



PHOTO/BOB AND LAYOUT/JEFF KL ENNEY

In Brief

Kiwanis Charity Golf Scramble Friday

Culver's Kiwanis Club will hold its 14th annual Charity Golf Scramble Friday, July 15, at Mystic Hills Golf Course (SR 117 and 20 B Road in Culver). Registration check-in is from 8 to 9:30 a.m., and shotgun start is 9:30 a.m.

There will be an awards reception and lunch in the clubhouse immediately following play. Men and women are invited to participate in this scramble. Cost is \$260 if entering a foursome (payable to Culver Kiwanis Golf Outing). Teams will be formed for players wishing to participate but unable to fill a foursome. Individual entry is \$65 per golfer. Contact Julie Bess, 865-603-2241 or 574-842-8646 for more information.

VFW holds sale this wknd

Culver's VFW Post 6919 will hold an "Our trash may be your treasure" sale upstairs at the Post, 108 E. Washington Street in Culver, Friday, July 15, and Saturday, July 16. The sale will take place both days from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The public is invited.

MYC Sunfish Regatta Saturday

The Maxinkuckee Yacht Club's 10th annual Sunfish Regatta will be held Saturday, July 16, and hosted by Carol and John Zeglis at their home at 1614 East Shore Drive. Register by 10:30 a.m. to be ready for the Skippers' Meeting at 10:45. After racing, there will be a picnic lunch, prizes and the traditional candy toss. Visit www.myc-culver.org for more information.

Community meal at Grace July 15

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

Lake Fest this weekend

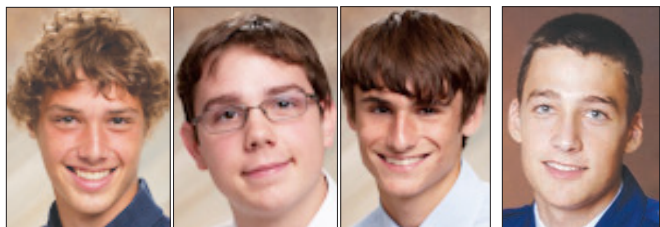
A wide variety of events, from the L'Max bike ride to the annual parade, Sunday's car show to the Gong Show talent contest, plus

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Surf's up?

Scott Bewick, visiting friends in Culver last weekend, hits the waves of Lake Maxinkuckee on a paddle board. Though very similar in construction to a surfboard, paddle boards are part of their own unique competitive context, and the sport dates to before World War II. It's also clearly the closest thing to surfing one is likely to experience on Lake Maxinkuckee!

July 4 vehicle explosion leads to airlifted Culver youth



From left, Blake Bennett, Matthew Manns, Alex Shaffer, and Keaton Smith.

Four Culver-area teens were involved in a serious accident on the evening of the fourth of July holiday when the vehicle they were traveling in exploded just off of State Road 17, some six miles south of Culver. According to Fulton County Sheriff Walker Conley, officers found the vehicle fire extinguished by the fire department by the time they reached the scene, but 18-year-old John (better known locally as Alex) Shaffer, a recent graduate of Culver Community High School, was being airlifted to the burn unit at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne. Another recent CCHS graduate, Matthew Manns, of Monterey, was initially transported to St. Joseph hospital in Plymouth for burn treatment, but later also transported to Parkview in Fort Wayne, said Conley.

18-year-olds Keaton Smith -- a Culver Academies 2011 graduate -- and Blake Bennett, also recently graduated from CCHS, were treated at the scene by medics.

Conley said the teens had been throwing fireworks on the road when one firework flew back into the vehicle and ignited the other fireworks inside. The driver and passengers were clear of the vehicle by the time it exploded, he noted. The vehicle had been pulled off the road onto West 650 North in Aubbeenaubbee Township, near the Jeff and Darla Ditmire property.

Faulkners' return to Culver brings medical expertise, community appreciation

A recently-returned couple whose presence here has enhanced Marshall County's medical offerings spent some time last Thursday discussing their journey with Culver's Kiwanis Club at the Yacht Club restaurant on Jefferson Street.

Joe and Noreen Faulkner moved back last year to Culver after many years in the Seattle area, though Joe Faulkner's roots here run deep. A Culver Military Academy graduate whose father, Don, was formerly a physician at the school (his mother Janet was



Doreen, left, and Joe Faulkner.

OB doctor in the county, save for Beth Rutherford.

Joe Faulkner explained his family had lived in Hobart before moving to Culver in 1966. Faulkner himself earned his BA at Dartmouth following his CMA graduation, attending graduate school at the Indiana University School of Medicine, from which he graduated in 1982. After a surgical residency at the University of Michigan, he moved to Seattle, marrying Noreen a few years later. The couple has three sons, he said, one of whom -- of middle school age -- became interested in playing hockey at Culver Academies.

"There were lots of reasons to consider moving back to Culver," he said, adding his son was accepted into the Academy and St. Joseph happened to be seeking a surgeon at the time.

"I'm reliving my childhood here,"

See Faulkners page 2

By Jeff Kenney
Citizen editor

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a secretary in the science department there), Faulkner's also has a brother, Jim, employed here, as Culver-Union Township Public Library's financial manager. Joe Faulkner joined the staff at St. Joseph Regional Medical Center in Plymouth as a surgeon, while Doreen practices obstetrics and gynecology with the group, the only female

PHOTO/GRANT MUNROE, CULVER-ACADEMIES PHOTOS.COM

PRECEDING the display, Summer School students from America and other countries gave testimonials to the value of freedom.

