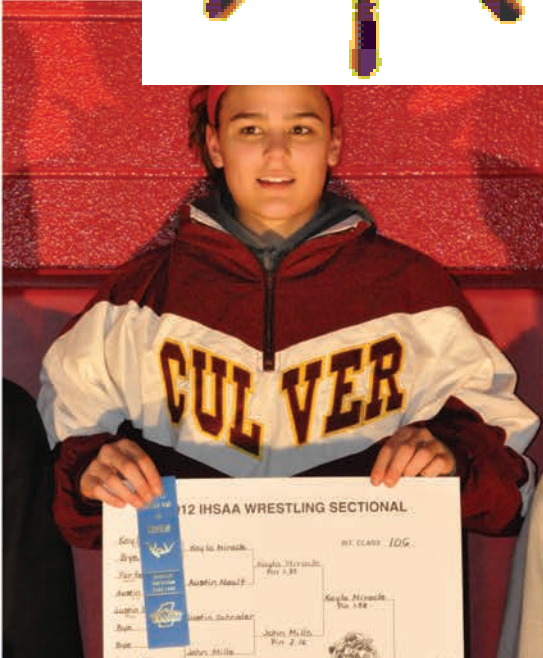


The Culver Citizen

Thursday, February 23, 2012 Vol. No. 119 Issue No. 7 50¢
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PHOTOS/JUSTIN CROY (LEFT), JAN GARRISON (CENTER), AND DEVIN REAGAN (RIGHT) -- LAYOUT/JEFF KENNEY

In Brief

Military Band Fest this wknd

About 90 selected musicians and choir members from nine military schools and colleges from across the country will be on the Culver Academies campus Feb. 24-26 as the Academies host the 36th annual Military School Band Festival. The event will culminate in a festival concert at 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 26 in Eppley Auditorium. The concert is free to the public and for the first time will feature a 40-voice Festival Choir led by clinician Stacey Warren, the Academies choir director.

For additional information contact Maj. Bill Browne at (574) 842-8335 or brownew@culver.org.

Gleason reads from new book March 9

Local author Ray Gleason will read from his new book, "The Violent Season," about the generation of young Americans who experienced the Vietnam war, Friday, March 9, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at the Culver Coffee Company in Culver. Wine, cheese, pizza and coffee will be served for the guests. Gleason's new book will be published in the fall of 2012.

Horses book club meets Feb. 28

The *Crazy for Horses* book discussion group will read Rita Mae Brown's "Full Cry." The group gathers on Wednesday, February 28 at the Culver-Union Township Public Library in the large meeting room at noon. Participants may bring a bag lunch. Margaret Carter will moderate. Call 574-842-2941 to reserve your copy of "Full Cry." The Culver Library is located at 107 N. Main Street. Until then, Tally-ho!

LIFT offers resources for local women

LIFT is a group of women working together to mentor and inspire local women seeking information, skills, and resources to better their personal and professional lives. Its mission is to support the advancement of women in the Culver area by mentoring, volunteering and providing resources.

Any local woman who is interested in receiving such assistance may submit an information sheet for consideration. Call 574-842-2173 or email LIFTUP@GMAIL.COM.

Community meal at

See Briefs page 3

www.culvercitizen.com
E-mail: culvercitizen@gmail.com

Culver makes history -- again

Both Culver Academies and Culver's public schools have produced a number of "first" in the area of sports, and in recent years have boasted some significant accomplishments in a variety of athletic fields. While Culver Comm. High School fell a bit short of the historic state wrestling championship earned last year by Jeremiah Harvey, this year's 5th-place finish at the 75th annual IHSAA state wrestling championships by CCHS junior Matt Hurford (pictured Saturday, in Indianapolis, AT LEFT) was a poignant victory for Hurford and the school and community, made all the moreso by the untimely and unexpected passing of his mother last year. Hurford won in a 5-1 decision over Dalton Brandenstein of Evansville Mater Dei. Making headlines and history around the state and beyond was Culver Academies Kayla Miracle (pictured earlier this month at sectionals, CENTER), who made it to Friday night's state competition in the 106-pound weight class (SEE STORY BELOW), the first female wrestler to qualify for state in the 74-year history of the tourney. At RIGHT, Mircale (center, with back to camera) is surrounded by media following her loss Friday night.

