



# The Culver Citizen

Culver • Monterey • Lake Maxinkuckee Since 1894

Volume 112 Issue No. 11

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50¢ • 12 pages

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St. Pat's day, Union Twp. style--page 4

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Winter weather strikes Culver ecological site--page B3

CHS choir sings its way to success--page B4

## In Brief

**School make-up days**  
The Culver Community School corporation has announced that its snow make-up days will take place on May 27 and 28. Graduation will still take place on May 23.

**Kindergarten round-up**  
Culver Community School superintendent Brad Schuldt has announced kindergarten roundup for students in the Culver Elementary School attendance district on Weds., April 2, at 6:30 p.m. in the Culver Elementary School cafeteria. Kindergarten roundup for students in the Monterey Elementary School attendance district will be held on Thursday, April 3, at 6:30 p.m. in the Monterey Elementary School cafeteria. To be eligible for kindergarten, a child must be five years old on or before Aug. 1, 2008. Children do not need to attend this informational meeting for parents. At the meeting, parents will be informed about required health records, forms needed for registration, kindergarten screening, Indiana curriculum standards, and programs available for kindergarteners. Parents should bring a copy of the child's birth certificate to verify date of birth, and child's immunization record. Parents who cannot attend the roundup should call Culver Elementary at (574) 842-3389 or Monterey Elementary at (574) 542-2601 to make other arrangements.

**Knights Fish Fry**  
Culver's Knights of Columbus (Council #13720) will hold a fish fry on Friday, March 14 from 4 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the basement of St. Mary of the Lake Church, 124 College Ave., Culver, IN. Cost is \$7.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children, and all are welcome.

**Opportunity for Culver middle school girls**

The University of Notre Dame is offering a science, math, engineering, and technology career conference for middle school girls on Sat., April 26, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Registration forms have been handed out to girls in all three grades but may be obtained from Marilyn Day at the elementary school. There is a \$10 registration fee. For more information, e-mail Karen Morris, the EYH Conference Organizer at morris.3@ind.edu or call her at 574-631-6945.

See "brief" page 2

www.thepilotnews.com  
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E-mail: citizen@culcom.net



PHOTO/PAUL PARE



CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

## Cavalier success

CHS' Lucas Hanselman, right, drives down court guarded by Tim Kidder of the Garrett Railroaders, as Culver's Jon Davis, left, looks on. The Cavs went on to defeat the Railroaders at regionals in North Judson Saturday afternoon, falling to the tough-to-beat Westview Warriors that evening. All of this in the wake of the Cavs' celebrated sectional victory last week. Read more on pages 6, 7, and B1.

## Dreaming of a song

Culver High School choir soloists Nicole Ziaja and Adam Neace -- flanked on the left by Beth Wojdyla and on the right by Alica Allen -- sing "Stardust" at the Culver Kiwanis Club's March 6 meeting, part of a performance by the award-winning choir. See photos page B4.



PHOTO/KAREN EASTERDAY

## Culver Relay leaders attend Lobby Day

Alyssa Spratte, left, and Ashley Eberhart of Culver Girls Academy, with Sen. Ed Charbonneau, who has just signed an agreement to support legislation benefiting cancer victims. The two, along with cancer survivor Karen Easterday of Culver, journeyed to the statehouse in Indianapolis as part of Lobby Day on Feb. 5. Read the complete story on page B2.

## Library board approves, previews children's room renovation

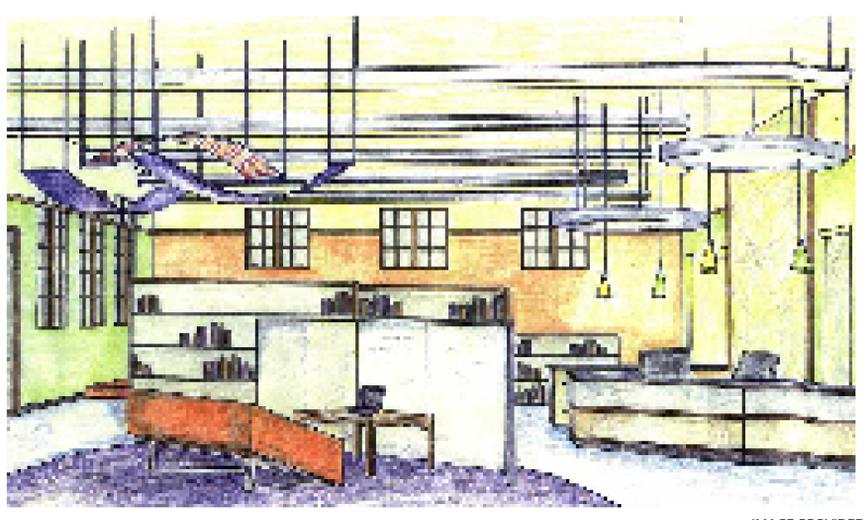


IMAGE PROVIDED

The drawing above was shared with the Culver-Union Twp. Public Library board and audience at last week's board meeting, and previews planned changes to the library's children's area, as designed by the Troyer Group.

By Jeff Kenney, Citizen editor  
The Culver-Union Twp. Public Library's children's area will receive a facelift in the coming months, and library director Carol Jackson took a few minutes at the March 4 library board meeting to preview some of the specifics of the change. Mishawaka-based architecture and design firm the Troyer Group drew up and presented plans last year for a renovation of the room, which occupies the southern portion of the library's upper level. While no major structural change will take place, the existing circulation desk and other furniture components will change places, new components will be added, and several cosmetic changes will occur. Jackson shared drawings of the proposed room and samples of carpeting and other amenities with the board

and audience, noting that color changes include an orange wall, a purple wall, and a green wall. She showed a photo of a "funky couch" that will be added to the room and added that a table with a raised lid will be included in the young adult area. She said that she and young adult assistant Ali Schuldt decided to create a countertop bar with barstools or high bistro chairs even with the room's windows for use with library computers. Jackson also explained that a series of paintings commissioned by the library and painted by local artist Kerri Bash would be framed behind the children's circulation desk in lieu of the new mural that had originally been planned. She showed samples of acrylic decorations that will hang from the ceiling and two different carpet samples which will re-

place the existing carpeting, one orange and one purple. Jackson also described a four-panel privacy screen that will be added to the young adult area.

Jackson, in response to a question from board member Rita Lawson, clarified that the room will retain a portion of the existing tile floor for use in a craft area, making that area easy to clean up after children's programs. She also affirmed that teen and children computers would have internet access in answer to board member Phil Mallory's question. Mallory expressed concern that spillover from the downstairs computer lab into the children's area might "squeeze out" non-internet use of that area. Jackson also said that the Troyer group would return and do a separate bid for further work. See "Library" page B2



CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

Colin Deon, left, and Marshall Anderson enjoy a look at the just-unveiled books that include their stories, part of a collection of writings by students of Raeann Stevens' fifth grade Culver Elementary students released March 5.

## Student authors' books unveiled

By Jeff Kenney, Citizen editor  
For the second year in a row, students in Raeann Stevens' fifth grade reading class have a chance to be published authors. And while their book may not appear on the shelves of any large chain bookstores anytime soon, it will be on hand in several local venues and will be a treasured keepsake for those featured in its pages, and their parents. Stevens, a teacher at the Culver Elementary School, says the project started over a year ago when she received an advertisement in her mailbox for binding and publication of a book just for the cost of student and teacher purchases. Last year's students

vens, but also by some of the students -- of various scenes in the area, and students chose a photo that intrigued them and were asked to construct a one-page, fictional story around the picture. Stevens says that students voted for a spooky, mysterious theme for their book, inspired by the Chris Van Allsburg book the class had read, "The Mysteries of Harris Burdick." After several changes in the title of their book, the class settled on "Mini Stories to Chill Your Bones," though Stevens notes that not all of the stories are necessarily mystery or "spooky" in theme.

Abby Atkins' story, "The Big Lip Bridge: the Story of



CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

Three of Raeann Stevens' students get a first look at the books they helped author. From left, Dustie Pier, Abby Atkins, and Emmalee Shepherd.

were the first to have their own stories collected in the hardbound, full-color format, and Stevens says last year the book was illustrated by student drawings, with mixed results. So this year, photos were taken -- mostly by Ste-

Twins," was centered around a photo that she took herself, and involves a murder plot between one brother and another. Abby Atkins' story the big lip bridge: the story of twins; See "Authors" page 2.





CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

## Locks of Love

Elizabeth Pask, age 8 (left) and Natalie Pask, age 9, hold locks of their hair that they chose to cut for the nonprofit charity Locks of Love, which "provides hairpieces to financially disadvantaged children under age 18 suffering from long-term medical hair loss from any diagnosis," according to the group's website, [www.locksoflove.org](http://www.locksoflove.org). The girls, who live between Culver and Argos, each cut at least ten inches of their hair, as specified in the group's guidelines, according to their mother, Sasha, who will send the girls' hair to Locks of Love.

## "Authors" from page 1

two brothers one decides he's mad at other brother decides to kill him; ; I took this photo of a bridge.

Marshall Anderson's "Ghosts of the B-ball Court" came about because he loves the sport and decided to incorporate it into his tale of a murdered player whose ghost appears to be haunting the local court, a fact discovered by two student friends. "At the beginning, it was hard to come up with the story," says Marshall. "I had to change a lot of it around. Some of it was out of order. My teacher told me to flip a couple of things to make more sense, and it came out perfect."

Janele VanDeputte's story features no ghosts, but there

is a near-murder of sorts. "It's about a family of deer and a newborn deer who gets curious and wanders off," she says, of her story, "Animals in Danger." "And hunters try to shoot her, but shoot her mom."

Happily, the mother deer survives and the baby is cared for by other forest creatures. Once she saw the photo, Janele says the story "just came out," though like Marshall, she had to work to make it fit in the allotted space.

Colin Deon's story, "The Property," involves supernatural goings-on at land discovered by two boys. Deon says he may want to write his own book someday.

The student authors gathered at the school's media center for a March 5 release party at which the books, just arrived two days earlier and almost "hot off the presses," were unveiled to both students and parents for the first time. Stevens notes that the project started last November, and students worked through January to complete the book before it was sent off, returned bound and ready to take home ten days later.

## "Brief" from page 1

Registration deadline is March 21 unless the conference reaches its capacity before. Mail all forms and your \$10 check to the following address: Expanding Your Horizons c/o Erica Price, 1209 Mossy Lane, Mishawaka, IN 46544

### Grace church prayer garden open

A "Meditation Garden" has been erected in the back of the sanctuary at Grave United Church of Christ on Plymouth St. for private and personal prayers and reflections. Guided meditations and reflections will be made available to those who desire a more structured experience with the symbols of the season. One must see for oneself the beauty of the garden in enclosed area of the church. Prayer Garden Hours: Sun: 9-10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.. Mon: 1:30-3:30 p.m.. Tues: 9-11 a.m.. Wed: 7:30-9 p.m.. Thurs: 9-11 a.m.. Fri: 9 a.m.-11 a.m.. Additional times will be posted on the door.

### Citizen has cell phone number

CULVER —Culver Citizen editor Jeff Kenney may be reached by cell phone at (574) 261-7887. Those wishing to contact the editor are encouraged to use this number.

Name: Value Added; Width: 21 p6; Depth: 7 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00020444; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Overmyer Soft Water Plymouth; Size: 14 in

Name: So Long Winter; Width: 21 p6; Depth: 5.5 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00022138; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Fisher & Co. Clothiers; Size: 11 in

## Culver's Relay for Life: Relay day FAQ

Part 2 of a series

By Ashley Eberhart and Lauran Allinson

*Editor's note: Culver's first-ever Relay for Life -- and the only Relay in America held at a high school -- will take place April 18, 2008. In an effort to inform the public and potential participants, event co-chairs Ashley Eberhart and Lauren Allinson are contributing a series of articles to the Citizen.*

On April 18th, hundreds of people will gather at the Culver Academies football field for a night like no other. What follows are some answers to frequently asked questions about the actual day of Relay for Life.

### What time can I start setting up on event day?

You can begin setting up your campsite at 6:00pm. You may continue to set up until 6:50 when we ask that you head to the bleachers for the start of our Opening Ceremonies.

### What is the Survivor Reception?

The survivor reception is a special dinner to honor our area cancer survivors and their families. Check-in begins at 5:15 PM, and dinner starts at 5:30. This dinner is the perfect time for our survivors to get to know each other and share their stories. Once dinner is finished, the survivors will take part in opening ceremonies and walk the opening lap of our event. If you know a survivor, make sure to invite them to attend

our dinner. Please have them contact Erin Seagren at [seagree@culver.org](mailto:seagree@culver.org) for more details.

### What is the Luminaria Ceremony?

When the sun goes down, hundreds of Luminaria light the way under the stars and a moment of silence falls during the ceremony of hope. Luminaria are glowing bags that represent those lost to cancer...and those who have survived. During the ceremony, everyone gathers around to remember those lost to cancer, support those fighting cancer, and rejoice with those who have won the battle. Luminaria are available for a contribution to the American Cancer Society. Luminaria can be purchased the night of Relay for a suggested donation of \$10.00 per bag. They can also be purchased on our website or by using the form that are in the team captain kit. If at all possible, try to purchase your Luminaria prior to event night. Contact Irena Balzekas at [balzeki@culver.org](mailto:balzeki@culver.org) for more information.

### Is there food at Relay?

Yes! We will have a concession booth with popcorn, cotton candy, hot drinks, soda, hotdogs, and other snacks. Pizza will be sold during certain hours of the night. Please bring some water for your team since we have a limited supply. Please remember to bring money with you to the event so you can buy food and participate in other fundraisers.

### Can I bring my pet?

No. Due to Health Department & Food Preparation Regulations, we ask that you please leave your pets at home.

### What should be brought to the Relay?

Tents and decorations, lawn chairs, sleeping bag & pillow, camera, sunscreen, sunglasses, hats, bug spray, warm sweatshirt or jacket, change of socks, cards, flashlight, umbrellas (just in case), coolers w/ ice and drinks, money for visiting other campsites and for food, small radios and trash bags! The weather can be unpredictable in April, so make sure you have some warm clothes just in case!

Please do NOT bring alcohol, tobacco, pets, scooters, bikes, or roller skates/blades.

### Should we decorate our campsite?

Yes! Not only do teams get in the spirit by choosing a theme and decorating their campsites, but many also dress up in costumes and make signs to go along with their theme. Be as creative as you like. Teams often pick "cancer" themes such as Cancer Killers, Survivors, or Hope Dies Last. Prizes and awards will be given out for most creative campsite and theme most related to cancer.

### What kinds of awards are given out at Relay?

There are many awards given out during Relay For Life. Some of the categories include Best Campsite, Most Spirited Team, Most Spirited Individual, Top Individual Fundraiser, and Top Fundraising Team.

### What if it rains?

Cancer never reschedules due to rain, and neither will we. The Relay will go on as scheduled - rain or shine - so bring gear for foul weather. Certain entertainment activities may be canceled or rescheduled due to weather. In event of major storms, Relay will be held inside the Culver Academies Multipurpose building. Team captains will be contacted the morning of Relay if it must be moved inside.



## Culver Citizen past, future presented at Chamber

**Bobbie Washburn Ruhnow**  
**CULVER** - It's refreshing and somewhat surprising when a young member of the community shows a strong interest in promoting and preserving the history of Culver.

Greg Fassett, vice president of the Chamber of Commerce in Culver, welcomed Jeff Kenney to the March dinner meeting at the Culver Coffee Company. Kenney is a historian and the editor of the Culver Citizen. Fassett commended Kenney's accomplishments with the local newspaper since taking over the editorial post in September of 2007.

Kenney presented the 100 year history of the Culver Citizen beginning with its inception in 1894 as the Marmont Herald. Coinciding with the inception of the Culver Military Academy, the name of the town soon was changed to Culver and in 1895, the Marmont Herald became the Culver City Herald.

Harry Medbourn and George Nearpass III, were the copy boys and the subscription rate was a whopping \$1.00 per year or whatever the citizens could use

## College news

**SOUTH BEND** – On March 7, Ivy Tech Community College-North Central named Francis T. Master, of Culver, to the Dean's List for the fall, 2007 semester.

## Tri Kappa Hosts First Prom Dress Shop

Formals. Prom dresses. Bridesmaid dresses. Most women have them somewhere, lurking in their closets. They've been worn once or twice and they either don't fit or there's noplaceto wear them. What to do with them?

