



CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

## Much more than just the face behind the desk...

ABOVE, LEFT: Helen Fishburn, center, prepares to bid the dental office of Dr. Gregory Easterday (left) farewell on her last day behind the desk at the main street business last Thursday (Dr. Easterday's wife, Karen, is pictured at right). A community open house for Fishburn, who spent more than three decades at her post, will take place this Saturday at Papa's in Culver. SEE STORY BELOW.

## In Brief

Open house, community workshop tonight

An open house and community workshop will be held Thursday, May 8 at the Lion's Club Train Depot in Culver. The open house will be from 4 to 6:30 p.m. and will allow residents to "drop in" and review the draft comprehensive plan for the Town of Culver. Members of the consultant team and town staff will be on hand to answer questions. The room will be set up with several poster boards and exhibits displaying the draft plans and policies that are being considered. The open house will be followed by a Community Workshop at 7 p.m., which will include a more formal presentation of recommendations contained in the draft comprehensive plan.

## Steak dinner at VFW Friday

The Culver VFW Ladies Auxiliary will have a steak fry, Friday night, May 9, from 5:30 to 8 p.m., including choice of potatoes, salad, and dessert. The dinner will take place at the VFW Post, 108 E. Washington Street in Culver.

## Culver Relay for Life this wknd

The 7th annual Culver Relay for Life will take place Friday and Saturday, May 9 and 10, starting at 6 p.m. at Culver Academies Multipurpose building.

The evening's events will feature keynote speakers, special "themed" laps, and more. More information is available online at [main.acsevents.org/site/TR?pg=entry&fr\\_id=37973](http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR?pg=entry&fr_id=37973) or by visiting [relayforlife.org](http://relayforlife.org) and searching for Culver, Indiana.

## 'Naturepalooza' at town park Saturday

The Lake Maxinkuckee Environmental Council's Naturepalooza event will take place in Culver's town park Saturday, May 10 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The event includes a variety of activities for all ages,

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## Fishburn says goodbye after 30 years-plus years at dental desk

By Jeff Kenney  
Citizen editor

It's one of those most Culver of Culver things. For a great many Culver residents, there have always been two dentists to choose from, one at each end of town, and in a great many ways, the experience of dental visits remains largely unchanged, even for decades. And for many here -- and from surrounding communities -- Helen Fishburn's voice, face, and caring approach have been part of that experience, though as of last Thursday, that will change.

Fishburn (formerly McCoige), a Culver High School graduate who grew up near the town itself in Rutland, started as receptionist and secretary for Dr. Gregory Easterday on Main Street back in 1981, just a few months after he opened his own practice in 1980 (he'd spent five years working with Dr. Tom Pugh across town, prior to that). On May 1, 33 years later, she bid the office an emotional retirement farewell.

The Easterdays -- and Fishburn's family and friends -- are inviting the community to an open house in her honor at Papa's Pizza on Lake Shore Drive this Saturday, May 10, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., with a family lunch ahead of that.

Fishburn says she worked for 12 years for the Marshall-Starke Center prior to getting started with Easterday, the origins of which none of them can remember. All agree that Cindy Tusing was working for Dr. Easterday at that point, and it's possible she or another member of the Tusing family may have told Fishburn that Easterday needed a third person in the office.

"I've seen half of Culver," she says. "Lots of people!" Easterday notes Fishburn has been at the desk all those years, though she's occasionally assisted "in the back" with the dental end of things as well.

"She does very well," he smiles, "though she has no confidence in it. It's not her favorite thing to do, but she's capable."

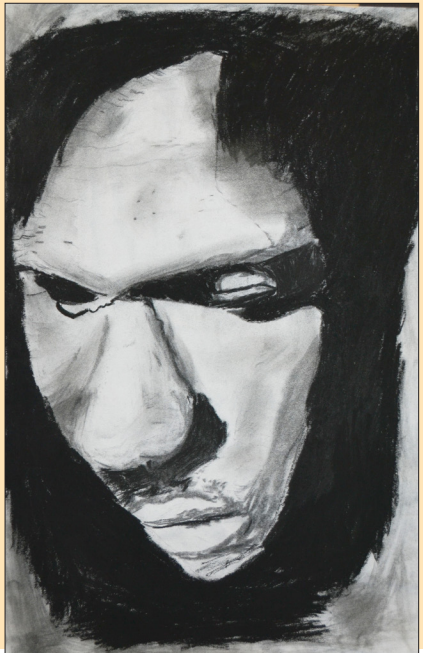
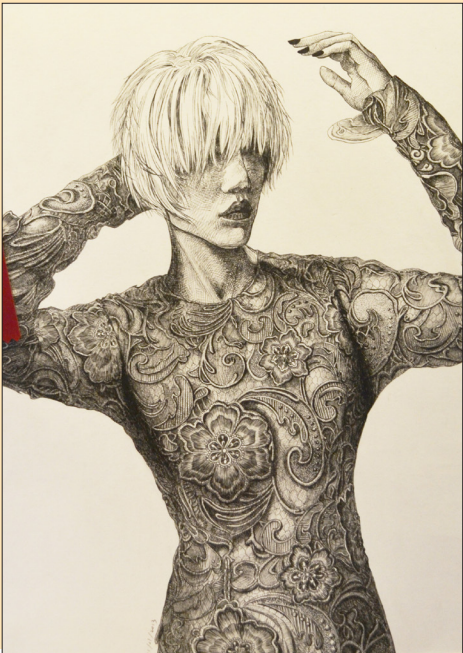
Fishburn says her favorite part of the job, by far, is the people.

"In all this time," she says, "we've only had one who was a real bear! Most of the time, people have been real cooperative and nice and friendly. And even that one later became a good patient!"

Undoubtedly, part of the positive experience Easterday's patients have in visiting is due to Fishburn's steady, conversational, and reassuring tone. Both Dr. Easterday and wife Karen note she's been known to calm worried patients awaiting a filling or other potentially nerve-wracking procedure. She's also been a sort of de facto babysitter for any number of youngsters, some of whom she's held while a parent sees the dentist.

"We raised our kids across the alley," says Karen Easterday, "so we were comfortable knowing Helen was here. If we had appointments or had to be out of town, they always checked in with Helen. They probably stayed longer than they needed to! Each of them worked here at least one summer as their first job; she trained them and put up with them."

See Fishburn page 3



CITIZEN PHOTOS/JEFF KENNEY

## Culver student artists

ABOVE, RIGHT: Local student artists were showcased recently at the annual Culver Tri Kappa art show. Pictured at LOWER RIGHT is "I Am #1" by Culver Comm. High School student Jacoda Anderson (voted Best in Show); at LOWER LEFT, "Fancy Dress," 2nd place winner in the Drawing category, by Andrea Zhu of Culver Academies. At TOP, in the 3D category, are works by Emily Shidler, Kennedi Thomas (whose "Good Boy" took first place), and Janele VanDePutte.

## 'Bikes & Bugs' brings vintage VWs, bikes to town park May 24

By Jeff Kenney  
Citizen editor

Springtime, Lake Maxinkuckee, food, music, vintage bicycles, and classic Volkswagen 'beetle' cars and micro-buses. What's not to like?

