

# The Culver Citizen

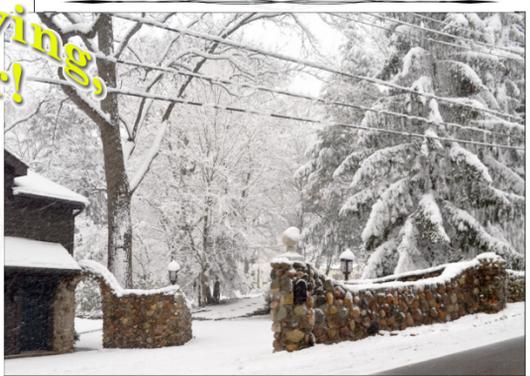
Happy Thanksgiving, Culver!

Thursday, November 26, 2015

Vol. 122 Issue No. 48 50¢

Serving Culver • Lake Maxinkuckee • Monterey since 1894

PHOTOS/JEFF KENNEY AND ANNA CAMPBELL (LOWER LEFT)



## In Brief

### Small Business Saturday here this wk

Area residents are encouraged to support local Culver merchants during Small Business Saturday, a day designated in 2010 to focus on small, local, brick and mortar entities whose financial stability helps the overall financial status of the entire community, and who keep Culver's commercial life active and economy healthier. Small Business Saturday this year takes place Nov. 28. Several local stores and restaurants are offering in-house specials and other attractions during the event.

### FFA fruit sales deadline Monday

Shoppers can help Culver Comm. High School's FFA (Future Farmers of America) members earn their blue jackets by purchasing your fruit today. Contact any Culver FFA member or April Leeper, advisor, to purchase your oranges, grapefruit, apples and more. Order deadline is Nov. 30 and fruit will be delivered the week of December 7, just in time for the holidays. Call 574-842-3391 or email aleeper@culver.k12.in.us.

### Adult winter basketball at CCMS

Adult winter basketball will start again this year Sunday, Nov. 29, and continue each Sunday, from 9 to 3 p.m. EST, until April 10 (20 sessions), at the Culver Community Middle School. Cost for insurance is \$2 each Sunday, or \$20 up front for whole season.

### Culver 'Holiday Hop' coincides with tree lighting Dec. 4

Culver's annual "Holiday Hop" event, which takes place the first Friday of December each year and coincides with the town's tree lighting ceremony in

See Briefs page 3

## From Indian summer to old man winter (in a few short days)

ABOVE: Snow may not be unexpected in late November, but a sudden blast of it alongside temperatures in the single digits was quite a change of pace for Culverites after a mod-November marked by plenty of sunshine and unseasonably mild mercury readings. Above are some scenes of what turned out to be a particularly beautiful snowy pre-Thanksgiving weekend around the town of Culver and Lake Maxinkuckee.

## School board approves strategic plan, hears from community committees

By Jeff Kenney  
Citizen editor

The Culver Community Schools board is moving forward with a strategic plan proposed at its Nov. 16 meeting and culminating many months of effort on the part of four committees comprised of school faculty, administrators, and area community members.

Culver schools superintendent Dr. Vicki McGuire — who acted as facilitator of the Core Planning committee, told The Culver Citizen the groups "created our belief statements as well as our mission and vision for the future of (school corporation). We then presented this information to other committees so they could use it as a guideline for their planning."

Curriculum was the focus of another committee, this one headed by Julie Berndt, curriculum director for the corporation.

"The goal (of the curriculum committee) in the next few years is to enhance our project-based learning for all grade levels and ensure curriculum maps and standards are aligned for smooth transition between grade levels and buildings," explains McGuire. Berndt

discussed visits to other schools already engaged in project-based learning classroom models.

The marketing team facilitator, said McGuire, is Culver Elementary teacher Amy Gearhart. That committee is working toward "ensuring the public is aware of the amazing school we have," according to McGuire. "They will do this through a variety of measures that will be discussed at a later date when the team is ready to provide more information. The team is excited about branding our school, a new logo and other new ideas." (A more extensive look at the marketing committee's efforts is planned for *The Culver Citizen* in the near future).

Facilitating a cost containment group was the corporation's director of operations Chuck Kitchell.

Cost containment options outlined by elementary teacher Todd Shafer of that committee focused on a 13 percent decrease in funding expected over the coming two years, and ranged from staff reduction to reducing hours of non-certified staff, as well as the need for the corporation to sell the for-

mer Monterey Elementary building.

"All corporations must explore ideas of how to save money," McGuire told the Citizen. "Our cost containment team presented some brainstorm ideas... (which are) just that -- ideas. The cost containment part of our strategic plan will not have a lot of weight. Money is tight and we need to look at every angle. We will, most likely, refrain from hiring full time staff with full time benefits in the future unless it is absolutely necessary. We so appreciate our staff and want them to know how important they are to this corporation."

McGuire expressed appreciation for the efforts of the committees who she said "worked together to move the corporation forward for the benefit of our children."

### School safety, ISTEP scores

Also at the meeting, Culver Elementary School principal Erin Proskey discussed how Secured School Safety matching grant of \$23,761 recently awarded the corporation via the State of Indiana, will be used.

See School page 6

## 'Stay a While in Culver' - 4th in a series Mystic Hills' new rustic cabins welcome golfers and visitors alike

By: Anna Campbell, correspondent

CULVER — Mystic Hills Golf Course, located at 16788 20 B Road in Culver and owned by Vicki Pugh, is home to two new 'stay and play' cabins which opened in August of this year.



PHOTO/ANNA CAMPBELL The inviting glow, especially this time of year, of a fireplace greets guests in Mystic Hills' new cabins.

Mystic Hills may be most famous for having been designed by legendary golf course architect Pete Dye; in fact, it's one of seven courses selected to be a part of the Pete Dye Golf Trail.

For Pugh, the golf business is a family affair. The course opened in 1999, and at that time was owned by Pugh's parents, Wayne and Mary Lou Bonnell. Pugh's

sons are also involved in the course. Dave Pugh currently serves as the PGA Professional (golf pro) and course superintendent. Mike Pugh is an engineer for BraunAbility in Winamac, and lent his expertise to the construction of

See Mystic page 2

## A Culver holiday events roundup

### Stage II Christmas concert Dec. 4

Stage II, the retired members of the Maxinkuckee Singers and Players, will perform a medley of vintage Christmas favorites in the Community Room at the Marshall County Museum on Friday, Dec. 4 from noon to 1 p.m. These Christmas songs will take you back to another time like, "Button Up Your Overcoat," "Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire," "Merry Christmas, Darling" and "I've got my Love to Keep Me Warm," to name a few.

### Holiday storytime and caroling Dec. 5

CUTPL and Miller's Merry Manor invites everyone to meet Miss Jill on Saturday, Dec. 5, from 9 to 9:30 a.m. for holiday storytime and caroling at Miller's Merry Manor in Culver at 730 School Street in Culver. Culver-Union Township Public Library will also hold its Holiday Open House and closing ceremony of its

centennial year celebration. Santa will be visiting from 10 a.m. to noon. All programs are free and open to the public.

### Wesley Thrift Store adds holiday hours

For customers' Christmas shopping convenience, the Wesley United Methodist Thrift Shop on Ohion Street in Culver will be open on the Wednesdays before Christmas, in addition to regular Saturday hours during the month of December. The dates include Dec. 2, 9, 16, and 23, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

### Dancevision includes holiday offerings Dec. 5, 6

Culver Academies Dancevision performance recitals will return Saturday, Dec. 5 at 7:30

p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 6, at 2:30 p.m. The performances will feature holiday excerpts from "The Nutcracker" and a variety of other pieces, including the choreography of five senior honors candidates and a stunning piece by Visceral Dance Chicago Director, Nick Pupillo. The public is welcome.

### Wesley cookie walk returns Dec. 5

The annual Cookie Walk at Wesley United Methodist Church in Culver will be held on Sat., Dec. 5, from 9 a.m. until noon in the church basement. The church is located at 511 School St. and is located between the elementary and high schools. Please enter through the front doors of the church and come downstairs. Home made cookies will be sold for \$6 a pound.

### Christmas concert Dec. 6

A Christmas concert featuring Culver Academies' band, choir, See Christmas page 2



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## A November to remember for Academies' color guard

By Jan Garrison, Culver Academies

For members of Culver Academies' Friesian Mounted Color Guard, November will be a month to remember. It started with a trip to Lexington, Ky., to present the colors before thousands of race fans at the Breeders' Cup and will finish with a trip down Chicago's famed State Street as part of the McDonald's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

One of the biggest Thanksgiving Day parades in the country, the McDonald's parade will feature some of the nation's top marching bands, performance units, and giant helium balloons. It will run from 9 a.m. to noon EST Thanksgiving morning and will be televised nationally on WGN 9 Chicago and streamed live on wgntv.com. More than 3.5 million people are expected to watch the parade on their televisions or online and a live crowd of 375,000 people is expected to line State Street.