On the other hand, maybe one is attending a prom or formal event soon and need something to wear. No one wants to spend a lot of money on a dress only to be worn once, but one wants to feel like a princess for that special evening.

for barter. Kenney noted that it was not uncommon for Nearpass to remind his subscribers that he could use a load of wood or a sack of potatoes, if their subscription hadn't been paid.

In 1903, the Herald became the Culver Citizen, and became finally mechanized in 1917. Kenney continued with the narrative of publishers through the years with special note to M. R. Robinson who edited and published the Citizen for 23 years; Robert Rust, Chester Cleveland, Indiana Press, Nixon Publishing, and Arlene Nix.

None of us who have lived in Culver for many years, could forget the columns of Bob Kyle who wrote the entertaining and sometimes caustic "It Must Be the Lake Water." Kenney continued the history of the paper and noted in 1982, the editor and publisher was Bill Mitchell. Mitchell was a town board member and wrote "Bill's Ballyhoo".

In 1989, Judy and Fred Karst assumed editing and publishing the Citizen and continued until they sold the paper to the present publishers of the Plymouth Pilot and Knox Leader. The Karsts

won many awards for their innovative and historical stories and continue to be active in the community.

Kenney introduced Rick Kreps who is the publisher of the Citizen as well as the Plymouth Pilot, the Bremen Enquirer, the Nappanee Advance News, the Bourbon News-Mirror and the Leader.

Kreps spoke about some anticipated cosmetic changes for the front page of the Citizen and said they were committed to developing the community aspect of the paper. In the near future, they plan to provide a restaurant guide and a real estate guide that will be a benefit to tourists. A new advertising opportunity for businesses will be promoted also, Kreps continued.

Both Kenney and Kreps reiterated they welcomed input into ways to improve the format of the Citizen. There is a mail drop at the Citizen's location, 110 N. Main St. and the telephone number is 574-842-3229.

Culver Tri Kappa is working on meeting the needs of ladies in both of these predicaments by hosting their first Prom Dress Shop. With the help of the community, over 100 dresses have been collected and will be available from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, March 15 at the Culver Cove. Most of the dresses will be priced under \$20, mainly to cover dry cleaning costs.

There are dresses in all sizes, colors, and styles, including some vintage dresses.

There will be an area available to try on dresses.

"We are grateful to everyone who donated dresses and hope this will be an even that will continue in the future," said Karen Heim, Tri Kappa member.

Other upcoming Tri Kappa events include Tour de Max, Saturday, May 17. Please contact Heim at 574-842-8914 for more information.

## Letter to the editor

We love Culver but do not love the direction Culver is headed. My wife's family was part of the first white settlers in the area in 1836. We have fought to save "the rock" that commemorates that event.

We do not understand the actions of Culver's officials. We are puzzled that they would give in to a dangerous practice of letting lakers wheel around in golf carts. Ah, money talks and money talks loudly with a distinct clank!

Culver is quickly freezing out the people who have fought for over 100 years to make Culver a great place for the common man and woman. Gone are Mr. T's, Pinders (we still miss the chicken dinners), and a myriad of other local businesses, replaced by high priced restaurants and other specialty stores. Other than the Diary

Queen, the root beer stand, the hardware store, the new dollar store, and perhaps the local grocery store, where can the average Culver citizen afford to shop? Trust us, the lakers do not support these stores in bulk.

Sadly the average Culver citizen can no longer afford to put a boat on Lake Maxinkuckee without paying a fee that is out of the reach of most.

Now comes the Culver Portside Marina, a singular success story unmatched by any that we are aware in Culver's history. All they want to do is build an additional building and suddenly "safety" apparently becomes a major issue for Culver's officials. The jobs created by firms like the marina provide jobs for us, the common man and woman.

We have known Tom and Glen for well over 10 years.

When they started this marina we immediately followed them and have been faithful customers and friends since.

We have such faith in them we merely take our boat in and tell them: "Fix it."

We know they will do the right thing and will be 100% honest.

If Tom and Glen are forced by Culver officials to move to Fulton County the lost revenue will be the results of short sightedness on the part of Culver officials.

Perhaps they should ask the question: How many jobs, how much revenue, are generated by golf carts on the road (other than hospitalization expense and insurance claims) compared to the jobs and revenue created by very viable local businesses.

**Joe and Sandy Baughn Culver**

## REAL Services menu

Those interested in sharing a meal at REAL Meals are asked to call Ruth Walker at the nutrition site (the Culver beach lodge) before 11 a.m. on the day before for reservations, at (574) 842-8878. There is a suggested donation of \$3.50 for each meal.

Thurs., March 13: Ham & beans, cole slaw, corn bread and margarine, greens, diced onion, apricots, milk.

Fri., March 14: Pasta pri-

mavera, tossed salad and dressing, garlic bread, Italian beans, pineapple, milk.

Mon., March 17: BBQ Chicken Breast, cauliflower corn, bread & margarine, raisin, chocolate pudding, milk.

Tues., March 18: Hot Dog, mashed potatoes, cabbage, buns, mandarin oranges, milk.

Weds., March 19: Pork Choppette, bun, stewed to-

matoes, fruit cocktail, peach cobbler, milk.

Thurs., March 20: Chopped steak w/ gravy, Key West vegetables, lima beans, apple juice, dessert, milk

Fri., March 21: Scrambled eggs, biscuit, country gravy, hash brown, orange juice, fruit cup, milk.

## Death notice

### Byrdlee Barnett

**Feb. 27, 2008**

**MONTEREY**--Byrdlee Barnett, 64, of Knox, died Wednesday, Feb. 27 at St. Mary's Medical Center, Hobart.

She is survived by daughters: Diana Barnett of Nappanee and Marie Graham of South Bend; a son: Terry Barnett of Niles, Mich.; brothers: Donald Shepherd of Smithville, Tenn. and James Shepherd of Knox; a sister: Roberta Burden of Chicago, Ill.; seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Visitation took place from 4 to 8 p.m. on Sunday, March 2 at Braman & Son Memorial Chapel, Knox.

Funeral services were Monday, March 3 at 11 a.m. with burial to follow at Culver Masonic Cemetery, Culver.

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## Culver's Baker honored for sales performance

**CULVER**-- RE/MAX of Indiana Regional Director Dan Breault has announced that Pam Baker of RE/MAX Oak Crest Realty in Culver received the RE/MAX Chairman's Club Award for her outstanding sales performance in 2007.

She also received the RE/MAX Lifetime Achievement Award for her career sales and service to the real estate organization.

Baker received these honors at the RE/MAX of Indiana Awards Banquet held Feb. 23 in Indianapolis.

Baker has lived in Cul-



ver for more than 36 years and has been serving buyers and sellers for more than 18 years. A member of RE/MAX since 1999, Baker holds the title of managing broker at RE/MAX Oak Crest Realty in Culver. Ad-

ditionally, she is a member of the RE/MAX Hall of Fame and has received multiple RE/MAX awards for her sales performance.

RE/MAX Oak Crest Realty is affiliated with RE/MAX of Indiana and RE/MAX International. Since its inception in 1987, RE/MAX of Indiana has grown to 100 offices with more than 1,500 sales associates throughout the Hoosier state, providing residential and commercial real estate, as well as relocation and referral services.

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Name: EASTER; Width: 21p6; Depth: 5 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00021384; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Amish Acres; Size: 10 in



Headline

Name: MC SOLID WAST; Width: 21p6; Depth: 20 in; Color: Black; File Name: 00021368; Ad Number: -; Customer Name: Marshall County Solid Waste; Size: 40 in

# Washington school Wee folk

## A St. Patrick's Day tale, Part 2

By Jim Walsh

*Continued from last issue.*

In the prior reading, Union Township's Charley Connolly who wrote this story, when up on Washington School Hill, discovered leprechauns who had served in the Irish Brigade under the command of General Washington at the battle of Yorktown. While Charley eavesdropped on leprechauns' singing and dancing, some strange force kicked over his lantern. Charley caught it before it polluted the spring, but his breath blew the tuba playing leprechaun, Seamus, into the water. Saved by Charley, Seamus O'Tuba invited him to next night's concert.