That's the premise behind a new, planned-to-be-annual event slated for Saturday, May 24, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Culver's town park.

The "Bikes and Bugs" event is being sponsored by Rideon Bicycles on Lake Shore Drive and Kokomo's City of Firsts Volkswagen Club ([www.cityoffirstsvw.com](http://www.cityoffirstsvw.com)), according to Chris Chambers of Rideon, who describes it as "something to get the community involved and bring people to town of all ages."

"Bicycles and vintage Volkswagens are two really cool, iconic things (which) anybody can relate to. With Volkswagens or bicycles, almost everybody can tell a story that involves both."

Chambers says the idea began to germinate last year when a member of the City of Firsts club visited his shop.

"He's got a vintage VW microbus from the 1950s, and his wife had a beautiful VW beetle (car)."

He learned that one VW vehicle show was given a boost when some vintage VW vans arrived with vintage bicycles in them, facilitating an enhanced event for all involved.

"He said this (Culver) would be a great little town to do that in -- they have hundreds show up. I said, 'Why don't we do our own they loved the idea,'" says Chambers.

The City of Firsts club, then, will provide vintage VWs, and Chambers the vintage bicycles.

"I'll break out a bunch of antique bikes," Chambers explains, adding the event is not only a show, but also a swap meet at which parts and accessories for both bicycles and cars will be on hand. He's expecting some 50 cars, but even if half that number are on hand, "that would be great."

The depot at the town park will play host to food and beverages catered by Frank Stealy (plates will include pulled pork, macaroni and cheese, and cole slaw), and vintage-style glass Coca-Cola bottles will provide refreshment, courtesy of Culver's Francis Ellert. In fact, Chambers will break out an antique Coke cooler he owns, from which to make the drinks available. Meals are \$5 per plate, and there will be event t-shirts for sale as well.

After the event and some clean-up (starting around 5 p.m.), the vintage VWs will take a lap around the lake, and Chambers says he hopes to do a bicycle ride behind them as well.

### Bicycle judging

Those with vintage (or vintage-style) bikes to bring to the event may also enter them for judging, which will take place around three main categories: Best Original, Best Restored, and Best Custom. Each style will be judged within three sizes: 20, 24, and 26-inch bicycles, with Chambers as judge.

Those entering bicycles are encouraged to register at 8:30 a.m., though registrations will be accepted up to 1 p.m. Winners will be announced at 4 p.m.

For Chambers, vintage bicycles clearly represent much more than bolts and metal, or even the activity of riding in and of itself.

"My interest in vintage bikes is old Americana art," he notes. "its how things once were, and how we all -- deep inside -- wish it was the same, and maybe one day we'll get it back."

"It" is partly the carefree innocence of childhoods spent in what seems today to be a simpler time, when a child's bicycle represented the key to new-found freedom and fun. But it's also the craftsmanship

See Bikes page 2

## Culver Tri Kappa announces student winners in annual art show

The Culver Tri Kappa annual student art show took place over the April 25 weekend at the Culver Cove's Marmont Room, showcasing a variety of works in various mediums by students at Culver Comm. High School (taught by Shane Lowry) and Culver Academies (taught by Bob Nowalk). Judges, as in years past, were local artists Joyce Lyman, John Bickel, and Sean Surrisi.

Top winners were (Best in Show) "I Am #1" by Jacoda Anderson, Culver

Community High School (CCHS); and (People's Choice Artist) Grace Lorenz, CCHS.

Winners by category included:

**Drawing:** 1st place - "Barn Scene," Tatiana Randolph, CCHS. 2nd - "Fancy Dress," Andrea Zhu, Culver Academies. 3rd - "Face Drawing Thingy," Cecilia Kenney, CCHS. 4th - "Score," Hailey Jones, CCHS. 5th - "Best Drawing Ever," Mickella Hardy, CCHS.

**Painting:** 1st - "Memento Morte," Violet Zhou,

Culver Academies. 2nd - "The Rainbow Face," Jenna McCarthy, CCHS. 3rd - "Bird Is the Word," Erin Salyer, CCHS.

**Ceramics:** 1st - "Bowlz," Grace Lorenz, CCHS. 2nd - "Turtle," Haley Klimaszewski, CCHS. 3rd - "Pink Vessel," Rachel Duncan, Culver Academies.

**Photography:** 1st - "Five Friends," Hanna Moffett, Culver Academies. 2nd - "Untitled," Kayla Shaffer, CCHS. 3rd - "Three of Me," Lizzie Strati, Culver Academies.

**3D:** 1st - "Good Boy,"

Kennedi Thomas, CCHS. 2nd - "Fun," Aviana Ahlenius, Jordan Green, Dillon Jewell, CCHS. 3rd - "Lumpy Space Princess," Haley Klimaszewski, CCHS.

**Print:** 1st - "Brush Shades," Trista Vela, CCHS. 2nd - "Soft Little Lock," Janele VanDePutte, CCHS. 3rd - "70's Pop," A.J. Ross, CCHS. 4th - "Jump Man," Bryce Howard, CCHS.

**Culver Middle School:** 1st - "Funhouse Portrait," Reilly Reinhold. 2nd - "Ninja Turtle Outfit," Noah

King. 3rd - "Squiggly Lines," Kristin Heise. 4th - "Funhouse Face," Payton Lowry.

"The Cove is an excellent facility to have the event for the students, community and out-of-town guests," says Tri Kappa's Karen Blocker. "Not only can they experience the art together but also Culver and Lake Maxinkuckee. Tri Kappa is always so pleased with the entries from the schools and the students and teachers are appreciative of the opportunity given them."





# New Woodcraft cabins under construction

PHOTO/PAUL PARÉ

LEFT: Two cabins are being constructed on the northwest side of Woodcraft Camp, next to Cardinal Creek and the basketball courts. Each cabin will house 12 Cardinals and one counselor, Woodcraft Camp Director Heike Spahn said.

Cabins 10 and 12, which housed Cardinals in the past, will become Butterfly cabins. The four girls units, Butterfly wings 1 and 2 and Cardinal wings 1 and 2, will now have six cabins each for 2014. Culver Summer Schools & Camps will begin June 20.

Information courtesy [news.culver.org](http://news.culver.org) and Jan Garrison, Culver Academies

# Thank You

Perhaps you sent a lovely card or sat so quietly in a chair.  
Perhaps you sent a floral piece, if so, we saw it there.  
Perhaps you spoke the kindest words  
As any friends could say,  
Perhaps you were not there at all,  
Just thought of us that day.  
Whatever you did to console our hearts,  
We thank you so much, whatever the part

The Family of  
David Owen Lee

## Bikes from page 1

of an era prior to the often-disposable approach to manufacturing of today.

"I was working on a bike (recently) that's 75 to 80 years old, and it still works great," he says. "You can't say that today. A \$500 new bike barely makes it five years.

"In this town," he adds, "unless you're working there's no reason not to be riding your bike...to mail a letter or go to the store. Ask yourself, if you have a bike and the weather permits, why not? Open the garage and get those

classics out -- bring them back to life. Trust me, they're still alive in there! You put on new tubes and tires -- even if, in 50 years it hasn't moved, it will move now!"