High-speed police chase leaves damaged vehicles in Culver

PLYMOUTH — A multi-county, multi-police department car chase including Culver officers Sunday afternoon, July 3, left a Plymouth Police Department squad car totaled and the subject of the pursuit behind bars. The chase, which started near Martin's Super Market in Plymouth in response to a shoplifter, ended when suspect William Thomas Parks, 49, unknown address, rammed a PPD squad car driven by Cpl. Ray West. West received only minor injuries. According to the PPD, the incident started at approximately 12:38 p.m. when Marshall County 911 dispatched PPD units to Martin's Super Market in reference to a shoplifter. The 911 dispatch advised the suspect was a male black, leaving the area in a white minivan. Officer Shelly Church responded to the area observing a white minivan westbound on Jefferson. Church pulled the vehicle over and as she approached the subject on foot he fled. Church pursued the subject in her squad car. The pursuit led her to Culver where she lost the subject near S.R. 17 and S.R. 10.

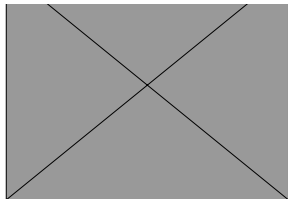
Culver police officer Chad Becker reported he was at the town park when he heard the report on the radio and headed north on S.R. 17 where he threw "stop sticks" down on the road in front of Parks' vehicle, which evaded the sticks and continued south towards Culver. There, the white minivan struck two vehicles near the intersection of Lake Shore Drive and Academy Road. Becker and other pursuing officers then encountered the suspect heading north, Becker reported, on Lake Shore Drive at a high rate of speed, after which he continued north on State Road 17.

Becker reported speeds of between 80 and 100 miles per hour in pursuit of Parks' vehicle on S.R. 17; smoke and apparent oil, he said, was leaking from the vehicle onto Becker's patrol car. The suspect's vehicle disregarded several stop signs and narrowly avoided at least one collision, according to Becker, as it made its way

See Chase page 2

Red, white, and blue Maxinkuckee

RIGHT: Grant Munroe captured this colorful moment from Culver Academies July 4 fireworks display over Lake Maxinkuckee, a tradition dating back at least into the 1920s at the school.



Faulkners from page 1

Faulkner said with a smile. “You’ll see me riding my bike around town. People in Seattle can’t imagine what Culver is like. There’s no place you can’t get to in town on a bike. When I get to Culver I park the car and walk and bike.

“It’s a unique place to live,” he added. “There are a lot of special aspects to living in a town like Culver which a lot of people don’t experience. It’s a good life. We’re happy we’ve moved, and we’re looking forward to the future in our new house.”

The couple is building a home south of the downtown area.

Faulkner also discussed changes in the medical world during the years he’s been in practice, many of which he said are “pretty profound.”

One of these changes was in the addition of Laparoscopic surgery to the medical world, something which began initially as a change in the more than half-million gall bladder surgeries in the US each year. A painful, scarring, and multi-day hospital stay procedure beginning in the 19th century, a new technique was first performed in France in 1988 (and in America the following year). Four small tubes with fiber optic cameras and light sources providing “incredible detail” are sent into a patient, facilitating an operation which has become an outpatient procedure allowing most patients to return to normal activity with a week or two. By 1992, the method was standard and now is utilized in surgery for hernias, colon, and “virtually any abdominal surgery.”

Another huge innovation in the medical world, said Faulkner, was the late 1990s of utilizing digital means of storing, accessing, and making available to physicians the medical records of patients, something which had been a perplexing and often frustrating challenge in the past. Such innovations allow Faulkner to view images at home during a middle-of-the-night call from the emergency room, which help him understand what hospital staff is speaking of.

Yet another change is the shift from independent, entrepreneurial doctors to physicians being employed by hospitals. The purchase by a hospital group of a facility for which Faulkner worked “was a really good thing,” he said, in that the group could handle many of the business decisions the smaller operation wasn’t prepared to death with. Large group ownership also aids in making the cost of records software and hardware a manageable thing, he added.

Most doctors in Plymouth are employed by the St. Joseph network, said Faulkner, though a few there remain independent.

Indiana is one of the more progressive states, he explained, in the area of liability coverage, something he said he believes started with Doctor Otis Bowen, former Indiana governor.

Responding to an audience query, Faulkner said he expects Medicare in America to begin shifting more heavily to financial means testing of citizens. In national spending, he said, the four biggest areas are Medicare, Social Security, defense, and interest on the national debt.

“Who wants to cut Medicare? I don’t think we want people starving to death on our doorstep, or limping down the street with blood dripping, but you can’t give everyone everything and they don’t pay for it.”

Faulkner also discussed the growing number of medical students from other countries with lower standards of living.

“Kids (in America) coming up nowadays aren’t focused on their studies as much compared to other countries where the people have a lower standard of living,” he said. “(Students in such countries) will work like heck to succeed in this. People from other countries are willing to sacrifice to stay here and succeed.”

Chase from page 1

onto U.S. 30 at Redwood, where West joined the pursuit. The subject traveled several miles westbound in the east-bound lane of traffic. Near the Grovertown truck stop the suspect turned his vehicle and headed it directly into West. Although West received only minor injuries the impact totaled the Plymouth squad car. The suspect was identified as Parks, who was lodged at the Marshall County Jail for felony theft, resisting law enforcement, and criminal recklessness. Other charges are pending.