Riding the Friesians will be commander Alex Krupp, class of 2016 (Mishawaka, Ind.), Robson Macartney '17 (Bentonville, Ark.), Chidi Nzerem '16 (Abuja, Nigeria),



PHOTO PROVIDED  
ABOVE: Culver Academies' Friesian Mounted Color Guard are seen here marching in Chicago's McDonald's Thanksgiving Day Parade, a tradition they will repeat this year.

Tsz Tai '17 (Chicago), Brian Krupp '17 (Mishawaka, Ind.), and Sean Kim '18 (Carmel, Ind.). Kim is replacing Bruno Gracian Tapia '16 (Jalisco, Mexico), who rode at the Breeders' Cup but will be unable to return in time for the parade.

The Color Guard started the month with presenting the colors Friday and Saturday at Keeneland during the Breeders' Cup opening ceremonies. The races included the historic win by Triple Crown winner American Pharoah, who retired after the

race.

Mark Waller, the director of Horsemanship Instruction, said the color guard members were given unprecedented access to areas of the track during their two days there. That included the paddock area, where they met jockeys Kent DesOrmeaux and American Pharoah's Victor Espinoza. They also met Sports Illustrated swimsuit model Kate Upton and Detroit Tigers pitcher Justin Verlander. Bill Stubblefield N'76 served as the Troopers' guide.

For Macartney, it was a tremendous experience.

"It was insane," he said. "We met so many Culver alumni it was unbelievable."

Organized in 2012, the Friesian Color Guard has appeared in the St. Patrick's Day parade in South Bend; the Grand Floral Parade during the Blossomtime Festival in St. Joseph, Mich.; the Indianapolis 500 Festival Parade; and opening day ceremonies at Arlington Park in Arlington Heights, Ill.

This story appears courtesy news.culver.org.

## Park survey, meetings aim for upgrade grants

By Jeff Kenney  
Citizen editor

Culver's park board held the first of two basically identical public hearings aimed at soliciting public input towards a planning grant hoped to be the first step of several major upgrades to facilities at the park.

Held on Nov. 16 and 23, the sessions opened with some background discussion and then led attendees through a step-by-step comment solicitation, in writing. The survey paralleled part of a more thorough written survey available at town hall, the beach lodge, and online via townof-culver.org, seeking community opinion on topics ranging

from use of the park's beach lodge, to a proposed west end restroom facility, to programming and activities at the park.

The planning grant in question would be \$15,000, if won, which would facilitate hiring an architect to detail park plans, and which would

See Park page 10

## Mystic from page 1

the new cabins, which were designed and built by Dave and Mike together.

The brothers have gone on several golf outings and through their experience determined what works best for a 'stay and play' cabin. Both are experienced in construction, and with Mike's engineering background, they were able to keep the cost to about \$70,000 per cabin.

Prior to the cabins, Mystic Hills had used a few houses nearby the course as places to stay and golf. Pugh explained the inspiration behind the cabins: "We wanted to be more accommodating. With the new cabins you can walk right out the door and onto the course."

Each cabin is comprised of two bedrooms and a loft space, open concept living room and kitchen and two bathrooms. The two cabins are identical and are differentiated by name, one being Cleek and the other, Brassie.

Cleek is an older golf term which referred to a club with an iron head. Brassie is the traditional name for a wood number two golf club.

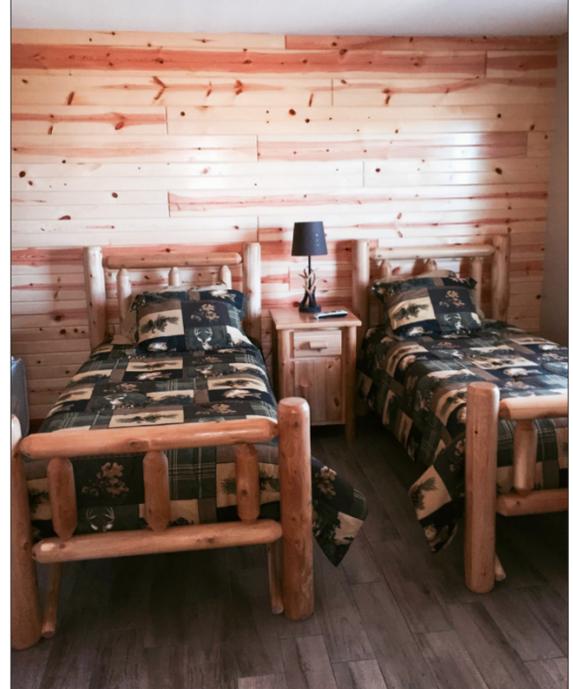
Upon entering a cabin, one is welcomed with rustic, natural charm. The two-story field stone gas burning fireplace and big screen television are the focal point of room. There is a light and airy feeling with the honey colored woods and high ceilings. The kitchen is outfitted with a refrigerator, two-burner stove top, dishes and glassware.

The Pugh's have an eye for detail.

"The cabinet knobs are made from our Mystic Hills lo-goeo golf balls," Vicki Pugh pointed out. "What you cannot see is that under the tile floor that runs throughout is radiant heat to give our guests extra warmth."



Guests have the option of sleeping in a queen bed, twin bed, or pull-out futon. The cabins each can sleep up to eight people. Each cabin has its own outdoor patio,



PHOTOS/ANNA CAMPBELL

ABOVE: More views of the interior of Mystic Hills' new on-site cabins, which are available for rental, with or without golfing, all year around.

equipped with seating and a grille that overlook the tranquil course.

One does not need to play golf in order to rent a cabin. "We hosted a quilting retreat last weekend. We set up tables in the club house and the ladies stayed in the cabins overnight," Pugh explained. "The cabins are great for families, such as Culver Academy parents, because they really are a home away from home being so spacious with a kitchen."

The grounds also offer an event space for weddings, showers, meetings, fantasy football events, and banquets. The golf course is open from March through the end of November. The cabins and event space are available all year for golfers and non-golfers alike.

Pugh shared Mystic Hills' vision for the future: "We have permits for a total of five cabins; we wanted to start with two at first, then build the others if there is a need."

You may book your cabin online by visiting mystichills.com/stay-play/ or by phone 574-842-2687.

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## Christmas from page 1

and orchestra, will take place Sunday, December 6, starting at 4 p.m., at the Culver Academies Memorial Chapel. The public is welcome and there is no admission charge.

### Children's Christmas party Dec. 12

The annual Culver children's Christmas party will take place Saturday, Dec. 12, from 10 a.m. to noon in the Culver Elementary cafeteria. Included will be crafts, cookie decorating, coloring and visits with Santa. The party is a coordinated event with Culver's VFW Post, fire department, and Lions Club.

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## Obituary

### Suzanne (Harrison) Curtis

Oct. 23, 1942 - Nov. 15, 2015

CULVER — Suzanne (Harrison) Curtis, 73, of Culver and formerly of Attica, passed away unexpectedly at her home in Culver on Sunday, Nov. 15, 2015.

Suzanne was born in Indianapolis, on Oct. 23, 1942. She was the daughter of the late Wade C. and Sarah K. (Dunlap) Harrison. Suzanne was raised in Attica and graduated from the Gulf Park Academy in Louisiana. She later received her B.A. degree in English from Indiana University.

While attending Indiana University, Suzanne met the love of her life, G. Edward Curtis. They were married in the Attica First United Methodist Church on Aug. 15, 1964.

Suzanne served on the board of directors for Harrison Steel Castings Company. She had served on the board of directors for the Com-



(Amy) Curtis, Attica and their two children, Eddie and

munity Hospital in Williamsport and Way of Truth Ministries in Scottsdale, Ariz. She was active in the Culver Academies and had served on the Parent Association Board. She was instrumental in helping to establish the Bi-County Preschool Program in Attica. She was affiliated with the Attica First United Methodist Church, The Rock Church of Danville, Ill. and the Sanibel Community Church in Sanibel, Fla. She was an associate member of the Tri Kappa Sorority in Attica. She was an avid reader and as the matriarch of the family loved to spend time with her family and grandchildren.

She leaves behind her husband Edward Curtis of 51 years; two sons, Geoff (Angie) Curtis, Lafayette and their three sons, Sam, Max and Henry Curtis; Trevor

Annabelle Curtis; a daughter, Jill Curtis, Deep River, Conn.; a brother, Wade "Rusty" C. (Ann Schilling) Harrison II, Attica.

A celebration of Suzanne's life was held at the Attica First United Methodist Church on Thursday, Nov. 19, at 11 a.m. with Revs. Penny Sheahan and Nancy Luchs officiating. Following the celebration of life service, a reception to share memories and have refreshments was held at the Harrison Hills Country Club in Attica from 12 p.m. until 4 p.m.

A committal gravesite service was held in the Washington Cemetery, Culver, on Friday, Nov. 20, at 11 a.m.

Memorial contributions may be made in Suzanne's memory to the Christian Ministry Fund c/o Attica Community Foundation.