Chambers says he's planning other bicycle-related events in the near future in Culver, such as a "town track race" in October. A growing trend in urban areas and small towns, the child-oriented race chooses a small area of a few blocks and facilitates a BMX-style bicycle race involving multiple laps.

He's also contemplating a bicycle day in Culver in which everyone is encouraged, at least for that day, to leave their motor vehicles at home and hit the town on two, pedal-powered wheels.

In the meantime, however, "Bugs and Bikes" is intended to offer a new, annual opportunity for something different. Chambers says he chose Memorial Day weekend for the event even though some people may be otherwise occupied. Many, however, will be in the area anyway.

"While you're here, here's something you can do after the first few hours of looking at the lake. I want people to be entertained and spend the day at that beautiful park, and do it for free."

This year's event is something of a trial run.

"I just wanted to get it done," says Chambers. "I decided just to do it and I'll learn as I go; we'll learn what not to do next year!"

Those with questions may call Rideon at 574-842-4788 or Chambers at 574-216-6228, or email [rideonculver@gmail.com](mailto:rideonculver@gmail.com).

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Obituaries

Lucille G. (Lucy) Heiser

Oct. 19, 1914 - April 30, 2014



CULVER — Lucille Heiser, 99, passed away at 3:05 a.m., Wednesday, April 30, 2014 at Miller's Merry Manor in Culver.

Lucille was born to Edwin and Grace (Boots) Poland on Oct. 19, 1914 near Culver. She graduated from Culver High School in 1932.

Lucille married her husband, Joseph Heiser of 69 years on Jan. 30, 1938. They had two

daughters, Sharon and Linda. Sharon married Ben Mevis of Plymouth and they had four children; David (Katrina) Mevis of Elkhart, Bonnie Mevis of Culver, Tracy (Tina) Mevis of Warsaw, and Kent (Chandra) Mevis of Bloomington. Linda married Jerry Cooper of Indianapolis and had three children; Brandon Cooper of Indianapolis, Marvin (Kennedy) Cooper of Hawaii, and Jenny Cooper of Minnesota. Lucille had 13 great-grandchildren. Lucille has one surviving sister, Pauline Berrigan of Frederick, Md. She was preceded in death by her husband Joe Heiser; two sisters and their husbands, Mildred and Eldon Ault, Loa and Jacob Siple; brother-in-law, Edmund Berrigan; son-in-law, Ben Mevis; a granddaughter Janet Mevis and great-grandson Jonas Mevis.

Lucille and her husband Joe owned and operated Burr Oak Hardware near Culver for 16 years, selling in December 1972. She was a member of Union Church of the Brethren (Plymouth) for 68 years. Lucille had a strong love and faith in God. She had a kind spirit to all. Her retirement hobby was making quilts. She taught Joe to cut quilt blocks and she sewed them. Lucille was also a great cook. She could whip up something quick when company stopped by. She was a hard worker in all she did.

Visitation was on Sunday, May 4, 2014 from 2 until 7 p.m. as well as on Monday, May 5, 2014 from 10 to 11 a.m. at Odom Funeral Home, Culver. The funeral service followed Monday's visitation. Interment is in Culver Masonic Cemetery.

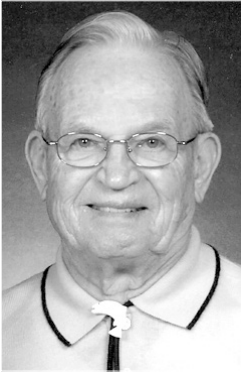
In lieu of flowers, a memorial may be given to Union Church of the Brethren or Culver Union Township EMS.

Condolences may be sent to the family via the obituary page at [www.odomfuneralhome.com](http://www.odomfuneralhome.com).

The Odom Funeral Home, Culver, is assisting the family with arrangements.

Ted Strang

Aug. 25, 1925 – April 30, 2014



CULVER — Ted L. Strang of Culver passed away on April 30 at the age of 88. Except for his U.S. Navy service in the South Pacific in World War II and immediately after, Ted was a lifelong Culver resident. He was long known as one of the fishermen most knowledgeable of Lake Maxinkuckee. He was a pillar of Culver's VFW Post 6919. At various times he was manager of the local A&P grocery store, a life insurance salesman, and a factory department foreman. Most of all,

though, Ted Strang was a family man. As a teenager he met the love of his life, Charlene ("Chuckie") Hausler, at nearby Bass Lake, where her Chicago family had a summer home. They married after his military service ended, and their marriage over the subsequent decades was a model of love and dedication. Chuckie passed away at the beginning of April, and it could be said that Ted died of a broken heart less than a month later.

He is survived by two sons (Carl of Warrenville, Ill., and Gary with wife Lisa of Easton, Md.), and by Gary and Lisa's three sons: Greg Strang of Cambridge, Md.; Captain Derek Strang (wife Christine) who is an Air Force pilot in Mountain Home, Idaho; and Lt. Brice Strang (wife Rachel), U.S. Army Reserve, of Easton, Md.

Ted's Navy service was with a submarine rescue ship, and he was trained in rescue and salvage diving. He treasured his veteran's status, and was a life member and past Commander of VFW Post 6919. He also volunteered for the American Red Cross in blood drives. On two occasions he shared honors as a co-Grand Marshal of Culver's Lakefest Parade. His favorite personal pursuit was fishing, but he also hunted, gardened, carved and painted wooden duck decoys, and was a wonderful teacher as a father. His strong will was revealed when, after being a smoker for two decades, he went cold turkey one day and never smoked again.

Visiting hours for Ted Strang were noon-2 p.m. on Tuesday, May 6 at the Odom Funeral Home in Culver, followed immediately by the funeral service at 2 p.m. Interment followed at Culver Masonic Cemetery.

Memorial donations may be made to Finney-Shilling VFW Post 6919 in Culver.

Condolences may be sent to the family via the obituary page at [www.odomfuneralhome.com](http://www.odomfuneralhome.com).



PHOTO PROVIDED

Parsons CBGC member of the month

Culver Boys & Girls Club has announced its March member of the month. Noah Parsons is a Culver Elementary School 6th grader whose mother also works at CBGC as a program aide, according to Assistant Director Criston Zehner. Parsons will travel to Washington D.C. for excellence in Junior Achievement, later this year.

United Way "Give and Golf" cards now available

United Way "Give and Golf" cards are now available and golfers can enjoy the links for less while supporting a good cause. For a \$50 donation to United Way of Marshall County, the card entitles the golfer to play one round of golf at all six of the golf courses located in Marshall County: The Golf Club at Swan Lake Resort (Plymouth), Mystic Hills Golf Club (Culver), Plymouth Country Club, Plymouth Rock Golf Course, Sprig O'Mint Golf Club (Bremen), and Tri-Way Golf Club (Plymouth).

The entire donation goes to United Way of Marshall County to support education, health and financial stability programs and services in Marshall County. Only 500 cards are available. The value of playing all six courses is over \$200. Scheduled tee times and a cart rental are required and some dates and times may be restricted due to other events at the courses.