Culver wrestler first female at state tournament

Whether Culver Academies sophomore Kayla Miracle won or lost last Friday night at the 75th annual IHSAA state wrestling championships in Indianapolis, simply by competing she made history.

After finishing fourth at the Merrillville Semistate Feb. 11, Miracle became the first female wrestler in the 74-year history of the tourney to earn a qualification to state.

Miracle fell in the first round of the 106-pound competition Friday, while teammate Anthony McHugh earned a second trip to the finals at 132 pounds.

Miracle, a Bloomington native and sophomore at Culver Girls Academy, isn't the first female wrestler to attain success in Indiana, though she's one of relatively few. That number has been increasing nationally in recent years (over 7,000 girls wrestled at the high school level in the U.S. during the previous season). She finished her freshman year here with a 48-2 record, and this season at 42-5, though last summer she took eighth place in the world championships in Hungary, besides achieving success at several tournaments in the U.S.

Miracle -- whose father, Lee, wrestled on the All-Navy team and in college in Ohio -- hopes to compete on the 2016 women's Olympic wrestling team, and if her history-making efforts at Culver are any indication, that's a reasonable goal.

Park board app withdrawn, CVS overhaul discussed at council mtg

By Jeff Kenney
Citizen editor

Culver's town council began its Feb. 14 meeting with the appointment of Sally Ricciardi as board president, in the wake of former president Ed Pinder's resignation from that position (though not from the council). Ginny Munroe was voted in as vice president.

Following up on another past matter -- one of some contention in recent meetings -- Pinder told the council and audience that Rhonda Reinhold, who had submitted her name for a seat on Culver's parks and recreation board, has withdrawn her name.

Controversy arose when the council initially voted to retain the position of Patty Stallings, who filled a vacancy last year on the board. Stallings, a registered Republican, had agreed at the time to change her party affiliation in order to fulfill the politically balanced requirement of the park board. To date, the opportunity to formally change that affiliation has not yet arisen. Reinhold is a registered Democrat who some argued should be given first shot at the board position due to her party affiliation.

"I think the whole thing now is a moot point as to any discussion," concluded Pinder.

John Fulkerson of the Hamstra Group, owners of the CVS Pharmacy building on Ohio Street, also addressed the council. Noting the building is "old and ageing," Fulkerson said the group has scoured the town for a place to build a new structure, but doesn't wish to move the business out of the downtown area. Instead, he said, they hope to renovate the existing building and construct a drive-through on its west wall, utilizing the town-owned alley. The alley would become one-way in that case. The average wait time for prescriptions at a CVS drive-through is one and a half to three minutes, he explained.

Fulkerson added the company has undertaken similar

See Council page 3

Former Culverite's battle for life reignited, 25 years later

By Jeff Kenney
Citizen editor

Many in Culver will remember Christian Snyder's battle with cancer as a teen. Many likely are not aware, however, that the radiation treatment which saved his life then is now threatening his life.

At just 13, Chris was diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor.

"We were told to be happy for every day he was with us," recalls mom Darlene. "Churches all over the U.S. and the Plymouth area were praying for him."

Chris' late father Jay was a 1957 graduate of Culver High School, and was the son of Lester and Carol Snyder. Lester operated Snyder motors at two different locations on Jefferson Street in Culver. Jay started his own Snyder Motors and Towing Service, Inc., in Culver and later Plymouth. He married Darlene Christensen in 1964 (she would become a familiar face at the State Exchange Bank), and the family moved to

Plymouth in 1977. Jay sold his auto business in 1986 and opened the Bargain Barn on Michigan Road, which today is still run by Jay's son Mark and wife Darlene.

1986 was also the year of Chris' diagnosis. The grim outlook took a gradual turn for the better as Chris began receiving treatments from a \$1 million micro-tron radiation machine in Indianapolis, one of only two such machines in the country at the time, according to Darlene. The machine's presence in Indiana had been made possible through funds contributed by the state's Lions Clubs, including the Plymouth club, to whom the Snyder family expressed heart-felt thanks as Chris' prognosis improved.

By October of his freshman year at Plymouth High School, Chris Snyder was given a clean bill of health, to his and his family's joy and amazement.

"He wasn't supposed to live," says his wife, Kris.

"He was a miracle."