Condolences may be sent on line to [www.mausfuneral-home.com](http://www.mausfuneral-home.com).

## Maxinkuckee Singers' 'Piece of Christmas' show dates announced for upcoming performances

The Maxinkuckee Singers (pictured at LEFT) will present their 2015 holiday show, "A Piece of Christmas," in area venues on the following dates:

**Dec. 1:** First United Methodist Church, 400 N. Michigan Street, Plymouth.

**Dec. 3:** Rochester Community Presbyterian Church, 530 Jefferson St. Rochester.

**Dec. 7:** Bremen United Methodist Church, 302 Plymouth St., Bremen.

**Dec. 8:** Argos United Methodist Church, 570 Michigan St., Argos.

**Dec. 9:** Grace United Church of Christ, 307

N. Plymouth St., Culver.

**Dec. 10:** Knox United Methodist Church, 201 S. Shield St., Knox.

**Dec. 17:** First United Church of Christ, 321 N. Center St., Plymouth.

All Show times at at 7:30 p.m. (EST). Admission is free (a free-will offering is accepted). For further information contact Thomas Boys at 574-933-2535.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Pictured ABOVE are Maxinkuckee Singers members, first row from left to right, Betty Martens, Andrea Mallory, Wendy Wise, Sarah Shaw. Second row: Lenore Jones, Becky Liechty, Joy Ritenour, Laura Snipes, and Julie Scott. Third row: Doug Nielsen, Dan Adams, Matt Sutton, Kathy Overmyer, Brandt Ayoub, Tom Boys, and Brian Liechty.

**Keep up with Culver news 24-7 at [facebook.com/culvercitizen](https://facebook.com/culvercitizen)**

## Briefs from page 1

the town park, is scheduled for 5 to 8 p.m. on Dec. 4 this year. Customers are encouraged to shop and/or dine at four participating local businesses during the event, with special cards marked off for each purchase. The cards are then dropped off at Cafe Max in downtown Culver for an 8:30 p.m. drawing of a \$300 gift basket with gift cards from all participating businesses. The winner need not be present for the drawing.

Cafe Max, at 113 S. Main Street, is also celebrating its 30th anniversary this year and will mark the occasion with an additional drawing using the Holiday Hop cards for the chance to win a \$150 gift basket (the winner must be present to win). Participants are encouraged to gather at Cafe Max after a night of shopping, for the drawing.

### Michelle's anniversary event Dec. 4

Michelle's Headquarters will celebrate its 20th year in business on Friday, Dec. 4 with an open house from 5 to 8 p.m. coinciding with Culver's Holiday Hop. Champagne and hors d'oeuvres will be available along with gift basket and 20 percent discount gift certificate door prizes. The event will also bid longtime employee Susan Elizondo farewell and welcome new staff member Angie Maroules. The public is invited.

### Children's Christmas party Dec. 12

The annual Culver children's Christmas party will take place Saturday, Dec. 12, from 10 a.m. to noon in the Culver Elementary cafeteria. Included will be crafts, cookie decorating, coloring and visits with Santa. The party is a coordinated event with Culver's VFW Post, fire department, and Lions Club.

### Holy Walk Dec. 18, 19

BREMEN — The Holy Walk will be from 5-9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18 and 4:30-9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19, in Bremen.

Take a journey to Bethlehem, back to the very first Christmas. Shuttle bus service to Bethlehem leaves from Bremen High School, 511 W. Grant St., Bremen.

Doors open at 5 p.m. Friday, and 4:30 p.m. Saturday. Buses leave every 15 minutes. Be prepared to wait several hours, and dress warmly for this outdoor hour-long walk. Event is not wheelchair accessible. For more information, call 574-546-2667 between 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

### Facade funds available for Culver retailers

The Culver Redevelopment Commission has announced a second round of facade grants for 2015 with \$11,000

in funds available. Commercial property owners interested in applying should submit applications for facade renovations to Culver Town Hall, c/o Kathy Clark, 200 E Washington St, Culver, IN. Applications will be reviewed as they are received by the commission, with immediate award upon approval. This round of grants has a closing date of December 21 or once all available funds have been awarded for this round.

### Free computer classes at CUTPL

Free computer classes at the Culver-Union Twp. Public Library continue in November on Mondays at 6 p.m. and Fridays at 10 a.m. These sessions are free and open to the public. For more information, contact Andrew Baker at [abaker@culver.lib.in.us](mailto:abaker@culver.lib.in.us) or 574-842-2941.

### Marshall County Tourism grants available

Marshall County Tourism (MCCVB) has allocated \$25,000 in funding for the marketing, development, and hosting of events exhibiting positive tourism potential to Marshall County. These funds are to assist qualified organizations with the promotion of tourism activities striving to directly increase hotel/motel occupancy and create positive image building publicity for Marshall County.

Deadline for applications is January 14, 2016. Organizations interested should visit [www.visitmarshallcounty.org/things-to-do/grants](http://www.visitmarshallcounty.org/things-to-do/grants) or request by phone. Applications may also be picked up at Marshall County Tourism at 201 N. Michigan Street, Plymouth, IN 46563. For more information, call Marshall County Tourism at 574-936-1882.

### NIPSCO Winter Energy Assistance programs available

Northern Indiana Public Service Company (NIPSCO), state agencies and other local organizations are partnering once again to help connect families that are struggling to pay their heating bills this winter with available assistance funds. Enrollment for the federal low income energy assistance program (EAP) information is available Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. CST at 800-4-NIPSCO (800-464-7726). Eligibility is based on income and family size. More information and a listing of agencies that help administer assistance programs can be found at [NIPSCO.com/PaymentAssistance](http://NIPSCO.com/PaymentAssistance).

### Town reminds of leaf-raking best practices

Culver residents are reminded, when raking

leaves, to please rake to the curb and not into the street. When leaves are piled into the street, it causes a number of issues. Those with questions may contact the town hall at 574-842-3140.

### Residents reminded to guard for frozen pipes

With cold temperatures on the way, frozen pipes and water meters are possible. Home owners are responsible for keeping their water meter from freezing and, if it does freeze, the cost to fix or replace it, which could mean a \$175 replacement fee. Residents are encouraged to take precautions to keep it warm during extreme temperatures such as making sure its space is heated, insulating the pipes around the meter, and leaving a faucet dripping so water is moving through the pipes.

### Euchre, pinochle Fridays

A weekly euchre and pinochle club, which is open to the public, meets each Friday from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Culver park beach lodge's upper-level meeting room, 819 Lake Shore Drive. All are welcome to have fun playing cards, make new friends, enjoy beautiful Lake Maxinkuckee, and Culver's fine restaurants and city.

### Adult coloring series at CUTPL

Culver-Union Township Public Library is continuing its adult coloring series in November. The library is providing the coloring sheets and colors, but feel free to bring your own. Sessions take place at the library Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. and/or Thursdays at 10 a.m. This program is free and open to the public. Contact reference/adult services manager, Dana Thomas, at 574-842-2941 or [dthomas@culver.lib.in.us](mailto:dthomas@culver.lib.in.us) for more information.

### Town of Culver announces online billing

Beginning in January, Culver residents will have the option to receive their utility bills via e-mail and pay online. Information on how to set up e-mail billing will be made available via utility bills, the town's Facebook page and the town's website ([www.townofculver.org](http://www.townofculver.org))

### Friends of the Library seeks volunteers

The Friends of the Culver-Union Twp. Public Library are seeking more volunteers to assist with book sales and other library-oriented activities. Interested persons may inquire at the library, 107 N. Main Street in downtown Culver, or by phone at 574-842-2941.

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## Making our streets smarter

As the crow flies, it was just about a mile to the library from our rural subdivision. I figured it would only take about 15 minutes to bike there with the kids: one in the trailer behind me, and one in front of me on her small two-wheeler. Helmets securely fastened, we started out.



**HOOSIER HABITAT: EASY WAYS TO LIVE GREEN**  
By MARIANNE PETERS

Once we started pedaling along Lincoln Highway, however, I nearly turned us back. How had I forgotten that there was barely a shoulder on this road? How had I forgotten how fast these drivers go? What seemed like a short segment of our trip now seemed like miles and miles of treacherous roadway. By the time we made it to the sidewalk at the edge of the city limits, I was already swearing I would never attempt that again — at least not with my kids in tow.

My family eventually moved to town, because we discovered that we wanted to be connected, not just have a safe route from point A to point B (though that was a concern, too). As our rural towns reach out to new people and new businesses, one thing we can't overlook is planning for a sense of community and connectedness. I'm intrigued by the initiative recently launched by the city of South Bend called "Smart Streets." The philosophy advocates for road and street designs that accommodate users of all ages and abilities — pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists. There are some compelling reasons for us in Marshall County to consider a similar approach as our communities grow.