LEFT: Chris Sheppard, Kathy Rich, Barbara Burke, Rhonda Anderson, and event chairman Judy Sawhook outside the Lay Dining Center on Culver Academies campus, site of last month’s Chairs for Charity auction. RIGHT: Chairs committee member Chelsea Bramfeld alongside some of the event’s offerings. Not pictured: committee member Ginny Munroe.



PHOTOS PROVIDED

Chairs event deemed a success for philanthropic Tri Kappa

Organizers of last month’s Chairs for Charity auction, held at the Culver Academies dining hall, are finally catching their breath from the Herculean effort involved in coordinating more than five dozen unique, handcrafted chairs whose auction funds will go to the many causes sponsoring organization Tri Kappa of Culver (the Epsilon Nu chapter, to be specific) supports.

For several weeks leading up to the event, community members were encouraged to convert the chair of their choice into a unique, artistic “masterpiece” which was then displayed, along with many of the donated chairs, at participating locations around Culver and beyond. These were then auctioned off at the event itself.

Like the statewide philanthropic sorority of which Culver’s organization is a chapter (and which was founded on a state level in 1901), Epsilon Nu uses funds from events like ‘Chairs’ for a wide array of activities, from providing scholarships to local women, to promoting culture, arts, and community events (such as its annual student art show and Tour de Max bicycle ride).

“We want to thank the many quite talented local folks who made the over 60 splendid and varied chairs for the auction,” said event chair Judy Sawhook of Chairs for Charity. “A number of the ‘artists’ were quite pleasantly surprised that they were able to create such wonderful chairs. We also want to thank all of the area merchants and businesses who made our parade of chairs possible, as well as the many others whose contributions made our fundraising event successful. Tri Kappa supports many worthwhile causes and is proud to be part of this wonderful giving community.”

Chairs for Charity 2011 was the second such bi-annual event, the first having debuted in 2009.

At 76 years young, Culver resident readies for national skating competition

By Jeff Kenney
Citizen editor

The fact that Herb Kibler of Culver is participating in the USA Roller Sports National Indoor Speed Championships in Fort Wayne later this month is noteworthy. The fact that he’s 76 years old is all the more unusual.

Kibler, who says he got his start skating “on the flip of a coin” when a friend of his had met a girl while roller skating and wanted to go one evening when Kibler was 13, hopes people around the region take an interest in the sport regardless of his involvement. He notes the Championships take place across the country, so having a chance to see them a s close to home as Fort Wayne -- where as many as 6,000 skaters are expected to converge -- is a rare treat.

Though the earliest use of roller skates goes back to the 1700s, the activity enjoyed great popularity in America in the 20th century, when even a small community like Culver boasted a roller rink (located on West Jefferson Street in the building today occupied by Culver Communications).

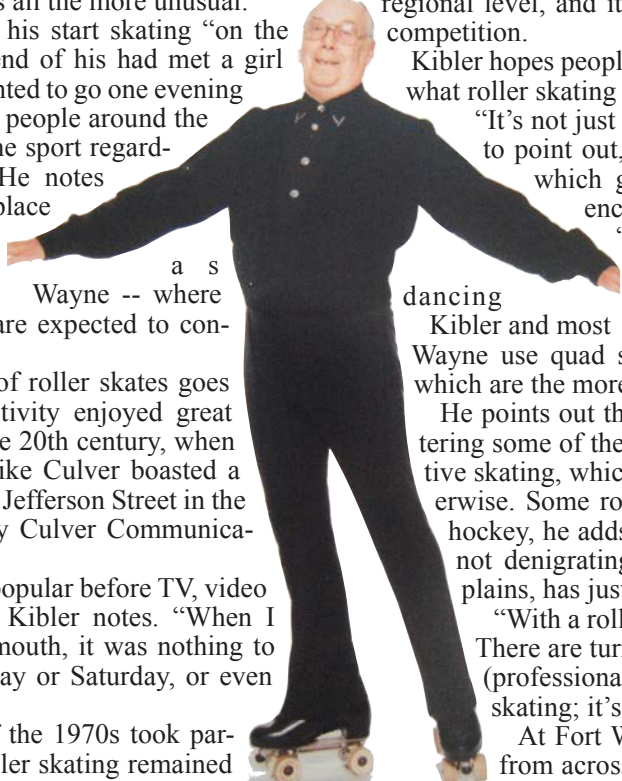
“Skating was very, very popular before TV, video games, and automobiles,” Kibler notes. “When I first started skating in Plymouth, it was nothing to have 200 people on a Friday or Saturday, or even Wednesday.”

He says the recession of the 1970s took participation down, though roller skating remained a popular weekend sport.

“It’s still the cheapest babysitter,” he adds, “and it’s active.”

Kibler’s own involvement for many years was strictly recreational. He found himself teaching skating at the various places he was stationed during his time in the Armed Services. He’s been a certified coach for over 20 years, though he began skating competitively in 1996. He taught for some time at the rink in Plymouth, though in 1998 he began skating out of a rink in Linwood, Illinois, where he said the coach is “one of the best in the nation.”

There are nine regions nationally in the USA Roller Sports program, including the five-state Great Lakes region of which Indiana is a part. In his age category, Kibler expects to compete against 23 skaters in Fort Wayne. He



Herb Kibler

notes skaters’ ages range vastly, from elementary-age children to a 79-year-old in Kibler’s 65-plus category. He says participation at his own age is “no common -- it’s a little more exceptional....I’m proud of it.”

Participants in Nationals have already qualified at the regional level, and it’s possible to go onto a worldwide competition.

Kibler hopes people make the trek to Fort Wayne to see what roller skating competition is all about.

