



CITIZEN PHOTOS/JEFF KENNEY

Culver holiday fun

ABOVE: It's the time of year when much of Culver is fairly quiet as families gather together to observe the holidays and enjoy time off from work and school. Recent holiday celebrations here included the annual Culver Lions, VFW, and fire department Christmas party, which combined crafts, treats, and Santa visits. Pictured AT LEFT, making Christmas cookies at the Culver Elementary-based event are Kade and Carter Reese, sons of Kyle and Angela Reese of the Pretty Lake area. Pictured at RIGHT is Jack Jones, age 3, who is enjoying the model train under the Friends of the Library Christmas tree at the Culver Public Library during its annual holiday open house. Jack's mother, Laura, is part of the library staff. Pictured in the CENTER is a tranquil scene near Culver after the recent snowfall, some of which was melting away at press time in the wake of the brief run of warmer temperatures in the area.

In Brief

Positions open on boards, commissions

The town of Culver is accepting letters of interest from people willing to serve on the following boards and commissions: Plan Commission, Redevelopment Commission and Tree Commission. Candidates should reside within the corporate limits of Culver. Letters will be accepted at Town Hall until 4 p.m., Monday, January 13, 2014 and appointments will be made at Town Council meeting at 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, January 14. Please call Town Hall at 574-842-3140 with any questions.

Free community meal at CBC Jan. 5

Culver Bible Church on South Main Street will host a free community meal Sunday, Jan. 5, starting at 6 p.m. Community meals are held on the first Sunday of each month at that time in the church basement. All are welcome.

Humane Society items collected at Cafe Max

Cafe Max, 113 S. Main St. in downtown Culver, is continuing its annual December drive to collect supplies for the Marshall County Humane Society. Donors are encouraged to bring items to the restaurant.

AHS membership 2014 Citizen subscriptions

Those who are submitting calendar year 2014 membership applications to the Antiquarian and Historical Society of Culver (AHS) are reminded to please submit their applications before December 31 in order to receive all AHS subscription-related editions of The Culver Citizen.

New Years Eve event at Lakehouse

The Lakehouse Grille, 620 E. Lake Shore Drive, will host its annual New Years' Eve party Tues., Dec. 31, with music provided by DJ Tim at 10 p.m.

See Briefs page 8

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

Park board eliminates park activities director position

Other changes implemented in heated Dec. 20 board meeting

By Jeff Kenney
Citizen editor

What could have been assumed to be a quiet, end-of-year park board meeting to tie up business, instead involved heated exchanges and included, among other actions, dissolving the park activities director position.

At the Dec. 20 special park board meeting, board member Rhonda Reinhold proposed discontinuing the position, held by Donna McKee since she was hired in January, 2013. Board members said they would investigate whether McKee's contract is up at the end of January, as board member Patty Stallings suggested.

Asked for the rationale behind the decision by an audience member, Stallings said she hoped that whoever fills the park superintendent position, which the board will soon be advertising, will include activities planning in the job.

Stallings said training content for Indiana University's parks and recreation degree is about one-third focused on activity planning and execution. Reinhold added the board hoped to learn what sort of en-

deavors could be included in a full-time park superintendent's duties as opposed to the present superintendent, whom she described as part-time.

She also said the board hoped to have a superintendent in place by summer, though board president Tammy Shaffer said the board could expand its search if it doesn't find who it's seeking by then.

The board also voted to ensure at least one park board member has a full set of keys to the beach lodge, including Young's apartment, as a safety measure "in case something happens." Audience member Russ Mason suggested the board consider a lock box to gain entry, whose key only the EMS and fire and police departments would have access to.

Also approved by the board was capping what the park superintendent can spend at \$500 per purchase, something Stallings noted is the case at the Culver Public Library (she added the town clerk has a \$1,000 spending limit).

Asked about emergency spending, Reinhold proposed Young could contact

two park board members, as is the case with Culver's utilities manager when an emergency takes place, for approval of quick payment over \$500 in case of situations such as electrical fires or furnaces going out, as board member John Helphrey described.

An advertisement for the park superintendent position has been created, said Stallings, and will appear in the local newspaper as well as the South Bend newspaper and Indiana parks and recreation website for job postings. Stallings is looking into universities with parks and recreations degrees for venues to list the job, and Reinhold said she contacted the president of the Indiana Parks and Recreation Association for help in promoting the job opening.

Some debate ensued as to whether the park work of current superintendent Kelly Young -- who also works full-time during the school year as a Culver Elementary School special education teacher -- is part or full-time. Young said she spends some 91 hours a week at her post during the summer and around 32

hours per week the rest of the year.