The night for Seamus O'Tuba's concert arrived. What a black night! It was as gloomy on stage as it had been when I sat on Washington School's dunce stool in the classroom's dark corner. So I lit my lantern to light the stage. Then wee men and wee women leprechauns came up from the earth, for they lived down there next to Washington School. The spring was their lake. They sat on acorn chairs around the fine musician Seamus O'Tuba. He fingered valves and blew bass notes out of the tuba's funnel shaped bell. It rumbled earth and wiggled the lantern, its light simmering on a sea of grass. When I looked down to steady the lantern I noticed a leprechaun. He wasn't wear-

ing green. The inelegant imp wore a British Redcoat and said with a roar:

"To see my England lying like a child crying.

Twas mad temptation to

ing into the spring and polluting it. But the oil exploded in flames. The green wee folks were in danger. I picked them up by their green jackets and dresses and dropped them, one by one, into the spring. They swam in clean and clear water to safety.

Seamus O'Tuba was the last to be saved and swim to safety. Alas, not so lucky was his tiny tuba. He'd left it behind. Its brass had melted into an ingot no bigger than a fly speck.

The British Redcoat leprechaun?

I said to the narrow-headed elf,

"In heaven you'll not take dinner, for your act was that of a great misdeed." To my surprise the tiny clod replied:

"My heart with horror is shrinking that flowing oil did hiss aloud.

From America, my footsteps sinking, to Canada I, my head low bowed."

At last sighting the night of the near pollution of the spring and the fire, a Great Northern owl swooped down and plucked British Redcoat from out of our midst. Off

they flew to Canada!

Then didn't Seamus O'Tuba's wondrous base voice boom in song from shore:

"Proud wee folk wearing green, in Union Township no



Above: Seamus O'Tuba

ILLUSTRATION/JIM SCHOONOVER



Redcoats seen.

Washington's Irish Brigade remain, his soldiers on Washington School's high plain."

### The End

James Walsh has amassed a large collection of materials on Irish history and has become known locally as an expert on all things Irish. He has self-published several books of stories—including the preceding one—many of which he has performed in public in the Culver area and his writings have been published professionally. He and wife Joann live not so far from Washington school in an area which he says resembles the hills of Ireland.

# March Madness

This being Indiana, I can't imagine many, if even anyone, in this state not knowing what the term March Madness means - the excitement, hoopla, fervor towards the end of the basketball season, as tournaments begin and champions are crowned.

March madness began the first weekend of this month for the Culver Community when the High School boys basketball team won the Class 2A Sectionals right here in town. I'm sure that the escort through town by the police and fire departments was a great thrill for the team and fans alike.

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March madness continued last weekend when the boys



regional finalists.

March madness continues

## Pastor's Corner

By Pastor K.C. Dehning, Trinity Lutheran Church

won a regional game and became regional finalists for the first time in school history. Congratulations to the boys for their accomplishments this year: a winning season, sectional champions,

this week as college basketball conference tournaments are held and the NCAA Selection Committee, which meets in Indianapolis, prepares the brackets for the march to the

NCAA Final Four and eventual championship game.

The hymnwriter, Isaac Watts, writes about a different madness we consider this year in March:

*Alas! And did my Savior bleed,*

*And did my sov' reign die?*

*Would He devote that sacred head*

*For such a worm as I?*

*Well might the sun in darkness hide*

*And shut his glories in*

*When God, the mighty maker died*

*For His own creatures sin.*

What madness! That God, the Creator of the world, would become a creature in order to suffer and die on a cross to pay the punishment we deserved because of our sin is incredible! It's madness!

The two short parables of the lost sheep and the lost coin in Luke 15:1-8 illustrate this madness of God's love for us sinners. God's love for the sinner is radical and absurd to human reason.

To leave ninety-nine sheep alone in the wilderness to seek the one that was lost until it is found makes no sense. No human being who counts the cost would ever do such a thing. It is not worth it. The cost is too high. Yet, our Lord is consumed with a passion to save the single lost soul. Likewise, our Lord's unreasonable passion for the salvation of the lost is seen in a woman's frenzy to find her single lost coin. To everyone else her harried search seems unreasonable, but not to her. Her search for the lost consumes her to the point that nothing else matters. So it is with our Lord. Nothing else matters to Him.

And because nothing else matters, He did the unthinkable. He sacrificed Himself as the payment for our sins.

"For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man some would even dare to die. But God demonstrated His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him." (Romans 5:7-9 NKJV)

The only payment for sins is the death of Christ. The only certainty for us is God's absolution spoken to us for Christ's sake. Forgiveness of sins comes to us by grace alone, for Christ's sake. It's madness!

## Community Calendar

**Thursday, March 13**  
Fitness Class, 10:30 a.m., Culver Public Library  
Jon Guinen, Kiwanis Club mtg., noon, Culver Public Library  
Alcoholics Anonymous Mtg., 6:30 p.m., Culver Public Library

**Monday, March 17**  
(St. Patrick's Day)  
Knitting Class, 10 a.m. & 5 p.m., Culver Public Library  
Karen Richey at REAL Meals, 12 noon, Culver beach lodge  
Al-Anon Mtg., 5:30 p.m., Culver Public Library  
Overeaters Anonymous Mtg., 6:30 p.m., Culver Public Library

**Tuesday, March 18**  
Fitness class, 9 a.m., Culver Public Library

Library  
Plan commission mtg., 6:30 p.m., Town hall  
Public hearing on room renovation bids, 6:30 p.m., Culver Public Library

**Thursday, March 20**  
Fitness Class, 10:30 a.m., Culver Public Library  
Jon Guinen, Kiwanis Club mtg., noon, Culver Public Library  
Alcoholics Anonymous Mtg., 6:30 p.m., Culver Public Library  
Board of zoning appeals mtg., 6:30 pm, town hall.  
Spring vacation begins, Culver Academies

**Upcoming Highlights, March, 2008:**  
Sen. Ed Charbonneau at Kiwanis Club, March 27  
Spring break, Culver Community Schools, March 24-28





# Sports



## Cavs win first regional semi in 64 years versus Garrett

By James Costello  
Sports Writer

NORTH JUDSON — Culver Community hadn't won a sectional title in 23 years, and it had been 62 long years since the team had won a regional basketball game.

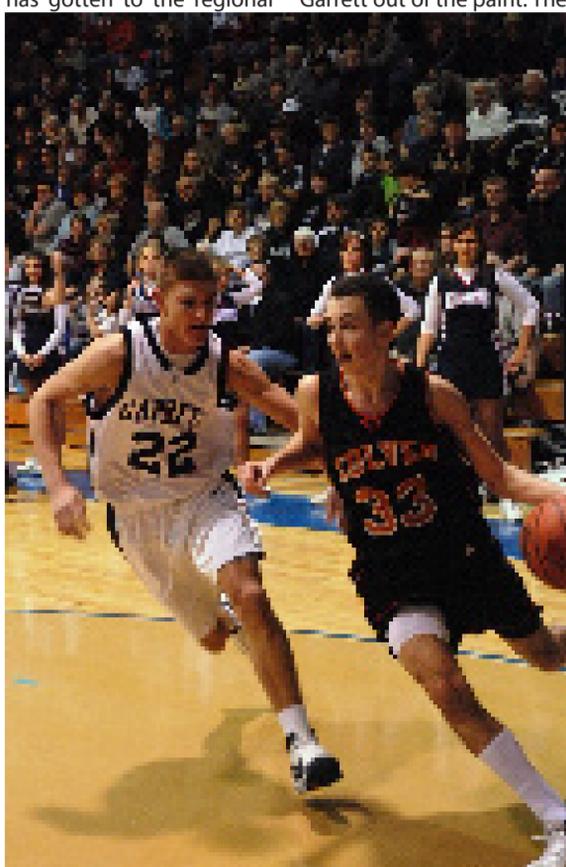
Down by eight in the penultimate frame Saturday with a sizable Culver crowd chanting "We believe," the Cavaliers never lost faith.

Culver Community seniors Matt Marris and Lucas Hanselman sparked an 8-0 run to restore a Cavalier lead early in the final quarter. Freshman guard Zoe Bauer hit two treys en route to an eight-point fourth frame, and Hanselman polished Garrett off with six straight free throws in the bonus as Culver took a 58-50 victory over the Railroaders in a Class 2A North Judson Regional semifinal, the first such Culver victory — and only Culver Community regional final appearance — since 1946.