**Reason One: Livable communities.** Even though destinations are relatively close in our communities, are they safe for pedestrians? Beyond that, are they pleasant or welcoming for people who want to walk or bike? Slowing traffic by adding roundabouts instead of four-way intersections, putting in landscaping and benches, moving storefronts closer to sidewalks — these are all strategies that increase safety, encourage walking, and make communities attractive places to be.

**Reason Two: Health and safety.** For kids, smarter streets minimize traffic-related dangers and encourage the physical activity they need. Footpaths, sidewalks, and bike lanes, as well as reduced vehicle speeds, make getting to school and activities safer. Smarter streets allow older people who may not drive the option to exercise safely and avoid isolation.

**Reason Three: Equity.** Many people in our communities have to walk or bike to work or to buy food because they can't afford other transportation. Working in the industrial park in Plymouth, I'm often troubled by the number of people I see trying to negotiate those busy streets on foot, sometimes dodging heavy trucks. Shouldn't all working people have safe routes, not just the ones who drive?

**Reason Four: Environment.** By encouraging alternative means of transportation, we are taking fossil-fuel burning vehicles off the road, which cuts down on pollution and carbon emissions. Locally, it means cleaner air — something we often take for granted. Globally, it means reducing the rate of climate change.

Reducing climate change, however, is almost the icing on the cake here. Who wouldn't want to live in a community where people of all ages and abilities did not have to feel trapped by treacherous traffic or forced to trudge to work along busy streets? Where kids could get themselves to school safely? Where older folks could get out and about without always waiting on a ride? If we want to continue to thrive as rural communities, we need to consider smart streets as a strategy for growth.

Marianne Peters is a writer, environmental educator, and director of the Marshall County Solid Waste Management District.

COLONNADE: *Culver History Corner*  
The Antiquarian and Historical Society of Culver  
www.culverahs.com historyofculver@gmail.com

"Culver History Corner" is a semi-regular feature sponsored by the Antiquarian and Historical Society of Culver. whose quarterly newsletter is also sponsored in The Culver Citizen.

## If these walls could talk: Culver Comm. High School

By Jeff Kenney

It's somewhat ironic that our ongoing series of "virtual" journeys through the history of publicly-used structures in Culver would take us into the halls of the Culver Community High School at a time when concerns over its future have mounted even more than had been the case a few years ago.

It's doubly ironic that the story we have to tell this week — that of the origins of the present school building — involves the closing and consolidation of several small high schools in the area and the State of Indiana in the 1960s. Add to that the fact that even those then-small schools were, really, the result of an earlier wave of consolidation which closed the doors of dozens of one-room (or in some cases, even two-story) schools throughout the townships involved, earlier in the 20th century.

Schools like Aubbeenaubee Township -- the elementary, middle, and high school in Leiters Ford -- or Monterey's all-levels school building, not to mention Culver's own elementary, junior high, and high school (all in one building in those days) came about between 1900 and the 1930s as the state pushed for an end to those one-room schools or yore. No doubt emotions ran high then as they would again in the 1960s. At least it can be said that a century ago the practical reality of it made practical sense: after all, having a one-room school every five or so miles meant that parents didn't have to drive the horse and buggy too many miles over muddy, rutted roads (or through snow) and children didn't have terribly far to walk.

The proliferation of automobiles made it easily possible to bus a child from, say, the Burr Oak area to what must then have seemed the massive Culver school that opened in 1912 on School Street and Lake Shore Drive.

The Indiana Reorganization Act of 1959, however, forced consolidation of school districts for reasons many Hoosiers clearly felt were less com-



ABOVE: An early photo of the then-newly built Culver Comm. High School as featured in the 1969 Cavalcade yearbook.

elling, primarily focusing on cost savings.

Whenever one sees the word "Community" within the name of a given school corporation, it's a safe bet several schools were consolidated into it, and even if one doesn't, odds are decent they were anyway, historically speaking. One net result, from a historical perspective, is that few functioning public school buildings in Indiana are over 50 years old (one might respond that "new" buildings are a necessity to a proper education, to which I point to a campus like Culver Academies, many of whose buildings are considerably older, and obviously more aesthetically arresting than most modern school buildings, many of which could easily be confused, at first blush, for prisons or factories...but I digress).

Returning to our story: by 1960 a less-than-delighted constituency of the Aubbeenaubee Township area of Fulton County had resigned itself to the fact of consolidation itself. The question at that point was one of which direction that consolidation would take students, and Leiters Ford area residents clearly preferred (an 87 percent majority, by way of a petition circulated by the advisory committee of Aubbeenaubee Township) making the trek to Culver for school than all the way to Rochester, as they feared was the alternative.

Interesting comments in the statement released at the time by the committee include notation that "it takes

at least one generation to unify a school where force was used," as well as detailed descriptions of the drawbacks to lengthy busing routes, especially during inclement weather.

In August of 1961, *The Culver Citizen* noted that some 120 students from Starke County's North Bend Township school -- as well as four teachers from the school -- were transferring to the Culver school district. The transfer was the result of a heated "school choice" debate (in those days before the state mandated all Hoosiers had their choice of schools, a much more recent development) which had been resolved when North Bend closed the previous fall by allowing families to choose whether to send their children to Knox, Monterey, or Culver. The closing of North Bend, it was noted, provided a significant tax savings for residents no longer required to fund the local school.

In spite of the North Bend situation, a former, full-fledged consolidation for Culver area schools was still undecided, with Starke and Fulton Counties (not surprisingly, given the redirected flow of tax dollars potentially involved) opposed such a merger.

Many Culver area residents, reported the Citizen, sought to employ the earlier Financial Reorganization Act of 1947 in order to further the proposed merger, though the state committee in charge of reorganization opposed it.

See Walls page 9

## What's wrong with Culver — 60 years ago and today

"Today Culver is a town of primarily older and middle-aged people. Young people have nothing to keep them in Culver and must go somewhere else to find employment. We are almost entirely dependent on the business of the Academy and summer lake residents and this is certainly not a healthy situation."

Sound like something surely written within the past couple of years? Since the "good old days" when Culver was self-contained and businesses thrived here? You know, 20 or 30 years ago?

In fact it was written in 1956, just shy of 60 years ago, and it's one of a couple of telling pieces of writing from *The Culver Citizen* of that year.

The Indiana State Library's digitization and sharing of 60 years' worth of vintage *Culver Citizens* (via inspire.in.gov) continues to yield a number of treasures, but one is certainly these interesting bits of insight partially into how Culver has changed, but perhaps somewhat surprisingly how it's stayed the same, since 1956.

The quote at the start of this article is derived from an anonymous letter to the editor (the writer said he or she wished to remain so due to "business contracts in Culver") in the Aug. 22, 1956 edition of *The Culver Citizen*, under the heading, "Just What's Wrong with Culver?"

In short, the letter-writer calls for two or three small, clean manufacturing entities to be sought for development in Culver (these were the days before McGills, which was housed in the present-day Elkay plant on Mill Street, had arrived in the 1960s), and laments that some prominent names in Culver allegedly deflected one such business from locating here.

Criticized by the letter-writer is the newspaper editor (for not calling for more industrial development in Culver) and the Chamber of Commerce and even the Lions Club for not taking on the task of soliciting the above (and if inclusion of the Culver Lions Club as among the



View from Main Street

By Jeff Kenney  
Editor

guilty sounds misdirected, it may not have in 1956; a lead article in the Dec. 8, 1948 *Citizen* notes that the Culver Chamber of Commerce, first organized in 1924, was disbanding to allow the Lions Club — which at that point was just 5 years old in Culver and boasted 150 members — to form a local business committee to handle the Chamber's former efforts; clearly, however, the Chamber was back before 1956).

If you're thinking such a letter might elicit a disagreeing response today, so it did in 1956 — in the very next edition of the paper, in fact, when a personality of no less stature than crack Hoosier journalist (who brought 30 years' experience in the Hearst and South Bend media, as well as a major motion picture company) and *Culver Citizen* legend (as a weekly correspondent), Robert Kyle.

Kyle, whose "It Must be the Lake Water" weekly columns would later become a staple of the *Citizen*, criticized the previous week's writer for his or her anonymity and described the call for a factory in Culver as "drivel" and pushed back against claims that the State Exchange Bank and Culver Academy were striving to keep such industry out.

The fact is, said Kyle, Culver doesn't have the labor pool to support industry of any size.

Instead, he called upon the community to address factors which would make industries hesitant to locate in Culver or unlikely to stay and/or succeed if they did. What he cites among factors is interesting.

First, Kyle described Culver as "handicapped because of...six strata of society," including (in those days), townspeople, summer resort people, Academy people, rural people, its black residents, and what he called "floating" people, with no effort to unify them towards a common set of goals (I'd argue there's been considerable progress in some areas of this issue in more recent years).

Also interesting is his bemoaning of "comparative high living costs," which Kyle said some observers sug-

See View page 10

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## Culver girls at the net

Pictured are members of the girls' basketball teams of Culver Comm. High School and Culver Girls Academy.

PHOTO/KAREN LEE  
RIGHT: Culver Community High School Lady Cavaliers.