“It’s not just going around in circles,” he’s quick to point out, refuting a common misconception which grows from many people’s experiences skating recreationally at rinks. “There are 140 dances in this book (used by USA Roller Sports for competitions).”

Kibler and most competitors at the Nationals in Fort Wayne use quad skates as opposed to inline skates, which are the more recently popular roller blades.

He points out the complexity and difficulty in mastering some of the intricate turns required in competitive skating, which can be team or solo, dance or otherwise. Some roller skaters even take part in roller hockey, he adds. And while he’s quick to note he’s not denigrating ice skating, an ice blade, he explains, has just one pivot point.

“With a roller skate, you have four pivot points. There are turns we can do that ice skaters can’t... (professional) skaters won’t go from ice to roller skating; it’s too hard.”

At Fort Wayne, Kibler says, judges will hail from across the nation. The indoor speed skating championships will be held Sunday, July 17 through Saturday, July 23, followed by the figure skating championships being held from Sunday, July 24, through Sunday, August 7 at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, according to usarollersports.org.

“People will definitely be surprised at the range of skating,” says Kibler, “and the range of ages. They will be impressed by the outfits and events...I think they will enjoy themselves.”

Herb Kibler certainly seems poised to enjoy himself. “As long as it’s fun, I plan to keep skating,” says Kibler, who moved to Culver in 1976, following his retirement. “And, as long as my wife will let me!”

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Culver trustee and summer resident Harrison dies



Phil Harrison, a familiar face to many in Culver, passed away June 29 in Scottsdale, Arizona, at age 68.

Harrison, who wintered in Naples, Florida, had owned a residence in Culver with wife Beth since 2005, and were frequent visitors to the community.

A 1961 graduate of Culver Military Academy, Harrison served on the Culver Legion, the Alumni Association of the Culver Academies from 1999 through 2005, serving as its president during the last two years. He sat on the Culver Educational Foundation board as Legion president, and became a permanent CEF trustee in 2006. As a trustee, he was a member of the Summer Camp and Wellness and Athletic committees.

Phil and Beth Harrison, according to Doug Haberland of Culver Academies' Communications Department, were avid fans of the Woodcraft Camp and were major supporters during the recent Woodcraft cabin renovation and addition program. An avid pilot, Harrison was the moving force behind the Academies' first Aviation Fly-In, held in July, 2003.

Born June 11, 1943 in Kansas City, Missouri, he received his bachelor's degree in Government with a minor in Journalism from the University of Kansas, and a Master's degree from Indiana University in Government. He taught at Northwood Institute in Indiana and was the former Director of Student Affairs at Indiana University in Kokomo, Ind. He was also the Director of Development at Yankton College in Yankton, SD. He became vice president of Gill Real Estate Agency in Kansas until the business was sold in 1995. He was an Eagle Scout, a member of the KU fencing team, a member of the Phi Kappa Tau Fraternity and received his pilot's license in 1966, he was a member of the Kiwanis Club, a member of the Board of Realtors, and organized and directed the Cessna Cardinal Club.

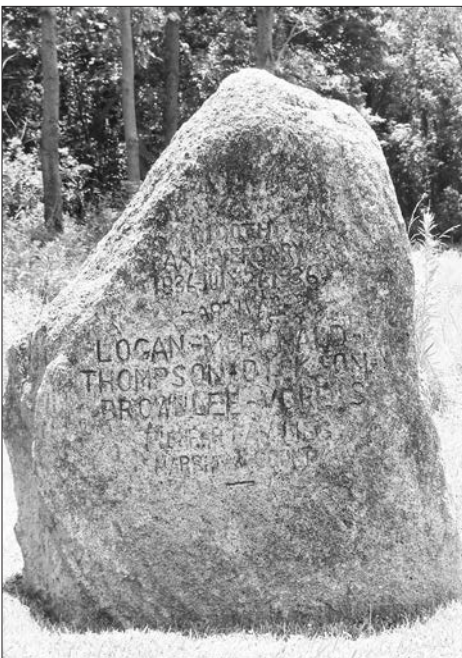
He married Elizabeth Jean "Beth" on June 15, 1968 in Midland, Mich. She survives of the home. He is also survived by his father, Robert Harrison.

Memorial services were held July 13 in Lawrence.

Memorial contributions may be made in his name to Plymouth Congregational Church or to the Culver Educational Foundation in Culver, and may be sent in care of the mortuary. Online condolences may be sent to www.warrenmcelwain.com.

Local monument turns 75 on Culver, county's anniversary

Descendents of original pioneer families sought



One of Culver's least-known historical monuments will celebrate its anniversary later this month as plans begin to bring it more recognition.

Located on Culver Academies' property at the southeast corner of State Road 10 and Queen Road, the hand-carved stone commemorates the arrival of Marshall County's first party of European settlers

175 years ago, on the afternoon of July 26, 1836.

The pioneers had sent representatives ahead in the previous year to explore the land and even begin building cabins. The families (many of them already related to each other by marriage) included the Logans, Voreises, Morrises, Thompsons, Dicksons, McDonalds, Brownlees, Houghtons, Blakeleys, Lawsons, and others.

On July 12, 1836, they left southern Indiana in a caravan of covered wagons to head north on the new Michigan Road, described by one participant as "still little better than Indian trails." They arrived on the 26th on the high land east of the lake (later the Voreis farm), where, according to tradition, they blew a conch-shell as a signal to Vincent Brownlee, one of the 1835 party who had stayed over the winter.

In July of 1936, a group of descendants of the original families decided that a memorial was necessary. Ernest Logan carved the stone (and was later elected President of the settlers' association), which the Academy, having come into possession of the Voreis farm, agreed to host.