"Going into sectionals, we were on a three-game losing streak, and not knowing where we were going to go," said Culver Community basketball head coach Brett Berndt. "Somehow they found a way in sectionals just to jell together, play every game, just roll with it and they did a fantastic job in sectionals, and we did a great job versus Garrett in the first game... I can't be

any prouder of these boys. They brought pride back to Culver — the first time a Culver Community team has gotten to the regional

The Cavaliers led 29-24 going into the break as Culver defenders sagged off Railroaders shooters to keep Garrett out of the paint. The



PHOTO/PAUL PARE  
Culver's Matt Marris, right, ploughs down court flanked by Garrett's Orié Foster in a North Judson game that would become the Cavs' first regional win in over 60 years.

finally, and we're just extremely proud of them."

strategy worked as Garrett went 0 of 4 from behind the

arc before the break — and just 1 of 13 for the entire game — while the Cavs, by contrast, hit from deep at a 4-for-7 clip in the opening two quarters and 3 for 6 in the second half for a 53 percent 3-point shooting percentage.

Three players recorded double figures for the Cavs, led by Hanselman with 16 points, as well as seven rebounds and eight assists. The senior point guard also led his team on defense with four of the team's five steals against Garrett.

In addition to Hanselman's offensive production, Bauer went 67 percent from the perimeter against Garrett on his way to 14 total points, and Marris went 50 percent from the field with two triples en route to 15 points. Bauer and Marris combined for three treys to maintain a Culver advantage during a second-quarter stretch in which senior post-man Davis rode the pine with two fouls.

"We talked about, coming into the game, that we've got to shut down dribble penetration," said Berndt. "They look to attack at all angles with their guards, and in the first quarter, really in the first half, I thought we didn't do a good job shutting out the paint. We talked about at halftime, they haven't even made one 3-pointer in the first half. So let's give up the outside shot and sag off and I thought we did a good job, we just didn't respond to the post play, and a lot of that was we didn't have Jon Davis on the floor."

Three and a half minutes into the second half Davis was whistled for his third and fourth infractions, and Garrett capitalized, working the ball inside for 14 points. Defensively, it freed the Railroaders up to spread out, and Culver finished the frame on the wrong side of a seven-point swing to

trail 39-36 heading into the fourth quarter. Culver's big man was held to four points and three rebounds as he logged just 14 minutes of play.

"In the second quarter and third quarter, they just pounded the ball inside,

play the fourth quarter and get some experience in on this floor, and did a nice job rebounding and doing the little things for us."

The Cavs were down but not out as Marris assisted Hanselman on his lone 3 of the game, then Marris



PHOTO/PAUL PARE  
Guarded by Garrett's Tim Kidder, the Cavs' Jon Davis, right, prepares to shoot.

and there was not really a lot we could do without Jon (Davis) on the floor," said Berndt. "As far as Jon, today was one of the games where he actually played smart, he just didn't get the calls. Sometimes against Winamac and Boone, he was out of control and he deserved the calls. Today I thought he was actually under control, he just didn't get the calls going his way. The nice thing is he got to

deflected a pass to Hanselman, who assisted Adam Neace all alone on the baseline as Culver grabbed some momentum in the final minute of the third quarter. Hanselman started the fourth with the first of two assists to Bauer for 3, and Davis drew a foul for a pair of free throws. Hanselman finished the quarter 7 of 8 in free throws as Garrett began fouling to buy time, but Culver never let up. The Cavaliers outscored the Railroaders 22-11 in the final quarter, largely on the strength of 10-for-12 foul shooting in seven trips to the line.

"We've been fighting a lot of adversity through sectionals and now through regionals, playing without Jon Davis," said Berndt. "For our kids' character and playing through adversity they've done a great job. Zoe Bauer and Matt Marris hit huge shots for us to keep that run going, Lucas Hanselman started driving and taking over and started to be more on the attack since Jon was on the bench. Our kids have been there before in sectional, and they responded, and tonight's no different — they responded again."

• CULVER COMMUNITY 58, GARRETT 50  
At Class 2A North Judson Regional  
CULVER (58): Adam Neace 1 1-3 3, Lucas Hanselman 4 7-8 16, Brock Elliott 0 0-0 0, Zoe Bauer 5 0-0 14, Matt Marris 5 3-3 15, Patrick Mulvihill 0 0-0 0, Justin Master 1 4-7 6, Jon Davis 1 2-3 4. Totals: 17 17-24 58.  
GARRETT (50): Josh Putt 0 0-0 0, Luke Cooper 2 0-0 4, Orié Foster 3 1-2 7, Tim Kidder 9 2-2 21, Jak Shultz 1 0-0 2, Shane Branscum 1 0-0 2, Keith Hahn 5 0-0 10, Brandon Scherer 2 0-0 4. Totals: 23 3-4 50.  
Score by quarters  
C - 14 29 36 58  
G - 13 25 39 50  
3-point goals: C - 7 (Bauer 4, Marris 2, Hanselman), G - 1 (Kidder); Rebounds: C 19 (Hanselman 7), G 25 (Foster 5); Assists: C 13 (Hanselman 8), G 11 (Putt 7); Steals: C 5 (Hanselman 4), G 8 (Kidder 5); Turnovers: C 12, G 14; Total fouls (fouled out): C - 13 (None), G 19 (Kidder).  
Records: Culver 13-11, Garrett 10-13.

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## Cavs end record run with tough Westview battle

By James Costello  
Sports Writer

Westview's defense held Culver to a 12-of-33 shoot-

take a power move because they're going to come swarm you. And if they do swarm, if you don't shoot, you'd better kick it out and find a shooter, but it's tough to do. It's easy to try and make a

24-of-42 rate. The Westview shooting tandem combined for an unbelievable five treys in six attempts. They were backed up by fellow senior Ryan Sindle's 10 points. Yoder scored 12 points in the opening stanza as the Cavaliers fell behind 18-8. When Culver defenders keyed in on Yoder to hold him to a single bucket in just two looks in the second frame, Aspy went 4 for 5 with 10 points.

Culver frosh Zoe Bauer responded with five points in the second quarter, and Marrs added a trey to keep the defi-

screens, and we couldn't run our sets very effectively. We didn't get many shots in the third quarter, and the shots we did get didn't stick. When you don't score on the opposite end, and you give up some easy points on the defensive end... from there it's pretty much ball game, set, match within the first four minutes of the third quarter."

Bauer finished with seven points for Culver, followed by Lucas Hanselman with six and Marrs with five points. Bauer and Hanselman also led the Cavs in assists with two apiece, while Hanselman

know if we'd win probably two or three games this year with these kids. They believed in everything we told them to do... They work hard every day in practice and they find a way to get the job done.

"We talked about using this as a spring-board for the kids to say, hey, things can be done if you work hard. Get here in the summer, get in the weight room, get after it a little bit, and we'll take our chances from there."

•WESTVIEW 64,  
CULVER COMMUNITY 33  
At Class 2A North Judson Regional  
WESTVIEW (64): Austin Miller 1 1-1  
3, Seth Wagler 1 0-0 2, Justin Jantzi 0 0-0 0,  
Austin Haney 0 1-2 1, Ryan Sindle 5 0-0 10, Adam Christner 0 0-0 0, Justin Yoder 7 4-6 21,  
Taylor Aspy 8 3-3 21, Weston Dunker 1 2-3 4, Jarod Nisley 1 0-0 2, Joseph Raber 0 0-0 0, Elvie Frey 0 0-0 0, Steve Baumgartner 0 0-0 0.  
TOTALS: 24 11-15 64.  
CULVER (33): Adam Neace 0 0-0 0, Lucas Hanselman 2 2-3 6, Brock Elliott 0 0-0 0,  
Zoe Bauer 3 0-0 0, Jon Davis 5 5-6 15. Totals: 12 7-11 33.  
Score by quarters  
W - 18 31 54 64  
C - 8 20 23 33  
3-point goals: W 5 (Yoder 3, Aspy 2), C 2 (Bauer, Marrs); Rebounds: W 24 (Sindle 5), C 16 (Hanselman 6); Assists: W 6 (Sindle, Miller 2), C 4 (Hanselman, Bauer 2); Steals: W 6 (Aspy 4), C 2 (Hanselman, Marrs); Turnovers: W 12, C 21; Total fouls (fouled out): W 11 (None), C 14 (None).  
Records: Westview 24-1, Culver 13-12.