Golfers or gift givers may obtain their cards by cash or check at any of the participating golf courses, the Pilot News, WTCA AM1050 radio station, Yoder's Sports Center, Plymouth Chamber of Commerce and Bremen Chamber of Commerce. Golf Cards can also be purchased by cash, check or credit card at the United Way of Marshall County office, located at 2701 North Michigan Street in Plymouth or online at [www.marshallcountyuw.org](http://www.marshallcountyuw.org).

For more information, visit [www.marshallcountyuw.org](http://www.marshallcountyuw.org), or call the United Way of Marshall County offices at 574.936.3366.

Ford memorial service this Thursday

WABASH — Memorial services for Richard E. Ford, 75, of Wabash (Feb. 27, 1939 - April 16, 2014), will be 1 p.m., Thursday, May 8, 2014 at the Honeywell Center, 275 W. Market St., Wabash. The family will receive friends from 3 – 8 p.m., Wednesday, at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, 1241 Manchester Ave., Wabash. Preferred memorials are to the Charley Creek Foundation or the Animal Shelter of Wabash County.

Fishburn from page 1

She adds that the Easterday children and their own children will be at the May 10 open house.

"Helen was a very special part of their life," she adds.

Fishburn has worked alongside just five fellow office assistants over the three-plus decades, and while the book-keeping system, she says, has stayed the same, there have been a few physical changes to what they all remember as the Jud Stinchcomb house which today serves as Easterday's office building (he actually bought the house from late former Culver Schools superintendent Bill Mills). The office area has been reconfigured and the entire back end added on.

All in all, of course, so much has stayed the same at Dr. Easterday's office, but Fishburn doesn't miss a beat when asked the biggest change in her work in the past 33 years: insurance.

"There have been improvements in dentistry all the time," she says, "but in terms of the office work, insurance has changed everything. When we started, there was

very little dental insurance."

Handling insurance, she admits, was her "least favorite part" of the job, and half of her morning was often spent on that part of it.

"When it works, it works well," acknowledges Dr. Easterday. "When it doesn't, it's a nightmare!"

Fishburn says insurance complexities started snowballing 10 or 15 years ago, and has become more complicated as more people have gotten it. Karen Easterday points out the issue isn't limited to Dr. Easterday's practice.

"In every office, insurance is the problem," she says.

Helen Fishburn didn't retire when she first could, at age 65. Instead, she told Dr. Easterday she'd "just know" when it was time. Recently, she just knew, and made the announcement to him.

She plans, during her retirement, to do a bit of traveling

and devote more time to my family, which now includes three great-grandsons.

Additional plans, she adds with a laugh, are simply to "be lazy!"

Working at the dental office, she says, was "close to home, and I enjoyed it and enjoyed working for Greg and Karen.

"I didn't have anybody at home; everybody was gone and I had a lot of energy. I don't anymore. But it's been quite a ride."

Noting she and Dr. Easterday will miss her, Karen says she's "worried about Greg; (Fishburn is) one of his best friends! Your job can be replaced, in time, but you can't be."



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Letters to the editor

Coroner thanks, updates community

The Marshall County Coroner’s Office would like to publically extend its most sincere thank you to the numerous citizens of Culver and Union Township who answered in a most timely manner our public request for any additional information about Mr. Harvey Moore who died unattended at his residence two weeks ago. Presently we still have been unable to locate a direct relative of

Mr. Moore’s after diligently pursuing many avenues and leads. Through the generosity of others, this Vietnam veteran will be buried with full military honors Wednesday in New Carlisle.

I would also like to publicly thank The Marshall County Police Department, The Culver Fire Department and Culver EMS for their assistance during the scene investigation. In particular Jerry Siler, Brandon Cooper, and Mark Rogers of the Culver Fire Department along with Ron Cole and Barb Penrod of the EMS all were of great assistance.

The investigation continues and an autopsy was conducted Friday following Moore’s discovery on Wednesday evening. Results of the autopsy are not expected to be available for another six weeks. The case continues as an active investigation and no further information will be released at this time. The purpose of my letter is to thank everyone for their assistance and information in this unfortunate incident in our community.

Very truly yours,

**Bill Cleavenger**  
**Marshall County Coroner**

Lions Club thanks

I want to take a moment to thank the Culver Lions Club for awarding me their 2014 scholarship.

It's been an horror and a privilege to get to work with the lions over the past 4 years and I look forward to being able to work with them in the near future. Thank you for making the scholarship possible and for hosting great community events that I have able to be apart of, it's truly been a blessing.

Thank you,

**Justin Croy, Culver**

Keep up with Culver news daily at  
[www.culvercitizen.com](http://www.culvercitizen.com) and  
[facebook.com/culvercitizen!](https://facebook.com/culvercitizen!)

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including the presence of bald eagles, snowy owls, and hawks, plus activities centered on bird watching, nature in art, planting a garden, prehistoric artifacts, rain barrel making, a canoe and kayak race, and more. The complete schedule is available at [www.lakemax.org](http://www.lakemax.org).

Free computer classes

Culver-Union Township Public Library is offering free computer classes Mondays at 6 p.m. and Fridays at 10 a.m., in May. Classes include: Computers for Beginners (May 9), Computer Security (May 12 and 16) and Intro to Social Media (May 19 and 23). These sessions are free and open to the public. For more information, contact Andrew Baker at [abaker@culver.lib.in.us](mailto:abaker@culver.lib.in.us) or 574-842-2941.

Town-wide cleanup Saturday

The Town of Culver is sponsoring a Town Wide Clean Up Day Saturday, May 10. You may drop off items that need to be disposed of at the dumpsters in the water town lot on Lake Shore Drive. Hazardous materials and tires will not be accepted. Citizens may call Bob Porter at 574-292-3943 to schedule a pick up.

Book club will discuss “Phantom”

Culver-Union Township Public Library’s book club, Hooked on Books will meet Wednesday, May 14 at 1 p.m. in the purple meeting room located downstairs at the library. The book for this month is “Phantom” by Jo Nesbo. For more information, contact Polly Thompson Wolf at [pwolf@culver.lib.in.us](mailto:pwolf@culver.lib.in.us) or 574-842-2941.

Community meal at Grace May 15

Grace United Church of Christ will hold its monthly community meal on Thursday, May 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.

St. Mary’s bus fund raiser May 16



RIGHT: Members of the Maxinkuckee Singers are: First row, from left, Sarah Talley, Julie Scott, Kathy Overmyer, Wendy Wise; second row: Matt Sutton, Brandt Ayoub, Brian Liechty, Thomas Boys, Doug Neilsen, Charlie Weaver; back row: Betty Martens, Laura Snipes, Lenore Jones, Dan Adams, Joy Ritenour, Becky Liechty, and Andrea Mallory. Other members are: Brad Foster and Traci O'Brien (not pictured).