An audience member asked if Young's benefits are derived from the town of Culver or the school. Reinhold said Young has retirement funding from both entities and disability and life insurance through the town, though her health insurance is by way of the school, though Reinhold added that Young's health insurance was derived from the town for the first 20 years of her 27-year employment as park super.

Noting some have suggested Young's residence in the park beach lodge apartment is a benefit of her job, Shaffer asked Young if she had paid taxes on the apartment, which Young said she had not.

Park board attorney Rachel Arndt said she's still researching the matter, but understood Young should have been issued a W2 tax form for use with the apartment.

"I'm not saying it's your fault," Arndt emphasized to Young, "and I'm not a tax expert....I'm just trying to get an idea of the situation with that apartment."

Shaffer said the current

park board is trying to correct the failures of past boards in not acting according to statute in matters such as the apartment.

One audience member described the situation inherited by the board as "a hot mess," and suggested the blame is unfairly falling on Young herself.

Shaffer asked if those raising concerns have "been to (park board meetings)" to follow the situation.

Audience member Kathy Montgomery said she has read and heard about current goings-on with the park board, which she described as "bullying" and "shameful." She went on to suggest the park board give Young a chance to implement changes wrongly left undone by the board in the past.

"We did that," replied Reinhold. "We authorized (purchase of) a Point of Sale (cash register) and bought a computer, and it's not used yet. It's the law."

When pressed by Montgomery to "fix" past board mishandling, Arndt said she and the board were in

See Park page 2

CCHS welcomes Danish exchange student

By Shakkira Harris,
Culver Comm. High School

Travel and new experiences are what 16-year-old Henrik Bill is all about.

From leaving his homeland in Denmark to landing here in Culver, that sense of adventure is evident. From a city with a population of 40,000 in Silkeborg to a population of 1,380, a new scenery and lifestyle is exactly what foreign exchange student Bill received.

Bill has grown up his whole life knowing he wanted to come to the States. After his two older



Henrik Bill

siblings did the same thing, he wanted this experience from a very young age.

"They (siblings) told me a lot of cool stuff, that made me more interested. When I was 8, my family

and I traveled to the U.S. for a month. Even though I don't remember everything about the trip, I still remember that I really liked the States and I wanted to go there, not only on vacation but actually to live there," Bill said.

Bill had no choice in the matter of where he would be residing for his upcoming school year; the destination was handpicked for him. He liked that aspect though, because trying something new is the point of travel and adventure for him.

"Of course there are times when you think, 'Wow, it would be cool to live in New York City or something like that.' But I am happy that I came here," he said.

Bill really likes the people in Culver and says they're very nice and welcoming; he appreciates that friendliness, he says.

Although the common courtesy many of our fellow peers show is not all that common to Danish people.

"Many Danes and Europeans might come across as arrogant when you first meet them, not because they don't like you, but simply because it's the mentality."

He said Danish people may seem standoffish at first to strangers, as it takes time for them to be comfortable with a new person. Although once they are comfortable, a deep friendship can develop and Danish folk are "cool, nice, and

friendly."

Another difference from Denmark to America is the prices of things. Bill says that the price of a Big Mac meal at McDonalds is double the amount here, the reason being that Denmark's tax rates are about 200 percent more than ours. Denmark is, if not the number one, one of the most highly taxed countries, although they do have free health care and completely free school systems.

"I didn't really know what to expect, to be honest," Bill said of first learning of his American destination. "I had googled Indiana, and mostly it just showed a bunch of corn fields."

He believes there is a lot more to the town now.

See Student page 2

Park from page 1

the process of trying to do just that, noting policies like the superintendent spending cap should have been put into place years ago, and are the norm in other municipalities.

Montgomery said she saw "innocent people being rail-roaded," and audience members Ed and Lora Pinder, and son Ed Jr., suggested during another portion of the meeting that the board was attacking Young.

Board member John Helphrey, expressing appreciation and respect for Montgomery's opinion, said he had first asked to be on the park board because in the past three or four years he saw a number of things needing to be changed.

"You talk about people being hurt," said Helphrey. "We had someone die (by drowning last summer) and nothing changed afterwards...There's never a lifeguard at the other end of the park and no one walking at the other end of the beach.

Helphrey said he'd been going to the park for years and wouldn't feel confident allowing his young grandchildren to swim there alone.

"What happens when we have a death? Nothing," he continued. "Nothing changes. They take out the swimming pier."

Helphrey went on to mention an incident involving a Hobie Cat sailboat on the beach endangering the safety of children there, referenced the installation of a public pier last April which was unsafe for use but had no purchase contract as a recourse, and said the beach lodge is "a wreck" needing hundreds of thousands of dollars in repairs. He said the engineer from Culver Academies visited the building along with park board members, and suggested it could "blow up today." He also questioned why audience members raising concerns raised none about safety at the park.