Kris and Christian, high school sweethearts, dated for 10 years before their September, 1997 marriage. Until his father's passing in 2002, Chris ran the Bargain Barn six days a week with Jay. Jay just missed the birth of Chris and Kris' sons: Tyler (born 2003) and Trenton (2006). Darlene, meanwhile, had started a career teaching 4th grade in Plymouth's school system.

In August, 2007, Chris had an unexpected mini-stroke. "We really didn't have any warning signs," says Kris.

A major stroke hit the day before Thanksgiving later that same year, forcing Chris to quit working.

Doctors determined the strokes occurred in the same location of Chris' brain as the 1986 tumor. Chris' condition was rare: radiation vacuitis, a result of the radiation given him as a teen causing the current scar tissue and blood

See Snyder page 3



PHOTO PROVIDED/DAVE COOPER

Ready for action

Members of Culver's fire department spent the weekend recently in Terre Haute, acquiring -- and training for use of -- a hovercraft machine planned for use in ice and water rescues on Lake Maxinkuckee and surrounding bodies of water. The craft, says Dave Cooper of the department, will be utilized by the 10 department members trained for diving and water rescue work, and was purchased from Neoteric Hover Crafts in Terre Haute.

Fire chief Mike Grover, Cooper, and department members Walt Hanselman and Jerry Siler spent a day there undergoing training and maintenance procedures on the craft, Cooper says. Siler, the department's training officer, spent a few hours on the Wabash River with an operator and the owner of the company. He was trained in operations, became certified as an operator, and will start training several local firefighters to use the hovercraft. The department's logo and name is being added to the craft, which the department spent over a year researching and planning finances to purchase.



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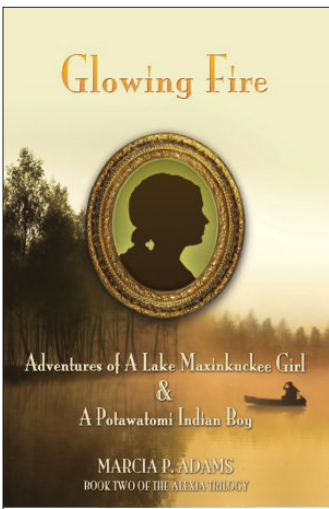
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New Maxinkuckee novel
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Culver author Marcia Adams' late 2011 release, "Glowing Fire: Adventures Of A Lake Maxinkuckee Girl & a Potawatomi Indian Boy," the second in her Lake Maxinkuckee-set trilogy of historical fiction, has been released in a print edition. Limited numbers are available at the Center for Culver History, the Antiquarian and Historical Society museum located in the lower level of the Culver Public Library. Copies may also be ordered online through www.amazon.com. The new print edition joins already-available digital versions in Kindle and Nook formats (to find this and other Adams books, search Amazon for Marcia P. Adams, to avoid confusion with another Marcia Adams on the site). She welcomes feedback and reviews posted at the Amazon site. Copies are also available through Adams' own site, www.maxinkuckeebooks.com.

As discussed in The Culver Citizen last November, the new book follows up on Adams' "Adventures of Alexia" novel, set in the Culver area in 1885, this time depicting a slightly older Alexia and her encounter with a young Potawatomi man at Lake Maxinkuckee and beyond. Adams notes a third novel in the "Alexia" trilogy will be released later this year.

Signed copies of either book are available by emailing Adams at mpaculver@gmail.com.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Three CES singers lauded at state level

After many efforts through the years, this year three Culver Elementary students have been chosen by the IMEA (Indiana Music Educators Association) for its elementary and middle school honor choir.

Since 1990, IMEA has sponsored the honor choir, and students who participate in Circle the State with Song area festivals have the opportunity to audition for these All-State Honor Choirs. Both choirs are select groups of approximately 140 singers each. Both groups performed at the Indiana Music Educators Association state convention Jan. 20 in Fort Wayne.

If CES music teacher Kim Morrison feels auditioning students might qualify, practice begins and an audition recording is made.

"I've sent in many recordings over the years and never had a student make it," she explains. "Then this year I had three kids chosen -- I was so proud!"

The students were, PICTURED ABOVE, from left starting with Morrison, Daniel Aguilar (in 6th grade), Lily Gregorash and Tihana Stafanic (in 5th grade).

To add to the excitement of the day on January 20, Morrison notes, she also had the opportunity to watch former student Myles Pinder (with Morrison, ABOVE, RIGHT) perform with the Butler University Chorale, also in Fort Wayne.