Maxinkuckee Singers  
spring concert dates

The Maxinkuckee Singers will present a spring concert called, “Makin Music — 2014.” Dates, times, and venues are as follows:

**May 12** — Rochester Community Presbyterian Church, 530 Jefferson St., Rochester, 7:30 p.m.

**May 14** — Grace United Church of Christ, 307 N. Plymouth St., Culver, 7:30 p.m.

**May 15** — First United Church of Christ, 321 N. Center St., Plymouth, 7:30 p.m.

**May 19** — Knox United Methodist Church, 201 S. Shield St., Knox, 6:30 p.m. CDT

Admission is free; a freewill offering will be accepted. Audiences of all ages are welcome. For further information, call Kathy Overmyer

Culver servants

I often find myself opening this column with at least a few words to go beyond the obituary page in acknowledging the passing(s) of an individual or individuals who have been especially notable in Culver, but the recent weeks seem to have been especially significant in the loss of several people who will undoubtedly be remembered especially for their tireless service to Culver (and beyond), though in varying ways.

Space this week prevents me from doing justice to these folks, but the most recent is Ted Strang, who served the entire nation (and world, for that matter) during World War II and Culver in various capacities, including via the local VFW. His loss comes as a particular blow within weeks of the passing of his wife, 'Chuckie' Strang, a beloved and tireless Culver servant herself.

Many Culverites of my generation will remember Chuckie -- along with Kay Mallory -- as one of the ever-cheerful ladies who taught us everything from the calendar and days of the week, to our numbers-to-ten in their capacity at Wesley Preschool during the late 1970s and early 1980s.

Of course many more will remember Chuckie as the face of Culver's Welcome Wagon for many years, besides with the VFW Ladies Auxiliary and in many other endeavors.

It's been a rough time especially for the Ladies Auxiliary, as they also lost, on April 27, one of the legends of the organization, Mary Lou Wise. Besides decades of service in the Auxiliary, Mary Lou's reach extended more broadly as



### View from Main Street

By Jeff Kenney  
Editor

President of the VFW Ladies Auxiliary 3rd District in 1972-73 and State President in 1983-84. As many know, she was also a tireless advocate for veterans and awareness of their needs, via a slew of letters to the editor, emails, and assorted campaigns.

Speaking of reach extending well beyond Culver, there's the state, national, and international impact of Richard Edwin Ford, who devoted much of his life to volunteerism and philanthropic endeavors, and died

April 16.

While his year-round address was in Wabash, Indiana, Richard impacted the Culver and Lake Maxinkuckee area in immeasurable ways, his family owning a home on the lake for nearly 90 years.

Richard had been a Culver Woodcraft camper in the late 1940s and served on the Culver Academies Summer Schools and Camps Alumni Association Board from 1993 through 2001, then The Culver Educational Foundation Board of Trustees from 2006 until 2012. He also was a member of the Culver Academies’ Fine Arts Advisory Committee, as noted by Jan Garrison in an article on [news.culver.org](http://news.culver.org).

His charitable work at the school "included providing the lead contribution to establish the Alexander D. Nagy Faculty Intern Program. He also contributed to the preservation efforts of Culver’s many historical documents and photographs. Ford also supported the annual Global Pathways Spring trip to Mexico at the Academies, and the renovation of the Coolman Arts and Crafts Center and camper cabins in Woodcraft Camp," continued the article.

He was a force behind more local efforts than could possibly be

See View, page 8

St. Mary of the Lake Catholic Church will hold a fundraiser for its St. Michael’s school Friday, May 16, from 3:30 to 7 p.m., in the parking lot of Town & Country Liquor in Culver at the corner of State Roads 17 and 10 . Port-A-Pit chicken will be available at \$6.50 per half chicken. Tickets are available at St Mary’s church office or Overmyer Water’s Culver location (on East Jefferson Street).

Farmer’s Market opening May 17

The Culver Farmer’s Market will open Saturday, May 17, at the northwest corner of Main and Ohio Streets, across from CVS. The market will have new hours this year, from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Interested vendors please call at 574-842-2648 (ask for Barb).

Tour de Max May 17

Culver Tri Kappa’s annual Tour de Max bicycle race will take place Saturday, May 17 and will include 10, 30, and 63-mile routes. Riders may register online at Active. Com or request a registration form by e-mailing [tour\\_de\\_max@yahoo.com](mailto:tour_de_max@yahoo.com). Cost is \$20 before May 8 and \$25 after May 8 through the morning of the ride.

Building trades open house May 25

An open house will be held to tour the latest home constructed this school year by the Culver Community High School’s Building Trades class, according to instructor Kyle Elliott. The house, at 19849 SR 117, Culver, will be open for viewing both outside and in from noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, May 25. Building Trades, which has been a part of the school’s offerings for more than 25 years, teaches students the fine points of home construction hands-on through the building of a home in the area from the ground up.

Local graduation dates/times

Culver Community High School will hold its graduation exercises Friday, May 30 at 7 p.m., in the high school gymnasium. Culver Academies graduation and final formation will take place Sunday, June 1 at 10 a.m., on the parade field (weather permitting).

Broadway Musical Moments show June 7

Tickets are now available to the general public for the Culver Antiquarian and Historical Society-sponsored “Broadway Musical Moments” performed by Dr. Charles

Webb, Saturday, June 7 at 7:30 p.m. at the Legion Memorial Building on the Culver Academies campus. Included will be Broadway tunes from films directed by award winning director Joshua Logan. Joshua Logan is a Culver Military 1927 graduate. Tickets are \$35 for AHS members and \$45 for non-members. Mail checks to P.O. Box 125, Culver, IN 46511, or contact Ginny Gibson at 574-635-0635.

St. Mary’s Child Care accepting registrations

St. Mary Child Care Ministry (SMCCM) in Culver is now accepting registrations for the upcoming 2014-2015 school year. For more information please call 574-842-3488 or visit our website: [www.culvercatholic.com](http://www.culvercatholic.com).

Winters scholarship accepting apps

Applicants for the Ralph E. Winters Scholarship must be: Culver Community High School graduates who are at least second semester freshmen and plan to enroll full time in their sophomore year or above in a technical program such as engineering, pharmacy, mathematics, science, nursing, agriculture or a technical certificate program. Students must be enrolled in an accredited Indiana institution of higher education. For more information, call 574-946-0906 or email Kim Krause, scholarship coordinator at [kskrause@embarqmail.com](mailto:kskrause@embarqmail.com).

CRC offers match to local donors’ STEM dollars

The Culver Redevelopment Commission is offering to match any local individual, organization, or entity wishing to support Culver Community Schools’ efforts to facilitate the new STEM-based program to better meet nationwide standards in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math, no matter how small the financial contribution, until they reach a total of \$10,000. Expenses may include new computers, software, or other equipment needed in support of implementing Project Lead the Way’s program, which are not covered by grant funds. For more information, or to set up a donation, contact Kathy Clark or the CRC at 574-952-2963 or [k.clark6094@sbcglobal.net](mailto:k.clark6094@sbcglobal.net).



## Graduation 2014

The Pilot News will be publishing a Marshall County graduation section on May 30.

If you have a special graduate and would like to place a congratulation message in this section please contact **Stephanie or Bethany** before May 19.

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# Culver hosts Marshall County Meet



PHOTO/JAMES COSTELLO

Culver's Trent Elliott hits an iron off the fairway during the Marshall County Golf Meet Saturday at Mystic Hills.