"The first 10 years (on the job), you're learning," Helphrey said. "The second ten you should know what you're doing, but the third ten years, there should be no mistakes. There have been lots of problems in the last five or six years...it's time for a change."

When an audience member suggested the problems were the fault of board decisions, Helphrey agreed, adding the board pays sizable sums of money for flowers and approves 5k runs and "glamour shows for kids, but how many even show up?"

Shaffer added many decisions should never have been

in the hands of the superintendent alone up to now.

"I sat on this board for two terms before this board came on," she said. "I couldn't get any changes because they entrusted a single person with all the decisions and took for granted what she was doing.

"I understand you all know Kelly and she's been in the community. We aren't attacking a person here. We are setting standards; she may 9fulfill) those standards and if not, someone else will."

When questioned by Helphrey about his response to Shaffer's words, audience member Ed Pinder Jr. described them with an expletive, prompting Helphrey to suggest Pinder leave if he wished to use "that kind of language."

Pinder, refusing, suggested the police be called towards making him leave.

Reinhold suggested last summer's drowning death would normally result in the termination of a park superintendent, adding the incident opened up the park to litigation.

"Read the DNR report (on the incident), and you'll understand," Reinhold added. "We don't have a choice."

Audience member Tom Kearns, noting there's "a lot of emotion on both sides," suggested the solution may lie in establishing firm policies and procedures. Montgomery called on the board to allow Young to learn the policies and procedures and be given a chance to implement them, and that she "needs your support."

Kearns' report on policies and procedures included his reading of a policy statement developed by the policy committee on which he sits.

Specifically he emphasized the need for the board to approve a policy regarding the ready-to-install skating rink prior to its being opened to the public.

Considerable discussion

ensued regarding the rink, which Arndt described as "a lawsuit waiting to happen" without policy and procedures, as well as staff training. It was suggested the town would incur no greater liability leaving the rink unstaffed, provided proper signage was installed there, which Young said she had ready to erect.

Young also said volunteer Chris Chambers asked to delay installation until the weekend of Dec. 28, given the rainy weather forecast for the Dec. 21 weekend.

The board agreed to a Dec. 26 special meeting at 4:45 p.m. in hopes of approving the rink policy and procedures, to facilitate its opening.

Kearns also reported, representing the tree commission, that six trees have been listed as priority to remove, though one -- a popular mulberry tree in the west end of the park -- will be remediated instead of removed. He did explain budgeting funds for removal yet this winter is "critical."

Eleven trees should be pruned in the near future, he added.

Popular Academies military training instructor, counselor killed in traffic accident



Master Sgt. James Smith returned to campus for the 2006 Alumni Reunion Weekend.

PHOTO/DOUG HABERLAND

By Jan Garrison, Culver Academies

A former instructor of military training at Culver Military Academy died in a traffic accident on Dec. 11. Master Sgt. James H. Smith, 76, of Eddyville, Ky., died and his wife, Margie L. Smith, was hospitalized after being involved in a three-vehicle wreck at Ky. 93 and Ky. 293.

Smith worked at Culver from January 1977 to June 1992. He was an instructor of military training and served as the counselor for Company C from 1984-1987 and assistant commandant from 1987-90. He also served as an instructor in Culver Summer Schools & Camps from 1978-1981.

Smith taken to Caldwell Medical Center then airlifted to Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, Tenn. where he was pronounced dead at 1:43 p.m., Kentucky State Police said. Mrs. Smith was airlifted to Deaconess Hospital in Evansville, Ind. where she was listed in stable condition.

RING IN THE NEW YEAR WITH A NEW PET!

LIVE PET SALE

Just arrived Emporer Scorpions
Easy care - amazing to watch

NEW HOURS STARTING JANUARY 1, 2014
Mon & Thurs 10:00-5:30 • Wed & Fri 10:00-6:00
Sat 10:00-4:00 • Closed Sun & Tues

Somethin Fishy

Pets & Gifts

Sue Webb NEW OWNER

574-806-2726 1700 A S. Heaton Knox, IN

LOTS OF IN STORE SPECIALS

Voted "Best of Marshall County" Once Again!

AR

Allen Reese

HEARING AID CENTER

322 N. Michigan ST, Suite C
Plymouth, IN 46563
574.936.8878

Hearing Aids and Earmolds

Comprehensive Hearing Evaluations
Hearing Aid Repair and Cleaning
Hearing Aid Batteries and Supplies

30-Day Money Back Guarantee!

www.arhac.com (574)936-8878

Put Your Vacation Plans on Cruise Control

Planning the perfect vacation couldn't be easier.