"It was a very special day for me," she says, adding that after she watched Pinder, she raced across the street "to see my students performing at the Embassy Theatre with the Indiana All State Choir...I was very proud of the way they represented Culver Elementary School! On February 25, we'll be taking 20 singers to Rochester, to participate in Circle the State with Song."

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Briefs from page 1

St. Mary's Feb. 29

St. Mary of the Lake Catholic Church's monthly community meal will take place Wednesday, February 29. On the 30th day or each month (with the obvious exception of February), a community meal will be provided for anyone interested in attending. St. Mary of the Lake is located at 124 College Avenue in Culver. Questions may be directed to 574-842-2522.

Books for babies sought

New board books and money to buy board books are being collected by Culver Elementary School's 5th grade class for its annual service project. Books will be collected from Feb. 14 through March 2, and will be given to newborn babies at local hospitals. To donate, drop off books or money at the school office.

BEAM cereal drive through March 11

BEAM (Bettering Every Aspect of Marshall County) is a county wide service group that is made up of two to three high school students from every school in the county. The Culver Community High School representatives are Kalee Miller and Kayla Shaffer.

Now through March 11, BEAM is conducting a cereal drive to collect boxes or bags of cereal for local food pantries. The cereal will be collected in the guidance office of CCHS for any students or community members wishing to donate. Donations will be taken to Plymouth to be divided evenly among the local pantries.

Soup for the Soul March 14

Culver Elementary School's Soup for the Soul will return Weds., March 14, from 5 to 8 p.m., at the school cafeteria. For a \$5 donation diners receive bowls, mugs, or other items hand-made by CES 6th graders, who will also serve the meal, which includes bread, drinks, dessert, and more. A silent auction will also take place, with proceeds going to several area charities.

Indiana political exhibit at museum

The Center for Culver History is hosting *Faces in the Crowd: Indiana and the Political Process*, a traveling exhibition of the Indiana Historical Society, through March 6. The Center is located in the Culver Union Township Public Library, and is open Tuesday through Friday from noon to 6 p.m., and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information visit culverahs.com

Free computer classes at CUTPL

Culver-Union Township Public Library will continue its session of free computer classes, held Monday evenings at 6 p.m. and Friday mornings at 10 a.m., and will last two hours. Sessions include: Microsoft Office Overview Part I (Feb. 27, March 2), Microsoft Office Overview Part II (March 5 and 9). These are hands-on classes and the library will provide computers. If you have your own laptop

Council from page 1

approaches to other older CVS buildings and made them "look like a new building." He explained the drive-through addition to an older CVS in Roselawn, Indiana will act as a pilot to determine if such an approach is viable elsewhere.

In answer to Ricciardi's question, Fulkerson said the company would pave the alley to smooth it out and manage water runoff issues. Ricciardi suggested paving all the way to the street, for the same purpose.

Council members said they are generally in favor of the move, but advised Fulkerson to approach Culver's plan commission with the matter.

The council approved ordinance 2012-01, which modifies fines for a host of offenses "commonly cited by the Culver Police Department." The ordinance, which covers 25 different offenses, establishes amounts for some previously undefined fines, and raises the fines for others, as recommended by town marshal Wayne Bean.

Fines include \$100 for abandoned junk vehicles, accumulation of rubbish, burning, cat nuisance, dog/cat excrement, littering/disruption of containers, noise, dog-animal, music, horns and vehicles, overnight parking, park hours, possession of alcohol (open container), possession of alcohol in park, sidewalks/business district, bicycles, skateboards, rollerblades, snowmobiles, speed, stop signs, traffic control enforcement on school property, weeds and grasses; \$75 for snow route emergency violation; and \$50 fines for curfew violation, dogs and cats running at large, and golf carts and animal drawn vehicles.

In other discussion, Ricciardi updated the audience on the council's search for a new town manager, noting members will discuss a recent interview with a top candidate, at a Feb. 17 executive session. Council members are also waiting for feedback from town employees who met with the candidate.

Kevin Berger of Easterday Construction updated the council on the Garden Court project on South Main Street, which he said will be open to residents at the start of March. Culver's emergency services departments were given a walk-through of the facility recently, he noted, to familiarize them with its layout.