Front row, from left, Alyssa Bailey, Allison Pearl, Shania Northern, Jaily Fox, Sydney Clinger. Back row: coaches Shane Lowry and Tammy Shedrow, Hailey Jones, Marisa Howard, Thea Bergersen, Kendra Binion, Courtney Salyer, assistant coach Tiffany Levya, manager Brooke Dekoker.



## Sports briefs

### Girls basketball

#### CGA wins 2nd straight

Culver Girls Academy's basketball team earned its second win in as many days with a 61-59 victory at LaVille Saturday.

The Lady Eagles stretched out a narrow 17-16 lead at the first quarter break to a 35-26 cushion at the half, then held on in the fourth quarter for the win.

CGA was paced by Marie Steiner with 25 points and Tori Styers with 22.

LaVille was led by Aryn Eaqsh's 18 and Lucy Zeiger's 12.

• CULVER GIRLS ACADEMY 61, LaVILLE 59  
At Lakeville  
CGA: 17 26 39 61  
LaVille: 16 35 49 59  
CGA (61): Tori Styers 22, Peyton Frank 2, Kingsley Cortes 0, Jesse Etheridge 5, Marie Steiner 25, Brooke Ditmire 2, Kennedy Kubica 4; Total: 21 11-14 61  
LaVILLE (59): Jessica Tuttle 6, Shelfie Zeiger 8, Lindsey Aschenbrenner 4, Lucy Zeiger 12, Mallory Vernon 7, Nina Sajdak 4, Aryn Eash 18, Haley Berger 0; Totals: 25 6-13 59.  
3-pointers: Culver 8 (Steiner 5, Styers 3), LaVille 3 (Aschenbrenner, Vernon, Eash); Total fouls (fouled out): Culver 14 (none), LaVille 15 (Eash). JV score: CGA 32, LaVille 18.

#### CGA starts fast in win over Bowman

Culver Girls Academy got off to a fast start in a 69-33 victory over visiting Bowman Academy Friday.

The Lady Eagles jumped out to a 32-4 first quarter lead en route to the win, their second in three games. Tori Styers put up 17 points and Marie Steiner finished with 16 while Kingsley Cortes and Sydney Herzeg each scored nine.

Bowman was led by nine points from Kiara Pratchett. CGA improves to 2-4 with the win while Bowman falls to 0-5.

• CULVER GIRLS ACADEMY 69, BOWMAN ACADEMY 33  
At Culver  
BA: 4 14 27 33  
CGA: 32 45 55 69  
BA (33): Kiamani Dillard 6, Markeysha Colman 8, Kiara Pratchett 9, Jumia Childs 2, T'Jerika Belle 2, Zharia Dodson 2, Traciana White 0, Kelmetria Sistrunk 2, Teasure McCrimon 0, Demia Anderson 2. Jasmine Adams 0; Totals: 15-0 3/5 33.  
CGA (69): Tori Styers 17, Kingsley Cortes 9, Jessie Etheridge 9, Marie Steiner 16, Kennedy Kubica 5, Peyton Frank 2, Rebecca Christlieb ) Gracie Farrall 0, Abby Ericson 2, Brooke Ditmire 2, Sydney Herzeg 9; Totals: 23-2 17/28 69.  
3-pointers: BA 0, CGA 2 (Cortes, Etheridge); Fouls (fouled out) BA 17 (none), CGA 8 (none).  
Records:  
JV score: CGA 39 (Ericson 14, Farrall 10), Bowman 14 (Taz'Jay Hurt 10).

#### Glenn tops CGA

John Glenn's girls basketball team outscored host Culver Girls Academy 30-10 in the second quarter en route to an 80-59 win at the Academies last week.

CGA got a strong one-two punch from Tori Styers and Kennedy Kubica, who finished with 23 and 20 points, respectively.

The high-scoring game featured a total of 13 3-pointers by the two teams.

• JOHN GLENN 80, CULVER GIRLS ACADEMY 59  
At Culver  
JG: 22 52 66 80  
CGA: 16 26 42 59  
GLENN (80) Kyannah Stull 16, Ashley Burnett 7, Delaney Patterson 5, Morgan Plunkett 2, Mariah Plunkett 19, Chelsea Groves 3, Haley Preston 17, Elizabeth Sarber 2, Riley Groves 5, Kelly Freehauf 2, Bethany Hayden 2, Dessa Lang 0; Totals: 32 9-14 80.  
CGA (59) Tori Styers 23, Kingsley Cortes 4, Jordi Blackburne 3, Marie Steiner 20, Kennedy Kubica 4, Peyton Frank 2, Jessie Etheridge 3, Brooke Ditmire 0. Totals: 22 9-15 59.  
3-pointers: Glenn 7 (Stull 2, Mariah Plunkett 2, Burnett, Patterson, C. Groves); CGA 6 (Styers 3, Steiner 2, Blackburne); Fouls (fouled out):

### 121 Culver Legals

#### NOTICE OF A HEARING ON PROPOSED ORDINANCE

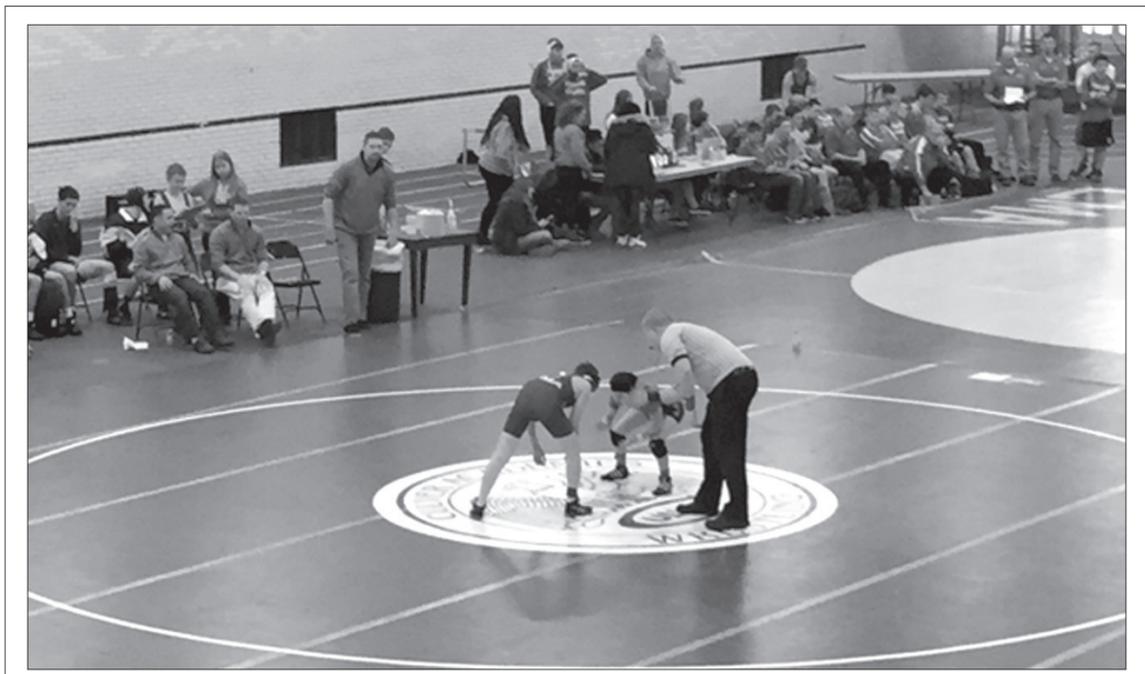
Property owners and other interested parties in the Town of Culver are hereby notified that a public hearing will take place at 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, December 8 at Culver Town Hall, 200 East Washington Street, Culver, on Ordinance 2015-021, An Ordinance to Regulate the Use of Golf Carts and Animal Drawn Vehicles Operated for Business Purposed Within the Corporate Limits of the Town of Culver. All interested parties may appear and be heard. A copy of the ordinance is on file at the Clerk-Treasurer's Office, 200 E Washington St. Karen Heim Clerk-Treasurer November 17, 2015 November 26, 2015 CC5228 hspaxlp

See Sports, Page 6



PHOTO/PAUL PARÉ

Culver Girls Academy Lady Eagles. Front row, from left to right: Kameron Hussey (manager), seated are Margaret McKinnis, Peyton Frank, Marie Steiner, kneeling is Claire Oliver. Back row: coaches Chantel Vinson and Alyssa Smith, Kingsley Cortes, Abby Ericson, Kennedy Kubica, Jordi Blackburne, Rebecca Christlieb, Jessi Etheridge, Tori Styers, Brooke Ditmire, coaches Gary Christlieb and Taylor Lizzi.



PHOTO/ANNA CAMPBELL

Culver Military Academy kicked off its wrestling season Saturday hosting an Early Bird Super Dual. The Eagles finished second behind Plymouth. Pictured above, a Plymouth and CMA wrestler get set to begin their match.