According to the *Culver Citizen* newspapers of July 22 and 29, and August 5, 1936, 132 members of the pioneer families gathered for the dedication of the monument, followed by lunch in the CMA "Open Air Theatre" (with talks by Brig. Gen. Gignilliat, Adm. Rodman, and a Mrs. M. Austin, of Plymouth), a boat trip around the lake, and the Sunday evening parade. In addition to President Logan, the group elected Harley Zumbaugh Vice-president and Mrs. Dora Kline Treasurer.

Local members of the pioneer families intend to gather this month in honor of the anniversary and make plans to improve signage for the monument in time for its 76th birthday next year.

Interested members and friends of the settler families are invited to contact The Rev. John Houghton at 574-842-2402 or numenor001@gmail.com, or to join the new Facebook group for "Marshall County Pioneers."

CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

Autograph hounds

RIGHT: School may be out, but that didn't stop many members of Raeanne Stevens' Culver Elementary School 5th grade reading class from gathering on the playground to receive (and autograph) copies of the book the class wrote and illustrated during the 2010-2011 school year.

As in years past, each student wrote a short creative work and drew an accompanying illustration, centered around a theme.

This year's theme was open-ended, as reflected in the book's title, "Random Stories for Random People." Each year, the stories are compiled and sent off for hardcover binding, with each student taking home a keepsake copy. This year's batch was later than usual at the bindery, and hence the summertime autograph session.

Pictured, from left to right, are students Rachel Kunce, teacher Stevens, Pierce Ellert, Jake Rodgers, Daniel Aguliar, and Raymie Shoop.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Biking back in time

ABOVE: Riders in the recent Culver history bicycle tour sponsored by the Antiquarian and Historical Society of Culver and the Bike Barn on Lake Shore Drive pause to discuss the history of Culver's Masonic cemetery. Jeff Kenney, center, of the AHS, led the tour, which visited several historic locations around the town of Culver.

The next bicycle tour will detail historic homes and locations on Lake Maxinkuckee's east shore, on July 23 (see Brief this issue).

Birth - Miller



Kevin and Esther Miller announce the birth of a daughter born July 1, 2011 at Community Hospital of Bremen.

Zoe Raine Miller weighed 6 pounds, 10 ounces, and was 20 inches long.

She was welcomed home by siblings Selah Joy and Petra Faith.

Maternal grandparents are Henry and Alma Hershberger, Nappanee.

Paternal grandparents are Simon and Lydia Miller, Etna Green.

REAL Services menu

To share a meal at REAL Meals, call Ruth Walker at the nutrition site (the Culver beach lodge) before 11 a.m. the day before for reservations, at 574-842-8878. A donation is suggested for each meal.

Thurs., July 14: Chicken and noodles with gravy, lima beans, carrots, snowflake roll and margarine, pears, and milk.

Fri., July 15: Stuffed cabbage, mashed potatoes, peas, wheat dinner roll and margarine, birthday cake, and milk

Mon., July 18: Beef Manhattan, mashed potatoes and gravy, whole grain white bread, pickled beets, dessert, and milk.

Tues., July 19: Cheeseburger, lettuce, tomato, bun, corn, carrots, apricots, and milk.

Weds., July 20: BBQ chicken leg quarter, sea-

soned potato wedges, carrot slaw, fruit salad, brownie, and milk.

Thurs., July 21: Pork Cutlet, red potatoes, mixed vegetables, cluster roll and margarine, fruit, and milk.

Fri., July 22: Stuffed baked potato and sour cream, broccoli, cheese, taco meat, muffin, jello with fruit, and milk.

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If these walls could talk: 203 and 117 S. Main

We continue our series of semi-regular journeys through Culver’s past as we look at the lives of historic buildings in the Culver area.

This week, besides the fact that this series is back after a bit of a lack-of-space-induced hiatus, we’ve reached a bit of a milestone: we’ve concluded our stroll down the east side of Main Street in the downtown area (maybe someday we’ll look at houses or other buildings on Main, south of the downtown area). Instead, we’re doing an imaginary 360-turn as we cross the street and begin a walk northwards on the west side of the street.

If all of this sounds confusing, this should help: we’re visiting the Main Street Manor, a bed and breakfast owned by the Beggs family, at 203 S. Main Street. Many will remember the place as Dr. F.L. Babcock’s office during the 1970s and ’80s, though fire maps show it as what it was through most of its prior life: a home, listed as such in 1906 through 1937 (and of course beyond as well). The 1952 Culver telephone directory, for example, lists the phone, at least, as belonging to CA (likely Carl Ansel, a World War I vet who passed away in 1955) Crail.

Heading north across Madison Street, we stop in at the Corndance Cafe, started in 1999 by George and Tammy Pesek and located at 117 South Main Street (the northwest corner of Main and Madison). For the uninitiated, the current name of the establishment is derived from a Native American ceremony thanking the Great Spirit for the all-important gift of corn -- and that was before the advent of that universal ingredient, corn syrup!

Generations of Culverites, of course, will recall the spot as the Corner Tavern, surely one of the most popular and iconic businesses in downtown Culver, though the 1906 fire map lists it as a tin shop.

The building, part of the two blocks of downtown listed on the National Register of Historic Places since the 1990s, was built in 1910 and apparently had its beginnings as a grocery store, though a short-lived one. By 1914, it was listed as the Listenberger pool room, and the late Donna Edgington, on one of her written recollections, remembered "skinning the cat" -- walking along the rail, hopefully without falling -- with other youngsters on the iron hitching rail on the side street alongside the place.