Berger emphasized the building will be the first in Culver to have a "knox-box," a small safe with a master key for entry into the entire facility, to allow fire and other departments access to the structure without having to chop down a door or gain entry some other way. Berger said many communities with knox boxes place the keys in the hands of the fire chief, and establish ordinances governing access to them. Knox-boxes, he said, are often utilized in

computer, feel free to bring it to the classes.

Adult basketball at CCMS gym

The Culver adult winter basketball program continues from 1 to 3 p.m. EST, at the Culver Middle School gym, Sundays until March 18. The cost is \$2 per Sunday, or \$15 for the entire season. As always, please, please bring your good sportsmanship, and do not bring your children. Questions should be directed to Ken VanDePutte at 574-274-9942.

Marshall County Museum open house

PLYMOUTH — The Marshall County Museum will be unveiling a new exhibit Reflections of the Civil War along with the traveling exhibit Faces of the Civil War provided by the Indiana Historical Society Tuesday, March 20 at 4

Snyder from page 1



PHOTO PROVIDED
The Christian Snyder family. From left, wife Kris, mom Darlene, brother Mark, Chris (holding son Trenton, age 5), and son Tyler, age 8.

vessel collapse in his brain.

By the seventh stroke, last December, says Kris, "We're learning...he's not going to really bounce back."

Prominent symptoms today include weakness in Chris' left side and short-term memory loss. Therapy at the Catherine Kasper Home in Donaldson is helping the 39-year-old's strength, but progress is slow. Complicating matters were non-cancerous tumors discovered in the front portion of his brain, which had to be removed surgically in January, says Darlene.

schools, libraries, and even private homes. Plymouth, he says, has a knox-box key in every fire truck.

Fire chief Mike Grover said his department might opt to keep such a key in Engine One, which is present at all fires. Culver EMS director Chuck Dilts noted the keys could be kept in a safe in a vehicle which could be opened by radio tone, a four-digit code, or another key.

Ricciardi, as council president, reappointed Grant Munroe, Jerry Ney, and Rick Tompos to Culver's Redevelopment Commission.

Council approved \$141,300 in change orders for Culver's sewer plant renovation, as requested by Mark Sullivan of Commonwealth Engineers, and \$25,346 for new gear for Culver's firemen (whose current gear is 15 years old). They also approved a resolution to recognize Arbor Day in Culver as April 27, on behalf of Culver's tree commission.

Town clerk Karen Heim also noted Culver's town-wide yard sale is slated for April 27 and 28, followed by the Culver Lions Club's annual flea market on May 5, and the town-wide cleanup, scheduled tentatively for the weekend of May 11.

Council approved Heim's request to hire Umbaugh and Associates to handle the town's report, necessary for budget approval from the state.

Ralph Winters, representing the Community Resource Center of Marshall County, noted an open house for the new facility would take place the following Sunday. The town of Culver, he said, contributed \$10,000 towards the building. It will house various social agencies serving all of Marshall County, including Welfare, Work One, WIC, and others. The Lions Club, Kiwanis, city of Plymouth, Marshall County, and the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ all contributed towards the \$3.4 million project, he added. *Editing assistance by Rachel Meade.*

p.m. Come view a collection of Civil War artifacts along with a hands-on, interactive panel exhibit. Refreshments will be provided. The museum is located at 123 N. Michigan St., Plymouth If you have any questions, please call 574-936-2306 or check the museum's website at mchistoricalsociety.org.

New Citizen email address

A reminder that the *Culver Citizen* is transitioning its email address to culvercitizen@gmail.com. Please update your address books.

Also, "friend" the *Culver Citizen* on Facebook -- and visit culvercitizen.com -- for the most current updates and information.

Chris could have a major stroke, his wife explains, and pass away at any time. Three years ago, however, the family was given no hope, and yet Chris prevailed and even made it home again for a time.

"His spirits are very good," she says. "I'm really proud of him. He's never once said, 'Why me?' He keeps saying he's ready to come home, but he knows he's not strong enough yet."

The family is grateful, Kris adds, to Dr. Todd Stillson in Plymouth, who she says has "always taken great care of Christian. He's been right there every step of the way."

Stillson pointed them to Dr. Walter Langheinrich in South Bend, who removed Chris' tumors last month.

The Snyders' youngsters, Kris says, are doing "fairly well."

"They're excellent," she adds. "They say, 'Can we go see Dad?' They've always been good to Dad."