# Church Directory

Your place to find local places of worship

*"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever." ~1 Chronicles 16:34*

### CULVER AREA CHURCHES

<p><b>Culver Bible Church</b> 718 South Main Street CulverBible.org Worship Service - 10:30 a.m. Sunday Eve. Service - 6:00 p.m. Pastor: Rev. Daniel Huhn</p>	<p><b>Mt. Hope United Methodist Church</b> 7022 W. 700N 574-542-9333 www.mthopechurch.com Sunday School - 9:30 a.m. Worship - 10:30 a.m. Pastor: Bob Metzger</p>	<p><b>Wesley United Methodist Church</b> 511 School St., Culver 842-2900 Memorial Day-Labor Day - 8:00 a.m. at Culver Depot Labor Day-Memorial Day - 9:00 Sunday School Worship - 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary Handicapped Accessible Pastor: Tom Harzula</p>
<p><b>Emmanuel United Methodist Church</b> 401 S. Main St., Culver 842-2133 Sunday School - 10:00 a.m. Worship - 9:00 a.m. Pastor: Tom Richards</p>	<p><b>Sovereign Grace Baptist Church</b> 110 N. Main St., Culver 842-3629 Sunday Worship - 10:30 a.m. Sunday Evening - 6:30 p.m. Pastor: Bro. Mike Cissna</p>	<p><b>St. Elizabeth's Episcopal Church</b> 515 N. State St. http://steculver.org Eucharist - 6:00 p.m. Pastor: Fr. Clark S. Miller</p>
<p><b>Grace United Church of Christ</b> 307 N. Plymouth St., Culver 574-842-2331 Church Service - 9:00 a.m. Sunday School - 10:15 a.m. Children and Adults Handicapped accessible Pastor: AnnMarie Kneebone</p>	<p><b>St. Mary of the Lake Catholic Church</b> 124 College Ave., Culver www.culcom.net/~stmarys/ Sunday Masses - 7:30 &amp; 11:00 a.m. Pastor: Fr. Jeffrey Largent</p>	<p><b>To advertise your business or list your church services, call Stephanie at 1-800-933-0356 or email class@thepilotnews.com for more information.</b></p>
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*"But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." ~Matthew 6:33*

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*"In the day when I cried out, You answered me, and made me bold with strength in my soul." ~Psalm 138:3*

## Bible Trivia

- BY WILSON CASEY -

1. Is the Book of Numbers in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. What book of the Bible mentions the word "holiness" the most times, at 152? Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers
3. From John 13, who said to Jesus, "No, you shall never wash my feet"? Paul, Simon Peter, Andrew, Thomas
4. How many different foods are mentioned in the Bible (KJV)? 26, 49, 61, 80
5. Who was Jonah's father? Eli, Joppa, Tirzah, Amittai
6. How many children did Hannah have? 0, 5, 11, 20

ANSWERS: 1) Old; 2) Leviticus; 3) Simon Peter; 4) 49; 5) Amittai; 6) 5  
(c) 2015 King Features Synd., Inc.



## CBGC Member of the Month

PHOTO PROVIDED

LEFT: Pictured is Culver Boys & Girls Club Member of the Month for October, Madison Summey, a 1st grader at Culver Elementary.

She is also the club's computer lab area achiever, according to assistant director Criston Zehner.

This marks Madison's second time being designated Member of the Month this school year, adds Zehner.



PHOTO PROVIDED

## Monterey Lions recognized by District Governor Randy Greer

ABOVE: Monterey's Lions Club had a visit earlier this month from Lions International District Governor Randy Greer and his wife Pat. Greer presented Nancy Spiewak with her 20-year service award and Darlene Denton with her 10-year service award. Club members also shared a chili dinner, prepared by club president Doug Denton, with the Greers.

Pictured here is Greer in the center with Denton, left, and Spiewak.

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## Academies grad part of Veterans Day tribute to CMA-attending oldest WWII vet

BY JAN GARRISON, CULVER ACADEMIES

It is a small world.

On Veterans Day, the Palm Springs (Calif.) Air Museum conducted a memorial service for U.S. Marine Corps Brig. Gen. Frederick "Fritz" Payne, 104, of Rancho Mirage, Calif., who died Aug. 6.

Payne — the country's oldest living American Fighter Ace — attended Culver Military Academy before leaving to enter the U.S. Naval Academy in July 1930.

The service included a fly-over by four Marine helicopters, which completed the Missing Man formation. One of the pilots was another Culver graduate, Capt. John RF Douglas, CMA class of 2004.

"I was shocked when my squadron was tasked with the fly-over," Douglas said via email. "I immediately volunteered for it. I had recently learned about General Payne through the Naval aviation magazine Wings of Gold. I was reading it at work one day and they had an article about him that mentioned Culver."

Two Cobras (AH-1Z) and two Hueys (UH-1Y) were used for the fly-over. The Cobras were in the front. Douglas was in the front seat of the second Cobra.

Now stationed at Camp Pendleton in the San Diego area, Douglas has been flying the AH-1Z for 2.5 years with the Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 169 (HMLA-169).

"With flight school and other training I've been in the Marines for almost six years," he said. After Culver, Douglas attended Purdue University, graduating in 2009 with a degree in chemical engineering.

*This story appears courtesy news.culver.org.*



PHOTO PROVIDED

A scene from a Veterans Day ceremony to honor the late Fritz Payne, the oldest surviving World War II veteran at the time of his death.

## Sports from page 5

Glenn 12 (Sarber), CGA 13 (none).

### Culver falls at Winamac

Culver Community fell behind 23-2 in the opening frame in an eventual 61-190 loss at Winamac last week.

Marisa Howard paced the Lady Cavs with eight points, while Courtney Salyer scored six.

Winamac was led by Claire Collins' 17 points and Jessica Brandt's 13.

WINAMAC 61, CULVER 19

At Winamac

Culver: 2 9 13 19

Winamac: 23 45 57 61

CULVER (19): Marisa Howard 8, Courtney Salyer 6, Thea Bergersen 4, Ha

Jones 1, Alyssa Bailey 0, Allison Pearl 0; Totals 9 1-3 19.  
WINAMAC (61): Claire Collins 17, Jessica Brandt 13, Jillian Brumm 9, Cam Kopka 8, Jillian Crist 6, Alyssa Wagner 4, Erika Brogdon 2, Courtney Kopka 2; Totals: 26 8-10 61.  
3-pointers: Culver 0, Winamac 1 (Brandt); Total fouls (fouled out): Culver 8, Winamac 7.

### Wrestling

#### CMA 2nd at Early Bird Super Dual

Culver Military Academy's wrestling team kicked off its season with a runner-up finish at its home Early Bird Super Invitational Saturday.

The Eagles finished 3-1 on the day with their only loss coming at the hands of 4-0 Plymouth.

Adam Davis won the 120-pound championship, Aaron Brooke won the 126-pound championship, and Simon Griffith went 4-0 on the day to top the 220-pound standings.

#### CULVER MILITARY ACADEMY EARLY BIRD SUPER DUAL

At Culver  
TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Plymouth 4-0; 2. CMA 3-1; 3. Adams 2-2; 4. Knox 1-3; 5. Tippecanoe Valley 0-4.

Weight Class Champions  
106: Vincent Calhoun (A); 113: Joey Zahl (A); 120: Adam Davis (CMA); 126: Aaron Brooke (CMA); 130: Cody Allman (P); 138: Collin Meister (P); 145: Ronald Fisher (K); 152: Bodie Neidig (P); 160: Tavonte Malone (A); 170: Jake Krause (K); 182: Jeremy Splex (P); 195: Trent Garza (P); 220: Simon Griffith (CMA, 4-0), Sam Stayton (P, 2-0); 285: Justin Puglisi (P, 2-0), Graham Chapman (P, 2-0).

## School from page 1

According to our reporting partners at WKVI, new doors will be installed at the middle and high school building which will require visitors to pass through the main office before entering any other portion of the building (a similar arrangement already exists at the elementary school).

It's expected that proceeds from the corporation's upcoming bond refunding will be used to pay for its share of the project costs, though a formal board vote accepting the grant is still pending.

School officials across Indiana predicted drops in ISTEP

testing scores under a new rubric introduced for this year by the state, and principals within Culver's corporation discussed that reality with the school board at the meeting (though they noted they were not allowed to be specific yet about preliminary scores).

Brett Berndt, principal at Culver Community Middle and High Schools, acknowledged a drop in scores he said is comparable to that of other schools in Indiana, though too little information exists about other scores and especially about state standards — which will be released in Decem-

ber — to make a meaningful determination in the matter.

Berndt said the mathematics portion of the test had particularly increased in difficulty since prior tests.

Proskey reported teachers had just half of the school year to realign lesson plans to orient students to new standards. She noted many hours which otherwise would have been devoted to "specials" (such as gym, music, and art) had to be spent on pretesting, largely to orient students towards the new technology employed in the tests.