NORTH JUDSON — All good things must come to an end.

With just two seniors returning at the start of the year — before Matt Marrs joined the team halfway through the season — Culver Community made a good run, securing the program both its first winning season and sectional championship since 1985, as well as winning the team its first regional ball game since 1946 and earning a regional championship berth for the first time ever since consolidation in 1968. Those achievements were magnified by Culver basketball having been bumped up to Class 2A this year, and few saw them coming after a 0-3 start to the season. The Cavaliers' 13-12 run finally came to an end Saturday night when they came up against a very talented, very deep 22-1 Westview squad, suffering a 64-33 loss in the Class 2A North Judson Regional title game.

"If we look talent-for-talent, I think every one of their kids is more talented than ours, and that was the biggest thing to overcome," said Culver basketball head coach Brett Berndt. "They are just extremely quick, they handle the ball well, and all their kids can shoot. When you're blessed with a team like that, you go far in the tournament."

After sitting out much of Culver's semifinal game against Garrett in persistent foul trouble, Cavalier senior post player Jon Davis was fresh against the Warriors, recording 15 points, including a six-point final frame. Davis was the only Cav in double figures, however, as



Left: Culver's Jon Davis takes the air and takes aim, flanked by Westview Warrior Taylor Aspy, right. Above: A sea of black and orange remained visible in the stands to remind Culver players and coaches that they had enthusiastic support from home.

ing performance and pressured the team into 21 turnovers.

"They do a great job swarming," Berndt said. "We watched them against Bishop Noll, and they took away Bishop Noll's 6-7 and 6-6 kids that are very athletic, more athletic than Jon (Davis). It was going to be a tough task. We told Jon if you get the ball in the paint, it's going to be one dribble,

game plan to go against Garrett, but when you go against a Westview team that is so solid, it's tough. I think toward the end of the game, he started getting a little more comfortable taking that one dribble power-up, but by that time a little bit too late."

Led by Justin Yoder and Taylor Aspy, both of whom recorded 21 points against Culver, the Warriors converted from the field at a

cit to within 11 points at the half, but the Warriors crashed the boards in the second half, out-rebounding Culver a decisive 14 rebounds to four. They also flustered the Cavs into 1-for-10 shooting in the third quarter, gapping Culver by 21 points heading into the final quarter.

"Their intensity picked up defensively; we had a hard time adjusting," said Berndt. "They were switching

ripped down a team-leading six rebounds.

Although the lopsided loss wasn't the ideal note for Culver's season to end on, Berndt and his staff are proud of their players and looking forward to Culver basketball's future.

"It's been a fun ride, first of all, and it's due to these kids' working extremely hard," said Berndt. "This senior class going in we didn't



# Sectional win is honor for a lifetime

By Rusty Nixon  
Correspondent

CULVER – We all wondered what Mikhail Gorbachev was planning as the newly appointed leader of the Soviet Union, Bo Jackson was winning the Heisman Trophy, and Foreigner sang about wanting to know what love is on the radio.

The year 1985 that, by the way, was also the last time Culver's Cavaliers cut down the nets as the winners of their own sectional in boy's basketball.

The school has seen its share of athletic success since then, especially in football, but when seniors John Davis, Lucas Hanselman, and Matt Morris held up that trophy it awakened something in this town that lies dormant in every Hoosier, until their small school can be sectional champ.

"I told Lucas before he left for the shoot around that Saturday that this would be a day he'd remember for the rest of his life," said Albert Hanselman, Lucas' father who also happens to be principal at Culver, and was almost a member of the last championship team. "For the rest of their lives this community will know these guys as sectional champions."

"One of the highlights of my career was getting to hand that trophy to my son. It would be special no matter which one of your students

you hand it to, but to hand it to my son was a moment I can't even describe."

It's a title that gets lost sometimes amongst other things, but in the small towns

cial honor, not bestowed on many and carried throughout a lifetime. It has a special luster that many feared would be lost so long ago when the IHSAA abandoned its hal-

It appears that the title still shines as bright. At least in Culver.

"There's no doubt about it that everybody has basketball fever," said Hanselman.

little happier, everybody is excited."

The honor also highlights another Hoosier value; plain hard work.

"People who haven't seen

"(Coach) Brett (Berndt) has said all year that they come to practice every night and work incredibly hard. There isn't a star here, they all just play together extremely well."

Maybe it's their role model?

"Brett was a young coach and when I hired him I told him I would make a commitment to him if he would make a commitment to us," said Hanselman. "There were times when it would have been natural for him to say 'this isn't for me' but he worked exceptionally hard. It's just good to see good things happen to good people. He's an exceptional man and an exceptional role model for young men. This title is his paycheck for all that hard work."

It's also given a town a chance to reflect on some good memories. Including Hanselman, who, along with fellow Culver staff member Kyle Elliott, were key seniors of the team...the year before the title.

"We were better the year before. At least Kyle and I thought so," said Hanselman with a laugh. "We were right there in the stands when it happened. We came home from college for it. Having played with them the year before you knew that bunch was going to be good."

And of course remembered forever in Culver, as sectional champions.



## The winning team

The Cavs basketball team, coaches, and cheerleaders just after last weekend's sectional win. Front row, left to right: Kylie Gunder, Linley Master, Brianna Wilson, Lyndsey Fisher. Middle row, left to right: Michael Russell, Marshall Master, Zoe Bauer, Brock Elliott, A. J. Neace, Justin Master, Kyle Pugh, Shannon Dunfee, Kalie Thompson. Back row, left to right: Preston Poisel, Kyle Elliott, asst. coach, Larry Clingler, Shane Lowry, asst. coach, Patrick Mulvihill, Jon Davis, Lucas Hanselman, Matt Marrs, Adam Neace, Brett Berndt, Head Coach, Jeff Clifton, Tom Krueger, asst. coach, Phil Robbins, manager, Ryan Carroll, athletic trainer. Thanks to Kyle Elliott for photo identification assistance.

of the state, being a basketball sectional champ is a spe-

lowed tournament format for a "class system".

"Everybody's step is a little lighter, everybody seems a

this team play have missed something," said Hanselman.

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# Culver Relay delegation visits statehouse

By Jeff Kenney  
Citizen editor

least 18 years of age. Both girls are 17, so they had to convince Society officials to bend the rules, which they did only when it was estab-

Eberhart says that the Cancer Society organizes Lobby Days all over America, and that this year's primary Indiana goals were House Bill

1057, for a smoke-free Indiana, and a bill to facilitate insurance coverage of prosthetics for cancer victims.

legislators to sign any cancer legislation that comes to the table. Sen. Charbonneau was one of several who signed the contract, each eliciting clapping and cheers from the advocates.

ren Allison, and CGA Dean Laura Weaser, the latter two of whom gave the Relay project its official green light last year. She says the Academy's first Relay – and one of the only ones held on a high school campus in America – is coming along nicely.

When Culver Girls Academy Juniors Alyssa Spratte



PHOTO/KAREN EASTERDAY

But Ashley Eberhart, left, and Ashley Eberhart, right, two organizers of Culver's first Relay for life, look the same form.

lished that an adult supervisor would accompany them. Since their Academy Relay sponsor, Lauren Allison, was unavailable, Spratte and Eberhart invited local cancer survivor Karen Easterday, who has been heavily involved in promoting and assisting with the April 18 Relay event, besides working hard with a team of her own.

After making their way from the Marriott in downtown Indianapolis to the statehouse, says Spratte, much of their morning was occupied by workshops and talks from cancer survivors and advocates such as Bruce Hetrick, who survived cancer as a child but went on to have one of his twin children contract the same form. While that child survived, Hetrick's wife died of lung cancer from work-related second hand smoke. "Some people are horrible and tell him he's disgracing his wife's name and using it for publicity," said Spratte. "He just wants to make sure no one else has to live through (cancer)."

Advocates at the statehouse also carried American Cancer Society promise letter contracts, say the girls, which make a pledge for

At 3 p.m., a sea of red shirts – worn by cancer advocates – flooded the sidewalk from the statehouse back to the hotel, drawing cheers and honking horns from passers-by who recognized the color and its meaning. "They knew who we were," says Spratte, who lost her own mother to cancer in 2006 and whose grandmother was recently diagnosed with ovarian cancer.