For her part, Kris copes through prayer and maintenance of what she says is a naturally positive attitude. She's also grateful to Chris' mother and brother for their help, calling them her "backbone."

And, as Chris' family faces the challenges of the present, Kris Snyder says they wouldn't change the way his illness was handled in the past.

"The radiation saved (Chris') life at the time. We would do it all over again. He's had all these years since."

She encourages friends and well-wishers to drop Chris a line addressed to him but care of The Catherine Kasper Home, P.O. Box 1, Donaldson, IN 46513. His family also welcomes continuing thoughts and prayers.

As might be expected, medical costs for Chris are mounting. With that in mind, family friend Kim Morrison, music teacher at Culver Elementary School, is encouraging input from those wishing to contribute. She may be reached at the school at 574-842-3389 or at morrison@culver.k12.in.us. Morrison notes that part of the proceeds from next month's "Soup for the Soul" 6th grade community fund-raiser will go to Chris and his family. *(Editing assistance/Rachel Meade)*

REAL Meals 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., Feb. 23: Pork loin, broccoli, black-eyed peas, cherry ambrosia, bread and margarine, and milk.

Fri. Feb. 24: Cream of potato soup, tuna salad pasta, crackers, fruit cup, dessert, and milk.

Mon. Feb. 27: Beef strips and peppers, rice, beets, bread, peaches, dessert, and milk.

Tues. Feb. 28: Hamburger steak with onions, creamed corn, spinach, apricots, bread and margarine, and milk.

Weds. Feb. 29: Chicken fettuccini, tossed salad, dressing, garlic bread, green beans, pineapple, and milk.

Thurs., March 1: Chicken and sausage jambalya, breaded okra, sliced pears, bread and margarine, birthday cake, and milk.

Fri. March 2: Split pea with ham soup, carrots, crackers, hot peaches, and milk.

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Look for more ticket giveaways in the near future!

Pilot News

The Culver Citizen

Eco-vacations: Responsible and memorable

Planning your spring break vacation? With growing worldwide environmental awareness, many vacation destinations trumpet their sustainable practices, marketing to consumers concerned about their carbon footprint. But how can travelers know if a destination's claims are true? Recently I spoke to Ayako Ezaki, director of communications with The International Ecotourism Society (TIES), a group that certifies tour companies and destinations with earth-friendly values. According to her organization, an "eco-vacation" conserves the world's resources — but not only that, it benefits communities.

If a place claims to be an "eco-resort," Ezaki suggested, it needs to demonstrate that it is shrinking its footprint. Some practices might include using alternative forms of energy such as solar, wind, or hydroelectric power, cutting down on water usage, protecting the land from over-development, and encouraging the native plant and animal species to thrive. Ezaki suggested checking out the website for clues to a resort's green values. Many places brag about their sustainable practices, she said, but look beyond the green hype for a specific plan to conserve resources. If I still have doubts, Ezaki suggested that I call the resort and ask about their efforts.

Conservation is important, but according to The International Tourism Society, ecotourism also involves reaching out to communities. Ayako Ezaki explained that truly green destinations and tour companies help local economies thrive.

"In practice, it's about conservation as well as community," Ayako said. "(Our organization) always says that we want to minimize the negative impact tourism has on a destination, and maximize the positive impact." This means that destinations not only have green practices, but they also support the local community. For example, the destination buys its food, supplies and materials from local producers if it can. It also employs local people in a variety of jobs from administration to housekeeping to tour guides and supports local craftspeople and artisans. Rather than being an all-inclusive enclave, it encourages contact between the guests and their surroundings, promoting understanding and respect as well as economic opportunity.

The trips when my family has interacted authentically with a place and its people are our most memorable vacations. Once, on a trip to Mexico, we sat relaxing in the village square. A woman approached, offering to sell us homemade flan. With trembling, wrinkled hands, she laid huge slices of the delicious custard-like dessert onto the paper plates she placed on our laps. We sang its praises in our halting Spanish, and the old lady grinned at us, obviously enjoying watching us gobble it down with our fingers and plastic forks. The treat was just a few pesos, but the memory is priceless.

Indiana's state parks are some of the greenest, most affordable destinations my family visits each year. They protect natural areas from development and connect travelers to native flora and fauna. So take an eco-vacation close to home. In fact, staying closer to home uses less fossil fuel than flying to a faraway place. For a handy guide on choosing an eco-friendly destination, check out this one available from The International Ecotourism Society: <http://www.ecotourism.org/news/sustainability-communication-how-read-between-lines>.