By James Costello  
Sports Editor

CULVER — After six straight Marshall County Tournament Championships, Triton finally relinquished its hold on t he county trophy Saturday, as Glenn carded a 340.Bremen was third behind Triton with a 359, LaVille was fourth with a 364, CMA placed fifth with a 369, and host Culver Community rounded out the field with a 399 at Mystic Hills in Culver.

LaVille was led by Zach Gurtner’s round of 80 as he tied with Culver Community’s Trent Elliott for second-place overall.

“I was very proud of his effort,” said Culver coach Kyle Elliott of his son and No. 1 golfer’s round. “I thought he did some good things keeping himself out of the hazards and overall played a solid round.”

CMA was paced by dual 89s from Joseph Camors and Martin Fecarotta. Grant Preuninger shot 94, Addyson Allyn shot 97, and Juan Villar carded 98 for the Eagles.

Behind Elliott’s 80, Culver got a 101 from Tevin Jones, a 107 from Cody Peterson, and a 111 from Ken VanDePutte. Tyler Binkley shot 116 for the Cavs, who rounded out the field on their home course.

“It’s early in the season, it’s our first tournament, and several of these teams have played in two or three tournaments so for the first 18-hole tournament,” said Kyle Elliott.

Saturday’s county meet also served as a preview for the Northern State Conference Tournament to be played in two weeks at Mystic. Glenn, Triton, Bremen, LaVille and Culver Community will return for that tilt alongside Jimtown and New Prairie.

“I look for the scores to be a lot lower, weather-permitting,” said Kyle Elliott. “The course played very tough today with that wind. There are some good golfers in the field, and I think it’ll be stronger yet in a few weeks with the conference.”

“Hopefully they see where they need to be at in the next couple weeks,” said Eakins of his squad. “It’s great getting out here for a lot of reasons. Great competition, great course to play, and we’ll see where we stand in the next couple weeks.”

• MARSHALL COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP  
At Mystic Hills (par 71)  
TEAM SCORES: GLENN 340, TRITON 351, BREMEN 359, LaVILLE 364, CULVER MILITARY 369, CULVER 399

# Trojans dime Culver in five, 15-1



PHOTO/JAMES COSTELLO

Henrik Bill pitches for Culver Community during its NSC baseball game at Triton last week.

By James Costello  
Sports Editor

BOURBON — Triton waited a long time for another crack at Culver after last year’s sectional championship loss to the Cavaliers. On Friday night, the Trojans were ready to go.

The Trojans jumped on top with four runs in the bottom of the first, then built steadily toward a 15-1 Northern State Conference win in five innings at home in Bourbon.

The Trojans were sparked early by Landon Kaufman, whose one-out single through the gap at second catalyzed Triton’s four-run first. Jayden Hargrave reached on an error, which scored Kauffman to put the Trojans on the board, Seth Flenar singled in Hargrave, Ben Perkins’ ground-out to short scored Gabe McPherson after his single, and Cole Keyser’s two-out line single to left plated McPherson to give Triton a 4-0 lead headed into the second.

Kauffman would score in each of Triton’s four at-bats as the junior center fielder finished 4-for-4 at the plate with two RBIs.

The home team’s four-run first seemed to take the confidence out of Culver early, although the Cavs scored a run on a pair of Triton errors in the second as Shawn Russell reached on an infield error, Cody Valiquet and stole third, scoring on a wild pick-off throw from home to third on the play.

“The big thing is, we’re young,” said first-year Culver head coach Ron King. “Tonight we start four sophomores, two freshmen, and we’re young. The problem is we get down, and we drop our heads. We’ve got to be able to pick ourselves up. We thought we had turned the corner earlier this week. We had a nice victory last night. Tonight, we just got down and it just kind of culminates. We’ve got to get some confidence.”

Triton plated another run in the bottom of the second, and the Trojans completed their diming of Culver with seven runs batting through the order during a big third inning. They scratched out another two runs in the bottom of the fourth for good measure, but those runs were academic, with Triton already up 13-1.

Perkins put in a strong performance on the mound for the home team, working off his curveball to strike out six while surrendering just two walks and scattering four hits for no earned runs.

• TRITON 15, CULVER 1  
At Bourbon

# Lady Cavs fall in 5 to Winamac

By James Costello  
Sports Editor

CULVER — Call it one to grow on.

The Culver Lady Cavaliers struggled in just about every aspect of their softball game with visiting Winamac Tuesday, ultimately falling 23-0 in five innings, but first-year head coach Heather Jurgonski kept it positive after the game.

“These girls, they’re good, hard-fighting girls, and they’ve come a long way from where we’ve started,” said the Cavaliers skipper. “They’re getting better and improving every game. I can’t be prouder.”

The trouble started right from the get-go for Culver as Winamac plated 11 runs off four walks, a hit batsman and four hits — the highlight a grand slam out to left by Macy Bischoff on a blustery day in Culver — in the top of the first. Bischoff would later crank a three-run homer out to almost the same spot as Winamac scratched out four more runs in the second, then tacked on seven more during a big fourth inning. The Warriors plated one more in the fifth to bring the score to its final margin.

“We had a tough start, but we actually picked it up and did a lot better towards the end,” said Jurgonski. “It was a rough start; what can you do when they score 11 runs in the first inning? But we picked it up

See Lady Cavs page 6

## Sports briefs

**Baseball**  
**Knox dimes Culver**  
Knox plated three runs in the top of the first and never relinquished the lead in an 11-1 NSC victory over host Culver Community Monday.  
Complete results were unavailable for the contest.  
• KNOX 11, CULVER 1  
At Culver

**Softball**  
**Triton hammers Culver, 30-1**  
Triton refused to relinquish the lead after grabbing it early against Culver, recording a 30-1 victory on Friday.  
Eighteen runs in the first three innings allowed Triton to put the game away early.  
An RBI single by Krystal Sellers during the first inning and a two-run error, a wild pitch, an RBI single by Hannah Jennings, a two-run double by Sellers, an RBI single by Megan Berger, an RBI single by Halie Zimmerman, a groundout by Brycelyn Garbinson, an RBI single by Lexee

See Sports page 6



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# Elliott, stepping down as coach, reflects on career-long CCHS athletics involvement

By Jeff Kenney  
Citizen editor

Culver Community High School head boys' basketball coach Kyle Elliott's decision to retire from the position (though not from his teaching position at the school) was a bittersweet one, but if ever there were a season -- or set of seasons -- to go out on, arguably it's been this one.

Elliott watched -- and coached -- his son, graduating senior Trent Elliott, mature to an award-winning, record-breaking basketball player and part of a strong, sectional-winning team which came frustratingly close to taking home the regional championship as well.

Elliott, inheritor of a respected family legacy in construction and community service in Culver, was a student himself at CCHS, from which he graduated in 1984, having distinguished himself on the hardwood during those years alongside none other than current (though moving on) CCHS principal Albert Hanselman.

## Sports from page 5

Lemler, and a two-run double by Mallorie Jennings in the second inning helped Triton put some runs on the board early.

Culver couldn't get anything going as long as Garbison was pitching. Culver managed just one hit off of the Triton's pitcher, who allowed no earned runs, walked none and struck out six during her four innings of work.