Cruises and Air Tours

Hawaii Soft Adventure Tour February 3-14, 2014
Best of Italy March 25-April 4, 2014
Tasmania & Australia April 2-14, 2014
Extended tour Includes New Zealand April 14-20, 2014
Panama Canal Cruise April 13-29, 2014
Alaska by Land & Sea July 21-August 2, 2014
Authentic Alaska August 6-19, 2014
Affordable Alaska September 2-13, 2014
Rhine River Cruise September 12-21, 2014
Option to include Switzerland September 21-27, 2014
Canada & New England Cruise September 25-October 5, 2014

edgerton's
travel service, inc.
"Since 1924"

Mishawaka/ South Bend (574) 258-2929 or 800-643-4504	Elkhart (574) 294-3651 or 800-388-3437	LaPorte (219) 362-8502 or 800-634-3437	Fort Wayne (260) 497-8747 or 800-873-3437
--	---	---	--

For a reservation form and complete terms and conditions please call your local Edgerton's Travel office or visit: www.edgertonstravel.com/grouptravel

Student from page 1

However, Bill would like to see a mall that was significantly closer, saying that South Bend is too far away for a shopping mall.

Moving to the States has made Bill appreciate things he had taken for granted in Denmark. What he misses most are his Danish friends and family.

"I don't think about them every day and I try to focus on my life here in the States rather than hanging on to my life in Denmark, too much," he said.

When asked what his favorite aspect about Culver was, Bill joked, "I don't know, the gas station, maybe?"

But in all seriousness, his favorite aspect is the people of our town.

Bill finds American schools are more strict than Danish schools. He finds it unusual that, here in America, we refer to our teachers by last name, saying that in Denmark, students and teachers are on a first name basis. Also, being 30 seconds or a couple minutes late to class is just normal in Denmark; no discipline is made because of such acts.

Other things he found unusual are the driving and drinking ages. In Denmark you cannot drive until the age of 18, but you can buy alcohol at age 16.

By the sounds of things, Bill is enjoying his year here.

"I think people here are very welcoming and nice, and I really appreciate that."

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

Buying

Gold Jewelry
Diamonds
Sterling Silver
Old Coins

www.johnmarshallinc.com

In Business Since 1965

John M. Marshall's, Inc.
202 South Michigan Street
Key Bank Building, Suite #101
South Bend, Indiana 46601
574-287-1427

We Sharpen Drills

Lakeside Auto Supply Corp.

Auto Value PARTS STORES

202 S. Main St., Culver • 842-3658
Serving the Culver community for 20 years

Family Vision Clinic

DR. MARK A. COUTS, O.D.
202 NORTH MAIN STREET, CULVER, IN 46511
574-842-3372

Eye Exams • Insurance Billing • Special Vision Testing
HOURS: Mon., Wed.-Fri. 9:00-5:00 • Tues. 11:00-7:00
Contact Lenses and Large Selection of Fashion and Designer Frames
New Patients Always Welcome!

Accepting VSP, Eyemed, Medicare, Medicaid
See us on Facebook

VISIT US AT FVCCULVER.COM

CCMS Students of the Month

Culver Community Middle School has announced its November Students of the Month.

8th grade: Sydney Pritz(Teacher: Gene Baker), Dakota Stone (Ashli Faulkner), Tia Graham (Amy Gearhart), RT Roberts (Chad Hollenbaugh), Jasmyne Fowler (Cristyn Messick), Lindaey Proskey (Heather Jurgonski), Lance Beaver (Shane Lowry), Raymie Shoop (Ms. Lynn), Tia Graham (Julie Perkins), Dillon Salyer (Tina Stacy), Jake Rodgers (Chris Stevens), Raymie Shoop (Dana Thomas), Daniel Aguilar (Jason Crittendon).

7th grade: Hailey Thurman (Bianca Ash), Taylor Noah (John Browder), Lily Gregorash (Jason Crittendon), Samantha Gregg (Mrs. Estok), Maranda Otteman (Ashli Faulkner), Tommy Brady (Amy Gearhart), Brandon Jones (Mrs. Hierlmeier), Kate Heim (Shane Lowry), Shelby Blair (Ms. Lynn), Hunter Ringer (Cristyn Messick), Jeremiah McCarthy (Dana Thomas), Savanna Johnson (Andy Thomas), Noah King (Mrs. Trumble/Mrs. Pitera).

CES Students of the Month

Culver Elementary School has announced its Students of the Month for November.

Kindergarten: Emily Hawkins (teacher: Amy Bonine), Ellory Michi (Heather Overmyer), Aubrey Miller (Jean Urbin), Brandon Looney (Mrs. Tompson).

First grade: Kyler Weiger (Kelly Dickerhoff), Garrick Metz (April Jef-feries), Mason Wagon (Stephanie Smith).