The Culver Relay is expected to raise \$75,000, well over the \$35,000 goal of each Relay (as of this writing, \$25,000 has been raised). It's also seventh in the nation in online fundraising, with over \$16,000 raised via the Internet. Teams are forming from both the Academy and town communities, many preparing for "bank night" on March 19 at the Culver Coffee Company, when each team needs its first \$100 and can trade in that money for a Relay t-shirt. Spratte and Eberhart say that 46 teams have signed up so far, with at least 12 to 15 from the town of Culver community.

trip to the Indiana legislature organized by the American Cancer Society as part of "Indiana Lobby Day" and intended to push for legislation that will help the Society – and organizers of the Relay – to battle cancer.

But the trip to the Indiana legislature organized by the American Cancer Society as part of "Indiana Lobby Day" and intended to push for legislation that will help the Society – and organizers of the Relay – to battle cancer.

While that child survived, Hetrick's wife died of lung cancer from work-related second hand smoke. "Some people are horrible and tell him he's disgracing his wife's name and using it for publicity," said Spratte. "He just wants to make sure no one else has to live through (cancer)."

Advocates at the statehouse also carried American Cancer Society promise letter contracts, say the girls, which make a pledge for

Chaperone Karen Easterday shares the girls' enthusiasm. "It was quite an experience for me," she says. "I've never done anything like that before. The whole process was really interesting."

The Relay organizers are also looking for area entertainment for the night of April 18, which promises to be a big night. Besides everything else, Nancy Yew, CEO of the Great Lakes Region Relay for Life has committed to be there, among others. "There are a lot of really cool people coming to Relay," smiles Eberhart.

## Dance fever

The Boys & Girls Club of Culver's first dance, held on March 7 (rescheduled from February), was a success, drawing over 170 participants, a reflection of the ever-growing popularity of the club, which officially opened on Sept. 10, 2007 and has grown from 113 members then to 197 today (105 boys and 92 girls). The average daily attendance in 2007 was 83; in 2006, the club – then CCYC – had 83 members total, with an average daily attendance of 32. The club is open to any boy or girl grades K-12, 11 months per year (it closes at the end of May and late August-Sept. 12). • Half day, no school and holiday break hours are available, with regular daily hours Mon. through Fri. from 3 - 6:50 p.m.

Below, from left: Amber Westafer and Vedrana Stefanic caper across the gym floor; Ethan Vlach does the "limbo;" club director Jessie Liles chats with Madisen Diaz in between dances. At right: staff member Shane Schumert shares a moment with Kindergarten student Lucas Cobern at the concession table.



CITIZEN PHOTOS/JEFF KENNEY



## "Library" from page 1

niture for the area.

The library board had already voted, in a Feb. 18 meeting, to approve the plans and go ahead with the renovation work, which will be handled by an as-yet undecided contractor at a cost of \$100,000 (Jackson told the Citizen that the library intends to keep the cost between \$100,000 and \$150,000). Jackson reported that advertisements had been run one week apart in two area newspapers for bids for the project, and that bidding will close at 6 p.m. on March 18. The board will hold a 6:30 p.m. meeting at which it will announce the chosen contractor.

him to continue to perform outdoor maintenance tasks at a reduced number of hours.

During the public input portion of the meeting, employee Rick Baker – who currently handled the cleaning and maintenance of the property -- expressed frustration. "I'd like to know, why are you trying to get rid of my job," he asked. "I'm already cut down to almost no hours...any less, (I'd) be doing it for nothing. That's including the outdoor work, and it's been a lot this year... the story I hear is, the board's out to get rid of me anyway. Somebody's not telling the truth."

Board member Phil Mallory replied that "if the board is out to get rid of your job, it's news to me."

Baker later told the Citizen that, at an earlier date, the library director had indicated to him that the board was planning to hire a contracted cleaning person to handle that portion of Baker's duties.

Jackson also reported that Indiana's Department of Local Government Finance, or DLGF, which distributes monies to the library for its Rainy Day Fund, contacted her and said they had

done some miscalculations. "They said, 'don't spend the money,' that they'd get back and let us know if we're over or under," said Jackson. "We had to cut a check and send it all back to them and they said they'd straighten it up. This is a payback on a mess- that the auditor did."

Library attorney Eugene Chipman asked if the DLGF stated a time frame before the matter would be resolved, and Jackson replied that they did not.

Board member Mallory asked why there were still negative numbers showing up in the February budget report, and asked if money was not getting into the right account. "Things have come up with technical controls and things like that," said Jackson. "I don't know why there are negative numbers in the dues and supplies (accounts). There's plenty of money in those accounts for what we've been spending...there should be no negatives here, because the money is there."

Board member Carol Saft asked if the board's minutes – which are viewable online at [www.culver.lib.in.us](http://www.culver.lib.in.us) – typically include the public input portion of

the board meeting. Saft referred specifically to the Feb. 5 minutes, which she indicated did not reflect public comments made at the meeting. Jackson replied that the comments were not in secretary Rita Lawson's notes, so they weren't included in the published minutes. Mallory commented that meeting minutes "must include all motions and vote counts, but the rest is a matter of what we want to include."

Saft inquired, "So we don't need a record of what the public is asking?"

"Not unless action is taken," responded Mallory.

Jackson also informed the board that a new employee, Sue Niekirk, has been hired by the library to work evenings and weekends in the computer lab and assist with general research queries through the website. Niekirk, said Jackson, is from Grovetown and will work part time.

Jackson also requested board approval for herself and library staff members Linda Thorne and Colleen Carpenter to attend a three-day public library conference in Columbus, Ohio, on topics concerns library downsizing, consolidation,

and elimination. The board approved the request.

The board also approved an accounting and bookkeeping conference in Brown County, Indiana in May focusing on library accounting software Compu-train. Jackson and library bookkeeper Jim Faulkner will both attend.

Jackson asked the board to consider a \$22,023 proposal to replace the existing heating and air conditioning system in the library, citing an expectation that the system's current actuators will begin to go bad before long, and the fact that the software running the system is considered obsolete and only functions on a Windows 98 computer platform. She said the present actuators were installed with the renovated library building in 2001. Phil Mallory questioned the \$22,000 price tag for the system, noting that actuators are fairly simple devices. "Even if you could jack (the price of) one of those up to \$500, I'd like to know how, but \$22,000...it would be nice if they would break (the pricing specifics) down a little."

Jackson noted that the library has instituted a

"new releases" category for its DVDs in order to allow more patrons to view popular, new titles in a timely fashion. DVDs designated with the "new release" label will check out for three days, as opposed to the one week allowed other titles, said Jackson.

The director also updated the board on the progress of creation of a new meeting room space in the lower level of the building, saying that the custom made doors for the room – as well as fire doors for the back mechanical room -- are on their way. There will also be woodworking to complete for display cabinetry and carpeting to lay. She said the room is expected to be completed by the end of March.

In previously unreported Culver library news, the library board also approved the spending of up to \$40,000 on Jan. 22 for new computers for all stations at the library, a total of 16 to 18 new public machines and eight to nine staff machines. The funds would also cover software packages for the new computers. Funds were derived from the Library Improvement Resource Fund.



## Shaffer joins Environmental Fund board

The Lake Maxinkuckee Environmental Fund announces that Tammy Shaffer has accepted a position on their nine member volunteer council. The LMEF is a local community group founded 26 years ago to ensure the long-term environmental health of Lake Maxinkuckee. Ms. Shaffer replaces long time council member Jim Lemon who recently moved from the area but who still continues to offer support from afar and will be missed by all.

The LMEC by-laws require that one of two members who must live in the town of Culver also should be associated with one of the town's governing bodies. Tammy, who is also a member of the Culver/Union Township park board, was unanimously accepted by both the LMEC and the LMEF as the best fit for the position. She is an avid skier, boat owner, and has been involved with national environmental efforts for years. Tammy will join the following members:

- Allen Chesser serves as Council Chair and is one of two farm members seated on the council. He is Vice President of The First National Bank of Monterey, has a farm within the watershed district and is a life-long resident of the community. He graduated from Purdue with a degree in biology and is also active in The Nature Conservancy's Tippecanoe Watershed Alliance. Acting as Team Leader for the Kline Wetlands he also has complete oversight for all environmental projects undertaken by the LMEC.