Triton hammered Culver's pitching staff as 10 hitters had a field day, combining for 21 hits, 18 RBIs and 19 runs scored.

Megan Brady was the game's losing pitcher. She allowed 13 runs in two innings, walked one and struck out none.

• TRITON 30, CULVER 1  
At Culver  
Complete linescore unavailable.

### Knox tops Culver

Knox racked up 10 hits, and the Lady Redskins beat NSC foe Culver Community 9-4 in a game in Culver April 28.

Sarah Coad and Kindrick Joseph both doubled in the win. Morgan Kreuger got the pitching win.

• KNOX 9, CULVER 4  
At Culver

## Boys golf

### Glenn leads 4-way

John Glenn carded a team score of 172 to beat out a four-way Northern State Conference field on the Falcons'

"It's been a nice experience coming back to coach at the school you graduated from," Elliott says.

After graduation, he played for a memorable year under the esteemed Homer Drew, then head coach at Bethel College, after which Elliott headed to the work force.

Elliott eventually hired into CCHS under then-principal Brad Schuldt, during the years when Ron Stevens was the school's varsity coach; Elliott started at age 19 as the boys' freshman basketball coach, and he's coached in some capacity ever since, including both boys and girls basketball.

He spent three years with the boys freshman teams and three with JV, and after a year out was hired in 1993 to head up the school's Building Trades program, a post he still holds. He spent a few years coaching girls and boys middle school ball, eventually moving from girls assistant varsity coach alongside Hanselman, to girls varsity coach in 1998.

In 2007, Elliott transitioned to the boys side, assisting under then-varsity coach Brett Berndt. The following year, the

boys team won the sectional, and one year later, in 2009, Elliott was at the helm of the varsity boys team. After a year out, Berndt was convinced by Elliott to return as coach, but this time in an assistant varsity capacity. During that period, Tom Krueger was JV coach for the school.

He notes he'd played ball beside Kreuger while in school himself, and current CCHS girls varsity assistant coach Shane Lowry was on the same freshman team as the group in 1986.

"It was kind of neat to be coaching with these guys, having played with them as a high schooler. It was kind of neat seeing them put time back into their school."

However, the thing Elliott says he most cherishes is the caliber of students he's been able to work with, both in the boys and girls programs.

"I'm a demanding coach; I ask a lot of them, in and out of season, to prepare them to be the best they can be. We won

See Elliott page 10

home course at Swan Lake Thursday, while Bremen took second with a 187, and Culver lost out on a fifth-man tie-break with Jimtown, 205-205.

Glenn was led by Tyler Prentkowski's even-par 36, while Michael Schmeltz and C.J. Jaske each carded 44, and Austin Hayes shot 48.

Bremen was paced by Kevin Woodyard's 43. Spencer Hille and Kerry Herman shot 46 and 47, respectively, while Clayton Phillips carded 51.

Trent Elliott led Culver with a score of 40. Kenny VanDePutte shot 50, Cody Peterson shot 52, and Tevin Jones carded 63.

• JOHN GLENN 172, BREMEN 187, JIMTOWN 205, CULVER 205  
At Swan Lake (Par 36)

### Culver edges OD at 3-way

Culver Community edged out Oregon-Davis by a stroke to top a three-way field that included West Central at home at Mystic Hills April 28.

Trent Elliott led the Cavs with a 1-over-par 36. Cody Peterson shot 51, Tevin Jones shot 53, and Kenny VanDePutte shot 57 for Culver.

OD was led by dual 45s from Carl Schnekenburger and Zak Johnston, while Blake Hurford carded 49 and Jack Minter carded 59.

• CULVER 197, OREGON-DAVIS 198, WEST CENTRAL 224  
At Mystic Hills (par 35)

### Culver suffers setback

Culver suffered a 173-196 defeat at the hands of Tippe-

canoe Valley in a dual golf meet at Mill Creek April 29.

Trent Elliott shot 39 to lead the Cavs. Kenny VanDePutte and Cody Peterson each shot 51, and Caleb Dehning carded 55 to round out Culver's score.

Bryce Zippleman led Tippy Valley with a meet co-low 39.

• TIPPECANOE VALLEY 173, CULVER 196  
At Mill Creek (par 36)

## Baseball

### Eagles fall to Tippy Valley

Culver Military lost a 7-4 baseball game with Tippecanoe Valley at home at the Academies April 29.

Perley Provost homered and Shane Comiskey and Cole Payne both doubled for CMA. Comiskey took the loss on the mound.

• TIPPECANOE VALLEY 7, CULVER MILITARY 4  
At Culver

## Girls tennis

### CGA falls to Canterbury

Culver Girls Academy lost a 3-2 match with visiting Fort Wayne Canterbury at home in Culver April 28 evening.

Rachel Simon won in three sets at 2 singles, 7-5, 4-6, 6-3, while Regina and Amanda Padilla were 6-2, 6-3 winners at 1 doubles. Alena Arkhipov lost a close three-setter at 3 singles, 6-4, 5-7, 6-3.

• CANTERBURY 3, CULVER GIRLS ACADEMY 2  
At Culver

## Lady Cavs from page 5

and came back and held our ground pretty good."

The Cavs got their pitching done by committee as Trista Vela and Megan Brady each pitched an inning, and Janele VanDePutte lasted three innings closing it out for the home team. The trio gave up a combined 14 total hits and eight walks for the day.

"We got all our pitchers in. We got everybody to throw at least one inning," said Jurgonski. "(VanDePutte) came in and she held strong at the end of the game, which is what we needed, so that was good."

Meanwhile, Culver managed just two hits against Winamac pitcher Kallie Rasmussen. Cavaliers starting pitcher Trista Vela spoiled the no-hit bid with a single to right in the fourth. Alexis Robles singled in the fifth, and Brady was hit by a pitch. The duo was ultimately left stranded

in scoring position, however, as Rasmussen fanned Emily Shidler to end the game.

"They battle, they're not going to give up on you," Jurgonski said of her team. "They're a hard-fighting team, and we just had an off beginning of the game. Towards the end of the game, we actually got our heads back together and played well. They're not going to give up on me, they're not going to give up on each other, and they play hard."

While Winamac improves to 6-4, Culver continues to search for its first win at 0-10.

The Lady Cavs take on NSC foe John Glenn today on the road.

• WINAMAC 23, CULVER 0  
At Culver

PHOTO/JAMES COSTELLO  
RIGHT: Angela Lewellen catches a pickoff throw at second during a softball game with Winamac last week.



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# Culver Elementary connects with other schools for Earth Day lessons

By Rachael Herbert-Varchetto  
Staff Writer

BOURBON— In a new inter-school experiment, Triton Elementary School has gotten a taste of the potential for the future of learning.

On Earth Day, April 22 of this year, Triton partnered with Webster Elementary in Plymouth and Culver Elementary School to discuss using resources wisely, taking care of the Earth, and other topics surrounding the national annual event.

Splitting her time between Culver and Triton schools for NIESC (Northern Indiana Educational Service Center), Jill Houin acts as the schools' e-learning coach and is the progenitor of the idea for the virtual classroom gathering that brought the three schools together.