Second grade: Tristan Nix (Jean Ahlenius), Seth Hazen (Lisa Elliott), Luke Risner (Janna VanDeputte).

Third grade: Baleigh Binkley (Andrea Berndt), Alisa Jo Hinds (Valerie Cultice), Kevin Bailey (Jill DeSalle), Carson Cormican (Carrie Tharp), Haylie Rizer (Kris Arvelo).

Fourth grade: Jalen King (Mrs. Miller), Lane Coby (Chris Renneker), Kordelia Fulton (Leslie Shepard), Sergio Villegas (Julie Cowan).

Fifth grade: Abigail Johnson (Pam Craft), Mia Conroy (Gayle Kinzie), Shaloon Alvarez (Raeanne Stevens), Matthew Cole (Mike Elliott), Morgan Keller (Becky Risner).

Sixth grade: Emmanuel Martinez (Bryan Albright), Kagnie Hoffman (Todd Shafer), Coltin Wynn (Missy Trent), John Sieber (Joyce Lyman), Emily Bendy (Jason Crittendon), Edwin Holstein (Kelly Young).



PHOTO PROVIDED

PTO top fund raisers

LEFT: Pictured are winners in the Culver Elementary Parent-Teacher Orgnization (PTO) annual fund-raiser, during which students school-wide sold Little Ceasers pizza. Funds raised are used towards a variety of projects, from playground equipment to school events and the annual Santa's workshop (see photo last issue). Over 100 families participated in this year's fund-raiser, according to CES 5th grade teacher and PTO coordinator Raeanne Stevens.

Pictured, from left, are Ava and AJ Czerniak (1st place); Jessica and Rachel Pietsch (2nd place); Jordan, Kamrin and Carter Clingler (3rd place).

Culver man arrested after fight

A Culver man was arrested Dec. 13 following an alercation at a private residence in Plymouth.

Twenty-three year old Sean Benner of Culver and Drew Flora, 24, of Plymouth, were both arrested after officers responded to the home on Carnegie way, where they learned the incident involved a firearm.

Benner, free on bond, faces a charge of battery resulting in bodily injury while Flora was charged with intimidation with a deadly weapon, criminal confinement with a deadly weapon, and pointing a firearm. Flora's bond was set at \$50,000.

MCCF announces Lilly Endowment scholarship applications

The Marshall County Community Foundation has announced the Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship applications for 2014 are available. The scholarship is a four-year full tuition to an accredited Indiana university or college. High School seniors who are Marshall County residents desiring to apply for the scholarship should contact their guidance office, the Marshall County Community Foundation office at 574- 935-5159 or go online to www.marshallcountycf.org for an application.

Scholarship applications are due by January 10.

REAL Meals menu

To share a meal at REAL Meals, call 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., Dec. 26: Swedish meatballs, pasta and bread, stewed tomatoes, peas, fruit cocktail.

Friday, Dec. 27: Cheesy broccoli soup, baked potato, crackers, cobbler.

Mon., Dec. 30: Meatloaf, peas, baby bakers, bread,

peaches.

Tues., Dec. 31: Closed for holiday.

Wed., Jan. 1: Closed for holiday.

Thurs., Jan. 2: Corned beef hash, biscuit. cinnamon apples, boiled eggs, cauliflower with cheese.

Friday, Jan. 3; Vegetable lasagna, salad and dressing, carrots, garlic bread, Rice Krispie treat.

Wishing everyone a Happy and Prosperous New Year!

Just Call... 

BENNETT'S
CONTRACTING, LLC

640 E. Lake Shore Drive
Culver, IN 46511 • 574-842-3228
www.BennettsContracting.net
Monday-Friday 8-5
Your "Hometown Homebuilder"





Recycle Depot

WWW.RECYCLEDEPOT.INFO

HAZARDOUS WASTE – TIRES – ELECTRONICS

APPLIANCES - RECYCLING

1900 WALTER GLAUB DRIVE, PLYMOUTH • 574-935-8611

TUES-FRI 8:30-3:30 • 1ST SAT OF EACH MONTH 8-NOON



Culver History Corner

The Antiquarian and Historical Society of Culver

www.culverahs.com historyofculver@gmail.com

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

If these walls could talk: 620 Lake Shore Drive

By Jeff Kenney

In the last installment of our ongoing series of "virtual" walks through the historic buildings of Culver, we began an effort to sort out the mix of buildings and entities which, through the years, occupied the space which is now home to the Lakehouse Grille, which today is numbered 620 Lake Shore Drive.

The businesses at the locale ranged in number from 618 to 620, to 622 in the past, with the one still existant entity from nearly 80 years back being the former Lakeview Tavern (the main subject of our last installment), though today it's connected directly to the Lakehouse by way of a 1999 construction project.