Marianne Peters is a freelance writer based in Plymouth. She is also a certified Master Gardener. You can send questions or comments to her through the Pilot News or her weblog: www.mariannepeters.com.



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HOOSIER HABITAT: EASY WAYS TO LIVE GREEN
BY MARIANNE PETERS

Church on the Move



Its still the lake water

By John Wm. Houghton

School Street, began downtown at the corner of Main and Washington Streets. Grace United Church of Christ met for five years in the Methodist church before its own "little white church" was built on Plymouth Street in 1895. Trinity Lutheran Church had its home in the library auditorium (now the Center for Culver History) until its current handsome building was erected on Academy Road. St. Elizabeth's Episcopal Church migrated not too long ago from Academy Road to State Street, having begun as St. Mary's, Rochester, in 1987. In all these cases, so far as I know, it was the only the church congregations, and perhaps some of the furnishings, that moved. In one case, though, a moving congregation actually brought the disassembled church building with it. Curiously, the one of the historical roots of that congregation reaches back east, to the area of Pennsylvania where I teach in the winters.

The history begins with the Wesley brothers. John Wesley (1703-1791) and his brother Charles (1707-1788) were priests of the Church of England who began the "Methodist Society" in 1739 as a renewal and reform movement in that church, with a particular emphasis on reaching the many people with whom the rather hide-bound church had little or no connection (for instance, John followed the example of George Whitefield by preaching in fields, rather than in ancient parish churches far from where contemporary people lived). The Church of England had a presence in all the American Colonies, and so the Methodist Society spread there, as well.

At the American Revolution, the Church of England in the colonies was cut off from its roots in the mother country. In the following years, it split into three separate denominations: one radical group became America's first Unitarians, while a more traditionalist faction became the Protestant Episcopal Church (now known simply as the Episcopal Church), having its first bishops ordained by bishops of the Scottish Episcopal Church and of the mother Church of England. What had been the Methodist Society became the independent Methodist Episcopal Church, with its first Superintendent (later called Bishop), Thomas Coke, ordained by John Wesley (over Charles' objections). Thus, though John and Charles never left the Church of England themselves, their actions led to one of the great Protestant denominations. In fact, as the Methodist Episcopal Church itself split over the years, they became the fathers of a whole family of religious communities; their influence even spread outside the M. E. Church itself.

In 1759, a man named Jacob Albrecht (later Englished as Albright) was born in Montgomery County, PA, not far from my work in Pottstown. Like many people of that place and time, he grew up speaking Pennsylvania Dutch and learned standard German and English. His family were Lutherans, but he converted to Methodism around 1790. He wanted to carry the Methodist message to his fellow German speakers, but (according to Wikipedia, anyway) the church insisted that he preach in English. So he broke off and founded his own movement, of which he was eventually elected the first Bishop in 1807, the year before he died. The movement was later (1816) named The Evangelical Association.

In the course of his spiritual journey, Jacob Albright had had some encounters with the United Brethren in Christ, another Wesley-inspired and German-rooted church movement. The founders of the United Brethren were Martin Boehm (1725-1812), a Mennonite bishop from Lancaster, PA (about 50 miles from Pottstown) and Philip William Otterbein (1726-1813), a minister of the German Reformed Church who served congregations in Lancaster and in Baltimore. Though Boehm eventually became a Methodist Episocopal minister and Otterbein never actually left the Reformed Church, they effectively began their own new denomination in 1789, becoming its first bishops in 1800—at which point the church also officially adopted the Methodist Episcopal Book of Discipline, in German translation, as its standard. (In another bit of overlap, Otterbein joined Thomas Coke in ordaining the second M. E. Bishop, Francis Asbury.)

In 1922 (after various other events) the Evangelical

Culver's churches have had a certain tendency to move around. Most people know that Wesley United Methodist Church, now on its own block of



PHOTO/ANTIQUARIAN AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF CULVER The Emmanuel (then United Brethren) Church circa late 1920s.

Association became the Evangelical Church. The United Brethren in Christ split into two groups in 1889, and the larger of those factions then merged with the Evangelical Association in 1946, forming the E.U.B., the Evangelical United Brethren Church. And then finally these German Wesleyan traditions merged with the much larger Methodist Episcopal Church in 1968, to form the United Methodist Church.