According to a 2009 article for the Pilot News and Culver Citizen by Ida Chipman, in its earlier incarnation during the 1930s, the place was "lovingly dubbed" The Tabernacle" by a Civil War veteran who frequented it during that period, though I've not yet seen evidence that the name was official.

The Culver News Agency, which occupied the site for a time, was sold by Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Slaughter in July, 1952, to Mr. and Mrs. H. Serrin. By November of that same year, the news agency moved to the Wickizer Building across the street).

Interestingly, during the 1950s two taverns sat next to each other, the northernmost being The Culver City Tavern (a November, 1952 article in the Culver Citizen notes the Culver City Tavern's license was suspended for selling alcohol to minors "and other offenses"). The Corner Tavern, which appears to have been opened in 1952 (and bought by Dean and Treva Rans in 1958), held

out, of course.

According to Ida, Bernie Scheetz and Dick Kreighbaum, "both of Plymouth and both gone now, bought The Corner Tavern in October, 1962, from Dean and Treva Rans. Bernie wanted out of the building contracting and sales business and Dick thought there had to be more to life than working for Studebaker and owning a service station."

Ida's article actually bears nearly a full reprinting, which follows below.

"A ramshackled old building, it had a beautiful terrazzo floor. The new owners cleaned the place up and installed new equipment. They tried to leave the atmosphere of an 'old English pub' intact. They did install a new bar... the top of a shuffleboard table — slick enough to save steps as the barkeep slid mugs of beer to thirsty customers.

"One improvement that didn't last long was the 'Family Entrance' sign installed over a side door. The local ministerial group paid a call on the new owners and asked them to remove it because they said it sent the wrong message.

"People came from all over Indiana to The Corner, both winter and summer. Some folks would drive more than an hour each way to savor the atmosphere and the food... especially the chicken.

"They only hired local folks as cooks and waitresses to prepare and serve their specialty.

"In the summer, people would sit outside on the curbs and wait for a turn at a table. Pretty, long-legged, tanned girls in shorts and handsome young men with sun-bleached hair sat or stood in groups, laughing and enjoying the warm breezes off of Lake Maxinkuckee.

"There were plenty of customers — especially on the weekends. Plymouth had contingents of two dozen regulars and Fulton and Starke counties had their groups as well.

"In early 1978, the late Robert E. Kyle, an editor for The Indianapolis Star, who lived weekends in Culver, wrote about The Corner.

"'Most of the menfolk,' he wrote, 'end up, at one time or another, at the Corner Tavern.'

"He spoke of a modest parish priest from the Indianapolis cathedral who spent weekends in Culver and was often among them.

"Coming into The Corner, he would take a table facing the street, read the paper, sip a beer and eat hamburgers, saying they were the best he had ever had.

"This parish priest went on to become bishop of Indianapolis, archbishop of St. Louis and finally, Cardinal Ritter.

"Edwin L. and Barbara Back bought The Corner from Bernie and Dick in 1963.

"They then sold it to Charlie Kesmodel.

"In 1968, Willie Pearson and Jeff Honzik bought the place from Charlie.

"'Willie was the bean counter and I was the backslapper,' Jeff said. Bernie and Dick came in every Wednesday for lunch as long as Jeff and Willie owned the tavern. There were other celebrities as well: TV stars Doug Sheenan of 'Knots Landing,' Jamison Parker of 'Simon and Simon,' and Alex Cord of 'Airwolf.' They say that George Steinbrenner has gotten his fingers greasy with Corner chicken and always left \$100 tip. In the summer, the late John Denver was a regular patron. Politicians See Walls page 6



PHOTO/ANTIQUARIAN-HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF CULVER

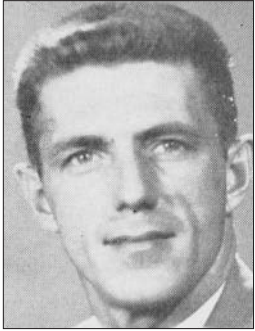
ABOVE: A late 1950s-era photo shows the Corner Tavern, left, and Culver City Tavern just north of it.

PHOTO/STEVE MCDANIEL

BELOW: The Corner Tavern in 1983.



Name that Culver ‘citizen’



verites for an earlier role he had here, though he’s also become familiar to many in very different work in more recent years.

Catching up on old business, Dick Zimmerman correctly identified our previous week’s mystery, Jim Miracle.

Guesses may be emailed to citizen@culcom.net, dropped off in one of our drop boxes (located at the Culver Public Library and Culver Coffee Company), or call the editor at 574-216-0075.



ABOVE: Last week’s Mystery Citizen, Betty Reinholt, then and now. LEFT: this week’s mystery citizen.

Aker talks Culver Marina changes, additions, and TV show

By Jeff Kenney
Citizen editor

Those members of Culver’s Kiwanis Club hadn’t yet experienced the Boardwalk Bar and Grille at the Culver Marina on State Road 117 had their chance recently, as marina owner Gary Aker hosted the club for a closer look at the longstanding business’ operations.

Kiwanis member Bob Volkert, in introducing the speaker, said Aker has been “a wonderful sponsor for our (Kiwanis) bass tournament, as well as (local realtor) Chris Collins. They made it a huge success. It was probably the most successful single-day fund-raiser Kiwanis has held.”

Volkert praised the marina’s ability to get boats into the water, and added participating fishermen “thought it was wonderful.”

Aker, noting the marina had been at its present location since the early 1970s, explained he and his family have added a new facade to the main building in addition to creating the Maxinkuckee Board Shop, which he said has been very well received by customers.