ABOVE: The building many Culverites will recall as the coffee shop, at 620 Lake Shore Drive, circa 1922.

As reported in that last installment (whose title unfortunately misrepresented the 600s as 200s!), part of today's 620 Lake Shore Drive apparently started life as a dry goods store circa 1922, but became best known as a bowling alley until its demise by fire in 1978.

The bowling alley sat east of the Lakeview Tavern and just to the east of the tavern, at 622 Lake Shore Drive, was the popular coffee shop, which was lost to fire the same day.

The large, two-story coffee shop structure (its second floor contained apartments) occupied what was listed as an empty lot on the 1908 Sanborn fire map, though the 1924 map lists some entity existing there -- it just doesn't identify what.

A circa 1922 photograph shows the future coffee shop, albeit with what appears to be block or brick siding in those days. Judi Burns' Maxinkuckee history website suggests the building was, at least for a time, F.G. Solomon's department store, a prominent one in town in the 1920s.

The identity of the old building as a coffee shop was apparently in place by July, 1928, when the Culver Citizen reported that Mrs. E. A. Thessin "purchased the Coffee Shop which is located opposite the depot." Two years later, Thessin would take over management elsewhere of the Home Restaurant from Mrs. Lura Baker, departing the coffee shop at the same time.

In Jan., 1944, the Citizen reported that "Mr. and Mrs. Howard Warner have sold the Coffee Shop to Mary Carrothers and Catherine Kowatch."

In May, 1952, Mrs. Tom Hagle and Mrs. Floyd Triplett became joint proprietors of the business, though in Feb., 1960, Mr. and Mrs. David Laffoon of South Bend purchased the Coffee Shop "from Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Triplett and took over the management of the restaurant."

However, Lavina Triplett and Pearl Onesti (who with husband Pete was long associated with the Lakeside grocery store a few doors east, where Rideon Bicycles is lo-

cated today) jointly operated the coffee shop during the 1960s. By the 1970s, Pearl alone managed what was officially by then known as the Lakeside Coffee Shop (she ended her association with the grocery store in Oct., 1975).

The business suffered smoke damage in the early 1970s when a fire, which according to former bowling alley owner Jim DeWitt had started in the coffee shop kitchen, affected the two buildings' shared wall. Neither suffered major damage at the time.

Around that time, Pearl Onesti refurbished the restaurant, adding a brick facade to the lower level.

The Oct. 26, 1978 Culver Citizen described the five-alarm fire which finally destroyed both coffee shop and bowling alley as having been observed by "thousands" of onlookers (some, visible in the accompanying photos, watching from the rooftops of buildings quite nearby!) and burning fiercely for over six hours starting around 1:30 p.m. on Oct. 22.

An Argos fireman was rushed to Parkview hospital in Plymouth for smoke inhalation, and it was briefly feared the massive blaze would devour the buildings to the west, including the Lakeview Tavern, Hansen's, and the El Rancho Theatre.

The flames were fought from the tavern rooftop and Plymouth's snorkel lift, and Culver firemen stayed through the night to keep the blaze from reigniting. Damage was estimated at a quarter of a million dollars.

The coffee shop space remained a vacant lot for around the next twenty years.

In the late 1980s, a small bait shop at part of today's Lakehouse site was opened under the management of former Culver town marshal Richard "Woody" Woodward, by 1990 known as J & B Bait & Tackling.

In his Easterday Construction blog online, Easterday owner Kevin

Berger describes the small, block former bait shop building as "a small white building with an orange roof sitting on the site of the former bowling alley (at that time the adjacent Lakeview Tavern was under separate ownership)."

Easterday was tapped by Larry and Joette Surrisi, who had been operating the Edgewater Grille at the site since 1997, to construct the considerably larger building which currently houses the Lakehouse Grille.

In the old bait shop structure, recalls Berger, "The Edgewater Grille sign only partially covered the old sign on the roof that said 'BAIT.' There were only a few tables because of the limited space, but the business was brisk."

Surrisi had operated successful restaurants in Indianapolis and was working in the publishing industry in Chicago when the bug bit him to move to Culver, where he became

part of a wave of fine dining options sprouting up in the mid-1990s here.

Construction began in September of 1999 on the new building, and in Dec., 1999, the Surriris took over the old Lakeview tavern, or Lakeview Lodge as it became known.

Berger writes that the greatest challenge in the construction of the new structure was the request to keep the kitchen open as long as possible during the work.