Even more significant changes are expected in ISTEP testing is expected next year, said Proskey, calling such frequent and dramatic changes unfair to students, teachers, and all involved. She questioned whether the tests are an adequate reflection of the capabilities of students and teachers.

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## Walls from page 4

ingly, one proposal called for the consolidation of Culver with Aubbeenaubee Twp. and Argos, something which the paper reported was voted down by an 85 percent majority.

Eventually the state's committee gave notice that consolidating Aubbeenaubee, North Bend and Culver was legal and would be effective as of December 27, 1962. "his gave Culver quite a variety of administrative heads during one school year," which was reflected in Culver High School's 1963 "Tomahawk" (for the then-mascot of the Culver Indians) yearbook.

Although preceding the actual building reflecting the change by five years, 1963 saw the birth of Culver Community Schools, a reorganized district comprised of Aubbeenaubee, North Bend, and Union Townships (and at that point, no less than three counties, an unusual situation statewide).

By 1965, the school board was already discussing details of the pending new building, which the Citizen covered throughout the year.

One debated facet of the plans was its inclusion of a swimming pool at the new high school building, something for which students and some community organizations (such as the Culver Jaycees) expressed enthusiastic support. In fact, the school board approved inclusion of it in plans for the new building in May, 1965. A vocal contingency, however, opposed it. Specifically, a group from Aubbeenaubee Township requested the school board nix the idea due not only to the initial financial outlay to install the pool, but the ongoing cost of its maintenance, including staffing towards that end.

Eventually financial concerns won out, and the 'Swimming Cavaliers' became the stuff only of imagination.

During the summer of 1966, the school board reviewed final plans for the new high school building, with Ralph Osborn appointed the head of a school building corporation which also included Eldon Davis, Wayne Roe, Donald Taylor, W. Wayne Kline, Cecil Lucas, and Glenn Overmyer. That same summer, superintendent Frank McClane stepped down and was replaced by Robert Rust.

By December, the board had received bids for the building, and in April of 1967, *The Culver Citizen* ran an artist's conception of the new campus on page 1, along with a description of the building including 23 classrooms (with 10 laboratories for science, language, home economics, and business), an 800-seat auditorium, gymnasium, facilities for agriculture, industrial arts, drafting, music, art and ceramics, and of course a cafeteria. A library providing for 7,000 volumes in perimeter shelving was discussed, as well as administrative, guidance, and health areas.

The architectural and engineering firm of M-W Inc., of Indianapolis, handled planning and design, with general construction to be undertaken by VanKempe Construction of Demotte, Indiana.

Ground was broken for the new building, at the corner of State Road 10 and School Street, in June of 1967.

That same month, Culver Community Schools became unique within the entire state when it was announced that Tippecanoe Township, in Pulaski County, would also be annexed into the school corporation.

It's interesting to note that Cary Cummins had been designated head building supervisor for the building but never lived to see it completed, dying of cancer in October of 1968. Cummins' daughter, Bobetta Washburn Ruhnow, died earlier this month after a lifetime of service to Culver comparable to that of her father, whose tombstone was made of the bricks of the new school building as a final tribute to him.

The 1967-68 school year was the end of an era in Culver, being the very last for Culver High School proper, and the last year 9th through 12th grade students would attend classes in the building first constructed in 1912, a few blocks south of today's high school (the site, of course, continued on as Culver Elementary, and briefly as the junior high school until the early 1980s).

That year, John R. Hayes served as CHS' principal, with J. Arthur Howard heading under the Aubbee banner and



ABOVE: The first graduating class of Culver Comm. High School enters the gymnasium in 1969. BELOW: The first CCHS 'Cavalcade' yearbook, from 1969.

James Truelove for Monterey. School board members included Ray Winters, representing Monterey; Everett Dowd, North Bend; Woodie McGlothlin, Aubbee, Walter Johnson, Culver; and Oscar Wesson, Union Twp.

In March of 1968, "Culver Community High School" was adopted as the official name of the new high school, and the aforementioned administrative list was considerably reduced by the autumn of that year, when the new building was first occupied, with Charles Bernhardt alone serving as principal (Rust continued to serve as superintendent).

That fall also saw the announcement that the new athletic moniker for the school would be the Cavaliers, eliminating the old team names of each individual school consolidated, including Culver itself. New school colors of black, white, and burnt orange were also adopted as was a new school song and school seal.

The seal is a bit of an education in itself, with its meaning doubtless lost to many of us today. The cavalier shield included five interlocked circles, denoting that the school opened during an Olympic year and emphasizing "that excellent physical fitness for all students and an opportunity to compete in sports are valid objectives in a complete high school curriculum."

The map of Indiana points to the state function of the school, with the canoe reminding the viewer of the American Indian heritage of the area, both on Lake Maxinkuckee and the Tippecanoe River. The thespian mark and lamp in one corner symbolize enlightenment and education, and the sword and fluer de lis hearken to the determination of cavaliers to persevere in pursuit of worthy goals and appreciate the beauty of nature. An Indian mask reminds all of the regional Trail of Death, which removed the Potawatomi Indians.

Culver Community High School was officially dedicated on April 27, 1969, with ISHA commissioner Phil Eskew speaking, alongside Linda Sherill, president of the Student Council. Honorable guests included Dr. Otis Bowen, State Legislature and Speaker of State Senate; Kenneth Cole, former principal; and John Bradamas, Senator from Indiana (who was unable to attend). The day was dedicated to Cary Cummins.

Few major changes followed for the school building over subsequent decades, though a major shift occurred in

1984 when the original, 1912 Culver High School building was demolished to make way for a new cafeteria for the Culver Elementary School. The old building had been serving as the home to Culver's "junior high" (that is, 7th and 8th grade students), and those students affected were moved into the Culver Community High School building, which would officially become the Culver Community Junior-Senior High School for several years.

It's interesting to note, given drops in student numbers in more recent years, that while numbers fluctuated over the course of the ensuing years, they peaked during the 1997-98 school year, when the official number was 1,254. Many Culverites may remember this period as marked by portable classroom buildings and a motivation to expand school building sizes, projects which in fact followed over the next several years.

By the mid-2000s, not only had Culver Elementary significantly expanded (to the north, to its present configuration) in response to those numbers, but the high school building saw a significant shift. This included a change perhaps overdue from the mid-1980s, which was greater physical separation of the middle and high school spaces, shifting middle school classrooms, lockers, and administrative offices to the south end of the building (middle schoolers continued to share the cafeteria with high school students, though for different lunch periods, as well as the "arts" spaces including music and band room and industrial and fine arts).

MPA Architects of South Bend designed the new middle school gymnasium as well.

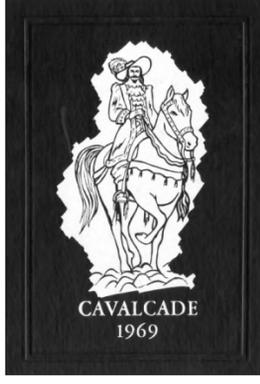
This period also saw the demise of the school corporation's administrative offices on Ohio Street and the new construction of the present building at the corner of School Street and Academy Road, a project not without some controversy from some residents due to cost expenditures (Monterey Elementary, which occupied the town's former high school building, was also renovated during this general period; it closed permanently — and controversially — in 2011).

One repeatedly sticky wicket in the area of some of these building projects related to state-mandated fiscal policies which in a few cases led to situations where teachers were being cut from the staff simultaneous to new building projects commencing, something taxpayers understandably had some trouble accepting (but which grew from policies at the state level not available to change from local officials).

At the time the building expansions of just over a decade ago were taking place, of course, school officials had no premonition of the demographic shifts to come, with Culver specifically seeing decreasing numbers of young families as housing costs rose and job bases shifted. This was exacerbated by state policies of recent years which not only allowed taxpayers to choose any school district they wished their child to attend (as opposed to being required to attend the district in which they lived, as in the past, or else being forced to pay a tuition fee), and voucher programs which "followed" each student towards private as well as public schools, according to each family's choice.

More broadly speaking, national trends in residence and commerce have diluted rural populations even more, leaving smaller, rural school districts with fewer students farther flung and considering options for the future (the case of the North Judson-San Pierre corporation comes to mind, where a referendum to raise property taxes to cover budget shortfalls failed earlier this month, leaving a district covering many miles of Starke County unsure of its future next year).

Culver Community High School, then, remains an updated and quite serviceable building just a few years shy of its 50th birthday, with school officials and community volunteers hard at work to consider new paths towards its future (note the article in this week's *Culver Citizen* on the corporation's strategic planning efforts, with more to come).



# SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY

November 28<sup>th</sup>

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 Closed Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Years Day, Easter Sunday & Last Sunday in January-First Thursday in February for our Winter Break

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## Library news

### CUTPL holiday closings for Thanksgiving days

Culver-Union Township Public Library will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 26 and Friday, Nov. 27 in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday. The library will resume normal hours of operation on Saturday, Nov. 28 at 9 a.m.