“The board shop is far and away one of the leading accessory shops in the Midwest,” Aker said. A great deal of hard work goes into supplying it, including traveling to shows such as the Surf Expo in Orlando, Florida to choose brands to sell here in Culver, noted Aker.

“We try to pick trends from California the year before,” he added. “That’s been pretty successful.”

The addition of the Boardwalk restaurant came about from talking to customers on the dock.

“They said, ‘If we could just have a place to get a sandwich (when stopping by from boating). At first it was a window to order hot dogs, burgers, salads, and fries -- that sort of thing. Then customers said, ‘Now if I could just get a beer!’ So we embarked on the Boardwalk Bar and Grille.”

Aker said he and friend and developer Alan Collins sat down and drew up plans for the project three years ago in April, with hopes of opening by July 4 that same year. The bar and grille was complete “from post to finish” in 87 days and made its July 4 deadline. Some additional docking was added on the side, he noted, so boaters could “tie up, have some lunch, and go boating, and it’s worked



CITIZEN PHOTOS/JEFF KENNEY
ABOVE: Gary Aker, left, accepts a certificate of appreciation from Bob Volkert, right, of the Culver Kiwanis Club.

BELOW LEFT: Club members dined in the outdoor patio portion of the Boardwalk Bar and Grille.

BELOW RIGHT: Under the Akers’ ownership, the Marina’s facade was reconfigured.

out very well.”

The liquor permit the facility has requires the restaurant to be open whenever the bar is, Aker explained, and drinkers must stay on the property while holding their drinks; they aren’t allowed to set foot on the dock. The restaurant is open weekdays from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., and until 9 p.m. on weekends.

The Culver Marina is “full service on the water” as well, said Aker.

“A couple years ago, we did a time study (working with) the service manager at the time...who set up a clock. We’d hit a stopwatch from when we got the call to when we were reacting to do something about it. The average time was 13 minutes to charge a battery, jump start a boat, tow it in -- all kinds of things.”

The Marina also continues to be an official distributor of Shoreland’r and Shorestation lift products for all of Indiana, southwest Michigan, and parts of Ohio and Illinois, meaning any products from those lines purchased in covered areas come

through Culver.

The marina presently offers 150 pier slips for rent to boaters. Culver’s town park, said Aker, took around 30 percent of the marina’s customers several years ago when it added its own boat slip rentals. The facility also stores around 500 boats and power watercraft. Some \$15,000 was recently spent by the business on removal of duckweed in its harbor, he added.

Aker, who said he’s from Plymouth but has been a Culverite “a long time,” noted his family left a condo at Chadwick Shores in lieu of a cottage they more recently purchased on the east shore of Lake Maxinkuckee. “Then the marina thing happened,” he added, “and here we are.”

Aker’s wife Yvonne and two children -- Gary Jr. and Lindy Raider and her husband Ben -- help keep the operation going.

One Marina-related fact of which some local residents may be aware is the nationally viewed television show Aker sponsors on the Sportsman Channel, “Angling the Great Lakes.” Aker said he’s involved with the Raghorn Company, which produces Indiana Outdoors news magazine, and which a few years ago approached Aker about a “destination-based TV show.”

The first year, the program aired on area affiliates like WNIT and SBT-2, in addition to Midwestern affiliates elsewhere in Indiana and other states. The show then embarked on a Comcast venture on the Sportsman Channel, which brings it into 39 million homes.

“They see angling on the Great Lakes,” he said. “You see my mug on there a few times. It’s based on lots of places in the Great Lakes region to fish.”

Locales have ranged from Lake of the Woods in Minnesota to the Niagara River, he said.

Most episodes can be viewed online at atgltv.com, and of course Culver Marina has some advertisements on the show, in addition to other businesses in the Culver community.

“I’m selling boats (because of) it,” Aker pointed out. “Every week, somebody says, ‘I saw you on TV.’ And every fish we caught, we ate!”



Guest carillonneur Taylor will play Saturday

On Saturday, July 16, guest carillonneur Carol Ann Taylor, from Dallas, Texas, will present a carillon recital at 4 p.m. on the 51-bell carillon at the Memorial Chapel of the Culver Academies. Taylor is Carillonneur, Organist, and Director of Children's Choirs at the Cathedral Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Dallas, Texas, and has quickly established herself as one of the "rising stars" in the profession. Admission is free, and a tour and demonstration of the instrument will be offered following the performance.

Additional Carillon recitals will be presented on the following Saturday afternoons at 4 p.m.: July 23, and 30; September 3, and October 1.

Printed programs will be available near the South doors of the Chapel. After the recital, Mr. Gouwens will conduct a tour of the tower and demonstrate the carillon to all who

are interested. The recital is open to the public.



CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

CHS class of `61 together again

Culver High School's class of 1961 held its 50th reunion last month on a Saturday afternoon and evening at the VFW Post (6919) in Culver. Members, of course, swapped stories, laughs, and remembrances of deceased members. Gary Dillon, emceeding the evening's proceedings, listed those members, which included Everell "Corky" Walter, Jerry Kimmel, Pat McFeeley, Leo Lojewski, Lance Overmyer, John Hook, Sharon Spahr, Chris (Croy) Whitmarsh, Bobby Sherwood, William and Roger Sheppard. Stories of Overmyer, who passed away shortly before the reunion, were shared by classmates and teachers alike.