Architect Brent Martin partnered with Berger and Surrisi to design the new, wood-framed structure, whose facade was intended to reflect the community by mirroring the brick in use in the train station - depot across the street. "Mr. Martin," added Berger, "proposed the tower on the (southeast) corner to serve not only as an anchor to the structure, but as a metaphorical See Walls page 7 lighthouse tower since it sits at a



ABOVE: Smoke billows from the old coffee shop on Lake Shore Drive in Oct., 1978 as firefighters battle the blaze. Note onlookers watching the fire from the roof of the Lakeview Tavern at left.

BELOW: The old bait shop on the site of today's Lakehouse Grille can be seen in the top photo, and framing of the Lakehouse is underway in both shots.

PHOTOS PROVIDED/KEVIN BERGER



Lunch

\$4.99

Monday thru Saturday

11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Quick, Hot, Fresh, Variety

One Trip Buffet

One Plate,

One Bowl


One GREAT Lunch!



PONDEROSA

STEAKHOUSE

2100 N. Michigan St., Plymouth • 574-936-4128





Merry Christmas

&

Happy Holidays

from Culver Academies



culver.org

MCCF accepting applications for next grant round

The Marshall County Community Foundation is now accepting applications for the first General Endowment and Ralph C. Vonnegut, Jr. Fund grant cycle of 2014. The General Endowment is the grant making fund of the Marshall County Community Foundation (MCCF) and is the most flexible and responsive of the Foundation's 310 funds. Grants from this endowment fund address needs throughout Marshall County typically focusing on the arts, education, health and human services, recreation and the environment. Members of the community evaluate proposals and conduct site visits during a competitive application process.

Applications are due by 4:30 p.m., Monday, February 3. Applications will then be reviewed by the MCCF Grants Committee and final decisions will be made by the Board of Directors during their March meeting. While applications that target educational needs in

Marshall County continue to remain important to the MCCF, all proposed projects will be reviewed on their merits and how they meet a variety of needs in the community.

Applicants must be organizations with 501(c)(3) IRS status or organizations with 501(c) IRS status whose request is charitable in nature for the following: start-up costs for new programs or the expansion of needed programs; one-time projects or needs To be considered for this funding opportunity, use of the application available online at marshallcountycf.org is required as are signatures of the designated officials noted on the form.

Until Dec. 31, a 10 percent match will be given for contributions to all MCCF funds that support nonprofit organizations including MCCF's General Endowment Fund. For more information, contact Jennifer Compton at 574-935-5159 or visit marshallcountycf.org.

Walls from page 4

bend in Lake Shore Drive."

With phase one complete, the restaurant closed briefly to allow the relocation of some of the kitchen equipment. The old bait shop was torn down to allow phase two, during which the Lakeview was incorporated into the endeavor.

Fountains were added to the corners of the raised dais along the west wall to create a pool and waterfall effect, Berger explains, though the "occasional splatter made

them difficult to use when the adjacent seating was occupied."

The restaurant was so popular, Berger noted, "that the owner petitioned the Town to make changes and add a crosswalk to handle the pedestrian traffic from the parking areas across the street."

In June, 2003, the late Ralph Braun took over actual ownership, with Surrisi eventually moving on to launch the also popular City Tavern a few blocks west of the Edge-

water. Dan Bickel took on management at the Edgewater in Aug., 2008, though in March, 2012, the business' new (and present) owner, Mark Damore Jr., was announced.

The son of Original Root Beer Stand owner Mark Sr. Damore rechristened the restaurant the Lakehouse Grille, reopening it in May, 2012 with some interior (and relatively minor exterior) changes to reflect its new identity.

Briefs from page 1

and a midnight toast.

'Catholicism, Coffee, & Current Events'

Topics of current interest and relevance through the lens of historic Christianity and Catholic teaching takes place Sunday mornings from 9:30 to 10:45 a.m. in the conference room of the Culver Coffee Company, Lake Shore Drive in Culver. All are welcome to enjoy a cup of coffee and conversation. Topics include: Current events open forum/Q&A (Jan. 5); Catholicism and other Christian communities - similarities and differences (Jan. 12); Catholicism and other religious traditions - similarities and differences (Jan. 19); War, pacifism and Christianity through a Catholic lens (Jan. 26); The male, celibate priesthood - does it need to be? (Feb. 2); The Church and same-sex marriage (Feb. 9); Education - public and private schools and the future of America (Feb. 16).

Firemen's Honor Wall ready for bricks

The Culver Union Township Fire Department's Honor Wall, located on the corner of Lake Shore Drive and State Street, is ready to accept community-purchased bricks honoring local firefighters. Active and honor wall bricks can be purchased by individuals, but will be limited to one brick maximwn per active member or honoree and department established criteria must be met. For more details or information, or for an official order form, interested persons may contact the department's secretary-treasurer Dave Cooper at 574-952-2809 or dacoop13@hotmail.com.