- Bill Rhodes is owner of Culver's Park & Shop store among others and serves as the second town resident member of the council along with Tammy. Bill spent most of his childhood summers on the lake until he made it his permanent home. He derives his passion for maintaining the health of the lake from those lazy days. As well as laboring on the Curtiss Ditch project; Bill is supervising the first shoreline re-vegetation project in Indiana.

- Gary Shaffer, a Culver native and former Navy man, is the owner of Shaffer Lake Services and is one of three "lake community" members of the council. He is responsible for conducting water quality monitoring tests when necessary and has most recently assisted members of Purdue University in a temperature/turbidity test in a 70' deep spot on Lake Maxinkuckee.

- Luke Felde is also a recent addition to the council

and fills one of the positions of Academy representative to the council. He is currently a biology instructor with the Culver Academy. His knowledge of the relationship of a healthy tree canopy to lake water quality is going to be of great benefit to the council.

- Dave Blalock is the second Academy representative and is Head of Grounds for the Culver Academy. Dave is the Team Leader for the Wilson Ditch and Wetland located on Academy grounds. He oversees maintenance for the Wilson's sediment trap for the LMEC as well as being involved in the oversight of the Indiana Department of Transportation's Queen road/SR 10 project that totally redesigned the ditch through that area. An extensive replanting project remains open at this time.

- David "Dusty" Henricks, a retired engineer and long-time lake resident, works with Dave monitoring the Wilson Ditch programs. He has been vigilantly monitoring the progress of INDOT's recent project at 10/Queen and will continue that oversight as growing season begins. He fills another of the "lake community" positions.

- Dan Osborn is another born and raised Culverite and one of the owner's of Osborn Seed. Dan serves along with Allen as a member of the farming community and has lived on the lake for over twenty years. This is his second stint on the environmental council. The glacial stone project at his property next to the weir on the western shore of the lake has generated such interest that enhanced projects similar in nature are being discussed as part of our long-range development plans.

- Dr. John Bernero is our final council member and also the final lake community representative. He is a semi-retired Cardiologist from the Plymouth area as well as a micro-biologist. As a kayaker he began almost daily searches for evidence of the invasive species hydrilla this last summer and will take a leading role in this year's hydrilla projects. He has also been recently appointed the Team Leader at the Curtiss Ditch.

While the backgrounds of the volunteer members of the Lake Maxinkuckee Environmental Council could not be more diverse, they all share a deep desire to do what is necessary to safeguard or improve the water quality in the lake.

## Winter weather takes toll on joint project of LMEC, INDOT, IDEM

By Jeff Kenney, Citizen editor  
The unusually heavy and varied winter weather of the past few months has taken its toll on the area in a variety of ways, including one that probably went unnoticed by many residents. Kathy Clark and the Lake Maxinkuckee Environmental Council, however, have been keenly aware of the damage wrought to a trailblazing project of theirs by the forces of nature recently.

Wilson ditch winds feeds into the Wilson wetlands - property owned by the Culver Academies - and winds its way through the school's bird sanctuary forest on State Road 10, along the western perimeter of the Woodcraft camp, and finally into Lake Maxinkuckee. The ditch is part of a wetland developed and nurtured by the LMEC.

The Academy and LMEC cooperated to help manage and improve the wetlands and ditch as part of the LMEC's broader efforts towards greater health for Lake Maxinkuckee and, according to LMEC director Clark, a 2003 Indiana Department of Transportation decision to redo the intersection of State Road 10 and Queen Road eventually took shape as an opportunity to model several

state and local organizations cooperating in an environmentally friendly manner to improve an important natural resource.

"Because (the intersection project was) in a wetland, IDEM (the Indiana Department of Natural Resources) takes charge," said Clark. "It was the first type of this project so close to a wetland, so both Katherine Smutzer (a project engineer with INDOT) and Elizabeth Peloso (the project manager

missioners and the LMEC became involved in the project, says Clark, with the LMEC's Dusty Henricks in charge of monitoring the revegetation portion of the project. "They had to block off the ditch, put in tons of native trees, and do a lot of landscaping with lilies and other plants on the banks and around the ditch to help with erosion. They put in coconut bio-logs instead of concrete and metal."

The problem, which Clark says began after a January,

that side, and with this unusually wet winter, the first collapse happened January 1. Within two to three days of that storm, three of the bio-logs dislodged and are in the stream. Dusty, Dave (Blalock, Culver Academies representative on the project) and I inspected it. Dave said with this weather there wasn't much they could do. We were hoping it would stay somewhat stable until later in the spring. This winter killed us and that project



CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY  
Special environmentally-friendly coconut logs used in 2007's Wilson ditch project, the victim of this winter's unusual weather, collapsed into the ditch in January, according to Kathy Clark of the Lake Maxinkuckee Environmental Council, which is working with two state agencies on the trailblazing project.

for IDEM) took the attitude that this was their own special project, and they worked well together. They looked at this as an opportunity to create a unique work situation and product, a model on how to work in a wetland. They tore out the old intersection and put a new one in, and realigned the ditch itself. That could have totally destroyed that wetland due to erosion, so they had to be careful."

The Marshall County com-

2008 snowstorm that dumped over eight inches of snow on the area, is that there wasn't time for plant life and other protective measures to prevent erosion on the ditch's banks. The result: several of the logs have been washed into the ditch on the southeast side of State Road 10.

"We had a little concern that the plants weren't as strong as we'd hoped at the end of fall," Clark explains. "The banks are very steep on

both sides have totally collapsed." Clark says INDOT is responsible for maintaining the project for the next five years. That organization and IDEM were slated to meet on March 3 to discuss the problem. "They're looking at this as a teaching exercise for their staff so they'll know what to do," Clark adds.

She wanted the public to be aware, she says, for several reasons. "A lot of people paid attention to that (ditch) because the intersection was closed (last summer). We want people to know that the Environmental Council is up on this situation. It's the risk you take when you push to be the model for environmental things. We're lucky to have INDOT and IDEM working so hard to make sure this is a success."

## Preschool Registration at Wesley UMC April 13

Registration for Wesley Preschool begins Saturday, April 13th from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the preschool room at Wesley United Methodist Church, 511 School Street.

The preschool offers two classes, a junior and senior. To qualify for the junior class, children must be three by Aug. 1, 2008. To qualify for the senior class, your must be four by Aug. 1, 2008.

The junior class meets every Tuesday and Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. and the cost is \$64 per month. The senior class meets every Monday, Wednesday,

and Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m., and cost is \$92 per month. There is a registration fee of \$40, which also covers the supplies for the school year.

Wesley preschool follows the Culver community schools calendar with the exception of its start date. Wesley will begin the Tuesday after Labor Day, Sept. 2, 2008. Otherwise, the two calendars are the same.

Both classes follow a morning routine: circle time, center time (including many free play and free art centers), story and transition, snack time, and special activity time. Once a week, Linda Thorne from the Culver public library comes to read to both classes, and once a week, Moira Ruhly leads both classes in PE. The preschool takes several field trips, enjoys parent and guest

readers, celebrates special days with mom and dad, and enjoys the year together.

Currently there is a staff of three and plans to keep growing. Kimberly Siefert is director and senior class teacher, Susan Kinkade is junior class teacher, and Moira Ruhly is PE teacher.

Please contact Wesley UMC with any questions at (574) 842-2900.

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CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

## Singing their way to success

The Culver Community High School choir topped off a year of successes on March 6 at Culver's Kiwanis Club with a performance of several jazz standards that highlighted the talents of the group and several soloists. Above:



## CHS' Crump is Student-of-the-Month at SCILL center

The SCILL Center in Knox has announced its Student-of-the-Month recipients for the month of February.

Culver High School student Christopher Crump, part of the p.m. class at the Center, joined Chad Fowler from Knox High School as award recipients from that class. Kristopher Saeuberlich from North Judson-San Pierre High School and Preston McCray from Knox High School were the a.m. class recipients of the award.

The Student-of-the-Month is chosen by the Auto Tech instructors, Rodney Dawson and Mark Anderson, based on the student's test scores, class participation, attitude, attendance and initiative in the shop.

Culver students participate in SCILL Center courses via the Culver High School's vocational education program.

Right: Christopher Crump of Culver High School was awarded Student-of-the-Month in his class at the SCILL Center.

PHOTO PROVIDED



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