This 1968 merger explains, by the way, how it is that a town the size of Culver has two congregations of the United Methodist denomination. Wesley represents the Methodist Episcopal side, while Emmanuel, on south Main Street, is the former E. U. B. Church. (As my mother's family attended the E. U. B. and my father's the M. E., I grew up with some connection to each of the congregations, and once represented the youth group on the board of Emmanuel.)

The interesting about Emmanuel is that it relocated both congregation and building. In 1872, an Evangelical Association church named "Emmanuel" was organized out in the country south-west of the lake. An 1881 map indicates that the so-called "Albright Church" was on the northeast corner of Tulip and 20th A roads. In 1899, the building was torn down and reconstructed on its current site, with a 20 foot addition and other changes. Corwin's "One Township's Yesterdays" notes that the town version of the church had only one entrance. The country church had two, probably, I think, one door for men and one for women, with separate seating for the two sexes inside.

In 1924, the building gained a brick veneer and other improvements. The Library web-site has a picture of a brick church labeled as Emmanuel, though the structure in the photo seems to have very little in common with the current building, making me a little suspicious about the identification. The interior of the church has, certainly, changed: the current handsome sanctuary resulted from extensive remodeling in 1958. I was 5 at the time, but I have only the vaguest of memories of the changes: I think I was probably more interested in playing with the rubber grommets that an inquisitive child could pop out of the little holders for communion cups on the back of the next pew.

A sixth-generation native of Culver (and resident of Houghton Street), the Rev. John Wm. Houghton, Ph.D., was educated in the Culver-Union Township Schools, Woodcraft Camp, the Naval School Band, and Culver Military Academy. He holds degrees from Harvard, IU, Yale and Notre Dame, and is an Episcopal priest, he is Chaplain and Chair of the Department of Religious Studies at the Hill School in Pottstown, PA. He has published a number of academic articles on theology, medieval studies, and J. R. R. Tolkien, and is author of a novel, Rough Magicke, and of Falconry and Other Poems.

Name that Culver 'citizen'

Last week's Mystery Citizen, Rosalie Bonine, has been a major player in too many Culver endeavors to list, from answering for Culver's pre-EMS ambulance, to involvement with the Lions Club, Arbor Day, Chamber, Tri Kappa, and many more, besides for decades assisting husband Jim Bonine in running the family mortuary business. Recognizing her were Kay Tusing, Marizetta Kenney, Karen Blocker, Sylvia and Verl Shaffer, Julie Bess, Lora Pinder, Fran Wilkins, Marge Manikowski, Louellen Kowatch, Glennia Cooper, Barbara Winters, Kimberly Minix, Lynn Crist, Jeanette Geiselman, Janet Halling, Barb Quivey, Chuckie Strang, Daniel Blocker, Marilyn Kelly, Betty Voreis,



and Judi Burns, among I'm sure many others.

This week's Mystery Citizen has been particularly associated with one long-standing business, though he has served in a variety of roles in the

area, including continuing to steer another. Guesses may be emailed to culver-citizen@gmail.com or call the editor at 574-216-0075.



BELOW: Last week's Mystery Rosalie Bonine, then (left) and now. ABOVE: This week's Mystery Citizen.



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‘Catch Me if You Can’ at library discussion group

Culver-Union Twp. Public Library's book and film group will meet Wed., March 7 at noon in the library's large meeting room to discuss "Catch Me If You Can" by Frank Abagnale, the amazing true story of

Frank as a teenage con artist who poses as an airline pilot, a southern lawyer and pediatrician. The film stars Leonardo DiCaprio and Tom Hanks. Copies of the book are available at the circulation desk and may

be reserved by contacting the library at 574-842-2941. Patrons are encouraged to bring their lunch to eat while they enjoy the movie and the discussion afterwards.



PHOTO SUBMITTED/MARTIN SELLERS

And another Culver eagle sighting...

The Citizen may soon have to create a weekly column to feature photos from "eagle-eyed" readers who have captured images of bald eagles vacationing this winter on Maxinkuckee shores.

Familiarity has yet to breed contempt, however, as sighting of the majestic birds continue to delight.

This bird was spotted dining on deer remains in the cornfield at the corner of State Roads 110 and 117, near the Sellers Services sign there.

Thanks to Joely Jasinski for sending Marty Sellers' photo of it.

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