"We are taking technology and using it as a brainstorming tool," said Houin of the project initially. "We don't know what's going to happen yet. So we are going to take what the children brainstorm, what they design, and what they want to do as a project, and then we're going to allow them to apply that to the task."

From there, their data will be recorded and used in collaboration between the classrooms for the students' projects.

"We have a structure, but we don't know what's going to happen within that structure," she clarified. The structure would be more open because of the nature of the digital learning environment. The learning experience would

touch on language arts and science curriculum, utilizing higher level thinking skills to aid in the brainstorming aspect of the session.

Of the three schools, five classrooms took part in the new learning platform. Session two included three fourth grade classrooms: Stephanie Miller's from Culver, Shawna Shively's from Triton, and Kristy Gawronski's from Webster.

This gives the students the opportunity to connect outside of their classroom and the world connection is huge," said Houin.

The program is still in the experimental stages, however, according to Houin. The administration had given a good response to the idea. "They're excited about it and looking forward to potentially have that further in the future, using this in different classrooms as well, and connecting the different aspects."

As for the future of the program, Houin hopes to see it expand beyond today. The results of the program on Earth Day may indicate its continuation next year.

"Seeing how the children react and how they apply the skills that we're looking for, I hope to carry it over into different curriculum, different areas, and grade levels," she said. With this in mind, the virtual learning classroom could be carried K through 12. And it could go further than that.

"You could do this across the nation. I have some family members in New Jersey that I would love to connect with and do something like this, so we'll see," she added excitedly.



## Culver hosts 32nd annual county spelling bee

Culver Elementary student Fritz Ellert, right, spells a word as CES teacher Valerie Cultice moderates, during the 32nd annual Marshall County Spelling Bee recently.

CITIZEN PHOTO/JEFF KENNEY

By Jeff Kenney

After 22 rounds and 50 minutes of competition, the winner of this year's 32rd annual Marshall County Spelling Bee was actually last year's winner.

St. Michael's Catholic School 7th grader Charles Celadina, of Plymouth, the son of Maria and Charlie Celadina, took first place in the competition after spelling "edelweiss" -- which had been missed by second place winner, Lincoln Jr. High 7th grader Samantha Zechiel -- and then completing his win with the word "tomatoes."

In all, 24 students (two of the original 26, Culver's Sarah Luttrell and Argos' Taylor Dowdle, were unable to attend) took to the auditorium stage Thursday evening at Culver Community High School where they represented the top spellers from eight public and private schools from across Marshall County.

Judging were Culver teachers Todd Shafer, Tina Stacy, and Missy Trent, and Culver teacher Valerie Cultice announced and moderated, with Raeanne Stevens assisting on-stage.

All the students "survived" the first round of words, which became progressively more difficult following. As the numbers thinned and only six contestants remained onstage, St. Michael's Jack Schmiedlin (of Culver) was eliminated on the word "deodorant," and Culver Community Middle School 8th grader Pierce Ellert on the word "opulent." Autumn Wilson of Lincoln Jr. High in Plymouth was thwarted by the word "consistency," and Riverside's Graham Barger fell to the word "supremacy," leaving only Zechiel and Celadina facing the audience and judges.

Other contestants in the Spelling Bee included Argos' Jia Bloom and Claire Avery; Riverside's Hugh Smith; Culver's William Baldwin; LaVille's Bobby Good and Austin McKinney; St. Paul's Lutheran School's Andrew DeMaso, Matt Harman, Cori Jones, and Miranda Aguayo; St. Michael's Avery Aquino and Jordan Jennings; Urey's Isabel Cochran and Kylie Rhodes; and Walkerton's Aubree Pittman and Jorgia Ayers.

## View from page 4

named here, from the Lake Maxinkuckee Environmental Council to the Antiquarian and Historical Society of Culver, among many others.

In Wabash, he "took up a number of civic causes involving the arts, historic preservation, and the humanities. His efforts in these fields were local, national, and international in scope."

There isn't space here to begin to list his national and state-wide contributions to so many endeavors (some of that information is available in the aforementioned article, among other places).

But on a more personal level, Richard Ford was a quiet but constant supporter of *people* whose efforts he felt contributed to the causes he felt closest to. It was not unusual for him to call me with a date and location he encouraged me to attend, for an interview opportunity with someone which otherwise wouldn't have happened, or in regards to a matter of local history or other subjects in which he knew I was interested. He was, in that sense, much more about connecting people and helping facilitate their best efforts -- and doing so with class and care -- than simply writing checks from behind closed doors...which is much of why he will be so widely missed.

# Mother's Day

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Seniors from page 1

a lot of games, but more importantly we had a lot of good kids, and a lot of parental support."

Elliott explains both parents and students put in plenty of time during the off-season such as in summer camps and other endeavors.

"To be able to work with these kids was a true blessing," he adds.

Was the impending arrival of son Trent a factor in Kyle Elliott's decision to take the helm of the boys varsity team? He acknowledges he made the switch partly to be involved with his son's basketball career, though Trent was just a 4th grader getting started on the school court, where his father assisted as well.

"It's gratifying," says Elliott. "(Trent has) always enjoyed the game of basketball and put a lot of time into it. My daughter Kirsten and Trent -- we (wife Lori and myself) never pushed them into any one sport. As parents, we supported whatever they wanted to do.



PHOTO/KAREN LEE PHOTOGRAPHY  
Departing Culver Comm. High School basketball coach Kyle Elliott, right, with son Trent (center) and wife Lori during senior night at the school earlier this year.

"Obviously Trent was following his dad around as a young kid, and he became a gym rat. As I continued to coach, we'd have a Saturday practice with the varsity team or whatever, and while I was doing things in the office, he's in the gym. He's put a lot of time in and done a lot of camps.

"I'm very proud of his and his teammates' accomplishments," he adds.

Elliott recalls the challenges of the post-2008 season, when the team was "hit pretty hard" by the graduation of several strong players such as Matt Mars, Lucas Hanselman, and John Davis.

"The first year (following) we had maybe seven wins. That maybe jumped up to nine wins as we were starting to build the program...we finally got the corner turned in 2010, Zoe Bauer's senior year. We won 14

games and we were able to compile four straight winning seasons. At that point we had had six total in the school's history. So to be able to string four of them together from 2010 to 2014 -- I was very proud of their efforts. Then to ultimately get the sectionl this year and pick up 16 wins, the second highest number in the school's history...17 was the most ever won by a boys' ball club. Winning the sectionl was just a huge accomplishment for these guys."

The former coach is now "looking forward to some time away from the game, as far as the day-to-day grind. Many people just don't understand how much time goes into being the head coach. It's year-round. The way the IHSAA has summer participation set up -- it's not an option. A lot of people think coaches and kids play in the winter only, but that's not the case. And these kids who are three-sport athletes...there's activities all year round, so the year-round grind I'm not going to miss a bit."

Elliott, however, will still lead the Building Trades program, which he notes has a waiting list for student-built homes through 2038.

"The community has wholeheartedly supported the that program over the years...I'm very excited about the future of Building Trades."

# Mother's Day GIFT GUIDE

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# Happy Mother's Day!

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