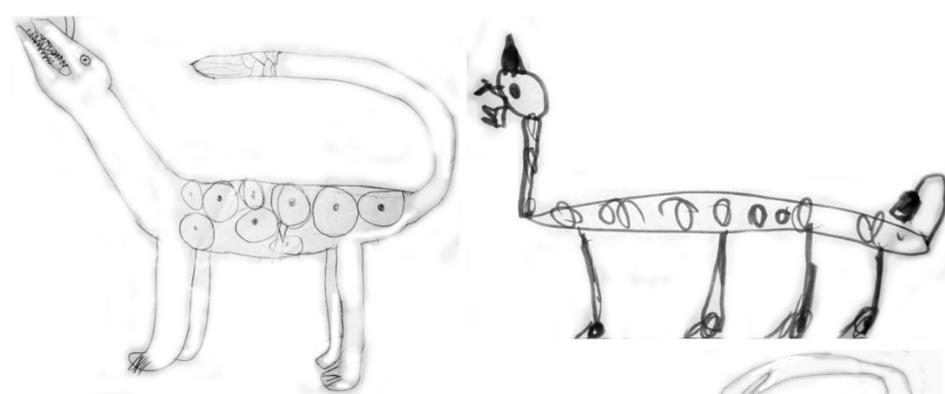
The next obvious question, of course, pertains to the catawompus (alternately, catawampus) itself.

Several Google searches clarify several things: first, one definition of "catawampus" is a colloquial term for crooked or "catty-cornered" (as in, the Culver beach lodge is catawampus from Osborn's Mini-mart). So that one's out.

A second common use of the word is referenced in an article called, "Wampus Cats, Mystery Felids, and the Santer," by Loren Coleman, in the May, 2001 issue of the North American BioForteian Review.

Coleman -- like many sources on the Internet, both past and present -- notes that the term often referred to the multi-named mountain lion (or puma, panther, cougar...the list goes on), or likely is a variation on the southern folkloric term, "wampus" cats.

There's all sorts of confusion as to where the word "wampus" itself came from. Could it be Native American? Scottish or other European? Just a silly, made-up word?



Scientifically-accurate renderings of the elusive Maxinkuckee catawompus, as drawn by three of the editor's children (Felicity, Esme, and Peter) especially for this publication.

Regardless, Coleman notes that, "It is as a noun, where we find that its meaning becomes "a fierce monster or bogey-man," often through the alternative usage: "wampus cat" or "wampus."

"Catawampus" we're told, can also mean "a fierce imaginary animal," or simply "fierce."

In Southern lore, wampus cats were sometimes referred to as half-lion, half-woman (or even half-lion and half-devil), or as imaginary creatures (again, along the lines of the familiar "boogey man") invented by slave owners as deterrents to slaves contemplating escape into the swamps or forests of the area.

Perhaps most telling is that only in the Cuervo article do we find a description even remotely resembling the bizarre beast allegedly killed here 130 years ago next month. No historical article or website describes anything even close to it, with a catawampus-like name.

Killing a 21-foot mountain lion (or "wampus cat") might earn one some bragging rights back in 1915 in New Mexico. But killing the early 20th century version

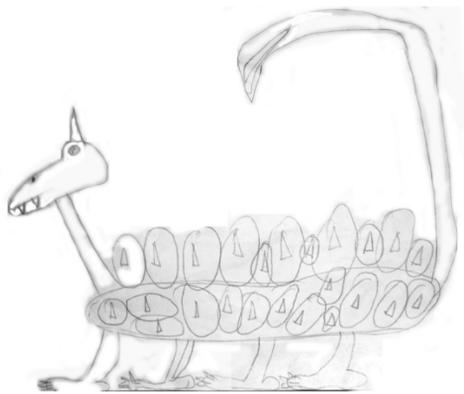
of a Purple People Eater seems more likely to get ol' Jake the catawampus-slayer laughed out of the local pub (at which spending too much time may have led to the appearance of the creature...or the imaginings thereof...to begin with).

Given that we know one common use of catawompus is indeed an imaginary creature, undoubtedly that's the case here (and we haven't even taken up the question of science here: I'm no zoologist, but the unlikely hybrid of reptile and mammal among other traits, here, I'm guessing would earn some laughs in the science departments of either of our local schools).

Of course, the Citizen is always open to correction and clarification, so if anyone knows more about the subject, please be in touch.

Meanwhile, we can all be thankful that the worst scare

we've had in recent years at the lake are swimmer's itch and e coli.



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Correction

In last week's (Nov. 20) edition of *The Culver Citizen*, it was reported that next year's park budget is \$267,500. That number, however, applies to the current year's park budget. The 2015 budget is \$406,125. The Citizen regrets the error.