The class also heard anecdotes from some of its teachers who were in attendance, including Latham Lawson, Tom Benbrook and Jim Cox. Richard Kuhn and his wife Micki serenaded the class, and told classmates the two had been high school sweethearts who each married someone else. Finding themselves single again within recent years, the two once again made contact and were married. The two now perform in a Christian music ministry (and did so the following Sunday morning at the Culver Bible Church).

Pictured ABOVE: (on sidewalk) teacher James Cox; Barbara (Moore) Linhart, Anne Behmer, Catherine (Overmyer) Bennett, Susan (Muehlhausen) Hohman, Karen (Kemple) Coby, Sharon (Feece) Reid; teacher Latham Lawson. Lower steps: Michael Miller, Rochelle (Good) Drang, Betty (Zechiel) Reinholt. Steps, across top: Linda (Gibbons) Lowry, James Parker, Jean (Warner) Banks (in black and white sweater), Anne (Osborn) Poelman (wife of guest Ronald). Back row, left of porch post: Richard Kuhn, Linda (Banks) Heinrich. Right of post: Samuel Medbourn, Phillip Gretter; Teacher Thomas Benbrook, Gary Dillon, William Oberlin (right side of doorway); Larry Davis, Randy Banks, Jean (McCoige) Bystry, Marizetta Kenney, Ronald Poelman (guest), Earl Mishler. Present but not in picture: Jerry Grover

Class members assisting in organization of the event included Linda Gibbons, Jean McCoige, Jean Warner, Marizetta Kenney, Nancy Ervin, Barb and Brian Linhart, Randy and Gloria Banks, Karen (Kemple) Coby, and Elaine Warner Handshoe. Sarah Drang will be working on a class memory book. Mike and "Chuckie" Miller have donated CDs of the pictures taken.

Walls from page 4

of both parties — congressmen and senators, governors and other officials —

enjoyed the food. Famous athletes also parked their jean-covered bottoms on The Corner's barstools.

"For many townsfolk, the solace of The Corner was like a second home. It was more than just a place to eat. It was a tradition.

"After home football and basketball games, the local fans and teachers gathered and visited, replaying the contest. Following one unusually sweet victory, a former superintendent of Culver's schools danced on the bar.

"When The Corner closed in 1997, there was gloom all around. A gathering place for good conversation, good food and good friends to meet was no more.

A celebrity of local stature, Capt. Frank Amond of the legendary Maxinkuckee tour boat, held court at the Corner as well. Wrote Harvey Firari in an article for the Antiquarian and Historical Society of Culver's newsletter:

"In his later years (after a medical procedure had foreclosed on the consumption of beer) (Amond) crossed the street from his apartment about eight in the evening, took his reserved stool at the bar of the Corner Tavern, ordered a cup of coffee, chain-smoked, and read the house newspaper. One of the owners was a bit on the grouchy side and sometimes muttered under his breath about running a coffee shop. By the time Frank reached the sports section, he needed another free refill. The Grumpy Hours at the Corner ended when Frank made a one-way voyage to the next world on July 31, 1983."

The purpose of Ida's informative history of the Corner Tavern was partly, at least, to announce that Honzik had brought that beloved fried chicken recipe to the Plymouth Country Club. Of course, The Kibitzer Tavern in Kewanna also lays claim to that distinction: reviews on Urbanspoon.com note that Culverite Gloria Banks brought the recipe with her from the old Tavern!

The Peseks, thankfully, have kept the tradition of good food and fellowship (and a few artifacts from the Corner) alive at 117 S. Main, which remains one of Culver's true destination restaurants.

Catching up on some (by now very) old business, I'd be remiss not to acknowledge Steve McDaniel's (of Lakeside Auto) correction to my article on the 200 block of South Main between Madison and Marmont. "I loved the article on Main St. from 218 south," he writes. "I was wondering about the location of the car wash...it seemed to me that I remember Mr. Ruhnow's car wash south of the Pizza King and north of the tin shop in the early eighties."

Steve goes on to detail the lot space visible in relation to all of this through a Google maps search, and of course he's right! Thanks to Steve for catching the error (and his kind words).

Briefs from page 14

via email at jgaskill@culver.lib.in.us or by dialing 574-842-2941. You also can view a full calendar of events for Culver-Union Township Public Library by going to www.culverlib.in.us

Public Library will host the

fest July 23

The Culver Lions Club's corn roast, held in the town park, will take place Saturday evening, July 23, from 5 to 8 p.m. Fresh-roasted corn on the cob, hamburgers, and more are part of the

The Maxinkuckee Play-

meets Tuesdays
St. Elizabeth Episcopal
Church's Summer
Reading Group meets
Tuesdays from 7 to 8:30
p.m. at 515 State Street
in Culver. "Introduction to
Spirituality," led by Father
Tom Haynes and "The

Culver Community Schools' summer food service program is offered free to children (ages 1 through 18), and people with disabilities (regardless of age) who participate in special education programs. All other adults may purchase a lunch for \$3 and/or a breakfast for \$1.50. For dates, times, and locations, contact Carin Clifto at 574-

unteers needed
Those interested in volunteering to help out in Culver's Community Garden may contact Barbara Quivey at 574-842-2329 or Connie Richie at 574-542-4810 for work times. Your

sewer line

The Southwest Lake
Maxinkuckee Conservancy

seeks volunteers
The second annual Swim
For Kids' Sake open water

Joining a sponsor or volunteering are encouraged to contact Mallory Mead, Race Director, at 317-997-6753 or mallory.mead@hotmail.com. The greatest area of need for volunteers is for safety and support craft and pilots. For more information, and to view results, visit the Swim For Kids' Safe website at www.swimforkids.org.

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