Dance classes at the

park

Culver's Parks and Recreation department will present "Dance with Megan" a dance class of ballet and contem-

girls and boys ages 4 through 11, free of charge. Dance classes will take place Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the beach lodge meeting room.

NEED CASH?
We will pay cash for gold & silver jewelry, pocket watches, sterling flatware, coins, anything gold, platinum and large diamonds!
King's JEWELRY
202 N. Michigan St., Plymouth
574-936-2399
www.KingsJewelryPlymouth.com
facebook King's Jewelry in Plymouth

porary being offered to

LIVE OAK ELECTRIC
liveoakelectric.com
842-4776
STEVE ULERY
TROUBLE SHOOTING/
REPAIR
SERVICE UPGRADES
PHONE & CABLE
LICENSED, BONDED, INSURED

MAX MOTORS
QUALITY REPAIR
AFFORDABLE PRICES
590 West Jefferson Street, Culver
(Corner of 17 & Jefferson)
Open M-F 9 a.m.-6 p.m. • Sat 9 a.m.-12 p.m. • Sun Closed
Automobile
Motorcycle • ATV • Diesel
Repair, Service, Sales, Tires,
Performance Modifications
Snowplowing
Available
Call today! 574-249-2451
Vintage Ford Parts for sale 1930's-1990's & High Performance parts for sale
FREE USED OIL DROP OFF

Plan Your Escape



Grab your besties or your better half, and plan a vacation!

MOTORCOACH TOURS
Charleston & Savannah March 22-29, 2014
Broadway in Chicago - Alton Brown LIVE!
February 8, 2014

TRAIN TOURS
Gems of Arizona March 1-12, 2014
Trains of Colorado June 5-13, 2014
Canyon Lands October 4-16, 2014

ADVENTURE
Northern Lights & Iditarod
February 21-March 2, 2013
Yellowstone & Tetons June 11-21, 2014
Washington DC & Williamsburg
July 31-August 6, 2014
Canadian Rockies & Glacier Park
August 8-18, 2014

Cruises and Air Tours
Hawaii Soft Adventure Tour February 3-14, 2014
Best of Italy March 25-April 4, 2014
Tasmania & Australia April 2-14, 2014
Extended tour includes
New Zealand April 14-20, 2014
Panama Canal Cruise April 13-29, 2014
Alaska by Land & Sea July 21-August 2, 2014
Authentic Alaska August 6-19, 2014
Affordable Alaska September 2-13, 2014
Rhine River Cruise September 12-21, 2014
Option to include Switzerland
September 21-27, 2014
Canada & New England Cruise
September 25-October 5, 2014

edgerton's
travel service, inc.
"Since 1924"
For a reservation form and complete terms and conditions please call your local Edgerton's Travel office or visit www.edgertonstravel.com/grouptravel

Michowski/ South Bend (574) 256-2929 or 180-643-4604	Elkhart (574) 294-9661 or 800-311-3437	LaPorte (219) 963-8502 or 888-634-9437	Fort Wayne (260) 497-8747 or 800-871-3437
--	---	---	--

Sign up today!

Deadline is December 31!

Best Loser 2014

FIGHT FOR FITNESS



Individual Weight Loss Contest

January 6-March 22

The individual who loses the most % of body weight will win \$500!
Everyone who enters will be placed on a Battle Team - Team Julie or Team Stephanie

Fee includes 6 Battle Nights where you can workout and talk with your team trainer at Fitness Forum

Only \$40 per person

Pre-Registration Deadline is December 31

Contest Runs January 6-March 22

Contest Regulations:

- \$40 entry fee per individual
- Each participant must sign a waiver & agree to the contest rules & regulations
- Participants under the age of 18 must have a parent or guardian sign the waiver
- Participants may not have had any type of weight loss surgery in the last year or currently be pregnant, or have been a past winner.

Contest Rules:

- The \$40 entry fee must be paid when you register
- Weights are taken without shoes and wearing a single layer of clothing
- All weigh-ins must take place at Fitness Forum during each of the two designated weigh-in periods
- We will only release the winners total percentage of weight lost

Contest Incentives:

- \$500 Cash Prize will be awarded to the person losing the greatest percentage of total weight
- Second Prize will be awarded a 1 week membership to Fitness Forum PLUS one year subscription to the Pilot News.
- Winners will be announced on Saturday, March 24th

Register today!

2014 Best Loser Fight For Fitness

Participant Name: _____

Contact Number: _____

Email: _____

Paid \$40: ☐ Cash ☐ Check ☐ Credit Card/Type: _____

Please turn your entry in at Fitness Forum, 2855 Miller Drive, Plymouth 936-2233