### CUTPL Carnegie centennial year closing events Dec. 5

CUTPL will hold the closing ceremonies for our centennial year celebration Saturday, Dec. 5.

The day begins at 9 a.m. at Millers Merry Manor at 730 School St., where families are invited to meet Miss Jill for **Holiday storytime** and caroling.

Then **Santa** will be visiting the library from 10 a.m. to noon.

The library's annual **Holiday Open House** and the closing ceremonies of its centennial year celebration will begin at noon with Stage II singing Christmas songs from the "big band" era.

**Jeff Kenney** will give a PowerPoint presentation about

CUTPL's development through the years, starting at 1 p.m.

**Andrew Carnegie Essay contest winners** will receive their awards and more music from the time of the Library's founding will complete the Centennial year festivities.

Light refreshments will be provided by the Friends of the Library, who will also be holding a **book sale** from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

### 'Christmas Memory' book-film group Dec. 2

CUTPL's book/film group, A Novel Approach, will meet Wed., Dec. 2 at noon in the library's large meeting room located downstairs at the library.

The book discussed will be "Christmas Memory" by Truman Capote. The film, which stars Patty Duke as Snook and Eric Lloyd as Buddy (Truman Capote), is of the same title.

Both parents are too busy to care for a 7 year old. They drop him off with distant relatives. His new best friend is an older simple woman, Sook, who makes his life one adventure after another.

Copies of the selection are available for checkout and may be reserved by contacting the library at 574-842-2941.

Patrons are encouraged to bring their lunch to eat while they enjoy the movie and the discussion afterwards.

The Culver-Union Township Public Library is located at 107 N. Main Street in Culver. All programs are free and open to the public.

### Coloring Night for Teens Dec. 14

Have you heard of the new fad? Clear your mind and join us for a stress-relieving hour of coloring. The library is providing the coloring sheets and colors, but feel free to bring your own. The event takes place Monday, Dec. 14 starting at 5 p.m. in the children's room.

### Arts and crafts all day at CUTPL Dec. 21

Join Miss Jill and Miss Erin Monday, Dec. 21 starting at 10 a.m. for a day of arts and crafts. Arrive anytime between the hours of 10 and 7 p.m.

All programs are free and open to the public.

### Park from page 2

eventually aim for a \$400,000 construction grant towards much-needed work at the park, especially on the beach lodge building, which has seen its first major work in four decades, within the past year.

Upgrades of electrical work throughout the park are also hoped for, it was noted.

Park board member Rhonda Reinhold led the meeting and also detailed some of the work done up to that point,

including new HVAC throughout the beach lodge, resurfacing of the lodge's leaking deck (as well as addition of safer railings around the deck), and other work.

### View from page 4

gest drive people to shop outside of Culver, where prices aren't geared towards the summer trade (today, local prices are almost secondary to the reality that most of us shop online and at "big box" chain stores as a matter of habit, routing dollars outside the community).

Culver's tax rates, while not exceptionally high, says Kyle, could be lower (in this he's well before the taxation of lake properties in the area at annual rates which exceed the salaries of many area families). In the good-news-for-us category, Kyle also cites an obsolete water system as problematic, something Culver today has largely alleviated; similarly, he calls for a zoning ordinance for the town, which would also happen within a decade of his writing. Most of his concerns as to parking and improvement of streets has also been nicely improved upon in more recent years.

Kyle, for what it's worth, also predicted the coming crisis in finance for the town park, which wasn't bringing in enough revenue to maintain its facilities. Various steps over the ensuing decades alleviated this, and of course today the renting of boat slips in the park has made it one of the most solvent facets of the town.

Praised by Kyle were Culver's churches, restaurants, and shops, as well as its school facilities.

While the dynamics of Culver have obviously changed considerably since 1956, both Kyle's comments and that of the earlier writer reflect surprisingly ongoing similarities.

I recall during planning meetings for Culver's comprehensive plan a similar call for additional industry as a panacea for what ails Culver, which struck me as ignoring the now well-established fact that most of the employees

of Culver's primary industrial entity, Elkay, live outside of town (as do many employees of the two local schools, nursing home, and other businesses).

Most agree that housing costs in the area are prohibitive for many, and that's not limited to Elkay staff, but even to many faculty members at both Culver Academies and Culver Community High School, and the town of Culver is at least working towards some offsetting of that problem.

One interesting possible tie-in to this situation to this discussion relates to a gathering of members of the boards of the Culver & Lake Maxinkuckee Visitor Center and Culver Chamber of Commerce, among others, earlier this month with Mark Newman, director of tourism for the State of Indiana.

As some may recall, Newman acted as a facilitator this past January for a broader "think tank" on tourism in Culver, and this time around he sought to assist the Visitor Center in developing an action plan, which included identifying meaningful challenges facing moving Culver forward.

Within the context of that discussion, I'd add the lack of ideal access to overnight accommodations to any 2015 efforts to replicate Kyle's list.

It's an ongoing "elephant in the room" that there are a certain number of inns, bed and breakfasts, and the like here, of course (which the Citizen is continuing to profile in an ongoing series aimed at collating and sharing information about them), but the process of finding and booking a room or rooms for a potential visitor (whether a complete newcomer or potential guest at an Academies or other event) is a complicated and unfriendly one. Some entities have online booking available, though how it's handled varies widely.

Further, many of the beds available for overnight stays in Culver are privately owned cottages or homes, and there's easy, convenient way to track them all down quickly and compare and contrast for a potential visitor to find the locale which best suits their needs.

So what do said potential visitors do? They tend to book rooms instead in Plymouth or Rochester, where the online process is fairly straightforward and information readily available without making multiple phone calls. There, they spend gas, grocery, dining, and other convenience-oriented dollars outside Culver businesses.

I recognize some readers see encouraging tourism as contrary to developing the year-round residents we all desire, and I certainly don't think tourism is the only

answer (housing and business development, as mentioned before, are also major efforts needing continual attention).

But helping facilitate more bodies in Culver helps in a couple of ways: it exposes all that we have to offer — and we have a great deal, I'd argue — to new people who could choose to move and stay here. And yes, I'm aware of the challenges of Culver as an increasingly retirement-oriented community and one full of second home owners who stay here only sporadically.

But I also see a new wave of younger people moving here, several of whom I can name off the top of my head. Some are single, perhaps exhausted by the rat race of success, status, and personal fulfillment in suburbs and strip malls so imposed upon so-called Millennials, hungering instead for more authentic community and natural beauty. Others are young families, hoping to raise their children in an environment of safety, cleanliness, community, and shared values and traditions (as an aside, I see it as an interesting temperature-taking of Culver today that Joel Samuelson, who defies the age-oriented stereotype of either a retiree or a local business owner serving in a municipal setting, recently ran for and won a seat on Culver's town council; he's not a "newcomer," certainly, but he fits the age and life status range I'm thinking of here).

Secondly, tourism does mean dollars in the pockets of local businesses. Most of us aren't going to keep such businesses open by our own spending trends, which like everyone else's tend heavily towards those big box and internet stores I mentioned earlier. If we want Culver's store fronts to fill, there has to be someone to spend money at them. I'm sympathetic to the argument that if more "affordable" stores open, more local people will frequent them, but I do believe many will shop online and out of town for the convenience and a bottom line price no local shop owner can consistently match.

Contrary to what seems to have been the case in 1956, discussion of "What's Wrong with Culver" is robust and frequent nowadays, which in many ways I'd argue is a good sign.

Is Culver in 2015 divided along the lines of "sub communities" (town, lake, Academy, rural...perceived wealth, and so on)? Yes. Was it in 1956, in the "good old days"? Yes. I'd argue we're talking about it more, in a way, because some of those barriers have begun to break down. We're in closer proximity to one another, rubbing elbows.

Of course we're also talking about it because some with less income or status feel they're being edged out of the Culver they remember. That's a topic I've written about frequently over the years in this paper, and again I understand the feeling. But I'd argue that, looking around us, we're seeing the flight of many (and their dollars) to larger urban and suburban areas, leaving fewer and fewer small towns, with little evidence that trend will stop.

The days of self-contained economies in small towns are over, at least for now, and Culver has been learning to trade on what's unique to it in order to maintain a town at all. Without doing so, even more store fronts will empty, infrastructure erode, property values sink to lows no one wants, and a negative cycle will feed upon itself.

The question which faced Bob Kyle faces us: will we learn to work together, across economic, educational, and geographic lines, with the goal that everyone "wins" in the future Culver? I see plenty of evidence that we're on that track. Hopefully we can continue.

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For a reservation form and complete terms and conditions please call your local Edgerton's Travel office or visit [www.edgertonstravel.com/grouptavel](http://www.edgertonstravel.com/grouptavel)



# Countdown to Christmas

The Culver Citizen will be counting down the days to Christmas & would like to publish pictures of local children each week in December.

If you would like your children or grandchildren included please email or drop off the picture with names of children & parents.

Email: [cstockton@thepilotnews.com](mailto:cstockton@thepilotnews.com)

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